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FEBRUARY 1-2, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 67

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

BATTLE OF THE CHIEFS
SEE PAGE 3

THE GET MONEY ISSUE

Lowest paid city workers may get raise

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Minimum wage for City Hall workers could get a little less minimal.

City Council is considering a living wage increase to $15.37 per hour that would impact at least 225 workers employed by City Hall.

The current living wage, which is honored by City Hall and its contractors, is $14.08 per hour but earlier this year council asked OTO — the developer of two moderately-priced hotels Downtown — to pay its workers a higher rate.

"As this council has been supportive of a wage of $15.37 in the development agreements we've had, (Mayor Pro Tempore Terry O'Day) and I think that we as a city need to also be paying this kind of wage to the folks that we employ," Mayor Pam O'Connor said at Tuesday's council meeting.

SEE WAGE PAGE 10

Flu deaths in California jump to 147

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California health officials said Friday that 147 people in the state have died from the flu this season, surpassing last season's death toll.

Four of the deaths involved children. The California Department of Public Health was investigating an additional 44 deaths as possibly flu-related

The state only tracks influenza deaths among people 65 and younger. The death toll does not include the elderly, who are most vulnerable. Last season, a total of 106 flu-related deaths were recorded in the state.

"This influenza season continues to be a severe one as the increasing number of influenza-related deaths indicates," Dr. Ron Chapman, the state health officer, said in a statement. "Once again, I urge all Californians to get vaccinated, because it is the best defense against influenza."

The hardest-hit county was Los Angeles with 17 deaths, followed by Sacramento County with 15 deaths.

The dominant strain this season is the H1N1 strain, also known as swine flu. The strain seriously affects young and middle-aged people.

A swine flu pandemic in 2009 and 2010 killed at least 150,000 people worldwide.

State health officials said there's no vaccine shortage and recommended those at highest risk — the elderly, pregnant women and children — get immunized.



GUNG HAY FAT CHOY!

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Ribbon dancers and stilt walkers performed during the opening ceremony of Santa Monica Place's Chinese New Year festivities on Friday.

State Sen. Lieu to run for Waxman's seat



BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

WESTSIDE State Sen. Ted Lieu (D-Santa Monica) didn't waste any time.

Just a day after Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Santa Monica) announced he would not seek reelection after his 20th term, Lieu made public his plans to fill the seat.

Lieu lauded Waxman's public service before turning to his own record in a statement released Friday.

SEE LIEU PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014

Rock the schoolhouse
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m.
"Schoolhouse Rock Live!" comes to life. The Emmy Award-winning 1970s Saturday morning cartoon series that taught history, grammar, math, and more through clever, tuneful songs is lighting up the stage. The story follows Tom, a nerve-wracked school teacher who is nervous about his first day of teaching. He tries to relax by watching TV when various characters representing facets of his personality emerge from the set and show him how to win his students over with imagination and music. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

Hangar full of art
Barker Hangar
3021 Airport Ave., 12 p.m.
Art Los Angeles Contemporary is back. The renowned fair presents 70 top international blue chip and emerging galleries from around the world, with a strong focus on Los Angeles galleries. Participants present some of the most dynamic recent works from their roster of represented artists, offering an informed cross section of what is happening now in contemporary art making. The fair runs through Sunday. For more information, visit artlosangelesfair.com.

Ring in Chinese New Year
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street
1:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Santa Monica Place celebrates Chinese New Year with a traditional dragon dance, ribbon dancers, a wish tree and activities for kids. Festivities continue through Feb. 14. For more information, visit santamonicaplace.com.

Sounds of clarinet
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m.
The Los Angeles Clarinet Choir presents "Clarinet Virtuosity." The choir is a group of 16 accomplished adult clarinetists performing on soprano, sopranino, alto, bass and contrabass clarinets. They perform new music and specialize in premiering original works and arrangements, as well as classical and "world" music. For more information, call (310) 458-8606.

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2014

Artful breakfast
Paint Lab
1453 Fourth St., 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Start your Sunday morning off on the creative side of the bed with a complimentary painter's breakfast. Includes a light continental breakfast fare and all the paints, brushes, set up, and clean up. A canvas purchase of $9.99 is required. Reservations required. For more information, call (310) 450-9200.

New kind of odd
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
Unger and Madison are at it again. Florence Unger and Olive Madison, that is, in Neil Simon's hilarious contemporary comic classic: the female version of "The Odd Couple." Instead of the poker party that begins the original version, Ms. Madison has invited the girls over for an evening of Trivial Pursuit. The Pigeon sisters have been replaced by the Costazuela brothers, but the hilarity remains the same. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

New take on Homer's classic
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 4 p.m.
Homer's epic poem comes back to life in a contemporary new telling. Obie Award-winner Lisa Peterson directs Tony Award-winner Denis O'Hare in this show that captures the battle for Troy. "An Iliad" races through time and continues to be relevant to this day. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

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

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

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

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

CORRECTION

A recent article entitled "Neighbors cry foul over church at Grant Elementary," which appeared in the Jan. 30 edition of the Daily Press, contained an inaccurate paraphrasing of resident Jody Krantz. Krantz's larger concern was with where specifically the revenues from the school district's rental permits – like the one allowed to City of God – are going.





BOWLED OVER

Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

(Above) Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks (right) teases Fire Chief Scott Ferguson after beating him at the 18th Annual SuperBowl-A-Thon at the Bay Shore Lanes Friday afternoon. Proceeds will help benefit the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition's efforts to strengthen services to homeless and at-risk men, women and families through education, advocacy and service coordination.

(Left) Chief Seabrooks bowls during the 18th Annual SuperBowl-A-Thon on Friday afternoon.

State to recognize gang members can rehabilitate

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Prison officials revealed new rules Friday that they say will make California the first state to recognize that inmates can quit prison gangs and put that lifestyle behind them, allowing them to escape the tough restrictions that gang members are subject to.

However, gang associates would have to steer clear of gang activities for about a decade to qualify, while gang leaders would have to behave for a minimum of 14 years.

The draft regulations made public Friday are the latest changes to rules that keep some gang members locked in special isolation units for years and have led to widespread inmate hunger strikes. A spokesman for a coalition of reform groups that backed the hunger strikers called the changes "woefully inadequate."

SEE **GANGS** PAGE 10

Rain, snow do little for drought-hit California

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO A weather system that brought a smattering of rain and snow to California has moved on with little impact on the state's deepening drought.

Though nearly 2 feet of snow fell in parts of the Sierra Nevada in Northern California this week, a snow survey there on Thursday found the snow water equivalent was just 12 percent of normal for this time of winter. The water in the northern and central Sierra snowpack provides about a third of California's water supply. Satellite photos from space show the tops of the towering peaks as brown instead of white.

Elsewhere, the weak cold weather system provided a few sprinkles of rain, but it amounted to only a few hundredths of an inch and "the chances of tipping any rain buckets is much closer to zero," a National Weather Service forecast said. The forecast for Friday and Saturday called for sunny skies with a chance of light rain on Sunday.

"Make no mistake, this drought is a big wakeup call," Gov. Jerry Brown said on Thursday before meeting with local water district officials in downtown Los Angeles. "Hopefully it's going to rain. If it doesn't, we're going to have to act in a very strenuous way in every part of the state to get through."

"Every day this drought goes on, we're going to have to tighten the screws on what people are doing," Brown said.

Brown declared a state drought emergency earlier this month and called on Californians to reduce their water usage by 20 percent.

On Thursday, he offered some practical advice, including avoiding long solo showers and cutting down on toilet flushing.

State climatologist Michael Anderson said only 1.53 inches of rain were recorded from October through December, the lowest aggregate total in records dating back to 1895.

Officials say 2013 was also the state's driest calendar year since records started being kept.

Southern California has been stockpiling water to deal with potential shortages but some places in the state are struggling.

State officials have said that 17 rural communities are in danger of a severe water shortage within four months. Wells are running dry or reservoirs are nearly empty in some communities.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Just say no to Bergamot project

Editor:

We're in the middle of a drama with the innocent city heroine courted by a mature developer, like the smart, beautiful girl at the dance choosing the first guy making empty promises. The cast includes a starry-eyed planning staff, Planning Commission, City Council, the wise city manager, planning director, chamber, and finally, the Texas interloper.

This is local government in search of process – flirting and dating over seven years – involving a community audience for four years of the pubescent LUCE period followed by the birth of the "Bergamot Plan!"

These plans herald transformation of an industrial area into a "village" with "adaptive re-use particularly in Bergamot Transit Village," "respectful of human, not corporate scale," and "minimizing interaction of vehicles and pedestrian/bicycle activity."

The drama has many dark spots and inconsistencies. The central scene – a 19,000-square-foot public park – is playground to 500 families in "the village" and more living in adjacent neighborhoods. How will they co-mingle in a park the size of two and a half residential lots? It's not really a park, but a parklet.

Another interesting scene is the 49,000-square-foot office floor plates in the "village" – three times the area of Century City floor plates. This exception to recently approved and bloated 35,000 square foot design standards is one of dozens of exceptions in a convoluted plan taking four years to nurture to maturity. Large, flexible office areas attract corporate regional offices employing more people per square foot in "creative" environments requiring more cars in a garage already 1,500 spaces short. Not a problem, those 1,500 continue the drama by searching for curbside spaces in surrounding neighborhoods.

The biggest drama and inconsistency is backstage with the 2,000-car garage. Entering off Olympic with a sharp right and immediate sharp left turns and stacking space for four will undoubtedly back onto Olympic with fast moving traffic and a bus lane. Don't forget your card key at the entrance.

Drama continues in the final scene of Act I – the afternoon when plus/minus 1,200 cars exit every 10 seconds creating total conflict on a "shared street" mixing cars, cyclists, pedestrians and baby strollers in the active village core described in our illustrious pre-play Bergamot program.

Intermission brings community benefits to share – $2 million annually, half from parking revenue – unless the 70 percent garage shortage of spaces doesn't allow! Is the council willing to prostitute our city for $2 million a year, less than 5 percent of the interloper's annual profit while increasing density 67 percent.

This mouth-dropping play continues with dramatic scenes in Act II including:

- possibilities for adaptive re-use as directed in LUCE and Bergamot plans
- public services and sustainability including emergency response in a gridlocked environment
- massive design and jobs/housing imbalance
- contamination issues
- and ending with referendums and legal trials

But time and space brings this review to an end. Hard to be part of the audience knowing this drama foreshadows innumerable impacts, followed by immeasurable pain in the slow death of our beachfront city.

This is not a play for the faint of heart, but life-long drama in which the city is playing the role of innocent bystander.

Why does planning staff propose and support glaring inconsistencies? Does our government blindly accept these development proposals – questioning only details rather than big pictures?

Taking seven long years of time and energy on the part of the public, council and developer to reach a climax. Will the fair lady be mistreated or escape with her honor? Will she end with a dagger in her heart or have the courage and dignity after seven years of submissiveness to "just say no?" Quoting from an L.A. Times letter, "Santa Monica may be an urban planner's dream, but for the rest of us it's become a nightmare."

Ron Goldman
Santa Monica



Your column here

Todd Flora

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Standing up for rent control

YOUR JAN. 9 ARTICLE REGARDING estimates of rental units that may need upgrades has generated several letters to the editor that express unfair criticism of the Rent Control Agency based on incorrect or incomplete facts.

One letter to the editor suggested, incorrectly, that the agency spent nearly $4 million holding 29 administrative rent-decrease hearings in 2012, at a cost of roughly $160,000 each ("Praise for landlords," Letter to the Editor, Jan. 10). Another complains of a rent-increase process that the writer characterizes as somehow unfair or unreasonable ("Broken system," Letter to the Editor, Jan. 14). As the chair of the Rent Control Board, I'd like to set the factual record straight and offer some additional perspective.

The Rent Control Board's roughly $4 million budget pays for a great deal more than the holding of rent-decrease hearings. One of the largest services that board staff provides is the provision of information to the public — landlords and tenants alike. In 2012, more than 13,500 people sought information from the board's staff in City Hall either by telephone, by e-mail or in person at the public counter. Most of these inquiries came from tenants and property owners seeking information about their rights and responsibilities under the rent control law.

Among the many topics discussed, maintenance of rental units or reductions in housing services, were a couple of the most common. Tenants seeking repairs or maintenance or the return of base housing services are counseled to discuss these issues directly with the property owner and to put their requests in writing. In the majority of cases, these simple steps lead to a satisfactory resolution of the problem. However, if repairs are still needed or housing services are not restored, tenants may file a petition with the Rent Control Board seeking an adjustment in the rent.

As your letter writer notes, the board held 29 rent-decrease hearings in 2012. But this number does not reflect the much larger number of petitions that were filed, but that did not result in a hearing due to our very successful mediation program. A trained facilitator works with both parties to informally resolve the issues, thereby limiting the number of cases that require formal hearings. Nor does the number reflect the other types of petitions filed, the thousands of registrations processed annually, or the time and money spent successfully defending the board against frivolous litigation, including suits that the board prevailed in, initiated by some of the same persons who wrote letters critical of the board.

Another writer commented that, in recent years, very few landlords have filed rent-increase petitions. While this is true, it is not because, as your letter writer suggests, the increase petition process is unreasonable or unfair. Rather, it is because, for many landlords, the process is unnecessary due to the high level of income that they are already receiving as the result of ordinary tenant turnover. State law mandates that landlords may set the rents for new tenancies at the highest level that the market will bear, and most landlords have done so. By the end of 2012, roughly two-thirds of rent-controlled units had been rented at market rates due to state-mandated vacancy decontrol. More than 90 percent of Santa Monica landlords had one or more market-rate-paying tenants. Many are collecting market-rate rents from well over half of their units.

The rent-increase process is not intended to ensure that landlords maximize their profits; it is intended as a safety valve to ensure that rent control doesn't deprive them of their constitutional right to a fair return. In view of market rents that most Santa Monica landlords are collecting, they are already earning far more than the fair return to which the constitution (and, indeed, the City Charter) entitles them. That there are fewer rent-increase petitions as more units are rented at market-rate is not evidence of a system that is unfair to landlords, but of the healthy state of most landlords' balance sheets.

But for those few landlords who are not achieving a fair return, the process is, and will remain, available.

It has become sadly uncommon in our highly polarized society for people to engage in civil, fact-based debate. It is not enough to disagree; those whose opinions we don't share must be characterized as misguided or foolish, if not actually corrupt. It is perhaps the certainty that those who disagree with us are unworthy that we feel free to invent or mischaracterize facts in order to dispute their positions; it feels like a wrong committed in service to a greater good. As the chair of the Rent Control Board, it should come as no surprise that I fully support rent control and the policy behind it. But I recognize that others do not, and I fully support their right to say so. But I urge everyone to base their arguments in actual facts, not mischaracterizations and half-truths.

Toward that end, I'd like to encourage anyone interested in learning more about the services of the Rent Control Board to visit our office in City Hall, check out the agency's website (smgov.net/rentcontrol), attend one of the community meetings/seminars offered by staff, read the board's biannual newsletters mailed to all tenants and property owners, or review the board's 2012 Annual Report, which can be found on the website. The 2013 annual report is being prepared for presentation at a board meeting this spring.

I also invite you to attend one of the board's regularly scheduled meetings and let us know what you're thinking. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month in the City Council Chambers at 7 p.m.

TODD FLORA is the chairperson for the Santa Monica Rent Control Board. He can be reached at thetoddflora@gmail.com.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

The Q Line

Water wise

A recent Daily Press article revealed that water usage is up in Santa Monica despite an ongoing drought across the state.

This past week, Q-line asked:
What are you willing to give up to save water in our drought-stricken region?

Here are your responses:

"IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE TO ASK the residents of Santa Monica to give up anything, per se, because of all the construction going on. ... How can we save water if we keep building? In order to save water, we have to put a freeze on all building. If usage keeps going up then we can cut down on showers, watering lawns and all that, but there's no sense in cutting back on our water use if more accounts are going to get put into the water system and more people are going to be coming in and use a lot more water. So let's put a freeze on all building."

"I AM NOT WILLING TO GIVE UP EVEN one more thing. I all ready take fewer showers, my lawn is brown, I flush less and wash my car less. My question is, what good does this do if the city keeps building more and more slum tenements. All of these are full of new toilet flushers who nullify my efforts. In addition, in the past in every case when the long-time citizens of an area respond effectively to a call to save water, their water bills are raised because the water provider doesn't have enough money to pay their overpriced and overcompensated employees. So it's damned if you do, and damned if you don't save water. In either case, your bill goes up."

"I'M NOT WILLING TO DO ANYTHING. I'LL tell you why. The City Council and city planners have added 10,000 people to this city and then turn around and say, 'Oh, we're going to be short of water.' My question is where are the questions about water consumption when these developments are planned? It is not a good planning situation and the City Council and city planners had better not come back to the citizens and say, 'You need to conserve water.'"

"WHAT AM I WILLING TO GIVE UP TO SAVE water in California's drought? Very ready to give up the mass importation of millions and millions of legal and illegal foreign workers. They all use water!"

"DROUGHT? RIGHT. EVERY TIME THEY say there is a drought, we have to use less water, and then they go and build all these big developments. So forget it, I will not have a brown, dead lawn just so they can build more and more. If there isn't enough water, shut their water off; I was here first."

"THERE ARE TWO SIMPLE SOLUTIONS to the water shortage that our clueless government officials fail to do. 1) Stop all illegal immigration. 2) Build desalinization plants. Because government does neither, I will not give up anything to save water."

"I REDUCED MY WATER CONSUMPTION during the drought of 1990-91. I have kept those water saving practices up since then. It is now time for the city to reduce water demand. Large water using developments such as the Hines/Bergamot proposals should be rejected if the city expects citizens to further curtail water use."

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY


"I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN UP OVERHEAD watering and a grass lawn. Most water in Santa Monica is used on landscaping. It's wrong for property owners to continue old Middle Western landscape habits. Turn off the sprinkler system, discontinue fertilizing, remove the grass, and don't let your gardener plant winter rye grass (why would you continue to waste money on a lawn you never use?). The best landscape advice I can give is to plant more trees (the world needs more oxygen), do small gardens or bright color bowls, retrofit the overhead sprinkler system with drippers (it's easy, you don't even need a professional to help you), and put down a 3-inch layer of mulch (often free through the city). Voila! Perfect garden, low water use, no run-off. By the way, maintaining your own yard is a great way to get fresh air, exercise, and perhaps lose a pound or two. Here you are, driving to the gym when instead, you can be improving your little slice of Santa Monica."

"I'M WILLING TO GIVE UP AN over-watered grass median on Olympic Boulevard from 10th Street all the way to Centinela. I'm also willing to give up the water functions of the multi-million dollar fountain in front of City Hall along with all the free water the city provides to all its Community Corporation tenants across the city."

"WE LIVED IN THE BAY AREA DURING the drought years of 1977-78, and while we were on strict water restrictions, we heard that in Los Angeles people were still washing their sidewalks and their cars. We learned to collect our shower water and rinse water from our washing machine to put on our plants, let our lawns go dry, and didn't wash our cars every other day. (In fact, I now keep my car clean using a polish that is superior to the hose.) It is only common sense that people shouldn't run water while brushing their teeth or after washing, shouldn't wash the sidewalks – a broom works just as well, and let their cars be a little dirty. Mainly, people should be aware that there is a severe drought and think about how they use water and try to conserve."







Brands vie to stand out amid Super Bowl chatter

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK If it's on TV, it's on Twitter, at least when it comes to blockbuster events such as the Super Bowl.

Advertisers, in particular, are ready to capitalize.

"What advertisers have realized is that Super Bowl advertising doesn't just take place on TV, with your 30-second or 60-second spot that you paid millions of dollars for," said Debra Aho Williamson, an analyst for research firm eMarketer. "You really need to have a broader presence."

Last year's Super Bowl was interrupted by a 34-minute power outage — luckily, for one advertiser at least. Oreo seized on the opportunity and tweeted "you can still dunk in the dark." It was retweeted and mentioned on Facebook thousands of times.

Every brand wants to be this year's Oreo. Brands are setting up social media "war rooms" so they can respond to memorable events as they happen — be it another blackout, a snow storm or a wardrobe malfunction — with clever, retweetable quips.

Volkswagen has set up a studio in Los Angeles to create quick, catchy video responses, said Jennifer Clayton, media manager at the automaker. There will be about a dozen people in the room, from creative and production folks to community managers in charge of monitoring chatter on social media. Once a video is shot, it'll be sent to Volkswagen's lawyers for approval and, within 20 minutes, posted on Twitter.

"We are taking advantage of all the conversations going on out there and making it even more impactful," she said. "We're taking a 30- (or) 60-second spot and turning it into a campaign that's multiple days and multiple screens."

The game is a big day for Twitter, too. The company will have its own employees in the "war rooms" of some advertisers, helping them identify what people are tweeting about the most and helping them develop quick, clever reactions.

Beyond advertising, people will be conversing with fellow fans, using Twitter hashtags such as #Seahawks, #Hawks and #12s for the Seattle Seahawks and #Broncos, #Denver and #UnitedInDenver for the Denver Broncos. There will be #SB48 for the Super Bowl and #AdScrimmage to vote for your favorite Super Bowl ads. People have also created unofficial ones — such as #PotBowl — a reference to the fact that the teams hail from states that have legalized recreational marijuana.

Advertising, though, is where a lot of money is at stake.

For every Oreo, there are dozens, perhaps hundreds of tweets that fall flat, even if they were conjured in a room full of social media experts and marketers. During last Sunday's Grammys, "a lot of brands tried to do it but only one stood out," Williamson said.

That one was Arby's. Singer Pharrell Williams showed up at the awards show wearing an oversized, puffy brown fedora. It quickly got its own parody Twitter account (with more than 18,000 followers), not to mention all the Twitter mentions. The fast-food chain known for its big cowboy hat logo quickly tweeted "Hey @Pharrell, can we have our hat back? #GRAMMYs."

It went over well. Arby's tweet got more than 83,000 retweets and a response from Williams himself: "Y'all tryna start a roast beef?"

"Brands need to have the perfect storm of the right opportunity, the right message and most critically, a relationship between your brand and whatever it is that you are trying to connect about," analyst Williamson said. "If it's forced or if (it looks) planned, it's going to come across negatively."

Admitting that the right moment may never come up, some brands are taking a different approach.

M&M's marketers plan to use Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and the video-sharing app Vine to distribute short animated videos made from peanut M&M's. The clips will include commentary from the legendary retired quarterback Joe Montana.

Seth Klugherz, senior director for Mars Inc.'s M&M's brand, said in a statement that the brand is "not simply hoping to 'win the night' with a single post or tweet" but add to viewers' experience throughout the night.

Elsewhere in candy land, Butterfinger plans to riff off its brand name, which is slang for someone who tends to drop stuff — such as a football.

"The idea of a Butterfinger moment, organically, the name of our brand will come up," Butterfinger brand manager Jeremy Vandervoet said. "We can't predict it but we're going to be ready to respond. We don't know how it will happen."

Even without a blackout, Sunday's game is likely to be the most tweeted, Facebooked and Instagrammed-about Super Bowl, simply because more people — and brands — are tweeting, Facebooking and Instagramming than a year ago. There were 2.8 million tweets about the 2011 Super Bowl. That grew to nearly 14 million in 2012 and more than 24 million in 2013.

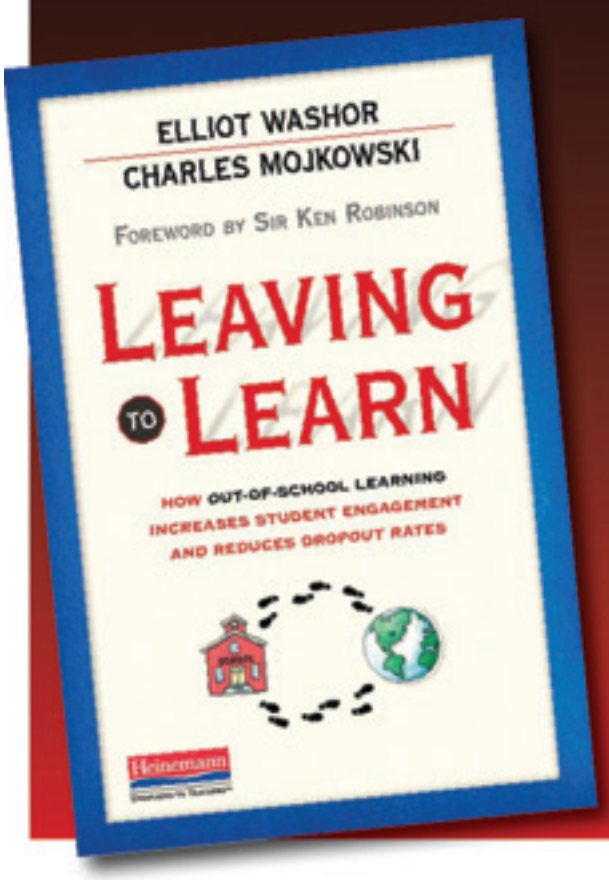
Not wanting to be left out when it comes to public chatter about big events, Facebook recently introduced its own take on trending topics. The feature is starting to come to users in the U.S., U.K. and elsewhere. It lets users see what topics others are talking about, whether that's the Super Bowl or their favorite commercial.

Still, Williamson said it's still unproven how effective all this real-time marketing is. People might be tweeting about Oreo and Arby's, but are they eating their cookies and roast beef sandwiches?

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Stocks fall on company earnings, overseas trouble

KEN SWEET
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK Disappointing results from Amazon.com and more trouble in overseas markets pushed U.S. stocks lower Friday afternoon, but the major indexes crawled back from the steep losses from earlier in the day.

KEEPING SCORE: The Dow Jones industrial average fell 88 points, or 0.6 percent, to 15,759 as of 3 p.m. Eastern time. The Standard & Poor's 500 slipped five points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,789 and the Nasdaq composite dropped eight points, or 0.2 percent, to 4,114.

GLOOMY JANUARY: Friday's sell-off only adds to a tough January for investors. The Dow is now down 5.1 percent, while the S&P 500 has fallen 3.4 percent. Still, both indexes only recently hit all-time highs and aren't close to a correction, a Wall Street term for a decline of 10 percent or more from a peak.

SOME OPTIMISM: The Dow had fallen by as much as 231 points earlier Friday, so losses were much less severe by the afternoon. Traders said this type of trading has happened several times this month.

"There's still a large group of investors who ... think this market has legs in it and are using any pullback as a buying opportunity," said Jonathan Corpina, a floor trader on the New York Stock Exchange with Meridian Equity Partners.

EUROPE SLUGGISH: An unexpected fall in eurozone inflation showed the recovery is still weak there. Official figures Friday showed the inflation rate in the 18-country eurozone dropped to 0.7 percent in December from 0.9 percent the previous month. That decline has reinforced fears that the eurozone is about to suffer a Japanese-style bout of deflation, which can be very difficult to reverse.

MORE TROUBLE FOR EMERGING MARKETS: The currencies for several countries fell against the dollar early as turmoil in emerging markets continued. By afternoon, the Turkish lira was down 0.2 percent against the dollar and the South African rand lost 0.9 percent.

'EXCUSE' TO SELL: "Even if there is a problem with these emerging market economies, we have plenty of evidence that shows that it doesn't heavily impact the economic momentum of the U.S. and it only mildly impacts earnings for U.S. companies," said David Kelly, chief market strategist with J.P. Morgan Funds. "People were looking for an excuse to sell."

RETAIL STRUGGLES: Amazon.com fell $40.80, or 10.2 percent, to $362. The online shopping giant said its profit and revenue grew in the latest quarter but results fell below what Wall Street was expecting. Meanwhile, Wal-Mart, the world's largest brick-and-mortar retailer, said its earnings may come in below the low end of its prior forecasts. After falling as much as 1.5 percent in morning trading, Wal-Mart bounced back in the afternoon, adding 28 cents to $75.03.

MASTERCARD MISS: MasterCard was down $3.72, or 4.7 percent, to $76.04. The credit card processing company reported a profit of 57 cents a share, after one-time adjustments, but the results fell short of the 60 cents analysts forecast. Revenue also missed.

ZYNGA JUMPS: There were bright spots. The video game company Zynga said Thursday it was buying NaturalMotion, the company behind the hit mobile games "CSR Racing" and "Clumsy Ninja." It also said it would cut its workforce by 15 percent. The news sent Zynga shares soaring, up 80 cents, or 22.5 percent, to $4.36.

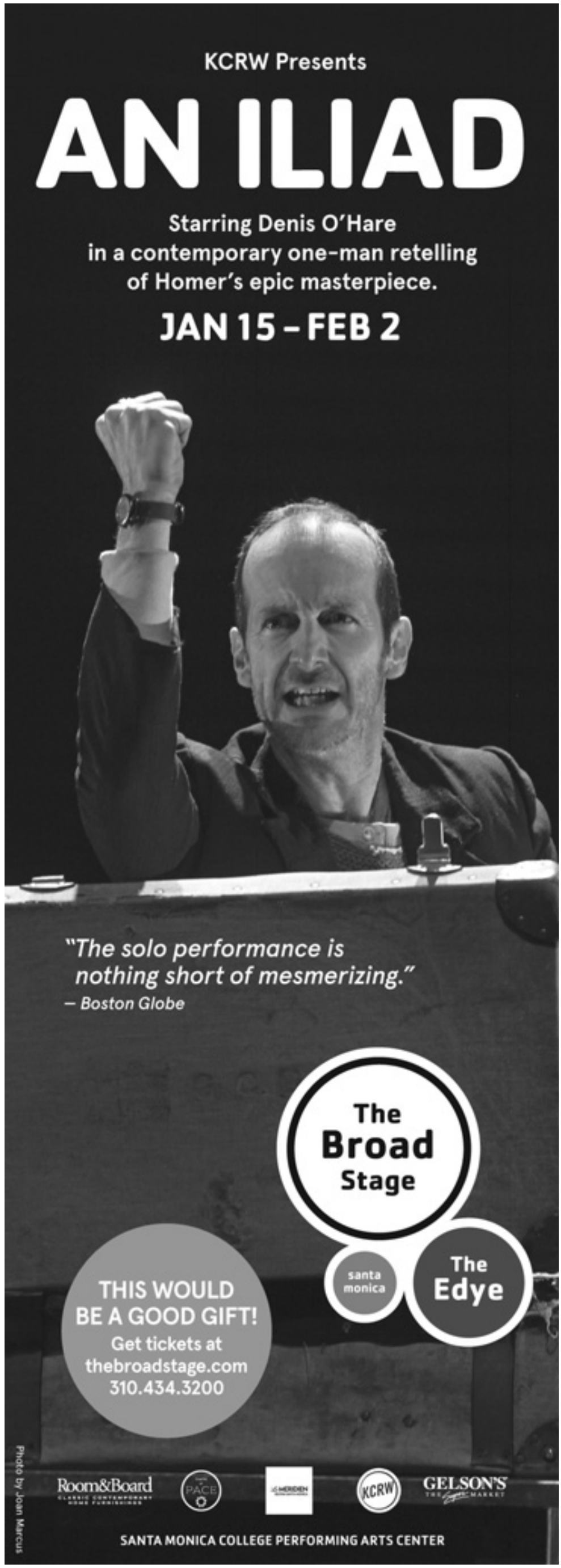
SPICY RISER: Chipotle Mexican Grill reported better-than-expected fourth-quarter earnings late Thursday, stoking investors' appetite for the restaurant chain's shares. The stock was up $63.92, or $12.9 percent, to $557.8 — good enough to make it the S&P 500's top gainer.

HOME IMPROVEMENT: U.S. homebuilders surged as investors looked ahead to the coming spring home-selling season, which traditionally kicks off a week after the Super Bowl. Several builders reported strong home price growth for the October-December quarter this week. NVR was leading the rally. It climbed $63.82 cents, or 5.7 percent, to $1,184.

BOND WATCH: The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.67 percent from 2.70 percent on Thursday. As recently as Jan. 3, its yield was 3 percent.

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Difficult to say, easy to eat

BY MAGGIE LOUIE
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Just past the Third Street Promenade, tucked away on Second Street, sits Santa Monica's newest little neighborhood tapas and paella joint, Taberna Arros y Vi.

Yeah, it's a mouthful, and we haven't even eaten anything yet.

There is a distinct feeling of being at a small family-owned restaurant. Many regulars fill the bar area, which is brimming with conversation and laughter. Staff joke and mingle with one another and patrons, giving the entire place a friendly, inviting vibe.

Executive Chef Verite Mazzola began her career as a humble pastry chef working for the likes of Wolfgang Puck, but soon found herself "hot side" running a full kitchen and staff. Now a seasoned veteran, she takes great pride in the restaurant and the quality of every dish they prepare. With daily deliveries from local farmers, imported spices from Spain and line-caught fish, shipped fresh daily (and sometimes with hook still in), the quality of her ingredients sets her apart in creating these classic Spanish dishes.

Here's a sampling of what they offer:

If you go

Taberna Arros Y Vi
1403 Second St.,
Santa Monica, Calif.
www.tabernala.com
(310) 393-3663

MORCILLA BOCADILLO: BLOOD SAUSAGE SANDWICH WITH PIQUILLO PEPPERS AND HARRISA AIOLI

This oversized sandwich could be the Spanish version of a po' boy or a Cuban. The blood sausage, made by Verite, uses rice in lieu of the onions, which balances the mineral flavor of the blood. This technique of sausage making is similar to that of the classic Creole sausage, boudin, but the taste is entirely different. Morcilla is rich and creamy; the rice absorbs the flavor of the blood but without adding a mealy or bready texture. The sausage is sliced and laid flat on the bread that's been prepared with a healthy slathering of the harrisa aioli. Topping that is the roasted piquillo pepper. This large pepper is a type of chile, but is sweet, not hot. Grown in northern Spain near the town of Lodosa, this pepper has hints of pimento and roasted red pepper, but a distinct sweet smoky flavor all it's own.

OCTOPUS CARPACCIO: CURED ORANGE FENNEL SALAD, KUSSHI OYSTER, TOPPED WITH FRESH HERBS

It's hard to imagine how they slice the octopus so thin. Verite uses a technique that involves first making an octopus roll. After freezing this roll/log she is able to slice the delicate meat paper-thin. The roll is reconstructed on the plate with the thin disks placed overlapping, down the center of the long plate. Atop the delicate octopus sits the cured orange fennel salad. Light licorice and fresh citrus perfume without overpowering the dish. Finally the fresh herbs give a nice crunch to every bite. Everything I tried was absolutely amazing, but the octopus carpaccio was addictive.



Photo courtesy Maggie Louie

FRESH AND CLEAN: **New Zealand green mussels with spicy butter, chorizo and blue cheese.**

NEW ZEALAND GREEN MUSSELS WITH SPICY BUTTER, CHORIZO AND BLUE CHEESE

If you love mussels but have never tried New Zealand greens, this is a must. The New Zealand greens are the cleanest tasting mussels I've ever had. The fresh, "non-lingering" taste is due to the cold-water temperatures, I'm told by Chef Verite.

"We sauté the shallots, white wine and chorizo, brown it all in a pan to order, add the mussels just until they open then add the spicy rosemary butter with tomato, a touch of blue cheese and serve immediately," Verite said.

This is evident in the texture of the mussels. Perfectly cooked and based in the delicious sauce, the melding of flavors and textures is a "must order."

CRUSTLESS HONEY CHEESECAKE

Chef Verite started her career as a pastry chef, so it should come as no surprise that she still has a passion for nurturing the sweet tooth. Using local honey as her inspiration for this velvety delicate cheesecake, Verite creates another original. For those looking for a lighter cheesecake packed with flavor, this is a great pick.

editor@smdp.com





Tour De Feast

Michael "Snacks" Ryan Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Michael Ryan *michael@smdp.com*

YUM: Fresh pizza in roughly two minutes at 800 Degrees Pizzeria in Downtown Santa Monica.

It's getting hot in here

Santa Monica welcomes 800 Degrees pizza

THE REPUTATION THAT PRECEDES THE new 800 Degrees Santa Monica is all good. That's because the original Westwood location has seen nothing but success since its inception just a couple years back.

And while the long lunch lines may seem daunting, don't fret, they move really fast. The key to the speed is the assembly-line-style service made famous by Chipotle. Some may argue Subway. While others would argue Ford. Regardless, it's a proven system in speed and efficiency that is tailor-made for what people are lining up for in the first place — pizza.

Neapolitan pizza to be exact, which starts with a hand-tossed, thinly stretched dough (don't worry there's a gluten-free option as well). With the dough resting on a pizza peel, you're in the drivers seat now. To keep the general flow of the line going it's best to have hammered out a blueprint because the possibilities are essentially endless.

Base models include margherita, bianca (no sauce), marinara (no cheese) and verde (pesto). The pizza moves down the line to the next station for a long list of special features and add-ons. Toppings include all the standards as well as some luxury items including bacon marmalade, manila clams, and buffalo mozzarella. Once the pizza is fully assembled, it's slid into a wood burning oven at (its namesake) 800 degrees. By the time you pay (I clocked it in at two minutes) the pizza is hot out of the oven and ready to eat.

The wood burning inferno renders a char-flecked crust, soft and chewy on the inside. The meld of melted cheese, bubbling sauce and scorched toppings flirt dangerously with breaking through the bottom of the pie. Everything miraculously stays intact.

My pizza, margherita with soppressata and mushrooms, set me back around nine bucks. Not too shabby for a great tasting pie assembled and cooked in a matter of minutes.

As painless and delicious as this all seems, there are a couple of hazards that should be avoided. One of them being pizza remorse. Kurt Vonnegut once said "Of all the words of mice and men, the saddest are, it might have been." Sitting down to a cheese pizza wishing you had topped it with prosciutto and arugula is a true lunch time tragedy.

On the flip side, beware of the over embellished pizza. When you choose too many toppings, not only is your pizza now $30, but the pineapple and meatballs don't seem to be getting along with the eggplant and anchovies. Worse yet, your Noah's Arc pie turns to soup in the oven because it's over capacity.

Choose your toppings with intent, or just go with one of 800 Degrees specialty pies like the Capricciosa (artichokes, mushrooms, olives and ham) or the Tartufo (truffle cheese, mushrooms, roasted garlic and arugula), or a dozen other options they have to offer.

With a selection of salads, sides, beer and wine on tap (always better priced due to less bottling) there is plenty of support to go with the main course. Plus they have one of those new age, touchscreen soft-drink machines with 100-plus varieties. A custom made soda only seems appropriate with a custom made pie.

800 Degrees is literally Santa Monica's newest hot spot.

If you go

800 Degrees Pizzeria
120 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, Calif. 90401
(310) 566-0801
www.800degreespizza.com

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food. He can be reached at michael@smdp.com. Follow him on Twitter at https://twitter.com/greaseweek

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GANGS
FROM PAGE 3

Prison officials consider more than 2,800 of California's nearly 134,000 inmates to be gang members or associates, and say they direct much of the violence and contraband smuggling both behind bars and on the streets.

Until now, once inmates were confirmed to be in a prison gang or other "security threat group," the label stuck throughout their time behind bars. The designation required those inmates to remain housed under greater security and barred them from some programs like firefighting camps.

The new regulations are an extension of a 15-month-old pilot program that has allowed gang members to get out of isolation units at Pelican Bay in far Northern California and other prisons without renouncing their gang membership.

Since the start of the pilot, the department has reviewed 632 gang members who were in isolation units. Of those, 408 have been cleared to be released into the general prison population and 185 were given more privileges but remain in isolation.

Those 2012 policies, which are being updated in Friday's filing with the Office of Administrative Law, let the gang members and associates gain more privileges and leave the isolation units in as little as three years if they stop engaging in gang activities, and participate in anger management and drug rehabilitation programs.

Officials said that change was based on programs in seven other states. California is now the first to go a step farther by removing the gang designation entirely if the inmate continues to behave, said Terry Thornton, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, or CDCR.

"It's about rehabilitation," she said. "If an inmate truly wants to disengage from that toxic gang lifestyle, CDCR is going to give them ways to do that."

The new program lets gang associates have their gang validation removed from their record after completing the minimum three-year rehabilitation program and going six additional years without a disciplinary charge related to gang behavior.

Those who are considered gang leaders would have to complete remain without a gang-related disciplinary violation for at least 11 years after completing the program before the gang designation could be removed by a prison committee.

Inmates don't have to formally renounce the gang to have the designation removed from their record. They do have to avoid criminal behavior related to gang activity.

"It is not easy to get out of a gang. I've always considered it a very courageous thing to do," Thornton said. "When an inmate decides to drop out, we have to take measures to protect them," like placing them in special housing units, she said.

If the committee decides to remove an inmate's gang designation, that decision would be reviewed by the department's Office of Correctional Safety. If the inmate starts associating with gangs again, he would again be validated as a gang member and start the process over.

"As long as they keep indefinite solitary (confinement), as long as they have these decade-long processes ... I think it's woefully inadequate," said Isaac Ontiveros, a spokesman for the Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition. The group backed a series of fasts that included about 30,000 state prison inmates at one point last summer. He questioned whether the department could be trusted to fairly consider whether inmates have left behind their gang affiliations.

Critics, including inmates, now have 60 days to comment in writing on the new regulations before a public hearing April 3 in Sacramento.



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

SAFETY: Crossing guards are among the city employees who may be in line for raises.

WAGE
FROM PAGE 1

O'Day and O'Connor initially brought the matter before the council.

Currently, 186 employees make City Hall's minimum wage and another 39 make less than the proposed $15.37, but more than the living wage, said Finance Department Director Gigi Decavalles-Hughes.

"For the most part, these are as-needed employees, some working more than one job," she said.

Some of those making the minimum include crossing guards, library pages, police cadets and laborer trainees, she said.

There are 29 city workers, all in student jobs, making the California minimum wage of $8.

Council voted unanimously to have City Manager Rod Gould return with information about the impacts of a potential wage increase on Feb. 11.

If council votes yes, the wage paid to City Hall workers would more than double the federal minimum wage, which is currently $7.25 per hour.

Lawmakers are currently considering an increase to that wage with congressional Democrats suggesting it be lifted nearly $3 per hour to $10.10.

While many of those working city jobs at the current living wage are not full-time employees, for those that are the increase would mean an extra $2,683 per year.

"We're coming into a budget year and so the time was right for the conversation," O'Connor said of her suggestion. "Our financial forecasts are good. (City Hall) is doing better than expected and if we can afford to do it we should."

Councilmember Kevin McKeown expressed full support for raising the wage. The increase also means contractors who work with City Hall will have to pay. McKeown noted that he was fine with that consequence.

dave@smdp.com

LIEU
FROM PAGE 1

"I have made the hard choices that helped turn California's budget deficit into a budget surplus; fought to protect our environment; co-authored legislation to divest California's pension funds from Iran's energy and nuclear industries; and authored landmark civil rights legislation," he said. "I will fight hard for my constituents in Congress as I have done in the state Senate."

Lieu follows former Los Angeles city controller and mayoral candidate Wendy Greuel into the race for the now-open seat.

New-Age guru and author Marianne Williamson announced her plan to run last year.

Former Santa Monica Mayor, Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) said on his Facebook page that he was considering running for the seat.

Bill Bloomfield, who challenged Waxman in his last campaign, told the Daily Press he was giving serious consideration to running.

Bloomfield spent $7.5 million of his own money and came within eight points of upsetting Waxman in 2012.

Santa Monicans know Lieu for his support of City Hall in its lawsuit against the Federal Aviation Administration regarding Santa Monica Airport.

"I commend the (city) of Santa Monica for filing suit against the FAA," he said earlier this year. "I believe the courts will once and for all determine (City Hall), as the owner of the airport, has every right to determine the direction of its future. There are undisputed impacts on the city and surrounding residents, including noise and air pollution and safety issues as a result of how close the runway is to neighboring homes."

His position has not changed, Lieu told the Daily Press Friday.

"I've always said that Santa Monica should not renew the lease with the airport," he said. "If I enter Congress, I would do all I can to request the FAA to also not renew that lease."

Marty Rubin, founder of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution, told the Daily Press Thursday that he hoped Lieu would run, praising his strong opinions on the airport.

Lieu said that he has the support of more than two dozen local elected officials including Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin.

"Henry Waxman was a warrior and a legislative giant who delivered for our communities, and I cannot think of anyone better suited to fill those enormous shoes than Ted Lieu," Bonin said in a statement. "A military veteran who lives in and knows our neighborhoods, Ted is one of the smartest, toughest, most accomplished leaders I know."

Lieu won a special State Assembly election in 2005. He lost a 2010 bid for California Attorney General. In 2011, he won his current seat in a special election that did not include Santa Monica voters. After redistricting, he came to represent the city by the sea.

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The Snide World of Sports

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Super Bowl or Stoner Bowl?

WE'RE ONLY DAYS AWAY FROM SUPER Bowl XLVIII although actually the first two Super Bowl games were called "The AFL-NFL World Championship Game." It wasn't until the third year that the game was officially dubbed the Super Bowl and was called Super Bowl III.

Besides being held in a cold weather stadium, this year's game has another unusual wrinkle. The two teams, the Broncos and the Seahawks, represent the only two states in the U.S. where marijuana is legal — Colorado and Washington.

At some risk, I note, this brings up two socio-political issues that I favor: legalizing pot and building a state of the art NFL stadium when the Santa Monica Airport lease runs out. But first a little Super Bowl history.

As it happens, I attended Super Bowl I in 1967 at the L.A. Coliseum. I'd like to say I was but a toddler, but I went with my Aunt Amelia and I drove for the following reason. Amelia's old Ford had a high idle and occasionally, when we were stopped, she would forget causing our car to bang the car ahead of us. There was never any damage, but I frequently almost died from embarrassment.

To be honest, Super Bowl I was more boring than "super" as Green Bay rolled over Kansas City in a 35-10 one-sided affair. Plus there were 30,000 empty seats. (It remains the only Super Bowl not to be a sellout.)

Our tickets cost $10. This Sunday's game you could spend $4,000 and not necessarily have a great seat. If my math is correct (a big "if") that's an increase of 40,000 percent.

Speaking of inflation, a 30-second TV commercial for the first Super Bowl cost $42,500. On Sunday it could go as high as $4 million. Meanwhile, as I recall, parking at the Coliseum for Super Bowl I was $2, whereas on Sunday at MetLife Stadium it will cost $150.

For decades now the gala half-time show at the Super Bowl is a much anticipated event and the performers have included: Michael Jackson, U-2, the Rolling Stones, Madonna, Paul McCartney and Janet Jackson, who had the infamous "wardrobe malfunction" that sent the religious right into holy conniptions.

But back in 1967 Super Bowl I half-time featured the University of Michigan marching band. ("Ooh, pinch me.") This Sunday's half-time will feature the immensely talented Bruno Mars, although I doubt he could play a tuba and march.

I suppose in a country where the power of the corporation runs everything from the food we eat to our politicians, our most beloved sporting event is dominated by corporations. They're the only ones who can afford tickets (and get tax write offs), luxury boxes (handy if it snows on Sunday) and certainly the only ones who can pony up $4 million for a TV ad.

Since they're expecting 100 million viewers (with as many as 150 million watching part of the game) that's 4 cents per viewer? Put that way, it almost seems cheap.

One person who will not be watching is Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who says, "I could care less." Trust me, this is not music to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's ears, or to the manufacturers of Doritos for that matter. Of course, if I were married to supermodel Gisele Bündchen I could see caring less, too. (Although to be grammatically accurate I think it's "I couldn't care less.")

Speaking of Doritos and possible halftime munchies madness, a group in Denver bought the domain name "stonerbowl.org" and are cashing in by selling T-shirts and hats. One shirt features the Vince Lombardi Trophy refashioned into a bong. Another features the letters "THC" — for marijuana's active compound — replacing "NFL."

Certainly this year there's new meaning to the "bowl" part of Super Bowl. Some have issued calls for a cannabis-friendly musician, like Willie Nelson or Snoop Dogg, to sing the national anthem. Or try to. Predictably, the NFL doesn't see the humor. "We do not have any response," said league spokesman Greg Aiello.

I know the standard reasons for keeping pot illegal, but please keep this in mind. Not only will tax revenues in both states be enormous but, in Washington for example, it's estimated that there would have been 10,000 pot arrests that now won't happen. All that money for police, lawyers, judges and jailers can be put to better use.

As for a stadium when the airport lease expires, we'd get an NFL team and be "inconvenienced" 10 Sundays a year. We'd also be able to say buh-bye to jet noise and toxic fuel pollution. (That said, I'm bracing for angry e-mails.)

According to the USDA, Super Bowl Sunday is the "second highest day of food consumption in the United States, after Thanksgiving." With all the stoners in Colorado and Washington, all I can say is, watch out Thanksgiving.

JACK can be reached at facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth or via E-mail at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts — Water Temp: **60.4°**

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Primarily NW windswell, peaking in the morning; Old/minor West-NW swell fading out; lighter wind and better conditions due, cleanest in the AM

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal NW windswell; Watching for a weak front to slide through, cleanest early

MONDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
BIGGEST LATE with larger surf; Possible building short to mid period West-NW swell, peaking late; Cleanest in the AM

TUESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
BIGGEST EARLY; Possible short to mid period West-NW swell shows strongest early, then eases through the day; Cleanest early too

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 29, 2014**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 0
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31/ns
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8/ns

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Lawrence of Arabia (PG) 3hr 36min
7:30pm

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

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

I, Frankenstein (PG-13)
11:45am, 5:15pm, 10:10pm

I, Frankenstein 3D (PG-13)
2:30pm, 7:45pm

August: Osage County (R) 2hrs 10min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Nut Job (PG)
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Labor Day (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (NR) 1hr 40min
10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:45pm

Ride Along (PG-13)
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Wolf of Wall Street (R) 2hrs 45min
10:45am, 2:30pm, 6:45pm, 9:50pm

American Hustle (R) 2hrs 09min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm

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

That Awkward Moment (R)
11:50am, 2:40pm, 5:25pm, 8:15pm, 11:00pm

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

Broken Circle Breakdown (NR) 1hr 52min
11:00am

Nebraska (R) 1hr 50min
10:30am, 4:10pm, 10:00pm

Stranger By The Lake (L'inconnu du lac) (NR) 1hr 32min
11:10am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
10:45am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

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

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
1:10pm, 7:00pm

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

HANG WITH FRIENDS, CAPRICORN

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Use your imagination to push a project forward. Emphasis will be on both your personal and professional lives. You also might be looking at a change with your home or a real-estate investment. You will make an adjustment if necessary. Tonight: Not to be found.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You'll zero in on your long-term goals professionally and within your community. Be responsive to calls, as a lot of friends and associates could be looking for you. Make plans that involve being around crowds, and you will be happier as a result. Tonight: Where the gang is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You could become more involved in a situation that has to do with a parent or loved one. This person most likely is older and can cause you a lot of problems. Your perspective about this person could change enormously in the next few days. Tonight: Up till the wee hours.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter involving someone at a distance. You could be overtired and withdrawn from a recent upset, which will force you to make an even stronger impression. Tonight: Use your imagination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your contentment comes from the company around you. You will be happiest with one special person, so plan your day accordingly. Your sense of connection is already tight, and it only can grow from here. Tonight: Go with someone's request.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Defer to someone whom you care a lot about. You will get an invitation involving a party or get-together. You tend to enjoy one-on-one interactions, yet you'll discover how much friends can bring to your life and the moment. Go for the healthy mix. Tonight: Say "yes."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You might be more concerned with a project than you are with having a fun day. In fact, until you complete it, you won't be able to relax. Allow greater give-and-take between you and a loved one. Tonight: Relax when you are done.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your imagination will travel around some wild corners, and it could surprise you. Realize that you don't need to indulge every fantasy, but giving in to one or two might be fun, depending on who you choose to join you. Tonight: Opt for something different.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Pressure builds within your immediate circle. Listen to your inner voice about how to release tension. Once you do, you might choose to deal with the problem, but it will be in a way you might not had thought of. Tonight: At home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Pick up the phone and call a dear friend to catch up on his or her news. You might think of this person often, but you don't act on it. Consider changing that pattern, and you both will be a lot happier. Once you decide to make a change, it is as good as done. Tonight: Hang with friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Watch a tendency to overindulge and get a little wild. You might want to let off some steam, so choose a favorite winter sport. You'll be surprised at how good you feel afterward. Buy a token of affection for a loved one when you get a chance. Tonight: Your treat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ All eyes turn to you, as you seem to be a people magnet today! You might want to choose your company with care; realize that you have many choices. You like to be around people who inspire you or help you to relax. Tonight: Be imaginative.

Weekend Edition, February 1-2, 2014

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

This year you have an opportunity to develop a long-term interest or talent. You most likely will be rewarded by financial compensation. As a result, you'll feel appreciated. If you are single, you have a unique quality that draws others to you. Know what kind of relationship you desire when deciding which person to date. If you are attached, the two of you will enjoy a common venture, study or hobby. You also are changing; what bothered you about your sweetie in the past no longer is an issue. PISCES often is emotional.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



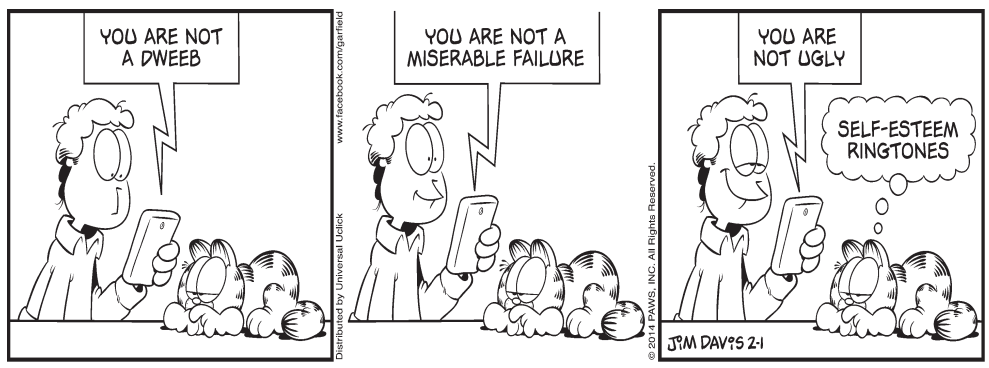
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Auction bids
5 Casual talk
9 Danger
10 Seeps
12 Not oblivious
13 — garde
14 Easy gaits
16 Old card game
17 Easter find
18 Sewing aid
20 Intensify
22 Naturalness
23 Have a spat
25 Joined the choir
28 Available, in a way
32 Checks the fit of
34 Candle makeup
35 Skill
36 Fuming
38 Crew member
40 Creative sort
41 Take the wrong way?
42 Turn outward
43 Jazz legend Getz
44 Retreats

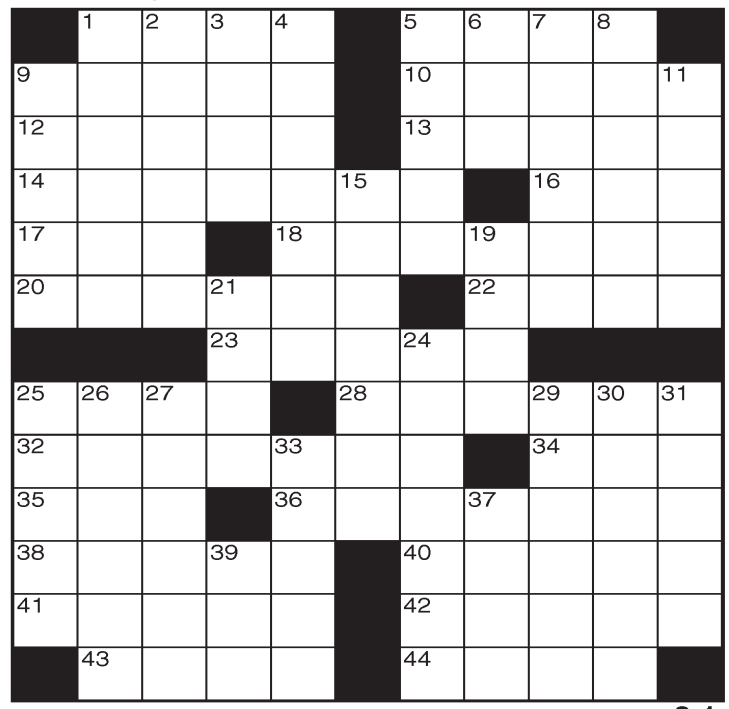
DOWN

1 Soothing music style
2 Marigold color
3 Tabloid staple
4 Surprise hit
5 Resort spot
6 — lane (carpoolers' place)
7 Flowering shrub
8 Some singers
9 Showed nervousness
11 14 pounds
15 Burmese capital
19 Casual tops
21 Book unit
24 Anonymous
25 Sky sights
26 Quiver stock
27 Pinhead
29 Come to
30 Heady brews
31 Put to use
33 Alarm sound
37 Gushing review
39 Clean Water Act org.

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-1



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Too Much Information: Arvind Kejriwal, fresh from his electoral victory as chief minister of the state of New Delhi, India, was to report to work on Monday, Dec. 30th, to begin fulfilling his anti-corruption administration -- one that promised unprecedented "transparency" to make government visible to constituents. However, the transparency of his first public announcement was perhaps over-the-top -- that he was taking the day off because of a bout of diarrhea. Said a colleague, "When the chief minister gives you a minute-by-minute update on his bowel movements, hail democracy."

■ Legislation, Not the Constitution, Is the Supreme Law of the Land: The December federal court decision, by Judge William Pauley, dismissing a challenge to the National Security Agency's phone surveillance program, suggested that even if a citizen might prove that his constitutional right to privacy was being violated, that person could never know it in the first place and thus never challenge, because Congress purposely made the NSA program secret. In fact, wrote Judge Pauley, the alleged constitutional violation that created the current lawsuit only came to light because of the unauthorized leaks by Edward Snowden. Therefore, if Congress never amends its secret laws, citizens will never get to find out whether their rights are being violated.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1974 - Kuala Lumpur is declared a Federal Territory.

1978 - Director Roman Polanski skips bail and flees the United States to France after pleading guilty to charges of having sex with a 13-year-old girl.

WORD UP!

boffin
\ BOF-in \ , noun;
1.
a scientist or technical expert.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Handyman

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

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

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

Statistics updated every Friday

Buyers' Needs

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

~ ~

Condo (Single Level, Top Floor Only)
Santa Monica -
Minimum 2 + 1.75 - Wood Floors, Laundry in Unit,
Elevator Building, 2-Car Parking
$700,000 - $1,000,000

~ ~

Single Family Home
SM, Brentwood, Palisades, Bel Air, Malibu, Westwood
Minimum 3 + 1.75 - Pool or Room for Pool
$1,200,000 - $3,000,000

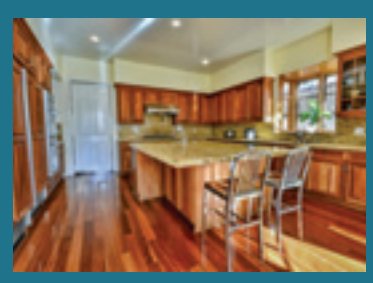
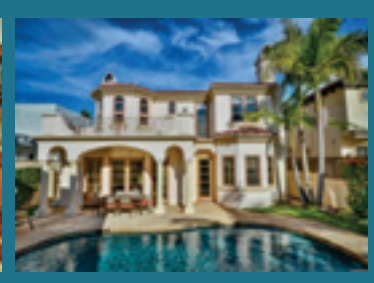
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