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Turbulence continues over agreement to close Santa Monica Airport

BY KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica and west Los Angeles residents who booked upcoming chartered flights to Carlsbad, San Jose and Vegas from SMO will be getting their money back. With news the runway will lose more than a thousand feet of landing room, JetSuite X is cancelling all flights until Feb. 24.

It's enough time to give their CEO a chance to figure out what to do next.

Alex Wilcox has just one word to describe the sudden agreement between the City and the FAA to close Santa Monica Airport in 2028: "blindsided."

"It was a shock," Wilcox said of the Saturday morning announcement the FAA was dropping its push to keep the airport open allowing the City to immediately shorten the runway to 3,500 feet. Once the runway is repaved, JetSuiteX's thirty-seat charter jets will no longer be able to take off.

It seems just about everyone was shocked. The few attendees at Saturday's sleepy City Council meeting – a study session on citizen wellbeing – had no idea the councilmembers would also vote on a landmark decision to drop numerous lawsuits and sign a consent decree with the FAA. The councilmembers narrowly voted 4-3 to support the settlement that now goes before a federal judge. The agreement also allows the City to sell fuel, provide aeronautical services (as opposed to private operators) and do as they wish with land not used for aviation.



Matthew Hall

RUNWAY: The recent settlement will allow the city to shorten the runway at SMO and close the airport in 2028.

Those involved with the negotiations were also shocked when the FAA suddenly expressed a willingness to work with the City on a compromise.

"There's still disbelief. It's fair to say when I accepted being interim City Attorney the possibility of settling this seemed more than remote," Joseph Lawrence said in an interview. "It was a glimmer maybe out there somewhere. It was so far away. It seemed nobody was every going to get there. I don't know how to say it. It's startling."

It has, until recently, been the FAA's stance that the airport should remain open forever.

SEE AGREEMENT PAGE 6

Apartments.com buys Westside Rentals

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica based Westside Rentals has been sold to the CoStar Group, operator of Apartments.com.

The sale was announced this week and the new owners said the local company will keep its Santa Monica headquarters. The company will decrease focus on its brokerage sales and leasing services to maximize its inventory of available rental properties.

Local entrepreneur Mark Verge started Westside Rentals 20 years alongside his wife Lani and his brother. He said the company had been approached by potential buyers before, but the CoStar offer was exceptional.

"We are thrilled to join the CoStar team and the Apartments.com network of sites," he said. "Becoming part of an incredibly innovative company that has truly transformed the rental experience for consumers and landlords alike is exciting and we're eager to contribute to their success."

He said the sale was more attractive due the buyer's commitment to the current employees

"The key is the employees are all taken care of," he said.

Westside Rentals offers a subscription service for finding rental housing. The company reported more than 85,000 members in 2016 and had more than 350,000 landlords listing properties. The local listings will be added to the Apartments.com network.

"The Los Angeles market represents the largest rental market in the U.S. Bringing Westside Rentals into our family of rental brands and expanding the rental choices for consumers there is a natural extension for us," said Andrew

SEE SALE PAGE 6

Police sell pink patches to fight breast cancer

BY KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

For the first time in recent memory, the Santa Monica Police Department is releasing their patch to the public. While other police departments regularly participate in patch swaps or allow civilians to buy them, SMDP has always kept their signature mermaid by the sea for officers only - until now.

There is a catch: the patches are pink.

Jail administrator Jennifer Estrada was the first to purchase a pink patch and place it in her office window. From that moment they've been flying off her desk.

"When the guys come by and see it's pink it really garners a lot of attention," Estrada said in an interview from her office in the jail. "It sold like crazy."

The pink patches cost ten dollars each and are raising money for the Breast Cancer Society. SMDP is the 91st agency to join the Pink Patch Project, which originated with the Irwindale Police Department. Santa Monica College's Police Department is also selling pink versions of their patch.

Without any announcement or

SEE PATCHES PAGE 7


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, February 2

Read a Play

Discover great plays while uncovering your inner actor. This group will read through a different play each month, with each in attendance taking part in the read through. Title: Bedroom Farce by Alan Ayckbourn. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 7 – 8:30 p.m.

A Discussion of Precious Rocks, Stones and Minerals

Learn the stories, myths, and legends surrounding the most celebrated jewel-laden artifacts from around the world from jeweler and best-selling author Aja Raden. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 – 8:30 p.m.

GED Prep Class

Get prepared to take the Reasoning Through Language Arts subject test of the GED. Class will be held in the Annex, next to Pico Branch Library. 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 – 8 p.m.

Friday, February 3

Guest House Open

Free tours begin at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, www.annenbergbeachhouse.com/activities/cultural-programs-events-and-tours.aspx#Guest_House

Dinah Berland Office Hours

During her residency at the Annenberg Community Beach House Berland will be working on a chapbook of poems, titled 'Fugue for a New Life,' presenting three public events and an 8-week workshop with the theme of 'poetry and the art of listening.' She will also be holding public office hours every Friday from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and posting weekly updates at beachhouseair.blogspot.com. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

"Go at Throttleup – The Loss of Challenger"

This month marks the 31st anniversary of the loss of the space shuttle Challenger and her seven-person crew. Come review what happened and the lessons brought to light in the subsequent investigation. Drescher Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd. Tickets are available at the door and cost $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. For information, call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Flowmotion

Pico Youth & Family Center in collaboration with Green Hype present Flowmotion. Happening friday in Santa Monica! A groovy night filled with Audio & Visual performances, Dancing, and Culture at the PYFC. All-ages. $10 admission. Doors open at 8 p.m. Music starts at 9 p.m. 715 Pico Blvd.

Saturday, February 4

Dueling Pianos: The American Masters

Pianists Karen Spurney and Valerie Stern present an educational and entertaining medley of music and visuals reflecting the deep and rich history of American popular music. Includes works by Aaron Copland and George Gershwin. For all ages. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 - 3 p.m.

Artists for Solidarity reading/discussion group

Be More Solidary, was founded in search of a dialogue to learn and build relationships across difference. In this session, read essays from the book Black, Brown, Yellow and Left, work on our "Timeline of An(Other) Los Angeles", and share playlists and reading lists. Participants are invited to bring in their own texts and examples of multiracial solidarity and alliance building. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Free. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/56722

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Salome Art Contest Winner

This past fall, LA Opera hosted a contest for currently enrolled college art and design students in southern California. Students were asked to submit artwork for LA Opera's spring production of Strauss's Salome for a chance to be featured on the cover of the show's performance program and displayed at the home of LA Opera, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

Thanks to the generous support of GRoW @ Annenberg, more than 35 students from 14 different southern California institutions competed for cash prizes and to see their artwork on this season's Salome program cover. The winners were chosen by a jury, chaired by Gregory Annenberg Weingarten of the Annenberg Foundation and by Regina Weingarten, a member of the LA Opera board of directors. The jury also included Christopher Koelsch, LA Opera President and CEO; Diane Bergman, LA Opera Vice President of Marketing and Communications; Keith Rainville, LA Opera Brand Manager; and Tim Johnson, Film Director at DreamWorks Animation and a member of the LA Opera board of directors. Organizers have announced three winners: Marshall Dahlin, David Kwock, and Lauren Moss.

The top submission (see below), by Marshall Dahlin of Cal State Fullerton, was selected for the Salome cover, and earned him a $5,000 prize. David Kwock of Cal State Dominguez Hills won $2,000 for second place for his submission.

Third place winner Lauren Moss of Santa Monica College – who won $1,000 for third place for her submission learned about the art contest from a Facebook post. Although Moss is an opera fan, she did additional research on Salome specifically before creating her piece with water color.

"Everyone seems to demonize Salome, but I wanted to show that she was grieving. I painted her during her famous dance scene, but with a swan instead of John the Baptist's head," says Moss. She used a swan in place of John the Baptist's head, because of the expression "swan's song," which is said when someone is doing something for the last time.

Thanks to this contest, the winners and all qualifying contestants have been invited to the opening night performance of Salome on Feb. 18. The winners will attend the cast party to receive their prize and meet the cast and creatives behind the production.

For more information about LA Opera visit https://www.laopera.org/.

– SUBMITTED BY KAREN MEURER BACELLAR, LA OPERA CONTENT MANAGER

Citywide

Insights Into Cancer public lecture at UCLA

Nutrition is an area in which individuals with cancer often have many concerns. These concerns include the role of nutrition in potentially causing or preventing cancer. Media presents conflicting nutritional messages leaving patients confused about what advice to take. However, recent research has identified foods and/or supplements that may be important in the prevention of cancers as well as the reduction of recurrence. Carolyn Katzin, UCLA Integrative Specialist, discusses the foundations of healthy diets that aid in making someone's body as healthy as possible so that individuals can make informed choices in light of changing recommendations. Beyond diet, choosing appropriate supplements can be overwhelming as well. Carolyn Katzin guides those interested in complementary approaches and nutritional supplements to choose those supplements that are most likely help maintain health or reduce disease risk. The goal of this lecture is to help patients, their family members and others interested in preventing cancer to be as well educated as possible in making sound lifestyle choices.

Carolyn Katzin, MS, CNS, MNT, has over 25 years of experience working in the field of oncology and nutrition. She spent her childhood on a farm in Kent (the "Garden of England") and was lucky enough to enjoy fresh picked fruits and vegetables in a health-oriented family. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutrition at University of London's King's College. She received a Master of Science degree in Public Health in Nutritional Science from UCLA and completed her internship at Harbor-UCLA. Her original human research focused on the role of dietary protein in the development of a well-characterized form of retinal degeneration which introduced her to the concept of personalized and preventive health and a glimpse into the future of applicable genomics. She has been a member of the American Cancer Society National Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer Control Committee as well as past Chair of the California Division Board of Directors and co-Chair of California Division Board of Directors Nominating and Development Committee; Ms. Katzin is an Integrative Specialist with the Simms/Mann Center. She offers the Individual Integrative Assessment which provides patients with individual counseling on nutrition and supplements.

Event Information:

Nutrition and Cancer: A Strategic Approach - Carolyn Katzin, MS, CNS. February 7, 7 – 9 p.m. at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center (RRMC) Auditorium, B Level, Room B130, 757 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095. Attendance is Free.

Parking Available at the Medical Plaza or Ronald Reagan Medical Center lots for $12

– SUBMITTED BY MARCIA BRITVAN, UCLA

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Culture Watch

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Music, movies and more

CONGRATULATIONS TO KALEIDOSCOPE

the conductorless chamber orchestra whose mission is to make classical music more accessible to diverse audiences. They've performed in homeless shelters, children's hospitals and other underserved venues, and this year, they're instituting a pay-what-you-can model for ticket sales.

Their Kickstarter campaign to raise $72,000 was a nail biter for a while, but with a big spurt of energy at the end and a generous matching fund, they managed to make a few dollars more than their goal by their end date of Jan. 31.

Their concert season continues in February, March and April at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Monica with programs that include composers Maurice Ravel, Ralph Vaughan-Williams, Darius Milhaud, Francis Poulenc, Steven Stucky, Sergei Prokofiev and more. Get additional information on Kaleidoscope at www.kco.org.

SPEAKING OF MUSIC

Two local orchestras are performing special concerts this season. The Dream Orchestra, founded in 2011 by Artistic Director Daniel Suk, the international award-winning Korean violinist In Mo Yang as guest artist on February 25 at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica. The concert includes the Brahms Violin Concerto and his Symphony No. 4, part of the Orchestra's "Romantic Dreams" concert.

With his Antonio Stradivari violin, 21-year-old Yang won the highly acclaimed First Prize at the 2015 International Violin Premio Paganini Competition in Genoa, Italy, marking the first time since 2006 the jury awarded the First Prize. It's one of a number of international competitions that this young man has won in such short order.

For tickets, visit www.dreamorchestra.org or www.brownpapertickets.com.

And The Los Angeles Doctors Symphony announced its 21st annual collaboration with the Westside Music Foundation, to showcase the winners of the Robert Turner Piano Competition. The six winners will play one movement each of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor. And the orchestra will also perform Symphony No. 29 in A major by Mozart.

Robert Turner was a professional pianist and a Southern Californian who led many of his students to win state, national and international piano competitions. At age 14 he made a name for himself as a soloist with the NBC Orchestra, and after pursuing his degree, later joined the faculties of UCLA, UCSD and USC. A number of his students have gone on to become performers and university professors.

The Westside Music Foundation supports and champions musical education, especially for youth who do not have access to high quality opportunities; they manage the Turner competition. The Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra, now in its 64th season, is one of the oldest community orchestras in the U.S.

The concert takes place Sunday, March 5 at 4 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica. Suggested donation is $10, parking is free. More info at www.ladso.org.

A GOOD FELLOW

Maren Ade, a German born filmmaker and director, spent three months at Villa Aurora in Pacific Palisades on an artist-in-residence fellowship. She used the time well, writing the script for a critically acclaimed film released last year called "Toni Erdmann." She produced and directed the film, competing for the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival and winning five awards at the 29th European Film Awards.

Germany submitted "Toni Erdmann" as its entry for Best Foreign Language film at the 89th Academy Awards ceremony, and it has been nominated in this category.

By the way, there's a welcoming reception for the newest Villa Aurora artist fellows on Feb. 1 at this beautiful, historic cultural institution. It's free but you must RSVP. Details here: http://www.villa-aurora.org/en/eventreader/20170201_welcoming_reception.html

SPEAKING OF OSCAR

Oscar Levant once said, "There's a fine line between genius and insanity. I have erased this line."

Who was Oscar Levant? A multi-talented, classically trained, brilliant piano virtuoso renowned for his performing his friend George Gershwin's compositions. But Levant was also a comedic actor, who co-starred in "An American in Paris," as well as a writer of both music for movies and books, including his "Memoirs of an Amnesiac." And one more claim to fame: he was a member of the legendary Algonquin Round Table, an exclusive circle of wits and writers that included Dorothy Parker and Robert Benchley, among others.

He died too young in 1972 and has been mostly forgotten. Until now.

Onstage at the Falcon Theatre in Burbank, voiceover rock star Dan Castellaneta—who brings Homer Simpson to life—is resurrecting Levant in a play he wrote and stars in, "For Piano and Harpo." Yes, that Harpo – the silent mime, big wig-wearing Marx brother. He and Levant were friends, and a more opposite pair of personalities is hard to imagine. Harpo was a successful, stable family man; Levant had bouts of drug addiction and depression that may have been attributable to bipolar disorder, which didn't have a treatment back in his day.

The story, from Harpo's book, "Harpo Speaks," goes that one night while Harpo was hosting a dinner party, Levant crashed it – and stayed for more than a year. In this play, Castellaneta has Levant waking up in the psychiatric ward of Mt. Sinai Hospital. As he grapples with his demons to save his marriage and his sanity, he conjures people from his past and present, including the first host of the Tonight Show, Jack Paar; his friend George Gershwin of whom he was professionally envious; his wife, June and of course, Harpo.

This world premiere of "For Piano and Harpo" runs through March 5 at The Falcon Theatre, which by the way was founded by the late comedic genius, Garry Marshall. It's in Burbank. For tickets, call the box office at (818) 955-8101; find more details at http://falcontheatre.com.

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. Contact her at culturewatch@smdp.com.

PRESIDENT
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Marina Andalon
marina@smdp.com
Kate Cagle
kate@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
editor@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Andrew Oja
andrew@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
David Pisarra, Charles Andrews, Jack Neworth, Sarah A. Spitz, Cynthia Citron, Margarita Rozenbaoum

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

OPERATIONS/ CIRCULATION/LEGAL SERVICES MANAGER
Josh Heisler
josh@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
josh@smdp.com

Achling Holliday
josh@smdp.com

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Searching for the Disappeared Mind



Courtesy Photo

COMA: Plasticity is at the Hudson Guild Theatre on Santa Monica Blvd. in Los Angeles.

WHERE DOES THE MIND GO WHEN ITS body is in a coma?

Playwrights Alex Lyras and Robert McCaskill explore this question in their provocative new play, "Plasticity," now having its world premiere at the Hudson Guild Theatre in Los Angeles.

With multiple projections on a screen in the background and more projections on a see-through scrim in front, Lyras, sandwiched between the two screens, transforms himself, with a change of jackets, a pair of glasses, and a range of voices, into a myriad of doctors, hospital attendants, and concerned loved ones who hover around the bedside or on the phone to follow the treatment of a comatose patient, David Rosely.

David, an inveterate risk-taker, has fallen off a rocky mountain in the midst of a climb and now lies immobile in a hospital bed. The agonizing decisions about when to "pull the plug" fall to his identical twin brother, Grant.

Meanwhile, we are pulled into the confused mind of David as he struggles to retrieve his consciousness. This struggle is reflected in the bright colors and Rorschach squiggles that flash across the rear screen. They are accompanied by brief snatches of memory and ephemeral ghost-like abstractions spinning kaleidoscope-style.

"Who is the man?" asks one of the doctors. "He is the soul in the skin," answers another. "The brain is the antenna that picks up the soul," says a third. "His brain will find a way to live."

"But only on a par with a fetus in the womb," says Mr. Bones, an orderly who appears from time to time to offer an update on everyone's current concerns and emotions, which he disseminates in exquisite rhyme.

In addition to the activities at the hospital there are several very human subplots going on as well. Grant speaks regularly on the phone to his wife, Meg, to keep her apprised of David's unchanging condition and to confess his own trepidation at having to make life-and-death decisions for a brother he dearly loves.

Then there is Kate, "six feet tall, and stunning" who claims to be David's fiancee. Her loyalties waver between dedicating her life to taking care of David ("It will give my life a purpose," she says) and hiring an attorney to forge documents that will identify her as the intended beneficiary of David's estate.

As the weeks go by, David is force-fed through a tube and then, alternatively, not fed at all so that undernourished, he can wither away and die. "Doctors don't believe in miracles," says one. "Life is creative fiction," says another.

But then, after nearly two months, David hesitantly opens one eye. And the audience is guided through the processes and images that ultimately lead David to recover his mind.

Lyras, the solo actor who portrays all the characters, and McCaskill, who directs the play as well as co-writing it, did extensive research into brain plasticity, a term that refers to the ability of the brain to modify its own structure and function even after changes take place within the body or in the external environment.

"The latest neuroscience informs the show's exploration of how the brain heals itself and ultimately creates the mind," Lyras says. And the process is dramatically augmented by the visual effects of video designer Corwin Evans, using multiple projectors to create 3D impressions. The innovative music composed by Ken Rich, the set and lighting design by Matt Richter, and the editing by Peter Chalkos all coalesce to form a nearly perfect theatrical event. And that's not easy to do with a solo performance on a subject so esoteric that it boggles the mind!

"Plasticity" can be seen Saturdays and Mondays at 8pm and Sundays at 7 through March 13th. There will also be a performance on Friday, March 10 at 8 p.m. and NO performance on Sunday, Feb. 5.

The Hudson Guild Theatre is located at 6539 Santa Monica Blvd. in Los Angeles. Call (323) 960-7787 or go to www.plasticitytheplay.com for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON has worked as a journalist, public relations director, documentary screenwriter and theater reviewer. She may be reached at ccitron66@gmail.com.

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SALE

FROM PAGE 1

Florance, Founder and CEO of CoStar Group. "Westside Rentals has built a loyal base of renters in this highly competitive market as well as a dedicated group of landlords across a variety of different types of rental properties."

Verge also owns a chain of local restaurants and said he plans to reinvest his time in the eateries and use the businesses to build a stronger sense of community.

"It's a fun business, I enjoy it," he said. "I really enjoy the interaction with the community, with the employees."

Of his four restaurants (OP Café, Margo's, Art's Table and Ashland Hill) Verge said the spirit of OP Café is a great example of why he wants to stay involved in the local community.

"My wife Lani always says, 'it's the greatest place because it's so neighborhood,'" he said.

He said neighborhood restaurants where locals can get a cup of coffee from someone that knows their name are vitally important to the city's wellbeing and that the local operations do far more for the community than a corporate outlet.

"Does the city really need a 24th or 25th Starbucks?" he said. "I'm from Santa Monica and I want to build more community. I'm really excited about the neighborhood restaurant."

Verge said part of his renewed focus would be on supporting local youth through support for local schools. He said Westside Rentals never turned down a request to support a local school and he wants all of his restaurants to increase their participation in the community.

"I really want to support the schools," he said. "I feel like we're going to doing a little bit more for the neighborhood."

For more information, visit www.costargroup.com, www.apartments.com, www.westsiderentals.com or www.onthevergehospitality.com.

editor@smdp.com

AGREEMENT

FROM PAGE 1

Although there has been much speculation from outside groups that the change in presidential administrations led to the FAA flip-flop, Lawrence says the negotiations actually started a month before the election in October.

"There was a different focus within the FAA in reaching out to the City and that involved different people in the FAA becoming actively involved," Lawrence said.

Lawrence would not go into details on the discussion because of the confidential nature of the agreement, but denied the deal is a parting gift from Obama administration.

"The change in presidential administrations only slowed it down at the very, very end. It changed which people at the federal end had to be informed and then agree. That process took awhile and then finally occurred late Friday."

"Given the opposition that some in the community have to this consent decree, there are many people who would hardly agree this was a gift to them," Lawrence said.

It is true that the sudden compromise has given aviation organizations and anti-airport activists something they can finally agree on: disdain for this deal. Neither side was given a seat at the table when negotiating the agreement. In fact, two anti-airport groups filed an emergency motion to try and stop the settlement Tuesday. A district court judge rejected the motion, calling the settlement "fair, reasonable and adequate to all concerned." There will be a protest at the airport Saturday, as activists and neighbors complain twelve more years of jet flights over the densely populated neighborhood is hardly reasonable.

Sources familiar with negotiations but who would not talk on the record because of confidentiality agreements say the City rejected several offers by the FAA that would have kept the airport open for even longer. Both sides went back and forth with numerous counter-offers before reaching the twelve-year compromise. Neither the FAA nor the Justice Department responded to the Daily Press' request for comment.

In recent days, several City Council members continue to publicly support the deal.

"As someone who has settled cases over the last three decades, I know the best settlements are the ones where both sides walk away a little bit unhappy," Councilmember Gleam Davis said, who serves as in-house council for AT&T, in addition to her duties on the City Council.

On Wednesday, Mayor Ted Winterer appeared as a guest on KPCC's afternoon interview show AirTalk to defend the closure and his vote.

"This was a difficult decision to make, I'll acknowledge," Winterer said to a Santa Monica resident who called the radio show to complain the City could have reached a better deal in court.

"There was also the possibility that the FAA would've prevailed and we would be propelled to operate at least part of the airport into perpetuity," Winterer said.

"Those who voted for it did because it eliminates all the risk."

The deal also eliminates millions of dollars in legal fees both the City and the FAA would have spent over the next few years fighting it out in court.

For now, JetSuiteX is hoping to avoid a court battle as well. Wilcox says both sides have agreed to hold off filing lawsuits for the next few weeks, hoping the City can reach yet another compromise to allow his chartered jet service to continue until construction on the runway begins. The City says JetSuiteX must complete an environmental impact survey on the neighborhood before beginning any new service. By the time that's done, the window for large jet service may be closed.

kate@smdp.com



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Los Angeles

Metro Launches redesigned website with improved Trip Planner

After several months of testing and input from the public, the redesigned and updated metro.net has been launched. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) incorporated user feedback to improve the site design and functionality, making it easier for customers to access the information they want on the devices they use most.

"Our data shows approximately 75 percent of metro.net's visitors are looking for information on how to ride our buses and trains," said Metro Board Chair John Fasana. "They want access to maps, fare info, and Nextrip. For that reason, we've made sure that the focus is on a new Trip Planner."

Metro's Trip Planner has been rebuilt from the ground up and now provides more transit options and service alerts as part of the itinerary. Both scheduled and real-time arrivals for Metro are included, as well as service data from the 24 municipal transit agencies in Los Angeles County that accept TAP cards.

More than 65 percent of customers access metro.net from a mobile device, so the website has been re-engineered to ensure trip planning requires fewer clicks while remaining readable on a small screen.

"Even after the launch of the new website, improvements will continue in the coming months," Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. "Metro will add more real-time data, as well as integrate Metro Bike Share and park-and-ride information into the Trip Planner."

– SUBMITTED BY ANNA CHEN/JONI GOHEEN METRO MEDIA RELATIONS

PATCHES

FROM PAGE 1

press release, Estrada sold more than 150 patches to officers and staff at the Public Safety Facility. She's been impressed by how quickly it has taken off with her mostly male colleagues.

"All of the guys are like 'that's so cool' and all of them have their own personal story of how they've been touched by cancer: like their mom or their grandmother or their brother," Estrada said.

It's not hard to find a connection to start up a conversation surrounding the important topic of early detection or intervention. The National Cancer Institute estimates one in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer at some point during their lives.

In fact, the entire nationwide effort started a few years ago with one conversation at the Irwindale Police Department. Chief Anthony Miranda had a heartfelt talk with his records clerk, Norma Ortiz, who had just lost her mom to breast cancer. Both of them realized their small police department had been deeply touched by cancer. Miranda decided to go beyond the traditional pink pins and bracelets to make a big difference. They borrowed the idea of pink patches from the Seal Beach Police Department, and started selling their own to raise money for City of Hope.

Every October, every officer now wears a pink patch to raise awareness.

"We deal with people in the best of times and the worst of times," Sgt. Rudy Gatto said over the phone from Irwindale. "Every contact is a chance for us to spread the word. We're human beings too. My family has been personally touched by cancer and breast cancer."

Gatto says raising awareness is important, because early detection is so vital to fighting breast cancer. The first year, the department doubled their initial fundraising goal and raised $20,000. They decided to take the idea nationwide.

The pink patches spread from agency to agency and last October the entire effort raised $320,000 for breast cancer research and charities. Gatto hopes to raise half a million dollars by October this year.

Word of the collectible patches spreads fast. Recently, a man in San Francisco reached out to Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks in Santa Monica with a personal letter asking to buy a patch to add to a memorial quilt he is making for his mother who died of breast cancer. The City hadn't even announced plans to sell the patches yet.

For Estrada, it's another way for officers to connect with the many issues facing the people they serve.

"We're not just out there playing cops and robbers. We actually care about the people who live here," Estrada said.

SMDP will sell the patches year round. To get one, send a check and a self addressed envelope to Jennifer Estrada at 333 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA 90401. The check should be made out to the City of Santa Monica with "Pink Patch" in the memo line.

kate@smdp.com

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP # 87A CALL FOR CULTURAL/ENTERTAINMENT EVENT PROPOSAL

- **Submission Deadline Is February 27, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

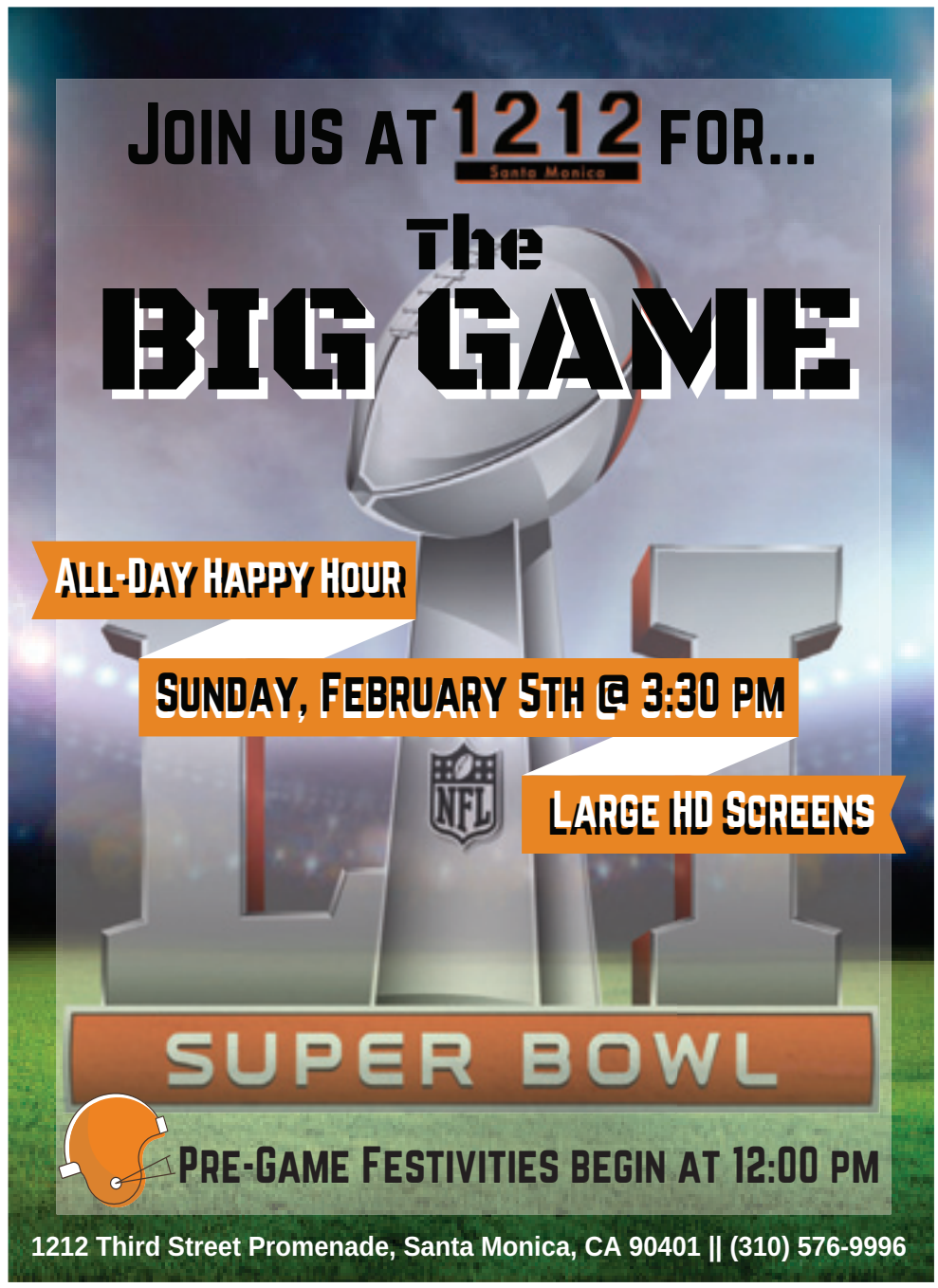
Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge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



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **57.9°**

THURSDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high occ. 6ft
Good size West swell builds further. New/secondary South swell joins in. E/ESE AM wind.

FRIDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **4-7 ft** shoulder high to 2 ft overhead
Healthy West swell to peak. South swell mixing in. Keeping an eye on the AM winds.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

CDBG Undergrounding and Excavation UUC1006

The City of Santa Monica is soliciting bids for construction quotes for a multi-phased project with incremental utility undergrounding and excavation for a term not to exceed two (2) years. Parties shall submit one construction cost proposal with line item costs for each phase specified in the bidding instructions. Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on Monday, March 27, 2017, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Bidders must meet City staff at the Northwest Corner of 17th Street and Pico Blvd Santa Monica, CA on February 23, 2017 at 8:00 am for the mandatory pre-bid job walk. City staff will take all those in attendance to all locations mentioned in the bidding documents. Submission of the Bid by the Bidder shall be conclusive evidence that the undersigned has made such examinations and included all costs associated with preparing the Sites for the intended Work. The engineering drawings for the Work show conditions as they are supposed or believed to exist. The conditions shown do not constitute a representation or warranty express or implied by the City or its officers that such conditions actually exist.

Parking will not be supplied or validated by City staff.

Community Development Block Grant (Federally Funded) Project
PROJECT ESTIMATE: $2,000,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: #730
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $500.00 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **General "A" and Class C-10 Electrical Contractor license at the time of bid submission.** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON JANUARY 26, AT ABOUT 3 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service of vehicle burglary which just occurred at Parking Structure 6, 1431 2nd Street. Officers met with the victim who said various items were taken from the car including a laptop computer. The victim had seen a subject acting suspiciously in the lot and enter a light colored Honda Civic. The victim was able track her laptop using a mobile application, which indicated it was in the area of PCH and Entrada Road. Officers located a possible vehicle occupied by two subjects at the Chevron Gas Station, 14791 Pacific Coast Highway and the occupants were detained for an investigation. The driver was positively identified as the suspicious subject previously seen in the parking structure. A search of the vehicle resulted in the recovery of the victim's laptop computer, burglary tools, multiple credit cards, methamphetamine and narcotics paraphernalia. Both subjects were taken into custody without incident.
Jorge Antonio Mendoza, 35, from Hayward, was arrested for transportation of methamphetamine, identity theft and possession of access card with intent to defraud. Bail was set at $50,000. Pooja Nicole Chaudhary 36, from Fremont, was arrested for burglary, transportation of methamphetamine and receiving stolen property. Bail was set at $50,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 354 calls for service on Jan 31.

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

Vandalism 1500 block of Lincoln 1:11 a.m.
Traffic collision Main/Pico 5:31 a.m.
Traffic collision 1700 block of 9th 5:39 a.m.
Auto burglary 1900 block of Euclid 6:38 a.m.
Battery 400 block of Wilshire 6:47 a.m.
Auto burglary 1900 block of Euclid 7:07 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block of Dewey 7:55 a.m.
Battery 1600 block of Cloverfield 8:59 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block of Hill 9:13 a.m.
Burglary 2000 block of Main 9:31 a.m.
Traffic collision 4th/Montana 10:08 a.m.
Panhandling 2300 block of 4th 10:12 a.m.
Traffic collision 1600 block of Lincoln 10:18 a.m.
Encampment 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 11:01 a.m.
Auto burglary 2200 block of Oak 11:03 a.m.
Hit and run 900 block of Wilshire 11:29 a.m.
Hit and run 1400 block of Wilshire 11:32 a.m.
Speeding 12th/Wilshire 11:32 a.m.
Burglary 3200 block of Ocean Park 11:50 a.m.
Petty theft 1500 block of California 11:53 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 12th 12:04 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block of 12th 12:08 p.m.
Traffic collision 2000 block of Colorado 12:17 p.m.
Burglary 1400 block of 5th 12:32 p.m.
Grand theft 700 block of Hill 12:41 p.m.
Battery 700 block of Raymond 12:45 p.m.
Violation of preferential 1500 block of 14th 12:57 p.m.
Petty theft 2400 block of Ocean Front Walk 1:05 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 2400 block of Colorado 1:22 p.m.
Traffic collision 600 block of Wilshire 1:31 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 1:56 p.m.
Death investigation 2900 block of Neilson 2:09 p.m.
Traffic collision 20th/Santa Monica 2:23 p.m.
Domestic violence 2500 block of Pico 2:33 p.m.
Petty theft 2900 block of Ocean Front Walk 2:41 p.m.
Indecent exposure 200 block of Santa Monica 2:48 p.m.
Auto burglary 100 block of Hart 3:07 p.m.
Petty theft 1200 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 3:09 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 800 block of Montana 3:16 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 2000 block of Wilshire 3:23 p.m.
Petty theft 3100 block of Highland 3:34 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 37 calls for service on Jan. 31.

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

EMS 2500 block of 28th 12:48 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of 9th 5:37 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of 3rd 8:06 a.m.
EMS of 4th/Montana 10:09 a.m.
EMS 1600 block of Lincoln 10:17 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of Ocean 10:34 a.m.
EMS 1800 block of Wilshire 10:43 a.m.
EMS 2900 block of 31st 11:05 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 11:08 a.m.
Assist LAFD of Main/Navy 11:21 a.m.
EMS of 17th/Wilshire 11:44 a.m.
EMS of 20th/Colorado 12:18 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 1:06 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 1:31 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 1:39 p.m.
EMS 2900 block of Neilson 2:13 p.m.
EMS 1000 block of Pico 2:48 p.m.
EMS of Euclid/Wilshire 3:33 p.m.
Structure fire 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 3:48 p.m.
Smoke investigation of Stanford/Wilshire 3:54 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Delaware 4:10 p.m.
EMS of Lincoln/Wilshire 4:25 p.m.
EMS 2700 block of Ocean Park 4:29 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 26th 4:31 p.m.
Smoke investigation 1100 block of Chelsea 6:41 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Santa Monica 6:51 p.m.
EMS of Lincoln/Michigan 6:55 p.m.
EMS of 5th st/Broadway 8:53 p.m.
EMS 1800 block of 9th 8:59 p.m.
EMS of Harvard/Wilshire 9:41 p.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire 1500 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 9:45 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 10:18 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of pico 10:21 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 3rd 10:37 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 11:10 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 11:14 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 1/28
12 20 39 49 69
Power#: 17
Jackpot: 206M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 1/31
3 14 27 62 72
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 20M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 1/28
11 15 22 33 35
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 8M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/31
14 15 31 35 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/31
MIDDAY: 9 0 6
Draw Date: 1/31
EVENING: 7 0 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/31
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:47.32

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!

ataraxia

1. a state of freedom from emotional disturbance and anxiety; tranquillity.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Smoke-Illed Gloom

■ Smoking is arguably the single most important preventive measure you can take to ensure good health. Think otherwise? Consider this stat: People who consistently smoked an average of less than one cigarette per day over their lifetime had a 64 percent higher risk of earlier death than people who never smoked, according to new research from the National Cancer Institute.

■ People who smoked between one and 10 cigarettes a day had an 87 percent higher risk of earlier death than "never smokers."

■ The greater risk primarily focused on succumbing to respiratory diseases, such as emphysema and cardiovascular disease. It's not for nothing that cigarettes are colloquially known as "coffin nails."

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@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*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

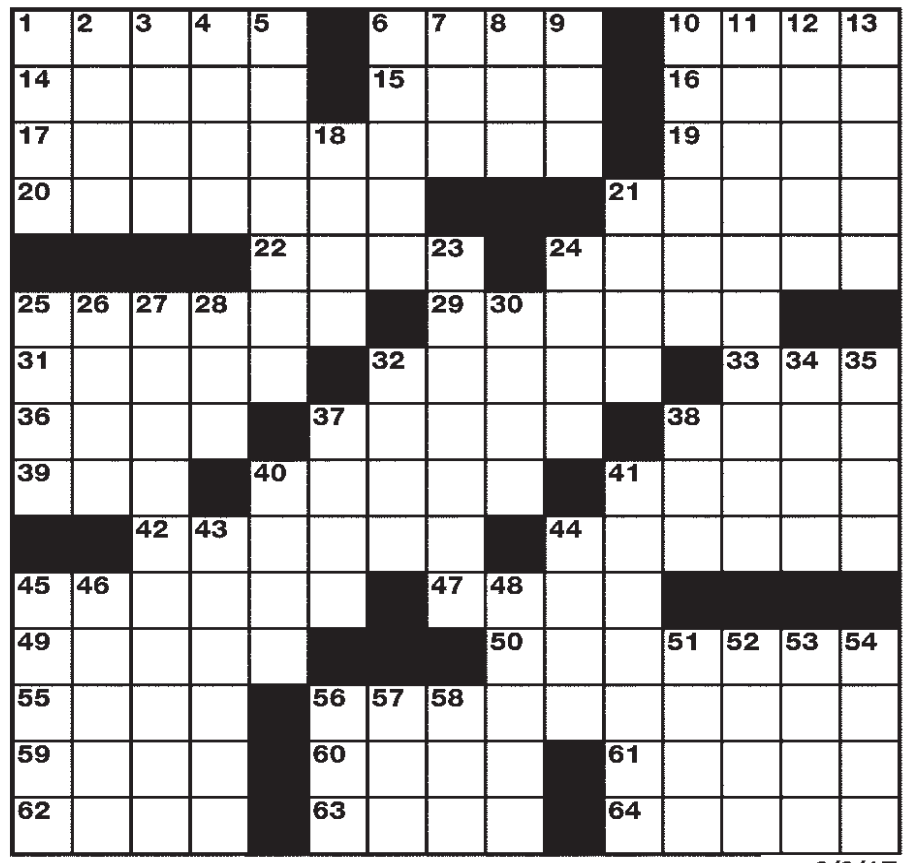
5		9					6	4
1				3	7			
		2	6	9		1		5
	9		1		6	8		
	1	5				3	4	
		8	3		2		1	
8		6		7	1	4		
			8	2				7
3	2					9		1

Newsday Crossword

IN TIERS by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Disney lion
6 Goldie's daughter
10 Had down
14 Font like Helvetica
15 Pointless
16 First-class
17 Cheating device
19 Communion, for instance
20 Looked like a villain
21 Predicated
22 Uncommon Monopoly rolls
24 Electorate
25 Vulture cousin
29 Sort of yarn
31 Made known
32 Dressage demonstrations
33 Palindromic time
36 Venerable kids' cereal
37 Many a lounge act
38 Spot on CBS
39 Here: Lat.
40 Diner listing
41 Without letup
42 Leak out
44 Salada rival
45 Mass arrival
47 Word after wiggle or war
49 Reliable
50 Took a shot
55 *East of Eden* brother
56 Poe specialty
59 Haywire
60 Home-improvement chain founder
61 Unexplainable, in a way
62 *North by Northwest* name
63 Strong wishes
64 Radar measurement

DOWN
1 Costco competitor
2 Country on the Caspian
3 Bog down
4 Swelter
5 On guard
6 Buddy
7 Suffix for stock
8 Kid-gloves treatment
9 Cartoon screech
10 Barefoot discipline
11 What acoustic tile should reduce
12 Register
13 Vacant lot sight
18 __-eyed (naive)
21 Yields
23 Leave quickly
24 Overrule
25 Hand-raising ritual
26 iPhone talker
27 Cartel's creation, perhaps
28 *Toy Story* dinosaur
30 Umbrella parts
32 Increase
34 Spire attachment
35 Circular flow
37 Prod with flattery
38 Preschooler
40 Gulf War missile
41 Tough opponents
43 Helical toy brand
44 Talk up
45 Name on the cover of *I, Robot*
46 Designer Kamali
48 Brutish bosses
51 Bit of progress
52 Offended
53 A Penn State campus city
54 Added highlights to
56 Guileful
57 Remover of 13 Down
58 Dominate, informally



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/2/17

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 2)

Your excitement surges as a gleaming goal appears within reach. The final 10 percent of the journey is the hardest stretch. New challenges at work in March invite you to experiment and play. Singles meet someone special in June. September brings physical strength and the willpower to become quite fit. Taurus and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 20, 44, 19 and 28.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
If a person seems always either up or down and never balanced, it's a sign that you are in for a roller coaster ride should you choose to get close. People line up for such rides, which are usually expensive and brief.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Choose teammates who want to win. They'll help you to victory. But more importantly, choose teammates who want to play, who love the game and who have the will to prepare. Just being around these types is a win.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
There was a time when you were intimidated by the prospect of calling someone you don't know. Today you'll look forward to the surprise and education that always comes from a fresh contact.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
In business, the bottom line is ROI: return on investment. Why not make ROI the bottom line in everything you do today? When you're clear what you're getting out of each action, you'll choose most efficiently.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Make no promises. Give no quick answers. This especially applies to feedback. Receive the tips, acknowledge the tipper and then take time to reflect and assimilate the implications.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today's cosmic gift is talent for storytelling. Creative people will be drawn to your tales. This is could be the start of a community. Listen as well as you present and you're golden.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
No one is fully formed. You see the potential in others, and you will also have excellent ideas about how to direct it. Those are best shared exclusively with those who ask for help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Team efforts don't always have to be equal so much as mutually satisfactory. Sometimes you have to take yourself out of the equation in order to make sure that the other person is pulling his or her weight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You've paid your dues, and maybe you think others should pay theirs, too, before they get to enter the "cool club". Then again, things have changed so much since you started. Consider creating a new policy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You can accomplish more. The limitations are in your mind. Look at the one who is doing it differently. Study the competition. What do the gurus have to say? This is an information-gathering period.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You are chasing an object of affection that is chasing another object of affection, and this is how love makes the world go around. Hopefully you won't lose heart. Did you notice that you're also being chased?

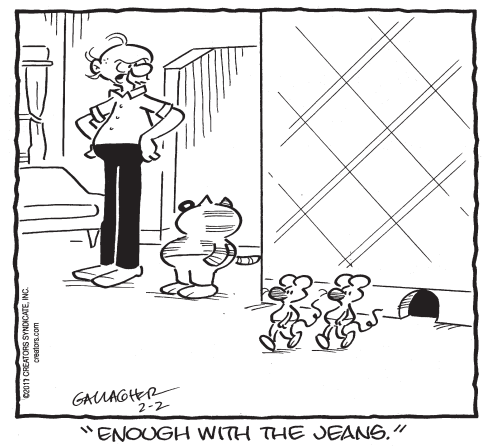
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Which approach is best? Should you push and drive your team, or should you lift and support them? Both ways are valid and needed at different times. Test the waters. Get a better reading of the situation and the group.

Venus Coal-Walker

Venus will walk over the hot coals to dive straight into the passionate fire of Aries tomorrow. Venus represents love, the work we love, pursuits of beauty and attractions of all kinds. Aries represents war, action and might. There's more friction than fit in this pairing, but don't be too quick to call it a disastrous match. Much good comes of friction.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

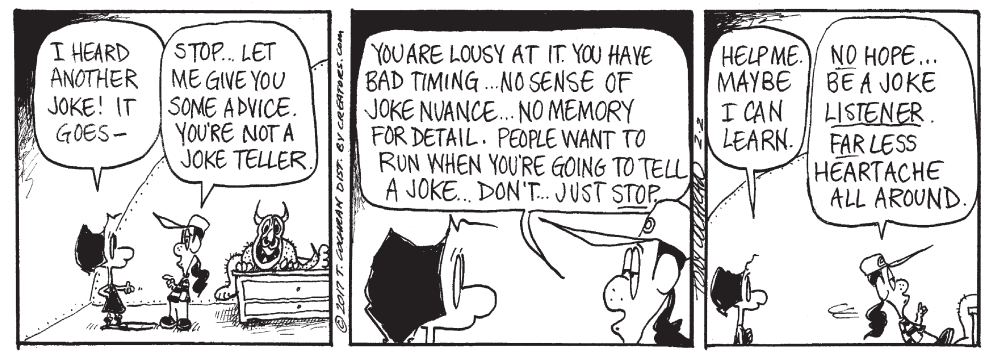
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



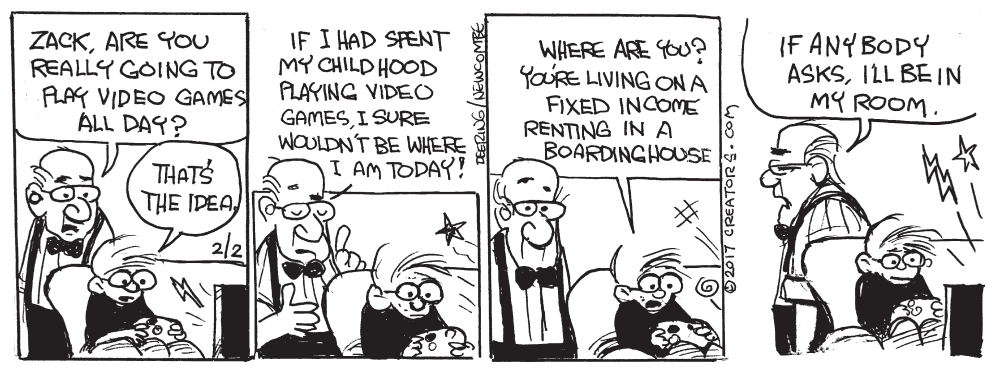
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
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