

Park plans advancing at Santa Monica Airport



Measure LC provides for the creation of more parks and recreation uses compatible with the neighborhood on non-aviation land. Let's...



Santa Monica Airport Non-Aviation Parcel Land

START the PARK
airport2park.org

Courtesy Photo

PLAN: Council has approved money to begin planning a park expansion.

BY **MATTHEW HALL**
Daily Press Editor

The City of Santa Monica is eliminating 73 aircraft tie-downs in a six-acre parcel of the Santa Monica airport to make way for a potential expansion of Airport Park.

Only 32 of the 73 tie-downs, essentially parking spots for air-

craft, are currently in use and current tenants will be offered space in other parts of the airport where space is available. Tenants have until March 15 to vacate their spaces.

According to Nelson Hernandez, senior advisor to the City Manager, the City is giving

SEE SMO PAGE 7

Santa Monica reports record setting water savings

BY **MATTHEW HALL**
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica has hit its goal of water self-sufficiency ... for 19 days in January.

The City wants permanent

SEE WATER PAGE 8

\$2M in facility bills await SMMUSD board approval

District consultant to provide student enrollment projections

BY **JEFFREY I. GOODMAN**
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica-Malibu Board of Education on Thursday will weigh approval of more than \$2 million in facility improvement costs.

SEE SMMUSD PAGE 7

A sign of things to come

Local athletes celebrate futures on National Signing Day



Jeffrey I. Goodman

SIGNED: Four Samohi athletes signed with various university programs on National Signing Day.

BY **JEFFREY I. GOODMAN**
Daily Press Staff Writer

The seniors seated at the decorated table in Santa Monica High School's cafeteria have known for a while where they'll be heading after graduation. But that didn't make their experiences Wednesday morning any less special.

In a brief ceremony on National Signing Day, the four students made official their plans to continue their athletic careers at the college level.

Jonah Mathews, one of the top basketball prospects in Southern California, is heading to USC. Baseball teammates Jaylon McLaughlin and Lowell Schipper will play at Nevada and Richmond, respectively. Avery Salumbides is planning to join the rowing team at Dartmouth.

The students will add to a rich tradition of Samohi athletes who played sports after high school.

"You're a part of over 100 years of Samohi family, and forever you will be a part of that,"

principal Eva Mayoral said. "Every victory you achieve, every hurdle you conquer, you'll have that 100-year legacy behind you, cheering for you, rooting for you and paining for you. Because it's not always going to be sweet. There's going to be that victory, but there's going to be those moments where the basket didn't drop or, 'I struck out,' 'I made an error.' It's going to happen. But it'll be most important to have the character to brush yourself off, get up and form a team around you and continue on."

For Mathews, who has been committed to USC for months, Signing Day was merely ceremonial. But it gave the talented guard a chance to reflect on his basketball career and his opportunity to compete in the Pac-12.

"It feels really good," he said, donning a cardinal red Trojans sweatshirt. "To sign to a big school like USC, it feels like a great achievement. It's everything I've been working for

SEE SIGN PAGE 11



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Calendar

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Feb. 4

Homework Help

Get help with your homework! This drop-in program offers a separate study area, basic supplies, and friendly volunteers to assist with homework questions. For students in grades 1-5 only. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 4:30 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. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 - 8 p.m.

How To Keep Passion Alive After 45 with Judith Claire & Frank Wieggers

Frank and Judith, authors of 'So That's Why They Do That: Men, Women, and Their Hormones' discuss how to create harmony in your relationship, build deeper levels of intimacy, and revitalize passion no matter how old you are. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Comic Books and Comedy

Hosted by Alex Kojfman, with Grant Lyon, Nate Williams, Nikki Bailey, Rhune Kincaid, Nina Manni, and special guests. Free admission. Hi De Ho Comics, 1431 Lincoln Blvd., 8 - 9:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5

Yoga

All levels. Drop in for \$15. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 - 10 a.m.

Guest House

Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Writing Memoir and

Creative Nonfiction with Laurie Horowitz

Leave a lasting written legacy - Laurie will coach you on how to tell your own story in an engaging way. 1450 Ocean Ave., 3 - 5 p.m.

Fireside at the Miles - Scott Detweiler Celebrate Mardi Gras!

\$10 for general admission, \$5 for youth age 18 and under, adults age 55 and over and students of any age. 1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 - 10 p.m.

Taste of Night Market

Featuring a curated lineup of 60+ local chefs, artists, and performers in an intimate night market and Lunar New Year theme (2016 is the Year of the Monkey). The event will be held at the prestigious Barker Hangar in Santa Monica on Feb. 5 and 6. Admission is inclusive of food, alcohol, beverages, and performances. Attendance will be very limited. General Admission: \$65, VIP Early Bird: \$85. Additional parking costs apply. 3021 Airport Ave., 6 p.m.

Cafe Samo

Don't miss out on one of these incredible cabaret-style student-produced shows featuring Samohi's best vocalists singing contemporary music in an intimate setting! The Humanities Center sells out quickly with just 140 seats, so show up early! Refreshments will be for sale. Humanities Center Theatre, 601 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Writing Memoir and Creative Nonfiction with Laurie Horowitz

Leave a lasting written legacy - Laurie will coach you on how to tell your own story in an engaging way. 1450 Ocean Ave., 3 - 5 p.m.

Cafe Samo

Don't miss out on one of these incred-

SEE LISTINGS PAGE 3

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Bergamot Station Grayscale art

On Saturday, Feb. 6, 6 - 9 p.m., the art of Scott Horton will be included in "Grayscale Wonderland II" featuring an exhibition of grayscale works at bG Gallery at Bergamot Station in Santa Monica. This is the second rendition of the exhibition, which asks the artists to create spectacular worlds without the use of overt color.

Born in Washington State, but raised in Seattle, Scott Horton was drawn to the arts since he was a child, but it was his college art classes that would prove to be instrumental in sparking his love of art.

"My passion to create art really began in college when an art professor who recognized my talents encouraged me to create large pieces of work and experiment with various media," he said.

Horton works in watercolors, oils, pastels, acrylics and mixed media and recently exhibited at the Santa Monica Art Studios. Works included in the exhibition are from Horton's series "Dreamcatchers".

To find out more the art of Scott Horton, visit his website at <http://dreamscolor.com>.

The opening reception for "Grayscale Wonderland II" takes place at bG Gallery, located at Bergamot Station (space G8A) 2525 Michigan Ave. Visit <http://santamonica.bgartdealings.com/grayscale-wonderland-ii-february-2016> for more information.

- SUBMITTED BY LESLIE REED, KTR PROMO

Virginia Avenue Park

Why the history of Africa is important: myths and realities

In honor of Black History Month, the Committee For Racial Justice will host a workshop entitled "Why the history of Africa is important: myths and realities."

The speaker will be Dr. Anthony Ratcliff, a respected scholar and professor of Pan African Studies at CA State University, LA. He is a professor of history in the areas of ancient Africa to Hip Hop. Dr. Ratcliff is also a community activist and education coordinator for Black Lives Matter in Southern California.

There will also be a dance performance by the Virginia Avenue Park African Dance Ensemble lead by Theresa Smith.

This is part of an ongoing monthly workshop series sponsored by the Committee For Racial Justice. Co-sponsored by Virginia Ave. Park; the African American Parent, Staff, Student Support Group; and the Church in Ocean Park.

For more information, call (310) 422-5431. The free workshop will be Feb. 7, 6 - 8:30 p.m. (potluck supper at 6 p.m. and program at 6:30 p.m.), Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Bldg., 2200 Virginia Ave.

- SUBMITTED BY TRUDY GOODWIN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

SMMUSD Health and Safety DAC's suggestions are harmful to patients, provide no added protection for our children

Editor:

The Feb. 1 Letter to the Editor "Marijuana Dispensaries that are Fair to Patients, Safe for Children" supporting some of the PTSA's proposals relative to implementing dispensaries in Santa Monica is strikingly at odds with pronouncements by the California Medical Association (CMA) made only one day after that Letter was written. The CMA endorsed initiatives for increased safe access stating "... [the CMA's] physician members believe that the most effective way to protect the public health is to tightly control, track and regulate marijuana ... and educate the public on its health impacts - not through ineffective prohibition." The PTSA's proposals amount to a de facto prohibition, which is neither fair to patients nor protects children.

A further increase in the types of and minimum distance from sensitive uses would make it impossible for any dispensary to locate in the City. The Planning Department said at last June's Council hearing about this that further limiting the already tight permissible area would make it unlikely that any permissible location would exist at all. And, as mentioned below, any dispensary is subject to the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process anyway.

Banning any non-resident of Santa Monica "to prevent abuse by tourists" lacks an understanding that under California law only a resident of the State of California can possess a doctor's recommendation for medical marijuana. So, no "tourist" could possibly "abuse" a dispensary. Denying care to an otherwise qualified patient just because they do not have the "right" ZIP Code seems heartless.

By its very nature, a CUP requires a holding by the Planning Commission that the operation is appropriate for its neighborhood and would not adversely impact the community. A CUP process is the most rigorous, publicly involved vetting process that the City has. On the other hand, continuing threats to our children arise from illegal dispensaries and street dealers; as often reported-on in this newspaper. In fact, none of the PTSA's anxieties have been realized by innumerable cities with dispensaries (e.g., Malibu, West Hollywood, Palm Springs). And yet, none of those cities have the sorts of restrictions suggested in the Feb. 1 Letter.

The proposals in the Feb. 1 letter are harmful to patients, but provide no added protection for our children. Yes, we are resident-patients with school-age children too!

Bill Leahy,

Spokesperson Santa Monicans for Safe Access

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite
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LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

ible cabaret-style student-produced shows featuring Samohi's best vocalists singing contemporary music in an intimate setting! The Humanities Center sells out quickly with just 140 seats, so show up early! Refreshments will be for sale. Humanities Center Theatre, 601 Pico Blvd., 3:30 & 7:30 p.m.

6th Annual Poetry of Venice Photography Show

Paramedia ecologist Gerry Fialka hosts a panel discussion of award-winning Venice photographers, who explore landscapes of the human psyche and push pictorial representation beyond! Examine the trance-inducing transforming power of cameras in our community by way of McLuhan. Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., 2 - 6 p.m.

Making a Reduction Woodcut Block

Create a woodblock in order to make a full-color print on fabric. In order to create finished full color prints, enroll in the following Saturday's class; however it is possible to learn the process and create a block in one class. Cost: \$10 Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/48727.1450OceanAve.11a.m.-1p.m

LA Opera Multimedia Talk: "The Magic Flute"

Community Educator Rose Vardanian provides background and history on Mozart's fantastical opera The Magic Flute, which has enchanted young and old alike for over two centuries. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 - 4:30 p.m.



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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

'Lear' for the digital age

ONCE AGAIN, SANTA MONICA'S OWN

ambitious, cutting edge theatre company, City Garage, is striking out in a unique direction.

Part two of "The Winter of Our Discontent: Shakespeare in the Digital Age" focuses on "Lear," interpreted by provocative playwright Young Jean Lee.

I recently wrote about Lee's "Straight White Men" at the Kirk Douglas Theatre. Now she's taking the Shakespearean classic, about an aging, misguided monarch who confuses loyalty and love, to a new level.

Called by some critics her best work yet, Lee describes her "Lear" as an "inaccurate distortion," banishing the title monarch and most of the other male characters to the wings, focusing instead on the younger generation: Lear's three daughters and Gloucester's two sons. The absurdist, meta-results are irreverent, grotesque, and morally harrowing. I'm told it's both dark and funny.

There's never a dull moment at a City Garage production. Find out for yourself at opening night this Friday. Performances are on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 3 p.m. through March 13.

Tickets and info at www.citygarage.org. City Garage is located at the western end of Bergamot Art Station, near the 26th Street exit. Parking is free on site. Arrive early and treat yourself to an art walk among the many galleries.

MARDI GRAS AT THE BROAD

Aaron Neville, the New Orleans legend, brings his quintet and his R&B, Creole and Cajun-inflected song stylings to the Broad Stage in time to celebrate Mardi Gras, with two performances only, Feb. 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m.

The Grammy Award-winning, Platinum album-selling artist will "Tell it Like It Is" and let the good times roll with classic harmonies and a top-flight band. The night will showcase Neville's inimitable vocal style and decades of soul-filled songs from the leading man of New Orleans music.

Along with his family The Neville Brothers, and pop star Linda Ronstadt among numerous other music luminaries, Aaron has been one of the backbones of the New Orleans sound, both a songsmith and a songbird whose voice delivers a beautifully modulated vibrato and whose lyrics have inspired a generation of hit makers across all musical genres.

So grab your Mardi Gras beads and get yo'self into a seat for this one of a kind concert. For details visit www.thebroadstage.com or call the box office at (310) 434-3200.

NOT SUCH TINY BUBBLES

The Amazing Bubble Man is coming back to Edgmar Center for the Arts on Main Street. This is the kind of entertainment that adults and kids can enjoy together, both for the science and the wonder of it all.

Louis Pearl has been a toymaker and seller and has been doing this bubble show around the world for 30 years. He invented a super-secret formula for a liquid solution to

make giant bubbles that can encircle an entire human being, as well as building blocks of bubbles that turn into a space ship, a volcano, square bubbles, fog-filled bubbles, bubbles inside of bubbles and more. His comedic patter adds to the fun and dazzling visual display.

See The Amazing Bubble Man in action at Edgmar for four performances only on Feb. 27 and 28, both days at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Online and affordable tickets at www.edgmarcenter.org or reserve seats by calling (310) 392-7327.

ECLECTIC SKIRBALL

The powerful photography show at the Skirball Cultural Center, "Manzanar: The Wartime Photographs of Ansel Adams," closes on Feb. 21. It depicts the treatment of Japanese American citizens who were thrown into isolated camps during World War II.

Accompanying the photographs is a complementary show, "Citizen 13660: The Art of Miné Okubo," a selection of rare original artwork by California-born artist Miné Okubo, one of the thousands of Japanese American forced to leave their homes and businesses and into incarceration camps. She documented the injustices of the camps in 200 pen and ink drawings later published as one of the earliest graphic novels (1946)

But that's not all: fans of guitar wizard Bill Frisell will have the opportunity to enjoy his show, "When You Wish Upon a Star," featuring imaginative renditions of time-honored songs from classic films and television, like "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," and a recent update of the James Bond movie hit, "You Only Live Twice," featuring Petra Haden's hauntingly chill vocals. You'll even hear the theme from The Dick Van Dyke show!

Tickets are still available, get the early bird price through Feb. 11 for this February 25 one-off performance, at www.skirball.org/programs/music/bill-frisell-when-you-wish-upon-star.

EINSTEIN, ALMOST AT THE BEACH

Actor Jack Fry quotes Albert Einstein as saying, "I want to know God's thoughts. The rest is just details," in his one-man historical drama "Einstein!"

Einstein comes back from beyond to tell us that his image has been besmirched and he wants to tell the true story behind the theory of relativity and his own struggles as a father. As he awaits news from an eclipse expedition in 1914 Berlin, he hopes it will help him prove his theory. But the World War, anti-Semitism, theft of his ideas, his pacifist views, a son who fights for his attention and a wife who won't divorce him all conspire to impede his ultimate scientific triumph.

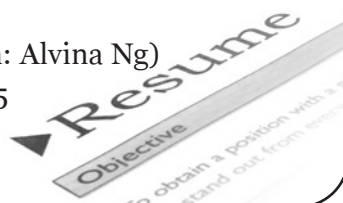
See "Einstein!" one night only at Santa Monica Playhouse on Monday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2002222.

SARAH A. SPITZ spent her career as a producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica and produced freelance arts reports for NPR. She has also written features and reviews for various print and online publications.

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Tales From Hi De Ho Comics

Mauricio Machuca

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The long and winding road

IN THE PAST, I HAVE WRITTEN ABOUT the store's attempts to capture more people's attention. We've written articles about the day-to-day, celebrity events, comedy nights and more. Now, hurdling toward a year and a half of ownership, we take a moment to re-examine how well things have worked.

The one thing that we thought would work immediately has turned out to be the slowest burn. Since taking over, we have had many sales with huge discounts. Outdoor sales, 25 cent sales, Free Comic Book Day - and almost every time we were over-prepared.

We inherited a store whose clientele had not been accustomed to sales and discounts. For comparison's sake, at our sister store Geoffrey's Comics, when a sale is announced, it's usually accompanied by lots of questions on Facebook and lines that can stretch 50-75 people deep before the doors are even open. When we had our first major sale after taking over, we had all hands on deck and maybe five people who came in during the first hour.

Over time, we have started to include more discounted items in the store. We instituted a dedicated 99-cent bin and discounted vintage comics at \$1.99 and \$4.99. Slowly, but surely, people have come to realize that we offer super competitive prices for books that they are looking for.

Before, we would have a dedicated group who would come and try to pick through our vast stock in hopes of finding what they were lacking. Now, having alphabetized everything and pricing it to move, we are selling multiples of what once used to go out the door.

Thanks to this, with time, we have seen our sale events grow in attendance, with more and more people asking when our next big event will be.

When it comes to major events, we can wholeheartedly say that they have been major successes. Whether it's comic launch parties for Amandla Stenberg's/Stranger Comics' "Niobe" or for "Doberman," from the producers of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" - we've been able to have huge events that bring people in, make them

happy and have them coming back.

On a smaller scale, our comedy nights, now called "Comic Books and Comedy" will be celebrating their one-year anniversary on March 3. We've had comics who've done USO tours, been on Letterman and Conan, comics who were finalists on "Last Comic Standing" - it's been a good year for the show. And, as always, every show I encounter someone telling me that this is the first time they've been in a comic book store. The crowds grow each month and we keep a dedicated group who come to every show.

We've even taken the store outside of its physical confines. In the past year we've been at the LA Times' Festival of Books and at the Los Angeles Comic Book and Sci-Fi Convention. Both venues have been good for us, not only from a marketing and awareness standpoint, but from an operational standpoint. Being able to move new and old product to an eager audience has helped to cover us when things have gotten thin.

Where to go from here? Our biggest hurdle in the coming year will be getting on Los Angeles' radar. We are the oldest comic book store in Los Angeles County and, as we found out recently, we are also the BIGGEST comic book store in Los Angeles County. How we can communicate that to people is something that we will continue to work on. As it stands, we currently have more brand awareness with tourists than our locals. That will be a major area of growth for us in 2016.

In the end, despite looking toward big events, like our upcoming Gallery opening for the 4 Amigos Collective (an all Latino artist group) - we're going to focus more on the day-to-day operations. Wednesday, when new comics come in, will become a day of celebration. Customers will soon find discounts, sales, giveaways, raffles and more on a weekly basis - with ample parking space in our once crowded lot. If we can continue our growth, we can ensure that L.A.'s oldest and biggest store will be here to stay.

To learn more about all things comic books, visit Hi De Ho Comics, 1431 Lincoln Blvd., in Santa Monica.

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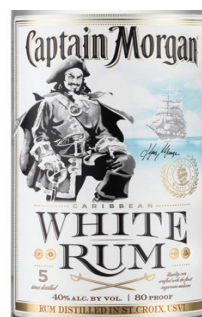
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A 'dream' of a play at the Fountain

ONCE AGAIN THE AMAZING AND consistently fabulous Fountain Theater has mounted a play that, like most of their others, is a must see!

This one is called "Dream Catcher" and it was created by the Fountain's award-winning playwright and co-founder, Stephen Sachs, whose plays are often perceptive and thought-provoking explorations of the issues and controversies of our time.

"Dream Catcher" is a worthy addition to that body of work.

Set in the Fountain's new configuration in the round, the central stage is filled with desert sand and a tall, intense Native American girl named Opal (Elizabeth Frances). She is waiting impatiently in this bleak, barren stretch of the Mojave for her lover, Roy (Brian Tichnell).

When he arrives he is annoyed that she has summoned him from a crucial meeting with his colleagues. For the past three months he has been participating in a massive project called Genesis, which involves mounting a massive solar energy plant in the desert that will free the world from its dependency on fossil fuels.

In his mind Genesis will make the world cooler and rescue it from global warming and imminent destruction. In addition, he is buoyed up by working with the iconic scientists and engineers that he has always hero-worshipped. "They actually treat me like a peer!" he exclaims with delight.

And then Opal drops her bombshell. She has been having urgent visions, she says, that inform her that she has been chosen to speak for her tribesmen who are buried in sacred ground beneath the Genesis project. She thinks she is not worthy of such a monumental task. "I didn't ask for this," she cries, but she has been led by her visions to discover their buried bones and believes that she must speak for "those whose tongue is silent." She intends to take the bones to the leaders of the Genesis project in order to convince them not to desecrate the graveyard.

Thus begins a heated debate, exquisitely

rendered, about the relative significance of saving the dignity and honoring the culture of the Mojave tribe versus saving the peoples of the world from extinction.

"We're running out of time," Roy argues. "Two hundred species become extinct every day; half of the world will become extinct by 2100... Within the lifespan of our children the fate of every living thing on the planet will be determined."

"You can't silence me," she responds. Then she begins to holler as she initiates a tribal dance to support her convictions-and to divert him from his.

In a hilarious sequence Roy challenges her about the belief that the world was created in seven days. "It's one of the myths we tell ourselves," he says. She denies that "myth" because she knows that the world was created in four days and she proceeds to weave a creation myth filled with gods and eagles and other fanciful spirits.

He refutes her story by telling her the "truth", beginning with an empty nothingness invaded by the Big Bang, followed by gaseous swirls that coalesce into galaxies without number, plus stars and planets, in a universe that is forever expanding. The look on her face as she greets this news is priceless.

In fact, everything she and Roy do is priceless. They are absolutely perfect in their roles and director Cameron Watson incontrovertibly brings out the best in each of them.

But as they say, the proof is in the pudding. And in this case the pudding is Stephen Sachs' extraordinary script.

"Dream Catcher" will be performed Saturdays and Mondays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 and 7 p.m. through March 21. The Fountain Theater is located at 5060 Fountain Ave. in Los Angeles. Call 323-663-1525 for reservations.

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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FROM PAGE 1

tenants 45 days to move, more than is legally required, to maintain a neighborly relationship with those individuals who are losing their spaces.

"Our action is permissible because effective July 1, 2015 the southeast parcel is no longer subject to requirements by FAA that the property is exclusively for aviation purposes," he wrote in an email. "By clearing the property of the 73 aircraft tie-downs and using the land for a much needed expansion of Airport Park, the City will take an important step in regaining local control of our land and improving the quality of life for our residents."

Santa Monica regained control over the six-acre lot last year. A 1984 agreement between the City and the FAA had mandated that parcel of land be used to accommodate aircraft; but with the expiration of the agreement, City Hall is able to repurpose the site along with a separate six-acre lot opposite the current Museum of Flying. The parcel covered by the eviction notice is adjacent to the airport dog park.

The notification follows the recent hiring of landscape design firm Rios Clementi Hale Studios (RCH) to help design the park expansion.

Council approved \$211,200 (plus a 10-percent contingency) at their Jan. 26 meeting to pay for a feasibility study and concept

design. While tie-downs have only been eliminated from one of the parcels, the recently approved study will cover a potential 12-acre park expansion into both lots.

Staff will return at a later date to present the results of the feasibility study and a recommendation to award the design portion of the agreement.

Park supporters praised the hiring decision and said the project is a tangible result of 2014's Measure LC that retained city control over the airport while requiring that aviation land must be used for park purposes unless the voters approve a different use.

"The Santa Monica Airport2Park Foundation is extremely pleased to congratulate the City of Santa Monica on its hiring of Rios Clementi Hale Studios to oversee public outreach and the design process for the 12-acre expansion of Airport Park," said Neil Carrey, president of the foundation in a press release. "We look forward to hearing from and working with our friend Mark Rios and his colleagues in the creation of a facility that will begin to fulfill the promise of Measure LC and inspire us to complete the job when the City can confirm its rights to control all airport land."

In their statement, the foundation said RCH has worked on Santa Monica's Euclid and Douglas Park and designed "iconic parks" at locations including Los Angeles Grand Park, Rancho Cienega Recreation Center and the L.A. Zoo Event and Play Space.

editor@smdp.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

The bulk of the \$2 million in facility-related projects is a \$1.57-million Measure BB payment to AWI Builders Inc., for information technology expansion.

SMMUSD has moved forward with a new data center as it upgrades technology infrastructure across the district with funds from two bond measures for school upgrades over the last decade.

Also on the list are payments of more than \$319,000 to Bakersfield-based IVS Computer Technology for installation services and more than \$108,000 to Meridian IT Inc. for software security. Those expenditures are coming out of money from Measure ES, a \$385-million bond that voters backed in 2012.

Meanwhile, another \$230,000 in new purchase orders are up for board consideration, according to a district report.

Highlighting the list is \$30,000 to law firm Dannis Woliver Kelley for legal services stemming from negotiations with employee unions. The firm has also been involved with the district's exploration of a possible split into separate Santa Monica and Malibu factions. Negotiations are ongoing between teams appointed by Superintendent Sandra Lyon and Malibu City Manager Jim Thorsen.

The list also includes \$25,000 to Los Angeles-based Gale Supply Co. for custodial supplies; more than \$14,000 to Carson-based California Access Scaffold for repairs on John Adams Middle School's auditorium; and more than \$11,000 to Supply and Beyond for headphones at Roosevelt Elementary School.

The list of purchase orders also has two payments totaling nearly \$10,000 to Inglewood-based Out-Fit, a sporting goods equipment company that provided the new

strength-training equipment for Santa Monica High School's weight room. Local boosters also contributed to the project.

The upgraded weight room features eight racks for squats and bench-pressing in a multipurpose and space-efficient configuration that increased the capacity of students who can work out or exercise at any given time. There's room for nearly 50 athletes now, roughly double the number of kids who could fit previously.

"It's got a totally different look," Vikings football coach Ramsey Lambert recently told the Daily Press. "The kids walk down there and think they're at a collegiate weight room, which is what they deserve. They love it. The kids are really enjoying it."

ENROLLMENT STUDY

The school board on Thursday will receive an update on SMMUSD enrollment projections as the district prepares for the upcoming school year.

DecisionInsite, a district consultant that specializes in education demographics, will provide forecasts based on prior enrollment figures and other population factors related to census data.

Dean Waldfogel, vice president of DecisionInsite, will be available to answer board members' questions.

"Staff will use DecisionInsite projection data as part of its determination of staffing allocations for the 2016-2017 school year, and will share enrollment projections and initial staffing recommendations with principals," a district report reads.

At this time last year, Waldfogel informed the board that just 81 students had enrolled in kindergarten for every 100 graduating seniors in the district last year, although overall enrollment was expected to hold relatively steady.

jeff@smdp.com

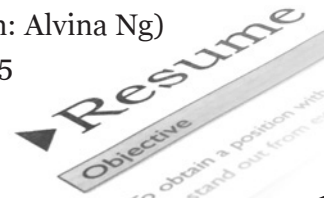
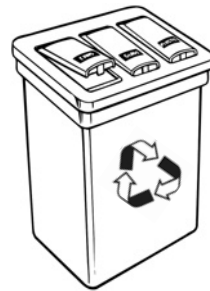
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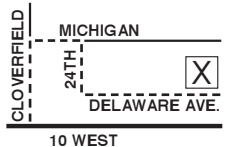
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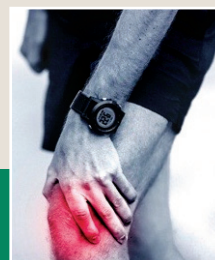
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WATER

FROM PAGE 1

water independence by 2020 but conservation efforts prompted by the drought have nudged the City into self-sufficiency, albeit temporarily, several times in the past few months.

Santa Monica hit a couple of records in Dec. 2015. The city was self sufficient for 13 days during the month and used the least amount of water in its history (288.9 million gallons). The City had an 18.6 percent drop in usage compared to Dec. 2013 and a 21.9 percent cumulative savings since June of that year.

Those records stood for a whole month before falling in January of this year. The city reduced consumption to 268 million gallons and was able to shut off water imports from Los Angeles for a total of 19 days. The City achieved a 17.1 percent drop compared to Jan. of 2013.

"January was the lowest ever on record," said Dean Kubani, director of City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability and the Environment. "Mainly due to water conservation by residents and businesses in Santa Monica."

Kubani said winter water use is always lower than summer use, but by hitting the self-sufficiency mark, even temporarily, it showed the possibilities for future savings.

"The summer months we use a lot more water and we're not going to be water self sufficient with just conservation but it's an example of really how far we've been able to come with just conservation alone," he said.

Kubani said he expects conservation to continue over time, particularly the benefits associated with infrastructure improvements. He said lawn replacement, plumbing upgrades and efficient appliances produce permanent, long-term savings that form the foundation of future conservation.

While some of the City's record savings are due to temporary behavior changes that might shift in the future, more customers will eventually make upgrades to their systems helping to keep the overall use down.

"Even after hopefully at some point the Governor declares the drought over, we'll still see reduced water use because of those changes," he said.

As for new supply, that will come from additional city wells.

"We will be adding new wells, the additional water from that ground water will offset some (imported) water and see more in the future months, even as demand goes up in hotter months," he said.

Santa Monica residents currently receive water from two sources, locally owned wells and water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The City has 10 active wells producing between 70-80 percent of the total water used within city limits. Those wells are located at the Charnock well field in Mar Vista, the Arcadia plant at Bundy Drive and Texas Avenue, along Olympic Boulevard (near 26th Street), and the northern portion of the city near the intersection of 19th Street and San Vicente Boulevard.

Those wells draw groundwater from what is known as the Santa Monica Basin. Rainfall within the basin, specifically runoff from the nearby Santa Monica Mountains, provides most of the recharge for local groundwater making the City dependent on rainfall as the primary source of potable water.

Water Resources manager Gil Borboa said the City is in the planning stages for new wells in the eastern part of town and is currently evaluating locations, land availability and potential water production characteristics.

"Concurrently, we're nearing completion on the pilot testing project for the new Olympic Treatment Plant. This will be a 4 Million Gallon Day +/- treatment plant and reservoir project to treat water from existing and new Olympic wells, and in doing so free up capacity at the Arcadia treatment plant to explore the construction of additional wells in the Arcadia sub-basin," he said. "We are trying to get to construction of the full scale Olympic plant by the end of calendar year 2016."

Kubani said City Hall is also looking to stretch supply through expansion of water recycling, rainwater collection and grey water programs. In addition, the city has begun to take administrative steps to prepare for a water independent Santa Monica.

"Council has asked for water neutrality ordinance, looking at new developments and saying they have to be water neutral," he said. "That is another factor that's going to tend to keep our water demand lower."

editor@smdp.com

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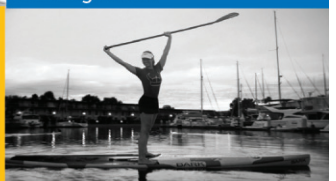
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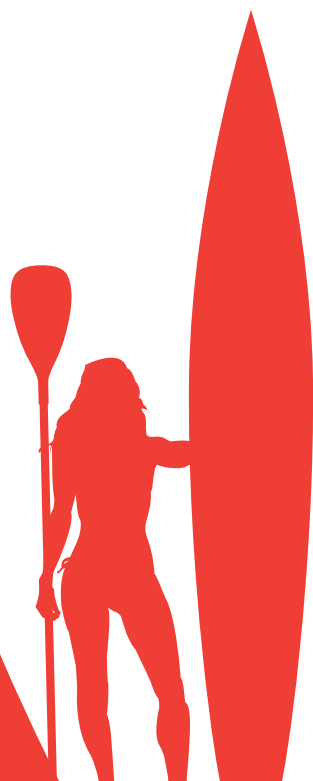
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SIGN

FROM PAGE 1

since I was young.”

Vikings boys basketball coach James Hecht recalled a film session about four years ago when his team was watching video the day after Mathews' older brother, Jordan, currently a member of the California men's basketball team, scored the winning basket for Samohi in a game against Morningside. Mathews was in eighth grade at the time.

“Up in the bleachers, you can see Jonah running across, going crazy in celebration of what just happened,” Hecht said. “Someone said, ‘Coach, do you think Jonah is going to be an impact player here at Santa Monica High School?’ I said, ‘I think he might be.’”

Mathews has been stellar for the Vikings, who boasted a 20-2 overall record and a 6-0 mark in Ocean League play entering Wednesday night's game at Lawndale. Among other recent accolades, he was selected as a nominee for the McDonald's All American Games.

“Not only has he been an impact player for us on the court ... but what I'm most proud of this year is the leadership he provides for his teammates on and off the court, sharing his past experiences and helping to keep our team together,” Hecht said.

McLaughlin and Schipper, who will lead the Samohi baseball team this spring, signed with their respective college programs a few months ago.

McLaughlin is looking forward to joining Nevada, which competes in Division I as a member of the Mountain West Conference.

“Now it's time to go in the lab and work out more and get better to have the chance to possibly get drafted,” he said. “I just want to keep perfecting my craft and make my



Jeffrey I. Goodman

CELEBRATE: National Signing Day has become a celebratory moment for high school athletes. Jonah Mathews is heading to USC, Avery Salumbides will row at Dartmouth, Jaylon McLaughlin has chosen Nevada for baseball and teammate Lowell Schipper will attend Richmond.

team better.”

For Schipper, who grew up playing hockey, a future that includes Division I baseball at Richmond is exhilarating.

“I'm excited for the speed of it, for the officiality of it,” he said. “For how much more aggressive you have to be, how much more dedicated you have to be. Everyone's so good. The gaps are much narrow between

who's good and who's not so good.”

Samohi baseball coach Loren Drake said it's going to be hard to replace the two talented infielders.

“It's been a pleasure to coach both of these guys,” he said. “Both of them are resilient. If they make an error or have a bad at-bat, they come back the next time and they're better than they were the time

before.”

Salumbides, a coxswain who has developed her steering skills at the Marina Aquatic Center over the last four years, is ecstatic about the chance to join the rowing program at Dartmouth.

“It's really exciting,” she said.

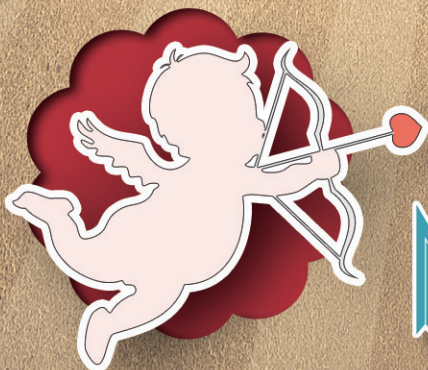
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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON JAN. 20, AT APPROXIMATELY 8:15 A.M.

An officer responded to the 2600 block of Santa Monica Boulevard in response to a radio call of a grand theft auto that had just occurred. Upon arrival, the officer spoke with an employee of the auto body shop and he stated that he observed a male in a hoodie sitting in the driver's seat of a Porsche that was parked in the rear alley of the business. According to the employee, he left the vehicle unlocked with the keys on the floorboard as it had been dropped off by another body shop for routine maintenance. He did not think much of the male, as he thought it was possibly another employee of the body shop that brought the car. When the owner of the body shop was contacted, he did state that he did not have an employee that matched the suspect's description. A witness provided the officer a description of the suspect. A little over an hour later, Santa Monica College Officers found the car parked near 22nd and Delaware. As the officer was speaking with the witness, he noticed a male, later identified as Ahmad Tobin, 34, of Santa Monica that matched the suspect description walking down the street. Tobin refused to come over the first time the officer called him and entered the rear of a residence, which was later determined to be his mother's home. As the officer approached the rear entrance, Tobin approached him and he was detained. While at the scene, the officer found a Porsche key yards away from where Tobin had been. Tobin was arrested for grand theft auto and resisting arrest. Bail was set at \$25,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 354 calls for service on Feb. 2.

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

72 hour psychiatric hold, 1900 block of Pico, 12:08 a.m.
Disturbance at a business, 2900 block of Main, 12:46 a.m.
Loud music, 1200 block of 6th, 4:29 a.m.
Person down, Lincoln/Kensington, 7:19 a.m.
Traffic collision, 20th/Santa Monica, 7:22 a.m.
Stolen vehicle, 1200 block of 9th, 8:33 a.m.
Suspicious circumstances, 1000 block of 14th, 9:01 a.m.
Drinking in public, 700 block of Broadway, 9:12 a.m.
Identity theft, 2400 block of 23rd, 9:29 a.m.
Burglary, 1900 block of 6th, 9:40 a.m.
Threats, 1600 block of Main, 10:16 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace, 1700 block of Delaware, 11:11 a.m.
Disturbance at a business, 1400 block of 4th, 11:16 a.m.
Suspicious person, 400 block of Broadway, 11:29 a.m.
Threats, 600 block of Santa Monica, 11:32 a.m.
Fraud, 2800 block of Pico, 11:55 a.m.
Vandalism, 2400 block of 4th, 12:10 p.m.

Public intoxication, Main/Bay, 12:33 p.m.
Vandalism, 1700 block of Dewey, 12:47 p.m.
Disturbance at a business, 1400 block of Lincoln, 1:04 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold, 11th/Olympic, 1:04 p.m.
Hit and run, 29th/Pearl, 1:09 p.m.
Family disturbance, Main/Olympic, 1:21 p.m.
Fire, 25th/Ocean Park, 1:48 p.m.
Sexual assault, 600 block of Pico, 2:16 p.m.
Disturbance at a business, 1900 block of Lincoln, 2:19 p.m.
Identity theft, 2300 block of 31st, 2:48 p.m.
Indecent exposure, 1300 block of Wilshire, 3:15 p.m.
Traffic collision, 2800 block of Santa Monica, 3:28 p.m.
Hit and run, 1400 block of 21st, 4:17 p.m.
Family disturbance, 800 block of 23rd, 4:23 p.m.
Drinking in public, 2300 block of 4th, 4:56 p.m.
Vandalism, 600 block of 10th, 6:49 p.m.
Lewd activity, Ocean/Colorado, 7:09 p.m.
Suspicious person, 18th/Washington, 7:36 p.m.
Traffic collision, 1000 block of PCH, 7:39 p.m.
Vandalism, 1200 block of Euclid, 9:07 p.m.
Vandalism, 1400 block of 4th, 9:37 p.m.
Family disturbance, 2200 block of Colorado, 10:48 p.m.
Disturbance at a business, 1800 block of Lincoln, 11:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 38 calls for service on Feb. 2.

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

EMS, 1300 block of Pacific, 12:37 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 600 block of Grant, 1:08 a.m.
EMS, 500 block of Wilshire, 2:35 a.m.
EMS, 2600 block of 3rd, 5:43 a.m.
EMS, Lincoln/Kensington, 7:20 a.m.
EMS, 1300 block of 20th, 7:51 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 1500 block of Ocean, 8:19 a.m.
EMS, 2300 block of Oak, 9:03 a.m.
EMS, 2600 block of Santa Monica, 9:26 a.m.
EMS, 1500 block of 9th, 9:57 a.m.
EMS, 500 block of Colorado, 10:06 a.m.
EMS, 1900 block of Euclid, 10:10 a.m.

EMS, 500 block of Olympic, 10:52 a.m.
EMS, 6th/Santa Monica, 10:59 a.m.
EMS, 200 block of Ocean, 11:10 a.m.
EMS, Ocean/Seaside, 11:53 a.m.
EMS, 1300 block of 15th, 12:08 p.m.
EMS, 200 block of Santa Monica Pier, 12:34 p.m.
EMS, 4th/Civic Center, 1:09 p.m.
EMS, 1700 block of 4th, 1:13 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire, 25th/Ocean Park, 1:47 p.m.
EMS, 700 block of Pier, 1:57 p.m.
EMS, 1500 block of 4th, 2:03 p.m.
EMS, 600 block of Wilshire, 2:11 p.m.
EMS, 3000 block of Santa Monica, 2:25 p.m.
EMS, 800 block of Pico, 2:36 p.m.
EMS, 2000 block of Santa Monica, 2:53 p.m.
EMS, 1100 block of Wilshire, 2:54 p.m.
Elevator rescue, 1300 block of 10th, 3:07 p.m.
EMS, 2000 block of Santa Monica, 3:09 p.m.
EMS, 1400 block of 15th, 3:20 p.m.
EMS, 3000 block of Santa Monica, 3:40 p.m.

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Sensational
 - 6 Symbol of slowness
 - 11 Scarecrow's wish
 - 12 Singer Ronstadt
 - 13 Paris river
 - 14 Victorious
 - 15 Feel sympathetic
 - 17 Used to be
 - 19 Braying animal
 - 20 Boater or bowler
 - 23 "It's my belief ..."
 - 25 Parcel (out)
 - 26 Romeo's creator
 - 28 Elbow
 - 29 Mad magazine feature
 - 30 Compass dir.
 - 31 Obtained
 - 32 Put into words
 - 33 Add value to
 - 35 Lasagna or linguine
 - 38 Scarlett's last name
 - 41 Operative
 - 42 In the buff
 - 43 Oklahoma neighbor
 - 44 Place
- DOWN**
- 1 Some ammo
 - 2 Mine material
 - 3 Reasonable treatment
 - 4 Excellent
 - 5 Like some rural bridges
 - 6 Vegas machines
 - 7 Muses count
 - 8 Small worker
 - 9 Chapel reply
 - 10 Napkin spot
 - 16 Requests
 - 17 Bits of smoke
 - 18 Friend of D'Ar-tagnan
 - 20 Sign of disbelief

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

Yesterday's answer

- 21 Skylit lobbies
- 22 Wee
- 24 Mamie's mate
- 25 Singer Tillis
- 27 Snape's class
- 31 Pesky swarm
- 33 Sicilian volcano
- 34 Casual talk
- 35 Butter square
- 36 History bit
- 37 Application form box
- 39 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
- 40 Throw in

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/ m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
		15			16					
17	18			19				20	21	22
23			24				25			
26						27				
28					29					
30				31				32		
			33				34			
35	36	37				38			39	40
41						42				
43						44				

2-4

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Matthew Hall matt@smdp.com



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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 ★★★

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

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY



Draw Date: 1/30
5 12 16 31 43
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 112M



Draw Date: 2/2
7 13 25 51 70
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 71M



Draw Date: 1/30
2 31 33 36 38
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 13M

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WORD UP!

alpenglow

1. a reddish glow often seen on the summits of mountains just before sunrise or just after sunset.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1810 - The Royal Navy seizes Guadeloupe.
- 1820 - The Chilean Navy under the command of Lord Cochrane completes the 2-day long Capture of Valdivia with just 300 men and 2 ships.
- 1825 - The Ohio Legislature authorizes the construction of the Ohio and Erie Canal and the Miami and Erie Canal.
- 1846 - The first Mormon pioneers make their exodus from Nauvoo, Illinois, westward towards Salt Lake Valley.
- 1859 - The Codex Sinaiticus is discovered in Egypt.
- 1861 - American Civil War: In Montgomery, Alabama,

- delegates from six break-away U.S. states meet and form the Confederate States of America.
- 1899 - The Philippine-American War begins with the Battle of Manila.
- 1932 - Second Sino-Japanese War: Harbin, Manchuria, falls to Japan.
- 1936 - Radium becomes the first radioactive element to be made synthetically.
- 1941 - The United Service Organization (USO) is created to entertain American troops.
- 1945 - World War II: Santo Tomas Internment Camp is liberated from Japanese authority.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

- (1) Jason Hayes, 17, was arrested in a Philadelphia suburb in January when he arrived for a scheduled appointment with a robbery victim from the night before. According to police, Hayes had attempted to shake down a woman in her home, but was still dissatisfied with the money she had on hand. Fearful, she agreed to bring more the next day if they met at a local shopping mall, and he agreed (promising to wear the same clothes so she would recognize him). She, of course, called police. (2) Dusty Ingram, 38, being searched by jailhouse guards in Crestview, Florida, in January, said she had prescriptions for everything -- but then said she thought they were in her purse and professed not to know how they got into that plastic bag in her genitals.
- (1) In December, a judge in Hamburg, New York, dismissed the DUI charge against a motorist who had registered a 0.33 blood-alcohol reading because her lawyer had convinced the court that she suffered from "gut fermentation syndrome" -- that her digestive system makes so much yeast from ordinary food and beverages that it functions like a "brewery." (2) In January, Donald "Chip" Pugh, 45, wanted by police in Lima, Ohio, and Columbus, Georgia, on several charges, texted Lima cops a photo of himself to use as a mugshot because he was dissatisfied with the one on the department's website. "(T)hat one is terrible," he wrote. (However, it was clear enough for authorities in Escambia County, Florida -- who arrested Pugh a few days later.)



Activism • Animals • Arts • Community • Education • Environment • Health

24th Street Theatre takes flight

by Colin Newton

Don't you hate it when people talk down to you? Debbie Devine, artistic director of 24th Street Theatre, does. It was one of the reasons she started up the company, which is an artistic outreach to the surrounding community that specializes in sophisticated family theater.

"We're like children's theater for adults," Devine told [Giive a \(bleep\)](#).

Take Man Covets Bird. Back by popular demand, the 65-minute drama is per-

formed by two actors, one reciting words and the other playing music, all to a chorus of ever-changing line drawings projected around the audience. It's a story of boy meets bird, becomes a man and runs away from home when his parents no longer recognize him.

Then there's the bigger message of being unafraid to love who you love and to share that with the world, Devine said.

"It's hugely metaphoric," she added. That's some pretty mind-blowing stuff for family theater.

Donors and volunteers can contribute to the company's outreach programs. 24th Street Theatre provides after-school programming for about 10,000 kids a year and hosts events for the community, including a Day of the Dead celebration, Devine said.

And the doors stay open for anyone in the community to come in and have a cup of coffee, she said.

"It's a big part of our mission," Devine said, "That our doors are always open."

Man Covets Bird plays every Sunday, from Feb. 14 through March 20, at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$24 for adults, \$10 for kids under 16, \$15 for students, seniors and teachers and \$2.40 for residents of the North University Park neighborhood. For more information, call 213-745-6516 or [visit www.24thstreet.org](http://www.24thstreet.org).



Is your favorite nonprofit listed in the [Giive Directory](#) along with 24th Street Theatre? [Sign up at Giive.org](#) today. It's free, it's easy, and it's the best way to attract eager donors and willing volunteers to your causes. Update your organization's info, upload a logo and list all of your events and volunteer opportunities.

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OUT LATE TONIGHT, ARIES

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You could be opening up to new ideas because of the way an expert has presented his or her thoughts. You are likely to test these ideas out on others. You'll want to get feedback before you say too much. Today, you show the possibility of success. Tonight: Out late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Continue working directly with loved ones. In some cases, it might involve a personal matter; however, you will be dealing with experts, so you can't go wrong. Once you feel as if you're all on the same page, you can initiate a change. Tonight: Follow the music.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You might not be in control right now. Realize that you cannot control anyone but yourself. A discussion about a money matter or an emotional situation could occur between you and an adviser of sorts. Take your time with this conversation. Tonight: Listen to a loved one.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You'll accomplish a lion's share of the work. You could have to redo some of it once you have a discussion with a partner or an associate. Understand that what you come up with might not be the final decision. You are on a path to the final decision. Tonight: Sort through offers.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ The Lion roars right now, and you'll achieve whatever you decide is important. You need to backtrack and make sure that you have dotted your i's and crossed your t's. You might discover that a very important detail has been left out. Tonight: Get a head start on a project.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You're a bit like a car being turned over and suddenly revving its engine. You might want to take off to do what you must and start your weekend simultaneously. Handle one matter at a time, and you're likely to accomplish both goals. Tonight: Christen the weekend a day early.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You might want to open up a conversation with someone from whom you feel a coldness. You probably will succeed, but not immediately. Give yourself space to do more of what you want, and let this person want to join you. Touch base with a family member. Tonight: At home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You might be experiencing a lot of frustration from dealing with a financial matter. As a result, you could decide to throw a project in the air and let it go. Think through your plan of action before you carry it out. Have an important conversation. Tonight: All smiles.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You have what it takes, and you make a big difference to others. Your ability to cruise through your day and complete what you want will be highlighted. Be aware of your finances; check your accounts to make sure you can afford what you are thinking of. Tonight: Party time!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Zero in on what is important to you. You'll want to move forward and take action. Hold off and do some research first. You could discover a better path. Take your time making a stronger decision, as it will lead to a more effective action. Tonight: Feeling your Wheaties.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A friendship will be instrumental in making your choices. A meeting provides you with some direction for how to proceed. Still, you might decide to do some hard thinking. Time is your ally right now, so don't rush into anything. Tonight: Brainstorm with a friend over a meal.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You are on top of your game. Others turn to you to get your feedback and tap into your leadership skills. Later in the day, your focus is likely to change, as a jovial tone marks your interactions. Tonight: Let the party go on.

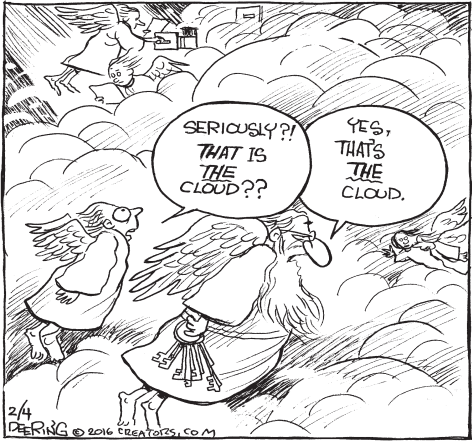
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



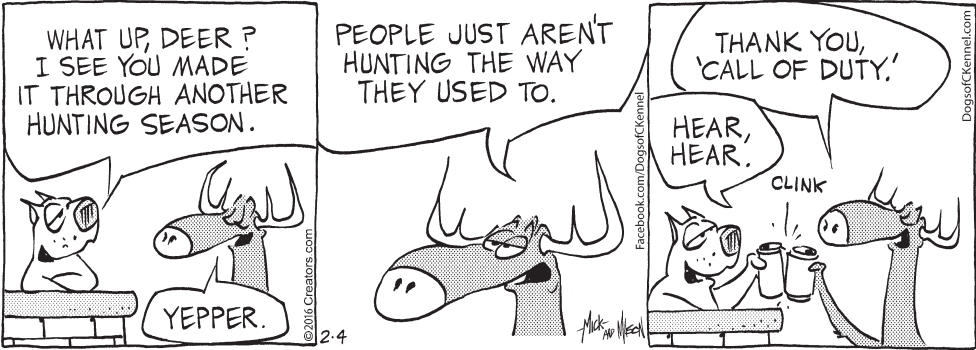
Strange Brew

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



Thursday, February 4, 2016

This year you will take action and manifest a long-term desire. What you want surrounds a friendship or a group of associates. The only obstacle that is likely to appear will be self-made. If you are single, you will meet someone of interest by broadening your circle of friends. This year will be very romantic, if you so choose. If you are attached, you and your sweetie will have reason for celebration off and on. The two of you have the ability to make your dreams a reality. CAPRICORN can be very conservative and difficult at times.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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