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Santa Monica nonprofit helps secure patient dumping settlement

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

WISE & Healthy Aging, a nonprofit headquartered in Santa Monica, tipped off Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer that a nursing home in Westlake was improperly discharging homeless and mentally-impaired residents, resulting in a $600,000 settlement that Feuer announced Friday.

Molly Davies, a vice president at WISE, said the organization received hundreds of complaints about Lakeview Terrace Skilled Nursing Facility, most of which alleged that the nursing home released residents onto the street, locked them out at night or neglected their care. The City Attorney's Office prosecuted Lakeview for patient dumping, which is illegal in Los Angeles and a major priority for Feuer. His office has settled eight cases of patient dumping since 2013.

Lakeview will have to hire a director to discharge homeless residents to housing and an independent monitor to oversee its operations for two years. It will also disperse $50,000 to cover housing costs for residents who were improperly discharged and pay $200,000 in civil penalties.

"I am hopeful that this settlement will bring about real and lasting change to this facility," said Grace Cheng Braun, WISE's president and CEO. "Beyond that, I hope it will motivate other facilities to review their own

SEE **NONPROFIT** PAGE 7



CLEANUP

Madeleine Pauker

Sections of the Pacific Coast Highway were closed following a vehicle accident that created minor mudslides along the busy road. According to the City of Santa Monica, both lanes were shutdown at about 3 a.m. yesterday when a vehicle rolled over and sheared off two fire hydrants. The resulting geysers on the bluff-side of the road flooded PCH and the efforts to shut the water took longer than initially expected. The southbound lanes were reopened at about 8 a.m. and the northbound lanes opened about an hour later.

Pier concerts moved to August

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

This year's Twilight on the Pier concert series will begin Aug. 21 and run on Wednesday nights until Sept. 25, about two weeks earlier than last year.

City Council approved the Santa Monica Pier Corporation's request to move the series' start date to the third Wednesday in August, which is estimated to increase attendance by about 30 percent and make Twilight more attractive to corporate sponsors. The new start time will also free up the Pier in October for Halloween activities and other programming.

Pier Corp executive director Negin Singh said the Pier has put a new focus on seasonal programming since she started in her role in early 2018 and is courting outside producers to throw events year-round. Many of those producers want to hold events in October, she said.

Last year also marked the end of Snapchat's sponsorship of the series and Pier Corp has to find new partners, Singh said.

"Snapchat provided 90 percent of our funding at one point," she said. "In looking for new partners, we want to be able to provide a summer option. It allows for companies and brands who are doing summer tours to have a stop here on the Pier and support Twilight."

Singh was hired as executive director after 2017 and 2016's series drew what officials called unmanageable crowds. In 2017, Pier Corp shifted the date of the series to sidestep the summer tourist season and cut the number of concerts from 10 to eight, but headliner Khalid still drew 25,000 attendees.

Council made several changes

SEE **CONCERTS** PAGE 6

Congress urged to fully open banks to marijuana industry

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

Bank officials and others urged Congress on Wednesday to fully open the doors of the U.S. banking system to the legal marijuana industry, a change that supporters say would reduce crime risks and resolve a litany of challenges for cannabis companies, from paying taxes to getting a loan.

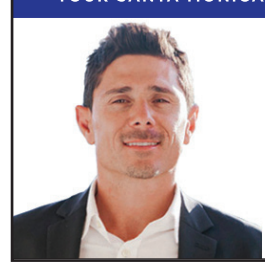
Most Americans live in states where marijuana is legally available in some form. But there's a problem when it comes to banks: Most don't want anything to do with money from the cannabis industry for fear it could expose them to legal trouble from the federal government, which still considers marijuana illegal.

That conflict has left many growers and sellers in the burgeoning pot industry in a legal dilemma, shutting them out of everyday financial services like opening a bank account or obtaining a credit card. It also has forced many businesses to operate only in cash — sometimes vast amounts — making them ripe targets for crime.

Banking, government and industry representatives at a House committee hearing urged lawmakers to pass a proposal that would allow pot businesses to access loans, lines of credit and other banking services,

SEE **MARIJUANA** PAGE 3


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Feb. 14

Current Events Discussion Group

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

Serialist Painting with Max King Cap

Serialism: Repetition in Visual Art. Create a repetitive geometry-based design project. The use of pattern and repetition has a long a varied history in visual art. Through strategies like Pattern & Decoration, Minimalism, and Op Art, artists have employed the most elemental of mark marking to create engaging, mesmeric, and striking compositions. This workshop will help each participant become familiar with some of the basic principles of color and composition. Max King Cap is a visual and media artist from Chicago who now lives in Los Angeles. Cost: $5 Register online or call (310) 458-2239. Palisades Park 1 - 3 p.m.

Valentine's Slime

Make your own Valentine's Day-themed slime. Limited space; free tickets available at 3:30 p.m. AGES 7-12. Main Library Children's Activity Room 4 - 4:45 p.m.

Chrysalis Workshop: Interviewing

Learn how to use job descriptions to prepare for your interview and about the importance of interview practice. Main Library, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 15

Craft, Swap, or Create

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

Fireside at the Miles: Nick Mancini Collective

The Miles hosts an eclectic line-up of music every Friday and readings of Pulitzer Prize-winning American dramas every Saturday night beginning at 8pm. Tickets are just $10 for adults, $5 for students, seniors and kids 17 or under. For reservations and information please call 310-458-8634 or email justin.yoffe@smgov.net. The Miles Memorial Playhouse is located in Christine Reed Park at the corner of Wilshire and Lincoln: 1130 Lincoln Blvd. 8 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16

Korean Maskmaking with DaEun Jung

Get a fun introduction to the origin and the purpose of Korean traditional masks. Make a mask frame and add wet paper to build up details. All materials provided; bring an apron if you can. Participants can leave their masks to dry and sign up for the following week to decorate their masks, or take the project home for drying. Cost: $5 Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

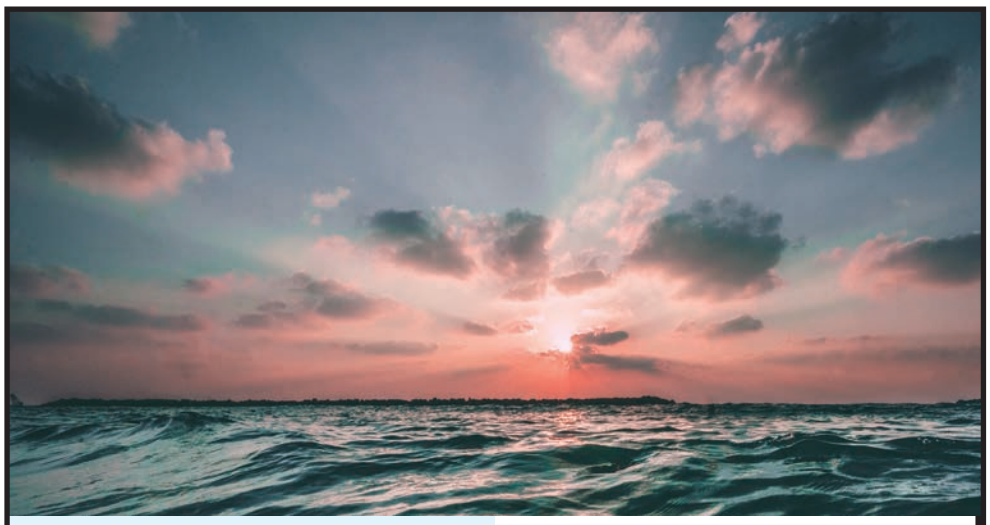
Clothing Swap

Re-fresh your wardrobe at the library! Bring clean clothes and accessories in good condition to trade with fellow teens. No registration necessary. Grades 8 - 12 in The Annex. Pico Branch Library 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Clemency Of Titus: an LA Opera Multimedia Talk

Revenge and romance set Rome on fire! Find out all about Mozart's rarely performed final masterpiece as Diane Beltoya, LA Opera Community Educator, brings this opera to life during her multimedia talk. Then head out to see LA Opera's premier performance during March. Main Library Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium 2 - 3:30 p.m.

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



If someone in your life has passed, you probably aren't the only one who will miss them.

Inform the public of the passing of a loved one, friend, or coworker in the Daily Press. An obituary is a wonderful way to commemorate someone's life as well as to give information on when a funeral or memorial will take place.

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California governor wants users to profit from online data

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom has set off a flurry of speculation after he said the state's consumers should get a piece of the billions of dollars that technology companies make by capitalizing on personal data they collect.

The new governor has asked aides to develop a proposal for a "data dividend" for California residents but provided no hints about whether he might be suggesting a tax on tech companies, an individual refund to their customers or something else.

"Companies that make billions of dollars collecting, curating and monetizing our personal data have a duty to protect it," the Democrat said in his first State of the State speech Tuesday. "California's consumers should also be able to share in the wealth that is created from their data."

Tech companies, for example, sell the data to outside businesses that target ads to users. The European Union and Spain's socialist government last year each proposed taxing big internet companies like Google, Facebook and Amazon.

Common Sense Media, which helped pass California's nation-leading digital privacy law last year, plans to propose legislation in coming weeks that would reflect Newsom's proposal, founder and CEO James Steyer said, without providing details.

Starting next year, California's European-style privacy law will require companies to tell customers upon request what personal data they have collected and why, which categories of third parties have received it, and allow consumers to delete their information and not sell it.

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia, ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, predicted in November that California would consider legislation that would "send a shiver down the spine" of tech companies.

He described the proposal as returning 25 percent of the value of an individual's data. It wasn't clear how the calculation would be made.

Warner's office said Wednesday that he made the comment after speaking with Steyer. Warner is considering federal legislation requiring companies like California-based Facebook and Google to provide users with annual estimates of what their data is worth to the companies.

Steyer said in a statement that Newsom is "spot on" about consumers having the "right to share in the profits that companies are making off them."

Axios calculated that the average Facebook user is worth $7.37 to the company, while a Twitter user is worth $2.83, and a Reddit user, about 30 cents. The calculation basically divided the companies' annual revenue by their monthly active users.

California-based tech giants Facebook and Google did not immediately comment.

Newsom's office would not say who is leading his review. Newsom "is open to constructive input" from national experts and lawmakers, spokesman Brian Ferguson said in a statement.

SEE **GOVERNOR** PAGE 4

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Bike-Pedestrian Safety Enforcement

The Santa Monica Police Department will be conducting Bike and Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations with focused enforcement efforts on primary collision factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Police Department periodically identifies locations where bike and pedestrian collisions are prevalent, along with the violations that led to those collisions. In an effort to lower deaths and injuries, officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic collisions occur.

Field enforcement operations are scheduled for Friday, February 15, and Monday, February 18, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Officers will be on the lookout for violations by drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians that can potentially lead to life altering injuries. Special enforcement efforts will be directed towards drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks and similar dangerous violations. Additionally, enforcement will occur for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bicyclists will be issued citations when they fail to follow similar traffic laws that also apply to motorists.

Bicyclists are encouraged to always wear a helmet; those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SUBMITTED BY LIEUTENANT SAUL RODRIGUEZ

Malibu

Adamson House volunteer training

California State Parks is excited to announce that it is recruiting volunteers/docents to be trained in conducting public tours of the historic Adamson House and tours of Malibu Lagoon. The training will be held on Wednesday afternoons from February 20-March 27, 2019.

Prospective docents will participate in a six-week training course, held once a week for three and one half hour sessions. Trainees hear from expert speakers on pertinent topics such as; Rindge/Adamson Family history, architecture, artists and tile design - Chumash history and the biological diversity of the Malibu Lagoon. Docents will learn techniques on how to conduct effective tours.

Successful docents are expected to commit a minimum of eight hours a month to give house tours, group tours and children tours to the public. In addition to the minimum commitment, there are many other volunteer and enrichment opportunities including; periodic lectures and museum visits.

If interested in becoming a docent at the Adamson House, please contact AH.Volunteers@parks.ca.gov or (310) 456 8432 Box 6# for more information.

The Adamson House is a 1930 Spanish Colonial Revival residence adjacent to Surfrider Beach, built by Rhoda Rindge Adamson (daughter of Frederick Hastings Rindge and May Knight Rindge, last owners of the Malibu Spanish land grant) and her husband, Merritt Adamson. The Rindge/Adamson families have a significant place in Southern California history. The home retains most of the family's furnishings from the 1930s to the 1960s and features extensive tile work from the family's famed Malibu Potteries. The residence and collection offer a glimpse into Malibu's past.

SUBMITTED BY DAMIAN F. RUDDY

MARIJUANA

FROM PAGE 1

while sheltering financial institutions from prosecution for handling pot money.

California Treasurer Fiona Ma, whose state is home to the nation's largest legal pot market, called the measure a critical step for the rapidly expanding industry.

Gregory S. Deckard, who spoke on behalf of the Independent Community Bankers of America, said the cloud of legal uncertainty was inhibiting access to banks while creating safety hazards for businesses.

The proposal, he said, "would offer the needed clarity" for more financial institutions to welcome the marijuana industry as customers.

But others had concerns.

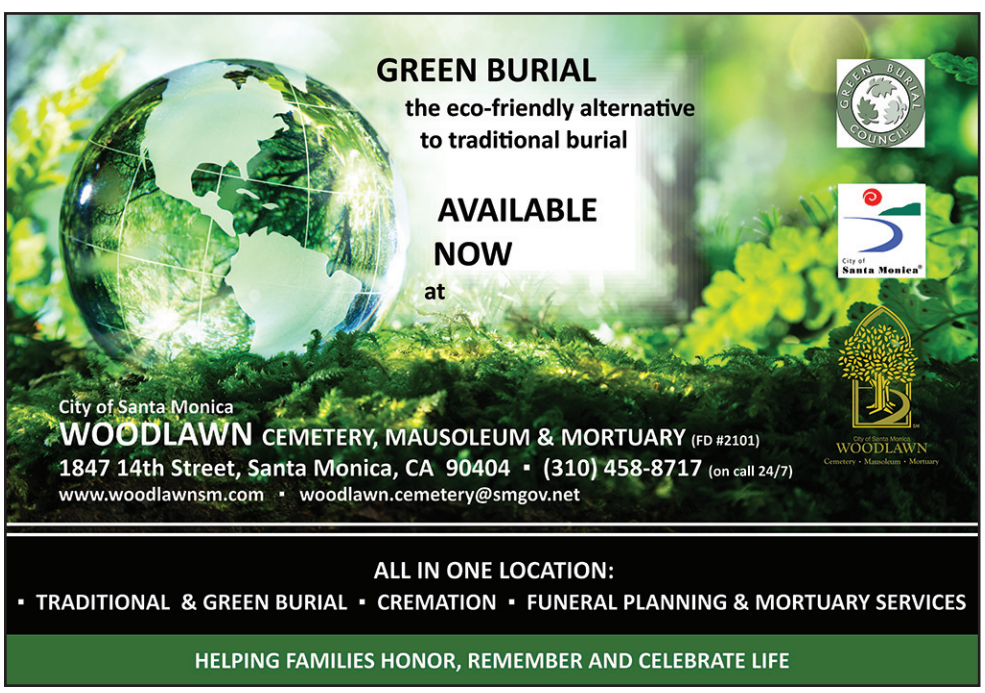
Republican Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer of Missouri said the proposal would create confusion while marijuana remains illegal at the federal level. He questioned how banks would identify criminal operators and pointed to how Congress handled hemp, the low-THC cousin of the cannabis plant, which was removed from the list of federally controlled substances.

With the banking legislation, "we are putting the cart before the horse," he said.

Legalization advocates have reason to celebrate that the hearing simply took place before the Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions Subcommittee. The proposal, or similar versions, have languished in the past.

"Lawmakers are not being asked to weigh in on whether marijuana should be legal or not. They are simply looking at whether banking services should be available to these businesses in states where it is already legal," said Mason Tvert of the Marijuana Policy Project, an advocacy group.

The number of banks and credit unions willing to handle pot money is growing, but they still represent only a tiny fraction of the industry.



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GOVERNOR

FROM PAGE 3

The governor's office pointed to proposals elsewhere that would put a tax on data, including one that died in the Washington state Legislature in 2017. That measure would have taxed receipts from the sale of state residents' personal data at a rate of 3.3 percent.

Mahsau Daee of the Internet Association said the industry will look forward to reviewing the governor's eventual proposal but that "free and low-cost, data-driven online services offer Californians — and all Americans — enormous benefits."

Jeffrey Chester, executive director of the Center for Digital Democracy, said Newsom "is off to the wrong start" on protecting consumer privacy.

"They shouldn't be tricked into giving away their privacy for a small discount," he said in an email. "Selling it for a few bucks isn't the answer and will make the problem worse."

Dan Goldstein, president the digital marketing agency Page 1 Solutions, said a tax might not benefit consumers, while some sort of profit-sharing plan would likely return a "pittance of a benefit" to individuals.

Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes last year suggested that users could band together to negotiate payments or a data tax could be administered, similar to a fund that annually shares oil profits with Alaska residents.

Consumer Federation of California executive director Richard Holober hailed the proposal while alluding to the vast financial divide between rich and poor, particularly in California, which is struggling to address homelessness and an affordable housing crisis.

The governor previously asked Silicon Valley companies to match $500 million in state funds with their own low-interest loans for developers to build homes for middle-income residents in some of the state's costliest areas.

"We have such a disparity here with everyday Californians who are having trouble paying their rent or sending their kids to college," Holober said. "California has created a very fertile land for these corporations to become fabulously wealthy, and they need to give back."

Newsom's announcement excited lawmakers who authored California's privacy law, but they had no information about it.

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Bob Hertzberg called the proposal "the next frontier of the online data and privacy conversation."

Democratic Assemblyman Ed Chau, who is chairman of the Assembly Committee on Privacy and Consumer Protection, said the proposal "highlights the value of data, which has often been described as the new oil in this technological data-driven economy."

City of Santa Monica

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Consultants to complete and submit statements of qualifications for the:

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Qualifications shall be emailed to the City of Santa Monica Civil Engineering Division at Thomas.check@smgov.net and Steven Hull at steven.hull@smgov.net, not later than 2:00 p.m. on **March 4, 2019**. Each statement of qualification shall be in accordance with the Request for Qualifications.

The Request for Qualifications may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=15167. Consultants wishing to be considered must submit a Qualification containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Qualifications.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Famous Fake

Can I bestow a HIGHLY RECOMMENDED on a concert because of one short piece just before intermission? You bet I can, if it's my music column and if it's the magnificent Rhapsody in Blue, by a young, put-upon George Gershwin. He was kind of tricked into writing it.

Late at night on January 3rd, 1924, playing billiards, George, his brother Ira and lyricist Buddy DeSylva spotted an item in the New York Tribune. A concert of new American music was to be given by Paul Whiteman and his Palais Royal Band at Aeolian Hall on 12 February.

"George Gershwin is at work on a jazz concerto," they read, dumbfounded. It was news to George. His musical comedy, Sweet Little Devil, was set to open in just three weeks. And now he had to write a concerto by February 12th as well?

Whiteman was the most popular bandleader of the 1920s, considered the "King of Jazz," although this was no jazz band, but a large dance orchestra that used jazz musicians from time to time. Whiteman twisted Gershwin's arm that all he had to do was supply a piano score. Ferde Grofé, Whiteman's brilliant in-house arranger, would be able to orchestrate the work tailored to the band's line-up.

While he was on the train to Boston for rehearsals of his musical, Gershwin sketched out a framework for the new piece, which he began writing on January 7. While he also made last-minute changes to Sweet Little Devil for its New York opening January 24th, the genius completed a two-piano score.

What Gershwin produced was not a "jazz concerto" but a rhapsodic work for "piano and jazz band," incorporating elements of European symphonic music and American jazz with his inimitable melodic gift and keyboard facility.

The Rhapsody, with its composer as soloist, premiered to a packed house that included composers John Philip Sousa, Stravinsky and Rachmaninoff, famed violinist Fritz Kreisler, stride piano master Willie "the Lion" Smith and conductor Leopold Stokowski. Gershwin had not yet written down much of the piano part, and improvised it on stage. Dy-am. The rest is history.

The famed opening clarinet signature came into being during rehearsal when, "as a joke on Gershwin," Whiteman's virtuoso clarinetist played the opening measure with a noticeable glissando, adding what he considered a humorous touch. Loving it, Gershwin asked him to perform it that way at the concert and to add as much of a "wail" as possible.

Hearing it as a little kid, before I knew the difference between jazz and... anything, I knew that opening otherworldly elongated note ascending slowly, expansively, elegantly, mournfully, hopefully to heaven spoke to me. Who knows? Maybe that was what thrust me deep into music. That opening is played a lot of ways but for me the best is to stretch, caress, savor and squeeze everything out of it in a long, perfectly executed exhale.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

LA PHIL: WILLIAM GRANT STILL & the Harlem Renaissance (Symphony No. 1, "Afro-American," Duke ELLINGTON's "Come Sunday" from Black, Brown and Beige, and "Harlem," and George Gershwin's RHAPSODY IN BLUE, see above, for the love), Sat 8 p.m., Disney Hall, DTLA, $55-$194.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — KACEY MUSGRAVES, Soccer Mommy (four Grammys for Album of the Year, Country Album and Song and Solo Performance, told ya), Thurs, Fri 9 p.m., The Theatre at Ace Hotel, $42.50-$70.

TONIGHT! — KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (not much familiar with the material, it will probably challenge you, in a good way, but one is composed by m'man Billy Childs and I like his scribbling as much as his tickling, and the KCO is very good), Thurs 7:30 p.m., Hammer Museum, Westwood, free.

THE JOY WHEEL (I saw the table reading a while back, really deep and funny, now directed by JASON ALEXANDER, can't wait, these Ruskin plays usually sell out), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Ruskin Group Theatre, SM Airport, $25-$35.

DON BRADEN QUARTET (Jazz Bakery is not going to steer you wrong, or go just to hear the great Billy Childs on piano, who mentored Gerald Clayton, see two above, see below), Sat 8 p.m., Moss Theater, Santa Monica, $25-$35.

STEVE LEHMAN, GERALD CLAYTON, J. Richards ("discover" Sam First, a tres cool jazz club very near LAX, intimate, great layout, a true listening room, booking noted players from all over, like New York "dazzling saxophonist" Steve Lehman, but they often feature our home-grown LA keyboard wiz Clayton so keep their schedule on your radar), Sat 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m., Sam First, LAX, $20.

INGER LORRE, TEXACALA JONES, Fifi, The Harsh Carpets, The Bye Byes (wow, what an '80s-'90s LA punk all-star lineup, for a good cause, a Malibu Fire Relief Fundraiser, right here in SM, rare event, Mexican food too), Sat 6 p.m., Casa Escobar, SM, $20.

TONY GILKYSON, TRACY DAWN, LISA FINNIE, rockabilly legend JIMMY ANGEL, more (it's the 9th anniversary of Jonny Whiteside's monthly The Messaround with a Johnny Cash Birthday Smash theme and an impressive lineup, I would go just for Tony Gilkyson), Sun 6 p.m., Joe's Great American Bar & Grill, free.

ROSANNE CASH (a gem in a royal music family, 15 Grammy nominations and three wins in 2015, best-selling author and children's book writer and so much more, her songwriting is superb, her voice emotionally powerful and her music crosses genres easily, what a treasure), Sun 7 p.m., The Soraya, Northridge, $39-$90.

RICHARD THOMPSON (incomparable multi-instrumentalist, long UK pedigree, no telling what he'll play but always an excellent show), Tues, Wed 8 p.m., The Teragram Ballroom, $35.

SLY & ROBBIE, Bitty McLean (the "masters of groove and propulsion" have changed the sound of reggae a few times in their nearly half century partnership, legends among legends, so if you haven't caught them yet, aren't you curious?), Wed 9 p.m., The Echoplex, $20.

JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET (they're only a year older than I am so just

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 5

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.



Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

New Documentary Musical Brings Songs and Dances From Uganda

It starts off like a house on fire. Then after a while they burn down the library. But we'll get to that later.

A dozen African-American artists begin by blasting out an enthusiastic melodious chant in one of the Ugandan languages, followed by a spirited dance that even Jerome Robbins would envy. All flailing arms and flying legs, accompanied by more chanting.

I don't know if the dancing, choreographed by Abdur-Rahim Jackson, is a version of a ceremonial dance native to Uganda, as is common in many African countries. For example, Ethiopian dancers specifically focus on intense movements of the shoulders; miners in South Africa perform by stamping their feet rhythmically in the "gum boots" they wear in the mines; and the tall Masai warriors of Kenya specialize in continuous high jumps.

At any rate, this new documentary musical, "Witness Uganda", intersperses these new dance sequences with original "mood" songs created by Matt Gould, co-writer and music director, to express the changing emotions of the characters. The other creator and director, Griffin Matthews, has based the play on his own experiences in Uganda following his founding of the UgandaProject in 2005. Thus the hero, played by Jamar Williams, is named Griffin.

As a young man growing up in New York, Griffin aspired to provide something meaningful and helpful to the world. But, as his Ugandan counterpart acknowledges early in the play, "I didn't change the world, the world changed me."

Nevertheless, Griffin began his odyssey by responding to an advertisement for volunteers and was soon on his way to Uganda, where he was assigned to teach young people to read. This work was made more problematic, however, when he discovered that in order to teach, he would first have to build a school.

He also discovered that his prospective students harbored a great disdain for Americans, mainly because the Americans they had encountered were tourists who had come to gawk at them. And he also had to face the disapproval of the village priest and the woman who played a leading part in the affairs of the community. "Stop teaching and start listening," she advised him.

Another handicap he faced was the fact that he was gay. Apparently he had come to Uganda without being aware that the law that "President for Life" Idi Amin had authorized years earlier was still in effect. It decreed that gay persons were to be put to death. As Griffin was told, "We don't want those people in Uganda."

Eventually, however, he teamed up with a young white American woman named Ryan (Emma Hunton) and together they gathered the funding that their impoverished students needed in order to attend Ugandan schools. They also managed to take some of them on a visit to the fabled city of New York, where they joined their American peers in a march for civil rights and waved large placards which identified the rights that the New Yorkers were demanding.

Returning to Uganda, they discovered that someone had set fire to the local library and a great many people were standing by and shouting "Burn it up! Burn it up!" But Griffin's students had learned the value of books and reading and learning, and by the end of the play they stood proudly and, one by one, recited their life achievements.

Most of them had gone to college and many had earned graduate degrees. They had become professionals in a variety of fields, such as medicine and social work, and all in all, had confirmed that a determined effort like Griffin's UgandaProject can indeed change the world.

And Griffin himself, often accompanied by his partner, Gould, returned to Uganda every year for the next 15 to continue the work.

"Witness Uganda," with all its vigorous dancing and sweetly melodious songs, can be enjoyed weekdays at 8pm, Saturdays at 2:30 and 8pm, and Sundays at 2:30 and 7:30pm through February 23rd at the Lovelace Studio Theater at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 9390 North Santa Monica Blvd, in Beverly Hills. For tickets, call (310) 746-4000 or online at TheWallis.org/Witness.

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

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 4

imagine if I had kept up those accordion lessons...), next Thurs 7:30 p.m., Musco Center for the Arts, Chapman University, $25-$45.

VICKI RAY (is she really "phenomenal and fearless," this Grammy nominated contemporary piano master? — you can drive downtown LA and pay $20-$35 at Zipper Hall the following Tuesday to find out, or get a preview of that show for nada at our own Main Library), next Thurs, 7:30 p.m., Santa Monica Library Main Branch, DTSM, free.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAY: TIM BUCKLEY (1947) — he was almost in the tragic gone-too-soon "27 Club" (Jimi, Janis, Jim Morrison, Brian Jones, Kurt Cobain, Amy Winehouse, Robert Johnson et al), only 28 when taken to Santa Monica Hospital, already blue and gone from a heroin overdose.

I loved Tim Buckley's music and that voice, that haunted, wailing, growling, ethereal voice. His music and style changed considerably through the years, beginning in folk but soon experimenting with jazz, psychedelia, funk, soul, avant-garde and an evolving "voice as instrument" sound. Sadly, it seemed as though his creative arc could have gone on for decades more.

His son Jeff Buckley, a gifted singer-songwriter, never knew his father but was determined to avoid an early rock and roll demise, but he drowned in a river in Memphis at age 30, waiting for his band to arrive from New York to finish tracks for an album. Accidental, no drugs involved. Isn't life strange.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The fight for equity

Editor:

The seven parents who authored the letter labeling Baca et al. vs. SMMUSD as an "unfair lawsuit," and questioning why the plaintiffs did not use the District's "simple process" for fee complaints, neglected to mention the essence of the alleged complaint: that SMMUSD is out of compliance with Ed Code. In other words, the District is accused of violating state law, specifically in regards to fees illegally charged to students. Instead, the group resorts to fallacious reasoning and ad hominem attacks, supported only by appeals to emotion.

Violations of Ed Code can have serious consequences for districts that fail to follow laws that have been enacted to protect students. LAUSD was hit with two large judgments, or consent decrees, during my teaching career. The Chanda Smith case forced the District to pay closer attention to Special Education students, and the Williams case forced District-wide funding equity for access to textbooks.

If SMMUSD is out of compliance with Ed Code in regard to student fees, as it appears from the complaint that it may be, then it needs to acknowledge that, and work with the State and/or the Court to remedy the situation. If the Board chooses to fight the lawsuit, they should be held accountable if/when the Court finds for the plaintiffs.

The fight for equity for all students is never a waste of public funds.

GLENNA DUMEY
Santa Monica

CONCERTS

FROM PAGE 1

to Twilight in December 2017 to reduce crowding, including holding the concerts on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays, reducing the number of concerts from eight to six and beginning after Labor Day.

"The series was rebranded to reinforce the event as a smaller, Pier-focused series with a curation strategy that booked niche performers with audience draws better in line with the venue size," City staff wrote.

The 2018 concert series drew an average of 8,000 people per night, according to the staff report. The report estimated the concerts will attract about 1,500 to 3,000 more attendees per evening this year.

Pier Corp broke even on last year's concert series. It cost $659,711 and brought in $661,174, netting $1,463. Corporate sponsors underwrote over two-thirds of the concert series costs, with the remaining one-third from City grants and revenues from beverage sales.

Pier Corp will announce more details about this year's concert series in May, Singh said.

madeleine@smdp.com



NONPROFIT

FROM PAGE 1

practices and procedures and make any necessary changes in how they deliver care."

Feuer publicly thanked Davies for the role she and WISE played in the multi-year investigation into Lakeview. As vice president of elder abuse prevention and ombudsman services, she tried referring the facility to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and advising its executive staff before going to the City Attorney's Office.

"We found the same issues coming up time and time again," Davies said. "We referred the complaints to Public Health and the behavior wouldn't change. We saw individuals hospitalized after being dumped on the street."

The county has aggressively prosecuted hospitals for dumping homeless patients on the street without a place to go and Davies said the problem is also pervasive in nursing homes.

"It's not just this facility, we're seeing this in other skilled nursing facilities ... (they) view homeless individuals as if no one wants them, and believe if they take them and discharge them, they should be happy with what they get," she said. "This settlement makes a statement that the industry is not going to stand for someone who needs additional assistance or is homeless being put on the curb anymore."

The county, the nursing home industry and organizations like WISE are still developing alternatives to patient dumping that can be put into widespread practice, however. At Lakeview, a new director will offer homeless residents housing and fund temporary housing for those who cannot afford it. The director will also invite governmental agencies to assist homeless residents in securing social services before discharging them.

A monitor will make sure the director and other staff are complying with the City Attorney's orders – and understand the root cause of Lakeview's problems.

Jerry Seelig, who will oversee the facility for two years, said nursing homes often struggle to hire trained staff or put staff in positions that they are unqualified for. Nurses and administrators often avoid working in nursing homes because the pay is typically lower than it would be in a hospital and there are fewer opportunities for advancement, Seelig said.

"You'll see a failure to staff properly with trained people and a lack of willingness to look at mistakes," he said.

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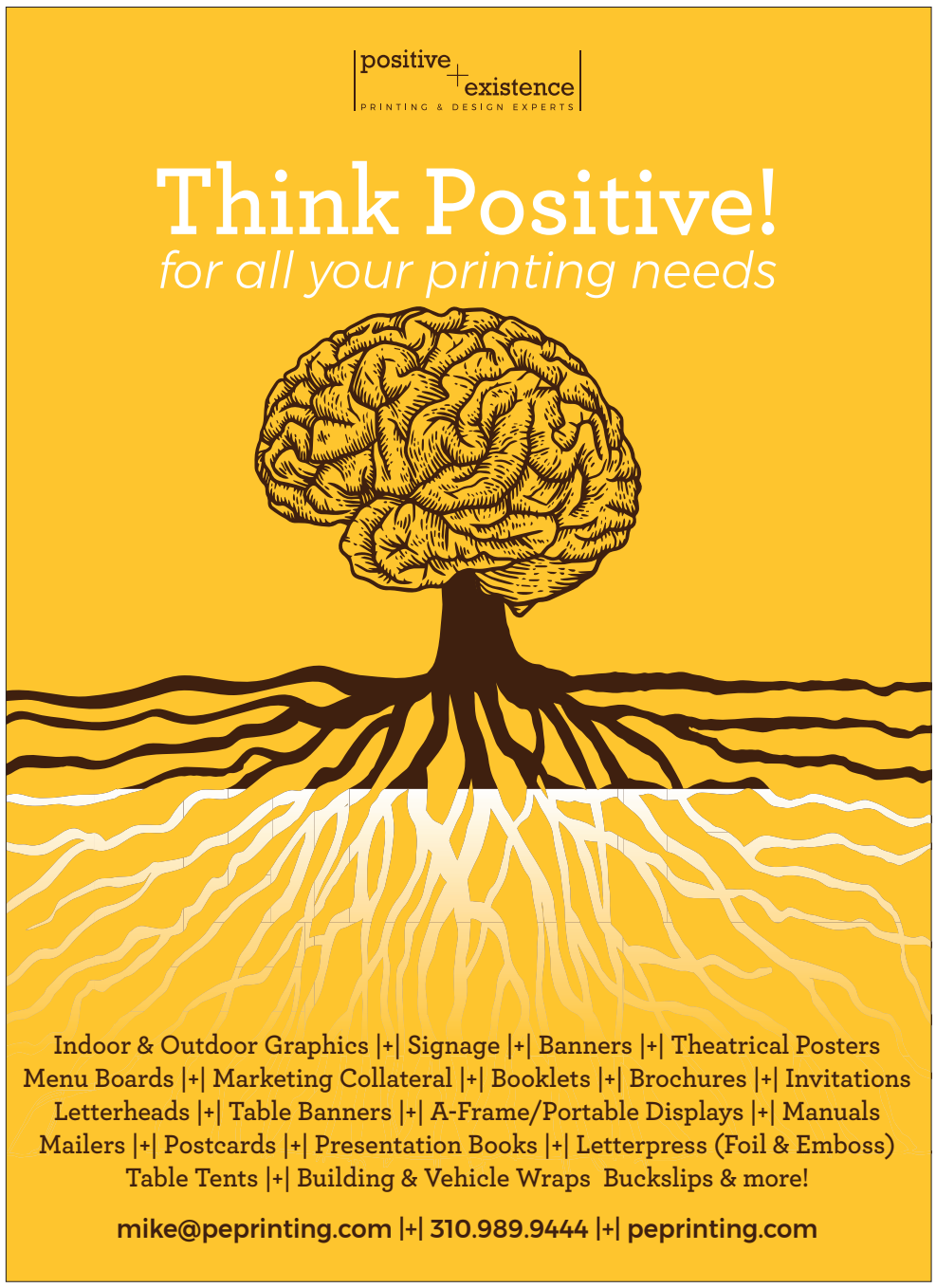


SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.7°

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 3-4 ft waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Watching for a spike in localized windswell. Onshore S trending W/WNW winds.

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Watching for localized windswell to ease as WNW swell picks up and peaks. WNW winds continue.



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 31, AT ABOUT 7:19 A.M.

While patrolling near the McDonalds at 1540 2nd Street, officers saw a subject laying out CD's on the short concrete wall in an attempt to sell them without a permit in violation of the municipal code. Officers identified the subject and determined he had two warrants for his arrest, one out of Glendale PD and another out of LAPD. The subject was placed under arrest for the warrants. A search of the subject led to the recovery of a .22 caliber round of ammunition in his right front pocket. The subject was a previously convicted felon and not allowed to carry ammunition. The subject was transported to SMPD Jail for booking. Thomas Jacob Krummel, 48, from Granada Hills, was arrested for being a convicted felon in possession of ammunition and outstanding warrants. Bail was set at $75,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To Calls For Service.
THE FOLLOWING CALLS WERE SELECTED BY SMDP STAFF FROM 336 CALLS ON FEB. 12

Vandalism 1400blk 2nd St 12:35 a.m.
Overdose 1900blk Ocean Way 4:39 a.m.
Encampment 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:55 a.m.
Encampment 400blk Santa Monica Pier 7:24 a.m.
Petty theft 2100blk 3rd St 7:54 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries Lincoln Blvd / Marguerita Ave 8:05 a.m.
Person with a gun 2400blk ocean front walk 8:07 a.m.
Fight 1600blk the beach 8:22 a.m.
Grand theft auto 2400blk Kansas Ave 9:39 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1500blk Palisades Park 9:48 a.m.
Oversize vehicle violation 800blk 6th St 9:54 a.m.
Grand theft 2300blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:58 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk 6th St 10:05 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 900blk 3rd St 10:29 a.m.
Fraud 1500blk Franklin St 10:35 a.m.
Panhandling 1400blk 2nd St 10:36 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 700blk Grant St 10:36 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk Appian Way 11:11 a.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor 2100blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:27 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 1300blk Pico Blvd 11:42 a.m.
Speeding 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:00 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1500blk Palisades Park 12:03 p.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 12:16 p.m.
Battery 17th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:23 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 1200blk 24th St 12:23 p.m.
Harassing phone calls 3300blk Exposition Blvd 12:31 p.m.
Pacific Coast Hwy 12:51 p.m.
Armed robbery 1000blk Pico Blvd 1:37 p.m.
Burglary 400blk Strand St 1:49 p.m.
Petty theft 900blk 9th St 2:13 p.m.
Fraud 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 2:15 p.m.
Burglary 600blk Strand St 2:38 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 1200blk 24th St 2:47 p.m.
Vehicle parked on sidewalk 200blk Bicknell Ave 2:52 p.m.
Malicious mischief 16th St / Ocean Park Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Person with a gun 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 2:55 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 3000blk Main St 3:10 p.m.
Fraud 800blk 7th St 3:25 p.m.
Petty theft 900blk 6th St 3:33 p.m.
Burglary 1300blk 5th St 3:42 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 4:30 p.m.
Sexual assault 1300blk 20th St 4:35 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 4:39 p.m.
Out of order traffic signals 2nd St / Arizona Ave 4:49 p.m.
Bike theft 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:13 p.m.
Auto burglary 1000blk Ocean Ave 5:17 p.m.
Grand theft 300blk Olympic Dr 5:27 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 300blk Colorado Ave 6:07 p.m.
Identity theft 900blk 5th St 6:18 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To Calls For Service.
THE FOLLOWING WERE SELECTED FROM 48 CALLS ON FEB. 12

Carbon monoxide alarm 1100blk Euclid St 4:37 a.m.
Emergency Medical Service 1900blk Ocean Way 4:39 a.m.
EMS 400blk Ocean Ave 5:33 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 7:34 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 23rd St 8:05 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2200blk Main St 8:59 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 9:07 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Olympic Blvd 9:41 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 2nd St 9:49 a.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 10:33 a.m.
EMS 200blk 26th St 10:37 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 18th St 10:44 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 10:49 a.m.
EMS 700blk Grant St 11:00 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:52 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 12:16 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 1:12 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500blk 6th St 1:14 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Wilshire Blvd 1:16 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 19th St 1:22 p.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:30 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 1:35 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:49 p.m.
EMS 700blk Strand St 2:00 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 2:09 p.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 2:21 p.m.
EMS 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 3:07 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Main St 3:10 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 3:15 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 100blk Alta Ave 3:16 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800blk 20th St 3:36 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 3:48 p.m.
EMS 2900blk 31st St 3:51 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2600blk 26th St 4:27 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 4:40 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/9
1 2 3 7 39
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 242M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/12
15 32 39 50 65
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 190M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/9
8 22 31 33 47
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 18M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/12
3 5 11 27 37

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/12
MIDDAY: 3 5 9
Draw Date: 2/12
EVENING: 9 6 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/12
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:47.03

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WORD UP!

synastry
noun [si-nas-tree, sin-uh-stree]
1. Astrology. the comparison of two or more natal charts in order to analyze or forecast the interaction of the individuals involved.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Medical History

■ This week in 1794, Elizabeth Hog Bennett became the first woman in the U.S. to successfully give birth to a child by Cesarean section. Her husband, Dr. Jessee Bennett of Edom, Virginia, performed the operation, though he had no anesthetic to give his wife. Another local doctor Bennett asked to assist declined, citing excessive risk. In his place, Bennett enlisted the help of two field hands to hold the mother on a wooden table. Though the operation was the first of its kind in the U.S., the history of the Cesarean operation has been traced as far back as ancient Chinese etchings. Roman law under Julius Caesar decreed that all women who were dead or dying must be cut open to save the child.

MYSTERY PHOTO



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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

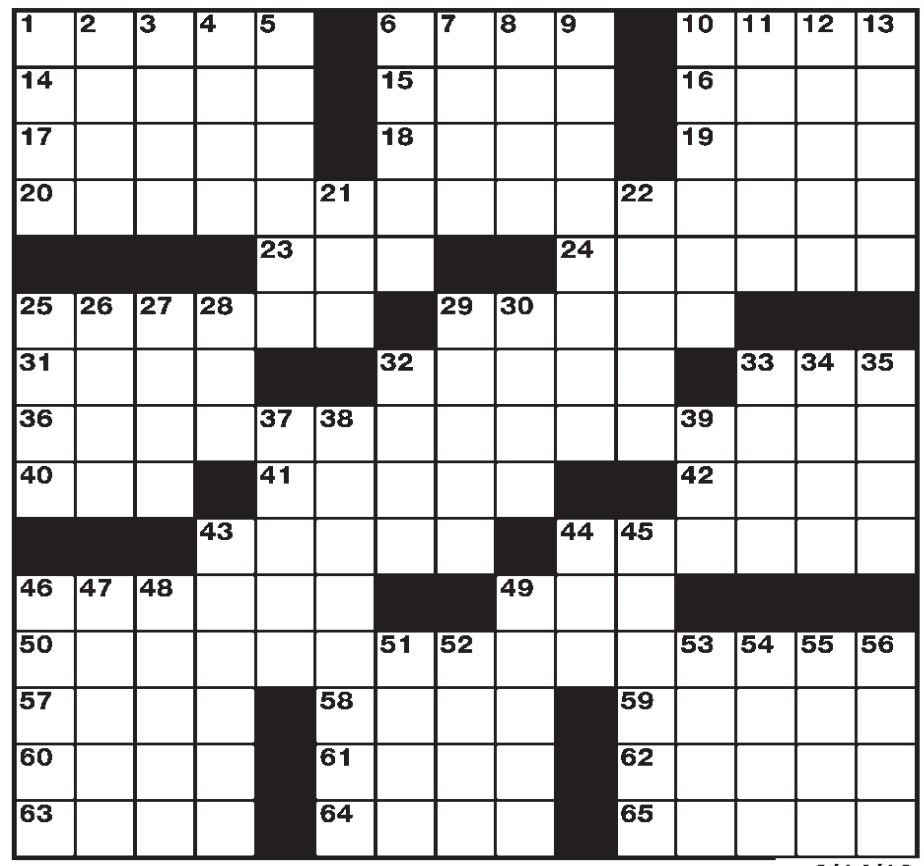
	6	3	1	7			5	
	2				5			6
1			4			7		2
6		2		5			7	
	7			8			4	
	5			4		2		1
7		6			8			9
2			7				6	
	8			6	9	1	2	

Newsday Crossword

MUSICAL TRIO by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Erstwhile global carrier
6 Freud contemporary
10 Engine sound
14 Midwest stop on the transcontinental railroad
15 Letters on old phones
16 Mandlikova of tennis
17 Proverbial talker
18 Mental impression
19 Laces (into)
20 Formal IOUs
23 Figured out
24 Corn product
25 Playroom fixture
29 Midwest hub
31 Fictional Quaker captain
32 Test pilot's wear
33 "Green" prefix
36 What jet lag disturbs
40 Bested, in some bouts
41 Conceals
42 Yogurt flavor
43 Sealy competitor
44 Bengay alternative
46 Elsewhere
49 Auditor's designation
50 Peace in the family
57 Entry point
58 Director Kazan
59 Tinker Bell, for one
60 To be, to Beauvoir
61 Chorale participant
62 Sphere of activity
63 Only batted
64 *Simpsons* hangout
65 Xerography powder

DOWN
1 Splendor
2 Spanish love
3 It means "very small"
4 "Beg pardon . . ."
5 Request to be excused
6 Ceiling support
7 Off-the-neck hairstyle
8 Poetic contraction
9 Sign of maturity
10 Hubcap material
11 Cuba neighbor
12 Set loose from a sty
13 Bombastic
21 Chi-town team
22 Higher-latitude than here
25 Pushpin alternative
26 Mississippi tributary
27 Spot for a doghouse
28 *Doctor Who* airer
29 Port of Honshu
30 Barbaric ones
32 Crux
33 Carve into stone
34 Bush 43 labor secretary
35 Jump past
37 Solemn assents
38 Pub squad
39 "Woo-hoo!"
43 Get steamed
44 Bottled brew, briefly
45 Criticize too much
46 Tossed in
47 Trade-show setup
48 Campout treat
49 Major disorder
51 Picture, in design slang
52 Mention in a footnote
53 Spanish surrealist
54 Team with eight legs
55 Best score in baccarat
56 Orbital period



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/14/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 14)

You bring out something so interesting in the people you meet that many become your biggest fans, rooting for you to complete your projects, win your battles and nail your goals. (So make sure you have plenty of the aforementioned purposes for them to lend power to!) It all starts with stellar planning and organization. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 2, 40, 20 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Love really does require a sense of humor. When you bring that to the table, you can find the other person's quirks, gaps of knowledge and errors in approach to be a source of endearment and mirth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
The paradox of love is that it can at once feel comfortable and thrilling, right and dangerous, inevitable and yet completely up to you. Take a breath and luxuriate love's opposites.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
You're keenly aware of what the people in your life need, especially your nearest and dearest. You'll save up those three little words and drop them when they'll mean the most.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Among love's many gifts will be the sort of temptation that seduces you in a positive way, so that you want nothing more than to do something wonderful instead of wicked, generous instead of selfish.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
People have described love to you, but that didn't teach you what it was any more than poets or songs or movies did. Experience is the only way, and your experiences just get deeper and more meaningful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Love isn't something that happens because two descriptions of it match up well. It's something much more complex and nuanced than that. You know what love is when you come across it, which is why you keep diving in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Marilyn Monroe famously said that anyone who couldn't handle her at her worst didn't deserve her at her best. This flies against your Libran logic. You reward those who love the full spectrum of you by giving your very best.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
You are decisive and sure, which makes it all the more impactful when you declare your love. It will be easier for you to give than receive, so make extra efforts to receive well.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You'll be understood the way you've longed to be, which is to say, in a way that is in some regards beyond your understanding of yourself and in other regards barely scratching the surface of your deep mystery.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
In love, not everything makes sense immediately, but you've a sense of patient optimism about it that makes uncertainty palatable, if not entirely pleasant.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Soul-driven connections are happening for you – some in the form of coincidental meetings or unlikely and whimsical connections that nonetheless feel somehow correct, fated even.

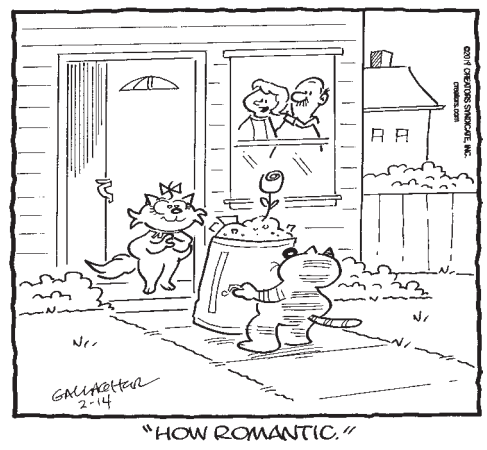
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Because you're willing to take on the challenges of love, you'll be, in the moment you least expect it, seized by a thrilling sense of soaring adventure, followed by a comforting rush of relief when you find a soft place to land.

Mars Takes Over Valentine's Day

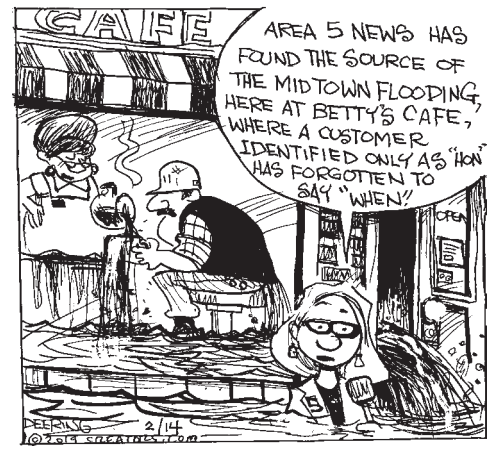
This Valentine's Day, an astrological ruckus swivels the spotlight from Venus, queen of hearts, and the usual star of the day, to Mars, the warrior prince with a new take. The Martian move into Taurus lends itself to a brand of passion that is, though rugged, still partial to lavish sensory indulgences. Visceral experience wins out over poetry.

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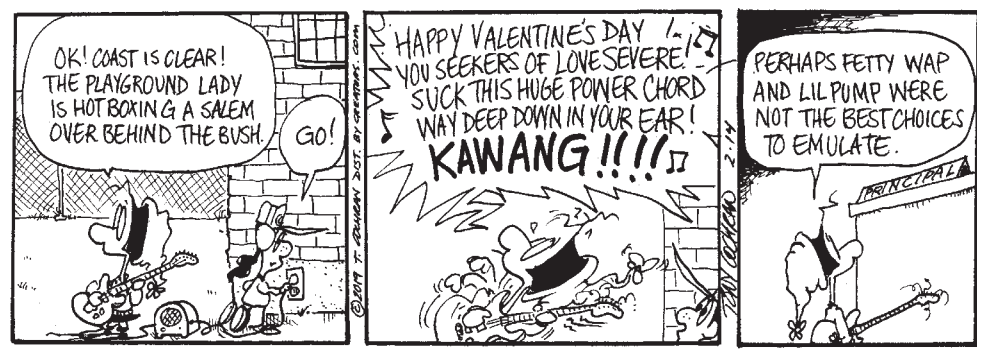
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



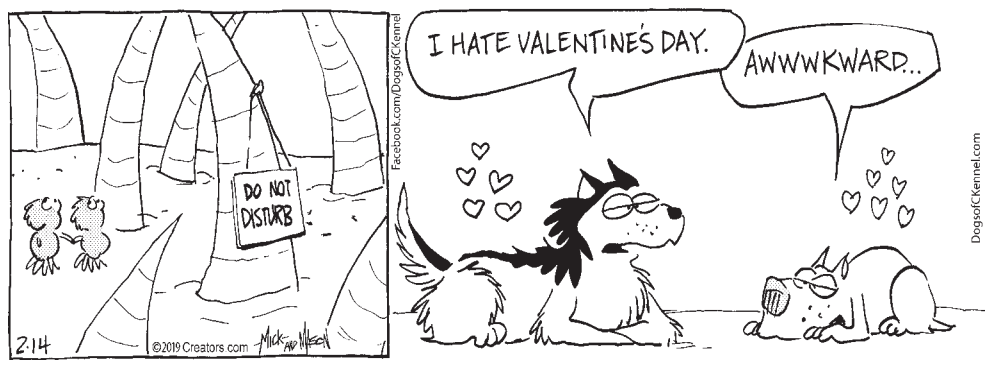
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



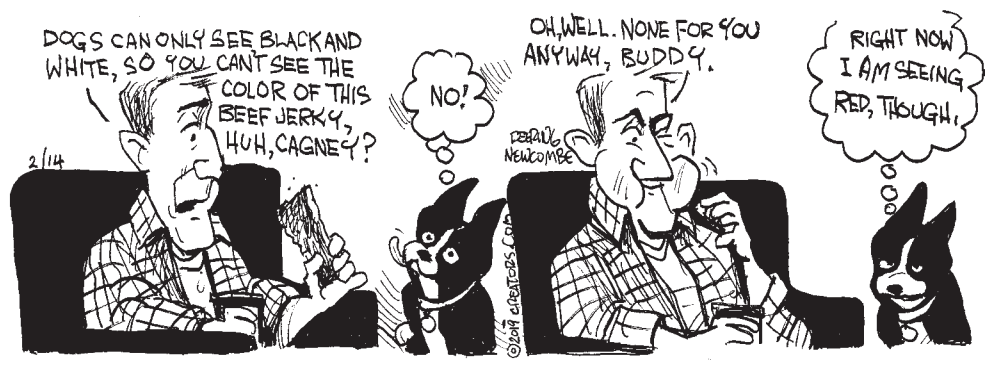
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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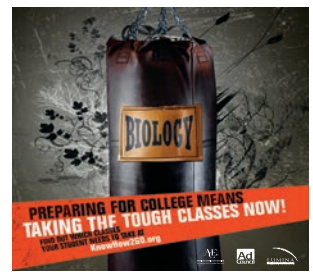
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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

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Cinderella Returns



Johan Persson

DANCE: Andrew Monaghan and Ashley Shaw with the company in Matthew Bourne's "Cinderella," at the Ahmanson Theatre February 5 through March 10, 2019.

CINDERELLA RETURNS

Spoiler alert: A pumpkin will not become a golden carriage nor will four white mice turn into four white horses in choreographer Sir Matthew Bourne's dance drama, "Cinderella." Bourne is best known for turning movies and fairy tales into wordless ballet dramas, with such lauded productions as "The Red Shoes," "Mary Poppins," his all-male version of "Swan Lake" and even "Edward Scissorhands."

Bourne's Cinderella is back onstage at the Ahmanson Theatre two decades after making its US debut here. He relocates the fairy tale to World War II London, retaining the key characters, including the truly evil Stepmother, the two not-so-ugly but quite nasty stepsisters, and plain jane Cinderella, who's been made a servant to the family, and keeps her head down but nevertheless tries to keep an eye on her beloved invalid father.

The fairy godmother, however, has become the "Angel," reminding me of David Bowie with his shining silver clothing and silver hair. And the Prince is now an injured pilot named Harry, bandaged up, disoriented and holding his head in pain. (His two friends are known as Tom and Dick in this ballet.)

In this version, there are also several very annoying step-brothers, assorted boyfriends and girlfriends and other dancers who will people the stage during various scenes; it's a three-act drama, roughly 40 minutes per act.

Yes, of course, there's a shoe, a bright, sparkling silver slipper; but there's also a plot twist. Harry, the pilot, stumbles into Cinderella's home, where she attempts to protect him and they make an immediate connection. The story then moves on to the many ways in which Cinderella and Harry will try to find one another, and continually be frustrated doing so through the blitz, blackouts, a dancehall and a hospital.

There's no trying shoes on stepsisters in this ballet; the question is how and when will Harry and Cinderella finally get together again. In fact, there's kind of a red herring here: Harry's pilot cap falls into Cinderella's hands, and I was convinced that she was supposed to find him with the cap, instead of the traditional story of finding the foot that fits the shoe. But I was wrong; the shoe still matters.

I'll be honest. I'm no judge of dance or dancers; I can't talk about technique or toe shoes, arabesques or lifts. I can say that to my eye, sometimes the costumes obscured the dancing. There were some unique gestures that I wouldn't ordinarily associate with ballet, that added a quirky, more contemporary element to the classical ballet moves. And frankly, I thought it lagged in Act II, like "we've got all this music, let's fill the time…"

But the transformation of the drab and mousy, glasses-wearing housemaid Cinderella into a stunningly gorgeous blond, ball-gown wearing cinematic goddess in Act II is amazing. Stage effects, too, really are breathtaking. I'm still trying to fathom whether the rain that began pelting the stage was real or projected.

Bourne's plot strays far from the original, including the odd twist of the hard-drinking, man-chasing stepmother shooting Cinderella's father, resulting in his being wheelchair bound. And, not to put to fine a point on it, Harry and Cinderella (GASP!) spend the night together…not sleeping.

Hats off to principal dancers Cordelia Braithwaite (Cinderella), Andrew Monaghan (Harry), Paris Fitzgerald (The Angel) and Anjali Mehra (Sybil, the stepmother). As plots go, this one thickens by the minute and is difficult to follow, if you're seeking to match it to the fairy tale. However, it does have a happy ending.

Cinderella is onstage at the Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center through March 10. Bring some snacks – there are two intermissions! Tickets here: https://www.centertheatregroup.org/tickets/ahmanson-theatre/2018-19/new-adventures-matthew-bourne-cinderella/

PSSST…WANNA ACT?

Santa Monica Rep has an open call for actors to submit audition videos through March.

If you make the cut, you'll get a callback in April.

Right now, they're casting for their upcoming and very popular Annual Playreading Festival (June 7—9). SMR Playreading Festival is a weekend of theatre anchored in a specific theme and explored through a slate of play readings supported by discussions and ancillary programming.

Per the submissions page, SM Rep states: "We want our company to reflect the world we live in, and it is our policy to actively recruit actors of all cultural backgrounds, of varying capability, and who identify as LGBTQIA."

More information about Santa Monica Rep can be found on the website: https://santamonicarep.org/ But be sure to submit your audition video here: https://santamonicarepgeneralaudition.castingcrane.com/

GET YOUR GREENS ON!

Next week, on Saturday, February 23, Virginia Avenue Park, in association with the Parent Connection Group, offers a free event, the fourth annual Greens Festival, to celebrate Black History Month. This year the theme for the festival is "Young, Gifted and Black," and will feature cooking demos with celebrity chefs, a community greens cooking contest, a Black History exhibit, musical performances, book readings and more.

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.

New storm brings more rain and snow to the West

JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press

More rain, snow and wind hit the West on Wednesday, flooding roads, toppling trees and cutting power while raising threats of debris flows from wildfire scars.

The tempest, aimed at California and southern Oregon and barreling toward Nevada, was feeding on a deep plume of moisture stretching across the Pacific Ocean to near Hawaii, the National Weather Service said.

The storm followed more than a week of severe weather in the Pacific Northwest and was the latest in a series that has all but eliminated drought-level dryness in California this winter.

Winter storm warnings were posted in the snow-laden Sierra Nevada, where the forecast says up to 7 feet of new snow could be dumped at elevations above 9,000 feet.

The National Weather Service recorded winds gusting to 132 mph late Tuesday and early Wednesday atop the Mount Rose ski resort southwest of Reno, Nevada.

A backcountry avalanche warning was issued throughout the Sierra.

"We are still trying to dig out of the last system and we have another big storm here," said Kevin "Coop" Cooper, spokesman for Kirkwood Mountain Resort south of Lake Tahoe.

Snow heavily impacted stretches of vital Interstate 5 in far northern California, causing closures and forcing tire chain requirements.

A local state of emergency was declared in Shasta County due to "significant" storm damage, a Sheriff's Office statement said. Redding, the county seat, turned its library into a warming center.

Power outages also hit thousands of utility customers in the region.

In the fire-scarred Gold Rush town of Magalia, resident Doug Sheridan woke up to find electricity out across his neighborhood, apparently the result of a fallen tree limb that downed a power line.

"It finally came back on about 9:15," he said by phone as heavy rain pounded his house, melting snow that fell the night before and causing it to break off in large chunks and splatter on the ground.

Widespread roadway flooding occurred north of San Francisco Bay. To the east, a swath of California's Central Valley was under a flood warning.

At one point, flight arrivals at San Francisco International Airport were experiencing delays of several hours, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

In the Fresno County city of Sanger, police posted social media photos of wind damage to the roof of a school along with snapped trees.

Even before the storm spread into Southern California, voluntary evacuation warnings were in effect for some areas near a burn scar on the Riverside County side of the Santa Ana Mountains.

In Santa Barbara County , hard-hit by a devastating debris flow in January 2018, officials predicted rainfall rates were below thresholds for new flows, but residents were still advised to stay alert.

In Washington, about 12,000 Puget Sound Energy customers remained without power Wednesday and Interstate 90 was closed for a second day across Snoqualmie Pass in the Cascade Mountains. The town of North Bend declared a state of emergency due to several feet of snow.

In Oregon transportation officials closed about 20 miles of the westbound lanes of Interstate 84 in the Columbia River Gorge east of Portland due to icy conditions that caused numerous wrecks and stranded some drivers for hours. By early Wednesday afternoon some vehicles were moving but authorities were still restricting new traffic.

"This is a very, very serious situation out there right now," Don Hamilton, an Oregon Department of Transportation spokesman, told The Oregonian/OregonLive.

Authorities brought stranded travelers water and food and tried to get gas to vehicles that needed it.

The West's winter storms have greatly aided California's water supply.

The most recent Sierra snowpack survey taken on Jan. 31 was 100 percent of normal to date and more snow has fallen since.

In the Eastern Sierra, the Mammoth Mountain resort reported the latest storm had already added another 8 inches to its summit season total, which is nearing 38 feet.

Mammoth said it planned to keep its slopes open to skiing and boarding through the Fourth of July, at least.

AP writers Olga Rodriguez in San Francisco, Christopher Weber, John Rogers and Amanda Lee Myers in Los Angeles, Chris Grygiel in Seattle and Scott Sonner in Reno, Nevada, contributed to this report.

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