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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE .....PAGE 2
DRINKING DECOY STING .....PAGE 3
CURIOUS CITY .....PAGE 4
EXPO LINE MAINTENANCE .....PAGE 7
POLICE/FIRE LOGS .....PAGE 8

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A room for everybody at new park opening Saturday



Courtesy Photo

PLAYGROUND: Ishihara Park will open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 25 in the Pico neighborhood.

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

After seven years of planning, meetings, debate and construction, the long-awaited Ishihara Park will open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 25.

The new park occupies about 2.35 acres between Dorchester Ave. and Stewart St. The long, narrow strip of land (13,320 feet long and varying between 110 feet and 60 feet wide) differs from traditional park layouts but is not unheard of locally with both Palisades Park and Barnard Way Linear Park offering similar restrictions. For Ishihara Park officials looked to places like Paris, Madrid, Toronto, and San Francisco for inspiration.

The project began in 2010 when the Council, Santa Monica College and the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority entered into a land purchase/swap agreement that created a strip of land adjacent to what would become the Expo maintenance yard.

The park's official purpose is to shield the nearby homes from the activities at the Expo facility and while many residents did list noise abatement as a primary concern, feedback from several community meetings pointed to a variety of desired uses. Workshop participants told planners they wanted park uses that fostered community, ecology, play and sport. A majority said they'd walk to the facility and 59 percent said they'd be coming with pets.

The end result is a park divided into "rooms" with different experiences available as visitors walk the length of the facility. Areas include The Grove (with large trees and grass for sitting), a Watershed Garden (with a raised

SEE PARK PAGE 6

Art for Hearts raises money for youth center

BY KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

If your Valentine's Day was a dud, you have a chance to make it up Thursday when the Pico Youth and Family Center (PYFC) hosts its eighth annual "Art for Hearts" fundraiser at Bergamot Station.

More than 75 artists participated in this year's fundraiser by painting, tiling or even hacking apart wooden hearts that will be sold at an auction Thursday night.

"They do their magic on the hearts and then we auction off the artwork," Oscar de la Torre said in an interview with the Daily Press. "It's really nice because it's about love, it's about unity and it's about peace."

Last year, PYFC raised about $4,000 from the heart auction alone. Tickets to the event cost $25 for individuals or $40 for couples and can be purchased online (www.picoyouth.com). The ticket includes live music by Mayaztek, free tequila tasting, free wine tasting and appetizers. Tacos will be available for purchase. There will be a collection of classic low-riders showcased at the event as well.

In addition to the free booze and tacos, actor and director Cheech Marin will be a guest at the event, according to de la Torre. The iconic actor will be available to take selfies and talk about Chicano art.

"He's a huge Chicano art collector," de la Torre said. "He has one of the most extensive exhibits of

SEE CENTER PAGE 6

After Trump travel ban, immigrants seek to naturalize

BY AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

Andres Dorantes has long been content with the green card that lets him live in the U.S. and work as a tattoo artist in Los Angeles.

That changed when Donald Trump became president and swiftly made executive orders to crack down on immigrants and ban travel from certain countries. Dorantes, a Mexican immigrant, made an appointment at a naturalization workshop to start the process of becoming an American citizen.

"I wanted to do it for a long time but I was always busy," said the 33-year-old Dorantes, who came to the U.S. a decade ago after his father sponsored him for a green card. "Now, I see what is happening — everything is crazy."

Since last month, immigrants have been rushing to prepare applications to become U.S. citizens. Legal service organizations in Los Angeles, Maryland and New York catering to diverse immigrant communities from Latin America, Asia and the Middle East all said they've been fielding a rising number of calls and questions about how to become a citizen.

The wait time has doubled for a spot at a monthly naturalization clinic focused on Asian immigrants in Los Angeles. Since Trump's executive orders on immigration, the number of immigrants inquiring about citizenship has also doubled at a Muslim organization in Southern California and at Latin American-focused groups in Maryland and New York, advocates said.

The growing interest in citizen-

SEE IMMIGRANTS PAGE 7


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, February 22

Creative Vision Boarding

Create an inspirational vision board for manifesting personal goals in the new year! Amy Muscoplat helps you design a personal vision board using images and words to help clarify your dreams and goals and keep you motivated in achieving your aspirations for 2017. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 6:30 – 8 p.m.

STEAM Program: Hour of Code - Minecraft

Develop code to create your own Minecraft game. Limited space; call 310-458-8684 to register. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 4 – 5 p.m.

Thursday, February 23

The 'Your Story' Project

Learn the craft of telling true stories based on The Moth storytelling model. This 3-part series covers storytelling basics, offers story feedback, and prepares you for our Story Slam. Priority given to high school and SMC students who need community service credit. Limited space; call (310) 458-8681 to register for workshops. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 6 – 8 p.m.

California Listens Screening

View the short videos created in last summer's California Listens Digital Storytelling Project and meet the storytellers. Try out the new Listening Station app to record your story. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 – 5 p.m.

SMPL Apps for Android

An overview of the Santa Monica Public Library APPs. Access the apps in your device, learn to use Overdrive to download free eBooks and Audiobooks, Zinio for eMagazines, and Hoopla for Music. The workshop will focus on instruction for Android smartphones and tablets. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 1 – 3 p.m.

Democratic Club Meeting

The Santa Monica Democratic Club will host Senator Ben Allen. Senator Allen will give a report on the latest from Sacramento. Audience members will have a chance to ask questions of the senator. Additionally, the club will hold our annual Executive Board Officer Elections and make an endorsement for Chair of the Democratic National Committee. For first time and new members, the Executive Board of the club will be available from 6:30-7:00 for an informal meet and greet. The main program will start at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. Parking available. Handicap accessible. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

Friday, Feb. 24

Cataloging the Sky

As astronomy moved into the telescopic era, the growing numbers of objects to observe forced astronomers to organize their finds into specialized lists, with arcane designations. Organizers will trace the development of the alphanumeric soup and demystify the language. The John Drescher Planetarium, second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica). Tickets are available at the door and cost $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session.

Teen Book Swap Party

It's a book swap party just for teens! Bring a book (or two) to trade and share a review of your latest favorite read. Participants are eligible for community service credit. Light refreshments provided. For grades 7 & up. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 4 – 5 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hollywood

Man pleads to vandalizing Trump Hollywood Walk of Fame Star

A 53-year-old Los Angeles man entered a no contest plea today for vandalizing Donald Trump's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame prior to the presidential election, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Sandra Peña said James Lambert Otis entered his plea to one felony count of vandalism in case BA451849.

Otis was immediately sentenced to three years of formal probation, 20 days of Caltrans work and ordered to pay $3,700 to the Hollywood Historic Trust and $700 to the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

On Oct. 26, 2016, the defendant used a pick axe and a sledgehammer to smash the star, the prosecutor said. Otis then removed a brass medallion from the middle of the star, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Hollywood Station.

– SUBMITTED BY RICARDO SANTIAGO, LA DISTRICT ATTORNEY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

Artists join together to support art for empowerment

A diverse group of artists and curators have joined together for ArtWorks for Healing, a unique art auction and exhibition to raise funds for A Window Between Worlds' arts programs. The cocktail reception will take place on Thursday, March 2, 7-10 p.m. at Arena 1 Gallery (3026 Airport Ave, Santa Monica, 90405). This exhibition will be on display starting Friday, Feb. 24; online bidding will also begin Feb. 24 and end the night of the reception.

Participating artists include longtime AWBW advocates Kim Abeles, Margaret Lazzari, Fabian Debora, Lili Bernard, and The Art of Chase. Additional artists include Lita Albuquerque, Laddie John Dill, Jim McHugh, David Buckingham, Galia Linn, Danny First, Greg Auerbach, Angelonce, BDB, ChorBoogie, Devin Liston and America Martin.

Guest curators include Sunny Bak (Venice Art Crawl), Jacquie Israel (artHouseLA), MaryLinda Moss (Source Art) and Sandra Mueller. A complete list of exhibiting artists and curators is available at awbw.org/artworks.

A Window Between Worlds is dedicated to cultivating a network of transformative arts programs to empower those impacted by violence and trauma. Since 1991 AWBW's art workshops have offered over 200,000 people the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings, without fear of judgment, by creating art in a safe environment.

These workshops are facilitated by trained Windows Leaders at human service agencies nationwide. AWBW's programs allow partnering agencies to expand their offerings to best serve those who are coping with the consequences of a variety of violent and traumatic experiences.

Proceeds from ArtWorks for Healing will directly benefit the nonprofit's network of transformative arts programs through funding scholarships, art supplies, training of Window Leaders, curriculum development and new programs. Each art piece purchased at the event will provide even more people the opportunity to find hope, healing and empowerment through creating their own art.

Event partners include Santa Monica Art Studios, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Morandell Imports and Bites & Bashes. Tickets for the cocktail reception ($75) and sponsorship opportunities are available at awbw.org/artworks.

– SUBMITTED BY SUSIE GARCIA, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, HYPE

Citywide

Underage drinking decoy operation

On Feb. 16, officers from the Santa Monica Police Department's Vice Unit conducted a minor decoy operation targeting alcohol retail establishments. The Minor Decoy Program uses supervised individuals under the age of 20, who attempt to purchase alcohol at licensed premises. Any sale of alcohol to a minor decoy, may result in criminal and administrative sanctions for the employee and the licensee.

The team visited five alcohol retail establishments in the city of Santa Monica. The minor decoy was furnished alcohol at Cabo Cantina-1240 3rd Street Promenade. The violator was issued a citation for 25658(a) Business & Professions Code – Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor.

The following locations engaged in responsible sales of alcohol by asking for the decoy's age, identification and refusing to sell alcohol upon determining the minor was under 21:

Bar Chloe 1449 2nd Street

Stout 111 Santa Monica Blvd.

Barney's Beanery 1351 Santa Monica Blvd.

Plan Check 1401 Ocean Avenue

The Minor Decoy Program has proven to be an effective tool in promoting responsible practices in the sales of alcoholic beverages by licensees, reducing substance abuse and enhancing community welfare by limiting underage access to alcohol.

This project is part of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's Minor Decoy/Shoulder Tap Grant Project funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

– SUBMITTED BY LIEUTENANT SAUL RODRIGUEZ



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Patty Wong Selected as New Director of Library Services

City Manager Rick Cole has selected Patricia Wong as the new Director of Library Services for the Santa Monica Public Library (SMPL) system. Wong comes to Santa Monica after three decades of library service in northern California. For the last nine years, she served as the Yolo County Library Director.

"Santa Monica has one of the best library systems in California," said City Manager Rick Cole. "With Patty Wong as Director, Santa Monica Public Library will be led by one of California's highly respected librarians. She is renowned as a mentor for rising stars in the profession, and she is an energetic innovator who makes the most of the opportunity for libraries to promote life-long learning in imaginative and impactful ways."

Before her tenure leading the nine locations of the Yolo County Library system, Wong was the Deputy Director of Library Services of the Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library. There, she managed the daily operations of the Central Library and its 12 branches. She has also held positions as Library Program Manager for Children's Services in the Oakland Public Library and Supervising Librarian and Children's Librarian for the Berkeley Public Library.

"I am so excited to work with the highly respected team at the City of Santa Monica and the exceptional library staff of the renowned Santa Monica Public Library," said Wong. "I look forward to collaborating with the Santa Monica community and our partners to build on our commitment to learning and literacy."

Wong has co-authored nearly a dozen publications and has held many elected posts for national organizations such as the American Library Association, the United States Board on Books for Young People, and the Chinese American Librarians Association. She has also held a part-time faculty position at San Jose State University's iSchool of Library and Information Science. In 2013, she received the California Library Association's Member of the Year Award.

Wong holds both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Library and Information Science from UC Berkeley.

SMPL is comprised of the Main Library and four neighborhood branches: Pico, Montana, Ocean Park, and Fairview. The five libraries had 1,184,000 in-branch and 993,700 website visitors last year. The total operating budget is $13.1 million with over 200 employees.

Erica Cuyugan served as Interim Director of Library Services during the nationwide search. Cuyugan has led SMPL through the implementation of its strategic plan. She will resume her role as Assistant Director of Library Services.

Wong begins work on March 6 with an annual salary of $182,676.

– SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

Santa Monica Pier Electrical Upgrade
SP2347

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than **2:00pm** on **March 15, 2017**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after **2:30pm**. on said date in **the City Council Chambers**. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
On March 2, 2017 at 9:00am, Santa Monica Pier Project Site

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $1,500,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 180 Calendar
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,200.00 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $900.00 Per Day

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

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nextdoor? Not my home

AND THE ANGELS SANG!

And the sun burst through the clouds. As the newsflash I've been waiting for, for almost three years, lifted my heavy heart and brought a huge smile. Mitch Kupchak and Jim Buss are history. Removed from their painfully incompetent stewardship of the Lakers. Kicked out the back door like the dogs they are. Dr. Jerry Buss can stop spinning in his sarcophagus. Hope is alive. I can root for the Lakers again. Maybe, even, the magic will return.

YOU DON'T WANT ME NEXTDOOR

Well, some people don't. At least one person. Maybe only one person.

I regularly post this weekly column to a handful of relevant Facebook pages, and to Nextdoor, the neighborhood social networking site. Unless I've been considerably pointed in goring someone's sacred ox (?!), I have no problems with Facebook, nor the admins of those pages.

Nextdoor, I'm toast.

In this day of not creeping but galloping fascism, it seems some folks are more than happy to lay down their re-reading of Orwell and point the finger at their neighbor. "He's being political! Not here! Off with his head! At least lock him up!

Oh, okay, start with deleting those terrible words he wrote. Now!!"

As anonymous as the process is there, it's pretty fast. Last week, two hours after I got a notice that my post had been reported, with no further explanation, with no response from me, with no due process — my post of my column was removed. Talk about instant karma.

When you get your notice from Big Bro… uh, The Nextdoor Team, they inform you that: 1) your neighbor reported you; 2) which Nextdoor Community Guideline your neighbor accused you of violating (mine lately is "Be Helpful, Not Hurtful" — I have to point out that I get a lot of "thanks," and notes about how helpful what I posted was); 3) messages that violate the Guidelines will be removed; 4) your neighborhood Leads have been asked to review whether your message complies with the Guidelines.

But, "This report may simply indicate that another member has misinterpreted either your message or the Guidelines."

Here's where it gets

SUBJECTIVE, VAGUE, MYSTERIOUS

… sinister.

You don't know who your accuser is. By chance I found out one time. That person seems to hate a lot of people, passionately, and I am probably one of them. It may be that same person every time, who knows? It only takes one anonymous, lurking, smirking, stinky, stupid, perverted, evil troll. (Oops. Got a little carried away there.

It is easy, isn't it? Wait — is my name on this?)

I don't think it takes more than a couple of clicks to start the censorship process, and apparently not much more than an hour or two to finish it. Boom! Bad words gone! What fun! And I'm doing good for the nation, the world, and Ocean Park.

One time, only one time, I got a long, somewhat specific, respectful email signed by Corina, a Neighborhood Operations person at Nextdoor. Case #823843, the very fine print said. I responded with my side of the story and a number of questions and told her I looked forward to her response. Nothing.

I've stopped contacting my local Leads, supposedly the final arbiters with the power of censor or let it be. The warnings always tell you to contact your Leads. I have two of them. One is a woman I don't know who has never answered me, ever. The other, my oh my, turns out to be Mike Bone, a friend for many years. But I don't bother him any more either.

HIS RESPONSE IS NOW PREDICTABLE

"I know nothing about this next door stuff. How my name got on it is beyond me."

"Who is running this ship? I want off."

"This thing is like herpes… you cannot get rid of it."

I suppose I should be glad to have two such lackadaisical Leads. But my columns get pulled anyway.

"The crux of our Guidelines can be boiled down to one simple statement: Everyone here is your neighbor. Please treat each other with respect." Yet I have been raked over the coals in my birthday suit more than once and I'll bet you anything that never got reported.

"Your politics are not welcome on Nextdoor. I'm tired of the constant ranting. Keep it off or I will report you." "Charles's vitriolic… desperate… brainwashed..." "Communist… fascist… limousine Liberal…" — whoa.

As for politics, there is plenty of it Nextdoor, so no consistency there. Before the election there were hundreds of posts by people obviously being paid from the million dollar kitty by the No on LUVE crowd, and those impassioned posters, sometimes pretty disrespectful of their "neighbors," disappeared right after the polls closed, never to be heard from again.

"Because of the diversity of people in any neighborhood, please keep in mind that while something may be disagreeable to you, it may not violate our Community Guidelines." Oh, that helps.

Down the rabbit hole. It's silly. But happening now, it's also sinister. Winston Smith, please advise.

TOM HAYDEN MEMORIAL

It was last Sunday at UCLA's packed Royce Hall. Did you know about it? Saw the notices in your local papers? No, you didn't; there weren't notices.

Bobby Kennedy Jr. eulogized him, as did his ex-wife Jane Fonda. (She admired our Jerry Rubin's "Not My President" shirt.) Bonnie Raitt, Holly Near and Tom Morello (Rage Against the Machine) sang for him, as did members of the First AME choir. Two of his fellow Chicago Eight were there. Former California governors, current local politicians. Activist actors Ed Begley Jr. and Alfre Woodard, and Dolores Huerta, cofounder with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers. Three hours of tributes.

It floors me how such a prominent citizen, not to mention our state assemblyman and senator for 18 years, could pass with so little recognition from his home town media. When he died last October, it got big coverage in the LA Times, NY Times, Washington Post, CNN, NBC, BBC, Rolling Stone, the Guardian, Daily Mail — everywhere. Everywhere else. The LA Times ran a large story on the memorial, worth reading.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: What happened to those cool wide, woodsy chairs that appeared suddenly a couple months ago at the mini park at 6th and Ocean Park, and then last week vanished?

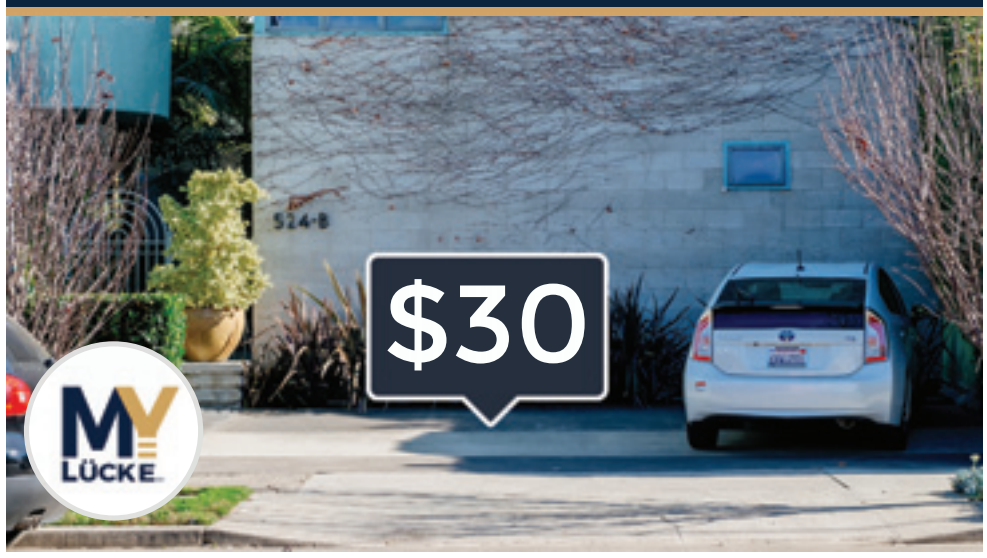
QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Gentrification and consumerism... have destroyed the character of my favorite American haunts, like North Beach, Berkeley, Venice and Aspen." -- Tom Hayden

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 31 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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Courtesy Photo

ROOMY: Ishihara Park's different "rooms" are designed to meet different community needs.

PARK

FROM PAGE 1

path over a sunken area designed to catch storm water), a Bird Garden (with vegetation to encourage birds and exercise stations for people), The Meadow (a grassy open space suitable for children to play), the Community Pavilions (including picnic tables and grills), the Rock Garden (featuring rubberized surfaces and sand for young children to play), a Learning Garden (with new community garden spaces and educational offerings) and the Forest (similar to the Grove at the other end with a focus on mature trees and a native demonstration garden).

Mia Lehrer, from Mia Lehrer and Associates, designed Ishihara Park with the help of several designers at her firm and said she enjoys working with the City of Santa Monica because the city has a record of interesting projects.

"This particular project was appealing because it mediates between an interesting community and the results of public transportation growing in Southern California and especially in Santa Monica," she said. "The Expo Line is arriving and you end up with this sliver for a park for a community that is going to be impacted by the maintenance yard but the end fact is that the community really embraced a park that would feel and perform like an extension of the community."

She said the Pico community is tight knit and that her goal was to provide a space that allowed residents of all ages to feel the space was an extension of a common living space. Lehrer said the park's specific spaces have specific functions but the entire space can be walked as a single experience.

"There are distinct places and yet you could, for example, decide that every day you're going to go on a walk in the evening and afternoon and say hello to your friends and do a mile by going around it a couple of times," she said. "You can traverse the park at multiple levels."

Lehrer said the Forest and Grove spaces are something special because most parks do not have large, mature trees when they first open. The City salvaged several large trees during construction of the Expo Line and stored them until they could be replanted at the park. She said the combined experience of the trees, bird towers, edible gardens and planted spaces is a subtle message about nature and nature in a park space.

"We love working with gardens and plant material that allow for certain specific attractions so we end up with surprises for people coming to the parks," she said.

Ishihara Park will open to the public on Saturday, Feb. 25 as part of Parks Day. The weekend activities will also include the renaming of Stewart St. Park as Gandara Park, the reopening of Los Amigos Park following a water reclamation project and reopening of the redesigned Reed Park.

Visit http://www.santamonicaparks.org/parks-day-come-play for more information.

editor@smdp.com

CENTER

FROM PAGE 1

Chicano art in the world."

Marin also has a memoir coming out next month, Cheech is not my real name…but don't call me Chong.

"All the money raised keeps the center open for the underserved youth of our community," de la Torre said.

PYFC is a community center on Pico Boulevard that provides after-school and creative space for high school students in Santa Monica. The center provides a multitude of programs, including employment opportunities, cooking classes, internship connections and a professional recording studio.

The Art for Hearts event is one of several fundraisers throughout the year that help keep the center open and free for young people with a robust programming schedule.

"We have a lot of fun and we love giving up and coming artists a chance to exhibit their artwork at Bergamot Station," de la Torre said.

Tickets are still available for the event. Art will be showcased and auctioned off inside the Robert Berman Gallery at Bergamot Station from 6 – 10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13.

kate@smdp.com

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Email to: letters@smdp.com or fax to (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Expo Line Maintenance

Beginning Friday, Feb. 24 at 9 p.m., through close of service on Sunday, Feb. 26, there will be no train service to the following Metro Expo Line stations, due to scheduled maintenance:

Downtown Santa Monica
17th St/SMC
26th St/Bergamot
Expo/Bundy
Expo/Sepulveda

During this time crews will be conducting repairs and upgrades on this stretch of the Expo Line.

While this weekend's work is in effect, local and express Metro Bus shuttles will replace train service between Downtown Santa Monica and Expo/Sepulveda Station.

All westbound trains will stop at Expo/Sepulveda and turn back towards downtown Los Angeles. Metro shuttles will be available at Expo/Sepulveda for continued westbound service.

All customers heading eastbound may board shuttles at Downtown Santa Monica station for service to Expo/Sepulveda Station. From there they can continue on the Expo Line towards Downtown Los Angeles.

Shuttle service is free if transferring from the Expo Line.

Additionally, Big Blue Bus Route 7 and Rapid 7 service both Downtown Santa Monica and Expo/Sepulveda Stations.

– SUBMITTED BY LA METRO

IMMIGRANTS

FROM PAGE 1

ship follows a surge in naturalization applications last year amid Trump's anti-immigrant campaign rhetoric and ahead of a December increase in filing fees. Nearly 1 million people applied to naturalize during the 2016 fiscal year, the largest number in nine years, government data shows.

At naturalization ceremonies in Los Angeles last week, many of the 6,000 newly sworn citizens proudly waved flags and shed tears at the culmination of a lengthy journey to become Americans. A ceremony in Chicago a week earlier took an emotional turn when a Syrian immigrant recited the Pledge of Allegiance amid a rancorous court fight over the new president's travel ban affecting his native country.

Immigrants historically have sought citizenship for the many new opportunities it brings: the ability to vote, better job prospects, an American passport for travel, bringing relatives here from overseas. This year, it's more about fear in a Trump administration.

"After the election, the desire to naturalize shifted. It wasn't more about opportunity and bringing more family, it was more about, 'there is a new president who is anti-immigrant and we need to do what we can to protect ourselves," said Nasim Khansari, citizenship project director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice in Los Angeles.

For years, immigrant advocates have urged lawful permanent residents, also known as green card holders, to naturalize, which would protect them from deportation were they ever convicted of a crime.

Still, millions of eligible immigrants refrain from doing so, citing fear of passing English language and citizenship tests and hundreds of dollars in filing fees.

Most immigrants need to live in the country and have a green card for at least five years before they can file a citizenship application. More than 8 million people were eligible to naturalize in 2013, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

For many of those now coming forward, the big change came when Trump issued a travel ban against citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries. Even immigrants not affected by the ban — which has since been blocked by the courts — were jolted, advocates said, especially when green card holders were initially held for questioning at U.S. airports along with visitors.

Alexia Schapira, staff attorney at Make the Road New York, said the ban worried the Colombian, Ecuadorean and Dominican immigrants her organization assists, creating "a ton of insecurity."

The number of people seeking to naturalize typically swells ahead of planned increases in application fees and presidential elections as immigrants seek to get the paperwork done in time to vote. Both happened last year. In 2007, naturalizations soared after massive immigrant rights marches and ahead of a similar fee spike. Other world events can lead to surges, including a 40 percent boost in applications in the year after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Trump's calls for a border wall and more deportations were inspiration for some. Los Angeles-area inkmaker Gustavo Zavala, who has lived in the U.S. for nearly four decades, said he naturalized in December after his now-grown daughters urged him to do so in response to Trump's anti-immigrant campaign rhetoric.

But many immigrants still didn't take that final step toward citizenship, doubting Trump would win or carry through on his promises — or that his policies could somehow affect lawful permanent residents who have lived and worked in this country for years and have no other home.

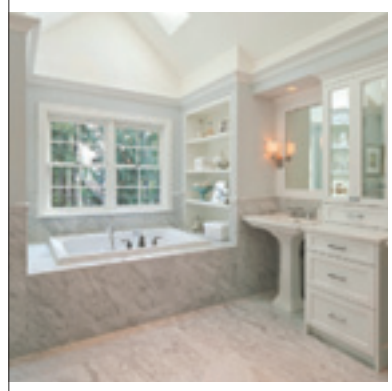
At last week's ceremonies in Los Angeles, new citizens — many who began the application process long before Trump was elected — said they were relieved they will not have to deal with stepped-up enforcement measures.

"At the end of the day, I was still a citizen from Iran. Now, I kind of feel safer," 21-year-old Erik Danialian said.

Associated Press Writer Amanda Lee Myers contributed to this report.

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Join the City of Santa Monica for a special celebration with family-friendly activities, refreshments, and entertainment varying at each of the four park locations.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017
10AM – 1PM
OFFICIAL EVENT CEREMONY LOCATION:
ISHIHARA PARK
10AM
2909 EXPOSITION BLVD
SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

For more information, including a schedule of activities, visit santamonicaparks.org
To request a disability-related accomodation, please contact us at least one week prior to event:
310.458.8310 | ccs@smgov.net

@CityOfSantaMonica @SantaMonicaCity
@CityOfSantaMonica #SaMoParks

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **58.8°**

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **4-7 ft** shoulder high to 2 ft overhead
Short to mid period West-WNW swell looking to bump up. West-NW wind - becoming breezy for the day. Early for lightest wind - cleanest for the right points.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high occ. 6ft
BIGGEST EARLY - Fading shorter period West-WNW swell-mix. Light AM wind. NOTE - May see cooler water temps due to upwelling. Also, likely some morning sickness for many spots.

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SANTA MONICA

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

Building 3011 – Roof Replacement
SP2488

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Architecture Services Division, 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than **2:30** p.m. on **March 6th**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after **3:00** p.m. on said date in the **City Hall Council Chambers**. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
February 27, 2017 at 9:00 AM
3011 Airport Ave.
Santa Monica, CA 90405

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $180,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 60 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $100.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **C-39** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON FEBRUARY 8, AT ABOUT 10:45 A.M.
Officers responded to the 1300 block of 15th Street regarding a robbery that just occurred. Officers determined the victim and suspect got into an argument regarding a personal matter. The suspect became upset and threw a cup of coffee at the victim. The suspect forcibly took the victim's cellular telephone and ran off with it. The suspect was located in the 1500 block of Arizona and the victim was desirous of prosecution. The suspect hid the phone in an alley and assisted officers in recovering it. Lauren Marie Baker26, from Los Angeles, was arrested for robbery. Bail was set at $50,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 294 calls for service on Feb. 20.

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

Fight 2nd/Colorado 1:18 a.m.
Person down 800 block of Santa Monica 2:38 a.m.
Petty theft 1500 block of Lincoln 3:55 a.m.
Burglary 1100 block of Pico 5:46 a.m.
Hit and run Centinela/Pico 6:08:33
Traffic hazard 5th/Broadway 7:06 a.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 7:20 a.m.
Burglary 1100 block of Pico 7:34 a.m.
Traffic collision 1400 block of 7th 8:18 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 1200 block of 4th 8:28:52
Petty theft 2400 block of Arizona 9:24 a.m.
Hit and run 600 block of Grant 9:28:06
Fraud 1700 block of Ocean Park 9:36 a.m.
Grand theft 1900 block of 17th 9:46 a.m.
Fight 1700 block of Ocean 10:36 a.m.
Grand theft 1700 block of Ocean Park 11:04 a.m.
Fight 7th/Santa Monica 11:18 a.m.
Petty theft 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 11:35 a.m.
Traffic collision 1000 block of Santa Monica 12:14:19
Theft of recyclables 1200 block of 10th 12:21 p.m.
Grand theft auto 300 block of San Vicente 12:24:59
Vandalism 1000 block of Wilshire 12:25 p.m.
Traffic collision 1100 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 13:14:03
Grand theft 1000 block of Euclid 1:16 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1800 block of Lincoln 1:23 p.m.
Burglary 1000 block of Hill 1:27 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Colorado 2:34 p.m.
Counterfeit money 300 block of Colorado 3:35 p.m.
Petty theft 1500 block of 4th 3:37 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 2900 block of Ocean Park 15:43:15
Petty theft 1500 block of 12th 4:49 p.m.
Identity theft 1100 block of 4th 4:56 p.m.
Fraud 700 block of Broadway 5:14 p.m.
Grand theft 300 block of Santa Monica Pl 5:16 p.m.
Auto burglary 2300 block of Main 5:39 p.m.
Traffic collision Main/Pico 18:07:12
Traffic collision 2200 block of Montana 18:16:12
Hit and run 1100 block of 6th 18:53:43
Petty theft now 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 7:39 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 900 block of 5th 7:55 p.m.
Elder abuse 2600 block of 20th 7:59 p.m.
Person down 1600 block of Cloverfield 8:45 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield/Olympic 8:48 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block of 2nd 9:29 p.m.
Petty theft 1900 block of Wilshire 10:36 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 40 calls for service on Feb. 20.

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

EMS 1800 block of Ocean 1:39 a.m.
EMS 800 block of Santa Monica 2:40 a.m.
EMS 11th/Santa Monica 2:47 a.m.
EMS 1900 block of 6th 5:18 a.m.
EMS 300 block of Olympic 6:07 a.m.
EMS Main/Hill 7:03 a.m.
EMS 1200 block of 9th 7:16 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block of 20th 7:20 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of Ocean 7:41 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 7th 8:18 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block of 5th 10:15 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of Cloverfield 10:16 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 5th 10:23 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Harvard 10:31 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Stanford 10:34 a.m.
Haz mat - level 1 1700 block of Ocean 10:44 a.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pl 11:19 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 11:20 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block of 7th 11:46 a.m.
EMS 2400 block of Wilshire 12:20 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of California 1:29 p.m.
EMS 200 block of Ocean 2 p.m.
EMS 3300 block of Barnard 2:30 p.m.
Fire out investigation 100 block of Kinney 3:42 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Ocean 4 p.m.
EMS 2200 block of Colorado 4:24 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of Franklin 4:42 p.m.
EMS 11th/Michigan 4:43 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 2nd 5:15 p.m.
Structure fire 2800 block of Delaware 5:31 p.m.
EMS 800 block of Ashland 7:08 p.m.
EMS 600 block of Idaho 7:13 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block of 5th 7:39 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of Centinela 7:59 p.m.
EMS 2900 block of Main 8:05 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Cloverfield 8:46 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield/Olympic 9:09 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of Pico 11:26 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block of 15th 11:30 p.m.

SEE NEWS HAPPENING OR HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT?
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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/18
3 7 9 31 33
Power#: 20
Jackpot: 403M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/17
4 56 58 67 75
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 55M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 2/18
9 18 24 27 41
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 14M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/20
10 16 18 26 33

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/21
MIDDAY: 8 7 8
Draw Date: 2/20
EVENING: 9 8 4

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/20
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:43.61

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

excoriate
1. to denounce or berate severely; flay verbally: He was excoriated for his mistakes.
2. to strip off or remove the skin from: Her palms were excoriated by the hard labor of shoveling.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Counts
■ 3 and 13: The chances more likely, respectively, that a patient in a worst-rated hospital will likely die or experience complications than a patient in a best-rated hospital
SOURCE: BARRY L. ROSENBERG, PLOS ONE (DEC. 14, 2016)

Doc Talk
■ Pokemon: the person who drains abscesses; in England, the related term is "Lancelot."

Phobia of the Week
■ Kyphophobia: fear of stooping

Medical history
■ This week in 1799, Edward Jenner introduced his vaccine for smallpox.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

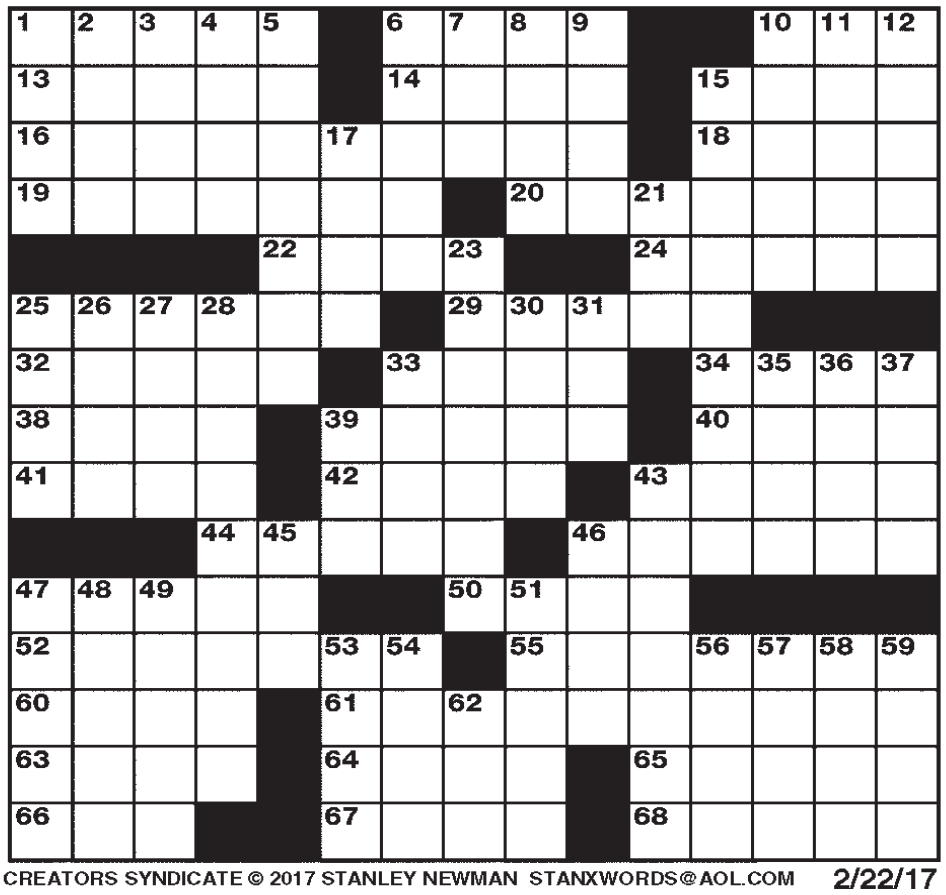
			3	4			9	
4								5
	5			2	6	4		
		9				6		8
	6		5		8		1	
8		7				2		
		8	4	1			7	
3								9
	7			6	3			

Newsday Crossword

JOHN'S FAMILY by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Shave, as Parmesan
6 Clarinet insert
10 Attention-getting shout
13 Luxury watch brand
14 Choir woman
15 Author Austen
16 Russian reflex researcher
18 Williams sisters' org.
19 Deep in thought
20 Proves false
22 Betsy of flagdom
24 Not moving
25 Taper off
29 Fresh, as lettuce
32 Ram of the zodiac
33 Annoyance, so to speak
34 Remnants
38 Oscar actress Sorvino
39 Auctions off
40 Chess castle
41 "__ there, done that"
42 Optimistic emotion
43 Botch (up)
44 In solitude
46 Reviewed badly
47 En __ (as a group)
50 Untrustworthy person
52 Snobby one
55 Most populous African nation
60 West African nation
61 007's creator
63 Arabian sultanate
64 24-karat
65 Gooey campfire treat
66 Distress call
67 Head the cast
68 Idaho product, informally

DOWN
1 Hold firmly
2 Wander about
3 Rickman of Harry Potter films
4 Till stack
5 Runs out
6 Enthusiastic reviews
7 90-degree pipe
8 British prep school
9 Bird of peace
10 Reckless speed
11 Walk onstage
12 Bread ingredient
15 *Evita* guy
17 Shakespeare's river
21 USO show audience
23 Cutting tool
25 Woolly youngster
26 Toledo's lake
27 Kingly title
28 Elijah Wood's *Lord of the Rings* pal
30 Make angry
31 Write-__ (some votes)
33 Lowly laborer
35 Part of speech
36 Medicinal amount
37 Timetable, briefly
39 *Homeland* channel, for short
43 Tops in size
45 Luau garland
46 Beach bucket
47 Interoffice mail
48 San Antonio landmark
49 Fictional Mamer
51 Derive logically
53 Drinks slowly
54 Tightly stretched
56 Actress Stone or Thompson
57 Barrel of laughs
58 Concerning, in 47 Down
59 Golden-__ (senior)
62 Hunters' org.



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/22/17

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 22).

Your times of wishful thinking are over. You're ready to make it happen this year. March sees you well-connected, and relationships lead to prosperity in the months to follow. You'll choose assertiveness over diplomacy in March, and appropriately so. You'll update your environment in April and May. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 50, 3, 24 and 14.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Everybody needs somebody, and you're the somebody who is so needed now that somebody else seems fastened to you. Being needed so intensely could bring up mixed feelings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Money isn't inherently emotional, but somehow it will end up being a hot-button topic today. You'll be the reasonable one; you know to separate your own value from the monetary one in question.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
There's something you want that requires a lot more attention than you planned to give it. Until you can lend full focus, it will remain out of reach. The question now is: How badly do you want it?

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You're not the casting director for every scene in the grand play of life. But when you do have the power, use it. Surround yourself with nice people and you won't have to teach people to be nice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You don't befriend anyone just because you think it will take you places. However, there are some special friendships that generate such a fantastic energy that you can't help but soar upward, regardless of your original intention.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Hesitate and you will lose the opportunity, or worse, cast doubt in the mind of the one who's doling it out. Today's one of those times to just say yes. You'll learn all you need to know along the way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Higher learning will be featured in your day. This may be costly in values of time, energy and money, but you'll never be sorry, as your richer life will eventually reflect all the potential benefits of the effort.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
As it is with everyone, your powers of magnetism ebb and flow. They are flowing now. You may notice that you're getting special treatment. Enjoy this, and don't give into the temptation to play with your power.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today you'll be reminded of the inherent tally inside every relationship. Don't worry; everyone involved knows the score, and life is about to settle a few things up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You belong to many groups, though one stands out as being more central to your well-being lately. You'll put your focus there, and you'll become an even more effective member of that team.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Those who obsess over others don't have quite enough going on in their own inner circle. You can help that. Actually, this is a good opportunity for you to gain support for your cause.

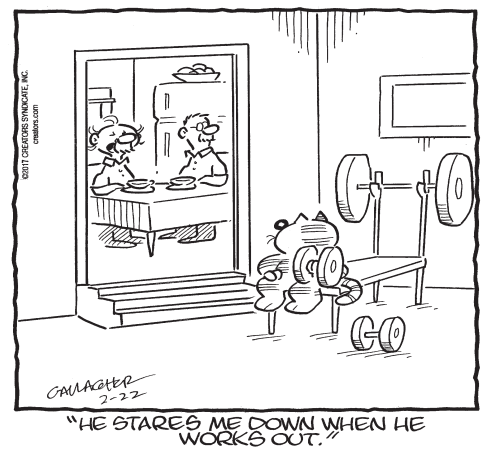
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Things are about to get busy again. If the arrangement isn't working, this is the moment to have a talk, change the agreement or decide on a different kind of relationship. Do what's needed, and do it quickly.

Feisty Mars Position

Most animals don't use a financial system of dollars and cents to claim their land. They just claim it. And then they fight for it, because most animals are territorial, meaning there's a certain amount of space they feel they need. Humans are an especially territorial species, and when Mars gets feisty with Pluto, we'll see evidence of this.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

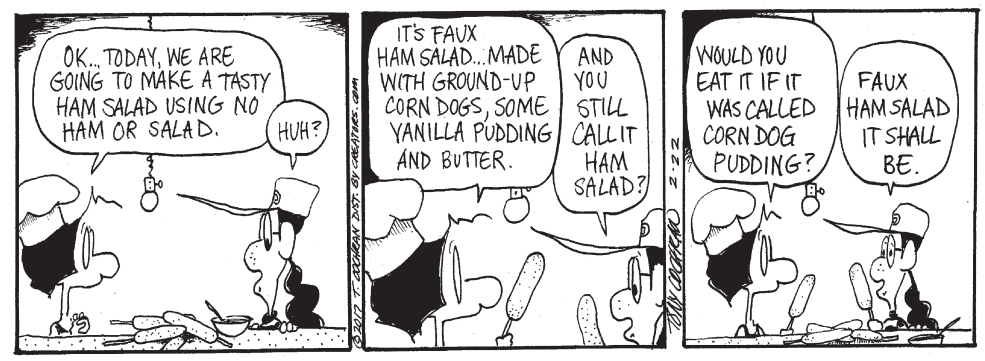
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



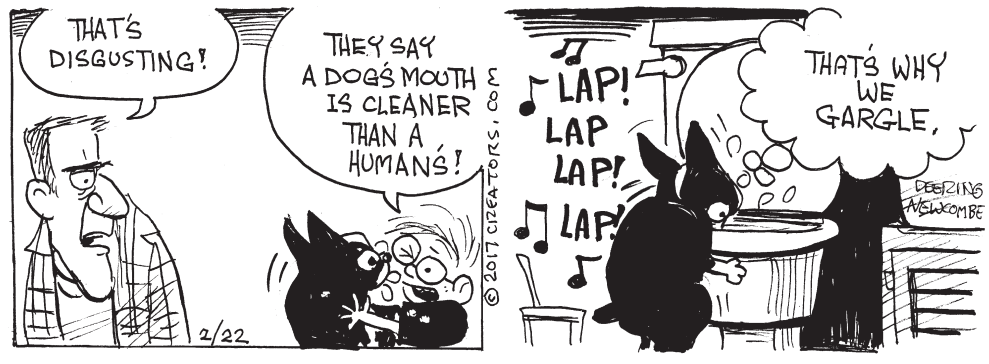
Agnes
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