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Santa Monica Daily Press

TROUT FOCUSED DESPITE CONTRACT TALKS
SEE PAGE 12

We have you covered

THE NUMBERS DOWN ISSUE



Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

NUMBERS DOWN: A homeless man sleeps on a bench in Palisades Park on Monday. A recent count has the number of homeless on the decline.

Homelessness down across board

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Homelessness is down 5 percent in the city by the sea, rebounding after two years of increases, according to City Hall's annual homeless count.

There were 742 homeless individuals counted in Santa Monica on the night of Jan. 29, the same amount counted back in 2010.

Last year, volunteers counted 780 homeless people.

The street count was down 9 percent, dropping to 346 from 380 last year.

Results in Downtown were down significantly: a 40 percent drop from 141 to 86 this year.

Once again, no families were found on the street, officials said.

Homeless totals were up in the 2012 and 2013 counts, partially a result of a struggling economy, officials said. This year's drop brings the totals closer to where they were in 2010 and 2011.

John Maceri, executive director of OPCC, a Santa Monica-based homeless services provider, called the results "good news."

"I thought the results would be down this year and they are," he said. "That's important, especially when you see what's happening across L.A. County."

Homelessness rose nearly 2 percent in the county last year, according to an August report from Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority. Still, Maceri said he wasn't surprised by Santa Monica's improvement.

"I didn't expect there to be a precipitous drop, because homelessness is going up in other parts of the county, but I thought the numbers would come in slightly less than where we had been," he said.

Several groups are likely responsible for the drop Downtown, he said.

The Downtown Ambassadors program has helped, he said, as has communication between local businesses, Downtown Santa Monica Inc., and local service providers. He's seen improvements in Palisades Park and along the Third Street Promenade.

"I think there's been a lot of effort working on the chronic homeless initiatives that all the providers have been working on with (City Hall)," he said. "We've really looked at addressing people who have been on the streets the longest and kind of looking at the anchors in the area, and I think that has helped."

City officials also laud the Police Department's Homeless Liaison Program (HLP).

"With patrol providing additional support, the police department was able to

SEE HOMELESS PAGE 10

Water app tops consent

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

CITY HALL City Hall's a cheap date in this week's consent calendar. City Council will consider spending $179,203 on four items.

Where's all that water bill money going? City Hall wants to buy an app that will answer that question. WaterSmart Software Corporation will likely get a $99,000 contract to provide its web-based software that lets residents of single-family homes and City Hall track, compare, and report on

SEE CONSENT PAGE 9

Polio-like illness a true mystery

MARTHA MENDOZA
AP National Writer

STANFORD, Calif. More than a dozen children in California have developed an extremely rare, polio-like syndrome within the past year that within days paralyzed one or more of the children's arms or legs, Stanford University researchers say.

The illness is still being investigated and appears to be very unusual, but Dr. Keith Van Haren at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford University warned Monday that any child showing a sudden onset of weakness in their limbs or symptoms of paralysis should be immediately seen by a doctor.

"The disease resembles but is not the same as polio," he said. "But this is serious. Most of the children we've seen so far have not recovered use of their arm or their leg."

But doctors are not sure if it's a virus or something else, he said. Dr. Van Haren says

SEE MYSTERY PAGE 10

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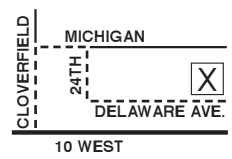
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014

Story time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Fat Tuesdays
Coast Restaurant
1 Pico Blvd., 4 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Mardi Gras is parading to Santa Monica. Join Coast each Tuesday through March 4 for a special $29 three-course Fat Tuesday menu featuring oysters Rockefeller, andouille and chicken jambalaya and butterscotch pudding. For more information, call (310) 458-0030.

Council meets
City Hall
1685 Main St., 5:30 p.m.
The City Council will discuss funding the restoration of the controversial "Chain Reaction" sculpture in the Civic Center. For more information, visit smgov.net.

Search it out
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 p.m.
Tips and strategies to find the best information from your Internet searches. Intermediate level. Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, visit the reference desk or call telephone reference at (310) 434-2608.

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014

Born to fly
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 3:45 p.m.
Join library staff to make paper airplanes and see how far they can fly. Ages 6-10. For more information, visit smpl.org.

The green life
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Join this Sustainable Works Workshop and learn how to save money, and positively impact your family, community and ultimately the planet. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Culinary combo
Shutters on the Beach
1 Pico Blvd., call for times
The exquisite flavors and sophistication of the Amalfi Coast descend upon Shutters on the Beach for a limited time partnership through Feb. 26 courtesy of the famed Le Sirenuse from Positano, Italy. Nestled above the coast in Positano, overlooking the Mediterranean, Le Sirenuse is a luxurious summer palazzo turned into dreamy hideaway, owned and run by the noble Neapolitan family Marchese Sersale. For more information, visit shuttersonthebeach.com.

Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014

Calling young foodies
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Eat seasonal fare and learn about the food you eat from the Santa Monica Farmers' Markets. Grades 6-12. For more information, visit smpl.org.

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

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

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

Seafaring drug smugglers challenging Coast Guard

ELLIOT SPAGAT & JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO While security has tightened at the U.S. border, drug smugglers are increasingly turning to the high seas.

The area where boats were seized off California and the northwest coast of Mexico tripled to a size comparable to the state of Montana during the 2013 fiscal year, which ended in September. Off South America, traffickers over the years have been traversing territory so big the continental United States could be dropped inside of it.

Mexico's Sinaloa cartel has been loading marijuana bales onto 50-foot vessels as far south as the Mexican port of Mazatlan — where its leader, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, was captured early Saturday — and running them up the Pacific coast to the U.S., deep into California. It's unclear if Guzman's arrest will hinder the maritime runs.

Meanwhile, budget cuts have hit one of the lead U.S. law enforcement agencies on international waters — the Coast Guard, the only U.S. military service able to make drug arrests hundreds of miles offshore. To meet automatic federal budget cuts, it reduced its operating costs by 25 percent in 2013. It also lost help from U.S. Navy ships on drug missions off Latin America that were decommissioned and not replaced because of cutbacks, or sent elsewhere because of Washington's new military focus.

As such, only a third of suspected drug smuggling boats or aircraft out of South America that were tracked by U.S. intelligence in cocaine-trafficking corridors in the Pacific and Caribbean were stopped last year, the Coast Guard's top officer, Adm. Robert Papp, told The Associated Press.

"Our interdictions are down 30 percent from the year before, when we had more assets out there, so that's an indicator to me that as soon as we start pulling assets away, they're running more drugs and they're getting through," Papp said.

U.S. authorities stopped some 194,000 pounds of cocaine last fiscal year — more

SEE **DRUGS** PAGE 8



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Louis Pearl, The Amazing Bubble Man, is set to return to the Edgemar Center for the Arts on March 1 and 2.

Photo courtesy Peter Day

Santa Barbara authorities investigate gang rape

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. Authorities appealed Monday for the public's help as they try to identify suspects in the beating and gang rape of a University of California, Santa Barbara student.

The 19-year-old woman was attacked by several men early Sunday morning, Santa Barbara County sheriff's spokeswoman Kelly Hoover said. The woman was last seen between midnight and 12:30 a.m. Sunday walking northbound on Embarcadero Del Mar near Segovia Road, roughly two blocks away from campus, Hoover said.

No witnesses or surveillance footage has been found, she said.

"The victim in this case was not in good shape, and we were only able to get some basic information from her," said Hoover, who called the case "very disturbing."

Detectives planned to re-interview the student after she had time to recover at home with her family.

Investigators were trying to pinpoint the location of the attack. The student wasn't sure if it was on campus or in the neighboring community of Isla Vista.

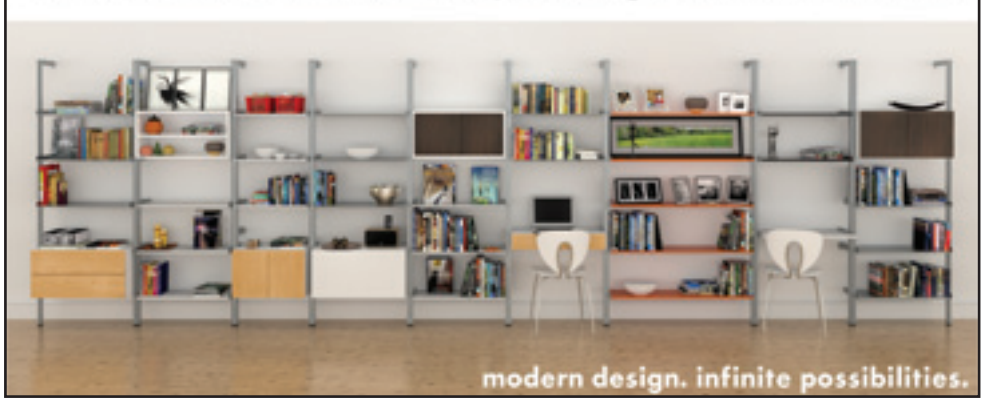
The attack occurred near her residence, so the woman was able to get home and show her roommate what happened, Hoover said. She was taken by ambulance to a hospital, where she received treatment and underwent an examination.

Sheriff's detectives along with members of the Isla Vista foot patrol — a joint policing effort that includes sheriff's deputies, California Highway Patrol officers and university police — were investigating.

University police beefed up patrols after issuing multiple notifications of the attack to students over the weekend, UC Santa Barbara police Sgt. Robert Romero said. He called the case "especially heinous" and did not elaborate.

The densely populated beachside community of Isla Vista borders the university and is known for partying. The half-mile area has roughly 23,000 residents, of which 60 percent are students.

Last month, two men and a juvenile were arrested for the alleged sexual assault of an 18-year-old UC Santa Barbara student in Isla Vista.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Let the people decide

Editor:

On Jan. 22, 2013, the Santa Monica City Council voted 6-1 in favor of a resolution that set a deadline of Feb. 1, 2014 for the supporters of the controversial "Chain Reaction" sculpture to raise the necessary funds, up to $425,000, for restoration. If the proponents failed to raise the full amount required to make "Chain Reaction" safe, then it will be removed, and returned to the original owner. An amendment to the resolution specifically stated: "The one year be the absolute limit, it'll be the same council a year from now, we can just agree right now that we will not be hearing this again, this will not come back to us for another extension, it's do or die." City Manager Rod Gould stated: "The amount shall be sufficient to protect the public safety, that's where we are going to land, we will not go and split the difference or do something political."

Well, according to the Daily Press, City Manager Gould is now willing to do just that, to "split the difference," and do something very political. He is planning to recommend that the council not adhere to the resolution, and that the city, in fact "split the difference," and pay the balance of whatever it takes to make the statue safe. So far, the supporters have raised only 23 percent of the necessary restoration funds, of up to $425,000. Because they have failed to raise the full amount, this issue has become more political than ever.

Santa Monica is not in a position to spend tax revenue on frivolous items. At the most recent City Council meeting, Finance Director Gigi Decavalles-Hughes said the city's projected budget deficit in June of 2018 may reach $9.2 million. The city continues to be in the red, due to the lingering effects of the recession, the loss of $56.78 million to the California Department of Finance over RDA funds, and the pending approval to raise the hourly living wage for city employees and contract workers to $15.37/hour

We don't have the luxury to allocate another $425,000, according to what Cultural Affairs Manager Jessica Cusick says is only a temporary 20-year fix. Additionally, The Landmarks Commission (a regulatory body) may be disqualified from any future governance of "Chain Reaction," because of a letter the commission sent to City Council showing bias for, and advocating for this one particular landmark.

Most recently, many citizens have expressed disapproval toward the City Council vote in favor of the Hines Project at the Paper Mate facility. So much so, that a public referendum drive is underway in an effort to overturn City Council acceptance of this development. Our City Council must begin to pay attention to the opinions and sentiments of the majority of Santa Monicans, not those with the greatest amount of financial influence, nor those who are simply the most boisterous and excel at arm twisting, and pestering of our officials.

The issue relating to "Chain Reaction" has been a contentious subject in our city since 1990. Some individuals are for it, and more than you know, are against it. So for the sake of fairness, it is important that our City Council allow our municipal democracy to function in the most just way possible. Demonstrate to us that you do have integrity, and that you govern all of our citizens. If you can't bring yourself to enforce the Feb. 1, 2014 do-or-die measure and amendment, then at the very least, allow the people to make the final decision on "Chain Reaction," yay or nay, with an initiative on the upcoming June 3 primary ballot, That way, there won't be any sour grapes on either side of the controversy.

Charles Follette
Santa Monica

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What's a podcast?

EVER SINCE I STARTED MY MEN'S FAMILY Law podcast I've been asked by my friends, acquaintances, and strangers, "What's a podcast?"

Well, it's like an on demand radio show. The length can be anywhere from five minutes to three hours. There are spirituality based shows, financial, comedy and educational shows. The depth and breadth of topics is amazing — because all it takes to put on a show is a digital recording device (that's most phones these days) and an Internet connection, and you can have a show devoted to the knitting of hats if you want to. The beauty of the podcast from a producer's standpoint (like me) is that a listener hears an episode, and they decide they want to subscribe for free to my podcast. They click a button and from that day forward, every time that I create a new show and publish it, they get it delivered directly to their phone or listening device such as an actual iPod, an MP3 player, a computer, an iPad, a tablet — basically anything that has a speaker and a cpu.

If you have an iPhone you can use the Podcasts app to find and select shows of interest to you. Although you don't have to have an iPhone, you can access podcasts with other digital devices. Android phones have a huge selection of apps that can be used to find and listen to a personalized selection of your favorite topics.

Podcasts come in all different styles though, some have advertising, like the Joe Rogan Experience which is a two- to three-hour show that comedian/MMA commentator Joe Rogan puts out which features commercials for the show's sponsors. Others are like Cliff Ravenscraft's podcast, Answerman, a show devoted to the topic of podcasting has no overt advertising from outside sponsors, but Ravenscraft does have products and services available on his website, coaching programs available, and up until this month a Mastermind Group that he led, all of which he talks about on his show.

Podcasting is a newly skinned version of an old style marketing tool. The sponsored radio show, which became the sponsored TV show that is lovingly referred to as the "soap opera" because it was sponsored by Proctor and Gamble and they sold soap to stay-at-home mothers. These days, the sponsored TV and radio shows are less common as production costs have increased.

Low production cost allows non-traditional and traditional radio and TV shows to make their way onto the podcast platform. "This American Life," "60 Minutes," which has an audio only version, Rush Limbaugh, Dr. Laura, Dennis Miller, and "Face The Nation" all have podcasts. There are startup individuals who have their own shows talking about whatever you're interested in, I guarantee it. If you can find a topic that doesn't have a podcast, I'll buy you a coffee.

The value for me as a producer of content with my own show is that I have now created a marketing resource that is live, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, that answers my potential clients' most common questions in a format that is informative for them, which they can access at their leisure. If a man in crisis wants to listen to all my podcasts at one sitting he can, or he can enjoy them while commuting to work. It's a great tool to develop a relationship with a potential client.

The value for me of being a listener is that I can be taught information, on demand, when I need it, at the pace I need it. When I'm on the treadmill at the Loews Hotel or the Santa Monica Equinox, I can be listening to a show about cooking, marketing, or finance. When I'm home and relaxing I use it for guided meditations.

Professionally I use it for continuing education purposes. There are shows specifically designed for lawyers to help us keep up to date on the ever changing laws and practice requirements. Sometimes I find other shows that point out to me shifts that are going to be impacting my profession and our society.

For example, I was listening to the Freakonomics podcast this past week while I was working out, and the topic was "Why Marry?" a two-part podcast that explored the institution of marriage, how popular it is these days both here and in Europe. It was a fascinating take on the way society is changing and who is getting married and who isn't and why.

But the most fascinating and scary things for me to learn was that right now 42 percent of the children born in our country are born to single mothers. By 2020, over 50 percent of the school age children will be in single parent households, mostly mothers.

It's amazing what you learn when you spend your time wisely. I could have been listening to the Divas collection on my iPhone as I worked out, but by listening to a podcast I am able to learn about a societal shift that has dramatic ramifications for not just my role as a father's rights attorney, but as a person concerned about our society. What does it say about us, if half the children are not having a strong relationship with their fathers? What does that portend for our future? I'm not sure today, and won't be tomorrow, but it will be the topic of discussion in next week's column.

And I would not have known about it, if I wasn't listening to the Freakonomics podcast.

DAVID PISARRA is a Los Angeles divorce and child custody lawyer specializing in father's and men's rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra



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Almond farmers face tough choices

SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

FIREBAUGH, Calif. With California's agricultural heartland entrenched in drought, almond farmers are letting orchards dry up and in some cases making the tough call to have their trees torn out of the ground, leaving behind empty fields.

In California's Central Valley, Barry Baker is one of many who hired a crew that brought in large rumbling equipment to perform the grim task in a cloud of dust.

A tractor operator drove heavy steel shanks into the ground to loosen the roots and knock the trees over. Another operator, driving a brush loader equipped with a fork-like implement on the front, scooped up the trees and root balls and pushed them into a pile, where an excavator driver grabbed them up in clusters with a clawing grapple. The trees were fed into a grinder that spit wood chips into piles to be hauled away by the truckload and burned as fuel in a power plant.

Baker, 54, of Baker Farming Company, has decided to remove 20 percent of his trees before they have passed their prime. There's simply not enough water to satisfy all 5,000 acres of almonds, he said. "Hopefully, I don't have to pull out another 20 percent," Baker said, adding that sooner or later neighboring farmers will come to the same conclusion. "They're hoping for the best. I don't think it's going to come."

There are no figures yet available to show an exact number of orchards being removed, but the economic stakes and risks facing growers are clear. Almonds and other nuts are among the most high-value crops in the Central Valley — the biggest producer of such crops in the country. In 2012, California's almond crop had an annual value of $5 billion. This year farmers say the dry conditions are forcing them to make difficult decisions.

Gov. Jerry Brown last month declared a drought emergency after the state's driest year in recorded history.

The thirst for water has sparked political battles in Washington, D.C., over use of the state's rivers and reservoirs. This month President Barack Obama visited the Central Valley, announcing millions of dollars in relief aid that in part will help the state's ranchers and farmers better conserve and manage water.

Baker, who favors farming over politics, explained the math leading to his decision. Between now and the summer almond harvest, he would need to irrigate his orchards with scarce, expensive water and pay to have the trees pruned and sprayed. Bringing in bee hives to pollinate the blossoms costs nearly $500 an acre.

That all would amount to a $2.5 million gamble, without knowing if the next couple of months will bring significant rain to the valley floor and snow to the mountains. "You'd have wrapped a lot of money up in those trees to see what happens," he said.

Removing old trees is common practice. Almond trees remain productive for about 25 years, growers said. The state's almond farmers removed over 10,000 acres of trees in 2012, according to a report by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Most were past their prime. No figures are available on how many orchards farmers are removing today, said department spokesman Steve Lyle.

But Alan Thompson of G&F Agri Service LLC, who leads the crew ripping out Baker's orchards, said the drought spiked his business by 75 percent. This time of year is typically slow, but Thompson, 31, said his heavy equipment operators start at dawn each day and works until sundown, removing orchards in short order.

"We don't even mess around with cutting them up with chain saws," he said. "That grinder is the way to do it right there."

Ryan Jacobsen, executive director of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, said he expects that almond growers will be removing trees through the spring and summer because of the drought. "I have no doubt permanent crops will be taken out because of this," he added.

Tim Lynch of Agra Marketing Group said power plants in the state nearly have more wood chips from almond trees than they can handle. Lynch's firm acts as the middle man between growers getting rid of their trees and the power plants that need bio fuel to burn. The dry weather this winter has allowed growers to work in their orchards that are typically soggy, and the drought pushed them to take out trees earlier than normal, he said.

The high value of almonds has caught the eye of investors in recent years, who paid top-dollar for land to plant almond orchards and cash in on the bonanza. Their value remains strong, making the decision for farmers to remove orchards difficult.

William Bourdeau, executive vice president of Harris Farms in Coalinga, said he and his colleagues within the next 30 days will have to confront the hard decision about scaling back their almond orchards. They've already decided not to plant 9,000 acres of vegetables — including 3,000 acres of lettuce that would have produced 72 million heads and generated 700,000 hours of work.

Next, they may rip out 1,000 acres of almonds, a permanent crop, Bourdeau said.

"I hesitate to use a number that big. Unfortunately, it's going to that big or bigger," he said, still holding out hope the season will turn wet. "We're trying to limp along as long as we can."

The Q Line

Tasting history

Tommy's burgers is the latest in a long line of local eateries that may not be long for Santa Monica. Word has it that a Starbucks coffee is going to take its place on Lincoln Boulevard.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
How do you feel about Tommy's possible demise and why?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.



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Review: Taking Glass out for a Google-style spin

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK The first time I was in the proximity of Google Glass was nearly a year ago at a technology conference. The people wearing the device were like cyborg members of an elite club I couldn't join.

Now, it's my turn.

I picked up my Glass on Jan. 24 at the Google Glass "base camp," a bright, airy loft on the eighth floor of Manhattan's Chelsea Market. The location serves as a product showroom and a place where users can schedule appointments to learn how to use the device.

Walk in and you are invariably greeted by a smiling receptionist wearing Google Glass. There are Glass displays on the wall, people walking around wearing Glass, and mirrors so you can see what you look like in Glass. There was a steady inflow of Glass newbies like me who were there to pick up their device for the first time or to get help with problems.

I couldn't help drawing sci-fi and Star Trek comparisons while at the same time feeling like a clumsy luddite for doing so. What if this is just how things are going to be?

Glass is still in what Google calls an "explorer" phase, which means it's not yet available to the general public. That's coming later this year. For now, it's an ever-expanding club as more and more people are invited, either by Google or people who already have Glass, to buy one for $1,500.

The thought of buying Glass with my own money never crossed my mind. Rent comes first. Beach vacations second. And despite being a tech reporter, pricey gadgets rarely make it into my top 10.

The Associated Press purchased a pair, and I plan to share my impressions in a series of stories in the coming months. I'm interested in the device's technical specifics, but more excited by the idea of exploring the cultural and social reactions to Glass. Will I be embarrassed to wear it in public? Do I look like a jerk? A cyborg? Is it actually less distracting in a conversation than a smartphone, as Glass evangelists insist? Will it change the world, like the iPhone did? Is it really worth a month's rent?

The first time I saw Glass outside of tech circles was in early January, near my office. Two 20-something guys in skinny jeans were standing in front of me at a crosswalk. The Glass one of them wore was sky blue, and he was nodding his head up and down in an exaggerated fashion.

"Okay Glass, what time is it?" he asked. "Okay Glass, what time is it?"

I looked at my iPhone to check the time. The traffic light changed. I wondered if he ever found out what time it was.

After placing my order online, I could have opted to have Glass mailed to me, but picking it up at a basecamp meant a friendly Glass-wearing Googler was there to watch me open the box and explain the basics of setting up and using the device.

Google Glass is meticulously packed in a simple, white box that evokes Apple's clean, Zen-like design sensibilities. There are no plastic clamshells or cords dangling everywhere. Lift the lid and you see your Glass covered in translucent parchment paper.

"It will all be OK," the package would say if it could talk.

Glass doesn't mean glasses. The device sits above your eye at roughly brow level, so you gaze up with your right eye to see its tiny screen. My guide showed me how to adjust the nose pads and the screen so looking into it feels a bit like looking into a rearview mirror.

There are three ways to interact with Glass: touch, speak or move. To turn it on, you press a round button that, when you're wearing the device, sits behind your right ear. Press it again to turn it off.

The screen automatically goes to sleep after a few seconds, which makes sense. The device has about 45 minutes of battery life while in continuous use. To wake it up, you can tap the touchpad with your finger or nod your head up and down. Head-nodding mystery solved.

My cheerful Glass guide showed me how to connect Glass to my Google account, and walked me through MyGlass, which is basically your Web, Android or iOS portal for the device. It lets you add apps (called "Glassware"), connect to Wi-Fi networks and, in case you misplace your device, see where it is on a map. It all seemed pretty straightforward, and I was eager to get my Glass on my forehead and explore the world through a new lens, so I bid my guide goodbye.

When I ordered Glass, I opted to add a pair of detachable sunglass lenses that Google provides at no cost. The company also offers prescription lenses and designer frames for $225 and $150, respectively. Thinking I'd be less conspicuous, I walked out of Chelsea Market with Glass on, shades attached. Nothing to see here, just a pair of sunglasses.

Next up: Baby steps.



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Zuckerberg takes long view with WhatsApp, Internet

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology

NEW YORK Mark Zuckerberg, known for his outsized ambitions for Facebook, is applying a similar long-term vision to bringing the Internet to the billons of people around the world who don't already have access.

The 29-year-old CEO of Facebook Inc. discussed long-term plans for a world in which everyone is able to get online during an on-stage interview at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain on Monday.

It was Zuckerberg's most high-profile appearance yet at the world's largest mobile trade show, signaling Facebook's growing influence in mobile communications. The company's mobile footprint has only expanded with its decision to buy WhatsApp, the wildly popular smartphone messaging service, in a surprise deal announced last Wednesday.

While Zuckerberg spent most of his time discussing Internet.org, the ambitious project that aims to get the world online, he couldn't skirt questions about Facebook's decision to pay a staggering $19 billion for WhatsApp.

"WhatsApp is a great company and a great fit for us," Zuckerberg said, calling the service the "most engaging" mobile application that has ever existed — and one that's well worth its price.

With 465 million monthly members, the service is growing at a faster pace than Facebook ever has and Zuckerberg believes WhatsApp is on track to reach a billion users. It's because of that potential, and not WhatsApp's current revenue stream, that Zuckerberg thinks WhatsApp is worth more than $19 billion. In comparison, Twitter Inc. which has 241 million users, is worth roughly $32 billion, based on its stock price Monday.

Even so, Facebook investors shouldn't expect a windfall from WhatsApp any time soon. Zuckerberg said the acquisition will allow the startup to focus on growing its user base — and not on making money — over the next five years or so.

That echoes earlier comments from WhatsApp CEO Jan Koum at the wireless show. Koum, who announced that WhatsApp will soon offer voice calling as it works to lure more users to its service, stressed that his company has no plans to add "marketing" or advertising to the service and that its staff of 55 is unlikely to grow much.

"We want to operate as a startup," Koum said.

Though they've known each other for years, Zuckerberg and Koum worked out the Facebook-WhatsApp deal in the 11 days before it was announced last Wednesday. Zuckerberg said that it wasn't until the pair got aligned on the vision for Internet.org and getting everyone in the world connected that they started talking about combining their companies.

Relatively unknown until now in the U.S., WhatsApp is popular in other countries, both in Europe and in emerging economies. Koum and co-founder Brian Acton, both former Yahoo engineers, started the company five years ago. Unlike Facebook, WhatsApp eschews advertising and instead charges people 99 cents a year after the first year to use the service.

On the surface, Facebook and WhatsApp appear to hold divergent views on a number of matters, but Zuckerberg said the companies share a common vision in making the world more connected. Some 70 percent of world's population, or 5 billion people, are still without Internet access. And access, Zuckerberg said, is growing slower than many people in the Internet-connected world believe.

When he announced Internet.org last summer, Zuckerberg noted that since the wealthiest members of the world's population are already connected to the Internet, getting the next billions online is unlikely to be profitable any time soon, if ever.

On Monday, Zuckerberg acknowledged that he "can't construct a model" in which Internet.org's efforts will be profitable for Facebook in the near future.

"I think we are probably going to lose money on this for quite a while," he said, though he added that over time there will likely be some benefit to Facebook.

Judging by Facebook's stock price, investors seem confident in Zuckerberg's long-term view. On Monday, Facebook's shares hit in midday trading, $71.44, their highest level ever.





DRUGS
FROM PAGE 3

than 40,000 pounds less than in 2012, according to Coast Guard statistics. Marijuana seizures dipped between 2012 and 2013 from 124,000 pounds to 81,000 pounds.

Defense officials have warned the cuts would hamper efforts to reach the president's goal of intercepting 40 percent of the illicit drug shipments flowing into the region by 2015. Fighting drug traffickers at sea is crucial because small aircraft used by traffickers can only carry about a ton of drugs versus large boats that can cart up to 20 tons of cocaine or more, authorities said.

As much as 20 percent of the cocaine moving through South America ends up in the United States. Large amounts also travel across the ocean into Africa, providing funding for insurgents and drug traffickers, and then on up into Europe.

"We've had to cut back in hours and funding, and cut back on resources on the water," said Cmdr. Chris German, deputy chief of law enforcement for the 11th District, which stretches from Oregon to Peru. "The Coast Guard's aircraft and ships have cut back on fuel, so every hour we're not in the air or on the water, it does leave a gap."

Even so, sea smuggling has not grabbed the attention of lawmakers like the flow of illegal goods across the land border, where billions have been spent on beefing up security. Part of the reason is the challenge to patrolling the ocean.

With more than 42,000 active-duty members, the Coast Guard is assisted in the drug war by other U.S. agencies.

It works closely with other nations, but that help only goes so far. Bilateral treaties sometimes limit waters it can patrol, and some of the foreign navies are small and underequipped.

U.S. officials, for instance, cannot venture into Mexican waters without prior permission and will stop a chase and alert Mexican authorities if suspected boats cross into that territory. Treaties with nations such as Colombia allow U.S. authorities more latitude.

"The land border is a much simpler border to defend. You can put up fences. You can put people out there. But it's a finite area. You know where your land starts and where it ends," Papp said. "When you go out into the maritime, it's huge."

The Coast Guard oversees 95,000 miles of coastline and 4.5 million square miles of maritime territory where the United States has rights: "We don't have that many ships, and we don't have that many aircraft, so there are many different places and routes that the bad guys can take to try and get around us."

Rear Adm. Karl Schultz, the 11th District commander, said the tiny Coast Guard is doing its best to optimize its resources but the challenge is "like a police cruiser in Cleveland responding to something in Atlanta."

Off California, smuggling vessels are typically spotted by planes from the Coast Guard or a federal agency, such as Customs and Border Protection, California National Guard or the Department of Defense. Coast Guard or CBP boats are then called to board suspicious vessels.

CBP is prohibited from firing on boats off the U.S. coast unless the pursuit begins within 12 miles of shore. The Coast Guard has no such constraints, so the onus has fallen on it as smugglers have ventured farther offshore.

The Sinaloa cartel has been loading marijuana bales vessels as far south as the Mexican port of Mazatlan and running them up northern Baja California after taking control of that state's coastal territory several years ago, said Michael Carney, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's assistant special agent in charge of investigations in San Diego.

Smugglers driving three-engine boats have been landing along remote coasts of Northern California, reaching as far as the beach town of Santa Cruz, which is about 350 nautical miles from the border city of San Diego. That's a shift from the one-engine drug skiffs seen landing for years in San Diego County.

Support vessels carry fuel and supplies to go longer distances, and smugglers transfer loads onto U.S.-owned pleasure craft, believing they are less likely to raise suspicion than a foreign boat.

Last month, a Coast Guard C-130 plane circled 200 feet over drug runners who jettisoned plastic-wrapped marijuana bales off Mexico's Baja California coast, about 175 miles south of the U.S. border. A Coast Guard inflatable boat closed in each time the three-engine vessel switched fuel tanks, according to Lt. Stephen Davies, who monitored the hour-long, 30-mph chase from a nearby cutter.

By the time the four men were arrested, there were no drugs on board, but the Coast Guard fished 3,500 pounds of marijuana and 34 pounds of methamphetamine from the ocean.

Papp, speaking at a defense conference this month in San Diego, said that the Coast Guard's resources to patrol the high seas and intercept threats are "woefully inadequate at this point."

Its aging fleet of larger cutters is being replaced with faster, more capable National Security Cutters, but the number of high endurance cutters best suited for the high seas has dropped from a total of twelve to eight and will remain that way. The service's operating budget will return to 2012 levels this year, but future years are uncertain.

Meanwhile, demands for the Coast Guard's 240 cutters, some 1,775 boats, and about 200 aircraft are expanding with the warming arctic and its emerging fisheries, cruise ship routes and commercial traffic.

Rep. Eliot Engel, D-N.Y., has called for an evaluation of U.S. anti-narcotics efforts out of concern over the limited successes of the multibillion dollar war on drugs and wants more investment in prevention programs to curb the U.S. market for illegal drugs.

"Drug traffickers continue to find new ways to circumvent our laws," Engel said. "Unfortunately, Congress's draconian budget cuts have made the Coast Guard's ability to collect intelligence on and interdict drug traffickers increasingly difficult."

In 2013, the service lost one of its own to traffickers who rammed their 30-foot boat into the small craft of Chief Petty Officer Terrell Horne III, 34, near Santa Cruz Island off Los Angeles.

Horne's death drove home the dangers of the war on drugs at sea, said Petty Officer 2nd Class William Pless, 28.

"You never know what you are going to encounter," said Pless, his gun at his side as he looked into the gray mist hovering over the Pacific waters on a recent evening, miles from the Mexican border.



CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

water use.

Residents can compare their water use with similar homes in the neighborhood.

The updates will come with the bi-monthly water bill.

In other municipalities, City Hall said, the software has resulted in a 5 percent reduction in single-family water usage.

"Many residential customers complain about the difficulty understanding their water bill, the amount of water used compared to their neighbors and the target of 123 gallons per person per day," city officials said in a report.

If approved, the program could be good to go in the next few months. City Hall would mail out surveys to 3,000 of the roughly 7,300 single-family homes. Those who respond to the survey would start seeing the bi-monthly e-mails from WaterSmart. City Hall would organize a 1,000-resident control group and compare their water usage to that of the WaterSmart users.

In the second year, City Hall would aim to bring on another 2,000 residents.

TRAFFIC SURVEY

The company in charge of studying speed limits in the city by the sea needs some more cash. Council will consider giving Kimley-Horn Associates an additional $9,625.

Last year, council asked the company to review and update speed limits on 200 street segments.

The state requires that the average daily traffic must be studied at each segment. Kimley-Horn needs to collect that data at 77 locations, hence the boosted pay. Last year, City Hall spent $80,000 on the initial traffic study.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Last January, council approved a $1.42 million contract with KDC Inc. to upgrade traffic signals on Ocean Park Boulevard, Main Street, and Neilson Way but the company needs some more cash thanks to "unforeseen conditions and requirements during construction."

Council will consider approving another $55,578 to finish the project, which replaced signals at 26 intersections.

"Due to unforeseen conditions, additional requirements encountered during construction, an underestimation of bid quantities, and an error in the bidding documents, the scope of work required has increased," city officials said in a report.

The bid indicated that 10 battery backup units need to be purchased and installed but the actual total is 23.

EXTENDED CEMETERY FUNDS

Council will likely approve a short contract extension with RNC Genter Capital Management to manage investments of the Cemetery and Mausoleum Perpetual Care Funds. The additional three months would cost taxpayers about $15,000, city officials said.

The three year contract is set to expire in March and city officials would like to extend that while they are in the process of reviewing bids from companies for the next contract.

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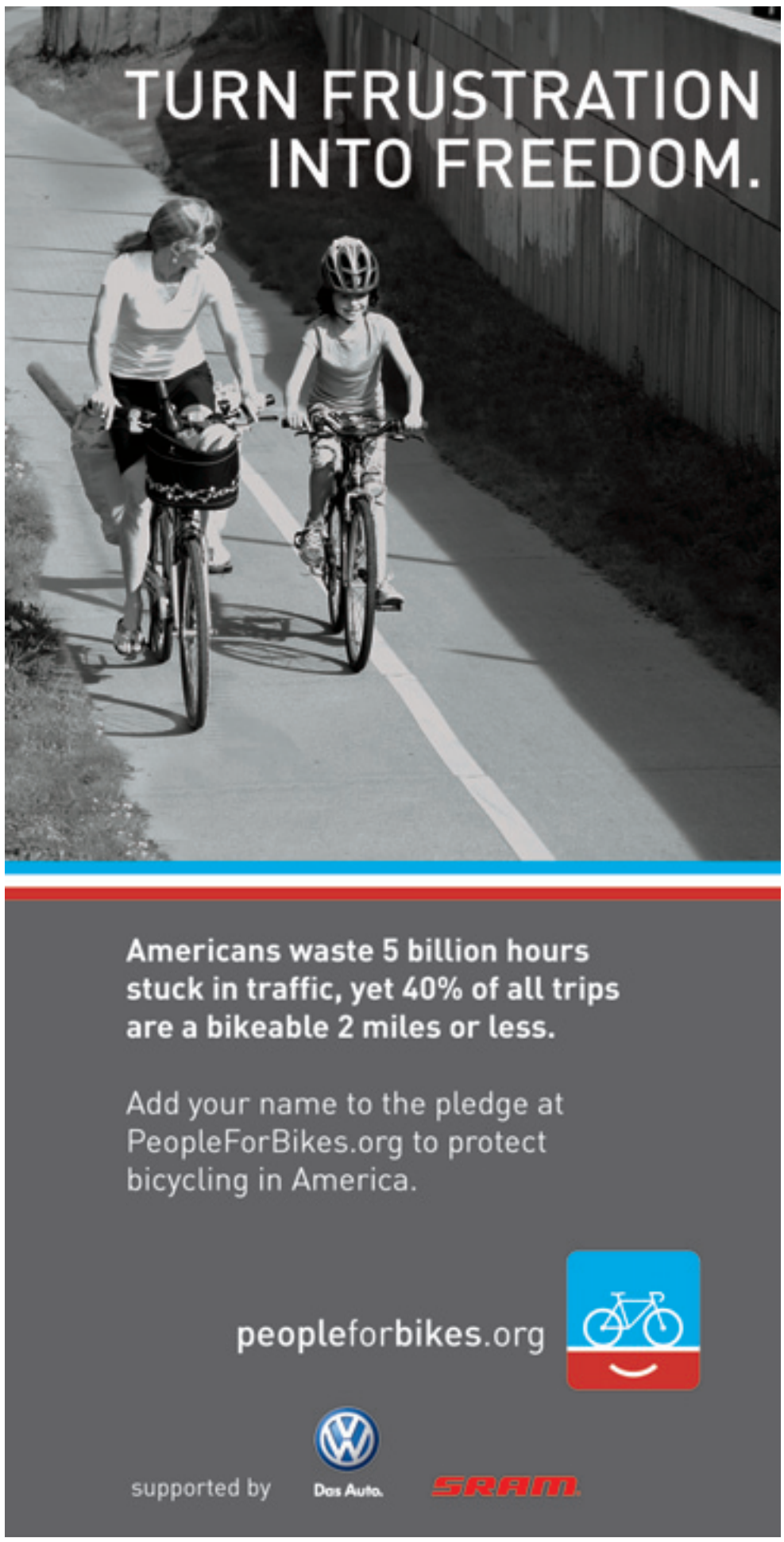
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HOMELESS
FROM PAGE 1

dedicate HLP Team resources to identify the most chronic and long-term homeless individuals in the downtown area and link them to housing and services," city officials said in the report.

More than 250 community volunteers covered every street in the city (226 linear miles) during the count that's been an annual event since 2010.

While Maceri wants to drop all of the numbers, he really wants to see the street numbers diminished.

"The shelter count isn't going to dramatically move from year to year unless we actually lose beds, which I hope doesn't happen," he said. "I'm particularly interested in moving the needle on the street count."

As is the case every year, there is still more work to be done, Maceri said.

"When I say we have more work to do, I don't think any of us should think our work is done until we get to zero," he said. "When we go out and don't find anyone on the streets, that will be fantastic. Clearly, we're not there yet."

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MYSTERY
FROM PAGE 1

he's studied five cases from Monterey up through the San Francisco Bay Area, including two who were identified with the disease enterovirus-68, which is from the same family as the polio viruses. He said there have been about 20 cases statewide.

"We want to temper the concern, because at the moment, it does not appear to represent a major epidemic but only a very rare phenomenon," he said, noting similar outbreaks in Asia and Australia.

But for some children, like Sofia Jarvis, 4, of Berkeley, rare doesn't mean safe.

She first developed what looked like asthma two years ago, but then her left arm stopped moving, and has remained paralyzed ever since.

"You can imagine. We had two boys that are very healthy and Sofia was healthy until that point," said her mother Jessica Tomei. "We did not realize what we were in store for. We did not realize her arm would be permanently paralyzed."

Dr. Van Haren, who diagnosed Sofia, said polio vaccines do not protect children from the disease, but stressed that it is still important for children to receive that vaccine.

Dr. Jane Seward of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta said Monday that the research is still underway in California, and there are a variety of infectious diseases that can cause childhood paralysis.

So there could be any of a number of illnesses at work here, and it's possible some of the cases had one infection and some had another. Regarding the presence of EV-68 in at least two cases, "it could be an incidental finding," Seward said. Until they get more information, Dr. Seward said they are not looking around the country for similar cases of EV-68.

UC San Francisco neurology professor Emmanuelle Waubant said they believe, but don't have proof, that it's a virus that for most children shows up only as a benign cold. She said a few children, due to their biological makeup, are having much more serious symptoms and she hoped doctors would look for them.

"For a lot of the neurologists who have trained in the last 30 years, it's extremely rare to see polio or polio-like syndrome," she said.



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Stocks end higher but fall short of record high

KEN SWEET
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The stock market ended higher Monday, but a late fade kept it from closing at an all-time high.

The market marched broadly higher most of the day, helped by optimism about the economy and more corporate mergers, only to slowly lose momentum in the final half hour of trading.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index ended up 11.36 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,847.61 — just short of its record close of 1,848.38 set on Jan. 15. The momentum helped the index set a new intraday high of 1,858.76 earlier in the day, however.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 103.84 points, or 0.6 percent, to 16,207.14 and the Nasdaq composite rose 29.56 points, or 0.7 percent, to 4,292.97.

Investors had little in the way of economic data or corporate earnings to work through, so much of Monday's focus was on another round of corporate deal making.

Chipmaker RF Micro Devices jumped $1.22, or 21 percent, to $7.03 after it said would buy a competitor, TriQuint Semiconductor, in an all-stock deal valued at about $1.56 billion. TriQuint soared $2.41, or 26 percent, to $11.64.

Meanwhile, men's clothing chain Jos. A. Bank rose $4.99, or 9 percent, to $60.04 after competitor Men's Wearhouse increased its buyout offer. Men's Wearhouse rose $3.40, or 8 percent, $48.51.

M&A has taken off this year. Last week, Forest Laboratories and Actavis announced a $25 billion merger and Facebook said it was buying WhatsApp for $19 billion. That's on top of deals or offers announced this week.

Companies buying competitors, or buying up a company whose product interests them, should be seen as a positive for stocks, market watchers say.

"It shows that companies still see value in this market, even at these highs," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial.

In the last two-and-a-half weeks, the stock market has basically erased of the losses it experienced after a difficult start to the year.

The S&P 500 index was down as much 6 percent for the year as of February 3 as investors worried about emerging markets like China and Turkey. The U.S. economic recovery was also showing signs of slowing growth.

But the U.S. stock market has recovered as turbulence in overseas markets calms down.

In the latest development in overseas markets, the chaos in Ukraine came to an abrupt halt over the weekend following the ouster of President Viktor Yanulovych. Investors had been worried about the escalating violence.

"The risks in emerging markets continue to recede, and now the problems in the Ukraine are out of the way," said Bill Stone, chief investment strategist at PNC Wealth Management.

The S&P 500's 1,850-point level continues to be a ceiling for investors trying to bid stocks higher. The index has tried to close above 1,850 three times in the last three months, failing each time.

Investors have a chance to test all-time highs after economic reports come out later this week.

Fed Chair Janet Yellen will testify in front of the Senate Banking Committee on Thursday. Economic reports this week include durable goods orders and U.S. fourth-quarter gross domestic product.

Government bond prices were flat Monday. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note was unchanged from Friday at 2.74 percent. The price of oil rose 62 cents to $102.82 a barrel. Gold rose $14.40 to $1,338 an ounce.

In other corporate news:

— Netflix and Comcast reached an agreement to ensure that the online video service's shows and movies are streamed smoothly. No details were released about the cost to Netflix. Comcast gained 10 cents, or 0.2 percent, to $51.15 and Netflix was up $14.77, or 3 percent, to $447.

— eBay rose $1.71, or 3 percent, to $56.30 after the activist shareholder Carl Icahn disclosed a 2 percent stake in the company. Icahn is looking to replace several members of eBay's board of directors.



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Scioscia: Possible deal talks won't distract Trout

JIM RICHARDS
Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. Angels manager Mike Scioscia said Monday that he isn't worried about possible contract talks becoming a distraction for star center fielder Mike Trout.

"It's not an issue and it's certainly not an issue with Mike," Scioscia said.

Published reports have said the team and Trout are discussing a long-term deal.

Scioscia said he hasn't seen a contract becoming a problem in his time with the Angels.

"We haven't had anybody here in 15 years because of a contract situation that hasn't come out and given 100 percent," Scioscia told reporters.

Scioscia said his training camps are "high energy" and designed to keep players focused. He added that distractions can come in many forms and pointed out that Trout has handled distractions easily through two seasons with the Angels.

"We know how tough it is not only getting to the big leagues but making it in the big leagues," Scioscia said. "The footprint that he's made was pretty big in his first full year. To keep filling that footprint and to grow is a challenge and Mike has shown no drop with what he did last year."

Trout came up a month into the 2012 season and took home the American League Rookie of the Year award after hitting .326 with 30 homers and 83 RBIs. He followed that with 27 homers, 97 RBIs and a .323 batting average in 2013. He was the runner-up for AL Most Valuable Player both seasons.

"There's no doubt that there are potential distractions there with what's happening," Scioscia said. "He hasn't flinched. He's very grounded. He has everything sorted out on his priorities. He just wants to play baseball and he's doing a great job of it.

"This kid doesn't even seem to mind (the limelight). I think with Mike, if nobody was paying attention to him he'd be fine with that. Everybody is paying attention to him and he's fine with it. He's extremely focused."

A's catcher says updated collision rule is fair enough

RICK EYMER
Associated Press

PHOENIX Oakland catcher Derek Norris said collisions at home plate are part of the game and he applauds the updated rule that still allows for them in major league baseball.

He still expects to be bowled over by runners hoping to score, just as long as it's clean.

Norris said he firmly believes that over 99 percent of big league players play fair at home plate and that the rule was intended to discourage the less than 1 percent of other runners from going after the catcher whether the ball is there or not.

The rule also clarifies that a catcher cannot block the plate without the ball, which Norris said made sense.

The new rule was adopted by MLB and the players' association on a one-year experimental basis.

SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **61.5°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Most spots are 1-2'; Very small/easing SSW swell; Minimal WNW swell; Light wind

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
SLOW EARLY, BUILDING SURF THROUGH THE DAY; New West-WNW swell builds in with larger chest-head high sets before dark for standouts to the north (BIGGEST LATE);

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
Primary/holding West-WNW swell with some minor SW-WSW windswell mixing in; Light wind; Surf is a little jumbled for most spots

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high occ. 4ft
The mix of West-WNW swell and SW-WSW windswell backs down some; Possible strong front approaching the region with the rise of breezy southerly wind and rain;

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 19, 2014**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 4
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37/5
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7/4

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	D	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	D	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	C	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	C	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CMW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

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

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

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

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

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
1:40pm, 4:15pm

Ride Along (PG-13)
7:00pm, 9:45pm

About Last Night (NR)
2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Pompeii (NR) 1hr 42min
4:45pm, 10:15pm

Pompeii 3D (NR) 1hr 42min
2:00pm, 7:30pm

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

RoboCop (NR)
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Lego Movie in 3D (PG)
1:45pm, 7:00pm

Monuments Men (NR)
11:00am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

Wolf of Wall Street (R) 2hrs 45min
11:10am, 3:00pm, 6:45pm, 9:50pm

American Hustle (R) 2hrs 09min
12:30pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:20pm

Endless Love (NR)
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Three Days to Kill ()
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Lego Movie (PG)
11:15am, 4:15pm, 9:45pm

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

In Secret (Therese) (NR)
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Gloria (R) 1hr 40min
3:15pm, 8:10pm

Dallas Buyers Club (R) 1hr 57min
4:10pm, 9:55pm

Great Beauty (La Grande Bellezza) (NR) 2hrs 30min
1:20pm, 4:40pm, 8:00pm

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
1:00pm, 5:50pm

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

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

HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS, SCORPIO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Your first impression of a domineering boss might surprise you. You will want to adapt if you are considering working for or with this person. Tonight: Keep a firm hold on your wallet.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might feel intimidated by someone. This person shares so little that you could feel awkward around him or her. Opportunities seem to arise out of the blue. Be willing to allow your creativity to emerge. You know what you need and want. Tonight: In the game of life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Someone knows how to get your attention, and he or she will do just that. This person might want to share some ideas with you; however, your response to being cornered might be so negative that you might not even hear what is being offered. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ How you deal with someone is likely to change because of recent events. You could express a need to do something very differently and receive a lot of flak. Be willing to come up with a less shocking approach to the same goal. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You will be determined to have a situation work. You'll want to brainstorm with another imaginative person. Revise your schedule in order to squeeze in a special request. A stalemate between you and a boss seems to continue. Tonight: Run an errand or two on the way home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ An unexpected piece of news could jolt you and force some creative thinking. Communication might not flow as you would like. In fact, you could feel overwhelmed. Revise your thinking, and you will find answers. Tonight: Leave problems behind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Understand your resistance. You might feel as if you are walking down a path to unsteady ground. You'll wonder what to do and what might be best for you ultimately. Tonight: Spontaneous works.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Make an effort to reach out to a child or loved one. Understand where this person is coming from in a discussion. You probably don't realize how serious you can be in your interactions. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Your more possessive side is likely to emerge. You might be in a situation where you could be more controlling than usual. Understand what is happening between you and someone else. Don't close down; instead, share your feelings. Tonight: Make it your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Express your sense of responsibility, and handle what you must. Stop trying to insist that others proceed as you do, especially if they don't agree with your chosen path. You could surprise a family member. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Much is going on behind the scenes. You might keep rethinking recent events and reframing them. You could be resistant to accepting a difficult situation; instead, use it to empower yourself. Recognize that you can't always come out on top. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Note an inevitable unpredictability when it comes to money and spending. Emphasize your long-term goals, and understand that somehow you will need to rope in and tame this problem. You can succeed if you so choose. Tonight: Where the action is.

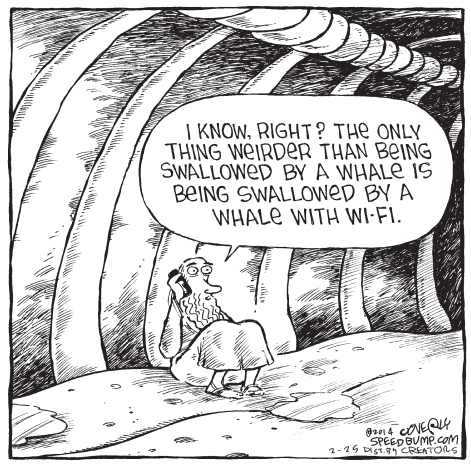
Tuesday, February 25, 2014

This year you open up to an inevitable conversation that you have been resisting. For some, it might involve an identity crisis of sorts. Recognize all of the varied feelings involved. You will gain clarity, given some time. Try not to make radical choices at this point. If you are single, you will have a tendency to put someone you meet on a pedestal. Be realistic. Know that no one can fulfill that fantasy. If you are attached, the two of you could be in a very romantic period, as long as you give up a tendency to be over-analytical. Why not simply go with the flow? CAPRICORN knows how to command others' attention.

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

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
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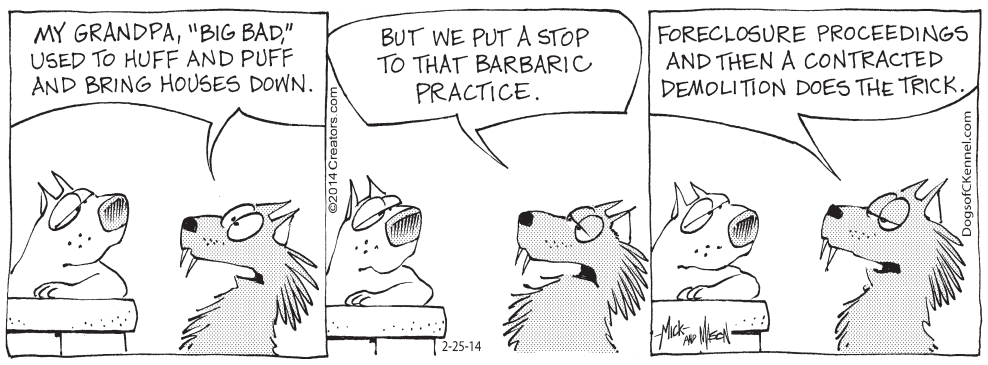
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



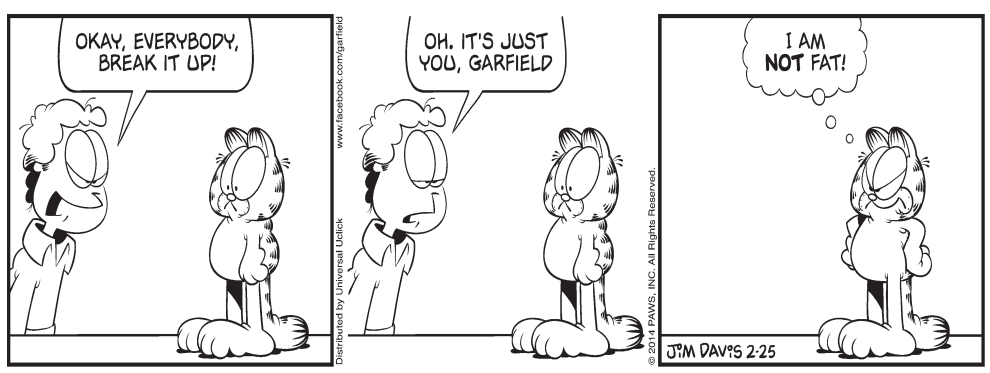
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Carved gem
6 Lion group
11 Squirrel's treat
12 Zealous
13 Fault
15 Wallet bill
16 Clumsy fellow
17 Behold
18 Roman garment
20 "Aladdin" villain
23 Hard journeys
27 TV's Trebek
28 Wicked
29 Carnival attractions
31 Quite small
32 Showed sudden interest
34 Lingerie item
37 Saloon
38 Court
41 Continuing for many years
44 Loosen, as laces
45 Become narrower
46 Monsoon weather
47 Portly

DOWN
1 Play group
2 Massage target
3 Earth orbiter
4 Make mistakes
5 Playing many venues
6 Business gain
7 Ewe's mate
8 Sacred bird of Egypt
9 Have a banquet
10 Border
14 Soda container
18 Price add-ons
19 Move furtively
20 Jelly container
21 Boxing legend
22 Nourished
24 Abel's mother
25 Family
26 Crafty
30 Buffalo NHL team
31 Seek aid from
33 Letter after sigma
34 Unfocused sight
35 Writer Jaffe
36 Opposed to
38 Use a sponge on
39 Wallet bills
40 Storybook monster
42 Fizz ingredient
43 Arrest

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					14					
15			■	16			■	17		
■	■	■	18				19	■	■	■
20	21	22			■	23		24	25	26
27				■	■	■	28			
29				30	■	31				
■	■	■	32		33			■	■	■
34	35	36	■	37			■	38	39	40
41			42				43			
44					■	45				
46					■	47				

2-25

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/22
2 3 13 14 54
Power#: 4
Jackpot: $50M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/21
23 29 32 45 46
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: $195M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/22
9 22 29 32 39
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: $24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/24
1 5 11 15 16

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/24
MIDDAY: 7 9 9
EVENING: 2 2 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/24
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:44.40

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**

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A Georgia Regents University's dental school official acknowledged in December that the school would likely continue to conduct research on the mouths of stray dogs solely to test a coating that might inhibit infections in humans' dental implants. The work is controversial because the only way to study the installed implants is to remove them, after euthanizing the dogs. (Also, the research is sponsored by commercial dental-implant companies for a market dominated by elective cosmetic patients.) (However, a GRU professor noted that implants are also functional, as they inhibit infections that might reach the heart's lining and other locations.)

■ Saved by the Blimps: Americans who have grown accustomed to hearing that the U.S. is militarily without peer might have been shocked to learn in January (as CBS News reported from a Pentagon interview) that America has "practically zero capability" either to detect enemy cruise missiles fired at Washington, D.C., from offshore, or even worse, to "defend against (them)." The Pentagon's interim makeshift solution to protect the U.S. capital, said an official, is to launch two blimps, soon, to float two miles up over a base in Maryland to try to spot any such missiles.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1991 – The Warsaw Pact is declared disbanded.

1994 – Mosque of Abraham massacre: In the Cave of the Patriarchs in the West Bank city of Hebron, Baruch Goldstein opens fire with an automatic rifle, killing 29 Palestinian worshippers and injuring 125 more before being subdued and beaten to death by survivors.

WORD UP!

malinger
\ muh-LING-ger \ , verb;
1. to pretend illness, especially in order to shirk one's duty, avoid work, etc.

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Employment

Employment Wanted

Communications Specialist. BA reqd. Los Angeles, CA job. Send resume to: Kalman Management, 137 South Robertson Bl. #122 Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Dining Room Server Assisted living community is looking for a FT Server to provide great customer service to seniors. Schedule to include holidays and weekends. Pre-employment drug test and criminal background check required. If interested, please come to fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE.

IT

Cornerstone OnDemand is hiring a QA Analyst in Santa Monica, CA. Reqs MS plus exp/coursewrk w/relational db; writing & implem SQL queries; modeling & documenting use cases; sw QA tech reviews & reliability; SDLC; sw prjct cntrl & proc mgmt indicators; sw test strategies & syst testing. Ref job 8F22C6 & mail resume: 1601 Cloverfield Blvd Ste 600 S, Santa Monica, CA 90404, attn HR. Must be legally authrzd to wrk in US w/o spnsrshp. EOE

Help Wanted

Dishwasher Assisted Living community is looking for a dishwasher to help in the kitchen. Schedule to include weekends and holidays. Pre-employment drug test and criminal background check required. If interested, please apply at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE.

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- Xtra-Large Family Rm
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