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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 110

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI BASEBALL STREAKING
SEE PAGE 3

THE PLAYING THROUGH PAIN ISSUE

Worker injuries cost city big bucks

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Workers' compensation costs are up for City Hall and finance officials expect they will continue to rise.

In the last six months of 2013, City Hall spent about $3.8 million on medical treatment and lost wages that resulted from city employees being injured on the job, Santa Monica city officials said in a recent report. Another $1.21 million went toward 48 settled claims during that time. There were only 27 settled claims over the same period of time the year before.

During fiscal year 2012-13, 349 claims were filed, up 13 percent from the year prior. During the first half of this fiscal year, claims are up 9 percent.

At Big Blue Bus, organizational changes may be tied to the increase in claims. At BBB, the trend started in fiscal year 2011-12, when

SEE WORKERS PAGE 8

Mother killed, daughter injured in hit-and-run

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

OCEAN AVE A mother was killed and her daughter was hospitalized after they were struck by a vehicle as they were walking near the Santa Monica Pier early Saturday morning.

The 61-year-old mother from Wisconsin was visiting her 32-year-old daughter, a resident of Santa Monica. They were struck as they jaywalked across the 1600 block of Ocean Avenue around 1 a.m., Santa Monica police said.

Responding officers found the mother unresponsive. She died at a local hospital around 2 a.m. after suffering major head trauma. Her daughter suffered minor injuries, and is expected to be OK.

The suspect was described as a Caucasian male. The vehicle is described as a silver or gray 2003 Infinity G35 with tinted windows and obvious front-end damage on the passenger side.

The Ocean Avenue exit from Palisades Beach Road was closed following the incident, and reopened around 8 a.m., according to reports.

Investigators were following up with nearby businesses in hopes that surveillance cameras may have captured the incident on camera.

Anyone with information on the case is urged to contact Santa Monica police at (310) 458-8491.

editor@smdp.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



TRACK STARS
Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*
Workers install rails for the forthcoming Expo Light Rail Line on Monday at the corner of 17th Street and Colorado Avenue. As a result, 17th Street will not cross Colorado through April 2.

City Hall wishing for fixed well in consent spending

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

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 A broken well leads a $574,566 consent calendar. City Council will also consider taking in nearly $800,000 in grants.

Fixing the well, which has been busted since May, will cost City Hall $520,000.

A break in the casing near the bottom of the well, about 300 feet below ground, put Santa Monica Well No. 3 out of service. City Hall is losing about a million gallons of potable water every day that the well isn't up and running.

The well was drilled in 1969 and the casing had become brittle, city officials said in a report. The best move, they said, is to reline the well with a new casing giving it an estimated 25 more years of life. The relining is estimated to cost $260,000 compared to $1.5 million for a brand new well.

Some of the work planned by General Pump Company, the group slated to get the contract, will create large amounts of waste flow that has to be discharged into either the storm drain system or the sanitary sewer.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board will likely require that waste flow be treated before it's released, city officials said.

SEE CONSENT PAGE 9


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Write right
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 12 p.m.
Inspiration, guidance, direction and support for writers. For more information, visit smpl.org.

City Council does work
1685 Main St., 5:30 p.m.
The City Council will discuss the future of the Santa Monica Airport at this meeting. For more information, visit smgov.net.

File it
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 p.m.
Introduction to files and folders: store, organize, move, and back-up your work more efficiently. Beginner level. Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, visit the reference desk or call telephone reference at (310) 434-2608.

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

DIY for kids
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 3:45 p.m.
This craft workshop teaches kids 6-10 to make a pompom that can also be used as a bookmark. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Planning the future of zoning
City Hall
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Planning Commission will discuss the Draft Zoning Ordinance, which will guide development for years to come. The public is invited to weigh in on the document. For more information, visit smgov.net.

Strike up the bands
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7 p.m.
The Santa Monica High Wind Symphony and the Wind Ensemble present a night of music for a good cause. The night will include a raffle for an iPad and a silent auction with goods that organizers promise "you will actually want and use!" Funds raised will be used to support instruction and instrument purchases. For more information, visit samohiband.org.

In search of ...
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 7 p.m.
Learn how to get the most out of Internet searches using Google. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Foodies in the making
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Eat seasonal food and learn about the food you eat with the Santa Monica Farmers' Market. Intended for grades 6-12. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Shake it up
1454 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
Santa Monica CityShakes' production of "The Merchant of Venice" asks viewers how we can forgive those who have wronged us. Is there a time when justice and vengeance should win over mercy and compassion? This show will engage your senses in an up-close-and-personal, intimate space. For more information, visit cityshakes.org.

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

CORRECTION

In the March 24 column My Write, "Is SMRR late for the parade?" it incorrectly identified Planning Commissioner Sue Himmelrich.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMMUSD HDQTRS

Educators want to hear from you

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is seeking critical feedback through a Technology Access and Use Survey. Designed and administered by independent technology and communications firm K12 Insight, the survey asks students, staff and parents about Internet access, devices, communication and other important topics.

The results will help SMMUSD refine and improve technology across the school system.

"Hearing every voice is essential to understanding our district's technology needs," said SMMUSD Superintendent Sandra Lyon. "I appreciate everyone's input as we determine which technologies will best enhance teaching and learning."

Staff members will receive e-mail invitations to participate in the survey, as will parents whose e-mail addresses are on file. Parents may also access the survey via the district's website, www.smmusd.org. Students will take the survey at school. To encourage candid participation, all feedback is confidential, with responses anonymous to SMMUSD staff.

Participants are assured that reports will be delivered at the aggregate level only, with no individual data or identifying information in any report.

Once the survey closes on Thursday, April 10, the district will share results, along with next steps.

"Technology is an integral part of education at home and at school," said Lyon. "Working together, we will ensure improvements that promote our mission: Extraordinary achievement for all students while simultaneously closing the achievement gap."

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

The school board will be holding a special meeting on Wednesday, March 26, at 4 p.m. to discuss the district's finances.

It's the first time the school board and public will discuss the district's 2014-15 budget. The meeting will include revenue projections using the Local Control Funding Formula calculation.

Additionally, other district revenues will be discussed. The discussion will include enrollment projections, staffing allocations, and other spending recommendations.

The district office board room is located at 1651 16th St. in Santa Monica.

This workshop is a follow-up to the initial Local Control Funding Formula & Accountability workshop that was held on Nov. 19, 2013. During that meeting, stakeholder groups and the Board of Education listened to a thorough presentation regarding the new formula, asked questions, and provided input as part of the process in developing SMMUSD's accountability plan.

The agenda for Wednesday's meeting is posted on the district website at smmusd.org/board/meetings.html

– KEVIN HERRERA

OCEAN PARK BOULEVARD

Orchestral concert

Orchestra Santa Monica will present its third concert of the 2013-14 season on Sunday, March 30, 3:30 p.m., entitled Chamber Orchestra Elegance, featuring music by Mozart, Bach and Handel.

The orchestra under Music Director Allen Robert Gross will be performing this concert at its intimate concert venue at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica.

Lovers of the baroque and classical eras will particularly enjoy hearing familiar and unfamiliar pieces by three of the most beloved composers.

The program will feature organist Patricia Maimone performing Handel's "Organ Concerto Op. 4, No. 4." This is the first concert to utilize the organ at Mt. Olive Church. Bach's popular "Brandenburg Concerto No. 1" features hunting horns, oboes and solo violin, played by the virtuoso soloists of the orchestra

The program opens and closes with two early works by Mozart. The "Symphony No. 17" was written when Mozart was a teenager and already shows a thorough mastery of the elegant early classical style. The "Divertimento in D Major, K. 251." for solo oboe, horns and strings is one of Maestro Gross' favorites.

"It's extraordinarily joyful music, full of fun from beginning to end. Mozart must have had a romp composing it," Gross said in a news release.

More information regarding this event can be found at OrchestraSantaMonica.org or by calling (310) 525-7618.

– KH



Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

STRIKE: Rudy Olmedo will get the starting nod on the mound for today's game.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Samohi stays hot on diamond

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica baseball opens Ocean League play this week with a full head of steam.

The 7-1 Vikings have won six straight heading into today's league opener against Hawthorne at home. The game begins at 3:15 p.m.

"We're on fire," head coach Kurt Schwengel said. "This team is looking really good."

Ranked No. 7 in the latest CIF-Southern Section Division 3 poll, Samohi has relied on its stable of pitchers to fuel the streak.

Combined, Viking hurlers have an earned run average hovering around 1.00.

The emergence of junior catcher Matt Kassowitz has steadied the staff. Schwengel said he couldn't recall if an opposing runner has successfully stolen a base.

"He's running the show this year," Schwengel said of his catcher.

Kassowitz' stock has been on the rise, even with scouts.

A number of scouts have been following around senior pitcher Alex Gironda, who has committed to play for Cal Poly, and more than a few have told Schwengel that Kassowitz is now on their radar.

This week will prove to be busy for the Vikings. They start with Hawthorne at home and travel there on Thursday. On Friday they take on El Segundo at home in a non-league matchup.

Rudy Olmedo will get the starting nod on the mound for today's game.

daniela@smdp.com

Google Glass to feature Ray-Ban, Oakley frames

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO Google is hoping to make its Internet-connected eyewear more stylish as part of a partnership with the makers of Ray-Ban and Oakley frames.

The alliance with Italian eyewear company Luxottica Group announced Monday represents Google's latest attempt to make wearable technology look less geeky as it tries to develop new ways to ensure people can stay connected to the Internet wherever they go. Last week, Google disclosed that fashion accessory maker Fossil Group is working on an Internet-connected wristwatch that runs Google's Android software for mobile devices.

Luxottica will develop frames equipped with Google Glass, a computing device that includes a thumbnail-sized screen above the wearer's right eye to view Internet content. The $1,500 gadget also includes a camera

SEE **GLASS** PAGE 8



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Airport an asset

Editor:

Dear City Council,

I have read the staff report that is on the agenda for the March 25 council meeting. As a long-time user of the Santa Monica Airport facilities and as a property owner who has lived under the airport flight path for over 30 years, I am opposed to the conclusions and the direction that the staff proposes to take.

The airport is an important economic engine for Santa Monica and the surrounding area. Roughly $275 million of economic output and the employment of over 1,500 people who then support families, pay taxes and vote stands to be destroyed by the actions you have directed staff to enact. The leases and landing fees support all of the other airport activities.

The constant clamoring over issues of noise, pollution and safety by a minority of residents of the surrounding area does not adequately represent the feelings of the majority of either Santa Monicans or the residents of the surrounding communities.

There are fewer flights entering and leaving the airport than at almost any time in its history. There is less noise than ever as total flights diminish and both jets and propeller planes advance technologically and become quieter and more pollution free. In fact, staff has been unable to show any statistics that point to any major health or safety issues at the airport.

In spite of a 2010 Environmental Protection Agency study that showed no cause for concern about leaded aviation fuel, the Federal Aviation Administration, in conjunction with major refiners, has worked diligently to replace leaded fuel and Shell Oil has now applied for a permit to sell unleaded aviation fuel. This will soon alleviate any possible concern about this form of pollution.

No matter what the anti-airport activists would have you believe, in the 90-plus years of the airport's operation, there has never been an aviation accident that resulted in the death of any resident of Santa Monica on the ground. Residents under the flight path have a larger chance of being hit by lightning than being hit by an airplane.

Not only is the airport a vital reliever for surrounding airports and a lifeline in any crisis such as an earthquake, tsunami or other disaster, it is currently the originator of over 800 Angel Flights per year conducted by volunteer pilots who use their own planes, free of charge, to fly children and adults to receive critical medical care. It is also the start or end point of numerous time-critical and life-saving organ donations flown in by jet.

All of these benefits are put in jeopardy by your proposals to shorten the runway or close the airport. Don't let the constant complaints of a few destroy all the benefits the airport provides to the community.

I ask the council to immediately restore the Airport Commission to its previous balance of all the stakeholders who use and live around the airport and to instruct staff to diligently work to make the historic Santa Monica Airport once again the vital asset to the city that it should be.

Joseph Bates
Venice, Calif.

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Ad Council
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What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Always take your shots

SOME DAYS I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO write about.

So I just start writing.

I call it The First Pancake Rule. Whenever you make pancakes, usually the first one is terrible. I have to do the same thing with writing. Some days the first paragraph is just gibberish, like literally just random words thrown down to get my fingers moving, my brain flowing and hopefully an idea forms and that becomes an essay.

Life is like that. We just have to get started, and then find our path. Oftentimes it's the dead ends and wrong turns that we learn from and will show us what the right path is.

All great successful men and women have had to experience this. Edison is famous for his thousands of attempts at finding the right filament for the light bulb. Henry Ford has been quoted as saying, "If you want to double your success rate, double your failure rate." Babe Ruth and his famous 8,399 at bats and 1,330 strikeouts.

I was reminded of that this weekend when I went to see "Particle Fever" at the Laemmle on Second Street. It's a movie about the Large Hadron Collider that was built in Europe. Basically it's a machine that smashes atoms together to find cosmic answers. They do millions of collisions to find the one thing they are looking for.

It's precisely what I need to do in the romantic area of my life, although on a lesser scale, I hope. I need to attempt more dating. I need to attempt more relationships and it is incredibly hard for me.

Which is really quite odd when you consider that I am very comfortable getting up in front of a room full of people and speaking for an hour. Heck, I don't even need the people. I just videotaped my fifth Continuing Legal Education course for Thomson Reuters Corp. I train lawyers across the country on various aspects of divorce and family law and I do it to a camera, a computer screen and there's no one else in the room.

But for me to ask a handsome man if he wants to go out, that scares me. I'm not unusual in this regard. Most men have the fear of asking someone out. It's a fear of rejection and for someone who wants to be liked, that can seem terrifying, and paralyzing. It's partly rooted in a sense of sexual shame that is pervasive in our country.

We're odd like that. We use sex to sell everything from hamburgers (remember Paris Hilton's Carl's Jr. ad?) to bodywash (I give you Old Spice ads to look at) but we simultaneously mock those who are sexually accomplished (think of the many names we have for them) and those who make attempts that fall short of the mark. The bumbling, fumbling man who isn't smooth is the source of how many comedic moments?

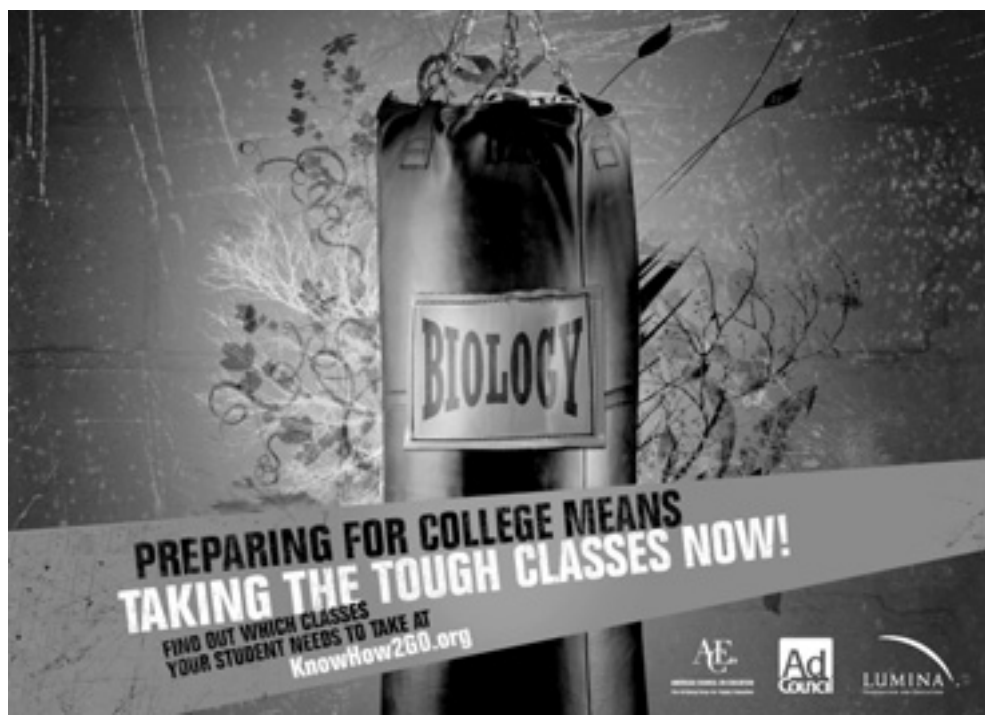
We make it difficult to acknowledge that we have sexual feelings for people, even if we have no intention of acting on them. We don't discuss sexuality openly and comfortably in our society. It is considered taboo by some. Dirty, nasty, unseemly by others, and yet it is to be saved for marriage for that "one true love we cherish."

As a gay man I'm often confused about what to do when asking a man out. First off, I have to do some reconnaissance to figure out where he is on the spectrum of gay to straight, because I'm afraid that if I make a pass at a straight man he'll be offended. That's just my own fear from childhood and I'm told it is no longer realistic in Santa Monica.

Then if he's gay and I like him, I'm afraid that he'll say no. No is not a rejection of me, but it can feel that way. He may have an untold number of reasons for saying no and I probably wont know what the real reason is unless he shares it with me. However, in any case a no still is uncomfortable because I've put myself out there, exposed my feelings and thoughts (ironic since I'm putting all of this in a newspaper). Being shot down still stings.

But the point of this column is that you have to take a shot. You have to try to find the solution, to get the answer you are looking for, and as one of the great men I listen to on a regular basis reminds me, failure is an event, not a sentence.

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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Your column here

Amy Bennett

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

We need Congress to fix FOIA

THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) is a critical law for making sure the public has a fighting chance to get copies of records the government might not want it to see. For more than 40 years, people have used the FOIA to uncover evidence of government waste, fraud, abuse and illegality. More benignly, FOIA has been used to better understand the development and effects — positive and negative — of the federal government's policies.

(W)E HAVE SEEN THE GOVERNMENT USE EXEMPTION 5 TO HIDE THE LEGAL BASIS OF CONTROVERSIAL GOVERNMENT PRACTICES, INCLUDING THE TORTURE OF DETAINEES, THE USE OF DRONES TO KILL AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD, AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S ABILITY TO EASILY ACCESS AMERICAN'S TELEPHONE RECORDS.

The importance of open government and the dangers of excessive and unnecessary secrecy are paramount.

The FOIA was created to help strike a balance between protecting the government's legitimate interests and making sure that we the public have the information we need to make informed decisions about what we will allow the government to do in our name. Unfortunately, in some important ways that delicate balance has swung too far in favor of the government, especially through the overuse of the "deliberate process privilege." And we need Congress to provide a counterweight on the side of the public's right to know by putting tight boundaries around its use.

This privilege, covered by FOIA's Exemption 5, is intended in large part to allow agency officials the freedom to share ideas and advice off-the-record. The government's reliance on the privilege is much more extensive, however. Over time, the government has expanded the scope of material they consider subject to Exemption 5 to the point that it covers practically anything that is not a final version of a document. Among many people who frequently file FOIA requests, Exemption 5 is referred to as the government's "We don't want to give it to you" exemption.

In one particularly egregious example, the government has been relying on Exemption 5 to deny the public access to copies of opinions by the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel. Although the government argues that these memos are simply advice from the president's lawyers, the reality is that these memos include the government's reading of what agencies are allowed to do under statute. And, once OLC opinions are adopted, they have the effect of law. In recent years, we have seen the government use Exemption 5 to hide the legal basis of controversial government practices, including the torture of detainees, the use of drones to kill American citizens abroad, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's ability to easily access Americans' telephone records.

Congress cannot continue to allow the government to abuse FOIA's exemption to keep the public in the dark about the law of the land. The first step toward reigning in the use of Exemption 5 is to add a public interest balancing test to the exemption. If the government is not convinced that the requested documents would advance the public interest, a requester would still have the opportunity to ask the court to independently consider the public interest in release. Secondly, Congress should specify that the exemption should not be used to withhold information forever. In the case of the president's records, the law only allows records to be kept from the public for 12 years. Surely, we should not accord more secrecy to agency business than we allow the president of the United States.

BENNETT is assistant director of OpenTheGovernment.org. This op-ed previously appeared in The Hill.

The Q Line

High and dry

The Planning Commission last week voted to deny the Palihouse hotel a permit to sell alcohol. A number of residents came out against allowing booze at the hotel, which is located in a residential neighborhood.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think Palihouse should serve alcohol or are residents right in objecting to the practice?

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**.



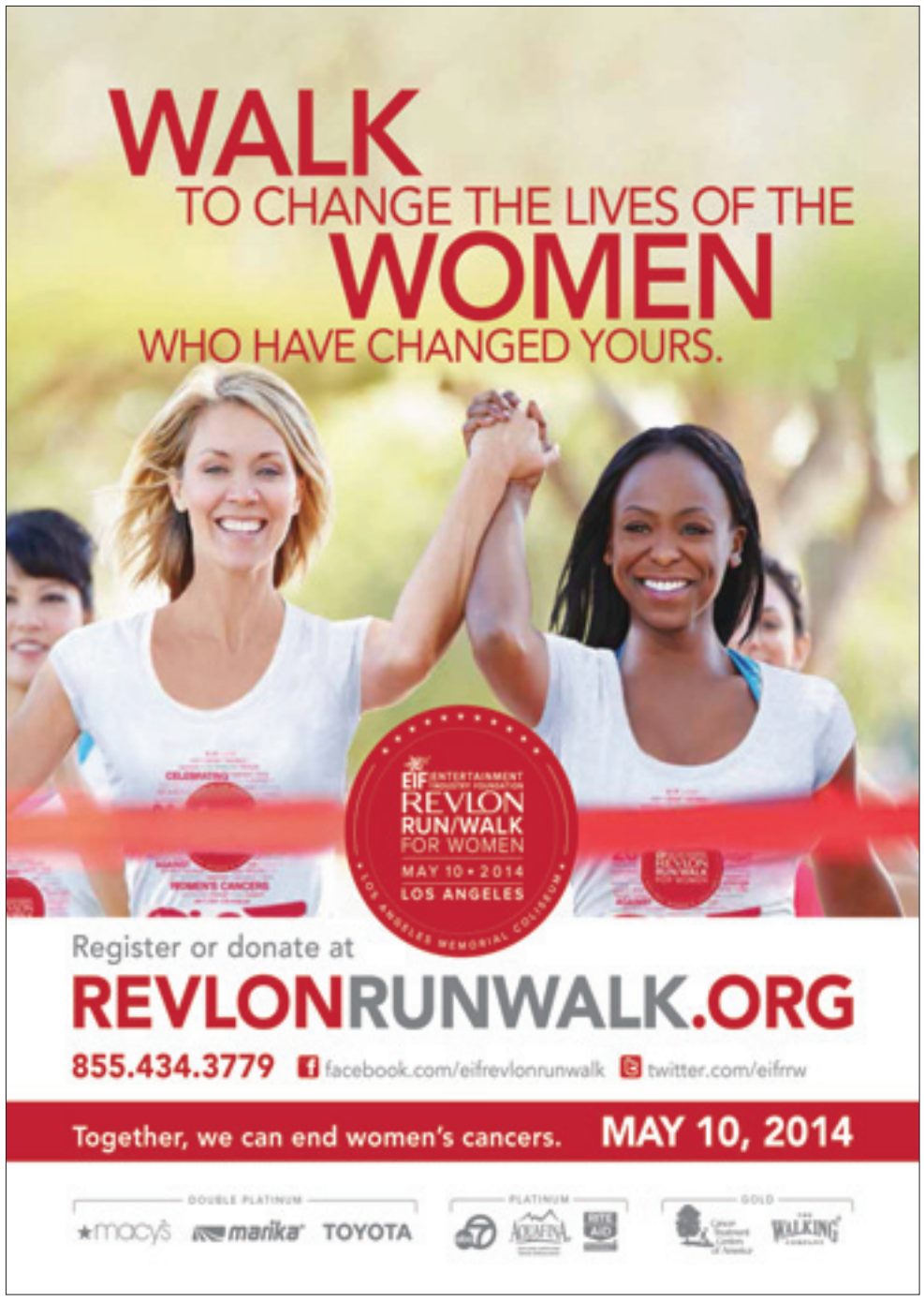
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BIG SUR, Calif.

Webcams to broadcast release of condors to wild

A live-streaming camera will broadcast the release of four endangered California condors into the Big Sur wilderness.

Ventana Wildlife Society and the Oakland Zoo will broadcast the release on Tuesday at 10 a.m. Pacific, showing the birds transitioning from captivity to the wild for the first time.

One of the birds suffered a broken wing as a chick, but was nursed back to health at the Los Angeles Zoo. The female will be released less than a mile from her parents.

Joe Burnett, a senior biologist at Ventana, said the cameras allow staff to monitor and keep track of the birds on a daily basis with minimal impact.

There are 128 individual condors left in the wild in California.

The cameras can be viewed at ventanaws.org/condor_cam or oaklandzoo.org/Condor_Cam.

– ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Carnival won't feature performing animals

For the first time in 88 years, the annual festival hosted by the Shriners in Los Angeles is being billed as a carnival, not a circus, and won't feature performing animals.

Fred Bernardt, a top official with the LA Shriners, said Monday that a construction project at Shrine Auditorium has forced the event to be scaled back.

The Performing Animal Welfare Society praised the Shriners for halting the use of elephants and tigers at the show next month.

Bernhardt says it's too soon to tell if the circus will return next year.

The Shrine Circus had been a target of animal welfare protests for years

The carnival scheduled for April 11-13 will feature rides, games and food stalls.

– AP

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif.

Report: Marines dying in car crashes

A Southern California Marine base has suffered more non-hostile deaths from car crashes and suicides in the last seven years than in war zones, a newspaper investigation showed on Monday.

Sixty service members from the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms have died in the Middle East since 2007, while 64 have died on American soil, the Desert Sun reported.

An investigation by the newspaper found 28 Marines died in off-duty vehicle crashes while stationed at the base about an hour's drive from Palm Springs. A dozen Marines died on Highway 62, a 151-mile route that runs from the Coachella Valley to the Arizona border and takes Marines from the base to the nearest hub for dining, nightlife and shopping.

"Any civilian that gets killed is still just as much of a tragedy, but just to have to go to war and then come back and die at home during peacetime," said Curtis Kolb, a San Bernardino County sheriff's deputy who has investigated many of the crashes, "it just kind of puts it on a different level of tragic situation."

Extreme speed was listed as a factor in more than half those crashes, and more than a third of the vehicle deaths involved alcohol, according to the newspaper.

– AP

LOS ANGELES

Disney to buy YouTube network Maker for $500M

Disney is buying Maker Studios, an operator of YouTube video channels, for $500 million, as consumers watch more videos online.

The purchase gives Disney ownership of 55,000 channels with 380 million subscribers and 5.5 billion views per month.

Disney CEO Bob Iger said in a statement Monday that short-form online video is growing fast. He says the acquisition puts Disney at the center of a dynamic industry.

– AP

LOS ANGELES

School wins state Academic Decathlon

A Los Angeles high school has taken top honors at the California Academic Decathlon, besting competitors from all over the state.

The Los Angeles Times reports that the team from El Camino Real Charter High School dominated the three-day competition in Sacramento, clinching first place finishes in the "Super Quiz" portion and overall competition. El Camino finished with 57,747 out of a possible 65,400 points on Sunday.

El Camino beat out 64 other teams for the title, including Granada Hills Charter High, the 2011-13 state and national champion.

The competing teams were questioned on subjects such as math, art, science, economics and literature.

El Camino and Granada Hills will represent the state at the national academic competition set for April in Honolulu.

– AP

LOS ANGELES

Judge refuses to release Darren Sharper from jail

A judge in Los Angeles has again refused to release former NFL All-Pro safety Darren Sharper from jail.

Sharper is awaiting trial in Los Angeles after pleading not guilty to charges that he raped and drugged two women last year. He was previously released on $1 million bail before being charged in Arizona with similar counts.

Now, his lawyers say he should be freed again and kept under house arrest because authorities in Arizona have said they won't seek his extradition.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Renee Korn rejected that argument on Monday, saying she would wait and see if Arizona does seek extradition.

Her ruling came after prosecutors said the Arizona governor's office is preparing a warrant to extradite Sharper, even though he will first go on trial in Los Angeles. An April 15 hearing was set.

– AP

Californians expect rising flood insurance costs

MARTHA MENDOZA & SCOTT SMITH
Associated Press

CAPITOLA, Calif. A row of beachfront, Mediterranean-style cottages in bright pink, green, turquoise and yellow beckons tourists at the Capitola Venetian Hotel, who sunbathe on deck chairs and splash in the Pacific waves. But in his nearby office, owner Steven Allen is worrying about flood insurance.

In wet winters, Soquel Creek storms past his downtown Capitola hotel in a rage of muddy water and fallen redwoods after a 16 mile run through the Santa Cruz Mountains.

As the creek empties into the Pacific, high tides, storm surges and wild waves push back, inundating on local businesses. The beachfront hotel can get hit from both sides.

For years, the federal government subsidized many flood insurance policies. But premiums haven't covered payouts, and now, billions of dollars in debt, the National Flood Insurance Program is reducing its assistance. For Allen and thousands of Californians living near the ocean, rivers and creeks, this means their flood insurance costs are on the rise.

Statewide, more than 48,000 home and business owners received subsidies in 2012 for their flood insurance through the federal program. Those policies could rise up to 18 percent each year for homeowners; second homes and businesses will see mandatory increases of 25 percent every year until they drop out of the subsidy program and get a rate based on the actual risk of flooding.

More than half of policyholders in communities including the city of Monterey, San Rafael and Long Beach who had subsidized flood insurance will face higher premiums in coming years. In Capitola, 71 percent of those with flood insurance face higher rates.

Those hikes are "a big concern," said Allen, noting that the cost of flood insurance affects property values. His family has owned the Venetian for decades and can absorb the increase, but for future buyers, or sellers, the expense may price them out of the market.

"Not the best news just coming out of a multi-year real estate recession," said Allen.

A historic community of 10,000, Capitola is known as the Jewel Box for its adorable boutiques, coffee shops and ocean front bistros.

To fend off flooding, the city has wooden storm gates to keep out waves. Sand bags, even this dry winter, are piled in front of most homes and businesses, just in case.

Yet, the city itself can't afford to pay flood insurance, leaving the police and fire stations and City Hall vulnerable.

"It's just beyond our reach," said Capitola administrative services director Lisa Murphy.

When heavy rains caused a culvert to collapse in 2011, deluging the town, Murphy said they learned most local business owners also didn't have flood insurance.

"It's extremely expensive to have flood insurance and floods are rare," she said. "People try to roll the dice."

Nationally, market studies have shown that generally only half of the people in flood hazard zones actually get the insurance. And unless people are required to get flood insurance as a condition of their mortgage, they almost never buy it.

Standing on the brick patio of his romantic, century-old Shadowbrook Restaurant, Ted Burke recalls the last time a flood washed through. He watched the creek crest, boarded up windows and pumped slate floors dry.

"The water just came up and up," he said. "Where I'm standing now, this was plywood, and it just washed away."

Burke said he dropped his $500,000 flood insurance policy two years ago when ever-rising annual costs hit $2,000. With a $10,000 deductible, it just didn't seem worth it. Now, facing a 25 percent increase, he's not inclined to renew.

"I just don't think the risk-reward equation is in balance," he said.





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GLASS
FROM PAGE 3

that can take hands-free pictures and video, a feature that has raised privacy concerns.

Google Inc. so far has only sold Glass to a select group of test subjects known as "Explorers," who have frequently been mocked for wearing a piece of futuristic eyewear that looks better-suited for cyborgs than for humans.

Luxottica is expected to help broaden Glass' appeal. Google is also planning to tap into the more than 5,000 stores that Luxottica runs in the U.S. to help sell Glass once the device is released on the general market.

Google still hasn't spelled out when Glass will be broadly available, although the Mountain View, Calif., company is still aiming for later this year.

More than 10,000 people have bought Glass as part of the Explorer program.

In another move to make Glass more practical, Google in January unveiled four frame styles that could also be outfitted with prescription lenses. Those frames cost an additional $225.

The prices for Luxottica's line-up of Google Glass products won't be announced until they are closer to going on sale. Besides Ray-Ban and Oakley, Luxottica's other brands include Vogue-Eyewear, Persol, Oliver Peoples, Alain Mikli and Arnette.

WORKERS
FROM PAGE 1

new work schedules, attendance policies, and job performance standards were put into place.

"Some employees have not adjusted to these changes and may have filed injury claims in response to them," city officials said in the report. "If so, the increase in claims may persist for a time, until the organization as a whole has adjusted to the operational changes."

Many of the other claims are the result of the aging workforce, particularly in the police and fire departments.

"Reversing this trend in the short-term will be challenging, if not impossible," officials said.

External forces, like state legislation, are also contributing to the boosted costs.

The maximum weekly temporary disability benefit, controlled by the state, jumped 11 percent in the last five years.

The permanent disability payment schedule rate spiked 30 percent in two years thanks to legislation passed in late 2012.

State officials predicted that reforms would offset the increases but city officials said that hasn't happened yet.

"The majority of the reforms focus on making the workers' compensation system more efficient, and over time, should allow employers to resolve claims more quickly and spend less money on overhead related expenses," city officials said. "While these changes are certainly welcome, they don't address the key cost drivers in workers' compensation: medical expenses and indemnity payments."

In an attempt to control costs, the Risk Management Division is returning injured employees to modified positions while they heal. Savings in that program is on track to be up $300,000 since 2011.

City Hall also revamped the medical bill process and picked a new medical bill provider, saving $200,000 annually.

In response to the BBB issues, risk management is putting driver candidates through a bunch of job-specific physical tests.

"Over time, this program should improve employee safety and save money on workers' compensation claims," officials said.

Three bus driver classes have gone through the testing already and risk management plans to expand the program to all of the physically demanding jobs in the next few years.

City Hall is doing what it can, city officials said.

"These efforts, however, are not sufficient to offset the financial impact of the internal (and) external factors dogging the program," they said.

For this reason, city finance officials expect the costs will keep rising.

"There are no 'magic bullets' to reverse this trend in the short-term," they said. "And as such, (City Hall) can expect to increase its contribution to the Workers' Compensation Self Insurance Fund during the next two-year budget cycle."

dave@smdp.com



TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737



Rendering courtesy City of Santa Monica

GROWING THE COMMUNITY: **Plans for the new Buffer Park include a learning garden.**

CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

They are recommending another $260,000 to be spent to clean that water.

City Hall has been buying more imported water from the Metropolitan Water District because of the break.

BUFFER PARK DESIGNS

Designs for the Buffer Park project are going to cost an extra $24,566 to cover, among other things, a play safety inspector.

The park is proposed to muffle sound in the area around the incoming Exposition Light Rail Maintenance Facility.

Initial community ideas, which are to be designed into reality by Mia Lehrer and Associates, included only a loose play area. More community meetings have led to plans for a fully functional playground.

A play safety inspector will be brought on to "ensure all proposed play elements meet current codes for safety and accessibility," city officials said.

Including the additional cash, City Hall will pay $310,455 for the designs.

BATHROOM WALLS

The company tasked with renovating the Marine Park bathrooms needs another $30,000 thanks to, among other things, unforeseen damage in the existing walls.

G2K Construction's total contract would hit $562,400 with the changes.

Construction began in December and is halfway done, city officials said. It's expected to be completed by the summer.

HOMELAND SECURITY

City Hall got a $799,076 grant to fight and respond to potential terrorism.

The Urban Area Security Initiative grant, which is funded entirely by the Department of Homeland Security, would go largely to cover training and equipment for the Santa Monica Fire Department.

Terrorism liaison officers would be trained through the grant. Additional training would focus on hazardous material, urban search and rescue, and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive weapons.

The Santa Monica Police Department would get $47,000 to update its automated license plate readers, which take pictures of plates and run the numbers through criminal databases.

City Hall's accepted more than $4 million from Homeland Security since 2001.

dave@smdp.com



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

IN PROGRESS: **Buffer Park is situated next to the Expo Light Rail Line's maintenance yard.**

SEE NEWS HAPPENING OR HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT?
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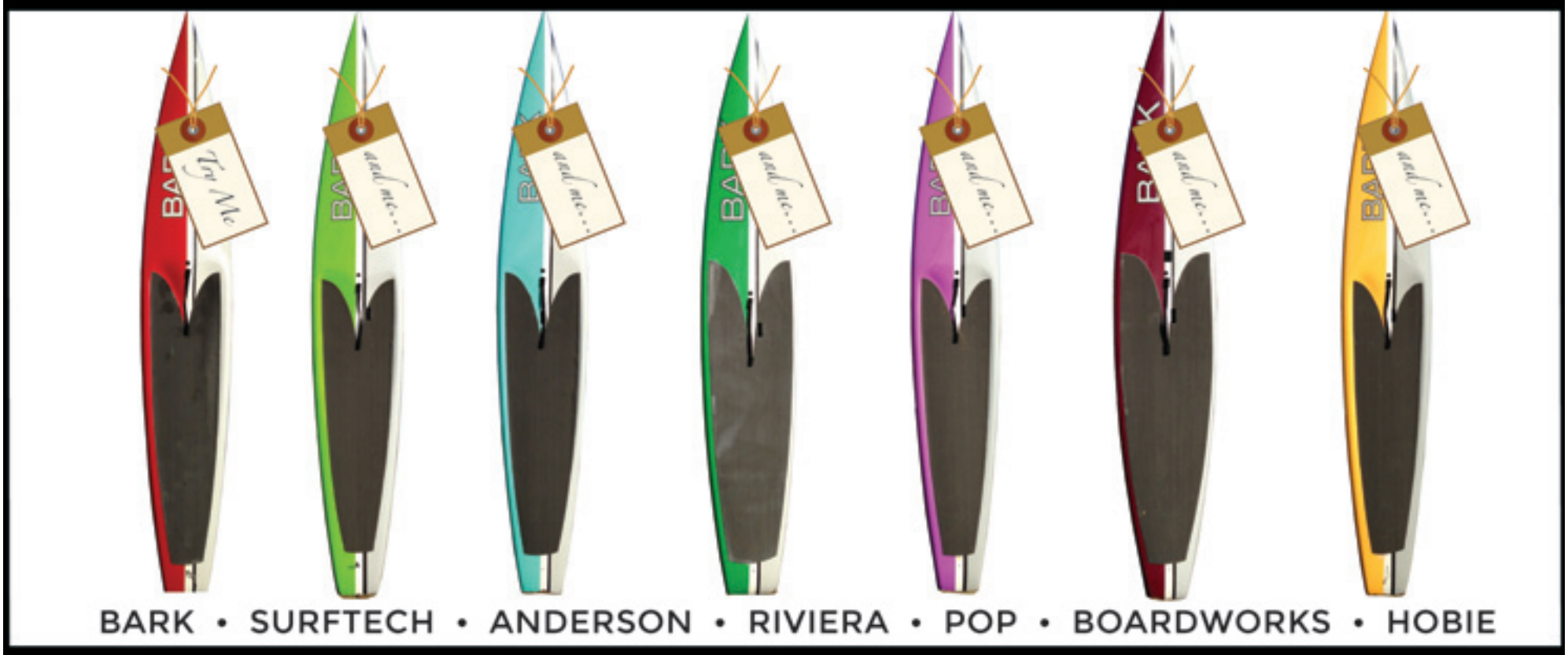

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'Candy Crush' maker King plans public offering

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK King Digital, the company behind the wildly popular mobile game "Candy Crush Saga," is scheduled to make its debut on the New York Stock Exchange this week.

The company could be valued as high as $7.6 billion if its initial public offering prices at $24 per share, the upper end of its expected range. That's nearly twice as much as its closest rival Zynga Inc., the creator of "FarmVille."

Unlike Zynga, however, King is profitable and has less than a third of Zynga's employee base.

The company is offering 15.5 million shares. Existing shareholders are offering another 6.7 million. King expects proceeds of $326 million from the IPO.

King, based in Dublin, Ireland, generated revenue of $1.88 billion last year. That's more than 10 times its 2012 revenue of $164.4 million. Zynga's 2013 revenue was $873.3 million.

Still, some analysts have wondered whether King is destined to become another Zynga, which was also riding a wave of popularity when it went public in 2011, thanks to "FarmVille."

Already, King has seen a sequential revenue decline between its third and fourth quarters.

"With King's tent-pole title, 'Candy Crush Saga,' currently tracking 20 (percent) below peak-booking levels, future growth will depend on the company's ability to diversify," wrote Sterne Agee analyst Arvind Bhatia.

He called the expected IPO price range for the company a fair value for King, noting that it's cheaper than top video game publishers and "seems fair given King's revenue concentration" in just a few titles.

Bhatia points out that while King has a portfolio of more than 180 games, its revenue is concentrated in just three. "Candy Crush Saga," "Pet Rescue Saga" and "Farm Heroes Saga" made up 94 percent of all bookings in the fourth quarter.

The company is expected begin trading Wednesday on the NYSE under the ticker symbol "KING."

Netflix and other tech stocks lead market lower

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK A sell-off in technology stocks Monday pulled the broader market lower as investors unloaded some of the biggest names in the industry.

Netflix fell 7 percent, Facebook fell 5 percent, and Google and Amazon.com each fell more than 2 percent.

Tech stocks have soared over the past year, pushing the Nasdaq composite index up 30 percent over the past 12 months, more than twice as much as the Dow Jones industrial average. Netflix and Facebook have doubled in price in that time.

"The big highfliers have done really well, and so I think there's been some profit-taking," said Randy Warren, chief investment officer of Warren Financial Service.

The Nasdaq lost 50.4 points, or 1.2 percent, to close at 4,226.39.

Other indexes also fell, but not as much. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 9.08 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,857.44. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 26.08 points, or 0.2 percent, to 16,276.69.

Stocks drifted lower early Monday as traders feared that sanctions against Russia could tip the world's ninth-largest economy into recession. Investors were also reacting to news that Russian troops had seized Ukrainian ships and military installations in the Crimean peninsula. Russia annexed the region last week.

Biotechnology stocks, another sector that has soared over the past year, extended a decline that began Friday after U.S. lawmakers questioned the pricing of a Hepatitis C drug made by Gilead Sciences.

A popular fund tracking biotech stocks, the iShares Nasdaq Biotech ETF, fell 3 percent on Monday. It's been up 53 percent over the past 12 months.

"It's the richest part of the market, so ... you're going to get nervousness," said Jerry Webman, chief economist of Oppenheimer Funds.

Among stocks making big moves:

— Herbalife rose $3.32, or 6.7 percent, to $52.86 after agreeing to back billionaire Carl Icahn's three nominees for its board. Icahn is a supporter of the embattled health supplements company in its fight with another famed investor, William Ackman, who has accused the company of operating a pyramid scheme.

— Apple bucked the downward trend in technology stocks. The company rose after The Wall Street Journal reported that Apple is in talks with the giant cable provider Comcast to offer a streaming video service. Apple rose $6.32, or 1 percent, to $539.19.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.73 percent.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **63.5°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high occ. 4ft
SSW swell builds further and peaks; trace WNW swell mix; Southerly morning winds

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **2-4 ft** knee to shoulder high
SSW swell continues; new WNW swell shows; larger sets for combo magnets out west; rising Westerly flow problematic

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to chest high
SSW swell fades; WNW swell eases; watching winds

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Fading WNW swell; Leftover SSW swell - potentially cleaner conditions

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 **March 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 -- 6
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 18

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
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21572 Malibu Rd..	B	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	D
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	B	F
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	F
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	B

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	C	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	B
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	B
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+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	D
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

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'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.

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California 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

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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.

Yeguete doing 'dirty work' for top-seeded Florida

MARK LONG
AP Sports Writer

GAINESVILLE, Fla. Will Yeguete is one valuable player for top-seeded Florida. You just have to dig a little deeper than statistics and box scores to see how much he means to the Gators.

The 6-foot-8 senior forward from Bordeaux, France, is what coach Billy Donovan calls a "dirty work guy," doing things in the press and the paint that rarely make headlines or highlight clips.

But his tenacity and toughness were on display in the third round of the NCAA tournament Saturday. Yeguete had eight points, four rebounds, an assist, a steal and a blocked shot in the 61-45 win against ninth-seeded Pittsburgh.

"He just does so many different things in the press. He's such a great cover guy with our defense. He's a great help defender," Donovan said. "He's the epitome of a guy that when you look down at the stat sheet it's hard to have a level of appreciation for him. ... He really impacts winning.

"He impacts the game in a very, very positive way for us, and what he does is really, really rare."

Yeguete and Florida (34-2) return to the court Thursday night against fourth-seeded UCLA (28-8) in the South Region semifinals in Memphis, Tenn. It's another chance for Yeguete to go mostly unnoticed — at least to outsiders.

Yeguete has the size and athleticism to play the front of the press, trap all over the court and defend anyone from a guard to a center. And he's regularly diving on the ground for loose balls, taking charges and willing to sacrifice offensive fame for defensive fortitude.

On Monday, he was fittingly wearing a white Gators T-shirt with "Intensity Counts" printed on the front.

His numbers — Yeguete is averaging 4.9 points and 5.1 rebounds — are far less telling.

But considering how things went for Yeguete the last two years, just being on the court and contributing on a regular basis are accomplishments.

"It's exciting for me just being able to play, just being able to be out there for the postseason," Yeguete said. "That's what I fight for, that's why I've been working every single day."

Yeguete missed the final nine games in 2012 because of a broken right foot, and Florida went 4-5 without him. He was hoping to play had the Gators advanced to the Final Four, but they blew a double-digit lead against Louisville in the regional final.

Yeguete faced more adversity last year while dealing with tendinitis in his right knee most of the season. The pain got so intense in early February that he opted to have arthroscopic surgery to remove floating chips and cartilage. He missed six games, wasn't the same when he returned and ended up needing another surgery after the season.

While he seemingly has lost some leaping ability, he's still been a consistent rebounder and a dependable defender.

"It's hard to find," Donovan said. "It's hard to find guys that really kind of hang their hat on being kind of a dirty work guy, and it's hard sometimes because certainly it doesn't really give them a lot of headlines. He's not a headline guy. But he really does a lot for our team."

Yeguete has never gotten a lot of attention in Gainesville. He was born in France, but grew up playing soccer in Ivory Coast. He picked up basketball late and really fell in love with Florida while watching Joakim Noah lead Florida to back-to-back national titles in 2006 and 2007. He moved to Florida Air Academy in Melbourne, Fla., before his junior year of high school and met teammate Scottie Wilbekin while playing Amateur Athletic Union ball.

Wilbekin quickly realized that Yeguete's game was far from flashy.

"He's been that way since I met him," Wilbekin said. "He has a knack for it. He gets tough rebounds, gets his hands on tips and has a nose for the ball. He seems to get it when other players wouldn't. It's just an attitude. When you have it, you don't really realize it because it just comes natural. He has it."

Yeguete has no plans to change his style, either — preferring to alter games without necessarily scoring points.

"Those plays impact the game and winning," he said. "I'm not the only one doing those things. ... It's a whole team effort."



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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

Divergent (PG-13) 2hr 19min
12:05pm, 3:25pm, 6:45pm, 10:10pm

Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 1hr 41min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Non-Stop (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

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

300: Rise of an Empire (R) 1hr 42min
4:30pm, 10:10pm

300: Rise of an Empire 3D (R) 1hr 42min
1:45pm, 7:10pm

Need for Speed (PG-13) 2hr 10min
3:30pm, 10:15pm

Mr. Peabody & Sherman (PG) 1hr 30min
11:45am, 4:45pm, 9:55pm

Mr. Peabody & Sherman 3D (PG) 1hr 30min
2:20pm, 7:20pm

Divergent (PG-13) 2hr 19min
11:00am, 12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

Muppets Most Wanted (PG) 1hr 52min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Lego Movie (PG) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:50pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (R) 1hr 40min
11:15am, 2:30pm, 4:30pm, 5:15pm, 7:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:00pm, 10:40pm

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

Blood Ties (R) 2hrs 24min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Face of Love (PG-13) 1hr 32min
3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm

Enemy (R) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Tim's Vermeer (PG-13) 1hr 20min
1:00pm, 10:10pm

Particle Fever (NR) 1hr 37min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

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

DINNER FOR TWO TONIGHT, CANCER

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You might think that a partner is overserious and not aware of how you feel. Be careful when handling your hurt and anger. You could feel quite off-kilter. Try to sit on your discontent for a while, and then initiate a discussion in the near future. Tonight: Where the gang is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You'll want to break precedent and head in a new direction, but a partner or family member might balk at the idea. This person is more comfortable with the status quo. You could be in a situation where someone might try to test your limits. Tonight: Take the lead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Deal with a situation directly, and keep in mind that a partner can be demanding. This person might prefer to keep the situation as-is. On the other hand, a loved one is likely to disagree. Tempers could flare, so be careful. Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Others tend to come to you with specific demands. You might wonder what is possible under the circumstances. Realize your limits, yet be ready for a fast change. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Get into a project immediately if you have any desire to complete it before the day is over. Mid-afternoon will be the time to network and create more of what you desire.Tonight: You flourish around the crowds.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Speak your mind and allow greater give-and-take between you and someone else. You might feel restrained at first, but do whatever it takes to let go and start this process. You could come up with a very dynamic idea that works for both of you. Tonight: Run an errand or two.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You have the foundation for a better situation, yet you seem to be holding back. Check out an emotional investment with care -- you will love the results, if you proceed. Tonight: Choose to do something fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Seek out a friend or loved one. You might want to reverse direction when you feel pinned down or as if you have no other choice. Listen and think in terms of gains rather than kicking the door down in frustration. Tonight: Head on home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might feel burdened by someone's demands, and could be wondering what to do next. If you continue on the path that is not natural for you, you probably won't be able stay even-tempered. Tonight: Out and about.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Be forthright in how you deal with a situation. You could be in a conflict with someone with whom you regularly interact. Be careful, as what might appear to be a cushy setup could quickly degenerate. Take no one and nothing for granted. Tonight: Play it nice and easy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Not until later today will you feel at your best. You might wonder what to do if you're faced with a precarious situation. You'll know that you want to integrate some innovative change, yet you also might want to play it cool. Tonight: Choose to do something new.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You are past the point of no return. You'll feel in your mind that you must follow your chosen path. Understand exactly what you are dealing with at the present moment. A partner could be contentious when you least expect it. Tonight: Out with your best friend.

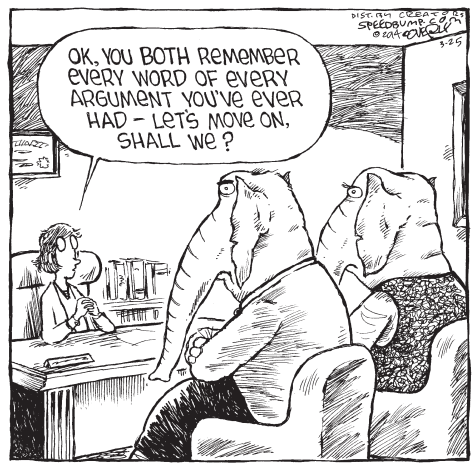
Tuesday, March 25, 2014

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

This year one of your biggest issues will be keeping your composure when life and relationships seem out of whack. You might have a tendency to blame others. Know that losing your temper will not be helpful. If you are single, relationships that you begin could feel heavy or serious. As a result, they could blow up more easily; use good sense here. If you are attached, the two of you become more expressive than you have been in the past. As a result, there could be an argument or two. Note that most fighting will be about control and being right, and could result in some distance between you. Is this what you want? AQUARIUS understands and gives good advice.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

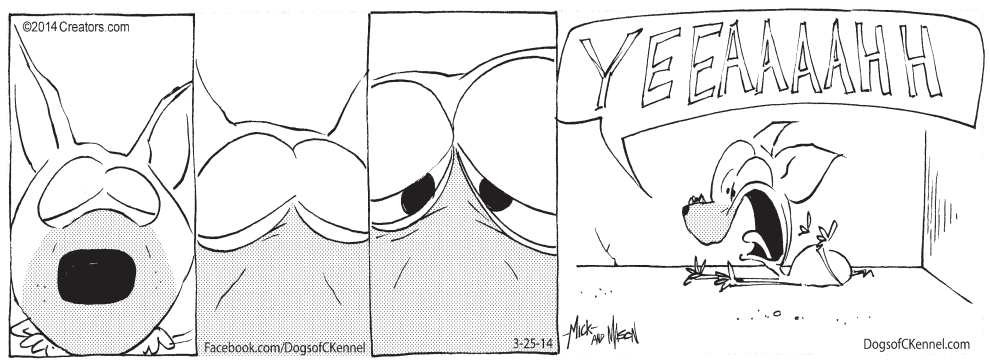
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



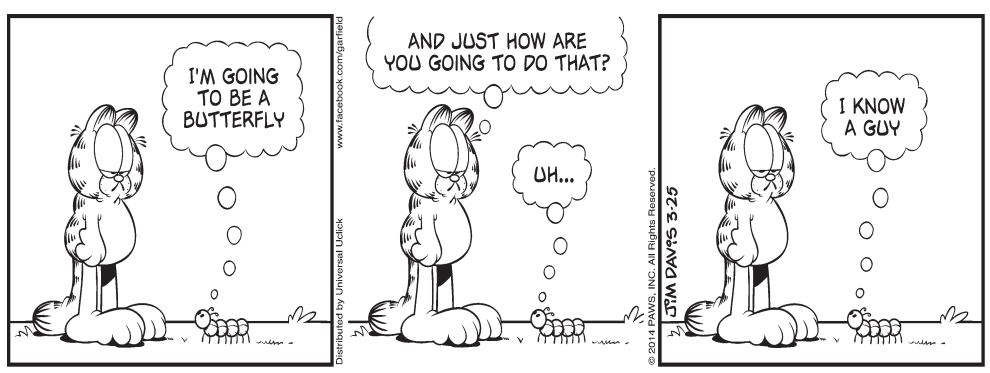
Strange Brew
By John Deering



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 ★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY REVEALED!

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Reader Tracy Condon correctly identified the Mystery Photo as a mural in the parking lot of Amechi Pizza on Lincoln Boulevard. She'll receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out Wednesday's edition for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

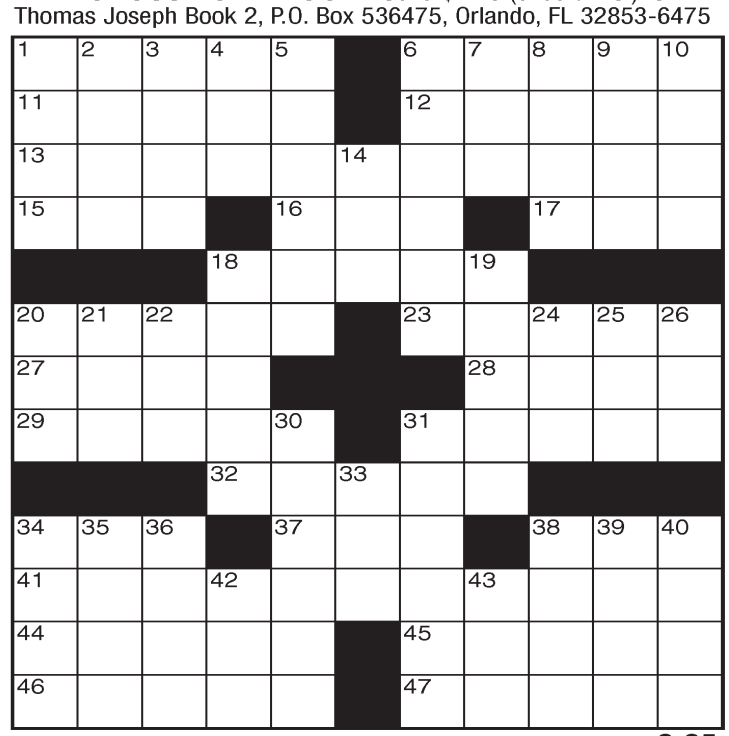
ACROSS
1 Squander
6 Blitzen's boss
11 One with a record
12 Court event
13 Clinic specimen
15 Ready to go
16 Cloth piece
17 Gender
18 Some sculptures
20 Low nobleman
23 Prolonged attack
27 March time
28 Clinic picture
29 Poisonous
31 No longer fresh
32 Hoarse
34 Fire remnant
37 Neither follower
38 Put in stitches
41 Coen Brothers movie
44 Realty listing
45 Racket
46 Ranch animal
47 Muscularly fit

DOWN
1 Fly catchers
2 Wheel bar
3 Edinburgh native
4 In addition
5 Evasive maneuver
6 Play places
7 Tattoo setting
8 Wee bites
9 Story
10 TV's Trebek
14 Despondent
18 Polite refusal
19 Threescore
20 Drill part
21 Commotion
22 Singer Ritter
24 Important time
25 Lass
26 Storm center
30 Frankness
31 Quick run
33 Sinking signal
34 Fundamentals
35 Mailbox part
36 Sharpen
38 Go around
39 Otherwise
40 Garden pest
42 Poem of praise
43 Cow call

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

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



3-25

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/22
13 28 31 55 58
Power#: 15
Jackpot: $40M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/21
2 23 30 35 53
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: $20M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/22
8 30 35 38 41
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: $38M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/23
4 9 14 28 30

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/23
MIDDAY: 7 5 8
EVENING: 1 5 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/23
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:41.76

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 trauma victim arriving at a hospital emergency room but requiring specialized intensive care would usually be transferred promptly to a qualified "trauma center," whose success rate with such patients is believed to be 25 percent better than that of ordinary hospitals. However, a recent study from Stanford University researchers found that, among 636 hospitals observed, there was a greater reluctance to make the transfer -- if the patient was fully insured. (That is, the authors suggest, there is a tendency for hospitals to hang onto insured patients, even though their outcomes might be worse, but not to similarly hang onto the uninsured -- who are more likely to be properly transferred.)

■ Latest Female Beauty Products: Cosmetic surgery is expensive, but beauty-conscious Japanese girls and women (especially those obsessed with a more "Western" look) have low-priced workarounds to choose from -- as uncovered in January by the fashion blogger Liz Katz: (1) the $63 Face-Slimmer Exercise Mouthpiece (insert it for three minutes a day, make vowel sounds and watch a "saggy" mouth turn taut); (2) the Beauty Lift High Nose nostril clip, which emits electronic vibrations to raise the proboscis's profile; (3) an altogether different but similarly painful-appearing Nose Straightener (insert for 20 minutes a day for added "perkiness").

TODAY IN HISTORY

1911 - In New York City, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire kills 146 garment workers.

1914 - Aris is founded in Thessaloniki.

1917 - The Georgian Orthodox Church restores its autocephaly abolished by Imperial Russia in 1811.

WORD UP!

fussbudget
\ FUHS-buhj-it \ , noun;
1.
a fussy or needlessly fault-finding person.

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Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commerical Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
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Employment

Caregiver

ENGINEERS Cornerstone OnDemand is hiring Engineers in Santa Monica, CA.

Software Engineer (job: 88U2SJ): MS plus 2 yrs exp. Exp must incl: web-based app dev w/ focus on UI & graphic dsgn; ASP. Net or ASP. Net MVC; HTTP, CSS, JavaScript; SDLC; business reqs analysis; enterprise lvl source cntrl (SVN, VSS or TFS); db admin functions incl restore, table creation, tracing, scripting.

Senior Software Engineer (job: 97XNFT): MS plus 3 yrs exp or BS plus 5 yrs exp. Exp must incl: C Sharp, Java, PL/ SQL, XML, UML; SQL Srvr '08; WCF, Web Services, ASP. Net 4.0, Javascript, HTML, AJAX; Visual Studio, TFS, MS Visio, Firebug; IIS, Windows; dsgn & implemnt multi-tiered enterprise apps.

Ref job number and 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.

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