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Volume 15 Issue 115

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Downtown construction projects near completion



Matthew Hall editor@smdp.com

ALMOST READY: Hotels are part of the construction puzzle downtown.

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Despite years of future construction on the schedule, City Hall thinks conditions in Downtown Santa Monica are poised to improve with the pending completion of several large projects.

City Manager Rick Cole used his regular report to City Council last week to provide updates on Downtown construction projects. While many of the currently under construction projects will be finished soon, others are scheduled for as far out as 2019.

"The community of Santa Monica has put up with a tremendous amount of construction," he

SEE UPDATE PAGE 6

5K to benefit Samohi track program

Former team parent's event also supports legal aid fund

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

The costs of running a track and field program are not lost on Tania Fischer.

There are assistant coaching salaries not covered by the Santa Monica-Malibu school district. There are entry fees for invitationals, usually several hundred dollars each. There are recurring needs for vaulting poles, high jump pits and other equipment. And there are often athletes who need financial assistance with uniforms and other expenses.

"It starts to add up," Fischer said.

It's why Fischer, the track and field coach at Santa Monica High School, is grateful that her program is a beneficiary of the Leslie Cohen Law 5K. The fifth-annual edition of the race is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, at Dockweiler State Beach in Playa del Rey.

The event is the brainchild of Cohen, a Santa Monica-based lawyer and parent of two Samohi track alumni.

"She's an amazing woman,"

SEE RUN PAGE 7









PRESERVED

Morgan Genser

Slow Food Preservers-Los Angeles (SFPLA) in partnership with Santa Monica Farmers Market and Virginia Avenue Park, organizes a series of food preservation workshops in Santa Monica. The free, hands on classes are popular and often reach capacity. There were two classes in March featuring water Kimchi with master preserver Hae Jung Cho. For more information on the organization, visit http://sfpla.org.

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Entrance via Boardwalk

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MARCELO LEHNINGER, conductor
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, March 30

Preschool Story Time at Main

Story series for 3 to 5 year olds. A ticket is required to attend each session. A limited number of tickets are given out on a first-come, first-served basis, the morning of the program, at the Youth Reference Desk. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

Crafternoon for Teens: Loom Knitting

Build your own loom and learn how to knit a friendship bracelet. Refreshments provided. Grades 6 & up. Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave., 2 - 3 p.m.

Spring Break Escape @ Main: Family Film: Wall-E (2008)

In this screening that allows kids to join in on the Santa Monica Reads fun (big kids are welcome too!), a small-waste collecting robot alone on a post-apocalyptic Earth, meets a female robot who he falls in love with, and inadvertently embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide the fate of mankind. (98 min). Rated G. 98 minutes. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 - 3:45 p.m.

Career Prep Series: Scholarship Workshop

Learn how to access scholarship resources. This 5-week workshop is provided in collaboration with the Virginia Avenue Park. Call the branch for more information. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 - 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 31

Barbara Williams discusses and signs 'The Hope in Leaving'

Barbara Williams is a Canadian musician and renowned film, television, and stage actress. Early in her acting career, Williams starred in the blockbuster films "Thief of Hearts" and "City of Hope." She won an Emmy Award for Best Actress for the 1996 telepic "Mother Trucker." As a musician, she has performed in the United States and Canada, often in concerts devoted to peace, workers' rights, and the environment. Discussion and signing at DIESEL Bookstore. 225 6th St., 6:30 p.m.

SMC Literary Talks: 'The Sympathizer: A Reading by Viet Thanh Nguyen'

Viet Thanh Nguyen - associate professor of English and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, author of "Race and Resistance: Literature and Politics in Asian America," and co-editor of "Transpacific Studies: Framing an Emerging Field" - will read selections from "The Sympathizer," his critically acclaimed first novel. 1900 Pico Blvd., Humanities & Social Science Lecture Hall 165, 11:15 a.m.

California Yacht Club Yachting Luncheon

The U.S. Coast Guard will be the focus of this luncheon. The USCG Halibut will be at the CYC Guest Dock and open for an on-board visitation by luncheon attendees. Open to all who enjoy yachting and adventure, as a public service of CYC. Cost is $20, which includes the luncheon, tax, service and parking. Reservations are appreciated at, reservations@calyachtclub.net. California Yacht Club, 4469 Admiralty Way, 12:20 p.m.

Spring Break Escape @ Main! Lego Block Party

Use your creativity to make something remarkable. We provide the Legos, you provide the fun! Ages 4 and up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Cesar Chavez: A Tribute

Celebrate the life of Cesar Chavez with music performance, a gallery,

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

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

US hacks iPhone, ends legal battle but questions linger

TAMI ABDOLLAH & BRANDON BAILEY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The extraordinary legal fight pitting the Obama administration against technology giant Apple Inc. ended unexpectedly after the FBI said it used a mysterious method without Apple's help to hack into a California mass shooter's iPhone.

Left unanswered, however, were questions about how the sudden development would affect privacy in the future, and what happens the next time the government is frustrated by digital security lockout features.

Government prosecutors asked a federal judge on Monday to vacate a disputed order forcing Apple to help the FBI break into the iPhone, saying it was no longer necessary.

The FBI used the unspecified technique to access data on an iPhone used by gunman Syed Farook, who died with his wife in a gun battle with police after they killed 14 people in San Bernardino, California, in December. The Justice Department said agents are now reviewing the information on the phone.

But the government's brief court filing, in U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, provided no details about how the FBI got into the phone. Nor did it identify the non-government "outside party" that showed agents how to get past the phone's security defenses. Authorities had previously said only Apple had the ability to help them

SEE **PHONE** PAGE 5

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Funny Or Die/Vidiots Short Film Competition

Open to all high school and college students in Los Angeles County. Submit your 4-minute-or-under comedy short by May 6 and have a chance to win a front-page feature on the Funny Or Die website, as well as a meet-up with the creative team behind Funny Or Die.

There will be two winners - one from a high school and one from a college - that have the best comedic take on the theme of cinema.

Winners announced at Vidiots on Thursday, June 9 at a special Funny Or Die night. Founder/president Mike Farah and a special guest will show a few of the best Funny Or Die shorts from the site's past, screen the top submissions from our competition and premiere a new Funny Or Die short.

Send submissions to: funnyordie.com/vidiots.

Visit http://vidiotsfoundation.org for more information.

- SUBMITTED BY ANGELA MATANO

SMC

Author readings celebrate spring 2016 Santa Monica Review release

Santa Monica College has announced the release of the Spring 2016 issue of Santa Monica Review, SMC's esteemed national literary arts journal. To celebrate the occasion, a launch party/reading event - "Santa Monica Review Presents..." - will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, April 3 in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center (Santa Monica Boulevard at 11th Street, Santa Monica).

Tickets are available now through Brownpapertickets.com and cost $10. Refreshments will be served, and books will be available for purchase, and author signing. Abundant free parking on premises.

"Santa Monica Review Presents..." will be introduced by SMR founding editor, acclaimed novelist, and SMC creative writing instructor Jim Krusoe (Parsifal, The Sleep Garden) and feature readings by four current and recent contributors to the journal: frequent contributor Kathleen MacKay, novelist and short story writer Mark Maxwell (Nixoncarver, Kings of the World), playwright and novelist Gary Amdahl (The Daredevils), and Review stalwart Janice Shapiro (Bummer).

The latest issue of Santa Monica Review - edited by Andrew Tonkovich, also host of the weekly show "Bibliocracy" on KPFK (90.7 FM) - presents 15 short and long pieces from new and frequent favorite contributors, showcasing essays by Gary Soto (What Poets are Like) and Gary Amdahl (The Daredevils) among fiction from Diane Lefer (Confessions of a Carnivore) and Janice Shapiro (Bummer).

Poet and travel essayist Charles Hood (South x South) offers two short meditative pieces. Comedy writer (The Tonight Show) Andrew Nicholls messes with history. Sommer Schafer tells a long, careful, sad story of unrelieved discontent. James Warner does funny-smart archly. Jackson Bliss constructs a wounded love story, and Kathleen MacKay superimposes desire onto reality.

Additional short fiction arrives from Juked magazine co-founders Ashley Farmer (The Farmacist) and Ryan Ridge (Camouflage Country), poet Elizabeth Wyatt, and memoirist Denise Reich.

Santa Monica College and the Review will host a booth April 9-10 at this year's Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, offering complimentary copies of the magazine to visitors at Booth # 72 at the USC campus, as well as distributing information on SMC's abundant academic and cultural opportunities.

Santa Monica Review, published twice yearly as part of Santa Monica College's commitment to encouraging literacy and engagement with the literary arts, showcases established authors and emerging writers. The Review has presented works of fiction and nonfiction, including writing by authors Alan Cheuse, Diane Lefer, the late James Houston, and Gary Soto. The Review - the only nationally distributed literary magazine published by a U.S. community college - has been included in the prestigious Best American Short Stories series and other outstanding anthologies.

Santa Monica Review is available for sale online and at the SMC Bookstore, Beyond Baroque in Venice, Skylight Books, and other area booksellers. Copies are also available by mail and by subscription through Santa Monica Review, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd.

The publication costs $7 per issue or $12 for the two issues each year.

For more information, visit www.smc.edu/sm_review or call (714) 649-9051.

- SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

screening of the newly released film Cesar Chavez, and crafts. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, April 1

Yoga

All levels. Drop in for $15/class or sign up for a series of 4 for $50, parking included. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 - 10 a.m.

Guest House

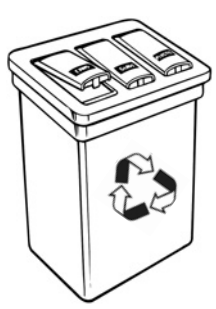
Free tours begin at 11 a.m, 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Peepsapaloosa

Design a Peeps diorama based on a book for a chance to win a prize! Ages 4 and Up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 - 2:45 p.m.

'Mrs. Warren's Profession'

'Mrs. Warren's Profession' performances are from Friday, April 1 to Sunday, May 8, 2016, on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Ticket Prices are: Adults $20, Seniors and Students $18. For more information or to order tickets, please call (310) 454-1970 or visit, www.theatrepalisades.org. Pierson Playhouse, 941 Temescal Canyon Rd.

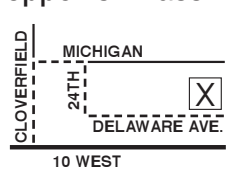


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Curious City

Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

March Madness, Santa Monica madness?

"HE HAS RISEN!!"

It rang through our house last Sunday, at maybe 10 or 11 a.m. I'm not sure. I was still a little groggy, from, well, Saturday night, of course.

Not an unusual hallelujah to hear on a joyously gorgeous Easter morn, except, it was sarcasm coming from my daughter, a confirmed atheist who only celebrates Easter for the chocolate.

She wasn't referring to any deity, but close: her father. But she was impiously, perhaps even sacrilegiously, using the holy day to draw attention to the phenomenon of her dad rising before noon.

Give me a break. I'm nocturnal. I'm a writer. Midnight to six is the only time the house is quiet. Some sour grapes involved, I think, because she's a hard-working student with early classes. But come on, that's the respect I get, after all those diapers I changed, taking her to see Jello Biafra and teaching her the importance of John Lee Hooker's thumb style?

Everybody's a comedian. I'm surrounded by comedians.

Even the ones who really are comedians, like SMDP columnist Jack Neworth, make my life miserable. We all know inspired comedy exudes from miserable lives, and Jack this weekend was trying to make my life miserable too.

Actually, he started the week before. With the phone calls. Way too many phone calls.

Never with any message left, so I knew they had only one purpose.

To try to ruin my fun, my focused attention to and drooling obsession with the famed college basketball tournament March Madness, and watching every minute of every game, all 129 of them. It is my high religious observation, and he knows that.

He doesn't give a fig for college hoops ("I only care about two teams," he told me, "UCLA, and any team playing USC") but if I'm sucker enough to answer the phone he'll pretend to care and start asking me so many questions about who's winning and who's even playing and do I think UCLA coach Steve Alford ("your guy from New Mexico" - "he's NOT my guy") should be fired, and did you hear they're flying banners behind planes over the campus? Yes, Jack, I did, from you, for the tenth time. He never laughs but I can hear him smiling, big time. I think he's actually perfected a silent cackle.

BUT I MUST SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Even though the image of a hopeless fanatic (from which the term "fan" is derived, you know) is kind of romantic, wouldn't you say? In a way? Sort of? No?

The sentimental truth is I'm a sucker for the human drama involved. That's why the most important part of the games for me is the pre-game intro, when the commentators give you the backstories. Remember, these are kids, many still teens, playing in front of 20,000, up to 50,000 screaming fanatics and tens of millions of viewers worldwide. Including that girl who turned you down cold for a date, sophomore year of high school; remember me, girl? How you like us now? (Not bad grammar: that's an enthusiastic Magic Johnson championship parade quote.)

There's the player with the odd blue cloth sewn into his uniform, which you find out is from his grandmother's favorite dress, because she raised him and was so proud of his playing and she died just before his first playoff game. The team leader who went down with a badly broken leg last year - would he even walk again? How about the guy who's a great outside shooter but has disappointed everyone by going 0 for 10 from distance in the tournament, then sends the big game into overtime by making an impossible falling-down shot from the very corner, at the buzzer.

Or the star center who wears his brother's number now since he died in a skateboarding accident. That one comes from the high school ranks, the fairytale saga of the Chino Hills team, led by the three Ball brothers (all committed to UCLA, thereby saving aforementioned Coach Alford's job).

Led to the state championship, an undefeated season (35-0), scoring 100 points more than half the time (in high school! - games are only 32 minutes!) and ranked the number one team in the nation. Lonzo, LiAngelo and LaMelo (Lonzo, Jello and Mellow) and their big daddy LaVar (6'6, 320). Graduating Lonzo averaged a triple double and was named Naismith player of the year. Junior Jello averaged a mere 27.4 points a game, and little (5'10 but growing) yellow-haired Mellow fearlessly buried three-pointers from Steph Curry range. They all fired bullet passes the length of the court. As a screenplay it would be rejected as being too far-fetched.

NOT FAR FETCHED

Santa Monica traffic. Getting exponentially worse by the week, it seems to me, even before the train brings it to a standstill dozens of times every day.

Last week I was leaving the Vons parking lot and saw the traffic barely moving south on Lincoln and figured I might be able to avoid that bottleneck, which usually crawls to Pico at least. So I zipped out the back way but made the big mistake of not turning right to Broadway, and it took me a good (??) 25 minutes to twist and creep my way out of Downtown. Just a few blocks. No trains.

It signified a few things, I mused, like the need to get people out of their cars. Walking, biking, good up to a point. Into public transportation? Even with the train and our buses, we all know it's far from adequate.

The gut feeling that hit me was, this is insane. How can our city planners possibly consider more and more development here, now? We're strangling. I'm well aware there are complicated factors and competing visions, but what really requires more overdevelopment in our claustrophobic 8.4? Don't they see what we see, what we live with? And so much more is headed our way. Sometimes I just want to cry.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Sometimes I feel so bad/watching traffic/I start to cry." -- John Martyn ("Stand Amazed")

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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PHONE

FROM PAGE 3

unlock the phone.

Apple responded by saying it will continue to increase the security of its products.

"We will continue to help law enforcement with their investigations, as we have done all along," the company added in a statement, while reiterating its argument that the government's demand for Apple's help was wrong.

"This case should never have been brought," the company said.

FBI Assistant Director David Bowdich said Monday that examining the iPhone was part of the authorities' effort to learn if the San Bernardino shooters had worked with others or had targeted any other victims. "I am satisfied that we have access to more answers than we did before," he said in a statement.

The dispute had ignited a fierce Internet-era national debate that pitted digital privacy rights against national security concerns and reinvigorated discussion over the impact of encryption on law enforcement's ability to serve the public.

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-California, said in a statement that while it was "preferable" that the government gained access to the iPhone without Apple's help, the fundamental question of the extent to which the government should be able to access personal information remains unanswered.

Issa, a critic of the administration's domestic surveillance practices, said the government's legal action against Apple raised constitutional and privacy questions and that "those worried about our privacy should stay wary" because this doesn't mean "their quest for a secret key into our devices is over."

The surprise development punctured the temporary perception that Apple's security might have been good enough to keep consumers' personal information safe even from the U.S. government.

And while the Obama administration created a policy for disclosing such security vulnerabilities to companies, the policy allows for a vulnerability to be kept secret if there is a law enforcement or national security rationale for doing so.

The withdrawal of the court process also takes away Apple's ability to legally request details on the method the FBI used in this case. Apple attorneys said last week that they hoped the government would share that information with them if it proved successful.

The Justice Department wouldn't comment on any future disclosure of the method to Apple or the public.

Denelle Dixon-Thayer, chief legal and business officer at Mozilla, which makes the Firefox web browser, said in a statement that "fixing vulnerabilities makes for better products and better security for everyone" and the "government needs to take that into account" and disclose the vulnerability to Apple.

Jay Kaplan, a former NSA computer expert who's now CEO of cyber-security firm Synack, said it is likely Apple will pursue avenues to further lock down their operating systems and hardware, especially as a result of the public announcement of some new technique to crack their phones.

U.S. Magistrate Sheri Pym of California last month ordered Apple to provide the FBI with software to help it hack into Farook's work-issued iPhone. The Justice Department relied on a 1789 law to argue it had the authority to compel Apple to bypass its security protocols on its phone for government investigators. While Magistrate Judge James Orenstein in New York ruled last month in a separate case that the U.S. was seeking broad powers under that legal argument, the decision wasn't binding in the California case and the Justice Department is appealing.

Technology and civil liberties organizations say they're concerned the case is far from settled, with some worrying that smaller companies might not have the resources to fight off similar demands.

Apple CEO Tim Cook had argued that helping the FBI hack the iPhone would set a dangerous precedent, making all iPhone users vulnerable, if Apple complied with the court order. He as well as FBI Director James Comey has said that Congress needs to take up the issue.

Apple was headed for a courtroom showdown with the government last week, until federal prosecutors abruptly asked for a postponement so they could test a potential solution brought to them by a party outside of the U.S. government last Sunday.

The encrypted phone was protected by a passcode that included security protocols: a time delay and auto-erase featured that destroyed the phone's data after 10 tries. The two features made it impossible for the government to repeatedly and continuously test passcodes in what's known as a brute-force attack. But with those features removed, the FBI said it would take 26 minutes to crack the phone.

A law enforcement official said the FBI would continue to aid its local and state partners with gaining evidence in cases — implying that the method would be shared with them. The official spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to publicly comment.

High on the waiting list for assistance likely is Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, who told a U.S. House panel earlier this month that he has 205 iPhones his investigators can't access data from in criminal investigations. Apple is also opposing requests to help extract information from 14 Apple devices in California, Illinois, Massachusetts and New York.

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Matthew Hall editor@smdp.com

MAY 20: Fencing along the Expo line will be finished before the train opens on May 20.

UPDATE

FROM PAGE 1

said.

Cole said the mix of city, federal and private projects are all on parallel tracks with most of the large projects scheduled for completion in the next year or so. He said the city has done everything it could to minimize the impact of the work but said some problems were inevitable.

"It's been a headache, no question about it," he said. "Not the nightmare that many people expected and predicted, but it has been very discouraging for people that wanted to visit their downtown and found that sometimes they had to put up with some construction delays."

Two transit projects are responsible for much of the currently visible construction: the Expo light rail and the Incline replacement.

Director of Public Works, Martin Pastucha said the Incline project is about 90 percent complete at this point, with a targeted opening before the July 4 weekend. The Incline, connecting the Pacific Coast Highway to Ocean Ave., is being rebuilt to meet seismic standards with wider bicycle and pedestrian access. The project is a partnership between local, state and federal agencies. The project timeline was extended slightly last year to allow for construction of a new pedestrian bridge over a portion of the bridge.

Expo projects include construction of the actual line, stations, the Esplanade project along Colorado Ave. and a shuttle/pick up lot.

The Expo tracks are finished. Crews have been installing a fence along the centerline of the tracks to discourage pedestrians crossing mid-block and that work is almost finished. Minor work continues at the stations, but the majority of the heavy work is done. Crews are still working on a kiss and ride lot adjacent to the Downtown station. That facility will allow private shuttles and cars to pick-up/drop off Expo riders. Pastucha said there are some small delays related to electrical and irrigation work but the project is still expected to finish by Expo's May 20 opening.

Two projects are currently underway on Colorado between 5th and the Pier. The first is the Colorado Esplanade that will create a new pedestrian connection between the train and Pier. Crews have widened the sidewalk, converted Colorado to one way between 4th and Ocean, installed new drain systems, repositioned underground utilities and altered the flow of traffic onto the street. Pastucha said work remaining includes planting of 37 additional trees and new streetlights. Several so-called "scramble" crossings are scheduled for intersections along the Esplanade.

Separate from, but very similar to, the Esplanade are improvements to 4th Street. Crews are widening the sidewalks and installing new lights with the goal of finishing by Labor Day.

Several projects have been finished or are scheduled for the Downtown Parking Lots.

Bridging the Expo and Parking lot projects is the rebuilding of Parking Lot 5 to include a rehabbed Big Blue Bus transit center. That facility will house public restrooms, the BBB transit hub and a small retail space. Construction is scheduled to begin in March of 2017 and run through September of that year.

Elevators have been rebuilt in several parking structures. Pastucha said eight of nine elevators are back in service with the last scheduled to return in April. The elevators were 50-60 years old and, while functional, they were in need of upgrades including expansion to allow for medical equipment to fit inside.

Many of the structures are being evaluated for future maintenance. Construction will start in Parking Structure 1 next year to fix structural problems but Pastucha said any work will be done with as little disruption as possible to users.

Miscellaneous work Downtown includes replacing traffic bollards on Santa Monica Blvd. and Broadway. Staff is also installing some new bicycle friendly technology such as bike boxes painted into streets, new bike racks and "loop detectors" or video cameras that will allow bicycles to trigger streetlights. Landscape work continues at Palisades Park including replacement of turf near the entrance to the pier.

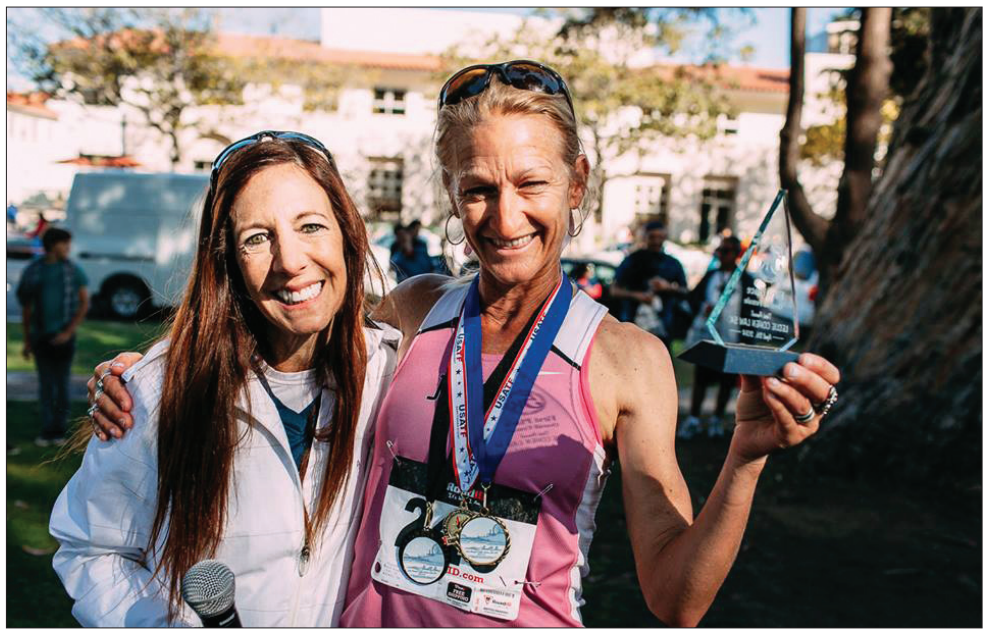
The pier bridge itself is scheduled for replacement but Pastucha said that work wouldn't begin until 2019.

Private construction in the area includes two hotels at the corner of 5th and Colorado. A Hampton Inn and Courtyard by Marriott are scheduled for completion in the summer or fall of this year.

Cole reiterated that residents should see some improvement in the coming months.

"The huge projects, the impactful project, the ones that have put up k-rails and disrupted traffic are going to be coming down this summer … These are big steps forward for mobility in our community and again, we really appreciate all the cooperation by merchants, residents and by visitors," he said.

editor@smdp.com



Courtesy Photo

FUNDRAISER: **Leslie Cohen created a race that will benefit the Samohi track team coached by Tania Fischer.**

RUN

FROM PAGE 1

Fischer said. "She had this idea, and she made it happen. She runs the whole show. It's hard to put on races if you're not established, and yet she did it. Every year it get a little bit bigger."

More than 300 people registered for the 5-kilometer event in 2014, the year Cohen's twin daughters Phoebe and Rachel Kirkhofer graduated from Samohi.

Organizers are hoping for an even larger turnout at this year's edition, which comes during the Vikings' track and field season. Members of Fischer's team will either race or volunteer that morning. Parents often help out as well.

Proceeds from the 5K will support Fischer's program as well as the Public Counsel's Debtor Assistance Project, which provides free legal assistance to low-income debtors in the Los Angeles area.

In late 2009, Cohen established a running team to promote physical fitness and camaraderie. The group, which welcomes athletes of all ages, has led training sessions for Lincoln Middle School students who went on to join Fischer's team at Samohi.

Then came Cohen's inaugural 5K fundraiser, which was held at Santa Monica Beach on April 28, 2012.

"She lost money the first year just to get it off the ground," Fischer said. "It's a huge operation. A lot of people don't put on 5Ks for those reasons. But she believes in it so much. It's amazing what she does and how she gives back. It's a great thing."

The money raised is extremely helpful for Fischer, who said SMMUSD covers only one of her two stipends for assistant cross-country coaches. She has even more assistants during the spring track season, which requires more specialized training and instruction.

In addition to entry fees, Fischer said, her athletes regularly qualify for events in other parts of the state that necessitate hotel stays and other travel expenses.

"If you want to go to a bigger invitational, you spend the night," she said. "Our sport is not that bad compared to football or lacrosse, but there are still a lot of costs."

Cohen's upcoming event includes medals, prize giveaways, action photos and a variety of post-race snacks. Registration currently costs $45, but the price is scheduled to jump March 30.

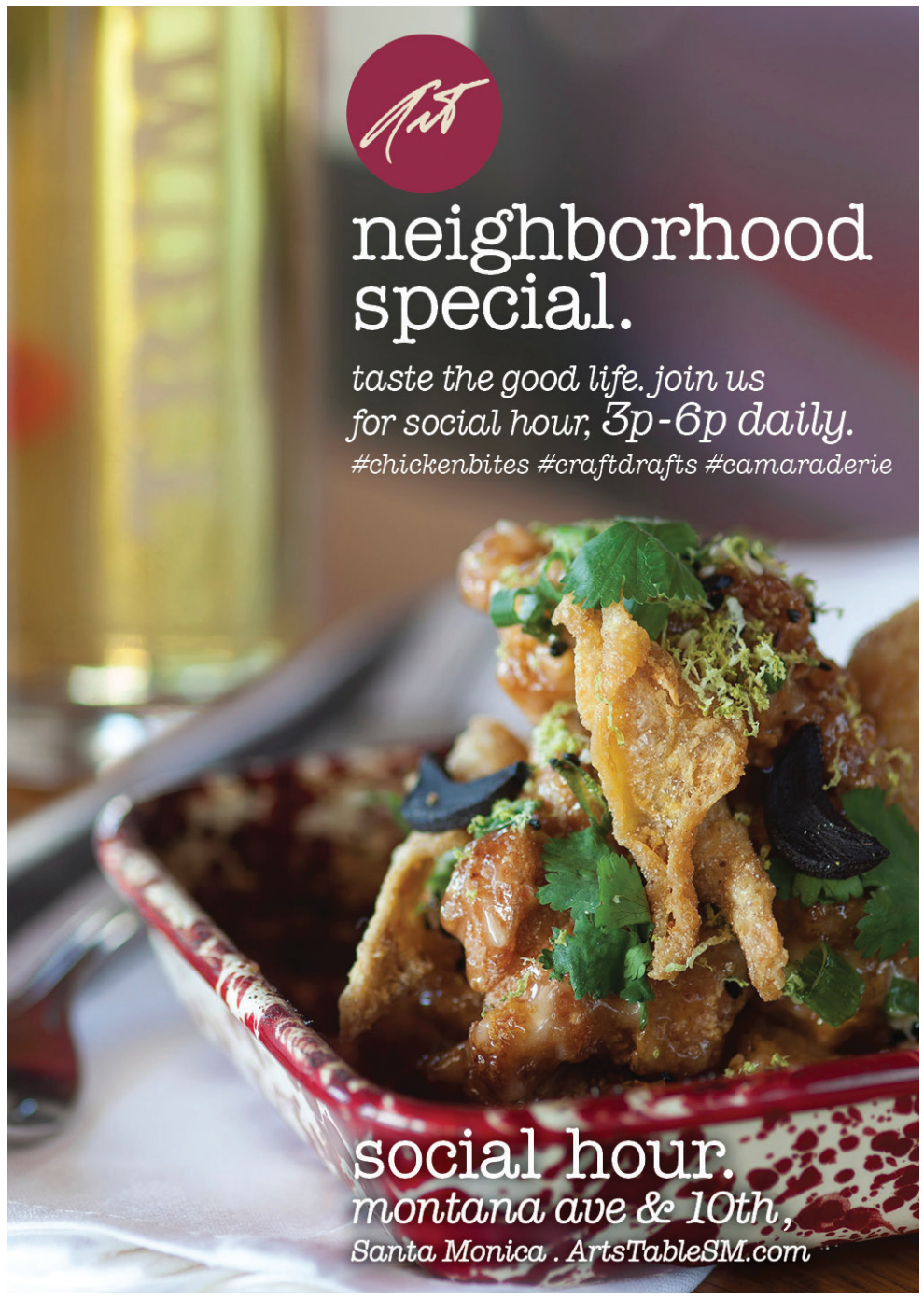
To sign up for the race, or for more information, visit https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/PlayaDelRey/LeslieCohenLaw5K.

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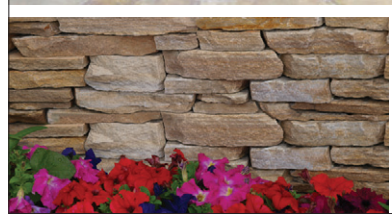


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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS
WATER TEMP: **58.3°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
Building SSW swell, larger sets in the PM. NW swell mix fades. Winds/conditions improve marginally.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
More SSW swell, larger sets for focal points. New NW swell showing late in the day.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 334 calls for service on March 28.

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

Disturbance of the peace, 1600 block of Santa Monica, 12:14 a.m.
Suspicious vehicle, 2500 block of 25th, 1:07 a.m.
Loud music, 2800 block of 7th, 1:14 a.m.
Report of shots fired, 10th/Grant, 1:20 a.m.
Traffic collision, 400 block of Broadway, 5:14 a.m.
Suspicious person, 1700 block of Lincoln, 5:33 a.m.
Traffic collision, 1600 block of 10th, 8:25 a.m.
Traffic collision, 4th/Colorado, 9:03 a.m.
Suspicious circumstances, 1500 block of Lincoln, 9:25 a.m.
Grand theft auto, 800 block of 5th, 9:31 a.m.
Harassing phone calls, 1800 block of Pearl, 9:49 a.m.
Disturbance at a business, 700 block of Broadway, 9:54 a.m.
Vandalism, 1500 block of Berkeley, 10:02 a.m.
Drinking in public, 600 block of Wilshire, 10:18 a.m.
Grand theft auto, 1200 block of Stanford, 10:31 a.m.
Battery, 4th/Adelaide, 10:45 a.m.
Identity theft, 800 block of Centinela, 10:56 a.m.
Assault with a deadly weapon, 2700 block of Lincoln, 11:00 a.m.
Strongarm robbery, 1300 block of 7th, 11:17 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace, 200 block of Santa Monica Pier, 11:27 a.m.
Traffic collision, 1000 block of Pico, 11:36 a.m.
Identity theft, 2300 block of 27th, 11:49 a.m.
Hit and run, 23rd/Dewey, 12:37 p.m.
Suspicious vehicle, 2300 block of 22nd, 12:45 p.m.
Hit and run, 14th/Montana, 1:42 p.m.
Disturbance at a business, 1400 block of Ocean, 2:13 p.m.
Public intoxication, 200 block of Santa Monica Pier, 2:32 p.m.
Stalking, Lincoln/Santa Monica, 2:45 p.m.
Grand theft auto, 2600 block of Lincoln, 2:49 p.m.
Grand theft auto, 1200 block of Stanford, 2:50 p.m.
Battery, 7th/Wilshire, 2:56 p.m.
Hit and run, 23rd/Dewey, 3:09 p.m.
Disturbance at a business, 2200 block of Lincoln, 3:13 p.m.
Grand theft, 900 block of 16th, 3:33 p.m.
Traffic collision, Harvard/Wilshire, 3:43 p.m.
Fraud, 1600 block of 19th, 4:05 p.m.
Strongarm robbery, 700 block of Broadway, 5:18 p.m.
Public intoxication, 1800 block of Delaware, 6:07 p.m.
Battery, 2600 block of Main, 6:30 p.m.
Person down, 1500 block of Lincoln, 9:04 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 38 calls for service on March 28.

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

EMS, 400 block of Broadway, 5:15 a.m.
EMS, 300 block of Santa Monica Pier, 5:35 a.m.
Hydrant leak, 3100 block of Wilshire, 7:50 a.m.
Wires down, 1600 block of 10th, 8:26 a.m.
EMS, 1600 block of 12th, 8:39 a.m.
EMS, 4th/Colorado, 9:03 a.m.
EMS, 1900 block of 17th, 9:07 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 3000 block of Santa Monica, 9:46 a.m.
EMS, 1400 block of Ocean, 10:50 a.m.
EMS, 1700 block of Main, 11:08 a.m.
EMS, 3100 block of Ocean Park, 11:15 a.m.
EMS, 1300 block of Ocean Park, 11:22 a.m.
EMS, 1700 block of 10th, 11:25 a.m.
EMS, 10th/Pico, 11:35 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 2300 block of 31st, 12:21 p.m.
EMS, 1400 block of 17th, 12:54 p.m.
EMS, 1900 block of Pico, 1:00 p.m.
EMS, 2900 block of 4th, 1:33 p.m.
Elevator rescue, 1100 block of 12th, 1:59 p.m.
EMS, 2000 block of Santa Monica, 2:10 p.m.
EMS, 600 block of Raymond, 3:00 p.m.
EMS, Harvard/Wilshire, 3:44 p.m.
EMS, 1600 block of Main, 3:50 p.m.
EMS, 1200 block of 15th, 4:06 p.m.
Odor of natural gas, 600 block of Santa Monica, 4:07 p.m.
Elevator rescue, 500 block of San Vicente, 4:09 p.m.
EMS, 1300 block of 20th, 4:12 p.m.
Wires down, 200 block of 21st, 4:14 p.m.
EMS, 1100 block of 7th, 4:48 p.m.
EMS, 1200 block of 16th, 5:06 p.m.
EMS, 1900 block of Pico, 5:09 p.m.
EMS, 800 block of Wilshire, 5:12 p.m.
Automatic alarm, 2500 block of Wilshire, 6:29 p.m.
EMS, 100 block of Wilshire, 7:11 p.m.
Structure fire, 1700 block of Robson, 7:27 p.m.

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Starting point
6 One and the other
10 Skirt
11 First Lady before Michelle
12 Playwright Edward
13 Door sign
14 May honorees
15 "My thoughts entirely"
16 Eden name
17 Army address
18 Snaky shape
19 Indicating
22 Ill-mannered
23 New York area
26 Taking a stripe from
29 Representative: Abbr.
32 Field worker
33 Kickoff aid
34 Robin's love
36 Stubborn one
37 In the middle of
38 Bolivian city
39 Alarm trigger
40 Unescorted
41 Easy targets
42 Comfy eatery

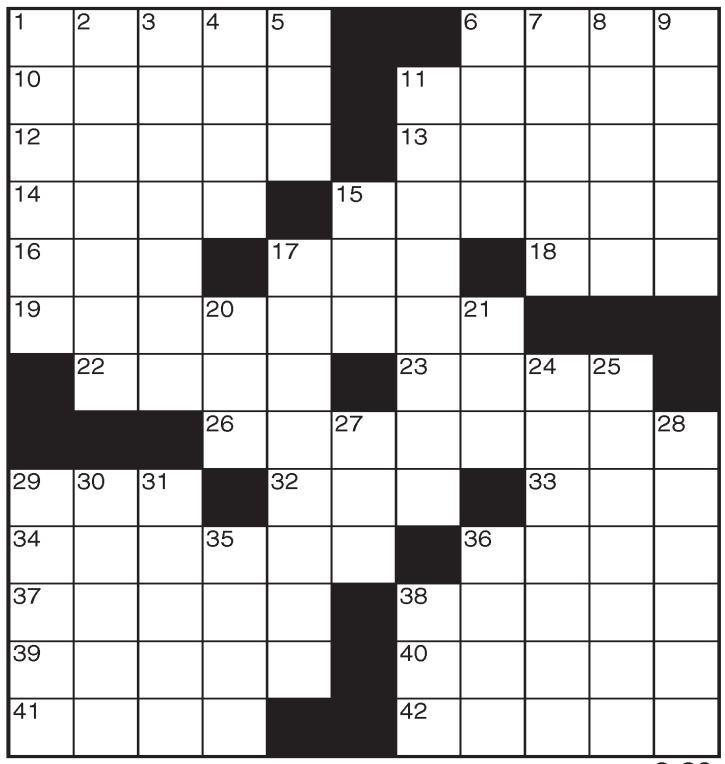
DOWN

1 Smiled broadly
2 Widespread
3 Secondary list on a PC
4 Mid-month time
5 Glimpse
6 Firecracker sound
7 Strange
8 Kilmer poem
9 Fast runners
11 Hears about
15 Clock numeral
17 Liner's cheapest section
20 Strange
21 Procured
24 Discover
25 Like some country roads
27 Chess pieces
28 Old fellow
29 Stockpile
30 Letter after beta
31 Scout unit
35 Print supplies
36 Niger neighbor
38 Young fellow

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

Yesterday's answer

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3-30

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Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL (calottery)
Draw Date: 3/26
11 23 42 52 68
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 116M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/25
4 11 12 35 46
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 43M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/26
3 12 13 26 33
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 10M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/28
3 26 29 33 37

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/29
MIDDAY: 1 9 8
Draw Date: 3/28
EVENING: 2 1 5

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/28
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:47.38

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

WORD UP!

tessellate

1. to form of small squares or blocks, as floors or pavements; form or arrange in a checkered or mosaic pattern.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1964 – Jeopardy!, hosted by Art Fleming debuts.

1965 – Vietnam War: A car bomb explodes in front of the United States Embassy, Saigon, killing 22 and wounding 183 others.

1972 – Vietnam War: The Easter Offensive begins after North Vietnamese forces cross into the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) of South Vietnam.

1976 – The first Land Day protests are held in Israel/Palestine.

1979 – Airey Neave, a British Member of Parliament, is killed by a car bomb as he exits the Palace of Westminster. The Irish National Liberation Army claims responsibility.

1981 – U.S. President Ronald Reagan is shot in the chest outside a Washington, D.C., hotel by John Hinckley, Jr. Another two people are wounded at the same time.

1982 – Space Shuttle program: STS-3 Mission is completed with the landing of Columbia at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

2006 – The United Kingdom Terrorism Act 2006 becomes a law.

2009 – Twelve gunmen attack the Manawan Police Academy in Lahore, Pakistan.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

✯ Infrastructure Blues: (1) A 5-year-old, slow-moving underground fire (beneath a Superfund cleanup site) is within 1,200 feet of a waste site for nuclear weapons near St. Louis, according to a December Associated Press report. The Environmental Protection Agency, of course, said not to worry, that the heat from the fire was not enough to ignite chemicals or trigger an explosion. (2) While America was outraged about the water in Flint, Michigan, the tap water in Crystal City, Texas (100 miles southwest of San Antonio) was suddenly as black and thick "as oil" and "stank," according to a resident. The city's water superintendent said the town had decided to clean residue from the system for the first time in "20 to 30 years."

✯ (1) Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C., disclosed in March that in 2015 it received 8,670 noise complaints -- but that 6,500 came from the same person (thus averaging 18 per day, every day). (2) Buddhist monk Julian Glew, 45, was arrested in September in Humberside, England, and later sentenced to 11 weeks in prison after he slashed (by his count) 162 tires in his neighborhood because, he said, he was angry that he had stepped on an insect and needed to be jailed.

Pay bills tonight, Sagittarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance and have a much-needed discussion. Be careful not to become inflexible; be prepared to compromise a bit. You're likely to be in the limelight in the afternoon hours, so put your best foot forward. Tonight: A force to be reckoned with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Is it possible that you and a loved one need to spend more time together? Steer clear of someone who is controlling and who needs to call the shots. You might be concerned about a secret matter leaking. Focus on the big picture. Tonight: Head to a different type of place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Let others take the lead. You'll be happy with the results. You'll probably have to sort through invitations, as your popularity continues to rise. Spend time with someone you care about later in the day. Your caring will be appreciated. Tonight: Togetherness works.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You have quite a bit of work to do, and you might want to get an early start. A partner could be stubborn and set in his or her ways. Ignore sharp words if you can. Your nurturing will help calm troubled waters that might surround you. Tonight: Let someone else choose.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your playfulness emerges early in the day and should help you avoid a clash of wills. Pressure builds around a daily matter. Others will present few obstacles, except for a random person to whom you are not close. Your nerves easily could be fried. Tonight: Work late.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Work from home today if you can. Someone at the office could be determined to micromanage others, and could interfere in your thoughts or activities. Your playfulness emerges later in the day; your loved ones relish your sense of humor. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Return phone calls and respond to important email messages early in the day. Speak your mind, but choose your words carefully. You'll want to handle an issue in your domestic life today. A friend or partner could be unusually assertive as well. Tonight: Happy at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Financial issues require your attention. Have you done your taxes yet? You will need to focus more on your finances throughout the entire year. Squeeze in some exercise, as your energy level soars and stress could be high. Tonight: Have an important discussion or meeting.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Go for more of what you want in the morning. Be careful with your money. Having fun or entertaining an important client does not have to cost an enormous amount. Focus on an important personal issue later in the day. Tonight: Pay bills and balance your checkbook first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You'll be slow to get moving today. However, once you get into gear, you will be nearly unstoppable. Decide to do something that puts a smile on your face. You might have something important to communicate. Don't worry about what you cannot control. Tonight: All smiles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Group endeavors are favored today, and meetings will proceed quite smoothly. A behind-the-scenes development could be a bit troublesome. Assume that it's minor and will pass. You might want to take off early. Tonight: Be incognito, and remain willing to vanish quickly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You need to deal with your responsibilities and career concerns. There could be a disagreement with a friend over a monetary issue. Remain flexible; you can work it out. Make plans to meet friends for a late lunch. Tonight: Let the late lunch become an early dinner.

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

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

This year you have the ability to probe deeply into any subject that you wish to study. Avoid allowing situations that bother you to become obsessions that you can't stop thinking about. Your words convey an intense, penetrating quality, but you'll need to be careful of becoming sarcastic when speaking to individuals who aren't like-minded. If you are single, you could meet someone later in the year who is as ambitious as you are. You'll have much in common. If you are attached, the two of you could experience a power struggle or two. Who cares whether you are right or wrong if you are with the person you love? CAPRICORN helps to ground you.

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



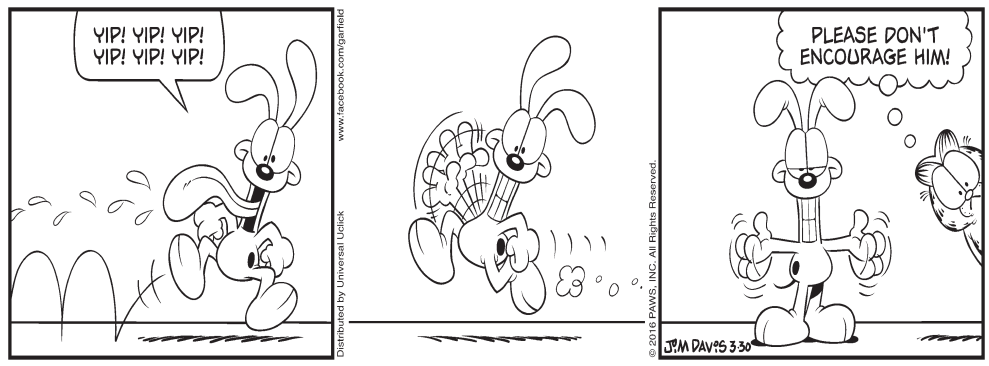
Strange Brew
By John Deering



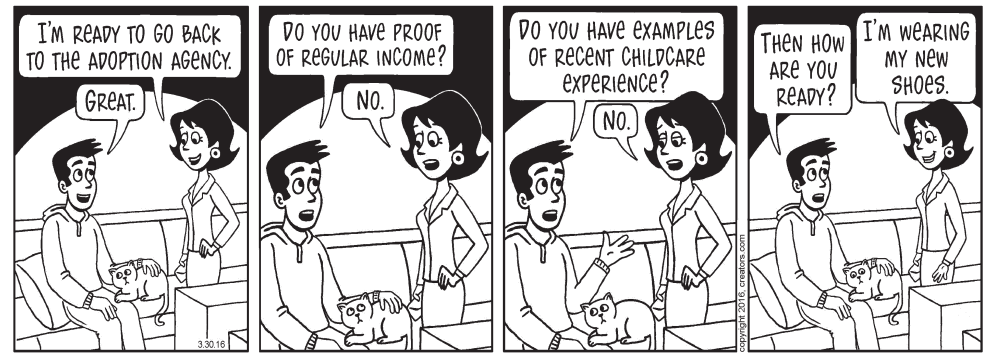
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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2016

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+
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RAFFLE
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