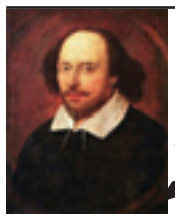
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Volume 12 Issue 232



BIG WILLY TIME
SEE PAGE 5

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE MO' NEWS ISSUE

Program offers elderly tools to give up clutter

BY AMEERA BUTT
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Mary knew she was in trouble when she realized she couldn't park the new car she received as a gift in her garage earlier this year.

That was because her garage was filled to the brim with boxes. She was collecting things like fabric; chairs; and scuba diving, skiing and backpacking equipment.

"You name it, I had it," Mary, who declined to give her last name, said.

Mary was one of 15 participants in the From Collecting to Cluttering program offered by WISE & Healthy Aging earlier this year. She said she saw the ad and decided she needed to join because after she cleared out the boxes from her garage, they migrated to the inside of her home.

Officials said the program, which was popular among the elderly at WISE, will be offered again next month. The program was formed to address the needs of elderly who have problems with collecting and clutter and want help and support. Officials said

SEE SENIORS PAGE 7

Fee causes alarm for Samohi parents

BY AMEERA BUTT
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI In a recent e-mail thread between parents whose kids attend Santa Monica High School, many voiced concern and confusion about a 4 percent convenience fee that was charged when making donations or purchasing school supplies.

Other parents wondered what families who couldn't pay the fee would do.

One parent wrote in an e-mail with his two daughters and gifts to the PTA, the Education Foundation and Grad Night, he is paying $75 in fees which will not go to the school or PTA.

"This needs to be addressed in future years," he wrote in the e-mail. "Infosnap is making out on this deal and we are already paying them a lot."

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District officials said they are in transition as they try to find another contractor to handle the online registration for next year and are aware of the parents' concerns.

The district has a two-year contract with infosnap, Inc., a provider of online admission and registration solutions designed specifically for schools.

Terry Deloria, assistant superintendent of Educational Services, said next year the district will use a different company that has better financial software once the contract is up. She said infosnap handled the paperwork part of the registration process.

"(infosnap) wasn't designed to do the store part. They're not financial software in any way," Deloria said.

She said if parents don't want to pay online, they can bring cash, a cashier's check or money order to the school.

SEE FEE PAGE 8



FEEDING TIME
Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*
Kimberly Nojima plays the Crunchies and Munchies game during the Westside Family Health Center's health fair on Wednesday.

New news site coming to Santa Monica

ILEANA NAJARRO
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE Damien Newton, editor of L.A. Streetsblog, and Gary Kavanagh, Santa Monica columnist for the nonprofit, plan to launch a new news website for the city by the sea this month.

The duo is collecting funds through a Kickstarter campaign for Santa Monica Next, a nonprofit website that aims to provide in-depth coverage on issues in Santa Monica, mainly those focusing on environmental sustainability and those impacting future quality of life.

They have already raised $825 of their

SEE SITE PAGE 3

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Aug. 8, 2013

How to paint with acrylics
Paint Lab
2912 Main St., 4 p.m.
The Paint Lab is holding a workshop to introduce attendees to one of the most common types of paint — acrylics. The cost of the class is $48 plus the cost of the canvas. Attendees are asked to call (310) 450-9200 to reserve a spot and bring a picture of what they want to paint.

Summer picnic
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Highway,
6 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Bring your own dinner for a community picnic at the Beach House. Sports equipment and games will be available for use. There will also be a cookie baking contest. Those who wish to participate are invited to reserve a spot for the contest at the Beach House website — beachhouse.smgov.net.
The winner will receive a certificate for one class at the Gourmandise School of Sweets and Savories.

Rent Control discussion
City Council Chamber
1685 Main St., 6 p.m.
The Rent Control Board is having its regular meeting this week. The board and Rent Control Agency are in charge of managing residential rents, preserving rental housing and limiting the grounds for eviction, among other duties. For more information, visit smgov.net/departments/RentControl.

Development agreement meeting
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
City officials are holding a development agreement meeting for the proposed housing project located at 1560 Lincoln Blvd. where there is currently a Denny's. The proposal includes five stories and a total of 103,000 square feet. There are 100 total units. For more information, contact Denise Smith at (310) 458-8341 or visit the Department of Planning and Community Development at smgov.net/departments/pcd.

Friday, Aug. 9, 2013

Do the worm
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
2:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
Kids ages 4 and up will get a chance to explore the fascinating world of worms by starting a worm composting bin. Free tickets for the event will be available at 2 p.m. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Opening reception
haleARTS SPACE
2443 Main St., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Attend the free opening reception of a group show featuring the work of Charles Swenson, Jerry Shevick and Phyllis Stuart. Guests can peruse accessibly priced work while enjoying white wine and fresh popcorn. The show will run through Aug. 21. For more information, call (310) 314-8038.

Charitable magic
The Pico Playhouse
10508 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Join Derek McKee, acclaimed teen magician and star of the documentary "Make Believe," at a four-part magic show event benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica and United in Harmony. General admission is $20 and VIP tickets are $100. For more information, call (310) 394-2582.

Shakespeare on the court
Reed Park
1133 Seventh St., 8 p.m.
Shakespeare Santa Monica celebrates its 10th anniversary by performing "Twelfth Night" and "The Taming of the Shrew" all month long on the Tournament Tennis Court #1 in Reed Park. The shows are for all ages. Guests are recommended to bring blankets, food and drinks. There is a suggested donation of $20. For more information, call (318) 451-0228.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PICO BLVD

Magic for boys, girls

Derek McKee, a 19-year-old internationally acclaimed magician and star of the documentary "Make Believe," will perform at the Pico Playhouse this weekend benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica and United in Harmony.

For a $20 general admission ticket, families can enjoy a show of magic, illusions and fun with 50 percent of the proceeds going to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica – an organization McKee has worked with before.

From age 8 to 10, McKee attended a Boys & Girls Club in Denver and upon moving to Los Angeles he developed a working relationship with Jeremy Davis, a staff member at the nonprofit's Santa Monica branch who performs magic at the Hollywood Castle.

McKee has long been in the limelight for his talents including his starring role in "Make Believe" at age 15, his Las Vegas show shortly after and his television appearance on "Extra!" All along the way McKee has devoted himself to supporting charity.

The Denver Post reported that he once lived in a plexiglass box on the streets to help homeless children in his hometown by collecting food for the Food Bank of the Rockies and raising awareness of the conditions in which many youth live.

McKee and his pal Davis will be showcasing their talents for a four-part magic series kicking off Aug. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at 10508 Pico Blvd. Additional performances will be Saturday, Aug. 10 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

– ILEANA NAJARRO

SMC

Applicants sought for bond committee

Santa Monica College is looking for applicants to serve on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee that oversees Measures U, S and AA that fund major improvement projects at the college.

Representatives of a taxpayers' organization and local business communities of Santa Monica and Malibu are preferred to fill the vacancies. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, must not be a college employee, official, vendor, contractor or consultant to the college.

Some of the projects funded by the bonds include replacement buildings, seismic retrofitting and safety and technology upgrades.

The SMC Board of Trustees will review all applications and make the final appointments. Applications are available by calling (310) 434-4402 or by visiting www.smc.edu. The deadline to apply is Sept. 16.

– IN

SITE
FROM PAGE 1

$1,650 goal with 17 days to go as of publication. Prominent Santa Monica donors include Planning Commissioner Richard McKinnon, former Mayor Judy Abdo and local blogger Frank Gruber. The Santa Monica Bike Center, a sponsor of L.A. Streetsblog, has signed on to be the site's first advertising sponsor, though they will not dictate content, said the center's general manager Ron Durgin.

Santa Monica Next will still be related to L.A. Streetsblog in terms of management and using the same online publisher, but their affiliation will be as close as that between L.A. Streetsblog and Streetsblog Chicago — similar name, separate content.

While L.A. Streetsblog has already been covering cities outside of Los Angeles, such as Santa Monica, both Newton and Kavanagh wanted to create a separate entity where they could increase coverage without a cluttered mess on one overarching site.

Though L.A. Streetsblog mainly concerns itself with news on alternative forms of transportation, especially biking, Kavanagh hopes Santa Monica Next can expand coverage to decisions that will affect the future of Santa Monica — such as sustainability plans, open spaces and land use, etc. — as well as better highlight and give voice to the people actively playing a role in implementing projects.

"There's a lot of momentum, especially in Santa Monica, on a number of these fronts," Kavanagh said.

Garrett Wong, project support assistant at the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, corroborated Santa Monica's long history of leadership in forward-focused environmental efforts, discussing the sustainability plan adopted in 1994 that has served as the guiding principle for various citywide projects.

Wong added that while city departments and various other news outlets already work to inform residents on such efforts, there may be some people who are still unable to access the news.

"It definitely doesn't hurt to have another channel," Wong said.

In addition to the Santa Monica Daily Press, others covering Santa Monica include surfsantamonica.com, patch.com, Santa Monica Mirror, the Santa Monica Dispatch, the Santa Monica Star, Santa Monica Observer and the Argonaut, as well as the Los Angeles Times.

Beyond a greater spreading of news, some argue that having yet another news outlet in Santa Monica can improve upon in-depth analytical coverage of the sustainability movement.



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

ROLL OUT: **The Santa Monica Bike Center has signed on to be a Santa Monica Next sponsor.**

Gruber, a former long-time columnist with the Santa Monica Lookout, said that news coverage in Santa Monica tends to understandably focus on the play-by-play of meetings, rather than the analysis of underlying issues and their long-term impact. His familiarity with Newton and Kavanagh's writing leads him to think Santa Monica Next may fill this gap.

"These guys bring a level of analysis that is good to have on the scene," Gruber said.

Even though Santa Monica Next hopes to branch out further than bike coverage, Durgin added that Newton and Kavanagh bring a greater understanding of the bike community's real concerns with their work on L.A. Streetsblog.

"Traditional press don't get bikes as much," Durgin said.

Improved coverage is one of the natural consumer benefits of increased news outlet competition, said Gabriel Kahn, professor of professional practice at the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. On the flip side, more competition can create problems for these outlets financially with more sources vying for the same advertisers.

For Abdo and Gruber the benefits may

SEE **NEWS** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Borrow from the Brits

Editor:

I noticed with interest that city officials are proposing to add four more stop signs at various junctions on Broadway ("Cyclists sound off on stop signs," July 20). Many cyclists are upset as they feel that Broadway is a quick street for cyclists to get to work. One reader made a comment that stop signs would not make any difference, as most cyclists do not even stop at stop signs!

A perfect solution all round would be to use the British system of mini roundabouts. These work very well in Britain and really keep the traffic and cyclists moving. Santa Monica already has two circles or roundabouts, even though they are not true mini circles: one on 26th Street south of Montana Avenue and one in Venice on Windward and they both work very well.

Stop signs are really not the answer if you want to keep traffic moving. Many times you can come to a stop sign and stop, but there is no traffic coming the other way, whereas if it was a roundabout or circle you could just continue quickly without wasting time.

I do hope that somebody from the city traffic department considers this alternative.

Colin Langridge
Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Questioning motives

Editor:

This latest piece of Bill Bauer's, to me, is only marginally disguised as opinion ("Like it or not, change is coming," My Write, Aug. 5). It's starting to become more clear to me that he is doing PR for the developers and wish you would consider discontinuing his column.

It's not just that I disagree with his view. It's that it's lazy. He is walking through it without doing any real work. Zina Josephs does the work ("Traffic counts show a gridlocked Santa Monica," Our Town, Aug. 6). Time for Bill to take a job with the Wyndham or some other developer doing PR for them. He is the opposite of what this town is about.

Danielle Charney
Santa Monica

What we leave behind

Editor:

Many of us locals are justifiably angry at the rapid and shortsighted overdevelopment of our previously quiet town. I was born in L.A. and this I know for a fact because I've now watched this mindless SoCal-development show for 60 years. Los Angeles, and now its smaller cousin, Santa Monica, is for sale. Always has been, always will be. For sale.

Bill Bauer's column ("Like it or not, change is coming," My Write, Aug. 5) was quite accurate; young newcomers to Santa Monica think it's terrific, overdevelopment and all. Yet the fact that the city panders to newcomers and out-of-town developers rather than locals seems wrong to me.

And if we learn nothing else from this mess, we now know that rapid overdevelopment goes hand in hand with bad architecture. In the end, after all the developers have banked their millions we will be left with a very crowded small city full of very mediocre buildings that age badly.

This will be our legacy to future Santa Monicans.

K. Zompa
Santa Monica



Life Matters

Dr. JoAnne Barge — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How to know if you are entering a good marriage

DEAR LIFE MATTERS,

I am feeling depressed, but I am really more confused than depressed. At the end of June, I suddenly called off my wedding. I know why, at least I think I do. I feel kind of crazy to have gotten so far along only to have abruptly called it off.

We are still together. He thinks that I just got cold feet and even though it has caused him great embarrassment, which he constantly makes a point of, he forgives me because he understands that I have certain "weaknesses."

My friends and family think that I am nuts because he is so perfect in so many ways. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Ivy League colleges, he is already successful and well on his way to great things. He is also quite handsome and from a very good and wealthy family.

My family is also well off and my father has been very successful. I am quite close to my father, but the truth is that I have problems with my mother, who is always pointing out my flaws and trying to change and perfect me. Actually, this is one of the reasons that I stopped the wedding. My fiancé reminds me of my mother.

He "loves" me, but I am never quite as good as I should be or as good as he is. He is really great in all the ways that I have said and that my friends and family say. I do love him; he has a very sweet side. But he is hard on himself and hard on me. It's as if he is addicted to perfection.

But despite being hard on himself, he is also very vain. He is constantly bragging about himself and putting others down behind their backs. This is the side of him that I just hate. It really scares me. Yet he seems like that guy that most any woman would want and I really feel crazy, as in confused.

Signed,
Help

DEAR HELP,

I am really feeling you and understand your confusion. It is far better to stop and wait, trust your intuition and examine your fears before proceeding into such a big commitment.

While it may not seem so anymore, marriage is (meant to be) for a lifetime. If you break up the first year like many marriages do, you still will have spent lots of money unnecessarily and you will still experience the pain of a lost dream and feelings of embarrassment for having failed. And of course you will have to break up the household that you have set up, one of you will have to move and there will most likely be arguments over the wedding gifts.

If you continue in your marriage and then get pregnant, you will be together for the rest of your lives. And unless you get along well, your children will feel the effects of a bad marriage or divorce.

If you have big questions now you are right to step back and truly explore your concerns. Love is not enough! It can wear off quickly if you are not well suited for each other or if either one of you have problems with the others' character.

Simplifying it, you should have the three Cs: 1) Common values and goals 2) Character 3) Communication.

If you do not have all three, you are most likely headed for trouble.

I always recommend pre-marital counseling, with a religious leader or therapist, for anyone who has questions. This can give you the opportunity to clarify whether you have the same goals and values and if you have the same or at least similar expectations about what your family will look like.

It can also help you have better communication. It is often said that communication is the secret to staying in love.

Finally, it is extremely important that you like and respect your partner's character. Character is not something you can change later and if you don't like it now, that flame that burns hot today will eventually flicker out.

In your case, you have already called the wedding off so it should be no surprise that you want to do some counseling to be sure. If he won't go, that tells you a lot and I strongly advise you to go on your own.

There is not enough room or time here to go into what might be going on with him. However, I will say that he sounds deeply insecure. I realize it does not look like it, but anyone who constantly brags about himself or herself and puts others down is, in my view, someone who is trying to convince himself but probably does not know it. Underneath it all, there is serious insecurity.

But again, this is part of character and does not change on its own. If anything, it may get worse unless he is lucky enough to get some psychological help.

Dr. JoAnne Barge is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or send your anonymous questions to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let me help you with your life matters because it does.

The Q Line

Early reviews

The United States Postal Service recently closed the post office on Fifth Street in Downtown and opened its replacement on Seventh Street, just off Colorado Avenue.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What are your early impressions of the new location? Is it a suitable replacement?

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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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The summer of Shakespeare

IF YOU'RE A FAN OF THE BARD, SUMMER is your season. There are all sorts of wonderful Shakespeare productions going on, some indoors, some outdoors, some right in our neighborhood.

Shakespeare Santa Monica wins the prize for most unusual venue, serving up their 10th anniversary season on the tournament-style tennis courts at Christine Reed Memorial Park.

Two comedic works are on the bill. "Twelfth Night" and "The Taming of the Shrew" are performed in repertory with plenty of physical comedy, full-cast dance romps and lots of laughter. Their audience-friendly adaptations offer a great introduction to Shakespeare for the uninitiated.

The company is comprised of aspiring student artists and professional actors unified by their commitment to lifelong training in the classics. Every year the handpicked company of students and professionals train together for weeks before they pick up their scripts. They train with Louis Scheeder of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, Classical Studio; Jean Louis Rodrique of UCLA; and John Farmanesh-Bocca, former directing fellow at The Juilliard School and guest faculty at NYU.

Shakespeare Santa Monica serves as a summer professional training intensive in classical theatre acting, with teachers and directors from some of the finest arts institutions in the nation. They study text analysis, voice and speech, physical approach, scene study, as well as audition technique. They focus on elevating the actors' all around "game" so that they approach classical text, as well as all other work, with specificity, clarity, inspiration and daring.

"Twelfth Night" is a comedy of mischief, madness, moustaches and the love of love. When shipwrecked and bereaved Viola disguises herself as a boy, mistaken identities, unrequited love and other mishaps ensue. It's a hilarious and riotous tale of looking for love in all the wrong places and reminds us that happiness may come about in completely unexpected ways.

And "The Taming of the Shrew," immortalized on film by Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, depicts a feisty courtship between stubborn, headstrong Kate (the shrew) and gentlemanly suitor Petruchio, who through a series of psychological torments finally breaks down her resistance (the taming) until she becomes an obedient bride.

Something of an early anti-feminist treatise (or is it?) which manages to lampoon chauvinistic behavior while simultaneously reaffirming its social validity, the play celebrates the quick wit and fiery spirit of its heroine even while reveling in her humiliation. Set in a Rockabilly world full of Johnny Cash tunes and riotous fun.

The park is located at the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Seventh Street; performances take place Friday, Aug. 9 through Sunday, Aug. 30. For tickets and detailed information visit www.shakespearsantamonica.com, or buy them at the door. And kids and teens 16 years and younger always attend free, so bring the family.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

Unlike politics and sausage making, watching a theatre production in progress is something you do want to see. The Actors' Gang in Culver City has extended the run of its workshop production, "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

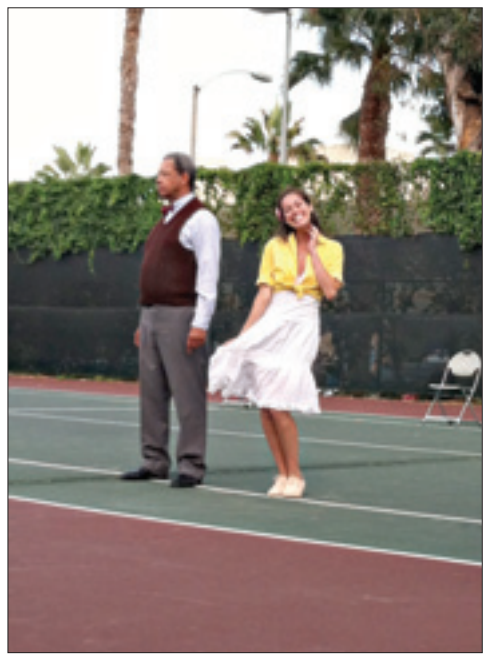


Photo courtesy City of Santa Monica

COMING SOON: Shakespeare in Santa Monica is celebrating its 10th year with performances of 'Twelfth Night' and 'The Taming of the Shrew' outdoors at Reed Park starting this Friday, Aug. 9.

A devoted shepherd to his theatrical flock, artistic director Tim Robbins has helmed this wonderfully inventive and imaginative company for decades and directs this production.

This Shakespearean romp is performed without a stage set, leaving the audience to imagine the court of Athens and the forest in which all the mayhem transpires. Actors quickly shift between costume and character within view of the audience from the sides of the stage.

When nothing is hidden how does magic arise? That's the theatrical sleight of hand this company excels in. For the most part, the play works as it should. We witness the confusion of four young lovers, a feuding fairy king and queen, roughshod workmen portraying actors who hope to perform for the royal couple's nuptials, and potions that throw the whole works into confusion.

Workshop productions are plays in progress and are usually not quite ready for prime time, as things are still being worked out. That's certainly true in this case. Several of Robbins' directorial choices confused me. For example, he has three actors playing Puck; and sometimes the young lovers' words come from the actors holding branch props as they stand in for trees in the forest.

In a chat during intermission, Robbins told me that because Puck describes himself as a shape shifter he went with three actors. He also said he views some of the text spoken aloud in the woods by the lovers as "interior monologues." While these explanations make sense viewed intellectually, I'm not sure they serve their purposes well on stage.

But for me the most egregious error is not witnessing the transformation of Bottom the Weaver from human to donkey. This, I believe, is essential, and unfortunately takes place off stage.

Some of the comically exaggerated scenes go on too long past their punch lines, becoming a bit self-indulgent and could easily be trimmed. Sometimes less is more.

However, my faith in The Actors' Gang is complete and I know they'll work out the kinks. Enjoy this rendition of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and the passion of this essential Los Angeles company. It

SEE WATCH PAGE 6

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Notice of Destruction of Special Education Records

This notification is to inform parents/guardians and former students of Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District's intent to destroy the Special Education records of students born between 1980 through 1988. These records will be destroyed in accordance with state law. Records not requested by September 9, 2013 will be destroyed. With proof of identity, the parent/guardian or eligible (adult) student may request a copy of the records by contacting the SMMUSD's Special Education Department at 310-450-8338 ext. 70393.

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Photo courtesy Charles Swenson

ALONG FOR THE RIDE: Animator Charles Swenson's series 'Sidecar' will be featured in an exhibit at the haleArts S P A C E starting this Friday. The show will run though Aug. 21.

Animator tries different medium

BY HENRY LONG
Special to the Daily Press

MAIN STREET Charles Swenson is probably best known for his work as animator, producer and creative director for children's TV series such as "Rugrats," "Santo Bugito," and "Aahh!! Real Monsters." He has worked with talent such as Frank Zappa, Peter Yarrow and Harry Nilsson.

Swenson received various awards including an Emmy for Best Children's Program, a Humanitas Award and a Cable Ace Award.

Throughout his busy Hollywood career, Swenson was also a fine painter and continues to create art. He is a full-time artist and paints everyday. Swenson's art has been in group and solo shows all over Los Angeles. Several pieces from his "Nudes and Shoes" series were part of a Valentine's Day show at haleARTS S P A C E in Santa Monica this past February.

The Santa Monica gallery holds openings every two weeks featuring local talent.

"The theme of the show is nostalgic and reminiscent of childhood dreams, familiar escapes and life's experiences," gallery owner Michael Hale said of Swenson's latest work.

Hale admits he is a fan of Swenson.

"His extremely talented illustrative techniques and his wonderful sense of emotion that exude from his work are quite remarkable."

As part of the haleARTS S P A C E exhibition opening Friday, Aug. 9, Swenson will showcase his "Sidecar" series, featuring a motorcycle with a sidecar. Here you can see his animation influence. The work is whimsical and brings to mind a child-like playfulness.

Hale felt this particular series is a perfect match for the exhibition, allowing Swenson's vision to come alive.

"I love the way the inanimate objects become quite human and you 'feel' the ride they are on," Hale said.

Hale has curated an exhibit allowing the childhood memories from each artist to be showcased. It will also feature the work of Jerry Shevick and Phyllis Stuart.

The show will run through Aug. 21. The opening reception will be held Friday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. haleARTS S P A C E is located at Edgemar Center, 2443 Main St. in Santa Monica. For more information, visit www.halearts.com or charlesgswenson.com.

editor@smdp.com

WATCH
FROM PAGE 5

takes place at their Ivy Substation stage at Venice and Culver boulevards. Tickets and info at www.theactorsgang.com.

The Actors' Gang's gift to the community is their annual free outdoor Summer Family Shakespeare in the Park, which takes place in Media Park, surrounding the Ivy Substation. This year's adaptation is "Twelfth Night: The Superhero Edition," in which your favorite superheroes play out the classic love triangles, disguises and mistaken identities. Adapted and directed by Cynthia Ettinger, "Twelfth Night: The Superhero Edition" has fun performances, music, dance and audience participation that delivers the timeless message of "Twelfth Night." It's a rollicking adaptation for children and adults alike.

FARTHER AFIELD

Lastly, the Independent Shakespeare Company puts on The Griffith Park Free Shakespeare Festival with upcoming productions of "Macbeth" and "As You Like It," closing out their season through Sept. 1. Visit www.independentshakespeareco.org for dates, details and location.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She has also reviewed theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

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SENIORS
FROM PAGE 1

participants sign up for the program because they acknowledge there is a problem, which can vary in severity.

"The purpose is to give ongoing support for people who have been going through this issue," Sheila Segal, director of peer counseling at WISE, said. "There's a value in being together with a group of strangers because there is less shame involved and less worry of being judged by family members and comfort of knowing you're not alone."

Next month, the program, which is taught by peer counselors, will cover 15 sessions over 20 weeks and cost $3 per session. Participants, who meet weekly, will do homework out of "Buried in Treasures," a book which the program provides. Participants can be a part of a support group after the program is completed, which meets twice monthly.

Segal said low-income seniors aren't turned away from the program.

Mary is part of the support group, led by Ellen Satkin, a peer counselor. Mary, who called herself a "clutterer," but acknowledged she did have hoarding tendencies in the past, said it's not easy to let go of belongings or things. She said she is still in the process of giving away items from her plethora of boxes.

"The most glorious thing is finding out you're not alone and there are techniques to handle this, whatever my issue or someone else's may be," Mary said. "It's not this instant fix. I want to maintain my skills and improve them even more."

Karron Maidment, registered nurse and marriage and family therapist at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center's Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Intensive Treatment Program, said the classes at WISE are excellent to impart knowledge, give support and exchange ideas among the elderly. She said people who hoard may not be able to get rid of stuff without help.

That "stuff' includes paperwork, boxes, old news articles, memorabilia and more.

Maidment said there are two groups of people who hoard: from a young age and those who develop hoarding when they're middle-aged or older.

"It's useful to point out there's lots of different types of hoarding," Maidment said. "When we talk about hoarding in the psychiatric world, we're referring to compulsive hoarding which is the result of a very distinct brain anomaly."

She said the anomaly lies in the anterior and posterior cingulate cortex, which isn't functioning as efficiently as they should. Those parts of the brain have to do with organizing and visual and spatial problems, Maidment said.

Thea Drayer, a peer counselor, said the program is a step-by-step approach. She said the program first makes the participants aware of what the problem is and gives them tools to address it.

"People like to buy stuff they don't need," Drayer said. "So we go over this and talk to them and send them to non-acquiring trips and don't buy anything. When they feel bad, they go on shopping sprees."



Ameera Butt *ameera@smdp.com*

SOURCE INFO: The book 'Buried in Treasures' was part of a program on senior hoarding at the Ken Edwards Center on Wednesday.

The idea for the initial program was formed after a three-day workshop more than a year ago on cluttering and collecting was deemed a success by officials.

Segal said the group of participants aren't called "hoarders" because "that's the fastest way to make people disappear." She said the language is a painful diagnosis and the program's aim is to encourage people to address their own challenges.

NOT JUST A MENTAL PROBLEM

Hoarding or collecting too much food, personal belongings or canned goods inside a home can be a safety concern for the elderly, said Joe Trujillo, code enforcement division manager with City Hall.

"We're concerned with their safety in the property and not creating a safety hazard by blocking the exits or heating vents," Trujillo said. City officials deal with a lot of cluttering and hoarding cases involving the elderly.

Trujillo said when dealing with elderly cluttering cases, there's a lot of expertise that City Hall utilizes from the Los Angeles County Health Services and Adult Protective Services, among others.

"A lot of times the enforcement may not be the best ... and we have to work with them on what is trash and harmful to surrounding properties and what actually belongs to them," Trujillo said.

Segal said the program will be ongoing throughout the year and if those interested don't get into September's program, there are other opportunities later on in the year. There is limited space for next month's program.

Those who are interested can attend the orientation meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 14 at the Ken Edwards Center at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call (310) 394-9871 ext. 373 or ext. 215.

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **65.3°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minor SW swell; new SSW swell starts to creep in late

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
New SSW swell fills in

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high
Modest SSW swell tops out late; Plus sets for tops pots; stay tuned

SUNDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
SSW swell starts to slowly ease

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 **July 31, 2013**

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 -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.		
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	B	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	ns	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	ns	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Puliga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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

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

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FEE
FROM PAGE 1

Parents can go online to update all of their emergency and contact information, which used to be done by paper and pencil, as well as purchase yearbooks or physical education clothes for their kids, Deloria said.

Superintendent Sandra Lyon said the goal of the tool is to make it easier for parents to register and pay their fees. She said the 4 percent charge goes to infosnap.

"The goal is to have all of our schools registered online," Lyon said.

In the e-mail thread, some parents questioned the fee when making donations online as well.

Lisa Balfus, president of the PTSA at Samohi, said if parents do not want to pay the processing fee they can donate directly through the PTSA website or donate directly through the Campaign for Student Success. She said the PTSA will also accept checks anytime during the year and on the day of registration.

Balfus said she recognized the district shouldn't be giving money to infosnap that otherwise could be given to the school. She said the alternative for more than 3,000 kids is district officials coding and entering data for hours during the summer when they should be getting the school ready for the new year.

"It's a two-year contract, nobody particularly is thrilled with the company," Balfus said.

ameera@smdp.com

NEWS
FROM PAGE 3

outweigh the costs, arguing there is always room for more fresh dialogue on several Santa Monica issues.

"I could not imagine a situation where there were too many media outlets," Gruber said.

Kahn explained that the Internet has made it easier than ever before to enter the news industry with independent online-only outlets like Santa Monica Next by-passing the costs of ink, print and delivery.

"Now you can sit in your underwear in your living room and run a blog," Kahn said.

He did stipulate, however, that while anyone can start a news site, it's another matter to consistently update it with information gathered by a team of reporters that conducted interviews to write their stories.

For now Kavanagh will be the main writer on Santa Monica Next with Newton as the editor. They both hope to attract guest contributors as well.

Kavanagh noted that Santa Monica houses a strong community of activists, each sounding off as individual voices. Given that L.A. Streetsblog has been an important springboard of Los Angeles' activist community, he hopes Santa Monica Next will be able to centralize all local voices into one convenient digital location.

While the duo of Newton and Kavanagh already has funding set aside for the launching — in addition to the funds they are collecting through Kickstarter — they will also host a rooftop fundraiser event for both the new project and L.A. Streetsblog on Sept. 22. The exact location has not yet been determined.

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12:30pm, 3:10pm, 5:40pm, 8:10pm, 10:30pm

Pacific Rim (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:15pm, 10:20pm

Conjuring (R) 1hr 52min
1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm

To Do List (R) 1hr 40min
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Fruitvale Station (R) 1hr 25min
3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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Elysium (R) 1hr 49min
10:00pm

Turbo (PG) 1hr 36min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm

Smurfs 2 (PG) 1hr 45min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm

Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters (PG) 1hr 46min
11:10am, 4:35pm, 10:00pm

Grown Ups 2 (PG-13) 1hr 41min
4:45pm, 7:30pm

The Wolverine (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
12:30pm, 7:00pm

2 Guns (R) 1hr 49min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

We're the Millers (R) 1hr 49min
11:30am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm, 8:30pm, 10:25pm

The Wolverine in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
3:45pm, 10:15pm

Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters in 3D (PG) 1hr 46min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

Smurfs 2 in 3D (PG) 1hr 45min
7:10pm, 9:55pm

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Drift (R) 1hr 53min
4:20pm, 10:00pm

20 Feet from Stardom (PG-13) 1hr 30min
1:40pm

Way, Way Back (PG-13) 1hr 43min
2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Blue Jasmine (PG-13) 1hr 38min
12:00pm, 12:30pm, 2:25pm, 3:00pm, 4:50pm, 5:30pm, 7:20pm, 8:00pm, 9:50pm, 10:25pm

Anna Netrebko - Live from Red Square, Moscow 2013 (NR)
7:30pm

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

Happy Birthday

Tish Tisherman: Santa Monica Chamber, HR guru.

Plan your weekend, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Make a point to give a loved one some extra attention. You will find that you have entered a period where your compassion soars; nevertheless, confusion could break out with a partner. Tonight: Check your budget.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You are coming from a place of stability. You have a way of letting others know how much you care simply with a helpful or sensitive statement. If someone shuts down, others might step in and try to push him or her around. Tonight: Think "weekend."

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might want to cocoon at home to get away from the many requests heading your way. You'll have a desire to make an appearance, but responsibilities could hold you back. Tonight: Call a loved one to catch up on news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Keep your door open, even if you have the urge to slam it shut. You will be dealing with others' difficult behavior. Step in and try to find a solution that will bring others together. Tonight: Call a friend or loved one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Mercury moves into your sign, which adds to that famous Leo charisma you possess. Even if you try to push someone away, it will be difficult. A family member might be on your mind. You will have to clear up this situation in order to concentrate. Tonight: Plan your weekend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You blast into the day all smiles and ready to handle whatever you must. A discussion with a partner could take you in a lot of different directions. This person might be unusually vague, which allows your creativity to emerge. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You will see how somber those around you really are. Many of you might want to leave this gloomy situation behind as soon as you can. Say "no" to a manipulative family member. Tonight: Not to be found.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your words will be heard by the right person. You might need to go the extra mile to impress a boss. You will gain his or her approval, and you'll find that it encourages you. A key person in your life could be very controlling. Tonight: Find your friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Your take-charge attitude will be appreciated by many. Just like everyone else, you have ideas that could cause controversy. Proceed with care. Your creativity will emerge as pressure builds. Keeping others involved is important -- you can do it! Tonight: On top of your game.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Investigate alternatives. Decide to take an overview by detaching and speaking with others who are not involved. You will demonstrate more ability to flex and come up with dynamic solutions. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be driven by a need to change direction, but you might wonder how to do that. Use caution with your funds. What you thought was a good idea could be off. Take as few risks as possible right now. Tonight: Meet a friend for dinner.

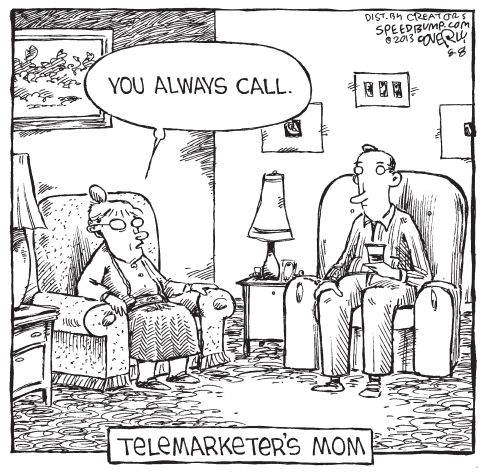
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You often inspire others, but certain people could be extremely critical of your motivational powers. Could they be jealous? Consider that they might have the same characteristic but choose to express it in a very different way. Tonight: Make peace.

Thursday, August 8, 2013

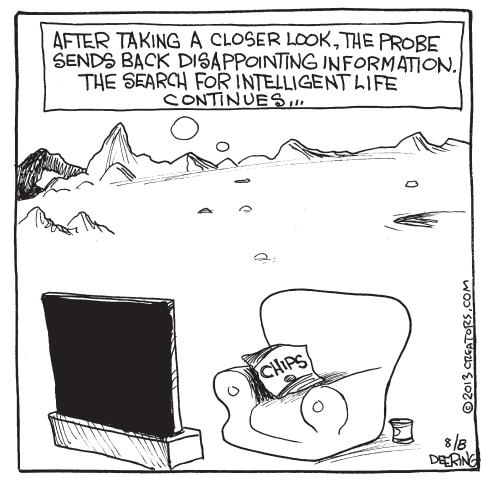
This year you'll have many new offers that could affect your finances. It is imperative that you really check out each one with care. A friend or partner often might confuse you on these matters. If you are single, you could meet someone very special ... or so it seems. This person might dazzle you, but be aware that he or she could be very different beneath the surface. If you are attached, the two of you could have misunderstandings about your finances. Perhaps having separate checkbooks is the solution. VIRGO can be fussy.

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

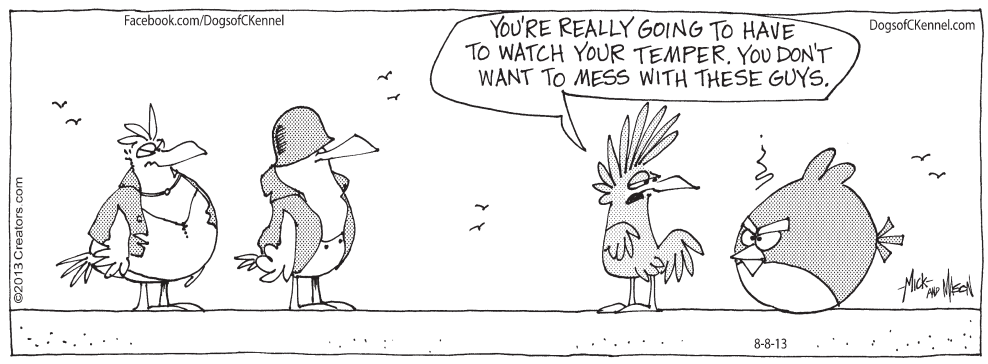
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



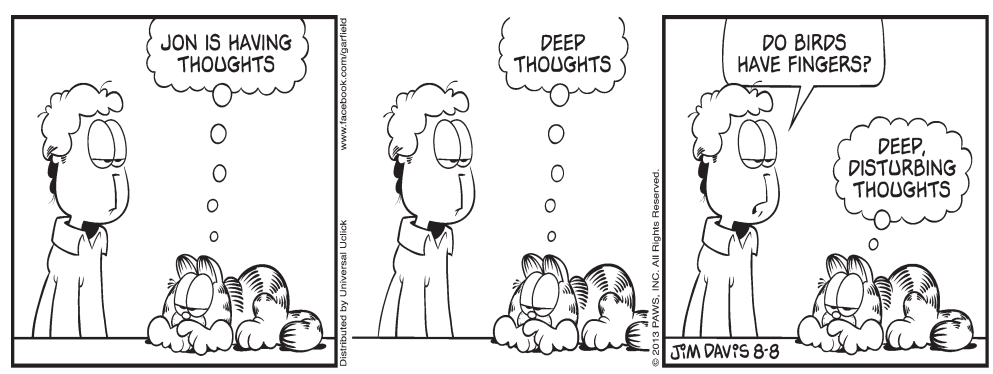
Strange Brew
By John Deering



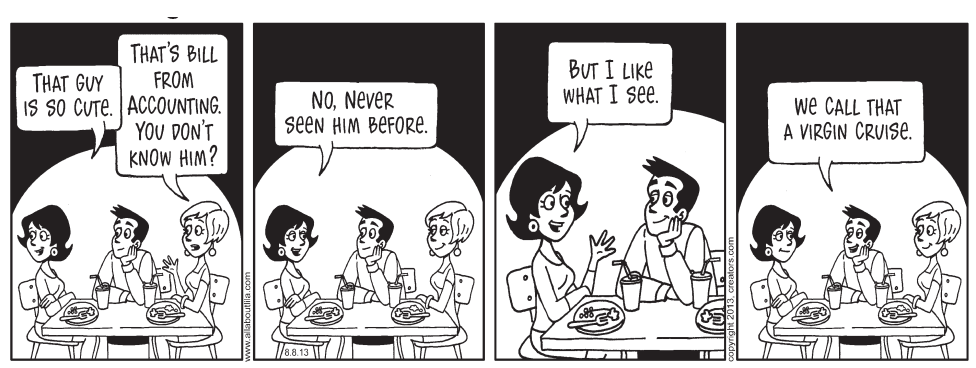
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



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 ★★★

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

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

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

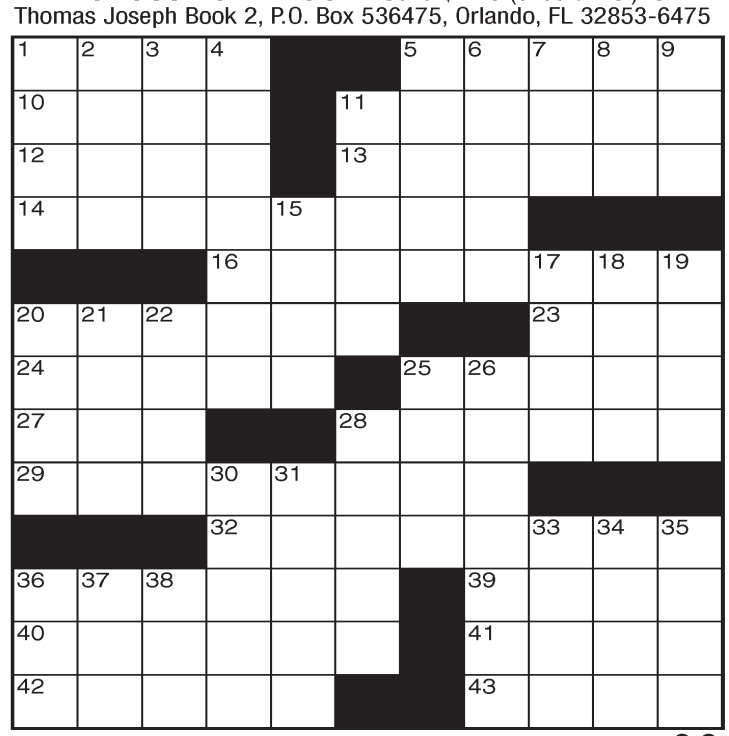
ACROSS
1 Embedded spy
5 Hamper
10 Stratford's river
11 Men's topper
12 Called up
13 Luke's mentor
14 Unambiguous
16 First version of a film
20 Barters
23 Lennon's love
24 Solemn ceremonies
25 Andorra neighbor
27 Before today
28 Uneven
29 Painful injury
32 Expedient route
36 Mild cheese
39 Lohengrin's love
40 Globe features
41 Stagger
42 Cry of disbelief
43 Ticked off

DOWN
1 Painter Chagall
2 Track shape
3 Single
4 Fencing cry
5 Work on code
6 Singer Piaf
7 Highway rescue
8 Memorable time
9 Operated
11 Concentrate
15 Eurasian deer
17 Varnish layer
18 Foot or furlong
19 Theater prize
20 Sting operation
21 Latvia's capital
22 Resting on
25 Boot attachment
26 Clay workers
28 Highlanders
30 School paper
31 Lorelei's river
33 "Pinocchio" fish
34 Manual reader
35 Yarn
36 Singer Waits
37 None too cordial
38 Sheltered side

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

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



8-8



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Sharon Jobson thought her major grieving was over at the two-year mark after her son had been killed driving into a CN Rail train at a crossing that had not then been updated with safety features. (John Jobson, 22, was speeding and failed to stop, perhaps because of a partially obscured warning sign and a nonstandard train horn.) The government subsequently ordered upgrades, and Sharon decided not to sue, but CN Rail had no such reluctance and filed in July for $500,000 against John's estate to cover damage to its tracks and the subsequent customer slowdown caused by the collision. (At press time, with grief forced upon her once again, Sharon was re-evaluating litigation.)

■ Inexplicable: (1) In May, a 24-year-old man accidentally shot a teenage boy in the leg with a high-caliber gun at a home in Santa Fe, Texas, in front of the boy's mother, whose first reaction was to look up "gunshot" on WebMD -- and then not to take her son to Mainland Medical Center until seven hours later. Deborah Tagle was charged, along with the shooter, for injury to a child. (2) Carole Longhorn, 66, struck a metal object in her garden in Norfolk, England, in June, and, though it looked like a projectile-bomb, she said she decided to take it inside and wash it off in the sink before calling police (who later detonated the World War II-era munition in a controlled explosion). (Said her husband later: "You can imagine what I said to her.")

TODAY IN HISTORY

1967 – The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is founded by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

WORD UP!

holograph
\ HOL-uh-graf, -grahf, HOH-luh- \ , adjective;
1. wholly written by the person in whose name it appears: a holograph letter.

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IT
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Software Engineer (8YXPY9): MS + 3 yrs exp or BS + 5 yrs exp. Exp must incl web-based app exp on MS pltfrm; SDLC; SaaS; Team Syst/Team Foundation Srvr; MSMQ; C#, ASP.Net 4.0, T-SQL, SQL Srvr 2008, WCF, AJAX, JQuery, JavaScript; exp in startup envirnmnt or on global sw team.

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