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Volume 14 Issue 288

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File photo

TESTING OUT STUDENTS: State tests have revealed major discrepancies across school sites among the SMMUSD.

State tests reveal 'bright spots,' areas of concern

Mindful of achievement gaps, SMMUSD analyzes site-level data

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

The local Board of Education already reviewed data on how Santa Monica-Malibu students fared on new state tests and how their success rates varied along racial lines, a subject of particular concern as officials work to address longstanding achievement gaps.

SEE **TEST** PAGE 3

Stabbing, armed robbery command SMPD attention

LAPD pursuit ends at Santa Monica Airport

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

In a 13-hour span from Monday afternoon to Tuesday morning, local authorities responded to a stabbing near Virginia Avenue Park and assisted in the arrest of armed robbery suspects at Santa Monica Airport.

The busy spell for the Santa Monica Police Department began following reports of a stabbing at about 4:15 p.m. Monday near the intersection of Pico and Cloverfield boulevards.

According to police, the 22-year-old victim was seated with his girlfriend at a bus stop on the north side of Pico Boulevard when three Hispanic male suspects approached and asked, "Where are you from?" The question often refers to gang affiliation.

One of the suspects threw a block of wood at the victim, police said. Another suspect stabbed the victim with a knife before fleeing northbound on Cloverfield Boulevard.

The victim sustained a puncture wound on the left side of his body and initially was not cooperating with emergency responders, Sgt. Rudy Camarena said. The victim was eventually taken to a local hospital and treated for injuries that were not deemed to be life threatening.

The incident remains under investigation and no arrests had been made as of Tuesday afternoon, Camarena said.

Traffic was backed up in the area Monday afternoon as police

SEE **COPS** PAGE 7

Banking on the aid of others

Domestic violence survivor finds footing with help of local nonprofits

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

In order to make it to her job training program in San Bernardino, Deborah Smith would leave Santa Monica at 4 a.m. each morning to take two buses, a Metro train and a Metrolink rail before walking 2 miles to the office.

Few knew that she was coming from a local shelter. Fewer knew she was a

SEE **SURVIVOR** PAGE 7



Courtesy Photo

COMING TO THE RESCUE: Sojourn, OPCC's shelter for battered women, was one of the organizations that helped Deborah Smith rebuild her life after being the victim of domestic violence. OPCC, formerly known as Ocean Park Community Center, is a significant provider of social services locally.


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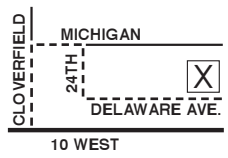


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November 13th

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

October 14

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Please register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/47196 or call 310-458-2239. Palisades Park, 12:30 - 2 p.m.

Computer Basics: Beyond the Mouse

Use your growing mouse skills to perform a variety of basic tasks on a computer. Limited seating is on a first-arrival basis. For more information or questions, please visit the Reference Desk or call 310-434-2608. Main Library, Computer Classroom, 2nd Floor, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Excel I (MS Office 2010)

This introductory class will cover how to format cells and manipulate data to create simple spreadsheets. Seating is first come, first serve. Intermediate Level. For more information, please visit the Reference Desk or call 310-434-2608. Main Library, Computer Classroom, 2nd Floor, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 - 7 p.m.

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 7 p.m.

Mindful Meditation

Instructor Henry Schipper teaches the basics of Mindful meditation. Ocean Park Branch LIbrary, 2601 Main St., 7 - 8 p.m.

Santa Monica Bay Womans Club Health Lecture Series

Marc Milstein, PhD will share the latest cutting edge science research that gives powerful insights into how to fall asleep, stay asleep and wake up feeling refreshed. Santa Monica Bay Womans Club, 1210 4th St., 7 p.m.

October 15

Dr. Helmut Weissert: "Deep Sea Sediments - Archives for Ocean and Climate HIstory"

President of the Swiss Geological Commission, Dr. Helmut Weissert – a Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at ETH Zurich – is a research expert in the fields of sedimentology, paleoclimatology, and the interaction of past climate with the evolution of the biosphere. Free event. 1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.

Classic Film & Discussion: The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance

A senator, who became famous for killing a notorious outlaw, returns for the funeral of an old friend and tells the truth about his deed. Starring James Stewart and John Wayne, this film is considered to be one of director John Ford's greatest westerns. (Film runtime - 123 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 2 - 5 p.m.

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Housing Commission, http://www.smgov.net/Departments/HED/Housing_and_Redevelopment/Housing/Housing_Division.aspx. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4:30 p.m.

Front Porch Cinema

Special outdoor movie. Food vendors, other activities. For more information call (310) 458-8901 or visit www.santamonicapier.org. Thursday's movie is The Imitation Game. Santa Monica

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

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

TEST

FROM PAGE 1

But this month the school board took a deeper dive into the statistics, which reveal major discrepancies across school sites in the district.

Officials have said the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress exams, which are administered to students in grades 3-8 and 11, are fundamentally different in how they evaluate student knowledge. Emphasizing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills over memorization and guessing, the Smarter Balanced assessments are aligned with Common Core standards.

About 68 percent of SMMUSD students who took the new tests met or exceeded standards in English and 57 percent met or exceeded standards for math, according to state data. Those numbers compare favorably to the 44 percent of California students who met or exceeded English standards and the 34 percent who met or exceeded math standards.

Officials expect scores to rise in the future as students grow more accustomed to the tests and as teachers align instruction to state standards.

District leaders are now tasked with identifying the practices that have the greatest impacts on improvement and helping teachers implement them. They are particularly interested in finding ways to help African-American and Latino students as well as English learners and students with special needs.

'BRIGHT SPOTS'

SMMUSD officials noticed several "bright spots," which scholar and education consultant Pedro Noguera has said could help the district develop strategies to reduce achievement gaps.

At Webster Elementary School in Malibu, for example, pass rates topped 66 percent for English and math in grades 3-5, and many more students were close to the standard. At Edison Language Academy, the district's dual-immersion site, at least 86 percent of students were near, at or above English standards in grades 3-5.

But performance varied greatly at the district's elementary campuses, data shows.

Pass rates in English ranged from as high as 89 percent at Franklin and 81 percent at Roosevelt to just 44 percent at John Muir and 52 percent at Will Rogers.

Meanwhile, 86 percent of Franklin test-takers and 79 percent of Roosevelt test-takers met or exceeded the benchmark standard in math, while those figures sagged significantly at John Muir (32 percent) and Will Rogers (37 percent).

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Success rates were slightly higher overall at the district's middle and high schools, but SMMUSD officials will likely have to address non-participation as a potential issue.

Eighty-three percent of test-takers in grades 6-8 at Santa Monica Alternative School House met or exceeded the standard in English, 76 percent passed at Malibu High School and 73 percent tested at or above standard at both Lincoln and Malibu middle schools. The pass rate in English at Santa Monica High School, though, was just 47 percent.

Pass rates for math at the secondary schools were highest at Lincoln (63 percent), SMASH (62 percent) and Malibu Middle School (61 percent). The numbers fell to 42 percent for Samohi and 41 percent for John Adams Middle School.

At Olympic High School, the district's continuation campus, the pass rate for English was just 5 percent. None of the school's test-takers passed the math portion of the exam, according to the data.

Non-participation rates were particularly high at Olympic for both English (40 percent) and math (19 percent).

Samohi juniors opted out of the English portion of the exam at a rate of 21 percent, a figure that climbed to 34 percent among black students. The school's non-participation rate in math was 10 percent.

jeff@smdp.com

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

Pier, 5 - 10 p.m.

GED Prep Class

Get prepared to take the Reasoning Through Language Arts subject test of the GED. Class will be held in the Mac Lab classroom at the Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center, adjacent to Pico Branch Library. 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 - 8 p.m.

Pico Branch Book Group

Join organizers for the Pico Branch Book Group, which meets the third Thursday of each month and discusses a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction genres. This group is open to all, including newcomers and those who have joined us for past discussions. Book: "The Grand Sophy" by Georgette Heyer, Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 7 - 8 p.m.

Margaret Stohl and the Women of Marvel present Black Widow: Forever Red

Join #1 NYT bestselling author Margaret Stohl for the SoCal release event of Black Widow: Forever Red, a Marvel YA novel. This event also features special guests The Women of Marvel, including Marguerite Bennett (Marvel's A Force), Lorraine Cink (Marvel's "The Watcher"), Ann Foley (Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.), and Judy Stephens (Marvel Producer, cosplay expert). The event also includes Marvel comic giveaways. Come in cosplay and win prizes. A book sale and signing follows. Free program. All ages welcome. Seating first come, first served. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 - 8:45 p.m.

Recreation & Parks Commission

Meeting of the Recreation & Parks Commission. www.smgov.net/Departments/CCS/content.aspx?id=31987, City Hall, 1685 Main St., 7:30 p.m.

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Hey Dr. Ben, God speaks to me too, says, move it

GOD HAS BEEN TELLING ME TO WALK MORE.

Not directly, of course. No, no. that would necessitate changing my political party affiliation. (Not to mention, all my spiritual beliefs.)

Speaking of which, if God told Scott Walker it was his plan for him to run where does that leave his now-errant servant, withdrawing from the race?

Walker wrote, in his first fundraising letter to the faithful, "I am certain: This is God's plan for me and I am humbled to be a candidate for President of the United States." Definitely a good money-raising pitch, but as a God-fearing man, isn't Walker very, very fearful of disobeying a direct order from the real commander in chief?

Come on Scott, Noah built a dang 200-foot yacht out of wood, without a glue gun or a power saw, and packed it with two of every species (late to the launch and you're extinct!). And you, Scott, can't even follow through on a run for president? Sure, it's not a walk in the park, but it beats wrangling Tasmanian Devil duos and trying to keep the lions eating dog food instead of half the other passengers.

What about Rick Perry? His wife likened him to Moses, told him, "You may not see that burning bush, but there are people seeing that burning bush for you." But now he's burned out, bushed, and not running.

When asked if God had pushed him into the race Ben Carson said, "I feel fingers." (Lord, I love Dr. Ben. Couldn't have made him up.) Plus the divine invites to, of course, evangelical pastor Mike Huckabee, Ramblin' Rick Santorum, and even the sometimes-sensible John Kasich. That's six Republican runners for the White House (up from only three in 2012) who all claim to have been personally called by God.

Is God messin' with us? Or just with them? I've always explained some of life's strange twists by jokingly asserting, "this proves there's a god, and that she has a sense of humor." But if God can juggle prayers from millions of lottery ticket holders, all the contestants of "Project Runway," or fans of opposing World Series teams, I guess she can tell six different candidates it's her command that they each land in the Oval Office. And no one has a problem with that conundrum.

BUT ENOUGH OF THOSE BEATIFIC BOZOS. What about me and walking, and let's leave God out of it, shall we? When I say, facetiously, God's telling me something, what I mean is, life circumstances seem to be pointing in a certain direction, and I would be wise to pay attention. I have to put walking back on my radar.

And not a moment, or a month, too soon. Those of you who may have read a random column or two of mine may know that I'm on a mission to walk every single street in Santa Monica - again. I did it once and am working on the second go around, but was shocked to check my map (you can't be sure you've hit every street unless you mark it all on a map) and discover I hadn't done a walk that counts since - April!

Now before you go tattling to my cardiologists, I've been substituting a lot of hard basketball, usually an hour's worth or more, one-on-one, so there's no place to hide or slack off. Several notches up from a long walk. But one of my two hoops buddies moved and now it's time to go walking again to fill in the gaps.

Last Sunday I was going to walk just a few blocks to meet a friend on Main Street, but wound up cutting it too close and hopped in the car to save a few minutes and be on time, forgetting where I was - Santa Monica! You can't drive here, silly.

Even on a Sunday morning it should be no problem to find one spot within a block or two of a coffee shop on Main Street, including side streets, right? Right, if I was driving: 1) a commercial vehicle for unloading, or 2) a taxi, or 3) a tour bus, or 4) willing to valet park. Then, within two blocks north of Ocean Park on Main, plenty of choices, next to those signs. But as just a regular Joe, in my own car, trying to stop for a cuppa joe - forget it.

TOUR BUSES? REALLY? I have to see spaces I used to be able to park in sit empty until the tour bus comes along every once in a while (especially in the off season)? Main Street is a neighborhood, you know, surrounded by homes. People. Residents. But like I said, God, or the powers that be in Santa Monica who determine who gets to park and who doesn't, dictated I must throw on the walking shoes more often, even when I can't or don't want to.

So bright and early the next morning I was off for an hour's jaunt around the 20th and California area. This walking thing's kind of interesting, I'm now remembering.

Amazing how some people can turn their small front yard into a landscaped masterpiece, and others into a well-intentioned junkyard. Almost every residential block seems to include the spectrum, from inspiration to design disaster.

Spending time on Wilshire, I passed a showroom window with a spiffy Mercedes sporting a $152,000 price tag on the windshield. Reminded me of some parking tickets I've gotten here.

A sports therapy office had the shortest basketball hoop I've ever seen, planted in concrete on their front patio. Sure enough, when I reached up, flatfooted, I could rest my wrist on the rim. Note to self: cure for the blues, a place this white man can dunk.

Passing one of our new modern bus stops, I noticed the new trash receptacle had a large rust spot on it. Already? That's not part of the signature bluish color scheme.

Lawn bowling at Douglas Park! Thousands of them! (Well, dozens.) Is this what I miss by not getting out early on Sundays? Love it! Everybody's older than me! But wait, that big banner - this is a yearly tournament. I would enter next year… but it's too far to walk.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I am quite sure now that often, very often, in matters concerning religion and politics, a man's reasoning powers are not above the monkey's." - Mark Twain

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for almost 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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SQA WINNER

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Tales From Hi De Ho Comics

Geoffrey Wood Patterson II
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The women of Marvel comics

JOIN THE SANTA MONICA PUBLIC Library for Margaret Stohl and The Women of Marvel Comics on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Main Library's MLK Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

GUESTS INCLUDE NEW YORK TIMES NO. 1 BEST-SELLING AUTHOR MARGARET STOHL.

GP: What got you into comics as a career?
Stohl: I worked on Spiderman for the PS1, then Fantastic Four. So my introduction to Marvel, aside from as a fangirl, was through the videogame industry. Sixteen years later, having transitioned into writing for a YA audience, it's so amazing to come back to Marvel with my YA prose novel, "Black Widow: Forever Red," and my one-shot comic book, "Red Widow: First Strike."

GP: What hurdles have there historically been for women and girls to get into comics?
Stohl: Access, and the incorrect assumption that women and girls wouldn't read comics- along with the other inherent limitations of a traditionally male dominated industry.

GP: What can retailers do to alleviate those problems?
Stohl: Openly support women creators. Stock and sell books by women or by any creator who features female superheroes. Foster an environment of gender inclusivity so a fourteen-year-old girl doesn't feel afraid to walk into your store.

GP: What are some things you wished someone told you when you first started in the industry?
Stohl: Not just for comics but for any job: I wish my college had given lessons in how to respond to gender bias. I try to have those conversations with my own daughters now.

GP: What would you say to the supposed "old guard" who complain about the rise of female comic readers/attendees at conventions?
Stohl: Nothing. While I would never not use the platforms I have, I also would never directly engage someone like that. That unhappy person can't hear me, but it doesn't matter, because one day the teens in that unhappy person's life will say it for me.

GP: Why do you think this rise in female readership is happening now? What has changed?
Stohl: The Internet, I think, along with a broadening of defined gender norms. People have direct access to whatever stories they want, and less judgment surrounding their choices. Also Hollywood, and general geek chic. Nerds have gone mainstream.

GP: Considering so many of these characters have used their sex appeal to get the job done, how do you go about changing that dynamic?
Stohl: I think the trick is to let the current generation of young readers lead you. Look at who you are writing for: my fourteen year old daughter is the biggest feminist I know. I have three strong, smart daughters, all trained as fencers, who would usually rather kick your butt than flirt with you. That said, Black Widow is famous for having played helpless on more than one occasion, which she then pays off by roundly thumping you. So either way, you don't have to "do" anything other than let the strength of your female characters guide the plot and you!

MARGARET WILL BE JOINED BY ANN FOLEY (COSTUME DESIGNER OF "MARVEL'S AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D.")

GP: There have been a number of character redesigns in the last few years that have chose more practical suits over the classic sexy costumes. How do you balance the classic super hero aesthetic with the practical realities of having actors needed to fight in their costumes and yet make them recognizable?
Foley: My first responsibility is always to stay true to the world we have created on "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.," that said any super hero suit that has to be designed for the show will always have that practical/tactical edge to it. But I try and incorporate certain elements from the original comic design in all the costumes. Quake is a great example of that - I knew the symbol on her gauntlets was an important element in the comics so I put it not only on her gauntlets but on the back of her suit as well. It turned out great and is one of the coolest designs we've done on the show so far! I'm also not a big fan of over sexualizing the female characters - for me it's about making them feel empowered, confident without having to expose a lot of skin or having to fight in stilettos.

JUDY STEPHENS, A MARVEL PRODUCER AND COSPLAY EXPERT WILL ALSO BE A GUEST.

GP: How can we inspire more females to pursue careers in the comics industry?
Stephens: Through the Women of Marvel podcast, we aim to shine a light on fellow women working in the industry. Through these fellow writers, artists, photographers, designers and more, I hope more women can look to them for advice as they begin to start their own careers.

GP: How do you decide which characters you cosplay as?
Stephens: Choosing a character to cosplay can be as easy as, I love the design, or more about the experience and love you have for the character. When I chose to cosplay Captain Marvel, it was first that we had the same hair, but as I began to read the comics, it became more about who Carol was and what she stood for. She is by far one of the best experiences I've had as a cosplayer.

GP: What are some pointers you would give people trying to up their cosplay game?
Stephens: Making a costume is all about budget and scheduling. Before you even start cutting your fabric, list each item you'll need to make and/or buy for this costume, budget out these items and then try to plan our a schedule for each's completion. Many times, I find myself spending much more then I thought because I didn't plan ahead, or I had to rush to finish an item. Also, try to keep your cosplay somewhat practical. Think about how you're going to function in the costume, such as how you're going to get in and out of the costume, where you're going to keep your phone and wallet, and how you'll eat and drink. Thinking these points through will allow you to finish your costume on time, and help you wear the costume at the convention or event!

Alongside Ann and Margaret will be a panel of other badass Marvel women, including Marguerite Bennett (author of "Marvel's A Force"), and Lorraine Cink (host of "The Watcher"). A book sale and signing follows the event.

Special thanks to the female fan group The Conspiracy of Femmes, based at Fantom Comics in Washington, D.C. for help with the questions.

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AND OF COURSE WE DO
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-Cosmetics and Implants -Zoom bleaching -and more
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WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

CENTURY WEST PARTNERS
1320 2nd Street, LLC is accepting applications for qualified personnel for the construction of the mixed use apartment building in Santa Monica.
Resumes can be submitted via mail to 12121 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 720 Los Angeles, CA 90025 Attn: Jobs at 1320 2nd Street.

City of Santa Monica
REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC BID
The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County will receive sealed bids on the following: Bid #16.09 – Interior Window Roller Shade Materials and Installation- fitness and quality being equal, supplies grown, manufactured, or produced in the State of California will be given preference. All bids must be filed in the Purchasing Office at 1651 Sixteenth Street, Santa Monica, California on or before: November 3, 2015; 2:00 pm at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. A Mandatory Job Walk will be held on October 19, 2015. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Petition launched to bring back the ice on the Westside

Following the closure of the Culver Ice Arena in Culver City in 2014, a 52-year old community resource of the Greater Los Angeles area, a core group of rink/ice skating supporters have continued with efforts to make sure another ice arena is built on the Westside of Los Angeles.

This committee is called Bring Back The Ice and spearheaded by Dr. Steve Weinberg. Dr. Weinberg has launched a petition to support this project. A rendering of this project can be viewed online at www.ipetitions.com/petition/bring-ice-and-field-sports-complex-to-santa-monica.

"After several exploratory measures that have fallen by the wayside, we believe we have a real chance to bring the powers-that-be together and build an ice and field complex on the property where the Santa Monica Civic stands," said Weinberg, who encourages the Los Angeles skating community and AYSO soccer leagues to sign the petition.

Weinberg explains that adding a soccer field on top of the ice arena facility is in consideration of the large number of local soccer leagues who were promised a new athletic field at this location for over ten years by the City of Santa Monica.

Bring Back The Ice has engaged the soccer community by involving the Chair of the Santa Monica Field Sports Advisory Council, Maryanne LaGuardia.

"A new facility would be a monumental opportunity to give the soccer community an amazing destination right in the heart of Santa Monica," said LaGuardia.

"We understand the soccer community's needs and want to join forces with them to create a fantastic gathering place for skaters, soccer players and the Santa Monica community, while at the same time helping to revitalize the Civic Auditorium in order to create a unique performing arts/cultural district in line with the Working Group's vision for the property for generations to come," said Weinberg.

"This project is a once in a life-time opportunity. I encourage anyone who wants to bring back the ice to Los Angeles Westside to sign the petition," Weinberg said. "Please let the City of Santa Monica know how important this project is to the future of skating in Southern California."

The deadline to submit the petition to the Santa Monica City Council is November 8. For more information about the project or the petition, follow on the Bring Back The Ice Facebook Page, Twitter: @BringBackTheIce or call Dr. Weinberg at (310) 963-5898 .

- SUBMITTED BY BARBARA POMYKALSKI, BRING BACK THE ICE COMMITTEE

Citywide

New traffic ticket amnesty program

The California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) wants to inform customers about a new amnesty program designed to assist qualified drivers with paying unpaid traffic or non-traffic infraction tickets, by reducing fines by 50 or 80 percent. The 18-month long Traffic Tickets/Infractions Amnesty Program began October 1.

This new amnesty program is not a DMV program, applicants must contact the superior court in the jurisdiction(s) where they received the traffic ticket(s) to find out if they are eligible to participate. Applicants can find court information and locations on the California Court's Locator System at http://www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm.

California drivers with outstanding infraction tickets originally due for payment on or before January 1, 2013, and those seeking to have their driver license reinstated may qualify for the program. This amnesty program does not apply to parking tickets, reckless driving, and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) offenses.

Courts, counties, and other authorized collection agencies may charge a $50 amnesty program fee. Also, if reinstating your license, the DMV will charge a $55 reinstatement fee, which the department charges to have any driver license reinstated.

If you think you may qualify for the program, you may obtain a copy of your Driver Record in order to identify information on Failure-to-Pays or Failure-to-Appears, the cost is $2 online, or $5 in person or by mail.

For more information, visit http://dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv/detail/home/trafficamnestyprogram or http://www.courts.ca.gov/trafficamnesty.htm

– SUBMITTED BY DMV MEDIA RELATIONS

Community briefs are informational items submitted to the Santa Monica Daily Press by residents, businesses or organizations. The name and organizational affiliation of the individual who sent the information is provided at the end of each brief. To submit information, email editor@smdp.com.

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File photo

ON DUTY: **The Santa Monica Police Department has had their hands full the past couple days.**

COPS

FROM PAGE 1

and fire officials responded to the scene.

Early Tuesday morning, Los Angeles police followed two armed robbery suspects on a pursuit that started outside Santa Monica and ended at Santa Monica Airport, Camarena said. Two suspects were arrested, according to multiple media reports.

In situations of that nature, Santa Monica police assist the leading agency by setting up perimeters, Camarena said.

Camarena said he didn't know how many Santa Monica police officers were involved in the Tuesday morning incident. Additional details were not immediately available.

jeff@smdp.com

SURVIVOR

FROM PAGE 1

survivor of domestic violence. Not even she knew how destructive and debilitating her personal life had been.

"You don't realize you're in a toxic situation until you come out of it," she said.

Close to a year and a half ago, Smith broke free from an abusive relationship that she said lasted 30 years. In January, she started working for Wells Fargo with help from the Jewish Vocational Services of Los Angeles, a nonprofit organization that offers a variety of career services. And last month, she shared her tale at the organization's Woman to Woman Conference at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

As communities across the country recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout October, Smith hopes her story resonates with some of what the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates to be 4.7 million women in the U.S. who experience physical violence by an intimate partner every year.

"You find yourself in a circle of violence, and you make excuses for why it happened because it wasn't like that consistently," she said. "A lot of it happened behind the scenes, but out in public I smiled and waved. It's like starring in a play, and you know exactly how the play goes.

"I finally made the decision and thought, 'This is enough. I may not be able to walk away the next time.' I had always believed the, 'Oh, but I've changed,' but people don't change."

Leaving home with nothing but her wallet and the clothes she was wearing, Smith was determined to create a new life for herself. And Santa Monica served as an important setting on her path to recovery.

Smith was taken in at Sojourn, OPCC's shelter for battered women. The Santa Monica-based nonprofit, formerly known as Ocean Park Community Center, is one of the largest social service agencies in the region.

During her stay at the shelter, Smith assisted her own healing process by taking free yoga classes and walking to the beach. She also met a counselor who encouraged her to join WoMentoring, a JVS career program that connects clients with professionals in a variety of fields.

Smith, who had previous experience in the banking industry, then learned about another JVS initiative called BankWork$ that prepares clients for work in the financial services sector and provides them with job placement assistance and career coaching.

That's when she started using public transportation to commute daily from Santa Monica to San Bernardino. But with an eventual scholarship from the JVS Women's Leadership Network, she was able to rent a car to complete the 8-week training program.

Smith now works for Wells Fargo as a personal banker and business/community relations specialist. Although she had several job offers after completing the training program, Smith said she chose Wells Fargo because of how respectfully she was treated as a customer at one of its local branches while she lived at Sojourn.

Smith, who has two grown children, described her abusive relationship as a moving car out of which she couldn't jump for decades.

"I had to start my life over," she said. "I'm back in traditional housing, I'm happy and safe, and I'm very thankful for the help I did receive at a time when I was basically starting from scratch."

jeff@smdp.com









SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **72.1°**

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high occ. 5ft
SSW swell continues. WNW swell eases. Deep AM high tide slows many breaks.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
SSW swell continues for exposures. WNW swell fades. Deep AM high tide slows many breaks.

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-4 ft** knee to shoulder high
New SSW swell shows. Small WNW swell. Deep late AM high tide slows many breaks.

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 **January 12, 2015**

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 -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 19

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

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay'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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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON OCTOBER 2 AT ABOUT 12:15 A.M.

Officers saw a vehicle with no lights on, driving erratically in the area of Lincoln Blvd. and Pico Blvd. They stopped the vehicle and spoke to the driver. As they spoke to the driver, they could smell the strong odor of alcoholic beverages emitting from the vehicle. They conducted some Field Sobriety Tests and formed the opinion the driver was under the influence of alcohol. She was arrested for DUI and Probation Violation. She performed a breath test and blew over the legal limit. Shawna Marie Stewart 35 of Hermosa Beach had bail set at $15,000.

ON OCTOBER 2 AT AROUND 10:30 A.M.

Officers from the Crime Impact Team identified a wanted burglar from forensic evidence at the scene (700 block of Pier Ave). They followed the suspect from his home and arrested him outside of a grocery store in Los Angeles for Burglary and Probation Violation. Lamontae Larell Morrissette, 21 of Los Angeles had bail set at $50,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 373 calls for service on Oct. 12.

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

Hit And Run 1400 block of Ocean Park 7:12 a.m.
Traffic Accident 7th / Wilshire 7:16 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 7:47 a.m.
Traffic Accident 400 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 7:48 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 7th / California 7:58 a.m.
Death 2000 block of 21st 8:35 a.m.
Identity Theft 500 block of Pacific 10:11 a.m.
Battery 600 block of Pico 10:13 a.m.
Traffic Accident 1200 block of Harvard 10:24 a.m.
Threats 300 block of 11th 10:40 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1100 block of 7th 10:53 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 1900 block of Pico 10:55 a.m.
Hit And Run 2600 block of Santa Monica 11:38 a.m.
Hit And Run 800 block of Santa Monica 11:38 a.m.
Burglary 500 block of Wilshire 11:59 a.m.
Traffic Accident 2400 block of Centinela 12:06 p.m.
Grand Theft 100 block of San Vicente 12:09 p.m.
Grand Theft 100 block of Wilshire 12:17 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 300 block of California 12:40 p.m.
Traffic Accident 2000 block of 20th 1:23 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 100 block of Broadway 1:29 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1500 block of 7th 2:01 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400 block of 21st 2:11 p.m.
Person With A Gun 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica 2:13 p.m.
Death 200 block of Ocean 2:30 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2100 block of Neilson Way 2:38 p.m.
Person Down 1800 block of 9th 3:02 p.m.
Hit And Run 1200 block of 6th 3:39 p.m.
DUI Ocean Way / Pico 3:50 p.m.
Assault With A Deadly Weapon Cloverfield / Pico 4:12 p.m.
Grand Theft 2500 block of 5th 4:25 p.m.
Traffic Accident 2100 block of Ocean Park 5:22 p.m.
Burglary 200 block of Ocean 5:24 p.m.
Person Down 1200 block of 14th 5:45 p.m.
Battery 20th / Pico 5:50 p.m.
Traffic Accident Lincoln / Pico 5:53 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 6:21 p.m.
Fight 10th / Broadway 6:40 p.m.
Battery 700 block of Broadway 6:53 p.m.
Injured Person 20th / Pico 8:33 p.m.
Hit And Run 24th / Ocean Park 8:33 p.m.
Fight 25th / Ocean Park 8:46 p.m.
Domestic Violence 2500 block of Ocean Park 8:48 p.m.
Hit And Run 2600 block of Cloverfield 10:05 p.m.
Suicide 1800 block of 7th 10:16 p.m.
Battery 2200 block of Colorado 10:27 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 65 calls for service on Oct. 12.

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

Flooded Condition 1700 block of Ocean 12:27 a.m.
Structure Fire 600 block of Arizona 12:36 a.m.
EMS 11th/Santa Monica 12:41 a.m.
EMS 2300 block of 23rd 3:22 a.m.
EMS 1800 block of 17th 6:12 a.m.
EMS 700 block of Wilshire 7:16 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 7:34 a.m.
EMS 400 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 7:51 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Sunset 7:59 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2000 block of Pier 8:22 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of 21st 8:25 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 8:36 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200 block of Santa Monica 9:00 a.m.
EMS 800 block of Broadway 10:29 a.m.
EMS 800 block of 2nd 10:51 a.m.
EMS 15th/Wilshire 12:06 p.m.
EMS 2400 block of Centinela 12:14 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400 block of 2nd 12:28 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of 2nd 12:44 p.m.
EMS Yale/Wilshire 12:46 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of 19th 1:03 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 7th 1:31 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of 4th 1:33 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of 20th 1:49 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 1:55 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 2:51 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of 20th 3:01 p.m.
Request Fire 2500 block of 20th 3:01 p.m.
EMS 1800 block of 9th 3:04 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 14th 3:25 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield/Pico 4:14 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Cloverfield 4:14 p.m.
EMS 2800 block of Wilshire 4:17 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300 block of 15th 4:22 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Wander off
6 Sing like Ella
10 Happened
11 Treaty goal
12 Ring contests
13 Accumulated, as debt
14 Moon goddess
15 Diplomatic
16 Conclude
17 Have dinner
18 Casual shirt
19 Deep-sixes
22 Sweeping story
23 Actor Connery
26 Commuter flights
29 Snapshot
32 "— a Cryin' Shame"
33 Salon stuff
34 Like some chats
36 Give over
37 Bee attack
38 Bridge suspender
39 Easy gaits
40 Snowy wader
41 Mediocre
42 Top roles

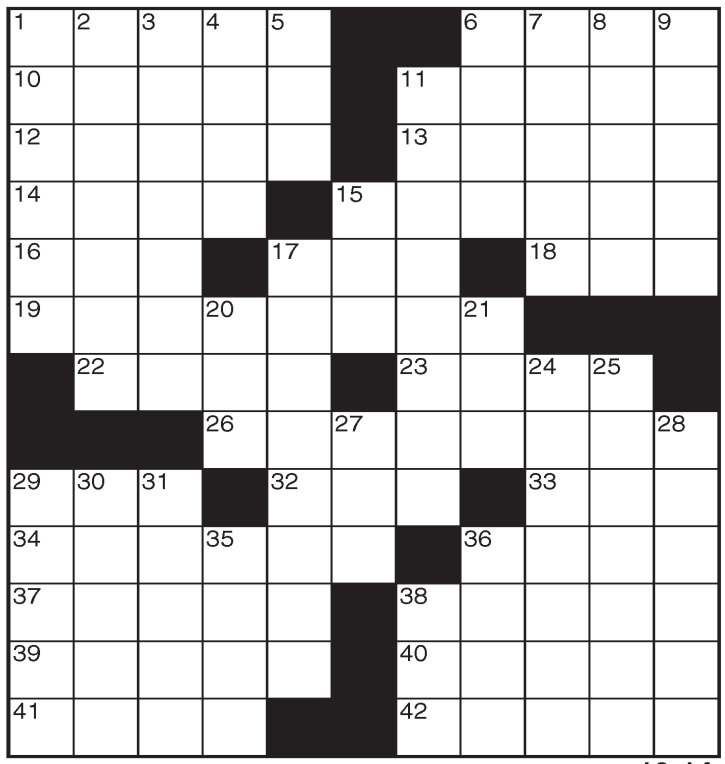
DOWN

1 Dark-furred martens
2 Clobber
3 Summary
4 Hammett pooch
5 Agreeable answer
6 Barking beast
7 "Hush!"
8 Keen
9 Sioux home
11 Strong objections
15 Buddy
17 Some prints
20 "My country — of thee"
21 Determined
24 Math course
25 Ribbed
27 Salt Lake City player
28 Cold showers?
29 Fence supports
30 Prologue
31 Advertising awards
35 Wild about
36 Canary's home
38 Animation frame

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

Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



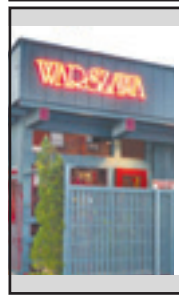
10-14

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The photo was taken west of 15th Street, south of California Ave. and North of Pico Blvd. Send answers to editor@smdp.com. The first correct answer wins a prize.



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Hours: Tue - Sat: 5PM-11PM, Sun: 5PM - 10PM, CLOSED Monday



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

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 10/10
12 27 29 43 68
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 70M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/9
8 9 21 63 75
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 75M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 10/10
21 28 33 34 37
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 7M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/12
4 5 10 18 19

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 10/12
MIDDAY: 9 6 6
Draw Date: 10/12
EVENING: 2 0 9

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 10/12
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:47.03

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!

cognoscenti 1. persons who have superior knowledge and understanding of a particular field, especially in the fine arts, literature, and world of fashion.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1925 – An Anti-French uprising in French-occupied Damascus, Syria. (All French inhabitants flee the city.)

1926 – The children's book Winnie-the-Pooh, by A. A. Milne, is first published.

1933 – Nazi Germany withdraws from the League of Nations.

1938 – The first flight of the Curtiss Aircraft Company's P-40 Warhawk fighter plane.

1939 – The German submarine U-47 sinks the British battleship HMS Royal Oak within her harbour at Scapa Flow, Scotland.

1940 – Balham underground station disaster in London, England, occurs during the Nazi Luftwaffe air raids on Great Britain.

1943 – Prisoners at the Nazi German Sobibór extermination camp in Poland revolt against the Germans, killing eleven SS guards, and wounding many more. About 300 of the Sobibor Camp's 600 prisoners escape, and about 50 of these survive the end of the war.

1943 – World War II: The American Eighth Air Force loses 60 B-17 Flying Fortress heavy bombers in aerial combat during the second mass-daylight air raid on the Schweinfurt ball bearing factories in western Nazi Germany.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Jose Banks, now 40, filed a $10 million lawsuit in 2014 against the federal government because jailers at Chicago's high-rise Metropolitan Correctional Center failed to guard him closely enough in 2012, thus enabling him to think he could escape. He and a cellmate had rappelled 17 floors with bed sheets, but Banks was re-arrested a few days later. Still, he claimed that the escape caused him great trauma, in addition to "humiliation and embarrassment" and "damage to his reputation." (In September, the U.S. Court of Appeals turned him down. Wrote the judges, "No one has a personal right to be better guarded.")

■ Many in conservative Jewish communities still practice the tradition of Kaporos on the day of atonement, but the critics were out in force in New York City's Borough Park neighborhood in September to protest the ritual's slaughter there of 50,000 chickens. (A synagogue raises money by "selling" chickens to members, who then have butchers swing the chickens overhead three times, thus transferring the owners' sins to the chickens. Ultimately, the chickens are beheaded, supposedly erasing the humans' sins. Protesters ask why not just donate money.) A judge refused to block the ritual but ordered police to enforce the sanitation laws governing the beheadings.

give a (bleep)

Activism • Animals • Arts • Community • Education • Environment • Health

Clothes are not consent

by Katharine Romefelt

Sexual assault is a tough subject, but it's unfortunately one that needs to be addressed. Everyone needs to recognize their own unconscious attitudes.

Last week, hip-hop artist and actress Amber Rose led the first Los Angeles SlutWalk, a protest against sexual assault victim-blaming– the tendency to blame a woman's provocative appearance as a major cause of rape.

The first SlutWalk took place back in 2011 after a Toronto police officer explained to a crowd of college girls that if they wanted to avoid sexual assault, they should stop dressing like "sluts". As if it's somehow excusable for someone to sexually assault women who dress promiscuously in some way?

On the surface, his comment just sounds like a typical jerky remark. But the attitude that informs this type of comment has many more implications. People can't explain or excuse rape by placing the blame on a woman's appearance. Women should be free to express themselves, embrace their bodies, and explore their individual style without being labeled as one of the many derogatory terms used against women these days.



Read more on Amber Rose's mission (amberroseslutwalk.com) and search the Causes directory at giive.org for local nonprofits that advocate on behalf of sexual assault victims.

GET THE WHOLE STORY@ GIIVE.ORG/BLOG/

Get some extra R and R, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Deal with a partner or family member directly. You have some day-to-day matters to handle, but that won't be problem. You might want to add a gym or hot tub to your home, or some other item to improve the quality of your life. Tonight: Enjoy the one you are with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Defer to others right now. You have the ability to handle whatever you must, but you need to take some time away from your normal role. Let others appreciate how much you do. Laughter surrounds a child or loved one. Tonight: Act as if you don't have a care in the world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might want to work from home or just stay close to it. You have a lot to do, and you could experience some disruption in your own space. Can you handle this type of interruption? A partner, roommate or dear friend will be ready to pitch in. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your creativity will emerge. Defer to others, and let them make suggestions as well. You'll find that brainstorming is very stimulating and productive. A friend might be changing right in front of your eyes. Tonight: Be naughty when coming up with a Halloween costume.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ While others might want to work from home or close to the pad, you will flourish if you do. Why not make your day easier? Use care with your spending. You easily could go overboard before you even realize it. Tonight: Make it easy and order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You will express a lot of caring toward a close friend, sibling or associate as well as nearly everyone you come in contact with today. You know and understand the power of positive thinking. A child or loved one might change his or her tune once more. Tonight: Full of fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Handle your finances carefully. Don't allow someone else decide what you can do. Your instincts will guide you, but be careful not to overspend or act in an inappropriate way. Deal with anger and any other feelings head-on. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ A meeting could become provocative, and you might keep replaying certain conversations in your mind. You'll be able to read between the lines. Decide to approach the situation totally differently, and have a discussion with different words. Tonight: Put your best foot forward.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Go out of your way to clear up a problem, but first process what is happening in. Know that others might not have the same reaction or be upset by the same situation. You have reasons for your reaction, but you can choose to let go of the issue. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Say "yes" to a discussion or an impromptu meeting. You like playing to an audience. Know when you have had enough. You quickly and gracefully will move on to a different project or situation. Tonight: The more people around you, the happier you will be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Stay on top of whatever you are doing. Touch base with an older friend or family member who can be very difficult and hostile. One-on-one relating adds to the understanding and dimension of various bonds. Add that personal touch. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A new perspective comes through news you hear. Check the facts before you decide that you want to head in a certain direction. You'll show an enormous amount of caring when speaking to a loved one. Tonight: Discuss a get-together with someone at a distance.

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

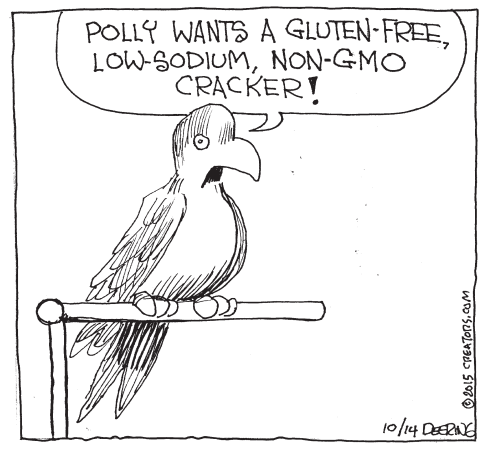
This year you seem to be more concerned with your finances than you have in the recent past. You sometimes swallow your feelings without realizing it. You will choose activities that help you forget about the here and now. Be aware of the confusion that sometimes surrounds your days. If you are single, you could meet someone simply by walking to work or going to the bank. Take your time getting to know each other before committing. If you are attached, you and your significant other will opt to make a major purchase this year. Curb a tendency to be overly possessive. SCORPIO drives a hard bargain.

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

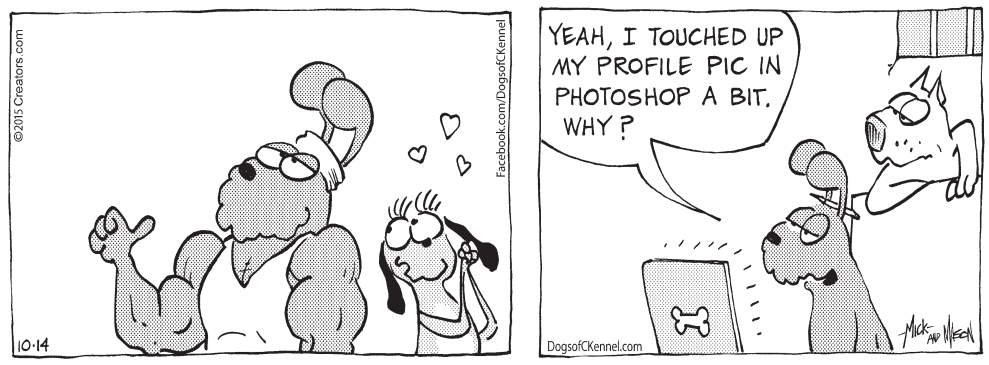
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By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



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By Jim Davis



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A healthy dose of sibling rivalry put him on the path to medical school, but it was a desire to help others that inspired him to become a world-renowned surgeon.

Dr. Timothy Wilson, Urologist



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