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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2013
Volume 13 Issue 7

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

PICKING A WINNER
SEE PAGE 8

THE HERE COME THE HOLIDAYS ISSUE

City's Code Compliance doing more with less

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE It's hard to get Joe Trujillo, who was a Marine for 24 years before getting into the business of municipal code compliance, to say he needs more hands, but the numbers tell the story.

Since October 2011, when Trujillo took the head spot in the Code Compliance Division, he's been enforcing the municipal

SEE CODE PAGE 10

Car rampage witnesses speak out in court

LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES Tourists who witnessed a terrifying auto rampage along a crowded Venice Beach boardwalk testified Tuesday that the driver seemed to be aiming for people.

The witnesses testified in court at the first of a two-part preliminary hearing for 38-year-old Nathan Louis Campbell. A prosecutor said that, due to witness schedules, the hearing would stop and pick up again in two months. Campbell appeared in court in street clothes, gray pants and shirt, with stubble of beard.

A judge eventually will rule whether Campbell should stand trial on one count of murder, 16 counts of assault with a deadly weapon, and 17 counts of hit-and-run. Italian newlywed Alice Gruppioni, 32, who was on her honeymoon, was killed in the August incident, and sixteen others were

SEE COURT PAGE 12



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

WORK IN PROGRESS: A truck exits the future home of the terminus of the Expo Light Rail Line on Tuesday afternoon.

Expo update: Phase 2 halfway done

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

11TH STREET Santa Monica is getting its first new train tracks in decades early next month as Expo Light Rail construction moves toward 11th Street, Metro officials said.

Construction on Phase 2 of the Expo is halfway done, on time and on budget, officials said.

Last week, the first Phase 2 tracks were laid, crossing Westwood Boulevard. In the first week of December, workers will put down tracks leading up to 11th Street, which will be closed at Colorado Boulevard from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the entire second week of December as tracks are laid across the street.

Similar street closures will follow, as more tracks are laid in January.

The 26th Street and Bergamot Station stop is well underway, with foundation and utility work currently in progress.

Work on the Expo Maintenance Facility, on Exposition Boulevard from Bundy Drive to Stewart Street, began this summer and will be done next fall, according to the report.

Roadway improvements along Colorado Boulevard will begin next year.

SEE EXPO PAGE 11

Gov. Brown remains evasive on re-election plans

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown is remaining coy about whether he will seek an unprecedented fourth term next year, despite a Hollywood fundraiser this week that could significantly pad his already large campaign war chest.

Brown was asked about an upcoming Bel Air fundraiser during an event at a Sacramento elementary school Tuesday, but he declined to discuss it, saying "it will be a successful event."

"Raising funds for any potential campaign takes a good deal of time, and I don't jump into these things lightly, and that's why I've not declared my intentions," Brown told reporters.

SEE BROWN PAGE 11

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013

So fresh
Third Street Promenade
8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Visit one of Southern California's finest Farmers' Markets for the freshest of the fresh. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Mindful meditation
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 6 p.m.
Come take a pause in your day to refresh, sit and meditate. Wellness consultant Natalie Bell will guide the session.

Adventure travel
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Find out how adventure travel experiences have the power to change your life. Instructors Michael Bennett and Don Mankin of Muddy Shoe Adventures will lead the discussion on reinventing yourself through travel. The event is free, though space is limited and on a first-arrival basis. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Hotel workers meeting
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church Community Room
1343 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
Join the Santa Monica Democratic Club and Rachel Torres, political director of Unite H.E.R.E. (Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees), for an update on hotel development projects in Santa Monica. Torres will discuss the development agreements under consideration and the union negotiations taking place with the developers. All members of the public are invited to attend.

Book club
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
Author David Misch will discuss his work, "Funny: The Book," that provides an entertaining look at the art of comedy.

Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013

Baby time
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m.
Story series for babies under the age of 2. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

What's new?
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m.
Jack Nordhaus will moderate this current events discussion.

Classic film
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 2 p.m.
Come watch "Ruggles of the Red Gap," a 1935 comedy starring Charles Laughton as a British valet who tries to adjust to life in the Wild West. Film scholar Vivian Rosenberg will moderate a post-screening discussion.

Family gaming
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 p.m.
Enjoy quality family time at the library with Kinect video games and board games.

Homework help
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 3:30 p.m.
All students in grades 1 through 5 are welcome to drop by for homework help. Trained volunteers will be on hand to provide math and reading tutoring.

Where do recipes come from?
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Kevin West, author of "Saving the Season: A Cook's Guide to Home Canning, Pickling and Preserving," will lead a panel exploring what makes great recipes. The public is encouraged to bring and share their favorite recipes.

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**



CORRECTION

In the story ("UC, nurses reach tentative labor pact," Nov. 19, page 1) about the University of California and unionized nurses reaching a tentative labor agreement, The Associated Press erroneously reported who will contribute to the nurses' pension plan. The preliminary deal calls for nurses, not the university, to contribute 8 percent of pay to pension benefits starting in January, followed by 9 percent in July.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

Check those holiday receipts

Los Angeles County's Weights and Measures Bureau is reminding shoppers that they are entitled to the lowest advertised, listed or labeled prices at stores this holiday season.

With a slew of Thanksgiving and Christmas sales upcoming, it's easy for customers to forget about the deals that drew them to stores in the first place. Oftentimes, checkout prices do not match advertised discounts and customers are overcharged.

To prevent that from happening, shoppers should check receipts before leaving stores. If the receipts reflect incorrect charges, the department encourages consumers to contact store managers or the Weights and Measures Bureau at (800) 665-2900.

– GREG ASCIUTTO

LOS ANGELES

Rep. Waxman wants concrete plans for VA

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Santa Monica, reached out to the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs earlier this week regarding the status of development plans for the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center.

In a letter addressed to Secretary Eric Shinseki, Waxman wrote that the VA's 2011 Master Plan, adopted to expand veteran health programs via renovations to the campus, is far from complete.

"I believe a detailed blueprint of the Master Plan, including time frames, funding streams, and uses of vacant buildings, and putting into place short, mid, and long-term priorities would provide the West L.A. VA with a roadmap for making the best uses of the campus for direct veteran services in the future," Waxman wrote.

Currently, the plan only outlines potential projects for campus expansion.

The letter comes after a July 2013 request from Shinseki that Waxman amend legislation currently prohibiting the sale or disposal of West L.A. V.A. land. Such an amendment would allow the VA to enter a public-private partnership to finance the renovation of two buildings for long-term veteran homeless housing.

"While a change in the law would address the immediate need to develop Buildings 205 and 208, this effort highlights the long-term need to develop a comprehensive plan for services at the West LA V.A.," Waxman wrote.

In line with the current plan, the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System began renovations to Building 209 in January 2013. This project is projected for completion in spring 2014 and will convert 55 units into therapeutic residencies for homeless veterans. Earlier this year, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority identified 6,248 such individuals living in Los Angeles County.

"Ideally, the West L.A. VA campus should offer veterans easy access to a comprehensive set of services that support their physical, emotional, intellectual, spiritual, social and financial well-being," Waxman wrote.

The VA declined to respond to the letter or offer an update on development plans.

– GREG ASCIUTTO



GIFTS FOR ALL

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Pepperdine student Caili McDaniel (left) donates her time to take Alyn Jarquin (center) and Adriana Sanchez (right) through Sears on their $100 shopping trip during the 29th annual Holiday Shopping Spree on Tuesday morning. The shopping spree is a collaboration between The Salvation Army and Sears, giving more than 2,100 children a chance to go shopping.

Judge grants UC hospital strike injunction

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A judge on Tuesday granted an injunction that will keep some University of California hospital employees from participating in a planned strike at UC's five medical centers.

Sacramento County Superior Court Judge David Brown issued the injunction in response to a request made by the state labor board on the university's behalf. The injunction bars 49 workers whose jobs are considered critical to patient health and safety from taking part in the job action. That's about half the number UC wanted covered by an injunction, system spokeswoman Shelly Meron said.

Local 3299 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees has called for a one-day strike Wednesday at the university's hospitals in Santa Monica, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Davis, Irvine and San Diego. The union represents 21,000 UC patient care and service employees, including radiation therapists who help treat cancer patients, MRI technicians, technicians who sterilize equipment used in surgeries, and pharmacy technicians who deliver medications to patients.

The union called the strike in response to what it said was intimidation by UC management of employees who participated in a two-day walkout in May. The May strike came after the union's contract expired and negotiations over a new pact failed. The two sides are at odds over staffing, wages and benefits, including pensions and health care.

Todd Stenhouse, a spokesman for AFSCME Local 3299, said union officials had agreed before the injunction was issued to keep 50 critical care workers off the picket lines.

Stenhouse said the union has reduced its wage demands and made concessions on benefits but is holding the line on staffing demands that he said are needed for worker and patient safety.

Dwaine Duckett, UC vice president for systemwide human resources, urged the union in a letter to its leadership not to strike, saying that would hurt patients and drive the two sides further apart.

Some elective surgeries scheduled for Wednesday have been canceled, according to university officials. They say diagnoses and treatments may also be postponed because of delays in lab work and other tests.

Nurses were going to participate in Wednesday's strike in solidarity with the patient care workers, but then reached a tentative contract with UC in which they rescinded their planned participation.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Jumping the gun with lawsuit

Editor:

City Hall's lawsuit against the Federal Aviation Administration may resonate with many of us, but the impact of the process and outcome are at best far fetched and unknown and potentially have terrible consequences for property owners ("City Hall sues FAA to gain control of SMO," Oct. 31). Beware of this dog, it is not on its leash.

We need our city to initiate and codify a community-wide goal for the future of the Santa Monica Airport before the outcome is just stuffed down our throats. As an example, Santa Monica has no codified plan for a park at SMO. Our City Council is suing the FAA on behalf of whom and what for?

Right now we need to really focus on the quality of our lives. The emphasis of City Council and management and all sorts of incentives and benefits needs to be seriously revised. It's time Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights and homeowners and business organizations to elect and hold to the fire council members who reflect and are concerned with the desires and quality of life for people that live here now, and not for people that may or may not move here 20 or 30 years from now. If we improve the quality of our town for those who live here already, people that move here in the future will also be much better off. There is plenty of evidence that suggests young people do not want to come here, and that many want to move because of the traffic, ugly buildings, density, and proposed massive developments.

We can include it, and we need a citizens participation section in our General Plan right away! There are some great examples of other incorporated cities in California that have a specific section dedicated to implementation of community input.

Ken Robin
Santa Monica

Don't rush growing up

Editor:

It's good to hear that the group Young Santa Monica is hoping to bring a more youthful viewpoint to our aging local political scene, while doing good work supporting local community organizations ("Young Santa Monica unite," Letters to the Editor, Nov. 17). Enjoy being young and try not to rush it, for before you know it you'll be oldsters like the rest of us.

George Kaplan
Santa Monica





Curious City

Charles Andrews — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

On the road again

LET'S SEE NOW, WHERE WAS I?

Last week, some of you noticed the absence of my Wednesday column. I think I have a good excuse.

Let's get this straight from the start: I have always felt the most boring thing in the world is to listen to people talk about their aches and pains. I'm not lacking compassion, but unless you're a good friend of mine and your stuff is life-threatening or life-altering (I have a few of those), it's really not of interest to anyone but fellow-sufferers after about 30 seconds. It's mind numbing.

But I feel I'd be remiss to have written one column and part of another about having discovered I had heart disease and preparing to go in for a stent which then got rescheduled to open heart, double bypass surgery Nov. 7, without a little follow-up. As I pointed out with the example of my 40-year-old, incredibly active nephew (I erred in writing "early 40s") who got a stent put in after they discovered an artery in his heart was 99 percent blocked, it can happen to you, Boobie.

Less than two weeks after, I feel great. Not ready-for-basketball-yet great, but a lot better than I anticipated, and a lot better than some I know who have gone through the same thing, and oh yes, our ranks are legion.

Heart disease still trumps cancer as the leading killer in the U.S. (600,000 yearly), and many don't know it kills more women than men. While nearly 50 percent of women who were asked in a poll what they thought their greatest health threat was, named breast cancer, the truth is they are nine times more likely to die from a heart condition than from breast cancer.

I'm not trying to depress you, just inform you. Know thy enemy.

Some, when faced with a serious physical challenge, will jump on the Internet for exhaustive research, to become a near expert. The fatal flaw in that is that there is so much information out there it's impossible for the non-expert to know what's what. I tend to rely on already-experts that I have total confidence in.

That would be my team of doctors, mostly from Pacific Heart Institute. I first only dealt with one, then another did my angiograms (catheters to the heart), then I briefly met the one who would be doing the bypass, and didn't meet his partner until after the surgery, when he came by my hospital room.

I was operated on at Saint John's Health Center (most call it "Hospital") and I couldn't say enough about the treatment I got there. Stayed five days, the first half in ICU.

ICU (Intensive Care Unit) is a wonderful place. If you happen to be sick enough to land there, you feel so taken care of. (Good thing, because I literally couldn't move much more than a finger for a while, and I still am lusting for the night when I can actually turn over in bed and find a more comfortable position, which won't happen for another month or so).

You are watched over and monitored by a dozen tubes attached from you to a bank of lifesaving machines, and by a corps of nurses and doctors, literally every heartbeat. I had dozens of nurses and assistants in those five days, and they ranged from very competent and caring to like-your-Mom.

No slight to the many others, but I have to mention two women who really made a difference. One was Shereen, who gives the best shave you'll ever get (face shave, you perverts), and quickest (amazing since one nick is going to cause a big problem for a patient on blood thinners), and was absolutely distraught to find out on the fourth morning that I had not been given the option for a bath. Took it personally. Anyone in a similar situation knows, you feel absolutely renewed after even a quick bath.

The other was Abigail, a tall woman from Nigeria, who was also so caring and solicitous, and made it her cause to see that I always had a hot tea when I wanted it, and that I try all the flavors, as she named them all off, and reminded me which one I had last time. Seems silly, especially since I'm strictly a coffee guy, but in those moments it means an awful lot.

Everyone asked how you were doing, and said you were looking awesome, fabulous, wonderful (for someone who just got sliced and diced, you reminded yourself). But what a humane and smart policy for a hospital, especially for critical care patients, and how difficult it must be to get everyone to comply, down to the kind folks who emptied my trash and cleaned, to understand that caring and smiling is part of their job description, and speeds recovery.

I was going to write more about my surgeons, but I'm really at a loss for words. They are gods. But humble and completely approachable. I had eight visits from four of them in five days, including the boss. (The other one who operated on me whom I hadn't met, clearly has mythic status among other health professionals.) Wright, Sullivan, Pelikan and Hunter, and I must include Doshi, who was out of the country at the time, but is my main man. If you see those names in your corner, bet the ranch.

God bless you, merry gentlemen and the work that you do and the ungodly hours you put in. And especially to Dr. Curtis Hunter — you are a righteous dude, and I would put my life in your hands anytime. (But let's put that off a couple of decades or more, shall we?)

It was fascinating being able to interact with so many great surgeons in a few days. All but Robertson spent a long time with me (he's there and he's gone, the Lone Ranger). I came away with the appreciation that they were sort of nerdy artists, but that's just a notion that doesn't begin to comprehend what a complex bundle of skills, knowledge, intuition, judgment and wisdom they possess. Magic men.

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 27 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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The Taxman

Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Politicians party in paradise with special interests footing the bill

SUPPOSE YOU HAVE BEEN SCRIMPING for years so that you and your family could finally enjoy a Hawaiian vacation. Winging your way high over the Pacific, visions of palm trees, white sandy beaches, crystal clear water and maybe even hula dancers pass through your head.

Disembarking at Honolulu International Airport what do you see? Politicians. Lots of politicians. Lots of California politicians.

The California politicians are making their annual pilgrimage to paradise. And while you are paying for your own accommodations, the California lawmakers scheduled to attend the Independent Voter Project (IVP) conference scheduled to begin Nov. 17, will have most of the bill for their suites at the five-star Fairmont Kea Lani picked up by others. Among the dozens of interests providing hospitality to legislators are a host of corporations and even one of the most powerful public employee unions in California.

However, not to worry. No lobbying will take place according to Dan Howle, a Lilly USA executive who helped organize the event. "It gives the sponsoring companies an opportunity to talk about what their business is like in California," Howle told the Los Angeles Times. Still, suspicions are high that between panel discussions there will be plenty of time for the politicians to enjoy golf, snorkeling and the other pleasures of the resort. And, as to the discussions themselves, it is a safe bet that the voices of citizen taxpayers and consumers will be missing.

Let's speak directly. These conferences are nonsense and in spite of self-serving justifications, the exotic location and sumptuous accommodations are nothing more than an enticement to put lawmakers in the position of being a captive audience for special interest pleaders. Saying these gatherings are legitimate legislative business does not pass the "laugh test."

The IVP conference is just one of several being held in Hawaii to "inform" California lawmakers. If the conferences have actual value, they should be held here in California where voters can observe the work being done. And although our state has plenty of splendid resorts, these meetings would best be held in locations like the Inland Empire that the U.S. Census Bureau says has the highest poverty rate in the country. Or perhaps Los Angeles County that is suffering nearly 10 percent unemployment. Maybe the Central Valley where environmental extremism has turned off the water spigot. Accommodations can be provided at a Quality Inn with dinner at Denny's. Not only will this be a boost to the local economy, but it will allow lawmakers to travel and eat like most of their beleaguered constituents and to rub elbows with real people who are suffering under the laws they have passed.

THIS IS ABOUT APPEARANCES. EVEN IF THERE IS NOTHING NEFARIOUS GOING ON IN THE ALOHA STATE, OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS SHOULD KNOW BETTER.

It may be that no actual taxpayer dollars were spent on the luxurious Hawaiian vacations. But the fact that powerful special interests have exclusive access to legislative decision makers for five straight days should raise a huge red flag for anyone who has read the headlines in the last three weeks about corruption in the California Legislature.

This is about appearances. Even if there is nothing nefarious going on in the Aloha State, our elected officials should know better. Let's hope for the day when the invitation to these junkets by the moneyed special interests is declined by all elected officials.

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

The Q Line

Paying a living wage

There's been a lot of talk lately about raising the minimum wage and paying low-skilled workers more, including folks who clean hotel rooms and make Big Macs. In Santa Monica, a developer of two hotels agreed to pay its employees $15.37 an hour. Fast-food employees were also fighting for $15 an hour. City Hall has a mandate of $14.08 per hour. Advocates say raising pay is the only way people can survive these days given the rising cost of goods and services.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What wage is appropriate for low-skilled workers? Is $15 an hour too high or not good enough?

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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SANTA MONICA *Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Tue., Dec. 3rd ~ 10:15 to 11:30 am	REDONDO BEACH Elks Lodge #1378 315 Esplanade Street Tues., Dec. 3rd ~ 1 to 2:15 pm	RANCHO PALOS VERDES Los Verdes Golf Club 7000 W. Los Verdes Drive Tues., Dec. 3rd ~ 3:30 to 4:45 pm
GARDENA Marie Callenders 15466 Western Ave. Tues., Dec. 3rd ~ 6:30 to 7:45 pm	W. COVINA Elks Lodge # 1996 841 W. Merced Ave. Wed., Dec. 4th ~ 10 to 11:15 am	DOWNEY Chamber of Commerce 11131 Brookshire Ave. Wed., Dec. 4th ~ 1 to 2:15 pm
WHITTIER Elks Lodge #1258 13620 Whittier Blvd. Wed., Dec. 4th ~ 3:30 to 4:45 pm	YORBA LINDA Community Center 4501 Casa Loma Ave. Wed., Dec. 4th ~ 6:30 to 7:45 pm	CLAREMONT Library 208 N. Harvard Ave. Thurs., Dec.5th ~ 10 to 11:15 am
CHINO HILLS Hotel Chino Hills 15433 Fairfield Ranch Road Thurs., Dec. 5th ~ 1 to 2:15 pm	FOUNTAIN VALLEY Coco's 18380 Brookhurst Street Thurs., Dec. 5th ~ 4 to 5:15 pm	TORRANCE Marriott Courtyard-Southbay 1925 W 190th Street Thurs., Dec. 5th ~ 6:30 to 7:45 pm

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Carriers reject kill switch for stolen smartphones

TERRY COLLINS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Samsung Electronics, the world's largest mobile phone manufacturer, has proposed installing a built-in anti-theft measure known as a "kill switch" that would render stolen or lost phones inoperable, but the nation's biggest carriers have rejected the idea, according to San Francisco's top prosecutor.

District Attorney George Gascon said Monday that AT&T Inc., Verizon Wireless, United States Cellular Corp., Sprint Corp. and T-Mobile US Inc. rebuffed Samsung's proposal to preload its phones with Absolute LoJack anti-theft software as a standard feature.

The wireless industry says a kill switch isn't the answer because it could allow a hacker to disable someone's phone.

Gascon, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and other law enforcement officials have been demanding that manufacturers create kill switches to combat surging smartphone theft across the country.

Almost 1 in 3 U.S. robberies involve phone theft, according to the Federal Communications Commission. Lost and stolen mobile devices — mostly smartphones — cost consumers more than $30 billion last year, according to a study cited by Schneiderman in June.

Samsung officials told the San Francisco district attorney's office in July that carriers were resisting kill switches, and prosecutors have recently reviewed emails between a senior vice president at Samsung and a software developer about the issue. One email in August said Samsung had pre-installed kill switch software in some smartphones ready for shipment, but carriers ordered their removal as a standard feature.

"These emails suggest that the carriers are rejecting a technological solution so they can continue to shake down their customers for billions of dollars in (theft) insurance premiums," Gascon said. "I'm incensed. ... This is a solution that has the potential to end the victimization of their customers."

Samsung said it is cooperating with Gascon, Schneiderman and the carriers on an anti-theft solution but declined to comment specifically about the emails.

"We are working with the leaders of the Secure Our Smartphones (SOS) Initiative to incorporate the perspective of law enforcement agencies," said Samsung spokeswoman Jessica Redman. "We will continue to work with them and our wireless carrier partners toward our common goal of stopping smartphone theft."

Although the popular Samsung Galaxy smartphones are shipped across the country without LoJack as a standard feature, users can pay a subscription fee for the service.

CTIA-The Wireless Association, a trade group for wireless providers, said it has been working with the FCC, law enforcement agencies and elected officials on a national stolen phone database scheduled to launch Nov. 30.

The CTIA says a permanent kill switch has serious risks, including potential vulnerability to hackers who could disable mobile devices and lock out not only individuals' phones but also phones used by entities such as the Department of Defense, Homeland Security and law enforcement agencies.

"The problem is how to you trigger a kill switch in a secure manner and not be compromised by a third party and be subjected to hacking," said James Moran, a security adviser with the GSMA, a United Kingdom wireless trade group that has overseen a global stolen mobile phone database and is helping to create the U.S. version.

Last year, about 121 million smartphones were sold in the U.S., according to International Data Corp., a Massachusetts-based researcher. About 725 million smartphones were sold worldwide, accounting for $281 billion in sales, IDC said.

Samsung Electronics Co., with its popular Galaxy S4 smartphone, shipped 81 million phones — more than the next four manufacturers combined — during the most recent sales quarter for a market share of 31 percent, IDC reported in October. Apple Inc. shipped 34 million iPhones for a market share of 13 percent.

In June, Gascon and Schneiderman held a "Smartphone Summit" in New York City to call on representatives from smartphone makers Apple, Samsung, Google Inc. and Microsoft Corp. to adopt kill switches that would be free to consumers.

That week, Apple said such a feature, an "activation lock," would be part of its iOS 7 software that was eventually released this fall.

In July, prosecutors brought federal and state security experts to San Francisco to test Apple's iPhone 5 with its activation lock and Samsung's Galaxy S4 with LoJack.

Treating the phones as if they were stolen, experts tried to circumvent their anti-theft features to evaluate their effectiveness, and that work is continuing.

One Silicon Valley technology security expert said he thinks Apple's activation lock is the first kill switch that meets law enforcement's desire to protect iPhone users and other smartphone manufacturers should follow suit.

"Thieves cannot do anything with the device unless they have the user's ID, which they don't," said Ojas Rege, vice president of strategy at Mobile Iron, a technology software security company in Mountain View, Calif.

"The activation lock addresses this issue without the carriers having to do anything," Rege said, adding that he does not believe resistance to implementing kill switch technology is fueled by profits.

"That is not the number one priority for manufacturers. They're driven by creating the next great feature for their smartphones," he said.

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Stocks edge lower after disappointing earnings

KEN SWEET
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK Disappointing earnings news helped push the stock market lower on Tuesday.

Electronics retailer Best Buy plunged after saying extended store hours and price-cutting could squeeze its fourth-quarter profit. Campbell Soup fell sharply after reporting that its profit slumped as sales of soups and V8 drinks fell. The two stocks were the biggest decliners in the Standard & Poor's 500 index.

Even with the slight decline the S&P 500 is still up 25 percent so far in 2013 and has risen for six weeks straight, the longest winning streak since February. The extended run-up has prompted a number of market watchers to call for caution.

"We've had a phenomenal run, particularly in the last few weeks. I wouldn't be surprised if we would pull back from here," said Alec Young, global equity strategist with S&P Capital IQ.

The Dow Jones industrial average edged down 8.99 points, or 0.1 percent, to 15,967.03, the first decline for the index in five days. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 3.66 points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,787.87 and the Nasdaq composite fell 17.51 points, or 0.4 percent, to 3,931.55.

The Dow Jones industrial average and the S&P 500 crossed round-number milestones in early trading Monday but failed to build on those advances. The Dow crossed 16,000 and the S&P 500 hit 1,800 for the first time before falling back to close below those levels both Monday and Tuesday.

Retailers were a key focus on Tuesday, especially with the holiday shopping season coming up. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is one of the biggest shopping days of the year. Consumer spending is a critical component of the U.S. economy, so how consumers behave during the closely watched holiday season will give investors a sign about the outlook for growth.

Best Buy sank $4.78, or 11 percent, to $38.78 after its warning of a tough holiday trading period ahead. The company's stock is still up 227 percent this year, making it the second-best performer in the S&P 500 after Netflix.

Home Depot rose 71 cents, or 0.9 percent, to $80.38 after reporting income that surpassed analysts' expectations. The company also raised its earnings forecast for the year.

TJX Cos., which operates discount stores including T.J. Maxx and Marshalls, climbed 63 cents, or 1 percent, to $63.12. Its income rose 35 percent as sales improved at both U.S. and international stores.

Investors will turn their thoughts back to the Federal Reserve on Wednesday.

Minutes from the Fed's October meeting will be released at 2 p.m. and investors will scour them to get a read on the central bank's stimulus policy. The central bank is currently buying $85 billion of bonds a month to keep interest rates low and boost the economy. That has underpinned a rally in stocks.

Investors were also watching JPMorgan Chase. The bank reached a record $13 billion settlement with federal and New York State authorities, resolving claims over the bank's sales of mortgage-backed securities that collapsed during the U.S. housing crisis.

JPMorgan closed 41 cents, or 0.7 percent, higher at $56.15.

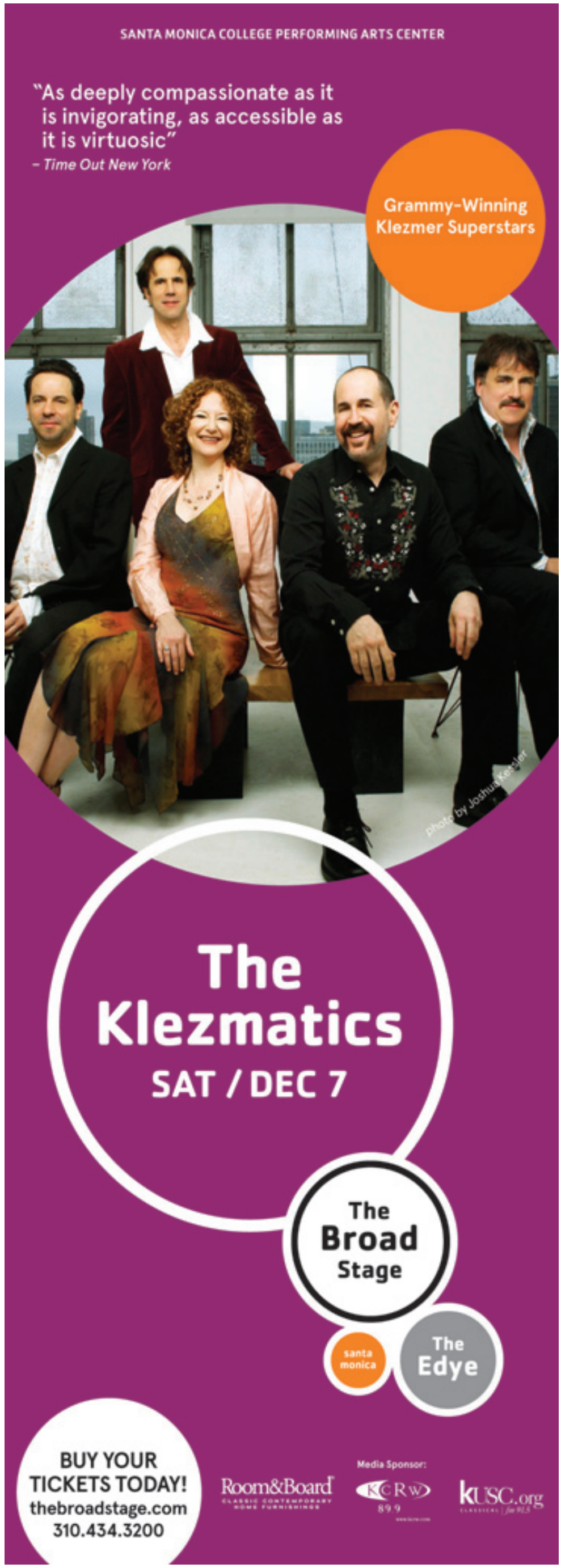
In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note edged up to 2.71 percent from 2.67 percent. Crude oil rose 31 cents, or 0.3 percent, to $93.34 a barrel and gold edged up $1.20, or 0.1 percent, to $1,273.50 an ounce.

Among other stocks making big moves:

• United Continental rose $1.42, or 3.9 percent, to $37.80 after the airline operator told investors that it will cut costs, overhaul its website, and shift routes from Asia to Europe.

• Campbell Soup dropped $2.61, or 6.2 percent, to $39.20 after reporting that its quarterly profit plunged 30 percent. A recall of the recently acquired Plum Organics products also hurt results, and the company cut its earnings forecast for the year.

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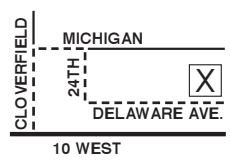


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Gardening Without Guesswork

Arnulfo Bahena
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



file photo

LOOKING: Barney Hernandez (right) and his wife Sandy search for a Christmas tree.

Picking the perfect Christmas tree

NOTHING SAYS CHRISTMAS LIKE THE scent of a fresh-cut tree. But if you've ever had the experience of having a Christmas tree turn brown and brittle well before the holidays, you know that selecting the right tree is a bit of an art.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TREE

Three considerations will help make sure your tree is almost as fresh when you take it down as the day you got it. First, purchase a Christmas tree that has been re-cut (after arrival) and is standing in water. In our warm California climate, this is a must to ensure it will retain its freshness.

Second, look at trees from all sides. You want a nice shape of course, but just as important large patches of brown or bare branches tell you the tree has begun to dry out.

Finally, your tree should be a vibrant green color. Gently pull your hand along a branch. Only a few needles should come off. If you end up with a handful, choose another tree.

WHICH TREE IS RIGHT FOR ME?

Ever wonder what the differences are between the types of trees on a Christmas tree lot? And why so many kinds are sold? Are some longer-lasting? Are some easier to decorate? Following are the most common types, their characteristics and why they might be best for you.

• Noble fir

Bluish-green needles are about 1-inch long and have a silvery appearance. The short, stiff branches are great for heavier ornaments. Keeps well, and is used for wreaths and garland.

•Silvertip fir

A favorite of decorators and rather scarce. The strong, horizontal branches are layered with plenty of space between them to show off ornaments. The 1-inch needles are green with a bluish tint with silvery tips. Fragrant. Botanically, it is known as red fir.

• Douglas fir

One of the best for fragrance, but unfortunately, dries very quickly. One to 1 1/2-inch blue to dark green needles. Rather airy and open, flexible branches are not good for heavy ornaments.

• Grand fir

Shiny, dark green needles about 1 to 1 1/2-inch long. Grand fir trees are unique in appearance and thick with fragrant foliage.

• Fraser fir

Dark green, flat needles 1/2 to 1-inch long. Very good needle retention, nice scent. Many, sturdy branches.

• Nordman fir

Dark green, 3/4 to 1 1/2-inch, flattened needles are shiny and silvery-blue below. New, and becoming more popular.

CHRISTMAS TREE CARE TIPS

Use a tree stand that holds at least 1 gallon of water. Be sure the water level doesn't drop below the bottom of the trunk or it will develop a seal that prevents water absorption. Also, add a tree preservative to prolong the life and beauty of your tree. Preservative really makes a difference!

To prevent drying and fire hazards, be sure to keep your tree away from direct heat sources such as direct sun through windows, candles, fireplaces or heating vents.

ARNULFO BAHENA, CCNP, is the manager for Armstrong Garden Centers located at 3226 Wilshire Blvd. in Santa Monica. E-mail him your gardening questions to growingdialogue@armstronggarden.com or call (310) 829-6766. Visit Armstrong Garden Centers online at armstrong-garden.com.



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Consider other options for unused home offices

ELLEN GIBSON
Associated Press

The home office, it seems, is going the way of the fax machine.

Interior designers say families are finding more inventive uses for their homes' extra little rooms — optimistically called "bonus rooms" by real estate agents.

With the spread of wireless Internet and portables devices such as tablets, it's common now to send spreadsheets and emails from any room in the house, not to mention the nearest coffee shop. In fact, among major home-renovation projects, home-office improvements provide the puniest return on the investment when a home is resold, according to Remodeling magazine's 2013 "cost vs. value" report.

So instead of that dust-collecting desk, many families are seeking creative ways to customize these alcoves as game rooms, dressing rooms, small theaters and more.

"I get this question a lot," says Elizabeth Cb Marsh, an associate interior designer at Jenkins Baer Associates in Baltimore. "Especially in large, new-construction homes, there are these bonus rooms that are just there."

When her clients make over a pre-existing office, she usually recommends trying to preserve any built-in features, such as shelving or cabinetry. If the space is large enough, she says, one option is to create a billiards room. Find a small (7-foot) pool table to place in the center of the room. If there's a wood counter, retrofit the top with a waterproof material such as stone for an elegant wet bar, and if you have the budget, install plumbing for a small sink. Add barstools, a high-top cocktail table and a pendant lamp over the pool table.

A smaller office can have a second life as a luxe dressing room, according to Marsh. Whether you draw inspiration from "Downton Abbey" or certain Beverly Hills housewives, the first step is to install a wall of shelving for shoes and clothes. Keep the decor minimalist, she advises, with a neutral paint color, a pair of sconces, and a tufted ottoman in the center of the room. Add a floor mirror and a vanity, and accessorize with vintage hatboxes, a dress form or an antique trunk. If the room has windows, be sure to hang light-filtering curtains to protect your clothing.

Families with children have even more options for converting an office space. These days, it is common to transform a dull study into a kids' homework hub, says Pam Ginocchio, co-founder of the children's design blog Project Nursery.

To begin, she recommends giving each kid a workspace: a small metal desk in a fun color with a clip-on lamp and a comfy swivel chair. Create a comfortable reading nook on the floor with beanbags. Then mount floating shelves from floor to ceiling and display books with the covers facing out to entice young readers. Appoint one wall as a place for scribbling ideas or displaying schoolwork by applying a layer of magnet paint and then chalkboard paint from floor to ceiling.

Consider allowing a computer for older kids' homework, but try to banish video games and other distractions, says Project Nursery co-founder Melissa Fluhr, who stresses the value of a quiet, contemplative space.

If contemplative is not your family's speed, Fluhr suggests using the bonus room as an off-off-off-Broadway theater. For a kid who likes to perform skits, play songs and choreograph dances, build a basic plywood stage in the corner of the room. Above that riser, hang a rounded shower-curtain rod and a pair of dark, tab-top curtains. Hang costumes and dress-up clothes in a cubby, and store puppets, musical instruments and other props in a toy chest. Finish by hanging a mirror at tyke height so children can watch themselves rehearse, and don't forget to add a few comfy chairs for the audience.

If your child has another obsession, turn an undersized room into her special hangout. For example, if she is into outer space, turn it into a mini planetarium with a dark-painted ceiling and a night-sky projector. Just be prepared to update the theme in a year or two when your child's interests inevitably leap to something else.

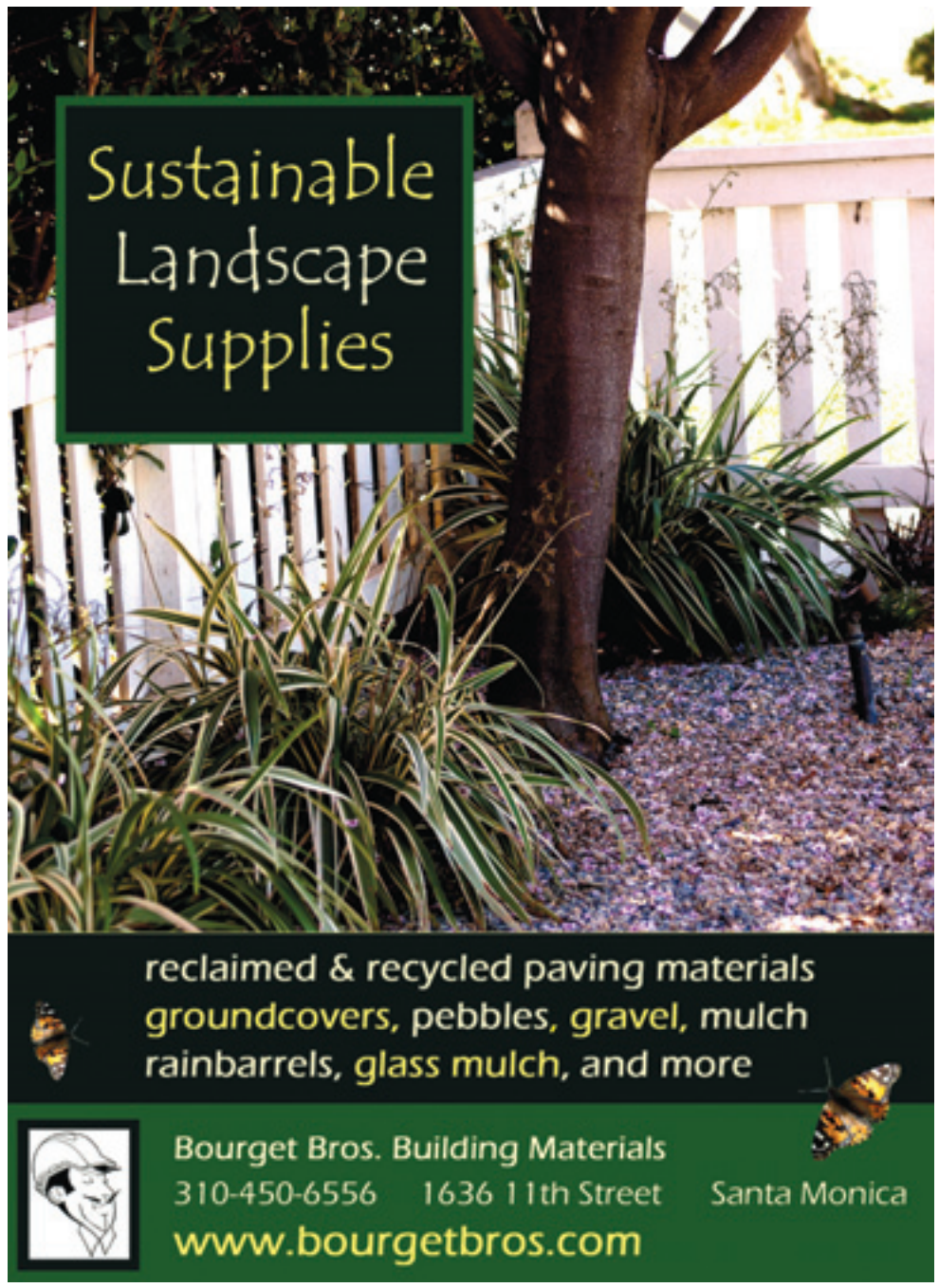
"Having this little bonus room almost gives you the excuse to go wild," Ginocchio says. "You don't have to spend a ton of money or think, what's going to be my return on investment? It's a chance to have fun."











CODE
FROM PAGE 1

code cover to cover, not just building and zoning violations as was the focus previously. He's added a detail on Saturdays and hopes to soon add one on Sundays. And, in a division that currently employs 13, he's short three members: two officers and a supervisor.

That means that Code Compliance is performing more duties while at 81 percent capacity. And remember that ordinance that will limit fitness trainers in public parks in 2014? Somebody has to enforce it, so more duties are coming.

"When I came in here, I knew we were going to be biting off a big chunk," Trujillo said. "I knew there was going to be a point where we were going to be running low on gas, and we're at that point now, but I see the gas station down the block."

Planning Director David Martin, Trujillo's supervisor, said that they are currently recruiting two officers to fill the vacancies.

Building and zoning code enforcement is still the division's bread and butter, Trujillo said, but the other duties are adding up.

Some of the items added to the plate come from new ordinances, like the ban on plastic bags and Styrofoam, as well as leaf blowers. Others are a result of the division's shift toward community policing; taking on tasks previously performed by the police, the Office Sustainability and the Environment, or no one at all.

The division is also getting new threads and a name change to go with its new roles. Soon, they'll ditch their tan polos and black trousers for distinctive badged uniforms with "Code Enforcement" (not "Compliance") emblazoned on them.

Officers now patrol the beach, checking food vendors for the requisite county food permits. They perform more stings, going undercover at the Palihouse hotel to try and order booze or flagging down bandit cabs, previously a job of the police department.

A new staff assistant, one gain from the 2013-14 budget, is surfing the web for illegal short-term vacation rentals and helping to reorganize the way Code Compliance tracks violations.

His superiors, Martin and City Manager Rod Gould, are receptive to his needs, he said.

Up to this point he's been focused on doing little things to make the division more efficient: if an officer needs to check a restaurant's business license, they also check for polystyrene and signage while they're there. But, he said, he's getting to the end of the line with what he's able to do using his given resources.

"You always do the most with what you have and you don't ask for more unless you absolutely need it," he said, giving an example of something he learned as a Marine. "That's where we're at now. We've done the most we can with what we have and maybe now it's time to ask."

Once he's fully staffed he'll reevaluate the division's needs to see if perhaps Code Compliance must grow to meet all the additional tasks it has taken on.

"For the amount that we're doing, to do it effectively, the way this city deserves, I would certainly say that we'll either need to shift some things around or to possibly tell people that there's things that we just can't do because we don't have the resources," he said

Martin said that they will assess the needs of the division and determine if the additions are necessary.

"If so, we will make such a request to City Council in the context of their budget review," he said in an e-mail. "At this point I'm not sure if additional resources will be needed or requested."



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

AT WORK: Joe Trujillo, code compliance manager, said he's proud of his department's new attitude.

Trujillo won't point to a single most significant code enforcing victory from his first two years on the job but he's most proud of the division's attitude shift.

"To be honest with you, code enforcement, when it started, it was a dumping ground for people, it was a place where you would put people that you couldn't get to do anything else or didn't want to do anything else," he said.

Now, he said, his officers are constantly on the street, partially because they've got so much to do, but also because they've come to value their role in the community.

He relayed a story of a woman who called his office on the first day of school this year, worried that the Doubletree's shrubs were encroaching on a sidewalk often used by students. His officer, instead of simply sending a generic notice, got hold of a Doubletree worker who trimmed the vegetation before school the next day. The woman sent a simple thank-you card, which Trujillo said meant a lot to the officer.

"I know there's a lot of thankless jobs in this city, but this has got to be one of the most thankless jobs that are out there," he said. "Nobody likes to see us. Nobody is sending us a box of See's Candy at Christmas. But sometimes there are these small thank-yous that come through."

dave@smdp.com



Santa Monicans for Safe Access

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MONTE CARLO NIGHT AT THE TAG GALLERY

Saturday November 23, 2013

Please join Santa Monicans for Safe Access (SAMOSA) and the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP) on Saturday, November 23, 2013 starting at 7:00 PM at the TAG Gallery for an evening of "Monte Carlo Night" casino games and fine art! It's free! Play blackjack, roulette and craps. Exchange your "winnings" for tickets to win super raffle prizes! There will be hor d'oeuvres and beverages plus an exhibit by three TAG Gallery artists. You will also have the opportunity to learn about medical marijuana advocacy with MPP. SAMOSA is a large (and growing!) coalition of fellow Santa Monica residents organized to bring sensible rules to the City to permit safe, local access to medical marijuana.
SAMOSA works together with MPP to ensure that this is accomplished in a way that is sensitive to and respectful of all Santa Monicans.
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Date & Time
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Marijuana Policy Project
www.mpp.org

EXPO
FROM PAGE 1

CITY GETS MTA GRANTS

City Hall will receive $5.4 million in grants from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to make multiple Expo-related improvements throughout the city.

The grant requires a $1.3 million local match from City Hall, totaling $6.7 million.

The grants will go toward four projects throughout the city.

• A $1.6 million project will improve circulation in the area around the Expo stations for bikes, pedestrians, and cars by adding wayfinding signs, transit map cases, and electronic parking guidance signs.

• A $2.4 million project will extend the Expo bike path south along 17th Street to Pico Boulevard and westward along Michigan Avenue to Lincoln Boulevard. This is the first portion of the Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway (MANGO). It will connect the stations to Santa Monica College.

• A $675,600 project would add bicycle detection to 20 to 30 intersections. This reduces signal delay for buses and cars. Bike detection is already installed at 30 percent of the city's traffic signals and this project would add it to an additional 15 percent.

• A $2 million project will improve the aesthetics of Fourth Street, between Broadway and Olympic Drive, near the Expo station. It will increase pedestrian and bike safety. It will also encourage walking between Downtown, the Civic Center and the station.

Some of the projects could begin as early as next year, with others starting in 2018.

MTA rejected funding for a $1.6 million "mobility hub" at the 17th Street Station, a $1.97 million pedestrian lighting project at 17th Street, and a $3.31 million request for five new buses.

dave@smdp.com

BROWN
FROM PAGE 1

He said he intends to focus on governing in the next few months.

"But at the same time, I am aware that in November of next year there will be an election, and I will make some decisions regarding that," he said.

The 75-year-old Democrat is widely expected to seek another term and already has amassed more than $13 million in his two campaign accounts.

On Thursday, he will mingle with Hollywood heavyweights such as DreamWorks Animation CEO Jeffrey Katzenberg, director Steven Spielberg and producer David Geffen, who are among the many co-hosts of the event at the Bel Air home of Cindy and Alan Horn, chairman of the Walt Disney Studios, according to The Hollywood Reporter, which first reported the fundraiser.

The maximum individual contribution for a statewide candidate who runs in both the primary and general election in 2014 is $54,400.

Although the deadline to file for the office is not until next year, two Republicans, former Lt. Gov. Abel Maldonado and state Assemblyman Tim Donnelly of Twin Peaks, have declared they will run. Neither has raised sufficient money yet to mount an aggressive statewide campaign.

Neel Kashkari, the former assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury who oversaw the federal bank bailout under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, is also considering running as a Republican. Kashkari, who lives in Newport Beach, was a Goldman Sachs vice president before going to work for the government.

While the California Republican Party is expected to make an endorsement, the gubernatorial primary in June will be the first since voters approved the top-two system. The top two vote-getters will advance to the November election regardless of party, reducing the official role of parties in the nominating process.





CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Consultants to complete and submit proposals for the:

Knoll Furniture Procurement for Citywide Usage
SP 2307

Proposals shall be submitted to the City of Santa Monica via email, not later than 5:00 p.m. on **December 5, 2013**. Email proposals to the City of Santa Monica, Architecture Services, Attention: Jean Bellman, jean.bellman@smgov.net. Each proposal shall be in accordance with the Request for Proposals.

Agreement Length: Up to three years

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at http://www.smgov.net/planetbids. Consultants wishing to be considered must submit Proposals containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Proposals.





CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #4106 PROVIDE FARE MEDIA AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.
BID #4107 PROVIDE MAGNETIC STRIPE TICKETS AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.

• **Submission Deadline Is December 11, 2013 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**
The bid packets can be downloaded at:
• **http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm**

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

SURF REPORT



O'NEILL

O'NEILL CARRIES APPAREL, FOOTWEAR, ACCESSORIES,
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131 BROADWAY SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 | (657) 859-3721
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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **63.3°**

WEDNESDAY – **VERY POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Trace Southern Hemi and NW swell; deep AM high tide

THURSDAY – **VERY POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Trace Southern Hemi and NW swell; deep AM high tide

FRIDAY – **VERY POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal SW and NW energy

SATURDAY – **VERY POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal SW and NW energy

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 **November 13, 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 -- 22 / ns
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, SIMA and 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+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	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 21572 Malibu Rd..	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (broach 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.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	F	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	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.	F	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 DWW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	C	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

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

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California 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.

Toxic waste declines in California ocean area

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Environmental Protection Agency has suspended planned cleanup efforts at a California site where industrial waste on the ocean floor appears to be declining naturally.

Scientists are at a loss to explain the rapid drop of toxic chemical levels across the 17-square-mile site about 200 feet below the ocean surface and two miles off the Los Angeles County coast, the Los Angeles Times reported this week.

Samples taken from sediment suggest more than 100 metric tons of the banned pesticide DDT and industrial compounds known as PCBs have dropped by nearly 90 percent in just five years.

In response to the discovery, the EPA halted its cleanup plan and ordered a new round of tests to be completed during the next year. Researchers began collecting samples from the seafloor last month.

"The precipitous drop needs to be explained," EPA Regional Administrator Jared Blumenfeld told the newspaper. "The question we're answering is: Is the DDT still there?"

Millions of pounds of the pesticide were dumped into county sewers from the late 1940s to the early 1970s. Wastewater, also contaminated with PCBs from industrial sites, emptied into the ocean and settled on the ocean floor. The area was declared an EPA Superfund site in 1996.

A legal battle over the pollution ended in 2000 with Montrose Chemical Corp, other manufacturers and the county sanitation agency paying $140 million in settlements.

Scientists have several theories about what's happening to the toxic chemicals.. The chemicals could be escaping into the water or covered by clean sediment deposited by the Palos Verdes Peninsula's landslide-prone coastline.

EPA officials are nearly certain some of the polluted material is being swept off the shelf into waters more than 3,000 feet deep. They also say the compounds are shedding chlorine to become less toxic.

"We know it is breaking down, we just don't know the mechanism," said Judy Huang, project manager for the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund site.

Once the results of the latest tests are available, likely by the end of 2014, the agency will decide whether to proceed with the cleanup or make other plans.

COURT

FROM PAGE 1

injured.

Campbell has pleaded not guilty and his attorney has called it "a horrible accident."

Deputy District Attorney Victor Avila showed surveillance camera footage that showed the man entering his car and driving through the mass of people. There were many scenes of people running in panic. The witnesses were asked if the driver ever honked his horn in warning and they said no.

A woman from England who had been vacationing in Venice said she was hit by a car and suffered minor injuries on her legs, but saw others more gravely injured. Katriye Marshall said she and her boyfriend tried to flee but when she turned, the car swerved and aimed at her.

Two more witnesses from Indiana and Pennsylvania gave their accounts of the actions of Campbell and said he appeared very focused as he plowed into the crowd in August.

Landen Blackburn of Indiana and Mike Giantomaso of Pennsylvania recalled the driver looking straight ahead as he raced along, revving the engine.

"You saw things fly all over the place," said Giantomaso. "It's Venice Beach and I didn't know if it was a show or something. And then we realized it just wasn't a show. When I looked up it was coming straight at us."

He said he and his wife and four children stepped back to avoid the car. Marshall said she saw the body of the woman who was killed.

"I saw a woman lying face down with her arms at her side, and she wasn't moving," Marshall said. "There was a lot of blood from her head."

Blackburn said he saw the man enter his car and "his facial expression was focused. It wasn't like 'Oh God what happened.' It was like, he wasn't intending to stop."

Katia Gruppioni, 51, of Pianoro, Italy, the aunt of the woman who was killed, flew to Los Angeles to represent the family and sat in the back row of the court room listening to testimony.

"What we want is just justice. Not revenge. Just justice," she said.

Christian Casadei, 33, and Alice Gruppioni were on their honeymoon after getting married July 20.

"When she left us, she was really at the top of her happiness," Katia Gruppioni said. "She'd found her soulmate. She had a brilliant life. She had a loving family. She was surrounded by love. She had it all."

If convicted, Campbell could face life in prison.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The Broken Circle Breakdown (NR)1hr 51min
7:30pm
This screening is open to American Cinematheque members only.

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

Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm

About Time (R) 2hrs 04min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Best Man Holiday (R) 2hrs 02min
1:00pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:20pm

Free Birds (PG) 1hr 30min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm

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

Gravity 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Ender's Game (PG-13) 1hr 54min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Captain Phillips (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
12:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

Last Vegas (R) 1hr 30min
11:00am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
12:15pm, 3:30pm, 6:45pm, 10:00pm

Dallas Buyers Club (R) 1hr 57min
11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (R) 1hr 33min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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

All Is Lost (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Wadjda (PG) 1hr 38min
5:00pm

Great Expectations (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
4:00pm, 9:40pm

Enough Said (PG-13) 1hr 33min
1:55pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Prime Ministers: The Pioneers (NR) 1hr 54min
1:20pm, 7:00pm

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

GET SOME R&R, LEO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Touch base with your inner voice before launching into a situation involving real estate, security or family. Your responsibilities are changing rapidly, so adjust. You have very little choice anyway. A discussion could be helpful. Tonight: Homeward bound.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You need to touch base with several people in your immediate environment. Once you sit down with them, you will see the value in their feedback. Make an adjustment and use the best of others' ideas. You will have a lot of support. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Stay sensitive to your finances and to what others need. A boss could take a stand that might not be based in reality. Make a point to reach out to a partner who has a lot of important feedback. Tonight: Your treat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Stay centered, and know what you want. Reach out to someone at a distance who is smart and creative. Understand what needs to happen between you and a controlling associate. Tonight: Think "weekend plans."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You might be coming from a visceral level when dealing with a partner. Take time to acknowledge those you pass every day with perhaps a brief nod. Stop and say hello to someone who actually makes your life seem better. Start a conversation. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You could be driven by various factors, but your friends will be the most important. A meeting could reveal much more about a situation than you expected. Rethink your approach to this matter. Tonight: Be with friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Your good intentions come through for someone who is a part of your daily life. An important but changeable situation that you are dealing with could be quite disconcerting. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Reach out for more information as you explore a creative or special opportunity. You probably will change your tune once you get more facts. Avoid charging into a situation without first gathering as much information as possible. Tonight: Let your imagination lead the way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You function at your peak when working with a trusted associate. You might find that your creativity surges when you feel comfortable. Your finances could be subject to change. Tonight: Follow someone else's lead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others feel as though they can handle everything you can. You might want some free time for a personal matter or to complete another project. Go along with others' ideas. You might find that you have more help than you thought possible. Tonight: Out among the crowds.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might be focused on completion. You have a lot on your plate. Many people like the way you do things. As a result, they often seek you out for help with their projects. You might want to start saying "no" more often, even if the request is flattering. Tonight: Do not push.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your ideas seem to flow into nearly every situation, problem and interaction you have. You might decide not to reveal everything that goes through your mind, but you still will reveal a lot. Others might be amazed by your imagination. Tonight: Spice up a relationship.

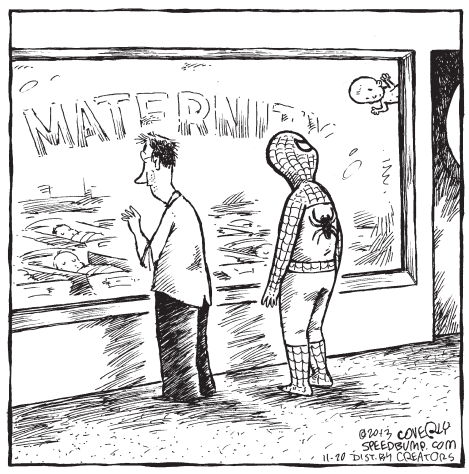
Wednesday, November 20, 2013

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

This year you tune in to your emotions more when making important choices. You will make excellent decisions as a result. You often pick up on others' subconscious agendas. If you are single, by late summer 2014, you might meet someone who knocks your socks off. In fact, you could have several experiences with different people like this. Only commit when and if you are sure. If you are attached, your sense of harmony spills over to your sweetie, which adds to the intensity that binds you. CANCER is as emotional as you are, but he or she can be a lot harder to deal with.

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

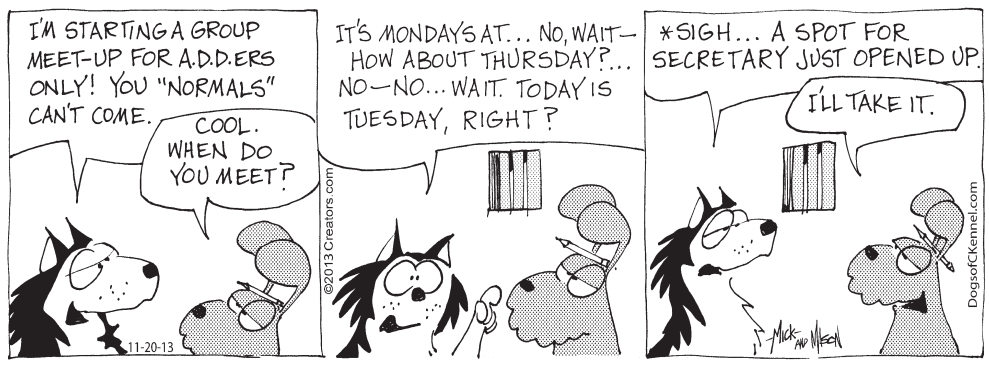
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



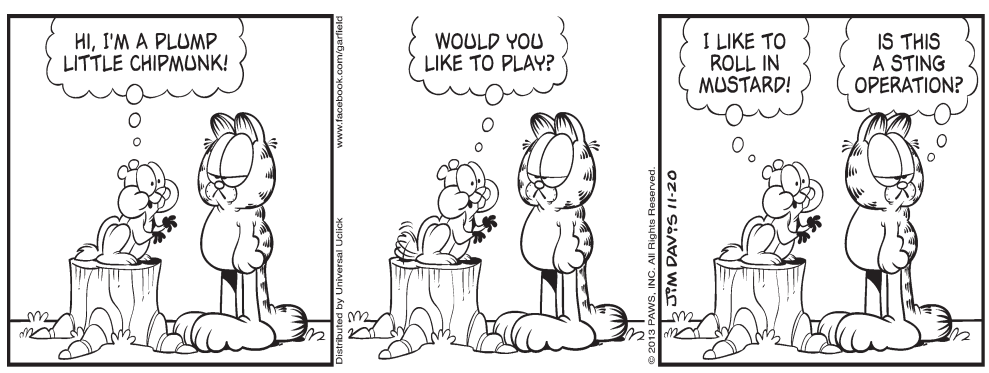
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

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 Casino calculation
5 Complain loudly
11 Designer Wang
12 Mame, for one
13 TV's Trebek
14 Unsavory sort
15 NBA's Jeremy
16 Goose egg
17 Store worker
19 Comedy first baseman
22 Pitcher Santana
24 Squad car sound
26 In the thick of
27 Skilled
28 Seminar group
30 Slow tempo
31 Work unit
32 Writer Asimov
34 Linen source
35 Bowler, e.g.
38 One of Arthur's knights
41 "The Phantom Tollbooth" hero
42 In awe
43 Tennis star Roddick
44 Emphasis
45 They may clash

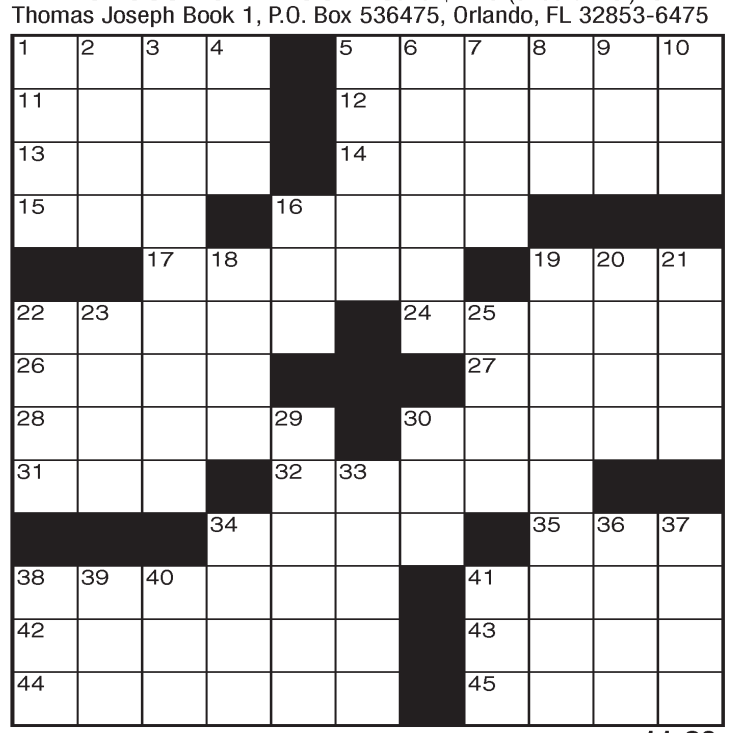
DOWN

1 Ellipse
2 Sub shop
3 Like a downpour
4 Getz's instrument
5 Fencing sword
6 Physics particles
7 Destroy
8 Finished off
9 Fake locks
10 Frat party item
16 Buddhism branch
18 Stow cargo
19 Twisting suddenly
20 Influence
21 Aware of
22 Practical joke
23 Poet Khayyám
25 Notion
29 Easter symbols
30 Indulgent
33 Beach bits
34 Disconcert
36 Ray of films
37 Stocking stuffers
38 Heating choice
39 Quantity: Abbr.
40 Simple card game
41 West of Hollywood

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



11-20



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The online retailer Amazon.com maintains a side business of operating massive Internet-capacity "cloud" farms and contracts out space to some of the world's largest entities, including U.S. government agencies. In a case brought to light in October by a U.S. Court of Claims ruling, Amazon had won its bid against IBM for a cloud contract with the CIA, but had gone a step further by actually improving the CIA's system and implementing a better plan. In the bizarre world of government contracts, that created a "fairness" problem, as IBM argued that its rights were violated because the specified contract work was no longer exactly what was being done (i.e., the client's work was being done better). IBM lodged a time-consuming protest, but later dropped the suit.

■ Many parents long for armed protection for their kids at school, but a few parents at Entz Elementary in Mesa, Ariz., have the opposite concern -- and demanded that local cop (and parent) Scott Urkov not wear his service weapon, or uniform, when he drops his child off in the morning. The principal sided with the complaining parents (although at least one mother defended Urkov, albeit defining the issue primarily as "his right" to be in uniform as he heads off to work).

TODAY IN HISTORY

2003 - After the November 15 bombings, a second day of the 2003 Istanbul Bombings occurs in Istanbul, Turkey, destroying the Turkish head office of HSBC Bank AS and the British consulate.

2008 - After critical failures in the US financial system began to build up after mid-September, the Dow Jones Industrial Average reaches its lowest level since 1997.

WORD UP!

omnium-gatherum
\ om-nee-uhm-GATH-er-uhm \ , noun;
1. a miscellaneous collection.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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- Pets
- Boats
- Jewelry
- Wanted
- Travel
- Vacation Rentals
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- Rent
- Houses for Rent
- Roomates
- Commerical Lease
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Loans
- Storage Space
- Vehicles for Sale
- Massage
- Services
- Computer Services
- Attorney Services
- Business Opportunities
- Yard Sales
- Health and Beauty
- Fitness
- Wealth and Success
- Lost and Found
- Personals
- Psychic
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North of Montana	=	**$ 4,352,118**
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	**$ 2,675,516**
South of Wilshire	=	**$ 882,833**
Sunset Park	=	**$ 1,912,600**
Ocean Park	=	**$ 2,447,250**
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