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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2013
Volume 13 Issue 18



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT TO DO?
SEE PAGE 2

THE LOOKS ALMOST REAL ISSUE



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

WAITING GAME: People stand in line on Colorado Avenue Monday to apply for Community Corporation of Santa Monica housing.

Affordable housing list opens

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON & GREGORY ASCIUTTO
Daily Press Staff

DOWNTOWN Santa Monica's largest affordable housing provider is making its list and checking it many, many times.

Community Corporation of Santa Monica (CCSM) opened its doors to new applicants Monday, kicking off the long, competitive process for affordable housing. Applicants can take the first step, signing up for January seminars, on Mondays through Thursdays until the end of the month.

This year, about 5,000 people are expected to make it onto the list from which CCSM randomly selects when a unit becomes available. About 80 to 120 vacancies come up every year. Despite the low odds, just days after Black Friday, a line of applicants formed outside of 502 Colorado Ave. to make their appointments.

"Who wouldn't want to live in Santa Monica?" asked Harvey Cowen, who was waiting in line around noon on Monday.

Cowen is unemployed and currently lives on the border of Culver City and Los Angeles. He's looking for a space for himself and his son, who is in college.

"I had a friend who got on the list and she got a really nice place," he said. "So they are out there if you get selected."

After the roughly 40-minute wait in line, applicants were given appointments for January. At these appointments they submit their basic financial information and, if they qualify, they make it onto the marketing list.

Aside from income qualifications, prospective tenants can't have been evicted in the past five years or have more than $2,000 in negative credit. Personal and property crime convictions within the last five years are also reasons for denial.

H. Lewis, who was waiting for an application with his grandchild, said that this is one of his concerns.

"I'm not talking about rape and murder, but I've had to

SEE HOUSING PAGE 8



Rendering courtesy City of Santa Monica

IN THE WORKS: A proposed memorial to fallen veterans would consist of seven pillars, one for each major conflict since WWI.

City Hall unveils plans for veterans memorial

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

WOODLAWN CEMETERY Seven pillars, one for each major U.S. conflict since World War I, engraved with the names of Santa Monicans who died in service are proposed to be placed outside the mausoleum at Woodlawn Cemetery.

City Council unanimously approved the designs for the memorial put forward by city officials last week.

"The design is very simple, very thoughtful," said Cultural Affairs Manager Jessica Cusick. "In some ways it echoes the memorial we have in Palisades Park. It is, we think, very restrained and appropriate."

SEE MEMORIAL PAGE 10

State officials launch insurance exchange for small businesses

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES California formally launched its insurance exchange for small businesses Monday as questions loom about potentially higher rates and just days after the federal government said it was shelving its version of the online por-

SEE INSURANCE PAGE 7







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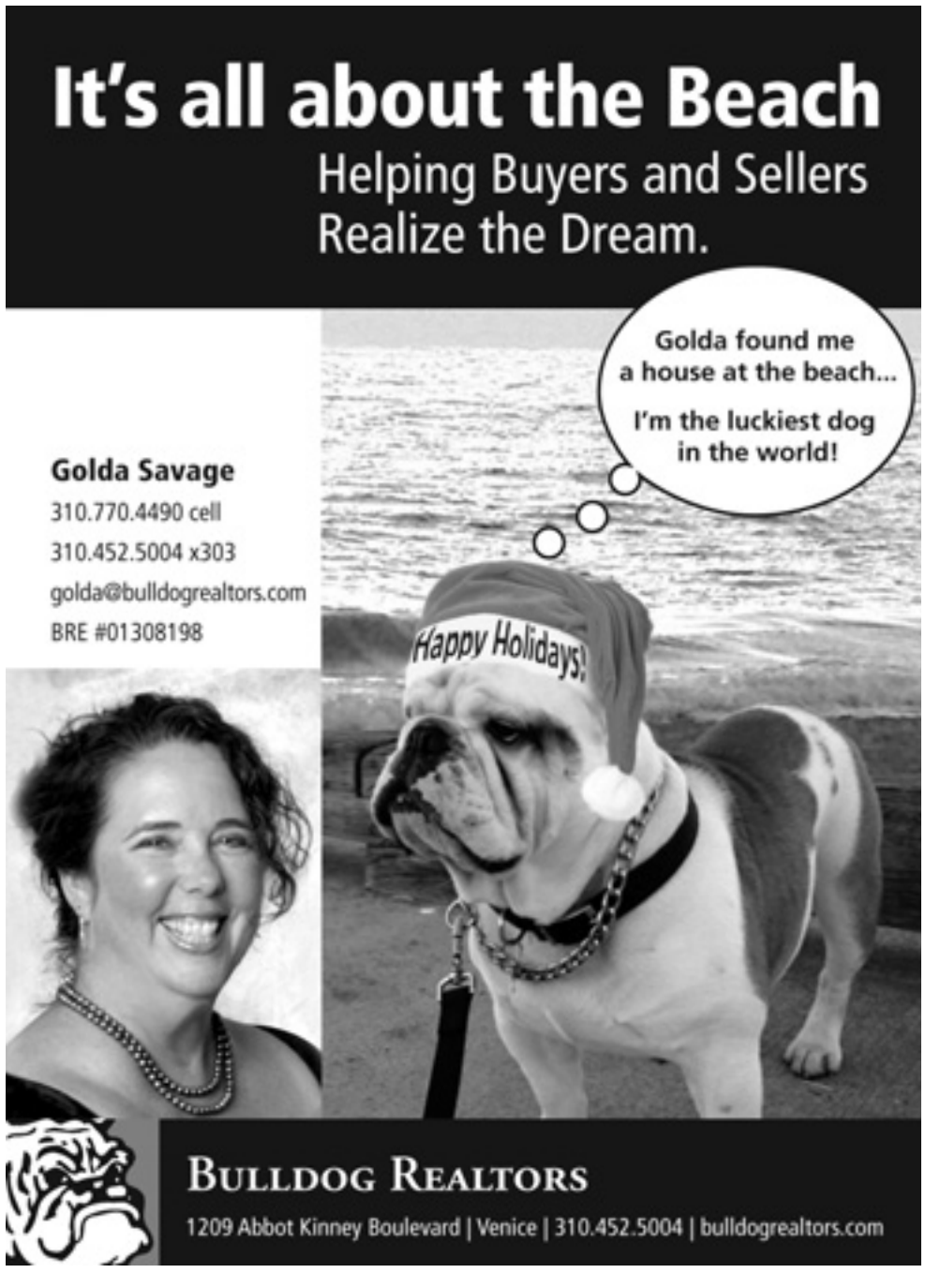
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013

Story time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Holidays for pets
Santa Monica Place
Central Plaza, 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Bring your furry friends to Santa Monica Place this holiday season for a special pet photo opportunity with Santa Claus. The mall invites guests' four-legged friends to "sit" for a photo with Santa. Kids, cats, dogs — all (non exotic pets) are welcome! Photos are available for purchase in individual photo cards or packets. Call (310) 260-8333 for more information.

Movie night
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 6 p.m.
Bring your popcorn to this screening of "Radio Days," a 1987 film about the American family during the golden age of radio. Following the 96-minute movie, there will be a discussion with documentary film producer Elaina Archer. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Beach music
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Hwy., 6:30 p.m.
Head down to the beach for an evening of live entertainment. Guitarist Tom Farrell and violinist Javier Orman of Dúo del Sol will perform a fusion of classical, jazz and rock music. Tickets are free, but space is limited and reservations are required. For more information and to reserve your tickets, visit beachhouse.smgov.net.

Unpopular laughs
Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade
8:30 p.m.
The only Tuesday night stand-up comedy show Santa Monica will ever need. Presented in part by Adam Tod Brown, an editor and columnist at Cracked.com, Unpopular Opinion's eclectic mix of up-and-comers, established comics and the Internet's funniest writers and performers make for one of the most entertaining comedy shows around. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 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.

Peace of mind
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 6 p.m.
Stop by the library for an evening of meditation. Wellness consultant Natalie Bell will lead the 30-minute session.

Book talk
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Author Stephen Gee will discuss his book "Iconic Vision: John Parkinson, Architect of Los Angeles" at this free event. The biography focuses on the life of Parkinson, an L.A. architect who designed 400 of the city's buildings before his 1935 death. For more information call (310) 458-8600.

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

The photo titled "Catch her if you can," which appeared in the Nov. 29 issue of the Daily Press, should have identified the St. Monica girls' soccer player depicted as Sasha Meyer.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

Fountain under construction – again

A month after calling the fountain in Ken Genser Square fully functional, City Hall announced Monday a two-month construction project to make repairs to the controversial structure.

W.E. O'Neil Construction, which was scheduled to begin the project Monday, will apply coating to the structure's base, waterproof its bubblers and add seams to prevent cracking.

The company will work at no extra cost to City Hall, which spent $42.3 million on the fountain, Ken Genser Square and Tongva Park.

Since July, the Daily Press has reported leakage problems with the structure.

The last repairs were completed in October, when W.E. O'Neil and designer Fluidity worked to fix a leak at the feature's base.

Construction fences will surround the fountain until Jan. 27, when the project is scheduled for completion.

– GREG ASCIUTTO

WEST L.A.

405 Freeway closures

Westside residents will face full Interstate 405 closures this week as the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority continues work on its Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project.

From 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. Wednesday morning, southbound 405 will be fully closed between Sunset and Wilshire boulevards. Lanes will begin to close Tuesday at 10 p.m., and ramps will close as early as 7 p.m.

Northbound 405 will shut down Thursday morning between Santa Monica Boulevard and Morega Drive from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. Lanes will begin to close Wednesday at 10 p.m., and ramps will close as early as 7 p.m.

For detour routes, visit metro.net/405.

– GA

SM LIBRARY

Library recognized as one of nation's best

The Santa Monica Public Library has been rated as one of the nation's top libraries by trade publication Library Journal.

With its fourth consecutive five-star rating, the library is in exclusive company. It is one of three California libraries to earn the 2013 distinction, which is based on library visits, circulation, program attendance and public Internet use.

Last year, the Santa Monica libraries hosted 1.37 million visitors, with 2.22 million materials used.

"We're delighted that we're being recognized for all of the things we do right," said Assistant City Librarian Claudia Fishler. Fishler attributed the success of the library to its staff's exceptional customer service skills.

Only 263 of the 7,573 public libraries evaluated earned ratings of three, four or five stars.

– GA

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD

Cemetery to host holiday celebration

The Woodlawn Cemetery, Mausoleum & Mortuary will host a public tree-decorating event this Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visitors are encouraged to come and honor deceased loved ones by decorating crafts and ornaments to be placed on the cemetery's Tree of Life.

The free celebration will feature a special performance by the barbershop quartet Santa Monica Oceanaries, a screening of a holiday movie, light refreshments and the opportunity to take pictures with Santa.

Woodlawn, at 1847 14th St., is also an official drop site for Toys for Tots donations.

– GA



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

TRY, TRY AGAIN: **A man works on the fountain outside of Santa Monica City Hall on Monday.**

Sacramento atheists spark debate with billboards

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Amid the barrage of Christmas advertising, a group of non-believers is blanketing California's capital city with billboards proclaiming their lack of faith — and that atheists can be "good moral people, too."

The 55 billboards, which began going up Monday, feature local atheists with different messages, including "Live for now, not for after," "I worship nothing and question everything" and "We can ALL be good without God."

The messages are not intended to be anti-God, said Judy Saint, president of the group behind the billboards, the Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation. Instead, they're an attempt to welcome atheists and let them know it's OK not to believe, even at Christmastime.

Saint said many non-believers are alienated and some are cut off from family if they do not share their religion.

"There are thousands of us here, and we are reaching out to them because it's such a maligned minority," she said. "If the message at all is to believers, it would be that we are good moral people, too."

The national Freedom From Religion Foundation is paying for the billboards, but Saint declined to say how much they cost.

While some believers may be offended by the messages, Monsignor James Murphy, vicar general of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, said he likely will talk about them in an upcoming sermon, reminding parishioners to "live your faith. Be a light to others."

Murphy said he believes many people who become atheists or are skeptical of religion do so because Christians do not always practice what they believe.

"What they would say is we're in church on Sunday, but there's not much evidence on Monday," Murphy said. "That's a fair criticism; that's something we should take seriously. To me, they're not a threat. They're simply a reminder to live my faith."

Saint said she does not oppose the holiday celebra-

SEE **BILLBOARDS** PAGE 7



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No price too high for public safety

Editor:

In regards to your article about police earning over $200,000 ("28 cops took home more than $200K," Nov. 27). Police work has increased in complexity and danger in parallel with all of our electronics, social media, vast usage of medication and growing prison population. In our society the social breakthroughs of the 1960s and technology boom since the '80s with the Internet age, place the individual in ever increasing risk and opportunity.

Police work is dangerous and violent. Once simple crimes have expanded to create a danger to our entire society. The individual risk has increased in proportion to these changes. I stand before you to defend the salaries of law enforcement personnel and to remind us all of the foundation of our nation — freedom.

Government's great purposes is public works, public education, public safety and enforcing the integrity of the contract, which means the relationship between men and women in their business and personal affairs, who need to be held accountable for their actions. My fellow Santa Monica residents, what price is to high for the safety of you, your family and our city as a whole?

Happy holidays and a safe new year.

Robert Kronovet
Santa Monica

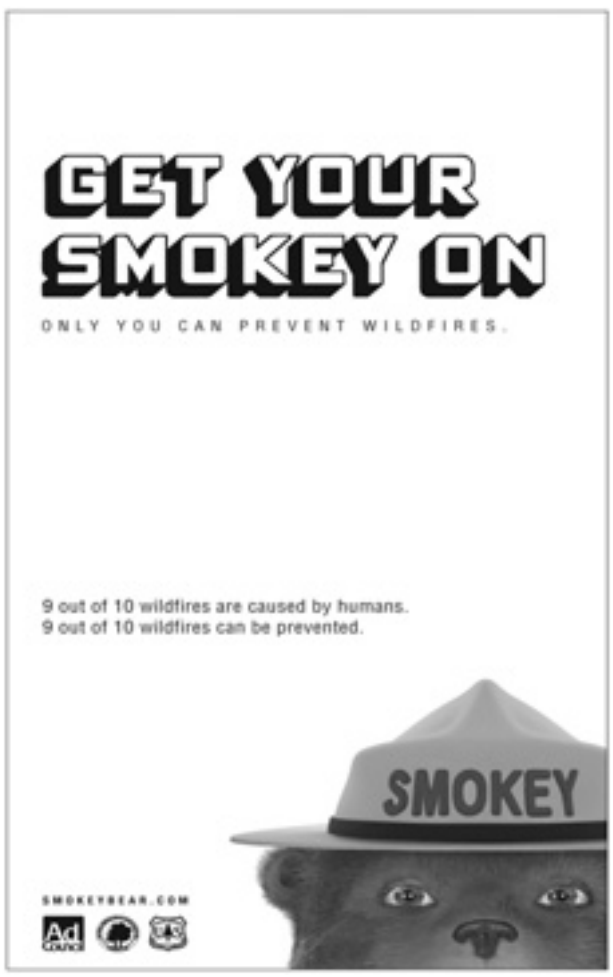
Just another pawn in the game

Editor:

There are a bunch of new people paying big money to live here. Check it out and speak up. This, in my opinion, is a bloated, out-of-control government funded by developers, lawyers, architects, accountants, etc., with nefarious connections. For all the old Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights people, you have been bamboozled and are a pawn in a game we have now all lost.

Anyone with a modicum of common sense knows how out of control this place is. I applaud those who stand up to this overwhelming abuse and ask everyone to examine the real facts. We are paying ridiculous taxes for services not rendered and very bad decisions. Time to stop the madness and take control of how we are being taxed and where the money goes. Roughly $500,000 for two green bike lanes or money to the schools? Your choice. How about turn signals at major intersections? And on and on.

Jim Lewis
Santa Monica





What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Love the one you're with

I MADE TWO RESOLUTIONS THIS YEAR. The first was to put the phone down more, to be present in conversations and ask that those who are with me do the same. It just seems like a more genteel way of being. I had great success with this resolution. I wasn't perfect. I would certainly find myself at lunches with a friend at Bravo Restaurant or Loews Hotel repeatedly looking at my phone as texts came in. I've spent too many dinners at Fritto Misto with the phone sitting there, its illuminated screen just mocking me, daring me to pick it up and play with it.

But in general I was better this year about being present in a conversation. I found that the conversations were more fulfilling when I focused on them, but there was certainly a residual draw to the phone so long as it was in my periphery. If I thought about leaving it in the car, there would be that moment of, "What if …?" and then I'd leave it and relax. I'm a divorce lawyer, what emergency is going to happen that I "have to" know about immediately? There isn't. If a client is bleeding, call 911; if they're fighting over the kids, call the cops. They'll do better than I can, and charge less.

In January I wrote: "The second resolution I made was to take more vacation time. I notice that I always get a lot of work done the week before a vacation and the week after a vacation. So, obviously if I take a week off every two weeks, I'll be at my highest productivity level."

This one wasn't so easy to do. Not working a third of the year is a lovely idea, but not a practical plan without a sizable passive income. I was able to get away for a total of seven weeks this year. The benefit wasn't so much in the productivity, though I was able to be more productive when I was in town, but rather in the peace of mind and calm that I developed.

One thing I noticed this year is how calm and relaxed I've become, and how striking it is in relation to others. Whether it's in a yoga class at Equinox or sitting at the King's Head, I see around me greater stress levels every day.

I am fairly certain that the connection between our phones and the pressure on us as Americans to always be busy is what is driving an increase in the unhappiness and dissatisfaction with life in general. This "always connectedness" is driving a wedge between people and creates the mindset that there is always something better going on somewhere else, with someone who is prettier, richer or more interesting than who we are with.

All you have to do is sit in a busy restaurant and watch the people around you to notice how they lose focus on the friends and family they are with, and get engrossed in the latest Facebook post from someone in Greenland. It's not just the teenagers anymore, it's all of us.

I think it has to do with both biological and societal positive feedback. When we pick up our phone and see that someone has texted, called or e-mailed, we get a jolt of an emotional reward: "Ooh someone likes and wants me!" But also, socially, we affirm that it's OK to ignore the person you're with, and get a quick jolt of good feelings. Add in the social construct that we should always be working and it's no wonder that we're addicted to our phones. I'm sure B.F. Skinner and Abram Maslow would have a field day with this behavior and the track that our society is on.

Personally, I really enjoy how I felt by focusing more on people while I'm with them. This was partly a result of being away, but more a result of intentionally focusing on them and putting away the phone.

Most resolutions fail quickly. We don't like to change as humans. I certainly am resistant, but after this year I think I'll keep up these because I like the effects, and that is how positive reinforcement works, which would make B.F. Skinner proud.

DAVID PISARRA is a Los Angeles divorce and child custody lawyer specializing in father's and men's rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra



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Your column here

Leon Kolankiewicz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fracking our way to freedom?

DOMESTIC U.S. OIL PRODUCTION peaked in about 1970, fulfilling an outlandish prediction made back in 1956 at a meeting of the American Petroleum Institute by the Shell Oil Company geoscientist Dr. M. King Hubbert. With his stubborn personality and brilliant mind, the Texas-born Hubbert was able to see beyond the "myth of superabundance" that afflicted national thinking about natural resources back then — and still prevails today in many quarters.

By 2008, American onshore and offshore production had been trending downward for four decades, and we were producing oil at less than half the rate we had in 1970. By 2008, we were importing six out of every 10 barrels of oil we burned.

Oil price shocks in 1973-74, 1979-80 and 2008 — the recurrent "energy crisis" — jolted prices or produced long lines at gas pumps, wreaked economic havoc and scared Americans that we were now at the mercy of greedy multinational corporations and hostile foreign powers: Corrupt, autocratic or fundamentalist petro-states in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Every U.S. president from Nixon onward called urgently for a national commitment and federal policies to pursue "energy independence," yet still our production of oil and gas sagged downward.

In the meantime, largely because of historically high immigration rates, U.S. population jumped by 110 million from 1970 to 2010 (from about 200 million to 310 million), ensuring 50 percent more American consumers to compete with each other for a seemingly dwindling resource base. Not a happy prospect.

This was the dismal situation in "post-peak-oil" America just three years ago. Then, a miracle happened, or so it seemed to those inclined to believe in divine intervention. To those of a more secular persuasion but enamored of "American exceptionalism" and the entrepreneurial spirit, it was merely the genius of the marketplace at work: Higher prices stimulating technological innovation and an enlarged reserve base.

The new technologies are horizontal drilling and its companion, hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking" for short. In the former, a drill bit is turned perpendicularly from the vertical to the horizontal, so as to drill for as much as a mile within an oil or gas-bearing shale layer. Water is pumped into the well at high pressure, creating fractures in the impermeable shale, allowing the trapped oil or gas to escape. Advances in fracking techniques have resulted in tremendous increases in shale gas and oil production.

The 1,750-square-mile Monterey Shale formation in California is the largest in the country, said to contain reserves of hundreds of billions of barrels of oil, fully half of Saudi Arabia's endowment.

The oil and gas industry was stoked with badly needed investment capital and basked in the hype heaped on it by The Wall Street Journal, in which a 2012 story under the headline, "Saudi America," proclaimed, "The U.S. will be the world's leading energy producer, if we allow it."

TIGHT OIL PRODUCTION WILL PEAK IN ABOUT SEVEN YEARS, AROUND 2020, AND THEN DECLINE RAPIDLY. THE PROBLEM IS THAT PRODUCTION IN FRACKED WELLS DECLINES MUCH FASTER THAN IN CONVENTIONAL OIL AND GAS WELLS.

Now, however, a recent report by the International Energy Agency (IEA) — its annual World Energy Outlook — has thrown some cold water on all the hype. The IEA concludes that production of shale oil (tight oil) in the U.S. and globally will offer only a brief respite from dependence on OPEC and the turbulent Middle East. Tight oil production will peak in about seven years, around 2020, and then decline rapidly. The problem is that production in fracked wells declines much faster than in conventional oil and gas wells.

Closer to home, Bloomberg reports that "California's fracking bonanza may fall short of promise." The culprit? That old California nemesis — earthquakes — which have rendered the Monterey Shale too disjointed and unpredictable to make drilling economic.

It's a small world after all, with finite and exhaustible resources. The sooner we adjust to this geologic reality, rather than indulging in our penchant for fantasies of infinite growth, the better off we'll be.

LEON KOLANKIEWICZ is a senior writing fellow for Californians for Population Stabilization, a wildlife biologist, and environmental scientist and planner.

The Q Line

How much is too much?

A recent Daily Press article discovered that 28 members of the Santa Monica Police Department are earning over $200,000 a year, while just 27 from the Los Angeles Police Department made that much.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think that SMPD's pay is fair and why?

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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AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Community Corporation of Santa Monica (CCSM)
announces the opening of the **2014 Marketing List**.
To be considered you must pick up an appointment card at **502 Colorado Ave., Santa Monica in the Community Room**. Please come on one of the following dates & times: Dec. 2nd – 5th; Dec. 9th – 12th; Dec. 14th; Dec. 16th – 19th; Dec. 23rd, 26th, & 30th between 8am & 5pm. Dec. 24th & Dec. 31st 8am – 12:00noon. Closed Dec. 6th, 13th; 20th, 25th; and 27th, EHO



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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

LAX shooting suspect to appear in court Wednesday

A man charged with killing a Transportation Security Administration officer during an attack at Los Angeles International Airport last month is scheduled to make his first court appearance Wednesday.

Paul Ciancia, 23, will have his first hearing at the West Valley Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga, about 45 miles east of Los Angeles. He's been housed at the facility in federal custody, said Thom Mrozek, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

Ciancia will not be asked to enter a plea during the hearing, Mrozek said. Phone messages left for Ciancia's attorneys, who are both deputy federal public defenders, were not immediately returned.

Investigators said Ciancia had a vendetta against the federal government and targeted TSA officers when he pulled a semi-automatic rifle from a bag and fatally shot Gerardo Hernandez.

Ciancia was shot and wounded by airport police in LAX's Terminal 3 on Nov. 1 as passengers scrambled to safety. He was initially listed in critical condition but was upgraded to fair at a Los Angeles hospital before being placed in federal custody.

An autopsy showed Hernandez, 39, was shot a dozen times with bullets grazing his heart and piercing his bladder and intestines.

Ciancia is charged with killing Hernandez and wounding three other people, including two other TSA officers. He could face the death penalty if convicted.

– ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Ryan O'Neal testifies about disputed Warhol art

Ryan O'Neal told a jury Monday that he owns an Andy Warhol portrait of Farrah Fawcett and it was not a secret that he had removed the artwork from her home after her death.

"The painting is mine," the Oscar-nominated actor testified during a lawsuit filed by the University of Texas at Austin to determine ownership of the portrait done in 1980.

The university claims Fawcett left the painting to the school as part of a donation of her artwork.

O'Neal said Warhol created the portrait after shooting Polaroid photos of the actress and adding splashes of color to an otherwise monochrome canvas.

The artist created two versions of the portrait – one that currently remains over O'Neal's bed at his Malibu beach house and another that is on display at the university's Blanton Museum of Art in Austin.

O'Neal said Warhol asked him in 1980 whether Fawcett would be interested in being the subject of a portrait and that she agreed. The actor said he requested two versions since he and Fawcett kept separate homes.

He said Warhol made the portrait within two weeks of a brief photo shoot with Fawcett in his New York studio.

"It didn't take long," O'Neal, 72, said. "Doing her hair took longer than taking the pictures."

David Beck, an attorney for the University of Texas, challenged O'Neal, suggesting Warhol approached Fawcett directly about the portrait session during a luncheon in Houston in 1980.

Beck said there was no mention in a journal kept by O'Neal about a deal with Warhol. The actor said some of his journal from that time period had been lost.

O'Neal's testimony was at times testy and emotional, with the actor nearly breaking down when he read a letter Fawcett wrote to the couple's son, Redmond.

After Beck asked O'Neal to read passages from his 2012 memoir "Both of Us," the actor tersely offered to sign a copy for the lawyer.

Beck also questioned O'Neal about a 1997 incident in which Fawcett caught O'Neal in bed with another woman. The lawyer has contended that changed the pair's relationship and by the following year, the Warhol portrait that hung over O'Neal's bed was moved to the home of the actress.

O'Neal said he asked Fawcett to take the portrait because it was making his new girlfriend uncomfortable. The portrait remained with Fawcett until her death in June 2009. She had a Warhol portrait in her living room and the other at her bedroom door.

After Fawcett's death, O'Neal returned to the condominium and removed the portrait outside her bedroom.

Beck questioned whether the actor ever discussed removing the portrait with anyone, including a trustee charged with carrying out Fawcett's final wishes.

"Of course I did," O'Neal said. "I'm sure I did. It wasn't a secret."

The university sued the "Love Story" star in 2011 seeking the Warhol artwork that its attorneys have said the school wants to display with its twin in the Blanton museum.

O'Neal has countersued, seeking the return of a tablecloth that Warhol drew hearts on and addressed to him and Fawcett.

He told jurors that if he is allowed to keep the Warhol portrait, he will never sell it. His estate documents call for it to be passed down to Redmond O'Neal, he said.

O'Neal concluded his current testimony Monday, but his lawyer Marty Singer said he expects to call the actor back to the stand later in the trial.

– AP

LOS ANGELES

Palmdale ordered to hold new municipal election

Palmdale was ordered to hold a new election for City Council members next year after a Superior Court judge concluded there was discrimination against black and Latino voters in citywide races involving the panel in the Los Angeles suburb.

"The current members of the Palmdale City Council were elected through an unlawful election," Judge Mark V. Mooney wrote in his seven-page ruling issued Friday.

The only way to rectify the situation is to hold a new election, he said while scheduling the contest to coincide with California's statewide primary on June 3.

Palmdale officials said they plan to appeal, adding that they do not believe the current method of electing council members by a citywide vote is discriminatory.

The proof of that, Deputy City Attorney Noel Doran said Monday, is that a black resident, Frederic Thompson, was elected to the City Council last month.

– AP

BILLBOARDS
FROM PAGE 3

tions that accompany Christmas, and she even has a "Peanuts"-themed manger display. Her family's celebration also includes acts of charity, such as paying off the layaway plans of people at risk of forfeiting payments on children's clothes or educational supplies, she said.

In addition to using the holiday season to draw attention to atheism, supporters also feel compelled to advocate their message because of what they believe are increasing efforts by religiously based groups to influence public policy in areas such as birth control, school vouchers and school curriculum.

"People really don't understand that a lot of the arguments, pro and con, are based in religious beliefs," she said. "It's the separation of church and state that is basically calling us to the forefront to come out."

The December advertising is not the first time Sacramento atheists have made their views public. In 2010, the Sacramento Area Coalition of Reason put up 10 area billboards with the message, "Are you good without God? Millions are." Several of the signs were vandalized, leaving some illegible and others with graffiti, including the words "Christ Loves U."

INSURANCE
FROM PAGE 1

tal for a year.

The nation's most populous state runs its own insurance marketplace, Covered California, and officials have been quick to distinguish it from the troubled federal system that serves 36 other states.

Last week, the Obama administration said it would put off until next November its online small-business site while it concentrates on repairs to the HealthCare.gov website for individuals.

Covered California launched its online site for individuals and families Oct. 1. At a news conference in Los Angeles, agency officials said the small-business counterpart would offer affordable choices for companies that want to provide compensation packages to their workers, including health care.

"California is moving forward, and we are not impacted by the federal government's decision" to delay its site, said Peter Lee, executive director of Covered California.

It's not clear how many companies will sign up, in part because employers can direct workers to find insurance through the Covered California site for individuals. The small-business program is voluntary — companies with up to 50 full-time workers are not required under the health law to provide insurance for workers.

Some owners could qualify for tax credits. Coverage would begin in January.

John Kabateck of the National Federation of Independent Business in California said many small companies have received insurance rate increases, while others fear recently renewed policies could be canceled, leading to higher prices next year. The advocacy group opposed the health overhaul.

For small businesses, the law is creating "more incentive, sadly, to detach from insurance," he said.







HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

hustle in my life," Lewis said. "I need a chance to start over. I've gotten to the second and third rounds of interviews at Target, but once they start talking about my past it's over. Don't ask me about my past."

The unemployed Long Beach resident made the trek to Santa Monica to get on the list after he got a letter about it in the mail. He's looking for a space for his companion, his daughter, and her two children.

"I'm learning about the process as I go," he said.

When a new unit opens up or a tenant moves out (CCSM's turnover rate is less than 2 percent) CCSM officials invite a select number of people, usually 30 to 60, who fit the requirements to attend an open house. The prospective tenants who meet the assigned criteria are selected randomly.

"We'll go into the marketing list and let's say it's a unit that's restricted to two bedrooms and restricted to households of 60 percent median income," Sue Keintz, Community Corporation's director of housing development, explained to the Daily Press earlier this year. "So we just tell our database, give us 30 people."

Those 30 people are required to attend the open house. If they don't, they're removed from the list for one to three years. If those that do attend the open house decide they don't like the unit, they are also removed from the list.

"The thought is that if you turn down a unit, you don't need housing that much," Keintz said. "You have a place that's preferable."

If the potential renters do like the unit, they get an application and the process becomes first-come-first-serve.

The first household that returns that application, with everything filled out correctly and all the signatures, gets in another line. Community Corporation is required by its funding sources to independently verify all of the information. They check with banks and employers.

"If their employer is like, 'I'm not in the mood or whatever,' it could push them to the back of the list," Keintz said. "Maybe they came in first but the person right behind them has an employer that gets us the stuff. It winds up being that kind of game. We have so much competition."

So if you get on the list, get selected for an open house, get your application in fast, and are the first of 30 to 60 people to be independently verified by CCSM, you get the unit.

Audelina Gonzalez, of Culver City, was looking for a unit to house herself, her husband, and her three kids.

Her husband works at night near the Third Street Promenade. She wants her kids to go to Santa Monica schools and she believes that she'll be able to find herself a job here.

"There are more opportunities here," she said. "For my husband's job, it is much closer."

The office at 502 Colorado Ave. is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays until Dec. 31. It is closed on Christmas.

dave@smdp.com

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MEMORIAL

FROM PAGE 1

The idea for the memorial was born last February.

The estimated cost of construction is around $16,000, which proponents are hoping to raise privately. Once the memorial is built, maintenance and staffing costs would fall on City Hall.

About $3,500 has already been received from anonymous donors. Last week, another anonymous donor offered to pay $6,000, Councilmember Bob Holbrook said.

"If there is a shortfall it will be a very small one," said Holbrook, who's led the charge in getting the memorial built. "We thought it might be something that the people of Santa Monica might want to do, as opposed to (City Hall) doing it. We thought citizens might want to personally fund it in memory of the families and friends."

The memorial would be made of poured concrete and allow space for additional names to be added to each pillar in case a service member was accidentally left off. Space would also be allotted for more pillars in the event that another war is declared. Family and friends would be able make rubbings of their lost loved one's names.

Council directed organizers to be liberal when deciding who makes the lists.

Anyone who was born, buried, or who called Santa Monica home would be eligible, as would members of City Hall, as long as they died while in service, in combat or otherwise.

City officials have been working to compile a list of all Santa Monicans who've died in previous wars.

"I have family there, buried in the veterans section, so I took a walk around and realized there were headstones that were obviously World War II victims …. and I realized there must be a lot more men and women who were from Santa Monica who perished and aren't buried at Woodlawn Cemetery because there was maybe 10 or 15 of them there," Holbrook said.

Many government military records were lost in a fire, Holbrook said. City officials researched Santa Monica service members and came up with 97 names. They plan to publicly release the names, before the memorial is built, to assure that they aren't missing anyone.

If all funding is secured by February, Cusick said, the memorial will open on Memorial Day of next year.

dave@smdp.com

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Stocks fall on disappointing Thanksgiving sales numbers

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK The final month of a stellar year for stocks began with a thud.

All three major indexes closed lower Monday, the first day of trading in December. Investors sold shares on signs that American shoppers — that seemingly inexhaustible fuel of global economic growth — may hold tight to their cash this holiday season.

Shoppers turned out in record numbers over the four-day Thanksgiving weekend, but plunked down less cash than they did last year. It was the first decline in Thanksgiving weekend spending since a retail trade group began tracking it in 2006.

Investors reacted by selling all types of retailer stocks, from department stores to specialty chains. J.C. Penney, Macy's and Target fell about 2 percent each. Urban Outfitters dropped nearly 4 percent.

"This holiday season is not going to be a gangbuster," said Lindsey Piegza, chief economist of Sterne Agee. "Retailers are bracing for declining activity from now to the beginning of the year."

One big exception to the retailer doldrums was Ebay, which rose 1.6 percent thanks to signs of strong sales from its online auctions.

The Dow Jones industrial average has surged 22 percent this year and, if history holds, will add to that gain this month. The Dow has risen in December in three out of every four years going back to 1950, according to the Stock Trader's Almanac. The average gain: 1.7 percent.

On Monday, the Dow fell 77.64 points, or 0.5 percent, to 16,008.77. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 4.91 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,800.90. The Nasdaq composite fell 14.63 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,045.26.

The government reported that developers boosted construction spending in October at the fastest pace in more than four years. A separate survey showed that manufacturing activity rose at its fastest pace in 2 ? years.

Joseph S. Tanious, global market strategist at JPMorgan, said he was encouraged by the reports, and saw little reason to sell. But he said many people have made so much money in the market already that they want to play it safe and lock in gains.

"Investors are looking for reasons to sell," Tanious said. "But I think the markets will move higher between here and the year-end."

Stocks have soared as the economy maintains a slow but steady recovery and companies continue to increase earnings. Demand for stocks also has been bolstered by Federal Reserve purchases of $85 billion of bonds each month. The goal is to hold down interest rates, make bonds less attractive than stocks, and stimulate the economy.

Stock investors are waiting for a government report on jobs Friday for clues about whether the stimulus policy is working and when the Fed will ease off its bond purchases. Investors have sold on days when they feared a Fed pullback was imminent.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year note climbed to 2.80 percent, from 2.75 percent. The yield was as low as 1.63 percent in early May.

Phone companies led the broader market lower Monday. Investors typically buy those stocks because they pay big dividends, providing income. When interest rates climb investors sell them because the income is less attractive compared with higher bond yields.

Other stocks making big moves:

• 3M plunged $5.83, or 4.4 percent, to $127.68 after Morgan Stanley downgraded the stock. It was the biggest loser in the Dow and the S&P 500.

• Forest Laboratories surged $5.01 to $56.32, or 10 percent, the biggest gain in the S&P 500. The drugmaker expects to cut jobs as part of a plan to trim $500 million in costs, and spend at least $400 million buying back its stock.

• Dow Chemical rose 92 cents, or 2.4 percent, to $39.98. The company plans to either sell or spin off about 40 manufacturing plants as it moves away from making cyclical commodities, products whose demand is closely tied to the ebbs and flows of the economy.





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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **62.8°**

TUESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
WNW swell fades; possible small NW windswell; watching winds/weather; Deep AM high tide

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Possible NW windswell mix tops out early; Watching the winds; DEEP AM HIGH TIDE

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
WNW traces; possible NW windswell mix eases

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Trace blend of WNW/SW swell

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 25, 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 -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 5
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, 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.	A	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	D	F
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
Pverca State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pverca Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (broach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	F
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 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	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	D	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kanter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A
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	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
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 DBW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	F	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

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.

Arab character sparks debate over ethnic mascots

AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES On game days in Thermal, where date farms and desert surroundings evoke the Middle East and nearby communities have names like Mecca and Oasis, fans cheer a high school team known as the Arabs.

A belly dancer jiggles on center court. And a black-haired, mustached mascot wearing a head scarf rallies the crowd.

At least that's the way it was done for decades in the community 120 miles southeast of Los Angeles until Arab-Americans recently objected to a hook-nosed, snarling image used to represent Coachella Valley High School.

The school has agreed to give the mascot a makeover, but not to drop the nickname.

"We're still going to stick with the Arab," said school board president Lowell Kemper after scores of residents defended the tradition dating back generations. "It's just a matter of whether we have a change in the caricature of the mascot."

It's a twist on a decades-old issue that has centered primarily on Native American mascots, logos and nicknames and has transformed Indians to Cardinal at Stanford University and Chieftains to Redhawks at Seattle University.

But the Arab debate spurs the same set of questions: Is it possible to craft a mascot in the image of an ethnic group that doesn't offend, or are schools better off scrapping the idea altogether?

The debate comes as the more familiar Indian controversy has gained increased heat.

Last year, Oregon's Board of Education decided to cut state funding to schools that fail to retire their Native American mascots, while Wisconsin passed a law in 2010 that forces schools to drop race-based mascots if a complaint is filed and the practice is found discriminatory.

Earlier this year, President Barack Obama said if he owned the National Football League's Washington Redskins he would consider altering the team's name, winning praise from Native American groups that have led rallies and run ads pushing for the change.

"The things that we once did are now viewed clearly as inappropriate and wrong, and that is the hardest thing for so many who don't want to let go of yesterday — but it is the reality," said E. Newton Jackson, a professor of sport management at University of North Florida.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee complained last month that the Coachella Valley mascot perpetuates negative stereotypes of Arabs and Arab-Americans after one of its members raised questions about the image.

The move prompted a community-wide debate and the school district formed a committee to redesign the mascot in a more flattering light.

"When you get into trying to characterize any ethnic group, I think you're crossing into a danger zone, and you're bound to offend individuals," said Abed Ayoub, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's director of legal and policy affairs. "You have this caricature that's supposed to represent Arabs but really does not. The look is very orientalist, very demeaning — it's just not who we are."

The mascot was chosen in the early 20th century and "never intended to dishonor or ridicule anyone," district superintendent Darryl Adams wrote in a letter to the local Desert Sun newspaper. Adams said the mascot was chosen in light of the region's production of crops common in the Middle East but conceded that times change, and "symbols and words embraced for decades may need to be considered for change as well."

Coachella Valley isn't alone in invoking images of Arabs or Muslims. In the Los Angeles suburb of Alhambra, the high school football team, known as the Moors, features a caricature of a scowling, dark-skinned man with two swords on its Facebook page.

Yasmin Nouh, a spokeswoman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations in greater Los Angeles, said her group was going to speak with the school.

"Whether it is Arab, Norwegian, Greek or Moors, we believe ethnic or religious-based mascots are OK as long as they're portrayed in a respectful manner and don't reinforce negative stereotypes," Nouh said.

Alhambra Unified superintendent Laura Tellez-Gagliano said the school's teams are known as the Moors but have not used a mascot at sporting events in at least five years.

Those who defend ethnic mascots often claim they were chosen out of respect and honor. But teams in the early 20th century usually wanted to adopt a belligerent image to instill fear in their opponents, said Ellen J. Staurowsky, professor of sport management at Drexel University in Philadelphia, who has researched mascots over the last two decades.

In 2005, the NCAA cracked down on the use of "hostile" and "abusive" American Indian mascots, logos and nicknames, which prompted a flurry of changes in team images. University of Illinois, for example, retired the image of Chief Illiniwek in 2007 but kept the name Fighting Illini, while the Southeastern Oklahoma State Savages became the Savage Storm.

The College of William & Mary remained The Tribe but stopped using Indian feathers on its logo.

Some universities were allowed to keep their nicknames by getting permission from local tribes, such as Florida State's Seminoles and Utah's Utes.

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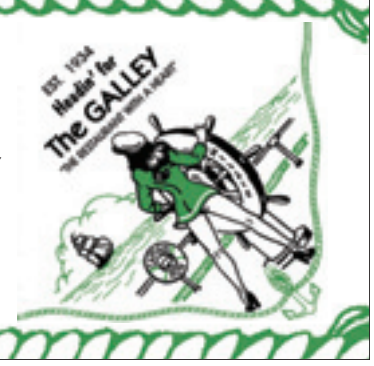
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(310) 260-1528

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

Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
4:15pm, 10:10pm

Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:15pm, 7:15pm

Oldboy (R) 2hrs 00min
1:20pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Black Nativity (PG) 1hr 32min
2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Homefront (R) 1hr 40min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

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

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm

Gravity 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:40am, 2:15pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) 2hrs 26min
11:15am, 12:15pm, 2:45pm, 3:45pm, 6:15pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm, 10:40pm

Frozen 3D (PG) 1hr 25min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 7:50pm, 9:55pm

Delivery Man (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:35pm

Dallas Buyers Club (R) 1hr 57min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

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

Book Thief (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Nebraska (R) 1hr 50min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
12:30pm, 2:55pm, 5:20pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

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

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

RENT A MOVIE TONIGHT, ARIES

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Keep reaching out to someone you care about. This person has many diverse ideas and also can play devil's advocate far more easily than you might think. Tonight: Rent a movie.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Deal with a partner directly. You might feel as if he or she is blocking many of your ideas. Resist getting confrontational; however, do not hesitate to support yourself and your decision if someone starts questioning you. Tonight: Talk over dinner, then choose a favorite escape.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others give you their opinion of this and that. Be polite, even if you don't agree. You could decide to play devil's advocate, but what will be the cost? Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Be friendly.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You'll dive into a project without hesitation. You might not like the manner in which certain questions are being asked. Say so and get down to the real issue. Tonight: First relax, then decide.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Use your energy and intellect to make a point. Someone would be hard pressed to contradict you, especially with your commanding style. You tend to see matters from a different point of view, and you have more information as a result. Tonight: Touch base with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Listen to your inner voice and be direct with your feelings. A family member could be irritable. An issue involving your domestic life could arise. Check all the information given and evaluate possible solutions. Take a walk if you're feeling cranky. Tonight: Be creative.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are likely to say what you think. Fortunately, you have the gift of choosing the right words in order to avoid insulting someone. Be careful. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might be more aware of your finances than most others are. You will want to verify some facts that revolve around this issue. Hold out as long as you can, but know that pressure from others won't allow you to go too long. Tonight: Check your email and return calls.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You would be on cruise control if you weren't continually bumping heads with a higher-up. This person has a lot of frustration and anger that, unfortunately, might be directed at you. You can deflect only so much. Tonight: Try to avoid sharp words. Indulge yourself a little.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ You might keep hearing information that normally would get you going or acting on it; however, right now you are digesting everything you are being told and attempting to sort fact from fiction. Trust in your abilities. Tonight: You feel better as the night goes on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Focus on a meeting if you are at work. If you are free, friends will play a significant role in what happens. In your enthusiasm, you might forget about a partner. Do not let this happen if you really want to make the most out of the moment. Tonight: Join friends first.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could feel pressured by others' demands. You will want to make a change, but you might feel somewhat inhibited. A partner has been unusually difficult as of late. You might want to play the waiting game rather than provoke his or her ire. Tonight: Make plans with friends.

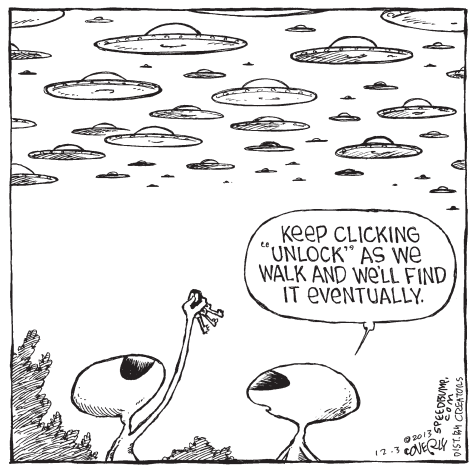
Tuesday, December 3, 2013

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

This year you have many new opportunities that stem from your increased interest and energy. Creativity whirls around you, which draws many people to you. In the excitement of the moment, you easily could become me-oriented. Don't allow that to happen. If you are single, many people express an interest in getting to know you better. The person you choose will need to be very indulgent, as so much is going on. If you are attached, your significant other often takes a back seat this year. Be careful, as the ramifications could be difficult to handle. Make this relationship a high priority. CAPRICORN helps you make money.

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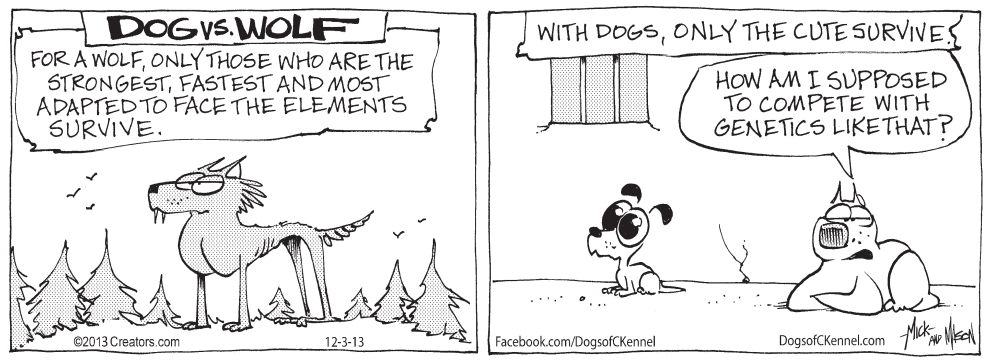
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



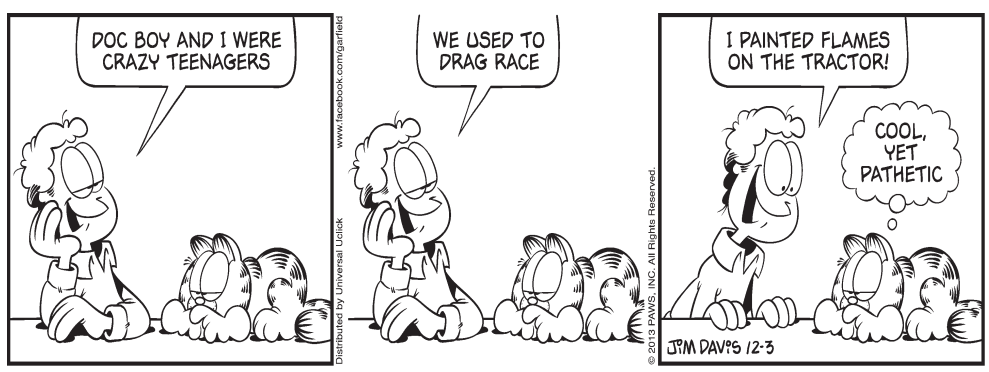
Strange Brew
By John Deering



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 ★★

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

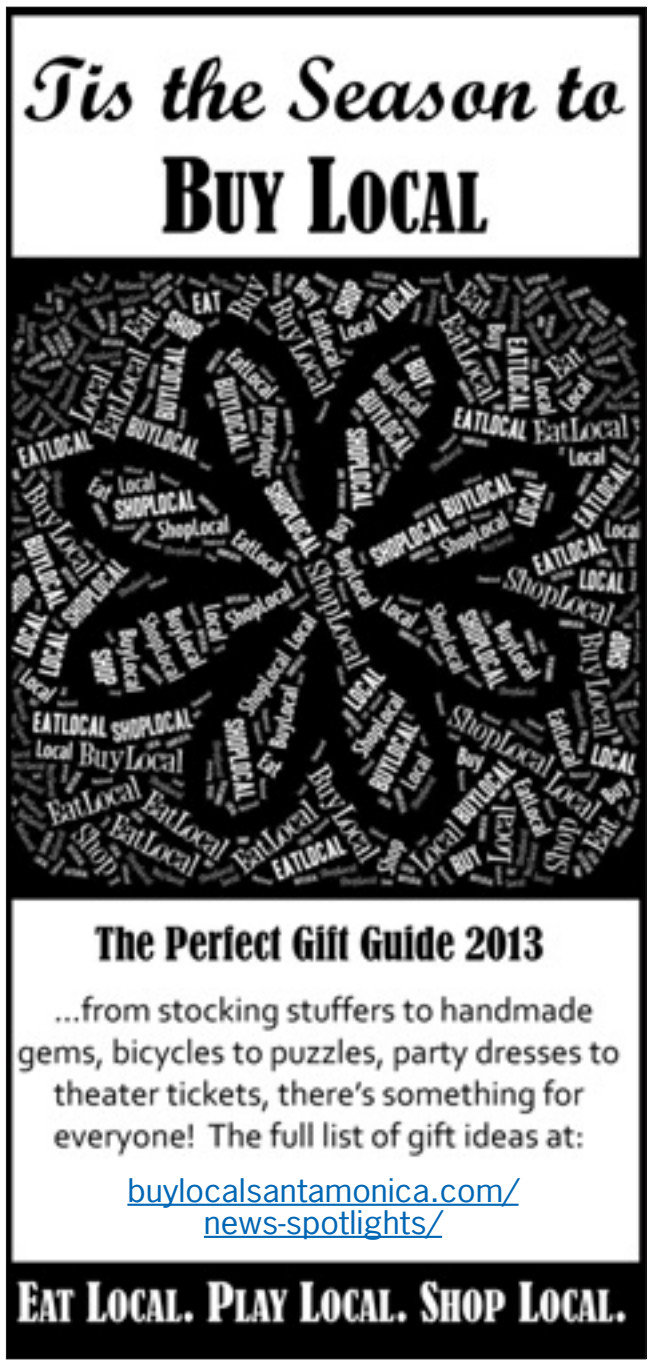
King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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





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 Highway exits
6 Sensational
11 Poor sport's cry
12 Permit
13 Dissing
15 Have lunch
16 Equip
17 Overhead trains
18 Prom rentals
20 Accept eagerly
23 Temple leader
27 Farm team
28 Nullified
29 Piper of rhyme
31 Reach
32 Picture puzzle
34 Commotion
37 "Oh, wow!"
38 Casserole bit
41 Frisking
44 "The Waste Land" poet
45 Daughter of Leda
46 Takes a breather
47 Corpulent

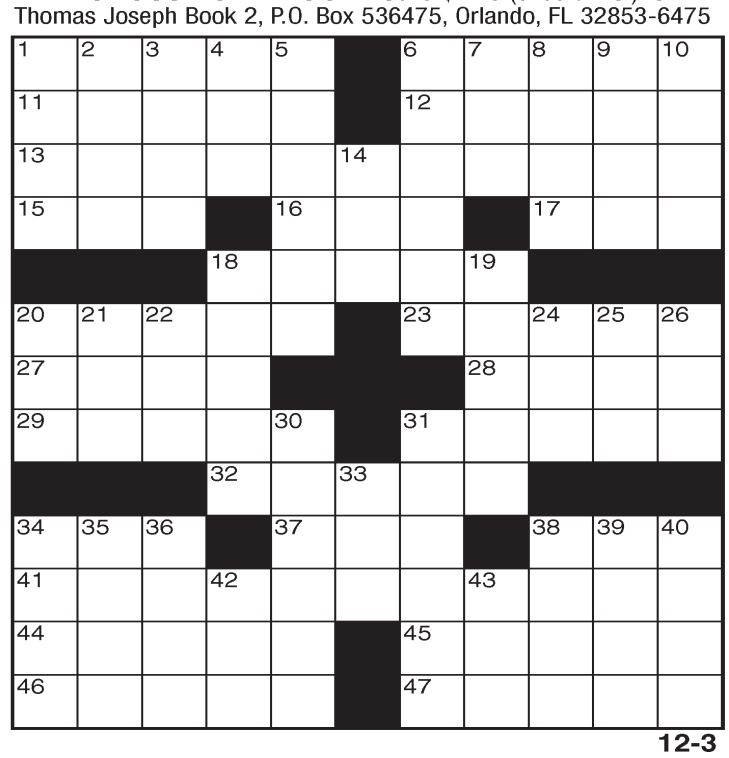
DOWN

1 Ready for picking
2 Blue hue
3 Pooch
4 Peach center
5 Agitate
6 Checkout worker
7 Archaic
8 Ice chunk
9 Quail and pheasants
10 Possesses
14 Disallow
18 Radio dial
19 Goalie's stat
20 Cut off
21 Cut drastically
22 Parrot or puppy
24 Program that performs repetitive tasks
25 Drill part
26 Groom's answer
30 Sends, as payment
31 Zealous
33 Prohibit
34 Mimic
35 Secluded valley
36 Singer Redding
38 Warsaw native
39 Rams' mates
40 Last of the House of Stuart
42 Infant
43 Cotillion girl

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



12-3

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/30
5 26 44 45 57
Power#: 29
Jackpot: $81M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/29
9 41 43 47 57
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: $257M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/30
2 11 13 16 22
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: $42M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/1
3 20 27 29 32

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/1
MIDDAY: 8 0 3
EVENING: 6 0 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/1
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:42.51

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Leandro Granato, 27, said that he discovered, as a kid in Argentina, that liquids sucked up through his nose could then be squirted out of his eye -- and an art career was born. News sites reported in October that Granato's "eye paintings" of ink colors, splattered out as tears on canvas in various motifs (from up to 1 1/2 pints of ink each), are offered for sale at a top-end price of the equivalent of $2,400 each. (Huffington Post's story also reminded readers that Chilean artist Carina Ubeda is another who uses her body functions as a medium -- specifically, her menstrual blood, which she employed in the form of 90 used sanitary napkins arranged in a hoop featuring an apple, symbolizing ovulation. Her June show ran in Quillota, Chile.)

■ Informal Georgia Sobriety Tests: Rachel Gossett blew a .216 alcohol reading in Loganville, Ga., in November, but that was probably a formality after an officer witnessed her attempt to put a cheeseburger from a Waffle Shop onto her foot as if it were a shoe. And Rashad Williams, 38, was charged with DUI in Atlanta in October after he crashed through the front of a Walgreens drugstore and then, according to a witness, calmly exited his vehicle (which was sticking halfway into the building) and resumed drinking next door at the Anchor Bar.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1997 - In Ottawa, Canada, representatives from 121 countries sign The Ottawa treaty prohibiting manufacture and deployment of anti-personnel landmines. The United States, People's Republic of China, and Russia do not sign the treaty, however.

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\ tweyn \ , adjective;
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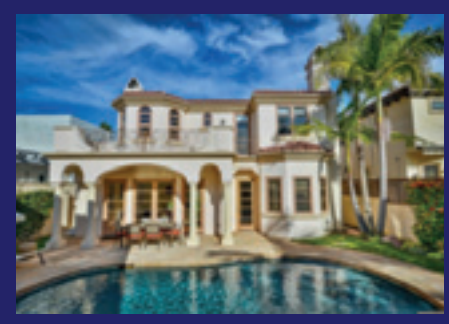
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North of Montana	=	**$ 4,519,824**
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	**$ 2,675,516**
South of Wilshire	=	**$ 832,500**
Sunset Park	=	**$ 1,863,000**
Ocean Park	=	**$ 2,297,500**
Statistics updated every Friday		

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