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WEDNESDAY
12.04.19
Volume 19 Issue 18
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All Must Speak Out
It's a topsy turvy world when it comes to politics.
Page 4

Puzzles and Stuff
Sudoku and Crossword.
Page 9

Practice makes perfect



Brennon Dixson

DRILL: UCLA Medical Center participated in an emergency drill this week to help staff prepare for serious incidents.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica's Hospital Incident Command System, was put to the test Tuesday during an emergency drill that lasted throughout the morning and involved dozens of administrators, doctors and other staff members at the hospital.

As a recipient of the Hospital Preparedness Program grant funding, UCLA Health regularly participates in statewide medical exercises in an effort to practice the hospital's emergency activation and response procedures.

Complete with command center

SEE **PRACTICE** PAGE 10

Suspect released in attempted murder investigation

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department arrested a man for attempted murder on Nov. 27 but the suspect has been released after the District Attorney asked for additional information before pressing charges.

According to Lt. Candice Cobarrubias, the suspect and victim got into a fight at Perry's on the 2400 block of Ocean Front Walk at about 6:15 a.m. on April 8.

"The suspect pulled out a knife during the fight and stabbed the victim in the abdomen area several times," she said. "When officers arrived on scene the suspect and his friends had fled the location. Officers provided medical attention to the victim where he was ultimately transported to the hospital and survived his injuries."

She said Rimone Hodges, 29, was identified as a suspect and eventually arrested by the Pomona police department.

SMPD presented their case to the District Attorney on Tuesday, Dec. 4 but the D.A. asked for more investigation.

"The individual arrested has been released pending the outcome of the investigative follow up," said Cobarrubias.

editor@smdp.com

Cold weather and storms predicted through the end of the week

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A storm system is expected to bring moderate to locally heavy rain to the region, with a slight chance of thunderstorms Wednesday.

The National Weather Service (NWS) said mostly dry and cool weather is expected Thursday into early Friday. Forecasters predict another, weaker storm

SEE **WEATHER** PAGE 11



Leanna Einbinder

CHAMPIONSHIP: Westside Softball champions (pictured left to right, bottom row first): Abby Perez, Maria Salvador, Elena Martinez, Gaby Andrade, Clarissa Salvador, Maya Knauf, Melea Comay, Ella Edwards, Hailey Heirigs, Erin Boutwell. Not Pictured: Abby Agagnos, Michelle Costillo, Rachel Kalan. See page 11.


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Civic Center Parking Structure – Exterior Channel Glass
SP2555

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, OR **Electronic Bids must be submitted via Planetbids,** not later than 2:30p.m. on **Wednesday, January 8, 2020,** to be publicly opened and read aloud after 2:30p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Monday, December 16, 2019 at 9:30 AM. Meeting at Civic Center Parking Structure Plaza adjacent to Olympic Drive. Civic Center Parking Structure Address: 330 Olympic Dr., Santa Monica, CA 90401

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $500,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 90 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $150.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class "A" and/or "B"** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Planning Commission

Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans. City Hall. 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 5

NOMA meeting

City Attorney Lane Dilg will talk about how the city attorney's office works and the issues of immediate concern to residents, with open q&a at the North of Montana Neighborhood Association's meeting Dec. 5 at the Montana Branch Library. Social begins at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m. All are invited.

Woodlawn Cemetery's Tree of Life & Holiday Open House 2019

Ring in the holiday season at Woodlawn's Tree of Life & Holiday Open House. Decorate our 11-foot Tree of Life, located in the Mausoleum lobby, with ornaments provided by the Cemetery that can be personalized in memory of loved ones and placed on the tree. This annual event also features live music performances by the John Adams Middle School Choir, photos with Santa, holiday face painting, light refreshments, and more. It also kicks off our annual toy donation drive for the Toys for Tots Foundation so bring your toy donations to the event. Free Admission. 1847 14th Street, 4 - 6 p.m., (310) 458-8717 x2

Library Board Meeting

Library Board Meeting in Administration Conference Room, 2nd Floor near computer commons. Main Library, 7 - 9 p.m.

Christmas Jazz with Sean Stackpoole

Steeped in the tradition of the great jazz era of the late 1950s and early 1960s, saxophonist and flutist Sean Stackpoole's music simultaneously looks back to the tradition of straight-ahead jazz and forward to the jazz of the future. His performance features jazz standards and traditional Christmas classics. Space is limited and on a first arrival basis. Main Library, 7 - 8 p.m.

Community Kids: Miss Santa Monica USA, Erin Jones Wesley

Join Miss Santa Monica USA, Erin Jones Wesley, for a discussion about how kids can take civic action and create positive change in their communities. For ages 6-12. Main Library, 5 - 6 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 6

Style and Sustainability - A Fashion Revolution

The film Thread |Driving Fashion Forward with Amber Valletta produced by Marci Zaroff will kick off a discussion on sustainable fashion. Lexus Santa Monica, 1501 Santa Monica Blvd. 7 - 10 p.m. For more information, visit www.eventbrite.com/e/style-and-sustainability-a-fashion-revolution-tickets-79246619773

Dear Hero

Learn how to write a letter and send it. Practice writing a thank you letter for Operation Gratitude. For grades K-12. Teens in grades 6-12 may be eligible for community service credit. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7

The Legend of Graham Canyon

Writer-in-Residence Analisa Raya-Flores' final Beach House project is a solo performance entitled The Legend of Graham Canyon, inspired by historical accounts of One-Eyed Charlie Parkhurst and the "male-impersonators" of Victorian-era music halls. Annenberg Community Beach House 7 - 8:30 p.m.

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

Kamala Harris ends White House bid, citing lack of funding

KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

Sen. Kamala Harris told supporters on Tuesday that she was ending her bid for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, an abrupt close to a candidacy that held historic potential.

"I've taken stock and looked at this from every angle, and over the last few days have come to one of the hardest decisions of my life," the California Democrat said. "My campaign for president simply doesn't have the financial resources we need to continue."

A senior campaign aide said Harris made the decision Monday after discussing the path forward with family and other top officials over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Her withdrawal marked a dramatic fall for a candidate who showed extraordinary promise in her bid to become the first black female president. Harris launched her campaign in front of 20,000 people on a chilly January day in Oakland, California. The first woman and first black attorney general and U.S. senator in California's history, she was widely viewed as a candidate poised to excite the multiracial coalition of voters that sent Barack Obama to the White House.

Her departure erodes the diversity of the Democratic field, which is dominated at the moment by a top tier that is white and mostly male.

"She was an important voice in the race, out before others who raised less and were less electable. It's a loss not to have her voice in the race," said Aimee Allison, who leads She the People, a group that promotes women of color.

Harris ultimately could not craft a message that resonated with voters or secure the money to continue her run.

She raised an impressive $12 million in the first three months of her campaign and quickly locked down major endorsements meant to show her dominance in her home state, which offers the biggest delegate haul in the Democratic primary contest.

But as the field grew, Harris' fundraising remained flat; she was unable to attract the type of attention being showered on Pete Buttigieg by traditional donors or the grassroots firepower that drove tens of millions of dollars to Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders.

In her note to supporters, Harris lamented the role of money in politics and, without naming them, took a shot at billionaires Tom Steyer and Michael Bloomberg, who are funding their presidential bids.

"I'm not a billionaire," she said. "I can't fund my own campaign. And as the campaign has gone on, it's become harder and harder to raise the money we need to compete."

Harris suffered from what allies and critics viewed as an inconsistent pitch to voters. Her slogan "For the people" referenced her career as a prosecutor, a record that was viewed skeptically by the party's most progressive voters.

Through the summer, she focused on pocketbook issues and her "3 a.m. agenda," a message that never seemed to resonate with voters. By the fall, she had returned to her courtroom roots with the refrain that "justice is on the ballot," both a cry for economic and social justice as well as her call that she could "prosecute the case" against a "criminal" president.

At times, she was tripped up by confusing policy positions; particularly on health care. After suggesting she would eliminate private insurance in favor of a fully government-run system, Harris eventually rolled out a health care plan that preserves a role for private insurance.

Stumbles, often of the campaign's making, continued to dog Harris into the winter, stymieing her ability to capitalize on solid moments. Harris kicked off November with a well-received speech at a massive Iowa dinner, just a day after her campaign announced it would fire staff at its Baltimore headquarters and was moving some people from other early states to Iowa.

Her message was regularly overshadowed by campaign aides and allies sharing grievances with the news media. Several top aides decamped for other campaigns, one leaving a blistering resignation letter.

"Because we have refused to confront our mistakes, foster an environment of critical thinking and honest feedback, or trust the expertise of talented staff, we find ourselves making the same unforced errors over and over," Kelly Mehlenbacher wrote in her letter, obtained by The New York Times. Mehlenbacher now works for businessman Bloomberg's campaign.

With Harris' exit, 15 Democrats remain in the race for the nomination. Several praised her on Tuesday.

Former Vice President Joe Biden, who had a memorable debate stage tussle with Harris this summer, called the senator a "solid person, loaded with talent."

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders commended Harris for "running a spirited and issue-oriented campaign."

New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, one of two black candidates still in the campaign, called Harris a "trailblazer."

Harris anchored her campaign in the powerful legacy of pioneering African Americans. Her campaign launch on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday included a nod to Shirley Chisholm, the New York congresswoman who sought the Democratic Party's presidential nomination 47 years ago earlier.

One of her first stops as a candidate was to Howard University, the historically black college that she attended as an undergraduate.

She spent much of her early campaign focusing on South Carolina, which hosts the first Southern primary and has a significant African American population.

But Harris struggled to chip away at Biden's deep advantage with black voters who are critical to winning the Democratic nomination.

Harris and her aides believe she faced an uphill battle — and unfair expectations for perfection — from the start as a woman of color. Her campaign speech included a line about what Harris called the "donkey in the room," a reference to the thought that Americans wouldn't elect a woman of color.

Harris often suggested it was criticism she faced in her other campaigns — all of which she won.

Her departure from the presidential race marks her first defeat as a political candidate.

Associated Press writers Steve Peoples in New York and Bill Barrow in Mason City, Iowa, contributed to this report.







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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

All Must Speak Out



Courtesy image

MOVIE: A scene from the famous film, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington is still relevant today.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

SNAP OUT OF IT!

We all know that we've become Alice (no rabbit hole, no mushrooms, but that election dropped the floor out of nearly everything), living the last three years in a topsy turvy world where up is down, wrong is right, left is never right, opinion is as good as fact and history is just an opinion.

Except, science is not up for a vote, no one is above the law, and the Constitution (not the Bible) is the highest law of the land. Open to interpretation, but there are limits. The Emoluments Clause, however, is very clear, and Trump was violating that a week after his election.

We are living in that topsy turvy world partly because we have lost the will to question the unthinkable, the ridiculous. To call a spade a spade.

THE MEDIA

Lefties don't like to question the media too much these days. Makes them appear to be in the wrong corral. But I am part of the media, and I say we have failed you. I don't feel like I personally have, because I've been pretty outspoken in my spade calling, but if you're part of something larger that is behaving badly, you have to call it out. (Hear that, Republicans?)

The media is doing better now, but it's a bit late. Boy were we slow, and that was very damaging. We became enablers, of something we have a professional responsibility to critique. I think in the beginning the media tried to bend over backwards to show we weren't prejudiced against this outlier president, and tried to treat him like any other president. Give him a chance. Dismiss his outrageous actions and behavior as "his style." Big mistake. Call a spade a spade, from the get go.

The Founding Fathers understood the danger of allowing foreign governments to influence our politics, and wrote that Emoluments Clause into the Constitution. Elected and appointed officials cannot accept anything of value from a foreign entity. (Ukraine, other nations.) Similarly, paying to obtain something that could influence an election must be reported as a campaign expense. (Stormy Daniels, other women.)

THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

Lies with the liars. But those lies couldn't stand without support, passive from the media, and from all of us, but much more importantly, with the active, full, unquestioning cooperation of the Republicans. If the Republicans on Capitol Hill had all along spoken up when they saw something wrong, we wouldn't be in this mess.

If the Republicans would at least murmur, publicly, that "that's not true" or "that's not right," or "17 U.S. intelligence agencies agree that's not what happened" or "I would have to side with 96 percent of the world's scientists," it would make a huge difference. But none of them, except a handful who are leaving office, have uttered a peep. They are Trump's cult following, fearful of his career-ending revenge against any who prove "not loyal," and without their acquiescence he cannot do the damage he has done. He learned early on that they will go along with anything, and he can do as he pleases, precedent, law and decency be damned.

THEY ARE COWARDS, BUT SO ARE WE

To kowtow to this bully, and because they are Senators and Representatives, and that means they are traitors. They took an oath to serve the people and uphold the Constitution. Politics always has been corrupt and always will be, but this is unprecedented. Unprecedented, and we say nothing beyond a whimper. We have been beaten into submission, to accept this as the new normal. We must not.

Let's just look at one area, the military. I'm not a big fan but in a dangerous world, we

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 10

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Gun background checks are on pace to break record in 2019

LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

Background checks on gun purchases in the U.S. are climbing toward a record high this year, reflecting what the industry says is a rush by people to buy weapons in reaction to the Democratic presidential candidates' calls for tighter restrictions.

By the end of November, more than 25.4 million background checks — generally seen as a strong indicator of gun sales — had been conducted by the FBI, putting 2019 on pace to break the record of 27.5 million set in 2016, the last full year President Barack Obama was in the White House.

On Black Friday alone, the FBI ran 202,465 checks.

Some analysts question how accurately the background check figures translate into gun sales, since some states run checks on applications for concealed-carry permits, too, and some purchases involve multiple firearms. But the numbers remain the most reliable method of tracking the industry.

In the years since President Donald Trump took office, the industry has struggled through what has been referred to as the Trump Slump, a falloff in sales that reflected little worry among gun owners about gun control efforts.

But with the 2020 presidential election less than a year out and virtually every Democratic candidate offering proposals to restrict access to firearms, fears appear to be driving up sales again.

"The Trump Slump is real, but the politics of guns has changed a little bit over the last year," said Adam Winkler, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law and an expert on gun rights and politics. "As we're coming up upon another presidential election, Donald Trump is vulnerable, and the Democratic presidential contenders are falling all over themselves to propose more aggressive gun reforms than their opponents."

Trump has been viewed as one of the most gun-friendly presidents in modern history and has boasted of strong support from the National Rifle Association. He has addressed every one of its annual conventions since the 2016 campaign, and the powerful gun lobby pumped about $30 million into efforts to elect him.

Still, hopes of expanded gun rights under Trump's watch haven't materialized. Legislation that would make it easier to buy silencers stalled in Congress. In addition, Trump pushed through a ban on bump stocks, which allow semiautomatic rifles to mimic machine-gun fire. The gunman who killed 58 people in Las Vegas in 2017 in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history used such a device.

The industry has been going through one of its toughest periods, with some gunmakers, such as Remington Arms, filing for bankruptcy. More recently, Smith & Wesson's parent company, American Outdoor Brands, announced plans to spin off its firearms unit, and Colt said it would suspend production of AR-15 rifles.

Amid some high-profile mass shootings in recent years, especially the Parkland school attack in Florida that left 17 people dead, gun control advocates have gained some momentum.

The crowded field of Democrats running for the White House has offered a variety of proposals to curtail gun rights. Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, whose state has seen repeated mass shootings this past year, went so far as to push for a mandatory buyback program for AR- and AK-style rifles before dropping out of the race, stoking gun owners' fears when he declared during a debate, "Hell, yes, we're going to take your AR-15, your AK-47."

The gun industry says the figures from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System reflect the Second Amendment politics of the White House race.

"Americans are choosing to invest their hard-earned dollars in their ability to exercise their rights and buy the firearms they want before gun control politicians attempt to regulate away that ability," said Mark Oliva, spokesman for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents the gun industry.

Still, some experts took issue with the figures and said it is premature to declare the Trump Slump is over.

"These numbers cannot be taken be taken at face value," said Jurgen Brauer, a retired business professor and now chief economist at Small Arms Analytics, which consults on the firearms industry.

Brauer said the numbers are increasingly skewed by states such as Kentucky that also run background checks when they issue or renew a permit to carry a concealed firearm. In October, for example, the state ran more than 280,000 checks through the NICS system for permits.

"That number has been rising over time as increasingly states check with some frequency on their existing permits," Brauer said.

The NICS system was created after passage of the Brady Bill, which mandated background checks to buy a firearm. Convicted felons, domestic abusers and people who have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution are among those who cannot legally purchase a weapon.

In 1999, the first full year the system was used, just over 9 million background checks were conducted. It was near the end of Democrat Bill Clinton's second term and in the midst of a 10-year ban on assault rifles that expired in 2004.

Background checks declined under President George W. Bush but picked up again in 2006 and have mostly risen since then, except for 2014 and 2017. In 2018, there were 26.18 million background checks.

"Gunmakers are promoting the idea that you should buy these guns now because they may be banned in the future," Winkler said.

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Asylum seekers jam US border crossings to evade Trump policy

ASTRID GALVAN
Associated Press

For months, asylum seekers have been prohibited from filing their claims at U.S. border crossings under a much-criticized Trump administration policy. Now some are sprinting down vehicle lanes or renting cars to try to make it inside the U.S.

The migrants' efforts are causing traffic delays at Arizona crossings because U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials had to barricade lanes used by cars legally entering the U.S. from Mexico, officials said.

Shoppers, teachers and visitors traveling to the U.S. through Nogales, Mexico, endured up to five-hour waits Monday and over the weekend, causing concerns among local officials whose tax base relies on Mexican shoppers, especially during the holiday season.

In a statement, Customs and Border Protection said it's committed to the safety of border crossers, adding that there's been an increase of incursions through vehicle lanes "by asylum seekers attempting to evade established entry processes."

"These tactics interfere with CBP officers conducting their responsibilities and exacerbates wait times for daily commuters," the agency said in a statement. "CBP will not allow ports to be overrun, or unauthorized entry."

The traffic jams could hurt sales at stores in Nogales, Arizona that depend on Mexican shoppers during the holiday season, said Mayor Arturo Garino.

Garino, a part-time teacher, said some students and teachers who live in Mexico but attend and work at schools across the border in the U.S. have been leaving their homes as early as 5 a.m. to arrive on time.

Garino said Mexican authorities were not doing enough to stem the problem. The Arizona Daily Star reported the Nogales, Sonora, police officers were checking cars headed north to the border on Monday afternoon.

The metal barricades are large and are meant to seal off traffic lanes.

About 3,000 migrants are living in Nogales, Mexico as they wait their turns to seek asylum, said Katie Sharar, communications director for the Kino Border Initiative, a religious-based group that provides meals to needy migrants on the Mexican side of the border.

Under a policy by the Trump administration known widely as "metering," the asylum-seekers must wait in an unofficial line in Mexico until U.S. authorities call them up in a process that usually lasts several months.

Another policy, colloquially known as "Remain in Mexico," requires asylum seekers to return to Mexico after they have made credible fear claims to justify their asylum requests and wait there while their immigration cases are pending.

"I think there's just a lot of desperation and uncertainty. They don't know what's happening to them, they don't know how the policy changes are gonna affect them," Sharar said.

Sharar said she wasn't familiar with the migrants who have run through vehicle lanes.

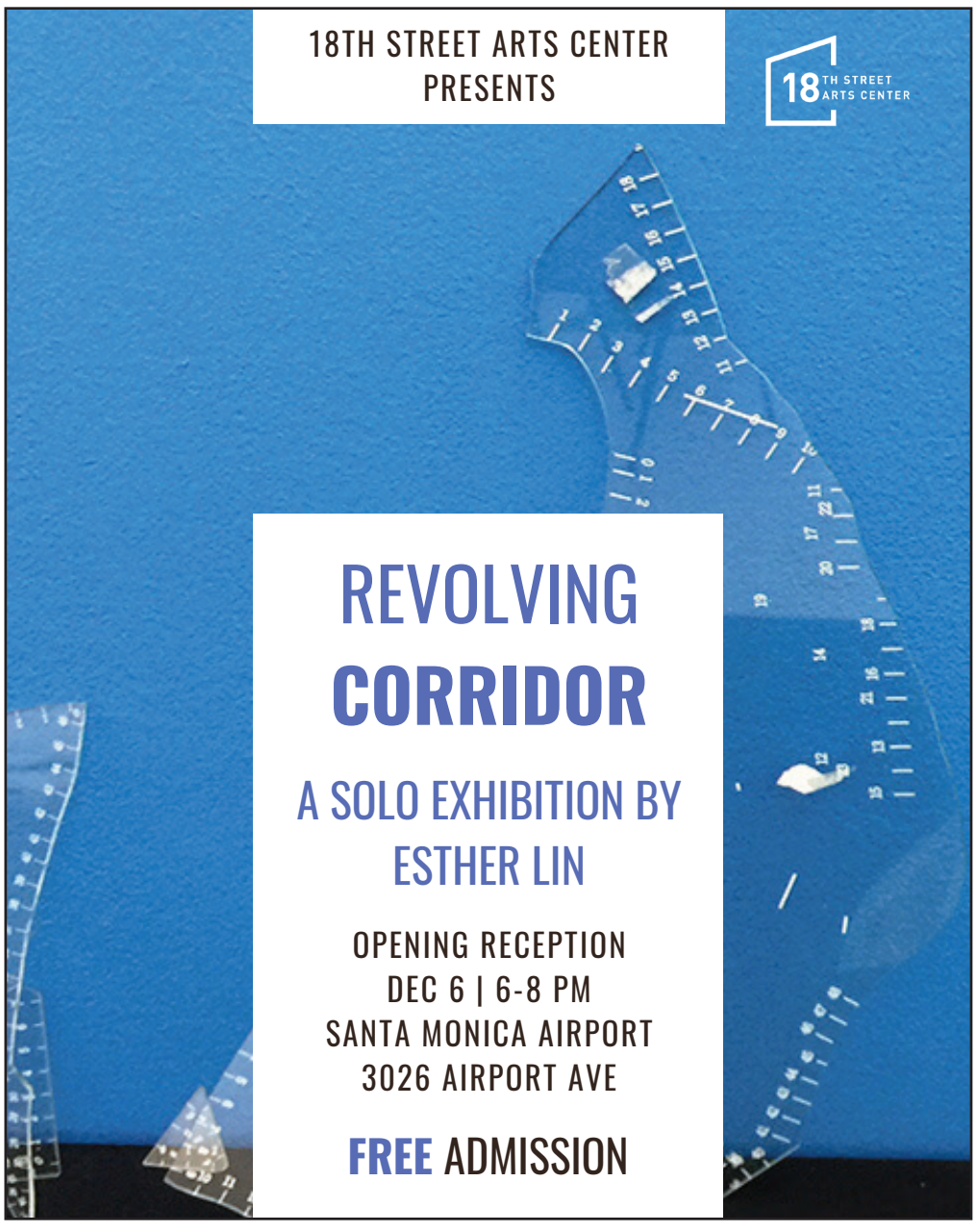
Customs and Border Protection did not respond to email and phone messages regarding questions about the migrants who rushed the border, what countries they come from and whether they were detained or faced criminal charges.

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey, a Republican, said his first concern is public safety and that he is confident that U.S. officials will resolve the border traffic problems.

Associated Press writer Bob Christie in Phoenix contributed to this report.







TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 04)

You go into this year feeling like an average person with an above-average ability to focus and you'll come out of it a superstar. Indeed, focus is power, and you will use it so well this solar year for transformations and large-scale endeavors. Surround yourself with loving and skilled people. Gemini and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 14, 48, 32 and 5.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Minimalism is a concept that can be taken to any area of your life. Today it could be very effectively applied to communication. Say little, and listen with a filter that tunes out the noise to hear the message.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though the work that must be done is less than exciting, you'll find the inspiration to strongly motivate you. It will be given to you, dropped into your path or shown right outside your window.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). These days, if a person clicks and nothing happens, he or she moves on. People don't want to wait and have been trained away from it. There's something to gain from being more persistent than the average person.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Make a plan, but don't then use it like a GPS navigation system where you only turn where it tells you. Instead, use it as you would a paper map – to orient yourself as you journey.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Loving another person comes with responsibilities that include believing, acknowledging and honoring that person. Without evidence that those jobs have been fulfilled, it is only natural the love itself would come into question.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Emotional events are events. Even if they only happen inside you, they are happening. An unresolved state of being is like a storm, unpredictable and potentially destructive. It is your duty to tend to your feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It feels like your soul lives in your body. Also, it feels like your soul lives in your soul. You are like an infinite Russian doll with so much outside and inside that you want to connect with others beyond one shell.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some events cannot be processed rationally, as they were not rational events to begin with. Have faith that it is possible to reverse emotional trauma through the altering of related reactions and perceptions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Wherever you go, you take your 100 trillion cells, not to mention that mysterious energetic field of yours, experienced by all around. So don't try and live by the creed of "leave no trace." It won't work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You won't be able to predict how much an interaction means to another person. Even that person will process it differently at different times. In the moment, it has one value – next week, another.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's hard to tell whether an emotion is occurring outside or inside yourself, as it seems to be both permeating and radiating. Either way, this is a message telling you to (SET ITAL) listen up (END ITAL).

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Anthropologists use the term "fight or flight" in describing a primitive human response, though freezing is just as prevalent an option. Recognizing a fear response will help you solve a problem.

Spirit Moon

A thing can be hard, dense, weighty and solid and still snap or shatter when hit with the right sort of force. Durability is flexible. With strength and the ability to quickly adjust to environmental factors come balance and then grace and then dancing. You can effectively apply the metaphor to any plane under the Pisces moon, especially spiritual.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS

"I'm a Leo guy, and I have the same problem over and over with women. I take them out, and no matter how romantic the date is designed to be, I always end up in the friend zone and a lot poorer than I was at the start of the night. I would hope that girls would go out with me because they like me, not because they just wanted me to buy them dinner. How do I keep from going broke while being rejected? I want a girlfriend who is nice. And what sign might she be?" The date should be designed with the sole intention of getting to know if this is a person you could like or not. So stop trying to impress. Approval seeking is always a turnoff. What's very attractive is someone who doesn't need approval. I suggest that instead of spending your hard-earned cash on a fine dining experience, you invest in your own ability to create rapport and communicate effectively with women, whatever that means to you. You could hit it off with girls from any sign, but a close encounter with an Aries, a Sagittarius or a fellow Leo might do wonders for your confidence now. These fire-sign women can be feisty and direct, which you might find to be a refreshing change.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

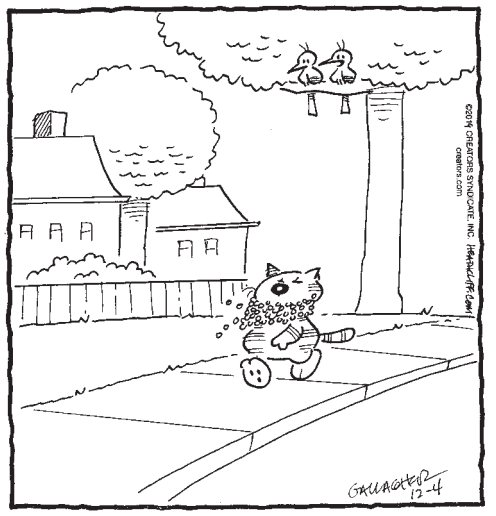
The very name Spielberg is synonymous with "blockbuster." Arguably the world's most famous film director, the prolific director and producer Steven Spielberg was born when the sun and Mercury were in expansive Sagittarius, the realm of other worlds. His creation of such worlds in film, video games and more has opened the eyes and hearts of audiences everywhere. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Benignity
Noun
A good deed or favor; an instance of kindness: benignities born of selfless devotion.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"NOT EVERYONE CAN PULL OFF WEARING A BEARD OF BEES."

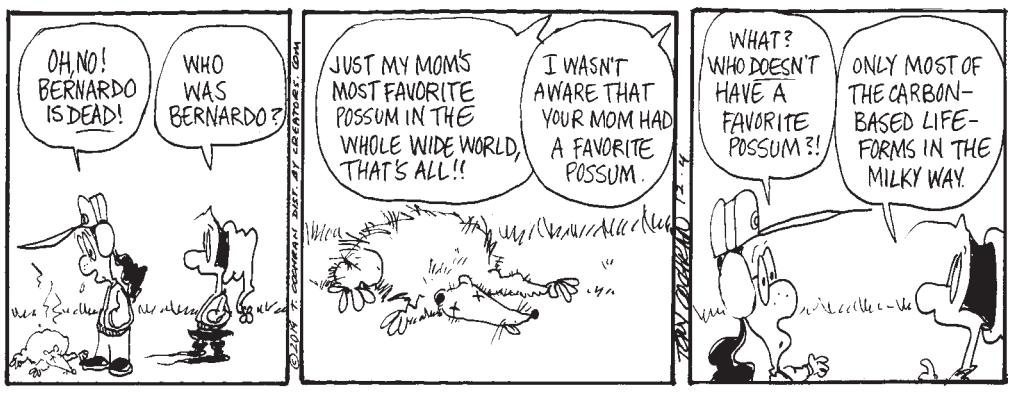
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



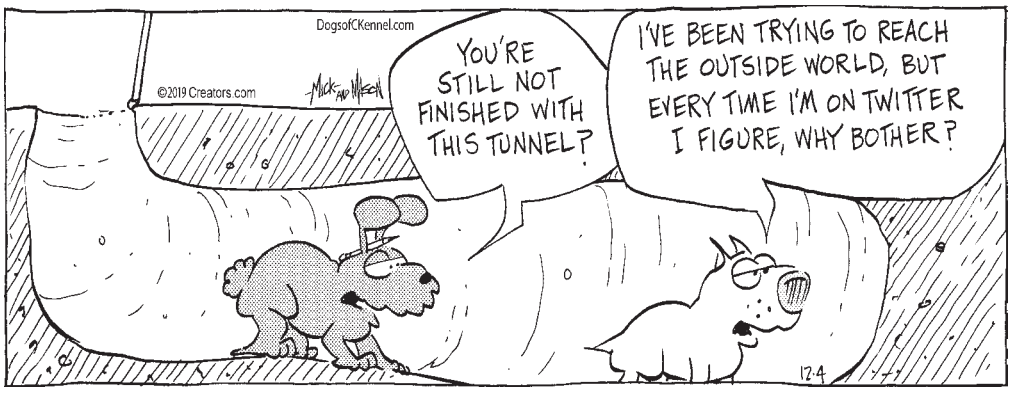
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball calottery
Draw Date:11/30
15 35 42 63 68
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 120 M

calottery MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/29
6 8 31 50 65
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 266 M

SuperLotto PLUS calottery
Draw Date: 11/30
7 32 36 40 47
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy5 calottery
Draw Date: 12/02
4 11 20 32 33

Daily 3 calottery
Draw Date: 12/03
Midday: 4 4 4
Draw Date: 12/02
Evening: 6 0 2

Daily Derby calottery
Draw Date: 12/02
1st: 01 - GOLD RUSH
2nd: 04 - BIG BEN
3rd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
RACE TIME: 1:41.36

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



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.4°

WEDNESDAY- **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Fading NW swell-mix. Small SSW swell continues. Winds/conditions may deteriorate.

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft knee to waist high
Minimal NW swell-mix leftovers. Small SSW swell starts to ease. Potential for favorable morning winds.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

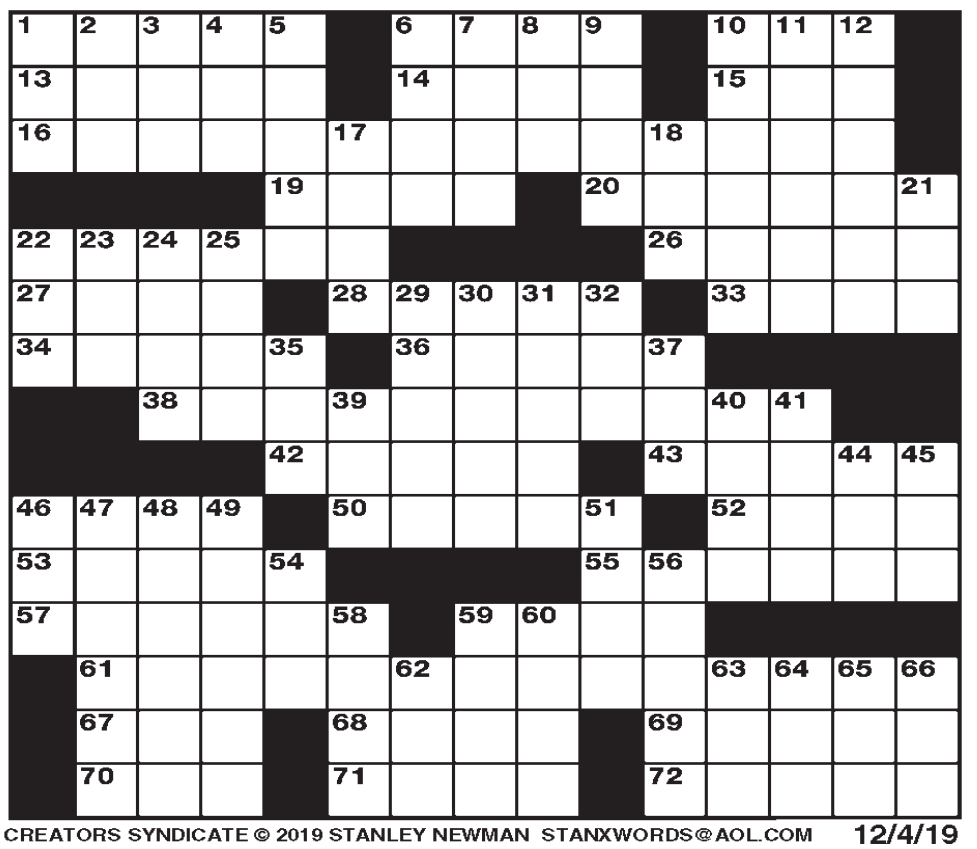
	9	8		3				2
3						5		7
					9		8	
		2		1			5	
	3		8		7		4	
	6			2		9		
	1		3					
2		6						3
7				4		8	1	

Newsday Crossword

SHAKE ON IT by Charles Slack
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Backyard barbecue spot
6 "Yipes!"
10 Dean's list no.
13 Actor's representative
14 Took a bike or bus
15 Long-tailed rodent
16 Conclude negotiations
19 __ so (nevertheless)
20 Required tasks
22 Shy and modest
26 Packed tightly
27 Shah's onetime domain
28 Update, as a clock
33 Lo-cal
34 __ Gras
36 Prim and proper
38 Conclude negotiations
42 "Pet" annoyance
43 Brewer's ingredient
46 Pop singer Tori
50 Rude looks
52 Spanish water
53 Tied, as sneakers
55 Sicily or Maui
57 On the wrong path
59 Take a tumble
61 Conclude negotiations
67 Numero __ (head honcho)
68 Woman with a niece
69 Sir or madam
70 Oinker's abode
71 Start over with
72 Sudden outpouring

DOWN
1 __ for the course (about average)
2 Improve at a winery
3 Wonderland beverage
4 End of big co. names
5 None of the above
6 Egg on
7 Warning from a motorist
8 Poem of praise
9 Pay attention to
10 Hansel's sister
11 Italian grilled sandwich
12 Bear witness
17 State with confidence
18 Wet earth
21 "Long time, no __"
22 Poorly lit
23 Historical period
24 __ Antony
25 Nullify
29 Lauder of lipstick
30 Kitchen cooker
31 Café patron
32 Reason for extra innings
35 Little mischief-maker
37 No longer damp
39 "Slippery" fish
40 Serving from a caterer
41 Heroic tale
44 Renewable energy source
45 Little bit
46 Chicken __ king
47 Fusion of miscellany
48 Gasoline rating
49 Pastor's address
51 River sediment
54 Beaver's creation
56 Window blind parts
58 Orbital period
59 Affectionate
60 Garage occupant
62 Regret
63 Salsa or guacamole
64 In-flight stat.
65 Hgt. above sea level
66 Spike of cinema



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/4/19

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 4

need them to survive.

He spit on long-established military justice protocol, stepping in to take the side of a disgraced Navy Seal, a convicted war criminal, who slithered onto Fox News to plead his case. President Bone Spurs Draft Dodger, how dare you demand this entitled punk be given full honors and rank, despite the military justice system ruling otherwise? This president must be held accountable!

He attacked a Gold Star family (lost a son to combat) because they immigrated from one of those shoothole countries, and are Muslim. He belittled a widely-respected U.S. Senator from his own party as he lay dying from brain cancer, who suffered lifelong disability because of his years as a tortured prisoner of war. He illegally stole funds allocated by Congress to our military, to build his ridiculous wall. Where was the Republican outrage?

He defiled the years of bloody sacrifice by our troops in Syrian territory defended with our Kurd allies, by completely abandoning them to the bloodthirsty Turkish regime, and to the benefit of his buddy Putin. Have we forgotten, that Russia is our avowed enemy? This sort of thing has never been done and it makes our nation much less safe. This is immoral, irrational, treasonous behavior. Republicans?

THE SILENCE OF THE SHEEP

That's us. How can we remain silent, or even muted? Impeachable offenses? Too many to count.

Children in concentration camp cages, a proven white supremacist as one of his closest advisors and architect of his despicable immigration policies, giving highly classified info to the Russians — in the Oval Office, 25 credible accusations of sexual attacks, and you family values Republicans who impeached Clinton for lying about an inappropriate but consensual affair, have no comment?

Every time we hear this man's illegal, immoral actions defended or excused, we must speak up. To not do so is to be complicit and enabling.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press
editor@smdp.com

PRACTICE

FROM PAGE 1

briefings, mock patients and simulated injuries, the hospital's 2019 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise was based on a scenario that would likely cause significant injuries in the nearby community.

THE DRILL SCENARIO

Drill organizers said prior to the exercise that the group was acting as if a National Weather Service flood watch had been issued for Los Angeles County the week after Thanksgiving as a result of above-average rainfall in Santa Monica over the course of four days.

"On the morning of December 3, a landslide occurred on a 150-foot span of the Palisades Bluffs near Pacific Coast Highway and Montana Avenue. A wooden beach access staircase collapses, and a significant amount of debris falls across Pacific Coast Highway, causing all lanes of traffic to be blocked," Simi Singer said, reading from the scenario's script. "Dozens of people are injured and 35 of them are sent to Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center."

The exercise was described by hospital staff as a "no-fault environment" to allow for the participants and procedures to be properly evaluated.

"It's a teaching drill to make sure we're regularly prepared and are considering the situations we'd come across if a disaster were to happen in the area," Singer said, describing how some drill participants were emailing information related to road closures, family reunification points and other pertinent details just as they would in a real-world situation.

Hospital staff working in the various triage areas bandaged mock cuts and addressed "critical injuries" while technicians scrambled to rush patients from the emergency areas to the x-ray. In the command center, the casualty care unit leader provided updates on the number of injuries while other section leaders handled the logistics, planning and safety aspects.

The main focus of the scenario was the community mass casualty incident, but the exercise was also designed to test the communication between the hospital's command center and impacted departments during prospective hazards, according to Kurt Kainsinger, UCLA Health's Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Kainsinger oversaw Tuesday's drill — along with the many others that have occurred in recent years — and said, "A disaster can change day to day or even hour to hour so we have to be on our toes and ensure we can keep up with the changing needs of both the patients and hospital staff should a situation arise like the one we're acting out today."

After everyone had the opportunity to share their experiences, Kainsinger said the drill can certainly be described as successful, "because every time we do one of these we learn something new, which helps us improve our responses in case a real-life, large-scale emergency were to happen here."

brennon@smdp.com



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Westside Girls Softball Team Wins Championship

Westside Softball, an independent high-school girls softball team that includes girls from Santa Monica, Venice, Pacific Palisades, Culver City and The South Bay, won the High-School Diamond Division championship last weekend in the Burbank Softball League. "This team really came together since the beginning of our season back in August," said the team's head coach Mitch Miller. "Their hard work and team dynamic really paid off and resulted in a tremendous tournament run." Team Manager Kelly Syers agrees: "It was so nice to see girls from Westside Softball bond as a team; they worked hard and learned from each other, as well as formed friendships with girls from other schools around West L.A. We ask the girls to also focus on school and grades which in turn helps them become leaders on and off the field," she continued.

Westside Softball formed in May 2017 to give high-school girls a chance to continue to play softball once they age out of their local softball leagues. Since its formation, 100% of its players have graduated from high school and attended college. The coaching staff has over 40 years of combined experience, including head coach Miller (a former baseball player, member of the UCLA Baseball coaching staff, and MLB team manager and scout) and co-coach Alan "AJ" Juarez, who has been coaching girls softball in Santa Monica since 1985.

To learn more about Westside Softball, please see the team's Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/westsidesoftball

SUBMITTED BY LEANNA EINBINDER

WEATHER

FROM PAGE 1

may bring some showers to the region late Friday through early Sunday, with dry, warmer weather returning next week.

In their forecast, NWS said their models are having trouble settling on where heavy rain will fall.

"Yesterday's focus was over the coastal waters and eastern LA County but today that has shifted west to SB County where the most unstable air will be during the late morning and early afternoon hours," said the forecast. "Overall rain amounts still look on track as mentioned below but there will be pockets of heavier rain as with the last system that caused isolated locations to have considerably more than the average."

Forecasters are predicting total rainfall of 0.75 to 1.5 inches and up to 2 to 3 inches possible across some areas. Snow is predicted to fall between 6,500 and 7,500 feet.

"Winter weather advisories may be needed, since there is a chance that snowfall totals could reach 3-7 or 4-8 inches at elevations above 7,000 feet. Rainfall rates could exceed one half inch per hour, which could cause minor mud and debris flow for recent burn areas," said the forecast. "Heavy rain and snow melt could cause flooding concerns in the mountains."

The Los Angeles County Health Office extended a Cold Weather Alert due to the National Weather Service's forecast for low temperatures. Wind chill temperatures are expected to be below 32 degrees Fahrenheit in some mountain areas and the Antelope Valley.

"Children, the elderly, and people with disabilities or special medical needs are especially vulnerable during cold weather. Extra precaution should be taken to ensure they don't get too cold when they are outside," said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer. "There are places where people can go to stay warm, such as shelters or other public facilities. We also want to remind people not to use stoves, barbecues or ovens to heat their homes due to the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning."

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority has a Winter Shelter Program available for those who need shelter.

In Santa Monica, the closest winter shelter is at the West Los Angeles Armory (1300 Federal Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025) and is open until March 31, 2020.

Free transportation to the West Los Angeles Armory is available from the Venice Skate Park (1800 Ocean Front Walk, Venice, CA 90291) at 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (times may vary depending on traffic).

Winter shelters are available on a first-come, first-served basis to single adults. Families with minor children in need of shelter should call 211.

For more information about finding winter shelter and the full winter shelter list in Los Angeles County, please visit https://www.lahsa.org/winter-shelter or call the 24-hour Winter Shelter Hotline at (800) 548-6047.

SANTA MONICA FORECAST:

WEDNESDAY

Rain before 11 a.m., then showers and possibly a thunderstorm between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 5 p.m. High near 61. East northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south southwest in the morning. Chance of precipitation is 100%.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

A chance of showers before 11 p.m., then a slight chance of rain after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. South wind around 5 mph becoming northeast in the evening. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

THURSDAY

Mostly sunny, with a high near 62. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

THURSDAY NIGHT

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

FRIDAY

Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.

FRIDAY NIGHT

A slight chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.

SATURDAY

A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 62.

SATURDAY NIGHT

A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51.

SUNDAY

A slight chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 64.

SUNDAY NIGHT

Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 304 CALLS ON DEC. 2

Illegal weapon 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 12:13 a.m.
Vandalism 1300blk 4th St 12:42 a.m.
Trespassing 1200blk 7th St 1:15 a.m.
Death investigation 2100blk Ocean Ave 3:07 a.m.
Found property 600blk Wilshire Blvd 4:24 a.m.
Burglary 900blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:23 a.m.
Vandalism 1000blk Hill St 5:35 a.m.
Trespassing 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 6:08 a.m.
Trespassing 1000blk 2nd St 6:31 a.m.
Grand theft auto 2500blk Broadway 7:05 a.m.
Trespassing 1800blk 10th St 7:11 a.m.
Trespassing 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:22 a.m.
Person with a gun 900blk Euclid St 7:38 a.m.
Vandalism 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:05 a.m.
Fire 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:25 a.m.
Strongarm robbery 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:04 a.m.
Trespassing 900blk 20th St 9:09 a.m.
Elder abuse 1300blk 26th St 9:19 a.m.
Family Disturbance 1500blk Franklin St 9:35 a.m.
Auto burglary 1000blk Chelsea Ave 9:49 a.m.
Battery 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 10:33 a.m.
Vandalism 2800blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:06 a.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 4th St 11:46 a.m.
Missing person 300blk Olympic Dr 12:18 p.m.
Vandalism 2300blk Main St 12:22 p.m.
Panhandling 400blk Santa Monica Pier 12:29 p.m.
Disturbance at a business 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:32 p.m.
Hit and run 900blk Montana Ave 12:47 p.m.
Hit and run 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Vandalism 1100blk 2nd St 1:07 p.m.
Mark & tag abandoned vehicle 1800blk 20th St 1:08 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 1:13 p.m.
Auto burglary 200blk Santa Monica Pier 1:24 p.m.
Fraud 1500blk Princeton St 1:41 p.m.
Battery 20th St / Broadway 1:51 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 700blk 9th St 2:11 p.m.
Found property 100blk Broadway 2:26 p.m.
Lost property 2800blk Pearl St 2:35 p.m.
Petty theft 1700blk Alta Ave 2:40 p.m.
Lost property 300blk Santa Monica Pl 2:45 p.m.
Burglary 1200blk Princeton St 3:05 p.m.
Trespassing 200blk San Vicente Blvd 3:23 p.m.
Trespassing 1500blk 9th St 4:20 p.m.
Civil dispute 800blk Pacific St 4:21 p.m.
Disturbance at a business 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 4:39 p.m.
72 Hour psychiatric hold 3100blk Main St 4:42 p.m.
Panic alarm 300blk Olympic Dr 4:56 p.m.
Threats 500blk Olympic Blvd W 5:02 p.m.
Lost property Ocean Ave / San Vicente Blvd 5:42 p.m.
Traffic collision - city prop involved 1500blk Ocean Ave 6:31 p.m.
Burglary 600blk 25th St 6:49 p.m.
Person with a gun 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:22 p.m.
Battery 33rd St / Pico Blvd 7:27 p.m.
Encampment 1000blk Pearl St 7:34 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1600blk Ocean Ave 7:51 p.m.
Fight 300blk Santa Monica Pier 8:12 p.m.
Disturbance at a business 400blk Wilshire Blvd 8:30 p.m.
Hit and run 11th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:41 p.m.
Grand theft auto 2700blk Neilson Way 8:50 p.m.
Elder abuse 1300blk 15th St 8:53 p.m.
Family disturbance 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:01 p.m.
Family disturbance 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:12 p.m.
Person down 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 10:31 p.m.
Family disturbance 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:46 p.m.
Petty theft 100blk Colorado Ave 11:53 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 34 CALLS ON DEC. 3

EMS 1300blk 17th St 12:14 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 2:55 a.m.
EMS 1900blk Wilshire Blvd 3:50 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 5:45 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2700blk Olympic Blvd 5:50 a.m.
EMS 21st St / Arizona Ave 7:07 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 7:17 a.m.
EMS 3100blk Neilson Way 7:17 a.m.
Natural gas odor 700blk 10th St 8:19 a.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 8:23 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 9:02 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 10:04 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:48 a.m.
EMS 2600blk 28th St 10:50 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 14th St 11:00 a.m.
EMS 400blk 11th St 11:11 a.m.
EMS 25th St / Ashland Ave 12:50 p.m.
EMS 500blk Ocean Ave 2:01 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:41 p.m.
Elevator rescue 2200blk Main St 3:27 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 4:04 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Arizona Ave 4:19 p.m.
Public assist 1300blk Yale St 5:19 p.m.
EMS 500blk Broadway 5:37 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 5:57 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Main St 6:40 p.m.
EMS 33rd St / Pico Blvd 7:28 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:28 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 8:59 p.m.
Elevator rescue 2200blk Main St 9:20 p.m.
EMS 2200blk 26th St 9:30 p.m.
EMS 2300blk 33rd St 9:59 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 10:31 p.m.
EMS 900blk 26th St 11:51 p.m.

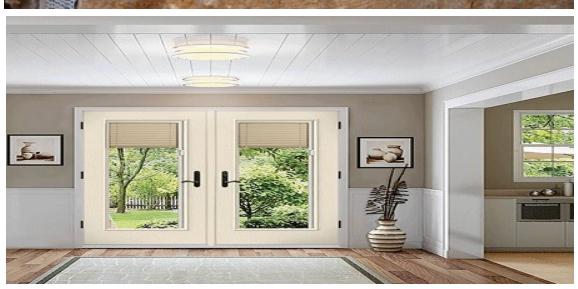
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