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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY
12.06.17
Volume 17 Issue 21

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Wildfires blanket Santa Monica with dangerous smoke

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monicans awoke to a smoky, hazy morning Tuesday thanks to several wildfires raging across the region.

The Thomas fire burning west toward the city of Ventura sent smoke westward toward the ocean. Ventura County Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen said the fire grew exponentially early Tuesday after breaking out Monday evening about 60 miles northwest of Los Angeles. Lorenzen said more than 150 structures have burned.

A second fire was burning Tuesday on the northern edge of Los Angeles (Sylmar) and a third wildfire broke in the same area, sweeping across 200 acres and closing the northbound lanes of Interstate 5 Tuesday morning.

The Santa Monica Fire Department sent two engines to the Thomas fire at about 11 p.m. Monday night as part of their Mutual Aid Strike Team with Culver City and Beverly Hills. Those crews worked through the night battling multiple structure fires around the Santa Paula/Ventura area.

On Tuesday at about 8:30 a.m., LAFD requested additional resources to the Creek Fire burning in the Sylmar area. SMFD sent one Engine and one Battalion Chief to assist. They are currently assisting LAFD

SEE SMOKE PAGE 6



Matthew Hall

SMOKE: It was a smoky horizon all over the city Tuesday morning.

California suburbs again under siege from wind-driven fires

BY KRYSTA FAURIA & BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

For second time in two months, wind-driven fires tore through California communities in the middle of the night, leaving rows of homes and a psychiatric hospital in ruins Tuesday and sending tens of thousands of people fleeing for their lives.

There were no immediate reports of any deaths or serious injuries in the blazes burning in Southern California's Ventura County, on the edge of Los Angeles and in inland San Bernardino County.

The Ventura County wildfire broke out Monday and grew wildly to nearly 80 square miles (207 square kilometers) in a matter of hours. It was fanned by dry Santa Ana winds clocked at well over 60 mph (96 kph) that grounded firefighting helicopters and planes.

Lisa Kermode ignored the first evacuation alert that buzzed on her phone when it said the fire was 15 miles way. But the flames were nearly on top of her an hour later when she rounded up her three children, still in their pajamas, and told them to grab some jeans.

They returned Tuesday to find the home in ashes, including a Christmas tree and the presents they had just bought.

"We got knots in our stomach coming back up here," Kermode said. "We lost everything, everything, all our clothes, anything that was important to us. All our family heirlooms — it's not sort of gone, it's completely gone."

A smaller fire erupted on the northern edge of Los Angeles, threatening the Sylmar and Lakeview Terrace neighborhoods, where residents scrambled to get out as heavy smoke billowed over

SEE FIRES PAGE 4



LEAGUE TITLE

Courtesy photo

Local Santa Monica team FC England girls 03' took the league title in the Silver North Division recently. The club, consisting of seven youth teams, has only been in existence for two years and is rapidly moving up in ranks. The club consists of four coaches Paul Spacey, Ricky Collette, Jamie Duffy, and Nic Heffernan. Pictured are team Captain Charlotte Welch, Dorothea Mulcahy, Estlin Miller, Fayola Obasi, Isabelle Scherick, Ivy Justice, Jasmin Aldana, Jessica Behrendt, Madeleine Gerson, Olivia Rosen, Reese Hallo, Sami Hallo, Savannah Trujillo, Sofia Borin, Goal Keeper Cassidy Van Cott and club co-founder Paul Spacey.

City awards construction contract for new beach playground

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Children living on the northwest side of the city can look forward to a new playground coming to their stretch of the beach next year. Construction crews could break ground on the North Beach Playground Project a mile north of The Pier as early as January.

The new playground will be "universally accessible" – meaning its design will consider the needs of children with physical, cognitive, developmental and behavioral conditions. Back in 2013, the City selected 810 Pacific Coast Highway as the best location for the project because of nearby parking, public restrooms and the Montana Avenue pedestrian overpass from Palisades Park. This won't be the first play structure at the site – pieces of the old set have been

SEE PLAYGROUND PAGE 3




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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, December 6

Holiday Kids Club

Join Mrs. Claus at the Holiday Kid's Club at Santa Monica Place Food Court. Kids will enjoy storytelling, music, games, and other fun surprises. 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. http://downtownsm.com/events-calendar/6426/holiday-kids-club

Introduction to Secular Mindfulness

Presenter Megan Hook explains how practicing mindfulness can help you cut through unwanted noise and distractions in life and open you to the experience of the present moment. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 7 - 8:15 p.m.

Green Prize Event: Conservation Heroes of the American Heartland

Join organizers at the Aero Theater as they celebrate the Library's annual Green Prize Awards with a screening of Rancher, Farmer, Fisherman, a documentary based on Miriam Horn's Green Prize Award-winning book of the same name. A post-film Q&A with special guests follows. (Film runtime: 103 min.) Please register via eventbrite link: https://goo.gl/w3zbuX. 7 p.m.

DIY Craft: Put This on Your Calendar

On your mark, get set, 2018! Design each month and note your favorite holidays, special events, and friend &family birthdays on your very own calendar! Limited space. 4 – 5 p.m. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd

Thursday, December 7

Rent Control Board Meeting

The Santa Monica Rent Control Board will hold its regular meeting to discuss Rent Control related issues. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.

Read a Play Group: A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams

Discover great plays while uncovering your inner actor. This new monthly group will read through a different play each month, with each in attendance taking part in the read through. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now

One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 3:30 – 7 p.m.

Introduction To T'ai Chi

Discover the ancient Chinese tradition, T'ai Chi, a noncompetitive, self-paced system of gentle physical exercise and stretching. Instructor Pat Akers teaches the basic movements. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Friday, December 8

A Winter's Solstice

The feature shows are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m. As we head into the holiday season, find out about the history of ancient observances of the Winter Solstice, and take a look at a re-creation of the remarkable planetary conjunction in 2 BCE – a leading candidate for a scientific explanation of the Star of Bethlehem.
Second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd.). $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

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

SMMUSD SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT smmusd.org

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) Inviting Bids

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #18.06.ES-DSA#03-118308, Franklin Elementary School – Windows, Paint, Floors, Doors & HVAC Project at Franklin Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between $5,250,000 - $5,750,000 and includes construction of, Abate and replace specific existing windows with new painted storefront aluminum windows and re-glaze the remaining windows in buildings D, E, F & G, Abate and replace carpet and tile flooring, Paint all previously painted interior surfaces and exterior trim, ADA renovation of selected restrooms and ramps along the path of travel, New HVAC systems to all buildings and New campus wide Fire Alarm and other associated improvements. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Facility Improvement Office, 2828 4th Street, Santa Monica, California 90405 on or before 1/17/18 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders can attend a Non-Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 12/18/17 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission:
All applications are due no later than 1/2/18 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fipcontractors.smmusd.org/fip-office-website.aspx.

Non-Mandatory Job Walk:
Monday, 12/18/17 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: Franklin Elementary School – 2400 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica CA 90403 – All Attending Contractors MUST meet representatives outside the front entrance of the school.

Bid Opening:
Wednesday, 1/17/18 at 2:00 PM

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

Google blocks YouTube on Amazon devices in escalating feud

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

Google is pulling its popular YouTube video service from Amazon's Fire TV and Echo Show devices in an escalating feud that has caught consumers in the crossfire.

The decision to block YouTube is retaliation for Amazon's refusal to sell some Google products that compete with Amazon gadgets. That includes Google's Chromecast streaming device, an alternative to Fire TV, and an internet-connected speaker called Home, which is trying to catch up to Amazon's market-leading Echo. Amazon's high-end Echo Show has a screen that can display video.

"Given this lack of reciprocity, we are no longer supporting YouTube on Echo Show and Fire TV," Google said in a Tuesday statement.

Amazon didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

The battle highlights the power that the world's major technology companies are gaining as they dominate important corners of commerce and communications. As the world's largest online retailer, Amazon has tremendous sway over what people buy, while the results delivered by Google's ubiquitous search engine often help determine what people do on and off the web.

Google is hoping to pressure Amazon into selling Google's products by taking away access to the world's most widely watched video service. Unless a truce is reached, YouTube will stop working on Fire TV on Jan. 1. YouTube was supposed to disappear from the Echo Show Tuesday, although Amazon has previously found ways to make unauthorized versions of YouTube available on that device.

The dispute between Amazon and Google mirrors the face-offs that occasionally crop up between pay-TV providers and TV networks when it comes time to re-negotiate their deals.

But in this instance, the two tech heavyweights aren't fighting over licensing fees. Instead, they are jockeying to position their gadgets and, by extension, their digital services into homes as internet-connected appliances and devices become more deeply ingrained in people's lives.

The bickering between Google and Amazon has been going on several years as they have ratcheted up the competition with each other. One of the first signs that the companies were at odds came when Amazon redesigned Google's Android mobile software for its Kindle tablets. Two years ago, Amazon ousted Chromecast from its store, even though that device had previously been its top-selling electronics gadget.

The latest standoff between Google and Amazon was ridiculed by a trade association of high-speed internet providers. The group, USTelecom, has been trying to persuade skeptics that internet providers will preserve equal access to all digital services, even if the Federal Communications Commission adopts a proposal to rescind current "net neutrality" regulations .

Internet providers are committed to "protections like no content blocking or throttling," said USTelecom CEO Jonathan Spalter. "Seems like some of the biggest internet companies can't say the same. Ironic, isn't it?"

Besides withholding Chromecast and the Home speaker from its store, Amazon has also rankled Google by declining to sell an internet-connected thermostat made by Nest, which is owned by Google parent Alphabet Inc. Amazon also doesn't allow its Prime video streaming service on Chromecast, an omission that Google wants to change.

Amazon also doesn't sell Apple's video streaming player. But that could change if Amazon's video streaming service starts working on Apple TV, something Apple has said would happen by the end of this year. But that announcement was made in June and Prime video still isn't available on Apple TV.

Roku's market-leading streaming players are sold through Amazon. Roku's players feature channels for watching both Prime video and YouTube.

PLAYGROUND

FROM PAGE 1

removed over time as they deteriorated. Only two metal swing sets remain there today.

Children under 5 years old will have their own play area when construction ends. There will be a separate area for kids up to 8 years old.

"Raised landscaped berms would define and protect the play areas. A series of concrete walkways would be constructed to circumnavigate the play areas and provide an accessible path to all play components. Three steel frame and tensile fabric structures would be built to provide shade in the play and seating areas. Landscaping for the project site would consist of drought tolerant shrubs and shade trees along the parking lot edge with areas of drought tolerant beach grasses," according to a City report on the project.

The City Council awarded the $2 million construction contract to C.S. Legacy Construction, Inc. Staff will use $1.3 million from next year's Capital Improvement Program Budget and about $700,00 from the Beach Fund to pay for the playground.

The park is part of the City's effort to increase use of the beach north of The Pier. In March, the City began collecting feedback for upcoming improvements of the Santa Monica Beach trail in the same area. That project focuses on the stretch of the path north of California, where Ocean Front Walk ends and becomes a single path for pedestrians and cyclists. Renovations could include new paving, seat walls, lighting and better access to the PCH overpasses.

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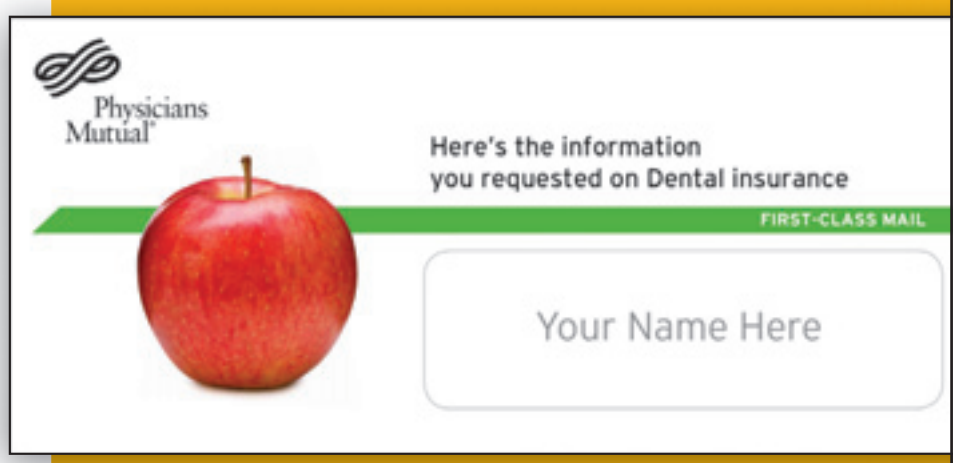


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FIRES

FROM PAGE 1

the city, creating a health hazard for millions of people.

Just eight weeks ago, wildfires that broke out in Northern California and its wine country killed 44 people and destroyed 8,900 homes and other buildings.

Fires aren't typical in Southern California this time of year but can break out when dry vegetation and too little rain combine with the Santa Ana winds. Los Angeles has gotten hardly any measurable rain in two months.

Like the deadly October fires in Napa and Sonoma counties, the blazes are in areas more suburban than rural.

"That means that there are going to be far greater numbers that are going to be evacuated, as we're seeing now. And counties and cities are going to have to expand their budgets," said Char Miller, a professor of environmental analysis at Pomona College who has written extensively wildfires. "These fires are not just fast and furious, but they're really expensive to fight."

The early official count was that at least 150 structures burned in the Ventura County fire, but it was sure to go higher.

Mansions and modest homes alike were in flames. The Hawaiian Village Apartments burned to the ground. The Vista del Mar Hospital, which treats patients with mental problems or substance abuse, including veterans with post-traumatic stress syndrome, smoldered after burning overnight.

Aerial footage showed dozens of homes in one neighborhood burned to the ground and a large subdivision in jeopardy as the flames spit out embers that could spark new blazes.

More than 27,000 people were evacuated, and one firefighter suffered bumps and bruises in a vehicle accident in Ventura County.

The fire erupted near Santa Paula, a city of some 30,000 people about 60 miles (97 kilometers) northwest of Los Angeles known for its citrus and avocado orchards and farm fields along the Santa Clara River.

"We had the fire come through here, pretty dramatically, all night long," said Karen Heath-Karayan, who stayed up with her husband to douse embers that rained on their home and small lot where they sell Christmas trees. "It was really scary."

They were ordered to evacuate as flames got within about 100 yards (90 meters), but they decided to stand their ground to protect their property, where they have chickens and goats.

They hosed down their roof and hit hotspots before winds pushed the fire over a hill toward neighboring Ventura, a city of 106,000 where more people were ordered to clear out.

"It was just exponential, huge growth because the winds, 50 mile an hour out of the east, were just pushing it and growing it very, very large, very quickly," Ventura County Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen said shortly after sunrise.

Thomas Aquinas College, with about 350 students, was evacuated.

The fire on the northern edge of Los Angeles was estimated at more than 6 square miles (15 square kilometers) and had burned homes, though no immediate damage estimates were released. About 2,500 homes were ordered evacuated.

Alan Barnard watched flames come downhill toward his Lakeview Terrace home and told his wife to grab their 11-month-old grandson and leave. He stayed to collect a few possessions and then took his dog and left the quiet cul-de-sac.

When he returned later, a bedroom and his garage were destroyed, but three-quarters of the house remained intact.

"We're pretty much out of the main danger now," he said as he tried to spray hotspots with a garden hose. "We consider ourselves very lucky."

Southern California's gusty Santa Ana winds have long contributed to some of the region's most disastrous wildfires. They blow from the inland West toward the Pacific Ocean, speeding up as they squeeze through mountain passes and canyons.

Nearly 180,000 customers in the Ventura County lost power, and schools in the district were closed. Some firefighting efforts were hampered when pumping stations lost power.

Brian Melley and Michael Balsamo in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't Tread On Me

THE SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY

Bless them, gave us another excellent performance Sunday night. Sibelius #1, Rossini, and Korngold with violin notes so high service dogs howled their approval. Barnum Hall was packed, and they didn't even need Dennis Prager to fill the seats.

Having parked on Lincoln, I walked down Michigan toward Samohi and passed two Santa Monica "residents," potential patrons of the arts, who I was pretty sure wouldn't be attending the evening's free concert because at 6:30 they looked settled in for the night, and sure enough they were still there when I returned.

"Wear a jacket!" my family had cautioned me as I went out the door. "Nah, not that cold," I replied. And it wasn't, going in, nor in the concert hall. Coming out, I was glad I had only a couple of blocks to walk.

But the elation of good live music was punctured by the reality of again seeing those two people sleeping on the cold sidewalk. Both had obviously tried to cover every bit of skin against the cold, though one had no socks and exposed ankles. No blankets, no jackets, no layers of shirts or pants. I was walking briskly to get to my warm car. They had no such option. It's colder now than when I went in, I thought — how much colder will it get, hour by hour?

Neither looked like they had moved a muscle, and maybe that's the only strategy. Cover up as best you can, lay your head down, don't move and pray you don't freeze or get mugged before morning. You are used to the cold, but that doesn't mean it doesn't sting. If you can fall asleep, maybe you can stay asleep, and not feel … anything. Cold, pain, fear, remorse, desperation, loneliness, hopelessness, shame, anger. Sleep, if it comes, must be welcome relief.

BUT WHY MENTION DENNIS PRAGER?

"The news media in the West pose a far greater danger to Western civilization than Russia does," he wrote, and "American troops around the globe are the greatest preservers of liberty and peace in the world." Also, liberalism is "a cancer." According to National Public Radio, Prager "often targets multiculturalism, Muslims and LGBTQ people." He strongly supports Trump, even though previously denouncing most of what he embodies. "We hold that defeating Hillary Clinton, the Democrats, and the Left is also a principle. And that it is the greater principle." (The Roy Moore/pedophile principle, I guess.) These and other things the conservative icon has said, and stands for, came to mind in a dark tornado of my thoughts rising up from the sidewalk.

The Symphony called on Prager to conduct at their fundraiser last August, in Disney Hall. A bit of a gamble, it paid off big, in fundraising that evening. But at what cost?

What has happened to us? Are we powerless to prevent the destruction of our form of government, and perhaps our very nation? I say it's greed, unmitigated greed, at the root of it all. That's why the GOP supports all this treason and will not act against Trump until they have their rapacious hands on everything of value. We are screwed. And soon a lot more folks will be joining my two faceless neighbors on the sidewalk at night. The Great Depression will look like a cakewalk. Very conservative estimates of the effect of gutting Obamacare and eliminating the Individual Mandate: 10,000 deaths per year. That's what happens when you take away people's healthcare. Or, just figure Rocket Man will render it all moot.

There is a lethal, fast-spreading cancer, and we have to fight it fiercely. It's here too, in Santa Monica. Some would scoff. For starters, let's see what comes out of the district voting lawsuit, the depositions, our new City Attorney, the next election. I think it's possible the tales of corruption we've heard so far are only the tip.

We have to pay more attention to the "little things" and not let them slip by and normalize. They may not be on a footing with oil drilling in the pristine Arctic or coal mining among Utah buttes, but they can quickly add up to a culture of dishonesty and cheating, resulting in oligarchy.

I WAS E-MAULED

For my remarks last week about City Council item 13-D, placed on the agenda by members Kevin McKeown and Sue Himmelrich. I wrote that they "want to spend staff's time and our money investigating campaign wrongdoing by the Huntley Hotel, that has already been investigated and punished to the tune of $300,000." That was perhaps not accurately stated. But union Unite Here Local 11, Forward, and the League of Women Voters wrote the Council a letter asking for exactly that, and that was the impetus for the agenda item, with Himmelrich and McKeown stipulating they did not recommend further investigating the Huntley. I think that's a needed general investigation for facts and recommendations, if it's done right.

What I stand by is my disappointment that it took such a letter, from such blatantly pro-development groups, still wanting more blood from the Huntley. If this is a good idea now, it was a good idea last year, and five years and 10 years ago. I resent resurrecting the Huntley's sins, pointing out anew that "see, the other side (against overdevelopment) does it too." In fact, while there were plenty of reasons to have investigated the campaign finances and dirty tricks of the anti-LV side last year, Council, staunchly anti-LV, did nothing. Now, with renewed finger-wagging at the Huntley, they investigate.

They had at least a dozen years to get a parking study done for the promised playing field across from Samohi, but somehow the total rip-off ECEC and the nine-figure extravaganza city offices annex got done but the field is still waiting. I could go on and on. There are always "good reasons" for the way things happen, but many of us are tired of smelling a rat in well-crafted, agenda-serving strategies. Lying and dishonesty are just that, and dodging, obfuscating, covering up and just plain BS are pretty close.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Now that we finally know who took over the LA Weekly, where will the Daily Press wind up? This could be really impactful.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Whoever controls the media, controls the mind." — Jim Morrison

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 31 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Matthew Hall

SUNSET: Smoke from wildfires created a red sunset over the Pacific Ocean Tuesday night.

SMOKE

FROM PAGE 1

with multiple structure fires in that area.

According to SMFD Captain Patrick Nulty, a total of 13 local firefighters are deployed to the regional efforts. The department has recalled off-duty personnel to staff Reserve Engines here in Santa Monica and coverage is back to normal levels.

Local fire officials said Santa Ana wind events always pose a fire threat in Southern California. Wildland areas that interface with urban areas are particularly vulnerable, like the fires occurring now, but there also exists a threat to areas like Santa Monica. High winds have dangerous effects on structural fires within communities, because they can grow and spread rapidly.

It was hard to tell smoke from fog Tuesday morning in Santa Monica and conditions looked more like a hazy sunset than a clear winter sunrise. Local officials issued a statement telling residents the smell of smoke was due to brush fires outside the city and asking residents to keep the 911 system for emergency use only.

Local schools were open but Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati sent an alert to parents outlining plans to keep kids as away from smoke as possible.

"School is in session, however, we will be running on an indoor schedule today, including for physical education, lunch and recess," he said.

"We are awaiting direction from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health regarding athletic team practices this

SEE WIND PAGE 7

BAYSIDE RETROFIT

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WIND

FROM PAGE 6

afternoon and for any additional advice.

There are no fires in the area at this time. The smoky conditions are from fires in the Ventura area.

If your student has health concerns, please contact your medical professional for advice at this time. If your student will not be in school due to these conditions, please contact your school office and report your student as absent today."

The National Weather Service issued an Extreme Fire Danger warning through Thursday. The agency said peak wind gusts would reach 50-70 miles per hour with isolated gusts up to 80 mph in nearby mountains. Relatively low humidity will make the fire danger worse with the potential for very rapid fire growth.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District issued a smoke advisory for Los Angeles County's 10 million residents. People are urged to stay inside and filter the air with their air conditioners.

The Los Angeles County Public Health Department advises residents and workers in smoky areas to take steps to mitigate the impacts of the poor air quality. Locals are advised to reduce outdoor activity, keep windows and doors closed, only use air conditioners that have recirculating options and with clean filters, utilize air conditioned public places if necessary such as libraries, do not smoke, do not use fireplaces and immediately seek medical aid for symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to smoke exposure, including severe coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness, contact your doctor immediately or go to an urgent care center. Pets should also be brought inside.

Dr. Wally Ghurabi, medical director of the Nethercutt Emergency Center at UCLA Medical Center, said the air quality was severe and would cause more trouble the longer it persisted.

"I've been practicing emergency medicine in Santa Monica for 37 years. I've never seen air quality this bad or this unhealthful," he said. "Everyone should stay indoors as much as possible."

Patients began arriving at the ER Monday night and have continued to arrive throughout the day. Ghurabi said masks won't keep out all of the particles but they will provide some relief.

"People with chronic pulmonary disease such as emphysema, COPD or asthma are the least able to tolerate this," he said. "They should hunker down in their homes for the next few days. If they need medication, inhalers or masks, a friend or neighbor should be asked to help."

It's been an unusually bad year for California wildfires with more than 1 million acres (1,500 square miles) burn so far in 2017.

The latest data released Tuesday by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection covers land under both state and federal protection. The total area burned in the state this year is bigger than the state of Rhode Island.

The figures released this week don't include the wind-driven wildfires currently raging in Southern California.

State Fire Chief Ken Pimlott has told lawmakers that climate change is spawning more and bigger wildfires. Blazes on land under Cal Fire's protection this year have burned more than twice the recent five-year average.

editor@smdp.com

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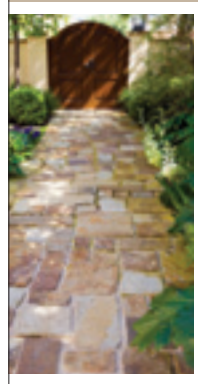
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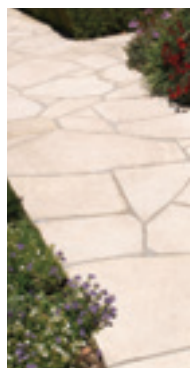
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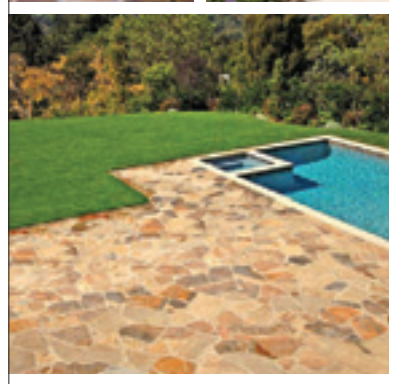


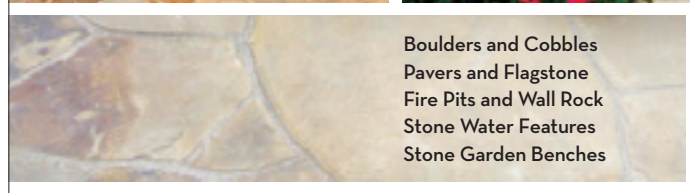
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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **59.9°**

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
SSW swell builds further. Modest, steep NW swell. AM offshore flow.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
Steep NW swell and lingering SSW swell. AM offshore flow.

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: #151 CCTV CAMERA EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

- **Mandatory job walk will be held on December 15, 2017 at 8:00 am Meeting at the intersection of Third Street Promenade and Wilshire Blvd. on the southwest corner.**

- **Submission Deadline is January 22, 2018, at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at **1717 4th Street Suite 250**, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID #4309 FURNISH AND DELIVER LAPTOP COMPUTERS AS REQUIRED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Submission Deadline is December 20, 2017 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON NOVEMBER 21, AT ABOUT 9:39 A.M.
While patrolling the area of 500 block of Olympic Blvd, officers saw a subject taking items out of a City of Santa Monica trash receptacle in violation of a municipal code. The subject was detained so he may be issued a citation. Officers determined the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest. The subject was placed under arrest. Alfonso Rios Castillo, 25, homeless, was arrested for removing recyclables and outstanding warrants. Bail was set at $11,500.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 370 Calls For Service On Dec. 4.

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

Petty theft 0 block Vicente 12:51 a.m.
Battery 4th / Colorado 1:14 a.m.
Battery 4th / Colorado 1:20 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 300 block Santa Monica Pier 4:37 a.m.
Lewd activity 16th / Santa Monica 8:39 a.m.
Encampment 2800 block the beach 9:03 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 700 block 15th 9:29 a.m.
Encampment 600 block Wilshire 9:30 a.m.
Petty theft 2300 block 28th 9:46 a.m.
Petty theft 2300 block 28th 10:01 a.m.
Arson 1300 block 17th 10:02 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 700 block 12th 10:18 a.m.
Encampment 2800 block Ocean Front Walk 10:37 a.m.
Hit and run 2000 block Wilshire 10:43 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block the beach 10:52 a.m.
Traffic collision 1900 block Frank 10:58 a.m.
Grand theft 2900 block Neilson 11:14 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block the beach 11:16 a.m.
Petty theft 800 block 2nd 11:29 a.m.
Speeding 1500 block 17th 12:21 p.m.
Traffic collision 26th / Montana 12:23 p.m.
Burglary 2300 2300 block 25th 12:30 p.m.
Identity 1600 block Appian 12:55 p.m.
Person with a gun 1500 block Broadway 12:56 p.m.
Identity theft 700 block 7th 1:09 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 1:17 p.m.
Petty theft 2900 block Glenn 1:26 p.m.
Hit and run Stewart / Nebraska 1:27 p.m.
Burglary 1300 block 18th 1:46 p.m.
Hit and run 1200 block 4th 1:57 p.m.
Death 1400 block 21st 2:02 p.m.
Fraud 700 block Grant 2:04 p.m.
Petty theft 600 block Ashland 2:29 p.m.
Grand theft 1200 block Montana 3:34 p.m.
Person with Ocean / Colorado 4:39 p.m.
Bike theft 500 block Montana 4:43 p.m.
Grand theft 200 block Broadway 4:50 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 4:52 p.m.
Overdose 2800 block Neilson 5:04 p.m.
Auto burglary 400 block Adelaide 5:10 p.m.
Traffic collision 1100 block Maple 5:30 p.m.
Person with a gun Stewart / Pico 5:31 p.m.
Traffic collision 1900 block 14th 6:43 p.m.
Fight 400 block Pacific 7:33 p.m.
Fight 1500 block 2nd 7:44 p.m.
Identity theft 2600 block Broadway 8:20 p.m.
Petty theft 900 block 22nd 8:33 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 8:40 p.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block Pacific Coast Hwy 8:49 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 10:01 p.m.
Fight 10th / Grant 10:02 p.m.
Fight 10th / Grant 10:05 p.m.
Person down 1900 block 11th 10:06 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 32 Calls For Service On Dec. 4.

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

EMS 4th / Colorado 1:21 a.m.
EMS 300 block Santa Monica Pier 4:43 a.m.
Automatic alarm 3200 block Wilshire 5:44 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100 block Wilshire 6:42 a.m.
EMS 1800 block 11th 7:05 a.m.
EMS 7th / Broadway 7:25 a.m.
EMS 1600 block 20th 9:42 a.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire 1300 block 17th 10:03 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 4th 11:02 a.m.
Public assist 800 block Montana 11:14 a.m.
EMS 700 block Grant 11:20 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100 block Wilshire 11:46 a.m.
EMS 400 block Expo Line 1:51 p.m.
EMS 1600 block Cloverfield 1:55 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 21st 2:00 p.m.
Arcing wires 1100 block 26th 2:18 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 20th 14:41:00
EMS 1000 block Pier 3:27 p.m.
EMS 2600 block 34th 3:54 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Wilshire 5:04 p.m.
EMS 1800 block Wilshire 5:26 p.m.
EMS 3100 block Santa Monica 5:30 p.m.
Traffic collision with physical rescue 1100 block Maple 17:30:57
EMS 26th / Pico 5:44 p.m.
EMS 700 block California 5:50 p.m.
EMS 2500 block Pico 7:01 p.m.
Lock in/out 1300 block 4th 7:22 p.m.
EMS 100 block Santa Monica 7:46 p.m.
EMS 7th / Pico 8:28 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1900 block Pico 9:07 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Grant 22:09:48
EMS 1100 block 4th 10:55 p.m.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/2
28 30 32 36 58
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 193M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/1
16 22 40 41 59
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 160M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 12/2
7 18 33 40 42
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 37M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/4
4 23 28 31 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/4
MIDDAY: 6 4 7
Draw Date: 12/4
EVENING: 2 6 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/4
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:49.00

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

WORD UP!

logomachy

1. a dispute about or concerning words. 2. an argument or debate marked by the reckless or incorrect use of words; meaningless battle of words. 3. a game played with cards, each bearing one letter, with which words are formed.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Sound Emotions

■ Eyes may be windows to the soul, but if you really want to know how someone else is feeling, Yale University scientists suggest closing your eyes and listening. They say tone of voice may be a better indicator of figuring out others' emotions than looking at facial expressions or body language.

■ The researchers conducted a series of published experiments. In one, they recruited participants online and showed them short videos of a group of friends talking and teasing each other over a nickname. Participants watched one of three versions: one group watched and listened to the video, a second heard only the audio and a third saw only the video – no sound.

■ Then they were asked to discern what emotions they thought the friends displayed, rating feelings like amusement, embarrassment or happiness on a scale of 0 to 8. Participants who only heard the interaction – but did not watch the video – made more accurate estimates.

■ One reason may be that the voice alone is capable of conveying enormous emotion, said researchers. Another may be that when confronted by multiple modes of communication, our brains get confused and simply miss important cues.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@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*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

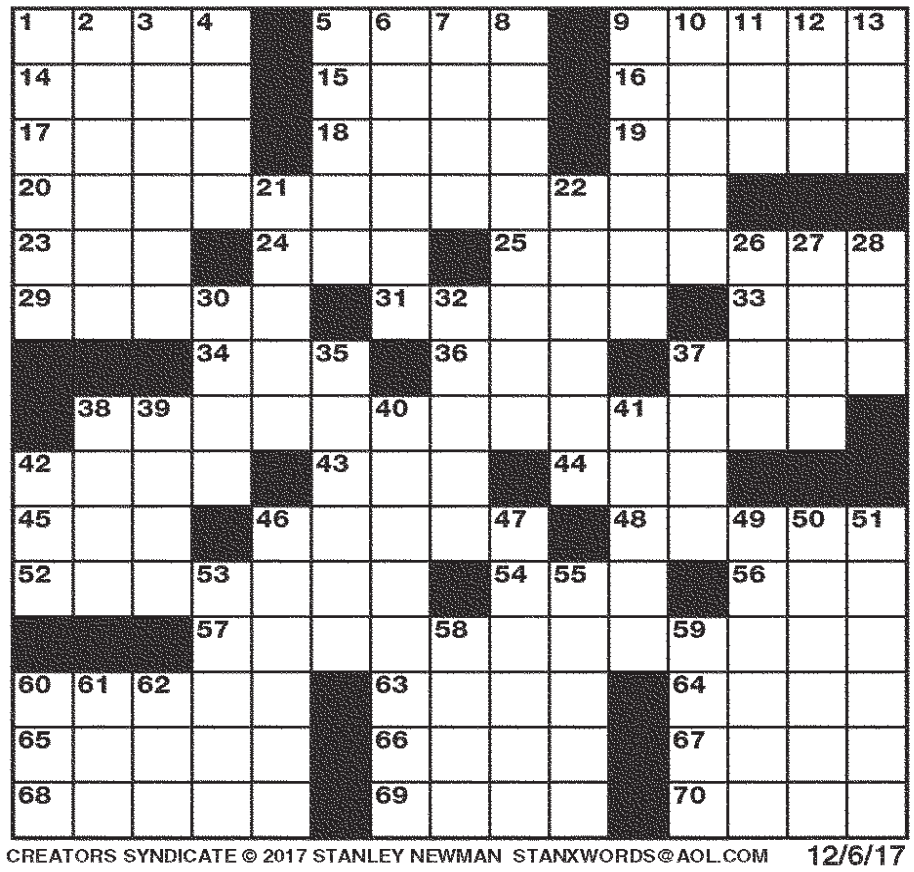
	6					8		7
		3					4	
		9	7	2		3		
			9			7	2	
5			3		7			1
	1	7			8			
		5		9	4	1		
	3					6		
2		1					8	

Newsday Crossword

DON'T BUG ME by Carolyn Stewart
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 __ Lee cakes
5 Minor error
9 Swap
14 Shape of a face
15 Deep sleep
16 Inflexible
17 Give up, as territory
18 Stadium crowd sound
19 Insurance broker
20 British bat-and-ball competition
23 Double-curve
24 Woolly female
25 Of food programs
29 Back-to-health program, for short
31 Drizzles or showers
33 Compete
34 Apple desktop computer
36 Flavor enhancer initials
37 Police officers, informally
38 Star-Kist competitor
42 Money in Mexico
43 Neighbor of Tarzan
44 Knight's title
45 Brewery product
46 24 sheets of paper
48 Take home a shelter animal
52 "The Blue Danube" composer
54 Cold-cream container
56 Neither here __ there
57 Inept soldier of the comics
60 Secret stockpile
63 Frilly, as some wedding gowns
64 Petty complaints
65 "French" soup ingredient
66 CPR experts
67 Assemble, as a sweater
68 Top-billed performers
69 Backtalk
70 Parts of a min.

DOWN
1 World Cup sport
2 Reluctant
3 Pungent salad veggie
4 Actor Baldwin
5 Wood fastener
6 Thief during a power outage
7 Mosque leader
8 Blissful place
9 Tracks down
10 "That's correct!"
11 Era
12 Loud noise
13 Summer hrs. in Pittsburgh
21 Meat grilled on a skewer
22 Slight hints of color
26 River near Shakespeare's home
27 Morning TV host Kelly
28 "I agree!"
30 Bullets, for short
32 Traffic light color
35 Contract section
37 Bit of Miss Muffet's meal
38 Suspenders alternative
39 Software purchaser
40 New Testament letters
41 Headgear for a princess
42 Faux __ (minor error)
46 Powerful chess pieces
47 Pops out, as a DVD
49 Connected to the Internet
50 Written in verse
51 Secret meetings
53 Detest
55 Bottomless pit
58 The Dalai __
59 Printers' supplies
60 Businesses: Abbr.
61 Bug in a colony
62 Espionage org.



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/6/17

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 6)

Your ideas get funding. Your goals attract a cheering section. Your problems bring you to answers. One of the secrets to your success is in continually finding happiness in the right places: inside you, inside the work, inside the details. It's your attitude more than anything that unlocks the chains that once held you back. Libra and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 35, 33, 8 and 11.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Your sensory awareness leans toward the spiritual today. It's as if your ears can hear intentions instead of words; your eyes can see vibes instead of faces; and your hands can touch souls.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Just because you see what's funny about the situation doesn't mean you're making fun of it. Make sure people know your intention — to bring levity and amusement into play, not to make others ashamed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
In the same way that telling people to "relax" tends to really agitate them, suggesting that people "be themselves" just might send a thinking person into an identity crisis. Offer no advice, only a hand to hold.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
People don't grow alone. They might grow solo, but it's because they are in an environment conducive to growth. To give yourself the best chance at success, build an environment conducive to your own growth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
One coping mechanism that really works to manage stress is to walk away from the stressors. Leave the room. Leave the building. Changing your view will change your perspective.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Remove yourself from stressors. Go easy. If you get angry once, you'll only get angry again later with yourself for allowing yourself to lose your cool in the first place.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
When you see the truth and they don't, it can be really frustrating. But you actually don't need them to know the truth in order to accomplish your goal. Knowing it yourself will be enough to get you there.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Plan your next move quietly, and keep it to yourself. It's not that you can't trust the people around you — you can — but you'll learn to trust yourself more if you keep this one close to the vest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Truly, the same condition that one person calls good fortune another will deem miserable, and both will be accurate. Today you'll benefit from seeing everything as a neutral circumstance.

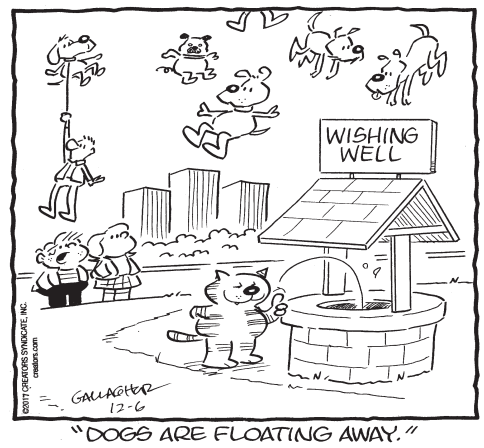
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You've already attracted a rapt audience. If you walk, they'll follow. If you run, they'll chase. Decide carefully what you want to do with this attention before you make your next move.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Shakespeare summed it up for you in his "Sonnet 116": "Love is not which alters when it alteration finds." Your heart hasn't been updated as to recent observations, and even if you were to tell it, it wouldn't care.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You're slow to bring yourself to believe in all that's going on today. You've been burned before by buying in too early. Anyway, it behooves you to do more research and fact-checking.

Mercury-Saturn Conjunction Warning
This Mercury-Saturn alignment reminds us that creatures of all kinds have similar ways of dealing with pain. One way is to lash out — either in an attempt to keep others away or with the intent of causing others to experience the pain, too. In short, when you know someone is hurting, approach with great readiness, because anything can happen.

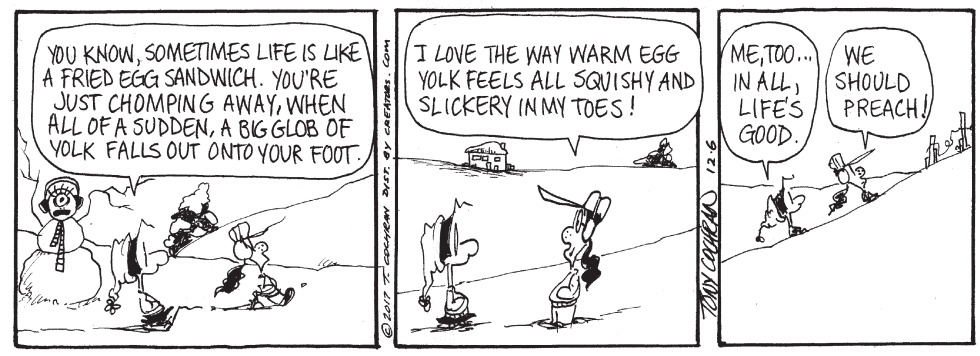
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



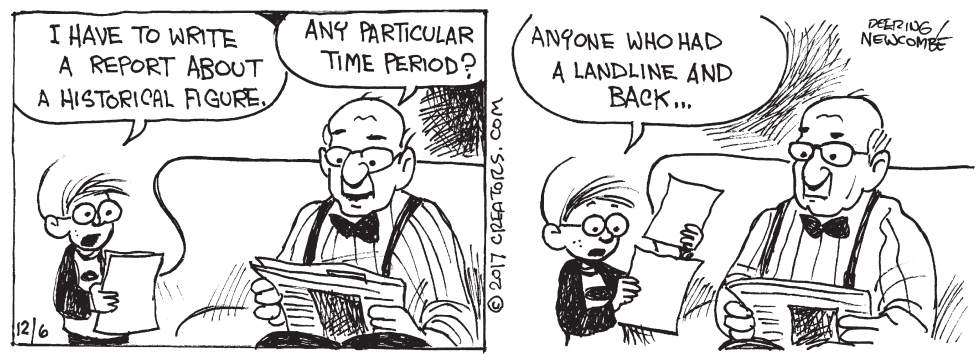
Agnes
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Dogs of C-Kennel
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Zack Hill
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Charity Toy Ride and Holiday Light Tour

SAT, DEC 9TH RIDE STARTS @6PM

The Toy ride starts at the Bike Shop Santa Monica.
We will be riding along the Strand to MDR Boat Parade and back along Via Dolce through the Venice canals, back down Main st. ending at Windward circle and the Bank of Venice for treats and raffle prizes.

**** Please bring an unwrapped toy to make a child's Holiday special ****

THE BIKE SHOP SANTA MONICA
2400 Main St suite C,
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(across from Urth Cafe)

THE BANK OF VENICE
80 Windward Ave.
Venice, CA 90291.

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Hosted by **The Bike Shop Santa Monica**
Sponsored by **Bianchi, The Bank of Venice** and **The Santa Monica Daily Press**
To collect gifts for **The Santa Monica Police** Activity league holiday event.

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