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Pedestrian incursions prompt new Expo fences

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Days after a semi-truck collided with an Expo train, the City Council took up the issue of Expo safety and approved fencing to keep pedestrians from walking on the tracks because apparently Santa Monicans can't tell the difference between a rail line and a sidewalk.

The Dec. 15 item was agendized before last week's derailment and the council is required by law to adhere to the publicly posted topics. As such, discussion this week centered entirely on potential fencing along the center of Colorado Avenue and on nearby sidewalks.

Fencing was rejected in 2011 for aesthetic reasons but the issue was brought back to council this year after staff concluded residents were trespassing on the Expo track in a dangerous way.

Metro staff conduced observations of the tracks on six days between Sept. 24 and Oct. 26 of this year. They recorded a total of 2,788 pedestrians, 503 bicycles and 153 skateboarders on the tracks. Staff said the presence of anyone on the tracks posed a safety hazard to everyone involved. Staff recommended installing fences along parts of the track that would physically prevent anyone from crossing Colorado mid-block and keep pedestrians on the sidewalks.

Council ultimately approved a fence through the center of Colorado Avenue between 7th Street and 15th Court. The centerline fence would run between the two sets of tracks, but would not block intersections. They also approved installing a guardrail along sidewalks between 5th and 7th street.

"This segment of the alignment contains track switching equipment which precludes the installation of centerline fencing," said the staff report.

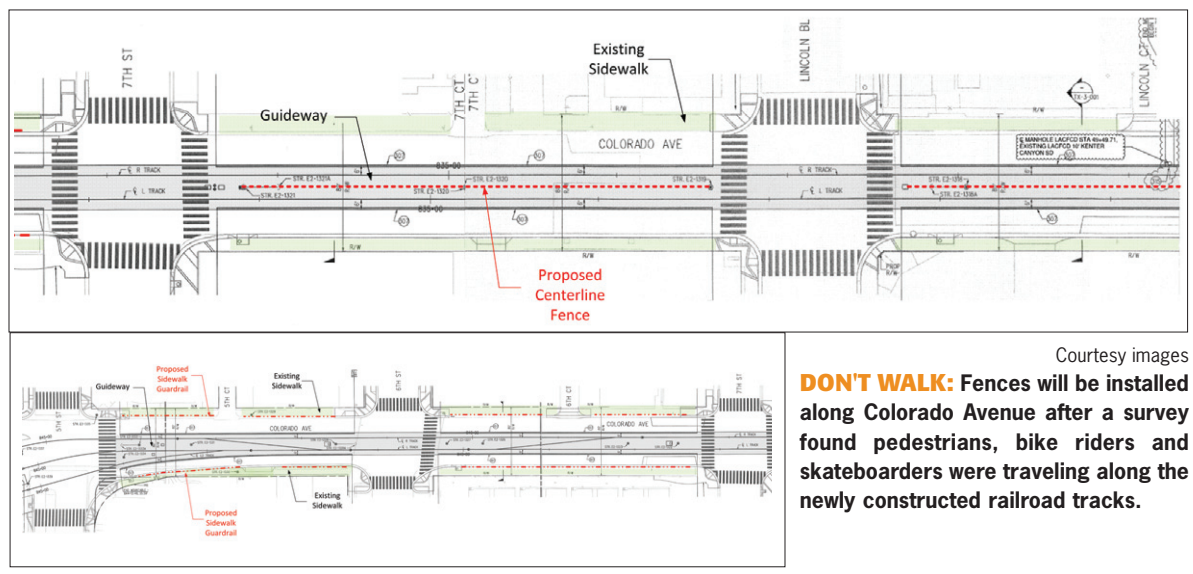
Approval of the fences was unanimous, but several councilmembers were unhappy with the need to install barriers.

"I had hoped in all honesty that people would be a little more observant about where they might be walking and notice they are stepping on tracks as they walk down the middle of Colorado, but apparently that is not the case," said Councilwoman Gleam Davis.

Councilman Kevin McKeown said he was a vocal opponent of fencing back in 2011 but said he now understood why it was necessary.

"Having seen what's gone on I'm disappointed that Southern Californians can't figure out what tracks mean, but I also don't want to be scraping anyone off them," he said.

SEE FENCE PAGE 9



Courtesy images

DON'T WALK: Fences will be installed along Colorado Avenue after a survey found pedestrians, bike riders and skateboarders were traveling along the newly constructed railroad tracks.

Boys soccer: Fountain of youth, mountain of potential at Crossroads

Freshmen making key contributions for talented Roadrunners

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

In high school sports, youth often means inexperience. But don't tell the Crossroads boys soccer team.

Boasting a talented group of freshmen who have played for years on competitive club squads, the Roadrunners are off to a hot start in 2015-16 as they prepare for conference play in their eighth season under coach Federico Bianchi.

"We are a young team, but a lot of the young players are very experienced in terms of playing a lot of soccer," Bianchi said. "It's a good new crop of players that has helped us raise our level. It's been a fun first month. It's always easier as a coach when you have more options to work with."

Four ninth-grade students bolster a squad that hopes to make a deep run in the playoffs after falling to La Puente in a penalty-kick shootout in the first round of last year's CIF Southern Section Division 5 bracket. Crossroads finished with a 9-3-7 record, including a 7-1-6 mark in the Gold Coast League to finish second behind Windward.

But whereas last season's team relied heavily on current Yale men's soccer player Lucas Kirby, who had 21 goals and six assists as a Roadrunners senior, this year's group is more balanced and, according to Bianchi, more dangerous.

"We're a completely different team," he said. "Last year was last year. It's a completely different playing style, a different mentality."

With goalkeeper Jackson Schierbeek and defender Rudy Frayre providing senior leadership as co-captains and Jack Schoenfeld adding stability at center back, Crossroads is getting ample production from its young standouts.

Freshman midfielder Dante Perez-Mendoza scored five goals in the first four games of the year, while forward Artur Agulha, midfielder Ryan Goldberg and defender Kyle Hadfield have also made key contributions in their first high school seasons.

"Our middle school program has gradually become better and better," Bianchi said. "They're 14 and playing against 18-year-old men, so it's about being able to manage that and see if they're able to hang with that. That's the question mark, and it's still early in the season. So far, they've done a great job."

Courtesy photo

SOCCER: Rudy Frayre is part of a young team at Crossroads with high hopes for this season.

SEE SPORTS PAGE 9

SMMUSD bond projects up for approval

School board to consider reconfiguration of facilities committee

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

At a meeting that could yield a pathway for negotiations on splitting the Santa Monica-Malibu school district, the Board of Education this evening is expected to approve a wide variety of facility upgrades at campuses throughout the district.

The agenda includes additional discussion of possibly splitting the

SEE SCHOOL PAGE 3

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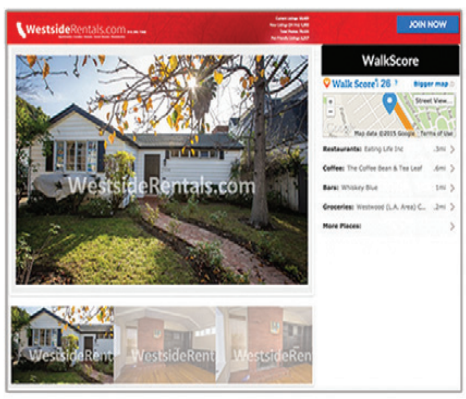

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Dec. 17

The Lyric Chorus in Concert: Holiday and Broadway Tunes

Ring in the winter with the return of SMC Emeritus Colleges' Lyric Chorus in Concert. The twenty plus member chorus put their audience in the mood for the season with a performance of seasonal songs and Broadway tunes. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

SMASH Middle School Music Concert

Santa Monica Alternative School House middle school band, choir and orchestra students will perform in the SMASH cafetorium. Admission is free and refreshments will be available for purchase, supporting the 2017 8th grade class educational field trip fund For more info contact Jessica Rishe at jrishe@smmusd.org or Janice Wold at jwold@smmusd.org or call (310) 396-2640. 2525 5th St., 1:20 - 3 p.m.

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Housing Commission. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4:30 p.m.

Organizing Before the Holidays

Learn how to pre-plan and organize for the most popular holidays, from preparing meals, menus, outlining to-do lists, budget, grocery list, holiday cards, and gift giving. Also covered will be ideas for storing decorations for each holiday and where to keep them. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Simbang Gabi (Night Mass) at St. Monica Catholic Community

The Mass will be in English and will feature Filipino music. Bishop Oscar Solis, the first Filipino-American to be consecrated a bishop, will be the celebrant. After Mass there will be a reception in the Grand Pavilion with Filipino cuisine and a performance of traditional Filipino dances by Samahang Pilipino, UCLA. 725 California Ave., 7 p.m.

John Adams Middle School Choral Concert

For more info contact Cecile Blanchard at cblanchard@smmusd.org or (310) 452-2326 Ext. 72-227. Visit: http://blanchardwebpage.weebly.com. Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.

Free Screening: "Scrooged" (1988)

Richard Donner's comic updating of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" for the media era. Features Bill Murray, as a selfish TV exec who encounters three spirits before making holiday amends, a cast of show biz vets and members of the Murray family tree. Screening followed by a roundtable discussion with audience Q&A. For more information, visit facebook.com/MindOverMoviesLA. 1308 Second St., 7 p.m.

Recreation & Parks Commission

Meeting of the Recreation & Parks Commission. City Hall, 1685 Main St., 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18

Explore! STEM Story Time

Story time with a fun science, engineering or math twist. Ages 3 - 5. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

December Drive-In Series for Kids @ Main

Bring your cardboard box car to our drive-in and watch some holiday favorites and discover new favorites! Ages 3 and Up. (See Flyer for movie title details). Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:45 - 5 p.m.

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

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

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

Cinema on the Street - Holiday Edition

Showing "Home Alone." Also, kids can decorate ornaments. For more information call (310) 393-8355 or visit www.downtownsm.com. Third Street Promenade, 6 - 9 p.m.

The Longest Night Service

A service of scripture, stories, special music, silent reflection and healing prayer. This is a meditative service - a time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and caring for our hearts and souls. Church in Ocean Park Sanctuary, 235 Hill St., 7 - 8 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19

Master Gardeners at the Market

Helping you grow more of your own food, even in an urban setting. Virginia Avenue Park, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Play: 'All About Santa'

This hip musical is a thoroughly modern look at the goings on in Santa's Toy Shop at the North Pole. Tickets: $12.50 for kids 12 and under; $15 for adults. For tickets, go to http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com/all-about-santa.html. Santa Moncia Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 11:30 a.m.

American Stories Book Group

Join us for book discussions that illustrate the diversity of voices that make up the American experience. This month's selection: "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote and short story "The Loudest Voice" by Grace Paley. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Toy Theater: A Real Elephant @ Main

Artist-musician Yulya Dukhovny presents a magical retelling of a Russian children's story of a little girl who wishes a real elephant would visit her. A paper craft workshop follows the performance. Ages 6 and up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 - 3 p.m.

LEGO Club

Come have fun with LEGOS and build something amazing. Board games also available. Ages 4 & up. Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave., 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Play: 'Saving Main Street'

A heartwarming faith based original musical, "Saving Main Street" centers around the Russo family, who are faced with losing their property on Main Street to the famous real estate mogul Ronald Rump. As a result, it appears that they will lose everything this holiday season, until a Christmas miracle. Ticket info at www.edgemarcenter.org. Edgemar Center, 2437 Main St., 6 p.m.

Comedy Show: 'Token Straight White Dude'

Tired of a sea of straight white make comics? Token Straight White Dude is back yard comedy with a twist. Each show only has one straight white male comic in the line up. Come see some of LA's finest comics in a diverse, free show. 2626 30th St., 8 p.m.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1

district into Malibu and Santa Monica entities. Separation is perhaps the most controversial topic, but not the only item up for debate.

The school board appears set to authorize a $1.43-million contract for the construction of a district data center.

AWI Builders submitted the lowest of six bids for the project, which comes as the district funds numerous technological improvements. The center will house SMMUSD telephone, email and data networks, according to a district report.

"The equipment, network and facility upgrades will provide stability and increased storage capacity of the District's systems while supporting the technology initiatives in the classrooms," the report reads.

During its meeting at SMMUSD headquarters, the school board could also approve a study of a John Adams Middle School auditorium that is currently closed due to structural problems.

The district would enlist NAC Architecture to help determine whether the facility should be completely renovated or replaced altogether. The company would receive $64,600 in Measure ES funds to assess the building's condition, accessibility, heating and cooling systems, plumbing infrastructure and other possible changes.

In addition, the school board is expected to move forward on a plan to renovate windows, floors and walls with bond money.

Measure ES funds will likely go toward a contract with HMC Architects, which the district chose after officials held interviews with three firms earlier this month. Terms of the contract have not yet been finalized.

Meanwhile, close to $100,000 in other bond-backed facility projects are up for board approval. Measure ES money will be used to pay district consultant Heery International $90,000 for program management services, while more than $6,500 in Measure BB funding is supporting heating, ventilation and cooling work at Edison Language Academy.

District staff have recommended converting the Measure BB advisory committee into a broader facilities panel with three subcommittees for Malibu, Samohi and all other projects. The board will discuss the possible reconfiguration.

Measure ES, a $385-million bond for school upgrades, was passed by voters in 2012. It followed voter approval in 2006 of Measure BB, a $268-million bond.

The district, which hired a bond program manager earlier this year, is rolling out upgrades as it faces a roughly $31-million shortfall in Measure BB funds.

NEW PURCHASE ORDERS

The school board will weigh approval of more than $125,000 in new purchase orders.

The list of purchase orders includes more than $29,000 to the City of Santa Monica for annual maintenance; more than $13,000 to Alta Environmental for periodic inspections; up to $10,000 to Chevron for fuel; close to $10,000 to restaurant supply store Chefs' Toys for a refrigerator at Point Dume Marine Science Elementary School in Malibu; and more than $9,300 to Ahern Rentals for an aerial lift at Santa Monica High School's Barnum Hall.

HEAD START

The school district is expected to receive up to $1.5 million from the county education office to operate federally backed Head Start preschools for about 150 children.

District officials see the preschool program as a step towards closing achievement gaps.

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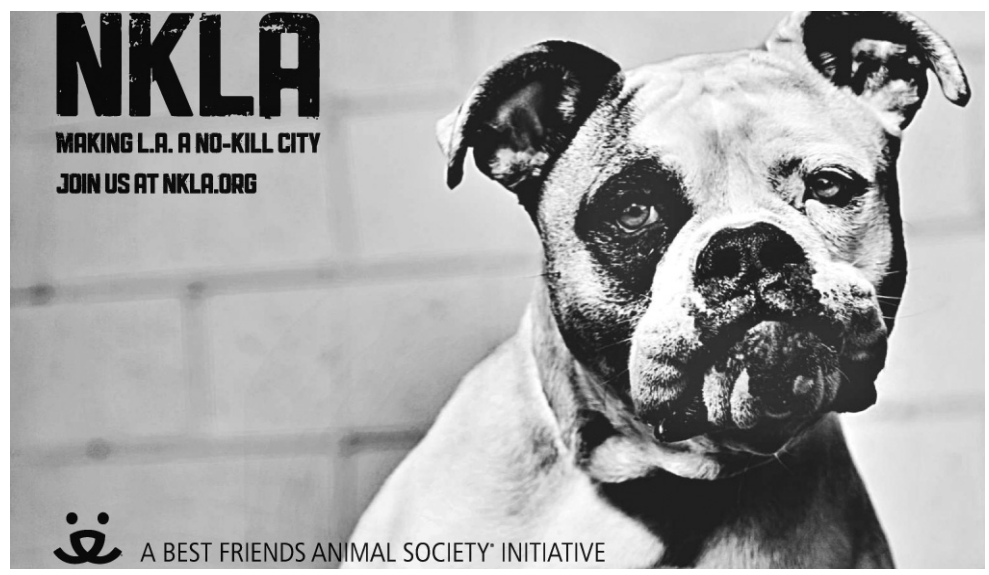

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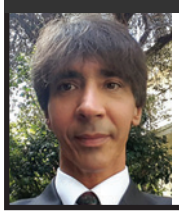

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Your column here

Margaret Willis Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Our current actions against homelessness

IN SANTA MONICA AND LA COUNTY, homelessness is not a seasonal issue. The 2015 Homeless Count identified 738 homeless individuals in Santa Monica and 44,359 in LA County. As a City, we assist homeless people every day, regardless of the weather. Santa Monica invests over $2.7 million annually in grants to nonprofit agencies that directly assist homeless people with healthcare, employment, supportive services, and housing. The City's year-round strategy is based on prioritizing local resources for the most acute individuals. Through the Chronic Homeless Project and the Service Registry, the City has prioritized permanent housing and supportive services for homeless individuals experiencing multiple disabling conditions that place them at high risk for dying on the streets. However, there is not enough housing locally for everyone who needs it, and so we also work to reconnect homeless individuals with friends and family in their home communities who will provide a stable living situation and support through Project Homecoming. Since 2006, Project Homecoming has taken more than 1,750 individuals off the streets and reunited them with loved ones.

With homelessness on the rise across the region, and a wet winter predicted, the City is more closely coordinating efforts with LA County through the Winter Shelter Program. In anticipation of El Niño, the West LA Winter Shelter Program extended its operations by two additional months, providing 150 shelter beds from Nov. 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016. Participants can access transportation to the shelter from Market Street and Ocean Front Walk in Venice nightly at 5 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 7:15 p.m. or until capacity is reached. Local homeless service providers, outreach workers and first responders are engaging homeless individuals living in encampments and open spaces, encouraging them to utilize the Winter Shelter Program and pursue permanent housing through the countywide Coordinated Entry System. In addition, the Westside Coalition's Faith Committee has purchased heavy-duty ponchos and is distributing them at the Westside Winter Shelter.

Our City works closely with LA City and County during extreme weather events. Depending on the need, heating and cooling stations are established throughout LA County and their locations are disseminated through direct outreach as well as mainstream and social media. If there is a declared emergency, such as an earthquake or other disaster, Santa Monica would provide emergency shelter to as many people in need as possible, regardless of their residential status.

At a regional level, City staff recently participated in countywide Homeless Initiative Policy Summits, sharing insight on local efforts and drafting potential strategy recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors. An interdepartmental team including Fire, Police, Human Services, Housing, City Attorney's Office and Rent Control is examining our current approach and developing new strategies in light of the Council's strategic goal to take a leadership role in regional efforts to address homelessness. As part of this commitment to invest in innovative solutions, funding has been allocated for a new multi-disciplinary street team, which will provide street-based medical and behavioral health interventions to people where they are - in public spaces, parks and libraries.

People experiencing homelessness, and the agencies that work to provide them housing and services, need community support year-round. For suggestions on how to get involved, and more information on the City of Santa Monica's responses to homelessness, please visit www.smgov.net/homelessness. Additionally, please consider registering to volunteer for the 2016 Santa Monica Homeless Count, which takes place the night of Jan. 27 and helps direct funding for homeless programs. To register, please visit www.santamonicahomelesscount.com

For more information on the Winter Shelter Program, please visit www.lahsa.org/winter_shelter_program

Margaret Willis is the Human Services Administrator for the City of Santa Monica

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Well represented

Editor:

I read in the paper that one of our school board members is accusing Santa Monica of having a city council system that discriminates against Hispanics, and is threatening the sue the city if they do not change our system. I could not help wondering what Mr. de la Torre's definition is of discrimination. According to the US Census Bureau, 13.1% of our residents are Hispanic, and yet Hispanic's make up 14.3% of City Council, including the Mayor. In the Santa Monica Malibu School District, Hispanics make up only 12.2% of the residents, but represent 42.9% of the school board. Perhaps there is some racial disparity in Santa Monica, but Hispanics should be the last group to complain.

Jeff Segal
Santa Monica

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Tales From Hi De Ho Comics

Mauricio Machuca
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Five (newly released) holiday gifts for the comic book fan in your life

EVERY YEAR, IN EVERY FAMILY OR friend group, there's always that one person who's impossible to shop for, not because they're unknowable or have vague and/or boring tastes, but because they feed their hobby habit weekly: every Wednesday, at their local comic book store. What do they already have? Asking would be a give-away, and discreetly finding out would take hiring Jessica Jones herself. That being said, here are five(ish) items to consider for the comic book fan who has everything (maybe) and clearly wants more.

Thanks to Disney now owning both Marvel and the world's most famous movie franchise about warrior priests in outer space battling genocidal asthma patients, and with "The Force Awakens" debuting a week before Christmas, merchandise representing your favorite Jedi Knights, Sith Lords, bounty hunters and everything in between will be all over your local comic book store. Three ongoing series - "Star Wars," "Star Wars: Darth Vader" and "Kanaan: The Last Padawan" have all recently seen their first story acrs collected in paperback, as well as the recent mini-series "Shattered Empire," set between the events of Episodes VI and VII. There's also the paperback collection of "Princess Leia," penned by current "All-New All-Different Avengers" writer Mark Waid. The great "Lando" and "Chewbacca" mini-series are yet to be collected ("Chewbacca"'s final issue doesn't ship until the end of the year), but these new comics, all set within the realm of the film continuity, will get your friends or family even more excited for "The Force Awakens" and all the future films that are currently in pre-production. Plus, they're just damn good comics by any measure.

DC Collectibles has recently released a small line of adorable SuperPets plushies, including such old-school staples as Streaky the Supercat and Krypto the Superdog, side by side with the far newer Dex-Starr, the famous Red Lantern cat who serves as the right hand of the vile Red Lantern leader Atrocitus. Cartoony and adorable, they're a treat for fans old and young, new or veteran. Ace the Bat-Hound is among the characters slated for next year, but let's be honest: everybody really wants Batcow.

"The Multiversity," former "Batman" writer Grant Morrison's long-in-the-works, unparalleled epic story that spans the DC Universe's 52 realities completed earlier this year, and now the gorgeous hardcover edition has been released so you can enjoy the entire mind-warping saga in one sitting. From stories as bold and critical as "Mastermen," wherein Morrison and artist Jim Lee re-interpret the Justice League as Nazi stormtroopers in an alternate Aryan world to tales as reflexive and meta as "Pax Americana," Morrison's deconstruction of Alan Moore's "Watchmen," which itself was a deconstruction of comic books as a whole, there's at least one story here for every kind of fan, all tied together by the threat of the universe-spanning Gentry, Lovecraftian beasties with a penchant for cosmic gentrification. In the years to come, people will look at "The Multiversity" as a pillar of the comic book canon, right up there with "Kingdom Come," "Black Hole," "Bone," "The Sandman," "Stray Bullets" and even "Watchmen" itself. Twisty, mind-bending psychedelia, "The Multiversity" is pure comics.

Let me be abundantly clear: I don't care about football. I really don't. I cared about the characters, settings and storylines of NBC's excellent "Friday Night Lights" because it merely used high school football as a vehicle to tell the tales of the residents of Dillon, Texas. "Scalped" writer Jason Aaron and "Spider-Gwen" co-creator Jason Latour have achieved the HBO equivalent of the beloved Peter Berg/Jason Katims drama. While centered around the Fightin' Rebels of Craw County, Alabama, the series' first two arcs, collected in the new "Southern Bastards: Deluxe Hardcover Volume 1" feels more like "Justified" than "Rudy," telling the tale of the aforementioned County and the rise to power of the once-bullied and abused Coach Euless Boss to corrupt, absolute power. It's "Walking Tall" meets "Sons of Anarchy" as written by Paul Thomas Anderson. It's beautiful and graceful in its violence and cruelty.

"The Private Eye," by "Saga" and "Y: The Last Man" writer/co-creator Brian K. Vaughan and former "Amazing Spider-Man" artist Marcos Martin is collected in hardcover for the first time after a successful run online. In a near-future world, everyone has a secret identity after the colossal failure of the Internet and examines how our tech-fixated descendants struggle to maintain anonymity in a world where there is literally almost none. And that's when the murders start. Part "Chinatown," part "Blade Runner" and all heart, this innovative series is just what the doctor ordered as an antidote - nay, an alternative — to the average, everyday headline.

And there you have it. 2015 was a fascinating, weird and wild time for comic book fans, and what's here is some of the best stuff that the fan in your life may just not have yet. So go ahead, surprise them this holiday season. As one of their loved ones, giving the proper gift is in your power. And you know what they say about power and responsibility.

Happy holidays, all!

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

If Not Now, Then?

"IF/THEN", THE BROADWAY MUSICAL that opened the other night at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood is a very mixed bag. It stars a delightful lesbian couple (LaChanze and Janine DiVita), and an earnest gay couple (Anthony Rapp and Marc Delacruz), and the fabled Idina Menzel, whose character can't seriously commit to anything. She even has two names: Liz, to identify her fun side, and the businesslike Beth, to acknowledge her Ph.D. in Urban Planning.

A marvelous bouncy chorus sets the pace as they introduce the theme, a paean to Fate, Chance, and Choice. Liz/Beth is skeptical until she meets a just-returned-from-action soldier, Josh, three times in a row. "It's a sign," sings the chorus, "It feels like a fateful day," and Liz/Beth reluctantly submits to her inevitable fate.

Perhaps it was opening night jitters, but Menzel's performance was uneven at best. She has a glorious voice, but at times it was shrill or loudly raucous, a la Ethel Merman. And even though she was heavily miked, her enunciation was unclear and she was often difficult to understand.

The other singers, however, are perfectly wonderful. Especially Anthony Rapp, who plays Lucas, Liz's long-time friend, and James Snyder as Josh, the fateful soldier. But the real star of the show is LaChanze, who plays Liz's newest friend with a passion and verve that brings "If/Then" to vibrant life. (These three are the original stars who played the roles on Broadway.)

Tom Kitt provided the music, which is not quite memorable (you won't leave the theater humming the tunes) and Brian Yorkey is responsible for the book and lyrics, which are contradictory and confusing as Liz/Beth lurches between her two personas and her multiple choices.

The whole plot, in fact, deals with Beth's rapid rise to the top position in planning for the city of New York versus Liz's desire to remain an activist (she helped Lucas lead a march to protest the city's building of new apartments for the rich as opposed to housing for the poor) and to become a school teacher.

Beth is egged on by her boss, Stephen, (Daren A. Herbert), however, and follows him as he moves up the ladder in city government.

And all the men (and some of the women) are in love with her, of course.

The conflict dogs her through the play and even her feelings of love are inconsistent and ambiguous. But all the plots and subplots of this very long production are more than counterbalanced by Larry Keigwin's rambunctious choreography and the spectacular set design by Mark Wendland and even more spectacular projection design of Peter Nigrini and Dan Scully.

The projection design consists of a background of ever-changing architectural drawings and maps of the city, subway markings and the like, plus actual sites like the triangular Flatiron building. There is also a fabulous sequence in which passengers on a subway train appear to be moving at great speed as the image of an actual train speeding in the opposite direction fills the background.

The set, too, is innovative, with revolving rooms that move to the foreground and to which the principals retreat as the action unfolds.

The pace is fast, and Michael Greif's deft direction encourages the viewer to overlook the weaknesses and the lack of coherence of the script. All in all, though, the show is well worth seeing, mostly for its production quality and its spirited dancing and singing.

"If/Then" will continue at the Hollywood Pantages Theater, 6233 Hollywood Blvd through Jan. 3, 2016. The performance schedule is Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., with matinees Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. There will be 2 p.m. matinee performances on Thursday, Dec. 24 and 31, but no evening performances on those dates. In addition, there will be 7:30 p.m. performances on Sunday, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, and no performances on Friday, Dec. 25 and Jan.1.

To order tickets, call 1-800-982-2787 or order online at HollywoodPantages.com or Ticketmaster.com.

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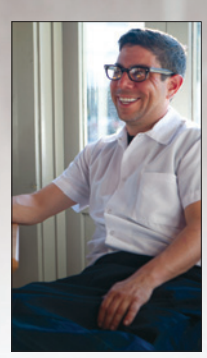

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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Underground no more

FROM A CLASSROOM AT JOHN ADAMS Middle School to the basement of the Cayton Student Center at Santa Monica College, Santa Monica's own public radio station KCRW (89.9 FM; KCRW.com) can finally say it will no longer be, quite literally, an underground radio station.

I started at KCRW as a volunteer in 1983 and retired as a staff member at the end of 2011. When I first walked through the door at JAMS, I saw a shabby converted classroom with broken chairs, old phone lines, shared desks and a rickety broadcast studio that people had to tiptoe through while hosts were on the air. Chains and padlocks were the only security for the vinyl record shelves; it wasn't unusual to hear them fall to the floor, clanking loudly on air as the next scheduled DJ was selecting his or her albums.

One thing that never broke was our spirit. KCRW was on the move and growing rapidly, filled with passionate programmers and a wildly supportive audience. We moved from JAMS to SMC in 1984, first taking over half the basement then the whole basement, converting classrooms into offices for an ever-expanding staff, and constructing new studios as needed to accommodate the production of such nationally distributed and highly reputed programs as "To the Point with Warren Olney," "Left, Right and Center," and remarkable radio drama productions with all-star casts.

The basement has long been far too small for this now internationally recognized station and Internet star, with employees scattered across three separate buildings. No one who visited could believe this was KCRW's home; while it sounded like it came from a gleaming tower, it was a dank windowless basement infused with life by the people dedicated to creating its sound and its presence.

Now KCRW will be moving into its first-ever standalone building, anticipating occupation at the end of 2016. Last week's on-air capital campaign, "Above and Beyond" introduced the idea that this state-of-the-art, 35,000 square foot, three-story LEED Silver certified green building will become not just a radio station, but a media center and a community asset. The $420,000 donated by listeners nearly doubled the $250,000 matching fund challenge offered by the Annenberg Foundation.

Annenberg's total $5 million contribution gives them naming rights for the stunning live performance studio, which will offer a viewing deck to watch music performances during the station's signature music program "Morning Becomes Eclectic."

Other "recognition opportunities" in the five- to six-figure dollar range include naming news and culture broadcast studios, the digital lab, audio, video and music production and editing studios, the new "DJ Lounge" and music library, the performance viewing gallery, the artists' entrance, bricks in the exterior courtyard, steps on the interior staircases and more.

But anyone who contributes at any level will have their name inscribed on a wall inside the station honoring their donation.

The new KCRW shares the site formerly known as SMC's Academy of Entertainment and Technology, which is being renamed the Center for Media and Design. In addition to sharing a courtyard, with a stage and water feature and room for up to 800 people, and the intimate 180-seat auditorium with an open atrium, the station will work with students on Internet, media and other design and technological projects.

Bond Measure AA passed in 2008 by the citizens of Santa Monica provided $28 million of the $48 million dollar project, designed by Clive Wilkinson Architects, an award-winning firm specializing in environmentally friendly and energy efficient buildings.

The remaining $3 million yet to be raised will cover construction completion, the equipment fund, and the fund for programming and technology.

KCRW general manager and president, Jennifer Ferro has been giving personalized tours of the building during construction.

"Over here," she said on a tour last week, "we're bringing over the old metal bench that sits outside the entrance to the current KCRW, where we take photos of all the musicians, authors, celebrities and artists who visit us so we'll have something of the old studio in the new space. And as suggested by one of our Board members, we're going to have a space (naming rights already reserved) called The Basement Club House and Terrace, so we never forget where we came from."

Finally unifying all of KCRW's employees, Ferro continued, "Workspaces will be open and collaborative and there'll be meeting rooms on each level, along with 18 studios spread across the three stories; they'll be outfitted with floating floors to prevent vibrations from interfering with recordings."

According to Ferro, what's made this a successful capital campaign-the first major campaign in the station's more than 75-year history-is because, "People love KCRW, and when you have a building, there's a sense of urgency and purpose that involves physically manifesting something we've never been able to manifest before. We've always been ephemeral. With a building people can visualize it, and many want to see their names on it to say 'I was here, I helped build this.'"

More importantly, she said, "In our current space, we haven't been able to invite the public in. We've always done a lot of public programming, and that will continue-we live in a big city. But now we can easily create public events in our own space and actually bring the public in. It's not just about fancy offices for us; it's really about the community experience."

Join the community and put your name on the donor wall. Contact campaign@kcrw.org.

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The Library Lowdown

Roger Kelly
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Behind the scenes

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY'S (SMPL) collections encompass a broad array of formats and a vast number of subjects. Formats include printed books, magazines, newspapers, and maps, DVDs, music CDs, books on CD, as well as online versions of all of these. Far from being static, these collections are ever-evolving to better provide our customers with the materials they desire for pleasure, research, and growth.

Circulation numbers bear out that our collections are well-used, with average circulation at more than 1.7 million items per year.

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SELECTION

New materials are selected by Reference, Public Services and Youth Services librarians from bestseller lists, review journals, and publisher catalogs. Statistics on circulation and number of patrons in line (on "hold," in library-speak) for an item help us determine if additional copies of titles we already own are warranted to meet demand. Our Youth Services staff routinely buy many copies of popular titles in order to capitalize on young readers' current interests.

SMPL partners with other City agencies to provide resources in support of common goals. Santa Monica's citywide "Building Blocks for Kindergarten Readiness" initiative is supported by the Library's rich collection of picture books aimed at those aged 0-5, when exposure to language is critical. We also partner with the City's Office of Sustainability and the Environment to ensure we offer a selection of current, relevant materials on those topics. We have over 1,500 titles in this collection. If you're interested, type "Sustainable Santa Monica Collection" in the catalog's advanced-search feature.

SMPL staff also review customer suggestions for materials that might not otherwise come to our attention. You can suggest a title online (at smpl.org) from the Books, Music, Movies tab, or come into any location and talk to us. We review all suggestions, though we are unable to respond to individual requests, so check the catalog to see if we've purchased your suggested title.

We add approximately 1,400 new titles per month to the library collection system-wide. The majority of new titles appear in our catalog as soon as the order is placed, making it possible for you to place a hold even before we've received the materials.

PREPARATION

Once materials are received, Information Management librarians select or create full digital descriptive records to represent each title in the online catalog. Special collection notes are added to records, such as the Sustainable Santa Monica Collection or the Marcus O. Tucker Collection: Black Men of Courage. Call numbers are assigned based on consideration of where customers are most likely to look for a title or topic, along with placing similar topics together, so that browsing our shelves or catalog leads to useful, serendipitous results. Each item is then stamped, labeled and RFID-tagged for shelving and circulation. Processing of new materials with holds is prioritized to make them available as soon as possible.

DISPLAY

To see the latest additions as well as on-order titles, click on the "New Titles" link on the front page of our catalog (smpl.bibliocommons.com). Bestseller lists from the Los Angeles Times and New York Times are available in the catalog, as are award-winners from 23 diverse lists including the Bram Stoker Prize (horror fiction), the Prix Goncourt (French literature) and the Pulitzer. Find out what our staff recommend under "Staff Picks." You can keep track of titles you've read or wish to read, share your lists with others, read or write reviews or place holds on materials any time, 24/7.

For your visits to the Library, staff members organize monthly displays that highlight special topics or recommended titles.

MAINTENANCE

Library materials that are ripped, broken or scratched are tended to daily by Library staff. Broken book spines and ripped pages are fixed in-house; scratched DVDs and audiobooks are sent out for buffing. Popular items that are damaged beyond repair are replaced. We also routinely replace cases for DVDs and CDs, replace labels and tags of all kinds, and re-cover books. We repair approximately 500 items a month. If you notice an item is checked out for a longer-than-normal period, it may be checked out to staff for repair.

Along with physical maintenance, we transfer and re-classify materials to improve their visibility and use. This year we undertook the re-classification of our entire music CD collection, changing from a long-standing but unintuitive scheme to a simpler nine-section organization. We hope that these new categories will facilitate locating specific artists. These are some of the ways we continually re-organize collections to better serve customers.

In addition, in order to reflect accurate holdings in the catalog, we perform inventory on a continual basis.

WITHDRAWAL

Materials that have circulated too little (indicating low demand) or too much (indicating they are worn) are considered for removal from the collection. Popular but worn items are generally replaced with new copies. Materials that are withdrawn from our catalog are delivered to the Friends of the Library Bookstore, located at the Main Library. You can get a wide variety of titles at very low cost at the bookstore! Proceeds benefit the Library, enabling programs such our youth summer reading program and Santa Monica Reads (our "one city, one book" reading program), or digitizing historic Santa Monica newspapers for our archive, Imagine Santa Monica.

Unlike many libraries that use outside services to create and maintain their collections, SMPL staff provide hands-on management of the Library collections and thoughtful analysis that reflect our responsiveness to the needs of our customers. Our aim is to shape and maintain our collections to be timely, useful, fun, inspiring, and available resources for our community.

KARA STEINIGER is a librarian in the Information Management Division at Santa Monica Public Library.

FENCE

FROM PAGE 1

Councilman Ted Winterer asked that the sidewalk fences be installed in a way that didn't undermine existing efforts to create a pedestrian friendly environment.

"I'm entirely supportive of the center line fence … I'm a little more concerned about these sidewalk barriers and we've gone to great lengths and expense to make an incredibly pedestrian environment from the train from 4th street to the ocean and yet here we are going to put up what I don't think are incredibly attractive barriers," he said.

The sidewalk fencing will be installed in a way that maximizes walkability and experts said the approach has been shown to be effective in other communities, reducing pedestrian encroachment by up to 90 percent.

"We've seen the fencing that we've retroactively installed to be highly effective at stopping intrusions into the right of way," said Gregory Kildare, executive director of Metro's Enterprise Risk, Safety & Asset Management division.

Expo Line Construction Authority CEO Rick Thorpe said he would take the issue to his board in early January with the goal of having the new fences installed before passenger service begins.

EDITOR@smdp.com

SPORTS

FROM PAGE 1

Perez-Mendoza had both of the Roadrunners' goals in a 2-0 victory over Culver City in the team's Dec. 1 season opener, first scoring on a give-and-go with senior forward Henry Schwartz and putting away another goal with an assist from Agulha.

Crossroads topped El Segundo 4-2 two days later, breaking a 2-2 tie thanks to a left-footed shot by Perez-Mendoza and a clutch rebound by senior Kazu Agawa.

The offensive fireworks continued in the Roadrunners' 7-0 shutout of Beverly Hills on Dec. 8, when Schoenfeld's corner-kick header midway through the first half highlighted an effort that also featured goals by Schwartz, Agawa and junior Enzo Gilbert.

"It's great to beat these schools with a lot more kids and bigger programs," Bianchi said. "We're very excited about that."

Crossroads then managed a 2-2 tie against Bellflower-St. John Bosco on Dec. 10 at Santa Monica Airport Park, where Perez-Mendoza scored first on a free kick and later on a penalty kick. It was an encouraging result for the Roadrunners, who begin conference play Jan. 5 against Calabasas-Viewpoint.

"We have the potential to win league," Bianchi said. "Personally, I think we're the most talented team in the league. But that doesn't mean we're guaranteed a league title."

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Eye on safety, California sets rules for self-driving cars

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press

California regulators have unveiled a roadmap that would let consumers begin using self-driving cars, though manufacturers would have to prove the emerging technology is safe before a licensed driver could get chauffeured around town.

The approach California's Department of Motor Vehicles offered Wednesday in precedent-setting draft regulations is cautious, though it does allow that Californians could be behind the wheel of a self-driving car by 2017.

Among other safety-related requirements, the cars must have a steering wheel, and a licensed driver must be ready to take over if the machine fails.

Google, which is pushing to get cars without a steering wheel or pedals to consumers, expressed "grave disappointment" with the rules, which the tech giant said would slow deployment of technology with huge life-saving potential.

Though no manufacturer has said it thinks the cars are ready just yet, at least a dozen are developing the technology. Google has suggested a model could be ready for limited use sooner than the public expects. In September, the safety chief of its self-driving car project, Ron Medford, said the technology is "close to working pretty damn well."

California's go-slow approach could benefit Texas, which this summer emerged as a competitor in the deployment of self-driving cars when officials in the capital Austin welcomed Google prototypes for professional testing.

"Given the potential risks associated with deployment of such a new technology, DMV believes that manufacturers need to obtain more experience in testing driverless vehicles on public roads prior to making this technology available to the general public," the agency said in a written summary of its draft regulations.

Those draft rules set out how the DMV wants to move beyond the current small-scale testing of prototypes on public roads. The DMV can change the rules over the coming months before they are finalized, and the industry is sure to contest them as overly burdensome.

There are no comprehensive federal rules addressing the technology, and as the largest auto market in the U.S., rules in California are a landmark in the development of self-driving technology.

Under California's framework, Google couldn't sell a driverless car, even if it deems the car safe. Instead, manufacturers would receive a permit for three years, during which time consumers could lease the cars but manufacturers would be required to keep tabs on how safely they are driving and report that performance to the state.

Before the DMV grants that three-year permit, an independent certifier would need to verify a manufacturer's safety assurances. Drivers would need special, manufacturer-provided training, then get a special certification on their licenses.

If a car breaks the law, the driver would be responsible.

Though the timeline for public access is squishy, in principle the DMV could finalize the rules and a manufacturer could satisfy the safety requirements as early as 2017.

That said, the draft rules may also forestall the technology's public rollout.

"This points to a very long slog ahead for not just Google, but really other automakers as well — and probably some confirmation that developers of these technologies should be pivoting away from California," said Bryant Walker Smith, a law professor at the University of South Carolina who studies self-driving car regulation. "California's proposed rules are fantastic news for Texas."

Austin's mayoral spokesman Jason Stanford said his city's government believes self-driving cars are "legal and safe" already and that the city is "thrilled to host innovative ideas like this."

California has grappled for several years with how to regulate the technology. The DMV said it wanted regulations to protect public safety, but not be too onerous so that signature companies such as Google will be stifled in developing a technology that could prove safer than human drivers.

After all, cars that can safely drive themselves under all conditions wouldn't rely on drivers who may be drowsy, distracted, buzzed — or unable to drive because of their age or a disability. Boosters say the technology could prevent many of the more than 32,000 deaths on U.S. roads each year.

The cars use a suite of sensors — including radar, lasers and cameras — and onboard computers to drive. Many also rely on maps that detail everything from curb heights to the exact placement of lane stripes.

Eleven companies already have permission to test on California's public roads, with Ford the latest addition. There have been scattered collisions, nearly all involving Google cars. Those collisions have been minor and the tech giants says each has been caused by drivers of other cars.

Google spokesman Johnny Luu said the company was "gravely disappointed" by the draft regulations.

"Safety is our highest priority and primary motivator as we do this," he said in a written statement.

Meanwhile, a consumer group applauded the draft rules as appropriately cautious.

The DMV "did exactly what they should do, which is put the public safety first — and then take steps that promote the technology in a safe way," said John Simpson, privacy project director at Consumer Watchdog and frequent Google critic.

Though the result of more than a year of deliberation, the draft regulations must undergo months of review before they are set. The DMV intends to hold informal workshops for public input in January and February, and hopes — after making any changes — to publish final regulations later in 2016.

The DMV could then tackle regulations for cars with no driver inside.

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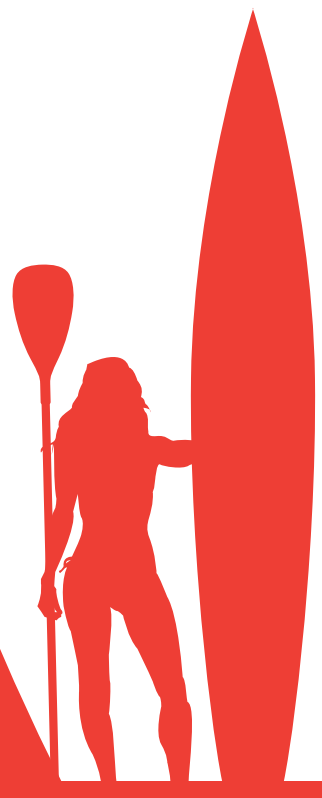

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SURF REPORT

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **60.8°**

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal NW and SSW swells. Light AM wind.

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Minimal NW and SSW swells. Light AM wind.

MONDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal mix of NW and SSW swells. Watching for a front to approach SoCal.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 12, 2015**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 19

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	D
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	F
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	B
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	F	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	D
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	ns	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	F
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	B	B
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card℠ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

Heal the Bay

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

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON OCTOBER 26

The loss prevention manager for the corporate office of Bed, Bath and Beyond came to the police department to file a report in regards to fraudulent transactions done by a subject, later identified as Summer Crosley, 36, of Santa Monica. According to the manager, on Sept. 24, Crosley ordered items in excess of $3,000, called the stores customer service to report that the she received an empty box with no items and was credited the amount back to her account. The same day, a subject, later identified as Crosley, entered the store and returned the item and received the credit to a credit card in a different name. After an ongoing investigation, Crosley was arrested on Dec. 2. She was booked for burglary. Bail was set at $20,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 345 calls for service on Dec. 15.

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

Burglary 3100 block of Pearl 4:15 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1300 block of 14th 6:33 a.m.
Family disturbance 2000 block of 20th 6:50 a.m.
Hit and run 800 block of Berkeley 7:07 a.m.
Traffic accident 14th/Pico 8:20 a.m.
Burglary 800 block of Lincoln 8:45 a.m.
Traffic accident 1600 block of 17th 8:58 a.m.
Burglary 1000 block of 12th 8:58 a.m.
Hit and run 1400 block of Cloverfield 9:11 a.m.
Family disturbance 1900 block of 12th 9:24 a.m.
Hit and run 1200 block of 26th 9:27 a.m.
Critical missing person 1900 block of Pico 9:56 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 4th 10:08 a.m.
Fraud 1800 block of 9th 10:25 a.m.
Threats 1600 block of 16th 10:30 a.m.
Elder abuse 500 block of Colorado 10:59 a.m.
Elder abuse 800 block of 4th 11:00 a.m.
Elder abuse 1300 block of 2nd 11:01 a.m.
Elder abuse 1100 block of 23rd 11:01 a.m.
Rape 1600 block of Idaho 1:06 p.m.
Hit and run 300 block of Olympic 1:15 p.m.
Traffic accident 1000 block of Santa Monica 2:08 p.m.
Person with gun 1700 block of Santa Monica 2:45 p.m.
Injured person 700 block of Pier 3:24 p.m.
Hit and run 3200 block of Wilshire 4:14 p.m.
Identity theft 2800 block of Arizona 4:39 p.m.
Grand theft 2400 block of Oak 5:19 p.m.
Fraud 1500 block of Ocean 5:26 p.m.
Traffic accident 2500 block of Santa Monica 5:45 p.m.
Hit and run 1000 block of 11th 6:02 p.m.
Traffic accident 6th/Santa Monica 6:04 p.m.
Public intoxication 900 block of Pico 6:45 p.m.
Traffic accident 1300 block of I-10 6:46 p.m.
Hit and run 4th/Pico 6:47 p.m.
Battery 3rd Street Promenade/Arizona 7:50 p.m.
Burglary 00 block of Seaview 8:00 p.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Olympic 8:37 p.m.
Suspicious vehicle 2100 block of Dewey 8:58 p.m.
Disturbance at a business 3100 block of Santa Monica 10:12 p.m.
Fire 6th/Wilshire 11:56 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 43 calls for service on Dec. 15.

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

EMS 1000 block of 5th 1:37 a.m.
EMS 300 block of Bay 4:24 a.m.
EMS 2200 block of 29th 6:27 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 17th 7:45 a.m.
EMS 14th/Pico 8:22 a.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1 1700 block of 22nd 9:46 a.m.
Wires down 1000 block of Yale 9:52 a.m.
EMS 500 block of Olympic 10:41 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2300 block of Santa Monica 11:14 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1000 block of 4th 11:44 a.m.
EMS 1200 block of 15th 11:46 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block of Ocean 11:49 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 11:55 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 9th 11:55 a.m.
Structure fire 3200 block of Nebraska 12:34 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 3rd Street Promenade 12:54 p.m.
EMS 900 block of Marine 1:44 p.m.
EMS 800 block of 10th 2:58 p.m.
Elevator rescue 200 block of Ocean 3:23 p.m.
EMS 700 block of Pier 3:24 p.m.
Automatic alarm 600 block of Santa Monica 4:32 p.m.
EMS 900 block of 6th 4:51 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 5:16 p.m.
EMS 1900 block of 20th 5:21 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block of 5th 5:40 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of Santa Monica 5:46 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 5:55 p.m.
EMS 800 block of 2nd 6:00 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1700 block of Ocean 6:12 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 1200 block of 9th 6:24 p.m.
EMS 6th/Santa Monica 6:27 p.m.
EMS 20th/I-10 6:42 p.m.
EMS Ocean/Olympic 6:58 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Olympic 7:39 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of 5th 7:46 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 1100 block of 23rd 8:04 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fleet unit
5 Sheep, at times
11 Lush
12 Entertain
13 Fine study
14 Slow tempo
15 Course reservations
17 Operated
18 Stage comment
22 Pharmacy stock
24 Like some jackets
25 Memorable time
26 Suede shade
27 Track events
30 Sports spot
32 Ring
33 For each
34 Tried to hit
38 Congo setting
41 Blanchett of "Blue Jasmine"
42 Acrobatic dive
43 Litmus reddener
44 Orson Scott Card's "— Game"
45 Mexican coin

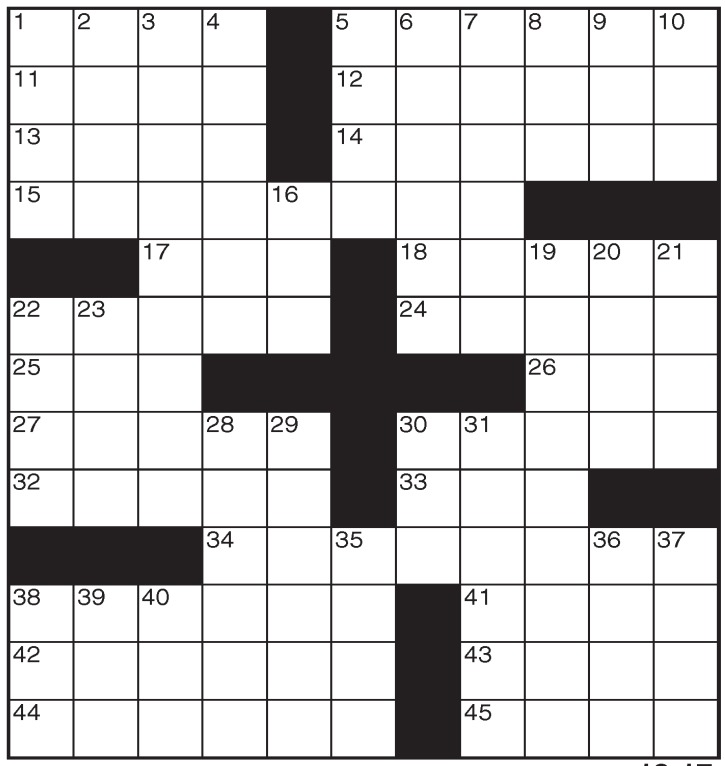
DOWN

1 Try for a fly
2 Take on
3 Weave together
4 Mail-related
5 Metric mass
6 Result of a bridge goof
7 Tennis star Andre
8 Turn sharply
9 Quarterback Manning
10 Old auto
16 Powerful bunch
19 PC desktop, e.g.
20 College head
21 Writer Ferber
22 Job extra
23 Persia, today
28 Galahad's mother
29 Deli device
30 Clumsy fellow
31 Station worker
35 The Red Planet
36 Singer Redding
37 Make over
38 Maturity
39 Team backer
40 Disencumber

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

Yesterday's answer

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



12-17

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. The photo is located near a publicly owned building. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/12
2 14 19 30 62
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 180M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/15
18 25 47 51 61
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 85M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/12
11 12 22 24 42
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/15
15 18 19 24 31

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/16
MIDDAY: 1 0 3
Draw Date: 12/15
EVENING: 5 4 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/15
1st: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
2nd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 03 - HOT SHOT
RACE TIME: 1:40.94

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!

MILQUETOAST

1.a very timid, unassertive, spineless person, especially one who is easily dominated or intimidated: a milquetoast who's afraid to ask for a raise.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1961 – Niterói circus fire: Fire breaks out during a performance by the Gran Circus Norte-Americano in the city of Niterói, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, killing more than 500.

1967 – Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt disappears while swimming near Portsea, Victoria, and is presumed drowned.

1969 – The SALT I talks begin.

1969 – Project Blue Book: The United States Air Force closes its study of UFOs.

1970 – Polish 1970 protests: In Gdynia, soldiers fire at workers emerging from trains, killing dozens.

1973 – Thirty passengers are killed in an attack by Palestinian terrorists on Rome's Leonardo da Vinci–Fiumicino Airport.

1981 – American Brigadier General James L. Dozier is abducted by the Red Brigades in Verona, Italy.

1983 – Provisional IRA members detonate a car bomb at Harrods Department Store in London, England, United Kingdom. Three police officers and three civilians are killed.

1987 – Final Fantasy is released in Japan on the Famicon, marking the start of the Final Fantasy series and saving Square from bankruptcy.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Scientists from Australia's University of Queensland have developed "swimsuits" to act as diapers for six giant loggerhead turtles as they study their diets by examining their feces. "To our great surprise," said one researcher, they "worked perfectly." The suits were easy to put on, comfortable for the sea turtles to wear (according to the researchers, not the turtles), looked great (ditto), and we were "able to collect the entire fecal sample," he bragged to a London Daily Telegraph reporter in Sydney.

■ After all, leeches are interesting and thus someone has to study them, and Mark Siddall, curator of invertebrates at the American Museum of Natural History, is that person. These leeches are easily found, but only in the rear ends of hippopotamuses, he noted, and told Wired.com in August that if a creature can exploit a niche others cannot, it has a monopoly on food. "The only part on the hippo that's vascularized enough to get a good blood meal (is) the rectal region." (Making life worse for these leeches, they lack the strong jaws of other leeches and must instead use a nose-like organ that, writes Wired, it "snakes" into the vascular tissue.)

Act with certainty, Capricorn

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Your sixth sense points to doing a better job, and clues you in to how to deal with a controlling individual. You could be too tired for your own good, and might need to take a time-out for a little while. Tonight: Listen, but don't contribute to someone else's contrariness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Emphasize working with others; you'll find the results to be much better if you do. You might not always want to let others run with the ball, but you'll feel the need to do just that right now. Look at the big picture, and understand what is motivating you. Tonight: Among the crowds.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by everything you need to do. Rather than do nothing, throw yourself into your to-do list. You might be surprised by what you can accomplish. Your efforts will pay off, especially since a friend decides to pitch in. Tonight: Be grateful for what you have.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Look at the big picture, and know full well what you want to accomplish. You might see a shortcut or two if you just relax. Ask a loved one or a child to pitch in and help. Be open to someone else's sentiments. Tonight: Make sure you have mistletoe nearby.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You can't help but respond to others directly, specifically one person. You might have chosen not to reveal some of your feelings to this individual. Stay close to home, if possible. You could be angry or somewhat frustrated. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You need to be aware of your dependency on others. You cannot control anyone else's mood, though you might try. Understand that a loved one could be upset if he or she doesn't feel as if you are giving him or her enough attention. Tonight: Go along with others' plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You could be feistier than you realize. You might lose your cool because you're fed up with the holidays and overwhelmed. A lot of action seems to be heading down the path toward you. Use care with spending, as you easily could go overboard. Tonight: Head home early.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your creativity perks up when you hit an obstacle. Refuse to overthink a talk with a contrary person in your life; otherwise, you could be out of sorts. It simply isn't worth it to give this conversation so much of your time, under the present circumstances. Tonight: Ever playful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ A family issue or a personal matter seems to dominate your thoughts. You might choose not to discuss the problem directly, but rather try to get past it by letting it go. Congratulate yourself if you can; otherwise you'll have to initiate a talk. Tonight: A friend is full of energy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ A boss often is contrary, and you might not want to deal with this person right now. How you handle a personal matter could change substantially after you discuss the situation with a key person in your life. You finally will see some alternatives. Tonight: Act with certainty.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Be aware of the costs of continuing as you have been. In the long run, you won't be able to sustain this type of spending. Yes, it is the holidays, but you could be going overboard anyway. Be more upbeat, and trust your instincts with others. Tonight: Try to complete shopping ASAP.

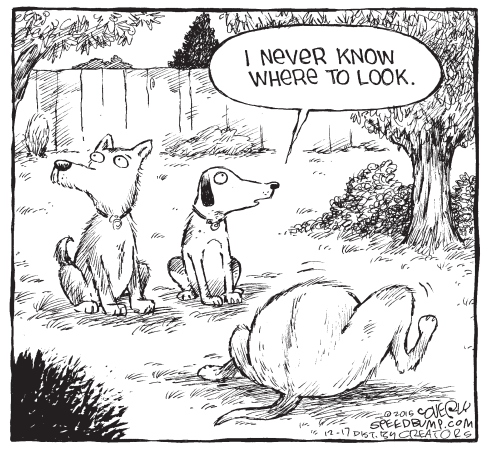
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You're in your element right now, with the exception of having to deal with a boss. This person has been withdrawn and could be quite difficult. You might not know how to help rein him or her in. Detach if you must. Look at the big picture. Tonight: Find your friends.

Thursday, December 17, 2015

This year your creativity plays a dominant role in your day-to-day life. You could be in your head so often that you forget the practical aspects of your life. You might want to keep a notebook for your ideas and dreams. You could become more grounded as a result. If you are single, you could meet someone any day, any time. Your charisma soars this year. If you are attached, you seem to be able to make your sweetie happy, as long as you can deflect some of his or her critical remarks. A fellow SAGITTARIUS can be overwhelming.

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

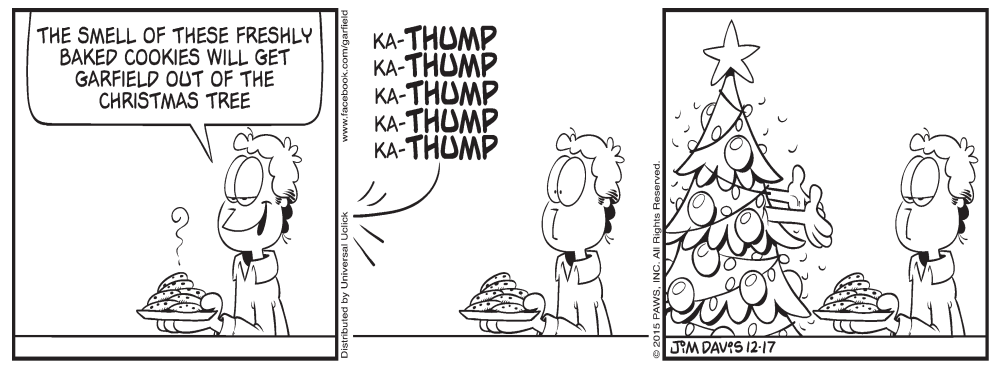
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



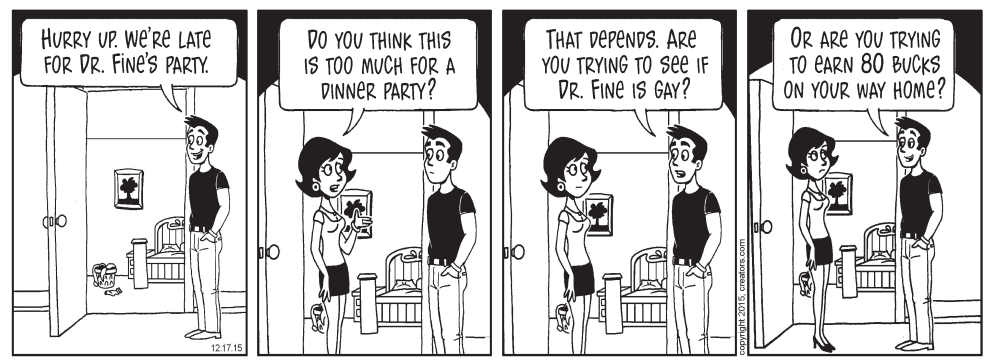
Strange Brew
By John Deering

Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni

Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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RUSH Legal Notices

RUSH Legal Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2015290809 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/16/2015 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ROGER DUBUIS, ROGER DUBUIS NORTH AMERICA. 9490 BRIGHTON WAY, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: RICHEMONT NORTH AMERICA, INC. 3 ENTERPRISE DRIVE SHELTON, CT 06484. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:RICHEMONT NORTH AMERICA, INC.. RICHEMONT NORTH AMERICA, INC.. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/2015. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/17/2015, 12/24/2015, 12/31/2015, 01/07/2016.

Real Estate

Commercial

SANTA MONICA OFFICE SUITES- For Lease in beautiful garden building. Approx. 300-600 square feet, Office suite. Utilities included. †30th Street near Ocean Park Boulevard. $1,100.00 - $1,195.00 a month.†(310) 456-7031 ext.175.

West Side Rentals

Santa Monica SPACIOUS & OPEN 1 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH FLOOR PLAN...IN THE HEART OF SANTA MONICA 1-car Subterranean parking, Paid gardener & pool service, Rent $3,100.00, Deposit 3100, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1217868

Santa Monica CHARMING 1BDRM 1 BA MUST SEE!!! 1-car Parking included, Paid water & gardener, Rent $3,000.00 to 00, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240270

Santa Monica WALK TO BEACH, MONTANA AVE. AND 3RD ST. PROMENADE 1-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $3,380.00, Deposit 4380, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232672

Venice REMODELED 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH APARTMENT ON ABBOT KINNEY 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & hot water & trash, Rent $2,000.00, Deposit 1900.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232044

West LA LUXURIOUS AND SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM APARTMENT Garage parking, Rent $3,670.00, Deposit 1500, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1188038

Marina Del Rey $199.00 DEPOSIT OAC! LARGE ONE BEDROOM AVAILABLE NOW! 1-car Covered parking, Paid gardener & pool service, Rent $2,278.00 to and up!, Deposit 199.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1221849

Santa Monica GREAT LOCATION ENJOY THE BEST OF SANTA MONICA! FURNISHED JR 1 BEDROOM. BLOCKS TO BEACH & MAIN ST. Street parking, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable & gardener & association fees, Rent $2,100.00, Deposit 500, Available 3116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=881928

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Marina Del Rey TOWNHOUSE Parking included, Rent $3,951.00 to And Up, Deposit 1000, Available 121515. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1242076

West LA 2 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS Parking included, Rent $3,507.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235975

Santa Monica UPPER APARTMENT WITH BALCONY 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $2,595.00, Deposit 2595, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=985275

Brentwood 3 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS Parking included, Rent $5,100.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233020

Santa Monica MOST BEAUTIFUL AREA IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & electricity & cable & association fees, Rent $3,500.00 to 4,000, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236432

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West LA SPACIOUS, 3RD FLOOR APARTMENT WITH BALCONY AND WALK-IN CLOSET 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,700.00, Deposit 1800.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236993

Santa Monica 2 BED 2 BATH CONDO. PERFECT LOCATION IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash & gas & gardener & association fees & maid service, Rent $3,500.00, Deposit 3500, Available 2516. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1141384

Santa Monica LARGE STUDIO APARTMENT IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking available, Paid partial utilities, Rent $3,360.00, Deposit 3200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1229136

Brentwood 2BR & 1 OFFICE 2.5 BA CONDO IN PRIME BRENTWOOD AREA - CLOSE TO UCLA & SHOPPING 2-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener & pool service & association fees, Rent $3,600.00, Deposit 3600.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=895980

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Venice REMODELED SILVER TRIANGLE COTTAGE BLOCKS TO THE BEACH Street parking, Paid gardener, Rent $4,400.00, Deposit 6600, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1129919

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Brentwood 3 BEDROOMS 2 BATHS FOR RENT 2-car Tandem Parking, Rent $2,995.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=484149

Brentwood BRENTWOOD GOLDEN TRIANGLE FRONT UNIT BALCONY FIREPLACE HARDWOOD FLOORS 1-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $1,795.00, Deposit 1795.00, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240456

Marina Del Rey EXOTIC, FULLY FURNISHED PENINSULA TOWNHOME 2-car Garage parking, Rent $6,995.00, Deposit 13990, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233471

Brentwood APARTMENT No Parking, Rent $1,690.00 to And Up, Deposit 400, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1225771

West LA 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT NEAR MUSCLE BEACH Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $7,800.00, Deposit 7000, Available 33116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1225467

Santa Monica SANTA MONICA BEACH & PIER RENTAL 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities & water & hot water & gas & electricity & cable & gardener, Rent $2,650.00 to to $4,550.00, Deposit 500, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1000470

Santa Monica SPACIOUS, LIGHT-FILLED APARTMENT, LARGE PRIVATE BALCONY, TWO PARKING SPOTS 2-car Carport parking, Paid water & hot water & trash, Rent $2,995.00, Deposit 2995, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1042262

Marina Del Rey 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH Parking included, Rent $5,940.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233882

West LA RECENTLY REMODELED STUDIO APARTMENT 1-car Carport parking, Rent $1,395.00, Deposit 1395, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240825

Brentwood SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH FLOORPLAN Gated parking, Rent $3,290.00 to AND UP (prices change daily), Deposit 800, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1203745

Santa Monica LARGE SPACIOUS APARTMENT 1-car Gated parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gas & gardener & pool service, Rent $2,300.00, Deposit 2300.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1218448

West LA PRIME WEST LA STUDIO. RENOVATED W HARDWOOD & MORE! 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,450.00, Deposit 1450, Available 122015. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240057

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Santa Monica TOTALLY RENOVATED - BEAUTIFUL 2 BEDROOM APT. IN SANTA MONICA 2-car Gated parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gas & gardener, Rent $3,500.00, Deposit 3500.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=606745

West LA 2 BED 2 BATH AVAILABLE 2-car Parking included, Paid utilities, Rent $2,300.00, Deposit 2300, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1037490

Santa Monica GORGEOUS REMODEL. IN SANTA MONICA NEXT TO THE BEACH 1-car Garage parking, Paid water & trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $3,495.00, Deposit 3495, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1189591

Santa Monica 2 BED 2 BATH ALL MODERN W HARDWOOD FLOORS 2-car Parking included, Rent $3,557.00 to 3557, Deposit 750.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1217514

Marina Del Rey FANTASTIC APARTMENT! RENOVATED APARTMENT Subterranean parking, Rent $3,645.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1104004

West LA SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM 2 BATHROOM IN HIGH RISE COMMUNITY!! 2-car Subterranean parking, Paid gas, Rent $3,380.00, Deposit 3380, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1234487

Venice MAGICAL 3 BEDROOM BEACH COTTAGE NEAR VENICE BEACH 1-car Garage parking, Paid utilities, Rent $9,800.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235465

Santa Monica BEAUTIFUL 1 BED, 1.5 BATH, IN THE HEART OF SANTA MONICA! 1-car Gated parking, Rent $3,350.00, Deposit 3350, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236416

West LA APARTMENT IN BRENTWOOD ADJACENT, NEAR UCLA 1-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener, Rent $1,880.00, Deposit 2380, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232829

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