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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012
Volume 12 Issue 32

Santa Monica Daily Press

MARINERS MAKE ALL-LEAGUE SQUAD
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE STILL SHOCKING ISSUE

Locals react to Sandy Hook shootings

Schools point to drills to keep students safe

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS On Dec. 14, 2012, the news broke that a gunman had opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn., killing 26 people; 20 of them were children aged 6 and 7.

The murders in the school were preceded by the killing of the shooter's mother.

Santa Monica is on the opposite side of the country from Newtown, but the emotional toll of the act closed the physical distance as parents who send their children to schools each day asked themselves the terrifying question: "What if it happened here?"

Within hours of the attack, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Sandra Lyon sent out a missive to parents to reassure them that the schools were doing everything they could to both keep children safe and provide resources for those impacted by the events at Sandy Hook.

Schools hold regular emergency drills that include lockdowns designed to prepare for any intruder that may come onto the campus, she told parents, and officials are stationed at the entrances to the schools to monitor who tries to enter the campus.

"Having regular drills is one of the best things we can do to ensure that staff and students can respond quickly when they need to," Lyon said.

Fire drills are held monthly at the elementary schools, four times a year at the middle school and twice at the high school level, according to Mark Kelly, director of student services.

SEE SAFETY PAGE 7



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

SHOWING SUPPORT: **The American flag flew at half-mast at the SMMUSD Headquarters on Monday in memory of the victims of the school shooting in Newtown, Conn., last week.**

State lawmakers promise action on gun control

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Several California lawmakers reacted Monday to the mass shooting a Connecticut elementary school by calling for new laws that they say are aimed at increasing safety, either through gun control or improved security at public schools.

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein announced federal legislation that would ban new assault weapons, as well as magazines, drums and strips of more than 10 bullets to "take these dangerous weapons of war off our streets."

SEE GUNS PAGE 9



File photo

SORTING IT OUT: **Nonprofit organizations like the Westside Food Bank could suffer financially due to powers beyond their control.**

Fiscal cliff, tax changes raise concerns in nonprofit world

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Wrangling in Washington D.C. over the national budget has left nonprofits in fear that they will suffer a one-two punch between the now-infamous fiscal cliff and proposals to limit the amount of charitable donations that people can deduct from their federal income taxes.

Nonprofit organizations depend on private donations and public funds to keep their doors open, and the situation in Washington is threatening to damage both. Nonprofits also fear that as their funding goes down, the need for their services will go up as more Americans are pushed to the brink of their budgets.

It is what Tim Delaney, president and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, calls "bad news."

"They're creating new demand for services and taking away the resources needed to provide them," Delaney said.

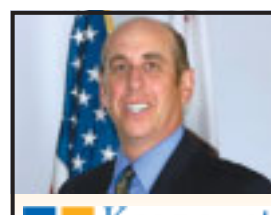
The first danger comes from the "fiscal cliff," the $500 billion in tax increases and $200 billion in spending cuts that are expected to take effect on or around Jan. 1, 2013 unless legislators can come to a budget agreement.

That significant cut to the public sector

SEE NONPROFITS PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012

On the sand
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 3:30 p.m.
This youth beach volleyball class is intended for ages 7-15. Cost: $18. For more information, visit annenbergbeachhouse.com.

Movie night
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 p.m.
Join library staff for a 25th anniversary screening of Steven Spielberg's critically-acclaimed adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer-Prize winning novel "The Color Purple." For more information, visit smpl.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2012

Learn to blog
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Learn what blogs (short for web logs) are, and how to create your own. Requires proficiency with mouse and keyboard, and basic knowledge of the Internet and e-mail. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, visit the reference desk or call (310) 434-2608.

Book it
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
In Cathleen Schine's "The Three Weissmanns of Westport," two adult daughters and their aging mother fall on hard times and must discover a new life for themselves in Connecticut. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Big Will
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Poisoning, beheading, cross-dressing and betrayal become fresh and frisky thanks to Fiasco Theater's inventive production of Shakespeare's rarely seen epic romance "Cymbeline." This up-and-coming New York theater company brings us a young ensemble of six versatile actors who resolve the twisted fates of 14 characters with live music that ranges from a cappella madrigals to bluegrass. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012

In the bag
Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main St., 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Environmental nonprofit Heal the Bay returns with its Day Without a Bag to raise awareness about the waste generated by single-use plastic bags. Visit City Hall's help desk to pick up a free reusable bag. For more information, visit healthebay.org.

Shine on
YWCA Santa Monica/Westside
2019 14th St., 7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Shine is a monthly storytelling series highlighting true stories of positive change told by professional and amateur storytellers. December's theme is family. Cost: $5-$10 donation. For more information, call (310) 452-2321.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings





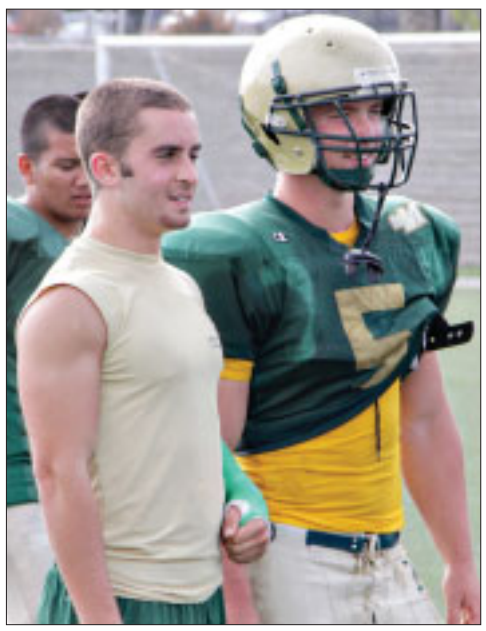
JOY THROUGH SONG

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The Goode Time Carolers of Disneyland perform in front of the Westside Rentals Santa Monica office on Monday.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

St. Monica dominates All-Santa Fe League team



PEGNATO AND HOLUBOWSKI

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

ST. MONICA A total of seven St. Monica Mariners were named to the All-Santa Fe League first team in football, it was announced this week.

Senior defensive back Melvin Wilson led the pack as he was named defensive Most Valuable Player of the league. He was joined on first-team defense by linebackers Lukas Dretzka and Jonathan Diaz and senior defensive back JP Kaczor.

On offense, both of the Mariners' senior running backs — Kevin Holubowski and Nick Pegnato — made the first team. They were joined by junior offensive lineman Angel Galdamez

St. Monica also had a pair of players named to the second team. Sophomore offensive lineman Alex Padilla and senior linebacker Michael Cueva made the cut.

The awards cap a season that saw the Mariners reach the semifinals of the Northeast Division playoffs where they lost to eventual repeat champion Rio Hondo Prep.

The Mariners finished the season 8-5 overall and 2-2 in league and advanced to the playoffs for a third straight year, second with current head coach Adam Guerra.

"I feel pretty good about what we did," Guerra said. "We hit a mid-season stumble, but we finished strong. This senior class left an impression on the program."

Though he's losing a number of his playmakers, Guerra is confident that the system he's creating at St. Monica will weather the departures and again compete for a division title.

"It feels awesome in the second year in the offense and defense," he added. "We've become much more in sync."

daniela@smdp.com

SM College maintains top ranking in transfers

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SMC Maintaining its reputation as a leading transfer institution, Santa Monica College continued in 2011-12 to be the top transfer campus to the University of California system, UC-Cal State systems combined and USC, college officials announced Monday.

SMC also was the leader in transferring African-American and Latino students to UC, with a particularly significant increase for African-American students compared to the previous year, according to SMC officials.

In 2011-12, SMC transferred a total of 1,076 students to UC. This is the 22nd consecutive year that SMC has been the number one transfer institution to the UC campuses.

SMC far outranked the second and third feeder schools — Northern California's De Anza College, which had 804, and Diablo Valley with 682.

Other statistics for 2011-12 demonstrate why SMC is considered the premier transfer institution in California:

• Once again, SMC was top in transfers to the UC and California State University systems combined, with 2,176 students.

• SMC maintained its hold on first place in transfers to USC, from 168 students in fall 2011 to 221 in fall 2012. (USC reports transfers only for the fall.) That was close to triple the number of the next highest-ranking transfer institution to USC, which had 82.

• SMC transferred 43 African-American students to the UC system in 2011-12, a jump from 25 the previous year. This is the first time SMC has recorded such transfers in the 40s.

• SMC Latino student transfers to UC campuses was at 129 compared to 117 in 2010-11.

"Santa Monica College shows year after year its commitment to transfer but is always striving to get even more students into four-year universities," said SMC President Dr. Chui L. Tsang.

Transfer Center faculty leader Dan Nannini says there are several reasons for

SEE SMC PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Putting money where their mouth is

Editor:

As my husband and I walked into the Puzzle Zoo on the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica, we were astonished to find the very first display as you enter the store to be a huge toy gun collection. Now when I say toy gun collection, I mean wooden guns fashioned to look like assault rifles and AK-47s with sniper scopes (for hunting humans).

We have shopped at this store for years, and couldn't believe the owners wouldn't have the sensitivity to move this display to the back of the store given the tragedy that occurred on Friday in Connecticut. We couldn't believe that the owners had decided to put profit over civic responsibility by promoting killing toys while knowing that young children had been killed by the real versions of the very toys they were displaying.

Now this e-mail is not to argue the value in selling these types of toys to children in the first place, as that is a conversation for another time. But it is a symbol of the lack of empathy and consciousness that this store owner must feel toward children and parents at a time when real guns like these were used in a massacre. As much as parents have probably tried to shield their children from the news of this event, imagine how many Santa Monica children have walked into that store since Friday and tried to grapple with seeing guns like that the moment they walk into a toy store.

Maybe that is the owner's intention, I am not sure, to use this event to try to visually assault children and parents with the immediacy of this display and in turn try to get more kids to want guns. I had not visited the store in the past few weeks, so I am not sure where this display was located before Friday's tragedy occurred.

As a result of the owner's insensitivity and promotion of guns over civic responsibility, my husband and I will no longer be shopping at this store.

Jennifer Freeman
Theodore Stephansen
Santa Monica

She'll be the judge

Editor:

"An open letter to post-abortive women," Your Column Here, Dec. 15-16, equals hundreds of words of wanting to give men and women a guilt complex, advertising the tired sin/repentance/redemption litany: "the truth."

You are speaking your truth, not the truth. "I don't judge you." Yes you do and I don't want to see such judgments in the Daily Press.

Ursula Fox
Santa Monica





That Rutherford Guy

John W. Whitehead — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

All eyes (and cameras) on us

GIFTS HAVE BEEN BOUGHT. PRESENTS wrapped. Now all that remains is the giving and receiving. Oh, and the tracking, of course. Little did you know that all the while you were searching out that perfect gift, you were unknowingly leaving a trail for others — namely, the government and its corporate cohorts — to follow.

Thanks to the wonders of technology, the indifference of the general public to the growing surveillance state, the inability of Congress to protect Americans' privacy, and the profit-driven policies of the business sector, the corporate state could write a book about your holiday shopping habits: the websites you've visited when trying to decide what to buy, the storefronts you've browsed while wandering the mall, and the purchases you've made.

Even the store mannequins have gotten in on the gig. According to the Washington Post, mannequins in some high-end boutiques are now being outfitted with cameras that utilize facial recognition technology. A small camera embedded in the eye of an otherwise normal looking mannequin allows storekeepers to keep track of the age, gender and race of all their customers. This information is then used to personally tailor the shopping experience to those coming in and out of their stores.

At $5,072 a pop, these EyeSee mannequins come with a steep price tag, but for storeowners who want to know more — a lot more — about their customers, they're the perfect tool, able to sit innocently at store entrances and windows, leaving shoppers oblivious to their hidden cameras.

While this may be the creepiest instance of targeted advertising in recent memory, these surveillance mannequins provide a window into a $100 billion per year data mining industry that gathers vast amounts of information about every facet of consumers' lives in order to target them with personalized advertisements. Granted, businesses "have been tracking shoppers for years through people counters, security cameras, heat maps and even undercover researchers," notes journalist Annalyn Censky. Yet the advent of the Internet age, with its abundance of personal computers, smartphones and other technological software and gadgets vaunted for their convenience and ease of use, has made corporate snooping that much easier.

All of the websites you visit collect some amount of information about you, whether it is your name or what other sites you have visited recently. Most of the time, we're being tracked without knowing it. For example, most websites now include Facebook and Twitter buttons so you can "like" the page you are viewing or "Tweet" about it. Whether or not you click the buttons, however, the companies can still determine which pages you've visited and file that information away for later use.

For example, it was recently revealed that the advertising agency Epic Marketing was engaging in "history sniffing" by surreptitiously tracking the Internet browsing habits of unsuspecting people. Epic Marketing was specifically looking for people who had searched for information on "fertility issues, impotence, menopause, incontinence, disability insurance, credit repair, debt relief, and personal bankruptcy." After finding out what information people were looking for, Epic then targeted them with advertisements based upon their surfing history.

As the EyeSee mannequins show, you no longer even have to be in front of your computer to have your consumer data accessed, uploaded, stored and tracked. In August 2012, for example, data mining agency Redpepper began testing a service known as Facedeals in the Nashville, Tenn. area. Facial recognition cameras set at the entrances of businesses snap photos of people walking in, and if you've signed up to have a Facedeals account via your Facebook, you receive instant coupons sent to your smartphone. Similarly, a small coffee chain in San Francisco, Philz Coffee, has installed sensors at the front door of their stores in order to capture the Wi-Fi signal of any smartphone within 60 yards. Jacob Jaber, president of Philz Coffee, uses the information gleaned from these sensors to structure his stores according to the in-store behavior of customers.

Of course, these personalized marketing campaigns are just the beginning. Not too far in the future, stores will create our shopping lists for us. Thanks to the ongoing expansion of the Internet of Things — the rapidly developing digital connection between one's home appliances and digital devices — you may one day soon find your phone telling you that you've run out of milk. "A lightbulb could blow at home and automatically add itself to your weekly shop. You wouldn't need to tell us you need to feed a family of four — we'll know," Phil Clarke, the CEO of supermarket Tesco, said. "We'll even know your budget."

Not even politicians are immune to the lure of data mining. In the run-up to the 2012 presidential election, the Romney and Obama campaigns followed voters across the web by installing cookies on their computers and observing the websites they visited in an attempt to gather information on their personal views. CampaignGrid, a Republican-affiliated firm, and Precision Network, a Democratic-affiliated firm, both worked to collect data on 150 million American Internet users, or 80 percent of the registered voting population.

In addition, both the Romney and Obama campaigns collected and purchased vast reams of data on potential voters, including "demographic data from companies that study details such as voters' shopping histories, gambling tendencies, interest in get-rich-quick schemes, dating preferences and financial problems." The Democratic and Republican national committees spent a combined total of $13 million on data collected by companies such as Acxiom, Experian or Equifax, all of which have been suspected of serious privacy violations. Two companies that have been sued over privacy violations, Rapleaf and Intelius, also sold information to both parties.

Of course, the government has done little to regulate this booming industry and safeguard consumer privacy, leaving corporations to take the lead in determining how this data is collected and used. Not surprisingly, privacy is low on their list of priorities. However, the fact that all of this information can also be data mined by the police and a multitude of government agents through their vast network of fusion centers and information-collecting agencies just adds an Orwellian luster to the overall picture.

Constitutional attorney and author **JOHN W. WHITEHEAD** is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org. Information about The Rutherford Institute is available at www.rutherford.org.

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Your column here

Mitra Moassessi
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Does binding really mean binding?

IN MARCH OF 2011, THE OFFICE OF Academic Affairs [at Santa Monica College] sent a letter to three of our part-time Associate Faculty members informing them that their Associate Faculty status would be terminated at the end of the Spring 2011 semester. They were also informed that they would not receive additional assignments from Santa Monica College.

The letter referenced Article 6.6.8 of the collective bargaining agreement between the district and the Santa Monica College Faculty Association, which lists the conditions under which the Associate Faculty status can be terminated. Condition (b) provides associate faculty status can be terminated if "the associate faculty member fails to perform the normal and reasonable duties of his/her assignment or is otherwise guilty of misconduct as defined by Education Code 87732."

In all three cases the faculty members' termination was triggered by a complaint against the faculty members by students, which resulted in investigations by the Office of Human Resources. The investigations consisted of interviews with the faculty members and students, none of which were under oath. In all three cases, the Office of Human Resources found the faculty members guilty of misconduct.

The Faculty Association didn't agree with the decision of the court of Human Resources, a court in which the prosecutor and the judge were the same person. Furthermore, the association believed that the investigation contained significant inaccuracies and the district offered no direct evidence to establish guilt. Consequently, the association filed grievances on the three cases, maintaining that the termination of the faculty members was in violation of the contract.

The district denied that its decisions were in violation of the contract and claimed that Associate Faculty can be terminated "at-will" and the district is not obligated to prove guilt.

After going through the informal and formal process of the grievance procedure, as has been defined in Article 12 of the collective bargaining agreement, all three cases resulted in arbitration, which is the final level of the grievance process. Three different impartial arbitrators each reviewed one of the three cases and considered both sides of the arguments. The arbitrators issued their reports on Jan. 9, 2012, Feb. 10, 2012, and March 12, 2012. The three different and impartial arbitrators came to the same conclusion: the association's grievance was granted and the district must reinstate the faculty member.

Article 12.3.9 of the collective bargaining agreement between the district and the Santa Monica College Faculty Association states: "the decision of the impartial arbitrator shall be binding on the parties."

In the history of the Faculty Association, every time a grievance has resulted in arbitration, the parties have agreed that binding arbitration means the decision of the arbitrator is binding and the parties must comply with it. Under the guidance of the district's legal counsel, who is an hourly-paid consultant, the word binding apparently does not actually mean binding. On April 17, 2012, the district filed a petition with the Superior Court of California to vacate the contractual binding arbitration awards, claiming that the arbitrators had exceeded their authority and the district had the right to terminate any part-time faculty, including Associate Faculty, at-will.

The petition to vacate the arbitrators' decision was heard at the Superior Court of California, Santa Monica Courthouse, on June 26, 2012. Two months later the association received the court's ruling. The court denied the district's petition to vacate the arbitration award and granted the association's request to confirm the arbitration award.

On Oct. 2, 2012, the Board of Trustees discussed the ruling of the Superior Court of California at their closed session. On Oct. 3, the district filed an appeal of the Superior Court's decision with the California Court of Appeals. That appeal remains pending.

According to a document provided by the district's Fiscal Services, the total cost of these three cases, not including the staff time, for the period of July 2011 to Oct. 1, 2012 has been $74,648.38. That is more than the annual salary of a full-time faculty member with a Ph.D. and six years of experience. Obviously the district believes that spending taxpayer money to keep part-time faculty unemployed is a sensible way to be fiscally responsible and fulfills the Board of Trustees' fiduciary responsibility.

The decision of three impartial arbitrators and the Superior Court of California has apparently not satisfied the district's desire to completely ignore its binding, contractual obligations. Instead, the district is wasting taxpayer dollars on a completely meritless appeal.

The Faculty Association anxiously awaits the California Court of Appeals' denial of the district's appeal.

MITRA MOASSESSI is president of the Santa Monica College Faculty Association.

The Q Line

Right choice for mayor

Councilmember Pam O'Connor was selected to serve a fourth term as mayor by her peers on the City Council last week. Longtime member Kevin McKeown was again passed over for the post despite being a favorite among the electorate.

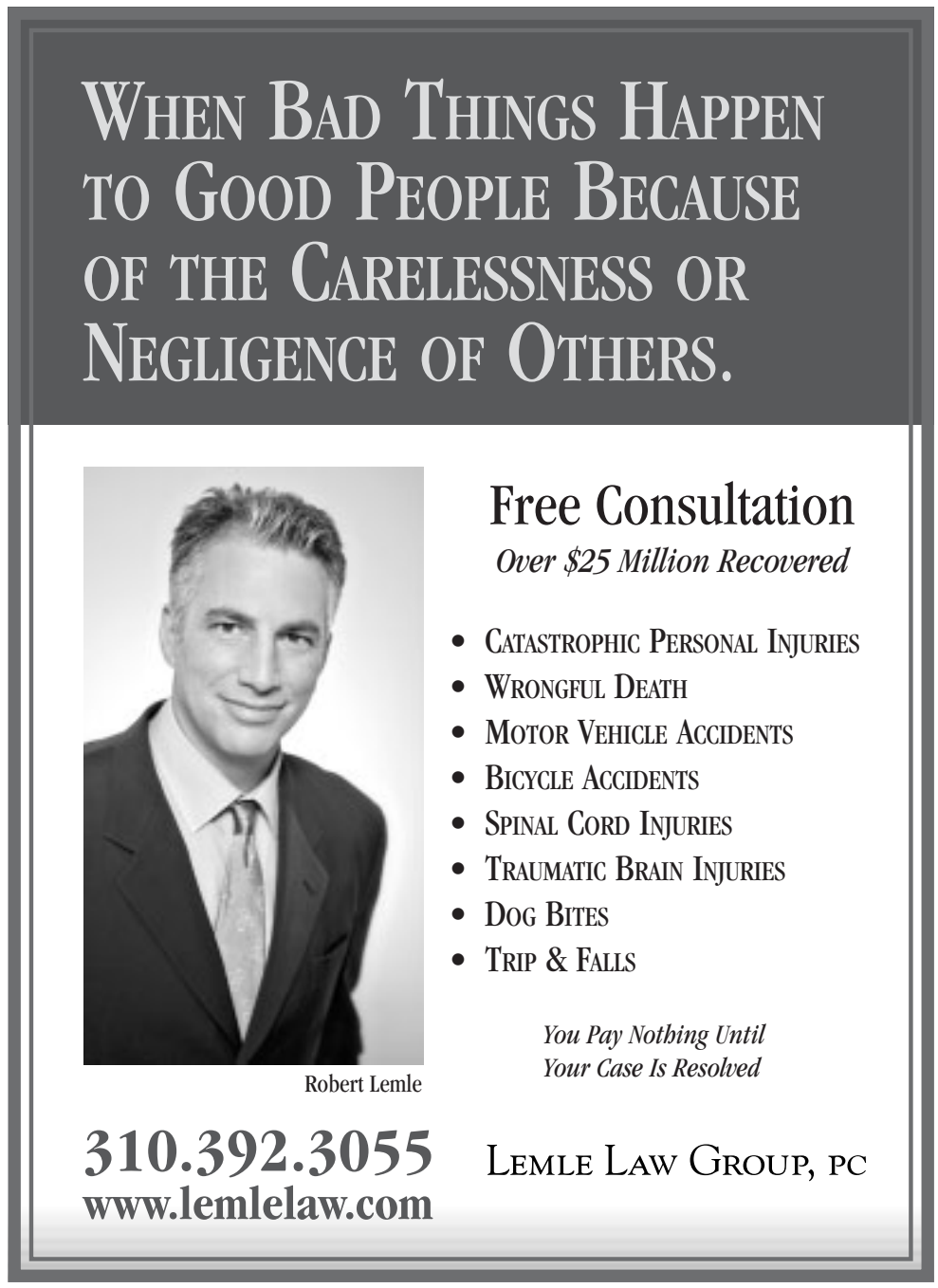
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Should the council have given McKeown a chance to be the mayor or was the right decision made?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.









Molten gold display signals revival of the Mother Lode

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SUTTER CREEK, Calif. The gold miners who made California famous were the rugged loners trying to shake nuggets loose from streams or hillsides. The ones who made the state rich were those who worked for big mining companies that blasted gold from an underground world of dust and darkness.

The last of the state's great mines closed because mining gold proved unprofitable after World War II. But with the price of the metal near historic highs, hovering around $1,700 an ounce, the first large-scale hard rock gold mining operation in a half-century is coming back to life.

Miners are digging again where their forebears once unearthed riches from eight historic mines that honeycomb Sutter Gold Mining Co.'s holdings about 50 miles southeast of Sacramento. Last week, mill superintendent Paul Skinner poured the first thin stream of glowing molten gold into a mold.

"Nothing quite like it," murmured Skinner, who has been mining for 65 years.

It was just four ounces, culled from more than eight tons of ore, but it signaled the end of $20 million worth of construction and the pending start of production. The company announced the ceremonial first pour before financial markets opened Monday, marking the mine's official reincarnation.

By spring, the company's 110 employees expect to be removing 150 tons of ore a day from a site immediately north of the old Lincoln Mine, enough to produce nearly 2,000 ounces of gold each month.

The company projects reserves of more than 682,000 ounces of gold worth more than $1 billion at today's prices. Company officials say they are confident there is far more in their historically rich section of the 120-mile-long Mother Lode region of the Sierra Nevada foothills.

Reopening the mine has been anything but a gold rush, however.

It took three decades for the mine's operators to obtain more than 40 environmental permits. By contrast, the old Wild West miners wreaked such devastation that they prompted some of the nation's first conservation efforts nearly 130 years ago.

"We've gone from no regulation to probably the other extreme," said Bob Hutmacher, the company's chief financial officer.

In recent decades, most of California's gold has come from the state's desert regions. However, high gold prices recently spurred what authorities say was a rogue surface gold mine in El Dorado County, east of Sacramento. The owners now face criminal charges.

Farther north, several mines have started the process to reopen. Most of these kinds of hard rock mines have recently been known more as tourist destinations, including the Empire Mine, which was once the state's largest hard rock mine. It became a state historic site after it closed in 1956.

Sutter Gold's mine also hosted underground tours featuring gold mining history until about a year ago. A half-million people took the tours before they were halted for insurance reasons as the company scrambled to begin production.

Miners have now burrowed more than a half-mile underground and are digging another half-mile network of tunnels to reach the milky white quartz deposits that contain the gold.

Six-hundred vertical feet underground, Keith Emerald was soaking wet in a T-shirt, rubber boots and bib overalls in the damp, chilly mine.

The only light came from his battery-operated hardhat headlamp as he leaned into a deafening 135-pound jackleg pneumatic drill, driving an 8-foot-long bit repeatedly into a wall of solid rock. The more than 30 holes he drilled were packed with explosives to reduce a head-high archway to rubble.

"Fire in the hole," came a disembodied voice over the mine's radio system hours later.

The miners are using tools like the jackleg drill that have changed little in a century because they are searching for relatively narrow bands of quartz, averaging 2.4 feet wide. That makes it too costly to use modern mechanized equipment that would churn out tons of worthless rock.

"This harkens back to the 19th century where you follow the gold veins," said chief operating officer Matt Collins. "We're throwbacks."

Their predecessors pried 3.5 million ounces of gold from the ground underlying the company's holdings before the last mine, the Eureka, closed in 1958.

The company has mining rights under about 4.5 miles of the Mother Lode between the quaint Gold Rush communities of Sutter Creek, population 2,500, and Amador City, with 200 residents. The mining area roughly parallels Highway 49, named after the miners who rushed to California from around the globe after gold was discovered in 1849.

Sutter Creek is the namesake of John Sutter of gold discovery fame. The nearby mines once made Hetty Green the nation's richest woman and propelled the success of railroad baron Leland Stanford, who went on to become governor and found Stanford University.

Now the towns boast more about their proximity to foothill wineries and the restaurants, boutiques and antique stores that line their historic main streets.

"(Highway) 49 is known as the Gold Rush road. If there's gold to be found, I think it should be mined," said Jan Hicks, who lives in nearby Jackson but clerks in an 1869 Amador City building that once housed a general store catering to miners.

"It's still an allure, the mining history," Hicks said as she unpacked tourist knick-knacks in what is now a home and garden shop. "We're very fortunate. We have gold and grapes and antiques. What isn't there to love?"

Donald "Pat" Crosby, 85, moved to Sutter Creek in 1959, just in time to watch the gold, sand, clay and logging industries peter out. The former city councilman remembers laughing at the Lincoln Mine owner who first proposed reopening the mine two decades ago.

"'You're going to make more off of tourism than you ever would from gold,'" Crosby recalls telling the owner.

"Now, gold is taking the first step coming back. Thank God for that — I never thought it would."





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SAFETY
FROM PAGE 1

Schools also hold two lockdown drills each year, and all participate in the Great Shakeout drill, which focuses on earthquake preparedness and search and rescue.

Santa Monica High School Principal Laurel Fretz reinforced the concept in a letter and call to parents, impressing upon them the importance of drills.

"We continue to practice because, though we never anticipate a problem, we want to give our students the comfort of knowing our emergency procedures," she said.

School sites also coordinate with the local police department, offering up their campuses for active shooter drills so that law enforcement and first responders have practice in the actual sites they would otherwise respond to.

All sworn officers train for active shooters, both at the schools and in a training location in Santa Clarita, said Sgt. Richard Lewis, a spokesperson for the Santa Monica Police Department.

"The SWAT team trains on them all the time, and there are multiple SWAT team members on duty," Lewis said. "We all know these tactics very, very well."

Law enforcement officials across the country work not only to respond to emergencies, but to prevent them.

The Los Angeles Police Department sent out an e-mail Monday morning reporting that a 24-year-old resident of Pomona had been arrested Sunday morning at his parents' home in Los Angeles after making threats against local schools on Facebook.

Officials also seized nine firearms, including rifles, a shotgun, handguns and ammunition from the residence. A search of the suspect's home in Pomona did not yield any weapons or related evidence.

The tragedy at Sandy Hook has sparked a national conversation about gun control, and that has been mirrored within the Santa Monica parent community, said Patti Braun, president of the Parent Teacher Association Council.

People have been calling for stricter laws on automatic weapons, and longer waiting periods for gun purchases.

"My hope is that the national PTA can be involved in encouraging that," Braun said. "I think everyone's just in such a state of shock. It's truly overwhelming."

As for school safety, Braun puts her faith in the drills and safety measures installed at each of the schools, including security gates and technology to ensure that parents are alerted immediately to any kind of disaster.

"There are a lot of really great things in place," she said. "There's a reunion gate, and every year we sign emergency cards. Teachers are well trained, kids are well drilled. I feel good about that."

After tragedies occur, it's not enough for parents to be confident about their children's well-being — students have to feel secure in their schools as well.

SMMUSD officials sent out information released by the National Association of School Psychologists to school sites throughout the district, both in English and Spanish, giving advice on how to broach the topic with children.

The first thing is to reassure them that they are safe, and to address their questions. Go over safety procedures, and keep an eye on children to monitor their emotional state.

When going over information about the incident, it's important to consider the age and developmental level of the child, said Dr. Melissa Brymer, director of terrorism and disaster programs at the UCLA-Duke University National Center for Child Traumatic Stress.

"For older kids, we have to remember it's not just seeing it in the news. Social media is playing a huge role. It's important that we actively ask what the child is seeing, what's on Twitter, Facebook or through texting," Brymer said.

Making children aware of the family's emergency plan, and establishing lines of communication in the case of a disaster is also critical, she said.

If families know someone involved in the Connecticut shooting or have experienced a major loss in their lives, news of the event could also take a broader, emotional toll.

"There are families here that have been through their own losses and tragedies," Brymer said. "Even if they were not impacted by what happened in Connecticut, it might be reminding them of their personal experiences."

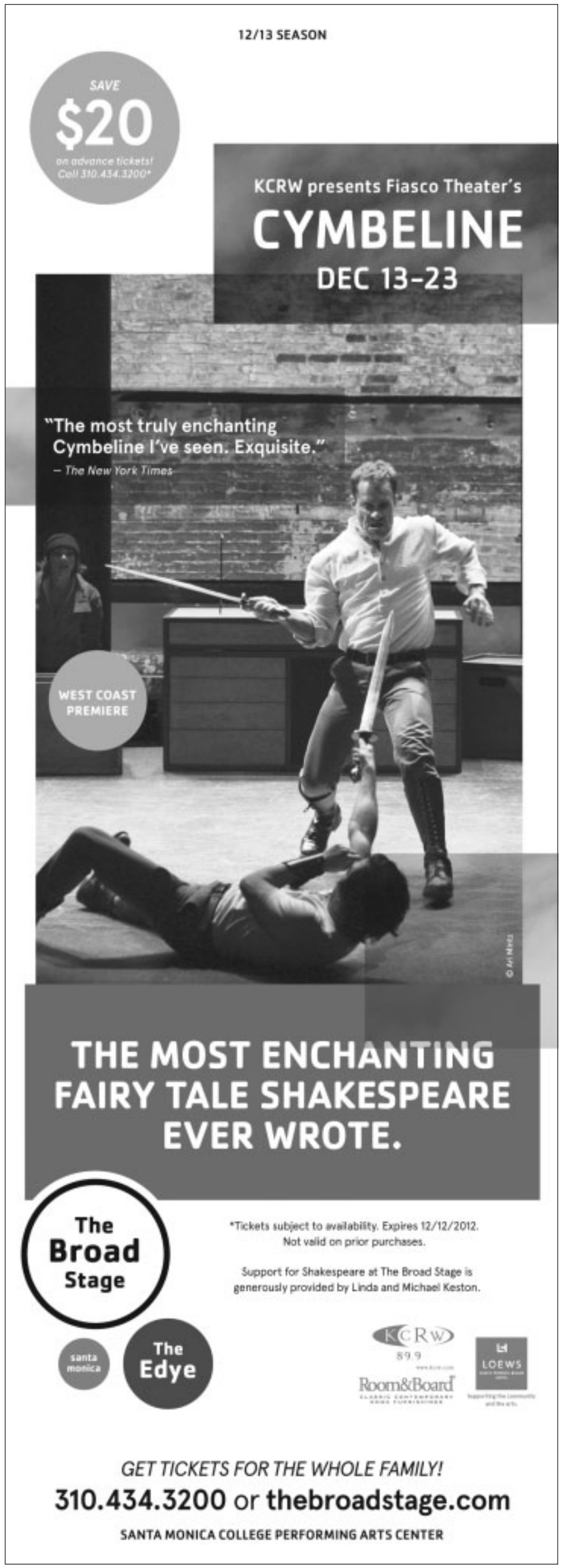
One point on which many health professionals agree — turn the televisions off.

"As in any frightening situation, young children should not be exposed to the extensive media coverage of the event," said Thomas McInerny, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics. "In other words, turn off the TV, computer and other media devices."

At the request of President Barack Obama, flags throughout the school district will fly at half-mast until sunset on Dec. 18.

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Monday, Dec. 31st 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Closed Dec. 14; 25; and 28, EHO



Photo courtesy SMC

MAKING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE: **Santa Monica College's semi-annual College Transfer Fair — with representatives from 140 universities throughout the world recruiting SMC students — is one of the elements contributing to the college's status as a leader in transfers.**

SMC

FROM PAGE 3

SMC's strong transfer record: keeping SMC's transfer reputation in the spotlight, recruiting good students, giving strong academic counseling to students that helps make them attractive to admissions offices, and outstanding professors.

In addition, Nannini pointed out that the college's Transfer Center hosts the largest college fair in the state. This fall, representatives from 140 colleges and universities throughout the world came to the SMC Transfer Fair to recruit students, college officials said.

SMC's Transfer Center also conducts workshops, holds weekly visits from four-year institutions, and has a close working relationship with UC and CSU to make sure SMC students get credit for their classes.

UCLA continues to be by far the most popular destination for SMC students, with 44 percent of the UC transfers — 472 — going to the Westwood campus. Berkeley came in second with 181 transfers, followed by the San Diego and Irvine campuses.

SMC also transfers students to public and private universities throughout the world, including Stanford, Columbia and Cornell.

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GUNS
FROM PAGE 1

State Sen. Leland Yee, meanwhile, said he will introduce a bill to close what he calls a loophole in the state's ban on assault weapons and is considering changes to state gun laws on everything from background checks to storage regulations.

Sen. Kevin de Leon said his proposal would increase the restrictions on purchasing ammunition by requiring buyers to get a permit, undergo a background check and pay a fee.

And state Sen. Ted Lieu announced plans to re-introduce legislation aimed at requiring schools to be better prepared for emergency situations such as a gunman on the loose.

Yee, D-San Francisco, said he hopes the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., which killed 20 young children, will lead to greater support for revisiting California's gun laws.

"We must reinstate the federal assault weapon ban and close the bullet button loophole that has severely weakened California's assault weapon ban," Yee said in a statement.

The so-called bullet button loophole allows gun manufacturers to sell weapons in California that can be quickly reloaded using a simple tool. The bullet buttons get around the state's ban on detachable magazines that can be used to swiftly reload a rifle or shotgun.

Feinstein, a Democrat, said she and her staff have been working on gun control legislation for a year and that the plan will focus on "the most dangerous guns that have killed so many people over the years" while still protecting the rights of gun owners.

She said in a statement that she intends to announce the proposal on the first day of the new Congress and that she is in the process of gathering support.

Her remarks came a day after a Sunday night service in Newtown, where President Barack Obama vowed, without specifically addressing gun control, that in the coming weeks he would "use whatever power this office holds to engage my fellow citizens, from law enforcement to mental health professionals to parents and educators in an effort aimed at preventing more tragedies like this."

Friday's attacks left 28 people dead, with the shooter and his mother among the eight adults killed, police say. Police say the gunman, Adam Lanza, was carrying an arsenal of ammunition and used a high-powered rifle similar to the military's M-16.

Lieu, D-Torrance, in calling for measures aimed at school security, said data from 2009 showed that more than half of public middle schools in Los Angeles either lacked a safety plan, had an outdated plan, or had failed to review the plans with staff.

Lieu's legislation would impose stricter penalties for schools that fail to comply with state laws requiring them to have a robust emergency plan, including withholding funding. Schools that fail to comply also would be listed on a public website.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, who signed on as a co-author, said in a statement that the Legislature "has a responsibility to do what it can to ensure basic safety requirements are enforced in our schools."

He added that children's safety "demands 100 percent compliance."

De Leon, a Los Angeles Democrat, said tighter rules for buying weapons only solves part of the problem of gun violence. His legislation would expand on his previous legislation to restrict sales of handgun ammunition, which the National Rifle Association is challenging.

"California has enacted legislation designed to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, but it has done little to prevent criminals and gang members from procuring ammunition that fuels gun violence," de Leon said in a statement.

Such Democratic-led efforts should find a more receptive audience in the California statehouse where the party secured a two-thirds majority in both houses in November for the first time in decades.

Yee attempted to pass gun control legislation earlier this year in the wake of the movie theater shooting in Aurora, Colo., but it died in the Assembly, and Lieu also had previously introduced the school safety legislation.

"Our response to Friday's massacre and other senseless acts of gun violence throughout America must be comprehensive and address mental well-being, societal problems, and common sense gun control," said Yee, who is a child psychologist.

Yee said that among the proposals he is considering are additional background checks, mental health evaluations, limits on the amount of ammunition that can be purchased and new regulations regarding weapon storage.

Attorney General Kamala Harris, a Democrat, backed Yee's earlier legislation. She did not immediately take a position on Yee's still unwritten proposal Monday, but her spokeswoman, Lynda Gledhill, said Harris supports "efforts to close dangerous loopholes in our assault weapons law."





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NONPROFITS
FROM PAGE 1

will fall across the board, resulting in a 7.6 to 9.6 percent cut to all discretionary spending.

The trick is that much of that money goes to nonprofits that contract with government agencies, with federal money that trickles down to the state level and then to local government, Delaney said.

"That's 8 percent across the board, without rhyme or reason," he said.

In numbers, that means $54.6 billion out of funding for basic services, including programs that benefit the middle class, seniors and children; cuts money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and housing programs, according to the National Council on Nonprofits.

The second blow could come from talks that would change the way Americans are allowed to treat charitable deductions.

Congressional Republicans and some Democrats favor a cap on itemized tax deductions. That can include a person's state taxes and mortgage interest deduction, amongst others.

Those two items alone would eat up the majority of proposed caps, which have been suggested at $15,000, $25,000 and $50,000, leaving little to no room for charitable giving, Delaney said.

"If they cap it around $20,000, there is no incentive for anybody to give any money," he said.

The National Economic Council, a federal organization that advises the president on economic policy, estimates that a $50,000 cap would reduce charitable giving by about $150 billion over the course of 10 years, while a $25,000 cap would reduce giving by $200 billion.

Even a $25,000 cap that applied only to high-income households would reduce giving by at least $10 billion per year, the council estimates.

According to the Tax Policy Center, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and Urban Institute, 78 percent of households in the top 1 percent of income earners claim more than $50,000 in itemized deductions already.

Instead, the National Economic Council touts President Barack Obama's stance that would limit the value of all high-income tax benefits to 28 percent. The council estimates that these tax incentives are worth 35 cents on the dollar for the highest income households, but only 28 cents or less for middle-class households.

"Bringing tax incentives for the highest-income households more in line with tax benefits for middle-class families would raise significant revenue for deficit reduction while also making the tax code more fair," reads a report by the National Economic Council released this month.

Cuts to incentives for charitable giving would be damaging to local nonprofits like the Westside Food Bank and the nearly 70 agencies to which it provides food, said Genevieve Riutort, development director at the food bank.

"We like to think everyone gives from the goodness of their heart, but the tax deduction doesn't hurt," Riutort said.

Those smaller nonprofits rely almost entirely on private giving, meaning that the loss to incentives would hurt them the most.

The Westside Food Bank receives more than 50 percent of its income from individuals and congregations, another 33 percent from foundation grants and roughly 12 percent from Santa Monica, Beverly Hills and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"We really just hope that the donation deduction does not go away," Riutort said. "It's hard to imagine that would happen because it's so needed."

With additional government cuts, the burden falls to the private sector to keep nonprofits in the black.

"Disincentivize the private sector and the safety net will be cut even further and we'll see people descending into poverty in ways that we haven't seen in the past," Riutort said.

Local agencies that get by without the big advertising budgets of larger, national organizations could be hurt the worst, Delaney said.

"If there's a natural disaster or crisis, people will still give to the Red Cross, but they will forget about giving to the local food bank, community theater or Girl Scouts," he said.

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Stocks move higher as budget talks progress

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Stocks rose on Wall Street as investors were encouraged by signs of progress in budget talks in Washington. Just two weeks remain before tax increases and government spending cuts take effect if no deal is reached.

On the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, stock traders paused for a minute of silence at 9:15 a.m. EST to remember the 20 children and seven adults killed Friday in a gunman's rampage through a Connecticut elementary school.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 100.38 points to 13,235.39, its biggest gain this month. The Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 16.78 points to 1,430.36 and the Nasdaq composite index rose 39.27 points to 3,010.60.

Marc Chaikin, CEO of the Philadelphia-based market research firm Chaikin Analytics, said investors became more hopeful for a resolution in the budget talks after House Speaker John Boehner made an offer to increase tax rates on high-income Americans.

"The fiscal cliff is obviously foremost on everyone's mind," Chaikin said.

Banks were among the best-performing stocks. Citigroup gained $1.55, 4.1 percent, to $39.15 after Raymond James raised its target price on the stock to $52 from $44. In a note to clients, the brokerage reaffirmed its "Strong Buy" rating, citing the "improving fundamental outlook." Bank of America also gained 42 cents, or 4 percent, to $11.

Investors are currently favoring financial stocks over technology stocks, said Ben Schwarz, chief market strategist at Lightspeed Financial.

"The banks are ripping today," Schwarz said. "People are looking for stability and the tech sector hasn't given them any."

Financial companies make up the best performing industry group in the S&P 500 this year, according to FactSet data. The group, which includes banks such as Wells Fargo & Co. and insurers such as Travelers, has gained 25 percent this year.

Apple rose $9.04, or 1.8 percent, to $518.83 after the company said it sold more than 2 million iPhone 5s in China in their first three days of availability, setting a record for that market. The technology giant's stock has fallen 26 percent since it closed at a record $702.10 in September and is trading close to its lowest since February.

In Washington, there appeared to be movement in long-stalled budget talks aimed at avoiding tax increases and government spending cuts set to take effect Jan. 1, which are known as the "fiscal cliff." The combination could lead to a recession.

Indexes opened higher following the news that Boehner, a Republican, offered $1 trillion in higher tax revenue over 10 years and an increase on the top tax rate for people making $1 million per year, to 39.6 percent from 35 percent. The market moved higher still after news crossed shortly before noon that Boehner went to the White House to meet with President Barack Obama.

Wall Street has been relatively calm in recent weeks, but David Kelly, chief global strategist for J.P. Morgan Funds, said that by Friday the market will be "squarely focused on what is or is not happening in Washington."

He suggested in a note to clients that the markets will not have "priced in" any outcome, "setting the stage for a market rally with an agreement and a slump with stalemate."

Clearwire slid 46 cents, to $2.91, after Sprint announced terms of its buyout deal for the wireless Internet access company. Sprint's price of $2.97 per share was below Clearwire's closing stock price Friday.

Japanese stocks rose after the country's Liberal Democratic Party regained power following a landslide election victory.

Brian Singer, partner at William Blair, a Chicago-based asset management firm, said investors were encouraged by the outcome, which gave the conservative party overwhelming control of Parliament. The Liberal Democrats have promised greater economic stimulus spending and more action to end a destructive cycle of price declines, or deflation.

The note on the 10-year Treasury bond rose 7 basis points to 1.78 percent.

Other stocks making big moves:

• American International Group rose $1.01, or 3 percent, to $34.95 after the insurer said it was selling its remaining stake in the life insurer AIA Group. The Wall Street Journal said AIG may raise as much as $6.5 billion from the sale. AIG avoided collapse in 2008 with $182 billion in support from the U.S. government — the biggest of the Wall Street bailout packages — after suffering massive losses from investments in derivatives.

• Tenet Healthcare Co. gained 55 cents, or 1.8 percent, to $31.38 after Deutsche Bank raised its recommendation on the stock to "buy" from "hold." The bank cited Tenet's "compelling" business and financial outlook over the next 12 to 24 months.





SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.4°**

TUESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
BIGGEST LATE with larger waist high sets for winter standouts before dark; New short to mid period WNW-NW swell builds in and peaks late; Breezy WNW winds rising up

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
Holding short to mid period WNW-NW swell; Wind/weather improves, but residual bump likely in the AM

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
BIGGEST EARLY; Fading short to mid period WNW-NW swell; Good weather and light offshore AM wind

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
BIGGEST LATE with larger surf at good exposures; New dose of WNW-NW swell quickly builds in and peaks late; STAY POSTED, STILL PENDING DEVELOPMENT

Tides

The tides will gradually become less extreme over the new week. Take note of your local tide times and what your spot likes best.

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 **December 12, 2012**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 12
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 18 / 14
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman LAcarGUY SIMA and Grousbeck Family Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 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
Los Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	C	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	C	B
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	B
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	C	B
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	C
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	A
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	C

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

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

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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

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

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Duke moves to No. 1 in AP poll

JOEDY MCCREARY
AP Sports Writer

Duke is back in a familiar place — No. 1.

The Blue Devils advanced one spot to replace Indiana at the top of The Associated Press' Top 25 on Monday, drawing closer to UCLA's record for most No. 1 rankings.

Duke has reached No. 1 at least once in a record 16 seasons under coach Mike Krzyzewski, and has played more games as the No. 1 ranked team in 33 years under Coach K (209) than as an unranked team (141).

No team in the country has the resume that the Blue Devils do: They own three wins over teams ranked in the top five at the time — then-No. 3 Kentucky, then-No. 2 Louisville and then-No. 4 Ohio State, all in a span of 16 days.

"We're proud of it. I think it's a lot different than a preseason ranking," forward Mason Plumlee said. "We feel like we've earned it, not like we've been given anything. (But) if we don't get any better during the season, we're not going to be No. 1 at the end of the season."

Indiana (9-1) held the top spot from the preseason poll through the first five weeks of the season. Butler beat the Hoosiers 88-86 in overtime Saturday.

The Blue Devils (9-0), whose only game in the past 2 weeks was a victory over Temple on Dec. 8, received 62 first-place votes from the 65-member national media panel.

They will debut their latest No. 1 ranking at home Wednesday night against Cornell.

"I don't anticipate us being rusty — if anything, we might be a little overanxious to play," Plumlee said. "This team loves to play, so when we don't get a game in a week or so, you can get a little anxious."

It is the 123rd week Duke has been ranked No. 1, 11 weeks behind UCLA. All but 31 weeks of Duke's stay on top have come since the 1991-92 season. The Blue Devils' last time at No. 1 was an 11-week run in 2010-11.

"We even know when we watch film on a team that they'll be a different team against us because that's almost always the case," Plumlee said. "They'll shoot a little better, play a little better and maybe the No. 1 ranking adds to that. We consistently get teams' best (effort)."

Michigan (11-0), which received the other No. 1 votes, and Syracuse moved up one place each to second and third. They were followed in the top 10 by Arizona, Louisville, Indiana, Ohio State, Florida, Kansas and Illinois.

Butler (8-2), which beat then-No. 9 North Carolina last month in the EA Sports Maui Invitational, moved into the poll at No. 19. This is the Bulldogs' first appearance in the rankings since the first week of 2010-11.

Wichita State (9-1) dropped out from 23rd after losing 69-60 at Tennessee. The Shockers spent two weeks in the rankings.

North Carolina, with 107 weeks, is the only other school ranked No. 1 for at least 100 polls.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The Sessions (R) 1hr 35min
7:30pm
Discussion following with director Ben Lewin and producer Judi Levine.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Looper (R) 1hr 58min
1:45pm, 7:15pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Killing Them Softly (R) 1hr 40min
4:30pm, 10:00pm

Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
1:15pm, 4:05pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

Anna Karenina (R) 2hrs 10min
1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:55am, 3:25pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
1:30pm, 5:30pm, 9:30pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:30pm, 3:50pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 4:55pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 6:45pm, 10:15pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in HFR 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:55am, 4:05pm, 8:00pm

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

Intouchables (R) 1hr 52min
7:00pm, 9:40pm

Grey (R) 1hr 57min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Opera in Cinema: Royal Opera House's "Cendrillon" ENCORE () 2hrs 19min
7:30pm

Any Day Now (R) 1hr 37min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Hitchcock (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Already Famous (NR)
1:30pm, 4:15pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:35pm, 10:25pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:05am, 2:40pm, 9:30pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:00am, 2:45pm, 6:30pm, 10:30pm

Playing for Keeps (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:10am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Celebrate tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Pull back, and new insights will emerge. Incorporate them once you are sure that they are applicable. With so much on your plate, tension could soar. The time has come to choose a stressbuster. Tonight: Get a nap first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. Others need to know them if you want to have their support. A respected person in your life might be cynical no matter what you say. Decide not to internalize his or her comments; however, do evaluate them. Tonight: Out among the crowds.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ A boss or older friend pushes you to such an extent that you might want to ditch him or her and leave the scene. A control game might be running amok because you are not OK with it. That decision honors who you are. Tonight: Start celebrating.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Savor the music, the people and even today's shopping frenzy. Remain optimistic and detached. Enjoy yourself and those around you. Trust your intuition, and you will make good decisions. Tonight: Out caroling with friends and loved ones!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You are encouraged to be kinder and more understanding in general by a key person in your life. Relate to each individual directly in order to achieve better results. Pressure comes from someone's attitude. Know when to let go. Tonight: Dinner with a special friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others seek you out. You will enjoy this popularity, both professionally and personally. An opportunity enters your life, though you might want to review what is being offered first. Consider the circumstances and potential complications. Tonight: Go along with plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Your mind is full of creative ideas and solutions, but you might not be demonstrating and applying them. As a result, an opportunity could be lost. Listen to what is being shared. Refuse to be drawn into a grand drama. Tonight: Get some exercise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Allow your imagination to freely wander, but be careful. If you burst into laughter, everyone will want more information than you choose to give. Just smile instead, and let others be intrigued by the twinkle in your eye. Tonight: Pretend that it's the weekend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Comparing you with a stick in the mud generally does not apply, but today is different. When you're out, you want to be in. When you're in, you want to be curled up. When you're curled up, you want to take a nap. Tonight: Play the role of couch potato.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ No one can say that you aren't expressive in letting others know what's on your mind. Nevertheless, someone just does not get it. Doing nothing might be more effective. Tonight: Run an errand on the way to meet a friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Know that you aren't the only one trying to stretch a dollar. Talk to friends if you are in a jam, and get suggestions on how to complete your holiday shopping. You might love some of the ideas that come up. Tonight: Balance your checkbook.

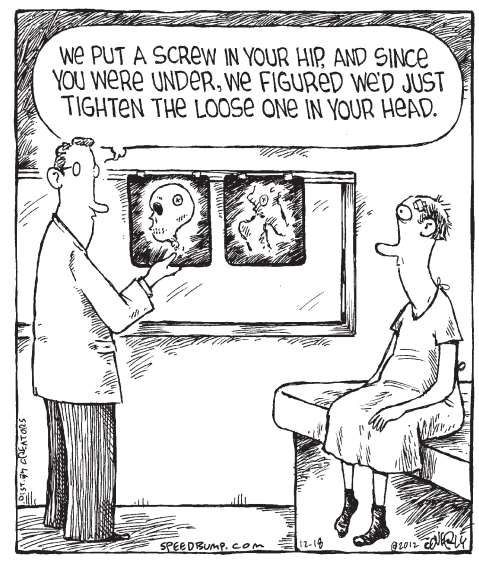
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You could be surfing the wave of life, as you feel content and valued. Take a second to enjoy these feelings. Remember these moments, and know that they can happen again. A family member demands attention. Tonight: Your wish is someone's command!

Happy birthday

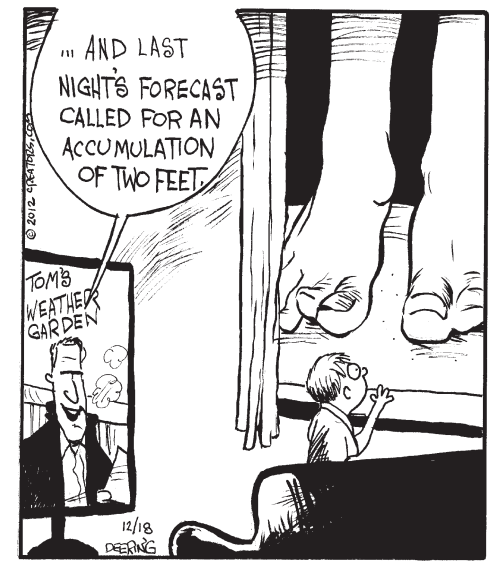
This year you often encounter challenging people with very different ideas. Take the best of those suggestions and use them to strengthen your life. Use care with your finances, as you frequently are a risk-taker; otherwise, you could be unhappy with the results. Look to restructuring your life on a more regular basis. If you are single, from summer 2013 on, someone very special could enter your life. If you are attached, the two of you will enjoy each other even more. You socialize more with friends, yet you also enjoy private weekends together. PISCES often gets emotional.

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

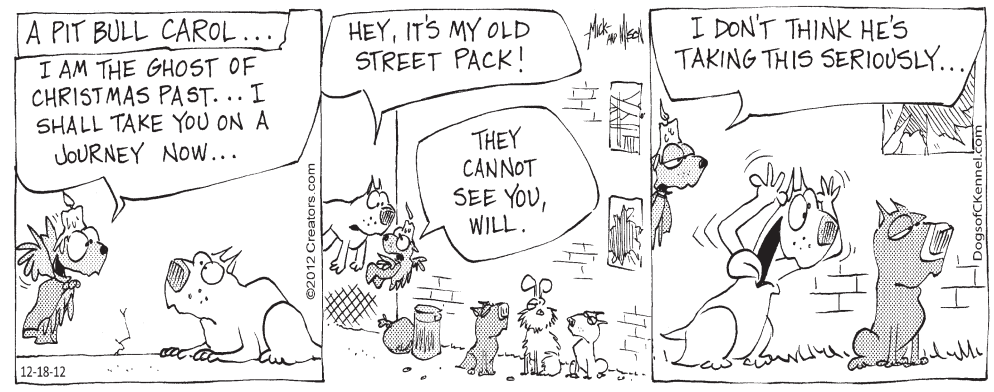
Speed Bump — By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew — By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel — By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City — By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield — By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Floor model
5 Cinema statuette
10 Really impressed
12 Throw with effort
13 1953 Ethel Merman movie
15 Punk-rock offshoot
16 Fork over
17 502, in old Rome
18 Quaid of "Vegas"
20 Stream sediment
21 Suspicious
22 Hardy heroine
23 Halt
25 Mardi Gras wear
28 Avow
31 Liberal study
32 San Diego team
34 Chem. or biol.
35 Ventilate
36 Belly
37 2012 Carly Rae Jepsen song
40 Successful
41 Oregon's capital
42 Lab work
43 Coop group

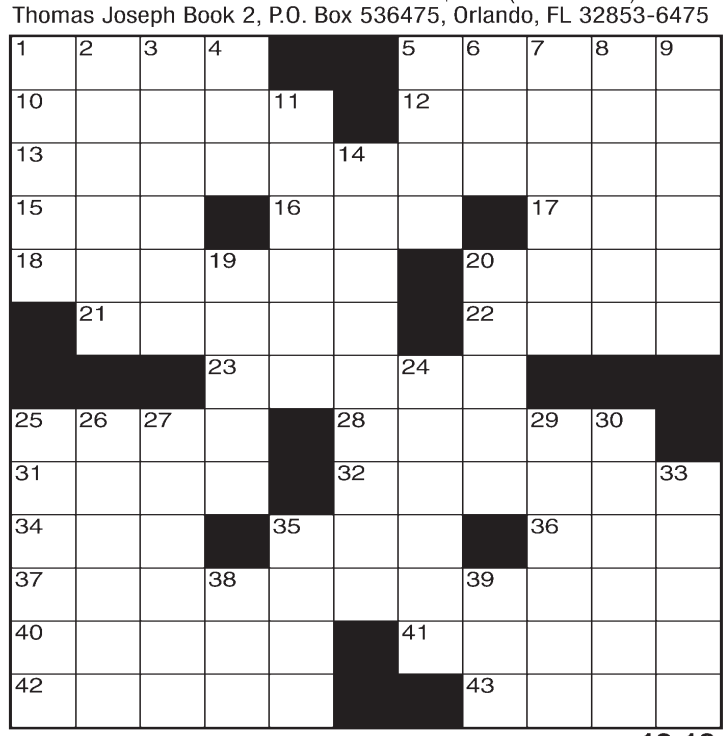
DOWN

1 Cut into cubes
2 Tooth layer
3 Moses of the NBA
4 Night flyer
5 "Dear me!"
6 Yacht spot
7 Golfer's helper
8 Uses
9 Sends payment
11 Realm
14 Simple
19 Bottle parts
20 Spirited horse
24 Bee groups
25 Team symbol
26 Secret
27 High-stepping aids
29 Sock pattern
30 Sauerkraut sandwich
33 Rose parts
35 Band aids
38 Whole bunch
39 Contented sound

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

Yesterday's answer

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12-18

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/14
11 28 33 41 43
Meganumber: 41
Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/15
11 15 24 26 28
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $21M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/17
1 20 25 28 37

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/17
MIDDAY: 3 7 5
EVENING: 2 3 9

SAINT BRIDGET
Draw Date: 12/17
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:42.79

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Plastic surgeons in Turkey and France told CNN in November that mustache implants have suddenly surged in popularity as Middle Eastern men use their increased lip bushiness to convey power and prestige. Surgeons extract follicles from hairier parts of the body in procedures that cost the equivalent of around $7,000 and show full results in about six months. An anthropology professor told CNN that, by tradition in Arab countries, a man of honor would "swear on my mustache," use mustaches as collateral for loans, shave off a vanquished foe's mustache as a reward, and gravely insult enemies with "Curse be upon your mustache!"

■ For centuries, some residents of India's Madhya Pradesh state have allowed themselves to be trampled by garishly dressed animals in periodic attempts to have their prayers answered. The November "Ekadashi" (the 11th day of certain months of the Hindu calendar) this year began with prayers, followed by the liquoring up of the animals (cows in Ujjain and buffaloes in Bhopal, for example) to "remove their inhibitions," according to a WebIndia123 report. Even so, according to local press reports, hardly anyone ever gets hurt.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1972 - Vietnam War: President Richard Nixon announces that the United States will engage North Vietnam in Operation Linebacker II, a series of Christmas bombings, after peace talks collapsed with North Vietnam on the 13th.

1973 - Soviet Soyuz Programme: Soyuz 13, crewed by cosmonauts Valentin Lebedev and Pyotr Klimuk, is launched from Baikonur in the Soviet Union.

1973 - The Islamic Development Bank is founded.

WORD UP!

lagan
\ LAG-uhn \ , noun;
1. Anything sunk in the sea, but attached to a buoy or the like so that it may be recovered.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Night on Montana Holiday Walk

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If not,

see you next year



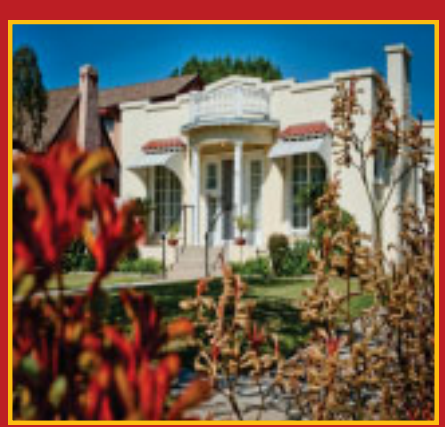


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