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Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 53

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*We have you covered*

GOING TO POT?
SEE PAGE 4

THE LET'S MEET ISSUE

## Court's RDA ruling could pose problems for budget

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Steps taken to slash City Hall's projected five-year budget deficit could be derailed by uncertainties resulting from the recent California Supreme Court decision to end redevelopment agencies in the state, city officials said Tuesday.

Savings on employees' retirement and health care costs and unexpected revenue cut a projected structural deficit by $14.7 million between now and 2016, but city coffers may be forced to take on an additional $1.5 million to pay for housing vouchers for

SEE RDA PAGE 8

## Prosecutor: Bulger trying to game system

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON A federal prosecutor said Wednesday that he believes former Boston mobster James "Whitey" Bulger, is trying to "manipulate the system" so that he's never brought to trial for his role in 19 murders.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian Kelly urged the judge to push the 82-year-old Bulger's case along so that his trial is not delayed. Kelly mentioned Bulger's age and said the victims' families want to see Bulger stand trial.

"We think the defendant will try to slow this down and will try to manipulate the system so that he is never brought to trial," Kelly said during a status conference in U.S. District Court.

SEE BULGER PAGE 9



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

RIDE ON: **A cyclist rides along the beach bike path near the site of a future universally accessible playground being developed by City Hall.**

## Universally accessible, but not universally loved

### Playground gets on wrong side of neighbors concerned with safety

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Residents of a seaside condominium complex clashed with commissioners at Tuesday night's City Council meeting over a playground upgrade that they fear will attract homeless, gangs and traffic.

Speakers took to the podium after a glowing staff presentation on the proposal for the city's first universally accessible playground, a play area specifically designed so that children with disabilities can play on it as readily as those without.

The 20,000-square-foot playground conceived by design team Katherine Spitz Associates Inc. would replace a sand play area, picnic tables, turf area and palm trees that already occupy the site with a play area that looks like a buried clipper ship complete with sails and images of marine life.

According to the staff report, sails would provide shade and the hulls, decks and areas around the ship would provide places for the kids to play with traditional playground equipment like slides and swings as well as sea-themed features like periscopes and sandboxes.

Sea Colony residents, however, took a dim view of the proposal.

Musical instruments became noisemakers, the location too close to gang activity and the ship's hull a place for the homeless to sleep — or worse, fornicate.

"If there was ever a foreseeable hazard, this is it," said resident Steve Unger. "My mind boggles at the crime, lawsuits and inevitable liability to Santa Monica taxpayers that this wrongheaded project would cause."

One resident even spoke of the biohazard of homeless people having sex in ships where children would later play.

Alan Toy, a former social services commissioner and Rent Control board member who is disabled, was having none of it.

"I've never heard of 'not in my public beach,' but NIMBY-ism has taken on a new tone tonight," Toy said.

The community has been waiting for over two decades for a playground that serves children with special needs, he said.

"We're finally getting a nice, good, accessible playground," he said. "While there's always a better place to do something, this is a remarkable design."

Proponents did warn of safety issues relating to the proposed playground's prox-

SEE PLAYGROUND PAGE 8


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# What's Up Westside

## OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

### Thursday, Jan. 12, 2012

**Art class**
Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 3:30 p.m.
Samohi presents the second annual Homegrown Art Show and Sale, showcasing work from current students, alumni and teachers, all with the goal of raising funds. Fifty percent of the sale of each piece will be donated to the art department's account to help pay for materials and the other 50 percent will go directly to the artist. This event will take place at the school's own Roberts Art Gallery, located in the history building.

**History of the city by the sea**
Santa Monica History Museum
1350 Seventh St., 12 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Come experience the remarkable chapters of Santa Monica's history in the permanent exhibit gallery. Place yourself in the front-page news of a past era, explore Santa Monica landmarks, or step into a re-created section of a Douglas C-47. Four themed exhibit rooms delve into the rich and colorful history of Santa Monica. Cost: $5, $3 for seniors and students, free for children under 12. For more information, call (310) 395-2290.

**L.A. in pictures**
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.
photo l.a. returns to the Civic Auditorium for its 21st year. Continuing the discourse on photography's place in the fine arts, the event provides dealers from around the globe a platform for the exhibition of vintage masterworks, contemporary photography, as well as video and multimedia installations. For more information, visit www.photola.com.

**Freudian slip**
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Most people are familiar with psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, but lesser-known is his son Ernst, the subject of "Ernst L. Freud: Architect," a lecture by author Volker M. Welter. Welter, author of "Ernst L. Freud: The Case of the Modern Bourgeois Home," will share images of Freud's homes and designs. By interweaving an account of Freud's professional and personal life in Vienna, Berlin and London, he offers a rich tapestry of Freud's world. Admission is free, and seating is first come, first served. All ages are welcome. For more information about this and other library programs, visit www.smpl.org or call (310) 458-8600.

### Friday, Jan. 13, 2012

**Breakfast with the king**
Calvary Baptist Church
1502 20th St., 7:30 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.
Presented in cooperation with the Westside Interfaith Council, the Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast is an inspirational gathering featuring speakers, reflection and prayer. Tickets: $25 donation; $200 for a table of 10. For more information, call Gary Avrech, (310) 207-4500.

**Get jazzy**
Upper West
3321 W. Pico Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Piano jazz with Ron Levy and "The Divine Miss Cline," plus blues singer Sista Jean and CB. Enjoy dinner and intimate musical performances. Tickets: $50 per person donation. Proceeds to be used for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition's Education Awards for high school and community college students. For more information call, Gary Avrech, (310) 207-4500.

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



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS




DOWNTOWN

### Santa MoniCards still good

As City Hall oversees the installation of 6,100 new parking meters that run on solar power and accept different forms of payment, including credit cards and smartphone apps, some people may be wondering what that means for the Santa MoniCard.

Well, city officials say those cards, which were first made available in 2006 and act as debit cards that allow people to store up to $120 at a time, are still good and have released a set of instructions to help make it easier to use them at the new meters.

The way the Santa MoniCard works is simple. First, insert the card into the meter slot and leave it in. The remaining balance on the card should be displayed. Press the "+" or "-" buttons to adjust how much time is purchased and then press "OK" to confirm the transaction or "cancel" to void it. Then remove the card from the meter slot.

Don Patterson, City Hall's business and revenue operations manager, said initially the new meters, which were purchased for $4.5 million and will replace conventional meters that only accept coins and Santa MoniCards, were not going to be able to read the Santa MoniCard.

"We were going to provide an opportunity for any outstanding cards to get refunds," Patterson said. "However, the new meters were able to be programmed to accept the cards, so people can continue to use them."

The challenge, Patterson said, is that the cards work differently than credit cards. Without a database of people that bought the Santa MoniCards, city staff is in the process of disseminating instructions on how to use them by posting the instructions on City Hall's website.

The new meters, which cost roughly $600,000 annually to operate, are expected to increase parking revenue by approximately $1.7 million since they are more reliable, reduce the amount of cash handled by staff and make it easier to raise rates as demand increases, according to a city staff report.

City Hall has a "few" Santa MoniCards left for purchase, and there are no plans to order more once those run out, Patterson said.

"[We're] only supporting those already out there," he said.

The equipment used to reload the cards is outdated and the company that produced it doesn't support the technology anymore, Patterson said.

KEVIN HERRERA



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

GET THAT OUT OF HERE: **Inglewood goalie Fabio Alvarez (left) punches the ball out of danger as Santa Monica High School's Marco Tejada (center) tries to get a shot on goal. Samohi won the Ocean League opener, 3-0.**

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

## Samohi begins league season on right foot

**BY DANIEL ARCHULETA**
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica shut out Inglewood, 3-0, Wednesday to begin the Ocean League soccer season with a win at home.

In victory, Samohi's boys' team improves to 5-1-3 overall and 1-0 in league.

The Vikings continue league play Friday on the road at rival Culver City. The game is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

**ST. MONICA OPENS LEAGUE WITH WIN**

On the strength of junior Briana Harris' 38 points, the No. 9 St. Monica's girls' basketball team rallied Tuesday to top third-ranked Pasadena La Salle, 59-49, to open the Camino Real League season in the win column.

The win may improve St. Monica's place in the next CIF-Southern Section Division 4A poll, which will be released on Monday.

Former Samohi standout Harris also grabbed 11 rebounds and dished out five assists in the home victory. Sophomore Katrina Balatico chipped in seven points and sunk two free throws late in the game to help secure the win.

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 9

## Six women get new lease on life through Chrysalis, makeover

**BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD**
Daily Press Staff Writer

LINCOLN BLVD How do you think you would like going red?

That was the question that Lucie Doughty posed to Leslie, a client at Chrysalis, a Santa Monica-based nonprofit that helps homeless get past addiction and find employment.

"I thought she would make an amazing red head," said Doughty, the editorial director for the Paul Mitchell hair care line and hair colorist extraordinaire.

Leslie was one of six female Chrysalis clients who received head-to-toe makeovers as part of Paul Mitchell's "Color Your Confidence" media campaign, an effort to give the women a little extra confidence as they re-enter the workforce.

All six women graduated from the Women Empowerment Program, an eight-week workshop that pairs 20 women with a mentor to teach them skills and boost their confidence, said Elizabeth Daly, vice president of development and communications with Chrysalis.

The program concentrates on teaching women skills, building their resumes and preparing them for job interviews, but the John Paul Mitchell Systems offered a little

SEE **MAKEOVER** PAGE 9

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

### No shaking required

**Editor:**

As a registered dietitian and the former president of the California Dietetics Association, I always monitor and evaluate trends when it comes to food and nutrition. With the start of the new year, we always hear of numerous health resolutions to which people commit. More and more consumers pledge to go back to basics, not only with the way they live their daily lives, but also with the food choices they make.

Today, consumers are looking at ways to incorporate more authentic, natural and wholesome foods into their diets – the less processed the better. I think this is one of the reasons for the rise in the number of farmers' markets across the country. People want to know where their foods come from. More and more consumers are reading the labels and questioning whether their foods have been modified or altered in any way.

I don't know if you've seen it on TV recently, but the latest "got milk?" commercial gave me some food for thought. Using its signature "got milk?" humor, the advertisement tells the story of a concerned mother who offers her son milk after waking up from a scary nightmare. She grabs a carton of "alternative milk" from the refrigerator, as the spot refers to, with the instructions "shake well."

The commercial got me really thinking. Good old-fashioned cow's milk doesn't need instructions before drinking. Why does "alternative milk?"

Contrary to popular belief, "alternative milk" beverages like soy are actually low in calcium so manufacturers fortify them with primarily calcium carbonate to boost their calcium content. Unless the sediment at the bottom of the carton is "shaken well" before drinking, consumers would not take in the calcium they thought they're getting. Calcium in cow's milk, however, is naturally suspended throughout the liquid and needs no shaking. Ironically, more and more people perceive "alternative milk" to be a healthier choice to cow's milk, when in reality, "alternative milk" is heavily processed.

The bottom line is this: authentic, natural and wholesome foods need no "shaking." Going back to basics means consuming lots of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, eating protein-rich foods like beans and lean meats, low fat and non-fat dairy and cutting back on sugar-filled and processed foods and beverages. There are no short cuts to a healthier lifestyle. The more authentic, natural and wholesome the food is the more likely consumers will benefit from all the nutrients it has to offer.

**Lisa Gibson, MS RD**
President of the California
Dietetics Association (2004-05)






## Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Is marijuana causing my son to be a deadbeat?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

My husband and I are very worried about our son. He is in his mid 20s, has had an excellent education, but all that he seems to be interested in is staying up late to play video games and sleeping until noon. He hasn't gotten a job, doesn't even look for one; he also doesn't seem to be interested in having a girlfriend. Actually, he seems interested in very little.

We have been told that he smokes marijuana every day but he denies it. We both think that we have smelled it.

We realize that we are probably enabling him by allowing him to stay in our home, but at the same time the job market is bad and we are terribly worried about what will happen if we ask him to leave.

He simply does not seem capable of taking care of himself. This by the way is very different from the teenage son we used to have. Everything about him seems very different.

Can you tell us how to know if marijuana is causing this? What should we be doing if it is?

Signed,
Worried Parents

**DEAR WORRIED PARENTS,**

I am sorry to say that you should be concerned, but there are some things that you can do.

I can't say for sure that your son is smoking marijuana, but he sure fits the profile. Marijuana is very easy to obtain, many people think that it is benign and most young people are trying it and many are using it regularly.

Marijuana is much stronger than it use to be and stays in the system longer. It also stores in the fat cells, so daily users are really stoned all of the time, whether they realize it or not.

Everything you said about your son is consistent with what can happen with regular marijuana use. Contrary to popular opinion, it is addictive. Addiction means difficulty with controlling drug use (or a behavior) and not being able to stop even though it is interfering with one's life.

There is documented proof that many regular long-term users experience a withdrawal syndrome of irritability, anxiety, sleeping problems and craving. Fifteen percent of people entering drug treatment say that marijuana is their drug of choice.

Marijuana is linked with several very disturbing mental health problems. There is strong evidence suggesting that it can lead to psychosis or a brief psychotic episode that gradually fades away when the drug is withdrawn.

Research has shown definite negative effects on attention, memory and learning, all of which can last for days or weeks after the acute effects wear off. There is really no question that regular users are impaired in their daily functioning.

This is not to say that marijuana is bad in general or for all people. I am not talking about occasional social or recreational use of marijuana. Generally, it is the regular users of it that experience the negative effects and are at increased risk for psychosis, depression, suicidal thoughts, and anxiety or personality disturbances. Of course, like alcohol, marijuana is very intoxicating and no one should drive under its influence.

One of the longest standing concerns about marijuana has been with what is known as "amotivational syndrome," which is a diminished or absent drive to participate in what would typically be rewarding experiences. Along with reduced intellectual ability and the cognitive impairment associated with regular use, it is no surprise that many of these people have less educational accomplishments, lower incomes and far lower career achievements.

The good news is that you can do something for your son. You can take him to your family physician to be tested or there are over the counter drug tests that are very reliable. If he is using regularly and cannot stop, it would clearly explain the behavior you are worried about. Your son may need help to quit and get started up again with a normal life.

There are treatment programs and there are addiction specialists that can help him if he can't help himself. Some physicians or psychiatrists that specialize in addiction medicine may prescribe some temporary medications to help him detoxify. There are also groups and 12-Step programs for marijuana users.

If what you are seeing and thinking is correct, your son most likely needs help. And enabling him will not help him. There is something in between putting him out versus continuing to support him while looking the other way.

Find out what is truly going on and do something about it.

Best of luck!

**DR. JOANNE BARGE** is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Dr. Barge is also APA certified in the treatment of substance abuse. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or send your inquires to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind, let us help you with your life matters.




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## Three Innocents Abroad

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Taking the road less traveled is a bumpy but fun ride

**Editor's note: Longtime Santa Monican Charles Andrews is traveling across Europe in a camper van for one year, with his family. This is the second installment in a series of columns about their adventures.**

WHAT WE MOSTLY WRITE ABOUT, IN e-mails and the daily blog, is where we've been and what we've seen. Because not everyone gets to gaze upon Michelangelo's "David" or Hitler's bunker or the Acropolis or a lost-in-time Albanian fishing village, and so much more, especially all on one trip. We're really fortunate, and we give thanks every day.

But there's a dark side.

Three people. One very small 20-year-old VW van, with two beds, a built-in kitchen that so far doesn't function, an unreliable fan belt, a missing table that just arrived by mail with no installation instructions, and a brand new Porta-Potty.

One year. Countless missed turns and screaming (well, tense voices) between driver and navigator; a GPS we've named James Bond for his accent and his predilection for adventure and danger, and the occasional nervous breakdown; four tows in four months from remote roads and our fate in the hands of some mechanic in the middle of nowhere; and a continent full of mechanics and other people who don't speak English, dammit.

Starting to get the picture?

That's only part of the story for the Three Innocents Abroad (so self-named because we are fairly close cousins of Mark Twain, and his first journal of his European travels was titled "The Innocents Abroad"). One is a music-obsessed writer/editor. One a singer, painter, playwright and voice-over actress. (OK, two strong-willed creative types, that's a good opportunity for peril.) And one is even more creative and strong-willed and … (scary organ music) … a teenager.

Yes, an 18-year-old freshly-minted Samohi grad who agreed to spend one year with her parents in very close quarters. Am I making this up? Is it a premise beyond belief? Nicole's explanation to the incredulous was simple and to-the-point: "A year in Europe? Free? And I don't even have to drive? Hell, yeah!"

For those concerned that her parents are discouraging her formal education, she will enroll in Santa Monica College when we return, and certainly go on to get a university degree (or face an ugly fate at our hands). Of course, this year is an education you can't get in a classroom anywhere. Priceless, as they say. Though we are getting the big bills and I just paid one online. How about gas at $7 to $10 a gallon? Awww, are you upset that it's hovering around four bucks there in Santa Monica?

My wife Dian and I have been together for 29 years, and Nicole, well, we've known her since she was very young. (For the literally minded, no, she's not adopted, that was humor.) So it's not like we didn't know what we were getting into. But, you think you know somebody.

Who knew Nicole would save all her teen attitude 'til she was 18 and now impossible to escape? Shrewd planning on her part, to make sure her ticket wouldn't be rescinded. Who knew the undeniably, lovably irrepressible Dian would turn into a crazy American who approaches everyone and starts a conversation about anything, asking questions she already knows the answers to or ones that don't have answers, of people who usually turn out to know not a speck of English? Who knew Charles' hair would gray so quickly from obsessing over the chaos he sees around him, nitpicking to death every decision that doesn't go exactly his way?

And yet, we survive. And even thrive. Because we are like-minded in the most important ways. We are all mostly oblivious to the discomforts of our chosen lifestyle, because we know that's what makes this trip possible, rather than a much shorter or more comfortable one. And our mode of camping, with a van, makes it possible to go literally anywhere; it's those out-of-the way places down less-traveled roads that have been so rewarding. (Note: this part is easier for the girls, who both just love camping, than for Charles who greatly prefers easily-accessible hot water, cold beer, and a big soft chair and really big screen for basketball games.)

We're all really good at letting go, and there's lots to let go of. When you're home, there's a routine that doesn't twist that much. With what we're doing, nearly every day is different, with its own challenges, and going with the flow becomes essential. No one has turned into a whiner, not even the teen. Can you imagine?

We each quickly developed an unspoken sense of what it takes to make this journey a success for all. But more than a set of rules, there exists a cooperation and spirit of compromise and giving that each of us naturally abides by.

In all the splendor of Europe that we are soaking in, these life lessons may turn out to be the most valuable souvenirs.

You can follow the **ANDREWS** family's daily blog at anandrewsadventure.blogspot.com

## The Q Line

### Redevelopment in jeopardy

City officials are trying to determine the fate of $267 million in high-priority redevelopment projects in the wake of the California Supreme Court's decision to allow the Legislature to dissolve redevelopment agencies across the state.

**So, this week's Q-Line question asks:**
Do you feel redevelopment agencies should remain intact to fund projects like the Pico Neighborhood Library and renovation of the Civic Auditorium, or do you believe they should be abandoned and the money spent on education and public safety?

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) 458-7737 ext. 107**.












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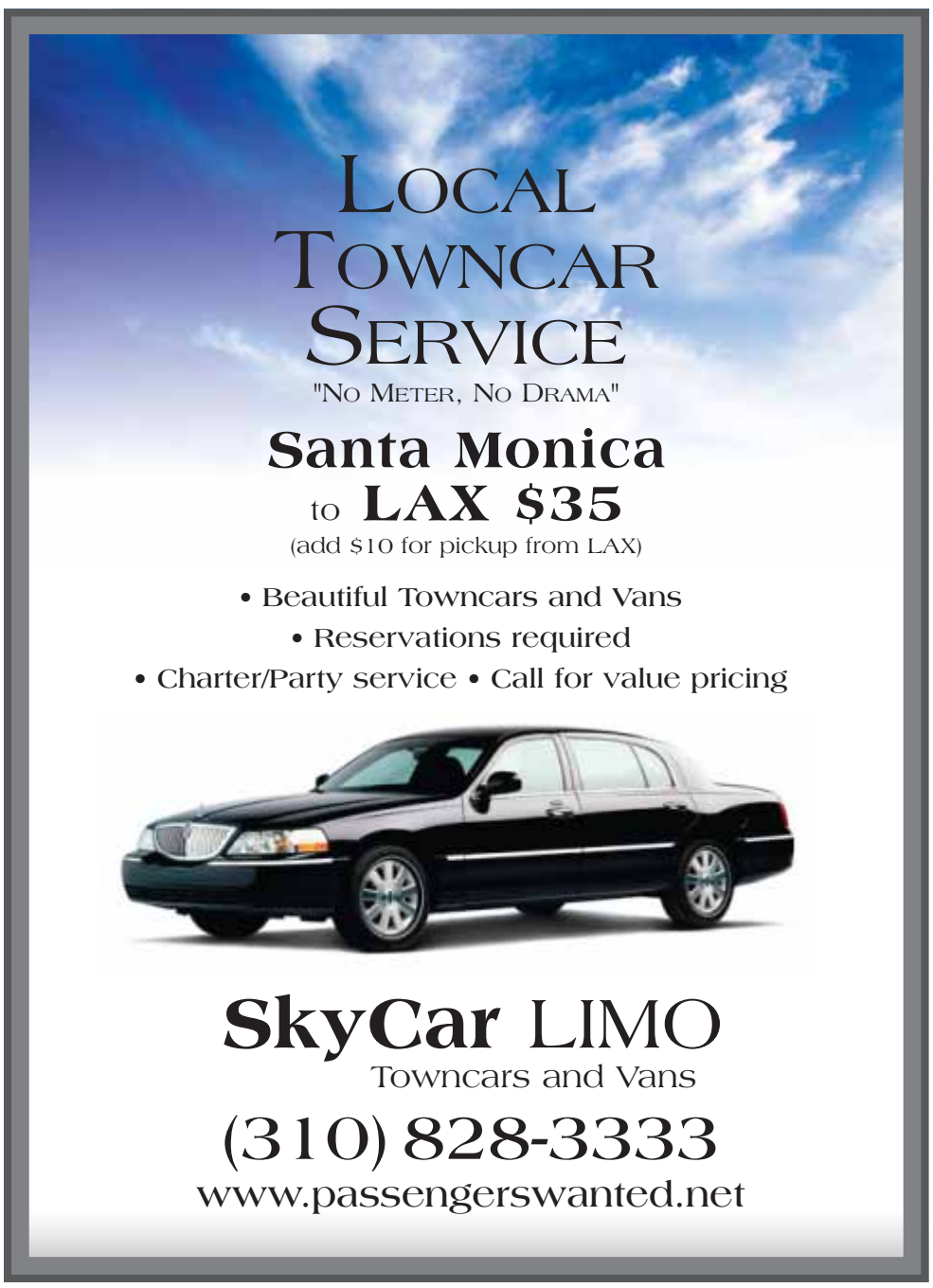
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## BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

### TV commercial shoots soar

The number of television commercial shoots in Los Angeles County is soaring, boosted by economic recovery, city tax breaks and ads for the Super Bowl, the summer Olympics and political campaigns.

FilmL.A. Inc., which handles film permits for the city and county, says commercial shoots rose 8 percent in the fourth quarter compared to the same period last year.

The Association of Independent Commercial Producers says there are many factors at play.

Association president Matt Miller says the rebounding economy is a factor.

The Los Angeles Times says another factor is the proliferation of digital media, which has created more demand for ads across multiple platforms, including websites, iPads and smartphones.

Filming a 30-second TV ad can employ 40 crew members and cost up to $400,000.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

### Supervisors consider limits on public comment

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is considering limiting public comment at meetings despite criticism that the proposal would restrict constitutional rights.

The board on Tuesday sent the measure to county attorneys for further review.

It's aimed at streamlining meetings by curbing disruptive or crude public remarks, especially by gadflies who make repeated comments on multiple issues.

The proposal would allow the board chairman to restrict a speaker to one three-minute comment period instead of allowing the same person to speak several times.

The board already has informally begun requiring such consolidation of public remarks but the practice is being challenged by activists and civic leaders.

AP

DOWNEY

### Woman searches for father missing since 2007

A retired San Diego County sheriff's deputy missing for four years was examined and released last week by a Southern California hospital that was not told he's a missing person.

Kiersten Carlin is now searching Downey for her 69-year-old father, Larry Everett Starks.

He was living in Florida when he went off his schizophrenia medicine and disappeared in December 2007.

The Los Angeles Times says Starks showed up at a Downey restaurant on Jan. 5 and he was taken to a hospital. Starks said he was a retired deputy looking for his daughter, but he didn't have contact information.

Carlin lives 28 miles away in Tustin.

The San Diego department confirmed Starks was a retired deputy, but the hospital staff wasn't told he was a missing person.

AP

LOS ANGELES

### Feds cite Lindsay Lohan for unpaid taxes in 2009

Lindsay Lohan is facing a lien for nearly $94,000 that the federal government says she owes in unpaid taxes.

Records in Los Angeles County show the lien was filed Thursday seeking payment for the 2009 tax year.

Celebrity website TMZ first reported the lien Tuesday, the same day a paparazzo sued the model-actress for being in a car that allegedly struck him in Hollywood in January 2010.

Lohan's publicist Steve Honig said the starlet's finances are nobody's business but her own. As for photographer Grigor Balyan's lawsuit seeking unspecified damages against Lohan, Honig says he hasn't seen the case but accused the paparazzi of invading her privacy daily.

The actress is continuing to serve morgue duty to comply with her probation in a pair of misdemeanor cases.

AP

LOS ANGELES

### Crime drops in Summer Night Lights neighborhoods

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa says a Los Angeles program that keeps targeted city parks open late during the summer months is succeeding in reducing gang-related crime.

Summer Night Lights is a program that keeps 32 parks and recreation centers in at-risk areas open late from Fourth of July Weekend through Labor Day.

In a report Tuesday, Villaraigosa says communities around the targeted parks experienced a 55 percent reduction in shots fired, a 43 percent reduction in aggravated assault and a 35 percent reduction in gang-related homicide.

Overall, a 35 percent reduction in all gang-related crime was reported.

The program's popularity is also on the rise, with 64,800 more visits to Summer Night Lights sites in 2011 as compared to 2010.

The program sites also provided more than 1,600 summer jobs.

AP

LOS ANGELES

### Deputy sheriff trainees sue

Four sheriff's deputy trainees filed lawsuits against Los Angeles Tuesday County over allegations that they were retaliated against for trying to stop and report discrimination.

The trainees were discriminated against based on their race and age, and internal complaints about the mistreatment only brought retaliation, according to their attorney Leo Terrell.

One plaintiff, Max Kim, alleges superior officers frequently hazed him by making references to his race and ethnicity, and in one instance telling him to go back to Korea. After Kim filed formal complaint, he was forced to work a 19-hour shift without sleep, use of the restroom or water.

Another plaintiff, Lisa Richardson, alleges that she was told by supervisors that she was too old to work patrol shifts at Century Station. Richardson filed a complaint for age discrimination and says she was also forced to work long, uncomfortable shifts like Kim.

Plaintiff Jacqueline Medina alleges similar age discrimination.

The plaintiffs say they were also retaliated against for whistle-blowing on deputy misconduct, including tampering with evidence, falsifying reports, and disposing of identification cards.

In retaliation, they were forced to work 19-hour shifts without breaks.

AP

# Swerving not a smooth move to avoid animals on road

**SUE MANNING**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Do you brake for cats, dogs, squirrels, skunks and possums? How about horses, cows, elk, moose, or deer?

Fight the urge to swerve as you brake if you don't have time to check traffic first, said Julie Startup, a Washington State trooper and spokeswoman in the agency's Seattle and Bellevue area.

"If you are able to make a safe lane change, by all means do it," said California Highway Patrol Officer Tamara McCormack, a spokeswoman in the Los Angeles office. But swerving without looking could result in an accident.

The size of the animal matters. If it's shorter than your car's hood and you don't have time to check other lanes, go through it, Startup said. If the animal is taller than the hood, avoid it if you can, knowing it still might be better to hit the animal.

"These crashes happen so fast, often times drivers don't have the option of making a decision about what to do," said Russ Rader, spokesman for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, "but the best thing, unfortunately, in most cases is to hit the animal and try to avoid swerving or doing something that could cause you to lose control and hit somebody else or an object or go off the road and roll over."

Most human injuries from animal collisions occur not when animals are hit but by the crash that follows. And most fatalities could be prevented by using seatbelts in cars and helmets on motorcycles, Rader said.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recorded 173 fatal crashes and 12,000 injury crashes involving animals in 2009, the latest year statistics are available, said spokesman Jose Alberto Ucles.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety estimates there are more than 1.5 million crashes involving deer each year, resulting in more than $1 billion in vehicle damage annually.

Very few dogs, cats or other small animals are included in national studies about animal strikes because they are not reported to police or insurance companies, Rader said. But using data from several agencies, including NHTSA, the institute did a comprehensive study in 2004 that found 77 percent of reported animal crashes involved deer, 10 percent involved cattle, 6 percent horses and 6 percent dogs. "We even had one case that was a bear," he said.

If your own dog gets out of the car or house, "do anything you can to keep it from moving in the direction of traffic," said Cheryl Conway, a spokeswoman for the Aurora Animal Shelter in Colorado.

"Do not chase it," she warned. "Try calling and running in the opposite direction, like you are playing."

One of Conway's three Labrador retrievers is Bonny Kelani, who was 7 months old when someone threw her off a freeway overpass in Aurora.

Foster families cared for her through thousands of dollars in surgeries and weeks in rehab. Conway's family was Bonny Kelani's fourth foster stop in July. They officially adopted her in August.

Bonny Kelani is still afraid of traffic, Conway said. The first time Conway tried to take her for a walk next to a street "she panicked. Like a colt on a rope, she reared back and almost flipped over." The family has tried sitting with her on the porch and in the yard but when she gets close to the road, she still tries to get away.

Bonny Kelani owes her life to the good Samaritan who took her to the hospital, but experts recommend letting authorities handle animals hurt in crashes. "If they are injured, they will lash out and bite anything without realizing what they are doing," Conway said.

If you hit an animal and your car will make it, get off the road and call 911. And if you do try to help a dog or cat, cover it first with a blanket or towel so it can't hurt you.

Based on claims, State Farm Insurance estimated there were 1.09 million crashes between deer and vehicles in the United States between July 1, 2010, and June 20, 2011, said company spokesman Eddie C. Martinez in Los Angeles. That is 7 percent lower than a year earlier and down 9 percent from three years earlier, he said.

Pennsylvania had the most deer-vehicle crashes, with 101,299, Martinez said, followed by Michigan with 78,304. But he said the chances of a driver hitting a deer in the next 12 months are greatest in West Virginia, at one in 54. That's better than a year ago, when chances were one in 42, he said.

Martinez said the average cost of a crash with a deer is $3,171, up 2.2 percent from a year earlier.

Deer are most active between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., and during mating and migration season, typically fall and winter. Top months for deer-vehicle collisions are November, October and December, according to research from State Farm.

Watch for deer crossing signs, use your high beams whenever possible at night, don't rely on car-mounted deer whistles and remember that deer usually travel in herds, he said.

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## PLAYGROUND

FROM PAGE 1

imity to the Marvin Braude Beach Bike Path, a highly-traveled area by bicyclists that children and adults would have to cross to get to adjacent bathrooms.

Christopher Knauf, a disabilities lawyer and member of the Disabilities Commission, called it "a bit of fine tuning."

"We want to ensure that the design team has fully looked at the issue of safety," Knauf said. "It's definitely been on our mind since the location was chosen, and we know it's been on the city staff's mind."

It was certainly on the City Council's mind.

Councilmember Bobby Shriver recounted a frightening encounter between a bicyclist and his own child on a portion of the bike path near the Annenberg Community Beach House.

"Unless that problem is somehow solved, I would be reluctant to vote for this," Shriver said.

Staff will be looking at a wide range of possibilities to keep kids safe from fast-moving bikers, said Community and Cultural Services Director Karen Ginsberg.

"Everything from relocating and moving the bike path to things that Manhattan Beach has done in terms of slowing bikes down," Ginsberg said Wednesday, referring to a portion of the bike path in the other seaside town where bicyclists must dismount and walk in a particularly congested area.

Council members promised to keep residents' complaints about gang and homeless safety in mind, but chided them for their lack of respect for other speakers at the podium.

That didn't sit well with Warren Bennis, a 30-year resident of Seaside Colony and professor at both USC and Harvard University.

"We were not consulted early on," Bennis said. "I don't do playdates. This is a dangerous place, and now it will get more dangerous."

According to real estate agent Peter Sales, Sea Colony has 153 units and 24-hour manned security.

Two meetings were held at Sea Colony regarding the playground, in addition to other public meetings, according to the staff report.

"What I would say is what Mayor [Richard] Bloom said last night," Ginsberg said. "Every park or public facility goes through this type of situation, a not-in-my-back-yard situation, regardless of size or character."

Staff gathered contact information for residents and are committed to keeping them in the loop, Ginsberg said.

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## RDA

FROM PAGE 1

82 low-income seniors as well as an unknown amount in staff costs when the Redevelopment Agency is dissolved in February.

Any additional costs will throw spending into the red, City Manager Rod Gould said in a report to the City Council.

The housing vouchers and employee salaries and benefits are currently paid by the Redevelopment Agency, which was dissolved by a bill passed by the California Legislature in January and upheld by the courts in December.

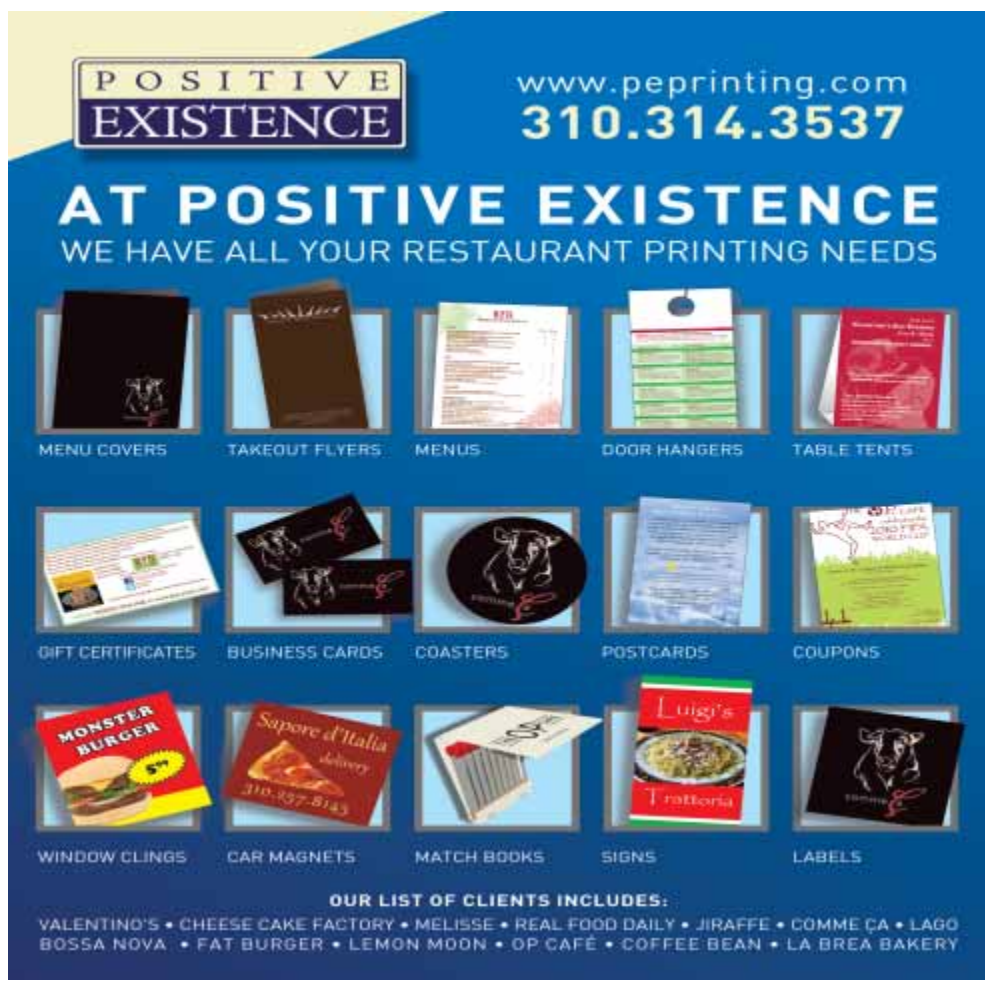
The full effect on City Hall's finances won't be known for months, if not years, but a more complete report will be available by the end of the month, said acting finance director Gigi Decavalles-Hughes.

Staff also recommended that City Hall increase a rainy day fund to $9.7 million, increase its contingency fund from 10 percent of expenditures to 15 percent for a total of $41.5 million and earmark $11 million to purchase land in the city for a new fire station in Downtown and an expansion of the City Yards, which is the location of recycling and waste management services and serves as a training ground for firefighters.

That money was not appropriated for land purchases Tuesday, just flagged for potential use.

City Councilman Bobby Shriver was the sole dissenting vote on the series of proposals. He did not want to alter the budget without knowing the full impact of the loss of the Redevelopment Agency.

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## ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

The Mariners began the game slow, down 22-14 in the second quarter before rallying to end the half trailing, 27-26.

La Salle was able to take a 46-42 lead with five minutes remaining in the game, but St. Monica rattled off a 13-0 run to seize control of the game.

The victory improves St. Monica to 10-7 overall and 1-0 in league.

Next for the Mariners is a road game against league foe St. Joseph. The road game begins at 7 p.m.

### UCLA RECOGNIZES LEMBERGER

Former Samohi star Thea Lemberger was named the UCLA/Muscle Milk Student-Athlete of the Week on Jan. 2.

Lemberger's highlight of the week came during a 26-point, four assist performance against Pac-12 rival California on Dec. 29 en route to a 60-55 victory.

The sophomore added eight points against Stanford a few nights later.

Lemberger has started all of the women's basketball team's games this season and is averaging 11.4 points along the way.

She is the team leader in assists and three-point field goals.

It was the first time she earned the honor.

While at Samohi, Lemberger led the Vikings to its first CIF-SS championship in the sport. In the process, she was named CIF-SS Division 1A player of the year as a senior.

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## BULGER
FROM PAGE 1

Bulger's lawyer, J.W. Carney Jr., said the volume of evidence he has received from prosecutors is "enormous" and he and four other lawyers at his firm need more time to go through it. Carney said Bulger isn't trying to slow down the process and noted that it generally takes 18 months to 2 1/2 years for a murder case to go to trial in Massachusetts.

"My client is preparing for trial," he said.

Bulger, the former leader of the notorious Winter Hill Gang, was also a top-echelon FBI informant. He was captured in June in Santa Monica after more than 16 years on the run. He is accused of participating in 19 murders in the 1970s and 1980s.

Bulger, who is being held without bail, didn't attend the court hearing Wednesday. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Bulger was taken to a Boston hospital on Dec. 22 after complaining of chest pains. The Boston Globe reported that he was brought back to jail the same day.

Carney wouldn't comment Wednesday when asked about Bulger's health.

The judge scheduled another status conference in the case for Feb. 13.

## MAKEOVER
FROM PAGE 3

something extra for six of the participants.

"It gives them a level of confidence," Daly said. "It's not the 'I am a cover model,' it's about seeing themselves as powerful and successful."

This is the first year that the Paul Mitchell team has done full makeovers of the women in the program, although the company, and its CEO and co-founder John Paul DeJoria, have been heavily involved with Chrysalis for a decade.

The nonprofit has a special place in DeJoria's heart since his staff found it almost 10 years ago. He himself was homeless in Los Angeles when he was 23, right before he and his partner Paul Mitchell launched John Paul Mitchell Systems on a shoestring budget of $700.

It's now the largest privately-owned hair care company in the world.

With the resources at his disposal, DeJoria works to give back. He does presentations for Chrysalis clients at the Santa Monica and Downtown Los Angeles locations, telling them about his personal struggles as the child of a single mother growing up in Echo Park, and how he turned into the entrepreneur he is today.

There's a trick, DeJoria said.

"Successful people do the things that unsuccessful people don't want to do," DeJoria said.

For a period of weeks after he launched his company, DeJoria lived out of his 20-year-old Rolls Royce. He'd left his home, his wife, his child and most of his money to start the venture, and he was "too proud" to move back in with his mother, he said.

When he tells people the story, DeJoria starts with what he had to do to survive.

"I had brunch for 99 cents and dinner for $1.25," he said. "You can still do it, but dinner costs $1.99."

Once the essentials of food, a place to stay and wellness are met, it's time to work on happiness.

DeJoria, who also owns Patron Spirits, found his passions in hair care and tequila.

The women who received specialized treatments at the hands of his professional team of beauticians are now looking for theirs.

Leslie takes her new "pixie" red hair and jumps on a skateboard to her job interviews. She's looking for a career in natural healing programs and massage.

Saule, an artist, was hired by Paul Mitchell for a gathering in Vegas. She recently flew to Lithuania to sell her paintings, said Andrea Espinoza, marketing manager with Paul Mitchell.

While some of the women are still looking for their ideal employment, the team was happy to give them a little something to help them in their search, Espinoza said.

"It's something I will carry with me for the rest of my life," she said.

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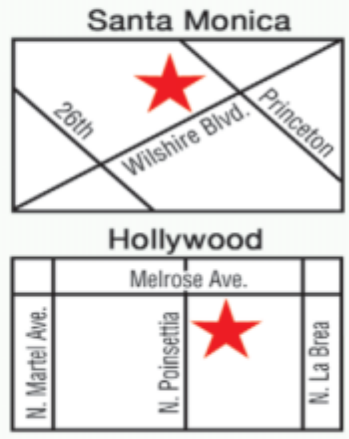


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# Dow Jones average edges lower on new Europe worries

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The Dow Jones industrial average crept lower Wednesday as Europe edged closer to a recession that would hurt corporate profits in the U.S. The first earnings reports from American companies didn't add much encouragement.

Germany reported that its economy, the largest in Europe, shrank slightly at the end of last year. And the European Union revised its figures for economic growth in the third quarter to 0.1 percent, its slowest pace in more than two years.

"Europe is still the main risk," said Jeffrey Kleintop, chief market strategist at LPL Financial. "Yes, they've been making progress on their budgets, but they clearly have growth problems."

The Dow dropped 13.02 points, or 0.1 percent, to close at 12,449.45 in another day of light trading.

The European Commission also said Hungary has taken "no effective action" to contain its budget deficit. Stock markets in Germany and France fell slightly, and the euro dropped half a penny against the dollar, to $1.27.

The United States depends on Europe to buy about 20 percent of its exports, and concerns about Europe have led analysts to lower their profit estimates for U.S. companies.

Profits at S&P 500 companies are expected to rise 7.2 percent for the last three months of 2011, according to Standard & Poor's Capital IQ. That's much lower than the 17.6 percent growth reported in the third quarter.

Judging by the S&P 500 index, investors seem to think earnings could fall much further, Kleintop said. The index is trading at about 13 times the past year's earnings of its companies — close to what it was at the end of 1990, when the economy was in recession. Earnings fell 20 percent during that downturn.

The S&P 500 gained 0.4 of a point on Wednesday to 1,292.48. The Nasdaq composite index rose 8.26, or 0.3 percent, to 2,710.76. The Nasdaq has gained 4 percent this year, the most of the major indexes. The Dow is up 1.9 percent, the S&P 2.8 percent.

Supervalu, a grocery store operator, plunged after reporting a wider-than-expected quarterly loss because of high food prices and costs related to a turnaround plan. Its stock lost 12 percent.

Orange juice prices settled lower Wednesday. They hit their highest levels since 2007 on Tuesday when the U.S. government said that a potentially harmful fungicide had been found in Brazilian imports.

The futures contract for orange juice fell to $1.88 from $2.08 the day before. Futures have been rising since December, largely over concerns that cold weather in Florida could damage the crop there.

Even with Wednesday's decline, OJ is up 14 percent from its recent low of $1.65 on Dec. 21.

The recent jump in orange juice futures hit Coca-Cola, owner of Minute Maid, and PepsiCo, which has Tropicana. Coca-Cola sank 1.8 percent. PepsiCo fell 1 percent.

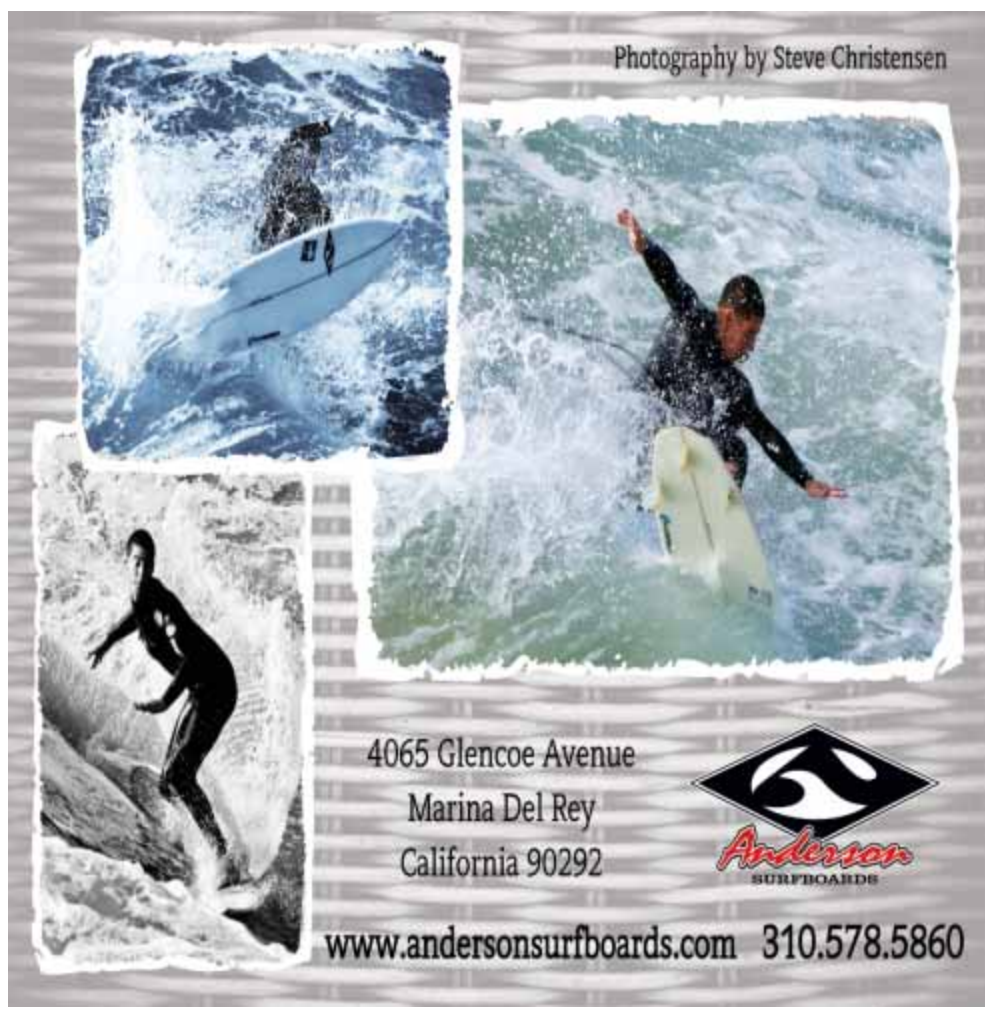
Among other large companies making moves:

• Urban Outfitters Inc. dropped 18 percent, the steepest fall of any stock in the S&P 500, following the abrupt resignation of its CEO, Glen Senk. The company, which also runs the Anthropologie and Free People stores, said last week that tough competition and a drive to reduce inventory led to more markdowns than expected during the holiday shopping season.

• Commercial Metals Co. fell 6 percent to $13.88 after investor Carl Icahn said he would end his hostile takeover attempt of the company. Only 23 percent of Commercial Metals' shareholders supported Icahn's $15-per-share offer, far short of Icahn's goal of 40.1 percent.

• Lennar Corp. rose 7.2 percent. Sales rose as the builder delivered more houses. Lennar reported a drop in quarterly earnings but said the housing market is starting to stabilize with the help of lower home prices and low interest rates.



# Twinkies maker nears bankruptcy

MAE ANDERSON
MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK The maker of Twinkies, Sno Balls and Wonder Bread is trying to lose the fat.

Hostess Brands is hoping to cut its high costs as it heads back into bankruptcy protection for the second time in less than a decade.

Hostess has enough cash to keep stores stocked with its Ding Dongs, Ho Hos and other snacks for now as it battles rising labor costs and increased competition. But longer term, the 87-year-old company has a bigger problem: health-conscious Americans favor yogurt and energy bars over the dessert cakes and white bread they devoured 30 years ago.

Last year, 36 percent of Americans ate white bread in their homes, down from 54 percent in 2000, according to NPD Group. Meanwhile, about 54 percent ate wheat bread, up from 43 percent in 2000.

Consumption of healthy snacks is growing, too. About 32 percent of Americans ate yogurt at least once in two weeks in 2011, for instance, up from 18 percent in 2000.

"We're less likely to be snacking on items that we shouldn't be snacking on," said Harry Balzer, chief industry analyst for The NPD Group, a consumer marketing research firm.

Hostess, which is a privately held, doesn't disclose sales figures. But Nyeyoka Bryan, 26, is proof that the company has lost at least some of its hardcore fans.

Bryan said she stopped eating Twinkies at about age 16 because she decided they were unhealthy. Still, the student who was sipping a fruit smoothie in the snack aisle of a Duane Reade store in New York on Wednesday afternoon said she'd be sad if Twinkies disappeared.

"They've been around a long time," she said.

To be sure, Hostess' snacks don't neatly fit into the U.S. trend toward a healthier lifestyle that includes a diet rich in whole wheat foods, fruits and vegetables.

For instance, Twinkies, a snack cake with a mysterious cream filling that epitomizes empty calories, has 150 calories and 4.5 grams of fat. Meanwhile, a Ding Dong chocolate cake with filling has 368 calories and 19.4 grams of fat.

Hostess has introduced some healthier options in recent years, including 100-calorie packs of cupcakes and Twinkies. The company also is working on lowering sodium in some products. But those efforts haven't helped the company's junk-food status much.

"The iconic status of Twinkies is partly this perception that there's nothing real in it," said Ken Albala, professor of history at the University of the Pacific, in Stockton, Calif., who specializes in food history. "It's this cake filled with an unidentifiable sugary cream filling that never goes bad."

Hostess has other problems, too.

In Hostess' Chapter 11 filing on Wednesday, the company said its rivals have combined and expanded their reach, heightening competition in the snack space. Hostess' competitors range from Bimbo Bakeries, which makes Entenmann's baked goods, and McKee Foods, which make Little Debbie snack cakes. It also faces competition from larger food makers like Sara Lee and Kraft Inc.

Additionally, Hostess employees are unionized while most of its competitors aren't. As a result, Hostess has high pension and medical benefit costs. The company has 19,000 employees and operates in 48 states.

Hostess did not announce layoffs but spokesman Lance Ignon said Wednesday that the company will make future decisions "in the best interest of the company."

CEO Brian Driscoll said Hostess is working to reach a consensual agreement with its unions to modify its collective bargaining agreements. Hostess also hopes to modernize its systems, fleets and plants to keep pace with customer needs.

"This company has tremendous potential if we can remove the barriers to success," Driscoll said.

The Teamsters Union, which represents about 7,500 of Hostess' delivery drivers and merchandisers, said in a statement on Wednesday that it is also committed to working toward a solution.

The company's filing comes nearly three years after its predecessor emerged from bankruptcy proceedings. That company, called Interstate Bakeries and based in Kansas City, Mo., filed for bankruptcy protection in 2004 and changed its name to Hostess Brands after it emerged in 2009.

Hostess said Wednesday that its previous efforts to change, including the prior Chapter 11, were insufficient. Under its most recent bankruptcy filing, it is looking to restructure into a "strong, competitive" company.

In its filing with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Hostess listed about $860 million in debt. The company's biggest unsecured creditor is the Bakery & Confectionary Union & Industry International Pension Fund, which it owes about $944.2 million.

In the filing, Hostess also listed its estimated assets between $500 million and $1 billion and its estimated liabilities at more than $1 billion.

The Irving, Texas-based company said that it will be able to maintain routine operations thanks to a $75 million financing commitment from a group of lenders led by Silver Point Capital LP.

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## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE BERGAMOT TRANSIT VILLAGE CENTER PROJECT (FORMER PAPERMATE SITE)

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given on the completion and availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Bergamot Transit Village Center Project (proposed project) located at 1681 26th Street in the City of Santa Monica.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**: The proposed project would result in the construction of an approximately 766,094sf mixed-use project within five buildings including up to 325 residential dwelling units, approximately 494,927sf of creative office, and approximately 46,895sf of ground floor neighborhood-serving retail and restaurant. The project would also include approximately 84,000sf of ground floor recreational open space. Buildings would range in height to a maximum of 81 feet high.

An up to three-level subterranean parking garage would be constructed under the proposed project, providing approximately 1,800 parking spaces. The proposed project would also include the construction of two new north/south streets in the western and eastern portions of the project site leading to two new signalized intersections on Olympic Boulevard. Additionally, a new east/west extension of Nebraska Avenue would be constructed along the northern edge of the project site connecting 26th Street to Stewart Street. On the project site, the streets would be constructed at grade over sections of the project's subterranean parking garage.

**ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**: The Draft EIR analyzed potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project including: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Construction Effects, Cultural Resources, Geology/Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Neighborhood Effects, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Shadows, Transportation/Traffic, and Utilities.

The Draft EIR determined that implementation of the proposed project will result in the following significant and unavoidable impacts: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Construction Effects (Air Quality), Neighborhood Effects (Aesthetics, Air Quality, and Traffic – Neighborhood Street Segments), Transportation and Traffic

**PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD**: A 45-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR. **The comment period will start on January 12, 2012 and end at 5:30 p.m. on February 27, 2012.** Written comments should be sent to:
Jing Yeo, Special Projects Manager, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Email: **jing.yeo@smgov.net** Fax: (310) 458-3380

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: The Draft EIR and background materials may be viewed online at **http://www01.smgov.net/planning/planningcomm/environmentalreports.html** or in person at the following locations:
City Planning Division Public Counter, Room 111, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
Santa Monica Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA
Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA

Anderson SURFBOARDS
310.578.5860
www.andersonsurfboards.com




**Surf Conditions** **Water Temp:** 61°

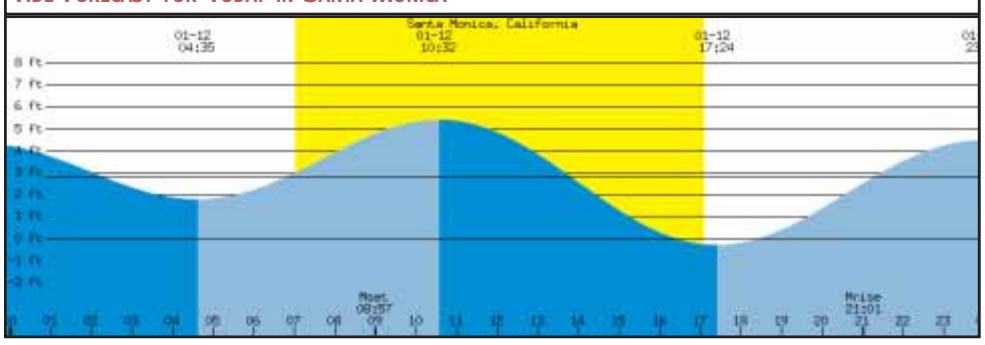
## Swell Forecast

**NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.**

## Long Range Synopsis

**NW** is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

## Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica




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 4, 2012**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

**QUICK STATS** (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 29 / 16
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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 |
|---|---|---|
| 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 Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks. | ns | ns |
| Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Broad Beach at Troncas Creek mouth. | A+ | B |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth. | D | D |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private). | A+ | ns |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth. | F | F |
| Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach. | A | ns |
| Latigo Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | F |
| Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach. | F | ns |
| Puerco State Beach at creek mouth. | D | D |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.. | A+ | ns |
| Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fences. | A | A+ |
| Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily. | F | F |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east. | A+ | F |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon. | B | F |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero). | A+ | ns |
| Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs. | A | A+ |
| Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Tuna Canyon. | A+ | ns |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth. | B | F |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain). | A+ | A+ |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence. | A+ | F |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain. | A | A+ |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain. | A+ | F |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua). | A | D |
| Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain. | A+ | F |
| Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain. | A+ | F |
| Santa Monica Municipal Pier. | C | A+ |
| Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain. | F | F |
| Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms). | A+ | B |
| Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain. | A+ | D |
| Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain. | A+ | A+ |
| Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain. | A | A+ |
| Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south. | A+ | A+ |
| Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.. | A+ | A+ |
| Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower. | A | A |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth. | D | F |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain. | A+ | A+ |
| North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty). | A+ | A+ |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain. | A+ | A+ |
| Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant. | A+ | F |
| 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'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.

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

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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.

MLB

# Media rights deal paves way for sale of Dodgers

**BY RANDALL CHASE**
AP Business Writer

WILMINGTON, Del. A bankruptcy judge in Delaware on Wednesday approved a settlement between the Los Angeles Dodgers and Fox Sports that clears the way for the sale of the team.

The settlement, reached late Tuesday and quickly approved at a brief court hearing Wednesday morning, ends a contentious legal battle between the ball club and Fox.

"The agreement with Fox clears the path for the Dodgers to sell the team on schedule and to maximize the value of the debtors' estate," Dodgers attorney Sid Levinson told Judge Kevin Gross.

Fox Sports attorney Greg Werkheiser said Fox was glad to have resolved its differences with the Dodgers, and attorneys for Major League Baseball and the Dodgers' committee of unsecured creditors told Gross they support the settlement.

Gross quickly signed off on the settlement, saying it was in the best interest of all parties in the Dodgers bankruptcy case.

The settlement was reached with the help of a court-appointed mediator after a federal district court judge said last month that Fox likely would win an appeal of a ruling by Gross that authorized the Dodgers to begin a process to market the media rights to future games starting in 2014.

Fox Sports Net West, part of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., claimed that the media rights marketing plan violated its rights under an existing telecast contract with the Dodgers.

Under the settlement, the Dodgers will abide by the terms of the existing contract with Fox. That contract gives Fox an exclusive 45-day period starting in October to try to negotiate a contract extension with the Dodgers. The contract also prohibits the Dodgers from talking to other potential buyers of the media rights before Nov. 30 and gives Fox a limited right of first refusal on competing offers received after that date.

Gross had ruled that those "no-shop" provisions were unenforceable in bankruptcy and approved a marketing process that moved up the exclusive negotiating period by about 10 months. That would have forced Fox to try to strike a new deal with the Dodgers this month and made any agreement subject to approval by the successful bidder for the team, a condition Fox said would decrease its leverage in negotiations.

But the Dodgers and the creditors committee insisted the media rights needed to be marketed in conjunction with a sale of the team itself to maximize value.

The Dodgers backed away from that position after U.S. District Judge Leonard Stark, granting a stay in an appeal by Fox, indicated that Gross likely erred in approving the media rights marketing process. Stark's decision threatened plans to sell the team by an April 30 deadline called for in an agreement between the Dodgers and Major League Baseball.

"We've learned that the bidders for the team fully appreciate how lucrative the team's future media rights are in the current market," Levinson said Wednesday, adding that the Dodgers are far more confident now than they were last year that the full value of the media rights will be reflected in the sale price for the team.

The Dodgers sought bankruptcy protection in June after baseball Commissioner Bud Selig rejected a new TV deal with Fox that team owner Frank McCourt was counting on in order to make payroll and keep the franchise solvent. After the bankruptcy filing, attorneys for Selig successfully fought to force the Dodgers to accept bankruptcy financing from Major League Baseball, arguing at the same time that McCourt had looted more than $180 million from the team for his own use and for business reasons not related to baseball and should be forced to sell the team.

The Dodgers, meanwhile, threatened to seek court permission to sell the media rights in bankruptcy without the approval of MLB.

But after battling for several months, MLB and the team reached an agreement in November that called for a sale of both the team and the media rights. The April 30 sale deadline in the settlement coincides with the deadline for McCourt to pay $131 million to his ex-wife, Jamie, as part of their divorce settlement. The judge also approved the settlement with MLB on Wednesday, with Fox having agreed to drop its objections to it.

In opposing the settlement between the Dodgers and MLB and the media rights plan, Fox argued that a sale of the team itself without the media rights would generate enough money to pay Dodgers creditors in full without subjecting the team or its new owner to damages for breaching the existing contract with Fox.

"We look forward to working with new ownership on future television rights discussions," Fox Sports said in a statement issued early Wednesday.

As part of the settlement, McCourt still owes Fox $30 million that he borrowed in April to make the team's payroll. Fox also retains the right to object to any purchase of the team by any entity owned directly or indirectly by Time Warner Cable or affiliated with Time Warner.

Initial bids for the team are due by Jan. 23. Among potential buyers who have expressed interest in the team are groups that include former Dodgers players Orel Hershiser and Steve Garvey, former team manager Joe Torre, former owner Peter O'Malley and former general manager Fred Claire.



# MOVIE TIMES

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

Co-presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association.
**The Kid With A Bike (NR) 1hr 27min**
7:30pm
Directors Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne will appear in person for discussion following the film.

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

**New Year's Eve (PG-13) 1hr 57min**
1:15pm, 7:20pm

**Darkest Hour (PG-13) 1hr 29min**
4:30pm, 10:10pm

**Young Adult (R) 1hr 34min**
1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

**Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2hrs 40min**
3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

**My Week with Marilyn (R) 1hr 36min**
1:55pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

**Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2hrs 12min**
11:00am, 2:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:40pm, 10:30pm

**Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 1hr 27min**
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:35pm

**War Horse (PG-13) 2hrs 26min**
11:25am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:15pm, 6:30pm, 9:55pm

**We Bought a Zoo (PG) 2hrs 04min**
11:10am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

**Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 2hrs 08min**
12:15pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

**Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2hrs 40min**
11:05am, 2:35pm, 6:10pm, 9:45pm

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

**Descendants (R) 1hr 55min**
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

**Artist (PG-13) 1hr 40min**
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

**Dangerous Method (R) 1hr 39min**
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

**Shame (NC-17) 1hr 39min**
1:40pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

**Adventures of Tintin (PG) 1hr 41min**
1:50pm, 4:25pm

**Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2hrs 12min**
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm

**Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min**
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:55pm

**Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) 1hr 41min**
11:15am, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

**The Devil Inside (R) 1hr 27min**
11:10am, 1:30pm, 3:40pm, 5:50pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

**Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (R) 2hrs 07min**
11:50am, 1:40pm, 4:35pm, 7:30pm, 10:25pm

**Carnage (R) 1hr 19min**
11:30am, 3:20pm, 5:35pm, 7:45pm, 9:55pm

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

# Start the weekend early, Scorpio

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Your dream life might be more active than you realize. Enthusiasm surrounds a money venture. Use your ability to understand another person's point of view in order to relieve tension. You cannot, nor should you, hold back on an important decision. Use energy and precision. Tonight: Go as late as you can.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Where others have the facts, you have ingenuity. Team up together, and a project or idea can only become stronger. Someone you feel might be deceiving you probably isn't. He or she seems secretive. Tonight: Let the fun begin. Think "weekend."

## GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might feel strangely about an option that appears. As a result, it might be appropriate to rethink a decision that involves your security. You could feel out of sorts. Think before you leap into action. Tonight: Taking some much-needed downtime.

## CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You can drive a hard bargain. Others will come back with an equally strong position. The negotiation could be interesting, but in the long run, is it worth it all? A new light is shed on your interactions and those you deal with. Tonight: Hang out.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Any decisions involving your assets or funds could be problematic. You could go overboard, which is simply a reflection of your generous nature. Brainstorm all you want, but reserve decisions for some other day. Tonight: Balance your checkbook before making any plans.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your ability to melt barriers and get past an immediate issue helps clear out a problem. You don't need to agree with those in your social or professional circle. You discover the power of creativity mixed with endurance. Tonight: As you like it.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Know when to kick back and say that you have had enough. Your ability to center and regroup helps you orient your thinking. It becomes apparent that you want to handle a situation in a different way. Tonight: Vanishing time.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ A meeting proves to be more important than you thought. You have a lot to think about. Someone makes a new path slightly too tempting for your taste. Don't lose focus on what you want and where you are going, even if integrating others' ideas. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Many demands are made on you, forcing you to reorganize. Recognize that you are setting the tone for the next few days. Others will follow your lead, understanding what happens next. Pressure builds to an unprecedented level. Tonight: Listen to feedback with care.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Reach out for people who seem slightly more knowledgeable and centered than you. You are seeking some clarity and would like more feedback from respected associates. What you gain through this exploration allows greater success. Some of you might consider going back to school. Tonight: Follow the music.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A partnership is far more important than you realize. This person knows how to interject new information and perspectives into your thinking. Caring proves to be deeper than you thought. Tonight: With a favorite person.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Sometimes a partner can be difficult and assertive. You wonder why you are at this juncture. Recognize that this crossroad comes from your thinking. You might want to pull back in order to gain an even greater perspective. Tonight: Sort through your invitations.

## Happy birthday

You work on a different level from many other people, especially this year. Your intuition evolves, allowing greater understanding. You will question the correctness of your hunches. Try testing them. Use care in areas that could have difficult implications if you are wrong. If you are single, you could meet someone quite spectacular in your day-to-day travels. This bond evolves quite naturally. If you are attached, the two of you connect on a very different mental plane. Your creativity grows, and your zest for living seems to be enhanced in equal measure. VIRGO can be irritating at times.

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

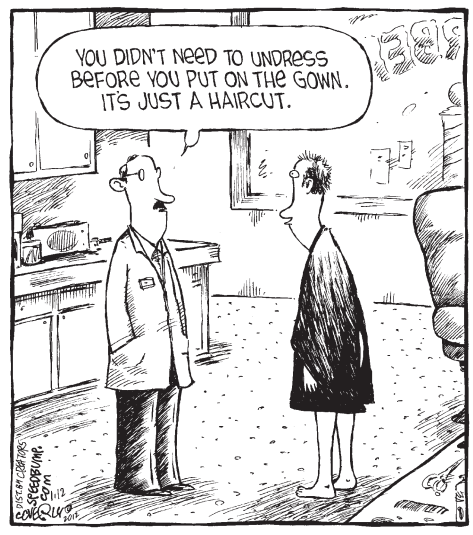


# MYSTERY PHOTO

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.**

## Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly




## Strange Brew
By John Deering



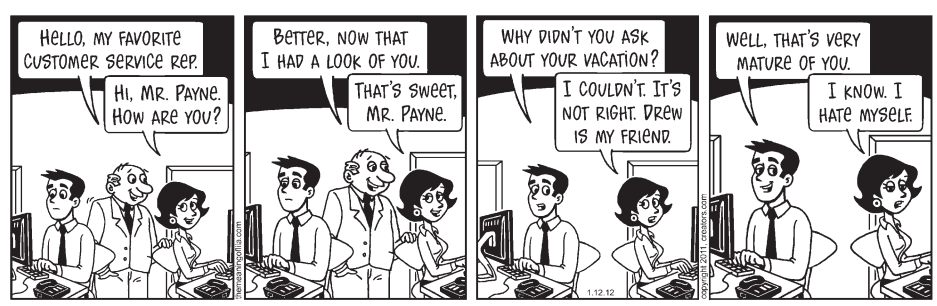

## Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni




## Garfield
By Jim Davis




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



# Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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Making a false or fraudulent Workers' Compensation claim is a felony subject to up to 5 years in prison or a fine of up to fifty-thousand dollars or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or by both imprisonment and fine. This is not a guarantee, warranty or prediction regarding the outcome of your legal matter. Not a referral service. Paid for by those participating attorneys: Spencer, Artez, Smith, Friedman, Okula, Black, Jacobson, Thompson, and Maronian.

# CROSSWORD

## By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

1 Detest
6 Wooden
11 Took the wheel
12 Asian capital
13 Titled women
14 Wing
15 Types in
17 Writer Stanislaw
19 Sort
20 Block up
23 Change over time
25 Mystery writer Woods
26 Roger Ebert, for one
28 Dust Bowl character
29 Opera's Stratas
30 Called once
31 Write hastily
32 Kitten call
33 2006 Winter Games setting
35 Wheel tender
38 Belly feature
41 Nimble
42 Acid type
43 Like the Capitol
44 Run-down

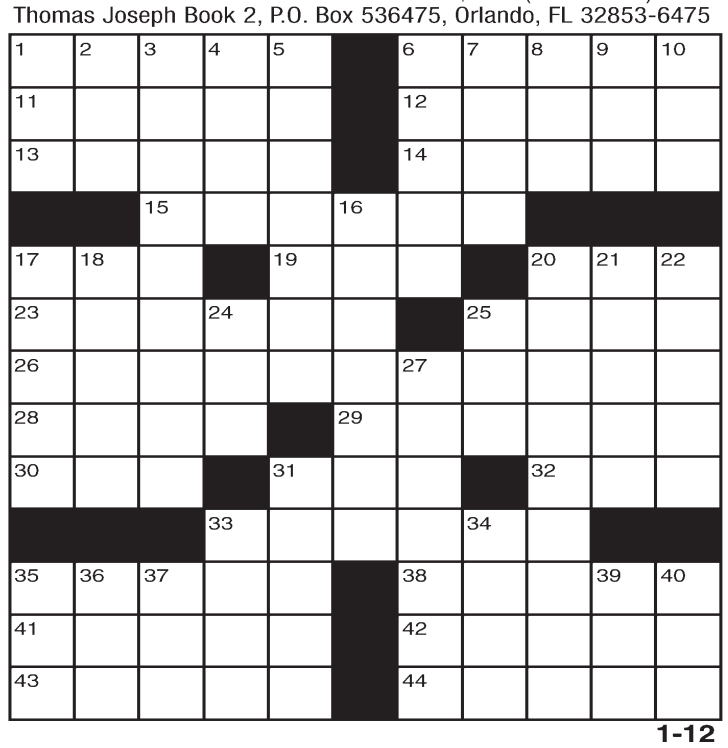
### DOWN

1 Throw in
2 Lingerie buy
3 Vacation footage, e.g.
4 Chef's need
5 Uneasy
6 Marine predator
7 Works leather
8 Road-house
9 Rival
10 Predicament
16 Member of a certain college
17 Cleaner scent
18 Conjure up
20 Romance, often
21 Come into being
22 Showy parrot
24 Golf position
25 Knightly address
27 Eye parts
31 Kidded
33 Yarn
34 Résumé heading
35 Blue
36 Hitherto
37 Pitcher Palmer
39 Terminus
40 Myrna of movies

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

Yesterday's answer

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



1-12

## ARITHMO™ CrossMath + × − ÷

**– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain**

• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

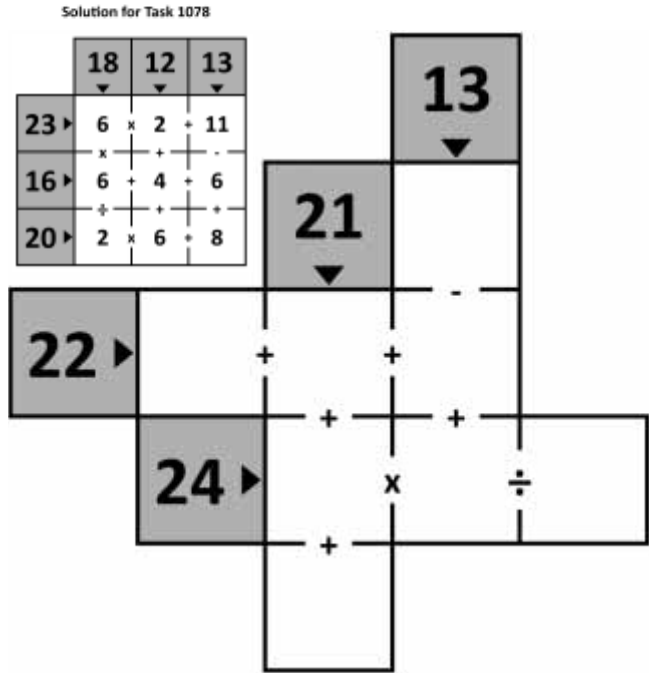
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

**Go to www.zokigames.net for more fun and challenging games and links to our mobile phone apps.**

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

**4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 12**

Solution for Task 1078




## DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 10 16 38 48 Meganumber: 34 Jackpot: $42M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 2 5 16 31 35 Meganumber: 14 Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5: 5 12 14 16 27

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 5 9 EVENING: 1 8 7

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 09 Winning Spirit 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1:46.61

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

■ Prominent Birmingham, Ala., politician Bill Johnson describes his wife as "the most beautiful woman in the world," but he revealed in December that, while on temporary duty recently as an earthquake relief specialist in New Zealand, he had clandestinely donated sperm to nine women (and that three were already pregnant). Becoming a biological father is "a need that I have," he told a New Zealand Herald reporter, and his wife had been unable to accommodate him. Asked if his wife knew of the nine women, Johnson said, "She does now." Indeed, Alabama newspapers quickly picked up the story, and Mrs. Johnson told the Mobile Press-Register that there is "healing to do."

■ Not Ready for Prime Time: The unidentified eyeglass-wearing robber of an HSBC Bank in Long Island City, N.Y., in December fled empty-handed and was being sought. Armed with a pistol and impatient with a slow teller, the man fired a shot into the ceiling to emphasize his seriousness. However, according to a police report, the gunshot seemed to panic him as much as it did the others in the bank, and he immediately ran out the door and jumped into a waiting vehicle.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**2001** Downtown Disney opens to the public as part of the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California.

**2005** Deep Impact launches from Cape Canaveral on a Delta 2 rocket.

**2006** A stampede during the Stoning the Devil ritual on the last day at the Hajj in Mina, Saudi Arabia, kills at least 362 Muslim pilgrims.

**2006** Turkey releases Mehmet Ali A✣ca from jail after he served 25 years for shooting Pope John Paul II.

**2007** Comet C/2006 P1 (McNaught) reaches perihelion becoming the brightest comet in more than 40 years.

**2010** The 2010 Haiti earthquake occurs killing an estimated 316,000 and destroying the majority of the capital Port-au-Prince.

## WORD UP!

**expostulate \ ik-SPOS-chuh-leyt \ , verb;** 1. To reason earnestly with someone against something that person intends to do or has done.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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## Obituaries

Robert Gomez, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, left us on 1/1/12.
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He was loved by all, his family and friends, his coworkers and passengers.

## Miscellaneous

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