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Volume 10 Issue 53

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TWEETS WITH AN ACCENT?
SEE PAGE 11

THE CUTE KIDS ISSUE

Council explores changing how mayor is selected

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A proposal by Councilman Bobby Shriver to let the people of Santa Monica directly select the mayor got a measure of preliminary support on Tuesday, with five out of the six members who were present voting to send the idea to city staff for further analysis.

A final decision to undo the current system, under which the seven-member council picks one of its members to be mayor every two years, would have to come in the form of an amendment to the city charter, which can only be done at the ballot box.

The council could vote as early as next month to place a measure on the ballot, though there's not yet a specific proposal for an alternative method of selecting the mayor.

On Tuesday, the decision to move the proposal forward was opposed by Councilwoman Pam O'Connor.

SEE MAYOR PAGE 10

City Council rejects disclosure proposal after some debate

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL There will be no new requirement for members of the City Council to verbally disclose whether a developer has contributed to their campaign before participating in a major decision that affects the developer, the council decided on Tuesday.

The decision came with a 4-2 vote rejecting a proposal for a new financial disclosure rule that Councilman Kevin McKeown had asked his colleagues to consider.

In one sense, the move was highly predictable: As an outspoken critic of most large development projects, McKeown routinely

SEE DISCLOSURE PAGE 10



CUTTING A RUG

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Teams of fifth grade students from six local elementary schools take the stage in the annual Ballroom Madness dance competition at Santa Monica High School's Barnum Hall on Wednesday morning. Out of the six schools, Roosevelt Elementary School took home first place.

Teachers, parents fight to save Concord High

Students left hanging after former headmaster files for bankruptcy

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

WILSHIRE BLVD Parents and teachers at a Santa Monica private high school with a reputation for academic excellence are fighting to keep the educational institution alive after it filed for bankruptcy and laid-off faculty, putting the future of roughly 50 students and their teachers in jeopardy.

Educators formerly employed by Concord High School, founded more than 35 years ago, said they have reached a deal with the local Boys & Girls Club to conduct classes there rent-free until the end of the spring semester, offering hope to families, some of whom have already paid a full-year's tuition of $29,000.

"A school like this deserves to exist for all the kids it has helped," said parent Lillian Wallace, who has two children enrolled at Concord and has donated money to help save the school. "I would follow these teachers if they taught in tents. These teachers are unbelievable. I have never seen such selflessness."

Teachers and parents want desperately to continue as Concord High, providing continuity for students by retaining the name and faculty. But they may have to create an entirely new school, all within the span of a week or so, because the current board of directors at Concord said there is no money to cover expenses and liability.

"We're done, we're bankrupt," said Bill Oppenheim, a parent of a Concord student who sits on the three-member board, which is comprised of parents. "We don't want to run a school anymore. I wish [the teachers and parents] well."

Concord is essentially a "school without walls," Oppenheim said. The school currently exists to assist parents in getting transcripts so their children can continue their education elsewhere, and has agreed to issue diplomas to those seniors who complete similar curriculum either online or at another school.

Meanwhile, a bankruptcy attorney for Concord said he is investigating former headmaster Susan Packer-Davis-Hille and allegations that she mismanaged funds. Sources told the Daily Press that Packer-

SEE CONCORD PAGE 8

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011

Opening reception of photo l.a.
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 6 p.m.
The 20th anniversary edition of photo l.a. opens on Thursday night with a reception benefiting the Wallis Annenberg Photography Department at LACMA. photo l.a. is considered the largest photo-based art fair in the country. This event runs through the weekend. For more information, call (323) 937-5525, or visit photola.com.

Hip-hop at the Miles
Miles Playhouse
This evening of hip-hop performances and artist dialogue hosted by Pocho Joe (aka Joe Hernandez-Kolski) features Dez Hope, HBO Def Poet/MC In-Q, and Open Mic Eagle. The event is accompanied by the turntable work of DJ Jedi. For more information, call (310) 458-8634.

'Group: A Musical'
Powerhouse Theater
3116 Second St., 8 p.m.
Dr. Allen believes in two things: the power a group has to heal each other and, well, the power of music. What begins as an awkward experiment in musical group therapy evolves into a clash of hearts and minds as the group struggles to find just a little bit of inner peace in this musical. For more information, call (213) 674-6682.

Friday, Jan. 14, 2011

Samohi bands unite
Santa Monica High School, Barnum Hall
601 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
All five of Santa Monica High School's bands will come together for a night of music at Barnum Hall. The finale will feature a rare combination of all five large ensembles: the Samohi Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Winds, Concert Band, Concert Winds, and Viking Marching Band. For more information, call (310) 817-3070.

'Hoboken to Hollywood'
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St., 8 p.m.
"Hoboken to Hollywood: A Journey Through The Great American Songbook" has been extended through Feb. 27. This popular musical is a behind-the-scenes look at the taping of a television special, possibly in 1964 or soon thereafter. It even includes spoofs on commercials. For more information, call (310) 392-7327.

MLK Interfaith prayer breakfast
Calvary Baptist Church
1502 20th St., 7:30 a.m. — 9 a.m.
In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. the Calvary Baptist Church is hosting an Interfaith Prayer Breakfast. Suggested donation is $25.

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





IN THE MIX

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Crossroads' Dominique Ballow (center) battles Marshall's Dominique Molina for a loose rebound Tuesday on campus. Crossroads won, 44-22.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL

St. Monica to be tested on road at St. Bernard

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

PLAY DEL REY St. Monica's girls' basketball team's record may be a sub-par 6-11 this season, but that doesn't concern first-year head coach John Skinner.

As the Mariners prepare to take on St. Bernard, ranked No. 1 in the latest California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section poll, Skinner said that he thinks his squad is beginning to buy into his system.

"We're becoming a good second half team," Skinner said. "We haven't been starting games well, but we're trying to figure out different ways to do it."

He was careful not to put the blame on his players, instead he said, "It all starts with the coaches."

As a result, he and his staff have been working on getting the team ready out of the blocks.

"As coaches, we can give them the tools, but they have to take ownership of focusing early on," he said.

The Mariners will be tested by a St. Bernard team led by UCLA-recruit Kacy Swain and freshman sensation Lajahna Drummer. Skinner, impressed by St. Bernard's lineup, said that tonight's non-league road game will be a great indicator of where his team is in his first year as coach.

"We've shown improvement," he said. "We're trying to figure out different ways to get it done."

He'll look to seniors Cory Laguardia and Monique Boa to pace the Mariners tonight. He added that as they go, the team goes, so they will have to come up big against a quality opponent to walk away with a win.

"[St. Bernard] is a very strong program," Skinner said. "Our goal in that game is to continue to work on getting better."

daniela@smdp.com

Santa Monica's Demand Media preps for IPO, may raise $112M

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Online content publisher Demand Media Inc. said Wednesday that it expects to sell 7.5 million shares for $14 to $16 each in an initial public offering. If the stock priced in the middle of that range, the company would raise $112.5 million.

Demand Media is selling 4.5 million shares, while stockholders are offering 3 million shares.

Demand Media will not receive any funds raised from the stockholders' sale, and expects net proceeds of $58.1 million. It plans to use the money to add to its content library and expand abroad.

Demand, which is based in Santa Monica said it had about 13,000 freelancers as of the end of 2010, and they had generated about 2 million articles and videos just last year.

Recently published articles on its ehow.com website have included "How to Cut Off Tomato Plant Tops" and "Psychological Factors That Influence Consumer Buying Behavior." The company also supplies content to customer sites, including the online versions of major newspapers such as USA Today and the San Francisco Chronicle.

It generates revenue from ad sales associated with these articles and from another business unit that sells domain names for websites.

Demand posted a net loss of $22 million on revenue of $198 million in 2009. In the nine months ended Sept. 30, 2010, it posted a net loss of $6 million on $179 million in revenue.

Demand accounts for the cost of its content in a unique manner. It claims its articles and videos have a "useful life" of about five years, on average, meaning it expects to be able to attract viewers and sell ads associated with articles years after they are initially published. So it amortizes the current cost of paying its freelance writers over a five-year period, stretching out its costs into the future.

That technique makes its bottom line appear less unprofitable. The company said that if it changed the "useful life" calculation to about four years, its net loss for the nine months ended Sept. 30 would increase by $2.4 million.

Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley are the lead managers of the IPO.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nickel and dimed to death

Editor:

The arrogance of our city representatives and employees never ceases to amaze me. In your recent article on the proposal to raise fees across the board for recreation programs ("City Hall wants fee increases for recreation programs," Jan. 12, page 1), Neil Carrey, chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission, was quoted as saying, "My personal feeling is, I don't see them as enormous increases." Now I don't know what city Mr. Carrey is living in, but as a father with two children in Santa Monica schools, I consider these fee increases to be more than just "nominal increases."

For example, with two children in the after-school CREST program, the proposed $50 per month increase per child comes out to approximately $900 for the school year. Nominal? Not in my world. And you can just bet that the fee increases won't stop at just $.50 to $.75. What are now nickels and dimes will soon turn into 10s and 20s.

Times are tough enough as is without having City Hall nickel and dime us to death. It's not as though we don't already pay more than enough in property taxes, sales taxes and various fees for school events. When is City Hall going to learn that balancing a budget requires more than just raising fees and taxes? I would hazard a guess that by eliminating just one consultant the city would save much more than the $372,232 in additional revenue that would be raised by these increases. Let's put this amount in perspective of the overall annual city budget. To be descriptive, let's write out what the annual city budget is – $500,000,000. That's 500 million dollars. The proposed fee increases represent .07 percent of this annual amount. Is this the only way that our city leaders and employees can figure out how to balance the city's budget?

Here's a suggestion. Why doesn't City Hall stop using so many consultants. Just eliminating one consulting contract will more than make up for the proposed fee increase. This will help save money without relying on the backs of the residents of the city. It's time to end the greed of City Hall and make them responsible to the taxpayers of the city who make their jobs possible.

Steven Brand
Santa Monica

Past comes back to haunt

Editor:

Welcome back, Dr. Deasy, as the new Los Angeles Unified School District superintendent. I hope that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has learned a valuable lesson from your days of printing permits to balance SMMUSD's school budget. Let's see what you will do now that you need to cancel those hundreds of permits to balance your own LAUSD budget. According to the L.A. Times, Dr. Deasy's annual salary will be $330,000 to oversee more than 680,000 students. Odds are that SMMUSD's current search for a new superintendent will result in us taxpayers overpaying yet again for a position that oversees 11,500 students in comparison. Why?

Dr. Lisette Gold
Santa Monica



Life Matters

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

What's more important in a romance, actions or words?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

My boyfriend and I are extremely close. We have been together for a year, and since the beginning, he has always been emotionally available through his actions, how he treats me, etc. However, I can never get him to express his feelings. He talks about fear of attachment, and says he never wants to be dependent on someone, or attached, and although he wants to be close, he doesn't want to get to that "unhealthy closeness." However, I wonder if he is somewhat emotionally blocked from me. He also has issues saying, "I love you." He doesn't know why, but he says although he loves people, he feels weird saying it. I wonder what that is about. Just looking for some input, advice on how to handle the relationship, situation, etc. I am very happy with him, so it is not much of a problem, so do I just leave it alone and ignore it since actions are more important than words? Or will it affect me later down the line?

Signed,
Questioning Myself

DEAR QUESTIONING MYSELF,

Thank you for having the courage to write in. There is much to consider here; several questions actually.

First off, you say that you are "extremely close." You know this through your boyfriend's actions. I am assuming you are mutually exclusive for the better part of this year?

I will also assume that you are sexually intimate, albeit not necessarily so but most folks tend to be these days. If you are, a question that I have for you is what is it like when you make love? Can you feel him caring about, loving you?

If so, that, along with a year of committed relations that has all been good so far, is a very positive sign.

You make an interesting comment about getting him to express his feelings. What feelings are you talking about, what do you mean? If you feel him caring about you and you know his basic preferences for things, maybe you should stop trying. Actually, men don't tend to express their feelings so easily and the more you try to get him to open up and express himself, the more likely he is to back off. You could actually be creating the emotional block you fear.

Do you worry that he is angry with you and won't tell you? That is definitely a reason to be concerned but short of that, don't try to change him. It will back fire.

You do bring up some interesting issues regarding attachment or maybe better said, his fear of being dependent on someone. But you say you are extremely close, so isn't that an attachment?

However, having great difficulty with saying I love you and being afraid of dependency could be an issue down the road.

Men always have to negotiate their masculinity with intimacy to a woman. This basically starts when they head off for school and have to change their relationship with their mothers. If they don't, they are ostracized, made fun of, called mama's boys, sissies etc. They need to be little men in order to fit in. Depending on how it goes with mom during this time, the experience of this transition follows them for better or worse, into their young and adult lives when it comes to intimacy with women. Unfortunately, fears of being controlled by women are common.

Your situation sounds like your boyfriend is already close to you but if he perceives you as trying to get him to be closer or more dependent on you, he may be emotionally blocked with you to some degree. This could be a relationship dynamic as I indicated above.

Having said that, if he has a deep issue with not ever wanting to be dependent on someone, he will have difficulty forming a long-term, meaningful attachment unless he gets some help.

Saying I love you has a special meaning to him, to all of us actually. Those words are casual for some, meaningful for others and also, overwhelming for some people. If it means he thinks he has to marry you and he is not ready, that may be the reason he holds back. It may be that is was said all too often in his environment growing up and it felt either meaningless and/or manipulative to him.

All in all, it sounds like you are happy and things have gone well for a year. I think you should step back and ask yourself what it is that you are trying to get out of him and how much does it mean to you. Also, ask yourself if you might be part of your perceived problem.

Good luck!

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage & family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com and please send your inquires and replies to newshrink@gmail.com

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bidding a sad adieu to a big purple friend

WHEN I CAME HOME FROM A MEETING the other day, my daughter's nanny, Mary Poppins, reported that gym class had gone well, but that some other mothers had inquired about the well being of my 2-year-old's ceremonial fifth limb — her Barney doll.

My heart sank like a cannonball into my stomach. "Oh, God. Please don't tell me Barney has gone missing," I moaned, envisioning the sleepless nights ahead and kicking myself for not trying to find a team of replacement look-alikes during better, Barney-filled days.

To the sound of "The Way We Were," I started playing a mental reel of all the good days we'd had with Barney, like how he'd been gleefully serenaded by everyone in music class, bounced merrily on the trampoline in gym, stubbornly insisted on occupying his own seat on airplanes, and hungrily shared meals and drinks with us just like a member of the family (if not a wee bit more important than all of us combined).

"No," Mary Poppins said. "She just didn't want to bring him. She brought Dora with her instead."

Ever since eyeing Barney at my parents' house early last year, my daughter has not spent a second apart from her stuffed purple dinosaur, except for the moments when we pry him from her little fingers and toss him in the washing machine. At those times, she sits patiently, albeit a bit nervously and tearfully, watching carefully until the spin cycle comes to a rest, the dryer renders him toasty warm, and then nods understandingly and talks for up to a week afterward about how Barney got a bath. It's as if she's reassuring everyone — but mostly herself — that Barney, like Mommy, always comes back.

Still, maybe it shouldn't have been as big a surprise as it was, especially considering that she's been requesting to watch "Cinderella" and "Snow White" in place of "Barney and Friends" over the past few weeks.

When I was pregnant, one of the first things I did was excitedly order DVDs of my favorite Disney movies. Up until now, though, she never showed any interest in watching anything longer than 28 minutes (otherwise known as the length of a Barney episode).

But when I pointed out the Madame Alexander Cinderella and Snow White dolls by name that sit on a shelf in her room recently, and then asked if she wanted to watch the movies, she finally said she did. And since then, it's been almost all Disney, all the time.

Instead of falling asleep with Barney tucked under her arm, she drifts off cuddling her Cinderella book. During waking hours she bejewels herself with the shiny plastic silver purse, bangle bracelets, clip-on earrings and necklace she received over the holidays and prances around in the accompanying "glass slippers" (which look suspiciously like plastic stripper shoes) while yelling, "Wait, don't go! Come back!" like the Prince shouts to Cinderella at the stroke of midnight.

Sometimes she disrobes down to her diaper, brings me her shirt and pants and asks to have them made into Cinderella's dress, so I wrap them around her torso and tie them in the back, which seems to make her feel even more princess-like (she evidently doesn't realize that her overall look is reminiscent of the film "Showgirls," and the way she actually walks in her heels is reminiscent of her late great-great-98-year-old aunt).

As much as I've been aching to dress her up in a tiara and gown since birth, I deliberately hadn't pushed the princess thing for a while. While I was into them as a kid, they weren't nearly the industry that they are today. Today, the Disney princesses have the equivalent of their own Justice League of America: A bunch of larger than life Barbie-like figures who don't really belong in the same room, but who have been shoved together for no other reason than to seemingly convince little girls that they're part of a very exclusive and important team, and that they're much more powerful as a unit than they are individually, and there is endless merchandise available for sale to prove it. Still, I can't deny my kid looks cute waving a scepter like she's trying desperately to shake something off the tip.

After infinite choruses in our home of the "I Love You, You Love Me" song, I just never thought the day would come when I'd actually start thinking I might miss Barney and BJ. (I'll never miss Baby Bop. She can't become extinct — again — fast enough, as far as I'm concerned).

However, the truth is that what I will miss is the innocence that Barney represents in my daughter's life. And this marks the first time she's starting to consciously eschew anything (if you don't count meat, particularly since she'll happily eat bacon), which I suppose means in some way that she's growing up, and I wasn't ready for that to happen until well into her 20s or 30s. After all, my dad is still waiting for it to happen to me.

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

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Picking a leader

Councilman Bobby Shriver is expected to ask the City Council if it is time to allow voters to select Santa Monica's mayor, a departure from the current model that allows the council to decide who will hold the post.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think the position of mayor should be up to the voters, or should the system remain the same?

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. 102.**


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Guide to Starting a New Business

Forming a new business is a challenging and exciting process. Putting the time and effort into the formation process will help set the tone for a sustainable and prosperous business. Below is a brief list of some of the first steps you will need to take, from a legal perspective, in order to start off right.

CREATE YOUR BUSINESS PLAN

The first step in creating your new business is often to compile all of your ideas and goals into one comprehensive business plan. Your plan is a unique roadmap that will help guide you in forming and running your company during those first critical years. Sections that you may want to include are: the business purpose, marketing plan, an analysis of the competition, operating procedures, employment needs, insurance needs, financial data including a balance sheet, pro-forma income projection, and a three-year operating budget, and copies of all documents that you create during the start-up phase such as your licenses, articles of incorporation, and bylaws.

DEVELOP POLICIES

The beginning stage of any organization is a critical time to develop policies that the organization will utilize in its decision making process. Policies should include: conflict of interest, employment, director and officer compensation, ideological or social entrepreneurial values, organizational ownership and management.

INCORPORATE

The first step in this process is deciding upon a name for the business and performing a name availability search to ensure that the name is not already in use in the location where you will be operating. Secondly, the business will need to determine what type of entity to form – whether it's a corporation, LLC, PC, LLP, L3C, Benefit Corporation, sole proprietorship or partnership. Choosing the type of entity will depend upon the purpose of the organization and the tax and legal status of its owners and stakeholders. Once the entity type is chosen, the next step is to draft, ratify and file the appropriate documents with state and local agencies and draft either Bylaws or an Operating Agreement.

PROTECT YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In a competitive world, it is important to assess whether it is necessary to protect your brand and products with trademarks, copyrights or patents. It is also important to ensure that your new business does not infringe upon other companies protected rights.

ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LAWS

Finally, your new business will need to ensure that it is in compliance with all applicable laws including: employment, wage and hour laws, licensing requirements, zoning regulations, tax reporting and withholding laws.

At the law Office of Becki Kammerling, we can assist your business with every step of this process. Contact us through the Legal Grind to schedule a consultation.

Disclaimer: this article does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney client relationship.

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4:00–5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00–6:00pm	Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
5:00–6:00pm	(2nd & 4th Monday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:30-7:00pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
1:00-3:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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Wanderlust

Dan Dawson

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Istanbul's enticing culture clash

VISITING ISTANBUL IS LIKE LOOKING INTO the past and seeing the future all at the same time. Perhaps nowhere in the world is there a city undergoing such a mass transformation and a blending of the old and the new. Old monuments are being transformed to art installations, women are creating mosques, new fashions are emerging from young designers, and trendy nightclubs and restaurants pop up so fast it seems impossible anyone could keep track.

Since the 1980's, a population explosion has nearly tripled the number of residents in this ancient city to around 13 million people residing in 39 shifting and nebulously defined districts. Perhaps the only constants are the city's icons such as the Topeka Palace, the ancient Hagia Sophia, and the religiously-centered Blue Mosque.

Istanbul is used to reinvention. Originally nothing more than a cluster of colonies along the Bosporus and Sea of Marmara called Byzantium, the city was already over 1,000 years old when Constantine the Great established it as Constantinople, the capital of the Roman Empire in AD 330. It has only been known as Istanbul for less than 100 years when the Republic of Turkey was founded.

This constant reinvention is what Istanbul is all about. Take for example my favorite hotel, the W Istanbul, which combines old world Ottoman influences with stylish contemporary comforts. A few years ago the historical Ottoman Akaretler Row Houses were crumbling. Built to house the workers of the Dolmabahe Palace in the 1870's, it is now in the Besiktas district, the SOHO of Istanbul. Geomim, architect and designer of the hotel, has kept the integrity of the historic building, preserving the beautiful original columns and not tearing down a single wall. The interior design features classic Ottoman influences, including many elements that one would have found in Harems of the ancient palaces. The front desk, for example, is based on the design of a jewelry box. Ottoman style seating, called sedir, are found throughout the public areas, and the W Lounge features intricate panels in grid designs that were used in Harems where the odalisques could watch the sultan and his company while remaining safely obscured from view. There are 17 different room styles here including some with private garden courtyards, and others that have bridges that lead from the room over the garden below to a billowing private cabana. Prices vary but are in the $250 range.

Looking for an antique hamam bowl (a hand pounded metal bowl used in Turkish Baths) or stylish fashion? Once again, Istanbul offers both a blending of the old and new. Trade has always played an important role in this city that straddles two continents and has been the center of trade routes between the two for thousands of years. The bustling narrow streets around the Spice Bazaar are a perfect example. This cavernous market built in the 1600's specialized in the vital and expensive spices from the Orient. Trade still happens here today, but on a broader scale. Yellow saffron, Indian curry, African pepper and much more are piled high in barrels, and other items, such as handcrafted jewelry and antiques, are also found in the stalls here. Dwarfing the Spice Market is the Grand Bazaar, which is older still (around 1453) and offers more delight for shoppers. Nothing can prepare you for the scale of this place. Kilims, carpets, jewelry, metal work, hand painted tiles, and more spill out from the hans that jostle for space in this historic mall.



Photo courtesy Dan Dawson

CLASSIC: **The Neo-Baroque style Ortaköy Mosque is a beautifully ornate structure, right on the jetty of Ortaköy in Istanbul.**

While trading continues in these historic places, a new type of trade in glitzy bright stores with high end fashion and upscale boutiques sits only a few tram stops away. The Beyoglu District was home to the city's foreign residents for centuries. Jews from Spain, Arabs, Greeks, and Armenians all settled here through the ages. Today this area, especially around Taksim Square, is the hub of activity, shopping, restaurants and nightlife. Siraselviler Caddessi is filled with shops and cafes packed with thousands of people strolling and shopping from noon to late night.

There has never been a better time to visit Istanbul than now, as the old historic sites are still very much alive and part of the city, while the new growth and excitement about blossoming into the future can be seen in the faces of the people and in the new places to explore. If you plan to go this year, here are a few suggestions of where to find the best the city has to offer:

• Eat at Griffin. This off the beaten track restaurant is one of the best in the city, with incredible views of the river and the old city, and food that takes old Ottoman receipts and brings them up to date with fresh ingredients and flair.

• Have a drink at the bar in the W Hotel (www.wistanbul.com.tr/). Just seeing the lobby and relaxing with a cold glass in this beautifully re-designed building is like taking a step back in time to a Harem.

• Take a guided walking tour of the Hagia Sophia from an art historian through Context Tours (www.contexttravel.com). Small groups of no more than six people are on these tours make it an intimate setting and the guides are fascinating, weaving the stories that make the buildings history come alive.

• Try the pudding at the Pudding Shop. This restaurant has been an institution here for decades and was a meeting spot for hippies in the 1960s. On their way to and from the east, they would stop for food and leave messages on boards hung on the wall, some of which can still be seen here.

DAN DAWSON is a travel journalist and dedicated world traveler who has written articles for many publications on adventures abroad. He is also the marketing manager for the Big Blue Bus. Tell him about your favorite vacation spot at www.WonderlustTravel.com

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Protesters climb trees to save oak grove in Arcadia

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

ARCADIA With the sounds of bulldozers echoing beneath him, veteran tree sitter John Quigley perched in a century-old oak Wednesday, saying he won't come down until public works officials stop felling scores of trees as part of a dam improvement project.

Quigley, who helped save a beloved oak with a similar sit-in eight years ago, was joined by a handful of other sitters who took up positions in branches overlooking 11 acres of picturesque foothills.

"They're destroying trees all around us," Quigley said by cell phone as the sound of bulldozers below him could be heard. "It's a sad scene and definitely something that didn't need to happen."

Public works officials say the 11 acres of trees, some of them more than 100 years old, must go to ensure the integrity of a nearby dam that provides most of the drinking water to the Los Angeles suburbs of Arcadia and Sierra Madre.

As workers began felling the trees Wednesday, sheriff's deputies watched a group of demonstrators who had blocked a gate leading to a fenced grove.

Los Angeles County Public Works spokesman Bob Spencer said four people were believed to be hiding in the trees and public workers were checking the area tree by tree to make sure none was taken down with a person in it.

"The safety of all the people here today, the trespassers, the contract workers, the protesters, is of chief importance to us," he said.

David Czamanske, vice chair of the Sierra Club's Pasadena group, said deputies had not asked the demonstrators at the gate to disperse. The tree-sitters were not affiliated with his group, he said.

Spencer said the tree removal project has been in the works for three years and the county has approval from federal and state agencies. He said it must done for the Santa Anita Dam, which was built in 1927, to meet seismic safety standards.

Over the years, Spencer said, sediment has built up behind the dam, limiting its water capacity and compromising its safety in the event of an earthquake or other catastrophe.

Clearing the 11 acres of oaks and sycamores will create a placement area the sediment can be channeled to.

Spencer said the dam provides 75 percent of the drinking water used in Arcadia, a city of about 56,000 people, and all of the drinking water for Sierra Madre, where about 10,000 people live.

The grove occupies a flatland below the steep slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains, about 20 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. It is near a residential neighborhood and a small wilderness park in an area popular with weekend hikers and bicyclists.

The clearing operation began after extensive efforts by opponents to stop it. In December, county officials ordered a 30-day moratorium, which ended last week.

Czamanske and Quigley agree the sediment removal project must go forward, but they say the county should have picked a better place.

"It really is a tragedy that they had to go to this beautiful habitat to dump a pile of mud," Quigley said. "There were plenty of good alternatives."

In 2003, Quigley spent 71 days in an oak tree known as Old Glory that was to be bulldozed to widen a street in Santa Clarita, another Los Angeles suburb. Authorities finally removed him from the tree, and it was saved and replanted elsewhere. His lengthy protest, meanwhile, created a carnival atmosphere, bringing out folk singers, souvenir sellers, schoolchildren and others.

Quigley said Wednesday that he and the other tree sitters had come well-prepared with provisions and would stay as long as they could.

"To me this is one of those moments where the principal of what we should be about here in America is at stake," he said. "We should preserve precious places that are here."

News Corp readies iPad news venture

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Stop the presses — completely. The world's first iPad newspaper, The Daily, is prepping for launch.

Journalists have been hired and are in place at multiple U.S. bureaus, including Los Angeles and New York.

The formal announcement of the digital publication owned by News Corp. will be made at an event at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art on Jan. 19, according to two people familiar with the matter. The people said the event will be attended by Steve Jobs, chief executive of iPad-maker Apple Inc., and Rupert Murdoch, CEO of News Corp.

The people were not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Details are scant, including how much a subscription to the tablet-only paper will cost, if there is indeed a fee, but the name at least implies it will come out once a day. It will cover general news, culture and entertainment and will include video.

The publication is a bold attempt by Murdoch to rewrite the business of journalism, as revenue from print circulation and advertising has plunged and growing advertising sales on websites have not made up the difference.

At an investor's conference last month, News Corp. Chief Operating Officer Chase Carey called The Daily a "small bet" because costs were limited mainly to a modest editorial staff. By contrast, printed newspapers also have such costs as newsprint, ink and delivery.

Carey touted the benefits of tablet computing technology.

"We didn't want it for a PC," he said. "We think the tablet, you know, is a unique experience. You can design something that takes advantage of that experience, takes advantage of the multimedia capabilities of it, the technological capabilities of it. I think it could be an interesting product."

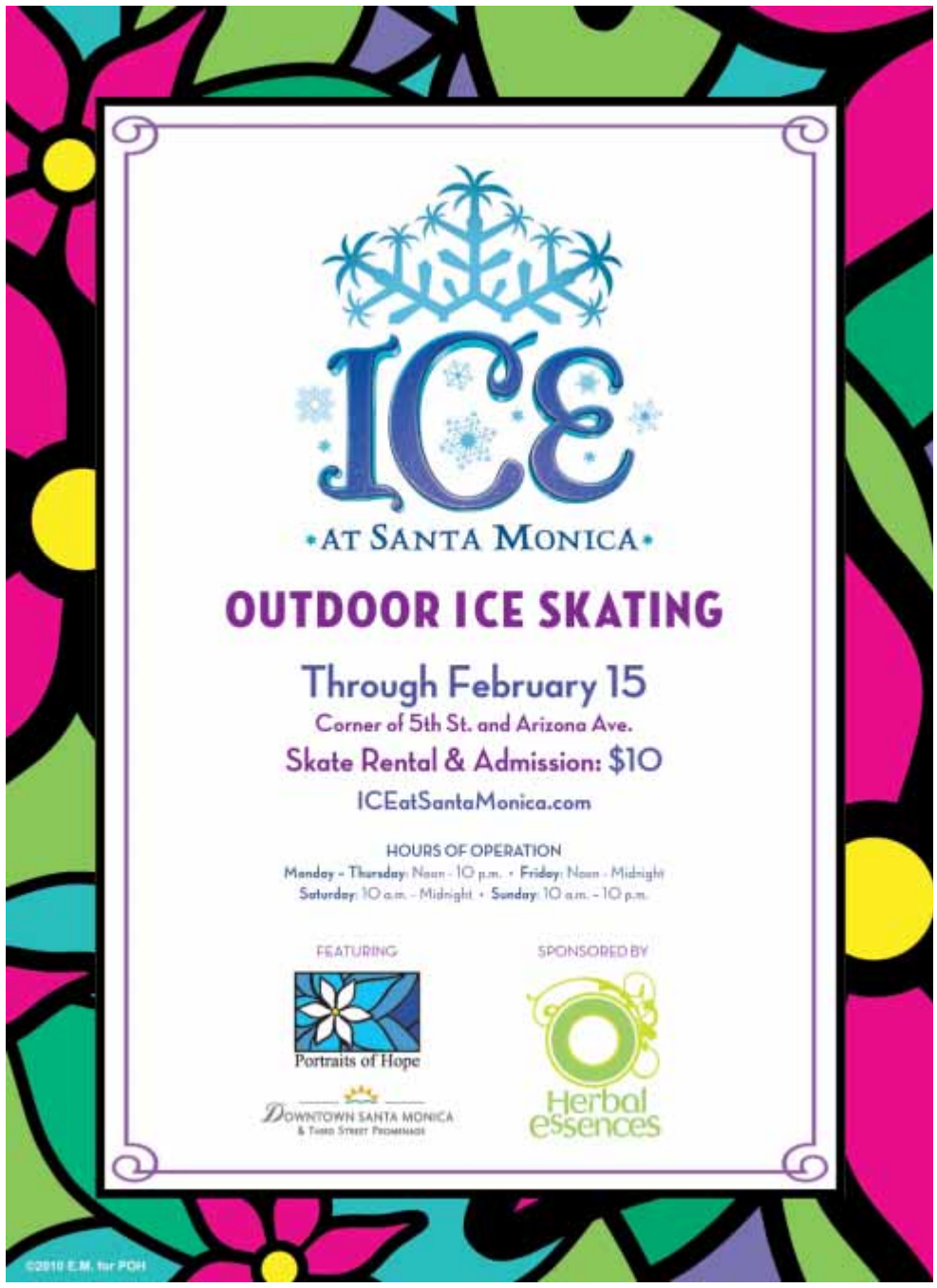
News Corp.'s other digital initiatives are setting the pace in a struggling industry.

The Wall Street Journal's website has required a paid subscription for 14 years and now has nearly 450,000 electronic subscribers, according to the latest report by the Audit Bureau of Circulations. The newspaper charges $3.99 per week for an iPad subscription, which includes access to its website. News Corp. won't say how many people are paying, but more than 1 million have downloaded the app for free (it contains some preview material, but full access is restricted).









CONCORD

FROM PAGE 1

Davis-Hille was spending thousands of dollars in Concord money on personal expenses while paying herself a salary of over $300,000 at a time when enrollment at the nonprofit high school was down considerably. Tax forms also show hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent on conferences and meetings which teachers said they never attended, leading them to question how the money was spent.

Packer-Davis-Hille, a former chair of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board, could not be reached for comment. The Daily Press visited her home on 19th Street but no one answered the door. A sign in front of the home said the property was for sale for nearly $850,000.

HOW THE COOKIE CRUMBLED

Parents and teachers told the Daily Press that they could never have imagined a school with a strong academic reputation and a legacy like Concord's would go under. After all, this was a school that was established and was known for sending graduates to Ivy League universities. Packer-Davis-Hille would place an advertisement in a major newspaper ever year listing the universities graduates would attend.

Teachers and parents began to notice enrollment was down from the typical class of 100 students to roughly 50, but they believed it was a symptom of the struggling economy and more parents turning to public schools. They said they had no idea Packer-Davis-Hille was paying herself what was in their minds an exorbitant salary.

According to tax records filed by Concord, Packer-Davis-Hille in 2007 was earning a salary of $288,000. During that time the school had a revenue stream of $1.6 million and expenses totaling $1.8 million. In 2009, Packer-Davis-Hille gave herself a raise, putting her salary at $308,000. The school had revenue totaling roughly $1.5 million, meaning Packer-Davis-Hille's salary alone was roughly 20 percent of the school's total budget.

In comparison, recently-appointed Los Angeles schools' Superintendent John Deasy just signed a contract for a base salary of $330,000 to manage the nation's second largest school district with a budget in the billions. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Tim Cuneo had a base salary of $220,000 in 2009.

At New Roads, a private school on Olympic Boulevard, total revenue for 2009 was roughly $13 million and they paid their head of school a base salary of $248,682.

Tax records also showed that over three years, Packer-Davis-Hille spent close to $700,000 on undocumented expenses attributed to conferences, conventions and meetings.

"We never attended any conferences," said Marissa deSiena, an English and history teacher at Concord who is working to save the school. "We had one open house a year, and it was catered, and we had a graduation ceremony, but that's all I can remember."

It wasn't until Packer-Davis-Hille left the school in November and the new board took over that they started asking questions. The previous board consisted only of Packer-Davis-Hille and her husband, and there was no formal parent-teacher association, said Richard Corlin, chair of the board whose son is a senior at Concord.

"Up until we took over there was no fundraising, no endowment," Corlin said. "There isn't a private school in existence that doesn't do fundraising. Tuition doesn't pay the whole cost."

Corlin and teachers who spoke with the Daily Press said they later learned that only a handful of students were paying full tuition while the majority were on scholarship, setting the school up for financial failure.



CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL

"They were behind on their rent, but other bills were current. They just had no cash," Corlin said.

Members of the Concord board did not disclose how much back rent is owed.

The landlord filed court papers to evict the school, forcing the board to file for bankruptcy to stop the action at least until the end of the semester.

"We wanted to make sure the kids weren't injured by things that adults do," Oppenheim said.

Packer-Davis-Hille abruptly left, leaving the new board to sort things out. Immediately, meetings were held with parents and faculty to devise a plan to keep the school open. Around $300,000 was needed to finish out the school year, Corlin said. Parents were able to raise roughly $60,000 to keep the school open until the end of the first semester.

"These parents really stepped up," Oppenheim said. "We would have had to close in November without parents, donors and one teacher who stepped forward and gave money."

AN INTIMATE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

To understand why parents who have already lost thousands would work so hard to keep the Concord family intact, one must look at how the school functions.

Founded in 1973 by Sonya Packer, who is Packer-Davis-Hille's mother, Concord was and has always been a school dedicated to small class sizes, averaging only five to 10 students per class, and rigorous academics. The faculty includes teachers with graduate degrees and all of the courses are college preparatory and accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It was common for students to have several hours of homework a night, a challenging learning environment that was not for every student, said Max Duganne, who graduated from Concord and taught math there before it closed.

"It's a niche school. We don't have athletics, there isn't the social scene you would find at other schools," Duganne said. "It was all about the academics."

Andrew Taylor, who taught at the school for 10 years, said the small learning environments provided students with the one-on-one attention they needed while also making them feel empowered. Kids who were failing at other private or public schools began to blossom.

"Students were given respect and treated like adults," Taylor said. "It was challenging academically and many of the kids needed that. They weren't getting it at other schools."

deSiena said she had never taught at a school where so many students wanted to be there on a daily basis.

"It really became a family."

Oppenheim said his daughter was not focused before coming to Concord. She was bright, but not motivated.

"When she arrived at Concord, within a couple of weeks she was interested in school, reading books and doing classwork, something she lagged on before," he said. "She just needed more individual attention and Concord was able to give that to her."

EFFORTS TO SAVE CONCORD MAY FAIL

For the last week, some of the former

SEE **CONCORD** PAGE 9



HARD FOUL

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Marshall High School's Clifton Butler (left) fouls Crossroads' Luke Shmuger on Tuesday on campus. Marshall won the game, 61-58.

CONCORD

FROM PAGE 8

teachers at Concord have been providing free tutoring sessions at the Boys & Girls Club in anticipation that the school will be able to continue. It is unclear if that will happen given that the Concord board is not willing to cooperate for financial reasons. Duganne and other teachers are hopeful they can reach a deal with Concord to use its license or file the necessary paperwork with City Hall to create a new school.

If too much time passes, there may not be enough students left to support a school. Several parents have enrolled their students elsewhere, a result of the uncertainty.

One parent who did not want to be identified said she has already enrolled her child in another school.

"It was a great place, the teachers are excellent and if it was still around, I would have no problem with my child going there," she said. "But there's too many unanswered questions right now."

Looking back, Corlin and other parents wish they would have questioned Packer-Davis-Hille more, but they were blinded by the school's reputation and the progress their children were making.

"Senior year should have been a fun year for kids," said Corlin. "[Concord's previous board] robbed our son of that experience. That is something I'm going to look for retribution for."

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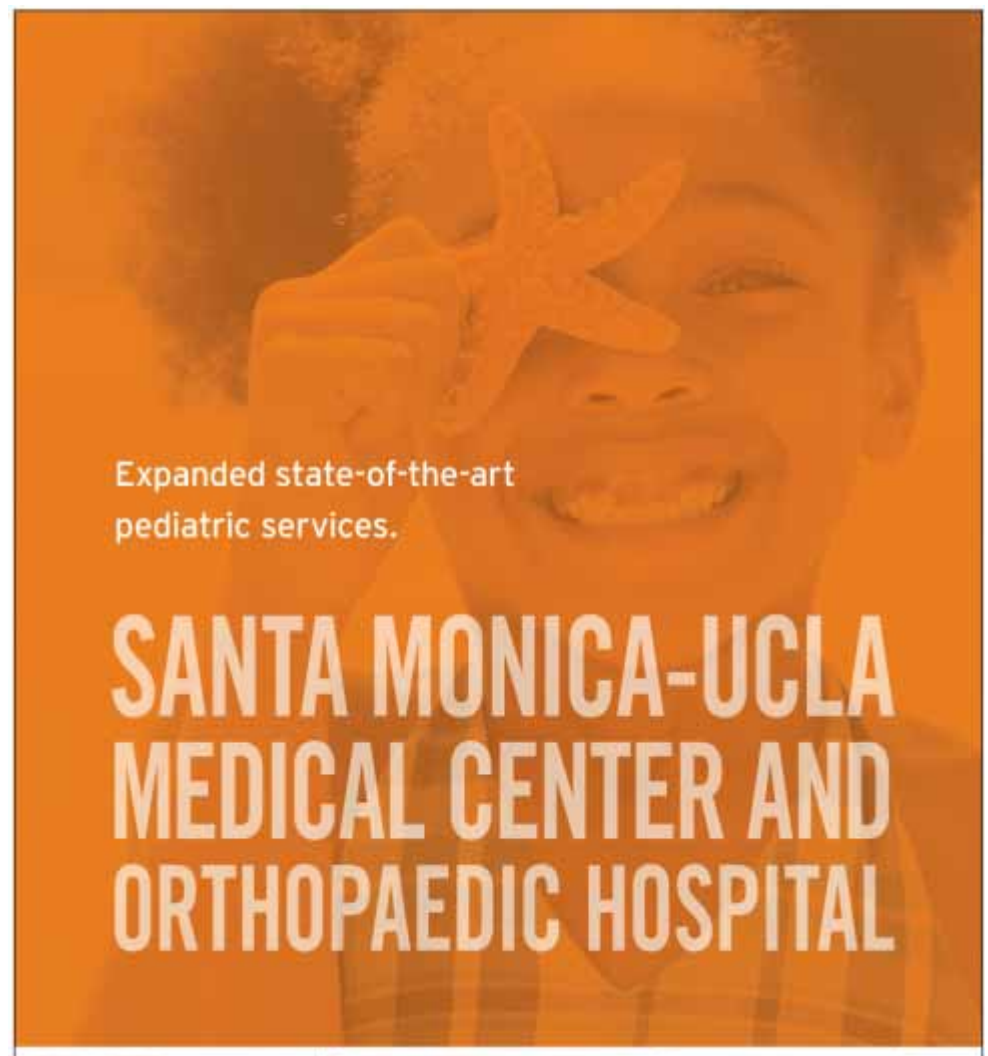
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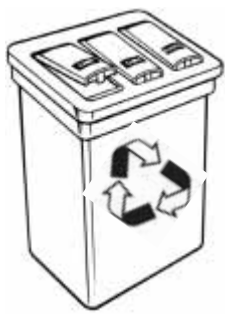


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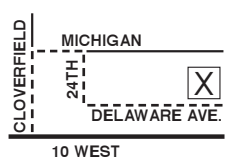


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DISCLOSURE
FROM PAGE 1

votes in the minority on land use issues.

Also, his proposal was seen by many as an attack on those with friendlier views toward large-scale projects who regularly receive donations from business interests and happen to make up the council majority. (McKeown prides himself on refusing to take contributions from developers.)

Unsurprisingly, the four members of the council who voted against the proposal, Pam O'Connor, Richard Bloom, Terry O'Day and Gleam Davis, each would have had to disclose gifts from developers during meetings this year under McKeown's proposal.

Councilman Bobby Shriver joined McKeown in support of the verbal disclosure proposal. Councilman Bob Holbrook did not attend Tuesday's meeting.

The majority's rejection of the idea without allowing it to receive attention from City Hall staff, though, was in another sense startling.

It came despite letters of support for McKeown's proposal from every neighborhood group in the city, the Santa Monica Democratic Club and the co-chair of the political party Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights.

Moreover, allowing the proposal to receive staff attention would have been only a preliminary step and would not have guaranteed passage of a final ordinance, so rejecting it on Tuesday showed a particular determination by the majority to see the measure fail.

While McKeown denied there was a political dimension to his proposal, the majority on the council didn't appear to be buying it.

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor was the most outspoken on the topic.

"Let's just be frank and honest … there is a political motivation behind this," she said during the meeting. "It's coming out of a political campaign where there's been demonizing," she said, in an apparent reference to negative election season ads against her sponsored by the low-growth group the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City.

McKeown, for his part, tried to characterize the proposal as a common sense way to give members of the public information they could use to better assess the performance of their elected representatives.

"This is not a finger pointing exercise, it's a transparency move," he told his colleagues.

He pointed out the proposal wouldn't require members to disclose anything that isn't already public information; it would simply require them to disclose the information when it was most timely, he said.

"This is a matter of taking dots that are already out there in the financial disclosure universe and voluntarily connecting them as a way to help our residents, our community, understand how local government works," he said.

He argued the new requirement was particularly needed in light of "an unprecedented multiplicity of development agreements coming up in the near future."

Development agreements typically grant builders exceptions to zoning restrictions in exchange for "public benefits" like affordable housing, parks or financial contributions to city porgrams.

In remarks before the vote, council members opposed to the idea threw out a long list of criticisms.

O'Connor said the measure was flawed because donors who don't have business before the council but who would nevertheless benefit from council decisions wouldn't be identified under the rule.

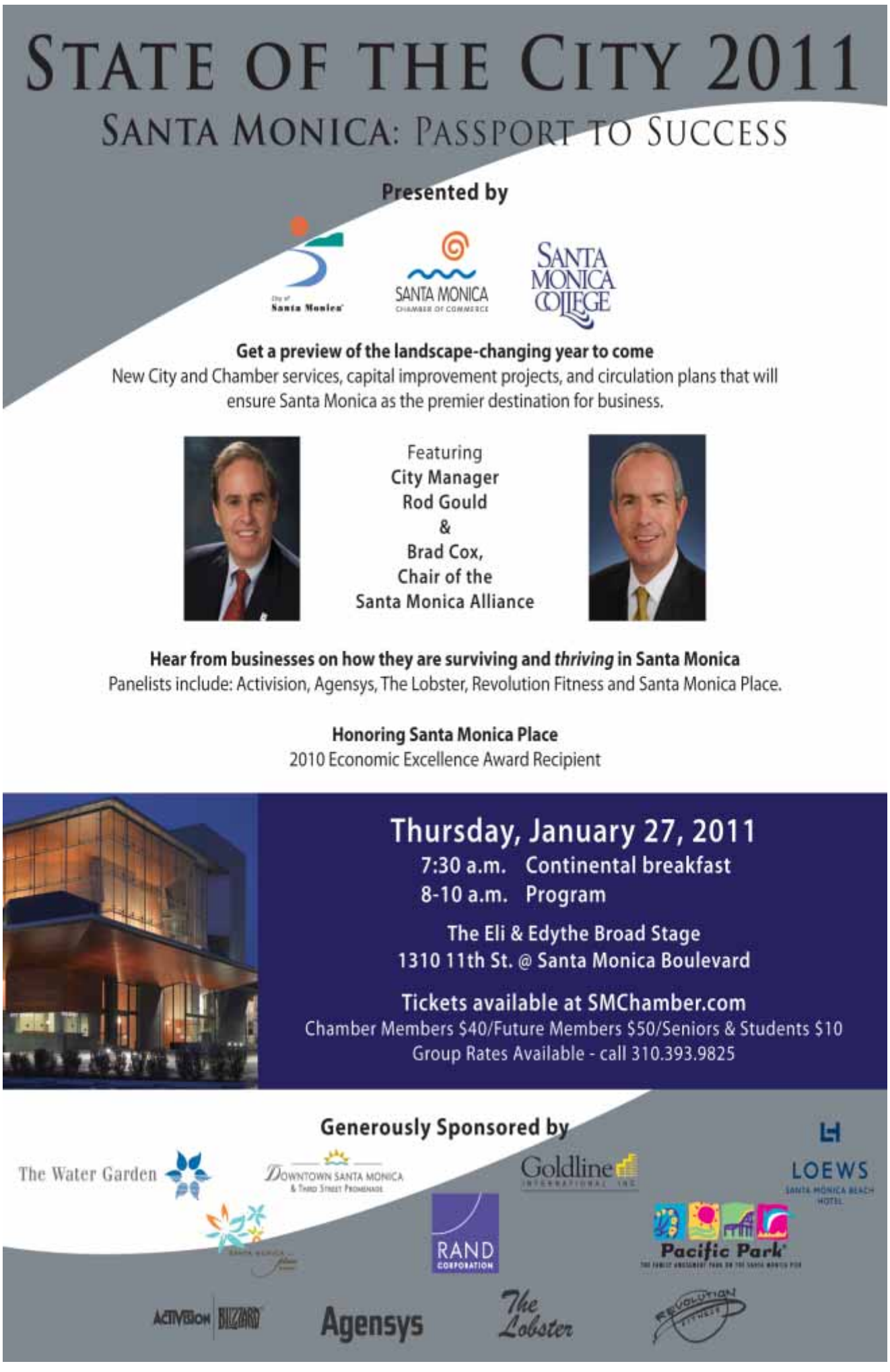
Davis said she worried the measure would make it so difficult to fundraise that only independently wealthy individuals would seek office in Santa Monica. She also argued it would be difficult to tell whether a donation from an individual who works for a company with business before he council would fall under the proposed rule.

"I'm concerned about how this would really operate and what it would look like," she said.

O'Day said he believed the proposal, if adopted, would harm the council's deliberative process.

"I'm a deep believer in transparency and accountability in government, but I think what we have here is really more of a feel good measure that would create more misconceptions and distractions from the real substance of the issues that we're covering on the dais," he said.

nickt@smdp.com



MAYOR
FROM PAGE 1

Shriver's proposal to directly elect the mayor gained support particularly from backers of Kevin McKeown, who has served on the council for 12 years and has been the top vote-getter the last two times he was elected but has never been chosen mayor by his colleagues.

Zina Josephs, who chairs the organization Friends of Sunset Park, spoke on his behalf Tuesday night.

"As I have watched the way the mayor has been selected in Santa Monica the last few years it reminds me a bit of social clubs in junior high and high school," she said.

"One council member (McKeown) is apparently being punished for refusing to get along and go along."

Tuesday's vote was no guarantee the measure will make it onto a citywide ballot.

City staff is expected to present a report on different options for selecting the mayor at the council's annual retreat, which is scheduled to take place Feb. 13 at a meeting room in the Main Library.

The retreat is similar to a regular council meeting with an agenda and time for public comment, but takes place in a more casual setting. While the council is authorized to take official action at the retreat, the meeting is typically not broadcast on CityTV, the Internet or KCRW, according to City Clerk Maria Stewart.

nickt@smdp.com

City of Santa Monica

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed funding for the following projects:

- A loan of $3,645,422 to Step Up On Second, Inc. for the acquisition and predevelopment of 520 Colorado Avenue.

Twitter takes on regional 'accents' of users

JENNIFER C. YATES
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH Tweeting about what club "y'all" are going to tonight? Must be from the South. Looking forward to "suttin" special? Then you probably live in New York. Think that new movie was "koo?" Northern California.

The words you write on Twitter can tell people more than just the status of your relationship or how you like the latest Bon Jovi CD. It may just indicate not only how you're living, but where you're living in the U.S.

Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University examined 380,000 messages from Twitter during one week in March 2010 and found that the social networking site is full of its own kinds of geographical dialects.

Take the word cool. Southern Californians tend to write the shorthand "coo," while their neighbors up north use the phonetic shorthand "koo."

The 4.5 million words the researchers examined were full of similar examples. Some were obvious — like "y'all" in the South or "yinz" in Pittsburgh — and some more mysterious. The word "suttin" was found over and over in New York City, a shorthand for "something."

Jacob Eisenstein, a post-doctoral fellow of computer science in Carnegie Mellon's Machine Learning Department, and his colleagues were able to analyze the geotags attached to Twitter messages sent from mobile phones for the study. In all, they looked at 4.5 million words.

"Some of what we found really just confirms previous intuitions, but some things were much more specific for social media," said Eisenstein, noting the phrase "very tired."

Northern Californians tend to substitute "hella" for very, whereas New Yorkers opt for "deadass" tired; those in Los Angeles would be more likely to follow the word tired with the abbreviation "af" — short for "as (expletive.)"

Some of the differences across Twitter can be explained by the need to write concisely to fit the site's 140-character limit. But others, not so much.

While using "u" in place of the two-character longer "you" is pretty common, a lot of New Yorkers do the opposite and lengthen the word to "youu." Or even emphasize "I" by writing two of them — as in "II."

Scott Kiesling, associate professor of linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh, said social media provides researchers lots of easily obtainable data in which they can explore and examine how people are speaking. He said the next step is examining whether these phrases spread like "pancake batter hitting a pan or hop from city to city" — if they spread at all.

"That's sort of the big question," Kiesling said. He said there's a burgeoning interest among linguists to study online speech more closely, and noted a conference this year at Georgetown University that will be examining language and new media.

Eisenstein said some of the online "accents" mirror those in the spoken language, but not all. For example, many people in the Great Lakes region tend to have similar accents when speaking, but that wasn't necessarily found to be true in the study, he said.

"One thing I think that it shows is that people really have a need to communicate their identity — their cultural identity and their geographic identity in social media," he said.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: 1410 Broadway, Suite B • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

Dr. Deborah Wallen



PET DEPOT VETERINARY GROUP
12423 Wilshire @ Centinela
310-820-8781

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NOTICE OF A SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE

Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation
Board of Directors and Twilight Dance Series
Ad Hoc Committee

Friday, January 14, 2011– 5:00 PM
Carousel Conference Room, 200 Santa Monica Pier
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Notice is hereby given that a Special Joint Meeting of the Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation the Board of Directors and the Twilight Dance Series Ad Hoc Committee will be held at Friday, January 14, 2011 at 5:00 PM

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Mon - Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat 11am to 5pm
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Santa Monica



Hollywood





SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

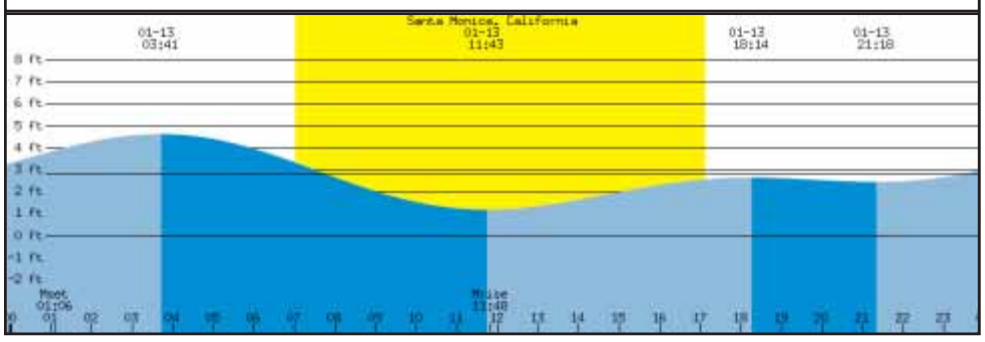
Swell Forecast

Small surf day, about waist high most everywhere.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see long period NW ground swell increase west facing breaks into waist to chest high surf.

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 5, 2011**

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 -- 22
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / 28

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Groetzbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	F	C
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	D
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A+	B
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	F
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	F
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A
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+	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's Beach Report Card℠ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A–F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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

Heal the Bay 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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MLB

Mattingly wants Dodgers to play with no excuses

BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) New manager Don Mattingly wants the Los Angeles Dodgers to play baseball the way he once did, with no excuses.

Mattingly is busy preparing for his first spring training in charge, having taken over from Joe Torre, who retired after last season.

The former New York Yankees slugger inherits a club that was fourth in the NL West with an 80-82 record. The Dodgers finished 11 games behind division-winning San Francisco, which went on to win the World Series.

Mattingly says he wants to forget last season and build the kind of team that is mentally tough and resilient during inevitable losing skids.







MOVIE TIMES

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

Golden Globe Foreign Language Nominee (Italy)
I am Love (R) 2hr
7:30pm
Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Little Fockers (PG-13)
1:30pm, 4:00pm, 6:45pm, 9:25pm

How Do You Know (R) 1hr 56min
1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:05pm, 9:50pm

True Grit (PG-13)
1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1 (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
10:10pm

Tangled in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm

Little Fockers (PG-13)
12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Yogi Bear 3D (PG) 1hr 22min
11:00am, 1:10pm, 3:35pm, 5:50pm, 8:00pm

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (NR) 2hrs 07min
1:05pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:05pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
12:01am

Country Strong (PG-13) 1hr 52min
1:25pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

King's Speech (R) 1 hour 58 min
1:10pm, 2:10pm, 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:50pm

Casino Jack (R) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale (R) 1hr 40min
4:40pm, 9:30pm

Frankie and Alice (R) 1hr 42min
1:40pm, 7:00pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 2hrs 00min
12:15pm, 1:15pm, 3:15pm, 4:05pm, 6:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 9:45pm

Season of the Witch (PG-13) 1hr 38min
2:00pm, 4:25pm, 7:05pm, 9:40pm

Gulliver's Travels 3D (PG)
12:10pm, 2:30pm, 4:50pm, 7:10pm, 9:30pm

Tourist (PG-13) 1hr 43min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:20pm

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

Put your feet up, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Others find you to be wise and grounded. What happened to the impulsive Ram? The good news is, he or she will return; meanwhile, make your imprint as one with experience and intelligence. Your instincts guide you with a higher-up. Tonight: Buy a new item for your home or wardrobe on the way home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You bloom. With your magnetism, your impact easily will be felt. If you could have an impact in any area of your life, where would it be? Your vision is changing, as is your ability to find the right path. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Know when you need to pull back. Even if others are encouraging you to take a stand or be more vocal, you might not be ready. With processing, you could come to a whole new conclusion. Tonight: Do for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You juggle various ideas. Make sure your actions will take you where you want to be. A partner seems to be perpetually changing like a glow rock. Know that you have to make the call. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Others look up to you. They know what you want. Maintaining a high profile and not getting into a catty situation of blaming only adds to your stature. You might inadvertently push a key person away. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Express your unusual practicality and attention to detail. You could be overwhelmed by all the possibilities at hand. Start the sorting process, and you naturally will detach. Don't make any snap decisions, so that you are able to play with different ideas. Tonight: Follow the music.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Deal with loved ones and associates directly. You'll get results. Nothing is more flattering than feeling cared about. You have a way of conveying just that quality, making others more responsive and supple. Try not to let a volatile situation become even more explosive. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others want to run with the ball. You cannot get the ball away from them, so fighting a losing battle simply isn't a good idea. You know what needs to happen, but others need to find out. Be gracious. Let others have their way. Tonight: Enjoying the one you are with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Realize you can only do so much for people. You are happy to help, but at a certain point you become an enabler. Revamp your finances -- namely, your budget -- if you don't like what is coming down the pike. A family member supports you in a project. Tonight: Put your feet up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Express your libido energies. Holding back certainly isn't helpful. Your creativity emerges within a relationship. For others, this ingenuity funnels into various factors of your day-to-day life. A child or loved one would be delighted to take a break with you. Tonight: Go off and be spontaneous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Excitement comes naturally with your sign. Being stubborn and causing yourself a problem domestically is another issue. Find a more peaceful way to add surprise to your life. What is clear is that you need to have a discussion about pent-up anger (yours). Tonight: Happy to be at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might be pushed by one person or several people in a meeting. Don't cave in, but know when to say "enough." Many people are frustrated. Still, there is no reason to be the brunt of all those feelings. Establish clear boundaries. Tonight: Hanging out is fun to do.

Happy birthday

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

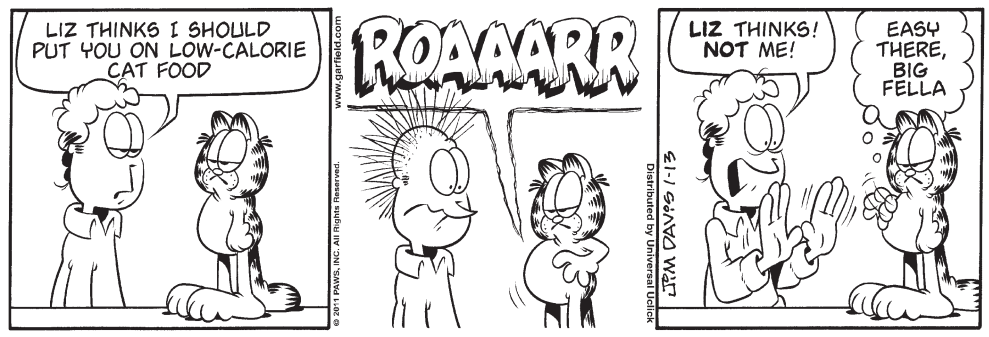
This year, you see life from a renewed and invigorated position. Understanding evolves as you go within and transform your reactions. If you are single, you could meet a very interesting person this summer. Know that it will take a while to get to know this person. If you are attached, the two of you could start acting like newlyweds this summer. Enjoy. TAURUS enjoys life. Learn from him or her.



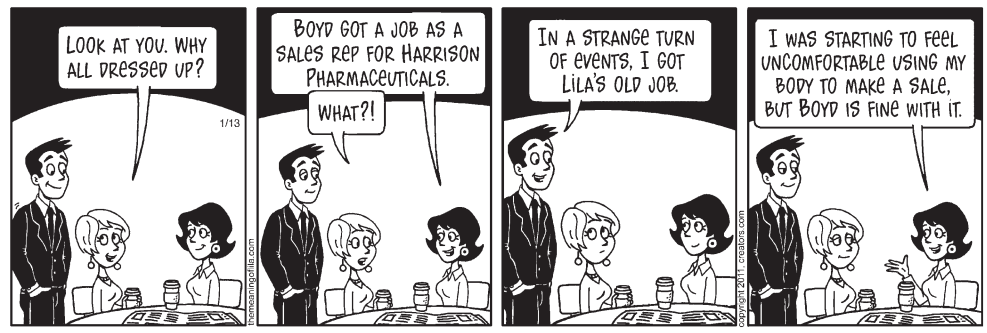
MYSTERY PHOTO

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.

Garfield
By Jim Davis



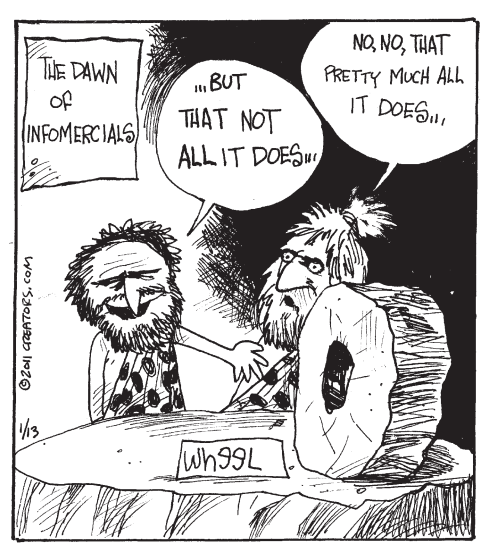
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★

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

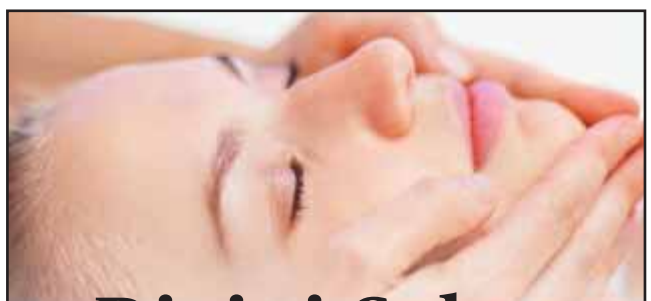
King Features Syndicate

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

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



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Highway exits
6 Yellow gem
11 Down-loadable read
12 Love to pieces
13 Fragrant bloom
14 Doorstop shape
15 Old hosiery
17 Spot to jot
19 Wall climber
20 Galoot
23 Broad-way's Stritch
25 Penalty
26 Deb's event
28 Torture device
29 Screen dots
30 Sugar suffix
31 Methane, e.g.
32 Singing Sandra
33 Famed cellist
35 Setting filler
38 Serving girl
41 In any way
42 Chip choice
43 Virile
44 Get some shut-eye

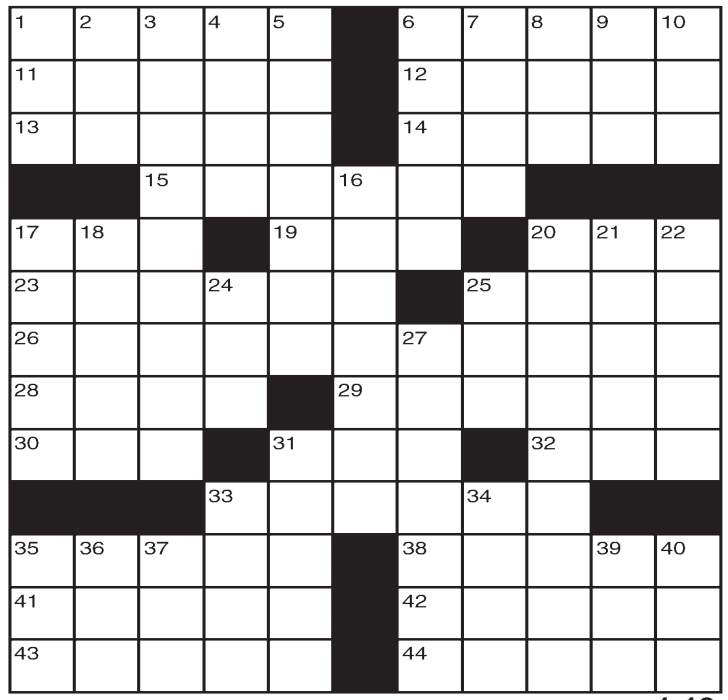
DOWN

1 Gym unit
2 Jurist Fortas
3 Van Morrison song
4 Race runner
5 City silhouette
6 Light brown
7 Some poetry
8 Pea's place
9 Bol. neighbor
10 Last letter
16 Give too much
17 Director Almodóvar
18 Assumed name
20 Country bar activity
21 Surren-dering cry
22 Gaggle members
24 Pen fill
25 Phoned copy
27 Cuts off
31 "Gee!"
33 Holler
34 Repast
35 Toast spread
36 Greek vowel
37 Pale
39 Fidel's pal
40 Spring

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

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



1-13

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

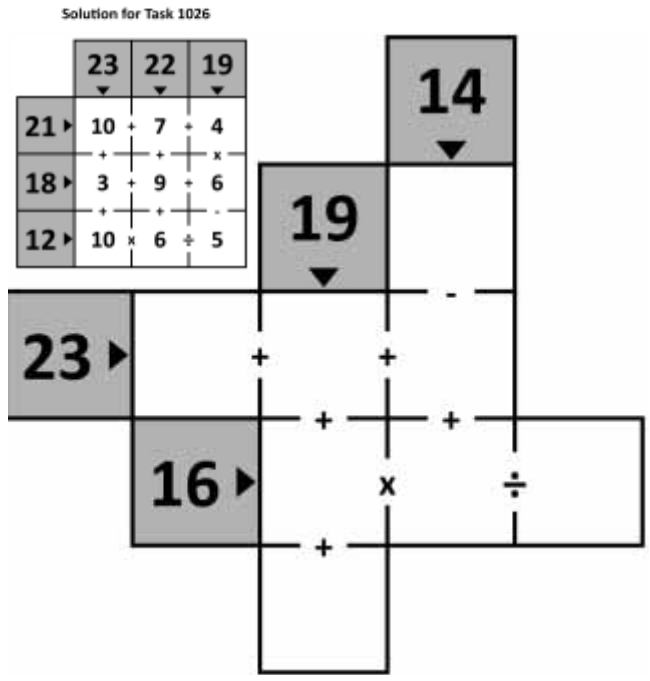
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 5, 7, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 4 11 16 45 Meganumber: 37 Jackpot: $30M
SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 8 10 13 19 38 Meganumber: 22 Jackpot: $29M
Fantasy 5: 4 32 35 36 37
DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 1 6 6 EVENING: 4 0 9
DAILY DERBY 1st: 08 Gorgeous George 2nd: 04 Big Ben 3rd: 03 Hot Shot RACE TIME: 1:46.01

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

■ (1) An official release of San Francisco's Department of the Environment in July apparently cleared up a matter of controversy (according to a report in SF Weekly): Human semen is one organic waste product not required to be disposed of in special "compost" bags under the city's mandatory composting law. (However, "snot" must be properly bagged.) (2) The Green Party is occasionally criticized for its overrepresentation of whites and upper-income people, who are less likely to flinch at the added costs of environmental protections. In October, the Green Party candidate for governor of Illinois, Rich Whitney, was shocked to see that the sample ballot for the November election mistakenly displayed his name as "Rich Whitey." (Corrections were made in time for election day.)

■ Darren Suchon, 42 and unemployed (and usually home all day), was charged in October with reckless driving and assault, among other things, for allegedly running his girlfriend off the road in his zeal to catch her after she drove away with his Sony PlayStation console. She had just left for work, and Suchon weaved through traffic in Palmerton, Pa., then bumped her car when he caught up with her at a traffic light, forcing her off the road. According to witnesses, Suchon rushed the car, "clawing" at it, screaming that he would "break the (expletive) window" if he didn't get his game back.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1953 Marshal Josip Broz Tito is chosen as President of Yugoslavia.
1958 Moroccan Liberation Army ambushes Spanish patrol in the Battle of Edchera.
1964 Anti-Muslim riots break out in Calcutta – resulting in 100 deaths.
1964 Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope John Paul II, is appointed archbishop of Krakow, Poland.
1966 Robert C. Weaver becomes the first African American Cabinet member by being appointed United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

WORD UP!

mansuetude
\ MAN-swi-tood \ , noun;
1. Mildness; gentleness.

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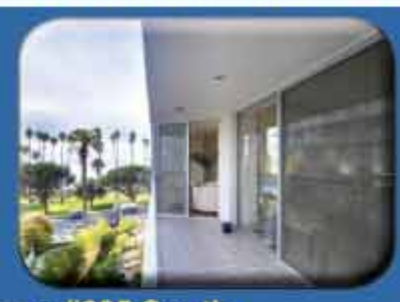
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