



Santa Monica Daily Press

NOT JUST ANY GIRL
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE RED STRIPE ISSUE

SANTA MONICA WANTS YOU

Story by Kevin Herrera Page 12



While some Santa Monicans are vocal about almost everything,
some seem to be sitting on the sidelines.

Illustration by Frances Casareno production@news.smdp.com

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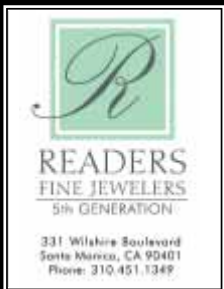
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Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, JANUARY 19-20, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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Santa Monica Daily Press

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Santa Monica YMCA Community Open House

1332 Sixth St., 10 a.m. — 2 p.m.

The Santa Monica Family YMCA will host a community open house today. Attendees will be treated to tours, health and fitness activities and will also be eligible for a number of great door prizes and giveaways. There will also be programs for adults, children and seniors. Current members are encouraged to bring their friends and family. For more information, call the Santa Monica Family YMCA at (310) 393-2721.

Cool off with Carol

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.

Enjoy a calming hour away from the pressures of daily life. Carol Kochoff, PsyD, LCSW, will demonstrate guided imagery techniques that can be used daily.

Green Living Workshop

2200 Virginia Ave., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Barent Roth, from Sustainable Works, leads this six-week workshop on living green. The workshop covers water, energy, waste, chemicals, transportation and travel, and shopping and food. To register, contact Barent Roth at (310) 458-8716, ext. 1 or rothb@barent@smc.edu.

'Peach Tree' presentation

2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Author J. Wells-Dickerson will discuss and sign her book "The Peach Tree: Only God Can Make the Peach Tree," the harrowing tale of her escape from a life of domestic violence.

Choose creativity

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Motivational speaker Chappale Burton will share creative ways and simple techniques to unleash your natural ability to choose happiness on a daily basis.

Launching Lotus Artworks

719 S. Spring St., LA, 6 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Lotus Artworks is opening its doors to emerging artists starting tonight. Travel down to the gallery's launch party to meet the featured artist, mingle, and groove to some DJ-spun tunes. Admission is free and food is complimentary. RSVP at www.LotusArtworks.com.

Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008

'Daybreak of Freedom'

525 Wilshire Blvd., 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

The Santa Monica Symphony will perform a commemorative concert for Martin Luther King Jr., featuring narrator Kaila Potts, who will read the words of Dr. King. No charge for admission to this family event. For information, visit www.smsymphony.org or call (310) 395-6330.

James Wrubel Trio

3233 Helms Ave., LA, 4 p.m. — 6 p.m.

Talented young pianist, James Wrubel brings his unique blend of the American Songbook, Latin Jazz Standards, Cuban Boleros, Chopin, and even film music to the Jazz Bakery where he'll be joined by two of Los Angeles' finest: Chris Hackman on bass, and Brian Carmody on drums. From his diverse performance experience with Latin Jazz legend Eddie Palmieri to jazz trumpeter Brian Lynch to avant-garde trombonist and composer George Lewis, the young pianist brings a unique blend of elements to his playing. Visit www.jazzbakery.com for ticket prices.

Well, one TV writer's still working

11975 San Vicente Blvd., LA, 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.

Burt Prelutsky, former TV writer for "Mary Tyler Moore," "Newhart," and "M*A*S*H" will celebrate the release of his book, "The Secret of Their Success: Interviews with Legends & Luminaries" at Dutton's Books. For more information, call (310) 476-6263.

'Mary-Mary, Quite Contrary'

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.

You're never too old to believe! A host of colorful storybook characters confronts the miracles and mysteries of modern living as they try to convince a quirky Mary-Mary that she is not too old to believe in fairy tales. Call (310) 394-9779, ext. 651 for information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



Tourism spending tops \$1 billion

Officials are concerned about sustaining the current output

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN When it comes to tourism in Santa Monica, there's some really good news, and then there's some bad news. The good news is, for the first time in the city's history, visitors spent more than \$1 billion on goods and services during the past year. That translated into a little over \$39 million in tax revenue to help pay for police, fire fighters, community programs and other services during the 2006-07 fiscal year. The bad news is representatives with the Santa Monica Visitor and Convention Bureau (CVB) are concerned about their ability to sustain the spending given the increase in tourists from the U.S., who tend to pinch pennies, stay for fewer days and drive their own cars instead of using the Big Blue Bus, contributing to the congestion that makes residents' blood boil. "Day visitors are not our target audience," Misti Kerns, president and CEO of the CVB, said in an interview Thursday after releasing an economic impact report conducted by Lauren Schlau Consulting and CIC Research Inc. "We are trying to capture overnight visitors because they spend more, stay longer and use public transit," Kerns added. "We're losing our share of being the main destination. We're becoming one stop of many. We need to take better care of the people who are here and encourage more to come and stay in Santa Monica." That is where the CVB's "I Am Santa Monica" campaign comes into play. The bureau is working with Santa Monica College, local businesses and City Hall to develop a hospitality course that will teach local employees about Santa Monica and



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

SEE TOURISM PAGE 7 **TAKING IT ALL IN:** A lone guest relaxes by the pool at Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel on Friday afternoon.



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE: Traffic along Fourth Street in the downtown area has prompted one resident to propose making streets in the area one-way to alleviate some of the congestion.

One-way downtown? Resident hopes to do something about traffic

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN While Los Angeles transportation planners move forward with a proposal to reconfigure signals on Olympic and Pico boulevards to favor one-way traffic flow, a Santa Monica resident is hoping city officials here will consider a one-way street proposal in one of the most heavily congested areas of the city. Roger Swanson has big dreams for downtown Santa Monica, whose corridors could one day become one-way streets, much like in downtown Los Angeles. "Some of my friends don't even come

into Santa Monica because they would normally come downtown (via) Santa Monica Boulevard and say 'what's the point?'" Swanson said. "It's jammed from usually Sixth or Fifth (streets) all the way." Swanson, who works as a quality management consultant, recently sent a letter to City Hall and the City Council, asking they consider a plan that would turn Santa Monica Boulevard into a west-bound one-way street, Colorado Avenue into an eastbound street, Second and Fifth streets into northbound streets, and Fourth and Seventh streets into south-

SEE TRAFFIC PAGE 14

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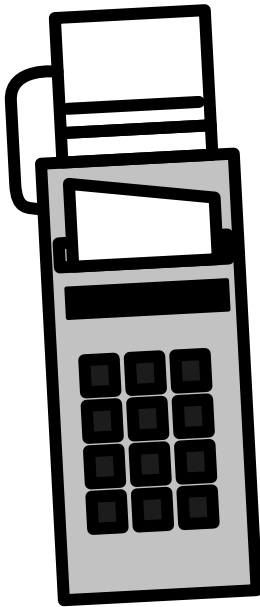
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Sex education saves lives

Editor:

I do not know if Wendy Wright or Matt Barber are the worst people in the world, but they may be the most naive ("Who's the worst person on earth?" page 5, Jan. 14). Our world is so hyper-sexualized that it is next to impossible to protect anyone at any age from such images. Even before such images, teens were having babies. (Many were well hidden.) This makes comprehensive sexual education necessary.

This is not a financial conspiracy to make money by Planned Parenthood; that has to be the most ignorant thing I have ever heard. It is called dealing with reality. Mrs. Wright and Mr. Barber may like to try it sometime. Reality discussions can and should include the benefits of abstinence, but must include the education that could save a life.

Heidi Marshall Booth

Santa Monica

Tip for Britney

Editor:

Here's a sure way to get mainstream media out of your personal life. Carry signs protesting the Iraq War and the Bush Administration. The (sup)press will no longer find you newsworthy.

RM Koncan

Santa Monica

Give the arts a chance

Editor:

Thank you for the article concerning arts funding and The Creative Capital Plan ("Artists could see more cash," page 1, Jan. 11) (1/09). I hope our city council will support the Creative Capital Plan financially so that both individual artist and arts organizations can continue to thrive in Santa Monica. The arts in Santa Monica have become an economic engine which contributes greatly to the overall economic health of our city.

Lawrence Shapiro

Santa Monica

Too few lanes

Editor:

I have just read the article in your paper regarding turning Ocean Park Boulevard into a one-lane street each way ("One lane or another?" page 1, Jan. 15). Did the city consider trying modifications with traffic signals? If there were more left-turn signals, that would go a long way to help move the traffic in both directions. Pico Boulevard needs more left-turn signals as well. I agree that it is a complicated safety situation but there is more congestion and a longer commute time with this stretch being one way. I find the crosswalk lights are very helpful in alerting drivers that pedestrians are crossing the street. Perhaps the addition of more of those would be possible. In the end, due to such heavy traffic, I feel that the two lanes should be restored. There are so many "traffic calming" measures in Santa Monica and West Los Angeles as it is that you barely move during peak traffic times and this just creates a search for other surface streets to ease the commute which in turn creates more "traffic calming" measures. I believe that we need to keep the main streets as accessible as is possible.

Sheryl Bowman

West Los Angeles Resident

Not everybody drives

Editor:

I'm thrilled about the traffic plan on Ocean Park Boulevard ("One lane or another?" page 1, Jan. 15). I don't drive, but I think this is a good step toward making the city more navigable for those of us who bike, walk and take the bus. (We do exist). More people will go to the shops if they can get there. Next up, they've got to replace the parking on Wilshire Boulevard with bus-only lanes.

The man who said, "We lose every day when you take away cars" must not know anybody who has asthma, who lives in a low-lying area, or who has lost someone close to them in a car crash.

Jon Wiener

Westwood



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Are biofuels just garbage?

SANTA MONICA IS OFTEN AT THE forefront of environmental progress. It's been almost three years since the city switched 80 of its heavy-duty vehicles and equipment to biodiesel fuel. At the time, we learned the fuel was made from renewable vegetable oils and recycled cooking grease. Those excited about the bio-switch pointed out that traditionally, many of the vehicles had been used along the city's beaches. The idea was that instead of diesel fuel fouling the air, the beach crew would have this new state-of-the-art fuel. A perfect idea, right? Well, maybe.

When I first heard about biofuel, it sounded fantastic. I figured that soon, when people finished eating their fries at McDonald's, they'd just take that greasy wrapper paper and drip it into their gas tanks. I dreamt of the day that we would be told we could just put our garbage directly into our cars. Not only would we have gas-free vehicles, but we wouldn't have to take out the garbage after we've removed our shoes and gotten comfortable.

San Francisco recently converted its entire diesel fleet to biodiesel. Last November, Mayor Gavin Newsom announced a new project called SFGreasecycle. The idea is to collect used fats and cooking oils from restaurants at no charge. Then these restaurant wastes would be converted into fuel. The only negative I could envision was that as the need for more and more grease would grow, there would be an increase in the construction of fast food places. But there are other negatives...

Today, every once in a while, I see a car that proudly bears a sticker proclaiming that it is powered by biodiesel fuel. Even if I am in our Prius, I feel this car is bragging to my car, "I'm even better for the environment than you are." I've felt almost ashamed that I'm not as much on the cutting edge as I could be. Until now.

I recently learned that there are some serious concerns about this new "green" fuel. Some experts think it might cause more problems for the environment than bad old gasoline. It's all getting very confusing.

So, what's the problem? Well, not all biofuels are created equally. The European Union just announced that it is proposing a ban on certain biofuels. It turns out that some entrepreneurs are perhaps more

interested in "the long green" than in "being green." Crops for fuel are being grown on all kinds of land — forests, wetlands, and grasslands. Not only are some trees being chopped down in tropical rain forests to plant these crops, but I'll bet they're not using biodiesel powered tractors to plow those areas.

A branch of the Smithsonian recently warned that biofuel production can result in environmental destruction and health problems. Great. Wasn't it invented to help avoid these things? It was bad enough when scientists figured out that sunshine and eggs weren't that healthy for us. And after some of us switched from red meat to

fish, we were told we were putting mercury into our bodies. But biofuels? What's next? Are they going to find out that flossing is dangerous to our health?

Of course, there are "good" ways to grow crops and convert them into fuels. They don't have to be grown in places where they shouldn't be. They

don't have to be converted to fuel without regard for the environment. Governments can have standards for the production and import of what so recently seemed like the perfect fuel.

That's what the European Union is doing, and I'm sure states and cities here will, too. But I'm worried that there will be cheaters who will try to sneak their "bad biofuel" into our cars and buses. Am I being cynical? I don't think so. Let's see: There's the possibility for businesses to make at least multi-billion dollar profits selling fuel for transportation purposes without regard for the environment. Sound familiar?

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes online for "The Huffington Post," and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarver-moderntimes.com

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A newspaper with issues

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Visit us online at smdp.com



The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West L.A. Members of CNPA, AFCC, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

“I can’t possibly substitute my judgment for yours ... you have to do what is right for you and that may not be what anybody else believes.”

— Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton on the “Tyra Banks Show,” discussing what she tells women who come up to her for advice on dealing with infidelity

“Every time I shave my brows, I’m a little weirded out by the idea of using a blade so close to my eyeball. What if my hand slipped? I mean, that would never happen ... unless there was an earthquake. That could happen if there was an earthquake. What if there was an earthquake?”

— Santa Monica Daily Press columnist, Mariel Howsepian

“My girlfriend Camila and I made a baby together, its three months growin’ in her womb and all looks healthy and lively so far.”

— Actor Matthew McConaughey’s announcement that his partner’s pregnant

“Thinking of an arbitrary 75,000 square foot a year doesn’t really solve (traffic). It just doesn’t make sense and it really is, I believe, something to screw us up and stop us from doing what we should do.”

— Mayor Herb Katz on a movement to limit development in the city

“I can’t hit on a girl in public like I used to. I never thought words like ‘undignified’ would come into my own reflections on myself, but I can’t do it anymore.”

— Jack Nicholson

“I think there are a lot of people that would like it very much.”

— Jonathon Conant, owner of Trapeze School New York, a company who plans on opening a trapeze school on the pier

“It’s rough and tumble, and it’s wild and woolly and it’s a blast. It’s a blast. It really is fun, because ... there is nothing better than ... going out there and fighting the fight and, suddenly you see, things are better.”

— Tom Cruise, on Scientology

“Let me tell you two key things here: His portrait is not coming into the collection, and it’s not hanging permanently.”

— Smithsonian spokeswoman Bethany Bentley allaying people’s concerns that Stephen Colbert’s portrait will hang permanently in the museum’s National Portrait Gallery

Quotations captured and compiled with care by CYNTHIA VAZQUEZ.

THESE SPECIAL TREES HAVE A GROUNDSWELL OF PUBLIC SUPPORT, THERE’S A REASON FOR IT BECAUSE THEY’RE INDIVIDUALLY IMPORTANT.”

— Landmarks Commissioner Roger Genser regarding the denial of a landmarks designation for the ficus trees downtown.

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The QLine

RESIDENTS ARE DIVIDED OVER MEASURE R

This past week, Q-line asked:

Do you think Measure R is good for the area or just another attempt to get taxpayers to foot the bill for education?

Here are your responses:

"THERE SHOULD BE A MORATORIUM on school funding until the issue of Santa Monicans paying for Malibu's schools is addressed. This peculiar arrangement is now illegal and should be terminated."

"THIS ISN'T THE FIRST MEASURE TO ask for taxes and it won't be the last. As long as they keep wasting money they will keep asking for more."

"I DISAGREE WITH THE PREMISE THAT the community should support its young. I don't believe we should be supporting Measure R or any other measure. Diddling with the mechanics is just an exercise in superfluity or extraneousness. The most important thing you can teach a child is responsibility. And that means that parents have to be responsible for raising and educating their own spawn, it is not up to the community to support others' responsibilities."

"SOME TAXPAYERS DON'T HAVE children, some taxpayers never had or plan to have children. The revolving measures being put on the ballot year after year to fund schools that are always begging for money just seems to be a circle of deceit."

"MEASURE R IS JUST ANOTHER BADLY planned and unfair money grab with waivers for senior homeowners but not for senior renters."

"MEASURE R IS ABSOLUTELY NEEDED in our two-city area. It will provide steady funding for our schools that are inadequately funded at the state level. It is incumbent on all taxpayers to ensure that our next generation has the opportunities we had and that will only come from local funding for our schools."

"TAXPAYERS, IF YOU WANT GOOD education we have to pay for good education. I think measure R is good for the area. Good schools are part of what makes our area great. Everybody should support Measure R."

"I REALLY LIKE THE IDEA OF LIVING IN a community where people care about having good schools. It makes for a very safe community. Quality of life matters to me and I think it is important that the schools meet high standards for achievement. I'll be supporting Measure R."

"IS THERE A TAX IN THIS TOWN THAT the school district doesn't love? How many dollars do we shovel down this money well? What might be more in

keeping with rational thought is cutting off some of the accumulated fat. The school district is bloated with highly-paid know-nothings plus the constant increases in program expansions. Just watch the school board meetings and you'll understand."

"I THINK MEASURE R IS INCREDIBLY important to continue essential services in the schools of Santa Monica. State budget cuts are cutting away at the financial support that all public schools need. As much as you fundraise, you always come up short."

"IF YOU'RE A HOMEOWNER IN Santa Monica you should support Measure R. Education is a major reason why people move to the area. It is a main reason why our property values are so high. Everybody should support this."

"VOTE NO ON MEASURE R. THE school board bureaucrats will only continue to waste tax payer money. The board of education should be forced to recap where the additional millions paid by bond measures have gone. Does the school board need another \$1.5 for its consultants? I think not."

"THE ONLY REAL THING THAT separates Santa Monica from being just another suburb is the school system. The fact that the district is so great brings families to Santa Monica, it increases values of housing, it makes it a better climate to live in because there is little to no gang activity. The schools have great programs for taking care of kids. Anybody who votes against this for financial reasons is nuts."

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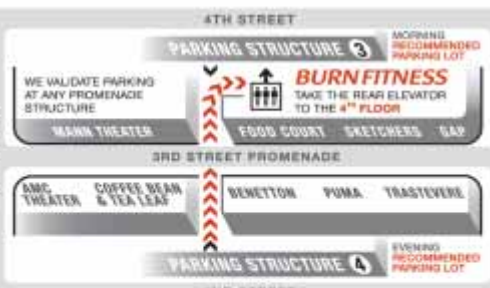
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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

HOLDING PATTERN: A pair of Australian tourists wait for a taxi in front of the carousel at the Santa Monica Pier on Friday. Tourism is one of the driving forces of the local economy.

International visitors are down, raising concerns

FROM TOURISM PAGE 3

what it has to offer. Once they finish the course, employees at hotels, restaurants and retail stores will be better able to answer questions from visitors on the homeless issue, smoking in public or where to catch the bus to go to Main Street or Montana Avenue to shop.

"When a visitor asks about how to get to the Getty (Center), we can show them the way but also suggest checking out Bergamot Station," Kerns said. "For a small city, we have a lot going on."

Kerns hopes to have the "I Am Santa Monica" class up and running by March.

The sharp rise in both per-capita and total spending was attributed to hotel guests who paid significantly higher hotel daily room rates. Occupancy levels were also a contributing factor as well as the sheer number of visitors to the city.

Hotel room rates increased by 9.9 percent in the last year, with the average room going for \$275.73 a night. That could also be the reason for fewer international visitors and shorter stays as travelers look to be frugal.

The total number of visitors coming to Santa Monica in 2003 was 4.68 million. In '06-'07 there were 5.78 million visitors, an increase of 23.5 percent, according to the economic impact report.

The number of jobs supported by tourism jumped considerably as well, from 8,122 in 2003 to 16,030 in 2006-07, a whopping increase of 97.4 percent.

Not surprising is the amount of money spent on shopping and lodging. In 2006-07, visitors spent over \$467 million on shopping and gifts, and another \$279 million on lodging. Meals were right below that at just over \$217 million, followed by daily transportation and parking at \$84.8 million, and beverages at \$67 million.

The majority of domestic travelers came from California, New York, Florida and Arizona. The majority of international visitors were from the United Kingdom, Japan and Australia. For the first time, mainland China appeared in the top 10, a market that needs to be targeted soon or else Santa Monica risks losing out to other destinations, Kerns said as she made a pitch for more funding from City Hall.

Currently the CVB's budget is \$2.6 million. The non-profit destination marketing agency would like to bump that up to \$3.2 million so that investments can be made in traditional markets overseas and emerging markets such

as Ireland, where the CVB has hired a marketing manager to work part-time on increasing Santa Monica's presence, Kerns said.

"We need to invest and stimulate these markets and keep that balance (between international and domestic travelers)," Kerns said. "Asian markets have huge potential but we are already behind. We're pleading for more money."

Many would think that because the U.S. dollar is weak compared to the euro and other foreign currency that international visitors would be coming in droves, but the study shows otherwise, alarming CVB officials. At other destinations, the opposite is true, with international visitors climbing, said Jeff Karnes, regional vice president of New World Travel, which focuses almost entirely on international tourism.

"Foreign traveling is up about 30 to 35 percent in my region," which is the western United States, Canada and Hawaii, Karnes said. "We anticipate that number to go up."

A lack of diversity in terms of lodging is hurting the local market, Karnes said. Other destinations have made renovations to their hotels and offer more affordable places to stay. Santa Monica has great four-star and five-star hotels, but few hotels and motels catering to three-star travelers. Travel packages are still expensive because of rising costs for fuel, making travelers look for affordability over luxury.

Increased security at airports could also be a factor for the decrease in international visitors, Karnes and Kerns said. Applying for visas can be cumbersome and expensive as well.

"People are staying for less money in hotels outside of Santa Monica and are taking the Big Blue Bus into Santa Monica for a few bucks and spend they day there and leave," Karnes said.

Because the dollar is weak overseas, more Americans are choosing to vacation closer to home, another reason for the increase in domestic visitors, Karnes said.

"I think the forecast in '08 is good for Santa Monica," Karnes added. "Things will definitely improve."

That's good news for the CVB and the city as a whole.

"We are not looking to attract more visitors because we are pretty much at capacity right now," Kerns said. "Attracting more people is not what we want. What we want is to restore that balance that we had."

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance which would, in part, amend Article 9 (Planning & Zoning) of the Santa Monica Municipal Code, by modifying the landscape maintenance and protection regulations and by relocating standards concerning irrigation and water conservation to the Green Building Ordinance, SMMC Chapter 8.108

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed text amendment:

Amendment to the City of Santa Monica Zoning Ordinance Sections 9.04.10.04.100 and 9.04.10.04.110 to modify landscaping maintenance and protection regulations and to relocate standards that pertain to landscape irrigation and design for water conservation to the Green Building Ordinance, Section 8.108 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code. The proposed new language in the Green Building Ordinance would apply modified standards to reduce water use and waste to all zoning districts, including R1 (Single Family), which was previously exempt. The ordinance under consideration by the City Council would also update and amend the current Green Building requirements set forth in Chapter 8.108 and modify and relocate the construction and demolition material waste management requirements from Chapter 7.60 to Chapter 8.108.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2008 AT 6:45 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Landscaping and Irrigation Standards
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project, please contact Brenden McEneaney, LEED AP, CGBP, Green Building Program Advisor at (310) 458-8549, or by e-mail at brenden.mceneaney@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutiérrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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MAKING NEW FRIENDS: Veronica Castro, director of the girls program at the YWCA-Santa Monica, speaks to students at John Adams Middle School during the Mix It Up event on Friday.

Mix and match

YWCA co-sponsors event to help kids make new friends

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

SUNSET PARK For at least 30 minutes, the students at John Adams Middle School (JAMS) didn't carry any labels.

There were no jocks, no popular girls or freaks and geeks. For one lunch period on Friday afternoon, the cliques disappeared and what remained were students, just students.

JAMS and the YWCA Santa Monica/Westside co-sponsored the first "Mix It Up" lunch on Friday, an event where students were encouraged to break away from their normal group of friends for a short period of time to meet someone new, an attempt to break up cliques and unite the student body as one.

"We want to do our best to desegregate our campus at lunch time," said Assistant Principal Shirley Compton-Sugars. "Not that they are segregated by race, but they do stay with their friends and set group."

The event coincided with the national "Mix It Up" day in which more than four million students in 10,000 schools participated last year, addressing the issue of racism in schools across the country, the event occurring days before the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Each of the more than 1,000 students at JAMS received a piece of color construction paper before lunch time began. They were instructed to sit at a picnic table where the color of the balloons tied to it matched the color of the construction paper. The students were not allowed to trade colors with other students.

"We're trying to get students to realize there still is segregation in schools; that there are social boundaries," said Veronica Castro, the director of the girls programs at the YWCA. "Some students feel they can't sit (in a certain place) because they're not cool enough or because they're too scared."

Cliques are prevalent on the JAMS campus, said Messiah Bailey, a seventh grader and member of the YWCA's Girls in Action Program, which helped organize the special lunch.

"We want to make things less segregated and more integrated," Bailey said.

During lunch time, it's not an uncommon sight to see a student eating lunch by themselves, said Principal Martha Shaw. Shaw mentioned that earlier in the school year, students

learned about an organization called "Rachel's Challenge," centered around Rachel Scott, the first student who was killed in the Columbine High School shootings in 1999. Scott was known as a friend to the friendless, Shaw said.

"This (event) seemed like a good way to talk to them about how it's just one day and they don't have to be the person's best friend, but to think of what it would be like if they were alone," Shaw said. "(Lunch) time is a time when people are so social, it's a painful time to not have friends."

Once the clock struck 12:50 p.m. on Friday afternoon, the students streamed out of the classrooms and onto the quad, lunch bags in one hand and a colorful piece of construction paper in the other, some looking confused as to their seating arrangements, others relieved that there was at least one familiar face in their color coded group, some appearing awkward sitting at a table where they didn't know anybody.

"Remember, don't trade any of your colors," Castro yelled into the microphone.

El Alseth, a sixth grader and new kid on the block, met about three new people about 10 minutes into the lunch period, eating a slice of pizza and having a conversation with seventh grader Mary Berrett, who has a class with the new student's older sister.

"It's actually a lot of fun," Alseth said, taking a bite of his pizza.

Just a few feet away at the blue table, Kourtney Murphy, an eighth grader, was getting to know four unfamiliar faces.

While it was a bit awkward sitting with people she didn't know, Murphy said she thought "Mix it Up" would yield positive results.

"It's cool to get to know new people and I can meet other new people through my friends," Murphy said.

School officials hope to make "Mix It Up" an annual event. Castro said she plans to introduce the concept to other schools in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

It's important to hold events like "Mix It Up" at middle schools where the students are undergoing changes in their lives, becoming more independent and forming an idea of who they want to become, Castro said.

"At this age, they begin to develop their world view and start to analyze who they are, yet they are still open to ideas," Castro said. "An event like 'Mix It Up' will influence how they see the world and will offer the unique opportunity for them to fight the barriers of segregation and racism at their school in a positive and fun way."

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Turnout is good, not great

Some local residents make it a point to get involved, but there are still those sitting on the fence

BY KEVIN HERRERA | Editor in Chief

CITYWIDE On a Monday night in May of last year, City Clerk Maria Stewart and her staff held a community meeting at the Ken Edwards Center to discuss a topic that garnered much attention in Santa Monica — the electoral process.

Voters had just witnessed one of the most contentious elections in recent memory as several strong City Council candidates battled it out while special interest groups spent millions of dollars on mailers and cable television ads to oust incumbents, who ended up being victorious despite the blitz.

The meeting room was packed, as roughly 200 residents showed up to speak their minds. The turnout was phenomenal, Stewart and others who attended said.

"The level of civic engagement here is extremely high," said Stewart, who is in charge of administering and monitoring elections, posting agendas for City Council and commission meetings as well as operating City Hall's mail center and print shop.

"Residents want to know what's going on and be informed," Stewart added. "They want to be given choices, voice their opinion and they want to participate."

There's no doubt that Santa Monicans are active. Voters here hit the polls at higher rates than neighboring cities — 83.6 percent voter turnout in 2004. However, in a city with more than 86,000 residents, should 200 people showing up at a meeting be considered a good turnout? And if the same faces continue to attend and dominate the discussion, where does that leave the average resident who may only show up once or twice a year?

Since the meeting was held at 7 p.m. on a Monday, many who monitor civic engagement would say yes, 200 people is a good turnout. But they are also the first ones to admit that there's always more that can be done.

"Traditionally, you don't have 200 people turning out," said Bob Stern, the director of the Center for Governmental Studies and a former Santa Monica resident for 15 years.

"If 200 people turn out at an L.A. City Council meeting, that's good," Stern said. "The question is, how frustrated are people? Do they feel that they don't have input? I don't think that's the case (in Santa Monica). The conservatives may feel that way because they don't have a majority on the council, but the majority seem satisfied."

What are the obstacles standing in the way, and why is it so important that more people show up to community

workshops on Big Blue Bus routes, city finances or the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), which will dictate development in Santa Monica for the next 20 years or more?

The answer is simple — the more people who show up, the more input city officials receive and are better able to draft policies that reflect the core beliefs of the community.

"To build any kind of long term agreement, you have to have a consensus and not have issues go one extreme this year and then three years go in another extreme," said Eileen Fogarty, director of planning and community development at City Hall who has been hosting meetings around the community, trying to gather input on how neighborhoods should be shaped.

"To get that consensus you absolutely have to have a broad base of support, a turnout that reflects many different interests in the community," Fogarty added.

CITY HALL BECOMES MORE INCLUSIVE

To attract a broad base, City Hall has tried some different tactics. City officials rely heavily on mass mailings, e-mails and the local press as well as City TV, but they have also changed the process to be more community friendly. Meetings are now held before a development project gets all the way to the City Council for approval, allowing residents to interact with the developer and give input before a significant amount of money is spent on design. During these meetings, issues such as traffic and landscaping are vetted.

City Hall in 1999 held a special election to fill a vacant council seat. The election was held over a weekend to test the theory that if given more time, voters will turn out to the polls. It was an experiment that netted a turnout of 27.5 percent, which is good considering the election was for only one council seat and wasn't paired with any other federal, state or county measures, Stewart said.

For this election cycle, Stewart plans to go out into the community to better explain the electoral process to residents, which may encourage some to run.

"It can be daunting, but if we go out and make it more user friendly, people would be more willing to consider running for office," Stewart said.

City Hall has also made an effort to make more information available online, encouraging residents to e-mail their elected officials and department heads to voice their opinions.

City Hall has a history of being on the forefront when it comes to using technology to spread discourse. In 1988,

City Hall started the Public Electronic Network, or PEN, a city e-mail and discussion system. Now, when residents send e-mails to the address council@smgov.net, the message is forwarded to all seven council members and becomes a part of the public record.

Councilman Kevin McKeown, who is a computer technician with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, said many residents have decided to use e-mail as a way to communicate instead of showing up at meetings to speak before the council. If there are a lot of speakers, sometimes the amount of time one has is limited to one or two minutes, while an e-mail allows them to write as much as they want.

"Nothing matches the historic and durable power of residents showing up in person to speak at a meeting, but Santa Monica's own flavor of participatory democracy welcomes input by whatever means," said McKeown, who can often be seen at various commission meetings.

"Perhaps because of Santa Monica's having developed the world's first municipal teleconferencing system 20 years ago, we've long used resident e-mail as a bellwether of general public opinion," McKeown added. "I try to respond with follow-up questions by return e-mail when I'm not overwhelmed, because the resultant exchanges are often rewardingly thoughtful and productive."

While participating in discussion is good, a resident should pick their battles wisely. Gadflies who attend meetings regularly and speak on nearly every issue can dilute their voice.

"Council members value all opinions at public meetings, but I think it's fair to say we notice and pay special attention to residents who rarely speak, but come down on a Tuesday night because they care passionately about a given issue," McKeown said. "We've enjoyed that on everything from schools to hedges, and recently we had refreshing new points of view from bicyclists on Critical Mass, and local beach users as we considered (regulating) surf camps."

WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

While e-mail has made it easier, there are still obstacles in the way, preventing people from being more involved.

Claudia Mendez would like to participate, but has three young children at home, a husband and a full-time job, leaving her little time to attend community meetings or show up at City Hall to talk with the City Council.

"It's amazing how fast the time goes each day," said Mendez, a resident of the Pico Neighborhood. "By the time

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Daniel Archuleta daniela@smdp.com

RISING UP: Local peace activist Jerry Rubin takes part in a protest to save ficus trees along Second and Fourth streets last year. Rubin is often at the center of issues that affect the area.

I get home and finish dinner it's already 8 or 9 o'clock and time to put the kids to bed. By that time, I'm ready to go to bed, too. Maybe if there were more meetings on the weekends then I could go, but even then I'm busy spending time with my family."

Mendez said she relies on others in her neighborhood to speak for her. She feels that neighborhood groups like the Pico Neighborhood Association serve a very valuable role in the community and believes they should be given more power to make change, much like Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles.

She also suggested changing the way council members are elected. She would like to see the creation of council districts so that when elected, council members would not only be responsible for the entire city, but for individual neighborhoods as well.

"This would make it so the elected officials are more responsive to the needs of the neighborhoods," she said. "They could advocate on our behalf and could be more focused on certain issues of importance to their constituents. Some people may not like this idea, but I think it could work here."

One reason why people may not get involved is apathy, said Terry Cooper, director of the Civic Engagement Initiative at the School of Policy, Planning, and Development at the University of Southern California.

"If people feel as if their voice isn't being heard, they lose interest and don't show up," Cooper said.

Some residents do feel that way, but for the most part it seems as if residents believe they can make a difference by helping to organize neighborhood groups.

Cooper said elected officials need to be aware of the "participation costs" associated with civic engagement. Those costs include taking time off work or hiring a baby sitter, the difficulties in finding parking for an event or travel time.

"And then once I get there, do I have to sit through two hours of something else before I can speak," Cooper said. "There really is a hidden price tag."

Another issue is homeownership. In Santa Monica, there is an overwhelming

majority of renters. Renters tend to be less concerned about local politics and feel as if they do not have a strong connection to the city in which they live. That is not entirely the case in Santa Monica because of rent control, which has either allowed or forced people to stay in their apartments for long periods of time, however, as the benefits of rent control are eroded by the market, people are moving at a much faster clip.

"Renters also tend to be younger, and younger people tend to be less interested," Cooper said. "To combat that you need to do a lot more organizing and get out there and contact them and help them understand how to participate."

One man who knows about the hidden costs of participating is local peace activist Jerry Rubin, a fixture at council and community meetings. Rubin said one of the main reasons why he is able to attend meetings regularly is because it is his job as an activist to do so.

He has fun too (he's a big fan of film), but he is definitely about the business of the city. Rubin helped organize Santa Monica Treesavers, a group of concerned citizens fighting a proposal by City Hall to remove 54 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets as part of a streetscape project. Rubin feels Treesavers is a true representation of civic engagement, a group of residents who are trying their hardest to influence the council and make it reconsider its decision.

"I think for a lot of the meetings (City Hall) should get out and advertise more," Rubin said. "But in the end, a lot of people just don't like going to meetings. It's like banging a head against the wall. It's not like a concert or a movie. There's an element of expected work to do."

"Really though, it's not about the meetings, but what you do in between the meetings," Rubin added. "Meetings are a way to get information and stay on top of the issues, but they are not everything."

Rubin equated meetings to jogging, "it's hard to get going, but once you're finished, you feel good that you did."

"It's all about taking that first step."

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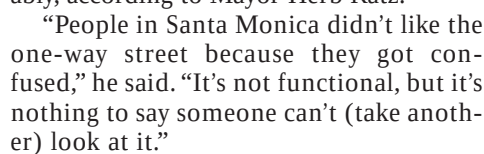
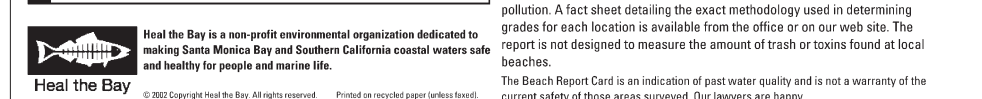
ODDS OF A CHILD
PERFORMING AT CARNEGIE HALL:
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ODDS OF A CHILD BEING
DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM:
1 in 166

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Gabrielle Harradine contributed to this report.

CHANNELSURFING

BY JACK NEWORTH



Not just an ordinary picture

IN 1980 THE OSCAR WINNER FOR BEST Picture was “Ordinary People,” a story about a family torn apart by an accidental death. The “tagline” of the movie was “Some films you watch, others you feel.” It was certainly true for me. On my drive home I was so emotional that I had to pull onto the shoulder of the free-way to regroup. Moments later a CHP parked behind me. With a flashlight in my face, the cop asked why had I pulled over. When I told him it was because of a movie I’d just seen he asked if I had been drinking.

I’m reminded of this rather embarrassing incident after viewing “The Russell Girl,” the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie which airs on CBS, Sunday, Jan. 27. It has a similar theme as “Ordinary People,” and even an identical line, “Bad things can happen to good people.” It stars Emmy and Golden Globe nominated actress Amber Tamblyn (“Joan of Arcadia”), who was born in Santa Monica. She plays Sarah Russell, a 23-year-old aspiring medical school student in Chicago who, in the first scene, is given some grim medical news.

Without telling her family of this develop-ment, Sarah pays a surprise visit back to her small town, hoping to find comfort. But instead she confronts a terrible event from her past as a necessary step before she can heal. “Russell Girl” is no “Ordinary People” but that said, it’s well-written (Jill Blotevogel), well-directed (Jeff Bleckner), and features some fine acting.

Though it was not a commercial hit, some might recall Tamblyn’s remarkable perform-ance in “Stephanie Daley,” another story about

a young woman with a dark secret. But where-as Stephanie was in denial, Sarah is strong if in a quiet way, but both are unable to reach out for help. This is a tragic theme that appears in Robert Redford’s “Ordinary People,” and “The River Runs Through It.” If done well, the audi-ence will wish the character could accept the help but knows it’s unlikely.

Early on we discover that years ago Sarah accidentally caused enormous pain to the family next door. The mother, Lorraine Morrisey (played brilliantly by two-time Tony winner Jennifer Ehle), has been unable to resolve her grief which only adds to Sarah’s guilt. Lorraine’s inability to let go causes her depression and migraines, and makes her unavailable to her family. She escapes into her work, restoring antiques. But when Sarah returns home it only re-opens Lorraine’s wounds. She can’t even say Sarah’s name, refer-ring to her as “The Russell Girl.” The movie almost plays like a mystery as we get clues into the dark secret that haunts these two families.

Sarah’s mother, Gayle Russell (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio), is upbeat and high functioning, but also has buried the pain from this event. She assumes Sarah’s surprise visit is to announce her acceptance to Northwestern Medical School. Gayle overrides the instincts of her husband Phil (Tim Dekay) who feels the family should have sought counseling. He is the ideal father, open and caring, and yet Sarah can’t bring herself to confide in him.

Even the lesser roles are well played, though certain characters’ history seems a bit contrived. Evan (Paul Wesley) is Sarah’s former boyfriend

who’s back in town from his corporate job in Dallas to help his father who owns a body shop and is recovering from a stroke. A little too con-venient, Sarah on a trip home daydreams about her past and winds up slamming her car into the guardrail. She goes to the gas station/body shop only to run into Evan who’s never gotten over her. (Nor him for her.) Jennifer’s husband Howard (Henry Czerny) is both protective of his wife’s fragile state and yet resentful that she clings to her pain at the expense of her family.

While it’s likely most viewers will overlook them, two sets of minor details were well han-dled. Scenes of Lorraine’s antique restoring, while acting as a metaphor for her and Sarah’s relationship, also give a unique look at that art. And the scene of Evan’s body shop repair of Sarah’s car also adds credibility. (And relief as the mangled car is finally fixed!)

Ultimately “The Russell Girl” is about for-giveness. Sarah seeks it from Lorraine but in time she learns she needs to forgive herself. As is the Hallmark Hall of Fame tradition (this their 232nd production) “The Russell Girl” will tug at your emotions. If some movies you watch and others you feel, this would be the latter. You may want to have Kleenex nearby. And after-wards, from experience, may I suggest that you don’t immediately drive on the freeway.

“The Russell Girl” airs Sunday, Jan. 27, on CBS at 9 p.m.

JACK also writes the “Laughing Matters” column which appears every Friday. He can be reached at Jackneworth2003@aol.com.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Avenue (310) 260.1528
Carmen Jones (1954) (NR) 7:30
Porgy and Bess (1959) (NR) 7:30
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 3rd Street (310) 458-1506
Atonement (R) 11:05am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35
Enchanted (PG) 11:15am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
The Great Debaters (PG-13) 10:45am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05
The Kite Runner 10:50am, 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 3rd Street (310) 289-4262
27 Dresses (PG-13) 11:15am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:20
Charlie Wilson's War (R) 11:50am, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40
Cloverfield (PG-13) 10:45am, 1:00, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 9:45, 10:45, 12:00am
National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG) 12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
P.S. I Love You (PG-13) 4:10, 7:05
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (R) 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35
There Will Be Blood (R) 11:00am, 2:30, 6:05, 10:05
The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep (PG) 10:50am, 1:30
LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 2nd Street (310) 394-9741
Before the Devil Knows You're Dead (R) 11:00am
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly (Le Scaphandre et le papillon) (PG-13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55
Juno (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
No Country for Old Men (R) 1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55
Persepolis (PG-13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15
The Rape of Europa (NR) 11:00am
Yiddish Theater: A Love Story (NR) 11:00am
MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 3rd Street (310) 395-1599
Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG) 11:30am, 1:50, 4:10, 6:20
The Bucket List (PG-13) 11:50am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
Cassandra's Dream (PG-13) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
First Sunday (PG-13) 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
I Am Legend (PG-13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
Mad Money (PG-13) 2:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
One Missed Call (PG-13) 8:30, 10:50

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

Find your pals, Leo

Happy Birthday!

You might be unusually goal-driven this year, accomplishing much more than you believed possible. If you are single, you could meet someone out of the blue during your day-to-day life. If you are attached, work on improving the caliber of your life together. The end results could be spectacular. GEMINI cares.



Born Today

Singer Dolly Parton (1946)

Singer Phil Everly (1939)
Singer Janis Joplin (1943)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your words explain a lot, yet you might see some reactive people. What is clear is that you are only responsible for yourself and cannot control others. High energy suggests physical activity. Tonight: Speak your mind.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Be sensitive to expenses. How you deal with someone might be quite different from in the past. New beginnings become possible. Listen to news that heads in your direction. Investigate it. The unexpected does occur. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You are all smiles, and others respond to your positive attitude. A parent or authority figure might be challenging in some manner. Others seek you out; they want your lively personality. Tonight: You're on top of your game.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Pull back and think through odd events and news. Sort through different pieces of information. You could be a touch reactive and act out in anger. Watch a tendency to be a bit sour. Your creativity flourishes to a new level. Tonight: Get some extra sleep.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Find your friends, and you will be happy. Listen to feedback that heads your way. Others want to relax and indulge. Who better than you to ask to join in? Bringing friends together could be much more fun than you think. Tonight: Find your pals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ How you deal with a must appearance really says a lot about you and what you expect and want. You could act in a most radical manner. You could be far more pushy than you realize. Slow down and think. Tonight: Be more aware of your image.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Head in a new direction. Your ability to see past the obvious allows others to really relax and be themselves. On some level, they feel as if you know them. Open up to possibilities. Extremes mark feelings. Tonight: Go for something different.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ A relationship earmarks your plans. You are extremely intense about this person, who is sometimes aggressive or touchy. Indulging this person might be the wrong way to go, creating even more of a schism. Tonight: Defer to a partner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Others let you know where they are coming from. You might not agree with what is going on around you. Others could be difficult, no matter how nice you are. Be generous and look in the other direction. Tonight: Say yes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot to do. You might be making too much out of someone's reaction. You know what to do and where to head. Listen to your sixth sense with someone you care about. Tonight: Lighten up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You are up for fun. Friends want you, and a child or loved one loves being around you too. Step back and choose the person you want to be with. Romance bubbles forth for those who are single. Tonight: Fun times are ahead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You might feel as if some time close to home fits the bill. A purchase for the home might add to the quality of your life. Don't make a big deal out of a situation. Go with the flow. Someone clearly admires how you handle yourself. Tonight: Happy at home.

Janric Classic 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 Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

6	9	5	8	1	7	2	3	4
4	7	2	5	6	3	8	9	1
3	1	8	4	9	2	7	6	5
9	2	3	6	5	1	4	7	8
5	8	1	3	7	4	9	2	6
7	6	4	2	8	9	1	5	3
2	5	6	7	4	8	3	1	9
8	3	9	1	2	5	6	4	7
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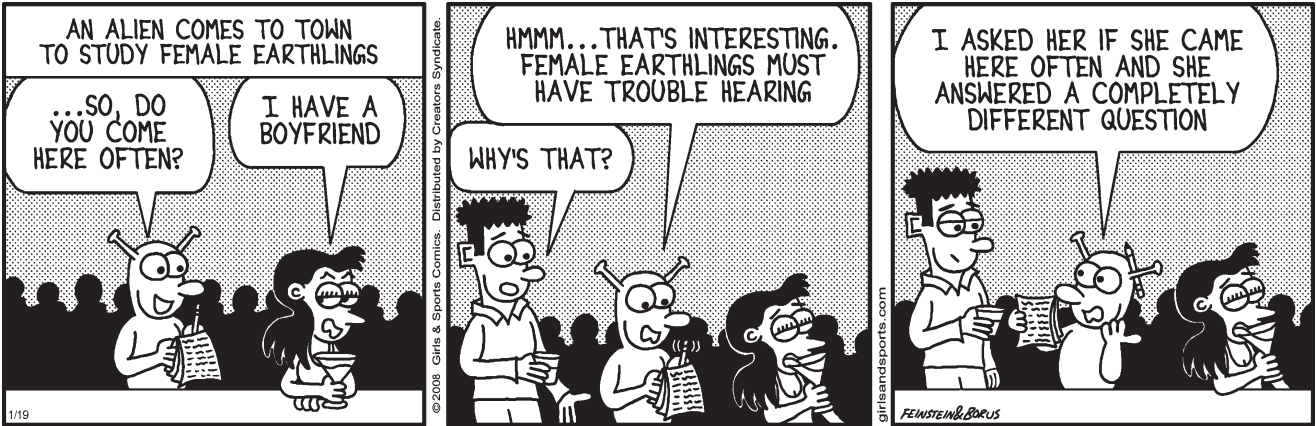
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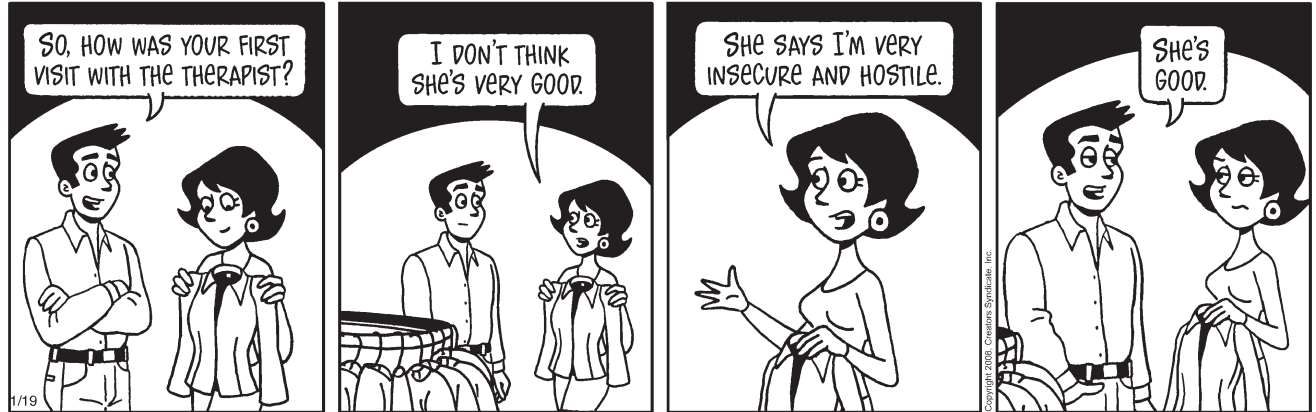
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



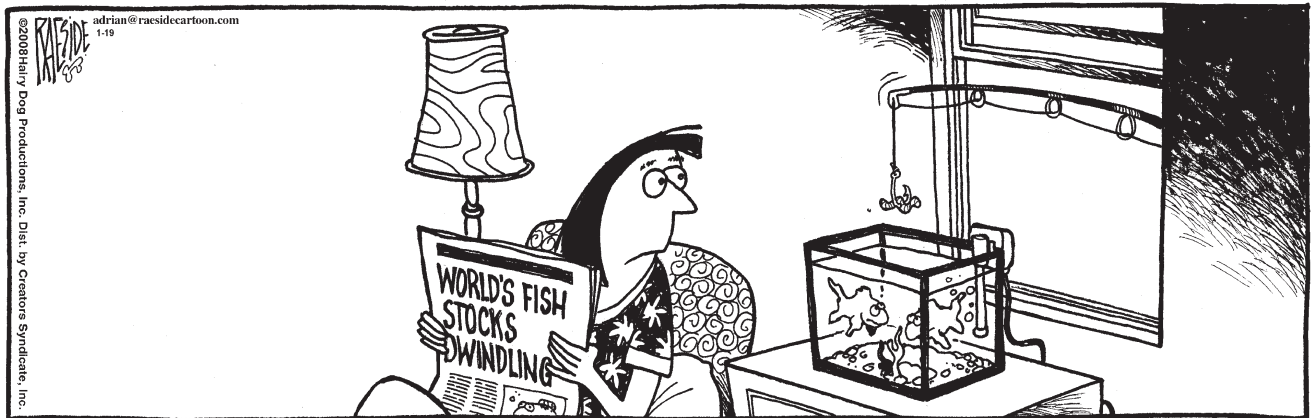
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



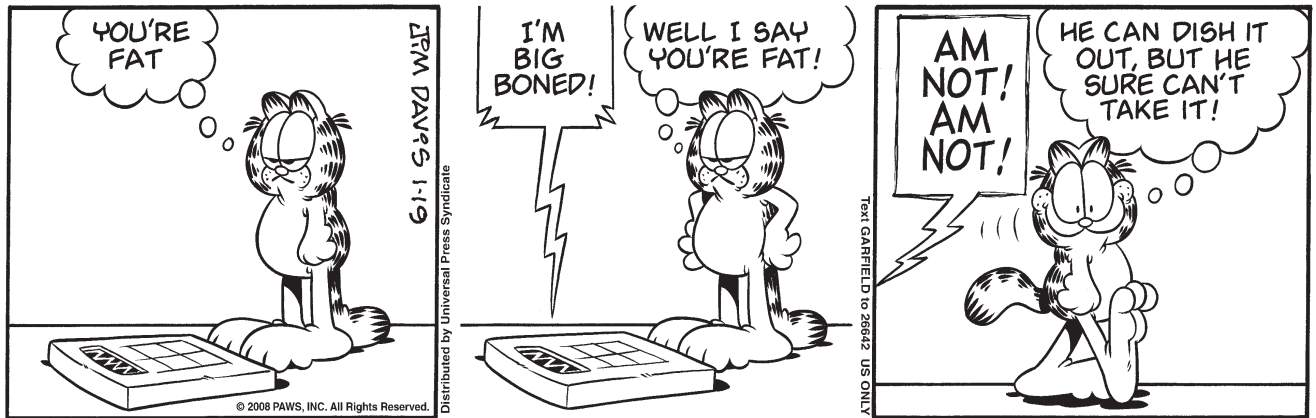
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



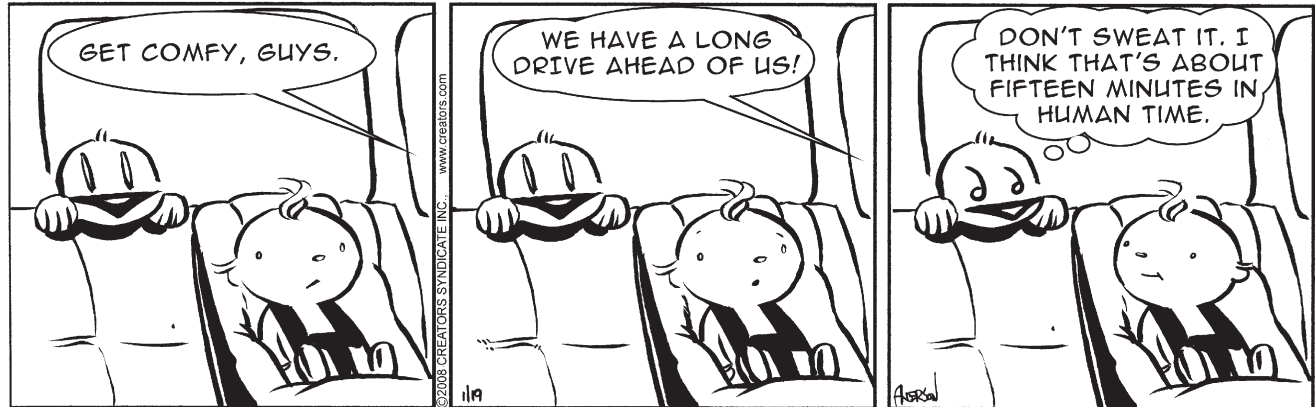
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F	O	W	L	S		B	O	W	L	S
I	C	E	U	P		A	R	E	E	L
S	T	A	G	E		W	R	O	T	E
H	A	R		C	A	L		W	O	E
E	V	E		I	N	S		N	U	T
D	E	M	E	A	N		A	T	T	Y
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E	L	L	I	E		M	A	H	R	E
D	E	L	T	S		E	N	T	E	R

Yesterday's answer

16 Hooch 25 Muham-mad's daughter
18 San Antonio team 28 Clarinet parts
20 Subside 30 Majestic
22 Sporting spear 31 Politico's concern
23 Milk carton 32 Wendy's pal
24 2005 words 34 Sound
fantasy film 36 Homer's neighbor

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11							12			
13							14			
15						16				
17					18					
			19	20				21		
	22	23					24			
25				26						
27			28				29	30	31	32
33						34				
35					36					
37					38					
39					40					

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Robin Handel, 44, was arrested in Rowlett, Texas, in December and charged with conspiracy after allegedly convincing her mother to kill Robin's husband to protect a romance she was having via the Internet. (The small-caliber handgun that the mother used failed to inflict life-threatening wounds, either to the husband or when she shot herself as police closed in.)
■ Unclear on the Concept: The 44-year-old man who allegedly skipped out on a court appearance in April in Vernon, British Columbia, in connection with marijuana-growing was arrested in December in Mission, British Columbia, when he applied for a job at the county jail. Also in December, police in Oakland, Calif., charged Jason Brooks, 24, who had just recently applied to be an Oakland police officer, with a string of 18 armed robberies dating back to May. (Brooks told the arresting officers that, still, he'd like to join the force.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1736 James Watt, inventor of the steam engine, was born in Scotland.
1809 Author Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston.
1853 Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" premiered in Rome.
1861 Georgia seceded from the Union.
1937 Millionaire Howard Hughes set a transcontinental air record by flying his monoplane from Los Angeles to Newark in 7 hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds.
1944 The federal government relinquished control of the nation's railroads following settlement of a wage dispute.
1955 A presidential news conference was filmed for television for the first time, with the permission of President Dwight Eisenhower.
1970 President Richard Nixon nominated G. Harrold Carswell to the Supreme Court; however, the nomination was defeated because of controversy over Carswell's past racial views.

WORD UP!

stoic \STOH-ik/, *noun*: 1. (Capitalized). A member of a school of philosophy founded by Zeno holding that one should be free from passion, unmoved by joy or grief, and should submit without complaint to unavoidable necessity. 2. Hence, one who is apparently or professedly indifferent to or unaffected by pleasure or pain, joy or grief. *adjective*: 1. Of or pertaining to the Stoics; resembling the Stoics or their doctrines. 2. Not affected by passion; being or appearing indifferent to pleasure or pain, joy or grief.

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ANIMAL ADOPTION EVENT!
"A Dog's Life" Animal Rescue is having an adoption event TODAY Jan 19th from 12-4pm at the Centinella Pet & Feed on the corner of Pico and Sepulveda. (11055 Pico Blvd, Los Angeles (1 block east of Sepulveda), 310-473-5910. *Private appointments can also be arranged to see specific animals.)

Come see our adorable rescued cats and dogs that desperately need a home. If you can't adopt, come by and take a look- perhaps you can foster an animal temporarily. A Dog's Life Rescue is a non-profit rescue organization in Los Angeles. Our mission is to save the lives of abandoned, abused, or neglected dogs and other animals, by providing shelter, care, and medical attention to homeless animals through adoption events and community outreach. If you can't make it today, we hold adoption events the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturday of every month in the same location. Come see our wonderful animals!!

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North of Montana	=	\$ 3,657,261	\$ 1,994,900
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,833,000	\$ 927,835
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,099,000	\$ 732,356
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