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Volume 10 Issue 61

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

DEALING WITH THOSE ANNOYING CAR ALARMS
SEE PAGE 4

THE COURTS ISSUE

Appeals court sides with FAA in jet ban case

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMO A federal appeals court in Washington, D.C. has declined to review an FAA ruling that determined City Hall is barred from enforcing a ban, passed by the City Council in 2008, prohibiting class C and D jets from landing at the Santa Monica Airport.

The ruling, issued on Friday, was the latest blow to local officials' attempt to bar larger private jets from using the facility. Since at least 2002, Santa Monica officials have favored limiting runway access to only smaller class A and B aircraft, arguing larger jets pose a safety hazard because SMO lacks a sufficient buffer zone between the end of its runway and homes in surrounding neighborhoods.

Some homes are just 300 feet away from the 5,000-foot landing strip.

"I am disappointed by the D.C. circuit's decision, but I am not surprised," said City Attorney Marsha Moutrie. "The city fought this case long and hard. I believe staff and outside counsel did good work and mounted a strong defense of the ordinance. But, in

SEE FAA PAGE 10



GETTING A FACELIFT

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Mindshare employees Brian Diamond (center) and Darshan Rangnath finish up the stairway as others from their investment group finish painting the inside of the Santa Monica Boys and Girls Club on Friday morning. The media network crew spent their time giving the club's recreation center a much-needed facelift.

2 SMPD officers cleared by jury in discrimination suit

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES A federal jury in Los Angeles has cleared two Santa Monica police officers of racial discrimination but deadlocked on other allegations in a civil case stemming from a March 1, 2008 arrest at Yankee Doodle restaurant on the Third Street Promenade.

According to City Hall attorneys, the plaintiff in the case, Paul Burke, became involved in a fight with another restaurant patron after watching a televised Ultimate

SEE SUIT PAGE 12

Jury deadlocks in Moose Lodge sentencing

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN LA Jurors could not come to an agreement on whether or not to recommend the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole for a hard-core gang member who murdered five people, including two Santa Monica men at the Sunset Park Moose Lodge.

The Los Angeles Superior Court jury deliberated about three days before informing the judge that it was hopelessly deadlocked on what sentence to recommend for William Vasquez, who prosecutors called a "hunter of human beings."

The jury was split 8-4, with the majority

SEE JURY PAGE 10

Santa Monica Conservancy honors preservationists

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN A collection of Craftsman-style bungalows and a commercial building designed by renowned architect Paul Williams are just some of the landmarked structures that will be featured Sunday when the Santa Monica Conservancy presents the 2011 Preservation Awards.

The awards will be presented to residents, organizations and businesses for a host of projects that brought buildings back to life. The ceremony will start at 2 p.m. at the historic Church in Ocean Park.

"It is very gratifying to see the efforts of

SEE AWARDS PAGE 12

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011

Talking schools
Professional Development Learning Center
2802 Fourth St., 8 a.m. — 12 p.m.
The Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation is hosting the "Big Idea Meeting," which is billed as a fast-paced session with a cross-section of leaders from the business, schools and the overall community. For more information, call (310) 396-4557.

Cooking with the pros
La Cachette Bistro
1733 Ocean Ave., 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Chef Jean Francois Meteigner leads this weekly culinary class for cooks of all levels. This week's installment will focus on lamb. Everything from stewing to roasting will be discussed. For more information, call (310) 434-9509.

Compost for all
City Yards
2500 Michigan Ave., 7 a.m.
Santa Monica Public Works is offering free compost to all city residents. The event begins at 7 a.m. and runs until the material is gone. For more information, call (310) 458-2223.

Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011

Get your grub on
dinaLA Week
Various Santa Monica restaurants will be participating in dineLA week, offering specially-priced three-course meals through Jan. 28. Diners can choose from three options for each course including appetizer, entrée, and dessert. For more information go to www.dineLA.com/RestaurantWeek.

Sing along
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
It's the sing-the-songs, dance-the-dances, get-on-the-stage, win-the-prizes Family Theatre afternoon, back by popular demand for three weeks only! This delightfully interactive adventure includes songs and scenes from such classic Playhouse stories as "Cinderella," and "Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party." Admission: $10.50 for kids 12 and under; $12.50 for adults. For more information call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

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



Do pets pose another threat to safe driving?

BY SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Man's best friend is not a driver's best friend.

While lawmakers have been banning drivers from texting or using cell phones, many motorists are riding around with another dangerous risk — their dogs.

Experts say an unrestrained dog — whether curled up on a lap, hanging out the window or resting its paws on the steering wheel — can be deadly. Tens of thousands of car accidents are believed caused every year by unrestrained pets, though no one has solid numbers.

"An unrestrained pet can be hugely distracting — if he is seeking your attention, putting his face right in front of yours, starts chewing up the upholstery or is vomiting because he is carsick," said Katherine Miller, director of applied science and research for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The issue is drawing attention in some statehouses. Hawaii is the only state that specifically forbids drivers from operating a vehicle with a pet on their lap. But Oregon lawmakers are considering fining drivers who hold their pets behind the wheel. And some cities are taking action, too.

In 2009, 5,474 people were killed and 448,000 injured in crashes caused by distracted drivers in the United States, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Cell phones were the top distraction — the cause of 18 percent of the fatalities and 5 percent of the injury crashes. The agency does not track accidents caused by pets, but said they are counted among other distractions such as disruptive passengers, misbehaving children or drivers who attempt to put on makeup or read.

Author Stephen King suffered several broken bones and a collapsed lung in 1999 when he was hit by a driver who claimed he was distracted by his dog.

In a crash, an unrestrained pet can turn into a deadly projectile or get crushed by a driver or passenger who is thrown forward by the collision.

Good pet owners will use a harness or carrier and secure their pets in the middle of the back seat, Miller said. That keeps dogs from getting hurt or bouncing around and

SEE **DOGS** PAGE 8



SURROUNDED

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Christian Pacifica's John Register attempts a jumpshot in between Cameron Fuller (left) and Leo Abbe-Schneider of Crossroads on Thursday as Crossroads hosted Christian Pacifica in a Delphic League game and won 73-65.

LA councilman undergoes experimental surgery at Saint John's Health Center

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

MID-CITY Los Angeles City Councilman Bill Rosendahl underwent a procedure Thursday to implant a newly developed device intended to reduce his risk of a stroke.

Rosendahl was awake, alert, reading e-mail on his Blackberry, and giving direction to staff regarding district projects within three hours of the surgery at Saint John's

SEE **PROCEDURE** PAGE 10

Local restaurants offer deals for dineLA week

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITYWIDE Returning for its sixth season (Jan. 23-28 and Jan. 30-Feb. 4) dineLA Restaurant Week connects the region's top restaurants with residents and visiting epicureans.

Celebrating the rich culinary culture in the Los Angeles area, dineLA Restaurant Week offers specially-priced three-course prix fixe lunches and dinners at an extensive list of 297 restaurants throughout the county, including several Santa Monica eateries.

"We are fortunate to live in Los Angeles where we have access to such a variety of dining options, from long-standing institutions to new restaurants by nationally acclaimed chefs and restaurateurs," says Mark Liberman, president and CEO of LA INC.

"dineLA Restaurant Week is a testament to our local talent and consistently offers an impressive list of participants," Liberman said. "What's great about this two week period is that diners benefit from gaining access to the best food in L.A. at great prices. In return, the restaurants have the opportunity to serve more customers during a traditionally slow time."

This season, dineLA Restaurant Week welcomes newcomers Jamie Lauren of Beechwood, the iconic Inn of the Seventh Ray, and a restaurant often requested by dineLA fans — David Lentz and Suzanne Goin's The Hungry Cat.

Some Santa Monica restaurants featured include Fig, Fraiche, Josie, La Botte, The Lobster and Whist.

dineLA offers three dining categories (Deluxe, Premier, and Fine Dining) with specially priced three-course meals for lunch and/or dinner. Diners can choose from three options for each course including appetizer, entrée, and dessert.

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FINE DINING: $28/$44

One lucky diner and a guest will win a culinary excursion beginning in San Francisco and traveling down the coast, culminating in an exclusive, two-day food-filled stay in L.A.

For a list of restaurants and menus go to www.discoverlosangeles.com/restaurantweek.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Addressing teen suicide

Editor:

I am saddened for this young man and his family, as yet we lose another of our youth to suicide ("Santa Monica High School freshman jumps to his death at Sheraton Delfina," Jan. 15, page 1). With the rank of suicide now number two among adolescents and young adults, I continue to hope that rather than searching for motives, and allowing uneducated opinions flood our culture, we begin as a community and a nation to focus on the needs of those who suffer from an acute onset or ongoing mental health disorders. My fear at this time of year is the same as always. With the riskiest time being February through May, what will we do in 2011, as it has started in January?

My sincere condolences to the family. There are no words.

SJ Hart
New York City

Grammar police

Editor:

Yes, Mr. Medlin, I too noticed the picture of the couple with their dog on the beach in the Jan. 11 issue of this paper ("What's with the dog? Letters to the Editor, Jan. 16). You will feel better, hopefully, when I tell you that the FBI has been called in to investigate this terrible breach of the law.

However, that isn't all they are interested in now. You said in your letter to the editor that "The picture shows them laying on the beach ... ." The correct usage, Mr. Medlin, is lying. Chickens lay eggs, remember?

So that's how our librarian also got involved in the case. But she told the FBI that she will drop the charges if you attend a semester in a local third grade class of your choice.

Best of luck!

Caroline Jacobs
Santa Monica

It goes both ways

Editor:

I agree entirely with Kevin Dennan's comments ("Bike path debate rages on," Letters to the Editor, Jan. 18).

I've been away for the last couple of weeks so don't know how this started or what has been said before.

However, has anyone made the same points about cyclists using the pedestrian path? This is even more dangerous. At least pedestrians using the bike path know that they run the risk of being hit by a bike. Pedestrians on the pedestrian path expect to be safe.

I have also seen elliptical bikes on the narrow part of the pedestrian path near Shutters traveling at incredible speeds. Anyone being hit by one of these would be very seriously injured.

To rephrase the last sentence of Kevin's second paragraph, why would anyone want to cycle on the pedestrian path and weave between walkers when there is a bike path right next to the pedestrian path?

In addition, why are bike rental places located on the pedestrian path rather than near to the bike path? And do they tell their customers that they are not supposed to ride on the pedestrian path?

Chris Burrows
Santa Monica



On the Beat

NRO Scott McGee

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Putting a stop to annoying car alarms

Q: I LIVE IN THE FRONT UNIT OF AN apartment complex. This morning I had a very important presentation to give my supervisors and I was unable to get any sleep last night due to a car alarm. The car was parked on the street outside of my bedroom window and the alarm activated every hour with various sounds throughout the night. I feel this happens frequently in my area and negatively impacts my quality of life. Is there anything I can do?

A: Yes, there is something that can be done. Let's first take a look at what a car alarm is. A car alarm is an electronic device designed to deter vehicle theft. Car alarms sound off when the vehicle sensor detects a vibration, movement, contact or noise. In most cases, a passing vehicle or other external vibration will set off an alarm. Some vehicles use audible status indicators that make noise whenever there is any vibration or sound outside of the vehicle.

Auto thieves may trip the car alarm to mask the sound of breaking glass. Thieves can disable an alarm in seconds. Because they are so common today, people generally do not respond to car alarms, which reduce the benefit of announcing a possible auto theft in progress.

Better known in the industry as "nuisance alarms," car alarms seriously affect millions of people every day. The noise pollution from car alarms disrupts sleep patterns, productivity and daily life. Car alarms are known to disrupt weddings, funerals and other important moments. Many alarms are activated by accident, sensitive alarm settings, or carelessness and not as the result of any criminal activity. It is agreed that the noise from motor vehicle alarms is contrary to public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Santa Monica Municipal Code 3.60.010 states: No person shall cause, allow, permit or suffer any alarm located in a motor vehicle registered in the name of or operated by such person to emit any audible sound in the city of Santa Monica for a period of more than 15 minutes. The time shall be calculated based upon the emission of the first audible sound and ending 15 minutes thereafter, notwithstanding any variation or delay in the emissions of audible sound. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of an infraction. Any person convicted of an infraction under this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than $33. Any person violating this section who has been previously convicted of three or more violations of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. The Santa Monica Police Department, in order to abate the public nuisance created by a vehicle in violation of this section, may take such steps as are reasonably necessary to enter the vehicle, disconnect the alarm, and remove the vehicle for safekeeping in the manner permitted by law.

Additionally, the law regarding loud vehicle theft alarm systems is contained in the California Vehicle Code, Section 22651.5(a) which states in part that a police officer, traffic services officer, or community service officer may, upon complaint, remove a vehicle if the vehicle theft alarm system has been activated for 20 minutes upon the officer's arrival, and the alarm has not silenced within that time.

If you do hear an alarm, take the time to look out your window, since you never know if a car is, in fact, being broken into. Neighborhood awareness help the police watch over their community and it can make a significant impact on reducing crime. If the car alarm has been sounding for an unreasonable amount of time, please feel free to call the police department at (310) 458-8495. Someone will respond and deal with the car alarm accordingly.

Q: My wife and I are going out of town for the weekend and leaving our teenage son at home alone for the first time. We are worried he might take advantage of our absence and throw a party for his friends. Do you have any tips for us that might help us prevent a party from occurring?

A: When you go out of town, the word gets out quickly! It only takes about 10 seconds for information to spread around a school (at least is seems like that's all it takes). How do keep your house from becoming a party house while you are gone? First of all, it is important to realize that situations can quickly get out of hand even for the most responsible teenager. Many times a small select group of close friends turns into a large, out-of-control bash. When groups of friends show up, how many teenagers are going to be able to refuse to let them in? A little later, alcohol gets brought in and now you have the makings of a lot of trouble!

Have a sit-down with your son and explain the house rules. Make sure he knows explicitly that parties are not allowed. If you still want to be sure, invite a responsible adult to stay with your son while you are away. Also, inform your neighbors about your absence and ask them to contact you, the adult living in your house, or the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8491 if they see a party starting. Above all, talk to your son and make sure he understands his responsibility and the trust you are giving him.

This column was prepared by **NRO SCOTT MCGEE** (Beat 5: Montana Avenue to north city limits, Ocean Avenue to 26th Street). He can be reached at (424) 200-0685 or scott.mcgee@smgov.net.



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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 LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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The Q Line

On the rise?

City officials are considering raising fees on a number of recreational programs including youth sports and the Santa Monica Swim Center.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you think an increase in fees is necessary in these tough economic times, or do you think City Hall should look elsewhere to shore up budget gaps?
Here are your responses:

"YES THE INCREASE IN FEES IS NECESSARY. It is not fair to continue having non-users subsidize the beneficiaries of various city programs. If the users of programs are not willing to help pay for them, they should be canceled. We can't afford business as usual and the self-entitlement culture it has produced."

"I USED TO SWIM A MILE A NIGHT AT Lincoln Junior High School for $19 a season. Yes, it was cheap and quite a few years ago but I have lived in this town quite a few years. Why is everything in Santa Monica so punitive to the good citizens? Fines, fees, costs, charges; nice terms for higher taxes. There are no budget gaps, just a bloated half-billion-dollar budget. Taxes control what you do, what you say and what you live. The power to tax indiscriminately is the power to direct your lives. Better to tax the feeding trough at City Hall."

"I THINK CITY HALL SHOULD RAISE some fees, but they better be careful about which ones they do raise and by how much. I am sure some of the fees have not been raised for many years and people have been getting a great deal. Those fees need to be raised to reflect the current costs to provide those services. However, if the city wants to raise all the fees and goes overboard, they will risk losing the support of the voters, who recently passed a half-cent sales tax increase to help pay for all the skyrocketing health care costs and pension costs for employees. I don't use many services so the raises wont impact me, but I know there are plenty of others who are going to be upset and will definitely fight back and not support any more taxes, including bonds. Enough is enough."

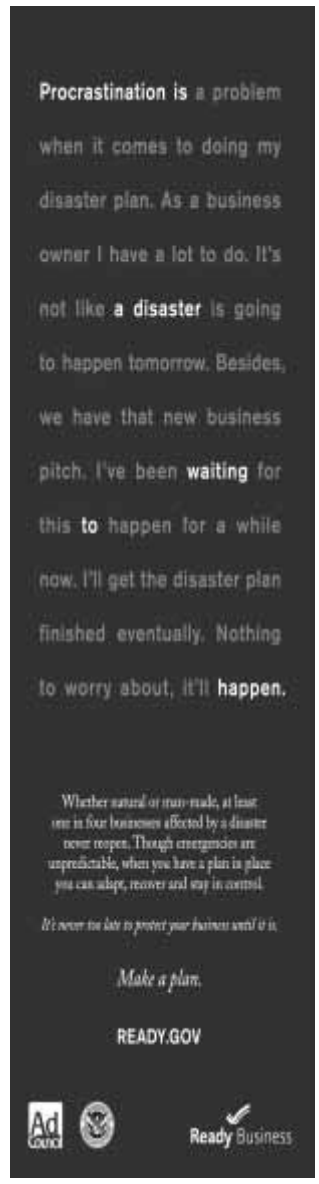
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"NO, I DON'T THINK THEY SHOULD increase the fees in recreational programs for youth sports and the Santa Monica Swim Center. They should look elsewhere to close the budget gaps, maybe the City Council members' salaries."

"YOU ARE ASKING IF WE WANT MORE increases in fees? After they have increased taxes and more taxes, what the heck are all the fees and taxes? For instance, on the telephone bill. I asked what for and they tell me they don't know. Then they tell me to call our local Assembly person Julia Brownley. The man on the phone didn't know what were all the fees. He took my phone number and name and they would call me back. Not. I feel there should be no fees for seniors. That's my final answer. No fees. No more."

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The Re-View

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Not another Italian restaurant

BROADWAY Whenever a new restaurant opens, my sister says, "Not another Italian restaurant!" A friend who works at Cal Tech claims that when man finally gets to Mars, he or she will find a Starbucks on one corner and an Italian restaurant on the other.

And so with trepidation I went to the new Hostaria del Piccolo on Sixth Street and Broadway, a block from an office in which I work one day a week. According to the owners, "Hostaria" is the old Italian word for "Osteria" and was the name of the first such restaurant of that type in Italy. It describes a neighborhood restaurant where the emphasis is on local camaraderie rather than fine food.

It was a good thing I knew it was there because there is no signage (yet?) and one wouldn't know it's a restaurant from the outside. But on the inside it has a very homey, comfortable feeling. The space is divided into three parts, a front room and back room, each in view of the open kitchen, and a lovely patio in the back.

It's always a good sign when there's an owner and a manger right there to watch over things, and that seems to be the case at Piccolo. Christian Bertolini, the manager, was right there to greet me. And Vittorio Viotti, one of the owners, was also there to watch over things. So really, nothing could go wrong. Viotti is also one of the owners of the original Piccolo at 5 Dudley Avenue in Venice, a well-known Italian restaurant that I have yet to try.

And so Harvey and I ordered a bunch of stuff to try out. There were tasty pork ribs and a delicious poached (I think) calamari on a bed of spinach for appetizers. I already tried the fried calamari at the opening party and it too was well prepared.

Then we had a cheese pizza and a linguini seafood neri. The pizza was OK, although I would have made the crust a bit thinner and more crisp. The linguini was a bit disappointing, in that I like dishes flavored with squid ink to be black and rich in squid flavor, and this one was a bit namby pamby.

I was very impressed with the wine list, especially by the glass, and we had a couple of glasses of red from different regions of Italy. Of course, one of the glasses was from a different vintage than was on the menu, but I've given up complaining about that since no one is listening.

If You Go

Hostaria Del Piccolo
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Santa Monica, Calif., 90401
(310) 393-663
www.hostariadelpiccolo.com

Lunch wasn't cheap, because we ordered a lot. With the wine it was about $30 a person, but I feel that was reasonable for what we had.

I don't usually have dessert, but I saw on the menu (for $9) a fruit cup with crème fraiche on it, and that seemed like something I would like. That too was a disappointment. The "cup" was too rubbery, there weren't many berries, and there was no crème fraiche, just a few drops of coffee cream on top. Pass on dessert.

All in all I consider this a nice addition to the Santa Monica eating scene. This is a well-run, authentic Italian restaurant with a nicely balanced menu, reasonable prices, comfortable seating, an outdoor patio, and a good wine list. And I predict it will get better and better because management is on the ball. As the old refrain goes, "Who could ask for anything more?"

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com

Marinate it, stuff it and roll it up

BY JIM ROMANOFF
For The Associated Press

These corn- and red pepper-stuffed flank steak pinwheels are so colorful they look more suited to July than February. And the flavor screams backyard barbecue even though you'll never have to step outside to make them.

Flank steak is a wonderfully flavorful cut with little waste on it — a 1 1/2-pound steak will easily feed four to six people. Plus, because it is a thin cut it is an excellent candidate for quick marinades that will fully penetrate.

Serve these pinwheels with a mixed green salad and some warm tortillas.

Corn- and red pepper-stuffed flank steak pinwheels

Start to finish: 45 minutes
Servings: 4
For the marinade:
2 tablespoons lime juice
2 tablespoons tequila
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 1/2-pounds flank steak
For the steak:
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
1 small red bell pepper, diced (about 1 cup)
1 small red onion, diced
1 bunch scallions, trimmed and finely sliced
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
1 clove garlic, minced

1/2 cup fresh breadcrumbs
1/2 cup frozen corn kernels
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
Ground black pepper, to taste

In a large bowl, mix together the lime juice, tequila, salt, black pepper and garlic. Set aside.

On a work surface, cover the flank steak with plastic wrap. Pound it with a skillet or rolling pin to flatten it into an even thickness, about 1/2 inch. Add the steak to the marinade, turn to coat, then cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, prepare the filling. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil. Add the red pepper, onion, scallions and jalapeno. Saute until the peppers begin to soften, about 3 minutes. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, until lightly colored, about another 30 seconds.

Remove the skillet from the heat and stir in the breadcrumbs, corn, cilantro, cumin and salt. Let cool completely.

Heat the oven to 375 F.

Remove the steak from the marinade. Arrange flat on the work surface. Spread the cooled pepper mixture evenly over the steak. Starting with a wide edge, roll the steak and stuffing up together.

Use 7 lengths of kitchen twine to tie the roll firmly around the center at even intervals.

In a large oven-safe skillet, heat the remaining tablespoon of oil over medium-high. Add the steak roll and sear until browned on all sides, about 1 to 2 minutes per side. Transfer the pan to the oven and roast until it reaches 130 F at the center. Let stand for 10 minutes before slicing into 8 rounds and serving.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 480 calories; 198 calories from fat (41 percent of total calories); 22 g fat (7 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 77 mg cholesterol; 18 g carbohydrate; 50 g protein; 2 g fiber; 589 mg sodium.







Simple Real Food

Amanda Cushman
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tour a Farmers' Market with Michael from Michael's

I HAVE OFTEN HEARD OF MICHAEL'S in Santa Monica and have walked by it many times but never had a chance to visit until recently and was pleasantly surprised.

I met a friend for a late lunch and we were seated in the back garden, which was beautifully decorated for the holidays; full of poinsettias and little white lights. This is a cozy, romantic spot to share a meal, what with its lush plantings and quiet atmosphere. Michael's has been a staple in Santa Monica for over 30 years and takes pride in its contemporary art as well as its cuisine.

We were waited on right away, as there was no one but us on the patio. We each had an appetizer; mine was a gravlax plate and my friend had a Caesar salad. There is a new trend of serving this popular salad in a small round tight ball with a few croutons on the side. This is what came to the table and she said it was delicious, although I am a fan of the more traditional presentation. My gravlax was an ample portion and seemed more like smoked salmon to me than the cured salmon dish that I expected. It was very good and came with toast points and mustard dill sauce. I ordered my favorite salad, Nicoise, and my friend had a burger, which came with bacon, blue cheese, gruyere and onions. Oh, and the usual French fries.

Her burger was massive and looked fantastic. Although rich, I am sure this would be a great choice if one were very hungry. My salad was lovely, although there were no new potatoes on the plate as advertised. This salad, which I make all the time, is traditionally served as a composed salad with a little lettuce under the other components. It is meant to be arranged and is served with anchovies and often basil on top. At Michael's it was a bed of arugula with slices of seared tuna, hard boiled egg, tomato, baby green beans and Parmesan cheese. I enjoyed it although I was missing the traditional version, which, in my opinion, does not need to be altered. We had no room for dessert, but I would return for the dinner menu as I really liked the atmosphere and almost old fashioned feel of the place.

Michael's offers a unique series of Farmers' Market trips that focus on finding the best produce and highlights one ingredient specifically. These trips are sold as "Michael's Market Meet-Ups" and they're offered once a month. The group meets in the morning at the restaurant and enjoys cappuccino and pastries. Then they accompany owner Michael McCarty to the market where they learn about how to shop and meet local vendors. Upon their return to the restaurant a meal is served highlighting the one ingredient that is the focus for the month. They get a signed copy of his cookbook "Welcome to Michael's: Great Food, Great People, Great Party!" And all for the modest price of $60.

I for one would love to join in. It sounds like the perfect way to meet this accomplished chef, enjoy a meal and meet others with the same interests.

For those of you who would like to try the traditional version of the classic Nicoise salad, check out my recipe.

AMANDA CUSHMAN is a culinary educator who has cooked professionally for 25 years. She teaches privately for groups of two to 20 students. She has developed hundreds of recipes for cookbooks as well as food magazines and websites. She can be reached amandascooking@gmail.com.

Classic salad Nicoise

Serves 8 to 10

Ingredients
1 Tb. Dijon mustard
2 cloves minced garlic
3 Tb. Balsamic vinegar
1/2 cup olive oil
Salt, pepper
1 pound new potatoes, washed and quartered
12 ounces haricot verts, trimmed
3 large eggs
2 Ahi tuna steaks, about 5 oz. each or 2 cans water packed tuna, drained and crumbled
Olive oil
Thyme, minced
Lettuce for platter
2 ripe tomatoes cut into eighths
10 nicoise olives
4 anchovies, rinsed and drained, optional
6 basil leaves, chiffonade

Procedure
1. Combine the mustard, vinegar and garlic in a bowl and whisk, add oil slowly while whisking and season with salt and pepper. Set aside.
2. Cook potatoes in a small saucepan of salted water until tender about 20 minutes, drain, set aside.
3. Blanch beans and refresh with cold water and set aside.
4. Place eggs in a small saucepan of cold water and bring to a boil, remove from heat, cover and allow to sit for 15 minutes.
5. Meanwhile rub tuna with olive oil, thyme, salt and pepper. Heat the grill and grill for two to three minutes on each side. Remove to a cutting board.
6. Arrange lettuce on large platter; arrange groups of vegetables in piles around platter. Slice tuna in 1/2 inch slices and add to platter. Scatter with olives, lay anchovies on top and sprinkle over the whole platter. Drizzle the dressing over the platter before serving. Serve cold or room temperature.





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People often ask me what to do if a landlord does not make repairs to a rental unit. Let me start with something a tenant should not do.

DO NOT WITHHOLD RENT

Under certain limited circumstances, a tenant may withhold rent. But, it is never a good idea to withhold rent. If a tenant does not pay the full rent, when due, the landlord would most likely serve the tenant with a three day notice to pay or quit. Once a three day notice to pay or quit expires, the landlord does not have to accept the money even if the tenant offers the full amount. The landlord can refuse the payment and proceed with an unlawful detainer action (eviction case).

An unlawful detainer action is very stressful. Also, the tenant would have the expense of litigation costs and probably attorney fees. A tenant does not have to retain an attorney to defend an unlawful detainer action, but it would be very wise to do so.

If a tenant loses an unlawful detainer case, the tenant would be evicted and owe all of the back rent and possibly the landlord's attorney fees and litigation costs. Further, the unlawful detainer judgment would probably appear on the tenant's credit reports as well as reports kept by landlord agencies which could make it difficult to rent a new home in the future.

For all of the above reasons, a tenant should never withhold any rent.

GIVE LANDLORD A LIST IN WRITING

The first thing a tenant should do is give the landlord a list in writing of items which need to be repaired. The list should be hand-delivered or mailed to the landlord. The tenant must keep a copy of that list and keep track of when and how the list was delivered to the landlord (the specific date when the list was mailed or hand-delivered).

A tenant must give the landlord a reasonable period to make repairs. What is a "reasonable period" is defined on a case by case basis. Usually, a tenant should give the landlord 30 days to make repairs. But, if the condition is serious (i.e.: no electricity, no hot water, hole in the roof), a reasonable time would be much shorter.

A tenant should list all items which need repair, in detail. Failure to notify the landlord of a specific problem may prevent a tenant from being compensated later for the defective condition.

CONTACT GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS

If the landlord does not make the repairs within a reasonable period, the tenant should contact appropriate government inspectors.

In Santa Monica, the first office to be contacted should be the Santa Monica Code Compliance Department: (310) 458-4984. The Code Compliance Department will not come to a rental unit to perform a general inspection. The tenant must have a specific list of items which need repair.

In addition to the Code Compliance Department, a tenant should call the County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services. To arrange for an inspection, a Santa Monica tenant would call: (310) 665-8484.

The advantage of government inspectors is that the government agency may order the landlord to make repairs. Also, if the tenant is in trial with the landlord (or a hearing with the Santa Monica Rent Control Board), the government inspectors' reports may be admissible as evidence.

PETITION FOR RENT DECREASE

If the landlord does not make the required repairs, a tenant may file a petition for rent decrease. The petition is filed with the Santa Monica Rent Control Board, located in Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 202, Santa Monica, CA 90401; (310) 458-8751. The petition for rent decrease may be filed 30 to 180 days after service of the written notice to the landlord of items which need repair.

If the petition is granted, the rent will be reduced. But, the rent reduction is prospective (from that point forward). The Rent Control Board does not have the authority to award any money to compensate the tenant for past conditions or reduced services.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

If a tenant wishes to be compensated for the defective conditions or reduced services in the past, the tenant would have to file a lawsuit. A suit could be filed in superior court. Although an attorney is not required for superior court, it is likely that the landlord would retain an attorney. When one party has an attorney and the other does not, it is a big advantage. If the tenant retains an attorney, the expenses might make such a suit in superior court impractical.

Usually, the most economical way to proceed is to file a lawsuit in small claims court. A person can sue in small claims court for up to $7,500.00. And, there are no attorneys in small claims court. Thus, the expenses are greatly reduced.

CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY

Even if the tenant is not going to retain an attorney on a fulltime basis, it is usually a good idea to at least have a consultation with a tenants' rights attorney, especially before filing suit in small claims court or filing a petition for rent decrease.

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY MARK PALMER, A SANTA MONICA TENANTS' RIGHTS ATTORNEY. HE CAN BE REACHED AT (310) 260-6199 OR THOUGH HIS WEBSITE: MARKPALMERLAW.COM.

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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
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GIVING CHASE

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Samohi's Sara Khodakaram (left) dribbles downfield as Yessica Gaitan from Morningside High School tries to catch up during a game Friday at John Adams Middle School. Samohi won the Ocean Leage match 8-0.

DOGS

FROM PAGE 3

hurting others.

"A pet that weighs 50 pounds, in a 35 mph collision, is projected forward like a cannonball with 1,500 pounds of force, and that can cause critical injuries to the folks in the front seat," Miller said.

Restraining a pet also keeps the animal from running off after a crash and possibly getting hit or causing another crash, or from getting in the way of first responders, she said.

Susan Footh, 37, of Whitewood, S.D., said her 12-pound Maltese named Mozart could have been killed twice if he hadn't been wearing a harness.

Footh was on her way to a Christmas gathering when her car veered out of control on ice. She smashed into a highway barrier three times before the vehicle stopped. Presents flew through the car, her coffee splattered all over the back window. But Mozart stayed put.

Then, a few weeks ago, another driver clipped her bumper while trying to pass, sending her first into a spin and then into a ditch.

"Mozart was shaking. I'm sure he was saying, 'Not again,'" Footh said. She was able to put the car into four-wheel-drive and climb out of the ditch.

In Oregon, lawmakers will vote in the next few months on a bill that proposes a $90 fine for people who drive with an animal on their lap.

A similar law made it to the governor's desk in California in 2008, but then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger refused to sign it, saying it was not a high priority.

Bill Pace, the former assemblyman from Visalia who introduced the failed bill, said he frequently sees drivers with "animals up in their face, in their lap and on the steering wheel. ... This is not a rare occurrence."

Some cities have passed laws of their own. In Troy, Mich., a law took effect Jan. 1 that makes it illegal to drive with a pet in your lap.

But Jonathan Adkins, communications director for the Governors Highway Safety Association, doubts that many states will single out pets.

Elected officials "can't have a law to outlaw every bad driver behavior," he said. "You go after the big ones."

But Adkins said the problem is underreported because the only way to know that a pet was at fault is if the driver says so.

Education about pet restraints will have to come from pet owners, vets, animal-welfare agencies and insurance companies, he added. And that could take years, just as it took a long time to get people to wear seat belts.

For pet owners, Footh said, the answer is easy.

It takes no more than 10 seconds for her to hook Mozart into his $12 harness. He helps by hopping up on the seat and waiting for her to snap it.

"My dog is my baby. I want him to live a long and healthy life," she said. "It's not just about feeding him and loving him. It's about keeping him safe in every way, and that includes when we are in the car."

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PROCEDURE
FROM PAGE 3

Health Center in Santa Monica, said his chief of staff, Mike Bonin. He may return to work by next week.

Rosendahl, 65, has been taking a blood-thinning medication called warfarin for atrial fibrillation, an abnormal heart rhythm condition. The medication has a number of side effects, including bruising.

Dr. Shephal Doshi inserted a tiny umbrella-shaped device into Rosendahl's heart to prevent clots from forming and causing a stroke.

"The councilman did very well and had an excellent result," Doshi said. "He'll be home tomorrow and off the warfarin."

Called a "Watchman," the device is 2-4 centimeters in diameter and is being used increasingly as an alternative to blood-thinning drugs, such as warfarin. According to Rosendahl's office, it is used widely in Europe, Asia and Australia but is still undergoing clinical trials in the United States.

Rosendahl said a day before the procedure that he hopes his participation in the device's clinical trials will benefit other people who suffer from the same condition.

"I'm happy to be a candidate for the Watchman and draw attention to this advancement in modern medicine," Rosendahl said.

According to the American Heart Association, atrial fibrillation is the most common form of heart arrhythmia, affecting more than 2.2 million people in the United Sates. It can cause blood clots that can lead to strokes.

news@smdp.com

FAA
FROM PAGE 1

the end, the substantial deference that the courts afford to agency decisions drove the result."

Mayor Richard Bloom said a decision about whether to appeal the ruling had not yet been reached.

"From the perspective of residents, this result adds to their concerns and will likely provoke more cries for airport closure," he said.

FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said the agency "was, and remains, confident in [its] legal position."

The decision from a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia found no reason to overturn an FAA decision that Santa Monica officials could not ban certain types of jets from SMO because of obligations City Hall took on under the terms of a federal grant it received from the FAA in 1994.

The grant agreement included a condition that stated SMO must make its facilities available "on fair and reasonable terms and without unjust discrimination, to all types, kinds and classes of aeronautical uses" for 20 years from when the funds were spent.

Under the grant terms, City Hall could, however, prohibit classes of airplanes from using the airport "if such action is necessary for the safe operation of the airport or necessary to serve the civil aviation needs of the public."

First before FAA administrators, and then in federal court, City Hall has argued the class C and D jet ban was a necessary safety regulation. The FAA has maintained the ban violates terms of the grant agreement.

In front of the appeals court, lawyers for City Hall sought to convince the panel of judges that the FAA's rejection of its ban was "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with the law."

In siding with the FAA, the judges cited the "highly deferential standard of review" in cases where a federal agency's administrative finding is at issue, noting that "this court presumes agency actions to be valid."

The unanimous opinion also cited case law to justify the court's right to "uphold a decision [by a federal agency] of less than ideal clarity if the agency's path may be reasonably discerned."

Gregor on Friday said the FAA is prepared to help Santa Monica pay for installing an "engineered material arresting system," otherwise known as collapsible concrete, designed to slow down planes that are in danger of overshooting the runway to address safety concerns.

> **"FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF RESIDENTS, THIS RESULT ADDS TO THEIR CONCERNS AND WILL LIKELY PROVOKE MORE CRIES FOR AIRPORT CLOSURE."**
>
> **Richard Bloom,**
> Mayor

It's an offer City Hall has rejected before and is likely to reject again, since accepting FAA funds would probably mean extending the obligation to operate the airport.

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JURY
FROM PAGE 1

favoring a death sentence, according to reports.

The 30-year-old gang member was convicted Dec. 9 of first-degree murder for the Jan. 27, 2002, killing of Alex Haro; the Dec. 3, 2003, slaying of Kevin Walton; the March 5, 2005, killings of Jonathan Hernandez and Hector Bonilla and the Sept. 24, 2005, shooting death of Jesse Becerra. Hernandez and Bonilla were shot multiple times while attending a birthday party at the Moose Lodge on Ocean Park Boulevard.

Vasquez also was convicted of one count of attempted murder and two counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm.

Prosecutors said Vasquez left a decade of death and destruction in his wake, executing five unarmed and defenseless people who were shot multiple times — some after they had already fallen to the ground.

Defense attorneys said Vasquez was a product of his environment, saying he grew up in a household of "extreme violence," and recommended life in prison without parole.

In 2009, two other men, Erick Nunez and Jose Mojarro, were found guilty in the Moose Lodge killings and sentenced to life without parole.

kevinh@smdp.com

In Memory of
Thelma Hazel Parks
– friend to Santa Monica
1913 - 2011



Thelma Hazel (Lindore) Parks, originally from Brisbane, Australia, a resident of Santa Monica, Calif., died suddenly and with dignity on Jan. 15, 2011, at St. John's in Santa Monica, CA. At her side was her loving daughter Adrienne Parks. She was predeceased by her husband, Harold, in 2001. Thelma recently completed her first book about growing up on tiny Kangaroo Point directly on the Brisbane River. She was of that generation of women who, when asked their age, would say "A lady never tells." And never tell she did. Thelma was 97 years young.

Married to an American Army-Air Corps bombardier during WWII, she came to America in 1945 on the SS Lurline, the first "Australian War Brides" ship to cross the Pacific Ocean after the war. The women traveled for three weeks under "full battle" conditions as the Pacific was still fraught with enemy troops who had not yet heard that the war had ended. A founding and longtime member of the "Billie Tea Club" which grew into the "Southern Cross Club" in Washington DC, she rose to prominence as a leading business woman in the banking and finance world, was voted to national offices of the Business & Professional Women's Organization and Credit Women International.

During WWII, she worked in an Australian munitions factory and served as a Red Cross volunteer. After coming to America in 1945, she started her family and was a tireless volunteer, selling buddy poppies for the VFW, working for the Democratic Party of Maryland, organizing both Brownie and Girl Scout troops where none existed, and serving as wifely-CFO of her husband's residential sub-contracting business.

Shortly after retiring from Washington D.C. to Stuart, Florida, Thelma and her husband moved to Santa Monica in 1985 to be near their daughter who was in the film industry. Always the spirited Queenslander, she began a whole new work life as a concierge for the Huntley Hotel and a Travel Counselor at Santa Monica Convention and Visitor's Bureau where, for 23 years, she greeted visitors from around the world~up to the day she left us. Thelma enjoyed her time at the Palisades Park Visitor Kiosk and then moving onto the main Visitor Center in the later years, greeting tour buses and walk-ups alike with her treasure trove of tourist information and sharing her contagious love of people and Santa Monica. Simultaneously, she was the resident manager of a twenty-unit apartment building and she was active with the Frieda Mohr Senior Center. Indefatigable does not begin to describe her.

In addition to her daughter, Adrienne, she is survived by a loving extended US and AU family, second cousins, nieces, nephews and great nieces, nephews and her beloved SM Visitor Bureau, tourism industry and other Santa Monica friends who miss her dearly.

In lieu of flowers, she would prefer non-taxable donations be made in her name to serve our four-legged friends:
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Park design team members - **Bob Perry**, professor, author, and preeminent expert on ecology, water conservation, and California native plants; **John Greenlee**, internationally recognized horticulturalist, grass and meadow expert, author, lecturer; and **Lisa Switkin** and **Sarah Weidner Astheimer** of James Corner Field Operations, lead park designers - will give a presentation on Sustainable Park Landscapes and discuss opportunities for the two new civic center parks. Do not miss this rare opportunity to learn from these foremost experts and have the opportunity to dialogue and ask questions.
WHEN: SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1:00 PM
WHERE: Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, East Wing
Bike and car parking available. Walk or use Big Blue Bus Lines 1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9 or 10. For disability-related accommodations, call at least 3 business days before the workshop. Questions: (310) 458-8310 or ccs@smgov.net. Updates and more info:
www.smciviccenterparks.com
Revised park designs (Design Development) will be presented at a Community Workshop at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium on Saturday, February 26. Be sure to attend and make your mark!

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Photo courtesy Nina Fresco

STILL STANDING: **The Santa Monica Conservancy's Stewardship Award will be presented to Deborah Levin for her dedication and leadership in preserving Hollister Court on Fourth Street, a dozen Craftsman bungalows grouped as a courtyard complex and designated as a city landmark.**

AWARDS
FROM PAGE 1

so many giving our architectural heritage new life," said Carol Lemlein, president of the board of the conservancy. "By recognizing these accomplishments, the Santa Monica Conservancy holds up these projects as good examples of how historic preservation can contribute to Santa Monica's vitality and attractiveness."

The Restoration Award will be presented to Myra and Earl Pomerantz for exemplary restoration of their Craftsman bungalow, known as the landmark John and Anna George House, at 2424 Fourth St. This project pioneered a growing appreciation for historic preservation in Ocean Park in the early 1980s.

The owner of a historic Edwin Building at 310-312 Wilshire Blvd., American Commercial Equities LLC, will receive the Rehabilitation Award for preserving and rehabilitating "this small-scale jewel of a commercial building" designed by Williams in 1928, Lemlein said. The building was designated as a city landmark in 2008. Williams is best known for designing the Los Angeles International Airport and was the first African-American member of the American Institute of Architects in 1923.

The Renovation Award goes to Sam Simon who preserved and renovated Case Study House #20, designed by Richard Neutra in 1948.

"This landmark of mid-Century design had deteriorated significantly over the years, but thanks to Mr. Simon who rescued and renewed it, the home continues as an important contributor to the architectural heritage," Lemlein said.

The Adaptive Reuse Award recognizes the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica for converting an adjacent Craftsman bungalow into classrooms and a meeting space for its congregation, choosing preservation and adaptive reuse over demolition and new construction. The church, located at 1260 18th St., is also architecturally valuable, designed by local architect John Byers in the 1920s.

The Stewardship Award will be presented to Deborah Levin, for her dedication and leadership in preserving Hollister Court on Fourth Street, a dozen Craftsman bungalows grouped as a courtyard complex and designated as a city landmark. Since Levin purchased one of the bungalows 17 years ago, she has worked to save the homes from demolition, protected them from inappropriate remodeling, and provided guidance to other property owners in respectful rehabilitation of the homes, according to the conservancy.

In addition to the Preservation Awards, the conservancy will recognize seven individuals for their exemplary volunteer efforts as docents, helping to lead tours of historic landmarks every week.

For more information go to www.smconservancy.org or call (310) 496-3146.

Founded in 2002, the conservancy is a nonprofit organization, dedicated to promoting understanding of the cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits of preserving the historic resources of Santa Monica's urban landscape.

kevinh@smdp.com

SUIT
FROM PAGE 1

Fighting Championship match at the restaurant with his wife.

Police officers responded to the incident and tazed Burke, who is African American, five times. In a civil suit against the city, Burke, who was 45 at the time of the arrest, alleged two of the officers, who are both white, used excessive force, arrested him without probable cause and were motivated by racial animus in violation of his equal protection rights.

He initially sought $4 million in damages but reduced his demand to $599,000 on the eve of the trial, which began last week, according to Deputy City Attorney Carol Ann Rohr.

An eight-person federal jury on Thursday found there had been no racial motivation in the arrest, but was unable to come to a unanimous decision on the excessive force and lack of probable cause allegations. No punitive damages were awarded.

Rohr said she considered the result a positive outcome for City Hall.

"I'm very pleased that the jury found, as we have been saying all along, there was no intentional racial animus in this case," she said. "All along we have felt that the officers did nothing wrong. We have been prepared to go to trial and we are prepared to go to trial again on the remaining claims."

It's unclear if Burke will ask for another trial. His attorney, Martin D. Holly, did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

Rohr said she believed the officers did not use excessive force in making the arrest.

At trial, Santa Monica attorneys argued that when the officers attempted to contact him, Burke spun around and attacked one of the officers, pushing the officer into a pool table and causing him to receive a gash above his right eye.

The officers used their tazers only after Burke remained "belligerent, combative and assaultive," according to a statement from Santa Monica lawyers.

"They used reasonable force under the circumstances," Rohr said.

nickt@smdp.com

LA judge OKs deal to limit teacher layoffs

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A judge on Friday approved a sweeping overhaul of how teachers are laid off in what education reformers hail as a landmark decision to keep more effective instructors in the classroom, but unions denounce as a step toward dismantling tenure policies.

The decision was the outcome of a lawsuit brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California in February, charging that inner-city students' right to a quality education was being violated by a last-hired, first-fired layoff policy.

"This is a historic decision for the state of California," said John Deasy, deputy superintendent of Los Angeles Unified School District. "The court stood and lifted up the voice of youth. That voice was loud and clear."

The ruling by Superior Court Judge William Highberger approved a settlement between the ACLU, the state and LAUSD in which the district agreed to shield 45 of its lowest performing schools from layoffs and to cap layoffs at other schools at the district average.

It also calls for an incentive plan to attract and retain teachers and principals at the struggling schools.

"This settlement is about giving our most disadvantaged children a fighting chance at their schools," said Mark Rosenbaum, ACLU-SC chief counsel.

Teachers union United Teachers Los Angeles will appeal the ruling because it is unfair to pass on layoffs to teachers who have earned their jobs and skills, said Vice President Julie Washington.

"What it is really saying is that experience in teaching has no value," she said. "We feel that this remedy, if allowed to go through, will actually exacerbate the problem."

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, a longstanding proponent of school reform, said he was confident that Highberger's decision would stand and called on the union to collaborate on reform initiatives.

"No one is saying seniority shouldn't be a factor," he said at a news conference. "But in what successful system, when isn't performance taken into account at all? This isn't a radical notion."

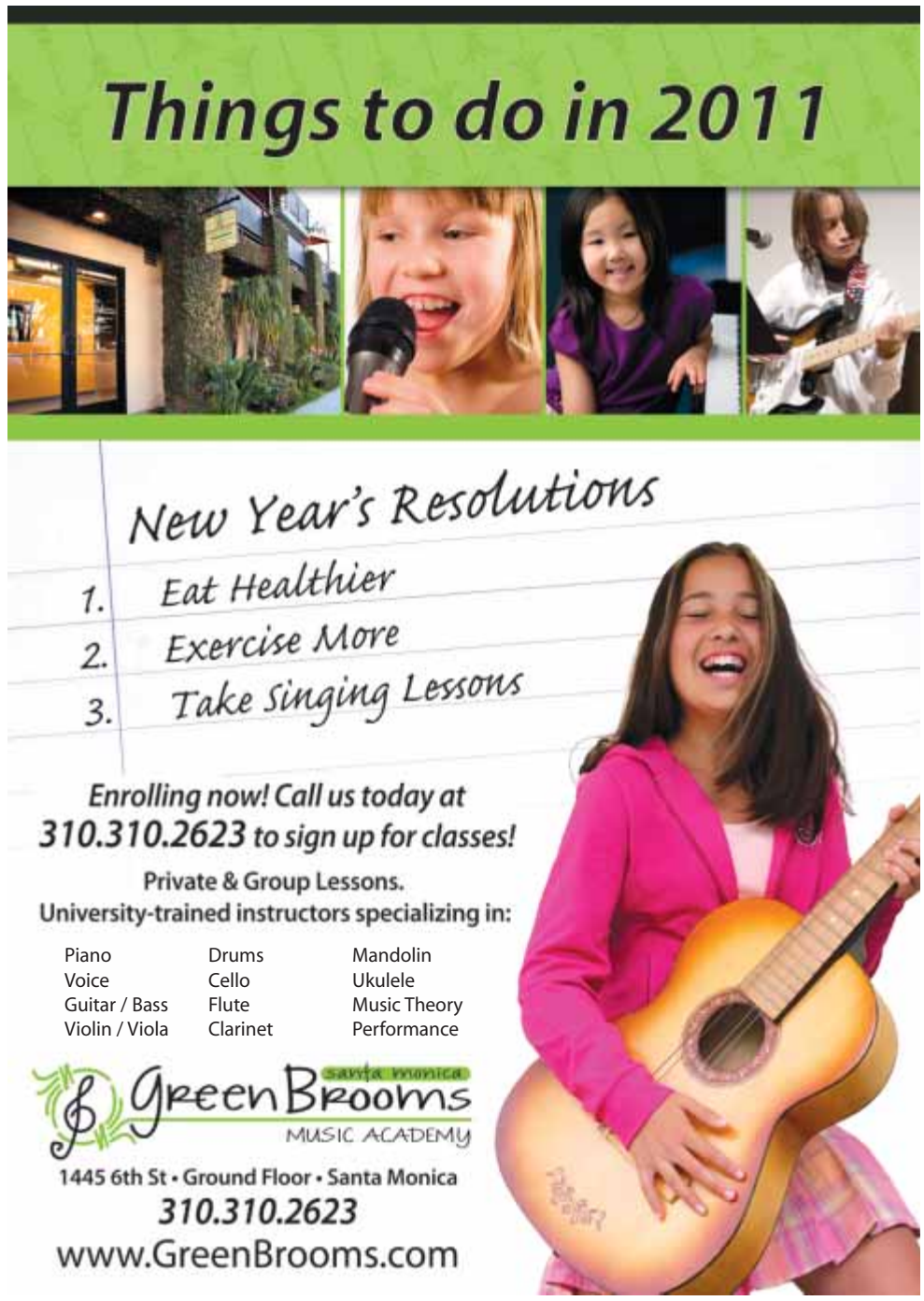
The lawsuit was filed on behalf of students at three troubled middle schools in south and central Los Angeles, which have traditionally had high turnover of teachers and administrators.

Because of that turnover, a large portion of their staffs are recent graduates who expressed a desire to work in urban schools. However, layoffs over the past two years meant that the untenured teachers were the first to receive pink slips.

More than half of the teaching staffs at Edwin Markham, John Liechty and Samuel Gompers middle schools lost their jobs. At Liechty, 72 percent of the teachers received layoff notices; at Markham, the layoffs included almost the entire English department along with every 8th grade history teacher.

Students were taught by a revolving-door succession of substitutes who served as little more than babysitters, the lawsuit said. One substitute gave each student a C because she simply didn't know what grade to give them, the suit said.

In contrast, schools in more affluent areas of the district, where staffing is traditionally much more stable, lost far fewer teachers.





Obama goal: 'Putting the economy into overdrive'

BY JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. More than half the nation disapproves of President Barack Obama's policies to reduce stubbornly high unemployment, a new Associated Press-GfK poll said Friday as Obama refocused his job-creation efforts on a business-friendly vision emphasizing innovation and exports to other countries.

Marking the halfway point in his four-year term, the president used a visit to Schenectady, birthplace of the General Electric Co., to declare that his job is "putting our economy into overdrive" and to announce a restructured presidential advisory board stressing increased employment and greater business opportunities abroad.

"America's home to inventors and dreamers and builders and creators," Obama told workers at G.E.'s 23-acre turbine and generator plant. "You guys are a model of what's possible."

The trip came as a new AP-GfK poll showed more than half the nation disapproving the way Obama is handling the economy, 53 percent to 47 percent. That's actually a bit more favorable than two months ago, but those who say they see economic improvement has dropped to just 35 percent from 38 percent in August and 40 percent a year ago.

Lack of hope is greatest with lower-income people and those in the Northeast and the West, signaling potential political trouble spots for Obama's 2012 re-election campaign.

Obama's New York visit was the first of many treks during the second half of his term that the president is expected to take to put a more hopeful countenance on the economy amid high unemployment — now at 9.4 percent. Yet, while the White House was eager to highlight economic successes such as General Electric, Obama took pains not to oversell an optimistic view to a skeptical public.

"It's a great thing that the economy is growing, but it's not growing fast enough yet to make up for the damage that was done by the recession," he said.

Overall, 53 percent of Americans approve of how Obama is governing, and that includes a narrow majority of all-important independent voters. The job approval numbers represent a slight uptick from November and come after Obama negotiated with Republicans on a tax package and sought to build bridges with the business community.

Displaying stepped-up outreach, Obama on Friday named GE's chief executive, Jeffrey Immelt, as the head of a Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. The panel replaces Obama's Economic Recovery Advisory Board, which had been chaired by former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker. Obama announced late Thursday that Volcker, as expected, was ending his tenure on the panel.

Immelt has been an advocate of alternative forms of energy, and the GE facility Obama visited, the company's largest energy plant, is the future site of GE's advanced battery manufacturing program. New battery technology has become something of an Obama pet project as a symbol of innovation, clean energy and job creation.

The trip followed on the heels of a state visit by Chinese President Hu Jintao that featured announcement of new trade deals worth about $45 billion and vows to ease restrictions on U.S. investments in China.

"We want to open up their markets so we have two-way trade, not just one-way trade," the president said.

As Obama made his pitch Friday, the top-ranking African-American in Congress called on the president to make a more concerted effort to help hard-hit minority communities. Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., said the recession had left minorities with extraordinarily high unemployment rates, and he called on Obama to direct at least 10 percent of any recovery efforts into communities that have had 20 percent or higher poverty rates for 30 years.

In Immelt, Obama has a useful corporate ally. As chief executive of a multinational company, Immelt was one of 20 CEOs who met with the president during a daylong summit at Blair House last month. He was one of 14 U.S. business leaders invited to meet with Chinese President Hu this week at the White House and was among the guests for the state dinner that followed.

General Electric is a multinational conglomerate with interests than range from energy to finances to media. GE is also a huge federal government contractor, and is currently on tap to build an engine for a Joint Strike Fighter that the administration doesn't want but that Congress insists on financing. On Friday, the White House renewed the president's threat to veto spending bills that contain money for the engine.

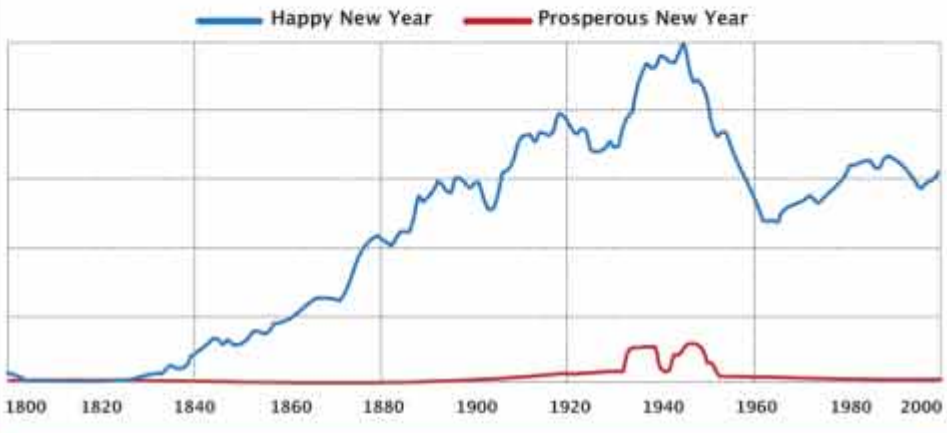
Lotus Platforms

We wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!



For the last three weeks, we have been running this Saturday column wishing you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We are trying to get your interest in our research on the correlation between Happy and Prosperous greetings dating back to the 1800s. It seems that Happy New Year is consistently more frequent in digitized texts by Google. While Prosperous New Year had just two bumps, just before and after 1940. We cannot explain this. So, we invited you to help us by emailing us explanations for the usage patterns in this graph.
We promised to publish here the best logical explanation we receive.

However, we were surprised that absolutely no one was interested!



We are desperate to have people interact with us through this column. So, even if you just noticed us for the first time this week, please contact us to just say hello through the email: NewYearGreeting@lotusplatforms.com

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US company stops making key death penalty drug

BY ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS
AP Legal Affairs Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio The sole U.S. manufacturer of a key lethal injection drug said Friday it is ending production because of death-penalty opposition overseas — a move that could delay executions across the United States.

Over the past several months, a growing shortage of the drug, sodium thiopental, has forced some states to put executions on hold. And the problem is likely to get worse with the announcement from Hospira Inc. of Lake Forest, Ill.

Hospira said it decided in recent months to switch manufacturing from its North Carolina plant to a more modern Hospira factory in Liscate, Italy. But Italian authorities demanded a guarantee the drug would not be used to put inmates to death — an assurance the company said it was not willing to give.

"We cannot take the risk that we will be held liable by the Italian authorities if the product is diverted for use in capital punishment," Hospira spokesman Dan Rosenberg said. "Exposing our employees or facilities to liability is not a risk we are prepared to take."

Italian Health Ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

All but one of the 35 states that employ lethal injection use sodium thiopental. In nearly every case, they use it as part of a three-drug combination that sedates and paralyzes the inmate and stops the heart.

There are other, similar sedatives on the market, but substituting one drug for another would require new laws or lengthy administrative processes in some states, and could also lead to lawsuits from death row.

Similarly, switching to another manufacturer could invite lawsuits from inmates demanding proof that the drug will not cause pain in violation of their constitutional protection against cruel and unusual punishment. Hospira is the only sodium thiopental-maker approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Because of what Hospira described as problems with its raw-material suppliers, sodium thiopental is already scarce in the U.S., and any batches Hospira made before it suspended manufacturing more than a year ago are set to expire this year.

In Texas, the nation's busiest death penalty state, the Department of Criminal Justice said Friday it is exploring the use of another anesthetic. The state has four executions scheduled between now and July but has enough sodium thiopental to carry out only two February executions, spokesman Jason Clark said.

Ohio has enough to carry out a Feb. 17 execution but will not comment on its supply after that, or on Hospira's announcement, said Ohio prisons spokeswoman JoEllen Smith.

Hospira has long deplored the drug's use in executions but said it regretted having to stop production, because sodium thiopental has legitimate medical purposes as an anesthetic used in hospitals. Hospira continues to make two other drugs used in executions — pancuronium bromide, which paralyzes, and potassium chloride, which stop the heart.

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Household Hazardous Waste Collection Comes to Your Door
On February 1, 2011, the City of Santa Monica will launch the Household Hazardous Waste Door-to-Door Collection Pilot Program, a pick-up system where the "Haz Mat" technicians come to you. The goal is to expand levels of service for residents while reducing costs. The service will be provided on a free and unlimited basis to home owners and renters alike.
Also, beginning February 1, 2011, the Household Hazardous Waste Center will be available for drop-off service on SATURDAYS ONLY. If the pilot program is successful, the city will transition to a permanent pick-up system in June 2011.
The new service is provided in a few easy steps:
1. Reserve collection service: call 1 (800) HHW-PKUP (1.800.449.7587), Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM; or e-mail hotline@curbsideinc.com;
2. Receive collection kit in the mail (includes detailed instructions with collection day reminder);
3. Prepare collection kit at your doorstep or at a predetermined location on collection day;
4. Leave prepared materials and we'll do the rest.
For additional information or feedback please visit www.sustainablesm.org/hhw or call (310) 458-2213.
The door-to-door collection program is managed by the Office of Sustainability and the Environment and WM Curbside, LLC
City of Santa Monica sustainablesm.org

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WISE & Healthy Aging is a nonprofit social services organization dedicated to serving older adults and their caregivers.



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp: 61°**

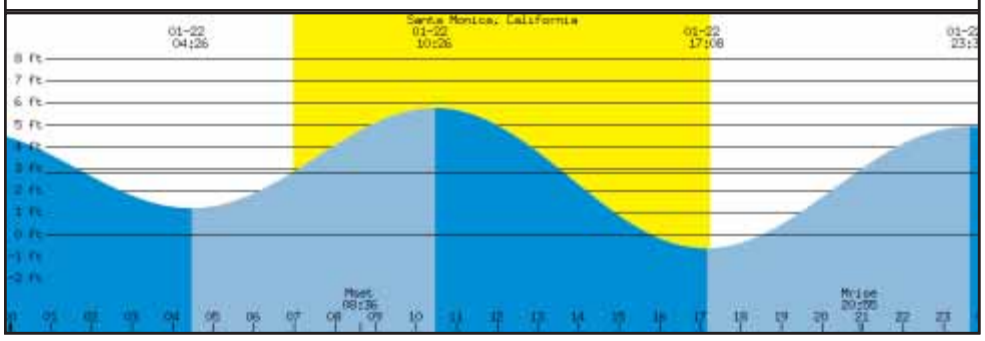
Swell Forecast

Should see NW swell build throughout the day. West facing breaks are looking like at head high surf in the early AM, and then a couple feet overhead in the afternoon.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking like the peak day of this NW'er. Most west facing breaks are looking at sets running 2-3' overhead.

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 19, 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 -- 16
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 27 / 11
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 16 / 31

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck 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.	B	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	C
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alina creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	D	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	F	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	B	F
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	C	B
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	B	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.	F	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	D	C
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	B	A
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	B
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	B
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	D

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

Buddle scores in debut as Ingolstadt ties

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERLIN Edson Buddle scored in his debut for Ingolstadt, a 1-1 tie with Duisburg in Germany's second division on Friday.

The American forward with 15 minutes remaining when he was first to react to a corner kick. Stefan Maierhofer failed to clear the ball and Buddle made no mistake with his right foot from five yards.

Duisburg's Olcay Sahan tied the score 10 minutes later.

Buddle signed with Ingolstadt this month after his contract with Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy expired. Buddle ended the regular MLS season as the second-highest scorer with 17 goals in 25 matches.

Promoted Ingolstadt remains second from bottom in Germany's 18-team second division, with 13 points from 19 matches.

NHL

NHL fines Kings GM Dean Lombardi $50,000

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK The NHL has fined Los Angeles Kings general manager Dean Lombardi $50,000 for his comments questioning the integrity of league vice president Mike Murphy.

Lombardi was upset after a disputed goal was allowed to stand during his team's 2-0 loss to Phoenix on Thursday night.

Replays appear to show the puck being high-sticked into the net, but officials in the league's video room in Toronto decided not to overturn the on-ice call after reviewing tape.

After the game, Lombardi told a reporter for the Kings website that Murphy wouldn't give his team a favorable call because he once lost out on the GM job in Los Angeles.

Murphy played for the Kings during his NHL career and is a former coach of the team. He is currently in charge of goal reviews for the league.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3019 PROVIDE ON-SITE SECURITY GUARD SERVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.

A mandatory job walk will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 11:00 AM Pacific Time. Vendors are to meet Al Davis & Kellee Mac Donald at the Big Blue Bus Maintenance Training Room located at 1620 6th Street, Santa Monica, CA. 90401

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is February 10, 2011 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

DATE/TIME: February 8, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

Subject:

Public Hearing and Second Reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Monica amending Article 5 of the Municipal Code related to Public Health and Food Safety, through incorporation of sections of Los Angeles County Code Title 11, Division 1 and Title 8, Division 1, including recent L.A. County enactments which enhanced mobile food vending regulations.

Copies of Los Angeles County Code Title 8, Division 1, Chapter 8.04 and Title 11, Division 1, Chapters 11.02 to 11.38, sections of which are considered for incorporation into the Santa Monica Municipal Code, are on file with the City Clerk's Office and open to public inspection.

More information will be available on-line at http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/council/agendas/index.htm or from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone number (310) 458-8211. City Hall and the Council Chamber is wheelchair accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting, access to an amplified sound system, etc.), please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or TDD: (310) 917-6626 at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request.

Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall. Parking is available in front of City Hall and on Olympic Drive and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, Jan. 22
Double Feature
The French Connection (R) 1hr 44min
To Live & Die in LA (R)1hr 56min
7:30pm
William Friedkin in person.

Sunday, Jan. 23
Double Feature
Sorcerer (PG) 2hr 2min
The Exorcist (R) 2hr 1min
7:30pm
Discussion with William Friedkin.

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

Somewhere (R) 1hr 38min
12:05pm, 2:45pm, 5:25pm, 8:00pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:20am,1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Dilemma (PG-13)1hr 58min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Way Back (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
9:55am, 12:50pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

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

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

No Strings Attached (R) 1hr 50min
10:40am, 11:35am, 1:20pm, 2:20pm, 4:10pm, 5:10pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:40pm, 10:40pm

Dilemma (PG-13) 1hr 58min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Country Strong (PG-13) 1hr 52min
10:50am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

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

Nora's Will (Cinco dias sin Nora) (NR) 1hr 32min
11:00am

Concert (Le concert) (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:00am

Social Network (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

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

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

Another Year (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Winston Churchill: Walking With Destiny (NR) 1 hr 41 min
11:00am

Queen of the Lot (R) 1hr 54min
11:00am

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

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 2hrs 00min
11:25am, 2:15pm, 5:05pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Tangled in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
10:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (NR) 2hrs 07min
10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Company Men (R) 1hr 53min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:05pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

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

Order in tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Jupiter moves into Aries today. During the next few months, you will land like a cat with nine lives. Still, maintain a level head and be careful about risks that could have damaging consequences. Tonight: Respond to your energy levels.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You will be carrying a lucky rabbit's foot for the next few months. No matter what goes down, you will be able to bounce back even better. Allow yourself to creatively brainstorm about an important goal with friends. Tonight: Let the magic begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You enter a period where you will network, expand your horizons and probably make a wish a reality. Let the positive feelings flow between you and others. Decide to clear out what you deem a mess. You do not need clutter in your life! Tonight: Order in.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your community image could soar in the next few months. Professional opportunities might reappear as well. For now, enjoy the people around you. Make a call or two to distant friends and/or loved ones. Tonight: Off to a neighborhood restaurant.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Check out the cost of fostering a certain attitude or look. With every change, though there is a gain, there also could be a loss. Not all people will respond favorably. Be willing to break precedence in the next few months and become more authentic. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ In the next few months, a partner becomes more loving. You might gain financially through others. Some of you might hit the lottery. For now, enjoy your innate charisma, allowing you greater popularity. Make a new friend. Tonight: The action revolves around you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Much might seem difficult to attain. If you want to take some downtime or go off on your own, do. Relaxation will be important, as the next months will be busy. If single, you could discover a very special person. If attached, your enjoyment of your sweetie might increase. Tonight: Shh. Don't tell.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Wherever you go, people seem to gravitate toward you. Enjoy the present social scene, as you could be very busy in the next few months. Daily life could come with more professional responsibilities. Tonight: Forget tomorrow, live it up!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Your libido energy switch turns to high through spring. Romance is very likely for those who are young at heart. If attached, the embers of your relationship could become scorching flames. Plan on going away together more often. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for someone at a distance. Perhaps an e-mail might work best. Take off and enjoy a movie or a concert, or go to a museum. Note a tendency to want to expand your household in the next few months. Tonight: Let your imagination decide.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Relate directly to a partner. In fact, investing some time with this person feels right and helps you relax. The bond becomes even stronger. Instead of sitting on your feelings so much, work on expressing them more often. Tonight: Enjoy the one you are with.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Defer to a partner. You might not feel comfortable with others presently. Brainstorm with a key associate, especially about a financial matter. You could be amazed at the alternatives that pop up. Decide to take a course to enhance your money knowledge. Tonight: Just not alone.

Happy birthday

This year, you will create a better immediate environment. Communication will score as very important, and it's not to be taken lightly. As a result, others learn to count on you, and they open up far more easily. In fact, your daily life becomes fuller and much happier. If single, you meet people though friends. It takes just one of these encounters to add that special romance to your life. If attached, you and your significant other feel much more connected as you learn to share more. Your friendship enhances the love between you. ARIES is lucky for you.

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

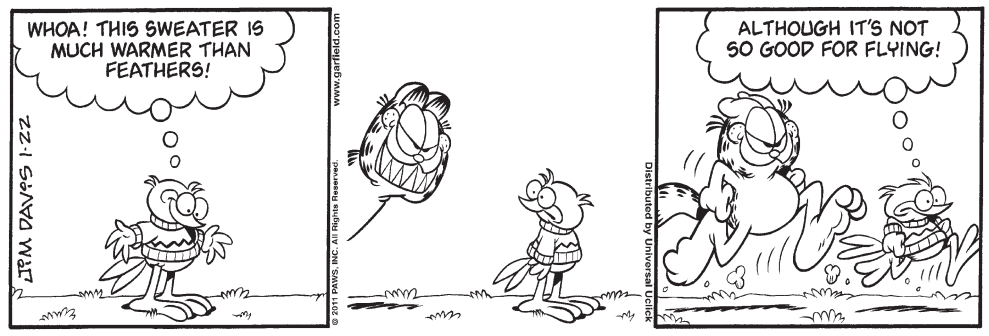


MYSTERY REVEALED!

Isabel Flores correctly identified this picture of the Foster's Freeze sign on Pico Boulevard. She will receive a reusable shopping bag from the Daily Press. Check out Monday's paper for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

Garfield

By Jim Davis



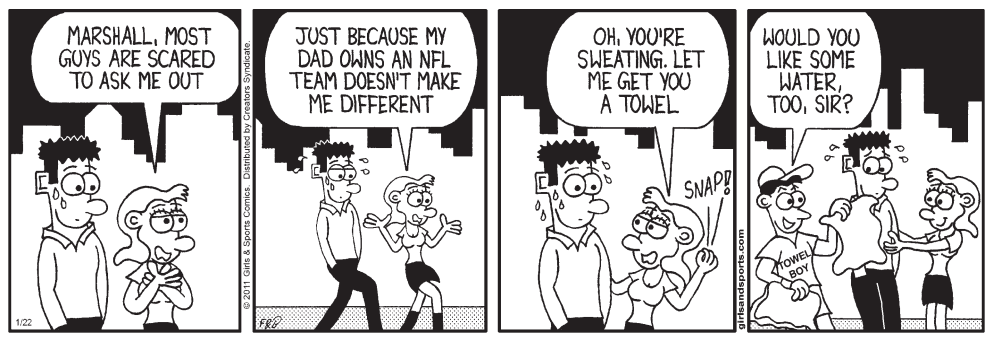
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



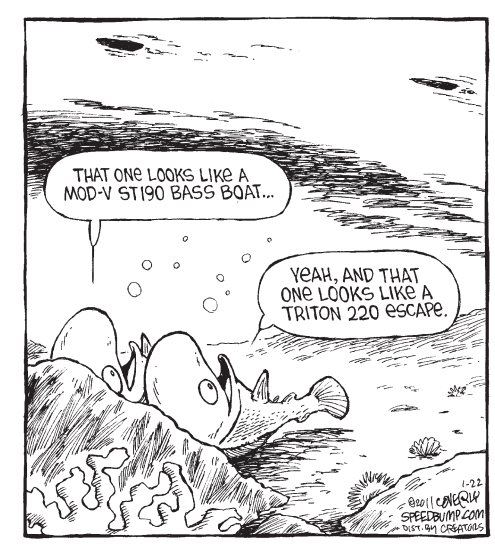
Strange Brew

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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Chopped finely
6 Green sauce
11 Home
12 Top story
13 Marsh grass
14 Leather color
15 Moves stealthily
17 — loss
18 Melody
19 Yellow shade
22 Spanish article
23 Free-booter
24 Showed fear
25 Gang-ster's gun
27 In shape
30 Office machines
31 Math unity
32 Put away
33 Rival of Athens
35 Assailed
38 Photo collection
39 Oranjes-tad's island
40 Queeg's ship
41 Used a keyboard
42 Stopped

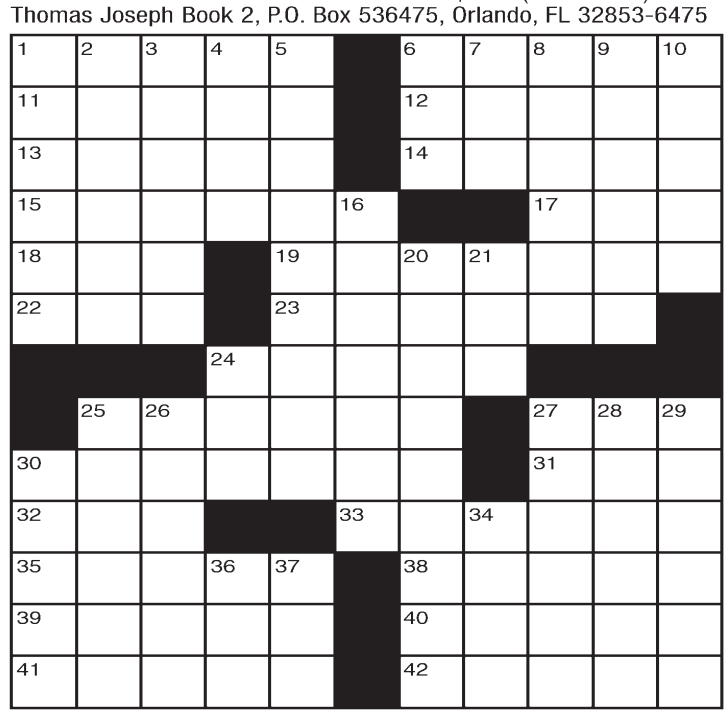
DOWN

1 Scoundrel
2 Portugal's place
3 Software creators
4 Border
5 Probe's destina-tion
6 Trite
7 Greek vowel
8 General J.E.B.
9 Be stealthy
10 Mermaid's home
16 Tars
20 Bingo card center
21 Mania
24 Greek conso-nant
25 Traffic circle
26 Become chatty
27 Outlaw
28 Harmo-nious
29 Joined forces
30 Rock unit
34 Singer Jackson
36 Mr. Lincoln ...
37 ... and his son

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

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



1-22

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

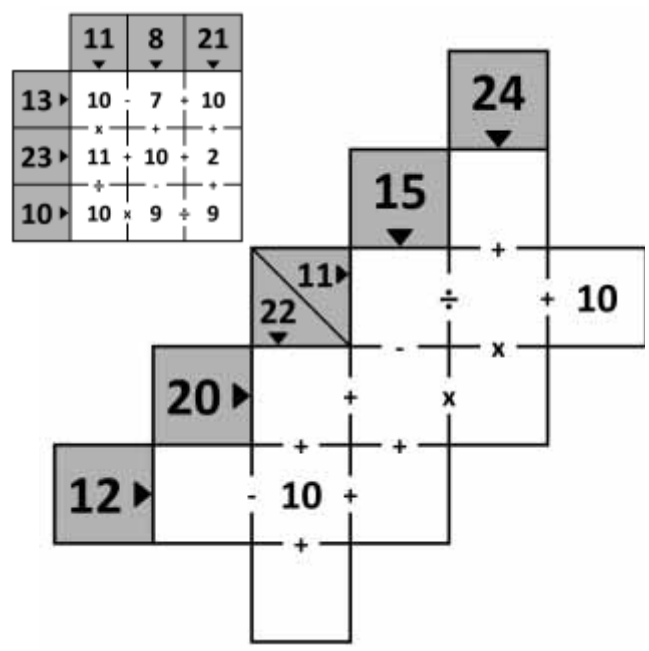
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand 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, 2, 5, 6, 9, 9, 10, 11, 11

Solution for Task 1227



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 27 29 38 45 Meganumber: 5 Jackpot: $51M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 7 16 27 39 Meganumber: 3 Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5: 4 10 14 18 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 0 1 EVENING: 1 5 8

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:48.30

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

■ London's The Independent reported from Tokyo in December on the prolonged, even "epic" sulk (a state of funk called "hikikomori") that afflicts a million young professionals, who simply withdraw from their careers and hole up nearly 24 hours a day in their apartments (or rooms in their parents' homes) for months at a time, emerging only to gather food before retreating inside for TV or video games. Many psychiatrists call it merely an extreme reaction to parents who have pressured their sons to succeed. (In July 2008, the Japanese software company Avex produced a video to help those men, simply featuring a series of young women staring into the lens, occasionally saying "Good morning," so that hikikomori sufferers can practice feeling the gazes of strangers.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1962 The Organization of American States suspends Cuba's membership.

1963 The Elysée treaty of cooperation between France and Germany is signed by Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer.

1968 Apollo 5 lifts off carrying the first Lunar module into space.

1968 Operation Igloo White, a US electronic surveillance system to stop communist infiltration into South Vietnam begins installation.

1970 The Boeing 747, the world's first "jumbo jet", enters commercial service for launch customer Pan American Airways with its maiden voyage from John F Kennedy International Airport to London Heathrow Airport.

1973 The Supreme Court of the United States delivers its decision in Roe v. Wade, legalizing elective abortion in all fifty states.

1973 A chartered Boeing 707 explodes in flames upon landing at Kano Airport, Nigeria killing 176.

1984 The Apple Macintosh, the first consumer computer to popularize the computer mouse and the graphical user interface, is introduced during Super Bowl XVIII with its famous "1984" television commercial.

WORD UP!

totemic \ toh-TEM-ik \ , adjective;

1. Pertaining to an object or natural phenomenon with which a family or group considers itself closely related.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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$10,998

07 SCION tC
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$13,488

06 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
305691A/641411
$13,998

08 TOYOTA TACOMA
1000629/515887 (CERTIFIED)
$13,998

10 TOYOTA COROLLA
R1000651/198638
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$14,998

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Obituaries

BUSHNELL, GEORGE E., Jr., Bushnell, George E., Jr. born in Los Angeles and raised in Santa Monica, a long time Hawaii resident, died January 12, 2011 at the age of 95 in Medford, OR. He was a veteran of WWII and the Korean War, retiring in 1965 with the rank of Captain. He was a prolific writer of 'letters to the editor'. In 1946 he helped to found Marwood, Ltd. and subsequently formed Oceanic Agencies. He retired in 1980 after selling his company to S&K Sales and assuming the position of VP and General Manager, Hawaii. George is survived by his son, George Bushnell of Los Angeles CA, his sister, Nancy Bushnell Matlin of Concord CA, and one niece and five nephews. Half his ashes will be interred in Medford Oregon beside those of his second wife, Vera Chestnut Bushnell ("Chessie"). The other half will be deposited in Punch Bowl Memorial of the Pacific beside the ashes of his first wife, Winifred Kiehl Bushnell.

Announcements

The practice of Dr. Alex Gitelman is announcing its closure as of 03/01/2011. Patients needing assistance in locating another physician should contact this office before 02/28/2011, or call the local medical society at (213) 683-9900. With written patient authorization, a copy of the medical by can be obtained by calling 310-564-6620 until 02/28/2011.

Employment

HAIRSTYLIST AND MANICURE station for rent Santa Monica (310) 449-1923

For Sale

GOOD BONES four cushion custom sofa very comfortable Antique brass/metal bed single (310)306-1464

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Kitchen and equipment
Low rent
Amazing Deal
$90k
(213) 453-2379

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522 SAN Vicente Blvd Santa Mon,ica Prime; must see! large 2 bedroom 2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, Dutch kitchen , laundry faclity (310)479-1012

MAR VISTA 12610 CASWELL ave.unit 1, 1bdrm/1ba $1075/mo. stove, fridge, time/carpet,floors ceiling fan blinds, parking, laundry, no pets. $850 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 6 2+2 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1350/mo $1000 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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(310)869-7901

505 Barrington Ave. #11 2+2, Brentwood $1795

2110 Bentley Ave. #304, Penthouse 2+2, loft $2595

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rentals@howardmanagement.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $975 and up $750 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 4 1+1 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1095/mo (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101823887 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/09/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as N2 EXPORTING; CANDY CATERED EVENTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: MAKEBA WASHINGTON 1409 139TH STREET ROSEWOOD, CA 90222. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:MAKEBA WASHINGTON; OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/09/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 01/10/2011, 01/17/2011, 01/24/2011, 01/31/2011.

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101865453 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/16/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BENU. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: KERRY GRIMES 612 PACIFIC ST #1 SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:KERRY GRIMES; PRINCIPAL . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/16/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 01/15/2011, 01/22/2011, 01/29/2011, 02/05/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 11-0094103
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SYNERGY MASSAGE, 4650 W. 134th ST. #B, HAWTHORNE, CA 90250. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JOSE SALGADO, 4650 W. 134th ST. #B, HAWTHORNE, CA 90250. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE SALGADO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/18/11. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Pub. Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 07, 14, 2011
Publish: Santa Monica Daily Press







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North of Montana	$3,362,500	$1,295,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,574,500	$ 899,000
South of Wilshire	$784,000	$475,000
Sunset Park	$1,048,850	$519,500
Ocean Park	$1,295,000	$589,500

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11:00 am - 2:00 pm







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1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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