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THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 65

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

BACKING THE BAN
SEE PAGE 4

THE BYE, BYE BAGS ISSUE



GETTING DIRTY

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

(Right to left) Assistant U.S. Secretary of Labor Jane Oates, Recycling Program Specialist Madeline Brodie and Santa Monica College Trustee Dr. Susan Aminoff feed worms during the college's launch of its new recycling and resource management job-training program dubbed 'Jobs Through Recycling,' at SMC's worm composting facility on Wednesday afternoon.

Council enacts plastic bag ban

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council on Tuesday fulfilled a long-delayed promise by voting to ban Santa Monica retailers from giving out free single-use plastic bags at the cash register — a move environmentalists say will encourage people to bring reusable bags to the store and reduce litter and carbon emissions.

Under the ban, grocery stores, pharmacies, liquor stores and convenience stores are allowed to provide recycled paper bags at the point of sale but must charge customers at least 10 cents for each one.

The intent, according to city officials, is to "significantly reduce the environmental impacts related to single-use plastic and carry out bags, and to promote a major shift toward reusable bags."

There was never any doubt the council, which considered adopting a plastic bag ban in 2008 but held off because of legal concerns, would approve the measure.

A steady stream of backers spoke at Tuesday's meeting, saying it was high time Santa Monica followed cities like Malibu and Manhattan Beach in passing a ban.

While local retailers have either been silent on the issue or supportive of the ban, organized opposition has come from the group Save the Plastic Bag, which represents the interests of plastic manufacturers.

An attorney for the group, Stephen Joseph, raised several technical objections to Santa Monica's ban on Tuesday, arguing City Hall should have relied on environmental documents prepared by Los Angeles County officials, which recently adopted a similar ban for unincorporated areas under its jurisdiction.

While no lawsuit has been announced,

SEE BAN PAGE 8

More developments subject to approval from City Council

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL More real estate projects will now be subject to the City Council's approval after the body on Tuesday approved a temporary zoning law that requires a greater level of public scrutiny for planned buildings 32 feet and higher.

The plan means projects, especially in Downtown, that previously could have received routine approval from City Hall staff will now have to go through the development agreement process usually reserved only for large-scale projects.

The interim ordinance could have a big impact since plans have already been submitted for 750,000 square feet worth of development, according to a City Hall

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 9

Police department looking for suspects in attempted kidnapping

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Police are on the hunt for two men who tried to abduct a 17-year-old girl who was on her way to school Monday morning.

SMPD Sgt. Jay Trisler said the teenager was walking on the 3100 block of Pennsylvania Avenue when a man approached her and tried to engage her in a conversation. The girl ignored the man and continued walking.

That's when the suspect grabbed her and began pulling her into the street toward a vehicle parked nearby. The girl said a second man was waiting in the parked car.

A struggle ensued and the teen was able to free herself. She ran to New Roads School and told officials there what happened, Trisler said.

Officers were notified and conducted a

SEE POLICE PAGE 9

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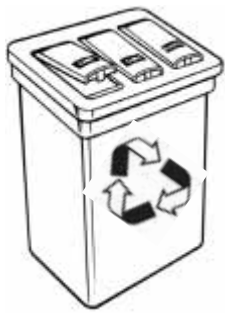
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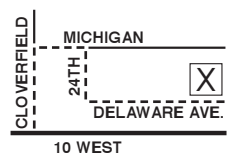


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OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2011

Volunteer with Doctors Without Borders
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St., 7 p.m.
Medical aid group Doctors Without Borders wants you. This recruitment information session is designed to attract medical and non-medical professionals to find out how they can help. Aid workers from the L.A. area will be on hand to tell their firsthand stories of "life in the field." This event is free.
For more information, visit msflosangelesinfosession012711.eventbrite.com.

Teen theatre
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 4 p.m.
Young actors get the opportunity to create an original play from scratch as part of the Teen World of Acting Performance LAB. This is a four-month session.
For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 3.

Protecting seniors from fraud
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St., 8:30 a.m. — 11 a.m.
Experts help guide seniors through the latest frauds targeting the elderly. Representatives from government agencies will be on hand to answer questions and dispense advice. For more information about this free event, call (310) 394-9871.

'9000 Needles'
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m.
"9000 Needles" is a documentary about one man's struggle with the U.S. health system after a stroke and his family's experience taking his recovery day-by-day. A Q&A with the film's director will follow the screening. The event is free, but attendees must RSVP. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Friday, Jan. 28, 2011

Art Los Angeles Contemporary
Barker Hanger
3021 Airport Ave., 11 a.m. — 7 p.m.
In its second year, Art Los Angeles Contemporary is a fair organizers say is a showcase for some of the most dynamic recent works from 70 international galleries. The fair runs through Sunday. For more information, visit artlosangelesfair.com.

'State of Incarceration'
Highways Performance Space
1651 18th St., 8:30 p.m.
Highways Performance Space Artistic Director Leo Garcia presents Los Angeles Poverty Department's (LAPD) new performance work "State of Incarceration," which examines the personal and social costs of incarceration in the U.S. For more information, call (310) 315-1459. This event also takes place Saturday.

Rocking indie style
CENTRAL Social Aid & Pleasure Club
1348 14th St., 8 p.m.
Instrumental indie rock duo El Ten Eleven and the electronic-leaning Superhumanoids play a double bill at this new, hip venue.
For more info, visit www.centralsapc.com

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



Suicide-prevention meeting gets emotional

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Emotions ran high during a meeting here Tuesday addressing the Santa Monica High School community in the wake of the tragic suicide of freshman Matthew Mezza.

The meeting, led by a panel of suicide-prevention experts, was called to support students and parents in light of the recent alarming incident involving the 14 year old, who leaped to his death in front of a group of horrified onlookers on Jan. 14.

The meeting was intended to equip parents and students with tools to hopefully prevent future suicides, but a number of parents used the opportunity to air some of the facts and rumors that have swirled around the tragic incident.

One parent, David Gordon, a counselor whose daughters knew Mezza since kindergarten, said he heard Mezza had expressed suicidal thoughts in recent months, adding that he was in counseling at the time of his untimely death. Another parent said rumors had surfaced that the young man was on anti-depressant drugs, a factor she worried may have contributed to the tragedy.

District officials interrupted the second parent, saying such comments during the question and answer period of the event were inappropriate considering the sensitive nature of the situation. Despite those objections, panel member Richard Lieberman, coordinator of the Suicide Prevention Unit of the Los Angeles Unified School District, said that while medication can be helpful, he stressed that drugs alone "won't work" in preventing suicides. Yet, he did acknowledge that medication along with counseling are often successful in turning around the life of an at-risk youth.

"Unfortunately, suicide is complex and can not be simplified," Lieberman said. "What we need to do is prevent the next suicide."

Fellow panelists, including Dr. Elaine Leader, co-founder and executive director of TEENLINE, a suicide prevention hotline, stressed that while parents and students may be confused by Mezza's suicide, it was no time to point fingers or assign blame.

"Don't try to understand," Leader said. Instead, she implored that parents and students should not fear reaching out for help

SEE **MEETING** PAGE 9

Demand Media raises size, price of its IPO

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOWNTOWN Online content publisher Demand Media Inc. raised the size of its initial public offering on Wednesday and said shares would sell for a higher-than-expected price of $17 apiece.

The offering now includes 8.9 million shares, including 4.5 million being sold by the company and 4.4 million held by early investors. That's a boost over the previously announced offering of 7.5 million shares. Previously, the company said the shares would cost between $14 and $16 apiece.

The company, based in Santa Monica, employs a network of more than 13,000 freelancers who have churned out millions of pieces of content.

Instead of looking to break news or influence opinion the way traditional media do, Demand's army of writers create material that is intended to have a longer life span — and thus generate ad revenue for a longer period. Articles, for instance, include, "How to Thread a Sewing Machine," and "How to Finish Knitting a Scarf." It publishes articles like these on its own website, ehow.com, and also sells them to publishers such as USA Today and the San Francisco Chronicle.

So far, Demand Media's approach hasn't led to big profits. In a securities filing, the company disclosed that it lost $31 million during the first nine months of 2010. Revenue over the same period, however, climbed to $179 million from $143 million in the same nine months the previous year.

The underwriters, led by Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Morgan Stanley & Co., will have a 30-day option to buy about 1.4 million additional shares to cover excess demand.

Before the company raised the size of its offering and share price, it said it expected to receive $58 in net proceeds, money it plans to use to add to its content library and expand abroad.

The company is expected to begin trading on the New York Stock Exchange on Wednesday under the ticker symbol "DMD."



LOST BALL, WON GAME Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School's Danielle Joyner has the ball stolen by Hawthorne's Alondra Alemedia on Wednesday at John Adams Middle School. Samohi won the Ocean League game, 6-0.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

City Hall needs to play ball with FAA

Editor:

I read with anger the article in the Jan. 22-23 issue of the Daily Press entitled "Appeals court sides with FAA in jet ban case."

I must first say that, as a pilot and as a friend of the airport, I support the decision of the court regarding the FAA ruling.

But, at the same time, I am sure that I can speak for all the pilots who use Santa Monica Airport and all those people who work at SMO when I say that safety is the highest priority for all our flights and for all airport operations. Not one person in the aviation community wants to put themselves or the local neighbors of the airport in any danger. The aviation community wants to be good and safe neighbors, while, at the same time, using the airport as it was designed. We believe that is possible and we work toward that end.

That is why I am astounded and enraged that Santa Monica City Hall, as pointed out in the article, has refused the offer by the FAA to help build "an 'engineered material arresting system,' otherwise known as collapsible concrete, designed to slow down planes that are in danger of overshooting the runway." The FAA, trying to address local safety concerns, is willing to put up money to lessen the concerns of the airport neighbors and to make them safer in the event of an accident.

Your article says that City Hall has rejected this offer before and probably will again. Your article says that City Hall believes that "... accepting FAA funds [for the arresting system] would probably mean extending the obligation to operate the airport."

One wonders about the reasoning of City Hall. If the reason they haven't accepted the FAA offer is because they truly believe that C and D jets pose no danger, then their case against C and D jets falls apart entirely. On the other hand, if they do believe that C and D jets are a danger, then it is obvious that City Hall's rejection of the FAA offer shows that they are willing to accept possible loss of life if an accident were to occur. If it is the latter, that is appalling.

I believe, as the FAA does, that the chances of an accident are very small. Pilots train for accident prevention. They are prepared for go-arounds if the landing is not assured, but most pilots are "belt and suspenders" people, that is, they always want to have a backup. That is why most modern planes have multiple backups: two radios, two or more navigation devices, etc. For this reason I believe that pilots and the aviation community would totally get behind the installation of an arresting system for backup to make sure that our fellow Santa Monicans would be safe if an overrun should occur.

I believe that the neighbors of Santa Monica Airport should let City Hall know that the FAA arresting system would be a valuable backup in case of an accident. I also believe that those same neighbors will share my outrage if they hear of another refusal by the City Council to accept the FAA offer.

Reynold Dacon
Santa Monica



Your column here

Mark Gold

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bravo for bag ban

THE CITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY approved an ordinance Tuesday that bans single-use plastic and paper bags, but allows retailers to sell "green" paper bags for at least a dime. Due to the passage of Proposition 26 with its chilling impact on government's ability to create and raise fees, Santa Monica abandoned its original ordinance, which would have put the paper-bag fee at a quarter with some of the revenue coming back to the city. Instead, leaders opted to model their bill after L.A. County's recently approved ban.

Fifty people came out to support the bag ban ordinance, about 25 students with Santa Monica High School Team Marine teacher Ben Kay and 25 attendees from environmental groups and the general public. As you might have expected, the students stole the show. Dressed in costumes ranging from Bag Man to Straw Student to Lid Lady to Bottle Boy, the students came out during finals week to advocate for the bag ban. In a proud moment for me, my son Zack, an ocean swimmer and three year co-president of the Heal the Bay Surfrider Club, testified in support of the ordinance. Zack reminded council members that he started testifying to them as a freshman. Now he's a graduating senior.

Santa Monica is the undisputed greenest city in California (OK, Berkeley will dispute that). How did it take its leaders nearly four years to ban single use bags? If you guessed ongoing litigation threats from the Coalition to Save the Plastic Bag (an advocacy group with members from the American Chemistry Council and the plastic bag manufacturers), then you've been paying attention.

Santa Monica spent a considerable amount of money completing its own EIR as well as paying for a Master Environmental Assessment that cities and counties around the state are using for their bag ban EIRs. The action Tuesday night, the eighth ban in the state (hours after Marin County approved a similar ban), really helped pave the way for a standardized environmental review approach to combat litigation threats.

The next battlefield in the fight to ban harmful bags is the biggest one in Southern California: the city of Los Angeles. In order for these bans to be effective in the region, the city of L.A. needs to join the county, Long Beach, Santa Monica and Malibu by banning single-use plastic bags as soon as possible.

Stephen Joseph, the hired mercenary for the coalition, made it clear in his comment letter and calls to the City Attorney's Office that coalition members were planning on suing. Surprisingly, he agreed with Heal the Bay in a call to use the county's reusable bag definition. This included a requirement that reusable bags can't contain toxic substances like lead and cadmium in toxic amounts. There are also durability (carry 10 kilograms at least 125 times) and washability requirements too. The council made these changes.

Another change that resulted from Joseph's comments is what I call the "Bay Cities" amendment. The draft ordinance took the extraordinary step of banning plastic bags in restaurants for takeout food, except hot food or liquids that posed a safety risk. Because of polluters' complaints on the ambiguity of the bag ban's application to restaurants, City Hall opted to ostensibly remove the restaurant requirements.

This may let places like the Bay Cities Italian Bakery & Deli (my favorite local food establishment since I was at Samohi) continue giving out thousands of plastic bags each week. We all know that a Godmother is too good for a plastic bag anyway, so I'm sure that Bay Cities will set a good example, with the encouragement of Santa Monica and my Heal the Bay officemates.

I had the honor of testifying right before Joseph. I decided to skip testimony on the environmental impacts of plastic bags and instead focus on the coalition and the ACC's dubious record on killing bag ban legislation and legislation to eliminate carcinogens in baby and toddler products (an example was BPA in baby bottles).

Why should Santa Monica, any city or the state of California listen to these guys on their concerns about lead and cadmium in reusable bags or the pathogen regrowth potential on unwashed reusable bags when many of the same polluters are spending millions opposing toxics legislation? I must have caught Joseph a little off guard with this line of testimony because the best he could come up with was some off-the-wall statement that the Pacific plastic gyre doesn't even exist. It was nice to see the usually glib and cocky attorney flummoxed at the podium. That may have been a first.

His actions also reflected the fact that Santa Monica leaders made it clear that they are ready for a court fight. The city attorneys followed the California Environmental Quality Act to the letter of the law. They made the changes necessary to strengthen their case in court if the coalition decides to sue. And the City Council made it clear that Santa Monica is not a city you want to mess with in court over pollution issues. Ask the petroleum industry how well it fared on the Charnock MTBE contamination effort. Some $250 million in settlements later, City Hall is about to begin relying on local groundwater for the first time this century.

The bag ban will go into effect a month after the council completes the formality of approving the ordinance on second reading. However, the subsequent six months will be used by City Hall to educate retailers. The ban won't be enforceable until September. Tuesday marked another big win for the environment, but I can't help but think that the Coalition to Ban the Plastic Bag bought enough time to sell about 100 million additional bags in Santa Monica.

MARK GOLD is president of Heal the Bay, a Santa Monica-based nonprofit dedicated to protecting Santa Monica Bay.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
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Life Matters

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

Coping with the loss of a friend

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I am at a loss. My friend and I have known each other 20 years. He moved away four years ago, but we talked regularly. I must mention he is bipolar and bisexual. We had an ongoing affair after his first divorce, and we both enjoyed that aspect of our lives. Before Christmas we talked and he never mentioned anything to me about remarrying. I found out New Year's Day via Facebook. I was shocked, but I thought he needed a new person in his life. I congratulated him, tried calling him, but he shut me out just like that, no warning. I feel bad that I found out since he is off meds, back to drinking and his new wife is 17 years his junior. It sounds like a recipe for disaster. I feel for him but I don't know how to handle this. I'm so disappointed. He lives 3,000 miles away now, so I could not see all of this. I hope he is going to be OK.

Signed,
At a Loss

DEAR AT A LOSS,

I am sorry for your pain. It is clear that you are not only shocked but grief stricken. Twenty years is a long time and you were intimate. Your pain is understandable and you might want to look into some kind of group therapy support or counseling to help you get through this and also to better understand your involvement with someone so split off, hidden and unpredictable.

Clearly, he is not a stable man or picture of mental health. It sounds like he is very confused about who he is and what he wants and is also quite secretive. Bipolar and bisexual and apparently has an alcohol problem because you say he is back to drinking.

I don't think bisexual is necessarily unusual or a sign of sickness, but the overall picture is one, as you describe it, of somebody who is not ready for an honest, steady, healthy relationship, friendship or otherwise.

How long ago were you intimate? Was it before he moved away four years ago? Were you in love with him or was it simply an enjoyable bisexual experience for you?

It feels like the intimacy created a sense of closeness for you that apparently may not have been there for him. Or maybe you were so intimate that he could not tell you of his hidden self. There is also a good chance that he does not want to hear your warnings and words of wisdom and most likely, that he does not want his new wife to know anything about you. I can't think of another reason to cut you off unless you were expecting more from the intimate relationship and he simply did not know how to tell you.

It does sounds like he is headed for a crash, being off his meds and drinking again, but it also sounds like you really cannot do anything about it.

It's time for you to take care of yourself and maybe to do some inventory on what this relationship was about for you.

Al-Anon family groups could be a great idea for you. They are all over the city. They have meetings for gays and lesbians, just men, just women, co-ed for straight or gay. The philosophy and steps are truly miraculous. I honestly suggest that you find yourself a group that works for you and attend it on a regular basis. There is no question that this will help you and provide the support you need so badly right now.

There are no dues or fees and members are anonymous. If you don't like one group, try another. You can find them online or by calling information. They have a central office or online you get general information about how they can help and by putting in your city or zip code, you will get a list of local meetings.

The other option is to find a group therapy or a therapist, which can also help a lot but will cost you money, usually well spent. But finally, they are not mutually exclusive. A good therapist would probably suggest that you give Al-Anon a try as a compliment to the therapy work.

Loss of a relative, lover or friend is very painful. It is always best to get some help for yourself. If your friendship is meant to be, he will be back around one day. But for now, let go and get help for you.

Good luck!

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage/family therapist. She is also APA certified in the treatment of alcoholism and other substance use disorders. Dr. Barge has offices in Brentwood and can be contacted at www.drbarge.com. Send your anonymous questions and replies to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.

The Q Line

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Banning jets

The City Council suffered a loss in its drive to ban some jets at Santa Monica Airport last week.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Should City Hall cut its losses and drop the legal fight or press on for an appeal?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**



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Guide to Starting a New Business

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY BECKI KAMMERLING, A BUSINESS ATTORNEY. SHE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-1860 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

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

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

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Temecula mosque to be built after appeal denied

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A Southern California city decided Wednesday to allow Muslim families to build a mosque after months of angry debate over the plan that included protests, petitions and letter-writing campaigns.

The Temecula City Council voted 4-0 to approve the project after a nine-hour meeting, despite fears by opponents that the Islamic Center of Temecula could bring extremist activity to the region about 80 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

Shakeel Syed, executive director of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California, said some of the opposition was hateful.

"After this decision, we all need to work together to restore the fellowship of the citizens," he said. "We need to heal ourselves."

The controversy played out against similar outcries over ongoing plans for a $100 million Islamic center two blocks from the site of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks in New York, and opposition to a new mosque in the Nashville, Tenn., suburb of Murfreesboro.

Muslims in Murfreesboro have endured marches and a lawsuit, while those in another Tennessee town withdrew a mosque proposal in May after residents mounted a campaign against rezoning the property.

In Temecula, the Islamic Center was formed in 1998, and its members have been worshipping in a warehouse for a decade. The group plans a 25,000-square-foot, two-story mosque that will be built in two stages and feature two minarets topped with crescent moons.

Leaders of the mosque reacted council's decision with relief and joy and seemed ready to put the angry debate behind them. The mosque spent more than $17,000 in 2010 on the planning process, said Hadi Nael, chairman of the moque's board.

"This is a great country and everybody has the freedom of speech and freedom of religion. I do welcome the opposition, honestly," Nael said. "I look at the sky and I look at God and think, Well, maybe God has a purpose."

Supporters have asked the city to host forums to heal the community after the rancorous debate, Syed said.

Opponents in Temecula feared the mosque will be a center for radical Islam and attract Muslims from all over the region who have a political agenda. They also cited increased traffic as a concern.

Mano Bakh, an Iranian-born U.S. citizen who rejected the Islamic faith of his childhood, founded a group called Concerned American Citizens to protest the planned mosque.

Opponents intended to meet Thursday to decide whether to challenge the City Council decision in court over parking issues.

"A 25,000-square-foot building for less than 150 families, where is the logic? That tells you something," Bakh said. "It is in my opinion a center of radicalization."

A number of residents sent letters and petitions to the city Planning Commission criticizing Islam. One letter included a photograph that purportedly showed a young Muslim boy beheading someone and others included quotations from the Quran, Islam's holy book.

In a nod to concerns about traffic and noise, the council modified the conditions of the permit to include a traffic review every five years and banned external speakers for calls to prayer and other announcements.

Many opponents insisted their objections were not founded in bias but on those mundane issues.

George Rombach, a member of Concerned American Citizens, said he considered the council's decision a win because of the modifications. He would have challenged the building, even if it had been a Christian church, he said.

"Anyone who was just opposed to the mosque because it's about Islam would consider this a complete loss," he said. "Last night was a total and complete victory. The system worked."

The Planning Commission approved the project in December, but Rombach appealed to the City Council, arguing that other houses of worship were held to more stringent land-use requirements — a claim rebuffed by city officials.

Last year, residents flooded the city with letters about the mosque and attended raucous hearings about the project.

Supporters, including members of other Temecula-area houses of worship, rallied around the Islamic community and cited the contributions made by American Muslims.

"The hallmark of our country is that we allow all faiths and beliefs to be practiced and that we, as a country, tend to give people the benefit of the doubt until they prove differently," Ada Hand wrote to the commission.

Gov. Brown defends deep cuts in California budget

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Gov. Jerry Brown is defending the cuts and restructuring proposals in his budget plan against attacks by mayors who say it will cost jobs and health care advocates who say it could cost lives.

Brown said during a news conference Wednesday that the state is in a crisis and has no choice but to make deep spending cuts and extend temporary tax increases. The budget deficit is projected to be $25 billion over the next 18 months.

The Democratic governor says the state needs to "pull the Band-Aid off" quickly and deal with painful budget decisions now. He says that will position the state for a long-term recovery.

Brown spoke before meeting with mayors from nine of California's largest cities who oppose his proposal to eliminate redevelopment agencies and enterprise zones.

GOP invokes 1700s doctrine in ongoing health care fight

BY JOHN MILLER
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho Republican lawmakers in nearly a dozen states are reaching into the dusty annals of American history to fight President Obama's health care overhaul.

They are introducing measures that hinge on "nullification," Thomas Jefferson's late 18th-century doctrine that purported to give states the ultimate say in constitutional matters.

GOP lawmakers introduced such a measure Wednesday in the Idaho House, and Alabama, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, Nebraska, Texas and Wyoming are also talking about the idea.

The efforts are completely unconstitutional in the eyes of most legal scholars because the U.S. Constitution deems federal laws "the supreme law of the land." The Idaho attorney general has weighed in as well, branding nullification unconstitutional.

"There is no right to pick and choose which federal laws a state will follow," wrote Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General Brian Kane.

Regardless of the very dubious constitutional nature of the efforts, the nullification push has become a rallying cry in conservative states at a time when anti-government angst is running high and "state's rights" are a popular belief among the tea party crowd.

Delegates at Idaho's Republican convention last year urged seizure of federal lands and resurrection of the gold standard. Conservatives in Montana lined up the out the door of a legislative committee room last week to speak in favor of a bill that would make sheriffs the supreme local authorities, another measure widely believed to be unconstitutional.

In Texas, a nullification proposal threatens state officials who don't comply with jail time and fines. Last year in Austin, an insurance salesman led a Texas State Capitol rally as protesters hoisted signs urging not just nullification, but "secession."

In Alabama, a version of nullification sponsored last year by Republican Sen. Scott Beason passed the Senate, but died in a Democrat-led House committee. He'll resurrect it this year.

"A lot people say, if the Supreme Court decides that it is constitutional, you have to live with it. My feeling is, the people should have the final say," Beason told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "Frankly, the only recourse people have is for the states to try to flex some sovereignty muscle."

Idaho is already one of 27 states suing over health care reform and its provision to eventually require people to buy insurance, but Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter hinted in a Jan. 10 speech he may go further by pursuing nullification.

For philosophical guidance, many proponents look to Jefferson's words 211 years ago in which he fought against the expansion of federal power during an undeclared naval war against France.

In 1799, Jefferson wrote in the Kentucky Resolutions that "nullification ... is the rightful remedy." Jefferson created the doctrine to express his disgust with the Alien and Sedition Acts that were enacted by then-President John Adams during the war with France.

Idaho Republican Sen. Monty Pearce said the then-future president's words underpin nullification advocates' chief contention: States never relinquished final say over federal matters.

"He was at the Constitutional Convention," Pearce said. "He understood how this whole thing was going to be set up."

Actually, Jefferson was far away, in France, as the framers met in 1787 in Philadelphia to replace the Articles of Confederation.

And his beliefs on nullification were nothing more than his opinions — there's no such mention in the Constitution, said David Gray Adler, a constitutional scholar who directs the University of Idaho's McClure Center for Public Policy Research.

"There's nothing in the Constitution to suggest that the states are superior to the federal government," Adler said. "We have a long string of Supreme Court decisions that reject their theory."

Nullification has been invoked several times over the years — to no avail.

South Carolina wielded it in the 1830s to fight federal tariffs — and nearly provoked armed conflict. Historians see that state's "Nullification Crisis" in 1832 as a prelude to the Civil War.

In the 1950s, Arkansas defied the federal government on desegregation, prompting a 9-0 Supreme Court ruling that states were bound by federal law. Abolitionist Wisconsin's efforts to nullify the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act also were shot down.

And in a landmark 1819 case in Maryland, the Supreme Court underscored that states are subordinate to federal action.

At the Idaho Legislature, however, GOP lawmakers brandish a 306-page book by Kansas-based author Thomas Woods Jr., promoting nullification that tells them otherwise.

As a college student in 1994, Woods helped found the League of the South, an Alabama group the Southern Poverty Law Center says has become a "neo-Confederate group" seeking a second Southern secession. Woods told the AP last week he thinks states have a right of secession, but he doesn't support the Confederacy's return. He's no longer a member.

He argues in "Nullification: How to Resist Federal Tyranny in the 21st Century" that Jefferson was right: States created the federal government, and remain the final check-and-balance should the president, Congress and Supreme Court all get it wrong.

"I don't believe the Supreme Court or any body of fallible men are demigods," Woods said.

Idaho Rep. Vito Barbieri, R-Coeur d'Alene, is a sponsor of the measure introduced in the House State Affairs Committee on Wednesday. He doesn't share the view of constitutional scholars that "nullification" is a non-starter.

"If we decide it is settled law — that the federal government can do anything it wants against state priorities — we might as well just get rubber stamps," he said.

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File photo

BANNED: **The city Council Tuesday voted to ban single-use plastic bags.**

BAN
FROM PAGE 1

Joseph's group has sued other municipalities over bag bans, and City Hall attorneys said they were prepared to defend Santa Monica's ban in court.

Under pressure from Save the Plastic Bag, the council agreed to several other last minute changes to its ordinance, the most significant of which exempted restaurants from the ban. Previously, the proposed ordinance had permitted restaurants to use free plastic bags only for soup and other hot food take-out orders where safety was a concern.

The council also agreed to strengthen the manufacturing standards for acceptable reusable shopping bags.

In comments before the vote, Joseph took a defiant stance, calling the so-called "Pacific garbage patch," cited by environmentalists as proof of the need to reduce pollution from discarded plastics, a myth.

Mark Gold, president of the non-profit Heal the Bay, derided Joseph's comments as "bullying tactics to intimidate the democratic process."

The City Council first considered adopting a plastic bag ban in 2008, but went back to the drawing board when the plastic industry threatened to sue if City Hall didn't first conduct a complete environmental impact report on the proposed ban.

While City Hall has now completed that study, a new complication emerged with the passage of Proposition 26 in November. Because of that measure, which created the requirement that any new government fee must be approved by two-thirds of voters, Santa Monica had to scrap part of its original proposal, which had suggested a 20-cent fee for paper bags that would in part have funded enforcement of the ban.

In the version of the ban adopted on Tuesday, retailers keep the entirety of the fee charged for paper bags.

Before approving the ordinance, council members said it had been worth the wait to put off adopting the plastic bag ban until environmental studies had been completed and legal issues more thoroughly worked out.

With the vote Tuesday night, Santa Monica became the eighth jurisdiction in California to adopt a plastic bag ban.

"We wanted something that is going to stand up in court, and we think this ordinance is going to do just that," Bloom said.

Speaking to the crowd of bag-ban supporters, Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis said the next step is to get the word out about the new law to boost compliance.

"This is sort of the beginning, not the end," she said. "We all need to be as enthusiastic about spreading the word about reusable bags as we are tonight."

The ban will take effect 30 days after the council approves a second reading of the ordinance, which is expected to take place at its next meeting.

Active enforcement of the ban, though, won't go into effect until September, city officials said.

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COUNCIL
FROM PAGE 1

report.

The interim ordinance, which was approved by the five council members present for the vote on Tuesday, is aimed at forcing developers with pending construction projects to abide by the principals contained in City Hall's recently approved general plan update known as the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE).

The LUCE is a broad outline for development in Santa Monica meant to ease traffic congestion by encouraging transit-oriented projects. Permanent zoning rules to put the LUCE goals into effect are being developed. In the meantime, the interim ordinance adopted on Tuesday will become law on March 11 and will require five pending projects to begin the development agreement process.

Prominent land-use attorney Chris Harding, who is representing at least one owner whose pending project is affected by the interim ordinance, told the council that the status quo of administrative approval for mid-size projects Downtown has resulted in incentives for residential construction in the city's core that is in-line with the council's affordable housing policy.

"The reason we have the housing we have is that we give housing developers a huge incentive compared to commercial developers," he said. "To abandon that process at this point would be a serious mistake."

But neighborhood activists and members of numerous City Hall boards and commissions urged the council to adopt the interim ordinance on Tuesday, saying they feared without it the city would end up with new construction that is not aligned with LUCE goals.

"It's a way of safeguarding this great vision that the city has for its future," John Berley, chair of the Landmarks Commission, said of the interim ordinance.

Valerie Griffin, who chairs the Wilmont Neighborhood Coalition, also spoke in favor of the interim ordinance.

"It is important that provisions of the LUCE become effective as soon as possible," she said. "The interim zoning ordinance is a very important first step."

The council agreed to exempt affordable housing projects of up to 50 units from the interim zoning ordinance.

In a written message to the council, Sunset Park activist Zina Josephs unsuccessfully lobbied to get that exemption thrown out.

"This exemption has been a sore point with many residents, as there are no public hearings at either Planning Commission or City Council for these projects, merely two 'community design' meetings where residents concerns are listened to and then ignored," she wrote.

As an incentive for developers, Mayor Richard Bloom raised the possibility of waiving development agreement fees for affected projects that are already in the pipeline and also urged the council to consider authorizing an expedited development agreement process for them.

The council is expected to consider those ideas at a later meeting.

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POLICE
FROM PAGE 1

search of the area but were unable to locate the suspects.

The man who tried to grab the girl was described as a white male in his 20s with a slim build, 5 feet, 8 inches tall. The suspect was wearing a gray sweatshirt, light blue jeans and tennis shoes. The suspect in the vehicle was described only as a male. The vehicle is said to be a black four-door sedan with tinted windows.

Anyone with information should contact Detective Michael Bambrick at (310) 458-8932 or Sgt. Robert Almada at (310) 458-8486 or the Santa Monica Police Department (24 hours) at (310) 458-8495.

Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call the WeTip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27463). If information provided leads to an arrest, a caller can receive a reward, up to $1,000.

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MEETING
FROM PAGE 3

when dealing with a youth that shows signs of suicide.

Leaders' organization, which is a teen-to-teen call-in service, aims to give young people a place to reach out to when feeling suicidal. TEENLINE is staffed by fellow young people, giving callers the feeling that they aren't alone. There are currently three Samohi seniors who volunteer for the service co-sponsored by Cedars-Sinai Hospital.

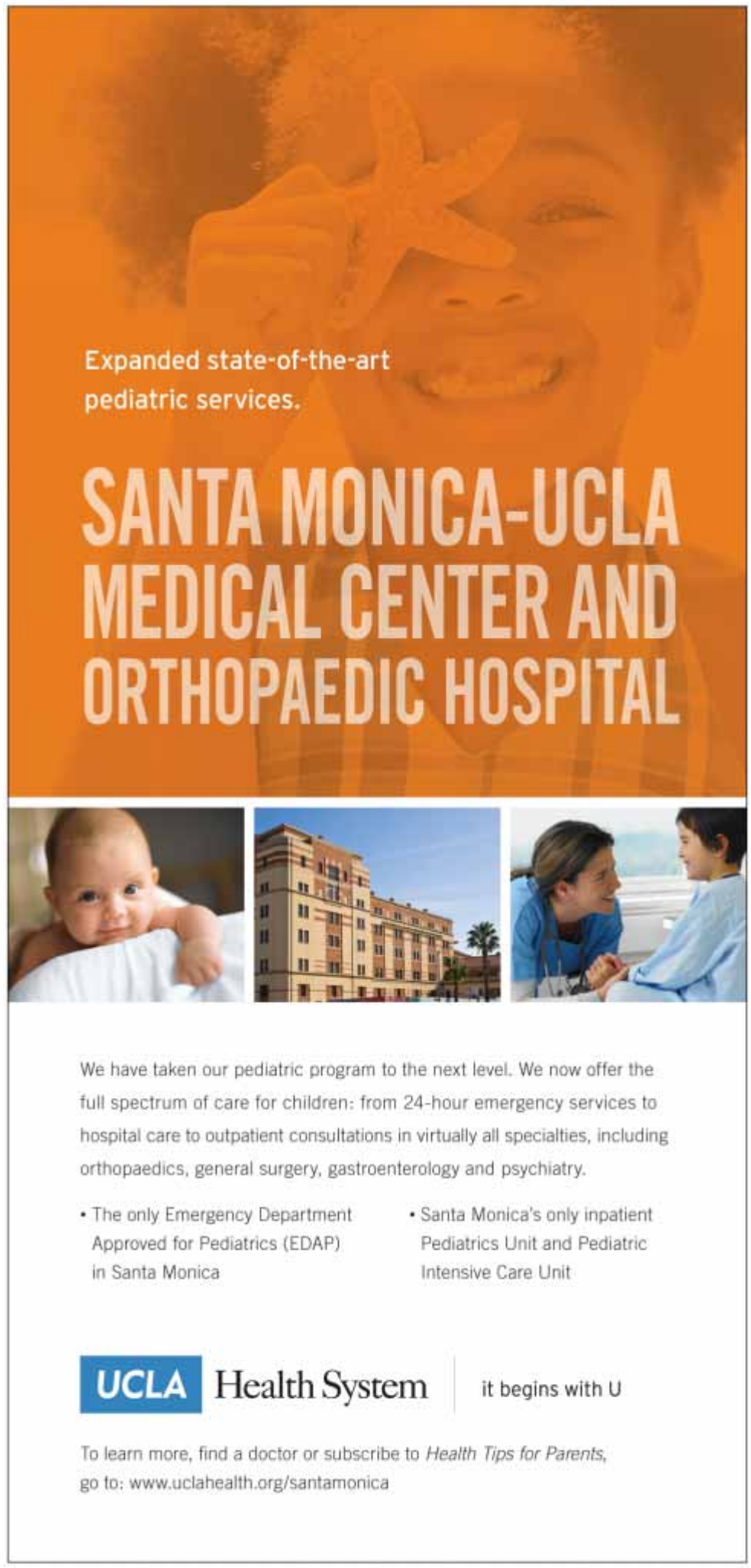
While there are outlets available, panelists agreed that suicide in general is something that isn't necessarily avoidable, but can be prevented.

Panelist Joel McLafferty, a therapist with Family Services of Santa Monica and father of Samohi graduates, injected a bit of levity into the room when he said that when conventional methods of reaching out to his kids didn't work he takes a different tact.

"How do I get my kid to talk to me?" McLafferty said. "I text her."

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Waves' siren song lures riders to California surf spot

BY JASON DEAREN
Associated Press

HALF MOON BAY The cold water and stories-high waves at the treacherous surf break called Mavericks in Northern California have made it a Mt. Everest-like conquest for some surfers.

And like Everest, Mavericks has impacted its share of lives: whether it be the death of legendary big wave waterman or serious injury to less experienced surfers seeking to make a name for themselves. Yet more wave riders keep coming.

Mavericks almost claimed another life Saturday, when a surfer nearly drowned after being pummeled and washed through rocks by a big wave. That surfer, 30-year-old Jacob Trette, was in fair condition three days after he nearly drowned.

Trette was rescued by an Australian firefighter, Russell Ord, who was on a personal watercraft taking photographs of the surfers when a large "freak set" caught a pack of them too close to shore. Trette, from San Clemente, had reportedly surfed Mavericks once before.

"Mavericks is one of those places that people make a pilgrimage to surf," said Jeff Clark, the first documented person to ride those waves, which he did alone in 1975.

Clark surfed it by himself until 1990, he said, and since then more big-wave aficionados have been joining him. In recent years, many surfers who were not ready for Mavericks' heavy surf have been showing up, he said.

"You're definitely seeing a lot of people who maybe have caught a couple of waves at other big wave spots, but Mavericks is a different animal," Clark said.

The waves Saturday were large — if not huge by Mavericks standards — maybe a 15-18 foot surf, Ord said. The size brought out more surfers with little experience handling the break, Ord said.

"I'm not talking about Jacob specifically, but even on the smaller ones I was watching some guys, a lot of guys, who shouldn't have been out there," Ord said.

Clark said the rogue set that took out Trette and others was a solid 30-foot or higher and especially powerful because the swell came unimpeded from the west.

"You could see that first wave coming, all of the surfers started paddling toward it," Ord told The Associated Press.

A group of about five surfers did not make it over the encroaching wave before it broke.

"I saw all the broken boards and people waving for help," he said.

Waves that break at Maverick's often begin in the North Pacific, when a storm bulldozes across the ocean's surface generating a chain of moving swells like the ripples created by a stone tossed into a pond.

Those swells travel for days toward the coast, then hit a small section of Mavericks reef that juts out like a finger into the deep water. The sudden change in depth forces the moving mass of water to heave upward as it rolls over the reef.

Each winter, wave forecasters and professional big-wave surfers chart the swells carefully and, if the wind and size are just right, the top riders in the world gather for a one-day contest at the site. The window for this years contest began Dec. 1 and ends Feb. 28.

Even the world's best surfers have been humbled by Mavericks, which has claimed its share of broken boards and bloodied surfers.

In 1994, Mark Foo, a seasoned big-wave surfer from Hawaii, died while surfing Mavericks. Ten-time surfing world champion Kelly Slater has also talked about how dangerous the wave is after getting held down after a wipeout there in 2000.

If the first rogue wave on Saturday were the only one to break over the pack of surfers, they would have been able to get rescued quickly by Ord — but 20 seconds later, another large wave crashed on the surfers who had been hit by the first.

In addition to taking pictures at the time, Ord was serving as a rescuer who would swoop in and grab surfers who wiped out or lost their boards.

After the whitewater calmed a bit, Ord said he drove his watercraft to a rocky area near where the waves break, and saw Trette's body floating past the rocks.

"He looked gone to me," said Ord, who is used to rescue situations as a firefighter in Margaret River, Australia.

Ord helped rush Trette to the shore. "He was making a minor choking or a coughing sound every 20 seconds or so," Ord said. "We dragged him up onto the beach and found a strong pulse. I was pretty surprised."

Trette was hospitalized in critical condition and placed in a medically induced coma. Hospital officials said he is conscious now, his vital signs are stable and "indicators are favorable."

Clark said the accident should highlight how difficult a task it is to successfully surf giant waves.

"Most successful, confident big-wave riders are very analytical about it," Clark said, adding that it was important for young surfers to take time to learn the break from veterans and locals.

"There are a lot of complicated variables in big wave surfing ... and sometimes people need to slow down a little bit," he said.

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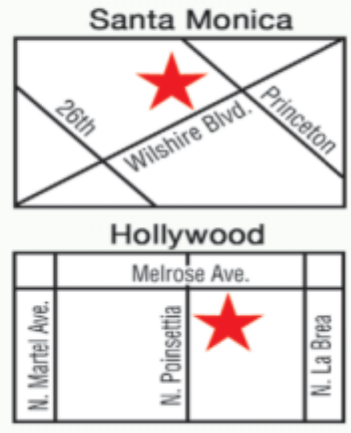


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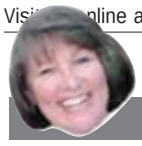
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

More than just a trace of brilliance

THE SHOW IS CALLED "TRACES," AND YOU'VE SIMPLY GOT to see it. It's like Cirque de Soleil, but without the razzmatazz. Like a troop of Chinese acrobats, but with personality. Like a ballet with somersaults.

Seven young people, all in their 20s, (six men and one small 112-pound woman) plunge onstage and introduce themselves. They are the Seven Fingers of the Hand, a Montreal-based group whose name reflects seven artists united tightly, moving in coordination, and "with the beautifully awkward dexterity of a seven-fingered hand."

They are truly creative, and what they do with their bodies shouldn't be possible. To innovative music and sound, they toss each other around, they climb to dizzying heights, they fly through small hoops, they balance upside down on a stack of unevenly balanced chairs, they roll around the stage inside a large hoop, they climb up and down poles and balance at right angles, then fling themselves from one distant pole to another — sometimes two at a time. Two of them perform a beautiful balletic pas de deux. They toss a basketball while turning somersaults and fly off high platforms while spinning their bodies and turning triple somersaults in midair. They perform in unison, like the Rockettes. And they perform a seven-person ballet on skateboards and rollerblades, whizzing by each other at lightning speeds.

Their movements are multiplied periodically with the use of overhead cameras and a projection screen, and their artwork is also projected as they're producing it at a light table downstage. Sometimes they sing. They play the piano and guitar. They tease each other and stage mock fights. And through all this they clearly let you know that they are having one helluva good time.

And so will you — when you stop holding your breath.

"Traces" will continue at the Ricardo Montalban Theatre, 1615 Vine St., half a block south of Hollywood Boulevard, in Hollywood, Tuesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. through Feb. 20. The whole run is only six weeks, so don't put it off. Call (800) 982-2787 for tickets right now.

Cynthia Citron can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

Dr. Deborah Wallen



PET DEPOT VETERINARY GROUP
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Procrastination is a problem when it comes to doing my disaster plan. As a business owner I have a lot to do. It's not like a disaster is going to happen tomorrow. Besides, we have that new business pitch. I've been waiting for this to happen for a while now. I'll get the disaster plan finished eventually. Nothing to worry about, it'll happen.

Whether natural or man-made, at least one in four businesses affected by a disaster never reopen. Though emergencies are unpredictable, when you have a plan in place you can adapt, recover and stay in control.

It's never too late to protect your business until it is.

Make a plan.

READY.GOV

Ad Council Ready Business

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

City Hall Human Resources, City Clerk and Swing Space Tenant Improvements Project (SP2165)

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **February 23, 2011**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

Non-Mandatory Job Walk: February 2, 2011, 1:00 PM, City Hall Lobby, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica 90401

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $450,000 - $500,000
CONTRACT CALENDAR DAYS: 300
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,270
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A or B** license at the time of bid submission.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.



FREELANCE Photographer
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Brandon Wise | 818.357.7761
Chief Photographer – Santa Monica Daily Press
wisephotographic@yahoo.com



Metro Briefs
WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

The More You Ride, The More You Save
Isn't it about time you decided to start saving and beat traffic gridlock by going Metro? Experts estimate you can save as much as $10,000 annually by using public transit instead of paying for gas and parking. Find out how it can work for you at *metro.net*.

Public Hearing On Bus Service Feb. 9
Proposed bus service changes will be discussed by the Metro Westside/Central Service Council on Wednesday, February 9 at 6pm at the La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills. Details about the proposed changes will be available at the meeting or online at *metro.net*.

Metro Gets Go-Ahead On Subway Extension, Regional Connector
The Federal Transit Administration has given Metro formal approval for preliminary engineering work to begin on the Westside Subway Extension and the Regional Connector. Both rail projects are now a step closer to actual construction and federal funding could be included in next year's budget.

Testing Phase Approaches For Expo Line
Construction on the Exposition Light Rail Line, the newest extension Metro Rail system running between downtown LA and Culver City, is 80 percent complete. Initial testing to determine rail car clearances is scheduled to begin in February along portions of the route. For more information, visit *buildexpo.org*.

Sepulveda Pass Recycling Saves 200,000 Tons
The I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project is taking its recycling efforts very seriously. Material from three demolished bridges will become the base of the new roadway and backfill for retaining walls. Crushing the material onsite should save approximately 200,000 tons of demolition material from reaching local landfills.

Metro
If you'd like to know more, please call us at 800.464.2111, or visit *metro.net*.



Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

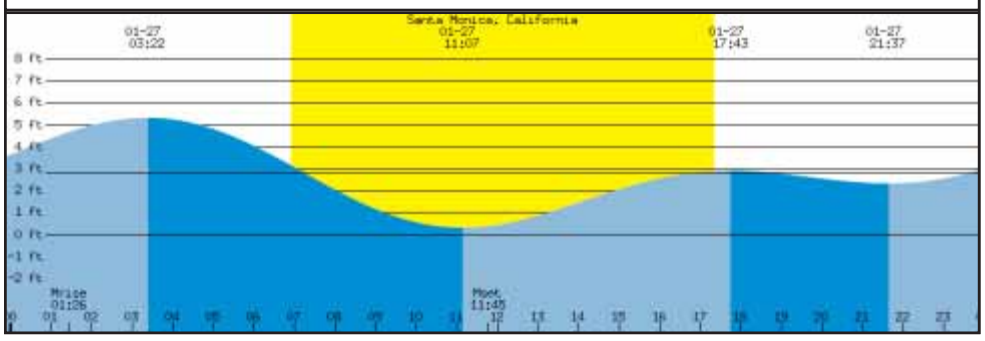
Swell Forecast

West facing breaks are looking at chest+ waves, with some head high sets at standout west facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks similar.

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 Don 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

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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.

Rod Laver surprised Nadal falls short of 'Rafa Slam'

BY BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO Tennis great Rod Laver, the last man to win the Grand Slam, was surprised to hear that Rafael Nadal's attempt to win the "Rafa Slam" was over.

The injured Nadal lost in the Australian Open quarterfinals 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 Wednesday to fellow Spaniard David Ferrer at Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne. Nadal was trying to win his fourth straight Grand Slam tournament over two seasons.

"That's disappointing for him, really," the 72-year-old Laver told The Associated Press from his home in Carlsbad in northern San Diego County. "In a way, that was an effort to put all those tournaments together through last year. It really was a good performance. I had him as being favored, even to beat Federer, the way he was playing. He just has got a game that's difficult for Roger.

"I'll be darned. I thought he'd come all the way through, but he didn't," Laver said. "They were all counting that he was going to be the defending champion in all four tournaments."

Laver said he knew Nadal had been ill recently and that one of his knees has given him trouble.

"It looked like he was playing well," Laver said.

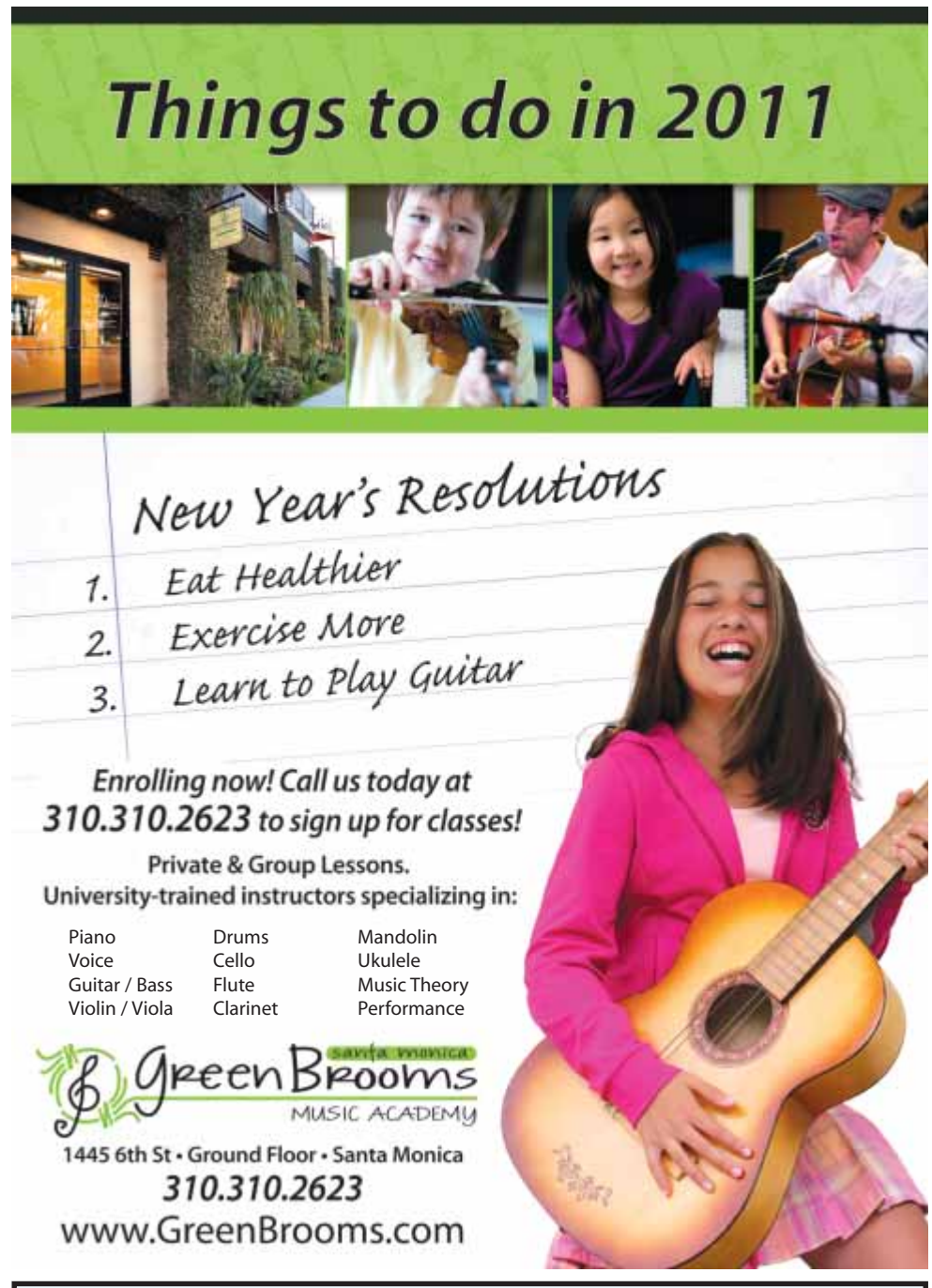
Laver is the last man to win a true Grand Slam, made up of the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in a calendar year. He did it twice, as an amateur in 1962 and again in 1969.

For Nadal to fall short of holding all four Grand Slam titles at the same time shows what an accomplishment it was for Laver, who's still known as "Rocket."

Laver has always diplomatically maintained that it's harder to win a true Grand Slam than to win four straight Grand Slam tournaments over two seasons.

"It is certainly tougher to win in the calendar year," Laver said. "There's a time frame. You don't have any chance unless you start off winning the Australian Open. Otherwise, it doesn't qualify as the Grand Slam.

"Again, the same thing applies with what he did. It takes an unbelievable effort. You've got to be fortunate not to have any injuries or any bloody sicknesses. You've got to prepare yourself to play in four matches. Depending on the draw you've got, that could give you trouble. There are a lot of little things that come along."



MOVIE TIMES

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

John Wayne Double Feature
The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (NR) 1hr 59min
Red River (NR) 2hr 13min
7:30pm

Call theater for information.

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

Somewhere (R) 1hr 38min
12:05pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:20pm

True Grit (PG-13)
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Dilemma (PG-13)
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm

Way Back (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Season of the Witch (PG-13) 1hr 38min
9:35pm, 9:45pm

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
11:20am, 1:20pm, 2:10pm, 4:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 7:50pm, 9:40pm, 10:30pm

Dilemma (PG-13) 1hr 58min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

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

Country Strong (PG-13) 1hr 52min
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

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

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

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 2hrs 00min
12:50pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 9:50pm

Tangled (PG) 1hr 40min
12:00pm, 2:25pm, 4:50pm

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

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

Green Hornet 3D (NR)
12:20pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Unbeaten (NR) 1hr 30min
7:15pm, 9:40pm

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

Treat yourself, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ A partner counts on your sense of direction. It seems no one will let you veer off track. Try to explain that sometimes you need to spin a tale or try out different ways to proceed in your head. That process helps you conceive even tighter plans. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Others want to hear more of what you think. A brainstorming session begins when you walk through the door. Someone you need to respect seems off or confused. Say little, and understand what is happening. Tonight: Go with a friend's spontaneity.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You must stay focused if you are to achieve what you want. A key person has a strong opinion. You must listen, and you might need to incorporate this person's thinking. A boss or parent does the unexpected, delighting you in some way. Tonight: Don't push.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Others seem to be an endless source of information. You might find yourself locked in, but not necessarily against your will. One person intrigues you with different opinions. You might wonder which way is the best path. Tonight: Opt for the unique.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You might want to stay home, but you might need to go out. Accomplishing a project could be an even bigger priority than kicking back. Stop the interference of others. A friend or loved one demonstrates once more his or her expertise in distraction. Tonight: Finally, time to do your thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Rethink a conversation. You might want to approach this person again. You have gained a deeper understanding, and with a bit of creativity, you might be able to encourage a meeting of the minds. Confusion emanates like a fog at the ocean. Verify as much as possible. Tonight: Join a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Realize the cost of putting someone on a pedestal and/or continuing with a creative venture. You might be focused on one thing and only that. Pull back and gain a new perspective. You might surprise yourself with what you decide to do. Tonight: Treat yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Discipline your mind to stay present in the moment. It might be tempting to return to a personal problem, at least mentally. There is nothing you can do until later. You might see events differently by then. Tonight: Respond to another person's spontaneity in the same vein.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Deal with your feelings. Your perspective might not be the same in a few days. Avoid taking statements personally. Don't take on another's "stuff" and upset yourself. Work on being less reactive. Tonight: Follow through on a wild idea.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your communication skills help attract what you want. A meeting provides an excellent opportunity to gain supporters. Be aware of the cost of manifesting. When you decide that everything is just as you like it, get ready for a little surprise! Tonight: Where you want to be.

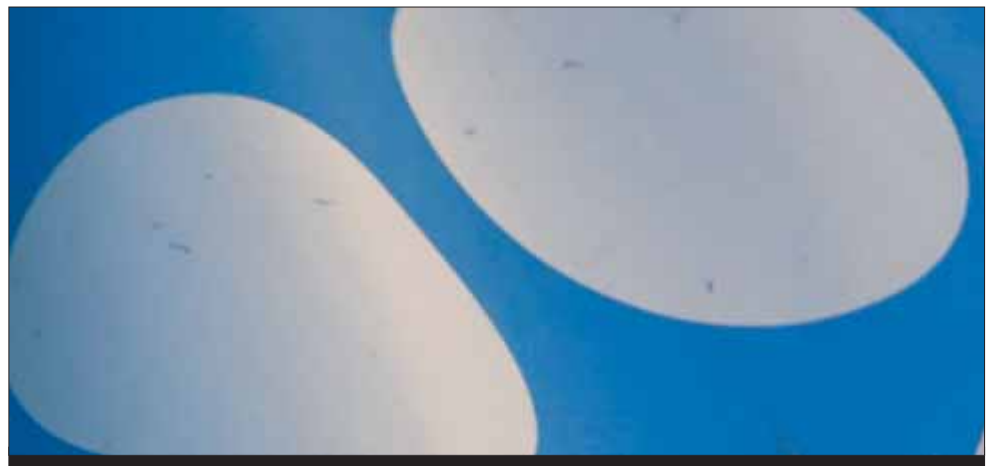
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Making a point could be difficult. Whether it is your word choice, expression and/or contradictory action, others cannot hear you. Ask for feedback from several trusted individuals. You could be taken aback by what they say. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others encourage you to take a step or do something that makes you uncomfortable. Truth be told, you feel uncomfortable no matter what you do. Ask yourself and others what would be the best possible end result, then determine the route. Tonight: Put on a favorite piece of music.

Happy birthday

This year, keep your eye on the big picture. Your professional or civic role will be more important than in the past. Don't deceive yourself; do a reality check. The more realistic you are, the less disappointment you will experience. Your instincts serve you well when dealing with those in power. If you are single, you could meet someone who is very interesting but not necessarily available. Take your time. You will want to get to know him or her before even thinking about a relationship. If you are attached, a vacation as a couple enhances your relationship. SCORPIO pushes you into the limelight.

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

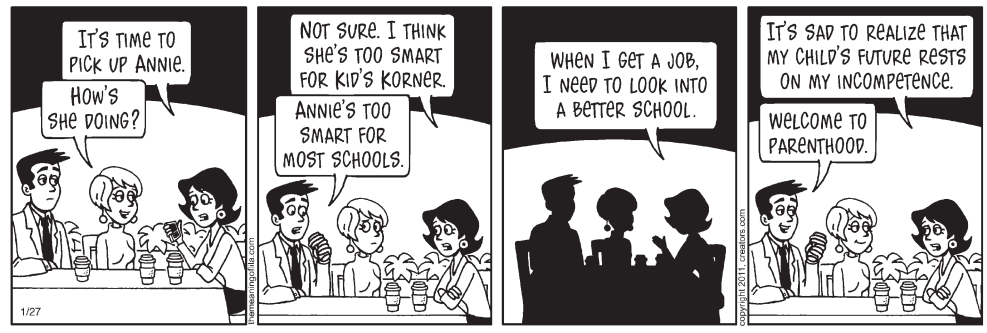
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



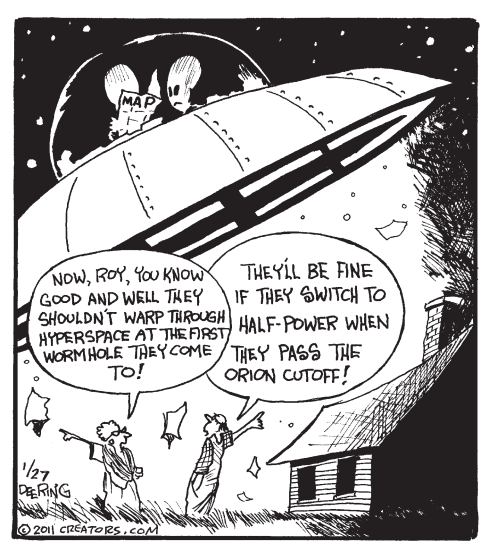
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



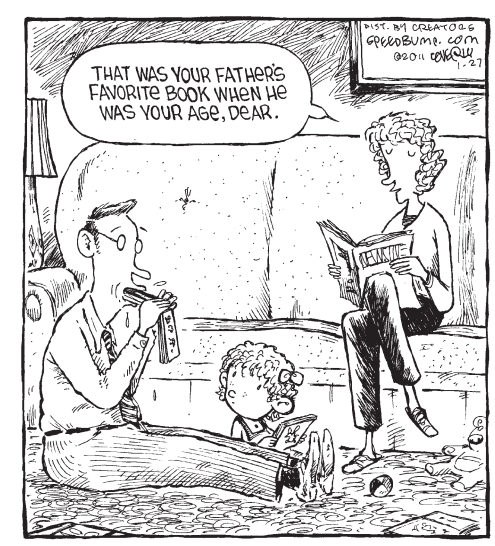
Strange Brew

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 ★★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Easy targets
5 Rub the wrong way
10 Easy gait
11 Cup holder
12 To boot
13 Play-wright Harold
14 Get busy
16 Deterio-rate
20 Fencing weapons
23 Binary base
24 Clinic worker
25 Big singing group
27 — loss
28 Barber's need
29 Monopoly card instruction
32 Act without restraint
36 Band aid
39 Words of under-standing
40 Saucer fliers
41 Lobster part
42 Shore fliers
43 Ilk

DOWN

1 Doe's mate
2 Singer Guthrie
3 Fence feature
4 Patsies
5 African capital
6 Macho types
7 Play part
8 Clinic cost
9 Misstep
11 Giraffe features
15 Had on
17 Singer James
18 Pitcher
19 Ellipsis parts
20 Un-expected problem
21 Lot buy
22 Rotten kid
25 River from Pittsburgh
26 Boston team
28 Fills up
30 Utah city
31 Combines
33 European capital
34 Deterio-ration
35 Salaman-der
36 Scoundrel
37 Flamenco call
38 Balloon fill

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

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

1-27

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:

5, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 11, 12

Solution for Task 1028

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 5 8 31 46 50 Meganumber: 4 Jackpot: $77M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 2 19 24 35 45 Meganumber: 12 Jackpot: $9M

Fantasy 5: 8 9 10 15 27

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 6 9 EVENING: 8 6 8

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 04 Big Ben 3rd: 09 Winning Spirit RACE TIME: 1:43.39

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

■ Suspected of stealing scraps of copper in Riverside, Ohio, in December: Jesus Christ Superstar Oloff, 33. Arrested for sex abuse against a 6-year-old boy in Oklahoma City in October: Lucifer Hawkins, 30. On trial in December for extortion in Britain's Southwark Crown Court (threatening to reveal a sexual affair): Ms. Fuk Wu. Sought as a suspect in a convenience store killing in Largo, Fla., in December (and an example of the highly revealing "Three First Names" theory of criminal liability), Mr. Larry Joe Jerry -- who actually has four first names (Larry Joe Jerry Jr.).

■ The Toronto Public Library began its "Human Library" project in November with about 200 users registering to "check out" interesting persons from the community who would sit and converse with patrons who might not otherwise have the opportunity to mingle with people like them. The first day's lend-outs, for a half-hour at a time, included a police officer, a comedian, a former sex worker, a model, and a person who had survived cancer, homelessness and poverty. The Human Library actually harkens back to olden times, said a TPL official, where "storytelling from person to person" "was the only way to learn."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1888 The National Geographic Society is founded in Washington, D.C..

1909 The Young Left is founded in Norway.

1918 The first hostilities occur in the Finnish Civil War.

1939 First flight of the Lockheed P-38 Lightning.

1943 World War II: The VIII Bomber Command dispatched ninety-one B-17s and B-24s to attack the U-Boat construction yards at Wilhemshafen, Germany. The first American bombing attack on Germany.

1944 World War II: The 900-day Siege of Leningrad is lifted.

1945 World War II: The Red Army liberates the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland.

WORD UP!

gung-ho
\ GUHNG-HO \ , adjective;
1. Wholeheartedly enthusiastic and loyal; eager; zealous.

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