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JANUARY 28-29, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 68



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

MAKE YOUR VALENTINE CHOCOLATES
SEE PAGE 7

THE MOMMY DEAREST ISSUE

Program glitches rankle teachers, parents

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Web developers and school district staff are begging parents and teachers' patience with a web-based application meant to provide easy access to student information that has resulted in missing grades and faulty transcripts.

The system, Illuminate, is an all-in-one application that allows teachers to record attendance, grades, behavior records and other information and gives parents the ability to track their children's assignments and grades.

It's been targeted by parents who had difficulty getting through to the information and by teachers who have complained that the system is difficult to use and loses information they put in, wasting their time.

Many of the problems are a matter of working out the kinks as massive amounts of

SEE GRADING PAGE 8

Local indie filmmakers up for Oscars

BY COLIN NEWTON
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE Even though Hollywood is the movie Mecca, this year's Academy Awards will see Santa Monica as a town that loves independent film companies.

When the contenders for the 84th Academy Awards were announced, independent companies took 60 nominations in different feature categories.

Some of the companies — including GK Films, Lionsgate, Mandate Pictures, Myriad Pictures and Summit Entertainment — are based in Santa Monica.

"We're very proud of our Santa Monica roots and we'd love to bring home Oscar gold for Santa Monica," said a Lionsgate spokesperson.

Lionsgate, located at 2700 Colorado Ave., moved to Santa Monica from Marina del Rey in 2003.

The company produced and distributed "Warrior," an action/drama about two brothers and their alcoholic father, played by Nick Nolte. Nolte was nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his role in the film.

Summit Films produced "A Better Life," which follows a gardener in East L.A. as he struggles to keep his son away from gangs and immigration agents while trying to give his son the opportunities he never had. It stars Demián Bichir, who has been nominated in the Best Actor category.

Lionsgate announced it had purchased Summit Films on Jan. 13, 2012.

Independent production company GK

SEE OSCARS PAGE 10



A WELCOMED DISTRACTION

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Singer/songwriter and cancer survivor Charlie Lustman performs for chemo patients at Sarcoma Oncology Center in Santa Monica on Friday. Lustman travels, singing and playing his music at cancer treatment centers in different countries and will perform his one-man operetta Monday at the Santa Monica Playhouse.

Santa Monican hopes to unseat Feinstein

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN A Santa Monica businessman has thrown his hat into the ring to challenge longtime Democratic U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein when she runs for her fourth term in November.

Al Ramirez, 43, felt that now was the time to challenge the career politician with a fresh perspective and ideas he believes will help turn around the flagging national economy.

"I believe in new types of businesses, new types of opportunities," Ramirez, a Republican, said. "California is still a place that you can strike gold, and Santa Monica is the perfect example."

The city and its self-declared "Silicon Beach" became a hub of tech startups and venture capitalists looking for the next big thing.

That energy can be replicated in other



RAMIREZ

SEE CANDIDATE PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012

A night with Sam — and Woody
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
Woody Allen's "Play It Again, Sam" will be the theatre's second production of the season. Nominated for three Tony Awards, the comedy classic ran for 453 performances on Broadway. The memorable film version is the missing link between Woody's early films like "Take the Money and Run" and "Bananas" and his later, relationship-oriented films like "Annie Hall." The production runs through Feb. 12. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

Get active, Santa Monica
Memorial Park
1401 Olympic Blvd.
Get in shape during the final days of Active Santa Monica Week in the park's fitness room. All ages are welcome.
For more information, call (310) 458-2201 ext. 2020.

Wine time
Barker Hangar
3021 Airport Ave.
More than 300 acclaimed pinots will be poured at the Third Annual Pinot Days Southern California through Sunday. A renowned pinot noir wine event with annual tastings in Chicago, Santa Monica, Dallas and San Francisco, Pinot Days connects wine enthusiasts with winemakers creating a unique opportunity for new and seasoned wine lovers to experience, enjoy and deepen their knowledge of pinot noir. For more information, call (415) 382-8663.

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012

An interactive fairy tale
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
For one last time this month, kids ages 4 to 10 are welcome to join in the story telling at Enchanted Fairytale Interactive Theatre, an event that features sing-a-longs, crafts, face-painting, games, refreshments and surprise gifts. Cost: $15 for children 10 and under, free for grown-ups. Reservations limited.
For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

Feel good music
Trip
2101 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
Santa Monica Trip hosts a night of bands featuring the neo-psychedelic outfit Sunbears!, self proclaimed masters of electra-coustic music. Expect a vibrant, visual stage show. For more information, call (310) 396-9010 or visit www.tripsantamonica.com

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012

Bridge the gap
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Get together every week to have fun, meet people and challenge yourself playing bridge. This is not a class, so bring your game. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

'Silverware Bandit' sentenced to 210 years to life

Los Angeles County prosecutors say the so-called "Silverware Bandit" has been sentenced to 210 years to life in state prison for a string of break-ins at homes in west L.A. and Santa Monica.

Deputy District Attorney Belle Chen says Jeffery Langford was called the "Silverware Bandit" because he targeted seven elderly women who lived alone and demanded their money, jewelry or silver.

Langford was sentenced Friday.

The 56-year-old was convicted last year of eight counts of first-degree burglary, six counts of first-degree residential robbery and other charges.

In one instance, Langford disabled a victim's medical monitor so she wouldn't be able to call for help.

The crimes took place between June and August 2008.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLORADO AVE

Fire fighters to conduct live training

If you see firemen blazing into a burning building on Colorado Avenue this Sunday, don't be alarmed, it's only a test.

The building, located at 1610 Colorado Ave., is one of the structures set to be demolished for the Expo light rail construction.

The Santa Monica Fire Department is using this unique opportunity to create a controlled fire to simulate live conditions, and drill different disciplines, including ventilation, rescue, fire attack and firefighter survival.

The drill will take place on Sunday, Jan. 29, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Monday, Jan. 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

COLIN NEWTON

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Ad Council
A child is calling for help.

Santa Monica home to 7 new EV charging sites

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CITYWIDE When it comes to charging electric vehicles, it's out with the old and in with the new.

Santa Monica is now home to seven new, publicly-accessible electrical vehicle charging stations that have been strategically placed in high-traffic areas like Santa Monica Place, the Civic Center and Montana Avenue, city officials announced this week.

The stations were installed by Culver City, Calif.-based EV Connect, which is working on several state-funded infrastructure projects to entice people to purchase electric vehicles and help reduce carbon emissions.

"We're pushing forward on all fronts in Santa Monica to make this a plug-in friendly city," said Dean Kubani, manager of City Hall's Office of Sustainability and

SEE EV PAGE 8



Photo courtesy EV Connect

FILL 'ER UP: **A new electric vehicle charging station on Montana Avenue near 11th Street.**



SPLITS

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Samohi junior Ella Warshauer dribbles through Inglewood's Karina Quiroz (back) and Fatima Rodriguez on Friday during an Ocean League match, which the Vikings won 6-0. With the win, Samohi improves to 5-1 in league play and 10-4-2 overall.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

For those who breathe

Editor:

We are writing in response to Bill Bauer's My Write column from Dec. 19, 2011. We are also writing to provide information about tobacco smoke in apartments and condominiums to your readership. In the column, Bill appeared to be making light of the members of the City Council as they struggled with trying to protect the health of residents of apartments and condos and at the same time, honor the requirements of the rent control law.

The incontrovertible facts are tobacco smoke drifts from one unit to another in apartments and condominiums, and secondhand tobacco smoke can cause illness and death.

Proof: The most recent study shows that children living in smoking-permitted apartment buildings, with parents who don't smoke, have evidence of tobacco smoke in their bodies. The county's health officer, Dr. Jonathan Fielding, together with Dr. Jonathan Winickoff, a representative of the American Academy of Pediatrics, stressed that all apartments and condominiums should become non-smoking and urged cities to take action.

Several years ago, the City Council decided to take action on this problem incrementally. First it passed a law requiring no smoking in common areas inside and outside of apartment and condo buildings. The next year it passed a law requiring no smoking on balconies and patios of apartments and condominiums.

Now, the council is considering requiring disclosure and making newly vacated units non-smoking. With regard to disclosure: It is important that prospective tenants and condo buyers find out, before they sign a lease on an apartment or purchase a condo, if residents are smoking in adjacent units. Many people have chronic illnesses like asthma and heart disease. There are families with children and cancer survivors who don't want to be exposed to secondhand smoke.

Declaring whether your unit is a smoking or non-smoking unit is not a privacy issue like your Social Security number. This kind of disclosure will protect families and individuals from moving into a situation which would be intolerable to them and also would protect long-term tenants who choose to smoke in their units.

But the problem of drifting tobacco smoke will not be resolved just by disclosure. All units need to become non-smoking. To require that newly vacated units become non-smoking is the best way to preserve the rent control law and move toward all units becoming non-smoking. Long-term tenants who smoke would be protected from eviction or lawsuits. On the other hand, the residents they are affecting are not being protected in any way.

Some members of the City Council are concerned that these two actions recommended by staff, disclosure and designation, go beyond the incremental changes that the council has been pursuing so far. We believe that disclosure and designation of newly vacated units as non-smoking is incremental and we support this as a step in the right direction.

But if the council wanted to finally protect everyone who lives in multi-unit housing, it would pass an ordinance that all apartment and condominium units are to become non-smoking within a specified period of time. In addition, they would include in the ordinance that landlords provide leases to new tenants which require no smoking on the premises. That would help the people who are suffering now. And that's the kind of ordinance councils in other cities in Los Angeles County are currently enacting including Pasadena, South Pasadena, Baldwin Park and Compton.

Barbara Bronie, Willow Evans, Beth Miller, Carol Riel and Robin Sherry
Members, Santa Monicans for Non-Smoking Renters Rights

✉ WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

On the Beat

NRO Jeff Glaser — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No longer out in the open

Q: WHAT IS THE NEW "OPEN CARRY" law and how does it affect me?

A: Effective Jan. 1, 2012, AB144, also known as the "open carry" law, is a ban of carrying an unloaded firearm on your person that is visible to others.

In 1968, then Gov. Ronald Reagan made it illegal in California to carry a loaded firearm. This, however, did not prohibit a person from carrying an unloaded weapon on their hip or anywhere else that is visible to the public. A citizen was still able to carry an unloaded handgun in plain sight and keep ammunition somewhere else on their person, like a pocket or backpack.

Forty-two years later, Gov. Jerry Brown signed the above referenced legislation into law which makes it a crime to openly carry a firearm in a public place or vehicle. This legislation, sponsored by The Brady Campaign, resulted in California becoming the fifth state to prohibit carrying handguns openly in public. According to the Brady Campaign, 33 states still allow open carry of handguns.

The new law, AB144, makes it a misdemeanor when someone is convicted of carrying an unloaded and exposed gun while in public or in a car. Those convicted can face up to six months in jail and/or a fine of $1,000.

For those people that have been issued a permit to carry a concealed gun (i.e. a CCW permit), they are not subject to the penalties described above. In addition, it does not apply to those individuals participating in or coordinating hunting or shooting events. This also does not prohibit you from being able to have a loaded firearm within your home.

Should you come across someone that has a handgun in public, exposed or not, please contact the police immediately so we can ascertain the circumstances. You can phone dispatch at (310) 458-8491 or 911.

In addition, for those not familiar with firearms who may come across one, remember the first rule of gun safety — always assume a weapon is loaded. If you find a gun and are unfamiliar with how they operate, do not touch it. Instead, call the police and we will ascertain the status of the gun. Also, if you find that gun in a public place, again do not touch it. It may have been used in the commission of a crime and we do not want to have the evidentiary value of the item compromised. Again, call the police and we will take charge of it.

Q: I see people throw cigarette butts out their car window while driving. Isn't that a crime and if so, what is the punishment?

A: Yes, it is a crime. Section 23111 of the California Vehicle Code defines it as follows:

No person in any vehicle and no pedestrian shall throw or discharge from or upon any road or highway or adjoining area, public or private, any lighted or non-lighted cigarette, cigar, match, or any flaming or glowing substance.

NEXT TIME YOU CONSIDER THROWING [A CIGARETTE BUTT] IN THE STREET, ASK IF IT IS WORTH HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS IN FINES AND HOURS OF YOUR LIFE PICKING UP TRASH.

The punishment for being found guilty is a mandatory fine of at least $100 for the first offense, minimum $500 for the second, and $750 for the third conviction. In addition, there will be extra fees imposed by the court. Along with the monetary fines and in order to try and avoid further offenses, the court will enforce a mandatory pick up of litter or clean-up of graffiti at a time of place of the court's choosing. The first offense requires a minimum of eight hours, the second 16 hours and the third offense 24 hours of clean up. Our court system typically has the offenders work with Cal Trans.

Based on the inordinate amount of cigarette butts we see on the street, it is interesting that people feel it is perfectly all right to throw their waste on the street or sidewalk, however, would not do so on their own property. Remember, many fires have been started by the simple spark of a smoldering cigarette tossed out of a car. They also clog our sewers and drains, which can cause backup and flooding on our streets.

The bottom line is, if you smoke, don't throw your butts in the street. This applies to whether you are driving, riding a bike, or walking. Next time you consider throwing it in the street, ask if it is worth hundreds of dollars in fines and hours of your life picking up trash.

This column was written by Neighborhood Resource Officer **JEFF GLASER** (Beat 3: Downtown, including the Third Street Promenade). He can be reached at (424) 200-0683 or jeffrey.glaser@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

Make your pick

The race for the newly-formed 50th Assembly District is starting to attract attention.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Who do you like in the race? Do you favor Mayor Richard Bloom, activist Torie Osborn or Assemblymember Betsy Butler?

Here are your responses:

"TORIE OSBORN WILL BE ANOINTED. Bloom might have become a contender. When he made a deal with the devil joining with the developers, he became every woman's man and every man's woman and all of his credibility is gone. He is delusional though in thinking the rank and file of Santa Monicans love him. There is a certain reminder of Muammar Gaddafi here, and he sure did receive the full measure of his people's love. Legislatively, Bloom will deserve the same judgment. This will be a prelude to Bloom's 'Last Hurrah.' The political graveyard is filled with hypocrites."

"IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHO WINS. Once elected, every candidate turns into a politician."

"I WOULD NEVER VOTE FOR RICHARD Bloom. I will vote for one of the women."

"INCUMBENTS CAN'T HELP US. I'LL VOTE for Torie Osborn."

"I LIKE ANYONE BUT RICHARD BLOOM. Hopefully he will lose and disappear into the private sector, never to be heard from in politics, especially in Santa Monica, again. During his reign as the trained monkey of big development, he can be thanked for everything that makes Santa Monicans' lives worse every day with no end in sight. The ever increasing danger to pedestrians, pets and bicyclists, the horrific gridlock that sends ever increasing numbers of cars and large trucks through residential neighborhoods, the parcel tax to clean the bay — which is the Environmental Protection Agency's responsibility, not ours — the ever increasing pollution that threatens our health, and the lack of enforcement of development agreements, like the Saint John's 422 parking space fiasco, are just a few things that can be laid at Bloom's feet. Also, he and every other politician should have to resign from his current job if running for another office, because it causes them to ignore the office they were elected to serve a full term in."

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY



"I THINK WE SHOULD ALL VOTE FOR Richard Bloom. That way, he can leave the council and leave Santa Monica."

"WHAT A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE another towering, authoritarian figure, like Larry, Moe and Curly. I can already guess the political platform of all three. They all supported that important cause of plastic bag ban at great harm to themselves and the probably 20 percent of unemployed and underemployed Californians. Next, car hating bicycle lanes, which helped send more tax paying people to go somewhere out of state, while carpet bagging freebie-ers, a.k.a. low-income housing enthusiasts, food stamp lovers, tax supported solar power addicts, and the turgid light rail cupids, hopefully to be confused with the financially catastrophic high speed rail. Excuse my bluntness to not support three more stooges, willing to help Sacramento further destroy California. Until you understand what leadership within yourself is, political progressives continue to advocate the dregs of an avarice and asinine ruling class."

"I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE RICHARD BLOOM; I really think he's the best out of the three."

"AS LONG AS BLOOM DOESN'T GET IN, I don't care which of the other two do."











Tour De Feast

Michael Ryan
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Michael Ryan *news@smdp.com*

GREENERY: **The portobello sandwich and side salad from the 17th Street Cafe & Bakery.**

Eating alone has its benefits

WITH THE WEATHER BEING AS unseasonably pleasant as it has been, I have found myself riding my bike solely to bask in this glorious warmth. A stop into the 17th Street Cafe & Bakery was for no reason other than the fact that I was hungry, and I was on the corner of 17th Street and Montana Avenue.

Arriving at 4:30 p.m., well after a late lunch but certainly before an early dinner, the dining room was empty with the exception of one woman in the corner on her cell phone. Unavoidably overhearing her conversation how she was supposed to meet at the restaurant across the street as she made her way to the exit, I was now the last one left. While dining in complete solitude can be awkward, or sometimes depressing, it is an experience with some legitimate merits as well.

It being the cafe's slow time, there was not a sole server on staff. The hostess was nice enough to seat me, provide a menu, and chat it up about how dead it was inside. When I threw her a curveball like, "Do you have any specials for the day?," she went scrambling to the back of the house to figure things out.

Navy bean soup was the deal of the day, but with the weather being what is was, the marinated portobello sandwich and side salad would suffice. Service is snappy, and fast when you are not competing with other tables for attention. Despite having no silverware, nobody seemed to mind me reaching over for the neighboring table's set.

The order came to in priority fashion, and the plating presented a mound of colors and greenery. Apparently, the 17th Street Cafe draws a big lunch crowd being best known for serving up a variety of salads.

The dinner menu was a bit more eclectic. With a range of steaks and fishes, to a list of pizzas and pastas, it is hard to gauge the overall theme of the restaurant based off their offerings.

My portobello sandwich was very good but its marinated succulence made for a very messy hands-on experience. Once again, nobody seemed to mind my display. The sandwich was good enough to assume that some of their other dishes would be on par as well.

Patting myself on the back, a random stop at the 17th Street Cafe presented a solitaire yet worthy meal. I will be sure to stop in again, preferably with friends during a more lively eating hour.

Scouring the Internet, word of mouth, and of course printed articles are all viable ways to find good dining options around town. However, sometimes it is as simple as getting out there, hitting the pavement, and letting serendipity run its course. Living in Santa Monica, more times than not, you're going to find something worth while.

If you go

17th Street Cafe & Bakery
1610 Montana Ave.
Santa Monica, Calif.
90403
(310) 453-2771
www.seventeenthstreetcafe.com/

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food, or on CityTV hosting his own show, "Tour de Feast." To reach him visit his website at tourdefeast.net or follow him on Twitter @TourDeFeastSM.





Handmade chocolates that anyone can do, and quickly

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

Attempting to make chocolate bonbons from scratch is enough to test anyone's love.

First you have to cook up some fussy filling, and get it into — and to hold — just the right shape. Then you have to temper the chocolate, the ultimate of troublesome and tiresome culinary labors. And don't even get me started on the mess all this makes.

But I was convinced there had to be an easier way. So I started playing. The result is this ridiculously simple — yet outrageously delicious — recipe for quince-filled marzipan bonbons.

First, the coating. The chocolate used to cover bonbons must be tempered. If not, it won't firm up properly and will discolor. The easy way around this is to use so-called chocolate melts, or candy coating. These chocolate-like disks are sold in a variety of colors at baking supply shops and in the baking aisle of many grocers and most craft stores.

These disks melt easily, coat well and require no tempering. You won't mistake them for an expensive dark chocolate, but they get the job done.

For the filling, I was not prepared to make a ganache or other filling. But I wanted something that would be soft, chewy and sweet. Something that could be easily shaped. Something that was almost completely effortless.

That something turned out to be marzipan, a paste made from ground almonds and sugar. It's sold in the baking aisle of just about every grocer and has a soft, putty-like consistency and a deliciously sweet-almondy flavor. It's easy to form into balls and is perfect for coating with chocolate.

In fact, it was so easy to work with, I decided I could take my bonbons one step further and fill the marzipan, making the finished treat that much more decadent. By forming the marzipan into a ball, then shaping it into a cup, I was able to fill the cup, then close the marzipan back up over it. If you can play with Play-Doh, you can handle this.

The filling really could be any thick jam, or even a piece of dried fruit or a salted nut. But I liked quince paste, an extremely thick jam-like paste often sold near fine cheeses. It has a pleasantly tart-sweet flavor that works well with the marzipan and chocolate.

Food Editor **J.M. HIRSCH** is author of the cookbook "High Flavor, Low Labor: Reinventing Weeknight Cooking." Follow him to great eats on Twitter at http://twitter.com/JM_Hirsch or e-mail him at jhirsch@ap.org.

Quince-filled chocolate marzipan bonbons

I like the classic look of dark chocolate, so I used dark brown chocolate melts. But they are available in numerous colors. You also can get creative with this. Use one color to coat the bonbons, then melt a second color to drizzle over them for a decorative look.

For a gourmet touch, you also could sprinkle some flake sea salt over the bonbons before the chocolate coating dries. Likewise, you could sprinkle them with candy sprinkles, finely crushed nuts or coconut.

Start to finish: 20 minutes
Makes 14 bonbons
7-ounce tube marzipan
2 tablespoons quince paste
4 ounces chocolate melts (any color)
Line a plate with parchment paper.

Cut the tube of marzipan into 14 equal portions. One at a time, form each portion into a round, shallow cup. Fill the cup with about 1/2 teaspoon of the quince paste, then carefully fold the sides of the cup up over the filling and roll in your hands to form a tight ball. Set aside.

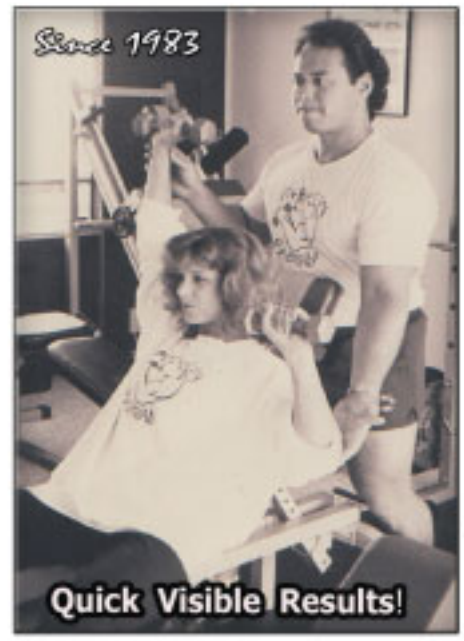
Place the chocolate melts in a microwave-safe measuring cup. Microwave on high for 1 minute, stopping every 20 to 30 seconds to stir, or until completely melted.

One at a time, use a fork to lower the marzipan balls into the melted chocolate. Move the marzipan around to ensure it is evenly coated. Use the fork to lift it from the chocolate, tapping gently on the side of the cup to remove excess chocolate, then carefully set the bonbon on the prepared plate.

If you want to sprinkle a dry coating on the bonbons, such as salt or candy sprinkles, do so immediately. Otherwise, coat the remaining bonbons, then let them dry and harden. The drying can be sped up by placing the plate in the refrigerator for several minutes.

If desired, melt a small amount of a second color of candy melts, then drizzle this over the dried bonbons to decorate.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 120 calories; 45 calories from fat (37 percent of total calories); 5 g fat (2 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 18 g carbohydrate; 1 g protein; 1 g fiber; 10 mg sodium.



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GRADING
FROM PAGE 1

information move from a system that's been in place for 25 years to the new one that will, in the end, be easier to use and meet all state requirements, said Ruthy Mangle, director of Information Services with the district.

"I understand that change is very difficult, but the thing that I have found fascinating is that the community of Santa Monica and the parents are so involved in their children's education," Mangle said. "It's amazing to me, and wonderful."

That's not good enough for many, particularly parents who are concerned that incorrect transcripts could have gone out to colleges or that the grade reports they get could be wrong, if they can access the system at all.

"Thank God our son is not a senior," said Lisette Gold, a Samohi parent. "I would have had a heart attack."

Since Illuminate replaced its predecessor Pinnacle, there have been problems, she said.

At the end of a semester, all of the grades disappeared before parents or students were able to see their final grades. Grades no longer included weights, so it was difficult to see what impact an assignment had on the overall grade.

That's a problem for parents trying to engage with their children's education.

"If your child takes a test and gets a C, you know they didn't learn that material," Gold said. "It empowers a parent to work with their child to get a great education."

Teachers continue to have problems with the system as well. Entered grades disappeared, and calling up reports became much more difficult.

"It's really been a problem," said Sarah Braff, vice president of the Santa Monica Malibu Classroom Teachers Association. "Teachers need a system that makes our lives easier, not one that complicates it and takes more time."

The Board of Education grilled creator Alan Rankin, of Illuminate Education, on the product at Jan. 19's meeting for answers as to why the $420,457 system was drawing such ire from its users.

"This is just the latest of an onslaught of criticism," said Board President Ben Allen.

Rankin, a former teacher, admitted that there were problems with pieces of the system, particularly the original version of the software that teachers use to input grades.

An updated version has been deployed, and teachers have begun training on it already.

Other problems, like incorrect transcripts, were fixed days after the bug was found, Rankin said.

"We did all of that on our side, and on our nickel," Rankin said. "We haven't charged the district an extra penny for anything we've done with the system."

Administrators purchased the system in 2010 using money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also known as the stimulus bill, primarily because Pinnacle was no longer supported by its creator.

A team of district and school site officials selected the software package, and a smaller group including Mangle went to Monterey Peninsula Unified School District to watch it in action before buying it.

The district already uses a piece of software by the makers of Illuminate called Data Director.

The Illuminate system has replaced an overall software package that's been in the district for over two decades, Mangle said, and the transition will take time.

"We had the old system for 25 years. When we got that system, it was vanilla," Mangle said. "We customized it over a 25-year period. Everything we wanted or needed or someone thought of was there, but it took 25 years to get to that point."

ashley@smdp.com

EV
FROM PAGE 3

Environment. "We're leading the way and proactively looking at all avenues to create infrastructure support for alternatively-fueled vehicles. We're pleased EV Connect helped make it easier for EV drivers to fuel up in Santa Monica."

Electric vehicles are classified by the U.S. Department of Energy as vehicles that are propelled by an electric motor (or motors) powered by rechargeable battery packs.

While electric vehicles convert more chemical energy from their batteries to power the wheels than traditional cars, and emit no tailpipe emissions, there are challenges related to the batteries. Most EVs can only go about 100 to 200 miles before recharging; gasoline vehicles can go over 300 miles before refueling. Fully recharging the battery pack can take four to eight hours while filing up a tank with gasoline takes only a matter of minutes.

John O'Dell, senior editor at Santa Monica-based Edmunds.com, an automotive information Web site, said he is looking forward to using the new charging stations. He currently drives from his home in Orange County to his office in Santa Monica — a 104-mile round trip — but has not been able to use his electric car because of the distances involved.

"These Santa Monica stations will help make it possible for me to drive my cleanest car to work without worrying about whether I'll have sufficient juice to make it home," O'Dell said. "As public charging stations become more common, EVs will become a viable option for more people. That's a good thing."

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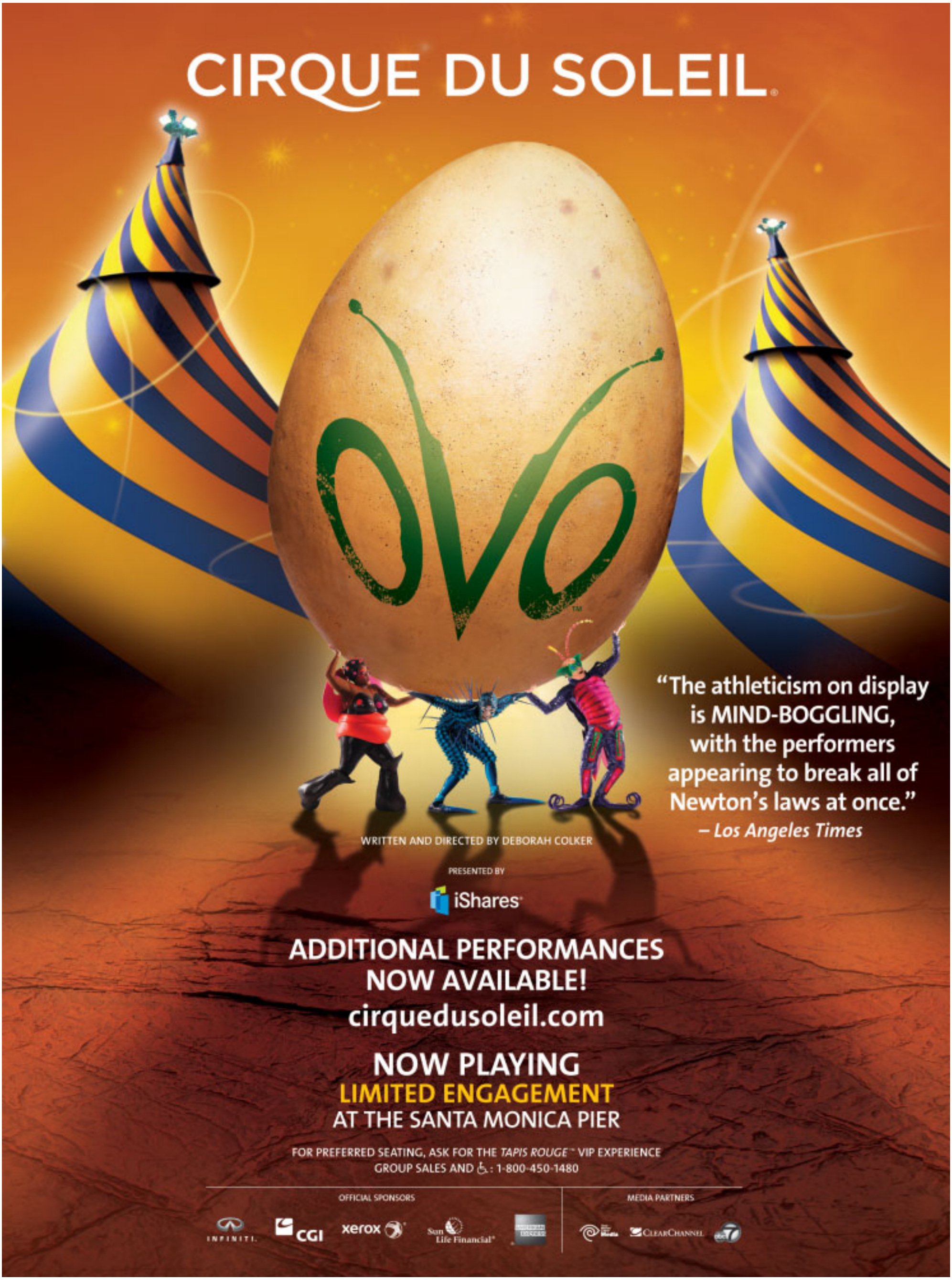
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Photo courtesy Lionsgate

CONTENDER: **Nick Nolte is up for Best Supporting Actor in this year's Academy Awards for his role as an alcoholic former boxer in the action/drama 'Warrior.'**

OSCARS
FROM PAGE 1

Films has been on Second Street for the past six months, but has occupied other offices in Santa Monica for a few years.

The company produced "Hugo," which is up for Best Picture. "Hugo" is also nominated for Best Adapted Screenplay, and its director, Martin Scorsese, is up Best Director.

"I am so incredibly proud of 'Hugo' and I will be forever grateful to the Academy for acknowledging a film that defies all genres," Graham King, a partner at GK Films, said in an e-mail.

King also produced "Rango," which was nominated for Best Animated Feature.

Myriad Pictures, an independent entertainment company that produces, finances and distributes films and television, is located on Main Street.

Myriad produced and distributed "Margin Call," which received a nomination for best original screenplay.

news@smdp.com

CANDIDATE
FROM PAGE 1

places to help bring California back from the precipice of devastating cuts to social services, safety and education and the 11.3 percent unemployment rate impacting the state, Ramirez said.

Many of his ideas focus on freeing small businesses from what he feels are excessive regulations, like dealing with taxes every quarter rather than once a year and finding ways to encourage so-called "angel investors" to give promising businesses a chance.

"Venture capitalists are moving up in the food chain," he said. "There are not as many VCs that invest in the early seed company and the early rounds."

Ramirez also plans to run on the issue of illegal immigration, which he believes has unfairly targeted Mexicans to the exclusion of those of other nationalities that choose to move illegally to the United States.

"There are lots of Hispanics like myself that don't agree with amnesty," Ramirez said. "It turns into anti-Mexican rhetoric. There are illegal people coming from all over the world, not just Mexico."

Ramirez moved to California in 1997, and settled in Santa Monica's Downtown district in 2002. He began his career selling 800 numbers for AT&T, and then worked his way up in that company before switching to Sprint, Samsung and a number of smaller startups.

He rode the dot com wave of the late 1990s, which exposed him to the technological frontier that exists in California.

Ramirez's own experiences in the telecommunications field and even attempts to launch a mobile media service in a pre-iPhone world shaped his views on how the government should approach businesses.

He's against the Protect IP Act, a bill in the Senate which would create greater copyright protections for large media companies at the expense of smaller Internet startups — "They're stifling innovation for the sake of making an easy buck," Ramirez said — and believes in using existing laws to police businesses rather than creating new, and potentially more onerous, versions.

This isn't Ramirez' first run at the senate. He worked the circuit for the 2010 election against Barbara Boxer only to find that he, and other smaller candidates, were shoved out of the running by millionaire Carly Fiorina.

This time will be different, he hopes.

The Field Poll, an independent and nonpartisan survey in California, found that Feinstein had her lowest approval ratings of her tenure in September 2011, with only 41 percent giving her the thumbs up.

"There's a graveyard of people who have failed to get that fourth term," Ramirez said.

He will face competition from within his own party. Another political novice, Elizabeth Emken, of Danville, Calif., will be competing against him with a platform that emphasizes lower taxes and reduced government spending.

Whether either of them really have a chance of unseating Feinstein remains a mystery.

A November poll by the Public Policy Polling company found that Feinstein led well-known Republican names including Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Fresno), former Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner, Fiorina and Orly Taitz, a dentist who put herself on the map for loudly alleging that President Barack Obama was not born in the United States.

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California passes sweeping auto emission rules

BY JASON DEAREN
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Seeking to influence other states and Washington, California air regulators passed sweeping auto emission standards Friday that include a mandate to have 1.4 million electric and hybrid vehicles on state roads by 2025.

The California Air Resources Board unanimously approved the new rules that require that one in seven of the new cars sold in the state in 2025 be an electric or other zero-emission vehicle.

The plan also mandates a 75 percent reduction in smog-forming pollutants by 2025, and a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from today's standards.

Automakers worked with the board and federal regulators on the greenhouse gas mandates in an effort to create one national standard for those pollutants.

"Today's vote ... represents a new chapter for clean cars in California and in the nation as a whole," said Mary Nichols, the board's chairman. "Californians have always loved their cars. We buy a lot of them and drive them. Now we will have cleaner and more efficient cars to love."

California's auto emissions standards are influential and often more strict than federal rules. The state began passing regulations for cleaner cars in the 1960s to help ease some of the world's worst smog, and has since helped spur the auto industry's innovations in emissions-control technology.

Currently 14 other states — including New York, Washington and Massachusetts — have adopted California's smog emissions rules as their own.

California has also previously set zero-emissions vehicle mandates, which 10 other states have also currently adopted.

Companies including Ford Motor Corp., Chrysler Group LLC, General Motors Co., Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. and others submitted testimony Thursday supportive of the new standards.

Some of the companies protested the inclusion of a system that will give some automakers credit toward their zero-emission vehicle mandate for exceeding federal greenhouse gas emissions standards in other cars. These credits, which can be used to reduce the number of clean vehicles made, can be used from 2018-2021.

Some called it a loophole that will take hundreds of thousands of clean cars off the road, hurting the emerging market for these vehicles.

"This is a temporary way station," Nichols said about the credits. "But by 2021 all companies will be producing the full complement of zero-emission vehicles."

Trade groups representing auto dealers worried that the new regulations would increase the costs of vehicles for consumers and stifle the industry's growth.

The California New Car Dealers Association and other industry groups representing those who sell cars said the board is overestimating consumer demand for electric vehicles and other so-called "zero-emission vehicles."

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>
> David Clegern
> board spokesman

Dealers are concerned that the regulations will lead to higher costs in all cars, and say consumers have been slow to warm to electric and other zero-emission vehicles.

Board member Sandra Berg, who said she drives the all-electric Nissan Leaf, said before the vote that regulators need to take consumer behavior and choice seriously in this equation.

She said a lot of work must be done to educate dealers to sell the new generation of cars.

"Early adopters (of electric cars) are willing to go without heat to save the miles they need to get to their destination, but that is not going to help grow the consumer base," Berg said, referring to the range issues with some current electric vehicles.

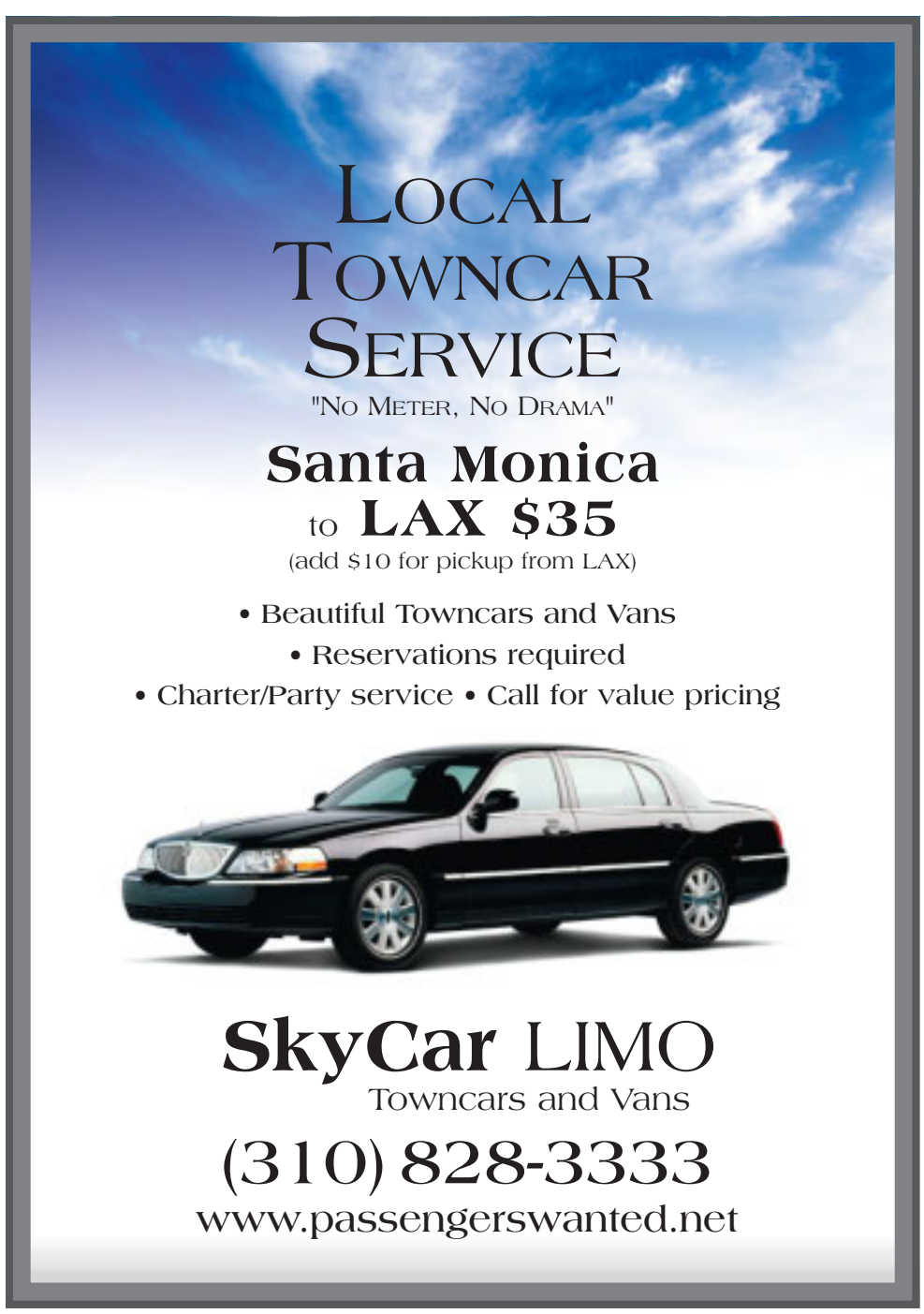
The board's research staff disputes the argument from dealers that the mandates for new technology will increase costs for cars. They point to steady increases in hybrid and other sales and argue that fuel cost savings will make up for any vehicle price increase.

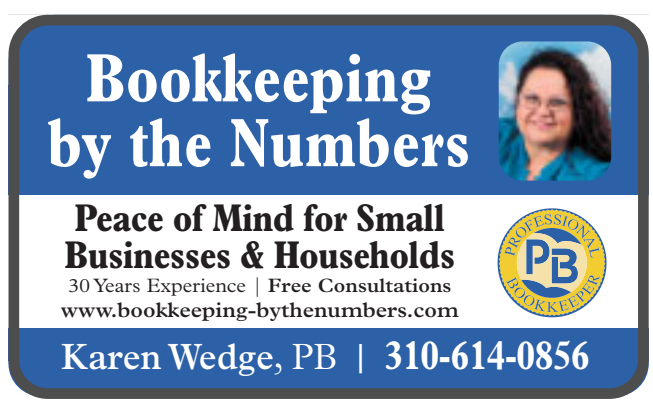
"Our research shows a $1,400 to $1,900 car price increase. But over the life of the vehicles, the owners save $6,000 in reduced fuel and maintenance costs," board spokesman David Clegern said.

One of the nation's foremost consumer groups, the Consumers' Union, the policy and advocacy division of Consumer Reports, supported the changes.

The rules will "protect consumers by encouraging the development of cleaner, more efficient cars that save families money, help reduce the American economy's vulnerability to oil price shocks and reduce harmful air pollution," according to a letter from the group.







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End of prison oversight not certain

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. The court-appointed receiver overseeing California's prison health care system said Friday the state must keep its promise to spend more than $2 billion for new medical facilities before the federal courts can end an oversight role that has lasted six years.

California has committed to spending $750 million to upgrade existing medical facilities, building a new medical center and converting juvenile lockups. So far, only the new medical center in Stockton is being built.

Receiver J. Clark Kelso told The Associated Press that the state must begin all the upgrades before it should be allowed to retake control of a prison medical system once deemed so poor that it was found to have violated inmates' constitutional rights. They are his first public comments since a federal judge last week told officials to begin preparing for an end to the receivership.

"That leaves a court order that the state is now out of compliance with," Kelso said during the 75-minute interview. "The courts have been promised construction for the last half-decade. Somehow those promises don't get kept."

California officials are analyzing the need for new medical facilities in light of a state law that took effect last year that is sending lower-level criminals to county jails instead of state prisons. Federal judges have ordered the state to reduce its prison population by 33,000 inmates over two years to improve the treatment of mentally and physically ill inmates, a decision that has been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

At its height in 2006, California's inmate population was more than 162,000.

Kelso said the medical center that is under construction in Stockton and the $750 million in upgrades are needed even if the state has fewer inmates in the system. Conversion of the juvenile lockups was to have included new housing and treatment facilities for sick and mentally ill inmates.

Kelso has been negotiating with officials from the state Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and attorneys representing inmates after a federal judge issued a notice saying it was time to begin ending the federal receivership. Court oversight of medical care in the nation's largest state prison system has led to improvements in inmate health care that have cost California taxpayers billions of dollars.

"We'll just see if the parties can't find a middle ground for agreement," Kelso said.

The pace of those negotiations will determine how quickly the state can retake control of its prison health care operations, he said.

Corrections Secretary Matthew Cate said he wanted to see the receivership end as early as this summer, although he also said it would be appropriate for the courts or another independent body to maintain some type of oversight role to ensure that inmate care does not deteriorate.

"I think the sooner we return day-to-day operations to the state, the better," Cate told the AP in an interview earlier this week. "We need to work out the construction issues, obviously, and I know that Clark is also concerned about making sure there's a strong structure in place to maintain the strides we've made. But if we can work those issues out, I'd love to see it be this summer."

Citing inmate overcrowding as the leading cause, the federal courts previously found that medical care for California prisoners was so poor that an average of one inmate a week was dying of neglect or malpractice.

In the notice he filed last week, U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson said conditions had improved enough to consider ending the receivership. He said most of the goals of the federal oversight had been met.

Under the court's oversight, California doubled the amount of money it spent on inmate health care over five years, to more than $15,000 per inmate annually.

Spending controlled by the receiver's office, including medical care, pharmaceuticals and transporting and guarding inmates, increased from $948 million to nearly $2.3 billion by 2008, according to the state Department of Finance. That amount has since declined, to $1.8 billion for the current fiscal year.

Still, the amount is far higher than in any other state. In 2010, the latest figures available, Texas spent $465 million and New York spent $437 million on inmate medical care, according to the American Correctional Association. The Federal Bureau of Prison's spent $153 million.


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SP1876

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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.



New federal plant map reflects global warming

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON Global warming is hitting not just home, but garden. The color-coded map of planting zones often seen on the back of seed packets is being updated by the government, illustrating a hotter 21st century.

It's the first time since 1990 that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has revised the official guide for the nation's 80 million gardeners, and much has changed. Nearly entire states, such as Ohio, Nebraska and Texas, are in warmer zones.

The new guide, unveiled Wednesday at the National Arboretum, arrives just as many home gardeners are receiving their seed catalogs and dreaming of lush flower beds in the spring.

It reflects a new reality: The coldest day of the year isn't as cold as it used to be, so some plants and trees can now survive farther north.

"People who grow plants are well aware of the fact that temperatures have gotten more mild throughout the year, particularly in the wintertime," said Boston University biology professor Richard Primack. "There's a lot of things you can grow now that you couldn't grow before."

He stand the giant fig tree in his suburban Boston yard stands as an example: "People don't think of figs as a crop you can grow in the Boston area. You can do it now."

The new guide also uses better weather data and offers more interactive technology. For example, gardeners using the online version can enter their ZIP code and get the exact average coldest temperature.

Also, for the first time, calculations include more detailed factors such as prevailing winds, the presence of nearby bodies of water, the slope of the land, and the way cities are hotter than suburbs and rural areas.

The map carves up the U.S. into 26 zones based on five-degree temperature increments. The old 1990 map mentions 34 U.S. cities in its key. On the 2012 map, 18 of those, including Honolulu, St. Louis, Des Moines, Iowa, St. Paul, Minn., and even Fairbanks, Alaska, are in newer, warmer zones.

Those differences matter in deciding what to plant.

For example, Des Moines used to be in zone 5a, meaning the lowest temperature on average was between minus 15 and minus 20 degrees. Now it's 5b, which has a lowest temperature of 10 to 15 degrees below zero. Jerry Holub, manager of a Des Moines plant nursery, said folks there might now be able to safely grow passion flowers.

Griffin, Ga., used to be in zone 7b, where the coldest day would average between 5 and 10 degrees. But the city is now in zone 8a, averaging a coldest day of 10 to 15 degrees. So growing bay laurel becomes possible. It wasn't recommended on the old map.

"It is great that the federal government is catching up with what the plants themselves have known for years now: The globe is warming and it is greatly influencing plants (and animals)," Stanford University biology professor Terry Root wrote in an email.

The changes come too late to make this year's seed packets, but they will be in next year's, said George Ball, chairman and CEO of the seed company W. Atlee Burpee, which puts the maps on packages of perennials, not annuals. But Ball said many of his customers already know what can grow in their own climate and how it has warmed.

"Climate change, which has been in the air for a long time, is not big news to gardeners," he said.

Mark Kaplan, a New York meteorologist who helped create the 1990 map, said the latest version clearly shows warmer zones migrating north. Other experts agreed.

The 1990 map was based on temperatures from 1974 to 1986, the new map from 1976 to 2005. The nation's average temperature from 1976 to 2005 was two-thirds of a degree higher than it was during the old time period, according to the National Climatic Data Center.

USDA spokeswoman Kim Kaplan, who was part of the map team, repeatedly tried to distance the new zones on the map from global warming. She said that while much of the country is in warmer zones, the map "is simply not a good instrument" to demonstrate climate change because it is based on just the coldest days of the year.

David W. Wolfe, a professor of plant and soil ecology at Cornell University, said that the USDA is being too cautious and that the map plainly reflects warming.

The revised map "gives us a clear picture of the 'new normal' and will be an essential tool for gardeners, farmers and natural resource managers as they begin to cope with rapid climate change," Wolfe said in an email.

The Arbor Day Foundation issued its own hardiness guide six years ago, and the new government map is very similar, said Woodrow Nelson, a vice president at the plant-loving organization.

"We got a lot of comments that the 1990 map wasn't accurate anymore," Nelson said. "I look forward to (the new map). It's been a long time coming."

Nelson lives in Lincoln, Neb., where the zone warmed to a 5b. Nelson said he used to be in a "solid 4," but now he has Japanese maples and Fraser firs in his yard — trees that shouldn't survive in a zone 4.

Vaughn Speer, an 87-year-old master gardener in Ames, Iowa, said he has seen redbud trees, one of the earliest blooming trees, a little farther north in recent years.

"They always said redbuds don't go beyond U.S. Highway 30," he said, "but I'm seeing them near Roland," 10 miles to the north.

Online:
Plant map:
http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS
CITY OF SANTA MONICA

Housing Commission
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2014.
Applicants must reside in Santa Monica, and shall not hold paid office or employment in City government.

Personnel Commission
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2014.
Applicants must reside in Santa Monica, none of whom shall hold paid office or employment in City government.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, March 20, 2012.
Appointments to be made by City Council, Tuesday, March 27, 2012.

No City employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission listed above.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/boards/appt_boards.htm. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

NFL

Raiders hire Dennis Allen

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. Hiring a new coach has become almost commonplace for the Raiders, who will have their seventh coach in the past 10 seasons in 2012. As the first coach hired in the post-Al Davis era in Oakland, Dennis Allen will have a much different task than his predecessors.

The Raiders officially announced Allen's hiring on Friday, three days after reports initially emerged that he was new general manager Reggie McKenzie's choice to lead the franchise. Allen will be officially introduced at a news conference Monday but has likely already started the process of putting together his first staff as a head coach at any level.

Davis made almost all the key decisions for the Raiders in his nearly half-century with the franchise before he died Oct. 8. He made most of the personnel moves, hired the coaches and hand-picked many of the assistants in a process that contributed to three Super Bowl titles and plenty of playoff trips when it worked, as well as a current nine-year playoff drought.

There is now a new structure in place in 2012 with Davis' son, Mark, serving as managing general partner. Mark Davis hired McKenzie as his general manager earlier this month and gave him the power to make all football decisions.

McKenzie immediately fired Hue Jackson, who went 8-8 in his only season as head coach, and began a search for a replacement that led to the decision to hire Allen.

Allen got a longer deal than the two-year contracts with options that Raiders coaches had traditionally be given by Davis in the past. Allen's contract is for four years, a person familiar with the deal said on condition of anonymity because the team did not announce the length.

Allen will also be allowed to pick his coaching staff in a change from how things operated under Davis. He often picked many of the assistants, some whom stayed on from regime to regime, in a process that was criticized by the head coaches.

McKenzie made clear at his introductory news conference that that practice would change.

"What I'm going to do is empower the head coach to hire his staff, the best possible staff that he can hire," McKenzie said. "We're not going to tie the guy's hands and tell him he has to hire this guy or this guy. It wouldn't be fair to the new head coach. The head coach will have the right to hire any coach that he wants."

Offensive coordinator Al Saunders is the only assistant under contract for next season and it is uncertain whether he will return for a second season in Oakland. Receivers coach Sanjay Lal has joined the New York Jets and defensive line coach Mike Waufle has reportedly been hired by St. Louis.

The status of the other assistants is up in the air as they have been told they are free to look for other jobs but could be asked to stay by the new coach.

Allen, 39, will be the first new Raiders coach to come from the defensive side of the ball since Davis hired linebackers coach John Madden in 1969.

In his first season as coordinator in Denver, Allen helped the Broncos improve from allowing a league-worst 29.4 points and 390.8 yards per game to ranking 20th in yards (357.8) and 24th in points (24.4) this season on the way to an AFC West title.

Before serving as Denver's defensive coordinator last season, Allen spent five years as a defensive assistant in New Orleans and also coached for Atlanta.

Denver head coach John Fox said he was happy for Allen and was not surprised he got a promotion after just one year as a coordinator.

"He's a sharp guy who knows football, has a way of relating to his players and carries himself very well," Fox said in a statement.

The Raiders are coming off one of their worst defensive seasons ever. Oakland had franchise worsts in touchdown passes allowed (31), yards per carry (5.1), yards passing (4,262) and total yards (6,201), while giving up the third-most points (433) in team history.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Pico Branch Library
SP2119

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on March 5, 2012, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in the City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

Non-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
February 2, 2012 at 1:00 PM
2200 Virginia Avenue, Santa Monica, CA

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $7,500,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 420
CONSTRUCTION START: JUNE 2012
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1900.00 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $1300.00 Per Day

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 B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

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.

SURF REPORT



RIPCURL
LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 57.6°

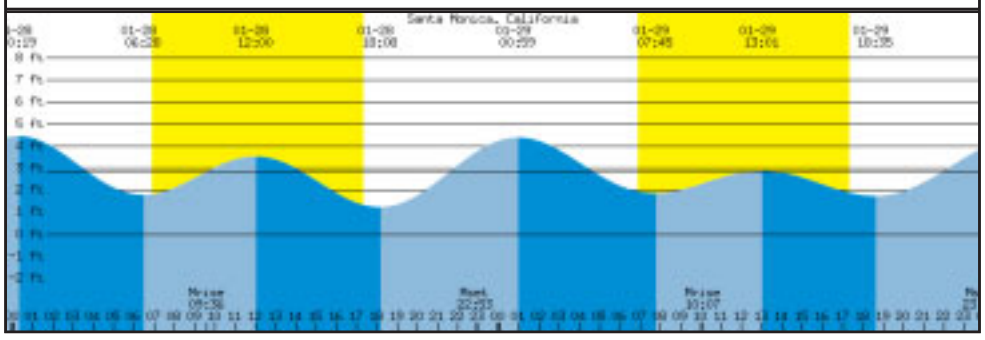
SWELL FORECAST

Looks to be more along the lines of head high at west facing breaks. Pluses are most likely in the early AM as this swell should back off later in the day.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

LOOKS SMALLER, ABOUT CHEST MAX AT WEST FACING BREAKS.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 25, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 2
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 18
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodstock Family Foundation, simplehuman, LazerGUY, SBBA

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 or the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	D	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	C
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	B
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	D
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	F
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Westward Ave. drain.	A	D
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	A	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	B
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	B
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty).	A+	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach - opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	D

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'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.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012
Bill McKinney memorial tribute.
Deliverance (R) 1hr 50min
Thunderbolt and Lightfoot (R) 1hr 55min
7:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2012

My Neighbor Totoro (G) 1hr 26min
4:00pm

Whisper of the Heart (G) 1hr 51min
7:30pm
In Japanese with English subtitles.

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

Beauty and the Beast 3D (G) 1hr 24min
11:20am, 1:30pm, 3:40pm, 5:50pm

War Horse (PG-13) 2hrs 26min
8:00pm

Iron Lady (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:45am, 2:25pm, 5:05pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2hrs 40min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:10pm, 9:30pm

My Week with Marilyn (R) 1hr 36min
11:30am, 1:55pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Underworld: Awakening 3D (R) 1hr 28min
11:00am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:15pm, 10:25pm

Man on a Ledge (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
10:50am, 1:55pm, 5:00pm, 8:05pm, 11:00pm

Red Tails (PG-13) 2hrs
10:55am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:55pm

Contraband (R) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:25pm

Grey (R) 1hr 57min
10:45am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

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

In Heaven, Underground. The Jewish Cemetery in Berlin-Weissensee (NR) 1hr 30min
11:00am

Carnage (R) 1hr 19min
11:00am

Joffrey: Mavericks of American Dance (NR) 1hr 27min
11:00am

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

Artist (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

We Need to Talk About Kevin (R) 1hr 50min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Dangerous Method (R) 1hr 39min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

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

Adventures of Tintin (PG) 1hr 41min
2:15pm, 5:05pm

Underworld: Awakening 3D (R) 1hr 28min
2:20pm, 7:45pm

Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
12:30pm, 3:40pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

Haywire (R) 1hr 33min
11:30am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

One for the Money (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:55am, 2:35pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Albert Nobbs (R) 1hr 53min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:55pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (R) 2hrs 07min
11:15am, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

Underworld: Awakening (R) 1hr 28min
11:45am, 5:00pm, 10:20pm

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

Join a friend for dinner, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your ability to energize and get going marks your decisions. Others naturally want to go off with you on an adventure. Make choices that suit you. A friend comes up with an exciting idea, which you will pounce on. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Take some time off from the grueling pace. Though it might not be OK in your mind to cancel or change plans, someone else does it with ease. A certain amount of upset surrounds this situation. Stop rather than react. Tonight: Take it slow and easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your ability to lighten up a situation takes over. An awkward moment is avoided because of your finesse. A friend plays an instrumental role in what occurs. Tonight: You are the party!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your skill and ability to get past an immediate snafu helps clear the way for a very important event or happening. You will assume the lead. Note what your sense of responsibility might be creating in your life. Check in with an older parent or friend. Tonight: The lead actor.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might have difficulty coming to terms with an associate or friend. This person might have done a total reversal, causing a problem when you least expected it. Be smart and let go; let it be the other person's issue. Tonight: Try a movie or listen to jazz.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might want to look at a situation with new eyes. What you are hearing could surprise even you. A partner could do something so stunning that you have to catch your breath. A child or loved one could be complicating matters. Tonight: Follow another person's lead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You might not be sure of yourself. If you have an opportunity to clear out a problem with a family member, please do. Touch base with a friend, and make plans to meet halfway, if not today, then soon. Tonight: Surround yourself with music.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Clearly a little exercise hurts no one, and you could gain from making it more of a habit. Choose an activity that works with your daily life. You might not be sure which way to go with a project or a key matter. Tonight: Don't read more into someone's mood than exists.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ What you see occurring could surprise you. Rather than stand back, be willing to take a risk. You could have a ball. Use special care when dealing with your finances. A mistake could cause a big problem. Tonight: Where the fun lies.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might want to grab an opportunity and move on it. If you do, you might disappoint various people. Think about what you are doing before you leap into action. Others might be very challenging and disagreeable. Tonight: For now, stay close to home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Catch up with a close relative. He or she might have some fun news. A neighbor also might want to talk. Clear out these conversations before you make plans, as they could impact your choices. Maintain your sense of humor with others. Tonight: Join a friend for dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Extremes could be costly in more than the obvious way. A friend does a very strange turnabout, forcing you to look at a situation differently. He or she pressures you to agree with him or her. Give yourself space to think and decide. Tonight: Accept an invitation out.

Happy birthday

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

This year avoid power plays and conflicts. You often could be disappointed by others' reactions. Learn not to rely on this type of feedback. You have the ability to be spontaneous, quick-witted and dynamic. Don't allow others to stop you. If you are single, you could be attracted to someone who is not emotional available. Look within to decide if this is a repeating pattern. If you are attached, the two of you need to agree to disagree. Make different opinions an asset to creating better ideas. ARIES knows how to help you out of the doldrums.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

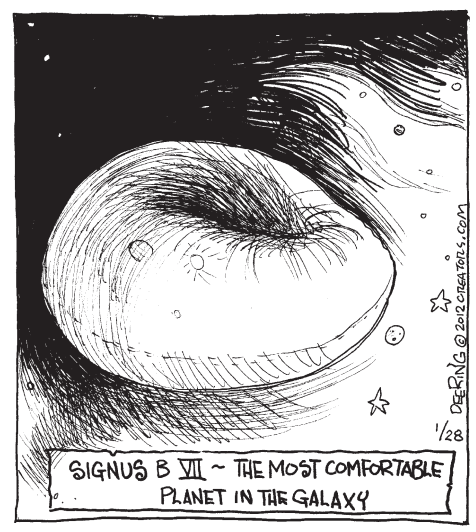
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



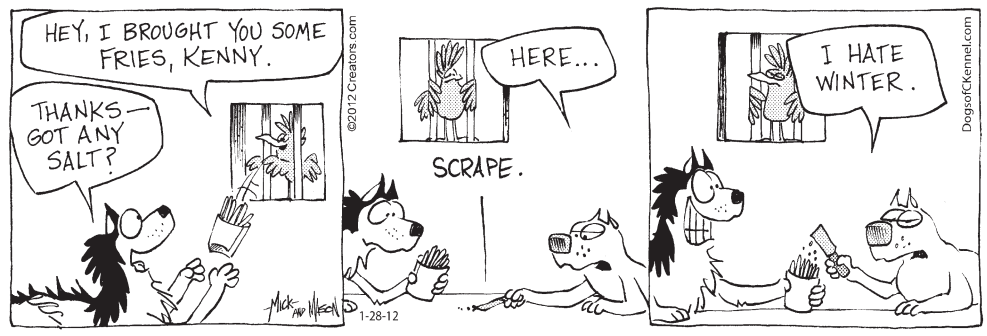
Strange Brew

By John Deering



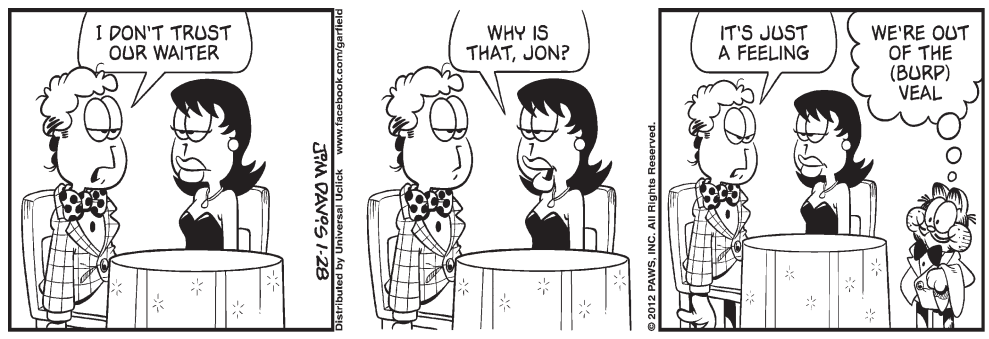
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



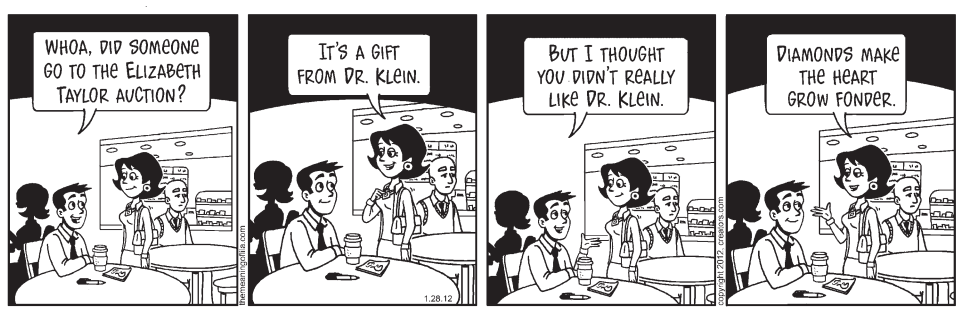
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

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

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Quick guess
5 Stick together
10 Fishing items
12 Accolade
13 Rust, for one
14 Spare
15 — amis
16 Do something
18 Scoundrel
19 Texas city
21 Cart puller
22 Stealthy
24 Moscow setting
25 Unembellished
29 Farm fathers
30 Sheen
32 Cry of insight
33 Implore
34 TV's "— Haw"
35 Hummer's instrument
37 Toss call
39 Atlanta university
40 Principle
41 Claire of "Homeland"
42 Digital clock parts

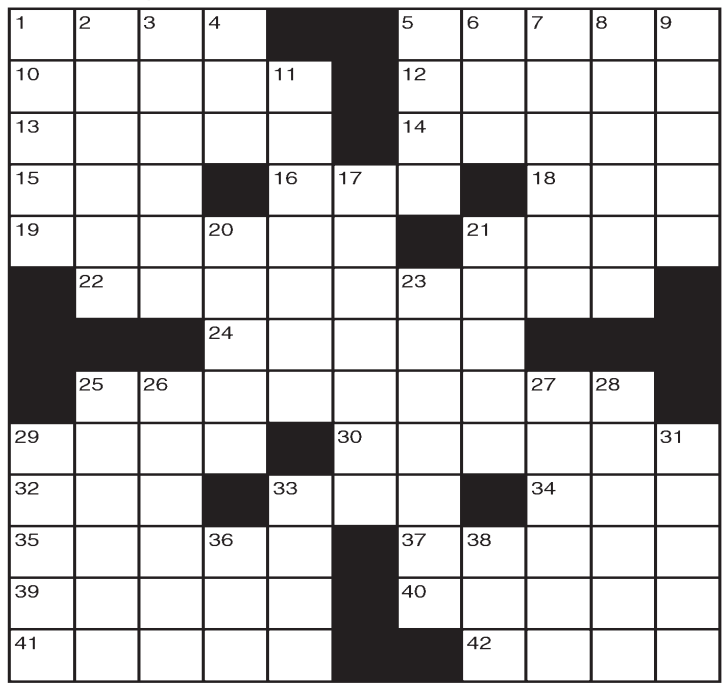
DOWN

1 Replay feature
2 Best man's wear
3 Up
4 Garden plot
5 Trumpeter Baker
6 Smoked salmon
7 Fabricated
8 Ethical concerns
9 Babble
11 Resort site
17 Skilled
20 Mixes up
21 Planet circlers
23 Notion
25 Grand — (Atlantic island)
26 Warring woman
27 Fuel gas
28 Ranked, in tennis
29 Did yard work
31 Takes ten
33 Some babies
36 Mine find
38 Sushi choice

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

Yesterday's answer

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1-28

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MEGA MILLIONS: 10 22 24 36 49 Meganumber: 33 Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 30 33 43 46 Meganumber: 9 Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5: 1 14 17 24 33

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 7 5 1 EVENING: 4 0 4

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 06 Whirl Win RACE TIME: 1:49.06

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

■ A recent article in the Journal of Sexual Medicine reported the painful results obtained by three Hispanic men incarcerated in the southwestern United States who had, for some reason, inserted specially designed chips, carved from dominoes, under the skin of their penises, apparently based on a folkloric belief that "sexual performance and virility" would be enhanced. Infections resulted, requiring "major" surgery that was unspecified in the article.

■ No "Individual Mandate": To meet its municipal budget, the town of South Fulton, Tenn., assessed each residence $75 a year for firefighting service, but in the name of "liberty" gave people the chance to opt out of coverage. Vicky Bell chose not to pay, and when her home caught fire in December, firefighters rushed to the scene -- but to be on hand in case the fire spread to her neighbors, who had paid their fees. Bell's home burned to the ground as firefighters watched. (Mayor David Crocker said "a majority" of residents had paid the fee.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1922 - Knickerbocker Storm, Washington D.C.'s biggest snowfall, causes the city's greatest loss of life when the roof of the Knickerbocker Theatre collapses.

1932 - Japanese forces attack Shanghai.

1933 - The name Pakistan is coined by Choudhary Rehmat Ali Khan and is accepted by the Indian Muslims who then thereby adopted it further for the Pakistan Movement seeking independence.

1934 - The first ski tow in the United States begins operation in Vermont.

1935 - Iceland becomes the first Western country to legalize therapeutic abortion.

1938 - The World Land Speed Record on a public road is broken by driver Rudolf Caracciola in the Mercedes-Benz W195 at a speed of 432.7 kilometres per hour (268.9 mph).

WORD UP!

conciliate
\ kuhn-SIL-ee-eyt \ , verb;
1. To overcome the distrust or hostility of; placate; win over.
2. To win or gain (goodwill, regard, or favor).

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

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

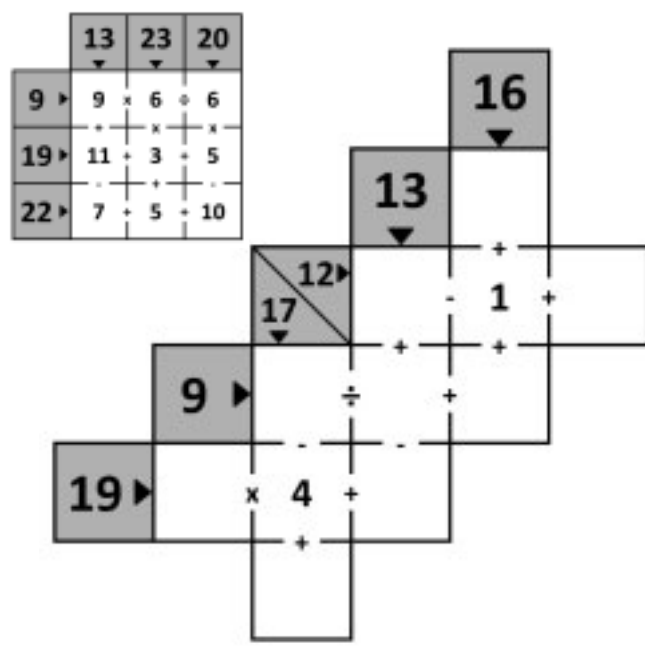
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3, 4, 7, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 11

Solution for Task 1280



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011150900 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/22/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FIBREVOLUTION. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Gwen Reichert 1940 N. Highland Ave. #55 Los Angeles, CA 90068. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)09/07/2011. /s/: Gwen Reichert. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/22/2011. 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 it-

DBAS

self 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 01/21/2012, 01/28/2012, 02/04/2012, 02/11/2012.

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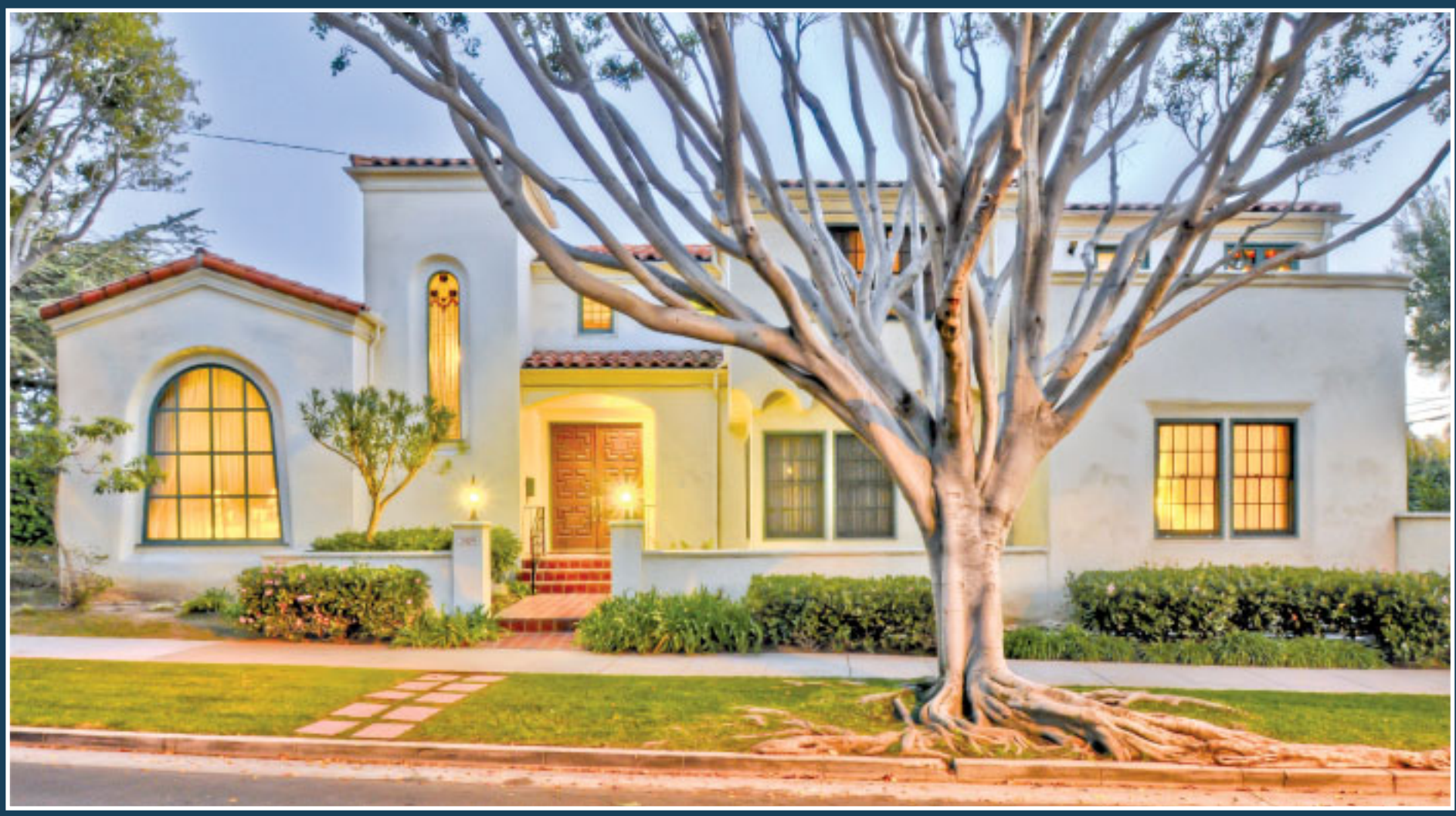
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