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THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009

Volume 7 Issue 73

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LATE BREAKING ISSUE



COOKING WITH KIDS
SEE PAGE 7

Two die in crash at SM airport

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SM AIRPORT A small plane carrying a pair of passengers crashed upon takeoff here Wednesday, killing both onboard.

City officials said that the single-engine craft was attempting to fly out of Santa Monica Airport shortly after 5 p.m. when the pilot reported engine trouble to the control tower. As the pilot attempted to land, the plane lost all power and headed nose first into the ground where it erupted into flames roughly 1,000 feet from the west end of the runway. No one on the ground was injured.

SMO manager Bob Trimborn called the incident "rare" and said this was just the second to occur since he began working in aviation in 1983. He said that the scene is considered a crime scene until more information can be gathered.

"It was a routine departure and then something tragically happened," Trimborn said.

He added that the plane was privately owned and operated and was based out of SMO.

Neither passenger has been identified and the flight plan was not released as of presstime. SMO was subsequently closed and all arrivals and departures were directed to area airports.

"I saw a plane not taking a normal takeoff," witness Mitchell Malachowski said

SEE **CRASH** PAGE 12

Homeless count draws big numbers

BY ROB LAWRENCE
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE For more than 200 volunteers, a long night had just began.

Just before 10 p.m. on Tuesday, the Ken Edwards Center on Fourth Street was packed with volunteers who gathered to participate in the Santa Monica homeless count for 2009.

For the first time, City Hall conducted a complete homeless count covering all of the city's 19 census tracts. The count included every street, alleyway, park, jail and shelter in Santa Monica.

To execute the massive tally, City Hall had to enlist at least 180 volunteers to cover the ground. However, the turnout was much larger than expected.

"We hoped we'd get about 180 and we're closer to about 260," said Julie Rusk, manager of the Human Services Division. "We've been turning people away."

All across Los Angeles, communities participated in a homeless count and Santa Monica ended up sending the extra volunteers to areas across L.A.

The 260 people were divided up into two large groups, one beginning at the Ken Edwards Center and the other at Virginia

SEE **COUNT** PAGE 12



HOT CAREER

SMFD FIREFIGHTER TAKES SAVING LIVES SERIOUSLY
STORY BY RACHEL DARDASHTI PAGE 9

Council declares seat vacant

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The search for the seventh member of the City Council has officially begun.

Nearly three weeks after Councilmember and former Mayor Herb Katz died, his colleagues declared the late architect's seat vacant, a step that is required to launch the process to appoint a replacement.

Candidates, who must be registered voters in Santa Monica to qualify, will have until Feb. 17 to file an application with the City Clerk's Office. The council is expected to make a decision at its Feb. 24 meeting.

The seat must be filled with an appointment within 30 days of it being declared vacant or a special election will be held to determine the new councilmember.

Katz died Jan. 7 after a long battle with

SEE **VACANCY** PAGE 12

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



What's new this week?

Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
Join us for a free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad. Subjects cover politics, the economy, society and culture. Discussion moderator, Jack Nordhaus, is a former college history professor. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Laugh it up

Shakti's Elements
717 Broadway, 11 a.m. — 11 p.m.
Certified laughter yoga leader Kim Selbert guides an all-ages group through a body-mind exercise routine appropriate for all fitness levels. For more information, call (310) 849-4642 or contact Selbert via e-mail at kimselbert@mac.com.

Preschool story time

Montana Ave. Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 11:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.
The Montana Avenue Branch Library presents stories for children ages three through five.

Friday, Jan. 30, 2009

Nuclear cancer

Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8:00 p.m. — 9:15 p.m.
"Made Me Nuclear" is Charlie Lustman's humorous one man pop music operetta about surviving cancer. Written and performed by Charlie Lustman. Directed by Chris DeCarlo. Every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. until Jan. 31. For more information, call (310) 394-9779.

Salsa the night away

Isabelle's Salsa/Tango/Pole Dance Academy
1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7:15 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Learn or improve your salsa moves at Isabelle Pampillo's salsa socials. $20 buys a 90-minute class, social hour, and practice. Call (310) 392-3493 for more information.

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

Fiery crash causes frustrating commute

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

INTERSTATE 10 Drivers trying to make their way east out of Santa Monica on Wednesday were faced with a frustrating commute with cars backed up for miles because of a fiery crash that shut down several lanes of the Santa Monica Freeway.

Motorists took to side streets heading east, causing gridlock on major thoroughfares like Olympic and Pico boulevards. Traffic officers were assigned to the Cloverfield Boulevard off-ramp to help move motorists along and relieve congestion.

However, there was little officers could do because of the magnitude of the accident, which forced the California Highway Patrol to close down the eastbound side of Interstate 10 until roughly 1 p.m. Wednesday, SMPD Sgt. Larry Horn said.

"Drivers just have to be patient in a situation like this," Horn said. "There's really nothing we can do."

The accident was reported about 5 a.m., according to the CPH. According to reports received by the CHP, a wrong-way driver was traveling in eastbound lanes just moments before the crash occurred. Two men in their 30s died at the scene, Villalobos said, one of whom was a Culver City police officer.

Traffic on the eastbound side was backed up to Lincoln Boulevard, Villalobos said, describing a backup of about four miles.

A short time after the collision, at least one vehicle was ablaze, and Los Angeles firefighters were summoned to the scene, Villalobos said.

All eastbound lanes were blocked, as were the No. 1 and 2 westbound lanes, Villalobos said. Also blocked were the transition roads between the 10 Freeway and the San Diego (405) Freeway.

news@smdp.com



CREATIVE JUICES

Byron Kennerly *news@smdp.com*

Fifth graders from Dolores Mission Elementary School work on an Elias Simé art project on Wednesday at the Santa Monica Museum of Art at Bergamot Station as part of the museum's Wall Works program. In this case, the students are working on a large burlap stitching project that will be roughly 5 feet by 300 feet long. It will be on exhibit through June. About 300 students will participate.

Cirque returns to American roots

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL After a nine-year absence, the surreal sights and sounds of Cirque du Soleil will return to the city where it made its American debut and first experienced commercial success, helping launch a more than two-decade career entertaining audiences across the globe.

The City Council on Tuesday authorized City Manager Lamont Ewell to enter into a contract for the world-renown acrobatic troupe to bring its newest production — KOOZA — back to the 1550 parking lot, which is located adjacent to the Santa Monica Pier.

It's Cirque's first appearance in Santa Monica since 2000.

The troupe was founded in 1984 by Guy Laliberté, who brought the performances to Santa Monica in 1987, becoming a beach-

SEE CIRQUE PAGE 13

Apartment smoking ban now official

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Lighting up cigarettes in common areas of multi-unit residences is now prohibited.

The council adopted on second reading an ordinance to ban tobacco in common areas of apartments and condominium complexes, adding to a growing list of anti-smoking laws in the city.

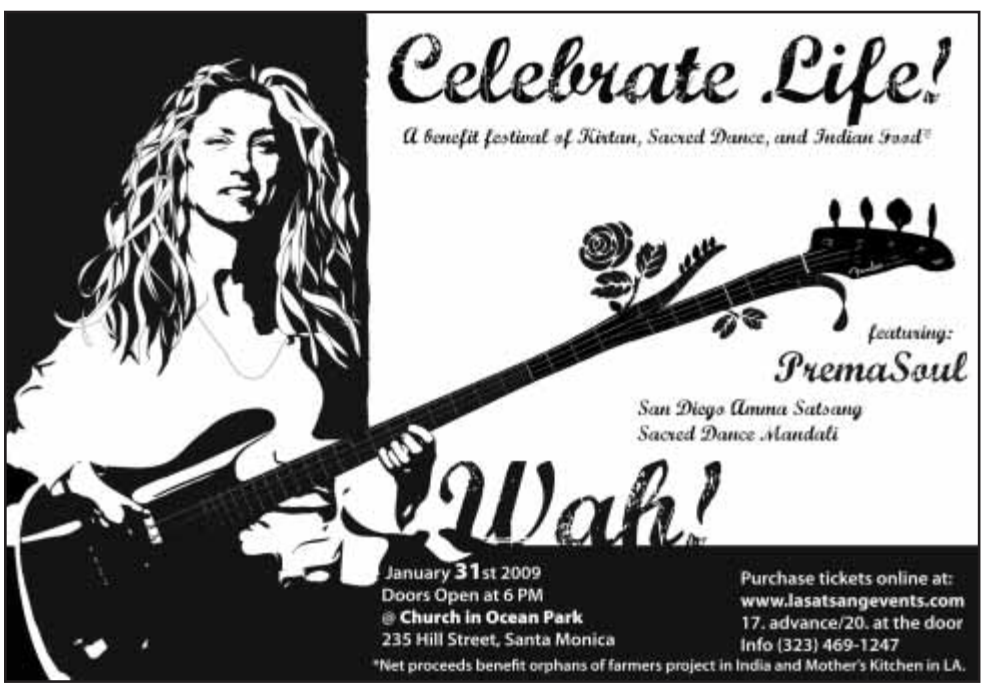
Ordinances go through a two-step process before they are formally adopted, including the first reading when community input is permitted, and the second reading when the law is ratified.

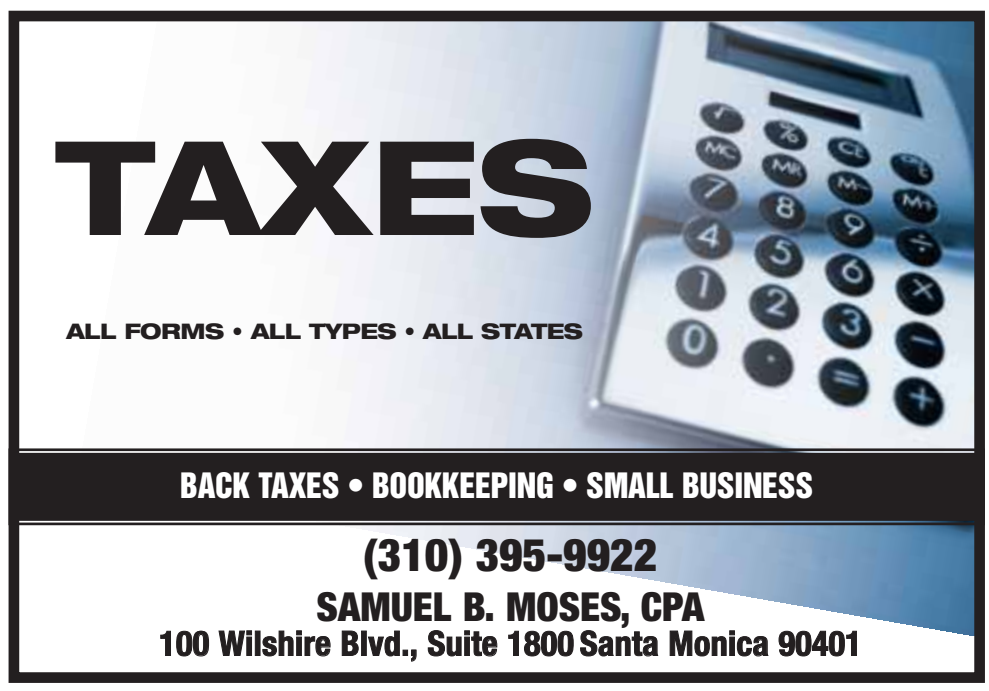
Renters have complained about the impacts of living with neighbors who smoke, some claiming they have developed respiratory illnesses.

The ordinance addresses concerns that landlords would use it to evict offending renters, specifically stating that it cannot be used as grounds to terminate tenancy and clarifying that smoking in common areas shall not be considered a violation of law under a lease. It also establishes a method through which residents could challenge a neighbor who smokes in a common area, allowing them to seek damages of at least $100 in Small Claims Court.

The minimum damages increases to $200 for a second violation that is committed within one year, and to $500 for the third

SEE BAN PAGE 13





EDITORIAL

Making changes

The Daily Press would like to apologize to Garfield and Lila. We're sorry for bumping you out of the paper and we'd like to make it up to you and, more importantly, our readers by bringing you back.

In these trying times, many companies are looking to get leaner and meaner, and to accomplish that, compromises must be made. After considerable debate, the Daily Press decided earlier this month to no longer offer comics as a way to create more room for editorial content and save cash. By eliminating comics, we could gain an entire page, which would allow us to run more photos and local stories, plus award-winning features from the Associated Press.

We quickly realized that this was not a popular move. Scores of our readers picked up their phones and called in, pleading with us to bring their beloved comics back. There were also e-mails and letters to the editor, all wondering where the funny pages went.

Knowing that our readers are our most important asset, we decided it would be best to listen to their feedback and resurrect comics. We still must scale back some, given space constraints, but we hope our readers once again enjoy a few laughs, which are sorely needed during a time when many are struggling to make ends meet.

But we didn't stop there. Looking to remain Santa Monica's premier source for news, we embarked late last year on a mission to redesign our Web site and make it more user friendly, allowing readers to better search for previous stories while providing a platform for our columnists and photographers to store their body of work.

While there are still some minor changes that need to be made, the new Web site is up and running, and we hope our readers enjoy it. There will be more content added in the weeks ahead to make this site as robust as possible. We welcome any suggestions our readers may have on improving the site and hope it makes it easier for the community to respond to stories they've read and share their ideas with others through this online forum.

The Daily Press appreciates the support we receive from our readers and we are pleased to know that people are paying attention, even if that means being the subject of criticism.

LOL: laughing out loud
BRB: be right back
MUSM: miss you so much
A/S/L: age, sex, location
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
LULAS: love you like a sister
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life

HDOP: help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

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National Center for Missing & Exploited Children



My Write

Bill Bauer

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Part 3: On patrol with the SMPD's HLP Team

JAN. 16, 1 P.M. I'M A SANTA MONICA Police Department volunteer on patrol with Homeless Liaison Program (HLP) team Officer Jacob Holloway on a stepped up neighborhood resource, crime-fighting operation in Downtown. We're in Holloway's police car.

Holloway is on his cell phone. An 18-year-old girl who attends a local high school and is active with a city youth organization is in crisis. Evicted, her parents recently arrested and younger siblings in foster care through Child Protective Services, she's now alone and homeless. Friends paid for a motel for a couple of nights, but she's in serious need of long term assistance.

Holloway phones the SMPD's outreach contractor Ron Hooks with West Coast Care to help find shelter for the young woman. It's a desperate situation. Fearing she could fall prey to dangerous persons, drugs or alcohol, Holloway phones Daybreak, a women's shelter which has an emergency bed assigned for police/HLP Team use. The bed is available, but only for a limited time.

1:15 p.m. Holloway spots a disheveled man riding a bicycle on the sidewalk on Fifth Street near Broadway. He pulls him over. "It's illegal to ride a bicycle on a sidewalk in Santa Monica," he tells the man and asks for identification. The bicyclist has none but tells Holloway his name and birth date.

He's not on the computer. Holloway reruns him and the computer spits out a "want" for a dangerous felon with a $50,000 kidnapping warrant — same name but different birth date than our sidewalk bicyclist. We wait. Holloway looks up a mugshot of the "wanted" person and it doesn't look like our guy. We thank him for his time and advise him about bicycle safety. He rides off — in the street this time.

1:40 p.m. On Ocean Avenue and we see an elderly man in Palisades Park sleeping on a bench surrounded by trash. Holloway wakes him. His exposed legs are covered in sores and ulcerated skin. Filthy gauze bandages unravel from his ankles. The air is filled with a foul odor. Holloway approaches, "What happened to you?"

"I have diabetes and high blood pressure," the man mumbles. A heavy-set woman lying on grass nearby starts berating Holloway. He ignores her.

Holloway is clearly distressed by the man's appearance. "I'm not going to let you lay here and die," he says. "Do you want to have your legs amputated?"

"No," the man responds weakly. Holloway insists on taking him to the hospital. We pick up the trash and help the man into the car. As we prepare to drive to the emergency room at Santa Monica/UCLA Medical Center, we hear the heavy-set woman shout out, "You're a good guy," to Holloway.

At the hospital, staff doesn't hesitate to accept him. We leave knowing he'll get good care.

2:15 p.m. At Santa Monica Boulevard and Ninth Street a pedestrian yells at us, "Fight down the street!" More pedestrians and motorists flag us. Holloway asks, "Where?"

"On Lincoln Boulevard. One is wearing black and the other doesn't have a shirt."

MY EXPERIENCE PROVED TO ME ONCE AGAIN THAT THE MEN AND WOMEN OF OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT ARE A THOROUGHLY HARD-WORKING AND CARING GROUP OF PROFESSIONALS.

Holloway hits the lights and siren. We cut left on Lincoln and are directed to Alley Eight south of Broadway. "White guy, no shirt," another pedestrian shouts. We spot a shirtless man crossing Colorado Avenue and catch up with him in the parking lot behind Norm's restaurant. He is ordered to stop. Other police cars arrive.

It seems that the "man in black" got into a fight over two bucks that "shirtless" supposedly owed him. Each claims the other person swung first. Because it was a "mutual" fight, neither man had a serious criminal history, no harm was done and the dispute involved two measly bucks, Holloway suggests that "shirtless" could pay the two bucks owed, they could both apologize and go their separate ways.

They agree and "shirtless" gives the other guy $2. "Sorry" and vows "not to fight again" are exchanged and each is sent off in opposite directions.

2:45 p.m. Nearing the end of his shift, Holloway drops me off at the Pier Substation and heads back to the Public Safety Facility to finish reports and follow up finding shelter for the homeless high schooler.

My experience proved to me once again that the men and women of our Police Department are a thoroughly hard-working and caring group of professionals. Holloway says that providing services such as taking a sick transient to the hospital or helping finding shelter for a desperate youth is what any good police officer would do.

For the 12 years I've been a Santa Monica police volunteer, I've seen many officers like Jacob Holloway — who do their job competently and with great compassion. It's why I volunteer for the SMPD and treasure every minute I spend doing it.

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Meredith Pro Tem

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

Familiarity with the first family

THE (FIRST) DAY PRESIDENT OBAMA TOOK the oath of office, I finally felt a change in the tide. Not since the Lincoln Bedroom was underwritten by Motel 6 during the Clinton administration has the country had White House denizens with whom the average American family could enjoy some sort of real connection.

J. Crew accessorized all four members of the Obama family on Jan. 20. When the 10 gala events came to an end that evening and an after-party got under way at the White House, the president hung out while a pooped Mrs. Obama passed out in bed upstairs. Unlike the hoity-toity hoopla surrounding the inaugural ceremonies of the Reagans, Bushes (41 and 43) and Clintons, the song to which the president and first lady shared their first dance was crooned by a singer most known for being bootylicious. And who among us hasn't flubbed our lines at least once in front of a large crowd on an important day?

All of which makes me feel that the first family is kind of like mine. We also buy off the rack and turn into pumpkins before most nights are over. None of our rears have ever been accused of being bony and we've all said things we regret more times than any of us care to remember.

So now I'm wondering what else my family and the Obamas might have in common. For instance, does President Obama embark on a daily (sometimes hourly) scavenger hunt for his cell phone, wallet, keys, watch and eyeglasses like my husband? As often as I've encouraged him to put his paraphernalia on the foyer table immediately upon entering the house so we won't have to call in the blood hounds every morning, he still manages to find a new and amazingly well-hidden place for each necessity each day. Does the president also act surprised each time he can't find something? Each and every day. Every day of the year. Year after year after year.

Does the president start his day by throwing up couch cushions, peering under mattresses and rifling through dresser drawers that have never seen daylight, shouting to anyone within a three-county radius if they've seen his belt? And does the first lady grit her teeth and try not to explode when she happens upon the belt — literally — because her husband left it on the floor next to the couch?

Does President Obama leave his nearly full glass of water on the counter directly adjacent to the sink, seemingly deliberately avoiding the actual empty sink or, heaven forbid, the dishwasher? And then does he take another glass from the cabinet the next time he's thirsty? Leave that glass on the kitchen table? Then a little while later go for another drink and place that half empty glass on the coffee table? Following that does he leave a full glass next to the bed? If the president presumably knows that his wife prefers seltzer water to the flat variety, why does he ask her if each of the glasses filled with flat water are hers?

When the president is quizzed about the status of the water glasses, does he declare, like my husband, that he left them out intentionally because he plans to drink them later? Does Mrs. Obama weigh summoning the White House physician to check her husband's electrolyte level, concerned about his potential to suffer from hyponatremia?

When the Obama girls were babies, did their father ever attempt to feed them without being supervised by his wife, like my husband did last week? As a result, did he ever confuse a stage one rice cereal with a stage two oatmeal? Did he attempt to mix formula with the cereal without actually adding water to the formula, and then wonder why the mixture seemed kind of dry?

Did the president ever try to pack a diaper bag and call his wife to ask what was supposed to go inside? Was he ever responsible for losing his baby's favorite jingly, dainty ladybug that strapped onto the handle of her car seat? Did he think replacing it with a large stuffed fish would fool his incredibly bright infant?

Thankfully for the president, there's probably no longer a microscope on where he leaves his water glasses and how he prepares food now that he lives in a 55,000 square foot mansion with a cast of dozens to find his junk and cook his family's meals. While admittedly it's something to which neither my husband nor I can relate, it is something to which neither of us will ever stop aspiring. Yes, we can.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithccarroll@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Council searches

The passing of City Councilman Herb Katz recently has forced his colleagues on the dais to search for a replacement. It will be difficult to replace the esteemed Katz who dedicated much of his life to civil service.

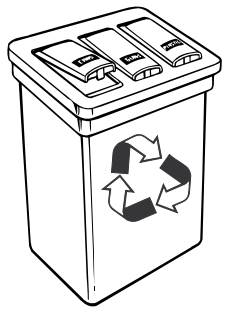
So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Who would you like to see as the new City Council member?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.


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6:30pm to 9:00pm
Santa Monica Public Library
Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica
Dr. Stephen Carroll, Senior Economist, RAND Corporation
The Impact of Educational Quality on the Community
Ralph Mechur and Barry Snell, President and Vice President, Santa Monica-Malibu Board of Education
The Top Five Things That You Should Know about Our Schools
Tim Cuneo, Superintendent, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
The State of Our Schools
Teachers & Students
Perspectives and Experiences
Reception and refreshments to follow the presentations.
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Go to Santa Monica-Malibu PTA web site www.smmpta.org for Open House dates.
www.excellentpublicschools.org
Santa Monica Malibu Schools
Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs
Advocating for the Health, Education and Welfare of All Children
www.smmpta.org

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Simple Real Food

Amanda Cushman — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Making dinner exciting

IN MY HOUSE WE ARE COOKING EVERY day lately and enjoying it immensely. The hard part is coming up with new ideas of what to have for dinner. I get that comment all the time in my cooking classes, which is why so many people take classes — to learn new stuff!

I have been perusing through old cookbooks and that gets me motivated to branch out and make a new recipe. Often times I glance at a recipe and then change it to suit my taste, adding a little more garlic here, a fresh herb there and voila — you have created your own recipe. That is the thing, there are no "new" recipes just versions of the same dish that have been made for centuries. I mean how many ways are there to cook a piece of fish? That is why I came up with the idea of writing recipes with at least two alternatives. For example, if you have an Asian fish recipe and want to make it Italian, simply change the flavoring from sesame oil to olive, replace ginger with garlic and cilantro with basil. It is actually very simple if you have any inkling about food at all.

My cookbook "Simple Real Food" has tips at the end of each recipe for make ahead ideas and alternatives to change the flavor or substitute one type of protein for another.

I have written the following two recipes with just this type of thinking in mind to get those creative juices flowing. Get into the kitchen and get cooking!

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

Grilled Ahi Tuna with Aioli
Serves 4

Ingredients
1 lemon, juiced
1 garlic clove, minced
3 tbs. olive oil
Salt, pepper
1 piece ahi grade tuna, two pounds, cut into four steaks

Aioli:
1 large egg
3 anchovies
2 garlic cloves, peeled, roughly chopped
2 tbs. lemon juice
1 tbs. chopped parsley
1/4 tsp. cayenne
3/4 cup canola oil

Procedure
Combine the lemon, garlic, olive oil salt and pepper in a medium bowl. Add tuna and turn to coat. Marinate up to one hour but no longer. In a processor combine the egg, anchovies, garlic, lemon, parsley and cayenne and process 30 seconds. Add the oil slowly through the feed tube while it's running. Season with salt to taste. Heat a grill and lightly spray with vegetable cooking spray. Grill the tuna 2 minutes per side. Remove to a cutting board. Slice the tuna against the grain and serve with the aioli sauce.

Sesame Grilled Tuna with Ginger Soy Sauce
Serves 4

Ingredients
1 piece ahi grade tuna, two pounds, cut into four steaks
1/4 cup sesame oil
3 tbs. soy sauce
Wasabi soy sauce
1 tbs. wasabi powder
3 tbs. soy sauce
1/4 cup lime juice
1/4 cup chicken stock
1/4 cup mirin
1 tbs. toasted sesame oil
2 tsp. minced ginger
3/4 cup combined black and white sesame seeds, toasted
2 tbs. canola oil

Procedure
Combine the tuna with the sesame oil and soy sauce in a medium bowl. Marinate for 10 to 20 minutes. Meanwhile make the sauce. Combine the sauce ingredients in a small saucepan and bring to a simmer over med-hi heat. Remove from the heat and taste, adjust seasoning. Place the sesame seeds on a baking sheet and coat the tuna in the seeds. Heat a grill pan over high heat for 5 minutes. Lightly spray with vegetable cooking spray. Sear the tuna 2 to 4 minutes on each side, depending on desired doneness. Remove to a cutting board. Slice the tuna against the grain and place on 4 dinner plates overlapping slightly. Ladle the sauce over the tuna and serve warm or room temperature.
• You may use salmon or sea bass instead of the tuna. You may make the sauce ahead and reheat before serving. This sauce is also good on chicken or pork.



Growing up Gourmet

Samantha Barnes
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Making 2009 the year of the family kitchen

FOR MANY KIDS, NEW YEAR'S EVE MEANS chowing down on pizza and soda while watching movies with the babysitter.

But my childhood tradition on Dec. 31 was very different. For me, New Year's Eve meant driving two hours into New York City to shop at the specialty market, Zabars. It meant donning my fanciest dress-up clothes, costume jewelry, and experimenting with mom's make-up. New Year's Eve had little to do with balls dropping or resolutions, but had everything to do with my favorite, once-a-year gourmet goodies from the Upper Westside "Epicurian Emporium." We're talking imported caviar on fancy rye toasts, smoked salmon with dill and marinated mushrooms, pickled herring, cured black olives, and (shhh) a few sips of champagne.

Earlier in the day, I'd carefully prepare a hand-drawn menu of the evenings' specialties and help my mom polish our proper silver and fine china. For our tiny crew (me, my mom, our dog Penny, and my stuffed animals) this was a very fancy occasion.

Admittedly, I wasn't the first child with such extravagant tastes (a 6-year old in one of our after-school cooking classes lists escargot as her favorite food). But today we tend to hear more about childhood obesity and picky eaters than kids who gorge on fancy fare.

Most American kids could use a few lessons on expanding their palate (and I don't mean force feeding sushi to fish-hating first graders). With busy schedules and overworked parents, the temptation to serve chicken fingers instead of homemade pot-pie and frozen French fries in place of baked sweet potatoes is too great for many families. Perhaps even worse, few families make the effort to sit around the dinner table, sharing stories and passing a salad.

Family mealtime as Norman Rockwell would recognize it has become a long-forgotten American pastime. And in turn we are raising a generation of picky eaters who think peaches come from cans and have little interest in eating a nutritionally-balanced meal.

In the spirit of the new year, there's no better time to change the way your family eats. And it's easier than you think. Cook with your kids. It has been proven time and again that kids who help out in the kitchen are much more likely to become adventurous eaters. Kids with culinary instruction not only cultivate a more diverse palate, but also experience increased self-confidence, discover the important role nutrition plays in our physical and emotional well-being, and build the foundation for healthy life-long skills.

Mom and dads are busy trying to stick to their resolutions: Eat healthy, save money, spend more time as a family. But so many times these resolutions fall by the wayside. To make a resolution last, we need an organized plan of action. As such, I urge families to support a kitchen resolution: a simple but powerful commitment to make dinner together as a family one night each week.

Here's the plan: Join me in making a New Year's Kitchen Resolution! Make 2009 the "Year of the Family Kitchen!"

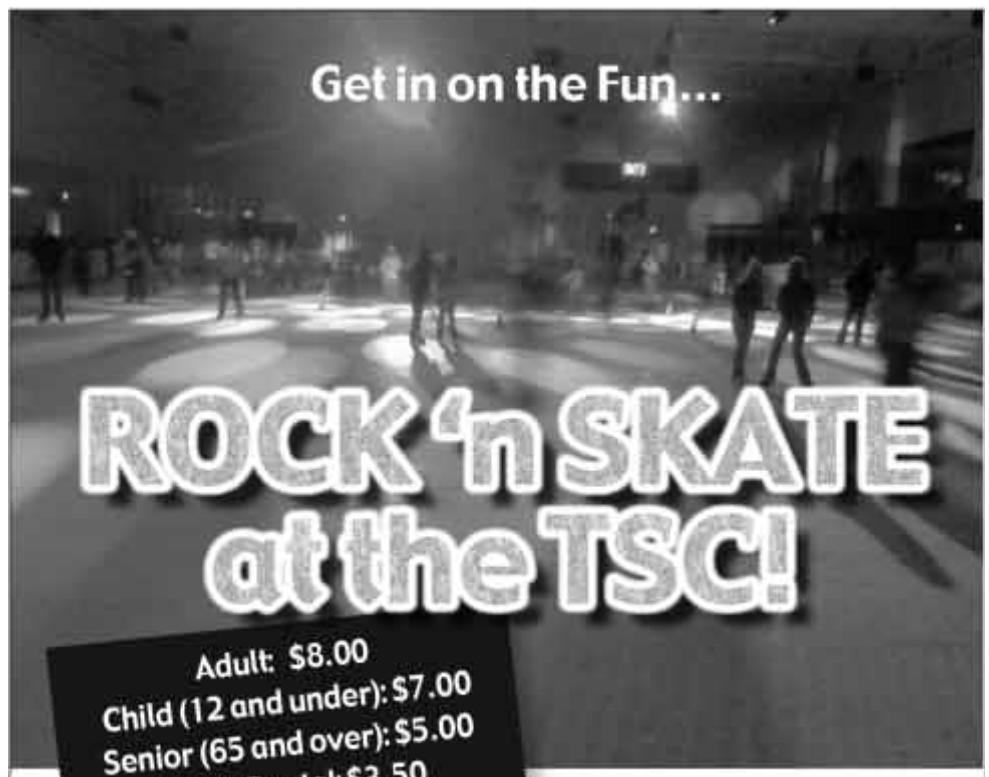
MOST AMERICAN KIDS COULD USE A FEW LESSONS ON EXPANDING THEIR PALATE (AND I DON'T MEAN FORCE FEEDING SUSHI TO FISH-HATING FIRST GRADERS).

Here's how: Commit to a Family Kitchen one night each week when soccer practice and PTO meetings won't have you eating in the car. Earlier in the week, decide on a menu theme that will excite your family of chefs, (Greek? Comfort food? No-silverware-required finger foods?) and plan and shop for the meal. On the night of Family Kitchen, make sure each family member lends a hand. From reading recipes and stirring risotto, to tearing bread and grating cheese, there's a kitchen task that's perfect for every chef, young or old.

Remember, this meal is much more about the process than the product. So take time, have fun, and enjoy your too-crowded kitchen. What can you expect from this family adventure around the stove? Maybe something you can't find at the table: An extra bite of middle school gossip; a surprised "mmm" from a 5-year old sneaking broccoli; a covert opportunity to test your fourth grader's division skills. Plus, with a slimmer waistband, a fatter wallet, and a happier, healthier family who cooks-up fun together, this is one New Year's resolution you'll be grateful for well into spring. Perhaps by next January when your kids watch the ball drop, they'll trade-in those ubiquitous chicken fingers and boxed mac and cheese for roasted vegetables and paper-baked salmon.

SAMANTHA BARNES is the founder of Kitchen Kid, a cooking school for kids (www.KitchenKid.com). She can be reached at samantha@kitchenkid.com. For more information about supporting a Kitchen Resolution, and to sign the petition, visit: www.kitchenkid.com/KitchenResolution.

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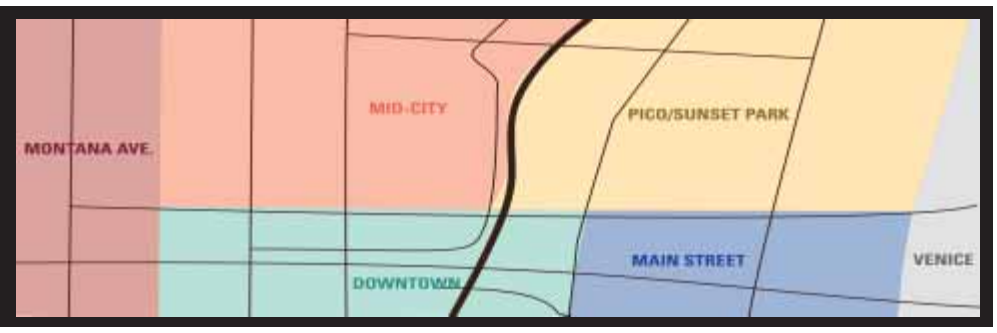
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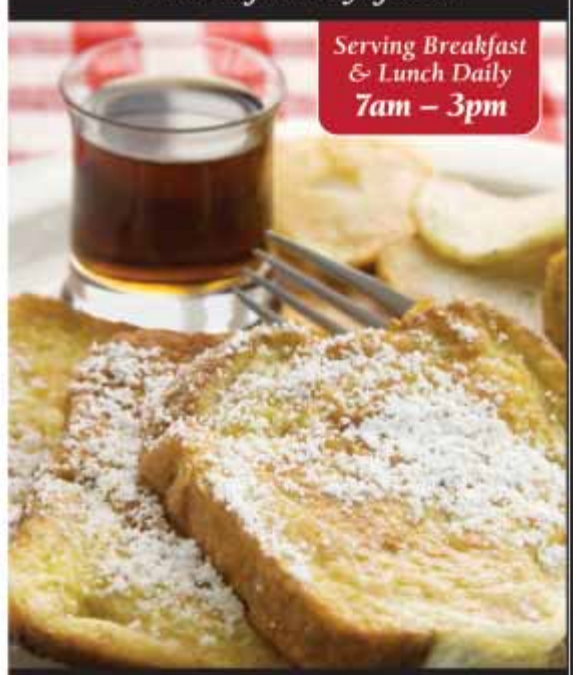
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PHOTO

A day in the life: Patrick Nulty, Santa Monica firefighter

Editor's note: Have you ever wondered what it would be like to walk in another person's shoes? The Daily Press presents a series of interviews with local workers to find out what their typical day is like, from a bus driver to a short-order cook, fireman to taxi driver.

BY RACHEL DARDASHTI
Special to the Daily Press


NULTY

CITY YARDS Dense gray clouds of smoke billowed out of the door as the firefighters rushed toward the flames. Equipped with an ax and a hose, the men approached the door cautiously, waiting for the signal to enter.

They pried open the door, and immediately the blaze was upon them. Quickly and efficiently, they put out the potentially disastrous conflagration. When it was over they smiled with the satisfaction of knowing that another training exercise went off without a hitch.

Among the firefighters was Patrick Nulty, a 28-year-old Santa Monica native whose passion for public safety can be traced back to frequent visits with his uncle, a Santa Monica firefighter. It was during those visits that Nulty realized he would, "do anything to get that job."

"Obviously, it was the coolest thing I'd seen in my life," Nulty said.

While attending Santa Monica High School, Nulty, already enthusiastic about the fire service, took classes to become an Emergency Medical Technician and joined the L.A. County Explorer Youth Program. At both Santa Monica and Oxnard colleges he majored in fire technology. Once he finished school, Nulty worked as a technician in the emergency room at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

Nulty's career and educational endeavors have all suited his childhood dream to be a firefighter. After two years as a firefighter in Los Angeles, Nulty joined the SMFD. Three years later, he has decided to go on to paramedic school where he will learn skills to provide greater patient care and progress as a firefighter.

"A lot of calls we go on are really injured people or really sick people," Nulty said. "There's only limited stuff I can do. Being a paramedic you are open to a whole other realm of patient care."

In Santa Monica, all firefighters are EMTs, however, not all are paramedics. Paramedics have the training and knowledge to provide life-saving measures, which include IV administration. According to Capt. Mike Lavoi of Engine 123, nearly 80 percent of calls in Santa Monica are medical. Therefore, it is helpful for firefighters to supplement their education with paramedic training, which the fire department sponsors.

On a recent Friday morning, Station no. 3 was filled with the B shift of Engines 123 and 124. The firefighters were beginning their morning line-up at 8:30 a.m. following their hour workout.

Upon watching the morning meeting, one is struck by the camaraderie of the men, all of whom have worked together for years. Despite their differing seniority or assignment to different engines, each offered to help when needed.

Among them is Nulty, who, as a one of the younger members of the group, takes it upon himself to clean the kitchen and empty the dishwasher. When asked about his relationship with the other firemen, Nulty said, "It's a second family. It's like a fraternity, but not a messy one with a bunch of drunk idiot kids."

After the morning meeting, Engines 123 and 124 set out to the practice area for a pump test and training. While the engineers tested the pumping mechanisms of Engine 124, the others put out simulated fires and saved potential victims.

Over the course of the day, Engine 123 answered three real calls — all medical in nature. When arriving at the site of each emergency, Nulty always took the lead, examining the patient, checking blood pressure, heart beat and pulse. Each of the patients required transportation to the emergency room, however, none of them were seriously sick or injured.

Firefighters provide aid in a variety of situations, which range from dangerous fires such as those in Yorba Linda and Montecito, to mundane medical conditions. Most of their days proceed slowly — cleaning the station, training, and answering medical calls. Occasionally, their support extends to the ridiculous. Once Engine 123 was sent to help someone turn off their sprinklers; it was not an incident they had trained for.

While their days may sometimes be considered repetitious or perhaps absurd, the firefighters agree that each appeal for their assistance is "just another opportunity to help someone."

Despite the knowledge that the daily grind of a firefighter is not always exciting, Nulty reflects on his work combating fires with earnestness.

"After the fact, its like, that's some pretty cool stuff we did," he said.

From the look on his face it is obvious that the dreary routine does nothing to dull the excitment of fighting a fire.

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Some confusion during count

FROM COUNT PAGE 1

Avenue Park. The groups were then split into 65 teams of about three to four.

"People often ask how many people are homeless in Santa Monica, and I think it's a really important and valid question," said Danielle Noble, senior administrative analyst for the Human Services Division. "It's something we need to know as it changes every day."

In addition to just knowing the scope of the homeless problem, City Hall is dependent on their homeless counts to receive funding from the federal government for social services.

The Santa Monica Police Department had a large presence at the gathering — at least 20 officers. Their job was to provide security for the homeless count.

"I think what it does is provide a level of comfort for our volunteers," SMPD Chief Tim Jackman said of the large police presence. "Do I expect anything? No, but I would much rather be prepared."

There was a brief training presentation by Noble to prepare the groups for their task.

One of the main points was how to identify a homeless person. The Human Services Division broke it down into simple ABCs: Attitude, Behavior and Condition.

Noble stressed that everyone participating in the count needed to respect the homeless and not interact with them.

Around 11 p.m. the presentation ended and the volunteers were given flashlights, hats, whistles, and clipboards with tally sheets.

Brian Buchner, a member of the Social Services Commission, almost lost his group in the confusion that ensued during the group roll calls. He eventually caught up with team 21 as they were about to leave. Team 21 consisted of Buchner, Amy Kivnick, a resident and active volunteer, Jesse Torres, a Cal State Northridge sophomore, and Rebecca James, a local writer.

The team had a fairly large piece of Santa Monica to cover — from Colorado Avenue to Pico Boulevard and Main Street to the beach boardwalk. The team of four stood outside of the Ken Edwards Center trying to figure out where they should start.

"It starts right here," said Torres as he pointed to a homeless man, ready to make his first tally.

"No we're not there yet," Buchner said. "We don't start yet."

"That's not us?" asked Kivnick as she pointed to the map provided by the city.

"I find this map a little confusing. I can't see where the streets are," James said as she squinted at the map.

Once the group became oriented they had a new challenge, determining if people were homeless or not. Since they were not allowed to approach people they were counting, volunteers had to guess using a set of criteria. Did the person have luggage or wear several layers of clothing?

"What about him?" Torres asked as the group observed a man standing near a bus stop.

The man showed no interest in boarding a bus, and instead walked away from it and began to pick up something off of the street.

"He's collecting cigarette butts," Kivnick said as Torres marked down the man's location.

As the group approached a dark parking lot, Torres murmured, "I'm scared," under his breath. It was hard to tell if he was being serious, but under the circumstances it was a possibility. Team 21 had to cover some dark corners of the beach boardwalk area. If something went wrong, it would take a few minutes for police to respond. The group became extra cautious as they carefully approached an encampment of homeless on the Richard Turner stairway next to the pier.

"There's more down there," Torres said, with a slight tone of fear in his voice as he pointed to the stairs below. Torres refused to descend any further to count the sleeping homeless until someone accompanied him. There turned out to be only two people, and they didn't so much as stir when Torres marked them on his clipboard.

It was already midnight by the time team 21 reached Ocean Avenue. They still had a lot of ground to cover as they continued on, without complaint, towards Pico Boulevard. At that time, roughly 10 people were counted.

The official results of the citywide count will be released, along with a map where sightings were made, on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. The location is still to be determined.

"I think people have very complicated feelings about homeless folks," Noble said. "I think, and I hope, we can agree that every homeless person counts."

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City Council vacancy first since Greenberg left dais

FROM VACANCY PAGE 1

cancer. The Sunset Park resident served 16 years on the council, including one year as the mayor in 2008. He was recently re-elected to a four-year term in November.

The appointee will serve until the 2010 election and will need to run again to finish the term.

This is the first vacancy since former Councilmember Asha Greenberg resigned in September 1998, replaced by current Councilmember Richard Bloom, who was elected in 1999 after officials failed to agree on an appointee.

It's for that reason why Councilmember Bobby Shriver, who said the process 10 years ago "read a little silly," suggested that a special election be held from the outset.

Shriver added that an official elected by residents would lend more legitimacy to their vote, which could be significant during close debates on issues such as the Land Use and Circulation Element, the 20-year update to the general plan.

"I think it would be a very unhappy situation if four people, particularly four people from one point of view, would be able to amass their votes and appoint another person from their point of view," Shriver said. "I think that would be an unhappy result."

Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, the strongest political group in the city, currently holds a 4-2 majority on the council. Shriver and Councilmember Bob Holbrook are the only two members who are not aligned with the organization.

All other councilmembers agreed that an appointment would be the best option, pointing out that a special election is expensive, costing anywhere from $100,000 to $150,000. Holbrook said that he would like to find someone with similar views as Katz.

Bloom pointed out that language in the city charter doesn't give the council the option of holding a special election first.

"It doesn't say the City Council may fill by appointment, it says that a vacancy shall be filled by appointment," Bloom said.

Some residents have requested that the council appoint the fifth place finisher in the November election — Ted Winterer, the vice president of the Ocean Park Association.

Winterer, who attended the meeting, agreed with Shriver that a special election should be held.

"Let's see who has the fire in their belly to run, who really wants to serve and let's let the public weigh in on who that person will be so they know when the decision is made on these LUCE revisions, their voice has been heard," Winterer said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Small plane lost power before crash at SMO

FROM CRASH PAGE 1

shortly after the plane went down. "I saw it pitch to the right, it didn't look intentional."

Malachowski, an attorney who works at an office park directly north of the airport, said that the plane dipped out of sight for a moment following the initial engine trouble. He estimated that the plane was 200 feet off the ground when it rolled onto its side and began its decent to the ground.

He scanned the area until he saw a column of smoke rising from the spot where he believed the plane crashed. He added that emergency responders arrived soon after.

Another witness, Loren Drake, was at nearby Clover Park watching his son play soccer when he first heard the plane's engine sputter. By the time he located it in the sky, he said the engine apparently failed and was emitting no sound.

"My first reaction was 'what the hell is he doing,'" Drake said.

Once the plane came to rest on the runway, he ran toward Santa Monica Fire Department no. 5 where he alerted personnel that a plane had just crashed. First responders immediately left the station and headed toward the flaming wreckage.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor confirmed that a single-engine Siai Marchetti F260 crashed at the airport. He added that safety inspectors from the National Transportation Safety Board were working the scene to determine the cause of the crash.

"It caught fire [upon crashing] and unfortunately both people onboard were killed," Gregor said.

daniela@smdp.com. KEVIN HERRERA and MELODY HANATANI contributed to this report.

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Photo courtesy Olivier Samson Arcand

COMING TO TOWN: **Cirque du Soleil's KOOZA tells the story of a melancholy loner in search of his place in the world.**

Pier businesses hesitant about Cirque's return

FROM **CIRQUE** PAGE 3

side entertainment fixture for several years.

"The city of Santa Monica is dear to Guy Laliberté's heart and to a lot of people who have been fortunate (to be) in the touring shows," Sylvain Guimond, the touring director, said.

KOOZA tells the story of a melancholy loner in search of his place in the world, combining two well-known circus traditions — acrobatics and clowning — in its performances, according to its Web site.

Cirque plans to occupy 721 of 1017 total spaces in the 1550 lot from mid September through December, starting performances in October. The company is also seeking to lease a portion of land on nearby Civic Center property to use for overflow parking, holding roughly 400 spaces.

The temporary lot will be located at the future Palisades Garden Walk, which is bounded by Olympic Drive to the south, Ocean Avenue to the west, Main Street to the east and the I-10 Freeway to the north. A shuttle service is also being proposed to run from the Civic Center Parking Garage and the 2030 South Beach lot.

The proposed rental fee for the 1550 lot during the three months is $953,000. The parking lot on Main Street is expected to generate $50,000 in revenue for City Hall.

Parking remains a concern among businesses owners on the pier, who believe the loss of spaces in the 1550 lot will negatively impact operations.

"As you know, Cirque stands to boost the local economy but will regrettably do so at a substantial cost to Pacific Park," Mary Ann Powell, the CEO of Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier, said.

Powell added that through experience and independent research, she is certain that Cirque occupying three-quarters of the lot will impact coastal access and parking for the pier and beachgoers.

"This will cause us to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars," she said.

The 1550 lot has been host to several shows over the past several years, including Cavalia, an equestrian/dance program from Canada, and Ashes and Snow, a nomadic, multi-media art exhibit.

Some business owners complained about Cavalia's impact to the pier, noting that because it was open only during specific times, most people drove to the pier for the show and left when it was over, taking up parking spaces that would normally be used by pier visitors.

The acrobatic show has the support of many hotel operators and restaurant owners who believe Cirque will boost the local economy.

"This seems to be a no-thinker," Jeff King, the owner of Ocean Avenue Seafood and iCugini, said. "The hospitality community … is more challenged since I have ever been in business.

"We need all the help and benefit we can get."

Studies by Cirque show that live entertainment goers spend about $50 within a five-mile-radius of the event location, according to city staff who estimate that if half of the projected 170,000 Cirque patrons are new visitors to the city, there would be more than $4.2 million spent in Santa Monica.

Michael Farzam, who owns three motels on Ocean Avenue, said that the return of Cirque will also stimulate spending by local residents.

"It's great publicity and advertising really for Santa Monica as a whole," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Smoking ban impacts apartment common areas

FROM **BAN** PAGE 3

offense within the same period.

Some residents and property owners have expressed concerns about the ordinance, believing it will lead to court battles between neighbors.

The council also extended an interim ordinance that requires any housing project in excess of 50 units to obtain a development review permit.

The ordinance applies to projects that were filed on or after April 24, 2007.

Both ordinances are in effect 30 days from adoption.

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Public Hearing On Bus Service Feb. 11
Proposed bus service changes will be discussed on Wednesday, February 11 at 5pm at the La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills. In addition, four other hearings are being held throughout the county. For the time, date and location of the hearing nearest you, check at *metro.net*.

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Chinatown Firecracker Run/Walk Feb. 8
Celebrate the Chinese Year of the Ox at the 31st Annual LA Chinatown Firecracker 5k/10k Run/Walk on Sunday, February 8. Metro Rail's Chinatown Station is an easy way to get close to all the action. Use the Trip Planner at *metro.net* for connections.

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Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

Murder-suicide dad had money woes

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Awash in debt, behind on his mortgage and recently fired from his job at a hospital, Ervin Lupoe was planning on leaving California.

He'd pulled his kids out of their school, packed his sport utility vehicle with snow chains and winter clothing for him and his family and appeared ready for the trip to his brother-in-law's home in Garden City, Kan.

It's not yet known if he was planning on leaving for good in a bid to flee his mounting money problems or if the trip would have only been temporary.

Whatever his intention, Lupoe never got to Kansas.

Instead, police say, he shot his five children and wife to death before turning the gun on himself.

"Something happened in the last 48 hours that made him snap," said Detective David Cortez, the lead investigator in the case. "(He saw) no other way, no other direction."

Investigators found evidence of spiraling financial woes. Lupoe owed the Internal Revenue Service at least $15,000 and a check he wrote the agency for that amount had just bounced.

He also was at least one month behind on a mortgage for his home in Wilmington, near the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Jobs are scarce in the area and the real-estate market is sinking. Lupoe owed about $2,500 and a late fee, Cortez said. He also owed thousands more on a home equity line of credit.

Police found the bodies of Lupoe, his wife and five children Tuesday morning. It appears the family had been killed the evening before and Lupoe shot himself the next day, Cortez said.

Lupoe and his wife Ana had both recently been fired from their jobs at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center West Los Angeles. The two technicians had understated their income on an application for childcare in a bid to get cheaper rates, Cortez said.

Lupoe faxed a bitter, two-page letter to a local TV news station the morning he killed himself, saying a hospital administrator told him he "should not even have bothered to come to work" and "should have blown (his) brains out."

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Schwarzenegger, Brown seek end to prison oversight

BY JUDY LIN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO A lengthy fight over California's prison health care system escalated Wednesday as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and state Attorney General Jerry Brown sought to throw out an $8 billion spending plan for prison medical facilities, saying it's illegal and too costly.

Brown and Schwarzenegger administration officials filed a motion in U.S. District Court in San Francisco asking a judge to halt plans for seven prison medical facilities while the state struggles with a massive budget shortfall. They also called for the termination of a court-appointed receiver overseeing health care improvements at the state's 33 adult prisons.

"It's time to return the management of our prisons to the people who are authorized by the voters to do that," Brown said at a press conference Wednesday. "What the receiver has become is a parallel government operating virtually in secret, not subject to government scrutiny."

The court was asked to replace the receiver with a less-powerful special master until the prison health care system could be returned to the state.

Cost has been at the heart of long-running legal battle over inmate health care in California's adult prisons. A federal court has ruled the quality of care unconstitutional.

Receiver J. Clark Kelso proposed that the state sell $8 billion in bonds to build seven medical facilities to treat some 10,000 inmates. The repayment would be spread over 25 years and cost California taxpayers $14 billion by the time the bonds are repaid. The receiver has sought an immediate $250 million for a down payment.

Schwarzenegger and state lawmakers have recoiled at the cost, especially as the state faces a $42 billion deficit through June 2010.

"The receiver will never get that money," Schwarzenegger said Wednesday during a press luncheon in Sacramento. "That's important to know because I will not give it to him. I don't think the controller will give it to him, and I don't think the legislators will give it to him."

Brown has argued that a federal judge can't order the money from the state treasury without violating federal law and state sovereignty.

But Kelso has asked a federal judge to hold Schwarzenegger in contempt of court for refusing to turn over a down payment on his request. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has set a Feb. 12 hearing to consider letting a federal court judge hold Schwarzenegger in contempt.

Kelso — a law professor who has worked for both Schwarzenegger, a Republican, and Democratic former Gov. Gray Davis — said Wednesday he was "puzzled" by the allegations that he's operating a branch of government without transparency.

The receiver, whose goal is to repair the system so it can be turned back to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, was appointed last year to replace Robert Sillen, who had a reputation of picking fights with attorneys whose lawsuit prompted the federal takeover.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 57°

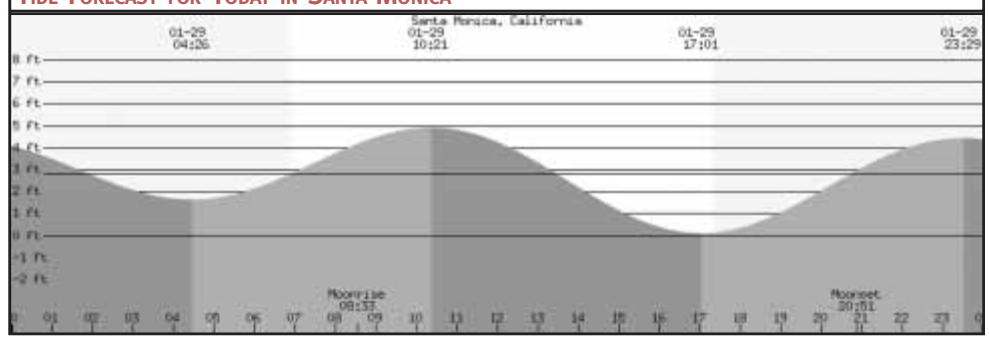
Swell Forecast (2-3 FT)

Size should back off further, perhaps waist high on the better sets at south facing breaks, and only knee high at best at south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Friday the 30th looks smaller yet, perhaps ankle to knee high most everywhere.

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 four weeks up to the ending date of **January 20, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 21

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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
Los 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 Las Alisos creeks	A+	A+
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	A+	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	F
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach	A+	B
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	D
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	D	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	D	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	D	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	D	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	A+

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

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

Heal the Bay 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.

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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.
(323) 466-FILM

I Confess (1952) (NR) 1hr 35min
7:30

Stage Fright (NR)
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-1506

The Unborn (PG-13) 1hr 28min
2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40

Yes Man (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00

Milk (R) 2hrs 08min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Notorious (R)
1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) 2hrs 48min
1:15, 4:45, 8:15

My Bloody Valentine 3D (R) 1hr 41min
2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Bride Wars (PG) 1hr 30min
2:10, 4:55, 7:30, 9:40

Inkheart (PG) 1hr 46min
1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Defiance (R) 2hrs 17min
1:35, 4:35, 8:00

Frost/Nixon (R) 2hrs 02min
1:25, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (R) 1hr 32min
2:20, 5:05, 7:40, 10:00

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Revolutionary Road (R) 1hr 59min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

Last Chance Harvey (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Slumdog Millionaire (R) 2hr 1min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

The Wrestler (R) 1hr 45min
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1hr 27min
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

Gran Torino (R)
1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30

Valkyrie (PG-13) 2hrs
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20

Hotel for Dogs (PG) 1hr 40min
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Marley & Me (PG) 2hrs
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

The Reader (R) 2hrs 02min
1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

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

Say yes, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ If you look around and observe, you'll discover there is a lot going on, not just with you, but also with others who might be making you uncomfortable. Simply note how a boss or higher-up reacts to communication. Tonight: R and R.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Friendship, meetings and dealing with associates highlight your day. If you can assume an offbeat or different approach, you could blaze a new trail. Though no one can guarantee success, your odds are high. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your high visibility earmarks your plans and could stop you from accomplishing as much as you might desire. Evaluate a change with your eyes open, and listen to a trusted friend whose opinion often differs from yours. Tonight: A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Honestly, you might want to rethink a problem with greater care and understanding. Though you rarely agree with a key person, he or she still plays a significant role in your decision making. Tonight: Relax playing a game of solitaire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Make an effort to come in closer and have more to do with a key partner or associate. You might not be comfortable with what could come up out of the blue. Investigate an offer that could revitalize your work — to say the least. Tonight: Dinner for two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Others come toward you. This activity puts you in the unique position of picking and choosing situations, issues and people. Learn to answer people more clearly. Investigate the possibilities. Tonight: Say yes to an offer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Easy works, and you'll see much more than if you were in the ring trying to handle the problem. In fact, the unusual solution pops up out of the blue. Listen to what someone shares, even if it makes you uncomfortable. Tonight: Don't push a family member.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Ever playful, you might want to address a situation that is close to your heart, even if it is business. What comes out could be stunning and important for you to know. Tonight: The only answer is yes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Keep your eye on the big picture. Despite the natural ups and downs, you will be able to maintain balance and direction. You approach life from a far more intense and yet detached manner. Tonight: Don't stray far from the nest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Note the changes around you or that you might be contemplating. The same old ways might no longer feel right. Rather than rebel or do something you could regret, open up a conversation. Tonight: Let discussions happen.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Don't push so hard to get your way. Stop and rethink what is happening within you. At the same time, detaching from the immediate issue will allow you to get a greater grasp of what is occurring. Tonight: Buy a new CD or favorite dessert on the way home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You might believe you are on the same course as others, but the reactions you are drawing might clue you in to another reality. Listen to yourself. Tonight: As you like.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you have the unique opportunity to walk through a new door. If you would prefer to approach life in a more positive way, you'll get your chance. You must simply walk on out and make what you want happen. There is a natural resistance to money flowing as you would like. If you are single, you enter a new phase in your dating life. Someone quite substantial to your life's history will appear in the near future. If you are attached, planning a common goal could make a big difference and keep the two of you more actively involved. PISCES has many grandiose schemes to make money.

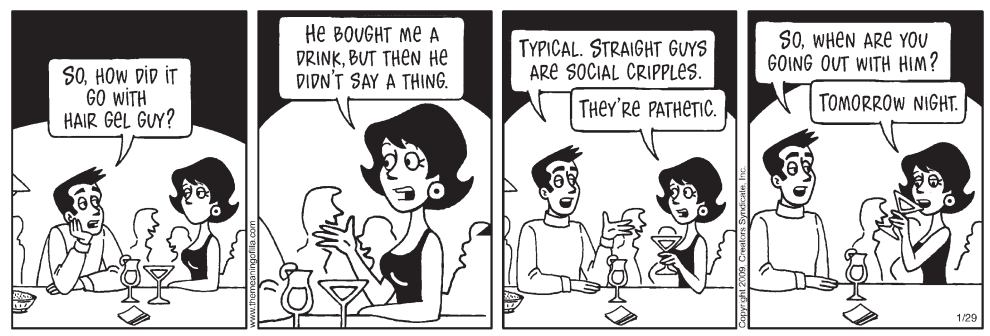
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



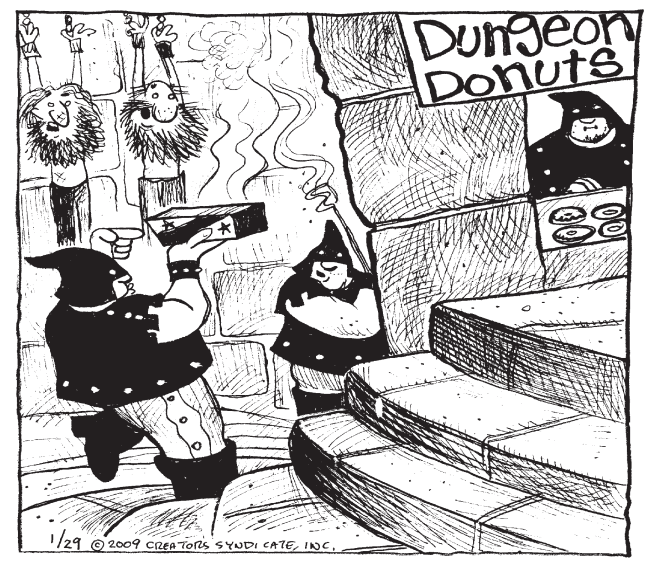
Garfield

By Jim Davis



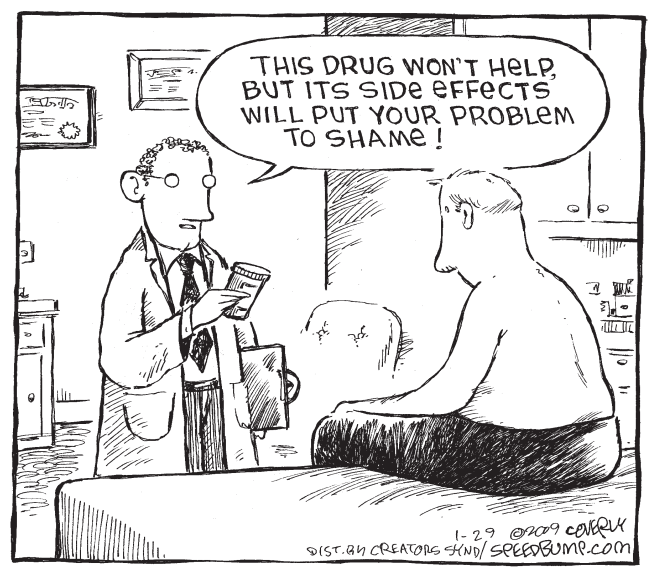
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured gets a pat on the back from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Without a date
5 Rascal
10 Implausible
11 Stove part
12 De-crease?
13 Deceived
14 Heed
16 Join in
20 Infer
23 "Don't — stranger!"
24 Tea party crasher
25 Paparazzi target
27 Fish feature
28 Doughy rings
29 Fly
32 Become established
36 Flood
39 Cry of distress
40 Eats into
41 Mortgage, e.g.
42 Raring to go
43 Finish last

DOWN

1 Narrow cut
2 Movie plantation
3 In a frenzy
4 Kind of map or code
5 Hotel offering
6 Unpleasant fellow
7 In addition
8 Got together
9 Old hand
11 Chap
15 Church part
17 Qualified
18 Country dance
19 Bar bills
20 Ludicrous
21 Lamb's pen name
22 Skating spot
25 Walking aid
26 Chinese dinner extra
28 Tour de France vehicles
30 Piano piece
31 Vegas action
33 Canton setting
34 Till bills
35 Muscle quality
36 Scottish river
37 Historic time
38 Ship record

C	E	D	E	■	■	■	S	M	E	W
A	R	E	N	A	■	W	E	A	V	E
B	A	L	E	R	■	H	E	X	E	D
O	S	U	■	O	P	E	N	I	N	G
T	E	X	T	U	R	E	■	N	E	E
■	R	E	U	S	E	■	T	E	D	■
■	■	■	F	E	T	C	H	■	■	■
■	T	O	T	■	E	L	A	N	D	■
K	E	N	■	O	X	O	N	I	A	N
E	X	T	E	N	T	S	■	C	R	O
I	M	A	G	E	■	E	X	E	R	T
R	E	P	O	S	■	D	E	T	E	R
A	X	E	S	■	■	■	D	Y	N	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	2	3	4	■	■	5	6	7	8	9
10				■	11					
12				■	13					
14				15				■	■	■
■	■	■	16					17	18	19
20	21	22				■	■	23		
24					■	25	26			
27			■	■	28					
29			30	31				■	■	■
■	■	■	32					33	34	35
36	37	38				■	39			
40						■	41			
42					■	■	43			

1-29

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 3 11 12 14 21
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $40M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 8 13 21 26 41
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: $62M

FANTASY 5: 1 4 5 9 26

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 6 4 8
EVENING: 1 5 8

DAILY DERBY
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.48.29

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The Rental Society: Among the services available by the clock in Japan (according to a January BBC dispatch) are (1) quality time with a pet (about $10 an hour at the Ja La La Cafe in Toyko, usually with dogs or cats but with rabbits, ferrets and beetles available); (2) no-sex quality time with a college coed (flattering conversation by the hour at the Campus Cafe, less expensive than the geisha-type houses); (3) and actors from the I Want To Cheer Up agency in Tokyo, to portray "relatives" for weddings and funerals when actual family members cannot attend, or to portray fathers to help single women with their parenting duties, or to portray husbands to help women practice for the routine of married life (except for sex).

■ In January, a federal judge dismissed the last lawsuit standing in the way of a new Indian casino for California's Amador County, where the federally recognized Me-Wuk tribe of the Buena Vista Rancheria has its 67-acre reservation. The tribe consists of Rhonda Morningstar Pope and her five children, none of whom lives on the tribal land.

■ Parental Responsibility: (1) A father took his 20-year-old son to an Islamic court in Bauchi, Nigeria, in October, demanding that he be jailed for idleness, which he said has shamed the family. (The court immediately sentenced the son to 30 lashes and six months in prison.) (2) In December, a court in Seoul, South Korea, fined the parents of a teenage rapist the equivalent of about $60,000 for their negligence in raising the boy badly. (The 18-year-old himself is serving a 10-year sentence for the crime.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1845 Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" was first published, in the New York Evening Mirror.

1998 a bomb rocked an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Ala., killing security guard Robert Sanderson and critically injuring Emily Lyons, a nurse. (The bomber, Eric Rudolph, was captured in May 2003.)

WORD UP!

yielding \YEEL-ding\, *adjective*:
1. not resisting; compliant
2. not stiff or rigid; easily bent or shaped

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Employment

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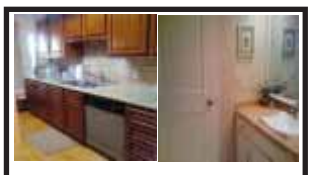
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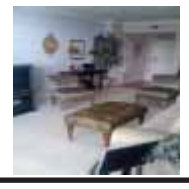
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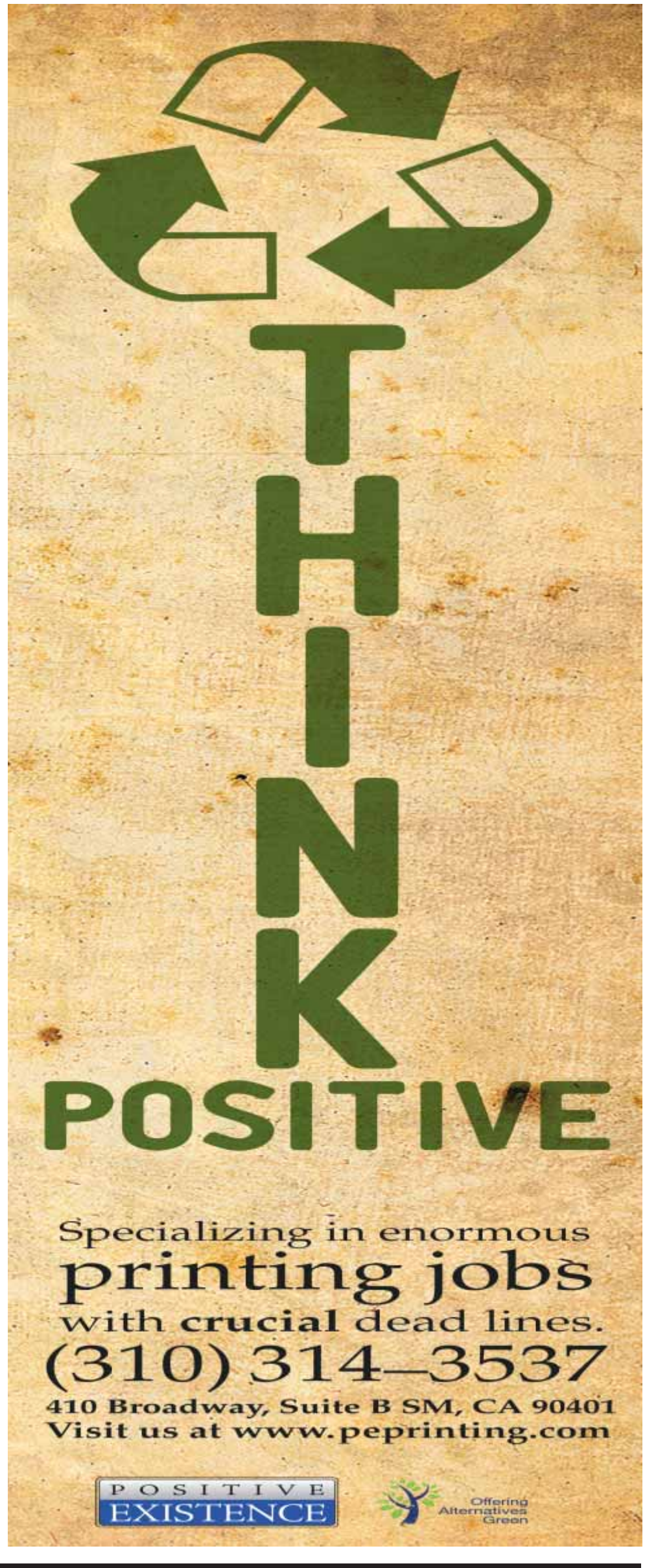
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$1,425,000
Easy to Show
Call for Appointment



1135 Berkeley Street
5 Bed, 2.5 Bath
Huge Yard!
Single Family Home
$1,788,000
Easy to Show
Call for an Appointment

Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Late January 2009

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$2,295,000	$1,895,000
North of Montana	=	$3,695,000	$1,175,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$750,000	$1,995,000
South of Wilshire	=	$799,000	$719,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,100,000	$649,000
Ocean Park	=	$2,350,000	$719,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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