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JANUARY 29-30, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 67



Santa Monica Daily Press

KEEPING THOSE ANNOYING DOGS QUIET
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE PLEASE DON'T LEAVE GOOGLE ISSUE



Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

FALSE ALARM: **Police closed a portion of Wilshire Boulevard in Downtown Friday morning after finding a fake bomb in a dumpster.**

Fake bomb forces street closures near Third Street Promenade

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

WILMONT Santa Monica police closed down a portion of Wilshire Boulevard and surrounding streets near the Third Street Promenade Friday morning after finding a bomb that turned out to be a movie prop.

SMPD Sgt. Robert Lucio said a janitor was throwing garbage away around 7 a.m. in the alley just west of Fourth Street and north of Wilshire Boulevard when he saw something that looked like a bomb.

Police were notified and set up a perimeter and began evacuating nearby apartments and businesses from Fourth Street west to

SEE **BOMB** PAGE 8

Widow of man killed in Wilshire crosswalk demands safer streets

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN The widow of a 66-year-old man who was struck by a car and killed while he was walking in a Santa Monica crosswalk last month is calling on City Hall to do more to promote pedestrian safety.

In a letter to City Manager Rod Gould this month, Ana Herceg said she hopes the collision at Wilshire Boulevard and 10th Street that killed her husband will spark efforts by urban planners and the police department to calm traffic and make the city safer for those on foot.

"The loss of a life on our streets is a wake-up call that we need to do things in a new and different way," she wrote. "By improving driver education and by making changes to the street design we can reduce the likelihood of it being repeated."

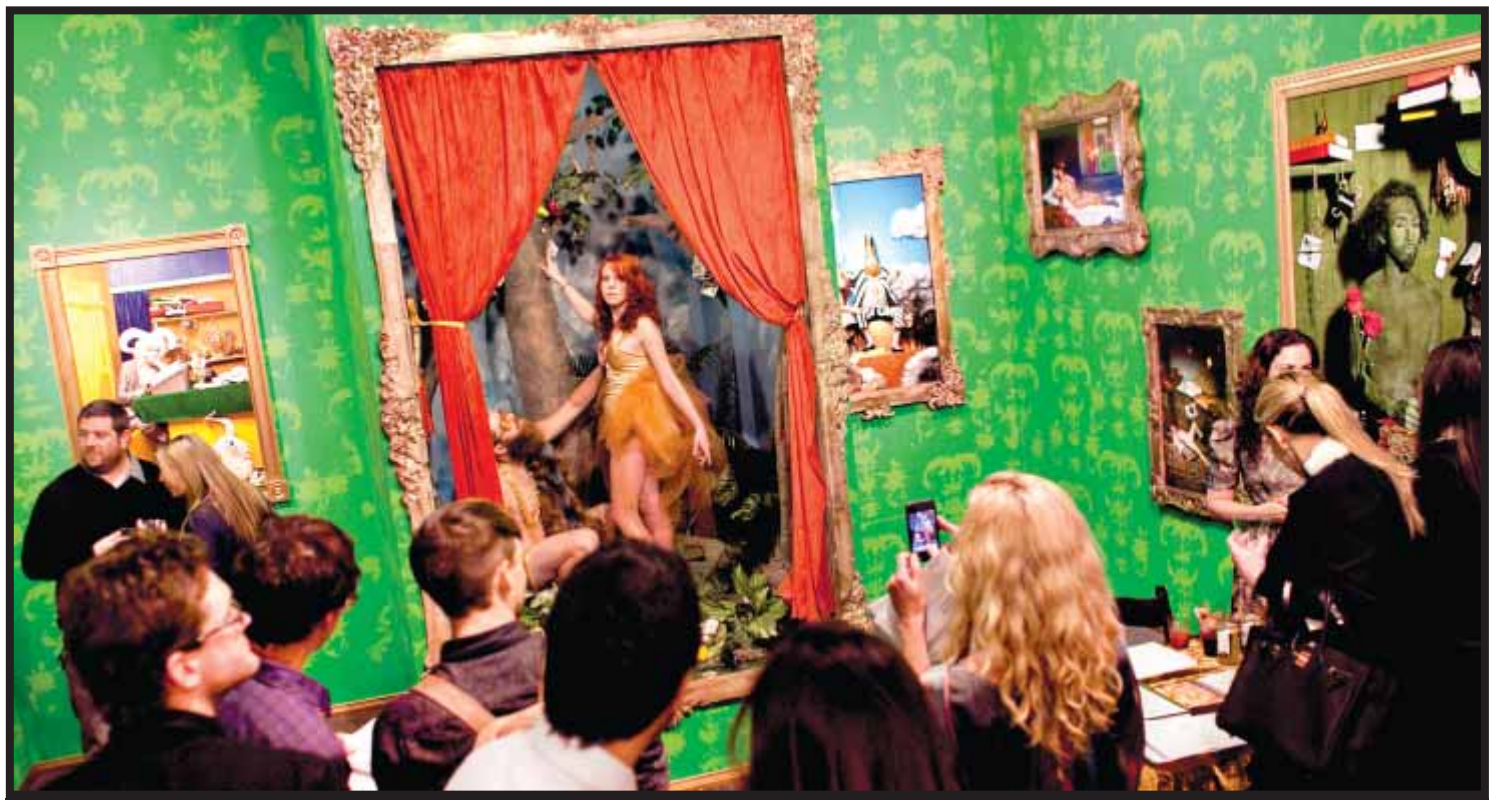
She also said the police department should conduct regular "failure to yield to pedestrian" sting operations.

According to police, Vlado Herceg was killed Dec. 23 about 9 p.m. when he was struck by a vehicle being driven by a 19-year-old man. The accident is still under investigation.

Herceg's appeal to City Hall is one that's also being taken up by bicycle advocates, who share many of her concerns about traffic.

Barbara Filet, a member of the steering committee for the cycling group Santa Monica Spoke, said the collision that killed Herceg is a symptom of a streetscape that favors drivers' speed over public safety.

SEE **SAFE STREETS** PAGE 8



FOLLOW YOUR ART

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Represented by the Allegra LaViola Gallery, performance artists Jennifer Catron and Paul Outlaw (center) draw a crowd as they reenact the 'Garden of Eden' during Art Los Angeles Contemporary (ALAC) at Barker Hanger on Airport Avenue Thursday night. The art exhibition hosts collections by 70 galleries from 11 countries and will take place until Sunday, Jan. 30.

Google mum on plans for Santa Monica employees

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN When Internet search giant Google, one of Santa Monica's largest employers, announced this week that it was leasing 100,000 square feet of office space in Venice, business and civic leaders immediately began to wonder what that meant for the city by the sea.

There are concerns that Google, which occupies three buildings in Santa Monica, the largest on Arizona Avenue and Sixth Street with over 300 employees, will consolidate operations in Venice and pull out of Santa Monica. If so, that would be a blow to

SEE **GOOGLE** PAGE 12

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011

Ode to the Douglas DC-3
Santa Monica Airport
Bundy Drive, 3 p.m.
The American Aviation History Society and the Museum of Flying will hold a special commemorative event for the historic Douglas DC-3, which revolutionized the way people traveled in the 1930s. Visitors will even get a chance to get a close look at one of the historic aircraft. For more information, visit www.aahs-online.org.

Native park landscaping
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main, St., 1 p.m.
Learn how parks can be recreated as native landscapes during this public workshop. An expert panel will share some of the secrets it takes to go native. For more information, call (310) 458-8310.

A night of Schubert
First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica
1220 Second St., 8 p.m.
Luminario Ballet and the Angeles Concerts Artists will come together for a special one-night performance of Shubert's "Winterreise."
For more information, call (310) 498 0257.

Talking opera
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m.
Opera lovers are invited to a multi-media talk on "Il Turco in Italia." This discussion is part of a six-part series about upcoming operas in the Los Angeles area. Audience members will also be treated to a live concert. For information, call (310) 458-8600.

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

Monday, Jan. 31, 2011

The charging challenge
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.
How can condo and apartment dwellers charge their electric cars without a home garage? To answer the question, Santa Monica Nissan will present a free public panel about Electric Vehicle (EV) charging for multifamily housing residents. Only last month, in a historic transformation of the transportation industry, Nissan began to deliver the first mass-marketed EV, its all-electric LEAF. Homeowners who purchased or leased the cars are having chargers installed in their garages. But policies and practices for installing these high voltage chargers in multi-family dwellings are just now evolving nationwide. Panelists will include representatives from Southern California Edison, The City of Santa Monica Building and Safety Division, and Coulomb Technologies, an EV charging-infrastructure company. Admission to the panel is free and open to the public. No reservations are required. For more information, call (310) 403-1303.

To create your own listing,
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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

SMMUSD HDQTRS

Consultants seek input in superintendent search

The team of consultants charged with finding the next superintendent of the Santa Monica-Malibu-Unified School District is asking for the community's help.

Peggy Lynch and Michael Escalante of Leadership Associates, the firm chosen by the school board to find a replacement for Tim Cuneo, who is retiring in June, are holding three listening sessions next month to gather input from parents, employees and others interested in the future of the district.

The consultants want to know: What personal and professional qualities for an incoming superintendent will be a match for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District?

Two concurrent sessions are being held in Santa Monica on Feb. 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Grant Elementary School's auditorium (2368 Pearl St.) and at Lincoln Middle School's auditorium (1501 California Ave.).

On Feb. 2, a session is being held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Malibu High School library (30215 Morning View Dr.)

DAILY PRESS

PALISADES PARK

CVB honors longtime greeter

The Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau will dedicate a plaque at the Palisades Park visitor kiosk on Sunday in honor of longtime employee Thelma Hazel Parks, who died recently at 97.

For the last 23 years, up until her death, Parks, who was born in Brisbane, Australia, worked as a travel counselor for the CVB, greeting visitors from around the world.

She spent time at the Palisades Park kiosk before moving to the Main Street Visitor Center in later years.

"She really was everything that a host should be," one of her CVB colleagues told the Daily Press.

Parks also managed a 20-unit apartment building and was active in the Freda Mohr Senior Center.

The dedication ceremony will take place at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday.

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Human meds trigger calls to pet poison hotlines

BY SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Human medications including dropped pills sickened more pets in the United States last year than any other toxin.

It's the third year in a row that human medications top the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' list of top 10 toxins.

Over-the-counter medicines with ibuprofen and acetaminophen, antidepressants and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder medicine topped the list.

Janet Hardie in Groveland, Calif., knows the danger well: Earlier this year, she brought home incontinence pills and set them on a table beside her chair in the living room. A while later, she looked down and Priscilla, her year-old Lhasa apso, was tearing into the blister pack.

"She had eaten three. At least I couldn't find them," Hardie said.

SEE **PILLS** PAGE 10



USING THE NOGGIN

Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

Samohi's Emmanuel Serrano (left) watches as teammate Daniel Hubert heads the ball towards the Inglewood High School during an Ocean League match Friday at John Adams Middle School. Samohi won 6-0.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

St. Monica coaching choice an 'old soul'

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

ST. MONICA St. Monica's new head football coach may be young, but he betrays his years.

Adam Guerra, 25, comes across like a coach who has stalked the sidelines for years to those who selected him to replace Larry Muno as the new leader of the football program.

"He's got an old soul, or what ever you want to call it," Athletic Director Rick Bruce said. "You can just tell when you talk to some people that they mean what they say."

That seasoning may have come from Guerra's time at Los Angeles Loyola High School. After playing on the Cubs' heralded football team, Guerra wasn't recruited to play ball and decided to study history at nearby USC. While still just a college freshman, Guerra was asked in 2004 to be the head coach of the freshman team by his legendary former coach and mentor Steve Grady.

Under the tutelage of Grady, Guerra worked his way through college and up the ranks of Loyola's coaching staff. After graduation in 2007, Guerra wound up coaching history at Loyola as he worked his way from the freshman team to becoming defensive coordinator on the varsity squad in 2009 under then coach Jeff Kearin.

But, just four games into the 2009 season, Kearin, Grady's successor, left the program for unspecified personal reasons thrusting Guerra, then 23, into the role of interim head coach.

He finished out the 2009 season in the position, only to learn that he would not be tabbed to be the permanent head coach. Incoming coach Mike Christensen decided to turn over the previous staff including Guerra, sending him to decide to leave the school and take a job with his father's government affairs company.

During his year off, Guerra said he visited with other college and high school foot-

SEE **NEW COACH** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get rid of the beach bike path

Editor:

Whose jubilant idea was it to put a bike path on the beach? Here you have car parking lots that park hundreds and hundreds of cars. Then you have a bike path and then there is the beach. People try to get to the beach by crossing the bike path. There are no pedestrian bridges to cross over, so they get to the beach by using the bike path. Kids are also using the bike path to get to the beach. A bicycle can be a very dangerous piece of machinery. It can injure and even kill.

Bicycles are governed by the same laws as the automobile, so then let's put the bicycle path up on the street with the automobile where it belongs, not on the beach. Let's also get these bicycle rental places off the pedestrian walkway and next to the bike path. This will help the cyclists from getting confused.

I do hope the City Council and the cyclists will try to resolve this in a manner of peace between cyclist and the pedestrian. There can not be any peace if there is a bike path on the beach.

Geno Schotte
Santa Monica

Something doesn't add up

Editor:

You do the math. Effective this coming April, Santa Monica sales tax increases. City Hall wants fee increases for recreation programs. Some Santa Monica employees received $1.4 million in bonuses. Something's wrong here. Wake up City Council! Wake up Santa Monica!

K.M. Hernandez
Santa Monica

Don't be so quick to judge

Editor:

Having read John Medlin's letter to the editor ("What's with the dog? Jan. 17, page 4) about the picture of Dr. Baghdasarian with his dog on a beach, perhaps violating local laws, I proceeded to tease Dr. Baghdasarian about this seemingly faux pas. To the contrary, he said, the picture was taken at Leo Carrillo State Beach where dogs are allowed if on a leash, which his was. Dr. Baghdasarian assured me he also had a bag to pick up any "dog droppings."

Perhaps Mr. Medlin should have inquired as to where the picture was taken before being so quick to criticize with his snide remarks. One wonders if an apology will be forthcoming anytime soon from Mr. Medlin to Dr. Baghdasarian.

Bill Price
Santa Monica

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On the Beat

NRO Artis Williams — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Dealing with dogs that bark

Q: MY NEIGHBOR HAS THREE DOGS AND sometimes they bark excessively. I have tried to live with the barking, but now I am at the point where I can't take it anymore. What can I do to address the issue with the barking dogs?

A: Many of us have dogs, and we love and care for them as part of our own families. We often spend time training our dogs for assisting us or others with special needs or protection of our families and property. But let's face it, dogs bark, and sometimes they bark a lot, whether we train them or not. Sometimes our dogs bark when we are away at work and not aware our dogs are creating a disturbance.

But as a resident of Santa Monica, if you have a problem with a neighbor's dog(s) barking excessively, you have a couple of ways to possibly solve the issue. The Santa Monica Municipal Code states, "No person shall permit or allow any animal under his or her ownership, custody or control to bark, yell or cry for more than five minutes in any one hour period" (SMMC 4.12.090).

One way to handle the issue is talk to your neighbor and let them know their dog is barking. As I mentioned previously, sometimes we leave our dogs at home while we are at work, or away for another reason, and may not know our dogs are causing a disturbance. If you know you neighbor (or feel comfortable going over to your neighbor's home), either leave a note or tell them personally that their dog is causing a disturbance.

If you don't know your neighbor or don't feel comfortable approaching your neighbor, you can call the Santa Monica Animal Shelter at (310) 458-8594 Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. An animal control officer will then be assigned to address the complaint. If the disturbance occurs outside these hours, you can call Santa Monica Police Dispatch Center at (310) 458-8491 and an animal control officer or police officer will be sent to the location to address the complaint.

Animal complaints are generally handled by the animal control officer. Animal control officers will respond to the location of the complaint and attempt to make contact with the resident/owner of the dog(s). Animal control officers will attempt to identify the owner of the dog as well as verify the dog(s) have valid licenses. Animal control officers then issue an order to comply to the owner or resident. An order to comply is not a citation, rather a notice stating the reported disturbance, location of disturbance, breed, sex and color of animal(s). Animal control may also note if they hear the dog(s) barking upon their arrival at the location. The notice is then given to the resident/owner of the animal, or posted at the residence if the owner/resident is not at home.

If the order to comply is not met, then a letter is sent to the residence listing the repeated complaints and advising the owner of possible fines and penalties. The majority of barking dog complaints never make it this far, but it is a possibility if the issue is not corrected. For more information please contact the Santa Monica Animal Shelter at (310) 458-8594 or in person at 1640 Ninth Street during business hours.

THE SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE STATES, 'NO PERSON SHALL PERMIT OR ALLOW ANY ANIMAL UNDER HIS OR HER OWNERSHIP, CUSTODY OR CONTROL TO BARK, YELL OR CRY FOR MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES IN ANY ONE HOUR PERIOD' (SMMC 4.12.090).

Q: A home on my block was recently burglarized. I formed a neighborhood watch with other residents but I noticed we don't have any neighborhood watch signs posted in our area. How can we get some signs posted on our block?

A: The city of Santa Monica uses signs made by The National Neighborhood Watch Institute. The city of Santa Monica uses these signs to ensure uniformity throughout the city. Typing the below link into your address bar will take you to the page where the signs are listed: http://nnwi.org.

The signs City Hall uses are the reflective "Boris the Burglar" police aluminum signs. The company itself is located in Santa Fe Springs, Calif., so it shouldn't take too long to get them. The signs must be purchased by the residents, but city staff will install them. Once you get the signs, call the Community Relations Office at (310) 458-8474 and a crime prevention coordinator will make arrangements to have them picked up and installed. If you are not sure how many signs are needed for your block, or which signs to purchase, contact the Community Relations Office and speak to a crime prevention coordinator for assistance.

If you have questions on where they should be installed or how many to buy, don't hesitate to call.

This column was prepared by **NRO ARTIS WILLIAMS** (Beat 7, Sunset Park). He can be reached at (424) 200-0687 or artis.williams@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

Banning jets

The City Council suffered a loss in its drive to ban some jets at Santa Monica Airport last week.
This past week, Q-line asked:
Should City Hall cut its losses and drop the legal fight or press on for an appeal?
Here are your responses:

"PLEASE PURSUE TO THE BEST OF YOUR ability, the ban of jets from SMO. The pollution is extremely dangerous to all residents below, both from noise and chemicals. I presently have proof of pollution with an ongoing oil slick in my water buckets, with which I water my plants in my rooftop garden. My husband (with a degree in chemical science and a father employed in the manufacturing of jet fuel for many years) has stated:
'There are incomplete combustion products and free radicals, such as peroxide, dioxans and unburned hydrocarbons from the jet fuel blanketing and drizzling down a fine invisible mist over our heads. This, only perceived by the rainbow sheen seen in uncovered water containers.'
"In addition to this, we have for years suffered disruption of picture and sound on our Direct TV signal to the takeoff trajectory of the aircraft, as it interlopes between the satellite and receiving dish, making it nearly impossible to record any program in its entirety during airport hours of operation.
"Lastly, the aircraft in general, seldom follow proper flight paths and often fly far too low. I would like to place SMO officially on notice and in writing, that it is only a matter of time before our neighborhood's peace and quiet is shattered by one of the ever growing number of aircraft above, crash-landing and killing civilians and pilots alike. Your insurance policies should be kept up to date in readiness for future law suits. Thank you Marty for your hard work to keep this issue at the forefront."

"THE CHANCE THAT THE SUPREME COURT might overturn the appeals court is appealing indeed."

"SANTA MONICA IS CORRECT TO SEEK THE ban on C and D aircraft. It is not about cutting losses but following through and having something to show for the monies already spent. More important, it's about preventing a catastrophic accident from happening. City Hall should take it all the way to the Supreme Court if that's where it has to go. It is, after all, Santa Monica's airport and City Hall's obligation to address important issues of concern steaming from the airport's operation."

"CITY HALL SHOULD DROP THE APPEAL, and the money they would have spent on the appeal should be given to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The district will need the money as Gov. Brown is proposing budget cuts that will adversely impact our local schools."

"FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SANTA MONICA you are witnessing something that is happening and is repeated all over the country in order to promote an industry that is not sustainable and has placed residents in harms way. In short, we are balancing sales and marketing over human health and the FAA laws which support this model. If the city of Santa Monica gives up on the existing litigation we all lose and shows how we have placed profit over health. The consultants that lobby and support the industry on a daily basis know that if the City of Santa Monica were to win, their balance sheet will alter their massive profits. This is not about aviation, but the people of Santa Monica versus an agency that is not concurrent and overly funded which could care less about how the community breaths. The Spinning Glass Project (http://www.spinningglass.org/) will help address the issue and help change the way we think about the impact on communities below the flight path."

"OF COURSE CITY HALL SHOULD DROP the lawsuit, but with the measly half-billion-dollar annual budget, what incentive do they have to do the sensible thing with our tax and parking meter dollars? Tell the whiners in Sunset Park not to buy a house near an airport next time. If you don't like the smell of cows, don't move next to a dairy."

"NO, CITY HALL SHOULD NOT DROP THIS issue. It should continue the fight against the evil FAA. Yes appeal! We cannot value economics when it comes to the health and safety of residents. In addition, City Hall should do everything possible to make SMO less attractive to jet aircraft users, including extending curfew hours."

"DO YOU THINK CITY HALL REALLY cares about jet safety and noise? Filing lawsuits just provides jobs for the over-abundance of over-paid lawyers in this town, both public and private, working for City Hall. Political hacks love the fat cat jet owners of these C and D jets like Gov. Schwarzenegger. People like the governor and his Hollywood friends are too important to drive from LAX to Brentwood. Money talks and Sunset Park can take a walk."

"CITY HALL NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO beat the FAA on this issue. They should stop now and apologize to the taxpayers for wasting hundreds of thousands of dollars on a politically-motivated attempt to please local airport haters. Then they could start to honestly work with the FAA to add the recommended crushable concrete safety zones and initiative a program that would buy all buildings within 300 feet of the runway ends. To ignore safety concerns they sued the FAA over will leave the city liable for any accident that happens in the future."

"CITY HALL SHOULD DROP THE LEGAL fight, Just get over it. There are jets at the airport. The airport has been there for a long time."

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D.U.I. Do's & Don'ts

With a slumping economy, ensuing global conflicts and our own personal dilemmas, a few drinks come as a welcome respite for many. But before you have that extra glass of wine at dinner, make sure you are aware of some new laws and issues that may drastically affect your driving privileges. California has some of the toughest DUI laws in the country, and while no one plans to get arrested for DUI, here are 5 helpful tips to remember if you find yourself at the wrong end of a DUI checkpoint this year.

1) Submit To FSTS: When arrested for DUI many people look for a quick and easy way out of it such as refusing to submit the officer's tests. Well, truth be told, this doesn't really work. Refusing to submit to field sobriety tests (FSTS) will almost always earn a year suspension from the DMV regardless what happens with your court case. Refusing to submit to FSTS might weaken the State's evidence against you, but is it worth risking an automatic one year suspension? This includes submitting a breathalyzer test at the scene of the arrest (called a PAS test). A PAS test might not even be admissible in the criminal case, but if you are below a .08 it will save you a ton of hassle…and probably earn a get out of jail free card. Submit to testing and let a skilled lawyer take it from there. Even if the test results appear "bad," by hiring the right attorney there are many legal arguments and challenges that can be made to the manner in which the tests weand administered, your statements, and the results of the tests.

2) Request A Hearing: if arrested for DUI you will receive a temporary driver's license that is good for 30 days before your license is suspended. However, you have the right to request an administrative hearing with the DMV in order to challenge the suspension. This hearing might also yield valuable testimony from the arresting officers that could help you later on when fighting your case in court. Administrative hearings are conducted either in person or telephonically, are far less formal than a court proceeding, and have a lower evidentiary standard of proof required to sustain a suspension. Administrative hearings must be requested within 10 days of arrest, so make sure to act fast if you are arrested. A trained experienced lawyer is also advantageous in order to help navigate through the complexities of the DMV.

3) Know The Penalties: In most Los Angeles County courtrooms a "standard" first time DUI conviction carries with it a $390 fine, 3 month alcohol program, 3 year probation, and mandatory installation of an ignition interlock device (a new 2010 law that L.A. County D.A.'s and C.A.'s are widely enforcing). Typically, prosecutors will not seek jail confinement on a 1st time conviction. In addition to the fines, the court will add on various penalty assessments and fees that could raise your final bill to upwards of $1,750. Depending on the circumstances of your case (under 21, high blood alcohol, refusal) the court could also order you to complete community service, caltrans work, attend AA meetings, and complete a MADD or hospital/morgue program. A first time DUI conviction is priorable, meaning it will be used to enhance punishment on any subsequent DUI in a 10 year period. A second time DUI begets similar punishment with heightened fines and a mandatory minimum of 96 hours (4 days) in jail. Of course, all of these penalties and punishments are subject to change based on varying circumstances, and it should be noted that there are additional restrictions that the DMV can enforce on top of all the court required punishments.

4) Be Polite & Courteous: No matter what crime you are arrested for, be it for DUI or some other offense, dealing with police officers in a calm, respectful, and appropriate manner is always the best approach and will reward you in the end. Officers will note your behavior in their reports, and any belligerent outburst or tirade will likely be used against you as a sign of intoxication and could also earn you additional charges. Of course the opposite is also true meaning if you are calm and collected it could be used as a sign of non-impairment. Even if you didn't do anything wrong always remember that you attract more bees with honey!

5) Don't Drive!: The easiest tip of all...drink to your heart's content and enjoy the holidays, and when you're done take a cab, ride a bus, or call a friend...just don't drive!

This column was prepared by Jacob Glucksman, a Criminal Defense attorney. He can be reached through the Legal Grind at 310-452-1860 or referral@legalgrind.com

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The Re-View

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dinner and a show at Typhoon

FOR ME, NOT EVERY MEAL HAS TO BE a gourmet sensation. Sometimes I like fast food, snacks, an occasional donut when my wife's not looking, and all kinds of fried food. Typhoon at the Santa Monica Airport is no gourmet heaven, but there's a great menu with tremendous variety, and it's just plain fun to eat there. There's a nice bar, live music on occasion, and the food preparation is better than it used to be.

The room is spacious, and the tables are set well apart for privacy. At lunch there's a great view of the airport runway, and it's fun to watch the planes take off. At lunch it's not crowded, and for some reason it's filled mostly with men — I'm guess businessmen from the offices in the airport or at the business park on Ocean Park Boulevard.

Some of the fried food, of which there is a lot on the menu, is not to my taste, although the spicy chicken wings are not bad. The wings are more crispy than the hot wings at Kentucky Fried Chicken, are coated with a nice hot chili sauce, and the yogurt sauce that comes with it is a nice addition. But I'll take a pass on the insect menu, with crickets, ants, and sea worms.

There are two dozen starters, including dim sum, and about four dozen main courses — all described in mouth-watering terms, and encompassing a wide variety of the best in Asian cuisine. Of course with any starter a glass of Sapporo draft beer is welcome.

I've particularly enjoyed the striped bass steamed with black bean sauce; a nice dish to share with others at the table. The last time I looked, only the deep fried whole catfish and the New Zealand pink snapper were on the menu, but those are probably just as good.

The selection of soups might be the best items on the menu. I love Thai chicken soup in coconut milk, Chinese hot and sour soup, and Filipino won ton soups.

If You Go

Typhoon
3221 Donald Douglas Loop South
Santa Monica Airport
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www.typhoon.biz

The last time I was there we had the Chinese crispy duck, which had good flavor but was a bit tough; it should be cooked longer at lower heat. The Chinese buns and Hoisin sauce served with it were excellent. We also had Filipino grilled pork. This grilled, marinated pork was very flavorful, and the serving was enough for two or three people to share.

To go with the duck and the pork we also shared pork fried rice, but most of this went into a doggie bag for dinner the next evening. The portions are quite large.

Appetizers average $10, and dinner plates can be between $14 and $26, so one can expect to spend about $40 a person for a full dinner with a drink or two.

One good reason to go to Typhoon: the Monday night music. When I was there awhile back a first-class group was playing jazz and some old-time favorites. The space lends itself well to music, and by 8 p.m. it was pretty much filled up with regulars.

Typhoon is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner except, for some reason unknown to me, they are closed for lunch on Saturday. The parking is adequate and free, a nice plus in today's world.

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

Rethinking the French fry

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who says game day grub can't have a sophisticated side? In this unusual — and tremendously flavorful — take on the common french fry, Eric Ripert substitutes thick slices of Portobello mushroom for the potato and serves them with a rich truffled aioli.

Portobello "fries" with truffled aioli

Start to finish: 30 minutes
Servings: 4

For the aioli:
2 large egg yolks
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1/2 cup canola oil
1/2 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons white truffle oil
Fine sea salt, to taste
Ground white pepper, to taste

For the Portobello fries:
4 Portobello mushrooms
1 1/2 cups fine dried breadcrumbs
1/2 cup grated pecorino Romano cheese
1 teaspoon ground black pepper
3/4 teaspoon fine sea salt
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
Canola oil, for frying

To make the aioli, in a blender combine the egg yolks, lemon juice and garlic. With the blender on medium, drizzle the canola oil and olive oil into the yolk mixture in a slow steady stream until the aioli is emulsified and well blended. Season with the truffle oil, salt and pepper. Transfer the aioli to a small bowl and set aside.

Trim the stems from the mushrooms, scrape out the gills, and gently wipe the mushroom caps with a damp cloth. Cut the mushroom caps into 1/2-inch-wide strips. In a shallow dish, combine the breadcrumbs, cheese, pepper, salt and thyme. Place the flour and eggs in separate shallow dishes. Toss the mushroom strips in the flour to coat evenly, then dip them into the eggs, then roll them in the breadcrumb mixture.

In a large skillet over medium, heat about 1 inch of canola oil to 325 F to 350 F. Working in batches, place the breaded mushroom strips in the hot oil and cook on all sides until golden brown, 3 to 4 minutes. Transfer to a tray lined with paper towels. Serve hot with the aioli.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 855 calories; 740 calories from fat (87 percent of total calories); 83 g fat (10 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 163 mg cholesterol; 18 g carbohydrate; 9 g protein; 2 g fiber; 725 mg sodium.













For game day, try a chili that plays hard

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

For a day that's all about the rough and tumble, you need a chili that isn't afraid to play hard.

So I created a chili worthy of a Super Bowl party, a chili that can stand out on a table crowded with high-flavor guacamoles, blue cheese dips, cheese-laden nachos, salami-jammed grinders and too-hot-for-your-own-good wings.

The chili starts with an intense base of toasted seasonings, some classics, some not — cumin, cinnamon, cayenne, smoked paprika, instant coffee, mustard powder, ginger and garlic powder. From there, I built up. First some oil and onion, then fresh garlic.

Once I had some serious flavor going, it was time to turn to the star — the meat. But why settle for just one? So I combined chopped flank steak, shredded pork tenderloin and — just for good measure — some ground buffalo.

Once the meat started to brown, in went the canned tomatoes, some liquid smoke, a bit of beef broth, a beer of course, and a couple rinds from Parmesan cheese.

That last one isn't an essential ingredient, and it really only works if you happen to have rinds kicking around the refrigerator (many people save them). But if you do have some, letting them simmer in the chili (or any soup) effortlessly adds an incredible rich, savory flavor. Just before serving the chili fish out and discard the rinds.

In deference to the various angry mail I've received over the years, I decided to leave beans out of this chili recipe. Personally, I like some kidney beans in my chili. Apparently, lots of other people don't. But feel free to add a can or two to this recipe if you swing that way.

All-or-nothing chili

Start to finish: 45 minutes
Servings: 8

1 1/2 pounds pork tenderloin, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 1/2 pounds flank steak, cut into 1/2-inch strips
2 teaspoons cumin
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
2 teaspoons smoked paprika
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 tablespoon instant coffee powder
1 teaspoon mustard powder
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon garlic powder
2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil
2 large yellow onions, diced
4 cloves garlic, minced
1 pound ground buffalo
12-ounce bottle Corona or other pale beer
28-ounce can diced tomatoes
14-ounce can crushed tomatoes
1 cup beef broth
1 teaspoon liquid smoke
Several rinds from chunks of Parmesan cheese (optional)
2 tablespoons lime juice
1/2 teaspoon hot sauce (more or less to taste)
Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
Sour cream, to serve
Chopped fresh cilantro, to serve

In a food processor, combine the pork tenderloin and flank steak. Pulse until chopped, but not ground. Set aside.

In a large, dry stockpot over medium heat, combine the cumin, cinnamon, cayenne, paprika, chili powder, coffee powder, mustard, ginger and garlic powder. Toast the seasonings, stirring constantly, for 1 to 2 minutes, or until fragrant. Transfer the seasonings to a plate or small bowl and set aside.

Return the stockpot to the burner over medium-high. Add the oil and heat, then add the onion. Saute until the onion is just tender, about 3 to 4 minutes. Add the garlic and saute for another minute.

Add the chopped pork tenderloin and flank steak, as well as the ground buffalo. Cook until the meat begins to brown, about 6 to 8 minutes.

Add the reserved spice blend, beer, both cans of tomatoes, beef broth, liquid smoke and Parmesan rinds, if using. Bring to a simmer, then reduce heat to maintain a gentle bubble. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, for 30 minutes.

Spoon out and discard the Parmesan rinds. Stir in the lime juice and hot sauce, then season with salt and pepper. Serve topped with sour cream and cilantro.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 390 calories; 110 calories from fat (28 percent of total calories); 12 g fat (3 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 111 mg cholesterol; 14 g carbohydrate; 51 g protein; 2 g fiber; 649 mg sodium.

Making a healthy dip that won't disappoint

BY JIM ROMANOFF
For The Associated Press

A flavorful cheese dip that is rich, creamy and — at least somewhat — healthy?

It's not as hard as you might think. There are plenty of reduced-fat, creamy ingredients available, some good, some not so much. The key to success when using them is knowing which to use when and, just as importantly, what to blend them with.

Creamy foods, to put it simply, get their luxurious flavors and textures primarily from all the fat they contain. So when you start to reduce the fat, you have to replace it with something to give your mouth a similarly satisfying experience.

In most cases, it's best to avoid the completely fat-free creamy ingredients because they are made entirely of stabilizers and lack any of the flavor and texture that even a small amount of fat brings to the party.

This tangy Gorgonzola and chive dip is a perfect example of how to best take advantage of reduced-fat products.

Its creamy base is made from reduced-fat cream cheese and reduced-fat mayonnaise (which is thickened with starches rather than extra egg yolks). But the secret here is what gets added into this lighter base.

A modest amount of full-fat, full-flavored creamy Gorgonzola cheese is blended in along with tangy lemon juice, Champagne vinegar and chopped fresh chives. The resulting dip gets all the reduced-fat benefits of its lighter ingredients, plus all the fantastic flavor of the sweet and pungent Gorgonzola.

If blue cheeses aren't your thing, you can easily substitute a pungent goat or sheep's milk feta or even grated Parmesan with equally tasty results.

Tangy Gorgonzola and chive dip

Start to finish: 15 minutes
Servings: Makes about 1 1/2 cups (12 servings, 2 tablespoons each)

8 ounces reduced-fat cream cheese or Neufchatel
3 tablespoons milk
1/4 cup reduced-fat mayonnaise
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon Champagne or white wine vinegar
3/4 cup crumbled Gorgonzola or other blue cheese (4 1/4 ounces)
1/3 cup chopped fresh chives
Ground black pepper, to taste

In a food processor, combine the cream cheese, milk, mayonnaise, garlic, lemon juice and vinegar. Pulse until the mixture is smooth, scraping down the sides as needed. Add the Gorgonzola cheese, chives and pepper, then pulse until chunky-smooth.

Nutrition information per 2-tablespoon serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 99 calories; 74 calories from fat (75 percent of total calories); 8 g fat (4 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 21 mg cholesterol; 3 g carbohydrate; 4 g protein; 0 g fiber; 238 mg sodium.



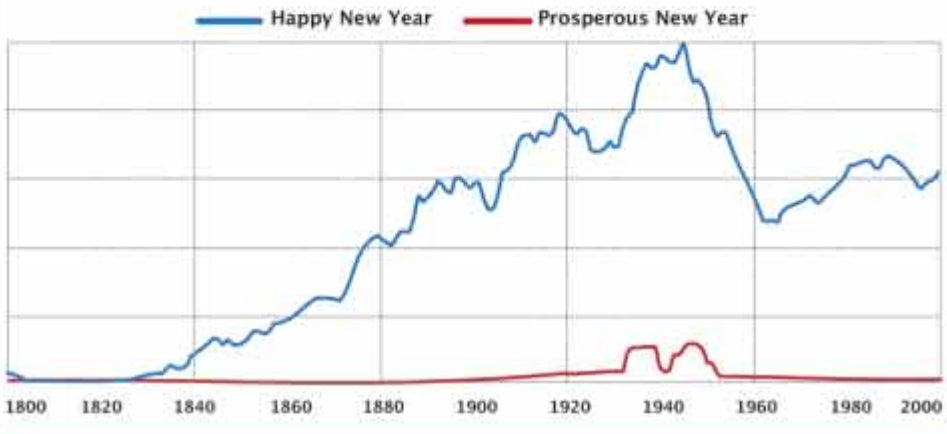
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We wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!



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

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



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

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BOMB
FROM PAGE 1

Second Street, from Wilshire Boulevard to California Avenue. Those streets were closed for roughly two hours while the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Bomb Squad diffused the situation.

Officers who responded said the suspicious device looked real. There were sticks of what appeared to be dynamite wrapped together with black tape. Wires could be seen coming out of the device.

Lucio said the bomb squad determined the dynamite was fake and the device was most likely a movie prop mistakenly thrown away.

"It looked like the real deal for a reason," Lucio said.

Residents said they were unable to get their cars out of Parking Structure 9 on Fourth Street because access was blocked by police, and were late for work. Some were frustrated but others said they were pleased with the police officers' response to a potentially dangerous situation and passed the time drinking coffee and chatting with neighbors.

kevinh@smdp.com

SAFE STREETS
FROM PAGE 1

"We feel that it is preventable to a certain degree, and the city and our community as a whole is not doing enough to reduce speeding through better design and better education of drivers," she said.

Among her prescriptions for safer streets are design features like angled crosswalks, which she said make it easier for pedestrians and drivers to make eye contact, and crosswalks that have a "pedestrian refuge" at a street's mid point.

Reached on Friday, Gould said City Hall recognizes that pedestrian safety on Santa Monica's streets must be improved.

"This will be identified in the upcoming budget process as an emerging issue, and we will employ all the tools at our disposal including street design, traffic control devices, new technology and signage, as well as education and enforcement to better protect pedestrians while providing reasonable traffic flow on our streets," he wrote in an e-mail.

Meanwhile, meetings are underway to come up with a bicycle master plan, a document expected to be released this spring that will likely recommend some of the traffic calming features favored by cyclists.

Adding to the bicycle community's concern about street safety is a batch of new statistics from the Santa Monica Police Department that appears to show a higher number of collisions involving bicycles than in prior years.

> **"THE LOSS OF A LIFE ON OUR STREETS IS A WAKE-UP CALL THAT WE NEED TO DO THINGS IN A NEW AND DIFFERENT WAY."**
>
> **Ana Herceg**
> Santa Monica resident

In 2010, there were 134 traffic accidents involving bicycles in Santa Monica, according to the SMPD. The department did not provide statistics for 2009, but figures compiled by the state Office of Traffic Safety for that year showed 116 people were injured in Santa Monica bicycle collisions — a statistic that was already the worst among 104 cities of similar size in California.

A meeting of a special committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss the figures is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 9.

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NEW COACH
FROM PAGE 3

ball teams to get a feel for what they did successfully.

"I was able to sit down and do that and build from it," Guerra said. "After that I heard that St. Monica was looking for a coach."

The pool of replacements to succeed Larry Muno, who rebuilt the struggling program in just two seasons at the helm, culminating in a return to the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section playoffs last season, included a number of assistants from his staff, but Bruce said that Guerra stood out. Bruce quickly moved to select Guerra as the new coach, while retaining Muno's staff in the process.

"He was the best candidate," Bruce said of Guerra. "We have some terrific assistant coaches remaining, but he has more varsity experience at a big Catholic high school, which is a plus.

"He gets what we're all about."

Guerra steps into a program revived after a number of dismal seasons. Muno was able to instill a new attitude at the school that Guerra said he hopes to capitalize on while adding his own touch.

"I don't want to be a flash in the pan," Guerra said. "We have to be workman-like."

He said that he wants to build on the players in place, but knows that more work is needed if St. Monica is to return to the days that saw it win a CIF-SS title in 2001.

"We need to build a program that has all the details taken care of," Guerra said. "I'm ready for that challenge."

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PILLS
FROM PAGE 3

She and her neighbor called the ASPCA hotline in Urbana, Ill. A veterinarian had them weigh the dog and read the prescription information, then feed the dog a half piece of white bread and two teaspoons of hydrogen peroxide. Then they kept Priscilla active so the contents of her stomach would fizz and she would vomit within 15 minutes.

"The doctor was on the telephone for about an hour," Hardie said. "It was like having her here, she was so precise."

About a quarter of the 168,000 calls received by the hotline in 2010 were about pets who had swallowed human drugs, said veterinarian Tina Wismer, senior director of veterinary outreach and education at the center.

The Pet Poison Helpline in Minneapolis, Minn., run by SafetyCall International, has handled more than 750,000 calls since 2004, said veterinarian Justine Lee, the helpline's associate director of veterinary services. She estimated half their calls are about human medicine.

The poison centers do not track deaths because there are too many variables.

Pet owners won't always know what their animals have gotten into — they just know they are showing symptoms like lethargy, vomiting, depression, seizures or refusing food.

A dog who has swallowed pills to treat ADHD will get agitated. What happens when a pet gets hold of birth control, Viagra and Rogaine pills?

"Luckily birth control pills today have very small amounts of estrogen in them. We use Viagra for dogs with pulmonary hypertension and it was originally marketed to regulate blood pressure. Rogaine can be very dangerous, especially in cats, and can cause heart failure," Wismer said.

One aspirin or one heart pill probably won't kill a pet, but a month's supply, a big bunch of grapes, a few bars of dark chocolate or a single lily could.

Insecticides, rodenticides, people food, veterinary medications, chocolate, household toxins, plants, herbicides and outdoor toxins (like antifreeze and fertilizers) round out the top 10.

Pills don't take a holiday, but some of the toxins on the list seem to.

"Chocolate season" stretches from Halloween to Valentine's Day. And the darker the chocolate, the deadlier it is.

Over the past few years, there has been a slight increase in the number of chocolate-caused deaths and a larger increase in the number of dogs ingesting life-threatening doses of methylxanthine, which is found in chocolate, Wismer said.

"Dogs love chocolate and they are gluttons. They won't stop eating it," Wismer said.

It would take about an ounce of milk chocolate per pound of dog to be deadly, but only an eighth of an ounce of really dark chocolate per pound, she said.

Past Valentine's Day lurks the danger of Easter — the time when cats come in contact with deadly lilies. If a cat bites on a leaf or bats at a lily and gets pollen on its paw, then licks it off, leave for the vet immediately, Wismer said.

Researchers have only determined in the last four or five years that grapes and raisins are toxic to dogs.

"They don't know what it is in them that makes this happen, but three-quarters of a pound of grapes can cause very significant toxicity in a dog," said Portland, Ore.-based veterinarian Jeffrey S. Klausner, chief medical officer of Banfield Pet Hospital, the largest animal hospital in the world with 770 clinics in 41 states.

Alcohol — especially cream-based drinks like Russian eggnog — can make an animal very drunk very quickly. The animal will wobble, vomit, maybe inhale vomit into its lungs and become comatose, Wismer said. The majority of those calls come in on New Year's Day, she said.

Bread made from scratch can also be a problem. "The reason the dough is rising is because it produces gas, but it also produces alcohol so we can get drunk dogs that way too," Wismer said. In addition, the dough will continue to expand inside the dog, she said.

She also reports an increasing number of marijuana calls recently. "Dogs and cats like to chew on plants," and munching on marijuana plants can increase their blood pressure.

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

NOT FOR LONG? **After announcing it was leasing office space in Venice, Google has declined to comment on plans for its Santa Monica offices and employees.**

GOOGLE
FROM PAGE 1

local restaurants and retail, which rely heavily on employees for revenue.

Google has also been a partner in community events and has helped social service agencies. At last year's Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition celebration breakfast, Google received the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce's Business Cares Award for their help assisting homeless families.

Representatives from Google would not comment on their plans for Santa Monica or give any details on how many employees would be stationed in Venice. A spokesman issued a statement from Thomas Williams, senior director of engineering at Google, who said, "Los Angeles is a world class city with a talented workforce, and we're thrilled to expand our presence as we enter our biggest hiring year in company history."

The Mountain View, Calif. company this week announced it would be hiring more than 6,000 workers this year. Real estate sources said Google is moving into three Main Street-area buildings, including the famed Binoculars Building designed by Frank Gehry. Sitting in front of the building is a giant binocular sculpture created by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen.

Real estate sources speculated the move to Venice is an attempt to consolidate operations in the Southland and create a Los Angeles campus.

Mayor Richard Bloom said the Santa Monica Alliance, a partnership between City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce to attract and retain businesses in the city, worked with Google to find suitable office space locally but was unsuccessful.

"It appears the space in Venice was the best choice for them," Bloom said. "It is unclear whether they intend to continue to have a presence in Santa Monica or will locate all employees in Venice. While we will be sorry to see their current workforce leave us, the additional 6,000 jobs Google is creating are fantastic news for the economy."

Bloom said he will be "disappointed" if Google packs up and moves, but he believes their employees will continue to live in Santa Monica or visit and spend some cash here. He said Santa Monica will continue to be an attractive location for businesses, citing video-game giant Activision Blizzard and its decision to remain in Santa Monica after looking at alternatives.

At Thursday's State of the City address, Activision Blizzard vice president George Rose told the audience that the company, which produced the hit "Guitar Hero" and "Call of Duty" franchises, said Santa Monica remains attractive because of its skilled labor pool and investment in technology infrastructure, as well as its proximity to the ocean and other labor centers.

kevinh@smdp.com

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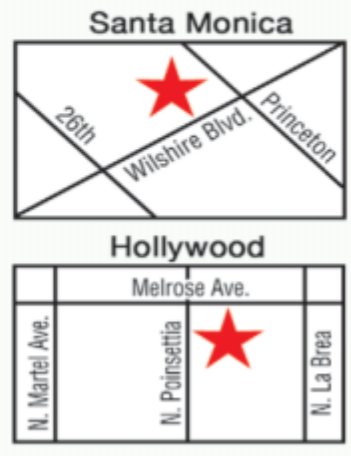


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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Jet skids off runway at Los Angeles-area airport

A twin-engine jet plane aborted a takeoff and skidded off a runway at Van Nuys Airport on Friday but the three people aboard escaped injury, authorities said.

The Mexican-registered Falcon jet was taking off from the San Fernando Valley airport on a flight to Tucson, Ariz., when it aborted the flight at about 1:15 p.m., said Ian Gregor, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

The plane stopped about 75 feet off the end of a runway in a runway safety area, he said.

Televised reports showed black skid marks leading from halfway down the runway into the dirt safety area.

Three people aboard the plane were unhurt, airport spokeswoman Diana Sanchez said.

The accident closed the airport's only functioning runway until the plane could be moved, Sanchez said. A second runway already was closed for construction.

The cause of the accident remained under investigation.

It was not immediately clear who owned the plane. Men near the plane covered up its markings with what appeared to be plastic sheeting.

Van Nuys Airport is heavily used by private, corporate and government aircraft.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

Brown orders deep cuts to government vehicle fleet

Gov. Jerry Brown is halting new-vehicle purchases by the state and ordering vehicles that are not essential for state business to be turned in.

The Democratic governor said he ultimately wants to cut the government's fleet of passenger vehicles in half. He wants to do the same with the number of permits that allow state workers to use their taxpayer-funded vehicles for their daily commute.

Friday's announcement comes three weeks after Brown told half of state employees to give up their government-paid cell phones. Both moves are to help the state bridge a deficit projected to be $25 billion over the next 18 months.

Last year, the administration of former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger sold nearly 4,000 state vehicles and eliminated more than 2,000 of the so-called home-storage permits.

AP

MONTEREY, Calif.

Man pleads not guilty in New Year's bar shootings

A Monterey County man charged with shooting three people outside a bar on New Year's Day has pleaded not guilty to attempted murder and other charges.

Alejandro Jose Gonzalez, of Greenfield, entered the pleas Thursday.

The case has drawn attention because Monterey police inadvertently killed another man when they threw a flash grenade into a house where Gonzalez was suspected of hiding.

The 23-year-old Gonzalez was not in the house when it caught fire, but he turned himself in a few days later to face charges related to shootings outside the Mucky Duck bar.

Along with attempted murder, authorities have charged Gonzalez with possessing a firearm as a felon and committing a crime as part of a gang affiliation. He remains jailed on $3 million bail.

AP

Calif. congresswoman says PG&E can't find key records

BY GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO The utility responsible for a gas pipeline that blew up in a San Francisco suburb cannot find key records needed to set safe pressures for nearly a third of its largest transmission lines, a congresswoman said Friday.

Regulators ordered Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and other California utilities to produce such documents following last month's revelation that records about the exploded line in San Bruno were wrong.

However, Rep. Jackie Speier said PG&E President Chris Johns told her his staff cannot locate any testing records for 30 percent of the lines coursing through urban areas.

"You need to know what's in the ground, and I don't believe they know that," said Speier, a California Democrat who represents the San Bruno area. "This tells me they have shoddy record-keeping."

PG&E spokesman Brian Swanson did not immediately confirm or deny the congresswoman's statement. The company is still in the process of reviewing and validating its pipeline records, he said.

In December, PG&E disclosed it had inaccurate documents about the pipeline that exploded in San Bruno on Sept. 9, sparking a gigantic fireball that killed eight people and destroyed more than three dozen homes.

PG&E records showed the pipe was seamless, but investigators found the spine of the ruptured line had a type of weld that's now being examined in the search for a cause of the explosion.

Officials have not determined an exact cause but suspect the pipeline may have burst under high pressure.

Deborah Hersman, chairwoman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said such record-keeping mistakes pointed to the need for "a new perspective on safety culture" in the industry.

"Our investigators were told that the pipe involved in the explosion was a seamless, factory-manufactured pipe," Hersman said in a speech. "But even a layperson could see the patchwork of welds marking the pipe."

The California Public Utilities Commission has ordered all state utilities to present reliable records for transmission lines by March 15.

Meanwhile, commission President Michael Peevey said he would ask his fellow commissioners to vote on holding a public investigation into the San Bruno explosion.

The proceeding could include fact-finding hearings and the creation of a clearinghouse for all San Bruno-related documents.

Peevey's announcement came after San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera, state Sen. Mark Leno, The Utility Reform Network and the Consumer Federation of California complained that state investigators had been operating largely in private.

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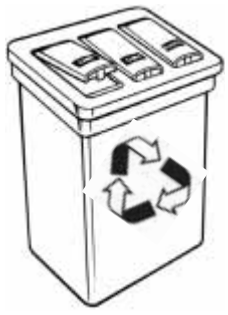
Wednesday, February 2, 2011– 6:30 PM
Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street
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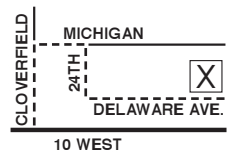


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Taco Bell takes its beef with lawsuit to the public

BY BRUCE SCHREINER & SARAH SKIDMORE
AP Business Writers

Taco Bell says a legal beef over the meat in its tacos is bull.

The fast-food chain took out full-page ads in at least nine major newspapers and launched a YouTube campaign featuring its president Friday to proclaim its taco filling is 88 percent beef.

A false-advertising lawsuit filed last week that caused an online stir alleges the company's filling doesn't have enough beef to be called that. The lawsuit seeks to make the company stop calling it "beef," and pay the suing law firm's bill.

Taco Bell trumpeted "Thank you for suing us. Here's the truth about our seasoned beef," in the ads in Friday's editions of the Wall Street Journal, USA Today and other papers.

The ads go on to say the rest of the filling is a mixture of spices and common food additives.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in California, alleges the meat mixture has binders and extenders and does not meet federal requirements to be labeled beef.

Taco Bell denied those claims earlier this week but turned up the volume after a week in which the story spread like wildfire, making national headlines, creating an internet stir and even prompting a bit by comedian Steven Colbert.

Experts say similar cases show the tempest in a tortilla is unlikely to hurt Taco Bell's business, but the aggressive counter-attack is drawing some attention.

"It is unusual for a company to take this on and challenge the allegations so boldly," said Gene Grabowski, chair of the crisis and litigation practice at Levick Strategic Communications in Washington. "A lot of companies are going to be watching how this turns out."

The tone and scope of the campaign indicates Taco Bell is confident in its facts, Grabowski said. Companies typically shy away from taking facts in a legal dispute public.

The lawsuit, filed by the Alabama law firm Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, doesn't specify what percentage of the mixture is meat. The lawyer on the case, Dee Miles, said the firm had the filling tested and found it contained 35 percent beef. The firm would not say who tested the meat or give any other specifics of the analysis.

Taco Bell says the filling contains 88 percent USDA-inspected beef and the rest is water, spices and a mixture of oats, starch and other ingredients that contribute to what it calls the "quality of its product."

The company said it uses no extenders to add volume to the filling.

Customers at a Taco Bell in parent company Yum Brands' hometown of Louisville, Ky., were unruffled.

"I've eaten it for years," said Greg Long as he grabbed a Beefy 5 Layer burrito Friday in Louisville, Ky. "I don't care."

"It tastes like ground beef from any fast-food restaurant to me," said David Carey, who mostly cared it was quick enough to fit into his lunch break.

The plaintiffs would have to prove that most diners believe they are getting something other than what Taco Bell serves. Most customers realize taco meat has ingredients besides beef, Williams said.

In addition, the lawsuit cites U.S. Department of Agriculture guidelines for labeling ground beef. The problem? They don't apply to restaurants. The USDA's rules apply to meat processors — the companies Taco Bell buys its meat from.

Tyson Foods Inc., the company's largest meat supplier, said it mixes and cooks the meat at three USDA-inspected plants.

So what's in the meat, anyway?

Fast food often contains additives. That "isolated oat product," for example, is usually used to help processed meat hang onto moisture and flavor. Other chains use them, too. McDonald's, for example, says its hamburgers are all beef, but the hamburger chain's ingredients list also includes additives and preservatives in many items.

Experts say similar ingredients are used in many processed foods sold in stores.

"There is nothing really frankenfood in here," said Karen Ansel, a registered dietitian and spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association.

Nutrition experts say foods in their most basic, fresh form are healthiest. But Ansel said taco fans should be more concerned about salt than ingredients with long, complicated names.

"If they eat this, it is no worse for them than what they are getting anywhere else."



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

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

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

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

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

NASA marks 25th anniversary of Challenger accident

BY MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. Hundreds gathered at NASA's launch site Friday to mark the 25th anniversary of the Challenger disaster, receiving words of hope from the widow of the space shuttle's commander.

The chilly outdoor ceremony drew space agency managers, former astronauts, past and present launch directors, family and friends of the fallen crew — and schoolchildren who weren't yet born when the space shuttle carrying a high school teacher from Concord, N.H., erupted in the sky.

The accident on Jan. 28, 1986 — just 73 seconds into flight — killed all seven on board, including schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.

June Scobee Rodgers, the widow of Challenger's commander, Dick Scobee, urged the crowd to "boldly look to the future" not only in space travel, but in space and science education. She was instrumental in establishing the Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

"The entire world knew how the Challenger crew died," she said. "We wanted the world to know how they lived and for what they were risking their lives."

Rodgers and NASA's space operations chief, Bill Gerstenmaier, placed a memorial wreath of red, white and blue-tinted carnations at the base of the Space Mirror Memorial. The 42-foot-tall gleaming mirrored slab of granite bears the names of all 24 astronauts killed in the line of duty over the years — 17 of those in U.S. spacecraft.

Dennis and Pat Cassidy of Franklin, N.H., blinked back tears as Rodgers spoke. Pat Cassidy recalled the joy she felt when McAuliffe was named as NASA's teacher in space — she screamed she was so excited. When Challenger was lost, she couldn't stop crying.

"Geez. You never expected it to happen. We never expect these kinds of things to happen, I guess," she said, clutching a red rose.

Her husband recalled after the initial shock, feeling so badly for McAuliffe's family, all present at the launch: her husband, two children and her parents. "All I could do was say a prayer for the family. And that's what they should do today, say a prayer for the families."

The Cassidys, wintering in Florida, made a point to be at the ceremony.

So did Peggy Shecket, who traveled from Cleveland. Her dear friend Judith Resnik was aboard Challenger that freezing morning. The two women, back in the mid-1980s, lived such different lives. Shecket was a suburban Ohio mom with two sons. Resnik had become the second American woman in space. But their bond was strong: Resnik invited Shecket to the launch, and she went.

A photo she took an instant before the shuttle exploded hangs on her family room wall.

"I miss her terribly," Shecket said. "At this age, in our 60s, we could have gone to ladies' weekends together. She probably would have had time that she didn't have 25 years ago because she was so busy."

Kathryn Serene drove four hours from Savannah, Ga., in the wee hours of Friday to attend the 9 a.m. ceremony. She brought a homemade basket bearing a paper model space shuttle, red, white and blue silk flowers, and a large red apple, which she left at the base of the memorial. She was in middle school when the accident occurred, and wanted to show her respects all these years later.

Erik Volk hadn't been born yet. Neither were his fellow fifth-graders from Espiritu Santo Catholic School in Safety Harbor, Fla., on the opposite coast. The 60 students were at an overnight space camp Thursday, and the chaperones rearranged the schedule once they learned of the ceremony.

"Remember the teacher? What I said about the teacher?" prompted his father, Joe Volk. "Yes. She was going to give classes from space," said the boy, holding a yellow rose.

Erik, 10, said he was there "to remember the lives that were lost."

The crew included commander Scobee; co-pilot Michael Smith; Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-American in space; Resnik; Ronald McNair, the second African-American in space; McAuliffe; and Gregory Jarvis.

Erik waited patiently in a long line to place his long-stemmed rose in the white grated fence around the memorial. Each guest did the same following the ceremony, and the fence soon was adorned with flowers.

At the high school in Concord where McAuliffe taught, special assemblies were held Friday in her honor. Anniversary events also took place at Challenger Learning Centers across the country.

This silver anniversary comes as NASA is winding down the space shuttle program. The fleet will be retired after three more flights this year to the International Space Station.

Friday's speakers stressed that exploration will never be risk-free. The Challenger astronauts demonstrated that painful truth — so did the lost crew of Columbia. But they also showed "that we can learn from our mistakes and be better for them in the end," said Robert Cabana, a former shuttle commander who now is the Kennedy Space Center director.

World markets sink as protests escalate in Egypt

BY DAVID K. RANDALL & MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Escalating protests in Egypt jarred world financial markets on Friday. Stocks fell while the dollar, Treasurys and gold rose as investors sought to reduce their exposure to risk.

The Egyptian government's response to widespread street protests unnerved investors. The military was deployed in an effort to quell the protests and the headquarters of the ruling party was on fire. Thousands of people defied a curfew, and Internet and cell phone service has been cut off.

Earlier, riot police fired tear gas, rubber bullets and used water cannons to disperse crowds that had gathered in the largest challenge to Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak's thirty-year rule. The fall of the Tunisian government two weeks ago has raised concerns that other authoritarian governments in the Middle East could also be toppled.

"The safety trade is back," said Jeffrey Frankel, president of broker Stuart Frankel & Co. "Gold is up. Oil is up. Anything related to overseas is getting hit."

Prices of Treasury bonds, considered one of the safest assets, rose sharply. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note fell to 3.33 percent from 3.38 percent late Thursday. Bond yields fall when their prices rise.

The dollar rose 0.5 percent against an index of six other currencies as investors sought safety. Gold rose 1.7 percent to settle at $1,340.70 and crude oil rose 4.3 percent to $89.34 a barrel.

The Egyptian stock market isn't open on Fridays. The market's main index fell 10.5 percent Thursday.

The MSCI World Market index, the broadest measure of the world's stock markets, slumped 1.4 percent.

"Traders are watching this flare-up in the Middle East and using it as a reason to take profits," said Doug Godine, managing director at Signal Hill, an investment bank.

Of the 30 large company stocks that make up the Dow Jones industrial average, 28 fell. The two exceptions, Procter & Gamble and DuPont, were flat.

The Dow fell 166.13 points, or 1.4 percent, to close at 11,823.70. The Dow lost 0.4 percent for the week after eight straight weeks of gains.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 23.20, or 1.8 percent, to 1,276.34. All 10 company groups within the S&P index fell. The S&P fell 0.5 percent for the week.

The Nasdaq composite fell 68.39, or 2.5 percent, to 2,686.89. The index was not updated nearly an hour after the market opened due to technical problems. The Nasdaq lost 0.1 percent for the week.

Five stocks fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was high at 1.35 billion shares.

Disappointing earnings reports also rattled investors, said Brian Wenzinger, a portfolio manager at Aronson Johnson Ortiz in Philadelphia. "Some companies like Apple are doing well, but the bulk are not being too optimistic," Wenzinger said.

Ford Motor Co sank 13 percent after its earnings fell short of Wall Street's projections. Amazon.com Inc. fell 7 percent after reporting that higher costs cut down its profit margins. Microsoft Corp. lost 4 percent after it said that the profitability of its Windows division was falling.

A lower than expected report on the U.S. economy helped lead to a market sell-off as well. The Commerce Department reported that U.S. gross domestic product grew at an annual rate of 3.2 percent between October and December. That was below the 3.5 percent that analysts had forecast.

Sara Lee Corp. fell 2.7 percent after announcing a plan to split into two companies. One, a food and retail business, will keep the Sara Lee name and also operate the Jimmy Dean and Hillshire Farms businesses. The other, which has yet to be named, will hold the current company's beverages and baked goods lines. The company had considered selling the whole business but was unable to get a satisfactory price for it.









SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

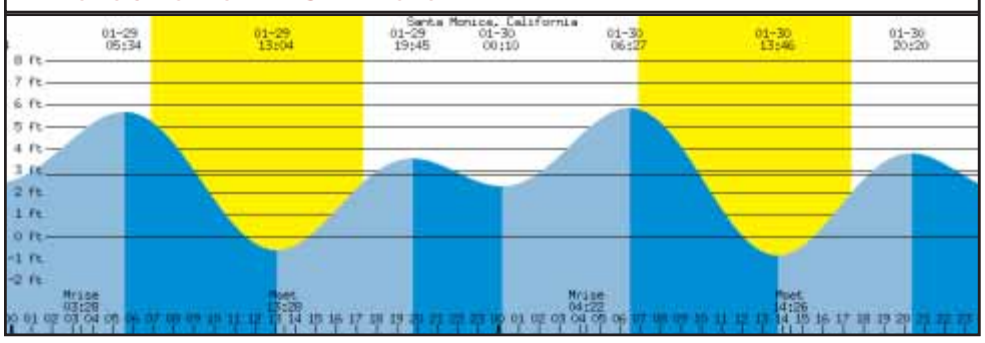
Swell Forecast

Looks rather small as well.

Long Range Synopsis

We could see wind swell increase to chest high around west facing breaks, but sloppy and storm driven.

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 26, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 9
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31 / 18
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 13 / 24

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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 Cerrillos Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	C
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alins creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	D
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	B
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	D	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	C	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	C
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	C	B
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	F	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	C
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	B	A
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	B
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

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

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'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.

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

Heal the Bay

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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.

NHRA could face IRS scrutiny

BY JOHN MARSHALL
AP Sports Writer

An NHRA member has filed an anonymous complaint with the IRS, claiming the drag racing organization operates as a for-profit business and is in violation of its tax-exempt status.

Filed on Jan. 12 by the Washington, D.C., law firm Caplin and Drysdale, the complaint contends the NHRA is set up to benefit its management rather than serve the 80,000-or-so members it represents.

It also says compensation for NHRA management is out of whack with similar tax-exempt organizations and that it is run by a select group of individuals rather than its members, who have no voting rights.

The NHRA denied it operates as a for-profit business and complies with federal tax laws.

MLS

Galaxy signs midfielder Miguel Lopez

CARSON, Calif. The Los Angeles Galaxy has signed midfielder Miguel Lopez on a loan from Argentina's Quilmes for the 2011 Major League Soccer season.

The 22-year-old Argentine helped Quilmes gain promotion to the first division last year. He played 21 games and was a teammate of Paolo Cardozo, selected by the Galaxy in the first round of this year's MLS draft.

In addition, the Galaxy said Friday that goalkeeper Donovan Ricketts received a U.S. green card and will no longer fill an international roster slot. Ricketts has spent two seasons with the Galaxy and played for Jamaica at the 1998 World Cup. He has made 76 international appearances.

FEEL LIKE YOUR OPINION IS STIFLED?



IS IT DRIVING YOU CRAZY?
QUIT TALKING TO YOURSELF!
WRITE A LETTER, AN OP-ED OR DRAW A CARTOON.

Send Submissions to editor@smdp.com
or to: 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, 90401

smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

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

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

Subject:

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

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

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

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

Taxi ! Taxi !



20th Anniversary

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City of SM, SM Chamber & Sustainable Works

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SM to LAX $30

SantaMonicaTaxi.com

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, Jan. 29
Double feature
Robin and The 7 Hoods (NR) 2hr 3min
Ocean's Eleven Technicolor print (NR) 2hr 7min
7:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 30
Double Feature
Jailhouse Rock (NR) 1hr 36min
King Creole (PG) 1hr 56min
7:30pm

Join us at 6 p.m. across the street at Every Picture Tells a Story, where songwriting greats Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller will be signing their autobiography, "Hound Dog."

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

Somewhere (R) 1hr 38min
2:00pm, 7:30pm

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

True Grit (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:05am, 12:50pm, 3:40pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Country Strong (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:10am, 4:40pm, 10:20pm

Way Back (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
9:30am, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:05pm

Airplane! (PG) 1hr 28min
12:30pm

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

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

No Strings Attached (R) 1hr 50min
11:25am, 1:15pm, 2:20pm, 4:10pm, 5:10pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:40pm, 10:40pm

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

Rite (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:20am, 2:20pm, 5:20pm, 8:05pm, 10:50pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:10pm

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

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

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

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

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

127 Hours (R) 1hr 35min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

Winston Churchill: Walking With Destiny (NR)
11:00am

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

Giselle: Encore (NR)
10:30am

Every Day (R) 1hr 33min
11:00am

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

Blue Valentine (NC-17) 1hr 54min
11:05am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Company Men (R) 1hr 53min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Mechanic (R) 1hr 40min
12:15pm, 2:55pm, 5:30pm, 8:05pm, 10:45pm

Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1hr 48min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:50pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:00am, 1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

You are the party, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ An invitation is too appealing to say "no" to. Though a friend or roommate might want to be left out, go with your sense of adventure. You will particularly enjoy a new activity or place. Relax with the moment. Tonight: Be imaginative and original.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Remain easygoing in the face of change and perhaps feeling a bit tired. You might not want to keep your plans, but do so for yourself. Someone close loves having you all to him- or herself. You might be happier with spontaneity. Tonight: Dinner for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Go along with plans. Enjoy being the passenger and not having to make every decision. The person in question is trying to speak through his or her actions. This person's caring is quite apparent. Meet new people; join friends. Tonight: Stay out of a competition.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Whether painting a room or reading a good book, you are comfortable following through on a task. Once it's complete, you will feel great. Invite several friends over midafternoon. Your love of entertaining and people mix well. Tonight: Make it easy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You might not want to let your hair down, but you will. Others certainly support you in relaxing and having fun. No one is surprised to hear that you are tired. You have pushed and pushed. Give yourself permission to veg or do your thing. Tonight: A partner or friend is on the warpath.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Consider repainting or remodeling before you decide to move. You might want more space. Clearing out clutter could help. Others willingly pitch in, if that is OK with you. Note that not everything will be put away perfectly, but the feel will be great. Tonight: Order in, especially as you could have company and still have a mess.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your ability to laugh and loosen up others falls flat. You might take others' odd reactions personally, but actually their minds are on other matters. You have been a little serious of late. Find a friend, child or loved one who makes you smile. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of your tendency to go overboard and create a lot of problems for yourself later. Still, you might be in the mood to overindulge. Whether spending, eating or imbibing, you simply perk up and have a good time. Tonight: Finally tell someone how you feel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ A friend could be dragging his or her heels, creating a question in your mind. This person's intentions will become clear without you having to ask any questions. An innate glow attracts many people. Don't wonder why people are gravitating toward you. Tonight: Wish-upon-a-star time!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want some downtime. A parent, boss or another type of authority figure comes down very hard on you. Remember, you don't always need to be available. Meet a special person in your life for the day. Go alone -- you could meet someone intriguing. Tonight: Still not to be found.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You could be a little taken aback by news and feel sad. Hook up with a friend who you always have a good time with. A new friend made today could change your life considerably. This relationship could develop into a long-term tie. Tonight: You are the party.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Stay sensitive to a somewhat depressed partner. You might wonder what is happening with an older friend or relative if you look at his or her demeanor. Learn more effective ways of expressing your anger. Tonight: Out and about.

Happy birthday

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

This year, success comes to you, but often your normal approach will be thwarted. You could be delighted by the role friends and associates play in your life. They clearly want you to obtain a goal and support you in any way that feels appropriate. If you are single, a friendship could develop into more. The other possibility is that you could meet someone through a friend. If you are attached, think of your sweetie as a friend, too. That bonding will support you in difficult times. SAGITTARIUS adores spending time with you.

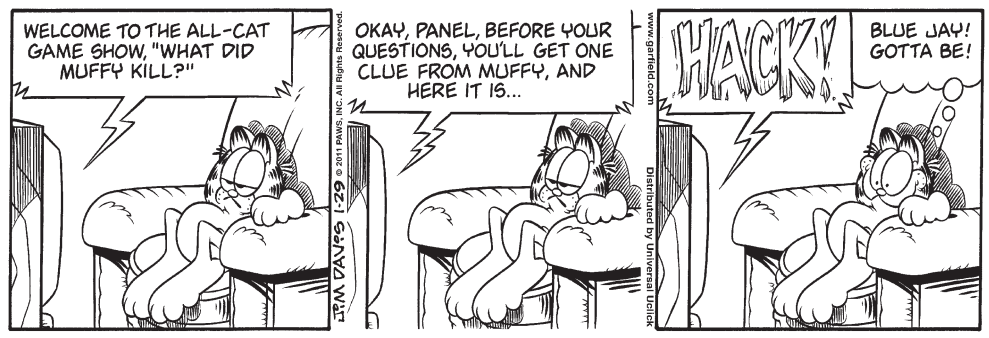


MYSTERY REVEALED!

City employee Donald Davis correctly identified this photo of the Animal Wellness Center on Main Street. He will receive a reusable shopping bag from the Daily Press. Check out Monday's paper for another chance to play. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

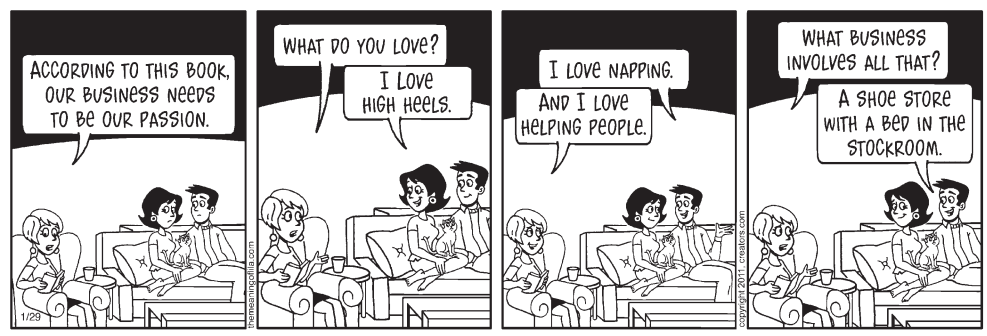
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



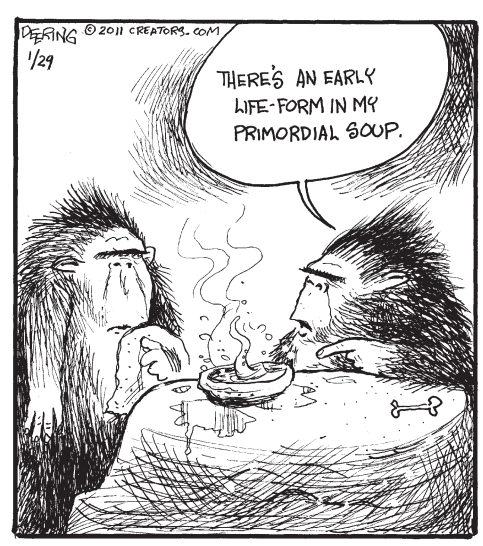
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

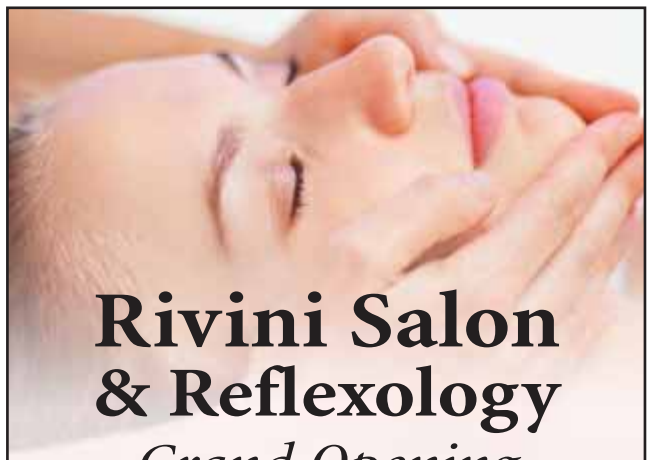
King Features Syndicate

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

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



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We offer full 1 Hour:
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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Ticked off
5 Pats on the back, perhaps
10 Move furtively
12 Met work
13 Chain of hills
14 Clothing brand
15 Big head
16 Young buck
18 Sky sighting
19 Improvise
21 Potato feature
22 It handles sight and hearing
24 New parent, e.g.
25 Aware
29 Workout count
30 Stellar signs
32 One of the Gershwins
33 Farm female
34 Nasty dog
35 Annoy
37 Ham it up
39 Loan shark's practice
40 Parcels
41 Hammer parts
42 Saucy

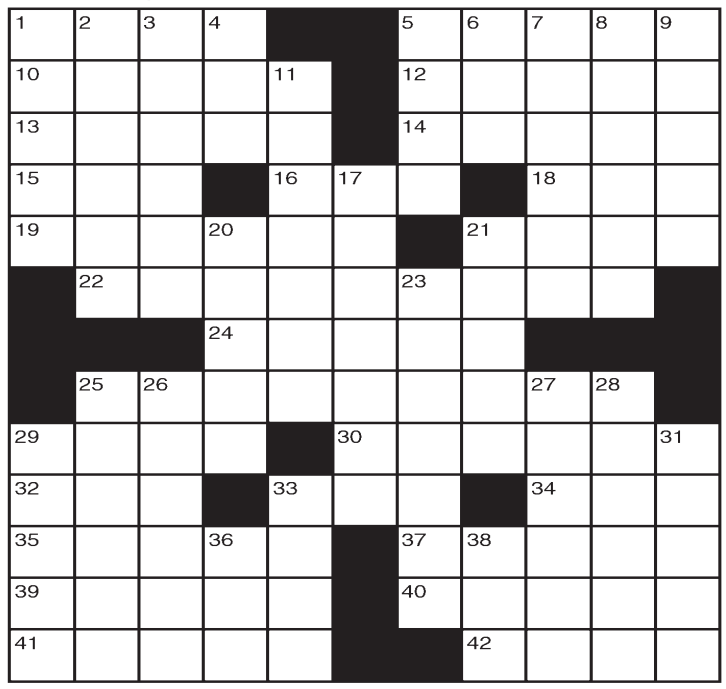
DOWN

1 Machine part
2 Source
3 Made over
4 Brain chart, briefly
5 Audacious
6 — tree
7 Chastise
8 Word starter
9 Stylist's spot
11 Louisiana symbol
17 Reduce to mist
20 Big ringers
21 Valuable fiddle
23 Designated a new use for
25 Deep red
26 Not sheer
27 Kidman of "The Others"
28 Less relaxed
29 Shred
31 Wave peak
33 Attention-getting calls
36 Ornate planter
38 Unruly do

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

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



1-29

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

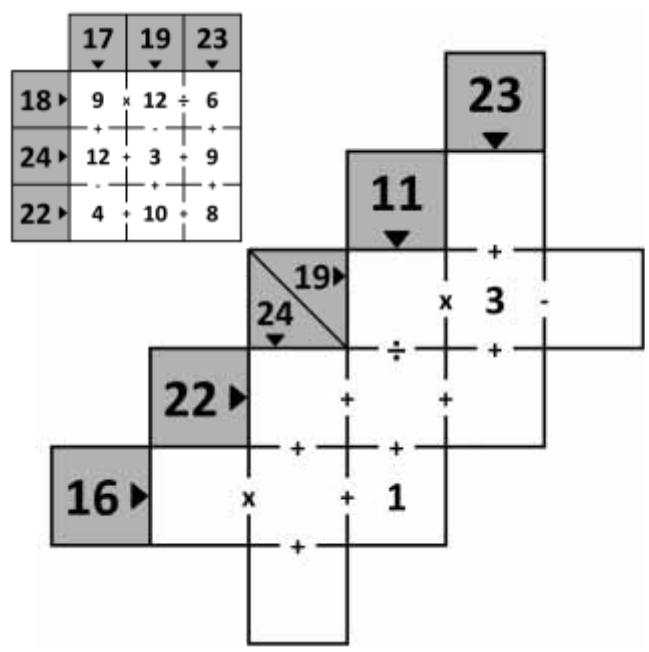
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1228



DAILY LOTTERY

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

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 11 18 21 27 47 Meganumber: 13 Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5: 2 11 13 29 37

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

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 02 Lucky Star 3rd: 08 Gorgeous George RACE TIME: 1:49.81

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

■ Charles Clements, 69, appeared in this space two months ago in a report on his having deliberately shot to death a 23-year-old neighbor whose fox terrier had answered a call of nature on the perfectly manicured lawn of the reportedly obsessive Clements. (According to witnesses, the victim was displaying macho bravado just before the shooting, but Clements admitted he was not under attack when he fired.) On Dec. 29, a judge in a Chicago suburb rejected requests for a 20-year sentence and ordered Clements to serve only four months -- out of jail, on probation.

■ A Police Officer's Dream Come True: Vincent Morrissey's police brutality lawsuit went to trial in New Haven, Conn., in December (1997), and West Haven police officer Ralph Angelo was on the witness stand, claiming that Morrissey himself had provoked the encounter by swinging at Angelo. Morrissey's attorney, skeptical of the testimony, asked Officer Angelo to demonstrate to the jury how hard Morrissey had swung at him. Before the lawyer could clarify what he meant by "demonstrate," Officer Angelo popped the lawyer on the chin, staggering him and forcing an immediate recess.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1944 USS Missouri the last battleship commissioned by the United States Navy is launched.

1944 World War II: The Battle of Cisterna takes place in central Italy.

1944 World War II: Approximately 38 men, women, and children die in the Koniuchy massacre in Poland.

1944 In Bologna, Italy, the Anatomical Theatre of the Archiginnasio is destroyed in an air-raid.

1963 The first inductees into the Pro Football Hall of Fame are announced.

1967 The "ultimate high" of the hippie era, the Mantra-Rock Dance, takes place in San Francisco and features Janis Joplin, Grateful Dead, and Allen Ginsberg.

WORD UP!

rakish \ REY-kish \ , adjective;
1. Smart; jaunty; dashing.
2. Of a vessel: having an appearance suggesting speed.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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$10998

06 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
305691A/641411
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DBAS

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

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

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515 Ocean Avenue
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3 Bed , 2.5 Bath
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1900 Sq. Ft
Plus 102 Sq. Ft. Patio
North of Montana
Great Views from the Living Room & Balcony
Call for Private Showing



More Pictures and Virtual Tour

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Open Sunday!

2310 31st Street

2 Bed, 1 Bath
$795,000

Large Sunny Lot!



Open Sunday
January 30th
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

More Pictures and Virtual Tour at

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Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from ALL Agents from ALL Companies Listed for Sale As of Late January 2011

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$1,995,000	$2,347,000
North of Montana	$3,087,500	$1,295,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,574,500	$ 875,000
South of Wilshire	$784,000	$498,500
Sunset Park	$1,056,250	$540,000
Ocean Park	$1,272,500	$865,000
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Unit 2	$839,00
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Unit 4	$799,000



All Units have 3 Bedrooms 2.5 Baths

Open Sunday!
Open House
Sunday, January 30th
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

More Pictures and Virtual Tour at www.SantaMonicaListings.com



515 Ocean # 607 South
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$1,480,000
Gorgeously updated!
Ocean View!
Please call for Private Showing!

More Pictures and Virtual Tour at www.SantaMonicaListings.com







Open Sunday!
Price Reduced!

1425 Stanford Street #6
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$619,000
Open House Sunday, January 30th
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Purchase includes 42" Plasma TV, HD Digital Recorder & Stainless Steel Refrigerator

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