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Santa Monica Daily Press

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010

Volume 9 Issue 72

Santa Monica Daily Press

HOOPS TEAMS RANKED
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE SPREADING THE WEALTH ISSUE



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

GRIDLOCK: **A number of real estate developments on the eastside of town have some neighborhood groups concerned about density, traffic.**

Eastside development plans cause alarm

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

EASTSIDE A slew of commercial and residential developments proposed for the eastside of Santa Monica is causing alarm among neighborhood groups who fear the projects aren't getting a careful enough analysis from City Hall and have the potential to turn a bad traffic problem in the area into a disaster.

The projects are all in the early planning stages and are yet to receive approval from the City Council.

But the proposals have neighborhood activists like Diana Gordon, co-founder of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, concerned developers are trying to circumvent City Hall's plans for the area by ramming through development agreements before City Hall's general plan update is completed later this year.

The update, known as the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), is expected to be approved by this summer and is part of City Hall's 25-year development plan. It will put in place strict limits on building height, density and parking allotment, in addition to other rules.

Six projects are planned for the eastside area known as the Light Manufacturing and Studio District, a zone that spans 26th Street to Centinela Avenue, and from the I-10 Freeway to Colorado Avenue.

Together the projects total nearly 2-million-square-feet of new space, according to a list compiled by Zina Josephs of the Friends of Sunset Park neighborhood group. The two largest are a mixed-use building proposed for the vacant Papermate manufacturing site that would total nearly 1-million square feet, and the Paseo Nebraska project, which envisions 356,000 square feet and came before the Planning Commission Wednesday night.

Many of the proposals are seeking development agreements with City Hall that would allow them to exceed height restrictions being considered for the area.

"Every single one of these developers is coming in wanting the moon," Gordon said, with proposals that go "beyond what the draft LUCE contemplates."

Though most of the projects won't come before the council for final approval until after the LUCE is adopted, Gordon said the fear is that the projects will gain momentum by getting initial conceptual approval beforehand and will be difficult to reign in down the line.

She and other members of her group have proposed that the council slow down the pace of planning by delaying the so-called "float-up" process for the projects until after the LUCE gets final approval. In the float-up process, developers ask the Planning Commission and City Council to

SEE DEVELOPMENT PAGE 10

Food bank serves record number of Westsiders

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

22nd STREET Roughly 90,000 people received some form of food assistance last year from the 65 pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters supplied by Santa Monica-based Westside Food Bank, officials with the nonprofit announced Wednesday.

That is a 50 percent increase from 2005, said Bruce Rankin, executive director of the food bank, who has noticed an increase in the number of young couples and seniors seeking support because of rising food costs and a sluggish economy that has forced many to file for unemployment or seek part-time work.

The food bank provides roughly 78,000 meals per week, supplying local organizations like OPCC, St. Joseph's Center, Upward Bound House and Common Ground.

"It's definitely a record high," Rankin said. "This increase in need goes right along with the increase in unemployment. It's a struggle for many people out there to put food on the table, and many people we are seeing are coming to pantries for the first time."

The Westside Food Bank isn't alone. The Los Angeles Regional Foodbank, which supplies food to nearly 900 charitable sites in the county, released a report on Tuesday which showed a record 983,400 residents — nearly one in 10 in the county — received food assistance last year. That is a 46 percent increase from 2005, the last time the food bank conducted a detailed survey.

The local findings mirror national figures, which show demand at soup kitchens and food pantries also has grown 46 percent in the last four years, according to Feeding America, the country's largest network of food banks. In all, one in eight Americans, more than 47 million people, received food last year from the network.

The report, "Hunger in Los Angeles County 2010," showed that 37 percent of families seeking food at soup kitchens included at least one employed adult, though about two-thirds of those had only part-time jobs. Twenty-seven percent had a college or technical school education, but

SEE FOOD BANK PAGE 11

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WHAT'S UP
WESTSIDE
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, Feb. 4, 2010

Remembering Zinn
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 8 p.m.
Get a glimpse of Howard Zinn's new documentary, "The People Speak," during this special event. Using dramatic and musical performances of diaries, letters, and speeches by everyday Americans, "The People Speak" gives voice to those who valiantly spoke up for social change throughout U.S. history. This event is full, but a stand-by line will open at 7 p.m. For more information, call (310) 586-6488 ext. 119.

Jane Doe on the mind
Powerhouse Theatre
3116 Second St., 8 p.m.
The Los Angeles Theatre Ensemble will present the world premiere of "In the Company of Jane Doe," telling of one woman's fight for self-discovery. The show is written by award-winning playwright Tiffany Antone and directed by Mary Jo DuPrey. This play is presented each Thursday, Friday and Saturday through Feb. 6.

Wonderful language
Fairmont Miramar Hotel
1129 Second St., 4 p.m. — 8 p.m.
"The Wonder of Learning, the Hundred Languages of Children' exhibit focuses on how young people use music, art and drama to learn about and make meaning of the world. For more information on this free event, call (310) 390-7290. This exhibit is also open Saturday and Sunday.

Friday, Feb. 5, 2010

ICE extended
Arizona Avenue at Fifth Street
10 a.m. — 10 p.m.
Bring back childhood memories — and create new ones — as you slice through the ice in a festive atmosphere filled with holiday cheer and balmy ocean breezes. The ice rink has been extended to Feb. 15. Admission is $10 and includes skate rental. The rink is periodically cleared for short periods to groom the ice. If raining, the rink will remain open in light rain or drizzle conditions, closing only for heavy downpours. For more information go to www.downtownsm.com.

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

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Samohi girls hoops ranked second in 1A

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI The latest California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section girls basketball poll has Santa Monica ranked second in Division 1A.

This is the highest ranking the Vikings have earned this season. Samohi trails only Canyon Springs, a team it defeated earlier this season. Canyon Springs eliminated the Vikings in the semifinals of the playoffs last season.

Samohi's girls are now 16-6 on the season and 6-0 in Ocean League play. The Vikings played league rival Inglewood last night, but results were not available at presstime.

Samohi is currently in first place in league with Inglewood a close second, just one game back. Samohi defeated Inglewood earlier this season.

Head Coach Marty Verdugo's plan of taking on elite non-league teams have played out favorably for the Vikings. While not all of the high-profile games have resulted in wins, Samohi has been in nearly every game this season, gaining experience for the postseason. Key non-league games this season included the win against Canyon Springs and another against Troy. A loss against Mater Dei last weekend was the team's most anticipated game of the season, filling the main gym on campus.

LOCAL BOYS HOOPS TEAMS RANKED

The Santa Monica boys basketball team is ranked eighth in the latest CIF-SS poll.

The Vikings recently ended an 11-game winning streak, but the team is still in first place in the Ocean League.

Like the girls, the Samohi boys are 16-6 overall and 6-0 in league play. The boys played as part of a twin bill on Wednesday, but that score was also not available at presstime.

St. Monica's boys are 13th in the poll. The Mariners are 13-9 overall and 5-1 in league. The team is in second place in the Camino Real League, one game behind La Salle.

Crossroads (11-11 overall and 0-7 in the Olympic League) is holding on to the 13th spot in the Division 5AA poll. The team is currently mired in a eight-game losing streak. Crossroads will play Windward on Friday on the road. The game will begin at 7 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com



EASY WAY TO WIN

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School's Julia Glanz dribbles past a couple of Inglewood defenders on Wednesday at John Adams Middle School. Samohi won the game 4-0 after Inglewood was forced to forfeit because of a lack of players.

Source: Jackson's doctor to be arraigned Friday

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY & THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writers

LOS ANGELES Michael Jackson's doctor is set to be arraigned Friday on a charge connected to the pop singer's death, a source told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Dr. Conrad Murray is to be arraigned at a courthouse near Los Angeles International Airport, according to a person familiar with the planning, who declined to be named because of the sensitivity of the situation. The person didn't say what Murray would be charged with.

Prosecutors have declined to say whether they will charge Murray. Two law enforcement sources have told the AP that prosecutors plan to charge Murray with involuntary manslaughter. The officials requested anonymity because they are not authorized to publicly discuss the case.

Los Angeles County district attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said she could "neither confirm nor deny" that Murray would appear Friday afternoon at the LAX courthouse. She noted that the office has a policy of filing charges in the court district where the alleged crime occurred. Jackson died June 25 at a rented mansion on the west side of Los Angeles. The LAX courthouse handles criminal cases in the western portion of L.A.

Murray and his lawyers met Wednesday to discuss their client's defense strategy in the event he's charged in the singer's death.

Murray and his legal team had received no word from prosecutors about a decision from the district attorney, but lead attorney Ed Chernoff said his client was ready to surrender to authorities in the event a charge is filed.

"We are prepared for whatever occurs," Chernoff said. "We have time to meet and strategize for possible scenarios, but in reality we've had eight months to do that."

The arrival of Murray and Chernoff in recent days from Houston led to a new round of speculation that a charge could be announced this week. Camera crews and reporters converged on a downtown criminal courthouse Tuesday morning awaiting word of possible charges, although Gibbons said she had no word on when any developments were likely.

Chernoff was waiting for news in a Los Angeles-area hotel, while Murray was at a friend's house in Santa Monica, where a crowd of paparazzi was waiting outside.

"There's no joy in representing someone who shouldn't be charged in the first place," Chernoff said. "There's some truth to the proposition that the waiting is the hardest part."

Police have been investigating Murray since Jackson's death at age 50. The doctor told detectives he'd given the singer a powerful anesthetic and other sedatives to get the chronic insomniac star to sleep. Jackson died soon after and investigators have been gathering evidence to try to show Murray was negligent in administering the drugs.

Murray maintains nothing he gave Jackson should have killed him.

Meanwhile Wednesday, a judge in Las Vegas found Murray in default on a nearly $132,000 debt related to office medical equipment and services.

Murray had no lawyer in the case. He has long-standing personal and professional debts, and faced near foreclosure last summer on his Las Vegas country club home.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Pretty obvious

Editor:

In response to perennial City Council candidate Jerry Rubin's Feb. 3 letter, "For the record," anybody familiar with Santa Monica politics knows why Councilmembers Bobby Shriver and Bob Holbrook voted against accepting applications for appointment to the vacant council seat. They wanted to spare well-meaning citizens from the farce Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights (SMRR) lured them into a year ago, when 27 people filled out applications, only to watch what very quickly became a competition between the two SMRR co-chairs.

Since the SMRR co-chair who wasn't appointed last year is again seeking appointment, Shriver and Holbrook – the only two non-SMRR council members – chose not to participate in SMRR's charade.

Jerry Rubin knows this very well. He should put on some long pants and stop playing games.

Ed Lerner
Santa Monica

One husband is enough

Editor:

"Big Love" is a fantasy made for cable television and like any good soap opera it paints a story that engages its audience and connects us to the actors ("Polygamy may not be so bad after all," Meredith Pro Tem, Jan. 28). The background story is based on a combination of polygamist groups and individuals which, when combined, creates unique stories and characters. However, I can tell you from first-hand experience that much of the story is simply not realistic. Having grown up in a community that practiced polygamy and fundamentalist Mormonism I can say that things are not what they appear on the outside. Behind closed doors most of the polygamist women I grew up with were competitive and unsupportive. Each woman was expected to have at least a dozen children and care for her home and her family on her own with a husband who provided little more than food on the table. I will take the childcare, the housework and laundry any day for the loving support of my husband who belongs only to me.

Margaret Futerer
Redondo Beach

Show some respect

Editor:

In my lifetime, I can never remember a time until now when both Congress and my fellow Americans have shown so little patience and respect for our president and the extraordinary leadership gifts he so generously and patiently continues to reveal and provide.

He has offered us some brilliant ideas, solutions and plans for enormous, critical problems that can help us move our way forward and toward the excellence we once used to take for granted. After inheriting the worst mess a former president left us in, it is unfair and absurd to blame our president after one year for that legacy.

Now is the time to let those who jump on him the moment he speaks with a loud, "No," regardless of the merit of his suggestions, and come together to get some things done.

I'm thoroughly disgusted, ashamed and embarrassed by those factions who repel and reject him on the basis of petty politics, suggesting that underlying that infantile behavior lies greed, hatreds and prejudice that have existed for far too long.

This country has several momentous decisions to make. Let's show both respect and support for our brilliant, once-in-a-century leader and do what's right for this country and its people and future, not what wins the next election.

If our forefathers had made decisions based on getting re-elected rather than forging the basis for centuries of excellence, the USA would not exist.

Olive Gallagher
Santa Monica

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



Meredith Pro Tem

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

Inching farther to the right

GROUPS PROTESTING THE NATIONAL Football League's recent claim to the "Who Dat" and fleur-de-lis trademarks have been popping up on Facebook.

"Have you joined any of them?" my husband, a long-suffering New Orleans Saints fan, asked me the other night at dinner as he toyed with his rubber bracelet emblazoned with "Who Dat" and a fleur-de-lis.

"Nope," I replied with my mouth full of cod.

NO ONE'S MORE SURPRISED THAN ME THAT THESE DAYS I LEAN MORE TOWARD ELEPHANTS THAN DONKEYS. I USED TO WEAR A (LONE) DREADLOCK IN MY HAIR AND BIRKENSTOCKS AND HAD A TAPESTRY HANGING IN MY COLLEGE DORM ROOM.

"Why not? Why is the NFL claiming trademark infringement now?" he huffed. "Because the Saints are in their first-ever Super Bowl? It's so transparent and greedy."

"Yup, I assume they're doing it now precisely because the Saints are in their first-ever Super Bowl. Clearly the NFL recognizes there's money to be made. Sounds pretty shrewd to me, actually," I said matter-of-factly, taking another bite.

He didn't even try to hide his disgust as he threw down his fork. "Your soul is eroding."

I would have argued otherwise, but I'm pretty sure the corrosion of my liberal spirit has been under way for quite some time.

I always thought you had to keep an AK-47 under your pillow or have a lot of money (or at the least the potential to make or inherit a lot of money) to be a Republican. Yet in the last few years, despite my noticeable lack of firearms or a healthy (or any) portfolio, there have been increasing signs that I'm inching farther and farther to the right.

On a lark during the 2004 presidential election, I watched much of the coverage on Fox News Channel and found myself agreeing with the pundits that Sen. John Kerry was about as lame as they get. He ran a terrible campaign and stupidly allowed himself to be "Swiftboated." I'm fairly certain I could have beaten him, and this is coming from the girl who only eked out a third-place (out of four) finish in her sixth-grade class' presidential election. It's hard to wave the liberal flag while conceding that George W. Bush managed to outsmart someone (anyone).

I'm also all for government wiretapping. If the feds think listening in on phone conversations between my dad and me about the latest offerings at Costco will help prevent a nuclear attack on the United States, then I will actually go a step further and supply them with our receipts. If taking off my shoes at the airport will keep us safe from jihadist hijackers, then let me be the first in line to offer my pants as well.

No one's more surprised than me that these days I lean more toward elephants than donkeys. I used to wear a (lone) dreadlock in my hair and Birkenstocks and had a tapestry hanging in my college dorm room. I marched on Washington twice during the first Bush administration and traveled to more Grateful Dead shows than my parents would care to discuss.

But the truth is, there were signs pointing to my right tendencies way before W won his first (legitimate) presidency.

Ted Burdick, my ninth-grade boyfriend, was such a WASP he could proudly and definitively trace his ancestors to the exact date they arrived in America on the Mayflower (although admittedly, my husband can trace an ancestor to the date he landed on Plymouth Rock, too). Something about Ted's Young Republican arrogance made my knees buckle, which could explain why I occasionally get sucked into an hour or two of Rush Limbaugh.

Except for Garrison Keillor, I also enjoy listening to public radio, while at the same time recognizing that news organizations like NPR are about as left-leaning as the Tower of Pisa (as viewed from the East, anyway). (And yes, I've seen the studies provided by NPR that swear that more NPR listeners are registered Republicans than Democrats. I've seen "The Wizard of Oz," too, and yet still don't live in fear of houses falling from the sky.)

I'm not sure what the big brouhaha is over investment bankers receiving bonuses, either. As Fulton J. Sheen said, "Jealousy is the tribute mediocrity pays to genius." Besides, I was always taught it's not polite to count other people's money.

Ultimately, though, there are a few highly-charged political issues that will forever keep me just to the left of the right. Plus, my deep love for anything written by David Sedaris as well as my distinct dislike of gin martinis (for breakfast) and plaid pants all but ensure the Republicans would probably prefer I keep a respectable distance anyway.

After dinner my husband glared at me and wryly quoted Winston Churchill, "If you're not a liberal at 20 you have no heart; if you're not a conservative at 40 you have no brain."

I wouldn't go quite so far as to call myself a conservative, but I also have a few more years before turning 40, so there's hope for me yet.

More on and from **MEREDITH** at www.MeredithCarroll.com.

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Nick Taborek
nickt@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Dr. Reese Halter, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Merv Hecht, Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp, Mariel Howsepian, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERNS
Kate Mather
Carlee Jensen, Miriam Finder
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

SENIOR ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Grace Wang
gracew@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Carlos Escalante
carlose@smdp.com
Scott Zubor
scottz@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

Visit us online at smdp.com

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Life Matters

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

Might those bratty kids actually be depressed?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

After reading your article about depression in men, I couldn't help but wonder if my son could be depressed. He is only 7, but he is irritable and has a lot of stomach aches. I know children are moody and unmanageable but can they actually get depressed?

Signed,
Curious Mom

Dear Curious Mom,

Absolutely your son could be depressed. We love kids for their openness and honesty, it is refreshing. But while they have a sense of what is going on around them and have reactions to experiences, they do not always know what they know and they generally do not know how to communicate what they are feeling.

Stomach aches, crying, temper tantrums, and irritability are definitely signs that something is wrong and if it persists, it is something that parents should pay attention to. Because young children have not yet learned to articulate their feelings, they tend to have symptoms of anxiety such as phobias or separation anxiety, somatic complaints, auditory hallucinations and increased irritability. Instead of verbalizing their feelings, children often express their frustration and irritability through temper tantrums and behavioral problems. Unfortunately, this is often mistakenly referred to as a brat, or the difficult child, without any recognition of the very real possibility of an underlying depression.

While there are definitely spoiled children who will manipulate us with their tantrums, often these are a sign that something might be seriously wrong. This is especially true if it seems to come on for no apparent reason (from your perspective) or is a departure from normal behavior and the personality of your child.

In young children, girls and boys experience depression equally, a ratio of 1:1 but as a child ages into adolescence, the ratio changes to 1:2, it is twice as likely in girls. But it is often more deadly in boys or men. This is precisely due to the fact that they do not express their feelings. Suicide starts to become a real threat in the adolescent population but while girls may attempt it more, males are more likely to succeed at it.

In adolescents, the symptom picture begins to change slightly. Because of their new found cognitive abilities, teenagers are often more aware of the difference between what could be and what is; they tend to have more hopelessness, guilt for new and emerging feelings and/or behaviors, and problems with low self-esteem. Adolescents tend to experience more sleep and appetite disturbances than younger children and they tend to have more difficulty functioning. But much like children, they externalize their depression in the form of behavioral problems.

Beyond suicide risk, engaging in drug abuse is a major risk for teenagers with depression. Research has clearly shown that drug or alcohol use during the teen years leads to a life-long struggle with it.

The emotional signs of depression can include sadness, low self-esteem, self critical thoughts, inability to experience pleasure, losing interest in things, loss of ambition, inability to concentrate or make a decision, irritability, anxiety, anger, pessimism and hopelessness, excessive guilt, feeling helpless and having fantasies of death or suicide. Just one of these may indicate depression in a child or adolescent.

The good news is that there are a number of things that can be done and the earlier you catch something and take care of it, the better the outcome. Try talking with them to see if they know something is bothering them. Take them to a physician for a complete exam and evaluation for the possibility of depression.

Certain types of psychotherapy have been shown to be quite effective with children and adolescents as well as adults. Prozac is a medication that is FDA approved for the treatment of childhood depression but while effective, it must be closely monitored. There is definitely help but you must start with the recognition that your child may not just be a brat who is trying to manipulate you. Your child may be depressed.

We never know for sure what may have happened to our children. Various forms of abuse are often hidden for years because of shame or embarrassment. Or a child might be predisposed to depression due to a family history; even if a child is reacting to problems in your own home or family, don't let guilt stop you from getting help.

Whatever the case, yes children do get depression, just like adult men and women do. It just looks a little different.

DR. BARGE is a licensed psychologist with offices in Brentwood. Please send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com All inquiries will be treated anonymously and kept strictly confidential. Got something on your mind? Please let us help you with your life matters.

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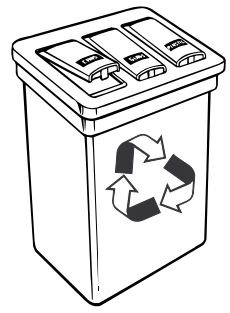
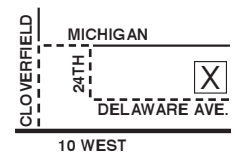
Crying foul?

Residents living near restaurants that operate more like sports bars have complained recently about noise generated from these establishments and their patrons when leaving at 2 a.m. Planning commissioners recently talked about creating a special classification for sports bars with possible limits on operations.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Should sports bars be regulated differently than restaurants and not be allowed to open within a certain distance from residential areas?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.


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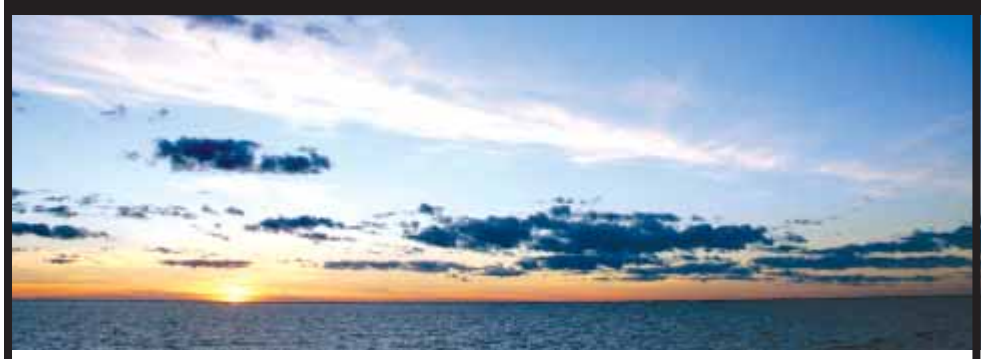
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Cheaper liquor pouring out profits

EMILY FREDRIX
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK Americans' love affair with top-shelf booze cooled last year as the recession took a toll on high-priced tipples.

People drank more liquor but turned to cheaper brands, according to a report by an industry group. They also drank more at home and less in pricier bars and restaurants in an effort to save money.

Industry growth slowed in 2009, with the amount of liquor sold by suppliers up 1.4 percent. That's the smallest increase since 2001 and below the 10-year average of 2.6 percent.

The lowest-priced segment, with brands such as Popov vodka that can go for less than $10 for a fifth, grew the fastest, with volume rising 5.5 percent, after edging up 0.6 percent in 2008. Meanwhile, the most expensive brands, priced roughly $30 or more for a 750 ml bottle (think Grey Goose, owned by Bacardi), fell the most, tumbling 5.1 percent.

Liquor suppliers reported flat total revenue of $18.7 billion last year, the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States said in its report Tuesday.

Kenneth Jolly of Milwaukee has been swapping his favorite liquors such as Patron tequila, for cheaper brands such as Jose Cuervo. For him, it's simple math.

"If you consume a lot on a regular basis and you have people come to your house, you have to adjust," said Jolly, a 27-year-old network technician in Milwaukee who buys liquor every other week. "If your body can take it, you might as well buy the cheaper liquor."

Sales in stores — which make up three-quarters of liquor sales — rose about 2.1 percent, while sales in restaurants fell 3 percent.

"People still want to entertain themselves, they still want to get together with family and friends, so a lot of people will move from a restaurant to their living room," to save money, council President Peter Cressy said.

Vodka remained Americans' favorite liquor. The $4.56 billion spent on vodka accounted for almost a third of all spirits sold.

Sales volume for the cheapest versions of tequila rose 21 percent, the fastest of any type of spirit. That's most likely because entertainers are using pre-made margarita mixes to serve at home, said David Ozgo, the council's chief economist. Plus you can mix it before guests arrive, so they don't know what brand you use, said Joan Holleran, director of research at research firm Mintel.

Cressy said the fact that people were still drinking more spirits bodes well for the industry, still recovering from a long decline from the 1980s through the mid-'90s, when liquor sales fell by a third as drinkers turned to beer. Since then, an ever-increasing array of expensive liquors have fueled rapid growth.

The industry's goal to keep people drinking spirits — no matter the price — and it can then get them to pay for higher-priced drinks when the economy recovers. Most major liquor manufacturers make brands in a variety of price ranges. For example, industry giant Diageo plc, based in London, makes vodka brand ranging from cheap Popov to midpriced Smirnoff to expensive Ketel One and Ciroc.

Mintel's Holleran expects people to start going out more this year, as they get bored staying home and want to treat themselves to little luxuries — like a night out. "You want to go out and have someone do all the work for you," Holleran said.

Of course, switching brands isn't the only way to economize.

Matt McCluskey, a 28-year-old researcher in Santa Monica, started buying most of his alcohol at Costco, trying to save money by buying bigger bottles. Now he spends $36 for 1.75 liters of Maker's Mark bourbon, rather than $25 for less than half that at his local liquor store.

"It's a lot harder to pour. That's the only drawback," he said.

U.S. takes liking to haggis

BEN MCCONVILLE
For The Associated Press

EDINBURGH, Scotland Just how risky is the Scottish national dish?

At the request of Scottish officials, the U.S. government will sort that out as it reviews its ban on haggis, a sort of sausage made by rolling cooked sheep's offal — the liver, heart and lungs — in oats and pepper, then stuffing it into beef intestine and boiling it.

Not that most Americans have exactly been clamoring for it. But word that the U.S. Department of Agriculture would reconsider its ban — which dates to the U.K.'s mad cow disease scare of the late 1980s — did stir some excitement with Scottish producers.

"This is long overdue and I'm glad the U.S. authorities are coming to their senses," said master butcher Neil Watt of Watt the Butcher in Montrose, on the east coast of Scotland. "The haggis you get in the States does not taste like proper haggis."

Of course, the lifting of the ban is far from certain. Department of Agriculture spokeswoman Lindsay Cole said reports that any decision had been made are incorrect. The latest science is being reviewed, but no timetable was set for a decision, she said in a statement.

Haggis got back on the table — at least politically speaking — after Scottish Rural Affairs minister Richard Lochhead wrote to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, asking for clarification of the ban.

Lochhead also asked that Vilsack extend the review to include some of Scotland's other products, including beef, lamb and venison.

"We want to allow American consumers to sample our world renowned national dish," he says. "They should be assured Scotland has an excellent reputation in animal disease surveillance and prevention."

Haggis is the traditional centerpiece of Burns' Suppers held by Scottish societies across the globe every January, when it is served with tatties (potatoes), bashed neeps (turnip, swede or rutabaga) and washed down with copious amounts of Scotch Whisky.

Long the food of the poor, haggis in recent years has enjoyed a resurgence in Scotland, where it is reworked into numerous modern interpretations, such as haggis samosas. At Angelus Restaurant near Buckingham Palace in London, head chef Martin Nisbet puts an Italian spin on it to create haggis tortellini.



Photo courtesy Roberta Koz Wilson

YUM: **Cookies for a Koz will donate 10 percent of proceeds to Starlight Children's Foundation.**

Baking a difference

BY ROBERTA KOZ WILSON
Special to the Daily Press

CALABASAS My mom, Audrey Koz, was one of those incredible people who made a lasting impression on everyone she knew.

Audrey was a pharmacist by profession. As such, she knew that the "best medicine" was a great homemade chocolate chip cookie. My mom's cookies were made with love and people always told her they were the best cookies they had ever tasted. These cookies were my mom's way to spread her love to all the people that came into her life.

Audrey was an ambassador of goodwill. Once you met her, she was your immediate friend and your biggest cheerleader. Once someone tasted Audrey's cookies, they were hooked and it was a combination of her amazing warmth and love and her one-of-a-kind cookies that truly made an unforgettable impact.

My brother is recording artist Dave Koz. At the beginning of his career, my mom sent cookies along to every meeting Dave went to and to every performance he gave. The smooth jazz music world fell in love with my mom and her cookies. Dave eventually became a famous sax player and my mom claimed that her cookies were largely responsible for his success.

Throughout my youth and adult life, I watched my mom connect with people on a very special level. Cookies were the physical symbol of her love and all who knew her craved both her and her cookies. There was nothing like watching the reaction she got from people when they tasted her cookies.

When Audrey passed away suddenly in November 2005, I felt compelled to carry on the tradition even though I had no prior experience as a baker. I like to refer to myself as an accidental baker. We started with Audrey's original chocolate chip cookie recipe and have broadened to include other favorite flavors including oatmeal raisin, snickerdoodle, white chocolate raspberry and red velvet. It gives our whole family enormous joy to know that my mom's legacy and love continues to spread through her cookies.

To honor my mother, we decided to donate 10 percent of the purchase price of our cookies to Audrey's favorite charity, the Starlight Children's Foundation. When we started the company Cookies for a Koz (www.cokiesforakoz.com), there was no doubt in our minds where a portion of the proceeds should go.

For more than 24 years, Starlight has dedicated itself to improving the quality of life for children with serious medical conditions by providing entertainment, education and family activities that help them cope with the pain, fear and isolation of prolonged illness. Starlight understands what families go through when a child is sick, and how important it is to find relief from constant worry and isolation. Starlight's programs have been proven to distract children from their pain, help them better understand and manage their illness, and connect families with others facing similar challenges so that no one feels alone.

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, I thought it would be a great idea to offer my mother's recipe for shortbread cookies, and those readers who would like to order from our Web site will receive a 10 percent discount by using the code "SMDP."

So now you can eat all the cookies you want and not feel guilty about it because you know that your purchase is going towards a wonderful "Koz!"

ROBERTA KOZ WILSON, a former MTV marketing/sales executive, is the founder of Cookies for a Koz. She can be reached at roberta@cookiesforakoz.com.

Valentine's Shortbread Cookie

1 1/2 sticks butter
1/2 cup confectioner's sugar sifted
1/4 cup sugar
1 1/4 cup flour
red/pink sprinkles

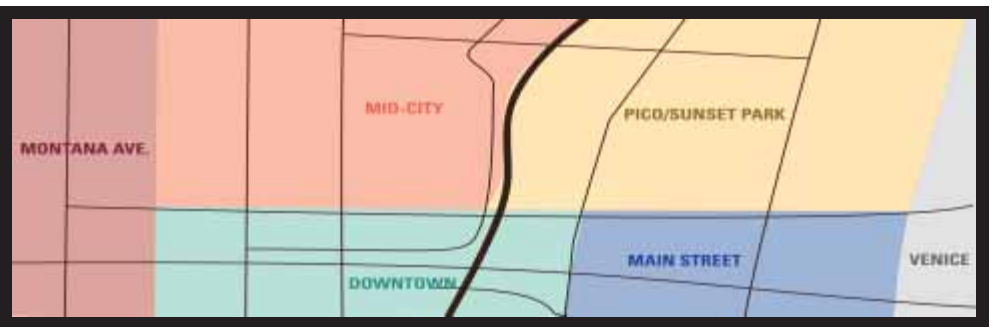
Mix softened butter with both sugars until well blended. Add flour. Scoop into balls and roll in colored sprinkles. Bake at 350 degrees for 8 to10 minutes until the edges are slightly golden brown.



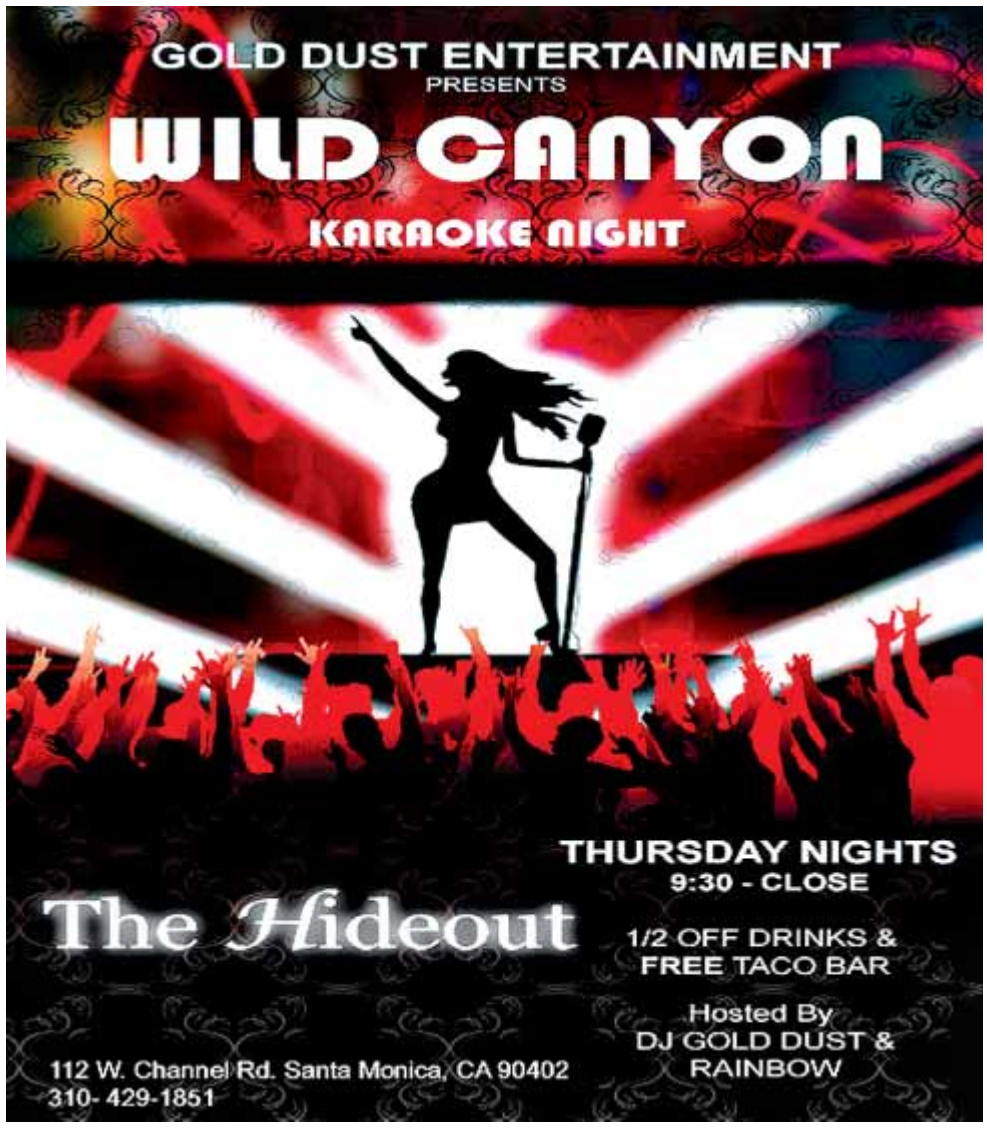


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The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 396-6706
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Urth Caffe 2327 Main St.	(310) 749-8879
Via Veneto 3009 Main St.	(310) 399-1843
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Abbot's Pizza Co 1407 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 396-7334
Agra Indian Kitchen 2553 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-8749
Axe 1009 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 664-9787
Azteca Restaurant 835 Sunset Ave.	(310) 396-6576
Baby Blues BBQ 444 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-7675
Beechwood 822 W. Washington Blvd.	(310) 448-8884
Benice 1715 Pacific Ave.	(310) 396-9938
Big Daddy and Sons 1425 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 508-2793
The Brig 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-7537
The Brick House Cafe 826 Hampton Dr.	(310) 581-1639
Cafe 50's 838 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 399-1955
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Wabi-Sabi 1635 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-2229
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Cafe Del Rey 4451 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-6395
California Pizza Kitchen 3345 Fiji Way	(310) 301-1563
Casa Escobar 14160 Palawan Way	(310) 822-2199
Chart House 13950 Panay Way	(310) 822-4144
The Cheesecake Factor 4142 Via Marina	(310) 306-3344
Chin Chin 13455 Maxella Ave Ste 266	(310) 823-9999
Chipotle Mexican Grill 4718 Admiralty Way	(310) 821-0059
Harbor House Restaurant 4211 Admiralty Way	(310) 577-4555
Islands 404 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-3939
Jer-ne at The Ritz-Carlton 4375 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-1700
Kaya Sushi 13400 Washington Blvd.	(310) 577-1143
Kifune Restaurant 405 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-1595
Le Marmiton 4724 Admiralty Way	(310) 773-3560
Mercedes Grille 14 Washington Blvd	(310) 827-6209
Mermaids-Juice Java & More 14045 Panay Way	(310) 306-3883
Rainbow Acres Natural Foods 4756 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-5373
Sapori Ristorante 13723 Fiji Way	(310) 821-1740
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Projects seeking approval ahead of general plan update

FROM DEVELOPMENT PAGE 1

approve their initial project concepts before submitting detailed plans and environmental studies for approval. Typically the float-up process, which is ongoing for five of the six projects, happens about a year before projects come before the council for a final vote.

Gordon is also asking City Council to require an analysis of the projects' cumulative impacts before giving any of them initial approval. She said the total traffic impacts of the projects are still unknown.

"The problem is it's going to yield a tidal wave of un-needed commercial development in one small area of the city that can't possibly accommodate it all," she said of the proposals.

Gordon has an ally on the Planning Commission in Jay Johnson, who recently proposed implementing a moratorium on development agreements until the LUCE is adopted. But so far he's in the minority. His moratorium suggestion, he said, got no support on the Planning Commission, in part because of concerns it would violate land owners' property rights.

Others on the commission and at City Hall see fears about pre-LUCE development agreements as overblown.

Hank Koning, who chairs the Planning Commission, said having a large number of projects come before the commission before the LUCE is adopted is a benefit.

By considering projects before hard-and-fast rules about structure height, density and parking allotments are in place, city officials will be better able to make informed decisions about what the rules should be, he said.

"In a way we're lucky that we have all these projects coming up now that will ultimately come back later on to get approved ... after the LUCE is approved," he said. "It's great. It's giving us some test cases."

Though Koning said he agrees the projects' impacts need to be looked at collectively, he argued the review process for any development already takes surrounding projects into account.

> **THE PROBLEM IS IT'S GOING TO YIELD A TIDAL WAVE OF UN-NEEDED COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ONE SMALL AREA OF THE CITY THAT CAN'T POSSIBLY ACCOMMODATE IT ALL."**
>
> **Diana Gordon,**
> Co-founder of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City

City Hall hires independent consultants to conduct environmental reviews for proposed developments, he said, and every review looks at existing traffic as a constraint.

City Hall's planning director, Eileen Fogarty, also said there's no risk the proposed projects will be allowed to get around the restrictions that will ultimately be approved in the LUCE.

"The actual project proposal for any of [the eastside developments] is more than a year away," she said, noting the exception of the Lionsgate project at 2834 Colorado Ave., which has completed its draft EIR.

She said some of the proposals for the eastside envision developments that are at odds with the LUCE and will likely be rejected or substantially altered by the council.

"Clearly, you have some of these projects that are not consistent with anything," she said.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

Illustrating Earth Day

Students in grades K-12 are being asked to express what sustainable transit means to them in the form of a poster contest for the 40th anniversary of Earth Day sponsored by City Hall's Office of Sustainability and the Environment.

This is the second year that City Hall has held the student poster contest. The intent is to raise awareness of City Hall's Sustainable City Plan, with this year's theme highlighting one of the goal areas — sustainable transportation.

"As leaders of the next generation, we want to see your thoughts and ideas expressed through art about clean air, climate change, healthier lifestyles and sustainable transportation," city officials said in a news release. "How can we ditch the car and use more sustainable transportation options such as walking, biking, carpooling and riding the Big Blue Bus?"

The deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, March 17. Visit www.sustainablesm.org for more details.

All students, their families and teachers will be invited to an Earth Day celebration on April 22 at the Santa Monica South Beach Green, at which time winners will be announced and prizes awarded. Posters will be on display.

Four grand prize winners will have their art displayed on the outside of four Big Blue Buses in the king size ad space for a month. Runner-ups will have their poster art displayed on the interior of the Big Blue Bus for a month. Additionally, all winners receive prizes and have their artwork on display at city events and on the several city Web sites.

Sponsors of the contest include the Big Blue Bus and Sustainable Works.

DAILY PRESS

48 percent of families forced to chose between food, utilities

FROM **FOOD BANK** PAGE 1

were faced with paying bills or buying food, the report found.

In Los Angeles County about 12 percent of residents — an estimated 584,300 people — are unemployed, more than double the rate four years ago.

The need is "cutting across a broad spectrum," Los Angeles Regional Foodbank president and chief executive Michael Flood said.

Children make up 40 percent of those benefiting from food at shelters, pantries and soup kitchens, a number that has more than doubled during the past four years.

Seniors represent just 5 percent of the total.

"The profound health problems that a lack of nutrition can have, especially on children," is of particular concern, he said.

"It is an economic issue," said Dr. Jonathan Fielding, director of the county Department of Public Health, because malnutrition "affects school performance, affects graduation rates, affects future productivity."

Though the type of starvation found in developing countries is rarely seen in the U.S., Fielding said a lack of healthy food can instead lead to obesity and lifelong health problems.

The report provides the most comprehensive snapshot of the charitable food assistance network in Los Angeles to date, its president said.

"Supporting local food banks is critical," Fielding said, while the report said nearly half of food pantries report "problems with funding."

"People are rightfully appalled with what we see in Haiti … we should be equally concerned with what we see in our own backyard."

Health difficulties also appear to be a factor for many families seeking food assistance, Flood said. The study found that 30 percent of the households have at least one member in poor health, and 35 percent of adult recipients do not have health insurance.

Families are being forced to make tough decisions about how to spend scarce resources: 48 percent reported having to choose between paying for food and paying for utilities, 46 percent between food and rent and 42 percent between food and transportation.

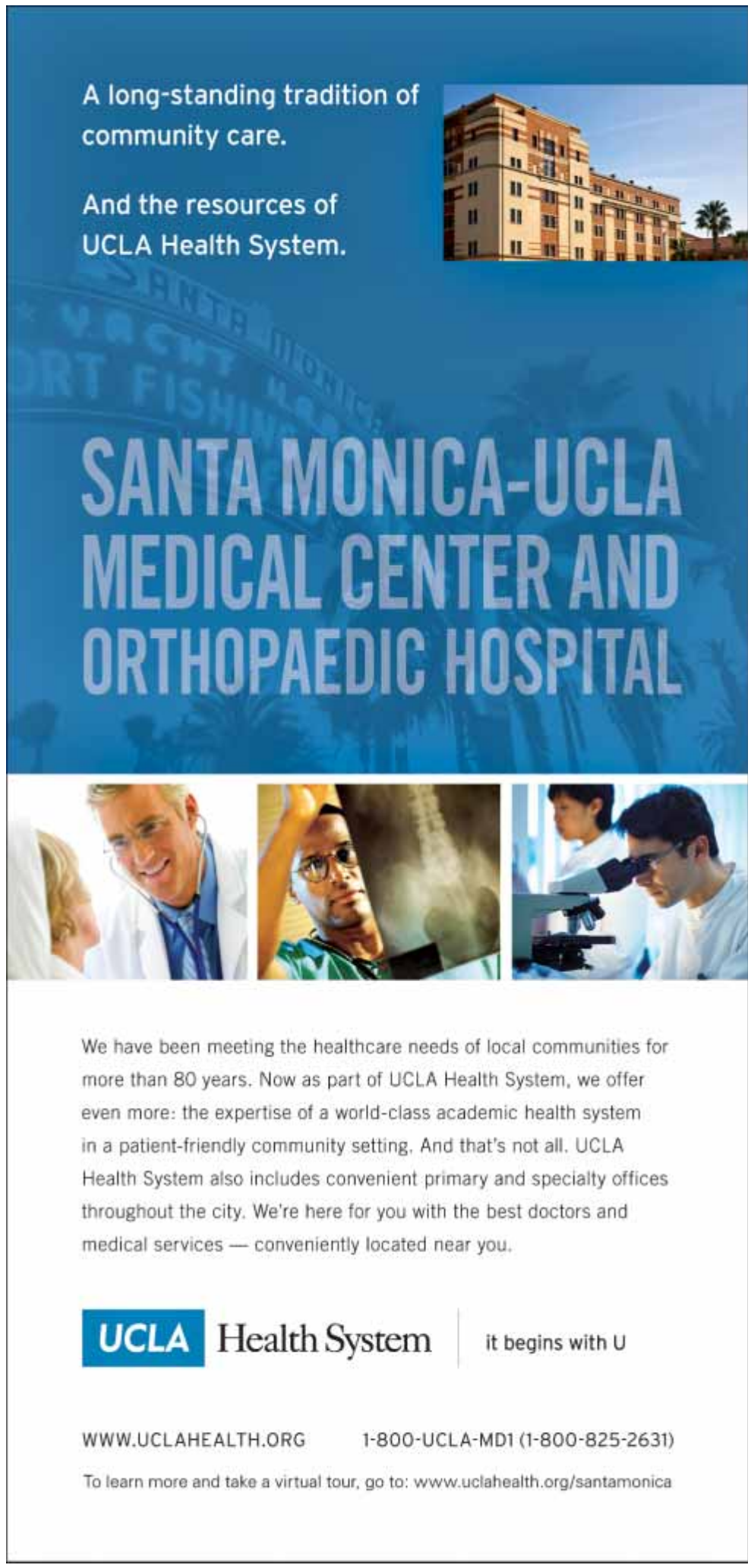
Many resort to less-expensive options with low nutritional value, such as fast food, soda and chips, Fielding said.

Rankin said despite the economic downturn which has forced many families to tighten their belts, donations were up during the holiday season. That said, the food bank still needs more canned vegetables, tuna and baby food.

"It's surprising for us. People have really responded with food donations and financial help, but we certainly need more of both," Rankin said. "The increase in need has hindered our ability to increase the distribution of food, which means shopping bags at pantries are getting smaller."

kevinh@smdp.com







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- **A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on February 18, 2010 at 1:30PM Pacific Time (PT).** Bidders are to meet Kimberlie Nimori at the *Santa Monica Public Library (Multi-Purpose Room on the 2nd floor)*, 601 Santa Monica Bl., Santa Monica, CA.
- **Please refer to the bid packet for further details and parking availability. The bid packet can be downloaded at: http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm**
- **Submission Deadline is March 23, 2010 at 3:00 PM PT.**

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Kimberlie Nimori at the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-2211, or by e-mailing your request to kimberlie.nimori@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by City of Santa Monica.

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

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2303 and 2304 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries of Ordinance Numbers 2303 and 2304, which were adopted by the City Council on January 19, 2010.

Ordinance Number 2303 (CCS) amends the Municipal Code to expand an exception to the requirement of competitive bidding. That exception allows the City to forego competitive bidding for an item if competitive bidding procedures have already been utilized to purchase that item by another State of California agency. The ordinance authorizes the purchase of items without a competitive bidding process if the items have already been competitively bid by public agencies outside the State of California.

Ordinance Number 2304 (CCS) narrows the performance permit requirements for street performers by eliminating the requirement that a performer obtain a permit to perform on any City sidewalk and by eliminating the permit requirement entirely for weekday mornings that are not holidays. As amended, the Municipal Code requires a permit for street performance only on the Pier, Promenade and Transit Mall because of their particular physical characteristics and the dangers resulting from crowding and only during times when those venues are likely to be crowded: afternoons, evenings, weekends and holidays.

These ordinances will become effective thirty days after adoption. Their full text is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica; phone (310) 458-8211.



G7 heads deep into Arctic

ROB GILLIES
Associated Press Writer

IQALUIT, Nunavut This Canadian Arctic capital has no stop lights and didn't start naming its streets until a decade ago. Blizzards can last a week or more, and they tend to come very suddenly. So when the financial chiefs of the seven big industrial democracies meet here Friday and Saturday, they'd better have a quick way out.

Iqaluit, population 7,000, may seem an unlikely venue for a G-7 bull session about the global economy, but the host nation chose it in part to underscore a message about sovereignty over its part of the Arctic.

Climate change is altering the Arctic geography by melting ice and creating open waterways, and with them new access to a bonanza of minerals, petroleum and polar shipping routes. This has led to a welter of conflicting claims by Canada's neighbors, including Russia.

Iqaluit (pronounced ee-KAL-oo-eet) lies on Baffin Island and is the capital of what in 1999 became Nunavut, a Western-Europe-sized chunk of Arctic with a small measure of self-government for the 85-percent Inuit population of 35,000.

Average February temperatures fall to minus 32 degrees Celsius (minus 25 degrees Fahrenheit), and that's not counting wind chill. So the Canadians will give the finance ministers and central bankers of the G-7 governments heavy-duty parkas. That should make for quite a photo op.

Lesser officials will have to paw through their closets for their warmest clothes. And while lodgings are sufficient for the delegations, journalists who couldn't get a hotel room are being lodged in college dorms or with families.

David Phillips, Canada's chief weatherman, forecasts weekend sunshine and calm weather, but the government has contingency plans to move the meeting 2,000 miles (3,200 kilometers) south to Ottawa. Phillips, who calls Iqaluit the blizzard capital of Canada, warns that the weather can turn on a dime.

"I've been in this business for 40-some years. I have 25,000 weather stories about weird, wild and wacky weather, about venues that people just miscalculated about the weather," Phillips said. And he finds the choice of Iqaluit a bit puzzling. "I still scratch my head thinking, well, what was behind this?"

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty acknowledged in an interview with The Associated Press that apart from wanting to showcase the charms of Nunavut (Inuit for "Our Land"), Canada is sending a diplomatic message about a territory that may contain one-fifth of the world's petroleum reserves.

"It's one of our government's priorities, the assertion of our sovereignty in the Arctic," Flaherty said.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has made the Arctic a priority, pledging to increase Canada's military presence in the Northwest Passage in case enough ice melts to make it a regular Atlantic-Pacific shipping lane. Canada says it owns the passage. The U.S. and others say it's international territory.

Canada and Denmark have staked claims to tiny Hans island at the entrance to the Northwest Passage, and on the other side of North America, the offshore Alaska-Canada border is disputed.

Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq, the first Inuit to sit in a Canadian federal cabinet, also has her eye on geography. "With the interest from my prime minister to develop the north and the interest around sovereignty, it's an ideal location to have a G-7, to show the international community that Canada's Arctic is a part of Canada," Aglukkaq told the AP.

"I think there's a threat to Canada's sovereignty in the Arctic, at least more a threat than it used to be," says Professor Robert Bothwell of the University of Toronto. "We left the Arctic pretty much to its own devices because after all, nobody could get there, nobody really wanted it."

If any armies intrude, Canadian military chief of staff Gen. Walt Natynczyk has quipped, his troops' first priority will be to save them from the weather.

Still, Canada is taking the issue very seriously. It plans to increase its icebreaker fleet and build new military facilities in the Arctic including a deep-water port. Harper held a cabinet meeting in Iqaluit last year, and the military conducts exercises in the region. Canada also will host foreign ministers of the five Arctic states — Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia and the U.S. — at a meeting next month.

Russia is another player. Russia, Canada, the U.S., and Denmark have claims before a U.N. commission to extend their undersea boundaries into ice-blocked areas, and Moscow dramatically staked its claim to the region by planting a flag on the ocean floor at the North Pole in 2007.

Russia sometimes attends the G-7 meetings as an observer, and its officials have privately expressed disappointment at being excluded from the Iqaluit gathering. No explanation was given for not inviting them.

Flaherty, the finance minister, says he hopes to recapture the informal spirit of the G-7's forerunners in the 1970s. He wants to take the U.S. Treasury Secretary and his G-7 counterparts dogsledding, and plans on bringing them together for an intimate, unbuttoned fireside chat.

"It's counterintuitive to go there in the winter time, but it's actually the most beautiful time of the year to go there because it is so spectacular, and I'm looking forward to taking them out dogsledding," he said. "We'll see how many take up the challenge."

The meeting may also tweak environmental nerves, since seal meat is expected to be on the menu. The European Union has banned the import of seal products on humane grounds, whereas Canada says seal-hunting is humane and provides income for isolated communities like Iqaluit.

"I'm hoping it will be served and that people get a taste of what we eat in the north," Aglukkaq said. "Often we are not consulted, or ignored, and people don't understand the fact that it is our way of life."

As for the weather, Iqaluit's Inuit mayor, Elisapee Sheutiapik, says she's not worried.

"We make do and I'm sure they will too," she told The AP. "This will be one of those meetings that they never forget."

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Schwarzenegger takes jab at Florida

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger says Florida is "for the old people" and that no one wants to take a vacation in Iowa.

The Republican governor on Tuesday told a Silicon Valley conference on infrastructure that in comparison, his state has a reputation as a destination.

"No matter where you go in the world, people still want to come to California," Schwarzenegger said. "There's no one screaming like, 'I can't wait to get to Iowa.' That I can guarantee you. They want to come here to California."

He also said that California's economic diversity can be seen in Hollywood, technology startups, tourism and agriculture, whereas many states are noted for just one attribute.

"Like one state is known for its potatoes; one state is known for its oil," Schwarzenegger said at the Next American Economy conference, which was hosted by The Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program and Lazard investment bank. "And another state like Florida is known for the old people."

The governor said California's problems, such as its ongoing budget deficits, can be blamed on issues of governance, which is why he's pushing for reforms.

A spokesman for Iowa Gov. Chet Culver, Troy Price, said Iowa's balanced budget and improvements in the quality of life in the last few years were a contrast to California's deep budget problems. He added, "We invite Californians and Gov. Schwarzenegger to come to Iowa and see what the best state in the nation has to offer."

Schwarzenegger, who regularly promotes California by saying it's the greatest state in the nation, has a history of picking on other states. Last month, he urged California's congressional delegation to vote against a national health care proposal because he believed Nebraska Sen. Ben Nelson scored a "sweetheart deal" in trading his vote for expanded Medicaid support in his state.

"That senator got for the Cornhusker State the corn, and we got the husk," Schwarzenegger said during his Jan. 6 State of the State speech.

Nelson defended his move, saying he held back his vote on health care legislation so Nebraska and other states would not be saddled by unfunded Medicaid liabilities.

Suspect in border agent death fled months earlier

ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO A man charged with killing a Border Patrol agent by running him over with a drug-loaded Hummer escaped to Mexico three months earlier in a Border Patrol vehicle, prosecutors said.

Agents detained Jesus Navarro in September 2007 after a chase on Interstate 8 in southeastern California, according to a statement of facts. Agents used a spike strip to puncture three tires of his silver Toyota pickup, causing Navarro to exit the freeway and drive through the desert until he got stuck in the sand. An unnamed female passenger was also taken into custody.

The woman "was able to take control of the Border Patrol vehicle" and fled to Mexico with Navarro inside, the statement reads. Agents found 980 pounds of marijuana inside the pickup.

The complaint doesn't elaborate on the escape. A Border Patrol spokesman referred questions to the U.S. attorney's office, which declined to comment.

A U.S. law enforcement official told The Associated Press that the agents were searching the pickup as the woman waited in the front passenger seat of the Border Patrol vehicle with her wrists handcuffed behind her back. Navarro was in back, and the engine was running.

The woman moved sideways to the driver's seat and slid her handcuffed wrists under her legs to reach the steering wheel and drive the short distance to Mexico, said the official, who was not authorized to discuss the case publicly.

The complaint states that Navarro killed Agent Luis Aguilar in January 2008 by intentionally striking him with his Hummer as the agent was laying down spike strips to stop him in southeast California's Imperial Sand Dunes, the same place where the chase began three months earlier.

The dunes have long been a magnet for marijuana smugglers seeking to mix with off-road vehicle enthusiasts.

Navarro was extradited from Mexico last week to face murder and drug charges in San Diego. No date has been set for his arraignment.

Court documents alleging that Navarro escaped to Mexico in the Border Patrol vehicle were unsealed in February 2009 — shortly after Mexican authorities arrested him near the resort town of Zihuatenejo — but the connection was not widely known. The San Diego Union-Tribune reported on it Wednesday.

Court documents do not list an attorney for Navarro.

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Police are not protected in job cut plan

The Los Angeles City Council is $218 million in the hole this year and has to make some drastic cuts. For the first time, the city's budget analyst suggests looking at cutting hundreds of rookie police officers.

The Police Department had been immune from most cost-saving proposals until Wednesday when the analyst's new recommendations targeted the Police Academy. Analyst Miguel Santana suggests laying off 87 trainees and 616 recent graduates now working for the department. The cutbacks do not include a proposal to eliminate at least 1,000 city jobs this fiscal year.

Hundreds of people, including city workers and union members, showed up at the council meeting to ask that layoffs be put off.

Santana says delays now will only result in bigger cuts later.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN QUENTIN

Condemned inmate in 1987 Sacto murder dies in cell

California prison officials are trying to determine what caused the death of a 47-year-old inmate awaiting execution at San Quentin State Prison.

State corrections' spokeswoman Terry Thornton says Joseph Musselwhite was found unresponsive in his cell at 7:21 p.m. Tuesday and pronounced dead shortly after. He was not sharing a cell with other inmates.

A Sacramento County judge sentenced him to death in 1990 for the December 1987 murder of apartment complex manager Norma Iris Painter during a robbery. He also was convicted of attempted murder for bludgeoning a convenience store clerk during another robbery a week before Painter's death.

California has executed 13 inmates since capital punishment was reinstated in 1978. During that time, 50 condemned inmates have died of natural causes and 17 by suicide.

AP

SAN FRANCISCO

Lawmaker wants pot growers, sellers to get license

A California lawmaker is proposing to require all marijuana growers and sellers to be licensed by the state as a way to increase sales tax revenue.

Democratic state Sen. Ron Calderon says he plans to introduce a bill requiring all legal and illegal marijuana businesses to register with the Board of Equalization, the state agency that collects sales tax.

The bill would not legalize marijuana beyond current state law.

Supporters say the measure is intended mainly to provide a system of regulation for medical marijuana dispensaries. Such dispensaries already are required to pay sales tax like other businesses, but board vice chair Jerome Horton says many don't comply.

Licensees would have to pay a fee, prepay part of the sales tax and pay an excise tax under the legislation announced Wednesday.

AP

LONG BEACH

City names new police chief

The Long Beach Police Department has named a Los Angeles police veteran to be its 25th police chief.

Jim McDonnell sought the LAPD chief's job in 2002 but lost to William Bratton. When Bratton left in November, McDonnell was one of three finalists for the job but he lost out to Charlie Beck.

The 50-year-old McDonnell, now in charge of the LAPD detective bureau, will be sworn in next month, taking over a staff of more than 1,000 officers in a 52 square-mile city with a population of about 463,000.

McDonnell succeeds Anthony Batts, who left last year to become chief of the Oakland Police Department.

AP

SACRAMENTO

Panel considers lieutenant governor nominee

A key legislative committee is scheduled to consider Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's nominee for lieutenant governor.

Some lawmakers of both parties oppose the nomination of Republican state Sen. Abel Maldonado of Santa Maria. He has sometimes crossed party lines to provide crucial budget and tax votes, while at other times he has stuck with his GOP colleagues.

Some Democrats want to keep Maldonado in the Senate during an upcoming emergency session to close the state's budget deficit, believing he could be a swing vote. But an outright rejection of the nomination would anger Schwarzenegger, likely complicating the budget negotiations.

Maldonado would assume the post automatically if the Legislature fails to act by Feb. 21.

AP

SACRAMENTO

State considers expanding annual black bear hunt

State officials are drafting new rules that could greatly increase the number of black bears that hunters may kill each year.

The Department of Fish and Game says California's black bear population has quadrupled in the past 25 years. The increase has led to more reports of property damage and other encounters between humans and bears.

Hunters currently are limited to killing 1,700 black bears each year, and officials say the new rules could raise that by more than 50 percent.

The new rules also could, for the first time, allow hunters to use GPS devices on the collars of hunting dogs that automatically alert them when the dogs have cornered a bear.

The department is holding a hearing on the rules Thursday.

Animal rights groups say they're fighting the proposal, which they call inhumane and extreme.

AP

Analysis: Can the GOP win control of Congress?

LIZ SIDOTI
AP National Political Writer

WASHINGTON Just weeks ago, it seemed inconceivable the Republicans could win control of Congress this fall.

Not anymore.

Almost by the day, Republicans are sensing fresh opportunities to pick up ground. Just Wednesday, former Indiana Sen. Dan Coats announced he would try to reclaim his old seat from Democrat Evan Bayh, who barely a year ago had been a finalist to be Barack Obama's running mate. And Republicans nationwide are still celebrating Scott Brown's January upset to take Edward Kennedy's former seat in Massachusetts.

A Republican takeover on Capitol Hill is still a long shot. But strategists in both parties now see at least narrow paths by which the GOP could win the House and, if the troubled environment for Democrats deteriorates further, possibly even the Senate.

"Democrats have got their hands full trying to navigate through unprecedented economic turmoil and two wars," says former Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb. He suggests the gloomy talk within the party is overstated and the Democrats are still likely to retain control, but he adds: "There's no question that there's anger out there."

With nine months to go, 2010 is shaping up in one sense to be a traditional midterm election for a new president: The out-of-power party is poised to gain seats in both houses. The question now is whether it will be a historic election with Republicans actually seizing power in Congress.

The Republicans would have to gain 40 seats in the 435-member House, ten in the 100-member Senate — a tall order no matter how upset voters are. But still. ...

In the Senate, two Democratic seats are all but gone.

North Dakota's Byron Dorgan is retiring, and the Democrats don't have anyone to challenge the Republican, Gov. John Hoeven. Democrats also failed to recruit their top candidate in Delaware. Vice President Joe Biden's son eschewed a run against Republican Mike Castle. New Castle County executive Chris Coons, a Democrat, got in the race Wednesday but he's expected to face an uphill battle.

For a GOP takeover, incumbent Democrats also would have to lose in Colorado, where appointed Sen. Michael Bennet hasn't run statewide and faces a primary; Nevada, where Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid is unpopular but has a hefty bank account; Arkansas, where Sen. Blanche Lincoln suffers from representing a GOP-leaning state; Pennsylvania, where party-switching Sen. Arlen Specter is extraordinarily vulnerable, and Illinois, where a dogfight is certain for President Obama's old seat.

Republicans would have to hold on to all the Senate seats they have now, hardly a sure thing. And the GOP also would have to beat incumbents in New York, where no Republican has emerged to challenge appointed Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, and Connecticut, where Democrat Richard Blumenthal is comfortably leading all GOP contenders in polls.

If all that somehow happens, the tipping point could be either in Indiana or in California.

"Every state is now in play," California Sen. Barbara Boxer said one day after the Massachusetts election. It was a frank recognition that no Democrat is safe — not even a three-term liberal with bunches of money in a solidly Democratic state.

Not coincidentally, when Obama had a televised question-and-answer session with Democrats on Wednesday, the senators given prominent face time included Boxer, Reid, Bayh, Bennet, Lincoln, Gillibrand and Specter.

"It would be surprising if Democrats lost power," says former Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla. "But anything in politics is possible. And if the economy's still in the tank 60 days out of the election, it's going to be difficult for Democrats."

In the House, Democrats hold a 256-178 advantage with one vacancy. But 49 Democrats are in districts that Republican presidential candidate John McCain won in 2008. And many are freshmen who rode into power on Obama's coattails in an election that saw a voting surge by minorities and youths. Obama won't be on the ballot this time, and he has a poor track record so far when it comes to turning out his 2008 backers for fellow Democrats.

Possible bellwethers: A GOP wave could be in the offing if Democrats like John Salazar in Colorado, Zack Space in Ohio, John Spratt in South Carolina or Ben Chandler in Kentucky are in close races this fall.

House Republicans have their own challenges.

In more than 50 districts, divisive GOP primaries are certain to drain bank accounts and force Republicans into taking positions that could be troublesome come the general election. In many cases, "tea party" candidates are running to the right of establishment-endorsed Republicans, casting them as too moderate for the party and too cozy with Washington. In other races, Republican candidates are dropping out to run as third party candidates who could siphon votes from the eventual GOP nominee.

Toyota dealers extend opportunities to fix faulty pedals

DAN STRUMPF
DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT Toyota's dealers, who have started to repair defective gas pedals in millions of U.S. vehicles, are extending hours, making house calls and offering other services as they try to repair the damage to Toyota's reputation.

Toyota Motor Corp. recalled eight models Jan. 21 and stopped selling them five days later because their accelerator pedals could stick in a depressed position. Toyota is sending dealers a piece of steel about the size of a postage stamp that can be inserted into the accelerator mechanism and eliminate the friction that causes the problem.

Jim White Toyota, a dealership in Toledo, Ohio, received about 350 steel pieces, or shims, and began repairs Wednesday morning. By mid-afternoon, about 25 cars were fixed, said Terry Treter, service manager.

Repairs were going smoothly and a little faster than the half-hour Toyota estimated, he said. Technicians do a test drive as part of the repair.

The dealership hired three people to handle phone calls and repair scheduling and will add more people if needed, Treter said. He also said the dealership will stay open as late as necessary.

"I'll stay until midnight," Treter said. "Whatever they want. I won't turn anyone away."

Treter said customers have been calm despite a warning early Wednesday from U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, who said owners of recalled Toyotas should stop driving them. LaHood later said he misspoke and told owners to get their cars repaired.

At Lee Toyota Topsham in Topsham, Maine, service manager Dan Daigle expected to begin repairs Thursday morning. He has already received around 300 calls from customers and expects to keep technicians working until at least 10 p.m. each night.

"If we need to add people to handle the extra volume, then that's what we'll do," he said.

Earl Stewart, who owns a dealership in North Palm Beach, Fla., is sending a repair van to the homes of customers for the first time, since some are too nervous to drive their vehicles to the dealership.

Toyota is giving U.S. dealers payments of up to $75,000 to help them offer extra measures like house calls.

"Within the next several days, you will receive a check from us (no strings attached) with a simple request - 'do the right thing on behalf of Toyota customers'," Toyota group vice president Bob Carter said Tuesday in the letter to dealers obtained by The Associated Press.

Carter thanked dealers for their extraordinary measures. He also suggested other steps, like additional hires to help with recall repairs, dedicated recall service lanes and complimentary oil changes.

"Toyota dealers already know the first and most critical step of rebuilding the confidence and trust of Toyota owners is the interaction and service they receive in your dealership," Carter said.

Toyota is sending checks this week based on the number of cars each dealer sold in 2009. Dealers who sold fewer than 500 cars will get $7,500. Dealers who sold more than 4,000 will get $75,000.

Toyota has around 1,200 U.S. dealers.

Toyota won't reveal the cost of the repairs, but according to information from dealers, the shim costs only about a penny and a half, while the average cost for 30 minutes of labor to install it is $42.50. Multiplied by 2.3 million vehicles, and the cost of the part and labor alone is $97.8 million.

Stocks slide on poor services industries report

TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK A disappointing report on services industries halted a two-day advance in the stock market.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 26 points Wednesday after jumping a total of 230 points in the first two days of the week. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index posted a steeper drop, while the Nasdaq composite index was little changed.

The report on services businesses, which make up the biggest slice of the U.S. economy, reminded investors that a recovery will be slow.

The Institute for Supply Management said its index of service activity rose to 50.5 in January from a revised 49.8 in December. The January reading was below the level of 51 analysts polled by Thomson Reuters had been expecting. Any number above 50 signals growth.

The weaker activity in service companies chilled enthusiasm about a report that private employers cut fewer jobs than expected last month. The news on jobs from ADP, a payroll company, comes ahead of the government's January employment report on Friday. It is expected to show employers added 5,000 jobs in the first month of the year but that unemployment edged up to 10.1 percent from 10 percent.

ADP said employers cut 22,000 nonfarm, private jobs last month. That was the best showing since employment started to weaken in February 2008.

A reduced forecast from Pfizer Inc. dragged health care stocks lower. Meanwhile, bank stocks fell after PNC Financial Services Group Inc. said it would repay $7.6 billion in bailout funds to the U.S. government. Traders grew concerned that other regional banks would face pressure to follow suit.

The market could get a boost Thursday from Cisco Systems Inc. The world's largest maker of computer networking equipment issued earnings and forecasts after the closing bell Wednesday that came in well ahead of expectations. CEO John Chambers, an important voice on Wall Street, said strengthening in the company's business was "a clear indication that we are entering the second phase of the economic recovery." The company's stock rose more than 2 percent in after-hours trading.

Stocks jumped the first two days of this week on encouraging reports about the economy. The advance came after stocks ended January with a loss. The market retreated late last month on concerns that the recovery was faltering and a 10-month climb in stocks was running out of steam.

Events in Washington continued to ripple through the stock market. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said he misspoke when he remarked early Wednesday that owners of Toyota cars and trucks should stop driving them because of problems with accelerator pedals in some models. Toyota shares fell sharply but pulled off their lows after LaHood clarified his remarks.

The zigzag in Toyota's stock was the latest reminder that events in Washington are high on investors' list of concerns. Worries that tougher laws, including President Barack Obama's proposal to restrict banks trading activity, would hurt profits helped drive the market lower last month.

"We have a lot of problems to get through and every once in a while Washington throws an incendiary device into the room," said William Rutherford, president of Rutherford Investment Management in Portland, Ore.

NCAA FOOTBALL SIGNING DAY

Florida flush with blue chips; USC Trojans land big recruits

RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK This much is certain at Florida: Any doubts about Urban Meyer's future with the Gators didn't hurt their recruiting one bit this year.

Florida landed the top-rated recruiting class in the country Wednesday, the first and by far the busiest day of the national letter of intent signing period for high school football players.

"The key to recruiting is a lot like the keys to making a great sale," said Meyer, who has won two national championships in five seasons with the Gators. "The first one is having a great product and we obviously have that here at the University of Florida."

As usual, national signing day was mostly about the rich getting richer.

While Florida took the mythical recruiting national championship — all the notable ranking services had the Gators on top — Alabama and Texas, the teams that played for the BCS title last month, also loaded up for future runs.

Southern California and Tennessee withstood late coaching changes to land highly regarded classes. And Auburn showed it's not about to concede the state of Alabama to Nick Saban and the Tide.

But the big winner was Florida, a program that seemed on the verge of disarray six weeks ago.

A day after Christmas, Meyer resigned to deal with health problems. The next day he decided instead to take a leave of absence — but not until he had locked up a recruiting class loaded with many of the bluest blue chippers in the land.

"They do have that reach. They do have that appeal," said Jeremy Crabtree, national recruiting editor at Rivals.com. "If you're a hot recruit, you're going to have Florida at the top of your list."

Powell is from Moreno Valley, Calif., near Riverside, and highly rated defensive back Joshua Shaw came to Florida from Palmdale, Calif., about 70 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

The Gators ventured into the Northeast for two of the most-wanted defensive linemen in Sharrif Floyd of Philadelphia and Dominique Easley of New York City.

"I think that's a class people are going to look back a couple of years from now and say, 'Wow, this is once-in-a-lifetime type of class,'" Crabtree said.

ESPNU, Scout.com, SuperPrep Magazine and MaxPreps all ranked Florida No. 1.

Texas made a strong case to be No. 2. The Longhorns class included two of the nation's highest-rated players in defensive end Jackson Jeffcoat from Plano, Texas, and the son of former Dallas Cowboys defensive lineman Jim Jeffcoat, and linebacker Jordan Hicks from West Chester, Ohio. Both committed to Texas late last week.

In the state of Alabama, Saban restocked the Tide with another class the recruiting gurus loved. No surprise there.

But it was Auburn and second-year coach Gene Chizik that made the biggest splash, securing a class rated in the top 10 nationally.

The headliner came from junior college. Former Florida quarterback Cameron Newton, who left the Gators after getting into legal trouble off the field, could start for the Tigers this fall.

New USC coach Lane Kiffin got a late start on recruiting for the Trojans, hired away from Tennessee less than a month before signing day to replace his former boss at USC, Pete Carroll.

Kiffin and his staff made up for lost time and then some.

"They did a years' worth of work in about two weeks," Crabtree said.

Not only did Kiffin lock up the top prospects who had given nonbinding verbal commitments to Carroll, but he strengthened the class by luring a few others that seemed headed elsewhere, including Seantrel Henderson, a 300-pound offensive lineman from Saint Paul, Minn., who picked USC over Ohio State, Notre Dame and Florida on Wednesday.

"Despite the coaching, I always liked USC, period," Henderson said. "It's a great school and great education."

"As far as football goes, Lane Kiffin recruited me when he was still at Tennessee."

Allen Wallace, national recruiting editor for Scout.com and SuperPrep, compared Henderson to former NFL greats such as Jonathan Ogden and Anthony Munoz.

SPORTS BRIEFS

NCAA FOOTBALL

UCLA recruiting class heavy on defense

UCLA coach Rick Neuheisel was downright giddy after 22 high school seniors signed with the Bruins, including defensive back Dietrich Riley.

Neuheisel said Wednesday felt like Christmas morning, and that he believes the Bruins are closer to returning to national prominence with the completion of his third recruiting class.

Riley, of suburban La Canada St. Francis, had been torn between the Bruins and crosstown rival Southern California. Like Neuheisel, his high school coach, Jim Bonds, is a former Bruins quarterback.

But Riley picked UCLA, adding his name to an impressive group of defensive players who signed with the Bruins.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Ortiz, Amezaga agree to deals with Dodgers

Right-hander Ramon Ortiz and utilityman Alfredo Amezaga have agreed to minor league contracts with the Los Angeles Dodgers, hoping to return to the big leagues.

Ortiz, who turns 37 on March 23, hasn't pitched in the majors since 2007 with Minnesota and Colorado. He was 5-6 with a 3.05 ERA last year in 16 starts and 19 relief appearances for San Francisco's Triple-A Fresno farm team. Ortiz is 84-80 in nine major league seasons.

Amezaga, who turned 32 last month, hit .217 in 69 at-bats for Florida last year, then became a free agent in December when the Marlins decided not to offer him a 2010 contract. He is recovering from microfracture surgery on his left knee last July.

AP



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 58°

SWELL FORECAST
This swell would likely back off to chest+ for west facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
LOOKS SMALLER, ABOUT WAIST TO CHEST FOR WEST FACING BREAKS.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 20, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (in last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 12
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 43 / 10
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 34

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

In-Laws, The (1979) (PG-13) 1hr 43min
7:30

Silver Streak (PG) 1hr 54min

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Creation (PG-13) 1hr 48min
2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00

Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
3:40, 6:30, 9:25

Its Complicated (R) 1hr 54min
1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50

To Save a Life (PG-13) 2hrs
1:00

Up in the Air (R) 1 hr 49 min
1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55

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

Avatar 3D (PG-13) 2hr 40 min
12:00, 2:15, 3:30, 6:00, 7:00, 9:45

The Tooth Fairy (PG) 1hr 42min
1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:30

Edge of Darkness (R) 1 hr 48 min
1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15

When in Rome (PG-13) 1 hr 31 min
12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:50

Sherlock Holmes (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20

Legion (R) 1hr 40min
12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10

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

An Education (PG13) 1hr 55min
1:55, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

The Young Victoria (PG) 1hr 59min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40

Crazy Heart (R) 2hr 07min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

A Single Man (R) 1hr 55min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

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

The Blind Side (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:30

Youth in Revolt (R) 1hr 30min
12:50, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50

The Book of Eli (R) 1hr 58min
1:00, 3:50, 7:00, 9:10, 10:10

The Lovely Bones (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20

Extraordinary Measures (PG) 1hr 46min
Noon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

The Spy Next Door (PG) 1hr 32min
11:50 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 6:50

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

Togetherness works, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Clearly understand that you don't have as much under control as you would like to. In fact, through releasing you'll come up with an unusual solution. Realize when you have done enough. Let your fiery side come out in the right or effective situation. Tonight: Togetherness works.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You wake up with work as a priority, but quickly different colorful characters appear in your life. Recognize the moment through networking. Understand that others' differences add, not subtract. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Use an idea you have this morning to revive a project or association. Diplomacy helps you turn the corner with a key person. Avoid trying to convince someone that he or she is wrong through strong words or a put-down. Tonight: As you like it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Share more of what is really important to your well-being. Yes, you know when enough is enough. How you handle someone and the choices you make could remain key. Laughter surrounds your decisions. You know what you want. Tonight: Togetherness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might want to make a difference, and you will if you relax. Sometimes when you push too hard, you experience a backfire. If you go with the flow, you'll come out all smiles and ready to handle nearly anything. Tonight: Order in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Zero in on basics during a conversation. Your clarity can define what is happening. Listen to news with an eye to dynamic change. Keep conversations moving, and be ready to jump in and handle a matter. Your perspective is needed. Tonight: Visit with friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Take a stand, knowing when enough is enough. You have far more to offer than you realize. Focus on security and the potential of a home office. Not everything is as it seems. Understand what is going on within your immediate circle. Tonight: Pay bills before solidifying plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could be on cruise control. Your words or concepts presented differently ring another person's chime. Be willing to discuss what is happening behind the scenes. Understand what needs to be accomplished. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ You might want to distance yourself and take your time making a decision. You have the ability to move past a problem. Listen to news more carefully. Review your budget. Pressure builds. Understand your limits. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Meetings put a smile on your face. You know what is happening behind the scenes. Realize that others mean well -- in fact, someone could be quite the resource of ideas. Zero in on what is important, never losing your priorities. Tonight: Where people are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You might want to assume a greater role at work and/or with your career. You could be very tired and drawn. Know when enough is enough. Feel free to change gears, and you could revive once more. Tonight: Could be very late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for more opinions. The more you stretch your mind, the better the end results. Sometimes we block ourselves from seeing the complete story and finding the right answers. Start thinking "vacation." You need some downtime. Tonight: Follow the music.

Happy birthday

This year, you will move in a new direction and do something quite differently. Others could be taken aback by your innovative behavior. You could be changing your views as you assume more responsibility. You could gain from your profession or community stance. A pay raise or more funds seem to be in your future. Your fire and get-up-and-go often can challenge others, if single or attached. Use diplomacy. SCORPIO pushes you into the limelight.

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

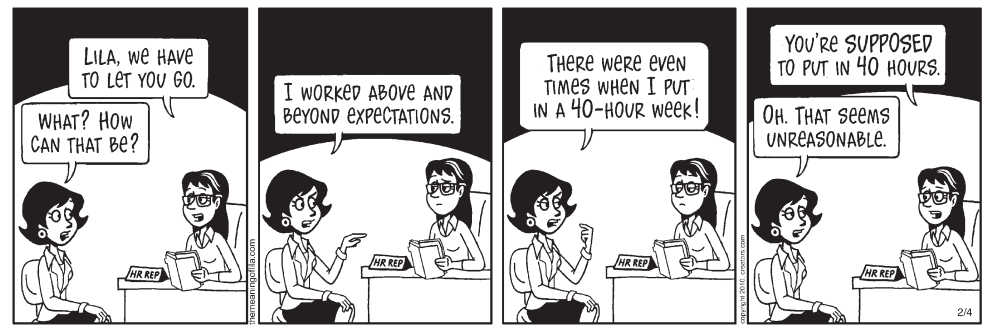
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



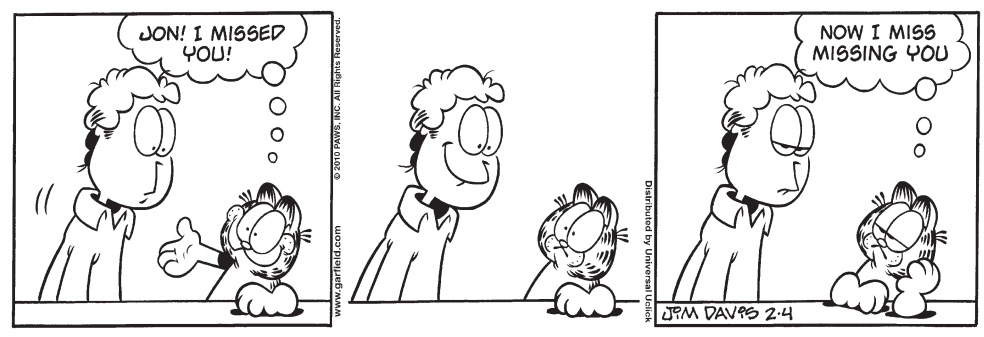
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



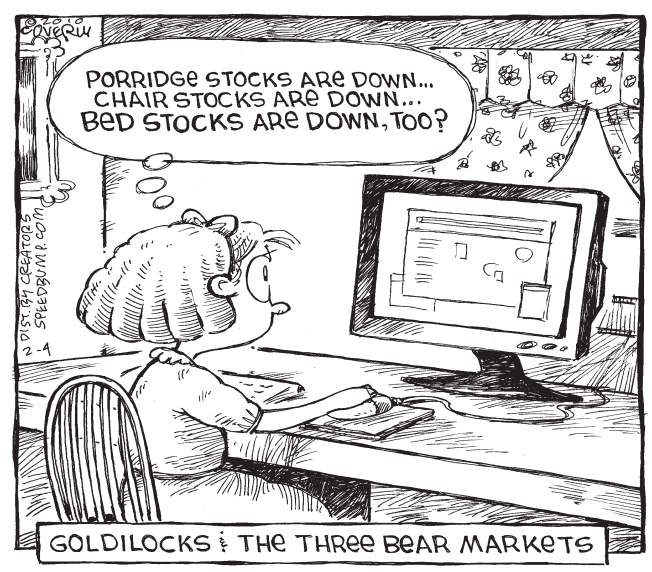
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Boxer biter
5 Make wavy
10 Grazing area
12 Skater Sonja
13 Book section
14 Laughable
15 King beater
16 Malicious
18 Phone button
20 Employ
21 Obsessed group
23 Outlaw Kelly
24 Honey bunch
26 Invites
28 Idler
29 Office helper
31 Big head
32 Chaos
36 Portentous
39 Log chopper
40 Stomach
41 Sprawling stories
43 Horse-guiding rope
44 Bank fixtures
45 Theater boxes
46 Tyne of TV

DOWN

1 Brother
2 Jousting need
3 Cut off
4 Wisdom bringer
5 Voucher
6 Painter Magritte
7 Depressed
8 Downsides
9 Disrobed
11 Tire
17 Totality
19 Glacier makeup
22 Mexican snacks
24 Object of fear
25 Hamming it up
27 Bond, for one
28 Happen to
30 Outback bird
33 Israeli port
34 Shine
35 Cluttered
37 Border
38 Pros' charges
42 Steno need

H	O	W	S	A	D	■	A	C	I	D
E	L	A	P	S	E	■	S	O	R	E
R	E	N	O	I	R	■	K	N	E	W
■	■	■	R	A	N	O	F	F	■	■
B	A	C	K	■	■	V	O	I	L	A
A	G	O	■	D	E	A	R	G	O	D
S	O	N	■	I	L	L	■	U	S	E
I	N	F	O	R	M	S	■	R	E	P
L	Y	I	N	G	■	■	P	E	R	T
■	■	T	E	E	T	E	R	■	■	■
C	H	U	M	■	A	D	O	R	E	D
A	U	R	A	■	N	E	B	U	L	A
P	E	E	N	■	K	N	E	E	L	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	2	3	4	■	■	5	6	7	8	9
10				11	■	12				
13					■	14				
15			■	16	17					
18			19			■	■	20		
■	■	■	21			22	■	23		
■	24	25			■	26	27			■
28			■	29	30			■	■	■
31			■	■	32			33	34	35
36			37	38			■	39		
40					■	41	42			
43					■	44				
45					■	■	46			

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 6 7 26 27 49
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: $20M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 4 12 14 44 47
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $18M

FANTASY 5: 12 17 18 27 34

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 9 6
EVENING: 6 4 6

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1.42.63

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

■ (1) Copenhagen, one of the "greenest" cities in the world, endured an added 41,000 extra tons of carbon-dioxide-equivalent in December during the 11-day "climate summit." The 15,000 delegates required 2,000 limousines (only five of which were electric or hybrid) to get around town, and the world leaders arrived and departed in 140 private jets, some of which had to be "parked" overnight in Sweden because of airport congestion. (2) In December, Obama administration officials, seeking to fulfill a campaign pledge of a more open federal government, held a multi-agency training session in Washington, D.C., on the Freedom of Information Act. The meeting was closed to the public.

■ A central purpose of the California Milk Board is to convince consumers to buy local dairy products to keep the spending in-state to help California's farmers, but the board acknowledged in November that its promotion campaign's advertising contract had gone to an agency in New Zealand. Said a board official: "We have a ... responsibility to spend (taxpayers') hard-earned dollars as efficiently as we can."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1996 Major snowstorm paralyzes Midwestern United States, Milwaukee, Wisconsin ties all-time record low temperature at -26°F (-32.2°C)

1997 En route to Lebanon, two Israeli Sikorsky CH-53 troop-transport helicopters collide in mid-air over northern Galilee, Israel killing 73.

1997 After at first contesting the results, Serbian President Slobodan Milo‰eviç recognizes opposition victories in the November 1996 elections.

1998 An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the Richter Scale in northeast Afghanistan kills more than 5,000.

1999 Unarmed West African immigrant Amadou Diallo is shot dead by four plainclothes New York City police officers on an unrelated stake-out, inflaming race-relations in the city.

WORD UP!

aubade
\oh-BAHD\ , noun;
1. A song or poem greeting the dawn; also, a composition suggestive of morning.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Obituaries

ERNEST AUERBACH 1916-2010

Santa Monica based.Real estate developer and thoroughbred horse breeder,philanthropist, humanitarian and beloved by his family. Services at Hillside Memorial February 4th @ 11am In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations to be sent to the Jewish Health Center LA, Jewish World Service, or the charity of your choice

Miscellaneous

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Sgl, st, fr, lwr **$875**
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1766 Malcolm Ave
2+1, st, fr, cpt, pkg-1, ldry **$1500**
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1+1, st, fr, cpt, pkg **$1100**
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MAR VISTA 2bdrm/1bath, 11461 Washington Place.Unit D, upper, stove, blinds, carpet, laundry, garage parking, no pets $1350 $300 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 1 2+2 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1350/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1495.00 2bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwshr, washr/dryr, 2-car garage gas-fireplace. 12048 Culver Blvd. #202 Open daily 9am-7pm. Additional info in unit Mgr#100 or #101

MV/MDR adj. Large Studio, single, Full kitchen, stove & refrigerator, large closets, carpets, laundry, parking. $900 Info (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m.

PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave #1 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1350/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3540 Overland 1+1 unit 5 $895 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $500 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS NEWER building ask about move-in specials $1145 + 1bdr, Gated entry + park. Tile floors + granite, 2 elevators, A/C 3848 Overland Ave (310)839-3647

SANTA MONICA 1833 16th st. unit 5 2+1. $1100 upper unit, stove, vinyl blinds, carpet, parking no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA 1+1 2656 South Barrington Ave. unit 7, $1025. Stove, fridge, dishwasher, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA 1457 Westgate A & E 1+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile , garage parking no pets $1200/mo $700 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

WLA, OCEAN VIEW, top of hill, 2 bedroom, private driveway, $1950 sundeck, patio, newly redeco (310)390-4610

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WLA NEAR SM. Blvd. & Bundy, roommate wanted for spacious bedroom apt. Large bedroom w/private bath. $950 available immediately (949)412-5395

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800 & 1400/SF Medical Offices on Lincoln near Wilshire. $2.75/psf NNN. George Gross, Agnt 310 586 0344

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Near Growing El Paso, Texas.
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$0 down, Take over $159/mo. Payment.
Was $16,900. Now $12,856.
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Storage Space

SM. garage storage, 8x11 convenient alley access $200/mo clean and secure Call Edith (310)490-9326

Vehicles for sale



1974 JENSEN Healey Convertible/GT hardtop. California car. Excellent condition. White w/black interior. 56k miles. $11,500/OBO. (805)484-0634

Automotive

GET A FREE VACATION BY DONATING your vehicle, boat, property, collectibles to Dvar. Maximize your IRS deductions and help teens in crisis.
Call 1-800-338-6724

Autos Wanted

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Donate your Car Boat or Real Estate. IRS Tax Deductible. Free Pick-up/Tow. Any Model/Condition. Help Under Privileged Children. Outreach Center. 1-800-928-7566

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Ages: Infant - 6 years
Age Appropriate Activities
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Personal: CPR Certified, State Licensed, Early Childhood Education Certificate
Location: Santa Monica
Open: Monday – Friday 7am to 6:00pm
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SINCE 1967
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Our 21st Year with over 100,000 members, countless relationships & marriages! Singles over 40, receive A FREE package.
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Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS BY THE CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK
FOR THE BENEFIT OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC. AND LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS, INC.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, on Thursday, February 18, 2010, at 980 9th Street, Suite 900, Conference Room, Sacramento, California 95814, the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (the "Issuer") will conduct a public hearing (the "Public Hearing") at which the Issuer will hear and consider information concerning the issuance by the Issuer, from time to time, pursuant to a plan of finance, of one or more series of its tax-exempt revenue obligations for the benefit of American Youth Hostels, Inc. ("AYH") and Los Angeles Council of American Youth Hostels, Inc. ("Los Angeles Council") (or any related or successor entities thereto) (collectively, the "Borrower") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Two Million Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($2,850,000) (the "Obligations"). The proceeds of the Obligations are expected to be loaned to the Borrower pursuant to one or more loan agreements (the "Loan Agreement"). The proceeds of the Obligations loaned to the Borrower will be applied by the Borrower to (1) refinance indebtedness issued in the original aggregate principal amount of $3,170,000 evidenced by that certain Loan Agreement, dated as of February 23, 2000, by and among the Borrower, California Statewide Communities Development Authority, as issuer, and Finova Public Finance, Inc., as lender, which indebtedness was used to finance and refinance the cost of the acquisition, construction, renovation and equipping of the land and improvements located at 1432-1438 Second Street, Santa Monica, California (the "Property"), (2) finance the costs of certain capital improvements to the Property (the "Improvements"), (3) finance the cost of the acquisition and installation of equipment to be used at the Property (the "Equipment" and, together with the Property and the Improvements, the "Facilities"), (4) fund a reserve fund for the Obligations and (5) pay certain financing costs and costs of issuance in connection with the issuance of the Obligations. Each of AYH and Los Angeles Council is an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") and will own and operate the Facilities in connection with its public benefit purposes. The Facilities are used to further the Borrower's mission of providing recreational and educational opportunities through hostelling.

The Obligations will be paid entirely from repayments and other funds made available by the Borrower under the Loan Agreement. Neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the Issuer, the State of California (the "State") or any other political corporation, subdivision or agency of the State will be pledged to the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Obligations, nor shall the Issuer, the State or any other political corporation, subdivision or agency of the State be liable or obligated to pay the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Obligations, except to the extent the Issuer is obligated to make such payments from funds received pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

The Public Hearing is intended to comply with the public approval requirements of Section 147(f) of the Code.

Those wishing to comment on the proposed nature and location of the Facilities and the financing and refinancing of costs related to the Facilities with the proceeds of the Obligations will be given an opportunity to do so at the public hearing or may submit written comments, which must be received prior to the Public Hearing, to the Is-

Notices

suer c/o Ms. Roma Cristia-Plant, Assistant Executive Director, California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, 980 9th Street, Suite 900, Sacramento, California 95814.

Date: February 4, 2010

CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK

By /s/ Roma Cristia-Plant
Assistant Executive Director

MUSM: miss you so much
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life
HDOP: help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council — You don't know what your kids are saying online. Or who they are saying it to. A lot of times neither do they. Protect your kid's online life. To get a full list of acronyms or report an incident, call 1-800-THE LOST or visit cybertipline.com. HDOP: help delete online predators

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children





Kate Bransfield

Estates Director
Society of Excellence
Previews Properties Specialist

310.395.1133

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Santa Monica, CA



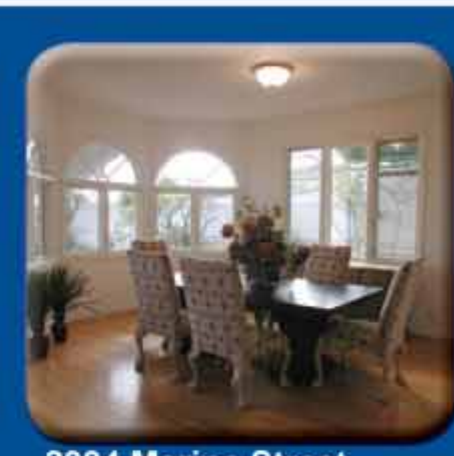
242 21st Street
4 Bed, 3 Bath
$2,389,000
Two-Story, Spanish
Hm in Gillette's Regent Sq



2019 Navy Street
3 Bed, 3.5 Bath
$1,749,000
Contemporary, Spanish
Single Family Home



1005 San Vicente Blvd
3 Bed, 4.5 Bath
$2,999,999
Exquisitely, Remodeled
Home North of Montana



2004 Marine Street
3 Bed, 4.5 Bath
$1,699,000
Sunset Park Home
W/ Finished Basement

All Four of the Above Properties Will Be Open This Sunday, February 7th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm



1127 10th Street #301

3 Bed, 2.5 Bath

$899,000

Fabulous, Top Flr Condo

Easy to Show

Call for Appointment



757 Ocean Avenue #205

Studio, 1 Bath

$399,000

Great Views!

Easy to Show

Call for Appointment



847 5th Street # 206

2 Bed, 2 Bath

$688,000

N of Wilshire Condo!

Easy to Show

Call for Appointment



302 Ashland Ave #102

1 Bed, 1 Bath

$429,000

Ocean Park Condo

Open Sunday
January 31st
1:00 - 4:00 pm

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Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from All Agents from All Companies Listed for Sale As of Early February 2010

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,650,000	$4,802,500
North of Montana	$2,897,500	$974,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,935,000	$679,500
South of Wilshire	$900,000	$624,000
Sunset Park	$997,000	$599,000
Ocean Park	$1,750,000	$551,500

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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