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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 74

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP
SEE PAGE 3

THE BIG BUCKS ISSUE



File photo

SACRED RIGHT: **Voters cast their ballots at City Hall during last year's election. A review of filings found that local races were well funded.**

SM campaigns spent over $1M during recent election

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Candidate and independent expenditure campaigns threw down roughly $1.2 million on local races for the Nov. 6 election, according to filings that began trickling in last week.

The total bill came out to $1,217,986.21, to be exact, although that figure does not include some candidates who failed to reach a threshold that required them to file a statement and factors in payments made by the campaigns to other races and issues like Board of Education and the Rent Control Board.

SEE CAMPAIGNS PAGE 7

California pot shops face next existential crisis

LISA LEFF
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO California's medical marijuana stores, which experienced a boom in 2009 when the U.S. Department of Justice said prosecutions were a low priority and then a bust in the form of a federal crackdown, are facing another existential watershed closer to home.

The California Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments Tuesday on whether local governments can ban retail pot dispensaries within their borders. About 200 cities and counties already have, according to the pro-dispensary group Americans for

SEE POT PAGE 8

Family fights plea bargain in deadly '12 hit-and-run

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

EL MONTE, Calif. The family of a former Lincoln Middle School student who was struck by a car and killed last year is calling for a harsher punishment for the suspected driver, who may get a 19-year sentence under the terms of a plea agreement.

Tina Marie Silva, 29 of Hacienda Heights, Calif. is facing time for the death of Maximillion Petrakos, a 13-year-old Santa Monica resident who was outside of the family Toyota Corolla with his mother Mary Hively when a car slammed into them, killing Petrakos and severely injuring Hively and his younger brother, Alex Petrakos.

The family had pulled over to the side of

SEE PLEA PAGE 9

Pioneer in counseling for elderly dies at 96

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA Evelyn Freeman, who pioneered peer counseling for the elderly to help them cope with the challenges of aging, has died. She was 96.

A friend, Antoinette O'Connor, tells the Los Angeles Times that Freeman died Jan. 14 at her Los Angeles home.

Freeman believed people are capable of change no matter their age. At 55 she started college, eventually earning a psychology doctorate.

A licensed therapist, she adapted peer counseling techniques to help seniors facing issues such as chronic pain and losing loved ones. Her training manual has been used around the world.

Freeman retired at 89 after directing the senior counseling program at the Center for Healthy Aging in Santa Monica, now called WISE & Healthy Aging.


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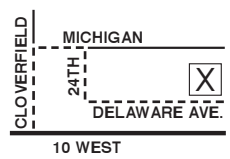
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2013

Baby time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Come to the library for a story series for babies ages 0 to 17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Giant teapots
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave.,
call for times
Peter Shire: Tea for Two Hundred is an exhibition of giant teapots by Los Angeles artist Peter Shire. The exhibit showcases the artist's long exploration with the teapot as form. Call (310) 586-6488 for more information.

Finding the right pitch
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
6:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Anna Kendrick and breakout star Rebel Wilson headline "Pitch Perfect," a comedy about an all-female singing group that enters the world of collegiate a cappella music competitions. Seating is limited. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013

The art of Miriam Wosk
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave.,
call for times
Abundance and Devotion: The Art of Miriam Wosk is the first major survey of the local artist. Wosk is best known for intricate paintings and collages adorned with pearls, glitter and other vivid ornamentation. For more information, call (310) 586-6488

Movie night
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The film adaptation of Ray Bradbury's classic "Fahrenheit 451" will be screened at the library; the literature book group will meet Saturday to discuss the book.
Call (310) 458-8681 for more information

Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013

Afterschool acting workshop
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St.,
4 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Adventures in Acting is a highly acclaimed youth theater program where your kids make friends, gain self-confidence and have tons of fun as they act, sing and play theater games. Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 3 or visit santamonicaplayhouse.com for more details.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMC

College receives $41K for vets

Santa Monica College received a hefty $41,000 donation from an American Legion post in the Pacific Palisades, college officials said Monday.

American Legion Post 283 is no stranger to donating money to the campus, and last year alone gifted SMC more than $40,000 for emergency loans and veteran services.

"Most of us feel we don't want the returning vets from Iraq and Afghanistan to be treated the way Vietnam vets were," said Dave Borgeson, first vice commander of American Legion Post 283.

The SMC Board of Trustees will recognize the American Legion post's donation at its meeting today, Tuesday, Feb. 5.

"We are so grateful to the American Legion for its incredible support of a special population at SMC for whom counseling is critical at many levels," said Linda Sinclair, faculty leader of the SMC Veterans Resource Center.

Sinclair said SMC doesn't have nearly enough money to provide counseling for the 700 veterans in the student body. "It sometimes takes over three hours for a student veteran to wait to see a counselor," she said.

Counseling is critical for veterans who aside from academic advising need guidance to receive necessary disabled student benefits and navigate complex rules and regulations which govern veteran benefits.

"These young men and women have come back from wars and have seen some terrible things," Borgeson said. "Their experiences are much different than the high school students entering college, and they need guidance from specially trained counselors. We want to be sure these veterans get the services they need."

The majority of the donation is going to counseling with $5,000 being allocated to a veterans' emergency fund and $1,000 for supplies and printing.

– HENRY CRUMBLISH

WASHINGTON

Bill introduced to cut down chopper noise

Ever been sitting in your home on a quiet evening, only to have your peace shattered by the deafening roar of helicopter blades? Then you're not alone, and California politicians share your plight.

On Monday, Reps. Adam Schiff (D-28th) and Henry Waxman (D-33rd), and U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer introduced legislation that would require the Federal Aviation Administration to impose stricter regulations on commercial helicopter flights.

The Los Angeles Residential Helicopter Noise Relief Act would require the FAA to set guidelines on flight paths and minimum altitudes for helicopter operators in residential areas within 12 months of being signed into law.

"I hear complaints about helicopter noise from every part of the 33rd District – from Malibu to Brentwood to Benedict Canyon," Waxman said. "FAA regulation of the thunderous helicopter traffic over L.A. is long overdue. And if the FAA won't act, Congress must."

The act, if passed, will reduce but not completely eliminate air traffic woes, however, as law enforcement, emergency responders, and the U.S. military would be exempt from these regulations.

"[R]esidents frequently suffer from noise generated by celebrity news media that follow stars to the beach, the grocery store, or for court appearances," Schiff said. "The residents in these areas deserve peace and quiet, and if the FAA won't act, Congress must pass this legislation to give residents the relief they need."

– HENRY CRUMBLISH

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi boys drop to No. 2 in Division 1A hoops

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Santa Monica's boys' basketball team has been supplanted as the No. 1 team in CIF-Southern Section Division 1A after a loss to Ocean League rival Beverly Hills last week, it was announced on Monday.

After weeks atop the poll, Samohi has been replaced by El Toro, the new No. 1. Despite the loss, Samohi sits at No. 2 with a week to go in the regular season.

Samohi, 18-6 overall and 7-1 in league, will finish their schedule with home games against Morningside on Tuesday and Hawthorne on Thursday. Both games begin at 7:30 p.m.

Samohi remains in first place in league, with Beverly Hills just a game behind in second at 6-2. Beverly Hills is tied with Inglewood for the second spot in the Ocean.



File photo

FIRE AWAY: **Samohi's Spencer Cramer pulls up for a jump-shot against Culver City earlier this season.**

Santa Monica has defeated Inglewood in both meetings this year and split its series with Beverly Hills.

Beverly Hills is currently ranked No. 16 in Division 3AAA and Inglewood is No. 13 in Division 1AA.

ST. MONICA LOSS HURTS RANKING

A loss to top-ranked St. Paul last week led to St. Monica's girls' basketball team's fall from second to third in the poll, CIF-SS officials announced on Monday.

The 53-49 Camino Real League loss not only hurt the Mariners' ranking in Division 4A, it dashed St. Monica's hopes of winning league. St. Paul is 6-1 in league and owns the tiebreaker having defeated the Mariners twice this season.

St. Monica (20-6 overall, 5-2 in league) bounced back with a win over Mary Star of the Sea on Thursday setting up the regular season finale on Tuesday at home against Cantwell-Sacred Heart.

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 7



FRESH LOOK

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A new mural by Santa Monica-based artist Joe Nicoletti adorns the exterior of video and DVD store Vidiots on Pico Boulevard. The work consists of small blocks of color that the artist says are akin to a code. The mural was created as part of a project by the Buy Local campaign and the Pico Improvement Organization.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Cronkite would be devastated

Editor:

The coarsening of language never ceases to amaze me. The use of the word "butt" rather than "buttocks," "derriere," or other more appropriate terms from the so called editor-in-chief demonstrates either his lack of respect for women or his limited vocabulary ("Samohi aide accused of grabbing teen's butt," Feb. 2-3). I think perhaps that it is his language that is striving to be trendy and in vogue rather than erudite and a respectful journalist, which he never will be with his puerile vocabulary.

But what can I expect when I'm dealing with the SMDP; a throw-away newspaper where standards don't exist. Very sad indeed.

Richard Galloway
Los Angeles

Parking madness

Editor:

My name is John Petz. I have spent many years as an active community member working on a wide range of local issues and I love Santa Monica.

I am writing because I went to the Planning Commission meeting Wednesday night and was stunned by what I heard. Never, in all my 23 years of living in Santa Monica, have I ever heard such a radical presentation. The consultant, Jeff Tumlin, laid out a plan to transform Santa Monica into a community where people will no longer be able to drive because they will no longer be able to park ("Imagine Santa Monica with even less parking," Feb. 1).

Taking parking privileges away from renters. It's in the proposal. Eliminating parking spaces on Montana Avenue, Santa Monica and Pico boulevards, etc. It's in there. Allowing developers to build without providing adequate parking. It's in there and big time. It's even highlighted as a way to inspire more development by lowering the cost of building.

It was stunning. If a friend had not mentioned the meeting to me, I would have had no idea that the city is in the process of moving in such a radical direction. Every speaker who spoke (15 of them) opposed the recommendations, but most of Santa Monica (like me a day ago) have no idea this is going on.

I hope you will follow this story closely and give it the front page coverage it deserves. "City considering taking away renters' parking spaces" would be a bold and truthful headline – (they call it "uncoupling" the parking spaces from the unit, but the goal is to remove parking as an amenity and drive the price up so the cost of parking a car is so prohibitive people will choose not to own one).

This kind of "social engineering" is something City Hall staff tried a decade ago when they teamed up with the school district and created a new CREST "child care model" that included kicking children off school yard playgrounds then charging them $100 a month to play one hour a day after school so the kids would be "more supervised." The program was designed and implemented without most parents having any idea their kids were losing the playgrounds. In the end, the community prevailed and the program was altered. But it took a year of dedicated effort on the part of community volunteers to get the city to reverse course.

It is my sincere hope that that does not happen here. I ask that you please inform your readers of the radical parking changes being considered, changes which will dramatically alter the quality of life in Santa Monica. It seems to me to be a worthy story, one with national implications.

John Petz
Santa Monica

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Right place, wrong time

LIFE IS HORRIBLY RANDOM. WE HAVE so little control over the majority of the events that happen to us. The Tony Robbins-types of the world want and need us to believe that we can master our destiny, and to a point that is true. But really it's our attitude about the events that happen to us that we truly have control over, not the actual events.

This past weekend a genuine American hero was shot and killed in Texas. Chris Kyle was the Navy Seal with the greatest sniper record. He was an author, husband, father and by all accounts that I could find a great guy who was trying to help other vets as they returned from combat and reintegrated into society. He was helping another vet at a gun range and something went wrong. All the facts are not available yet, but the one fact that is certain is that a man who did great service for our country was killed needlessly. It's fair to say that he was in the right place at the wrong time. I don't know why his companion vet killed him. I do know it's a tragedy.

"Pedestrian killed by car" is an occasional headline we see in Santa Monica. We have a great many pedestrians, whether residents or tourists. Occasionally they are looking the wrong direction, and thinking it is clear step into an oncoming car. I've had it happen to me more than once. On the other hand, I've been the pedestrian and checked to see that the street sign says I have the right of way, and as I proceed into the crosswalk an oncoming car doesn't stop. Right place, wrong time.

Most of us watched the Super Bowl and saw missed balls. The quarterback knows where he wants to throw the ball, the receiver knows where he's supposed to be to catch the ball, and yet the two don't always align correctly. A missed throw in the first quarter leads to a turnover that leads to a scoring run by the other side and then — bam — the game is lost. The randomness of being in the right place at the wrong time is what makes a game exciting and keeps us on the edge of our seats watching.

The randomness is also what makes some people so frustrated. Watching a game, it's easy to see what needs to happen. Making it happen is a whole other prospect. The frustration and angst of a lost game is frankly part of the experience. Some days your team wins and some days they lose. It's only a game in the end, a form of live theater if you will, so it's enjoyable to let ourselves get all amped up over whether my team or your team won or lost.

We can learn a lot from the principle that a game is fun and real life is to be taken seriously. When a player muffs a catch we can get all upset, and let it pass in a moment, but when a person is killed by the thoughtless or needless actions of another it is harder to see it in the grand scheme of things. But we need to have a proportional recognition of what happened.

The reason why I say we need a proportional recognition is that it is too easy to get stuck in the emotional loss of the moment and "take action" to make sure "it never happens again." This is the kind of reaction that leads to over-regulation of our lives and it is born out of the loss of others and their pain.

AS THE PAIN OF LOSS CHANGES FROM A SHARP ATTACK TO A DULL ACHE, TO A REMEMBRANCE, HOPEFULLY WE CALM DOWN AND DON'T NEED TO PASS A LAW TO ALLEVIATE OUR PAIN.

I know losing someone is painful. I've lost people in my life to drugs, alcohol, suicide and accidents. In the movie "Torch Song Trilogy," at one point Anne Bancroft turns to Harvey Fierstein and says that the loss becomes like a ring you wear, you get used to it, and after awhile it feels funny to not have it. As the pain of loss changes from a sharp attack to a dull ache, to a remembrance, hopefully we calm down and don't need to pass a law to alleviate our pain.

The reason for me is that this is all part of life. It's a random experience and we can control only our reactions to it. We cannot prevent life from throwing us curve balls.

It is tempting when someone dies from an accident or something that seems to be preventable to want to "make a law" and prevent that tragedy from "ever happening again." But we can't prevent life from happening. Which means we can't prevent death from happening.

We each have to do the best we can to be in the right place at the right time, and avoid being in the wrong place at the wrong time, but there's no way of knowing until after the fact if we've been successful.

My condolences go out to the Kyle family for their loss. Chris Kyle was clearly doing what he loved, and trying to help someone else. He will be remembered and missed, I'm sure.

DAVID PISARRA is a divorce and child custody lawyer specializing in father's and men's rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra



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Your column here

Matt Barber

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

All life is not created equal

FIRST, ON A PERSONAL NOTE: THANK YOU, thank you and thank you, Mary Elizabeth Williams! What a glorious service you've done the pro-life cause. I know, that's not what you intended. But that's precisely what you've accomplished.

Did I say thank you?

In her jaw-dropping column, "So what if abortion ends life?" Williams — a mainstream, though uncharacteristically honest pro-abort scribe for Salon.com — has inexplicably broken from the Orwellian left's ministerial script. In so doing, she's undermined the very cause for which she would gladly "sacrifice" (dismember alive that is) her very own daughter. A daughter, mind you, whom she coldly acknowledges to be "a human life."

But enough with the pleasantries.

In his 1925 manifesto "Mein Kampf," Adolf Hitler wrote: "Here's the complicated reality in which we live: All life is not equal." Though technically a human life, "the parasitic Jew is a human life without having the same rights as the Aryan."

"Mother Germany is the boss," he declared. "Her life and what is right for her circumstances and her health should automatically trump the rights of the non-autonomous Jew. Always."

Ha! Just kidding. Actually, Ms. Williams wrote those things. She wrote them, not from Nazi Germany in 1925, but, rather, from America. Wednesday.

She wrote them, not about the Jewish people, but, instead, about the most vulnerable of all people: The child in her mother's womb. (A holocaust by any other name …)

Yes, welcome to Feminist Funland, where the women are randy and the children are dead. In "So what if abortion ends life?" (I just love writing that), Williams, like some unintentionally creepy clown, guides us through the "pro-choice" house of mirrors, revealing, with crystal clarity, the true horror behind the left's distorted reflections.

"While opponents of abortion eagerly describe themselves as 'pro-life,'" she writes, "the rest of us have had to scramble around with not nearly as big-ticket words like 'choice' and 'reproductive freedom.'"

Here, Ms. Williams essentially admits what the life community has said for decades, that the euphemistic language of "choice" and "reproductive freedom," long employed by the multi-billion-dollar abortion industry, is exactly that; euphemism, propaganda.

In so many words, she goes on to acknowledge that, rather than "pro-choice," "pro-death" is indeed the appropriate moniker for her movement. "Yet I know that throughout my own pregnancies, I never wavered for a moment in the belief that I was carrying a human life inside of me. I believe that's what a fetus is: a human life. And that doesn't make me one iota less solidly pro-choice," she proclaims.

Nice. Wonder how many of the little Williams babies made the cut.

But the money line? "Here's the complicated reality in which we live," she declares. "All life is not equal."

Get that, Thomas Jefferson? "All life is not equal." Put that in your self-evident-truth-pipe and smoke it. We clear, MLK? Wrap that "I have a dream" up in a big wad of "All life is not equal" and get to the back of the Birmingham bus.

Indeed, Ms. Williams is a militant feminist and that's adorable; but her line of reasoning here is anything but fresh and cute. It stems from the utilitarian rotgut Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger poured down the gullet of her power-drunk eugenicist fans — foremost of whom was the hypertensive fuehrer himself.

Still, to be fair, I'll let Ms. Williams speak for herself: "Yet a fetus can be a human life without having the same rights as the woman in whose body it resides," she finds. "She's the boss. Her life and what is right for her circumstances and her health should automatically trump the rights of the non-autonomous entity inside of her. Always."

In other words: "Me no likey? You die." Or, as Hitler really did say: "We shall regain our health only by eliminating the Jew." Old Adolf, of course, defined "health" to mean exactly what feminists mean by it. "Health: Any reason at all."

Maybe I've been at this too long, but I love it when liberals mistake sociopathy for conviction, candor for courage. I revel in those rare moments when left-wing extremists, nestled warm inside the foul bowels of their "progressive" echo chamber — pull back the wizard's curtain just far enough to expose, if only for an instant, the wicked sty in which they roll, splash and play.

Like this gem: "If by some random fluke I learned today I was pregnant," Williams boasts, "you bet you're ass I'd have an abortion. I'd have the World's Greatest Abortion. … I still need to acknowledge my conviction that the fetus is indeed a life. A life worth sacrificing."

"The World's Greatest Abortion."

"A life worth sacrificing."

Submitted without comment.

MATT BARBER (@jmattbarber on Twitter) is an attorney concentrating in constitutional law. He serves as vice president of Liberty Counsel Action.

The Q Line

Park it

A city-contracted consultant has offered up a draft plan that would radically reduce the amount of parking required for new developments in most of Santa Monica.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you agree that developments need less parking than in the past or is this report just wishful thinking?

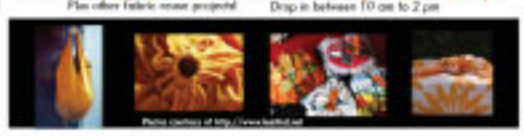
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Bus passenger describes terror before deadly crash

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

YUCAIPA, Calif. A runaway bus careened down a mountain road without brakes and the driver called out to passengers to phone 911 before a violent crash with two other vehicles that killed eight people and injured dozens of others, a surviving passenger said Monday.

However, the pleas by the driver were futile because no one had cellphone reception in the rugged area, passenger Gerardo Barrientos, 28, told The Associated Press.

The bus was carrying a group from Tijuana, Mexico, and heading home from a snow trip to the Big Bear Lake area of the San Bernardino Mountains 80 miles east of Los Angeles when it crashed into a sedan and pickup truck around 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

The cause of the crash remained under investigation.

Records showed the company that operated the bus had failed more than a third of federal vehicle safety inspections in the past two years.

The bus involved in the crash recorded 22 safety violations in about a year's time, including problems with brakes, the windshield and tires, according to inspection reports posted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Brake issues were noted in at least three inspections since October 2011.

Barrientos and girlfriend Lluvia Ramirez, who both work at a government hospital in Tijuana, spoke to the AP as they waited outside an emergency room at Loma Linda University Medical Center for word on a friend who suffered a broken neck.

Barrientos believed the bus reached speeds of 60 mph during the descent down the mountain that he estimated lasted five minutes before the collision.

"I saw many people dead. There are very, very horrendous images in my head, things I don't want to think about," he said.

Barrientos said he was uninjured and immediately began searching for Ramirez and the other friend, who were both ejected. After he moved them away from the bus to safety, he assisted the bus driver.

Ramirez suffered bruises and a hairline vertebra fracture.

"I was overwhelmed," she said. "I'm a surgical resident and I usually know how to react, but I was so in shock I didn't know what to do. I just stayed with my friend."

The crash left State Route 38 littered with body parts and debris, and the bus sideways across both lanes with its windows blown out, front end crushed and part of the roof peeled back like a tin can.

The bus was going slowly down the hill and being passed by other vehicles when it suddenly sped up for an unknown reason, according to a person involved in the investigation who requested anonymity because the probe was ongoing.

The bus struck a Saturn sedan — one of the vehicles that had passed it — then spun and rolled, hitting the pickup truck that was heading up the hill.

Smoke was coming from the back of the bus, witnesses said. The bus eventually struck something on the side of the road that righted it and it came to a stop.

The bus traveled about a mile from the point it struck the Saturn until it came to a stop, said California Highway Patrol Officer Leon Lopez.

Investigators will determine if mechanical failure or driver error was to blame.

The bus driver, Norberto B. Perez, approximately 52, of San Ysidro, was in serious condition, authorities said.

The driver told investigators the vehicle had brake problems.

"It appears speed was a factor in this collision," Lopez said.

The National Transportation Safety Board was sending a team to the scene.

Lettering on the 1996 bus showed it was operated by Scapadas Magicas LLC, based in National City, Calif.

Federal transportation records show the company is licensed to carry passengers for interstate travel and that it had no crashes in the past two years.

Stephen Keppler of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, a group with industry and government members, said buses and trucks average about two violations for each inspection.

Records show the bus involved in the crash was flagged eight times for maintenance problems, as recently as October.

Overall, buses operated by the firm flunked 36 percent of random inspections, the records indicate. That's higher than the national average for similar companies — a 21 percent failure rate.

The California company had an overall "satisfactory" rating from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration — but records show three-quarters of similar companies had better safety records.

No one answered the door at the Scapadas Magicas office in a sprawling complex that houses more than 1,300 storage lockers and about 30 small offices.

Greg Etter, general manager of Acropolis Space Center, said the company didn't run buses out of the facility. He declined to comment further on the tenant.

The bus was carrying dozens of men, women and children who had spent Sunday at a winter recreation area, authorities said.

Crews worked through the night to recover the dead, but one body remained aboard the bus early Monday, said Rocky Shaw, a San Bernardino County coroner's investigator.

Officials hadn't been able to retrieve the body because the front end of the bus was dangling over the edge of the roadside.

Investigators were trying to pick up any personal property to help identify victims.

More than three dozen people were injured, and at least 17 were still hospitalized, including at least five in critical condition. One is a girl.

The pickup driver was in extremely serious condition, said Peter Brierty, assistant county fire chief. Three people were in the Saturn.

Rocky Shaw, San Bernardino County coroner's investigation, said one of the dead victims was a 13-year-old boy. The boy's family from Tijuana was meeting with Mexican Consulate officials after spending the night going from hospital to hospital looking for him.

Jordi Garcia, marketing director of Interbus, said his company rented the bus from Scapadas Magicas, which supplied the driver.



CAMPAIGNS
FROM PAGE 1

Independent expenditure campaigns and political action committees outspent the candidates and measures that they backed two-to-one, with $830,509.50 of the total coming from seven organizations ranging from the familiar — Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights (SMRR) — to the new kids on the block like Santa Monicans United for a Responsible Future, or SMURF.

SMURF, a coalition of development interests, lead the way with $452,544,93 spent, most of which went to its slate of four City Council candidates including Gleam Davis, Terry O'Day, Shari Davis and Ted Winterer.

Each got slightly varied amounts, with Gleam Davis netting the most with $117,685.17 and Winterer getting the least with $79,556.20.

Both amounts exceeded what the individual candidates were able to raise on their own.

Behind SMURF came SMRR, the traditional Santa Monica political powerhouse, with $165,965.80, although only $9,040 was spent on each member of its four-person slate.

Still, it came out the winningest — SMRR managed a clean sweep of the election including each of its candidates for all four races and every ballot measure it backed.

Third in line came Santa Monicans for Responsible Growth, a new anti-development group founded by Santa Monica residents with organizational help from the Huntley Hotel.

The Huntley was widely rumored to lead a shadow campaign backing candidates that might oppose the expansion of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel, its neighbor, which had proposed to build a bigger, taller hotel on its current site.

Major funding for the group came from Playground Consulting, a computer security firm in Nevada which claimed to have clients in Santa Monica. The organization spent $92,587, primarily on mailers and consultant Sue Burnside, whose company was paid $38,151.11 by the group in 2012.

Far behind the top three funders were the Police Officer's Association committee, Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, Committee for Excellent Public Schools and the Coalition of Santa Monica City Employees PAC.

For their part, council candidates raised as little as nothing (Terence Later filed a page full of goose eggs in October) and as much as $93,073.15 (columnist and former Planning Commissioner Frank Gruber).

The sweet spot seemed to be between $39,000 and $61,545.13, where many of the major contenders sat with the exception of John Smith, a newcomer to Santa Monica politics who raised $12,514.03 including a $9,255 loan to himself.

Smith was not alone in that. Gruber contributed $41,000 to his own campaign, as did victorious candidate Tony Vazquez, who had debts totaling $28,883.29 — he raised only $18,516 through the course of the race, but spent over $40,000.

Richard McKinnon had no loans, specifically, although he did pitch in $16,355.43, according to his filing.

Although groups received funding from many of the usual suspects throughout the course of the campaign, including Huntley Hotel employees and representatives, major developers with large projects that will go before the City Council and others, there were a few outliers.

Winterer's most recent filing included donations from the owner of Hanky Panky LTD., a women's lingerie store in New York, and from a shamanic healer who resides in Santa Monica.

"I'm always glad to have that extra help," Winterer said. "I only regret I didn't have a voodoo guy."

ashley@smdp.com

ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

ST. MONICA, CROSSROADS ATOP SOCCER RANKINGS

The girls' soccer teams from St. Monica and Crossroads are No. 1 and No. 2 in the most recent CIF-SS Division 7 poll, it was announced on Monday.

St. Monica is 14-3-1 overall and 4-0 in the Camino Real League and sits alone in first place.

St. Monica closes the regular season this week with a road game at St. Paul on Tuesday and a home contest against Serra on Thursday.

Crossroads is 11-4-1 overall and 4-1 in the Delphic League. The Roadrunners currently trail Marshall in the standings. They too complete their regular season this week with a road game at Milken on Tuesday and a home game against Archer at Santa Monica College on Thursday.

SAMOHI SOCCER HAS OUTSIDE SHOT AT TITLE

With just two regular season games remaining, Samohi's boys' soccer team has a mathematical chance of winning the Ocean League.

Entering the week at 5-2-1, Samohi is currently in third place behind Beverly Hills, in first, and Morningside.

If Samohi can win both games with Beverly Hills losing twice and Morningside once they would take home the crown and secure a better seed in the playoffs.

Samohi hosts Morningside on Tuesday and Hawthorne on Thursday. Both games begin at 3 p.m.

Beverly Hills closes with Inglewood on Tuesday and Culver City on Thursday.

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POT

FROM PAGE 1

Safe Access, but this will be the first time the state high court weighs in on the question even though medical marijuana has been legal in California for more than 16 years.

Santa Monica officials are currently grappling with the medical marijuana issue, asking the community to weigh in on whether or not they should be allowed in the city by the sea. There's currently a moratorium against dispensaries in the city.

At stake is the expansion potential or further contraction of an industry that contributes hundreds of millions of dollars to the state economy but operates without clear statewide guidelines and in conflict with federal drug laws. Many of the local bans were enacted after the number of retail medical marijuana outlets exploded in Southern California in response to the DOJ stating in 2009 that prosecuting pot sales would be a low priority under the Obama administration.

"These places are popping up everywhere, and the typical city that had one or two, two became four and four became 16 or 20," said Jeffrey Dunn, an Orange County lawyer who will be arguing in favor of the local bans on Tuesday. "What has happened as a practical matter is this state law which authorizes the medical use of marijuana, and federal law that prohibits it, has forced cities and counties to be the ones to regulate this like any other entity that crops up in our business districts."

Medical marijuana advocates maintain that the state's medical marijuana laws, the nation's oldest, allow local governments to set limits on dispensaries, but not to outlaw them.

"If it's the case localities can ban, you could end up with the entire southern and middle portion of the state banning dispensaries, which clearly does not promote uniformity throughout the state or safe access" to marijuana, Americans for Safe Access legal director Joe Elford said.

Along with the permissibility of local dispensary bans, the state court's seven justices are being asked to determine if marijuana's federal status as an illegal drug prohibits local governments from explicitly authorizing its distribution at all, as about 50 California counties and cities have.

The rush to adopt bans has lessened over the last 18 months, ever since the four federal prosecutors in California launched a coordinated crackdown on dispensaries by threatening to seize the properties of landlords that leased space to them. Hundreds of pot shops have since been evicted or closed voluntarily.

The arguments come in a case out of Riverside, where city lawmakers used their zoning powers to declare storefront pot shops as public nuisances and to ban them in 2010. The Inland Empire Patient's Health and Wellness Center, part of the explosion of retail medical marijuana outlets, sued to stop the city from shutting it down.

A midlevel appeals court sided with the city, but other courts have come to opposite conclusions. Last summer, a trial judge ruled that Riverside County could not close medical marijuana dispensaries in unincorporated areas because the move did not give the shops any room to operate legally under state law. An appeals court in Southern California also struck down Los Angeles County's 2-year-old ban on dispensaries, ruling that state law allows cooperatives and collectives to grow, store and to distribute pot.

However, in a separate case in Long Beach, an appeals court said federal law preempts municipalities from allowing dispensaries.

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PLEA
FROM PAGE 1

Highway 60 at 12:40 a.m. on June 6 on the way back from a Los Angeles Angels baseball game — because of her injuries, Hively no longer remembers why — when Silva allegedly hit them and drove off.

Silva was charged with murder, gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and leaving the scene of an accident.

Silva has a court date in March for sentencing, at which point she will have the option to accept a plea bargain for 19 years in prison, according to Hively, who is familiar with the agreement.

Familiar, but unhappy.

"I'm appalled that the (district attorney) would offer a 19-year plea bargain," Hively said.

If found guilty, this would be Silva's second conviction of driving under the influence, although she was not found to have exceeded the legal maximum of .08 blood alcohol content in the 2009 offense.

The District Attorney's Office would not comment on the plea bargain until after it comes out in court.

Hively and her sister, Brenda Petrakos, started a petition on the activism website Change.org calling on officials in California government to support a harsher sentence for the crime.

The petition already has 426 signatures.

The matter should go to court, Hively said.

"I feel it's very unfair," Hively said. "We were told that they were going for life, then something happened and they negotiated a plea bargain like this."

MAKING THE DEAL

Depending who you ask, between 95 and 98 percent of cases that go through the American court system end with plea bargains.

That's a matter of necessity, said Scott Burns, executive director with the National District Attorneys Association.

"The reality is that there are between 15 and 20 million non-misdemeanor cases prosecuted in America every year," Burns said. "If each of those, or frankly half or a third of those, went to trial, we would need a much, much larger criminal justice system."

Instead, attorneys forge plea bargains, agreements that offer a potentially lighter sentence in exchange for a guilty or no-contest plea.

They also offer security, said Tracy Green, a private defense attorney based in Los Angeles.

Whereas plea deals are negotiated between the attorneys involved, jury trials rely on a body of 12 unknowns, making the process a roll of the dice for both sides.

"I hate to tell people it's like going to Las Vegas, but justice can come at a price," Green said.

In a plea bargain, the prosecution weighs its options based on the strength of the case and whether or not they believe the defendant is a danger to society. The prosecutor can also factor in the interests of the victim or the victim's family, Burns said.

Defense attorneys also look at the merits of the case, but also determine if it's a financial possibility for their client to go through the expensive trial process and if they're capable of serving time, even a reduced amount, Green said.

"What are the client's goals? Can they risk, handle or afford emotionally or lifestyle-wise any threat of incarceration, or having a conviction of what's been charged?" she asked.

"What's the downside risk if you go to trial and lose?"

While neither attorney believes that the system is broken, Burns was more apt to defend it than Green, who felt that defendants risk getting a harsher sentence if they go for a trial and lose.

A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision altered the playing field a bit on plea bargains when the justices held in a 5 to 4 decision that defendants have the right to good lawyering when it comes to plea bargains.

If a lawyer acts unethically or gives really bad legal counsel, the defendant may even get a second shot at the plea, the court held.

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Obama stands firm on gun control despite long odds

JULIE PACE & NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS President Barack Obama declared Monday on his first trip outside Washington to promote gun control that a consensus is emerging for universal background checks for purchasers, though he conceded a tough road lay ahead to pass an assault weapons ban over formidable opposition in Congress.

"We should restore the ban on military-style assault weapons and a 10-round limit for magazines," Obama said in a brief speech, standing firm on his full package on gun-control measures despite long odds. Such a ban "deserves a vote in Congress because weapons of war have no place on our streets or in our schools or threatening our law enforcement officers."

The president spoke from a special police operations center in a city once known to some as "Murderapolis" but where gun violence has dropped amid a push to address it from city leaders. Officers stood behind him, dressed in crisp uniforms of blue, white and brown.

The site conveyed Obama's message that a reduction in violence can be achieved nationally, even if Americans have sharp disagreements over gun control. That includes among members of his own party in Washington.

Suggesting he won't get all he's proposing, he said, "We don't have to agree on everything to agree it's time to do something."

The president unveiled his gun-control plans last month after the shootings at a Newtown, Conn., elementary school. But many of the proposals face tough opposition from some in Congress and from the National Rifle Association.

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has said he wants to give the bans on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines a vote. But he will not say whether he will support either, and advocates and opponents alike predict they are unlikely to pass.

Putting the controversial measures up for a vote could put some Democratic senators in a tough spot. That includes some from conservative-leaning states who are up for re-election next year and face the prospect of voting against either fervent gun-rights supporters or Obama and gun-control supporters in the party's base.

Reid himself came in for criticism for declining to stand with the president by Minneapolis' Democratic mayor, R.T. Rybak, who accompanied Obama while he was in town. "He's dancing around this issue and people are dying in this country," Rybak said of Reid on MSNBC.

Democratic lawmakers and aides, as well as lobbyists, say an assault weapons ban has the least chance of being approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee that is working up the legislation. They say a ban on high-capacity magazines is viewed as the next least likely proposal to survive, though some compromise version of it might, allowing more than the 10-round maximum that Obama favors.

Likeliest to be included are universal background checks and prohibitions against gun trafficking, they say. One lobbyist said other possible terms include steps to improve record keeping on resales of guns and perhaps provisions that would make it harder for mentally ill people from obtaining firearms.

Asked last week what was likely to be in his committee's bill, committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said he didn't yet know but "I don't know how anybody can be opposed to universal background checks." He added, "I think gun trafficking, you've got to be able to close that. I don't know how anybody, anybody can object to that."

Obama also was more upbeat on the prospects of universal background checks, including for purchases at gun shows.

"The good news is that we're starting to see a consensus emerge about the action Congress needs to take," he said. "The vast majority of Americans, including a majority of gun owners, support requiring criminal background checks for anyone trying to buy a gun. There's no reason why we can't get that done."

He urged Americans to call their members of Congress to push for his entire package of stronger gun controls. "Tell them now is the time for action."

"Changing the status quo is never easy," Obama said. "This will be no exception. The only way we can reduce gun violence in this country is if the American people decide it's important, if you decide it's important, if parents and teachers, police officers and pastors, hunters and sportsmen, Americans of every background stand up and say, this time, it's got to be different. We've suffered too much pain to stand by and do nothing."

The White House says Obama is not writing off any part of his package despite the long odds for the assault weapons ban in particular before votes are scheduled or he takes his arguments on the road. Education Secretary Arnie Duncan, who has been helping push the gun control package, said he and Obama spoke on the matter Sunday and agreed that Washington in a vacuum is unlikely to move quickly.

"If this is Washington trying to drive this by itself, it doesn't go very far," Duncan said at a meeting with college presidents who have signed on to help lobby Congress to take action to protect students.

The White House said Obama made his maiden trip on the gun control package to Minneapolis because the city has taken steps to tackle gun violence, including a push for stricter background checks. The city launched a program in 2008 aimed at providing more resources for at-risk youth and helping rehabilitate young people who have already committed crimes.

In January, Minneapolis also hosted a regional summit on gun violence for elected officials from around the Midwest. The county's sheriff, Richard Stanek, is a Republican who has been working with the White House to develop a palatable set of gun regulations, with a particular focus on strengthening background checks.

Ahead of Monday's trip, the White House released a photo of the president skeet shooting at Camp David, the presidential retreat, which prompted more question about the president's experience with guns. White House press secretary Jay Carney said he was not aware of Obama personally owning any firearms. He said Obama has shot a gun elsewhere, although he didn't know when or if he had done so before becoming president. "He never intended to suggest he had grown up as a hunter," Carney said.

Asked whether the president shoots skeet or trap, Carney told reporters, "I'm not an expert, and I don't think he would claim to be either." But he said of the president's shooting skill, "I think he has gotten better."

U.S. stocks close down after Dow's rally to 14,000

DANIEL WAGNER
AP Business Writer

Stocks hit a big milestone, then promptly spun off the road.

Major indexes dived the most this year Monday, the first trading day after the Dow broke 14,000 and closed at its highest level since the financial crisis.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped as much as 143 points in afternoon trading. It closed down 129.71, or 0.9 percent, at 13,880.08.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 17.46 points, or 1.2 percent, to 1,495.71. The Nasdaq composite index lost 47.93, or 1.5 percent, to 3,131.17.

Monday's declines were the biggest drops this year for all three indexes. They followed a surge Friday that pushed the Dow over 14,000 for the first time since 2007, before the financial meltdown that routed world markets.

Friday was only the tenth time in its history that the Dow closed above 14,000. The first was in July 2007; the rest were in October of that year. The index closed Friday just 155 points shy of its record high, set that October.

The rally was powered by solid economic data, including a January jobs report that showed the labor market is strengthening gradually. A broad measure of manufacturing also rose sharply.

The Dow is up nearly 6 percent this year. Yet Wall Street's celebratory mood was a distant memory Monday, as U.S. stocks followed European markets lower. France's CAC-40 closed down 3 percent, Germany's DAX 2.5 percent.

"It started to look like things in the market are maybe getting a little ahead of themselves, compared to some of the data we've seen," said Bill Stone, chief investment strategist at PNC Asset Management Group. He said problems in Europe are also beginning to affect U.S. markets after several quiet months.

Borrowing costs for Italy and Spain rose Monday, Stone noted, reflecting concerns among bond investors that those countries may be unable to meet their financial obligations.

"It kind of restarts some of the old worries that we've been able to ignore for quite some time," Stone said.

In New York, Merck & Co. was among the Dow's biggest losers, dropping 98 cents, or 2.3 percent, to $40.85. The pharmaceutical company said Friday that its earnings declined in the fourth quarter and 2013 might be weaker than analysts had hoped.

Boeing was the only rising stock among the 30 in the Dow.

Corporate earnings reports continue this week. Health insurer Humana leapt $3.51, or 4.7 percent, to $78.86 after its results beat Wall Street's forecasts.

Cruise operator Royal Caribbean fell after reporting a quarterly loss related to its Spanish cruise line, Pullmantur. Prices and bookings have plunged since the Spanish government imposed strict austerity measures, limiting Spaniards' ability to spend. Royal Caribbean shares dropped $1.26, or 3.4 percent, to $35.53.

Media company Gannett Co Inc. fell $1.33, or 6.7 percent, to $18.51. Gannett's earnings beat Wall Street's expectations, but the company warned that its TV ad revenue will be hurt this quarter by the absence of $5.1 million in political spending and the move of the Super Bowl from NBC to CBS.

Among other companies making big moves was network gear maker Acme Packet Inc., which surged $5.66, or 23.7 percent, to $29.59 after Oracle said it would acquire the company for $2.1 billion.

McGraw-Hill Cos. plunged $8.04, or 13.8 percent, to $50.30 after midday news reports that the Justice Department plans to file civil charges against the company's Standard & Poor's credit rating unit. The government charges are expected to question S&P's high ratings of mortgage bonds that helped fuel the financial crisis.

Moody's Corp., another rating agency, followed McGraw-Hill down, even though there is no evidence that the government will charge that company. Moody's closed down $5.90, or 10.7 percent, at $49.45.

The two rating agencies had the biggest percentage declines in the S&P 500 index.

In Europe, political jitters about Spain and Italy pushed stocks lower. Some indexes had their worst day in months.

Concerns over Europe's debt crisis have eased since last summer, in part because of efforts by the Spanish and Italian governments to get their finances under control.

An upcoming election in Italy places some of those reforms in doubt. The Spanish government, meanwhile, is embroiled in a corruption scandal that's raising questions over the future of Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

The euro fell to $1.3512. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 1.96 percent from 2.05 percent earlier Monday as demand for ultra-safe assets increased.

Oil prices drifted lower. Crude fell $1.60 to $96.17 a barrel in New York.

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WNW swell eases and turns more NW; More size for standout spots in the western part of the region 2-3+' surf there.

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small WNW mix; Potential new WNW starts to show late

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Potential modest WNW swell tops out late; More size for standout spots in the western part of the region with waist-chest high surf there

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Potential modest WNW swell slowly eases; More size for standout spots in the western part of the region 2-3'+ surf there largest early; Watching weather/wind

WIND / WEATHER

High pressure keeps itself over the area for the next several days with some weak disturbances passing through. This will keep local winds generally favorable with light/variable flow in the mornings, that will then give way to a light to locally moderate onshore westerly breeze in the afternoon. A slightly stronger marine layer builds for Monday morning then possibly again for Weds morning with some areas of patchy fog possible.

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

January 30, 2013

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

QUICK STATS for the last 4 days
Number of sewage spills — 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 0
Number of wet days — 11
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 32 / 28
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA and Strubeck Family Foundation

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
@ Peregrine State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Unnimed Canyon at @ Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	C	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	C	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point runs).	A+	F
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH storm.	A+	B
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17308 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

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

NFL

Goodell: New Orleans 'terrific,' despite blackout

BRETT MARTEL
AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS The blackout at the Superdome will not stop the Super Bowl from returning to New Orleans.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said that despite the electrical outage which delayed Sunday night's game for 34 minutes, the city did a "terrific" job hosting its first pro football championship in the post-Katrina era.

"Let me reiterate again what an extraordinary job the city of New Orleans has done," said Goodell, speaking Monday at a post-Super Bowl media conference held for the game's most valuable player, Baltimore quarterback Joe Flacco, and winning coach John Harbaugh. "The most important thing is to make sure people understand it was a fantastic week."

New Orleans has hosted 10 Super Bowls, including Baltimore's 34-31 victory over San Francisco, tied for the most with Miami.

While serving as the site of America's biggest sporting event and focus of an unofficial national holiday gets any place a lot of attention, this game had special meaning for New Orleans.

The city last hosted the Super Bowl in 2002 and officials were hoping this would serve as the ultimate showcase — on a global scale — of how far it has come since being devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The storm winds tore holes in the roof of the Superdome and there was water damage from the rain that affected electrical systems and caused mold to spread. More than $330 million has been spent to upgrade the facility, which has hosted the annual Sugar Bowl, Saints games, two BCS title games and a men's Final Four since the storm.

Yet the loss of power was an embarrassment that quickly became perhaps the signature moment of the Ravens' win.

Goodell said not to worry.

"I do not think this will have an effect on future Super Bowls in New Orleans," he said. "I fully expect to be back here for Super Bowls. I hope we will be back. We want to be back here."

Local officials have said they will bid to host an 11th Super Bowl in 2018 to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the city's founding. Goodell made it sound like that is still in play.

"This will not affect the view of the NFL of the success of the game here in New Orleans," Goodell said. "We know that they have an interest in future Super Bowls and we look forward to evaluating that. Going forward, I do not think this will have an effect at all on what I think will be remembered as one of the great Super Bowl weeks."

Goodell said he had no concerns about the adequacy of the Superdome going forward because "this is clearly something that can be fixed and it's clearly something we can prepare for and we will."

For Goodell, it seemed, it was important to recognize how much fans and the league's business partners enjoyed dining at the city's renowned restaurants, attending parties in the home of Mardi Gras, and the ease of moving around with everything centrally located downtown.

It wasn't the first time Goodell has stuck up for the city.

He has been widely credited with working behind the scenes to get the Superdome renovated on a fast track after Katrina struck. It reopened in September 2006, in time for the Saints to return permanently to New Orleans after spending one season displaced to San Antonio.

Still, some Saints fans were critical of Goodell's handling of the league's bounty investigation of the team, and resulting sanctions that included the full season suspension of coach Sean Payton.

"After all we've been through here in New Orleans, it seems like we can't escape the worldwide attention of these kinds of events," said Doug Thornton, vice president of SMG, which manages both the Superdome and neighboring New Orleans Arena for the state. "It was an unfortunate circumstance at such a great moment for the city. I think the city was just spectacular this week. The host committee did a great job. It was a flawless event up to that point and it was just a spectacular week.

"So obviously for me, it was a disappointing moment."

Thornton said nothing inside the Superdome malfunctioned, but that the stadium's power supply was cut off from a nearby substation, and that once power was restored, everything inside the dome resumed normal operation.

Thornton also dismissed reports that the halftime show featuring Beyonce had anything to do with the outage, pointing out that that portion of the event was on independent generator power. In fact, Thornton said the dome's electrical system, which has not once failed since the storm, used less power during the Super Bowl than a typical Saints game.

Flacco also praised New Orleans as a host.

The Ravens quarterback recalled how much he enjoyed getting out on Saturday and visiting the French Quarter to clear his mind the day before the biggest game of his life. During that afternoon he stopped by Cafe du Monde, on the edge of scenic Jackson Square, where locals and tourists alike enjoy French doughnuts with powdered sugar and cafe au lait.

He added: "I really just wanted to try those beignets, or however you say it, which were unbelievable, by the way."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Double feature

Taxi Driver (R) 1hr 53min
7:30pm

Mean Streets (R) 1hr 52min
9:23pm

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

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
12:30pm, 6:40pm

Broken City (R) 1hr 49min
4:05pm, 10:15pm

ParaNorman 3D (PG) 1hr 33min
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
3:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:45pm

Stand Up Guys (R) 1hr 33min
1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:05pm, 10:30pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:20am, 1:45pm, 4:15pm, 6:50pm, 9:30pm

Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min
11:15am, 2:50pm, 6:45pm, 10:35pm

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:45pm

Gangster Squad (R) 1hr 53min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:20pm

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

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 4:20pm

Impossible (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 10:10pm

Quartet (PG-13) 1hr 37min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

56 Up (NR) 2hrs 24min
1:10pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm

Nederlands Dans Theater "An Evening With Sol Leon and Paul Lightfoot" (NR) 2hrs 35min
7:30pm

Please Subscribe: A Documentary About YouTubers (PG-13) 1hr 17min
7:30pm

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

Movie 43 (R) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:25pm

Parker (R) 1hr 58min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Bullet to the Head (R) 1hr 31min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Les Miserables (PG-13) 2hrs 37min
11:15am, 2:40pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs
11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Mama (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Pay your bills tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Do yourself a favor and start listening to your inner voice more often. How you see a personal matter could change dramatically as a result. Be aware of a tendency to be slightly defensive. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Listen to news with a grain of salt. Rethink a situation more carefully. Understand what is happening within your immediate group of friends. Know what needs to happen in order to keep you more content. Tonight: Let someone else choose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others' dynamic energy could push you over the edge if you aren't careful. A superior might think that he or she has a novel idea. Indulge this person. You could be overwhelmed by others, especially if you have a lot to do. Screen calls. Tonight: Try something unusual.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You have a lot to do. Getting everything done could take a rather large effort, as your mind keeps wandering to yonder lands. You could be taken aback by a suggestion. Tonight: Go for a brisk walk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Your imagination can either resolve a problem or distort it. You will know the outcome once you hear others' feedback. Financial dealings will be highlighted. Sharp comments are likely. You do not have to do more than listen to them. Tonight: Have fun with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others demand a lot from you. Listen, but also recognize that you need to make your own decisions. Friends have excellent insights, but they don't know the specifics of what you are dealing with. Trust your judgment when it comes to your personal life. Tonight: Anchored in.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You could have difficulty getting and/or giving a clear message. Maintain a sense of humor. You might not always have the control you desire. Your drive and follow-through make you a star wherever you choose to put your energy. Tonight: Happily head home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Keep conversations about a key matter within a certain circle of friends or colleagues. Confidentiality is necessary. Adapt to fast changes in the workplace. Tonight: Add more spice to your personal life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ The unexpected occurs. Understand that finances could be involved. Do not commit to any expenses just yet. If you are feeling negative or pessimistic, you could be creating more of a problem for yourself. Detach, and walk away from the issue. Tonight: Pay your bills.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You hit one of your power days. A friendship might be very important to you, but know that sometimes it also can weigh you down. This person often can be demanding. Tonight: Do whatever feels right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★ Take some time off. Even though you might think you are needed -- and you very well could be -- you are better off resting or handling a personal matter right now. Someone could be very difficult to deal with. Tonight: Not to be found.

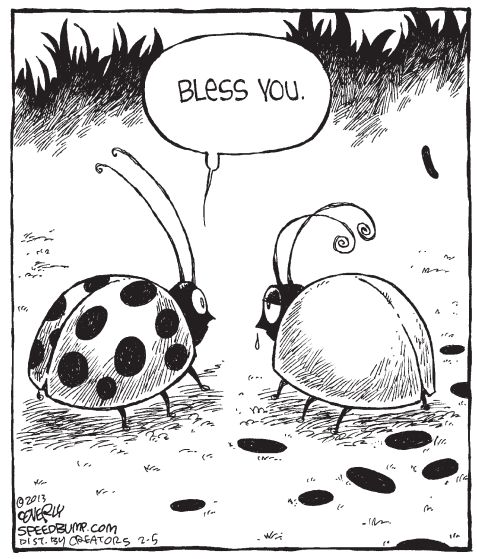
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Express your feelings with clarity, especially when dealing with an authority figure. The communication style you use could be the issue. Ask for confirmation or repeat what the other party said. It might be an effective technique. Tonight: At a favorite haunt with friends.

Happy birthday

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

This year you emphasize your long-term goals. You also have a wide collection of friends, all of whom seem to be strong supporters. This powerful team is instrumental to your success, and it provides you with emotional security. You might decide to focus on establishing some financial security. If you are single, you could meet someone through a friendship. This friendship will play a strong role in your year. If you are attached, make sure that you focus on the friendship as well as the romance. SAGITTARIUS can be impulsive.

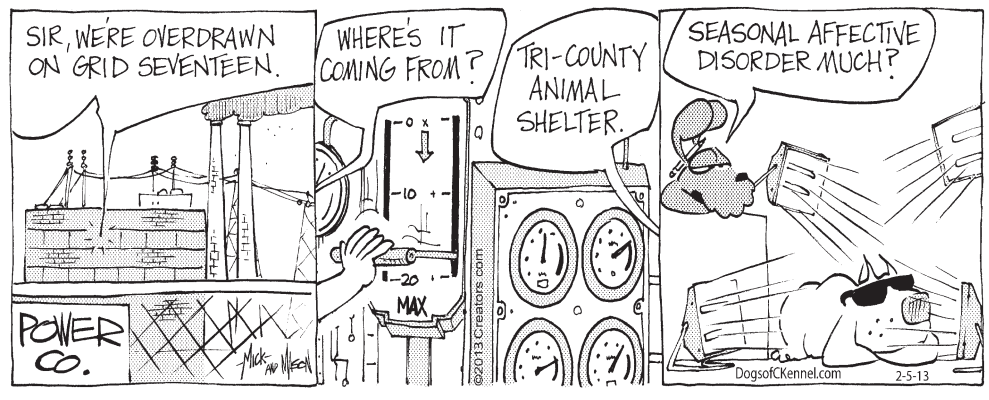
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



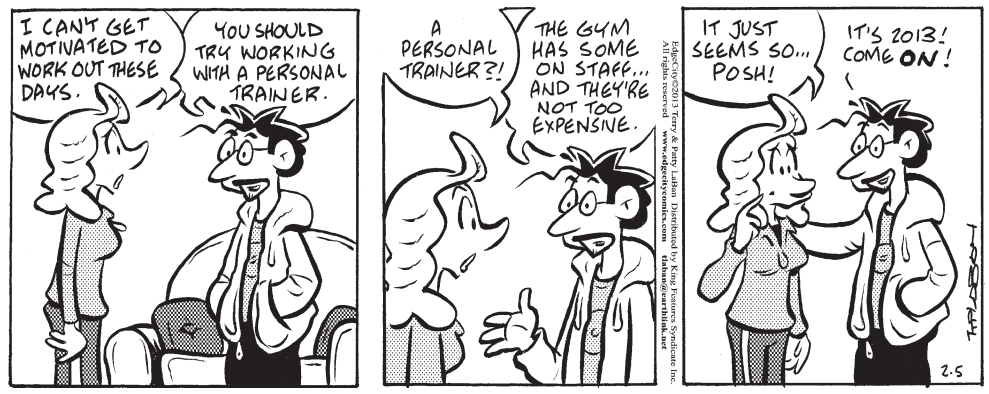
Strange Brew
By John Deering



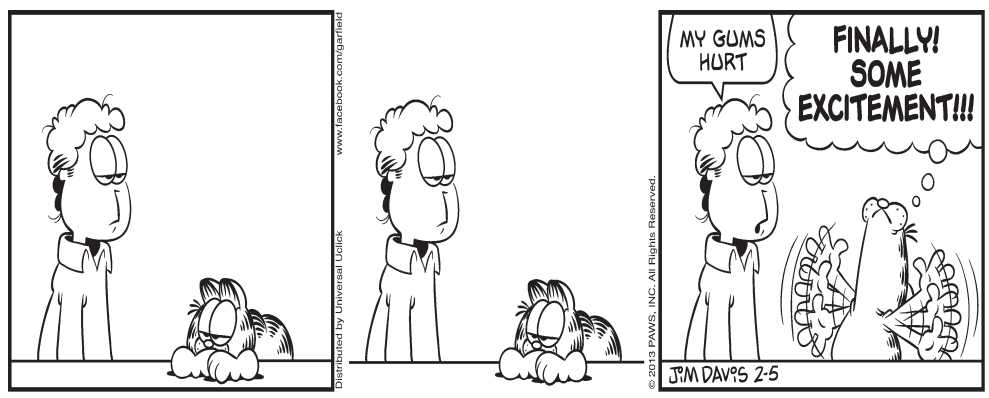
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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MYSTERY REVEALED!

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Reader Katherine Hobson correctly identified this photo of the Jill Roberts boutique on Montana Avenue. She will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out Wednesday's paper for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

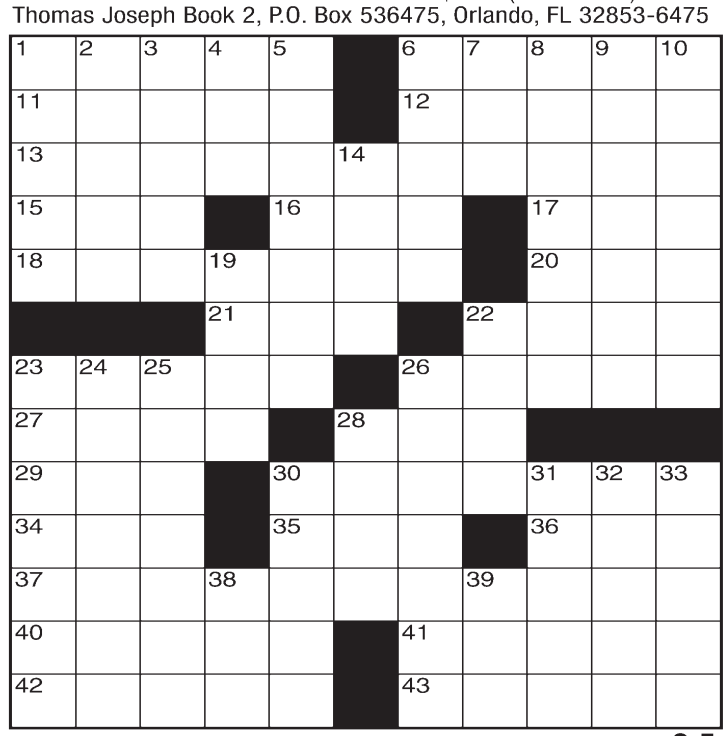
ACROSS
1 School art staple
6 Harpoon
11 Martin's automaking partner
12 Therefore
13 Without enough staff
15 Skirt edge
16 Brit. fliers
17 Salt Lake City player
18 Paving stuff
20 Beam of light
21 Make a choice
22 Jazz clarinetist Fountain
23 Gambling mecca
26 Does some modeling
27 Pinnacle
28 Pear-shaped fruit
29 Set ablaze
30 Campaign loser
34 "— your loss!"
35 Word of denial
36 In the past
37 Out of breath
40 Spine-tingling
41 Singer Cleo
42 Dance moves
43 Leopard features

DOWN
1 Turkish bigwig
2 Fire proof?
3 Jazz dance
4 Craggy hill
5 Snares
6 Mine section
7 Desk-set item
8 Survives
9 Artwork overlay
10 Overnight flights
14 Sentry's order
19 Flimflam
22 Possum of the comics
23 Suitcases
24 Sobriquet
25 Become angry
26 Flower parts
28 Move smoothly
30 Poker payments
31 CBer's need
32 Deal maker
33 Network points
38 Tear
39 Snooze

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



2-5

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/1
1 30 32 40 41
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: $19M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/2
7 12 15 17 37
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $19M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/4
1 21 32 35 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/4
MIDDAY: 6 3 9
EVENING: 9 2 9

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 2/4
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:49.36

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

■ California activist Jonathan Frieman finally got his day in court in January, but a Marin County judge quickly rejected his argument that he is entitled to use the state's carpool lanes accompanied only by a sheath of corporate papers in the passenger seat. (During the 2012 Republican primaries, Mitt Romney famously asserted a corporation's general right under the law to be treated as a "person.") The judge decided that the state legislature's carpool law was intended only to reduce traffic clutter and that driving with no passenger except corporate papers was unrelated to that goal. Frieman told reporters that he had been carrying the papers around for years, hoping to be challenged.

■ China's national legislature passed a law in December to establish that people have a duty to visit their aged parents periodically. China's rapid urbanization has not developed nursing homes and similar facilities to keep pace with the population, and sponsors of the law said it would give the parents a legal right to sue their children for ignoring them.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1997 - The so-called Big Three banks in Switzerland announce the creation of a $71 million fund to aid Holocaust survivors and their families.

2000 - Russian forces massacre at least 60 civilians in the Novye Aldi suburb of Grozny, Chechnya.

2004 - Twenty-three Chinese people drown when a group of 35 cockle-pickers are trapped by rising tides in Morecambe Bay, England. Twenty-one bodies are recovered.

2004 - Rebels from the Revolutionary Artibonite Resistance Front capture the city of Gonaïves, starting the 2004 Haiti rebellion.

WORD UP!

dyslogistic
\ dis-luh-JIS-tik \ , adjective;
1. conveying disapproval or censure; not complimentary or eulogistic.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale As of Beginning of February 2013		
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$10,200,000
North of Montana	=	$ 5,986,714
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 1,183,278
South of Wilshire	=	$ 0
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,322,986
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