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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 77

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI, ST. MONICA DRIVE FOR PLAYOFFS
SEE PAGE 3

THE IT'S SPREADING ISSUE

Residents, City Hall don't sync on community benefits

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD Community members clashed with Planning Department staff Tuesday night at a meeting meant to help define an elusive concept central to the future of development in Santa Monica — the "community benefit."

Community benefits are perks that city staff negotiate into contracts called development agreements made with entrepreneurs that want to build large projects in Santa Monica. (City Hall allowed the use of development agreements to govern large scale development in 1982. Since, 20 projects have come under consideration through these rules.)

Several people stood to challenge city staff after an opening presentation and refused to participate in smaller group activities, instead preferring to stay in the center of the Thelma Terry Building at Virginia Avenue Park until the core group reassembled.

The disagreement lay in the purpose of the meeting. Staff planned to make lists of the kinds of things that community members wanted out of developers, be it a bike share program, child care facility or additional park space.

Residents wanted a broader conversation about what a community benefit entails with more details about the costs each development would have on the city before identifying an appropriate price to demand from

SEE BENEFITS PAGE 8



Doug Olmedo *news@smdp.com*

MAKING A CASE: **William Hall (left) sits with founder of Consumer Watchdog Harvey Rosenfield at a press conference Wednesday.**

Insurance company cheats seniors, lawsuit alleges

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

OCEAN PARK BLVD Santa Monica-based protection advocates Consumer Watchdog filed a class action lawsuit Tuesday on behalf of an 87-year-old man and other elders they allege were bilked out of thousands of dollars by an insurance company in Pennsylvania.

Attorneys from Consumer Watchdog and the law firm of Shernoff Bidart Echeverria Bentley, LLP filed the lawsuit at the San Bernadino Superior Courthouse.

According to the suit, William Hall, of Upland, Calif., was allegedly cheated out of thousands of dollars by the Senior Health Insurance Company of Pennsylvania, or SHIP, which refused to honor the long-term care policy he had held with one interruption since 1994.

The suit charges that the company told policy holders that they needed to submit paperwork that was not required under their policies and when paperwork was submit-

SEE SUIT PAGE 8

SMC, City Hall to build $12.5M childcare center

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

SMC After more than 20 years of talk, City Hall and Santa Monica College are finally taking action.

The SMC Board of Trustees on Tuesday entered into an agreement with city officials to build a $12.5 million early childhood education center that will serve as a daycare as well as a learning lab for college students who desperately want to see their teachings put to the test.

With the agreement in place, officials said they can move from the concept phase to the design phase, hire consultants and develop a business plan for the facility, which is expected to be located in the Civic Center and accommodate up to 100 infant, toddler and pre-school children.

The goal is to design a facility that is both aesthetically appealing and functional. It will include classrooms and a place for college students to observe the youngsters, as well as office and meeting spaces for parenting workshops and early childhood research and development.

"For myself and many other people who have been working on this for many years, this is the beginning of a dream come true," said Betsy Hiteshew, a member of Santa Monica's Early Childcare and Education Task Force and a former SMC professor with the Early Childhood Education Department.

"First off, this is an important service because so many of our students have children and they need childcare to help them

SEE SMC PAGE 10


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Feb. 9, 2012

Ask the staff
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St.,
5:30 p.m. — 7:30 p.m.
In connection with the Be Excited! Be Prepared campaign, City Hall is hosting this open house meeting where Santa Monica residents, employees, business owners and other community members can talk with staff and project managers about topics like the pending Expo light rail and Parking Structure 6 construction. For more information, call (310) 458-8301 or visit www.smconstructs.org.

Farm in the backyard
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Join experts in a lively discussion about how gardens grow. Moderated by Darra Henigan from the Santa Monica Farmers' Market. Stay afterward for market treats prepared by chef Sal Marino. Part of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market 2012 quarterly library panel series. Free and open to the public.

Kids/Teens on Stage
Morgan Wixson Theater
2627 Pico Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Award-winning, fun-filled musical theater and creative dramatics classes for ages 4-17, beginner to advanced. Work with a theater professional and work toward a final performance in Kids On Stage's Spring Play Festival in May and June 2012. Act, sing, dance, choreography, scene study, theater techniques, collaboration, brainstorming, team and confidence building, performance direction and final show. Classes vary. Class days: Monday through Saturday. To register call (310) 314-0035.

Friday, Feb. 10, 2012

Art for Hearts
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Highway,
6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Pico Youth & Family Center (PYFC) presents its third annual "Art for Hearts," a silent auction of uniquely-crafted hearts and other art by youth artists and established artists whose proceeds will benefit programs for at-risk youth. This event will also feature music by the Santa Monica High School jazz band, delicious food, wine, and guest appearances. Tickets are $35 per person or $50 for couples. For more information, visit www.picoyouth.org.

A new kind of valentine
Paint:Lab
2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Ditch the cliché flowers and box of chocolates this Valentine's Day and treat your sweetheart to an evening of paint, champagne and strawberries. Paint:Lab offers a unique twist on Valentine's this year where couples are provided paints, materials, and their choice of canvas as well as complimentary champagne and strawberries. Tickets are $55 per couple plus the cost of canvas and a reservation is required. Sessions extend until Tuesday, Feb. 14. For more information, visit www.paintlab.net or call (310) 450-9200.

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



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Samohi boys win league crown with a caveat

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

HAWTHORNE The boys from Samohi have earned at least a share of the Ocean League title, but it's somewhat complicated.

The combination of a win over Morningside and an Inglewood loss on Tuesday gives Santa Monica's boys' basketball team sole possession of first place and a direct line to the crown.

The 63-52 win at Morningside improves the Vikings to 8-1 in league, while Inglewood's loss to Beverly Hills sends them to 7-2.

With one to play, the teams could end the season both 8-2 depending on the outcomes of tonight's games, but Samohi won a tie breaker that would make them the league champs in the eyes of the CIF-Southern Section.

That would give them a first round home game in the playoffs, which begin next week.

But, if Samohi can dispatch 0-9 Hawthorne tonight on the road, it doesn't matter what Inglewood does. That's the scenario that Head Coach James Hecht would prefer.

"It's nice to know that either way we will represent the league," he said, "but we want to finish the regular season properly."

Careful to not overlook winless Hawthorne, Hecht is stressing to his team that a win would end any doubt that they are league champs.

"[Hawthorne] is going to be scrappy," he said. "They don't have any quit in them."

Hecht is particularly mindful that a win over Samohi would make Hawthorne's season, something he wants to avoid if at all possible.

"We want to go into the playoffs with some momentum," he said. "A loss would hurt our playoff seeding. Winning can only help."

As was the case for the entire season, Samohi, ranked No. 6 in the CIF-SS Division 1AA poll, was again led by junior guard Jordan Mathews, who paced the team with 23 points against Morningside.

While Mathews is the focal point of the offense, the emergence of suitable running mates this season has taken some of the load off of the talented guard.

Players like seniors Trey Thompson, who returned to the team after playing in the Bay Area last year, and Jordan Walker give teams who key on Mathews fits.

"If you double-team Jordan, you leave somebody open who can make you pay," Hecht said.

ST. MONICA GIRLS HAVE SHOT AT LEAGUE TITLE

A 48-34 win over Mary Star of the Sea on Tuesday pushed St. Monica's girls' basketball team into a tie for first place in the Camino Real League.

The Mariners were again led by junior Briana Harris, who had a game-high 20 points and set a career high with 20 rebounds. Sophomore Katrina Balatico added 9 points in the win over Mary Star.

The victory sets up a home game against Cantwell-Sacred Heart today that has championship implications. If the Mariners win the season finale it would assure them at least a share of the league title. They could win an outright title if La Salle falters on the road at St. Joseph.

The Mariners are currently ranked No. 7 in the CIF-SS Division 4A poll.

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 9



Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

ON TARGET: **Samohi's Jordan Mathews attempts a shot against Beverly Hills earlier this season.**

More American airports to test lower-hassle screening program

EILEEN SULLIVAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON A new passenger screening program to make check-in more convenient for certain travelers is being expanded to 28 more major U.S. airports, the government said Wednesday. There will be no cost to eligible passengers, who would no longer have to remove their shoes and belts before they board flights.

The airports include the three used by hijackers to launch the terror attacks in September 2001: Washington Dulles International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey and Boston's Logan International Airport.

The Transportation Security Administration's program, already in a test phase in seven other airports, is the Obama administration's first attempt at a passenger screening program responsive to frequent complaints that the government is not using common sense when it screens all passengers at airports in the same way. Under the new program, eligible travelers have the option to volunteer more personal information about themselves so that the government can vet them for security purposes before they arrive at airport checkpoints.

"Good, thoughtful, sensible security by its very nature facilitates lawful travel and legitimate commerce," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said.

The program works this way: Participating travelers will walk through a dedicated lane at airport security checkpoints. They will provide the TSA officer

SEE SCREENING PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Smoke and mirrors

Editor:

I don't smoke, but I have no objection to anyone else doing so.

Barbara Bronie, et al., had a letter in which she demands that smoking be banned in all apartments (eventually) in Santa Monica ("For those who breathe," Letters to the Editor, Jan. 28, page 4). She makes a number of vague assertions for which she gives no traceable references or demonstrable proof. I consider her vague assertions to be false.

The fundamental question depends on the laws of aerodynamics, with which I worked at Boeing for many years.

Let's look at her vague assertions: "Tobacco smoke drifts from one unit to another." Smoke will go where the adjacent air takes it. According to Bernoulli's Law, air will move from A to B if and only if the pressure is lower at B. Otherwise it will stay right where it is. Smoke will go into Bronie's apartment if and only if the pressure in her apartment is sufficiently lower than any adjacent apartment, such as to create a pressure gradient and move the air. Why would it be any lower in Bronie's apartment? She does not tell us.

In order to get air to flow into her apartment, she'd need to have a large air pump to suck the air from adjacent apartments. I believe that the air in Bronie's apartment is, like mine, highly polluted by automobile fumes and any particles of cigarette smoke are utterly negligible. I have to keep my windows closed otherwise a white table which I have next to a window will soon become filthy black. The air in Santa Monica is quite simply already filthy with car fumes. Should I demand that all cars be converted to electric so that I can open my windows?

Having shown that Bronie's basic assertion is false, there is no case to answer with respect to health dangers. However, let's examine what she alleges.

"Secondhand smoke can cause illness and death." Note she says "can." She does not say "will." Where is the proof that secondhand smoke causes harm? Bronie gives no proof or traceable reference. I grew up in a house where my parents smoked all day long and it did me and my brother not the slightest harm. We grew up perfectly healthy.

She also alleges "The most recent study shows ... children ... have evidence of tobacco smoke on their bodies." Which study? No reference is given. I should think everyone has all kinds of evidence of all kinds of things on their bodies, especially dirt from car fumes.

"The county's health officer ... stressed that all apartments ... should become non-smoking" Again no reference is given. What reason was given?

Just because Bronie imagines that she is going to become ill from her neighbor's smoking she wants to have smoking banned in every apartment. What ridiculous overkill. She has supplied no proof whatsoever that either (a) there is any measurable tobacco smoke in her apartment or (b) that she has ever been adversely affected by secondhand smoke.

Are we to pass citywide laws taking away freedoms from various groups of people because a few other people just don't like what they are doing? Should we all snoop and spy on each other? If we do, this place will become a PC hell.

This is all a laughable preoccupation with trivialities. All this time is being wasted on a complete non-issue by people who just hate smoking and are trying to conjure up some excuse to persecute smokers.

If a person does a hard day's work and comes home stressed and wants to smoke his fool head off then let him.

I consider that Bronie's case is just based on smoke and mirrors.

Neil Macaulay
Santa Monica

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Your column here

Dr. Alvaro Huerta — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

From housing projects to urban planning scholar

NOW THAT THE APPLICATION SEASON has concluded for millions of students applying for undergraduate, graduate and professional schools, the acceptance notifications loom over many of their heads like dark clouds for the next few months.

During this time, I reflect on my improbable journey from attending inner-city public schools to receiving advanced degrees from the best universities in the world. This includes a bachelor's (history) and master's (urban planning) from UCLA, in addition to a Ph.D. (city and regional planning) from UC Berkeley. By shedding light on my story, I hope to encourage students from America's barrios and ghettoes to also pursue higher education at elite universities.

While I have worked hard and sacrificed over the years, I question the American notions that "hard work" and "perseverance" leads to success. Too often, corporate-minded outsiders who never experienced poverty or attended overcrowded public school preach to inner-city Latinos and African Americans about working hard, making the right choices and being accountable for their actions to succeed as a means to upward mobility.

WHILE I HAVE WORKED HARD AND SACRIFICED OVER THE YEARS, I QUESTION THE AMERICAN NOTIONS THAT 'HARD WORK' AND 'PERSEVERANCE' LEADS TO SUCCESS.

While these virtues are necessary for students from the inner-city to succeed, policy makers, educators and civic leaders should address the root causes that produce educational inequality in this first place, such as a profit-oriented system that favors the affluent, inadequate public schools, low levels of educational attainment, low financial capital, lack of quality jobs, residential segregation and institutional racism. As the son of poor Mexican immigrants and former resident of East Los Angeles' Ramona Gardens housing project, I, along with my seven siblings, grew up in a bleak environment impacted by these structural constraints.

While I do not pretend to have the answers to address the complex educational needs of America's disenfranchised youth, in my case, I benefited from several factors throughout my educational trajectory, helping me overcome tremendous obstacles. This includes the following five factors: possessing a specialized skill, luck, close-knit family, hard work and sacrifice.

Throughout my early years at Murchison Elementary School, I excelled in mathematics. While many inner-city kids hope to escape the mean streets via their athletic skills, for me, my specialized skill centered on algebraic equations, polynomials and word problems. Thanks to my favorite teacher, Ms. Cher, who had hair like Lucille Ball from "I Love Lucy," I mastered algebra in the sixth grade. Like my brother Salomon, a critically-acclaimed painter who displayed great artistic abilities at an early age, my specialized math skills represented my ticket out of the projects — known as the Big Hazard projects, for the local gang.

Luck also played a vital role in my academic career. While bused to a majority-white middle school, where I was tracked into wood shop and metal shop classes, I later learned of a great college-prep program at Lincoln High School. Thanks to my childhood friend, Hector, I learned about Upward Bound at Occidental College — a federally funded, college-prep summer program for historically disenfranchised youth. Actually, Hector, who also yearned to escape the projects, peer-pressured me to apply. Like many teenagers, I feared the unknown and felt overwhelmed by the personal statement, which I quickly disposed of out of frustration. Luckily for me, after Hector retrieved my crumbled, hand-written essay from the trash can and ironed it, I reluctantly applied and was accepted. If not for Upward Bound, I don't think I would have been prepared and accepted to enter UCLA as a freshman.

My close-knit family also provided me with unconditional support throughout my university studies. I especially recognize the wise Latinas in my family, consisting of my mother, four sisters and wife. Lacking formal education, my mother, for example, made my father take my brother and I, at 13 years of age, to work in Malibu as day laborers to give us a glimpse of life in the U.S. without a good education. Also, my brilliant wife, Antonia, who holds advanced degrees in education and economics, originally encouraged me to pursue my Ph.D. and academia, serving as a concrete example for our gifted son, Joaquin, to both emulate and surpass.

Finally, I acquired the virtues of hard work and sacrifice from my late parents. While my father Salomon Sr. first toiled as a farm worker during the Bracero Program — the U.S.-Mexico guest-worker program of the mid-20th century — he later worked as a janitor at a rim factor for decades, earning minimum wage. Meanwhile, my mother Carmen, who first worked as a domestic worker in San Diego — when our family lived in a Tijuana slum prior to migrating to the U.S. — spent 40 years of her life cleaning the homes of the affluent. Thanks to their hard work and sacrifice, along with the support of my wife Antonia, I overcame tremendous obstacles as a poor Chicano kid from the projects to become an urban planning scholar.

HUERTA is a visiting scholar at the UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center.

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Life Matters

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

Knowing if you've truly found Mr. or Mrs. Right

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

With Valentine's Day fast approaching, I am becoming increasing nervous because I not only have a feeling but also have been secretly told that my boyfriend is about to propose to me.

I am very attracted to and involved with him and am not even sure why I am so nervous. But I have this thought that haunts me, "how is it that you know when you have found your right partner?" For me it is a very serious commitment and while I love him how can I be sure that he is the one that is truly right for me? How do I know that he is that one special one that I should spend my whole life with?

Signed,
Serious

DEAR SERIOUS,

This is a very important issue and question so I am happy for you that you know so too.

With divorce rates so high, it behooves you to ask yourself the right questions and think deeply about your choices.

Unfortunately, love is not enough. We often are very attracted to someone and even believe we are in love, but falling out of it comes far too easily if you don't have all the right ingredients.

There are a few secrets to making sure you have the right partner. First of all, there is what I refer to as the three Cs: common goals, character and communication. The first one seems obvious — common goals. It is clearly important to be on the same path, going in the same direction and having similar life plans. The more compatible you are the better because you will have conflict; all relationships do. It will be less if you have a lot in common and agree on your goals. I also highly recommend that you have a transpersonal goal as it can hold you together during rough times. A transpersonal goal is one that transcends you, something not personal but something that is equally important to both of you. It might be religion, or something political, it might be fighting for the right to bare arms or it could be saving the environment. Having that one thing that you both share and are passionate about can see you through the rough times.

Next, make sure your partner is someone with character that you like, admire and respect. This is critical. If you find yourself in a relationship with someone you really do not like or respect, it is going to be quite difficult to get along going forward. So in making your decision, pay close attention to how your potential partner treats other people. How does he treat the help, waitress, valet or everyday strangers?

Lastly, everyone knows or at least hears about how important communication is to a relationship. If you can't communicate during the beginning stages of a relationship, don't think you will change it later. Communication does not mean getting the other to do what you want. It means truly being able to listen, and to possess an openness that enables you to discuss your differences. You should be able to talk about what you need and what you want from the relationship. You are not going to get everything you want but you hopefully will at least try to give each other the things that you both need. The secret of staying in love is communication.

There is a saying that you don't really know that you have a relationship until you get through your first argument. Being able to fight and fight fairly is critical to an ongoing healthy relationship. So open up and see what is there, if you haven't done so already. But remember to always fight fair.

Don't get me wrong, these are hard things to do, but they should be your goal and if you work at it you will have a healthy, strong relationship that withstands all the seasons and the storms and inherent conflict of a relationship.

Lastly, be still and listen to your heart. Trust your intuition. If it is not right or if it is too soon, your boyfriend should understand because it is in his best interest as well. If you cannot manage this, you may have good reason for your anxiety.

Honesty does truly set us free. They say you will know when you find the right one. I think this is true if you are open, honest and trust your feelings.

Good luck!

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or send your anonymous questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.

The Q Line

Permit plan

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is considering increasing the number of permits it offers to students from outside of the district.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you support the district's permit proposal or do you think that they should back off the idea?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 107.**



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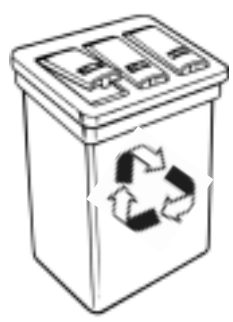
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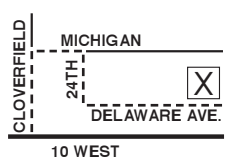


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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON PROPOSED VACATION OF A PORTION OF PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ON OLYMPIC PLACE SOUTH AND 1ST COURT ALLEY and DEDICATION OF NEW RIGHT-OF-WAY EXTENSION ON 1ST COURT ALLEY

The City of Santa Monica proposes to develop a park project that includes the rights of way areas known as Olympic Place South and a portion of 1st Court Alley. The project requires the vacation of Olympic Place South and a segment of the existing 1st Court Alley and incorporation into the project of a new public right of way extension of the remaining segment of 1st Court Alley running east and west at 1665 Ocean Avenue.

On January 10, 2012, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 10651 (CCS) declaring its intention to order vacation of Olympic Place South and a portion of public right of way on 1st Court Alley and dedication of a new public right of way at 1665 Ocean Avenue, to allow for this development and set a public hearing for February 14, 2012 at 5:45 PM. The Drawing No. 4745 of the alleys proposed to be vacated and dedicated is on file and is available for review in the office of Architecture Services/City of Santa Monica located at 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Pursuant to Part 3, Chapter 3, "General Vacation Procedure", of the California Streets and Highways Code, the City Council directed the City Clerk to set a public hearing on the proposed vacation and dedication proceedings as follows:

DATE & TIME:
5:45 PM on February 14, 2012, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

LOCATION: **City Council Chambers**
1685 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Santa Monica, CA 90401

All persons interested in or objecting to the proposed right-of-way vacation and dedication may appear before the City Council at the public hearing to offer evidence in relation thereto.

For more information contact City of Santa Monica's Architecture Services Division at (310) 458-8725.

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BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Court rules officers' IDs are public information

An appeals court has ruled that the city of Long Beach must release the names of officers involved in police shootings.

The Los Angeles Times says the 2nd District Court of Appeal rejected arguments from the city of Long Beach and its police union that officers' names were protected because of privacy rights.

The decision Tuesday upheld a Superior Court judge's order that the city would have to release the names in response to a public records request from The Times.

The Times had asked the city for the identities of all Long Beach police officers involved in shootings over a five-year period after a December 2010 shooting of an unarmed man holding a garden hose nozzle.

The city and union say they are considering their next move.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

The Beach Boys to start party early at Grammys

Get the sunglasses and tanning oil out: The Beach Boys are reuniting at The Grammys Awards for their first live performance in more than two decades.

The original lineup of Brian Wilson, Mike Love, Al Jardine, Bruce Johnston and David Marks will be joined by Grammy nominees Foster the People and Maroon 5 in a special performance.

A news release Wednesday also says The Civil Wars, Diana Krall and Joe Walsh have been added to the performance lineup and Common, Reba McEntire and Diana Ross will be presenters.

The Beach Boys announced late last year that they would reunite to celebrate their 50th anniversary with a new album and tour.

The Grammy Awards will be broadcast live Sunday night on CBS.

AP

ANAHEIM

Disneyland's Matterhorn ride undergoes renovations

One of Disneyland's most popular and visible attractions — the Matterhorn Bobsled ride — is down for six months for one of the longest and most extensive overhauls since it opened in 1959.

The Los Angeles Times says that when the ride reopens it will feature shiny new bobsleds and a fresh coat of paint on the mountain. A permit filed with the city of Anaheim describes the work as a $1 million project.

Disney officials say they are not planning any significant changes to the ride itself. Although the company has tied in its movies with theme park rides, officials say there are no plans to connect the Matterhorn changes with an adventure movie that Walt Disney Studios is developing that takes place largely in the Swiss Alps.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Gary Busey files for bankruptcy

Court records show Gary Busey has filed for bankruptcy and is listing more than $500,000 in estimated personal debts.

Busey's filing on Tuesday in Los Angeles provides few details but includes more than a dozen potential creditors.

The actor and reality show star does not state a reason for the filing. His manager Ron Sampson wrote in a statement the filing provides Busey "a new and clear path" to personal and career success.

The filing states the 67-year-old has less than $50,000 in assets.

Busey has starred in numerous films including "Point Break" and "Lethal Weapon" but has in recent years appeared more on reality shows such as "Celebrity Apprentice."

The filing was first reported Wednesday by celebrity website TMZ.

AP

LOS ANGELES

FBI investigating building inspector bribery

Federal agents are investigating a former Los Angeles city building inspector after bribery complaints.

The Los Angeles Times says the FBI obtained records and questioned individuals about now-retired Department of Building and Safety inspector Samuel In.

The Korean-speaking building inspector had been assigned to Koreatown and nearby neighborhoods before he retired last year.

Former building inspector Gregory Glover, who was also assigned to the Koreatown area, says he told FBI agents that In repeatedly interfered with his efforts to inspect or cite homes with illegal construction.

Glover says he was inspecting a property when In asked him to tea at a restaurant. He says In put a cash-filled envelope on the table and asked him to cooperate.

The 64-year-old In denies bribery allegations.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Clinics temporarily halt Lap-Band surgeries

Two Los Angeles-area outpatient clinics affiliated with the 1-800 GET-THIN marketing company have temporarily stopped Lap-Band weight-loss surgeries while they conduct a review of the procedure.

The move follows Irvine-based Allergan's announcement last week that it would stop selling the device to companies affiliated with the ad campaign.

The New Life Surgery Center in Beverly Hills and Valley Surgical Center in West Hills say have stopped performing Lap-Band surgeries while they perform "a top-to-bottom review medical and operational review."

The Lap-Band is a ring surgically implanted around the stomach to discourage patients from overeating and to help them lose weight.

The marketing company has been the target of state and federal investigations in recent months.

AP



Culture Watch

Sarah Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Discovering the arts

IN JANUARY, SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS editor Kevin Herrera reported that, "The League of California Cities and the California City Manager Foundation are featuring Santa Monica in their ongoing 'Strong Cities | Strong State' campaign highlighting local government success stories across California."

Santa Monica is nicknamed "Silicon Beach" thanks to the tech industries that have set up shop here; we offer free citywide Wi-Fi in public hot zones. TV and film are well served by the post-production houses that thrive in our midst. We are a tourist magnet; everyone knows our iconic Santa Monica Pier. And we can proudly say we're home to America's best Farmers' Markets.

But Santa Monica is also an arts success story. With such world-class venues as the Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center's architectural jewel The Broad Stage, and Bergamot Station with numerous art galleries and the Santa Monica Museum of Art, our seaside burg boasts big-city sophistication in a small city setting. There are small theaters of note, such as the Ruskin Group, Powerhouse and the Edgemar Complex, and Jacaranda: Music at the Edge puts top-flight contemporary classical music right in our backyard.

This is the first in a series of weekly columns featuring Santa Monica-based arts and culture, performances, exhibits and other special events, and some local out-of-town recommendations as well. I hope it will be a useful guide.

It's a great week to be starting this feature since Los Angeles just launched the fourth annual Discover the Arts L.A. campaign, a three-month opportunity for you to discover history, culture, science and more at 50 of L.A.'s top cultural institutions at deep discounts. Get the details on dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum, car culture at Peterson Automotive, women surrealists at LACMA, L.A. artists at MOCA or Chinese-American architecture at El Pueblo National Historic Monument, and many more, all welcoming you through March with special offers at discoverlosangeles.com/thearts.

Close to home, you'd be remiss to miss the stunning, stripped-down, spare production — just like the playwright intended it — of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town." Far too long mired in syrupy community theater revivals, I can attest that this critically acclaimed production of the quintessential American play tells it like it is — that life should be lived, here and now. Helen Hunt takes the traditionally male role of "Stage Manager" in this import from New York City's Barrow Street Theatre, directed by David Cromer. It's at The Broad Stage, but hurry: it closes Feb. 12. (Check out the Daily Press' review at smdp.com: "Review: 'Our Town' comes alive at The Broad.")

Part of the citywide arts celebration Pacific Standard Time is the multimedia group exhibit "Breaking in Two: Provocative Visions of Motherhood." Artist and curator Bruria Finkel has organized the work of artists who not only are mothers, but whose work focuses on motherhood. Opening on Feb. 11 at Arena 1 Gallery (a project of Santa Monica Art Studios at the Santa Monica Airport) works by nearly 40 artists are connected through the maternal experience, examining the relationship to the body, the child, the family and society at large. Four generations of locally and internationally recognized artist-mothers will be represented by paintings, drawings, sculptures, collage, photography, film/video and poetry/writing. Lita Albuquerque, Betye Saar, the late June Wayne and Miriam Wosk are just a few artists whose works will be on view. Feb. 11 — April 14. Click on "Arena 1" at www.santamonicaartstudios.com or (310) 397-7456.

City Hall itself is a strong supporter and presenter of arts and culture. One example: Fireside at the Miles Memorial Playhouse puts on performances in a classic Spanish Revival building, designed by architect John Byers, replete with iron chandeliers, Mission-style beams, and a beautiful arched hearth fireplace. On Friday, Feb. 10 there's an a capella sing-off with Joshua Silverstein, and on Saturday, Feb. 11, enjoy Valentine-themed solos and duets by choreographer Amanda Hart. Shows are at 8 p.m., tickets are only $10 for adults, $5 for students and seniors; Reserve by calling (310) 458-8634 or e-mail milesplayhouse@smgov.net. Details and dates here — www.smgov.net/milesfireside.aspx.

There aren't too many musical presenters as bold and brave as Jacaranda: Music at the Edge. Featuring art music of the 20th and 21st centuries, Jacaranda's concerts take place at the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica, a setting whose acoustics and stained glass windows remind us that music can be sacred and challenging at the same time. Coming up on Feb. 18, a Russian themed evening, "Matryoshka Dolls: Music of Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Stravinsky and Schnittke." Like "matryoshka dolls," which nest one inside the other, getting ever smaller with each doll, Schnittke's composition, Homage to Stravinsky, Prokofiev and Shostakovich, requires six hands — with all three pianists sharing a single bench! Bonus points for those who knew Stravinsky actually worked for a time in the film industry, lived in Beverly Hills and has a star on the Hollywood Walk of fame — jacarandamusic.org.

And finally, in memoriam: While you still have the opportunity, go see "Under the Big Black Sun California Art 1974-1981" at the Museum of Contemporary Art in downtown L.A., which features work by game-changing multi-media artist Mike Kelley, who died from an apparent suicide on Jan. 31 at the age of 57. The accolades have been pouring in; pay your own tribute through Feb. 13 — www.moca.org/black_sun.

SARAH SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for National Public Radio and a producer for public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She reviews theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.













BENEFITS
FROM PAGE 1

developers.

There was also a distrust of how the information would be used in the development agreement process, potentially as a justification to allow large-scale development despite the community's wishes.

"We fear that community input will create an overriding condition that the council will use to forgive adverse impacts because they will argue that the community is getting so much in exchange," wrote resident Tricia Crane in an e-mail.

At the core of the matter is a simple fact: Although community benefits have been included in development agreements, there's no clear definition of what a community benefit is, or what it is worth.

The Land Use and Circulation Element of the General Plan, or LUCE, cements the relationship between development agreements and community benefits, requiring that developers add a certain level of benefits on a tiered system for all projects that exceed certain heights.

Community benefits represent a premium package that can buy the developer the right to build outside of the confines of the zoning code, giving them the opportunity to make taller, denser buildings in a city that has long eschewed the high rise.

In return, City Hall gets to ask for parks, child care centers, public art, wage requirements or myriad other things that cost the developer extra and bring extra dollars for things no longer funded by local property taxes or redevelopment agencies, creations that funded infrastructure that expired Feb. 1.

Until now, those benefits have been defined on a case by case basis, with input given at public meetings and through correspondence, but with no formalized process. Debate has also sprung up over the difference between a community benefit and a project benefit, another poorly defined term.

It bothers community members who feel that there's a disconnect between the kinds of benefits selected, where those benefits accrue and the impacts on the neighborhoods that must make room for the new mixed-use complex, office building or hotel.

It's also disconcerting for developers, who have to strike a delicate balance between how much projects cost, how much revenue they'll bring in and what the profit margin is before uncertain costs get added on by the local municipality.

"It's the single biggest concern of our industry right now," said Mike Winn, president and CEO of the California Building Industry Association, a trade group that represents a spectrum of professions involved in building projects, from homebuilders to engineers, suppliers and architects.

Developers already have to pay several kinds of fees off the bat for the right to build in the city, including childcare fees, arts fees, parks and recreation fees, amongst others. Wednesday, the Planning Commission began the process to add an additional fee — a transportation fee — to the package.

In some cases, the fees and extras piled on top of development can outweigh the cost of smaller projects, like single family homes, and can even sink larger developments.

"It's a very difficult business," Winn said. "We're confronted with trying to make those tradeoffs and still figure out if there's any economic viability to a proposal. This is the most complicated state in the nation to evaluate risk, get through the process and still know if you're going to have an entitlement process."

According to a 2011 survey conducted by consulting firm Duncan Associates, California charged the highest fees of any state in the nation by almost twice Maryland, its distant second.

"The idea that you can keep adding fees to provide new facilities, community amenities, or whatever the preference du jour happens to be out of hand," Winn said. "It's not a malicious strategy."

Additional fees are, in part, a reaction to the declining amount of property taxes available to municipalities in California to pay for infrastructure and other necessities, begun by the passage of Proposition 13 in 1978, which severely curtailed property tax growth.

Despite the tension, residents Tuesday did provide input on benefits they hoped to see come out of future developments, including calls for additional open space, better public transportation and additional "very low" income housing.

Planning Director David Martin was pleased with the outcome.

"A lot of ideas were put out that we will pursue," he said, although which ideas were feasible was beyond the scope of the meeting.

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SUIT
FROM PAGE 1

ted, did not acknowledge its receipt.

The claims are largely for in-home care services, caregivers that help old or infirm patients with daily tasks like dressing, bathing, eating and home chores.

Hall further alleged that when a claim was finally processed, it accounted for only 20 percent of what should have been covered.

"In simple terms, the goal of this lawsuit is to stop bad practices of this company and any company that picks on the elderly and gives them the run-around," said Bill Shernoff, an attorney on the case, during a press conference in Sunset Park.

Annette Gobrogge, a spokeswoman for SHIP, confirmed that the lawsuit had been filed and that the organization was looking into the complaint.

"SHIP focuses on ensuring that eligible claims are paid in accordance with the policy contracts that its customers have purchased, and operates without profit motive," Gobrogge wrote in an e-mail. "SHIP's sole mission is to pay eligible claims accurately and timely, and has established a very strong record of compliance."

The company is owned by a trust created by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, and says on its website that "there is no profit motive."

According to the suit, Hall, a former chief of medicine at Kaiser Permanente hospital in Fontana, Calif. had repeated problems trying to get the company to pay claims.

Hall had paid over $20,000 in premiums since purchasing the insurance initially in 1994.

The lawsuit seeks to stop the company from requesting documents the plaintiff and his attorneys deem to be illegal under state law or unnecessary under the policy; respond to claims in a timely manner; to show clearly what is covered in benefit statements; keep records of documents submitted by policy holders and to allow policyholders to use any medical professional they choose to determine their eligibility benefits.

Furthermore, Hall is personally seeking damages for breach of contract, elder abuse and fraudulent business practices.

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ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

SAMOHI GIRLS MOVE INTO SECOND PLACE

Samohi's girls' basketball team moved into a second place tie in the Ocean League with a victory at Morningside on Tuesday.

Hawthorne and Samohi now prepare to close the regular season against each other today.

"This is a must-win game for us," Head Coach Marty Verdugo said. "If we don't, it throws everything into a tie for second place."

In the event that the season ends in a three-way tie for second, a tournament would be held on Friday with all three teams — Hawthorne, Samohi and Inglewood — taking part.

Based on a flip, one team would get a first-round bye with the other two facing off to move on. That game would take place immediately after the first game with the winner taking second place in league and the loser coming in third.

There are three automatic bids awarded to the league, but in the event of the three-way, second place tie, somebody would be sent home with no playoff berth.

"We'd rather it not come to that," Verdugo said. "That's why winning [today] is so important for us."

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SCREENING
FROM PAGE 3

with a specially marked boarding pass. A machine will read the barcode, and travelers deemed "low-risk," will likely be allowed to keep on belts, shoes and jackets and leave laptops and liquids in bags when being screened.

Not everyone is eligible to participate in the program, which is already being tested at airports in Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, Miami, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Minneapolis-St. Paul. Eligible travelers are some of those who participate in American and Delta airlines' frequent flier programs, as well as travelers in three other trusted traveler programs run by the Customs and Border Protection agency, which do charge fees to participate. About 336,000 passengers have been screened through the program since the testing began last year, according to the Transportation Security Administration.

By the end of 2012, the government expects select passengers in frequent flier programs for US Airways, United and Alaska Airlines to be eligible to participate. The program is expected to be operating in Reagan National Airport near Washington, Salt Lake City International Airport, John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York and Chicago's O'Hare International Airport by the end of March.

"We are pleased to expand this important effort, in collaboration with our airline and airport partners, as we move away from a one-size-fits-all approach to a more intelligence-driven, risk-based transportation security system," said TSA chief John Pistole.

Pistole has said he hopes to eventually test the program at all airports and with all airlines around the country, but that might take years.

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REGIONAL CONNECTOR TRANSIT CORRIDOR

Metro has released the final environmental report for the Regional Connector Transit Corridor light rail line. The two-mile underground route will connect the Metro Gold, Blue and Expo lines through Downtown LA.

> A 30-day public review of the report is currently underway and a vote by the Metro Board is expected next month.

> The route connects with the Metro Blue and Expo lines at 7th Street/Metro Center Station and with the Metro Gold Line at Alameda Street.

> The Regional Connector will save approximately 20 minutes of travel time by eliminating passenger transfers through Downtown.

For more information, visit *metro.net/regionalconnector*.



EXPOSITION TRANSIT CORRIDOR PHASE 2

Demolition crews are working along Colorado Avenue and 17th Street in Santa Monica in preparation for construction of Phase 2 of the Exposition Transit Corridor.

> Phase 2 will extend westward from the Culver City Station now under construction and run along the old Pacific Electric Exposition right-of-way to 4th Street and Colorado Avenue in downtown Santa Monica.

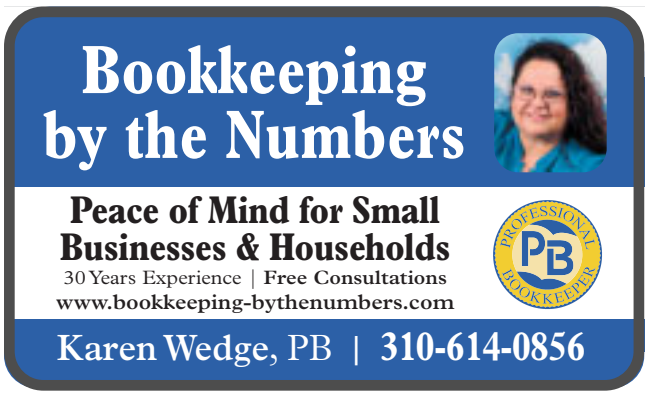
> A $1.5 billion agreement between Metro and the Expo Construction Authority will fund the project through Measure R tax revenue as well as state and local funds.

> Train testing is currently underway on Phase 1 of the Expo Line running between Downtown LA and Culver City.

For more information, visit *buildexpo.org*.

Metro







SMC

FROM PAGE 1

complete their studies," Hiteshew said.

It's also critical to have a childcare center near the college that reflects the philosophy of SMC's Early Childhood Education Department so those studying to become educators can see first-hand how the philosophy works.

SMC operates without its own childcare facility, one of only a handful of community colleges in the state to do so, officials said.

The center will be partially funded — $7 million — by Measure S, the $135 million SMC bond measure approved by Santa Monica and Malibu voters in 2004. In addition to the land where the center will be located, City Hall will also kick in $5.5 million of General Fund money, $500,000 of which is coming from RAND Corp. as part of a 2005 development agreement approved when RAND filed permits to build its new headquarters across from the Santa Monica Courthouse.

The idea for creating a childcare center in the Civic Center first surfaced in 1989 when community members and city officials were working on the Civic Center Specific Plan, which dictates how land is used in the area, said Iao Katagiri, director of community relations for RAND Corp. who is serving on an advisory group for the education center and a member of the Early Education Task Force.

"In the early days it was just conceptual," she said. "It never got very far. It just kind of sat there as a place holder."

Then in 2005 when the Civic Center plan was updated, the education center was reaffirmed as necessity for the community. SMC was the logical partner to operate the center, Katagiri said.

She expects some RAND employees will send their kids to the center. There's also the opportunity for researchers from the think tank to "contribute intellectually" to the lab portion of the project, helping SMC students with their research, she said.

Who will run the center day to day is still uncertain, as is the cost for attending. Officials envision college students, faculty, city staff and employees at RAND being the first batch of customers, along with families in Santa Monica and Malibu.

SMC will most likely hire an outside contractor to run the center; one who will have to run it in accordance with the college's philosophy, part of which is based on studies that show young children learn best through play, Hiteshew said.

"The excitement that this is actually happening is palpable," said Katharine Muller, the college's dean of external programming and institutional planning. "But there are so many pieces that need to be completed."

The City Council must sign off on the agreement Tuesday. It must then go through the development approval process, which will include three different routes — the college, City Hall and the Coastal Commission. That will most likely take years.

And then there's the concern about funding. With state budget cuts hitting community colleges hard, some are questioning how the center will remain open. A beautiful building is great, but if it's not being used then what's the point?

"We're going to have to wait and see how the dust settles," said SMC Trustee Louise Jaffe, an advocate for life-long learning. "It's not a stable landscape for funding right now."

The working group guiding the project will discuss funding options so that the center is around for the long haul, officials said.

Despite the challenges, Jaffe and others are excited by the opportunity to do something unique. Jaffe said expectations are high given the programs already offered in the community, as well as the success of the Broad Stage performing arts venue, which was built by the college using bond money.

"Hopefully [the education center] will be another foundational piece for the cradle to career system we are trying to build here to make sure all of our children can have the best possible future," Jaffe said.

kevinh@smdp.com

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Vending machine dispenses 'morning-after' pill to public

KEVIN BEGOS
Associated Press

Students at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania can get the "morning-after" pill by sliding $25 into a vending machine, an idea that has drawn the attention of federal regulators and raised questions about how accessible emergency contraception should be.

The student health center at Shippensburg, a secluded public institution of 8,300 students tucked between mountain ridges in the Cumberland Valley, provides the Plan B One Step emergency contraceptive in the vending machine along with condoms, decongestants and pregnancy tests.

"I think it's great that the school is giving us this option," junior Chelsea Wehking said Tuesday. "I've heard some kids say they'd be too embarrassed" to go into town — Shippensburg, permanent population about 6,000 — and buy Plan B.

Federal law makes the pill available without a prescription to anyone 17 or older, and the school checked records and found that all current students are that age or older, a spokesman said. It doesn't appear that any other vending machine in the U.S. dispenses the contraceptive, which can prevent pregnancy if taken soon after sexual intercourse.

The machine has been in place for about two years, and its existence wasn't widely known until recently. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is contacting state officials and the university to gather facts, agency spokeswoman Stephanie Yao said Tuesday.

The FDA's sudden interest took place amid a furor over religious rights and access to birth control. An official resigned from the nation's largest breast cancer charity Tuesday over Planned Parenthood funding, and Republican presidential candidates attacked the Obama administration for a recent ruling requiring church-affiliated employers to provide birth control.

Consumers have long been able to insert a few coins for the likes of aspirin, ibuprofen, antacids and other common over-the-counter remedies. But some experts see a worrisome trend in making drugs like Plan B, which is kept behind the pharmacy counter, available in a vending machine.

Alexandra Stern, a professor of the history of medicine at the University of Michigan, said she wasn't questioning a woman's right to have access to Plan B, but whether making it so easily available is a good idea.

"Perhaps it is personalized medicine taken too far," she said. "It's part of the general trend that drugs are available for consumers without interface with a pharmacist or doctors. This trend has serious pitfalls."

Taking Plan B within 72 hours of rape, condom failure or just forgetting regular contraception can cut the chances of pregnancy by up to 89 percent. It works best if taken within 24 hours. Some religious conservatives consider the emergency contraceptive tantamount to an abortion drug.

The idea for a vending machine started at Shippensburg after a survey about health center services several years ago. Eighty-five percent of the respondents supported making Plan B available, school spokesman Peter Gigliotti said. The student government endorsed the idea.

The machine is in the school's Etter Health Center, which only students and university employees can access, Gigliotti said in a statement. In addition, "no one can walk in off the street and go into the health center," he said; students must check in at a lobby desk before being allowed in.

Students and administrators at Shippensburg said they're puzzled that a single vending machine at a small school has attracted such attention. Senior Matthew Kanzler said a lot of students at the school weren't even aware of the machine until recently.

Most students do support the idea, he said — but not all.

"It's a way for students to get the help or care they need," he said, adding that students appreciate the on-campus health care because the school, about 130 miles from either Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, is so isolated.

In December, the Obama administration's top health official overruled her own drug regulators and stopped the Plan B pill from moving onto drugstore shelves next to condoms and other items. It remains available behind pharmacy counters.

Denise Bradley, a spokeswoman for Teva Pharmaceuticals, which makes Plan B, said in a statement that it sells the product only to "licensed pharmacies or other licensed healthcare clinics, which are required to follow federal guidelines for the distribution of pharmaceutical products."

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58.1°

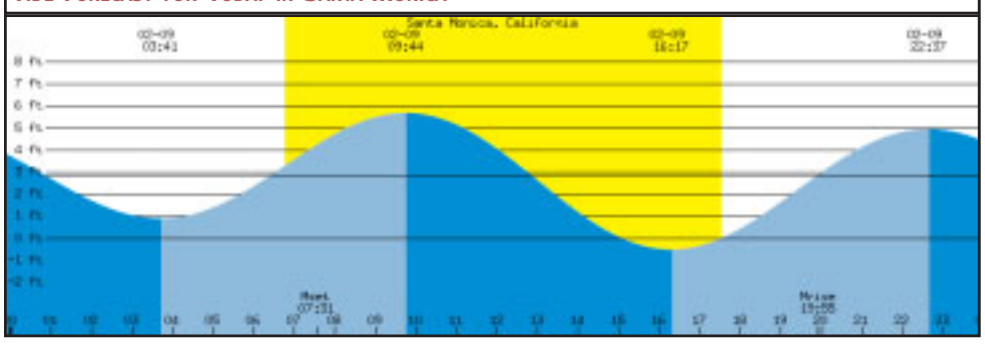
Swell Forecast

Wind swell should back off, and NW ground swell should increase west facing breaks into surf running a couple feet overhead, possibly DOH at times at standout spots, mostly in the early AM.

Long Range Synopsis

Another swath of NW ground swell, putting west facing breaks into overhead surf once again (1-3' overhead on the average sets).

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 **February 1, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 2
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3
- Number of wet days -- 6
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31 / 19
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Las Alins creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	D	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	D	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	C
Solstice Canyon at Ben Blocker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	B
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A	B
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	D

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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.

NBA

Billups wants second chance with Clippers

TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND Chauncey Billups will only watch as the Clippers continue their promising season without him.

This isn't going to be easy.

Billups tore his Achilles tendon, prematurely ending his first season with Los Angeles and 15th in the NBA.

He won't let it be his last.

"My career is definitely not over," the 35-year-old said. "I'm not going to crawl out of this league. I'm going to go out on my own two feet. I will be back."

Billups' season came to a stunning end in Orlando on Monday night, when he crumpled to the floor without being touched. After missing a 3-pointer in the fourth quarter, Billups took one step toward the loose ball when his leg buckled. As play went the other way, Billups assessed his injury and knew right away something was terribly wrong.

"When I first went down, it felt like someone kind of kicked me," Billups said. "But when I tried to get back up and step on it, I didn't feel anything and I knew it was something I had never felt before and I knew it was bad."

Tests taken Tuesday at the Cleveland Clinic confirmed the Achilles tear, a serious injury requiring eight months of recovery time. No surgery has been set.

The loss of Billups is a significant blow to the rising Clippers, who have become one of the league's top attractions with All-Stars Chris Paul and Blake Griffin and a solid supporting cast. A punching bag for decades, they have even threatened to steal home turf away from the Lakers in Los Angeles.

Billups had been a huge addition for the club, which claimed the five-time All-Star in December after he was waived by the New York Knicks under the league's new amnesty clause. He was averaging 14.9 points and four assists, modest numbers. But it was his impact in mentoring Paul and Griffin that made Billups invaluable.

"It's a big blow because of how much Chauncey means to the team: his leadership, his play, all that," said coach Vinny Del Negro. "But we're going to have to handle the adversity and I expect the guys to step up. We have to come together as a team and handle it. I feel bad for him. I thought he was just getting comfortable and his intangibles will be missed.

"But he's not going anywhere. He'll be missed, but he'll be around the team."

Del Negro said Randy Foye will take Billups' starting spot alongside Paul, the elite point guard who said the injury to his respected teammate has impacted him emotionally.

"Everybody has to step up," Paul said. "There's not one person that can fill a void that big. Everybody is going to have to do a little bit more and it definitely starts with me and Blake. It's tough. I've had a lot of time to think about it and talk to Chauncey. And if anybody can come back from this, it would be him."

Beyond cutting short what Billups believed was evolving into a "special season" for him and the Clippers, the injury also ended his dreams of playing in the Olympics

Billups was one of 20 players chosen as candidates to play on the U.S. team at the London Games. He'll be watching them this summer as well.

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Civil Litigation
Consumer and Business Disputes



MOVIE TIMES

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

Only Yesterday (NR) 1hr 58min
7:30pm

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

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

Albert Nobbs (R) 1hr 53min
5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Iron Lady (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:55pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

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

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

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

Big Miracle (PG) 2hrs 03min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 10:10pm

Safe House (R) 1hr 57min
12:01am

Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace 3D (PG) 2hrs 11min
12:01am

Man on a Ledge (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
11:15am, 2:10pm, 5:05pm, 8:05pm

Grey (R) 1hr 57min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Red Tails (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm

Chronicle (2012/ I) (PG-13) 1hr 23min
11:30am, 1:40pm, 3:55pm, 6:10pm, 8:30pm, 10:40pm

Contraband (R) 1hr 50min
11:35am, 2:15pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
12:01am

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

Norwegian Wood (Noruwei no mori) (NR) 2hrs 13min
1:10pm, 7:00pm

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

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

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

Dangerous Method (R) 1hr 39min
4:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Underworld: Awakening 3D (R) 1hr 28min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

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

Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
12:20pm, 3:40pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

Haywire (R) 1hr 33min
11:30am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 9:50pm

One for the Money (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Woman in Black (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:50am, 2:35pm, 5:20pm, 8:05pm, 10:40pm

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

Fun and games tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Dealings with others help you revise your opinion on what might be necessary. Once you absorb the big picture, you could opt to act. Others might be surprised, yet for you, this direction seems part of a logical sequence following thought and discussion. Tonight: Put your feet up. Think "weekend."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You have what many wish they had -- creativity tamed by a practical bent. Many people would say this is impossible, but you demonstrate the workability of this combo. You gain an insight into a key person through his or her actions. Tonight: Let your imagination rock and roll.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Listen to what is being offered. Revise your thinking, especially in the emotional realm. Someone lets you know just how significant you might be to his or her life. Relax and plan on spending a little extra time doing what you love. Tonight: Fun and games.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You might say something that creates quite a jolt in your immediate surroundings. Listen to an offer that comes from out of left field. Remember, you can take some time rather than react. Be less helpful. Tonight: Hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You might want to handle your funds differently from those around you. You are not frightened of change or risk. Many people are. Revise your health habits as you attempt to revise your monetary security. They walk hand in hand. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Remain sensitive to the many people in your life and to what they want. But don't forget to take care of No. 1, or else you will be useless. Tonight: It is your call.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ Recognize what is going on around you. Your tendency to be noticed and strong personality need to fall back some in order to allow others to come forward. You will gain tremendous insight by not being so dominant. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Understanding evolves if you stay focused on your priorities. Not everyone will go along, especially as you are likely to espouse an avant-garde idea. Get a stronger sense of a roommate or family member. This person could be hiding something. Tonight: Where you are, the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Listen to feedback from those who count and often take the lead in your life. You respond to a very wild idea, wishing you had come up with it. Your sense of humor emerges, and interactions become easier. Tonight: Work late, if need be.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Listen to a loved one at a distance. A family member or domestic issue could be full of surprises. You could question what is going on, but why not get in on some of the fun? Tonight: Choose a different happening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Deal with those who come forward individually. Let go of a prejudice and try to see someone with open eyes. The unexpected pops up. Enjoy the fun and people around you. Tonight: Go with another person's suggestion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Focus on those you care about. In fact, they will give you little choice! Your view of an organization or friend could be changing. You are not through the process just yet. Trust that you will be able to make a clearer judgment. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

Happy birthday

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

You could become unusually fussy and demanding this year. You might believe that you are the best at this or that. As a result, you make waves wherever you go and often have an entourage of the opposite sex around you. You don't have to commit; just be receptive and enjoy your popularity. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy relating more closely. You might hear a surprise confession. VIRGO cares about the basics.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

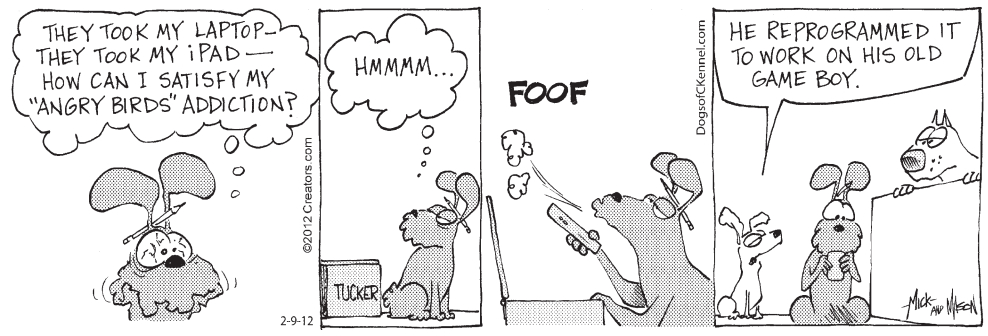
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



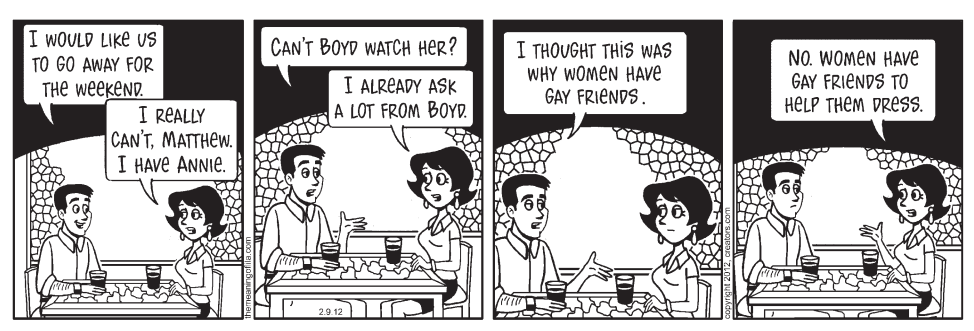
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Some bow ties
6 Add
11 Big singing group
12 Past plump
13 Inflicted
14 Make fresh
15 Expressionless
17 Be litigious
19 John of Harold & Kumar fame
20 Shoe hue
23 Golf's Sorenstam
25 American lake
26 No. 1 hit for Rihanna
28 McGraw and Allen
29 Like some cells
30 Unclose, to poets
31 In favor of
32 Mag. workers
33 Awkwardly stiff
35 Take it easy
38 Rapidly
41 Came up
42 Romulus' twin
43 Maze choices
44 Track contests

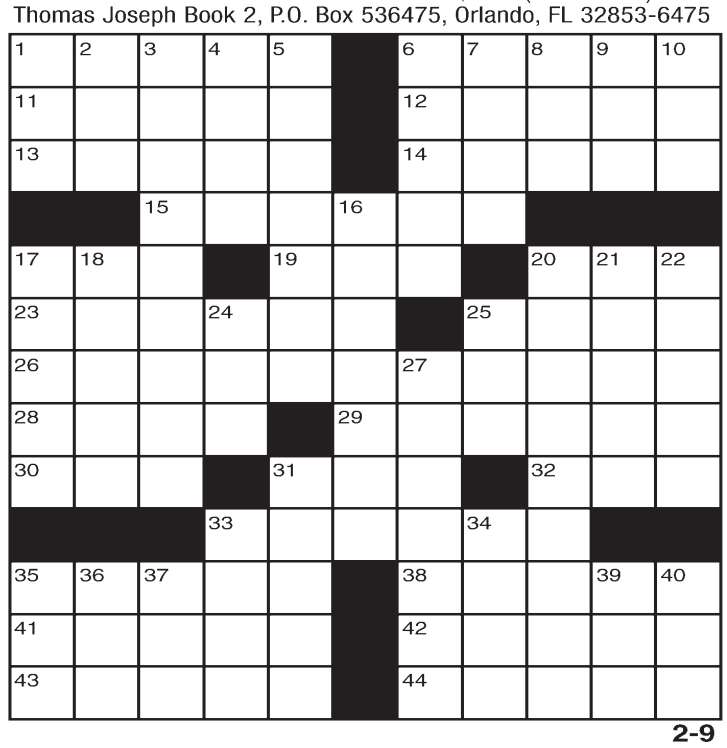
DOWN

1 Seed holder
2 Court feat
3 Star's handle
4 Relate
5 Sets on
6 Trunk
7 Follow orders
8 Kayo count
9 Purpose
10 Congregant's seat
16 Salon offering
17 Handled
18 Square
20 Part of a brand ID
21 Prepared to fire
22 Calls for
24 "— a deal!"
25 Wrap up
27 Rigging support
31 Sly ones
33 Launder
34 Foil's kin
35 Eminem's music
36 Chunk of history
37 Auction buy
39 Director's cry
40 Snaky shape

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

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



2-9

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

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

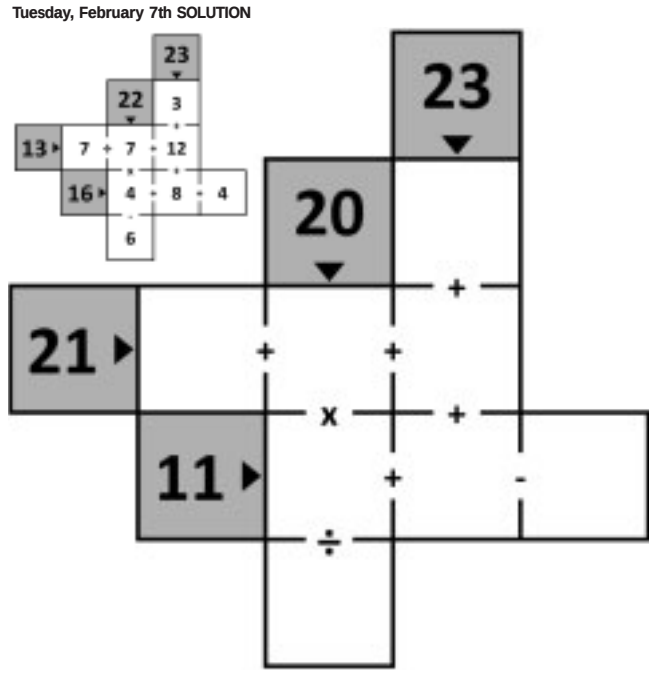
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12

Tuesday, February 7th SOLUTION



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 17 23 30 37 45
Meganumber: 4
Jackpot: $41M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 8 12 25 33 45
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5: 6 13 15 18 22

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 8 7 3
EVENING: 7 0 9

DAILY DERBY
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:41.37

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

■ Just two weeks before the January worldwide Internet protest against proposed copyright-protection legislation, the Missionary Church of Kopimism in Sweden announced that it had been granted official government status as a religion (one of 22 so recognized), even though its entire reason for being is to celebrate the right to share files of information -- in any form, but especially on the Internet. Swedish law makes such religious recognition easy, requiring only "a belief system with rituals." The Kopimism website demonizes "copyright believers" who "derive their power by limiting people's lives and freedom."

■ According to recent consumer-protection rulings by the European Food Safety Authority, sellers of prunes are prohibited from marketing them as laxatives, and sellers of bottled water are forbidden to offer it as preventing dehydration. In both cases, the commissioners referred to the underlying science of the body to defend their decisions, but the rulings were still widely derided as anti-common-sense. Members of the European Parliament complained, especially given the current precarious state of the European Union itself. One parliamentarian challenged an EFSA policymaker to a prune-eating contest: If it's not a laxative, he said, let's see how many you can eat and not have your "bowel function" "assisted."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1973 – Biju Patnaik of the Pragati Legislature Party is elected leader of the opposition in the state assembly in Orissa, India.

1975 – The Soyuz 17 Soviet spacecraft returns to Earth.

1991 – Voters in Lithuania vote for independence.

1995 – Space Shuttle astronauts Bernard A. Harris, Jr. and Michael Foale become the first African American and first Briton, respectively, to perform spacewalks.

WORD UP!

piacular
\ pahy-AK-yuh-ler \ , adjective;
1. Expiatory; atoning; reparatory.
2. Requiring expiation; sinful or wicked.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commerical Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services
Business Opportunities
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Employment

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Career Opportunities

Sunrise of Pacific Palisades is seeking caregivers to care for the elderly. Interviews every Wednesday at 10 a.m. or 4 p.m. at 15441 W. Sunset Blvd. in Pacific Palisades. Questions please call (310) 573-9545.

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>King size "Design Within Reach" metal bed frame-No mattress... my cost $1500
> 7 FT. Pottery Barn Pine wood dining room table....my cost $1000.
If interested please email me for an appointment to see items this Saturday 2/11 ..... 11am-3pm , ljhacken@gmail.com

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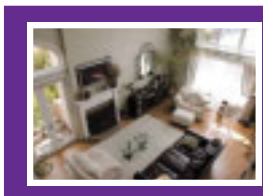
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Custom Country Kitchen
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$2,099,000
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2 Bed + 1.75 Bath
$999,000

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$499,000

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Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Mid - February 2012

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North of Montana	=	$3,195,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,985,000
South of Wilshire	=	$799,000
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