



VIEWERS DIG THE CHICKS
SEE PAGE 17

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE DP IS BURNING ISSUE

PARENTING



MEALS ON TRAINING WHEELS

Healthy habits are the lesson of the day
STORY PAGE 12

Christine Chang news@smdp.com

CHILLIN': Students from Roosevelt Elementary School learn to cook, sans heat, in classes organized by The Santa Monica Farmers' Markets.

Back in the bush leagues

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The battle over hedge heights continues.

Once again, the City Council is expected to tackle an interim law regulating the height of walls, fences and hedges located on private property, an effort that began three years ago when city staff issued letters to hundreds of residents calling on them to cut down bamboo, cypress trees and other plants or face fines up to \$25,000 per day.

City staff is asking the council to extend the interim ordinance until Jan. 9, 2010, so that more time can be spent refining the law to better address the concerns of residents.

If the council does not act, the interim ordinance will expire at the end of March, forcing city staff to hold another series of community meetings before the Planning Commission and the council. The hope is that the interim ordinance can be amended and permanent standards adopted when a new zoning ordinance is drafted,



File photo

SEE HEDGES PAGE 6 **NEXT STEP:** The debate over permissible hedge height limits begins anew.

Chalk it up to wit

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS. A handful of district teachers recently put themselves to the test, and are the richer for it.

Five elementary and middle school teachers in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District recently received the holy grail of teaching credentials — certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), known as the highest honor that a teacher could possibly receive.

The new inductees — Robert Seymour and Stefanie Suffolk, science teachers at Lincoln Middle School; Adam Panish, a social studies teacher at Malibu High School; Ken Harris, a kindergarten and first grade teacher at Point Dume Marine Science School; and Irma Lyons, the principal at Will Rogers Learning Community — will join the 49 other teachers in the district who have successfully undergone the rigorous certification process, a process in which just 40 percent of applicants pass on their first try.

All of the newly certified teachers have taught in the school district for more than 15 years except for Panish, who has taught in SMMUSD for 10 years.

"The process of going through National Board certification is one of the best professional development opportunities available to teachers in our nation," said Susan Samarge-Powell of Educational Services at SMMUSD. "It provides an opportunity for teachers to reflect both internally, and in a very public way about the work they do with their students, schools, families and community."

The NBPTS is a non-profit and non-governmental agency.

Several state Boards of Education offers incentives to teachers who are able to add the certification to their name. In North Carolina, all teachers who receive certification receive a

SEE TEACHERS PAGE 6

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Calendar

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Afternoon fiction book group

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

February's selection is "The Pilot's Wife" by Anita Shreve. Discussion takes place in the Main Library's Community Room.

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

1211 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.

For more information, call (310) 394-9779, ext. 2 or visit
www.SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com.

'The Edge of Form'

2903 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.

For more information on the exhibit and/or the artists, please visit
www.TagTheArtistsGallery.com or call (310) 829-9556.

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601 Santa Monica Blvd., Main Library hours

For more information, visit www.smpl.org/nordiclattitudes.

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007

Mystery book discussion group

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Discussion book is "Faceless Killers," by Henning Mankell. Meeting will take place in the Community Room of the Main Library.

Valentine's Day at B.B. King's

1000 Universal Center Dr., Universal City, 6 p.m.

B.B. King's Blues Club and Restaurant at Universal CityWalk is hosting a Valentine's Day event with a buffet, dancing, music and drinks. Call for reservations, (818) 622-5464.

Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting

1332 Sixth St., noon — 1:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club holds its weekly luncheon with guest speakers at the YMCA. For more information, call (310) 828-1766.

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

For more information call (310) 515-4840.

Enchanted Lunchtime Theatre

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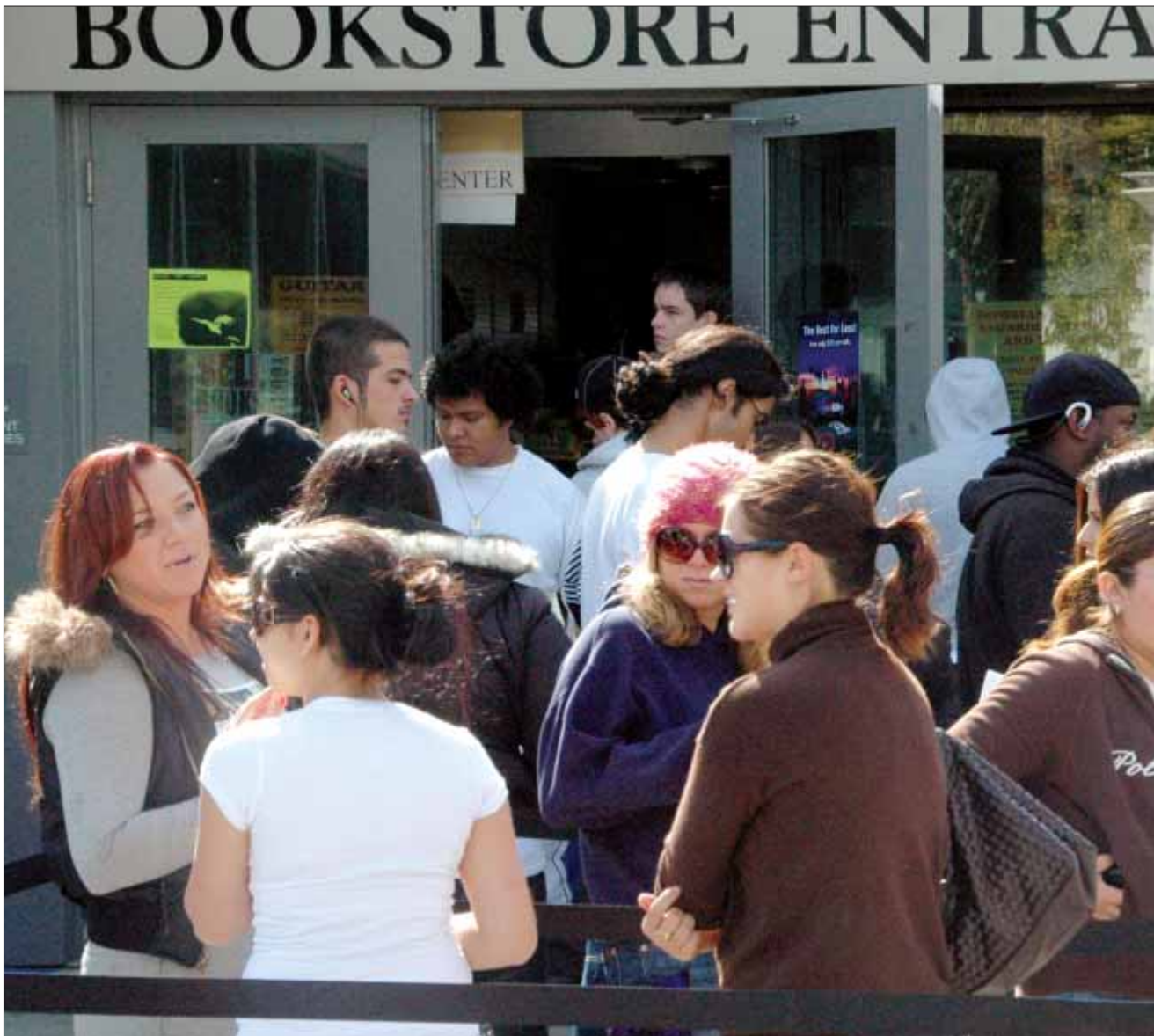
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www.TagTheArtistsGallery.com or call (310) 829-9556.

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





Doing things by the book

Throng of Santa Monica College students wait in lines to buy textbooks and school supplies on Monday — the first day of the spring semester. While the lines were long, they tended to move briskly, with the average wait being about 20 minutes.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Tenants experience a burning sensation



Bill Dawson news@smdp.com

DISARMED: Crews respond to a fire on Monday.

By Daily Press staff

NORTH OF WILSHIRE A pair of apartment fires here kept Santa Monica firefighters busy on Monday.

Just before 10:30 a.m., firefighters responded to a call at 909 Euclid St., where a loveseat located too close to a heating grate was believed responsible for igniting the blaze, according to SMFD Battalion Chief Carl Bjerke.

Around 3 p.m., another call went out, this time it was an apartment building at 229 San Vicente Blvd.,

where a fire was believed to have started in the unit's kitchen.

An investigation into the cause was still ongoing Monday night.

In both instances, adjacent tenants were evacuated from the apartment buildings shortly after the fires began, but were allowed to return to their homes later in the day. The two units in which the fires ignited sustained "room and contents" damage, according to the SMFD, and were deemed uninhabitable.

news@smdp.com

Mountain View gets makeover

(Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. The items — routinely passed by the City Council — have typically been part of public discussion in the past.)

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Residents of the city-owned Mountain View Mobile Home Park are about to receive an extreme makeover.

But instead of the indefatigable Ty Pennington and his team of designers, it will be Gonzales Construction Company that performs the much-needed repairs and upgrades to the park's community building on the eastern edge of town.

The City Council is expected tonight to award Gonzales a contract worth close to \$140,000 to virtually rebuild the park's community building, a 1,130-square foot space that includes bathrooms, a laundry room and a resident manager's office, with a small adjacent pool.

The building needs repair to bring the park up to code after water leaks were found beneath the foundation, eroding the concrete foots and slab. Dry rot and termites were also discovered and the bearing wall between the bathrooms and laundry room was found to be unsound.

In all, the council is expected to spend roughly \$1.4 million tonight on the Mountain View repairs and other contracts, including a purchase order for gasoline and a five-year lease for office space in downtown.

The council will also be considering renting out some prime real estate — city-owned fiber optic hubs, a move that could generate an estimated \$60,000 per year.

MAKING SURE MOBILEHOMES STAY PUT

The construction contract with Gonzales will be the first major renovation of the mobilehome park since City Hall gained control over the property at 1930 Stewart Street in 2000, following a legal settlement with the prior owner, according to a city staff report.

Previous work included a number of interim measures, such as the establishment of emergency vehicle access; adequate road widths for emergency vehicles; installation of a fire hydrant adjacent to the property; installation of bollards for protections of residents' propane tanks; removal of city-owned substandard units and repairs to other units; and

SEE CONSENT PAGE 7

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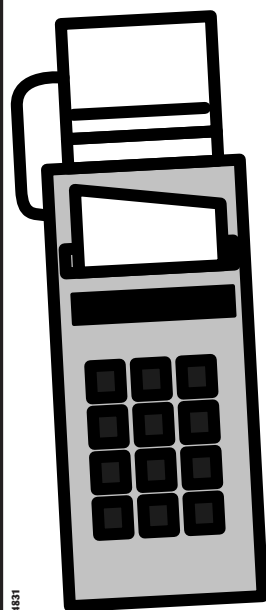
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wake-up call for city's homeless Editor:

When I walked up to my dentist on Wilshire (Boulevard) at 8:30 a.m., I saw more homeless people than actual residents of Santa Monica. There was so much garbage on the ground it resembled Newark, New Jersey. Can't Santa Monica do better?

They need to allocate money to really try to help the homeless problem, rather than hand out food on the Palisades. Also, they should think about passing a law that there is no sleeping in public, and I am not talking about a little common nap in the park. This will end the fact that residents and taxpayers can't enjoy the parks and the Palisades to its fullest capacity. The homeless problem is slowly getting worse and worse in Santa Monica, as Downtown LA is dispersing their problem into other communities.

It's time Santa Monica steps up for itself and adjacent towns and counties, and face this problem head on. Either that or become a gated community.

Matthew Muzio
Santa Monica

John Adams article was 'hatchet' job Editor:

The Feb. 2 article "Change for the better" (page 1) is an appalling hatchet job, on the one hand, and hagiographic puff piece, on the other, in its treatment of the recent principals at John Adams Middle School.

By way of introduction, I am a parent of an eighth-grader at John Adams. I have a doctorate in social welfare and I taught at the graduate level for many years. I think I have never seen as biased and revisionist treatment of school administration or policy as your recent article.

The situation at John Adams prior to the arrival of (Principal Martha) Shaw is as follows:

Principal (Irene) Ramos was a visionary at John Adams. She made difficult decisions and implemented significant policy changes, informed by theories of education and social justice. These theories were working, but at times, ruffled feathers. She believed that addressing students' needs and issues, even those who were on the verge of becoming marginalized, was preferable to separating and isolating the more difficult fraction of the student body.

The new administration seems to bend to the noisiest elements of the school community. Staff who prefer not to be involved in solving the problems caused by difficult students, and parents who prefer that their children not rub shoulders with more difficult students, seem to dominate the discourse. So, Ms. Shaw's policies are making it easier on those few, but are making life no better for the average student. And worst of all, the bottom students face a policy of being actively marginalized.

Of course, any education system will inevitably select not in the favor of the most difficult and bottom-level students. Some of them, in any case, will become marginalized.

My problem with your article is that it holds up an increase in this marginalization as a step forward for all. The loss of a visionary educational administrator should be noted with other than triumphant "Lord of the Flies" nonsense.

At a textual level, your article suffers greatly from biased and incorrect sources. Much of the article consists of complaints about Ms. Ramos, disguised as praise of the new administration, from a single disgruntled parent, known for his dislike of the previous administration. And, the main example given of "bold new policy" – split-lunch for the different grades – is, in fact, a policy put in place by Ms. Ramos, last year, already scheduled to begin this year, before Ms. Shaw was even selected.

Finally, the overall claim that there has been some kind of improved level of gentility or civility at John Adams is pure wish fulfillment. This is a public middle school in a mixed socio-economic area. My son and his friends report to me, this year just as last, a steady rumble of pushing, bullying, friend-making and joking. In an ideal world, reporter (Melody Hanatani) could have interviewed any student at John Adams and asked what they have been seeing, hearing and experiencing in the classrooms and schoolyard at John Adams, and would have heard the same.

Dr. Wendy Kugelman
Santa Monica



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bogey would have called lights 'bogus'

I LOVE SANTA MONICA AND ITS QUAIN tree-lined streets. They have such a romantic feel to them this time of year, with a thin layer of fog wafting through the mature trees, they evoke this darkly romantic feel as you walk your dog late at night. Each street has these great big lights that cast pools of warm illumination, and you step from the foggy darkness into the light, perhaps with a fedora and an overcoat, mildly reminiscent of Bogey in "Casablanca." You are reminded once again of the great charm of this city.

That ended last week for me.

In a cost-cutting move, and one that will lead to less energy consumption, the city is replacing the lights in the lampposts. They are these newfangled, low energy, high-intensity, harsh white light lamps that make the city streets feel like the interior of a WalMart. They are so bright that I don't need to turn the lights on in my house at night. I can easily raid the refrigerator at 2 a.m. without turning on a light.

I understand these new lights are not only more cost efficient, but also more energy efficient, which is a good thing for the planet. However, they are also highly polluting — light polluting. They are so bright that they make it possible for one to forget that it is nighttime. I don't think that this is what Thomas Edison had in mind.

The new lights are probably safer, more durable and increase the safety in the neighborhood at night. I'm reasonably certain that it was vetted by some ever-diligent city department, but there's a quality of life that comes with not always being obsessed with the brightest lights. It strikes me that perhaps we could have the same cost savings, but in a light that is more romantic, at a level that is not quite the glare of a runway.

Someone must make these lights with a little red hue to soften the harshness. There must be a way to turn them down from interrogation level. As a lawyer, I am acutely aware of the risks the city runs of failing to be as proactive as possible in creating a safe environment for people. I know that the city is at risk of lawsuits if they either create a hazard or fail to prevent harm, but seriously, do we have to live in the daylight to avoid to being sued?

The other thing that drives me nuts with city lights at night, is this — they are on even when they don't need to be. Take, for example, the new parking structure on Fourth Street, between Pico Boulevard and Colorado Avenue. Not only have the lights been on inside the structure, when it's not being used by the way, but they have lights

on the outside. For a city that is so concerned with conservation, and being energy wise, how did we get a new parking structure that has an architectural element that requires electricity? And why is it on all night? It should have a timer, at a minimum.

This city has a goal of increasing the use of solar panels to reduce our dependence on fossil fuel electricity. The city wants to make it so that all business put up solar panels on their roofs. Frankly, I think that is a superb idea and one that needs to be marketed and made in a fiscally responsible manner. But I'd like to see the city take an active role in encouraging the reduction of use by leading the way.

HONESTLY, AFTER THE BARS HAVE CLOSED, AND THE PARKING LOTS HAVE CLOSED, WHY NOT TURN OFF THE LIGHTS?

I know that the city spokesperson will say that this is why we are changing out the lights on the street lamps, but, that is only one portion of the problem. There are city offices, city parks and city buildings that should also have timers or motion sensors installed to shut off the lights when not needed.

Do we really need to have the boardwalk lit all night long? The attendant parking lots? Honestly, after the bars have closed, and the parking lots have closed, why not turn off the lights? No one should be there anyway. If you are, it seems to me that you will know the lights are not on.

The City Council takes a pro-active approach on many things, and this is just one more area that I think it can show leadership that costs us less than doing nothing. Sure, there might be some start-up costs in putting in timers or motion sensors, but the savings, and more importantly, the public perception of leadership, will be worth it.

And while they're at it, perhaps they can turn down the lights on my street.

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GOT NEWS?

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Environmental lecture series springs this month

Santa Monica College's spring "Environmental Issues Lecture Series" features a range of topics, from mass transit to sustainable living. The series is sponsored by SMC's Center for Environmental and Urban Studies, which is open to the public and features displays, a library and information center, video collection, native garden, and other services and activities related to environmental and urban studies. SMC has been offering courses in environmental and urban studies since fall 2001.

The series begins Wednesday, Feb. 21, with the lecture "Making Your World More Efficient & Sustainable," which will show audience members how greening programs in businesses, schools and homes is saving money and resources.

The lineup for the remainder of the spring semester is:

March 14: "Mass Transit & Our Big Blue Bus"

April 4: "Community Based Solutions: Building a Sustainable Transport System from the Grassroots"

May 2: "New Urbanism: Creating Livable Communities"

May 23: "SMC, Transportation Issues & Our Environmental Audit"

All lectures are at 6:30 p.m. in Room 123 of SMC's Bundy Campus, 3171 S. Bundy Drive, adjacent to Santa Monica Airport. They are free and seating is on a first-arrival basis. Parking is also free. For information, call (310) 434-4743 or go to <http://events.smc.edu/environmental.html>.

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Who said there's no talking in the library?

Three upcoming events at the library are sure to have attendees talking.

■ On Saturday, Feb. 24, at 2 p.m. – The "Realizing the Dream: Santa Monica Men of Courage" program marks Black History Month. Five prominent Santa Monicans discuss the challenges facing youth today and how young people can draw inspiration from the achievements of others who have overcome great obstacles to become great achievers. The event will introduce the community to the Marcus O. Tucker: Black Men of Courage Collection, donated to the library by Indira Hale Tucker. Judge Tucker was born and raised in Santa Monica and served as the first African American deputy city attorney in City Attorney's office.

The panel, led by Nathaniel Trives, includes community leaders who have "walked the talk" – Judge Marcus O. Tucker, Lloyd Allen, Dr. Sherdrick Jones and P. Lamont Ewell. An informal reception will follow so guests may meet the panelists and preview the Black Men of Courage Collection.

■ On Monday, Feb. 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. – The library welcomes political pundit Scott Ritter, the former lead weapons inspector in Iraq for the United Nations Security Commission (UNSCOM) and now a leading critic of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East. Ritter will be joined by political journalist Robert Scheer for an evening of conversation on Iraq, Iran and other hot button issues on U.S. and Middle East relations. Ritter will also discuss his latest book, "Target Iran: The Truth About the White House's Plans for Regime Change."

■ On Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. – Comedic actor, writer and radio host Harry Shearer, best known as the star of such films and television programs as "This is Spinal Tap," "For Your Consideration," "A Mighty Wind" and "The Simpsons." He is also the host of the syndicated NPR program, "Le Show," and the author of the novel, "Not Enough Indians." At this evening of conversation, guest Shearer will be joined by his "Simpsons" co-star/love interest, Marcia Wallace.

A book sale and signing will follow the discussions. All of the programs are free and will take place in the Main Library's Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. Seating is limited and is on a first-arrival basis. Tickets for auditorium seating will be available one hour prior to the program. No reservations available. For more information, contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600 or visit www.smpl.org.

The Q-Line

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And the winner is ...

With the staging of the annual Grammy Awards this past weekend and Oscar nominations creating a buzz about town, the so-called awards season is in full swing. From television to film, from music to theater, the month of February is crammed with awards ceremonies wherein critics and artists congratulate one another on making an artful contribution.

This week's Q-Line questions asks:

What performance, art installation or creative work – either local or international – made the biggest impression on you this past year, and why?

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



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What a rush!

A fire hydrant shoots water into the sky at the intersection of Pico Boulevard and 20th Street on Sunday after a vehicle struck it.

Courtesy of SMFD

Growing pains: Council to revisit hedge ordinance

FROM HEDGES PAGE 1

something which is expected in the next two and a half years.

"Much of the ordinance works, but there are still a few things that need to be refined," said Eileen Fogarty, director of planning and community development for City Hall.

At issue is the process for which residents can file an appeal and register the heights of their hedges. Many residents feel that the appeals process puts too much of a burden on the appellant, who must prove that the hedge, wall or fence is detrimental to their quality of life.

Many could clearly demonstrate impacts related to the width of a hedge — debris falling on neighbor's property, inadequate access alongside yards, hedges growing into garages or other structures. In these cases, a determination was made to trim the hedge so that it did not extend into someone's property.

But when it came to the hedges' impact on lighting, air circulation and other factors, it proved difficult for residents to present proof.

Another area of concern is with creating a registry documenting the current heights of hedges so that city staff can better monitor their growth and ensure compliance. The current registry is incomplete and some of the heights included were registered well after the law was passed, giving an inaccurate baseline for city staff to follow. Building permits are not required for freestanding fences and walls six feet or less in height, and are not required for hedges.

"Without question, the single most important aspect of the interim ordinance is how it addresses fences, walls and hedges that do not comply with permitted height limits," a city staff report states. "This is the most challenging, difficult, and controversial provision of the ordinance ... While there are options ... none of the options can successfully balance all the conflicting interests with respect to nonconformity.

"Even if an inventory were completed, hedges will continue to grow," the report states. "Enforcement of a hedge would yield short-term results and could require subsequent enforcement action ... (which) rightfully raises the question of how best to direct limited staff resources and to what extent do fences, walls and hedges adversely impact the public health and general welfare."

The height of hedges and fences has been a controversial issue in the city over the last few years, with some dubbing the era the "Hedge Wars." The issue was so heated that it shook up Santa Monica's 2004 election for City Council and galvanized several neighborhood groups.

Anger boiled over in 2004, when a 57-year-old hedge law was revisited for one of the first times in more than half a century, drawing international headlines when City Hall directed roughly 200 households to cut their hedges or face a \$25,000-a-day fine.

The notices were sent out over Thanksgiving weekend. Many residents were outraged, including Councilman Bobby Shriver, a hedge violator, who was upset with the way city staff notified residents. He subsequently ran for office to change the how City Hall interacts with the public.

Emerging from the furor was a new ordinance, passed on Oct. 25, 2005, which requires residents to maintain the 42-inch height limit for any new front yard hedge installation, when side- and rear-yard enclosure limits are allowed to stand 12 feet — an increase of four feet. There are also rules allowing some hedges, fences and walls that exceed the limit to remain, also known as "grandparenting."

City Hall regulates hedges, fences and walls to "create livable, pedestrian-oriented neighborhoods, protect the pedestrian scale and character of streets, encourage information neighbor interaction and, therefore, a sense of community, preserve a neighbor's access to natural light (and) public safety," the report states.

There are also environmental benefits. If a hedge, wall or other barrier is too high, it can reduce the amount of natural sunlight entering a room, requiring more energy to keep a home heated and lit. In addition to complaints about the appeals process and grandparenting, some argued that the appeal fee of \$222.35 was too excessive and may be part of the reason there were fewer appeals than anticipated. Council will also discuss proper heights for hedges, fences and walls adjacent to streets and at reversed corner and key lots.

Five teachers put their skills to the test

FROM TEACHERS PAGE 1

state awarded annual bonus of 12 percent of their salary. In South Carolina, certified teachers receive an annual bonus of \$7,500.

But in California, only NBPTS teachers from low-perform-

ing schools receive a \$20,000 bonus over a span of four years.

In SMMUSD, teachers are a little bit more fortunate. The district foots the entire \$2,500 bill for the certification, regardless of whether or not the teacher passes. Teachers who provide 20 professional development service hours will also net a \$5,000 bonus.

The teachers completed a time-consuming certification process that involved the compilation of a portfolio and a three-hour assessment exam that tested the teacher's knowledge in the subject matter they teach. The portfolio includes student work samples, assignments and video footage of the teacher during class.

All together, the average teacher applying for certification spends between 200 and 400 hours, including the time it takes to complete the portfolio and take the assessment test. Successful candidates who pass the certification process in their first try can do so in about one year.

It took Harris two attempts to pass the certification process. The 15-year district veteran was at a place in his career where he felt comfortable enough with his teaching background to put his skills to the test. Harris, who grew up in the district and graduated from Santa Monica Alternative School House in 1983, came back to the school to teach.

The process was grueling, according to Harris, who submitted two tapes of a class he taught and wrote four essays, each of which were about 15 pages long.

At the end of his first try, Harris came up six points short of passing, forcing him to retake portions of the test. Applicants who fail the test are allowed to revisit the parts of the test where they were unsuccessful.

"I was very pleased they gave me a second chance to go at it without doing the whole process over," Harris said on Monday. "I felt validated that I am doing good things."

"It's nice to be patted on the back."

In the state of California, 293 teachers passed the certification process this year. A total of 3,659 teachers in California have certification from the NBPTS, ranking the state fourth in the nation in total number of teachers with certification.

More than 55,000 teachers nationwide have achieved certification, representing just 2 percent of the total teaching population in the country.

"The National Board Certification strengthens and reaffirms quality teaching strategies," said James Minichello, spokesman for the NBPTS, on Monday. "It adds credibility to the teaching profession ... and has a positive impact on student learning."

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Fuel to the FD

FROM CONSENT PAGE 3

mitigation of overcrowded mobilehomes by relocating families within Mountain View.

Last February, while making plumbing repairs to the bathrooms in the community building, workers discovered the dry rot and termites. Further investigation uncovered water leaks that had eroded the foundation, forcing the bathrooms to be closed until repairs are made.

The scope of work being proposed includes new sewer and water lines, a new concrete slab, new framing of structural members and bearing walls, new electrical system, new drywall and flooring, and new bathrooms that will meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

In addition to the work expected to be performed by Gonzales, city staff will soon solicit bids for infrastructure upgrades throughout Mountain View, including replacement of existing electrical systems, installation of natural gas lines, replacement of water and sewer lines, installation of underground lines for cable, television and telephones, installation of on-site fire hydrants, and the re-grading and repair of interior roadways.

In addition, city staff is developing a mobilehome replacement program for future Council consideration that would assist low-income residents in upgrading or replacing their current homes. Staff anticipates returning to the council with both proposals in the spring, according to a city staff report.

Mountain View was built in the early 1950s and originally included 141 lots. It now has 105 rent-controlled spaces.

Funds for the contract with Gonzales are available in the TORCA Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which receives money from property owners who convert apartments into condos. The money is used specifically for the construction, rehabilitation or financing of low-income housing.

FILL'ER UP

To ensure a steady supply of fuel for the Santa Monica Fire Department, Big Blue Bus and the Fleet Management Division, the council will consider awarding a \$924,000 contract to SC Fuels for premium and unleaded regular gasoline.

The two-year contract includes three one-year renewal options for a total estimated cost of \$3,449,338 over five years, according to a city staff report.

Vehicles that run on unleaded include police motorcycles, patrol and detective cars and various fire emergency response vehicles. City Hall tries to use alternative fuels whenever possible, however, the city's reduced emission fuel policy currently allows an exception for the use of unleaded gasoline when required to operate emergency response vehicles.

NEW DIGS

Just like "The Jeffersons," city staff is moving on up, but instead of heading over to the eastside, they're going to be relocating downtown — 1433 Fourth Street to be exact.

That is where the Cultural Affairs Division is expected to move, making more space for other departments at City Hall, which is said to be short on space.

The lease with Folke Investments, LLC, is for five years with one five-year option. The 1,351-square foot space will be rented for \$3.30 per square foot, with an increase of 5 percent per year, which will amount to \$295,615 for the length of the contract, according to Miriam Mack, economic development director for City Hall.

Space continues to be a pressing issue for city staff, as workers are now forced to share offices built for one or work out of areas once used for storage or hallways. City Hall was built in 1939 to serve a population of about 53,000. Times have changed, and so has the number of people living and working in Santa Monica, which has forced the council to rent approximately 46,000 square feet throughout the city.

The lease agreement came before the council in January, but no action was taken because of a potential conflict of interest. Elected officials were concerned that the property was owned by Metropolitan Pacific Capital, LLC, a commercial real estate company operated by Bayside District board member John Warfel, who was appointed to the board by the council.

JUST LIKE "THE JEFFERSONS," CITY STAFF IS MOVING ON UP, BUT INSTEAD OF HEADING OVER TO THE EASTSIDE, THEY'RE GOING TO BE RELOCATING DOWNTOWN.

Seeing a potential conflict, the council asked staff to look over the lease, at which time they discovered the building was not owned by Metropolitan, but rather just managed by the company. The owners are Folk Investments, LLC. Seeing no conflict, staff is again presenting the lease for council approval.

The council has already entered into a lease agreement with Folke in the same building and on the same floor as the current proposal. The Civil Engineering and Architecture Division is expected to move into that space in mid-March.

DARK FIBER

No, that's not a new cereal promising to cleanse the colon. "Dark fiber" refers to fiber-optic cables that can deliver voice, video and data communications at a high rate of speed.

City Hall has built a municipal fiber network to link city facilities. There is an abundance of unused fiber strands that are available for lease. Currently, City Hall has a lease with Google Inc. and is looking for other parties, including SoHoNet, a dark fiber vendor.

By leasing rack spaces in the network, City Hall can provide businesses in Santa Monica with more flexibility to install high-speed networks, connect their offices in Santa Monica or to connect their offices to other businesses in the city and beyond.

The council is considering leasing rack spaces in fiber optic hubs for \$700 a month for one full rack space or \$17 a month per one unit rack space. A rack is a metal frame, resembling a chest of drawers, where various hardware devices such as servers, switches, hard disk drives and other computer equipment can be stored. Fiber optic cables are connected to that hardware to transmit data.

Money generated from the leases — estimated at \$60,000 annually — would be used to further develop the fiber network and stimulate economic growth in Santa Monica, according to a city staff report.

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Between Wilshire & Montana	=	No Listings	\$ 885,476
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,273,250	\$ 656,873
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Wireless sensors make for smaller world

BY ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES To the untrained eye, the sleek, airy building constructed atop a decommissioned nuclear reactor at the University of California, Los Angeles could pass for high-tech office space.

A closer inspection of the glass-and-steel facade reveals dozens of miniature, low-resolution cameras and sensors. They're wirelessly linked to computers throughout the 6,000-square-foot space, keeping tabs on traffic flow in public areas and monitoring temperature, humidity and acoustics.

The building serves as a testing ground for developing and perfecting wireless sensing technology to connect major chunks of the real world to the Internet. Such networks

could monitor the environment for pollutants, gauge whether structures are at risk of collapse or remotely follow medical patients in real time.

"I see this as the next wave of extending the Internet into the physical world," said computer scientist Deborah Estrin, who heads the Center for Embedded Networked Sensing, a UCLA-based consortium of six schools.

The researchers at the consortium have already scattered wireless networks of nodes in the rice paddies of Bangladesh, rain forests of Costa Rica and wilderness of California's San Jacinto Mountains — all for the sake of keeping a closer eye on the world.

Once the stuff of science fiction, wireless sensor networking is quickly catching on, attracting the attention of the military, aca-

demics and corporations. Just as the Internet virtually connected people with personal computers, the prospect of wireless arrays sprinkled in buildings, farmland, forests and hospitals promise to create unprecedented links between people and physical locations.

Advances in miniaturization and integration of hardware have enabled the design of smart sensor nodes ranging from a square inch to the size of a matchbox.

However, the rush to cram tiny cameras into the nooks and crannies of daily life raises security and privacy concerns among some observers who fear rogues could hack into the networks. Corporations are beefing up safeguards, and academics are studying privacy pitfalls and trying to build stronger networks to protect against security breaches.

The commercial possibilities have already spawned a cottage industry of startups intent on developing cheap, reliable wireless nodes. Several of the ventures, including Dust Networks and Arch Rock Corp., have connections to the University of California, Berkeley, which was involved in early efforts to develop "smart dust" or sensors the size of dust that could be sprinkled in hard-to-reach places.

Today, the technology is primarily used to monitor pipelines and to control climate conditions inside factories. Demand for more uses in the home, agriculture and health care could push the market from several hundred million dollars currently to \$8 billion worldwide by 2010, according to San Diego-based wireless market research firm ON World.

Hula hooking: Hawaii bill aims to legalize prostitution

BY MARK NIESSE
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU The idea may not catch on this session, but a bill to legalize some prostitution in the islands already has the backing of at least 14 lawmakers and many women's rights advocates.

Supporters say they mainly want to start debate of the sensitive topic and explore ways to offer alternatives to decades of selling sex on Honolulu streets. The proposal has the endorsement of 13

co-sponsors in the state House, one sponsor in the Senate and the influential Hawaii Women's Coalition, whose members represent more than 200 organizations.

The prostitution decriminalization bill would permit sexual favors traded in private, and it would designate areas where prostitution is allowed.

"In general, talking about sex is scary for people," said the Rev. Pam Vessels of the United Church of Christ in Kalaupapa on Molokai. "We need to talk about it, not get

excited about it and throw rocks at each other. Do we really care if consenting adults are engaging in sexual acts for money?"

Although it appears unlikely the bill will get a hearing in either the House or the Senate this legislative session, its advocates hope more lawmakers will support it as time passes. A resolution may be introduced soon asking the Legislative Reference Bureau to study the proposal.

"It's one of those bills you do it for public dialogue instead of try-

ing to get it passed," said Rep. Bob Herkes, D-Volcano-Kainaliu, one of the bill's co-sponsors. "It helps to find out what the public thinks, and this is the way to do it."

Prostitutes have a hard time getting help if they're hounded by the police in addition to facing the dangers of their profession, said Tracy Ryan, head of the Hawaii Libertarian Party.

Extensive arrest records make it difficult for them to find legitimate jobs when they want to get out of prostitution, she said.

Current laws call for a \$500 fine and up to 30 days jail time for soliciting prostitution.

"I've only found a handful of people who think prostitutes should go to prison, even though many people are concerned about prostitution," Ryan said. "By criminalizing them, you're only adding to their problems."

Honolulu police made 339 prostitution arrests in 2005 and 255 in 2004, accounting for less than 1 percent of total arrests, according to annual crime reports.



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

The City of Santa Monica is currently accepting proposals through its Community Development (CD) Grants Program to address a broad range of community needs, as identified by the City Council and community input. Proposals are sought to address the needs of children, teens and families; persons with disabilities, including those with HIV and AIDS; seniors; victims of domestic violence; persons who are homeless; and individuals and families who are low-income. A total of \$7.5 million is projected to be available in FY 2007-08 to support the following: 1) **Operating Grants that:** continue a City-funded program; modify/expand a City-funded program; modify/expand a program not currently City-funded; initiate a new program; operate a program currently managed by the City; and 2) **Capital and One-Time Project Grants:** For capital and infrastructure improvements, safety modifications, equipment purchases and other one-time projects. Funds are not intended for housing development projects.

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Taking aim at the Taliban

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan Pentagon Chief Robert Gates, in his push for a coordinated assault against the Taliban in Afghanistan this spring, is enlisting Pakistan's help and vowing better military coordination along the troubled border between the two countries.

After four days of entreaties to NATO allies, seeking more military and economic development resources for the Afghanistan war, Gates tacked 30 hours of travel onto his trip to meet in Islamabad with Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf.

Pakistan, a close U.S. ally in the fight against terrorism, has denied the charges that the Taliban are staging attacks from inside Pakistan and says it has deployed some 80,000 troops along its rugged border with Afghanistan to track down militants.

In their meeting, Musharraf told Gates "the problems of extremism and terrorism were indigenous to Afghanistan" and had spilled over into Pakistan, according to a Pakistan government statement. The statement quoted him as saying it was imperative to close camps for Afghan refugees in Pakistan that provided a "safe haven" for militants.

Gates said the meeting, held at one of

He said he did not know if Musharraf approved the cross-border fire, but doubted that he would do so personally.

It was his first trip to Pakistan since taking over as defense secretary in December. And, in a short briefing with reporters, he reiterated other U.S. officials' remarks that the United States neglected Afghanistan for 20 years.

"After the Soviets left, the United States made a mistake: we neglected Afghanistan and extremism took control of that country," said Gates. "The United States paid a price for that on Sept. 11 of 2001. We won't make that mistake again. We are here for the long haul."

Gates also said he hopes the U.S. can play a constructive role in improving the often rocky relationship between the Afghans and the Pakistan government.

"We all have a mutual interest in stabilizing the border, and Afghanistan becoming a stable and prosperous democracy."

Pakistan's border regions along Afghanistan long have been suspected to be the hiding places for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and his deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri. Musharraf acknowledged recently that his outgunned Pakistani frontier guards have allowed insurgents to cross the border and said the army soon would fence parts of the border to stem the problem.

The stop in Islamabad capped four days of meetings with other NATO defense ministers as he prodded them — including some more reluctant allies — to meet their commitments to provide greater more troops, weapons, and money for economic development in Afghanistan.

Envoys strive to salvage nuclear talks

BY JAE-SOON CHANG
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING Envoys at talks on North Korea's nuclear program struggled early Tuesday to salvage an agreement for the country to take its first steps toward disarming in more than three years of negotiations.

A marathon session that began Monday morning stretched more than 14 hours as delegates remained at a Chinese state guest-house past midnight, trying to resolve a dispute over how much energy assistance the North would receive for giving up its atomic weapons.

"It is up to the North Koreans. We have put everything on the table. We have offered a way forward on a number of issues. They just need to make a decision," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill told reporters before Monday's session.

A South Korean official said late Monday that negotiations were heading toward a possible conclusion.

The negotiations have "reached a final phase," the official said on condition of anonymity due to the ongoing diplomacy.

Chinese envoy Wu Dawei said North Korea had agreed to shut down its main nuclear reactor and submit a list of its atomic facilities.

AFTER THE SOVIETS LEFT, THE UNITED STATES MADE A MISTAKE: WE NEGLECTED AFGHANISTAN AND EXTREMISM TOOK CONTROL OF THAT COUNTRY."

Robert Gates, Pentagon Chief

The lengthy detour underscored how critical this time is in the Afghan conflict, which has dragged on for five years, and has seen escalating violence and a persistent problem with Taliban militants crossing over the porous border from Pakistan.

"I think there's a mutual interest in improving our effectiveness and improving our coordination, and the understanding that we have a real opportunity this spring," Gates said after his hourlong meeting with Musharraf.

Musharraf's homes, was not aimed at securing assurances of action from the Pakistanis, who have been criticized for failing to adequately secure their border. Musharraf, he added, has been meeting with his military commanders to see how they can improve their operations along the border.

Gates also said that U.S. forces who have been launching artillery rounds over the border into Pakistan to target the Taliban have been coordinating with the Pakistanis.

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Californians are getting the last restricted rolls of Golden State quarters for next 48 hours

Only residents get these last California State Quarters. Non-residents can not have them.

By D. L. COTTRELL
Universal Media Syndicate

UMS - The clock is ticking. Hotline operators are bracing for the flood of calls.

That's because the United States Mint® has forever ceased production of our beloved Golden State state quarter. They will never be minted again.

But today, thousands of state residents are calling for some of the last remaining California state quarters.

For the next 48 hours only the World Reserve Monetary Exchange is offering up the last of its private hoard of Golden State state quarters to California state residents only.

Those state residents who beat the deadline will be getting these restricted rolls of the last of their home state quarters at face value in brilliant, never-circulated condition. They are only asked to cover the processing fee and shipping. But the government is not the one to thank.

"Everyone knows how important the state of California is, so we felt Californians deserved to get the last of these state quarters before anyone else could get their hands on them," confirms John T. White, Executive Director of the privately owned World Reserve Monetary Exchange.

"That's why we're opening our vaults exclusively to Californians for the next 48 hours," White said.

"Non-residents are restricted from getting these special state resident rolls of the Golden State quarters. And, you can't find these rolls at the U.S. Mint, at the Federal Reserve or at any local bank. You can't get them rolled this way anywhere else," said White.

These are not just ordinary commercial forty coin rolls. They were rolled into special twenty-five coin rolls under the supervision of vault workers wearing white gloves and are currently under guard at the private World Reserve secured facility.

Now, they will only be released to California residents. And at face value, they are getting them for a real steal.

These California Golden States have never been circulated. That's



■ **CALIFORNIANS GO TO THE HEAD OF THE LINE:** This is the way most non-residents will have to find the remaining California State Quarters. But for the next 48 hours only, Californians are going to the head of the line. That's because readers of today's newspaper are getting some of the last of our home state quarters in restricted twenty-five coin rolls. These special rolls are restricted because non-residents cannot have them.

why collectors hoard them whenever they can get their hands on them.

"We felt Californians deserve to get the last of their state quarters in the restricted rolls before anyone else can get their hands on them."

- John T. White,
Executive Director,
World Reserve Monetary Exchange

"You cannot find these never-circulated coins in your pocket change. Once circulated they are handled and virtually worthless to collectors," said White.

Many of the earlier state quarters in never-circulated condition with mint contact markings have increased

dramatically in value.

"Values always fluctuate and there's never any guarantees as to how much these California state quarters will be worth in the future. But I can tell you that the uncirculated Tennessee state quarter has already increased in value by 1200% since its release," White said.

"We've put on extra staff and have earmarked our entire vault stock. That means there will be enough of these special twenty-five coin state resident rolls for all Californians who beat the 48 hour order deadline," said White.

But with less than 48 hours remaining, and with a very limited number of coins actually minted, the demand is expected to be at record levels.

"Lots of people will be getting

10 rolls because they make such wonderful gifts for any occasion for their children, parents, grandparents and friends," said White.

"To keep these quarters in their never-circulated condition, they are being carefully placed into rich gold embroidered vault bags, and special custom-tailored coin jackets for California residents only," White said.

"These vault bags turn the rolls of coins into an impressive gift. The person who receives it will feel like they just got a pot of gold. And these vault bags and custom-tailored coin jackets are available only to California state residents," he added.

Whether readers get these special restricted California State Quarters for themselves or to give as gifts, one thing is certain, this marks the

end of the great coin that brought honor and pride to the state of California.

With such a limited supply available and only hours left to get them, California residents are scrambling to get all they can now.

So for the next 48 hours, California is truly the "center of the universe." ■

■ NEVER-CIRCULATED AND AVAILABLE ONLY TO CALIFORNIANS:

This artist's rendition shows the beautiful state quarter honoring the great state of California. And for only 48 hours the last of these brilliant, never-circulated rolls of coins are only for California state residents.



■ VALUABLE:

The values of some uncirculated state quarters have already skyrocketed. But only residents of the great state of California are getting the last of these Golden State quarters in the special twenty-five coin restricted resident rolls. They are being delivered in the custom-tailored coin jackets for CA residents only.

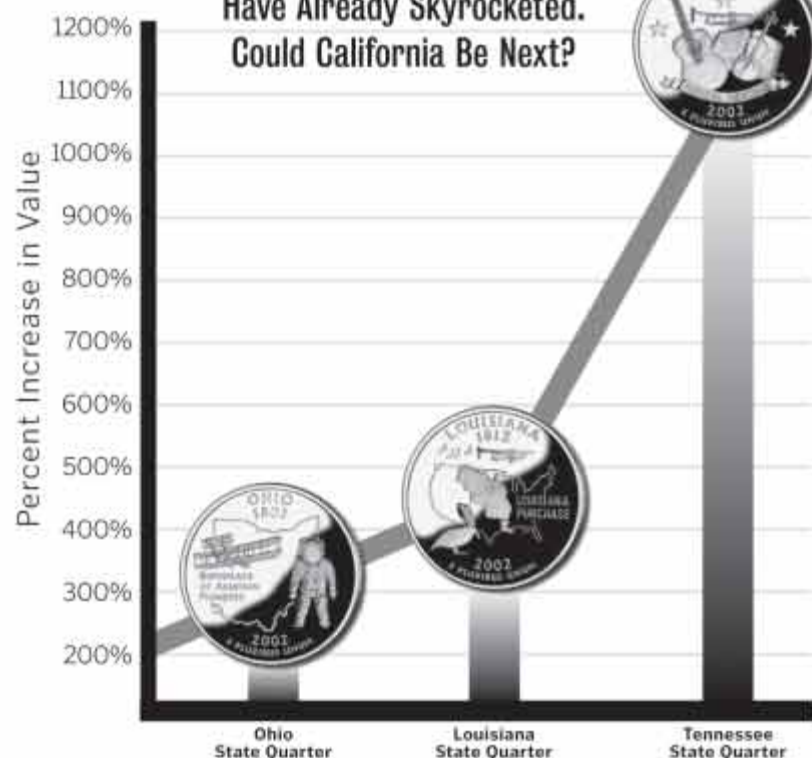
Values for state quarters soar

If the past can predict the future, the last of the California state quarters soon may be harder to find

"It's staggering how much some of the uncirculated state quarters have already increased in value. In fact, the Tennessee State Quarter has already increased in value an astonishing 1200%. The values of the Ohio and Louisiana State Quarters have also risen dramatically since their release date," confirms John T. White, Executive Director of the privately owned World Reserve Monetary Exchange.

"It's important to get both mint marks. The values of coins can differ dramatically and there are never any guarantees. That's why savvy collectors always make sure to grab up both mint marks when they can get them. And for those who do get the last of the California Golden State Quarter-Dollars it wouldn't be surprising if they were worth significantly more at this same time next year," White said. ■

Values For These State Quarters Have Already Skyrocketed. Could California Be Next?



Here's how residents are getting free State Quarters

Every California resident that beats the order deadline will also receive a free encapsulated brilliant, never-circulated California Golden State Quarter-Dollar coin with each roll.

Beginning at 8:00 am today, residents of northern California should begin calling to get all the rolls of quarters they want. Southern California residents have a different number and should begin calling at 8:30 am.

If you miss the 48 hour deadline you will be turned away and required to wait for

future public announcements if authorized by the World Reserve in this or other publications. The standard \$11 processing fee plus shipping gets you the full unbroken rolls of never-circulated California Golden State Quarters at face value. THE "U.S. MINT" IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF THE UNITED STATES MINT. THE WORLD RESERVE MONETARY EXCHANGE IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY. ALL TRANSACTIONS ARE BACKED BY THE WORLD RESERVE MONETARY EXCHANGE WITH A MONEY BACK GUARANTEE UP TO \$10,000.00.



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Cooking up some healthy eating habits

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MONTANA LIBRARY It's never too early to learn how to cook, even if the instruction doesn't involve a stove or oven.

About 20 elementary and middle school-aged children from north Santa Monica received a valuable lesson in healthy eating last week — that health food doesn't necessarily have to taste like yucky Brussels sprout or cauliflower.

In an effort to promote fresh organic produce available at the Farmers' Market and steer children toward healthier after school snacks, the city of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Public Library partnered up last year in creating a class entitled "No Cook

THE FUNNY THING IS A LOT OF KIDS WALK INTO THE PROGRAMS WITH A CAN OF COKE AND A BAG OF DORITOS."

Darra Adler
Farmers' Market supervisor

Cooking."

The one-hour class — which has been held at the Montana Branch library, Fairview Branch library in Sunset Park and at the Main Library in downtown — is

geared toward teaching students from elementary school up to high school the importance of creating healthy and tasty snacks without the use of an oven or stove.

"We're trying to expand our educational program and get kids more involved in learning about locally grown Farmers' Market produce," said Darra Adler of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market.

On Thursday afternoon — the second installment of a three part series of such workshops held at the Montana Branch Library — students from Lincoln Middle School and Roosevelt Elementary School's after school CREST Program learned how to make California's signature dip — guacamole.

All the ingredients — avocado, salsa, lemon, lime, apple juice and cilantro — were purchased fresh the day before at the Farmers' Market in Downtown Santa Monica.

"The funny thing is a lot of kids walk into the program with a can of Coke and a bag of Doritos," Adler said. "That's their typical after school snack and they come here and say, 'Oh my god, this tastes so good.'"

The kids, many of whom were young girls from the CREST Program, chatted excitedly as they learned how to cut an avocado in half and scoop the meat of the vegetable into a glass bowl. The adults in the program removed the pits beforehand to avoid any injuries.

"They learned how important it is to use locally grown veggies and about the nutrients you get out of fresh veggies and fruit," said Tatresse Ridley, a program specialist for CREST.



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

YOU'VE BEEN SERVED: Farmers' Market supervisor Laura Avery dishes salsa to students.

After scooping the avocado into the bowl, the kids added the remainder of the ingredients and dug in.

During instruction, Adler taught the students about healthy eating and the nutrition of the snack they were making. After cooking time was over, the room where the lesson was held transformed into a cafeteria-like setting as girls socialized over snacks.

"I love it," said Chloe Chagaris, a Roosevelt fifth grader with a handful of tortilla chips.

Usually staying in the CREST PROGRAM until the early evening, Chagaris' after school snack is usually whatever is available through the program.

"I usually have animal crackers, an apple and banana and milk," she said, scooping up some guacamole. "I love the milk."

In the Chagaris residence, Tuesday nights are usually "Taco night." From now on, Chagaris plans to participate by whipping

SEE COOKING PAGE 14

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SPECIAL EVENTS

TUESDAYS at 4:15 p.m. - **KIDS YOGA** with HEIDI JO COREY
A 45 minute yoga class for “kids only”, ages 3 -8. Introductory special - Drop In - \$12 per class, 5 Class Series - \$50, 10 Class Series - \$80. Class held at Yo Mama Yoga, 1404 3rd St. Promenade, Upstairs. Tuesday class is almost full, a new class is forming for Thursdays. Contact Heidi at 310-569-6990 or heidijocorey.com, www.heidijocorey.com

SAT. & SUN., FEB. 17 & 18 - **MISS NELSON** is MISSING - 11:00 a.m.
A delightful play based on the popular Miss Nelson series about a teacher and her students. Great fun for the entire family, ages 4 and up. \$7 adults, \$5 for children under 12. Morgan-Wixson Theatre, 2627 Pico Blvd., 310-828-7519, www.morgan-wixson.org. Reservations strongly suggested.

SAT., FEB. 17 - IF YOU GIVE A MOUSE A COOKIE - 11:00 a.m & 1:00 p.m.
Catch Laura Numeroff’s tale about an energetic mouse and a patient little boy. Pepperdine Center for the Arts, 24255 PCH, Malibu. \$15 adults, \$10 children, 310-506-4522.

COMING UP - MY LITTLE PONY LIVE! “The World’s Biggest Tea Party”
Anaheim Convention Center - Feb. 22 - 25, various times.
Kodak Theatre, Hollywood - Mar. 15 - 18, various times.
Tickets are \$12.50 - \$37.50. Visit www.mylittleponylive.net for details or www.ticketmaster.com to purchase tickets.

TUESDAY

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library - 601 Santa Monica Blvd. - 458-8621
Baby Time - 10:15 & 11:00 a.m., babies up to 2 years, current session thru Feb. 13.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 450-0443.
Toddler Story Time in Spanish - 10:00 a.m., ages 2-3.
Baby Time - 11:00 a.m., babies to age 2.
Twilight Story Time -7pm - an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 829-7081.
Family Story Time - 7:00 p.m., all ages.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. - 392-8304
Story Time for Twos - 10:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Next session Feb. 20 - Mar. 27.
Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis
For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com
Barnes and Noble at the Grove
Storytime for ages 2 - 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents -Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. - 12 to 36 months; Infant & Me Class - 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., 0 - 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES - 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal - 11:25 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
yogababyla.com

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!

Storytelling and Library Programs
The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge - 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443.
Story Time for Twos - 9:30 a.m.
Preschool Story Time - 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-5. Check back for next session dates.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081.
Baby Time - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. -392-3804.
Spanish Bilingual Stories - 11:20 a.m., ages 2 - 5.
Preschool Twilight Story Time - 7:00 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.
Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 2 pm - ages 2-5 - 310-475-4144
Border’s, Westwood - 11a.m. - 310-475-3444.

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents -Toddler & Me Class - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., 5 to 36 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com
Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150
Pre/Postnatal - 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., \$15
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Other

Puppetolio - 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

THURSDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroup - noon for children born 3/06 - 12/06; 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. for children born 1/02 - 2/03; 3:30 p.m., for children born 3/03 - 12/03; Call or email Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library - 601 Santa Monica Blvd. - 458-8621

Story Time for Twos - 10:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Preschool Story Time - 11:20 a.m, ages 3 - 5.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443.
La Hora Del Cuento - 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081.
Story Time for Twos - 10:15 a.m.
Preschool Story Time - 11:15 a.m.; ages 3-5. Ongoing.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. - 310-392-3804.
Baby Time - 9:20 & 10:20 a.m. Babies to 2 years. Next session Feb. 22 - Mar. 29.
Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents -Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m and 10:45 - 11:45 a.m., 12 to 36 months; Parent Support Group - 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., age 3 - 5 years; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES - 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal - 11:25 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes. yogababyla.com
Prenatal Yoga - 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Groups

La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista - meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the Westchester Municipal Bldg., 7166 W. Manchester Ave., corner of Lincoln and Manchester. Call 310-390-2529 for info.
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups

11:00 a.m. - playgroup for children born 10/04 - 5/05; Call or e-mail Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info.
Parent’s Night Out at Child’s Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.
Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. www.childsplayonline.net
Cinderella- select Fridays thru May 12, 6:00 p.m., 394-9779 ext. 1 for reservations.
\$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

Classes

YWCA - A Place for Parents -Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. - 12 - 36 mos.; Playtime/Parent Support - 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881 for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Kid’s Yoga Circle Class at Exhale Spa - 3:30 p.m., for ages 5 - 11, 1422 2nd St., 260-2736 or yogaforkids@hotmail.com.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15. Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

SATURDAY

Storytelling

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade - Kid’s Story Time - 10am, 310-260-9110
Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 10:30am - ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.
Children’s Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., every other Sat., 310-559-800K.
Village Books, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades - 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.
826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

Classes

YWCA - Toddler & Me - 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.; Parent Enrichment once per month , 11:00 a.m. - noon, call Barbara Olinger at 452-3881 for rates and dates.

Yoga & Exercise

Santa Monica Yoga - Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays - 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santamonica-yoga.com
Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com

Other

Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party at the Santa Monica Playhouse
Family Theatre; Saturdays & Sundays, thru June 10; 12:30 & 3:00 p.m., 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, \$12.50 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. www.santamonica-playhouse.com
The Bridge Cinema Deluxe - Enjoy a G-rated movie for kids every Sat. and Sun.
Tickets are \$3.50. 6081 Center Drive, LA, 310-568-3375.
Puppetolio - 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested
Magicopolis - 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.
Precious Prints - Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime
Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit www.preciousprintsstudios.com for more info.
Lakeshore Learning Stores “Free Crafts for Kids” - Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.
“A Faery Hunt” - 10:30 a.m., every Saturday at Franklin Canyon Park. An interactive children’s show, searching for fairies and other enchanted creatures in the magical canyon and finding them! \$10, call for reservations - 818-324-6802. www.faeryhunt.com. Meet in the parking lot of the Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills.

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Free workshop
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SANTA MONICA – An extremely popular free workshop is being held for the parents of college bound high school students during the month of February at various Santa Monica locations.

The workshop will focus on little-known ways of getting money for college, no matter how much income you make, or how good of a student you have. The class will include such topics as how to double or triple your eligibility for free grant money, the secret to sending your child to a private or UC school for less than the cost of a junior college, and the single biggest mistake that 9 out of 10 par-

ents make when planning for college.

The workshop dates are Tuesday, February 6th at the Montana Avenue 7:15PM-8:45PM, Saturday, February 10th at the Santa Monica Main Library 10:15 AM. to 12 PM, and Tuesday, February 13th at the Santa Monica Main Library. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation’s leading expert on paying for college.

Seating is free, but limited by the size of the room. To reserve your seat, call 310-581-7954 leave a message and receive a confirmation



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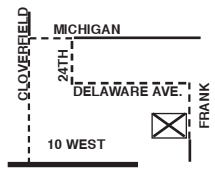
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Dear Dorie

Dorie Meek

[Send comments to editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com)

The makings of a genius

Dear Dorie,

My son is almost 2 years old and I've been noticing that he seems advanced in his words, as well as most physical endeavors. Other parents have noticed it as well. If he is really "gifted," should I be doing something?

Proud Parent

Dear Parent,

Congratulations on your healthy and bright toddler. It is every parent's dream to be told how well their child is doing, especially by other parents (relatives don't count in this area ... they're inherently biased).

But if you really want evidence of his abilities in the form of an assessment, most pediatricians will refer you appropriately. Before taking that step though, I recommend you ask yourself if they conclude he is gifted, what are you going to do differently? At 2 years old, you're not going to enroll in preschool. First of all, he'd lose time with you and, second, you wouldn't want a bright child to spend an extra year in a preschool environment. Research about entering school early isn't overwhelmingly supportive and home-schooling for a toddler is exactly what you're doing right now.

It's my hunch that what you're really asking is if you don't do anything, will he fall behind? The answer is no. Given that you continue to allow ample time in a responsive care-giving environment and expose him to age-appropriate stimulation with places, books and other materials, your son will continue to progress at his very own developmental pace. Right now, that's ahead. Down the road, it may be different.

Your job is to enjoy every minute of his health and individuality, loving him every unique step along the way. Good luck.

Dorie

DORIE MEEK is director of the Infant & Family Support Program, provided by Saint John's Health Center in partnership with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Submit your questions to meek@smmusd.org.

Not too much heat in kitchen

FROM COOKING PAGE 12

up some guacamole.

KIDS HAVE REDEEMING VALUES

During the previous workshop, last month, students learned how to make pita sandwiches with hummus, tomatoes, cucumbers and avocados. All ingredients were purchased from the Farmers' Market, except for the pita.

After the course is over, students receive a non-expiring \$1 coupon that can be redeemed at any of the four Farmers' Markets in Santa Monica. It's a great way to encourage the students and their families to visit the market while promoting the market itself, Adler said.

For Francesca Pezzullo, who said her family is obsessed with fresh organic produce, there could be nothing better than living in a city that has four Farmers' Markets, especial-

ly considering they used to live in New York.

"Everything is shipped from 100 miles away," said Pezzullo, a sixth grader at Lincoln Middle School, of New York.

A frequent patron of the library, Pezzullo has visited both of the workshops staged thus far.

"After this, I can go back in the library and do my homework," she said. "It just went from field trip to homework."

In fact, several students who attend the class do so because they were already in the library and were curious about what was taking place over in the next room, Adler said.

"A lot of kids come to the library as a place to gather and hang out and do work," Adler said. "Some stumble upon the class."

The next "No Cook Cooking" class will be held on March 8, at 3:30 p.m., at the Montana Branch Library.

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GOLF

Fore-gone conclusion: Mickelson on the mend

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH Phil Mickelson waited until late last year, when his clubs were collecting dust during a three-month break from golf, to reflect on a U.S. Open meltdown at Winged Foot that suddenly seemed to overshadow all his achievements.

Instead of sulking, he found a solution.

And while his five-shot victory Sunday in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am was hardly a case of redemption, it at least changed the conversation about him from the past to his potential.

Those worried about emotional scars from his double bogey on the final hole at Winged Foot can relax.

Mickelson finally got his season on track by closing with a 6-under 66 to tie the 72-hole tournament scoring record, win for the 30th time in his career and become only the third player in PGA Tour history to surpass \$40 million in earnings.

Determined to become a better driver, Mickelson was all that and more on a surprisingly sunny afternoon. He missed only one fairway, turned a tight race into a run-away with three birdies in a four-hole stretch

along the ocean and emerged again as a threat whenever — and wherever — he tees it up.

“Winning today gives me satisfaction,” Mickelson said. “I believe I can take what happened at Winged Foot and make it a plus for the rest of my career. I think I’m going to be a better driver of the golf ball for the rest of my career. At least, that’s the goal.”

That’s what he did in the final round, and no one else had a chance.

So complete was his performance at Pebble that Mickelson was among the top five in driving accuracy, greens in regulation, putting and driving distance. The five-shot victory matched the largest margin since Bing Crosby started this tournament in 1937.

The only drama came on the par-3 fifth hole when Mickelson hit a 6-iron he thought would be short. It caught a gust and flew over the green and into shin-high grass, never to be found and sending him to a double bogey.

Six holes later, he had a four-shot lead and was sailing toward a 20-under 268 total, tying the record set by Mark O’Meara in 1997.

Kevin Sutherland missed a half-dozen putts inside 8 feet, but his birdie on the 18th hole gave him a 71 and second place alone.

BASKETBALL

Fresno State coach will have to sit

BY MURRAY EVANS
Associated Press Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY The NCAA said Friday it is upholding sanctions it imposed last year against former Fresno State basketball coach Ray Lopes.

Lopes was involved in separate infractions cases for improper recruiting practices at Fresno State, where he went 50-37 in three seasons as the head coach before resigning in March 2005, and at Oklahoma, where he served as an assistant to current Indiana head coach Kelvin Sampson from 1995 to 2002.

Lopes now is an assistant coach for the Idaho Stampede of the NBA Development League. His Duncan, Okla.-based attorney, Toby Baldwin, said Lopes was disappointed with the NCAA’s ruling, “but they’ve made their final decision and we have to live with that.”

“He is fortunate that he’s got a lovely

family and a circle of friends as a support group who know what kind of person he is and what kind of coach he is,” Baldwin said.

In April 2006, the NCAA Division I Infractions Committee released its findings regarding the Fresno State violations, saying Lopes and members of his staff had made 457 impermissible telephone calls to prospects between April 2002 and October 2004. Of those calls, 73 were made to one prospect and 57 to another. Lopes made 234 of the 457 total calls, the committee said.

The committee placed Fresno State on four years probation and cited the school for a lack of institutional control of the men’s basketball program. Lopes was given a three-year “show cause” penalty — retroactive to his resignation date — which means he may not seek employment with another NCAA school before March 2008 without first appearing before the committee to determine if his duties should be limited.

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SURF REPORT

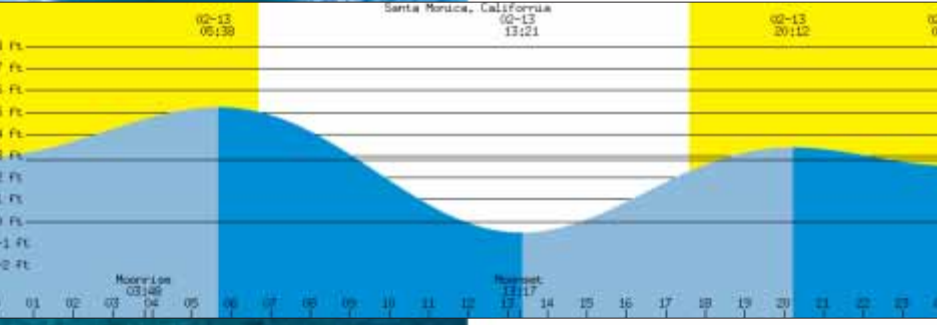
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 59°

SWELL FORECAST (5-8 FT)
Today's size should back down considerably, but early AM sessions can still expect some infrequent head high waves from time to time. By noon though, look for size to drop to waist to chest. A trough is expected to move through the region, which could bring a slight chance of rain, but will more likely than not increase onshores for the AM. Tide will also be a bit high around dawn.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SMALLER NW BY MIDWEEK...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **February 6, 2007**

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 17

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 4

Number of wet days -- 7

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 30

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 13

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

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	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	D	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	D	B
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	F
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	D	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	C	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	D
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	B	A+	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	A+
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A	A+	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	C	F
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	A+	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	B	A+	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	F	F	Venice Beach--projection of Topsail St.	A+	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	B	C
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	D	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	C
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A	A+	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	B	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	C	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	A+			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	B			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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

Heal the Bay

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Fit in some exercise, Leo

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★★ Positive
★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You will want to step up to the plate now. Your choices will dictate what happens in the next few weeks or even longer than that. Once acted upon, your instincts and kindness will draw excellent results. Walk in a boss' shoes. Tonight: Could be late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Go digging for facts. You can never have too much information. A friend expresses unusual kindness or gentleness. Be receptive to his or her thoughts. You don't need to feel the same way. Tonight: Play a game – maybe solitaire online or Scrabble with a friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ If you deal with individuals rather than groups, you will obtain far better results. You also might be taken aback by a boss, authority figure or parent. This person demonstrates unusual energy and understanding. A money matter needs discussing. Tonight: Time with a special friend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Others might be more controlling or harder to deal with than you initially anticipated. Getting past a problem might involve deferring to an individual. Sometimes others need to see the natural outcome of their actions. Tonight: Just be with someone you care about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Plunge into work, acting as if there is no tomorrow. The more you accomplish, the happier you will be. Someone could be quite distracting. Are you seeing charm and kindness or manipulation? Only you can judge. Tonight: Fit in some exercise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Allow your imagination and creativity to determine your choices. If you let more spontaneity in, you will have a better time. A relationship gets new life from a more childlike or fun attitude. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Evaluate the basics, especially concerning your domestic and/or daily life. A discussion sheds light on how you could make a situation easier. Stop and think about your goals and priorities. Tonight: Happy at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Speak your mind, and others will listen. If you notice someone making goo-goo eyes at you, he or she is really taken with you. Listen more and share more. Make fewer judgments, and be willing to be wrong. Tonight: At a favorite place.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Honor your long-term financial goals. You still might be able to purchase an item you have been eyeing. Don't allow someone to distract you or encourage you to go off your chosen path. In the long run, some self-discipline will put a smile on your face. Tonight: Revamp your budget.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ With the Moon in your sign, you've got what it takes. The question that remains is where you would like to focus your energy. You have a lot to say and do. A gentler style that might be more expressive of your core self emerges. Tonight: Just ask, and be ready to receive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★ Think twice or decide to postpone a decision. You will be much happier that way. Ultimately, time spent pondering reality and your desires helps more than acting does. Follow your sixth sense with money decisions. Tonight: Get all the R and R you can.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Your sensitivity comes through. Whether you touch a dear friend emotionally or make a point that resonates with many is irrelevant. The true you emerges more often than not right now. Others like what they see. Tonight: Go for what you want.

Born Today

TV host Jerry Springer (1944)

Singer Peter Gabriel (1950)

Singer Robbie Williams (1974)



Happy Birthday!

This year you have far more going for you than you might realize. Often, you might be withdrawn. You will enjoy your downtime and become highly reflective. This year will be very important to your future. You will learn to trust your instincts, especially about money. You might revise your goals, and possibly your friends as well. If you are single, you will lean toward a more personal bond in which you spend a lot of time together in your own company. If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from frequent getaways. You will naturally stoke the fires of romance.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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Kylie mans up Minogue asks her fans to leave Martinez alone

KYLIE MINOGUE wants her fans to leave her ex-boyfriend alone.

The Australian singer, 38, and 41-year-old French actor Olivier Martinez announced their separation this month after four years together.

"As for the treatment

Olivier has received of late, I can only reiterate that he simply does not deserve the kind of harassment or vitriol to which he has been subjected," she wrote in a message posted on her Web site.

The tabloid press had speculated that Martinez

was seeing someone else. The two have said the accusations saddened them both.

"For someone whom I have enormous love and respect, and communicate with, it is so grossly unfair: to demonize an honest man. I would ask

of you, my fans, to show your support for both Oli and myself as a separation is never easy," she wrote.

People magazine's Web site reported on her note Saturday.

Minogue, known for hits such as "Loco-Motion" and

"Can't Get You Out of My Head," recently resumed performing after treatment for breast cancer diagnosed in 2005. He has appeared in "Before Night Falls" and the recently released "Blood and Chocolate."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LODOWN ON LOHAN: SHE'S 'GREAT' AT REHAB

LINDSAY LOHAN is doing "great" in rehab, her mother said.

"She's amazing. She's great and she's happy," Dina Lohan told People magazine in a story posted on its Web site Saturday.

"She's in a really good space right now," she said at the Child magazine fall 2007 fashion show in New York City on Friday.

Lohan, 20, checked into the posh Wonderland Center in Los Angeles last month. Her publicist confirmed in December that Lohan was attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.



Last July, Lohan was treated for several hours at a Los Angeles area hospital for overheating and dehydration on the set of "Georgia Rule."

Lohan's screen credits include "Mean Girls," "Bobby," "A Prairie Home Companion" and "Freaky Friday."

AP

Eastwood's 'Letters' delivered

CLINT EASTWOOD says he found that U.S. veterans of the 1945 fighting on Iwo Jima were curious to know about the Japanese side of the story — chronicled in his Oscar-nominated "Letters From Iwo Jima."

Eastwood presented "Letters" — the companion piece to "Flags of Our Fathers," which related the fighting from the American perspective — as an out-of-competition entry at the annual Berlin film festival Sunday.

"I was wondering what American veterans of the battle of Iwo Jima would

think of 'Letters From Iwo Jima,' because most of, a lot of them probably had very bad experiences on that island," Eastwood, 76, said at a news conference.

"I found that most of the Americans that I've talked to ... were very curious about it and they were very curious about how the other side lived," he added. "Now, 62 years later, it's easy to think differently about things than you did, say, maybe when you're a young person fighting for your life."

Some 100,000 U.S. troops battled more than

22,000 Japanese deeply dug into a labyrinth of tunnels and trenches and desperate to protect the island, which was crucial to Japan's defenses.

Nearly 7,000 Americans were killed capturing Iwo, and fewer than 1,000 of the Japanese would survive.

"Letters From Iwo Jima" is an Oscar contender in both the best picture and best director categories.

"I'm just glad the picture's out there, and whatever life it has beyond that is fine by me," Eastwood said.

AP

Grammys embrace veterans ... again

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY

AP Music Writer

LOS ANGELES Without "American Idol" to worry about, the Grammy Awards bounced back strongly in the ratings this year.

An estimated 20.1 million people watched the Dixie Chicks take home every trophy they were eligible for Sunday night. That's up 18 percent over last season, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Last year Grammy organizers decided to go head-to-head with "American Idol" on a Wednesday night and were clobbered; the telecast's 17 million viewers represented the smallest audience in the show's

history.

This year the Grammys moved back to Sunday night. The show even gave a nod of respect to "American Idol" by holding a contest where an amateur singer had a spotlight duet with Justin Timberlake.

The Grammy audience was also up over 2005 (18.8 million), when it was competing against "Desperate Housewives" in that show's popular first season.

The Recording Academy embraced more serious fare by veteran artists on Sunday, showering the Dixie Chicks with five awards, including the rare trifecta of record, album, and song of the year. Mary J. Blige won three for her comeback

record "The Breakthrough," the biggest mainstream success in her 15-year career. And four trophies went to the Red Hot Chili Peppers for their hit album "Stadium Arcadium."

Meanwhile, Justin Timberlake — a major focus of the show with two performances and four nominations, including for album of the year — took home two trophies in little-noticed side categories. British singer-songwriters Corinne Bailey Rae and James Blunt, both newcomers nominated for multiple awards, were shut out. And two of the year's biggest hits, "Hips Don't Lie" and "Promiscuous," didn't get any awards — both lost out to a remake of Stevie

Wonder's decades-old hit "For Once In My Life," performed by Wonder and 80-year-old Tony Bennett.

There were many such "Granny" moments at the 49th annual awards show. Despite flashes of youth in performances by Timberlake, John Mayer and Chris Brown, the show had a definite VH1 Classics appeal, from the kickoff by the reunited Police to the tributes that lovingly recalled the fading music industry's golden years.

Perhaps the only moment that seemed to have any cutting-edge element was the "My Grammy Moment," in which three young women vied for a spot to sing with Timberlake.

ODDS OF A CHILD BEING IN A FATAL AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT: 1 in 23,000

ODDS OF A CHILD BEING DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM: 1 in 166

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Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

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Wednesday
Dinner at Eight
7:30
Thursday
Bonnie and Clyde
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Babel (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05
Because I Said So (PG-13)
1:35, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
Blood Diamond (R)
4:10, 9:45
Breaking and Entering (R)
1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
The Queen (PG-13)
1:25, 7:10

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Casino Royale (PG-13)
4:30, 10:00
Catch and Release (PG-13)
2:00, 7:35
Children of Men (R)
2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 9:55
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:15
Epic Movie (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:25
The Messengers (PG-13)
1:10, 3:15, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05
Night at the Museum (PG)
1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Pan's Labyrinth
(El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8223

Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
1:20, 4:45, 8:00
The Lives of Others
(Das Leben der Anderen), (R)
1:10, 4:35, 8:15
Venus (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Volter (R)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
1:20, 4:45, 8:00
The Queen (PG-13)
1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 9:55
Venus (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
Volter (R)
1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Freedom Writers (PG-13)
11:10am, 4:40, 10:10
Hannibal Rising (R)
1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20
Last King of Scotland, The (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
Norbit (PG-13)
11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
Norbit (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
The Pursuit of Happyness, (PG-13)
1:50, 7:30
Smokin' Aces (R)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

More information email news@smdp.com

Janric Classic 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 Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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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 LAST PUZZLE

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

WHERE'S HARRIS?

HE'S GOING TO AN NBA GAME WITH AN UGLY DUCKLING

HUH?

YOU KNOW, A GIRL WHO WAS A NERD IN HIGH SCHOOL, BUT SHE'S HOT NOW

AH, RIGHT. THOSE GIRLS ARE THE BEST

THEY STILL THINK OF THEMSELVES AS DORKY, SO THEY'RE LOWER MAINTENANCE THAN TYPICAL HOT GIRLS

I'M ONLY GOING IN IF YOU HAVE FLOOR SEATS

STADIUM ENTRANCE
GATE D
SECTION 175 177

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

I CAN'T BELIEVE I ATE ALL THE OFFICE VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY.

THIS IS JUST GREAT.

NOW I'M ALONE AND BLOATED.

I HATE THIS HOLIDAY.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

Y'KNOW, DONNA, I'M THINKING OF DRAWING UP A LIVING WILL - INSTRUCTIONS ON WHAT TO DO IF I FALL INTO A VEGETATIVE STATE, UNABLE TO FUNCTION AS A NORMAL HUMAN BEING.

YOU'RE ASSUMING I'LL BE ABLE TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

I CAN ONLY HOPE SARCASM HAS BEEN OUTLAWED IN THE HEREAFTER.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

YAWN

YAWN

I'M A TREND-SETTER!

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

WOW! SUN THIS MORNING, THEN RAIN. NOW SNOW.

DAD SAID NEW ENGLAND WEATHER'S A LOT LIKE MOM'S MOODS.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT MEANS, BUT MOM SURE PACKS A WALLOP!

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



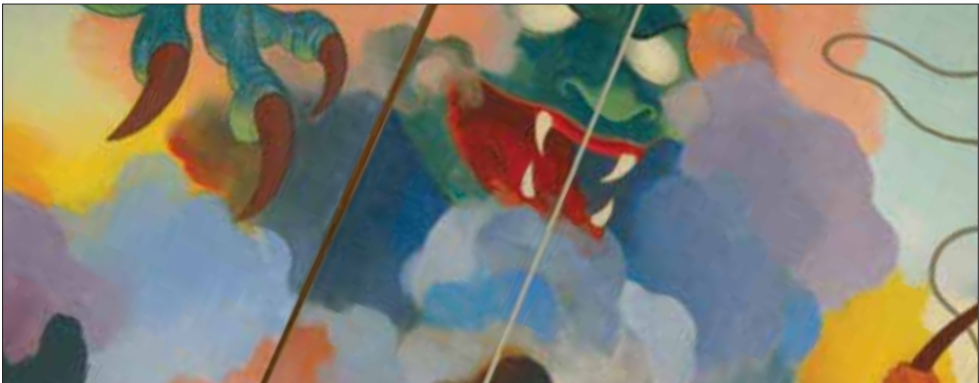
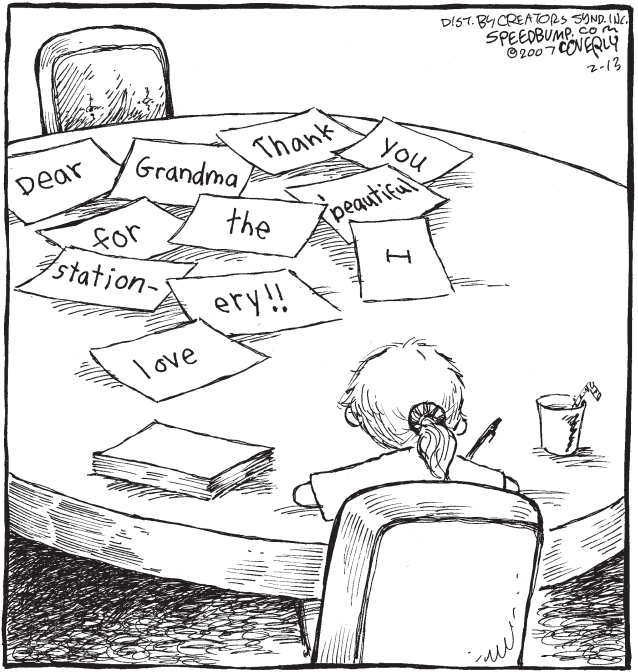
Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Mystery Photo

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Rome raiders
- 6 Oozes
- 11 Rainy month
- 12 Dark
- 13 Anti-inflation measure
- 15 Tie on the feedbag
- 16 Fantasy character
- 17 Interstice
- 18 Stalk bundles
- 20 1040 org.
- 21 Kitten call
- 22 Number line center
- 23 They may be counted
- 26 Brick worker
- 27 Kitchen sight
- 28 Party staple
- 29 Music's Ritter
- 30 Throat masses
- 34 Curator's concern
- 35 Saucer, perhaps
- 36 Deep groove
- 37 Slushie-drinking pain
- 40 Jousting weapon
- 41 Church code

42 Computer key

- 43 "— we all?"

DOWN

- 1 Stares in shock
- 2 Name in talk shows
- 3 Stale
- 4 Here (Lat.)
- 5 Jacket parts
- 6 Rides the waves
- 7 Hydro-carbon suffix
- 8 Sorrowful songs
- 9 Lima's founder
- 10 Nero, to Augustus

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

Yesterday's answer

- 14 Went by plane
- 19 Church reply
- 22 Shoots with a ray-gun
- 23 Famous
- 24 Invaded
- 25 Navigating aid
- 26 Mediteranean island
- 28 Remove
- 30 Radio part
- 31 Singer Cara
- 32 Manila's island
- 33 Artery opener
- 38 Glacier make-up
- 39 Cochlea setting

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

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
15					16				17	
18				19					20	
				21				22		
23	24	25				26				
27						28				
29				30				31	32	33
34				35				36		
37				38				39		
40						41				
42						43				

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
32 39 46 48 49
Meganumber: 41
Jackpot: \$106M

Super LOTTO
24 26 30 32 45
Meganumber: 26
Jackpot: \$31M

Fantasy 5
11 13 19 22 25

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 6 5 6
EVENING: 3 6 0

DAILY DERRY
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:48.78

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

■ Daring young men use the danger of moving cars for attention, especially if there's a video camera rolling. An 18-year-old Topeka, Kan., man became the latest "Jackass"-imitating casualty when he bailed out of a car going 35 mph in October and suffered a serious head injury. Other video performers go "ghost riding the whip" (letting their cars coast in neutral while they climb onto the roof to dance), with at least two deaths reported. In the newest craze, Jonathas Mendonca, 22, was hospitalized in critical condition in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in January after "skiing" (holding onto the back of a car) on Interstate 95 at 65 mph. ■ In September, according to sheriff's officials in Buffalo, N.Y., Thomas Montgomery murdered a 22-year-old workplace colleague in a love triangle involving a West Virginia woman, except that two of the three triangle characters were nonexistent. Montgomery, age 47, was pretending to be a young Marine in online conversation with the woman, 45, who was pretending she was her 18-year-old daughter. The murder victim had also struck up an online conversation with the woman, apparently making Montgomery jealous, but the victim, ironically, was the only one in the triangle who wasn't someone else.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1935 a jury in Flemington, N.J., found Bruno Richard Hauptmann guilty of first-degree murder in the kidnap-slaying of the son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was later executed.)
1542 the fifth wife of England's King Henry VIII, Catherine Howard, was executed for adultery.
1795 the University of North Carolina became the first U.S. state university to admit students with the arrival of Hinton James, who was the only student on campus for two weeks.
1914 the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, known as ASCAP, was founded in New York.
1920 the League of Nations recognized the perpetual neutrality of Switzerland.
1945 during World War II, the Soviets captured Budapest, Hungary, from the Germans.
1945 Allied planes began bombing the German city of Dresden.
1960 France exploded its first atomic bomb, in the Sahara Desert.

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ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
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PART TIME
Production artist needed for 20-30 hours per week at the Santa Monica Daily Press.
Must know Quark, Photoshop and Acrobat.
Call 310-458-7737 x 104

RADIO INTERVIEW campaign sales person p/t flexible SM (310)998-8305 * 84

RECEPTIONIST, BEVERLY HILLS real estate company, answer phones, data entry, internet savvy, must know Word/Excel/Outlook. Call Janet (310)453-4289 barringtonstaffing.com

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PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave unit 1 lower, stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, laundry, one parking space, no pets. \$1500/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

SANTA MONICA \$1250.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No Pets, 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

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VENICE 501 N Venice unit 36 1+1 \$1150/mo stove, fridge, carpets, blinds, utilities included, laundry on site, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 jkwproperties.com

VENICE SINGLE 501 N Venice unit 4, \$995/mo stove, fridge, carpets, blinds, utilities included, laundry on site, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 jkwproperties.com

WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th place unit d 2bdrm/1bath, stove, dishwasher, microwave, blinds, carpet, laundry, gated parking, no pets, \$1425/mo (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: EILEEN KLUNE CASE NO. BP102820

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of EILEEN KLUNE.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by A. STEVEN BROWN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that A. STEVEN BROWN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 03/06/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST.,

Notices

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
A. STEVEN BROWN
HOLLEY & GALEN
800 S. FIGUEROA ST., #1100
LOS ANGELES, CA 90017
2/13, 2/14, 2/20/07
CNS-1087051#
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'04 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D
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Premium Sound, Moon Roof.
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(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
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Control, Dual Pwr Seats. (P1512)
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'03 Porsche 911 Cabriolet 2D
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Wheel, ABS, Leather. (P1533)
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6-Cyl. 3.0L, Stability Control,
Premium Pkg, Premium Wheels
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'03 Infiniti FX45 4D
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Met. brown, Bose premium sound,
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Infiniti Santa Monica
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(ACTUAL CAR NOT SHOWN)
Silver, V8, 4.6L, Automatic, Dual
Front Air Bags, ABS, Bed Liner
(P1521) \$17,952
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'03 Acura RSX Type S Sport
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ual, Bose Sound, Leather. (i6582A)
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Infiniti Santa Monica
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'99 Mercedes-Benz ML320
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V6 3.2L, Pwr Pkg, Dual Front Air
Bags, Leather, Moon Roof, Privacy
Glass. (P1505) \$14,951
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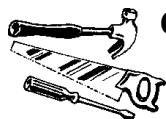
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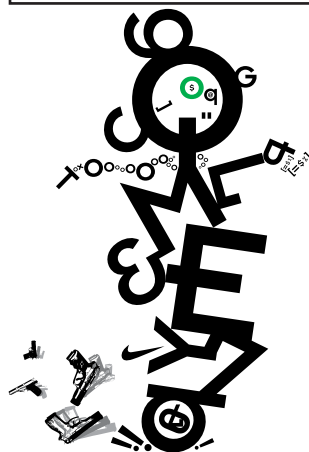
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What do you crave?



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People crave all sorts of things. Hot buttered popcorn. Donuts with those little multi-colored sprinkles on top. That first shot of caffeine in the morning. And what's wrong with that? What's wrong with indulging your little cravings now and then, huh? Well, before you hightail it to your local donut palace or new age coffee shop, look a little deeper.

What do you crave? I mean, what do you really crave? Well, if you're like many people in Santa Monica, you might find your craving taking you down a boulevard that takes you straight to Honda of Santa Monica.

You know the "new" Honda of Santa Monica, don't you? Oh, they're still right where they've been for over 35 years, 1720 Santa Monica Boulevard. The great service and selection is still there too. What's new you ask? Well, that would be General Manager, Dan Rowand. We could tell you how great Dan is but you just have to meet him to understand how car oriented and community driven he really is. If you do, you'll understand what we mean when we say that more and more savvy car shoppers are learning the difference between merely wanting a pleasant car buying experience and truly craving it! Which brings us to the all-new 2007 Honda CR-V. Without a doubt, the 2007 Honda CR-V is more stylish, comfortable and powerful than any previous incarnation. In the market for a compact SUV but tired of the same old, same old? Face it, you crave change, and Honda of Santa Monica can deliver just that.

The all-new CR-V boasts a sleek, new exterior as well as an amenity-rich interior. And performance? Nothing in its class even comes close to the CR-V in the area of performance. For example, the CR-V's new suspension system delivers an unprecedented ride with improved handling and response, its iVTEC engine utilizes variable intake valve timing to optimize both torque and horsepower, and its revolutionary Real Time 4WD system is just what's needed to navigate any terrain with confidence. But let's cut to a most serious topic, shall we? Safety.

The people at Honda of Santa Monica understand where you're coming from. After all, they've been serving the community for over 35 years. You're active, always on the go. You've probably just started a family or are thinking about it. Safety is important to you, and it's important to Honda of Santa Monica, too. That's why they offer the 2007 CR-V standard with three-point seatbelts, front side airbags, front seat-mounted side airbags, front and rear seat side air curtains, and many more features. Needless to say, the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety's awarding of the "Top Safety Pick" to the 2007 CR-V is no small accolade; it's a tremendous, well-deserved honor. From the leather-trimmed luxury of its interior to the ingenuity of the Advanced Compatibility Engineering (ACE) body structure, the comfort and strength of the all-new CR-V will amaze and entice you.

You can feel it starting, can't you? The craving. Well, that's good. Crave all you want, just visit Honda of Santa Monica today--your community Honda store--and experience the all-new 2007 CR-V firsthand, then in that moment, ask yourself... What do I crave?