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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 83



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TRENDING TOPIC
SEE PAGE 3

THE **NEED A RIDE?** ISSUE

Car-share could be hitting local streets

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Car-sharing services that might eliminate the need to own a second — or even first — car could be available in Santa Monica by the end of the year, city officials said.

A team of city officials will be conducting interviews with four car-sharing companies on March 1, with the hope of selecting a service by summertime, said Sam Morrissey, City Hall's traffic engineer.

The identity of the companies which have applied is still under wraps.

That could put shared cars on the streets as soon as late summer or early fall, checking off another component of the transportation network identified in the 2010 Land Use and Circulation Element, or LUCE.

"The LUCE is really clear about having

SEE **SHARE** PAGE 10



FLASH FOR A CAUSE

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A flash mob was held on Main Street on Thursday to raise awareness of domestic violence. The flash mob in front of the Global Green headquarters was held in conjunction with the One Billion Rising project, which aims to curb the phenomenon of violence against women.

JAMS shows off big heart on Heart Day

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

JAMS Almost everyone has been subjected to the bouncy strains of "Gangnam Style," but it's not really worth it until you see several hundred middle school students recreating the horsey dance en masse.

Such was the scene at 10 a.m. Thursday morning at the second annual Heart Day at John Adams Middle School, an all-day event that brings the school together to take the focus off of Valentine's Day and put it on a different kind of love: Love of self and community.

"Hallmark has not hijacked this. We're taking it back!" said Nimish Patel, a member of the Board of Education, as he and the school children walked across the athletic field to begin the event.

This is the second year in a row that the middle school community has gathered in matching "I'm Possible" T-shirts to jam out to original songs and raps composed and performed by students, as well as the student band's rendition of Randy Newman's "You've Got a Friend in Me," popularized by the 1995 movie "Toy Story."

Music transitioned to dancing led by a professional Zumba instructor who took the kids through choreography to the latest top 40 hits, with JAMS teachers acting as backup dancers on the far sides of the field.

Students then broke up into other groups to climb a rock wall brought in for the day

SEE **JAMS** PAGE 11

Santa Monica money man indicted in stock scheme

BY HENRY CRUMBLISH
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN A Santa Monica financial adviser was arrested on Tuesday for his involvement in a stock market scheme that generated $30 million in illegal profits, federal prosecutors said.

Grover Henry Colin Nix IV, who headed Santa Monica-based Calbridge Capital LLC, plead not guilty in his initial federal court appearance and is currently being held without bond.

SEE **ARREST** PAGE 9

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Feb. 15, 2013

Mommy fitness class
Spectrum Athletic Club
2425 Olympic Blvd., 12 p.m.
The club will be hosting a free body combat group fitness class for moms. Don't miss this chance to meet other moms in the area while you work out. The class is followed by a tour of the athletic club with light refreshments. Must RSVP to attend, (562) 491-1000.

Explore the library
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Docent-led tours of the library are held every third Friday of the month. Explore the facility and find out what makes it a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design gold-rated building. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Saturday, Feb. 16, 2013

Whale of a weekend
Santa Monica Pier Aquarium
1600 Ocean Front Walk
12:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Celebrate the annual migration of the Pacific gray whale at the pier this weekend. Wildlife experts will be on hand with binoculars to view the migration and identify local birds. Visitors can feel the heft of a whale rib and try on a simulated layer of whale blubber. Admission is free for children 12 and under, for those accompanied by an adult. For those 13 and older, a $5 donation is suggested. For more information, call (310) 393-6149

Free income tax preparation
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
1 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance volunteers from UCLA will provide free income tax preparation assistance to low income, elderly, disabled and limited English speaking people. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.
or visit www.healthebay.org/smpa.

Sunday Feb. 17, 2013

Free concert
Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 3 p.m.
The Emeritus College Concert Band will be performing at the Broad Stage at Santa Monica College. The band will perform a variety of tunes from Broadway hits such as "West Side Story" and "Porgy and Bess." Seating is first come first serve; admission and parking are free.

Kids on stage
Barnum Hall,
Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 4 p.m.
The Santa Monica High School Theatre Department invites you to enjoy a performance of Stephen Sondheim's "Into The Woods." Join Cinderella, Jack & the Giant, and Little Red Riding Hood for a live orchestra performance. This will be the final performance of the annual musical at Barnum Hall. Tickets are $10 for students and $15 for adults and can be bought at the door or at www.samohitheatre.org.

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

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

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



Online chatter continues over Dorner's rampage

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The death of ex-Los Angeles police officer Christopher Dorner in a fiery standoff with authorities has done little to quell online chatter over a man whose rampage against law enforcement created a small but vocal following.

A Mexican crooner sings a traditional ballad titled "El Matapolicias," or "The Police Killer," in a video on Facebook with lyrics paying homage to Dorner's campaign of revenge against the Los Angeles Police Department.

A video game titled "Christopher Dorner's Last Stand Survival Game" on YouTube arms the player with a handgun to shoot out from the window of a wooden cabin into a snowy, pine-covered terrain. The first frame declares him "A True American Hero."

While most supporters don't condone killing people, they saw him as an outlaw hero who raged against powerful forces of authority. They even questioned whether he really died in an inferno in a mountain cabin in a resort town east of Los Angeles on Tuesday.

They wonder whether he escaped or would rise almost phoenix-like out of the ashes to continue a mission of vengeance that left four people dead, including two officers.

Natasha Lopez, a San Diego mother who has studied criminal justice, said she has started a petition asking that an independent agency reopen Dorner's case with LAPD, in which he alleged he was fired in 2008 after complaining about a supervisor kicking a mentally ill man.

"What about those lives destroyed by the corruption of the police force. What about those Americans who are not part of the law enforcement community who have to live their lives in fear due to negligence of authorities," she said in an email.

"I believe that he has opened a can of worms for the LAPD and opened the eyes of individuals that might have otherwise been blind."

SEE **ONLINE** PAGE 9

Bulger lawyer: Jury should decide immunity claims



MEN AT WORK Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A work crew conducts geotechnical sampling on the California Incline on Thursday afternoon, backing up traffic up to Ocean Avenue. The work comes in advance of a major overhaul of the aging structure. The incline connects Ocean Avenue to Pacific Coast Highway.

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON Former mobster James "Whitey" Bulger's claim that a federal prosecutor gave him immunity to commit crimes should be decided by a jury, not a judge, said his lawyer, who denied Wednesday that Bulger was an informant.

A federal prosecutor said at Wednesday's hearing that any immunity agreement Bulger claims he had with the government would be "void as a matter of law" if it included murder.

Both sides presented arguments to U.S. District Judge Richard Stearns, who is scheduled to preside at Bulger's June murder trial. Defense attorney J.W. Carney Jr. wants the claim to be included at the trial, while prosecutors say a judge should decide the issue before then.

Bulger, the former leader of the Winter Hill Gang, is accused of participating in 19 murders during the 1970s and '80s. He was also an informant for the FBI during that time, according to FBI files and testimony from his former cohorts — but his lawyer denied that Wednesday.

"James Bulger was never an informant for the FBI or for anybody else," Carney told reporters after the hearing. He didn't answer questions about why Bulger would have had immunity if he hadn't helped federal law enforcement officials as an informant. Carney said he planned to answer that during trial.

A spokesman for U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz declined to comment on Carney's remark.

Bulger, 83, fled Boston in 1994 and was one of the FBI's most wanted fugitives until his capture in Santa Monica, Calif., in 2011.

Bulger had claimed federal prosecutor Jeremiah O'Sullivan gave him immunity for crimes while Bulger was providing the FBI with information on local leaders of his gang's main rivals, the Mafia. O'Sullivan, who died in 2009, denied making an immunity deal with Bulger when he testified before Congress in 2002.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Zachary Hafer told the judge Wednesday that even if Bulger is to be believed, as a matter of law, an assistant U.S. attorney doesn't have the authority

SEE **BULGER** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lost in the mail

Editor:

No doubt everyone reading this paper has their horror stories regarding the downfall of the U.S. Postal Service. In my case it has been umpteen instances of my mail disappearing somewhere between the carriers' carts and my mailbox.

Things descended to an all time low almost three weeks ago when I found an 80-year-old neighbor beating my door down and complaining about her mail being stolen. The "thief" in this case turned out to be the mail carrier herself.

I located the carrier, who was still on the block, to get her side of the story. Evidently there had been an altercation of some sort between herself and my elderly neighbor regarding codes for the security gates at the front of our building and because she (the carrier) didn't care for my neighbor's tone of voice, had arbitrarily decided that all mail deliveries to our building would be suspended for five days. I thought at first it was some kind of silly joke, but when I demanded my mail she became hostile and tried to ignore me. I demanded her supervisor's name and number, which she reluctantly gave me and I called to report her behavior.

As usual, her supervisor was "out in the field," but after several instances of being put on hold and/or hung up on I did get to talk to someone who was appalled at the carrier's behavior and attitude. All the information was taken down and I was assured the supervisor would be in touch, the carrier would be disciplined and the mail would be delivered by the end of the day.

Several more phone calls went unanswered and when I did get someone to talk to before they could put me on hold, they told me their supervisor was either "too busy," "out to lunch" or "back out in the field." Each one assured me their supervisor was "on top of it" and would get "right back to me."

Our landlord even went to the Seventh Street facility to speak personally to the supervisor, but she refused to see him and had one of her subordinates take his name and phone number, promising to get back to him by day's end. This was Jan. 24. Neither myself nor my landlord have heard a single word from this supervisor, either in apology for the behavior of one of her carriers or to let us know what steps (if any) she was prepared to take to remedy the problem.

Personally, I feel her refusal to even acknowledge the incident is tantamount to her condoning it.

Going over her head was a waste of time. I demanded a number for her bosses and I was given a number that turned out to be a credit card debt collection agency.

I would have doubted the very existence of this supervisor had I not actually spoken to her once regarding an un-related matter. I complained about her employees hanging up on customers or putting them on hold for eternity. She explained that if a customer was on hold for two minutes they should hang up because the overworked employee had obviously forgotten about them. As if to punctuate her statement, she put me on hold then hung up a few minutes later.

I eventually found a (323) area code phone number for USPS Consumer Affairs. I called the number incessantly for almost two weeks and not a single call was answered. So good to see your tax dollars at work.

USPS is a rapidly sinking ship and these parasitic public servants have no one to blame but themselves and as usual, it's the stupid taxpayer who takes the biggest hit.

Michael Docherty
Santa Monica

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

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Back to Nature

Reese Halter — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stop the war against dolphins

TWENTY YEARS AGO IN AUSTRALIA I HELPED free a bottlenose dolphin from a drift net. In 2004, a small pod of bottlenose dolphins protected four swimmers from great white sharks for 40 minutes until the sharks lost interest and left. Last week, I was very touched to learn that a dolphin essentially asked a diver for help removing a hook from its left pectoral fin.

Like millions of moviegoers around the globe I was enraged by the Academy Award-winning documentary "The Cove."

The oceans belong to "the commons." They are our grandchildren's legacy. No country is entitled, irrespective of ancient cultural practices or not, to slaughter 20,000 dolphins or capture and live trade dolphins or other small whales with impunity.

Let me tell you why and what we can do about it.

Dolphins are aquatic, top-predator mammals classified as a type of whale or cetacean. There are two types of cetaceans. Baleen whales filter massive amounts of small oceanic organisms, called krill, with comb-like sieves in their mouths. Toothed whales, on the other hand, grab prey with their teeth. Dolphins and their mistaken twin, the porpoise, are a type of toothed whale. There are about 70 kinds of toothed whales, and about 45 species of dolphins, porpoises and false whales, such as killer whales or orcas.

Dolphins are innovative when faced with a new scenario or situation. This goes beyond genetic programming of behavior. Innovation allows rapid assessment of a new situation and reactions to it. Dolphins clearly understand gestures, similar to sign language that chimpanzees are also able to learn. Humans and dolphins appear to be the only known animals to spontaneously interpret images on a screen without prior teaching. Dolphins are capable of highly flexible behavior, and therefore are considered intelligent.

Like crows and ants, dolphins use tools to assist when foraging. In Australia, bottlenose dolphins scour the ocean bottom using sonar or echolocation and probing their nose or rostrum up to 30 inches into the floor. But in order to protect their nose and face from spines and stingers, they wisely use a sponge whilst hunting for buried bottom-dwelling fish.

Right now in Taiji, Japan "The War Against" is brutally exterminating dolphins and small whales.

From September to March, each morning fisherman head out to sea in their banger boats — striking steel pipes which confuse and startle dolphins, driving them or small whales into a bay, which is quickly netted off to prevent their escape. Agitated they are left over night to calm down.

Many are injured, suffering from broken pectoral fins. Others die from extreme stress and exhaustion.

The following morning fisherman re-enter the penned bay and catch and kill the dolphins, one by one. Some are dragged by their tails in a process known as "pithing" onto the shoreline. A steel pine is driven through their spine, quickly pulled out, and the hole is plugged by a wooden stopper preventing blood from filling the cover. It is a gruesome spectacle. Some juveniles are taken away for sale to dolphinariums.

Sea Shepherd and other activists protecting nature arrive each morning in the Taiji harbor where throngs of police meet them, outnumbering the activists by at least five to one.

The Japanese slaughter dolphins for food. Sadly, the dolphins are toxic; they contain levels of mercury poisoning in excess of 160 times that of safe levels for human consumption. As a matter of fact, young children and pregnant mothers are advised by the Japanese government not to eat dolphin. Dolphin meat sells for $520 a beast. Aquariums eagerly pay upwards of $140,000 for juvenile dolphins.

In a world preoccupied with rights — which in most cases are confused with privileges — it is a terrible indictment on our species not being concerned with why levels of mercury are so elevated in these apex-marine predators. What we do to our oceans we do to ourselves.

Mercury is a neurotoxin; mercury poisoning disables the central nervous system. No animal should swallow mercury.

The bloody and senseless right of entitlement by the Japanese fisheries must end. Dolphins and whales play a crucial role in the health and well-being of our oceans. They cull the old and weak, essentially ensuring a high level of fitness amongst their prey. They also prevent diseases from becoming epidemics.

There's a lot each of us can do to stop this barbaric practice and extreme cruelty to these exquisite marine mammals i.e. dolphins and orcas.

The way to affect change is through the power of our collective wallets, by acting fiscally together we can cut off the demand for live traded animals. Don't buy tickets to any dolphinariums or parks with captured marine mammals.

Next, let the Japanese Tourism Agency know that you will not visit their nation due to the destruction of dolphins and whales. It will take less than two minutes to send them an e-mail; our goal is 50 million e-mails. Just do it.

Lastly, please support the conservation work of Blue Voice, Save Japan Dolphins, Ocean Preservation Society, Animals Australia and Operation Infinite Patience — Sea Shepherd.

Dolphins are playful, affectionate, curious, intelligent, social and vocal. Are they the creatures humans would have been had we not left the water?

Wild dolphins, like all other animals, including humans, are entitled to the right to life on our blue planet.

EARTH DR. REESE HALTER is a broadcaster, biologist and co-author with Chris Maser of their forthcoming book "Life, The Wonder of it All."

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 13!
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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Creating a new tennis tradition?

LOS ANGELES IS A CITY GENERALLY known more for outrageous fads than its reverence for tradition. (Think hula hoops and mini-skirts.) And yet this summer would have marked the 87th anniversary of the L.A. Open tennis tournament. Originally the Pacific Southwest Championships, it began in 1927. It was won that year by Bill Tilden, who dominated tennis throughout the 1920s in what many historians consider a golden age of sports.

Under the stewardship of Perry T. Jones, L.A. Tennis Club's iron-fisted majordomo, the Pacific Southwest was regarded as the second most prestigious tennis tournament in the U.S., right behind the U.S. Championships. (Now the U.S. Open.) The packed crowds at LATC were filled with Hollywood stars who added glamour to the already glamorous sport. But sadly the L.A. Open is no longer.

This past December, much to my dismay, I received an e-mail from the Farmer's Classic at UCLA, the current incarnation of the Pacific Southwest. Due to financial losses in recent years, they announced they were folding the tent on professional tennis in L.A. and, oh by the way, have a happy holiday season.

As a fan of big time tennis and also of L.A. history, it was a double whammy. One only has to look at the roll call of past winners of this tournament to measure the loss. The list is a who's who of tennis royalty: Gonzales, Laver, Rosewall, Emerson, McEnroe, Connors, Agassi, Sampras, Becker and Chang, to name but only a few.

The winner in 1966 was Allen Fox, a UCLA alum and former NCAA singles and doubles champion. Fox describes the Pacific Southwest of the 1950s as a cultural happening. The greatest tennis players on the planet, from all the cosmopolitan capitals from around the globe, descended upon the relatively provincial Los Angeles of that era. The tournament put L.A. tennis on the world stage.

Alas, those days are gone forever, or so it seemed. After the Farmer's e-mail, I wrote a couple of columns and whined to friends about how much I longed for the "good old days." Fortunately, two ambitious and energetic players, one retired and one on tour, are doing something about returning pro tennis back to the City of Angels.

Outspoken and occasionally controversial Justin Gimelstob, a Santa Monica resident and former UCLA tennis All-American, is a polished TV analyst for the Tennis Channel and NBC. At 36 and retired, he's a two-time Grand Slam winner, having captured the French and Australian Open Mixed Doubles titles with Venus Williams. Gimelstob is also good friends with Mardy Fish, former no. 7 in the world who's won six ATP titles and a silver medal in the 2004 Olympics.

The two reached out to the tennis community and, after a lot of networking, arm twisting and perhaps borderline begging, came up with the first inaugural Los Angeles Tennis Challenge to be held at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 4. The players will be donating their time and expenses, meaning all of the proceeds are going to charity. And wait until you see who's playing.



Matthew Hynes *editor@smdp.com*

KABOOM! **Novak Djokovic, No.1 in the world, will play a tournament at UCLA on March 4.**

Novak Djokovic, the no. 1 player in the world, and recent winner of his third straight Australian Open (Open Era record) has never played tennis in L.A. But on March 4 he'll be facing Fish in the main event singles match. He'll also be teaming up with his boyhood tennis idol, Pete Sampras, the 14-time Grand Slam champion and perhaps the greatest American player of all-time, as the two take on perhaps the best doubles team of all-time, Mike and Bob Bryan.

All the Bryans have done in their "modest" tennis careers is win 13 Grand Slam doubles titles, an Olympic gold, and racked up a 20-3 Davis Cup record. The Bryans are very comfortable at UCLA, having won an all-time best six doubles titles at the L.A. Tennis Center. (Yes, but can they beat Novak and Pete? Actually it probably should be worded the other way around.)

"It's going to be an unforgettable night," Gimelstob said, "and we're proud to be bringing the highest caliber of professional tennis back to L.A. and playing indoors at the historic and newly renovated Pauley Pavilion." And set the DVR as the L.A. Tennis Challenge will be broadcast by the Tennis Channel.

Sponsored by Audi, Esurance, K-Swiss, DailyNews.com and 10sballs.com, the star-studded event is destined to draw a celebrity-packed crowd. In the meantime, Gimelstob and Fish have secured a three-year deal with UCLA and hope for next year to include top women players such as Maria Sharapova.

It'll take a lot to match the glory of the Pacific Southwest Championships but this is a tremendous start to hopefully a new L. A. tradition. Who knows, I may even have to stop whining about missing the good old days.

For tickets go to www.latennischallenge.com. **JACK** can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

Something in the air

City officials are actively seeking the public's opinion on medical marijuana dispensaries. There are currently none located in Santa Monica, but there are certainly interested parties who would like to set up shop.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think dispensaries should be allowed in town, and if so, where and under what guidelines?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.





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SPECIAL MEETING

DATE/TIME: February 21, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Multi-purpose Room, (wheelchair accessible)
Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard

PROPERTIES:
- ARB 12-513, 1803-07 16th Street: Residential
- ARB 13-001, 626 Broadway: Commercial
- ARB 13-002, 1215 3rd Street Promenade: Retail
- ARB 13-018, 1401 Ocean Avenue: Restaurant
- ARB 13-039, 201 Ocean Avenue: Residential
- ARB 13-050, 947 4th Street: Residential
- ARB 13-051, 3131 Olympic Boulevard: School

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 (en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail laura.beck@smgov.net, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus line #1 and Metro #4 serve the Santa Monica Main Library.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Ordinance Amending the Sign Code**

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following:

Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend SMMC Section 9.52.135 to Eliminate the Sunset Provision in this Section Which Permits Temporary Portable Signs in the Main Street Commercial District.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2012, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Sign Code Ordinance
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Steve Traeger at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at steve.traeger@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Study: Fish in drug-tainted water suffer adverse reactions

BY JEFF DONN
Associated Press

BOSTON What happens to fish that swim in waters tainted by traces of drugs that people take? When it's an anti-anxiety drug, they become hyper, anti-social and aggressive, a study found. They even get the munchies.

It may sound funny, but it could threaten the fish population and upset the delicate dynamics of the marine environment, scientists say.

The findings, published online Thursday in the journal Science, add to the mounting evidence that minuscule amounts of medicines in rivers and streams can alter the biology and behavior of fish and other marine animals.

"I think people are starting to understand that pharmaceuticals are environmental contaminants," said Dana Kolpin, a researcher for the U.S. Geological Survey who is familiar with the study.

Calling their results alarming, the Swedish researchers who did the study suspect the little drugged fish could become easier targets for bigger fish because they are more likely to venture alone into unfamiliar places.

"We know that in a predator-prey relation, increased boldness and activity combined with decreased sociality ... means you're going to be somebody's lunch quite soon," said Gregory Moller, a toxicologist at the University of Idaho and Washington State University. "It removes the natural balance."

Researchers around the world have been taking a close look at the effects of pharmaceuticals in extremely low concentrations, measured in parts per billion. Such drugs have turned up in waterways in Europe, the U.S. and elsewhere over the past decade.

They come mostly from humans and farm animals; the drugs pass through their bodies in unmetabolized form. These drug traces are then piped to water treatment plants, which are not designed to remove them from the cleaned water that flows back into streams and rivers.

The Associated Press first reported in 2008 that the drinking water of at least 51 million Americans carries low concentrations of many common drugs. The findings were based on questionnaires sent to water utilities, which reported the presence of antibiotics, sedatives, sex hormones and other drugs.

The news reports led to congressional hearings and legislation, more water testing and more public disclosure. To this day, though, there are no mandatory U.S. limits on pharmaceuticals in waterways.

The research team at Sweden's Umea University used minute concentrations of 2 parts per billion of the anti-anxiety drug oxazepam, similar to concentrations found in real waters. The drug belongs to a widely used class of medicines known as benzodiazepines that includes Valium and Librium.

The team put young wild European perch into an aquarium, exposed them to these highly diluted drugs and then carefully measured feeding, schooling, movement and hiding behavior. They found that drug-exposed fish moved more, fed more aggressively, hid less and tended to school less than unexposed fish. On average, the drugged fish were more than twice as active as the others, researcher Micael Jonsson said. The effects were more pronounced at higher drug concentrations.

"Our first thought is, this is like a person diagnosed with ADHD," said Jonsson, referring to attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder. "They become asocial and more active than they should be."

Tomas Brodin, another member of the research team, called the drug's environmental impact a global problem. "We find these concentrations or close to them all over the world, and it's quite possible or even probable that these behavioral effects are taking place as we speak," he said Thursday in Boston at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Most previous research on trace drugs and marine life has focused on biological changes, such as male fish that take on female characteristics. However, a 2009 study found that tiny concentrations of antidepressants made fathead minnows more vulnerable to predators.

It is not clear exactly how long-term drug exposure, beyond the seven days in this study, would affect real fish in real rivers and streams. The Swedish researchers argue that the drug-induced changes could jeopardize populations of this sport and commercial fish, which lives in both fresh and brackish water.

Water toxins specialist Anne McElroy of Stony Brook University in New York agreed: "These lower chronic exposures that may alter things like animals' mating behavior or its ability to catch food or its ability to avoid being eaten — over time, that could really affect a population."

Another possibility, the researchers said, is that more aggressive feeding by the perch on zooplankton could reduce the numbers of these tiny creatures. Since zooplankton feed on algae, a drop in their numbers could allow algae to grow unchecked. That, in turn, could choke other marine life.

The Swedish team said it is highly unlikely people would be harmed by eating such drug-exposed fish. Jonsson said a person would have to eat 4 tons of perch to consume the equivalent of a single pill.

Researchers said more work is needed to develop better ways of removing drugs from water at treatment plants. They also said unused drugs should be brought to take-back programs where they exist, instead of being flushed down the toilet. And they called on pharmaceutical companies to work on "greener" drugs that degrade more easily.

Sandoz, one of three companies approved to sell oxazepam in the U.S., "shares society's desire to protect the environment and takes steps to minimize the environmental impact of its products over their life cycle," spokeswoman Julie Masow said in an e-mailed statement. She provided no details.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Email to: editor@smdp.com or fax to (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737



The Program

Thomas Roe
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

(20)13 is your new lucky number

TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN and seems to drag when you've fallen off the fitness grid. It's that time of year when we tend to break our New Year's resolutions. Whether you're setting resolutions or goals, sticking to them and accomplishing them may be a little more challenging then you had hoped. In order to be successful in achieving or reaching your goals, I've suggested the following to my clients in the past with over 90 percent success.

Set a goal or resolution that is important to you. The biggest obstacle my clients have faced is doing something for someone else. If you aren't emotionally and personally invested, it's wasted time and effort (and sometimes money). Doing something for someone else and they don't notice or acknowledge your efforts will most likely cause you to abort or rebel.

Make your resolutions manageable and obtainable. If your goal is to drop 15 to 20 pounds by the summer so you look good in that bikini or swim trunks, keep in mind that an ambitious weight loss plan will suggest 1 to 2 pounds per week. No quicker way to derail the "diet" then falling short of your plan. What's more, if you've been smoking for years be reasonable in managing your expectations on going cold turkey and waking up cigarette free.

Be kind to yourself. Does missing a training session because of work or your child's school play give you reason to throw in the towel? No, it means you'll have to plan your fitness schedule around work and family functions. I've always been a huge proponent for morning workouts as the end of day options are plentiful.

Journal it! The best way to bear witness to your success is to write it down and check it off as you accomplish or achieve your milestone. Old school, hand written or a web site like FatBurn.com is a great resource as most of us have access to a computer throughout the day.

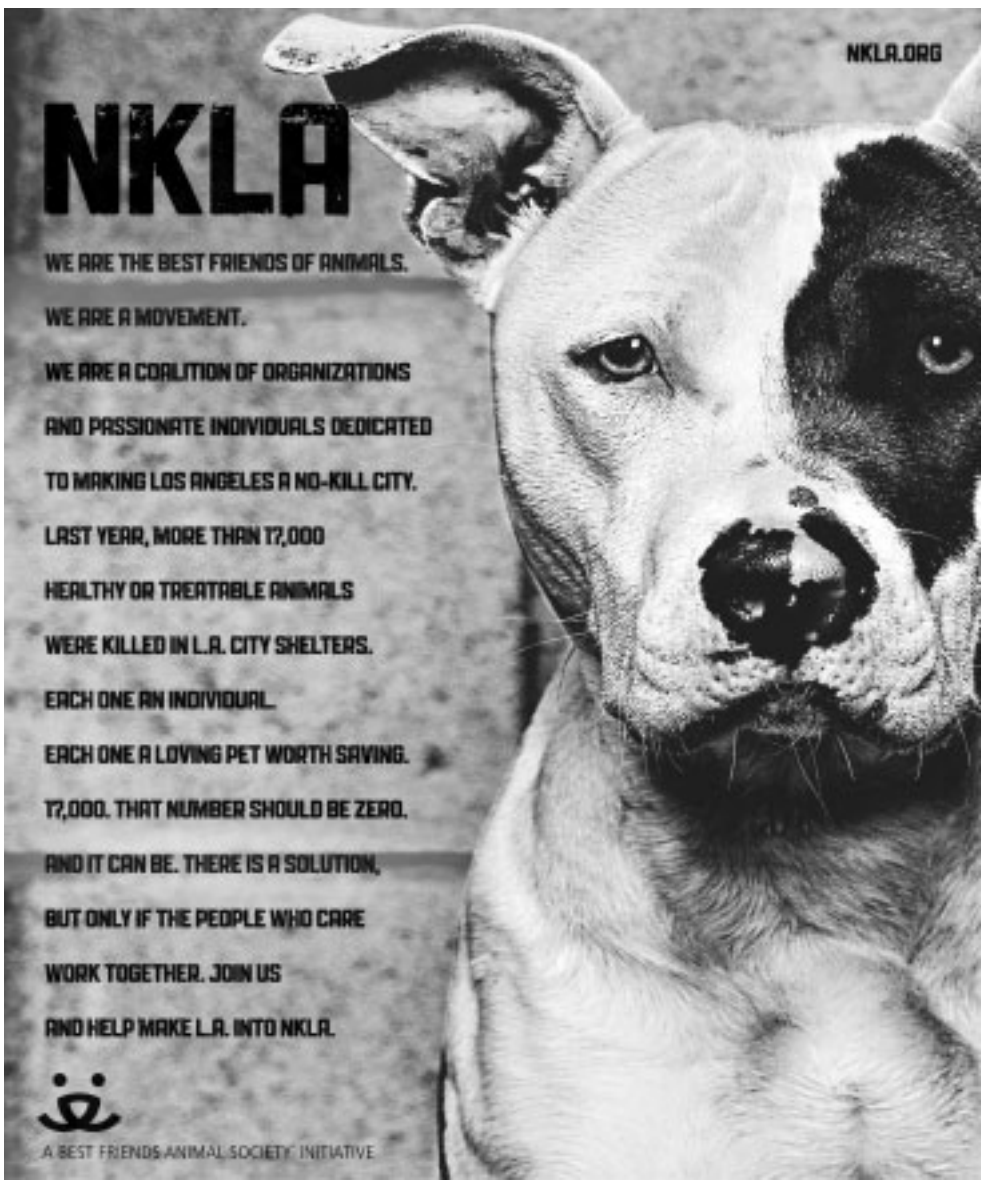
Partner up — no "I" in team. There's a reason our military special forces teams have the buddy system. It's for support, encouragement and accountability. So create your own special forces team and get friends and family to help toe the line with you. Winning as a team always feels better then a solo accomplishment. Have you ever done something great and given yourself a high-five? Didn't think so.

K.I.S.S. and make up. Keep it super simple. Try to keep your goals or resolutions to one or two at most. Showing up isn't a success; keeping your word and goals is. Any resolutions greater than two is like wrangling kittens — frustrating and usually a lost cause.

T. ROE FIT BIT

For a great post workout, low-calorie meal on the cheap check out Monsoon Cafe on the Third Street Promenade. My favorite is the chicken teriyaki, gluten-free pasta bowl (vegetarian is available with tofu). Be sure to ask for half the serving of pasta and light sauce or have it on the side. The lunch portion is less then 500 total calories. Or for that morning caffeine-free jolt visit Jamba Juice for a 2-ounce shot of wheatgrass paired with their plain steel cut oatmeal. They're both filling and less then 240 calories.

THOMAS ROE has been an American Council on Exercise certified personal trainer for more than 12 years and holds a degree in endurance nutrition. Learn more at http://nogymfitness.com or call (310) 666-3592.



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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Consideration of proposed ordinance to establish a Transportation Impact Fee

WHEN: Tuesday, February 26, 2013, at 6:45 p.m.

WHERE: Santa Monica City Hall, Council Chambers, Room 213
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The City Council will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of an ordinance which would establish a Transportation Impact Fee charged for new development and intensified land uses that would fund transportation improvements such as new sidewalks, crosswalks, traffic signal upgrades, transit and bicycle facilities that are necessitated by the new trips associated with land use change. The fees would be charged based on residential units or commercial square footage. The fees would be effective 60 days after the second reading of the ordinance. The fee is proposed to be charged prior to issuance of building permits, unless state law requires the City to accept later fee payment.

The proposed Transportation Impact Fee reflects the costs associated with transportation improvements and the amount of new auto trips that can be attributed to land use changes. An explanation of the methodology to establish the fee is set forth in a study prepared for the City by Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates Inc. and Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants. A copy of this study is now available at the City Clerk's Office in Room 102 of City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California. This information is also available online at www.smgov.net/transportation (Transportation Section).

HOW TO COMMENT:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this matter. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment at the City Council's public hearing or by writing a letter.

Letters should be addressed to: City Clerk
Re: Transportation Impact Fee
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
Further information may be obtained from the Strategic & Transportation Planning Division at the address above or by calling (310) 458-8341.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office (310) 458-8211 or TDD: (310) 917-6626 at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7 and #9 service the City Hall and Civic Center.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica, at or prior to the Public Hearing.

ESPANOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para adoptar una tarifa sobre el desarrollo en Santa Monica para mejorar la sistema de tranportación. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Police make arrests in home-invasion robbery

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SATURDAY, FEB. 2, AT 8:45 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to an apartment on the 1200 block of Franklin Street on the report of a home invasion robbery that just occurred. When officers arrived they made contact with a man who said he was asleep in his room when he was awakened by the sound of someone kicking in his front door. When he exited his bedroom he was pepper sprayed by a man who began demanding money. The alleged victim provided cash and a laptop computer. The suspect then fled. Investigators took over the case and determined the culprit was at the home the day before with a female friend of the victim. Officers located the man and woman in Simi Valley, Calif. and placed them under arrest for robbery. They were identified as Jeremy Pulkrapek, 35, and Caitlin Johnson, 19; both from Simi Valley, Calif. Bail was set at $100,000 each. A third suspect was still outstanding.

SATURDAY, FEB. 9, AT 7 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of Third Street – Sephora – regarding a report of a suspected shoplifter leaving the store. While en route, officers received a description of the suspect and the direction he was traveling. Police caught up to the suspect along the 200 block of Arizona Avenue and he was positively identified by store security. Officers learned that the suspect was seen inside the store by security removing two bottles of perfume and concealed them in his own shopping bag. He then allegedly left the store without offering to pay. Officers checked the bag and found several additional items sold at the MAC Store on the promenade. Officers spoke with MAC employees, who identified their products and said the suspect did not make any purchases, despite having merchandise in his bag. Officers recovered surveillance video of the alleged theft and placed the suspect under arrest for burglary and receiving stolen property. He also had no license plate on his car. The suspect was identified as Vardges Farsakyan, 33, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, FEB. 9, AT 6:51 P.M.,
Officers assigned to the Crime Impact Team were on patrol near the corner of Lincoln Boulevard and Ashland Avenue when they saw a man on foot fail to stop for a red light as he crossed the street. Officers stopped him and learned that he had a no-bail warrant for his arrest. Officers detained him and searched him. They said they found a glass pipe commonly used to smoke methamphetamine, several prescription pills and stolen credit cards. The suspect was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, stolen property, drug paraphernalia and prescription drugs without a prescription, plus warrants. He was identified as Anthony Autry, 30, of Los Angeles. No bail was set.

FRIDAY, FEB. 8, 9 P.M.,
Officers were on patrol in the 1900 block of Washington Avenue when they saw a man who was standing on the corner look at them and then suddenly turn and run in the opposite direction. Officers gave chase and detained him on the 1000 block of 19th Street. While talking with the suspect officers were approached by security from the nearby Rite Aid, who said the suspect was one of two people who were caught stealing from the store. Security said the suspect returned the property, while the other ran. Officers saw the one who ran a block or so away and detained him for stealing shirts from the store. The property was not recovered and the suspect allegedly refused to cooperate. He was placed under arrest and booked for burglary. He was identified as Grant Leach, 20, of Lake View Terrace, Calif. His bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, FEB. 7, AT 11:11 P.M.,
Officers were on patrol along the 1400 block of Pico Boulevard when they saw a burgundy Toyota with heavily tinted windows, a violation of the California Vehicle Code. Officers stopped the vehicle to speak with the driver. Officers said they noticed the passenger was moving around constantly in his seat, was sweating profusely even though it was cold outside and had white foam around his mouth. When asked if he was OK, he became defensive and paranoid, police said. Officers asked him to step out of the car and perform some field sobriety tests. After the tests, officers concluded he was under the influence of drugs and placed him under arrest. He was identified as Thomas O'Rourke, 54, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $2,500.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, AT 12:29 P.M.,
Officers responded to a home on the 800 block of Grant Street regarding a report of a man urinating and masturbating in an alley in front of someone. When officers arrived they made contact with a woman who said that she was in her kitchen and when she looked out the window saw the suspect relieving himself on a telephone pole. She opened her kitchen door and asked the suspect what he was doing. He said he was peeing. She told him to stop and leave. The suspect then allegedly turned toward the woman and began manipulating his penis in front of her. Officers located the suspect at Lincoln Boulevard and Grant Street. He was detained after being identified. The suspect was placed under arrest for engaging in lewd acts and public urination. He was identified as Tony Calhoun, 29, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $1,000.

editor@smdp.com

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** contributed to this report.

BULGER
FROM PAGE 3

to grant anyone immunity to kill Americans.

"Any contract between Mr. O'Sullivan and Mr. Bulger — to the extent it contemplated murder — would be void as a matter of law against public policy," Hafer said.

Bulger's immunity claim would distract and confuse the jury, Hafer said. Prosecutors have previously called Bulger's claim "absurd."

The Boston Globe reported last week that prosecutors said in a lengthy filing that Bulger weakened his immunity argument by saying in a recorded 2012 jailhouse conversation with one of his brothers that he hadn't been an informant. Bulger said, "I bought (expletive) information, I didn't sell it," according to the court filing.

Carney argued Wednesday that his client must be given the right to present his immunity claim as his defense in order to ensure a fair trial.

"James Bulger will testify that he was given immunity from prosecution by Jeremiah O'Sullivan," Carney said. "I suspect the government will have quite a few questions for Mr. Bulger. It certainly will be a central ... if not the central finding of fact made by the jury."

Carney continued: "To remove his defense of immunity from being presented to the jury based on any type of factual finding by Your Honor would, in effect, deny him his right to a fair trial."

The judge took the request under advisement and didn't indicate when he would rule. He gave prosecutors and Bulger's lawyers two weeks to file additional written arguments.

ONLINE
FROM PAGE 3

That perception caused the police department to announce it would take another look at Dorner's case to dispel any overtones of cover-up or racism, but police Chief Charlie Beck rejected any notion of appeasing Dorner, calling his acts "domestic terrorism."

Experts said the fascination with Dorner's story is rooted in the average person's feeling of powerlessness against authority and a deep-seated desire to win over the system. Most people daydream about getting back at their boss.

"People love the idea of hiding out and beating the system," said Bruce Jackson, distinguished professor of American culture at the State University of New York at Buffalo. "They get charmed with the chase and forget the reason for the chase. People cut it into two stories."

Folklore around the world is full of such fugitives, famed more for their escapes from justice than for the misdeeds that made them flee: England's Robin Hood, to name one. In the United States, Americans have a pantheon of western outlaws.

Even though the vast majority of fugitives get caught, going down in a hail of bullets only adds to the legend. Think Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

Dorner clearly put himself in the category, stating in his Facebook manifesto that he did not expect to survive his campaign to clear his name. A rambling Facebook manifesto in which police said he articulated his motives was a key element that drew many to his cause.

Internet distribution allowed people to judge him for themselves and voice their opinions under a cloak of anonymity.

They could also follow his story in real time as heavily armed police across the Southwest and Mexico searched for him. It evolved into something akin to a real-life video game — a camouflage-clad character armed with high-powered weapons battling the enemy.

"You are participating in it on some level," said Robert Thompson, professor of television and popular culture at Syracuse University.

Still, Thompson stressed that despite two dozen Facebook pages dedicated to Dorner and some people tweeting in Dorner's name, it was still only a small percentage of the public. Most people were not fans of Dorner's actions.

"His manifesto pointed out that he was victimized, but that does not give you right to seek justice as you see fit," said Nilon Seals III, a Long Beach, Calif., analyst for a Los Angeles city agency. "You aren't a victim when you make new victims."

ARREST
FROM PAGE 1

Attempts to reach Calbridge Capital were unsuccessful.

Federal authorities arrested 14 people this week who were named in two indictments that allege long-term stock manipulation that resulted in 20,000 investors losing $30 million.

The 39-year-old Nix, along with 13 other businessmen, is now facing charges of money laundering, wire fraud and securities fraud. Due to the large sum of money and the severity of the crimes, Nix and others are facing possible life sentences, said Thom Mrozek, spokesmen for the Department of Justice.

"It's up to the sentencing judge," he said.

One indictment alleges that nine defendants conspired to commit securities and wire fraud in which members of the scheme generated $13 million in illegal profits. Nix, along with four others, are also alleged to have engaged in using funds transferred from offshore accounts to promote their fraudulent scheme.

"The defendants' alleged combination of celebrities, press releases, gimmicks and lies was similar to how a magician deceives unsuspecting believers into an illusion," said Bill Lewis, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office.

The second indictment concerns a stock manipulation allegedly headed by Regis Possino, a former L.A. County deputy district attorney, and Nix.

The Possino indictment alleges that members of the conspiracy made at least $18 million in illegal profits from selling their shares of manipulated companies.

A company CEO brought into one of the schemes summed up a typical deal during a wiretapped call: "There's nothing in there, there's nothing to the company. It's monkey business."

Nix is scheduled to have his detention hearing next week in U.S. District Court. Trial dates for both cases were scheduled for April 9 in Los Angeles.

editor@smdp.com

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or email **Schwenker@smdp.com**


SHARE
FROM PAGE 1

the city embark on a car-sharing program, and the need to create and establish a strong car-share program in Santa Monica," Morrissey said.

Car-share services, like Zip Car and City Car Share, allow members to reserve vehicles for specific times without the paperwork and wait time involved in renting a car.

Appointments can last for several hours, allowing people to complete errands, attend meetings and conduct other business in areas less accessible to public transportation.

The service helps reduce congestion by removing cars from the road during peak hours, generally the morning and evening commutes. Instead, people who live and work near buses or other transit can use those to get to work and then use one of the rentable cars to conduct other business on an as-needed basis.

It is sometimes referred to as the "missing link" in alternatives to private car ownership because it fills in the gaps left by other modes like walking, bicycling or buses.

"It's on-demand access to transportation," Morrissey said.

City Hall is looking for a program that will make various kinds of environmentally-friendly cars available to members of the car-share network through an online reservation and billing site.

It just became feasible last year when the City Council passed an ordinance allowing car-share vehicles to take up space on the streets.

The company selected would also be expected to promote other kinds of alternative transportation, and maintain "reasonable prices" throughout the one-year pilot program.

Pricing can vary considerably from company to company, Morrissey said, with some companies requiring membership fees and others sticking to hourly rates in the neighborhood of $20.

Some also include mileage limits, and charge extra when those are exceeded.

It can still be cheaper than driving a car, which Morrissey estimates at $10,000 a year in terms of insurance, fuel and maintenance costs.

That may hold true for City Hall, as well.

The three staff members of the Transportation Demand Management section run the city's pool car vehicle program, a system that allows employees to take a car out when they need it to get to an off-site meeting.

If the car share can do that for less, it would take significant pressure off of those three employees who are also responsible for overseeing the 650 transportation demand management programs impacting 37,000 employees in Santa Monica.

"It's a pretty heavy-duty task," Morrissey said.

ALREADY ON THE ROAD

Cities across the country are embracing car-share as an option to cut down on traffic and provide residents and visitors with other transportation options.

A 2005 report conducted by the Transportation Research Board said that by December of 2004, car share services claimed 71,000 members in the United States and Canada. A 2009 study published in the Transportation Research Record put that figure at 319,000 sharing 7,500 vehicles in North America.

The second study shows that large numbers of car-share members — anywhere between 15 and 32 percent, depending on the program — gave up their private vehicles after joining the program, and even more avoided buying a car at all.

Morrissey himself experienced the relative ease of the car-share program when he worked in Downtown L.A. Access to a vehicle when-needed allowed his family to avoid buying a second car.

"I would take the train to work, and use a car-share vehicle to go to meetings and come back," he said.

According to the Transportation Research Board study, car-share users tend to have a higher level of education, are between 30 and 40 years old and fall within the middle to high-income range.

They also had specific opinions about cars and what they are used for, putting environmental concerns over aesthetic ones like the look or brand name of the vehicle, the report stated.

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Ashley Archibald *ashley@smdp.com*

ALL ABOUT HEART: **John Adams Middle School students take part Thursday in the annual Heart Day, which focuses attention on the love of self and community. The celebration included a group Zumba session and a speech by Violet Palmer, the first female NBA referee.**

JAMS
FROM PAGE 1

and listen to Violet Palmer, the first female referee in the National Basketball Association, who described the long, hard road to her position.

Palmer then had to leave to prepare for the Thursday night Lakers game.

The theme of the day shifted somewhat from the previous year, which put more of a focus on redefining love to include taking care of oneself and others.

This year included a spotlight on the future, asking kids to explore their hopes, dreams and talents in hopes of discovering a passion that can translate into a career.

"Part of taking great care of her future is not just having a job that makes money, but a fulfilling job," said Principal Eva Mayoral.

Mayoral is also the principal architect of Heart Day.

She approached staff, faculty and parents individually in 2011 to describe her vision for a different, better Valentine's Day that got away from the chocolate and popularity contests and delved into meaningful topics and discussion.

This year, the Parent Teacher Association was prepared, and included over $4,000 in its budget to pay for the T-shirts, said Joan Krenik, president of the group.

The Science Magnet group also pitched in $1,000.

"This being the second year made a big difference," Krenik said. "It's becoming a big part of the curriculum. People really start to think thoughtfully, start making it a big month-long series of events and try to bring the parents and community to get more involved."

In the weeks leading up to the day, classes held decorating competitions in the heart theme and worked with parents to help children identify their strengths as part of a "notes from the heart" series.

Despite the prior planning, which began in November, not everything went perfectly on Heart Day.

Reality flouted Mayoral's down-to-the-minute schedule when the legs of the stage needed for the Zumba performance failed to arrive with the rest.

Her students appreciated the effort, however.

"We were here for the first year, and it's more special. We care more," said Sophia Turner, a seventh grader.

ashley@smdp.com









Legislator wants condoms on porn actors working in state

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Just in time for Valentine's Day, a state assemblyman is proposing a special gift for porn actors — condoms for every adult film made in California.

Standing next to a table covered in prophylactics, each wrapped in bright holiday covers and bearing names like "Love" and "Icon," Assemblyman Isadore Hall, D-Compton, said it's time for California to share the love with those involved in one of its most lucrative industries.

Lawmakers can do that, he added, by making sure porn actors are covered, so to speak, with safety protections, just as the state mandates measures for people who work in dangerous professions such as construction.

"The adult film industry, given the type of work required, disproportionately exposes actors to a range of health and safety risks," Hall said.

His bill, patterned after a law adopted by Los Angeles County voters last year, calls for producers of adult films to require the use of condoms whenever scenes involving intercourse are filmed.

It doesn't spell out a penalty for violations but calls on the state Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to address that issue.

Although he chose Valentine's Day to promote his proposal — "This is the only day I was available," Hall joked with a wide grin — the assemblyman said protection of porn actors is a deadly serious business.

He announced his sponsorship of the bill at a news conference staged by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, a group that pushed for the Los Angeles County condom law.

Although an estimated 90 percent of adult movies filmed in the United States are believed to be made in Los Angeles County, Michael Weinstein, the foundation's president, said Hall's bill addresses threats by the industry to move its operations to other parts of California if the local ordinance survives court challenges.

"We'll be on their trail," he said.

The county ban hasn't been enforced yet, and one of the industry's largest filmmakers, Vivid Entertainment, sued last month to overturn it as an infringement on freedom of expression.

Hall acknowledged that getting a statewide law passed by the Legislature is likely to be a daunting task.

"No pun intended, this is not a sexy bill," he said. "It holds accountable a $14 billion a year industry, and a lot of people don't want to address that."

The industry says it's annual revenue is closer to a $7 billion.

Audit questions NASA's plan for former rocket site

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. NASA has agreed to an "excessive and unnecessarily costly cleanup" of a former rocket test facility near Los Angeles that was the site of a partial nuclear meltdown in 1959, the space agency's watchdog said Thursday.

An audit by NASA's inspector general questioned whether it was the best use of limited funds and urged the agency to re-examine its cleanup plans for the Santa Susana Field Laboratory, where the federal government and other parties conducted nuclear research and tested rocket engines for four decades.

Several of the site's former users, including NASA, are required by law to remove contaminated groundwater and soil from the site by 2017.

NASA estimated it would cost at least $200 million to reduce pollution to background levels at its portion of the 2,850-acre hilltop complex about 30 miles northwest of Los Angeles. The NASA section will be preserved as open space once it's decontaminated.

NASA "can ill afford to spend tens of millions of dollars to clean up an area beyond its risk level or expected land use," the report said.

The inspector general's office said Santa Susana is not NASA's only worry.

"Several other projects pose greater risks to human health and the environment than Santa Susana," the report said.

During the Cold War, workers at the sprawling site tested rockets and experimental nuclear reactors. Over the years, the site has housed 10 nuclear reactors, low-power reactors, plutonium and uranium carbide fabrication plants.

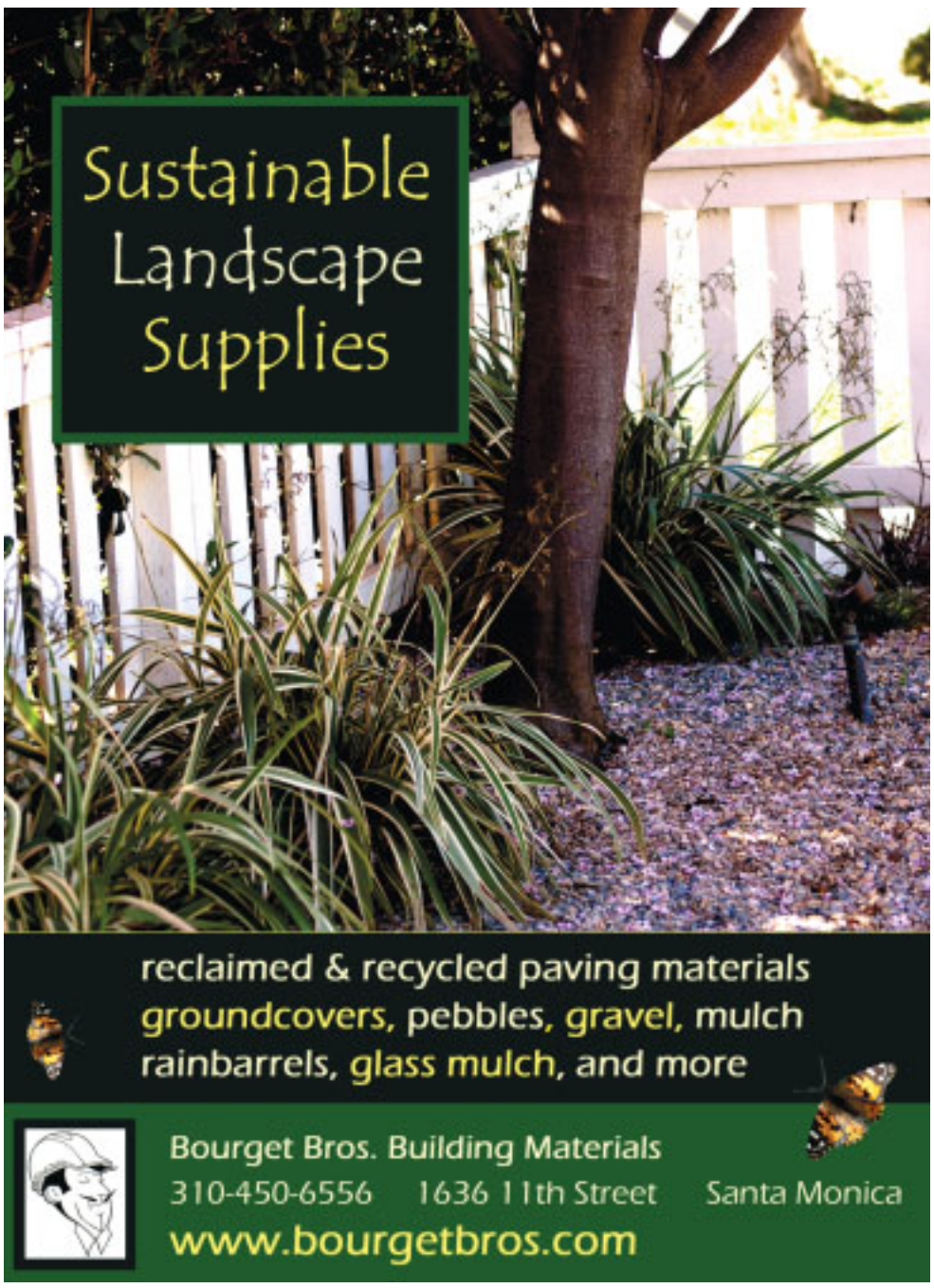
In 1959, one reactor's coolant channels became blocked, causing fuel rods to overheat and partially melt.

By the time the lab closed in late 1990s, decades of testing and several accidents after the partial meltdown contaminated the soil. Residents and environmentalists have criticized the slow pace of the cleanup.

In a response attached to the audit, NASA did not specifically address the concerns raised. The agency said it will continue to work with the state Department of Toxic Substances Control, which oversees the cleanup.

Along with NASA, the Energy Department and Boeing Co. are also responsible for returning the site to its natural state. The internal audit only dealt with cleanup efforts involving the NASA portion of the lab.







Stock market wavers as Europe's economy slows

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Renewed worries about Europe overshadowed an encouraging U.S. jobs report on Thursday, leaving major stock indexes roughly where they started.

Germany's economy shrank more than expected late last year, and the slowdown in Europe's largest economy deepened the region's ongoing recession. That's a troubling sign for the U.S., because sales to Europe have been a boon for American companies.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 9.52 points to close at 13,973.39.

After a strong start, the stock market has drifted sideways over the previous week with few major events to sway investors. That calm could disappear soon, said Doug Cote, chief market strategist at ING U.S. Investment Management.

With recessions in Europe and Japan, and weak growth in the U.S., he's bracing for some turbulence. "Everybody is too complacent," Cote said.

Cisco Systems fell 1 percent. The world's largest maker of computer networking equipment reported earnings late Wednesday that surpassed Wall Street's expectations, but the company predicted sales growth that was weaker than previous estimates. Cisco's stock lost 15 cents to $20.99.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 1.05 to 1,521.38. The Nasdaq composite index rose 1.78 to 3,198.66.

The S&P 500 index has climbed 1.6 percent this month and has already gained 6.7 percent for the year.

The number of people applying for unemployment benefits fell to 341,000 last week, the lowest level in three weeks, according to the Labor Department. Besides a few weeks last month affected by seasonal trends, that's the lowest level in nearly five years.

Among the many deals announced Thursday, American Airlines and U.S. Airways agreed to merge, creating the country's largest airline. Warren Buffett and 3G Capital, a private-equity firm, also plan to buy the ketchup maker H.J. Heinz for $23 billion. US Airways sank 67 cents to $13.99, while H.J. Heinz soared $12.02 to $72.41.

Constellation Brands soared 37 percent, the biggest gain in the S&P 500, after reaching a deal with Anheuser-Busch InBev. InBev agreed to sell a brewery in Mexico and rights for Corona and Modelo beer in the U.S. to Constellation for $2.9 billion. Constellation Brands gained $11.87 to $43.75.

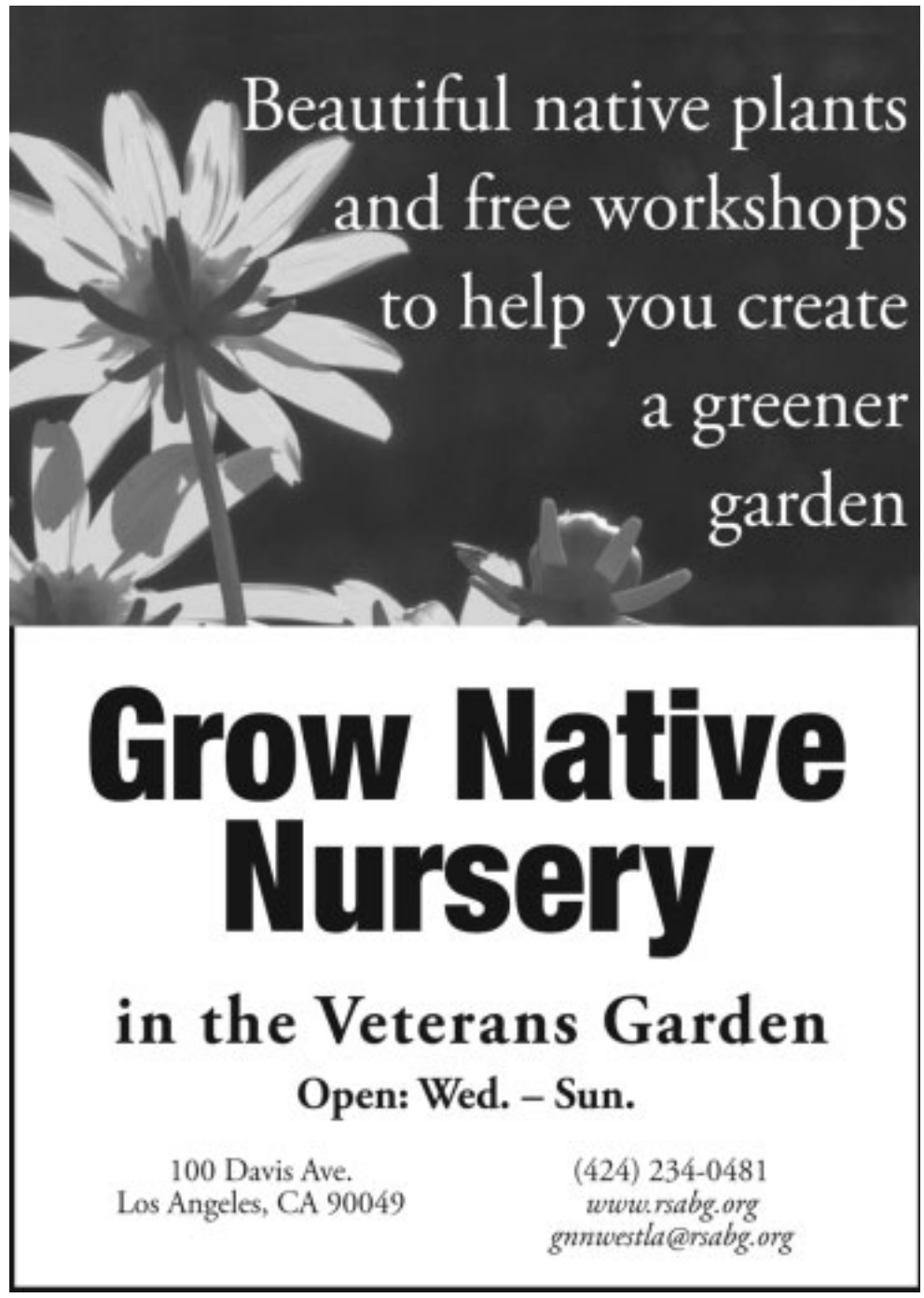
In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury slipped to 1.99 percent, down from 2.02 percent the day before.

The 10-year Treasury yield, used to set a variety of borrowing rates, began the year around 1.70 percent and has climbed steadily higher since then. As worries about a recession ease, traders have shifted money out of the Treasury market, driving yields up.

Among other companies making news:

— Whole Foods Market slumped 10 percent. The grocery store chain trimmed its forecasts for sales and earnings this year, a result of its plans to open more stores and put more lower-priced goods on its shelves. Whole Foods lost $9.40 to $87.50.

— General Motors fell 3 percent after the biggest U.S. carmaker said it made money in North America and Asia and nearly doubled last year's fourth-quarter profit. But its earnings fell short of analysts' estimates. GM's stock dropped 92 cents to $27.75.









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Warren Buffett puts money in ketchup, buys Heinz for $23B

CANDICE CHOI & JOSH FUNK
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Billionaire Warren Buffett, the most closely watched investor in America, is putting his money in ketchup, agreeing Thursday to buy H.J. Heinz Co. for $23.3 billion in the richest deal ever in the food industry.

For his money, the Oracle of Omaha gets one of the nation's oldest and most familiar brands, one that's in refrigerators and kitchen cupboards all over the U.S.

The deal is intended to help Heinz accelerate its expansion from a dominant American name into a presence on grocery shelves worldwide. The Pittsburgh-based company also makes baked beans, pickles, vinegar, Classico pasta sauces and Ore-Ida potatoes, as well as a growing stable of sauces suited to regional tastes around the world.

Buffett's investment firm, Berkshire Hathaway, is teaming with another firm, 3G Capital, to snap up Heinz, which had long been a subject of takeover speculation. New York-based 3G is best known for its acquisition of Burger King and its role in the deal that created Anheuser-Busch InBev, the world's biggest beer maker.

The deal, expected to close in the third quarter, sent shares of Heinz soaring. The company's stock price was up nearly 20 percent, closing at $72.50 Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange.

Berkshire picked up steam, too. Its Class A shares gained $1,490, or about 1 percent, to close at $149,240.

Berkshire remains the most expensive U.S. stock but it's still below its all-time high of $151,650, reached in December 2007. That came before the financial turmoil of 2008 and just after an exceptionally profitable quarter that was helped by a $2 billion investment gain.

The plans to take Heinz private apparently began to take shape on a plane in early December. In an interview with CNBC, Buffett said he was approached at that time by Jorge Lemann, a fellow billionaire and a co-founder of 3G. The two had known each other since serving on the board of Gillette about 12 years ago.

Soon after that encounter, two of 3G's managing partners traveled to Pittsburgh to have lunch with Heinz CEO William Johnson and raise the prospect of buying the 144-year-old company.

"The offer was such that I simply felt compelled to take it to my board," Johnson said at a news conference Thursday.

Over the next several weeks, Johnson said, the board worked out details of the transaction.

Berkshire is putting up $12.12 billion in return for half of the equity in Heinz, as well as $8 billion of preferred shares that pay 9 percent, according to a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission. 3G Capital will run Heinz, and Berkshire will be the financing partner.

By taking the company private, Johnson said, Heinz will have the flexibility to react more quickly without the pressure of satisfying investors with quarterly earnings reports. The company's push to go global began more than a decade ago, and about two-thirds of its revenue already comes from outside the U.S.

Heinz is increasingly focusing on emerging markets, where it expects to get about a quarter of its sales this year. Like other packaged food companies, it is betting that staking an early claim in countries with multiplying ranks of middle-class customers will secure its own future.

Although ketchup and sauces still account for just under half its sales, Heinz has expanded over the years to include a much broader array of products across 200 countries, including ABC soy sauce in Indonesia, Quero tomato sauces and vegetables in Brazil and Complan nutritional drinks in India. In 2010, the company bought Foodstar, which makes Master brand soy sauce and fermented bean curd in China.

The business reaches back to 1869, when Henry John Heinz and neighbor L. Clarence Noble began selling grated horseradish, bottled in a clear glass to showcase its purity. It wasn't until 1876 that the company introduced its flagship product, the country's first commercial ketchup.

Heinz didn't become a public company until years later, in 1946.

Heinz is a prize because it has the type of name recognition that takes years to build, said Brian Sozzi, chief equities analyst for NBG Productions. One testament to the strength of the brand has been the company's ability to raise prices even in competitive markets, he said.

"There isn't going to be another Heinz brand," Sozzi said.

Johnson stressed that Heinz would remain in its native Pittsburgh as a condition of the agreement with 3G and Berkshire Hathaway. The only change will be when Heinz no longer appears in stock listings.

Although 3G Capital has a record of aggressively cutting costs at businesses it acquires, managing partner Alex Behring said Heinz is different because the business is healthy and sales are rising. But that wasn't a guarantee that jobs won't be cut.

The company earned $923.2 million on revenue of $11.65 billion in its last fiscal year.

The more Heinz is able to grow, the "safer people will be," said Johnson, who has been CEO for 15 years.

As for management changes, including his own tenure, Johnson said there have not yet been any discussions.

Buffett did not immediately respond to a message Thursday from The Associated Press. He has recently said that he's been hunting for elephant-sized deals. At the end of last year, he told CNBC that he had about $47 billion in cash available.

Berkshire's biggest acquisition ever was its $26.3 billion purchase of BNSF railroad in 2010.

Last year, Buffett started building a newspaper company with the $149 million acquisition of 63 Media General newspapers and several other small or mid-sized newspapers. Berkshire also bought the Prudential and Real Living real-estate franchises nationwide last fall.

The Heinz deal and the American Airlines-US Airways merger add to an already strong start for merger activity this year. Global merger activity has been tepid since 2007, when $4.6 trillion in deals were announced, according to Dealogic. Last year's total was $2.7 trillion.

The deal is a departure for Berkshire Hathaway. Generally, Buffett prefers to buy entire companies and then allow the businesses to continue operating much the way they did before. Berkshire has also helped finance deals before — most recently during the financial crisis of 2008, when he made lucrative deals for Berkshire when few other companies had cash.



SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **56.5°**

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Potential small WNW pulse rises up through the day

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small WNW swell

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Potential slightly larger WNW pulse shows with plus sets for top exposures in western portion of the region to chest high

MONDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
WNW swell continues; watching wind/weather; stay tuned; plus sets for standouts in western portion of region to 4'

TIDES

Swings become much less of a factor through the end of the week and into the weekend. Morning high tides become a bit more of a factor by mid next week

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 6, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Arbs creeks.	ns	ns
Decimal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Winter Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	C
Paradise Cove Pier at Flamingo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	B	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Malibu Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	D	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	A
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	C
Los Flores State Beach at Los Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	C
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17308 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	D	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CSAW jetty).	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

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

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

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

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

MLB

League set to be closer for Dodgers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLENDALE, Ariz. Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly looks at closer Brandon League and sees power and unpredictability.

"He's kind of the effectively wild guy," Mattingly said.

Almost sounds dangerous.

League was acquired from Seattle last July and decided to stay in Los Angeles, agreeing in October to a $22.5 million, three-year contract.

Originally slotted as a middle reliever, he took over as closer when Kenley Jansen was sidelined between Aug. 27 and Sept. 20 due to an irregular heartbeat.

League was 6 for 6 in save chances with the Dodgers, going 2-1 with a 2.30 ERA in 48 games after the trade. He walked 14 in 27 1-3 innings for Los Angeles and 33 in 72 innings overall.

Los Angeles agreed to the deal with the intention of having League be the closer. Jonathan Broxton, Javy Guerra and Jansen assumed the roles at various times during the last two years.

"It can be an uncomfortable bat for anybody," Mattingly said. "For me, he's always been a guy with tremendous stuff. His stuff has been all over the place, and has always been on the verge of being wild. You don't know if he's going to throw a strike or not. When he's not throwing strikes, he gets in worse counts, and he's going to get hit a little more."

Pitching coach Rick Honeycutt and Ken Howell — then the bullpen coach and now assistant pitching coach — worked to restore the location of League's sinker and its power.

"Kenny and Rick made a simple adjustment," Mattingly said. "But I think part of the adjustment was a change of scenery for the guy."

League became a first-time All-Star in 2011, when he had a 2.63 ERA and 10 walks in 61 1-3 innings. But he was dropped as closer in late May last year after a succession of erratic outings.

"You get to come somewhere that's a fresh look," Mattingly said. "Somebody suggests in a drill, 'This is what we're seeing, try this.' It clicks. It's like, he's back."

League says he feels closer to home in Los Angeles. He plans to live this season in Manhattan Beach, which reminds him of growing up in Hawaii. In the offseason, he lives with his wife Sasha and his three children in San Diego.

"I'll leave my surfboards at home," League said.

NOTES: Dodgers INF Justin Sellers said Thursday his motorcycle arrest in Sacramento last month on misdemeanor charges of reckless driving and evading arrest was "a misunderstanding." Sellers denied driving recklessly and said he didn't pull over because he thought a police officer was pulling a prank on him. ... Mattingly got his first look Thursday at South Korean LHP Hyun-Jin Ryu, who threw about 40 pitches in his first bullpen session. "He's pretty smooth," said Mattingly, who had only seen video of Ryu. A.J. Ellis caught for Ryu. Ellis worked with Ryu a few times in South Korea. "You've got be encouraged by what you see," Ellis said.

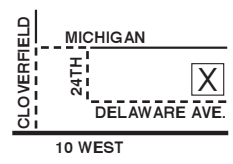


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MOVIE TIMES

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

Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans (NR) 1hr 35min
7:30pm

Live musical accompaniment by Cliff Retallick.

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

Life of Pi (PG) 2hrs 06min
1:00pm, 4:15pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min
11:30am, 3:00pm, 6:35pm, 10:15pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
7:00pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:50am, 1:30pm, 3:35pm, 5:00pm, 8:30pm, 9:50pm

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

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 6:50pm, 10:35pm

Good Day to Die Hard (R) 1hr 37min
11:05am, 11:55am, 1:40pm, 2:30pm, 4:15pm, 5:15pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:40pm, 10:45pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:35am, 2:20pm, 5:05pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Escape from Planet Earth 3D (PG) 1hr 29min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 7:20pm

Escape from Planet Earth (PG) 1hr 29min
4:50pm, 9:50pm

Identity Thief (R) 1hr 51min
11:15am, 12:10pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:40pm, 5:40pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm, 11:15pm

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

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Documentary
3:20pm, 6:10pm

Royal Affair (En kongelig affaere) (R) 2hrs 13min
8:20pm

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

Glimpse Inside the Mind of Charles Swan III (R) 1hr 26min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Stand Up Guys (R) 1hr 33min
1:00pm

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

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Live Action 1hr 54min
7:00pm

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Animation
2:15pm, 9:40pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-7910

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
10:50am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Beautiful Creatures (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
11:00am, 1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Side Effects (R) 1hr 46min
10:40am, 12:15pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:40pm, 5:40pm, 7:20pm, 8:20pm, 10:00pm, 11:00pm

Safe Haven (PG-13) 1hr 55min
10:30am, 11:15am, 1:10pm, 2:00pm, 3:55pm, 4:50pm, 6:50pm, 7:45pm, 9:45pm, 10:40pm

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

Do your own thing tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 20-April 19)
★★★ Tension surrounds financial matters, especially those involving a long-term goal. What you desire is in the offing, so just relax and look for the best path. Go with the moment, and honor an internal desire. Tonight: Run an errand or two on your way out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Reconsider your options regarding a child or loved one. Sometimes you can be a rather strict authority figure. Relax, and let everyone get grounded before initiating a potentially difficult discussion. Tonight: Wherever you are, others appreciate your presence.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Rethink a decision, especially as others seem to want to do their own thing. A long-desired goal that might have seemed difficult to realize could become a reality. Think twice about an opportunity that seems to be spiraling toward you. Tonight: Do your own thing.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You dance to someone's tune. Those observing you wonder what you are responding to. When you detach, life looks different and you feel renewed. Share more of your enthusiasm with trusted friends. Tonight: Where there is music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You find the present activity level to be high and difficult to work with. Someone could be too direct for your taste; in fact, you might view him or her as being harsh. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance. This person has a unique approach, but you understand where he or she is coming from. You could feel rather overwhelmed at the moment. Detach, and you will relax. Tonight: Where you can let your imagination roam.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Relate to a key person directly. He or she might be unusually perceptive and could be changing right in front of your eyes. One-on-one relating will help ignite the sparks that exist between you. Tonight: Homeward bound.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Review a situation, and evaluate your expectations. Be realistic; otherwise, you might be disappointed. A bond with a child, new friend or key loved one is changing. Tonight: Let others choose what and where.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 21-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Invest more time in a friendship. You really like this person, but you rarely take the time to get past the customary greetings. Make an effort in the near future to bridge the distance between you. Tonight: Stay level-headed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your imagination gets a hold of your typically disciplined mind. You might want to get to the bottom of a problem. Pretend that you are each person involved, and you will find the right solution. Your intuition is very strong at the moment. Trust it. Tonight: How you like it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Work from home if you can. You might have pushed someone past his or her limit. Let this person know that you realize you crossed a boundary and won't do it again. A judgment you have made no longer works, which you will see clearly soon. Tonight: Order in.

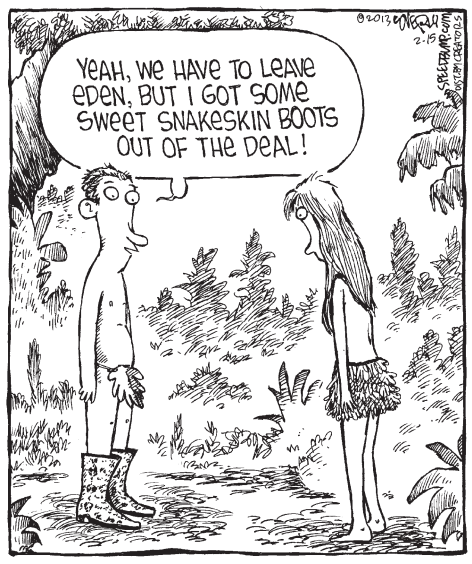
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Tap into your ingenuity. Others could be delighted by a suggestion you make. Listen to what their responses are. You have the ability to see past the obvious and isolate the issue. Knock down a barrier that is hiding some vulnerability. Tonight: Hang out with a loved one.

Happy birthday

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

This year your imagination and creativity flourish. Be careful not to overthink a possible financial bonus or change. Stay as grounded as possible when dealing with important life issues. A revision of your finances also might be in order. If you are single, you could find that you become unusually possessive of someone you are dating. Realize what you have to offer. If you are attached, you might consider keeping separate checking accounts. You'll discover that many battles over money can be eliminated as a result. CAPRICORN can be controlling.

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



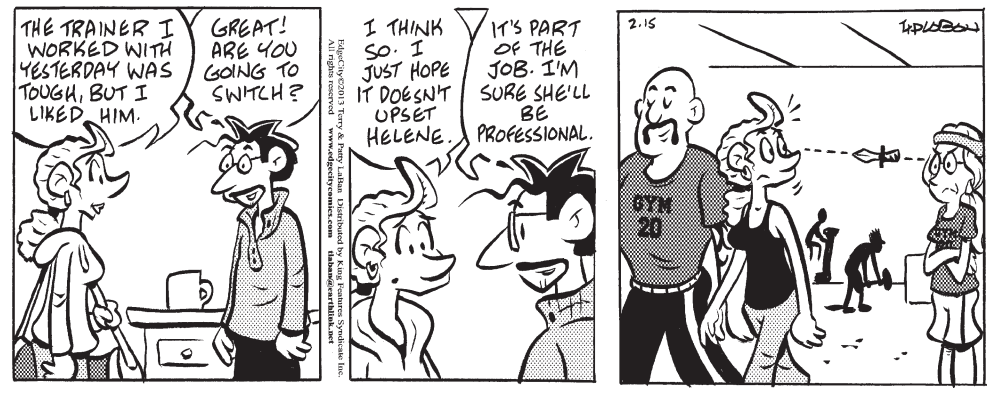
Strange Brew
By John Deering



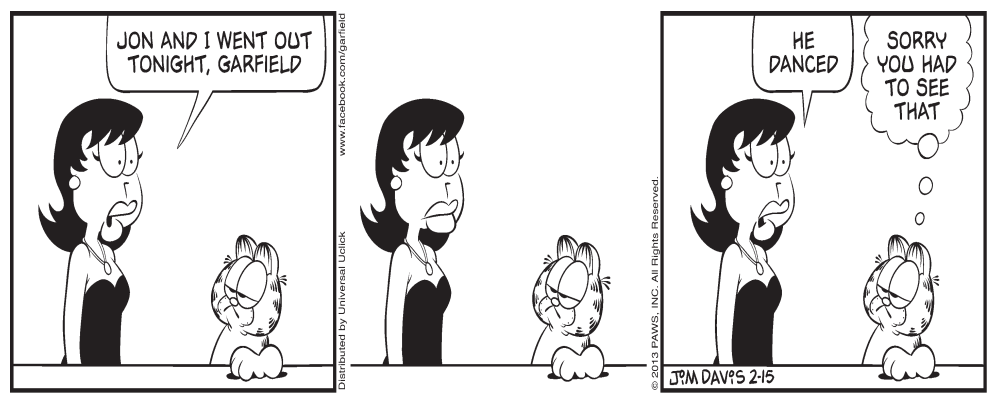
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Tour carriers
6 White's colleague
11 Cartoon genre
12 "Coming up next" ad
13 Coined
14 Detest
15 Minimal change
17 Print supplies
18 Foot part
20 Chow
22 "— Believer"
23 Choice of colors
26 Congo's old name
28 Use the mirror
29 Gofer's work
31 Neither Dem. nor Rep.
32 Script unit
33 Small workers
34 Bud holder
36 Biting remark
38 Inferior
40 Suspicious
43 Acid type
44 Promptly
45 Peevish
46 Liam Neeson thriller

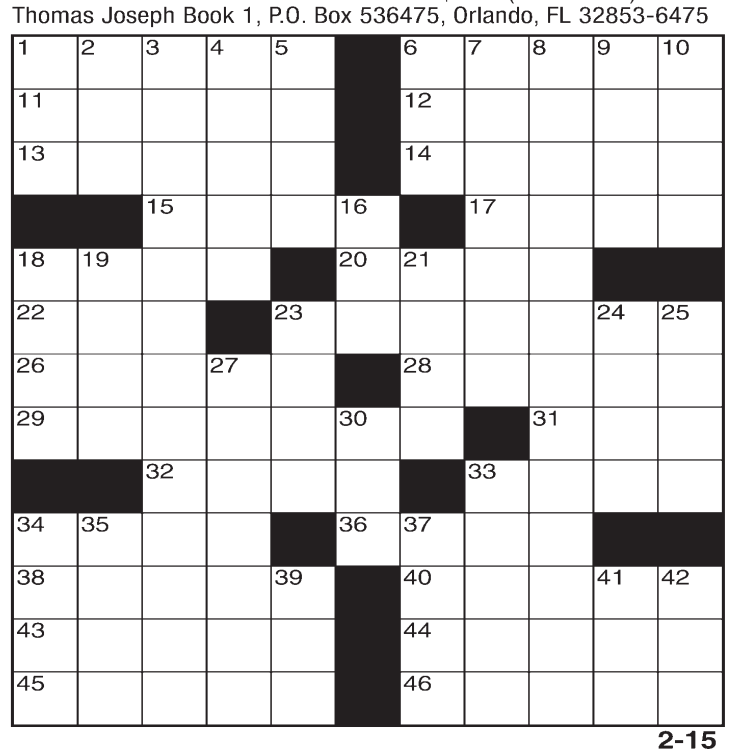
DOWN

1 Outlaw
2 One, for Juan
3 Literature Nobelist, 1930
4 TV host
5 Pictured
6 Mud bath site
7 Strike mediator
8 Literature Nobelist, 1962
9 In a frenzy
10 Designer Michael
16 Pot brew
18 Tag datum
19 General Bradley
21 Chamois' home
23 Ivy League school
24 Revival setting
25 Goals
27 Clothes
30 Ball girl
33 Concert site
34 Louver piece
35 Big book
37 Bunches
39 Singer Orbison
41 Deplore
42 Hankering

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



2-15

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/12
9 22 32 38 55
Meganumber: 44
Jackpot: $20M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/13
16 17 20 32 36
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/14
7 9 19 26 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/14
MIDDAY: 8 6 4
EVENING: 5 6 1

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 2/14
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:46.21

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

■ Emma Whittington, of Hutchinson, Kan., rushed her daughter to the ER in December when the girl, 7 months old, developed a golf-ball-sized lump on her neck. Two days later, at a hospital in Wichita, a doctor gently pulled a feather out of the lump and hypothesized that it had been in the midst of emerging from her throat. Doctors said the girl probably swallowed the feather accidentally, that it got stuck in throat tissue, and that her body was trying to eject it through the skin.

■ In December, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch revealed, through a public records check, that the appointed Collector of Revenue for St. Louis County has failed since 2008 to pay personal property taxes. Stacy Bailey and her husband owe taxes on three cars and in fact filed for bankruptcy in 2011. Bailey's boss, Director of Revenue Eugene Leung, told the Dispatch that he had checked Bailey's real-estate tax status but not personal property taxes. Nonetheless, he said, "Knowing what I know now, she's still the most qualified person for the job," among the 155 applicants.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1982 - The drilling rig Ocean Ranger sinks during a storm off the coast of Newfoundland, killing 84 workers.

1989 - Soviet Union invasion of Afghanistan: The Soviet Union officially announces that all of its troops have left Afghanistan.

1991 - The Visegrád Agreement, establishing cooperation to move toward free-market systems, is signed by the leaders of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

1996 - At the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in China, a Long March 3 rocket, carrying an Intelsat 708, crashes into a rural village after liftoff, killing many people.

WORD UP!

nuque
\ nook \ , noun;
1.
the back of the neck.

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