



Santa Monica Daily Press

TURNING A CORNER KICK
PAGE 8

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE BYE-BYE PLASTICS ISSUE

First came Styrofoam, now plastic

City Council to consider banning plastic bags

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL In the age-old question of “paper or plastic,” the answer could soon be much simpler.

The City Council tonight is expected to determine whether to draft an ordinance that would ban the free distribution of so-called single-use plastic bags from all retailers in Santa Monica.

“It’s the thin plastic bags that (people) can get at most grocery stores and fast food outlets,” Dean Kubani, the manager of the Environmental Programs Division at City Hall, said.

The plastic bags in the past few years have been contemptuously regarded as an environmental demon, ending up in the ocean and wreaking havoc on the eco-system. Several environmental groups have



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

BYE-BYE: Carey Goble recycles her plastic bags in a bin provided at Pavilions Market on Lincoln Boulevard last week. The City Council is expected tonight to consider banning the use of such bags.

pushed for a ban on plastic bags, including Heal the Bay, which was one of the proponents in favor of a prohibition in Los Angeles County.

The Board of Supervisors last month adopted a voluntary program encouraging grocers in the unincorporated areas of the county to curb the use of ecologically unfriendly bags, a move that was criticized as not going far enough.

Californians go through an estimated 19 billion plastic bags every year, approximately 6 billion of which come from Los Angeles County alone, according to statistics by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. City Hall in 2005 conducted a survey of 25 local grocers and food markets and found they distribute a total of 23 million plastic bags each year.

In pushing for a ban in Santa Monica, city officials are following the lead of cities in the San Francisco Bay Area that banned the use of non-biodegradable bags from grocery stores, but would go a

SEE PLASTIC BAG PAGE 8



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

NEXT: People walk through the entrance of the Pacific Wheel at the Santa Monica Pier on Monday. The 12-year-old, iconic Ferris wheel will be replaced in May with a newer and more modern version with LED lights. The new wheel will cost an estimated \$1.5M.

One last turn

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA PIER An iconic piece of Pacific Park, a symbol of the one of the few seaside amusement parks left in the country, is about to say good-bye to the coastline.

The aging 12-year-old Pacific Wheel Ferris wheel will make its last revolution on May 4 before it is dismantled and replaced with a newer and nearly identical version of itself.

As a result of its location, weathering the effects of the salt air and ocean splashes, the Pacific Wheel has bore more wear and tear than its land-based counterparts, which on average can survive up to 20 years, according to Jeff Klocke, the director of marketing and sales at Pacific Park.

“We’re being proactive,” Klocke said on Monday. “The wheel could operate for a few more years but we wanted to go ahead of the curve and replace it.”

The oldest ride in Pacific Park, the Ferris wheel has served as one of the most recognizable symbols of the Santa Monica Pier, aside from the historic entrance sign at the foot of Colorado Avenue. The always-illuminated wheel, which is solar powered, has been featured in more than 300 movies, television shows and commercials, and publications, making cameo appearances in feature-length films such as “Stuck on You,” “The Majestic,” and “Fat Albert.”

It is also often prominently featured on weather segments of the local evening news, Klocke said.

Crews will begin to dismantle the ride starting May 5,

SEE WHEEL PAGE 9

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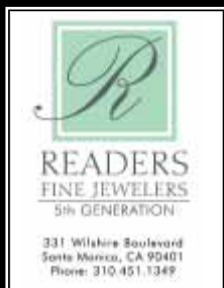
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Calendar

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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1920 Santa Monica Blvd.

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Movie Screening: 'La Vie en Rose'

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.

The Main Library presents a free screening of the biopic of French singer, Edith Piaf. Starring Oscar nominee, Marion Cotillard. Shown in French, with English subtitles. Seating first come, first served in the MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Wild Wild West Side Crime Bus Tour

9341 Venice Blvd., Culver City, Noon — 5 p.m.

In this new true crime tour spotlighting some of the weirdest, most horrific and downright unbelievable crimes of historic West Los Angeles, you'll thrill and shudder to tales of teenage girl gangs, tortured tots, wicked wives, evil spirits, cults, creeps and assorted maniacs. Seats are \$55 per person; 15% off for KCRW members. Visit www.esotouric.com for more details.

The Play 'tis the Thing

2601 Main St., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.

The Ocean Park Branch Library is hosting a six-week play writing workshop. Learn principles of dramatic structure, how to construct dialogue and analyze the finished product with instructor Anna Stramese. Registration required. Enrollment limited. For more information, call (310) 458-8638.

'Choosing the Quiet'

1227 Second St., 5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.

Maurizio Barattucci's solo show, "Choosing the Quiet" will be on display at Emeritus College through February 29. Barattucci taught at the Art Department of Santa Monica College for 30 years and retired recently. For more information on this free event, call (310) 434-4306.

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008

Celebs in Attendance

1519 Wilshire Blvd., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Meet the cast from the Farrelly Brothers' ("There's Something About Mary" and "Dumb and Dumber") new FOX comedy "Unhitched," starring Rashida Jones, Craig Bierko and Johnny Sneed at The Parlor for a "looking for love" event featuring speed dating, food and drink specials. No cover, 21+.

Protect the Environment

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

Barent Roth from Sustainable Works leads this six-week workshop on living green. The workshop covers water, energy, waste, chemicals, transportation and travel, and shopping and food. The series ends tomorrow. To register, contact Barent Roth at (310) 458-8716 x1 or rothbarent@smc.edu.

One Step at a Time

16730 Bollinger Dr., Pacific Palisades 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Every Wednesday, the 12 Steps for Everybody's 12-Step writing meeting for those with an habitual drug or alcohol problem or illness. Call 310-454-5138 or e-mail info@12stepsforeverybody.org.

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MID-CITY
Reagan recovering

Former first lady Nancy Reagan is said to be in good spirits at St. John's Hospital where she is being held overnight for observation following a fall Sunday at her Bel Air home.

"She is doing well and is visiting with friends in her room," said Joanne Drake, chief of staff for the Reagan Foundation, in a written statement. "As a precaution, her family physician felt it best to admit her for overnight evaluation."

Doctors said Reagan, 86, did not sustain a broken hip as had been feared. She is staying in the same hospital room where her husband, former President Ronald Reagan stayed when he broke his hip in 2001, Drake told reporters.

The former president, who served from 1981 to 1989, died on June 5, 2004 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. The Reagans were married for 52 years.

DAILY PRESS

LOS ANGELES
Do you feel lucky?

The jackpot for today's multi-state Mega Millions lottery is \$220 million, the largest since Aug. 31, when a \$330 million jackpot was on the line, lottery officials announced.

No tickets with all six numbers have been sold since the Jan. 1 draw, 13 draws ago.

Tickets will be sold until 7:45 p.m. today. The draw will be held just before 8 p.m. The odds of matching all five numbers and the Mega number are 1 in 175,711,536, according to the Mega Millions Web site.

Buying tickets at a store where winning tickets have been sold in the past will not increase a purchaser's chance of winning a jackpot, according to USC mathematics professor Ken Alexander.

"The chance that a given place will sell a winning lottery ticket is just related to how many tickets they sell," Alexander said.

Besides California, the Mega Millions game is also played in Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

With the jackpot growing, California Lottery officials reminded the public that borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families.

People with gambling problems or knowing individuals with gambling problems are advised to call the Problem Gambling Help Line, (800) Gambler.

DP



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

DIG THIS: A construction crew installs underground street light cables on Second Street on Monday near a Ficus tree. Many of the Ficus trees are scheduled to be removed and replaced as part of a streetscape project. Some residents are fighting the removal so the trees can stay put and protected.

Council to hear on trees, again

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITY HALL The so-called treesavers will bring the issue of whether 153 mature ficus trees in Downtown Santa Monica should be landmarked before the City Council tonight after similar efforts failed before the Landmarks Commission last month.

The Santa Monica Treesavers filed an appeal to the commission's decision to deny the landmarks application on Jan. 14, bringing the matter to the very same council that nearly unanimously approved an \$8.2 million streetscape improvement plan that spurred the environmental activists' efforts last summer.

Along with beautifying and enhancing both Second and Fourth streets from Colorado Avenue to Wilshire Boulevard, adding curb cuts and improving lighting, the streetscape construction project includes the removal of 23 trees identified as structurally deficient and the transplantation of 31 trees to elsewhere in the city, including parts of Downtown.

The tree portion of the project was halted when a Los Angeles Superior Court judge

filed a restraining order against City Hall in early October, just days before construction was set to commence. A few weeks later, the treesavers filed a landmarks application, nominating all of the trees in the project area for designation — an unprecedented move that basically barred City Hall from touching the trees until a hearing took place. Several trees elsewhere in the city have been designated as landmarks in the past, including the bay fig tree at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel.

The streetscape project has continued since then while the trees have remained put, which according to city officials, has jeopardized federal and state funding for the project.

During the Landmarks Commission hearing, the treesavers argued the historical and cultural significance of the trees, tying the planting of the ficuses to former resident Jacqueline Girion, whom they said was instrumental in getting the trees planted, a symbol of the environmental and women's movements.

Much like it did last month when the landmarks application came before the commission, city staff is also recommend-

ing the City Council deny the appeal because it does not meet any of the six criteria required to meet designation.

"Within the context of the thousands of ficus trees in the city, neither grouping of ficus trees or their associated linear canopies on Second and Fourth streets possess characteristics of noteworthy or aesthetic interest or value sufficient to warrant city landmark designation based on factors such as historic association, age, size, condition, or rarity that have been consistently applied in previous landmark tree evaluations," according to the staff report.

The treesavers are planning to hold a rally at 5 p.m. in front of City Hall shortly before the council is set to begin its meeting at 5:45 p.m.

If the council denies the appeal then the landmarks application dies there. The treesavers are expected to meet with city officials later this week in a courtroom in downtown Los Angeles to again discuss the restraining order, which was put on hold when the treesavers filed for landmark status.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Council should pass the ban

Editor:

It's been nearly six months since a top FAA official reluctantly appeared before the City Council to confirm his belief that business trumps safety when it comes to the larger, faster, jet aircraft currently using Santa Monica Airport – the Class C and D types.

Three months later, the council unanimously approved (on first reading) a ban on such aircraft. The remarks by individual council members reassured a concerned public that the city's patience with the FAA was at an end, and it was ready to face a potentially long and expensive battle to protect its residents. But the proposed ban has yet to be approved on a second reading, which is necessary for the ban to take effect.

The council opened a second front in this battle that has most notably included a conference last month in Washington, D.C. with leaders of the House Transportation Committee. City officials were backed by Reps. Henry Waxman and Jane Harman, and opposed by the FAA. It was our desire and belief that the federal effort to achieve a ban would be separate from the city's action, and that both efforts would proceed regardless of the status of the other. Although apparently supportive, Rep. James Oberstar, head of the House Transportation Committee, apparently wanted the city to delay enacting the ban while he considered some alternatives. Meantime, the council apparently continues to weigh the matter in closed sessions.

We are gratified by Mr. Oberstar's interest and very appreciative of the efforts of Mr. Waxman and Ms. Harman. But the council already had resolved to move ahead with its ban. While we realize the city cannot reveal all its possible moves in this unfortunate chess match with the FAA, we see no reason for more delay. If more is expected, the reasons should be made public.

After years of asking the FAA to be reasonable, the promises we heard from the council ... finally gave us hope. Since then, Santa Monica Airport has had another runway overrun that would've been a disaster had the aircraft been of the type covered by the ban. We believe it's time for the council to fulfill its promise and enact the ban on a second reading.

The Board of Directors

Friends of Sunset Park

Recycling is everyone's duty

Editor:

The picture of the plastic bottle on the beach tells it all ("Trifecta fights plastic bottles," page 1, Feb. 15). Our Santa Monica beach already has dozens of trash barrels stretching from one end to the other. This bottle is just an example of those people who use the beach and do not care enough for the environment and their fellow beach users to pick up after themselves.

We do not need more barrels, we need people to pick up their own trash and put it in the barrels that are there.

Maybe, all of us beachgoers could pick up an extra piece or two of trash each time we are down on the sand and deposit that too – a quiet example that might inspire others. Soon Santa Monica might be able to rightfully boast of having clean beaches.

Bob Wolff

Santa Monica



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lawyers like it when people buy condos

ABOUT EVERY TWO MONTHS I GET a call that usually starts off with, "I bought this adorable little condo off Montana ... and then the upstairs neighbor had a flood ... and then the homeowners association refused ... and now I've got this huge assessment... do I have to pay it?"

A glorious tale of woe ensues wherein a first time condominium buyer is finding out the reality of communal living. Aside from the basics of living in close quarters with other human beings, there comes with a condominium the joys of shared responsibilities.

Each owner is a member of the association, the association is run by a document called the Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, or CCR's. They are the rules the homeowners must abide by.

Once there is a set of rules for a group of people to follow, there is always someone who wants to enforce the rules down to the last "shall not" and there is always someone who wants to bend it a little.

This is the playground for the showboat, the doodiehead with no life purpose, but to cause strife and angst in others. They frequently aspire to be president of the association, and frequently they achieve such lofty goals through the apathy of their neighbors.

In general, the condominium association will spend huge amounts of time arguing over minor items. Favorite topics of discussion are this season's flowers, and enforcement of some picayune rule that no one cares about but the three people arguing over it.

Where this all becomes an issue is when the unit suddenly has a major leak and there is sewage all over a new home. The likely causes of this most common scenario are that the upstairs neighbor has either ignored a problem long enough, that it has now rotted through the floorboards, the studs in between the units and the drywall of the new homeowners unit; or worse, the plumbing in between the units has sprung a leak.

When the leak is between walls, an argument is sure to ensue about whose responsibility it is to fix it, the pipe could be either of the homeowners, or it could be the association's if it is "common area".

Even if it is common area, and thus the responsibility of the association to repair, when the truth comes out, the association will say that it is not their problem to

repair your unit and reimburse you for your destroyed antique collection.

The president of the association, who should rightly be called the Head Tormentor, will quickly disclaim any responsibility beyond that of hiring a plumber to come out, rip through your drywall, put a piece of plumbers tape on the leak, and then leave your home with a hole in the drywall exposing the plumbing, the insulation and the mold. And yes, you'll get the bill in the form of an assessment.

At this point the new homeowner has the following options: 1) Hire a plumber and file a claim with their own insurer; 2) Repair it themselves and 3) Let the association hire a plumber to make the repairs and then pay the assessment.

Obviously Number 1 has the problem of increased premiums, and the unit now has a history of claims PLUS the homeowner is taking on the liability if the repair is done in a faulty or imperfect manner. Number 2 is a good option if you are handy, except that, you are now personally liable for the quality of the repair and any future problems will, rest assured, be blamed on your shoddy workmanship, even if the problem is an electrical problem and unrelated to the repair you did.

Number 3 is why the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act should properly be called the full employment for lawyers act. I've seen cases where the board spent thousands of dollars on unpermitted work, only to remove it, but they still want all the homeowners to pay by way of assessments.

When an assessment arrives, the homeowner should ask to see the invoices. Most boards won't show you the invoices, and then you have to sue the association. Sue hard. Sue Fast. Sue them all.

I realize that my making a pronouncement like this is scary, and it certainly isn't true in all cases. But my experience has been that more often than not, this is the best answer. There are some good associations and each case should be evaluated on its merits, but in general, when dealing with the association it is a good practice to get their attention with a strong lawsuit, and then negotiate.

David Pizarra is a Family Law Attorney in the Santa Monica law firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached at 310/664-9969 or by e-mail at dpizarra@pizarra.com.

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Your column here

Randall S. Hansen, Ph.D.

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Make your career recession proof

NO POLITICIAN IN 2008 HAS DARED use the "r-word" to discuss the U.S. economy, but whether we call it a slowdown or a period of reduced growth ... or a recession, the one thing that is certain is that the economic situation is uncertain at best, with companies in numerous industries announcing or planning layoffs.

The key is not to panic or make any snap decisions. Unless some major negative (and unforeseen) economic event happens, widespread layoffs are unlikely; in some of the worst economic times, the U.S. has seen single-digit unemployment rates (the highest of 9.7 percent in 1982) — and only a few points higher than today's 5 percent rate. On the other hand, it is never a mistake to be prepared and proactive about your career -- because no one else will be if you are not.

So, in uncertain times what can you do to stay focused on your career and protect your job?

1. Stay Alert to Grapevine. You need to walk a fine line here, because you want to be alert to insider information about your employer while avoiding getting too caught up in the rumors that often swirl around the water-cooler. And even more importantly, do not be the person identified as spreading any rumors.

Your goal should be to avoid the office gossips while staying alert to real information that could have a direct impact on your job.

You'll build your career capital by being perceived as someone who is calm and cool under pressure — and helps calm others around you.

2. Dust off the Resume. At no time in your career — except when you're ready to retire — should your resume not be current.

3. Build Your Brand Internally. Your goal is two-fold. First, to become a go-to person for vital projects. Second, to carefully (and tactfully) showcase your accomplishments so management understands your value to the organization. If you have not done so already, be proactive in work assignments rather than simply doing your job.

Follow-up with your boss regularly so s/he knows your on-going accomplishments — and not just at the annual review — especially if you work in a different location from the boss.

4. Become a Company Man or Woman. In bad and uncertain times, especially if there have already been a round or two of layoffs, it's easy to become disillusioned with your employer — but now is the time to

proudly show your loyalty to the firm.

Never be heard or seen bad-mouthing the organization — and instead, be known for being a staunch supporter of top management and the direction of the organization.

Being labeled a company man (or woman) sometimes has negative connotations among your peers, but workers who have questionable loyalty to the organization will be the first to get fired.

5. Build Your Brand Externally. By working to become better known in your industry or profession, you will add value both to your current employer as well as to yourself. Position yourself as an expert by writing articles for a leading trade publication or Web site.

Better still, buy a domain name (such as yourname.com), and build an online presence by publishing your resume and portfolio online. Take it one step further and start a blog.

6. Focus on Professional Development Opportunities. A hallmark of successful people is that they never stop learning more about their profession/industry/career. Find conferences that offer seminars in which you can learn new ways to perform your job or do it better. Continuing education is required in certain fields (healthcare, education), but it's truly vital to your professional growth and success as well.

7. Network, Network, Network. One of the fundamental rules of career development is never stop networking, and never stop growing and expanding your network of contacts.

Besides keeping in regular touch with your network, you should also be looking for ways to build your network, such as by attending trade shows or conferences and mingling.

Following these suggestions and strategies should put you in good standing with your current employer, perhaps even getting you a promotion sooner than expected. But these same guidelines will also make you a marketable brand with strong career capital on the job market when that time arrives for you to seek a new employer.

DR. RANDALL HANSEN is Founder of Quintessential Careers, as well as publisher of its electronic newsletter, QuintZine. He is also a tenured, professor of marketing in the School of Business Administration at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla. He can be reached at randall@quintcareers.com.

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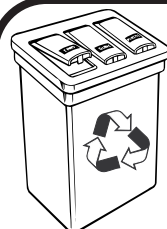
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The Q-Line

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Caring for the elderly

It seems that nursing homes are becoming an endangered species these days.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you feel that there's a shortage of nursing homes in the city and if so, what do you feel can be done to encourage operators to move into Santa Monica?

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



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30 years later, Yan can still cook

Celebrity chef continues to whip up Asian cuisine for TV

BY MICHELLE LOCKE | Associated Press Writer

HILLSBOROUGH, Calif. Martin Yan is at the stove with a sizzling wok in hand, tossing baby bok choy with a deft flick of the wrist.

“Try some,” he says, chopstick-ing a helping of tender-crisp vegetables that sing with flavor.

Now in his 30th year on television, Yan is still cooking — and spreading the message of honest food cooked fresh the Asian way.

“I think it’s passion,” says Yan of a career that spans more than 2,000 episodes broadcast worldwide. “If you’re not passionate, if you don’t like what you do — you don’t even last for three years.”

This year, that passion expresses itself in a new public television series, “Martin Yan’s China,” an exploration of the different schools of Chinese cooking that is part travelogue, part cooking instruction.

The show — as well as the companion book Yan wrote — covers material that would have been impossible to introduce to Americans when Yan launched his television career. At the time, soy sauce was exotic and a wok was a funny shaped frying pan you had to look hard to find.

“People didn’t have chopsticks in their homes, people didn’t go out for dim sum,” says Tina Ujlaki, executive food editor of Food & Wine magazine, who calls Yan “an amazing teacher.”

Now, “everybody has a bottle of soy sauce, guaranteed. Everybody has a wok at home,” says Yan.

So as his audience has become more sophisticated, Yan has branched out, too, traveling to southeast Asia and beyond and exploring the cultural heritage behind the dishes he presents.

“Every time I go back to China I try to go to different restaurants, learn new things,” he says. “I learn new things every day so then I incorporate. Today the dishes that I do are very unique.”

Born in Guangzhou in southern China, Yan, 59, started his career in food as a 13-year-old apprentice at a Hong Kong restaurant. He studied at the Overseas Institute of Cookery in Hong Kong, then took up food science at the University of California, Davis. He started teaching in the university’s extension program and in the late ‘70s began the TV cooking career that led to “Yan Can Cook.”

In some ways, he has returned to his roots. Late last year, Yan opened Martin Yan’s Culinary Arts Center in Shenzhen, a city near Hong Kong. The center offers a variety of cooking programs that range from intensive courses for Chinese and Western professional chefs to more relaxed programs for home cooks and food lovers.

In person and on screen, Yan presents his recipes in an upbeat and engaging manner that still allows the food to be

the star.

“I’m not a talk show person,” says Yan. “Basically, my whole goal is to teach people how to enjoy cooking at home.”

His goal is to inspire viewers “and encourage them and excite them to get in the kitchen right away and do things,” he says. “The whole slogan is Yan can, so can you.”

In his shows, Yan likes to joke around some — he’s fond of puns — but “there’s such an unbelievable foundation to everything he does,” Ujlaki says. “He loves to be busy and active and on. I think that’s what he thrives on. He’s just totally in touch with our craving to learn more.”

To would-be chefs he has this caveat: Culinary school costs a lot; starter kitchen jobs pay a little. So, if you don’t like what you do, “don’t bother because this is a tough business.”

The secret is realizing “you can never be somebody else,” he says. “Just be yourself.”

On a recent rainy day, Yan was practicing what he preaches as he put together a meal in his large, bright kitchen. He started with shrimp “tulips” — shrimp puree nestled in the trimmed bases of baby bok choy, then steamed. He used a food processor to puree most of the shrimp, but whipped out a cleaver to show he’s perfectly capable of pulverizing shrimp, old-school style.

Once the tulips were in the steamer, he had a colander full of extra bok choy leaves on his hands, which inspired a quick stir-fry with garlic, ginger and some dried chilies.

The result — delicious.

Or, as he put it, with a broad smile, “Simple!”

Extinct languages saved by eccentric linguist

BY JULIANA BARBASSA | Associated Press Writer

DAVIS The first time Jose Freeman heard his tribe’s lost language through the crackle of a 70-year-old recording, he cried.

“My ancestors were speaking to me,” said Freeman of the sounds captured when American Indians still inhabited California’s Salinas Valley. “It was like coming home.”

While the last native speaker of Salinan died almost half a century ago, more and more indigenous people are finding their extinct or endangered tongues, one word or song at a time, thanks to a late linguist and some University of California, Davis scholars who are working to transcribe his life’s obsession.

Driven to record the native languages he saw disappearing all around him, John Peabody Harrington spent four decades gathering more than 1 million pages of phonetic notations on languages spoken by tribes from Alaska to South America. When the technology became available, he

supplemented his written record with audio recordings — first using wax cylinders, then aluminum discs.

Martha Macri, who teaches California Indian Studies at UC Davis and is one of the principal researchers on the J. P. Harrington Database Project, is working with American Indian volunteers to transcribe Harrington’s phonetic notations. Once entered into a database that tribes can access, researchers hope the words will bridge the decades-long silence separating the people Harrington interviewed from their descendants.

Although it will be years before all the material can be made available, some American Indians connected to the Harrington Project have already begun putting it to use. Members of Freeman’s tribe gather on their ancestral land every month to practice what they’ve learned of their language — a few words, some grammar, old songs.

“The ultimate outcome is to get it back to the communi-

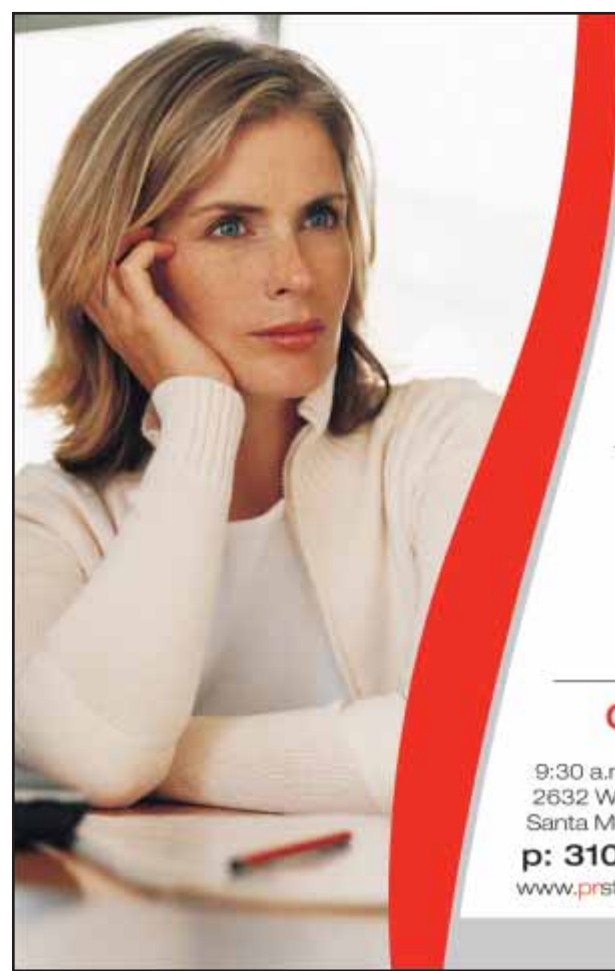
ties it came from,” Macri said. “There is so much cultural knowledge embedded in language.”

By all accounts, Harrington, who died in 1961, was a devoted, if somewhat eccentric, scholar. Sometimes he spent 20 or 30 minutes on one word, saying it over and over until the person he was interviewing agreed he’d gotten the pronunciation correct, said Jack Marr, who met Harrington as a 12-year-old boy and worked as his assistant into his 20s.

“They trusted him,” Marr said of the Indians they worked with. “A lot of people, if they tried to walk in and say, ‘I want to record you,’ they’d get thrown out. But not Harrington. I think people recognized that we were doing this for posterity.”

The linguist’s sense of urgency animates the letters he sent to Marr nearly everyday.

“Rain or no rain, rush,” Harrington said in signing off one such dispatch. “Dying languages depend on you.”



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Study has parents thinking twice

BY HILLARY RHODES
Associated Press Writer

Social networking sites like MySpace and Facebook do not appear to increase the risk of becoming the victim of an online predator, a study released Monday suggests.

According to the research, Internet offenders often work to foster trusting online relationships with teens before luring them into what the teens might see as a romantic or sexual adventure. However, the study found predators rarely pose as other children or stalk or abduct their victims.

"The things that we hear and fear and the things that actually occur may not be the same," said Janis Wolak, lead author of the study, conducted by the Crimes against Children Research Center (CCRC) at the University of New Hampshire.

The risk of online sexual predators has been a hot topic from the show "Dateline NBC: To Catch a Predator" to a recent agreement by MySpace with state governments to take steps to protect youngsters from the perpetrators of such crime.

But a surprising finding was that social networking activity did not appear to increase risk. Rather, the researchers found that risk tends to climb when teens chat to strangers online about sex by instant message, e-mail or chat rooms.

Most often, the victims know they are communicating with adults, according to the study. Internet predators posed as teens in only 5 percent of the crimes analyzed.

"Many people in these cases feel that they're in love," Wolak said. "When these romances go wrong, as they inevitably do, we want young people to understand the adults in these cases are sex offenders who are exploiting very young, inexperienced teenagers."

Researchers administered telephone interviews of 3,000 Internet users between the ages of 10 and 17, and 612 interviews with law enforcement officials. The data was collected between 2000 and 2005.

The findings, published in the February/March issue of *American Psychologist*, suggest that efforts to warn children about deception and stop children from posting personal information online may fall short in preventing abuse.

Instead, Wolak and her colleagues suggest helping teens understand the dangers of inappropriate relationships with adults. Wolak said the best way for parents and edu-

cators to confront the danger is to talk openly about sexual matters.

"As adults, we need to get over our discomfort with that," she said.

Another recent study showed that 53 percent of adults thought online predators were a threat to their children.

**IT'S A SPECIFIC ...
PROCESS WHERE A
PREDATOR TRIES TO MAKE
FRIENDS, MAKE TRUST,
MAKE IT A SECRETIVE
AFFAIR AND THEN BASI-
CALLY TURN THE VICTIM
AGAINST THEIR FAMILY."**

Jeff Godlis, i-SAFE director of communications

The research, conducted by the University of Southern California Annenberg School Center for the Digital Future, also showed that 63 percent of parents were uncomfortable with their children participating in online communities.

The director of the center, Jeffrey Cole, said the fear of online sexual predators contributed to the majority of parental discomfort with social networking sites (followed by concerns over time wasting and identity theft).

He said that from what he has seen, "it's much faster than really getting people to fall in love over a sustained period."

But speed is relative when it comes to teenagers falling in love. So a fast-moving Internet relationship with a stranger doesn't necessarily indicate that the victim didn't have perceived feelings for the predator before the crime was committed.

And there is a well-known grooming process that the FBI warns about, according to i-SAFE Inc., a national, nonprofit distributor of Internet safety education.

"This person becomes their best friend," says Jeff Godlis, i-SAFE director of communications. "It's a specific point-by-point process where a predator tries to make friends, make trust, make it a secretive affair and then basically turn the victim against their family."

Long-hidden documents on JFK assassination revealed

By Associated Press

DALLAS Long-hidden items and documents relating to the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy are being revealed for the first time in decades.

Dallas County District Attorney Craig Watkins presented the items at a news conference Monday. Watkins says they were locked in a safe for nearly two decades and that investigators had made him aware of them after he took office in 2006.

Among the items are documents relat-

ing to Kennedy assassin Lee Harvey Oswald and his killer, Jack Ruby, including a transcript of a purported conversation between them about killing the president. Curator Gary Mack of the Sixth Floor Museum near where the president was shot hasn't seen the transcript but doubts it is real.

The items also include Ruby's brown leather gun holster, two brass knuckles found on Ruby when he was arrested and a movie contract former Dallas District Attorney Henry Wade signed.



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Samohi boys' soccer playing their game

Team is on fire in the playoffs, looking to advance tonight

BY JON HABER | Special to the Daily Press

SANTA MONICA The Santa Monica High School boys' soccer team suffered a 3-1 loss to Coachella Valley last February in the quarterfinals of the CIF Division IV playoffs. The team hasn't seen a marker in the loss column since.

Last year's season-ending defeat motivated the strong core of juniors to bounce back this season as seniors with a vengeance in their journey to a CIF championship.

"When we left Coachella Valley last year, it was definitely a learning experience," head coach Frank Gatell said. "I told the players, remember this feeling, and next year, you need to make it happen."

The players haven't disappointed their coach so far, finishing the '07-'08 regular season 22-0-1 and defeating Bishop Montgomery 3-0 Friday in the first round of the CIF playoffs.

"We scored all three goals in the first half, so we were able to get over our first-round jitters. It took a little bit of getting used to the playoff atmosphere," said Gatell, whose Vikings didn't score until the game's 24th minute. "Then we did what we do best, find the back of the net."

The victory over Bishop Montgomery sets up a second round matchup between Samohi and El Segundo (6-7-2) this afternoon in El Segundo at 3 p.m.

Not only will the Vikings be playing away from Santa Monica, but they will also have to adjust to a tighter field in El Segundo.

"Right now we're practicing a lot of simple two-touch



GOOD SHOT: Samohi beat Bishop 3-0 last Friday in CIF playoff. Photo courtesy

soccer in confined spaces, making sure we're comfortable with pressure and making sure we play our game," Gatell said. "The Eagles are a team that's going to sit back. They primarily prey on counter-attacks, so we need to possess the ball in the fashion we know how to."

Gatell said outside of his core group of forwards, lead by senior Charlie Paris, who scored two-goals against Bishop Montgomery, he will be looking for a combined team effort to take down the Eagles.

"We'll need solid play from our sweeper Nick Ferro. In the mid-field, we'll need Luis Zavala to make sure he controls the pace and sets the tone for us to play to touch-on-the-ground soccer," he said.

Gatell will also be looking for his defense, lead by senior goalkeeper Alex Kovacs, to make sure El Segundo doesn't have a strong offensive attack. If the Vikings can put playoff distractions aside, the coach is confident his team can continue their winning ways.

"We just need to settle down," Gatell said. "We've played in hostile environments before, so we just need to make sure we play our kind of game."

BOYS BASKETBALL

The No. 11-seeded Samohi boys' basketball team travels takes on No. 5-seeded Chino Hills tonight for its second-round playoff game. The Vikings defeated Ramona 62-46 Friday in their first-round matchup. Tonight's game is set to tip off at 7:30 p.m. at Chino Hills.

Coming off double-digit playoff wins against Century and Monrovia, the Crossroads boys' basketball team is set for its third-round playoff matchup against Price in Los Angeles. The action begins tonight at 7:30 p.m.

GIRL'S PLAYOFF PREVIEW

Gatell has his hands full as he tries to lead his Samohi girls' soccer team in their march toward a CIF banner Wednesday against Poly in Pasadena. The Vikings are coming off a 1-0 win over Cypress Saturday. The game is set to start at 3 p.m.

The No. 3-seeded Samohi girls' basketball team took care of business over the weekend, defeating Redlands East Valley 64-40 in Redlands, extending their season-high win streak to 10 in the process. They'll try to push that number to 11 Wednesday when they take on Blair at 7:30 p.m. in Pasadena.

Following its most lopsided win of the year — a 71-11 blowout against Noli Indian Saturday in San Jacinto — the Crossroads girls' basketball team will look to carry momentum into it's second-round playoff matchup against Sacred Heart of Jesus Wednesday in Los Angeles. The game is set to tip off at 7:30 p.m.

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Users of paper bags could be forced to pay a fee for each one

FROM PLASTIC BAG PAGE 1

step further. The proposal in the city — considered to be one of the municipal leaders in the environmental movement — would be to ban all single-use plastic bags, including biodegradable, and mandate retailers to charge a fee on single-use paper bags in order to encourage their customers to switch to reusable. The city of San Francisco has its own municipal composting program to accommodate biodegradable plastic bags.

The paper bags fee was a recommendation by the Task Force on the Environment, Kubani said.

"The best way to address all environmental issues related to single-use bags, both in product of the bag and the distribution of the bag, is to get people to switch to reusable bags," Kubani said. "The most effective way of doing that is a ban and fees."

EPD staff is recommending the proposed ordinance include a hardship exemption for businesses that can demonstrate a significant economic impact to their operations, but Kubani noted that the impact should be proportional to the size of the business since smaller businesses distribute less than the major retailers.

Fred Okhovat, manager of Kings Liquor on Santa Monica Boulevard off Berkeley Street, seemed resistant to City Hall's proposal, saying on Monday that it would impact liquor stores because many use plastic bags to support paper carry-out bags to make them sturdy enough to hold several bottles.

"It's not a very good idea," Okhovat said. "They should do recycling instead because banning is not a very great idea."

Syed Hossain, the manager of Fair Market on Fourth Street off Pacific Street,

said that while he would support a ban, city officials would need to find affordable alternatives for retailers.

"I would support the ban because of the environment," Hossain said on Monday.

Paper on average costs about five times more than its plastic counterpart, which costs anywhere from 1 to 5 cents, as compared to 5 to 10 cents for paper, according to city staff. Biodegradable bags cost an estimated 10 to 21 cents while reusable cloth bags can run anywhere from 99 cents to \$10.

In terms of the approximate annual usage per person, paper, plastic and biodegradable bags are even at about 500 to 600 bags, while reusable cloth bags range from two to four per person a year.

If the council decides to authorize the City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance and it is subsequently adopted by council later this year, the ban would not go into effect for about six months.

The ban will most likely be opposed by the California Grocers Association (CGA), a statewide trade association, which has been on the other end of the plastic bags issue.

"Our position has always been that we support the recycling of plastic bags," Dave Heylen, a spokesman for the CGA, said.

The CGA was one of the supporters of AB 2449, a state bill — authored by Assemblyman Lloyd Levine — that required certain retailers to establish an in-store recycling program allowing customers to return with their carryout bags. The law went into effect last year.

"That is the most effective way of dealing with this environmental issue," Heylen said.

melodyh@smdp.com



Alexis Hawkins news@smdp.com

GOING DOWN: The Pacific Wheel has been featured in more than 300 movies and television shows.

Wheel still a big draw

FROM WHEEL PAGE 1

storing the pieces at the 1550 parking lot on Pacific Coast Highway while its \$1.5 million replacement is assembled in what will be a nearly two-week long process. The new Pacific Wheel will be unveiled in time for Memorial Day weekend, Klocke said. The rest of the park will remain open during construction.

One of the key differences between the old and the new Ferris wheels will be the mechanical efficiency, the upgraded ride using roughly 25 percent less energy. The illumination scheme of the ride will also be transformed as 15,000 energy-efficient LEDs will replace the more than 5,300 old-power sucking blue, red and white bulbs. The new wheel will be solar-powered just like its predecessor.

"It's a very 'un-green' lighting system that exists now," Klocke said.

The new wheel will also enhance operational efficiencies within Pacific Park. Whereas the color of the Ferris wheel's bulbs were manually changed by switching a colored-plastic film that covered each bulb, the hue of the new lights will easily be managed centrally through a computer, Klocke said.

"It's a chance for the park to really show its commitment to keeping the park fresh and new and exciting," he said. "We're really proud to replace the wheel and bring in a state-of-the-art wheel that doesn't lose the nostalgic feeling."

Throughout its lifetime, the Pacific Wheel, which has 20 gondola-shaped chairs, accommodating up to six riders per car, has

given more than three million rides.

Bits and pieces of the wheel are expected to be sold to serve as missing parts for other functional Ferris wheels.

"There's a lot of life left on that wheel if it's not sitting over the ocean," Klocke said.

The central hub of the old wheel, which is about six feet in diameter, will be donated to the Santa Monica Historical Society Museum where it is expected to be displayed in the non-profit organization's future new home in the Santa Monica Public Library.

"This will be a wonderful piece of history in the museum," Louise Gabriel, the president of the historical society museum, said. "The museum represents all areas of our local history."

The news of the wheel coming down seemed to get a nonchalant response from pier visitors on Monday, saying they would be more shocked if the Ferris wheel came down without a replacement.

"(Tearing it down) is not a big deal," Frank Vincelli, a Santa Monica resident, said. "Now if they were tearing down the pier, then you'd get a big reaction from me."

The Ferris Wheel was one of the main reasons why Brian Steuer and wife, Laura, came to visit the pier on Monday.

"You can see it from the shopping area, so we were drawn down here," he said. "It would be one thing if it was here for 50 years. I think (tearing it down is fine) if it's only 12 years old, as long as it still looks low key."

Jon Haber contributed to this story

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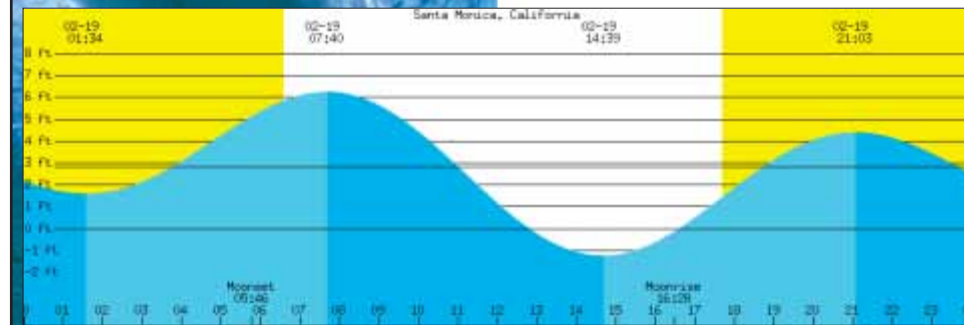
SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)

Today looks smaller as this NW swell backs off, perhaps waist to chest at west facing breaks, knee to waist at south facing spots. Weather turns onshore, and there are some ever-so-slight chances of rain in the forecast. My gut tells me (after mulling over the models) that the worse we'll get is some onshore winds kicking up early, but areas north of OC could see some sprinkles or drizzle at times.

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02-19 01:34 02-19 07:40 02-19 14:39 02-19 21:03

8 Ft. 7 Ft. 6 Ft. 5 Ft. 4 Ft. 3 Ft. 2 Ft. 1 Ft. 0 Ft. -1 Ft. -2 Ft.

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Neap tide 09:56 Neap tide 36:28

MLB

Pettitte tells fans, Rocket he's sorry

BY RONALD BLUM
Associated Press Writer

TAMPA, Fla. Andy Pettitte has not spoken to Roger Clemens since giving a sworn statement which implicated his good friend in the use of human growth hormone. “I think it’s put a strain on our friendship,” Pettitte said in an eagerly awaited news conference Monday at the New York Yankees’ spring training complex.

Pettitte apologized to the Yankees, Houston Astros and his fans for the “embarrassment” he caused them by taking HGH.

Pettitte arrived at spring training earlier in the day and threw a bullpen session at the minor league complex. Later, he met reporters for about an hour.

“I never want a young person to do what I did,” Pettitte said. “I’m sorry for the mistakes I have made.”

Pettitte sat alone at a podium, taking dozens of questions. He often paused to collect his thoughts and several times patiently asked reporters “did I answer your question?”

It had been about a month since he had spoken to Clemens, Pettitte said.

“I can’t even describe how uncomfortable a situation” this has been.

With Yankees teammates Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada in attendance, along with two of his lawyers, Pettitte acknowledged he had considered not playing because of the ongoing situation.

“That wouldn’t be the thing to do as a man. I felt like I needed to come out and face you guys and whatever circumstances that come I’ll take it, I’ll take it like a man and I’ll try to do my job,” he said.

Pettitte was excused from testifying publicly at a congressional hearing last week after he gave a deposition and an affidavit. In addition to his December admission that he used HGH for two days in 2002 while with the Yankees, he said he injected himself with HGH for one day in 2004 while with the Astros after obtaining two syringes from his father.

“I was never going to bring my dad up,” he said.

Pettitte said there were no other times he used performance-enhancing drugs. “There are no other surprises out there,” he said.

The 35-year-old lefty with 201 regular-season wins and four World Series championship rings said he did not feel as if his accomplishments were tainted.

“All I can tell you, from the bottom of my heart I know why I did this. I did it because I was told it might be able to help me,” he said. “If people think I’m lying, then they should call me a cheater.

“Do I think I’m a cheater? No, I don’t,” he said. “Was it stupid? Yes, I was stupid. Was I desperate? Yes, I probably was.”

Pettitte said in his previous statement that Clemens had discussed nearly a decade ago using HGH. In addition, Pettitte testified Brian McNamee, the former personal trainer for Clemens and Pettitte, had spoken in 2003 or 2004 about steroids use by Clemens.

Clemens claims Pettitte “misremembers.”

“I think Roger knows how I feel about him. He knows I’ve admired him and continue to admire him. He’s a great friend to me,” he said.

I THINK ROGER KNOWS HOW I FEEL ABOUT HIM. HE KNOWS I’VE ADMIRER HIM AND CONTINUE TO ADMIRE HIM. HE’S A GREAT FRIEND TO ME.”

Andy Pettitte
New York Yankee

Pettitte said he did not watch the Congressional hearings last week in which Clemens and McNamee testified. Pettitte professed his friendship for both men and said he hoped to remain on good terms with both of them.

“This has been a horrible situation for me,” he said. “I’m hoping and praying I don’t have to do anything else with this.”

Pettitte does not appear to be at risk of a suspension for his admissions. HGH was not banned by players and owners until January 2005.

“If it was illegal in baseball, I wouldn’t have done it,” he said.

However, Pettitte could remain ensnared between McNamee and Clemens, who denies allegations that he used performance-enhancing drugs. Dealing with his first controversy since he was hired to replace Joe Torre, manager Joe Girardi said it was too soon to tell whether the matter will end soon for Pettitte.

“I think a lot of that depends on what happens with Roger and what he continues to do. If that was to all die down, I think it would pretty much go away,” Girardi said Sunday. “But, obviously, there’s some litigation there that Andy might be a part of, so from that standpoint, it could linger.”



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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February 12, 2008

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- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 28

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LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cañitas Beach, at Arroyo Sepul Creek mouth (seacastilla)	A+	C	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	D	Will Rogers State Beach at Palms Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Luchessa and Las Alitas creeks	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Tenacious Canyon drain	A+	F
Enchanted Canyon at El Morado State Beach	A+	A+	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantrelles)	F	F
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	D
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	F	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Marble storm drain	B	D
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante State Beach	A+	C	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A+	F
Ladigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	C	Gosson Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	A
Selkirk Canyon at San Blocker County Beach	A+	B	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	D
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	B	F	Venice Beach at Brook Ave. drain	A+	B
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	B	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	B	A+
Surfside Beach at Malibu Calvary fence	A+	D	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A
Surfside Beach (beach location) - daily	F	D	Venice Beach- projection of Topical St.	A+	B
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	C	Deckweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	B	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	A+	Deckweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH storm	B	B	North Westchester Storm Drain at Deckweiler State Beach	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Torres County Beach	A+	A+	Deckweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	A+	Deckweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	D
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	B	C	Deckweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A
Cadwick Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	D	Deckweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	m	F			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	F			



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.

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

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Like father, like son?

Croc hunter's 4-year-old unfazed by 1st snake bite

The 4-year-old son of "CROCODILE HUNTER" STEVE IRWIN wasn't at all alarmed when he was recently bitten by a baby boa constrictor, according to his mother.

"He picked one of them up and it bit him on the finger, and he was so proud to have copped his first hit," Irwin's widow, Terri, said Monday at an appearance at FAO Schwarz with her two children to promote a new line of toys.

"He said, 'I hope it wasn't venomous,' so I assured Robert I wouldn't actually let him play with venomous snakes," she added.

Terri Irwin said the couple's 9-year-old daughter, Bindi, was first bitten by a snake when she was 18 months old.

The girl, who is featured in the Discovery Kids Channel show "Bindi the Jungle Girl," posed for cameras with a new action figure in her likeness.

"It's every little girl's dream to have an exact look-alike doll. It's amazing," said Bindi, who was signing action figure toys of her late father.

Steve Irwin, known through his nature TV series as a wrangler of crocodiles and snakes, died in 2006 from a stingray's barbed tail during an underwater documentary shoot. He was 44.

Irwin provoked an international outcry in 2004 after being filmed holding his then 1-month-old son while feeding a snapping crocodile.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUDGE ORDERS TWO TO SETTLE



PAUL MCCARTNEY and HEATHER MILLS' week-long divorce hearing ended Monday without a deal, and a judge will now impose a settlement on the warring couple. McCartney's lawyer Nicholas Mostyn told reporters that judge Hugh Bennett had reserved his ruling. The judge will now spend several weeks working out a settlement.

Mills and McCartney separated in 2006 after four years of marriage. They went to court to decide on Mills' share of the former Beatle's fortune, which is estimated at as much as \$1.6 billion.

Mills, 40, smiled as she left London's Royal Courts of Justice with her entourage. McCartney, 65, did not attend.

AP

Sort through invitations, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Communication is mixed at best. You might have difficulty explaining where you are coming from. Tonight: Let go and relax.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ You enter a period in which you focus on your goals and friends. Consider some changes in the next few weeks. Tonight: Head on home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Speak your mind, but don't forget the power of diplomacy. You might have a problem with too much information. Tonight: Hang out.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Consider what overindulgence really cost you. Loved ones appear to be changing right in front of you. Tonight: Fun doesn't have to cost.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Emphasize key relationships. Let others know how much you appreciate their efforts. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Confusing signals compiled with your own questioning causes you to be insecure. Tonight: Choose a stress-buster.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Though an element of confusion surrounds friends and loved ones, you'll get where you want to be. Tonight: Where people are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Others naturally respect you and your choices. As a result, you are often in a position of leadership. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ If you're feeling as if you are in a whirlwind, step back. A more remote perspective will help. Tonight: Where your mind can wander.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ A partnership gains in importance, be it professional or personal. Tonight: With that special person in your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Others seem bound and determined to pull you into their life. Why not? Tonight: Sort through invitations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Dive into your must-do's. You will want to be free and clear soon enough. Energy starts building. Tonight: Get some exercise.

Happy Birthday

This year, zero in on what you want. Frequently tap into your goals and desires and revise them as necessary. You could achieve your aspiration, only to discover that you really don't want it at all. In truth, you will be changing a lot in the next year, and your choices will reflect this transformation. If you are single, someone special could head in your direction. A friendship could be significant in the forming of this bond. If you are attached, remain nurturing or become even more sensitive to your sweetie. LEO works well with you.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com> (c) 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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

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Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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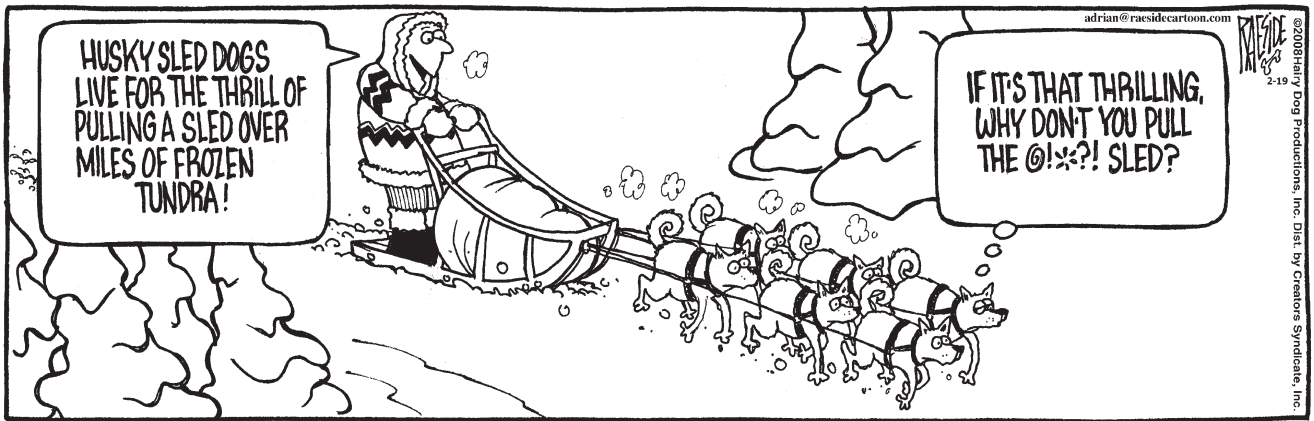
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By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



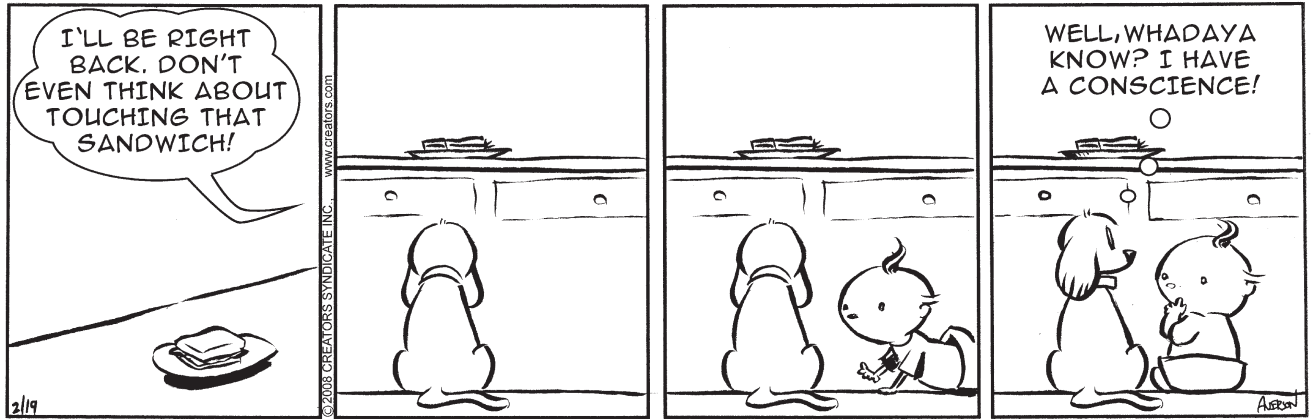
Garfield

By Jim Davis

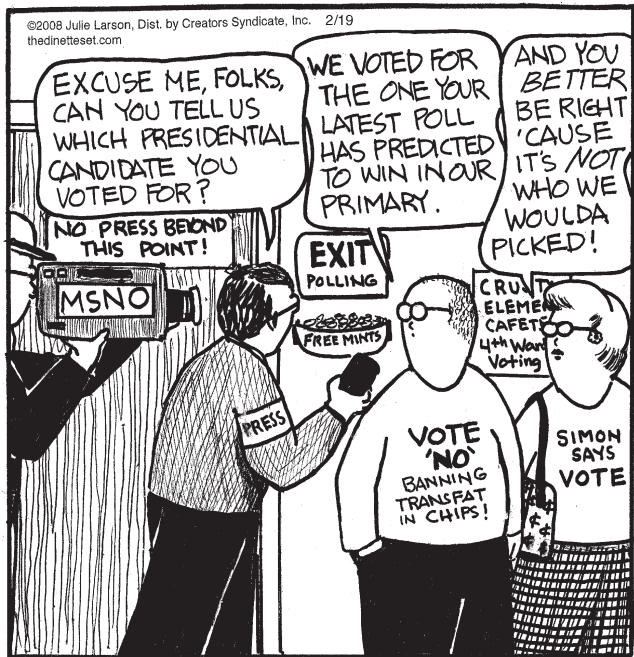


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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Singer Edith
- 5 Rose parts
- 10 Famed fur trader
- 12 West Pointer
- 13 Brilliant blue
- 15 Waikiki souvenir
- 16 Des-cartes's conclusion
- 17 Leather shade
- 18 Powerful
- 20 Designer Chanel
- 21 Common dice roll
- 22 Valuable rocks
- 23 Skilled
- 25 Select
- 28 Constitu-tion
- 31 A very long time
- 32 Like two peas —
- 34 Was inactive
- 35 Califor-nia's Big —
- 36 Color
- 37 Cutting-edge
- 40 "Let's Make —"

- 41 Chal-lenges
- 42 T-shirt choice
- 43 Simple

DOWN

- 1 St. — (London cathedral)
- 2 Keys
- 3 Dress
- 4 Gift tag word
- 5 Swindle
- 6 Sticky stuff
- 7 Copy fixer
- 8 Threat
- 9 Office workers
- 11 Came down

- 14 Metallic element
- 19 Egg outlines
- 20 Terra —
- 24 Tarking-ton book
- 25 Not dressy
- 26 Sudan neighbor
- 27 Alphabet unit

- 29 Call from a second-floor window
- 30 Sommel-ier, at times
- 33 Thick
- 35 Mall come-on
- 38 Dusting cloth
- 39 River stopper

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

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

2-19

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 7 11 26 30 53
Meganumber: 14
Jackpot: \$220M

Super LOTTO 22 25 33 41 45
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: \$80M

Fantasy 5 5 8 10 20 35

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 3 3 2
EVENING: 6 1 8

DAILY DERRY 1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:40.97

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Samina Malik, 23, was convicted in a British court in December and given a suspended nine-month sentence for having amassed a large collection of how-to books on terrorism. She came to authorities' attention as the self-described "lyrical terrorist" who writes poetry glorifying the Islamic mujahadeen fighters who specialize in beheadings. (From her "How to Behead": "Tilt the fool's head to its left / Saw the knife back and forth / No doubt that the punk will twitch and scream / But ignore the donkey's ass / And continue to slice back and forth.")

■ In January, the Centre for Recent Drawing art gallery in a London, England, suburb scheduled a series of 55 works by artist Jordan McKenzie, 40, called "Spent," even though they consist merely of canvases onto which he had ejaculated and covered with carbon sprinkles. McKenzie maintained that the works were "heartfelt and delicate."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1803 Congress voted to accept Ohio's borders and constitution.

1846 The Texas state government was formally installed in Austin, with J. Pinckney Henderson taking the oath of office as governor.

1878 Thomas Edison received a U.S. patent for "an improvement in phonograph or speaking machines."

1881 Kansas prohibited the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages.

1942 President Roosevelt signed an executive order that gave the military the authority to relocate and intern U.S. residents, including citizens, of Japanese ancestry.

1942 Japanese warplanes, attacking in two waves, raided the Australian city of Darwin; at least 243 people were killed.

1997 Deng Xiaoping, the last of China's major Communist revolutionaries, died at age 92.

1998 U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan set out for Iraq on a last-chance peace mission, saying he was "reasonably optimistic" about ending the standoff over weapons inspections without the use of force. At the Nagano Olympics, Austrian Hermann Maier won the men's giant slalom while Hilde Gerg of Germany won the women's slalom.

WORD UP!

sine qua non \sin-ih-kwah-
NON; -NOHN; sy-nih-kway-
noun: An essential condition or element; an indispensable thing.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
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North of Montana	=	\$ 3,568,882	\$ 2,164,667
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,289,900	\$ 981,143
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,021,737	\$ 776,389
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,366,737	\$ 604,000
Ocean Park	=	\$ 1,884,800	\$ 1,041,037

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