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02.19.16
Volume 15 Issue 81

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Council to consider suspending water rate increase

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

After several weeks of heavy hitting council agendas, the Feb. 23 meeting appears to be relatively benign, which in Santa Monica means there might be enough seats in the council chamber for all the protesters.

A light agenda includes reduced water rates, analysis of the city's Pedestrian Access Plan and an administrative change to the zon-

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 6

SMASH teacher dies of breast cancer

Community remembers Mugalian's 'positive spirit'

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

Terry Davis always felt a sense of comfort when she brought her daughter to Santa Monica Alternative School House each morning.

"Every day that I walked off campus after I dropped her off I thanked our lucky stars," Davis said.

Davis was grateful because she was leaving her child in the hands of Tamara Mugalian, a longtime teacher at SMASH.

The campus community is now

SEE CANCER PAGE 8

Ballot initiative will limit development

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Residocracy has filed a ballot initiative to limit growth in Santa Monica.

Tricia Crane and Armen Melkonians, both members of the Residocracy Advisory Board, filed a Notice of Intent with the City Clerk on Feb. 18 to begin circulation of the Land Use Voter Empowerment (LUVE) Initiative. If successful, the measure would require voter approval for development decisions throughout the City.

According to Residocracy's website, LUVE will require voter approval for all development agreements, any development above Tier 1 and any major amendment/update to significant zoning documents.

Development agreements are contracts between a developer and

Jennifer Maas

LUVE: Tricia Crane and Armen Melkonians signed paperwork to official file the Land Use Voter Empowerment (LUVE) Initiative.

the city. They are used when standard zoning rules are out of date or when the developer seeks to exceed the allowed zoning codes. In exchange for approval of the project, the developer is required to provide community benefits that can include financial payments, alterations to the proj-

SEE LUVE PAGE 7

PRO BASEBALL:

Local brothers enter spring training

Eric Evans

SCOTT HEINEMAN: Scott will attend Spring Training with the Texas Rangers.

Santa Monica Little League alumni vying for shot at big leagues

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

There was a time when Tyler Heineman and Scott Heineman were just kids on the diamond, playing the sport they love in Santa Monica Little League.

And they're still just kids on the diamond, to an extent, but now baseball is a business and the stakes are undoubtedly higher.

The brothers, sons of former

SEE BASEBALL PAGE 9

Scott Chandler

TYLER HEINEMAN: Tyler will attend Spring Training with the Houston Astros.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Feb. 19

Yoga
All levels. Drop in for $15 a class. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 - 10 a.m.

Guest House tours
Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Main Library docent tours
Docent led tours are offered the third Friday of each month. Docent led tours of the Main Library cover the library's gold LEED rating of sustainability, its art, architecture and even the library's collection. Docents are able to adapt the tour to fit your interest and time. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 20

Three Centuries of Music for Flute and Guitar
Flautist Daniel Kessner and guitarist Jordan Charnofsky come together for a captivating hour of classical and popular music. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 - 4 p.m.

Master Gardeners at the Market
Master Gardeners provide free gardening tips, solutions to gardening problems, seeds and seedlings as well as their technical expertise based on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program which provides intense gardening training emphasizing organic gardening and covers vegetables, fruits, flowers, shrubs, trees, soils, composting, pests and harvesting. The Master Gardeners of Los Angeles visit the Pico Farmers Market on the third Saturday of each month 9:30 a.m. - Noon. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave

Stencil making with Patricia Mitchell
Learn techniques and materials to create your own stencils for use in a variety of ways. From traditional stenciling for arts and crafts using brushes and sponges, to quilting templates, to the aerosol stencils used in graffiti art, we'll go over the various ways to make multiples using this technique. Come away with a stencil or two of your own. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., cost $5, https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/48729

Munchkin Matinee
Join us for a screening of the film "Tangled". The program is for children of all ages and is free. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 2 - 4 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 21

A Watercolor Journey with Timothy Kitz
Join urban sketcher and watercolorist Timothy Kitz in a six week immersive watercolor course, open to all levels. Drop-In participation is available for $30. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/48324. 1450 Ocean Ave., 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Guest House tours
Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Marbling Paper with Zeina Baltagi
Marbling is the art of printing multi-colored swirled or stone-like patterns on paper or fabric. Come and learn how it's done. Cost: $25. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/48742. 1450 Ocean Ave., 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

1450 Ocean: TheGROOVE Dance
TheGROOVE is a simple fitness class that anyone can do! There are no fancy steps or choreography to memorize. Just a couple of simple steps that make you dance to the music and get into TheGROOVE. The class starts with a juicy warm-up, eases you into the moves, gets your heart rate going and ends with stretches and a brief cool down meditation. Drop-In participation is available for $10. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/47476. 1450 Ocean Ave., 12 - 1 p.m.

For help submitting an event, contact us at **310-458-7737** or submit to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Promenade

Art installation over Third Street Promenade exhibits Santa Monica's indigenous species

Each month, approximately 1.5 million shopper-gatherers will scurry around under the diligent gaze of a western fence lizard, nettle jellyfish, mourning doves and more. Indigenous flora & fauna have reclaimed the Third Street Promenade in a banner exhibit commissioned by Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. and brought to life by Santa Monica resident and artist Astrid Preston. A total of 16 banners were realized, casting a natural light on the city's colorful coastal creature and plant life over one of Los Angeles' busiest public streets.

The installation was first conceptualized by DTSM, Inc. board member Bruria Finkel, and Preston's talents were selected by an independent panel of experts and Downtown stakeholders following a call for submissions by local artists. Preston, a contemporary realist originally from Sweden, was immediately hooked on the project and tirelessly researched its subjects - many of which she encounters daily.

"A personal connection was important to the process," explains Preston. "I see raccoons regularly in my backyard and coyotes strutting down the street (even at midday). I was going to paint a redtail hawk, which I watch regularly out my window, but then a couple Cooper's Hawks built a nest in front of a friend's house, so watching them daily until the two hatchlings flew off was a real treat. I'm happy that so many indigenous animals, especially birds, continue to call Santa Monica home."

The rendered paintings took seven months to complete and grace the entire stretch of Third Street Promenade, from Broadway to Wilshire Boulevard, to be enjoyed by locals and visitors for the majority of 2016. Preston herself is a Promenade regular and peruses the Santa Monica Farmers Market twice weekly.

- SUBMITTED BY RYAN PORTER, JEFF WAGNER AGENCY

Citywide

Free wellbeing workshop series for seniors

The Older Adult Task Force (OATF), City of Santa Monica Commission for the Senior Community and Santa Monica Public Library present a free three-part workshop series titled "Wellbeing: A Journey Into Aging."

Santa Monica's award-winning Wellbeing Index (www.smgov.net/wellbeing) recently found that residents have high levels of life satisfaction generally, but lack a sense of connection to their communities and struggle with work/life balance, a key condition for wellbeing. This series of events aims to provide resources to help address these and other issues affecting the wellbeing of Santa Monica's older residents.

Each stand-alone event will feature two workshops on a topic related to wellbeing of the mind and body and resource tables with information about local events, activities and community organizations. A drawing will be held after each event for gift card giveaways for participating attendees.

February 21, 1 - 4 p.m., Body/Mind Connections

UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street, Santa Monica

Presentations titled "Letting Go and Moving Forward" and "The Science of Mindfulness" will be held in Rooms 1, 2 and 3 and the auditorium.

March 14, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Health Connections

Virginia Ave. Park, Thelma Terry Building, 220 Virginia Avenue

Presentations "The Nourishing Skinny on How to Make Great Nutrition Pleasurable" and "Physical Activity - Benefits for Your Body and Brain" will be given. Attendees who register in advance will receive a free boxed lunch provided by WISE & Healthy Aging and The City of Santa Monica Commission for the Senior Community during a bonus presentation, "Shopping at Farmer's Markets for Healthy Eating," which will be open to pre-registered participants only. This workshop will be offered in English and Spanish.

This series is presented by the OATF as part of its mission to serve the older adult community. To register for the events, or for more information, please call OATF at (800) 516-5323.

The Older Adult Task Force (OATF) is part of the Lifelong Learning Community Project and is a network of organizations committed to enhancing the quality of services to older adults and caregivers in the Westside. Over the last 18 years, the OATF has facilitated inter-agency collaboration between non-profit, for-profits, public agencies, and local businesses. The OATF aims to organize special educational programs for the community and foster information sharing among service providers to older adults and caregivers. The OATF is not an independent organization, has no paid staff, no formal governing body, and no website and does not provide on-going services.

- SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, SANTA MONICA PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

Princeton St.

Stepp Commercial completes apartment property sale in Santa Monica

Stepp Commercial, a leading multifamily brokerage firm in the Santa Monica market, has completed the $2,525,000 sale of fully occupied, six-unit apartment property located at 1426 Princeton Street near Santa Monica Boulevard and the 110 Freeway in Santa Monica.

Kimberly Roberts Stepp, principal, and Aynsley Armbrust, vice president, with Stepp Commercial, represented the seller, a Los Angeles-based private investor. The buyer was Los Angeles-based 1038 El Media Place, LLC. The closing cap rate on the transaction was 3.25 percent.

"The buyer was in a 1031 exchange and was seeking a well-located property on the Westside," said Roberts Stepp. "This is a stable asset with recently renovated units and a large, three-bedroom unit that can be used by the owner. There is also an opportunity to add value by bringing rents up to market rates."

Built in 1966, the property consists of four one-bedroom units, one two-bedroom unit and a three-bedroom unit with a front yard. All of the units include hardwood flooring, custom designed kitchens, patios, and fireplaces. The property is within walking distance to the Water Garden and Colorado Center Park.

- SUBMITTED BY DARCIE GIACCHETTO

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

Oregon lawmakers weigh landmark minimum wage proposal

KRISTENA HANSEN
Associated Press

Oregon is trailblazing a national debate with a proposal that would not only make the state's minimum wage for all workers the highest in the U.S., but would do so through a unique tiered system based on geography.

As the federal minimum wage has sat unchanged since the start of the Great Recession, more than a dozen states have raised the rate within their borders in recent years. Another dozen or so are considering taking up the issue this year, either through legislative action or ballot initiative, as issues of wage inequality and middle-class incomes have climbed to the forefront of presidential campaigns by Democratic candidates Bernie Sanders and Hilary Clinton.

Oregon is weighing a new approach. State lawmakers are set to vote Thursday on an unprecedented three-tiered system that sets different rates by region.

The proposal would start a series of gradual increases over six years: Oregon's current $9.25 an hour minimum - already one of the highest in the nation - would jump to $14.75 in metro Portland, $13.50 in smaller cities such as Salem and Eugene, and $12.50 in rural communities by 2022.

Those minimums would dethrone Massachusetts - where the statewide rate will climb to $11 an hour next year - from the top spot, according to D.C.-based Economic Policy Institute, which has been tracking wage increases across the nation.

States have taken various approaches to raising their own minimum wages. Some target government employees or certain industries, as seen recently in New York for fast-food workers, while some states allow local jurisdictions to set their own rates above the state threshold, which prompted recent hikes in cities such as Seattle and Los Angeles. Santa Monica also recently raised its minimum wage.

Oregon is unique because it would be the first state without a one-size-fits-all statewide minimum for all workers. The state is deeply divided between west and east by economic, cultural and political differences. The goal of the tiered approach is to balance the needs of the more urban west_where living costs have soared in rapidly growing Portland_and struggling farming communities in the east.

The Oregon plan follows moves in states such as Massachusetts, California and Vermont that recently boosted statewide minimums above $10.

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at **1717 4th Street Suite 250**, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID #4232 FURNISH AND DELIVER PORTLAND CEMENT.

BID #4233 FURNISH AND DELIVER SLURRY MATERIALS.

Submission Deadline is March 7, 2016 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING

The City of Santa Monica is currently updating its Historic Resources Inventory ("HRI") which lists existing and potential historic resources throughout the City and provides a foundation for supporting the goals of local historic preservation efforts. The City has engaged the services of a professional consulting firm, Architectural Resources Group, to complete the task of surveying all structures built 40 years ago or more (through 1977) and the development of historical context statements describing the City's neighborhood, architectural, cultural, and social history. In an effort to inform the public of this ongoing study, a community meeting has been scheduled that will describe the process and answer any questions that impacted property owners, residents and/or tenants may have during the HRI update. This meeting is scheduled as described below:

When: **Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 6:30 PM**
Where: **Santa Monica Main Library, Multi-Purpose Room**
601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8431 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Line 1 serves the Santa Monica Main Library.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica sobre una solicitud para remodilar un edifecio que tiene valor historico importante. Para mas informacion, por favor llame a Carmen Gutierrez en City Planning Division al numero (310) 458-8341.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

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WINNER

Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lionel was two of a kind

Courtesy Photo

LIONEL BURT

THE LATE AND MULTI-TALENTED, LIONEL Burt was as unique as anyone I've ever known. At times he reminded me of Will Rogers, funny and never uttered a bad word about anyone. He was very Zen that way. But he was also a relentless contrarian who, on occasion, could try the most patient of souls. And yet, given his humor and good nature, you couldn't help but like Lionel.

Among the many things Lionel loved in life were good tennis and a spirited debate. He even wrote a book on political correctness, "It's the Words, Stupid!" Put it this way, in a debate, Lionel was more Pit Bull than Zen Master.

Sadly, a few weeks ago, Lionel passed away. He was just shy of his 83rd birthday. He left adult children, Adam and Meghan and his beloved 17-year-old grandson, Jake who is a musician like his grandfather. (Jake sings and plays the trumpet; Lionel played piano, guitar, sax, harmonica and drums, as mentioned below.)

A pied piper, Lionel leaves a multitude of friends. I was blessed to have been one. In fact, I wish I could hear Lionel tell one more joke. I'd even settle for one of the cornier ones.

Almost 25 years ago, I met Lionel at the Ocean View Tennis Courts. Two things stood out. One, he was a vegan, which was relatively unusual. And two, he played tennis with a two-handled racket, which was extremely unusual. In fact no one had ever seen one before. Lionel designed it personally and took a lot of kidding. With the two handles sticking out, some compared it to a hedge-clipper or divining rod.

Lionel promoted his racket with religious zeal. He preached, correctly I might add, that two handles allowed users to play the same strokes on both sides and so develop all their muscles at the same rate.

Lionel was even able to have two pros, Brian and Dann Battistone, use his racket on the tour, including at the U.S. Open! (Google "Battistone brothers 2-handled racket.") Over the years Lionel sold dozens of his rackets to players at Ocean View and other courts but, generous of spirit, he must have given away ten times that amount.

Born in Montreal in 1933, Lionel was a non-conformist who definitely marched to his own set of drums. His father ran the Montreal Forum where the Canadians played hockey, so it wasn't surprising Lionel was talented on the ice. With near perfect ski form, he wound up a pro instructor and coached at the Junior Olympics.

A bit of a mad genius, Lionel was an inventor by nature. Whereas some ask "Why," Lionel would ask "How can I make it better?" Once, he invented a binding device that allowed the user to ski in soft ski boots. He sold the rights for $100,000 but, oddly, it was never marketed. Lionel merely moved on to the next project. He was remarkably flexible that way.

Lionel came to the U.S. In 1963. amazingly, not long after, he became a comedy writer for "Red Skelton" and then "Laugh In." As a wannabe comedy writer, I would listen raptly to his tales of the writers' meetings and the insane pressure of putting together a national TV show.

Unlike many who grew up during the Depression, Lionel was not very money conscious, nor was he a workaholic. In fact, he was one of the most relaxed people I've ever known. (Unless, of course, he was debating.)

Lionel was a free spirit, open to all sorts of ideas. For example, a friend of his owned an avocado ranch in Australia and needed help. So Lionel, in his 60s, took off for down under. While it didn't work out, Lionel didn't regret having gone. He wasn't much into regrets.

On Sunday, at 12:30 p.m. at the Ocean View Tennis Courts in Ocean Park, Lionel's family and many friends will gather to celebrate his life. As per his wishes, it won't be flowery or maudlin, just swapping funny stories about Lionel. Frankly, I wish Lionel could be there because nobody told a story better than he did.

Lastly, if Lionel is in heaven, I only hope God allowed him to bring a 2-handled racket. And I also hope God doesn't get exasperated easily. Knowing Lionel, there might be a few subjects he'd like to debate.

JACK is at facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth and jnsmdp@aol.com.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Your column here

Bill Worden
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

City spin doesn't answer legal questions

MR. NELSON HERNANDEZ IS THE TWO hundred thousand dollar a year public relations coordinator hired by the City of Santa Monica to facilitate closing the Santa Monica Municipal Airport. He fired off his first salvo as quoted in this paper last week. He began by describing our new Part 16 complaint to the FAA as written in "beautiful legal prose," as if that were somehow a mark against it and its content instead of a testament to the clarity and rigor with which it was written. It is a tactic he will likely use time and again, along with many others designed to obfuscate and confuse our citizens and appeal to emotion rather than common sense.

He asserts that the airport is for a "select group of people that can afford private jets solely for their convenience..." when, in fact, it is America's businesses that use modern aviation to facilitate commerce. For America's corporations aviation is much more than a convenience, it is a necessity if they are to be competitive nationwide and worldwide. And incidentally note that they bring more than a quarter billion dollars a year into town.

Mr. Hernandez asserts that the airport "belongs to the people of Santa Monica..." and suggests that the City can, therefore, do whatever they want with it. This, of course, is pure nonsense. LAX belongs to the people of Los Angeles and SFO belongs to the people of San Francisco. Yet these airports, and thousands more throughout the country, must abide by the laws and regulations and contracts that created and govern them. Hundreds of thousands of homeowners near LAX are impacted by its operations, but it is recognized as essential for transportation needs, including those of tens of thousands of Santa Monica residents who fly from there. Santa Monica Airport is no different. If Mr. Hernandez (and the current City Council) were right, these many airports could come and go at the whim of the current leaders of local governments like Santa Monica's whose current City Council finds its airport somehow inconvenient.

Make no mistake: local control of the airport land is city shorthand for closing the airport and developing the land. Is that what anyone wants?

Mr. Hernandez goes on, "Our interest is to promote the well-being of tens of thousands of residents and control the land purchased by the taxpayers of Santa Monica." The land for our airport was originally purchased in the 1920's for the express purpose of having an airport for the city, but ultimate control of the land was ceded to the federal government in 1948 when the city agreed to accept a larger and much improved airport back after the war with the condition that the land be used for an airport "forever."

Our Mayor, Mr. Vazquez, on the other hand, seems to have trouble understanding this new litigation despite its apparent beauty as cited by Mr. Hernandez. It was not filed by the National Business Aviation Association. It was filed by various threatened businesses and individuals right here at the airport based on their own research and investigation. Yes, we receive help from various national organizations that wish to protect a great national asset. Why shouldn't we? Litigation is expensive and we're up against a well-heeled city government (17th richest in the nation) that shows little compunction when it comes to spending millions of our taxpayer dollars on meritless litigation and losing time and again in the state and federal courts. Do you think we're going to use Legal Zoom?

The fiction being promulgated by the City Council and the City Manager's office is that our airport is only supported by out of town corporations that want to take land from the people for their own nefarious purposes. Horse feathers! The facts are these: the land is controlled by the federal government to make sure it remains available as part of America's aviation infrastructure. Because of prior binding agreements it is not the City's land to use or abuse as it pleases. The airport is used by the whole country, by local and regional business interests, and by individual pilots and based businesses. It is a vital local, regional, and national asset. Nothing will "promote the well-being" of the citizens of Santa Monica and the Los Angeles basin better than a great airport. It's as American as apple pie.

If, as Mr. Hernandez alleges, "Our [city government] interest is the public interest", then the path is clear: no law prevents the city from endeavoring to make SMO a showpiece for the state and for the nation- and an exemplar of enlightened government. That would be the very best way to promote the public interest, if that is the real objective.

BILL WORDEN is president of the Santa Monica Airport Association

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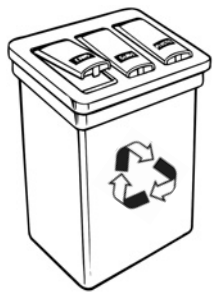

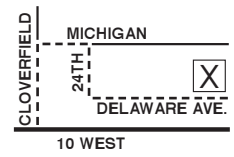

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COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

ing of a particular parcel.

COUNCIL COULD ROLL BACK WATER RATES.

In 2015, council approved five years worth of water rate increases. The first increase of 9 percent went in to effect on March 1, 2015. A second 9 percent increase was scheduled for Jan. 1, 2016 but staff is recommending the 2016 increase be reduced to 5 percent. The rate increases were based on projected costs with a caveat that council would review the increases annually.

"Based upon review of Water Fund performance for Fiscal Year 2014-15, including greater than anticipated revenues, decreased operating expenses, and decreased capital project expenditures, staff is recommending a partial suspension of the 9% rate increase, and implementation of a 5% increase effective January 1, 2016. The change in rate is only effective for 2016, returning to the adopted 9% increase authorized for subsequent years, evaluated annually. Council can take action to adjust future rate increases at the next annual review," said the staff report.

PROMOTING WALKING

The Feb. 23 meeting will include a discussion of Santa Monica's Pedestrian Action Plan. The plan is an extension of ideas proposed in the Land Use and Circulation element and makes recommendations with the goal of improving the pedestrian experience in Santa Monica. "It includes community input and reflects current conditions and anticipates changes associated with Expo Light Rail Service. The Plan includes the City's first statement on Vision Zero, the effort requested by City Council in March 2015 to strive to eliminate roadway fatalities and severe injuries," said the staff report.

ZONING UPDATE

According to the staff report, Council should act to rectify a paperwork error related to recent zoning updates.

"During the update of the Zoning Ordinance in 2015, the parcel located at 1419 19th Street was identified as a parcel where the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) land use designation was inadvertently changed from a commercial designation to a residential designation during the LUCE update. The Council consequently amended the LUCE Map for 1419 19th Street returning it to a commercial designation; however, the zoning of the property on the Official Districting Map was not changed at that time. In order to make the zoning of the subject parcel consistent with the land use designation of the LUCE Map, the Official Districting Map needs to be amended changing the zoning of the property from Low Density Residential (R2) to General Commercial (GC)," said the report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Among the 15 item consent calendar is an expansion of the city's bike share program. Staff has requested an agreement with the City of Los Angeles to install up to 20 additional Breeze Bike Share stations outside Santa Monica. The initial plan would respond to user requests for stations in Venice.

"This expansion of Breeze Bike Share to the Venice area would: improve operational efficiency for Cyclehop by reducing the time spent retrieving out-of-hub bikes, enhance the user experience by opening-up a new destination where users can visit and lock the Breeze Bikes without incurring out-of-hub fees, and provide a desired service to a neighboring constituency increasing staff's ability to attract new bike share members and generate additional revenue," said the report.

There's no cost associated with the expansion. Existing grant funding will pay for the new stations and operation of the expanded system is included in the existing contract. Staff said it's possible the new stations could increase revenue if additional riders were brought into the system.

Public safety purchases in the consent items include $100,000 for the purchase of a new Urban Search and Rescue vehicle and new uniforms/safety equipment for all public safety employees. According to the report, SMFD's current search vehicle is outdated and unable to meet state mandates.

"The Police Department, Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management currently supply public safety employees with approved uniforms, safety equipment and other protective gear required to perform their job duties. Following a formal bid process, Uniform Warehouse is recommended to provide and deliver the uniforms, safety equipment, and protective gear," said the staff report.

The complete meeting agenda is posted online at www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/agendas.aspx.

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LUVE

FROM PAGE 1

ect or donations of land/space for other uses. City officials have said the agreements can extract more concessions from developers than would be available otherwise but critics have said the city does not demand enough in the negotiation process and is unwilling to veto an agreement if the terms are lacking.

City Manager Rick Cole has previously said he wants the city to eliminate the use of development agreements in favor of more robust zoning documents that specify what can be built such as the newly released Downtown Specific Plan.

Development within Santa Monica is organized into Tiers based on density. Tier 1 would allow 2-3 story buildings throughout most of the city and up to four stories downtown. LUVE supporters say the limit is necessary to undo parts of the recently approved Zoning Ordinance update.

"It will eliminate the incentives given to developers in the new Zoning Ordinance to demolish existing buildings and replace them with larger, taller, and denser developments that increase traffic across our city," said the website.

Development citywide is governed by several plans and documents. LUVE will require voter approval of significant changes to those documents.

"It will require voter approval for such things as increasing allowable building heights and densities, changes of zoning designations from residential to commercial, and intensification of use types in residential neighborhoods," said the website.

Once filed with the Clerk, the City has 15 days to return a ballot summary and title. At that time, the filers have 180 days to gather signatures to qualify the measure for the November election. To qualify for the ballot, the quantity of signatures must meet or exceed 10 percent of the total number of registered voters or about 6,430 signatures for Santa Monica.

Residocracy is a non-profit organization that utilizes a website to solicit input on community issues. The organization has been strongly opposed to development and in 2014 was responsible for mounting a voter referendum against what was then known as the Hines Project at the former PaperMate plant. While enough signatures were gathered to qualify the 2014 referendum for the ballot, City Council chose to revoke authorization for the project rather than put it before voters.

Melkonians, a proponent of the LUVE Initiative and founder of Residocracy said the group is run by an advisory board but its strength comes from its ability to rally citizens around a cause. He said large numbers of individual volunteers would gather signatures from their personal contacts culminating in more than enough to qualify for the ballot.

"The biggest strategy that Residocracy has and the strength of Residocracy, is that it's done through neighbors and friends as they approach their family, friends and neighbors. It's word of mouth and a purely grass roots effort," he said. "It develops a sense of community when a neighbor is talking to a neighbor or a friend or a family member. They have a very personal attachment to something that will affect the quality of life of residents. This process that Residocracy has developed is a big strength going into an election."

California law requires initiatives be filed by individuals, in this case Melkonians and Crane. Melkonians said Residocracy as an organization has worked on LUVE and has created a Political Action Committee to provide financial support for the campaign.

editor@smdp.com

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SUMMONS

MICHAEL ROCCA v. VK ATLANTIC, LLC
CASE NUMBER 2:15-CV-8993-DMG-FFM

TO: DEFENDANT(S): **VK Atlantic, LLC**

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Clerk, U.S. District Court

Dated: 11/19/2015

By: G. Hunt
Deputy Clerk
(Seal of the Court)

Community Workshop
Local Coastal Plan Update

WHEN: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH
6:30 - 8:30 PM

WHERE: CIVIC AUDITORIUM, EAST WING
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CANCER

FROM PAGE 1

mourning the loss of Mugalian, who died at home Feb. 9 after a long battle with breast cancer. She was 50.

A celebration of Mugalian's life was held Feb. 14 at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, less than a mile from the school where she had a profound impact on students, parents and fellow educators.

A crowdfunding campaign to help her family cover medical bills, funeral costs and other living expenses had raised more than $30,000 as of Thursday afternoon.

Mugalian joined the SMASH staff starting in 2003, teaching grades 2-4. She also represented her colleagues through the local Classroom Teachers Association.

Mugalian "possessed the ability to see right to the heart of a person," Santa Monica-Malibu school district Supt. Sandra Lyon said in a statement. "She was a gift to her students, all of whom she adored. She had a clear vision of the kind of teacher she wanted to be. Even with four kids and a husband at home to manage, she spent extra hours planning everything from her art program to a student's narrative assessment to her everyday lesson plans. She did them right, no matter how long it took."

Originally from Kansas, Mugalian lived in New York before moving to California. She completed graduate studies at Culver City-based Antioch University.

Mugalian worked to align the K-8 curriculum of the campus and was a champion of student ideas, principal Jessica Rishe said. Her legacy of taking "the balcony view" of the overall direction of the school lives on through group morning meetings, student council and math lessons, Rishe said.

Mugalian was "the ultimate SMASH ambassador," Rishe said. She was an advocate for visual and performing arts programming and took on a variety of leadership positions.

"We thank her for the heart, dedication, and connections with students and their families that she has shared," Rishe said.

Suzanne Moscoso, a district librarian, recalled Mugalian's magnetic temperament.

"I am so blessed to have witnessed Tamara's warm personality and wonderful positive spirit each day," she said.

Parents at SMASH have been sharing photos and memories of Mugalian. Student have been creating drawings, writing notes to her children and singing tunes she taught them.

The campus community has had support from SMMUSD mental health services coordinator Shuli Lotan, school psychologists and other counselors. Grief counseling services have been made available to SMASH students.

Courtesy Photo

TEACHER: Popular SMASH teacher Tamara Mugalian died from breast cancer.

"Our loss is painful, but we are grateful to have known her as she touched the lives of countless students, their families and other teachers and staff," Lyon said. "We offer our profound sympathies to her family. She will be missed and long remembered."

Mugalian is survived by her husband, Steve, and four children: Emory, Olivia, Gabe and Duncan. Donations are being accepted online at gofundme.com/tamara-mugalian.

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BASEBALL

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica police lieutenant Steve Heineman, are pursuing their professional dreams amid growing anticipation for the upcoming Major League Baseball season.

Tyler left Wednesday for spring training with the Houston Astros in Kissimmee, Florida. Scott will report March 5 in Surprise, Arizona, to participate in camp with the Texas Rangers organization.

The former Pac-12 players hope the training sessions they've held in recent months pay off as they vie for roster spots within their respective clubs.

Tyler, 24, has the benefit of previous experience. A Windward School standout who was a walk-on catcher at UCLA, he played most of last season for the Triple-A Fresno Grizzlies.

Tyler said he's been told the competition is open for the Astros' back-up catching position, which is also coveted by Max Stassi, Roberto Pena and Alfredo Gonzalez.

"Max probably has a leg up because he has some major-league experience," Tyler said. "But going into camp, that's a job that's open. I've been told, 'If you perform well and impress us, it could be yours.'"

Drafted by the Astros in the 8th round of the 2012 draft, Tyler hit .285 with three home runs and 30 RBI this past season in 78 combined games with Fresno and the Double-A Corpus Christi Hooks.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound righty acknowledged that he doesn't have astonishing power or gaudy statistics, but he said reliability is his strong suit.

"I've proven myself to people that I'm consistent, that I do perform," he said. "Now it's just a matter of taking it to the next level and showing the major-league staff that I can perform at a big-league level."

The journey into the minors is just beginning for Scott, 23, who played collegiate baseball at Oregon following a standout athletic career at Encino-Crespi Carmelite. After being taken by the Rangers in the 11th round of last year's draft, the 6-foot-1, 215-pound outfielder spent about six months rehabilitating his surgically repaired left foot.

"I'm just looking forward to going into spring fully healthy," he said.

Scott, who hit .290 with four home runs and 23 RBI with the Ducks last year, said he'll likely play in center field and right field to start his pro career. But he added that he'll continue working on his infield skills to make himself a more versatile prospect as he attempts to climb the ranks.

As he's practiced and worked out over the last few months, he's focused on proper nutrition and hydration while finding a balance between field time and rest time.

"I'm doing whatever I can to make sure I'm at my best every day so I can perform to the level I need," he said.

Scott said it was extremely helpful to have Tyler around as he geared up for spring training.

"He knows exactly how to prepare," Scott said. "There are definitely days when I'm training and he'll tell me, 'You don't need 150 swings today. Make sure you're showing up fresh. You don't need to overwork it.' He knows where that barrier is."

Scott and Tyler both recalled playing in Santa Monica Little League with talented athletes like Tyler Skaggs, now a pitcher with the Los Angeles Angels, and Washington Nationals pitching prospect Lucas Giolito.

"We're all trying to make it up to the big leagues," Scott said. "We're pushing each other."

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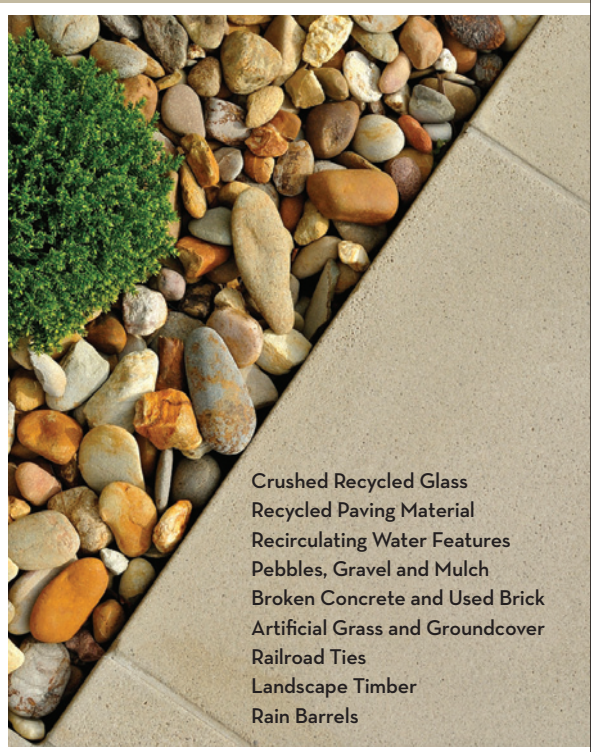
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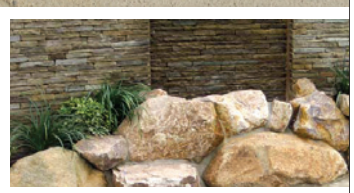
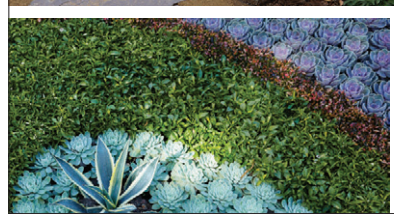
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Los Angeles vows privately financed Olympics in 2024 bid

BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

With 97 percent of the venues in existence or already planned by private investors, organizers of Los Angeles' bid for the 2024 Olympics are promising a prudent and responsible approach to running the games that would be entirely privately financed.

"That is the definition of sustainability in terms of legacy and cost," said Casey Wasserman, chairman of LA24. "There's no risk involved with venues or facilities."

On Wednesday, LA24 officials released a 64-page report submitted to the International Olympic Committee detailing their vision and concept for bringing the Olympics back to Los Angeles for a third time.

Organizers said that within three weeks of launching their bid last September, they secured $35 million in cash commitments from private donors.

The committee is emphasizing the city won't require any extra infrastructure beyond what is already planned for the vast, traffic-choked region over the coming years, including $300 billion in transportation upgrades. Part of that is an expansion of several rail lines and the first direct transit link to the city's main airport, which is currently undergoing a $14 billion modernization.

The bid mentions embracing new technology for ridesharing and parking, including an autonomous vehicle pilot program. Organizers want the "first energy positive" Olympics, including using solar power.

"We're going to come up with some things that will really help the games get to the next stage," bid CEO Gene Sykes said on a conference call.

Los Angeles is competing with Paris, Rome and Budapest, Hungary, for the games. The IOC will announce the winner next year.

"It's nothing but strong encouragement right now," U.S. Olympic Committee Chairman Scott Blackmun said of initial reaction to the U.S. bid.

Organizers said they would work with the owner of the new NFL stadium being built in Inglewood to explore opportunities for its use in the games.

"The most expensive and technologically advanced stadium will certainly be a key part of our plans going forward," Wasserman said.

Organizers want to include Hollywood in the planning, too, although they offered no specific details.

The L.A. games would revolve around four clusters: downtown Los Angeles, the San Fernando Valley, along the coast on the city's west side and in the South Bay.

The renovated Los Angeles Coliseum would host track and field and opening and closing ceremonies; swimming and diving would be held in temporary pools at the 22,000-seat Los Angeles Football Club stadium set for completion in 2018; and gymnastics would be at the Forum in Inglewood.

There were some changes from the city's initial bid document, including moving gymnastics from Staples Center, which would now host basketball.

LA Live, the city's entertainment hub, and the University of Southern California campus would anchor the downtown cluster, with weightlifting at Microsoft Theater, badminton and taekwondo at Galen Center, and the Convention Center hosting boxing, fencing, handball, judo, table tennis and wrestling.

The valley cluster located in the Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area would host canoe and slalom, with temporary facilities for equestrian, modern pentathlon and shooting.

The coastal cluster would revolve around Pauley Pavilion on the UCLA campus hosting volleyball and field hockey in two temporary venues, with the Los Angeles Tennis Center as the site of a temporary venue for water polo, and Santa Monica Beach hosting sand volleyball, triathlon and open water swimming.

The South Bay cluster would focus on the StubHub Center in Carson as the site of tennis, rugby, cycling at the renovated Velo Sports Center and BMX in a temporary venue.

Golf would be in Griffith Park, sailing on the L.A. waterfront, mountain biking in the Santa Monica Mountains, rowing and canoe/kayak at Lake Casitas in Ventura County, and soccer at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

Only five venues used the last time Los Angeles hosted the Olympics in 1984 are part of the current bid, including the Coliseum, Rose Bowl and Pauley Pavilion.

The L.A. games would be held July 19-Aug. 4, 2024, followed by the Paralympics from Aug. 21-Sept. 1.

The athletes' village would be on the UCLA campus, where officials are planning for 16,500 to 17,000 beds for athletes and team officials. Organizers said 90 percent of all sports would occur within 30 minutes of the village.

The media would be housed on the USC campus, with the Main Press Center and International Broadcast Center built on NBCUniversal's property in Universal City. NBC has locked up the rights to televise the games in the U.S. through 2032.

The bid's insurance plan includes something unique to the Los Angeles region: earthquake coverage. It would cover costs if venue construction was delayed or became more expensive because of a quake.

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is 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.

ON FEBRUARY 10, AT APPROXIMATELY 3:30 P.M.

Patrol officers assigned to the downtown area observed a vehicle driving on the wrong side of a divided street, traveling against oncoming traffic coming off of the I-10 Freeway at 5th Street. The officers immediately activated their lights and siren to alert the driver, later identified as William Bumiller, 59, of Los Angeles, of the dangerous condition he was creating. Bumiller stopped his vehicle, still facing oncoming traffic. As the officer approached the front driver side door to give Bumiller instructions to safely get him on the correct side of the road, the officer noticed Bumiller had a blank stare on his face and was slow to respond to the officer's instructions. The officer also discovered a child riding in the back seat of the vehicle. As the officer spoke to Bumiller, he recognized several signs of intoxication: Bumiller smelled strongly of alcoholic beverages, fumbled with his wallet when asked for his identification, had trouble concentrating, and had difficulty locating his registration and insurance cards. The officer had Bumiller exit the vehicle and perform Field Sobriety Tests. Based on his performance on those tests, Bumiller's observed unsafe driving behavior, his admission to drinking alcohol that day, and two open bottles of Tequila on the passenger side floorboard, Bumiller was placed under arrest for DUI, driving the wrong way, possession of an open container of alcohol, and child endangerment. Bail was set at $100,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 312 calls for service on Feb. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Disturbance at a business, 2000 black of Lincoln, 12:11 a.m.
Stalking, 800 block of Pacific, 1:08 a.m.
Identity theft, 2100 block of 4th, 6:45 a.m.
Child endangerment, 1200 block of 16th, 7:20 a.m.
Traffic collision, 21st/Pico, 7:42 a.m.
Vandalism, 400 block of San Vicente, 7:43 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace, 1100 block of 7th, 7:48 a.m.
Burglary, 1300 block of 7th, 8:23 a.m.
Burglary, 100 block of San Vicente, 8:37 a.m.
Public intoxication, 1800 block of Lincoln, 9:49 a.m.
Traffic collision, Main/Hill, 9:51 a.m.
Battery, 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom, 10:07 a.m.
Traffic collision, 3rd Street Prom/Wilshire, 10:08 a.m.
Fraud, 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom, 10:21 a.m.
Family disturbance, 800 block of 9th, 10:29 a.m.
Fight, 500 block of Olympic, 10:44 a.m.
Elder abuse, 2900 block of Glenn, 11:19 a.m.
Elder abuse, 2100 block of Wilshire, 11:19 a.m.
Elder abuse, 1300 block of 20th, 11:20 a.m.
Fight, 700 block of Santa Monica, 11:24 a.m.
Identity theft, 2600 block of 23rd, 11:26 a.m.
Overdose, 900 block of 21st, 11:35 a.m.
Vandalism, 1800 block of Wilshire, 11:45 a.m.
Rape, 3100 block of Pico, 11:46 a.m.
Disturbance at a business, 400 block of Santa Monica, 11:50 a.m.
Counterfeit money, 1600 block of Montana, 12:16 p.m.
Fight, 1900 block of Lincoln, 12:22 p.m.
Missing person, 1900 block of Pico, 12:39 p.m.
Harassing phone calls, 1000 block of 25th, 12:40 p.m.
Person down, 800 block of Michigan, 1:22 p.m.
Battery, 2500 block of San Vicente, 1:28 p.m.
Fraud, 600 block of Santa Monica, 2:02 p.m.
Hit and run, Main/Bay, 3:03 p.m.
Traffic collision, 300 block of Santa Monica, 4:38 p.m.
Traffic collision, 2800 block of Ocean Park, 4:45 p.m.
Family disturbance, 1700 block of 11th, 5:13 p.m.
Burglary, 400 block of 11th, 5:36 p.m.
Lewd activity, 300 block of Olympic Dr, 5:39 p.m.
Traffic collision, 1500 block of 26th, 5:48 p.m.
Hit and run, Ocean/Santa Monica, 6:05 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 49 calls for service on Feb. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS, 400 block of Broadway, 12:10 a.m.
EMS, 1700 block of Michigan, 1:20 a.m.
EMS, 1000 block of 6th, 2:19 a.m.
EMS, 2200 block of Colorado, 2:29 a.m.
EMS, 1600 block of 17th, 6:13 a.m.
EMS, 1100 block of 22nd, 6:41 a.m.
EMS, 1900 block of Santa Monica, 7:21 a.m.
EMS, 600 block of Ashland, 7:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 300 block of Colorado, 7:45 a.m.
EMS, 1300 block of 6th, 7:50 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 200 block of Palisades Beach, 9:44 a.m.
EMS, 800 block of 11th, 10:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm, 900 block of 4th, 10:57 a.m.
EMS, 800 block of 19th, 11:10 a.m.
EMS, 1000 block of Washington, 11:29 a.m.
EMS, 900 block of 21st, 11:32 a.m.
EMS, 400 block of 7th, 11:40 a.m.
EMS, 300 block of Santa Monica Pier, 11:43 a.m.
EMS, 1700 block of Ocean Park, 12:11 p.m.
EMS, 1200 block of 2nd, 12:13 p.m.
EMS, 900 block of Pico, 12:46 p.m.
EMS, 1600 block of Cloverfield, 1:12 p.m.
Injuries from assault, 2500 block of San Vicente, 1:30 p.m.
Flooded condition, 2600 block of Main, 1:31 p.m.
EMS, 1900 block of Pico, 2:45 p.m.
EMS, 800 block of Michigan, 3:31 p.m.
Request fire, 800 block of Michigan, 3:44 p.m.
EMS, 1800 block of Lincoln, 4:13 p.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1, 1200 block of 2nd, 4:21 p.m.
Elevator rescue, 3100 block of 4th, 4:29 p.m.
EMS, 300 block of Santa Monica, 4:36 p.m.
Arcing wires, 1100 block of 10th, 4:48 p.m.
EMS, 1100 block of 3rd, 4:57 p.m.
EMS, 3000 block of Pico, 5:14 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Battery, e.g.
6 Fake name
11 Pay tribute to
12 Jousting weapon
13 Mink's cousin
14 "Something's — Give"
15 Fan call
16 Single issue
18 Finished off
19 Abrade
20 Hosp. parts
21 Headed out
23 Golf bunkers
25 Lend a hand
27 Boxing great
28 Fluttery tree
30 Phone downloads
33 Tire track
34 Buddy
36 Historic time
37 Blow up
39 High hit
40 Play setting
41 Full of energy
43 Fork features
44 Frisco player
45 Future flowers
46 Fake ID users, often

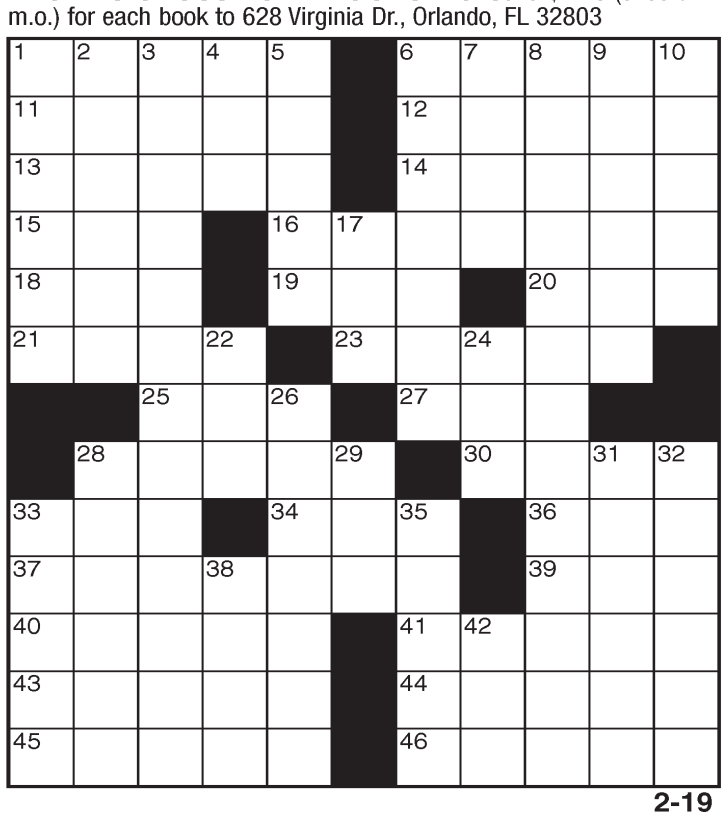
DOWN

1 Like church music
2 Turn
3 Like jet-setters' lives
4 "The Simpsons" bartender
5 Slip
6 Math course
7 Thailand neighbor
8 Being worked on
9 Cast makeup
10 Plane count
17 Bonbon center
22 Waiting bonus
24 Following
26 Bring down
28 Mame, for one
29 Old horse
31 Shown as true
32 Fencing swords
33 Work breaks
35 Inclined
38 Like some cheese
42 Golf position

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

Yesterday's answer

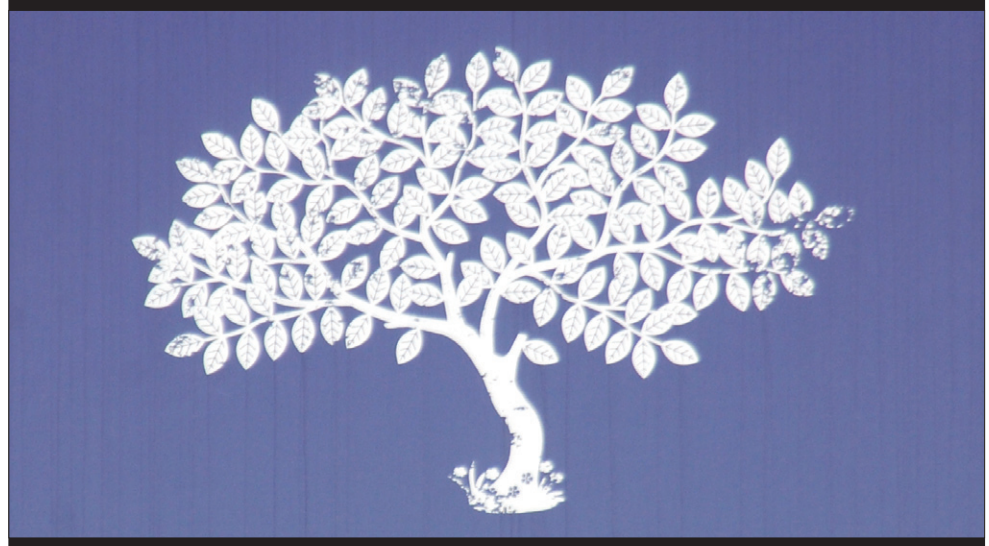
THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



2-19

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



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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 ★★★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL (calottery)
Draw Date: 2/17
7 17 27 29 40
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 212M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/16
9 31 33 46 64
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 104M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/17
21 26 28 38 44
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 18M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/17
5 17 32 34 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/17
MIDDAY: 7 4 1
Draw Date: 2/17
EVENING: 8 9 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/17
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:43.09

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**

WORD UP!

autodidact
1. a person who has learned a subject without the benefit of a teacher or formal education; a self-taught person.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1978 – Egyptian forces raid Larnaca International Airport in an attempt to intervene in a hijacking, without authorisation from the Republic of Cyprus authorities. The Cypriot National Guard and Police forces kill 15 Egyptian commandos and destroy the Egyptian C-130 transport plane in open combat.

1985 – William J. Schroeder becomes the first recipient of an artificial heart to leave hospital.

1985 – Iberia Airlines Boeing 727 crashes into Mount Oiz in Spain, killing 148.

1985 – EastEnders, BBC's flagship soap opera, broadcasts for the first time.

1986 – Akkaraipattu massacre: the Sri Lankan Army massacres 80 Tamil farm workers in the eastern province of Sri Lanka.

2001 – The Oklahoma City bombing museum is dedicated at the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

2002 – NASA's Mars Odyssey space probe begins to map the surface of Mars using its thermal emission imaging system.

2003 – An Ilyushin Il-76 military aircraft crashes near Kerman, Iran, killing 275.

2006 – A methane explosion in a coal mine near Nueva Rosita, Mexico, kills 65 miners.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Christopher Lemek Jr. was arrested in Palmer, Massachusetts, in January and charged in a New Year's Eve hit-and-run accident that took a pedestrian's life. Lemek emerged as a suspect a few days after the collision when police, visiting his home, noticed freshly disturbed earth in his backyard. Eventually Lemek confessed to literally burying the evidence -- using a construction vehicle to crush his truck and an excavator to dig up his backyard and drop the truck into it.

■ (1) Briton Jacqueline Patrick, 55, was sentenced to 15 years in prison in December for the 2013 murder of her husband, accomplished by spiking his wine with anti-freeze. To cover her crime, she handed over a note the husband had supposedly written, requesting that if tragedy struck him, he wished not to be resuscitated, preferring to die with "dignerty" (sic). Suspicious, police asked Patrick to spell "dignity," which, of course, came out "dignerty." (2) Kristina Green, 19, and Gary Withers, 38, both already on probation, were arrested in Encinitas, California, in December after an Amazon.com driver reported them following his delivery truck and scooping up packages as soon as he dropped them off. Inside the pair's car, officers found numerous parcels and mail addressed to others plus a "To Do" list that read, "steal mail and shoplift."

You have some decisiouns to make, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You have lots of energy, and you'll use it well. Whatever is charging you, try to keep it up. Many of you might decide to follow an exercise or energy-building workout, or start a diet. What you accomplish today could be more than you had anticipated doing. Tonight: Let off steam.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Stay focused, and understand the long-term implications of a decision. Your imagination seems to be able to fill in gaps and answer any questions. Let others know that you might not be feeding them facts, but offering flights of fancy instead. Tonight: Make weekend plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You could feel as if someone is off-kilter and giving you the cold shoulder. If you accept that this person's words and ideas have implications, you'll be better prepared. Perhaps you need to do some fact-checking yourself. Tonight: Treat yourself to the company of a favorite person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Questioning a situation and its implication might be very smart, and it will keep you on track. Don't push away someone's idea, even if it doesn't flow like yours does. Beneath the solution are some guidelines. Tonight: Buy yourself that new item that you have been coveting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You might be more relaxed than others are right now. You have an expectation that certain situations will play out in a particular way. How realistic is that, though? Are you being overly optimistic? Allow your imagination to take the lead. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Take your time and handle a problem. You might want some personal time to yourself. You will do necessary research on a key matter, but don't push yourself too hard to come to a resolution. If need be, have a chat with a trusted confidant. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be more in tune with someone else's needs. Imagine what it would be like to walk in this person's shoes. Once you start listening and observing, you'll become far more sensitive. Both of you value this relationship. Tonight: Follow your friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Being under pressure seems to be a way of life for you. You might be very critical and could judge yourself harshly. Perhaps this is the source of your tension. Also, others expect you to take charge of a situation or accept additional responsibility. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are willing to take a risk, and you will follow through. You seem to land on your feet once again. You are close to unstoppable. You have an adventuresome spirit and a strong intuitive sense, which help you hone in on various situations. Tonight: Try a new spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Conversations need to be on a one-on-one level if you are going to come to an understanding with a key person in your life. You will have the opportunity to get to know this person better. Building confidence in each other helps your affairs run smoothly. Tonight: Out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Be more aware of the financial implications of certain decisions. You might have a lot of questions, and you will have the opportunity to ask them. Be patient. You will find that you have more special time to spend with a key person. Tonight: You have some decisions to make.

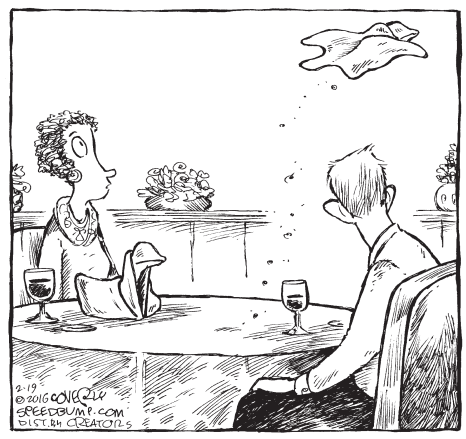
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ A partner might be full of questions. This person seems to finally be on a more even course. Though he or she might be demanding more time with you, you'll enjoy these special periods more and more. Respond to an inquiry from a distance. Tonight: Meet friends.

Friday, February 19, 2016

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

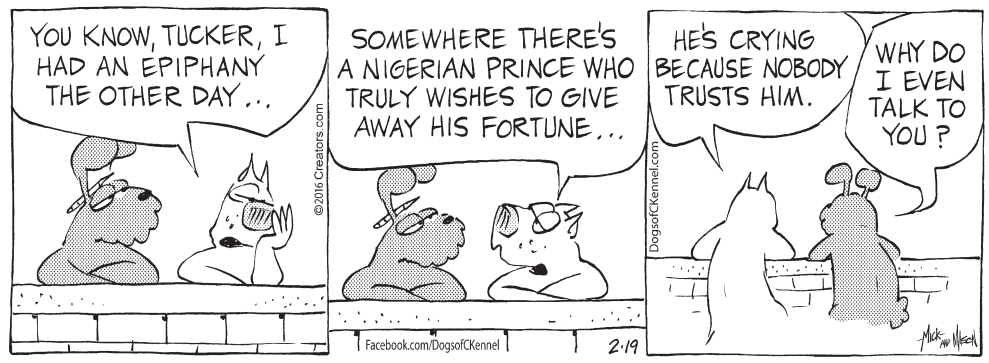
This year you break past barriers to create much more of what you desire. Your popularity soars, yet you will want and need time alone to center yourself. If you are single, you have a very sensitive, changeable side that is often hidden by a strong personality. Potential sweeties often do not read you correctly, which causes problems. Trust that you will know when Mr. or Ms. Right crosses your path. If you are attached, the two of you often share your dreams. You seem to be a lucky charm for your significant other. LEO can be challenging, but also charming.

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly

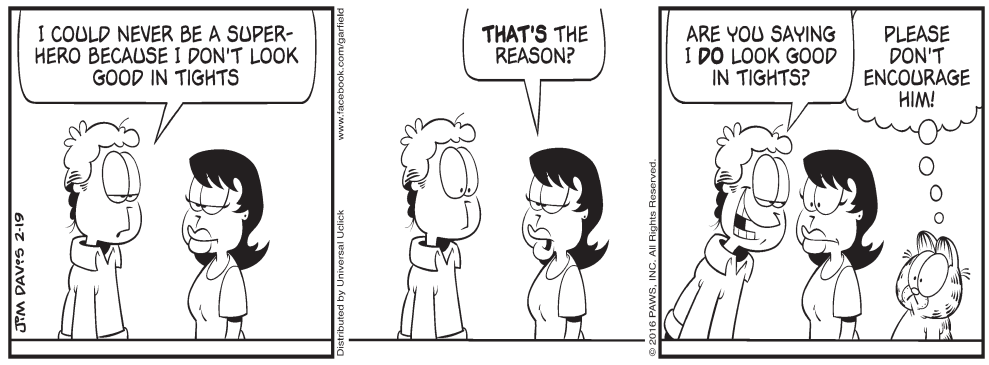


Strange Brew
By John Deering

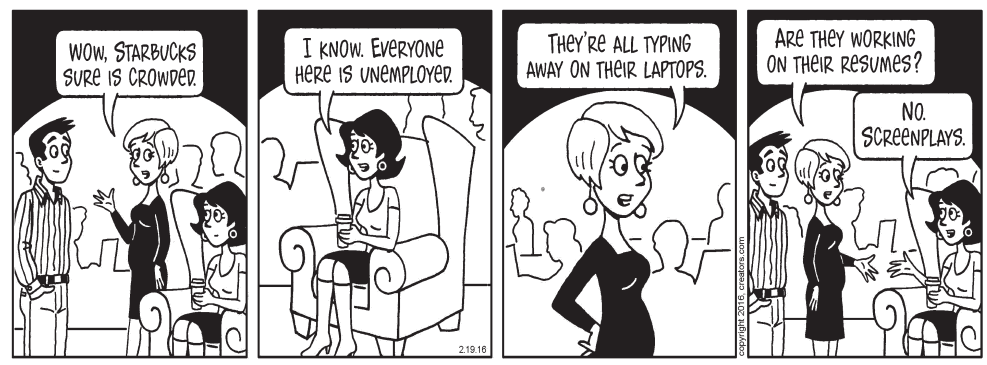
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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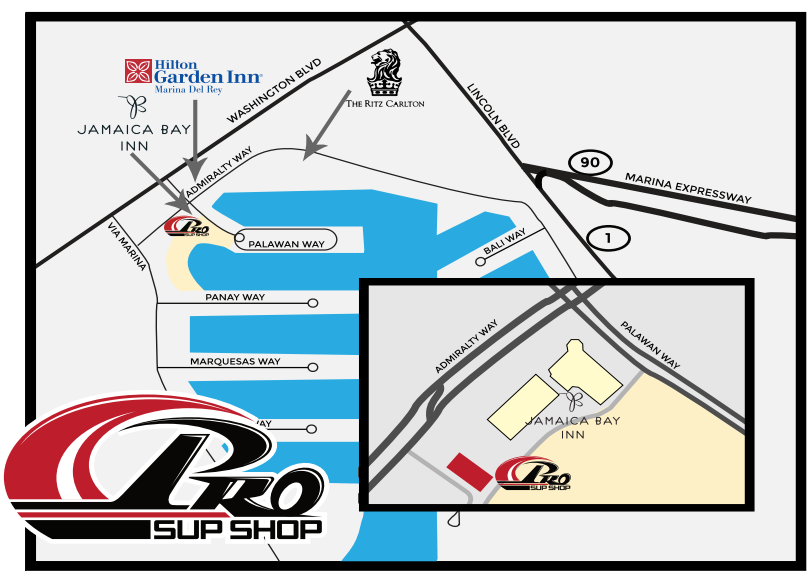

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Sunny. Ideal for looking at a new or CPO Pre-owned Mercedes-Benz.

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GLC300 SUV

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$4863 total due
at signing

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2015 MERCEDES-BENZ
CLA250 Coupe

$329 Per Mo Plus Tax

36 Month Lease
$3623 total due
at signing

Available only to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services at participating dealers through February 01, 2016. Not everyone will qualify. Advertised 36 months lease payment based on MSRP of $34,725 less the suggested dealer contribution resulting in a total gross capitalized cost of $33,400. Dealer contribution may vary and could affect your actual lease payment. Includes Destination Charge and Premium 1 Package. Excludes title, taxes, registration, license fees, insurance, dealer prep and additional options. Total monthly payments equal $11,844. Cash due at signing includes $2,499 capitalized cost reduction, $795 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment of $329. No security deposit required. Total payments equal $15,138. At lease end, lessee pays for any amounts due under the lease, any official fees and taxes related to the scheduled termination, excess wear and use plus $0.25/mile over 30,000 miles, and $595 vehicle turn-in fee. Purchase option at lease end for $21,877 plus taxes (and any other fees and charges due under the applicable lease agreement) in example shown. Subject to credit approval. Specific vehicles are subject to availability and may have to be ordered. See participating dealer for details. Please always wear your seat belt, drive safely and obey speed limits.

2016 MERCEDES-BENZ
C300 Sedan

$399 Per Mo Plus Tax

36 Month Lease
$4553 total due
at signing

Available only to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services at participating dealers through February 01, 2016. Not everyone will qualify. Advertised 36 months lease payment based on MSRP of $41,125 less the suggested dealer contribution resulting in a total gross capitalized cost of $40,192. Dealer contribution may vary and could affect your actual lease payment. Includes Destination Charge, Premium 1 Package and Blind Spot Assist. Excludes title, taxes, registration, license fees, insurance, dealer prep and additional options. Total monthly payments equal $14,364. Cash due at signing includes $3,359 capitalized cost reduction, $795 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment of $399. No security deposit required. Total payments equal $18,518. At lease end, lessee pays for any amounts due under the lease, any official fees and taxes related to the scheduled termination, excess wear and use plus $0.25/mile over 30,000 miles, and $595 vehicle turn-in fee. Purchase option at lease end for $25,909 plus taxes (and any other fees and charges due under the applicable lease agreement) in example shown. Subject to credit approval. Specific vehicles are subject to availability and may have to be ordered. See participating dealer for details. Please always wear your seat belt, drive safely and obey speed limits.

2016 MERCEDES-BENZ
E350 Sport Sedan

$529 Per Mo Plus Tax

36 Month Lease
$5073 total due
at signing

Available only to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Financial Services at participating dealers through February 01, 2016. Not everyone will qualify. Advertised 36 months lease payment based on MSRP of $58,205 less the suggested dealer contribution resulting in a total gross capitalized cost of $54,680. Dealer contribution may vary and could affect your actual lease payment. Includes Destination Charge and Premium 1 Package. Excludes title, taxes, registration, license fees, insurance, dealer prep and additional options. Total monthly payments equal $19,044. Cash due at signing includes $3,749 capitalized cost reduction, $795 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment of $529. No security deposit required. Total payments equal $23,588. At lease end, lessee pays for any amounts due under the lease, any official fees and taxes related to the scheduled termination, excess wear and use plus $0.25/mile over 30,000 miles, and $595 vehicle turn-in fee. Purchase option at lease end for $34,341 plus taxes (and any other fees and charges due under the applicable lease agreement) in example shown. Subject to credit approval. Specific vehicles are subject to availability and may have to be ordered. See participating dealer for details. Please always wear your seat belt, drive safely and obey speed limits.

One more week remaining. The Mercedes-Benz Certified Pre-Owned Sales Event.

2006 Mazda
5 Sport **$5,991**
Tilt/Tele Whl, 3rd Row Seat, FM/CD, Keyless T60121638

2004 Audi
A4 1.8T Cabriolet **$7,981**
Low Miles, Keyless, Dual Front AC, Tilt, PS/PW T4K000406

2008 Jeep
Grd Cherokee **$9,983**
Keyless, Pwr Leather Htd Seats, DVD/LCD Monitors T8C199875

2006 Infiniti
M35 ..... **$6,981**
Navigation, Rear Camera, Sunroof T6M103643

2008 Audi
A6 Sedan **$9,981**
CD/MP3, Power Seats, Leather, Keyless T8N051183

2008 Acura
TL **$13,282**
Power Leather Seats, Moonroof, DVD, Htd Front Seats T8A018783

2004 Volvo
S60 ..... **$6,981**
Dual Frt AC, 31MPG Hwy, Keyless, Sunroof T42412167

2011 Lexus
CT 200H **$9,981**
Hybrid, Dual Front AC, PS/PW, Pwr Driver's Seat PB2045462

2007 Infiniti
G35 ..... **$12,991**
Power Leather Htd Seats, CD/MP3, Keyless T7M900146

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15All advertised prices exclude government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charges and any emission testing charge. Ad expires 02/22/16 close of business.