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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014 Volume 13 Issue 88

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE TINY BUBBLES ISSUE

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE
SEE PAGE 4

Council agrees to save 'Chain Reaction'

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL After being on the chopping block, the future of "Chain Reaction" looks secure.

The City Council voted 6-1 Tuesday night in favor of accepting more than $100,000 in donations and restoring the aging, three-story sculpture resembling a nuclear mushroom cloud. That includes spending as much as $75,000 to complete a study of the structure's stability.

Councilman Bob Holbrook voted against the move.

Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Paul Conrad gifted City Hall the sculpture in the early 1990s but in recent years city officials have said it is in need of repair and poses a threat to public safety.

City Hall estimates that the repair costs range from $200,000 to $400,000 but they won't know for sure until extensive testing is done. Fans of the sculpture say the repairs could be completed for far less than those estimates.

The sculpture's future has been on ice for the past two years as advocates raised funds, per council's request.

Advocates said the vagueness of the final

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 10



Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

LOOKING FOR SPACE: Samohi's Ray Mancini (center) dribbles toward the basket against Rancho Cucamonga on Tuesday at home.

Santa Monica bounced out of playoffs

BY ALEX VEJAR
Special to the Daily Press

SAMOHI Santa Monica's boys' basketball team scored only 11 points in the third quarter and fell to the Rancho Cucamonga Cougars, 74-56, in the second round of the CIF-Southern Section Division 1AA playoffs on Tuesday night.

Sophomore guard Jonah Mathews led the Samohi Vikings with 20 points while senior guard Ray Mancini added 17.

For the Cougars, senior forward Daylan Lawrence led all scorers with 25 points.

The loss marks the end of a season in which the Vikings finished with an overall record of

SEE HOOPS PAGE 9

Fish and Game is looking for volunteers

DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM PIER It was a clear day out on the Santa Monica Pier, which is good for a photographer, and Sol Zide is a photographer.

A light breeze lipped off the Pacific as he

SEE VOLUNTEERS PAGE 10

L.A. County pushing for Marina del Rey makeover

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Marina del Rey — the aging Los Angeles County harbor area that for decades drew boaters, tourists and bar-hoppers — may be ready for another makeover.

The Los Angeles Times says the county this month unveiled a blueprint envisioning new nightclubs and restaurants, a new civic center and wider, walkable promenades.

There also are plans for a new yacht club facility and a developer wants to build a luxury hotel to replace most of Fisherman's Village, a shabby and mostly empty nautical-themed shopping area.

In the 1960s Marina del Rey was known as the nation's largest man-made recreational boating harbor. Nowadays, expensive high-rises surround the faded core and tourists head to nearby Santa Monica.

But officials say they want to make the marina a vibrant destination again.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Feb. 27, 2014

Calling young foodies
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Eat seasonal fare and learn about the food you eat from the Santa Monica Farmers' Markets. Grades 6-12. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Opening night
Emeritus College
1227 Second St.,
5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
The college will host an opening reception for an exhibit featuring Katy Crowe and Jacob Melchi. The Los Angeles-based artists — Crowe with a long-established professional career in the art world; Melchi emerging just a few years ago as one of L.A.'s strongest painters — represent different generations of the art world. Yet the two take similar approaches to their work when constructing paintings. The exhibit runs through April 18. For more information, call (310) 434-4306.

Behind the curtain
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
1343 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
The Santa Monica Democratic Club presents A Peek Behind the Curtain, a look at the inner workings of the political process. City Councilman Kevin McKeown and community activist Armen Melkonians are among the featured guests. Cost: free.

Rocking on the water
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
The library presents a screening and discussion of the documentary "Rock the Boat." When satirical writer and avid kayaker George Wolfe organizes a boating expedition down the entire 52 miles of the notorious Los Angeles River, he and his motley crew become entangled in a legal controversy of national proportions. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Friday, Feb. 28, 2014

Free Fridays
Santa Monica Pier Aquarium
1600 Ocean Front Walk,
2 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Enjoy a free trip to the aquarium courtesy of Cirque du Soleil, which kicks off a multi-layered, community partnership between the aquarium and the world-renowned entertainment company, as it sets up its blue-and-yellow big top in the beach lot adjacent to the pier for a run of their show, "Totem." For more information, call (310) 393-6149.

Sounds of Mali
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Perpetuating Mali's rich musical tradition, Fatoumata Diawara presents a mix of vibrant songs that draw upon her life and gorgeous melodies that soar over intricate guitar and drum arrangements. Inspired by Wassoulou tradition, jazz, and blues, she creates her own unique folk sound with a natural warmth and spontaneity. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

Eat to live
Unitarian Universalist Community Church
1260 18th St., 7:30 p.m.
Join special guest John Robbins, author of "Diet for a New America: How Your Food Choices Affect Your Health, Happiness and the Future of Life on Earth" for a lively discussion on food and health in the age of GMOs. Cost: free.

Fire it up
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
Fireside at the Miles is back. Santa Monica Cultural Affairs presents intimate events at the historic playhouse. Every concert features a different mix of contemporary music, opera, jazz, storytelling, dance, poetry, beat boxing, a cappella singing and more. Performances take place beside the large vintage fireplace. Fireside at the Miles runs through March 1. For more information, call (310) 458-8634.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

LA Marathon a sell out

The 29th edition of the ASICS LA Marathon is sold-out.

It's the second straight year regular registration has sold-out, said marathon Chief Executive Tracey Russell.

The event, featuring more than 25,000 runners from all over the world, will once again follow its popular "Stadium to the Sea" course from the start line at Dodger Stadium to the finish just steps from the Santa Monica Pier.

"With our annual ASICS LA Marathon just days away, we cannot wait to give marathoners the experience of a lifetime," said Russell. "We are excited to be sold out, but particularly proud that the recreational field includes more than 3,700 charity runners, who participate on behalf of one of the nearly 90 official charity partners of the ASICS LA Marathon. These dedicated and passionate runners are aiming to surpass last year's total of $3.1 million raised for their respective causes."

A very limited number of spots are still available to participate in the full marathon with an affiliated charity. Specific registration details can be found at asicslamarathon.com/charities.

A very strong elite field is in place including 2013 male winner Erick Mose from Kenya, who is anxious to repeat last year's win and challenge the women for the $50,000 gender bonus prize.

For those unable to make the marathon as a runner or a spectator, KTLA will broadcast the race live on Sunday morning from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m.

– DAILY PRESS

SMC

Civil rights activist Huerta to speak at Latino conference

The Santa Monica College Latino Center this Saturday, March 1, is presenting the 25th annual Latino/a Youth Conference at the Theatre Arts Main Stage on the SMC Main Campus.

This year's conference theme is "The History, You, and The Future." The conference features two keynote speakers: civil rights activist and United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta, and motivational speaker Roy Juarez, Jr., an advocate for homeless youth and education.

The daylong conference focuses on encouraging and motivating young Latinos and Latinas to pursue higher education and build strong foundations for future achievements. Open to high school seniors, as well as SMC students, the conference includes interactive workshops, peer panel discussions, and a college and career expo.

At the expo, conference attendees will have the opportunity to speak to representatives from several colleges and universities as well as to Latinos and Latinas working and pursuing careers in a wide variety of professions.

For more details visit smc.edu/latinayouthconference or call (310) 434-8520.

– DAILY PRESS

CITY HALL

Breaking the record

A record 21 businesses are confirmed finalists for the 19th annual Sustainable Quality Awards, a collaboration between the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, the nonprofit Sustainable Works and City Hall's Office of Sustainability and the Environment.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

DONE: Runners celebrate after finishing last year's LA Marathon.

The awards were created to recognize local businesses working toward making significant achievements in the areas of sustainable economic development, social responsibility and stewardship of the national environment.

The awardees and over 100 past winners will be honored at a luncheon taking place at Le Meridien Delfina Santa Monica on April 30.

LEED sponsors are Morley Builders and LAcarGUY. Environmental sponsors are Pacific Park, Southern California Edison and Allan Co.

"The Sustainable City Plan was created to enhance our resources, prevent harm to the natural environment and human health, and benefit the social and economic well-being of our community for the sake of current and future generations," said Shannon Parry, assistant director of the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. "These businesses are showing that this is not only possible – it's profitable."

For a list of the finalists and to purchase tickets, go to smchamber.com/sqa or call the chamber at (310) 393-9825.

Bike valet will be provided and attendees will receive a free raffle ticket for walking, biking or carpooling to the event.

– DP

A look at the changing obesity landscape for kids

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK Is the anti-obesity message finally getting through?

A marked drop in the obesity rate among preschoolers in the U.S. has researchers and parents pointing to a variety of possible factors.

Among them: public-awareness campaigns to get parents to serve healthier food to their children; a drop in soda consumption; healthier menus at fast-food chains; more access to fruits and vegetables in some neighborhoods; changes in government food aid; and longer breast-feeding, which is often associated with improved weight control.

"We're not done yet, but this does show that parents

SEE OBESITY PAGE 8

Camera catches mountain lion kittens feeding

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A mountain lion and her kittens having a late-night snack were recorded via a remote camera in a Southern California wilderness park.

The Los Angeles Times reports more than 350 high-quality images were snapped as the three cats fed on a mule deer over two nights in Malibu Creek State Park last week.

Biologist Jeff Sikich with the National Park Service says the cameras were set up to check on the male and female kittens, P-30 and P-28, who biologists haven't seen since they were tagged when they were a few weeks old.

The kittens are now 10 months old and Sikich says they appear healthy.

The park service has captured and collared more than 30 cougars in the Santa Monica Mountains during a study started in 2002.

Lisa Kudrow ordered to pay ex-manager $1.6 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA A Los Angeles County jury has ordered Lisa Kudrow to pay her former manager $1.6 million in residuals from her work on "Friends."

The verdict was returned Tuesday in a lawsuit filed by Scott Howard. He claimed he had an oral agreement with the actress and was owed a percentage of her earnings on the hit NBC sitcom.

Howard worked with Kudrow for 16 years, beginning in 1991.

Kudrow contended during the trial that she paid Howard more than $11 million before they parted ways in 2007.

Kudrow's attorney, Gerald Sauer, says the verdict will be appealed.

Kudrow starred on "Friends" from 1994 to 2004.

City News Service says trial testimony indicated she earned more than $1 million per episode by the end of the show's run.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

One before the other

Editor:

I agree that density favors alternative transportation, and that development near the light rail reduces the traffic increase ("Favoring density isn't being dense," Your Column Here, Feb. 22-23). But in spite of the adjacent light rail station, the environmental impact report projects 7,000 new car trips a day. This implies serious planning assumption errors, and does not meet the Land Use & Circulation Element requirements of no new peak traffic. ... Olympic is already seriously congested during peak traffic. Ideally, the Hines project would be a place where workers could also afford to live, thus generating a minimum of traffic. But the concern is that the workers cannot afford market-rate housing, thus the extra traffic. These should be better matched.

The mass transit network must be in place before developments are completed. Having the light rail station built before the Hines project is complete is not enough. For while the new light rail will help reduce east-west traffic, it has little impact on traffic from the San Fernando Valley. Until that is solved, cars will still be used for many commute destinations. In the meantime, it will be hard to get in and out of Santa Monica.

The choice of walking or bicycling depends on both physical capability and safety based on traffic protection, lighting and weather conditions. As for mass transit, proximity to point of origin and destination is but one consideration. Others include cost, frequency, and travel time to destination. The Big Blue Bus got rid of transfers and operates several bus lines every half hour during midday. Neither is conducive to increased mass transit use.

By comparison, San Francisco encourages mass transit with free transfers, excellent frequency and area coverage. BART differs from our light rail in two significant ways: no grade crossings for faster and safer trips, and lots of parking at most stations to funnel people to the trains. Without these, our light rail will be less useful for Santa Monicans, unfortunately, as the light rail should be accessible to all.

Why do parking requirements favor large development? For years, even small condo and apartment buildings provided parking for their tenants. On-site residential parking gets cars off the streets, benefiting visitors and businesses, or makes room for bike lanes. Even if cars are not used for commuting, people still need cars for vacations, the handicapped, and various errands. Many evening events require cars, when public transportation is less available or non-existent.

At some point in the future, we may have a great public transportation system throughout the Los Angeles basin, greatly reducing car commutes. But that time is not now, and we need traffic solutions now, not 30 years from now. Isn't the low-key beach life why visitors come to Santa Monica? As long as there is a disparity between housing costs and wages, I don't see new development improving traffic. And how much development do we have natural resources for?

Jim Gerstley
Santa Monica

Punishment does not fit crime

Editor:

A year in jail for running down and killing a Santa Monica mother ("A year in jail for running down Santa Monican," Community Briefs, Feb. 21).

That is a disgrace that this guy got off with what seems like murder. The sentence is a crime. I hope nothing like this happens to Judge Dudley Gray. Shame on Judge Gray

Pat Robles
Santa Monica

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Sex on the Beach

by Simone Gordon and Limor Gottlieb Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Changing your thoughts can change your life

AS STUDENTS OF PSYCHOLOGY, BOTH OF us have studied different types of psychotherapies, and, like anything else, we found that some therapies are more effective than others. We say this both in terms of empirical research and personal experience. One method of psychotherapy we found particularly helpful in terms of real life application is cognitive behavioral therapy, commonly referred to as CBT.

The basic premise of CBT is that your thoughts lead to feelings, which lead to behavior. Let's break that down a little further: you have a mentation (a thought about something), which leads you to feel a certain emotion, which leads you to act in a certain way. It looks like this: Thought ---> Feeling ---> Behavior. Finally, how you act results in a consequence (either good, bad, or neutral). It all begins with a simple thought.

Now, you might be thinking to yourself, "But a thought doesn't make me feel a certain way!" Try this little experiment: Make yourself happy. Really, really happy. Or, make yourself angry. Like, boiling over angry. How did you do that? Did you simply tell yourself, "Be happy!" and you were happy? Did you say to yourself, "Be angry!" and you were angry? Of course not. Chances are, you thought about something that made you happy, or you thought about something that made you angry. It was established with a thought. When faulty thinking is corrected, happiness follows.

Here's an example: say your boss criticized a project you're working on. Your first reaction might be to say, "I suck at my job! Why do I always mess everything up? This is just another failure added to my ever-growing list of failures" or something to that effect. Why did you say that to yourself? It wasn't your boss' criticism that made you say that, it was how you thought about (interpreted) the situation, and it was likely a cognitive overreaction on your part. You assume that because someone criticized you, you're automatically incompetent or lazy or whatever negative adjective you're applying to yourself.

OK, but why? Where's the evidence to support this negative belief, apart from this one criticism? Have you ever in your life done something well? Has your boss ever given you a compliment? Have your colleagues ever said you were doing a good job? Do you think you've ever done anything well? We believe you will find that one of the aforementioned scenarios is likely. Moreover, does criticism from your boss mean that you're a failure in all aspects of your life? Think about what you're good at. Take stock of reality and honestly assess yourself. We as humans have a tendency to fall into a habit of absolute thinking. You must develop the ability to separate what is real from what is assumption and curb your unadulterated negativity.

Now, how does this apply to dating? In the same way it relates to the scenario with your boss. When our minds are trained to think in a negative manner, we tend to take every rejection, every minor slight — even innocent situations — and turn them into a big deal. Our reactionary, faulty thinking leads to the destruction of great relationships, or what could be great relationships.

So, we would like you to try this exercise: think of a negative situation that occurred in your life recently. On a piece of paper, write down where and when it happened and whom you were with, if anybody. Next, write down what thought went through your head at the time that it happened. What disturbed you about the situation? Write it down. Next, write down what emotion you felt at the time. How intense was the emotion? Judge it on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being neutral or no intensity and 10 being the most intense, unpleasant emotion you have ever felt in your entire life.

Next, write down what you did or didn't do. What automatic reaction did you have? What action did you take? Write down the result of this action. Did the situation get better? Worse? Stay the same? Finally, go back and look at what thought triggered your emotions and behavior. Assess this thought. Is it grounded in reality? Is it an exaggeration? Is it an example of black-and-white thinking? Is this thought truly accurate? If an objective third party could look at this thought, would they tell me it's accurate, or faulty?

We believe the skills CBT teaches us are fundamentally important, because when you're able to change your thoughts to better reflect what is real and true in your life (not just an automatic negative reaction), you inevitably change your life for the better. And, isn't the purpose of our time on Earth to be happy? Remember, all is well.

SIMONE is pursuing her master's degree in psychology and serves on the Commission for the Senior Community. She prides herself on having had more marriage proposals than shoes. She can be reached at sgordon1@uoregon.edu. In her inner circle, **LIMOR**, a screenwriter, is known as the "wing woman" and her cell number has become the hotline for dating advice. You can reach her at limorygottlieb@gmail.com

The Q Line

Tasting history

Tommy's burgers is the latest in a long line of local eateries that may not be long for Santa Monica. Word has it that a Starbucks coffee is going to take its place on Lincoln Boulevard.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
How do you feel about Tommy's possible demise and why?

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



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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Peter Day

TOO COOL: **Louis Pearl, The Amazing Bubble Man, will play the Edgemar Center for the Arts.**

Amazement and amusement

DON'T YOU LOVE TO SUSPEND YOUR disbelief for a few minutes every now and then? There are two immediate opportunities to do so right here in Santa Monica, with the magic show "Insomnia" by prestidigitator Derek Hughes at Hotel Casa del Mar, and The Amazing Bubble Man Louis Pearl at Edgemar Center for the Arts.

"Insomnia" is geared more toward adults, but The Amazing Bubble Man will tickle the child inside you while entertaining the kids around you, resulting in giggles, oohs and aahs from all.

I've had the privilege of attending a private rooftop performance by Pearl, who lives up to his name as The Amazing Bubble Man. He's been perfecting his unique art for more than 30 years, and even as you watch him make square bubbles, put bubbles inside bubbles, fill them with fog, create bubble volcanoes, tornadoes and even trampolines, it's hard to grasp how he does it. If you're lucky, maybe he'll put you inside one of his gigantic bubbles.

As an added bonus, Pearl's lovely wife, Jet Black Pearl, offers her quirky musical talents, involving a beautiful voice, funny lyrics and a mix of unusual instruments.

Grown-ups will love the humor and art of this show, while the kids will be thrilled with the spectacular visuals. It's the perfect family fare, just right for a weekend's wonderment.

The Amazing Bubble Man and Jet Black Pearl appear for six performances only at Edgemar Center for the Arts, 2437 Main St., Santa Monica, on Saturday, March 1 and Sunday, March 2 at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations (310) 392-7327 or online at www.edgemarcenter.org.

'INSOMNIA' KEEPS YOU UP

Hughes is a master of sleight of hand; he's also swift of speech and fast on his feet.

Casa del Mar, that grand hotel at the end of Pico Boulevard, has been looking for ways to introduce fresh programming to entertain overnight visitors and engage the local audience. They've brought in a former colleague of mine, KCRW DJ Raul Campos, to spin his lively mix in the gorgeous setting of the Lounge at Casa, in addition to presenting live acoustic music there.

Now they've added an out-of-the-box experience by introducing "Insomnia," an original magic show by Hughes, recently seen at The Geffen with "Nothing to Hide," in the hotel's Crimson Room, a few steps below ground level.

Preceded by a wine and beer reception (part of the ticket), you proceed to an intimate entertainment space, with no more than 50 people per performance, and when Hughes begins the show, he engages the audience immediately.

A member of the Magic Castle (he was recently named their "Parlour Magician of the Year"), Hughes has quite a following. Given how much fun the show I attended was, I think he's picking up a whole lot of new fans.

And no wonder! Or should I say, yes, wonder, because no matter how much you've trained your eyes to keep track of tricks, you just won't see them coming. His card skills are very different from the kind of sharpshooting that the unmatchable Ricky Jay presents, but they're no less mystifying or mind-bending.

He maintains rapid-fire and witty patter as he invites audience members to join him for his feats of psychic prowess and card tricks involving packs and pockets. One amazing trick involves him guessing names that someone in the audience is thinking, writing them down incorrectly, crumpling up and tossing the sheets, then picking them up to reveal the wrong names crossed off and the correct names on the sheet.

At the beginning of the evening I was asked to hold an envelope containing a card, sealed by Hughes into an express mail envelope. At the end of the night, when the envelope was opened, it was impossible to imagine how the card in the packet matched the one selected by the audience member in a final dazzling trick. Trust me, that packet never left my lap. So how did he do it?

That's the question, and you can try to answer it by going to see "Insomnia." Why "Insomnia?" Because, as Hughes says, "when you leave, you will be too mystified to sleep, and too amused to care."

Performances run on select Thursdays and Sundays through April. Reception at 5:30 p.m., performance at 6. Call the hotel for more info, or find "Insomnia" on Eventbrite to purchase tickets, which include two drinks per person and complimentary valet parking. Hotel Casa del Mar is located at 1910 Ocean Way in Santa Monica.

MAKE IT BRIEF

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
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Photo courtesy Ed Krieger

THE CAST: **Jason Karasev, Anna Khaja and Joel Polis in 'My Name is Asher Lev.'**

Portrait of Asher Lev

WELL, THE SUPERB FOUNTAIN THEATRE and its resident genius-in-chief, Stephen Sachs, have done it again. They've mounted a just-about-perfect production: Chaim Potok's classic novel "My Name is Asher Lev," adapted for the stage by Aaron Posner.

Set in 1950s Crown Heights, the Brooklyn home of the ultra-Orthodox Lubavitch Jews, the play probes the conflict between duty, tradition, restrictive religion, and the wider world of culture and art.

By the age of 6, Asher Lev knew he was different from other boys. But it wasn't a gender issue. It was art. He was obsessed with it, continually escaping into the world of his imagination, and his perceptive sensibilities, to the exclusion of almost everything else in his life.

To his mother it was a puzzling preoccupation, but she supported him. His father, however, had no understanding or appreciation for art. To him his son's art was, at best, "narishkeit" (foolishness), if not downright blasphemy. Young Jewish boys were expected to spend their days studying Torah and not wasting their time on "goyische" (Christian) pursuits.

Asher's father, Aryeh, worked for The Rebbe, the authoritative and prophetic voice of the community, and spent almost all of his time traveling around the world to spread The Rebbe's wisdom and to build religious schools and support religious outposts wherever he went. (Though it wasn't specifically alluded to in the play, the primary mission of this Hasidic sect is to encourage non-observant Jews to return to the traditions and practices of Judaism in order to help bring on the Messianic Age.)

Asher, who loves and respects his father, as well as the religion that he has been so rigorously steeped in, tries to give up his painting. He is anxious to keep his mother from being torn in two by the philosophical conflict between him and his father.

Eventually, however, The Rebbe, recognizing Asher's extraordinary talent, molds him into a prominent artist, a stern disciplinarian who, though Jewish, is not bound by religious precepts. "An artist reflects his life or comments on it," he tells Asher. "I paint my feelings; I am a commentator on a personal vision."

As he guides the now 22-year-old Asher into painting traditional artistic subjects, such as crucifixes and nudes, the artist acknowledges that "everything offends someone" and advises him that "the artist is responsible to his art. Anything else is propaganda."

And so Asher goes on to paint his masterpiece: a portrait so raw that it shocks and alienates his parents, perhaps forever. Ironically, this incident is an actual part of author Chaim Potok's biography, as he was a well-respected painter as well as a writer.

Although the play delves into the conflict between the orthodox Jewish tradition and "the outside world," the conflict between generations, between diverse expectations, and the ongoing struggle to discover and be true to your own individual self, are themes that are universal and, in this stellar presentation, are bound to resonate with everyone.

And for that we can applaud Stephen Sachs, who directs three outstanding actors to the peak of perfection. Jason Karasev plays Asher Lev with passion, frustration, and determination. Joel Polis plays Aryeh, The Rebbe, the famous artist, and several other men with his usual aplomb, changing his voice, his demeanor, and his clothing so expeditiously that, if it weren't for his beard, you would hardly recognize him from one character to the next. And Anna Khaja plays Asher's put-upon mother, worn to a frazzle by the effort to keep the peace.

"My Name is Asher Lev" is definitely a "must see." This Los Angeles premiere can be seen and enjoyed at The Fountain Theatre, 5060 Fountain Ave., in Los Angeles, Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through April 19. Call (323) 663-1525 for tickets.

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YouTube ordered to take down anti-Muslim film

PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO A U.S. appeals court ordered YouTube on Wednesday to take down an anti-Muslim film that sparked violent riots in parts of the Middle East and death threats to the actors.

The decision by a divided three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco reinstated a lawsuit filed against YouTube by an actress who appeared briefly in the 2012 video that led to rioting and deaths because of its negative portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad.

YouTube resisted calls by President Barack Obama and other world leaders to take down the video, arguing that to do so amounted to unwarranted government censorship and would violate the Google-owned company's free speech protections. Besides, the company argued that the filmmakers and not the actors of "Innocence of Muslims" owned the copyright and only they could remove it from YouTube.

And typically, that's the case with the vast majority of clips posted on YouTube — and Hollywood in general — that don't violate decency laws and policies. But the 9th Circuit said Wednesday that this case was far from typical and that the actress, Cindy Lee Garcia, retained a copyright claim that YouTube must respect. That's because she believed she was acting in a different production than the one that ultimately appeared online.

"Had Ms. Garcia known the true nature of the propaganda film the producers were planning, she would never had agreed to appear in the movie," said Cris Armenta, Garcia's attorney.

Google argues that the actress had no claim to the film because filmmaker Mark Basseley Youssef wrote the dialogue, managed the entire production and dubbed over Garcia's dialogue during postproduction editing.

Writing for the court, Chief Judge Alex Kozinski said the ruling was not a blanket order giving copyright protection to every actor, but that in this case, Garcia's performance was worthy of copyright protection.

"We need not and do not decide whether every actor has a copyright in his performance within a movie," the judge wrote. "It suffices for now to hold that, while the matter is fairly debatable, Garcia is likely to prevail."

Judge N. Randy Smith dissented, arguing that Garcia's five-second appearance gave her no ownership claims.

"Her brief appearance in the film, even if a valuable contribution to the film, does not make her an author," Smith wrote. "Indeed, it is difficult to understand how she can be considered an 'inventive or master mind' of her performance under these facts."

Youssef, the filmmaker, was sentenced to 21 months in prison for check fraud in 2010 and barred from accessing the Internet without court approval. He was returned to prison in 2012 for violating terms of his probation and was released on probation in September 2013.

Garcia was paid $500 to appear for five seconds in a film she was told was called "Desert Warrior" that she thought had nothing to do with religion or radical Islam. When the clip was released, her lines were dubbed to have her character asking Muhammad if he was a child molester.

"This is a troubling case," Kozinski wrote. "Garcia was duped into providing an artistic performance that was used in a way she never could have foreseen. Her unwitting and unwilling inclusion in Innocence of Muslims led to serious threats against her life. It's disappointing, though perhaps not surprising, that Garcia needed to sue in order to protect herself and her rights."

For Google, the ruling represents a nettlesome issue if allowed to stand. The company fears that bit players and extras appearing in popular clips will now be emboldened to send takedown notices to YouTube unless settlements can be reached with the filmmakers.

Google, which has removed the clip, said it will appeal the decision. It could ask a special panel of 11 judges of the 9th Circuit to rehear the case or petition the U.S. Supreme Court to take the case.

WATCH
FROM PAGE 5

melodramatic, classic black-and-white film "Brief Encounter," which popularized the music of Rachmaninoff while breaking your heart.

No need. The production onstage as part of The Wallis Annenberg Center's inaugural year of programming takes the film and reinvents it for the stage so uniquely that it is a wholly new experience.

I admit, I made snarky comments when I first saw this on the schedule, wondering how, in an age of Disney musicals like "The Lion King" and "Beauty and the Beast," a small British theatrical company could interpret an old movie and expect to make it entertaining.

The Kneehigh Theatre Co. showed me. This is one of the most inventive and perfectly staged productions that I've ever had the privilege of watching, a blend of romance and humor that richly deserved its opening night standing ovation.

This beautiful and creative mix of live music, filmed projections, movement, acting, and the act of entering a movie screen makes this an event to remember. I highly recommend.

The Wallis Annenberg Center, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills. Tickets online at www.thewallis.org, by phone at (310) 746-4000 or in person.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She has also reviewed theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

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OBESITY
FROM PAGE 3

really need to be the commanders of their own ship and manage the food environment for their kids at home," said Keith Ayoob, a registered dietitian and associate professor of pediatrics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx.

The glimmer of hope was contained in a government report issued Tuesday that showed that the obesity rate among children 2 to 5 years old dropped by nearly half over a decade, from 14 percent to 8 percent. That is encouraging in part because obese preschoolers are more likely to be obese as they get older.

Overall, though, both adult and childhood obesity rates have been flat in the past decade, and dietitians, weight experts and doctors warned that the problem is not going away.

"This is the problem of our generation. We are starting to make some progress, but there's really still a lot more to do," said Scott Kahan, an obesity treatment and prevention specialist and public health researcher at George Washington University.

For example, while first lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign and other efforts over the past 10 years have raised awareness, stumbling blocks remain for the poor and for working parents.

"They know their children should be more active, but it's hard for them to get them to the park. They're tired, and it's complicated," said Sarah Barlow, director of the Center for Childhood Obesity at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston and an associate professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine. "It's an ordeal to get out of the house."

Here's a look at the changing health-related landscape that may have contributed to the drop in preschool obesity:

PARENTS SETTING THE EXAMPLE

Sherlyn Pang Luedtke, a parenting coach, said parents can improve their children's eating habits, even if their own were less than stellar.

"I was raised eating fried eggs and rice almost every day for breakfast," said Luedtke, who grew up near downtown Los Angeles and now lives in the suburban San Fernando Valley.

She and her husband have a 9-year-old son and a 4-year-old daughter, and the family sticks mostly to vegetarian fare.

"We have smoothies with greens, flaxseed and blueberries with breakfast. We eat whole-grain products," she said. "We feel great about our health choices that we model for our kids."

Lyndsay Meyer is a first-time mom of a 16-month-old son, living just outside Washington, D.C. She and her husband have not fed their child any processed sugar. His first birthday cake was made with bananas and applesauce. They feed him only whole foods and try to stick to organic ones.

"It's growing increasingly difficult, though, as he makes friends and goes to parties or on play dates," she said. "It's also difficult to go out with him because most places don't offer good, healthy food for toddlers."

SUGARY DRINKS

Consumption of carbonated soft drinks has been in decline in the U.S. since 2005, said John Sicher, editor and publisher of the news and data service Beverage Digest. It has decreased from 10.2 billion cases a year to 9.2 billion.

In 2004, the average American drank 52.4 gallons of carbonated soft drinks a year. In 2012, that was down to 43.8 gallons. Consumption of bottled water has grown consistently over that period.

Between 1999 and 2010, daily calories from soda consumed by 2- to 5-year-olds decreased on average from 106 to 69, according to the government.

FAST FOOD

McDonald's, Dunkin' Donuts and other chains have changed their menus in recent years. They haven't stopped serving Big Macs and french fries, but they are offering more foods to appeal to health-conscious diners, such as apple slices in Happy Meals, egg whites for breakfast sandwiches and whole-grain bread.

(Many restaurants over the past decade have also eliminated artificial trans fats, but that's because they clog arteries. It is not clear to what extent they contribute to obesity.)

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

Changes in the federal Women, Infants and Children program, which provides food vouchers for the poor, may also be encouraging healthier eating. The changes — instituted in 2009 — eliminated juice from infant food packages, provided less saturated fat and made it easier to buy fruits and vegetables.

BREAST-FEEDING

Women are breast-feeding their babies longer, according to government figures. And some researchers believe breast-feeding helps children regulate their intake of food, thereby lowering their risk of obesity later on.

Of infants born in 2010, 49 percent were breast-feeding at 6 months, up from 35 percent in 2000. The breast-feeding rate at 12 months increased from 16 percent to 27 percent during that time period.

Judy Dodd, a University of Pittsburgh assistant professor in nutrition and dietetics, said government programs and other services have encouraged breast-feeding by providing free or low-cost breast pumps, access to refrigeration and more offices with private, comfortable rooms where new moms can pump on the job.

"When a woman goes back to work, how does she continue to breast-feed? That's the biggest challenge I'm hearing, and there have been improvements," Dodd said.

ACCESS TO FRESH FOOD

A number of programs are giving people in poor neighborhoods more access to fresh and affordable fruits and vegetables.

For example, the Sproutin' Up program in Fort Collins, Colo., provided 2,500 pounds of locally grown produce for free to poor families last summer and will be back this year. Kids help grow the produce and run the farmers markets, telling their neighbors, "You have to try these! We grew these!"

"Everything is delicious, and there is a lot of variety," Marina Lopez, whose 11-year-old son Victor helps out with the program, said in Spanish through a translator, mentioning carrots, cucumbers and squash. "It's very important for parents to get involved with nutrition for their families."

ADVERTORIAL

Casa Martin celebrates it's one year anniversary in Santa Monica

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Ocean Avenue - This weekend Casa Martin is celebrating it's one year anniversary in Santa Monica, but the idea of this authentic Mexican family restaurant was born long ago in Tepatitlan Jalisco, Mexico. Casa Martin was founded by brothers Fernando, Orlando and Sandro Martin.

The brothers come from a large family of Ten (6 boys and 4 girls). The brothers have lived in Santa Monica all of their lives and attended local schools, Edison, John Adams, Santa Monica High School and finally SMC. The brothers are Santa Monicans through and through. "We'e been witness to the dynamic changes in our community over the years and along with that transformation we lost a lot of good authentic Mexican restaurants," said Fernando Martin.

"Coming from a large family my Mother, Soledad Martin has always been an amazing cook and was accustomed to serving and cooking large quantities. We decided to open our restaurant restaurant because a large number of our friends and family members loved my mom's food and always complained about driving away from Santa Monica in order to eat true authentic Mexican food, explained Martin. "My two brothers and myself decided to open a restaurant and include our mothers recipes to introduce Santa Monica to true authentic Jalisco Mexican food," Martin said.

Though Martin acknowledged that when he and his brothers first opened the restaurant it was a risky and at times scary proposition, it has also been a labor of love that though tedious, has proved rewarding. "We had to learn our mother's recipes and that wasn't easy to do. Therefore, our mother visits the restaurant every single day to taste the food and to make sure that the food is up to par," Martin said

Casa Martin's famous dish from Tepatitlan Jalisco is called "Cielo, Mar, Y Tierra Molcajete," which contains large shrimp, steak, chicken, pork and their mother's secret molcajete sauce. It is a must try when you visit the Ocean Avenue restaurant. Wash it down with a house margarita and make sure to start with their signature queso fundido, another must try.

In their first year Casa Martin has developed many happy customers, satisfied by true authentic Mexican food. When you go, you'll be personally greeted by Fernando, Sandro or Orlando or most likely all three and treated like family to a truly authentic experience.

CASA MARTIN
Mexican Restaurant

The Martin brothers invite you to their one year anniversary this Saturday, March 1 to celebrate with them.

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Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

BIG BOARD: Blake Fisher of Rancho Cucamonga grabs a rebound against the Samohi defense Tuesday night as the Vikings hosted the second round of the Division 1AA playoffs.

HOOPS
FROM PAGE 1

17-10, going 8-2 in Ocean League play.

Samohi head coach James Hecht recalled only positives when he looked back on the year.

"I thought we had a good year," Hecht said. "I think we learned a lot. I think we grew a lot as a team considering the number of players that we had new to varsity basketball."

The Vikings got off to a slow start and were forced to take a time-out after Rancho Cucamonga held an early 8-1 lead by capitalizing on Samohi's turnovers. Late in the first quarter, Mathews scored off an assist by Mancini, which brought the Cougar lead down to four.

Mathews, who only had two first-quarter points, got going in the second frame, scoring eight of his 10 first-half points in the quarter. The Vikings were able to cut their deficit to two after sophomore forward Mikhail Brown made a layup, bringing to the score to 25-23 in favor of the Cougars.

Rancho Cucamonoga led at the half, 40-32.

Then the third quarter happened. The Cougars started off by opening up a 13-point lead after senior guard Victor Joseph converted a layup. Samohi answered with two back-to-back 3-pointers from senior guard Chris Johnson and Mathews, but Rancho Cucamonga ripped a 16-4 run down Santa Monica's throat to end the frame with a 62-43 lead.

"A lot of our turnovers unfortunately led to baskets by them, and I think we got a little deflated," Hecht said about his team's third-quarter struggles. "I called time-outs, tried to calm us down a little bit. But I just think some of those turnovers that led to baskets for them were momentum killers."

The Cougars kept their foot on the gas in the final stanza and wouldn't let Samohi get close. On one Vikings possession, senior guard Nick Culver started a Rancho Cucamonga fast break with a blocked shot which led to a one-handed throw down by Lawrence at the other end.

Mancini said Samohi's high turnover rate in Tuesday's game had more to do with their offense than the Cougars' defense.

"We were rushing a little bit too much," Mancini said. "We were trying to be one-on-five instead of sharing the ball. We were just trying to go too fast and trying to shut the crowd up."

On Friday, Samohi torched the Montebello Oilers by 31 points in the first found of the playoffs. Mancini said the difference between the two games was the team shared the ball more.

"The first game, we had three, four players in double digits," Mancini said. "We just played freely. We cared for each other and just played for each other."

Hecht said when the dust of the loss settles, his team can take a step back and look fondly at their success throughout the year.

"I think we could be proud of what we accomplished," Hecht said. "Third year in a row winning league, second round of the playoffs. We fought the fight."

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COUNCIL
FROM PAGE 1

cost made it hard to gain financial support but they still managed to pull in more than $100,000 for the project.

Between the newly approved $75,000 in testing, the $80,000 previously spent on repairs and testing, and the estimated costs, City Hall stands to spend between $255,000 and $455,000 on total maintenance after the public's donations.

That cost was the primary reason for the lone dissenting vote by Holbrook.

"We could go on and on about the things we could get for the city with that money: thousands and thousands of library books," he said. "We could provide a lot of benefits to a lot of people. If the structure were offered to us today and someone said 'we'll sell it to you for $255,000 or $455,000,' I don't know that we would have accepted it or that the council would have accepted it 20 years ago."

He suggested that City Hall could cover up the sculpture until residents fully funded the project.

Councilmember Tony Vazquez talked about all the other art installations that he'd approved during his time on council that he didn't quite understand.

"Many others I thought were very abstract but everyone said, 'well it's art, go ahead and approve it.' This one to me has political significance," he said. "To see it deteriorate and disappear; I couldn't live with myself if it happened."

Councilmember Terry O'Day lauded the tenacity of the advocates and the willingness of all parties to communicate with one another.

Councilmember Gleam Davis praised the advocates' ability to raise funds through many small donations rather than one or two major gifts.

"I think we came here with an elegant solution but I think it's a solution that's only made possible by the people in this room and honestly by a lot of the people outside of this room," she said.

Because the sculpture was declared an official landmark, any work will require approval by the Landmarks Commission and will need to meet the U.S. Secretary of the Interior Standard for Treatment of Historic Properties.

After tests are performed, city officials will go before council with the final costs. Building Officer Ron Takiguchi has recommended that a barrier be placed at least 13 feet from the sculpture to keep people from climbing on it or getting too close to it.

Councilmember Kevin McKeown made a motion to ensure that the barrier serve only to keep people off of the sculpture, not to inhibit views. He suggested that city officials consider making the barrier a peace garden, as many advocates have pushed for.

Local peace activist Jerry Rubin along with Conrad's son, Dave Conrad, led the charge to save the sculpture.

The advocates call themselves the Chain Gang and held a rally in support of the sculpture outside of City Hall before the meeting. Many spoke in favor of "Chain Reaction."

"It doesn't seem like much of a fight anymore," Rubin said after the meeting. "It seems like a cooperative endeavor."

Rubin plans to hold a public gathering in front of the sculpture on June 27 to honor the cartoonist's would-be 90th birthday.

The work has always been controversial.

When City Hall took a straw poll on whether to accept the sculpture in 1991, the vote was 730-392 against. Officials ignored the results amid allegations that Conrad critics had stuffed the ballot box.

Although regarded as a liberal, the Los Angeles Times political cartoonist skewered elected officials across the political spectrum and had his share of critics on all sides.

dave@smdp.com

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



VOLUNTEERS
FROM PAGE 1

nonchalantly framed his shot. It was a normal patrol until he hit the pier's fishing area: a couple of grifters were using milk crates and wires to catch lobsters. Bingo.

He popped off a few shots of the poachers and then blew the joint. Time to report back to the brass.

Zide's not a character from a Raymond Chandler hard-boiled detective novel. He's a 71-year-old retired member of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's volunteer program. That's right: volunteer. No cabbage, dough, scratch, sugar. The government's favorite word: zero.

A couple years ago Fish and Wildlife opened an office in Marina del Rey. Santa Monica's got one full-time paid warden, he said. The rest is up to the volunteers.

The National Resource Volunteer Program tends to look for people over 50 with at least 24 hours a month to spare, said Lt. Kent Smirl who heads the Southern California arm of the program.

It's an intensive program, he said, and they go through 80 hours of training.

"It's basically an unpaid professional position," Smirl said.

"We're not a bunch of yahoos," Zide said. "Most of our guys are professionals."

On top of his photography work, Zide has experience driving boats up and down the coast, from Baja to Seattle. He's gone out on government boats, cracking down the "scumbags" who clam in the illegal areas.

When he saw the lobster poachers, he knew right away. You have to have a license to catch lobsters and you have to use a hoop-net. He saw they didn't have the latter, which means they probably also lacked the former.

"I've been around," he said. "It's just knowledge you pick up."

He snapped photos over the next week until he'd built a case, which he brought to his supervisor.

"Poachers are taking more than their limit (seven) and taking short lobsters (babies). That's cutting into the breeding numbers," he said. "You'll also see them down there with triple-hooks. We've got a lot of rules."

His supervisor put him in touch with the warden.

"I came back a few days later and the traps were gone," he said. "We are a bit of a detective. One of the mantras is observe and report."

Currently, the Marina station has only four volunteers — a few recent volunteers died, got sick, or couldn't keep up, Zide said.

They are looking for a dozen or so new volunteers so they can expand further into the Santa Monica area, he said.

The volunteers would do a lot of conservation coaching, Smirl said.

Zide's been trained to differentiate between tracks left by dogs and those left by coyotes. If they had the manpower, a volunteer like Zide would help educate Santa Monicans on the best ways to live with coyotes in their neighborhood.

"Believe it or not, people put out food for them because they think it's cool," he said.

He praised Santa Monica's current system for dealing with coyotes but said that education — passed on by an unpaid volunteer — could always help.

"It really relieves the wardens," Zide said. "They don't have to spend the man-hours with the education because we can do it for them."

Zide is full of good advice.

"We tell them to take an empty soda can, fill it with pennies, tape it up, and throw it at (the coyotes)," he said. "They get scared off by the noise. And by something being thrown at them."

Volunteers patrol the beaches and pier checking for fishing licenses and looking for "unsavories," Zide said. They wear green pants and service boots like the police. They have badges.

"We see dope peddling," he said. "People with beer cans. They see us coming. You see them packing up and leaving."

Zide, who's been volunteering since last April, loves it.

"My friends say I have the best job in the world," Zide said. "I'm having more fun than anybody."

An extended training academy will be held for four days starting on April 1 in the Los Alamitos office. For more information, visit dfg.ca.gov/volunteer/nrvp.

dave@smdp.com



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Stocks edge higher, but S&P 500 ends shy of record

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The stock market is struggling to take it to the next level.

For a third straight day the Standard & Poor's 500 index traded above its record close but fell back to end below it. An early move higher Wednesday was led by retailers and home builders, but the gains mostly petered out in the afternoon. By the closing bell the index was up just a fraction of a point.

After rebounding from losses early in the year, when investors were concerned about the outlook for growth in emerging markets and the U.S., the stock market now appears to be at a crossroads.

While investors seem comfortable attributing the recent weakness in economic reports to the unusually cold weather, they also appear reluctant to push stocks higher before they see more evidence of growth.

"This is a market that has been trying to decipher how much of the negative news is weather-based, against concerns that we have moved into a soft patch," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial.

The S&P 500 edged up four-hundredths of a point to close at 1,845.16, three points short of its record high close of 1,848.38 set Jan. 15. The index climbed as high as 1,852.65.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 18.75, or 0.1 percent, to 16,198.41. The Nasdaq composite rose 4.48 points, or 0.1 percent, to 4,292.06.

Home builder stocks rose sharply after the government reported that U.S. sales of new homes jumped in January at the fastest pace in more than five years. That's a hopeful sign after a slowdown in the housing market last year caused by higher interest rates. PulteGroup rose 57 cents, or 2.8 percent, to $21.25 and Lennar rose $1.52, or 3.6 percent, to $43.78.

Retailers rose after several encouraging earnings reports.

Lowe's climbed $2.61, or 5.4 percent, to $50.72. The company's net income rose 6 percent in the most recent quarter as the home-improvement retailer continued to benefit from a recovery in the housing market. The company also announced a new $5 billion stock repurchase program.

Abercrombie & Fitch jumped $4.05, or 11.3 percent, to $40.04 after posting earnings that exceeded the expectations of Wall Street analysts. The retailer also initiated a $150 million accelerated share buyback program.

"We've dialed estimates down in that space, simply because of worries about the effects of the weather," said Darrell Cronk, regional chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank. "A lot of people were walking in today expecting some of those retail companies to have much softer results."

Investor may get a catalyst to push stocks higher on Thursday when Janet Yellen, the new head of the Federal Reserve, testifies in front of the Senate's Banking Committee. Stocks jumped Feb. 11 when Yellen spoke to Congress, and said that she would continue the central bank's market-friendly, low-interest rate policies.

The comments were her first in public since taking over for Ben Bernanke at the Fed. Her appearance in the Senate was delayed because of a winter storm.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.66 percent from 2.70 percent.

Among other stocks making big moves:

— Barnes & Noble rose 75 cents, or 4.2 percent, to $18.47 after reporting a third-quarter profit. Cost cuts at the company's Nook e-reader unit and elsewhere helped offset declining revenue.

— Target rose after reporting its quarterly results. The stock surged $3.98, or 7 percent, to $60.49 after the company said its sales have been recovering since January, an encouraging sign after shoppers shunned the store after the theft of credit card numbers and other information from millions of customers last year.

— Chesapeake Energy fell $1.33, or 4.9 percent, to $25.61 after the oil and natural gas company reported a fourth-quarter loss, hurt by one-time charges. The company's adjusted earnings came in lower than Wall Street expected.

— First Solar fell $5.29, or 9.1 percent, to $52.74 after the solar panel manufacturer reported earnings that fell short of financial analysts' expectations.





SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **60.6°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high occ. 6ft
Primary/holding West-WNW swell with some minor SW'erly windswell mixing in; Southerly wind; Surf is a little jumbled for most spots; Occasional 6'+ sets at select winter magnets

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **2-4 ft** knee to shoulder high
West-WNW swell backs down some; Strong front due to approach region with the rise of breezy southerly wind and rain; Building SW'erly windswell

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **5-8 ft** head high to 3 ft overhead
Watching for bigger West-SW'erly storm swell to move in; Breezy southerly winds, along with scattered rain showers; STAY POSTED, STILL PENDING DEVELOPMENT

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high occ. 6ft
BIGGEST EARLY; Fading West-SW'erly storm swell; Possible improved conditions;

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 19, 2014**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 4
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 5
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / 4

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA Swain Barber Foundation

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

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

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

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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

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

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Trout, Angels agree to $1 million, 1-year contract

JIM RICHARDS
Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. Mike Trout has his first seven-figure contract. Up ahead is what figures to be a nine-figure deal.

"It feels good," Trout said Wednesday after agreeing to a $1 million, one-year contract with the Los Angeles Angels.

The salary is the highest for a one-year major league contract for a player not yet eligible for arbitration who wasn't coming to the big leagues from Japan or Cuba or wasn't required to have a larger amount because of the maximum cut rule. Ryan Howard earned $900,000 with Philadelphia in 2007 and Albert Pujols with St. Louis in 2003.

Trout will become eligible for arbitration after this season and could become a free agent after the 2017 World Series. The sides are thought to be discussing an agreement through 2020 in the $150 million range.

Trout wouldn't talk about the possibility of a multiyear contract.

"I just go out there to play the game," he said. "If the money is where it's at, that's where it's going to be."

By agreeing to a one-year contract now with the 22-year-old, the Angels avoid having a long-term deal count toward their 2014 luxury tax payroll.

"It's a landmark to do a $1 million with a two-plus player," Angels general manager Jerry Dipoto said. "I think it's fitting and Mike's earned that and we're glad to provide that for him."

Trout was voted AL Rookie of the Year and finished second in MVP voting in 2012, when he hit .326 with 30 homers and 83 RBIs, and led the majors with 129 runs and 49 steals. He was second again to Detroit's Miguel Cabrera in MVP voting last year, when he batted .323 with a .432 on-base percentage, 27 homers, 97 RBIs and 33 steals.

"We thought his performance was exceptional," Dipoto said. "There are players that force you to break rules. What he did for two consecutive years forced us to break our own rule. His performance certainly merited us to do differently than any of the others."

Trout had a $482,500 salary as a rookie and earned a $10,000 bonus for winning Rookie of the Year. The Angels renewed his contract last year for $510,000 — just $20,000 above the major league minimum at the time.

"The Angels could have easily just done the same thing that they did last year," Trout said. "It makes you feel good inside. It makes you feel like they really want you here. It means a lot to me."

NOTES: Because of the maximum cut rule, some players not eligible for arbitration have had higher salaries. Shortstop Jose Iglesias agreed to a deal with Detroit in January that pays $1.65 million while in the major leagues and $1,237,500 while in the minors. The major league base represents the maximum 20 percent cut from the average of the $8.25 million, four-year deal he completed.

Denver art museum making good on Super Bowl bet

DONNA BRYSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER Peyton Manning wasn't there for the handoff.

But Denver Art Museum staffer Amy Barrett wore a No. 18 T-shirt Wednesday as she helped crate up a Frederic Remington bronze known as "The Broncho Buster" — the spelling is an outdated form for the cowboy shown taming a charging horse — after the museum lost a Super Bowl bet with its counterpart in Seattle.

Thomas Smith, director of the Denver Art Museum's Petrie Institute of Western American Art, said he got a call from a Seattle Art Museum curator to discuss plans for displaying the Remington almost as soon as the Feb. 2 Super Bowl was over. The Seattle Seahawks beat the Denver Broncos 43-8, and the Remington will go to Seattle for three months.

"As I watched the game, I said, 'Oh, there goes our Broncho Buster for a few months," Smith said.

He called the piece "the most iconic sculpture" in American Western art history. Remington cast 150 versions after creating the prototype in 1895. Smith said the piece going to Seattle was among the first copies, made in the early 1900s using what was then a new lost-wax casting technique.

Remington packed energy and texture into the piece, which fit into a crate not much bigger than a hotel room refrigerator. The lost-wax technique allowed him to bring out details, from individual hairs in the horse's tail to the muscles in the rider's hand as it grips the mane. Remington customized his copies, varying the lengths of the rider's whip, for example, or adding wooly chaps on some versions.

Barrett, whose title is preparator, helped make braces wrapped in non-abrasive cloth to hold the piece for its journey of 18-20 hours overland to Seattle. As anyone who has watched Antiques Roadshow knows, she said, the century-old patina on the piece must be protected.

Stickers with Denver Bronco logos were plastered onto the crate as it was sealed in a workroom at the museum. For security reasons, museum officials would not say exactly when the sculpture will start its trip.

Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock also lost a Super Bowl bet. His office says it shipped green chile off to Seattle shortly after the game and will be auctioning off items such as handmade skis to raise money for the Seattle-based Lifelong AIDS Alliance nonprofit group.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Pierrot Le Fou (NR) 1hr 50min
Hail Mary (NR) 1hr 47min
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-3924

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
1:40pm, 4:15pm

Ride Along (PG-13)
7:00pm, 9:45pm

About Last Night (R)
2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Pompeii (PG-13) 1hr 42min
4:45pm, 10:15pm

Pompeii 3D (PG-13) 1hr 42min
2:00pm, 7:30pm

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

RoboCop (PG-13)
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Lego Movie in 3D (PG)
1:45pm, 7:00pm

Monuments Men (PG-13)
11:00am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

Wolf of Wall Street (R) 2hrs 45min
11:10am, 3:00pm, 6:45pm, 9:50pm

American Hustle (R) 2hrs 09min
12:30pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:20pm

Endless Love (PG-13)
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Three Days to Kill (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Lego Movie (PG)
11:15am, 4:15pm, 9:45pm

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

In Secret (Therese) (NR)
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Gloria (R) 1hr 40min
3:15pm, 8:10pm

Dallas Buyers Club (R) 1hr 57min
4:10pm, 9:55pm

Great Beauty (La Grande Bellezza) (NR) 2hrs 30min
1:20pm, 4:40pm, 8:00pm

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
1:00pm, 5:50pm

Her (R)
1:10pm, 7:00pm

For more information, e-mail **editor@smdp.com**

GET SOME R&R, PISCES

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ An important get-together or meeting will define your mood, and therefore your plans, for the day. Unexpected developments might encourage you to be more spontaneous as well. Tonight: Where the gang is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Know that all eyes are on you. As a result, people could get an indirect lesson in how to approach the boss. Stay centered when dealing with an associate or close loved one who seems to be even colder than usual. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Listen to news with an open mind. Seek out more information by finding people who are more knowledgeable or experienced. Make an appointment for a checkup at the dentist in the near future. Tonight: Make plans to take a few days off.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Remain playful. A discussion with a partner will point to a dramatic shift in activity. You need variety in terms of focus and energy; otherwise, you could become bored and moodier because of a lack of excitement. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Others will present unusual ideas that could force you to think past typical boundaries. Your sixth sense will come out when dealing with today's issues. How you see a friend or loved one could change as the result of these intense discussions. Tonight: Sort through suggestions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You have high energy working with your solid focus. Meetings right now will be important in paving your path to success. Someone will push you hard; this person feels as if his or her ideas are better. Tonight: Time to relax.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to understand what is happening around you, yet you could find others to be evasive. Avoid getting angry with a loved one. Make a point to relax, and you will find the answers you're looking for. Tonight: Play it light and easy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Pressure seems to build around a family member or a domestic matter. Suppressing your irritation on a regular basis could backfire, as you are likely to make yourself sick or so angry that you won't be able to speak in an effective manner. Tonight: Visit with a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You will be full of energy. A conversation could start up out of the blue, and you might hear a lot more than you are ready for. It would be wise to think through a personal matter more deeply in order to understand what you want. Tonight: Ask, and you shall receive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Ask an important question regarding the results of a recent conversation. A partner or close friend will be full of facts and suggestions. Sometimes this person is a well of information. Tonight: Make it your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You have a lot to do, but you also have the energy to meet your responsibilities. Be careful with machinery and electrical equipment, as you could be distracted by the many thoughts in your mind. Tonight: It is your choice.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You'll gain a new understanding because of recent conversations and new insights. Still, you might want to keep this to yourself, as your thoughts will continue to evolve. What you think now could change radically. Tonight: Get as much R and R as you can.

Thursday, February 27, 2014

This year you often feel like your imagination could be your enemy, as you might have a difficult time focusing on conversations. You inadvertently could trigger your creative process, so keep a notebook handy to jot down your ideas. Use care around machinery, as you are likely to be distracted. If you are single, you suddenly might think that you have met "the one." Avoid putting this person on a pedestal. If you are attached, your rose-colored glasses could add more magic to your bond. Forget long-distance vacations this year. AQUARIUS is your natural healer.

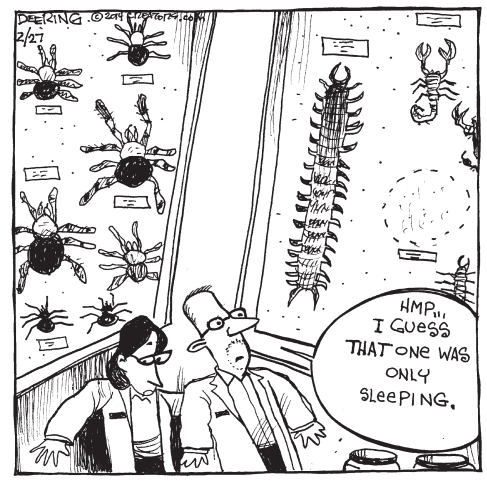
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
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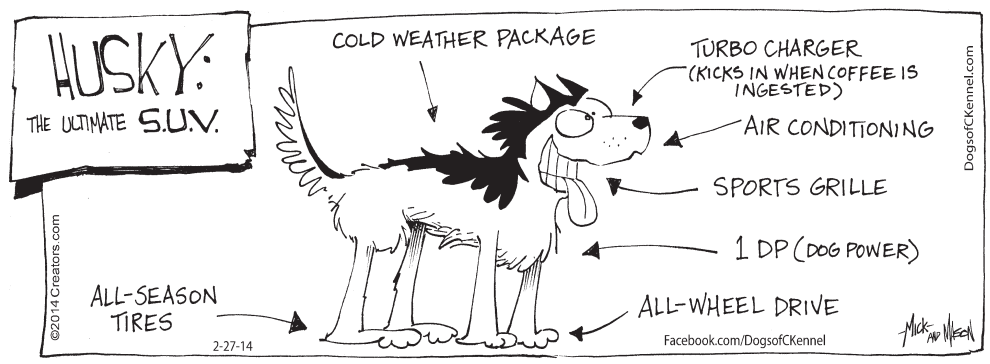
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



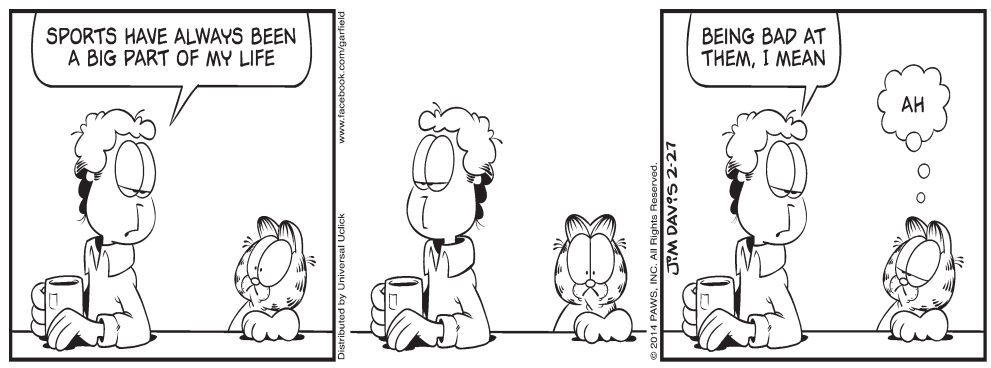
Strange Brew
By John Deering



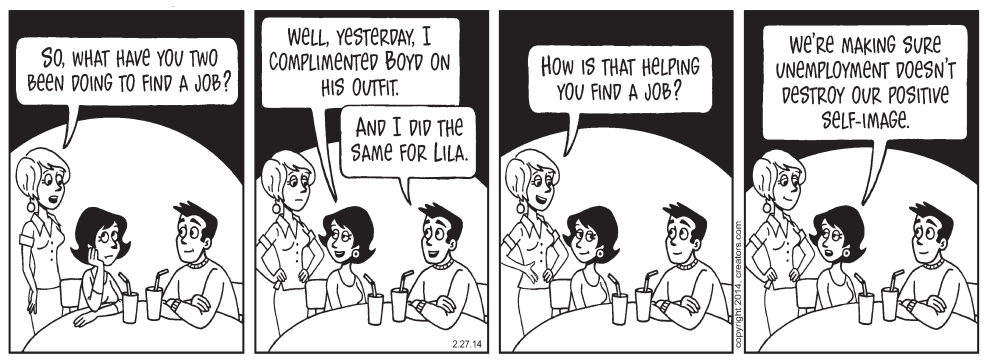
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Identical
5 Type a password, perhaps
10 Nurse Barton
12 Conjecture
13 Forum figure
14 Third letter
15 Hydrocarbon suffix
16 Strip of clickable icons
18 Place for mixing at home
20 Had lunch
21 Numerical prefix
23 Went first
24 Curbside call
26 Mysterious loch
28 Signing need
29 Woodland resident
31 Curator's concern
32 Cufflinks' kin
36 Prying tool
39 Imitating
40 West of music
41 Space circle
43 Cake coating
44 Brother's daughter
45 Vegas lights
46 Ran, as color

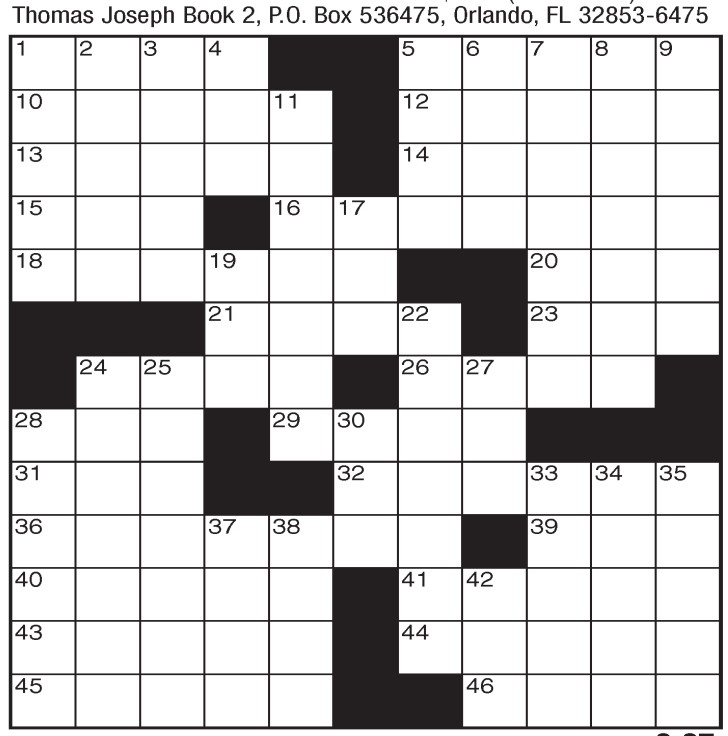
DOWN

1 Machine part
2 Without aid
3 "American Buffalo" playwright
4 Important age
5 Company sign
6 Milky stone
7 Gyroscope rings
8 Pen group
9 Drew close to
11 Tummy relief
17 Table scrap
19 Cereal buy
22 Golfer's cleek
24 Patio's kin
25 Shakespeare's merchant
27 Before, to Byron
28 Cram
30 Seventh letter
33 Tower site
34 Wonderland visitor
35 Gave a score to
37 Ed of "Mary Poppins"
38 Entreats
42 Chest bone

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-27

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/26
Power#:
Jackpot: $50M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/25
12 18 25 35 66
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: $216M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/22
9 22 29 32 39
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: $24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/26
15 19 24 35 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/26
MIDDAY: 9 7 5
EVENING: 1 0 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/26
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:41.12

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Ed Forchion sits in a jail in Burlington County, N.J. (where he will reside for a few more months), serving a term for possession of marijuana. However, for 10 days each month until his release, the same judge who sentenced him has promised to allow him to go smoke medical marijuana in California to relieve pain from his bone cancer. (Forchion was convicted of possession before New Jersey legalized medical marijuana.) (Update: Four days after a Trentonian columnist's story about "Weedman" Forchion, and the subsequent Internet frenzy it wrought, Forchion's judge commuted the final 130 days of his sentence and freed him.)

■ In a December letter to the University of Minnesota president, a coalition of black student organizations demanded an end to racial profiling, especially in light of recent campus crime incidents. "(C)ampus safety should be of the (university's) utmost importance," they acknowledged, but among the organizations' complaints was that when "be on the lookout" alerts were issued (usually based on victims' descriptions of their attackers), innocent black students feel "discomforting," "negative psychological effects" -- because the alerts so often describe black attackers.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1942 - World War II: During the Battle of the Java Sea, an allied strike force is defeated by a Japanese task force in the Java Sea in the Dutch East Indies

1943 - The Smith Mine #3 in Bearcreek, Montana, explodes, killing 74 men.

1943 - The Rosenstrasse protest starts in Berlin

WORD UP!

fusty
\ FUHS-tee \ , adjective;
1. old-fashioned or out-of-date, as architecture, furnishings, or the like: They still live in that fusty, gingerbread house .

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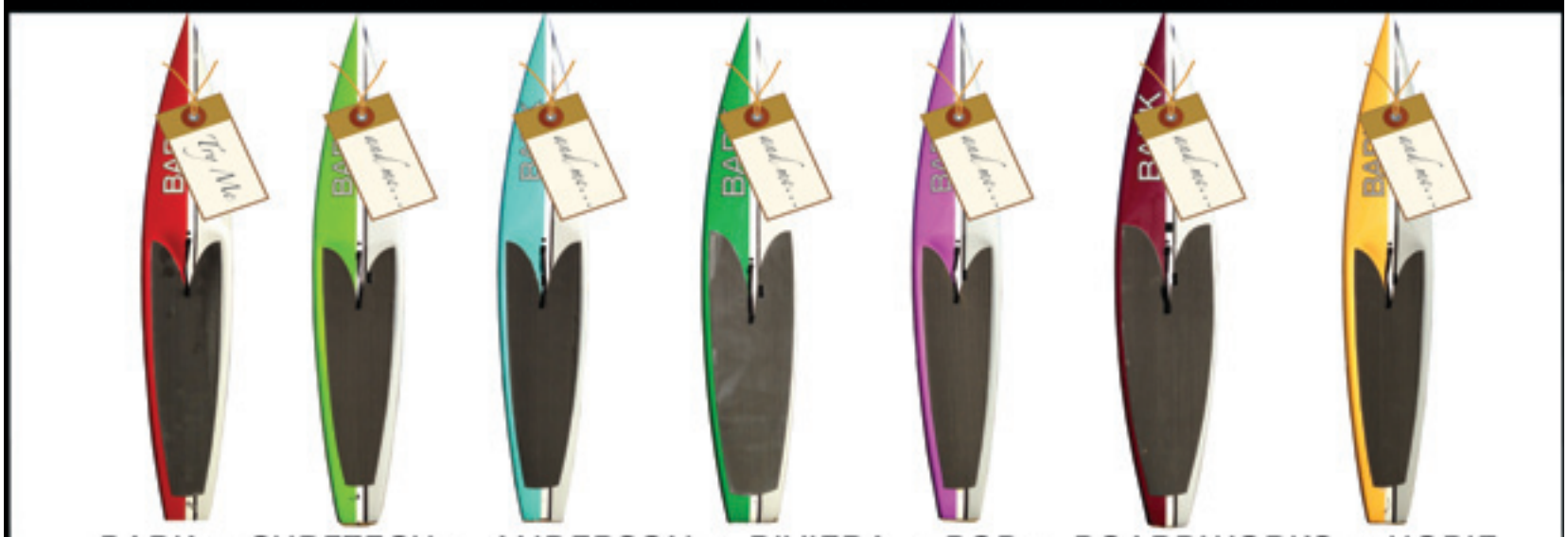
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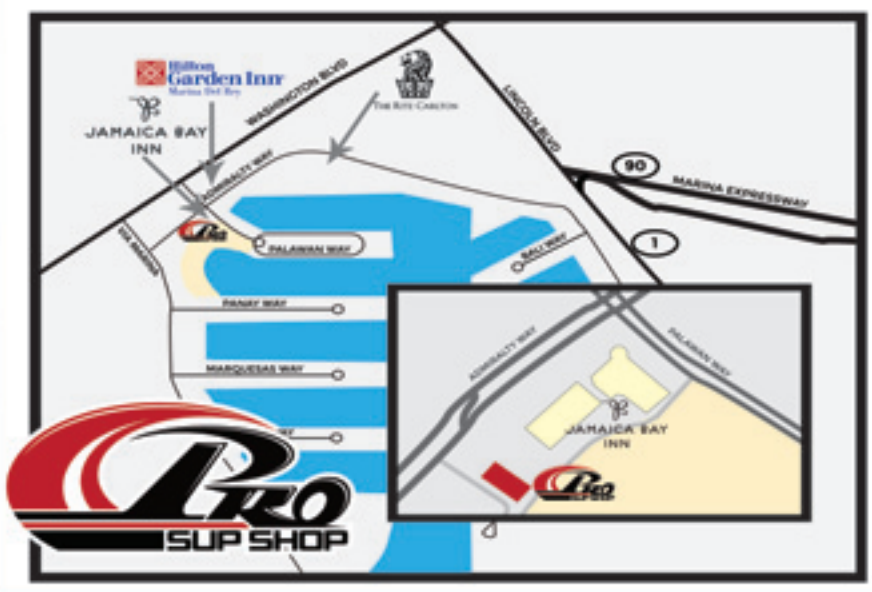
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Missed the Party last Weekend?

We're organizing another City-Wide Petition-Signing Party

This Saturday, March 1st

Locations Throughout Our Fair, Little City to Follow

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Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm

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