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Volume 11 Issue 93



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

COLLECTOR SPEAKS OUT
SEE PAGE 12

THE LEAP DAY ISSUE



SHORT STACK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Isaac Martinez serves up free pancakes to Lighthouse Christian Academy students during the annual International House of Pancakes (IHOP) National Pancake Day on Tuesday morning. In exchange for free pancakes, customers are encouraged to make a donation that will be used for a local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. IHOP says it has collected more than $5.35 million for charities — and given away more than 10 million buttermilk pancakes — since it began the annual fundraising fete seven years ago.

Dining out with doggy

New county rule lets restaurants open up their patios to canines

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

COUNTYWIDE Make no bones about it, Fido and his owner can walk, play and now eat together in restaurants with outdoor patios in Santa Monica and throughout Los Angeles County.

So decreed the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Monday when it released new rules that give restaurant owners the option to allow dogs on outdoor patios.

The change came at the behest of dog-friendly restaurant owners that felt they were missing out on customers who wanted to stop by for a bite to eat or a coffee, but couldn't bring their dogs through the gate.

"Many dog and restaurant owners advocated for this policy change, and we are

SEE DOGGY DINING PAGE 6

Residents to weigh in on Fresh & Easy

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOUGLAS PARK Residents will have an opportunity to get their voices heard on parking issues and alcohol sales at a Fresh & Easy market planned for the Mid City Neighborhood at a community meeting Thursday night.

The market is expected to take the place of the Magnolia Audio Video store at 2800 Wilshire Blvd., and while some residents seem enthused about the idea of a grocery store within walking distance of their homes, others worry that the market will entail more gridlock with no parking.

That fear comes from a request by the company to allow 38 on-site parking spots rather than the 50 spots required by Santa Monica's municipal code.

Another 17 spots would be sought off-site with five coming from the nearby 2811 Wilshire Blvd. and 12 further away at 3201 Wilshire Blvd., according to the project's description that was sent out to community members.

Details on those leases including the term and whether or not they stay with the property if the grocery store fails were not forthcoming on Tuesday.

Nonetheless, those spots, along with the 11 short-term bicycle parking spaces at the building's two entrances, encompass all of the parking proposed for the 13,000 square-foot building.

Those spaces as well as six secure parking spots for employee bicycles would serve the customers and the 10 to 12 employees that would be on duty at any given time.

The project is expected to employ 30 people total.

That could be a significant problem, said Gregg Heacock, head of Mid City Neighbors, the local neighborhood organization.

That part of Wilshire Boulevard is already plagued by traffic, and adding another destination without sufficient parking for the people that it draws will cause backups and force people into the neighborhoods to seek a place to park.

"We only have so much room," Heacock said.

SEE MARKET PAGE 8

Americans feeling better about economic recovery

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK Americans are feeling better about the economy again, but will it last this time?

A widely watched barometer of consumer confidence surged in February to its highest level in a year as Americans took note of improving job prospects among friends and family and falling unemployment, which is now at a three-year low.

The brighter assessment released Tuesday by a private research group reflected a more upbeat attitude for the nation generally as

SEE RECOVERY PAGE 11


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday,Feb. 29, 2012

Leaping for Leap Day
Santa Monica Pier
Noon — 2:30 p.m.
In honor of Leap Day, pier officials have partnered with Cirque du Soleil's "OVO" to create a special day of live performances, free Zumba lessons and Radio Disney. The first 100 people who can prove they were born Feb. 29 will win two tickets to see "OVO," which is set up in the parking lot just north of the pier. For more information, visit www.santamonicapier.org.

This is why we fight
Fairview Library Branch
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
Join Anna Stramese, who has a master's in critical studies of film from USC, for a special film series about movies that have reflected and influenced the American dream. This week watch the Capra classic "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," starring Jimmy Stewart as an everyman who must meet the world of political corruption and scandal head on. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Dems unite
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Santa Monica Democratic Club will gather for their monthly meeting with this edition focusing on the 2012 State Legislature outlook. For more information, call (310) 829-7218.

Strike a pose
Fitdog Sports Club
1712 21st St., 6 p.m.
Kim Rodgers and Sarah Sypniewski, owners of Bark Pet Photography, have released their first book, "Dog Photography For Dummies." To celebrate this accomplishment, Fitdog Sports Club will feature a book signing by the authors, human and canine refreshments, raffles, and plenty of doggy fun in a safe and welcoming environment. The authors will also share tips and advice on how to take great photographs of your dogs and how photography can help shelter animals. This event is open to all who would like to attend — with or without their dogs! Free admission. For more information, visit www.fitdogsportsclub.com

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Freshen up
Douglas Park Clubhouse
2439 Wilshire Boulevard, 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
Attend this community meeting to discuss the proposed Fresh & Easy Market, which is expected to be located in the existing Magnolia Audo Video space at 2800 Wilshire Blvd. For more information, call city planners at (310) 458-8341.

Love on the Pacific
Barnum Hall
7 p.m.
Santa Monica High School's Spring musical is "South Pacific" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. The musical centers on an American nurse stationed at a U.S. Naval base during World War II who falls in love with an expatriate French plantation owner but struggles to accept his mixed-race children. A second romance concerns a U.S. Lieutenant who falls in love with a young Asian woman. Suggested for ages 8 and up. Thursday through Saturday at 7 p.m., March 1-3 and March 8-10. Plus special matinee Saturday, March 3 at 2 p.m. Tickets: suggested donation of $15, $10 for students.

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

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

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



CORRECTION In the article "Local couple increases scholarships for black students," which appeared in the Feb. 28 edition of the Daily Press, a scholarship fund was incorrectly identified. It should have stated the W.P. and Bulah Luse Trust Fund.

Local chef sued for allegedly stiffing contractor

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SANTA MONICA BLVD A renowned Santa Monica chef was sued by a contractor for allegedly failing to pay more than $120,000 for improvements at his new restaurant on Santa Monica Boulevard.

Sarlan Builders Inc. filed the breach-of-contract lawsuit Monday against Andrew Kirschner, owner of the Tar & Roses restaurant, claiming the chef owes at least $122,355 for work done at the eatery at 602 Santa Monica Blvd.

According to the lawsuit, Sarlan Builders entered a verbal contract with Kirschner last April to make improvements at Tar & Roses, but he did not pay the full balance even though the contractor performed all the work it was required to do.

Tar & Roses denies any knowledge of the lawsuit, stating it has not "seen a formal complaint," nor does the eatery "have any notice or knowledge of a pending lawsuit," according to a statement released by the restaurant.

The restaurant is currently in dispute with Sarlan Builders over their "delayed, and incomplete work" and will file its own claims against the company.

Kirschner, a former contestant on "Iron Chef," was a longtime executive chef at the Wilshire restaurant in Santa Monica before opening Tar & Roses late last year. The restaurant incorporates reclaimed materials, polished concrete floors, exposed brick, and Carrera marble/wood tabletops. The menu is described as modern and rustic.

news@smdp.com



A LITTLE LATE TO THE PLATE

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Agoura Hills' Albee Weiss catches Samohi's Daniel Galvan as he slides into home base. Galvan was trying to score on a wild pitch at Santa Monica High School on Tuesday during an Easton Tournament game. The Vikings fell 6-4.

Divorce lawyers: Pet custody cases are on the rise

BY SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES They still fight like cats and dogs in divorce court. But more and more they are fighting about cats and dogs.

Custody cases involving pets are on the rise across the country.

In a 2006 survey by the 1,600-member American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, a quarter of respondents said pet custody cases had increased noticeably since 2001. The academy is due for another survey, but there is no doubt such cases have grown steadily since then, said Ken Altshuler of Portland, Maine, a divorce attorney and AAML president.

If there is a child involved in a divorce, many judges will keep the pet with the child, attorneys said.

"But what do you do when the pet is the child?" Altshuler asked.

Breakups in same-sex marriages, civil unions and domestic partnerships are among reasons pet custody fights have become more common, attorneys said.

Pet custody cases have grown as much as 15 percent in his office over the last five years, said attorney David Pisarra of Santa Monica.

He is his own best example. He shares custody of 8-year-old Dudley, a longhaired standard black-and-tan dachshund, with his ex, who has remarried and introduced a step-dog to Dudley.

Pet consultant Steven May hired Pisarra six years ago to handle his divorce. Besides a daughter, May and his ex worked out custody of three dogs, two cats and Tequila the parrot.

Pisarra and May became good friends and often take their dogs for walks in Santa Monica. They also teamed up last year to write a book about co-parenting a pet with an ex titled "What About Wally?"

Pets are considered property in every state in the country. For years, they have been divvied up like furniture during divorce proceedings. But times are changing.

"Judges are viewing them more akin to children than dining room sets. They are recognizing that people have an emotional attachment to their animals," Altshuler said.

"There is a shifting consciousness," Pisarra said. "Pets are being given greater consideration under the law."

SEE **PET DIVORCE** PAGE 6

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Learning something new

Editor:

Thank you very much for the On The Beat column entitled "Walk on the safe side," which was published this past weekend (Feb. 25-26, page 4). As a frequent pedestrian and driver in Santa Monica, this is exceedingly helpful information.

I was especially interested in the rule that a pedestrian must yield to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that the signal is first shown. I have always felt this makes sense, but few pedestrians seem to be aware or agree. That a pedestrian may only cross in a marked crosswalk in any business district within Santa Monica, not just the central area, was also news to me. That makes for a long walk in other business areas.

Again, thank you for this enlightening column.

G. Moriarty
Los Angeles

Fan of free enterprise

Editor:

I agree completely with Bill Bauer's points in the first part of his column ("Ugly new developments OK if they meet wage standards," My Write, Feb. 27, page 3)

The development at Seventh Street and Wilshire Boulevard is totally wrong for the area and, as Mr. Bauer said, is "... massive, overly tall, [and] butt-ugly ... ." He mentioned the waiving of the height requirement. Why does City Hall have a height requirement and then blithely ignore it when a developer wants to build a too-tall building? This sort of behavior only adds to the feeling (widespread and historical) that the management and staff of the city of Santa Monica are in the pockets of the developers. Does it seem to you that, rather than run Santa Monica for the benefit of its inhabitants, they spend most of their time whoring after developer money and angling to get their reelection bills paid by developers?

In the case of City Hall fronting for the hotel and restaurant union, this is totally inappropriate. City Hall has no business taking up a side in this situation. Management, workers and unions have dealt with these things over the years just fine by themselves, compromising on both sides to come up with livable agreements. It's not the job of city staff to insert itself into these situations.

Just for the sake of comparison, turn the situation around: let us suppose that City Hall said that, due to the importance of tourists to the city, there shall be no labor agreements involving third party unions entered into by hotels and restaurants (for fear that hotel room rates and restaurant charges would rise) and that, further, because of the need for exceptional customer service for those tourists, local hotel and restaurant workers shall have a 48-hour work week as standard. Having too much vacation time might require hiring more people to cover those vacationing workers (and thus raise hotel room rates) so allowable vacation time shall be restricted only to national holidays.

What do you think would be the result locally and nationwide? There would be an outcry and people would rise up with understandable anger. People would say: "What right did City Hall have in making those decisions?" But isn't City Hall now smugly doing just that (but in the other direction), putting itself inappropriately into this private situation between management and workers? What right does City Hall have in doing this? None in my mind. Businesses have a right to run their businesses as they like (and, of course, workers and unions have a right to work for their own benefit). In this case, my view is that City Hall should stay out of it entirely; it's none of their business.

Reynold Dacon
Santa Monica

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Your column here

Ben Franz-Knight — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Putting the pier first

TO THE CITY COUNCIL, RESIDENTS AND supporters of the Santa Monica Pier:

The Santa Monica Pier is one of the great treasures on the West Coast. It has stood the test of time and serves as one of the great examples of how preservation and entrepreneurship can combine to make an icon known around the world. Decades of public and private investment, battles over preservation and character and passionate community involvement have made the pier the internationally renowned venue that it is today.

I spent 10 years working on the pier and got to know its deck boards, piles, buildings and vast array of colorful and passionate people. I learned a great deal, and as many of you know, grew in ways I never imagined possible. One of the things that I learned about the place, this great public space, was that for all of its triumphs it remains a fragile venue. Made of wood and worn by harsh conditions and heavy use the pier requires daily attentive care.

If history tells us anything, it is that change is something we can count on. It also shows us paths that lead to less then desirable outcomes. While you consider how best to manage the pier going forward, I strongly implore you to not just look at current operating models, but to look at its history. Who are the pier's champions, where have they historically come from, and what has been their goal?

My own reading of the history tells a pretty clear story. The champions of the pier are not big business, financial prosperity or political agendas. The champions of the pier are the citizens, the daily fisherman, the small businesses and the visitors, both daily and yearly that walk the deck and appreciate the quirky mix of entertainment, characters, history, views and ocean air. My wife often described the folks that form the soul of the pier as those brave pioneers who traveled west, beat long odds and when arriving on the shores of the Pacific decided that it was not enough, so out over the waves they went.

A few questions that should be asked as a new direction for the pier is established: Is the pier a place to be managed or facilitated? Is it a place of and for the public to be nurtured or is it a place to be planned and programmed? Who can provide the tools to facilitate the kind of creative growth and entrepreneurship that have repeatedly defined the pier's rebirths? Should the benefits of the pier be limited to the dollars generated on its deck boards? Or should the value be determined by the millions of impressions generated both in media and the memories of millions of annual visitors?

I have seen the long list of qualified candidates who have applied for the interim board. The quality and breadth of applicants is telling, this is without doubt an opportunity that calls for great leadership, and great leaders are responding. One wise word of direction for the new board that I heard echoed again and again by founding members of the Pier Restoration Corp. (PRC); leave your personal agenda at the door. You will do your best work together when you join in working for the best interests of the pier.

When our individual agendas outweigh the need to rally around a common cause and when financial prosperity wins out against preservation, history shows that the pier suffers. Of course, history also shows that the pier has the power to correct course and restore. As the tides of conversation appear to be shifting from restoration (the active process of preserving) to management, budget efficiencies and fundraising, it would be wise to note that the champions of the pier, the small businesses, the fishermen (and women) and the daily visitors watch closely as the balance of interests are juggled once again. For nearly three decades the PRC facilitated that balance with great success providing the leadership that allowed the pier to regain prosperity not seen since the 1920s and '30s.

With City Hall assuming greater responsibility for pier operations and leasing, the tides of leadership are shifting again. The effects of these changes will not be known for decades to come. It is clear, however, that the beginning of the pier's next chapter will be written by the seven folks appointed by the City Council this week. To the fortunate seven I encourage you to become students of the pier, to listen to all the voices, not just the loudest or most articulate. Study its history, both written and oral. As you deliberate and develop plans over the following two years, visit often at different hours and talk to those you meet. I can tell you from personal experience that I often learned more talking to the community sitting on a bench toward the west end then I did sitting in the office.

To the small businesses on the pier, the community, general public and pier regulars, I encourage you to be active in the process, make sure your voice is heard. Be open to change that compliments and enhances the character of the pier. But don't shy from defending character and history if they are threatened. A great future depends on attention and passion in the present.

The Santa Monica Pier is one of the country's great public spaces and it will take a committed public and committed leadership to ensure that it continues to shine for future generations. A past PRC chair was fond of saying, "Take care of this great lady, because my great-great grandchildren are looking forward to a visit." His first grandchildren are visiting the pier today. I look forward to the day my great grandchildren stand next to his, and yours, for the legacy of the Santa Monica Pier is a shared legacy, one shared by all.

FRANZ-KNIGHT is the former executive director of the Pier Restoration Corp. He now serves in the same capacity for the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority in Seattle.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A more perfect union

MY HUSBAND RICK WENT AWAY FOR 28 hours this weekend, leaving me on my own with our two daughters. The girls and I managed just fine. That is if you don't count the moment when my 3-year-old heckled the people at the table next to us at a restaurant on Saturday night for their entrée selection or when she decided to decorate the living room with glue Sunday morning while I was in the shower. If there was an upside to the glue situation, it was that our throw pillows probably needed a little incentive to stop slumping down on the sofa.

Thankfully, it's not as if my husband left me alone for the weekend with 19 kids. I've never actually watched TLC's "19 Kids and Counting," but as a keen student of pop culture, I'm well aware that there is a real, live couple with 19 kids that seems to keep wanting even more kids. If I had known my older daughter ever would have thought, for instance, that it was a fine idea to empty the contents of her humidifier on the carpet, there's a strong chance I would have stopped at one kid. But 19 of them? I mean, how do you survive one 3-year-old and then decide to do it again 18 more times, exactly?

I fully recognize that, despite the restaurant, glue and humidifier antics — and my preschooler forcing me back to her room at 9 o'clock on Saturday night with the sing-song threat of a loaded pull-up diaper — it really could have been worse while my husband was away. Like if the man coming home to me after 28 hours away had not been named Rick but instead Jim Bob Duggar (or any man named Jim Bob, really), for instance.

The most baffling part about the Duggar family to me is not its 19 kids (although, believe me, that in and of itself is baffling). No, it's the entire tenet on which the Duggar marriage is based that makes me wake up at night and feel the way I did in high school two days before the SATs when I realized that cramming likely wouldn't help me earn a 1600 (or any four-digit score, for that matter): basically panic, nausea and despair.

The religion of Michelle and Jim Bob Duggar seems to necessarily dictate that their marriage resembles a prison sentence for women (and not in a Hallmark anniversary, funny-ha-ha-card kind of way, either) rather than the loving union of two souls. At least that's what I gathered from an article I read recently about what Michelle Duggar had to say to other women when she spoke at a conference about tips for a happy marriage.

To be fair, some of her remarks were on the benign side, such as when she said, "Hello," and "Thank you." Pretty much the rest of what I read she said had me exclaiming, "Oh, sweet Jesus," although I'm guessing probably not in the same way that Michelle Duggar would ever say it.

She talked about how women need to accept their husbands as their leaders, and that wives must receive directions from their husbands, which is ironic, or something, given that my husband's literal sense of direction rivals Mr. Magoo's in terms of accuracy. If I had followed his lead, we'd no doubt still be lost eight years later driving around the outskirts of New Orleans looking for the nonexistent Tabert Street. (At least that's what I could have sworn he had written down on the directions, when, in fact, he had scribbled, "Take right." But still.)

In her talk, Michelle Duggar also advised that a man needs a wife who will develop "inward and outward beauty" in order to become "more of the wife of (her) husband's dreams" and "conform to (her) husband's real wishes."

I'm not sure that looking like Scarlett Johansson will ever be in my future no matter how hard I try (sorry, Rick), but for what it's worth, I give him plenty of opportunity to dream about her walking through our front door nonetheless. Particularly whenever I'm wearing my house-frau uniform of a ripped, paint-splattered, stained sweatshirt with non-matching, loose-fitting yoga pants. Scarlett would never wear that, but unfortunately for Rick, she hasn't been returning his calls lately.

Michelle Duggar also advised women to separate their "rights" from their "responsibilities" — and to ask their husbands to define those responsibilities. Furthermore, she recommended that wives request that their husbands alert them when they have a "resistant spirit." For that, I have no retort other than to say one thing, which is: Ha. Ha. Ha. Ha. Ha. Ha. OK, that was six things. But the extra five Has were well worth the emphasis.

On no planet and in no lifetime could I envision being in a marriage like the Duggars' — with two kids, 19 kids or no kids, although I'm guessing if I were married to a Jim Bob Duggar kind of guy I wouldn't be trusted on my own with the kids for the weekend and therefore left alone to answer the incessant cry of a she-devil needing a Dora Band-Aid three separate times in 20 minutes just as I'm finally sitting down to my first glass of wine for the evening.

So in that case, I say bring on my master. Me, my low IQ and my bottle of cabernet will be happily waiting downstairs — alone — in the meantime.

More at www.meredithcarroll.com.

The Q Line

Making cuts

Officials with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District are considering cutting $2 million from next year's budget. There has been talk of reducing staff and an increase in class sizes.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
If cuts have to be made, where do you think are logical places to look 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) 458-7737 ext. 102.**

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DOGGY DINING

FROM PAGE 1

pleased to support both residents and business owners with this opportunity," said Jonathan E. Fielding, the county's director of public health.

The new policy went into effect Monday everywhere except Pasadena, Long Beach and Vernon, which all have their own health departments.

People with their dogs still do not have the right to walk into restaurants unrestricted.

The restaurant must have an outdoor patio, and the patio in question has to come with a separate entrance so that pets do not walk through the restaurant or near where food is prepared. Dogs also can't sit on seats, benches, chairs or tables.

Restaurant workers will not be able to prepare food near the outdoor dining area, including dispensing or mixing of drinks and ice, and tables cannot be set in advance of customers coming to the restaurant to avoid contamination.

Employees can't touch the dogs, but must clean up after them in case of any accidents involving bodily fluids.

All in all, it's actually a lot of work for those restaurant owners who choose to take advantage of the rule, said Angelo Bellomo, director of environmental health for the Los Angeles County Public Health.

"Again, this will not apply to all restaurants," Bellomo said. "It's a means by which a restaurant operator who does cater to that clientele can allow them to have their dogs on the outdoor dining portion."

Dogs are not allowed in the remainder of the restaurant out of concerns that free-floating hair will contaminate table settings, drinks and food.

Not all canines are known for their bladder control, and officials felt that keeping those accidents away from diners and carpets was a boon to public health.

As restaurant owners begin to take advantage of the new rule, additional restrictions may come online, Bellomo said. It's currently unclear if waiters and waitresses will be able to refill water glasses outside, or if they must bring them back indoors given the restriction on dispensing liquids near dogs. Staff hasn't gotten that far yet, Bellomo said, but they're leaning toward requiring waitstaff to bring the glasses back indoors or minimally use covered pitchers.

Unsurprisingly, not all restaurants felt enthused about the possibility of inviting man's best friend out for dinner.

Vanessa Bui, the manager at Barney's Beanery on the Third Street Promenade, wasn't sure that her restaurant would be the best place for a dog.

"Some dogs that people have here are a little loud," Bui said. "We want to make sure that they keep on the other side of the fence."

Even having the option available was a boon to dog advocates, who have long sought to soften Santa Monica's heart and laws on canine companions.

"That's so awesome," said Georja Umano, founder of Unleash the Beach, an organization working to create a leash-free Santa Monica Beach. Umano would like to see Santa Monica follow the example of Carmel, Calif., which has a dog beach and permits animals in outdoor dining.

"It's great that Los Angeles is slowly waking up to some of these things that people really want, enjoy and makes their life better," she said.

ashley@smdp.com

PET DIVORCE

FROM PAGE 3

More people have pets than ever before and they consider them part of the family rather than possessions, said Silvana Raso, a family law attorney with the Englewood Cliffs, N.J., law firm of Schepisi & McLaughlin.

"People are not embarrassed to fight for custody of a pet today. In the past they might have shied away from it because society didn't really accept a pet as anything other than an accessory to your life," she said.

When Pisarra and Jay Redd (who wrote an introduction in the book) split up, they agreed to share Dudley.

"There is no law that recognizes visitation with an animal," Raso said, so couples have to work it out themselves.

Reaching a pet custody agreement without a lot of help from attorneys and judges will save money, Raso said. Divorces can cost $1,000 and be resolved quickly or cost millions and take years.

Pet decisions are often more agonizing to make than those about mortgages, credit card debt or student loans, Raso said. But if they can be resolved, the rest usually goes smoother.

After their 2006 breakup, Pisarra and Redd worked out shared custody, long-distance visitation and a new family (including a beagle) in Dudley's life, Pisarra said. Today, they live in the same city, so visitation no longer includes flight time.

The two have a plan for everyday, vacation and holiday schedules, travel arrangements, doggie daycare, boarding, food, treats, grooming, vet care, moving and end-of-life decisions. They split costs and sometimes, with things like toys, leashes and dog bowls, they buy two of each so Dudley has one at each home.

May and his wife Nina (who also wrote an introduction for the book) separated six years ago after 16 years of marriage. "Everything was fresh and raw. It was not easy." It's taken time, but he and his ex live about two miles apart in West Los Angeles now and sharing custody of their daughter and pets is easy, he said. To make it work, "you learn the true meaning of concession," May said.

The three dogs the couple had then have died, but Winnie, his 3-year-old Cavalier King Charles spaniel, is very much like a family pet, said May, a consultant to veterinary and other pet-related companies.

Most of the time, custody battles grow out of love. But there are cases rooted in spite or retaliation.

Pisarra represented a man whose estranged wife had the family's two German shepherds euthanized. "They were his running dogs. It was really cruel and he had no recourse," he said.

In years past, pets could not be protected in domestic violence restraining orders in any state. But because abusers can use pets to threaten victims, maybe even kill the animals, the laws have changed in states like Maine, New York, California and Illinois. Other states are looking into changes. And there will be changes in other laws too, Altshuler predicted. He believes there will one day be statutes for pets, much like there are for children, giving judges guidelines to rule by.

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Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition



Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

SITE: **People cross Wilshire Boulevard Tuesday in front of what could be the future home of a Fresh & Easy market.**

MARKET

FROM PAGE 1

The store is also requesting permission for deliveries in the early hours of the morning, which would consist of one Fresh & Easy truck between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. and between three and five vendor trucks during the hours of 7 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Access for those trucks, and the noise they'll create in the morning, raise red flags for neighbors.

Still, the idea of the store, which provides relatively low-cost fresh, frozen prepared and dried foods — many of which are organic — appeals to the neighborhood.

Emilio Guerra lives immediately adjacent to the proposed location.

Although he can drive to a Ralphs, Albertsons or Whole Foods fairly close to the location, it would be more convenient to stay out of the car and walk to Fresh & Easy.

"I think it would be good, but I'm worried about the parking," Guerra said. "I would love to have the organic food, but I feel like it would be cluttered."

A new grocery store on Wilshire Boulevard is only another piece of the larger problem, Heacock said.

"What we lack, at the end of the day, is a real plan to deal with the gridlock that's just enormous in this city," Heacock said.

The community meeting will be held Thursday, March 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Douglas Park Clubhouse at 2439 Wilshire Blvd.

Representatives for Fresh & Easy and staff from the Planning Department will be on hand to answer questions about the project.

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Stockton working to avoid being biggest bankrupt city

BY GOSIA WOZNIACKA & HAVEN DALEY
Associated Press

STOCKTON, Calif. The city of Stockton in California's crop-abundant Central Valley has the second-highest foreclosure rate in the nation and one of the highest crime and unemployment rates. It was named America's most miserable city in a national magazine — twice.

And now, officials say this river port city of 290,000 is on the brink of insolvency and fighting to avoid becoming the nation's largest city to fall into Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection.

The city council was expected to vote Tuesday on a proposal to continue the city's fiscal emergency for a third year and launch a process designed to avert bankruptcy. At issue is whether to use a new California law to enter mediation with its creditors.

In recent years, thousands of new homes mushroomed in Stockton, part of a housing boom in suburban development that attracted buyers from the Bay area and beyond.

But when the economy crashed and the construction bubble burst, Stockton was battered by foreclosures and lost income from property taxes and other fees. Multi-year labor contracts with escalating costs added to the burden, forcing officials to make deep emergency cuts to the city payroll, including its police department.

"It's been so challenging. Since 2008, the whole market was essentially turned upside down," said Randy Thomas, a Stockton real estate broker with the Cornerstone Real Estate Group. "A lot of folks were losing their homes. A lot of people were getting evicted, and it's been tough on a lot of people."

City leaders say Stockton could soon be unable to pay its debts. The city has a $15 million deficit — $6.6 million from the last fiscal year and $8.7 million expected for the current fiscal year, according to documents.

Forecasts also show deficits ranging from $20 million to $38 million for the fiscal year 2012-2013 and increasing in subsequent years.

Stockton would be the first city to test the new mediation law, Assembly Bill 506, which is less than two months old. The law requires local government agencies to undergo mediation or hold a public hearing and declare a fiscal emergency before filing for bankruptcy.

In 2008, Vallejo became the biggest California city to file for bankruptcy.

In addition to voting on the proposed debt mediation, council members are expected to weigh in on whether to shift millions of dollars away from special programs, suspend vacation and sick-leave employee cash-outs and suspend payments on outstanding debts through the rest of the year.

The alternative to mediation and the other measures, city officials say, is either tax increases or drastic service reductions in the public safety sector, neither of which was recommended by its staff.

Council members will also vote on whether to conduct an investigation into what contributed to Stockton's dire financial situation. According to the council report, past financial practices of former city staff and contractors may have been a factor.

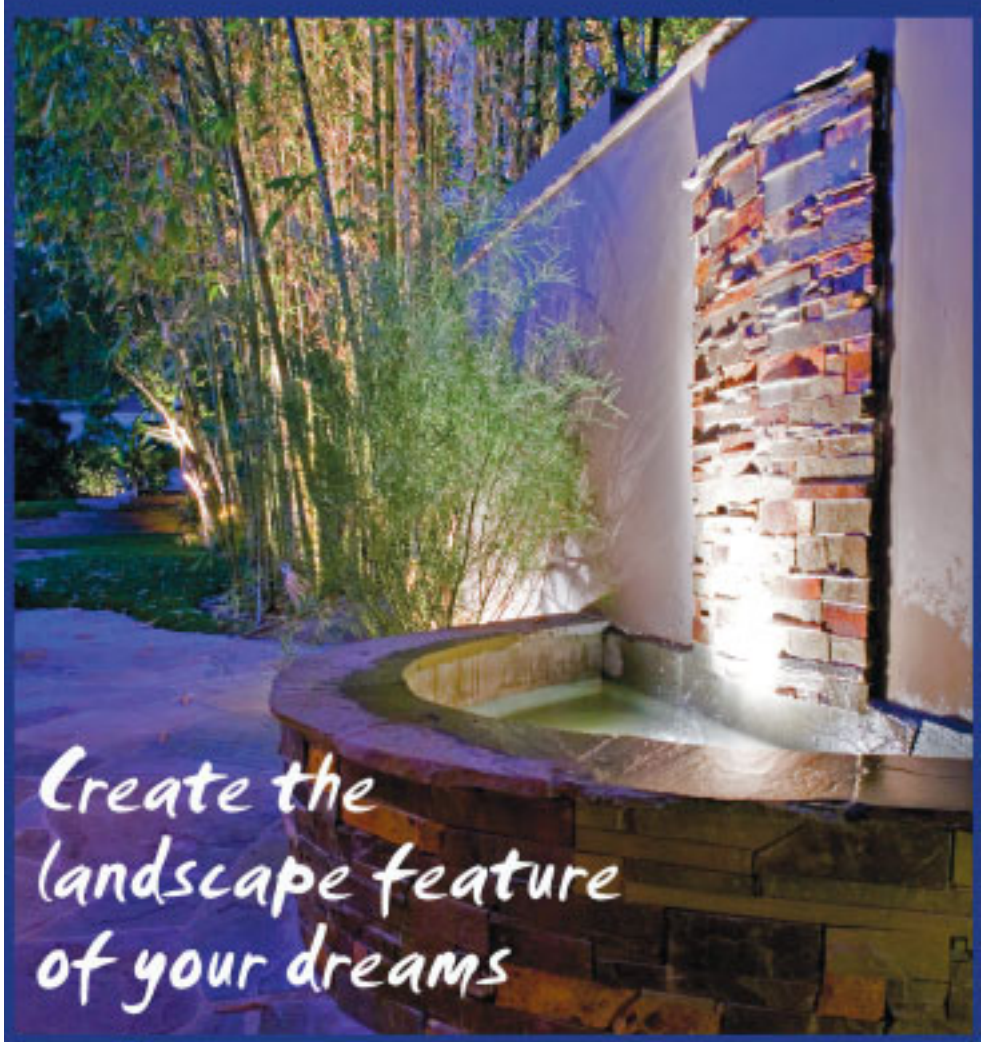
For some residents, it may be too late.

Marty Carlson, a waitress at Bradley's American Bistro in downtown Stockton, said business, along with her tips, has been on the decline for years. She's had enough, she said, and plans on leaving Stockton soon.

"They're (the city) not the only one going bankrupt," Carlson said. "It's time to move on. I'm ready."



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RECOVERY
FROM PAGE 1

the economy picks up. That is a boon for President Obama as he seeks re-election. Polls, including a recent Associated Press-GfK survey, show the Democratic incumbent is beginning to benefit politically from improved views of the economy.

"The economy is getting momentum. Clearly, shoppers are more optimistic about their job prospects," said Amna Asaf, economist at Capital Economics.

But confidence is still below the level of a healthy economy, and trouble could lie ahead. Rising gas prices could sully shoppers' mood and derail the economic recovery. There are also fears about a nuclear showdown with Iran and the festering European debt crisis. Those worries could hurt demand for U.S. imports and make American companies pull back in hiring.

The confidence index is closely watched because consumer spending constitutes 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

The big question mark is the price of gasoline, which Asaf said has climbed 20 cents per gallon since the confidence survey concluded two weeks ago.

The price of gas is a big issue because it has an immediate effect on shoppers' pocketbooks, particularly low- to middle-income households that are already squeezed by higher costs for basics such as food.

The average U.S. price of a gallon of gasoline was $3.69, according to the Lundberg Survey of fuel prices released Sunday.

The Conference Board's Consumer Confidence Index now stands at 70.8, significantly higher than the expected 63. A reading of 90 or above indicates a healthy economy. But the index has not reached that level since December 2007, when the recession began.

Still, Tuesday's numbers were closer to levels that indicate a stable economy than to the danger zone that would suggest trouble.

A year ago, the index rose to 72 as the economic outlook was improving. The February 2011 reading was the highest since before the financial crisis in the fall of 2008. After that, the outlook soured again over the spring and summer.

Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board Consumer Research, hopes the upward trend will have staying power this time.

"Consumers are really feeling like the worst is behind them," she said. "We are finally seeing some traction, and hopefully over the next few months that will prove sustainable."

The index dropped to an all-time low of 25.3 in February 2009. Over the past 12 months, it has been going back and forth from the high 60s to the low 40s on continued worries about the economy.

In fact, confidence fell last October to 40.9, the lowest since March 2009, during the thick of the recession.

The Conference Board survey of consumers, conducted from Feb. 1 through Feb. 15, showed shoppers are feeling better about the job market.

Those anticipating more jobs in the months ahead increased to 18.7 percent from 16.4 percent, while those anticipating fewer jobs declined to 16.9 percent from 19.1 percent.

Shoppers have good reason to feel a little better. The government reported that 243,000 jobs were added in January, pushing down the unemployment rate to 8.3 percent, the lowest in three years. Unemployment has fallen five months in a row for the first time since 1994.

Meanwhile, the four-week average of people seeking unemployment aid fell to the lowest point in four years.

In fact, in response to improving economic data, the Dow Jones industrial average closed above 13,000 on Tuesday for the first time since May 19, 2008, four months before the fall of Lehman Brothers investment bank and the worst of the financial crisis.

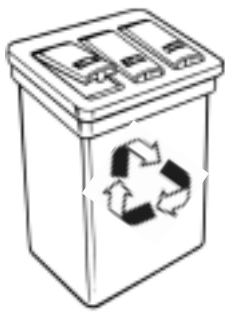
Even the housing market, though still weak, is showing signs of recovery. Home values remain depressed, according to the latest snapshot from a widely followed Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller home price index. But more people signed contracts to buy homes in January than in nearly two years, according to seasonally adjusted figures from the National Association of Realtors.

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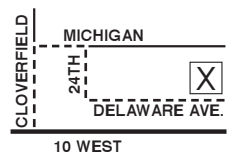
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SURF REPORT



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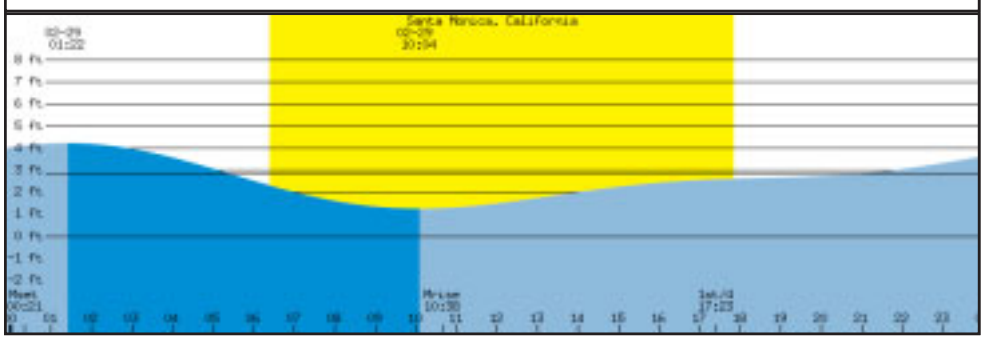
Swell Forecast

Looks smaller, about chest high at west facing breaks with pluses at standouts.

Long Range Synopsis

Next NW swell is due with chest high surf at most west facing breaks in the early AM, building later in the day to at least head high by sunset. Conditions are questionable as swell builds.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **February 22, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 2
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 3
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 22 / 19
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodbrook Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SBMA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	F	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	C
Solstice Canyon at Ben Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	B
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	F	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	F	B
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	D
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	F
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	D
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	A	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	B
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	B
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CBW jetty).	A+	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	D

LEGEND

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

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

ns – no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MLB

Braun sample collector says he followed protocol

BY BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK The person who collected Ryan Braun's urine sample that tested positive for elevated levels of testosterone said he followed the collection program's protocol.

Dino Laurenzi Jr. issued a statement Tuesday confirming he handled the sample submitted following a playoff game on Oct. 1. He says he has been a collector for Comprehensive Drug Testing since 2005 and has taken more than 600 samples for Major League Baseball's drug-testing program.

"At no point did I tamper in any way with the samples," Laurenzi said.

Laurenzi's name emerged last week after the NL MVP's 50-game suspension was overturned, making Braun the first big leaguer to successfully challenge a drug-related penalty in a grievance.

Laurenzi said he stored Braun's sample in his basement in accordance with CDT's protocol because there was "no FedEx office located within 50 miles of Miller Park that would ship packages that day or Sunday."

Braun, however, has said at least five FedEx locations within 5 miles were open until 9 p.m. and there also was a 24-hour location.

Laurenzi said the operating procedure is to "safeguard" the samples at home until FedEx can ship the sample to the lab.

"There have been other occasions when I have had to store samples in my home for at least one day, all without incident," he said.

Laurenzi added that he had "performed my job duties with integrity and professionalism, and have done so with respect to this matter and all other collections in which I have participated."

He said he issued the statement "to set the record straight."

Braun was not available for comment Tuesday at the Brewers' spring training camp in Phoenix. Asked for reaction to Laurenzi's statement, Milwaukee outfielder Corey Hart declined comment.

Last week, Braun said he was the "victim" of a "fatally flawed" system.

"There are a lot of things that we heard about the collection process, the collector and some other people involved in the process that have been concerning to us," he said. "But as I've dealt with the situation, I know what it's like to be wrongly accused of something, so for me to wrongly accuse somebody wouldn't help."

MLB had no comment, and referred instead to its statement from last week:

"The extremely experienced collector in Mr. Braun's case acted in a professional and appropriate manner. He handled Mr. Braun's sample consistent with instructions issued by our jointly retained collection agency," it said.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The Trouble With The Truth (R) 1hr 36min
7:30pm
Discussion following with director Jim Hemphill and actress Lea Thompson.

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

Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:20pm

Safe House (R) 1hr 57min
1:15pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace 3D (PG) 2hrs 11min
1:30pm, 5:00pm, 8:30pm

Rampart (R) 1hr 45min
1:45pm, 7:15pm

Ghost Rider 3D: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13) 1hr 35min
3:55pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

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

Safe House (R) 1hr 57min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) 1hr 34min
11:45am, 5:15pm, 10:30pm

Secret World of Arrietty (Kari-gurashi no Arietti) (G) 1hr 34min
11:25am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Act of Valor (R) 1hr 51min
11:30am, 1:30pm, 2:10pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:00pm

Ghost Rider 3D: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Chronicle (2012/ I) (PG-13) 1hr 23min
11:55am, 2:25pm, 5:00pm, 7:25pm, 9:50pm

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
2:30pm, 8:00pm

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

On the Ice (R) 1hr 36min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Love at First Sight (Liebe auf den ersten Blick) (NR) 1hr 45min
1:00pm, 1:20pm

2012 Oscar Shorts: Documentary
4:20pm

Descendants (R) 1hr 55min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Artist (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Bullhead (R) 2hrs 04min
1:30pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
12:30pm, 3:40pm, 6:45pm, 9:40pm

Wanderlust (R) 1hr 38min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Vow (PG-13) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

This Means War (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
11:15am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:25pm

Gone (PG-13) 1hr 25min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:10pm, 10:30pm

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

Time to get away, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Confusion surrounds an issue. Give yourself time. Unexpected insights will head your way. Tension remains high and causes you to pull back frequently to see what is going on. Tonight: Chatting with a friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You know what is happening. A friend has the ability to mire up the works, which could cause you to shake your head. Use caution, should this person approach you about a financial deal. You know how to say "no" without hurting anyone's feelings. Tonight: Treat a friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Getting grounded could take some work this morning, but you will do it. Surprising news will energize you, and before you know it, you are in your element. You display a certain skill when dealing with the unpredictable. Tonight: All smiles. Why not?

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ Know when to back off and get started on a personal project. Sometimes, interactions with others might give you a jolt. Of all the signs, you display a fine-tuned sensitivity. You also occasionally need to pull away from others. Tonight: Distance yourself from others, just for now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You know when you are in good standing with the universe. Seize the moment to further a long-term desire. Be aware that some people could be shocked, as you seem absorbed in a project they might have known very little about. Tonight: Loving the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You assume the role of leader. Others might be too confused to know what to do. An associate surprises you with his or her brevity and insight, which leaves you deep in thought. Tension could build if you lose your focus. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for someone at a distance who means a lot to you. What you hear demonstrates what your imagination can create. A close associate or loved one intrigues you with his or her unpredictability. You wonder: What gives? Tonight: Think "vacation" or "mini-trip."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to move in another direction or try something totally different. You could be closer to a child or loved one than you realize. Events in the near future will point to the depth of this person's attachment. Tonight: Just you and another person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Forget about having any say. Someone interjects his or her opinions and kisses up to the boss. You know better, but you have little choice. Let go and play. Make the most of the moment, and take part of the day off. Hook up with a loved one. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Focus on your goals, and get as much done as possible, despite the fact that there is uproar on the home front. By now, you might be getting used to this electrifying energy. Tonight: Squeeze in a stress-buster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You like excitement, and you have it. This energy could surround a loved one or child. On the other hand, it could surround jolting news. Regardless, be sure that this wave of excitement will take you in a new direction. Tonight: Come on, be spontaneous.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could see some wild swings take place financially. Your bank could make a mistake, or you might buy a lottery ticket. Before you decide whether you are lucky, make sure the bank clears the check or the events are real. Tonight: Order in.

Happy birthday

Often, you will say one thing but do another. Others scratch their heads and wonder what might be going on, as you are sending out mixed messages. This tendency could be unique to this year. If you are single, your interactions could reflect this tendency and cause a problem in your dating life. Be more aware of your behavior. If you are attached, the two of you will emphasize your domestic life. Tame the free spirit within! GEMINI can be charming.

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



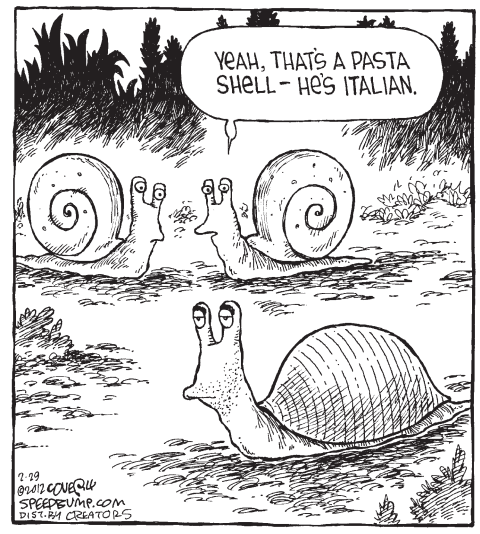
MYSTERY PHOTO

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. Hint: It's on Second Street!

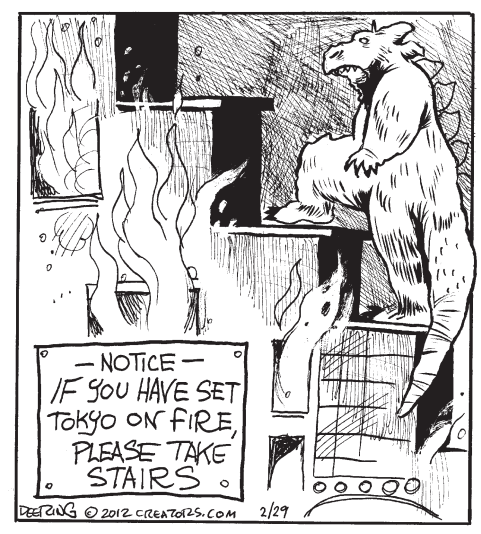
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



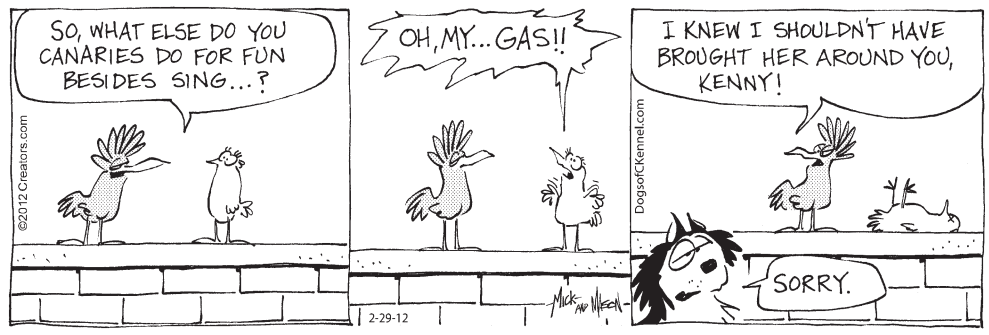
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



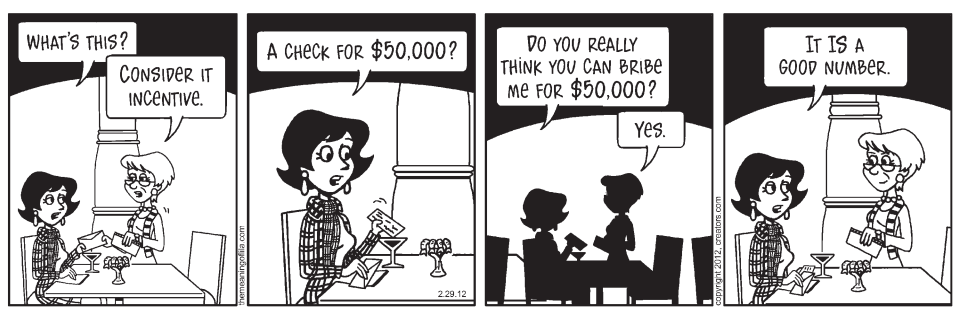
Garfield

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 ★★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Sports summaries
7 Ship pole
11 Ark's resting site
12 Hawaiian port
13 Leather-neck
14 Battery fill
15 Busy
17 Touches lightly
20 Frost creations
23 "Entou-rage" agent
24 Tabloid topic
26 Chest muscle, for short
27 Chum
28 Spanish gold
29 Short socks
31 Tantrum
32 Sword material
33 Hover crafts?
34 Cowboys' home
37 School near Windsor
39 Rever-berated
43 Barn area
44 "The Gift of the Magi" writer
45 Scoop
46 Peaceful

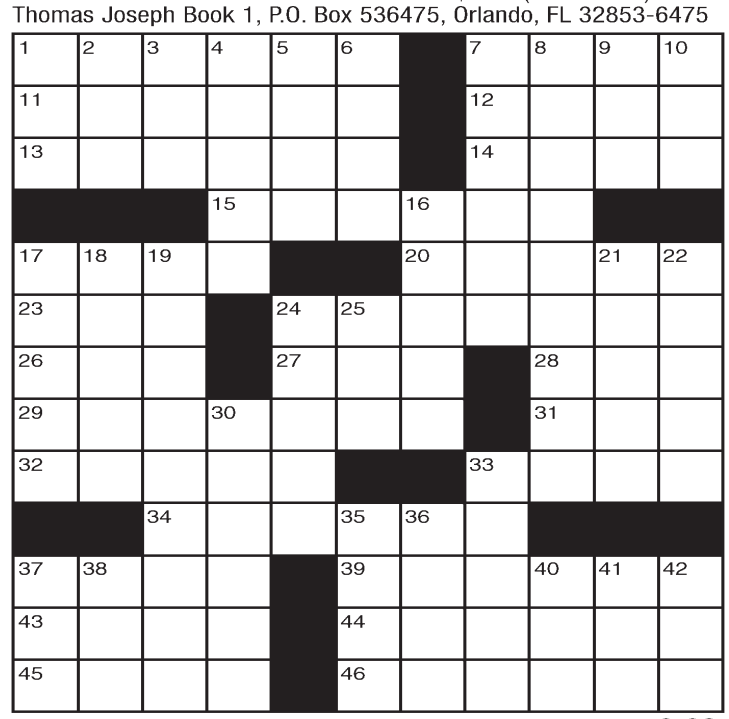
DOWN

1 Zodiac animal
2 Memora-ble period
3 Train unit
4 Sills songs
5 Gasp for air
6 Crockpot contents
7 Stone in films
8 Nabbed, as a base runner
9 Will Smith biopic
10 Curtain holder
16 Milky stones
17 Irene of "Zorba the Greek"
18 "— we all?"
19 Annoyed
21 Tenor Lanza
22 Vegas machines
24 Compete in a bee
25 Mouse chaser
30 Crude shed
33 Aisle worker
35 Some July babies
36 Massage target
37 Yale student
38 Cargo unit
40 Undivided
41 Direction-al suffix
42 Color

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

Yesterday's answer

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2-29

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/24
1 16 18 25 27
Meganumber: 3
Jackpot: $94M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/25
2 8 12 15 22
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/28
4 5 11 26 36

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/28
MIDDAY: 4 2 1
EVENING: 4 8 2

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 2/28
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:48.72

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

■ In February, Kenneth Gunn, of the U.K.'s Scottish Borders Council, decried the budget cutbacks that closed down local offices that had previously posted marriage notices. By making it more difficult for the public to be aware of specific marriages, Gunn feared an inevitable increase in incest. "I am aware in my own ward of brothers sitting beside sisters they do not know in primary school." (The problem is more serious in Iceland, whose 300,000 people are far more self-contained. However, a new website containing genealogical data back 1,200 years is expected to help reduce the risk of incest.)

■ But, Why? (1) Two British designers (who claim they had the idea independently and learned of the other only after they finished) recently produced elegant pieces using parts from a 2012 Ford Focus. Judy Clark made a dress and a biker jacket adorned with car keys, radio and dashboard components, seat covers, a speedometer and red taillights. Katherine Hawkins created a necklace using dials, springs, buttons, seat materials and instrument panel switches. (2) Swiss artist Christoph Buchel has now secured local permits to bury a Boeing 727 38 feet under a patch of California's Mojave Desert, near Bakersfield. Visitors will take a tunnel down in order to tour the 153-foot-long plane.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1864 - American Civil War: Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid fails – plans to free 15,000 Union soldiers being held near Richmond, Virginia are thwarted.

1892 - St. Petersburg, Florida is incorporated.

1916 - Child labor: In South Carolina, the minimum working age for factory, mill, and mine workers is raised from twelve to fourteen years old.

WORD UP!

pettifog \ PET-ee-fog \ , verb;
1. To bicker or quibble over trifles or unimportant matters.
2. To carry on a petty, shifty, or unethical law business.

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

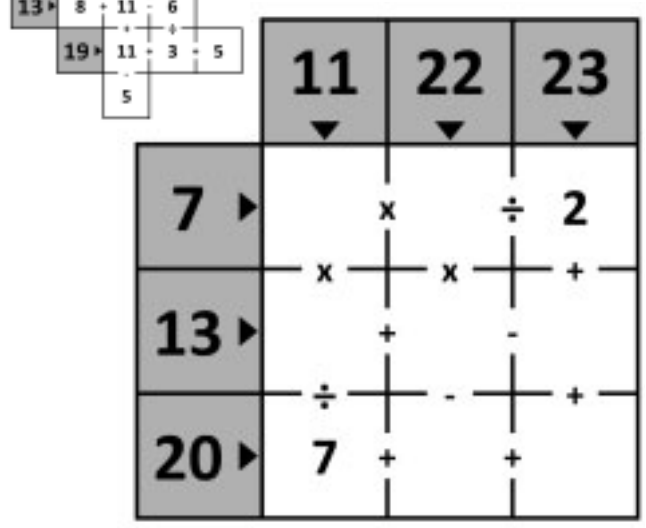
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

2, 2, 7, 10, 11, 11, 12

Solution for Task 585



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Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Late - February 2012

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North of Montana	=	$3,145,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,450,000
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