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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 95



Santa Monica Daily Press

GUN CONTROL DEBATE HEATS UP
SEE PAGE 11

We have you covered

THE **WHERE TO PARK?** ISSUE

Downtown parking changes underway

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Parking for three hours in Downtown Santa Monica and not paying a dime for the privilege is soon to be a thing of the past.

Parking Structure 8, one of the two parking structures attached to Santa Monica Place, was one of the last two City Hall-owned structures where you could pull off the feat. But the lot closed for renovation on Monday, and when it re-opens in four months the plan is to operate the structure like most other public lots, with the first two hours offered for free and an hourly fee charged after that.

Once the renovation is complete City Hall will close Parking Structure 7 at Broadway and Fourth Street to perform the same upgrade, said Don Patterson, City Hall's business and revenues operations manager.

Among those who run business Downtown there's some concern the changes could impact employees who have relied on the lots in the past, moving their cars every three hours to avoid tickets but managing to park for free all day.

At Buddha's Belly, which has a location on Broadway Avenue, general manager Travis Moore said City Hall's decision to change the lots could make getting to work more difficult for some of his employees.

Though many employees ride bikes to work and the kitchen staff receives free bus passes from the company, some front-of-the-house employees are used to taking advantage of structures 7 and 8.

"Once [the parking lot renovation] goes forward I'm not really sure what they're going to do," he said.

But Moore said the restaurant isn't planning to start paying for employee parking.

SEE **PARKING** PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

CLOSED FOR BUSINESS: **Parking structures adjacent to Santa Monica Place will be closed for several months for upgrades. When they reopen there will no longer be three hours of free parking.**

Cyclists fighting for access to cemetery

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

WESTWOOD When he would ride his bike from his Westwood home to the beach in Santa Monica, David Eisenberg, a professor of biological chemistry at UCLA, used to avoid some traffic-congested stretches by taking a shortcut that led him through the Los Angeles National Cemetery.

But since shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, the cemetery has been closed off to bike traffic, he said, forcing riders to take longer, more dangerous routes to travel between Santa Monica and Westwood Village.

Without the shortcut, bike riders have to brave the major streets, which Eisenberg said can be a "death defying experience" because of car traffic around the I-405 on Sunset and Wilshire boulevards.

He said a pathway through land owned by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs adjacent to the cemetery also is often closed to bikes, which further forces riders onto roads that are unfriendly to bicyclists.

"It's a major discouragement to bicycle commuters, and heaven knows we need

SEE **CYCLISTS** PAGE 8

All sides agree to donate Simpson 'acquittal suit'

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SM COURTHOUSE After 13 years of legal battles, O.J. Simpson, his former agent, and Fred Goldman have agreed to donate Simpson's so-called "acquittal suit" to the Smithsonian Institution.

The agreement came Monday during a court hearing after a judge called Simpson at a Nevada prison where he is incarcerated. His lawyer said Simpson's only requirement was no one should profit from the suit, shirt and tie.

Simpson's former agent Mike Gilbert, who has posession of the clothing, came up with the idea of a donation to end years of disputes. He said neither he nor any of the lawyers had contacted the Smithsonian to see if they want it. If not, the agreement says they will designate another museum or institution of higher learning to accept it.

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Rabbits in hats
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Helen Varola, independent curator and co-editor of "Con Art," a book on art and magic, discusses the history and symbolism of one of the world's most recognizable magic tricks — pulling a rabbit out of a hat.
For more information, call (310) 586-6488.

Layla Lane band live
The Edye Second Space
Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center
1310 11th St., 11:15 a.m.
Embracing the rock genre and cutting through it with a vintage edge and a sprinkling of gypsy swing, this exciting band features eclectic singer/songwriter Heday — a former student in SMC's Applied Music Program — and award-winning pianist Valarie Stern.

It's art!
Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Pam Douglas' "The Seekers Series" and Joan Horsfall Young's "Caught in Time" are now on display at Bergamot's TAG Gallery.
Call (310) 829--9556 for more information.

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Farm fresh
Downtown Farmers' Market
Arizona Avenue, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Enjoy one of Santa Monica's Farmers' Markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. Admission is free. For more information call (310) 458-8712.

On display
Emeritus College Art Gallery
1227 Second St., 5 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Come check out photographs taken by students at the Emeritus College. Admission is free. For more information call (310) 434-4306.

Get abstract
PAINT:LAB
2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Learn abstract acrylics with Samantha. Samantha has been captivated and immersed in the arts from a very early age. Her diverse cultural background and love for the arts has contributed immensely to her unique style and visual language, as a fine artist and as a designer. Encompassing traditional with cutting edge, her approach to color and form reflect her skills and influences throughout her life, expanding and always contributing to her extensive resume of accomplishments. Beginners welcome, maximum eight students per workshop. Reservations required. For more information contact (310) 450-9200. Cost: $40.

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

CORRECTION

In the My Write column entitled "The O'Day Santa Monica went on sale," published March 1, it should have stated that Councilmember Kevin McKeown nominated and supported City Council hopeful Ted Winterer, not Terry O'Day. McKeown supported Winterer and then Jennifer Kennedy in the eight rounds of voting.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

Stimulus funds street resurfacing

City Hall plans to resurface more than 6 miles of streets citywide thanks to funds received from the federal government's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, better known as the stimulus package.

The purpose of the $787 billion recovery package is to jump-start the economy to create and save jobs.

City Hall has determined that the paving projects, which include pavement resurfacing, re-striping, and sidewalk, curb, and gutter repairs, will create or save more than 20 jobs. Projects earmarked for funding through the recovery package, especially those involving infrastructure improvements, are expected to contribute to the city's economic growth for many years. The work is expected to be completed in June 2010.

Streets scheduled for improvements include:

- Santa Monica Boulevard from Cloverfield Boulevard to Centinela Avenue;
- San Vicente Boulevard from Ocean Avenue to 7th Street;
- 26th Street from Carlyle Avenue to Montana Avenue;
- Montana Avenue from 17th Street to 26th Street;
- Broadway Avenue from 12th Street to 16th Street, from 20th Street to 21st Street, and from Cloverfield Boulevard to 26th Street;
- Lincoln Boulevard from Colorado Avenue to the I-10 overpass;
- Colorado Avenue from 20th Street to 26th Street;
- Olympic Boulevard from Palm Court to Lincoln Boulevard;
- Ocean Avenue from Pico Boulevard to Hollister Street;
- Ocean Park Boulevard from Lincoln Boulevard to 25th Street;
- Barnard Way from Ocean Park Boulevard to Neilson Way;
- Highland Avenue from Pier Avenue to the south City limits;
- Marine Street from Highland Avenue to Lincoln Boulevard.

The federally-funded projects are being managed by the City Hall's Public Works Department. For more information, visit Public Works' "Know Before You Go" at www.smgov.net/kbug or call the project hotline at (866) 755-7679.

DAILY PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Filling up

Only about 2,000 slots are left for people wishing to enter the March 21 L.A. Marathon, race organizers said Monday.

The race has been capped at 25,000 entrants, and more than 23,000 have already signed up for the race, which will feature a new course.

"In the past, thousands of entries have come in at essentially the last minute," said L.A. Marathon President Russ Pillar. "That will not be possible this year as we have a cap of 25,000 entrants on the new Stadium to the Sea course, and we're more than 90 percent full already."

Anyone who wants to run in this year's race was urged to register right away at www.lamarathon.com.

Runners expecting to register for the race in the final week, or at the marathon's two-day expo prior to race day, will be shut out. Registration is available online at www.lamarathon.com or by telephone at (310) 271-7200. Entry fees remain at $125 for U.S. registrants and $150 for international entrants.

The 25th Honda L.A. Marathon will start just outside of the centerfield fence at Dodger Stadium at 7:20 a.m. Sunday, March 21 with early starts for the wheelchair races and women's elite field at 6:55 a.m. and 7:03 a.m., respectively.

The 26.2-mile race will wind through downtown Los Angeles, then move through Hollywood, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills and the Veterans Administration Healthcare Center grounds in West Los Angeles before finishing in Santa Monica on Ocean Avenue two blocks north of the Santa Monica Pier.

DP

Gasoline prices expected to rise

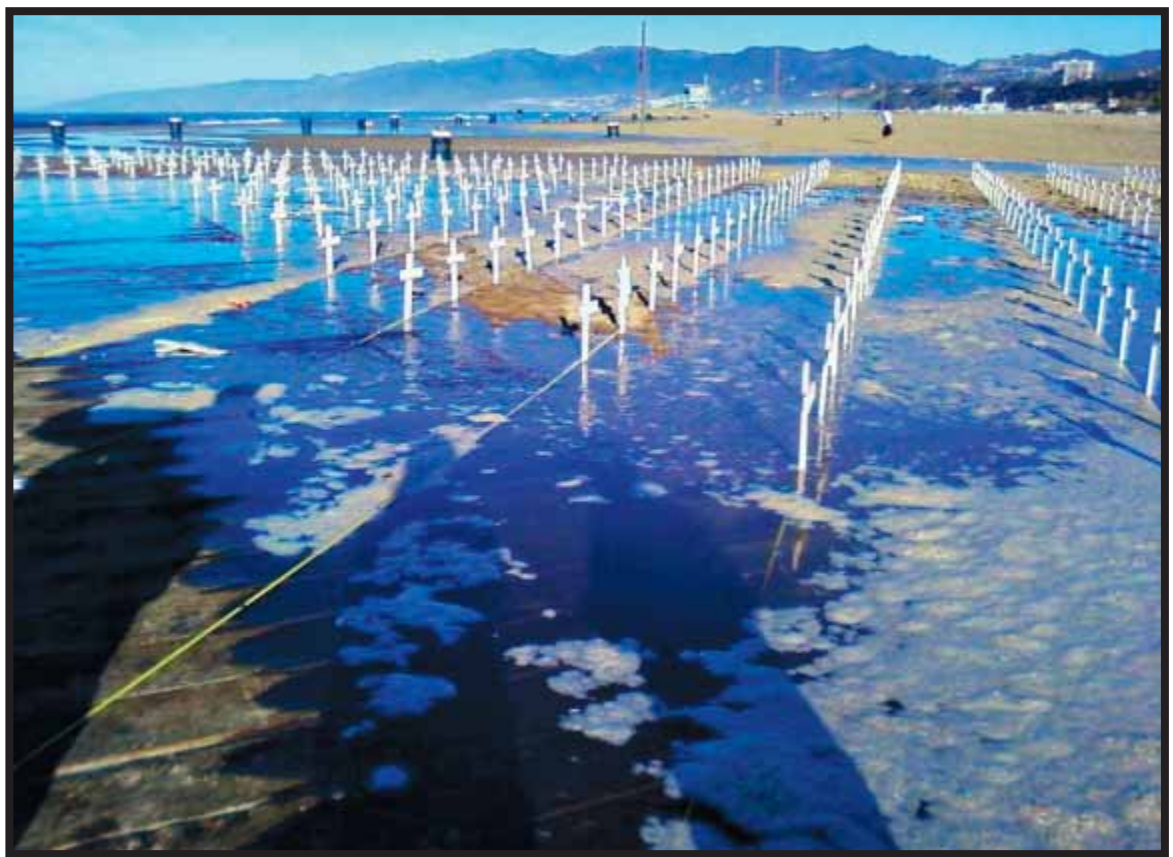
MARK WILLIAMS
AP Energy Writer

It may not make much sense, given that the economy remains weak, but the cost of filling up your car is about to go higher.

Seasonal influences are strong this time of year and account for much of the expected increase that many analysts say will push gasoline to a nationwide average of at least $3 per gallon this spring.

Wholesale prices for the April gasoline contract on the New York Mercantile Exchange are about 10 to 12 cents higher than the March contract that expired Friday. Much of the rise comes from refiners switching to more expensive summer blends of gasoline designed to meet tougher pollution standards in effect between April and September. The higher prices should make their way to the pump over the next few weeks.

SEE **GAS** PAGE 8



DRENCHED

photo courtesy Roxanne Kamii

High surf caused in part by the tsunami created by the massive earthquake in Chile flooded the Arlington West memorial graveyard Sunday. It was the first time the memorial was flooded in its six years in existence. The memorial recognizes those killed in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Banning the use of ocean as a coolant

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES State water board regulators are mulling a plan to stop power companies from vacuuming the ocean for water to cool their machinery.

Environmentalists said the practice destroys too much sea life, while utility advocates said the impact is minimal. Banning the practice would cost too much, jeopardize the reliability of the electricity grid and slow the state's transition to clean energy, supporters of the practice said.

Screens prevent larger animals from entering the plants, but fish can die while trapped against these barriers. Anything smaller than the openings in the screens, including millions of tiny fish larvae, can enter the power plants and also die.

SEE **OCEAN** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Out to lunch

Editor:

Is it amateur hour in Santa Monica? Sure looks it. I have never read such a mean spirited and unprofessional rant as written by Meredith Carroll in the Feb. 25 edition of your paper ("An open letter to Bob Costas"). How this woman can carry for an entire column on about Bob Costas' alleged surgical procedures is beyond me. It's no wonder that she's now working for a free newspaper and no longer a "fellow NBC colleague," albeit an NBC page. If Ms. Carroll really has or ever had the journalistic chops she thinks she has, NBC would have kept her as they have Mr. Costas.

You, as the editor, have allowed this small-time nothing to use her entire column to vent some misguided obsession that she obviously has. In so doing you've done the paper no favor. You have allowed her to turn it into a rag. Were you out of town or something, perhaps unconscious? I'm not a rabid Costas fan. It is clear to any viewer, however, that Bob Costas is a professional. He does a very fine job and he obviously knows his stuff. If he's had some procedures done, that's his business. If those procedures can add another 10 years to his career at NBC (even Ms. Carroll can do the math), then good for him.

I found the tone and the content of the entire piece unbelievable and offensive. Mr. Costas and your readership deserve an apology. You may want to think about raising the bar a bit. Hey, you may even want to exercise some editorial control.

I really regret reading such garbage.

Richard Heller
Santa Monica

It's better than nothing

Editor:

For the past few days, no matter where I go in the city, I hear bitter and angry complaints about the latest appointment to the City Council. For the life of me I cannot figure out why.

According to the SMDP article, the day after the appointment, [council appointee Terry] O'Day said: "... but it was fun. ... It was a real expression of participatory democracy." Mr. O'Day must have been referring to the members of the City Council who were able to vote their preference, and not to members of the public, who were denied that privilege. But hey, participatory democracy among council members is better than no democracy at all.

Right?

Dan Jansenson
Santa Monica





Back to Nature

Reese Halter

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Rainforests can offer cures to what ails us

THE BREATHTAKING, LUXURIANT TROPICAL rainforests occupy about 13 percent of Earth's surface. These incredibly complex and diverse ecosystems account for half of the known biological diversity (about 800,000 different species), and conservatively there are at least another 9.2 million species yet to be discovered.

The world's tropical forests can be divided into four major regions. The American tropical forest region includes part of South America, Central America, the Galapagos Islands and the Caribbean. The African tropical forest region encompasses the Zaire Basin, the coastlands of West Africa, the uplands of East Africa and Madagascar. The Indo-Malaysian tropical forest region occupies parts of India, Burma, the Malay Peninsula and many of the southeastern Asian islands. The Australasian tropical forest region spreads over northeast Australia, New Guinea and the adjacent Pacific Islands. Some consider the Hawaiian Islands a smaller fifth region.

There are five types of tropical climates: rainy tropics, monsoonal tropics, wet-and-dry tropics, tropical semi-arid and tropical arid climate. Irrespective of the hemisphere they all occur within 23 degrees of the equator. Most of these forests have rainfall that at least exceeds 79 inches.

Rainforests significantly influence rainfall. About 75 percent of rainfall evaporates directly or via the trees, and provides most of the moisture for cloud formation and rain further inland. Deforestation near the coast breaks this cycle and denies rainfall to inland tropical forests.

The complexity of millions of organisms interacting in tropical rainforests can perhaps only be matched by that of underwater life in some coral reefs.

Tropical rainforests contain big, tall trees, some in excess of 230 feet with flaring buttresses and a bizarre array of aerial roots.

Canopies are rich with life: woody climbers resemble elaborate scaffolds; stranglers surround the trunks of trees; liverworts (leafy-looking moss-like plants) over-grow leaf blades; orchids grow in the crown humus; ants feed from flowers; bees and other insects including ants pollinate flowers; birds and bats disseminate seeds, rodents feed on fruits and leopards prey on small mammals.

Most tropical soils are extremely low in nutrients. How are they able to support such rich plant life? Ants, in large part, greatly assist in helping to break down leaves, twigs, fallen trunks and dead animals, thereby recycling nutrients which are immediately taken-up by tree roots.

When tropical forests are removed the soils cannot support luxuriant growth.

The natural occurrence of fire in tropical rainforests can occur from lightning and along the edges of lava flows and from hot ash from active volcanoes. The natural frequency of fires in tropical rainforests is rare. Usually rainforests are saturated and fire does not spread far. However, the fierce El Nino of 1998 brought extreme drought conditions to Southeast Asian forests which enabled massive fire to decimate 24,957,646 acres of forestland.

Why are tropical rainforests so rich with so many different plant and animal species? These forests contain an awesome potential for new forms of life to develop or a process known as speciation.

New species arise from isolated populations. These new species result from either a successful mutation or recombination of existing genes that have adapted to a change in the physical environment.

Is there a higher rate of successful mutations in the tropics? Yes. Why? The levels of ultra-violet-B radiation (from the sun) are naturally the highest at the equator and within the range of the tropical forest regions compared to all other forest types on Earth. And ultra-violet radiation (which promotes cataracts and skin caner in humans) also promotes plant mutations and hence the rate of tropical speciation is greater than anywhere else on the globe.

Speciation increases diversity and steps-up natural selection which results in the progress of evolution.

Tropical forests also contain a cornucopia of potent medicines to combat cardiovascular and neurological diseases and cancers. In addition, drugs like quinine from the South American cinchona tree fight malaria; vincristine and vinblastine from the Madagascar rose periwinkle offer hope to those afflicted with pediatric leukemia and Hodgkin's disease; active ingredients in Central and South American dart-poison frogs fight cardiac arrhythmias, Alzheimer's disease, myasthenia gravis and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Tropical forests are being felled at an astounding rate — a thousand times greater than those which occur naturally — approximately 55,000 square miles a year. This is equivalent to the area of Switzerland and the Netherlands combined or to the size of a football field that is lost senselessly every second of each day of the year.

Each year we are losing at least 27,000 unknown species with unknown medicinal potentials. Currently, 25 percent of all medicines are derived from tropical plants and animals.

As climate change unfolds, scientists have predicted more, and more intense, wild weather around the globe. The incidences of diseases will skyrocket. The loss of biological diversity from tropical rainforests will impede researchers from finding cures to those diseases.

Tropical rainforest ecosystems must be protected, if not for us then certainly for our children.

DR. REESE HALTER is a conservation biologist at Cal Lutheran University, founder of the international conservation institute Global Forest Science. His most recent book is "The Incomparable Honeybee and the Economics of Pollination." Follow him at twitter.com/DrReeseHalter.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The duplicitous diva goes down

THE CALL CAME IN ON FRIDAY, AT 3:30 P.M. of course. His employer was still not clear on whether or not to terminate the alimony that we had fought so hard to end. It was a client who I had taken a great liking to. He'd been ordered to pay alimony of $2,800 a month for seven years, or until his ex-wife, (who I refer to as "The Evil One") remarried, cohabitated with a man, or died.

Granted, there was a scenario that he was probably hoping for, but what he got was an ex who moved out of state, forwarded all of her mail to a P.O. box, and used a cell phone.

We knew she had to be living with man, but wanted to keep the alimony coming, which is why she went to such great lengths to hide her real whereabouts. Her own daughters were kept in the dark about her home address, which was smart on her part, because her daughters liked their stepfather, my client, more than their own mother.

Knowing that someone is living with their boyfriend and proving it are two very different things. I told my client that we had to hire a private investigator to get enough evidence to show a court the truth.

Men are funny. Even after all that The Evil One had done to my client, and there was a lot, and even after she's been taking money from him that she's not entitled to, he was still hesitant about playing hardball with her. But when I pointed out the remaining $140,000, in after tax dollars, he was going to have to pay her would put him in a new house, he was a bit more amenable to intensifying the battle.

I interviewed a couple of private investigators in her state, and finally decided on one who I could get a hold of at all hours of the day and night. We started with the basics of home address, new boyfriend's name and a background check on him.

Turned out that this new guy had an ex-wife of his own. And a nasty, vicious, knockdown, drag out custody battle. It's amazing how much animosity people create, which is a mistake because the animosity makes people do stupid things that come back to haunt them.

Once we knew there was a vicious battle, we had to get the transcripts of the court hearings to find out what was said. Lo and behold, The Evil One was a witness.

Some days you get incriminating evidence just served up to you. As I read through the transcripts, she testifies, under oath, that she is not only living with the new boyfriend, but that in fact they are married. I quickly read through his testimony, and he states the same thing.

Game over. My guy just won $140,000.

So I file a motion to get the spousal support terminated. You'd think that she would agree at this point, as I have her sworn testimony that she's remarried. You'd be wrong.

She filed in court, under penalty of perjury, a declaration that says she's not married, and not living with the new boyfriend. She didn't recall testifying that she was married evidently.

WHEN I SAW A MOTHER CHOOSE TO FIGHT FOR MONEY THAT SHE IS NOT ENTITLED TO, AND FORCE HER OWN DAUGHTER TO TESTIFY AGAINST HER, I SAW TRUE EVIL.

When we get in front of the judge, she looks at the lawyer for The Evil One, and says, "So your client is either lying in Michigan, or she's lying in California, either way she's a liar." Oops. I would never want to be that lawyer.

On the day of the hearing, The Evil One shows up in court, looking every inch the runway Diva, with 4-inch spike heels, perfectly coifed hair and manicured nails. She claims to be disabled. By contrast, her own daughter, who has come to testify against her mother, is in a wheelchair due to her neurological disorder that the government does not recognize as a disability.

It was one of the saddest situations I've seen in quite awhile. When I saw a mother choose to fight for money that she is not entitled to, and force her own daughter to testify against her, I saw true evil.

By stepping up the game, hiring an investigator and tracking down some prior testimony, we were able to stop the injustice of deception.

But this illustrates two points. One, like your momma told you, lying is wrong (her lies cost her $140,000). And two, you have to play hardball sometimes. My client would still be buying his ex-wife a house; instead, he gets to buy himself one.

DAVID PISARRA is a divorce attorney who specializes in father's rights and men's issues with the firm of Pisarra & Grist in Santa Monica. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

The Q Line

Leading the council

Now that Terry O'Day has been selected to fill the late Mayor Ken Genser's seat on the City Council, the next order of business for the governing body is to appoint a new mayor.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Who should be the next mayor, and why?

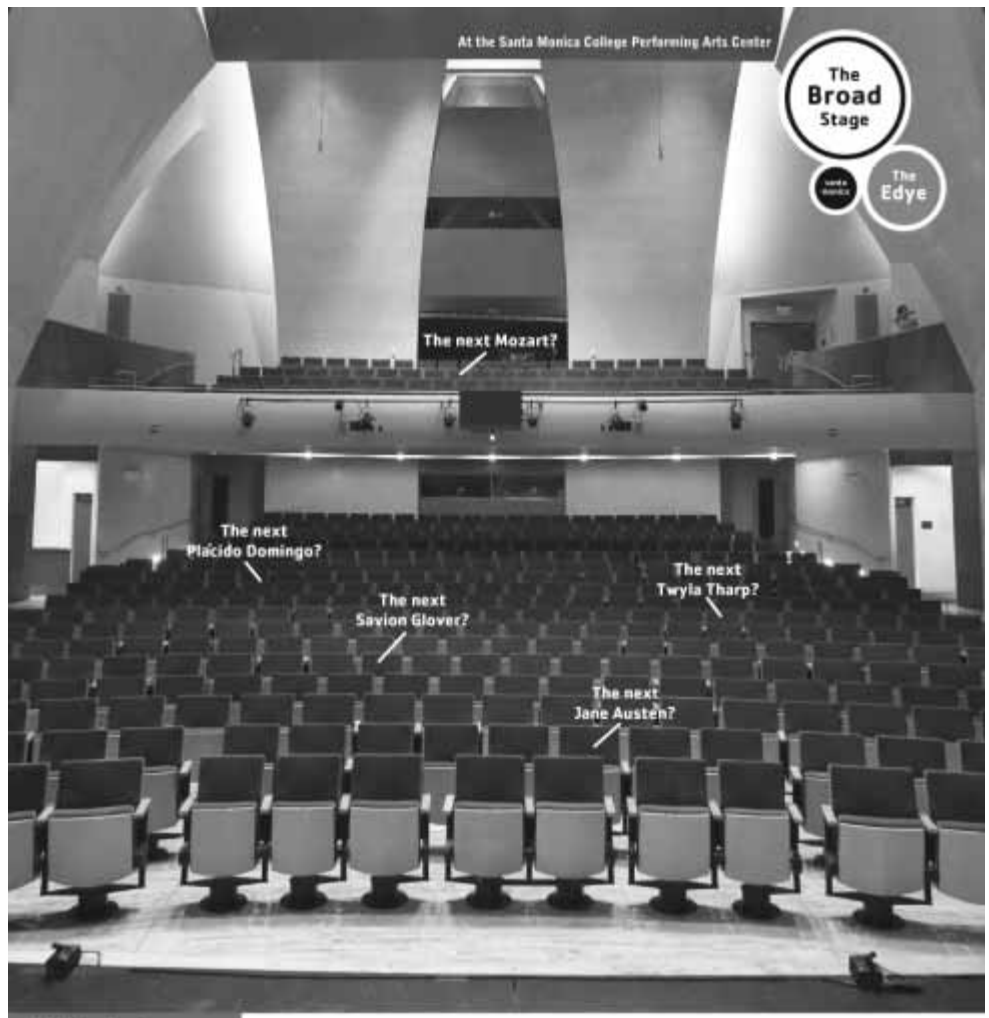
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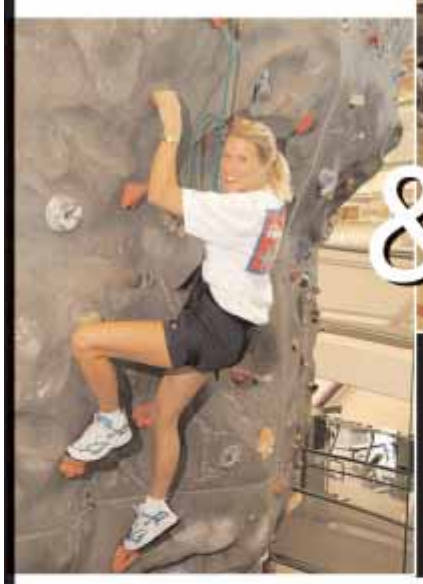


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Mommie Brain

Rachel Zients Schinderman
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Walking a mile in his shoes

I WENT TO GUATEMALA TWO YEARS AGO TO study at a writer's workshop. The host encouraged us to pack a second bag of shoes for the local children. I did as she asked and was thrilled to help. One by one the children came up to where the shoes were spread out and, with many others waiting behind and no time to try them on, they picked a single pair. Some went for appropriate — sneakers looking to be the right size. Others, mostly the little girls, grabbed the sparkly "there's no place like home" shoes. One little girl even took my old ballet slippers.

In a pile of shoes that had come from all over were my son's blue sneakers with corduroy trim. I don't remember if anyone grabbed them. They were for a baby, so perhaps someone took them for a younger sibling. But I took a picture of his shoes sitting on the ledge in this small lakefront village. I needed to know his shoes, which normally are such a source of anxiety for me, were doing good work.

Those were the last shoes I bought for him with such ease.

Even before Benjamin could walk, his physical therapist had been suggesting he needed orthotics. Now, I wear orthotics in my sneakers, but these are not like those. These are braces that go up his legs to his knees, like Forrest Gump. I fought it at first, postponing it until it was what was needed.

I pouted and was probably (OK definitely) a little rude to the guy as they fitted the molds. I soon realized this was actually happening and pouting would do us no good. So once Benjamin stopped crying from being restrained, I realized I needed to invest in this with care. So we decided they should be two different shades of blue, with matching straps with dinosaurs.

I was assured that shoes would fit over them easily (read: I could hide them). And so when they arrived we raced down to the cool sneaker store on Main Street to get the blue Vans I had been eyeing for a while in the window.

But no amount of coaxing or size increasing would work. The braces have treads on the bottom with two big straps across the front of the foot, getting shoes to fit over them is a science. And I left the cool sneaker store, as I would four or five other shoe stores, dejected and feeling sorry for myself, for my son.

Feeling sorry for your son is a dreadful place to be. He seemed perfectly happy though. Other than those first few months where we battled each time we put his braces on, he settled into them. Eventually they just became a part of him, of his routine. And because they had treads on them he went out only in his braces.

I would still dress him in long pants looking to hide them as much as possible. Occasionally someone would even compliment his cool dinosaur sandals. And then, as most life lessons go, I realized that I did not want him to think that there was anything to be ashamed of. And so, if it were hot, I put him in shorts. Judgments be damned.

But still I dreamed of shoes, not in the Carrie Bradshaw way, but in noticing the shoes of other kids. I do not desire cool heels for myself, but rather I'd give everything to be able to buy New Balance special edition Oscar the Grouch sneakers. Being able to give to your child, to provide, feels good. And this most basic provision, shoes, did not fill me with glee, but with dread. And his braces served as a constant reminder of the struggles that he faced and the battles we didn't ask to conquer.

But conquering he was.

Eventually he got strong enough and his braces were cut down from his knees to his ankles. We found knowledgeable staff at Harry Harris Shoes and were able to get shoes to fit over them so that when it was cold out his feet were protected. And then joy of joys, just last month, his doctor determined he did not need the big braces anymore, just the ones that slip into his shoes, like the ones in my sneakers. I was overjoyed and excited for him to be getting stronger and rushed out to the shoe store to buy any and all shoes he so desired.

But he didn't want any other shoes. I had been letting him wear his cool blue Converse without orthotics while his new ones were being made and he got used to it. When the new ones arrived, more tears and hysterics.

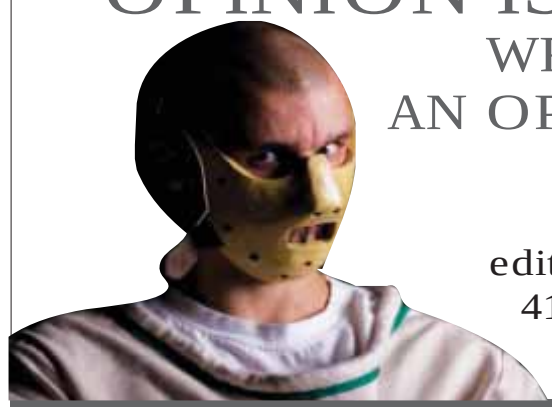
Each day is a struggle, but we'll get there as we have with each hurdle.

I need to buck up. I know it is just a shoe and that not everybody has shoes or has access to the same medical care. I know that when I take him down to Children's Hospital to have them fitted that we are extremely lucky, if not beyond blessed, to only be there for that.

But sometimes all you want for your child is to be able to step up to a ledge full of choices and choose something that captures the imagination, that fills them with belief to step out confidently into the world, something not restricted by disability. Even something as simple as a shoe.

RACHEL ZIENTS SCHINDERMAN lives in Santa Monica. She can be reached at Rachel@mommiebrain.com.

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Fighting juvenile diabetes with vitamin D

BY DR. CEDRIC GARLAND

With 15,000 new cases diagnosed each year in the U.S., juvenile Type 1 diabetes is a significant health problem, a silent killer of sorts. In fact, Type 1 diabetes is the second most common chronic disease in kids today, second only to asthma.

While Type 2 diabetes tops headlines as the nation struggles with the obesity epidemic, Type 1 diabetes shouldn't be taken too lightly. I recently co-authored a medical study where we found that children who live in areas with higher sun exposure — a vitamin D source — were 80 percent less likely to develop this chronic disease than those who live in areas with low sun exposure. This disease can lead to severe problems like blindness, kidney failure, and heart trouble. No child should have to go through this.

Winter is the time when vitamin D levels are the lowest. Sadly, it's also when the sun plays a game of hide-and-seek. That's why we need to find alternative ways of getting this vital nutrient on a daily basis through sun exposure when possible as well as through vitamin D rich foods like milk and supplementation. This winter, I am cooperating with GOT MILK? on an educational campaign meant to inform parents and families of this urgent health concern.

The easiest solution is the sun! Kids want to go out and play anyway, so let them out to catch some rays for about 10 to 15 minutes a day. If your children have limited access to sun, one way to increase their intake is milk. Like with the sun, vitamin D is present in milk (100IU per glass). It is also available all year around.

Also, keep in mind that vitamin D intake is just as important for adults as it is for kids. According to studies, about two-thirds of Americans are vitamin D deficient, so moms and dads should also follow these tips:

• Outdoor play: The sun can be your friend, not to mention the easiest, most fun way to obtain vitamin D. Experts suggest children go outside and play for 10 to 15 minutes a day between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Limit unprotected sun exposure to that time period. Afterward, rely on clothing for sun protection or a clay-based sunscreen.

• Got milk?: Milk is a natural source of vitamin D, plus it has calcium perfect for building strong bones, muscles and teeth. It is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics that children get at least 1000 mg of calcium daily, which is the equivalent of three cups of milk.

• Eat right: Some food options are rich in vitamin D, making it easy to keep up with the daily requirements. Some brands of yogurt may contain vitamin D and some fatty fishes contain it.

• Regular check-ups: Get your vitamin D levels checked annually. Ask your doctor for the 25-hydroxyvitamin D test, also called a 25(OH)D. Getting tested is the only way to determine if you're deficient. Vitamin D levels are usually lowest in March. Tests are also available through www.grassrootshealth.org.

• Watch out for supplements: While supplements are readily available in stores, not all supplements are created equal. Vitamin D3, or cholecalciferol, is the most effective form of vitamin D supplement. Almost all milk contains vitamin D3. Check the label.

For more information on getting the most of your calcium and vitamin D, visit www.gotmilk.com.

Dr. Cedric Garland is a professor at the University of California, San Diego, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine and co-author of the study titled, "The Association Between Ultraviolet B Irradiance, Vitamin D Status and Incidence Rates of Type 1 Diabetes in 51 Regions Worldwide," which was published in the journal Diabetologia.

Obama seeks interventions to stem dropouts

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON President Barack Obama on Monday addressed the nation's school dropout epidemic, proposing $900 million to states and school districts that agree to drastically change or even shutter their worst performing schools.

Obama's move comes as many schools continue to struggle to get children to graduation, a profound problem in a rich, powerful nation. Only about 70 percent of entering high school freshmen go on to graduate. The problem affects blacks and Latinos at particularly high rates.

Obama said the crisis hurts individual kids and the nation as a whole, shattering dreams and undermining an already poor economy.

The president's plan would seek to help 5,000 of the nation's lowest-performing schools over the next five years.

"In this kind of knowledge economy, giving up on your education and dropping out of school means not only giving up on your future, but it's also giving up on your family's future," Obama said. "It's giving up on your country."

Obama has been using federal money as leverage to push schools to raise standards and get more children ready for college or work. It is a task that former President George W. Bush and Congress, along with many leaders before them, have long taken on, but the challenge is steep.

Obama's 2011 budget proposal includes $900 million for School Turnaround Grants. That money is in addition to $3.5 billion to help low-performing schools that was included in last year's economic stimulus bill.

To get a share of the new money, states and school districts must adopt one of four approaches to fix their struggling schools:

—Turnaround Model: The school district must replace the principal and at least half of the school staff, adopt a new governance structure for the school, and implement a new or revised instructional program. In his remarks, Obama said a Rhode Island school that recently fired all its teachers is an example of how there needs to be accountability.

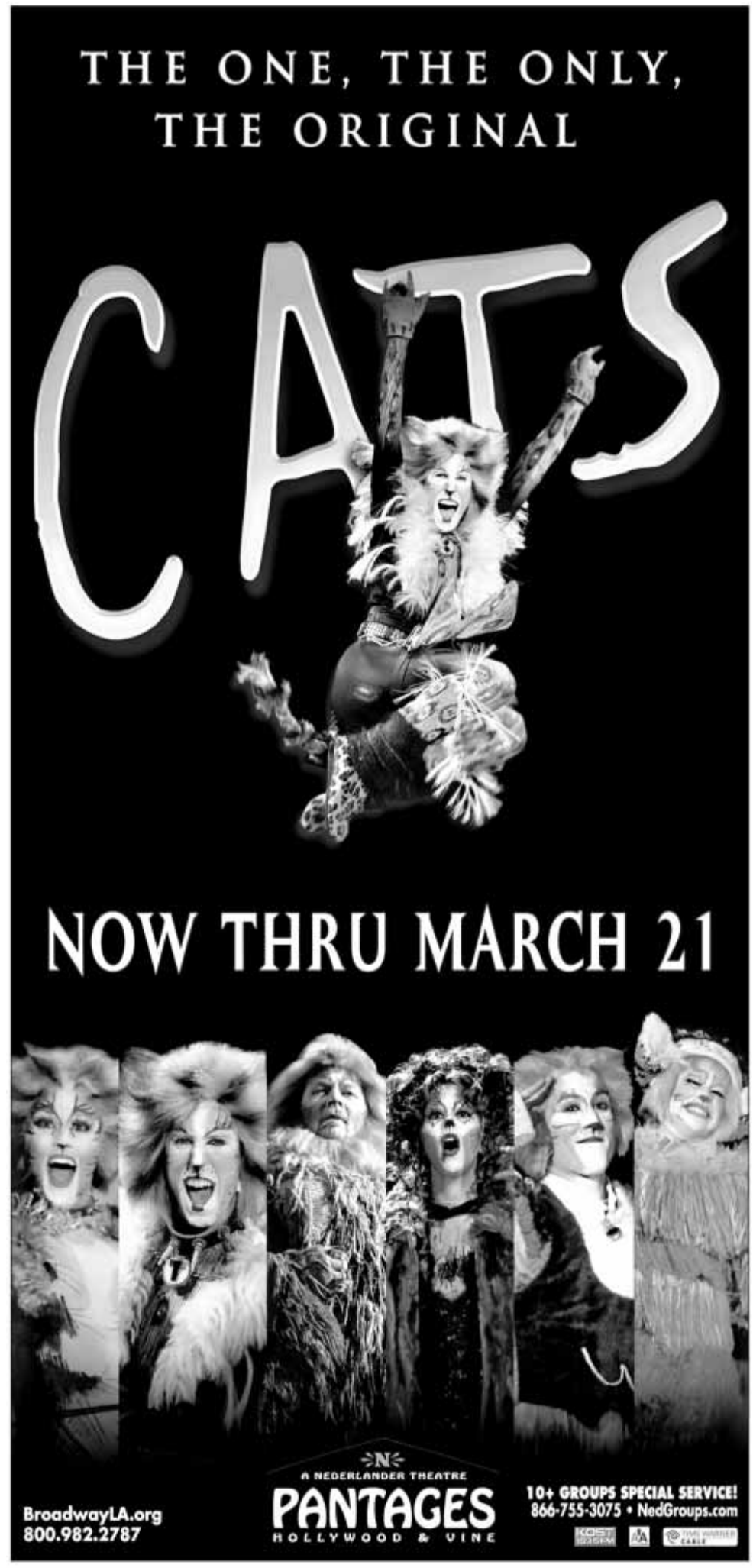
—Restart Model: The school district must close and reopen the school under the management of a charter school operator, a charter management organization or an educational management organization. A restarted school would be required to enroll, within the grades it serves, former students who wish to attend.

—School Closure: The school district must close the failing school and enroll the students in other, higher-achieving schools in the district.

—Transformational Model: The school must address four areas, including teacher effectiveness, instruction, learning and teacher planning time, and operational flexibility.

The administration also is putting $50 million into dropout prevention strategies, including personalized and individual instruction and support to keep students engaged in learning, and using data to identify students at risk of failure and help them with the transition to high school and college.













Bicyclists deny riding in cemetery shows disrespect

FROM CYCLISTS PAGE 1

more people to ride their bikes," he said.

Eisenberg is among a group of Westside bicyclists that supports restoring bike access to the cemetery but has met with opposition from the VA.

Mary Jones, the VA's cemetery representative in Los Angeles, said bikes are barred from entering the cemetery because regulations prohibit using the grounds for recreational activities.

"The issue was not 9/11, the issue is the fact that it's a national cemetery and not a park," she said.

"I think it's a common sense issue. We have burials, we have families here that are in mourning," she said, and riding a bike through the graveyard is "just simply disrespectful."

UCLA Bicycle Academy founder Michael Cahn, a bicycle activist who is leading the charge to re-open the cemetery, denies there's anything offensive about allowing bike traffic to cross the cemetery grounds.

"I think it would be disrespectful to have recreational and sports activities in a cemetery," he said, but allowing commuters to take a safer route to reach their homes or jobs shouldn't be confused with permitting recreational use.

Cahn, a Santa Monica resident who lectures in the history department at UCLA, this month organized a meeting with a staff member from Rep. Henry Waxman's office (D-Beverly Hills), to press his case. Cahn said about 20 bicyclists attended the meeting, which was held at UCLA.

Ted Rogers, a board member of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, is helping promote Cahn's effort. He said it's "absurd" to think bicyclists would denigrate the cemetery.

"Ninety-nine percent of the people who would use that route would use it for transportation rather than recreation," he said.

While riding his bike past the cemetery Rogers said he's noticed funeral proceedings taking place and stopped to pay his silent respects — something he said people driving cars aren't likely to do.

> **IT'S A MAJOR DISCOURAGEMENT TO BICYCLE COMMUTERS, AND HEAVEN KNOWS WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO RIDE THEIR BIKES."**
>
> **David Eisenberg,**
> UCLA professor and bicycle rider

Convincing the VA to change its stance, though, is sure to be a difficult task.

Waxman will review Cahn's research but will not take a position on the issue because of its sensitivity, said Karen Lightfoot, a spokeswoman for the congressman. She said previous efforts to increase access to the cemetery riled some veterans groups, who wanted to preserve the sanctity of the environment.

For his part, Cahn countered that allowing bicyclists access to the cemetery could even improve its tranquility by reducing vehicle traffic in the area, thereby reducing noise and pollution. He said he's drafting a letter he hopes to present to the secretary of the VA arguing his case.

In Los Angeles, at least one military veteran who is also a bicycle enthusiast isn't convinced by Cahn's claims.

Michael Lindley, the president of the Los Angeles chapter of the group Veterans for Peace and an avid bike rider, said he favors keeping the cemetery off limits to bicyclists.

"It's a place of honor and it's a place of rest and it should stay that way, I really think," he said.

nickt@smdp.com

Miles driven last year well below '04 level

FROM GAS PAGE 3

At $3 per gallon, a typical motorist using 50 gallons of gasoline would pay about $150 per month for fuel. That is about $15 a month more than current prices. A family with one car is spending about 4 percent of its income on fuel currently, according to Oil Price Information Service.

The higher prices come at a time when most Americans' incomes are stagnant. Incomes edged up 0.1 percent in January, below analysts' estimates, according to the Commerce Department.

Gasoline prices were flat overnight, rising 0.1 cents Monday to a national average of $2.705 per gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and OPIS.

Prices have moved higher the past two weeks, approaching the 2010 high of $2.7583 per gallon set on Jan. 14. In the past week prices climbed 5.7 cents and are now 78.4 cents higher than year ago levels.

The Energy Information Administration will release figures on nationwide retail gasoline prices later Monday.

Prices have been going up even though the economy remains weak and demand for fuel is tepid.

The total number of miles driven in the U.S. last year was about flat with 2008 and below 2004 levels for the second year in a row, according to the Federal Highway Administration.

Crude oil prices are more than twice what they were a year ago when the U.S. was mired in the Great Recession. Investors look for global demand to pick up as the economy improves, especially in China and other developing countries.

Oil prices got to $80.62 a barrel Monday on the NYMEX before falling back to settle at $78.70, down 96 cents. The $80 level has been tough for oil to crack. It has reached the mark time and again over the past several months only to fall back again.

A stronger dollar also was a drag on oil Monday. Oil is traded in dollars on global markets and becomes more expensive for international investors who hold other currencies.

In other Nymex trading in April contracts, heating oil fell 1.18 cents to settle at $2.0235 a gallon, and gasoline lost 3.23 cents to settle at $2.1556 a gallon. Natural gas lost 13.4 cents to settle at $4.679 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent crude dropped 70 cents to settle at $76.89 on the ICE futures exchange.

Parking changes coming for employees, shoppers

FROM **PARKING** PAGE 1

"We try to do our part with the bus passes, really for our staff and the community as well," he said.

At the Bayside District Corp., CEO Kathleen Rawson said work to mitigate the impacts of parking changes on employees remains a priority.

She said her organization is working on a plan that will be tailored to "off-peak" employees who mainly work in the evenings and on weekends. The idea, she said, is to create an arrangement with private parking lot owners to provide parking spaces to these employees at a discounted rate.

Off-peak parking spaces in private garages, she said, often sit empty.

"This is an asset that they have that is currently underutilized," she said.

Another aspect of Bayside's effort is to present City Hall with a plan to give employees access to cheaper parking spaces that are located further from the main shopping areas. She said no details about how much employees would be asked to pay for the less desirable spaces are yet available. The hope, though, is to improve parking availability for shoppers, who would presumably have an easier time finding spaces next to stores, and employees who could save money by parking a bit further from work, she said.

Other businesses located on Broadway said they weren't concerned about the planned parking changes.

At Broadway Deli, for example, General Manager Marc Zeidler said he's not expecting the change to have a big impact on his staff because about 80 percent of the restaurant's employees take public transportation to get to work.

> **"THE OTHER GOOD THING ABOUT THAT IS YOU WON'T GET PARKING TICKETS ANYMORE."**
>
> **Bob Aptaker,**
> Vice president of development for Macerich Co.

"It may be more of them will use public transportation but I don't think it will really affect [us] that much," he said.

Bob Aptaker, the vice president of development for Macerich Co., the company that is developing Santa Monica Place, which is set to open this summer, said the newly renovated lots will feature nicer stairwells and elevators as well as artwork and better lighting. The result will be a "seamless experience between the garages and Santa Monica Place," he said.

While employees won't be able to get three hours free parking anymore, he said the change isn't without benefit.

"The other good thing about that is you won't get parking tickets anymore," he said.

nickt@smdp.com

Utilities say changes too expensive

FROM **OCEAN** PAGE 3

Federal rules ban new operations from drawing in seawater for so-called "once-through" cooling systems. State regulators now want to apply this rule to the 19 existing plants from Eureka to San Diego.

The board's proposal would give owners a dozen years to comply and contains special provisions for nuclear-plant safety issues. In most cases, plants would have to replace seawater pipes with massive cooling towers that recycle water or use air-cooling platforms.

Environmental groups support the proposal, but utilities said it would force expensive retrofits or shut down plants.

The combined cost for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, PG&E and Southern California Edison, for example, would surpass $8.5 billion, they said.

Interim DWP Chief S. David Freeman said his utility's $1 billion tab to comply is about what they planned to spend on switching from coal to wind and solar sources.

"I am working hard on issues that I think everyone would agree are far more important than some minor impact on the fisheries," Freeman said.

Environmentalists aren't moved.

Tom Ford of the environmental group Santa Monica Baykeeper said power plants are responsible for "the unnecessary sterilization and death of coastal waters."

Southern California Edison carried out $400 million in mitigation at its San Onofre nuclear plant. That included constructing an artificial reef after the plant damaged kelp fields.

PG&E's Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant has warmed the waters around it so much that, ecologically, it now resembles "a Mexican sea," said Gregor Cailliet, an emeritus professor and fish expert at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.





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AP IMPACT: Drug gangs taking over US public lands

ALICIA A. CALDWELL & MANUEL VALDES
Associated Press Writers

SEQUOIA NATIONAL FOREST, Calif. Not far from Yosemite's waterfalls and in the middle of California's redwood forests, Mexican drug gangs are quietly commandeering U.S. public land to grow millions of marijuana plants and using smuggled immigrants to cultivate them.

Pot has been grown on public lands for decades, but Mexican traffickers have taken it to a whole new level: using armed guards and trip wires to safeguard sprawling plots that in some cases contain tens of thousands of plants offering a potential yield of more than 30 tons of pot a year.

"Just like the Mexicans took over the methamphetamine trade, they've gone to mega, monster gardens," said Brent Wood, a supervisor for the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. He said Mexican traffickers have "supersized" the marijuana trade.

Interviews conducted by The Associated Press with law enforcement officials across the country showed that Mexican gangs are largely responsible for a spike in large-scale marijuana farms over the last several years.

Local, state and federal agents found about a million more pot plants each year between 2004 and 2008, and authorities say an estimated 75 percent to 90 percent of the new marijuana farms can be linked to Mexican gangs.

In 2008 alone, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration, police across the country confiscated or destroyed 7.6 million plants from about 20,000 outdoor plots.

Growing marijuana in the U.S. saves traffickers the risk and expense of smuggling their product across the border and allows gangs to produce their crops closer to local markets.

Distribution also becomes less risky. Once the marijuana is harvested and dried on the hidden farms, drug gangs can drive it to major cities, where it is distributed to street dealers and sold along with pot that was grown in Mexico.

About the only risk to the Mexican growers, experts say, is that a stray hiker or hunter could stumble onto a hidden field.

The remote plots are nestled under the cover of thick forest canopies in places such as Sequoia National Park, or hidden high in the rugged-yet-fertile Sierra Nevada Mountains. Others are secretly planted on remote stretches of Texas ranch land.

All of the sites are far from the eyes of law enforcement, where growers can take the time needed to grow far more potent marijuana. Farmers of these fields use illegal fertilizers to help the plants along, and use cloned female plants to reduce the amount of seed in the bud that is dried and eventually sold.

Mexican gang plots can often be distinguished from those of domestic-based growers, who usually cultivate much smaller fields with perhaps 100 plants and no security measures.

Some of the fields tied to the drug gangs have as many as 75,000 plants, each of which can yield at least a pound of pot annually, according to federal data reviewed by the AP.

The Sequoia National Forest in central California is covered in a patchwork of pot fields, most of which are hidden along mountain creeks and streams, far from hiking trails. It's the same situation in the nearby Yosemite, Sequoia and Redwood national parks.

Even if they had the manpower to police the vast wilderness, authorities say terrain and weather conditions often keep them from finding the farms, except accidentally.

Many of the plots are encircled with crude explosives and are patrolled by guards armed with AK-47s who survey the perimeter from the ground and from perches high in the trees.

The farms are growing in sophistication and are increasingly cultivated by illegal immigrants, many of whom have been brought to the U.S. from Michoacan.

Growers once slept among their plants, but many of them now have campsites up to a mile away equipped with separate living and cooking areas.

"It's amazing how they have changed the way they do business," Wood said. "It's their domain."

Drug gangs have also imported marijuana experts and unskilled labor to help find the best land or build irrigation systems, Wood said.

Moyses Mesa Barajas had just arrived in eastern Washington state from the Mexican state of Michoacan when he was approached to work in a pot field. He was taken almost immediately to a massive crop hidden in the Wenatchee National Forest, where he managed the watering of the plants.

He was arrested in 2008 in a raid and sentenced to more than six years in federal prison. Several other men wearing camouflage fled before police could stop them.

"I thought it would be easy," he told the AP in a jailhouse interview. "I didn't think it would be a big crime."

Scott Stewart, vice president for tactical intelligence at Stratfor, a global intelligence company in Austin, Texas, said recruiters look for people who still have family in Mexico, so they can use them as leverage to keep the farmers working — and to keep them quiet.

"If they send Jose from the hometown and Jose rips them off, they are going to go after Jose's family," Stewart said. "It's big money."

When the harvest is complete, investigators say, pot farm workers haul the product in garbage bags to dropoff points that are usually the same places where they get resupplied with food and fuel.

Agents routinely find the discarded remnants of camp life when they discover marijuana fields. It's not uncommon to discover pots and pans, playing cards and books, half-eaten bags of food, and empty beer cans and liquor bottles.

But the growers leave more than litter to worry about. They often use animal poisons that can pollute mountain streams and groundwater meant for legitimate farmers and ranchers.

Because of the tree cover, armed pot farmers can often take aim at law enforcement before agents ever see them.

"They know the terrain better than we do," said Lt. Rick Ko, a drug investigator with the sheriff's office in Fresno, Calif. "Before we even see them, they can shoot us."

In Wisconsin, the number of confiscated plants grew sixfold between 2003 and 2008, to more than 32,000 found in 2008.

Wisconsin agents used to find a few dozen marijuana plants on national forest land. Now they discover hundreds or even thousands.

"If we are getting 40 to 50 percent (of fields), I think we are doing well," said Michigan State Police 1st Lt. Dave Peltomaa. "I really don't think we are close to 50 percent. We don't have the resources."

Chicagoans hope stories will help overturn gun ban

DON BABWIN
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO A couple worries that burglars who tried to break in when the wife was home alone will return. A retiree fears the drug dealers and junkies just outside his window will attempt — again — to steal what he spent a lifetime earning. And a businessman wants to protect himself as he could when he was a police officer.

Together, they are the face of the most serious challenge yet to Chicago's 28-year-old handgun ban.

On Tuesday, the four will take their seats inside the U.S. Supreme Court as their attorneys argue a lawsuit that bears their names: David and Colleen Lawson, Otis McDonald and Adam Orlov.

The four plaintiffs are not stereotypical gun rights advocates. They don't represent the agenda of any national group or organize rallies. Instead they represent average Chicagoans — the kind of people that opponents of the city's ban say should be allowed to protect themselves from gun violence.

"Some people want to stereotype advocates in any case, to make them look like a bunch of crazies," said Alan Gura, a Virginia attorney who will argue the case. "But these are plaintiffs who reflect the city in which they live."

Chicago's ban on the sale and possession of handguns has been weathering legal challenges for years. But it gained newfound attention after the Supreme Court in 2008 struck down a similar handgun ban in the District of Columbia. The court now plans to decide whether the ruling on D.C., a city with unique federal status, should apply to local and state laws, too.

The lead plaintiffs in the Chicago suit decided to fight the city's gun ban for different reasons.

For the Lawsons, it stemmed from a scare in 2006, when Colleen Lawson was home alone with the flu and three men tried to jimmy open her back door. They ran off when they saw her through a window.

"That's how close they were to getting in," said Lawson, 51.

The Lawsons believe a handgun would allow them to protect their family and give them the kind of peace of mind Colleen Lawson had as a child, when she knew her grandmother kept a pistol in her apron.

"I knew without any doubt my grandmother would be able protect us," she said. "I can't say that to my children."

Seventy-six-year-old McDonald knows the feeling.

He came to Chicago from Louisiana when he was 17, as part of the Great Migration of blacks. He worked his way up from a janitor to a maintenance engineer, a good job that allowed him and his wife to buy a house on the city's far South Side in 1972, where they raised their family.

In recent years, McDonald, now a grandfather, has watched the neighborhood deteriorate, the quiet nights he once enjoyed replaced by the sound of gunfire, drunken fights and shattering liquor bottles.

Three times, he says, his house has been broken into — once the front door was wide open and the burglars still out front when his wife and daughter came home from church. A few years ago, he called police to report gunfire, only to be confronted by a man who told him he'd heard about that call and threatened to kill him.

"I just got the feeling that I'm on my own," said McDonald. "The fact is that so many people my age have worked hard all their life, getting a nice place for themselves to live in ... and having one (handgun) would make us feel a lot more comfortable."

Orlov didn't grow up with guns and doesn't hunt. But his four years as a police officer only underscored his belief that people hurt by the city's handgun ban are those obeying it.

"The law only prohibits the actions of those who are law-abiding," said Orlov, 40. "The more law-abiding the more likely you are to be vulnerable to the activities of criminals."

The Lawsons and Orlov reached out to Gura after reading that he was representing a man in the case challenging the Washington, D.C. ban, and all three went to the Supreme Court to watch oral arguments in that case.

Otis was put in touch with Gura after driving 200 miles to the Illinois capital, Springfield, for a gun-rights rally — a last resort, he said, after decades of attending neighborhood watch meetings only to see nothing change.

Mayor Richard Daley said Monday that he was confident Chicago would prevail and stressed that cities and states should be able to decide how best to protect their citizens.

"We have the right for health and safety to pass reasonable laws dealing with the protection and health of the people of the city of Chicago," Daley said.

It's uncertain whether the plaintiffs' involvement in the case will help their cause.

"The Supreme Court decides issues, it does not decide for or against particular people," said Benna Ruth Solomon, deputy corporation counsel in Chicago's law department's appeals division.

Even so, the four Chicagoans are part of the case for a reason.

Selecting sympathetic plaintiffs is certainly is "an effective communications strategy to show the public that many people who support gun rights and guns are not kooks," said Adam Samaha, who teaches constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School.

And it might help sway the justices, too.

For one thing, Samaha said, while the stories of the individual plaintiffs would not be relevant if justices' questions only centered on the original intent behind the right to bear arms and equal protections. But they might be important if the questions turned to how today's courts enforce such rights.

The four are not the only plaintiffs — the Second Amendment Foundation, an anti-gun control group, and the Illinois State Rifle Association are also named — but they are the face of the case.

Had the National Rifle Association been the lead plaintiff, the lawsuit would be about a pro-gun rights group that wants to "use the courts to achieve some policy victory," Samaha said.

"Better to have Otis than the NRA," said Samaha said.

Gura said the lives of his clients are — and should be — an important part of the case.

"The right to have guns for self-defense is vitally important to a broad range of people, and the plaintiffs in this case reflect that reality. ... Otis and Colleen's experiences demonstrate that crime in Chicago is not a theoretical concept," he said.

Parents say doctors hastened death for dying kids

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO It's a situation too agonizing to contemplate — a child dying and in pain. Now a small but provocative study suggests that doctors may be giving fatal morphine doses to a few children dying of cancer, to end their suffering at their parents' request.

A handful of parents told researchers that they had asked doctors to hasten their children's deaths — and that doctors complied, using high doses of the powerful painkiller.

The lead author of the study and several other physicians said they doubt doctors are engaged in active mercy killing. Instead, they speculate the parents interviewed for the study mistakenly believed that doctors had followed their wishes.

A more likely scenario is that doctors increased morphine doses to ease pain, and that the children's subsequent deaths were only coincidental, said lead author Dr. Joanne Wolfe, a palliative pain specialist at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Children's Hospital in Boston.

The American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics and most other mainstream doctor groups oppose mercy-killing but say withholding life-prolonging treatment for dying patients can be ethical.

Dr. Douglas Diekema, a medical ethicist at Seattle Children's Hospital, said the study results are not surprising.

"I have no doubt that in a small number of cases, some physicians might cooperate with a parent's desire to see a child's suffering ended. This might include giving a drug for sedation or pain control that also suppresses the drive to breathe.

"Most physicians don't intentionally push that drug to the point of stopping a child's breathing, but some may be comfortable not intervening if a child stops breathing in the course of treating him or her for discomfort," Diekema said.

The study was published Monday in the March edition of Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine. It was based on interviews with parents of 141 children who had died of cancer and were treated at three hospitals, in Boston and Minnesota.

Among parents studied, one in eight, or 13 percent, said they had considered asking about ending their child's life, and 9 percent said they had that discussion with caregivers. Parents of five children said they had explicitly requested euthanasia for their dying children, and parents of three said it had been carried out, with morphine.

"If there was absolutely no other option, and the patient is suffering, then why wouldn't you" hasten death? said David Reilly, a Boston-area man whose 5-year-old son died of cancer 11 years ago.

Reilly was not part of the study, but Wolfe, the study author, treated his son. The boy had soft-tissue tumors that threatened to spread to his throat and choke him.

"I remember thinking what a horrible, horrible way to go," Reilly said. He recalls asking Wolfe if his son began to suffer, "'Can we just get it over with quickly?'" Wolfe told him no.

Wolfe said in an interview that euthanasia "is going beyond a moral stance that I hold for myself in terms of controlling when a person dies."

She said she could not comment when asked if she knew of any cases occurring at her hospitals, which both were involved in the study.

The third hospital was Children's Hospitals and Clinics of St. Paul, Minn. Dr. Susan Sencer, a cancer specialist there who did not take part in the study, said in a text message that doctors will often tell parents this when dying children are suffering: "'To alleviate pain and suffering we may need to increase the narcotics; increasing the narcotics may result in respiratory depression, which may hasten death,' so that they are aware of the trade-off."

Wolfe said the study highlights the challenges of treating dying children: Parents cannot tolerate seeing their children suffer and do not know about all the legal options for pain relief, which can include sedating children into unconsciousness. Also, many doctors are uncomfortable discussing such issues.

Dr. Melanie Brown, a palliative care specialist at the University of Chicago's Comer Children's Hospital, said she's never had parents ask her to end their child's life, but the general topic has come up.

She said when parents mention the idea, "What they're talking about is ending the pain."

Learning ahead of time about options other than euthanasia can help make these deaths more comfortable for children and their parents, she said.

Dr. Walter Robinson, an ethicist and associate pediatrics professor at Vanderbilt University, said many doctors lack expertise in treating dying children's pain, and many also worry about using opiates including morphine to treat children's pain because there's an unreasonable fear of addiction.

"The lesson we should learn from the paper is the need for expert pain control. That ought to be available in every children's hospital and to every child with a life-limiting illness," Robinson said.

Paying off Madoff victims upheld

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK The victims of Bernard Madoff's massive swindle are only owed the money they invested with his firm and not the $64.8 billion reflected on fictitious statements, a Manhattan bankruptcy judge ruled Monday.

The written decision by U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Burton Lifland rejected the victims' arguments that they had legitimate claims based on "securities positions" listed in final Nov. 30, 2008 statements. It upheld a "net equity" formula being used by a trustee overseeing the liquidation and distribution of Madoff's assets.

Records from Madoff's defunct firm "expose a Ponzi scheme where no securities were ever ordered, paid for or acquired," the judge wrote. "Because securities positions are in fact nonexistent, the trustee cannot discharge claims upon the false premise that customers' securities positions are what the account statements purport them to be."

Madoff, 71, was sentenced last year to 150 years in prison for orchestrating an epic scheme that wiped out life savings and entire charities. He admitted that he never made investments, and instead used new investors' money to pay returns to existing ones.

In his ruling, the judge said the trustee's "net equity" formula for processing more than 12,000 claims was the fairest approach.

"Equality is achieved in this case by employing the trustee's method, which looks solely to deposits and withdrawals that in reality occurred," he wrote. "To the extent possible, principal will rightly be returned to net losers rather than unjustly rewarded to net winners under the guise of profits."



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58°

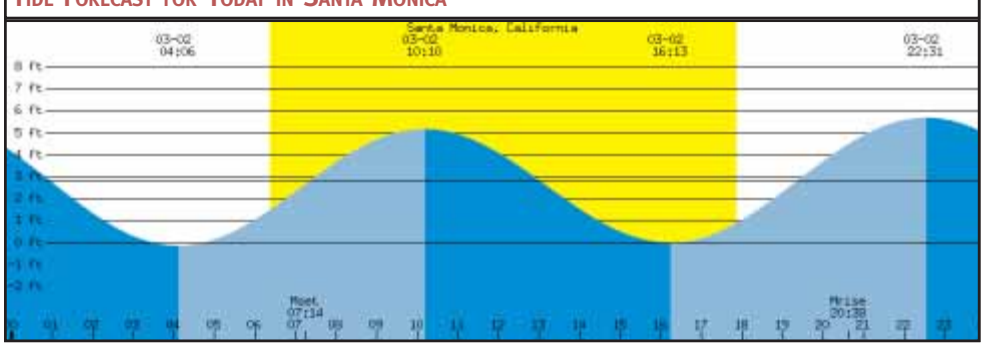
Swell Forecast

Steep angled NW swell should back down to around chest high max for west facing breaks. Winds should be lightly offshore for a good part of the day.

Long Range Synopsis

End of week looks very small as well.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



MLB

Willits say he'll do his best wherever he's needed

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEMPE, Ariz. He'd never admit it, but Reggie Willits might have cringed a bit when the Angels went outside the organization to acquire outfielders Gary Matthews Jr., Torii Hunter, Bobby Abreu and Hideki Matsui over the past three years.

In trying to keep up with the Steinbrenners, the Angels have never been shy about spending money through free agency. But in acquiring those players, Willits was shoved, not only to the side, but to the minors.

Since a breakthrough rookie season in 2007 when he finished fourth in the American League in the Rookie of the Year voting, Willits has racked up 271 at bats at Triple-A Salt Lake and 188 with the big club.

"In 07, I got an opportunity and was fortunate to do well with that opportunity," said Willits, who hit .293 with an on-base percentage of .391 and stole 27 bases over 136 games that season.

And even though the Angels are currently looking for a leadoff hitter to replace Chone Figgins, Willits won't be considered because he plays in an outfield that has Juan Rivera in left, Hunter in center and Abreu in right with Matsui as the designated hitter.

"They've signed some free agent outfielders since that and that's something I can't control," said Willits, 28. "I think I'd be lying if I said I liked sitting the bench. Everybody in baseball wants to play. If we didn't want to play, they wouldn't want us on their roster.

"I want to play, but there is also a sense in me that I understand my role. I'm never going to complain about that role and I'm happy to have a job and whatever role they put me in I'm going to try my best to be good at that role."

Willits likely would have gotten considerably more playing time elsewhere around the majors.

"I probably would have gotten a lot of playing time but I wouldn't have been in the playoffs every year," said Willits, whose speed and defense made Angels manager Mike Scioscia place him on the playoff roster the past three seasons. "That's something that's worth a lot. That's something I've been able to experience. I've been in the playoffs three years here."

This season, Willits has a few more variables to be optimistic about. For starters, Matthews has been shipped out to New York with the Mets. He's also heard that the leadoff man and speed figure to come more into play in the seasons to come.

"I think in the role that I've been put in recent years, which is playing all three outfield positions, in playing and coming off the bench and running and bunting, stuff like that will keep you around," Willits said. "If you can stick around, you won't know when that opportunity might come up again.

"My mindset is always the same, it's to make the team. Once you get on the team then roles get determined."

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 23, 2010**

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 -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 17
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 19
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / 27

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

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.	A+	C
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	A+	A+
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.	F	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	C
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A+	A
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	D
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (branch location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A
Big Rock Beach at 18948 PCH stairs.	A+	F
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	B	A
Topanga Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	D
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	F
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).	C	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	C
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	C
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+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	D
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	C
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	D	D
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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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NBA

O'Neal has surgery to repair injured thumb

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio Cleveland Cavaliers center Shaquille O'Neal had surgery on his injured right thumb Monday and seems likely to miss the rest of the regular season.

If he gets back for the playoffs, though, O'Neal is promising to make up for his time out.

O'Neal will miss about eight weeks, the team said. He was examined Sunday by specialist Dr. Thomas Graham at the National Hand Center in Baltimore, who performed the surgery Monday morning.

"He feels like he let us down, but we understand injuries happen in the game," said teammate Jamario Moon, who got a text from the star center along with the other Cavs. "I think he's really down about being out. ... He let us know it's time to continue playing basketball and he's going to be all right."

The recovery timeline means O'Neal, who turns 38 on Saturday, may not be ready for the start of the playoffs April 17. The Cavaliers acquired him last summer with an eye toward the postseason, after Dwight Howard and Orlando eliminated them in the Eastern Conference finals.

Cleveland enters its game Monday against the Knicks leading Orlando by six games for the best record in the East. Should the Cavaliers and Magic retain the top two seeds, they wouldn't meet until the Eastern Conference finals, which begin in mid-May.

"Will be out for a min but when I return it is on," O'Neal posted on his Twitter account Monday morning. "Win da ring for da king! Luv my team, Cavs baby!"

O'Neal has played well for the Cavaliers, averaging 12 points and 6.7 rebounds in 53 games. He injured the thumb Thursday at Boston when his shot was blocked by Glen "Big Baby" Davis with just over 7 minutes left in the first half.

Cavs general manager Danny Ferry said O'Neal will wear a splint for the next two weeks, then begin his rehab.

"Our guys have done a very good job of stepping up this season. We are confident they will do the same in this situation," Ferry said. "We are fortunate to have some depth in our front court that can keep us moving forward while Shaq recovers and returns to play for the postseason."

Anderson Varejao will continue to start at center for Cleveland, which has the NBA's best record at 44-16. J.J. Hickson and Leon Powe, who recently returned from knee surgery, are also options.

Former backup Zydrunas Ilgauskas, traded to Washington for Antawn Jamison, is now a free agent following a buyout by the Wizards. Ilgauskas is free to sign with any team, but will have to wait another couple of weeks under NBA rules should he elect to re-sign with the Cavaliers.

Cleveland has battled injuries and personnel losses all season.

Point guard Mo Williams recently returned after missing 11 games with an injured shoulder and guard Delonte West bounced in and out of the rotation early because of personal reasons. Powe debuted last week after recovering from knee surgery last summer.

"There's nothing we can do about it," coach Mike Brown said. "It's happened all year. Hopefully someone will step up and fill the void and we'll just keep moving forward."

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Cop Out (R) 1hr 50min
1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

From Paris With Love (R) 1hr 35min
2:00, 7:20

The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG-13) 2hr 2min
4:30, 9:40

Shutter Island (R) 2hr 18min
3:15, 6:30, 9:35

Up in the Air (R) 1hr 49min
1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Avatar 3D (PG-13) 2hr 40 min
2:15, 6:00, 9:30

Cop Out (R) 1hr 50min
2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

The Wolfman (R) 1hr 42min
2:20, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50

Shutter Island (R) 1hr 35min
1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:15, 7:15, 8:30, 10:15

Dear John - Digital Presentation (PG-13) 1hr 48min
1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35

The Crazies (R) 1hr 41min
1:15, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

An Education (PG13) 1hr 55min
1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00

Crazy Heart (R) 2hr 07min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Ajami (NR) 2hr 15min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

The Ghost Writer (PG-13) 2hr 23min
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

The Blind Side (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
12:40, 3:50, 6:40, 9:40

The Good Guy (R) 1hr 30min
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG) 2 hrs
12:50, 1:50, 3:40, 4:30, 6:20, 7:20, 9:00, 10:00

Valentine's Day (PG-13) 1hr 57min
12:10, 1:00, 3:10, 4:05, 6:10, 7:00, 9:10, 10:10

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

Libra, it's your call to make

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You could be overly concerned about others. The problem lies in that key people might not be open or know what they want. Finding a resolution could be close to impossible. Don't allow someone to exacerbate a problem. Tonight: Say "yes."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Weigh the pros and cons of changing courses. You cannot understand at this point why there is not another route. Could you be blocking your own thinking? See where your bias comes in. Tonight: Relax, but squeeze in some exercise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Tap into your ingenuity. Talk to people you see as creative, dynamic thinkers. A brainstorming session could help find solutions or lay the seeds of another course. Don't sign off on an idea if you feel uncomfortable. Tonight: Incorporate some fun.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You might feel uncomfortable dealing with a personal matter. No matter what you do, even at work, the issue keeps rising up. You might wonder which is the best way to go. Be sensitive to your own needs. Tonight: Head home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep talks moving. You might want to rethink a conversation with someone who could be touchy and difficult. Despite your seeming confidence, you could feel uncomfortable dealing with several people. Tonight: Hang out.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Be aware of a need to be more possessive than normal. You want to take a risk. Finding supporters or participants could be a lot harder than you anticipated. Slow down. Maybe the obstacles are warning signs. Tonight: Your treat. Decide if you want to treat someone else, or if you want to go off and just treat yourself!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Others find you to be unusually somber or difficult. No one can identify with the pressure you might be experiencing. You also could choose to lighten up and not worry so much. Tonight: You make the call.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ Take your time in a meeting, especially if someone is pushing for a response or an answer. Get into your work or a project. Do research; check out your options. Know that you are best off closing the door and accomplishing a lot. Tonight: Vanish if you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You could be frustrated by a money matter. Try as you might, you could have difficulty getting the situation more to your liking. Perhaps letting go and worrying less would work. Tonight: Where the action is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ More is weighing on your shoulders than you might be comfortable with. Could you be causing yourself a bigger problem because of a rigid attitude? Think about another approach, especially if it works better. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be more frustrated than necessary. Are you creating your own obstacles? Knowing when to pull back and do something very differently could help. Try to find a new path or do something very differently. Tonight: Surf the Net.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Clearly, your attempt to influence another person could be frustrating. What you believed was a given and agreed upon just might not be. Try to extract yourself from a disagreement or conflict. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

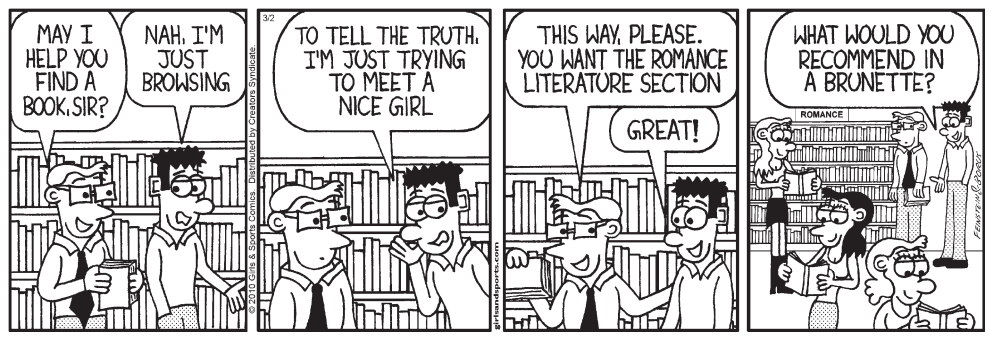
Happy birthday

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

This year, focus on what works both for you and for others. You might notice that what was suggested in a meeting and/or among friends might not work. Learn to look at problems directly and find the unusual solution. Lady Luck is with you as you enter a new 11-year cycle. Count on yourself. You will be much happier as a result. Bone up on your listening and communication skills. If you are single, you will want a close relationship. You are also likely to meet several different suitors. Please have fun choosing "the one." If you are attached, defer to your sweetie more often. LIBRA helps you focus on basics.

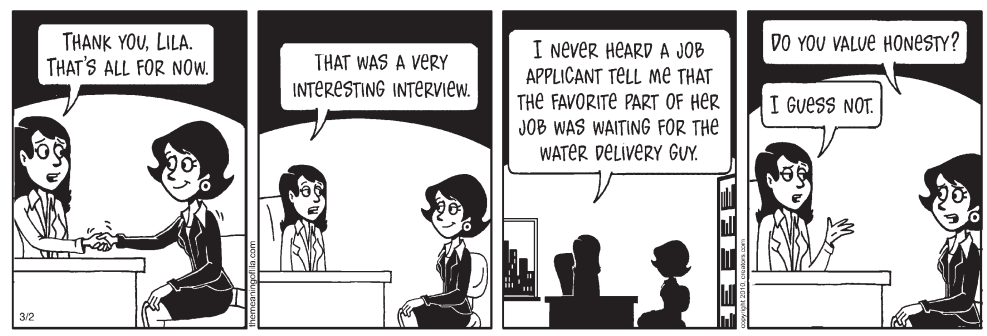
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Your Trusted Source
Adult Day Services
For more brain boosting activities, check out our Adult Day Service Center.
• Free preview day with lunch!
• Memory jogging exercises
• Fun entertainment
• Support resources
WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 452-7802
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Santa Monica, CA

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

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Hint: It's on Wilshire Boulevard. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Ballet leaps
6 Letter stroke
11 Kind of acids
12 Madrid museum
13 Light jacket
15 Messy room
16 Violinist's need
17 Stop fasting
18 Hamper
20 Oscar or Tony
23 Seedy bars
27 Went cycling
28 Dossier
29 Fragrant wood
31 Olympics symbol
32 Syrup choice
34 Hedwig, for one
37 Flower visitor
38 Take to the slopes
41 Negotiations killer
44 Mr. Scratch
45 Brashness
46 Digging tool
47 Two-masted boats

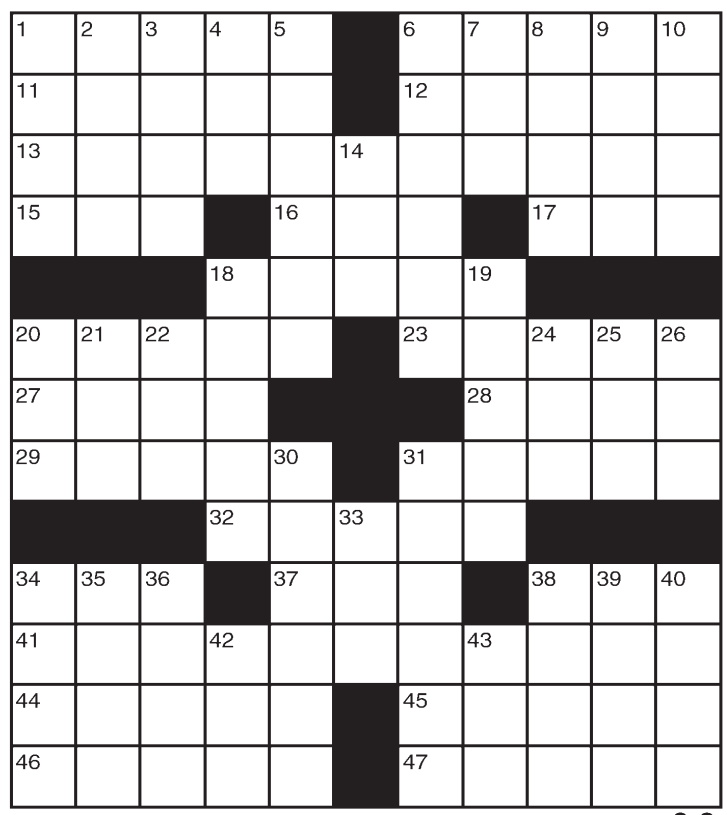
DOWN

1 Spielberg movie
2 Throw off
3 Minute
4 Termination
5 Cried
6 Made like a geyser
7 Historic time
8 Croupier's tool
9 Creative germ
10 Cavalry base
14 Hogwash
18 Night vision?
19 Biathlon need
20 Circle section
21 Misery
22 Put two and two together
24 Through
25 Spreading tree
26 Behold
30 Masses
31 Warm and fluffy
33 Each
34 Casino calculation
35 Cry
36 Hot flow
38 Slant
39 Boat bottom
40 Ticks off
42 Jar part
43 "That's it!"

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

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



3-2

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 14 29 54 56
Meganumber: 40
Jackpot: 112$M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 5 9 14 39 47
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: 14$M

Fantasy 5: 10 18 28 36 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 9 4
EVENING: 6 5 0

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:47.82

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

■ Rathkeale, Ireland, July (Mary on a tree stump). Apia, Samoa, September (Mary on the outside wall of a church). Velyky Berezny, Ukraine, September (Jesus on the outside wall of a factory). Ravena, N.Y., September (Jesus in a coffee stain on a mason jar). Bishopville, S.C., October (Jesus on a kitchen curtain). Southampton, England, November (Jesus in a flatbread at an Indian restaurant). Methuen, Mass., November (Jesus in a stain on the bottom of an iron). Florissant, Mo., December (Jesus on a splotch in a sink). Jonesborough, Tenn., November (Jesus, morning after morning, in window condensation on a pickup truck). (Apparently, only the three foreign sightings have drawn significant pilgrimage to the sites.)

■ Least Competent Circus Knife-Thrower: News of the Weird reported twice on staffing problems of British circus knife-thrower Jayde Hanson. One assistant walked off the job in 2001 after being nearly hit in the foot, which would have been her third wound that season (equaling the number of injuries a previous girlfriend had suffered as Hanson's assistant before she quit the year before). In April 2003, Hanson was performing with his new girlfriend, Yana Rodianova, 22, live on Britain's "This Morning" television show, displaying his world-record form as a speed knife-thrower, when one knife hit Rodianova in the head, drawing blood.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1939 Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli is elected Pope and takes the name Pius XII.

1941 World War II: First German military units enter Bulgaria after it joined the Axis Pact.

1943 World War II: Battle of the Bismarck Sea – United States and Australian forces sink Japanese convoy ships.

1946 Ho Chi Minh is elected the President of North Vietnam.

1955 King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia abdicates the throne in favor of his father, King Norodom Suramarit.

WORD UP!

pablum
\PAB-luhm\ , noun;
1.Something (as writing or speech) that is trite, insipid, or simplistic.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Employment

HOUSEKEEPER, LIVE-IN English speaking, required for Malibu Broad Beach home, Mature, experienced, responsible person to provide cooking and cleaning services to small household. Must be able to prove high standard of service, Furnished apartment. Single/married pref. no children, no pets, non-smoking. References required. Salary negotiable Call 310-469-6846

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For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 2 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1225 & up, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$700 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

1248 11TH st.unit A 2bdrm/1 1/2bath, lower carpet stove, blinds, laundry, vinyl flooring, balcony parking, no pets.on site manager $1540.(310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

12746 Pacific Ave. unit 6 1+1 stove, fridge, dishwasher, wall ac, carpet, blinds, laundry,intercom entry, parking, no pets. $1195.move-in special $500 off (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

3206 BAGLEY AVE. 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, dishwasher, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. $1050 $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice 1+1, #29 $1225/mo stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

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(310)869-7901

721 Pacific St. #1 2+1 1/2
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1234 11th St. #11, 2+1,
Hardwood floors, D/W $1895

1214 Idaho Ave. #8, 2+1 1/2
Townhouse, Garage $2350

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rentals@howardmanagement.com

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MV/MDR adj. 1+1, kitchen, stove & refrigerator, large closets, carpets, laundry, parking. $1100 Info (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m.

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1531 – 17TH Street, Apt C
1+1, st, fr, ldry **$1100**
2842-B Exposition Blvd
2+1, st, c-fn, w/d hkp **$1350**
2331 20th St, #4
1+1, remodeled, pkng **$1400**

WEST HOLLYWOOD
8206-C DeLongpre
1+1, st **$1100**

WEST L.A.
11321 Massachusetts, #4
Sgl, st, fr, pkg **$850**
1800 Kelton Ave, #1,5,7
1+1, st, fr, cpt, pkg **$1050**
11321 Massachusetts, #9
1+1, st, fr, pkg **$1050**
1657 Federal Ave, #11
1+1, st, fr, pkg, ln, **$1050**
1920 Manning Ave, #6
2+1 3/4 , st, fr, hdwd **$1450**
1766 Malcolm Ave
2+1, st, fr,cpt, pkg,ln **$1450**
11757 Kiowa, #4 & #7
2+1 3/4, st, dw, pkg, ln **$1900**
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PALMS/BVRLYWD ADJ. $880.00 1 Bdrm, 1Bath, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #10 Open daily 8am-7pm .Additional info in unit

For Rent

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $995 & up (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 2bdrm/1bath, 11461 Washington Place.Unit D, upper, stove, blinds, carpet, laundry, garage parking, no pets $1295 1/moth FREE with year lease (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 3976 Inglewood Blvd.unit 8 $995 & up stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 3976 Inglewood Blvd. Unit 1, 2+2 lower $1295/Mo, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, balcony, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 1 2+2 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1350/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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PALMS 3540 Overland 1+1 unit 5 $875 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $700 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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WLA 1+1 2656 South Barrington Ave. unit 7, $1025. Stove, fridge, dishwasher, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

WLA 1457 Westgate A & E 1+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile , garage parking no pets $1175/mo $700 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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SUMMONS
(Citacion Judicial)
CASE NUMBER SC105750

Notices

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (Aviso Al Demando): JACK DALE RAWNSLEY, an individual; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (Lo Está Demandando El Demandante): CHAKEE PAKHCHANIAN, an individual
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org) the California Courts Online self-help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.
Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales pare presenter una respuesta per escrito en esta code y hacar que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesza per escrito tiene que ester en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar pare su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de bago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumpilmiento y corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, pueda llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpia con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucre en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniendose en cantacto con la corte o el colegio de abagados locales.
The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT - WEST DISTRICT
1725 MAIN STREET
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
CHARLES L. MURRAY III
523 WEST SIXTH ST, SUITE 702
LOS ANGELES, CA 90014
Telephone: (213) 627-5983
Date (Fecha): 11/23/2009
JOHN A. CLARKE, Clerk (Secretario) by J. DENHAM, Deputy (Adjunto)
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$769,000
Front-Facing Townhome
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847 5th Street # 206
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$688,000
N of Wilshire Condo!
Open Sunday March 7th 1:00 - 4:00 pm



1044 19th Street # 5
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$739,000
Townhome N of Wilshire
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1127 10th Street #301
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$899,000
Fab, Top Flr Condo
Open Sunday March 7th 1:00 - 4:00 pm



757 Ocean Avenue #205
Studio, 1 Bath
$399,000
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Open Sunday March 7th 1:00 - 4:00 pm



302 Ashland Ave #102
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For more information call 310-496-3146.

Visit:

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from ALL Agents from ALL Companies Listed for Sale As of Early March 2010

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,395,000	$4,802,500
North of Montana	$3,195,000	$974,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,935,000	$684,000
South of Wilshire	$884,000	$657,000
Sunset Park	$1, 099,000	$595,000
Ocean Park	$1,546,500	$533,500

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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