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Volume 12 Issue 102

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

READY FOR SOME JAZZ?
SEE PAGE 3

THE LOSING AN HOUR ISSUE

Girl Scout childcare project boosts participation in PTA

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY Two years ago, Area Kramarsky would go to Parent Teacher Association meetings at McKinley Elementary School and worry whether or not they would have the requisite 18 members needed for a vote.

The parents of elementary schoolers, had difficulty getting home from work, feeding their children and still marshal enough energy to get back out the door to take an interest in the politics of the school.

"It brings the business of PTA to a standstill," said Kramarsky, president of the McKinley PTA.

These days, parental attendance is through the roof, a fact that Kramarsky credits to the efforts of Girl Scout Troop 8355.

The 11 scouts began offering free babysitting at the PTA meetings in 2011 as part of their bid to win a Silver Award, the highest honor that they can achieve at their level of scouting.

The girls spend two hours at the meetings, which occur once a month on average, playing with the elementary school students while their parents take on the often less

SEE SCOUTS PAGE 10

New group to fight teen alcohol use

Westside Impact Project seeking community input on prevention policies

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE A county-funded organization dedicated to curbing alcohol use amongst teens is targeting Santa Monica and Venice, which officials say have one of the highest underage drinking rates in the area.

The Westside Impact Project is a campaign aimed at reducing teen alcohol use by cutting them off at the source — stores and house parties.

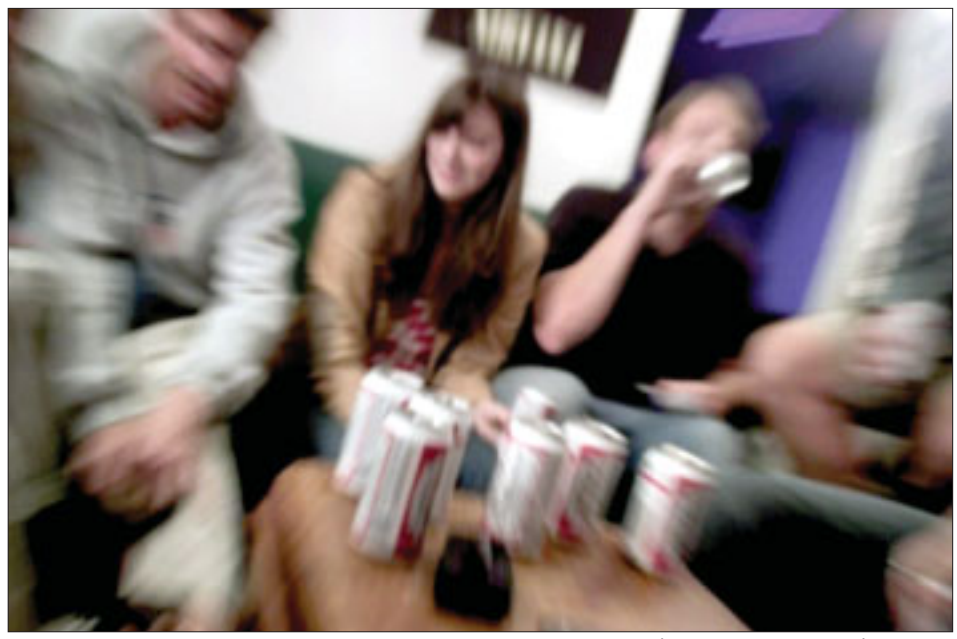
Sarah Blanch, the program manager for the Institute for Public Strategies, was quick to forestall any effort to use the "P" word.

"This is not about prohibition," she said.

Instead, the Westside Impact Project looks at strategies and policies, both from a public planning and law enforcement perspective, to prevent sales to and consumption by minors.

The project, funded by the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Division of Los Angeles County, technically focuses on the entire Westside, including Mar Vista, Palms, Marina del Rey, Culver City and the beachside towns.

Given that the organization has only three staff members, officials had to choose specific areas on which to focus, said Brenda Simmons, the project director.



Photos courtesy Google Images

NOT OF AGE: **Alcohol is the most commonly used and abused drug among American youth, and is responsible for more than 4,700 underage deaths a year.**

Santa Monica and Venice quickly rose to the top of the list.

Officials looked at existing data in the California Healthy Kids Survey in which teens reported their alcohol use and conducted a survey in the UCLA area, Beverly Hills and Santa Monica.

The Healthy Kids Survey, conducted in 2011, shows that three-quarters of Santa Monica High School students considered alcohol either "very" or "fairly" easy to get, and 26 percent reported drinking more than five drinks in one sitting in the previous month.

Santa Monica teens were 10 percent more likely to report having had a drink in the last 30 days.

They also looked at arrest rates for driving under the influence, and the number of alcohol serving and sales locations.

SEE ALCOHOL PAGE 11



Hot chicks: At 60, Peeps more popular than ever

BY MICHAEL RUBINKAM
Associated Press

BETHLEHEM, Pa. It's Easter morning. A boy rouses his younger brother, and they run to the living room to find their baskets filled with - what else? - Peeps.

"Peeps are THE candy of Easter," the excited boy tells his wide-eyed sibling, who pops a yellow marshmallow chick in his mouth.

"You can eat 'em, smash 'em, microwave 'em, deep fry 'em, roast 'em on a stick," the boy explains. That's not all. You can make "historically accurate Peeps dioramas ... Peeps pop art ... You can make a Peeps topiary." On he goes, all day and night. "Peeps jousting ... hide-and-go Peeps ... Peepshi ... that's sushi made out of Peeps."



As the storied candy brand celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, Peeps' first TV ad in a decade cap-

SEE TREAT PAGE 11

Daylight Savings



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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, March 9, 2013

Easter bunny breakfast
Santa Monica Place
395 Santa Monica Place
Come celebrate Easter early this weekend by joining the Easter Bunny at Santa Monica Place. Children of all ages are invited to hop on over and meet the legendary holiday hero at a special breakfast. Breakfast is for children only. Admission is $5. Tickets may be purchased in advance at www.eventbrite.com/

False fabric
The Little Theater
12420 Santa Monica Blvd., 1 p.m.
The Los Angeles Children's Theater's adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale "The Emperor's New Clothes" opens. Running at a fast paced 45 minutes this hilarious romp will keep children laughing throughout the whole thing. Admission is $15. Tickets may be purchased in advance at emperorsclothes.brownpapertickets.com.

A night of music
Barnum Hall
601 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Santa Monica Symphony showcases three of the greatest works from the Romantic Era: Berlioz's "Roman Carnival Overture," Rachmaninov's "Third Piano Concerto," and Brahms' "Second Symphony." Music director Guido Lamell conducts in Barnum Hall. Admission is free, donation accepted in the foyer. For more information, call (310) 395-6330.

Texting melodies
McCabe's Guitar Shop
3101 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
In the last decade, Erin McKeown has averaged 200 stage shows a year. McKeown has made appearances on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," NPR, and BBC. The musician has even written a song via text message with Rachel Maddow. McKeown's dynamic show, combined with her ability to bridge genres has garnered her international acclaim. Tickets are on sale for $16. For more information, call (310) 828-4497.

Envision greatness
Highways Performance Space
1651 18th St., 8:30 p.m.
Inspired by the life and experiences of Helen Keller, director Courtney Giannone's film delves into the search for alternate means of survival and communication, even in the worst of conditions. Tickets are $20, $15 for students, members, seniors.

Sunday, March 10, 2013

Daylight Savings: Remember to spring forward.

Jazz it up
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
1343 Ocean Park Blvd., 5 p.m.
This weekend enjoy The Anthony Wilson Trio featuring guitarist Anthony Wilson with Josh Nelson and Darek Oles. Free admission, childcare and parking. For more information, call (310) 452-1116

Monday, March 11, 2013

Sounds of the ocean
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6:30 p.m. — 8:20 p.m.
The Annenberg Community Beach House welcomes Victoria Kirsh and Friends for their "Songs of the Sea." Surf on the music of the waves, enchanted islands and underwater cathedrals, celebrating the beauties and dangers of the sea. Tickets are free, but space is limited. For more information, call (310) 458-4904.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WEST L.A.

405 Freeway closure this weekend

Interstate 405, known for bumper to bumper traffic, is set to experience more lane closures this weekend.

Southbound lanes on the 405 will be closed on Saturday between U.S. Route 101 and Getty Center Drive off-ramps.

All southbound traffic will be diverted by 1 a.m. with ramp closures expected to start as early as 7 p.m. and freeway lanes slated to close as early as 11 p.m. Saturday.

The 4-mile stretch is being closed for construction. Contractors will begin laying falsework to support the Mulholland Bridge in the Sepulveda Pass.

Sepulveda Boulevard will remain open during construction nights and will be used as a detour route.

The closures are expected to end at 7 a.m. Sunday, weather permitting.

Last weekend traffic was diverted to one lane going northbound.

– HENRY CRUMBLISH

Rain, snow, thunderstorms through Southern Calif.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A late-season wintry blast rumbled through Southern California on Friday, unleashing snow, rain, hail and lightning bolts as the sun played hide-and-seek in an alternately gray and bright blue sky.

Treacherous conditions forced the California Highway Patrol to close vital Interstate 5 north of Los Angeles for nearly six hours.

Trucks and other vehicles backed up for miles waiting for weather to improve enough for traffic to flow safely over Tejon Pass, which rises to an elevation of more than 4,100 feet in the Tehachapi Mountains.

Los Angeles' backdrop of mountains sported a fresh coat of white well down their slopes.

The National Weather Service said that by late morning, 6 inches to 10 inches of snow had accumulated at elevations above 5,000 feet, with lighter accumulations down to 3,000 feet.

With less than two weeks to go before spring, snowplows, shovels and chains were in demand in mountain communities to the east of Los Angeles, where ski resorts were getting fresh coverage just in time for weekend crowds.

Several school districts, including Julian and Mountain Empire, were closed.

The NWS said the cold low-pressure system was expected to bring low mountain snow, isolated thunderstorms and numerous rain showers through late afternoon, followed by isolated showers east of the region during the night and early Saturday.

Despite traffic accidents and other problems, the precipitation was welcome in unusually dry Southern California. As of Thursday night, the downtown Los Angeles rainfall tally was more than 7 inches below normal for the rain-year that began on July 1.

Forecasters said building high pressure and a light offshore flow of air would bring a warming trend and clear weather to Southern California during the weekend and into the middle of next week.



Alex Vejar *editor@smdp.com*

LIVING LEGENDS: **Jazz master Herbie Hancock talks with his good friend Quincy Jones at the Playboy Mansion.**

Lineup for Playboy Jazz Fest set

BY ALEX VEJAR
Special to the Daily Press

HOLMBY HILLS For decades, Playboy has been synonymous with centerfolds and publisher Hugh Hefner, the ultimate ladies man.

But what some may find surprising is for the past 35 years Playboy has had its hand in an entirely different culture: Jazz.

Playboy announced the official lineup for its 35th annual Playboy Jazz Festival late last month, along with its new master of ceremonies, Latin-American actor and comedian George Lopez, who will be replacing comedy legend Bill Cosby, who had hosted the festival for more than 30 years.

"To have been selected by Bill Cosby is a tremendous honor," Lopez said at a press conference held on the grounds of the Playboy Mansion. "As host, I will do my best to make Bill proud. I love jazz and I love all musicians."

Headlining the jazz festival this year will be two-time Grammy-winning pianist and keyboardist George Duke with special guest Jeffrey Osborne, a cappella group Naturally 7 with 14-time Grammy winner Herbie Hancock, and Sheila E. with Bob James and David Sanborn, featuring Steve Gadd and James Genus.

Osborne will be making festival debut after being a spectator in years past.

"I'm shocked that I've never done it before," he said.

SEE **JAZZ** PAGE 11

Retired officer files claim over accused wife

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OXNARD, Calif. A former Oxnard police commander claims his department denied him retirement privileges because he married a woman accused of murdering a young Santa Monica model, and his wife is still awaiting trial.

Tom Chronister filed a claim last month saying the police department intentionally and maliciously violated his rights and harmed his reputation because of its disciplinary actions, according to the Ventura County Star.

Oxnard Police Chief Jeri Williams said Wednesday that Chronister's claims were without merit and a department investigation before his retirement uncovered violations of several department policies.

"Policies dealing with relationship issues are enforced equally across the board," Williams told the newspaper.

The 28-year department veteran is seeking unspecified damages from the department, Williams, and Interim City Manager Karen Burnham.

Chronister married Kelly Soo Park last November, years

SEE **CLAIM** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Change scares people

Editor:

I agree with letter writer Brian Loux that transportation consultant Jeffrey Tumlin shouldn't be let go simply because he referred to some residents as NIMBYs ("Consultant isn't wrong," Letters to the Editor, March 6). His evaluation should depend on the cogency of his proposals.

Clearly the times are again a'changin'. For example, Santa Monica is just one among other desirable urban areas to consider or approve apartment buildings that don't provide parking. Frank Gehry's design for a proposed new hotel would provide wonderful eye candy for people walking along Ocean Avenue, as does his "Fred and Ginger" building for residents of and visitors to Prague.

I'm excited by a Santa Monica that encourages public transportation, biking and walking rather than submits to automobiles. I'm willing to bet that many current residents who automatically oppose all new projects are able to live here only because the times changed for earlier generations of residents (including the Native Americans). But perhaps NIMBY alone is not a fair description for knee-jerk opponents of change. I suggest NIMFYE (Not In My Front Yard Either).

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica

Words can hurt

Editor:

I think if you live on land formerly of Native American people, you should respect that history. You should at least be knowledgeable of it. Bob Holbrook should publicly apologize for his ignorant statement about the Tongva Indians ("Turf war rages on over name of Tongva Park," March 4). His "Tonka truck" joke is outdated (they were popular in the 1950s), racist, and expresses his not knowing people of Native American descent, and not caring. Shame on Holbrook.

To all these people complaining, next time get yourselves to the council meeting and voice your opinion. Our people did. The City Council should not back step. They will set a bad precedent of back-pedaling when moral leadership and vision are needed. I think they did a great job recently of sticking up for the Pico Youth & Family Center in light of biased and highly inaccurate city staff reports. They saw what was wrong and acted. Stick to your guns.

As to Oscar Vizcarra's suggestion ("Pride in park" Letters to the Editor, March 6), we already have a Memorial Park (also called "el parke de la catorce" by local Mexicans since at least 1900). I am not a fan of a giant American flag waving to passing ships. Tributes to the military record of the U.S. are controversial at best. Let's remember that even World War II was fought against a clear evil, yet racial segregation was law at home (including Santa Monica).

Lastly, a few of my good friends growing up were of Tongva/"Gabrielino" descent. Their parents attended St. Anne School in the '40s. I'm happy for them. I stand with the groups that were there that day of the City Council vote; local groups like Keepers of Kuruvungna Springs, De Baca Cultural, Idle No More, PYFC, The Westside Spirit Run, Peace and Dignity Runners, SMC MEChA, AMAE and many others that keep native traditions and culture alive. Unlike Bob Holbrook, I am well aware that Tongva people were the original peoples here, that this area was called "Kechengna," that the big west side village was Sa Angna (sounds like "Santa") over by LMU, of their sacred springs at Uni High. The Tongva still exist in Santa Monica and Los Angeles. It is an honor that Santa Monica remembers.

Elias Serna
Santa Monica

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DAILY PRESS EDITORIAL

Pot dispensaries should be allowed, but with restrictions

WHEN THE ISSUE OF ALLOWING MEDICAL marijuana dispensaries in Santa Monica is raised, opponents immediately point to those who do not necessarily have a serious illness — stoners. These are people who like to smoke pot because they want to get high. Some use marijuana to relieve stress and relax, but they could live without it and still be productive. Those who are against dispensaries do not want to make it easier for these types of tokers to light up. They say let them drive to Venice or West Los Angeles to get their drugs.

But lost in this immediate leap to discredit the need for dispensaries are those patients who depend on medical marijuana to make it through the day. These are people struggling to eat because of nausea brought on by chemotherapy or those who can't sleep because of excruciating pain in their limbs. These are people who would normally be looked on with sympathy, but because they smoke marijuana they are dismissed.

The lack of studies — a result of the federal prohibition on smoking or possessing pot — naturally contributes to this belief that weed has no medical value, but when talking with patients who use the drug it becomes clear that it does have some benefits. So why deny them access?

Since pot seems to provide relief to those who are ill, Santa Monica, a community known for its compassion, needs to allow medical marijuana dispensaries to open up shop within its borders. It's not for the casual smoker, even though they will benefit from having dispensaries closer to their homes. It's about those patients who couldn't function without it. Why force them to find transportation to Venice or West Hollywood to get their medication when they could walk down the street or catch a Big Blue Bus to make a run to their drug store? It's not so easy to travel out of town to a dispensary when you are constantly throwing up and are fatigued from not eating enough food. Just because there are dispensaries in neighboring areas doesn't mean Santa Monica residents should be denied the right to get their medicine close to home.

That is why this newspaper supports establishing clear guidelines so that collectives can open up a limited number of marijuana dispensaries in Santa Monica. It must be done right the first time, though, or we risk experiencing the explosion that Los Angeles is struggling with. All city officials have to do is look to West Hollywood for guidance. The city to our east has managed to set up a system that seems successful, one that has addressed the concerns of residents and law enforcement by creating conditions that limit negative factors.

Those conditions include limiting the number if dispensaries to four in the entire city and making sure that no two could open up within a certain distance of one another. We like those restrictions, especially for Santa Monica, which is a town of only 8.3 square miles. We would like to see a policy where the number of shops is limited to four or five and restricted to major thoroughfares like Main Street or Santa Monica Boulevard. To ensure that the dispensaries are not concentrated in one area there would be a distance restriction as well as a prohibition against having more than one shop on one particular street.

Hours would also need to be limited, say from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Shops would be required to have security on site during operating hours, closed circuit security cameras running 24 hours a day and adequate controls to ensure that no minors are served.

Keeping the shops away from schools and places of worship would be preferred, as would proper signage that doesn't make patients feel like criminals (no blacked-out windows) or flaunts the existence in the face of residents (large green crosses).

As far as allowing the dispensaries to grow marijuana on site, this newspaper believes the market should dictate that. Those who run dispensaries told city officials last month during a public meeting that they probably would not grow anyway because of the cost of renting a space large enough to suffice.

By setting up clear guidelines with community input, City Hall could ensure that dispensaries are operating in proper areas and with little objection. Perhaps the policy could be put in place on a temporary basis, allowing for one or two shops to open for one year and then have them monitored to see if any problems arise. City officials could place an additional fee on these businesses to help cover the cost of keeping track.

There are those who will argue that dispensaries will only contribute to crime. But aren't liquor stores also nuisance businesses that have been allowed to operate in Santa Monica? If dispensaries are such a crime magnet, why not restrict the number of liquor stores as well, which attract alcoholics and aggressive panhandlers looking to get enough money for their next hit of Jack Daniels? There are 330 businesses that sell alcohol operating in Santa Monica, according to figures from 2011. That's an average of 39 liquor-vending outlets per square mile. If Santa Monicans can tolerate that number, what's four medical marijuana dispensaries? Those who run dispensaries in other areas say they have helped drive out criminal elements with their beefed up security. If proper guidelines are in place, crime shouldn't be a factor.

Elected officials need to let go of their unfounded fears and provide patients with proper access to their medication. Failing to do so is cruel and plays on the hysteria propagated for generations, whether it be by film ("Reefer Madness") or public policy (see failed war on drugs). It's time for some common sense to bring about a solution.

And for those who are peeved that stoners can easily get a doctor's recommendation for medical marijuana, the focus should be on those unscrupulous physicians who issue them without fully vetting their patients and not on punishing those who truly need it to function.

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The Q Line

Coming attractions

A Frank Gehry-designed hotel has been proposed for Ocean Avenue. The 22-story hotel would also include condominiums.

This past week, Q-line asked:
What do you make of this new hotel proposal and why?

Here are your responses:

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"LIKE ANYTHING I'VE SEEN DESIGNED by Frank Gehry, I don't like it. I agree with Ruth Rosen's nail-on-the-head, succinct letter to the editor in this morning's Santa Monica Daily Press. The design is 'out of place in Santa Monica.' To me, it looks like something left over after a 7.5 earthquake. Also, I agree totally with Bill Bauer's column in today's paper on the new Fairmont Miramar hotel. Their new brochure was very exciting, and their whole attitude regarding the structure is absolutely fine with me. And I am very hard to please as a longtime resident with anything new in Santa Monica. Good luck to them."

"WELL, I THINK IT WOULD BE A WONDERFUL idea to have a hotel designed by Frank Gehry. He's a very well-known architect. That'll be nice. And to have condominiums also, I think it's fabulous right here in San Malicious."

"GOSH! FRANK GEHRY IS ONE OF THE WORST architects of our age. Look at the former Santa Monica Place. Beyond awful. Look at his own house. An appalling piece of rubbish. Plans for two skyscrapers of 21 stories with a few people — rich New Yorkers and low-income misfits getting fantastic views — while the rest of us Santa Monicans get downtown L.A. urban blight. Gehry's building looks like something an elephant leaves on the ground after eating ice cream. But I'm sure there will be pseudo artists from back east commenting on the perceived brilliance of another piece of architectural eyesore. Your readers need to understand what a City Hall, shady deal for the Miramar and Gehry's abominations means. There is so much shade involved in these developer bargains that just about everyone involved in their structural blight will be albino by the time they are finished. The rest of us will be able to bask in the shade of modernistic ideology."

"REGARDLESS OF WHAT WE THINK ABOUT the hotel-condominium proposal, we never hear anything about stuff like this until all the bribes have been paid and it's a done deal. The last thing we need in Santa Monica is more hotels, tourists and multi-unit residences. The best that can be said is that in contrast to other projects, which the City Council is pleased to call development, this hotel will actually be designed by an actual architect. The building itself won't add to the deterioration of this unfortunate city."

"THE PLANS FOR THE MIRAMAR ARE totally unacceptable now that the city council has acknowledged that Santa Monica sits on land unlawfully appropriated from the three Tongva Indian tribal nations. We have approached the U.S. Attorney General's Office to help the Tongva nations reclaim their territorial rights in Santa Monica, and restore their governing powers and authority. The City Council by its own admission that Santa Monica sits on appropriated Indian land has effectively forfeited its governing rights involving this matter and other matters, immediately and in perpetuity."

"I REALLY BELIEVE NO BUILDING SHOULD be more than six stories because if the electricity goes out and the elevators stop working, the people who live on those upper floors can't get to work and the people who live there can't get in or out, easily at least. Try to think of what it would be like for an important company to have the employees come to work having to go up 50 stories or even 20 stories, back and forth, even just twice a day. Whoever started that wasn't thinking. We cant risk being stopped in process with important companies or even where people live, on the basis that the elevators are not working. We never want to do that, we never want to go over six stories if we're sane."

"IT MATTERS LITTLE WHAT THE LOCAL people want. If the people who want to build a hotel want to do it, they can. As long as they have the money to actually build it, money to buy the land it will sit on and money to buy the politicians who have to approve it, it will be built. What anybody else wants doesn't amount to a hill of beans."

"THE GEHRY HOTEL/CONDO DESIGN WOULD stick out like a sore thumb in the Santa Monica skyline. Architects are known for their enormous egos. They just love to build a lasting statement to themselves, regardless if the design does not work with its surroundings. This building may work for other places, but not here."

"I THINK THE LOCATION ON OCEAN Avenue is terrific. Though I am not a big fan of Frank Gehry, at least he is bold. If you wanna be a bear, be a Kodiak."

"I DID NOT DETECT ANY AFFORDABLE housing provisions in the hype on the Frank Gehry or Miramar proposals. I thought that such a provision was a LUCE mandate. I did note the sheer height and sprawl of both. Phallic thinking instead of forward thinking."

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**







Did you know...



that the oldest legal Medical Marijuana collective in the city of Los Angeles has Only certified organic strains and is located only 100 feet South of Santa Monica?

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2416, 2417 and 2418 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries of Ordinance Numbers 2416, 2417 and 2418, which were adopted by the City Council on February 26, 2013.

Ordinance Number 2416 effectuates changes in the parking rates for the Main Library to better balance parking loads and protect library patrons' ability to park at the library. It also amends the Municipal Code provision on temporary parking permits.

Ordinance Number 2417 amends the Interim Zoning Ordinance, which establishes interim standards and procedures pending implementation of the Land Use and Circulation Element through adoption of a new Zoning Code. The amendments address various matters, including, but not limited to, shared parking and FAR calculations for the Downtown, exemptions for City projects, the limitation on numbers of restaurants in the CM District, the replacement of existing parking spaces within public parking structures in the BSC-2 and C3-C zoning districts, minor expansions of automobile dealership uses in residential and "A" off-street parking overlay zones, and requirements for ministerial processing of 100% affordable housing projects of 50 or fewer units.

Ordinance Number 2418 extends the time period for the Planning Commission to make a formal recommendation to the City Council on a development agreement from 30 to 90 days.

Ordinance 2417 became effective upon adoption. The other two ordinances will become effective thirty days after adoption. The full text of the ordinances is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone (310) 458-8211.

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Calif regulators reject Navy offshore training

BY JULIE WATSON
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO The California Coastal Commission on Friday rejected a Navy explosives and sonar training program off the Southern California coast that critics said could harm endangered blue whales and other sea life.

Commissioners meeting in San Diego ruled unanimously that the Navy lacked enough information to back up its argument that the threat to marine mammals would be negligible.

The program had been scheduled to begin in January. Commission staffers had recommended that the panel require additional wildlife protections before endorsing it.

The panel and the Navy could now seek mediation to iron out their differences — or the Navy could simply choose to proceed with the training, as it did in 2007 and 2009. That probably would prompt the commission to sue in an effort to block the program, as it has in the past.

Before the vote Alex Stone, who directs the training program, told commissioners that the Navy opposed additional conditions that could make the training less realistic and reduce its scope.

Stone also said he believed the program has sufficient protections for sea life — an argument disputed by environmentalists who packed the meeting.

The Navy has estimated that the proposed training program would kill 130 marine mammals and cause hearing loss in 1,600 over five years.

"We think these are underestimates," Michael Jasny with the Natural Resources Defense Council told the commissioners.

The Navy's testing area encompasses 120,000 nautical square miles of the Pacific off the Southern California coast and includes a corridor between the state and Hawaii, among other areas.

The commission's staff had recommended that approval be contingent on a list of conditions. They included requiring that the Navy create safety zones that would guarantee no high-intensity sonar activity near marine sanctuaries and protected areas and in spots that experience a high concentration of blue, fin and gray whales seasonally.

The staff also said a kilometer from shore should also be off-limits to protect bottlenose dolphins.

The commission set out similar conditions to the Navy in 2007 and 2009, but the Navy refused to accept them both times.

The commission sued the Navy over the matter, leading to a preliminary injunction in 2008, though then-President George W. Bush gave an exemption for the training. The U.S. Supreme Court later overturned the lower court's decision.

Jasny's organization and three dozen others say they want the Navy to avoid important habitat for vulnerable species, including endangered blue and fin whales, beaked whales, and migrating gray whales. They also want the Navy to not use sonar training and underwater detonations at night, when marine mammals are extremely hard to detect. And they want the Navy to be required to use its own acoustic monitoring network to help detect marine mammals.

They also say that from May through October ships should slow to 10 knots in areas with baleen whales, to avoid hitting them.

Scientists say there is still much to be learned about how much sonar activity affects marine animals. Studies have shown some species such as beaked whales may be adversely affected by some forms.

Feds declare victory against Anacapa Island rats

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANACAPA ISLAND, Calif. Authorities say they've won the war against rats on a Southern California island.

A decade after a $3 million extermination effort, rare species are thriving on the rocky preserve a dozen miles offshore, National Park Service officials announced this week.

Ashy storm-petrels, a type of seabird, are nesting on the island for the first time ever recorded, and another seabird, the Cassin's auklet, has expanded its territories in the absence of rats as predators, according to a Park Service statement released Wednesday.

The number of Scripps's murrelets bird nests has quadrupled with a 50 percent increase of eggs hatched, the statement said.

"Nowhere are the threats of extinction higher than on islands, and nowhere do we have greater opportunities to save species at risk," said Gregg Howald, North America regional director for the group Island Conservation, a Park Service contractor.

"This successful project demonstrates the value of this critical conservation tool for other islands around the globe," he said in the statement.

The rat eradication is part of a continuing effort to restore the island's original species and eliminate nonnative species, such as iceplant, Channel Islands National Park Superintendent Russell Galipeau said.

Anacapa, one of a chain that comprises the Channel Islands National Park north of Los Angeles, has had nonnative black rats for more than a century. Over the decades they devoured rare birds and their eggs, along with the deer mice, reptiles, insects and plants.

At one point, the rats were eating 70 percent of the eggs laid by Scripps's murrelets, a robin-sized bird that is listed by California as a threatened species, authorities said.

In 2001 and 2002, authorities struck back by dropping rat poison pellets by helicopter.

The goal was to exterminate the island rats.

"The last thing we needed was a project that got only 99.9 percent of all the island's rats," National Park Service biologist Kate Faulkner told Los Angeles Times.

The program cost about $3 million, much of it funded by the American Trader Trustee Council, a conservation group.

The program was assisted by experts from the United States, Canada and New Zealand, but it also faced opposition from an animal rights group.

The Fund for Animals called the program an "ecological disaster" in a lawsuit that was later dismissed.

US adds 236,000 jobs, unemployment at 7.7 pct.

BY CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON A burst of hiring last month added 236,000 U.S. jobs and reduced the unemployment rate to 7.7 percent from 7.9 percent in January. The robust gains suggested that the economy can strengthen further despite higher taxes and government spending cuts.

The February jobs report issued Friday by the Labor Department provided encouraging details: The unemployment rate is at its lowest level in four years. Job growth has averaged more than 200,000 a month since November. Wages rose. And the job gains were broad-based, led by the most construction hiring in six years.

Employers have been emboldened by a rebounding U.S. economy. The housing, auto and manufacturing sectors have improved. Corporate profits are strong. And the Dow Jones industrial average is at a record high.

The unemployment rate, which had been stuck at 7.8 percent or above since September, declined mostly because more people found work. Another factor was that 130,000 people without jobs stopped looking for work last month. The government doesn't count them as unemployed.

The unemployment rate is calculated from a survey of households. The job gains are derived from a separate survey of employers.

The 236,000 jobs that were added in February is a historically solid total. And it would have been higher if governments were contributing to job growth, rather than subtracting from it as they have for nearly four years. Governments cut 10,000 jobs in February.

If federal, state and local governments were adding their long-term combined average of 20,000 to 25,000 jobs a month, February's total job gains would have been around 260,000.

Hiring has accelerated since summer. Employers added an average of 205,000 jobs a month from November through February. They had averaged 154,000 gains from July through October and 132,000 from March through June.

Stock prices rose modestly Friday after the report was released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time. Another day of stock gains would give the Dow Jones industrial average its fourth straight record close.

The government said employers added slightly fewer jobs in January than the government had first estimated. Job gains were lowered to 119,000 from an initially estimated 157,000. Still, December hiring was a little stronger than first thought, with 219,000 jobs added instead of 191,000.

Robust auto sales and a steady housing recovery are spurring more hiring, which could trigger more consumer spending and stronger economic growth. The construction industry added 48,000 in February; it's added 151,000 since September. Manufacturing gained 14,000 jobs last month and 39,000 since November.

Retailers added 24,000 jobs, a sign that they anticipate healthy consumer spending in the coming months. Education and health services gained 24,000. And the information industry, which includes publishing, telecommunications and film, added 20,000, mostly in the movie industry.

The economy is generating more higher-paying jobs in industries like accounting, engineering and information technology. That's raising average pay, which will help offset the hit that Americans took from higher Social Security taxes and gas prices.

Hourly wages rose 4 cents to $23.82 last month. Wages have risen 2.1 percent over the past year, slightly ahead of inflation. Higher pay is vital to the economy because consumer spending drives 70 percent of economic activity.

"We're seeing the mix of jobs improve," says Ryan Sweet, a senior economist at Moody's Analytics.

The improved job market can also benefit countries that sell goods and services to U.S. consumers and businesses.

"All you have to do is look at the trade numbers," says Bernard Baumohl, chief global economist at the Economic Outlook Group. "The strength in the U.S. economy is leading to faster growth in imports."

Imports rose 2 percent in January from December. Those from China surged 7 percent.

A stronger U.S. economy, Baumohl says, will also help a battered Europe, which is contending with high unemployment and a debt crisis. The United States is the No. 1 market for exports from the 27-country European Union.

U.S. and Chinese demand for European goods will be vital as the 17 countries that use the euro struggle to emerge from recession. Spending cuts by indebted governments in Italy and Spain have squeezed those economies.

"The extent to which the U.S. is recovering and potentially the labor market is improving is potentially an important dynamic that Europe would welcome," said Nick Matthews, an analyst at Nomura in London.

The U.S. economy is benefiting from the Federal Reserve's drive to keep interest rates at record lows. Lower borrowing rates have made it easier for Americans to buy homes and cars and for companies to expand.

The Fed and key central banks overseas have taken extraordinary steps to pump money into their financial systems to try to spur borrowing and spending, boost stock prices and stimulate growth.

The Fed has said it plans to keep the benchmark rate it controls near zero at least until the unemployment rate has fallen to 6.5 percent, as long as the inflation outlook remains mild.

Friday's jobs report isn't expected to move up the Fed's timetable for any rate increase.

"This may not yet be the substantial improvement in the labor market outlook that the Fed is looking for, but it's moving in the right direction," Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics, said in a note to clients.

The brighter hiring picture has yet to cause a flood of out-of-work people who aren't looking for a job to start seeking one. The proportion of Americans either working or looking for work dipped one-tenth of a percentage point in February to 63.5 percent, matching a 30-year low.

Even though the recession officially ended in June 2009, many Americans have remained discouraged about their job prospects and have given up looking. Others have returned to, or stayed in, school. And the vast generation of baby boomers have begun to retire. Their exodus reduces the percentage of adults working or looking for work.





Tour De Feast

Michael 'Snacks' Ryan
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No frills fish taco joint opens in Mid-City area

SANTA MONICA REPRESENTS WHEN IT comes to Mexican cuisine. Chef Jose Acevedo cooks up some of the best carnitas at Mercado down on Fourth Street. Tacos Por Favor, top to bottom, serves up excellent food with an even better salsa bar. And if mole is your kind of thing, look no further than Lares on Pico Boulevard. Not to mention the half-dozen family restaurants serving up sizzling fajita platters and wet burritos. Not all of it is necessarily "authentic," but many of these places have become mainstays in the neighborhoods around town.

There is a potential mainstay that just opened three weeks ago in Mid-City on the corner of Cloverfield and Santa Monica boulevards. If you have passed that area before and haven't noticed it you are not alone. Tacos Punta Cabras is shaded by a big tree, has yet to erect visible signage and is strangled by an intersection with zero street parking.

Tacos Punta Cabras does, however, set itself apart from all the aforementioned places with a small menu focusing primarily on seafood. A tiny menu means the eatery is set on getting a few things right instead of giving you every option under the sun, from birra barbacoa to flan de leche. Tacos Punta Cabras offers tacos, tostadas and "cóctele" (similar to ceviche, but served in a tomato-based juice) and that's it.

If you go

Tacos Punta Cabras
2311 Santa Monica Blvd.
Santa Monica, Calif.
90404
(310) 917-2244
www.facebook.com/TacosPuntaCabras

From there you choose from shrimp, scallops, a mix of the two, or tofu. There is a fish taco too, which could be as good of a fish taco as I've had to date. Perfectly crispy, lightly breaded in a tempura-like batter and wrapped with cabbage and thinly sliced radishes, the taco was well worth what may seem steep for a taco at $3.50. My cycling buddy Ron Durgin, manager at the Santa Monica Bike Center, tried the tofu taco and concurred it was delicious as well. The salsas were sensational; the only setback is they give you a tiny cup instead of the free reign I'm accustomed to having at other place's salsa bars.

The tostada, piled with shrimp and scallops, seemed more than reasonable at five bucks. The cashew creme sauce melded well with the shellfish, setting itself apart from your standard seafood style tostada. Tostadas by nature are somewhat problematic to eat and I will always side with the convenience of the taco. But if you prefer your seafood open-faced, the tostada is more than a serviceable option.

The cóctele is the final offering on their menu. Having never tried cóctele, but being a fan of ceviche, I was eager. Served in a clear plastic Solo cup and accompanied with plain white crackers, the dish is no frills to say the least. However, it is fully loaded with marinated shrimp and avocado. The problem was the avocados were not ripe, to the point that they were crunchy. Perhaps that is not always the case, but I'd unlikely be willing to try it again for $6 when I could get two of their tacos for $7.

Tacos Punta Cabras is essentially a hole-in-the-wall on an intersection unrelenting with traffic. As of right now it is cash only, the lines are long with doctors and nurses from neighboring Saint John's, and the service is sluggish. With all that being said, it is still recommended and should be a welcomed addition to the Mid-City neighborhood. As always, I suggest riding your bike there, but with no parking this time I really mean it!



Michael Ryan *michael@smdp.com*

GOT TO HAVE IT: **Perfectly crispy, lightly breaded in a tempura-like batter and wrapped with cabbage and thinly sliced radishes, the fish taco at Tacos Punta Cabras stands up with the best around.**

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food, or on CityTV hosting his own show, "Tour de Feast." To reach him visit his website at tourdefeast.net or follow him on Twitter @TourDeFeastSM.





The Better Option

Lori Salerno
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Google Images

COACH POTATO: **A lack of physical activity combined with larger portions of fatty fast food are causing more kids to become obese and be diagnosed with adult health problems.**

Eating out contributing to childhood obesity epidemic

TODAY ONE IN THREE KIDS OR TEENS ages 10 to 17 is overweight or obese, which has tripled since 1963. There is not just one cause contributing to the increase in overweight and obese children, but a combination of lifestyle factors. These include an increase in portion sizes, poor nutrition (filling up on empty calories), eating out more and moving less. It sounds overly simplistic, but it really boils down to the fact that our children are taking in more calories than they are burning off and the excess is being stored as fat.

This is not a problem of vanity or physical aesthetics, but a major health concern for our future generation. The former Surgeon General Richard Carmona stated, "Because of the increasing rates of obesity, unhealthy eating habits and physical inactivity, we may see the first generation that will be less healthy and have a shorter life expectancy than their parents."

Excess weight as a child or teen increases their chances of becoming an overweight or obese adult by 70 percent. Along with the excess weight into adulthood there is the link to higher and earlier death rates. I was talking with a pediatric endocrinologist recently and we noted the increased incidence of adult health problems, such as diabetes mellitus type 2, in young children and teens, something we rarely saw 15 years ago. The increased incidence has health professionals no longer referring to the condition as adult onset diabetes because we are now seeing this condition more and more in children as young as 10 years old who are obese or overweight.

In my practice I have noticed a lifestyle trend with many of the overweight or obese children I work with. Not only are they more sedentary with less unstructured play, but many dual working families are relying on take-out food to supplement the family meals. Many meals purchased from quick service restaurants, convenience stores or vending machines are of poor nutritional quality, high in empty calories, and just larger portions than is needed by our children. It's the portion sizes of the meals that is the major contributor to weight gain.

The fact remains that families rely on meals outside of the home, unless they can afford a full-time housekeeper or personal chef. I've compiled a list of a few take away options located in the Santa Monica area that serve family friendly, healthful meals. These include Koo Koo Roo, California Chicken Café, and Rosti Tuscan Kitchen where whole chickens can be purchased to go with a variety of sides including mashed yams, mashed butter nut squash, green beans, sautéed spinach and large mixed green salads. For fish and beef options in addition to chicken, check out Tender Greens where you can purchase meals that include salad and whole grains or grilled vegetables.

A new trend in wholesome, home-style meals on the go can be found at Thyme Café & Market. At Thyme families can purchase chef inspired, high quality individual meals of fish and chicken with side whole grains or legumes and vegetables. This is also available at Huckleberry Café, but Thyme also provides large servings of foods ready to cook, like chicken or vegetable enchiladas that can be made with a side vegetable, chicken cacciatore ready to be heated and pared with whole grain pasta and a mixed green salad, or their white bean chili perfect for a cold winter dinner.

Remember that what we feed our children is only one part of the equation. How much of the calorie dense foods we put on their plate and how much physical activity they do is also a factor in preventing weight gain that can lead to obesity.

THE BETTER OPTION TAKE-AWAY MEALS

Koo Koo Roo located at 2002 Wilshire Blvd.
California Chicken Café located at 2401 Wilshire Blvd.
Rosti Tuscan Kitchen located at 931 Montana Ave.
Tender Greens located at 201 Arizona Ave.
Huckleberry Café and Bakery located at 1014 Wilshire Blvd.
Thyme Café & Market located at 1630 Ocean Park Blvd.

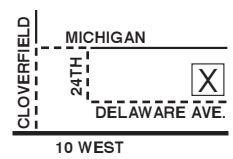
LORI SALERNO, M.S., R.D., C.P.T. is a registered dietitian and certified personal trainer who provides medical nutrition therapy to groups and individuals in Santa Monica and recipe and menu analysis for restaurants nationwide. www.eatwelldailynutrition.com

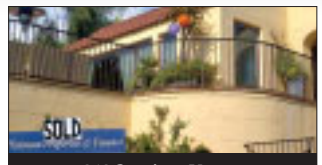

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Development Agreement Application No. 07-005 and Tentative Tract Map Application No. 12-001

Village Trailer Park

APPLICANT: Village Trailer Park LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: Village Trailer Park Inc. and Village Trailer Park LLC as tenants-in-common

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

The applicant is requesting that the City Council consider a Development Agreement for a mixed-use project consisting of 377 residential units and up to 24,940 sf of neighborhood retail space (of which up to 4,250 sf could be converted to production space). The project involves the partial closure of the existing Village Trailer Park with 99 out of the 109 trailer spaces being closed. The applicant is proposing to retain 10 trailer spaces on a separate parcel facing Stanford Street for a period of up to ten years provided that the applicant may seek to close or convert the 10 trailer spaces if there are fewer than 5 pads with full time residents living on them. However, in no event would the applicant be able to seek closure or conversion of the 10 remaining trailer spaces to another use for the first 5 years unless there are no full-time residents remaining. The proposed residential units would consist of 99 rent-controlled apartments, of which 41 would be deed restricted for very low income households. The remainder of the residential units would be 278 market-rate apartments. The project would include surface easements for an extension of Pennsylvania Avenue from Stanford Street to the western property line and a New Road to provide project access from Colorado Avenue. The project would have a building height that ranges between 36 feet and 57 feet. The project would have no more than 799 parking spaces in a two-level subterranean parking garage.

The City Council will consider the Development Agreement, which includes Tentative Tract Map 12-001 and Tenant Relocation Plan. In doing so, the City Council will review the Tenant Impact Report prepared to disclose the impacts of the closure and proposed conversion of Village Trailer Park to a mixed-use project.

Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.48.150, the City Council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed development agreement and accept, modify, or disapprove the proposed development agreement.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013 AT 6:30 P.M.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor
Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Village Trailer Park Development Agreement (07DEV005)
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Jing Yeo at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at jing.yeo@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.smgov.net.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

CLAIM
FROM PAGE 3

after the 2008 slaying and Park's arrest. She has pleaded not guilty to killing 21-year-old Juliana Redding, an aspiring young model and actress who was slain in her Santa Monica apartment while calling 911 for help.

Grand jury transcripts say DNA matching Park, a close associate of Redding's former boyfriend, was found on Redding's skin, clothes and cellphone, and her fingerprints and DNA were found around the apartment.

Investigators testified that Redding's body was covered with cuts and bruises.

Park apparently started dating Chronister about eight months before his retirement. Her next court appearance is scheduled for May.

Chronister's claim says he's been denied attendance to police and union events and not allowed a concealed weapon card. Chronister said his retirement badge and ID card were also seized.

Williams declined to specify the disciplinary actions against Chronister.

SCOUTS
FROM PAGE 1

enjoyable business of organization, advocacy and fundraising to protect their children's education.

A troop leader or parent volunteer is always on hand to make sure nothing gets hairy, of course.

The idea was born two years ago when the troop was brainstorming projects to earn the Silver Award.

"We talked about what they could do that would have an impact," said Lisette Gold, co-leader of the troop.

She had been involved with the PTA at Franklin Elementary School, but that school provides child care for the PTA meetings. Will Rogers Learning Community has CREST, an after-school program supported by City Hall and the district.

McKinley, however, had nothing of the sort.

"When we contacted Area from McKinley, she said that they were in such need of help," Gold said.

The girls had a planning meeting to work out some ideas to entertain the kids, and then they jumped right in.

Natalie Gold, 13 and an eighth grader at Lincoln Middle School, was nervous that the children would be energetic and hard to control, but she was pleasantly surprised.

"They were really nice, and really easy to play with," she said. "They were so sweet and smart."

The most difficult part of the project was convincing the children, who range from age 5 to 10, to put down their cell phones, iPods and other handheld electronics.

"It's hard for them to get off and pause their game," Natalie Gold said.

Madison Seifer, also a 13-year-old eighth grader from Lincoln Middle School, had baby-sat before, but she, too, was cautious about walking into McKinley, but found that she and the kids had a lot in common.

"I like doing Twister with them," she said. "None of us are good at it."

The McKinley parents aren't the only ones who benefit from the project. Madison's mother, Sheryl Seifer, has noticed changes in her daughter over the course of the monthly meetings.

Madison was very shy and spent much of her time reading rather than taking the lead, Sheryl Seifer said.

"This year and last year, she really blossomed. Before she was always the one off in the corner. Now she takes the bull by the horns. It was like, wow, is that Madison?" Sheryl Seifer said.

After a while, the scouts got a lot of practice taking care of the children, and Lisette Gold began to feel that her presence was more a legal formality than anything else.

"I'm off in the corner plugging in the popcorn machine," Lisette Gold said. "They command the room, and they are in charge. They are the leaders in terms of figuring out what works best, how to manage the room and keeping the kids engaged."

Fostering that sense of empowerment and leadership is one of the main goals of Girl Scouts, said Karen Rappaport McHugh, the service unit manager of Girl Scouts of Santa Monica.

Girl Scouts is a national organization that's broken up by regions. Each region is formed of service units, which are then composed of troops. Rappaport McHugh heads up the local service unit, which has 32 troops and 300 girls in Santa Monica alone.

This is the time of year that Girl Scouts are the most visible, usually stationed around markets with those distinctive boxes of cookies, but the organization is about more than Thin Mints and Trefoils, Rappaport McHugh said.

"There's an unfortunate image of girl scouting that it's all about crafts and cookies, when it's about building female leadership for the next generation," Rappaport McHugh said.

Lisette Gold hopes that Troop 8355 will be able to take advantage of the concentration of troops in Santa Monica to keep the child care project alive long after the girls find out whether or not they will receive the Silver Award, for which they officially applied in February.

"This is a program that should continue at McKinley, and maybe all (of the schools)," she said. "The girls learn leadership, and the parents become more involved in schools."

Troop 8355 will be looking for another troop that wants to shadow its efforts and learn the ropes so that the project can be replicated elsewhere.

Kramarsky will tell you, parents appreciate it.

"I love that they're trying to keep the tradition alive, because it's made such a phenomenal difference," Kramarsky said.

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ROAST
DELI & MARKET



Matt Rourke/Associated Press

FRESH: **Peeps move through the manufacturing process at the Just Born factory in Bethlehem, Pa.**

TREAT
FROM PAGE 1

tures an essential truth about the spongy confection made of sugar, corn syrup and gelatin: Love them or hate them, people do all sorts of things with Peeps, only some of which involve giving them to kids at Easter or eating them straight from the box.

And they're not shy about sharing.

"Everyone seems to have a Peeps story," says Ross Born, third-generation operator of Just Born Inc., which hatches 5 million Peeps a day at its plant 60 miles north of Philadelphia. "And they are free and willing to talk about how they eat their Peeps, how they cure them, how they store them, how they decorate with them. And these are adults!"

Just Born calls it the "Peepsonality" of consumers who buy Peeps not only to eat, but also to play around with.

"If you had asked me about this 25 years ago, I would've been rather bewildered about the whole thing," Born confesses. "We were candy makers."

Not that he's complaining. Just Born had its best year financially in 2012.

His grandfather, Russian immigrant Sam Born, started the candy company out of a Brooklyn storefront 90 years ago. Born advertised the freshness of his product with a sign that said "Just Born." The name stuck.

The burgeoning business moved to Bethlehem and acquired the Peeps brand with its 1953 purchase of Rodda Candy Co. of Lancaster. Best known for its jelly beans, Rodda had also introduced a small line of marshmallow chicks and bunnies, employing dozens of women who hand-squeezed them out of pastry bags. "It was really very difficult, and these women were strong," said David Shaffer, Sam Born's nephew and co-CEO along with Ross Born.

Ross's father, Bob Born — a physicist and engineer by training — automated the process in the mid-1950s, and a version of the machine he invented is still in use today, extruding millions of those familiar shapes on peak-Peep production days.

The company, whose other brands are Hot Tamales, Mike and Ike, and Goldenberg's Peanut Chews, has never suffered an unprofitable year. But its growth has always been relatively slow, steady and controlled, and a few years ago, Born and Shaffer decided they wanted to accelerate it.

The longtime partners brought in a new management team, spent heavily on marketing and broke back into the chocolate business, introducing chocolate-dipped Peeps as well as Peepsters, small chocolate candies filled with marshmallow-flavored cream. (New for this year is a yellow chick nestled in a hollow chocolate egg.) They also focused on holiday seasons other than Easter, particularly Christmas.

The result: Shaffer says last year was "off the charts." While Just Born is privately held and does not disclose revenue, he says it posted double-digit growth across all brands. And Shaffer sees more growth potential as the confectioner works to position its products in warehouse clubs and convenience stores.

Just Born certainly benefits from being part of a $33 billion candy industry that is seen as basically recession-proof, offering an inexpensive indulgence during tough economic times.

"Candy did not seem to take the hit that some other industries faced in recent years. We think a big reason for that is candy's place in our hearts and minds," says Susan Whiteside of the National Confectioners Association, a trade group.

Long associated with Easter, Peeps have penetrated the pop-culture consciousness in a way that other candy brands have not.

Aficionados send chicks into battle in a microwave "sport" known as Peeps jousting. They enter Peeps art contests, dozens of which are held around the country this time of year. They innovate recipes like "Peepza," a desert pizza. They write cheeky blog entries with titles like "101 Fun Ways to Torture a Peep."

Hoping to capitalize, Just Born recently opened three Peeps & Company retail stores in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Minnesota.

While the company churns out more than 1 billion Peeps this Easter season - a record - it sees the 60th anniversary as another marketing opportunity and a chance to connect with its fans via social media. In addition to the TV ad campaign, it's promoting a Facebook survey that asks knowing questions like this one: Do you like your Peeps fresh, frozen, or "aged to perfection"?

So which is it, Ross Born? Fresh or stale?

He's happy to address that perennial Peeps debate. Just don't ask him to take sides.

"There's a lot of gray area here," Born says diplomatically. "There are people who tell me they put a one-inch slice in the film (that seals the box), and they'll lay it on top of their refrigerator for two days. No more, no less. Then they are PERFECT to eat.

"So it's not necessarily stale, it's just a little firmer. All right? It's just like politics," says Just Born's commander-in-Peep. "You've got people way on one side, and way on the other side, but there are a whole lot of people in the middle."

ALCOHOL
FROM PAGE 1

All in all, the availability and use of alcohol — which studies show are connected — put Santa Monica squarely in the spotlight.

"It has been fascinating," Blanch said. "The numbers in terms of alcohol outlet density in Santa Monica are eye-opening."

According to the project, Santa Monica is rated sixth highest in the county for its concentration of restaurants and other businesses that serve alcohol for consumption on site. There's also one alcohol outlet per 294 residents on average, which is more than double that of the county.

According to the Institute for Public Strategies, the number of alcohol outlets in a city has been connected to violence, crime, alcohol-related car accidents, domestic violence and sexual assault.

A study of three cities in Northern California also showed that communities with more alcohol outlets had higher underage drinking rates and gang-related behavior.

The national Centers for Disease Control (CDC) states that underage drinking is "a major public health problem." Alcohol is the most commonly used and abused drug among American youth, and is responsible for more than 4,700 underage deaths a year.

More than 90 percent of the alcohol consumed by people between the ages of 12 and 20 is considered binge drinking.

Underage drinking can put kids at a higher risk for suicide, create memory problems or increase the likelihood that the drinker will use other drugs, according to the CDC.

Given the severity of both the problem and the consequences, the Westside Impact Project officials plan to hit the ground running, talking to community members, city employees and people from the school district to tease out potential solutions to the teen drinking problem.

Strategies that have worked in other communities include minor decoy stings at liquor stores, extra DUI checkpoints and a dedicated patrol car to take care of house parties.

Police already respond to calls of weekend parties, which sometimes involve teenagers who are drinking, said Sgt. Richard Lewis, spokesperson for the Santa Monica Police Department.

"When this occurs, we locate the responsible party and issue a citation or make an arrest where appropriate," Lewis said. "We also arrest the juveniles who are intoxicated and cannot care for themselves or who are in possession of alcohol."

The Westside Impact Project tries to tackle things from the legislative end, using policies like the "social host law." The law makes the owner of a property or the person whose name is on the lease responsible for allowing minors to drink. A violation can be accompanied by a stiff fine.

Santa Monica-specific suggestions will come forward sometime in the next year, Simmons said.

Local officials recognize teen drinking is a problem, and are taking steps to fix it.

City Hall's Community and Cultural Services Department pulled together the Youth Wellbeing Report Card, which referenced the same California Healthy Kids Survey as the Westside Impact Project.

Alcohol use was notable, said Julie Rusk, assistant director of the department.

That information will be used in the Cradle to Career initiative, a comprehensive effort to address the needs of youth in the community from birth and onward.

One way in which City Hall is responding to the issue is by providing money to the CLARE Foundation to offer the Clarity for Youth program, which brings counselors to high schools to work with at-risk students.

The CLARE Foundation, a nonprofit specializing in drug and alcohol recovery and education, is a brand new coalition partner in the Westside Impact Project, said Jessica Hay, prevention manager at CLARE.

While the Westside Impact Project addresses access, Clarity for Youth focuses on education, teaching kids at local middle and high schools how to say no to alcohol and providing counseling to those already impacted.

"Both are necessary components and they do complement each other," Hay said. "The goals are similar, and the strategies are a little different."

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JAZZ
FROM PAGE 3

Osborne stated that he usually plays the R&B/Pop festivals, and that he feels that Playboy's festival has something unique to offer.

"This is the purest of all festivals," he said. "There's no gimmicks here. It's straight-ahead jazz."

Also making her festival debut is 21-year-old saxophonist, vocalist and songwriter Grace Kelly, who will have her mentor Phil Woods joining her on the stage along with the rest of her band.

"Sometimes I pinch myself because it's so amazing to be working with my jazz heroes," she said.

Since the age of 12, Kelly has released eight full-length albums and performed at such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, the Apollo Theater and others.

On the other side of the age spectrum will be Quincy Jones, who will be celebrating his 80th birthday during the festival. His 65-year career in the entertainment industry has included winning 27 Grammy awards, seven Oscar nominations, an Emmy, and a best-selling autobiography.

He believes music to be one of life's bare essentials.

"Water and music are gonna be the last things to leave this planet," Jones said. "You can't live without [music]. You can't reproduce it. Same with water. You have to have it; you can't live without it."

The festival started in June of 1979, and Darlene Chan, president of FestivalWest Inc., has been there every year since, organizing the festival for the past 35 years.

"I'm trying to keep it, you know, not the same old, same old," she said. "We try to bring something new all the time."

One of the new things Chan is brining this year is the tandem of Naturally 7 and Hancock, who have never performed live on stage together. Hancock performed at the very first offering of the jazz festival in 1979.

"Playboy really has its own personality," Hancock said. "It's got a sunny, Southern California vibe to it. The festival carries with it the spirit of having swimming pools in your back yard."

Cooper Hefner, son of Hugh Hefner, feels that the jazz festival sheds a new light on the Playboy brand as a whole.

"There's this perception of Playboy that really is 'The Girls Next Door,'" Cooper Hefner said. "The interesting part about the jazz fest is it kind of breaks the traditional values of what the perception of the brand is. That's why I like it."

The festival will be held over two days at the Hollywood Bowl starting on Saturday, June 15. Tickets can be bought from Ticketmaster or online at playboyjazzfestival.com.

editor@smdp.com

SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **58.1°**

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
WNW swell and S/SSW swell mix eases further; still looks windy

SUNDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Minimal WNW swell and a New SSW swell starts to fill in

MONDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Easing WNW swell, SSW swell holds

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small WNW and SSW swell mix

WIND / WEATHER

Conditions for Saturday look poor, as the storm system slowly moves out and high pressure builds in behind it, setting up steady NW winds. Better weather/conditions by the end of the weekend, with possible light offshores for Sunday morning, followed by moderate onshores in the afternoon. Similar wind pattern expected for next Monday.

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 **March 6, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 4
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 35 / 35
Number of (F,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Groudeback Family Foundation

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
Los Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescadero State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Flores creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	B
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Flamingo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Geo Blocker County Beach.	A+	A+
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Malibu Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Topanga Canyon.	A+	m
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.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17308 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	A
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	B
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	D	A
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 CMW jetty).	A+	A+
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.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Last-second shooters eager for the big moments

BY AARON BEARD
AP Basketball Writer

It's March and in college basketball that means tournament time — and last-second buzzer beaters.

Memorable shots by Duke's Christian Laettner and Valparaiso's Bryce Drew in the NCAA tournament have earned a permanent place among the game's lore. Whoever steps up this month will be unafraid of the moment. They'll probably have the ability to create their own shot and have the skills to take advantage of what the defense gives them — a look at 3-pointer, a mid-range jumper or an open lane to the basket.

For a handful of current players like Florida State's Michael Snaer, it has become an art.

He's one of a select group of players who have at least twice hit a shot in the last 8 seconds to force overtime or win a game. While everyone might want to take that shot, there aren't many who have proven more than once they'll deliver in that big moment.

Snaer has hit six winners, four this year for half his team's Atlantic Coast Conference wins. He knows the ball is coming his way late in a close game — and he's always ready.

"You've just got to play basically off instinct," he said. "And the players that are able to do that and just clear their whole thought process ... those are the players that are the great ones that are able to take those shots and make those shots."

There are plenty of players with high-profile winners in the past two seasons, including Indiana's Christian Watford against Kentucky last year and Butler's Roosevelt Jones against now-No. 1 Gonzaga in January. But research by The Associated Press found there are at least 13 players who have hit those shots more than once in their careers.

The list includes: FSU's Snaer, Niagara's Juan'ya Green, Nevada's Deonte Burton, Indiana State's Jake Odum, South Dakota State's Chad White, Delaware's Devon Saddler, George Mason's Sherrod Wright, Arizona's Mark Lyons, UCLA's Larry Drew II, Georgia State's Rashaad Anderson, Oral Roberts' Damen Bell-Holter, and the Massachusetts duo of Terrell Vinson and Chaz Williams.

Lyons and Drew even have last-second winners or OT-forcing shots at more than one school. Lyons did it at Xavier last year, while Drew did it at North Carolina in the 2010 NIT.

"It takes a lot of confidence," Wildcats coach Sean Miller said. "With that confidence, (it's) the ability to endure criticism because missing a game-winning shot sometimes is the problem of someone willing to take it. It's not that they don't believe in their ability as much as, in my mind, I don't know if they don't feel good about the aftermath if that thing doesn't go in. To me, that overwhelms them."

At Niagara, coach Joe Mihalich has watched Green grow from a deferential freshman to a fearless sophomore capable of handling those chaotic final moments.

"You've got to want the ball," Mihalich said. "When you make a great play, that's what makes you a great player. ... When you make one or two, then it's just like, 'Gimme more, gimme more.' You get kind of addicted to it."

Green first hit a runner with 0.2 seconds left last year against St. Francis (Pa.). This year, he hit a 3 with 0.5 seconds left against Iona in overtime (he forced OT on a 3 with 4.5 seconds left in that one) and hit a 3 with 1.5 seconds left against Marist.

As a result, Green has earned the nickname "Win'ya" from the team's radio announcer.

"After the first one, you're still kind of nervous about it," Green said. "You're like, 'It might've been a lucky shot and it went in.' After that second one, you just feel confident enough to take that shot in any game.

"I think it comes down to the adrenaline. Once your adrenaline is pumping, you have no fear."

Players who have come through more than once say they have more confidence that the next one will go in.

"I feel lucky to get those opportunities," said South Dakota State's White, who hit two last-second 3s in an 11-day span in November. "I just feel like it's an honor to have that opportunity to shoot it and people believing you're going to make it."

For Odum, that belief began when with a runner with 0.5 seconds left against Evansville in the 2011 Missouri Valley Conference tournament. This year, he hit a leaner with 0.8 seconds left to beat Miami on Christmas Day, then hit two free throws with 0.3 seconds left to beat Northern Iowa in January.

"Sometimes you've got to just will it in," Odum said. "It might be a bad shot or the end of the clock and you have to take a bad one. Some players have that feel. ... I don't know if it's really competitiveness or toughness but a combination of those two and just confidence — knowing you can hit that at the end of the game."

Few players illustrate that better than the Seminoles' Snaer, who beat Duke and Virginia Tech on clock-beating 3s last season.

In a two-week span this year, the senior hit a 3 at the buzzer against Clemson, hit a 3 with 1.1 seconds left against Maryland and hit a driving layup at the buzzer at Georgia Tech. Then, on Thursday night, Snaer had winner No. 6 by driving for a three-point play with 4.4 seconds left against Virginia.

Snaer said success begins with offseason work to hone his shot. Then it's trusting himself and staying calm while muscle memory lends a hand.

North Carolina State coach Mark Gottfried, for one, said he'd defend Snaer differently late in a close game than someone who hasn't hit multiple last-second shots. His team faces Snaer in Saturday's regular-season finale.

"I had already told myself if (last month's) game with Florida State would've come down to the wire, we were doubling Michael Snaer," Gottfried said. "There's 5 seconds to go, I don't care if we leave somebody wide open, we're going to go get him and make somebody else make the shot. ... I do think it alters how you would defend late in the game."

Regardless, these proven-it shooters relish the challenge of hitting shots when the defense knows what's coming at the end.

And their ranks could grow as the NCAA tournament draws near.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, March 9
The Sting (PG) 2hrs 9min
Discussion following with screenwriter David S. Ward.
7:30pm

Sunday, March 10
The Passenger (PG) 2hrs 6min
Walkabout (R) 1hr 40min
7:30pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 6min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
12:45pm, 3:45pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm

Good Day to Die Hard (R) 1hr 37min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Safe Haven (PG-13) 1hr 55min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

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

Jack the Giant Slayer (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:25am, 2:25pm, 5:25pm, 8:20pm, 11:15pm

Jack the Giant Slayer 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
12:25pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:55am, 10:15pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:35am, 2:20pm, 5:05pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Identity Thief (R) 1hr 51min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:45am, 3:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Snitch (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:20am, 2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:15pm, 11:10pm

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

Greedy Lying Bastards (PG-13) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:15pm

Searching for Sugar Man (PG-13) 1hr 25min
11:00am

Just 45 Minutes from Broadway (R) 1hr 48min
11:00am

Quartet (PG-13) 1hr 37min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Emperor (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Girl Rising (PG-13) 1hr 41min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-7910

Oz The Great and Powerful (PG) 2hrs 07min
10:45am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 8:00pm, 11:15pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 2:20pm, 5:30pm, 8:30pm, 11:10pm

21 and Over (R) 1hr 33min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Side Effects (R) 1hr 46min
11:30am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Dead Man Down (R) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 5:15pm, 8:15pm, 11:00pm

Last Exorcism Part II (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

Happy Birthday

Ted Winterer: City Council member and avid skier

CENTER OF ATTENTION, ARIES

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Your day revolves around getting together with friends. Whatever you aspire to be could become a reality today or in the near future. A misunderstanding or taking someone's comments personally would be a mistake. Tonight: You are the center of attention.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Whether you are the host of an event or simply a guest who is responsible for someone, others will count on you to do what is needed. You will move from experiencing high tension to being relaxed. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your energy and intellect work together. You might enjoy getting out of town or going to a flea market or two. You will have a better time if you socialize at the same time. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's or loved one's news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You naturally draw others in as you create mischief. Reveal more of yourself to a new friend or partner. Understand what is happening with this seemingly demanding person. He or she only wants more time with you. Let it happen. Tonight: Paint the town red.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Others notice the twinkle in your eye, and they know you are up for a fun time. Whether an event is preplanned makes no difference, as you will add a touch of excitement. Tonight: The good times could go on and on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ A project on hold finally gets worked on, and you will feel better about yourself as a result. Decide to carry it out to completion and see what happens. Confusion surrounds a domestic matter. Know that no one means ill. Tonight: With your favorite person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Approach a situation in a different manner. You are especially creative when you're exploring a new idea that is out of your comfort zone. You won't feel better until you do something. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ You might need more quiet time at home. Whether you want to do your taxes or simply complete a project, make it OK to do just that. Know what is happening between you and someone else. Tonight: At home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Don't put off an overdue conversation with a neighbor or sibling any longer. Listen to news more openly. You could be slightly overwhelmed by all the people around you, calling you and looking for you. Stay spontaneous, and don't worry so much. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Be aware of the cost of proceeding in a certain direction. You could be overwhelmed by what is happening. You don't need to respond to someone's attempt to push you. Put yourself first, and you will be a lot happier. You, too, have boundaries. Tonight: Whatever you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You can't be stopped from enjoying yourself, as you always have a host of friends nearby. A misunderstanding with a loved one could be straightened out quickly. Tonight: Sort out who, what and where.

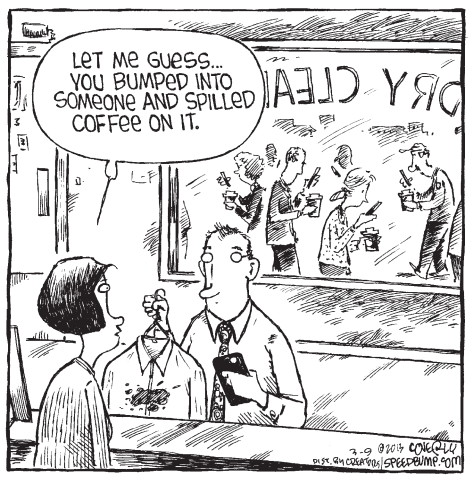
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★ You might want to placate an important individual in your life. Take stock of your situation. As a result, you might want to rethink a decision. Nothing replaces authenticity. Claim responsibility for just your side of the problem. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

Weekend Edition, March 9-10, 2013

This year ideas keep popping up from all directions. At times, you will need to vanish or close down from excess communication. You might wonder how you are able to implement so many great suggestions. If you are single, you could meet someone very special to your life history. You might find that you often don't agree with this person, but you do find each other exciting. If you are attached, you know that there is another solution just around the corner. Learn to work as a team, and understand that both of you can be right with different solutions. Take time to recharge your batteries in this busy year. AQUARIUS understands you well.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



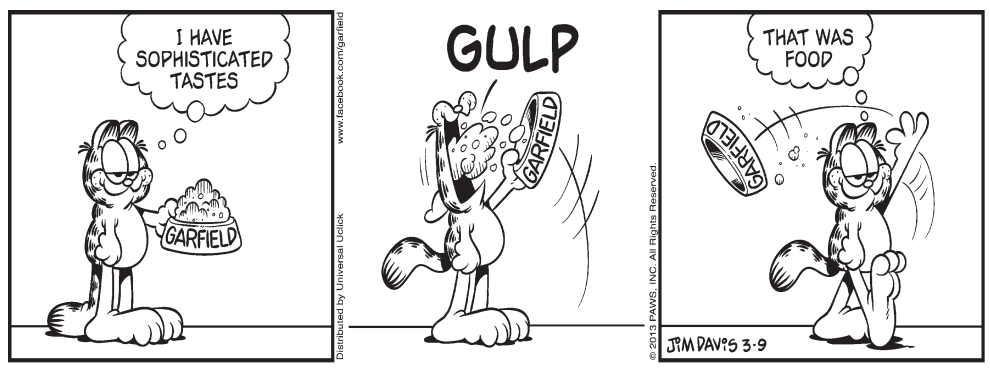
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Arm art
7 Yard divisions
11 Acropolis setting
12 Car bar
13 Ethics concern
14 Like a dime
15 Rival
16 Trounces
17 Puts in stitches
18 Caron of "Gigi"
19 Hover crafts?
21 Twisty turn
22 Warhol, for one
25 Take the title
26 Sweeping
27 Fridge, formerly
29 Organ part
33 Nymph chaser
34 Masked hero
35 Do magazine work
36 Musical handicap
37 Big book
38 Cell resident
39 Mineral sources
40 Ranked, in tennis

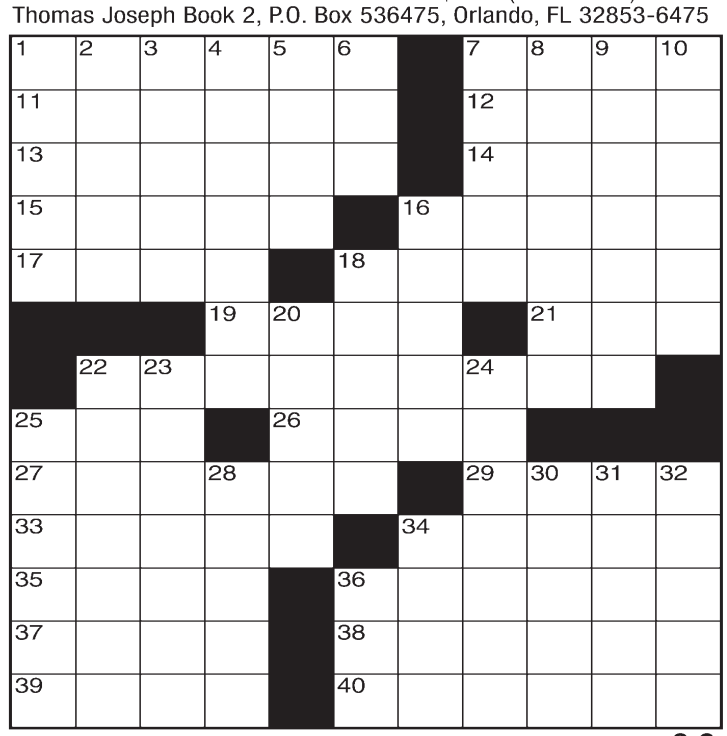
DOWN

1 Breaks, perhaps
2 Make amends
3 Deliberately lost
4 Joins forces
5 Just
6 CIA forerunner
7 Trio of myth
8 Breathes out
9 Snobby sort
10 Past, present and future
16 Outdoes
18 Dr. Seuss' environmental hero
20 Smile upon
22 Bullfighter with a lance
23 Former
24 Treater's words
25 Aware of
28 Memory units
30 Sneaker feature
31 Make speeches
32 Studied (over)
34 Fan publication
36 Frank McCourt book

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

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



3-9



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Australian researchers recently uncovered a minor prison phenomenon in that country that might shed light on isolated cases reported in southwest U.S. prisons (mentioned in News of the Weird in 2012): inmates inserting objects underneath the skin of their penises, somehow under the impression that (a) it doesn't hurt and (b) it provides sexual pleasure and virility. Among the items discovered in Australia: buttons, dice, deodorant roller balls. The apparent favorite among the several Hispanic men discovered in the U.S. Southwest: shaved dominoes. In many cases, infections resulted and sometimes required major surgery.

■ From a tag on an item of clothing offered recently at a new-item price by the retailer Urban Outfitters: "This unique found item was hand-selected for you from a yard sale or flea market. Any tears, holes, paint stains or other 'defects' we consider a virtue and not a flaw. Wear it well." Consequently, an item that might have been donated overseas or to a Goodwill or Salvation Army store is sold to "urban" clotheshounds at "new" prices. Urban Outfitters defended the practice, calling any such items "curated" by their expert store buyers, "hand-picked" for their "uniqueness," and sometimes "truly one-of-a-kind, which means that once they're gone, they're gone."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1989 - Financially troubled Eastern Air Lines filed for bankruptcy.

1991 - Massive demonstrations are held against Slobodan Milo‰eviç in Belgrade.

1997 - Comet Hale-Bopp: Observers in China, Mongolia and eastern Siberia are treated to a rare double feature as an eclipse permits Hale-Bopp to be seen during the day.

WORD UP!

scupper
\ SKUHP-er \ , verb;
1. Informal. to prevent from happening or succeeding; ruin; wreck.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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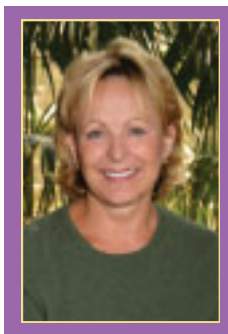
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Remember to set your clocks forward one hour when you go to bed Saturday night!!

Now that we're back in Daylight Savings Time,
Sunday Open House
times have changed to
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm



As promised, I will remind you twice a year to take care of these important safety issues:

Interior:

- Change the batteries in all of your smoke detectors & carbon monoxide detectors.
- Clean and/or change the filters in your furnace.
- Clean out any lint and/or fabric from the vents of your clothes dryer.
- Check electrical outlets for potential fire hazards such as frayed wires or loose fitting plugs.
- Check for overloading of electrical outlets, fuse boxes, extension cords etc.
- Keep a filled and ready-to-use, multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible.
- Check water heater for leaks and corrosion.
- Sump system should be checked several times during the rainy season (if applicable).
- Vacuum refrigerator condensing coils.
- Inspect shower, tub & sink caulking for deterioration.
- Inspect all plumbing fixtures and supply lines for leaks.
- Pour bleach down every drain in your home.
- Survey all vent openings for compromised screening or other deterioration.
- Upgrade washing machine hoses to stainless steel jacketed hoses to help prevent failure.
- Lubricate and service the garage door hardware and openers.
- The fire sprinkler system needs to be inspected periodically (if applicable).
- Termite inspections should be performed every 3 years.

Exterior:

- Remove all dead trees & keep healthy trees & shrubs trimmed & away from utility wires.
- Remove dead leaves and all debris from your gutters and downspouts.
- Repair driveway & walkways that are cracked, broken or uneven to provide a level surface.

As always, please be sure to contact me

if I can be of assistance for any real estate need.

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