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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 111

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI FALLS TO SERRA
SEE PAGE 3

THE YOU LOOKING AT ME? ISSUE



File photo

BACK WHEN: **Michelle Shocked headlined the Santa Monica Pier's Twilight Dance Series in 2008. A performance at McCabe's was canceled after she made an anti-gay statement.**

Shocked show at McCabe's canceled over anti-gay remarks

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

PICO BLVD McCabe's Guitar Shop on Pico Boulevard has joined a growing list of concert venues that have canceled planned performances by alternative folk singer Michelle Shocked after she made anti-gay remarks at a show on Sunday.

Witnesses say Shocked, a born-again Christian, told the crowd at San Francisco's Yoshi's, "When they stop Prop. 8 and force priests at gunpoint to marry gays, it will be the downfall of civilization, and Jesus will come back," and "You can go on Twitter and say, 'Michelle Shocked says God hates fags.'"

The staff at the venue finally turned off the stage lights and pulled the plug on her performance, according to a report by USA Today.

Shocked was scheduled to perform at McCabe's Saturday. An employee at the venue said the concert was canceled Monday after over 90 percent of ticket holders

SEE GIG PAGE 7



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

HOLDING: **A line of people wait for service at the post office on Fifth Street on Tuesday. The location is slated to be shuttered later this year.**

Downtown post office to close this summer

City Hall still waiting to weigh in on landmark status of building

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN U.S. Postal Service officials confirmed Tuesday that the Downtown post office will close this summer, even as city officials struggle to have a say in the future of the historic property.

The Postal Service is in the process of shopping the New Deal-era building around to other government agencies, and has already begun making improvements to the postal annex on Seventh Street, which will take over as the main customer service location for Downtown after the Fifth Street post office closes, said Richard Maher, a spokesperson for the Postal Service.

If no other federal group wants it, the Postal Service will put the property on the

SEE POST OFFICE PAGE 7

Study: Housing expensive everywhere in U.S.

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE A minimum wage worker cannot afford a two-bedroom apartment anywhere in the United States, and Santa Monica is at one of the extremes, a national study examining housing affordability released this month reveals.

The report, dubbed Out of Reach 2013, was issued by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, a nonprofit that focuses on housing policy for poor Americans.

The report shows that a typical worker in the United States would have to earn $18.79 per hour to ensure that they spent 30 percent of their wages on a two-bedroom rental unit with a fair market rent of $977 per month.

SEE HOUSING PAGE 8

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Toddler time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
9:30 a.m. — 9:50 a.m.
The library invites community members for toddler story time. Stories, songs and rhymes for ages 18 to 35 months, accompanied by an adult. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Pearly blues
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
There will be a discussion on Toni Morrison's first novel, "The Bluest Eye." It's the story of Pecola Brown, an 11-year-old black girl in 1940s Ohio who is taunted by the world for her skin color and dark hair. Join the library for a discussion of similar problems being faced in the modern era.

Planning for the future
City Hall, Council Chambers
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Santa Monica Planning Commission will meet to discuss a proposed mixed-use development on Second Street that will include 53 apartments and approximately 6,717 square feet of ground-floor commercial space and a two-level subterranean garage providing 66 parking spaces. For more information, go to www.smgov.net or call (310) 458-8341.

Improv musical
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade,
8 p.m.
"Musical Madness" is a fully improvised long-form show complete with musical numbers. The catch: It's completely unscripted. Admission is $5 and the venue is for people ages 21 and over. For more information, visit westsidecomedy.com

Thursday, May 21, 2013

Get slimed
Santa Monica Place Center Plaza
1 p.m. — 6 p.m.
In preparation for the Kids' Choice Awards, Center Plaza will be transformed by a green-screen digital sliming station, a true sliming unit and a Toyota Rav4 vehicle display. Kids are invited to enter to win four tickets to the awards show on March 23. Children under 18 will need a parent present if they choose to be slimed. Admission is free.

Home sweet home
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2nd Floor,
4:30 p.m.
The Santa Monica Housing Commission will discuss the latest citywide homeless count numbers and the pros and cons of unbundling parking. The housing manager will also give a report, which will include the impacts of federal budget cuts on housing production and assistance. For more information, call (310) 458-8411.

Hearing on hotel
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
Multipurpose Room, 7 p.m.
Residents who want to learn more about a proposed 22-story hotel designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry for the corner of Ocean Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard are encouraged to attend this community meeting to give feedback on the concept. Gehry is expected to attend.

Setting the table
SMC's Bundy Campus
3171 S. Bundy Dr., 7 p.m.
Santa Monica College will celebrate Women's History Month with a discussion entitled Women at the Political Table: Set it or Sit at it?, which will feature former State Sen. Sheila Kuehl, founding director of SMC's Public Policy Institute. The event is free. Seating is on a first-arrival basis. Call (310) 434-4303.

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

CIVIC CENTER

Former mayors support 'Chain Reaction'

Six former Santa Monica mayors have come out in support of a controversial sculpture which will be removed from the Civic Center lawn if proponents cannot gather the money needed to repair it.

Judy Abdo, Jim Conn, Michael Feinstein, Paul Rosenstein, Nat Trives and Denny Zane wrote an open letter urging anyone who will listen to pitch in for "Chain Reaction," a monumental sculpture by three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Paul Conrad.

"With the city, the Conrad family, artists and students, as well as the local and global peace community all helping, we can create a positive chain reaction of support for 'Chain Reaction,'" the group wrote.

Supporters have a long row to hoe if they intend to raise the $555,000 that city officials believe may be needed to fully restore the statute, although other professional conservators have put the figure as low as $85,000. The statute has deteriorated somewhat because of exposure to the elements.

In January, the City Council put a deadline of Feb. 1, 2014 to raise the cash. As of Tuesday, there was only $10,382 in the account held by the Community & Cultural Services Department to collect donations for "Chain Reaction."

Dave Conrad, the artist's son, believes it will be easier to raise the capital needed now that City Hall has given a concrete figure and that the group has found a grant writer to help reach nonprofits that might be interested in saving the work.

Previously, supporters had complained that city officials waited until September to provide an estimate of the costs needed to repair the statue after the City Council gave them a Nov. 15 deadline to gather the money.

In the meantime, the Landmarks Commission voted to give landmark designation to "Chain Reaction," which became the first piece of public art to win such recognition in the city.

That new status comes with strings — although City Hall can petition to remove the sculpture, it must provide an environmental impact report to do so. Those documents are notoriously expensive.

– ASHLEY ARCHIBALD

MAIN LIBRARY

Room with a view

Residents will get their first look at the new Frank Gehry hotel proposed for Ocean Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard at a public meeting hosted by the developers Thursday night.

The current proposal for the 22-story hotel includes 125 hotel rooms and an additional 22 condominiums at the top of the building. A public observation deck caps the structure, and the developers also proposed a 36,000-square-foot museum to the north of the hotel site utilizing two landmarked buildings already on the property.

The Worthe Real Estate Group, one of two companies developing the site, estimate that the project will generate $72.7 million per year in direct and indirect spending, 1,394 jobs and $4 million in new tax revenue to City Hall.

The presentation will be held Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Main Library at 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

– AA



Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

FIRE IT UP: **Samohi starting pitcher Conner Greene delivers a pitch against Serra during a 6-3 loss on Tuesday at home.**

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Serra strikes late to dispatch Samohi, 6-3

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI In a battle between sought-after baseball prospects, advantage Serra.

Santa Monica starting pitcher Conner Greene held his own for most of the day against Serra and its vaunted star Dominic Smith, but couldn't seal the deal during a 6-3 loss at home on Tuesday.

As a group of scouts from Major League Baseball teams looked on, the game was scoreless through three and a half innings before Samohi was able to put a couple of runs on the board against starting pitcher Smith in the fourth.

Samohi catcher Lino Lares drove in Nobu Suzuki, who singled to lead off the inning, to notch the game's first run. Later in the frame, Ryan Barbarin drew a bases-loaded walk to score Jonathan Rakuljic.

Leading 2-1 in the sixth inning,

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 9

See-through yoga pants a pain for Lululemon

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO & MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Lululemon has yanked its popular black yoga pants from store shelves and online after it found that the sheer material used was revealing too much of its loyal customers.

The see-through yoga garb is the latest in a series of quality glitches that threatens to alienate the retailer's hard-core fan base, which has so far been more than willing to shell out $100 for pants and other athletic garments. These legions of followers have helped Lululemon, founded in 1998, become a billion-dollar business.

Eva Glettner, 33, of Los Angeles is a case in point. Glettner, who has been a devoted fan of Lululemon, said she'll now shop only at Target to buy her yoga outfits.

"You expect a certain quality, and they definitely let me down," Glettner said. "For that price point, it's unacceptable."

Glettner says Target has similar pants for $30. "It's hard enough making a commitment to working out without worrying about whether you are baring your behind."

Lululemon Athletica Inc. said on its website that it first began to under-

SEE **PANTS** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Saying no to nuclear

Editor:

Congratulations to the City Council for passing the Sustainability Bill of Rights. In addition to conventional environmental contamination, I trust that this new bill will also address perhaps the most dangerous contamination of all: radioactivity.

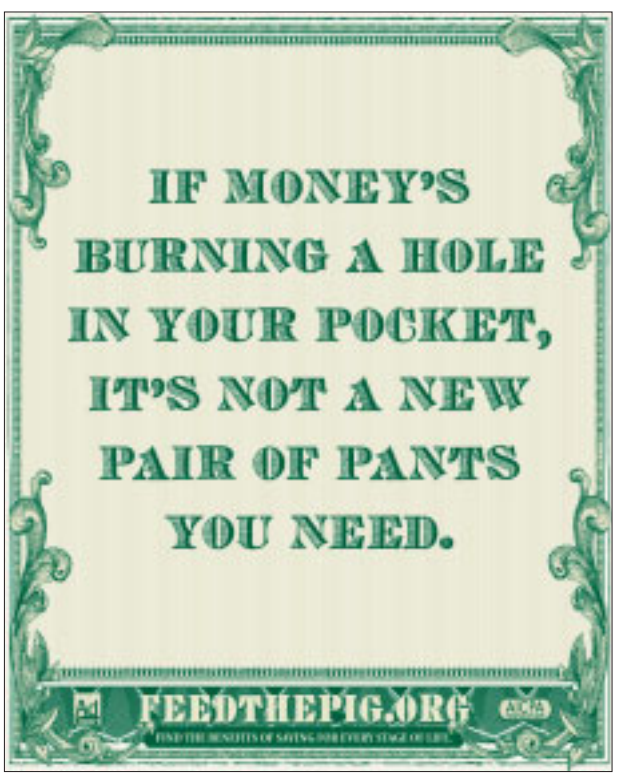
We are fortunate that San Onofre remains closed, at least for the time being, but Edison is trying hard to get permission to start it up again. Even if the failed steam generators work perfectly, this nuclear power plant will once again start to emit low-level radioactivity into the environment. In 2010, Edison dumped dozens of radionuclides into the ocean for a total of 550 hours. They also did 46 hours of atmospheric discharges. Ocean and air currents then carry this radioactivity to populated areas with unknown health effects. The National Academy of Sciences is now doing a two-year epidemiological study for the 30-mile area surrounding San Onofre to test for cancer caused by the normal operation of the plant.

These discharges are permitted by the NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) because nuclear reactors cannot operate without regularly emitting radioactivity. The dates and concentrations are done secretly and Edison only releases quarterly averages. The nuclear industry likes to say that each low-level emission is not harmful, but scientists now say that radioactive exposure is cumulative and that all levels can be harmful, especially to women, children and the human fetus. These groups are far more vulnerable to radioactivity than the statistical reference adult male used by the NRC. NRC models rely on a single event (Hiroshima) but even the NRC admits that it doesn't know the harmful effects of extended exposure to low-level radiation year after year.

Sailors on the aircraft carrier USS Reagan are now suing Tokyo Electric Power Co., operator of the Fukushima nuclear power plant that spewed radiation. The ship was 100 miles from Fukushima when sailors were exposed to low-level radiation. They are now experiencing cancer-like health effects. Will residents of Los Angeles be able to sue Edison under the new law? Los Angeles is only 60 miles from San Onofre, and if the plant reopens there will be low-level radiation, not just for a few days but regularly month after month and year after year.

Medical studies of 100,000 children in Fukushima reported that 42 percent already have thyroid nodules and cysts. It is about time that Californians get serious about energy alternatives to nuclear power. In spite of what the industry says, nuclear power is expensive, dangerous, unreliable, and very unfriendly to the environment.

Roger Johnson, Ph.D.
San Clemente, Calif.





The Taxman

Jon Coupal

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Brown's PERB: Wrecking reasonable pension reform

WHEN IT COMES TO STATE GOVERNMENT, most people think of the governor and the members of the legislature — those who are elected by the voters and do their business under the Capitol dome.

However, there is an entire class of faceless, unelected appointees to the state's hundreds of boards and commissions who determine whether or not state residents receive good services and a decent return for billions of dollars of taxpayer money.

These boards and commissions are generally tasked with oversight of various aspects of state management. However, some of these obscure agencies have proven to be nothing more than fronts for special interests.

One of the most egregious of these is the powerful Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) which is comprised of officials who behave as if they were a separate branch of California government. The members of PERB are currently taking aggressive action that could have a major negative impact on taxpayers in San Diego, San Jose, and potentially other communities.

PERB describes itself as quasi-judicial administrative agency charged with administering the collective bargaining statutes covering employees of California's public schools, colleges, and universities, employees of the state of California, employees of California local public agencies (cities, counties and special districts), trial court employees and supervisory employees of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

PERB is now using its tremendous clout in an effort to overturn landmark pension reform initiatives overwhelmingly approved by voters in the cities of San Diego (67 percent) and San Jose (70 percent). Board lawyers have filed complaints against the two cities claiming that public officials failed to bargain in good faith on pension issues with unions representing city employees, prior to the passage of the initiatives.

Voters in San Diego and San Jose acted proactively to avoid the fate of Vallejo, Stockton and San Bernardino, cities that have gone financially toes up because past City Council members, elected with the support of government employee unions, agreed to lavish pension benefits that were unsustainable. With the future of their own cities on the line, citizens used the initiative process to approve reforms that would put pensions on an actuarially sound footing.

While the reforms approved by each community are slightly different, neither takes anything away from what employees have already earned. For public employees, having to contribute a little more to their own pensions, or to work several extra years for pension eligibility, is not a bad trade off if it means both cities will avoid bankruptcy and will be in a position to meet their future obligations to these workers.

PERB IS NOW USING ITS TREMENDOUS CLOUT IN AN EFFORT TO OVERTURN LANDMARK PENSION REFORM INITIATIVES OVERWHELMINGLY APPROVED BY VOTERS ...

However, Jerry Brown, who talks a good game of pension reform, is nonetheless beholden to the government employee unions for his repeat trip to the governor's office. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that he has used his discretion to stack the PERB with union hacks.

So now the dirty work to overturn pension reform at the local level is being done by PERB, and the governor will raise his hands, palms outward, and say, "Who me?"

With the huge public support for reasonable reform, isn't it time for the governor and PERB to get out of the way and allow these pension changes that are fair to both employees and taxpayers to proceed?

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Ashley Archibald
ashley@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
editor@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Tahreem Hassan, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Sarah A. Spitz, Taylor Van Arsdale, Merv Hecht, Cynthia Citron, Michael Ryan, JoAnne Barge, Katrina Davy

NEWS INTERNS
Alex Vejar
editor@smdp.com

Henry Crumblish
editor@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Ray Solano
editor@smdp.com

VICE PRESIDENT–BUSINESS OPERATIONS
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Justin Harris
justin@smdp.com

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Chelsea Fujitaki
chelsea@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Nathalyd Meza

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
ross@smdp.com

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Ducklings make foul Easter gifts

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A fluffy duckling might seem appealing next to a basket of Easter eggs, but shelter officials and animal welfare experts want gift-happy parents to picture something else: Poop.

The average domestic duck relieves itself once every 15 minutes, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. That's why very few people have ducks for pets — except at Easter.

Yet millions of people have or will celebrate spring and Easter by getting their children a duckling, figuring they can release it in a pond when it gets too big to keep.

"We usually get tons of calls right after Easter," said Susie Coston, national shelter director for the Farm Sanctuary.

Duck diapers are readily available online, but it takes more than that to raise a duck, said Carol Chrysong, the 56-year-old founder of The Lucky Duck Rescue & Sanctuary in Los Angeles. The sanctuary is home to 120 of them, including a drake and two hens that Chrysong keeps as her pets, and the cleanup is exhausting, she said.

"I do a massive amount of work every day before and after work. I am pretty exhausted," Chrysong said.

The upsides to keeping a duck as a pet include their surprisingly doglike behavior, which has them greeting owners upon arrival (Muscovy ducks even wag their tails), learning tricks and being extreme loyal, she said.

The downside, though, is cleaning up after a diaperless duck that also likes to get into water or puddles and splash — then walk around, Chrysong said. An indoor duck would have to sit on a poop mat and sleep in a playpen full of shavings if it stays inside.

Chrysong added that ducks are in heat up to 10 months out of the year, so "if you don't want to have the sex talk with your child, don't get a duck." Experts say that most ducklings sold at Easter are drakes, so parents hoping for fresh eggs are out of luck.

Coston also discouraged ducks as pets, especially since they can live up to 20 years and more. She noted that it's unlikely a child can take the duck to college.

Parents often assume they can set a duck free at a local pond once it outgrows its duckling stage, but "domestic ducks are not equipped to survive in the wild like their wild cousins," she said.

They can't fly, their colors don't match the environment and they don't know how to act in the wild, "so they fall prey to many wild animals, dogs and, sadly, even people," she said. In many cases, territorial ducks at a pond will kill newcomers.

Lydia Yasuda, a photographer from Diamond Bar, Calif., volunteers weekly at Chrysong's rescue after Chrysong took in her daughter's duckling. He had followed the girl around at a lake, and "we thought he could grow up and we could take him to the pond," said Yasuda.

Then the Yasudas started to read about caring for ducks. Her husband said no and they live in an apartment, so Benji went to the duck rescue.

Chrysong, who also keeps two horses and a dog on her half-acre of property in a rural area near Los Angeles, said she herself fell in love with ducks at age 8, when she and her sister received ducks as Easter gifts. "Those two ducks followed us all over Inglewood. They would wait outside when we took them to the store," she recalled.

When the ducks were 5, her parents released them at a pond, she said.

"It was devastating for me. They kept following us to the car. Eventually, my father said, 'Let's go,' and we left them there in the parking lot. I never got over it. Now I know what happens to them. That's why I am so aggressive about the work we do," Chrysong said.

When she got a home in San Fernando Valley 27 years ago, she got a few ducks and people gave her the occasional bird before she decided to open a shelter. She gained charity status in 2008.

Then "the tsunami of ducks started coming my way. And I mean wave after wave of them," she said. "I would have 10 million ducks here if I took all the ducks."

She places ducks only if adopters will take a group. She doesn't want one duck dying of grief because it lost its flock, she said.

Cities such as Los Angeles could help prevent parents from giving ducks as temporary pets by barring the sale of lone ducklings, she said.

Most major national pet store chains have stopped selling chicks, bunnies or ducklings — all popular Easter gifts — so almost all sales are made online, at feed stores or independent pet stores.

Parents who have children who want a duck for Easter should visit a pet store or zoo instead, she said. That'll be less messy and a lot less work, Chrysong said as she recalled her experiences.

"The duck lady is starting to show serious signs of wear," she said.

The Q Line

Running around town

The Los Angeles Marathon returned to Santa Monica this week. Tens of thousands of runners and even more friends, family and fans crammed streets for the big day.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think city officials handled the event properly, or do you have advice for managing the throngs of people for next year?

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



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Man released for appeal after 13 years in prison

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A man who was imprisoned for more than 13 years under California's three strikes law for possessing a concealed knife — a crime a federal judge ruled he didn't commit — was ordered released while an appeal on his case is pending.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Suzanne H. Segal granted Danny Larsen's release Tuesday in Los Angeles.

As part of his release, Larsen must pay $52,000, cannot leave Los Angeles County, must look for work, undergo drug testing and anger management counseling, and cannot have any contact with gang members, said Larsen's lead attorney Jan Stiglitz, who is co-director of the California Innocence Project.

Larsen, 45, was convicted in 1999 of possessing a concealed knife after two police officers testified to seeing him throw it under a car in a bar parking lot. Larsen's defense attorney called no witnesses in the case and Larsen was sentenced to 27 years-to-life in prison under California's three strikes law.

The California Innocence Project took on the case and in June 2010, a federal judge reversed the conviction and found him innocent; Larsen's attorney was also found to be incompetent, Stiglitz said.

"We do an investigation and we find nine witnesses willing to testify that Danny never had a knife," Stiglitz said.

However, because the filing was late, Larsen's attorneys are waiting for a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on a separate case that will determine whether a tardy filing in federal court can be excused for a person who is "actually innocent," Stiglitz said.

Stiglitz said it is hard for a person who is in prison to conduct an investigation and gather evidence in their case while under lockdown.

"We were really late, but we didn't have what we needed to show his innocence," Stiglitz said.

The release was granted in response to an order by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, which is waiting on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Larsen's case will return to 9th Circuit Court of Appeals for a final decision on his freedom once the high court rules.

Stiglitz said that could come in June, but it's also possible the Supreme Court will decide it should never have taken the case to begin with.

"Danny has been waiting for the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to act for over three years," Stiglitz said.

The release "means a lot to Danny — he can walk out of prison," Stiglitz said.

"And the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals is sending a message that innocence matters, and innocence matters more than technicalities."

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Los Angeles utility takes steps to turn coal-free

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is taking steps to wean its dependence on coal by the middle of next decade.

The city utility currently gets 40 percent of its energy from coal-fired plants in Utah and Arizona. On Tuesday, the utility voted to amend its contract with Utah-based Intermountain Power Project to use its natural gas plant instead. The move still needs approval from City Council.

Officials say another agreement in the works to sell off LADWP's stake in the Arizona plant will make the utility coal-free by 2025. That's five years later than a promise by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, who in 2009 predicted a coal-free Los Angeles in 2020.

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POST OFFICE

FROM PAGE 1

open market as part of a nationwide effort to raise cash to cover a $25 billion hole in the mail service's finances that has accumulated over the last five years as people steer clear of "snail mail" and pension and healthcare costs rise for postal employees.

The agency also needs to find an entity or organization to keep an eye on the building after the sale to ensure that the historic aspects are protected, also called a "covenant holder."

As of now, that can't be Santa Monica, Maher said, because the local municipal code prevents City Hall from entering a voluntary covenant agreement with a private owner until the property is landmarked.

That creates a catch-22.

The post office has languished on the Landmarks Commissions discussion list for months, with city officials holding that the commission could not take action on the matter until the building was no longer property of the federal government.

Although Deputy City Attorney Heidi von Tongeln confirmed that the Landmarks Commission would be able to formally discuss the post office property for the first time at its April meeting, it's unclear what will come out of that as the government believes that Santa Monica cannot landmark the property if it does not apply for the status.

A covenant holder will have to be identified before the sale, and the Postal Service hasn't decided if it wants to make that transition smoother by putting in for a local landmark designation, Maher said.

"The Postal Service has not decided which process it's going to pursue," Maher said. "We will evaluate all options as we go forward. We will secure a covenant holder, but we don't know who that is."

As of last week, the City Attorney's Office had not received any information from the Postal Service about City Hall's ability to be a covenant holder, von Tongeln said.

Carol Lemlein, of the Santa Monica Conservancy, doesn't believe there's any reason that City Hall cannot move forward with a designation. She points to cities like Glendale and Southgate, which have already bestowed landmark status on their post offices despite federal government ownership.

The city of Los Angeles never went down that road when it took on the role of covenant holder for the Post Office in Venice, said Ken Bernstein manager of L.A.'s Office of Historic Resources.

That building was bought late last year by producer Joel Silver — responsible for a number of popular films including the "Matrix," "V for Vendetta" and "Sherlock Holmes" — and city officials stepped in to watch over the historic property.

"We did agree to step in and play what we hope will be a constructive and helpful role in adaptive reuse by overseeing a covenant that requires all permits and requests for alteration be reviewed by the Office of Historic Resources," Bernstein said.

The office treated it similar to a landmark designation, although federal government ownership preempted it from becoming an L.A. landmark itself, he said.

Struggles with the Postal Service began last year when the federal agency announced that Santa Monica was one of a multitude of offices across the country that would lose a location as part of its belt tightening.

By moving to the Seventh Street annex location, which abuts Interstate 10, the Postal Service will save over $360,000 per year.

Residents and City Hall protested the move, arguing that the location was more difficult to access, particularly with the coming Exposition Light Rail Line which will bifurcate the city along Colorado Avenue.

The Postal Service denied City Hall's appeal of its decision in October.

ashley@smdp.com

GIG

FROM PAGE 1

demanded refunds. The venue's website confirms the cancellation.

McCabe's concert director, Lincoln Myerson, said in a statement to the press that the guitar shop made the decision to cancel the show, but it wasn't easy. First they had to confirm reports regarding the incident and then they reached out to Shocked to get her side of the story. She did not respond.

"While we are personally repulsed by the hateful comments … , we are also strong advocates of free speech and find censorship of any kind equally repugnant," the statement reads. "After a long day of fielding complaints and threats — both from the LGBT community as well as First Amendment advocates — … we decided last night to cancel our scheduled engagement with Michelle.

"Ultimately we cite the second half of the First Amendment as our reason for canceling — the right to assemble peacefully — something we feel is not possible at this time."

LGBT activist John Becker has created a petition on Change.org demanding Shocked be held responsible for her hate speech and urging more than a dozen venues to cancel her upcoming shows. So far, nine venues have canceled, Becker said.

"Freedom of speech and artistic expression are critically important, but this isn't free speech," Becker said in a statement on Change.org. "This is hate speech. And in a world where LGBT people are bullied from the pulpit, on the playground, and at the polls, anti-gay hate speech can have serious consequences including legitimizing bullying and hate crimes, and increasing victims' risk of anxiety, depression, and suicide."

Shocked's website did not reflect the concert cancellations as of Tuesday.

On her Facebook page, Shocked wrote Sunday, "Truth is leading to painful confrontation #shortsharpshocked." For the "Favorite Quotes" entry, Shocked has, "Free speech means the right to shout 'theatre' in a crowded fire. Abbie Hoffman."

A fan by the name of Sue Jeffers posted on her page: "i certainly hope you are not speaking of your ill advised verbal assault on a large part of your fan base and fellow human beings. the only truth in what you said, perhaps, is what your opinion has become. it is the height of hubris and pride to claim that you hold 'THE TRUTH' because you read it somewhere. i hope you find your way out of the wilderness you seem to have stumbled into."

Shocked got her last name following an arrest in a political protest called "The War Chest Tour," during the 1984 Democratic National Convention in San Francisco, according to the singer-songwriter's online bio.

At least one Santa Monica resident is pleased that McCabe's "made the right decision" to cancel the show.

Joe Delaplaine, who is gay, said he planned to protest in front of McCabe's on the day of the concert to encourage those with tickets to boycott Shocked.

"If you make statements like the ones she did, you have to be prepared and expect a reaction," Delaplaine said. "I'm glad she won't be doing it in Santa Monica. I would hope that [McCabe's] would cancel a concert if it were racist or anti-woman hate speech too."

kevinh@smdp.com



HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

Keep in mind, fair market rent is a federal government standard which means that 40 percent of the housing in the area described falls below that amount — it does not necessarily mean market rate.

Meanwhile, the average renter wage in the country is estimated at $14.32 per hour, and minimum wage is only $7.25.

In California, the situation is far more extreme.

The typical California worker would have to make $25.78 per hour to meet the same standard because a two-bedroom at fair market rent is $1,341 per month, but the minimum wage is $8 per hour, according to the report.

That makes it the second-most expensive state in the nation in terms of housing affordability, next to Hawaii.

Although the report does not break it down by county or city, a market rate two-bedroom apartment in Santa Monica rented for $2,150 in 2011, according to a city staff report released in February 2012.

This national trend toward high rents constitutes a problem, said Megan Bolton, research director with the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

"The market isn't creating the kind of affordable housing that we need," Bolton said.

That means that low-income individuals are spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent, even as vacancy rates across the country drop from 8 percent directly after the financial crisis to 4.5 percent by the third quarter of 2012, according to the report.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING NO EASY TASK

Santa Monica has been struggling with affordable housing for many years, a fight that has only become more pronounced since the beginning of 2012 when the legislature, courts and Gov. Jerry Brown collectively killed redevelopment agencies, a huge source of affordable housing funding for the state.

Santa Monica's Redevelopment Agency provided 75 percent of the money in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which was used both to build affordable housing and provide loans to private institutions like Community Corporation of Santa Monica to do so.

That number has been as high as 90 percent in recent years, city officials say.

How to fill that gap has been at the heart of many City Council meetings, most recently resulting in a City Council vote to prioritize development that includes low-income housing and a push to charge commercial development to support affordable housing.

Although affordable housing can be contentious, it's a priority of City Council members, each of whom were backed by Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, a powerful interest group that fought for rent control in the late 1970s.

The ability to keep housing costs reasonable ensures a diverse community, said Councilmember Kevin McKeown.

"To be sustainable, a community like ours must remain egalitarian," McKeown said. "To reduce commuter traffic, workers must be able to afford to live near their jobs, including those lower-wage jobs that support the Westside lifestyle of the more fortunate."

Most recently, policy makers have begun eyeing affordability standards attached to deed-restricted housing in the city to bring down the price for apartments already aimed at the less fortunate.

The idea was brought to the City Council on Feb. 26 by Denise McGranahan, a senior attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

Existing affordable housing production standards base rents and incomes off of an adjusted standard higher than most other cities in California, McGranahan said.

Adopting those used by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development would adjust rent levels down by up to 25 percent, she said.

The City Council voted unanimously to prepare an ordinance that would amend the rent levels along those lines. That is expected to come before the Housing Commission this month, and show up at the City Council as early as April.

For its part, the National Low Income Housing Coalition has a few suggestions itself.

The organization would like to see the federal government create a housing trust fund to build housing for low-income Americans, just as Santa Monica did. The feds could pay for it by reforming a piece of the tax code that benefits homeowners called the mortgage interest deduction, which Bolton argues benefits the wealthy.

By turning the existing deduction into a straight credit and reducing the amount of the mortgage that it applies from $1 million to $500,000, benefits for less-wealthy homeowners will be preserved and the government will save $200 billion over 10 years that can be used to build new housing, Bolton said.



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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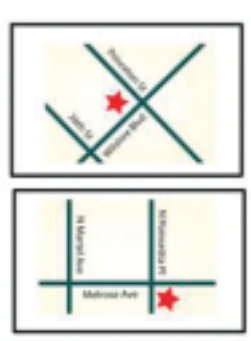

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NO WAY

Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

Samohi's Dane Keckin (center) and Tristan Leigh (right) both go up to block a ball against Inglewood on Tuesday at home. Samohi would go on to beat Inglewood in three straight set.

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 3

Greene allowed a pair of runs that gave Serra a short-lived 3-2 lead heading into the bottom half of the frame.

"We witnessed outstanding pitching on both sides," Serra head coach Wilmer Aaron said. "Greene threw a great game."

Samohi was able to recover, rallying for a run on a bunt single by Barbarin in the sixth that gave the Vikings renewed life heading into the seventh.

Despite going six innings, Greene trotted out to the mound for the top of the seventh only to find a Serra lineup that apparently figured him out.

Knotted at 3-3, Serra began its assault when the inning's first batter, Ashton Edior, singled to right field. Ryan Dobson followed with a bunt single putting a pair of runners on base for Isaiah Flowers whose single to right pushed Edior and Dobson across the plate.

That spelled an end to the day for Greene who was given the loss.

"For me as a pitcher, the mistakes that I made were easily avoidable," Greene said. "That can never happen, it just kills the vibe of the team."

Serra tacked on an insurance run later in the inning.

Samohi was able to get a couple of baserunners on in the bottom half of the seventh, but Serra's reliever Dobson closed the door on any comeback giving Smith, considered one of the top five prospects in the country, the victory.

"We just didn't hit for Conner," Samohi head coach Kurt Schwengel said. "Every time they hit the ball hard off Conner, there was nobody under it. Every time we hit the ball hard off their pitcher, there was somebody under it.

"A couple of different bounces and it's a completely different game."

The loss sends Samohi to 5-4 on the season. Next for the Vikings is a road game at Corona Centennial on Saturday. The game begins at 11 a.m.

daniela@smdp.com











PANTS
FROM PAGE 3

stand the extent of the problem on March 11 as part of its weekly call with store managers, who voiced worries about sheerness. Lululemon declined to respond to Associated Press queries about whether the problem was discovered when customers started to return the Luon pants, the latest batch of which went on sale at the beginning of the month.

But Faye Landes, an analyst at Cowen & Co., believes customers reported the problem to store managers, who in turn reported back to management.

"If this is indeed the case, we suspect a serious lapse in (the company's) supply chain, quality control and vendor management and specifically in its quality assurance program," she said.

Investors usually like transparency. But not in this case. Lululemon's stock price slid $3.90, or 6 percent, to $62, before recovering and closing Tuesday at $64.08, lobbing more than $250 million off of its market value in one day. The stock is down 16 percent so far this year, while the broader markets have been hitting multiyear highs.

Lululemon insists that the problem didn't occur because it changed specifications for the clothing or switched suppliers. It warned that the recall could lead to short supplies and will hurt its first-quarter revenue. The Luon pants, made from a combination of nylon and Lycra fibers, are one of the retailer's product staples and account for about 17 percent of all women's pants in its stores. The company is offering customers' full refunds or exchanges.

The debacle marks the fourth quality problem in the last year for Lululemon, according to Credit Suisse analyst Christian Buss — and not the first see-through issue.

First, the Vancouver-based company had sheerness problems with certain swimsuits for spring 2012. And some light-colored pants currently on sale carry this disclaimer: "You may experience sheerness with some of our bright-colored bottoms because of the lightweight nature of the fabric. We recommend you do a couple of Down Dogs in your bright-ly colored bottoms to ensure you're happy with the fit and coverage." "Down Dogs" refers to a yoga position. The company also has had problems with bright dyes bleeding.

Until now, Lululemon has been as much a star for investors as it has for yoga devotees. Its shares rocketed from less than $3 in 2009, to more than $81 last May. Analysts expect to get more details when Lululemon posts earnings for the final quarter and full fiscal year on Thursday. But already some Wall Street analysts have downgraded the stock.

"We see some potential that (Lululemon) risks alienating its core customer bases should quality control issues persist," Buss wrote in her note. Based on her own research, Buss said the Luon fabric is sourced from a Taiwanese manufacturer.

Lululemon confirmed through an outside publicist that its sourcing manager for raw materials is at the facilities of the supplier, Taiwan-based Eclat Textile Co.

Still, some marketing experts dismissed the debacle as a temporary glitch and said Lululemon's loyal customers won't switch to rivals like Nike Inc. or Champion anytime soon.

"It's a late-night TV joke, and it's going to pass," said Robert Passikoff, president of Brand Keys Inc., a New York customer research firm. "The issue is closure, contrition and care. Clearly, they're doing everything they need to do."

Lululemon cut its first-quarter revenue forecast as a result of its decision to withdraw the pants. The company now anticipates first-quarter revenue between $333 million and $343 million, down from an earlier estimate of $350 million to $355 million. Analysts polled by FactSet had previously forecast revenue of $352.1 million.

The company also slashed its outlook for first-quarter revenue growth at stores open at least a year to between 5 percent and 8 percent, from 11 percent previously.

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Wall Street holds its own after Cyprus' 'no' vote

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The latest twists in Europe's debt drama weighed down the stock market Tuesday, offsetting more good news on the U.S. housing market.

The Dow Jones industrial average managed a gain of just four points, while other indexes closed slightly lower. Investors were focused on Cyprus, where the Mediterranean country's lawmakers vote against a proposed bailout plan for banks that would have called for raiding the savings accounts of ordinary citizens, setting a precedent in Europe's ongoing debt crisis. The vote happened 90 minutes before U.S. markets closed, at 2:30 p.m. Eastern time.

The plan was rejected — with zero votes in favor — even after being changed to lessen the burden on savers with lower balances. The vote leaves Cyprus's bailout from international lenders in question. Cyprus is seeking $15.8 billion to fund its government and its banks. Without the money, both could collapse, and the country could wind up leaving the union of 17 countries that use the euro.

"The concern in the market is that they could default or they could be forced out of the euro zone and that would create a precedent," said Alec Young, a global equity strategist with S&P Capital IQ. "The selling, though, is fairly contained, and that tells you most people think there will be some kind of compromise reached."

The Dow and other U.S. indexes started higher following a report of a surprisingly large increase in home construction in February. The index gained as much as 62 points in morning trading.

It turned lower at midday as Cyprus' parliament began debating the contentious plan demanded by the country's lenders to seize as much as 10 percent of the funds in savings accounts. The market steadied in the afternoon after the vote occurred.

The eurozone's debt crisis still has the power to captivate stock global markets, but investors worry about it less these days after European Central Bank President Mario Draghi pledged last year to do "whatever it takes" to preserve the euro.

The Dow's biggest fall this year came Feb. 25, when it lost 1.6 percent after the results of Italian elections left the country in political turmoil, endangering crucial economic reforms. Even that was less than sell-offs a year ago when borrowing rates spiked for Spain and Italy as investors lost confidence in the ability of those countries to service their debt.

On Tuesday, the Dow rose 3.76 points, or 0.03 percent, to close at 14,455.82.

Other major market indexes fell. The Standard & Poor's 500 fell 3.76 points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,548.34. The Nasdaq composite fell 8.50 points, or 0.3 percent, to 3,229.10.

On Monday, the Dow fell 62 points after a weekend of drama as Cyprus' leaders acceded to the demands from European lenders to seize depositors' funds, which were met with outrage. While the reaction Tuesday was more muted, investors were still watching closely to see if the situation worsens.

"The situation in Cyprus is keeping everyone glued to their TVs," Joseph Tanious, global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds, said before the vote.

Tanious says investors shouldn't overreact to the news coming out of Europe, but instead take a step back and remember Draghi's pledge. "Do not underestimate the power of the ECB," said Tanious.

U.S. markets have been on a roll this year. The Dow is up 10.3 percent and broke through its previous all-time high on March 5, driven by strength in housing and a pickup in hiring. Strong company earnings and continuing stimulus from the Federal Reserve are also helping boost demand for stocks.

The S&P 500 is up 8.6 percent in 2013 and is 1.1 percent from its record close of 1,565.15, which was reached in October 2007.

The Federal Reserve opened its second policy meeting of the year Tuesday. On Wednesday, it will issue a policy statement and update its economic forecasts. Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke will give a press conference at 2:30 p.m. EDT. Economists and investors don't expect the Fed to let up in its drive to keep stimulating the economy by keeping interest rates at historic lows.

"The Fed has clearly been a big push in this market, no question," said Maury Fertig, chief investment officer at Relative Value Partners. "What the Fed has done has really helped the market recover....they're not going to pull away prematurely."

Investors are increasingly putting more money in stocks, according to a Bank of America Merrill Lynch survey, published Tuesday. The survey of fund managers showed that 57 percent of investors favored allocating money to stocks, the highest percentage in more than two years.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 1.91 percent from 1.96 percent Monday. That shows investors continued to move money into low-risk assets. Two weeks ago the yield was 2.05 percent.

Among stocks making big moves:

• Lululemon fell $1.82, or 2.8 percent, to $64.08 after the company yanked its popular black yoga pants from store shelves after it found that the sheer material used was too revealing.

• Electronic Arts fell $1.56, or 8.3 percent, to $17.15 after the video game maker said its adjusted revenue fell 28 percent to $1.18 billion for the last three months of 2012. The figure was below Wall Street's expectations. The company also said its CEO, John Riccitiello, will step down on March 30.

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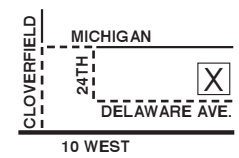


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SURF REPORT



Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **57.2°**

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
SSW swell eases; minor NW swell mix; NW wind possibly builds late...stay tuned

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
New SSW swell starts to build largest late with some larger sets then.
Minimal WNW mixes in for select spots; Watching winds; stay tuned

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 13, 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 -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 32
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by:
simplehuman LAcurGUY SIMA
and Sinsabeck 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
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Las Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A+	A+
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	D
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17300 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
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	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
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	F
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 CIWW 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.

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MLB

Ump calls pitches from behind mound during Angels game

JONATHAN DALTON
Associated Press

PHOENIX Something sounded very, very strange to Milwaukee Brewers starter Wily Peralta.

When he threw pitches to Josh Hamilton in the first inning, Peralta heard the umpire calling them — from over his left shoulder.

In a throwback to Little League days, Tim McClelland did some plate umpiring from behind the mound Tuesday after another ump was injured in the Brewers' 6-1 win over the Los Angeles Angels.

"When he called 'ball' behind me, I just looked behind me," Peralta said.

In a game where Angels first baseman Albert Pujols played the field for the first time since offseason surgery on his right knee, the big slugger set off an unusual chain of events. With two outs in the top of the first, he was hit by a pitch from Peralta. The ball deflected and broke plate umpire Seth Buckminster's left hand.

Buckminster left the game along with umpire Anthony Johnson, who changed into home-plate gear. After a few minutes, with McClelland and Jim Joyce left as the only two umpires left on the field, play resumed for four batters with McClelland calling pitches from behind the mound.

"Just keep it moving," McClelland said. "We didn't want people to sit. Both managers agreed to it, and I knew it wasn't going to be long. This way we didn't have to sit and could keep the game going."

Hamilton grounded to end the top of the first. Norichika Aoki singled to start the bottom half and Rickie Weeks homered deep to left.

Ryan Braun was two pitches into his at-bat when Johnson emerged from the right-field corner to applause from the 5,566 at Maryvale Baseball Stadium.

"It's still baseball," Weeks said. "Guys still have to go out there and play hard. It's just unfortunate for the umpire who was out there. Only in spring training."

It was the second day in a row the Brewers watched the plate umpire leave the game early. On Monday, Cleveland's Mark Reynolds hit Patrick Mahoney on the head with the follow through of his swing, causing a 12-minute delay.

"That's what we tried to get them to do the other day and they wouldn't do it," Brewers manager Ron Roenicke said of the two-man crew. "McClelland isn't worried about it, he just wants to keep the game moving. You get a great view from back there. You really do. It's almost better than behind the plate."

Pujols flied out and popped out in six innings.

"I'm too young to DH," Pujols said with a laugh. "I could have played nine innings, right now but playing nine innings now is being selfish."



MOVIE TIMES

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

Loft (R) 1hr 58min
7:30pm
Discussion following the screening with Paul Green, producer of the upcoming American remake "The Loft." A Belgian beer reception will follow.

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
1:10pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
1:25pm, 7:15pm

21 and Over (R) 1hr 33min
2:25pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 9:50pm

Safe Haven (PG-13) 1hr 55min
4:15pm, 10:10pm

Girl (PG-13) 1hr 34min
1:55pm, 4:25pm, 6:50pm, 9:35pm

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

Jack the Giant Slayer (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:30am, 5:15pm

Jack the Giant Slayer 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
2:30pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
2:00pm, 7:45pm

Identity Thief (R) 1hr 51min
12:45pm

Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:40am, 2:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:40pm, 9:50pm

Metropolitan Opera: Parsifal Encore () 5hrs 45min
6:30pm

Snitch (PG-13) 1hr 52min
11:20am, 4:25pm, 10:20pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:50am, 2:20pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
5:45pm, 8:15pm, 10:45pm

Call (R) 1hr 35min
11:25am, 12:30pm, 2:10pm, 3:05pm, 4:35pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Call (R) 1hr 35min
5:35pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Gatekeepers (Shomerei Ha'saf) (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

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

Reincarnated (R) 1hr 38min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

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

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

Oz The Great and Powerful (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:15am, 2:10pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:30pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm

Side Effects (R) 1hr 46min
11:35am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:15pm

Stoker (R) 1hr 38min
11:25am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Dead Man Down (R) 1hr 50min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:55pm, 10:35pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:20am, 1:45pm, 5:20pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

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

Happy Birthday

Kristin Klein: Born in Santa Monica. Volleyball Olympian in the 1996 Summer Olympics.

JUST CHILL OUT TONIGHT, CAPPY

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Innate tension causes you to make demands in your unique style. You will want to take charge if someone else isn't doing the job. Your natural leadership characteristics emerge. Tonight: Celebrate spring.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You might be witness to a friend -- or a situation -- getting off track. The severity of just how far off will be dependent on your attempt to help those involved gain clarity. Tonight: Be clear in your choices.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your honesty takes you to a new level of understanding, and others respond in kind. A family member might express his or her thoughts in a harsh way. Don't take it personally. You know what you want, and you know what others want. Tonight: Buy a favorite dessert.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You go with the flow, despite encountering difficulties and dismayed people. The news you hear could be cluttered and not totally accurate. Encourage others to brainstorm while you follow through on a nonrelated -- but equally important -- issue. Tonight: Listen to a loved one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ You can do whatever you want. Listen to news with an open mind. Your ability to understand others will emerge, and it might seem necessary to make a project run to completion. If possible, tone down your strong personality right now. Tonight: Don't be so hard on yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You like what is going on with a child or loved one. Deal with others directly, and know full well the extent of a certain problem. Your ability to honor a change will allow greater ebb and flow with a partner. This person will appreciate your efforts. Tonight: Watch out for spring fever.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Others have a lot to say, regardless of whether you are interested in hearing their opinions. Listen to someone who has a lot to share, but do some questioning. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Realize that you might be a little less adventuresome than usual or perhaps even slightly negative. Examine your options, and then decide which direction you want to head in. Know that an attitude change will open up more possibilities. Tonight: Let your mind relax.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Greet spring with a smile. You might wonder why others are in such a tizzy. Understand that not everyone can enjoy life as you do. Try to avoid having a tiff with a loved one in the near future by trying to see his or her side. Tonight: Get into the idea of spring fever.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You could be too concerned with a loved one. You also might not be comfortable with the immediate results of a meeting. Get rid of some of your stress and/or high energy by walking or jogging, even if it means using your lunchtime to do it. Tonight: Chill out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You see the beauty in the day, despite everything you need to do. You might be tempted to verbally attack someone who tries to rain on your parade. If you lose your composure, don't drive or use mechanical equipment. Tonight: Hang out with some friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could be difficult without intending to be that way. A haze surrounds you and several situations. You might feel like a mouse running on a wheel that is going nowhere. Stop, if this is the case. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

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

This year you experience a division between your home life and your personal life. One is not reflective of the other. This lack of cohesion might be a result of giving and receiving mixed signals, which could affect your relationships. If you are single, you might want someone who is nurturing. Remain open to your different possibilities, and resist either/or thinking. If you are attached, the two of you will need to work on being on the same page. After June, your bond will grow. CANCER can be very open.

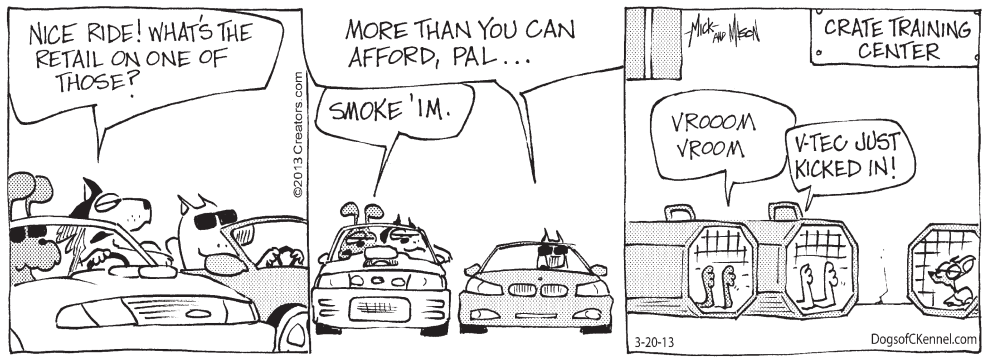
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



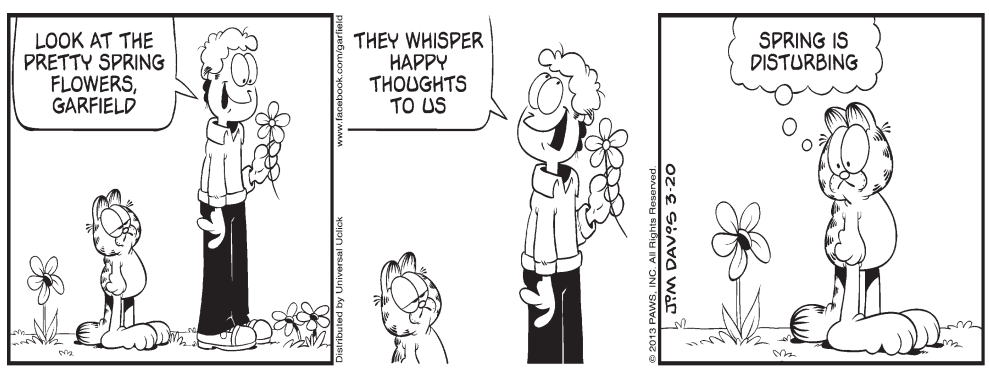
Strange Brew
By John Deering



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 ★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Matching
5 Hangs low
9 Vagabond
11 "Cosmos" writer
12 Come up
13 Student of Socrates
14 Go bad
15 Frying mess
17 Fly flattener
19 Bowler, e.g.
20 Squad car sound
21 Letter after sigma
22 Clear
24 Shrewd
26 Was a snoop
29 Great serve
30 Disperse
32 Break into pieces
34 Tint
35 Photo tint
36 Make law
38 Polite Post
39 Casual eatery
40 Revival setting
41 Cuban coin

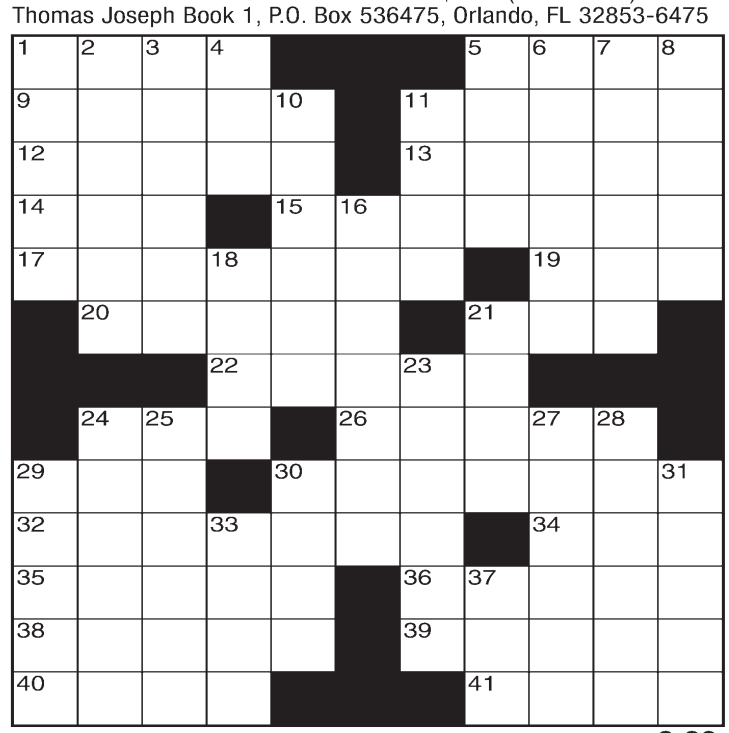
DOWN

1 Flag features
2 Quiver stock
3 Rum cocktail
4 Print units
5 Pretzel topping
6 Hercule's creator
7 Rich cake
8 Derisive sound
10 Annoy
11 Rigging support
16 Act of remorse
18 Low card
21 Ordeal
23 Emulated eagles
24 Plot
25 "— lizards!"
27 Odorless gas
28 Low cards
29 Useful skill
30 Order to Spot
31 Stylishly quaint
33 Incline
37 Wee drink

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



3-20

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/15
4 8 17 22 32
Meganumber: 8
Jackpot: $13M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/16
14 23 28 30 35
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/19
13 14 20 29 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/19
MIDDAY: 4 9 4
EVENING: 8 4 3

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 3/19
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:49.24

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ India's annual "Rural Olympics" might be the cultural equivalent of several Southern U.S. "Redneck Olympics" but taken somewhat more seriously, in that this year, corporate sponsorships (Nokia and Suzuki) helped fund the equivalent of about $66,000 in prize money for such events as competitive pulling using only one's ears or teeth. "We do this for money, trophies, fame and respect," one ear-puller told The Wall Street Journal in February. This year, in the four-day event in Punjab state, the 50,000 spectators could watch a teeth-lifter pull a 110-pound sack upward for about eight seconds and an ear-puller ease a car about 15 feet.

■ The president of the National Black Church Initiative told the Associated Press in January that its pastors are generally free to ordain new pastors as they wish, and that consequently Bishop Wayne Jackson of Detroit did nothing wrong in his ordination ceremony (which was surreptitiously video-recorded and uploaded to YouTube), even though it consisted of Jackson in robes, praying while lying on top of the new bishops, who were also praying. (The AP noted that Bishop Jackson had been the target of that's-so-gay YouTube comments.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1980 - The Radio Caroline ship, Mi Amigo founders in a gale off the English coast.

1985 - Libby Riddles becomes the first woman to win the 1,135-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

1985 - Canadian paraplegic athlete and humanitarian Rick Hansen begins his circumnavigation of the globe in a wheelchair in the name of spinal cord injury medical research.

1987 - The Food and Drug Administration approves the anti-AIDS drug, AZT.

WORD UP!

hypothecate
\ hahy-POTH-i-keyt, hi- \ , verb;
1. to pledge to a creditor as security without delivering over; mortgage.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Beauty

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Employment

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HELP AT STAND UP
PADDLE BOARD COMPANY
Los Angeles' top Stand Up Paddle Board company is looking for someone to help out on Wednesdays and weekends. We are located at Mother's Beach in Marina Del Rey. The job will include inventory maintenance, scheduling, cleaning, helping guests, etc. You will work on the beach and pay is $8. Please call 310-945-8350 for more info.

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Do you know people who need printing? We're seeking a driven and determined sales person to land new accounts for Printing Company in Santa Monica. Job will include finding, contacting, and following up with potential clients. Experience required. Must be quick learner with great speaking skills. Salary is commission based. LAND MORE ACCOUNTS= MAKE MORE MONEY. Sky is the limit. Work is part-time. Put in only the time you need to get the job done. Please e-mail resume
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(310)869-7901

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2107 Oak St. Pet Friendly. Top floor remodeled unit with hardwood floors and large private one car garage. No walls shared, no tenants above/below. $2,650.00

12909 Ferndale Ave. in Mar Vista. Two story 2440 sq ft modern home. Central Air, Stainless Steel appliances, Granite Counter-Tops, 2 car attached garage. $4,300.00

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Services

WALSH CONSTRUCTION is interested in receiving your proposal for the "Expo Rail Operations & Maintenance Facility, Santa Monica, CA" by 12:00 PM PST on April 1, 2013. This project has SBE subcontracting goals. Certified SBEs are especially encouraged to participate . Interested subcontractors contact Angelo (sbdevelopment@walshgroup.com) for qualification instructions. Project description: The project is a Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) operation & maintenance facility (approx $90 MIL).Thi s project will have a PLA and will require P&P Bonds for subcontracts greater than $250K.

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an Equal Opportunity Employer

MEALS ON WHEELS WEST(Santa Monica, Pac.Pal, Malibu, Marina del Rey, Topanga)Urgently needed volunteers/drivers/assistants to deliver meals to the homebound in our community M-F from 10:30am to 1pm. Please help us feed the hungry.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2013025641 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 2/6/2013 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NIKOO GLOBAL. 550 W. 135TH STREET , GARDENA, CA 90248. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: NIK F. NIKOUKAR 1427 BROCKTON AVE #101 LOS ANGELES CA 90025. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:NIK F. NIKOUKAR. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 2/6/2013. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 03/06/2013, 03/13/2013, 03/20/2013, 03/27/2013.

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