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FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 107

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE FUN IN THE MAKING ISSUE

TREE HUGGERS
SEE PAGE 3



HAPPY DAY

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

In honor of International Day of Happiness, Santa Monica Place erected a wall Thursday giving visitors a chance to leave messages about what can make the world a happier place. Pictured: Judy Clark leaves her message, 'Smiling always and staying positive.'

Palihouse hotel to stay sober

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

THIRD STREET Palihouse Santa Monica owners probably needed a drink after Wednesday night's Planning Commission meeting.

Nearby residents, who showed up in large numbers, were victorious in quashing the boutique hotel's push to serve alcohol.

After hearing more than 40 public speakers, the commission voted unanimously to deny a conditional use permit that would have allowed Palihouse Santa Monica — previously Embassy Hotel and Apartments — to provide booze to guests at a lobby bar and through in-room mini-bars.

The commission's decision can be appealed to the City Council.

The 38-room hotel, which was purchased by the current owners in December of 2012 for $18 million, is located in the middle of a residential neighborhood at the corner of Third Street and Washington Avenue. A nursing home is across the street and multi-family apartment buildings are separated from the hotel by a narrow alleyway.

Residents' primary gripe was with the potential noise created by rowdy, drunk guests.

Since the new owners took over, many residents said, the neighborhood has gotten a lot louder. Adding alcohol to the equation would only make things worse, they said.

Gale Feldman, whose daughter slept on her shoulder as she addressed the commission just before midnight, said her apartment faces the Palihouse's back patio.

"Already the noise and the nuisance has increased tremendously," she said. "Parties, even the ones that were at reasonable hours, were so loud that we couldn't even conduct a conversation in our home. We're exposed to smoke from the hotel staff and the hotel guests and I think it's understood that alcohol and smoking go hand in hand so I see that increasing."

Matt Fisher, an executive from Paligroup, the company that owns the Palihouse brand, said that they've faced

SEE PERMIT PAGE 8

CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP

Sounding off on development, homelessness

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Even at a City Council meeting with a relatively light agenda, residents had a lot to say about development.

Council reviewed a survey that asked residents what they thought about the direction of City Hall and development in Santa Monica.

Notable findings included majority support for the height limits Downtown that would cap by-right building at 84 feet.

Also notable was the fact that older residents and white residents tended to oppose

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 9

Report: California, L.A. top crime targets in U.S.

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California is the top target in the U.S. for international criminal enterprises that operate from safe havens in Eastern Europe, Africa and China, according to a report released Thursday.

Along with trafficking in drugs, guns and people, criminals are also turning to cybercrime to target wealthy, innovative businesses and financial institutions in the state, the report by the state attorney general says.

"We know that they use technology directly in a way that perpetuates and commits crimes, in particular the crimes of hacking and data breaches and malware," California Attorney General Kamala Harris said as she released the report in Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles region is particularly vulnerable to digital piracy, she said, because

SEE CRIME PAGE 10





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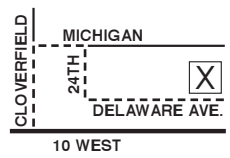
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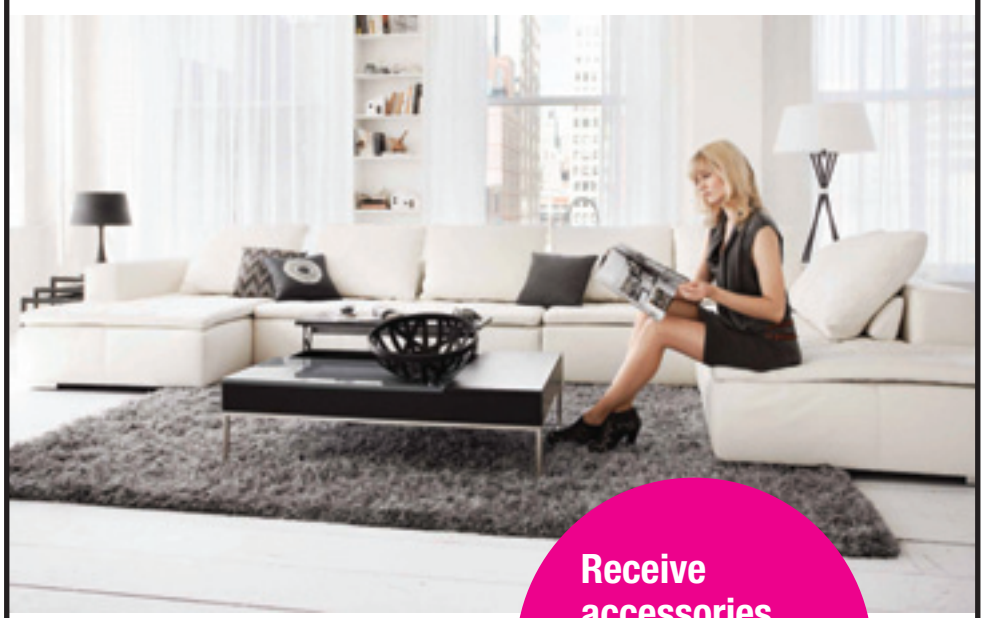
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, March 21, 2014

Hat trick
1450 Ocean
1450 Ocean Ave., 6 p.m.
Millinery is the art of making hats by hand. Bring your own style to this age-old art. Instructor Corina Haywood brings a hands-on, experiential approach to both her work and teaching. While passing down tricks of the trade, she mixes a sense of the past with a playful approach to materials, encouraging students to find their own design aesthetic and create a piece they'll love to wear. For more information, visit corinahaywood.com.

Spring is here
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"Spring Awakening" is a rock musical adaptation of Frank Wedekind's 1891 expressionist play about the trials and tribulations, and the exhilaration of the teen years. It's Germany, 1891. The beautiful young Wendla explores her body and asks her mother where babies come from. Elsewhere, the brilliant and fearless young Melchior defends his buddy Moritz — a boy so traumatized by puberty he can't concentrate on anything. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

Forty for Friday
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 11:30 p.m.
The Friday Forty is Los Angeles' new current affairs comedy drinking game show. Forty questions about the events of the previous seven days, while they all drink forties of beer. Along the way, the week's biggest newsmakers drop in, played by a cast of sketch performers. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

Saturday, March 22, 2014

Run and stretch
Santa Monica Pier, West End
8 a.m.
Like to run? Like to strike a pose with yoga? Why not combine them for a morning dedicated to your mind and body. For more information, call (310) 458-8901.

He wishes he was a real boy
Promenade Playhouse
1404 Third Street Promenade
11 a.m.
Twinkle Theatre for babies and toddlers presents "Pinocchio." Learn about love, true friendship and the importance of being honest in this classic story of the boy built out of love. Only the fun parts with no scary adventures are in this version. Sing, clap and have fun with the boy made out of wood in this 30-minute song-driven show that is ideal for babies and toddlers and first-time theatre goers. For more information, call (310) 804-0223.

Alice is at it again
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m.
Follow Alice in "Alice and the Wonderful Tea Party" as she accepts an invitation to visit the wonderful Wonderland characters of her youth and returns to find her old friends — the Queen of Hearts, the Cards, the Tweedles and some new ones, too, all as silly as ever. Will Alice prevail or are the cards stacked against her? For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAMOHI

'Cesar Chavez' screening a fundraiser

On Saturday at 7 p.m., Santa Monica High School's Barnum Hall will host a preview screening of "Cesar Chavez" as part of a fundraising effort for the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation, Edison Language Academy, John Adams Middle School and Santa Monica High School's dual immersion programs.

Following the screening, the audience will have a chance to meet and participate in a question and answer session with the cast and crew of the movie, including the film's star, Michael Pena, and producer Pablo Cruz.

Directed by Diego Luna and written by Keir Pearson, "Cesar Chavez" traces the labor leader's efforts during the 1960s and '70s to organize the largest non-violent protest in U.S. history to get basic human rights for more then 50,000 farm workers in California.

Chavez co-founded the United Farm Workers union and was instrumental in the Delano Grape Boycott, which was successful in its goal to provide living wages for laborers. His birthday, March 31, is celebrated as a state holiday in California, Colorado and Texas.

General admission tickets are $25 and student tickets are $15. Tickets can be purchased at brownpapertickets.com. Food trucks will be available starting at 5:30 p.m.

– KEVIN HERRERA

SM PIER

Get a job

Pacific Park will be hosting its 2014 Job Fair on Saturday, March 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Seaside Pavilion at Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier.

The 2-acre amusement park wants to fill approximately 150 spring break and summer positions.

Potential employees are encouraged to bring a completed application to the job fair, which can be downloaded at pacpark.com. Job applications will also be available for completion on-site.

Various department representatives will interview applicants in the areas that they are interested in working including rides, games, retail, and security, among others.

Hiring decisions may be made during the interview process in some occasions. All new-hires will be required to attend a Pacific Park orientation session at a later date.

"Pacific Park is providing a unique opportunity for prospective employees to meet the various department leaders for one-on-one interviews and discussions," said Jeff Klocke, vice president of marketing and administration. "Pacific Park welcomes more than 6.5 million visitors annually to the Santa Monica Pier and we encourage individuals of all ages and backgrounds to join our team to help make lifetime memories for these guests."

Pacific Park, L.A.'s only admission-free amusement park, offers 12 amusement rides, 17 midway games, an oceanfront food plaza and retail shops. In addition to the Pacific Wheel, the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel, Pacific Park's signature rides include The West Coaster, a steel roller coaster that races 55 feet above the Santa Monica Bay; and Inkie's Air Lift Balloon Ride, the high-flying, family-sharing kids' ride. For additional information and hours of operation, call (310) 260-8744 or visit www.pacpark.com.

– KH



HUG IT OUT

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

To celebrate the first day of spring, a group of tree lovers held a tree hugging event at Palisades Park on Thursday.

State regulators restrict sale of rat poisons

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California consumers won't be able to purchase some types of rat poisons after July 1 because state regulators have determined that the chemicals in them pose a danger to pets and wildlife.

Charlotte Fadipe, a Department of Pesticide Regulation spokeswoman, said Thursday that starting in July, only pest-control companies and trained professionals with state certifications will be able to purchase those types of poisons.

"It's not a ban," Fadipe said, "but what we're basically doing is taking it away from the hands of consumers and putting it in the hands of professionals."

The regulation — which applies to all pesticide products containing brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone — classifies the poisons as restricted materials. The substances, called second-generation anticoagulants, interfere with blood clotting, causing the rats and mice that ingest them to bleed excessively.

The problem with the poisons, which can only be used inside and around buildings, is that after the rodents eat them, other animals — including family pets — may then eat the rodents and also die.

Some animal species that have been adversely affected by the poisons are the barn owl, the bobcat, the coyote, the raccoon and the endangered San Joaquin kit fox.

A 2011 DPR report indicated nearly 75 percent of dead animals studied in nontarget species between 1995 and 2010 had residues of the anticoagulant rat poison in their systems.

"This is a practical sensible regulation that goes a long way to protecting our wildlife," said Brian Leahy, the Department of Pesticide Regulation's director. "Second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides can contain some pretty powerful chemistry. Restricting the use of SGARs to only certified applicators will significantly reduce unintended exposures to nontarget wildlife."

The DPR said it is working to get the message out to retailers that the products must be pulled off retail shelves by July 1.

Messages seeking comment from representatives of pesticide manufacturers were not immediately returned.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Not something to celebrate

Editor:

The City Council seems to be celebrating the diminishing number of objections to the ban on the nativity scenes in Palisades Park ("Fewer questions about nativity scene ban," March 18).

Congratulations to the City Council and the atheists on their successful crusade to subdue those evil Christians and their repulsive traditional nativity scenes.

Don Wagner
Santa Monica

Be prepared

Editor:

Santa Monica and the Westside got another "shake-up" call ("Earthquake strongly felt across Los Angeles," March 17). This small jolt could be taken as one of many small earthquakes we Californians are so familiar with, and dismissed, or we might profitably consider it as a little nudge from Providence to get our ducks in a row with regard to disaster preparedness and emergency relief.

The Northridge and Loma Prieta quakes have given us ample precedent for integrating aviation into our contingency plans for the anticipated "big one" and, in fact, we did just that for many years.

Back in the 1980s when it was learned that Santa Monica, did indeed, have a plan to use the airport in the aftermath of a disaster, we were appalled to discover it was to use the airport as a morgue! Some concerned citizens and pilots, believing that there was an opportunity being missed, formed an Emergency Volunteer Air Corps or EVAC to make sure this vital asset would be available and ready when the time came. Working with the city fire department, a memorandum of understanding was executed detailing how local pilots and our airport would participate in a time of need. For instance, following the Loma Prieta earthquake more than 500 flights by volunteer pilots provided relief to isolated areas.

Unfortunately, this agreement was terminated by the city with a result that, once again, the airport and its potential for disaster mitigation, is not integrated into the city's disaster response plan.

The Airport Commission, obsessed with trying to find ways to damage the airport and ultimately close it, has failed repeatedly to understand the role the airport could and should play in disaster relief. Why do they not realize that a failure to plan is like planning to fail?

Where could we look for a lifeline if the freeways and highways connecting the Los Angeles basin were cut or disrupted, as is expected? How would police and fire personnel living predominantly in outlying communities get into town to assume their duties?

All of this misguided fantasizing, both within the city government, and a vocal, but unrepresentative, group of homeowners, about turning a fully functioning transportation hub into a fiscally impossible bucolic wonderland betrays a fatal myopia. If you use your fire bucket for a planter, how are you going to put out a fire?

Bill Worden
Venice, Calif.



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Buffet's bracket: Bonanza or bogus?

THE MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL tournament, which began in 1939, has evolved into one of the biggest annual sporting events in America. Not coincidentally it's also the source of gambling-fever with office pools rampant all across the country.

The FBI estimates that during the three-week tournament, $2.5 billion will be wagered. It's also estimated that 58 million workers will spend part of each work day monitoring the results, costing $3.8 billion in lost productivity. (But of course great for TV and Internet ratings.)

This year, one of the world's richest people, Warren Buffet, has created a $1 billion bracket. FYI, Bloomberg News says Buffet is the world's second richest, passing Mexican business magnate Carlos Slim. (He has to be the richest guy named Slim.)

Yes, perhaps only in America, and totally free, could an online bracket make someone a billionaire, or almost. ($25 million a year for 40 years or a lump sum of $500 million.) As I find myself saying so often, "What a country."

Buffet, 83, said he came up with the idea while talking sports with Quicken Loans founder and chairman Dan Gilbert in November. Gilbert also owns the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers. When LeBron James left for Miami, Gilbert childishly predicted that the Cavs would win a world title before James did. (LeBron has won two rings since and this year the Cavs have won a grand total of 26 games. Oops.)

With Buffet on the hook for $1 billion, Quicken sponsored the national campaign. For Buffet it's really no different from many of his other insurance transactions. "We own GEICO and insure 10 percent of all the cars in the United States. You evaluate the risk and you charge a premium of what you think is appropriate." While Buffet won't say, it's estimated his "premium" in this case is $10 million.

Admittedly it's unlikely, but I wonder if President Barack Obama, a huge basketball fan from childhood, submitted a Buffet Bracket. If so, then of course 5-foot-5-inch Vladimir Putin (and with obvious Napoleonic and testosterone issues), might have entered. And what if he won? First Crimea and now a Buffet billion?

Now that I think of it, maybe the NSA submitted a bracket. After all, they could easily have tapped the coaches' phones.

But realistically, what are the chances someone could accurately pick all 67 games? An NPR report put the odds at one in 9.2 quintillion. (That's a nine, followed by 18 zeroes.) As the broadcast stated, "Quintillion is not the kind of number we actually use on this planet. It's more of a number that a couple of 10 year olds might invent during a sleepover."

Of course, even if someone got all the games right, considering Buffet's worth an estimated $63 billion, it wouldn't exactly break him. I guess 9.2 quintillion to 1 that Buffet will wind up earning a cool $10 million for just being insanely wealthy. As the saying goes, "And the rich get richer."

If you didn't enter Buffet's billion-dollar bracket contest don't feel too bad, I didn't enter either. Not that I didn't try. When I logged onto Buffet's bracket application my computer was suddenly taken to the Yahoo homepage. It turns out it wasn't by coincidence.

While the details are sketchy, Yahoo's in on the deal. To enter, one has to have a Yahoo account. It's expected 10 million people will enter and I'm assuming many will be new Yahoo users. Ka-ching goes the cash register.

Also, on the application was a questionnaire to fill out to be eligible. And, naturally, it asks if you'd be interested in a new mortgage. Quicken swears they won't sell the information to anyone. Yeah, right.

But, then again, I suppose for even the dream that one might win a billion dollars, maybe it's a fair trade. It was just a little spooky to have my computer "taken" over by remote control to the Yahoo page.

Except it's been so long since I've used my Yahoo account, I couldn't remember my password. No problem, Yahoo said it would send a link to reset my password to my back-up e-mail account. Unfortunately, my back-up e-mail account is so old it doesn't exist anymore. (And I was too lazy to create another account.)

As each round of games is completed, the publicity for Buffet's Bracket will likely be everywhere. (I should talk, I'm just adding to the mix.) This is, of course, how Quicken and Yahoo are able to pay Buffet his "premium." For his part, Buffet, as always, seems to have a mirth to his methods.

"Just imagine the night of the championship game and there's one person left with a perfect bracket," Buffett said. "I'll go to that game with him or her and I'll have a check in my pocket. Though my guess is we'll be rooting for different teams."

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Mayor halts 'flawed' fire department recruiting

Mayor Eric Garcetti ordered a halt to the Fire Department's recruiting process Thursday, calling it "fatally flawed."

"Our firefighters perform heroically every day, and I want to make sure that the next generation of firefighters upholds the levels excellence practiced by today's firefighters," Garcetti said in a statement.

The mayor said he took the action after discovering that Fire Department staff organized "special recruiting workshops for LAFD insiders" and that a disproportionate number of recruits were related to staffers, including relatives of managers who oversee recruiting and training.

Also noted was a process that only considered applications received within a one-minute time period.

Under the mayor's order, nobody else will be hired from the current civil service list and the next scheduled Fire Academy class of about 70 cadets won't be held.

The Fire Department has launched an internal investigation and Garcetti said he has asked the RAND Corp. to assist in reforming the recruiting process. A new recruiting process will take place after an initial three-month review by RAND, the mayor's office statement said.

"It's important to make sure the hiring process is fair and equitable," Interim Fire Chief James Featherstone said in a statement. "I am confident in our ability to keep LA safe with our 3,300 current firefighters, who exemplify professionalism and excellence."

– ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIVERSIDE

Sex-abuse allegations leveled at third-grader

Police and child-welfare investigators were looking into allegations that a third-grade boy at a Southern California school sexually assaulted another boy several times during two school years, officials said.

Students in an afterschool program at John Adams Elementary School in Riverside told a staffer this week that "they wanted to report something they knew," Riverside Unified School District spokeswoman Jacquie Paul said Wednesday.

The school's principal talked to the students and to both boys, leading to allegations of five to seven incidents of sexual abuse that began in second grade and continued into third grade, Paul said.

"One of the young boys apparently was coercing another young boy," Paul told the Los Angeles Times.

The assaults allegedly took place in class at times when teachers might not see — such as while watching movies — and in the bathroom, Paul said.

The boys' names were withheld, and no further details were released about their identities or the alleged incidents because of their ages, Paul said.

The boy suspected of abuse has been suspended and could face expulsion, Paul said.

– AP

LOS ANGELES

Strip club manager elected to neighborhood council

The manager of a controversial Los Angeles strip club has been elected to a neighborhood council.

The Daily News reported Wednesday that Avi Feinstein received 47 votes to earn one of two retail/service businesses representative slots on the Canoga Park council.

Current Neighborhood Council Vice President Ron Clary won the other slot.

The 27-year-old Feinstein runs the Canoga Park strip club Xposed.

In January, L.A. zoning officials ruled against an effort to shut the club down based on 66 calls to police from 2012 to 2013.

Feinstein beat out Xposed owner Brad Barnes for the position.

He says his victory is a result of showing voters that people associated with the club can be "good, upstanding community members."

– AP

LOS ANGELES

Guardianship sought for Paul Walker's daughter

Paul Walker's mother has petitioned to become the legal guardian of the late actor's teenage daughter in accordance with his final wishes.

Cheryl Ann Walker filed the guardianship petition in Los Angeles Superior Court on Tuesday. It states that Meadow Rain Walker, 15, has been living with her since the death of her son in a fiery crash on Nov. 30 north of Los Angeles.

The will of the "Fast & Furious" actor called for his mother to become his daughter's guardian and for his father to manage his estate, which has been valued between $16 million and $25 million.

– AP

The Q Line

Up in vapor

A tenants' rights group in Santa Monica is asking city officials to ban e-cigarettes, a relatively new technology that delivers nicotine in the form of a vapor instead of smoke.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think e-cigs are dangerous and why?

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







For natural dyes, look to the yard or kitchen

KATHERINE ROTH
Associated Press

Transforming weeds, kitchen scraps and other natural elements into a rainbow of textile dyes is a concept as old as civilization itself, with dye vats dating to as early as 2000 BC.

Now, these homemade pigments — some long abandoned in favor of more startling chemical dyes — are being rediscovered in kitchens and studios around the world.

"There's been a huge rise in interest over the last two or three years," said Sasha Duerr, author of "The Handbook of Natural Plant Dyes" (Timber Press, 2011), who teaches natural dye techniques and has founded the Permacouture Institute, which promotes sustainable textiles. "There's a lot we have to revisit and learn."

Yoshiko Wada, who has produced films about natural dyes and led dye tours to France, India and Japan, said much of the appeal is that "the process slows us down and reconnects us to the environment."

At a time when focus is returning to locally produced goods, these sustainable natural colors reflect their surroundings. The soft welcoming blues of painted shutters in the south of France are from indigo. The golden yellows of Provence are of ochre. And from the American desert Southwest, those dazzling reds and fuchsias are made from cochineal, a parasite that lives on cactus.

"I try to stay open and think of colors when I look around me. I collect lots of different things, like Osage orange, pecans and walnuts, onions and pomegranates," said Maura Ambrose, who makes hand-stitched quilts of naturally dyed fabrics in her Folk Fibers studio in Austin, Texas.

Onion skins (yellows), walnut hulls (browns), avocado peels and pits (pale pink), marigolds (yellows), sumac leaves (brown), mushrooms and lichens (with their rainbow of possibilities), cochineal (fuchsias and reds) and madder root (oranges and reds) are traditional favorites. Coffee grounds and old tea bags also are great for shades of tan and brown. Nettle yields greenish tints.

"We always think of nettle as this awful thing that stings and hurts," said Sonia Uyterhoeven, gardener for public education at the New York Botanical Garden. "But if you chop it up and soak it, you get lovely yellows and greens. Just make sure to harvest it using thick gloves."

Even succulent plants can be used to make dyes, said Duerr, who recommended aloe for pinks and yellows and jade plants for purples and black. Wild fennel, abundant in northern California, yields fluorescent yellows "so bright they hurt your eyes" if harvested while in bloom.

"It's like making tea. You boil the plant and then simmer," she said. And like cooking, the results depend as much on the chef as on the recipe. "The beauty of it is that you can take something from the back of your closet and give it new life using just the waste from your dinner."

Any plants containing sufficient tannins can be used to achieve colorfast fabrics without additives, known as mordants. But there are also natural mordants, such as rhubarb, sumac, pomegranate rinds, lemon juice or vinegar, according to Uyterhoeven. With a mordant, sumac fruit yields red pigment and indigo yields its classic shades of blue. Cream of tartar can be used to brighten colors, and salt to intensify them.(RJ1) (RJ1)

"Just about anything you feel comfortable around, like blackberries or elderberries, should be fine, but there are some plants that should be avoided," she warned.

Lily of the Valley is toxic and could harm the water supply if you dump it down the drain, she said, and although Native Americans traditionally used bloodroot for natural dyes, "it's not a large plant, so if you start using it for dye you're depleting the population."

The beautiful purple berries on pokeweed plants, although tempting, are poisonous and should also be avoided, Uyterhoeven said.

To be safe, designate a pot specifically for dyeing projects, and use gloves to protect your skin. If you're dyeing in the kitchen, work in the sink and avoid surfaces used for preparing foods. Although natural-dyeing books from the '60s, '70s and '80s are plentiful, experts warn that books from that period often recommend using toxic substances like chrome, copper or even lead as mordants.

"You just don't want to be inhaling that kind of thing," said Duerr.

As a rule, leaves should be chopped, the more finely the more colorful the pigment; berries should be mashed with a potato masher; and bark and roots can be shredded or ground.

Wrapping the natural materials in muslin or putting them in some old pantyhose makes projects neater and easier.

If boiling berries, sometimes the longer they are boiled, the lighter the pigment, so for darker shades either add more berries or let the water cool slowly.

But onion skins are the classic home dyeing project for beginners.

"We do onion skins with kids here at the botanic garden. The yellow color is fantastic," said Uyterhoeven. "People can go to farmers' markets or grocery stores and get loads of onion skins, because people usually just throw them out."

First, peel the papery red or yellow skins from lots of onions, ideally enough to fill your biggest pot. Aluminum pots make for a brighter color dye, but any pot will work. Cover the skins with water and bring to a boil. Then simmer for at least an hour.

Next, in a separate pot, soak the natural fabric or yarn you'd like to dye in hot water for at least 15 minutes. Wet fabric absorbs dye much better than dry fabric does. For tie-dyed fabrics, just fold and then wrap rubber bands around the still-dry fabric first.

Strain the onionskins from the big dye pot and discard them, then bring the pigmented water to a boil again, and place your wet fabric or yarn in the pot. Simmer for at least an hour, stirring as needed to keep the fabric submerged. Let the fabric cool in the dye bath or, better yet, soak for a night or two.

Rinse the fabric in cool running water until the water runs clear. Hang dry, and savor the moment along with the earthy hue.

All dyed fabrics should be washed before being used in any craft.



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CRIME WATCH
BY KEVIN HERRERA

No such thing as a free lunch — or dinner

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, AT 9:20 P.M.,

A Santa Monica Police officer responded to the 2600 block of Wilshire Boulevard — Sonny McLean's Irish Pub — regarding a customer who was refusing to pay for his meal. When the officer arrived he met an employee who pointed the suspect out. The employee said the man refused to pay and wanted to go to jail. The officer took the suspect into custody for defrauding an innkeeper. He was identified as Craig William Clark, 60, of Malibu, Calif. His bail was set at $500. A day later at 9:45 a.m., police responded to the Denny's located at 1560 Lincoln Blvd. regarding a report of two people refusing to pay for their meals. When officers arrived an employee pointed out the suspects, who had ordered food and some coffee. The employee said that after the two finished their meal they told the cashier that they didn't have any money. After investigating, police said one of the men, later identified as Clark, told the other that he would buy him breakfast. Since the other believed in good faith that he was going to get his meal covered, cops let him go. Clark was placed under arrest for burglary this time around because police said they had evidence that he went into the restaurant with the intent of not paying for the meal. His bail was set at $20,000.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, AT 12:45 A.M.,

Officers saw a man riding his bike along the 1300 block of Fifth Street. The cyclist didn't have a light attached to the front of his bike, a violation of the California Vehicle Code. Officers made contact with the cyclist and learned that he was on probation. When asked by cops if he had anything illegal in his possession, the man allegedly said he had a "crack pipe" in his pocket. Officers confiscated the pipe, which was in a cigarette pack. The man was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia. He was identified as James Love, 51, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $10,000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, AT 3:25 P.M.,

Officers responded to a report of a theft in the area of Ocean Avenue and Bicknell Street. When officers arrived they made contact with a woman who said she accidentally left her purse and phone at a coffee shop on the Third Street Promenade. When she returned her phone was missing. She told police that she immediately ran to the Apple Store on the promenade and had employees there track her phone. A tracking app indicated that the phone was near Ocean Avenue and Strand Street. An officer in that area saw a woman he recognized for being on probation for theft. On a hunch, he approached her and found her to allegedly be in possession of a tan purse and cellphone. Another officer brought the alleged victim to the location and she positively identified her stolen property. The suspect was placed under arrest for theft and a probation violation. She was identified as Amanda Dale Jones, 28, of Santa Monica. Her bail was set at $10,000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, AT 3:15 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 900 block of Wilshire Boulevard regarding a report of a fight in progress. When officers arrived they made contact with a woman who said she was assaulted. She told officers that she and a friend were riding on a bus to downtown L.A. when they got into an argument. They got off the bus on Wilshire and the male friend allegedly punched her in the back of the head and pushed her into some bushes. He then snatched a bag from her, which contained some personal items. An officer in the area heard the suspect's description on their police radio and detained someone matching that description at the corner of 11th Street and Wilshire. The woman was transported to that location and positively identified the suspect as the one who assaulted her and took her property. The suspect was placed under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Phillip Tyrone Young, 53, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $50,000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, AT 6:20 P.M.,

Officers responded to the GAP store located at 1931 Wilshire Blvd. regarding a theft in progress. When officers arrived they detained a woman inside the store who employees said was acting suspicious. She had entered the store earlier that day and then left abruptly. When she left, GAP security went to the video tape and said they saw the woman carrying a reusable grocery bag that appeared to be full. Security checked the store and found a broken security tag and some pliers on the floor. When the woman returned, security detained her after they allegedly saw her placing more items into the same bag. An officer searched the bag and found several pairs of pliers and a cut-off security tag. An employee identified items in the bag as store merchandise. Another officer saw a Volkswagen parked in front of the store with the engine running and the keys locked inside. Officers determined that the car belonged to the suspect. They searched the car and found several pieces of clothing with security tags. But there were no receipts. The total value of the merchandise believed stolen was more than $650. Officers placed the woman under arrest for commercial burglary. She was identified as Sylvia Irene Bonilla, 51, of Culver City. Her bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, AT 10 A.M.,

Officers responded to a report of a strong-arm robbery along the 1900 block of Sixth Street. When officers arrived at the scene they made contact with a woman who said a man ran up to her and grabbed her cell phone while she was waiting for a bus on Lincoln Boulevard. She ran after the man, yelling for him to stop. A passerby on a bike heard the commotion and chased after the suspect. Both the woman and the cyclist trapped the suspect behind a secured gate. The suspect allegedly slid the woman's phone under the gate and she retrieved it. She used her phone to call police, but the suspect was able to run away. A description of the suspect was broadcast over the police radio and a man matching that description was located. The woman positively identified him as the suspect and he was placed under arrest for strong-arm robbery. He was identified as Deantre Myshaun Julian, 25, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $76,000.

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File photo

POSTED: **A notice regarding a proposed conditional use permit is displayed in front of Palihouse.**

PERMIT
FROM PAGE 1

push back from residents at other locations in the past, but that it always smoothes over.

"I think a lot of it is reasonable concern," he said. "I know when we proposed our Palihouse in West Hollywood project years ago in neighborhood meetings we got a true outpouring of concern. ... I think my answer has always been: Give us a chance. I think that today I'm pleased to report that at least on that property that was the case."

Unite Here Local 11, a union representing hospitality workers, spoke against the liquor permit. Unite Here spokesperson Melanie Luthern noted that the hotel owners have not been responsive to the union's requests to meet.

"In a politically active community like this one, failure to involve the community can create more than branding and headline risk for investors," she said.

After hours of comment from the public, the commission reached its unanimous decision in less than 20 minutes.

"The parcel size is not suitable for the use because it's so close to residential," said Commissioner Jim Ries. "There's already a noise impact just from the use itself. Typically I have a loud voice but you get a couple drinks in me and I have a much louder voice. ... It's the conflict of adding alcohol to individuals near residential when people are trying to be in their homes and have peace and quiet."

dave@smdp.com



ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 1

development and the direction that City Hall is headed, while younger residents and minorities tended to see both more favorably.

Nearly two dozen members of the public spoke on the issue with the results often being read like tea leaves.

Carl Hansen, director of government affairs at the Chamber of Commerce, noted that there's been a lot of talk about how young people don't engage with local politics in Santa Monica.

"The data here reveals what is likely a large part of why this is the case," he said. "Simply, those who are happy or content with the direction our city is headed don't have a reason to show up."

Diana Gordon, speaking on behalf of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, listed the survey's results that showed strong opposition to heights and traffic-causing development.

"The take away?" she asked. "There is no silent majority ... that differs from the hundreds of residents who appeared before the council opposing the onslaught of massive development for Downtown or the Bergamot area or the over 13,000 who signed the referendum petition to put the unacceptable Hines project on the ballot."

Councilmember Kevin McKeown said that the attempt to divide the residents into categories of young and old is a mistake.

Mayor Pam O'Connor suggested that both Millennials and Baby Boomers are changing the direction of the city in their own ways.

PIPELINE CONTRACT APPROVAL DELAYED

Council voted unanimously to have city officials negotiate a shorter contract with an oil company that controls an existing pipeline underneath the east side of the city.

Crimson Pipeline was set to pay about $8,400 per year for 20 years to continue pumping up to 25,000 barrels of oil per day underneath the city by the sea as it passes from Ventura County to refineries in Los Angeles County.

Council asked city officials to knock that contract back to 10 years.

The pipeline runs about 4 feet underneath the ground and has never had a leak in Santa Monica, city officials said. The contract with Crimson would require the company to buy insurance covering millions of dollars worth of potential damage caused by a leak.

HOMELESS STUDY

Santa Monica is doing a lot of things right when it comes to homelessness, council learned at the meeting.

A review of homelessness in Santa Monica showed that despite increases in the county, the number of homeless people decreased in the bay city.

The police task force assigned to deal with homelessness was lauded for its work. About 30 percent of the Santa Monica Police Department's calls for service have to do with transient issues but the amount of time spent helping homeless people is declining thanks to good social programs, city officials said.

Former Santa Monica Mayor Bobby Shriver spoke during the public portion of the meeting, encouraging the continued development of affordable housing, particularly for homeless veterans.

E-CIGS

At the request of Councilmember Bob Holbrook, council voted to direct city officials study the impacts of smokeless, vapor-based e-cigarettes and analyze the regulation of them.

Holbrook and other council members are concerned that the use of the e-cigarettes could lead young people to smoke traditional tobacco cigarettes.

McKeown was open to the idea but noted that the e-cigarettes could possibly have the opposite impact: helping people quit traditional smoking.

Los Angeles City Council recently voted to regulate the areas in which people can smoke e-cigarettes. The issue will likely come before council again later this year.

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CRIME
FROM PAGE 1

it produces much of the nation's movies and other mass-market media.

Harris said the 181-page report is the first to outline the effects of international criminal organizations on California residents and businesses.

It says California leads all states in the number of computer systems hacked or infected by malware; victims of Internet crimes and identity theft; and the amount of financial losses suffered as a result of online crimes.

The report says many of the breaches have been tied to criminal organizations operating out of locations including Russia, Ukraine, China and Nigeria.

"Their impact is tremendous, in the hundreds of millions of dollars from small business, mom and pop operations, who lose their very existence to a financial crime, to a scheme that's being origined out of Romania, out of Egypt, out of Israel, out of parts well off of our shores," Los Angeles police Assistant Chief Michel R. Moore said at the news conference.

California's gross domestic product of $2 trillion along with its significant foreign trade activity and its border with Mexico also make the state a target for international money-laundering schemes. The report estimates that more than $30 billion is laundered through the state economy each year.

Some money is filtered through legitimate businesses or by using virtual currencies such as bitcoin. But the report says backpacks and duffel bags stuffed with cash have been seized more frequently since Mexico began toughening its money-laundering laws in 2010.

Seizures of bulk cash increased 40 percent by 2011 in California, which now leads the nation in the number of currency seizures.

California should alter state law to make it easier for prosecutors to crack down on money laundering, the report says. Unlike federal law, state law currently requires prosecutors to prove that a suspect deliberately carried out a financial transaction in a way designed to hide the fact that the money came from or was used for a criminal activity.

The report also recommends that the Legislature change state law to let prosecutors temporarily freeze the assets of transnational criminal organizations and associated gangs before seeking an indictment. It says the state should also mimic federal law by increasing punishment for people convicted of supervising, managing or financing transnational criminal organizations.

It also calls for the state to devote more money to the state Department of Justice, which Harris leads. That would include $7.5 million to fund five new teams to target international criminals.

Assembly Speaker John Perez, D-Los Angeles, has proposed creating a California Cybersecurity Commission. His office said AB2200 would make California one of the first states with such an expert advisory panel.

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REVISED NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

City of Santa Monica

SUBJECT: **Draft Zoning Ordinance Update**

This is the tenth hearing on the Draft Zoning Ordinance. This hearing will continue to address Chapter 9.28 in Division III (Parking, Loading and Circulation) and Chapter 9.53 in Division VI (Transportation Demand Management). Discussion may also include discussion of other chapters of Division III, and all other divisions of the draft document and amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) and Districting Map, particularly as these relate to Division III. The Commission may also have further discussion relating to divisions of the draft document that were the subject of prior Commission public hearings – Divisions I, II, IV and V. The Commission will hear public comments and provide comments to staff on all of these topics.

A revised meeting schedule will be published on the City of Santa Monica's Draft Zoning Ordinance Update webpage. For further information, see www.smgov.net/pcd.

WHEN: **Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 7:00 PM**

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about Zoning Ordinance update, please contact the Project Planner Tony Kim at (310) 458-8341 or by e-mail at tony.kim@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. 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.

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Better news on the American economy drives stocks higher

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The stock market bounced back on Thursday.

Encouraging signs on the first day of spring that the economy is emerging from its winter slumber helped boost stocks a day after the market dipped on concerns that the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates sooner than investors had anticipated.

The stock market has become more volatile this year as Fed policy makers have started reducing their economic stimulus, and investors have fretted whether the economy is strong enough to maintain its recovery without the central bank's support.

"The economy is likely to have a good bounce in the spring time," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital. "The market is reacting to the good economic news."

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 11.24 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,872.01. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 108.88 points, or 0.7 percent, to 16,331.05. The Nasdaq composite climbed 11.68 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,319.29.

The S&P 500 game within a fraction of a point of wiping out all of its losses from a day earlier, when it dropped 11.48 points.

Stocks started the day lower, extending their losses from Wednesday, as investors mulled comments the day before from Fed Chair Janet Yellen, who set the stage for a possible interest rate hike by the middle of next year. The Fed on Wednesday also dropped its previous position of saying it would consider raising interest rates once the unemployment rate declined to 6.5 percent. Unemployment is currently 6.7 percent.

Higher interest rates could slow the economy by raising the cost of borrowing money. That could hold companies back from borrowing to expand their businesses or discourage consumers from taking out loans such as mortgages.

The market turned higher in mid-morning trading following news that a measure of the U.S. economy's health rose in February by the largest amount in three months. That suggests growth will accelerate following a severe winter.

The Conference Board's index of leading indicators increased 0.5 percent following a slight 0.1 percent rise in January and a 0.1 percent decline in December.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia said separately that manufacturing rebounded in that region in March as new orders increased.

Microsoft was among the big gainers on Thursday. The software company's stock climbed $1.06, or 2.7 percent, to $40.33 after analysts at Morgan Stanley said a rumored plan to make a version of its Office software available for iPad devices could generate $1.2 billion in annual revenue.

3-D printing companies were among the losers after ExOne reported a fourth quarter loss late Wednesday and said its revenue fell. ExOne slid $4.35, or 10 percent, to $39.40. Other 3D-printer companies, including Stratasys and 3D Systems, also fell.

The stock market is in the sixth year of a bull market and has risen 172 percent since March, 2009. That rise has been underwritten by the Fed's stimulus, which has strengthened the economy by keeping interest rates low.

As the Fed cuts back on its stimulus, investors are splitting into roughly two camps, said Omar Aguilar, Chief Investment Officer at Charles Schwab.

"You have those that believe that the only reason the market has gone up for the last five years is because of the stimulus program...that is clearly coming to an end," said Aguilar. "Other investors think that the economy is in good shape."

Bond prices were little changed a day after the Fed announced it would make further reductions to its bond-buying program. The yield on the 10-year government was unchanged from Wednesday at 2.77 percent.

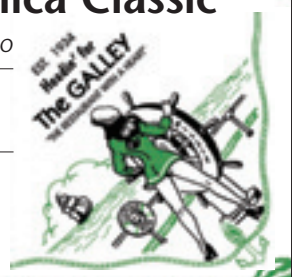
The price of crude oil fell 94 cents, or 0.9 percent, to $99.43 a barrel. Gold dropped $10.80, or 0.8 percent, to $1,330.50 an ounce

Among other stocks making big moves:

— ConAgra Foods rose 40 cents, or 1.4 percent, to $29.99 after the company said its latest quarterly earnings nearly doubled. It continues to benefit from the acquisition of private-label food maker Ralcorp.

— Guess slumped 98 cents, or 3.4 percent, to $27.78 after the apparel maker reported lower quarterly income and predicted a loss for the current period.

— Q2, a provider of online banking platforms to community banks, surged on its first day of trading on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock rose $2.17, or 16.7 percent, to $15.17.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

When: **Thursday, April 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm**

Where: Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica

NOTE: No public hearings scheduled.

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to 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.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed responses for:

RFP: OLYMPIC TREATMENT PLANT-PILOT TREATMENT STUDY.

- **Submission Deadline Is April 25, 2014 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The RFP documents can be downloaded at:
- **http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm**

Request for RFP documents may also be obtained by e-mailing your request to Jessica.arden@smgov.net

RFP responses must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

Santa Monica Jaycees' 22nd Annual Peter Rabbit Day!



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **63.9°**

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
New SSW swell creeps in; watching for steep-angled NW swell to creep in; small NW windswell; light SE winds early

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high
Steep NW swell mix mostly bypasses the region; Modest SSW swell fills in a touch more

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high
Modest SSW swell holds; new WNW/NW swell creeps in for exposures in the PM

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to chest high
Better SSW swell moves in; steep-angled WNW/NW swell...stay tuned

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
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- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 6
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 18

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa 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+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd..	C	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	D
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	C	F
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	F
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	D	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	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+	B
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	B
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DWW jetty).	A+	D
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 nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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

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

Dodgers, Diamondbacks set for Sydney season opener

DENNIS PASSA
AP Sports Writer

SYDNEY After taking its opener to Mexico, Japan and Puerto Rico over the past 15 years, Major League Baseball is expanding to a new territory this weekend: Down Under.

When Arizona's Wade Miley throws the first pitch of the season against the Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the teams will be nearly 7,800 miles from Chase Field in Phoenix.

Dodgers starter Clayton Kershaw celebrated his 26th birthday Wednesday by cuddling a kangaroo.

"It's been a good experience for us and, hopefully, we can get a couple of wins and make it a great one," Kershaw said. "Opening day is always fun, no matter what continent it's on."

The games will be played at a revamped cricket field that seats 40,000-plus and will air at odd times in the U.S. The opener is at 1 a.m. West Coast time Saturday and Sunday's game starts at 8 p.m. Saturday night.

Some things will be familiar: Vin Scully will be in the Dodgers' broadcast booth for the start of his 65th season, a run that dates to the team's time in Brooklyn.

Plate umpire Tim Welke will shout "Play ball!" not too different from a cricket umpire yelling "Play!" before the first ball is rolled.

But there will not be "stumps," the cricket term for when the umpire declares play over for the day.

And no breaks for lunch or tea.

Baseball began its season at Monterrey, Mexico, in 1999; at Tokyo in 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012; and at San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2001. This series marks the 100th anniversary of an exhibition game between the New York Giants and Chicago White Sox at the same venue on Jan. 3, 1914.

The Cricket Ground, opened in 1882, has been transformed into a baseball field over a few weeks. The right- and left-field foul poles are each 328 feet from home plate and straightaway center field is 400 feet away. From all reports, balls have been carrying.

The Dodgers defeated Australia's national team 4-2 Thursday night in an exhibition that drew just 14,385. Yasiel Puig, batting .122 (5 for 41) coming in, hit a two-run homer in the eighth, two innings after throwing out Mike Walker at the plate from right field.

Miley will be pitching in place of Patrick Corbin, who has a partially torn ligament in his left elbow that may require season-ending surgery.

Kershaw, the 2011 and 2013 NL Cy Young Award winner, will be making his first start since signing as $215 million, seven-year contract, the largest deal ever for a pitcher.

"I don't take for granted the contract," Kershaw said Thursday. "It's a really amazing thing that the Dodgers think enough of me to give me something like that. I understand the responsibilities that come with that. As long as you win, everything takes care of itself."

The Dodgers and Diamondbacks play each other nearly 20 times a season in the NL West, and Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said this week that any teams would develop a healthy rivalry in such a situation.

Last June, a brawl between the teams resulted in the suspensions of eight players. And when the Dodgers clinched the West title in Phoenix, a decision by some of their players to jump in the Chase Field swimming pool angered some Diamondbacks.

"I don't know what their sentiment is, but for us, it's just a new season," Kershaw said. "We're just going to play a game, not wonder what could or would happen. We've had our scuffles in the past and it should all be in the past.

"Obviously their big name guys — Paul Goldschmidt, Aaron Hill, Martin Prado — some of these guys they have over there — they play the game the right way. I enjoy watching them play. It's tough to beat them."

Diamondbacks manager Kirk Gibson plans to use Chris Owings and Didi Gregorius at shortstop over the two games as other teams discuss possible trades involving the infielders. With outfielder Cody Ross on the disabled list due to a hip injury, the Diamondbacks could carry two shortstops.

"I'm probably going to play one of them each day," Gibson said. "Not sure how I'm going to do it yet."

Los Angeles, which could overtake the New York Yankees as baseball's biggest spender, went 92-70 last year and won the NL West title by 11 games over the Diamondbacks, then beat Atlanta in the best-of-five division series before losing to St. Louis in a six-game NL championship.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The Big Lebowski (R) 1hr 53min
Almost Famous (R) 2hr 2min
7:30pm

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

Divergent (PG-13) 2hr 19min
11:10am, 12:05pm, 3:25pm, 6:45pm, 10:00pm

Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 1hr 41min
2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Non-Stop (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

300: Rise of an Empire (R) 1hr 42min
4:30pm, 10:10pm

300: Rise of an Empire 3D (R) 1hr 42min
1:45pm, 7:15pm

Need for Speed (PG-13) 2hr 10min
4:20pm, 10:45pm

Mr. Peabody & Sherman (PG) 1hr 30min
10:30am, 4:15pm, 7:00pm

Mr. Peabody & Sherman 3D (PG) 1hr 30min
1:15pm, 9:30pm

Divergent (PG-13) 2hr 19min
10:40am, 1:05pm, 4:15pm, 7:30pm, 11:00pm

Muppets Most Wanted (PG) 1hr 52min
10:15am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

Lego Movie (PG) 1hr 40min
10:20am, 11:00am, 1:30pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (R) 1hr 40min
10:45am, 11:45am, 2:10pm, 4:00pm, 5:15pm, 6:45pm, 8:00pm, 9:50pm, 10:50pm

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

Blood Ties (R) 2hrs 24min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Face of Love (PG-13) 1hr 32min
3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm

Enemy (R) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Tim's Vermeer (PG-13) 1hr 20min
1:00pm, 10:10pm

Particle Fever (NR) 1hr 39min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

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

RELAX TONIGHT, SAG

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Handle a personal matter in the morning. You will want to take off or schedule some time out of town in the afternoon. If you have been considering signing up for a class or sprucing up your resume, the evening is the perfect time. Tonight: The more exotic, the better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Others steal the stage right now. In the morning, everyone will want your time. The good news is that, by the afternoon, you will have isolated the one person you choose to share your time with. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Ask for more information regarding a health or work-related matter. Honor a change with a certain issue, and a relationship will flourish as a result. By the afternoon, you could discover the importance of taking the lead with a relationship. Tonight: Make the first move.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Allow your imagination to come out in the morning. Your focus might be on making plans, but confusion seems to surround an important matter involving a foreigner, legal matters and/or communication. Tonight: Do for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You could have a difficult time leaving your home, yet once you do, your more playful side will emerge. Use your ability to discuss a heavy issue while making light of it. Depending on the outcome, you might want to change direction. Tonight: Act as if it were Friday night.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Tension builds to a new level. Others could find you confusing at best. Recognize what is happening behind the scenes, as you might not have a clear vision of an interaction right now. A discussion might be a moot issue today if you can't see eye to eye. Tonight: Mosey on home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are likely to have little choice in a work-related matter. A superior could play out his or her role in the problem. Communication will flourish, but everyone seems to be speaking a different language. Tonight: TGIF!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your imagination could carry you far; however, getting concrete results might be more important right now. A matter involving a child or loved one could be costly. Tonight: Head out to celebrate the weekend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You beam and draw many people to you. Listen to your instincts, and you will be more on target than you could have imagined. Your strength of personality and need for freedom could directly conflict with someone else's demands; try to minimize the problem. Tonight: Relax.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You could hear from others how much you might be needed by a loved one. The person in question seems to be unable to share his or her feelings. Your sixth sense is generally right, but you can't depend solely on that right now. Tonight: If you want to make it an early night, please do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ How you manage a problem could be very different from how you anticipated handling it this morning. Look to your long-term goals, and you will succeed. Use caution with your finances, as it might be difficult to rectify a mistake after it happens. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You'll go with the flow in the morning; however, you might appear to have a problem seeing the big picture in the afternoon. Perhaps what is stressing you out is what a boss or older relative wants from you. You could feel conflicted. Tonight: Do not act on confusion.

Friday, March 21, 2014

This year you tend to focus on one person at a time, instead of the group as a whole. This trait could be prevalent in meetings. If you are single, someone might be quite intrigued by you and by everything that comes along with you. Not until July will Cupid be in your neighborhood. Any time after that is when you could encounter Mr. or Ms. Right. Do not make a commitment before August. If you are attached, come summer, the heat will fuel your passion. People who do not know you will be sure the two of you are newfound lovers. SAGITTARIUS can be a source of endless information.

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

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



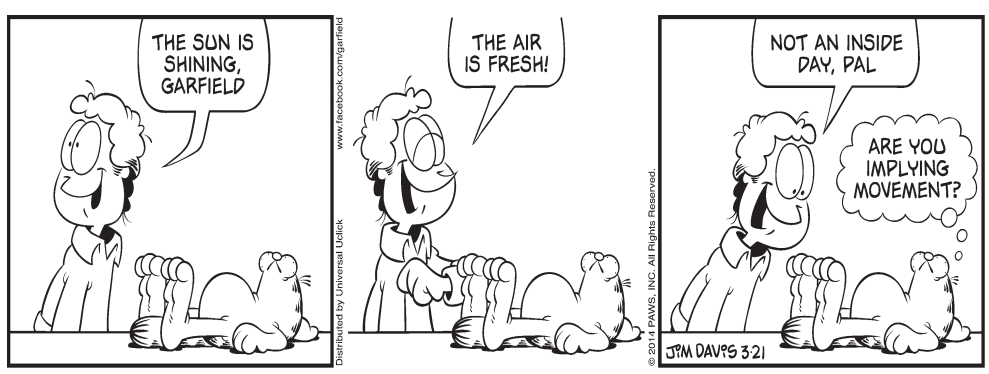
Strange Brew
By John Deering



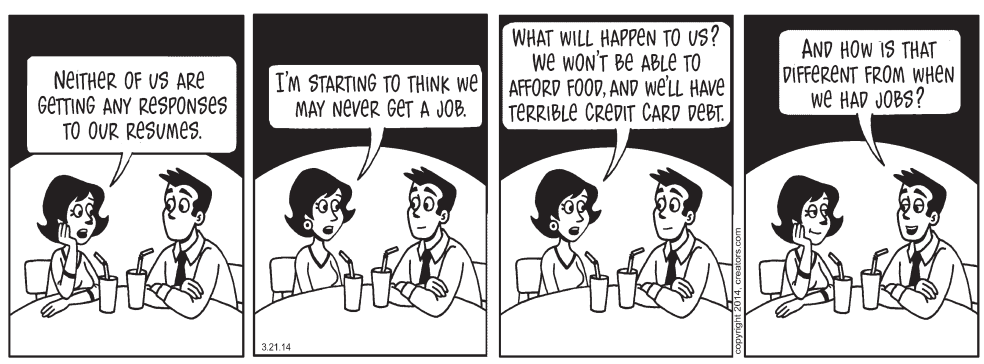
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

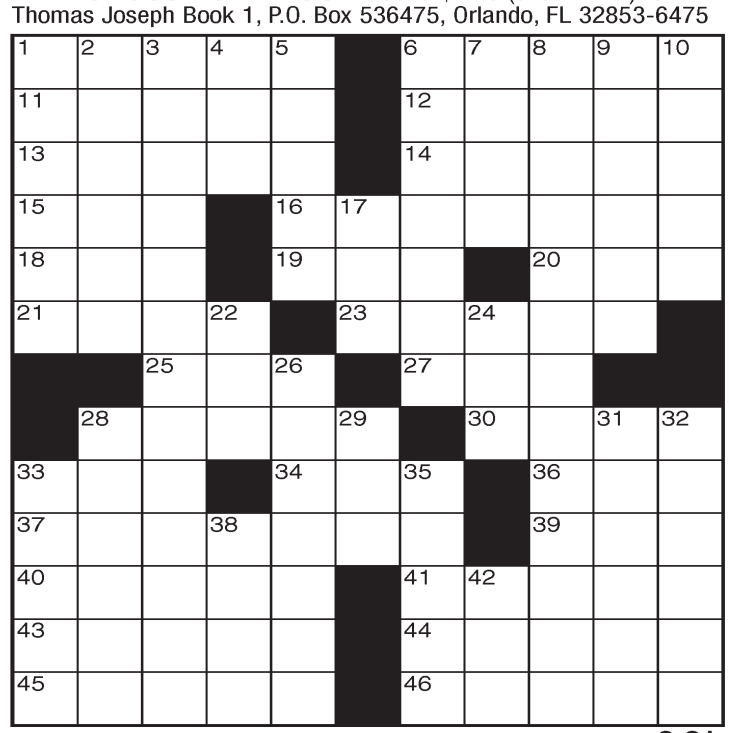
ACROSS
1 Bridge suspender
6 Gate part
11 Profit
12 Sneeze sound
13 Island south of Sicily
14 Possessive pronoun
15 Seventh letter
16 Gin mills
18 Sought a seat
19 Bulldog backer
20 Got together
21 Circle parts
23 Light lunch
25 Sixth sense, for short
27 Zero
28 Sean of "The Lord of the Rings"
30 Culp/Cosby series
33 Recipe amount
34 Horse bit
36 Old hand
37 Put in order
39 Bright beam
40 Linen fabric
41 Safari sighting
43 Banks of the Cubs
44 Following
45 Wild party
46 Moved sideways

DOWN
1 Shot taker
2 Film set on Pandora
3 Watch part
4 Tipsy
5 Cheer up
6 Riga native
7 Dull pain
8 Yellowstone sight
9 Made up
10 Actor Buchholz
17 Green and Gore
22 Retired plane
24 52, in old Rome
26 Lead the way
28 Dawn goddess
29 Old horse
31 Strut
32 Fluctuated
33 Supply food for
35 Pithy
38 "I cannot tell —"
42 Stashed

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

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



3-21

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/19
2 19 23 34 43
Power#: 14
Jackpot: $96M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/18
11 19 24 33 51
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: $15M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/19
3 9 13 20 28
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: $36M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/20
5 25 26 37 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/20
MIDDAY: 3 2 7
EVENING: 8 2 7

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/20
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:44.92

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

■ Farming continues to be a noble but grueling existence for rural residents of China, who work for the equivalent of only about $1,300 a year, but in one village (Jianshe, in southwest Sichuan province), farmers have established a co-operative capitalist model, and in January officials delivered residents their annual dividend in cold cash -- the equivalent of about $2.1 million to split among 438 households. Authorities unloaded banknotes in stacks that constituted a 7-foot-high wall of money, requiring villagers to pull 24-hour shifts to guard it.

■ News of the Weird has reported recently on the staggeringly large amounts of money to be made by financial trading firms that can execute buys and sells even a split-second before another firm. The Wall Street Journal reported in January that the "race to zero" ("zero" being trades executed at the speed of light) now involves sophisticated lasers beamed between trading hubs (initially, East Coast data centers, but eventually linking nearly all U.S. stock exchanges) so that a firm's automatically enacted trades (by self-actuating computer programs) can be further reduced from the current 0.004-second "lag" time.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1857 - An earthquake in Tokyo, Japan kills over 100,000.

1861 - Alexander Stephens gives the Cornerstone Speech

1871 - Otto von Bismarck is appointed Chancellor of the German Empire.

1871 - Journalist Henry Morton Stanley begins his trek to find the missionary and explorer David Livingstone.

WORD UP!

totem
\ TOH-tuhm \ , noun;
1. a natural object or an animate being, as an animal or bird, assumed as the emblem of a clan, family, or group.

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RUSH LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE INVITING BIDS Sealed bids will be received by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Construction Division, for the resurfacing and widening of road-way pavement using tire rubber modi-fied asphalt concrete; portland cement concrete pavement; reconstruction of curb and gutter, sidewalk, and curb ramps; catch basins and connector pipes; modification of traffic signals; street lighting; installation of striping and pavement markings; landscaping, irrigation and the performance of other incidental and appurtenant work under Project ID No. RDC0015018, Wilshire Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit, in the community of West Los Angeles. The bids must be submitted at the Cashier's Office, located on the Mezzanine level, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803-1331, before 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. The bids will then be publicly opened and read in the location posted in the main lobby. The work shall be done in accordance with the Plans and Specifications on file and open for inspection at the Depart-ment of Public Works. The work is estimated to cost between $2,500,000 and $3,500,000. The work requires a California Class A contractor's license. Prebid questions should be directed to Mr. Keegan Fahey of the Construction Division, (626) 458-3190. Prebid questions regarding the Plans and Specifications shall be submitted via e-mail only to: Mr. Fahey at kfahey@dpw.lacounty.gov. Include ``Pre-bid Questions for RDC0015018`` in the subject line of the e-mail. Prebid questions will not be accepted after 5 p.m. on Monday, March 24, 2014. The basis of bidding for this contract will be cost plus time, commonly re-ferred to as ``A + B`` bidding. The contract will be awarded to a responsi-ble contractor with the lowest grand total of the cost of the contract bid items (``A``) plus the amount bid for the time of completion (``B``). The contract price will be for the cost of the contract bid items (``A``) portion only. The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents, which may be purchased for $14 if picked up at the aforementioned Cashier's Office, (626) 458-6959, Monday through Thursday between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., or for $17 if mailed, which includes postage and handling. The plans available for purchase from the Cashier's Office will be on a compact disc in electronic format only. The contract documents for this project may also be downloaded free of charge by visiting the following website: http://dpw.lacounty.gov/ general/ contracts/ opportunities_ Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond payable to Los Angeles County in an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the bid to guarantee that the bidder will enter into the contract if it is awarded to him. All persons performing the work shall be paid not less than the General Prevail-ing Wage Determination prepared by the Director of Industrial Relations pursuant to the State Labor Code. Copies of these wage rates are avail-able at the Department of Public Works. Furthermore, minimum Davis-Bacon Act Wage Decisions for this Project as predetermined by the Secretary of Labor (Federal) can be found at the following website: http://www.wdol.gov/ wdol/ scafiles/ davisbacon/ ca33.dvb If there is a difference between the minimum wage rates predetermined by the Secretary of Labor and the applicable prevailing wage rates per the Director of Industrial Relations for similar classifications of labor, the Contractor and its subcon-tractors shall pay not less than the higher wage rate. The rate of compen-sation for any classification not listed in the schedule, but which may be re-quired to execute the contract, shall be commensurate and in accordance with the rates specified for similar or compa-rable classifications or for those per-forming similar or comparable duties. This project has a goal of 8 percent Disadvantaged Business Enterprise participation. The County hereby noti-fies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportu-nity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in con-sideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertise-ment. NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR BUY AMERICA This contract is subject to the ``Buy America`` provi-sions of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 as amended by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. The ``Buy America`` provisions do not apply to lower tier subcontractors. A bid that is not accompanied by a completed Buy America certification may result in a determination that the bidder is nonre-sponsive and/ or not responsible. The contract agreement that ultimately results from this solicitation is a ``cov-ered transaction`` as defined by Title 49 CFR Part 29. Bidder must certify at the time they submit their proposal that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction. The bidder with the successful bid further agrees to comply with Title 49 CFR Part 29, Subpart C by administering each lower tier subcon-tract that exceeds $25,000 as a ``cov-ered transaction``. The bid must provide full disclosure of False Claims Act violations, labor law/ payroll violations, debarments, and civil/ criminal legal actions as provided for on the forms included as part of the proposal. Fail-ure to complete these forms may result in a determination that the bidder is nonresponsive and/ or not responsible. The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to a responsible contractor with the lowest responsive bid; how-ever, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Due to the requirements of the use of Fed-eral and State funds on this project, no Local Small Business Enterprise pref-erence will be applied to this project as defined in County Code 2.204. A re-sponsible contractor is one who has demonstrated the attribute of trustwor-thiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity, and experience to satisfacto-rily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible contractors. The successful bidder will be required to fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees and comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance throughout the duration of the contract. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of the contract or initiation of debarment proceedings. The contract is subject to the requirements of the County of Los Angeles' Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program (Defaulted Tax Program), Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206. Bidders should carefully read the Defaulted Tax Program Ordinance. The Defaulted Tax Program applies to both contrac-tors and their subcontractors. Bidders will be required to certify that they are in full compliance with the provisions of the Defaulted Tax Program and shall maintain compliance during the term of the contract, or shall certify that they are exempt from the Defaulted Tax Program by completing a certification of compliance with the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program. In accordance with Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202, failure to maintain compliance with the Defaulted Tax Program or to cure defects within the time specified may be cause for termination of the contract and/ or initiation of debarment proceedings against the noncompliant contractor. Bids that fail to comply with the certification requirements of the Defaulted Tax Program will be considered nonresponsive and excluded from further consideration. The successful bidder will be required to submit a faithful performance bond, payment bond, and liability and worker's compensation insurance with the contract. As provided for in Section 22300 of the State Public Contract Code, the contractor may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the Department of Public Works to ensure performance under the contract or enter into an escrow agreement for payment of such monies to an escrow agent. Each person by submitting a response to this Notice Inviting Bids certifies that such bidder and each County lobbyist and County lobbying firm, as defined by Los Angeles County Code, Section 2.160.010, retained by the bidder, is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code. Para mas informacion con relacion a esta noticia, por favor llame a este numero (626) 458-3118. Nuestras horas de oficina son de 7 a.m. a 5:30 p.m. de Lunes a Jueves. The County supports and encourages equal opportunity contracting. This transportation improvement project was partially funded by Metro. More information about Metro can be found at the follow-ing website: www.metro.net By order of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Dated February 26, 2014. Sachi A. Hamai Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors

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Excerpts from an interview with **Kathryn Gustafson**, founding partner of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, award-winning landscape architects

How do you approach an iconic site like the Miramar?

The Miramar Hotel is an extraordinary location, set majestically on the bluffs, overlooking the most powerful ocean in the world. As a landscape architect, it is important to understand the elements of a site and make sure that our design isn't parachuted in, but inspired by the site itself. We looked at elements of the Miramar such as its natural and cultural history, its sun patterns, how it has changed over time to get the soul of the site. Our goal is that when you walk into it, you feel it is real and stable; that the landscape emerges from the site itself.

Santa Monica is a unique community – how has that inspired your design?

I have spent lots of time in Santa Monica over the years and have come to appreciate that it has a certain scale; kind of a front side and back side; intimate and grand. There are small shops and buildings and then the tall, grander buildings. The grid of streets, Wilshire, California and Ocean all have very different scales. How people move between theses scales is very important. My design for the landscape of the Miramar intends to make sure that these different personalities of Santa Monica are addressed and incorporated.

How do you intend to incorporate the Moreton Bay Fig Tree into your landscape design?

I am not sure that incorporate is the right term. Instead, I want to make sure that the landscape and the buildings frame the tree and its magnificence and highlight it so that it is the heart and center of the property. People have a sense about trees, a feeling. Trees radiate a life energy and need to be kept alive. This is something that takes a lot of technical skill and compositional skill in designing the landscape.

Please speak to us about sustainability in landscape and how that applies to the Miramar.

Santa Monica is one of the leaders worldwide in sustainability. They have been working at it for years and made clear strategic choices. Our landscape design will be as sustainable a piece of work as possible. We reuse water, never waste it, and make very specific choices based on the climate and sun studies to maximize sustainability. We want to have a landscape that is the most successful possible on earth for this community.

THE MIRAMAR PLAN

Restoring Our Legacy – Investing in Santa Monica's Future

Visit **www.MiramarPlan.com** for more information about the Miramar Plan.