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TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 111

Santa Monica Daily Press

TEENS FEELING VINYL
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE HOW ARE THE BLISTERS TODAY ISSUE



LIFE SAVERS

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Gerber ambulance drivers Richard Bitting (far left) and Daniel Gomez (far right) joined Santa Monica police officers (from left to right) Kevin McInerney, Sgt. Bob Hernandez, Benito Seli and Phillip Deryck during an awards ceremony at City Hall on Monday. Seli (middle) was shot in the abdomen just beneath his bullet proof vest in March of last year during a traffic stop on Lincoln Boulevard near Bay Street. The officers and paramedics rendered aid at the scene and were recognized, along with Seli, for their quick response and bravery.

Marines going green to save lives on battlefield

BY JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. The Marine Corps is going green to save lives rather than to save the planet.

In a renewable energy strategy revealed to troops Monday, the service said it plans to equip thousands of Marines in Afghanistan with solar-powered gadgets over the next year in an effort to decrease the need to make risky runs for fuel through enemy territory.

The Marine Corps said the change comes after the service studied a three-month period last year and found that one Marine is wounded for every 50 trips made for fuel or water in Afghanistan.

The strategy also addresses the ongoing problem of U.S. reliance on the questionable practices of private security companies in Afghanistan that are used to protect the convoys. A congressional inquiry last year found that some of those companies have been inadvertently funneling money to the Taliban and threatening the safety of coalition troops because contractors often don't vet local recruits and wind up hiring warlords and thugs.

Trucking contractors who bring in the fuel, mostly from Pakistan, pay tens of millions of dollars a year to local warlords for convoy protection. Marines then truck the

SEE GREEN PAGE 9

Teachers speak out about class sizes, pay

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Members of the Santa Monica Malibu Classroom Teachers Association weighed in on a number of hot button topics in a partial set of survey results released by the union last week.

Over 400 teachers participated in the 30-question, unscientific survey, one-third of which was given to the Daily Press Friday. The straight results have not yet been given to either the Board of Education, nor the Superintendent's Office.

The 11 questions the Daily Press reviewed cover a variety of topics, including opinions on class sizes, the role of student test scores in teacher evaluations and what factors should be taken into account when deciding teacher salaries.

Teachers were given statements and then allowed to choose one of four responses: strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree and strongly disagree.

When asked about class sizes, which have been on the rise throughout the district, 88.6 percent of teachers agreed either strongly or somewhat that reducing class sizes would both improve working conditions and allow them to maximize student outcomes.

The vast majority of teachers also named reducing class sizes as their top priority in improving their working condi-

SEE SURVEY PAGE 8

City Hall saves money on buses, real estate

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

CITY HALL In a rare turn of events, City Hall will be saving money as a result of the series

SEE CONSENT PAGE 3

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Event Details

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Time: 6pm - 7:30pm

Who: Both members and prospective members welcome

Cost: $10 for members, $25 for prospective members

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Alicia's kind diet
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Known for years as a talented actress in films and television programs such as "Clueless" and "Miss Match," Alicia Silverstone has also been a longtime animal rights activist and conservationist. In this program, Alicia will discuss her new book "The Kind Diet: A Guide to Feeling Great, Losing Weight and Saving the Planet," which shares the tips and insights that helped her swear off meat and dairy forever, and outlines the benefits of adopting a plant-based diet. A book sale and signing will follow the on-stage presentation. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

'Our Santa Monica Bay'
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club
1210 Fourth St., 7 p.m.
This talk, "The Gabrieleno and Tongva of Today and Yesterday," by Angie Dorame Behrns traces the history of the Gabrieleno Tongva from earliest times right up to the present day. With photographs, original art and artifacts, Behrns discusses the work of the Gabrieleno Tongva Foundation in preserving, celebrating and continuing that rich history. For more information, call (310) 395-1308.

Live green
Montana Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
Each Green Living Workshop is a six-week series provided by Sustainable Works, a non-profit environmental education organization, whose mission is to foster a culture of sustainability in cities, colleges, and businesses. Each session focuses on a different topic: water, energy, waste, chemicals, transportation and travel, and shopping and food. Participants receive free resource saving tools such as water saving shower heads, energy saving light bulbs, and reusable shopping bags. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

Open house
Boys and Girls Club
1238 Lincoln Blvd., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
To celebrate National Boys and Girls Clubs Week, the Santa Monica branch is hosting an open house for the community. There will be several activities, including a family game night with prizes for the winners and a "Frozen T-Shirt Challenge." For more information on the open house or other events at the club, visit www.smbgc.org or call (310) 394-2582.

Planning Commission
City Council Chambers
7 p.m.
Commissioners will discuss an application to operate a bed and breakfast at a historic cottage on Ocean Avenue, and the possibility of creating a discretionary fund so that members can attend conferences, panels and other education/training events or for other uses deemed appropriate by a majority vote of the commission.
To see the full agenda go to www.smgov.net.

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

DOWNTOWN

Results posted for L.A. Marathon

Nearly 600 Santa Monicans registered for the Los Angeles Marathon, but not everyone finished, according to figures released by the race's organizers.

To check out who finished and by what time, the marathon has created a web page with names, ages, and other information on all the participants. Just enter a name or city and see who ranked where. The website is www.lamarathon.com. Click on "race results."

Of the more than 23,000 who registered, race officials said 19,743 completed the grueling, rain-soaked 26.2 miles. It is believed nearly 450 Santa Monicans completed the run.



SOAKED: **Runners struggled with the rain.**

The first man to cross the finish line was Markos Geneti with a time of 2 hours, 6 minutes. The first woman was Buzunesh Deba with a time of 2 hours, 26 minutes.

Congratulations to all who finished.

DAILY PRESS

DOWNTOWN

Red Cross renders aid

The American Red Cross of Santa Monica was called in to render aid Sunday to hundreds of runners in the Los Angeles Marathon who were experiencing hypothermia and exhaustion due to the cold winds and driving rains that were lashing the race course, officials with the nonprofit said Monday.

City Hall's Emergency Preparedness Office and the Santa Monica Fire Department set up an impromptu shelter at the finish line in the Fairmont-Miramar Hotel on Ocean Avenue to help the more than 200 people there who were experiencing weather and temperature-related distress after running the race.

Officials with the Red Cross said they handed out almost 400 thermal and /or cotton blankets to shivering runners.

DP

DOWNTOWN

Rain storm knocks out power

More than 1,000 Santa Monicans living near the Civic Center lost power Sunday due to the heavy rain storm, which knocked down power lines, officials with Southern California Edison said.

Power was restored by 3 a.m. Monday, said spokeswoman Lois Pitter Bruce. The power outage reached from Pico Boulevard to Marine Street, and Fourth Street to Barnard Way.

Initial reports said nearly 3,000 residents were without power.

Santa Monica received nearly 3 inches of rain Sunday, according to the National Weather Service.

The rain forced several road closures, including a section of the California Incline. California Highway Patrol reopened the roadway, which connects to Pacific Coast Highway, shortly after 10 a.m.

Rock slides, pavement collapses and flooding were reported on PCH in the Malibu area, blocking parts of the roadway at times.

DP

CONSENT

FROM PAGE 1

of actions the City Council is expected to take in its consent calendar Tuesday evening.

The calendar addresses $814,000 across three contract changes, primarily for scope-of-work variances, a $1.7 million savings on 10 new 30-person buses to be purchased for the Mini Big Blue Bus system and a variety of lease modifications.

EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

Changes to two construction contracts associated with City Hall seismic improvements could mean an additional $714,000 in expenditures.

A delay at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which funds a portion of the project, caused a plan check application submitted by the Building and Safety Division to the City Council to expire.

By City Hall's own rules, the new application required the company in charge of the plans, West Valley Investment Group, Inc., to redo the documents using guidelines from the 2007 building code, rather than the 2001 building code used originally.

An additional $34,847 is also needed to fund hazardous material monitoring and inspection services resulting from the structural changes.

DOTTING I'S AND CROSSING T'S

Staff will request the City Council sign off on a $65,000 increase in a contract with the Strategic Advisory Group for financial and industry analysis on the Civic Auditorium that is needed to finish an agreement with the private company that will be managing the space.

The additional money would be used to help staff analyze the final agreement concerning management of the Civic Auditorium with the Nederlander Organization.

The City Council approved the selection of the company at its meeting on March 8.

SAG will specifically look at how to get financing for needed capital improvements for the building.

DEMOLITION

An additional $35,000 will be needed to finish and refine a neighborhood conservation program, including a supporting demolition ordinance.

According to a staff report, the Phipps Group, a firm that specializes in conservation planning and historic preservation, has been working with community groups since March 2009 to identify attributes of certain neighborhoods for conservation, and create methods for city officials to deal with conservation in the future.

The work was incorporated into the Land Use and Circulation Element, an update to the city's General Plan which will dictate development for the next 20 years or more.

The extra money will be spent on developing a demolition ordinance, a need identified in community meetings by residents upset that city staff does no notify anyone if a building will be demolished if it hasn't been previously identified as "historic."

In addition, the company is working on a program to transfer development rights from a historic property to another location within the city. The Phipps Group will research the potential "receiving areas" within the city.

NOT SO GREEN

An unexpected bankruptcy forced city staff to request a change to an existing contract for 10 hybrid buses to an order for 10 buses powered by natural gas engines instead, saving over $1.7 million in the process.

According to the staff report, an order of 10 hybrid buses from Creative Bus Sales — worth $8,061,367 — stalled when hybrid-electric drive systems maker ISE Corp. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in August 2010.

Losing the original manufacturer hurt the performance of the five hybrid Mini Blue buses already purchased, and staff recommended to the City Council to change the existing order, approved in March 2009, to buses with natural gas engines.

REAL ESTATE

The council is expected to approve two lease modifications for Fourth Street properties, one for buildings owned by City Hall and another with a private landlord that owns property leased by city offices.

In November 2010, City Hall acquired addresses 1301 through 1333 Fourth Street as part of its Downtown Parking Program.

The 52,500 square foot property came with tenants, including financial institutions Bank of America and JP Morgan Chase. Chase still has two options of five years each on the lease, with the second expiring in April 2022.

Under the current lease, Chase must give City Hall notice to exercise the first option by April 30, 2011, but the company requested extra time to look at its options in terms of alternate locations.

Staff requested that the council allow the city manager to move the notice date from April 30 to Jan. 31, 2012, require rent negotiations for the option period to begin by Aug. 31, 2011 and change the date that City Hall or Chase must give rent appraisals to an arbiter, should negotiations fall through.

City staff also asked the council to approve changes to a lease with Folke Investment to decrease rent for office space on the 1400 block of Fourth Street used by the Engineering and Architecture Services Divisions and the Cultural Affairs Division.

The new rent would drop from $4.01 per square foot to $3.25 per square foot, saving approximately $98,688 per year.

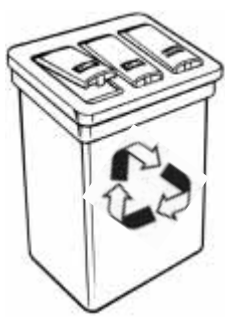
CRIME GRANT

The City Council will get the opportunity to accept a $63,095 grant to support police services from the U.S. Department of Justice.

The money will be used to cover overtime for police officers.

ashley@smdp.com

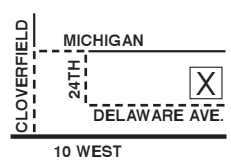
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Runners left out in the cold

Editor:

To the Los Angeles Marathon organizers, the city of Santa Monica and the L.A. Marathon sponsors: You make a lot of money from advertising and sponsorship and you charge participants a $145 fee to run the full marathon, or $35 for the 5k. So it's ironic that you promote the marathon as such a healthy activity for participants when this year you left so many runners literally "out in the cold," wandering the streets of Santa Monica fending for themselves in the pouring rain. I saw scores of runners shivering, wet and cold, wrapped in only a thin plastic/aluminum "blanket." You knew about the high probability of rain and that runners would be exhausted after the race, susceptible to hypothermia. You're negligence is both irresponsible and inexcusable.

Joe Delaplaine
Santa Monica

Save the juniper trees

Editor:

Here we go again!

City Hall is going to remove all the juniper bushes on Wilshire Boulevard and Seventh Street in Reed Park for aesthetic and design purposes. These bushes hide the tennis courts from the passing traffic and retain the park appearance that the park should have. It is shameful that in these hard times, City Hall should waste funds that could be useful in other areas. It is also shameful that the residents of Santa Monica continually are indifferent to moves such as this and are reluctant to voice their opposition to projects that have no merit. Please voice your objections to this and be one who exercises your civic responsibilities.

Herb Silverstein
Santa Monica

Say no to nukes

Editor:

Sure, health officials say there's no radiation danger to the West Coast from Japan, yet ("No increased radiation detected in SoCal," March 18).

But the greater concern must be for the disasters waiting to happen at nearby California nukes San Onofre and Diablo Canyon – both near earthquake faults.

According to government reports, a million Southern Californians could die from a meltdown at San Onofre, alone – keeping in mind cancers caused by the radiation short term and long term.

Not only do we need hearings in Washington to bring the nuclear renaissance to an end, but we need local town meetings to stop nuclear power before nukes destroy us.

Katherine McTaggart and Andy K. Liberman
Santa Monica

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Your column here

Bill Rosendahl Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Program to help those living in cars progressing

DEAR FRIENDS,

As many of you know, my staff and I have been wrestling with the dilemma of people living in their vehicles. We have been striving for a balanced approach — one that helps those who need help, and also moves vehicles with people living in them from residential streets.

Last year, the city of Los Angeles began enforcing parking restrictions on oversized vehicles on streets where residents and property owners requested such restrictions. At the same time, we have been crafting a program called Roadmap to Housing (formerly known as Vehicles to Homes), which provide services, safe parking, and housing placement for people living in their vehicles.

Roadmap to Housing's main goal is to find permanent housing for people living in their vehicles. The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) has already committed 25 housing vouchers to the program, and the Veterans Administration (VA) has committed to enough vouchers for eligible veterans already canvassed in Council District 11 — West Los Angeles/Venice. Because of aggressive enforcement of parking restrictions, People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) may need some legal public parking spaces for program participants to stay while PATH processes vouchers and makes housing arrangements. PATH would manage the spaces and require participants to follow a strict code of conduct and receive social services.

Earlier this month, the City Attorney's Office released a draft ordinance (LAMC 85.11) that would allow PATH to legally operate such a program in designated public parking spaces. While the intent and particulars of that draft ordinance were distorted as part of a public misinformation campaign, many of the public comments generated raised legitimate concerns.

As a result, at the next meeting of the Transportation Committee, I intend to ask the city attorney to amend the proposed ordinance:

• The first draft of the ordinance would have allowed program participants to park on designated street segments. I will ask the city attorney to delete that provision.

• The first draft of the ordinance would have permitted PATH to operate the program in any publicly-owned parking lot with a proper buffer from residences. I will ask the city attorney to restrict PATH to two lots: the municipally-owned lots at my field offices in Westchester and West L.A.

• The first draft of the ordinance calls for a 50-foot buffer between any PATH-supervised parking space and a residence. That buffer will remain in place for the Westchester and West L.A. lots.

• The first draft of the ordinance would have allowed up to five vehicles per PATH-supervised lot. Since my other amendments will reduce overall parking inventory, we are considering what we should raise the number to for the two participating lots.

PATH will use the parking lot spaces, if needed, but will concentrate its program on street case management and helping people access permanent housing. PATH may not need to use all of the spaces in the lots, and may not need to use the lots at all. As long as vouchers are available, PATH officials are confident they can place into housing those people living in vehicles who need and want a home.

Like any important matter of public policy, this ordinance is a work in progress, and there are many more opportunities to be heard. Before this matter goes to the full City Council next month, there are three public meetings:

• Venice Neighborhood Council
March 22 at 6:30 p.m.
Westminster Elementary School Auditorium
1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd.,
Venice, Calif., 90291

• Transportation Committee (City Hall)
March 23 and April 13, at 2 p.m.
200 N. Spring St., #1050
Los Angeles, 90012

We're almost there, folks! I hope we continue to work together to make this a model the rest of Los Angeles will be proud of.

BILL ROSENDAHL is a Los Angeles City Councilman representing District 11, which includes West Los Angeles and Venice. He lives in Mar Vista.



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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Imperfect makes perfect

I AM IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING a service, which is protecting men's rights as fathers and husbands. The humanity factor is crucial in what I do. I have to understand my clients, their wants, needs and motivations so that I may represent them well in court. Sometimes that's a good thing, and sometimes it's a painful thing.

Because I am dealing with people's lives, and frequently the most important relationship in their lives — that with their children — I have to be especially attuned to their real wants. In the fog of war they can lose track of what is most important to them.

I bring to my cases the insight and understanding of nuance, of hidden meanings and motivations. People don't mean to hide things. It's the nature of language and thought as an imprecise mechanism. It's why I'm frequently a therapist as well as a lawyer. I have to uncover the truth of what is driving people so that I can explain to the court.

Language is not precise, and frequently several words can mean similar enough concepts that we use to communicate but with gaps or misunderstandings in place. I'll use a recent experience at Vidiots as an example.

I love Vidiots. It's an awesome experience to walk in and realize that there are literally thousands of movies that are available for me to rent and view that I cannot rent anywhere else.

When I walk in to Vidiots, some days it has the wonderful musty smell of an old library, the kind my college had in the basement where the books from the 1600s were kept. (Yes my college was that old!) I used to enjoy going to the lower basement because it felt like I was time traveling in the stacks of old leather-bound books that detailed life and thought over the past 250 years.

The musty smell of yesteryear transports me to a nicer time, a time before instant everything, the threat of nuclear war, and the downgrading of manners and grace. Vidiots lets me go there with the rental of classic silent movies and suddenly I'm living in 1920 America when film was just starting to become a force.

Other times as I wander the stacks I find a movie that I would not have thought of, and I'm so glad that I can just pick it up. There was a time when I was a documentary junkie, and the collection of offbeat documentaries that Vidiots offers has allowed me to learn about everything from the fog of war, to the latest conspiracy theory on our government's role in 9/11.

I would not have watched either of those movies if I had not picked up the case and read the covers. That is the benefit of tangibility. It is that real connection with things, events and life that is the humanity factor I've been writing about. Connection is what adds to our understanding of the world around us, it is what allows humans to understand each other.

The way our minds make connections is why we have reached the top of the food chain. This past weekend I wanted to rent a movie that was supposed to be in the philosophy section of the stacks. One version of the movie was there, but not the version I wanted. Every movie cover at Vidiots has a yellow tag and is coded to what section it belongs in, so the one I wanted would have a tag that reads PHI for philosophy.

The philosophy section is next to spirituality, and the movie that I wanted was a type of movie that could easily be put into that category. Of course, when I searched spirituality, I found the movie I wanted, and it was tagged PHI. Someone made an error — it happens when humans are involved.

While I was searching for my movie, there were three people who were also looking for a movie to watch together. They commented on one where a man decided to try and live by Biblical laws for a year. All four of us had a brief laugh at how impossible that would be. It was a moment of connection, a coming together in a way that doesn't happen when you use an online service to get your movies.

The interaction between people is what makes life enjoyable. It's the process that makes the experience. The process isn't executed with robotic perfection since humans make errors. Luckily we understand that errors happen and in what ways those errors are likely to happen, which helps us fix them.

Video rentals is a service business, just like mine, and even something as basic as finding the movie I want has the imperfect element of humanity in it that makes the experience more enjoyable.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

The Q Line

Running things

The L.A. Marathon returned to Santa Monica this past week with its boon to business and its companion traffic and parking struggles.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks: Considering the mixed bag it brings with it, do you think that the marathon should return for a third year in 2012?

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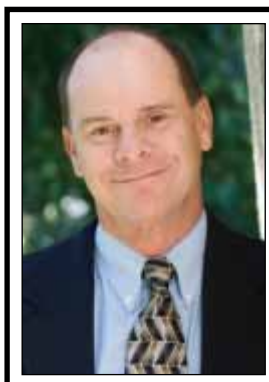
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More teens embracing vinyl

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK In most ways, Sarah McCarthy is your average high schooler. She has a job, college plans, but also a peculiar passion for a 16-year-old: She's a vinyl junkie.

That's right, analog. And none of that hipster new stuff or a USB-ready turntable from Urban Outfitters.

To this senior from Centreville, Md., there's nothing like the raw crackle, the depth of sound, her delicate hand on diamond-tipped stylus to spin from the dusty stash of records she found in the basement of her grandfather — yes, grandfather.

"He gave me his receiver and speaker system and told me to listen to it the way it was made to be listened to," McCarthy said. "I've turned a lot of my friends on to it. They come over a lot to listen with me."

At a time when parents feel positively prehistoric as they explain how to use plastic ice-cube trays or speak of phones with cords and dials, this teen knows what a record is. Not only that, she knows the difference between a 45 and an LP. She met her boyfriend in a record shop and now works there!

Sure, she has an iPod, but she also has a vinyl collection of 250 records and counting. Sure, there's a broader '70s renaissance in the air, but buying bellbottoms doesn't touch the commitment of teens unearthing old turntables and records, then convincing friends to listen, too, like a pack of crazy little anthropologists.

"Listening to old music remastered to a newer format is almost comical," Sarah said. "They weren't meant to be digitalized. Listening to Jimi Hendrix on my iPod doesn't capture his endlessly deep guitar solos quite like a 33 LP of 'Blues' does."

This girl's in love with vinyl, and she's not the only member of Generation Digital with an ear for analog.

"My dad always had these old records in the garage and I never got to use them until just recently, when my uncle let me have his old record player," said 14-year-old Nick Spates, a Los Angeles eighth grader who plays guitar and piano.

What'd he find in his dad's two milk crates?

A lot of George Clinton — "He's a genius. I swear," declared Nick. And Funkadelic. Of the band's Eddie Hazel: "'Maggot Brain' is like my favorite song ever. The original is a 10-minute guitar solo." There was also "Spiral" by The Crusaders. "It has a lot of horns. I love horns." And "Carmel" by Joe Sample, Hendrix on "Voodoo Child" and a trove of Stanley Clarke.

"My friends think it's cool," Nick said. "Before I had the vinyls I used to Google older musicians and see what songs they made, and I'd look for them on YouTube. We're all musicians and old music is like our favorite stuff in the world."

Way back when, he said, the message of the music was "definitely more to benefit society and people's knowledge and what's going on in the world." Now, he said, "It's more about what rappers have."

Jeremy Robinson, co-owner of the plantation-size Ditch Records & CDs in Victoria, British Columbia, has up to 20,000 records in stock — half old and half new pressings from reissue labels and indie bands.

"Our vinyl sales have probably doubled in the last couple of years," he said. "The bulk of that has been young people, the iPod generation. They want to collect things, own things, which is the opposite of digital culture. They want to belong to the past."

The uptick in interest over several years includes nostalgic "nerdy superfans" looking for a way around the more sanitized sound of digital, he said, but also savvy young people with Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, the Beatles, Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Fleetwood Mac, Iron Maiden and a host of obscure post-punk music on their minds.

"The younger kids that come in the store know what they want," Robinson said. "They usually want the best albums by the best classic bands."

Matt Melvin, a 22-year-old college senior in Orlando, Fla., began taking vinyl seriously when he was 17 and still in high school. His interest was fed by buddies in search of pressings from new artists but also his dad's collection of old staples like the Beatles, the Rolling Stones and Dylan.

"With vinyl, one is forced to slow down and take in an album as a whole piece of work as the artist intended," he said.

Melvin's constantly on the hunt for exclusive, hard-to-find tracks like special B sides or limited-edition color pressings. The White Stripes, for example, released a series of singles on vinyl from their last album with acoustic and Spanish versions on B sides. A vinyl version of Radiohead's latest album can be ordered from its website.

But he's interested in older music, too.

"Going through the countless stacks of different record stores, my eyes usually get caught by old funk and jazz records that I would have otherwise had little exposure to had it not been for their eccentric and colorful cover art."

While the recording industry dukes it out over downloads and mourns the CD, 2.5 million vinyl LPs were sold in 2009, up 33 percent from the year before. Vinyl sales are a blip among total revenue from U.S. music sales and licensing, but that's a healthy increase in its own right.

"Young people are leading the way back to analog through vinyl and turntables," Melvin said. "I think young people are demanding a product that is more tangible, the thrill of hunting through a store for that perfect record, the simple satisfaction of turning that record over."

Young people who listen and young people who mix.

Tina Turnbull, 28, travels the world as a DJ. Last year, she opened a weeklong DJ summer camp in Ojai, Calif., for tweens and teens, many who attend on scholarship. Coming up in the business at age 15, Turnbull carted around crates of vinyl to gigs. "Now I bring two records with me and my laptop. Technology has taken over."

At Camp Spin-Off, she and a staff of working DJs try to bridge past and present through vinyl. "We use records. We teach them the fundamentals. Where they go from there is wherever they want."

On the first day of camp, her charges watch a documentary tracing the birth of hip-hop, when the first DJs inspired break dancing and rap, and invented scratching and "beat-juggling" on vinyl. The movie takes them straight through to "turntablism," the more recent explosion of using one or more turntables combined with one or more mixers to create original music.

Turnbull invites guest DJs young (Samantha Ronson will stop by in August) and older to share their expertise and memories of decades past with the 50 campers, ages 12 to 17.

"You have to learn the basics on turntables," she said. "It kind of bums me that people who are learning how to DJ will never touch a record, but that's an opinionated thing."

Sarah McCarthy, who like Nick plays guitar and piano, holds the same opinion. She doesn't have much use for the vinyl-to-MP3 converter her mother, Mary, gave her as a gift.

Anthem Blue Cross delays $40M California rate hike

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Anthem Blue Cross, the largest health plan in California, said Monday it will delay and reduce rate hikes that would have hit some 600,000 policyholders at an estimated cost of $40 million.

Anthem is one of four major health insurers in the state who earlier agreed to put off premium increases for at least 60 days at the request of California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones.

Los Angeles-based Anthem said it will delay a planned 9.8 percent premium increase from April 1 to July 1 and reduce it to 9.1 percent. The company also said it will put off increases in deductibles and co-payments from April 1 to Jan. 1.

"Our mission is to ensure quality health care for residents of the state at the most affordable price," Anthem President Pam Kehaly said in a statement.

However, she said more must be done to halt the unrelenting rise of health care costs.

Taken together, the premium and benefit changes would have amounted to a 16.4 percent cost hike for policyholders in the middle of the year and might have forced people who thought they had met their deductibles to put off treatment, Jones said at a news conference.

That would be "akin to moving the goal post downfield in the middle of the game," he said.

Anthem did not provide any dollar figures for how the 9.1 percent increase will affect policyholders.

However, Jones said delaying the increases will save California policyholders at least $40 million.

Anthem Blue Cross said it lost about $110 million on individual health insurance coverage in California last year and expected to lose money again this year despite the upcoming increases.

Last week, Blue Shield of California announced it was withdrawing its plan to increase health insurance rates for individual policyholders in what would have been the third such rate hike since October.

The three hikes combined would have raised rates by as much as 87 percent for some of its 200,000 policyholders, according to the state Department of Insurance.

The San Francisco-based nonprofit said it lost $27 million on individual policies last year and expects more such losses this year.

Two other insurers — Aetna and PacifiCare — also have agreed to delays.

Under state law, Jones has no authority to reject health insurance premium increases.

AB 52, a bill sponsored by Democratic Assemblyman Mike Feuer of Los Angeles that would give that power to the commissioner, is currently before the Legislature. Similar bills have failed in recent years.

Jones called on the public to back the bill.

Without it, consumers remain at the mercy of health insurers, Jones said.

Consumer rights groups also backed the bill and gave Anthem slight praise for its decision to delay the rate hike.

"Overall, this is a reprieve for consumers, though an almost 10 percent hike will still be hard for many to afford. And Anthem enrollees have to be worried about what will happen next year," said a statement from Michael Russo, an attorney for the California Public Interest Research Group.

Anthem proposed a 39 percent increase last year at a time when its parent company, Wellpoint Inc., is making billions in profit, but Anthem eventually reduced the increase.

"If you buy health insurance in California, your only hope right now is that publicity and politics might convince some executives to scale back the rate increases, at least for a few months," said Doug Heller, executive director of Consumer Watchdog, a Santa Monica-based advocacy group. "Insurance companies with huge profits aren't nice guys just because they gouge us a little less."

Marin DA drops case of homeless men's kidnapping

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NOVATO, Calif. Marin County prosecutors have dropped charges against a woman accused of holding captive several homeless men inside a moving truck.

Prosecutors say they had to dismiss the case against 36-year-old Lark Ann Freeman because the alleged victims either couldn't be located or refused to cooperate.

Freeman was arrested on New Year's Eve after she was caught driving a U-Haul truck into a one-way tunnel against a red light. Four men found inside the truck said Freeman had lured them in, offering to give them cigarettes or work as movers.

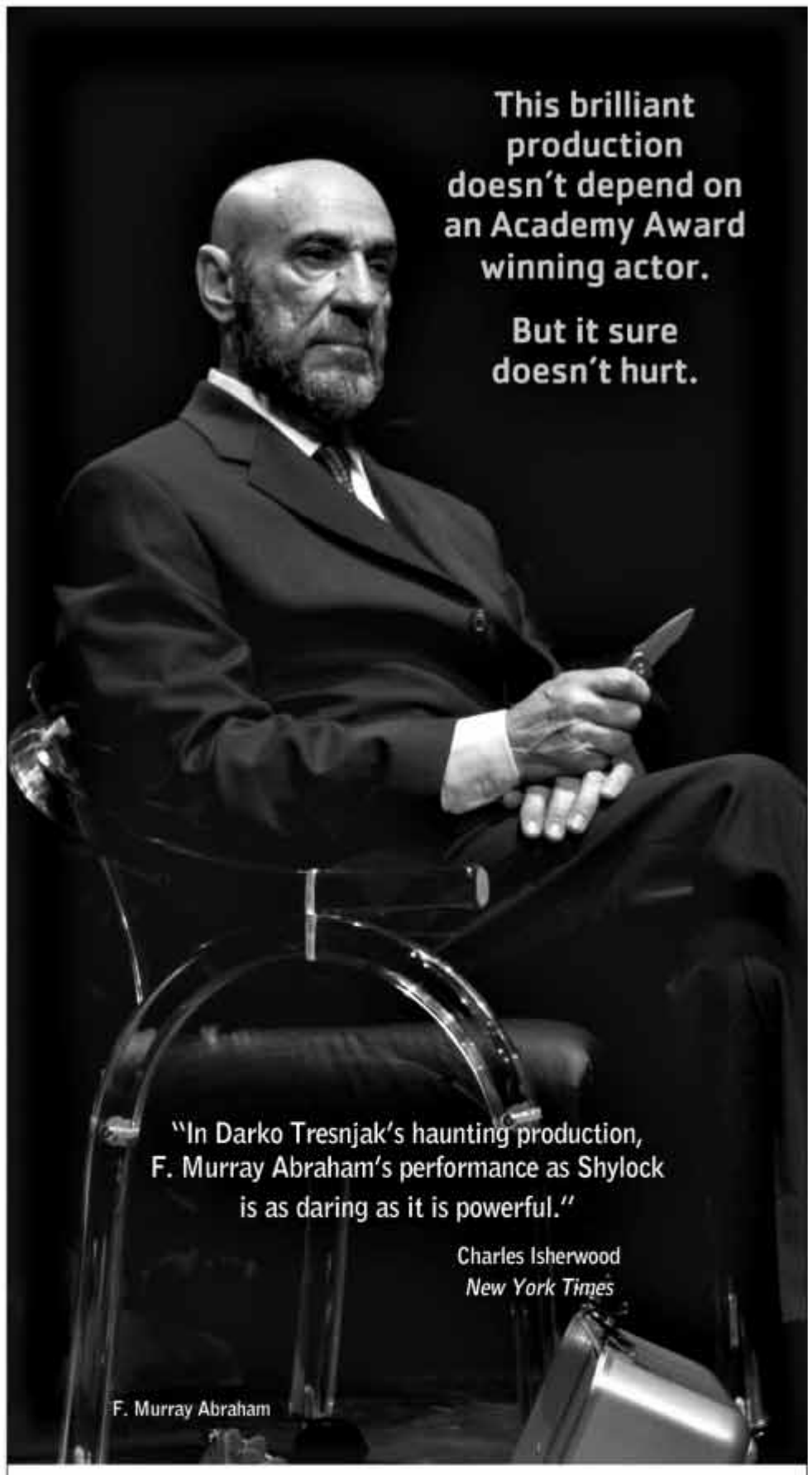
Freeman told officers that she was preparing for the end of the world. She had pleaded not guilty to charges including kidnapping and false imprisonment.

Freeman's public defender, Beth Wissing-Healy, told the Marin Independent Journal the dismissal was reasonable because her client is mentally ill.

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SURVEY
FROM PAGE 1

tions, with 72.8 percent strongly agreeing. Only 3.7 percent disagreed to any degree with that statement.

Student performance on standardized tests received increasing attention as a way to measure a teacher's effectiveness, particularly after the 2002 passage of No Child Left Behind, which required states to create assessments to measure student achievement in order to receive federal funding.

According to the survey results, almost 72 percent of teachers felt it was important to increase student achievement on standardized tests.

On the other hand, only 50.5 percent believed that test scores should be a part of a teacher's evaluation, while 62.6 percent disagreed with the notion of linking test scores to the models used to determine teacher pay.

At present, test scores are only one component of a teacher's evaluation, said Superintendent Tim Cuneo.

"It's not weighted like the discussions you hear now on the national or state level," he said.

Margo Pensavalle, a professor of clinical education at the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education, noted that test scores are indicators primarily about the student, not just about the teacher.

"The goal for test scores is to help us understand what students are achieving and what outcomes we have for learning," she said. "It's important to stay focused on the student."

The scores should be envisioned as a package of data put together for students, and considered alongside a myriad of other components when considering how a teacher's effectiveness is impacting student learning, she said.

Effective teachers are created by instructional leaders on a site level, Pensavalle said.

"We look so myopically at the test scores because principals are so busy they don't get into the classrooms to see how teachers are doing," Pensavalle said.

Questions included in the survey concerning the importance of supportive site administrators and the need for site-based professional development both garnered over 90 percent support amongst teachers.

In questions concerning compensation, teachers overwhelmingly stated that they were directly impacted by the economic downturn, with over 90 percent agreeing either strongly or somewhat.

That comes in light of a 5.5 percent pay cut taken over the last two years.

Perhaps more telling, however, was that 49.1 percent of teachers told the SMMCTA that teacher pay would cause them to leave the profession sooner than they would otherwise prefer.

Teachers' union president Harry Keiley called that statistic "troubling."

"We know that a high turnover rate is not good for any organization," he said.

According to Keiley, a new teacher in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District makes $45,000 in base salary, with approximately $9,000 in benefits. Teachers who have been in the district 18 years can get up to $88,000 in base pay.

Neither the Board of Education nor Cuneo have seen the raw data at this point, although some of the responses have been read aloud at board meetings.

Keiley said that he hopes the results will help inform the discussion held with district officials as bargaining between the union and district moves forward.

"It gives us great insight," Keiley said. "There's an old saying, the last people asked about how to improve education and the schools is the teachers."

In general, the board looks forward to getting a chance to see the full context of the survey, said board president Jose Escarce.

"Understanding the teachers' perspectives is always good," Escarce said. "We have our own, and understanding when the teachers' preferences are in line with ours and when not is valuable."

Teachers and their union have a number of mechanisms to make their wants and desires known, Escarce said, particularly at the negotiating table.

ashley@smdp.com









HOT IN THE CITY

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Los Angeles County Firefighters extinguish a garbage truck that was engulfed in flames at the corner of Lincoln and Washington boulevards on Monday.

GREEN

FROM PAGE 1

fuel from their bases to the smaller outposts.

The green strategy builds on the initial success of a Marine company wrapping up the final weeks of a seven-month deployment to a Taliban stronghold. The unit is equipped with portable solar panels for recharging radios and laptops, and solar-powered generators for running combat operations at its remote outposts.

"The immediate impact is our war fighters are safer today than they were yesterday," said Col. Robert J. Charette Jr., director of the Marine Corps' Expeditionary Energy Office in Washington.

The Corps plans to spend $9 million to equip Marines deployed to Afghanistan with portable solar panels by 2012, he said. It wants to increase the number of solar-powered generators there from nine to 300 by December 2012.

The service is also using PowerShade, a large solar tarp that fits over a standard Marine Corps tent that can quietly power its lighting system without the buzz of a generator that can alert insurgents, and the Ground Renewable Expeditionary Energy System, a solar panel array that can run a platoon-sized command center.

The Obama administration is asking Congress for $41 million to implement the measures next year and proposes investing another $322 million by 2016.

With oil prices soaring, Charette is optimistic Marines will secure the funding amid the budget crunch.

The Marine Corps consumes more than 200,000 gallons of fuel per day in Afghanistan.

For every $10 increase in the price of a barrel of oil, that price rises by an additional $1.3 billion, according to the Pew Project on National Security, Energy and Climate.

The strategy is part of a military-wide goal of reducing the carbon footprint of the single largest U.S. energy consumer. Hundreds of bases are switching to renewable energy while plans are under way for everything from a "green" Navy carrier strike group run completely on alternative fuels to a fleet of electric powered Army vehicles.

With high-tech gear and heavy armored vehicles that get about 4 mpg, the amount of fuel consumed per war fighter has increased more than 175 percent since the Vietnam War alone, according to the Marine Corps.

The corps aims to cut its energy consumption overall in half by 2025.

"The amount of equipment we've acquired throughout the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan has been exponential," 1st Lt. Gregory A. Wolf said. "It has made us more lethal but has made us unsustainable down the road."

In October, the Marine Corps sent in 150 Marines to Afghanistan's toughest area — Helmand Province's Sangin district — with an array of solar-powered equipment, including solar blankets, called Solar Portable Alternative Communication Energy System, or "SPACES," that can be stuffed in a backpack.

The troops were told to use the panels to charge their radio batteries. But once deployed, they learned the panels could be used for other equipment.

They also installed solar-powered generators, and have been able to run two of patrol bases without needing to truck in fuel since October, Charette said. Such outposts before would need to make fuel runs at least every month.

The Marine Corps now is asking private industry to develop even smaller, more efficient solar power technologies to help the force become more agile.





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NRC: Japan's nuclear crisis does not warrant changes at 104 U.S. reactors

BY MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Md. The nuclear crisis is Japan, while severe, does not warrant any immediate changes in the U.S, a top U.S. nuclear official said Monday.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's executive director for operations, Bill Borchardt, said officials have "a high degree of confidence" that operations at the 104 nuclear reactors in 31 states are safe. He said inspectors at each of the plants have redoubled efforts to guard against any safety breaches.

Borchardt gave NRC commissioners a detailed look at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plan, damaged in the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, and the U.S. response thus far.

Borchardt told commissioners that Units 1, 2 and 3 at the crippled Fukushima plant have some core damage, but that containment for those three reactors has not been breached.

"I would say optimistically that things appear to be on the verge of stabilizing," he said.

The Tokyo Electric Power Co., which operates the troubled plant, has been able to bring offsite power onto the site from a nearby transmission line, Borchardt said, the first sign of progress at the plant in recent days. Water is being injected into the reactor vessels in Units 1, 2 and 3, and containment in all three units appears to be functional, he said.

The five-member commission was reviewing the Japanese crisis — it is the worst nuclear disaster in a quarter-century — and was set to approve a 90-day safety review of operations at the U.S. nuclear fleet to comply with a call last week by President Barack Obama.

NRC Chairman Gregory Jaczko said his agency has a responsibility to the American people to undertake "a systematic and methodical review of the safety of our own domestic nuclear facilities," in light of the Japanese disaster.

The nuclear plant's cooling systems were wrecked by the massive earthquake and tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan on March 11. Since then, conditions at the plant have been volatile; a plume of smoke rose from two reactor units Monday, prompting workers to evacuate.

As work at the plant continues, U.S. officials will look to see whether information from Japan can be applied in the United States to ensure U. S. reactors remain safe, Jaczko said.

But even some of his fellow commissioners had questions about the U.S. response.

Commissioner George Apostolakis wondered why the NRC did not close some older nuclear plants, as Germany did.

"Are we less prudent than the Germans?" Apostolakis asked.

Borchardt replied that officials "asked ourselves the question every single day, 'Should we take a regulatory action based upon the latest information?'" Each time, he said, the answer was no.

"I'm 100 percent confident in the review that we've done and we continue to do every single day that we have a sufficient basis to ... conclude that the U.S. plants continue to operate safely," he said.

Borchardt also defended the commission's recommendation that U.S. citizens stay at least 50 miles away from the troubled Fukushima plant. Current U.S. guidelines call for a 10-mile evacuation zone around all U.S. nuclear plants, and some critics have suggested that the NRC was imposing a stricter standard on Japan than on U.S. nuclear reactors.

Borchardt said the recommendation about Japan was made based on conditions at the plant — namely that there were degraded conditions in two spent-fuel pools at the site and likely damage to three of the reactor cores.

If the same conditions occurred in the United States, he added, "we would have done the same analysis and gone through the same thought process," and likely would have extended the evacuation zone and taken others steps to protect the public.

Lawsuit challenges genetically modified alfalfa

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES, Iowa A lawsuit filed in California is challenging the federal government's deregulation of alfalfa that is genetically altered to withstand the popular weed killer Roundup.

Attorneys for the Center for Food Safety and Earthjustice filed the federal lawsuit Friday in San Francisco arguing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's approval of Roundup Ready alfalfa in January was unlawful.

Attorneys for the groups say the USDA failed to provide adequate oversight of biotech alfalfa. They also say genetically altered alfalfa causes significant harm to the environment and conventional crops, and threatens the nation's organic industry.

A federal court barred the planting of Roundup Ready alfalfa in 2007. The U.S. Supreme Court lifted the ban last year.

USDA officials say they are reviewing the lawsuit.

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

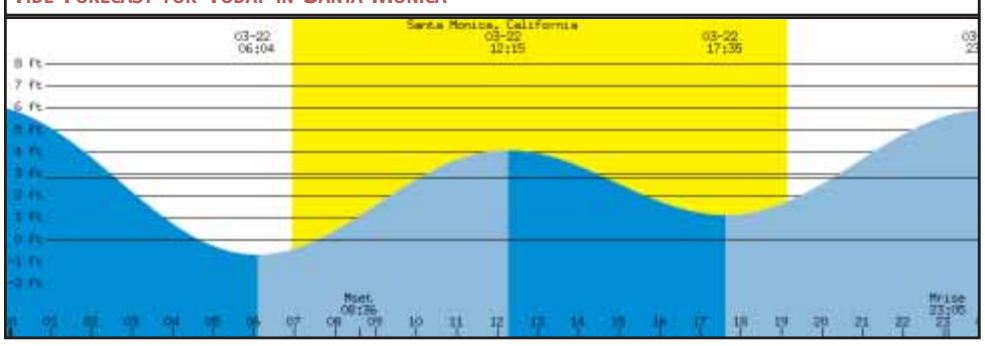
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **March 16, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 32
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 12 / 13

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

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.	B	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alina creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	D
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	D
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	C
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	F	A
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	D
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	A
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	C
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.	B	A
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	D	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	D	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	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'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.

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

Heal the Bay

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NFL

NFL's court filing seeks to keep lockout in place

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS The NFL asked a federal judge Monday to keep its lockout in place, claiming there are no legal grounds to stop it while accusing the players of trying to manipulate the law with a bogus antitrust lawsuit.

The NFL filed its arguments in federal court in St. Paul, Minn., where U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson has scheduled an April 6 hearing on the players' request to stop the lockout. The injunction request was filed the same day as an antitrust lawsuit by Tom Brady, Drew Brees and seven other current NFL players against the league on March 11.

The NFL said any decision on a lockout must wait until the National Labor Relations Board rules on an unfair labor practice charge against the now-dissolved players' union that contends the players "failed to confer in good faith." That charge was filed Feb. 14 and amended on March 11 to include reference to the union's decertification.

The NLRB said the case is still under investigation and had no further comment.

The legal salvo is just the latest in the fight between the league and players. The antitrust suit was filed the day the union dissolved, the collective bargaining talks broke down and the NFL owners locked out the players after the two sides failed to forge a new CBA.

In arguing that Congress has barred judges from halting lockouts, the league cited the Norris-LaGuardia Act — Depression-era legislation passed with the intent of limiting employers' ability to crack down on unions, including their ability to seek court orders halting strikes. The NFL contends the law also protects an employer's right to impose a lockout in a labor dispute.

Gregg Levy and other NFL attorneys also argue that the union's "tactical and unilateral" maneuver to "instantaneously oust" federal labor law was illegal, and that the decertification proved the players did not want to negotiate in good faith.

The 57-page filing was filled with references and quotes from players, accusing them and the NFLPA of disbanding whenever it served their purposes at the bargaining table.

"We decertified so that we could fight them from locking us out and go back to work," Jeff Saturday, the NFLPA vice president, said in a radio interview the day after the March 11 decertification, according to the court filing. "And we feel like ... we can still negotiate this anytime you want."

According to the filing, NFLPA president Kevin Mawae said in a Sept. 29 interview that decertification was an "ace in our sleeve" that worked in the late 1980s in favor of the players.

"It's been a part of the union strategy since I've been in the league," Mawae said.

The league also cited comments from Baltimore Ravens receiver Derrick Mason nine days before the union dissolved.

"So are we a union? Per se, no. But we're still going to act as if we are one," Mason, an NFLPA player representative, said on March 2, according to the court filing.

The NFL said the players are unable to argue that they will suffer "irreparable harm" by the lockout, certainly when compared with the "hardships" facing the NFL, and that public is better served when the courts stay out of labor disputes.

The league accused the union of a "heads I win, tails you lose" strategy, claiming the players want the league subject to antitrust claims "if it ceases or refuses to continue football operations, and it is subject to antitrust liability if it does not."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
1:35pm, 4:10pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm

Unknown (PG-13) 1hr 49min
4:30pm, 9:45pm

Hall Pass (R) 1hr 38min
1:45pm, 7:10pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
12:30pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Kill the Irishman (R) 1hr 46min
2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

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

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:05pm

Paul (R) 1hr 40min
10:55am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:45pm, 9:45pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:05am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Mars Needs Moms in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15am, 1:35pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Red Riding Hood (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:50pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

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

Desert Flower (Wustenblume) (R) 2hrs 00min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Barney's Version (NR) 2hrs 12min
1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm

Cedar Rapids (R) 1hr 26min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:20pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:30pm, 3:40pm, 5:50pm, 8:00pm, 10:10pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
12:30pm, 3:25pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:00am, 12:15pm, 1:30pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:45pm, 9:45pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
10:50am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

I Will Follow (NR) 1hr 28min
10:55am, 1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

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

Take the lead, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Approach others with depth, even if you find someone to be remarkably superficial. Perhaps you can help this person make contact on a more profound level. Detach, and you'll gain a different perspective. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You generally are sure of yourself. Allowing people to know less about how you feel could be powerful. Let spontaneity just happen between you and others. Detach and watch someone start taking more responsibility. Tonight: Say "yes."

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Honor who you are in resolving a daily life issue. A partner might want to give his or her input. Realize you are seeing events from a different perspective. Know that if you value this person, there can be truth here. Tonight: Say little; do more.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ An innate sense of creativity touches nearly everything you do. Even though others see situations as you see them, they still could be elaborated on. Be easy with a child or new friend. You could be exhausted. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You continue to work on a personal level, not allowing bias to come forward. You'll understand much more as a result of this period of internal reflection. Plug into your to-do list, knowing there is a lot to accomplish. Tonight: Finally, taking it easy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Tap into your creativity, and nothing will baffle you for any length of time. Solutions appear if you are willing to get to the root of an issue and understand it. Someone cares a lot about you and lets you know it. Be available to others. Tonight: Hang out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Take a gander. Detach. How much is the material side of life affecting you? You wonder if you have a choice or an opportunity to move in a different direction. Be willing to find an expert and investigate alternatives. Tonight: Do some reading. Relax before you approach an issue again.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Understanding draws a very different perspective. Keep conversations flowing, even if you might need to do some rescheduling or a situation is turning your life upside down. Go with it, for now. There is much to be gained. Tonight: A key person responds to your efforts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Take your time, knowing there is no rush. You need to tune in to what you feel and think. How much can you offer? This could refer to an emotional or financial situation. Do needed research. Tonight: Much-needed downtime.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your ability to move with the group yet point to basics could be far more important than you realize. Honor who you are, and ask for more feedback. Brainstorm; toss out ideas. You'll come up with solutions. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Honor what is going on among your friends, and get to the bottom of an emotional matter. This could involve someone you look up to or an issue involving responsibility and authority. Rome wasn't built in a day; nor does your thinking need to be solidified immediately. Tonight: Take the lead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You have a way of looking at issues from both sides. A different perspective might be more important than you realize. Listen to what is being said. Understand there are many ways to the same goal. Use good sense. Tonight: Move onward.

Happy birthday

This year, you appear extraordinarily grounded. Communication becomes a star issue, which you and others seem to work on. You also might find work more of a burden than in the past. Look at what you can do to transform this situation. The next four to five months could be very fortunate. In January, you will have started a new 11-year luck cycle. Eliminate what you don't want to deal with anymore. If you are single, the next four months could draw in quite a few suitors. The right person might be in the mix. If you are attached, your partner could be a bit "different." You are redefining this relationship. SCORPIO bottom-lines situations.

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

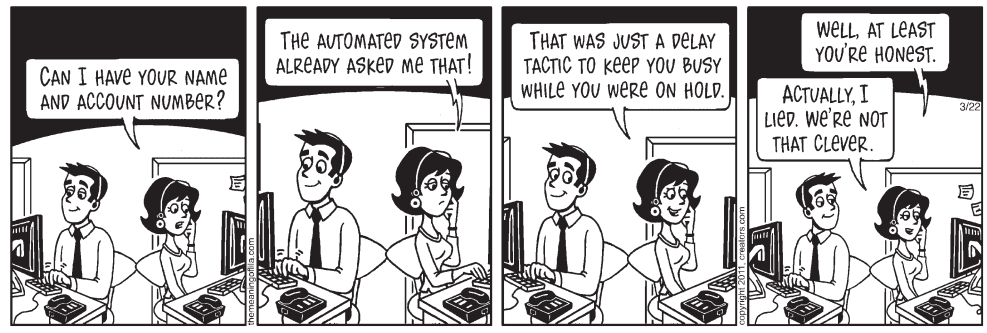
Garfield

By Jim Davis



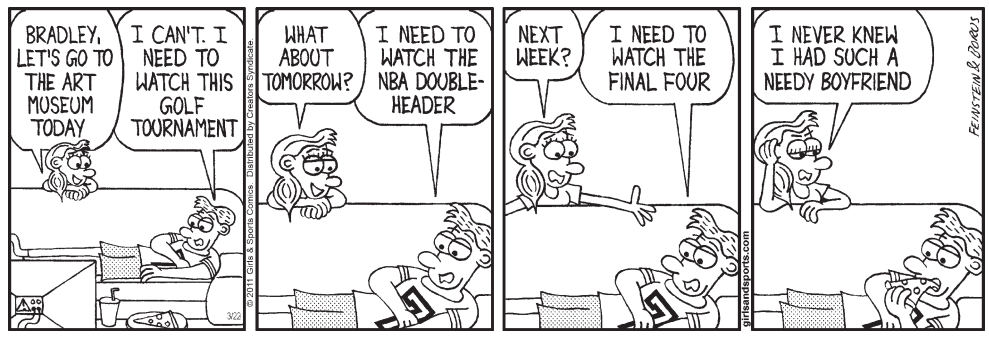
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Experience over
7 Morose
11 Incongruous
12 Connector for a plow team
13 Insect guide sight
15 Horn output
16 Tankard fill
18 Walrus feature
21 Crime doer, in slang
22 Sidewalk stuff
24 Before today
25 Disfigure
26 Hauler's unit
27 Where trapeze artists meet
29 Pooch
30 Egg setting
31 Cooks in the microwave
32 French film award
34 Insect guide sight
40 Plow team
41 Red-and-black bird
42 Thrash
43 Stiffened

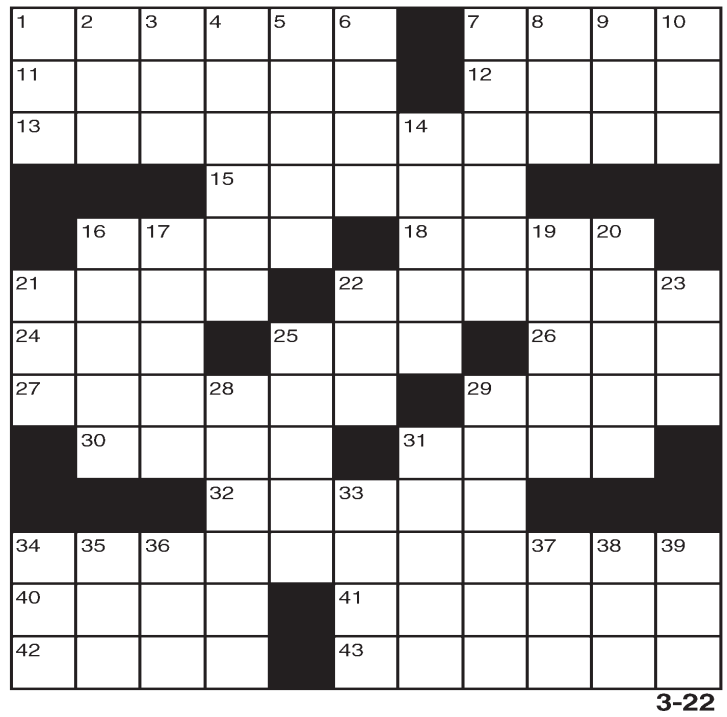
DOWN

1 Equip
2 Mess up
3 Hawaii's Mauna —
4 Foot part
5 Cap feature
6 Canyon sound
7 Drywall mineral
8 Cut off
9 Luau music maker
10 Debussy's "La —"
14 Weasel's cousin
16 Kick off
17 Eat away
19 Preparation
20 Macramé makeup
21 Grier of "Jackie Brown"
22 Train unit
23 Blasting stuff
25 Bishop's topper
28 Climb
29 Game fish
31 Congo's former name
33 Set eyes on
34 Corn holder
35 Lumberjack's tool
36 Earl Grey, for one
37 — Angeles
38 Saloon order
39 Checkers side

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



3-22

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CrossMath + × − ÷

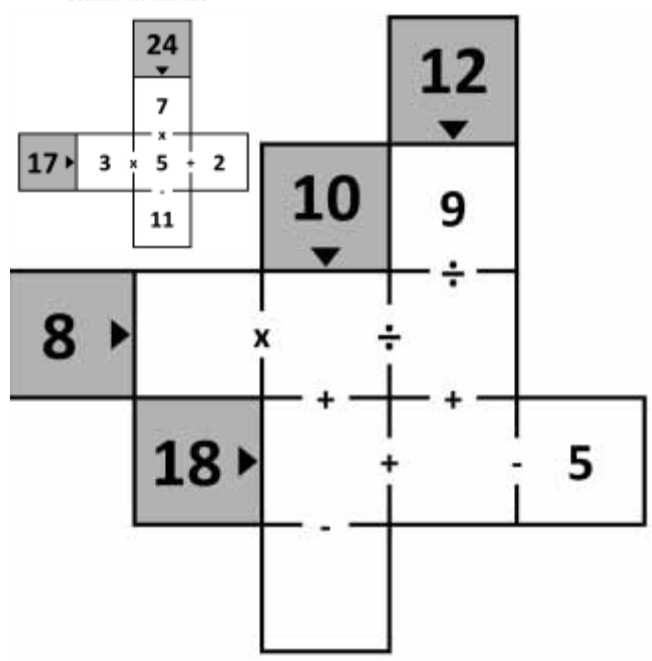
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

8, 9, 9, 10, 11, 12

Solution for Task 236



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 14 33 34 54 56
Meganumber: 37
Jackpot: $244M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 27 28 32 45
Meganumber: 1
Jackpot: $15M

Fantasy 5: 7 8 20 32 34

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 8 7
EVENING: 2 7 3

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:46.76

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

■ Ewwww! (1) The government of Malawi's proposed environmental control legislation, introduced in January, was thought by some advocates to be broad enough to criminalize flatulence. The justice minister said the section about "fouling the air" should cover extreme flatus, but the country's solicitor general insisted that only commercial air pollution was punishable. (2) Only 20 percent of Cambodians have access to toilets (half as many as have mobile phones), and missions such as International Development Enterprises blanket the countryside to urge more toilet usage. In one promotion campaign in Kandal province, according to a February BBC News dispatch, an investigating team called a public meeting and singled out ("amid much laughter") one particular farmer whom it had calculated as producing the most excrement of anyone in the village.

■ "I thought, 'Man, is this what Jesus would do?'" said Akron, Ohio, repo man Ken Falzini, after surviving a short, harrowing ride clinging to the hood of the Lexus he was trying to repossess from Bishop Marc Neal of Akron's Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in January. Neal, later charged with felony assault, told a reporter he thought it "disrespectful" for Falzini to try to repossess a preacher's car during Sunday services. Falzini said Neal was "laughing" during parts of the drive, which included sharp zig-zagging at speeds around 50 mph to dislodge Falzini from the hood.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1809 Charles XIII succeeds Gustav IV Adolf to the Swedish throne.

1829 The three protecting powers (Britain, France and Russia) establish the borders of Greece.

1849 The Austrians defeat the Piedmontese at the Battle of Novara.

WORD UP!

prescience \ PREE-shuns; PREE-shee-uns; PRESH-uns; PRESH-ee-uns; PREE-see-uns; PRES-ee-uns \ , noun; 1. Knowledge of events before they take place; foresight.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Assisted living community is looking for caregivers and medication technicians to assist elderly residents with their care. Schedule will include weekends both morning and evening shifts. Must have good attitude and love for seniors. Pre employment drug test and criminal background check. If interested, please fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE

For Rent

522 San Vicente Blvd Santa Monica Prime, must see! Large 2 bedroom 2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, Dutch kitchen, laundry facility $2700.00/month (310) 479-1012

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110 Granville Ave. #401 2+2.5 Penthouse, Hardwood floors, $3500

121 N Croft Ave. #101 2+1.75 $1795 West Hollywood, CA

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Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids for John Adams Middle School – Replacement of Classroom Buildings E, F, & G, New Administration, Modernization & Site Improvements: New Construction & Modernization – Pkg. 2B; Bid No. 10.36.BB-03-112808. Bids will be received for the following Multiple Prime Bid Packages and licenses: General Construction –B; Concrete & Masonry – C8; Metals – C51; Roofing, Sheet metal, Waterproofing – C39; Drywall, Lath & Plaster, Tile & Acoustical Ceilings – C9 or C35; Painting & Coatings – C33; Plumbing & Site Utilities – C34 or C 36; HVAC- C20; Electrical – C10; All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before Thursday, 04/14/11 at 2:00PM, at which time and place must be sealed and marked with the Bid Package Number and description. All bidders must attend one of two Mandatory Job Walks to be held at John Adams Middle School Auditorium, 2425 16th Street, Santa Monica, on Thursday, 3/24/11 at 4:00 PM, or Thursday, 03/31/11 at 4:00 PM. Please contact Sheere at BBproject-info@smmusd.org, for contract documents and bidding information

Notices

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110251452 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/15/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ANDES EQUITY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: DONALD HUGH ANDES 1321 9TH ST SANTA MONICA, CA 90401. 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/:DONALD HUGH ANDES; CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/15/2011. 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 03/15/2011, 03/22/2011, 03/29/2011, 04/05/2011.

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North of Montana	$2,975,000	$1,399,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,995,000	$819,475
South of Wilshire	$749,000	$499,000
Sunset Park	$984,000	$622,500
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