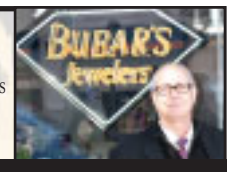
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TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 116



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN?
SEE PAGE 2

THE BY THE BAY ISSUE

Ethnic studies program approved

Course emphasizes, history, language, culture

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS The Board of Education unanimously approved an ethnic studies program last week, which officials hope will heal old wounds by empowering students with knowledge of where they and their peers come from.

The course, which will be taught in Santa Monica High School's sociology department, has an interdisciplinary curriculum meant to provide students with a better under-

SEE STUDIES PAGE 7





SURF! Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

ABOVE: Students from Alliance College Ready Academy High School No. 5 in South Los Angeles take to the waves Monday on Santa Monica Beach. The students were visiting the beach to receive surfing lessons from Learn to Surf L.A., which donated the lessons to the group through a partnership with SurfAid, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve the health of people living in isolated regions around the world connected by the sport of surfing.

RIGHT: Before hitting the waves, students from the high school learned basic techniques on the sand.



File photo

WALKING: **Students leave Samohi after school earlier this year.**

Breaking the cycle

College students teach local children energy-saving tips

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

FOURTH STREET Students at the Delphi Academy in Santa Monica got a drop course in energy and resource efficiency Monday from a group of college students who have eschewed normal spring break shenanigans to spread the word on environmentalism.

Members of the Energy Service Corps kicked off their alternative spring break by teaching youngsters about energy and how best to conserve it. Older children at the school got a more rigorous curriculum examining specific kinds of resource-conserving technologies and the origins and consequences of fossil fuels.

SEE ENERGY PAGE 9

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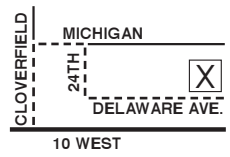
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, March 26, 2013

Stories for babies
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Get crafty
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
3 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.
Tuesday's craft will celebrate Amelia Bedelia's 50th birthday. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Laugh the day away
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St.,
3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Join Mr. Jesse and his gang of puppets for heartfelt stories and songs. Intended for children ages 3-7. For more information, call (310)458-8683.

TAG, you're it
TAG Gallery
2525 Michigan Ave., D-3,
5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Anne M. Bray, Elsie Sims and Elyse Wyman are featured artists at a new exhibit at the TAG Gallery with their works "The Commute," "Coastal Continuum" and "Conceal/Reveal," respectively. Admission is free. For more information, visit taggallery.net.

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

Checkmate
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Learn about the game of chess and other strategy games. This event is appropriate for youth, their families and caregivers. Admission is free and no registration is required. For information, visit smpl.org.

Night hike
Charmlee Wilderness Park
2577 Encinal Canyon Rd.,
Malibu, 7 p.m.
Enjoy the mountains, meadow and an ocean overlook as the moon lights your way. Bring a flashlight and meet at the upper parking lot. Hike will be canceled if it rains. Call (310) 317-1364 to make a reservation. The event is free, but parking is $4.

Thursday, March 28, 2013

Scary flick
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
2 p.m. — 4:15 p.m.
"Psycho," directed by Alfred Hitchcock, will be screened, followed by a talk with film scholar Vivian Rosenberg. The event is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Find the eggs
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
An Easter egg hunt will ensue for Pre-K to third grade. Baskets will be provided. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

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

CITY YARDS

Used tires put to use

Santa Monica's Resource Recovery & Recycling Division has found a new use for used tires, creating "products for everyday use," city officials said in a news release Monday.

These products include rubber bumpers, curb ramps and a boardwalk to the sea.

The bumpers have been installed in trash enclosures to protect walls and doors when pushing and pulling trash, recycling and food waste bins at collection time. Approximately 2,500 passenger tire equivalents were used for this project.

Four-hundred-and-forty tires were made into curb ramps to make it easier for garbage men to push and pull recycling, trash and food waste bins on and off of curbs.

The boardwalk to the sea is an extension to the existing wooden boardwalk and uses 298 rubberized planks to offer individuals with disabilities access to the sea at high tide.

Over 5,000 tires were saved from landfills, incineration and illegal dumping as a result of a grant from CalRecycle, California's Resource Recycling and Recovery Department, city officials said.

– ALEX VEJAR

WEST L.A.

Fake suspicious bags prompt bus evacuations

Two suspicious bags that were removed by the bomb squad from two Santa Monica city buses during Monday morning's rush hour turned out to be prop devices left behind after a weekend security training exercise.

The black duffel bags had wires coming out of them to look like explosives, and caused riders to alert drivers in Santa Monica and Culver City on Monday, said Suja Lowenthal, spokeswoman for Big Blue Bus.

"The Big Blue Bus deeply regrets the inconvenience and concern caused by today's incident," Lowenthal said. "We are grateful to our riders for being so alert and speaking up."

The mistake inconvenienced riders, other commuters and nearby businesses. The buses and nearby businesses had to be evacuated, and streets were shut down for hours after the bags were reported. Los Angeles County sheriff's bomb squad cleared the vehicles for service.

The buses were among four used Saturday in a regional exercise in which suspicious items were intentionally left on board to see if the drivers found them. All the bags were supposed to have been removed before the buses were placed back in service.

Once the packages were discovered, the bus drivers contacted dispatch and were instructed to exit the bus while the prop was investigated by the bomb squad.

– ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST L.A.

New Directions, Wells Fargo partner up for vets

On Wednesday, New Directions, a veterans service agency, and Wells Fargo will announce a $100,000 partnership to support those who served in the armed forces.

The money will be donated in the form of a grant to New Directions for services such as assistance in providing long-term transitional housing, substance abuse treatment, mental health and post-traumatic stress disorder support, and others.

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority estimates that more than 8,000 veterans are living on the streets, accounting for 11 percent of all homeless veterans nationwide.

New Directions has been providing services to thousands of veterans in Los Angeles County since 1992.

– AV

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



Photo courtesy city of Santa Monica

UP: **Garbage men use rubber ramps to easily move a dumpster on Montana Avenue. The ramps were made from recycled tires. Over 5,000 tires were saved from landfills, incineration and illegal dumping as part of the program.**

Report: State parks need new operating model

TRACIE CONE
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Over the years, California has added more parks to its state system than it can afford and should consider turning over control of some to local entities, a new report says.

The report released Monday by the Little Hoover Commission identified a number of problems with the park system. It even suggested that tourist favorite Hearst Castle might be better run by an operator such as the Getty Museum that is more versed in protecting the hilltop mansion's European art collection.

While the outlandish Central Coast home of William Randolph Hearst is a major source of revenue, its upkeep exceeds the income it generates through ticket sales and the cost of needed maintenance is as high as $60 million.

"We have to take a fresh and rigorous look at the system from top to bottom," said Stuart Drown, executive director of the commission, a state oversight agency. "We need a new business model and fresh thinking."

From the coast to the giant sequoias of the Sierra, the California parks system protects some of the most historic and breathtaking places in the world. For years, the department has allowed millions of dollars in maintenance problems to pile up as it struggled with shrinking budgets and a manager mindset unaccustomed to generating revenue or asking for help, the report said.

The commission began looking at the state park system a year ago. After decades of decreasing funding, a $22 million cut at the time from its $779 million budget threatened the closure of a quarter of the 278 parks in the system. Officials were unable to explain how the parks were chosen or the cost of operating individual sites.

The revelations — plus the discovery last year of $54 million hidden from the governor and Legislature in two special funds — damaged the public's faith in the park system, even as dozens of volunteer groups were scrambling to raise funds and form partnerships to keep them open.

"The old model is obsolete," the report said.

SEE **PARKS** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reacting to 'Chain Reaction'

Editor:

Paul Conrad, the artist who created the static, impenetrable and prone-to-decay "Chain Reaction" used creative liberties to portray a dynamic, penetrable phenomenon, which had effects beyond its contemporary generations of humankind.

Ironically some of your readers praise the work for its symbol of lives saved in WWII by the dropping of the bombs by the U.S.A. End the war sooner and save lives!

Others say it is a cruel reminder of the bad geopolitical advice of the RAND think tank.

Supporters of the sculpture should take some artistic license today and place the work of art in a bowl-shaped hole in the ground, with at least one-third of its height being below ground level. A wall, like a wave from the earth bowl below, could rise 4 feet above ground to protect the sculpture. The "wave wall" could be solid with metal or wood openings.

Conrad's art, though it just may be his largest work, is a small replica of the original events. Let humans look down into an earth bowl and ponder "Chain Reaction" and humanity's impact on the earth and universe. Why look up to it?

Put "Chain Reaction" in the new park.

Across from RAND, where it is now, put large rearrangeable dominos to symbolize the failed concept of the Southeast Asia domino effect.

Kyle Conrad
Santa Monica

Railroaded

Editor:

The City Council, in their predictable wisdom, approved an East Village project with windowless, 550-foot-long apartment corridors; narrow, shaded courtyards with zero privacy; an open space environment of concrete with "potted" landscape; and a density in excess of LUCE [Land Use and Circulation Element] and significantly in excess of the recommended Bergamot Area Plan density.

In addition to these glaring and inhuman design fallacies, there is also the inadequate compensation for Village Trailer Park homeowners, inadequate housing replacements, and an inadequate relocation plan. And all of this for 41 "affordable units?"

But kudos on the council's foresight; in a short time this could be a slum with 377 units renting for "affordable" prices. And you also will be creating more "affordable" homes in the area with bottleneck traffic and a 15-20 percent decrease in adjacent property values. And of course one shouldn't recognize the council without giving sole recognition to the ones behind this astute policy – Gleam Davis, Bob Holbrook, Mayor Pro Tem Terry O'Day, and Mayor Pam O'Connor. Congratulations and keep the development ball rolling!

And in doing so remember that the ethos of a city is embodied in its architecture and open space, that good design is good economics. Density is not good design. Quality is more important than quantity. Anxiety over tax revenues is not worth architectural and environmental mediocrity.

The public has truly been "railroaded." Maybe the council should visit the mixed-use project at Rose and 5th to see what could have been designed for this transitional site. When you realize there are some 40 development agreements waiting in line, maybe it's time for a serious recall effort!

Ron Goldman
Fellow, American Institute of Architects
Santa Monica

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Your column here

Jason Alderman — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Insurance you can probably do without

I'M A BIG BELIEVER IN HAVING THE appropriate amount of insurance, especially when it comes to your health and personal liability. But if money is tight and you want to get the most bang for your buck, there are a few types of insurance you can probably do without — or that may duplicate coverage you already have elsewhere.

Extended warranties. When you buy a car, appliance or electronic device, the sales clerk usually will try to sell you an extended warranty. These policies often duplicate coverage already provided in the manufacturer's warranty. Plus, many credit cards provide an additional warranty on items purchased with the card.

Smartphone insurance. After shelling out big bucks for a smartphone, you might be tempted to buy replacement insurance. Just be aware that you'll probably pay a hefty deductible and likely receive a refurbished phone, possibly not even the same model. My advice: Keep your old phone to reactivate in case you drop or lose the new one.

Flight accident insurance. The risk of dying in a plane crash is minuscule and already covered by regular life insurance. Also check your credit card cardholder agreement, since many cover such accidents for tickets purchased with their card.

Child life insurance. Life insurance is intended to provide economic protection for a person's dependents, so unless your children are movie stars supporting you, this coverage is probably unnecessary. You can better protect their future by stowing those monthly premiums in an emergency savings account or buying additional term life insurance for yourself.

Pet insurance. With veterinary treatments now rivaling human medicine (organ transplants, chemotherapy, etc.), you could easily spend a small fortune keeping Fido alive. Before buying pet insurance, however, compare plan features carefully and weigh the expense you'd pay out over your pet's lifetime. For example, monthly premiums increase with your pet's age, deductibles and co-payments are typically higher than for human coverage and there are usually predetermined per-year and per-condition caps. Plus, preexisting and hereditary conditions usually are not covered.

Rental car insurance. In most cases, the optional insurance offered by car rental agencies duplicates existing coverage you already have. However, before automatically rejecting agency coverage, ask your insurance company and credit card issuer whether you are fully covered for rental cars.

BEFORE BUYING PET INSURANCE ... , COMPARE PLAN FEATURES CAREFULLY AND WEIGH THE EXPENSE YOU'D PAY OUT OVER YOUR PET'S LIFETIME.

A few considerations:

- Coverage through your auto policy often expires after 30 days or less of renting the car.
- Sports cars, luxury models, SUVs and trucks are often excluded.
- Travel outside service areas typically is forbidden – especially across foreign borders or in rough terrain.
- If you don't carry comprehensive and collision coverage on your own car, your insurance may not cover a rental. Also, ask whether such coverage is limited to your own car's value, since most rentals are new.
- Ask what happens if you violate rental agreement terms (e.g., driving recklessly or allowing unauthorized drivers).

Specified disease insurance. Some people take out supplemental health and life insurance against specific conditions such as cancer, heart disease or stroke. Before buying, make sure you have adequate major medical insurance, which already covers such conditions. And carefully review the policy for restrictions. For example, many cancer insurance policies won't pay for outpatient care or cover skin cancer, and impose fixed-dollar limits on specific procedures.

When it comes to your budget — and your family's security — it pays to know which insurance is essential and which you can probably skip.

JASON ALDERMAN directs Visa's financial education programs.



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Heart repair breakthroughs replace surgeon's knife

MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Have a heart problem? If it's fixable, there's a good chance it can be done without surgery, using tiny tools and devices that are pushed through tubes into blood vessels.

Heart care is in the midst of a transformation. Many problems that once required sawing through the breastbone and opening up the chest for open heart surgery now can be treated with a nip, twist or patch through a tube.

These minimal procedures used to be done just to unclog arteries and correct less common heart rhythm problems. Now some patients are getting such repairs for valves, irregular heartbeats, holes in the heart and other defects — without major surgery. Doctors even are testing ways to treat high blood pressure with some of these new approaches.

All rely on catheters — hollow tubes that let doctors burn away and reshape heart tissue or correct defects through small holes into blood vessels.

"This is the replacement for the surgeon's knife. Instead of opening the chest, we're able to put catheters in through the leg, sometimes through the arm," said Dr. Spencer King of St. Joseph's Heart and Vascular Institute in Atlanta. He is former president of the American College of Cardiology. Its conference earlier this month featured research on these novel devices.

"Many patients after having this kind of procedure in a day or two can go home" rather than staying in the hospital while a big wound heals, he said. It may lead to cheaper treatment, although the initial cost of the novel devices often offsets the savings from shorter hospital stays.

Not everyone can have catheter treatment, and some promising devices have hit snags in testing. Others on the market now are so new that it will take several years to see if their results last as long as the benefits from surgery do.

But already, these procedures have allowed many people too old or frail for an operation to get help for problems that otherwise would likely kill them.

"You can do these on 90-year-old patients," King said.

These methods also offer an option for people who cannot tolerate long-term use of blood thinners or other drugs to manage their conditions, or who don't get enough help from these medicines and are getting worse.

"It's opened up a whole new field," said Dr. Hadley Wilson, cardiology chief at Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte. "We can hopefully treat more patients more definitively, with better results."

For patients, this is crucial: Make sure you are evaluated by a "heart team" that includes a surgeon as well as other specialists who do less invasive treatments. Many patients now get whatever treatment is offered by whatever specialist they are sent to, and those specialists sometimes are rivals.

"We want to get away from that" and do whatever is best for the patient, said Dr. Timothy Gardner, a surgeon at Christiana Care Health System in Newark, Del., and an American Heart Association spokesman. "There shouldn't be a rivalry in the field."

Here are some common problems and newer treatments for them:

HEART VALVES

Millions of people have leaky heart valves. Each year, more than 100,000 people in the United States alone have surgery for them. A common one is the aortic valve, the heart's main gate. It can stiffen and narrow, making the heart strain to push blood through it. Without a valve replacement operation, half of these patients die within two years, yet many are too weak to have one.

"Essentially, this was a death sentence," said Dr. John Harold, a Los Angeles heart specialist who is president of the College of Cardiology.

That changed just over a year ago, when Edwards Lifesciences Corp. won approval to sell an artificial aortic valve flexible and small enough to fit into a catheter and wedged inside the bad one. At first it was just for inoperable patients. Last fall, use was expanded to include people able to have surgery but at high risk of complications.

Gary Verwer, 76, of Napa, Calif., had a bypass operation in 1988 that made surgery too risky when he later developed trouble with his aortic valve.

"It was getting worse every day. I couldn't walk from my bed to my bathroom without having to sit down and rest," he said. After getting a new valve through a catheter last April at Stanford University, "everything changed; it was almost immediate," he said. "Now I can walk almost three miles a day and enjoy it. I'm not tired at all."

"The chest cracking part is not the most fun," he said of his earlier bypass surgery. "It

SEE HEART PAGE 6

The Q Line

Zero date

Officials have introduced an ambitious plan to have the city become nearly zero waste by 2030.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think the zero waste goal is attainable 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**.



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Impostor trial: Best friend says couple avoided tenant

LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES The best friend of vanished California woman Linda Sohus testified Monday that Sohus and her husband avoided a tenant she described as creepy.

Susan Coffman was called to fill in pieces of a murder mystery being unraveled in the Los Angeles trial of a notorious impostor. But she added more questions than answers.

Coffman said she and Linda Sohus were best friends through high school and were bridesmaids at each other's weddings.

"We were going to be friends for the rest of our lives," she said. But then things took a spooky turn.

Once, when Coffman visited the couple after their marriage, she asked why they were living in the main house of John Sohus' mother rather than a guest cottage on the property in wealthy San Marino.

"She said, 'There's a renter that lives there and we don't talk to him because he's kind of creepy,'" the witness recalled.

Christian Gerhartsreiter has been charged with murdering John Sohus and burying his remains on the property where he lived. No trace of Linda Sohus has been found.

Gerhartsreiter later spent years moving through U.S. high society under a series of aliases, most notoriously posing as a member of the fabled Rockefeller family.

He has pleaded not guilty to killing Sohus.

Defense attorneys have suggested the wife may have murdered the husband.

But Coffman said the couple never argued.

"They were like two contented puppies," she said

In the spring of 1985, Coffman said, the couple came to her home to show her a truck they had bought and "were pleased as punch" that they could afford it.

They were struggling financially, she said, and Linda's job at a science fantasy bookstore didn't pay much.

John, who worked with computers, was a devotee of the game Dungeons and Dragons, Coffman said, and the couple invited her to attend a science fiction convention with them. She accepted.

Then, she said, Linda Sohus called her and said, "Hey, we're heading to New York. John's got a job with the government and they may want me too."

Sohus said they would return in two weeks, but they never came back.

Two months later, Coffman received a postcard in her friend's handwriting postmarked Paris. She said that only deepened the mystery. They had no plans to go to Paris.

The card with a picture of the Eiffel Tower was displayed for jurors. The message written on it was: "Sue, Kinda missed New York (Oops) but this can be lived with. John and Linda."

"When I initially got it, I thought, Oh great. I know where she's been," said the witness. "But there was no explanation."

She said that was the last she ever heard of her friend.

Later in the day, Tiffany Shew, a DNA analyst for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, testified that she tested air mail stamps placed on two postcards allegedly sent by Linda Sohus.

Shew said she found a man had licked stamps on both cards.

HEART
FROM PAGE 5

was a great relief not to have to go through that recovery again."

Catheter-based treatments for other valves also are in testing. One for the mitral valve — Abbott Laboratories' MitraClip — had a mixed review by federal Food and Drug Administration advisers this week; whether it will win FDA approval is unclear. It is already sold in Europe.

HEART RHYTHM PROBLEMS

Catheters can contain tools to vaporize or "ablate" bits of heart tissue that cause abnormal signals that control the heartbeat. This used to be done only for some serious or relatively rare problems, or surgically if a patient was having an operation for another heart issue.

Now catheter ablation is being used for the most common rhythm problem — atrial fibrillation, which plagues about 3 million Americans and 15 million people worldwide. The upper chambers of the heart quiver or beat too fast or too slow. That lets blood pool in a small pouch off one of these chambers. Clots can form in the pouch and travel to the brain, causing a stroke.

Ablation addresses the underlying rhythm problem. To address the stroke risk from pooled blood, several novel devices aim to plug or seal off the pouch. Only one has approval in the U.S. now — SentreHeart Inc.'s Lariat, a tiny lasso to cinch the pouch shut. It uses two catheters that act like chopsticks. One goes through a blood vessel and into the pouch to help guide placement of the device, which is contained in a second catheter poked under the ribs to the outside of the heart. A loop is released to circle the top of the pouch where it meets the heart, sealing off the pouch.

A different kind of device — Boston Scientific Corp.'s Watchman — is sold in Europe and parts of Asia, but is pending before the FDA in the U.S. It's like a tiny umbrella pushed through a vein and then opened inside the heart to plug the troublesome pouch. Early results from a pivotal study released by the company suggested it would miss a key goal, making its future in the U.S. uncertain.

HEART DEFECTS

Some people have a hole in a heart wall called an atrial septal defect that causes abnormal blood flow. St. Jude Medical Inc.'s Amplatzer is a fabric-mesh patch threaded through catheters to plug the hole.

The patch is also being tested for a more common defect — PFO, a hole that results when the heart wall doesn't seal the way it should after birth. This can raise the risk of stroke. In two new studies, the device did not meet the main goal of lowering the risk of repeat strokes in people who had already suffered one, but some doctors were encouraged by other results.

CLOGGED ARTERIES

The original catheter-based treatment — balloon angioplasty — is still used hundreds of thousands of times each year in the U.S. alone. A Japanese company, Terumo Corp., is one of the leaders of a new way to do it that is easier on patients — through a catheter in the arm rather than the groin.

STUDIES
FROM PAGE 1

standing of, and empathy for, a number of cultures and experiences in America other than their own.

It will take a long look at cultural identity, show how it is formed and how those pieces mixed in the melting pot of Los Angeles, as well as the damaging use of stereotypes and why they perpetuate.

Students will study America's social justice movements and how men and women of color organized and enacted social change through political organization, government and the courts.

Although the course will focus on African Americans, Asian and Pacific Islanders, Latinos and Native Americans, other groups will be discussed.

The course is a real achievement for the district, which has struggled with racial conflict for many years, said school board member Oscar de la Torre.

"The community since the 1980s has advocated for a multicultural curriculum," de la Torre said. "More than just developing one course, we're on the path of developing a program that will prepare all of our students."

The single course, which will be available to upper classmen, will not operate in a vacuum — school officials plan to include components in all English, history and arts classes in addition to the Freshman Seminar, where students investigate concepts of identity, family, community, values and informed decision making by analyzing events in history.

They also envision a middle school course that connects to the seminar and then to the 11th- and 12th-grade course so that students learn about themselves, their peers and their respective histories from a younger age, de la Torre said.

The Board of Education asked district officials to develop an ethnic studies class in the wake of an incident in May 2011 in which an African-American wrestler told police that he had been chained to a locker by his teammates who then yelled racial slurs.

It was one piece of a multi-part response that included beefing up the district's curriculum regarding diversity and minority populations, teaching instructors how to deal with racially-sensitive situations and creating consequences for racially-motivated hate behavior on campus.

School officials also brought in Village Nation, a program that creates assemblies specifically for African-American youth, who tend to lag behind their white and Asian peers in many measures of academic performance.

The same holds true for Latino students.

In 2012, only 36 percent of African American 11th graders and 56 percent of Latino 11th graders rated proficient or above on a standardized English language test, and only 31 percent of African-American juniors and 34 percent of Latino juniors rated proficient or above on summative high school mathematics.

In comparison, 74 percent of white juniors and 81 percent of Asians rated proficient in English and 62 percent of white juniors and 71 percent of Asians reached that score on summative high school mathematics.

In a presentation to the Board of Education last year, outgoing Samohi Principal Laurel Fretz and outgoing House Principal Renee Semik told the Board of Education that they believed a comprehensive program could change that.

"We think this would impact our graduation rate and our achievement gap, and that it would naturally do that," Fretz said at the time.

Ron Scapp, president of the National Association for Ethnic Studies, gave the program a glowing review.

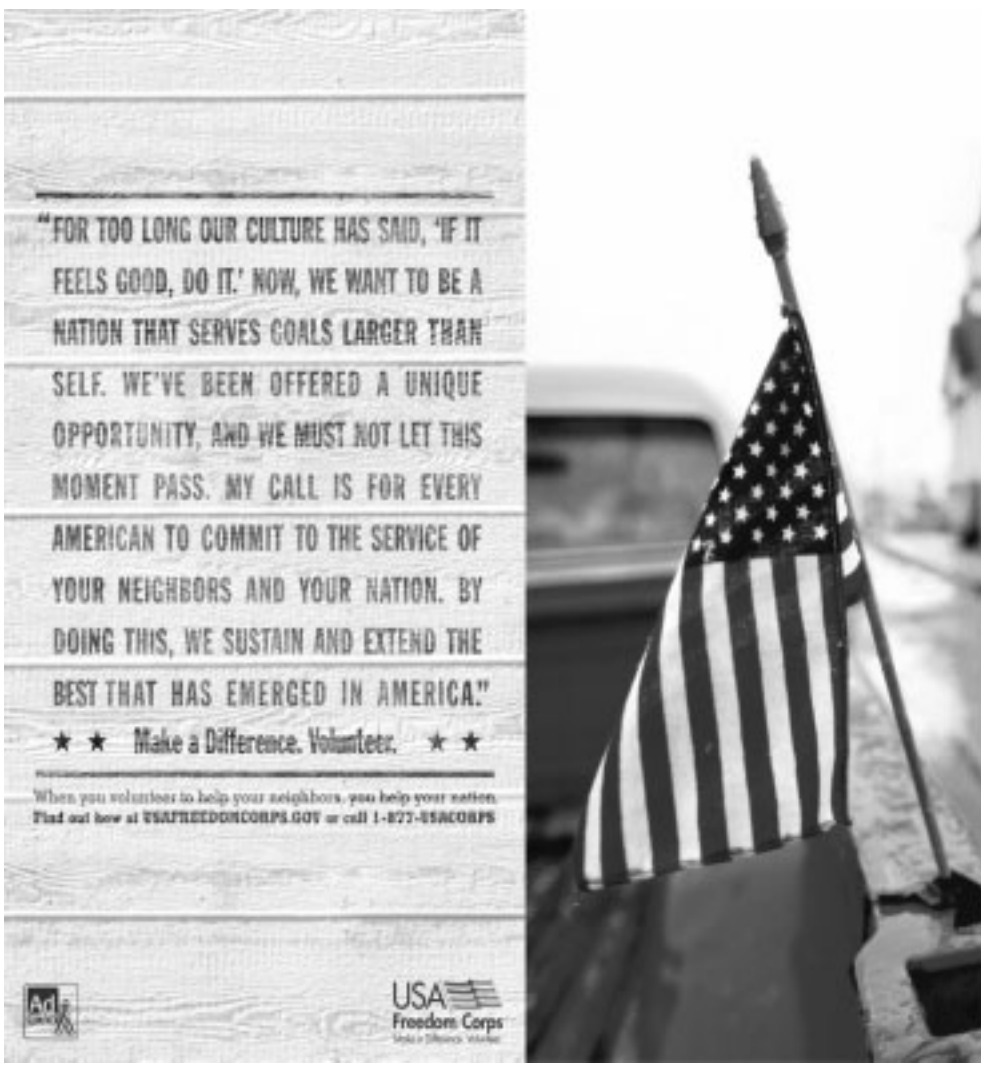
"Having reviewed and considered the course objectives, goals and description, I fully endorse what's there and think it's very promising," Scapp said.

Specifically, the class covers difficult topics and issues that one would have to address, including notions of identity through political opposition, language and music, he said.

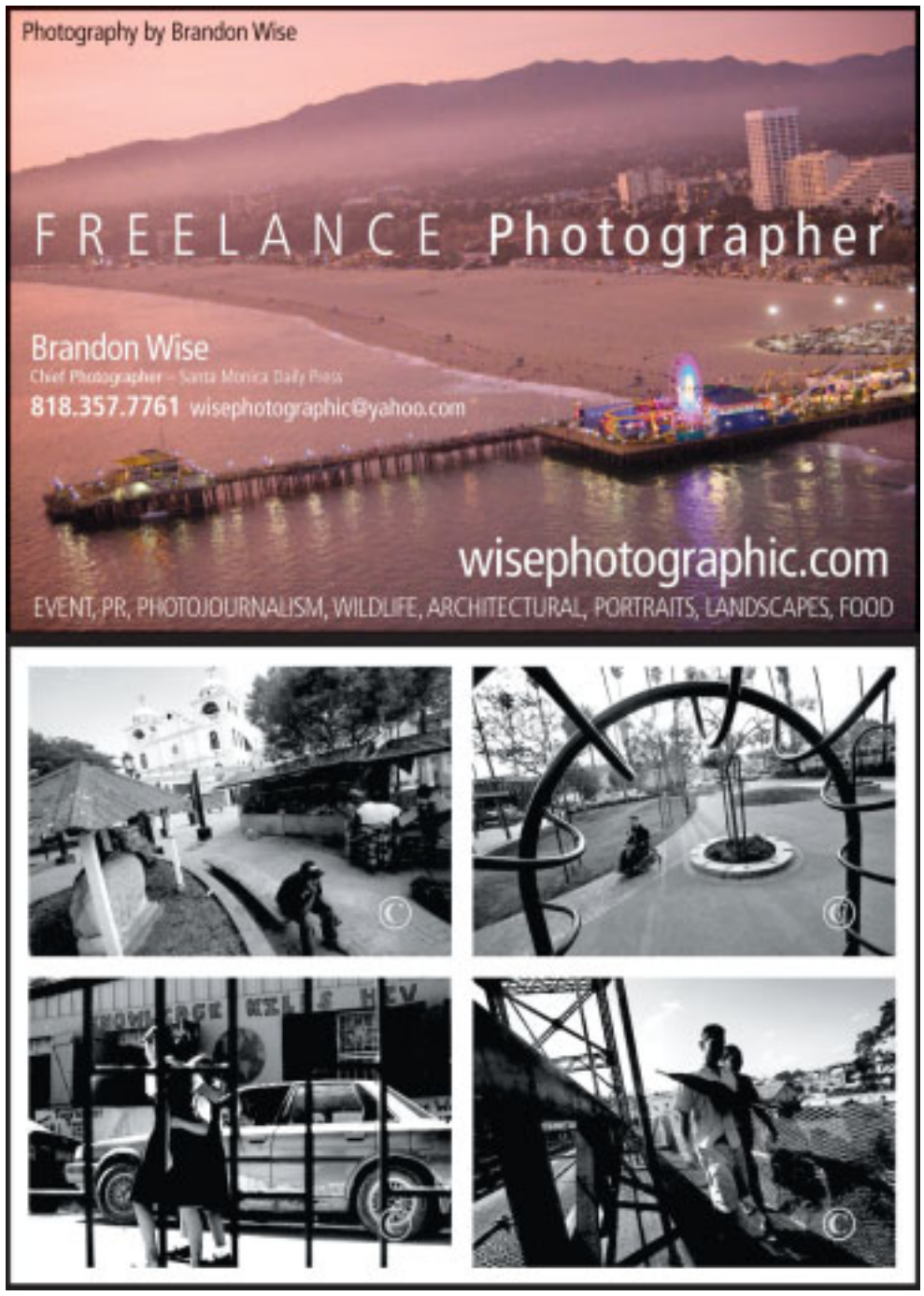
"It's a positive, strong, clear program of study," Scapp said.

It will launch in the 2013-14 school year.

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PARKS
FROM PAGE 3

The commission is asking the governor and elected officials to give the parks department the tools, authority and flexibility required to develop a new operating model.

The commission's report, "Beyond Crisis: Recapturing Excellence in California's State Park System," is an overview for fixing the problems that have led to the long decline.

Officials with the parks department say the report echoes changes that managers were recently authorized to implement by the Legislature.

"We are grateful for the positive nature of the report," said parks spokesman Roy Stearns. "We are committed to an open and transparent process that identifies innovative approaches for managing our state parks system now and for future generations."

The report says the state Department of Parks and Recreation needs more business-minded managers at the regional and local levels and must revamp its historic management tactics, including those focused primarily on promoting law enforcement rangers, if the system is going to survive.

"This will require adding job classifications that do not yet exist and removing obstacles to promotion so the department can benefit from a broad range of management perspectives," former commission Chairman Daniel W. Hancock wrote in an introductory letter.

The California League of Park Associations, which said it was consulted by the commission, agreed with many of the findings.

"The proposed changes may not be easy for all involved, but we realize that the system as it currently stands is not working," the group said in a statement.

Some of the 70 threatened parks have temporary agreements with nonprofit groups that are keeping them open, but the deals will begin expiring next year — the 150th anniversary of Yosemite, the first state park. It was taken over by the federal government after Californians had plowed the valley and built livestock fences.

"We don't have a lot of time," Drown said. "We've blown it before. We had Yosemite and we lost it."

The commission studied structures of park systems in other states and trends in management. The report recommends training for current employees to help them learn to think more creatively. It also recommends hiring people with business experience from outside of state government.

The report also suggests forging more equitable partnerships with nonprofit benefactors such as the arrangements that exist with the National Park Service at Redwood National Park, state parks in Northern California, and regional park districts in Sonoma and Napa counties.

The commission has faith in Anthony Jackson, a retired Marine Corps major general tapped by Gov. Jerry Brown late last year to turn around the beleaguered department. But state park managers, currently focused on preserving and protecting resources, must also learn to explore ways to generate revenue and to encourage visitors to come, the report says.

"Open the windows and let the fresh winds come in and blow the cobwebs away." Drown said. "The opportunity is there with the new management group."





Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCE: **Elementary school students at the Delphi Academy on Fourth Street pretend to be an electric pencil sharpener Monday as part of a CALPIRG spring break project in which college students educate youngsters about energy usage and sustainability.**

ENERGY

FROM PAGE 1

The school already embraces green values from the cleaning products it uses to its recycling programs, and was happy to open its doors, said Bridgette Rappoport, admissions director at the school.

"It's part of the idea of the founding of this school," she said.

The effort is one of five trips run through the Energy Service Corps, a project of the California Public Interest Research Group — better known as CALPIRG — and AmeriCorps, a service organization that sends teams around America to complete community projects.

Fifty students from universities across the state will reach thousands of children in Los Angeles, teaching them how to save energy and cut down on home bills through simple swaps and practices.

Those include making buildings, which account for roughly 30 percent of American energy use, more efficient by making repairs to better insulate walls and windows, installing more efficient lightbulbs and unplugging appliances when not in use.

That last one is a hidden power suck, which can account for between 5 and 10 percent of residential electricity used in developed countries and may account for 1 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions, according to the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

That's because many devices — including televisions, audio receivers and even CD players — use standby energy, which means they're constantly drawing power even when they've been turned off.

The only way to bring their energy use to zero is to unplug. While it might not seem like much savings for all the hassle, consider this: The typical American has 40 such devices plugged in at any given time.

Knowing now that you can save lots of money on electricity tends to inspire, said Amrita Ray, a program participant and student at UC San Diego.

"Numbers like that can really resonate," Ray said.

It's important to reach children early, because it's more difficult to change those habits when they reach adulthood, she said.

The day at Delphi Academy kicked off with presentations by CALPIRG and Environment California, a nonprofit organization that advocates for healthy environmental policies. Santa Monica Mayor Pam O'Connor also stopped by to wish the college students well.

"It's exciting that you're working with the community on energy conservation. These are things that people can do right now," O'Connor said.

The Energy Service Corps volunteers will spend the rest of their time teaching classes in Compton, El Monte and other communities and weatherizing two homes.

That process involves often simple fixes that may seem overwhelming or expensive to families living on the margins, but will, in the end, save them money on their energy bills, said Corie Radka, the campus coordinator for CALPIRG at UC Merced.

The fixes work just as well for the well-to-do, who may not have considered the impact those changes make to their wallets or the environment.

It's a far cry from Kachi Achor's normal spring break plans, which tend to involve visiting her family members, whom she sees less frequently now that she's off to college as a freshman at UC Merced.

Achor, who expected to teach her first class in Compton later that day, was excited to use the time differently.

"It's a great opportunity to learn about sustainability and saving the planet," Achor said.

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U.S. stocks fall on broad concern about Europe

DANIEL WAGNER
AP Business Writer

Stocks reversed an early rise on Wall Street Monday as traders returned to worrying about the European economy.

Optimism about a deal to prevent financial collapse in Cyprus had briefly pushed the Standard & Poor's 500 index to within a quarter-point of its record closing high, but stocks soon turned negative.

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq composite index both closed down 0.3 percent. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 0.4 percent.

Stocks turned negative about an hour into the trading day Monday as the initial euphoria about Cyprus' deal to secure 10 billion euros in emergency funding was overshadowed by renewed concerns about the European economy.

The fear intensified after a top European official indicated that investors in struggling banks may be forced to take losses — an element of the Cyprus agreement that had previously been seen as unique to that country.

All ten industry groups in the S&P 500 closed lower, with industrial and materials companies posting the biggest losses. Network technology company VMware Inc. dove after the website Business Insider reported that PayPal and eBay will remove its software from 80,000 servers. The stock fell $3.65, or 4.6 percent, to $76.50.

Among the biggest drags on the S&P 500 index were software maker Red Hat Inc., online marketplace eBay Inc. and Textron Inc., an aerospace and defense contractor.

Europe still needs a long-term economic fix, said David Kelly, chief global strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds. Business activity in the 17 nations using the euro has declined continually since September 2011, according to research by Markit, a data provider. The region's economy shrank 0.6 percent in 2012, according official government statistics.

Business activity in nations that use the euro contracted more quickly in March, according to Markit's closely-watched survey of purchasing executives, which was published Thursday. The index had its worst decline in four months.

European policy makers have avoided a financial crisis by flooding the market with cash, but they haven't addressed economic hardship on the ground, Kelly said. In granting Cyprus' emergency rescue, for example, lenders demanded economic reforms, debt payments and a banking overhaul that will result in heavy losses for bank bondholders and shareholders. In addition, people with more than 100,000 euros in their accounts will lose up to 40 percent of their deposits.

Kelly said that's tough to swallow for people facing high unemployment and government cutbacks in Greece, Italy, Spain and other countries that received bailouts.

"If they're going to end up broke anyway," Kelly said, it will be "harder and harder for people to make the sacrifices that Europe is demanding of them." That could lead voters in bailed-out countries to resist lenders' terms, increasing political and economic instability in Europe and weighing on global markets, he said.

That concern intensified Monday after a key official indicated that the Cyprus rescue may serve as a model in other nations with struggling banks.

"If the bank can't do it, then we'll talk to the shareholders and the bondholders, we'll ask them to contribute in recapitalizing the bank, and if necessary the uninsured deposit holders," said Jeroen Dijsselbloem, who chairs meetings of finance ministers from nations that use the euro, in an interview with the Financial Times and Reuters. Dijsselbloem's office confirmed the remarks.

Wall Street had opened higher, following gains in Europe and Asia. Traders were relieved that international lenders agreed early Monday to release emergency rescue funds for Cyprus. The European Central Bank will continue to support the nation's foundering banks. In exchange, Cyprus will take major steps to shrink its troubled banking industry and cut its budget.

At first, the deal to save Cyprus' banks erased the latest source of anxiety for investors, who have traded for more than three years under the cloud of a debt crisis in Europe. The fear is that a heavily indebted country will default on its financial obligations and be forced to exit the shared currency. That could cause the region to unravel, deepening the recession there and roiling international financial markets.

Concern about Cyprus last week pushed U.S. stock indexes to only their second weekly loss this year. Investors watched closely as the small, Mediterranean island scrambled to satisfy its lenders and prevent its banks from collapsing.

Traders expect more turbulence from Europe before the crisis has been resolved, said Anthony Conroy, head trader at ConvergEx Group, which provides technology to support big traders like investment advisers and hedge funds. Given the uncertainty, it's not surprising that stocks would veer between positive and negative, he said.

"When you have concern, you have volatility, and you're seeing volatility in here," Conroy said.

European stocks were up when Wall Street opened Monday, but turned lower shortly after Wall Street's gains evaporated. France's CAC-40 closed down 1.1 percent, London's FTSE 100 fell 0.2 percent and Germany's DAX lost 0.5 percent.

Earlier, Asian stocks closed mostly higher on optimism about the Cyprus deal.

The S&P 500 closed down 5.2 points at 1,551.69. The loss was offset in part by big jumps for Apollo Group Inc. and McGraw-Hill Cos. Computer maker Dell Inc. also supported the index as a bidding war broke out among investors who want to take the company private.

The Dow fell 64.28 points to 14,447.75. The Nasdaq dropped 9.7 to 3,235.30.

As the final week of trading this quarter kicks off, the indexes are holding onto most of the gains built during the long rally earlier this month. The Dow is up 10 percent, the S&P 500 nearly nine percent.

Conroy expects stocks to maintain their recent gains as short-term dips draw more traders into the market. Kelly agreed, noting that stocks typically decline in the last week of a strong quarter, as investors seek to lock in their gains.



Military's same-sex couples seek overturn of DOMA

LISA LEFF
Associated Press

The death certificate read "single," even though the fallen soldier was married.

When it came time to inform the next of kin, casualty officers did not go to the widow's door in North Carolina, nor did she receive the flag that draped the casket of her beloved, a 29-year-old National Guard member killed by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan.

Because federal law defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman, the military did not recognize the relationship of Army Sgt. Donna R. Johnson and Tracy Dice Johnson at all, rendering Johnson ineligible for the most basic survivor benefits, from return of the wedding ring recovered from the body to a monthly indemnity payment of $1,215.

"You cannot imagine the pain, to actually be shut out," said Dice Johnson, an Army staff sergeant who survived five bomb explosions during a 15-month tour in Iraq. "Not only is one of their soldiers being disrespected. Two of them are being disrespected."

As the Supreme Court prepares to consider the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act, gay marriage advocates are focusing attention on the way they say the law dishonors gay service members and their spouses, who are denied survivor payments, plots in veterans' cemeteries, base housing and a host of other benefits that have been available to opposite-sex military couples for generations.

If the high court strikes down the DOMA, the ruling could bring sweeping changes to the way the military treats widows and widowers such as Dice Johnson, the first person to lose a same-sex spouse to war since "don't ask, don't tell" was lifted in 2011.

Although they can now serve openly, gay and lesbian service members "are anything but equal, and it's the DOMA that is really what's standing in the way," said Allyson Robinson, a West Point graduate who serves as executive director of OutServe-SLDN, an advocacy group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender service members and veterans that filed a brief urging the court to strike down the law.

On the other side stands the Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty, an association of faith groups that screen chaplains for military service. It has asked justices to uphold the DOMA on the grounds that pastors and service members from religions that oppose homosexuality would find their voices silenced and their opportunities for advancement limited.

"The military has no tolerance for racists, so service members who are openly racist are not service members for long," the alliance's brief states. "And if the traditional religious views on marriage and family become the constitutional equivalent of racism, the many service members whose traditional religious beliefs shape their lives will be forced out of the military."

Retired Col. Ron Crews, the group's executive director, said Congress could find ways to honor war widows such as Dice Johnson without striking down the DOMA, which he said had served as "a wall" protecting military personnel with strong religious beliefs since the ban on openly gay service members was eliminated.

Before he left office in February, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta ordered the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines to extend to same-sex partners of military personnel certain benefits not precluded by the DOMA, including ID cards giving them access to on-base services and visitation rights at military hospitals. Some of those measures would have eased Dice Johnson's grief, if they had been in place earlier.

In the future, for example, same-sex survivors of service members will be eligible to receive a deceased partner's personal effects and to be presented with the folded flag at the funeral. But many of the acknowledgements available to military spouses in opposite-sex marriages remain out of reach.

The widows of the two men who lost their lives alongside Johnson on Oct. 1 heard the news from an Army casualty officer. But Dice Johnson, 43, found out from her sister-in-law. Johnson could not list her as primary next-of-kin since the government did not recognize their marriage.

Former Rep. Joe Sestak, a retired Navy admiral who was the highest-ranking officer ever elected to Congress, said such inequities have implications for national security. Many financial protections and support services are offered to military families not just out of gratitude, but so service members can focus on their jobs during dangerous deployments, Sestak said.

"When you step back and all of a sudden realize that a law would actually prevent, today, the spouse of somebody in our military (being) notified first that that solider or that sailor has been harmed or killed ... you sit back there and say, 'What's going on?'" he said.

Dice Johnson and her wife had been together six years when they decided to get married. They waited until the military lifted the "don't ask, don't tell" policy and then exchanged vows last year on Valentine's Day in Washington, D.C. Soon after, Johnson volunteered for a second tour of duty, despite pleas from her wife and mother.

"There are a handful of things you can't tell your heart not to do. One is to serve your country, and the other is not to love who you love," Dice Johnson said.

Johnson had been in Afghanistan only a few weeks when a man wearing a vest packed with explosives drove a motorcycle into a group of soldiers on patrol in a market area in the city of Khost. Johnson was killed, along with two other members of the 514th Military Police Company, a translator, six Afghan police officers and six civilians.

When Dice Johnson learned that uniformed officers were at the North Carolina home of her mother-in-law and father-in-law, she grabbed her marriage certificate and raced over there. Johnson had requested that her wife be the first to hear in the event of her death, she said.

"I wanted to make sure they saw my face, even if they weren't going to notify me," she said. The notification officer assured her he had planned to visit her, too.

Johnson's mother, Sandra Johnson, knew how happy her daughter was to be married to Dice Johnson, and the fact that her daughter-in-law was not recognized as such outraged her. As primary next-of-kin, she made sure Dice Johnson was recognized as her daughter's wife, including insisting that she be allowed to accompany a military escort with her daughter's body.

"They hemmed and hawed, hemmed and hawed, and I said, 'You will accept Tracy going up there because she will be our liaison. She will bring our daughter home, and she will bring her wife home,' " Johnson said.

One of Dice Johnson's duties as the escort was to take possession of her wife's property, including a velvet bag containing the wedding ring and St. Michael's medallion Johnson was wearing when she was killed. She was instructed to pass them on to her mother-in-law's casualty assistance officer.

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SURF REPORT



Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **60.4°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
SSW swell fades, small WNW swell mix

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Leftover mix of WNW and SSW swell

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 20, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 26 / 22
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Ann Blocker County Beach.	A+	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	B
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	C	C
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	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+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	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 CIWW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	C	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.

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

NCAA BASKETBALL

Howland bids farewell to UCLA after firing

BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Ben Howland kept it classy in departing as UCLA basketball coach on Monday, thanking the athletic director who had fired him a day earlier while noting the high expectations that come with running a program that owns a record 11 national championships.

Howland was applauded by supporters as he walked into a news conference at Pauley Pavilion for the last time. The 55-year-old coach expressed gratitude for his 10-year run in Westwood, the longest tenure since John Wooden retired in 1975 after 27 years on the sideline.

Howland had a 233-107 record that included three consecutive Final Four appearances and four Pac-12 titles, including this season, when the Bruins were 25-10. Their season ended with a 20-point loss to Minnesota in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

"As a coach, you always remember the losses way better than the wins," he said.

Howland said he's excited about his future and wants to coach again, although he doesn't know where or when that will happen.

"It's where the best opportunity is," he said afterward. "I can live anywhere. I want to compete at the highest level."

He said he took the unusual step of meeting the media after his firing because he wanted to publicly thank his current and former players and staff. He recited a laundry list of names, including his wife, Kim, who kissed him after he finished.

No senior athletic department officials attended, including athletic director Dan Guerrero, who fired Howland in a meeting on Sunday.

Howland declined to discuss details of what was said.

"I enjoyed our working relationship, his support and his regard for all we accomplished," Howland said, reading from a prepared statement he had worked on after being dismissed.

Howland sidestepped a question on whether he was treated fairly, considering the Bruins won the league's regular-season title and lost in its tournament title game playing without freshman Jordan Adams, who broke his foot in the semifinals.

Howland's four league titles were the most by any UCLA coach since Wooden.

"We had a great year. I was so proud of our players and coaches to win the Pac-12 championship," he said. "I feel very good about leaving here with a good nucleus."

However, Guerrero cited "a depleted roster" as one of the reasons he let Howland go.

Attendance lagged at games this season despite a $138 million renovation of Pauley Pavilion, and UCLA missed the NCAA tournament twice in Howland's last four seasons. The Bruins haven't reached the final 16 since 2008.

"It's very complex," he said about coaching at UCLA. "There's a lot that goes into it."

A national search is under way for Howland's successor.

"They're not going to have a hard time finding a great coach to come in here. They're not going to hire a rookie," he said. "I just wish him the very best."

When he arrived in April 2003, Howland said there would never be another Wooden, who remained close to the program under Howland's stewardship until he died in 2010.

"It's a place that has such high expectations and that's understandable," Howland said, calling UCLA "the premier athletic program in the country."

Howland pointed out that every player who stayed four years with him went on to graduate.

He said he either met with or spoke by phone with his current players, who are on spring break this week.

"I've encouraged them all to continue to work hard and to develop," he said. "I'm nothing but supportive of these kids and their futures here at UCLA."

Standout Shabazz Muhammad is expected to declare for the NBA draft and fellow freshman Kyle Anderson might follow him out the door.

Howland is already gone, out of a job but unwilling to express any public negativity.

"I will always feel great about my experience here," he said. "I'm just so lucky and feel so blessed."

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Call theater for information.

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
12:45pm, 6:45pm

Croods (PG) 1hr 38min
11:55am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Jack the Giant Slayer (PG-13) 1hr 54min
2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Identity Thief (R) 1hr 51min
3:45pm, 10:00pm

Admission (PG-13) 1hr 57min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

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

Spring Breakers (R) 1hr 34min
11:15am, 1:35pm, 5:50pm, 8:20pm, 11:00pm

Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:45am, 2:45pm, 3:55pm, 6:55pm, 10:00pm

Croods 3D (PG) 1hr 38min
11:30am, 12:45pm, 2:35pm, 3:35pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Olympus Has Fallen () 1hr 40min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:50pm

Call (R) 1hr 35min
6:30pm, 9:00pm

Call (R) 1hr 35min
11:50am, 2:20pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

Happy Poet (NR) 1hr 25min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:20pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

On the Road (R) 2hrs 20min
1:20pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm

Bless Me, Ultima (PG-13) 1hr 46min
4:30pm

Opera in Cinema: Royal Opera House's "Tosca" Encore (NR) 3hrs 14min
7:30pm

Everyone Has a Plan (Todos tenemos un plan) (R) 1hr 58min
1:10pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Gatekeepers (Shomerei Ha'saf) (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:50pm

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

Oz The Great and Powerful (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 4:30pm, 7:35pm, 10:35pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 1:50pm, 7:15pm

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

Side Effects (R) 1hr 46min
11:40am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 10:20pm

Stoker (R) 1hr 38min
4:20pm, 10:00pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:20pm, 7:55pm, 10:25pm

InAPPropriate Comedy (R) 1hr 24min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 5:15pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

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

Happy Birthday

Leonard Nimoy: Will always be remembered as Mr. Spock

At home tonight, Cancer

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your drive helps you stay charged throughout the day. Nevertheless, you could be overwhelmed by all the inquiries you encounter. By late afternoon, you'll be looking for ways out of conversations and situations. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Carry a notebook with you in order to jot down your many ideas. You'll want to test them out on others before deciding which one works best for you. You could be looking at different options to make more money, or perhaps you just want to travel. Tonight: Play it low-key.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might feel unusually knowledgeable, which could cause you to question the reasons for doing things in a certain way. Your creativity emerges, and you'll find the right path. Success greets you. A friend also could have some feedback for you. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ Give a presentation in the morning, and speak your mind. You will see a situation in a different light because you're able to make a change that you have desired for a while. Follow your instincts. A partner can be testy, so give this person some space. Tonight: At home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Take care of your business and financial concerns. News coming from a distance proves to be quite distracting. You have reason to smile, but you might doubt yourself or what you are hearing. Tonight: Catch up with a friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others note your self-confidence. Whatever you decide to put on your plate tends to work because of your upbeat attitude. Open up to a possibility of travel or consider taking on more responsibilities. Tonight: Run errands.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Though you feel be out of sync in the morning, you'll feel far more together come dinnertime. You can see the difference in your energy through others' reactions. You might be taken aback by someone's behavior. Tonight: Do your thing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your ability to read between the lines will come through for you. Others might not totally understand where they are heading in a key matter, but your insightful nature lets you know. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You know what to do, and you'll do it. Understand that you might need to have a difficult discussion with a loved one. You have gone long enough without saying anything, but know your limits. Tonight: Whatever sets your imagination afire.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ News from a distance could evoke a discussion. The topic involves real estate and your domestic life. Know that someone is passionate about his or her perception, but this could change. You will be centered and direct in your dealings. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ A partner has a lot to say, and he or she will say it. You can't escape this inevitable discussion, so step up to the plate and have it. Reach out to someone at a distance who cares about you; the discussion could be quite animated. Tonight: Learn a new hobby.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others seek you out, and you will be forced to juggle many different concerns. Do be aware of the cost of pursuing several situations at once, as you could become distracted. A partner wants to talk money. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

Tuesday, March 26, 2013

This year you will be more concerned about your relationships. At times, you might question your boundaries, as well as those of the other parties involved. Know that everyone is different. You might wonder which approach would be best to take -- to do what you feel or do what you think. Experiment, and see the results of each. If you are single, you could have difficulty deciding whom to date. If you are attached, the two of you have a hard time juggling your different needs. Kissing and making up will be a frequent habit. LIBRA can be challenging.

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

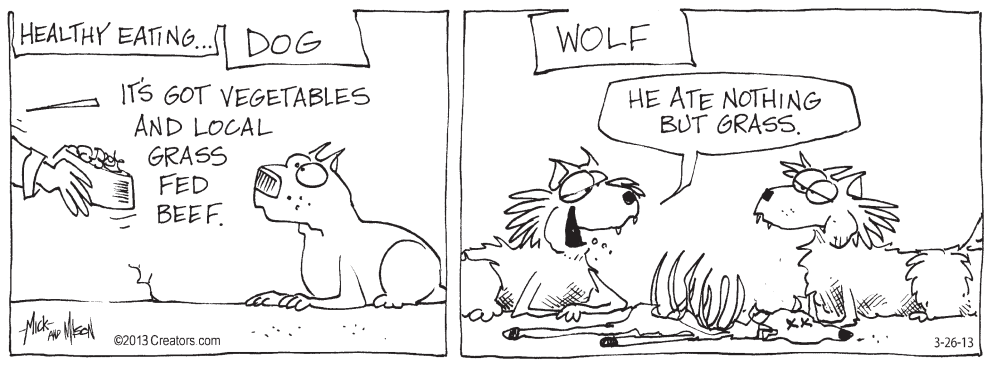
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



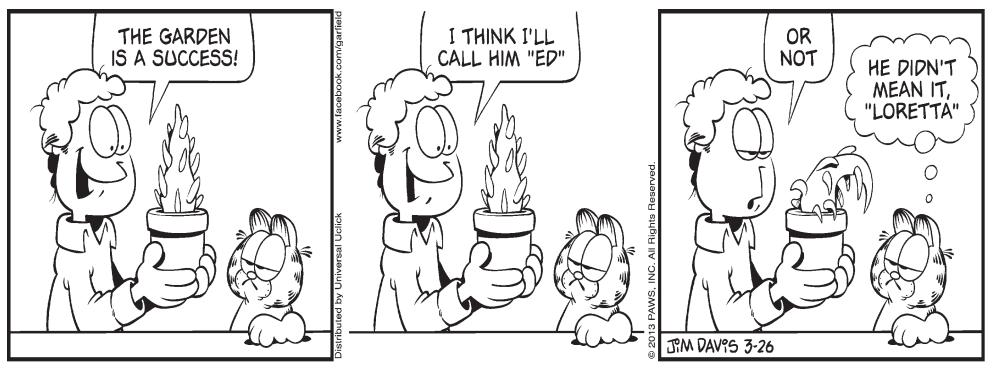
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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 Ditties
6 Blessed event
11 Ryan of "Paper Moon"
12 Sun Valley setting
13 Lavishing with attention
15 Blockhead
16 Fido's foot
17 Long, long time
18 Ark measure
20 Like some beer
23 Prison camp
27 Lowly worker
28 Secluded valley
29 Bar mixer
31 Pluck
32 Lesson giver
34 Masseur's workplace
37 Saloon
38 Museum topic
41 Disregarding
44 Zodiac ram
45 Battery end
46 Gasp, say
47 Full of info

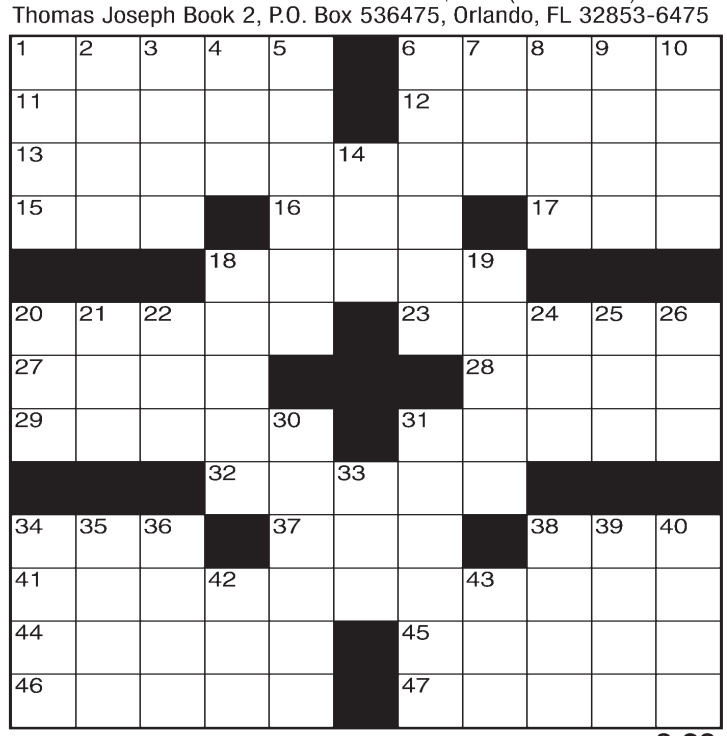
DOWN

1 Living room fixture
2 Burden
3 Lawman Eliot
4 Empty talk
5 Goof
6 Muckety-muck
7 Wedding words
8 Gushing review
9 Kojak's first name
10 Rhino feature
14 Arrest
18 "Be quiet!"
19 Henry VIII's house
20 Make a choice
21 Fresh: Prefix
22 Hauler's unit
24 Indulgent
25 Boxing great
26 "Golly!"
30 Braque or Picasso
31 Actor Freeman
33 Shoe hue
34 Rigging support
35 Whittle down
36 Tibet setting
38 Swear
39 Some wines
40 Deuce beater
42 Min. part
43 Low digit

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

Yesterday's answer

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



3-26

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/22
14 27 34 37 41
Meganumber: 38
Jackpot: $26M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/23
4 11 21 26 46
Meganumber: 6
Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/25
7 15 25 31 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/25
MIDDAY: 1 9 4
EVENING: 6 6 2

SANTA ANITA DERBY
Draw Date: 3/25
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:41.67

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

■ One of the many decisions greeting Pope Francis, as Salon.com pointed out, is whether to officially recognize a Patron Saint of Handgunners -- as urged by a U.S. organization of activists for more than 20 years. According to legend, St. Gabriel Possenti rescued an Italian village from a small band of pillagers (and perhaps rapists) in the 19th century by shooting at a lizard in the road, killing it with one shot, which supposedly so terrified the bandits that they fled. No humans were harmed, activists now point out, signifying the handgun was obviously a force for good. The head of the St. Gabriel Possenti Society has noted that, however far-fetched the "lizard incident" may be, it was rarely questioned until U.S. anti-gun activists gained strength in the 1980s.

■ Among the helpful civic classes the city government in Oakland, Calif., set up earlier this year for its residents was one on how to pick locks (supposedly to assist people who had accidentally locked themselves out of their homes), and lock-picking kits were even offered for sale after class. Some residents were aghast, as the city had seen burglaries increase by 40 percent in 2012. Asked one complainer, "What's next? The fundamentals of armed robbery?" (In February, Mayor Jean Quan apologized and canceled the class.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1997 - Thirty-nine bodies are found in the Heaven's Gate cult suicides.

1998 - Oued Bouaicha massacre in Algeria: 52 people are killed with axes and knives, 32 of them babies under the age of 2.

1999 - A jury in Michigan finds Dr. Jack Kevorkian guilty of second-degree murder for administering a lethal injection to a terminally ill man.

WORD UP!

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Kate@SantaMonicaListings.com

COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

Kate Bransfield

DRE # 01218699
www.SantaMonicaListings.com

Just Listed

2019 Navy Street
$1,799,000
Beautiful Spanish Villa in Sunset Park



* 4 Bedrooms
* 3 1/2 Baths
* Authentic Mexican Tiles Throughout
* Stainless Appliances in Kitchen
* Master Features Huge Deck w/ Views
* Master Bath w/ Soaking Spa Tub
* Private Guest Suite on Main Level



1751 Appian Way #401
For Lease
$6,400 per month

Santa Monica's Prime Beach Location

* Captivating Ocean Views
* 3 Bedrooms
* 2 Baths
* Hampton Style
* Newer Construction



603 16th Street
For Lease
$5,750 per month

Newly Remodeled Kitchen w/ Stainless & Limestone

* 3 Bedrooms
* 1 Bath w Vintage Tiles
* Hardwood Floors
* Freshly Painted



Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale as of Late March 2013		
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 7,559,750
North of Montana	=	$ 4,489,462
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,458,000
South of Wilshire	=	$ 599,000
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,535,200
Ocean Park	=	$ 1,697,000
Statistics updated every Friday		

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LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL SANTA MONICA, CA
GREAT FUTURES START HERE. BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA MONICA

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

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