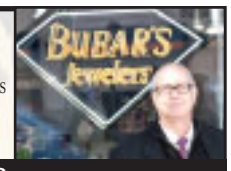
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TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 122

Santa Monica Daily Press

STOCK MARKET DIPS
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE DID WE FOOL YOU? ISSUE



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

MOVING IT: **Seniors cut a rug on Monday at WISE & Healthy Aging. It was the opening day for Club 1527.**

Seniors get new hangout

Club 1527's opening day featured dancing and dining

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

KEN EDWARDS CENTER As Nat King Cole's "Unforgettable" played in the background, a pair of seniors danced Monday while others chatted in the dining hall of the Ken Edwards Center, home to Santa Monica's new center for the elderly, which its members have dubbed Club 1527.

Apparently the word "senior" is a turn off.

The song provided the perfect backdrop to the club's opening-day bash as many in the room seemed unable to forget the Pacific Ocean view they were forced to leave behind when the City Council in April of last year voted to move the senior center in Palisades Park to the Ken Edwards Center on Fourth Street, where the nonprofit WISE & Healthy Aging serves lunches, offers meditation and writing classes, and other services for seniors.

At the time of the move, some of Santa Monica's elders cried foul. Losing the view was, and remains, their main complaint. However, they are coming around to their new space, which features fresh paint, more lighting and a retractable glass wall that lets in sunshine and provides a view of a bustling Fourth Street and Santa Monica Place.

SEE SENIORS PAGE 9



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

YUMMY STUFF: **Kathy Osburn prepares meals for seniors at the Ken Edwards Center on Monday afternoon.**



MOAYEDI

Long-time flower shop forced out by another Starbucks

BY ALEX VEJAR
Special to the Daily Press

WILSHIRE BLVD On a day in late February, Saeed Moayedi came to the front door of his flower business and saw the sign that would change his future.

Farrah's Florist, an independently-owned shop that has been in Santa Monica for two generations, was being replaced by another Starbucks, the sign said. Moayedi was

SEE FLORIST PAGE 8

City attorney sees surge in complaints from disabled tenants

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

CITY HALL Attorneys with Santa Monica's Consumer Protection Unit said Monday they have seen a surge in housing discrimination complaints by tenants with disabilities.

One tenant with a "serious" respiratory disability asked to be moved to another unit to get away from second-hand cigarette smoke while two others asked their land-

SEE COMPLAINTS PAGE 7

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Surf's up!
Patagonia Santa Monica
1344 Fourth St., 6:30 p.m.
Bodysurfing photographs, frame grabs and personal essays documenting Keith Malloy's film "Come Hell or High Water" will be displayed at "Plight of the Torpedo People." In addition to the showing of the film, there will be a slideshow and a book signing. Malloy, photographer Chris Burkard and professional bodysurfer Mark Cunningham will be in attendance. Admission is free. For more information, visit patagonia.com.

Swingin' movie
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Filmmaker Elaina Archer will screen and discuss the film "Swing Time," starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Just dance
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m. — 2:45 p.m.
In the Children's Activity Room, kids and their families can dance with Miss Kai for Spring Break Family Fun. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Green company
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Vincent Stanley will be telling the story of Patagonia, an outdoor clothes and gear company, and how it became a leader in green business. The event is free, but space is limited and on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, visit smpl.org.

You can prevent it
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.
Researchers will discuss the current understanding of risk factors for dementia and the steps that can be taken to lower seniors' risk. For more information and to register, visit the library branch.

Thursday, April 4, 2013

Bring the popcorn
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Watch the Oscar-winning film "Argo," directed by Ben Affleck. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Look, it's a bird
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Learn about 39 different species of birds in "Birds of Paradise: Extreme, Bizarre, Extraordinary" as a part of National Geographic Live. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

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





SMASH

Sarah A. Spitz *editor@smdp.com*

Three suspects in a burglary were arrested Monday by L.A. County Sheriff's deputies after crashing in the front yard of an apartment complex at the corner of Colorado Avenue and Stanford Street. Authorities said detectives were working an investigation when they saw the suspects leave a home on the 200 block of 22nd Street. A sheriff's vehicle rear-ended the suspect's car, then was rear-ended by a second sheriff's vehicle.

Malibu council considers lighting rules

BY MELISSA CASKEY
Special to the Daily Press

MALIBU Amid frequent conflicts over night lighting throughout Malibu, officials will consider drafting a citywide lighting ordinance at a City Council meeting on April 8.

After a dark skies expert presented an outdoor lighting template for municipalities on Feb. 4, the Planning Commission recommended the City Council consider directing city staffers to draft detailed lighting standards, something the city's local coastal program (LCP) and municipal code both lack.

Malibu dealt with several lighting issues in the past year, including parking lot light plans at the Trancas Shopping Center and 70-foot stadium lights on the football field and parking lot light fixtures at a new proposed parking lot at Malibu High. The stadium lighting resulted in ongoing litigation between high school neighbors, the city of Malibu and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

James Benya, a lighting designer who helped write the International Dark Sky Association Model Lighting Ordinance (MLO), made the Feb. 4 presentation to discuss several aspects of potential lighting standards.

"The Model Lighting Ordinance is an outdoor lighting template designed to help municipalities develop outdoor lighting standards that reduce glare, light trespass, and sky glow. The standards also reduce expenses, save energy, and cut greenhouse gas emissions," according to a staff report authored by Planning Director Joyce Parker-Bozylinski.

The LCP and municipal code contain some standards requiring shielded, downward facing night lighting and lighting that isn't a "nuisance" to drivers, but "neither document has detailed standards regarding the allowed height of light poles or the amount of illumination," Parker-Bozylinski wrote.

Among its four options, the City Council could choose to send the issue to the Zoning Ordinance Revisions and Code Enforcement Subcommittee (ZORACES) for further exploration, direct city staff to begin drafting an ordinance, hire an outside consultant to prepare the draft ordinance or include a lighting ordinance in a zoning code update already in the works.

editor@smdp.com

This article originally appeared in the Malibu Times.

Arrest made in kidnapping of Los Angeles girl

GREG RISLING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A man was arrested in connection with the kidnapping of a 10-year-old girl who was snatched from her San Fernando Valley home in the middle of the night and abandoned hours later, police said Monday.

Daniel Martinez, 29, was taken into custody Sunday in Northridge and booked for investigation of kidnapping. He was being held on $1 million bail.

Tobias Dustin Summers, a 30-year-old transient with a long criminal record, was identified by authorities over the weekend as a suspect in the case.

Police initially said they were looking for two suspects but noted they were focusing their efforts on Summers, who may have fled to the San Diego area and changed his appearance by shaving his head.

"We believe (Martinez) is the second person," police Cmdr. Andrew Smith said. He wouldn't provide details on the connection between the two men but said, "certainly they know each other."

Police suspect Martinez was present when the kidnapping occurred, but it was unclear if he was there throughout the crime.

The girl was abducted around 3 a.m. Wednesday and found about 12 hours later wandering near a Starbucks several miles away. She was barefoot, had bruises and scratches, and wasn't wearing the same clothes she had on when she vanished.

Investigators have said they believe the girl was driven around the San Fernando Valley in a couple of cars and taken to at least two locations, including a storage facility, before she was released.

The Los Angeles Times reported that law enforcement sources said the girl was sexually assaulted. Police officials would not confirm it but asked the media to not report information about "indignities" the girl may have suffered.

The Associated Press does not identify victims of sexual assault.

Court records show Martinez has been convicted of various offenses, including burglary, grand theft and resisting a police officer.

Police noted Summers had a criminal history dating back to 2002 and had been arrested for robbery, grand theft auto, possession of explosives and kidnapping.

Authorities haven't given a motive for the girl's kidnapping. They don't believe Summers and the family knew one another.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Down with fakes

Editor:

I just want to comment on the article in the SMDP about the disabled placard abuses ("Cops crack down on disabled parking fakes," March 27, page 1). I am an older, long-time resident of Santa Monica who was issued a disabled placard several years ago for a chronic spinal condition. Since then I have observed an almost exponential increase in the number of disabled placards. I even began to wonder if there was some sort of disabled epidemic in Santa Monica.

It is now common to see a healthy appearing person put up a disabled placard, hop out of their car and walk briskly away. This is a problem especially at food markets and shopping areas. I have also seen placards on delivery and construction trucks.

A valid disabled placard is a valuable asset for those truly in need and it allows them to continue to contribute to the community. Those who use the placard illegally should be ashamed of themselves. I commend the Traffic Control officers in their mission to address this public service issue.

Don Wagner
Santa Monica





Your column here



Eleanor Hinton Hoytt — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

African-Americans demanding access to reproductive care

AS A LONG-TIME REPRODUCTIVE justice advocate, I have spent the better part of my career working to ensure that women, regardless of income or background, have access to the care that they need. For me, now is a perfect opportunity to take stock of the work that still needs to be done so that women and girls can claim agency over their own destinies.

A lot of progress has taken place over the past 100 years, but none has been as central to improving the lives of women and their families as access to safe and effective reproductive health care. Ironically, in many communities, we are still fighting to gain access to such basic care. In fact, the legislative battles of the past three years have been as intense and crucial as any we've fought since Roe v. Wade — the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the U.S.

Numerous polls show overwhelming voter support for women's access to affordable birth control, safe and legal abortion and preventive services, such as STD testing and treatment. Since 2011, legislators have introduced more than 1,100 rights-related provisions aimed at limiting or eliminating access to these services, according to the Guttmacher Institute. With almost 20 percent of African-Americans uninsured and over 10 percent of black families living below the poverty level, African-Americans have a lot at stake in this fight.

Many efforts to eliminate access have been squarely targeted at communities of color, particularly African-Americans. For example, In 2011 Mississippi legislators tried to pass a so-called "personhood" bill, which would have deemed a fetus a person and banned not only access to safe and legal abortion in the state but also emergency contraception, commonly known as the morning after pill. As the state with the highest percentage of African-Americans — 37 percent — and one of the country's highest poverty rates, Mississippi's personhood bill would have had a disproportionate and devastating effect on the black community. African-Americans have also been the target of vitriolic anti-reproductive-rights campaigns in recent years, including one financed by Georgia Right to Life — a largely white, male conservative group — that put up billboards accusing black women who choose to end their pregnancies of committing genocide.

All of this activity and notoriety has made black women's bodies the topic of hot debate in recent years. And yet, few polls have actually looked at African-American support for reproductive health services, including birth control and safe, legal abortion. A new survey commissioned by a coalition of reproductive justice organizations is providing some definitive insight that legislators would do well to consider and reproductive justice advocates would be smart to act on.

The poll (conducted by Belden Russonello Strategists and sponsored by Black Women for Wellness, Black Women's Health Imperative, New Voices Pittsburgh, SisterLove, Inc., SPARK Reproductive Justice and individual reproductive justice activists, in partnership with Communications Consortium Media Center) queried a random sample of more than 1,000 African-American adults. Surprisingly, 86 percent of African-Americans believe that contraception is a part of basic health care. An even larger percentage believes that publicly-funded health services should provide birth control to low-income women who want it.

When questioned about abortion, 79 percent of respondents said they support it remaining legal and that they believe it should be available in their own communities. In fact, African-American support for legalized abortion is nearly identical to the overall percentage of Americans who, in a recent USA Today/Gallup poll, said they support legalized abortion.

Most significantly, an overwhelming majority of African-Americans said that regardless of how they personally feel about abortion, it should remain legal, and women should have access to safe care if and when they need it. This belief held across political and religious lines, with 74 percent of conservatives, 88 percent of liberals and more than three-quarters of regular churchgoers saying abortion should remain safe and legal.

These findings are enlightening and can be a persuasive argument against continued efforts by some legislators and interest groups to reduce access to reproductive health-care services and vilify the women who use them. Even today, following a national election that was won largely on the basis of how women — particularly women of color — voted, too many lawmakers are working to rescind the broadened access to birth control provided by the Affordable Care Act.

Given that African-American women are more likely to experience pregnancies that result in poor maternal and infant health outcomes, we have an urgent need for our views to be accurately represented and seriously considered. This new poll makes clear to lawmakers and groups that would target our communities with racially charged rhetoric that a majority of African-Americans — like most other Americans — believe women, not politicians, should be trusted to make decisions about their reproductive health. Getting out of the way of women and our ability to access the care we need is the best way to pay tribute to their plight.

ELEANOR HINTON Hoytt is the president and CEO, Black Women's Health Imperative.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
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San Onofre nuke plant submits draft linked to its restart bid

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The operator of the shuttered San Onfore nuclear power plant submitted a draft plan to federal regulators Monday that could help pave the way to restart one of the twin reactors by summer.

The seaside plant between Los Angeles and San Diego has been shut down since January 2012, after a small radiation leak led to the discovery of unusual damage to hundreds of tubes that carry radioactive water.

Southern California Edison wants to change the plant's federal operating rules to permit the Unit 2 reactor to run at no more than 70 percent power, which company engineers and consultants believe will limit unusual tube wear.

Edison submitted a tentative request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, technically known as a license amendment, that if approved would cap Unit 2's capacity at 70 percent, down from the now-required 100 percent.

"We are considering the proposed voluntary amendment as the best path to get Unit 2 safely up and running before the hottest months of the year hit our region," SCE President Ron Litzinger said in a statement.

Critics of the nuclear power industry say the plant is unsafe to operate at any power level and should be shut down permanently and dismantled.

Kendra Ulrich, a spokeswoman for Friends of the Earth, said in a statement the company was attempting to sidestep more thorough safety reviews that would require public hearings.

According to Edison documents, members of the public can request a hearing on the license amendment, but if NRC staff finds there is no significant hazard, the hearing can be held after the amendment is approved.

"This is not a footnote in a license as Edison claims, but a severely damaged reactor that is unsafe to operate," Ulrich said.

The problems at San Onofre focus on its steam generators, which were installed in a $670 million overhaul in 2009 and 2010.

Last year, federal regulators blamed heavy tube wear in the generators on a botched computer analysis that they said badly misjudged how water and steam would flow in the reactors, along with manufacturing problems.

Edison has been trying since October to convince the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it's safe to run Unit 2 at no more than 70 percent power.

In earlier filings, Edison argued that its 70 percent target for Unit 2 was, in effect, full power. It later submitted another analysis showing the reactor could run at 100 percent power, but the research found the risk of a tube break could reach unacceptable levels after 11 months.

Edison said a final proposal could be submitted as soon as Wednesday, after company officials meet with the NRC staff in Maryland.

If approved, the license change could essentially eliminate the debate over the full power threshold.

Before a restart could take place, the company would also have to meet a series of steps the NRC outlined last year.

The future of the heavily damaged Unit 3 reactor, where the radiation leak occurred after a tube break last year, is not clear. Edison has said that because of manufacturing differences, Unit 2's generators did not suffer the extent of deep tube wear witnessed in its sister plant.

Decaying generator tubes helped push San Onofre's Unit 1 reactor into retirement in 1992, even though it was designed to run until 2004.

San Onofre is owned by SCE, San Diego Gas & Electric and the city of Riverside.

The Q Line

Breaking the ice

Heaven must be missing an angel. Are your legs tired, because you've been running around my mind all day? What's your sign? Do you have a mirror in your pants, because I can see myself in them?
If you've spent time in a bar, most likely you've heard a version of these horrible pick-up lines.

So, in honor of April Fools', this week's Q-Line question asks:
What's the worst pick-up line you've ever used or had used on you?

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**.

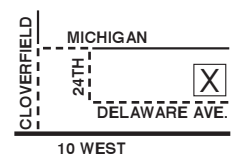

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Stock market takes losses after manufacturing growth slows

STEVE ROTHWELL,
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The stock market got off to a slow start in April, edging lower after the Standard and Poor's 500 index eclipsed its all-time high last week.

The main catalyst was a slowdown in U.S. manufacturing growth last month. The decline in the Institute for Supply Management's benchmark manufacturing index for March was worse than economists had forecast. Stocks started falling shortly after the report came out at 10 a.m. and stayed lower the rest of the day.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 5.69 points, or 0.04 percent, lower at 14,572.85. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 7.02 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,562.17.

Industrial companies fell 1 percent, the most in the S&P. 3M, which makes Post-it notes, industrial products and construction materials, fell 66 cents, or 0.6 percent, to $105.65. Caterpillar, a maker of construction and mining equipment, dropped $1.33, or 1.5 percent, to $85.64.

Investors have raised their expectations for the U.S. economy as the market has climbed this year, said JJ Kinahan, chief derivatives strategist at TD Ameritrade. The Dow is up 11.2 percent in 2013, the S&P 9.5 percent.

"The numbers have to be outstanding in order to drive the market higher," Kinahan said. "It's a different mindset when we're at these levels."

The S&P 500 closed the first quarter at an all-time high of 1,569.19, surpassing its previous record close of 1,565.15 set on Oct. 9, 2007. The index has recaptured all of its losses from the financial crisis and the Great Recession. The Dow broke through its previous all-time high March 5.

The market has risen this year because of optimism that housing is recovering and that employers and starting to hire again. Strong company earnings and continuing stimulus from the Federal Reserve have also increased demand for stocks.

Small stocks fared worse than large ones Monday.

The Russell 2000, a benchmark of small-company stocks, fell 1.3 percent to 938.78, paring its gain for the year to 10.5 percent. It was the index's biggest decline in more than a month. The Nasdaq composite fell 28.35 points, or 0.9 percent, to 3,239.17.

April is historically the second-strongest month for stocks, Deutsche Bank analysts said in report released Monday. The S&P 500 has gained an average of 1.4 percent in April, based on returns since 1960, making it the second strongest month after December.

The last meaningful setback for stocks started before November's election. The market slid 6 percent between Oct. 1 and Nov. 15 in the run-up to the vote and immediately afterwards on concerns that Washington would be unable to enact reforms to keep the economy growing.

Evidence that growth is continuing, despite the political tensions in Washington, have kept stocks on an upward trajectory since then, leaving investors waiting for dips to add to their holdings.

"I'd love to have some sort of a pullback here because I'd think it's an opportunity," said Scott Wren, an equity strategist at Wells Fargo Advisors. "But it doesn't feel like we're going to have one in the near term."

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves inversely to its price, fell to 1.84 percent from 1.85 percent.

Markets were closed in observance of Good Friday last week. European markets were closed Monday for Easter.

Among other stocks making big moves:

• Tesla Motors jumped $6.04, or 16 percent, to $43.93 after the electric car company said sales are running ahead of schedule. The Palo Alto, Calif., company said Sunday night that first-quarter sales have exceeded 4,750 Model S sedans, above its previous forecast of 4,500.

• DFC Global, a finance company that provides loans to consumers without bank accounts, fell $3.60, or 22 percent, to $13.04 after slashing its earnings estimate for its fiscal year because of increasing loan defaults in its business in Britain.

• American Greetings rose $1.95, or 12 percent, to $18.05 after the company agreed to be taken private for about $602 million by a group led by some of its top executives.



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COMPLAINTS
FROM PAGE 1

lords if they could have service animals even though the apartment complex had a no-pets policy, said Deputy City Attorney Gary Rhoades.

Those requests were initially denied until the Consumer Protection Unit stepped in and negotiated settlements.

In the last five months, city attorneys have received seven housing discrimination complaints by tenants seeking accommodations for their disabilities. By comparison, the Consumer Protection Unit received only three complaints from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012.

The rise in complaints could be because more tenants are aware of their rights thanks to seminars conducted by City Hall, Rhoades said, seminars like the one planned for April 29 in recognition of national Fair Housing Month. The seminar is from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Main Library. For more information, visit www.smconsumer.org to register or call (310) 458-8336.

The Consumer Protection Unit accepts complaints for housing discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, gender, disability, family status, sexual orientation and age.

However, disability-based fair housing complaints and inquires usually exceed all other types, Rhoades said.

Despite a range of issues, the unit manages to help those involved solve their disputes without litigation, disputes such as the one that arose when Santa Monican Zelda Alvarado was diagnosed with a respiratory disability. Alvarado lived in an apartment situated between two smokers. She said she could smell smoke every day and night and her health deteriorated because of the exposure.

With a note from her doctor, she went to her landlord, G&K Property Management, to ask to be moved to a smoke-free unit in her building that had recently become vacant. Her request was denied, said Diane Varady, an investigator with the City Attorney's Office who worked on the case.

"First, I talked with several staff members at G & K, which is a fairly large management company," said Varady, who is retiring this month after 34 years at City Hall. "They admitted the denial of Zelda's request, and they pointed to their wait-list system, saying that Zelda could not cut in line ahead of other tenants and applicants."

Under state and federal fair housing laws, landlords must make "reasonable" accommodations in their rules and policies so that tenants with disabilities have equal enjoyment of their units.

There are two basic legal requirements for a reasonable accommodation, Rhoades said.

First, the accommodation must be needed in response to the nature of the tenant's disability. The doctor's statement had confirmed that Alvarado needed this accommodation. Second, the accommodation request must be reasonable. This means it does not cause an undue burden, either administrative or financial; small or modest burdens or costs for the owner are considered reasonable.

As long as the accommodation first requested by the tenant is reasonable, the tenant may reject alternatives, such as the small air filter that G & K proposed, Rhoades said.

Making exceptions to wait lists is a classic example of an accommodation needed to help disabled tenants get the apartments and amenities they need, whether it's a smoke-free unit, a unit with a ramp, or a parking spot that's accessible or near the unit. So Varady requested a meeting at the property with G & K.

"The meeting Gary and I had with staff at the property was very productive," said Varady. "It came with a tour of the building and a brief meeting with the tenant. We discussed the fair housing law, Zelda's dire situation, and G & K's wait list rules."

"At that meeting," Rhoades added, "the staff began to see how broad and protective reasonable accommodations are supposed to be."

Two days later Alvarado notified Varady that she was being moved to the vacant apartment.

"Zelda got her reasonable accommodation without having to resort to litigation," said Rhoades, "That's our goal every time."

Other cases resolved in recent months include:

• Lockbox installation: A 91-year-old disabled tenant had twice fallen in her rented condominium unit, requiring break-ins by emergency responders. The tenant and Santa Monica Fire Department's request to install a lockbox with a unit key next to her front door was rejected by the homeowner's association. After a letter from and phone conversations with the Consumer Protection Unit, the home owners' association voted again, this time to allow the lockbox.

• Service animal for child: The disabled child of a tenant required a service animal. The management company and owner had already rejected the tenant's request for a waiver of the building's no-pet policy and pet deposit requirement. The Consumer Protection Unit wrote a letter and e-mails and persuaded the owner to allow the pet and to return the deposit.

• Caregivers for tenants: A tenant with severe disabilities needed a caregiver. She submitted a caregiver candidate to her landlord, but the landlord refused to respond and then threatened eviction if the caregiver moved in. The Consumer Protection Unit stepped in and along with Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and persuaded the owner and his attorney that if he failed to respond to a caregiver request within a reasonable timeframe, he would waive his right to object to the caregiver.

The Consumer Protection Unit also resolved two housing discrimination matters involving family and religion:

• Religious accommodation: A Jewish family was interested in a new vacancy at a local apartment building. However, the open house for viewing apartments and getting applications was limited to certain evenings where the family's religion prohibited such trips. After the family's request for a religious accommodation was rejected, the Consumer Protection Unit sent an e-mail that persuaded the housing provider to extend new open-house times.

• Children playing in the common area: The owner and management of a large apartment building had banned children (and adults) from playing in the building's small courtyard. After the families filed a complaint with City Hall, the office persuaded the owner that this policy had a discriminatory impact on children and that it had been enacted to keep children out of the courtyard. The policy was changed to reflect that most activities in the courtyard could resume.

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FLORIST

FROM PAGE 1

shocked.

"I was going crazy," he said. "I was just driving, just thinking what to do, what I need to do."

Moayedi said he was not informed by his landlords that his business would be forced to close. He was given three months to relocate, which he feels is not sufficient.

"It takes time to set up a new business wherever I go," he said.

On March 18, the design of the new Starbucks was reviewed and eventually approved by the Architectural Review Board, said Laura Beck, City Hall's liaison to the board.

In this 8.3-square-mile city, there are currently 13 Starbucks, according to a review of locations by the Daily Press.

"Everybody's upset, everybody's mad," said Moayedi about what his family is going through. "It's a mess. It's not a comfortable situation."

Moayedi has a wife and two children, aged 10 and 8.

Moayedi said he asked for a new lease last year, and remodeled his flower shop after getting reassurance from the owners that, because of his long tenure at the location he would not need to worry about the lease.

The property management company chose not to comment for this article.

Moayedi said he was not offered a new lease.

Other family-owned Santa Monica stores have fallen victim to bigger businesses because of expensive rents and a sputtering economy, making it difficult for them to weather the financial storm.

Renee's Courtyard Cafe, located down the street from the flower shop, recently closed after decades of serving suds and will be replaced by Tinga, an upscale Mexican restaurant chain, in mid-April.

Rawvolution, a vegan restaurant on Main Street, is currently attempting to raise funds through an indiegogo.com fundraising campaign to save their business from closing. They have attempted two separate fundraisers, but have not been able to reach their monetary goal.

Phone calls to the owner of Rawvolution were not immediately returned Monday.

Walking by Farrah's Florist, the shop has a sign of its own. It reads, "Say No to Starbucks. Come in to sign our petition."

To sign the petition, go to Farrah's Florist, located at 1032 Wilshire Blvd.

editor@smdp.com



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

LOOKING FOR SUPPORT: **A sign outside of Farrah's Florist on Wilshire Boulevard asks patrons to sign a petition to fight having the business replaced by a Starbucks coffee house.**



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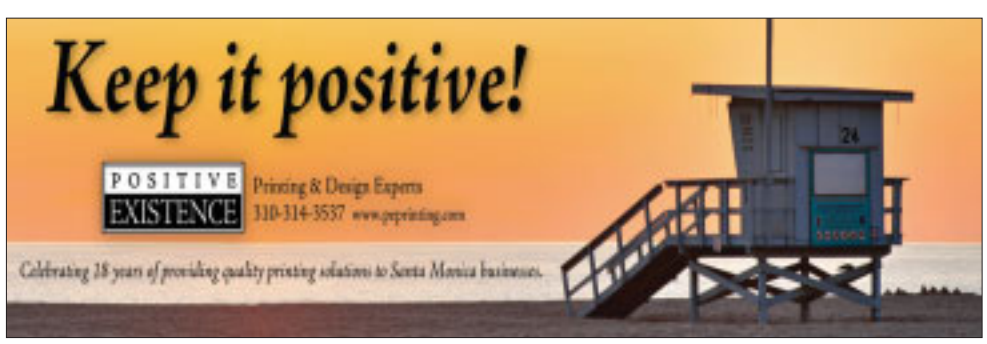
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SANTA MONICA

SENIORS
FROM PAGE 1

"It's bright and clean," Brentwood resident Shirlee Kessler said of Club 1527, where she takes Qigong classes, which help improve balance, strength and flexibility. "It's nice, but it doesn't have that ocean view."

City officials and those with WISE, while acknowledging that change can be difficult for some, insist the move to the Ken Edwards Center is better for seniors because it consolidates most services in one place, is served by several bus lanes and the Dial-a-Ride transit service, and provides some underground parking for guests, whereas the center in Palisades Park had only street parking and not as much room to accommodate all the various classes that are offered.

The center in Palisades Park — now dubbed 1450 Ocean — will be converted to a community center for adults of all ages, meaning seniors will still be able to enroll in classes and get their ocean view. Programming for the space is still being finalized but there are plans to offer photography classes as well as chair yoga. For more information visit www.facebook.com/1450Ocean

"It's really the best of two worlds," Grace Cheng Braun, president and CEO of WISE & Healthy Aging, tells her clients. "It's not a take away. They are actually getting more."

Volunteer writing coach Peggy Adams misses the view too, but believes the move is for the better.

"This place is cleaner, safer, more organized and there's more room," Adams said. "It's just more pleasant and convenient, I think. And if you want to see the ocean, we're only a couple of blocks away so most people can still get out there."

To join Club 1527, Santa Monica residents age 50 or older need only pay $15 a year. Non-residents pay $20. Those residents who have a financial hardship can qualify for a scholarship and pay nothing. Taxpayers subsidize the majority of the cost to provide services. So far more than 400 members have signed up, Cheng Braun said.

Santa Monica provides an estimated $16.2 million in services to seniors aged 65 and over, excluding police department costs, according to a city staff report released last year.

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Downtown Santa Monica and BritWeek Invite You to Celebrate All Things Spring at the First Annual *Spring Jubilee* May 4 and 5

By Wendy O'Dea

SANTA MONICA—Poet Percy Shelley once wrote: "*…spring arose on the garden fair, like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere…*" That spirit of spring will be present in full force the first weekend of May when Downtown Santa Monica and Santa Monica Place, in partnership with BritWeek, present the first ever *Santa Monica Spring Jubilee*, an event created to celebrate Santa Monica in all its springtime glory.



An eclectic collection of entertainment, speakers and vendors will be featured along three blocks of the Promenade and at Santa Monica Place on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5.

Among those scheduled are a local comedy troupe, local artists, children's activities, entertainment and a number of environmentally focused speakers and vendors. In the spirit of traditional spring flower shows, the Spring Jubilee will also feature a competition for local landscape architects with garden vignettes showcasing the latest in sustainable and eco-friendly garden design.

Participating landscape architects are adapting the concept of an "Urban Tea Garden" to fit the sustainable, organic focus that permeates throughout Santa Monica. A team of celebrities and landscaping experts will judge the vignettes and select a first-prize winner who will receive a $500 grand prize awarded on Saturday, May 4.

"This is an opportunity for us to offer a new event for the community," said Debbie Lee, vice president of Downtown Santa Monica. "While Santa Monica is lovely year round, I think our city really shines in the spring. We want to celebrate that and hope this will be an annual tradition that everyone will love."

BritWeek

Partnering with BritWeek seemed natural, according to Lee. "Santa Monica is home to a number of British businesses and has been a magnet for British ex pats for decades, so we're excited to highlight that connection," she said.

Now in its seventh year, BritWeek was founded in order to showcase the many ways in which the links between Brits and Californians contribute to the way we live, work and play, explained Sharon Harroun Peirce, one of the founders of BritWeek and a member of its Board of Directors. She added: "Being part of the *Santa Monica Spring Jubilee* is perfect for BritWeek. The Brits are famous for their gardens, landscaping and all kinds of spring events. And we all love Santa Monica."

There are a number of British-focused events and activities scheduled throughout the weekend, including a doggy red carpet from Walker's Shortbread, mini makeovers by beauty brand Boots, car displays by Jaguar, and of course the Jamie Oliver Food Foundation.

BritWeek will mark the start of the *Spring Jubilee* weekend with a 1920s themed "Downton Abbey" party at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel on the evening of Friday, May 3rd, complete with cast members from the hit series and other celebrities. Attendees are invited to dress in period style, and enjoy pre-Prohibition cocktails and a 1920s jazz band. Tickets are $75 and may be obtained from www.britweek.org. Proceeds will go to Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

Here's more of what can be expected at the first annual *Santa Monica Spring Jubilee*:

Arts and Entertainment

The *Spring Jubilee* will feature performances by a number of different artists as well as a number of children's activities, hands-on demonstrations, street dance exhibitions, concerts, retail promotions, and food and drink—most with a distinctly British flair.

Among activities planned include:

- Concerts, including a Saturday night tribute to English invasion bands of the '60s
- A street dance show and lessons by Twitch and his BattleCatz from "So You Think You Can Dance"
- Comedy shows by local comedy troupe M.I. Westside Comedy Theater
- Live art demonstrations by local artists
- A children's "Panto" (English pantomime) with Kristopher Lythgoe
- Speakers who will talk about environmentally-focused topics such as the healing power of plants and the role of bees in ecology



A main stage at the Center Court of Santa Monica Place will feature musical and comedy entertainment, while children's activities and other demonstrations will take place at Center Court on the Promenade, between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Avenue.

Spring Jubilee Instagram Photo Contest

Downtown Santa Monica is also sponsoring a photo contest and awarding a prize valued at $200, provided by Ye Olde Kings Head Pub and Whole Foods. The winner will be the person who uses Instagram to best capture what spring in Downtown Santa Monica means to them.

To be considered, follow Downtown Santa Monica (@DTSantaMonica) on Instagram and include the hashtag #SMSpringJubilee when you upload your photo. Photos can be uploaded until May 6, 2013, and details can be found at downtownsm.com.

More information: Details and a final schedule of events can be found at **downtownsm.com/Spring-Jubilee**.

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North Korea taps reformist premier amid nuclear tension

FOSTER KLUG &
HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea North Korea's parliament approved the appointment of a new premier seen by outside experts as an economic reformer one day after top party officials adopted a declaration making nuclear arms and a stronger economy the nation's top priorities.

The U.S., meanwhile, made its latest conspicuous display of firepower, announcing it had sent F-22 stealth fighter jets to participate in annual U.S.-South Korean war games that Pyongyang calls preparation for an invasion. The new South Korean president, who has a policy meant to re-engage Pyongyang with talks and aid, told her top military leaders Monday to set aside political considerations and respond strongly should North Korea attack.

The re-emergence of Pak Pong Ju as premier at an annual spring parliamentary session is seen by analysts as a clear signal that leader Kim Jong Un is moving to back up recent vows to focus on strengthened economic development. The U.N. says two-thirds of the country's 24 million people face regular food shortages.

Pak was the North's premier in 2003-2007, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry. He was sacked initially because of a proposal for an incentive-based hourly, rather than monthly, wage system deemed too similar to U.S.-style capitalism, Japan's Mainichi Shimbun newspaper reported in 2007. Pak replaces Choe Yong Rim, who is 82.

"Pak Pong Ju is the face of economic reform, such as it exists — reform with North Korean characteristics as they say," said John Delury, a professor and North Korea analyst at Seoul's Yonsei University.

Any economic changes won't be radical, Delury said, and, for the time being, they're mostly aspirational. One possible change could entail a shift of part of the country's massive military spending into the economy as a whole, he said.

Pak is widely known for spearheading reforms in 2002, when the government began allowing some markets, although it later backtracked, said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea analyst at Seoul's Dongguk University. His appointment could be a message to the outside world that North Korea wants to calm tension and focus more on economic revitalization, Koh said.

Pyongyang has reacted with anger to the U.S.-South Korean military drills and to a new round of U.N. and U.S. sanctions that followed its Feb. 12 underground nuclear test, the country's third. Analysts see a full-scale North Korean attack as unlikely and say the threats are more likely efforts to provoke softer policies toward Pyongyang from a new government in Seoul, to win diplomatic talks with Washington and to solidify the young North Korean leader's military credentials at home.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Monday the U.S. has not detected any military mobilization or repositioning of forces from Pyongyang to back up the threats.

Despite the rising hostility, recent rhetoric has focused on efforts to turn around a moribund economy and nuclear development.

"There was a danger that this was getting to the point ... of a permanent war footing," Delury said. "In the midst of this tension and militant rhetoric and posturing, Kim Jong Un is saying, 'Look, we're still focused on the economy, but we're doing it with our nuclear deterrent intact.'"

On Sunday, Kim and top party officials adopted a declaration calling nuclear weapons "the nation's life" and an important component of its defense, an asset that wouldn't be traded even for "billions of dollars." Pyongyang cites the U.S. military presence in South Korea as a main reason behind its drive to build missiles and atomic weapons. The U.S. has stationed tens of thousands of troops in South Korea since the Korean War ended with a truce, not a peace treaty, in 1953.

Pentagon press secretary George Little said the U.S. sent two F-22s to participate in the annual U.S.-South Korean military drills. Little said this is the fourth time F-22s have been deployed to South Korea. He said their participation in the exercises is meant to show U.S. commitment to the defense of South Korea and to the region.

On Thursday, U.S. officials said two B-2 stealth bombers flew from the United States and dropped dummy munitions on an uninhabited South Korean island as part of the drills. Hours later, Kim ordered his generals to put rockets on standby and threatened to strike American targets if provoked.

While analysts call North Korea's threats largely brinkmanship, there is some fear that a localized skirmish might escalate. Seoul has vowed to respond harshly should North Korea provoke its military. Naval skirmishes in disputed Yellow Sea waters off the Korean coast have led to bloody battles several times over the years. Attacks blamed on Pyongyang in 2010 killed 50 South Koreans.

Under late leader Kim Jong Il, North Korea typically held a parliamentary meeting once a year. But Kim Jong Un held an unusual second session last September in a sign that he is trying to run the country differently from his father, who died in late 2011.

Parliament sessions, which usually are held to approve personnel changes and budget and fiscal plans, are scrutinized by the outside world for signs of key changes in policy and leadership.

At a session last April, Kim was made first chairman of the powerful National Defense Commission, the body's top post.

At Monday's session, Kim Kyok Sik, North Korea's defense minister who is believed to have been responsible for deadly attacks on South Korea in 2010, was appointed to the National Defense Commission. North Korea also named Choe Pu Il, a general in the Korean People's Army, to the commission.

On Sunday, Kim Jong Un presided over a separate plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the ruling Workers' Party, a top decision-making body tasked with organizing and guiding the party's major projects. The meeting set a "new strategic line" calling for building both a stronger economy and nuclear arsenal.

North Korea's "nuclear armed forces represent the nation's life, which can never be abandoned as long as the imperialists and nuclear threats exist on Earth," according to a statement issued by state media after the meeting.

Sunday marked the first time for Kim to preside over the committee meeting. The last plenary session was held in 2010, according to Seoul's Unification Ministry, and before that in 1993.

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SURF REPORT



Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.5°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small SSW swell; clean in the AM, but lacking size

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minor SSW swell; minor NW swell; clean in the AM but no real size

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 27, 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 -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 35 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Groubeck 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+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	D
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
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.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	D	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay'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.

MLB

Kershaw's HR and shutout lead Dodgers over Giants

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax threw out the ceremonial first pitch. Then another Dodgers left-hander with a great curveball dominated.

Clayton Kershaw launched his first career home run to break a scoreless tie in the eighth inning before finishing off a four-hitter Monday that led Los Angeles over the defending champion San Francisco Giants 4-0 on opening day.

"He gave us seven chances to take care of it, and finally he said, 'That's enough. I'm going to take care of it,'" catcher A.J. Ellis said.

Kershaw became the first pitcher to throw a shutout and hit a home run in an opener since Bob Lemon for Cleveland in 1953, according to STATS.

"What an awesome feeling," said Kershaw, who charged around the bases accompanied by a prolonged roar from the sellout crowd of 53,000. "I probably wasn't feeling my feet hitting the ground."

Kershaw struck out seven, walked none and retired World Series MVP Pablo Sandoval on a grounder to end it. His curveball was particularly effective in his sixth career shutout — three against the Giants.

"I was able to throw it for strikes, which is key," he said. "That made it easier for them to chase. They were swinging early in counts."

The former Cy Young winner began the day as a career .146 batter with only one extra-base hit in 261 at-bats. He struck out in his first two at-bats. But he sent the first pitch from George Kontos (0-1) over the center-field wall, triggering a standing ovation on a cool and sunny day.

After high-fiving his teammates, Kershaw tipped his cap from the dugout, a bit uncertain on the protocol since he'd never done it before.

Did you know...

that the oldest legal Medical Marijuana collective in the city of Los Angeles has product grown by trusted Patients/Growers of the collective, guaranteeing quality and purity?

CAC

California Alternative Caregivers - 122 S. Lincoln Blvd. #204, Venice





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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information

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

Croods (PG) 1hr 38min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Tyler Perry's Temptation (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Admission (PG-13) 1hr 57min
11:30am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Call (R) 1hr 35min
12:15pm, 3:00pm, 5:40pm, 8:15pm, 10:35pm

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

Oz The Great and Powerful (PG) 2hrs 07min
11:55am, 1:20pm, 8:00pm

Host (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
11:40am, 1:05pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:15pm

G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) 1hr 39min
2:45pm, 8:15pm

G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:05am, 4:40pm, 10:30pm

Spring Breakers (R) 1hr 34min
11:00am, 3:00pm, 5:45pm, 8:30pm, 10:50pm

G.I. Joe: Retaliation 3D (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:45pm, 7:30pm

Oz The Great and Powerful in 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
4:50pm, 10:50pm

Croods 3D (PG) 1hr 38min
11:10am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13) 1hr 40min
5:30pm, 10:45pm

Olympus Has Fallen (NR) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

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

Happy Poet (NR) 1hr 25min
7:00pm

On the Road (R) 2hrs 20min
1:10pm, 9:15pm

No (R) 1hr 55min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 9:50pm

Gatekeepers (Shomerei Ha'saf) (PG-13) 1hr 35min
4:30pm

Ginger & Rosa (PG-13) 1hr 29min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Ballet's Greatest Hits - Youth America Grand Prix Gala (NR) 1hr 30min
7:30pm

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

DINNER FOR TWO TONIGHT, GEM

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You expect a lot from yourself -- and that's good, because others do, too. A boss still could be unusually controlling, and he or she might be heading in a new direction. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Detach in order to get the full story. The less said and the more you observe, the more you will learn. You also might want to take a walk in other people's shoes if you still do not understand their reactions. Tonight: Let your imagination roam.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ An associate demands your attention and insights. You might be shocked at the questions this person asks. Your impression of him or her might change as a result of more frequent conversations like this. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Defer to others, as they will be demanding the attention, and you'll want to let them have it. Use the extra free time to do something you have been postponing. A boss or a parent could surprise you with his or her actions. Tonight: Go with a friend's suggestion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You could be surprised by an unexpected communication. Know that your initial reaction could be off. Take time to regroup. Your perception about a change in your daily life can't even begin to touch what will happen. Tonight: Make it early.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your creativity gets pushed to the forefront after you hear some unexpected news. You could wonder what might be best to do under the circumstances. Your final idea will be the best and most rewarding option. Tonight: Paint the town red.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Tension builds in an unprecedented manner because of a domestic situation. You could be questioning which way to go with this matter. Do nothing until you are absolutely sure. Listen to your inner voice. Tonight: Greet the moment positively.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Listen to news that is forthcoming, but realize that you have a tendency to make situations more serious than they need to be. You could discover how wrong you are in a discussion. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Your finances will become a major conversation, and you might not be sure what your choices are. Give yourself some time to think through a decision. Tonight: Balance your checkbook first, then decide.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You beam, and others seem to respond. The problem at this point is that you are unpredictable. Your desires could change from one day to the next. Others might find it difficult to be the recipients of your varying whims and moods. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might not be revealing the whole story, as you understand a lot more than others give you credit for. You might act in a most unexpected manner. Be more lively and upbeat. Don't allow someone to pressure you. Tonight: Not to be found.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Listen to what is being shared. Your perspective might be much different than you realize. Recognize that others do not perceive a situation in the same way you do. Lighten up when dealing with a friend. A meeting reveals new ideas. Tonight: Where the action is.

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

This year you become a formidable opponent, and you'll be determined to make your mark. You might not like criticism you get, but you wisely will use it for your betterment. You often surprise others with your decisions and actions. If you are single, many people will come toward you. You might prefer to date rather than commit, and that is your call to make. If you are attached, your sweetie might have difficulty adjusting to the new you. Don't worry -- this person will get into the moment with you soon enough. CAPRICORN can be unusually stern.

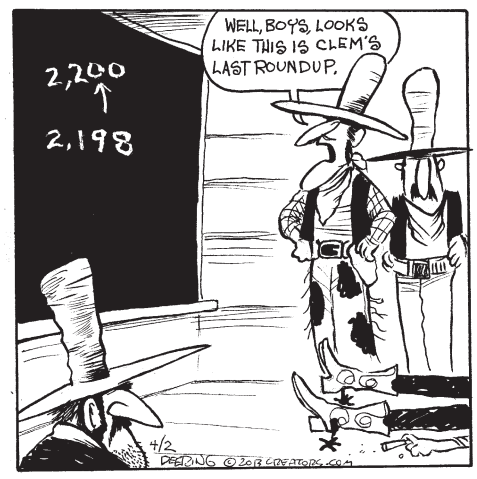
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

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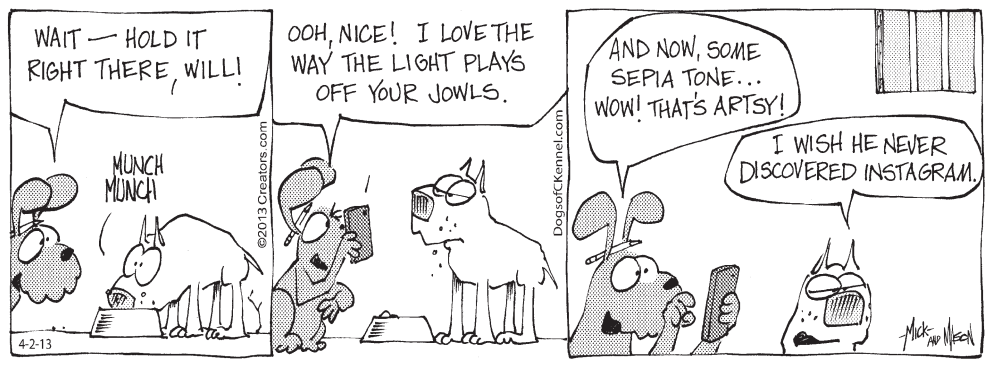
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



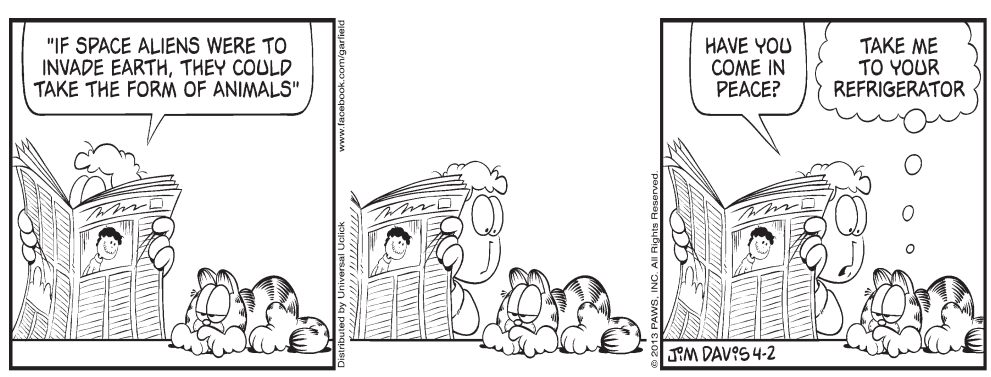
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Singer McLachlan
6 Edinburgh natives
11 Banded rock
12 Bar mixer
13 Do dictation
15 Cain's mother
16 Bigwig, for short
17 Tycoon Onassis
18 Fouls up, as plans
20 Hold up
21 Parrot or puppy
22 Ocean motion
23 Fencing sword
26 Traverse
27 Pivotal point
28 Scary shout
29 Flock father
30 Vine growth
34 Smartphone download
35 Series-ending abbr.
36 Spanish gold
37 Trip
40 Put on ice
41 Dress type
42 Horn sounds
43 Sheet material

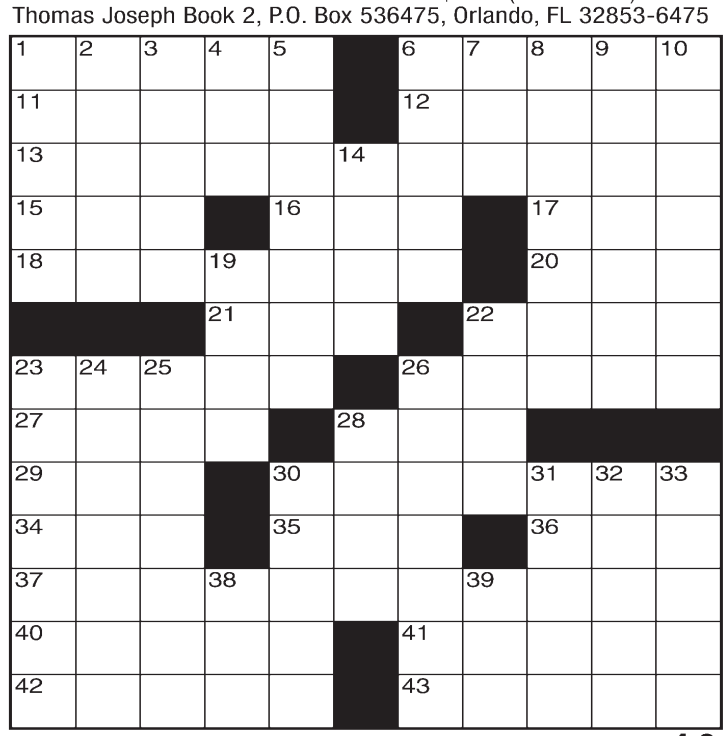
DOWN

1 Quite full
2 Spiny plant
3 Yard worker
4 Had lunch
5 Harder to lift, perhaps
6 Dance moves
7 Guest's bed
8 Toronto's province
9 Steering system parts
10 Old copiers
14 Bouncy tune
19 High point
22 Stepped on
23 Satisfy an itch
24 Plains people
25 Yokel
26 Hide
28 "Little Women" sister
30 Diving ducks
31 "The Thinker" sculptor
32 Singer Cara
33 Sophia of "Two Women"
38 Caribou's cousin
39 Boxing great

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

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



4-2



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The Iconic Phantom Black/Hispanic Perpetrator: In February, victims of crimes in San Antonio, Texas, and Terrebonne Parish, La., complained to police that they had been assaulted by, respectively, a "Hispanic male" and an "unknown black man" -- whom the victims admitted later did not exist. San Antonio police learned that their victim had been accidentally, embarrassingly, shot by a friend mishandling his gun. Louisiana authorities found that their victim had not been abducted and raped (and had her baby stolen). Rather, she had wanted to hide her miscarriage from family and friends and invented a phantom attack as more acceptable.

■ Chinese New Year, especially, turns out not so festive if busy young professional women are unable to show off a boyfriend to their parents. Thus, men offer themselves as fake boyfriends for the equivalent of about $50 a day, plus extras including about $5 an hour to accompany the woman to dinner, $8 for a kiss on the cheek, and $95 to spent the night -- on the couch, of course, since "sex" is not part of the concept. Recently, a reality TV series appeared for men needing women for home visits -- often they are gay men who have not "come out" to their parents.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1986 - Alabama governor George Wallace, a former segregationist most widely known for the Stand in the Schoolhouse Door, announces that he will not seek a fifth four-year term and will retire from public life upon the end of his term in January 1987.

1989 - Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev arrives in Havana, Cuba to meet with Fidel Castro in an attempt to mend strained relations.

WORD UP!

ha-ha
\ HAH-hah \ , noun;
1.
sunk fence.

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From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Early April 2013

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