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HILTON & HYLAND

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR SEE PAGE 5

Common Core math divides district, parents

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Stephanie Furlong’s oldest son, a 10th-grader at Santa Monica High School, took an accelerated math track in middle school. Her next child, an eighth-grader at John Adams Middle School, has taken the honors pathway. But as her fifth-grade daughter prepares for middle school, Furlong is worried about the options that will be available for the rest of her secondary education.

The Santa Monica-Malibu school district has eliminated sixth-grade honors math classes, and Furlong and other parents believe students are being forced to choose long-term academic pathways that are either far too challenging, not rigorous enough or too dependent on summer studies. “I don’t think the parents are being snobs,” Furlong said. “They’re not asking for anything other than the school district to do what’s in the best interest of students.”

The changes in math education come as the district alters curricula to meet Common Core standards. Similar adjustments have been taking place throughout the state and country.

Spearheaded by Carrie Davies, Nikki Kolhoff and Eden Kusmiersky, a group of parents is lobbying the district for tweaks within the Common Core system that they say have been successfully implemented in other districts in California.

The local school district’s new standard pathway includes three years of middle school math in preparation for a year each of Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II and pre-calculus in high school. (University of California and California State University campuses require the first three years

SEE MATH PAGE 8

Postal worker retires after 30 years of service

BY MATTHEW HALL
Editor-in-Chief

CITYWIDE Birthdays are almost always good days, but for Cheryl Brewer, March 27 included a very special present — the rest of her non-working life.

For the past 30 years, Brewer has delivered mail in the City of Santa Monica and she said regardless of rain, dogs, traffic, population growth or excessive campaign literature she loved the job. Not only did the work pay her bills, it helped her start a family.

Cheryl met her husband, Elbert,

on the job. For him, it was love at first sight, a feat even more remarkable given she wasn’t actually in the room at the time.

“I was in a safety video about picking up packages and when he saw that he said, ‘I’m going to make her my wife,’” she said.

He eventually found an excuse to talk to her in person — he brought her the satchel she used to carry letters. The two talked, hit it off and eventually had kids, Ezra and Nicole.

“It was a very good place for me

SEE RETIRE PAGE 9



CHERYL BREWER

A tale of two Kevin McKeowns

Mayor, band director ‘have great fun’ with confusion

Editor’s note: This is the second part of a three-part series about Santa Monica’s two Kevin McKeowns.

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Kevin McKeown still remembers the campaign posters bearing his name, a somewhat odd sight considering he wasn’t running for office.

He soon learned it wasn’t some sort of practical joke, but rather a quirk of fate: another Kevin McKeown.

An email exchange followed. A crossing of paths eventually ensued. And the tale of two Kevin McKeowns was born, an amusing coincidence that has played out in Santa Monica in humorous and often confusing fashion.

One of the men is probably more familiar to area residents - he’s currently the mayor of this fascinating city by the sea. The other acceptingly lurks in the politician’s shadow, although he’s well-known in certain circles - he’s a band director at Santa Monica High School.

“This town is big enough for both of us,” the mayor says.

The mayor, who has served on City Council since 1998, says he first became aware of the other Kevin McKeown when the latter was a student at Santa Monica High School.

“I began getting flirty phone messages on my answering machine from teenage girls who

SEE KEVINS PAGE 8



SMC SOFTBALL

The Santa Monica College women’s softball team hosted Los Angeles Valley College on Thursday April 2 in a conference game and won 11-10. With the win SMC’s record improves to 1-12 in conference play and 3-25 overall. Pictured are Christine Padilla and Vana Petergacova.

Morgan Genser editor@smdp.com



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Calendar

2

WEEKEND EDITION, APRIL 4-5, 2015

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, April 4

Family folk concert

Join organizers for a special afternoon of live music. Ages 2 & up. Presented by the Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 3 p.m.

Peter Rabbit Day

Santa Monica Jaycees' 23rd annual free and fun event with egg hunts, games, visit from local law enforcement and our Easter Bunny. For more information visit www.facebook.com/SantaMonicaJaycees. Douglas Park, 2439 Wilshire Blvd., 9 a.m.

Spikeball Grand Slam

Come enjoy spring on the Santa Monica Beach with a Spikeball tournament. See the best teams of the West battle it out on the beach to advance in the tournament series. Have an opportunity to watch a competitive sport with your friends and family in arguably one of the best beaches on the West Coast. Santa Monica Beach (North), 10 a.m., for more information call (530) 680-6072.

Sananda Art Gallery Opening at Full Circle Venice

The show "DAWN" will celebrate the grand opening of the new contemporary art gallery Sananda Gallery in Venice. The event will showcase two floors of top local artists, 305 Rose Ave., 6 - 11 p.m.

Community Seder dinner

This is a free event open to people of all faith traditions. Rabbi Dov Gottesfeld is an educator and a lecturer. He merges theology, science, philosophy and literature to clarify the required practical attributes for living joyfully, communicating clearly, and functioning efficiently in today's challenging world. It is not required that you bring food, but it is helpful. If you

would like to bring food, please contact Fred Whitlock at Fredheart2002@yahoo.com. The Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill St., 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 5

LACMA: The Japanese Tea Ceremony

Japanese tea ceremony, a 400-year-old tradition, celebrates the simple act of preparing and receiving a bowl of special tea-ceremony tea. Each tea ceremony demonstration is followed by a tasting of the tea and sweets used in the traditional Japanese tea ceremony. LACMA, Pavilion for Japanese Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., free and open to the public; reservations required, tickets: (323) 857-6010. Tickets are limited; reservations must be made in advance.

Stray Cat Alliance adoption days

Stray Cat Alliance educates and empowers the community to advocate for every cat's right to be safe, healthy and valued. It is building a no-kill nation one stray at a time. Centinela Feed and Pet Supplies, 11055 West Pico Blvd., 12 - 3:30 p.m. (310) 285-8303.

Enchanted fairytale interactive theater

Interactive story-telling, sing-a-longs, crafts, face-painting, enactment of an Easter Bunny fairytale, theatre games, refreshments and special surprise gifts make this Santa Monica Playhouse special Easter event for kids ages 4 to 10 and their adult companions. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., \$15 for kids 4-10; adults \$5 each, (310) 394-9779 ext. 1.

Easter service, brunch and egg hunt

Easter services open to all, to be followed by a brunch. Bring a dish to

SEE LISTINGS PAGE 3

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Monica urges water customers to reduce use while statewide restrictions are established

City officials are asking residents to cut back on water use while staff determine the impact of recent mandates approved by the Governor.

In January 2015, the Santa Monica City Council adopted an updated Water Shortage Response Plan and re-declared a stage two water supply shortage, requiring mandatory conservation. Staff said Council's direction to mandate reductions comes at a crucial time, as the Executive Order issued this week by Governor Brown requires a statewide water reduction of 25 percent.

To achieve the statewide reduction as ordered by the Governor, the State Water Resources Control Board will soon be determining what specific water conservation measures urban water agencies like the City of Santa Monica must undertake to achieve 25 percent reduction in water use. Due to advanced planning the City was poised to rollout water allowances later this month but staff said it is unknown whether these recently adopted water

allowances, will need to be altered by the future state restrictions. The City said Santa Monica will fully cooperate in the State's water conservation efforts and if necessary, the City will implement additional water conservation measures and adjust water allocations once state restrictions are established.

While the timeline for implementing water usage allocations may change, the statewide water restrictions emphasize the need to save water now. The City of Santa Monica will continue to support businesses and residents by offering a number of services and incentives to help. The most popular water saving rebate, the Sustainable Landscape Rebate, reimburses \$3.50 for each square-foot of lawn removed and replaced with climate-appropriate plants and City specified drip irrigation. Customers may also take advantage of a new service that offers a two-hour landscape design consultation with a professional landscape designer for a small fee starting April 15, 2015.

Free Water Use Consultations are available for residents and businesses that want help figuring out how to save water. During the consultation, one of the City's water conservation experts will check for leaks and provide specific recommendations and resources.

"This package of incentives the city is providing supports the Governor's manda-

tory conservation goals and helps us weather the statewide drought while bringing us closer to Santa Monica's water independence by 2020," said Dean Kubani, Manager of the Office of Sustainability and the Environment.

Santa Monica has already taken several steps to reduce municipal water use and will be implementing additional water savings measures over the next few months.

For more information about these programs, practical water-saving measures and rebates, visit www.smgov.net/water or call (310) 458-8972.

— SUBMITTED BY CARRIE LUJAN

SMC

SMC Spring Concerts

The Santa Monica College Music Department will present four spring concerts in April in The Broad Stage or The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center (Santa Monica Boulevard at 11th Street, Santa Monica). The concerts include a fundraiser to support the SMC Applied Music Program.

The April music events are:

Friday, Apr. 10 at 7 & 9 p.m. in The Edye: Spring Jazz Concerts: Louis Van Taylor Sextet. Talented ensemble featuring George Bohanon and Munyungo Jackson pays tribute to the music of Cedar Walton, Horace Silver, and Gerald Wilson. (Tickets are \$10.)

Sunday, Apr. 12 at 4 p.m. in The Broad

Stage: SMC Jazz Band, with conductor Keith Fiddmont. Ensemble performs a concert featuring jazz band arrangements from the masters and contemporary works from aspiring composers and arrangers, with renowned guest artist Bob Sheppard joining the band to explore the music of Duke Ellington, Oliver Nelson, and others. (Tickets are \$10.)

Friday, Apr. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in The Broad Stage: Benefit Concert for SMC Applied Music Program, co-directed by Brian Driscoll and Janelle DeStefano. Fantastic concert performed by some of SMC's most gifted music students presents a wonderful opportunity to provide your support for the Applied Music Program, one of the distinctive programs of SMC's Music Department dedicated to fostering the development of outstanding instrumentalists, vocalists, and composers. (Tickets are \$10.)

Sunday, Apr. 26 at 5 p.m. in The Broad Stage: SMC Wind Ensemble, under the baton of Kevin McKeown. Exciting performance mixes both new and traditional music written specifically for wind instruments. All ages are welcome! (Tickets are \$10.)

For tickets and information, go to www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or call (310) 434-3005 or (310) 434-4323.

— SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

share if you wish.

Bring a friend and join us for food, community and inspiration. All followed by an Easter egg hunt. The Church in Ocean Park, 235 Hill St.

Monday, April 6

Architectural Review Board meeting

The ARB generally meets on the first and third Mondays of each month unless there is a holiday. Meetings are held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Visit www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board for more information. City Hall, 1685 Main St., 7 p.m.

Family movie night: 'The Boxtrolls'

A young orphaned boy raised by underground cave-dwelling trash collectors tries to save his friends from an evil exterminator. Based on the children's novel "Here Be Monsters" by Alan Snow. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 - 7:45 p.m.

Adult beach volleyball

Co-ed classes Ages 16+; all levels. \$25/class or \$48/session incl. parking (4 classes). Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 6 p.m.

Yoga at the Beach House

All levels. Drop in for \$15/class or sign up for series (5 week/\$62, w/parking). Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 a.m.

Pajama story time

Grab your favorite stuffed animal and wear your pajamas for this evening story time for the whole family at the Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St. 6:30 p.m.

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Smart Thinking

By SM a.r.t.

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Too long in length and too short in safeguards for a better City

AS A COMMUNITY, WE HAVE spent more than six years establishing goals and objectives in defining the LUCE, a new general plan for our city. Then we set out to address the zoning code that codifies and implements the vision in the LUCE, but after five more years, the process failed to produce a document that achieves its stated goal.

Although it was a perfect time to write a new, simplified code, the city's planning staff instead spent the first three years dealing with the flood of Development Agreements that took advantage of LUCE loopholes. Most of these were slipped into the final document by attorneys in the final days before it was adopted and have since provided developers with a windfall of exceptions that residents have been contesting ever since.

So the five years set aside to create a new code became two. The unfortunate result was that the planning department, instead of starting fresh and writing a new simplified code, put expediency before brevity and added still more modifications and interpretations to the existing code.

After 27 years of similar surgeries and procedures, our code has grown from a 275-page tome in 1988 to now more than 500 pages! In contrast, Santa Barbara, a community similar in size to Santa Monica, employs a simple, creative 245-page code, with a three-story height limit for both commercial and residential areas. Los Angeles, a much larger city, is re-writing their code from an 800-page document to one that will be fewer than 500 pages.

Mark Twain, among others, wrote "if I had more time, I would have written a shorter letter." We did have the time, so where, why and how have we strayed so far a field? With every other paragraph stretched and altered, wading through 500-plus pages is a daunting task even for architects. Often, definitions found in one chapter are modified or open to interpretation in later chapters. Internal inconsistencies and regulation render the Code difficult to read and open to contradictory interpretations. For an architect, and any other trained professional, it represents a

complex puzzle, an unsolvable Rubik's cube.

After two years and 33 Planning Commission hearings, we see the net effect of this surgical approach is that we're about to adopt a code that promises more height, more density, more traffic and more parking in Santa Monica. This could result in more canyonization of our boulevards, less sunlight, less open space, less blue sky, less local business, less parking, and a much lower quality of life.

Santa Monica, with a daily population in the generally accepted range of 250,000 workers, tourists and residents, is already the most dense beach community in California at approximately 30,000/sq. mi., and with a residential population of 92,000, a nighttime density of 11,000/sq. mi. What is the "problem" that suggests an increase in density as a solution? Culver City, by contrast, has a density of 7,500/sq. mi., Santa Barbara 2,100/sq. mi. What is it that City staff thinks is missing that requires increasing our density even more? Perhaps we don't have enough traffic yet, or enough demand placed

on water and other infrastructure. When asked of staff, or council, or housing authorities, "what are the limits?" there is no answer.

The LUCE, at 3.25 and 2.75 FAR (Floor Area Ratio), allows "Activity Centers" on Wilshire, at Ocean Park and Lincoln, and other sites, with traffic, parking and massive structures that are 1.5 and 2.5 times the size of Santa Monica Place! The overriding goal of the general plan was to protect existing neighborhoods, not destroy them. If that is true, why does it allow overly tall buildings to extend into adjacent residential blocks, with cars that exit on residential streets? Why are six-story buildings even necessary when three-story development can provide more growth than we believe will ever be needed over the remaining 15 year lifetime of the LUCE? Why is our Planning Commission listening to developers and their attorneys and architects and not to the residents that are opposed to these plans? The result of this neglect is a code that falls far

SEE SMART PAGE 5

Your column here

Craig Hamilton Ana Jara Leslie Lambert Joanne Bonner Leavitt Kristina Lizama Cynthia Rose

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica is for Everyone

SANTA MONICA ALWAYS HAS BEEN in the forefront of protecting and producing affordable homes. When Santa Monica passed its landmark rent control law on April 10, 1979, we took a bold step to preserve affordable housing for seniors, families and others. In 1990, when we passed Measure R, we codified our commitment by mandating that 30 percent of all new housing be affordable.

Santa Monicans embraced these laws because they understand that affordable housing is the key to preserving the diversity and character that makes Santa Monica so special. We know that having affordable places to live allows seniors to age in place with dignity, makes it possible for working families to live near their jobs and allows the children of our city to return to the community in which they grew up.

In Santa Monica, we don't just give lip service to affordable housing; we build it. Why? Because housing is a basic right and the well documented housing supply crisis we face in our city, our region and our state threatens the ability of current residents to stay in their homes and our overall neighborhood stability.

Our failure to build new homes affects real people: The twenty-something who can't move back to her childhood neighborhood after college because no new homes have been built there for a decade. The working mom who loses hours that she could be spending with her children to her commute because her salary won't cover the rent for an apartment near her job in Santa Monica. The elderly widower who wants to move from his larger — and now mostly empty — home to a smaller apartment near his children and grandchildren. The young couple who needs a home with a third bedroom so their children have quiet space for homework. The single dad working as a dishwasher in a Downtown Santa Monica restaurant who wants his kids to have a better shot in life than he did.

We have a real challenge ahead of us. Recently, the California Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) — a nonpartisan group charged with analyzing the state's annual budget and major policy issues — documented the extent of the housing supply crisis and pointed out that, in Los Angeles County alone, we have fallen about one million homes

behind what we need.

"Rising home prices and rents are a signal that more households would like to live in an area than there is housing to accommodate them. Housing developers typically respond to this excess demand by building additional housing. This does not appear to be true, however, in California's coastal metros," the report notes.

In Santa Monica, since 1960, we have seen our population increase by less than 10,000 people. We, like other coastal communities, are growing very slowly. Because of that, rents and home prices along California's coast are unattainable for many of the people who would like to live here. "The greatest need for additional housing is in California's coastal urban areas," the LAO report says. While the report asks the state legislature to take steps to assure new homes get built in these areas, we can start doing our part to solve the problem.

Santa Monica's Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), adopted unanimously in 2010 as the guiding vision for our community's future, anticipates that we will add 4,955 new homes by 2030.

It is a modest goal, but it's part of a cooperative effort with other cities in the region to alleviate our dire shortage of homes. If we resist even this modest amount of growth, we only will exacerbate the problem and lose even more ground on affordability.

We need to provide homes of varying sizes that are affordable to a wide range of people, including very low-income households. But we also need to make sure that middle class people and families have places to live.

Preservation of existing neighborhoods and our rent-controlled homes depends on providing opportunities for creating new neighborhoods where there are currently no apartments or houses to displace.

Santa Monica is an incredible city. People want to live here and will pay a premium to do so. But those people who can afford that premium will always be able to out bid lower-income people for the same, small supply of housing.

If we don't build along the boulevards and in formerly commercial zones, that problem will never get any better because wealthier renters

SEE FORWARD PAGE 5

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Questioning Forward

Editor:

After reading the article I went online to look at the groups website. I wanted to see who formed this group and in doing so have an idea who's interests they represent. It turns out that the group's membership is heavily dominated by those who have strongly advocated for intense development. By those who have run for City Council receiving heavy doses of developer money. By those in City Council, (O'Day and O'Connor) each never shy about voting for any large development at the expense of Santa Monica residents. In fact O'Connor has never voted against a large development. This group plans to move Santa Monica forward? How ... by jamming city government into reverse so we can again relive the good old days that have brought us to the point of gridlock? If the recent election is any indication this "new" group does not represent the interests of most residents of our city. Beware the wolf in sheep's clothing.

Paul H. Pitkoff
Santa Monica

SMART

FROM PAGE 4

short of its intended purpose — to protect our neighborhoods.

Mayor McKeown suggests that in the remaining two days of deliberation which the Council has set aside to correct the 500-plus pages, "there is the opportunity to weigh effects on neighborhoods and evaluate the cumulative impacts of change." He goes on to say, "You may be surprised at how well this turns out." That's a big challenge for the Council, to do in two days what could not be accomplished in five years. The risks are too great, since this is a code that will affect Santa Monica for generations to come. With all due respect, Mayor McKeown, your optimism is laudatory but we can ill afford such wishful thinking. The potential negative consequences to our City's residents are too great.

With more than two years and 33 Planning Commission hearings and with five years of listening to special interests while ignoring resident input, the process appears to have fallen far short of its intended purpose. The LUCE was supposed to protect the city. We

were also told that the new zoning code would do the same. Significant changes still need to be made to this overly complex document that does not really protect residents and neighborhoods from commercial intrusion.

Can the council legally extend the deliberations, tackle the problems and not enforce an artificial one day deliberation deadline with this zoning ordinance? The council needs to meet the needs of its residents, now and in the future. Let's not further diminish the quality of life in Santa Monica and let's not waste this opportunity to regain the trust and confidence of residents in our city government.

Ron Goldman FAIA for SMar.t.

Thane Roberts AIA, Architect, Robert H. Taylor AIA, Ron Goldman FAIA, Mario Fonda Bonardi AIA, Daniel Jansenson Architect, Samuel Tolkin AIA, Armen Melkonians Civil & Environmental Engineer, Phil Brock Chair, Parks & Recreation Commission.

For previous articles, see www.santamonicaarch.wordpress.com/writings.

FORWARD

FROM PAGE 4

will have no other options but to vie for a spot in older, rent-controlled apartments.

Speculators will begin to purchase property in existing neighborhoods, use the Ellis Act to remove existing housing, and build anew. Unfortunately, state law makes the City powerless to stop this. All the City can do is try and refocus demand to live in Santa Monica away from existing neighborhoods.

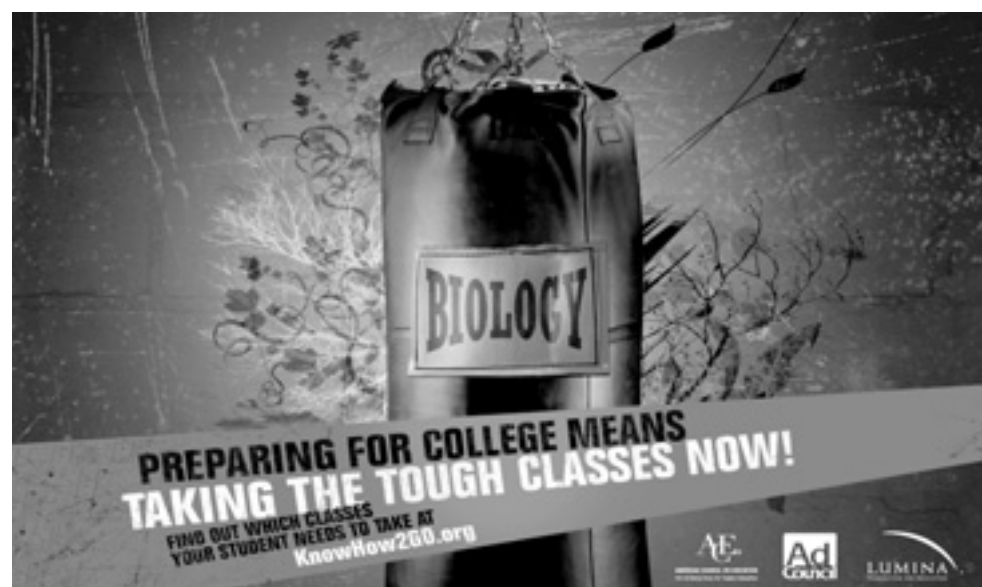
While Santa Monica cannot, nor should it, solve the state's housing crisis alone, we must actively be a part of the solution instead of contributing to the problem. We won't stop people from moving to our region nor will we stop children from being

born here. However, we can decide whether those people will have homes.

Will our decisions today make the Santa Monica of tomorrow a place where all our children — not just the wealthiest — have an opportunity to live a high quality of life?

Santa Monica has always had good conversations about these issues. Let's make sure that these decisions are made with open minds, clear facts and a sense that we are all in this together. We shouldn't let the selfish motivations or the extremism of some get in the way of moving all of us forward — together — as one city.

Craig Hamilton Ana Jara Leslie Lambert Joanne Bonner Leavitt Kristina Lizama Cynthia Rose for Santa Monica Forward



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Rocky Mountain snow offers scant encouragement to California

DAN ELLIOTT

Associated Press

DENVER Drought-weary Californians can't expect much encouragement from mountains elsewhere in the West: Snow that fills the Colorado River is lagging, too, officials said Friday.

The snowpack in the Colorado and Wyoming valleys where the river originates now ranges from 51 to 79 percent of normal, said Brian Domonkos, Colorado supervisor of the U.S. Department of Agriculture snow survey, which monitors snowfall and water availability.

The Colorado River supplies water to about 40 million people and 6,300 square miles of farmland in seven states, including California.

The Rocky Mountain snow that melts into the river doesn't flow directly to California and other downstream users.

Instead, it's held in a series of reservoirs that release enough water to fulfill the legal allotments to southwestern states under a series of agreements and court rulings.

The reservoirs have sufficient water to provide California and other downstream states with their full shares this year and for the foreseeable future, said Matthew Allen, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Reclamation, which manages the reservoir system.

California also gets water from the Sierra Nevada range, where the snow cover was the lowest it has ever been in 65 years of record-

keeping as of Wednesday.

Warm temperatures and scarce snowfall in early March caused the snowpack in Colorado to shrink significantly.

"To see the decline that we saw at the beginning of March, that is abnormal," Domonkos said. "And to see it continue almost unabated, almost to now, that's quite abnormal."

A storm brought up to 11 inches of snow on Thursday and Friday to parts of the Colorado mountains and foothills, but much of it fell east of the Continental Divide and will eventually melt into the South Platte and Arkansas rivers.

Preliminary readings showed the snowpack on Friday in the South Platte basin was 87 percent of normal and 79 percent of normal in the Arkansas basin.

The U.S. Drought Monitor says 40 percent of California is in an exceptional drought, the most severe category, and another 25 percent is in an extreme drought, the second-most severe.

Gov. Jerry Brown ordered mandatory, statewide water cutbacks by cities and towns, aiming for a 25 percent cut in water use.

Extreme drought conditions also spread into Nevada and southern Oregon, along with smaller pockets in Utah and Arizona.

Milder drought conditions extend across the rest of the West, except for most of Montana and Wyoming.

Other states served by the Colorado River are Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Nevada.

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LA Angels try again to build a title team around Mike Trout

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM The Los Angeles Angels had the majors' best record last year, and they return this season with baseball's best player at the center of largely the same roster.

Yet the Angels accomplished none of their biggest goals last year when they were swept out of the division series, and their sky-high payroll makes those unmet expectations even more painful.

So are the Angels a legitimate power or an unbalanced, aging team with a rapidly closing window? Mike Trout, Albert Pujols and manager Mike Scioscia can only figure it out by going back to work to find the right combination to contend again.

The Angels are difficult to evaluate because everything depends on the window from which they're viewed.

They have an enormous payroll topped by some of baseball's highest-paid players at their positions - Pujols, Josh Hamilton, C.J. Wilson and Trout, the reigning AL MVP. For all that money, consistent winning and championship contention is expected, which means the Angels' inability to win a single playoff game in five seasons is a disaster.

Yet the Angels still won 98 games last season despite losing budding ace Garrett Richards to a knee injury in August, and general manager Jerry Dipoto has restocked his roster while breathing life into what was considered the majors' worst farm system in recent years. From the bullpen to the heart of the order, Los Angeles has an undeniably solid complement of talent around Trout, the best player in baseball at 23 years old.

But just when the Angels look sharp, new worries arise. One of them was Hamilton, who appeared to be facing a suspension until the announcement Friday that he will not be disciplined by Major League Baseball for his latest problems involving cocaine and alcohol. But he still won't play until at least May because of shoulder surgery.

Hamilton still has three years left on his \$125 million contract, but at least his absence is cushioned by the grim fact that he has made no significant, consistent impact on the Angels' offense in two expensive seasons. Los Angeles acquired veteran Matt Joyce from Tampa Bay in the offseason, and returning outfielder Collin Cowgill also can fill in capably.

bly.

Some other things to watch when the Angels embark on their 55th season:

WHAT'S ON SECOND: The Angels' biggest problem is at second base, where Howie Kendrick leaves a gaping hole after nearly a decade entrenched in the job. With just a year left on Kendrick's contract, Dipoto traded him to the Dodgers to get promising young starter Andrew Heaney. But the lineup that led the AL in runs has lost its top hit producer - yes, Kendrick had even more than Trout - with no real plan to replace him. Josh Rutledge, Grant Green and Johnny Giavotella are among the light-hitting infielders getting a look in the spring, but none is likely to replace Kendrick's big bat.

RICH MAN: After leading the AL in RBIs and runs last season while winning the MVP trophy, Trout already has accomplished more than pretty much any 23-year-old in baseball history - and he's about to get paid for it. The outfielder's six-year, \$144.5 million contract begins this year, albeit at a modest \$5.25 million salary for 2015 before the deal skyrockets. Yet Trout hasn't shown any signs of complacency in the offseason, and he is working aggressively with hitting coach Don Baylor on limiting his strikeouts, which jumped to an AL-worst 184 last year.

WEAKNESS TO STRENGTH: After years of ineptitude, the Angels are confident their bullpen will again be among the majors' tops this season. Closer Huston Street and setup man Joe Smith are among the best in the business, while Mike Morin is expected to move into a bigger role with Kevin Jepsen's departure. Fernando Salas, Vinny Pestano and newcomer Cesar Ramos - Jered Weaver's college teammate - all are angling for innings, likely making the bullpen into a source of comfort for Scioscia.

GOTTA PITCH: The Angels' rotation has a high ceiling and a low floor - just like the rest of this team. Weaver and Wilson are on top of the rotation, but many believe both 30-something veterans took a step backward last season. Richards faces an uncertain mid-April return from a long rehabilitation, while Matt Shoemaker must prove he can replicate his shocking 16-victory performance that made him second on AL Rookie of the Year voting. Scioscia also must pick a fifth starter among Heaney, Hector Santiago and Nick Tropeano.

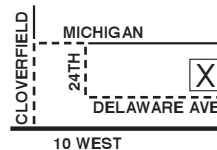


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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
Ordinance Numbers 2481-2483 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries of Ordinance Numbers 2481 through 2483, which were adopted by the Santa Monica City Council at its meeting of March 24, 2015.

Ordinance Number 2481 amends the Municipal Code to prohibit persons from bringing certain exotic and wild animals onto to specified public property, including City parks, the Pier, the beach, and the Promenade, among other places, and sidewalks adjacent to such places. The animals covered by the ordinance include snakes, reptiles, birds and non-human primates.

Ordinance Number 2482 amends the Municipal Code to reduce the size of the Arts commission membership from thirteen to eleven members in order to facilitate the Commission's work.

Ordinance Number 2483 amends the Municipal Code to reinstate the forty-percent (40%) minimum threshold for consideration of establishing a property or business based improvement district. This change does not impact the majority required to actually create a district.

Ordinance Numbers 2481 through 2483 will become effective 30 days after their adoption. The full text of the ordinances is available from the Office of the City Clerk at 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401; phone (310) 458-8711.



CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #4180 Provide Upholstery Services as required by the Big Blue Bus.

Submission Deadline for all bids is April 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

BID #4183 Provide Bus Body Repair and Painting Services as required by the Big Blue Bus.

- Mandatory job walk will be held at 9:00 am PT on April 7, 2015 at 1620 6th St. Santa Monica, CA 90401.**

Submission Deadline for all bids is April 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

The bid packets can be downloaded at:

- <http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm>

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained by e-mailing your request to Kellee.MacDonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

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MATH

FROM PAGE 1

of high school math and strongly encourage a fourth.) Standard eighth-grade math now includes material that was previously included in high school algebra.

Although the Common Core structure doesn't include accelerated math before high school, "the SMMUSD wanted to maintain acceleration options for the district's highest achievers, who have been completing geometry by eighth grade," district spokeswoman Gail Pinsker said.

"SMMUSD continues to offer opportunities for high achieving students to accelerate in math to ensure the best fit for their needs," she said. "Through parent workshops and information going home we hope to help parents understand that while the description of 'honors' will no longer be used, we are providing more rigorous and relevant courses for students, including those who are highly gifted in math. These students will still have the opportunity to reach the highest levels of math offered in high school."

A moderately accelerated pathway covers seventh- and eighth-grade math in seventh grade, allowing students to take Algebra I in eighth grade. These students are eligible to take geometry as freshmen, Algebra II as sophomores, pre-calculus as juniors and calculus as seniors.

The district's rapid acceleration track has students completing both Core 7 and Core 8 math in sixth grade, Algebra I in seventh grade and geometry in eighth. Their high school math can consist of Algebra II, pre-calculus and calculus as well as either advanced calculus or statistics.

Placement in the advanced tracks will be based on review of fifth-grade math grades and work habits, sixth-grade math readiness test results and standardized test scores, Pinsker said. Students can also jump ahead

after middle school by taking geometry in the summer after eighth or ninth grade. Honors courses in geometry and Algebra II remain available at the high school level.

"The acceleration options are very fluid and flexible, providing all students, regardless of which course they take at the start of middle school, with the opportunity to take the most demanding Advanced Placement and honors math courses offered in the district," Pinsker said.

Furlong and other parents, though, remain concerned about how Common Core standards will impact their children's education.

They believe some students will not be prepared to take the SAT or ACT because many won't take pre-calculus - which is included in the tests - until senior year.

"With the district's new (standard) pathway, students are not going to finish Algebra II until the end of junior year," she said, "and they will be applying to college before they have finished all the math on their college entry exams. How is this reasonable?"

They're also worried about how the math options will impact science education. For example, Furlong said, many students won't be able take chemistry until they are enrolled in Algebra II as juniors.

"Those who are not ready or given the option of acceleration will stall out their sophomore year," she said. "There will be no appropriate level of science for them. ... In an increasingly STEM world, why would we artificially limit the rigor of our students' appropriate math and science education?"

Scores of parents have signed a proposal to allow students outside of the rapid acceleration track to move ahead slightly in math in sixth grade, and they have repeatedly called for district review in recent weeks. The matter is not currently on the school board's April 16 agenda.

jeff@smdp.com

KEVINS

FROM PAGE 1

apparently found him irresistible," the mayor says.

"I must have been quite popular, being in the band and on the golf team," the Vikings alumnus says. "How much cooler can you get?"

The two men, who both trace their ancestry to the Irish island, met in person for the first time at a "Stairway to the Stars" concert in the early 2000s. The humor began immediately.

"I jokingly told him that he was probably gaining some votes with my name," the band director says, "but losing some as well, so it probably evens itself out."

Coincidentally, both men work for the Santa Monica-Malibu school district - the musician oversees several bands at Samohi, and the mayor serves as an educational technology consultant.

"The district does a great job of keeping our records separate," the mayor says, "although some people may be baffled that the name 'Kevin McKeown' appears on two different payrolls."

The mayor says their shared name has been the source of confusion at the office of

their eye doctor. (Yes, they even have the same eye doctor.)

With anecdotal evidence, the two Kevin McKeowns can prove that they are, in fact, two different people.

The mayor has been in a classroom fixing computers where the band director was teaching music. The band director has been to City Council meetings to request funding from City Hall for student trips.

The two Kevin McKeowns often have to forward misdirected emails to each other.

"We have great fun with the confusion," the mayor says. "People who know me as Mayor sometimes ask how I find time to conduct bands and orchestras, and I'm willing to bet the other Kevin McKeown gets asked about traffic and parking."

And the airport ... and housing ... and development, too - the band director has seen Santa Monica change drastically over the last few decades.

"Similar to many places on the Westside, it is getting very metropolitan very quickly," he says. "I have seen many families squeezed out financially because of the progress of the city. Paradise comes with a price, but I would love to see more families being able to plant their roots in this great city."

jeff@smdp.com



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Courtesy photos

THROUGH THE YEARS: Brewer said the people she met on the job were the highlight.

RETIRE

FROM PAGE 1

to work," she said. "The people were so nice. We work very, very hard, but they always acknowledged us."

She saw a lot in her three decades of delivery, working out of several locations, including the now-defunct facility on Main Street, the Will Rogers facility until it caught fire and eventually the building on 11th Street and Colorado Avenue. She saw routes increase from 500 addresses a day to 1,500, a paradoxical result of declining mail volumes as the Post Office combined routes. She eventually covered more than 23 city blocks.

"There was a major change in the election year," she said. "We had so much election mail, I worked until 12:30 a.m. carrying mail with a light on my head. In 2014 we literally had to have carriers from other offices come in to case and carry mail."

She described the end of her mail career as bittersweet. While she is excited to move on to her next chapter, she said she will miss her clients — so much so that she wanted to let everyone on her route know about her departure.

"I really wanted to get a last letter to the people I delivered to, to let them know I retired," she said. "I watched people grow up, go to college, and when they come home, they still say 'hello' and talk to me. I really do love that. It's been so special to watch the young men grow up."

She raised her family in Santa Monica and said she valued the experience of working at the Post Office but she is ready for what comes next.

"This is a new chapter of life for me," she said. "I was always the carrier with style and I'm getting into fashion right now."

She is participating in a fashion show at El Camino College (16007 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance) on April 11 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and she said any of her Santa Monica friends are welcome to attend.

She said she is also active in the Greater Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church (5300 Denker Ave., Los Angeles), where she sings in the choir.

Outside her interest in fashion, she said retired life is allowing for more time with her husband.

"We're just enjoying each other and church," she said. "My life is still fun."

matt@smdp.com



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

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SP2243

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **April 23, 2015**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:

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Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: <http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/>. The Contractor is required to have a **B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

Local

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WEEKEND EDITION, APRIL 4-5, 2015

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Dodgers hope offseason changes lead to World Series title

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles Dodgers have a new front office. Shortstop Hanley Ramirez, outfielder Matt Kemp, second baseman Dee Gordon and pitcher Dan Haren are gone from a roster that won the NL West title last season.

Change was everywhere at the Dodgers' spring camp and all of it was designed to enhance their chances of achieving a goal that has never changed: Winning the World Series.

It eluded them last October in the NL Division series against the St. Louis Cardinals. It eluded them after the club was sold for \$2.15 billion three years ago. It's eluded them since 1988.

"Everything we're doing is in the vein of trying to put ourselves in the best position to make it into October and then play as long as we can," said Andrew Friedman, the team's new president of baseball operations, who along with new general manager Farhan Zaidi employed an analytic approach to a winter makeover of a roster that had won back-to-back NL West titles.

Make no mistake, though, the changes were built around those who are back. At the top of the pitching order is Clayton Kershaw, the 2014 NL MVP and three-time Cy Young Award winner. Kershaw is armed with motivation to make amends for last fall's struggles. In right field, there's the young Yasiel Puig, an All-Star who was benched for some of the postseason.

A key to the makeover is in the heart of the infield, where Friedman and Zaidi acquired shortstop Jimmy Rollins from Philadelphia and second baseman Howie Kendrick from the Angels.

"Instant credibility," Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said of the two veterans who some think will plug holes in what was an inconsistent defense. "I think they bring a ton to the table for us. They create stability up the middle."

There are questions whether the Dodgers sacrificed some offense in losing Ramirez' big bat and Gordon's speed. Ramirez signed with Boston. Gordon, a 2014 All Star, was traded to Miami. Meanwhile, Kemp's proven power is also gone. He was traded to San Diego for catcher Yasmani Grandal.

The Dodgers were willing to move Kemp because of what they've seen in 22-year-old Joc Pederson, who batted .368 with six home

runs and 12 RBIs this spring. Pederson appears to have the edge over veteran Andre Ethier as the starter in center field. With Carl Crawford in left and Puig in right, there's no room for Ethier, who has said he wants to be an everyday player. Ethier is day-to-day after being hit on his right elbow by a pitch Tuesday. He batted .313, with one homer and 10 RBIs in camp.

Then there's the pitching staff. Kershaw and Zack Greinke are locks for the top of the rotation. After them, there are questions. No. 3 starter Hyun-Jin Ryu will start the season on the disabled list because of an ailing left shoulder. Friedman signed projected starters Brandon McCarthy (four years at \$48 million) and Brett Anderson (one year at \$10 million), but each has a long history of injury.

With the uncertainty surrounding Ryu, it's not clear who will be the fifth starter. Joe Wieland, also acquired from San Diego in the deal for Kemp, was considered a leading possibility.

In the bullpen, the biggest question is about closer Kenley Jansen, who underwent surgery on Feb. 17 to have a growth removed from the fifth metatarsal on his left foot. He was expected to be out for eight to 12 weeks. Until he's back, Mattingly said he will use a committee of pitchers to fill the role.

QUIET PUIG: Except for an occasional flip of the bat, it was a quiet camp for Puig, who is beginning his third season. "I don't think his spring was that great last year either," Mattingly said. "I'm not really concerned about his average or anything. I think he looks fine. He's hit some balls decent. He's a lot like other guys who know they're going to be around. They take their bats different than guys who are trying to show us what they can do."

IMPATIENT KERSHAW: Kershaw never has much patience for questions about the World Series in the spring. "Every team thinks they're going to win the World Series at this time of year," he said. "That's everybody's goal and it should be. If you don't win the World Series, it's a failure."

POWER ADJUSTMENT: First baseman Adrian Gonzalez has his own take on the Dodgers' altered offense. "People are saying say that we lost power, but I think we just put the power in different spots of the lineup," he said.

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SURF REPORT

JORDY FREAK
BOARD SHORTS





O'NEILL SANTA MONICA
131 BROADWAY
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401
657.859.3721

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.3°

SATURDAY – POOR TO FAIR – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
Blend of holding SSW swell and WNW-NW swell-mix. Peaky for combo exposed beachbreaks. Favorable light wind in the AM. Incoming tide early will help most spots.

SUNDAY – POOR TO FAIR – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
BIGGEST EARLY with incoming tide helping most spots; Easing mix of NW windswell and SSW swell. Peaky for combo exposed beachbreaks. Unfortunately, wind conditions are not looking

MONDAY – POOR TO FAIR – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal mix of NW windswell and SSW swell. Conditions looking suspect - lightest wind early.

TUESDAY – POOR TO FAIR – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
New but very small SSW-South swell tops out, while very small NW windswell mixes in. Conditions looking suspect - lightest wind early.

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 **January 12, 2015**

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 — 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 0

Number of wet days — 14

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 33 / 20

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 5 / 19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by:


Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Canillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A	F
El Pescador State Beach, between Luchessa and Las Alas creeks.			Wil Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Occidental Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chertauge).	B	B
Broad Beach at Trancos Creek mouth.	B	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F	Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	C
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venter storm drain.	A	D
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante State Beach.	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant).	A+	A+
Lariga Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+	Ocean Park Beach at Redford Ave. drain.	A+	B
Solstice Canyon at San Blocker County Beach.	A+	D	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	F	Venice Beach at Winward Ave. drain.	A	F
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	F	A+
Surfside Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	F	Venice Beach- projection of Topical St.	A+	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F	Deckweiler State Beach at Ballena Creek mouth.	ns	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+	Deckweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain.	A	F
Big Rock Beach at 19948 POH stairs.	A+	A+	North Westchester Storm Drain at Deckweiler State Beach.	B	B
Pine Creek at Las Torres County Beach.	A+	F	Deckweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DWR jetty).	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Tapanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B	Deckweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Castle Rock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns	Deckweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F			
Wil Rogers State Beach at 17208 POH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+			

LEGEND

DRY — each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET — grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns — no sample taken



Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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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 swimmers are happy.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON MARCH 26 AT APPROXIMATELY 10:50 P.M.
A Santa Monica police officer was traveling eastbound on Santa Monica Blvd and stopped for a red traffic signal at 5th St. As the officer was waiting for the signal to change, he saw the suspect step off the sidewalk and walk eastbound across 5th St.; despite the fact the crossing signal was red and vehicles traveling on 5th St. were approaching the intersection. The officer stopped the suspect to write him a citation; but when the suspect saw the ticket book, he began to argue and refused to sign it. The officer and a sergeant tried to reason with the suspect, but he continued to refuse to sign the citation. The suspect was then taken into custody and transported to the Santa Monica jail, where he was later issued the citation for the violation and released. Lambert D Bunker, 27, homeless was issued a citation.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 369 calls for service on April 2.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Burglary 1600 Block of Ocean 12:37 a.m.
Petty Theft 1500 Block of 4th 1:30 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1800 Block of Colorado 4:43 a.m.
Fraud Block of Virginia 6:11 a.m.
Sexual Assault 500 Block of Olympic 07:35 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1100 Block of 6th 8:11 a.m.
Vandalism 1500 Block of 14th 08:14 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300 Block of Wilshire 8:28 a.m.
Vandalism 1500 Block of 14th 8:40 a.m.
Burglary 1100 Block of 20th 9:13 a.m.
Fraud 2900 Block of Santa Monica 9:14 a.m.
Battery 2800 Block of Kansas 9:14 a.m.
Petty Theft 200 Block of Washington 9:19 a.m.
Vandalism 14th / Broadway 9:26 a.m.
Burglary 900 Block of 10th 10:02 a.m.
Identity Theft 1200 Block of 7th 10:05 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300 Block of Stanford 10:08 a.m.

Vandalism 1600 Block of 20th 10:24 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1100 Block of 20th 10:54 a.m.
Traffic Accident with Injuries Lincoln/Ocean Park 10:59 a.m.
Traffic Accident with Injuries Lincoln/Pine 11:15 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400 Block of 4th 11:27 a.m.
Grand Theft 2000 Block of Delaware 11:48 a.m.
Identity Theft 1400 Block of 5th 11:49 a.m.
Battery 800 Block of 10th 11:51 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1000 Block of Michigan 12:44 p.m.
Burglary 1400 Block of Ocean 12:54 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600 Block of 11th 1:04 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500 Block of 4th 1:19 p.m.
Petty Theft 600 Block of Ocean 2:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900 Block of Arizona 3:05 p.m.
Speeding 3100 Block of Pico 3:29 p.m.
Petty Theft 500 Block of Olympic 3:34 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400 Block of Main 4:46 p.m.
Prowler 800 Block of Idaho 5:46 p.m.
Traffic Accident with Injuries Lincoln / Kensington 5:55 p.m.
Vandalism Lincoln / Washington 7:16 p.m.
Identity Theft 1400 Block of 7th 7:22 p.m.
Petty Theft 700 Block of Broadway 8:28 p.m.
Vandalism 1700 Block of Michigan 8:46 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400 Block of 16th 9:16 p.m.

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Suitable for a holiday

7 Edible root

11 Kindle

12 Lena of “Chocolat”

13 Singer Stevens

14 Prop for Potter

15 Periphery

16 Cheese chunk

17 Dick Tracy’s love

18 Skiing variety

19 Atop

21 Publicity

22 Street sign

25 Lot sight

26 Forgo bidding

27 Dumb-struck

29 “Like that’ll ever happen!”

33 Soda bottle size

34 Pageant topper

35 Sacred bird of Egypt

36 Protected, in a way

37 Milk carton size

38 Preposterous

39 Witches

40 Setting items

DOWN

1 Diamond side

2 Undermine

3 Airs

4 Prepares to play

5 Tag sale label

6 Shelter

7 Castle part

8 1992 Disney movie

9 Like some endorsements

10 Waiting to bat

16 Policy experts

18 Org. that tracks Santa

20 Origami need

22 Neighbor of South Africa

23 Using the soapbox

24 Parent’s reason, at times

25 Islamic ruler

28 Lemon rind strips

30 “Cosmos” creator

31 Singer Cara

32 Grows dim

34 Circus sight

36 Towel word

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

Yesterday’s answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
15						16				
17					18					
			19	20				21		
	22	23					24			
25				26						
27			28				29	30	31	32
33						34				
35					36					
37					38					
39					40					

4-4

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall matt@smdp.com



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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 ★★★★★

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

Draw Date: 4/1
2 30 33 39 44
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 60M

Draw Date: 3/31
8 26 41 61 73
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 25M

Draw Date: 4/1
2 6 12 34 46
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 22M

Draw Date: 4/2
7 10 18 29 36

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

Draw Date: 4/2
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:41.10

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>

WORD UP!

fabular

1. of or pertaining to a story, novel, or the like written in the form of a fable.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1958

- The CND peace symbol is displayed in public for the first time in London.

1960

- France agrees to grant independence to the Mali Federation, a union of Senegal and French Sudan.

1964

- The Beatles occupy the top five positions on the Billboard Hot 100 pop chart.

1965

- The first model of the new Saab Viggen fighter aircraft is unveiled.

1967

- Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his “Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence” speech in New York City’s Riverside Church.

1968

- Martin Luther King, Jr. is assassinated by James Earl Ray at a motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

1968

- Apollo program: NASA launches Apollo 6.

1968

- AEK Athens BC becomes the first Greek team to win the European Basketball Cup.

1969

- Dr. Denton Cooley implants the first temporary artificial heart.

1973

- The World Trade Center in New York is officially dedicated.

1973

- A Lockheed C-141 Starlifter, dubbed the Hanoi Taxi, makes the last flight of Operation Homecoming.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Four weeks ago, News of the Weird noted that a United Nations representative opposed a suggestion to open certain meetings to the public, fearing that it would only invite spectators in the gallery to throw “mayonnaise” at the delegates. However, two months earlier (and unknown to News of the Weird), the Belgian prime minister, defending his country’s austerity measures, had faced a group of protesters who had rained upon him french fries topped with mayonnaise.

■ Home Unimprovement: Recent cases to add to the classic “Don’t DIY” Files: (1) Fred Horne of Columbus, Ohio, burned down his house in February trying to smoke the bedbugs out of his couch. Only that one piece of furniture caught fire, but carrying it out of the house, Horne got stuck in a doorway, and the blaze spread. (2) Near Darwin, Australia, in February, an unnamed woman living in an RV came face-to-face with a snake and decided to encourage the serpent to leave -- by lighting a fire beneath the RV’s floor. The vehicle was destroyed but, said the police superintendent, “we don’t know what happened to the snake.”

PARTY TONIGHT, ARIES

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Others surprise you with their unpredictability. You'll enjoy the excitement, even if the behavior causes a hassle. An older person or relative could become cold and controlling if you decide not to do what he or she requests. Tonight: Party the night away.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Others might notice a gentleness about you. You might not even be aware of this quality, as you could be involved in completing a project or preparing for a get-together. You will have a sudden realization that needs to be aired. Have a discussion quickly. Tonight: With friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You could be very tired from a discussion that keeps recurring. You might be wondering what it would take to put the issue to bed. Your creativity and charm remain high. Make peace with this issue; the alternative is not worth it. Tonight: Charm the socks off others.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You love being home, and you'll decide to invite others over. You could hit a point of frustration, as you might feel isolated doing all the cooking and preparing. Your expectations are not likely to be met when dealing with a friend or loved one. Tonight: Flow with the moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Know that you can and will guide a conversation away from negativity. You might be in the mood to shoot the breeze with friends, whether you're watching a sports game or off at a favorite haunt. Tonight: With a favorite person -- you choose the spot.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Sometimes, even when you're being practical, you need to worry less. Many of you could opt to indulge in a costly pastime. Keep your limits in mind, but give yourself more leeway than usual. Don't be surprised if a friend goes along for the ride. Tonight: Treat a dear friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You'll be keeping up with the hectic pace, but you could be overwhelmed by one person's constant chatter. Put yourself in a situation where talk is not necessary. Try going to a movie or concert. Everyone will emerge with a smile. Tonight: As you like it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might choose to maintain a low profile right now. Your finances could demand your attention. File your taxes if you haven't by now. You'll be more effective once you work to clear out some back-burner projects. Tonight: Be mysterious about your plans. Say little.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Consider rejuvenating your outlook by taking a day trip to go off and explore a new area, or perhaps by catching an art show. It might be important to change your patterns a bit in order to reflect who you are. Return a long-distance call quickly. Tonight: Try a new spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Listen to news with a bit of cynicism, and you won't be disappointed. You might need to venture out to prevent yourself from spending too much time alone. A friend whom you have not seen in a while will reach out for you. Plan to visit soon! Tonight: Make it your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Reach out to a loved one at a distance. What you hear could force a discussion that might go on for a while. Know that answers won't be immediate. Use caution with your funds, whether you're doing taxes or buying a new item. Stay within your budget! Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A parent or older friend seems to be very hard on you. Try not to make plans around this person. You need to take better care of yourself. Get a head start on doing your taxes, if you haven't already, or make adjustments to your budget. Tonight: Let someone else treat.

Weekend Edition, April 4-5, 2015

This year you hear many different opinions regarding your actions. Juggling feedback and being polite could be difficult at times. Establish stronger boundaries. If you are single, you attract quite an assortment of admirers. You will like dating a lot, and might not want to commit for a while. Know that you could miss relating to someone very special if you don't keep an open mind. If you are attached, the two of you open up to a new beginning because of a willingness to understand where the other person is coming from. As a result, you'll gain greater respect for each other's choices. LIBRA knows how to make you smile.

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

give a (bleep)

Each Weekend, 'Claudia's Corner' shows kids how to rock their world

Save the kibble for the canines

By Megan Tambio

Been wanting a furry friend, but not sure where to turn? Been looking for some warm, questionable breath up in your grill in the morning? Nudge the grownups and tell 'em to take you to Lhasa Happy Homes this Sunday (or any Sunday). The nonprofit hosts adoptions at Rover Kennel on Main Street every weekend. The best part? These people rescue those small dogs who were abandoned at animal shelters.



They help get the lil' guys healthy and tell us future owners how to care for them. Get up in an adult's grill and head down. Your breath doesn't have to be questionable.

Puzzle time: Can you find 12 Santa Monica streets?

Ask an adult: Why is that person homeless?

Where it's at!

Did you know a natural arch formed thousands of years ago used to span the Pacific Coast Highway?



For answers, go to give.org/cc

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Buyers needs

I am working with well-qualified Buyers to find the following properties:

Single Family

Walking Distance to the beach in Santa Monica, Hermosa or Manhattan Beaches
minimum 2 + 2
up to \$4,000,000

Condo

minimum 2 + 1.75
Ocean Avenue only, North of Wilshire Boulevard
Front facing unit ONLY
Up to \$3,500,000

Income property

4-8 units
between Wilshire & Adelaide
no price cap

Single Family Home (Fixer)

North of Montana
minimum 8500 square foot lot
up to \$3,500,000

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Paperless Office*

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of early April 2015

		Average Price	# of Listings
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$11,888,000	1
North of Montana	=	\$5,008,859	15
North of Wilshire	=	\$2,899,500	2
South of Wilshire	=	\$1,117,500	2
Sunset Park	=	\$1,634,333	12
Ocean Park	=	\$2,549,250	4

Statistics updated every Friday

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Closure of our
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Incline
April 20th



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