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FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 126



JAMIE'S STILL AT IT
SEE PAGE 12

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE CLOSE CALL ISSUE

Special ed parents say change has come

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District staff and parents celebrated the healing of wounds and strides taken in educating students with special needs at the Board of Education meeting Wednesday night.

In an emotional presentation, several parents addressed the board and special education team, describing the adversarial relationship they'd once had with staff, and how the culture had changed for the better.

"The last time I spoke to the board was when I had been abused by the administration and special education staff," said Christy Hobart, co-chair of the PTA special education committee. "Now, there's a true culture of collaboration."

That phrase, "culture of collaboration," became a common thread amongst parents who spoke, many saying they no longer felt the need to approach meetings armed with attorneys and education advocates to get a fair deal with the district.

Problems with the special education system emerged in 2007, when a group of parents went to the City Council with concerns about how the district approached their children's education.

Parents of special education students found themselves at odds with the district in negotiations for students' individualized education plans, which are created every year for special education programs and detail what services children will receive to help them succeed.

The district required parents to sign confidentiality clauses that barred them from speaking about the services children received, creating a culture of fear and mistrust both between parents and between par-

SEE EDUCATION PAGE 9

Bomb scare triggers neighborhood evacuation



Byron Kennerly news@smdp.com

SCOPING IT OUT: **An FBI bomb technician at the scene of Thursday's bomb scare.**

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

BROADWAY An explosion near a Santa Monica Jewish center prompted police to evacuate about 100 people Thursday morning, but investigators determined the blast was the result of an apparent underground mechanical failure and not a pipe bomb as had been initially feared.

Sgt. Jay Trisler of the Santa Monica Police Department said no one was injured in the blast, which was reported at about 6:45 a.m. in the 1400 block of 18th Street. Officers arriving on scene evacuated people from nearby homes and businesses as they tried to determine what happened.

The Santa Monica Red Cross and other evacuees were relocated to the Police Activities League gym on the corner of 14th Street and Olympic Boulevard, said Bill Bauer, spokesman for the Santa Monica Red Cross.

The force of the explosion sent a piece of metallic debris onto the roof of a nearby residence, Trisler said. Police initially thought the debris may be a pipe bomb. The bomb squad was called out and determined it was not.

Investigators, including representatives from the FBI, were still trying to determine the exact cause of the blast Thursday night, Trisler said.

According to a statement posted on the Chabad House of Santa Monica website, nobody in the facility heard the explosion.

"During morning services today the police department came to Chabad House in response to a report of an explosion," according to the statement.

"The men that were praying did not hear or feel anything. Rabbi Levitansky grabbed one of the new Torah scrolls so they can finish services, which they did at the corner of 17th and S. Monica."

Dennis H. Kraft, a set designer who lives next door to the Santa Monica Synagogue, said he was meditating when he heard a loud crash.

"It was much louder than a firecracker," Kraft said. "I looked out and could see a piece of what looked like a PVC pipe sticking out of the roof."

kevinh@smdp.com

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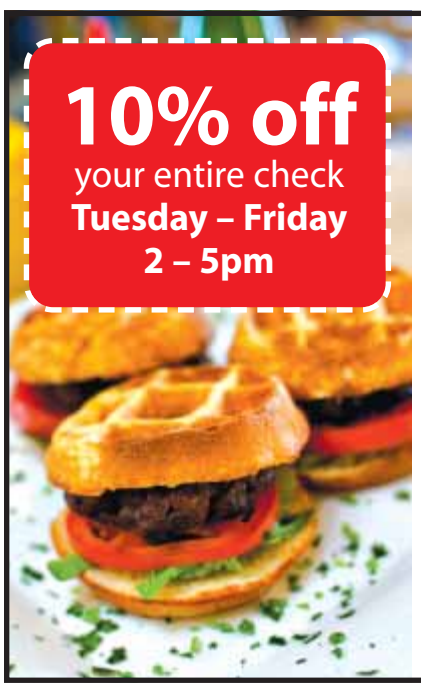
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, April 8, 2011

Stairway of the Stars
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 7 p.m.
The annual Stairway of the Stars is a showcase for the local school district's acclaimed music program and features hundreds of students. The guest conductor will be Pete Anthony and award recipients will be Zina Josephs and Jean Sedillos. For more information, visit smmusd.org/vapa/stairway.

Save the theatre with Lily and Jane
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner present "Charlie & Doni Help Save the Theatre," an irreverent musical comedy extravaganza. For more information, call (310) 394-9779.

'Locked and Loaded'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
"Locked and Loaded," Todd Susman's first published play, stars stage and screen personalities Paul Linke, Andrew Parks, Tarina Pouncy, Terasa Sciortino and Sandra Thigpen and is helmed by award-winning director Chris DeCarlo. For more information, visit santamonicaplayhouse.com.

'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is a hip musical comedy which follows six young people in the throes of puberty, who are overseen by grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves, as they learn that winning isn't everything and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. At each performance, four audience volunteers are selected and invited on stage to participate in the Bee, making each performance unique. This play also takes place on Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

Saturday, April 9, 2011

'The Bluest Eye'
Miles Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Catch a performance of this adaptation of the controversial novel by Toni Morrison, "The Bluest Eye." This production also takes place on Saturday and will be at the Miles through April 24. For more information, visit mileplayhouse.org.

Healthy kids
Saint Anne School
2015 Colorado Ave., noon — 4 p.m.
Santa Monica and Los Angeles area families can receive free school entrance health services for children ages 4 to 6 who will enter kindergarten or grade 1 at any school in the Fall of 2011 during this health fair. Participating providers include Cedars-Sinai's Coach for Kids and Their Families, Westside Family Health Clinic, UCLA Santa Monica Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital and the Santa Monica Lions Club Eye Mobile.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

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

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Local appointed to advisory council

Jaime Nack, a Santa Monican who founded the environmental consulting firm Three Squares Inc., has been appointed to serve a three-year term on the National Women's Business Council (NWBC), a non-partisan federal advisory council created to serve as an independent source of advice and policy recommendations to the president, Congress, and the U.S. Small Business Administration on economic issues of importance to women business owners.

"Jaime Nack is a credible and knowledgeable voice for small business owners," said Donna A. James, chair of the NWBC appointed by President Obama in October 2010. "She understands first-hand the unique challenges women business owners face in their journey from the start-up phase to success and significance. I look forward to working with Jaime and the other women leaders of the National Women's Business Council on the economic issues that matter most to women business owners."

Nack launched Three Squares in 2008 from her home office in Santa Monica. Since then, she has opened satellite officers in Denver, and Montevideo, Uruguay. "I am humbled by this appointment and excited to serve in a capacity which will continue to open doors for future generations of women business owners," Nack said. "It is an honor to serve ... ."

Members of the NWBC are prominent women business owners and leaders of women's business organizations. The council's mission is to promote bold initiatives, and review policies and programs designed to support women's business enterprises at all stages of development in the public and private sector marketplaces.

Nack is president of the Southern California Green Meeting Industry Council Chapter.



TAKE THAT

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

Santa Monica High School's Jack Cramer spikes the ball past Beverly Hills defenders on Thursday on campus. Samohi won in straight sets; 27-25, 25-17, and 25-21.

Brown, GOP hit road to tout budget messages

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Gov. Jerry Brown is preparing to take his budget appeal directly to voters, holding at least two events in Southern California that he says will be the start of a tour to sell his plan for maintaining a series of temporary tax hikes to plug a remaining $15.4 billion deficit.

The Democratic governor will have company on the road: The state Republican Party also was launching a tour Thursday. GOP officials said it is intended to counter the governor's claim that deeper cuts to public schools, higher education, law enforcement and other programs are coming unless voters get the chance to renew the tax increases.

"Should we be sitting here and saying we're going to close school for two months? From my perspective, that's a disingenuous conversation," said Assembly Minority Leader Connie Conway, R-Tulare.

She planned to appear Thursday night in Fresno with newly elected California GOP president Tom Del Beccaro, followed by periodic stops around the state over the next year.

Brown ended talks with Republican lawmakers last week over his proposal to hold a June special election. He wants voters to continue temporary increases enacted two years ago in the vehicle, sales and personal income taxes. The governor wants them extended for five years.

But he said this week he is still hoping to win the two votes he needs in each chamber of the state Legislature for a future special election on the taxes. No one, including Brown, knows when such an election could be called, even if he gets the needed votes.

The next regularly scheduled statewide election is the presidential primary in February 2012.

Brown is hoping to put the pressure on Republicans by laying out possible budget cuts that communities could face in an all-cuts budget — although neither Democrats nor Republicans are likely to vote for such a proposal.

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 11

Study reveals 4M Americans label themselves gay

LISA LEFF
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO How many gay men and lesbians are there in the United States? Gary Gates has an idea but acknowledges pinpointing a solid figure remains an elusive task.

Gates is demographer-in-residence at the Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy, a think tank based at the University of California, Los Angeles. For the institute's 10th anniversary this week, he took a scholarly stab at answering the question that has been debated, avoided, parsed and proven both insoluble and political since pioneering sex researcher Alfred Kinsey said in the 1940s that 10 percent of the men he surveyed were "predominantly homosexual."

Gates' best estimate, derived from five studies that have asked subjects about their sexual orientation, is that the nation has about 4 million adults who identify as being gay or lesbian, representing 1.7 percent of the 18-and-over population.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Choppers disrupt peace and quiet

Editor:

Once again, we are subjected to the pattering of helicopter noise from 9:30 a.m. to presently 11:30 a.m. on April 7, and still going on. Since it's not evening, and I have not visually ID'd any police helicopters in the sky, I have to conclude these are all news and private helicopters buzzing overhead, on the lookout, for anything they could possibly find, on the "bomb scare" on 17th Street.

Two hours and counting of noise from these helicopters (that are not police helicopters) is ridiculous. There must be some way of introducing major fines or new ordinances on the news helicopters for oppressing Santa Monica residents with helicopter engine noise.

I welcome anyone who wishes to find a way to introduce a new law that will subject these helicopter pilots and the companies that contract them to fines for violating excessive noise laws and low flying over our normally peaceful Santa Monica city.

As you know, not speaking out, and not getting a new ordinance passed will only encourage the continuation of even more helicopter noise over the city of Santa Monica.

Help me to keep Santa Monica noise levels within tolerable limits.

Write or e-mail a letter to the city of Santa Monica today.

John Petros
Santa Monica

Clarification

Editor:

Thank you for your work.

I would, however, like to correct something in your article about my arrest ("Woman arrested while trying to protect junipers," page 3, April 7). I believe my letter to the editor, which was not published but which you quoted in the article, stated something to the effect that "no one in the city (save Kevin McKeown and Marsha Moutrie) has tried to help." I did not retain a copy of what I cut and pasted into your "Letter to Editor" submission form. However, I know in a copy of the letter I sent to Marsha Moutrie (before I sent it to your site), I did mention Councilman McKeown's help. Perhaps when I was cutting and pasting this was lost. My quote in your article was edited to say "Nobody in the city ... has tried to help." Because of the nature of newspaper editing (you can't print everything), the spirit of my letter was somewhat lost.

So I feel the need to state this. Kevin McKeown has been a stand-alone champion of the trees as far as the City Council is concerned. Even Bobby Shriver, whom I like very much and appreciate his work in other areas, has seemed to rely only on the sterile reports of staff when it comes to the trees, rather than listening to residents (again, only on the issue of the trees; in other areas he has been outstanding). So I simply needed to say that, no one in the city has been responsive, save the marvelous Kevin McKeown and Marsha Moutrie (who, while she is responsive, can only offer limited input of a neutral nature).

Thanks again.

Sherry Martini
Santa Monica

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SMDP EDITORIALS

Saint John's just doesn't get it

IT'S FRUSTRATING AND DISAPPOINTING that Saint John's Hospital believes it can meet its parking obligation by abandoning a reasonable plan to build a subterranean parking garage and instead continue to lease spaces at nearby lots and rely on valet parking to serve its patients and their families, as well as doctors and nurses.

Saint John's says building the parking garage would just be too expensive (not the taxpayers' problem) and the parking demand can be met by leasing off-site spaces, while also encouraging employees to take the bus, bike or carpool, otherwise known as an "aggressive" transportation demand management program.

Even if Saint John's can get half of its employees to change their commuting habits (a pretty optimistic estimate), it shouldn't automatically let Saint John's off the hook for the parking garage.

With only a valet system in place and a third of parking off-site, Saint John's will add to the traffic congestion as valets drive through residential streets from various parking garages to get cars to hospital visitors. By having a centrally-located parking structure, valets will not have to drive on our streets, the length of trips could be reduced and in turn reduce the impact on the environment.

And what about those drivers who hate valet and don't want to wait for their cars? They will certainly look for street parking that is more convenient for them, taking away parking from residents and customers of nearby businesses. As soon as word gets out that people will have to wait five or 10 minutes for their cars, the valet will become a less attractive option.

Then there's the possibility that parking currently leased by the hospital could be taken away by new tenants of the Yahoo! Center. And there's still a doubt as to whether or not the Yahoo! Center is violating its development agreement by leasing the parking spaces to begin with. City staff is looking into it. It's about time.

The point is, no entity as large as the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System, which owns Saint John's, should rely on another to meet its parking needs.

A goal of the new Land Use and Circulation Element is to reduce car trips through transportation demand programs, as well as possibly de-coupling parking from housing as an incentive to use public transit or bike in exchange for cheaper rent. The Expo light rail line will certainly help get people out of their cars, but to think that parking demand can be met through these means alone is not wise. Parking will still be needed in the future as demand for the hospital grows along with Santa Monica's population with all the new housing being proposed for the old industrial area on the eastside.

Saint John's can argue all it wants that it was never required to build the parking garage. We don't care. We believe that was the intention when the City Council entered into the development agreement and the hospital should live up to its obligation. Their request to amend the DA is particularly troublesome since it comes after the hospital already built the majority of its project. Saint John's got what it wanted and something the community is grateful to have — a new hospital. Now it's time for Saint John's to fulfill its end of the bargain.

Treesavers barking up the wrong tree

Once again trees are causing a stir in Santa Monica as City Hall moved forward Tuesday with plans to remodel Reed Park by removing 45 juniper trees that lined Wilshire Boulevard adjacent to the park's heavily-used tennis courts.

The Santa Monica Treesavers, environmental activists who forced City Hall to re-examine and ultimately alter plans to remove more than 50 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets in Downtown in 2008, put on the pressure in the last week after seeing signs posted on the junipers informing passersby of their fate.

While one can debate whether or not removing the trees will improve public safety and make park users feel more secure when visiting (police said the trees were used for concealment and that there was a high number of reports of alcohol and drug use, illegal camping and other undesirable activities), the Daily Press can find no fault with how City Hall proceeded with the junipers' removal. To say city staff did not provide the public with enough information about the project is disingenuous.

The Reed Park project is four years in the making. Not only were public meetings held, at which time residents and police officers mentioned the public safety issues, the Recreation and Parks Commission and the City Council both held public meetings and ultimately signed off on the remodel, which includes removing the trees and replacing them with California native plants and vines. City staff also posted notices on the trees two weeks in advance of their removal, something which is not required but a move made because city staff realized how important trees are to the community. Notices were also sent out to those on the city's Tree Removal Mailing List.

Some called on the trees to be relocated. City staff went back out and looked at the trees again in response to the Treesavers' demands and found that many of the trees were pruned beyond repair or were in ill health, necessitating their removal.

Santa Monica routinely receives awards for its tree policy and has certified arborists on staff who know what's best. City Hall is currently planting 1,000 new California native trees throughout the city to add to the current inventory of approximately 34,000 trees. It seems city officials understand the community's love of trees and has changed policies to keep the public informed. Residents have the Treesavers to thank, but when it comes to the junipers, we believe the Treesavers are barking up the wrong tree.

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Santa Monica Daily Press
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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Ashley Archibald
ashley@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Dr. Reese Halter, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Farzad Mashhood, David Alsabery, Merv Hecht, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, Steve Parker and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERN
Patrick Hourihan
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

VICE PRESIDENT–BUSINESS OPERATIONS
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

SENIOR ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Brittney Seeliger
brittneys@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Steven Stuart
stevens@smdp.com

Theresa MacLean
theresam@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC COORDINATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Michele Emch
michele.e@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Alejandro Cantarero
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

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Santa Monica, CA 90401
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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Laughing Matters
Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Occupation: Foole

APRIL FOOLS' DAY IS ACTUALLY ONLY A quasi holiday. I mean nobody gets off work. Nobody gets off work on St. Patrick's Day, either, although many take the next day off due to hangovers. But I'm partial to a holiday that has the word "fool" in it. It reminds me of one of my comedic heroes, the late George Carlin whose 1973 album was entitled "Occupation: Foole." (It's on YouTube.)

And, perhaps in that spirit, the Santa Monica Daily Press may be the only mainstream paper in America that devotes its entire issue to gag stories. It's an event that the staff looks forward to all year.

As it happens, this was the first April Fools' that fell on a Friday. When my editor asked if I'd like to participate, thinking of "Occupation: Foole," I jumped at the chance. But what column could be both plausible and absurd? My writing speeches for Mike Huckabee? I crossed my fingers.

For the many who e-mailed to say they were disappointed I would be leaving but wished me well in my "new adventure," I'm grateful for the sentiment. And don't feel bad that you didn't get the joke. Last year, I fell for the Daily Press' April Fools' story about gambling ships off the Santa Monica Pier. (Rather embarrassing since I'm a columnist with the paper!)

Even worse, I sent my editor an e-mail correcting the spelling of a council member's name, not realizing the mistake was designed to tip the reader that the story was bogus. Actually, gambling ships off the pier seems a lot more plausible than my hanging out with Chuck Norris at Mike Huckabee rallies.

And yet, last Friday's column generated double the most e-mail responses I'd ever received. The majority came from Santa Monica residents, but also from as far away as New York, Florida, and one from Texas. (No, it was not from W apologizing for the war in Iraq.)

Most readers were saddened that I would be leaving but others suggested that it was long overdue. An outspoken reader, Mimi Greenberg, e-mailed with permission to use her quote in which she suggested that no one would believe the column's premise, "You'll move from Santa Monica when pigs learn to fly." (If only Mimi could stop being so wishy-washy, come out of her shell and have an opinion.)

To show her, I cut and pasted some of the e-mails from readers who believed I was moving to Little Rock. (If it was such a "little rock" why did they name the town after it?) Mimi couldn't fathom the gullibility of these readers. Imagine if she knew that I fell for the gambling ship story. Then again, my thoracic-surgeon and workout friend, Dr. Andy, who knows just about everything about everything, thought it was real, too. So there.

Also, for the April Fools' edition, and using a nom de plume, I wrote a bogus letter to the editor, complimenting the City Council for authorizing a feasibility study about what to do with the Santa Monica Airport when the lease expires in 2015. Actually I wrote three bogus letters, each advocating its own unique use at the airport.

The title of the one that got published was "S.M. needs NFL." I pointed out there were two stadium projects for which investors were putting up $1 billion. One is to be in Downtown L.A. on a measly 15 acre site and the other is in the City of Industry which, after all, is the City of Industry. Our airport has 225 acres that barely breaks even. I ended by saying Santa Monica's biggest problem would be how to spend the millions in revenue, closing with, "If we build it, prosperity will come."

The second letter was entitled "From Sweden with Love." For the airport site it advocated implementing the revolutionary technology developed by Dr. Lars Lindquist of Stockholm University. This has allowed the city of Helginborg, Sweden, to get 82 percent of its energy from manure. (There is, however, no Dr. Lars Lindquist or Helginborg, Sweden, but other than that, it was all true.)

The last of the three letters came from Chief Chumash, whose tribal relatives, centuries ago, lived on the land which the airport occupies. The chief wants the land "returned" to his tribe (assuming he can round them up) for which he proposes a Las Vegas style casino, perhaps with a cowboy and Indian motif.

The truth is, as with the gambling ships off the pier, the NFL idea actually makes sense to me. We could have a stadium, a manure pile and a casino with a cowboy and Indian motif, and there'd still be room for a park. Santa Monica could be energy self-sufficient, make the NFL playoffs and be so rich we'd lend money to the state. I can hardly wait to read Mimi's next e-mail.

When Jack isn't busy dreaming of an NFL stadium within bike riding distance, he can be reached at Jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

We have to ask

The Daily Press recently published its annual April Fools' Day edition, something that gives us a chance to poke fun at the things we cover.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What did you think of this year's issue? Anything we missed?

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) 458-7737 ext. 102.**


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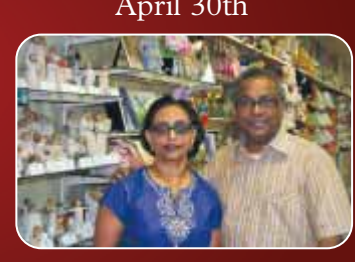
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

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A mandatory job walk will be held on Tuesday April 12, 2011 at 8:30AM Pacific Time. Vendors are to meet Johnny Nettles at the Big Blue Bus Maintenance Training Room located at 1620 6th Street (enter security guard gate on 6th and Colorado), Santa Monica, CA. 90401

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is April 21, 2011 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

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

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

City of Santa Monica

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

Appeal 11-004 of Architectural Review Board 10-573, 301 Ocean Avenue. The appellant is appealing the decision of the Architectural Review Board to deny case # 10ARB573 concerning the design, colors, materials, and landscape plans for a new twenty-unit condominium complex. [Planner: Tony Kim] **Applicant/Appellant/Property Owner: 301 Ocean Development LLC.**

Development Agreement Amendment 11DEV-002, 2401-2525 Colorado Avenue and 2400-2500 Broadway. The Property Owner proposes this Fifth Amendment to the Development Agreement for the Yahoo Center office development to revise the current parking ratio for office use on the site from the current requirement of one parking space per 322 SF of office floor area to one parking space per 500 SF of office floor area. The Owner has provided a detailed parking study that demonstrates based on current and forecast peak-hour parking availability, the current ratio of 1 space/322 SF, originally established in 1987, significantly over-states the actual parking demand for the Yahoo Center development, and that the proposed parking ratio better reflects actual usage patterns at the site. This Fifth Amendment would also authorize leasing of up to 1,053 existing surplus parking spaces to off-site parties, consistent with the facility's long-standing practice of leasing underutilized spaces while still maintaining sufficient parking for its on-site tenants. [Planner: Roxanne Tanemori, AICP] **Applicant/Property Owner: Colorado Center LLC.**

Design Compatibility Permit 09-002 & Development Review 09-006, 525 Broadway. The applicant is requesting a further extension of time (two years) for a Design Compatibility Permit and Development Review Permit originally approved by the Planning Commission on November 14, 2007 for the construction of a mixed-use project consisting of 125 condominium units, 7,520 SF of commercial space, and four levels of subterranean parking. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Sections 9.04.20.14.050(b) and 9.04.20.15.050(b), further time extensions may be granted by the Planning Commission for good cause. Such extensions requests shall be processed in the same manner and for the same fee as a new application request. [Planner: Roxanne Tanemori, AICP] **Applicant/Property Owner: PRU/JSM Trino LLC.**

Tract Map 11-002, 1621 Franklin Street. The applicant requests approval of a parcel map for an airspace subdivision at the subject property for the purpose of constructing a new four-unit residential condominium project. [Planner: Russell Bunim] Applicant/Property Owner: Farzam Enterprises Corporation LLC.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



Traveling Back to Fitness

Taylor Van Arsdale
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Power through the dog days

IT'S SO GREAT TO BE BACK IN CALI! AS much as I loved going home to New York, seeing my boyfriend, I seriously missed Burn Fitness. The only problem is that since I returned to the warm wonder that is Santa Monica I've been experiencing a run of health related issues that include recurring migraine headaches and back problems.

You know, it's hard enough between work, family obligations and daily responsibilities to get up and rolling, so how do you get up and get going when on top of the day-to-day minutia that gets in your way, you are burdened with medical problems, too? And how do you remain on your diet plan and stay motivated?

First, I'm not a doctor, so please, if you have a serious health condition, you most certainly should consult with a physician and follow his or her recommendations. Secondly, the "maladies" of which I write are not "life threatening" so, if you're having a heart attack, forgo hopping on the elliptical in favor of a call to 911.

Some of you who read my column probably think, "Oh, easy for her to espouse upon the wonders of working out, she doesn't have arthritis or osteoporosis or irritable bowel syndrome." I'm here to tell you, I'm just like you. It's not easy for me to wake up at the crack of dawn and cheerfully greet the day when I have back and neck pain, or I'm in the throes of a throbbing headache. Some days I really want to stay in bed. Some days my body aches — most of the days my body aches — and some days I just feel "blah." But after I leave the gym — no matter how miserable I felt before I got there — I will say this, and this is the honest truth, I feel better for having gone.

There are those of you out there who have been tracking my progress and are already on a fitness regimen, others may be reading the column for the first time. To those of you who are working out and staying fit, and have suffered aches and pains and have endured, I say, "Keep up the great work. I know that road is not easy." To those of you who are maybe at work right now, chomping on a donut and sucking down a 460 calorie mocha venti frappuccino, who are wondering why you don't feel great and are thinking, "I could never start a diet," or "I'm so far gone I wouldn't even know where to begin," or the most self-defeating saying of them all — "It's too late for me and my health," I say, "Hah!" I laugh not at you but at the absurdity of this negative and incorrect mode of thinking. It is never too late, even if you have aches and pains, especially if you have aches and pains.

Did you know that it is a fact that regular weight training helps stave off osteoporosis? That's right. Weight training helps prevent bone loss and may even help build new bone. Trust me when I tell you it is never too late.

All it takes is the desire and belief to change. You have to want to change and have to believe that you can do so. When an athlete trains for a marathon, he doesn't think, "I'm going to get halfway to the finish line." No. He imagines that he's crossing that line. But don't panic. I'm not saying you need to run a marathon, nor am I suggesting you set such lofty goals. All I'm saying is that you have to envision that you are getting healthy before you become healthy.

So when you're hit with a morning where you aren't feeling up to par there are still ways to get fit, and even the smallest attempt at getting healthy is better than no attempt at all. And if you absolutely cannot get to the gym for gosh sakes, watch your diet. Utilize the Fatburn.com program to keep count of your calories. There's no reason you can't stay or get on track.

If you have any type of a migraine I don't advise an intense cardio workout. Migraine pain can increase blood pressure and cause vascular constriction. To prevent migraines from occurring I take B vitamins: B-5 (pantothenic acid), B-6 (pyridoxine HCI), folic acid, and riboflavin — again check with your doctor to determine what is best for you.

But, if it's aches and pains from which you suffer, and when I wake I routinely have aches and pains, I generally take a couple Tylenol, and stick it out. Sometimes I take Advil or a motrin-based product. You can probably take an anti-inflammatory like Aleve as well, but Tylenol seems to work best for me.

For my back, which by the way, always hurts, I rub copious amounts of Tiger Balm into my shoulders, neck and lumbar region. I also keep covered up so that my muscles stay warm and loose.

If you do decide to tough it out, simply go at a lower pace. If you typically hit the treadmill running, take it easy. It's better to come to the gym, and go through an hour of cardio at a slow pace than to lie in your warm, snuggly bed accruing extra, unwanted calories.

And incidentally I feel wretched today, but I'm here … at the gym, writing my column on my iPhone whilst pedaling on a reclining bike. Rock it out folks!

Contact Taylor at tailfish@roadrunner.com.

By the numbers

Starting Weight: 182
Pounds Lost: 32.
Current Weight: 150
Goal Weight: 135
Pounds to Lose to Goal: 15



CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Cops end bogus credit card spending spree

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, AT 7:33 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the Rite-Aid located in the 1800 block of Wilshire Boulevard regarding allegations of fraud. When officers arrived, they made contact with the two suspects; one was waiting in a car outside while the other was inside the drug store. Further investigation revealed the suspect in the car had purchased items from the store using a fraudulent credit card. Officers searched the car and found items from other Rite-Aid stores. Officers also confiscated the credit card, ran it and found that it had been used at 30 Rite-Aid and CVS locations throughout Southern California, police said. The suspects were placed under arrest for conspiracy and credit card fraud. They were identified as Adriana Zuniaga, 39, of Long Beach and Gina Gortarez, 44, of San Pedro. Bail was set at $50,000.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, AT 9:57 P.M.,
Officers were on routine patrol in the 1900 block of Alley 8 when they saw a driver trying to park in the alley. Officers ran the plates and discovered that the registered owner had several warrants. Officers made contact with the driver and discovered she was driving on a suspended license. The driver allegedly became agitated and tried to drive away. Officers were able to stop her and placed her under arrest for driving without a license and obstruction of justice. Officers were able to handcuff the suspect and as they were placing her inside the patrol care she began to yell and refused to sit. Once inside, she removed one of her hands from the cuffs, officers said. During a search of the car, officers said they found marijuana, an Ecstasy pill and drug paraphernalia. During the booking search officers said they found methamphetamine in the suspect's clothing. The suspect was eventually booked for possession, obstruction of justice, the suspended license and three warrants. She was identified as Sarah Sherpa, 25, (she refused to state where she lived, police said). Her bail was set at $16,881.

MONDAY, MARCH 28, AT 10:25 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 800 block of the beach regarding a man chasing someone in the middle of Pacific Coast Highway. When officers arrived, the victim said he was riding his bicycle in the parking lot in the 900 block of the beach when the suspect approached him and made threats. The suspect allegedly grabbed a wooden stick and struck the victim. The victim tried to peddle away but fell when his wheel hit some sand. The suspect hit him another four or five times before the victim started running. Officers located the suspect and placed him under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon. He was identified as Ervin Butler, 39, a transient. His bail was set at $30,000.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, AT 11:48 A.M.,
Officers responded to Old Navy regarding possible shoplifters in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said two suspects concealed merchandise in their backpack and canvass bag. The suspects left without paying. Security detained them until police arrived. Officers placed the two under arrest for burglary. They were identified as Reginald Mitchell, 19, of Los Angeles and Jessica Turner, 18. Bail was set at $20,000.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, AT 9:27 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 2900 block of Olympic Boulevard regarding a suspect trespassing on the property. When officers arrived, they were contacted by security guards who told them that the suspect was a former employee and he was asked to leave the property. Security escorted the suspect out of the building. While outside, a car was exiting through a security gate. The suspect allegedly tried to run at the car and the occupants. Security tried to stop him and a fight ensued. Police said the suspect kicked one of the guards in the face and tried to hit him. Officers arrested the suspect, Brian Burke, 36, a transient, for assault with a deadly weapon. His bail was set at $30,761.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, AT 4:40 P.M.,
Officers responded to Sears regarding two alleged shoplifters in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with staff at the department store who said the suspects entered the store, went to the watch department and removed three watches. They then left without paying, police said. Security detained the suspects outside the store and held them until police arrived. Officers said one of the suspects was in possession of a fake driver's license and Social Security card. He was identified as Daniel Ruiz, 30, Inglewood. He was booked for forgery, possession of a forged document with and official seal and theft. His bail was set at $20,000. The second suspect, Adrian Garcia, 25, of Inglewood, was booked for theft and a probation violation. His bail was set at $10,000.

news@smdp.com

Editor-in-chief Kevin Herrera compiled these reports.

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THE GIVING TREE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Andrew Greger places wooden leaves on the 'Giving Tree' during the John Muir Elementary School's open house and bake sale on Wednesday. The families of John Muir built the tree in recognition of the donors to the school. Each donor revives a leaf with their name placed on the branches of the tree in recognition of their support. The annual 'Giving Campaign' was started to help raise funds for the school's art, science, technology and music programs. It also helps fund field trips, reading specialists and basic school supplies.

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EDUCATION
FROM PAGE 1

ents and the district.

City Council members refused to remit approximately $500,000 until the district proved that it had reformed its methods, including putting a stop to the use of confidentiality clauses and requiring an independent review of the special education department.

Then-Superintendent Dianne Talarico left before the end of the 2007-08 school year, and current Superintendent Tim Cuneo signed on with a mandate to fix the broken system.

Since, the special education department, under the direction of Dr. Sara Woolverton, has become a place where parents and students feel welcome again, said Theresa Harris, co-vice chair of the PTA's special education committee.

"There's always some give and take, but the end result is working together as a team," Harris wrote in an e-mail Thursday. "This collaborative approach is what Dr. Woolverton is all about."

Although relief and positivity dominated the discussion, the department still has room for improvement, acknowledged Chief Academic Officer Sally Chou.

In an effort to increase accountability and responsiveness, the district began giving surveys to parents at the end of IEP meetings. The Board of Education sees those survey results — lacking names and schools the children in question attend — as part of a reporting process.

The practice of handing out the IEP surveys is spotty, Chou said.

"They are expected to distribute these surveys at the end of the IEP. Sometimes it doesn't end well, and we have to know that does happen," Chou said Thursday. "Sometimes parents leave abruptly, and they don't get the survey."

At the meeting, board member Oscar de la Torre questioned the practice, and asked that a greater effort be given to ensure that all parents get included in the survey process.

"If teachers are not giving them to everyone, how do you know that you have a legitimate sample?" he asked.

Chou, who jokingly referred to herself as the "receptacle of forms," receives between 300 and 600 surveys every reporting period.

The special education staff took the opportunity to present techniques and programs being used in SMMUSD classrooms, including technology-driven tools that help severely disabled students communicate with the world.

The district is trying different programs to assist with reading, math and social skills that use assistive technology like computers and interactive whiteboards.

"Many of the strategies are the same that we use in general education, but modified and adjusted to a child at their level," Cuneo said on Thursday. "The other thing that's being done is that we're piloting programs and collecting information that informs us on the next steps that we will take to continue with that strategy or jettison it."

The programs, including the Read 180 and Math Whizz programs, are research-based and vetted by educators. They allow students to take tests which seem like games, and then give them lessons at their own level, Woolverton said.

Other technologies help children that can't speak communicate with the outside

SEE **EDUCATION** PAGE 11



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EDUCATION
FROM PAGE 9

world.

Woolverton showed a video of a pictoral slideshow created with an iPod by a SMMUSD student named Gabe, showing a day in his life.

The pictures were accompanied by text, which was read aloud by the device.

"He drives the story, and the teachers type for him," Woolverton said.

The iPod allowed Gabe to describe his life to his parents for the first time, Woolverton said.

New curriculum and programs help special education students move forward with learning, but some advocates still hope to see comprehensive reading and math programs instituted in the schools.

Tricia Crane, a long-time special education advocate, expressed cautious happiness that parents and teachers seemed pleased with the results of the computerized programs available in some schools.

"If I were on the board, I would have asked what the data is to show that students are benefiting," she said. "Students with disabilities need to receive comprehensive programs in reading and math and we want to be sure we aren't using supplemental computer based programs because they are easier or more fun."

ashley@smdp.com

BUDGET
FROM PAGE 3

"It will have a devastating effect if that's all cuts — to schools, university, to the mentally ill, that puts them all on the streets, and to law enforcement, to probation, to sheriffs. It's unacceptable," the governor told a meeting of law enforcement officials in Sacramento this week. "I know the people — when faced with the true cuts and knowing what they are or extending the taxes they're already paying — hopefully they're going to vote to continue to fund a decent level of government."

Brown scheduled an appearance Friday at an elementary school in Riverside, a Republican area of the state that is represented in the Legislature by Assemblyman Kevin Jeffries, R-Lake Elsinore, and Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton, R-Rancho Cucamonga.

The governor ended talks after meeting with Dutton, who presented a seven-page Republican wish list.

In a letter to the governor Thursday, Dutton welcomed Brown to his district, where he said unemployment is above 13.7 percent.

"Hopefully, you will take an opportunity to visit with some of our shared unemployed constituents," Dutton wrote in the letter, which was released by his office. "Unfortunately, your proposed budget does nothing to create jobs and, in fact, threatens many Inland Empire jobs through your proposals to eliminate redevelopment agencies and enterprise zones."

Brown has proposed eliminating those programs, which provide incentives for developers and businesses.

Jeffries also welcomed Brown to his district but warned the governor not to expect a warm reception.

The lawmaker said his constituents don't want to pay higher taxes. He said they support the cuts to public employee pensions and state spending that Republicans have been advocating.

"My constituents are struggling to make ends meet and can't afford Governor Brown's tax increases to fund a bloated state government," Jeffries said.

On Saturday, Brown planned to attend an event with cadets in Los Alamitos.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, said Thursday that the senate's budget committee would hold hearings about the effects of an all-cuts budget, but he did not say where or when.

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office has said closing a deficit smaller than the remaining $15.4 billion shortfall would require cuts. Those would include nearly $5 billion from K-12 schools, another $585 million from community colleges, $1.1 billion from universities — including a 10 percent student fee increase at California State University campuses — and $1.2 billion in cuts to health and social services.

The Department of Finance was preparing a revised budget proposal to be released in mid-May. It is likely to include a scenario in which the remaining deficit is closed solely through cuts.



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Oliver vows to continue revolution after L.A. snub

MICHAEL HILL
Associated Press

NEW YORK Turns out Jamie Oliver's revolution won't be televised — at least not from Los Angeles school kitchens.

The second season of the crusading Brit's healthy eating reality show, "Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution," started poorly when the city school district barred his cameras, a serious snag for a program that focuses on school lunches. The Los Angeles Unified School District, which previously had a bad experience with an unrelated reality show, more or less treated Oliver as if he was a cast member of "Jersey Shore."

"I think we swam into a minefield," Oliver told The Associated Press this week. "I'm really disappointed that I couldn't get in there at all. I'm disappointed that as public servants, they feel they have the right to not be transparent."

But the trouble didn't end with school officials. There are signs in the first episode (airing on ABC on Tuesday, April 12) that the people of Los Angeles — the city where Fatburger was founded — aren't fully embracing the revolution either. Only a modest crowd comes out to watch Oliver fill a school bus with a week's worth of the sugar added to the flavored milk served in L.A. schools (actually 57 tons of white sand).

Oliver dejectedly tells the camera: "This is cold-shoulder stuff."

So did L.A. prove too much for the chef? Hardly.

Oliver remains focused on the multinational healthy food campaign that has consumed him for more than five years. During an interview shoe-horned between a late-arriving flight from London and an appearance on David Letterman's show, the father of four was passionate and ticked off as he talked about the lousy food fed to too many school children and politicians too short-sighted to tackle the problem.

"You only have to affect 2 percent of the population to make radical change," Oliver said, "and that's what we're talking about, really."

In a TV landscape cluttered with sudden-death cook-offs and flamboyant chefs, Oliver's latest show has an unusual recipe for success — asking strangers to do what's good for them.

For the second season of "Food Revolution," that entails Oliver jousting with school bureaucrats, trying to help parents and kids make better choices and lobbying for healthier food at a local hamburger joint. It's not easy. In one scene, the fast-food operator goes wide-eyed when Oliver suggests he make burgers with grass-fed, black angus beef that costs $1.30 per 6-ounce patty (Oliver said he eventually was able to get the price down to 65 cents).

Oliver had better luck in Huntington, W. Va., where he first took his healthy food crusade. At least there he was allowed into the schools. But there were bumpy moments, too, as he tangled with reluctant school officials and kids who preferred pizza and chicken nuggets to his fresh-made coleslaw.

A Huntington school district spokesman later said that though the show was an ordeal, the process was worth it. Oliver calls his first U.S. stop in the food revolution a success.

"The dream was to do what we did. And eventually we pulled off everything we wanted to pull off," he said. "In L.A., you know, it's a completely different kettle of fish. I was banned from every school before I even touched down on the airport."

Oliver says all he wanted to do was see where the food for 650,000 school children came from. Oliver briefly found his way into a preparatory high school run by a nonprofit under contract with L.A. schools, but was booted once the district found out. Barred from schools, he asked parents and kids to bring school food samples to him. Unwrapping the plastic from a breakfast pastry, Oliver doesn't try to hide his disdain: "We're not happy, No?"

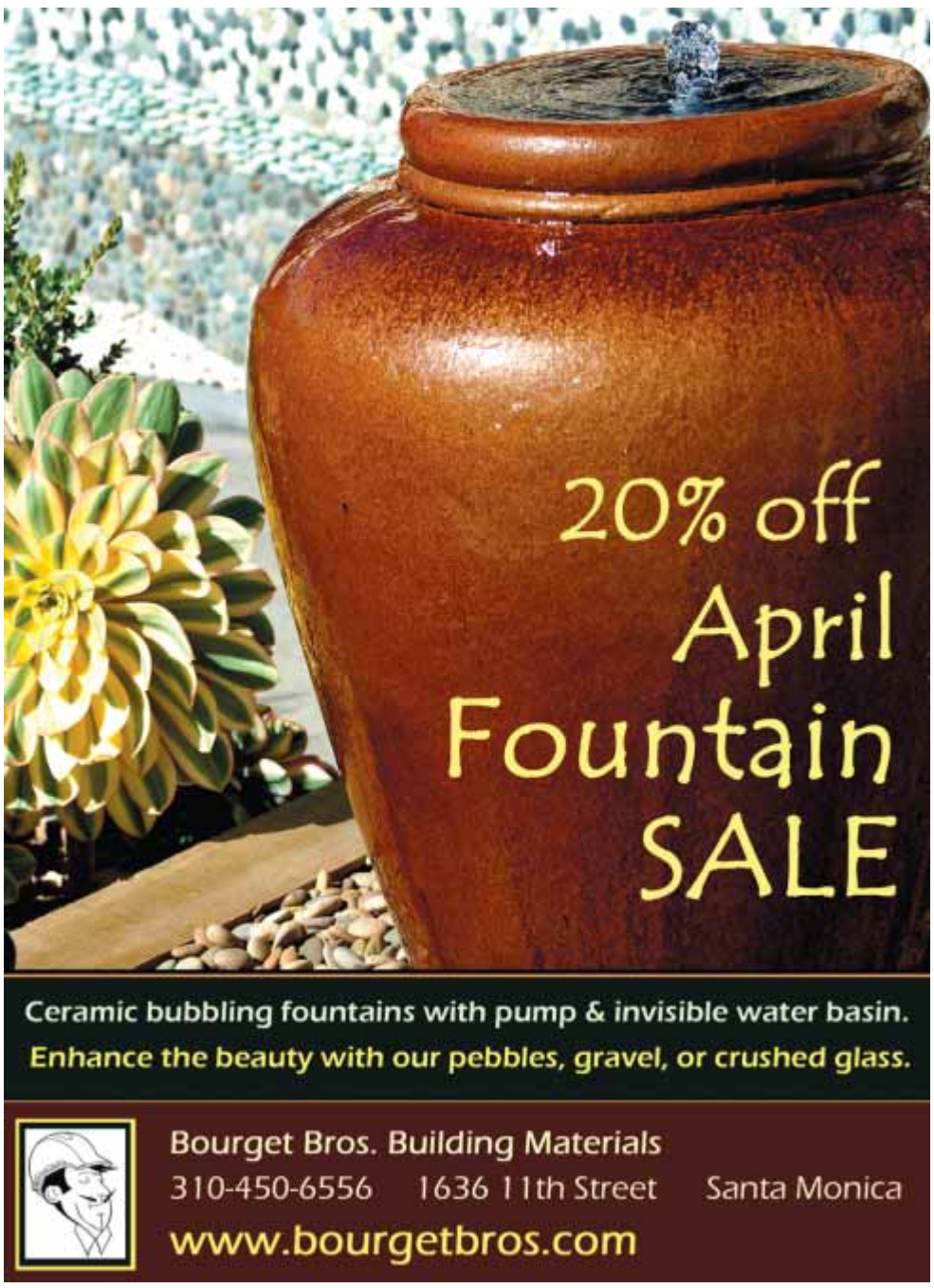
Oliver's L.A. experience stands in contrast to his initial campaign to clean up school lunches in his home country, where his allies included then-Prime Minister Tony Blair. Oliver suggests the fight was easier there in part because the British media is more aggressive in shining a light on the dark side of the food industry. It seemed easier to get a critical mass of British parents fed up.

As for Los Angeles, Oliver acknowledges he also was less effective in the largely Hispanic areas he worked because he does not speak Spanish. He said he had a harder time convincing parents that they could make a change.

Still, plans to go back to Los Angeles later this month. He wants to check in with families he worked with. Also, a new school superintendent starts later this month and Oliver, ever the optimist, wants to meet with him. Maybe they can start a dialogue, or maybe something more.

"I'd be lying if I told you there was a big master plan," he said.







Strong aftershock rattles disaster-weary Japan

JAY ALABASTER
TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
Associated Press

SENDAI, Japan A big aftershock rocked quake-weary Japan late Thursday, rattling nerves as it knocked out power to the northern part of the country and prompted tsunami warnings that were later canceled.

The quake was initially measured at magnitude-7.4, though the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., later downgraded it to 7.1. Either way, it was the strongest aftershock since several were recorded on March 11 — the day of the magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami that killed as many as 25,000 people and touched off a nuclear crisis last month.

There were no immediate reports of serious injuries or major damage, and the operator of the tsunami-ravaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant said there was no sign the aftershock had caused new problems there. Workers retreated to a quake-resistant shelter in the complex, with no injuries.

The aftershock around 11:30 p.m. was strong enough to knock items off store shelves and move a large automated teller machine at a FamilyMart convenience store in the major northern industrial center of Sendai. The city is far enough inland that it avoided major tsunami damage, but people there were without gas and electricity for weeks.

Manager Takehiko Akagi said 100 people had showed up within an hour of Thursday's aftershock and cleared the shelves of ice, water and instant noodles — items that were in short supply after the bigger quake.

"Usually at this time of night, there is almost no one," said Akagi, whose store had power even though people in nearby neighborhoods did not. A handful of buildings had broken windows and tiles, and some small electrical fires were reported.

In Ichinoseki, which is also inland, buildings shook violently, knocking items from shelves and toppling furniture, but there also appear to be no major damage there. Hotel workers lit candles so guests could find their way around.

Japan's nuclear safety agency said power plants along the northeastern coast were under control after backup generators kicked in at two — Rokkasho and Higashidori — that lost power.

The aftershock knocked out two of three power lines at the Onagawa nuclear power plant north of Sendai, which has been shut down since the tsunami. One remaining line was supplying power to the plant and radiation monitoring devices detected no abnormalities. The plant's spent fuel pools briefly lost cooling capacity, but it resumed because a power line was available for electricity.

"It's the way it's supposed to work if power is lost for any reason," said David Lochbaum, director of the nuclear safety project for the U.S.-based Union of Concerned Scientists. Since the tsunami warning was canceled 90 minutes after it was issued, there was no reason to believe the facilities' diesel generators would fail like the ones at the stricken Fukushima plant. The massive wave knocked out cooling systems and triggered a series of mishaps that have left workers struggling to stop radioactivity from spewing nearly a month later.

"That was really the blow that the plant didn't recover from," Lochbaum said.

Officials said the aftershock hit 25 miles (40 kilometers) under the water and off the coast of Miyagi prefecture. The USGS later downgraded it to 7.1.

Buildings as far away as Tokyo shook for about a minute.

Prime Minister Naoto Kan met with staff members in his office shortly afterward, according to deputy Cabinet spokesman Noriyuki Shikata.

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Fixing the growing immigration crisis in U.S. courts

SHARON COHEN
AP National Writer

The mother from Cameroon came to immigration court bearing scars: She'd been imprisoned back home, she said, beaten with cables, burned with cigarettes and raped repeatedly, contracting HIV. Her husband had died behind bars; her three children she'd left behind were struggling to survive.

She was seeking asylum, hoping to remain in Los Angeles and bring her children there. They were on their own after their grandmother died, living in a bamboo hut without water or a toilet, begging for food. For years, the mother, who'd fled Cameroon, had no contact with her kids, fearing she'd jeopardize their safety. When she finally did, her oldest son — gravely ill with malaria — sent her a letter:

"Ever since you left us mum, six years now, life has become so miserable, hope God intervains," the 20-year-old wrote. "Our greatest desire is to be beside you and ... acquire the love we need from you mama."

If the system had worked, this kind of asylum case would have been resolved promptly. But this was immigration court, where justice often moves at a glacial pace. Files were lost. Background checks delayed. Hearings scheduled at least 12 times over five years. The woman's lawyers, fearing their fragile client had become suicidal, were so alarmed they appealed to two members of Congress — not to intervene, but to call attention to what they say is a system in desperate need of reform.

"So many things are wrong, it's hard to know where to start," says Judy London, one of two Los Angeles lawyers who represented the Cameroon mother.

Some steps are being taken to fix the courts — federal officials are adding judges, improving training, reducing the influence of politics. But critics say these reforms are too little and long overdue. They follow a flurry of studies, congressional testimony and calls to do something about the crush of cases, complaints about erratic judges and delays that can leave thousands of immigrants in limbo for years.

Malcolm Rich, director of Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice, a legal research and advocacy group that has studied the courts, is hopeful the spotlight will have an impact. "Can I predict it with certainty?" he asks. "Of course not. But we do have people in place who want to improve the way these courts are run."

One of the most immediate changes is the addition of 38 judges and about 90 others, including clerks, in the past 18 months. They'll help address a staggering backlog of nearly 268,000 cases at the end of last year, according to the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, a research group affiliated with Syracuse University.

That's far short of about 100 judges called for in an American Bar Association-commissioned study released last year. But Dana Leigh Marks, head of the union representing the judges, says "it's a very important first step and we hope they'll continue to follow through on the massive crisis that we face."

More staff, though, seems unlikely now; a temporary hiring freeze is in effect.

Judges deal with an overwhelming caseload. They completed, on average, more than 1,500 cases each in fiscal year 2009, Marks testified last summer in a congressional hearing. That can mean as many as nine trials a day — some involving potentially life-and-death matters.

"The consequences for the people in court are very, very high," says Marks, a San Francisco judge. "They may fear persecution in their homeland. That's a valid defense to deportation, even if they are in the United States illegally. ... If we're wrong, it's almost equivalent to sentencing someone to death."

The caliber of immigration judges themselves was at the heart of a recent political scandal that revealed how cronyism had tainted the system.

An internal Justice Department report in 2008 concluded that top advisers to then-Attorney General Alberto Gonzales broke the law by choosing immigration judges over a two-year period based on political loyalties rather than qualifications. That practice was "systematic in nature," according to the report. Several hires had little or no experience in immigration law.

The report noted the Executive Office for Immigration Review — the department running the courts — was occasionally allowed to publish vacancies but no one was considered without the proper political pedigree. As a result, numerous slots remained open for long periods despite pleas for more judges.

In congressional testimony last year, Juan Osuna, now acting director of the office, said "significant steps" had been taken to improve the courts, including changes in hiring practices. His office, he said, notifies more than 120 legal groups of vacancies and casts a wide net for those with the right skills, experience and proper "demeanor and temperament."

He outlined other reforms, including better training, a more open complaint system and more thorough rulings in the appeals stage.

In 2004, for instance, more than 30 percent of the decisions upheld by the Board of Immigration Appeals didn't explain the reasons. That has been reduced to 4 percent, Osuna testified.

His office also says it has made substantial progress in complying with nearly two dozen changes recommended by the Justice Department in 2006. Those proposals came amid reports of wide disparities in asylum granted by judges working in the same city.

Among other improvements: a digital recording system, testing of new judges, and programs to deal with, report and monitor questionable conduct by judges.

But some say serious flaws remain. An extensive three-year study by TRAC, the research group, said while there was progress, the plan to fix the courts "has failed to achieve many of its ambitious purposes."

And Laura Wytsma, a lawyer who worked on the Cameroon case, has her doubts about a turnaround.

"There are too many other priorities for the federal government ... it's so far down the totem pole," says Wytsma, a former government immigration lawyer. "There are no politicians accountable to this constituency (the immigrants). They are not wealthy. They have no voting power. They have none of the things that put any pressures on the powers that be to make change. I'm not optimistic at all."

London, her partner on the case, also says while there are "very competent judges," she's not "confident there has been anything done to stop the more egregious behavior we see again and again."

Both lawyers are among a growing chorus of legal advocates urging the court become a separate institution — similar to bankruptcy court — removed from the Justice Department.

They and others say the current system gives the appearance prosecutors (who work for the Department of Homeland Security) and judges have the same client: the federal government.

"It's really about the independence of the judges," says Karen Grisez, a Washington lawyer who heads the ABA's committee on immigration. "Right now, the attorney general can hire and fire the immigration judges. ... Judges can be reassigned or disciplined if they're perceived as too lenient or have too many continuances."

But establishing a separate court is costly and time-consuming, and many say it's not likely to happen without a major overhaul of immigration laws, if then.

Grisez says progress can be made immediately by providing the most vulnerable — children and mentally ill — with appointed lawyers. (In immigration court, people can hire a lawyer or find free representation, but often end up defending themselves.)

"It's the biggest travesty of all" to expect kids and emotionally disturbed people to represent themselves in an adversarial hearing with complex laws, Grisez says. A report last year found some U.S. citizens with mental disabilities were detained and even deported because they couldn't navigate the courts alone.

The courts plan to hire an assistant chief judge to deal specifically with vulnerable populations.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Jury prospects asked if they are Jackson fans

LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES Lawyers in the case against Michael Jackson's doctor want to know if prospective jurors were fans of the pop star, how much they know about his death, and how familiar they are with 27 different prescription drugs he may have taken.

A 29-page questionnaire with those and other questions was released Thursday after prospects who said they could serve on the two-month trial of Dr. Conrad Murray finished answering its 117 questions.

Candidates were asked if they had ever seen Jackson or his family members in person, whether they own his records or DVDs, attended his concerts or saw his posthumous concert movie, "This is It," and if so why they watched it.

In one section, prospects were asked if they knew any of the more than 100 potential witnesses. Included on the list were Jackson's three children — Prince, Paris and Blanket — as well as his parents, brothers and sisters.

Large chunks of the questions involved familiarity with drugs and exposure to media coverage of the case, including Internet and social media postings. Jury prospects also were asked if they had ever posted blog entries about the case.

In a section headlined, "Attitudes about celebrities and people in the news," they were asked, "Do you think that people of wealth or fame are treated differently in the court system?"

Notably, there was no mention in the questionnaire of Jackson's highly publicized acquittal after his child molestation trial in 2005

Murray has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter. He is accused of gross negligence for administering the anesthetic propofol and other sedatives to Jackson before he died.

The trial is likely to focus on his competence based partially on his reactions after Jackson stopped breathing on June 25, 2009.

Jury prospects were asked, "Do you have any positive or negative feelings or opinions about Conrad Murray or Michael Jackson?"

Lawyers also wanted to know if they had ever taken prescription drugs, including propofol, and a long list of sedatives and mood altering drugs.

The lawyers also wanted to know if they had friends or family members who were ever addicted to prescription drugs, and if they themselves had been in a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program.

In addition, prospects had to disclose if they were ever involved in an emergency medical situation and whether that would prejudice them in deciding the case.

The answers of prospective jurors will be released when they are questioned in person beginning May 4.

In another development, Murray's lawyers filed six motions to exclude from testimony "sexually scandalous information" regarding Murray's patronage of a strip club in Los Angeles, the women he met there, and the amounts of money he spent,

"This evidence has no rational bearing on any issue in this matter and is presented merely to harass and discredit Dr. Murray," one motion states.

Three of Murray's mistresses testified at a preliminary hearing earlier this year.

STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Audit blames utility for compromising energy goals

An audit has revealed that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power may be putting the city's renewable energy goals at risk with its actions.

The audit says the utility achieved a city goal of 20 percent renewable energy in 2010 because of abnormally cool temperatures and higher than expected wind at the utility owned wind farms. The utility would have only achieved 18 percent if temperatures and wind rates had been at expected levels.

LADWP was also criticized for suspending spending on new renewables until clear funding sources were identified.

The audit warned that is something was not done, the city would not reach mandated state energy goals by 2020 and could face hefty state penalties.

A call to a department spokesperson was not immediately returned.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Ex-sheriff's deputy, wife plead in tow fee case

A retired Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputy and his wife have pleaded no contest to embezzling $500,000 in towing fees that should have gone to the city of La Puente.

Joseph Dyer supervised the impound program, collecting towing fees from residents. Prosecutors said he pocketed the money between 2001 and 2007 instead of giving it to the city.

The 56-year-old pleaded no contest Thursday to one felony count of public officer crime and will be sentenced to three years in state prison on May 31. His wife, Lydia, pleaded no contest to filing a false tax return and was sentenced to 12 months' probation.

The couple repaid the sheriff's department as part of their plea.

AP

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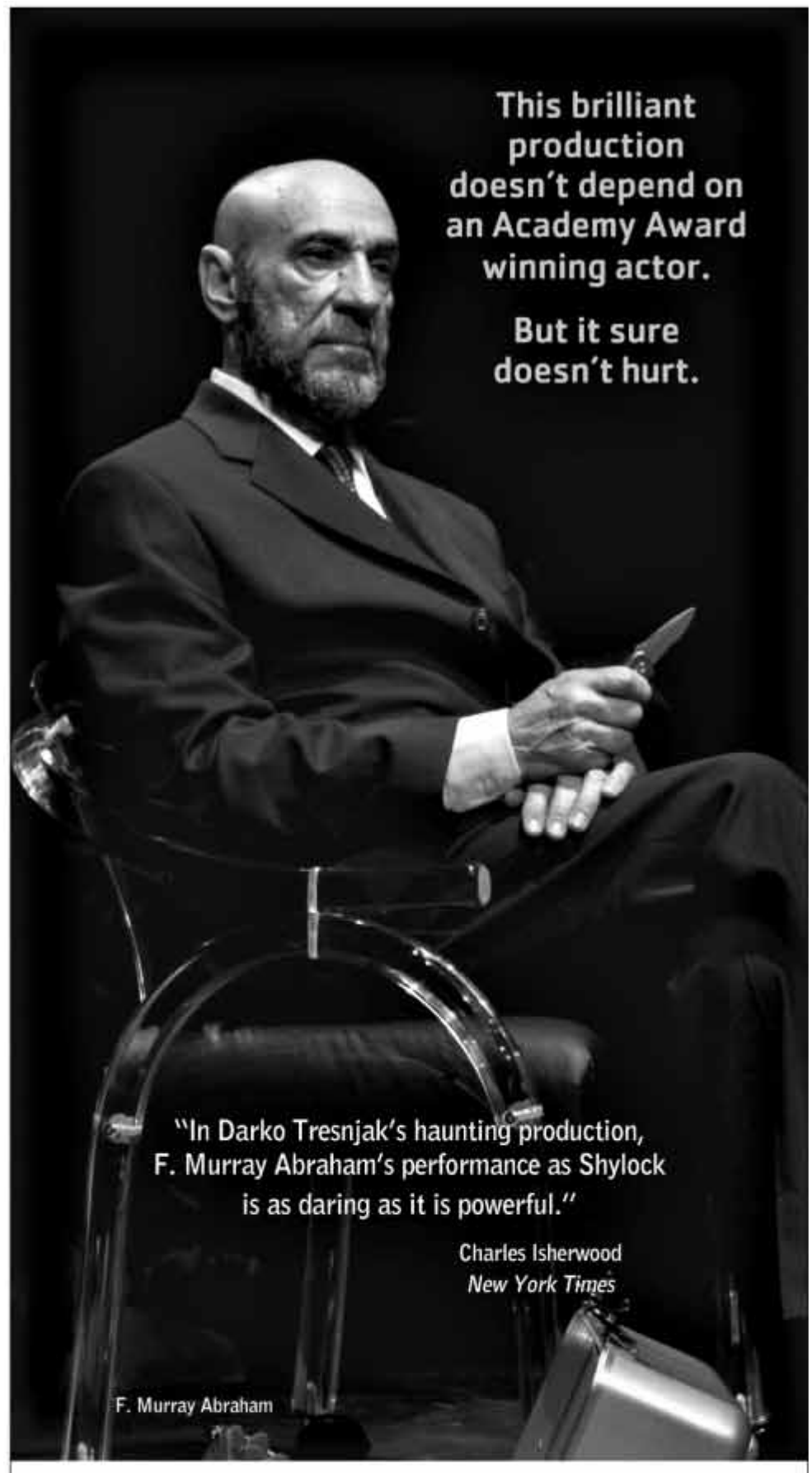
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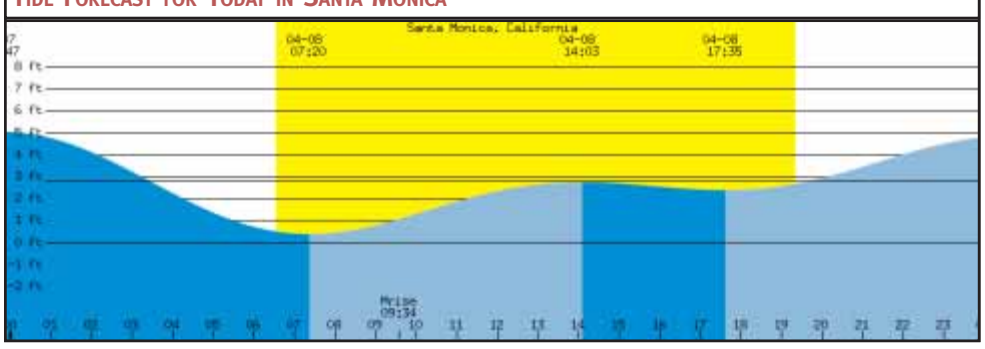
Swell Forecast

Today looks similar to today: head high around west facing breaks and chest+ at south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

This weekend the SW should stick around with at least chest high waves for south facing breaks. NW wind swell is expected to fade to chest max at west facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

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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 -- 15
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 23
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 14 / 19

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

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

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

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

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

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

MLB

L.A. police plan to increase security at Dodger Stadium

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Police will heighten security at Los Angeles Dodgers home games after a severe beating at the season opener left a San Francisco Giants fan with brain damage.

"You're going to see a sea of blue, but it's not going to be Dodgers blue. It's going to be LAPD blue," police Chief Charlie Beck said Thursday. "This is going to be a game-changer."

Beck asked the team to pay for the deployment of uniformed officers and was negotiating the amount with team officials.

He declined to estimate how much the extra personnel would cost or how many officers would be deployed but said he would spare no expense to ensure public safety at Dodger Stadium.

"We try to let venues take care of their own security. If they can't, I step in," Beck said. "I'm going to do what it takes."

Bryan Stow, 42, a paramedic from Santa Cruz, remained in critical condition at Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center after he was attacked last week by two men wearing Dodgers attire in the stadium parking lot because Stow was wearing a Giants jersey. Witnesses told police the men were drunk.

Officials scrambled to keep the incident from damaging the city's image and to prevent further outbreaks of violence between fans of the archrival Dodgers and Giants.

"It's an aberration," Councilman Ed Reyes said. "Dodger Stadium is part of our identity. We need to restore our confidence."

Deputy Chief Jose Perez said the release of composite sketches of the suspects generated 80 leads that were being followed by a team of detectives.

"We have our best working on this," he said.

A reward for information leading to an arrest has grown to $150,000, with donors including the City Council, the Dodgers, Giants, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich and Stow's employer American Medical Response.

In addition, the Dodgers have hired former LAPD Chief William Bratton to study lighting, alcohol sales and other security issues.

"That's a long-term fix that will hopefully allow me to back off some of the uniformed deployment," Beck said.

The chief also said he was in favor of overturning a policy that bars off-duty officers from carrying guns when they attend games.

The Giants, along with American Medical Response, plan to collect donations for The Bryan Stow Fund at Monday's game against the Dodgers in San Francisco.

The Giants said they would contribute $10,000, while their community service organization — the Giants Community Fund — will hold a silent auction during the game to raise money.

Stow's family and sympathizers held a candlelight vigil Wednesday night outside the medical center where Stow is hospitalized.

"We're very optimistic that Bryan will make the best recovery that he can," cousin John Stow said. "We're hoping that his damage is to a minimum."

NCAA FOOTBALL

Titans, USC settle over Kiffin's hiring of coach

TERESA M. WALKER
AP Sports Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. The Tennessee Titans have settled their lawsuit with the University of Southern California over Trojans coach Lane Kiffin hiring away an assistant coach just before training camp last July.

The Titans and USC announced Wednesday in a joint statement that settlement terms are private but called it an "amicable" resolution. The lawsuit is expected to be dismissed in a few weeks.

The team sued July 26, a couple days after Kiffin poached running backs coach Kennedy Pola off the Titans' coaching staff a week before Tennessee opened camp.

Then-Titans coach Jeff Fisher, a USC alumnus, had fired Earnest Byner to hire Pola last offseason and said Kiffin didn't make the customary courtesy call to alert the team of his intentions.

The Titans' lawsuit accused USC and Kiffin of using "improper means" to induce Pola to breach his contract with the NFL team. But USC and Kiffin offered Pola better job security than the Titans because his NFL contract ran to Feb. 14, 2011, though the team later extended their assistants' deals through 2012.

Tennessee charged that Pola needed written permission from the team president and general counsel because verbal consent wasn't adequate, which both Southern California and Kiffin knew about through Pola. Fisher also criticized Kiffin's professionalism to a newspaper reporter.

Losing Pola forced Fisher to swap up his staff, but the Titans couldn't fill the spot before the 2010 season. Tennessee went 6-10, and Fisher left the team in late January.



MOVIE TIMES

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

Tribute to Oscar-winning costume designer Theoni V. Aldredge

The Great Gatsby (PG) 2hr 24min
Eyes of Laura Mars (R) 1hr 44min
7:30pm
Call theater for information.

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

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Paul (R) 1hr 40min
2:35pm, 5:10pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Battle: Los Angeles (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Insidious (PG-13) 1hr 42min
2:20pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:05pm

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

Sucker Punch (R) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:05pm

Hop (PG) 1hr 30min
11:25am, 2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Adjustment Bureau (PG-13) 1hr 46min
12:10pm, 2:45pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:35pm

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (PG) 1hr 36min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Hanna (PG-13) 1hr 51min
10:55am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
10:30am, 12:40pm, 2:55pm, 5:15pm, 7:40pm, 10:10pm

Soul Surfer (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

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

Certified Copy (Copie conforme) (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

Of Gods and Men (Des hommes et des dieux) (R) 2hrs 00min
3:00pm, 8:00pm

Trophy Wife (Potiche) (R) 1hr 43min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Win Win (R) 1hr 46min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Super (NR) 1hr 36min
4:10pm, 9:40pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:00pm, 5:50pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Your Highness (R) 1hr 42min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:10am, 1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Jane Eyre (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
10:10am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

No eres tÃº, soy yo (PG-13) 1hr 45min
12:00pm, 2:35pm, 5:10pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
10:40am, 1:25pm, 4:15pm, 7:10pm, 10:05pm

Arthur (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

Make the most of every minute, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ The path of abundance easily leads to excess. You will note that that also might be true of emotions. You cannot help but feel a little like a race car at the starting line as Friday ends. Let's hope for the same thing as Monday begins. Tonight: Making the most of every minute.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might be surprised by everything that goes on around you. Though you would like to join in, perhaps the sure bet is to observe. Be happy for those around you while remaining seductively more stable. Tonight: Join a pal. (TGIF!)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You hit your month's power days. Can anyone stop a ball rolling downhill? Yes, and you could hit a bump or two. The likelihood is that in your frame of mind, you will bounce away, never to think about that incident again. Why should you? Tonight: On a roll, so to speak.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You might want to try another approach or do something vaguely different. Your path seems convoluted to some, but what counts is you know why you are heading this way. Stay true to yourself, but don't expect a roaring crowd behind you. Tonight: Play it low-key.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Emphasize the collective rather than the individual. You will find many answers and responses. You will clear a mini hurdle because of your demonstrative manner and dynamic thinking. Tonight: Just be yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You make your way best by assuming responsibility for everything that involves you. You don't always land as you might like to, but you'll gain a sense of relief from the fact that you did your very best and gave it 100 percent. Tonight: Follow through on a call first.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You sway from one opinion to another. Though some people might see this seesaw activity as a problem, it only reflects your ability to grasp and incorporate both sides of an issue. Find the midpoint or discover why both sides might be right. Tonight: Split as fast as humanly possible.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ The best approach might be to let someone else lead and show his or her true colors. You don't always think you are right and, by all means, have no reason to believe otherwise. Of interest is another approach to the same issue. Tonight: Grow from differences rather than criticize them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Listen to the other side, and you might be delightfully surprised by what is going on behind the scenes. Your laughter comes once you clearly understand where another person is coming from. Though you two are so different, you are so much alike. Tonight: Go along with a loved one's idea of fun!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your ability to get the job done is sometimes abused by others. Please note the unfinished projects that surround people's work as they leave for the weekend. Remember, it is up to you to decide if you want to finish up what was another person's responsibility. Tonight: Do what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your ideas seem endless --be it work, a discussion or making plans. If your thoughts are an indication, you could trigger a lot of positive activity. You are not alone; a friend nearly begs to be a companion! Tonight: Toss yourself into the whirlwind called the weekend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Sometimes others expect too much from you. If need be, make it OK to vanish and work from home. Sometimes the less said the better. You might be feeling some impending changes coming on. Tonight: Where your friends are.

Happy birthday

This year, opportunities keep tumbling into your path. On one side is a spoiled little kid who feels the power and abundance of these opportunities. On the other side is an adult who makes strong, solid choices. Which is your path? Communication is highlighted as you open new doors and go through them. Know what you want. Know your expectations. Are they in sync?

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



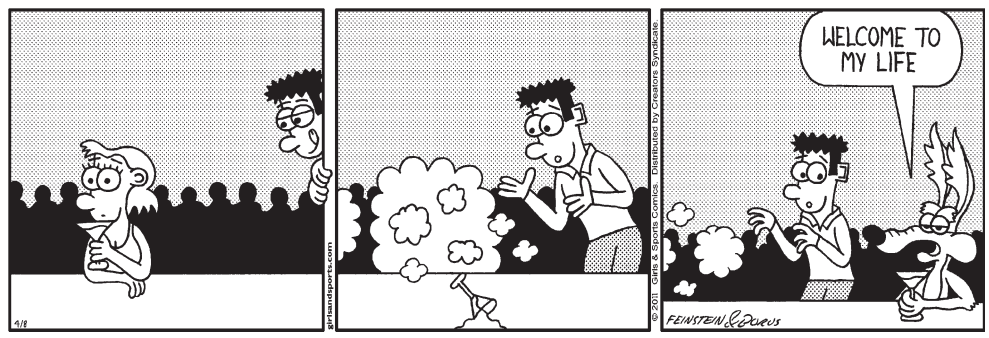
MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

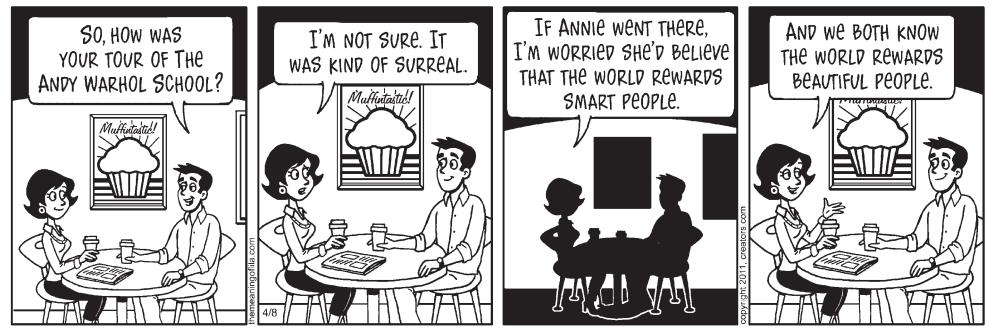
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



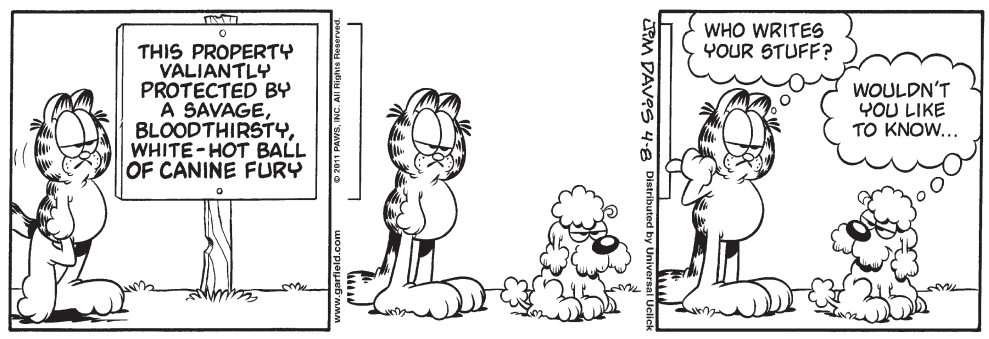
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



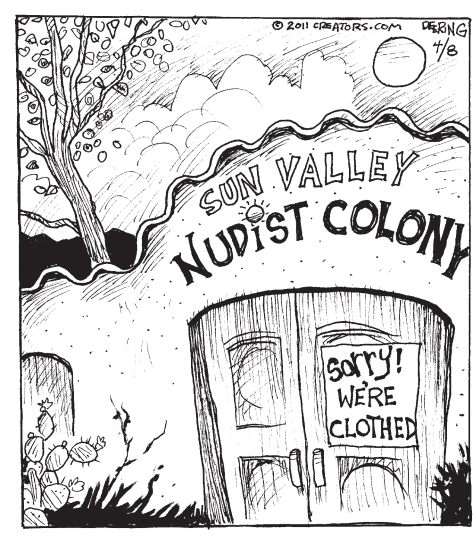
Garfield

By Jim Davis



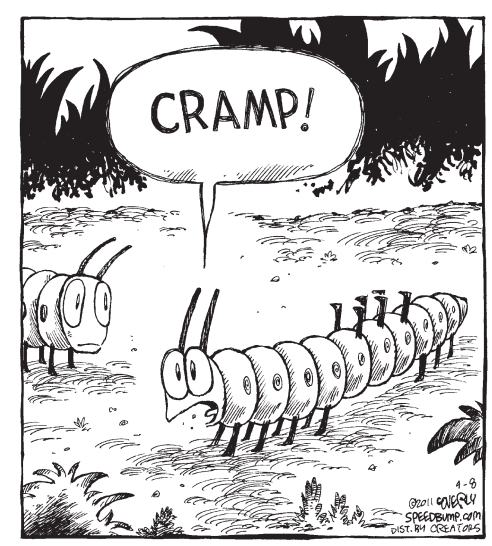
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Needs a massage
6 Earthen brick
11 Pay for everyone
12 Easy gaits
13 Lafayette's land
14 Like xenon
15 Garden tool
16 Hearty brew
18 Jazz group?
19 Boxing great
20 "Oh, wow!"
21 Nonetheless
22 Looked after
24 Tedious fellow
25 Gymnast Retton
27 Inlets
29 Gets on
32 Cabinet wood
33 Base runner's goal
34 Batter's goal
35 That lady
36 Easter find
37 Longoria of TV
38 Sharp-clawed marsupial
40 Profit
42 Goofed
43 Avant —
44 Heads of France
45 Mink's cousin

DOWN

1 Besides
2 Bayou cooking style
3 Al Martino hit song
4 Corn unit
5 River boat
6 UFO occupant
7 Oxford bigwig
8 Madonna hit song
9 Carpet type
10 Fancy home
17 Spotted insect
23 German article
24 Frilly wrap
26 Way back when
27 Bike accessory
28 Onto the beach
30 Cut up
31 Less fresh
33 Peruses
39 "Crooklyn" director
41 Big tub

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

Yesterday's answer

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4-8

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Fantasy 5: 3 22 30 34 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 6 3 EVENING: 1 8 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 03 Hot Shot 2nd: 09 Winning Spirit 3rd: 12 Lucky Charms RACE TIME: 1:47.09

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Theory of Evolution: Last year, the highly qualified agriculture expert Ricardo Salvador was passed over by Iowa State University to run its Center for Sustainable Agriculture, even after the person who finished ahead of him declined the job. According to a June Chronicle of Higher Education report, Salvador had committed an unpardonable faux pas during the hiring process -- by stating the obvious fact that cows everywhere, historically, eat "grass." (Since Iowa's dominant crop is corn, "grass" was the wrong answer.) When a Chronicle reporter asked the dean of Iowa State's agriculture school whether cows evolved eating grass, the dean said she did not have an "opinion" about that.

■ (1) Over the last 10 years, newspaper vendor Miljenko Bukovic, 56, of Valparaiso, Chile, has acquired 82 Julia Roberts face tattoos on his upper body -- all, he said, inspired by scenes from the movie "Erin Brockovich." (2) On Feb. 21, Jessica Davey, 22, of Salisbury, England, saw that her car had been wrongly immobilized with a boot. Angry at probably missing work, she locked herself in the car, thus impeding the tow truck, and remained for 30 hours, until a parking inspector dropped by and removed the boot.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1913 The 17th Amendment to the United States Constitution, requiring direct election of Senators, becomes law.

1918 World War I: Actors Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin sell war bonds on the streets of New York City's financial district.

1929 Indian Independence Movement: At the Delhi Central Assembly, Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt throw handouts and bombs to court arrest.

1935 The Works Progress Administration is formed when the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935 becomes law.

WORD UP!

métier \ met-YAY; MET-yay \ , noun;

1. An occupation; a profession.
2. An area in which one excels; an occupation for which one is especially well suited.

ARITHMO™
CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

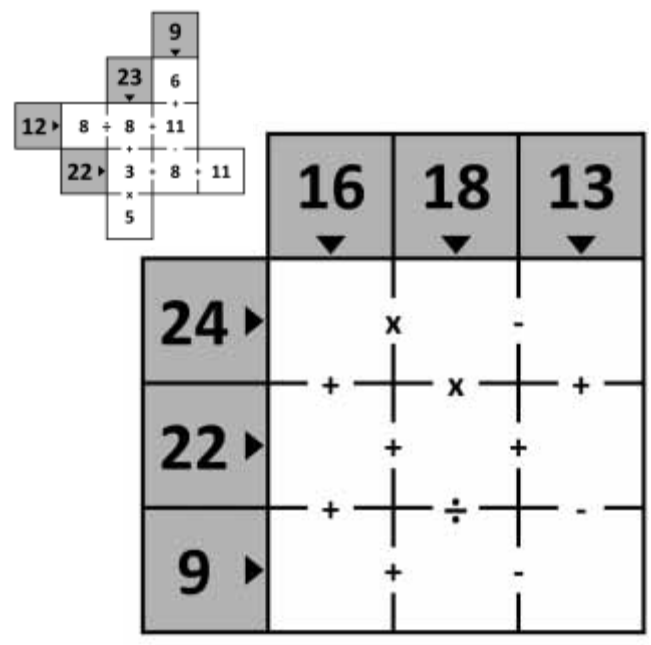
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 9, 11, 12, 12

Solution for Task 738



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Notices

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type, A, or C-34, or SC-34 license, on the following: Bid #10.39.BB. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before Wednesday 05/04/11 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. All bidders must attend the Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site on Wednesday, 04/13/11 at 10:00 AM. All bidders must be prequalified prior to submittal of bids. Please contact Sheere at BBprojectinfo@smmusd.org , for prequalification requirements, contract documents and bid information .

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20110302998 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 03/25/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as GRACE FAMILY CHILD CARE. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: SUSAN GRACE 21310 ALVAR PLACE CARSON, CA 90745. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)02/2008. /s/: SUSAN GRACE; CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 03/25/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 03/25/2011, 04/01/2011, 04/08/2011, 04/15/2011.

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