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Volume 13 Issue 130

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

IS THIS BEVERLY HILLS?
SEE PAGE 4

THE GETTING BY ISSUE

City's action plan focused on rental subsidy, traffic circles

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Federal grants could cover rental subsidies, traffic circles, and building repairs in the city by the sea next fiscal year.

City Hall's action plan addresses the areas in which $1.7 million will be spent on the community from July through June of 2015.

The 2014-15 Action Plan released earlier this month is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for any municipal governments receiving specific federal grants.

City officials anticipate that $560,272 worth of grant money would provide rental subsidies to 25 families of senior or disabled homeless persons, victims of domestic violence, and persons at risk of homelessness.

Another $366,943 would cover four traffic circles along the Michigan Avenue Neighborhood Greenway, a proposed pedestrian thoroughfare connecting the east and west sides of the city. This cash will also be used to cover intersection improvements, wayfinding, and landscaping.

These particular street improvements will be completed along Michigan at 17th Street, which city officials identify as a low or moderate income area.

The changes encourage increased pedestrian use and more accessible usage by people with disabilities.

SEE PLAN PAGE 8



Photo courtesy Asa Moore

STARR

Riding the tech waves

History of Silicon Beach through the eyes of a creative office broker

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

SILICON BEACH 1333, 201, 1447 … Randy Starr rattles off creative office space addresses like a bingo announcer.

The longtime Santa Monica real estate broker and principal at Avison Young specializes in those Silicon Beach-desired offices with skylights, exposed brick, and high ceilings.

As tech business booms in the city by the sea, creative office space vacancy rates are the lowest in the region.

Silicon Beach is expanding south because some companies can't find the room here and others have found better deals but, Starr said, Santa Monica will always be the center.

The theory behind the controversial

SEE STARR PAGE 10

Famous L.A. mountain lion exposed to poison

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A mountain lion that appeared strong and healthy when it was photographed as it ruled a wilderness park in the middle of Los Angeles has been exposed to rat poison and is suffering from mange, officials said.

Scientists noticed the big cat known as P-22 was sickly when they recaptured it last month to replace batteries in its GPS tracking collar, National Park Service spokeswoman Kate Kuykendall said Thursday.

The 4-year-old cougar probably ate animals exposed to poison from residential rodent traps, she said.

"When people put these bait traps outside their homes or businesses, they may not realize that the poison works its way up the food chain, becoming more lethal as the dose accumulates in larger animals," said Dr. Seth Riley, an urban wildlife expert at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Tests revealed the animal had been exposed to anti-coagulant rodenticide, commonly known as rat poison, and was suffering from mange, a parasitic disease of the hair and skin.

P-22 was treated and returned to the 4,300-acre Griffith Park, where it continues to successfully hunt its natural prey of mule deer. Biologists said it's unclear whether the cat will fully recover.

There's no indication the poisoned cat is

SEE LION PAGE 8


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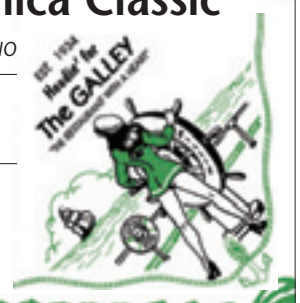
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, April 18, 2014

'Tis a 'Dream' cometh true
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
In their first collaboration since the internationally acclaimed "War Horse," Bristol Old Vic's Artistic Director Tom Morris and Cape Town's Handspring Puppet Company reunite for an inventive new take on Shakespeare's romantic comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." This production runs through April 19. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

Driving with Google
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Learn what Google Drive is, and how to use it to create, store, share and edit documents on the Internet. Advanced level. Seating is first-come, first-served. For more information, visit the reference desk or call (310) 434-2608.

Saturday, April 19, 2014

Surf's up, little dudes
Santa Monica Pier
9 a.m.
Calling all kids ages 1-8. Saturday mornings are about to get musical. Join the pier's staff for Wake Up With the Waves, the interactive concert series for children. It's fresh-air fun with a rotating cast of musicians and entertainers who get kids engaged with singing, dancing, playing and more. For more information, call (310) 458-8901.

Learn from the masters
Pico Farmers' Market
Virginia Avenue Park,
2200 Virginia Ave.
9:30 a.m.
Master gardeners provide free gardening tips, solutions to gardening problems, seeds and seedlings as well as their technical expertise based on the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program, which provides intense gardening training emphasizing organic gardening and covers vegetables, fruits, flowers, shrubs, trees, soils, composting, pests and harvesting.

Getting friendly with your landscape
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m.
If you're interested in learning how to create your own California friendly garden, join other residents for a fun and free three-hour training session led by local landscaping experts. To register, call (310) 458-8459, or e-mail savewater@smgov.net. Only 25 spaces available per session.

They got cat class and they got cat style
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 7 p.m.
The Playhouse welcomes Samantha Martin and her Amazing Acro-Cats as they spring into Santa Monica. The one-hour show features over a dozen fabulous felines (former orphans, rescues and strays) walking tightropes, pushing carts, skateboarding, jumping through hoops, ringing bells, balancing on balls and turning on lights. For more information, visit circuscats.com.

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

Astronomers spot most Earth-like planet to date

ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES Astronomers have discovered what they say is the most Earth-like planet yet detected — a distant, rocky world that's similar in size to our own and exists in the Goldilocks zone where it's not too hot and not too cold for life.

The find, announced Thursday, excited planet hunters who have been scouring the Milky Way galaxy for years for potentially habitable places outside our solar system.

"This is the best case for a habitable planet yet found. The results are absolutely rock solid," University of California, Berkeley astronomer Geoff Marcy, who had no role in the discovery, said in an email.

The planet was detected by NASA's orbiting Kepler telescope, which studies the heavens for subtle changes in brightness that indicate an orbiting planet is crossing in front of a star. From those changes, scientists can calculate a planet's size and make certain inferences about its makeup.

The newfound object, dubbed Kepler-186f, circles a red dwarf star 500 light-years from Earth in the constellation Cygnus. A light-year is almost 6 trillion miles.

The planet is about 10 percent larger than Earth and may very well have liquid water — a key ingredient for life — on its surface, scientists said. That is because it resides at the outer edge of the habitable temperature zone around its star — the sweet spot where lakes, rivers or oceans can exist without freezing solid or boiling away.

The find "is special because we already know that a planet of this size and in the habitable zone is capable of supporting life as we know it," lead researcher Elisa Quintana of NASA's Ames Research Center said at a news conference.

The discovery was detailed in Friday's issue of the journal Science. It was based on observations that were made before the Kepler telescope was crippled by a mechanical failure last year.

The planet probably basks in an orange-red glow from its star and is most likely cooler than Earth, with an average temperature slightly above freezing, "similar to dawn or dusk on a spring day,"

SEE **PLANET** PAGE 9



BIG HONOR

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (center) had a building dedicated to him by the nonprofit Step Up On Fifth on Thursday.

Facebook rolls out location-sharing feature

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK Facebook users in the U.S. will soon be able to see which of their friends are in close proximity using a new feature the company is launching on Thursday.

Called "Nearby Friends," the optional tool will only be available to people who choose to turn it on. The feature uses your smartphone's GPS system to tell your Facebook friends you are nearby — provided they have the feature turned on. Rather than share your exact location, it will only show that you are nearby, say, within half a mile.

If you like, you can manually share a more precise location with a specific friend you'd like to meet up with. Friends can see where you're located in a particular park, airport or city block. By default, your exact location will only be shared for an hour, although you can change this.

The Nearby Friends feature will be turned off by default, so people shouldn't expect to broadcast their location unknowingly to their Facebook friends and acquaintances. It also won't be available to users under 18, said Andrea Vaccari, product manager at Facebook who has been working on Nearby Friends for the past two years. He says the tool "makes it easy to join your friends in the real world." If you want to.

The feature has a lot of built-in precautions. Facebook, whose motto has long been "move fast and break things," is trying a different approach with Nearby Friends as it tries to avoid privacy fiascos that often bubble up when it makes changes to its service. The new motto, "ship love," is evident in the deliberate, cautious rollout of Nearby Friends, says Jules Polonetsky, director of the Future of Privacy Forum, an industry-backed think tank in Washington who's advised Facebook on privacy issues — including the latest feature.

He thinks Facebook is showing "a deeper appreciation that with a billion users, any change needs to be implemented in a way that doesn't surprise the audience." Especially when it comes to privacy, especially when it comes to location-sharing.

"Once you start bringing this to a mass audience, you need to be cautious," Polonetsky said. "So inadvertent oversharing is not possible."

Of course, all the safeguards and slow rollout mean that most users won't have the feature available right away, but rather in the coming weeks and months. Initially it will go to people who are likely to appreciate it, Vaccari says, such as people who have "checked in" to various restaurants, bars or other locations using Facebook.

Unlike with its Messenger app, Facebook isn't forcing people to use Nearby Friends,

SEE **FACEBOOK** PAGE 9

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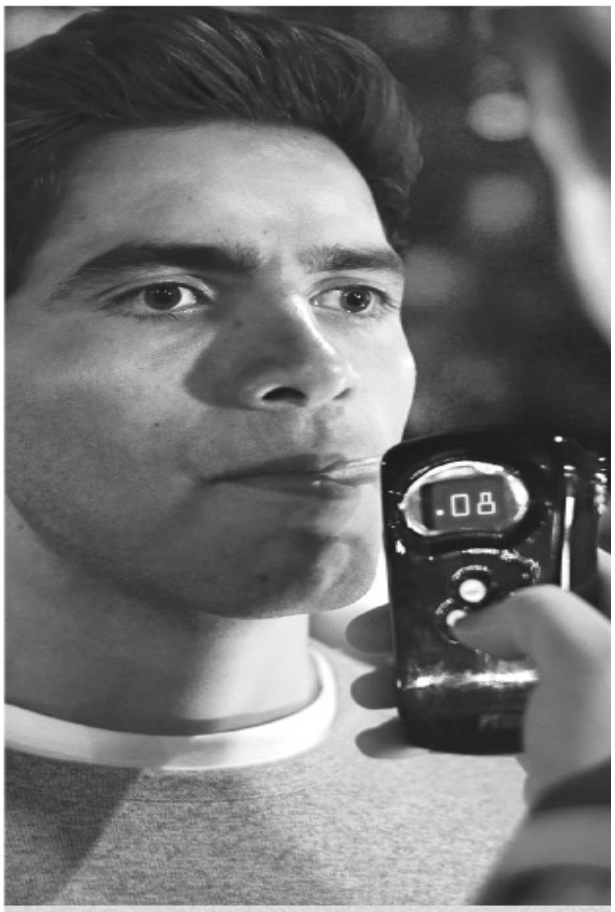


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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Beverly Hills by the sea

WHEN I MOVED TO THE SHORES IN 1974, (then the Santa Monica Shores) of the 532 units, there were about 175 vacancies. Actually, years before the two, 17-story high-rises had been purchased in foreclosure. To many, Ocean Park was considered less than a desirable neighborhood. Put it this way, our nickname was "Dog Town" and it wasn't because we loved pooches.

Along Neilson Way, in front of the Shores, were a row of signsn that stated: "Rents start at $245 a month."

Today, those same units cost $3,000 a month. Math was never my strong suit but I believe that's more than a 3,000 percent increase. That's not just inflation, that's more like Germany in the 1920s where it took a wheelbarrow of money to buy a loaf of bread.

To attract renters at the Shores in the early '70s, the building would throw catered pool parties with live music hoping tenants would invite their friends who, in seeing the premises, might want to move here. As I recall, in a luau-themed party we once roasted a pig which, now that I think of it, probably didn't attract many Muslim potential renters.

As it happens, the Shores were designed and built by Del Webb. It didn't happen but Webb envisioned other high-rise developers would soon follow suit and Santa Monica would become the new Miami Beach. With current skyrocketing rents, one day (if not already) Santa Monica could be like Beverly Hills only with an ocean view.

To see for yourself, just go to the Rent Control website and locate the "MAR Data Base" search box (Maximum Allowable Rent). I recently typed in my building address and up jumped a page with the rent figures which are staggering to say the least.

Upon a quick scan, the highest rent I saw was $6,500 a month, which was obviously a "fair market" renter. The lowest was $902, obviously a tenant of many years paying the rent control figure. As I scrolled down I'm "guesstimating" the number of tenants going back years and paying the lower figures may now represent as little as 20 percent of the total while the more recent fair market folks may represent the remaining 80 percent.

Recently the Daily Press reported, in addition to record increases in rent, are also increases in tenant harassment cases, which shouldn't be surprising. But in all fairness I've never seen anything remotely like that at the Shores, nor any difference in treatment of lower rent paying tenants to the higher paying tenants.

In fact, my experience has always been if a repair is needed, i.e. backed up garbage disposal, it's almost always fixed the same day, no matter the level of rent being paid. And of course, to attract the higher rents the buildings are maintained beautifully.

But, given the occasional perverse nature of my sense of humor, I admit that when I see an ambulance leaving the building, in addition to the siren, I can almost hear the sound of a cash register. (I have a feeling I'm going to get a few nasty e-mails for that one.)

Given the vacancy de-control aspect to rent control, all of this is perfectly legal and maybe it's just an example of economic Darwinism, or simply supply and demand. And even maybe it's the way it should be.

I don't resent those who think all these changes are an improvement, even though with how the city, once quiet and quaint, has gone so upscale and congested it's almost unrecognizable to me. On the weekends it feels like I've moved to a rich man's Coney Island.

Personally, I find the transformation sad and hope those that don't agree with that observation don't resent my point of view. Last time I covered this subject among stinging Letters to the Editor one referred to me as an "ungrateful whiner." (And that was the nicer one.)

I see the future of Santa Monica similar to America. The 1-percenters are doing better than ever, the ranks of those living in poverty are swelling with income inequality increasing alarmingly, while the middle class, the backbone of any democracy, is rapidly disappearing.

When I grew up in the '50s, a father with a union job could comfortably support his family and his kids could go to college. When I think about how it is now (i.e. college tuition alone) that memory sounds more like a "Twilight Zone" episode.

So I won't be shocked if Santa Monica is a paradise primarily for the wealthy, and for those lucky enough to receive low-income housing but not much room for the middle class who helped make this city what it was. (Or maybe they could move to Beverly Hills where rents are cheaper.) Or maybe I'm wrong. This is one time I hope I am.

Keeping in mind that "ungrateful whiner" has already been used, **JACK** can be reached at facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth or via e-mail at jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

Back to work

Santa Monica High teacher and wrestling coach Mark Black was recently put on leave following an altercation with students. One of the students has been charged in the case.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Should Black be reinstated or does the school district have to look into the incident to determine who was at fault?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.



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Your column here

By SMa.r.t.

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Our system is broken

OUR CITY'S CHARACTER IS RAPIDLY changing. Who are we? And where are we heading?

The current system is broken — it's not working for developers, the city, or the community. Over 40 development agreements (DAs) have created a tsunami of activity — in stark contrast to the handful of DAs the prior 25 years. The 20 year growth anticipated in the general plan is taking place in only three years since the plan was approved! And it should not have taken the Hines Bergamot Transit Village application seven years to be processed and then be challenged in a community-wide referendum. The city needs to protect itself from this feeding frenzy or the warmth and charm of our city will soon be gone. Resident concerns have taken a backseat to developer and business interests. As design professionals and long-time residents, we feel it is critically important to inform the community by discussing ways in which the process can change direction.

Next week we will discuss traffic where we've already lost the goal of being a driveable city — a city you could cross in 15 minutes. We are told that abandoning cars will make it easier to get around, but the city's proposed "transportation demand management" policies will be ineffective unless reliable and accessible transit alternatives come first. We will explore more realistic remedies to recapture mobility and avoid total gridlock.

The following week, height will be the topic, where City Hall promises that bigger and taller will make the city better. Staff is recommending Downtown, eastern Santa Monica, and maybe boulevards have height increases from 100 percent to over 300 percent! We will discuss ways to avoid our streets becoming canyons lined with walls of buildings that replace sunlight with shade. Santa Monica is a beautiful community — not a metropolitan city. Both Santa Barbara, twice the size of Santa Monica, and Manhattan Beach, half our size, have maximum 30 foot height limits, more open space, and are economically sound! A "prescriptive code" with a simple height, density, and open space ratio allowing for reasonable growth and creative design will benefit both the developer and the community.

Then we'll address Downtown, which is not about height and density — it's about wider sidewalks, better building design, open space and sunlight. But plans for Downtown are being shaped by stakeholders, not the community, and overdevelopment is slowly covering our Downtown like a cataract. Like other successful and economically healthy beach cities, we need a simple, creative, transparent "prescriptive" code where developers and the community know what is allowed and community benefits simply become part of the permit fees and expended infrastructure costs. No amount of community benefits can make a poor project a good project. The DA process requires not just re-evaluation but complete elimination. Quality is far more important than quantity, and it's our quality of life that's iconic.

We'll discuss the infrastructure that needs to be in place before development! We live in a democracy of consumerism and gratification with its offspring of waste. How do we balance this with a healthy environment? With the onslaught of development, we need to realistically address a broad spectrum from water conservation to classroom education, while also considering emergency response in a gridlocked environment. City Hall never addressed whether existing infrastructure can accommodate extensive development. Instead, the city is being driven by revenue from developers needed to cover current costs and pensions without accounting for the huge expense of increased infrastructure. The damage left in the wake of this feeding frenzy is not only reducing our quality of life, but we will also be left to pay the bills.

Regarding the city's obsession with opportunity sites along with greater community benefits, this is simply more opportunity for developers than for the community. Height doesn't equate with iconic architecture, but sunlight and open skies do equate with an iconic environment. And more traffic and shade with less sunlight and local business are not exactly community benefits.

In considering parking, we're caught in a shell game where community benefits are paid for by decreased parking requirements. And the reduction of on-site parking will inevitably spill into adjacent residential neighborhoods. Enough unbundled parking, shared parking, etc. — let's begin to look at this realistically. Santa Monica may be an urban planner's dream, but for the rest of us, it has become a nightmare.

We'll then focus on development along our boulevards. The Land Use and Circulation Element general plan calls for only 4 percent of our city to be further developed with the remaining 96 percent preserved. But with the dissolution of redevelopment funds, the city is anxiously looking at the major corridors to provide funding in the way of development fees and further benefits. Density and overall environment are oxymorons. For adjacent residential neighborhoods, quality on our boulevards is more important than quantity.

And our heritage of historical buildings and adaptive reuse of smaller scale buildings with their built-in character, along with our courtyard housing, and human scale makes Santa Monica different and special. Inflated property values and community benefits have become reasons to tear down small and rebuild large. With appropriate incentives, updating and reusing buildings which have built-in character will blend old and new, retain local business, and maintain a beachfront village of variable character. The greenest buildings are the ones we don't tear down.

We strongly feel Santa Monica can remain iconic while still providing for growth and economic health. With more than 40 pending DAs, it is a clear indication of Santa Monica's desirable position. Yet City Hall continues to follow the money and it's sad to see the city ruined by outside business interests who won't even be here to experience the consequences of their greed. We need to stop this runaway train and answer some basic questions:

Will downtown be affordable?

Will the city be driveable?

Will water bills increase?

Who will pay for the expansion of infrastructure?

If we focus on our friendly beachtown charm as well as the new, we can connect past and future and enjoy the best of both. Balancing between residents, business, and tourists will allow Santa Monica to flourish while preserving its quality of life. The fate of our city will be decided in our town hall! We hope you will become further informed over the next eight weeks and better understand the immediacy and gravity our town finds itself in.

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California health care sign-ups exceed initial projections

JUDY LIN
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A late surge of sign-ups pushed California's health insurance exchange nearly 100,000 enrollees beyond the original projections of the Obama administration, state officials announced Thursday.

Nearly 1.4 million Californians selected a private policy through the state's exchange by Tuesday's open enrollment extension, and 88 percent were eligible for subsidies to reduce their monthly premiums. The announcement came the same day President Barack Obama said 8 million people across the nation had signed up through exchanges, 1 million more than initially projected.

"That is a huge number," said Covered California Executive Director Peter Lee, announcing state enrollment numbers. "We're proud that those Californians are part of history, part of a new era where Californians and Americans have health care as a right and not a privilege."

Among the questions going forward are whether the newly purchased insurance policies will meet consumers' expectations and whether the mix of enrollees will be sufficient to satisfy insurance companies that are participating in the exchange.

Insurers said they needed strong sign-ups from younger and healthier people to balance out the older and sicker consumers who sign up under the Affordable Care Act. Older people generally need more health care services and are more costly to insure.

Insurance industry experts say about 40 percent of enrollees should be between 18- and 34-years-old to ensure plans balance financially. The data released by Covered California show that 29 percent of individual enrollees were in that demographic. That demographic is about 25 percent of California's total population.

Covered California extended open enrollment for two weeks beyond the original March 31 deadline because its computer system and call centers could not handle the crush of people rushing to sign up for health coverage at the last minute.

During that two-week extension, more than 205,000 Californians signed up for coverage, Lee said.

Overall, the Obama administration had projected California would enroll 1.3 million during the first enrollment period, which began Oct. 1. Covered California said the state had set a target of around 830,000.

The state also accepted the expansion of the low-income health insurance program that was offered under the federal health care law.

Toby Douglas, director of the California Department of Health Care Services, said more work should be done to make Medi-Cal, California's version of Medicaid, more user-friendly and efficient. While roughly 1.9 million people gained coverage through Medi-Cal as a result of the federal overhaul, about 800,000 people are still waiting for their applications to be processed.

It's not yet known how many of the 3.3 million Californians who enrolled in private health plans or Medi-Cal did not have insurance previously. Lee said a better picture will come with future surveys. Lowering the number of uninsured across the country was one of the chief goals of the Affordable Care Act.

One concern in California and other states running their own health insurance exchanges is whether sign-ups would be robust enough for the agencies to be financially self-sufficient starting next year, as the federal law requires.

Lee said the Covered California board would be receiving a preliminary budget for next year and expressed optimism that the agency will be able to cover its operating expenses.

"We are very comfortable that this high enrollment assures what was always assured, which is that as we move from being supported with federal funding to being supported with an assessment on premiums, we're going to be in very good shape," he said.

Other details from individual insurance enrollment data released Thursday:

— 85 percent are anticipated to pay monthly premiums.

— Latinos accounted for 28 percent of marketplace enrollment and 38 percent of Medi-Cal sign-ups. Latinos make up 39 percent of California's population.

— Whites made up 35 percent of enrollees, Asians 21 percent, blacks nearly 3 percent and those identifying as mixed race about 6 percent.

— About 62 percent of enrollees selected a mid-tier Silver plan, which is the one used to calculate subsidies, while about 26 percent selected the cheapest plan; 11 percent selected either a Gold or Platinum plan, which come with higher premiums but lower deductibles and other out-of-pocket expenses.

— 94 percent of consumers enrolled with the four large insurers offering coverage on the exchange: Anthem Blue Cross of California; Blue Shield of California; Health Net; and Kaiser Permanente. Seven smaller nonprofit insurers divided the rest.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY DANIEL ARCHULETA

Drunk in public never pays

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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 9:30 P.M.

Santa Monica police on patrol saw a man stumbling around as if he were intoxicated at Lincoln and Pico boulevards. Officers stopped to check his condition. Employees of a nearby business in the area complained to the officers about the man being belligerent and arguing with one of the employees. When police made contact with the individual they found that he smelled of alcohol, had blood-shot eyes, slurred speech and poor coordination. He continued to be antagonist throughout the entire encounter. Fearing he was a danger to others and himself, he was arrested for public intoxication. He was identified as Billy Howard, 51, a transient. His bail was set at $250.

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 9 P.M.

Officers responded to the 800 block of Santa Monica Boulevard on a radio call of a traffic accident with injuries. When officers arrived they found a male down on the sidewalk. It turned out that the male was intoxicated while riding the Big Blue Bus. When he exited the bus and got to the sidewalk, he fell back into the bus and then onto the ground. Lying next to him was an empty bottle of wine. Paramedics responded and he was treated for his minor injuries. He admitted to drinking the wine and losing his balance due to his high level of intoxication. He was arrested for public intoxication. The suspect was identified as Christopher Alan Anderson, 48, a transient. His bail was set at $250.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 12:30 A.M.

The police were called out for a male seen peeping in the window of a residence in the 1900 block of Euclid Street. Officers made contact with an individual who had regurgitated all over himself. He was unable to walk and did not know his name or whereabouts. He showed the symptoms of being highly inebriated and was ultimately arrested for public intoxication. The suspect was identified as Justin Luis Milone, 23, of Hermosa Beach. His bail was set at $250.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 9:40 P.M.

Officers were called out to the Taco Bell at 2207 Lincoln Blvd. for a man that was aggressively panhandling at the drive through area. The individual was jumping in front of cars, knocking on windows and asking for money. He was found behind the drive through and officers immediately smelled a heavy aroma of alcohol on him. He had blood-shot eyes, was highly argumentative and held a very unsteady gait. He was arrested for public intoxication. The suspect was identified as Craig William Vandiepen, 39, a transient. His bail was set at $250.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 8 A.M.

A resident locked and secured their three bikes in a shed outside of their home. When the resident returned they found the shed doors were wide open and the bikes were gone. The padlock that secured the shed was also missing. No one witnessed anything or heard anything. Estimated loss by the owner of the bikes totaled $800.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 3:15 P.M.

Officers were flagged down about a rape that just happened in a carport in the 1200 block of Seventh Street. The victim said she, her boyfriend and two others they know, had been drinking and a fight ensued between her boyfriend and the suspect. The victim was able to stop the fight and eventually her boyfriend and another individual she was with left the area. This left her alone with the suspect who took her to the carport area where she was pushed down and allegedly raped by him. The victim attempted to push the suspect off of her but was unable to. After the incident, the suspect left the location and the victim found her boyfriend; both flagged down an officer to report the crime. The suspect was found two days later by the victim at Seventh Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. She called the police, pointed out the suspect and had him arrested for the crime. All parties involved were homeless. The suspect was identified as Antonia Rodriguez Sanchez, 34, a transient. Bail was set at $100,565.

daniela@smdp.com





LION
FROM PAGE 1

a threat to residents, Kuykendall said.

P-22's image famously appeared in the December 2013 issue of National Geographic Magazine, with the Hollywood sign as a backdrop.

The National Park Service has been studying mountains lions in and around the Santa Monica Mountains since 2002 to determine how they survive in an increasingly fragmented and urbanized environment.

The connection between exposure to anticoagulant rodenticide and mange is still not fully understood, researchers said. Mange in wild cats is rare and only two other mountain lions in the 12-year National Park Service study have developed mange — with both ultimately dying of rodenticide poisoning.

PLAN
FROM PAGE 1

Twenty apartments owned or occupied by low-income residents will be repaired by City Hall at a cost of $300,000.

About 240 homeless people will get a variety of services from City Hall through four grant-funded programs totaling more than $160,000. Services include job training and counseling.

The economic downtown and the 2012 dissolution of the redevelopment agency — which invested nearly $300 million in the community over the past decade — are City Hall's top obstacles for meeting the needs of the underserved populations in the city, according to the action plan.

This fiscal year, 2013-14, City Hall had more than $2.5 million in federal grants to spend. The big ticket item was the $700,000-rehabilitation of public bathrooms in Hotchkiss and Marine parks, making them accessible to people with disabilities. They had planned to spend another $510,000 on the rehab of low-income housing units.

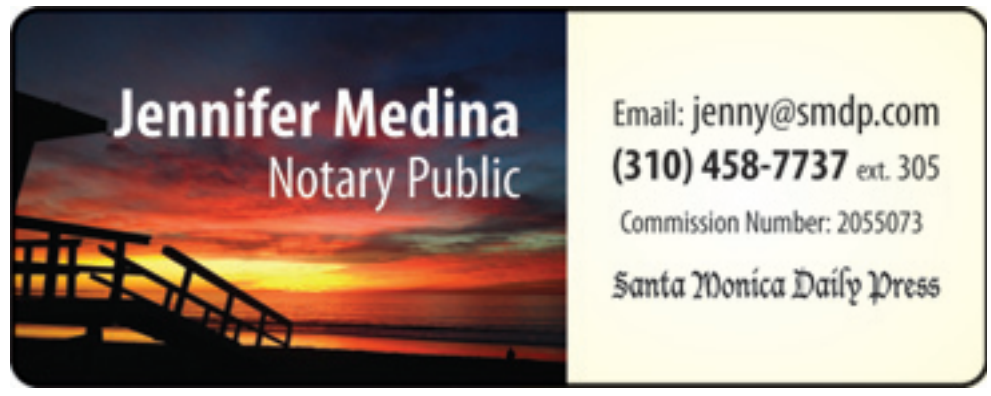
The decrease in funding from this fiscal year to next fiscal year will mean cuts to public service activities that address and prevent homelessness.

City Council will discuss the action plan at its upcoming meeting on Tuesday. Residents are invited to weigh in on the plan.

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FACEBOOK
FROM PAGE 3

so there is a possibility that it won't catch on widely. Vaccari, who joined Facebook when the company acquired Glancee, his startup for meeting nearby people who share your friends and interests, sounds hopefully optimistic that they will. Facebook's employees have been testing out Nearby Friends since it's been in development, and Vaccari cites examples of Facebook-assisted serendipity, like when two people landed at the airport at the same time from different flights, saw that they did through Nearby Friends and shared an Uber ride home together. Then there was the time two were out shopping alone in San Francisco and joined forces after seeing that their co-worker was nearby.

Nearby Friends, Vaccari says, is not really for the five to 10 close friends you have, the ones you feel comfortable texting or calling up to hang out. For these people, you "don't need a product," he says. But for the other 20, 30 or more, the ones you enjoy spending time with but wouldn't necessarily call, Nearby Friends may provide the extra push.

Nearby Friends launches amid the growing popularity of location-based mobile dating apps such as Tinder and Hinge. But unlike those apps, Facebook's feature will only let you meet up with people you are already friends with. Users who sign up will be shown a short tutorial on how the feature works. In addition to friends who are in close proximity, users can also see which of their friends are traveling, and in general which friends are using the feature even if they are not nearby.

For example, users in New York would see their nearby friends within half a mile, and below that see friends who are "near" San Francisco or Los Angeles. Then, if the New Yorkers travel to another city, they can meet up with friends there.

Facebook says there are no current advertising plans for Nearby Friends. The company does not currently target ads to users based on their location, only their listed hometown. Of course, this could and will likely change.

PLANET
FROM PAGE 3

Marcy said.

Quintana said she considers the planet to be more of an "Earth cousin" than a twin because it circles a star that is smaller and dimmer than our sun. While Earth revolves around the sun in 365 days, this planet completes an orbit of its star every 130 days.

Scientists cannot say for certain whether it has an atmosphere, but if it does, it probably contains a lot of carbon dioxide, outside experts said.

"Don't take off your breathing mask if you ever land there," said Lisa Kaltenegger, a Harvard and Max Planck Institute astronomer who had no connection to the research.

Despite the differences, "now we can point to a star and know that there really is a planet very similar to the Earth, at least in size and temperature," Harvard scientist David Charbonneau, who was not part of the team, said in an email.

If the planet is habitable, photosynthesis may be possible, said astronomer Victoria Meadows of the University of Washington, Seattle.

"There are Earth plants that would be quite happy with that," she said.

Since its launch in 2009, Kepler has confirmed 961 planets, but only a few dozen are in the habitable zone. Most are giant gas balls like Jupiter and Saturn, and not ideal places for life. Scientists in recent years have also found planets slightly larger than Earth in the Goldilocks zone called "super Earths," but it is unclear if they are rocky.

The latest discovery is the closest in size to Earth than any other known world in the habitable region.

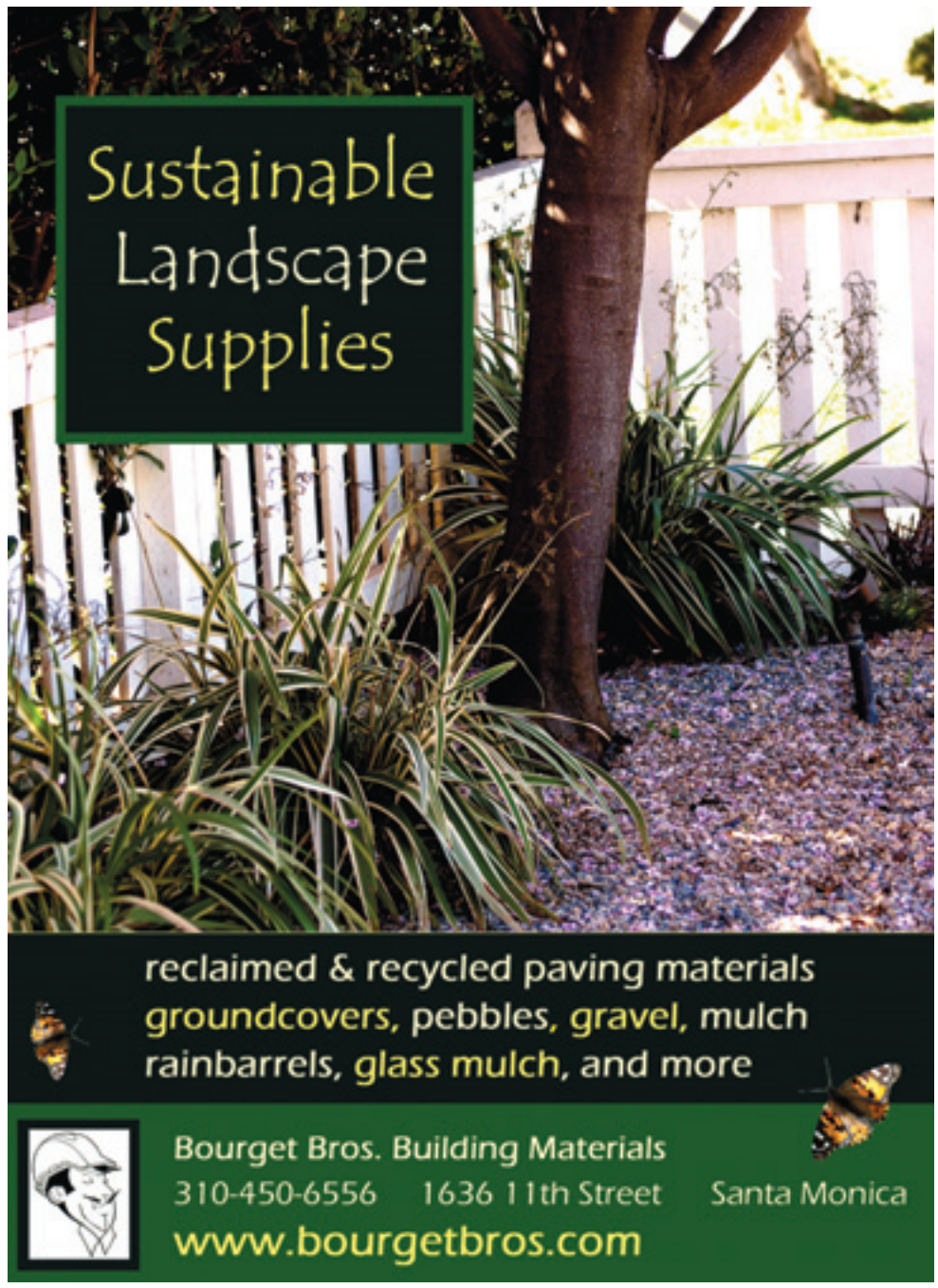
Astronomers may never know for certain whether Kepler-186f can sustain life. The planet is too far away even for next-generation space telescopes like NASA's James Webb, set for launch in 2018, to study it in detail.

NASA has not yet decided whether to keep using the crippled Kepler telescope on a scaled-back basis. While the instrument may never detect another planet, scientists have a backlog of observations to wade through.











STARR
FROM PAGE 1

Hines development project planned for the east side of the city is, in part, that the city is short on creative office space.

The Daily Press spoke with Starr about the past, present, and future of one of most valuable commodities:

Daily Press: What was it like when you came to Santa Monica?

Randy Starr: I came in this area back in 1989 when this place was considered a ghost town. (City Hall) just redid the street of the promenade. The office tenants were more entertainment, accounting, law firms, stuff like that. It was before the whole creative market wave. In those days, I would show spaces on the promenade and there was none of the foot traffic and it was just homeless people. I'm very pro-homeless and I'm sympathetic to them but in order to show a space I would sometimes give them two or three dollars just to clear the area. That's literally how I did my first two or three deals there.

DP: What created Silicon Beach?

RS: Everyone says that Silicon Beach started in this last three or four years. It really happened in about 1998 or 1999. That was the first dot com wave. That was a time when everyone was really irresponsible. That's when everyone was putting so much money into these companies. You had all these CEOs who were getting $80 million or $40 million and the CEOs were taking all that capital and taking these old spaces that might have been old law firm and accounting spaces and gutting them and making this creative office space.

DP: Irresponsibly?

RS: Irresponsibly. Because they were spending so much money in making these spaces spectacularly nice and they were burning money every single month and at that point everybody was waiting for a miracle, whatever their idea was. They'd go bust.

But what that created was all this infrastructure. It was the only good outcome. So when Silicon Beach started again, we had these spaces that already had the (tenant improvement) put into them.

Then the buildings were being built with the idea in mind that you can't build a traditional office building. They've seen what's going on. You had all that being built at the same time and the city was embracing that kind of design. It was a decision by a lot of smart people and luck, there's always luck in anything you do.

DP: Give an example of the irresponsible office makeovers.

RS: Doctor Evidence (right next door to Starr's office) is a great company in a great space. That was actually built out in '99. Back then a different tenant spent like $680,000 in approximately 7,500 square feet. That's why tenants stay: Because we have all the products existing.

DS: So then why did the companies come for the first dot com wave?

RS: Because of the size of the floor plates and you had the beach, the promenade for everyone to walk on. Many of the same reasons as today.

When these young bright kids are coming out of Berkeley, UCLA, or Stanford and they're looking at all these great startups with these great apps they may go on an interview and if the company has a great space here by the promenade or in Venice, if they're getting the same salary in each place they're going to want to work here.

DP: Imax and Sony both recently announced they'd be moving large offices to Playa Vista. Is Playa Vista threatening to steal Santa Monica's most profitable businesses?

RS: They only go to Playa Vista if they have to. That's usually if Colorado Center or Watergarden, buildings like that, don't have space. They would want to be in Santa Monica. That's because most of the upper echelon owners of the companies — whether it's the new kid who just got a bunch of money versus the more seasoned CEO who's been through the dot com wave — they all live generally still around Santa Monica, Palisades, Malibu.

The good news is that in Playa the rents are not too far off because of the cost to build out. We're already built out here.

dave@smdp.com



U.S. stock market ends higher as earnings pour in

ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

A batch of U.S. company earnings drove stocks mostly higher on Thursday.

The major stock indexes shifted between small gains and losses ahead of their scheduled close for Good Friday. The gains kept the indexes ahead for the week, though the remained down for the month.

The market appeared set Thursday morning for its fourth-consecutive positive open this week, but immediately turned negative as investors sold shares in Google and IBM. The market heavyweights reported disappointing earnings late Wednesday. Earnings from toy maker Mattel and insurer UnitedHealth also dragged down the market.

But by midmorning, the market started to push higher as traders cheered upbeat results from Morgan Stanley, General Electric and PepsiCo.

"We were expecting this earnings season to be pretty volatile, and it's proven to be true so far, in that we're seeing some differences in the results," said Paul Mangus, head of equity research and strategy for Wells Fargo Private Bank.

By late afternoon, the Standard & Poor's 500 index and Nasdaq composite were trending higher. While big drops in IBM and UnitedHealth helped keep the Dow Jones industrial average in the red.

All told, the S&P 500 index rose two points, or 0.1 percent, to close at 1,864.85. Seven of the 10 industry sectors in the S&P 500 increased, led by energy stocks. The Nasdaq added nine points, or 0.2 percent, to 4,095.52. The Dow, however, slipped 16 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,408.54.

Bond prices fell, pushing up the yield on the 10-year Treasury note to 2.72 percent from 2.63 percent late Wednesday.

After selling off Internet and biotechnology companies last week on concerns the stocks were overvalued, investors turned their attention this week to how companies' businesses are performing.

Investors have lowered their expectations for earnings following severe cold in much of the country this winter. That harsh weather weighed on everything from auto and home sales to hiring. Investors are now eager to hear what CEOs have to say about business prospects going ahead.

Thursday's trading reflected buying and selling on earnings news, rather than a broader market theme taking hold, Mangus said.

"Going into this quarter, expectations are low, so if you disappoint on low expectations you're likely to be penalized," he said. "However, they also present the opportunity for some significant beats because the estimates are that low."

Among companies whose earnings pleasantly surprised investors was General Electric, which described the economic situation as "positive" and said its industrial division was doing well. Another positive signal came from PepsiCo, which reported a higher profit after slashing costs and selling more snacks.

GE gained 44 cents, or 1.7 percent, to close at $26.56, while PepsiCo added 78 cents, or about 1 percent, to finish at $85.55.

IBM, meanwhile, struggled with a decline in its hardware business in the latest quarter. Its stock slid $6.39, or 3.3 percent, to $190.01.

UnitedHealth Group said its income slid 8 percent in the first quarter as fees and funding cuts from the health care overhaul dented its performance. UnitedHealth fell $2.41, or 3.1 percent, to $75.78.

Despite the big-name decliners, the latest wave of quarterly results has been mostly positive, said John Fox, director of research at Fenimore Asset Management.

"The overall read across five or 10 or 15 earnings reports is positive," Fox said, noting that many companies have reaffirmed their earnings forecasts for the year. "The fundamental underpinnings are good, and I'm not hearing anything from management that changes that."

Investors will study more company earnings over the next couple of weeks as they try to determine whether the effects of the severe winter are easing.

Homebuilders, automakers and consumer discretionary companies should provide a better read on whether consumer demand has rebounded from the deep chill.

"The companies that would be most impacted by that have yet to report," Mangus said.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: April 21, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- 13ARB350, 1543 7th Street: Commercial Office
- 13ARB397, 1736 Ocean Park Boulevard: Restaurant
- 14ARB021, 119 Wadsworth Avenue: Residential
- 14ARB059, 1118 17th Street: Multi-Residential
- 14ARB062, 2919 Lincoln Blvd. / 802 Ashland Avenue: Multi-Residential

DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT CONCEPT REVIEWS:

- 4th/5th Street & Arizona: Mixed-Use

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 (en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail grace.page@smgov.net, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines, 2, 3, Rapid #3, 7, & 9 serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission for the following:

Appeal 13-010 of Architectural Review Board 13-344, 2301 Wilshire Boulevard. Appeal 13APP010of Architectural Review Board 13ARB-344 approval of facade design, colors, materials and sign plans for a new commercial bank, Citibank. [Planner: Rachel Dimond] **Applicant: Michael Soroshinsky, Citibank. Appellant: Northeast Neighbors.**

Conditional Use Permit 13-013, 507 Wilshire Boulevard. The applicant requests approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow on-site sale and consumption of beer, wine and distilled spirits at a new 2,498 square-foot restaurant (Aestus) in the Downtown Commercial (C3) District. [Planner: Russell Bunim] **Applicant; Hunt and Gather, LLC. Property Owner: VRS Arrezo Apartments, LLC.**

Conditional Use Permit 13-016, 1736 Ocean Park Boulevard. Conditional Use Permit (13CUP016) to permit a new restaurant with 50 seats at which alcohol is served or consumed (Type 47 license), located in the C2 (Neighborhood Commercial) zoning district. According to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.16.040, a CUP is required for restaurants with fifty seats or less at which alcohol is served or consumed. Additionally, SMMC Section 9.04.10.18.020 requires a CUP for the on-site sale and dispensation of alcoholic beverages. [Planner: Rachel Dimond] **Applicant/Property Owner: 1736 Ocean Park Blvd., LLC.**

Conditional Use Permit 13-019, 1310 Eleventh Street. The applicant requests approval of a Conditional Use Permit (13CUP-019) to allow on-site and consumption of alcoholic beverages limited to beer and wine only, in conjunction with theatrical performances at the existing Broad Stage Theater. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.18.020, a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is required for the on-site sale and dispensation of alcoholic beverages. [Planner: Steve Mizokami] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Santa Monica Community College District.**

Tract Map 13-006, 2913 Tenth Street. The applicant request approval of a parcel map to create three residential condominium air parcels as part of an attached two-story multi-family development that includes private enclosed garages and individual roof decks for each unit. [Planner: Ariel Soccaras] **Applicant: Gary Pokiok. Property Owner: Manuel Pokoik & Alta Management I, LLC.**

WHEN: **Wednesday, April 30, 2014 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.

SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.5°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal WNW swell eases. Mostly shows for standout spots with 1-3' surf there

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 **April 9, 2014**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 4
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 26
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / 14

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21572 Malibu Rd..	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	D
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	F
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	F
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+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	B
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	D
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

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

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

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

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

Dodgers' Puig focuses on baseball despite issues

JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Baseball Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Yasiel Puig believes he has the support from his Los Angeles Dodgers teammates and the club to help him keep his focus on baseball despite challenges off the field.

Puig returned to the starting lineup in right field for Thursday's series finale against the Giants amid news reports that smugglers who helped him defect from Cuba threatened his life.

"I'm only concentrating on the season and being the best teammate and helping my teammates," Puig said, speaking in a Spanish interview with The Associated Press on Thursday morning at his locker at AT&T Park.

While Puig can't address the details specifically because of a pending legal case, he said he will focus on baseball and on helping the defending NL West champion Dodgers keep winning.

"I have great teammates who are helping support me so much this season and to focus on the season when I get to the stadium so I am comfortable," Puig said. "That way I don't start thinking about anything negative in the stadium. I'm only thinking about working on the things that are going to make me a better ballplayer."

The 23-year-old Puig, who was scratched from the starting lineup after arriving late for his team's home opener April 4, began the day batting .250 with one home run and five RBIs in his second major league season.

Manager Don Mattingly said he has read articles about Puig's journey and will offer support. He has spoken briefly with the outfielder, but not regarding specifics of his journey to the United States — saying that if Puig wants to keep those things private, he will respect that wish.

Mattingly is committed to helping Puig in any way the player needs. Especially someone who has received a financial commitment such as Puig's $42 million, seven-year contract.

Court documents, part of a federal lawsuit in Miami, say smugglers who helped Puig leave Cuba on a speedboat have made death threats against him and against a Cuban boxer who says he defected with Puig. Boxer Yunior Despaigne says in an affidavit that he is afraid of being harmed by the smugglers or their associates if Puig hasn't paid them money he owes.

"He hasn't talked about his background, nobody's told me about his background, nobody's told me about his story," Mattingly said. "If it's true, it's a wild story."

Other Cuban big leaguers have shared similar experiences. In Oakland, for example, Cuban slugger Yoenis Cespedes discussed in February 2013 how he worried constantly about his family members the previous season as they made their way to the U.S. He wasn't sure whether they might be targeted because of his legal issues stemming from a former agent who claimed the outfielder owed him money.

"If you care about Yasiel, you worry about some serious stuff there that he has to deal with," Mattingly said. "If you care about him as a person, you worry about what he's going through."

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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

RFP: PROVIDE DOOR TO DOOR ATTENDANT SERVICES AS REQUESTED BY CITY OF SANTA MONICA HUMAN SERVICES.

- **Submission Deadline Is May 15, 2014 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The RFP packets can be downloaded at:

- **http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm**

Request for RFP forms and specifications may be obtained by e-mailing your request to humanservices@smgov.net. RFP responses 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/

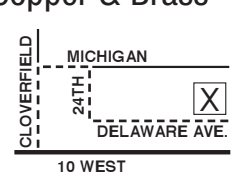


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MOVIE TIMES

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

Donnie Darko (R) 1hr 53min
and
The Evil Dead (NC-17) 1hr 25min
7:30pm

Director Richard Kelly will take part in a discussion between films.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-3924

Rio 2 (NR)
9:45am, 12:45pm, 5:30pm

Rio 2 (NR)
8:00pm

Noah (NR)
12:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm

Divergent (NR)
3:45pm

Make Your Move (NR) 1hr 50min
9:55am, 12:30pm, 3:15pm, 6:00pm, 10:10pm

Oculus (NR) 1hr 45min
8:15pm

Oculus (NR) 1hr 45min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 10:45pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (R)
10:15am, 3:05pm, 5:50pm, 11:00pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (R)
8:35pm

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

Captain America: The Winter Soldier (NR)
1:30pm, 7:35pm

Rio 2 (NR)
10:45am, 4:45pm, 9:45pm

Bears (NR)
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:20pm

Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (NR)
10:30am, 4:30pm, 11:00pm

Transcendence (NR)
10:20am, 1:20pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:40pm

Rio 2 in 3D (NR)
1:45pm, 7:00pm

Heaven Is for Real (PG)
11:45am, 2:35pm, 5:30pm, 8:15pm, 10:30pm

Haunted House 2 ()
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:55pm

Draft Day (NR)
11:00am, 1:55pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

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

Ilo Ilo (NR) 1hr 39min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

Tasting Menu (MenÃº degustaciÃ?) (PG-13) 1hr 25min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Dom Hemingway (R) 1hr 33min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Joe (NR) 1hr 57min
1:10pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

For more information, e-mail **editor@smdp.com**

TGIF TONIGHT, AQUARIUS!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Confusion will filter into your day, and you might be inclined to take off early. You need time to recharge your batteries. A situation could become uncomfortable, even if good news surrounds it. Tonight: A loved one is energized.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You will be delighted by a friend's reaction to a thoughtful gift. This person seems to be at a loss for words. Communicate precisely with others in general. Tonight: Schedule some one-on-one time with a special person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You get what you want without having to charm anyone. You might not know what to do next, as you are so used to presenting your case. Tonight: Anything could happen. You don't need to wish upon a star.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Listen to news more openly than you have in the past. Your judgment will prevent you from hearing every detail. Make time to schedule a haircut or a massage. You need to indulge yourself, as you have experienced a lot pressure as of late. Tonight: Relax.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Tap into your imagination when making plans. A friend or loved one could be thrilled by the possibilities that you conjure up. You have an instinctive side to you. Listen to your inner voice more often. A call from a special person could delight you. Tonight: On the prowl.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ If you feel as if you need more time, ask for it. A partner or friend might not understand how much you have on your plate. You could witness some unexpected behavior. This person might be trying to evoke a certain reaction from of you. Tonight: Head home early.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You will be unusually assertive, and you'll get excellent results. Ask for what you want. A boss will smile as he or she watches you in action. Be careful with someone at work. Tonight: At your favorite haunt.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could be pushed to commit to spending more than you want. Make a call to a trusted friend and share what is happening. You need honest feedback, and this person will give you that. Tonight: Be reasonable when making plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ The planets are rooting you on. An element of the unexpected plays a role in what goes on with a loved one, new friend or child. Allow this person to feel more confident. Make a purchase for your home and comfort. Tonight: You are the ringmaster!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might not be ready to explain a plan that you have been working on for a while. You could feel as if you want to continue without hearing any input from others. You might not get the anticipated reaction. A boss will be demanding. Tonight: With a favorite person.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might not believe how easily plans will fall into place. Be grateful, especially since you have a lot to do. Don't hesitate to ask for some help, if need be. Use caution with spending and funds. An item could cost much more than you think it does. Tonight: TGIF!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You will need to organize an event or project at the last minute. There might be a snafu that could take more time than you would like to give. Know that you likely won't have a choice. Others might be noticing your inner glow. Tonight: Plan on running late.

Friday, April 18, 2014

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

This year you will be more energized than you have been in a long time. You have a sense of direction that allows you to detach more from the daily ups and downs. Optimism surrounds you. Your creativity peaks after spring. Use your natural gifts well. If you are single, you really enjoy your summer and the period that follows. You most likely will meet someone who could be very important to your life. Don't push -- simply enjoy the bond. If you are attached, the two of you will want to plan several getaways together. You will re-energize the relationship and give it additional strength. ARIES might be very different, but he or she has a similar intensity.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

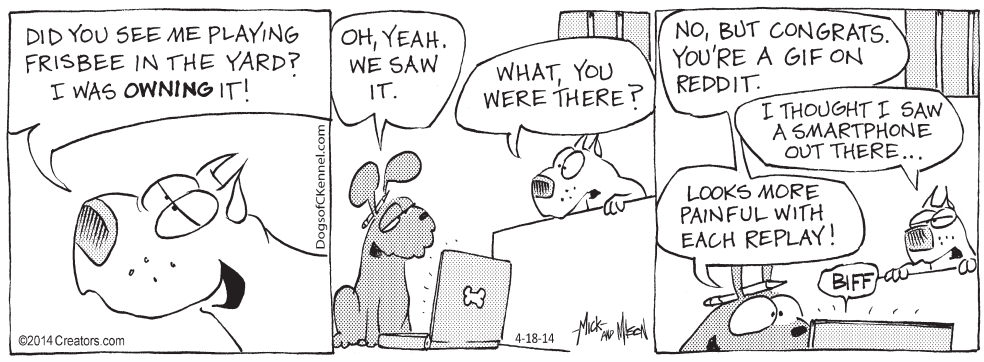
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



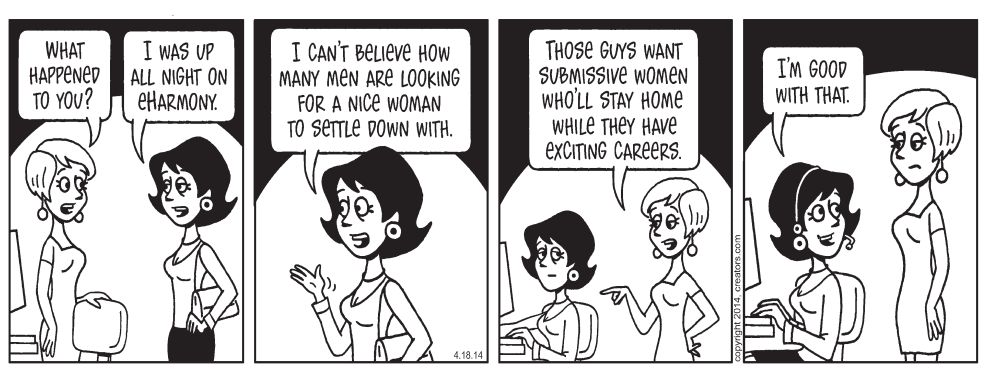
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

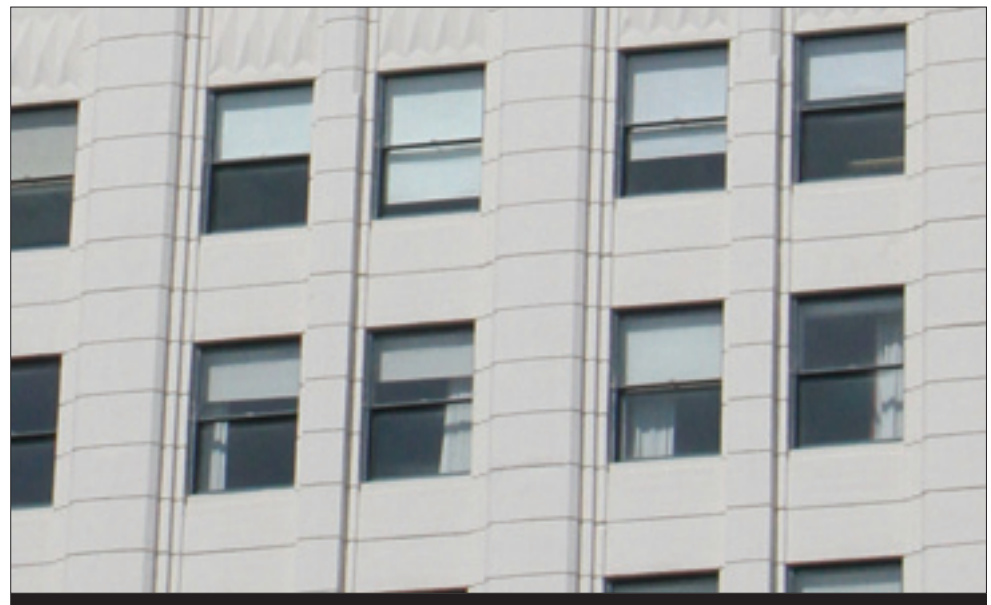
3	7	6	1	9	4	8	2	5
4	8	1	2	5	6	9	7	3
2	9	5	8	7	3	6	4	1
6	5	3	9	2	7	4	1	8
7	1	9	6	4	8	5	3	2
8	2	4	3	1	5	7	6	9
1	4	7	5	8	2	3	9	6
5	6	2	4	3	9	1	8	7
9	3	8	7	6	1	2	5	4

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Subject
6 Become narrower
11 Happened
12 Full of energy
13 Trappers' wares
14 Baseball's Fielder
15 Building wing
16 Roof topper
18 Employ
19 Field worker
20 None too cordial
21 Signing needs
23 Kid in the corner
25 Lazy fellow
27 Chocolate dog, for short
28 Cabinet department
30 Hound's hands
33 Distress call
34 Descartes conclusion
36 Ready to go
37 Begins liking
39 Cassis cocktail
40 Conspicuous
41 Last letter
43 Knot anew
44 Gymnast Rigby
45 German steel city
46 Party givers

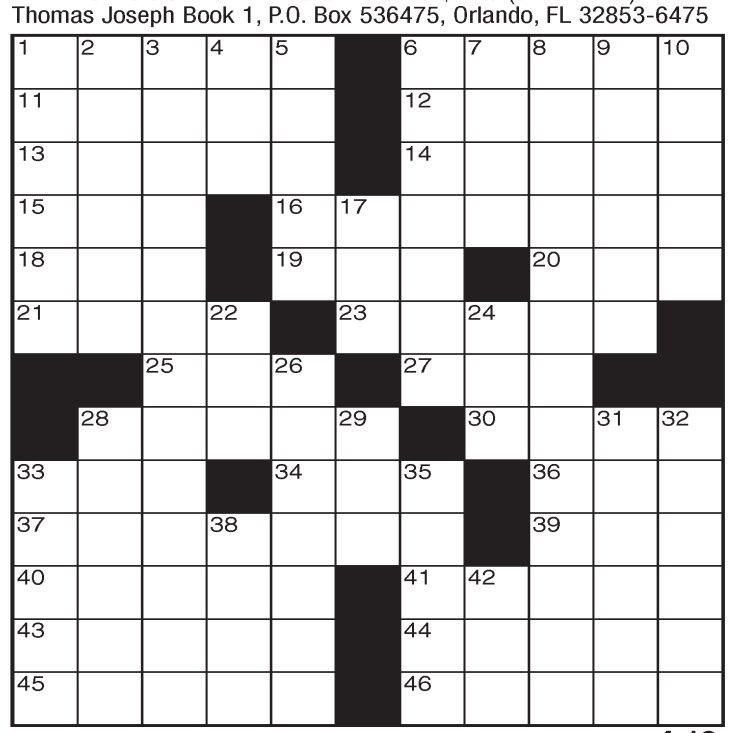
DOWN

1 Wrap, as an ankle
2 Threat words
3 Honeybee parts
4 Follower's suffix
5 Labor leader Chavez
6 Diplomatic
7 Out of the wind
8 Yogi Bear's thefts
9 Show clearly
10 Track event
17 Homer's neighbor
22 Sonar user
24 Snooze
26 Wet
28 Bakery output
29 Squealer
31 Scale reading
32 Wanders off
33 Put away
35 Be a sponge
38 Buffalo's county
42 Historic chairman

C	H	A	R	■	■	C	H	I	N	A
L	U	L	U	■	V	A	I	N	E	R
U	N	E	S	■	O	R	N	A	T	E
E	G	G	S	A	L	A	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	E	G	G	T	I	M	E	R
A	Z	A	L	E	A	■	■	E	A	U
G	I	L	L	S	■	A	B	A	R	N
E	N	O	■	■	S	C	U	L	P	T
E	G	G	H	E	A	D	S	■	■	■
■	■	■	E	G	G	C	R	E	A	M
S	A	T	I	R	E	■	I	D	L	E
E	X	U	D	E	S	■	D	I	E	S
L	E	G	I	T	■	■	E	T	C	H

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



4-18

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/16
34 39 42 44 59
Power#: 8
Jackpot: $128M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/15
4 39 46 47 70
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: $38M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 4/16
11 16 23 38 39
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: $51M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/17
8 9 10 24 36

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 4/17
MIDDAY: 7 7 1
EVENING: 5 0 8

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 4/17
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:40.93

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

■ Richard Wright of Canada's Prince Edward Island was busy in March handing out $50 and $100 bills to strangers during a visit to Halifax, Nova Scotia, urging the recipients to "thank God" for the gift and to pass it along to others if they could not use it themselves. Wright's spree was soon broken up as Mounted Police detained him for a "wellness check," which led to his transfer to a mental-health facility. Wright's daughter Chelsea told reporters that her dad worked hard for his money, had no mental-health issues and simply wanted to help people, and a friend described him as a "generous individual wrapped up in the acts of kindness." However, at press time, Wright was still hospitalized.

■ Yo No Quiero: The Phoenix suburb of Maryvale was "overrun," according to February reports, with several "packs" of up to 15 Chihuahuas each, roaming neighborhoods, frightening schoolchildren. Coincidentally, two months earlier, in Hobart, Australia, the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals announced that it was overwhelmed by massive recent donations of Chihuahuas, most from one couple. Said a spokesman, "We were up to our knees in little Chihuahuas."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1915 - French pilot Roland Garros is shot down and glides to a landing on the German side of the lines during World War I.

1923 - Yankee Stadium, "The House that Ruth Built", opens.

1924 - Simon & Schuster publishes the first crossword puzzle book.

WORD UP!

analphabetic
\ an-al-fuh-BET-ik, an-al- \ , adjective;
1. not alphabetic: an analphabetic arrangement of letters .
2. unable to read or write; illiterate: analphabetic peoples .

Santa Monica Daily Press

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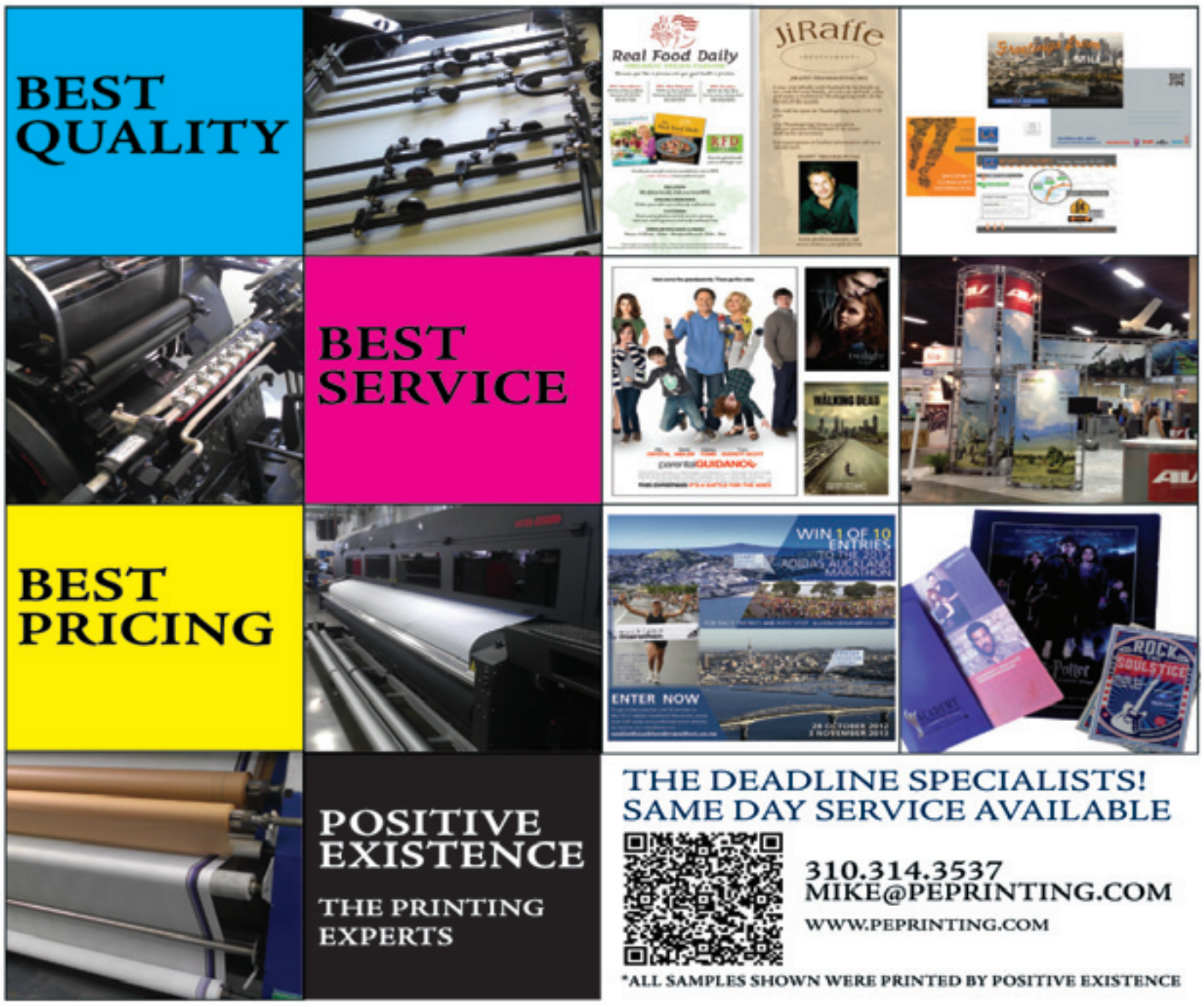
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Graphic designer position available immediately in Downtown Santa Monica must know Indesign Photoshop and illustrator and be able to get files print ready must have good references Send resume to mike@peprinting.com

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Personal Services

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Santa Monica Daily Press **HOURS** MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm **LOCATION** 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401



Miramar Plan: Increasing On-Site Parking and Reducing Traffic

One of the most important goals of the Miramar Plan is to keep the Miramar essentially traffic neutral during peak hours and to alleviate local traffic and parking by building new underground parking for all guests, visitors, residents and employees.

INCREASING ON-SITE PARKING

Past renovations of the Miramar neglected the parking needs of the hotel and neighborhood, causing overflow into street parking. To help reduce neighborhood traffic, the Miramar Plan will build a new 484 space underground parking garage. This takes guest, visitor and employee parking overflow off our neighborhood streets and keeps it on-site and out of sight. For the first time in decades, cars will remain on-site and off City streets, returning street parking to the neighborhoods.

TRAFFIC NEUTRAL

To achieve our goal of being essentially traffic neutral at peak hours, our plan reduces the number of guest rooms and the amount of meeting space. These reductions will offset the minor increase in trips from the residential units. This new configuration, according to the independent traffic study prepared by Linscott, Law and Greenspan (LLG), will generate approximately the same number of peak hour trips as the existing hotel.

The Miramar Plan maximizes on-site parking, reduces traffic in local neighborhoods and returns street parking for residents. When cars aren't circling the block looking for a space, local traffic is reduced.

THE MIRAMAR PLAN

Restoring Our Legacy – Investing in Santa Monica's Future

Visit **www.MiramarPlan.com** for more information about the Miramar Plan.