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TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 143

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE ALL ALONE ISSUE

COUNTY UNVEILS SOLAR MAP
SEE PAGE 3

What the future may bring for SM

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Facing a tight deadline to get financing matters in order, city officials have released a prioritized list of major construction projects that could receive a chunk of redevelopment money.

The extensive list of projects, which was presented to the City Council last week, contains everything from affordable housing to the joint use facilities at Santa Monica High School to rehabilitation of the Civic Auditorium. Altogether the projects represent $283 million that the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) is expected to have available if it's able to commit debt obligations by 2014, which it must do in order to access future tax increment funds — earmarked property tax revenue from increases in assessed value. Such funds can be collected through 2042.

No action was taken by the council, which is expected to discuss the RDA funds at a future meeting.

In order to create debt obligations, City Hall must have established a list of projects that are clearly defined, an outcome that would come from holding public hearings with various commissions, conducting an environmental impact report and developing a financing strategy.

"You have roughly 3.5 years to 5.5 years to do a great deal of work," City Manager Lamont Ewell said during the council meeting.

There are four different redevelopment project areas in the city, the largest of which is the earthquake recovery zone, which con-

SEE RDA PAGE 10



FEELING HOT, HOT, HOT

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Hundreds of people took to the beaches Monday to beat the record heat. Six high temperature records were set in Los Angeles County over the weekend, three in Orange County, where the mercury reached triple digits, according to the Weather Service. Temperatures are expected to be in the upper 70s along the coast today, providing some relief.

Breaking a sweat while making new friends

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN While it may not be the ideal situation in which to meet a future love interest or your next employer, fitness fanatics are falling for Function Runs, networking events that unite bring the gym and the nightclub together for one sweaty night of conversation.

It's not networking, it's sweatworking.

Instead of the stale mixers featuring cold appetizers and watered-down drinks, the marketing minds at Equinox gym and Function, the makers of alternative energy drinks, have created a new way to mingle

SEE RUN PAGE 8

Animal rights protesters targeting SM residents charged

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES An indictment unsealed Monday charges two reputed associates of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) with conspiracy and stalking in connection with campaigns against UCLA researchers and a juice company formerly based in Santa Monica.

Linda Faith Greene, 61, and Kevin Rich Olliff, 22, have pleaded not guilty to the 10 felony charges, which were handed up in a March 27 grand jury indictment.

Greene and Olliff are charged with three counts each of stalking and conspiracy to commit the crime of stalking and two counts each of threatening a public officer or school employee and conspiracy to threaten a public officer or school employee.

Greene was ordered to remain jailed in lieu of $450,000 bail and is due back in court Friday for a bail review hearing.

Olliff was being held on $460,000 bail and is set to return to the downtown Los Angeles courthouse on May 20 for a pretrial hearing.

Both were arrested Thursday in connection with the charges, which involve two researchers at UCLA and an executive at POM Wonderful Juice Co.

The indictment alleges that "an unnamed and/or unidentified co-conspira-

SEE CHARGES PAGE 9

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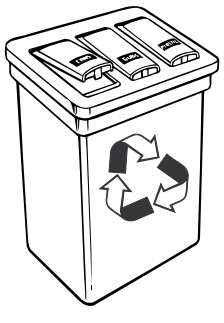
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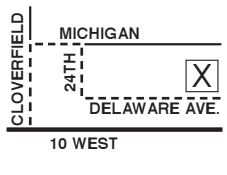


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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



April jolliness
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main St., 3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
The Ocean Park Library will be hosting Mr. Jesse and his puppet companions who will be telling stories, singing songs and performing for visitors of all ages. Attendance is free and those interested can call (310) 392-3804 for more information.

'The Real Dirt on Farmer John'
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
A screening of the epic tale of a Midwestern farmer who transforms his family farm over the course of 40 years. The strange but touching film, first released in 2005, confronts issues of urban expansion and the disappearing West. Those interested can call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Beats for eats
Santa Monica Music Center
1901 Santa Monica Blvd., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Santa Monica Music Center is hosting a food drive party to benefit the Ocean Park Community Center. Free food, snacks and drinks will be available and attendees will be able to get drumming tips from professionals while playing "Rock Band" on a real drum kit. Donations of canned and non-perishable foods will be accepted. Call (310) 453-1928 for more information.

Women Painters West group art show
Santa Monica Art Studios
3026 Airport Ave., 12 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.
The theme for this show is "How Did We Get Here and Where Are We Headed." The Women Painters West group is a non-profit Southern California art association that brings together women artists in the spirit of friendship, artistic expression, education and philanthropy. Admission is free. Call (310) 397-7449 for more information.

Hair care for the environment
The Doves Studio
2000 Main St., 10 a.m. — 9 p.m.
Helping out the environment never looked so good. Visit The Doves Studio on Earth Day and 10 percent of service profits will be donated to Heal the Bay, a Santa Monica-based non-profit that deals with local ocean issues. Call (310) 399-7654 to book your appointment.

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Truck stop at the beach
Main on Main
2941 Main St., 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.
If white trash is your idea of a good party, look no further than Main on Main's Thursday night offering Truck Stop at the Beach. Strip-teasing dancers and a beer/shot/chicken wing combo that costs only $8. DJs will provide music. Admission is $5. Call (310) 396-6678 for more information.

Music contest
Best Western Gateway Hotel
1920 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
This is the premiere opening night of the Independent Social Music Club by Kelda Muzik Singers will have the opportunity to showcase their music and win $500 for best performance. Admission is $10. Contact Char Lovelady at (563) 508-5076 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.





CAP-TAIN OF THE TEAM

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

President of Santa Monica High School's 'Team Marine' Megan Kilroy, 17, aka Cap Woman, talks to visitors at Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium during their annual Earth Weekend on Saturday.

County budget calls for cuts of $415M

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES The $22.8 billion Los Angeles County budget for 2009-10 unveiled Monday slashes 1,684 positions from the county payroll but does so without necessitating layoffs, according to county CEO William Fujioka.

The draft budget culls vacant positions from a total of 102,458 budgeted positions in the 2008-09 spending plan.

The lost positions will affect almost a dozen departments, with Public Social Services taking the brunt of the cuts, losing 899 spots. A few departments will actually see a net increase in positions, with 82 added to the Department of Children and Family Services and 105 added to the Department of Mental Health.

The majority of those positions are part of a lawsuit settlement agreement in which the county agreed to provide better care to foster children.

Even though Fujioka is proposing to spend $415 million less than the previous year, he still estimated that there will be a $300.4 million shortfall due to declining local revenues.

To fill the gap, Fujioka recommended using a combination of steeper departmental budget cuts coupled with one-time bridge funds and federal stimulus funds.

All of the departments except Health Services have already been asked to make a 5 percent reduction in funding requests to the CEO, though in the end Fujioka ended up recommending that some departments make no cuts.

Health Services, which has long been battling a massive budget deficit, still faces a $257.3 million shortfall, Fujioka said.

Though Los Angeles County is in better shape than many other local governments, tough times are taking a toll on the region, he said. Unemployment has been on the rise for the past two years, hitting 10.9 per-

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 9

County unveils world's largest solar map

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Los Angeles County officials on Monday unveiled a solar mapping program that will allow homeowners and businesses to go online to determine if their properties are good candidates for solar power.

The program uses roof size, pitch and shading from nearby trees, buildings and mountains to provide a building's solar potential and the potential value of installing solar panels.

By typing in an address, a person will learn the property's roof size, area suitable for solar panels, electricity produced, electricity savings, carbon reduction, nearby solar installations and case studies, available rebates from utility companies, and information about installers.

The level of detail provided means that residents and solar installers do not need to go up on every roof to see if it can support solar, saving time and money. Solar installers will be able to give more detailed estimates based on specific situations, but the solar portal provides generally accurate guidelines of what can be expected. The ultimate goal is to make the website a one-stop solar shop for residents and businesses.

Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Zev Yaroslavsky praised the project, saying it will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs.

The new Web site -- available at solarmap.lacounty.gov — went live Monday and will be featured Wednesday — Earth Day — at the National Conversation on Climate Action all-day conference in Los Angeles, which is part of a national effort to fight global warming.

It is the largest solar map in terms of geographic area in the world, covering 3,000 square miles, said Acting Chief Information Officer Richard Sanchez, whose department developed the site in conjunction with the Internal Services Department.

The solar Web site, developed at a cost of $93,500, was generated from high-resolution imagery and elevation information acquired in 2006 which included roof-top and ground elevation every five feet. It calculates and ranks incoming solar radiation every 25 square feet, using roof pitch, orientation, and shading from surrounding structures and trees to provide the best estimate possible.

SEE **SOLAR** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Drunk driving happens at all hours

Editor:

I wanted to thank you for your article on the extra attention paid to impaired drivers in Santa Monica ("SM officers honored for busting drunks," page 1, April 17). Our family was devastated by a woman who was impaired with not only alcohol, but crystal meth, marijuana, cocaine and several prescription drugs. She rear-ended our car while I was loading one of my 1-year-old twins in his car seat. Since I had just loaded him and not yet gotten him fastened in, he went flying into the back of the front seat's headrest/DVD player and was given a concussion and suffered seizures for over four months. He is still receiving neurological care. My other 1-year-old son was hit with lots of flying car debris.

I have to thank all of the SMCPD and SMPD who responded that day. It was 11:15 a.m. (yes a.m.) and this woman had her own 7-year-old child in the car. Officer Ruetz from SMC took my insistence that she was "on something" and needed to be checked very seriously. As I suspected she blew a .10, was taken down to the hospital had her blood drawn where all the other wonderful drugs she had spent the previous 18 hours doing showed up. She was convicted Feb. 15 of DUI causing injury.

Although I know that the article addressed night time incidents, I want others to realize that these things do happen in the middle of the day or any time at all. Ours was 11:15 a.m. on a Wednesday afternoon.

Thanks Officer Ruetz, Trump and the rest of that team that showed up to check on our family the next day. You are amazing!

Melody Cervantes
Santa Monica

Shame on you

Editor:

If you aren't applying for the role of Fox surrogate in Santa Monica, you should be ashamed of yourselves for running such a pathetically misleading version of the Tea Bag Revolt on your front pages.

To begin with, the T-baggers generated the most embarrassing political failure on the American scene in quite some time. So much hype for so little, and the SMDP jumped on the Fox neocon bandwagon like it was actually playing music.

Thousands joined the protest? Give me a break. This is a nation of over 300,000,000 people. When "thousands" show up for the party it means that over 300 million people gave it a grand and hearty thumbs down. That should have been your headline. Especially in light of your front page picture of something less than dozens of people who showed up in Santa Monica, a much more typical example of the response to this "tax revolt" than blaring front page news that tries to make "thousands" sound like a triumph.

An administration that is giving tax breaks to 97 percent of its taxpayers is to be celebrated not castigated, especially because it follows on the heels of an administration that bankrupted America and the rest of the world with it. Obama is trying to make us whole and one of the ways he's doing it is with tax cuts.

While there are legitimate philosophical arguments to be made about taxes, none of them are espoused by the Fox/Republican talking heads who are leading the T-bagging charge. All we got from them was lies and bluster. It is very sad to see the SMDP offering them local legs, and no local reporter.

Morrie Ruvinsky
Santa Monica

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL TO: EDITOR@SMDP.COM
OR FAX TO (310) 576-9913



What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

KCRW making us feel a little better about the economy

TWO SELF-EFFACING AND HUMOROUS journalists, a sold out Broad Stage, one major industry on the verge of collapse and two ex-Mormon boys makes for an entertaining evening for me.

This past Sunday, Planet Money broadcast live from the Broad Stage. The event was sponsored by KCRW, NPR and Entrepreneurs Organization and hosted by Adam Davidson and Alex Blumberg, who report for NPR and This American Life, respectively.

Last year, they did a show called "The Giant Pool of Money," for This American Life. It was hugely successful and became a top rated podcast. It was a special program about the housing crisis. The original show focused on "What does the housing crisis have to do with the turmoil on Wall Street? Why did banks make half-million dollar loans to people without jobs or income? And why is everyone talking so much about the 1930s? It all comes back to the Giant Pool of Money" — as the show is described on the TAL Web site.

It was the genesis for this event, which was humorous at times and a highly informative exploration of our economic troubles and how narrowly we avoided total global economic meltdown. With great humor these two men explained the basics of banking, and then how bankers, by ignoring their own self interests, created a situation where literally the entire economic structure of the globe was put at risk.

The hosts started out by describing the extent of the banking system. By setting the stage for some perspective, they were able to bring light where there has been much heat and confusion.

I did not realize for example that there are approximately 8,000 banks in the U.S. of which 20 are responsible for 90 percent of the business in the country, and of that 90 percent there are four that make up two-thirds of our banking system.

That means that four banks are essentially running 60 percent of the business through their coffers. Now it gets really scary, because of the four banks, just two of them equal 40 percent of the entire banking system. Bank of America and CITI control 40 percent of the banking business in our country.

That's a big piece of market share.

Now I understand what it means when the president says something is "too big to fail." If either of those two were to falter, it could set off a worldwide economic bonfire that was described as being so big, "it would make the Great Depression look like a good time."

Cue the ex-Mormon boy. His name is John Bates, and he is as much a poster boy for all American good looks, hard work and the value of a winning smile and a firm handshake as you'll find. I was just standing there, and he bounds up to me with the gregariousness of a Labrador and introduces himself and his brother. John lives here, but he was in Salt Lake City, where he and his brother had been taking a course to allow them to carry concealed weapons. Really, I can't make this stuff up.

Anyways, turns out that John is a local representative for Entropia, which is a massive multi-player online role playing game, and his company is the only one that backs their "virtual money" with real U.S. dollars. So his was going to be an interesting perspective for me.

WITH GREAT HUMOR THESE TWO MEN EXPLAINED THE BASICS OF BANKING, AND THEN HOW BANKERS, BY IGNORING THEIR OWN SELF INTERESTS, CREATED A SITUATION WHERE LITERALLY THE ENTIRE ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE GLOBE WAS PUT AT RISK.

He asked a very great question about the future prospects of the U.S. dollar continuing to be the reserve currency, in essence that means it's the "global money." By asking this question what he's really asking is, "what's our future and do I need to start learning Chinese?"

The hosts gave a detailed answer, but summed it up like this; if China wants to shoot down America financially, they probably can, but they have to shoot themselves in the chest to do it, because we are so intertwined. So, it's not very likely that we need to start learning Chinese.

I asked John what he was going do now with his greater understanding of the banking system, the causes which lead to our current problems, and the good news that we'll most likely just work ourselves out of this crisis, like we've done before. He said he was probably going to sell off some stock and pay down what little debt he had, for a guaranteed return.

So with a good dose of humor, two journalists were able with the assistance of NPR, KRCW and Entrepreneurs Organization to make a few of us feel a bit less paranoid and anxious about the state of our economy and the future, which John was glad to hear, and so was I. Maybe now he wont need to carry that concealed weapon after all.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

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Back to Nature

Reese Halter
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The incredible world of dolphins

DOLPHIN'S ARE PLAYFUL, AFFECTIONATE, curious, intelligent, social, vocal and enjoy sex — especially after a big meal. Are they the creatures humans would have been had we not left the water?

Dolphin's are aquatic, top-predator, mammals classified as a type of whale or cetacean. There are two types of cetaceans. Balean whales filter massive amounts of small oceanic organisms like krill with comb-like sieves in their mouths. Toothed whales, on the other hand, grab prey with their teeth. Dolphins and their mistaken twin, the porpoise, are a type of toothed whale. There are about 70 kinds of toothed whales of which there are about 45 species of dolphins, porpoises and false whales, like killer whales or orcas.

Dolphins are miraculously adapted to murky rivers, as in the Amazon River dolphin or boto, shallow coasts like Hector's dolphins of New Zealand, or in groups of 10,000 bottlenose dolphins roaming the open oceans.

Like humans, dolphins are exceptionally tactile creatures and their skin conveys different levels of information or signals to each animal. Excellent sight enables them to see in the dark. Dolphin's range of hearing is 10 times that of humans. Each animal has its own signature whistle, which is used to keep in contact with other individuals. Adult dolphins discipline their misbehaved juveniles by driving them to the ocean floor and momentarily holding them there.

So what makes the dolphin such an effective top-level predator? It's their marvelous combination of intelligence, made-to-order radar system, adaptable hunting techniques and intensely powerful bursts of speed.

Dolphins are innovative when faced with a new, never-encountered circumstance. This goes beyond genetic programming of behavior. Innovation allows rapid assessment of a new situation and reactions to it. Dolphins clearly understand gestures similar to sign language that chimpanzees are also able to learn. Humans and dolphins appear to be the only known animals to spontaneously interpret images on a screen without prior teaching. Dolphins are capable of highly flexible behavior and therefore are considered intelligent.

Dolphins constantly send out noises called "click trains" which sound, to the untrained ear, like old creaky doors. These complex series of sounds are the most sophisticated advanced forms of sonar, called echolocation, unrivaled by anything on the planet — man-made or otherwise. As the sonar waves move through water they encounter objects, bouncing back shapes and contents to be deciphered by the dolphin's large brain (which is bigger than a human). Sometimes the sonar is so potent it actually stuns its prey.

Dolphins are able to quickly shift their food gather techniques by either hunting alone or in larger groups that herds shoals or bait balls of schooling fish. Killer whales, the largest of the dolphins, teach their young how to hunt sea lions, seals and porpoises by herding and then isolating them.

Most fish tend to move sideways like the sinuous movement of a snake. Dolphins and other whales move up and down as their strong bodies flex like a bounding deer. Incredible strength comes from their tail or fluke that is horizontal rather than vertical.

How is it possible for dolphins to sleep as much as one third of each day when their predators are always hunting them? They usually rest in groups that bunch tightly together. One lazy eye per dolphin remains open and, although asleep, slow methodical echolocatory clicks scan their environment for sharks and killer whales. The group essentially forms a sensory integration system, each relying on the others sonar system to detect any trouble whilst they rest.

Scientists have been able to listen to cetaceans with special underwater sound equipment called hydrophones. And the renowned OrcaLab on Hanson Island in British Columbia's Johnstone Strait has been studying intelligence 24/7 for the past 20 years. They record and track many pods off the west coast of Vancouver Island and know each killer whale by its signature whistle. These complex exquisite creatures share common fishing grounds, belly rubbing rituals on shallow pebble beaches, escort other pods through the strait and gather with an intricate timeless symphony of indecipherable dialects that plays underwater along the southwest coast of British Columbia.

Over fishing, marine and agricultural pollution and plastic bags clogging intestines have all taken a deadly toll on dolphins. Still today some countries allow the use of 40 miles-long drift nets that senselessly kill all life in its wake including cetaceans. As informed consumers its incumbent upon us to only buy "dolphin-safe" tuna, and use organic cotton shopping bags instead of disposable plastic bags.

For at the end of the day, wild dolphins, like all other animals on Earth, including humans, are just trying to make a living and survive.

DR. REESE HALTER is an L.A.-based public speaker and founder of the international conservation institute Global Forest Science. He can be reached through www.DrReese.com.

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This 22% increase translates directly into 22% more miles per gallon.

After a five year study, the government stated: "The Gas Saver is an effective fuel saving device. Independent testing shows greater fuel savings with the Gas Saver than the 22% claimed by the developer."

In addition, the Gas Saver has received patents for cleaning out carbon and raising octane, making the higher cost fuels unnecessary for most vehicles.

Joe Robinson, the developer, commented: "Since the government concluded its study, we have sold a half million Gas Savers. To our surprise, more people buy the Gas Saver because it extends engine life by cleaning out the carbon than buy it to increase gas mileage or to raise octane." For further information call:
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The Q Line

Being kind to Mother Earth

With Earth Day taking place this week, this is a great time to look at the world around you and consider making changes to help the environment.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What is the most important step individuals can take to save the planet?

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Mommie Brain

Rachel Zients Schinderman
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Being comfortable in your own skin

TODAY IS MY BIRTHDAY. HAPPY BIRTHDAY to me! I am 38 for those who are curious.

Now, I have never been one for freaking out over getting older, though when I turned 20 I do distinctly remember thrashing around my dorm room distraught that no matter what I did I would no longer ever be considered a child prodigy. Janet Jackson was big at the time and as I left my teen years behind, I felt sad that I would never be able to compete with her for most albums sold by a 19 year old.

Granted, I had no musical ambitions, unless they included a Broadway stage. But I started to notice that others my age were off making grand marks on the world and I was still just dreaming of mine.

So with each subsequent birthday, I always sort of looked around and took stock of my place in the world. Needless to say, I wasn't always satisfied.

But this year as I look around, things are different.

There are a few more grays than I would prefer along with a few pounds that are getting harder and harder to shed. There is no book deal yet (book deal has now replaced album sales in my fantasies). Most people now call me ma'am, instead of miss (oh, the indignity of getting ma'amed). And my Wii Fit told me my Wii age was 50, but my Wii Fit can suck it.

But even with all of that, on this birthday, as I turn another year older, I smile for I have great accomplishments.

I have a lovely husband. I have a son that I know I technically gave life, but feel has provided me with mine.

Now, I am not so evolved to not worry about how my face and body are changing, or that when I stand up I sometimes feel stuck in place or that at times my brain can't always find the word I want to use.

I recently found a picture that was taken at my best friend's wedding in Jamaica. My husband and I are quite certain this is the weekend we conceived our son. At the time, I thought the yellow sun dress I was wearing was too snug. I thought I was not as fashionable as some of her other friends, enough so that I ran back to my room during the reception and changed, twice.

When I showed the picture to my husband, he said, rather surprised and too strongly for my liking, "You look so young!"

But he was right. Looking at this picture, I see a young, fresh-faced, rather thin and adorable woman who is smiling with happiness for her friend. I wish I'd known that then. Perhaps when I look back at the 38-year-old me now, I will see that I actually look better than I think I do and be impressed.

But I know that I do not look like that any more. Motherhood has certainly aged me. I have not slept well for almost three years. My body is forever altered. My stomach shall never be showcased in a bikini again. The worry and anguish over my son's medical needs have found their way into lines and circles under my eyes.

But something else is there too. I would not go so far as to say it is wisdom, because I am still grasping and trying to figure it all out. But there is a comfort and a pride I have with myself now that I am fairly certain has come with age and specifically, with motherhood. It is a strength in knowing who I am, knowing that I have made it this far and am capable of taking care of myself and trusting that I am taking care of my family.

On my fifth wedding anniversary a few months ago, my husband and I went to a restaurant to celebrate.

I went to the ladies room at the same time as this very attractive younger woman. I briefly flashed that she had nicer clothes and lovelier skin than I did.

But then I noticed that she sort of looked down as we waited for the stall. She hid behind her hair a bit.

I saw that youthful insecurity I used to wear. As I stood there and looked at the mirror readying myself to go back out and join my husband, I realized that while I certainly still have my doubts and worries about my appearance and abilities, I have found a confidence that comes with age and experience that carries me that she did not seem yet to have. And I liked it.

So as I turn 38, it is quite clear that I am no longer 18 (the recent invitation to my 20th high school reunion makes that perfectly clear). But I don't want to be 18 anymore. Or even 28. This age suits me nicely.

Though, I admit, when the checkout guy at Whole Foods on occasion mistakenly calls me miss instead of ma'am, I still melt and swoon like the teenage girl I used to be.

RACHEL ZIENTS SCHINDERMAN lives in Santa Monica with her family. She can be reached at Rachel@mommiebrain.com.





Tornante

Steve Parker
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Making the car of the future — now

I DIDN'T WANT THIS COLUMN TO BE YET another "Detroit-basher," but sometimes, if the shoe fits.

We all know the economic horror show which is the current world auto industry, but the worst repercussions for the Detroit Three might not show themselves for several years. Because while Detroit is cutting back on research and development of new makes and models and technologies, some car-makers worldwide are actually increasing their R&D budgets and making commitments to the "cars of the future" — now.

This past week, Renault-Nissan and Mitsubishi made some major announcements about EVs — rechargeable electric cars — which, considering the low price of gas and high price of developing new products, surprised more than a few people in the auto industry where usually banality reigns supreme, especially in a down market.

Renault-Nissan (they're one company, headed by Carlos Ghosn) says that they'll be selling an EV in the U.S., Europe and Asia by the 2011 model year. And a real car, too, they point out, not a "glorified golf cart."

Company chief Ghosn has never been a fan of hybrids and has instead been pushing the company into being one of the first major players in the EV market.

The only hybrid Nissan sells in the U.S., a gas/electric version of their Altima sedan, uses the same hybrid system as Toyota; Nissan pays a license fee to Toyota for their use of the technology. This has allowed Nissan to offer a gas/electric hybrid in the U.S., which the public seems to like, without the company having to invest billions in new product development. Cheaper and easier for them to just license existing technology and spend their bucks on new EV tech.

Renault-Nissan's other big EV news was to announce a partnership with the government in China to develop and sell EVs in the Chinese market beginning in 2011. China's short auto industry experience has been a bit like Nissan's; they've been able to skip over all the time, money and trouble it took the world's car-makers to develop gas and diesel engines, hybrids and rudimentary EVs over the past 100 years, and aim at an "ultimate goal" of being a world-leader in electric vehicles.

Not to be outdone, Mitsubishi last week used the stage of the New York Auto Show to commit to the development, production and sale of their "i MiEV" EV, prototypes of which have been running around the world for several years.

Using lithium-ion battery packs and able to be fully-recharged in about six hours using a 110-volt home plug-in system (half that time using a 220-volt line), i MiEV, says Mitsubishi, will offer up to 100 miles between recharging.

Both i MiEV and the Renault-Nissan EVs are planned to be sold in the U.S. for under $20,000.

If you're looking to buy an EV in the U.S. from even a fairly well-known car company, you're choices are extremely limited. In fact, about the only one is the Tesla, an EV sports car, which base-prices around $60,000.

Then there is the hand-built Fisker "extended range hybrid" which, with a system similar to that planned for the Chevrolet Volt, uses a small on-board gasoline engine to keep its electric batteries fully-charged and uses that power to drive electric motors in the wheels. Fisker will start at around $80,000 when it's planned to go on-sale in 2010.

And then there's the much-ballyhooed "extended-range" Chevrolet Volt hybrid. Even aggressively priced, with the company subventing sales and taking losses, like Toyota did with the Prius (and may still be doing), most experts say a base price of $40,000 is probable, way more than any other mass-produced hybrid sold in the U.S. And GM's own auditors have said that even if Volt is produced, the company won't make any money on Volt sales for at last a decade.

Whether fueled by electricity from new, vastly-upgraded national power grids or using fuel cell and other systems which make their own electricity, future EVs will have a place in almost every garage as oil-fired internal combustion engine fleets are replaced throughout the rest of this century. And experts agree it will take about 100 years for the world fleet to swap most all the oil-burners for real EVs.

STEVE PARKER has covered the world's auto industry for over 35 years. He's a two-time Emmy Award-winner who reported on cars for almost a decade at both KTLA/TV5 and KCBS/TV2. He is a consultant to the NBC-TV show Whipnotic and the show's companion website, www.Whipnotic.com. He created, writes and moderates the only all-automotive blog on The Huffington Post at www.huffingtonpost.com/steve-parker. Contact Steve through his own automotive issues Web site at www.SteveParker.com.

Schwarzenegger calls for stronger energy policy

KIMBERLY S. JOHNSON
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger says the U.S. needs a clear energy policy so automakers can develop cleaner, more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Speaking at the Society Automotive Engineers 2009 World Congress on Monday, Schwarzenegger said Washington has failed to create an energy policy that would help automakers develop fuel-efficient or alternative fuel vehicles more quickly.

"Washington hasn't been able to show any leadership in the last few years. It's been very frustrating," he said. "How can car manufacturers go and start changing their plans when there's no goal?"

Schwarzenegger said the Obama administration is now working to create a vision for U.S. energy policy. He said he has had conversations with federal officials and wants California to lead the country when it comes to setting low emission standards.



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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

IN LINE: **Fitness fanatics jog along Palisades Park last Wednesday as part of the Function Run, a weekly gathering of like-minded individuals sponsored by Function Drinks and Equinox gym.**

Weekly runs give fitness buffs a chance to mingle

FROM **RUN** PAGE 1

that incorporates a 2-and-a-half mile jog through Palisades Park along with the bar experience — all while promoting their products.

Every Wednesday evening at 6:30, those interested in shrinking their waste lines while expanding their social circles gather in front of Equinox to stretch and chat before a brisk jog supervised by trainers from the fitness club. Along the way, strangers interact and possibly continue their discussions at The Yard bar and restaurant, which offers drink specials and food for the famished.

Following the runs, PUMA raffles off prizes while offering tips on the right equipment to wear while working out. Function provides samples of their various drinks, from the Urban Detox to Shock Sports. The drinks are designed by doctors and incorporate all-natural ingredients used to treat patients.

"[The runs are] very much in tune with our work hard, play hard mentality," said Josh Simon, co-founder and marketing director of Function, which was created in 2004 in an apartments in Santa Monica and West Hollywood by three friends.

"We are always looking for fun ways to promote the drinks and I think one of the things we try to focus on is combining the functionality of the drinks with our healthy, active consumer base," Simon said.

And for the sweaty bodies packed in a bar after the runs, Simon said, "I feel that is what life is like at a bar on any given night. It's not that different."

On a recent Wednesday around 25 people showed up at Equinox, with runners ranging from trained triathletes to couch potatoes looking to get back in shape.

Engineer Hari Iyer, 28, of Culver City, considers himself somewhere in between. He is training for a mini marathon in Santa Barbara in May and wanted to vary his routine. He found out about the Function Runs through Yelp.com, a Function partner.

"I need to run and this is a way to get me out of my chair and my legs moving," he said as she stretched his legs amongst the chatter of fellow joggers. "It's a cool group of young people who are for the most part like-minded. … It helps you create another circle of friends who are interested in working out and being healthy."

Diana Lee wasn't as interested in mingling as she was in shedding a few pounds. The 29-year-old Brentwood resident saw the Function Runs on Yelp.com and decided to check it out last week, her first run. She liked the idea of working out with a group, feeling the more people involved the more motivated she would be to run.

"Sometimes it's hard to exercise, especially during the middle of the week. You start to feel a bit lazy," Lee said as she fiddled with her iPod. "I wouldn't mind making a new exercise partner."

Those participating said the runs are good marketing tools for all involved. Function gets to promote its new drinks, and hand out free samples, while Equinox, PUMA and The Yard are able to introduce themselves to those who may be unfamiliar with them.

"We are participating because we like to expand the experience of our members," said Erica Gomez, membership director of Equinox. "Some of our members miss running outdoors. This lets them know that we are not just a gym, but rather a wellness facility that is about running, hiking, surfing. We are more of a lifestyle brand and we show members that we have interesting, unique ideas."

The run itself is designed for all fitness levels. Some run full speed for the entire 2 miles while others walk, hoping to build their strength during the eight week program, which ends May 6.

"I think a lot of people who participate are there to find other people or other resources in the fitness industry, or just a cool hangout. It really attracts all kinds," Gomez said. "I think we're really past the fact that we're sweaty and yucky. After a long day at work, people just want to enjoy the run and have fun at night."

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County unemployment hits 10.9 % in February

FROM **BUDGET** PAGE 3

cent countywide in February, increasing the demand for county services, he said.

Public assistance costs were expected to jump from 5.5 percent to 26 percent of the budget, while the sudden drop in home prices has resulted in a drop in property tax assessments for the first time since the mid-1990s.

Fujioka's draft budget reflects a 1 percent drop in property tax assessments, but a more recent estimate places the drop a 3.3 percent. If the more recent estimate is correct, the Board of Supervisors will need to make a further $88.3 million in cuts later in the year, he said.

The county has also seen declining revenues from deed the transfer taxes, down 33.3 percent; local interest earnings, down 56.8 percent; local sales taxes, down 5.9 percent; and Proposition 172 sales taxes, down 5.8 percent, according to figures provided by Fujioka.

Unemployment has been on the rise for the past two years, hitting 10.9 percent in February and increasing the demand for county services, he said.

Federal stimulus funding could provide the county with as much as $441.7 million through Dec. 2010 for Medicaid, foster care and adoption payments, roughly half of which would be received in the 2009-10 fiscal year.

A further $89.1 million was expected for hospitals, highways, jobs, nutrition, community services and justice grants.

State funding, however, remains uncertain as the state faces a continually growing shortfall.

Among the major changes that were proposed for this year, Fujioka has recommended merging the Ombudsman and Human Relations Commission with the Department of Community and Senior Services, and placing the Commission on Aging under the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.

The consolidation would save $700,000 and eliminate six positions,

Fujioka said.

The draft budget also has a sharp decrease in funds for capital projects

— $289.9 million less than the previous year — but retains about $1.4 billion for projects deemed to be high priority, including a new master jail plan, expanded health facilities, and flood control infrastructure improvements.

Public hearings on the proposed budget will begin May 13, with the budget expected to be adopted June 22, Fujioka said.

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County to provide loans for solar

FROM **SOLAR** PAGE 3

The project will be of great benefit to the county itself, said Internal Services Director Tom Tindall, as it includes high resolution, three-dimensional modeling of 800 county buildings. These detailed analyses will be used to evaluate and implement cost-effective installations, including solar power and solar water heaters.

The county is a major electricity user, with facilities spread over a wide geography, operating in more than 3,000 buildings that comprise more than 60 million square feet, so the mapping project will save countless hours developing initial estimates and prioritizing projects manually, said Tindall.

It will do the same for other building managers throughout the county, said Yaroslavsky, who authored the 2008 motion to develop "green building" ordinances for the county's unincorporated areas to lower utility rates and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Buildings account for 65 percent of electricity consumption and 30 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, according to the U.S. Green Building Council. Energy consumption can be reduced by as much as 20 percent by the use of energy-efficient measures in existing buildings.

The county is developing a program that would assist homeowners and businesses in financing solar panels. On April 14 the Board of Supervisors approved Ridley-Thomas' motion to create by July a program that would allow property owners to finance energy-efficiency upgrades by borrowing money from the county and paying it back through their property tax bills.

news@smdp.com

Protests targeted Santa Monica residents

FROM **CHARGES** PAGE 1

tor placed an improvised incendiary device" on the front porch of a home two doors away from UCLA professor Lynn Fairbanks' Los Angeles residence on June 30, 2006.

Authorities said the device — which failed to ignite — was left at the wrong house, a residence actually occupied by a 70-year-old woman and her male tenant.

The ALF took credit for the incident, with primate research protesters saying at a July 2006 demonstration that they didn't believe the FBI's statement that the device had been left at the wrong address.

The indictment also alleges that Greene, Olliff and "other unnamed and/or unidentified co-conspirators, some utilizing bullhorns," conducted a July 2006 "home demonstration" outside another UCLA professor's residence in Santa Monica.

Statements and chants caught on videotape during that demonstration by protesters included, "Eleven minutes, no cops … that's a really long time, you know" and "We know where you sleep at night," according to the indictment.

Greene was also involved in protests on the UCLA campus in 2007, according to prosecutors.

The indictment also alleges that Greene, Olliff and others arrived at the POM Wonderful Family picnic in the Malibu Bluffs Park area on Aug. 4, 2006, and that a POM executive's name was mentioned in

SEE **ALF** PAGE 10

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Pico branch library in the works

FROM RDA PAGE 1

sists of buildings that were heavily damaged in the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. A portion of property taxes goes to the RDA to use within the project areas.

City Hall has identified about $1.6 billion in capital needs and about $1.27 billion of them are eligible for RDA funding. City officials labeled the debt capacity estimate of $283 million as conservative.

"The source of tax increment is property taxes and in most of the past 20 years, we've had pretty strong growth in property taxes," Andy Agle, the director of housing and economic development, said. "With the current downturn in the economy, one of the areas that has been impacted is property values and since property values is the basis for taxes and property taxes is the basis for tax increment, we've had to be conservative in our projection for future growth."

Perhaps the biggest winner in the priority list are the anticipated projects in the Civic Center area where officials are proposing to allocate approximately $170.8 million between eight different undertakings, the majority of which would go to pay for joint-use opportunities at Santa Monica High School.

The redevelopment of the Samohi campus, which is estimated to cost about $235 million, includes plans to construct facilities that could be accessible to the public during off school hours, including a pedestrian concourse that will travel down Michigan Avenue, cutting through the Samohi campus. Staff is proposing to allocate $46 million in RDA money.

A large contingent of school advocates stayed into the late evening hours to encourage the council to make Samohi the biggest funding priority for the RDA, arguing that the redesigned campus and accompanying facilities will bring the community together.

Among the speakers were a few students, including Max Dorf of Grant Elementary School, who stood before the council wearing his Little League uniform, speaking about the importance of having good fields for sports programs.

"More fields mean more opportunities for kids and adults to play sports," he said.

Dona Davoodi, the president of the Associated Student Body at Samohi, called the school the "crossroads of the city."

"We are a school that is a community," she said. "We are a community that is Santa Monica."

Laurie Lieberman, a school parent who was also one of the founding members of Leadership Effectiveness Accountability Direction, urged the council to allocate more than $46 million.

"In considering how much to allocate, I urge you to get beyond thinking of this as a Santa Monica High School project and hear what the speakers tonight have been saying, which is this is really a community project that happens to have benefits, one of which is the high school," she said.

The priority list also proposes allocating $10 million for affordable housing development, $20.9 million toward traffic circulation improvements around the Expo Light Rail station on Colorado Avenue, $28 million toward Downtown parking enhancements, $3.4 million for an early childhood education center at the Civic, and $12.8 million for the creation of a branch library in the Pico Neighborhood.

Pico residents have requested city officials to build a branch library in their neighborhood where there is a high concentration of minority and low-income families. Some have suggested that a public library be included in the plans for the Edison Language Academy redevelopment project.

Christopher Jimenez y West, a Santa Monica resident and professor at the University of Southern California, spoke in support of the library, citing a study that found such facilities build spaces for telling stories and sharing history.

"It offers an opportunity to create an archive, a repository, a museum, a place to tell stories, a place to share stories," he said.

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Protests prompted City Hall to restrict activists

FROM ALF PAGE 9

"various bullhorn amplified chants."

The two are also accused of conducting home demonstrations with "other unnamed and/or unidentified co-conspirators" at the residences of three POM Wonderful executives in August 2006.

The indictment alleges that Greene and Olliff stalked one of those POM executives.

Jerry Vlasek, an activist who helps publicize the ALF's activities, said Greene and Olliff are "well-known, above-ground legal protesters" who are "very interested in changing the world, but doing it through legal means."

"I don't know why those two of all people have been targeted for this," Vlasek said.

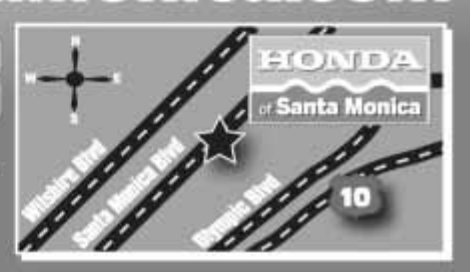
It was ALF protests that prompted the Santa Monica City Council to enact an ordinance creating a 500-foot buffer zone around the homes of those targeted in the demonstrations. The intent of the law is to

SEE ACCUSED PAGE 11

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ALF called domestic threat

FROM ACCUSED PAGE 10

allow free speech while creating some privacy for the targeted homeowner.

There have been a dozen or so residential protests in Santa Monica the past several years, with animal rights activists targeting the home of Nelson Freimer, a UCLA professor of human genetics whom activists alleged experiments on monkeys.

Santa Monica police in November 2006 raided the homes of two ALF press officers and seized thousands of dollars worth of personal items as part of an ongoing criminal stalking and conspiracy investigation involving members of the ALF.

According to the search warrant, police seized computer equipment, animal rights books, pamphlets, T-shirts, fliers, a stuffed animal and "duffel bags w/ wrist rocket, 3/8" shot," an apparent reference to a type of slingshot.

The ALF is a shadowy network that has sabotaged animal research labs, vandalized homes of researchers, firebombed properties and made numerous death threats. Because it has no known leadership structure or membership, anyone can strike under the group's name. The FBI has called it a domestic terror threat.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58°

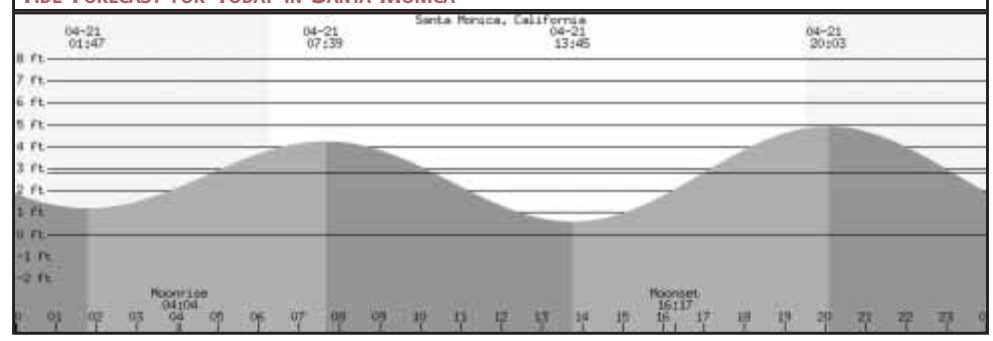
Swell Forecast (1-2 FT)

Tuesday the 21st looks smaller, perhaps knee high most everywhere. Winds should be lightly offshore in the AM, and onshore in the afternoon 9-14 mph. Tidewill be high around 7:45 AM at about 4.2 feet.

Long Range Synopsis

Wednesday the 22nd is when we should start seeing forerunners come ashore from Thursday's swell. These would have 20-second periods from around 190 degrees.

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 four weeks up to the ending date of **April 14, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

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

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

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.

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Dragonball: Evolution (PG) 1hr 25min
1:10, 3:20, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55

Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:00, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

Sleep Dealer (PG-13) 1hr 30min
12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:00, 9:15

Sunshine Cleaning (R) 1hr 42min
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Duplicity (PG-13)
CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video
1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) 1hr 42min
1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30

Observe and Report (R) 1hr 46min
1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10

Watchmen (R) 2hrs 43min
12:50, 6:50, 10:15

Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
12:55, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10

Crank High Voltage (R) 1hr 25min
2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1hr 46min
1:40, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40

The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) 1hr 32min
4:20

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Adventureland (R) 1hr 46min
1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

Enlighten Up! (NR) 1hr 22min
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Sin Nombre (R) 1hr 36min
1:45, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

Sugar (R) 1hr 54min
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

I Love You, Man (R) 1hr 50min
1:20, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Knowing (PG-13)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

State of Play (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:10, 3:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:10, 10:10

17 Again (PG-13) 1hr 42min
12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 10:00

Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00

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

Smile, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You have a problem discerning whether someone is tired, as this person exhibits a lack of follow-through. This person needs a break — it might even be you. Tonight: Someone shares something in confidence.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Excitement runs through the day. You see what is occurring behind the scenes. Someone clearly expresses his or her caring. Remain in touch with long-term possibilities. Tonight: Whatever puts a smile on your face.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Stay on top of your work and responsibilities. You might want to examine what is going on with a boss, who could be demanding. Your instincts play out with bosses, parents and those you respect. Tonight: Burning the midnight oil.

CANCER (June 21-July 2)
★★★★★ Be willing to break past immediate issues. You could be surprised by what comes your way. Gain a new perspective on everything that is happening by withdrawing and understanding what needs to occur. Tonight: Put on a favorite piece of music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Relate on an individual level. What you see could be startling. People simply aren't acting in their usual, conventional manner. Review news that comes from a key person with care. Though it could be right-on, there is still more heading in your direction. Tonight: Dinner for two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Let go, as many would like to play the role of boss, controller and personality. You can kick back and do your own thing. Many often think what someone else does is easy ... until they try it themselves. Experience is an excellent teacher. Tonight: Sort through your options.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Examine what is going on around you, especially in your daily environment. Don't complain of boredom, as before you know it, excitement strolls in your direction. Tonight: A partner has much to share. Listen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Rethink a decision more carefully. Plug in other ideas and creativity. Take time to network and touch base with others. Love bonds gain in passion. A new project could become vital as you look at it with new eyes. Tonight: Let your imagination lead once more.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
HHH Stick with the basics, knowing where you are heading. You might not want to keep reaching out for others. In fact, every so often, you might opt to go the way of the recluse. A time-out gives you time to reinforce your long-term desires. Tonight: Read, snooze or whatever makes you happy.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Giving your best can and will make all the difference. Listen to what is being shared. Brainstorm and come up with even better ideas. Return calls. Tonight: Catch up on calls and news.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Be aware of what you are doing financially. You could be tired. Tap into your inner resources. Energize though some time alone, taking a walk or some other stress-buster. Investigate alternatives on a financial matter. Tonight: Understand your finances.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Network, knowing you are in a position of making what you want happen. Emphasize the role of different people and your long-term goals. Make it OK to stop and reverse directions. Tonight: All smiles.

Happy birthday

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

This year, stay on your chosen path, and you'll greet success. Your ideas are well received among your friends. Don't hesitate to express your opinions when in meetings and groups. You will discover how many supporters you really have. If you are single, wherever you go, you discover many admirers. You exude unusual charisma. If you want a relationship, meeting someone becomes a strong possibility. If you are attached, you find your bond more fulfilling than in the past. Be open to enhancing the friendship that lies between you. PISCES is your friend, no matter what.

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



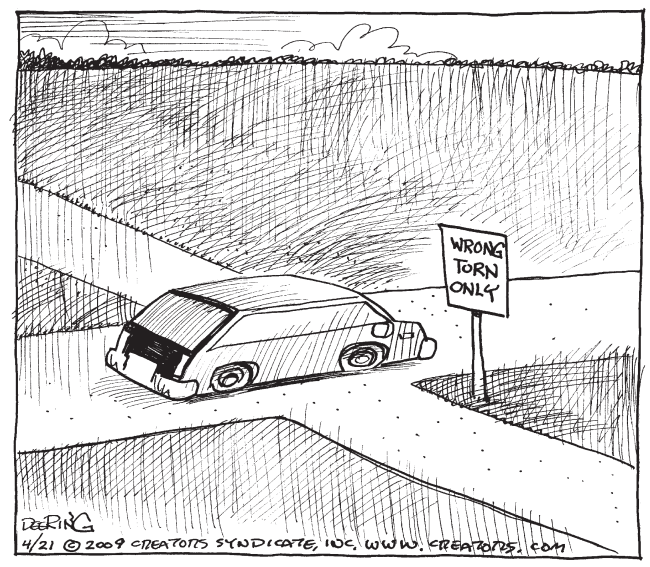
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

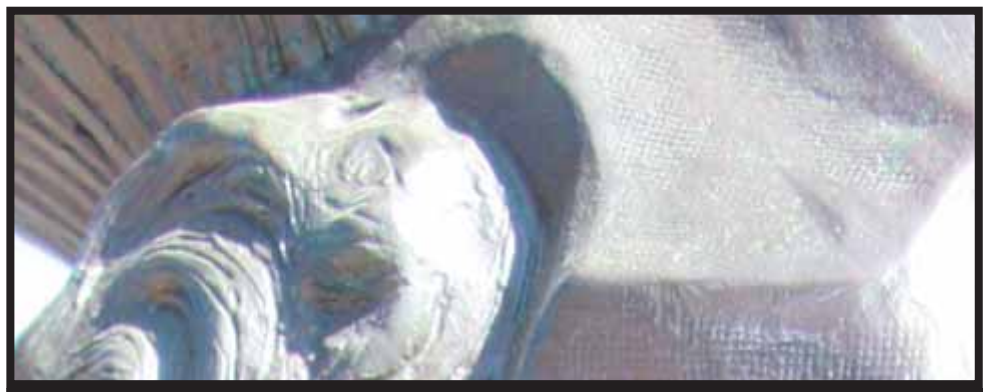
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Soraya Danesh news@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*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Cochise, for one
7 One of a bear trio
11 Strict boss
12 Milky gem
13 Old newspaper workers
15 Confine
16 Tournament passes
18 Cravats
21 Membership cost
22 Sartre play
24 Ulna's place
25 Road sealer
26 For each
27 Gloomy
29 Quail group
30 In the past
31 Story
32 Hands over
34 Leaders in their fields
40 Steel ingredient
41 Fiancée's agreement, for short
42 Deli call
43 Elapse
4 Fancy flapjacks
5 Fire truck attachments
6 Genesis garden
7 Hearty dish
8 Gorilla, for one
9 Golf goal
10 Green and Gore
14 Lesson giver
16 Pack animal
17 Nation on the Red Sea
19 Kick out
20 Colander's kin
21 June honoree
22 Dissenter's vote
23 Attempt
25 Grove makeup
28 Stress
29 Prepares the turkey
31 Aquarium fish
33 "Ed Wood" star
34 Seamstress' aid
35 "Roses — red"
36 Rowing team member
37 USN rank
38 Massage
39 007, for one

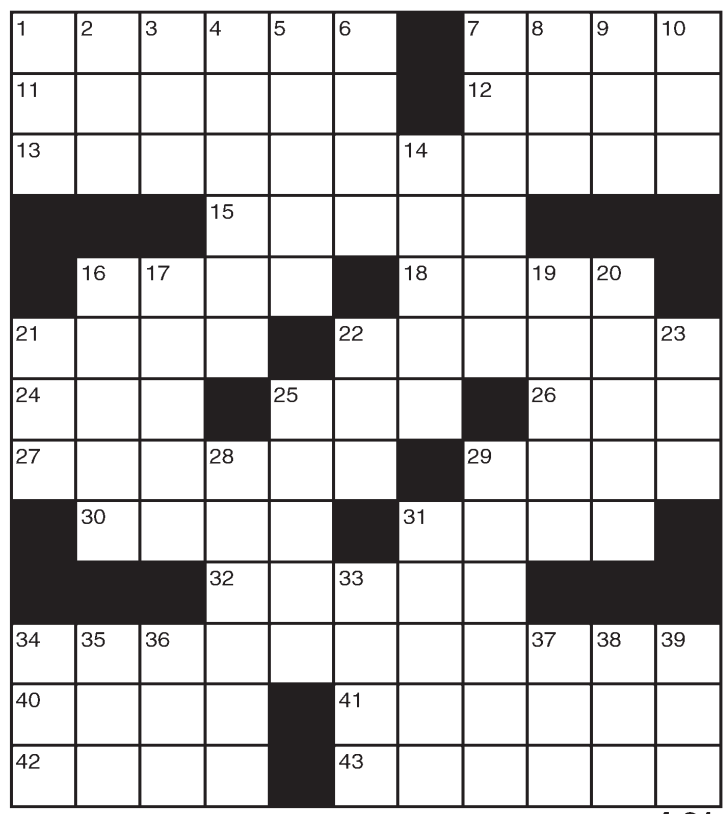
DOWN

1 Louvre fill
2 Ante up
3 Guitar blaster

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

Yesterday's answer

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



4-21

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 5 13 26 35 45
Meganumber: 32
Jackpot: $130M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 18 29 35 41
Meganumber: 19
Jackpot: $11M

Fantasy 5: 3 16 26 31 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 2 6 3
EVENING: 9 4 8

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1.42.31

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

■ The U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration recently postponed its crucial program to rejuvenate quarter-century-old Trident missile warheads because no one can remember how to make a key component of the weapons (codenamed "Fogbank"), according to a March 2 report of the Government Accountability Office. The GAO found that, despite concern over the bombs' safety and reliability, NNSA could not replicate the manufacturing process because all knowledgeable personnel have left the agency and no written records were kept. Said one commentator, "This is like James Bond destroying his instructions as soon as he's read them." (The GAO report came two months after the German Interior Ministry reported to Parliament that over a 10-year period, it had lost 332 secret files that were in fact so secret that no one in the Ministry could recall what was in them.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1836 an army of Texans led by Sam Houston defeated the Mexicans at San Jacinto, assuring Texas independence.

1910 author Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, died in Redding, Conn., at age 74.

1918 Baron Manfred von Richthofen, the German ace known as the "Red Baron," was killed in action during World War I.

1955 the Jerome Lawrence-Robert Lee play "Inherit the Wind," inspired by the Scopes trial of 1925, opened at the National Theatre in New York.

1960 Brazil inaugurated its new capital, Brasilia, transferring the seat of national government from Rio de Janeiro.

1972 Apollo 16 astronauts John Young and Charles Duke explored the surface of the moon.

WORD UP!

stormy petrel \STOR-mee-PET-ruhl\, *noun*:

1. Any of various small sea birds of the family Hydrobatidae, having dark plumage with paler underparts; also called storm petrel.
2. One who brings discord or strife, or appears at the onset of trouble.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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GIVE OF YOURSELF American Cancer Society Discovery Shop needs volunteer sales help. You can contribute by spending 4 hours per week Thurs., Fri., or Sat.assisting in our up-scale resale shop in Santa Monica. Conact Terry or Shaunnah at (310) 458-4490.

Line Cook with valid drivers license for catering delivery Must speak English. Please call (310)985-0080

PART-TIME OR FULL-TIME Driver. Must have own car, need to be familiar with L.A. have Ca. driver's license, English speaking. Can earn up to $100/ a day. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

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For Sale

SPA/HOT TUB 2009 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth $5950, sell for $1950 (310)479-3054

For Rent

1244 11TH st. single, $1050/mo $250 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

25 Westwind Unit #1 1+1 Newly remodeled spacious dishwasher, tile countertops, hardwood floors, balcony, fireplace, intercom entry, laundry,parking, No pets.$1795/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

833 5TH St. SM upper unit 206 single $1395 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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MDR STUDIO 3rd floor city view, utilities Also for sale @ $2,760.000 Call (818)359-2073

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MAR VISTA 11916 Courtleigh Dr. unit 8 one bedroom/one bath $1085 stove, fridge, carpet blinds utilities included parking laundry room no pets on site manager $400 off move-in (310)737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 205 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1025/mo $400 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12610 CASWELL ave.unit 7, 1bdrm/1ba $1075/mo. stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, parking,laundry, no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 10, $1125/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, granite countertop, wood/tile floors, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $400 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $1075 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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PENTHOUSE 2+2 with unobstrocted ocean view Malibu to Catalina. Upper, front. $2445/mo. (310)390-4610

Santa Monica $1650.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath NO pets, stove, refrigerator, parking 1935 Cloverfield Blvd., #15 Open daily for viewing 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit. Manager in unit #19. Move-in-special-available

Santa Monica $1695.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath NO pets, stove, refrigerator, Dshwshr, parking 1935 Cloverfield Blvd., #21 Open daily for viewing 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit. Manager in unit #19. Move-in-special-available

Palms/LaCienega Hghts $1225.00 2 Bdrms, 1-1/2 Baths, No-Pets appliances, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #7 Los Angeles, Open house daily for viewing 8am-8pm Additional info in Apt, Move-in special -available

SANTA MONICA / Mar Vista/Palms Adj. $1200.00 to $2150.00 1 Bdrm, 2 Bdrms, w/appliances, parking For list of our vacancies, see manager at : 1935 Cloverfield Blvd. #19, Santa Monica move-in-special available

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WLA, OCEAN VIEW. Hilltop/upper 2bedroom. Private driveway, sundeck, front patio. $2045/mo. 310-390-4610.

For Rent

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WESTWOOD: 617 1/2 Midvale unit 2.Bachelor, no kitchen, sink, fridge,hot plate, microwave, ceiling fan, carpet, street parking, no pets $895/mo (310)578-7512 wwwjkwproperties.com

WLA, OCEAN VIEW. Hilltop/upper 2bedroom. Private driveway, sundeck, front patio. $2045/mo. 310-390-4610.

Houses For Rent

Santa Monica. Very close to Santa Monica College 3 houses for rent or lease In front house 3bdrm/1 bath $2800 w/own driveway parking Back house 3+1 $2,500 w/parking Next house 1+1 $1,650 Ready to move in, New appliances. (714)450-0224

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Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property located on 4455 Katherine Avenue, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. Belongs to Natalja Marcenko. It is NOT Abandoned or Unclaimed. A letter questioning assets has been mailed to the trustee via certified mail No. 7008 1140 0001 3463 0598. Trustee Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. has yet to respond.

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North of Montana	$3,257,000	$1,295,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,895,000	$814,000
South of Wilshire	$1,050,000	$644,950
Sunset Park	$1,198,500	$673,500
Ocean Park	$1,199,000	$879,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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