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THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 135

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI COMES UP BIG
SEE PAGE 3

THE IN PLAY ISSUE

Council to reconsider Bergamot Transit Village

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL City Council will have a rare chance to overturn a controversial decision.

Thanks to thousands of signatures from Santa Monica voters, council will have to decide whether or not to repeal its previous agreement with the Texas-based developer Hines.

Approved in a 4 to 3 vote in February, the Bergamot Transit Village project would add roughly 765,000 square feet of office, housing, retail, and restaurants across five buildings on the corner of Olympic Boulevard and 26th Street.

Many residents were infuriated by the project, with their primary concern being the estimated 7,000 daily car trips it would add to an already congested area.

Residocracy, a community group, circulated referendum petitions calling for a public vote on the project. They had 30 days to collect 6,525 signatures from registered Santa Monica voters (or 10 percent of the registered voters) and they turned in 13,512.

SEE DEVELOPMENT PAGE 7



BIG HAUL
Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*
A fisherman scores big at the Santa Monica Pier on Monday. Fish caught at the pier are known to contain a number of pollutants.

Movie theater approved at mall

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN The performances were impressive but the ending was kind of predictable at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Council voted quickly and unanimously to approve the first new Downtown Santa Monica movie theater in decades.

An ArcLight Cinema with 10 to 13 screens and up to 1,500 seats will be built on the third level of the Santa Monica Place mall and could be completed by next year.

Council also voted unanimously to move forward in negotiations aimed at placing another larger ArcLight on Fourth Street where Parking Structure 3 currently sits.

The Bloomingdale's building, which is currently 56-feet-tall, will rise to somewhere between 78 and 84 feet to accommodate the screens.

Santa Monica Place mall owner Macerich, developer of the proposed ArcLight and the approved one, will make a $120,000 contribution to the Colorado Esplanade, a pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare connecting the incoming Expo Light Rail station to Downtown.

They will also fund Downtown wayfinding signage. ArcLight will provide closed caption devices at all its theaters for people with hearing impairments and will make three screens available for AFM, the world's largest independent film market.

ArcLight executives committed to look locally when hiring.

During the public portion of the item, nearly all residents were supportive of the project.

City officials and Downtown consultants

SEE THEATER PAGE 10

State senators get ethics training after scandals

JUDY LIN
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. State senators participated in a two-hour ethics training session Wednesday, the fallout from a series of legal cases involving Democratic lawmakers this year that have damaged the Legislature's image.

Two lawmakers have been charged with corruption and bribery, while a third was convicted for perjury and voter fraud.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg canceled committee hearings and ordered lawmakers and their top aides to devote the day to ethics seminars at a state library building and inside the Capitol. The

SEE TRAINING PAGE 10


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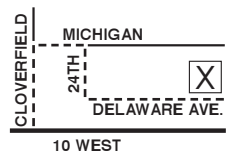
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, April 24, 2014

It's all fun in the board room
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Enjoy quality family time at the library. Play and "Kinect" with video and board games. Ages 4 and up. The event is held in the Children's Activity Room.

So tasty
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Bring your friends, don a blindfold and taste a variety of fresh, organic, and exotic foods from the Santa Monica Farmers' Market. The teen who correctly identifies the most foods wins a prize. Grades 6-12. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Friday, April 25, 2014

Fun with hats
1450 Ocean
1450 Ocean Ave., 6 p.m.
Corina Haywood leads students through a workshop dedicated to making straw hats. Haywood studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, where she learned the foundation of her millinery skills. For the past 10 years she has been exploring the relationship between art and fashion through her unique approaches to contemporary millinery construction and design. Her pieces have been collected by individuals, retailers and private label clients, and have been featured in Elle and Women's Wear Daily among other publications. For more information, call (310) 458-2239.

Making a case
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Adapted from two Anton Chekhov short stories, "Man In A Case" is a pair of haunting love stories — one of an officious, anti-social man and his involvement with an extroverted woman. The second, a tale of moral ambiguity in which the protagonist forgoes his love for a married woman. Though seemingly different, both are tales of fear trumping the pursuit of life's most promising possibilities. Drawing from material as varied as surveillance footage, folk dance, instructional hunting videos, and interviews with the cast, "Man In A Case" creates a bridge between our time and that of these 19th-century, anti-love stories. Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar, the team behind the internationally acclaimed Big Dance Theater, bring their signature style — fusing theater, dance, music and video — to this newly distinctive work featuring Mikhail Baryshnikov. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

Saturday, April 26, 2014

For the planet
Santa Monica Beach
8 a.m. — 3 p.m.
This educational and public service event is part of a month-long celebration of Earth Day. Volunteer at a cleanup, build a sand castle or have a taste of sustainable seafood. (Beach towers 1550, 15 and 14)
For more information call (800) HEAL-BAY or visit www.healthebay.org.

Happy b-day, Beach House
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH
Celebrate the Beach House's fifth anniversary with free, family-friendly activities. Drop in and check out the fun. For more information, visit annenbergbeachhouse.com.

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

Performing dogs go big after $1 million TV prize

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A million dollars will change you.

Since a father and son took their 10 flipping, twirling dogs from the center ring of a circus to the stage of a reality show, where they won TV competition "America's Got Talent," people pack their performances at large venues and they have been tapped to star in short films bankrolled by Ellen DeGeneres' pet food company, one of which is set to screen at the Cannes Film Festival.

Richard Olate, 56, son Nicholas, 21, and 10 poodle-mix dogs — most of them rescues — dazzled audiences and grabbed the "Talent" title in 2012 with their jumping, running, hiding, rolling and riding of dog-size cars and scooters. In the fast-paced, trick-filled shows, the dogs use slides and jump ropes better than most kids, fall into a conga line in perfect sync and one does backflips flawlessly.

After winning the million-dollar prize, the troupe headlined a show at the Venetian resort and casino on the Las Vegas Strip for six months and started traveling in a cushy motorhome and trailer that pamper people and pooches.

"The dogs give us our life, so we make sure they are always in a good place," Nicholas Olate said of the dogs' new mode of travel, which has heating, air conditioning and showers. "Everything's decked out for their comfort."

The Olates, including wife and mom

SEE **DOGS** PAGE 9

Tentative deal reached in TSA breast-milk lawsuit

TERRY TANG
Associated Press

PHOENIX A Southern California woman who was held at a Phoenix airport four years ago after refusing to have her breast milk X-rayed said Wednesday she has reached a tentative settlement with the Transportation Security Administration.

Stacey Armato, who filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Phoenix, said TSA officials have tentatively offered her $75,000, along with promises to retrain agents and clarify its guidelines on screening breast milk.

The reassurances about revised training and rules were more important than the monetary compensation, she said.

"We had been waiting for them to really kind of confirm that they would be retraining everybody and making these policy updates," Armato said. "When we finally got confirmation of that, that was really reassuring."

TSA spokesman Ross Feinstein declined to comment on a "pending matter." He confirmed that current TSA regulations classify breast milk as liquid medication. As a result, parents are permitted to bring an amount larger than the 3 ounces normally allotted for liquids.

According to the agency's website, officers now use a bottled liquid scanner system in most airports to screen medically necessary liquids for explosives or other threats. The system uses lasers, infrared or electromagnetic resonance, rather than X-rays.

That was not an option at the time for Armato, who said she was accustomed to having a visual inspection for breast milk when traveling.

Armato, of Hermosa Beach, said she asked for an alternate screening of her breast milk at a security checkpoint at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport on Feb. 1, 2010. She cited concerns about exposing the milk to radiation.

According to a 2013 complaint from Armato, agents denied her request and then detained her in a glass enclosure for 40 minutes. Armato, who was traveling alone, alleged their action was partly retaliation for a complaint she filed over a similar incident a week earlier.

She also said officers would not let her retrieve a printout she had of the TSA rules regarding breast milk.

"It was so surreal. To have so many people of authority there acting in concert, kind of watching me stand there and cry," Armato said. "It was just completely mind-boggling. You just feel completely helpless."

In her complaint, Armato said the Phoenix police were called and an officer told her to do whatever was asked to avoid arrest. After an alleged "intrusive physical body inspection" and a secondary screening of the milk, Armato said she was released but missed her flight.

Rob Mosier, Armato's attorney, said they plan to make sure the agency follows through with updates to its website.

"As far as internal procedures, I have to take them at their word that they will do that," Mosier said.

Armato said any money she receives will go toward attorney fees and a Los Angeles nonprofit that promotes breastfeeding. The mother of two said the past four years have been "absolutely worth it" if it means other breastfeeding moms won't be intimidated to travel with breast milk.

"My kids are 4 1/2 and 3," Armato said. "Hopefully one day we'll have another one, and I'll be breastfeeding, and these changes will benefit my future travels and also for other breastfeeding moms."



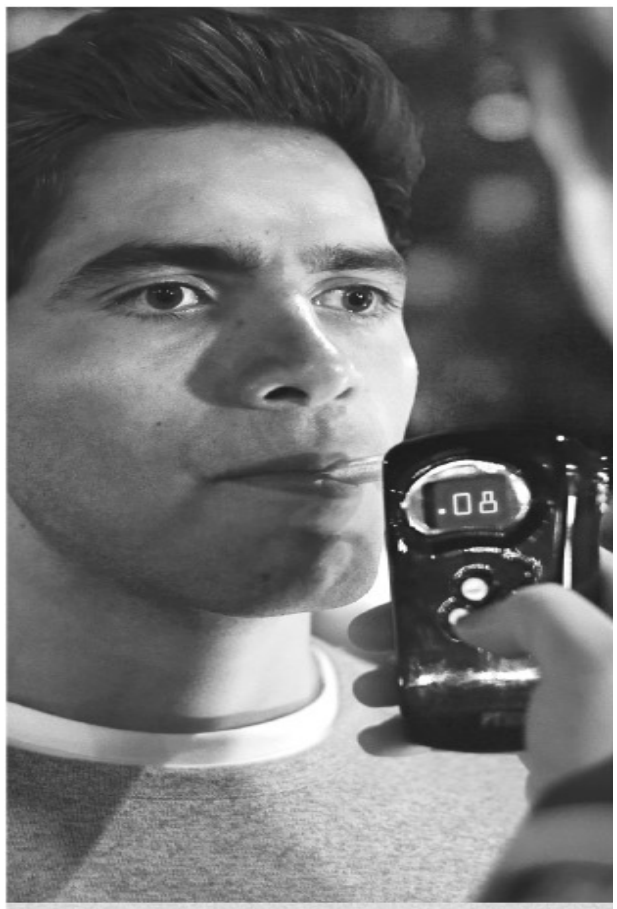
SWING BATTER

Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

Samohi's Matt Kassowitz hits an inside the park home run against rival Inglewood on Tuesday. Samohi went on to win, 10-2, during the Ocean League contest. Samohi is now 15-4 overall.



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Your column here

Lauren Norton and Michelle O'Neil Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A black eye and a bullied soul

BULLYING: SOMETHING WE'VE ALL HEARD of or either dealt with in some way. Something some children deal with on a daily basis while they are away from home. Do you know what your children are facing during the school day?

Bullying and harassment is a big issue that many children are faced with in more ways than one. Bullying can occur in many different forms. From punching, hitting, name-calling, and advanced to levels of intimidation through gestures or social networks and the Internet, bullying and harassment is a big deal.

It impacts children, adolescents, and even older adults in a physical and psychological way. These types of issues take a big toll on students and can create an atmosphere of physical fights, verbal altercations, and even serious incidents like death.

The House of Representatives 1199 Bill has been introduced to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students. The purpose of this bill is to propose local educational agencies to enforce policies that will stop bullying and harassment. So far the bill has only been introduced and referred to committee as of March 2013. It still has to be passed by the House, then by Senate, and then signed by the president. Why should we push for this bill? Why should children have so much to carry on their plate? Why should children have to worry about leaving the comfort of their homes and going to school, spending long hours of their daily lives afraid of being pressured and pushed around? They shouldn't.

An interesting fact about this bill is that Congress finds that schools with anti-bullying and harassment policies have an increased level of reportings and teacher interventions in incidences of bullying and harassment. This can eventually reduce the number of overall incidents and frequency in which bullying takes place in the school system. This proves that putting a policy like this one into place will effectively help put an end to bullying and harassment in general, therefore making the school system a safer place.

As students of social work, there are a lot of different policies that we must learn in order to be able to advocate appropriately for all mankind. Social workers should be involved in policy advocacy to become better leaders of society. They will become the leaders of the community and leaders of individuals who agree with the social changes they are attempting to make. This is a specific issue that needs to be addressed; the effects of bullying in the school systems across the United States. Bullying is something that starts at an early age in children and progresses into adolescence and even adulthood. Bullying and or being bullied takes a very negative impact on those involved. If the issue could also be stopped from a school standpoint, it could spark the same flame into the home and the community.

AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT THIS BILL IS THAT CONGRESS FINDS THAT SCHOOLS WITH ANTI-BULLYING AND HARASSMENT POLICIES HAVE AN INCREASED LEVEL OF REPORTINGS AND TEACHER INTERVENTIONS IN INCIDENCES OF BULLYING AND HARASSMENT. THIS CAN EVENTUALLY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF OVERALL INCIDENTS AND FREQUENCY IN WHICH BULLYING TAKES PLACE IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The entire purpose of H.R. Bill 1199 is to improve schools to be safer places for students to learn and to be individuals without being punished for such. The goal is to stop this from happening so the community as a whole can work together to keep children safe. The children are the future, so their safety should be a priority of those with authority to change the environment in which children learn. Will you help advocate for change?

LAUREN NORTON AND MICHELLE O'NEIL are graduate students at the University of Southern California.



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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Notable lives, great performances

THERE ARE TWO ONE-PERSON PLAYS taking place across town from one another, each concerning notable individuals separated by a generation who broke the conventions of their time.

But how very different their stories are.

At The Geffen Playhouse, the unmatchable Annette Bening would make Ruth Draper herself envious with her amazing ability to give life to the society women whose circles Draper inhabited and who provided the raw material for her work.

At the Mark Taper Forum, Daniel Beaty is receiving much-deserved standing ovations as he embodies the life of 20th century African-American superstar actor, singer and activist Paul Robeson.

Ruth Draper was born into a wealthy American family and had a gift for mimicry and observation that she turned into a profession, creating and acting out multiple characters onstage with her series of "Monologues."

While society at the time allowed for "drawing room drama," women from respectable families were not expected to entertain on a stage. Despite those social barriers, Draper became a leading performer, bringing her renowned character studies to large crowds in New York, throughout the U.S. and across Europe, entertaining general audiences, royalty and other actors, many of whom have cited her as their inspiration.

Annette Bening is a marvel. There are four monologues in which we meet just one character, and yet we feel the presence of many others on the stage with her.

In "A Class in Greek Poise," we see the early makings of self-improvement classes involving manners as well as exercise. A lovely instructor is teaching her overweight society matrons how to carry themselves and affect a positive outlook. Sound familiar?

"A Debutante at a Dance" is hilarious; the fact that Bening, now a grandmother, can pull off embodying this teenager, a flighty, flirty young coquette who is attempting sophistication, is minor miracle. She does it brilliantly.

"Doctors and Diets" is set as a "ladies who lunch but don't eat" vignette, and truly could be ripped straight out of today's gluten-free, vegan, vegetarian, paleo, lacto-intolerant, nutritionally confusing headlines.

Again we sense the reality of the ladies at the table with her, the waiter and the restaurant crowd as Bening brilliantly invokes their presence with just her voice, her change of register, her compliments about hats (she's wearing an enormous feather in her cap). Seems that there's just as much confusion about diets today as there was in Draper's time!



Photo courtesy Geffen Playhouse

THE STAR: Annette Bening is onstage in "Ruth Draper's Monologues" through May 18.

And as my play-going companion, was once a personal assistant to a big celebrity, told me, the final monologue "The Italian Lesson" could have been about her former employer. Bening's character represents that super-rich, self-important, eccentric, egocentric society woman whose personal concerns overshadow those of the "little people" who serve her.

Here again, we have a room filled with children, a dog, a housekeeper, a cook, an Italian teacher and other characters - except it's just Bening onstage, who has managed to give us all of them through physical and vocal transformations, a costume change and a prop or two, including a chaise longue (STET!) and especially, a telephone.

Quite simply, this is a perfect and timeless performance. Annette Bening is onstage in "Ruth Draper's Monologues" through May 18 at The Geffen Playhouse in Westwood. It's a tour-de-force and not to be missed. Find out more at www.geffenplayhouse.com.

'THE TALLEST TREE IN THE FOREST'

Paul Robeson was born far from the society of rich ladies who lunch. His father had been a slave who ran away to become a min-

SEE WATCH PAGE 6

The Q Line

Detours

The intersection of Lincoln Boulevard and Colorado Avenue is scheduled to be closed for a week starting this week to install tracks for the forthcoming Expo Light Rail Line.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What detours would you recommend to commuters stuck in traffic?

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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Photos explore dynamics of youths' sexual identity

JAY REEVES
Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. For many, it's difficult to understand Foster Noone's sexual identity. The 17-year-old uses the labels of bisexual, trans and gender neutral all at once.

A photography exhibition opening at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute on Wednesday night seeks to put a face on such young people while exploring the difficult dynamics of family acceptance of their identities in the Deep South.

The exhibit "Family Matters" features images of a dozen lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth ages 15 to 23 who were photographed by Carolyn Sherer. She previously displayed photographs of lesbians and their families for a 2012 show called "Living in Limbo."

Sherer, who photographed each young participant before a plain white background, said she didn't have any trouble finding subjects for the projects, even though living openly as a LGBTQ person can be difficult in Alabama — like many other places.

"The 12 youths who stood for these photographs are fearless, and they give me great hope for the future," Sherer said.

Noone, of suburban Pelham, laughed in delight when viewing the exhibit for the first time with two other people who posed, Ali Massoud and Lauren Jacobs, both of Birmingham.

"With only 12 portraits it's impossible to show the entirety of such a huge community, but I love that it gives voices to young people and it's a start for us to begin telling our stories," Noone added.

Jacobs, who calls herself queer, is one of the older participants, at 22. She hopes the display — hanging in a hallway beside old black-and-white images from the civil rights movement in the 1960s — will be affirming for both the people who posed and for viewers. Beside each photo is a short personal narrative describing that person's relationship with family members.

"I'm actually most interested in what it will change for people who are young queer people who are just coming through the institute with their families and they see people on the wall that they know are them," Jacobs said.

Sherer's showing of photos of lesbian families broke ground two years ago at the museum, which historically has focused on the struggle for equal rights for blacks in Birmingham. The show became the basis for a feature-length documentary, and it inspired Sherer's new project because of the differences she saw between middle-age lesbians like herself and youth in the LGBTQ community.

"What I see in young people now in Birmingham is an optimism I never experienced," said Sherer. "They plan their careers and their families as though they will enjoy full equality."

Sponsored by Birmingham AIDS Outreach and other partners, the show runs through June 9 at the Civil Rights Institute. Sherer is seeking funding for additional national showings.

Ali Massoud, a gay man from Egypt who attends college in Birmingham, said it's important for people to see the diversity of the LGBTQ community.

"It's not just about gays and lesbians," Massoud said. "There are all sorts of trans people, there are all sorts of queer people and people identifying in different ways because of the different experiences that they've had."

While living as an openly gay person is often more difficult in a Bible Belt state like Alabama than somewhere more liberal like California, Massoud said, it's still easier to be out in the South than in his native Egypt.

Massoud, who hopes to reconcile a fractured relationship with his parents, described the tension between his life in the United States in his Muslim upbringing in Egypt in the narrative accompanying his portrait.

"One is my past, one is my present, but I want both to be my future," Massoud wrote.

WATCH
FROM PAGE 5

ister and his mother was a Quaker. His brother was more of a challenger, a fighter, and died young. Robeson took life lessons from both his parents and his brother.

Paul's many talents included his powerful intellect, which led him to become his class valedictorian at Rutgers University in 1919. He was also star athlete and fan All American football player. And he attended law school at Columbia University for two years. But everywhere he turned, he encountered racism and found it a crippling barrier.

Robeson also had a powerful voice that would turn him into a star onstage, and that he would use to challenge the civil injustices of his era. Believing in the arts as a unifying force, Robeson spoke out loudly as he went from being the "most famous Negro in the world" to being publicly condemned as a traitor and blacklisted during the McCarthy era.

Daniel Beaty created the one-man show, "The Tallest Tree in the Forest," acting and singing the history of Robeson's life. He opens with Robeson's signature song, the one that launched his career, "Ol' Man River" from Show Boat, which he starred in onstage in London and later in the film and would perform throughout his life.

Robeson's secret weapon was his amazing wife, Essie, who was herself a groundbreaking black woman, whose own career in chemistry made her a star in her own right. But Robeson became her project, guiding him in his choices, standing by him in good times and bad, staying with him despite his repeated affairs, and we feel the strength of her conviction and passion in Beaty's realization of her character as much as Robeson's.

Beaty gives us the actor, the activist, and the unfairly accused Robeson, whose undoing was his naivete in believing and stating that there was no racism in the USSR under Stalin. This is what caused the State Department to revoke his passport, a decision later overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In crafting "The Tallest Tree in the Forest," Daniel Beaty helps us remember and honor an artist who should never have been forgotten in the first place. The play is onstage at The Mark Taper Forum downtown through May 25. More information at centertheatregroup.org.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She has also reviewed theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

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DEVELOPMENT
FROM PAGE 1

On Friday, the Los Angeles County Clerk announced that at least 6,800 of the signatures were valid. They stopped counting at 8,434 after it became clear that the minimium had been reached.

On Tuesday, council officially heard the news along with a bit of sparring during the public comment portion of the item.

Council set the date of May 13, the next regular meeting, to decide next steps.

Four council members, Gleam Davis, Terry O'Day, Pam O'Connor, and Bob Holbrook, voted in favor of the project. At the May meeting they will have a chance to change their minds. If one of them flips and the other three council members (Ted Winterer, Kevin McKeown, and Tony Vazquez) stand by their decisions, the agreement will be overturned and Hines will have to go back to the drawing board.

If everyone stands pat, then the agreement will go before a public vote, either on the ballot for the Nov. 4 general election or in a special election.

A special election could cost taxpayers about $200,000, city officials said. Including the vote on the general election ballot would cost an estimated $5,000.

Five residents spoke during the public portion of the meeting. There was little to no gloating from residents opposed to the Hines project, though many on hand applauded when the item concluded.

Armen Melkonians, founder of Residocracy and leader of the referendum initiative, sat in the council chambers but did not speak during the public portion.

Former Santa Monica Mayor Mike Feinstein urged council to repeal the agreement and warned them not to spend the $200,000 to hold a special election.

"I think we'd be better off simply learning from that, putting it aside, and revisiting what goes on there, rather than throwing this to a big expensive election and bringing in all those kind of dollars which I think is kind of ugly," he said.

Local peace activist Jerry Rubin, who regularly speaks positively about on-goings in Santa Monica at council meetings, said he thought the Hines project improved over the seven year development agreement process. He lauded improvements made to the affordable housing in the project and sounded disgusted with the referendum.

"To undercut that process is so un-Santa Monica I don't even know what to say," he said. "I'll bet you that a lot of people who signed that ballot initiative, if they really understood everything, probably wouldn't have signed it."

After Rubin's time elapsed, McKeown and he exchanged barbs.

"I don't usually ask you questions, Mr. Rubin, but you mentioned it twice so I have to ask you: Do you think the affordable housing in that project was appropriate and adequate?" he asked.

"If we kill the project we don't get any affordable housing," Rubin responded, "and that's not adequate."

"There could be another project of course," McKeown returned.

McKeown noted that given the percentage of ballots that were deemed valid by the county, it's likely that more than 10,000 registered Santa Monica voters turned in valid petitions.

"I can't think of anything more Santa Monica than 10,000 residents getting together to let this council know that a decision was not what they want," he said. "That's what democracy is all about."

Davis and O'Day were quiet throughout the item.

Holbrook, who is currently at sea, was absent from the meeting. O'Connor, McKeown, and Holbrook are up for reelection this November.

"It's wonderful that 10,000 people signed it," O'Connor said. "That means there are 45,000 registered voters in Santa Monica who have not weighed in on it. So we will see where we go on this in the future."

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DOGS

FROM PAGE 3

Rebecca, who serves as road and communications manager, spend more than 11 months a year on the road. They still play circuses, but with their fame, now take their performances to concert halls, NBA games and other large venues. A major draw is 6-year-old Lili, the family's only canine performer who can do a backflip and a key reason the Olates won "America's Got Talent," whose new season premieres May 27.

The act triumphed after 45 years of work by the elder Olate. Nicholas Olate says his father, the second youngest of 22 children born in Chile, was 10 when he adopted and started training strays. By 12, he was supporting his entire family with his dog shows. After a circus group saw the act, Richard Olate and the dogs were performing in the United States.

Nicholas Olate, born in Oregon, started working with his dad when he was 6.

He said he is often asked how they train the dogs — they don't use treats, instead making the work fun and filled with love.

"Maybe my dad would have trained with treats, but he was so poor, he didn't have money for them," Nicholas Olate said.

For those who wonder if the dogs enjoy performing, you can tell how they feel by their body language, said Dr. Jessica Vogelsang, a San Diego veterinarian and author of pawcurious.com.

"In my experience, high-energy dogs that are given an outlet for that energy are usually pretty darn happy," she said. "Running, jumping, weaving — those are all activities a dog's body is suited for. Work, take a break, have a snack, repeat: not a bad life for a pup."

The Olates and their dogs have even taken on a new type of performance, starring in a series of short online films promoting shelter adoptions. They could even be eligible next year for Oscar consideration in the narrative short film category.

Told from the dog's point of view, a 6-minute French language film called "Le Sauvetage" ("The Rescue") opened the Sonoma International Film Festival in California this month and will be shown at the Cannes Film Festival in France in May.

Nicholas Olate plays lead character Phillipe, who falls in love after the dogs rescue him and co-star Tate Ashley from their lonely, boring lives. Richard Olate also appears in the film, sitting on a bench holding a dog.

The next film, set for release in June, will look at how dogs choose their human best friends.

The Olates' pooches also manage some brand placement for Halo, Purely for Pets, the DeGeneres-owned natural pet food company that's funding the films.

Steve Marton, Halo's CEO and executive producer of the films, wants them to gain a large audience "because they show how lives can be changed forever when you take a shelter dog home."

"Before you see the show, you assume the guy's a good dog trainer," Marton said of the elder Olate. "Then you see it, and you realize Richard is not managing the dogs. He is out there with his partners."

The dogs liked the crowds that gathered for "America's Got Talent" and the show they headlined in Las Vegas, the family says.

"The crowds pumped the dogs up and added to their energy," Nicholas Olate said.

The younger Olate continues to add to his repertoire, displaying his singing chops in a pop album called "Think Big." The dogs also released one, called "The Olate Dogs' Christmas," where they bark along to the music.

Olate hopes to try out for "American Idol" next year. The dogs aren't eligible.







TRAINING
FROM PAGE 1

purpose of the closed-door sessions was to reflect on the Legislature's current practices and prevent lawmakers and staff from putting themselves in compromising situations, the Sacramento Democrat said.

"We all have to look inside and ask ourselves, 'How can we earn the public trust? How can we repair some of the damage that has been wrought as a result of recent events?'" Steinberg told reporters after Wednesday's training.

Earlier this month, the Senate suspended Sens. Ronald Calderon of Montebello and Leland Yee of San Francisco after they were indicted on federal criminal charges. Calderon is accused of accepting $100,000 in bribes for friends and family in exchange for influencing legislation, and Yee was charged with accepting bribes and orchestrating weapons trafficking to help pay off campaign debts.

Both pleaded not guilty. A third Democrat, Sen. Rod Wright, also was suspended after being convicted earlier this year of voter fraud and perjury for lying about his legal residence in Los Angeles County. His sentencing is scheduled for next month.

Wednesday's schedule included a presentation about creating a culture of ethics by Scott Raecker, chief executive of the Josephson Institute of Ethics and executive director of Character Counts In Iowa, a nonprofit housed at Drake University.

That was followed by a panel discussion led by three election and campaign attorneys, including Democratic lawyer Lance Olson, Republican lawyer Chuck Bell and former assistant U.S. Attorney John Panneton. Senators and staff were expected to be presented with hypothetical scenarios on ethical and legal issues.

Steinberg said it is unlikely such training would have prevented the criminal charges. However, he said there needs to be a discussion about separating campaigning from policymaking, even though money is ingrained in politics.

"While there is no ethics class that teaches the dangers of gun-running or taking money in an envelope, that's not really what this session was about," Steinberg said. "It was more about the subtle and sometimes insidious impacts of all the money that exists in politics."

For example, he said senators are expected to stop themselves from having a conversation about pending legislation whether they're attending a small or large campaign event.

Senate Republican leader Bob Huff agreed Wednesday's session was important as a way to maintain the Senate's integrity. The Assembly did not participate. Huff said senators receive similar training every two years.

Senators leaving the session described it as a helpful reminder but said they didn't learn anything new. All senators attended except Sen. Noreen Evans, D-Santa Rosa, who was out sick, and Sen. Steve Knight, R-Palmdale, whose flight was canceled, according to Steinberg's office.

"I'd call it more of a refresher," said Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, D-Santa Barbara. "The important thing is to stay focused on your values."

Wednesday's ethics training was the latest effort by Steinberg to distance lawmakers from the criminal charges and repair the Senate's reputation.

He canceled a fundraiser to be held at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego earlier this month, saying it would be inappropriate in the wake of the charges. The Senate also erased the names and online archives of the three suspended lawmakers.

Lawmakers also have proposed various bills to try to restore public trust in government by untangling the web of money and politics.

THEATER
FROM PAGE 1

have made clear that the city by the sea desperately needs modern cinemas. The Criterion closed last year. The Laemmle recently announced it would cut its seat count in half. AMC has not made any announcements but city officials have predicted they may also cut their seats.

Last year, AFM-founder Jonathan Wolf complained about Santa Monica's movie theater situation noting that the shuttering of the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, which is needs a massive retrofitting, forced him to show more films in hotel ballrooms.

At Tuesday's meeting, Wolf urged council to approve the project.

"We're going to be in dire straits this year but we're thrilled with the possibility of having the ArcLight coming forward," he said. "I go to the ArcLight frequently; it fits for us."

Kathleen Rawson, president and CEO of Downtown Santa Monica Inc. said that cinemas were the "cornerstone" of Downtown's late-'80s redevelopment.

"A lot of people say the Third Street Promenade is so great because of its location: Well in 1986 to 1989 we were actually in exactly the same place," she said. "One of the key successes of course was the council's action at the time to concentrate movie theaters in the Downtown. ... That created the pedestrian flow that supported the restaurants and later the retail."

Macerich executives claim that in 1993 there were 2.3 million annual theater-goers in Downtown compared to less than 800,000 today.

Council member Gleam Davis pointed out that local theaters could reduce traffic.

"I think on Earth Day we could assume that people would not be driving out of town if we were to offer them better theater experiences here in town," she said.

SECOND, LARGER ARCLIGHT

Council's approval, later in the meeting, of an exclusive negotiating agreement with ArcLight and Macerich sets into motion the possibility for a new, larger movie theater on Fourth Street.

This ArcLight would have 12 to 16 screens but could hold up to 2,700 viewers.

AMC signed a similar agreement for the same location where Parking Structure 3 sits but the deal fell through in 2012.

Rawson also spoke on the second cinema.

"I'm not going to repeat what I just said, because it's really ditto," she said.

She asked city officials and ArcLight to go big with this project.

"The (Downtown Santa Monica Inc.) board feels very strongly and has advocated for many years that this theater be a large theater — as large as we can put there that makes sense," Rawson said.

Early plans for the complex include large auditorium theaters and at least one large IMAX or IMAX-like screen.

Macerich and Arclight still have to go through City Hall's development agreement process, making stops at the Architectural Review Board, Planning Commission, and, once again, council.

Construction might not begin until 2016 or 2017 and could take a year and a half to complete.

Council members were anxious to approve the agreement and to expedite the process, if possible.

"I understand and agree that we have to go through the public process," said Councilman Tony Vazquez. "But if there's anything we can do from the council on the staff side to support the staff and hopefully expedite this ... it'd be nice to get this up sooner rather than later."

dave@smdp.com





U.S. stocks edge lower after a six-day rise

KEN SWEET
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK Stocks edged mostly lower Wednesday, breaking a six-day winning streak, as investors were disappointed by the latest round of earnings from U.S. companies.

A surprise drop in new home sales also weighed on the broader market.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 4.16 points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,875.39. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 12.72 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,501.65 and the Nasdaq composite fell 34.49 points, or 0.8 percent, to 4,126.97.

Since hitting a two-month low on April 11, the index had increased 3.5 percent through Tuesday. It is not unusual for the stock market to pause after such a rally.

"The market, even with those six days of gains, is still struggling to choose a direction," said Joseph Tanious, a global market strategist with J.P. Morgan Funds.

High-flying biotechnology and Internet stocks were among the hardest hit.

Surgical robot maker Intuitive Surgical fell the most in the S&P 500, plunging $48.40, or 12 percent, to $373.93. The company reported a 77 percent drop in first-quarter earnings and sold half has many robots as it did in the same period a year earlier. The company warned two weeks ago that earnings would come in far below expectations, causing its stock to fall sharply from a recent high of $540.63 reached April 3.

Amgen fell 5 percent after it also reported a steep drop in quarterly earnings, missing analysts' expectations.

One bright spot in biotechnology was Gilead Sciences. The drugmaker rose $1, or 1.4 percent, to $73.86 after the company reported a surge in first-quarter earnings. Gilead's drug Sovaldi, a new treatment for Hepatitis C, had $2.3 billion in sales in the first quarter alone, which beat the record for any drug in its first whole year on the market. While Sovaldi has a 90 percent success rate in curing Hepatitis C, the drug has a price of $1,000 per pill, or around $84,000 for a typical course of treatment.

AT&T, despite posting quarterly results that beat analysts' expectations, wasn't able to impress investors this quarter. The Dow member's shares fell $1.37, or 4 percent, to $34.92. The company reported earnings of 71 cents a share, one cent ahead of analysts' expectations, and quarterly sales of $32.48 billion, which also beat expectations.

Other telecom stocks also fell. Verizon fell 49 cents, or 1 percent, to $47.43 while T-Mobile US lost $1.28, or 3.8 percent, to $29.81.

Airline stocks were among the biggest advancers. Delta Air Lines rose $2.14, or 6 percent, to $37.09. Delta's first-quarter earnings climbed after the company filled more seats on planes and paid less for fuel. Delta was the biggest gainer in the S&P 500.

Plane maker Boeing rose $3.08, or 2.4 percent, to $130.63. Its quarterly earnings beat expectations as its commercial jet production increased.

U.S. company earnings have been generally coming in better than what investors had expected. But expectations are low this quarter, investors said, because the harsh winter earlier this year slowed business activity across the country. Earnings in the S&P 500 are expected to be down 1.5 percent from a year ago, according to FactSet.

"When you set the bar so low, U.S. companies are able to walk right over them," Tanious said.

In other company news:

— Apple jumped $43.91, or 8 percent, to $568.43 in after-hours trading. The technology giant reported a profit of $10.2 billion, or $11.62 a share, beating analysts' forecast of a profit of $10.19 a share. The company also announced it would increase its share buyback program from $60 billion to $90 billion, raised its quarterly dividend to $3.29 a share, and also announced a seven-for-one stock split.

— Facebook reported a profit of 34 cents a share, well ahead of the 24 cents per share analysts had expected. Facebook shares rose $1.74, or 3 percent, to $63.10 in aftermarket trading.

— Netflix sank $19.40, or 5 percent, to $353.50. Time Warner and Amazon.com announced that HBO's award-winning shows such as "The Sopranos" and "Six Feet Under" would be available exclusively for Amazon Prime subscribers, a big loss for Netflix. HBO had been one of the biggest holdouts in bringing its content to streaming video services. Time Warner rose $1.08, or 2 percent, to $66.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **60.1°**

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
SSW/S swell continues; NW swell-mix fades; Conditions improve

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Small SSW swell continues; light winds early, picking up from the W in the afternoon

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
Building combo of long period NW and SSW swells; larger overhead sets for top SSW focal points in the PM; problematic weather/winds looking likely

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **4-6 ft** shoulder high to 1 ft overhead
SSW swell tops out - Larger 6'++ sets for standout SSW focal points; NW swell fills in further; potential improving weather/winds...stay tuned

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 17, 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 -- 40/14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3/8

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+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	B
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	C	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
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+	ns
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+	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+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	D
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
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 DWW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
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

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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.

Climate change likely to make Everest even riskier

KATY DAIGLE
AP Environment Writer

NEW DELHI Climbing to the roof of the world is becoming less predictable and possibly more dangerous, scientists say, as climate change brings warmer temperatures that may eat through the ice and snow on Mount Everest.

Nepal was left reeling when a sudden ice avalanche slammed down onto a group of Sherpa guides on Friday and killed 16 in the deadliest single disaster on Everest. While it is impossible to link any single event to long-term changes in the global climate, scientists say the future will likely hold more such dangers in high-altitude regions.

Avalanches of snow, rock or ice could increase. Climbing and trekking terrains would become unsteady. Glaciers may be more unpredictable. Storms will become more erratic, and the Himalayas in particular could see more snow as warming oceans send more moisture into the air for the annual Indian monsoon that showers the 2,400-kilometer (1,500-mile) mountain range.

Friday's disaster occurred at the Khumbu Icefall, long recognized as one of Everest's most dangerous spots, as the edge of the slow-moving glacier is known to crack, cave and send huge chunks of ice tumbling without warning.

"It's Mother Nature who calls the shots," Tim Rippel, an expedition leader, said in a blog post from Everest base camp as many of the 400 Sherpa guides were leaving, demanding better government compensation for the high risks they take in helping climbing companies ferry rich tourists up the peak. "The mountain has been deteriorating rapidly in the past three years due to global warming, and the breakdown in the Khumbu Icefall is dramatic," he said. "We need to learn more about what is going on up there."

There is nothing to prove the icefall was behaving unusually on Friday. But scientists say mountaineers should assume that everything is now in flux.

What makes the situation so risky, scientists say, is the uncertainty itself. While scientists are sure things are changing, they're not entirely sure how. Much of the evidence is anecdotal, and there isn't enough data or decades of scientific observation to draw solid conclusions. Rigorous glacier studies have only begun in the Himalayas in the last decade, and no one is studying snow patterns on a large scale, Nepalese glaciologist Rijan Bhakta Kayastha at Kathmandu University said.

Meanwhile, as global temperatures have gone up 0.75 degrees C (1.4 degrees F) in the last century, according to the International Panel on Climate Change, studies show the Himalayas warming at a rate up to three times as high.

"You can be sure that if the climate is changing — and it is — then glaciers are changing and the danger is shifting," said U.S. hydrologist Jeff Kargel of the University of Arizona who is leading a global project to measure and map the tens of thousands of Himalayan glaciers through satellite data. "It doesn't necessarily mean it's getting worse, it just means you don't know."

Kargel said population in the vicinity also plays a role. "The more people you have living or trekking in the mountains in seemingly blind disregard for a changing hazard environment, the more catastrophes you'll have," he said Wednesday in a telephone interview.

High-altitude mountain climbing has always been inherently risky — more so as more people take those risks. Hundreds have died attempting to summit Everest from avalanches or rock falls, or from hypothermia or altitude sickness. The Sherpas who died on Friday were some of today's most skilled Everest climbers, underlining the fact that experience is no guarantee of safety, even if better gear and oxygen-breathing equipment have helped reduce some dangers.

But the high number of unskilled climbers going up Everest has alarmed seasoned mountaineers.

"For many attempting Everest, it is not for love of the mountains, but for the prestige," said Col. H.S. Chauhan, president of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation.

More than 4,000 climbers have scaled the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) summit since 1953, when it was first conquered by New Zealand climber Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay. The numbers have skyrocketed in recent years along with guided expeditions charging up to $75,000 to help even novice trekkers reach the peak. More than 800 climbers tried during the 2013 spring season, and there were likely at least as many signed up this year.

But some, spooked by Friday's disaster, have already packed up and left.

The legendary Apa Sherpa, who holds the record in summiting Everest 21 times, has been warning about rising risks from climate change for years. When he first summited the mountain in 1990, the trails were covered in thick layers of packed ice and snow. "Now, the trail is full of bare and exposed rock," he said, making it harder for climbers to gain footholds with their spiky metal crampons meant for digging into ice.

"The danger level has significantly risen for climbers," said Apa, 53, who now lives in Draper, Utah, and last conquered Everest in 2011.

Newly exposed rubble and rock can also cascade in rock avalanches — as now happens on the Eiger in the Swiss Alps during summertime.

Meanwhile, heavier snow storms would lead to more snow accumulating, raising avalanche risks. Shifting wind patterns may also affect how snow and ice behave. Glacier movement could change, and an increase in melt water trickling down could cause a glacier to move more quickly.

"Changes in snow and ice are going to strongly influence the stability of snow on a slope and the possibility of an avalanche," said American glaciologist Tad Pfeffer with the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

"The danger in mountaineering is a combination of what's going on in the natural world and what the climbers are doing," Pfeffer said. "People will get in trouble if they rely on what they knew in the past. They have to have their eyes open and not go somewhere or do something simply because it worked out five years earlier."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The M Word (PG-13) 2hr
7:30pm

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

Rio 2 (NR)
12:45pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm

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

Divergent (NR)
3:45pm

Make Your Move (NR) 1hr 50min
12:30pm, 3:15pm, 5:50pm, 10:10pm

Oculus (NR) 1hr 45min
12:50pm, 3:20pm, 8:15pm, 10:45pm

Grand Budapest Hotel (R)
3:05pm, 5:50pm, 8:25pm, 10:50pm

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

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

Rio 2 (NR)
11:00am, 4:45pm, 9:45pm

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

Captain America: The Winter Soldier 3D (NR)
10:55am, 4:45pm, 10:30pm

Transcendence (NR)
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:50pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Rio 2 in 3D (NR)
2:00pm, 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, 10:45pm

Draft Day (NR)
11:10am, 1:55pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

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 (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**

OUT LATE TONIGHT, GEM

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Tap into your knowledge and listen to what is being said. Avoid personalizing comments, as you are more vulnerable than you have been in a while. Count on your imagination going to extremes, but know that a great idea could be the result. Tonight: Play it low-key.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You might be overly concerned about a situation. Keep your long-term objectives in mind. You could be very interested in what goes on around a work-related matter. Tonight: Where the action is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You have more at stake than you realize. You might be more creative on one level, yet on another level, you'll see the role of structure in your life. A partner whom you thought you finally had an agreement with suddenly could change his or her mind. Tonight: Out late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Let your mind wander, and worry a little less about form and what is appropriate. You can take a great idea and make it conform later. A brainstorming situation could cause a slight rift, as someone is likely to get a little too personal. Tonight: Be your expressive self.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Relate to a key person in your life directly. You might have difficulty getting through to this person on some level, so use this obstacle as an opportunity to open up to more creative modes of communication. Tonight: Dinner for two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You would be a lot happier if you allowed others to take the reins. Consider everything you could do if you were less available and didn't need to be present. You might catch up on your loved ones' news or take part of the day off just for you. Tonight: Continue the theme.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a situation in your life. You have high ideals, and it is important for you to meet them. Be realistic in setting goals. Tonight: Be willing to share more.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Listen to your ingenuity, and you might be able to materialize a special idea. Be aware that there is a strong possibility that you could sabotage yourself. Make an effort to be more in touch with your anger. Tonight: Very fun to be with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might want to spend some time talking to a family member or roommate. Just because you are related or live in proximity does not mean that you can take each other for granted. It is important to make time for each other. Tonight: Order in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Return calls and see what is necessary to complete before the workweek ends. With some organization, you could leave on Friday afternoon feeling great. Your intuition is in high gear, as you seem to know who is calling before you even answer the phone. Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might not realize how possessive you can be. Make an effort to get past this issue. Your instincts could point to a money matter and taking a risk. Still, be careful. If you are not right about this, you'll want to make sure that you can handle the damage. Tonight: Your treat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You'll feel as if you are unstoppable. You will be, and because of your charisma and drive, it is unlikely that anyone would want to stop you anyway. Check in with a friend or co-worker about an important get-together or meeting. Tonight: Use your imagination.

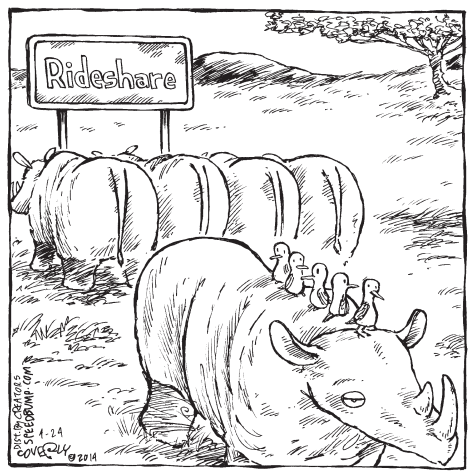
Thursday, April 24, 2014

This year you will have the opportunity to socialize and network till your heart's content. You also will see a long-term desire become a reality. Don't hesitate to go for what you want. If you are single, you easily could tumble into a new crowd, where you will meet a special person. Enjoy the process of getting to know each other. If you are attached, as a couple, you have a lot to celebrate. You are likely to achieve one of your mutual goals, if not more. This year could be very special for you both. PISCES is an emotional but enduring friend.

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

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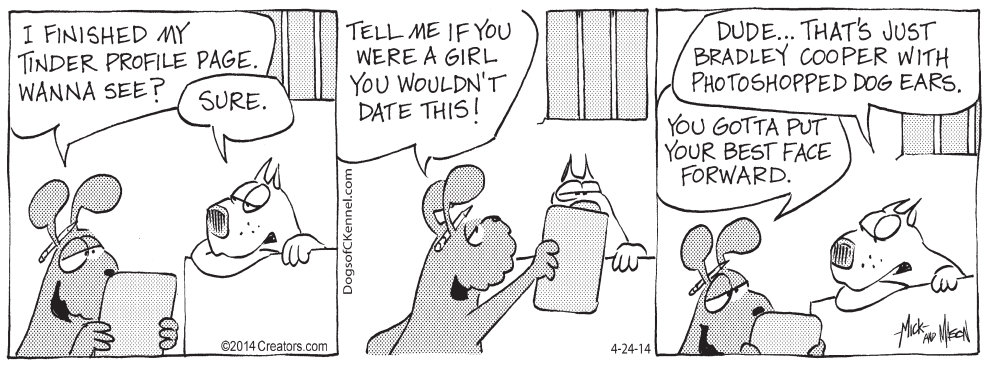
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



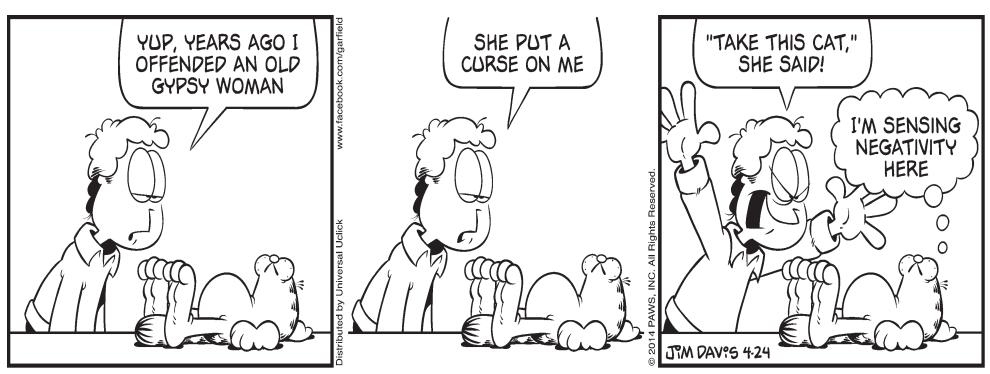
Strange Brew
By John Deering



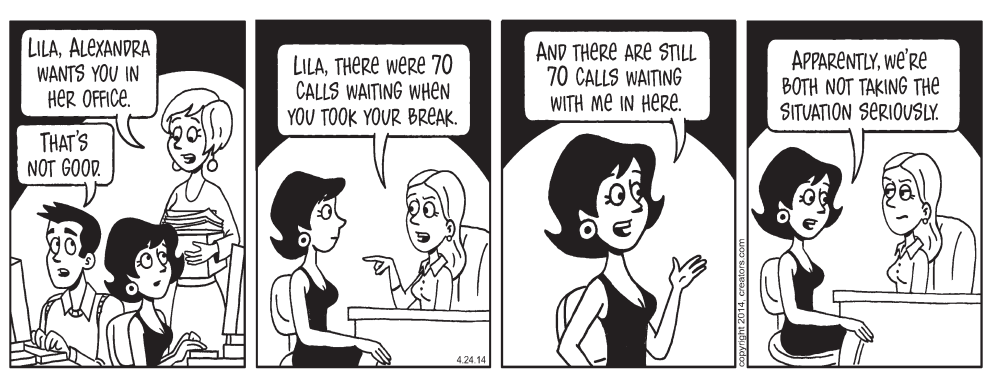
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

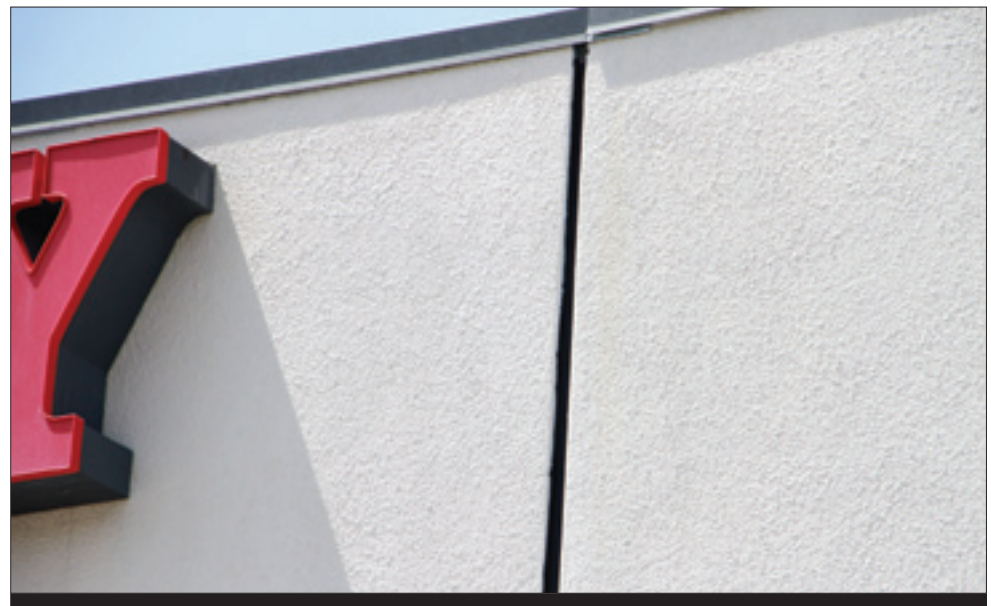
4	1	5	7	3	6	2	9	8
2	8	3	4	1	9	6	5	7
9	7	6	2	5	8	3	1	4
7	6	9	1	2	4	5	8	3
8	3	4	9	7	5	1	6	2
1	5	2	8	6	3	7	4	9
3	9	7	6	4	1	8	2	5
6	2	8	5	9	7	4	3	1
5	4	1	3	8	2	9	7	6

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Play makeup
5 Big party
10 Massenet opera
12 Aerie builder
13 Thumper's pal
14 Grove sight
15 Pharaoh's symbol
16 Tracy/Hepburn film
18 Service for a social
20 Clumsy fellow
21 Great serves
23 Zeus or Apollo
24 Capital of Italia
26 Heaps
28 Gloss target
29 Hold power
31 "— had it!"
32 Romantic time of day
36 Way of thinking
39 Hole number
40 Invigorate
41 Select group
43 "Three Sisters" sister
44 Begets
45 Librarian's stamp
46 Bears' lairs

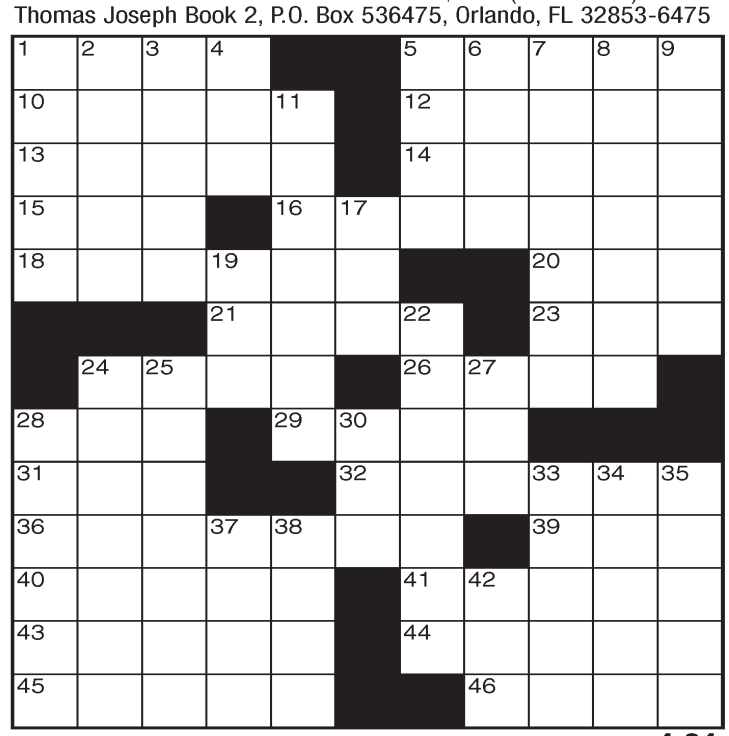
DOWN

1 Ready to swing
2 Pursue
3 Lightning home
4 Bro or sis
5 Wagers
6 Escapade
7 Long in the past
8 Think about overnight
9 Checked out
11 Brandy cocktail
17 Summer, in Paris
19 Texas' Houston
22 Greets, in a way
24 European resort area
25 Kind of mining
27 Kayo count
28 Completely clear
30 Apply
33 Church feature
34 Consumed
35 Lock of hair
37 Desert sight
38 Prepare for a fight
42 Top

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

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



4-24

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/23
Power#:
Jackpot: $150M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/22
2 18 19 49 50
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: $59M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 4/23
Mega#:
Jackpot: $53M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/23
13 14 26 27 32

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 4/23
MIDDAY: 4 7 8
EVENING: 2 2 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 4/23
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:45.89

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

■ People sometimes stage ruses to avoid unpleasant tasks, such as the student who calls in a bomb threat when he's unprepared for an exam, but Dwayne Yeager's motivation was simply laziness. Yeager, 31, called police in Brandon, Fla., in March, reporting a "burglary" at his home, but after questioning, officers charged him with making up the "crime" just so he could stay home from work that day. (Coincidentally, in Kittery, Maine, three days earlier, the U.S. Navy formally decommissioned its nuclear submarine USS Miami, which had suffered irreparable fire damage in 2012 caused by a shipyard worker. The worker started what he wrongly believed would be a small blaze -- so that he could get off work for the day -- a decision now costing him 17 years in federal prison.)

■ In December, at a Home Depot in Banks County, Ga., yet another prankster put glue on a restroom toilet seat, trapping an unwary shopper seeking to relieve herself. Twelve days after the incident, the victim told WSB-TV that she was still in pain. Paramedics had unstuck her with a liberal application of WD-40, but she believes an emergency room would have been more appropriate.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1914 - The Franck-Hertz experiment, a pillar of quantum mechanics, is presented to the German Physical Society.

1915 - The arrest of 250 Armenian intellectuals and community leaders in Istanbul marks the beginning of the Armenian Genocide.

1916 - Easter Rising: The Irish Republican Brotherhood led by nationalists Patrick Pearse, James Connolly, and Joseph Plunkett starts a rebellion in Ireland.

WORD UP!

scherzo \ SKERT-soh \ , noun;
1. Music . a movement or passage of light or playful character, especially as the second or third movement of a sonata or a symphony.

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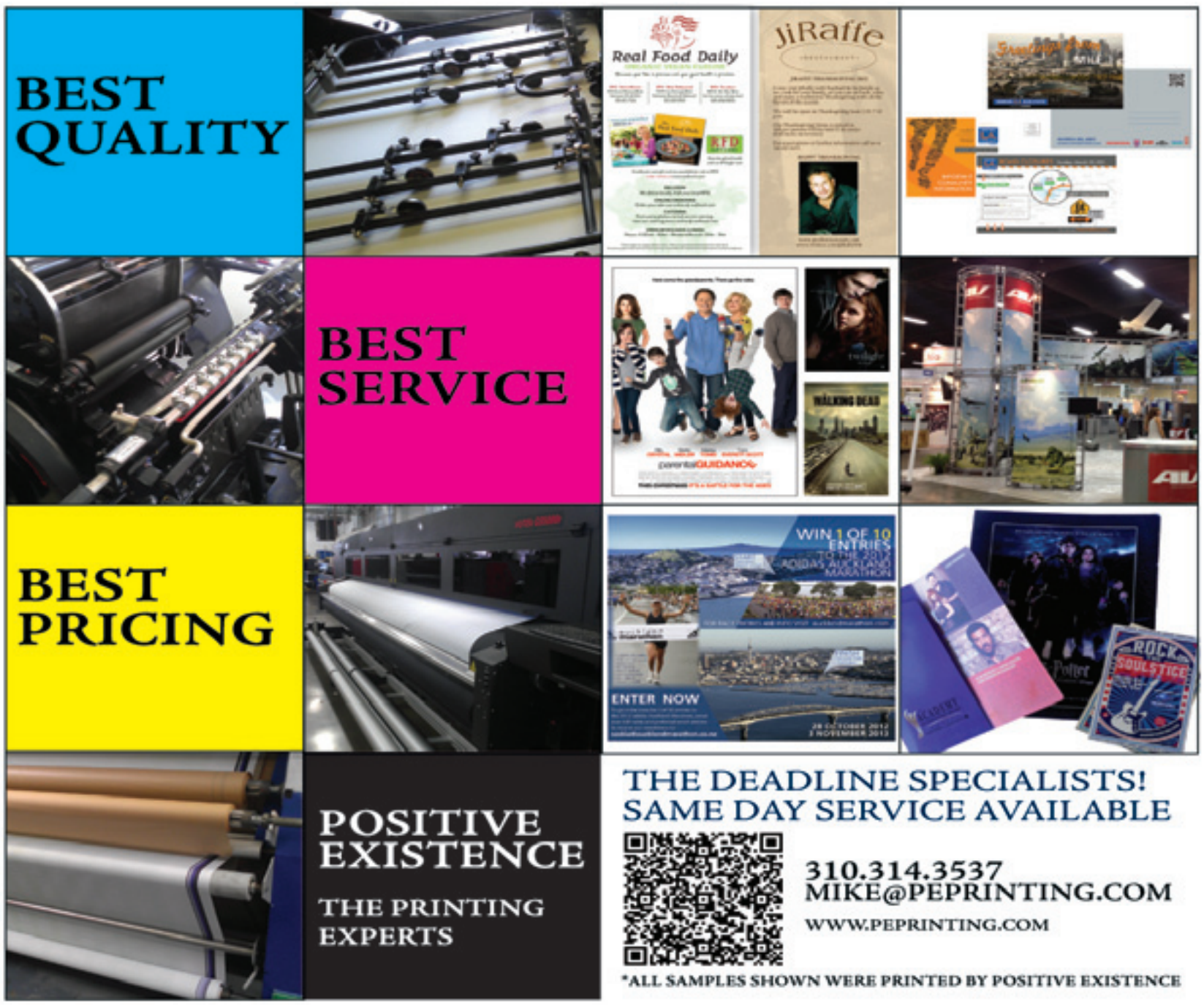
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- Roomates
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