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APRIL 25-26, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 147



Santa Monica Daily Press

A TASTE OF BOLLYWOOD
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE GRILLING AND CHILLING ISSUE

Special ed parents, teachers present views

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

SMMUSD HDQTRS After months of poring over a pile of studies, audits, and strategic plans on the troubled special education department, parents and teachers presented recommendations to the school board Thursday that they believe will enhance services and create a new culture of equality and access, all while saving money.

But to save money, the school board will have to spend money.

The more than 40 recommendations from the 16-member Special Education Collaborative Working Group call for more spending upfront, but the group believes improving the Individual Education Plan [IEP] process to avoid costly mediation hearings and bringing more programs in house will cut down on expenses.

An IEP is the legal document that assures a student his or her legal right to a free, appropriate public education. The process of creating IEPs has been one of the most contentious issues in recent years as parents have alleged "secret deals" and being coerced by attorneys and district staff into signing confidentiality clauses in their child's IEP, a practice that has since been banned by the Board of Education.

"The intent of our recommendations is to create cost-effective programs that we haven't had that will ultimately be beneficial in saving the district money over time," said Craig Hamilton, a member of the Working Group, the district's Financial Oversight Committee and a parent of a child in special education.

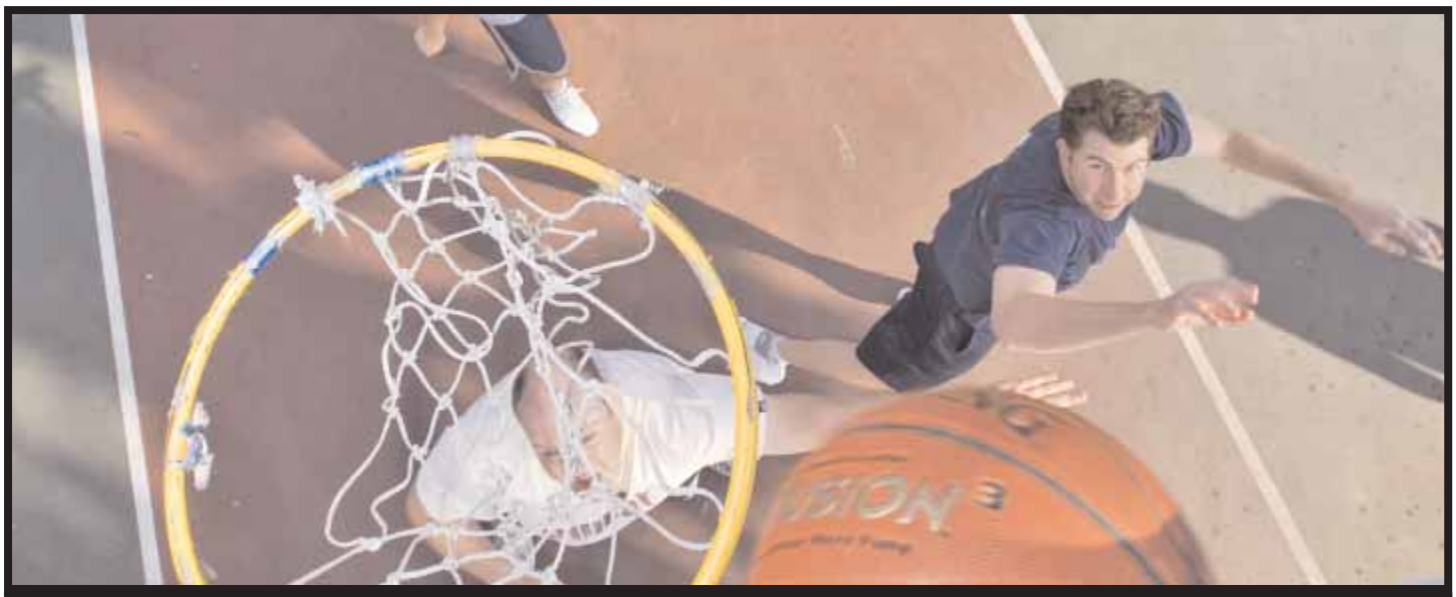
"We have been spending more for less satisfaction," Hamilton told the board. "I would encourage you … to look very carefully at the recommendations with the idea that the reason we made them is they are going to result in more cost-effective programs and a better level of special education. It's not just about spending more money."

A potentially expensive recommendation is the hiring of a full-time integration director to ensure that a culture of acceptance and integration is established and maintained throughout the district.

The director would be responsible for expanding the elementary school "buddy" program at each school site to foster relationships between special ed and general ed students; establish collaborative classrooms at all grade levels at all schools; develop an awareness campaign for all students to encourage sensitivity, understanding, compassion and friendship; and ensuring special ed students are able to participate in all school activities, including field trips, winter and summer camps and after-school programs.

The Working Group also recommended

SEE SPECIAL ED PAGE 12



TAKING IT TO THE RACK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Employees of Adknowledge.com enjoy a game of basketball at Stewart Street Park on Friday afternoon.

PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi's softball team continues remarkable streak

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI The streak lives on.

Santa Monica High School's softball team's impressive Ocean League consecutive game shutout streak is alive and well following an 18-0 win over Morningside on Thursday. The Vikings have not given up a run to a league opponent since April 19, 2007 during a 17-1 romp over Morningside. The streak has now spanned parts of three seasons and has reached an impressive 20 straight games.

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 14

Gang member sentenced in Moose Lodge murders

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES One of two gang members convicted last month of the 2005 murders of two men at the Santa Monica Moose Lodge was sentenced to prison Friday.

Deputy District Attorney Alan Schneider of the Hardcore Gang Division said Erick Nunez, 24, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole plus 75 years to life.

Nunez and co-defendant Jose Mojarro, also 24, were convicted March 4 of two counts each of first-degree murder. Mojarro was ordered to return for sentencing on May 20. He also faces life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On March 5, 2005, victim Jonathan Hernandez was attacked by Mojarro and Nunez while at a party. Prosecutors allege that Mojarro drew a firearm when a second victim, Hector Bonilla, attempted to assist Hernandez by throwing a chair at the three assailants.

At that point, it is alleged that a third man, William "Willie" Vasquez, also drew a handgun. Vasquez and Mojarro were accused of firing 26 rounds at the unarmed victims. Vasquez is yet to stand trial for the murders of Hernandez and Bonilla and is

SEE SENTENCING PAGE 10

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Poetry night
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 3 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
April is National Poetry Month! Come to the Fairview Branch Library to hear local poets read their works. Admission is free. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Helping Hands food drive
LDS Santa Monica Stake Center
3400 Sawtelle Blvd., 9 a.m. — 3 p.m.
The Latter Day Saints Santa Monica Stake is hosting a Day of Service. Join them as they canvass local neighborhoods to collect food for the Westside Food Bank. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the activity will conclude at 3 p.m. All are welcome!

Bach Collegium San Diego
Santa Monica First Presbyterian
1220 Second St., 8 p.m.
The ensemble presents works by Purcell, Handel and Haydn played on period instruments. The Bach Collegium San Diego consists of some 39 vocalists and a complement of instrumentalists bringing to life some of classical music's most celebrated pieces. Tickets cost $12 to $25 dollars. Call (310) 451-1303 for more information.

Annenberg Community Beach House Open House
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Highway, 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Attend the open house celebration to mark the opening of the Annenberg Community Beach House at the Santa Monica State Beach. The open house will feature performers from "O" by Cirque du Soleil at 11 a.m. Families will enjoy family-friendly beach fun, volleyball, kite flying and more. This event is free. Call (310) 458-4904 for more information.

Fresh photo fair
Pier 59 Studios West
2415 Michigan Ave., 12 p.m. — 7 p.m.
The fair has been juried by the Lucie Foundation and donations will benefit the Focus on AIDS benefit. Prints will be available for purchase. Also taking place on Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information go to www.freshfairs.com.

Vintage fashion expo
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 9 a.m. — 6 p.m.
The show features 85 dealers of vintage clothing, accessories and textiles. The expo covers a wide variety of styles from the mid-19th century through the 20th century. Don't miss the Early Buy on the opening day of the show from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. This event continues on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $20 for Early Buy and regular hours is $10. Call (707) 793-0773 for more information.

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Honoring Eugene Levy
Barnum Hall at Samohi
4 p.m.
The New West Symphony will perform "Hungarian Rhapsody" featuring conductor Boris Brott and pianist Arnaldo Cohen. The concert will include Bartók "Concerto for Orchestra,' Kodály "Dances of Galánta" and Liszt "Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major for Piano & Orchestra." Ticket prices range between $25 and $78. Call 1-(866) 766-8400 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.

Bollywood comes to The Edye

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

MADISON CAMPUS Tongues will be in cheeks, eyes will be winking and, hopefully, everybody in attendance will get the intended parody.

The style of song and dance that comes along with India's Bollywood cinema isn't necessarily intended to be funny, but the exuberance of its performers, the vibrant colors of its outfits and the tone of most of the films combine to put smiles on faces and laughter in the air. Even during dramatic movies, a dance routine is bound to erupt and, of course, it will certainly be on the light-hearted side.

With this as fodder, Venice's blue13 dance company has created "Bollywood Delicious" — a show with all the pomp and color of the best of what India's film industry has to offer along with a few nods to contemporary dance. The production, in its second adaptation, will play The Edye Second Space at Santa Monica College's Broad Stage on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. "Bollywood Delicious" previously played at Highways Performance Space in February, but that show had decidedly more sexual oomph.

"The first one was a bit more burlesque," blue13's Artistic Director Achinta S. McDaniel said. "It was more risqué and racy, but this one is more for all ages."

McDaniel was first introduced to Bollywood as a child watching, along with her parents, films from India. The first-generation American grew up immersed in the culture of the subcontinent, speaking Hindi and Punjabi and listening to classical Indian music.

With this as background, she moved on to college at New York University and studied contemporary dance. Her training was as modern as it comes, but her ethnic roots kept tugging at her imagination until she decided to travel back to the home of her ancestors and began the process of learning classical methods.

"It had a great influence on my work,"

SEE BOLLYWOOD PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

NATURAL REMEDIES: **The Farmacy in Venice offers a wide range of medical marijuana choices.**

Pot dispensaries raise eyebrows in Venice

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Special to the Daily Press

VENICE The Venice Neighborhood Council recently opened deliberations to form a policy recommendation concerning medical marijuana dispensaries for Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl.

VNC member Challis Macpherson made the motion to open the debate, having received complaints from Venice residents, whom she would not identify, about the number of dispensaries that have taken root in Venice in recent years, despite the moratorium by the City of Los Angeles banning new facilities after November 2007.

Three people associated with The Farmacy, a natural remedies pharmacy that supplies many products including medical marijuana, spoke before the council, urging them not to demonize legitimate medical marijuana dispensaries.

"We're working with groups to standardize regulation. We're alarmed at the proliferation of illegal dispensaries in Venice," Joanna LaForce, a registered pharmacist who works with the Farmacy, told the council. "We are an herbal store that wants to give safe access to its customers."

The VNC will discuss the topic again at next month's meeting, take public comment and vote on a statement to send to Rosendahl. However, despite alleged complaints, no opponents of dispensaries stepped up, and when one councilman facetiously asked who approved of the legalization of marijuana, the majority of those in the room raised their hands.

"It's no secret that the majority of Venice are fans of legalization," said Mike Newhouse, the president of the VNC. "But it's good to start the dialogue on the issue."

According to Rosendahl's office, 11 new dispensaries have sprung up in Venice under the hardship clause, a loophole that allows dispensaries to apply for an exemption to the moratorium.

"It's like the wild west out there," LaForce, the Farmacy's pharmacist, said. "It gives a bad name to those operating correctly who are not about the profits."

The Los Angeles City Council passed the moratorium in September 2007 to prevent the establishment of new facilities as they crafted a comprehensive policy toward dispensaries. As of yet, no such ordinance has been approved.

In the meantime, the City of Los Angeles, which governs the neighborhood of Venice, does not have an official policy toward medical marijuana facilities. Instead, dispensaries fall into the category of retail, which means that a dispensary can open up shop in any store front zoned for retail use without review by the city.

This is not the case for liquor stores, for example, which must apply for conditional use permits and are more heavily regulated by the city.

Residents of Venice do not seem overly concerned about the presence of medical marijuana in their community. However, those that approve of it fall into two distinct camps over how it should be regulated, like a retail location or like a liquor store with a conditional use permit.

"Dispensaries shouldn't be limited," said Phillip Ballon, a Venice resident. "Should pharmacies be limited? The only difference is that one sells man-made drugs. Marijuana is natural, it's given to us by God."

SEE DISPENSARIES PAGE 14

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Praising the library

Editor:

I often write to this paper with one complaint or another, however, this time I wish to heap a bit of praise – on city employees no less!

Specifically, I wish to thank the friendly staff currently assigned to the periodicals department of our Main Library. While I cannot recall all their names I can say that all of them have been wonderfully patient and helpful to me as I daily spend countless hours researching microfilm archives. (I'm writing the biography of Broadway actress Peg Entwistle; aka "The Hollywood Sign Girl").

I have been difficult and rude at times to the staff, yet, through my flashes of bad behavior, unsavory verbiage and other forms of expression most uncomfortable, this terrific bunch of folks have been nothing short of saintly to me in return.

So, to Vicki, Kathleen, Mark and the rest of the periodicals department and to inspectors Lou, Danny, and Jose: "Thank you."

I hope the supervisors at the library take note of these people. Serving the public cannot be easy at times (especially the, ahem, grumpy ones) but the above mentioned staff and the others working with them make the library a pleasant experience.

Our city leaders should also take note – I read in the SMDP [Friday] ("City employees asked to give up bonuses," page 1, April 24, 2009) that there are cutbacks in hours and bonus pay coming, meanwhile tens of thousands of dollars are being spent on those tacky lights and God-awful 2 1/2 inch power cables and transformer boxes nailed into our Downtown's tree trunks and branches. (Which city planners were smoking crack when that decision was made!?) Could not that money have been better used to avoid some financial pain to city employees? The question is rhetorical. Our leaders are clowns.

Gosh, folks, you didn't really think I would write to the Daily Press without voicing at least one complaint, did you?

James Zeruk Jr.
Santa Monica

LOL: laughing out loud
BRB: be right back
MUSM: miss you so much
A/S/L: age, sex, location
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
LULAS: love you like a sister
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life

HDOP: help delete online predators

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Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The name game

WE ALL KNOW PEOPLE WHO HAVE unusual names. Some of them are intended to be "cute," like Justin Thyme or Madison S. Garden. You might wince when you hear names like these, but others might think they're clever. Whether someone has a "good" name is subjective. You can't legislate this kind of thing, right? Well, that's exactly what one judge in the Dominican Republic wants to do.

Apparently, there is a trend among Dominicans to give their children names that are cartoon characters, body parts, and car makes. Gender ambiguity is also big in names these days. An electoral commission judge is against this sort of thing. Unfortunately, for the sake of irony and this column, this judge is not named "Outlandish Justice Smith." It is Jose Angel Aquino.

Two of the names Aquino mentioned were "Mazda Altagracia" and a name that translates to "Breast Jimenez." I can understand his not being a fan of names like this, but that doesn't mean I think they should be outlawed. Who has the right to decide for others what they should name their kids?

Of course, the Dominican Republic isn't the only place where children are sometimes given unusual names. My son went to school with a boy named "Tai-chi" and a girl named, "Gypsy." In the past few decades, we've seen names like, "Butterfly," "Freedom," and "Peace" — not to mention, "Moon Unit" and "Dweezil." In the world of sports, there have been players named Lawyer Malloy, Pacman Jones, and Coco Crisp.

But clearly what the judge is talking about are names that parents give their kids that don't seem appropriate to him. We all know what he means. Parents come up with a first name that they think would be a fun combo with their last name. If their family name is Daniels, they name the kid, "Jack." If the parents' name is Port, they name their child, "Ari." If their last name is Land, they name their kid, "Disney."

Some parents show appropriate restraint. Minnie Driver's folks resisted naming her, "Backseat," Barry Bonds' parents didn't name him, "Junk," and Brad Pitt's parents held back from naming him, "Arm."

But some people just can't stop themselves from giving their child an outrageous name. I know we're supposed to be non-judgmental about this, but it's hard not to react if Mr. and Mrs. Motel name their daughter, "Bates," or if Mr. and Mrs. Mills name their son, "General." And I'm going to feel bad for the kid if Mr. and Mrs. Waite named him "Over."

Our thought when we hear names like these is that the parents didn't really think things through.

They might have had a good laugh when they gave their kid a name, but apparently they didn't realize how much he or she would be teased. For example, if you have twins, you don't have to name them "Trick" and "Treat." If your last name is Bigg, you can resist the temptation to name your daughter, "Too."

A well-known retired racecar driver has the name Dick Trickle. What were his parents thinking when they named him, "Richard?" If your last name were Trickle, don't you think you'd think things through a bit?

On the other hand, if we are to believe that great child psychologist, Johnny Cash, maybe having a name that gets a kid teased might make that kid stronger. That's what he sang about in "A Boy Named Sue." Shel Silverstein wrote the song, and Silverstein wrote many respected stories and books for children. In the song, Sue's father points out that it's because of Sue being picked on and having to fight so much that he became a strong man.

APPARENTLY, THERE IS A TREND AMONG DOMINICANS TO GIVE THEIR CHILDREN NAMES THAT ARE CARTOON CHARACTERS, BODY PARTS, AND CAR MAKES. GENDER AMBIGUITY IS ALSO BIG IN NAMES THESE DAYS. AN ELECTORAL COMMISSION JUDGE IS AGAINST THIS SORT OF THING.

All of this supports my initial position that a democratic country cannot and should not legislate what people name their kids. What some people think is a stupid name, others will think is brilliant. There just can't be any objective standard about this. Well, there can be in one instance. Years ago, a basketball player whose last name was "Free" changed his name to "World B. Free." It was a nice sentiment, but the problem is that he changed his name from what is objectively one of the absolute greatest names ever: Mr. Free's first name had been Lloyd.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his website at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.

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The Q Line

Being kind to Mother Earth

This past week, Q-line asked:
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. What is the most important step individuals can take to save the planet?
Here are your responses:

"NOW THAT'S A TALL ORDER. ONE person's caring about the environment can help. Maybe the careless, clueless individuals will observe and get the message. Littering is a biggie. Especially dog and human waste that washes by the storm drains into our already badly-polluted oceans. Think about the filth and dirt you as an individual generate. It's a start."

"STOP DROPPING LITTERS OF SPAWN with no more thought of consequence than cats, rats and dogs. Spay and neuter those with an excess need to breed. Whatever your cause, it's a lost cause without population control."

"WE COULD STOP BY HELPING THE polluted ocean a bit. Get rid of the human garbage dumps walking or pedaling around Santa Monica and the pee and poop and vomit and other filth they generate which winds up in the ocean, among other places."

"SINCE THERE'S TOO MANY PEOPLE IN the world, overpopulation is a big problem. The best thing any individual can do is to die and kill somebody else before they do so."

"I DO WHAT I CAN TO SAVE THE environment. I like to use non-plastic bags, so that we don't have a bunch of garbage on our beautiful ocean floor. So I'm just one person, but one person can do a lot of good, I do believe."

"TWO THINGS WOULD HELP. THE FIRST thing would be for men who have reached 30 years of age all over the world to be required to have a vasectomy, and women a tubular ligation. Both medical procedures are reversible. Most families are started before the age of 30. Still, this would help cut down on overpopulation. Also, motorists should cut down on automobile joyriding. Automobiles are large, environmental polluters. Church, state and business would never agree with my comment, but still, it is something to ponder."

"INDIVIDUALS SHOULD SPEAK OUT, demonstrate, protest when the city officials speak about caring for the environment but then act to harm it, as they did by cutting down mature ficus trees in our Downtown area for purely design reasons. And then screwing unattractive lights into the trunks, harming the trees that were left."

"SUPPORT BUILDING WATER DISTILLERIES as suggested years ago."

"THE BIBLE STATES THAT 6,000 YEARS ago there were only two people in the world. Now there are over six billion. The sooner less corrective steps are taken, we will be standing on each other's heads."

"NOT LISTENING TO AL GORE OR MARK Gold or 'the sky is falling' money-making charlatans that infest our country. The best step in saving the planet is not to breed. Indiscriminate breeding or baby-making religious stupidity will destroy this planet. What is more harmful to the Earth than six million stupid people?"

"GIVE UP GREED."

"IT'S A WELL-KNOWN, SCIENTIFIC FACT that global warming comes from all of the hot air from our City Council. Their crazy traffic-calming tactics have slowed every street with one-lane roads, speed bumps, and irregular roads so that we use more gas and spew more smog. They have encouraged the demolition of our old, beautiful homes and small businesses for overdevelopment of huge, ugly condos and expensive businesses. Small apartment owners have been driven out of business and have been replaced with huge corporations. The massive tourist business has brought big bucks to developers but has left our town filthy, noisy and polluted. The only solution to our environmental problems is to send our Santa Monica for Renters' Rights City Council back to Cuba or Iran where people have more property rights than we do here in Commie-Monica."

"PEOPLE NEED TO CHANGE THEIR mindset and realize the Earth has limitations. They need to slow down and make an effort to think practically. They need to understand that bigger is not synonymous with better. That is the most important step people should take."

"PLANT TREES AND MORE TREES, MAKE sure the city doesn't cut down our valuable trees, make sure the city plants more and more trees."

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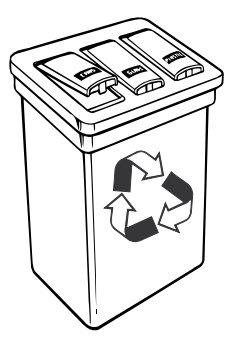

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BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON

'Where the Heart Leads'

Kim Vogel Sawyer • Bethany House

"I sent you to school — to a college — so you can make best use of the good head the Lord gave you. A good head is a gift. Gaining knowledge is a privilege." Thomas's father tells him. Thomas has come back to find his father is about to lose the family mill and has settled in town because of hard times. Thomas is caught between his loyalty to his family and a new life in Boston. In Boston he can help a man get elected to office who can change the world. In Kansas he can help his father regain his mill. His Mennonite roots tell him to stay and help his family on the Kansas prairie. But he has fallen in love with Boston where he had spent his college years.

This is a story of choice and dreams. "I would imagine after living in a large city, coming back here must be very dull," he is told by his girlfriend,

"No, that's not it" Could he trust her with information about the job offer? Maybe saying the words to Belinda would give him the courage to repeat them to his parents. "I'm just thinking about something that's waiting for me in Boston, and I'm eager to explore it."

In Boston he finds a job with a newspaper as an investigative reporter. He finds out things about himself and others that cause him to grow. This seems to be the way with life. A person doesn't really mature and become complete until he is confronted with independence. In this case it is getting away from the family and from book learning and seeing people as they are that brings about understanding.

Thomas meets the newspaper editor in Chicago who is slanting the news to favor a segregationist for the presidency. It is the year that Teddy Roosevelt is running on the ticket. This story is set in 1904.

In Boston, Thomas meets the editor's daughter, Daphne, who is spoiled and knows how to get her way. She tends to mold circumstances to her benefit. Her eyes are on capturing Thomas.

He gets a job on the newspaper and immediately he is under pressure to conform. Soon he finds his understanding of life is challenged. If he stays with the paper he must deny his dream of making a difference in the world. But if he becomes his own man, who knows what he can accomplish? He must weigh his job against his integrity and his upbringing. Also there is the question of how best to help his family back in Kansas.

The story is told in multiple story lines. While Thomas is in Boston, life goes on in Kansas.

Author Kim Vogel Sawyer does a good job with the development of characters. You find yourself rooting for Thomas' success.

Sawyer has written 11 novels. When she is not writing she is involved in drama, quilting and calligraphy. She lives in Kansas with her husband. They have three daughters and six grandkids. She also has a Web site you can visit at www.KimVogelSawyer.com.

By now these reviews are part of your life. No doubt there have been a few genres that you wish were looked at. Let me know at smdp_review@yahoo.com and I will try to include it in the future. Meanwhile I will remain the best looking book reviewer in Santa Monica.

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Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown
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Singing the praises of nutritional yeast

WHILE HIKING IN VERMONT, I STUMBLED upon this quaint little movie theater in Montpelier. They serve popcorn made with real butter, sea salt and this yummy, flaky, cheesy flavored stuff sprinkled on top.

It was 1996 when I first learned about nutritional yeast and I have been singing its praises from the mountain tops ever since. I also recommend visiting the actual Von Trapp lodge in Stowe, the inspiration for "The Sound of Music," but I digress.

I really do tell everyone about the wonders of nutritional yeast. "You should try nutritional yeast on your popcorn!" I always say. And with a look of both intrigue and fear they reply, "What is nutritional yeast?"

Even though I've been putting it on popcorn and mixing it into food and beverages for years, I never really answered that question intelligently and succinctly. I would usually say something like, "It's this stuff that tastes kinda like parmesan cheese. It's loaded with B-vitamins, and it's a complete protein."

Then they'd usually say, "Well, that's not a very appealing name, nutritional yeast. You need a better name."

Although people don't like the name, it really tells you a lot about what I consider a very under-acknowledged superfood.

Nutritional yeast is grown from yeast, a tiny form of fungi, like mushrooms but much, much smaller.

The "scientific" name for yeast is saccharomyces cerevisiae or sugar-eating fungus. Yeast cells use sugar for energy just like other living creatures.

Nutritional yeast, unlike yeast used in baking or making beer, is a deactivated yeast, made by growing it in a medium of sugarcane and beet molasses, then harvesting, washing, drying and packaging the yeast. It is candida albicans free, which means it can be enjoyed even by yeast sensitive individuals.

You can find nutritional yeast in the form of yellow flakes, my preferred choice. I like KAL and NOW brands. It's also available in a gritty form, similar to cornmeal, but I find this version has a more pungent smell and flavor that's a bit off-putting.

Nutritional yeast is available in bulk. While I advocate bulk foods, I don't recommend nutritional yeast in bulk because it's the richest source of the B-vitamin riboflavin, and riboflavin is sensitive to light. This is especially important for vegans and vegetarians who exclude milk and yogurt, the next richest source of riboflavin, from their diets.

Nutritional yeast comes in fortified or unfortified forms. The unfortified version, although lower in B-vitamins, is an excellent source of iron and all of the B-vitamins with 35 to 100 percent of the daily value for all B's except B12. B12 is found in highest concentrations in seafood, red meat and fortified cereals. Nutritional yeast is a must for those who follow a vegetarian, whole foods-based, gluten-free diet.

Two tablespoons of fortified nutritional yeast flakes, the serving size on the nutrition facts label, contain 60 calories, 5g carbs, 4g fiber and 9g protein plus beta-1,3 glucan, a type of fiber that may aid the immune system and help to lower cholesterol. Additionally, nutritional yeast is a good source of selenium and potassium. Fortified nutritional yeast has significantly less iron than the unfortified kind, five percent versus 20 percent respectively. The B-vitamin content in the fortified form ranges from 150 percent for B12 to 720 percent for riboflavin.

If you follow a vegetarian diet, you might want to buy both the fortified and unfortified brands and mix them in order to receive ample amounts of iron and B12 and ward off any potential types of anemia.

Since your body can only absorb so much of any one nutrient at a time and since you need B-vitamins dispersed throughout the day to help your body convert food to energy, I recommend adding just a teaspoon of nutritional yeast to foods at each meal. One teaspoon mixes easily into any food or beverage, costs only nine cents and provides 10 calories, 3/4 gram of fiber, 1.5g of a complete protein, 50 to 100 percent of your daily value for all B-vitamins plus some selenium and iron.

I'm always trying to make the perfect quick meal for health-conscious people on the go. I developed this protein shake with 20 percent or more of every nutrient but adding just one teaspoon of nutritional yeast really knocks this shake out of the park. Thanks to my newly-named Nutritional Powerhouse Flakes!

Nutritional Powerhouse Shake

1 cup almond milk
2 Tablespoons Whey protein powder
1 Tablespoon cocoa or 1 cup berries
1 Tablespoon ground flax seeds
1/2 banana
1 teaspoon nutritional yeast
1 teaspoon super greens
1/8 teaspoon cinnamon

Blend with ice. Top with 1 Tablespoon each wheat germ and chopped walnuts
Per shake: 300 calories, 22g protein, 45g carbs, 12g fiber, 25-170 percent of every nutrient. One to one ratio omega-3 to omega-6 fats

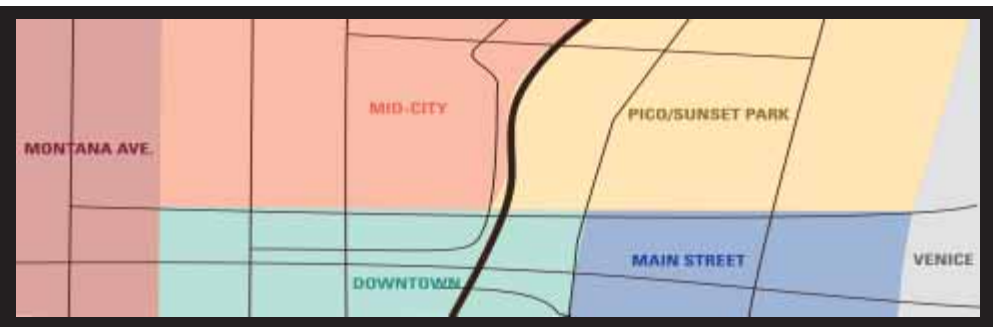
ELIZABETH BROWN is a registered dietitian and certified holistic chef specializing in weight management, sports nutrition, disease prevention and optimal health through whole foods. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net.

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Production a playful mixture

FROM **BOLLYWOOD** PAGE 3

McDaniel said. "I went through a period rejecting it, but came back to embrace it."

Her training under traditional masters is what proved to serve as the backbone of what would later become blue13, eventually leading to "Bollywood Delicious."

She said she enjoys the freedom to have fun with the whimsical art form and saw it as a unique opportunity to produce something for Western audiences but with a distinct Indian flair.

"We call ourselves a contemporary Bollywood dance company," McDaniel said. "All of our dancers come from strong technical backgrounds."

She credits the talents of her 10 core dancers for giving her the tools to make the production work, which is presented as somewhat of a variety show with different acts ranging from sexy to outright humorous.

"We try to incorporate a little bit of everything without turning into a talent show," she said. "What unifies it is contemporary dance."

blue13 dancer Kory Keith came to the group with little knowledge of Bollywood, but it didn't take long for her to see the light.

While she admits to not watching many Indian movies, she is a "big fan of the dance form."

It wasn't until she became one of the principal dancers that she really became familiar with the genre.

"It's definitely a playful mixture of Bollywood, but you also have jazz, hip-hop, modern and ballet," Keith said. "There is something for every taste.

"Nobody comes away without a smile on their face."

daniela@smdp.com

Gang shootings took place in March of 2005

FROM **SENTENCING** PAGE 1

charged with three other gang-related murders.

In January 2006, defendant Nunez was wanted on an arrest warrant for the Santa Monica Moose Lodge murders when he attempted to flee from Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies, shot an AK47 at them, and took a family hostage during the pursuit.

Nunez was convicted in that case two years ago and was sentenced to 194 years to life in state prison.

The sentence imposed Friday will run consecutive to his multiple life sentences.

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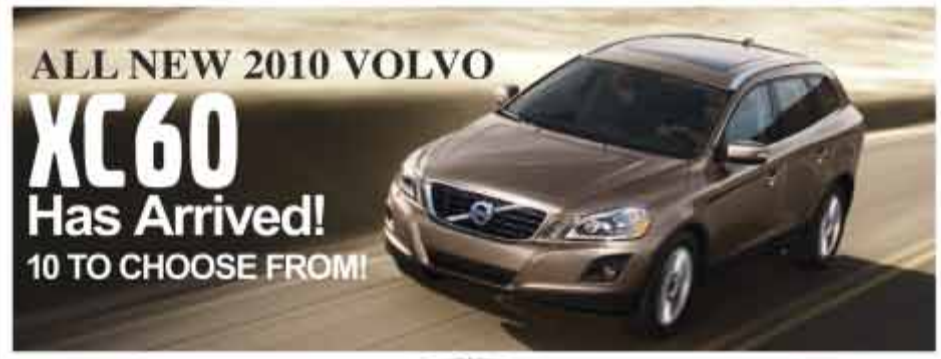
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District making progress on goals

FROM SPECIAL ED PAGE 1

the district develop an IEP packet for parents, conduct mandatory training for special ed and general ed teachers, hire a special needs liaison and draft a special education procedural handbook for all staff members.

"General ed teachers are just as important to the IEP team as we are and the parents and the child," said JoDee Moen, a special education teacher at Santa Monica High School and a member of the Working Group. "What they see with our kids in the classroom is vital to meeting the needs of the child. … It's got to be a team effort."

The Working Group, which was comprised of parents, teachers and administrators, met 10 times between the end of November of 2008 and the beginning of March. Meetings were held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and subgroups of parents and educators met separately to draft, refine and formalize recommendations for seven goals.

A town hall forum was held in February, where the group gave the public an opportunity to make recommendations of their own and comment on the work completed by the group.

The seven goals identified are:

• Create a culture of inclusion.

• Recruit, retain and train excellent special education staff.

• Improve the IEP process.

• Ensure equitable access.

• Improve communication systems and Web sites.

• Strengthen the process of early identification, assessment and intervention.

• Continuously improve programs/instruction.

The Working Group did not have enough time nor resources to dive deeply into programs and instruction, recommending a task force be created to review curriculum and make recommendations.

Superintendent Tim Cuneo is charged with creating the task force and developing a plan to make the recommendations become reality. Cuneo and district staff have already started.

The recruitment of special ed staff is taking place on a regular basis, and the district is developing an IEP packet for parents to help them navigate through the process and be prepared to advocate on behalf of their child.

The district recently completed a communications audit and has improved its Web site. Cuneo is working with a consultant on a communications plan for staff and the community at large.

Members of the Working Group said they were pleased to see the district moving forward on some of the recommendations, easing fears that the report, like others before it, would be shelved. There have been three reports on special education and one independent evaluation since 2001.

Cuneo said the recommendations would not fall by the wayside.

"I'm not letting it drop," Cuneo said. "This is too important. … We are going to deal with it and report back to the board on a regular basis on the progress we are making."

Cuneo admitted that the upcoming budget will have an impact on what can be accomplished and at what time. While the Working Group gave deadlines for recommendations to be completed, the reality is that some deadlines will be missed.

"At a time when we are forced to reduce staff in the district, it will be more difficult, but that is not going to be an excuse for not getting things done," Cuneo said.

The superintendent told the school board and the Working Group that he will be focusing primarily on three recommendations which he feels will have the most impact. Those recommendations are creating a culture of inclusion and integration, improving the IEP process and improving programs/instruction.

Creating a culture of inclusion is especially important, Cuneo said, because it will have an impact on every area that needs change. It will benefit all students, not just those in special ed.

"Without that, we can't do a lot of things," Cuneo said.

There is a feeling amongst parents that the culture is changing. The district recently hired a new special education director, and a moratorium on settlement agreements has been in effect.

Debra Shepherd, a special ed parent and member of the Working Group, told the board Thursday night that after five years of struggling with the district over her daughter's IEP plan, she finally reached an agreement shortly before the board meeting. She said the IEP meeting lasted seven hours, but at the end, she was satisfied.

"She is going to high school, and she is going to go to college, and her name is Dawn Smith and this is not the last time you are going to hear her name because she is going to be a success story because today the village spoke for Dawn, and we spoke for success," Shepherd said.

Some special ed parents who participated in the Working Group said they felt, for the first time, that they had a voice and that the district was listening.

"I really do think things have changed significantly, Harris said. "I feel very positive. … We just have to keep the momentum

SEE SPECIAL ED PAGE 13

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Changes could be costly

FROM SPECIAL ED PAGE 12

going and I think this is an amazing model to use going forward."

That said, there are still some concerns about the superintendent's recommendation to the board to not hire an integration specialist or include settlement agreements in a student's IEP, two recommendations the Working Group said were crucial.

Settlement agreements played a major role in creating a culture of fear and mistrust, parents said. Hamilton said the district, in a letter to the county, said it would begin including settlements in IEPs and was concerned that the district was backpedaling.

"There seems to be some inconsistency there," Hamilton said.

After considerable debate, the Working Group felt it was imperative to include the settlements.

"This is our number one concern about the IEP process," Harris said. "There has been significant change in the IEP process, which has been improved dramatically, but we felt as a group … it is just not right to have settlement agreements out there with services separate from the IEP. It sends the wrong message."

School board member Ben Allen said the board was not prepared to make endorsements of certain recommendations Thursday, as it was the first time the body had an opportunity to review the report in a public forum.

However, "the board is pretty open to what was presented … and I think that I wouldn't be surprised if [inclusion of settlement agreements are] taken up by the district," Allen added.

School board members thanked community members for their efforts and pledged to evaluate the recommendations and make progress, especially when it comes to bringing more services in-house instead of contracting out with private providers.

"In the end if we can't institutionalize the work, it's really not worth the effort," said school board member Oscar de la Torre.

The Working Group will reconvene within four months to discuss the district's progress.

kevinh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Children's health over parental rights

Personal beliefs may no longer be a legitimate reason to prevent children from receiving immunizations this year and especially this week. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has proclaimed the week of April 25 – May 2 as National Infant Immunization Week, and May as Toddler Immunization Month.

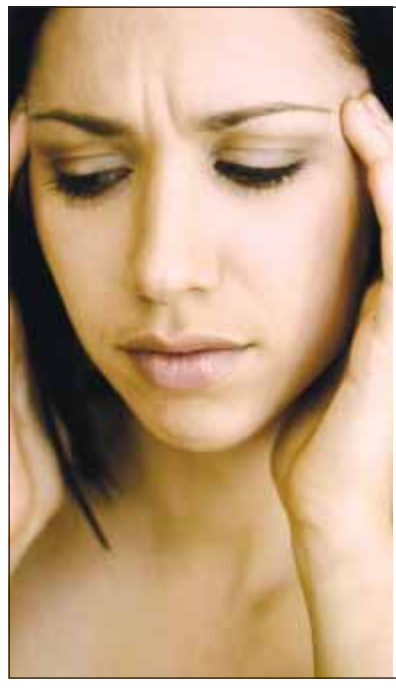
"Immunizations have led to dramatic declines in vaccine-preventable diseases, but their success in virtually eliminating these illnesses may have contributed to a false sense of security among some communities," said Jonathan E. Fielding, director of public health. "This is evidenced by a small but growing number of individuals who decline vaccinations through personal belief exemptions."

Many California infants and children are required to receive certain vaccines before attending school or childcare to protect themselves and other children. Because some parents are concerned with vaccine safety and effectiveness, personal belief exemptions allow children to go without receiving immunizations. These exceptions have doubled in number in the past decade. "Parents should not take the good health achieved by years of successful immunizations for granted; a choice to vaccinate is a choice to protect infants, children, families and communities from serious vaccine-preventable diseases," Fielding said. Despite the fact that immunization levels for two-year-olds have increased in recent decades, one of every five children in L.A. county is still under-vaccinated and is at risk for diseases such as whooping cough and measles.

"National Infant Immunization Week and Toddler Immunization Month are valuable opportunities to remind the public that we have the safest and most effective vaccine supply in history," said Alvin Nelson-El Amin, medical director of public health's immunization program. Parents are encouraged to arrange recommended vaccinations both for their children and themselves.

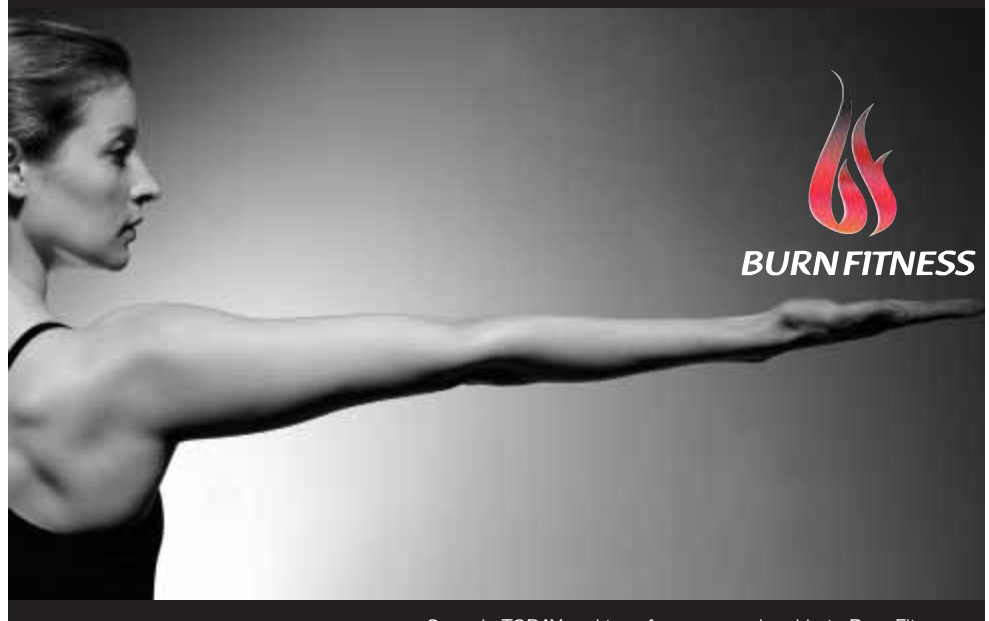
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Venice has straight talk about weed

FROM **DISPENSARIES** PAGE 3

Others don't mind the dispensaries, but think their numbers should be limited and obtrusion into the community minimized.

"I don't care, I just expect them to keep it at a certain level," said Ingrid Boon, a Venice resident. "Don't flaunt it in people's faces, it's like anything else."

Santa Monica does not allow medical marijuana dispensaries under its current zoning code. The issue was brought before the Santa Monica City Council in 2007 and, in a split vote, the council decided not to alter its code to allow dispensaries.

Santa Monica opted to sidestep the issue for a number of reasons, said City Councilmember Richard Bloom. Federal raids had grown more frequent over the course of the Bush administration. Some landlords had been contacted and told that their properties might be forfeit if they allowed federally illegal drugs to be sold there.

Another issue involved access. There are 50 medical marijuana dispensaries within 10 miles of Santa Monica, according to an information item drafted by city planners.

"The case at that time was made by proponents that it was difficult to access medical marijuana and frankly I didn't find that credible because I could drive by places that were just slightly outside of Santa Monica city limits," said Bloom. "It didn't seem that they were so far out of the way that they would inconvenience anybody who needed those services."

A final issue was the aesthetics of Santa Monica, Bloom said. Marijuana dispensaries are accompanied with security guards with painted and barred windows.

"From a design perspective, that kind of commercial exterior really doesn't have a place in Santa Monica," Bloom said.

Although elements of federal prosecution have changed under the Obama administration, which has stated that it will not pursue medical marijuana for uses allowed under state law, the other issues are sufficient to table the topic for the time being.

"Given the experience of our neighbors in Venice, I'm not sure why we would want them here," Bloom said.

news@smdp.com

Crossroads baseball continues to win

FROM **ROUNDUP** PAGE 1

"Everyone is doing great," Head Coach Debbie Skaggs said. "It's still early in the season, but I'm happy with where we're at."

Sophomore Natalie Abel earned the victory over Morningside, giving up just two hits in the process.

The rout Thursday was the second lopsided victory of the week for Samohi. The Vikings topped Hawthorne at home on Tuesday, 10-0. Star pitcher Celisha Walker earned the victory against Hawthorne by allowing just one hit.

Walker, who is the team's top starter, had been hampered by a pulled oblique muscle since last month, but appears to be healthy once again. Prior to Tuesday's game, the team had been off for two weeks due to spring break. Skaggs said the team are no worse for wear following the long gap in play.

The Vikings next action will come Saturday during a double header as part of the El Segundo Tournament. Samohi will take on Mary Star of the Sea at 11 a.m. and Banning at 1 p.m. Samohi played Banning last season and eked out a 1-0 victory.

CROSSROADS BASEBALL RUNS STREAK TO FIVE

The Roadrunners' strong play continued Tuesday with a 17-2 win over Delphic League rival Sierra Canyon. With the win, Crossroads has won five games in a row including wins over Brentwood and Hawthorne.

With the win, Crossroads is now 10-2 overall and 1-0 in league.

Crossroads played Sierra Canyon in a rematch on Friday, but results were not available as of presstime.

Next week, the Roadrunners will play a pair against Malibu's Kilpatrick.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58°

Swell Forecast (3-4 FT)

Saturday the 25th should still see some of this swell, but the lagging, shorter periods (14 seconds) should arrive. Sunday the 26th should see this swell back off a bit more to around chest+ at south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Monday the 27th is looking like a waist to chest high day (max) around south facing breaks.

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 21, 2009**

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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 -- 40 / us
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / us

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

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

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
us -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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The Sweet Hereafter (NR) 1hr 52min
7:30

Family Viewing (NR) 1hr 26min

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Duplicity (PG-13) 2hr 5min
1:50, 7:15

The Informers (R) 1hr 38min
12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15

Is Anybody There? (PG-13) 1hr 32 min
12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:00, 9:50

Sunshine Cleaning (R) 1hr 42min
11:30 a.m., 4:45, 10:10

Observe and Report (R) 1hr 46min
11:35 a.m., 1:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:20

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

Fighting (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:20 a.m., 1:55, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) 1hr 42min
11:40 a.m., 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Obsessed (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:00 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00

Earth (G) 1hr 30min
11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
11:45 a.m., 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35

Crank High Voltage (R) 1hr 25min
12:30, 3:00, 5:35, 8:00, 10:00

Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1hr 46min
12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
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Adventureland (R) 1hr 46min
11:00 a.m., 4:20, 9:30

Enlighten Up! (NR) 1hr 22min
1:55, 7:20

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

Goodbye Solo (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30, 7:10

Tyson (R) 1hr 45min
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

Gigantic (R) 1hr 53min
11:30 a.m., 4:40, 9:40

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

I Love You, Man (R) 1hr 50min
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

The Soloist (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50, 12:30 a.m.

State of Play (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:10, 3:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:20, 10:20, 12:20 a.m.

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

Valentino: The Last Emperor (NR) 1hr 36min
11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40

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

Let your hair down, Capricorn

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ An even approach to a project or plan allows greater flex and creativity. Don't play games with friends. Plans hatched by a friend open doors. Aim for more of what you want. Verbalize, and others will support you. Tonight: Watch your spending.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Someone might not even realize what they are saying or asking. The end result might be a lot of confusion ultimately. It will be your choice which way to go. Remain confident and direct in your dealings. A child or loved one could be somber. Tonight: Do what you want most!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Refuse to be taken in by gibberish and another's confusion. Know that you might not want to call a spade a spade. Simply head out and do your thing. The more independent you are, the better the end results. Tonight: Vanish.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ It is clear that you know what you want and where you are heading. Though a friend or loved one might inadvertently present a detour, you still make strong decisions. A conversation, though somber, is a necessity. Tonight: Bring friends and loved ones together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Others look to you for answers and ideas. Though you like being the centerpiece and most noticed, more responsibilities are not your cup of tea. Know when enough is enough. Free yourself up when a friend or loved one presents a delightful opportunity. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Note what isn't being said and what isn't happening. Through observation, you will learn a lot about those in your life. You might opt to keep this information to yourself for the moment. Tonight: Follow the music.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Your attitude and/or inner dialogue could prevent you from getting a clear view of what is going on. Yes, you color your own perspective. Attempt to pull back and see what you are doing. A dear friend or loved one could toss in more insight. Tonight: You do best on a one-on-one level.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others are full of suggestions and ideas. Investigate all potential options and plans. You might opt to stay close to home. Invite key friends and loved ones over. What occurs is spontaneous and fun. Tonight: Anything is possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Hanging close to home or getting into a project fits the bill. Take time with a loved one, child or friend by including this person in your activities. Sharing on a fundamental level draws a great deal of closeness. Tonight: Easy does it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Let your imagination take the lead in making plans. You could be overwhelmed by how quickly your funds disappear. If you think your wallet has become a leaky faucet, stop and rethink a decision. Tonight: Let your hair down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Stay close to home. Visit with family. Your mind might not be present, but others do appreciate you taking time for them. Understanding evolves between you and a key partner or friend. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Keep conversations open and flowing. Someone who often holds back finally starts sharing and lets you know where he or she is coming from. Your intuition and imagination could color your perspective. What is being said could be very different from what you hear. Tonight: Favorite spot.

Happy birthday

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

This year, forge new paths toward a goal. You might have recently hit some roadblocks or problems. Your grounded style often rejects what isn't tried-and-true. Say "no more" to this behavior — risk a bit! Your role in your community, at work or any other key area often can be vague and confusing. Learn to work with vagueness and not have it backfire. If you are single, your charisma draws many people. Winter 2010 could present someone quite special. If you are attached, remember that this is a partnership. Let your significant other play a bigger role. Other TAURUSES could be even more stubborn than you!

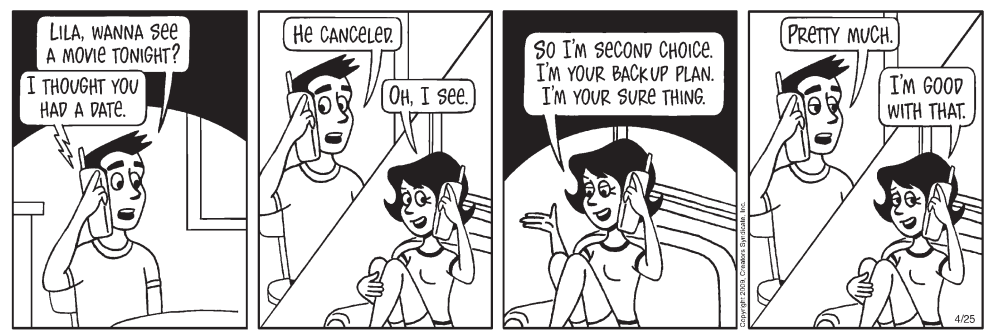
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



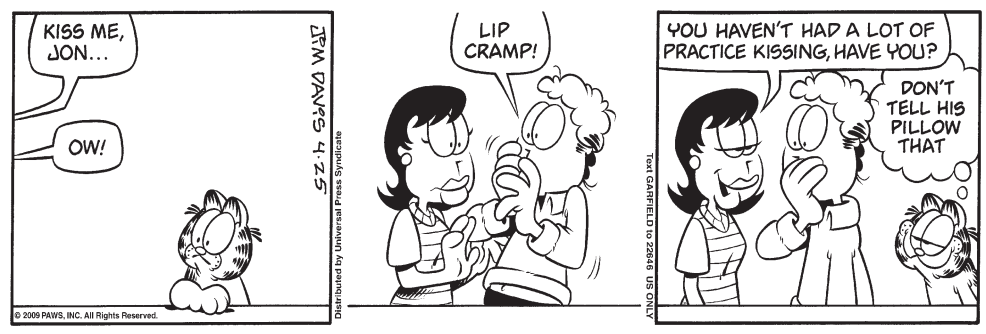
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



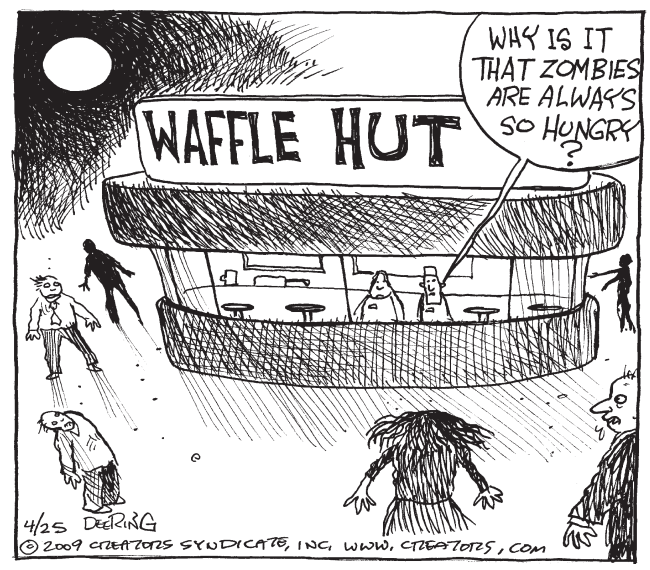
Garfield

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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

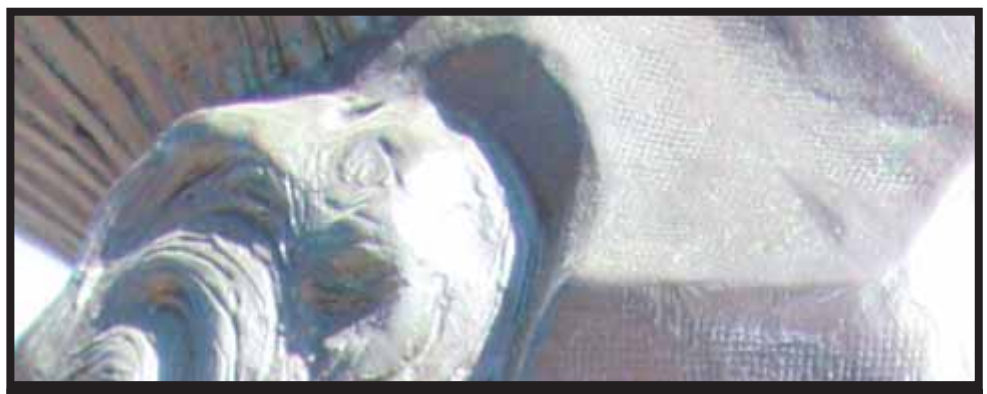
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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 Main idea
5 Columbus' birthplace
10 Food Network's "—— Cakes"
12 Flock responses
13 Italian cheese city
14 Synonym expert
15 Historic time
16 Tab, for one
18 Impress
19 Apartment with a staircase
21 Celeb
22 Venture capital
24 TV's Sawyer
25 Coverer of some company expenses
29 Late-night name
30 Strong cardboard
32 Goof
33 Planetoid
34 Cain's mother
35 Friendly señorita
37 Embankment
39 Lace loop
40 Writer Canetti
41 Organ parts
42 Fancy party

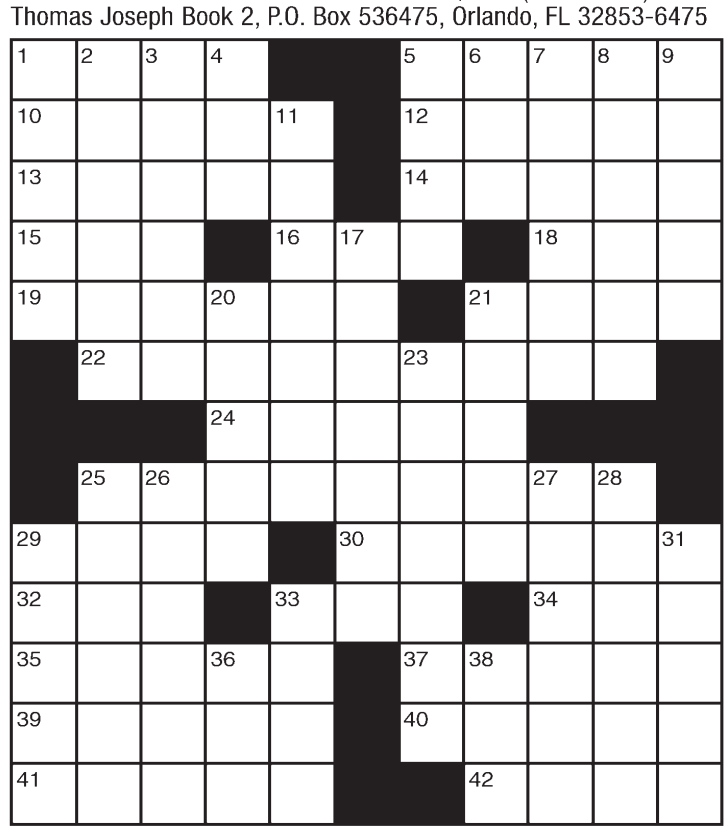
DOWN

1 Showed surprise
2 Flyer of myth
3 Mexican shawl
4 Cruise, e.g.
5 Indiana city
6 Punk-rock offshoot
7 Annul
8 Arrow inscription
9 Late bloomer
11 Improvised
17 Koch or Giuliani
20 Inspired
21 Furtive one
23 Like "Big Love"
25 Sanction
26 Singer Caruso
27 Wonder of music
28 Assail
29 Bounds
31 V members
33 Stable chow
36 Dem.'s foes
38 Pole worker

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

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



4-25

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 9 20 21 48 49
Meganumber: 7
Jackpot: $155M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 5 6 20 36 44
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $12M

FANTASY 5: 12 13 19 30 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 8 3
EVENING: 0 0 4

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1.41.26

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

■ Vinyl Lust: (1) A 23-year-old man was arrested in February and charged with a series of break-ins at sex shops in downtown Cairns, Australia, in which the intruder inflated plastic dolls, had sex with them and left messes. (In the break-ins at Laneway Adult Shop, the perp appeared to be sweet on "Jungle Jane.") (2) George Bartusek Jr., 51, was arrested in February in Cape Coral, Fla., in his car in the parking lot of a Publix supermarket. He had parked next to the front door, apparently to obtain the optimal audience, and was having sex with two blow-up dolls in the front seat. He told police he had come to the shopping center to buy clothes for his gals.

■ Not Ready for Prime Time: In March, two men were seen on a backyard surveillance camera in St. Petersburg, Fla., attempting a home break-in during the day when no one was home. According to the police report, one of the men assumed a football stance, then ran the length of the yard and rammed the back door. However, the latch held, and the impact sent the man backward, leaving him on the ground, writhing in pain. The collision also triggered an alarm, and the men escaped before police arrived. (2) Two adults and three teenagers were arrested in Waterville, Maine, in March and charged with arson, with all the evidence needed consisting of a video the five made, describing their crime, crafted with theme music and cast-and-crew credits.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1945 delegates from some 50 countries met in San Francisco to organize the United Nations.

1983 Soviet leader Yuri V. Andropov invited Samantha Smith to visit his country after receiving a letter in which the Manchester, Maine, schoolgirl expressed fears about nuclear war.

1990 Violeta Barrios de Chamorro was inaugurated as president of Nicaragua, ending 11 years of leftist Sandinista rule.

WORD UP!

gainsay \gayn-SAY; GAYN-say\, *transitive verb*:
1. To deny or dispute; to declare false or invalid.
2. To oppose; to contradict.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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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 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 306 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $1100/mo $400 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/20/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 4/18/2009, 4/25/2009, 5/2/2009, 5/9/2009

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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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