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TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 142

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

DON'T TALK AND DRIVE
SEE PAGE 3

THE HIGH MARKS ISSUE

Santa Monica's report card gets passing grade

Residents concerned most about state budget woes, homelessness and traffic congestion

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Santa Monicans gave an overwhelming thumbs up to the city by the sea, awarding it an A-grade as a good place to live as well as high marks on providing critical city services including emergency response, public safety and environmental responsibility.

The most prevalent concerns held by residents focused on the state budget crisis, traffic congestion and homelessness, although the latter two saw major decreases in response from a previous survey in 2009.

The results, posted on City Hall's website, come from a biannual telephone survey meant to assess attitudes about city services.

City departments use the information to create budgets that accurately reflect the wants and needs of citizens, said Kate Vernez, assistant to the city manager.

"This survey is one of the tools we use to

SEE SURVEY PAGE 10

City Hall close to bringing back Cirque du Soleil

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

CITY HALL City Manager Rod Gould will seek approval at the City Council meeting Tuesday night to negotiate a license agreement that would bring Cirque du Soleil back to Santa Monica for a three-month run beginning in January 2012.

Cirque approached City Hall when it released a request for proposals for the 2011-12 event season. The group would be presenting its new production "Ovo," a performance set in the world of bugs.

Under the terms of the agreement, Cirque would pay $981,253 for the use of 719 spaces

SEE CONSENT PAGE 3



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

TOO COOL: **Cirque du Soleil performers presented 'Kooza' near the Santa Monica Pier in 2009. Cirque is in talks with City Hall to return.**

Male masseuse arrested for alleged sexual assault; cops look for other victims

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A massage therapist at The Massage Company on Wilshire Boulevard is expected to be arraigned today on charges that he sexually assaulted a female customer, court records show.

Santa Monica police say message technician Jesse Tovar, 22, put his hands down the woman's underpants during a massage and "digitally penetrated" her against her will.

The female customer immediately left the business and reported the incident to police. Detectives located Tovar at his home in West Los Angeles on Friday, April 22 and took him unto custody.

Detectives are continuing to investigate Tovar to see if there are other victims. So far only one person has made a complaint, police said.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Duane Hicks at (310) 458-8460 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8495.

Tovar was being held at Men's Central Jail on $100,000 bail.

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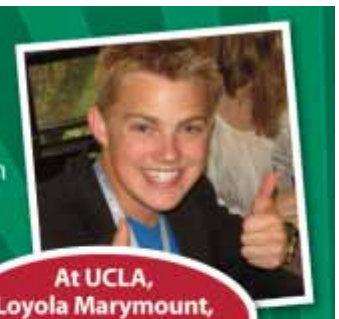
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

Get prepared
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 9 a.m. — 4 p.m.
One-Stop Prep Shop is a unique emergency preparedness event — nearly everything you need to be prepared for disaster in one location. This event is sponsored by the Santa Monica Fire Department. For more information, call (310) 458-8686.

No nukes
Vidiots Annex
302 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
Catch a screening of "The China Syndrome" to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Chernobyl meltdown. For more information about this free event, call (310) 399-1000 .

Helping Japan
Tiato
2700 Colorado Ave., 6 p.m.
Journalist Lisa Ling hosts a special fundraiser to help victims of the recent earthquake and tsunami. There will be food, live entertainment and a silent auction.

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

Meet the mayor
Friends Meeting Hall
1440 Harvard St., 7 p.m.
Mayor Richard Bloom will be the featured guest speaker at the Activist Support Circle. For more information, call (310) 399-1000.

All about sustainability
Sheraton Delfina
530 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Evan Kleiman, renowned chef, best-selling author and host of KCRW's Good Food radio show, will give the keynote address at the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce 2011 Sustainable Quality Awards Luncheon themed "Sustainable Food."
The Sustainable Quality Awards were created in 1995 to honor businesses in Santa Monica that have made significant achievements in the areas of sustainable economic development, social responsibility and stewardship of the natural environment. For more information, visit smchamber.com.

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

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

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



CORRECTION

In the column Santa Monica Stories that appeared in the April 21 edition of the Daily Press, page 3, a photo should have been credited to the Santa Monica History Museum/Fred Basten Collection.

State senate OKs hike for cell phone fine

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Nearly three years after California made it illegal to use a handheld cell phone while driving, the state Senate on Monday approved a bill that would increase fines for texting or using a handheld cell phone while driving.

The base fine would increase from $20 to $50 per violation under the bill, which now goes to the Assembly. With various fees, a first offense would cost $328, up from the current $208.

A repeat offender could be fined $100, or $528 with fees. A subsequent violation would also add one point to the motorist's driving record.

"The goal here is simply to save more lives," said Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto.

He said his original bill, which took effect in July 2008, deterred 60 percent to 70 percent of drivers from using handheld devices while driving, even as the use of cell phones increased.

SEE **FINES** PAGE 12



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

FRIENDLY GAME OF HOOPS: **Friends and co-workers play a game of pick-up basketball at Reed Park on Monday afternoon. The Santa Monica City Council is expected to approve an extra $6,000 to pay for designs related to improvements at the popular park.**

CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

in the 1550 PCH parking lot, a 30 percent increase from rent paid for the 2009 performance of "Kooza."

The agreement also includes parking provisions, later performance dates, promotions for Santa Monica Pier businesses and other perks to appease pier tenants that felt unduly impacted by the loss of parking spaces in 2009.

Cirque's "Kooza" performance brought an estimated $16.7 million to city government and businesses.

The remainder of the items on Tuesday's consent calendar add up to a whopping $7,435,085 in additional expenditures.

BIG BLUE BUS SECURITY, TRANSMISSIONS

The Big Blue Bus system will be contracting with a new security firm and transmission remanufacturing vendor if the council approves two contracts Tuesday.

Staff recommends ABM Security Inc. to provide 24-7 security services for the Big Blue Bus facility for a cost of $1,514,469 for the first year plus three one-year renewals.

City Hall received 40 bids for the contract, which were evaluated based on overall pricing. The top 10 vendors were then interviewed by a panel consisting of two police officers, a motor coach supervisor and a transit maintenance manager.

If city personnel tried to provide the service, it would cost $680,610 in the first

SEE **CONSENT** PAGE 11

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

BBB director retiring

The Big Blue Bus is looking for someone new to sit in the driver's seat, with its director for the last decade deciding to retire after 25 years in public transit, city officials said Monday.

Stephanie Negriff rose through the ranks of the BBB to become its director in August of 2002. During her tenure the BBB received an award for the re-design of its maintenance facility, which features the latest in sustainable maintenance technology and materials. She was also around for the Downtown Transit Mall, which was met with mixed reviews, and the creation of the SMC Anytime Any Line program, which allows students and employees at the college to ride the BBB free of charge in an effort to cut down on traffic congestion within the city.

She effectively oversaw the conversion of the entire BBB fleet to alternative fuels including adding gas/electric hybrids, biodiesel, and CNG articulated buses to the fleet. Negriff was also a key player in developing regional funding for mass transit, making sure that municipalities received their fare share of transit dollars, city officials said.

"I honor Stephanie's deep commitment to public transit, with the majority of her professional time being at the Big Blue Bus," said City Manager Rod Gould. "Her dedication and passion are unquestionable. There have been a number of advances in the BBB system during her tenure – most recently a state of the art maintenance facility and equipment."

She joined the city in 1986 and served in various capacities, including assistant director for operations, manager of transit development and intergovernmental relations and senior administrative analyst. Negriff was interim director in October 2001 before being appointed as director. Prior to joining BBB, she worked with transit agencies in Austin, Texas, St. Louis and Oklahoma City.

"I feel only gratitude for the opportunity to have served this community, as I reflect on the many accomplishments that we have achieved together," Negriff said. "The Downtown Transit Mall, the implementation of two bus rapid transit lines, and the completion of the Big Blue Bus campus expansion project are tangible examples of the collaborations that have produced improved transit services in our area."

Negriff also thanked her staff for their dedication and teamwork.

City Hall has commenced a nationwide search for Negriff's replacement.

Negriff will leave her post in October.

DAILY PRESS

Palm Springs Follies
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bowen stands out in special election field

Editor:

This week early voting will begin in the open primary to fill Jane Harman's Southern California Congressional seat. Of the 16 candidates running, I have only interacted with one. I met her in 2003 when I sat next to her at a witness table in a Senate hearing room in Sacramento to testify against her bill. I knew I was sitting next to an accomplished legislator who was a force to be reckoned with. That view has not changed, which is why I am supporting Secretary of State Debra Bowen in this race.

Before sitting down next her, I knew of her from the leadership role she played as chairwoman of the Senate Energy Committee during the Enron energy crisis. In opposing her on Internet legislation, I recognized that whether it was the Internet or the vagaries of the California Power Exchange she was not afraid to dive into complex issues. For example, she was the author of the nation's first law regulating unsolicited commercial e-mail (aka "spam") and legislation that protected victims of identity theft by requiring consumer credit bureaus to place fraud alerts and freezes on consumer accounts when requested.

In fact, when she, Jackie Speier and a few other members who had played critical roles in developing California Internet policy were termed out, there was a huge void to fill. So big, in fact, that I launched an effort through the California Bar Association to develop a primer on cyberspace issues for Sacramento policy makers.

As secretary of state she had the guts to decertify Diebold and other election machine vendors, a move that won her the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. She also has done a remarkable job at improving transparency for her operations, which is consistent with her commitment to an honest and open government. For example, as cutbacks have slowed processing some business filings such as articles of incorporation, she has posted on the website the date of items currently being processed.

Do I always agree with Ms. Bowen? No; but I suspect the same is true for the other candidates as well. The reason why she has my support, however, is that she has a sound grasp of the issues and will be a strong progressive voice for California in Washington.

Ultimately, however, the test is not what a candidate stands for, but how they can translate that into results. On that point, I am reminded of the fact that Henry Ford once said "you can't build a reputation on what you're going to do." In her nearly 20 years in Sacramento, Debra Bowen has built a reputation of vision and results. I am confident she will do the same for California as the newest member of the House of Representatives.

Bennnet Kelly
Santa Monica

Don't pick on flight schools

Editor:

How many people will lose their jobs due to political correctness this time ("L.A. officials vote in favor of closing SMO flight schools," page 1, April 21)? Why are the Santa Monica flight schools being punished for doing what they've done for over 30 years? Anyone who moves near the airport knows it is there and shouldn't complain. That's like moving near a train track and then complaining about the whistle blowing in the night. You knew what you were getting. And does this threat to close have anything to do with the community brief on the new superyacht firm that is locating at the airport? Are the flight schools being forced out because there's someone with bigger bucks to offer for leasing space?

Yolanda Dimino
Santa Monica

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Artists living amongst us

WE LIVE IN A CITY OF CREATIVITY. OUR little patch of the world feeds content and imagery to the rest of the planet. I cannot count how many different artists, writers, musicians and performers of various skills I know and come across on any old Tuesday.

The creative space we occupy is one of the things that makes Santa Monica such a wonderful place to live and raise a family. We have such wealth, not just financial, but intellectual and creative around us, which continues to spark new and more interesting ventures.

I've been thinking about this a great deal lately as I walk my dog down by the Santa Monica Pier. There's this man, Lenny Hoops, who does a little show at the base of the pier between Big Dean's and the Hot Dog on a Stick shack. Lenny has a set of drums and a bunch of crazy hula hoops he has people use. His songs are real ditties. Frequently they are silly rhymes that he makes up as people are walking by. He dresses flamboyantly and has all these crazy outfits with funny hats.

Oftentimes Lenny has a unique slant on life that he is sharing. Two weeks ago it was how he resigned his presidency of the Ku Klux Klan. As a black man saying this, he was making a point and being funny simultaneously. He was doing this in a pair of rainbow pants and a multi-colored fuzzy top hat to draw attention, as if his words were not enough.

There are others who are controversial in different ways. Take the monkey man who appears on the Third Street Promenade. He is there with his mini-monkey, whose sole job and unique function is to take a dollar from you, and put it in his pocket. If you want a picture you have to pay extra. The controversy is two-fold. One, should a monkey be used in such a fashion? I don't see it as any different from other uses we have for animals and he doesn't seem to be ill treated. Two, can an "artist/performer" performing in public demand to be paid for pictures? I doubt it, but I also doubt anyone is going to fight him over it.

Then there are the artists amongst us we know and love. Those who grow closer to our hearts, through their performances and through their art. For example my friend Timm Freeman.

Timm is not your typical 40-year-old divorced dad. He's a musician who actually has made money being a musician. He toured for years with a rock band that he managed and had international success. He retired from that vagabond lifestyle to be a dad to his son.

As his son has grown, Timm has dipped his toes back into the world of performance and artistry. Last year he performed at Brennan's on Lincoln Boulevard. The show featured songs he wrote.

This year he and his beautiful girlfriend Jen Maxcy (yes, she of PTA presidency fame) have been performing at Golden Mean café on Wilshire Boulevard. She is not only a great singer, but also a tremendous photographer who took the headshot I use for my books. Together they make a wonderful couple, both on stage and off.

Timm has also taken up the horsehair. He has allowed his inner Monet to come out, and this month has a show at Em's Artist Café in Culver City. The show was put on by Santa Monica force of nature Suzi Gunn, in partnership with Timm. Suzi is a whirling dervish of energy and creativity who not only puts on artist salons, photographs musicians and organizes people's lives, she also inspires them to push their boundaries, to be more.

The point for me is that living in this environment of creativity and artistic freedom allows all of us to be freer and to pursue our own artistic expression. We live in a city where your next door neighbor could be some world renowned artist or the guy across the street is a musician who you listen to Sunday mornings.

The children who live here have the opportunity to see how different artists see the world and they experiment with their lives accordingly. The kids who stop by Lenny Hoops see how fun and openness are accepted. Difference is not drummed out, but drummed in by Lenny.

When Timm Freeman shows up at his son's school in a fauxhawk and paint splattered jeans he's the cool artist dad. That's what this town breeds. I've seen it. I've lived it, and I love this town for it.

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



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Your column here

Riane Eisler and Rene Redwood
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Irreparable human deficit looms in wake of budget-cutting frenzy

A FINANCIAL DEBT CAN BE PAID BACK. But the debt we'll owe our children if investments in health, nutrition and education are slashed is irreparable. Investment in human infrastructure — providing the human capacity development for optimal economic productivity and innovation through both government and business investments — is essential for success in the post-industrial economy, and this should be our policymakers' guiding economic principle.

It's up to us to ask the hard questions: Why are we being told we can't raise taxes on the rich, but must cut wages for teachers, nurses, child-care workers and others on whom our future depends? There is no evidence that lower taxes on corporations and millionaires "raise all boats," or that massive cuts in social services have ever helped people in developing nations rise from poverty. The opposite is true. It is countries like Canada, Sweden, New Zealand and Finland that have made commitments to caring for future generations that have risen from poverty to prosperity. And today nations such as Brazil, South Korea, and other "emerging advanced economies" are heavily investing in their people.

Why are we told that cutting social programs is the road to prosperity, when our past prosperity was the result of the very opposite?

At the beginning of the 20th century, the United States was what we today call a "developing country." Except for the super-rich, our general living standard was abysmal: child and general mortality rates were extremely high, as was poverty. Then we invested in prenatal and child health care such as vaccines; abolished child labor; mandated not only primary, but also secondary public education; and promoted college education through the GI Bill for returning soldiers. These kinds of government expenditures, along with Social Security, Medicare, Head Start and other government programs to care for and educate our people had a huge return on investment for our people and nation.

Today, largely as a result of retrenching in such public expenditures, the U.S. has higher child mortality, maternal mortality and poverty rates than any other developed nation. According to a 2007 UNICEF study, the U.S. ranked 24th of 25 developed countries with children living below the national poverty level. By comparison, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Spain topped the list. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that poverty afflicts roughly one in six American children — some 13 million youths, a figure that's expected to rise as poverty trends continue to soar.

In 2009, more than 4.4 million single mothers earned wages below the national poverty level and were barely able to supply their children with basic needs. That number of women had increased 6.7 percent compared to the previous year, according to census figures. The kinds of cuts now proposed — especially cuts to programs to help impoverished families with children — will push us down even further.

By contrast, investing in education, health care, child-care and eldercare drastically reduces unemployment, poverty, public assistance, spending on prisons — and at the same time provides a trained work force and higher tax base. According to a recent NBC/Wall Street Journal poll, 37 percent of Americans believe job creation/economic growth is our nation's No. 1 issue, and only 22 percent named the deficit/government spending as the top. What's more, while Americans find some budget cuts acceptable; they adamantly oppose cuts in Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security and K-12 education.

That's because most of us know that our most important assets are our people. If we don't invest in human infrastructure, we cannot be economically successful.

We urgently need a realistic long-term perspective on how national and state deficits are calculated. The human capital deficit created by cutting social programs will be irreparable. By contrast, benefits to individuals, families, businesses and society at large from investment in human infrastructure will accrue for generations.

There's an old saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Our priorities should be exactly what the "deficit hawks" are putting on the chopping block. Cutting those programs is criminal behavior, not sound policy.

RIANE EISLER is president of the Center for Partnership Studies (www.partnershipway.org) and author of "The Real Wealth of Nations" and "The Chalice & the Blade." Rene Redwood is CEO of Redwood Enterprise in Washington, D.C. (www.redwoodenterprise.com).

The Q Line

Flight schools grounded?

The L.A. City Council last week OK'd a resolution that calls for the closure of flight schools at Santa Monica Airport. They say it would cut down on the number of flights leaving the embattled airport.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Did the L.A. council get it right; or do you think it's a step too far?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102**.


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Highs and Lows of the Criminal Justice System – Drug Offenses

One of my clients recently commented to me that she was very thankful that our criminal justice system afforded her an opportunity to help her kick her nasty drug habit. Her comments got me thinking about how often the criminal justice system is denigrated and maligned by a large majority of the population (and a large majority of those who go through the system) for the inability to rehabilitate and treat offenders in order to prevent a reoccurrence or repeat offense. Despite this widely held sentiment, there is a much better track record of success when it comes to the system's approach to drug offenses. California law makers and prosecutorial agencies decided long ago that it is far better to treat drug offenders than to punish them. This is a precarious and often delicate relationship because while no one wants to condone drug use, virtually everyone realizes that harsh punishments more often than not simply breed recidivism. This article will focus on two ways to combat drug use through the criminal justice system: DEJ and Prop 36.

California's drug laws maintain a close relationship with the electorate of California. That is to say that as popular feelings and opinions on drugs softens, so too do the laws criminalizing drug possession. For example, California Penal Code Section 1000, more commonly known as DEJ (Deferred Entry of Judgment), and the passage of Proposition 36, reflects California citizens' collective sentiment that drug offenders should be given every available option to seek treatment and stop using drugs before a court imposes jail or prison.

DEJ is covered by Penal Code Section 1000 and applies to cases where a person is caught in possession of a controlled substance, smoking device, or even alcohol. The basic principle behind DEJ is that is an offender in possession of a controlled substance (i.e. cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy or a pipe, etc.) may enter a guilty plea, stay clean, take drug treatment classes, and then have the guilty plea withdrawn and the case dismissed after an 18 month period. Note that even if the underlying offense is dismissed some employers and licensing agencies may still pursue administrative action. DEJ only applies to cases where the controlled substance is for personal use (meaning not a sales case) and where the offender is first determined to be eligible. Moreover, if an offender violates DEJ and defies a court's orders the judge may enter the guilty plea and sentence the offender accordingly.

In order to be found eligible for the DEJ program it must be demonstrated that: 1) There are no prior convictions for any offense involving controlled substances, 2) The offense charged did not involve a crime of violence or threatened violence, 3) There is no evidence of a violation relating to narcotics or restricted dangerous drugs, 4) The defendant's has not previously violated probation or parole, 5) The defendant has not been placed on DEJ within 5 years of the offense date, and 6) The defendant has no prior felony conviction within five years. If all of these requirements are satisfied, then a person is eligible for DEJ and has the opportunity to earn a dismissal.

Similar to DEJ, Proposition 36 was passed by California voters in November 2000 as a legislative means to allow drug offenders to receive probation with treatment rather than incarceration. For practical purposes, Prop. 36 is a secondary option to get addicts and users treatment when DEJ and/or other programs have failed to get people the help that they so desperately need. A user is ineligable for probation under Prop. 36 if they have a prior felony "strike" within five years, if in the same case they have been convicted of a non-drug related felony or misdemeanor, if they were in possession of a firearm while under the influence, and/or if they have twice failed Prop. 36 or continuously refuses treatment.

A person sentenced to Prop. 36 will complete drug treatment classes, counseling, and whatever other courses are deemed appropriate by the court. The offender will also submit to urine or blood testing as well. Upon successful completion of the Prop. 36 program the case is not automatically dismissed as is the case with DEJ; however, one can petition to the court to dismiss the action with a showing that they have successfully completed the program and gone above and beyond what was required.

The DEJ and Prop. 36 programs can work wonders for drug users and offenders. It is often quite refreshing to see someone enter the program as a downtrodden, distraught, and disheveled drug addict and exit the program clean, sober, and enlightened about the many dangers of drug use. I will never forget the look of happiness, joy and relief that filled my client's face when the judge congratulated her on her progress and then dismissed her case. There was applause from the small audience in the courtroom, and my client felt as though she had accomplished something positive rather than felt the shame of having committed a crime. It was refreshing to both of us that the criminal justice system actually helped and truly served the interests of justice.

If you or anyone you know has been arrested for a drug related offense or any other misdemeanor or felony offense contact criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor Jacob Glucksman through The Legal Grind immediately to preserve your rights!

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY JACOB GLUCKSMAN, A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY. HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

Disclaimer: this article does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney client relationship.

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5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
5:00–6:00pm	(2nd & 4th Monday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
12:00-2:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz
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FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Some cities may challenge census figures

Some Southern California cities may challenge U.S. Census figures that indicate they had little growth or shrank over the past decade.

Santa Ana Mayor Miguel Pulido tells the Los Angeles Times that his city plans to file a protest with the Census Bureau in June after figures showed a 4-percent decline in population.

Pulido says the city's growing and he believes that many immigrant residents refused to be counted, some of them for fear of deportation.

Long Beach and San Jose also are considering challenges.

Long Beach, the state's seventh-largest city, gained only about 700 residents and San Jose's population fell short of the expected 1 million.

San Jose Deputy City Manager Deanna Santana says grants and other funds based on population could be at stake.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO

Navy finishes review of dolphin deaths

The Navy has concluded that it would have been dangerous to stop an underwater training blast believed to have killed three or four dolphins last month off San Diego Bay.

The 3rd Fleet public affairs office said Monday that Navy divers monitored the area for marine mammals for more than 90 minutes before placing a charge on the ocean floor.

The Navy says that 10 minutes into the 15-minute countdown, observers spotted dolphins approaching and the commanders determined it would have been too dangerous to try to stop the detonation. They instead placed their boat between the dolphins and the detonation site in an attempt to head off the pod.

Three dead dolphins were recovered there. Another was found days later near Ocean Beach.

Training remains suspended.

AP

PALMDALE

Teen stabbed, collapses near school

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies say a teenager was stabbed in an apparent gang-related confrontation, ran three blocks and collapsed in front of R. Rex Perris High School in Palmdale.

Deputy Daryl Bonsall says the victim was taken to a hospital and underwent immediate surgery after Monday's 11:20 a.m. stabbing.

He didn't know how serious the stab wounds were.

Bonsall says the 17-year-old victim is believed to be a student at the school.

Deputies are looking for two men in their 20s.

Other than being gang-related, Bonsall didn't know what the argument between the men was about.

Bonsall says the school didn't have to be locked down because the victim ran toward the school and his attackers ran in the other direction.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Hundreds of teachers file for layoff hearings

Hundreds of Los Angeles Unified School District employees are filling a downtown hall to request hearings on their possible layoff at the end of the school year.

The hearings, at which employees can question their terminations, started Monday morning and will last into May.

The nation's second-largest school district sent layoff notices last month to some 5,000 teachers and other staff as it struggles to close a projected $408 million budget shortfall for the 2011-12 academic year.

Administrators say the number of layoff notices reflects a worst-case scenario because state funding has not been finalized.

Spokeswoman Marla Eby of the union United Teachers Los Angeles says many affected employees are arts, music and drama teachers and teachers in magnet programs.

The district must finalize the number of layoffs in June.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Trucker gets 22 years for pot smuggling

A suburban San Diego truck driver has been sentenced to nearly 22 years in prison for hauling about 10 tons of marijuana that was smuggled through a cross-border tunnel lined with rail track.

The driver, 31-year-old Carlos Cunningham of Oceanside, apologized Monday for his role in one of the largest marijuana busts in U.S. history.

U.S. District Judge Larry Burns imposed a sentence that was more than two years longer than what prosecutors recommended.

Burns says the 19,400 pounds of pot that was seized from Cunningham's truck in November was a staggering amount.

AP

SACRAMENTO

DA: No charges in news crew assault

Prosecutors say they will not file criminal charges against two people accused of assaulting a Sacramento news crew that was filming a vigil for their dead relative.

KXTL-TV reporter John Lobertini and camerawoman Rebecca Little were covering a Feb. 20 vigil for a man who had been fatally shot in a restaurant parking lot.

After they ignored mourner requests to stop filming, an argument ensued involving the homicide victim's father and sister.

Authorities say Chester Jackson III tried to grab Little's camera and also appeared to swing a fist at Lobertini. An unidentified woman pulled Little to the ground by the hair, and Jacqueline Jackson appeared to kick her.

The Sacramento County District Attorney on Monday condemned the violence but said prosecutors aren't convinced the Jacksons would likely be convicted at trial.

AP

GOP faces tough climb to reform mortgage industry

ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Shutting down Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac should fit seamlessly into the Republican drive to shrink government. After all, keeping the ailing mortgage giants afloat has cost taxpayers $150 billion and many in both parties want private lenders to finance a bigger share of the nation's $11.3 trillion residential mortgage market.

But House and Senate Republicans pushing bills to phase out both federally run companies are learning how fear, politics and old-fashioned lobbying can trump ideology.

Even in the GOP-run House, leading proponents of doing away with Fannie and Freddie aren't predicting victory. As a precaution, they're advancing eight bills taking bite-sized swipes at the issue. In the Democratic-led Senate, a sister measure by 2008 presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., faces long odds, and the Banking Committee's top Democrat and Republican are wary of quickly reshaping the market for financing home purchases.

"There's no consensus on it," House Financial Services Committee Chairman Spencer Bachus, R-Ala., conceded in an interview this month about a sweeping overhaul bill by Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas. "I can't promise we will build consensus."

Fannie and Freddie don't issue mortgages but buy them from the original lenders, thus providing cash for more loans. They then package many mortgages into securities that they resell to investors, using a government guarantee that lets them pay a lower yield than their few competitors.

Bachus calls Hensarling's bill "the gold standard" for Republicans. It would halt government backing of Fannie and Freddie and end or dramatically reduce their role in mortgage financing within five years. The goal is to turn the mortgage market over to banks and other private lenders, who have shied away during the relentless real estate bust of the past few years.

With housing still staggering from foreclosures and low prices, some Republicans worry that erasing the federal role in the mortgage market could rattle the housing industry and perhaps the entire economy. Without the government guarantee of mortgage products that Fannie and Freddie enjoy, the cost of mortgages would likely rise, making homes less affordable.

"You can't do that," Rep. Gary Miller, R-Calif., a solid conservative and real estate developer from just east of Los Angeles, says of proposals to end the federal role in financing mortgages. "It would devastate the housing market."

Average home prices in the Los Angeles area have dropped 33 percent in five years, three times the national average, according to the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

Feeding lawmakers' concerns are realtors, mortgage bankers and home builders, powerful constituencies and campaign contributors. The bankers and builders brought throngs of members to the Capitol last month to visit legislators, and the realtors are coming in May.

"Every member of Congress has hundreds of them in their district, and they are very active," Rep. John Campbell, R-Calif., another conservative who wants to maintain a federal role in financing homes, said of realtors. "I would not discount their impact."

Though Democrats, including President Barack Obama, agree that Fannie and Freddie should be eased aside to get private lenders back in the market, Republicans generally want to move faster and further.

For many in the GOP, Fannie and Freddie epitomize government waste run amok. Under President George W. Bush, the government took them over in September 2008 as they teetered near collapse as the housing market crumbled. Taxpayers have since shoveled $154 billion at the two companies to keep them alive — which resonates at a time when efforts to trim record budget deficits are a premier national issue.

"The two largest, most influence-exerting, regulation-avoiding, bailed out institutions," Hensarling, a member of the GOP leadership, called them when he introduced his legislation last month. In a brief interview, he said that once Fannie and Freddie are gone, he "absolutely, positively, unequivocally" wants to end the government's role in the mortgage market.

Many Republicans endorse that view, and many lobbyists and congressional aides expect Hensarling's bill to ultimately move through Bachus' Financial Services Committee and the full House. But there are GOP pockets of resistance, chiefly from lawmakers worried about the practical impact of such a move, particularly in districts with high home prices and where the housing market remains especially weak.

Campbell, whose district abuts Miller's and like him is on the Financial Services panel, says the housing market is too crucial to risk destabilizing it.

Asked whether his stance was consistent with his party's philosophy of smaller government, Campbell said, "We're for smaller government and smarter government. We're not for no government and we're not for dumb government."

Working hard against sweeping changes are the National Association of Realtors, the National Association of Home Builders and the Mortgage Bankers Association. While all are major Washington players, the realtors are especially potent: The $3.8 million they donated to more than 500 congressional candidates in the 2010 election was tops among all political action committees, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics. So far this year, they've spent another $18 million lobbying.

Vince Malta, a vice president of the realtors, said Republicans trying to end the federal role in mortgages are listening too much to their conservative tea party supporters.

"The move here is political and not based on the reality of what is best for the housing finance system," Malta said.

The Obama administration has offered three options for phasing out Frannie and Freddie, with varying degrees of continued federal involvement, but left subsequent decisions to Congress.

The administration has said it is unilaterally taking steps aimed at reducing the two companies' housing roles and creating room for private lenders to move into the market. They include gradually increasing the fees Fannie and Freddie charge and reducing the size of their loan portfolios.

House Republicans would take similar steps in eight small bills they pushed through a subcommittee this month. They would also go further, cutting the pay of Fannie and Freddie executives to government-level salaries and ending the companies' mandates to back mortgages for lower-income people.









Feds consider next step for resurgent economy

JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON The Federal Reserve is increasingly confident in the economy and about to end a $600 billion program to support it. Now for the next step — figuring out how to keep inflation from taking off.

Since late last year, the Fed has bought government bonds to keep interest rates low. Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues are expected to signal this week that they will allow the program to expire as scheduled in June.

The end of the bond-buying program would mean that, aside from tax cuts, almost all the extraordinary measures the government took to prop up the economy are over. Congress is fighting over how deeply to cut federal spending, not whether to spend more for stimulus.

Since the Fed announced the plan last August, worries that the economy would fall back into recession have all but disappeared. The private sector is adding jobs, and the stock market is at its highest point since the summer of 2008.

But higher oil and food prices pose a threat. If companies are forced to raise prices quickly to make up for escalating costs, that could start a spiral of inflation. Exactly how much of a threat inflation poses to the economy right now is a matter of disagreement within the central bank.

A vocal minority, including the Fed regional chiefs in Philadelphia and Minneapolis, believe the Fed may need to raise interest rates by the end of this year to fight inflation. The Fed has kept its benchmark interest rate near zero since December 2008.

And, Richard Fisher, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, argues that the Fed has done its job and should consider halting the bond program now, not in June. "Now we at the Fed are nearing a tipping point," Fisher told reporters earlier this month, referring to inflation.

The majority — including Bernanke, vice chairwoman Janet Yellen and William Dudley, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York — believe interest rates should stay low longer, and the bond-buying program should run its course.

Bernanke has predicted that the jump in oil and food prices will cause only a brief, modest increase in consumer inflation. Excluding those prices, which tend to fluctuate sharply, inflation is still low, he has argued.

Bill Gross, who manages the world's largest mutual fund at Pimco, worries that rates on Treasury bonds will rise when the Fed stops buying them. If other buyers don't step in and there's less demand for Treasury bonds, then the rates, or yields, on those bonds would rise. That would drive down prices on bonds. Rates on mortgages, corporate debt and other loans pegged to the Treasury securities would rise, too. Higher borrowing costs could slow spending by people and businesses, and slow the overall economy.

Fed officials and others believe that because the end of the program has been well telegraphed, it won't have much of an impact on bond rates. That was the case in 2010 when the Fed ended a $1.7 trillion stimulus program.

The bond-buying program was the Fed's second since the recession, and is known as "quantitative easing," or "QE2" for short. The economy would have to be in serious danger of tipping into another recession for the Fed to consider embarking on a third round.

The Fed has other tools at its disposal. Since early August, it has taken about $17 billion a month that it earns in interest from mortgage-backed securities and used it to buy bonds, a separate and smaller step than the $600 billion program.

So far this year, Bernanke has managed to forge consensus for his policies — all Fed decisions this year have been unanimous — but the deepening divides could make Bernanke's job more difficult.

The decision comes at a time when Congress and the White House are fighting over how deeply they should cut federal spending over the next decade to curb the nation's budget deficit. The deficit is on track to be a record $1.5 trillion this year, marking the third straight year over $1 trillion. It's the highest share of the total economy since World War II.

House Republicans have passed a plan that would slash spending by nearly $6 trillion over the next decade, in part by overhauling Medicare and Medicaid. President Barack Obama wants $4 trillion in spending cuts over 12 years and would raise taxes on the wealthy.

The economic benefit of another major government measure meant to stimulate the economy, a $821 billion package passed in 2009 for building roads, repairing bridges and other infrastructure projects, has already rippled through the economy.

However, the economy is still getting support from a sweeping package of tax cuts, including a reduction in the Social Security payroll tax that will give an extra $1,000 to $2,000 to most households this year.

The Fed meeting begins Tuesday. When it ends on Wednesday, Bernanke, who wants to make the Fed more of an open institution, will take an unprecedented step for a Fed chief and hold a press conference.

The press conference gives Bernanke the chance to build support for the Fed. But it could also backfire if what he says causes confusion and rattles Wall Street.

Bernanke plans to conduct the press conference once a quarter to unveil the Fed's updated economic forecasts. The Fed is expected to lower its forecast for economic growth slightly this year, bump up its inflation estimate and upgrade its outlook for jobs.

Bernanke also is likely to use the press conference to emphasize the Fed's prediction that the jump in oil and food prices will lead to only a modest and short-lived increase in consumer prices. But he'll also stress that the Fed stands ready to act if inflation shows signs of taking off.

In February 2010, Bernanke began laying out the Fed's strategy for tightening credit. But the economy weakened in the spring and continued to struggle. Bernanke did an about-face, and the Fed announced the bond program during the summer.

The program was necessary in part because the Fed's key interest rate can't be cut any more to prop up the economy. Economists predict the Fed at this week's meeting will maintain a pledge to hold the rate where it is for an "extended period."

Dropping the pledge would be a signal that the Fed would soon be taking steps to tighten credit.

"The Fed isn't prepared to do that just yet. It would be an invitation for a rate-hike party," said economist Stuart Hoffman of PNC Financial Services Group.

Trend pushing urbanites off water grid

PHUONG LE
Associated Press

SEATTLE In one of Seattle's most urban neighborhoods, a small elementary school is trying to wean itself off the city's water grid.

The classroom toilet composts and treats waste on site rather than flushing it into city sewer pipes. Water washed down sinks doesn't flow into storm drains but recirculates to a 14-foot-high wall filled with plants, which will eventually soak it all up. For now, excess flows through the wall.

Plenty of "green" buildings strive to generate as much energy as they use, but Bertschi School's new science building is one of dozens nationwide taking it a step further. They're attempting to unplug from the municipal water and sewer system to collect, recycle and reuse water and wastewater on site, a concept often referred to as net zero water.

The U.S. Army has a goal for several installations to reach zero water, energy and waste use, and last week it designated Fort Riley in Kansas, Camp Rilea in Oregon and Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington, among others, to be net zero water. It also named other installations to strive for net zero use for energy and waste.

This month, the University of Miami broke ground on a college dormitory that will reuse all water from showers, toilets and laundry for everything except drinking and cooking. With a $2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, researchers are developing an onsite system to convert wastewater into potable water while treating for pharmaceuticals and other contaminants.

"Water is a looming issue after energy," said James Englehardt, a professor of environmental engineering at the University of Miami who is spearheading the project. "Energy and water are intimately linked. We have plenty of water, but it takes a lot of energy to purify it."

Despite Seattle's image as the land of plenty of rain, water conservation is a concern here because summer months can typically be dry.

Proponents say the Seattle school project and others like it recognize water as a precious resource. Treating waste and runoff on site also means reducing the land, infrastructure, energy and chemicals needed to convey water to faucets and later to treat what flows down toilets and bathtubs.

"People are recognizing the limitation of the planet and what's available," said Eden Brukman, vice president of the International Living Building Institute, which runs the "Living Building Challenge," considered the most rigorous green-building performance standards. In the U.S., two projects in Eureka, Mo., and Rhinebeck, N.Y., have been certified as living buildings.

In Washington state, Seattle and Clark County have pilot programs to promote buildings that meet those standards.

The Bertschi School, which opened in February — as well as a midrise building being built in Seattle by the Bullitt Foundation — are aiming for living building status.

Designed to be self-sustaining in the energy, water and waste use, the school's new science building collects rainwater in cisterns. A plant-covered roof slows stormwater runoff, which can carry contaminants into rivers and streams. The building is set up to treat gray water to drinking standards, but it is still drawing water from the city water supply because of public health regulations.

"The state gets really nervous about treating drinking water on site," said Joel Sisolak, Washington advocacy and outreach director for the Cascadia Green Building Council. "Public water supplies and treatment water systems have done a lot of good in promoting public health. The question is, is it still the best model?"

The composting toilet in the new classroom functions much like a vacuum toilet found on airplanes, and it doesn't smell bad.

Stan Richardson, a school representative, said composting waste may not work for everyone but it's a good tool to teach students that there are different ways of doing things.

"For us to do that in the city when you have a perfectly good sewer system, I can't imagine everybody in the city connecting to the composting toilet," he said. "We are doing it as a demonstration. It can be done."

The classroom was designed and built by a team of professionals in the Northwest who formed the Restorative Design Collective. The team donated $500,000 in time and building materials to the project.

The goal is to design buildings that have little to no impact on the Earth, said Stacy Smedley of KMD Architects, one of the project architects.

Mixed earnings reports weigh on stocks

DAVID K. RANDALL
MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Mixed corporate earnings reports weighed on stocks Monday.

Kimberly-Clark Corp., the maker of Kleenex and Huggies, dropped 2.7 percent after missing earnings estimates. The company also lowered its earnings forecast for the full year and said it plans to raise prices to offset higher costs.

Traders said rising commodity costs were making investors cautious.

"It's becoming harder to become overly exuberant over backwards-looking earnings when it's clear that consumers' pocketbooks are getting squeezed over higher gasoline costs," said Paul Zemsky, a market strategist at ING Investment Management. "Given that we're near the ... highs for the year, we're certainly not adding to our (stock) positions until we get a sense of what these oil prices mean to the consumer."

Johnson Controls Inc. fell 2.8 percent. The auto parts supplier said it expects revenue to drop by $500 million in the third quarter because of the earthquake in Japan.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 26.11 points, or 0.2 percent, to close at 12,479.88. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 2.13, or 0.2 percent, to 1,335.25. The Nasdaq composite edged up 5.72 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,825.88.

Worries about rising prices and a weak dollar helped push up precious metals. Silver futures rose $1.09 to settle at $47.15 an ounce. The price has risen 52 percent since the first of the year. Gold rose $5.30 to settle at $1,509.10 an ounce.

Monday was light on economic data. The Commerce Department reported that sales of new homes rose more than expected in March to 300,000. That's still less than half of the 700,000-a-year pace that economists consider healthy.

More than three shares rose for every four that fell on the New York Stock Exchange. Trading volume was 2.9 billion shares.

Ford Motor Co., Coca-Cola, and 3M Co. are among the companies reporting earnings Tuesday.

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Who: Both members and prospective members welcome
Cost: $10 for members, $25 for prospective members

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SOURCE OF CONCERN? **Homeless sleep under the trees at Reed Park on Monday afternoon.**

SURVEY
FROM PAGE 1

compare historic information on preferences, views and emerging issues to help us build the budget," Vernez said. "It's also the report card of how we're doing with the community, and shows us areas we need to strengthen."

Department directors gathered to choose new questions to gather information about current issues, but many were kept identical to previous years to ensure that the data could be compared from survey to survey.

Consultant Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates — also known as FM3 — conducted the survey for $30,495. FM3 contacted 407 Santa Monica residents in both Spanish and English.

Seventy percent of those phone calls were random, with an additional 19 percent generated through voter listings to get cell phone users and the remainder chosen for having Latino surnames to ensure those groups were represented.

The results showed that although the majority of people enjoy living in Santa Monica (a whopping 94 percent), only 74 percent were satisfied with the full package of services provided by City Hall.

To pinpoint "top of mind" issues, a question asking what residents felt were the most important issues facing Santa Monica today was left blank, allowing respondents to fill in their own answers.

Thirty-five percent listed the budget crisis as a top issue, up from only 4 percent in 2009. Traffic and congestion took second place with 24 percent citing it as important. That's down eight percentage points from the last survey.

Homelessness, coming in third, also took a hit in prevalence, coming down from 31 percent to 22 percent of responses.

Rounding out the top five were airport noise and education, both up to 10 percent of responses from 1 percent in 2009.

Although there have been reductions in the reporting surrounding traffic and homelessness, the results do not equate to residents' perceptions that City Hall is doing a better job than in the past at combating the issues, according to the report.

Part of the decrease may come from the importance that the budget crisis has taken on for many respondents, the report reads.

In terms of traffic, 64 percent of respondents felt that traffic congestion had worsened in Santa Monica in the last few years, despite the fact that, in the same survey, reducing traffic was considered an important service by 82 percent of those surveyed.

Only 28 percent felt City Hall is doing a good job reining in traffic congestion.

Homelessness numbers were similar.

The number of homeless people in the city was rated a "serious problem" by 61 percent of people, down slightly from 63 percent in 2009 and quite a bit from 76 percent reported in 2007.

Overall concern about the problem of homelessness has dropped, however. Only 24 percent of people felt that the problem has gotten worse in the past two years, compared to 45 percent in 2009.

All of these results are somewhat out of sync with reported figures, considering the large drops in the homeless population seen in the annual Homeless Count conducted by the Human Services Division each January.

The 2007 Homeless Count came up with 999 individuals, with 915 in 2009 and 740 in 2011.

According to the report, however, only 34 percent report that they're satisfied with the job City Hall is doing to deal with homeless people in Santa Monica.

The declining numbers seen on the streets, and declining phone calls he gets regarding the issue, tell Mayor Richard Bloom that Santa Monica is making progress on its homeless issue.

"I think people care deeply about it, but I think we've made significant strides over the past few years, which are starting to show up in the responses we get from residents," Bloom said.

While residents gave a "need to improve" on those issues, very few had complaints about public safety, particularly gang and youth violence which dropped from people's radar compared to 2002 numbers.

A nearly unanimous 98 percent of respondents cited Santa Monica as a "safe" place to live, and only 15 percent feel that crime is a serious problem when asked directly, according to the survey. Approximately 77 percent of respondents felt that crime had either gotten better or stayed the same.

Residents also gave high satisfaction ratings to maintenance of city parks, public libraries and eco-friendliness, with 96 percent saying Santa Monica was very or somewhat green.

At the bottom of the list were provision of recreation and sports programs, youth services and enforcing city noise laws.

The results will help inform both staff and the City Council to make sure Santa Monicans' priorities are getting addressed, Bloom said.

"With all of the issues that we have, there are important things we're trying to address in the city," Bloom said. "The bottom line is that the public's perception of Santa Monica as a great place to live remains very strong. I always feel very grateful able to live in Santa Monica, and I'm pleased my fellow residents feel the same way."

Public discussion of budgeting efforts, including the "Can You Talk" meetings with city staff and the city manager will be kicking off in May.

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CONSENT
FROM PAGE 3

year, or 48 percent higher than ABM Security Services' bid, according to a staff report.

The bus system's current vendor for Allison brand transmissions no longer meets the standards of an authorized Allison dealer.

Working with authorized dealers gives BBB security — it insures that only Allison parts are used in repairs and that the repairs maintain the warranty.

Of the six companies that bid on the contract, city staff chose Western States Converters and Transmissions Inc. for a contract cost of $760,000.

BIKE MOBILITY CENTERS

The bike transit mobility center, currently under construction at Parking Structures 7 and 8, will be run by Bike and Park, LLC if the council signs off on the $120,000 contract Tuesday.

The company's experience includes operating the McDonald's Cycle Center in Millennium Park, Chicago, as well as on-site operations in Washington D.C.'s Union Station bike center.

Proposed services include maintaining and staffing the center, bike rental and repair, attended bike parking, guided tours, a bike share program for local employees and ongoing bicycle education and outreach programs.

Bike and Park would include several local businesses and organizations, including Perry's Cafe & Rentals for bike renting and tours and Urban Motion Inc. for Segway tour opportunities.

The company will actually pay City Hall rent of $17,500 as well as 15 percent of revenues for rentals and tours above $250,000. The $120,000 put up by Santa Monica will go toward initial furniture and equipment costs for the center and additional services over the next two years that the company will do in support of Bicycle Action Plan draft programs.

WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

City staff recommended that the council approve two contracts totaling $2,672,380 for construction and management services for a water main replacement project.

MNR Construction Inc., a California-based company, is recommended for a $2,429,735 construction contract to replace 11,700 lineal feet of existing ductile iron water mains in the city. City staff evaluates pipes for replacement based on age, condition and capacity demands.

MNR was one of 65 contractors that requested bid packages, although only 13 responded with official bids.

Construction management firm Black and Veatch beat out 30 other firms for the $242,645 contract. It will manage the budget and scheduling of the project, if the contract is approved.

GAS EXTRACTION

City staff is recommending hiring ICF International to provide operation, maintenance and monitoring services for the landfill gas extraction system at City Yards for a five-year total of $871,776.

The system collects and treats landfill gases generated from the former landfill under portions of City Yard and Stewart Street Park, and has done so since 1998.

Permit and operational conditions for a gas extraction system require City Hall to submit monitoring reports to both the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

ICF International, then ICF Consulting Services, has worked for City Hall to provide these services since 2002.

REFUSE CONTAINERS

The council is likely to approve a $755,000 expenditure on solid waste, green waste and recycling containers for residents.

The contract, negotiated with Toter Inc., ensures the purchase and delivery of refuse containers for a four-year term.

City Hall plans to replace 3,200 containers annually using the new stock.

Toter was selected because of the large footprint and aerodynamic design, which makes them less likely to fall over after being placed back on the street.

SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE

Payroll and human resource software used at City Hall needs extra maintenance and support services, which will cost $345,712 over the course of the next two fiscal years, according to a staff report.

Although the software licenses purchased in 1998 and 1995 respectively needs no renewal, the software needs ongoing updates and support to stay in compliance with federal and state payroll regulations.

OFFICE FURNITURE

City staff requested a purchase order for $204,748 of office furniture to install in the newly-retrofitted portions of City Hall.

The order is part of tenant improvements that will be coordinated with the seismic retrofit work in progress at City Hall. Workspaces, private offices, conference rooms and file systems for the expanded Human Resources and City Clerk's offices — as well as a minimal amount of furniture for swing space during the interim — will be ordered.

Swing space, or temporary offices used during construction, will be furnished primarily with existing furniture.

City staff recommend the company Systems Source based on past performance and pricing.

POOL CHEMICALS

Who knew it cost this much to keep a pool clean?

The current vendor that supplies and delivers pool chemicals for use at the Swim Center will likely get a contract renewal at the upcoming City Council meeting.

Commercial Aquatic Services Inc., a California-based company, was originally hired in July 2010 for a one year contract with renewal options for three more years. That contract would cost city coffers $185,000.

The original bid was awarded without council approval because the $86,000 contract did not break the dollar threshold necessary to involve the City Council.

REED PARK PLANNING

Another $6,000 will be needed for the various open space improvements to Reed Park as a result of extra redesigns and site visits by designer Katherine Spitz Associates.

According to the staff report, the site survey didn't include accurate playground dimensions and tree locations, which required a redesign to reflect what's actually there. Also, some changes were made to the proposed bamboo planting materials and concrete colors.

The project is expected to be completed in mid-June.

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Judge's gay partner cited in Prop 8 case

LISA LEFF
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO The sponsors of California's same-sex marriage ban say the recent disclosure by the federal judge who struck down Proposition 8 that he is in a long-term relationship with another man has given them new grounds to appeal.

The voter-approved ban's backers say Chief U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker should have removed himself from the case because his impartiality could "reasonably" be questioned, their lawyer, Andy Pugno, told The Associated Press.

Lawyers plan to file a motion making the argument that Walker's historic ruling should be vacated in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on Monday.

Walker, a 67-year-old Republican appointee, declared Proposition 8 to be an unconstitutional violation of gay Californian's civil rights last summer. He retired from the bench at the end of February.

Rumors that the judge was gay circulated during the 13-day trial that preceded his decision and after he handed down his ruling.

Lawyers for the coalition of religious and conservative groups that put Proposition 8 on the November 2008 ballot, however, did not raise his sexual orientation as a legal issue.

Pugno said that has now changed because Walker publicly addressed the rumors this month when he told a group of courthouse reporters about his 10-year relationship.

Walker said at the time that he did not consider his personal life to be a reason for recusal, noting that sexual orientation is no more a reason for a judge to be disqualified than is race or gender.

In their anticipated filing, the Proposition 8 lawyers plan to argue that Walker should have removed himself not because he is gay, but because his relationship status made him too similar to the same-sex couples who sued in his for the right to marry.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals already is reviewing Walker's ruling on appeal from the ban's sponsors. Their previous filings have attacked the judge's legal reasoning.

FINES
FROM PAGE 3

However, he said it will take more deterrence and education to bring compliance near the 90-plus percent seen for the use of seat belts. Under the bill, $10 from each fine would go to a fund to educate drivers about the dangers of distracted driving.

His SB28 also would make it illegal to talk on a handheld cell phone while riding a bicycle.

Simitian cites California Highway Patrol statistics showing a 20 percent reduction in fatalities and collisions in the first year after his handsfree law took effect in July 2008. The texting-while-driving prohibition took effect in January 2009. He said the statistics show the law helped save at least 700 lives and avoid more than 75,000 collisions annually compared to previous years.

A Senate analysis of 2005 and 2010 crash statistics found "a significant downward trend," but couldn't attribute the trend to less cell phone use. The analysis found a less significant drop when comparing only those crashes were cell phone use was listed as a contributing cause.

CHP spokeswoman Fran Clader said that is because drivers are often reluctant to admit they were using a cell phone illegally. Neither the CHP nor Simitian's office had statistics on crashes involving bicyclists using cell phones.

Simitian's bill passed on a 24-12 vote, over the objections of several Republicans who said the bill goes too far and is disliked by drivers.

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Exhibit examines Monroe's time on Catalina Island

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AVALON Norma Jean Baker was a teenage newlywed, living in a Catalina Island apartment, playing with neighborhood children and being photographed around town, angering her young husband.

The time Marilyn Monroe spent on the Southern California isle in 1943 is the focus of an August exhibit titled "Before She was Marilyn" at the Catalina Island Museum.

The display will include letters and photos taken on the island when Monroe was married to James Dougherty. Because of World War II, the island had been taken over by the military.

Museum curator Jeannine Pedersen told the Los Angeles Times the museum located the third-floor apartment where the couple lived in a wood-framed building that still stands at the corner of Metropole Avenue and Beacon Street.

Baker, 16, married Dougherty, 21, a neighbor's son, on June 19, 1942, so she could avoid being sent to another foster home.

A year later, he joined the Merchant Marine and was assigned to Catalina, 22 miles off the coast. He was often at sea for long stretches at a time. Baker spent her time playing with neighbor children or posing for photos around the island.

Museum officials said Dougherty became resentful and jealous because of the photos.

The marriage was unhappy and short. Baker moved away, sent divorce papers to Dougherty, changed her name to Marilyn Monroe and became a movie star.

1943 was "a fascinating year of transition for youthful Marilyn," said Michael De Marsche, executive director of the museum. "These photographs and letters allow a fresh chance to explore her psychology as she was trying to come to grips with the seriousness of marriage, her femininity and her future."

He described one letter that will go on display from Monroe to her half-sister, Bernie, in which she describes her mother taking her to the Catalina Casino for a dance sometime in 1934.

Marsche read an excerpt: "But anyway, what I'm getting at is that at Christmas time, the Maritime Service held a big dance at the same Casino and Jimmie and I went. It was the funniest feeling to be dancing on that same floor 10 years later, I mean being old enough and everything."

Kardashian family rakes in $65M income

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A slew of reality shows, product endorsements and a dizzying range of retail items have made the Kardashians, a Calabasas family with a knack for making cash, hard to keep up with.

The family's retail assault of everything from self-tanners to candles to clothes, perfume and even bottled water has helped Kardashian Inc. rake in an estimated $65 million last year, The Los Angeles Times reports.

Sisters Kim, Kourtney and Khloe have also self-promoted and endorsed a broad variety of products, cashing in on the fame of their reality shows on the E! cable television network.

Kim has taken on endorsement deals with Midori liqueur and Skechers shoes.

This year, the sisters are slated to open Kardashian Khaos, a store at the Mirage hotel in Las Vegas.

There have also been some failed ventures. The Kardashian Kard, a pre-paid debit card, quickly fizzled after an outcry about high fees, and listeners turned down Kim's unmemorable dance-floor song "JAM (Turn It Up)."

At least one analyst says the Kardashians are in danger of overextending their personal brand.

"The Kardashians are a great example of, in my mind, talentless celebrities, or celebrity for celebrity's sake, who took advantage of their looks, a sex tape, a lot of pretty raw and low-level stuff that titillated and fascinated the American public," Eli Portnoy, a marketing and branding expert, told the Times.

Not unlike Paris Hilton, Kim's rise to fame came after a sex tape she made with her then-boyfriend was released.

One deal Portnoy said he's dubious of is a recent agreement with Sears to launch the Kardashian Kollection this year. It will sell clothes, shoes, lingerie and accessories.

The family's boutique Dash has been selling fashion-forward clothing for years.

"In my mind, Sears and the Kardashians are not consistent at all. It hurts both properties," Portnoy told the Times.

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Japanese rescuers still looking for 12,000 missing

TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
Associated Press

SHICHIGAHAMAMACHI, Japan A line of somber soldiers walked methodically through a drained swamp Monday, with each step sinking their slender poles into the muck beneath.

If one hit a body, he would know.

"Bodies feel very distinctive," said Michihiro Ose, a spokesman for the Japanese army's 22nd infantry regiment.

The men were among 25,000 troops given the morbid duty of searching the rubble, the seas and the swamps of northeastern Japan for the bodies of the nearly 12,000 people still missing in last month's earthquake and tsunami.

The two-day operation was the biggest military search since the March 11 disaster. With waters receding, officials hoped the troops, backed by police, coast guard and U.S. forces, would make significant progress. By Monday evening, they had found 38 bodies, the military said.

In the town of Shichigahamamachi, about two dozen Japanese soldiers in black boots, white masks and waterproof jumpsuits traveled silently in unison across the soggy earth, made even softer by torrential rains an hour earlier. In some areas, the mud came up to their knees.

The search focused on a long, narrow marsh drained in recent weeks by the army using special pump trucks.

Once the soldiers reached the end of the marsh, they turned around and walked back. And then back again.

"It's important not to miss anything," Ose said as he watched the soldiers nearly camouflaged by the dark gray mud. "As long as there is time left in the day, we will keep going up and down."

In another part of town, several dozen soldiers cleared mountains of rubble by hand from a waterfront neighborhood filled with gutted and teetering houses. Four people in the neighborhood were missing, said 67-year-old Sannojo Watanabe.

"That was my house right there," he said, pointing to a foundation with nothing atop it.

He surveyed the neighborhood: "There's nothing left here."

A total of 24,800 soldiers — backed by 90 helicopters and planes — were sent to comb through the rubble for buried remains, while 50 boats and 100 navy divers searched the waters up to 12 miles (20 kilometers) off the coast to find those swept out to sea.

The search is far more difficult than that for earthquake victims, who would mostly be under rubble. The tsunami could have left the victims anywhere.

"We just don't know where the bodies are," Ose said.

In all, 370 troops from the 22nd infantry regiment looked for a dozen people still missing from Shichigahamamachi.

Hip-hop music the unlikely soundtrack for Libyan rebels

SEBASTIAN ABBOT
Associated Press

AJDABIYA, Libya Libyan rebel fighter Jaad Jumaa Hashmi cranks up the volume on his pickup truck's stereo when he heads into battle against Moammar Gadhafi's forces.

He looks for inspiration from a growing cadre of amateur rappers whose powerful songs have helped define the revolution.

The music captures the anger and frustration young Libyans feel at decades of repressive rule under Gadhafi, driving the 27-year-old Hashmi forward even though the heavy machine gun bolted on the back of his truck — and other weapons in the rebel arsenal — are no match for Gadhafi's heavy artillery.

"It captures the youths' quest for freedom and a decent life and gives us motivation," Hashmi said as he sat in his truck on the outskirts of the front line city of Ajdabiya. He was listening to "Youth of the Revolution," which the rap group Music Masters wrote just days after the uprising began in mid-February.

"Moammar, get out, get out, game over! I'm a big, big soldier!" sang 20-year-old Milad Faraway, who started Music Masters with his friend and neighbor, 22-year-old Mohammed Madani, at the end of 2010.

Rather than grabbing AK-47s and heading to the front line with other rebels to fight Gadhafi's forces, Faraway and Madani stayed in Benghazi, the de facto capital of rebel-held eastern Libya, and picked up a microphone.

"Everyone has his own way of fighting, and my weapon is art," said Faraway, a geology student, during a recent recording session in a small room on the fourth floor of an aging apartment building in downtown Benghazi. The room was equipped with little more than a microphone, stereo and computer.

The room was decorated with a large red, black and green rebel flag and a framed photo of the Guns N' Roses guitarist Slash. Faraway and Madani smoked cigarettes and sipped steaming glasses of sweet tea as they recorded lyrics for their latest song, a tribute to cities caught up in the revolution.

The freewheeling rap scene developing in Benghazi indicates how much has changed in eastern Libya in the past two months. Speaking out against Gadhafi before the rebellion used to mean prison and maybe even death. And rap, like other forms of Western culture, was despised by Gadhafi, who burned foreign musical instruments and books after he seized power in 1969.

"I always wanted to talk about Gadhafi's mistakes and crimes, but we never had the chance for free speech," said Madani, who is the son of a famous local singer in Benghazi and works part-time in his family's businesses.







MLB

League hires former Rangers exec to run L.A. Dodgers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Former Texas Rangers president J. Thomas Schieffer was hired by Commissioner Bud Selig on Monday to run the Los Angeles Dodgers, less than a week after Major League Baseball took over operation of the franchise from owner Frank McCourt.

Schieffer, younger brother of "Face the Nation" host Bob Schieffer, took over immediately. In seizing control of the franchise, MLB told the Dodgers that any expenditure of $5,000 or more would have to be approved.

"Tom is a distinguished public servant who has represented the nation with excellence and has demonstrated extraordinary leadership throughout his career," Selig said in a statement. "The many years that he spent managing the operations of a successful franchise will benefit the Dodgers and Major League Baseball as a whole."

The 63-year-old Schieffer invested in the group headed by future President George W. Bush that bought the Rangers in 1989 and was team president from January 1991 until April 1999, 10 months after the team was sold from Bush's group to Tom Hicks. Schieffer also served as general partner from November 1994, when Bush was elected governor of Texas, until Hicks took control of the team in June 1998.

Schieffer served three terms in the Texas House of Representatives in the 1970s after being elected at the age of 25. Bush appointed him ambassador to Australia in 2001, a job held until he became ambassador to Japan from 2005-09. In business, Schieffer managed investments in oil and gas.

Schieffer currently is senior counsel at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, the same position held at the firm by New York Yankees president Randy Levine.

The Fort Worth native was the club's partner in charge of ballpark development before the 1994 opening of the Rangers' new stadium. The Rangers won their first three AL West titles in 1996 and 1998-99 during Schieffer's tenure.

As the president of the Rangers, Schieffer was a member of several significant MLB committees and boards, including Selig's 1999 Blue Ribbon Task Force on Baseball Economics.

Once one of baseball's most powerful franchises, the Dodgers have been in near constant turmoil since October 2009, when Jamie McCourt filed for divorce a week after husband Frank fired her as the team's chief executive.

Selig told Frank McCourt last Wednesday he would appoint a MLB representative to oversee all aspects of the business and the day-to-day operations of the club.

NCAA BASKETBALL

No public tickets for carrier game

BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO The Michigan State-North Carolina basketball game on an aircraft carrier on San Diego Bay on Veterans Day will be one tough ticket.

If you're Michael Jordan or Magic Johnson, no problem. If you're among the approximately 4,000 military personnel selected, come on board. If you're real tight with either school, you might have a fighting chance.

Otherwise, a seat in front of a TV is going to be the only way to see the first NCAA hoops game to be played on a flat top.

Organizer Mike Whalen of Morale Entertainment Foundation said tickets won't be sold to the public. They'll be free to those lucky enough to be chosen, and scalpers will be out of luck. Whalen said ticket holders' names will be printed on the front, and ID must match.

"It makes sure that the right people are going to the game and that there's no aftermarket," Whalen said Monday. "It's an added measure of security. Again, this is a United States warship. We've got to make sure we know who's coming onboard the ship."

Jordan and Johnson are expected to be the honorary captains.

For obvious reasons, organizers won't know until much closer to the Nov. 11 game which aircraft carrier will serve as host. It probably will be the USS Ronald Reagan or the USS Carl Vinson, said Whalen, who's spent time in San Diego meeting with Navy officials.

A court and stadium seating for about 7,000 fans will be set up on the flight deck. In case of rain, the game will be moved below to the hangar deck, with bleacher seating for the fans.

Each school will get 750 tickets, 400 will go to coaches participating in a clinic and 1,000 will go to the Morale Entertainment Foundation and its partners: the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Wounded Warrior Project and the San Diego Air & Space Museum.

Although the teams' travel expenses will be paid by organizers, each school is giving up a home date — and the money it would have made. Whalen said talks with ESPN to broadcast the game should be finalized this week. Tipoff will be shortly after 4 p.m. San Diego time.

Whalen said organizers also plan a postgame concert on the carrier.

San Diego was the logical port.

"You can't play basketball in November in Norfolk or Bremerton, Wash.," Whalen said.

The game was the idea of Michigan State athletic director Mark Hollis. Al Kidd and the San Diego Sports Commission approached Morale Entertainment Foundation about helping to stage it.

Even as officials are finalizing plans for this year's game, they're looking to make it a multiyear deal.

Michigan State has an option to play in the 2012 game, possibly against Duke, Whalen said. Other teams that could play in future games include Texas, Ohio State, Florida, Navy, San Diego State and Notre Dame.

There's a potential for a women's game in 2012 or '13, likely between Ohio State and Notre Dame.

"Veterans Day is sort of a somber holiday. We look to change that," said Whalen, who served in the Marine Corps. "It should be more than a day off. It's going to be a day to look forward to because we're going to have a good time."











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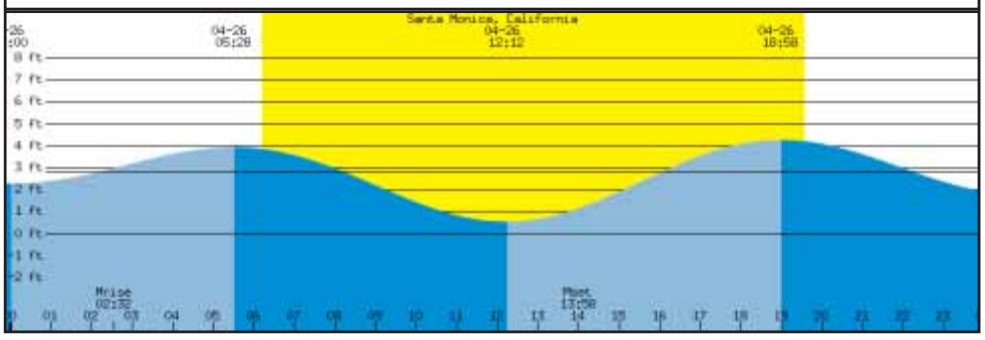
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west 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 30 days up to the ending date of **April 6, 2011**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.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 -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 12
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 32

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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.

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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FOOTBALL

NCAA officials allege Tressel lied to hide player violations

RUSTY MILLER
AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio In a sharply worded rebuke of Ohio State's Jim Tressel, the NCAA on Monday accused the 10-year coach of withholding information and lying to keep Buckeyes players on the field who had accepted improper benefits from the owner of a tattoo parlor.

In a "notice of allegations" sent to the school, the NCAA said Monday that the violations relating to the coach are considered "potential major violations."

Ohio State was not cited for the most serious of institutional breaches since Tressel hid information from his superiors for more than nine months. The university has 90 days to respond to the ruling body of college sports' request for information before a scheduled date before the NCAA's committee on infractions on Aug. 12 in Indianapolis.

In a 13-page indictment of Tressel's behavior, the NCAA alleged that Tressel had "permitted football student-athletes to participate in intercollegiate athletics while ineligible." It also said he "failed to deport himself ... (with) honesty and integrity" and said he was lying when he filled out a compliance form in September which said he had no knowledge of any NCAA violations by any of his players.

Athletic director Gene Smith said he would have "no comments until the case is resolved." The university issued a statement that the allegations were consistent with what it had already self-reported to the NCAA on March 8.

Tressel's troubles began with an April 2, 2010, email from Columbus lawyer Christopher Cicero. Cicero, a former Ohio State walk-on player, informed Tressel that a federal agency had raided the house of tattoo-shop owner Eddie Rife and discovered a multitude of autographed Ohio State jerseys, cleats, pants and helmets, Big Ten championship rings and the "gold pants" trinkets given to Buckeyes players for beating archrival Michigan.

Tressel responded, "I will get on it ASAP."

Yet he did not notify Smith or Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee, anyone else in the athletic department, the NCAA compliance department, or anyone in the university's legal department. Instead, he forwarded the email to Jeannette, Pa., businessman Ted Sarniak, a friend and mentor to star quarterback Terrelle Pryor, who was subsequently discovered to be one of the players involved with Rife.

The Columbus Dispatch reported Monday that Tressel went on to exchange at least 12 emails with Cicero, and also had numerous lengthy telephone conversations with Sarniak over the weeks and months ahead. Tressel still did not tell any of his superiors, anyone at the NCAA or his own compliance or legal departments.

In September of 2010, Tressel even signed a mandatory and rather routine Ohio State compliance form which clearly and simply asks if he the coach has knowledge of any NCAA violations. By signing and dating it, he said that he did not.



MOVIE TIMES

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

Call for information.

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

Rango (PG) 1hr 47min
2:15pm

Scream 4 (R) 1hr 43min
12:45pm, 3:35pm, 6:35pm, 9:25pm

Arthur (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:00pm, 3:40pm, 6:20pm, 9:00pm

Insidious (PG-13) 1hr 42min
5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:10pm

Lincoln Lawyer (R) 1hr 59min
1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Hop (PG) 1hr 30min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm

Scream 4 (R) 1hr 43min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Your Highness (R) 1hr 42min
9:30pm

African Cats (G) 1hr 29min
10:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Hanna (PG-13) 1hr 51min
10:40am, 1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
10:15am, 12:45pm, 3:15pm, 5:45pm, 8:15pm, 10:45pm

Soul Surfer (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:15am, 7:40pm, 10:25pm

Rio 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
11:25am, 2:05pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

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

In a Better World (Haevnen) (R) 1hr 59min
1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Meek's Cutoff (PG) 1hr 44min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

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

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
3:20pm, 5:30pm

Il Barbiere Di Siviglia - Teatro Regio Di Parma Live (NR) 3hrs 00min
11:00am

Il Barbiere Di Siviglia - Teatro Regio Di Parma Encore ()
7:30pm

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

Rio (PG) 1hr 36min
10:15am, 12:50pm, 3:15pm, 5:50pm, 8:15pm, 10:50pm

Limitless (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Conspirator (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
10:35am, 1:35pm, 4:35pm, 7:35pm, 10:35pm

Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family (NR) 2 hrs 33 min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:25pm, 10:10pm

Water for Elephants (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:15pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 9:00pm, 10:15pm

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

Join a friend after work, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Use today to forge ahead on a key plan or idea. You know when enough is enough. Say so instead of thinking those thoughts. The other people involved are not mind readers and need to know. Tonight: Make it a point to get extra rest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You are on top of your game. Listen to what is being shared within your immediate circle before deciding which way to go. An adviser who might not be evident to many people gives you important feedback. Tonight: A must happening, which could become a fun event.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Keep your eye on the big picture rather than focus on your concerns. With detachment comes success. Walk in another person's shoes. A friend is full of exciting ideas. Listen! Tonight: Join a friend after work.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Investigate new possibilities as seen through your eyes. Also brainstorm with key associates. The path you choose could be quite off the beaten track. You might hesitate for a little while. Go for it. Tonight: Detach and relax. Try music, exercise or TV as a vehicle.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Defer to others and take the pressure off of yourself. Although you like to be on center stage, sometimes letting others develop their strengths and at the same time identify with one of your many roles could be very important. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You could be trying to make a difference at work. The problem might be that others don't see you in this role. They might think you are trying to make a good impression or manipulate a situation. Tonight: Off for some exercise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You might want to revise some of your ideas once a partner or friend presents the other side. Not getting caught up in your ego could be very important here. Others appreciate candor as opposed to grandiose statements and bravado. Tonight: Stop bragging.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Realize what has happened in a personal or domestic situation. You cannot color another's opinions before you even listen to them. Avoid being on center stage. Your positive attitude attracts many at the workplace. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Listen to your inner voice. Conversations are active yet pique an unusual amount of interest. Use your people skills -- not to manipulate, but to help someone relax and open up. Question a random idea, even if it comes from you! Tonight: Count on making it early.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Be aware of what you have to offer. Don't sell yourself short. Modesty is one thing; insecurity is another issue. Sometimes insecurity seeps in. Be aware of those moments. Tonight: Hold off on a conversation until you are comfortable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You are on prime-time TV. Your words strike many as accurate and generous. You know when to call a halt to someone's pitch. You have no tolerance for ridiculous or worthless conversations, even if you try. Tonight: Listen to what is going on.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Reach out for someone whose wisdom you respect. This person's knowledge will point you down the appropriate path professionally. You also can be secure in the knowledge that your personal business won't be tossed everywhere. Tonight: Nap; then you might feel great!

Happy birthday

This year, you make waves, as you are able to lead and manifest. This combo of talent might be a far bigger asset than you realize, especially within your community and business circle. Others respect your organization and drive more and more. Networking becomes unusually successful, especially during the summer. You also will enter a new luck and life cycle. Others who don't know you sense an innate power. Your charisma emerges. If you are single, after May you will have many choices to make. Don't lose sight of the ultimate goal. If you are attached, you and your sweetie need to use spring 2011 for more private time together. Summer could mark a period of great happiness in your relationship, if you so choose. PISCES likes you and makes an excellent friend.

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



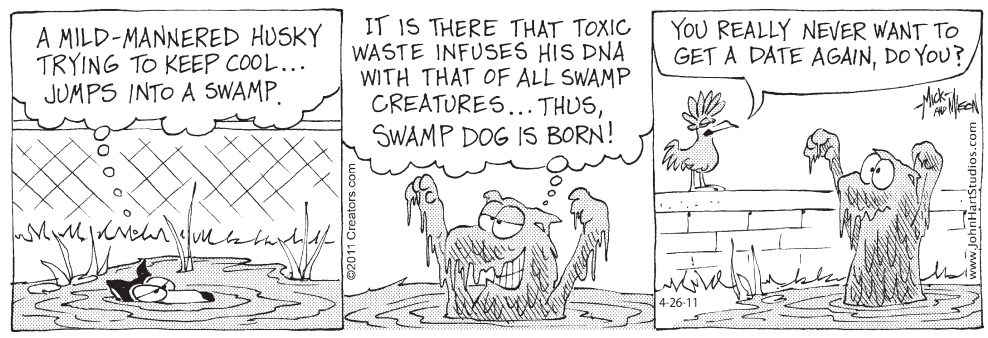
MYSTERY REVEALED!

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Reader Joshua Pellicer correctly identified this photo of the Buddhist-themed mural on Main Street between Ashland Avenue and Hill Street. He will receive a reusable grocery bag from the Daily Press. Check out tomorrow's paper for another chance to win.

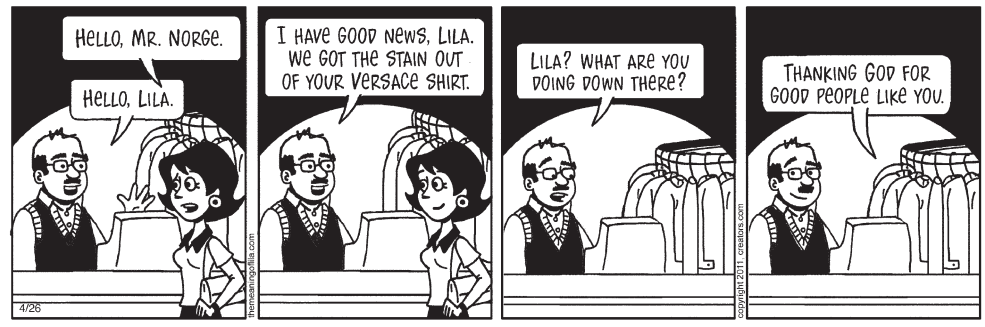
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



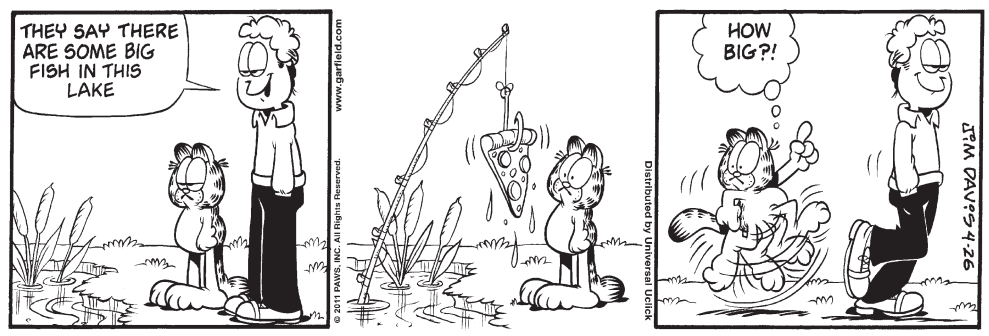
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Like a greenhouse
6 TV, radio, etc.
11 Laughable
12 Portents
13 Conductor's gadget
15 Pig's place
16 Write hastily
17 Bashful
18 City leader
20 Cornered
23 From the Vatican
27 Toll
28 Fan publication
29 Borders
31 Scout's rider
32 Morley of "60 Minutes"
34 D.C. setting
37 Big snake
38 Pouchlike part
41 Unexpected hit
44 Chaser of Bugs
45 Nebraska city
46 Distorts
47 Come to a point

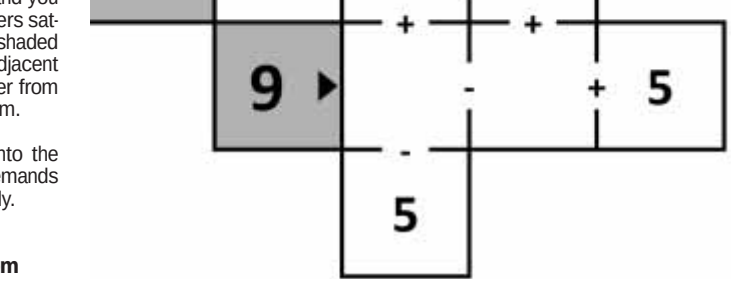
DOWN

1 Successful songs
2 Meter or liter
3 "Fargo" Oscar nominee
4 Squid's squirt
5 Platter spinner
6 Beatle, endearingly
7 Outback bird
8 Comfy places
9 Ruler marking
10 Pale
14 Stocking stuffer
18 Boys and men
19 Barber's need
20 Gorilla, for one
21 Slugger Williams
22 Chips buy
24 Sewing aid
25 Busy insect
26 Summer zodiac sign
30 Fencing swords
31 Brewing need
33 Gift-tag word
34 Calls on
35 Pout
36 Pinnacle
38 Ginger cookie
39 Sore spot
40 Blacken
42 London's — Gardens
43 Thurman of film

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



4-26

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

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

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

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

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

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 12

Solution for Task 241

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 3 18 46 51 53
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: $29M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 16 26 33 41
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: $9M

Fantasy 5: 3 23 26 35 38

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 5 9 9
EVENING: 8 8 4

DAILY DERBY
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:48.50

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

■ It started as a class project at Brown University, but after a launch party on March 19 (and a sold-out first run of 500), Julie Sygiel's Sexy Period menstrual-leak-fighting panties are on sale ($32 to $44, depending on the style -- "cheeky," "hipster" or "bikini"). Sygiel said "sexy" is less to suggest sensuality than to help women cope with the time of the month when they feel "not at (their) best. We want to banish that moment."

■ A Chinese Capitalist's Learning Curve: In the early hours of the destruction at Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant in March, rumors abounded that millions of people might need iodine products to fight off radiation. A restaurateur named Guo in Wuhan, China, seeing the price of iodized table salt rise dramatically, cleverly cornered a market with 4 1/2 tons of it, trucked to his home, where it filled half the rooms. According to a March 25 China Daily report, the price has returned to pre-Fukushima levels -- much less than what Guo paid, and he can neither return the salt (lacking documentation) nor sell nor transport it (lacking the proper licenses).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1982 57 people are killed by former police officer Woo Bum-kon in a shooting spree in Gyeongsangnam-do, South Korea.

1986 A nuclear reactor accident occurs at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in the Soviet Union (now Ukraine), creating the world's worst nuclear disaster.

1989 The deadliest tornado in world history strikes Central Bangladesh, killing upwards of 1,300, injuring 12,000, and leaving as many as 80,000 homeless.

1991 Seventy tornadoes break out in the central United States. Before the outbreak's end, Andover, Kansas, would record the year's only F5 tornado (see Andover, Kansas Tornado Outbreak).

WORD UP!

marginalia
\ mahr-juh-NEY-lee-uh \ , noun;
1. Notes in the margin of a book, manuscript, or letter.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Announcements, Creative, Employment, For Sale, Furniture, Pets, Boats, Jewelry, Wanted, Travel, Vacation Rentals, Apartments/Condos, Rent, Houses for Rent, Roomates, Commerical Lease, Real Estate, Real Estate Loans, Storage Space, Vehicles for Sale, Massage, Services, Computer Services, Attorney Services, Business Opportunities, Yard Sales, Health and Beauty, Fitness, Wealth and Success, Lost and Found, Personals, Psychic, Obituaries, Tutoring

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Employment Wanted

NURSE ASSISTANT will take care of elderly, Live-in, or live-out. Saturday/Sunday. Experience/references in Santa Monica area. Call Monica (323)295-2191

Employment

Assisted living community is looking for caregivers and medication technicians to assist elderly residents with their care. Schedule will include weekends both morning and evening shifts. Must have good attitude and love for seniors. Pre employment drug test and criminal background check. If interested, please fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE

HAIRSTYLIST AND MANICURE station for rent Santa Monica (310) 449-1923

For Sale

ESTATE SALE 4/29 at 7am-4/30 noon at 3652 Empire Drive, Los Angeles

MOVING- EVERYTHING GOES
LOTS & LOTS OF STUFF
Several items for sale 1241 9th Street, Apt 6 Friday 29th & Saturday 30th 10a.m. - 2p.m

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FOR SALE
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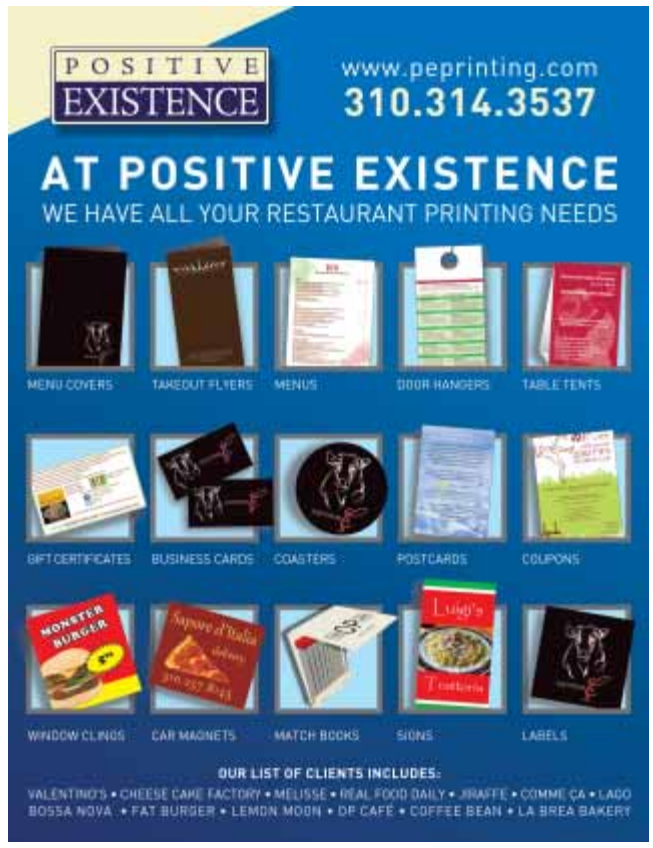
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Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,935,000	$832,000
South of Wilshire	=	$837,000	$492,500
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