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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 146

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

KATZ SIGNS WITH BRONCOS
SEE PAGE 3

THE NICE WORK, RYAN ISSUE


SANTA MONICA AIRPORT

City Council takes on SMO

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Santa Monica Airport may be a different place after Tuesday night's special City Council meeting.

Santa Monica's top elected officials will spend the entire evening discussing SMO, from new charges to pilots and businesses that use the airport to dramatic changes in leasing and configuration of the site to make it less obnoxious to those that live nearby.

The effort comes at the end of a three-phase visioning process undertaken in February 2011 to examine different aspects of activities at the airport and gather com-

SEE AIRPORT PAGE 8

City Hall plans to invest in airport

One system aims to bring more revenue from aircraft landings

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 The City Council will kick off an entire evening of Santa Monica Airport-related items with a relatively light consent agenda that aims to improve the runway and other surfaces at SMO as well as beef up its existing landing fee program.

City officials are recommending an investment of $672,525 to maintain pavement on the runway and repair damage to sections of taxiways north and south of the runway.

The contract would also refresh and update markings there, and resurface a tenant parking lot used by the Santa Monica Arts Studio and the Ruskin Theater Group, which are across the street from the runway.

PALP Inc., a California-based company, was chosen for the job. City Hall only received two sealed bids, both of which were opened on March 12. The same company successfully bid for the city's annual paving and sidewalk repair project, as well as the Ocean Park Boulevard "green street" project.

Over the course of four nights, PALP crews will close down the runway to all traffic from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. so that they can

SEE CONSENT PAGE 8



EASY DOES IT

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A work crew hoists a massive I-beam onto the deck of the Santa Monica Pier on Monday. The work is part of the pier's Renewal Project. Most of the project will be focused on replacing a portion of the deck from the waterline to the western end of the historic landmark.

Lawmakers consider moratorium on oil fracking

LAURA OLSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Efforts to place a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in California receive their first public hearing Monday as opponents try to ensure that the oil drilling technique does not endanger public health.

Supporters and opponents packed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee hearing, where testimony was expected in the afternoon on three bills that would prohibit fracking temporarily. The drilling technique involves blasting water, sand and chemicals into deep rock formations to release oil or natural gas.

Fracking has drawn scrutiny in other states and has just recently become an issue of high interest in California. Oil companies are looking to expand production from the Monterey Shale formation, which stretches

SEE FRACKING PAGE 8


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Stories for babies
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Time to write
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
noon — 2:30 p.m.
Inspiration, guidance, direction and support for writers. This workshop is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Puppet time
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St.,
3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Join Mr. Jesse and his gang of puppets for heartfelt stories and songs. Intended for children ages 3-7. For more information, call (310)458-8683.

Talking airport
City Hall, Council Chambers
1685 Main St., 5:30 p.m.
The City Council will be discussing the Santa Monica Airport and many of the issues that surround it. For more information, visit smgov.net.

Basketball flick
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
6:30 p.m. — 8:15 p.m.
The documentary "The Other Dream Team" will be shown as part of the In Case You Missed It Evening Film Series. The film follows the 1992 Lithuanian Olympic basketball team. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Wednesday, May 1, 2013

Checkmate
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Youth, their families and caregivers can learn about chess and other strategy games. Admission is free and no registration is required. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Rockin' movie
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The movie "Not Fade Away," directed by David Chase, will be shown. The film is about a New Jersey group of friends who form a rock band and try to make it big. Admission is free.

Jazz it up
Typhoon at the
Santa Monica Airport
3221 Donald Douglas Loop South,
8 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
The Ronnie Gutierrez Latin Jazz Ensemble will be performing twice. Admission is $5. For more information, visit typhoon.biz.

Thursday, May 2, 2013

Party at Shangri-La
Hotel Shangri-La, Suite 700
1301 Ocean Ave., 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.
A special guest artist and DJ will be hosting a party on the roof of Hotel Shangri-La as part of BritWeek. Admission is free. For more information, visit shangrila-hotel.com.

Baseball on screen
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
2 p.m. — 3:45 p.m.
"Trouble with the Curve," starring Clint Eastwood, Amy Adams and Justin Timberlake, will be showing. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

President Obama coming to town

President Barack Obama will hold a fundraiser for the Democratic Party in Santa Monica on June 7, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

The event is said to be held in the home of Peter Chernin, chairman and CEO of The Chernin Group, a film and television production company.

"We need the resources to continue to move our country forward," according to the invitation to the event. "Since we do not take money from special interests, corporate lobbyists and political action committees, we must rely on dedicated Democrats like you."

During a similar trip to San Francisco in early April, Obama headlined events for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee that raised $3.25 million, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Sgt. Richard Lewis, spokesperson for the Santa Monica Police Department, didn't have much information about how the president's arrival would impact the city.

"We are aware, but since it is far out, we have not received any additional information," Lewis said. "We will know more when we meet with the United States Secret Service, who sends out an advance team."

Lewis said information about street closures or other impacts would be released shortly before the president's arrival so as not to compromise his safety.

Tickets for the event range from $10,000 to $32,400. Those who purchase the higher-priced ticket gain entrance to a special discussion and can have their photo taken with the president.

Obama has committed to doing at least eight fundraisers for the 2014 cycle.

– ALEX VEJAR

CIVIC CENTER

Santa Monica folds its hands in prayer

Santa Monica will observe the 23rd annual National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 2, at 7 a.m. This year's event will be held in the east patio next to the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium.

Religious leaders from across the community will offer prayers for the president, governor and other governmental leaders, the armed services, peace officers, legislators, judges, the community and the nation. Topics such as personal renewal and moral awakening, youth, the family, business, education, the sick, the imprisoned and persecuted, churches, missionaries and ministry organizations will also be covered.

Several important Santa Monicans are expected to participate in the day of prayer, including Santa Monica Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks and Santa Monica Fire Department Chief Scott Ferguson, as well as multiple members of the clergy in the city by the sea.

The theme of this year's prayer day is "Pray for America," inspired by the bible passage Matthew 12:21, which says, "In His Name the nations will put their hope."

The Santa Monica Civic Auditorium is located at 1855 Main St. Coffee will be provided at the event. For more information, call Kari Czer, co-chairman of the Santa Monica National Day of Prayer Committee, at (310) 365-8219.

– AV



File photo

AT WORK: **Former Samohi standout Ryan Katz smiles on the sideline of a game at the Rose Bowl in 2010 between Oregon State and UCLA. The quarterback would later transfer to San Diego State University where he finished his college career.**

PRO FOOTBALL

Samohi's Katz signs with Broncos

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DENVER Former Santa Monica standout Ryan Katz' long journey through college football may finally pay off.

The former San Diego State and Oregon State quarterback has signed a free agent contract with the Denver Broncos, it was announced this week.

After going undrafted in the recent National Football League Draft, nothing is guaranteed, but Katz is excited to finally see his dream coming closer to reality.

"I feel good," he said. "It was pretty stressful watching the draft. I'm glad that's over and I know where I'm going to play."

It hasn't been an easy road for Katz.

He started his path to the pros at Oregon State, earning the starting spot his sophomore season. He held the job until early in his junior season when he was supplanted by then redshirt freshman Sean Mannion.

Once he realized that his odds of regaining the starting spot were long, he decided to transfer to San Diego State for his senior season. He was immediately eligible to play because he was seeking his master's degree in a program that Oregon State didn't offer.

Katz found himself under center on opening day, but his fortunes would turn again. He broke his ankle midway through what was turning into a successful season, forcing him to sit the remainder of the year.

In eight games, Katz racked up 1,348 yards and 13 touchdowns. He added another 422 yards rushing and four scores.

Health issues may have played a part in his being passed over in the draft, but his big arm and pro-type build are giving his football career life.

"I feel like I'm in a good position," Katz said of the situation with the Broncos. "I'm going to go in there and compete."

With Peyton Manning the lock to start the season, Katz will battle for the backup spots with second-year pro Brock Osweiler and Zac Dysert, who was drafted by the Broncos in the seventh round.

Osweiler is expected to remain the primary backup, so Dysert and Katz are left to fight it out for the third, and possible final roster spot.

"I'm not worried about that," he said of the competition. "All I can do is play."

Katz' quest for a roster spot begins next Wednesday when rookie mini camp opens. The initial camp is four days. If they keep him beyond that point he will be invited to stay and take part in the team's official off-season program.

In the meantime, Katz is wrapping up his education. He's set to earn his master's degree in educational leadership this spring from SDSU.

He said that if pro football doesn't pan out he'll considering using his degree to stay close to what he loves best.

"That's what intrigued me [about the degree]," he said. "I always wanted to stay in athletics."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Count your blessings

Editor:

I'm really tired of all the moaning and groaning about runaway development in Santa Monica. The real development tragedy occurred in the 1970s when hundreds of utilitarian, boxy, multi-unit apartment buildings destroyed much of the Santa Monica coastal community's quiet beauty.

These ugly buildings have no redeeming architectural value and knocked down beautiful Craftsman homes with expansive yards to put up these monstrosities and bring thousands of renters into the area, changing the city demographic forever.

I live in Ocean Park and have no trouble getting around town. I go north/south, not east/west.

I'm a 30-year-resident and remember how dreary Downtown was in the early '80s and dangerous at night, with few streetlights, no good restaurants, shops, theaters, or clubs, and most of all, no people and no joy.

I enjoy the diversity of the airport, the museum and restaurants. I like watching the planes land and take off from the observation deck and visiting artist galleries and studios throughout the zone.

I welcome the new transit system which will make Downtown more accessible, the beautification of the streets, the bike paths and city-run bike centers with inexpensive rentals. I look forward to the new park development across from City Hall, but probably would have preferred the Broad Museum. I also look forward to Santa Monica resident Frank Gehry's additional architectural legacy that will add even more prestige to Santa Monica.

In my other life I am a travel writer and over the past 15 years have been to every part of the world. I never get tired of returning to Santa Monica, my home and the place in the world I choose to live. I enjoy the community of the various Farmers' Markets, taking my daily walk along the beach, embracing the temperate and dry weather and the natural beauty of deep, sandy beaches, palmed-lined streets and the exquisitely landscaped Palisades Park.

There is a reason why millions of tourists visit Santa Monica each year, spending millions of dollars in our community. There is a reason why film, TV and ad agencies shoot in our city. There is a reason why this small beach-side community of 8.3 square miles and 90,000 residents is a magnet to the world.

Take a look around and be thankful. We are blessed.

John Blanchette
Santa Monica

Not everyone thinks that way

Editor:

Letter writer Jonathan Mann argues that the City Council is controlled by developers ("Calling for a recall," Letters to the Editor, April 25). It's more accurate to say that the Daily Press letters column is controlled by people who condemn all growth as "rampant overdevelopment."

In a democracy in which elections take place every two to four years, Mr. Mann's 13 unsuccessful runs for City Council undermine his claim to be the real voice of the people. Mr. Mann loses elections not because the "system is corrupt," but because all he offers is a pull-up-the-ladders vision that all changes are bad.

The scale of development is certainly a legitimate concern and people can reasonably disagree over the merits of specific projects and the combined impact of all projects. But good leaders realize that well-managed growth and change is both inevitable and desirable. Angry defenders of the status quo and a non-existent idyllic past may have the letters column of the SMDP virtually all to themselves, but that will leave more room for those of us who want to enjoy a city that seeks to create a more livable, walkable and vibrant lifestyle for residents and visitors alike.

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica

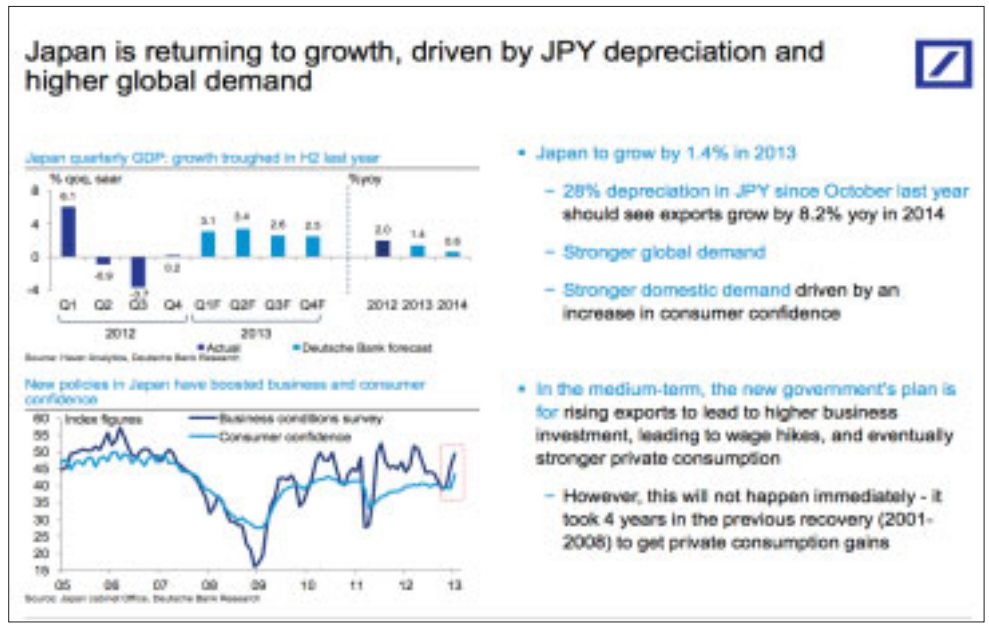
✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



After the Bell

Merv Hecht Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Market more confusing than ever

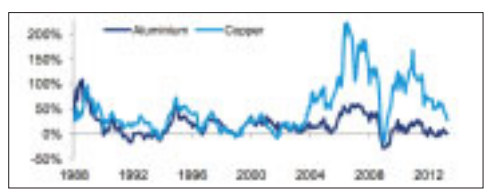
TWO UNUSUAL THINGS HAPPENED LAST week, and I'm wondering if they are related: First of all, I turned 75, and second I found myself confused by the stock market.

It wasn't that way at the beginning of the year. I was only 74 years old and I felt that I had a pretty good idea of what the market would do during 2013. I expected a slow steady increase in large cap stocks, with the occasional dips; a better than average rise in stocks related to home-building, including copper; and benefits to healthcare stocks as the national health program got under way. I was down on Europe, high on Asia, and I felt that Japan would clean up its act and its market would go up.

Now I'm not so sure on all of this. So far I've been right on Japan. That market is doing well and seems poised to continue in an upward trend. (See above)

On copper, as we all know, I was dead wrong. Perhaps because of fears that the Chinese market is softening, copper has gone way down. I can't help but think this is a buying opportunity.

And so, as they say, you win a few and lose a few. In addition to holding my view on



Graphics courtesy Deutsche Bank

Japan, I still am down on Europe.

On healthcare I think the expected rise from universal health care has kicked in prematurely. When I look at Athena Health, (ATHN) and see that over the past six months it's gone from about 60 to about 90, with a PE (price earnings ratio) of 190, it looks like a bubble and I can't bring myself to buy it. United Health (UNH) looks a bit better to me, but less reliable. It's moved up and down from about 52 to 62 over the past six months, but with a current PE of 12, more in line with the market. So if one believes that the healthcare market will improve with so many new people getting care, that might be a good buy. Some say that hospital stocks might improve, such as LifePoint Hospitals (JPNT). But it too has anticipated the future profits it hopes to see, and moved up from 36 to 46 over the past six months, with a PE of 14. I am not a big fan of hospital stocks because I rarely see good management there. Business might increase, but I doubt that profits will.

Finally one can look at medical device companies such as Medtronic (MDT) and Johnson & Johnson (JNJ). Those two have already moved up, and my guess is that they will be pressured to reduce prices in the new environment.

The only stock in the medical area that I'm thinking of buying is Cerner (CERN). This is a company offering electronic medical record systems. As confused as I feel, somehow I feel strongly that companies like this that increase efficiency will continue to have increased business demand. While it too has moved up over the past six months from 80 to 95, and has a fairly high PE around 42, I think it has further to go with less pressure on pricing than other companies in the medical field.

At the beginning of the year I was down on bank stocks, partly because my personal experience with banks is that they are poorly managed and poorly staffed. But now I think bank stocks, even Bank of America, may be good buys. The poor performance from the recession finally seems to be over and profits are starting to move up. As building and real estate comes back, as it is, the banks should benefit from lending into this market.

My final thoughts on the market are the same as when I was younger: you can't successfully time the market. You have to think long term. I don't think anybody knows who wrote the song "Nobody Knows," but it sure describes my philosophy of the problem in trying to time the market. There's a mathematical reason why it doesn't work, that has to do with the fact that the top days and the bottom days usually come very close together, so a timer gets whipsawed.

And so, for the moment in my confused state, I'm holding on to some cash, keeping some in short-term bond funds, writing wide put spreads well out of the money, selling calls on long positions I've held for some time, and praying that Apple and copper come back.

For information about **MERV HECHT** and more details on the strategies and stocks he writes about in this column, visit his website at DoubleYourYield.com.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Graduating into real life

IT'S APRIL 30, 2013. HOW THE HECK did this happen? The year is a third over, the hordes of tourists and summer visitors are starting. And while we're still seven weeks away from the summer solstice, Pepperdine held graduation ceremonies this past weekend!

I left Santa Monica at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday to join some friends for breakfast in Oxnard and to attend the Mullin Automotive Museum, which, if you are a car fanatic, or know of one, I highly recommend. It's an astonishing collection of rare automobiles that are stunning in their design. These beautiful cars are the result of lifetimes of dedicated effort and many mistakes made and learned from.

As I was driving up the coast listening to Chuck Cecil on K-JAZZ 88.1 playing 1940s swing music, I came upon Pepperdine. There on the hill was the signature white tent and classic rented stadium seating for parents to watch their children graduate and then return home.

Graduation in April just seems wrong. It's too early in the year for me. Graduates and brides are supposed to be in May and June in my mind. It's bad enough that the year is flying by without the need to increase the speed with early graduations.

Though I suppose this staggering of the many "schools" within the university is good for the local businesses. As I was relaxing in the Loews Hotel hot tub on Saturday night, a crowd of fresh faced, slightly intoxicated and very intoxicating new graduates were celebrating with their parents. All of them were guests of the hotel so I presume that this is a good thing for the hotel industry in town.

If you haven't had a chance to visit the Loews Hotel after this latest facelift they've done, I'd suggest it for a sunset cocktail or a morning brunch. The outside of the building has been redone and freshened, and the interior is due for an update, but is still a gorgeous place to enjoy the views and watch the sun set against the Santa Monica Pier while sipping on something.

The longer days of summer approach, thankfully, and soon it will be time to break out the bicycle and head to the bike path before the full press of the summer tourists make that a difficult proposal. I am looking forward to getting back on the path in the mornings and heading down to Redondo Beach for breakfast and then back before 8:30 a.m. court.

Congratulations and thanks are due to the Pepperdine graduates for taking me back to the day I graduated college. A warm late spring day in Annapolis, Md. It was a rite of passage for me, for my family and for my friends. I haven't thought much about that day since. But driving up the coast on Saturday brought back memories of how fun filled it was. I was so full of expectation and enthusiasm. The world was a brand new place for me then. I had no plans, but was sure I was going to change the world.

These days I have lots of plans and am not at all sure about changing the world, except for one person at a time, starting with myself — the hardest one to change of all. I want to slow it all down. It's all happening too fast for me. I want to enjoy today more deeply and completely. I want to create memories, not calendar entries.

I have changed over the years. Slowly. My vices have become more healthy, relative to what they were. Today I see a bigger picture in most situations. I have a well trod path of experience to look back on, which informs me of what future paths might appear and present themselves. Like the designers of those fabulous cars, I've made many mistakes and hopefully I learn something from each one, just like they did.

I've learned many different lessons since graduation, lessons that could never be taught in the halls of academia, lessons that come only with time, and experience. Experience, of course, comes from bad judgment.

DAVID PISARRA is a Los Angeles divorce and child custody lawyer specializing in father's and men's rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra

The Q Line

The root of the problem

A city forester recently fired off a letter to the District Attorney's Office asking prosecutors to investigate alleged fraud and abuse of public funds associated with a tree planting and trimming contract with West Coast Arborist. The employee said many trees provided by West Coast had significant root problems that can lead to premature death.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What do you think of Santa Monica's tree stock? Have you noticed problems with trees planted in front of your home or apartment?

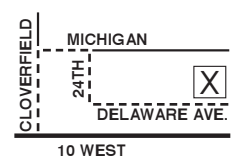
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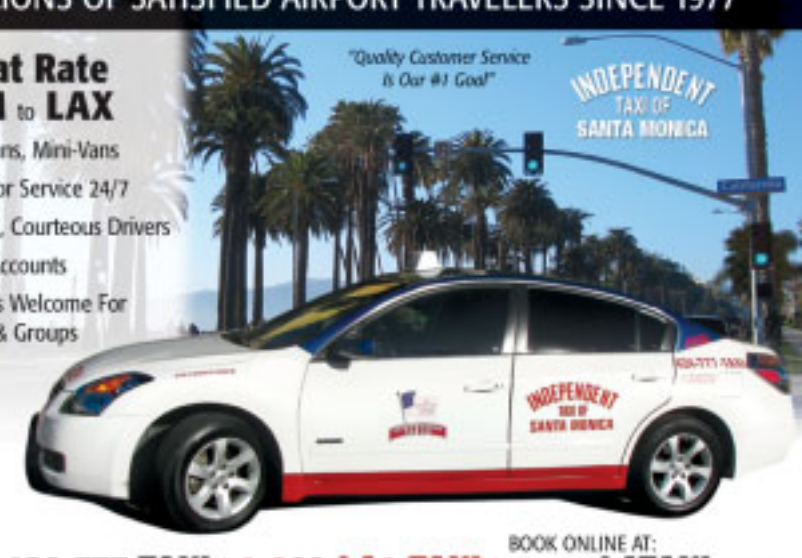

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Lawmakers approve new health insurance protections

JUDY LIN
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. State lawmakers sent Gov. Jerry Brown a pair of consumer protection bills Monday that prevent health insurance companies from discriminating against people with pre-existing conditions and limit how much more insurers can charge older residents.

The legislation updates California laws to match new rules under the federal Affordable Care Act and will give state agencies the power to enforce and regulate individual insurance rules.

The Assembly passed ABx1-2 on a 49-20 vote, while the Senate passed SBx1-2 on a 27-9 vote. The Assembly bill makes changes to the insurance code, while the Senate bill makes changes to the health and safety code.

The bills now go to the governor, who is expected to sign them. They were part of a special legislative session convened by Brown to implement national health care reforms in California.

The governor's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday.

Sen. Joel Anderson, R-Alpine, said he was reluctant to vote against the bill but fears it will drive up health premiums for many individuals who purchase their own insurance. He cited an actuarial report commissioned by Covered California that found that middle-income residents could see individual health premiums increase by an average of 30 percent.

"It pains me to oppose this because I know how hard everyone's been working," said Anderson, who voted no.

While premiums may go up for some people, many more will get better health coverage, said Sen. Ed Hernandez, D-Covina.

The bills include consumer protections such as guaranteeing coverage even with pre-existing conditions. Health insurers also will be limited in how much more they charge an older person with health problems compared to a younger, healthy person.

"What you won't hear about is all those individuals who are close to Medicare age with pre-existing conditions or were priced out of the market in the past," Hernandez said.

The bills also allow the state's health exchange to establish 19 geographic regions for determining the price of individual premiums. They do not allow health insurance companies to consider tobacco use in determining premium rates for Californians.

The state is in the process of launching a new insurance marketplace and has committed to expanding the state's Medicaid program for the poor to get more residents covered. But more work remains.

Brown, a Democrat, is still negotiating with members of his own party to expand Medicaid, known as Medi-Cal in California, for people who make up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level, or about $15,400 a year for an individual. The expansion is estimated to bring 1.2 million new enrollees by 2017.

The governor is trying to limit future state liabilities, but Democratic lawmakers say the benefits of expanding outweigh the costs.

Virgin Galactic spaceship makes first powered flight

RAQUEL MARIA DILLON
Associated Press

MOJAVE, Calif. Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo made its first powered flight Monday, breaking the sound barrier in a test over the Mojave Desert that moves the company closer to its goal of flying paying passengers on brief hops into space.

"It couldn't have gone more smoothly," said Sir Richard Branson, who owns the spaceline with Aabar Investments PJC of Abu Dhabi.

A special twin-fuselage jet carrying SpaceShipTwo took off at about 7:00 a.m. PDT, spent 45 minutes climbing to an altitude of 48,000 feet and released the spaceship. Pilot Mark Stucky and co-pilot Mike Alsbury then triggered SpaceShipTwo's rocket engine.

The engine burned for 16 seconds, propelling the spaceship to an altitude of 55,000 feet and a velocity of Mach 1.2, surpassing the speed of sound. SpaceShipTwo then glided to a safe landing at Mojave Air and Space Port in the desert north of Los Angeles, said George Whitesides, Virgin Galactic's CEO.

The 10-minute test flight was considered a major step for the program.

"Having spaceship and rocket perform together in the air is a long way toward getting into space," said Branson, who watched from the ground. "A few more test flights with slightly bigger burns every time, and then we'll all be back here to watch it go into space."

Until Monday, SpaceShipTwo had only performed unpowered glide flights. Several powered flights are planned this summer, culminating with a dash into space targeted toward the end of the year.

SpaceShipTwo is a prototype commercial version of SpaceShipOne, which in 2004 became the first privately developed manned rocket to reach space. Since the historic flight, more than 500 aspiring space tourists have paid $200,000 or plunked down deposits, patiently waiting for a chance to float in weightlessness and view the Earth's curvature from 62 miles up.

Branson initially predicted commercial flights would begin in 2007, but a deadly explosion during ground testing and longer-than-expected test flights pushed the deadline back.

No date has been set for the first commercial flight from a custom-designed spaceport in New Mexico, but Virgin Galactic executives have said it will come after testing is complete and it secures approval from the government. Branson previously said the maiden passenger flight will carry his family.

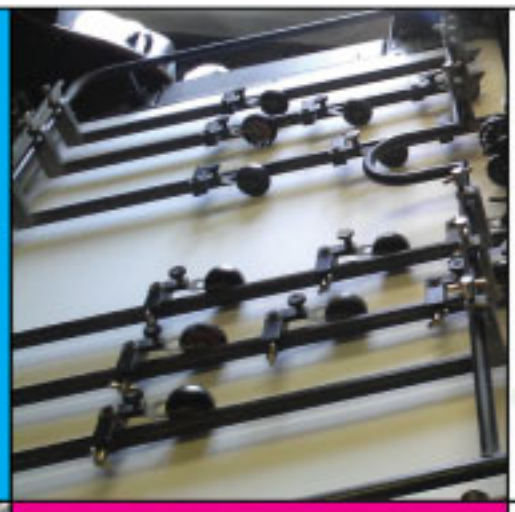
SpaceShipTwo was built by Mojave-based aerospace research company Scaled Composites LLC, which was founded by cutting-edge aviation designer Burt Rutan. His SpaceShipOne, funded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, made three suborbital flights into space — reaching altitudes of 62 miles (100 kilometers) or greater— and won the $10 million Ansari X Prize.

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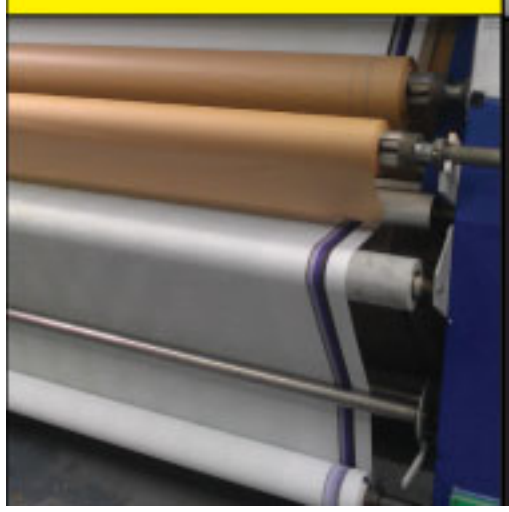


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FRACKING
FROM PAGE 1

from Kern County north through the San Joaquin Valley. It is estimated to be one of the country's largest shale oil formations.

All three Assembly bills up for consideration are carried by Los Angeles-area Democrats.

AB1301 from Assemblyman Richard Bloom, of Santa Monica, would stop fracking until further legislation is enacted outlining how it can occur.

Two similar bills, AB1323 and AB649, call for creating an advisory committee to review health, environmental, economic and other effects. They also would recommend regulatory changes.

The bills from Assemblywoman Holly Mitchell, of Los Angeles, and Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian, of Sherman Oaks, would require state officials to decide by January 2019 if fracking can be performed safely in California.

California was the third-largest oil producing state last year, behind Texas and North Dakota, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

State environmental regulators are crafting new rules for fracking, which currently is subject to the same rules as other drilling techniques.

The California Department of Conservation released draft regulations in December, and agency officials say they hope to adopt final rules next year.

CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

remove rubber that builds up on the surface as the plane tires hit.

That work needs to take place every two years to make sure the runway is safe, according to the city staff report.

EYE ON THE SKY

The City Council will also consider extending an existing contract with a company that monitors planes taking off and landing at SMO as part of an existing landing fee program.

Vector-US Inc., a Virginia-based company, will install and monitor two additional digital cameras to expand the existing system. The cameras will specifically look for activities used to train pilots called "stop-and-go" and "touch-and-go" maneuvers, in which the aircraft lands and then immediately takes off again without leaving the runway.

The two cameras will cost $41,696, and Vector-US will charge $16,648 to pay for costs associated with operations, data processing and maintenance of the new equipment through June 30, 2015.

Vector-US Inc. already has a system in place that includes three overlapping pieces — cameras, a transponder receiver and federal radar data — to track planes that come in and out, but it cannot yet capture the repetitive flying that annoys neighbors around SMO.

That will become even more essential should the City Council approve a new landing fee structure Tuesday evening that would assess a $5.48 tax to any plane that lands at SMO.

The full cost of the system comes to $58,344, for a total contract of $458,344 over the course of four years, according to the staff report.

ashley@smdp.com

AIRPORT
FROM PAGE 1

munity opinion in advance of 2015.

After that, city officials believe they will have more control over the future of the airport, particularly with the expiration of a 1984 agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration, which obligated City Hall to operate the airport through 2015 but recognized its ability to put restrictions on some aspects of airport operations.

Whether or not City Hall can escape obligations under grants with the FAA before 2023 is still in dispute.

Activists on both sides of the airport issue agree on little, but they do have common ground on this — neither is happy with the report by city officials.

Pilots plan to protest the new landing fees, which will more than double and apply to planes parked at SMO for the first time.

Those against the airport, both Santa Monica residents and those who live near the airport in West Los Angeles, feel that the recommendations to limit operations and try to mitigate existing problems don't go far enough to adequately protect people from noise and chemicals spewing from aircraft.

"If Santa Monica starts to change its vision, what they need on the first three reports is corrective lenses," said Martin Rubin, founder of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution.

LANDING FEES

Council members will get their first look at the proposed changes in landing fees, which officials hope will turn the tide of red ink coming out of the fund that supports SMO.

Under the proposal, the fees would more than double from $2.07 per 1,000 pounds of plane weight to $5.48 per 1,000 pounds in the 2013-14 fiscal year.

The charges would creep up after that, rising to $5.67 and $5.89 the following two years, according to forecasts in the report.

SMO is already one of the only general aviation airports in Southern California that charges landing fees, but the most dramatic element isn't so much what they're charging, it's to whom the fees apply.

In the past, landing fees — actually assessed using photographs captured by SMO cameras when a plane takes off — only applied to planes that had spent less than 30 days at the airport. That meant that those who use the runway most often, like flight schools, were never charged.

Those schools make up 41 percent of the total local operations at SMO, according to the City Hall report.

The new proposal changes that, and that could have devastating impacts on the schools, said Robert Rowbotham, president of Friends of Santa Monica Airport, or FOSMO.

"The initial impact is that the businesses will suffer first," Rowbotham said. "Home-based airport businesses like the flight schools and repair facilities will be the first ones that suffer, because they'll have less traffic."

The report, however, signals that City Hall is ready for SMO to pull its own weight, at least on its ledgers.

The Airport Fund, a separate account used to pay for SMO's expenses, is supposed to be self-sustaining. As of June 2012, it owed the General Fund $13.3 million, according to the report.

The new landing fee would cover those

SEE SMO PAGE 9



SMO

FROM PAGE 8

costs, and allow City Hall to pay for projects to improve both aviation and non-aviation-related facilities at the site.

Money set aside for repairs and improvements could only be used to meet the bare minimum rather than full rehabilitation of pavement or other issues.

Right now, SMO uses fees on fuel and fines for noise violations to offset the cost of aviation operating expenses, said Martin Pastucha, director of the Department of Public Works at City Hall.

While it's true that most airports either do not charge landing fees at all or only to planes coming from elsewhere, a growing number of airports are beginning to look to the charges, according to the report.

This will be the issue that brings out the pro-aviation community on Tuesday, Rowbotham said.

"The fear for us at FOSMO is that businesses, employees and families are going to suffer because of this," Rowbotham said. "Why isn't the city or the airport managing their expenses in a better way?"

THE VISION

Rubin has a lot of problems with the report, but the landing fees aren't one.

The remainder of the suggestions focus on ways to cut down on problems that locals have with the airport, through programs to reduce noise and even a reconfiguration of the site to move airplanes further from homes.

Officials recommend putting $200,000 up for matching grants so that small aircraft owners can afford to buy and install mufflers for Cessna 172s, the most common type of plane at the airport.

Residents and airport employees alike were wowed in December by a German product installed on a flight school plane that cut noise by almost five decibels, sometimes more, and also slashed the duration of the noise by several seconds.

The products are expensive, however, and aircraft owners may need help to get them on the planes.

It might also be possible to move all aviation-related businesses to the north side of the airport, near the business park. That would take them further from homes, helping with both noise and the direct impact of air pollution.

Other changes requested by the community — like axing the sale of fuel, tighter noise restrictions and shortening the runway — all looked like an invitation to litigation that City Hall is not likely to win, according to the report.

Although the report shows some progress, Rubin believes that ignoring the possibility of airport closure in the analysis is a bad move.

"We know what the status quo is, but the huge opening of a potential closure of parts or all of the airport, we don't know anything about that. Why won't they let us know about it?" Rubin asked.

Officials did leave some hints in the report, saying that full closure of the airport could result in changes in flight patterns at nearby Los Angeles International Airport that would bring huge commercial jets much closer to the area, causing more noise.

It might also lead to dense redevelopment of the property, whose only redeeming feature in the eyes of some residents is the fact that it doesn't generate much vehicle traffic.

No amount of extra traffic seems welcome at the site.

In an otherwise up-beat e-mail listing areas of support (nearly all), Friends of Sunset Park, a neighborhood group, came down hard on the idea of even expanding Santa Monica College facilities on non-aviation land, citing pressure on already-bad traffic.

Calls for a massive park on the site were dismissed as too expensive, with projected costs of at least $50 million, plus more to maintain.

Open session of the City Council meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. Expect many speakers.

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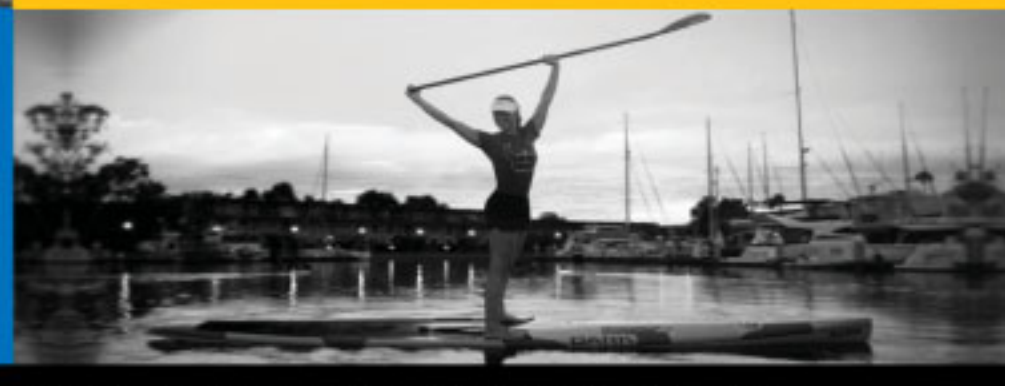


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S&P 500 reaches new high

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Technology companies led the Standard & Poor's 500 index to an all-time closing high Monday.

The stock market has recovered all the ground it lost over the previous two weeks, when worries over slower economic growth, falling commodity prices and disappointing quarterly earnings battered financial markets.

The S&P 500 index rose 11.37 points to close at 1,593.61. The 0.7 percent increase nudged the index above its previous closing high of 1,593.36, reached on April 11.

"The market has had a terrific run," said Philip Orlando, chief equity strategist at Federated Investors, noting that the S&P 500 is up 12 percent since the start of 2013. "At the beginning of the year, I thought we were going to 1,660 (for the whole year). We're only about 5 percent from that."

A pair of better economic reports gave investors some encouragement. Wages and spending rose in the U.S. last month, and pending home sales hit their highest level in three years.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 106.20 points to 14,818.75, up 0.7 percent. Microsoft and IBM were among the Dow's best performers, rising more than 2 percent each.

IBM, which rose $4.84 to $199.15, accounted for a third of the Dow's increase. The index is just 46 points below its own record high of 14,865 reached on April 11.

Tech's popularity Monday was a change from earlier this month, when it lagged the rest of the market. Concerns about weak business spending and slower overseas sales have cast a shadow over big tech firms, said Marty Leclerc, the managing partner of Barrack Yard Advisors, an investment firm in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Revenue misses from IBM and other big tech companies have highlighted the industry's vulnerability to the world economy. But Leclerc thinks tech companies with steady revenue and plenty of cash look appealing over the long term.

Information technology stocks rose the most of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 on Monday, up 1.6 percent. It's the only group that remains lower over the past year, down 2 percent, versus the S&P 500's gain of 14 percent.

Federated's Orlando thinks tech stocks could continue to rally as investors shift money from companies that pay big dividends and have rallied recently -- utilities, healthcare and consumer staples. "They've been buying these companies, but four months into this year they've gotten expensive," Orlando said.

The Nasdaq composite rose 27.76 points to 3,307.02, an increase of 0.9 percent. Apple, the biggest stock in the index, surged 3 percent, or $12.92, to $430.12.

The Nasdaq remains far below its record closing high of 5,048.62, hit March 10, 2000, before the dot-com bubble popped.

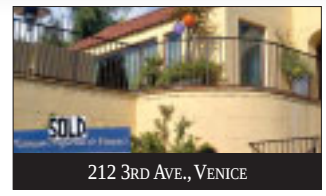
The number of Americans who signed contracts to buy homes reached the highest level since April 2010, according to the National Association of Realtors. Back then, a tax credit for buying houses had lifted sales. In a separate report, the government said Americans' spending and income both edged up last month.

A handful of companies reported earnings on Monday. Eaton Corp.'s quarterly net income beat Wall Street's estimates, helped by its acquisition of Cooper Industries, an electrical equipment supplier. But the manufacturer's revenue fell short. Its stock climbed 3 percent, or $1.63, to $60.28.

Eaton's results followed a larger pattern this earnings season. Of the 274 companies that have turned in results, seven of 10 have beaten analysts' estimates for earnings, according to S&P Capital IQ. But when it comes to revenue, six of 10 have missed estimates. That suggests companies are squeezing more profits out of cost cutting, instead of higher sales.

The stocks of Moody's and McGraw-Hill, which owns Standard & Poor's, surged following news that the ratings agencies settled lawsuits dating back to the financial crisis that accused them of concealing risky investments. McGraw-Hill gained 3 percent, or $1.45, to $53.45, while Moody's jumped 8 percent, or $4.57, to $59.69, the biggest gain in the S&P 500.

In the market for government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note slipped from 1.67 late Friday to 1.66 percent, close to its low for the year.

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Water Temp: **62.2°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to chest high occ. 4ft
New SW swell on the rise; Small NW windswell joins in;
largest towards the afternoon/evening

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
New SW swell builds further; Small NW windswell;
Larger sets possible for standouts in the PM; stay tuned

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high occ. 5ft
SSW swell tops out/holds steady; Clean AM conditions expected

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to chest high occ. 5ft
SSW swell slowly holds/slowly eases; Clean AM conditions expected

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 24, 2013**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 8
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 80
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 80

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, SIWA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alloe creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Los Flores State Beach at Los Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NBA

Lakers plot uncertain future after failed season

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. The Los Angeles Lakers have stepped off their wild ride. Their largely disastrous season is finally finished after a first-round playoff sweep.

But the drama that always surrounds this club is merely paused for a few weeks — maybe less.

The Lakers' offseason could be just as crazy for a franchise that finished one of the most disappointing seasons in NBA history with a winless whimper, not a run at a 17th NBA title.

Dwight Howard's unrestricted free agency, coach Mike D'Antoni's job status, Pau Gasol's tenuous future, Metta World Peace's amnesty possibilities and the injury comebacks of Kobe Bryant and Steve Nash are only the biggest issues facing the Lakers as they decide whether to try this grand experiment again.

"We had our sights set on something bigger than this," Nash said Monday. "In many ways, it feels like we never even got started. ... I think the core pieces, with this season under our belt, could come back and form something special. As we saw this year, it's not a perfect fit, but we have great pieces, and we have terrific players that can find a way to make this work."

The Lakers began last fall with championship aspirations and the NBA's largest payroll after adding Howard and Nash alongside Bryant, Gasol, World Peace and a decent group of reserves.

Nothing worked out as almost everybody expected.

After an ominously winless preseason, the Lakers' innumerable injuries and an early-season coaching change meant Los Angeles never established any cohesiveness in a cauldron of high expectations and fan pressure. After dropping to 17-25 in late January, the Lakers finally got it together for a 28-12 rally to the playoffs, but Bryant's absence with a torn Achilles tendon guaranteed they were no match for the San Antonio Spurs.

The Lakers also lost beloved owner Jerry Buss in February after a lengthy illness. The players honored Buss with a patch on their jerseys, while the owner's children formally took control of the club as it spiraled into disappointment.

"They fought as hard as they could fight, and as a coach, I appreciated it," said D'Antoni, who arrived in Los Angeles last year on crutches, after a recent surgery, to replace Mike Brown. "It was kind of a year that was all upside-down."

The Lakers' exit interviews with management and the coaching staff began their usual two-day grind into the offseason Monday. Howard and Gasol will meet with the brass Tuesday, and general manager Mitch Kupchak is expected to address the future as well. The Lakers haven't said when Bryant will publicly address his 17th NBA season and his injury, which could keep him off the court until opening night — or January.

Howard has steadfastly deflected questions about free agency all season long, refusing to affirm a commitment to Los Angeles after this season. Although he spoke and tweeted hopefully about the Lakers' future Sunday night, he also said he'll take a couple of weeks off to "clear my head."

The longtime Orlando Magic star could make $118 million over five years to return to Los Angeles, but just $88 million over four years anywhere else. Howard is likely to entertain pitches from other teams when free agency opens in July, which means the Lakers could be forced to make big decisions about their future — such as whether to use the amnesty clause in mid-July — before knowing whether Howard will be part of it.

Despite his horrific free-throw shooting and debatable leadership skills, the Lakers hope their gifted shot-blocking center won't decide to move on to a third team in 12 months.

"I'm very hopeful that Dwight will be back," Nash said Monday. "I think this is the place for him. He's in the prime of his career. He's got his best years ahead of him. He can play for one of the greatest franchises in sports and in an amazing city. This has got to be the place for him, and I'm hopeful that he sees it that way."

The Lakers know they've got payroll issues next season, with more than $30 million due to Bryant, more than $19 million to Gasol, and more than $9 million to Nash before they've even re-signed Howard. That means World Peace, who has a $7.7 million player option for next season, is a candidate for release under the amnesty clause.

So is Gasol, although the Spanish 7-footer proved he's not such a terrible match for D'Antoni late in the season with a string of triple-doubles. Gasol got a standing ovation Sunday when he left the Lakers' final game, but Kupchak is aware of the rarity of Gasol's combination of size and talent.

"I always try to play my best, and as if it is my last game," Gasol said. "I'd like to be part of another championship team here, but it's not totally up to me."

Maybe the biggest disappointment was Nash, who played in just 50 games after breaking his leg in the second game and struggling with hamstring injuries later. The two-time MVP averaged just 12.7 points and 6.7 assists per game.

Even a reunion with D'Antoni didn't totally help the former Phoenix Suns star's transition to a complementary role alongside Bryant and Howard, but Nash is determined to figure it out. He's not taking time off after the season, staying in rehabilitation for his leg injuries with a goal of being completely healthy in a month.

"It's definitely been the most frustrating year of my career, not only with so many expectations to start," Nash said. "I'm definitely going to prepare better than I ever have to try to make this year a distant memory and next year a phenomenal experience."

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MOVIE TIMES

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(310) 260-1528

Call theater for information.

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1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Croods (PG) 1hr 38min
4:30pm, 9:30pm

Place Beyond the Pines (R) 2hrs 20min
12:50pm, 4:05pm, 7:25pm, 10:30pm

Croods 3D (PG) 1hr 38min
1:45pm, 7:00pm

Disconnect (R) 1hr 55min
1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:25pm

Arthur Newman (R) 1hr 40min
1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

Oblivion (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:05pm, 8:15pm, 10:00pm

Scary Movie V (PG-13) 1hr 25min
11:55am, 2:35pm, 5:10pm, 7:35pm, 10:30pm

Big Wedding (R) 1hr 29min
11:40am, 2:15pm, 3:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Evil Dead (R) 1hr 31min
5:30pm, 8:00pm

Jurassic Park 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
2:45pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

42 (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
11:50am, 1:00pm, 4:10pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Pain & Gain (R) 2hrs 09min
11:30am, 12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:20pm, 10:25pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
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Opera in Cinema: Gran Teatre del Liceu's "Il Trovatore" (NR) 2hrs 55min
7:30pm

Mud (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Renoir (R) 1hr 53min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 10:10pm

Company You Keep (R) 2hrs 05min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Upstream Color (NR) 1hr 36min
4:20pm, 9:40pm

Trance (R) 1hr 41min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

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

Happy Birthday

Jose Escarce: SMMUSD board member, education advocate.
Kelly Greimer-Lance: Local SMASH parent and mom-taxi.

Head home tonight, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You make quite an impression on someone. If this person has any preconceived impressions or judgments about you, they will slip away as your authentic self emerges. Tonight: Head home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You might rock the boat, which is something you usually try not to do. A new perspective results from discussing a changeable situation. Tonight: At a favorite place with favorite people.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might not want to reveal all of your thoughts about a key partnership, as you could realize how many changes you have gone through with the other party involved, both professionally and personally. Make a solid decision with this knowledge. Tonight: Indulge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You have the backing of friends. For the most part, you can do no wrong; however, there always seems to be someone who likes being contentious. You could have your hands full, so you are likely to avoid being wherever this person is. Tonight: Do your own thing!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You are inclined to dive into work and get as much done as possible. You might have a new approach to a situation. Let others feel free to comment. Though you might not agree with every idea, you could with many. Resist a squabble if possible. Tonight: Keep it light.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Conversations with you often come up cold or not direct, especially at this present time. Establish limits. A loved one shows unusual caring, allowing you to relax and/or come up with some creative solutions. Encourage suggestions and feedback. Tonight: Happy as a cat.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You can't seem to gain sufficient control in a certain situation. Someone around you is particularly creative, so it would be wise to ask this person for his or her advice. You are lucky to have this resource. Tonight: Head home, but encourage a discussion with a dear loved one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You seem to pick the right words to get a situation moving. Understand that you can be more dominant than you currently are. Tonight: Think before you act or have a discussion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You are your own worst critic. You might want to open up to others' ideas and share more of what you experience personally. You are surrounded by a great deal of compassion. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Listen to news more responsively. You are capable of opening someone up who might be closed down right now. You know how to persuade this person to share his or her feelings, provided you do so in a safe place.Tonight: Let the party begin.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Be careful with someone you meet today for the first time, as this person might not be everything that he or she claims to be. His or her words will reveal much if you take the time to listen. Work together toward a resolution. Tonight: Try to take a break from the hectic pace.

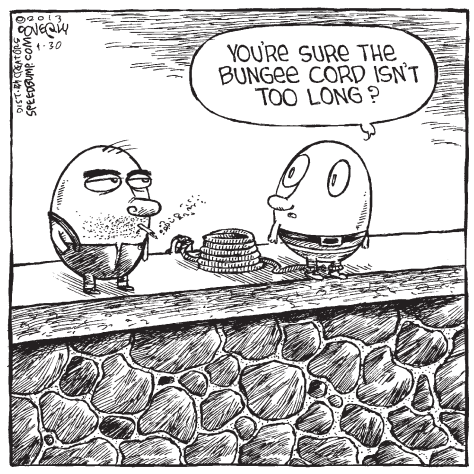
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Touch base with someone at a distance. Your feeling will change once you start having an open discussion. You might feel as if someone is making a problem far more complicated than it needs to be. Others could be distracted. Tonight: Focus on getting your to-do list finished.

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

This year you breeze through your daily activities with ease. You are remarkably flexible, which surprises many people. Communication becomes an even higher priority, and you see the advantage of this skill when buying a car or some other big-ticket item. Wait until summer before considering this purchase. If you are single, someone has a crush on you. Look around. This person could be very special to you. If you are attached, make a point of going out to dinner or having a picnic together with just the two of you. CANCER taps into your moods.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



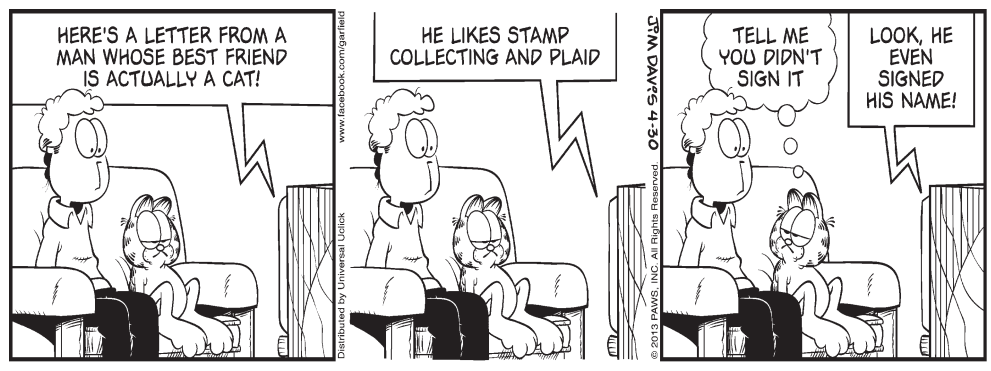
Strange Brew
By John Deering



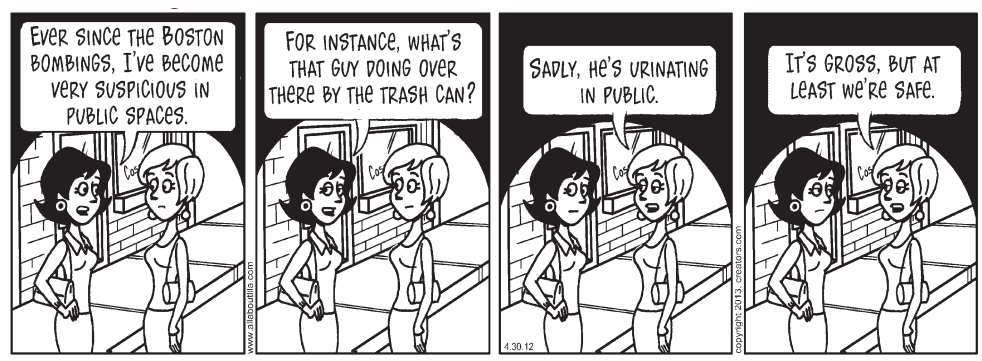
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY REVEALED!

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Reader Patricia Taylor correctly identified this photo of the entrance to The Huntley Hotel on Second Street. She will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out Wednesday's edition for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Hotel fixtures
6 Disgrace
11 Find charming
12 "Gigi" star
13 Drive fast
15 Nest item
16 River stopper
17 Acting legend Hagen
18 Some square dancers
20 Decline
21 Bible boat
22 Tarzan's love
23 Wanders
26 Light lunch
27 Killer whale
28 Sunday seat
29 Min. part
30 Natural seasoning
34 Swelled head
35 Vitality
36 "The Matrix" hero
37 Calliope cousin
40 Excessive
41 Worker's reward
42 Gave medicine to
43 Jacket material

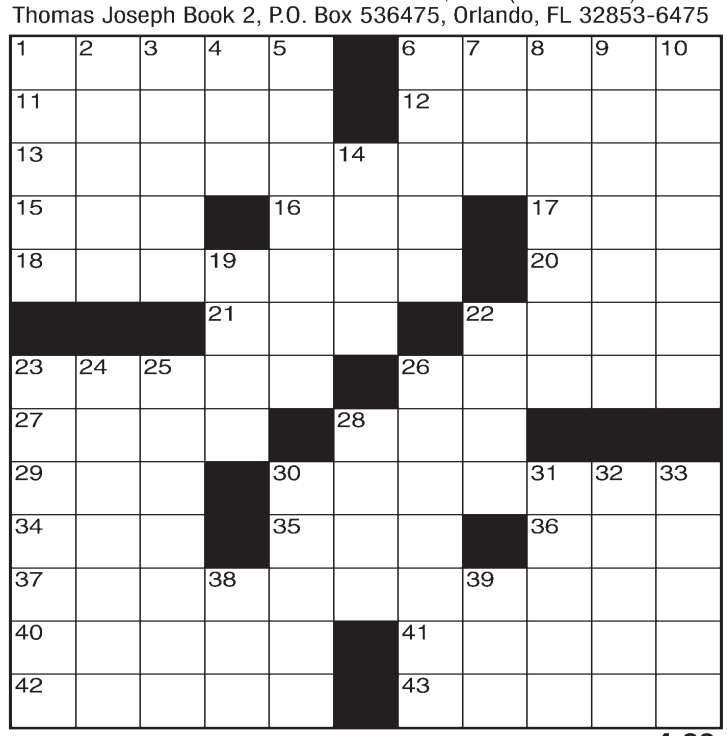
DOWN

1 Fencing sword
2 Wise words
3 Blacksmith's workshop
4 Mess up
5 Gardeners, at times
6 Swindles
7 Movie computer
8 Wakening
9 Butte setting
10 Set to wed
14 Escapade
19 Tibetan monk
22 Spielberg movie
23 Kane's last word
24 Pizza herb
25 Agreements
26 Shipping stop
28 Banana part
30 Velocity
31 Rolling Stones song
32 Rental contract
33 Muscularly fit
38 Regret
39 Uncooked

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

Yesterday's answer

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



4-30

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/27
3 23 48 54 55
Power#: 5
Jackpot: $114M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/26
17 42 49 54 55
Mega#: 31
Jackpot: $165M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 4/27
21 32 36 39 40
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/29
9 17 21 23 33

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 4/29
MIDDAY: 5 5 1
EVENING: 0 2 7

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 4/29
1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:43.70

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

■ **Delicate Marketing Required:** (1) A fluoride-free chocolate toothpaste "proven" to strengthen teeth and regenerate enamel is now on sale in limited markets in the U.S. Theodent (active ingredient: "rennou") is also available in mint flavor, said its New Orleans-based inventor, Dr. Tetsuo Nakamoto. (2) One of the 12 Canadian foods chosen to accompany the country's International Space Station astronaut in December is the limited-issue dry cereal especially noted for its fiber, organic buckwheat and various nontraditional ingredients. "Holy Crap" cereal is available throughout Canada and in 19 other countries.

■ "Even to Icelanders accustomed to harsh weather and isolation," reported The New York Times in March, the city of Grimsstadir "is a particularly desolate spot." Nonetheless, Chinese billionaire land developer Huang Nubo has announced he intends to build a luxury hotel and golf course in the area for his countrymen seeking "clean air and solitude." Since snowfalls often run from September until May, locals are skeptical of Huang's motives, but he continues to press for a long-term lease covering about 100 square miles for a project estimated to eventually cost about $100 million.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1967 – The Aldene Connection opened in Roselle Park, NJ, shutting down the CNJ's Jersey City waterfront terminal and transferring commuters to Newark Penn Station.

1973 – Watergate Scandal: U.S. President Richard Nixon announces that top White House aides H.R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and others have resigned.

WORD UP!

hellion
\ HEL-yuhn \ , noun;
1.
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- Roomates
- Commerical Lease
- Real Estate
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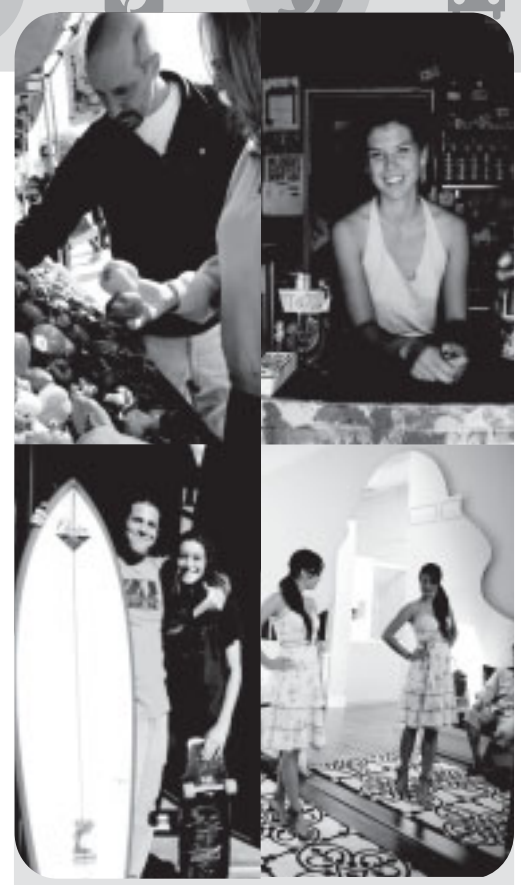


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Visit **buylocalsantamonica.com** for the complete list of participating businesses and more information!

Buy Local SANTA MONICA
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Supporting Santa Monica's unique shopping, dining and entertainment districts keeps us cool. Buying locally supports a sustainable Santa Monica.

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There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: $7.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 30¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.



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Society of Excellence
Previews Properties Specialist
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Montana Avenue
310.395.1133
Kate@SantaMonicaListings.com

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In Escrow

2019 Navy Street
$1,799,000
Beautiful Spanish Villa in Sunset Park

* 4 Bedrooms
* 3 1/2 Baths
* Stainless Appliances in Kitchen
* Master Features Huge Deck w/ Views



Buyer's Needs & Wants in Santa Monica

- ◊ Single family home
- ◊ Minimum 3 + 2
- ◊ North of Montana
- ◊ Up to $4,000,000
- ◊ Raw land or tear-down
- ◊ North of Montana & West of 10th St
- ◊ Up to $4,500,000
- ◊ Along the beach
- ◊ Santa Monica, Venice or the Marina
- ◊ Minimum 2 + 1.75
- ◊ Minimum 1800 square feet
- ◊ Up to $2,500,000

1751 Appian Way

1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms Available
Leases Starting at $4,800 per month
Price Reductions on 3 Units!!!!
Santa Monica's Prime Beach Location

* Captivating Ocean Views
* 3 Bedrooms
* 2 Baths
* Hampton Style
* Newer Construction



603 16th Street

For Lease
$5,500 per month
Price reduced
Newly Remodeled Kitchen w/ Stainless & Limestone

* 3 Bedrooms
* 1 Bath w Vintage Tiles
* Hardwood Floors
* Freshly Painted
* Stainless Steel Appliances



Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale as of Late April 2013

Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 6,159,750
North of Montana	=	$ 3,979,927
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,492,500
South of Wilshire	=	$ 1,075,000
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,391,000
Ocean Park	=	$ 1,211,333

Statistics updated every Friday

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FRANKLIN Elementary School
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Roosevelt Elementary School
Santa Monica GIRLS FASTPITCH
LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL SANTA MONICA, CA
GREAT FUTURES START HERE. BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA MONICA

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

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