



NEW TWIST
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE POLITICAL ACTION ISSUE

Santa Monica Daily Press

City officials oppose Prop. 98

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE In a city well-known for tenant rights, there's a sense of fear among civic leaders and long-time rent control advocates that 29-year-old housing protections could soon be abolished if a proposed ballot measure in the upcoming June election is successful.

Proposition 98, the California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act, would make it illegal for government entities to seize private land through eminent domain for private purposes. Proponents of

the initiative, which is sponsored by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association, argue the proposition will protect private property rights, pointing out that 41 other states have already adopted such reforms.

But the provision in the measure that has caught the attention of policymakers and residents in cities like Santa Monica and San Francisco is one that would slowly phase out rent control over time, allowing units that currently fall under the Rent Control Ordinance to be priced at market rate once they are vacated and remain at market rate for the entire life of the unit.

"Rent control is an issue of private prop-

erty rights as well," Marko Mlikotin, spokesman for the Yes on Prop. 98 campaign, said on Thursday. "What Prop. 98 would do is phase out rent control over the long term, allow the market to work so the rent stabilizes and more affordable housing can come on to the market."

The Santa Monica City Council this week unanimously adopted a resolution opposing Prop. 98 and endorsing its counter measure, Proposition 99, which was drafted by opponents in response to the anti rent-control measure. Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, the ruling political party in Santa Monica and the force behind rent control,

has held a majority on the council for nearly 30 years.

"One thing that 98 is pretty clear about is it would eliminate rent control," Councilmember Ken Genser said.

Prop. 98 supporters say that rent control laws are archaic and were mainly instituted during the World War II era as a program to deal with short-term housing shortages. Proponents of the measure point out that rent control is illegal in 44 states and California is one of three states that still permits it.

SEE PROP. 98 PAGE 10



TOUCHING TRIBUTE

Photos by Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

City officials on Thursday held the first-ever memorial recognizing public safety officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving Santa Monica. Six firefighters and eight police officers were remembered for their dedication and their bravery as family members looked on. Along with a 21 gun salute, fire officials rang a bell 10 times for their fallen brothers. 'For those who lost their lives in the line of duty, we grieve as a community,' said Mayor Pro Tem Richard Bloom. 'And we thank you for your service.'



Businesses express their opinions on new Web site

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Whether it's expansion on anti-smoking regulations or potential restrictions on commercial development, Santa Monica businesses now have a direct avenue through which they can voice their opinions.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce earlier last month launched a new advocacy Web site — Santa Monica Votes — where businesses can do one-stop shopping on local and state issues that might have an effect on the city's commercial community.

The site recently generated buzz when City Council mulled expanding the smoking ban ordinance in Santa Monica last month, ultimately instituting changes that will now hold restaurant owners and their managers liable if they knowingly or intentionally allow customers to light up cigarettes outside of their establishments.

About a dozen business owners submitted e-mail letters to the council directly through the site, expressing concerns related

SEE SITE PAGE 10

Gregory

Edward

Avedis

Eddie

Arvo

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Calendar

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FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2008

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A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Attending Mass

Santa Monica Pier, 6:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Critical Mass is a monthly bicycle ride celebrating the joy and virtues of bicycling. The Critical Mass concept started in San Francisco in September 1992 and has spread to cities all over the world. For more info, visit santamonicacriticalmass.ning.com

Farewell, Ferris wheel

Santa Monica Pier, 11 a.m. — 9 p.m.

Santa Monica residents are invited to ride the Ferris wheel for free before it comes down. All of Los Angeles will have a turn on the wheel on Sunday, May 4 when all guests ride the wheel for free as Pacific Park donates \$1 per rider to spcaLA. Visit the ticket booth for details.

Dancing with Isabelle and Reiko

1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7:15 p.m.

Learn how to dance hot salsa in a relaxed atmosphere with Isabelle and Reiko. There are two classes offered: One for beginners and another for more advanced dancers. Once both classes are over, hang out for a while and socialize with fellow students. For more information, call (310) 392-3493.

The Meathands have it

4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m.

The "Magic Meathands" perform an hour of fully improvised hilarity based on audience suggestions and participation. The show is presented by director Bill Johnson, in a great cafe that offers delicious coffee, food, drinks and comfortable couches. What sets this improv group apart is their personal connection with the audience and community, so their best material comes directly from the people around them. For information, call (310) 559-8868.

Saturday, May 3, 2008

Come try it on

2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m.

"The Hundred Dresses" is a stage adaptation of the 1944 book, a timeless story about the "in" crowd, the painful consequences of teasing, and what is known today as "fashion bullying." Bring the kids to this special theatrical experience.

Santa Monica on two feet

1436 Second St., 10 a.m.

The Santa Monica Conservancy leads a two-hour tour that explores more than 130 years of Santa Monica history from its wild west frontier beginnings to the metropolis of today. Starting from the 1875 Rapp Saloon, the route includes many landmarks and concludes at the 2003 NRDC building. For information, call (310) 496-3146.

Does the slipper fit?

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 and 3 p.m.

"Cinderella" is an original Rudie-DeCarlo musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a charming prince, zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 651.

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





Photo courtesy Bob Riha Jr.

BIG SPLASH: Nike Team runner Daniel Rojas, of Baldwin Park, grabs a quick cup of water during the 2nd Annual Whole Foods Market Santa Monica Classic 5k/10k race last year. Rojas was the winner of the 10k race through the streets of Santa Monica to benefit Heal the Bay.

Runners healing the bay while working up a sweat

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN For those who need a little more motivation to run than their waistline, this Sunday could have just what they are looking for.

Close to 4,000 people are expected to sweat together as they jog through the streets of Santa Monica to raise money and awareness for the environment.

For the third straight year, Whole Foods Market and Nike Club Run L.A. will co-

sponsor the Santa Monica Classic, a 5K and 10K run to benefit Heal the Bay. It is the only 10K run in Santa Monica.

The event commences at 2600 Barnard Way and concludes at the Santa Monica Pier, where vendors will be on hand to offer food and snacks to race participants.

Registration ends today at 3 p.m. To do so go to www.santamonicaclassic.com. Registration is \$40 per runner.

The purpose of the event is to raise money for Santa Monica-based Heal the

Bay, a nonprofit organization dedicated to cleaning Southern California watersheds, including the Santa Monica Bay.

Brentwood resident and longtime Heal the Bay volunteer and board member Peter Abraham conceived the idea to start a race through Santa Monica as a way to combine his three passions — marketing, running and the environment.

"I wanted to do a premier running event

SEE CLASSIC PAGE 11

Los Angeles sheds title as sootiest city

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A city outside California has for the first time been named the sootiest in the nation, one of the categories the American Lung Association uses to determine the most polluted cities in the country.

Los Angeles still took the all-around pollution title, though.

Pittsburgh overtook Los Angeles in the category that measures short-term particle pollution or soot. Los Angeles, the country's longtime soot and smog leader, has enacted aggressive measures to tackle sources of pollution, resulting in a substantial drop in particle pollution levels, said Janice Nolen, the association's assistant vice president of national policy and advocacy.

"It's not that Pittsburgh has gotten worse; it's that Los Angeles has gotten better," Nolen said. "If the trend continues, Pittsburgh will top two lists, and L.A. will only be leading the nation in ozone."

Still, Los Angeles held its own in two other categories measuring year-round soot levels and smog. And statewide, 26 of California's 52 counties with air quality monitoring stations got failing grades for having either high ozone days or particle pollution days.

The association's "State of the Air: 2008" report, released Thursday, was based on air quality measurements reported to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by state and local agencies between 2004 and 2006. The study looks at three key pollution measures.

The eight metropolitan areas considered to be the nation's most polluted by every measure were Los Angeles, Bakersfield, Fresno, Visalia-Porterfield and Hanford-Corcoran, all in California; Washington-Baltimore; St. Louis; and Birmingham, Ala.

The rankings were based on ozone pollution levels produced when heat and sunlight come into contact with pollutants from power plants, cars, refineries and other sources.

The lung association also studied particle pollution levels emitted from these sources, which are made up of a mix of tiny solid and liquid particles in the air. The study found that about 42 percent of residents nationwide live in counties with high levels of particle or ozone pollution.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Give Walt a break, tree people

Editor:

As a very long time Santa Monica city resident, I am sick and tired of all the radical talk regarding the removal of deceased and old trees in the city. My main objection ... is the reference to Walt Warriner’s role. He is the only city employee I have dealt with over the years who has immediately taken care of a problem I have called about.

Recently I called him about a tree on 17th [Street] with a broken branch over the sidewalk and his crew responded within a couple of hours to remove the branch. Later in the afternoon he surveyed the tree and had it removed the next day. Give him a break.

N.L. Miller

Santa Monica

Lock your doors and windows

Editor:

I have read all your articles about the Redding/Merman murders. Ms. Redding was found [on a] Sunday evening at 6 p.m.. Mr. Merman was found [the following] Wednesday, March 19, and his mother said she tried to reach him by phone for a few days. If it was three or four days, these murders could have and likely did occur on the same day.

The Santa Monica Police Dept. has said they do not believe these murders were committed by the same person. How do they know that? It is just as likely, and if it is the same day, even more likely that Ms. Redding and Mr. Merman were murdered by the same person.

A murderer who has a car. A murderer who could be a serial killer. And if that is the case, Santa Monicans should be extremely careful now.

Susan Fraser

Santa Monica

You can’t have it both ways

Editor:

Poor Bill Bauer.

He just can’t seem to see the relationship between his support for rent control, SMRR, “affordable housing” policies, and the totalitarian socialist regime that runs this city.

It seems he is perfectly comfortable when the party machine buys a majority control of the city with monies stolen from private property owners, but he is then surprised when the party exercises its power to impose its will on his personal transportation wishes.

Sorry, Mr. Bill. You can’t have it both ways. So long as you support a government based on theft, you will have to dance to their fiddle.

Bike lanes, bus lanes, bulb-outs, curb extensions, wide sidewalks, pedestrian enhancements, dazzling crosswalks, radar speed traps, crossing guards, roundabouts, traffic calming, carpool and bus mandates, high-density urban development, premium parking rates, and slow at-grade light rail are all coming, courtesy of the cabal.

You can’t expect them not to indoctrinate us with “Two wheels good, four wheels bad,” when you continue to re-elect them.

Rob Martin

Santa Monica

Don’t have to be religious to serve

Editor:

No religious test shall ever be required for any constitutional office. U.S. Constitution article VI-3. Your “Mailman Breen” on March 26, 2008 spends a whole page putting Barack Obama, his pastor and their religion to an unconstitutional test. The three prime contenders for the next election have willfully given their statements of faith.

Better, they should have refused any such disclosure as a part of their campaign as putting an unconstitutional requirement upon all the other candidates. Since the first election, I was aware of the media that has been a major conspirator to aid and abet this unconstitutional conduct.

John Legreid

Santa Monica



That Rutherford Guy

John H. Whitehead

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Rev. Jeremiah Wright: Pariah or prophet?

THE MEDIA IS ONCE AGAIN IN A FEEDING frenzy. Its latest victim is the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, former senior pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, of which presidential contender Barack Obama is a member.

If you buy into what the media is reporting, much of it culled from old sermons, Wright is an unpatriotic, anti-Semitic, Christian zealot three steps removed from the likes of Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson.

Indeed, I have seen perfectly reasonable, intelligent people swayed by this tactic. Granted, when Wright’s statements are taken out of context and aired and re-aired incessantly, the man does come across as a bit of a raving lunatic.

However, Americans should carefully listen to what Wright has to say in its entirety before judging him too harshly. For instance, read the speech that Wright recently delivered at the National Press Club or watch his interview with PBS’ Bill Moyers.

You may find that Wright is neither unpatriotic (he served six years in the military), nor any of the other accusations being thrown his way.

In fact, you might even find yourself nodding along with Wright on a number of points and appreciating the work that his church has done in its community. As the Associated Press reports, Wright’s church “has long stood out among churches nationwide for its social work on problems including HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, cancer and drug abuse.”

What the media has created, with the help of Obama’s political opponents, can be termed “Obama trauma,” and the ploy seems to be working. The question is: why is this working? Several reasons stand out.

First, it’s a form of racism. Despite what we might want to believe, America is still a largely divided racist nation, and Wright understands this.

Second, we live in a sound-bite society. People don’t think analytically anymore, not even the media.

Third, those who speak truth to power, as Wright has attempted to do, are always vilified. Wright could have remained silent, but to do so would have denied what he sees as his prophetic calling as a Christian pastor.

This man sees himself as a prophet and adamantly believes that America is under God’s judgment and the 9/11 attacks are a sign of that. At the same time, he’s openly taking on many of the same issues that Martin Luther King, Jr., challenged: racism, inequality, poverty, injustice, hatred and war. Yet he’s also preaching an undeniably biblical message of transformation and reconciliation.

Fourth, it’s political correctness rearing its ugly head once again. I don’t agree with everything Wright has to say. Some of his statements are controversial and may be an expression of a religious viewpoint with which many disagree, but he has a right to say them.

That’s the beauty of the First

Amendment. It grants us the right to free speech and religious freedom. And when Wright speaks, it is clearly as a pastor. As Wright observed about the difference between him and Obama, “He’s a politician, I’m a pastor. We speak to two different audiences. And he says what he has to say as a politician. I say what I have to say as a pastor. Those are two different worlds.”

However, unlike some Christians who strive to merge church and state, Wright seems to understand that religion and

... HIS STATEMENTS ARE CONTROVERSIAL AND MAY BE AN EXPRESSION OF A RELIGIOUS VIEWPOINT WITH WHICH MANY DISAGREE, BUT HE HAS A RIGHT TO SAY THEM.

politics do not mix. As he observed, “When you start confusing God and government, your allegiances to government—a particular government and not to God, [then] you’re in serious trouble because governments fail people. And governments change. And governments lie.”

Finally, let’s not forget that there are political games afoot, and this is politics at its nastiest. What’s more, with this latest maneuver, the Clintons and the Republicans are winning.

The fallout from what is clearly a smear campaign may well hurt Obama’s bid for the White House, but the dialogue that is taking place right now could turn out to be invaluable in furthering race relations in the United States. And maybe, as Wright remarked in his speech at the National Press Club, “this dialogue on race, an honest dialogue that does not engage in denial or superficial platitudes, maybe this dialogue on race can move the people of faith in this country from various stages of alienation and marginalization to the exciting possibility of reconciliation.”

Yet until Americans have actually read Rev. Wright’s speeches, watched his interviews and listened to his sermons in their entirety, they shouldn’t be so quick to judge the man or listen to talk-show pundits who haven’t done so either.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bush to the pope: 'Awesome speech'

IT'S BEEN OVER A MONTH SINCE I'VE written about politics. Curiously, the readers who disagree with my views the most seem to miss the chance to send me less than flattering e-mails, some of which start, "You're an idiot."

I began this hiatus with a column on procrastination, which I had been putting off. It was followed by UCLA's quest for the NCAA basketball championship and the next week about their demise. Of the seven stages of grief, I'm currently at five.

Then came a column on my screenwriting misadventures, and last week was about a possible smoking ban in apartment building common areas (And my personal pet peeve, cigar smokers, which is hardly political unless it's Fidel Castro. Marx was also a cigar smoker, Groucho, not Karl).

So why the change? Kevin Herrera, the Daily Press editor in chief, and I had a meeting about where I'd like to see my column go in the coming years. When it became clear syndication to the "New Yorker" was not a realistic option, Kevin suggested that, for the time being, maybe I should write more personal and less political. He noted that in one edition three columnists criticized George Bush.

I almost repeated what Cheney said when he told 70 percent of America is against the war — "So?" But actually, I agreed with Kevin's point. On the way home, however, something was nagging at me. And no, I'm not married.

On Kevin's desk there had been a New York Times. What if Times columnist Maureen Dowd was behind all of this? I know it sounds paranoid but she and I do work the same side of the street. Granted, she has a million more readers than I do, and in 1999 she won a Pulitzer Prize or whatever. But let's face it, 1999 was a while ago, and she only won one Pulitzer (Meaning if I win one, we're even).

Yes, I have a gut feeling Mo is looking over her shoulder. Maybe she was out here on vacation and read my column about how Bush's pretzel choking almost changed history.

She might have thought, "I'm slipping, why didn't I think of that?" Either way, as Arnold said in "The Terminator," I'm back.

This week Bush's rebate checks start to go out in the mail. Here's how it works. We send in our taxes to the government and they send a tiny fraction back to us, to basically give to Bush's oil friends. W even suggested we use

the rebate to buy gas and groceries. With gas at \$4 a gallon, that's assuming we can afford both.

At a press conference months ago, a reporter asked Bush about gas going over \$4 a gallon this spring.

Bush was busy smirking but suddenly did a double take. "What did you say?" The reporter repeated his question and a bewildered W said, "Well, that's news to me."

During Bush's two terms a lot of things have been "news" to him, which has been bad news for the world. But still, in 2001, if you had told me that during the next seven years the following would happen: Record surpluses would become record deficits; the American dollar would be worth less than the Canadian; we'd be in the sixth year, stuck in the middle of an endless civil war that costs us \$3 billion a week; that gas would go from \$1.39 to over \$4 and wheat and rice would double in cost, I might have told you to consider medications.

Or, if you had told me: We wouldn't catch Bin Laden; it's five years since "Mission Accomplished;" during Katrina bodies would float in the streets while Bush eats birthday cake with John McCain in Arizona and Condi shops for shoes in Manhattan; Bush would veto veterans benefits and child health care bills; 81 percent of the country would say we are headed in the wrong direction and Cheney says, "So?" and that Bush would actually say to the Pope, "Thank you, your Holiness, awesome speech," I would have said you need to get your meds adjusted. Okay, I added the "dude" part, but go to YouTube and type in "awesome speech."

With the war dragging on, the failing economy, record foreclosures, the bitter Democratic nomination race (or as I call it, "There Will Be Mud") and a possible long, hot, global warming summer ahead, some are predicting 2008 will be like 1968. With Bush at the helm, I just hope it isn't like 1929.

Actually, politics these days is so depressing that next week I may go back to writing more personal material. I really didn't finish with cigars. For example, have you ever known a "humble" cigar smoker? I wonder if Gandhi smoked a cigar. See? You just don't get these types of insights from Maureen Dowd.

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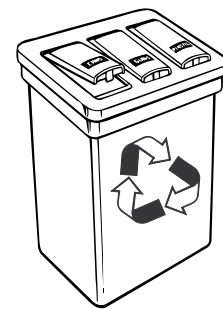
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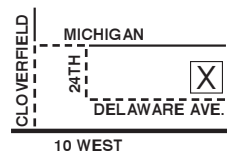
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The Q-Line

Day at the park

Gov. Schwarzenegger has proposed closing a number of open spaces in the Santa Monica Mountains including Will Rogers and Topanga state parks due to a \$10 billion budget deficit.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

If Will Rogers and Topanga state parks were forced to close what impact do you think it would have on the city's public parks?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED FY 2008-09 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN ALLOCATING FEDERAL CDBG AND HOME FUNDS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Proposed FY 2008-09 One-Year Action Plan. The One-Year Action Plan is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It delineates the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds in order to meet the City's overall housing and community development needs as specified in the Consolidated Plan (FY 2005-10) adopted by City Council and submitted to HUD in June 2005. The City is seeking community comments on the Proposed One-Year Action Plan.

Copies of the Proposed FY 2008-09 One-Year Action Plan are now available to the public for a 30-day community review period ending May 13, 2008. Copies are available at City Hall, the Santa Monica Public Library (main and branch libraries), and on the web at smgov.net, or you may contact the Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, telephone (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696. Please send your written comments to the above address by May 13, 2008, or you may present your comments verbally at the City Council public hearing on that date.

The Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible. If you have any special disability-related needs/accommodations, please contact the Human Services Division.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Development Agreement 07-008
1725 Ocean Avenue

APPLICANT: The Related Company of California ,LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: Santa Monica Redevelopment Agency

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Entitlements for Development Agreement 07-008 for the proposed Civic Center Residential Village, a mixed use development of a neighborhood within the Civic Center Specific Plan area which is comprised of five buildings on three sites with heights ranging from 56 to 96 feet including 324 units of housing, (including 160 affordable units and 164 for sale condominiums), 20,000 square feet of commercial use, subterranean parking, publicly accessible open space, an extension of Olympic Drive through to Ocean Avenue, negotiated public benefits and associated amendments to the Land Use and Circulation Element, Civic Center Specific Plan (CCSP), and Zoning Ordinance, with consideration of an Addendum to the approved 2005 CCSP Environmental Impact Report.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, May 13, AT 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: The Civic Center Village
Development Agreement
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Sarah Lejeune, Senior Planner at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at sarah.lejeune@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez al número (310) 458-8341.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

A different type of birdie

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, AT 1:50 P.M.,

Police responded to the west end of the pier after receiving a report about animal cruelty. When officers arrived they spoke with several witnesses who all said they saw a man take off his belt and smack a pigeon with the belt buckle, killing it. The man then picked up the pigeon and threw it into the water. Police said witnesses were appalled and called officers to investigate. Officers arrested the suspect, who allegedly told them that he killed the pigeon out of self defense, not because the pigeon was attacking him, but because he had been attacked before. The suspect was arrested for felony animal cruelty. He was identified as Willy Terry Aquino, 26, of Compton. No bail was set because the suspect was on parole, police said.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, AT 2:25 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 600 block of Pacific Coast Highway regarding a report of a man trying to break into a residence. When officers arrived, they spoke with neighbors who said the suspect was ringing the doorbell over and over while also trying to gain access by fiddling with a keypad on the door. Witnesses said they recognized the suspect as someone who was arrested in the past for stalking. Officers detained the suspect about a block away from the residence. He was booked for felony stalking. The suspect was identified as Sven Daniel Kennedy, 30, from Martinez, Calif. His bail was set at \$150,000.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, AT 3 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1700 block of Michigan Avenue regarding a burglary in progress. When officers arrived, several witnesses directed them to a vehicle where officers found a suspect trying to hide. Officers searched the car, which turned out to be the suspect's, and found several items that did not belong to him. The items included credit cards, various forms of identification, clothing and other personal items, police said. Officers searched the area and found two cars that were burglarized. Police said the suspect shattered windows to gain access to the vehicles. The suspect was placed under arrest for auto burglary. Police also found a small amount of cocaine on the suspect, who was identified as Fernando Perez Ramirez, 31, from Los Angeles. No bail was set because the suspect was on probation, police said.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, AT 12:40 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 2200 block of Fifth Street after receiving a report about a prowler. When officers arrived they made contact with residents in an apartment complex who said they saw a suspicious man walking around the building and in the garage, peering through windows. When one of the residents confronted the man and asked him why he was there, the suspect said he was a city employee there to trim the bushes. The resident felt this was suspicious given that the man had no tools so they went back to their apartment and called police. The suspect left but was apprehended a short time later while riding a bicycle a few blocks away from the apartment. Officers questioned the suspect about the bicycle. The suspect did not know the combination to a lock on the bicycle nor could he explain where he got it. The suspect was arrested for burglary because of the bicycle and for loitering, a violation of his parole. The suspect was identified as Anthony Ray Hamilton, 56, of Hollywood. No bail was set.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, AT 2:45 P.M.,

Officers at a city-owned fueling station at Fifth Street and Olympic Boulevard were flagged down by a woman who said she was just sexually assaulted by a man who ran off after the incident. The woman said she was walking down Olympic Boulevard when the man grabbed her butt. She was able to point out the suspect to police, who arrested him for sexual battery. The suspect was identified as Louis Pina, 38, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000. Pina also had a warrant for his arrest, police said.

NEWS@SM DP.COM

Editor in Chief Kevin Herrera compiled these reports.



ODDS OF A CHILD
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ODDS OF A CHILD BEING
DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM:
1 in 166

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES
Sex charge against ‘Girls Gone Wild’ founder dropped

A Los Angeles judge has dismissed a sexual battery charge against “Girls Gone Wild” founder Joe Francis because prosecutors said they were unable to contact his accuser. The judge dismissed the misdemeanor count Thursday after city prosecutors said they were unable to proceed because they had not seen or heard from the 18-year-old woman or an alleged witness. Francis was accused of groping the woman’s breasts and buttocks at a birthday party in Hollywood last year. The millionaire founder of the sex video empire could have faced up to six months in jail. Defense attorney Mark Werksman says Francis never touched the girl and that the case was based on lies and exaggerations.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES
Judge upholds \$4M ‘Lobstergate’ award for officers

A judge has upheld the \$4.1 million jury award for three Long Beach police officers denied promotions after reporting members of a port security team were hunting lobsters instead of terrorists. A jury decided Feb. 14 that Sgt. David Gage should get \$1.16 million, Officer Craig Patterson should get \$1.56 million and Officer Warren Harris should get \$1.36 million in what has become known as “Lobstergate.” Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Conrad Aragon on Wednesday affirmed the jury decision. The Long Beach officers claimed they were harassed and retaliated against after reporting that some of their colleagues were using a police patrol boat to dive for lobsters in the Port of Long Beach in 2003. City Attorney Robert Shannon says the city may appeal.

AP

SANTA CRUZ
Charge reduced to manslaughter in bonfire killing

A Santa Cruz judge has ruled a Live Oak man will be tried on a voluntary manslaughter charge, not murder, for last year’s beach bonfire stabbing death of an Arizona teenager. Mateo Tiago Marquis allegedly stabbed 17-year-old Tommy Paz during a beach fight last June 18. The Phoenix teen was visiting his family in Santa Cruz. Superior Court Judge Jeff Almquist has now determined after a two-day preliminary hearing that there’s enough evidence to try the 21-year-old Marquis with the lesser crime, not murder. The judge says there’s evidence of self-defense. Prosecutor George Dunlap wanted Marquis tried for murder and two counts of assault with a deadly weapon. Defense attorney Anthony Robinson says it was clear his client didn’t intend to kill. Almquist also ruled there wasn’t enough evidence to try Marquis on the assaults.

AP

POWAY
Vandals scrawl hate graffiti on synagogue

Vandals scrawled hate-related graffiti on a north San Diego County synagogue. Sheriff’s deputies say the sign outside the Ner Tamid Synagogue in Poway was spray-painted sometime Saturday night or Sunday morning. Sheriff’s Detective Norman Hubbert says the scrawls included symbols synonymous with the phrase “Heil Hitler.” It’s being classified a hate crime. An \$11,500 reward was offered Wednesday by San Diego County Crime Stoppers, the Hate Crime Reward Fund and the Anti-Defamation League for information leading to the arrest of the vandals.

AP

VISTA
Spiking fuel cost has firefighters changing response

Spiking fuel costs will soon change firefighter responses in the San Diego County community of Vista, where huge fire trucks will stop rolling on every emergency call. A new “priority dispatch system” will determine if those big engines are needed on calls. Fire Chief Gary Fisher says dispatchers at the North County Dispatch Joint Powers Authority are now being trained. Currently, firefighter and paramedics crews respond to all emergency 911 medical-aid calls. The priority system has dispatchers asking 911 callers a series of questions to determine the amount of emergency personnel needed. Fisher says Vista has already spent \$85,000 to fuel its fleet this fiscal year, which compares to \$65,000 last year.

AP

SAN SIMEON
Piedras Blanca lighthouse set to get recognition

The Piedras Blancas lighthouse north of San Simeon may soon get national “outstanding natural area” designation. The 130-year-old lighthouse is already on the National Register of Historic Places. Legislation authored by Congresswoman Lois Capps to give it “outstanding natural area” designation, part of a national landscape conservation system, has pass the House and Senate and is expected to be signed soon by President Bush. The designation doesn’t provide restoration money, but it could make it easier to qualify for grants for the Bureau of Land Management-managed property.

AP

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	Single Family Homes	Condo & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	= \$ 2,275,278	\$ 1,200,000
North of Montana	= \$ 4,271,640	\$ 1,736,952
Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 3,266,100	\$ 896,469
South of Wilshire	= \$ 893,724	\$ 730,194
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,461,675	\$ 845,611
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,732,643	\$ 1,327,177

Statistics updated every Wednesday

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL
REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: May 5, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB 07-462, 152 Hart Avenue: Multi-Residential
- ARB 07-501, 851 Twentieth Street: Multi-Residential
- ARB 08-052, 525 Broadway: Mixed-Use
- ARB 08-069, 2501 Pico Boulevard: Commercial
- ARB 08-070, 1171 Franklin Avenue: Multi-Residential
- ARB 08-072, 900 Wilshire Boulevard: Multi-Residential
- ARB 08-122, 643 Raymond Avenue: Multi-Residential
- ARB 08-143, 201 Arizona Avenue: Commercial

More information is available on-line at <http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm> or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). Call 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 for disability accommodation requests. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8 serve City Hall.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Extension of Auto Dealership Standards Interim Ordinance No. 2186 (CCS) to August 8, 2010

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed text amendment:

Extend an interim ordinance originally introduced in April 2006 that modifies regulations pertaining to automobile dealerships in commercial and industrial zones and allows existing dealerships to intensify activities on existing lots that are residentially-zoned. No changes are proposed to the provisions of the current interim ordinance that will expire July 10, 2008 unless extended.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2008 AT 6:45 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Auto Dealership Standards Interim Ordinance
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project, please contact Elizabeth Bar-El, AICP, Senior Planner at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at liz.bar-el@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si desea más información, favor de llamar a Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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Studios not willing to accept contract demands by actors

BY RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Major Hollywood studios said they won't accept pay hikes sought by the Screen Actors Guild in contract talks, suggesting a deal is unlikely before the talks temporarily end later this week.

In a statement posted on its Web site, the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers said significant gaps remain between the two sides after 13 days of talks.

The alliance blamed the problems on the guild's insistence on doubling payments that actors receive from DVD sales and demands for "huge increases in compensation and benefits."

The guild responded late in the day with a message to its members saying a contract deal did not depend entirely on acceptance of those demands. It also stood by its earlier claims that actors were suffering.

"We are not surprised that the employers dispute the economic hardships actors are facing. You know better," the guild said.

The statements were the most public sign thus far of discord in the talks aimed at reaching an agreement before the current contract covering theatrical movies and primetime TV shows expires on June 30.

The negotiations "are going nowhere," said Norman Samnick, an entertainment lawyer who has represented Warner Bros. in previous contract talks with actors and remained close to negotiations. "This thing's not going to be settled until the end of June."

Both sides have said they want to avoid a replay of the 100-day writers strike that shut down TV production and caused an estimated \$2.5 billion in economic losses in the Los Angeles area.

The situation has already caused a delay in the filming of some new movies, as producers worry that a possible strike could disrupt shooting, according to a person familiar with the issue who was not authorized to speak publicly and sought anonymity.

In its statement, the studio alliance offered a point-by-point rebuttal of recent statements the guild has made to its members.

In particular, the studios challenged a proposed restructuring of the formula for residual fees received by actors from DVD sales, which it said would double the current \$500 million total that actors would receive over three years if the current formula was unchanged.

"The DVD market is flat, and this is no time to be adding significant new costs to the ability of producers to do business in this sector," the alliance said.

The studios also rebutted the guild's claim that actors' pay is declining.

Actors' pay for theatrical-release movies rose 6 percent in 2007 from a year earlier to \$596 million, and increased 1 percent to \$705 million for television appearances, according to alliance estimates.

The alliance said the actors guild had requested 70 changes to the contract framework previously accepted by writers and directors for content distributed over new media — "some of which would go a long way toward making the framework itself unworkable."

The guild proposals also seeks shorter "residual-free" windows during which shows can be rerun online for promotional effect, currently set at 17 or 24 days.

A smaller actors union, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, is set to begin talks with the alliance Monday, with some observers expecting AFTRA to put up less of a fight, since it already has reached a deal on shows such as "American Idol" and "Survivor."

AFTRA's remaining contract covers only a few primetime TV shows such as "Curb Your Enthusiasm" and "Til Death."

The producers alliance said it would "continue to work as hard as we can" to reach a deal with SAG over talks set to end Friday, but neither side ruled out another round at the bargaining table following the alliance's negotiations with AFTRA.

Circuitry discovery could lead to beefier memory

BY JORDAN ROBERTSON
AP Technology Writer

SAN JOSE For nearly 40 years, scientists have speculated that basic electrical circuits have a natural ability to remember things even when the power is switched off. They just couldn't find it.

Now researchers at Hewlett-Packard Co. have proven them right, with a discovery they hope will lead to memory chips that store more data but consume far less power than those found in today's personal computers and other digital devices.

The newly discovered circuit element — called a memristor — could enable cell phones that can go weeks or longer without

a charge, PCs that start up instantly, and laptops that retain your session information long after the battery dies.

It also could challenge flash memory, which is now widely used in portable electronics because of its ability to retain information even when power is off. Chips incorporating the HP discovery would be faster, suck up less power and take up far less space than today's flash.

"It certainly looks promising," said Wolfgang Porod, professor of electrical engineering at the University of Notre Dame and director of the university's Center for Nano Science and Technology. "However, if it's going to be 100 times better or 1,000 times better (than today's flash), it's very hard to say at this point."

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Santa Monicans fear end of rent control

FROM PROP. 98 PAGE 1

The measure is being supported by apartment owners associations across the state, including the Action Apartment Association in Santa Monica and the Apartment Owners Association of Greater Los Angeles.

Carl Lambert, the president of the Action Apartment Association and chairman of the California Apartment Association Los Angeles, argued that Prop. 98 is necessary to stop governments from taking homes and handing them over to developers to generate more tax revenue.

"It means when someone moves out of the unit, it is no longer rent control and that will generate more tax revenue than taking a bunch of homes from little old ladies and giving them to developers," Lambert, a property owner in both Santa Monica and L.A., said.

Prop. 98 would also lift a \$10,000 relocation compensation cap on those affected by eminent domain, which the authors of the measure say does not go far enough, specifically for businesses whose properties are acquired.

The counter to the measure, Prop. 99, would take the eminent domain concerns of Prop. 98, but leave out any impacts on rent control, according to the initiative's proponents, which includes SMRR.

The Homeowners Protection Act would prohibit governments from taking private homes for private developers without eliminating rent control.

The measure also excludes other provisions in Prop. 98 that rent control advocates say are harmful, including jeopardizing environmental protections and limiting the state's ability to build water projects.

Prop. 98 advocates called the counter proposal a sham, arguing that it doesn't protect

most homes and affords none for businesses or places of worship.

Kathy Fairbanks, spokeswoman for the No on Prop. 98/Yes on Prop. 99 campaign, said on Thursday that other tenant protection laws could suffer and that all 14 million renters in the state will be affected, rent control or not.

"They're using a popular issue like eminent domain and hiding behind it to enact a number of hidden agendas," Fairbanks said.

What's certain in Santa Monica is that Prop. 98 would affect rent control, but what remains unclear is the extent, City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said during the council meeting on Tuesday.

Moutrie drafted an impact report of both Prop. 98 and 99 for the council, pointing out that "just cause" evictions could be prohibited and certain Ellis Act eviction protections, such as relocation benefits, could be eliminated.

Protections for disabled residents and senior citizens, who are usually granted an extended time to vacate their units if served with a notice to move out, would also be jeopardized, Moutrie said.

She mentioned that city regulations could be challenged under Prop. 98, including its power over the location, density, design, height and extent of development and ability to assess development fees.

"It would be a dramatic erosion of local control," Moutrie said at the meeting.

SMRR was among 200 groups that petitioned for Prop. 99. Only one of the two measures can win out in the election.

"SMRR and the city of Santa Monica have worked since 1979 to improve conditions for poorer segments of our community," SMRR member Michael Tarbet said at the meeting. "This goal is under attack like never before."

melodyh@smdp.com

Web site created buzz during recent smoking ban expansion

FROM SITE PAGE 1

to the ordinance, including the definition of "intentionally" and "knowingly" and the timeline in which the changes would be in effect.

"It's designed to give residents and businesses a voice in local government," Samantha O'Neil, the director of government affairs for the Chamber of Commerce, said.

Such advocacy sites are used by other business organizations, including the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the United States Chamber of Commerce, which provided the site template for Santa Monica.

"We're excited about the opportunity to give businesses a voice in local and state issues," O'Neil said.

Nat Trives, a former mayor of Santa Monica, said the site will allow businesses as a collective to channel their opinions to city officials without cramming into the City Council Chambers during meetings.

"I think it's critically important since we have some wonderful initiatives coming forward for the continued improvement of Santa Monica ... and businesses should know what's going on," Trives, the chair of the chamber's Government Affairs Committee, said.

The site includes a voter resources page that allows people to register to vote and find

information about both elected officials and candidates. Santa Monica Votes also includes information on state and local issues and legislation on matters such as health care and workforce development. The chamber's position on these issues are also included.

The launch of the site coincided with discussions about long-range funding for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in early April, the issue generating several dozen letters from business owners speaking in favor of funding for both the "Subway to the Sea" and Exposition Light Rail projects.

The Residents' Initiative to Fight Traffic, a possible ballot measure that aims to limit commercial development in the city, has also generated a few dozen letters and is currently featured in the site's main page. The chamber, which takes positions on issues but no longer endorses candidates, recently came out against the proposed ballot measure.

Santa Monica Votes also includes letter templates that can be easily personalized by the business owner and sent through the site to City Hall.

"It's a quick easy way to get information and if you're interested, you can voice your opinion on an issue," O'Neil said.

melodyh@smdp.com

SM Classic to take place on Sunday

FROM CLASSIC PAGE 3

that did justice to Heal the Bay as an organization and it has become a great way to reach people, to raise funds and to introduce people to the great work that Heal the Bay does ... I just wanted to find a way to get people excited about cleaning up the bay."

Last year's event raised nearly \$15,000 for Heal the Bay and Abraham hopes to top that this time around. He also expects Heal the Bay's membership to grow by 15 percent as every runner who signs up has the option of a free membership to the organization.

As for the race itself, Abraham, an avid outdoorsman, wanted to design a course from the runner's point of view. He spent roughly a year working with City Hall to come up with a course that he says highlights the best of what Santa Monica has to offer.

"I think it is deceptively difficult," Abraham said of the course. "People assume that it is basically flat, but there are three miles that gradually go uphill, which can take a lot of people by surprise. It's challenging but also fun."

Abraham was quick to point out that he will be running the event, not running in the event.

Event amenities and activities will include an environmentally themed expo

I JUST WANTED TO FIND A WAY TO GET PEOPLE EXCITED ABOUT CLEANING UP THE BAY."

Peter Abraham,
Santa Monica Classic creator

and an interactive Web site featuring streaming video, podcasts and training plans.

Nike hosts the official training program for the race through Club Run L.A., which consists of training runs four nights a week for the five weeks leading up to the race. This is the second year Nike has been involved with the event.

"We're excited to partner with the Santa Monica Classic for the second year," said Tanya Lopes, media relations manager for Nike. "The race is a great fit for Nike as it allows us to further connect with our local running community in one of the most iconic running destinations in Southern California."

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to discuss general policy matters and issues pertaining to the City's on-going preparation of the new Land Use and Circulation Elements of the City's General Plan. This public hearing will begin the review process of the draft Transportation section of the Land Use and Circulation Element [LUCE]. The agenda and staff report are available at City Hall and on-line at www.smgov.net/planning.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California



HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact Bruce Leach, Special Project Administrator (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net/planning. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TTY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.



Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
<http://www.shapethefuture2025.net> (Land Use Element)
<http://motion.santa-monica.org> (Circulation Element)



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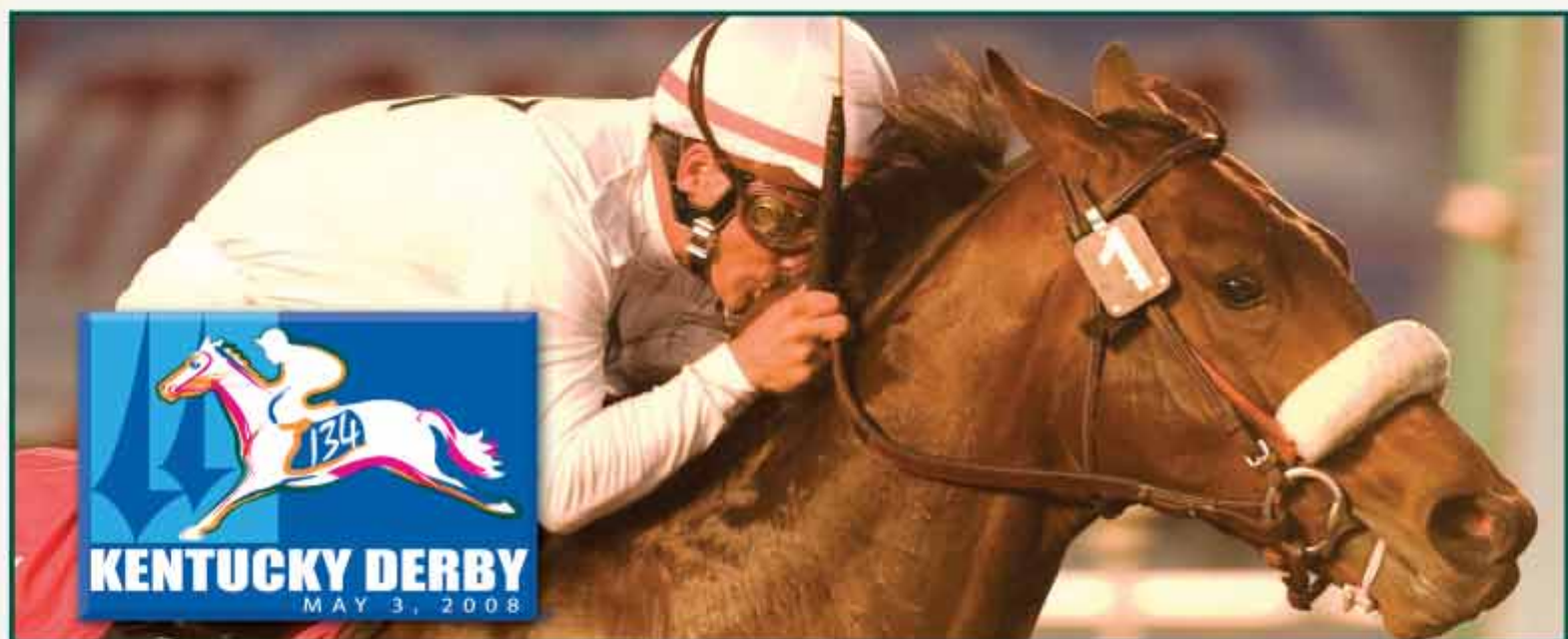
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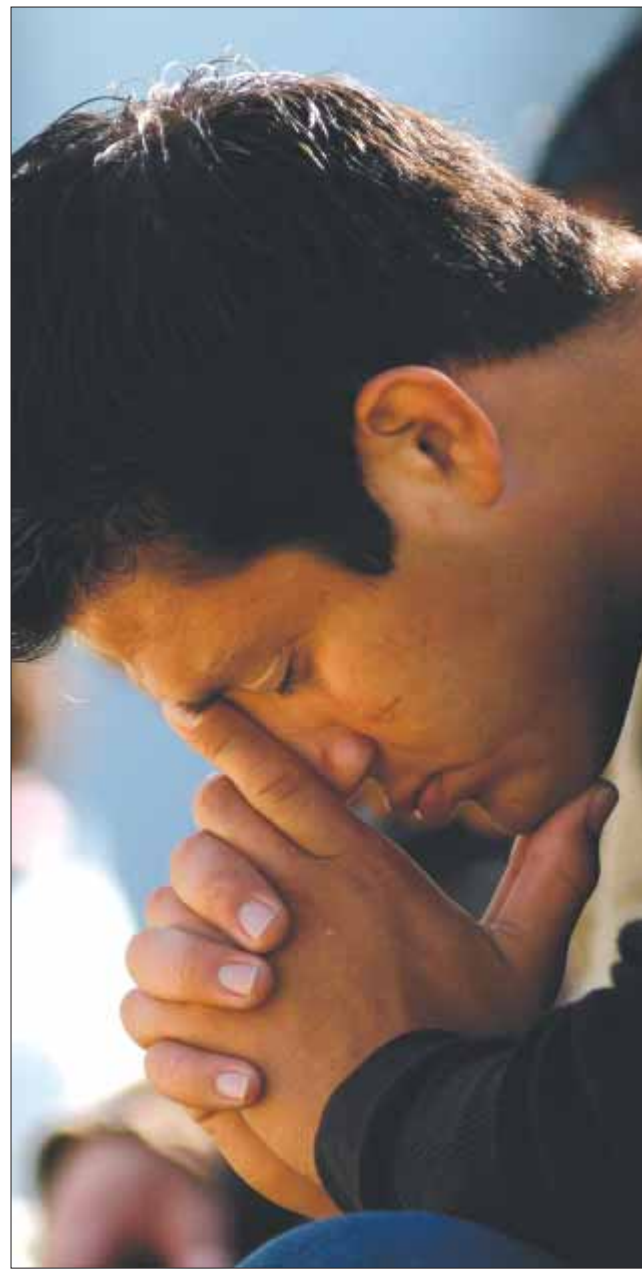
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A DAY IN THE Life

SPIRITUALITY

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2008



Photos and text by Geoffrey Dunn

PRAISE GOD: (Top left) Michael Shaughnessy, worship leader of the Lighthouse Church in Santa Monica, sings 'How Great Thou Art' with the Santa Monica National Day of Prayer Youth Choir during Santa Monica's 18th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer on the front lawn of City Hall on Thursday. Area pastors and community leaders offered prayers during the service that had the theme of 'Prayer! America's Strength and Shield.' The National Day of Prayer began in 1952. In 1988 Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law decreeing that the National Day of Prayer should be held on the first Thursday of May. (Top right) Maritza Alarcon (left) and her daughter Esther Alarcon, members of the Lighthouse Church of Santa Monica, pray. (Far right) Edgar Puloini of Santa Monica prays during Santa Monica's 18th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer.



SAY GOODBYE to the world famous Pacific Wheel, but don't worry....Santa Monica residents ride the wheel free one last time from April 28th through May 4th. Provide proof of Santa Monica residency (driver's license, local bill, etc.) and receive one free ride on the Pacific Wheel. (A maximum of 4 riders per Santa Monica resident.)

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Fed rate pause may benefit consumers

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON While the Federal Reserve's aggressive drive to lower interest rates appears to be over, there could be benefits for consumers in other places — like some relief from soaring gasoline and food costs.

"With the Fed on hold and the dollar firming, oil and gasoline and food prices may all top out some time in the next few months," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.

On Wednesday, the Fed cut interest rates for a seventh straight time. But the reduction was a much smaller quarter-point move — not the half-point and three-fourths-point moves of earlier this year. It pushed the federal funds rate down to 2 percent.

Commercial banks immediately followed suit by cutting the prime lending rate, the benchmark for millions of consumer and business loans, to 5 percent, the lowest level since late 2004.

That may be as low as consumer rates go during this Fed easing cycle because the central bank sent a number of signals that it believed it may have done enough to keep the economic slowdown from deepening into a severe recession.

Several analysts said the central bank was recognizing the realities of the situation that it may have done all it should do to try to boost growth through rate cuts, given growing threats from inflation.

"The Fed may have gotten to the point where it could start hurting economic prospects in terms of the value of the dollar and oil prices and grain prices," said Sung Won Sohn, an economics professor at California State University. "It think it was time for the Fed to slow down and take a pause."

Lower U.S. interest rates tend to make the dollar's value against other currencies weaker because investors dump their U.S. holdings in favor of investments in other countries where they can earn a higher interest rate.

As the dollar falls, that tends to drive the cost of oil higher because oil is priced in dollars and producers start demanding higher prices to compensate for a weaker dollar. Those forces are also at work in terms of driving up other globally trade commodities such as metals and food including wheat and other grains.

With the Fed lowering the prospects for further rate cuts, the dollar can be expected to stabilize and perhaps rebound from the record lows it had hit in recent weeks against the euro and other currencies. That should help various commodities including oil and food to backtrack from their recent record highs, a process that may have already started.

Oil closed on Wednesday at \$113.46 per barrel, its lowest point in more than two



THE FED MAY HAVE GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE IT COULD START HURTING ECONOMIC PROSPECTS IN TERMS OF THE VALUE OF THE DOLLAR AND OIL PRICES AND GRAIN PRICES."

Sung Won Sohn,
Economics professor at
California State University

weeks and down significantly from the record near \$120 per barrel set two days earlier. Analysts attributed part of the drop to Fed's signals Wednesday that it was pausing in its rate cuts.

Analysts said it will take time, however, for motorists to see the benefits in lower gasoline costs, which hit a record nationwide average of nearly \$3.62 per gallon on Wednesday, according to a survey of stations by AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. Analysts said gasoline is likely to keep heading higher for a time because refiners have not been able to raise their prices fast enough to recoup the crude oil surge that has already occurred.

But private economists believe that if the dollar does stabilize and oil and other commodities begin to fall in a sustained way, consumers will start seeing benefits in two to three months.

Of course, part of that forecast depends on the Fed deciding to stay on the sidelines and not cut rates further, an expectation that is heavily dependent on the course of the overall economy. There was some good news Wednesday in that the gross domestic product did expand at a tiny 0.6 percent rate in the first quarter rather than contracting.

But analysts say the country is not out of the woods in terms of avoiding a recession and many believe that GDP growth could turn negative in the current quarter. As long as the downturn is mild, analysts believe the Fed will be content to keep rates unchanged because of their worries that further rate cuts could fuel a rise in inflation that could be very hard to deal with, risking a repeat of the stagflation nightmare of the 1970s.

"The Fed lost control of inflation in the 1970s by pushing interest rates too low and boosting inflation expectations," said David Jones, chief economist at DMJ Advisors. "The Fed more than anything else wants to avoid a repeat of that episode."

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Meeting of the artistic minds

Musica Angelica teams with John Malkovich for 'Seduction and Despair' at Barnum Hall

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DOWNTOWN Not every thing that interests Europeans translates well for Americans.

Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra is teaming up with Academy Award-nominated actor John Malkovich to present "Seduction and Despair," a production that Music Director Martin Haselböck said has generated a considerable amount of attention in Europe. Considering that the concert will be debuting in front of an American audience this weekend at Barnum Hall, he's curious to see how crowds will react to the multi-media performance.

"I'm not sure how it will go over here," Haselböck said. "Two European broadcasters are going to cover the show. In Europe, it is seen as an adventurous new project."

"Seduction and Despair" features a broad mix of elements to present the story of Jack Unterweger, a serial killer who murdered a number of prostitutes in both Austria and Los Angeles. Director Malkovich plays the part of the notorious killer who committed suicide in a prison cell as he awaited his fate for his crimes.

"We have long had the idea of doing a great melodrama for actors and orchestra from the 18th century," Haselböck said. "In other words, something similar to what Mozart had in mind when he wrote that he would prefer to write for actors instead of singers."

The 90-minute performance begins with Unterweger (Malkovich) sitting in hell reading from a book that chronicles his life and evil deeds. The performance is set to the music of Christoph Willibald von Gluck's "Don Juan" and works by Boccherini, Vivaldi, Handel, Weber, Haydn



MALKOVICH

and Mozart accompanied by sopranos Celine Ricci and Robin Johannsen. Video by Andreas Hutter serves as the stage set and a visualization of what Malkovich is acting out during the performance.

This is the first time Musica Angelica has teamed with a mainstream actor for this type of presentation.

"No other local group has actually done that," Haselböck said. "The music is extremely beautiful and I love to connect different forms of art together because it makes for an interesting combination."

While he isn't sure how audiences will receive the work, he believes that the many different facets of the production will attract a diverse group.

"We'll have movie people, music lovers and baroque lovers in there," he said. "It will be a melting point for a new type of audience."

daniela@smdp.com

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CONTACT ASSOCIATE EDITOR **DANIEL ARCHULETA** AT DANIELA@SMDP.COM.

LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance to modify Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.28.040 - Conditionally Permitted Uses in the Main Street Commercial District to permit the incidental sale of merchandise at the Main Street Farmers Market by individual businesses located in the district.

APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: CM Main Street Commercial district

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following proposed Zoning Ordinance modification:

Modification to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.28.040 - Conditionally Permitted Uses, Subsection (n) to allow the incidental sale of merchandise at the Main Street Farmers Market by individual businesses located on Main Street that have valid business licenses. The sale of services, including but not limited to, acupuncture, manicure, hair coloring or haircuts and styling, and the sale of alcoholic beverages would be prohibited.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2008 AT 6:45 PM

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 07TA-002
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401



MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Paul Foley, Principal Planner, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at paul.foley@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Fox

'The Savages'

Chaos and comedy ensue when two middle-aged siblings (Laura Linney, Philip Seymour Hoffman) find themselves plucked from their self-centered lives to arrange care for their elderly father (Philip Bosco). Nominated for two Academy Awards and on just about on every leading critic's Top Ten list, "The Savages" is a brutal encounter with mortality told with genuine humanity, wit, and humor. Extras include: "About the Savage" segment, director's snapshots, "The Sun City West Rhythm Tappers" extended scene, and "Two of a Kind" extended scene. (Fox)

'Bobby Deerfield'

Al Pacino portrays Deerfield, an American race car driver on the European circuit. His life is shaken up when a colleague is killed in an awful accident and at the same time meets a woman (Marthe Keller) who lives life with the speed of Deerfield at the track. However, their gallivanting romance throughout Europe speeds along until ending in a fateful, surprising climax. Directed by Sydney Pollack (Tootsie, Out of Africa). (Sony)

'The Life of Brian' The Immaculate Edition

This timeless satire by that wacky English troupe, Monty Python, pokes fun at religion and Hollywood's epic films. The action stems from Brian Cohen (Graham Chapman) reluctantly mistaken as the messiah of a new religion. Eric Idle, Terry Jones, Terry Gilliam, Michael Palin, and John Cleese are hilarious in multiple roles. Special features available are an all-new hour long revelation, "The Story of Brian," from Monty Python. (Sony)

'Poor Boy's Game'

Donnie Rose (Rossif Sutherland) has been imprisoned nine years for a beating of a black teen so brutally that it left him handicapped for life. George Carvey (Danny Glover) has waited nine years to avenge his son's fate. But fate has other plans as Donnie and Mr. Carvey form the most unlikely of bonds illustrating that hate can only be altered with forgiveness, remorse and redemption. (Image)

'Man vs. Wild'

Alone in the wilderness ... it can and has happened to far too many people. Now comes the vacationer's survival guide. In a simple yet compelling and forthright manner, former British Special Forces member Bear Grylls, who has scaled Mount Everest and explored the Arctic, shows us how to stay alive in some of the toughest yet most visited environments on earth. From the Sierra Nevadas to the Florida Everglades, Bear puts himself in the position of a stranded tourist presenting survival techniques as he climbs sheer cliffs, navigates torrid white water rivers, and freezing weather showing us where to find nourishment as we seek help. (Discovery)

'Legends of Autumn' Vol. IV-VI

Throughout the '60s and '70s, the work of NFL Films transcended the media of the time. The sights and sounds using photography and audio techniques now copied the world over from Hollywood to the Olympics, here are a collection of classic football stories from The Golden Age. Taking you deep inside the personalities and events that remain larger than life, this terrific three-disc presentation reveals the roots of why football has become America's sporting passion. (Warner Bros)

'Saturday Night Live' The Complete Third Season

Continuing the brilliant success of the previous two seasons, the third year of "SNL" showcased a fearless cast that created some of the most memorable sketches to ever appear on the storied program. Classic characters grew like The Nerds (Bill Murray and Gilda Radner), Coneheads (Dan Akroyd and Jane Curtin), and Samurai Warrior (John Belushi). The third season cemented "SNL" as the pinnacle of irreverent humor and political satire. (Universal)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local retail store.

Songs and dances of Peggy and Phil and a president

BY CYNTHIA CITRON

Special to the Daily Press

Do the names Cordell Hull, Frances Perkins, and Henry Morgenthau, Jr. ring a bell? If they do, you must be a student of 20th century American history – or you are very, very old.

Hull, Perkins, and Morgenthau were members of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Cabinet back in the 1930s. They were also featured characters in a little-known, feel-good musical written in 1937 by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, with songs by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, and starring George M. Cohan as FDR. Not too shabby a team, right? Yet the highly touted "I'd Rather Be Right" opened on Broadway to rather tepid reviews and ran for just over a year, or 290 performances.

Now the Hudson Mainstage has brought this quaint old chestnut back to life with a sparkling production that stars Joe Joyce as a rambunctious, toothy FDR and Christina Valo and Stephen Vendette as Peggy Jones and Phil Barker, the young couple the president meets in New York's Central Park. It's the Fourth of July and the president has come to the park to work on a speech he is about to give to the nation. There he stumbles on Peggy and Phil, who are bemoaning the fact that they can't get married because Phil's boss has denied him a raise in these critical economic times. (The 1937 Stock Market Crash was the second worst in U.S. history and lasted for a year). The country's prosperity, Phil's boss has said, hinges on whether the president can finally balance the federal budget.

Enter Secretary of State Hull, Secretary of Labor Perkins, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Postmaster General Farley (Thomas Dolan, Nancy Dobbs Owen, Matt Kubicek, and Tom Walz, respectively) to dream up ways to raise taxes, cut spending, or "sell something." "Do we need Baltimore?" someone asks. These Cabinet members are also introduced to Peggy in "Have You Met Miss Jones?" It's the only song from this topical musical to become popular enough to survive the closing night curtain.

While taking gentle jibes at some of FDR's New Deal schemes to bolster the economy, the playwrights introduce a theatrical troupe funded by the WPA (the Work Projects Administration) whose mission it is to entertain "whenever a crowd of three or more gathers." This tacky troupe thereupon presents a musical tableau called "Spring in Vienna" which predates by 64 years but closely resembles the zany "Springtime for Hitler" number in Mel

Brooks' musical, "The Producers."

"I'd Rather Be Right" was written as a Valentine to FDR, who had just begun his second term and was undergoing the jaded scrutiny of the Congress and the Supreme Court. When these august bodies judged that Roosevelt's New Deal measures had too high a price tag, Roosevelt tried to alter the makeup of the Court, thereby earning the enmity of many. The vitriol of the attacks against him became so intense, in fact, that the newspapers and radios began to suggest that he be impeached. It was at that point that Kaufman and Hart collaborated on this warm and fuzzy paean to the president and the potential crisis was averted.

It is one of the ironies of this 1937 production that the frock-coated president was presented as a happy-go-lucky song and dance man. At that point FDR had been in office for five years, but the security around him was so tight that the public had remained unaware that he had been crippled by polio years earlier, and not only could not dance, but could not even stand without aid.

In this current production Director/Choreographer William Mead has wisely chosen not to update the references but to present a brief glossary in the playbill that explains the times and its concerns. Further, he has obtained the services of some of the best people in their fields: Scenic Designer Victoria Proffitt, whose large monochromatic trees bring a cartoon-like Central Park to the Hudson's diminutive stage, A. Jeffrey Schoenberg, whose costume design make those ugly 1930s fashions almost beautiful, and Jeremy Pivnick, who does his magic with the lighting design.

Special mention should be made of the vocal talents of the 14-member cast, especially the glorious voice of Christina Valo as Peggy, as well as the special comedy talents of Dan Spector, who plays five different parts, including Phil's boss, Mr. Maxwell.

If you are "of a certain age" you will revel in this antiquated, out-of-fashion musical. And if you are of a younger persuasion, you can still enjoy the theater as it used to be: Rip-roaring, flag-waving, and unremittingly uplifting. Just remember, it ain't no "My Fair Lady."

"I'd Rather Be Right" will continue at the Hudson Mainstage Theater, 6539 Santa Monica Blvd. in Hollywood, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through June 1. Call (323) 960-4429 for reservations.

news@smdp.com

Investing in Our Community's Future EXPLORING WORKFORCE HOUSING

Monday, May 5, 2008 - 3 p.m.

Santa Monica Public Library
601 Santa Monica Boulevard
Multipurpose Room (second floor)

Nearly 80% of Santa Monica's core workforce lives outside city limits. Workforce housing offers many potential benefits, including an improved ability to attract and retain quality workers, enhanced employee interaction with the community, reduced traffic congestion both on local streets and in the regional transportation network and improved employee accessibility in the event of an emergency.

The City Manager has invited a broad base of community stakeholders to participate in a Workforce Housing Committee to investigate the needs, assess financial tools and explore geographic opportunities. The next committee meeting will be held May 5, 2008, and is our wrap-up meeting. It is open to the public.



For more information, please call the City Manager's Office at (310) 458-8301.

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Community Meeting

The City of Santa Monica presents an overview of the Community Forest Renewal Program and discussion of the Carob Tree Assessment & Replacement Project.

May 7th, 2008 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Civic Auditorium - East Wing
1855 Main Street

A panel composed of city staff and experts in the field of urban forestry will discuss best management practices and take your questions on the recent Carob tree assessment, and the upcoming removal and replacement project.

Featured Panelists include:

Glenn Flamik, State Urban Forestry Coordinator,
California Department of Forestry

Gail Church, Immediate Past President, California ReLeaf

Jim Clark, PhD; HortScience

George Gonzalez, Chief Forester, City of Los Angeles

Dan Hardgrove, Past President,
California Urban Forests Council

Gordon Mann, Urban Forest Services Director,
Sacramento Tree Foundation

Jeanette Schachtner, Deputy City Attorney,
City of Santa Monica

Walt Warriner, Community Forester,
City of Santa Monica

Parking in the Civic Center Parking Lot and structure is free for this public meeting. The Civic Center is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 3, 7, 8 & 10 and is wheelchair-accessible. For other disability-related accommodations, call (310) 458-8301 (TTY 917-6626) on or before May 5, 2008.



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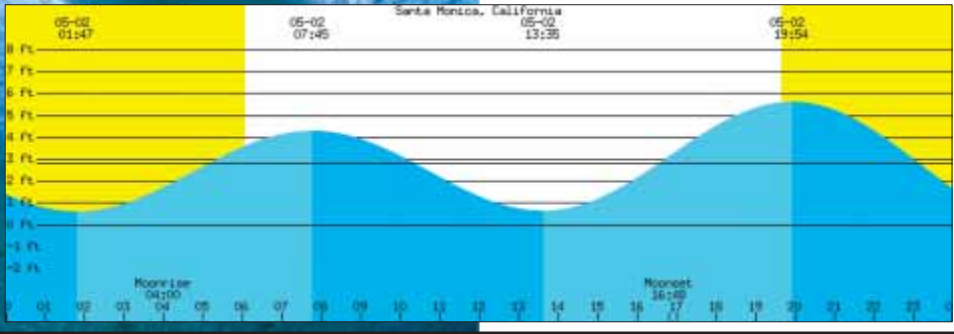
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 58°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)
The NW wind swell backs down as some southern hemi SW comes in, finally making to our shores after swirling about east of New Zealand this past week. This is angled from 210 degrees and has some very long, 16- 18-second periods. The wind swell from earlier in the week wont do any favors for this swell, but some energy will make it to our shores. On Friday, west facing breaks, seeing the decline in NW wind swell, should be waist to chest.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SMALLER SURF NEXT WEEK.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

April 16, 2008

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

QUICK STATS

(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 35 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	C	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	B	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	B	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	F	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily	F	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	C	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset 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.

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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

Fisher would like to see Utah next

BY JOHN NADEL

AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO Derek Fisher still has a soft spot for the Utah Jazz. That being the case, he'd love nothing more than a date with his former team in the second round of the playoffs.

"I'm pulling for them in terms of those being my guys, guys that I'm close to," the Los Angeles Lakers' point guard said after practice Wednesday. "I still consider a lot of them friends, I want them to be successful. It's not because of the teams in terms of the basketball aspects or matchups."

The Lakers, who completed a sweep of the Denver Nuggets on Monday night, will face the winner of the Houston-Utah series in the second round. The Jazz lead the Rockets 3-2 entering Game 6, to be played tonight in Salt Lake City.

Should the Jazz win, they'd face the Lakers on Sunday at Staples Center to begin the second round. If the Rockets win, Game 7 of that series would be played Sunday in Houston, and the Lakers would face the winner Tuesday night in Los Angeles.

The Lakers have reached the second round for the first time since 2004, when they lost to the Detroit Pistons in the NBA finals to complete a dominating five-year era in which they won three championships.

Fisher, who had played his first eight NBA seasons with the Lakers, left to sign a free-agent contract with Golden State, where he

played two years before being traded to the Jazz. Also departing were Shaquille O'Neal, Karl Malone, Gary Payton and Rick Fox along with coach Phil Jackson, who would return a year later.

Fisher was the feel-good story of the postseason last spring. He left the Jazz before Game 2 of the conference semifinals to go to New York, where his 10-month-old daughter Tatum was treated for a cancerous tumor in her left eye, but returned in the third quarter and scored all five of his points in overtime of Utah's 127-117 victory over Golden State.

Utah reached the conference finals before losing to eventual champion San Antonio. Fisher asked the Jazz to release him from his contract last summer so he could concentrate on finding the best medical care for his daughter, and that turned out to be in Los Angeles.

Fisher had a ready answer when asked if he might pull for the Jazz, even a little, in the second round.

"No, not even close," he replied.

Fisher was the only Laker to express a preference for the team's second-round opponent.

"No. Thanks for asking though," Jackson replied when the question was posed.

"We're hoping the Utah-Houston series goes seven games, three overtimes (in Game 7)," Lamar Odom said. "We want these teams to battle each other. At this time of year, it doesn't matter (who advances), we feel like we can beat anybody."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

514 Palisades Avenue, LC-08LM-002, Zoning: R-1 (Single Family Residential) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 08LM-002 for 514 Palisades Avenue to determine whether the property, known as F.R. Seibert House, should, in whole or part, be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research, and public testimony presented show that the property meets one or more of the required criteria for landmark designation. Applicant: Victor and Diane Fresco. Owner: Victor and Diane Fresco.

When: Monday, May 12, 2008 at 7:00 pm

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Lily Yegazu, Associate Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Ms. Yegazu by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at lily.yegazu@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



MOVIETIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Avenue (323) 466-FILM	21 (PG-13) 2hrs 03min 11:05 a.m., 1:50, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40 Deception (R) 1hr 48min 11 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 7, 9:45 Baby Mama (PG-13) 1hr 36min 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40 Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay (R) 1hr 42min 11:30 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15 The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 53min 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:45, 3:45, 4:45, 6:30, 7:40, 9:10, 10:20 Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) 1hr 51min 11:45 a.m., 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45	40min 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55 The Visitor (ZPG-13) 1hr 48min 1:30, 4:20, 7:25, 10 Smart People (R) 1hr 33min 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00 Young@Heart (PG) 1hr 47min 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third St. (310) 458-1506	The Bank Job (R) 1hr 50min 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 10:00 Deal (PG-13) 1hr 26min 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55 Nim's Island (PG) 1hr 35min 2:25, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 Prom Night (PG-13) 1hr 28min 3:25, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15	MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 88 Minutes (R) 1hr 48min 11:50 a.m., 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20 Iron Man (PG-13) 2hrs 06min 11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 6:00, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00, 12:00am Made of Honor (PG-13) 1hr 41min 11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:50, 2:50, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262	LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741 Then She Found Me (R) 1hr	

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

Hang out, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Avoid a collision with someone in charge. You also might want to toss out any annoyances. You want to start your weekend. Make it OK to feel your Wheaties, but also to pretend, at least for a day, that you are a diplomat. Tonight: Lead the weekend parade.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ A radical shift in plans and/or new information might force you to rethink your path. Discuss options, especially if your funds are involved. You might need to say enough. A child or loved one expresses some moodiness. Tonight: Use your sixth sense.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ A change on the home front or within your personal circle might force some heavy thinking. You could develop a greater sense of direction because of friends. Meetings also feed you important information. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Take a stand if you need to. Ask more questions, and stay on top of your game. Pressure builds, forcing your hand in an unprecedented manner. Communication could be touchy. Tonight: Out late.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Let your creativity flow and allow for greater give-and-take. Put limits on financial liability in a key situation. Don't even try to imagine the demands and problems that could surround a personal matter. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Events today could be more important than you would like to think. Feel and share more, but also be sensitive to another's plight. Someone's issues could easily flow into yours. Stay tight with finances. Tonight: Quiet

talk with a loved one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might be feeling out of kilter. Think in terms of variables. With your ingenuity, you can find unusual solutions to what many see as close to impossible. Communication will flourish if you stay open. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ A change of pace could be more significant than you realize. A friend could veer in a new direction. Tonight: Wind down with a co-worker.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Your imagination could be stirred by a change of plans or by a boss. Don't allow yourself to be a pawn. Remember, even you have limits. Call it an early day if possible. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Your perspective could change radically when you least expect it. Understand that you have had enough of someone pressuring you. If you have the option of calling it an early day, do just that. Tonight: In the whirlwind of life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might want to make a difference, but a key relationship could suddenly have you rethinking. Until you get a particular issue resolved, you won't be able to forge ahead. Keep communication flowing. Tonight: Hang out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Be sensitive to costs. Damage done right now could trigger many more problems than you realize. Understanding will take you in a new direction if you are willing. A partner or friend could be out of sorts. Tonight: Buy a coveted item on the way home.

Happy birthday

You might often weigh the variables of a risk. Intellectually, your mind wants to grow and evolve, but you might have difficulty seeing the other side of an issue. Don't force yourself. You are in a special year with many opportunities. The more you relax, the more that is likely to happen to you. You'll also benefit from downtime more than ever. Whether you are off doing yoga or "writing your memoirs," you recharge. If you are single, check out any new person with care. Be the slow Bull getting to know this person. If you are attached, your relationship benefits from getaways together, just the two of you! ARIES understands you very well.

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

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY
THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 13, 2008

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Room 213, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

Use Permit 07-007, 1411 Seventh Street. The applicant, Omni Point Communications, Inc. – a subsidiary of T-Mobile USA,, proposes to install, operate, and maintain an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility on the rooftop of an existing 5-story, mixed-use building located at 1411 7th Street in the City of Santa Monica. The proposal would be comprised of twelve panel antennas that would be located behind RF transparent enclosure to fully screen the antennas from public view. In addition to the antennas, the applicant is proposing to install three related equipment cabinets located within a mechanical equipment enclosure on the rooftop. The proposed antennas do not comply with the requirements for non-parabolic antennas contained in Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.06.110 (a). Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.06.110 (b), the Zoning Administrator may approve modifications to the requirements for non-parabolic commercial antenna through the approval of a Use Permit application. The Zoning Administrator will also be considering a Resolution to adopt a Negative Declaration prepared for the project. [Planner: Lily Yegazu] **APPLICANT: SureSite Consulting Group, LLC / T-Mobile Wireless. PROPERTY OWNER: JSM Biella, LLC.**

Variance 08-002, 514 Idaho Avenue. To consider a request for a Variance to allow construction of a second story 430 square foot addition to an existing single family dwelling in the R2 Low Density Multiple Residential zone with the following modifications: [a] Allow a 10'-11" front yard setback where 20' is required; [b] Allow a 7'-8" east side yard setback and 8'-2" west side setback where a minimum 10' average setback is required; and [c] Allow a rear yard setback of 9'-6" for the second floor addition and modification to an existing on-car garage where a minimum 15' setback is required. - These modifications are requested pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.20.10.030(d)(1), which allows yard modification on parcels having a depth of ninety feet or less. The subject site has a depth of 50-feet. [Planner: Ivan Lai] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Kam Majd.**

Variance 08-006, 254 Bay Street. The applicant requests approval of multiple variances to allow a substantially remodeled single family residence to: 1) Encroach 8'-2" into the required 15' front yard setback (north side) on the first floor; 2) To allow an expanded existing front porch less than 3' above theoretical grade to encroach 8'-2" into the required 15' front yard setback, 3) To allow a proposed deck less than 3' above theoretical grade to encroach 8'-2" into the required 15' front yard setback and to extend to the east street side property line where a 4' setback is required; 5) To allow a proposed one story, 1-car garage to abut the rear property line where a minimum 5'-0" rear yard setback is required; and 6) To allow one parking space in a garage in lieu of the two parking spaces in a garage required by the substantial remodel. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(d)(1), a variance may be requested to allow the modification of yard setbacks on parcels having a depth of ninety feet or less. The subject parcel is 60' in depth. Pursuant to SMCC Section 9.04.20.10.030(b), a variance may be requested to allow the modification of the number and dimensions of automobile parking spaces, loading spaces and driveway requirements including those set by off-street parking requirements. [Planner: Chris Townes] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: Crystal Burke.**

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #7 and #8 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.

Janric Classic 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 Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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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

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



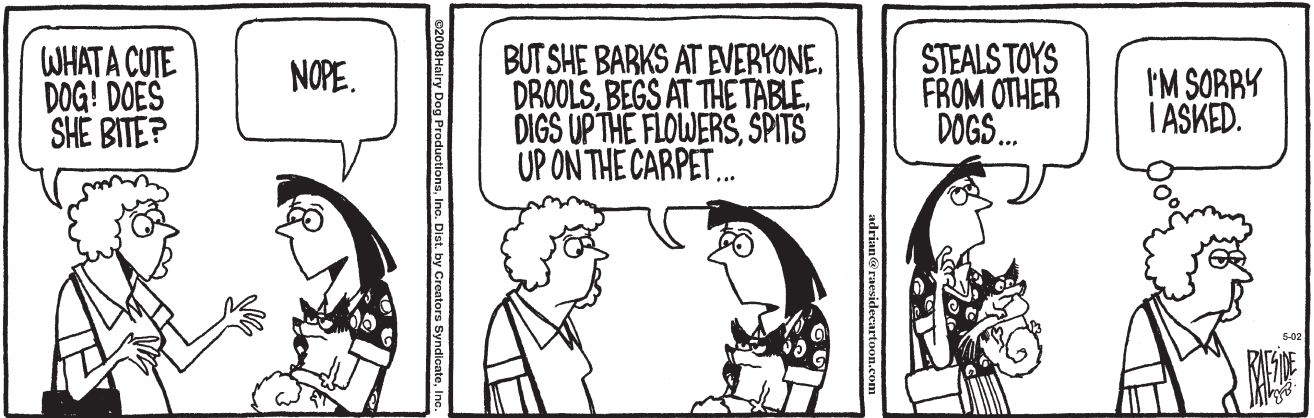
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



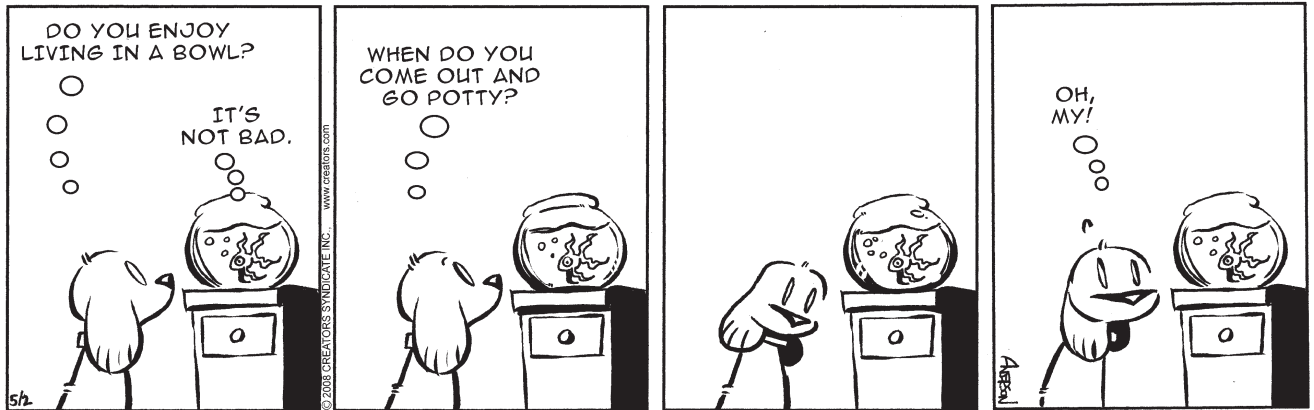
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



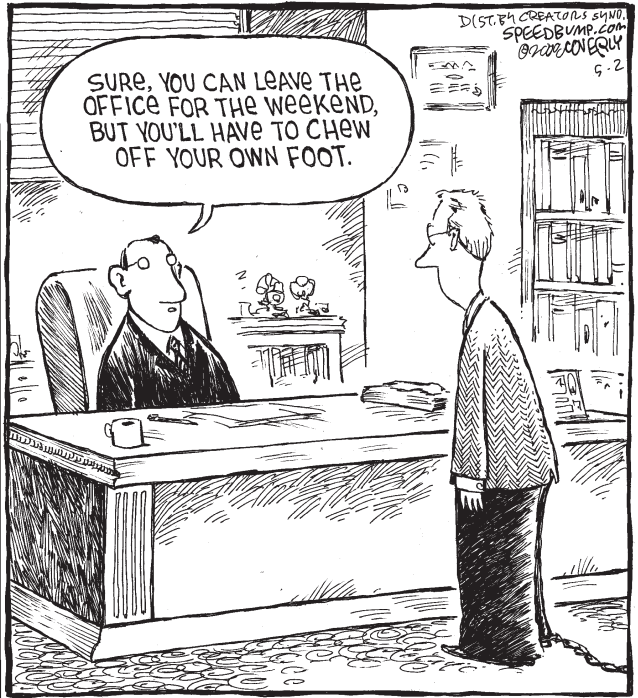
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

The first one to identify where this shot was taken wins a prize from the Daily Press. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Persian leader
 - 5 Spill the beans
 - 9 Stamp groups
 - 11 Accrued
 - 13 Prelude
 - 14 Cartoon dog
 - 15 Big head
 - 16 Tutor's units
 - 18 Family dinner times
 - 20 Crackpot
 - 21 Component
 - 22 Tears
 - 23 Maiden name
 - 24 Desk set item
 - 25 Nest resident
 - 27 Fixes
 - 29 Compass drawing
 - 30 Recover from
 - 32 Refrain bit
 - 34 Lode material
 - 35 Apartment sign
 - 36 "Two Women" star
 - 38 Con-temptible sort
- DOWN**
- 1 Some agents
 - 2 Fixation
 - 3 Supreme Court justice since 1986
 - 4 That girl
 - 5 Army VIPs
 - 6 Girl
 - 7 "Slavonic Dances" composer
 - 8 Incinerate
 - 10 Comfort
 - 12 Bed parts
 - 17 Potato part
 - 19 Like an abyss
 - 22 Nevada city
 - 24 Potpourri bits
 - 25 Bulb rating
 - 26 Pointers
 - 27 Singer Tormé
 - 28 Calm
 - 30 Slalom course features
 - 31 Freshen
 - 33 Camera part
 - 37 Surprised sounds

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	
9				10		11				12
13						14				
15				16	17					
18			19					20		
	21						22			
		23				24				
25	26				27				28	
29				30						31
32			33					34		
35						36	37			
38						39				
	40							41		

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 19 24 35 44 51
Meganumber: 26
Jackpot: \$100M

Super LOTTO 13 14 34 35 40
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: \$19M

Fantasy 5 5 26 31 38 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 5 9 1
EVENING: 7 8 4

DAILY DERRY 1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:42.44

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

■ Even though 20 states outlaw keeping monkeys as pets, the Humane Society of the U.S. estimates that there are 15,000 privately owned primates, with at least 200 Floridians licensed for pet capuchins, according to an April Orlando Sentinel report. Since experts warn that the animals are biters and scratchers and are very aggressive when agitated, the Sentinel asked what accounts for their popularity. Said the editor of Monkey Matters Magazine, it's their humanlike features and owners' desires to dress them up. "Believe me," said the editor, "if people could get their cats (into) outfits, a lot of those cats would be wearing outfits."

■ In three incidents in March and April, robbers were arrested in the act after police were tipped off in advance. The source of the tip each time was a store employee who had been brazenly notified by the perp to expect a robbery soon. Daniel Glen, 40, was arrested in Windsor, Ontario, having called ahead to make sure there was enough money in the convenience store's cash register. An 18-year-old man was arrested in Chicago, having given his phone number to a Mufflers For Less employee and instructing him to call when the manager, with access to the safe, arrived at work.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1670 the Hudson Bay Company was chartered by England's King Charles II.

1863 Confederate Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was accidentally wounded by his own men at Chancellorsville, Va.; he died eight days later.

1890 the Oklahoma Territory was organized.

1936 "Peter and the Wolf," a symphonic tale for children by Sergei Prokofiev, had its world premiere in Moscow.

1945 the Soviet Union announced the fall of Berlin, and the Allies announced the surrender of Nazi troops in Italy and parts of Austria.

1957 Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, the controversial Republican senator from Wisconsin, died at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

1957 crime boss Frank Costello narrowly survived an attempt on his life in New York.

WORD UP!

cloy \KLOY\, *transitive verb*:
1. To weary by excess, especially of sweetness, richness, pleasure, etc.

intransitive verb:
1. To become distasteful through an excess usually of something originally pleasing.

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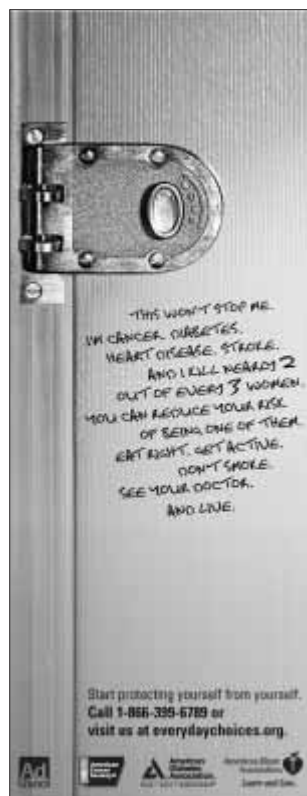


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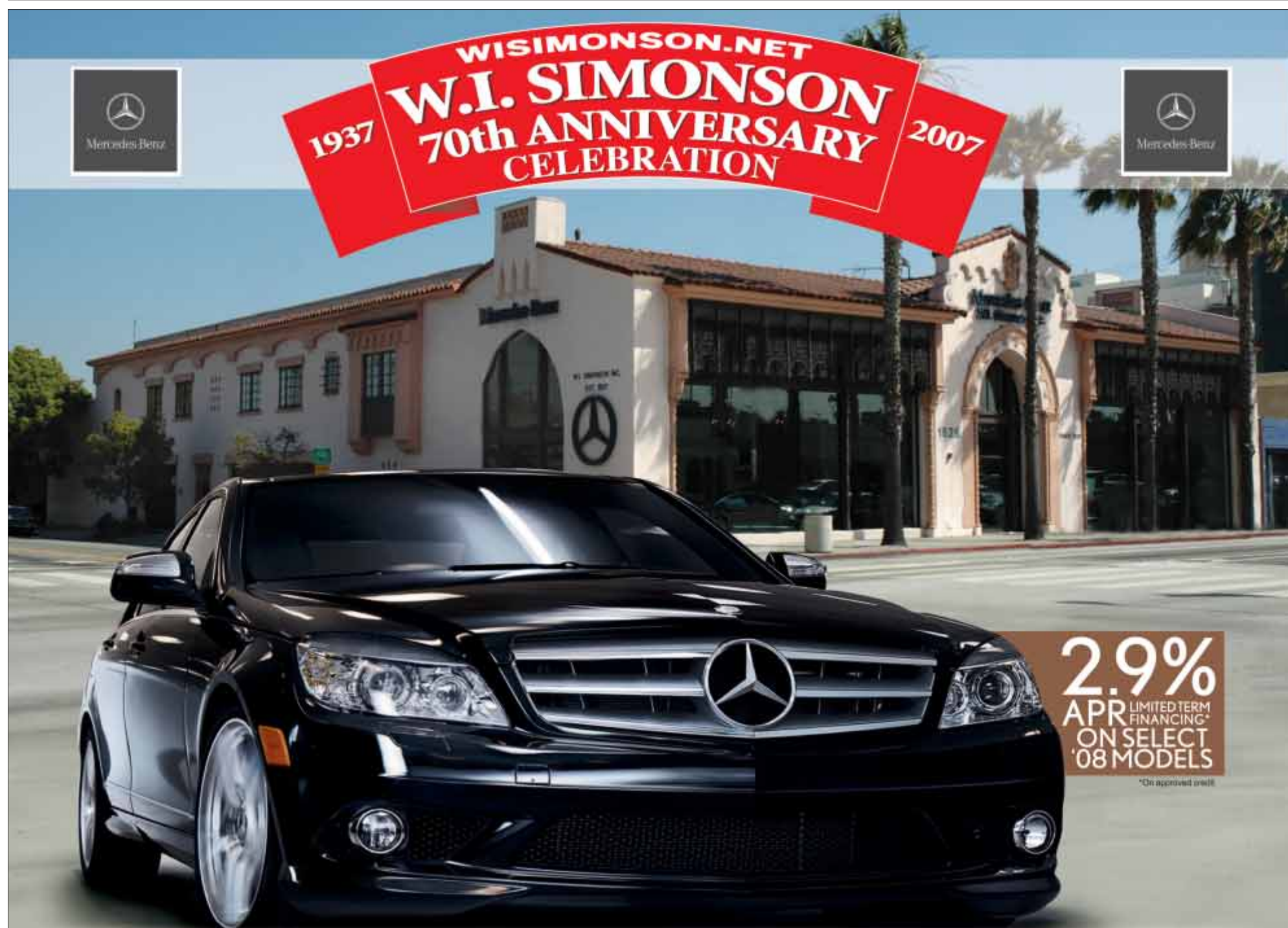
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