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MAY 2-3, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 153



Santa Monica Daily Press

BOOING THE EDGE
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE **BRIDGING THE DIVIDE** ISSUE

Samohi students become young marine biologists

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI Every Wednesday morning while his peers are still rolling out of bed and rubbing the crust from their eyes, Raphael Mawrence is at the beach, not hitting the waves, but rather learning about the marine environment.

The 11th grader is among more than a dozen Santa Monica High School students who for the past seven weeks have been collecting and analyzing water samples from the Santa Monica Bay, monitoring bacteria levels and trying to understand the factors that make the local beach one of the most polluted in the state.

The group of approximately 15 teenagers are part of the Surfrider Foundation's Teach & Test Program, which aims to educate students about urban runoff and other environmental issues, giving them the tools necessary to make a positive impact in the community.

"I get to see what I'm swimming in," Mawrence said.

Local beaches continually post poor marks in Heal the Bay's annual Beach Report Card, which grades water quality at more than 500 locations statewide. The most recent report card last May found that L.A. County is home to five of the top 10 lowest-rated beaches. The pier ranked second on the list of the "Top 10 Beach Bummers," just behind Avalon Harbor Beach at Catalina Island.

Through funding from the Surfrider Foundation West Los Angeles/Malibu Chapter and other grants, including the California Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grant, the students test their samples at the new Samohi Surfrider Marine Laboratory — a classroom in the school's science building that is stacked with roughly $9,000 worth of equipment.

"It's mostly about empowering the kids, empowering the future generations

SEE **STUDENTS** PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

COOL STUFF: **Santa Monica High School students fill trays with ocean water containing bacteria in Benjamin Kay's science class at Samohi on Thursday afternoon. The students are part of the Surfrider Foundation's Teach and Test Program, which aims to educate youth about water quality.**

Slew of affordable housing in works

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

BROADWAY An old nursing home that's been put out of commission sits quietly on a corner here, mostly shielded from the public's eye through a chain-link fence that's covered in a green mesh canvas.

Some might view the former facility as an eyesore, with boarded up windows and outdated white awnings, but the corner of 26th Street and Broadway will someday be home to one of 11 new affordable housing projects that are expected to come online in the city within the next few years.

The projects together involve about 286 units, roughly 115 of which will be constructed through new developments and with the remaining being directly impacted through various rehabilitation projects of existing apartments that have been acquired over the past year by Community Corporation of Santa Monica.

The majority of the projects will receive some sort of financing from City Hall and the

SEE **PROJECTS** PAGE 11

Minor quake rattles nerves on Westside

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU A minor earthquake struck west of Los Angeles in the Santa Monica Mountains on Friday. No major injuries or damage were immediately reported.

A preliminary report said a magnitude-4.4 quake hit at 6:11 p.m., about seven miles

SEE **QUAKE** PAGE 13

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Interior design
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 2 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Professional designer and teacher Danielle Kurz will share her expert tips on how to make homes and offices beautiful yet livable. Admission is free. Call (310) 829-7081 for more information.

Music on the lawn
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main Street, 2 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.
The Bright Light Chamber Players are a non-profit group of professional, local musicians who are committed to making this community a better place through music. Cellist Whitney Griggs Raleigh is the musical director of this rotating group of artists. The performance will be presented on the Main Street porch with viewing from the park. Admission is free. Call (310) 392-3804 for more information.

To your health
Third Street Promenade
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce is once again hosting the Santa Monica Cares festival, a one-stop-shop for services, information and testing. People will be able to have their blood pressure tested for free. There will also be free pediatric, fat and vein, and asthma screenings. Doctors will be on hand to answer questions regarding diabetes, geriatrics and weight loss. There will also be live entertainment and stage demonstrations throughout the day. The event is free to the public.

Sunday, May 3, 2009

TAG, you're it
TAG
2903 Santa Monica Blvd., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Come for an evening of art and community. TAG gallery is one of the few Westside venues exclusively supporting local talent. Three diverse artists are featured, one whose art has blurred lines and edges, one whose art focuses on California's landscapes and one whose 3D botanical paintings involve wire and household hangers. Admission is free.

Special Election Informational Session
The Women's Club
901 Haverford Ave., Pacific Palisades, 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
The Women's Club will host a panel of speakers presenting the "Yes" and "No" sides of the six measures that will appear on the ballot on the May 19. California State Assemblywoman Julia Brownley will present the "Yes" side and Dave Dayen, writer of the Calitics political blog, will present the "No" side.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
Virginia Avenue Park
Pico and Cloverfield, 1 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
The combination fiesta and classic car show will take place on Sunday, featuring award-winning Mariachi Estrella de Jalisco, salsa band Bomba Chante, Ballet Folklorico and more. The car show will feature vintage muscle cars, low riders, trucks and specialty vehicles. And of course, there will be plenty of delicious and authentic Mexican food.

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.

Crossroads routs Kilpatrick, 16-1

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

CLOVER PARK Crossroads' Max Robinson is a one-man gang.

Well, at least he was Friday during a 16-1 Delphic League win over Kilpatrick.

The sophomore starting pitcher (7-0) not only shut out the Mustangs for four innings, but he helped his own cause by going 3-for-3 and driving in five runs.

"I had been struggling [at the plate] this season," Robinson said. "I'm starting to come around."

His first at bat of the game couldn't have been a better time for him to shake off any rust and get the game going in the right direction. With a pair of men on in the first and no outs, Robinson hit a double down the right field line plating two for an early 2-0 lead.

For Kilpatrick, the day didn't get any easier.

Crossroads tacked on another run in the first and didn't look back from there.

The Roadrunners scored five more in the second inning against Kilpatrick starter Damien Wood. The inning was highlighted by junior Josh Flyer's home run, which made it 7-0.

"[Flyer] is an example of somebody who is putting in work," Co-Head Coach Matt Amido said.

The offensive explosion impressed Kilpatrick's Head Coach Kevin Dellamico, who was particularly taken by Robinson and fellow sophomore shortstop Andres Leyva, who walked three times, reached on an error and scored four runs. For good measure, he also swiped a base. Not bad for a player who had missed the three previous games with a sprained ankle.

"It felt good running the bases for the first time in a while," Leyva said. "It was rough sitting."

Friday's game was the third against Kilpatrick this week. Crossroads defeated the Mustangs 12-2 on Tuesday.

The two teams played on Wednesday, but the game was technically a junior varsity contest.

The Roadrunners may be coming off a successful week in league play, but the true test of the season will come next week during a pair of games against league rival Windward, a team that is 13-7 overall and 3-0 in league. Crossroads is currently in second place in the Delphic with an overall record of 11-3 and a 3-1 league mark.

"They do everything well," Amido said regarding Windward.

Robinson, who is scheduled to pitch the second game on Friday, May 8 at 7 p.m., is cautiously excited about taking on Windward.

"These next two games are big," Robinson said. "I've played with a couple of the guys in the past so I know it should be a tough game [on Friday]."

He said that his team's scouting report ranks Windward at the top of the heap in terms of opponents.

"They hit the ball really hard," Robinson said.

daniela@smdp.com

The Edge's mansion plan upsets Malibu locals

NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press Writer

MALIBU A few years ago, U2 guitarist The Edge went for a hike, and there in the golden hills overlooking Malibu's cerulean waters, he finally found what he was looking for.

The Edge and his wife, Morleigh Steinberg, bought 156 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains and now want to build five mansions there, including their own dream home. From a distance, they say, their house will look like nothing more than scattered leaves on the ridgeline.

"These homes will be some of the most environmentally sensitive ever designed in Malibu — or anywhere in the world," the guitarist, whose real name is David Evans, said in a prepared statement.

Nearby residents, however, haven't bought his green pitch and say The Edge is endangering the beauty of one of Southern California's most famous beachfront communities along with U2's globally conscious image.

"It is going to look nice to the human eye but at what cost?" said surf shop owner and City Councilman Jefferson Wagner. "When is enough enough?"

The plan has sparked the latest development controversy in Malibu, where residents and city officials portray themselves as stewards of a blessed environment — even as the construction of palatial mansions and sweeping driveways turn vast swaths of that environment to mulch.

The project proposed by The Edge calls for a cluster of five, 10,000-square-foot homes. The two-story, earth-toned dwellings would be the maximum size allowed in areas designated as environmentally sensitive habitat.

Renderings show organic design features such as a pool that encircles one home like a moat. Another house would wrap around an existing pile of boulders while The Edge's own dwelling would feature curved roof lines to simulate leaves.

The Edge is also proposing to dig an access road up the mountain behind the exclusive Serra Retreat neighborhood of about 90 homes that stars such as Mel Gibson, Kelsey Grammer and Britney Spears have called home.

"They're claiming it's a green environmental project, but you'd have to live in the houses a thousand years" to make up for the carbon dioxide emitted by the trucks hauling the dirt out, said Lawrence Weisdorn, president of the Serra Retreat homeowners association.

Still, the plan by The Edge has won the approval of Los Angeles County and in June is expected to go before the California Coastal Commission, which regulates coastal development.

Steve Hudson, regional supervisor of planning and regulation for the commission, said the project will have to overcome some hurdles. For instance, the road would require significant grading in a habitat of chaparral and coastal sage where landslides are an ongoing issue.

"We have concerns," Hudson said. "We're still evaluating the application in regards to impacts to the environmentally sensitive habitat areas and potential impacts to public views."

The Edge is also fighting a "not in my backyard" mentality among the well-heeled denizens of Malibu. Many fear the access road might someday be extended to the other side of the hill and pave the way for a flood of unwanted visitors from Los Angeles County.

Critics have seized on The Edge's green credentials saying recycling, composting and avoiding plastic foam cups is commendable but putting mansions in such a sensitive habitat erases all those good intentions. Flora and fauna may be lost, energy and water will be used to create and transport building materials, not to mention filling the pools and lighting up the mansions even if they are helped by solar panels.

The guitarist, who owns more than 400 acres in Malibu, declined a request for an interview but said in his prepared statement that his critics "don't have the facts or have ulterior motives."

His project manager Jim Vanden Berg says the road won't be turned into a highway or lead to more development.

"The Edge does not deserve to have his reputation tarnished in this fashion because it's contrary to his stance on the environment," Vanden Berg said.

The goal, he said, is to have the homes be Gold LEED Certified by adhering to the greenest building standards requiring use of recycled materials in construction and environmentally friendly amenities to reduce energy consumption. Among other features, the homes will have native landscaping, electric vehicle charging, solar panels and onsite wastewater treatment.

Evans recently listed the lots for $7.5 million each. Vanden Berg would not say how much the finished homes would sell for but noted Evans planned to pick his neighbors.

The guitarist partnered with high-end global hotel developer Derek Quinlan to buy the property in 2006 for $9 million. Both men, along with U2 frontman Bono, are currently involved in another controversial project in Ireland to transform the boutique Clarence Hotel in Dublin into a larger, five-star hotel, raising the ire of conservationists and environmentalists.

The Edge bought another property in the Malibu's Latigo Canyon in 2007 for $20.25 million. Vanden Berg called the land an investment and said no development was ever planned for the site.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

You shoot, you pay

Editor:

Regarding your April 29, 2009 article "City Hall settles fatal shooting," I can think of a better place for that $250,000 settlement money to go. How about four teacher's salaries for the year to teach kids who want to do something with their life? This guy was armed with a handgun, fled from the police, and then when cornered, he turned on them with the gun? It's interesting the family filed a "wrongful death" lawsuit eight months after the shooting? Wow, there is an attorney for everything. In addition, the L.A. County D.A.'s office investigated and found the officers "acted in lawful self defense" and the City Council still approved the settlement, but believed the officers weren't in the wrong? How about standing by your officers and going to trail. How does the cost of a trial come to $180,000 to defend against this? It still sounds cheaper than a settlement to me.

The city's decision to settle is based upon that jury "results can be unpredictable." Put me on that jury. If my family was told I ran from the police with a gun, turned on officers with that gun in my hand and I was shot dead, it would certainly be the end of that tragic story. No lawsuit – actually taking responsibility for a foolish act. I'm sorry that the family lost their son by his foolish mistake, but the lives of the officers were also endangered, and a selfish act ends up with a payout of several hundred thousand dollars, money I'm sure the city doesn't have to hand out in these tough times. Or maybe they do?

Mark Sanderson
Santa Monica

Juvenile logic

Editor:

While reading the April 29 "Going Postal" opinion piece, I had to physically hold my head together before it exploded. Your readership deserves better than this juvenile logic against bad guys and "jihadi scum" dressed up as a thoughtful argument.

There is a significant difference between a Navy training exercise in torture endurance versus being kidnapped in the dead of night, ripped from your wife and children, flown to a secret CIA prison with a bag over your head, and tortured until you literally go insane. Maybe the opinion columnists of the SMDP need to lower their lofty aspirations on social commentary and focus on more local issues.

For that matter, has anyone seen the billboard trucks running through Downtown and blaring music in the middle of traffic hours? How about an opinion column on that!

Philip Orosco
Santa Monica

There's no place like home

Editor:

As an ex-pat Californian living in New York City, I am particularly struck and intrigued by the articles you feature in the Santa Monica Daily Press by Carol Hastings ("Bursting the car bubble"). If we believe change starts with ourselves, your author encourages the small steps that lead to wonder.

Her eye is both keen and kind. Her articles let me vicariously revisit my favorite Philippe's and learn what is new and thriving in Los Angeles. And when escorted on these hometown adventures by such a devoted, down to earth, and delightful observer, her "life tips" speak volumes.

I believe you have found the benign and perfect guide to remind and encourage us to enjoy tough times, to take part, to create and participate in community. As Carol Hastings strays with purpose and humor away from the familiar and habitual, I hope your readers in Los Angeles will follow. Congratulations. I wish we had the same sort of "there's no place like home" (so we'd better appreciate it) articles in The Daily News or the Post here in New York.

Cynthia Mace
New York City



Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Computers in jeopardy?

I READ THE OTHER DAY THAT IBM PLANS on having a computer compete against human contestants on the TV show, "Jeopardy!" The claim is that if the computer beats people, it will be a big leap forward in the field of artificial intelligence. It doesn't sound like a leap to me. We already know that computers can be faster than humans and that their "brains" can contain more information. So what's the big deal? However, the people at IBM are quite excited about this. I assume "quite excited" translates at IBM to mean that some of the folks there are actually considering loosening their ties.

If IBM (or one of its clones) were announcing that it had finally made a computer that will last longer than a ball-point pen, then I might be excited. If they had come up with a computer that doesn't crash the night before something important is due, I'd put on a tie and loosen it. I'd be impressed if they were demonstrating a new program that could tell the difference between e-mail from my mother and spam from "Swedish Porn And Farm Supplies." But a computer that's good at playing a game? Big whoop.

So I wasn't all that impressed when I first read about this, but then I started thinking that maybe I was being too quick to judge. Maybe I'll consider this computer amazing when I actually see it on the show. Once they bring it to Culver City and put it on the set, sandwiched between a male and a female contestant, maybe it will do things besides just answer questions.

Maybe the computer will be better dressed than the human contestants. Maybe it won't make dumb wagers. Maybe it will be impressive during what the show's producers refer to as the "interview portion" of the program and what we at home call, "the bathroom break."

That's the time when the contestants tell "fascinating" stories about themselves like, "One time I had a flat tire." Maybe the geniuses at IBM will have programmed the computer to tell an anecdote that's actually interesting, like a story about the time the computer was caught in a motel room fooling around with a DVD player.

One of the quirks of "Jeopardy!" is that the contestant is actually given the "answer," and he or she must supply the "question." For example, the "answer" might be "Claimed She Could See Russia From Her House," so the correct "question" would be, "Who is Sarah Palin?" A response that would be technically correct, but not what they're looking for would be, "Who is Mrs. Putin?"

I guess this kind of subtlety about giving an answer that is factually correct but obviously not what they're looking for is one of the things that make it difficult for a computer to play the game. Understanding the vernacular of the show and the strange categories that sometimes appear are all things that aren't easy for computers. It would be a slam-dunk if the show just asked questions like, "What's the square root of the year President Obama was born, multiplied by the number of cosmetic surgeries that Joan Rivers has had?"

The computer that they'll use isn't like the one I'm using right now. It's going to be a Blue Gene supercomputer, whatever that is. Most people will probably be rooting for the people against the computer. That's just human nature. We often hate machines, hate talking to them on the phone, and hate having to deal with them when we forget our stupid passwords.

MAYBE THE COMPUTER WILL BE BETTER DRESSED THAN THE HUMAN CONTESTANTS. MAYBE IT WON'T MAKE DUMB WAGERS. MAYBE IT WILL BE IMPRESSIVE DURING WHAT THE SHOW'S PRODUCERS REFER TO AS THE "INTERVIEW PORTION" OF THE PROGRAM AND WHAT WE AT HOME CALL, "THE BATHROOM BREAK."

We love stories about a guy who can do math faster on his abacus than some computer. We shake our heads sadly when computers replace people at work. We shrug knowingly when we hear about a major computer mess-up like when students are told they've been admitted to a university that they aren't even qualified to visit. So I predict that the audience will be cheering if that librarian from Omaha kicks the computer's hard drive.

Gary Johnson, "Jeopardy!" head writer, said he wasn't worried about the computer challenging "Jeopardy's" human contestants until he read the last sentence in the news article about the challenge. That's where computer scientist, Eric Nyberg said that he and his colleagues sit around after work and talk about ideas while "having beers." Johnson's responses was a big "uh-oh," because "that's exactly what we do around here after work."

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

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The Q Line

Tough choices

This past week, Q-line asked:
City Manager Lamont Ewell has asked hundreds of city employees to forego performance bonuses to prevent cuts to services and possible layoffs because of a reduction in revenue. Do you think employees should give up their bonuses, or should the city find alternative means to cut costs?
Here are your responses:

"OF COURSE THE SANTA MONICA employees should give up their performance bonuses. Frankly, I think most of them are overpaid anyway with way too generous benefit packages. Do you're damn job and be glad you are employed. They should do away with these bonuses anyway."

"AN ENTERTAINER PERFORMS FOR money and applause. The degree of applause indicates the quality of performance and is the icing on the cake. The amount of bonus paid to an employee is a form of applause for a job well done and is the expected icing on the cake. Both the entertainer and employee deserve applause and cash for a job well done. To eliminate this form of praise would not be prudent in the long run."

"LIKE ALL GOVERNMENT WORKERS, OR rather employees, they're probably overpaid as it is so they don't need any more bonuses. If they don't like it, let them quit and they won't do that because they've got it great the way it is. They have plenty of money and benefits so they won't quit. Even if they do, there are plenty of people who can do their jobs better than they can."

"I THINK THE CITY SHOULD FIND alternative means. Not giving bonuses punishes salaried employees and continues to reward hourly employees who are paid overtime as mandated by law. I strongly oppose giving up employee bonuses. Employees are already fixed and capped for the most part and that is their only way of having any sort of parity with their costs of living."

"I THINK EMPLOYEES SHOULD GIVE UP their bonuses and it's prudent at this time for the city to continue to provide city services to the community and also to ensure financial longevity over the long haul. These are tough times, and tough decisions do have to be made, but through those tough decisions the city will end up in a better financial position in the next two years. So it's time to be selfless, not selfish, and pull together. City Manager Ewell's request is the right request, and most city employees realize that and are willing to pull together to benefit the city and its citizens."

"Regarding your question about bonuses to city employees, I for one think they should give up the bonuses. Also, I don't even think they should have gotten any bonuses to begin with. What are the bonuses for? It doesn't say why they got them. I just don't understand it. Our hard-earned money in Santa Monica is going to bonuses. What is all this about?"

"I THINK THE CITY EMPLOYEES SHOULD receive their bonuses because this is a group of employees who are, I believe, exempt employees. They cannot earn overtime and this is the only way of increasing their salary and, in some cases, making them competitive with other cities' employees doing the same job as these folks are doing for Santa Monica. Without those bonuses, many of those salary ranges are not particularly competitive and we may end up losing people who are good people that we want to keep."

"EMPLOYEES SHOULDN'T GIVE UP PART of their salaries, whether it's bonus or whatever it is, to meet the budget cuts. I think the city management should look at other alternatives because it is hard for people to make ends meet."

"TO THE QUESTION OF THE WEEK: AS A city employee, I feel strongly that I want to help the city in this economic crisis and in this time I feel like all of the employees who work for the city want to step up to the plate and contribute to help the city. However, I think Lamont asking only a small group of employees to give up their bonuses, while other employees and unions of the city don't have to give up anything, is wrong. It really smacks of inequity, and if one group is asked to give up something, all groups should be asked to give up something, not just have one group of employees bear the burden for everything."

"HI. I'M A CITY EMPLOYEE, CALLING TO reply to the Qline about tough choices. And I feel that in order to have an equitable way to bridge the budget gap, we should come up with a better solution than target three bargaining units – that's EPP, MTA and ATA employees – to give up their bonuses. We should have an equitable way. Every employee should share the pain."

"I AM AN EMPLOYEE, AND I BELONG TO one of the unions that are going to forego their bonuses. I agree with it, I think it's a good thing. We do the right thing it's going to prevent possibly layoffs as well as continue the service that we currently give to the city of Santa Monica."

"WE SHOULD NOT ONLY CUT THEIR bonuses, but also cut them to the minimum wage."

"I AGREE WITH THE CITY MANAGER AT this particular time, with hundreds of thousands of people losing their jobs, that to give up a bonus this year to continue with services and prevent possible layoffs is a good decision for now. And I'm sure Lamont and the City Council thought long and hard about it before they suggested it, and I know they will look for alternative ways to prevent having to take away bonuses year after year after year. But after all, a bonus is a bonus. People should be able to live without it."

"A PERFORMANCE BONUS? THAT SOUNDS like a management employee. Or is 'bonus' a nice word for 'raise?' The question is hilarious when you have a half-billion dollar budget in this town. Santa Monica is like a bloated dead whale with lack of ability, City Hall's pseudo-workers feeding on the carcass. If the average monthly employee is forced to take an unpaid day, than a management employee should be forced to take three. Plus, council members should sacrifice, let's see, how about termination of their putrid leadership of Santa Monica into a neo-European socialist dunghill?"

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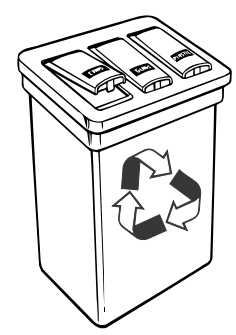

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Tips for using hot new sweetener — agave syrup

JULIE WIENER
For The Associated Press

A cactus-based sugary syrup has become the latest darling of the alternative sweetener world.

Once mostly unheard of outside natural food stores, agave syrup — made from the same Mexican cactus that yields tequila — suddenly is getting celebrity endorsements, competing for shelf space at mainstream grocers and is a must-have cocktail ingredient.

"If I'm going to be making a premium margarita, agave nectar's got to be riding shotgun," says Food Network star Guy Fieri, who is better known for his greasy spoon affection than his natural foods know-how.

"It's not overly cloying. It's delicious. Put it over pineapple, strawberries," he says. "Don't worry, it doesn't taste like tequila syrup!"

The growth of agave has been strong, part of an overall trend in the natural and organic sweeteners market, which went from $85 million in 1998 to $200 million last year, according to Nutrition Business Journal, which follows the natural foods industry. And last year, 304 products sported agave syrup as an ingredient; in 2003 it was 60, according to market research firm DataMonitor.

Fans of the syrup praise its mild, fruity flavor, its ease in baking and its relative healthfulness. While it has the same number of calories per teaspoon as table sugar, it is sweeter, so you can use less of it.

Much of its popularity also stems from heavy marketing of its low glycemic effect, meaning agave syrup is believed to have a less dramatic effect on blood sugar levels than refined sugars, such as white sugar and corn syrup.

It also is popular among vegans, who don't eat animal products and consider agave an ethically better choice than honey.

Agave syrup is generally available in three varieties — raw, which has a maple syrup-like color and moderate caramel flavor; light, which has a light caramel flavor and color; and amber, which is similar in color and flavor to raw.

Ania Catalano, author of "Baking with Agave Nectar," says light agave is best for light, fruity desserts that call for a gentle sweetness without a distinct agave flavor. She suggests amber for heavily seasoned pies, such as pumpkin, or as a topping for pancakes or waffles.

Pastry chef Mani Niall, author of the cookbook "Sweet! From Agave to Turbinado," says agave nectar works well in everything from rich desserts to elegant cocktails. "It doesn't have to be some brown health food-y thing," he says.

One reason agave syrup has caught on is its versatility. Food manufacturers are using it as a sweetener in ketchup, coffee sweeteners, even tonic waters. Niall says it's easy to work with because it won't overwhelm a recipe.

In addition to baked goods and drinks, agave nectar can be used in marinades and barbecue sauces. But like sugar and honey, agave can burn under high temperatures, so grill with care.

When substituting agave syrup for white sugar in a recipe, use about 25 percent less than the amount called for. You also will need to adjust other ingredients to compensate for using a liquid, rather than a dry, sweetener.

That extra moisture can be a boon if you like soft, chewy cookies, such as oatmeal. But don't try it for shortbread or a crispy chocolate chip cookie. "Agave doesn't like to get crispy," Catalano says.





Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fighting for control

WHEN YOU HEAR THE THEME SONG from "Rocky," what images does it conjure?

I see the Philadelphia Museum of Art steps which I ran up at the beginning, but not at the end, of the Philadelphia Marathon. I see a thick gray sweat suit not ideal for exercise. And I see a glass full of raw eggs which are absolutely not the best pre or post workout meal. Eggs must be cooked to destroy harmful bacteria and to denature the protein so the essential amino acids can be used appropriately to build, replace and repair where needed.

You don't have to train like Rocky to be an athlete, although stair climbing is a great cardio workout. Whether you're preparing for your next fight, taking an exercise class or lifting weights at the gym, to perform your best you must fuel your body.

Eat five to six small meals per day as opposed to three squares.

Eat breakfast everyday! People who lose weight and keep it off eat breakfast.

If you're not hungry in the morning, perhaps you ate too much the night before. In one study of subjects who needed about 2,000 calories per day to maintain their weight, the subjects lost weight when they moved all of their calories to their morning meal but gained weight if they ate the 2,000 calories all in the evening. Some people claim that if they eat breakfast, then they are hungry all day. Since when is being hungry a crime? You should be hungry all day and not ravenous in the evening when you don't need the calories. Think of eating breakfast as putting gas in your car to take you to a destination that ends when the sun goes down.

Break the fast, fuel your engine and you will have more energy throughout the day.

To snack or not to snack, that is the question. If you're a morning exerciser who does not eat before exercise, then it's imperative to eat breakfast followed by a substantial snack two hours later. The first two hours after exercise are the most critical for replenishing glycogen (stored carbohydrates.) If you don't eat enough to adequately replace glycogen, your future performance will be affected. So snack your energy back today.

How much you eat truly depends on your exercise intensity, but as a general rule, consume 1 to 1.5 grams of carbohydrates per kilogram of body weight. An easy way to determine your grams of carbohydrates is to multiply your weight by 2 to 1.5. A 120 pound woman should consume about 60 to 80 grams of carbohydrates immediately after exercise (120/2 = 60 and 120/1.5 = 80.) You should also have about 0.5 grams of protein per kilogram of body weight combined with your carbohydrates. Simply divide your weight by 4 to 5 to give you a range. That same 120 pound woman should consume 24 to 30 grams of protein after exercise.

Now the fun part, putting these principles into practice. To count your carbs you need to know the best sources and portion sizes. Fruits, whole grains, beans and starchy vegetables are the best whole food sources. In general, one slice of whole grain bread, two corn tortillas, 1/2 cup of whole grains or starchy vegetables, 1 cup vegetable juice, 1/2 cup fruit juice, 1/4 cup died fruit, 1 cup of fresh fruit and 3/4 cup dry cereal all contain about 12 to 20 grams of carbohydrates.

Simple sugars add carbs in compact ways when needed. Black strap molasses is rich in iron, calcium, copper, magnesium, manganese, potassium and even some selenium with 12 grams of carbohydrates per tablespoon. Protein can be found in meat, fish and poultry, 7 grams per ounce, about the size of your thumb. Tofu has 12 grams protein per 6 ounces, half of the shelf stable package. Yogurt and dairy or soy milk have 8 grams of protein and about 12 grams of carbohydrate per cup. Whole grains contain 3 grams of protein per serving and beans have 8 grams.

To assemble the perfect post-workout meal, combine carbs and protein at every meal along with healthy omega-3 fats.

One cup cooked or soaked oats or two slices whole grain bread = 25 grams carbs and six grams protein.

One tablespoon black strap molasses = 12 grams carbs.

One cup berries = 12 grams carbs.

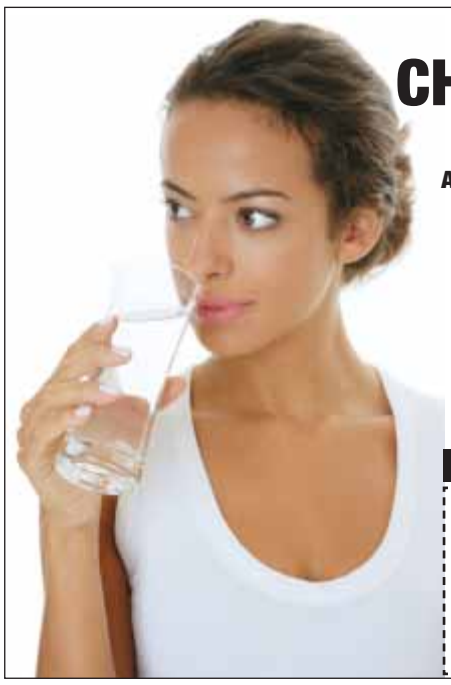
One cup organic milk, yogurt or fresh vegetable juice = 12 grams carbs and eight grams protein (from milk or yogurt).

Six ounces tofu or two omega-3 eggs (cooked) or one whole egg plus two whites = 12 to 14 grams protein.

If you omit the omega-3 eggs, add 1 tablespoon ground flax to your meal

Total = 61 grams carbs and 26 to 28 grams of protein. With these foods you can make a shake and have an egg or tofu sandwich for a quick, post workout meal-on-the-go.

ELIZABETH is a registered dietitian, certified holistic chef and certified personal trainer here to help you fuel your body all day long. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net.



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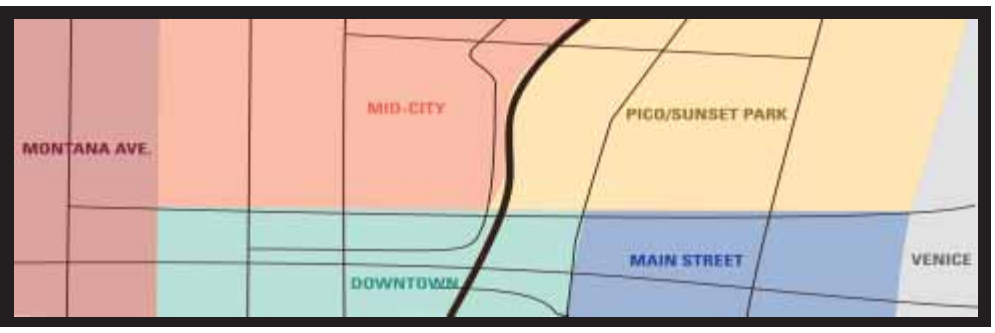
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Students examine water quality at local beaches

FROM **STUDENTS** PAGE 1

to impact changes, getting them actively engaged in the community, giving them a voice and having them tackle real environmental issues the world is facing right now and be problem solvers," Lindsey Jurca, the education chair for the local Surfrider chapter's executive committee, said.

While the program has been in place in schools across the state for years, including in the South Bay, Samohi is the first participating high school on the Westside.

The students go out every week to collect samples at three locations — Tower 26, the Santa Monica Pier and the Pico-Kenter Storm Drain.

They then return to the lab where they grow bacteria in an incubator through which they are able to determine the water quality about 24 hours later, Benjamin Kay, the program adviser and marine biology teacher, said.

The participants are either enrolled in Kay's classes or are members of several student organizations, including Team Marine and the Heal the Bay Club, both of which focus on oceanic environmental issues.

"They're very empowered by the fact that they are doing the research from start to finish by themselves," Kay said. "The results matter to them because they own the results and they're doing the dirty work."

Kay hopes to expand the program to all marine biology students at the high school, reaching about 200 teenagers.

A major component of the program involves the students educating the community about their findings through presentations to their peers and city officials and visits to local middle schools.

The results of the first few water samples have been surprising to the students.

"I noticed that the ocean is not as clean as I thought it would be," Mawrence said.

His peer, fellow junior Valerie Wacker, has a different take on the results.

"It's a little bit cleaner than I thought because a lot of people are always making fun of the bay and how dirty it is," she said. "I feel comfortable swimming in the beach knowing that it's OK."

Wacker, who got involved with Team Marine through a friend, described the experience collecting samples and running tests as "adult like."

"It's interesting because we go at 7:30 in the morning onto the beach and it's very cold but so beautiful to be taking water samples to show the public how healthy our beach is," she said. "It's really important to know what you're swimming in."

melodyh@smdp.com



Bank of America credit helps push affordable housing

FROM **PROJECTS** PAGE 1

Redevelopment Agency, which in 2008 negotiated a line of credit up to $75 million with Bank of America to accelerate such development, helping city officials realize goals of preserving and increasing the local affordable housing stock in an area with a high cost of living.

"I think most Santa Monicans share the goal of maintaining our diversity and affordable housing goes a long way toward doing that," Mayor Ken Genser said. "We have a very active program of assisting with financing of affordable housing projects and each one of these makes it possible for more families, more individuals and families to live in safe and decent housing in a wonderful community."

More than half of the projects involve rehabilitation of properties recently purchased by CCSM, the largest local developer of affordable housing that just recently celebrated the grand opening of 47 new family units at Berkeley Place.

The rehab developments will be located at 1513 Centinela Ave., 750-752 Marine St., 844 Lincoln Blvd., 1438 25th St., 914 Fourth St., and 2029-2031 20th St.

They range in cost from $3.1 million to $6.4 million for rehabilitation and site acquisition, the most expensive being a 16-unit apartment building at 914 Fourth St., which will receive a new roof, windows, and electrical and plumbing upgrades. The units for the rehabbed buildings will be available for prospective tenants whose income eligibility is at or below 80 percent of area median income, which is about $62,000 for a family of four, while the rents will range from $628 to $897 a month.

The projects will give a preference to local residents and workers.

Joan Ling, the executive director of CCSM, said the rehab projects represent a shift in focus for the nonprofit developer away from new construction toward purchasing and sprucing up old buildings that are more easily purchasable in the current economy.

"We buy these buildings and a lot of them have a fair amount of deferred maintenance and we fix them up and then it's good for another 50 years," Ling said.

She said the projects come with a lot of green measures, including zeroscape landscaping and solar panels.

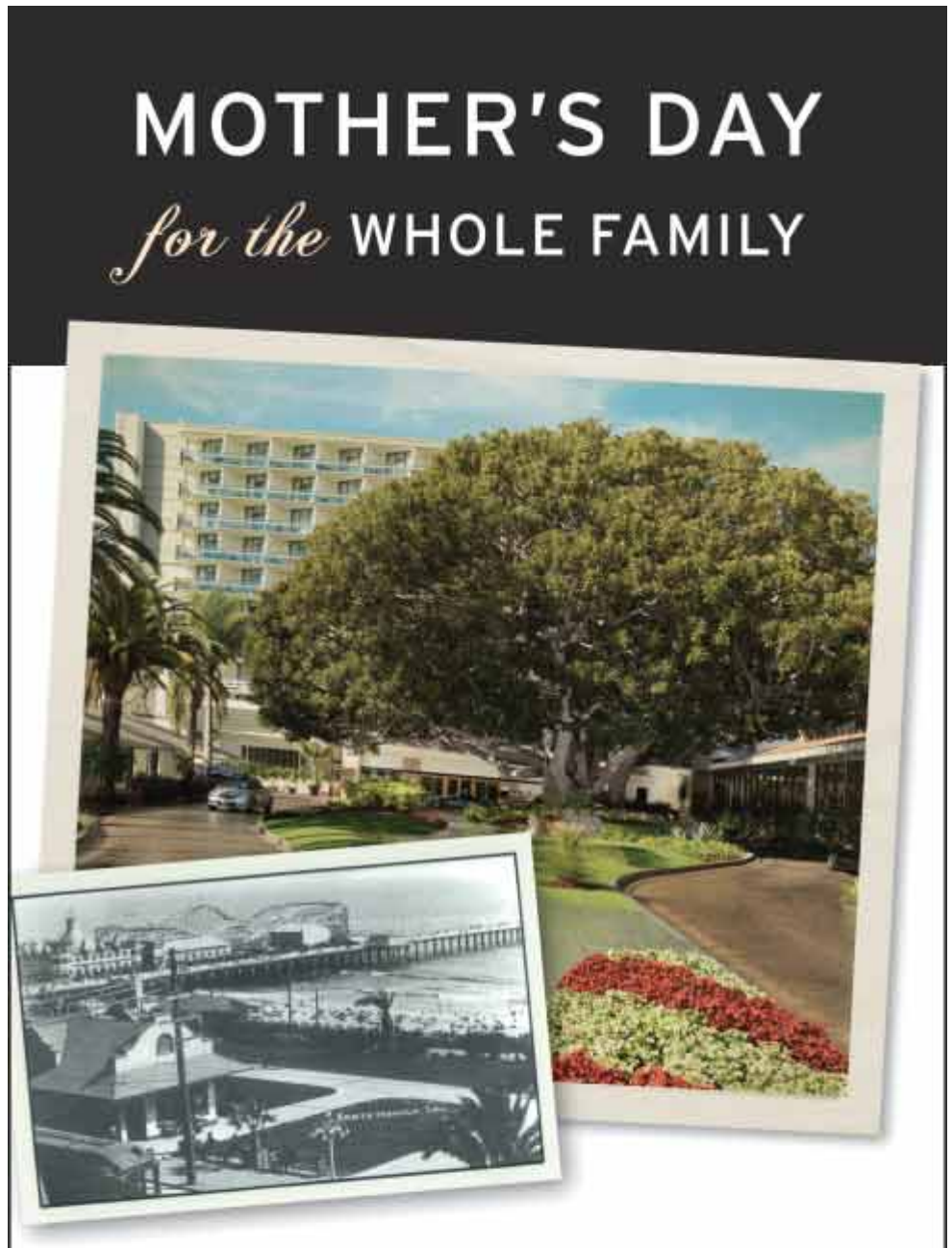
"We buy them to fix them up as part of sustainability efforts," she said.

All rehabbed units will be completed over the next year. The developer is allowing all tenants who lived in the buildings prior to acquisition to remain.

The 11 projects, which include improvements to the city-owned Mountain View Mobile Home Park and a 20-unit senior housing development currently under construction at 14th Street and Broadway, are distributed throughout the city, with only a few clusters east of Cloverfield Boulevard where there are about five planned.

SEE **PROJECTS** PAGE 12







City leaders seek to build diversity

FROM **PROJECTS** PAGE 11

"We do try to spread our acquisitions across all the multi-family neighborhoods in the city," Ling said. "If you look at all the addresses, we have accomplished that."

About 95 large family units will be created through three new developments with CCSM. The total development cost for the projects, which are located at 2802 Pico Blvd., 2602 Broadway and 430 Pico, have yet to be determined but they received a combined $18.4 million loan through City Hall for site acquisition. The income eligibility will be targeted toward low and very-low income households.

Kate Vernez, the assistant to the city manager for government relations, said the line of credit with Bank of America was well timed in advance of the tightening of the credit market.

"The current loans are for affordable housing throughout the city, which reflects our commitment to geographic diversity within the city," she said.

City Hall is also currently working on a loan for locally-based F.A.M.E. Redevelopment.

A couple of the projects are well underway, including a series of improvements at the Mountain View Mobile Home Park on Stewart Street. The park, which was built in the late 1940s, consists of 105 residential mobile home spaces spread over about 5 acres. City Hall purchased the park and about 36 mobile home units in December 2000 as part of a settlement with the previous owner to keep the location for affordable housing, a 2008 staff report stated.

The project includes various infrastructure improvements, including new electrical power lines, water and drain pipes and the installation of natural gas lines. Nearly all of the units at the park are currently serviced with propane.

About 78 of the units are occupied.

"The idea is to complete the infrastructure improvements and then look at a longer-term vision of any kind of renewal or replacement of some units because some out there are travel trailers," Jim Kemper, the housing administrator with City Hall, said. "We're not sure if they were intended for occupancy."

Construction, which is about halfway complete, is estimated to cost more than $6 million.

MacFarlane CostaHousing Partners and LINC Housing are currently building affordable units for senior citizens at 1458 14th St. The units will be targeted for low-income seniors. The estimated $11 million project is scheduled to be completed at the end of this year.

Ling said that the round of rehab projects is CCSM's first concerted effort toward greening its older buildings. Many of its newer developments were constructed with sustainability in mind.

"If you look at new construction, in any given year we may be building enough housing to replace 1 percent of the existing housing stock," she said. "If you only focus on doing sustainable projects for new construction, it would take 100 years to make all the units sustainable."

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DOWNTOWN

Streets to be closed Sunday morning

Drivers can expect to face some difficulty getting around Downtown on Sunday due to street closures for the Santa Monica Classic mini marathon. Streets and intersections will be closed and traffic will be restricted in some spots, all during the morning hours. Barnard Way, south of Ocean Park Boulevard, will be closed from 4 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Although not all streets will be closed, drivers can expect delays headed in both directions on Main Street between Barnard Way and Colorado Avenue, in both directions on Colorado Avenue between Main Street and Ocean Avenue, and on Ocean Avenue between Colorado Avenue and Georgina Avenue, all between 6 a.m. and noon. San Vicente Boulevard will also be difficult to navigate in both directions between Ocean Avenue and 11th Street from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

DAILY PRESS

MALIBU

Landing a big piece

Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky on Friday formally dedicated 72 acres of land in the Santa Monica Mountains as protected wilderness.

The land, known as Little Las Flores Canyon, was donated by Pepperdine University to join about 18,000 contiguous acres of protected open space that stretches from Topanga State Park to Las Flores Canyon. The canyon system is home to owls, hawks, eagles, ravens and various reptiles. The Santa Monica Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will manage the site, which will be protected by a conservation easement from the California Department of Fish and Game.

DP

Temblor struck Santa Monica Mountains

FROM QUAKE PAGE 1

northwest of Malibu, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The quake jiggled the greater Los Angeles region during afternoon rush hour and was felt as far north as Lancaster in the Mojave Desert to southern Orange County, according to online resident reports gathered by the USGS.

Kerstin Edwards, who lives a few miles from the quake's epicenter in Westlake Village, said she felt the temblor while she was upstairs in her house. She noticed no damage.

"It started off as a strong jolt," Edwards said. "It's definitely one of the bigger ones I've felt."

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2288 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following is a summary, prepared by the City Attorney, of Ordinance Number 2288, which was adopted by the City Council on April 28, 2009.

Ordinance Number 2288 amends zoning provisions of the Municipal Code to allow for pawnbrokers as permitted uses in the C3 Downtown Commercial District and the C3-C Downtown Overlay District.

This ordinance will become effective thirty days after its adoption. The full text of the ordinance is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica; phone (310) 458-8211.

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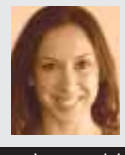
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Forest Service closes caves to stop bat fungus

BRIAN FARKAS
Associated Press Writer

CHARLESTON, W.Va. The U.S. Forest Service is closing thousands of caves and former mines in national forests in 33 states in an effort to control a fungus that has already killed an estimated 500,000 bats.

Bats have been dying at alarming rates from what scientists call "white-nose syndrome," so-named because it appears as a white powder on the face and wings of hibernating bats.

The problem was first spotted in New York and within two years has spread to caves in West Virginia and Virginia. There's no evidence the fungus is harmful to people.

Researchers believe the fungus is spread from bat to bat, but they have not ruled out the possibility that humans tromping from cave to cave might help to transmit it on their shoes and equipment, said Dennis Krusac, a biologist with the service's Southern region.

"We don't have the answers at this point," he said. "If we have answers in a year or sooner, we can open them back up."

Forest Service biologist Becky Ewing said an emergency order was issued last week for caves in 20 states from Minnesota to Maine. A second order covering the Forest Service's 13-state Southern region should be issued later this month.

The sites will be closed for up to a year, she said. The orders follow a March request by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for people to voluntarily stay out of caves in 17 states.

Biologists are concerned the fungus could wipe out endangered Indiana, Virginia and Ozark big-eared and gray bats.

Bats play a key role in keeping insects such as mosquitoes under control. Between April and October, they usually eat their body weight in bugs per night. The loss of 500,000 bats means 2.4 million pounds of bugs aren't eaten in a year, Ewing said.

New York caver Peter Haberland said organized caving groups shouldn't object to the closures.

"For a period of a year, most people can deal with that," said Haberland, who serves on the Northeastern Cave Conservancy's board.

He said the order should have little effect in the Northeast since just a few national forests there offer caving and many caves are on private property.

Peter Youngbaer, white nose syndrome liaison for the National Speleological Society, another caving group, said education will be key because many people who explore caves don't belong to organized groups.

"There is a huge concern," he said. "The recreation aspect is probably the least of our concerns."

The Forest Service order says people caught in a cave or mine face up to six months in jail and fines of up to $10,000. Ewing said Forest Service officials will enforce the bans.

Youngbaer said he isn't convinced humans help transmit the fungus, which kills the bats because it affects their hibernation habits, causing them to starve.

A study based on soil samples taken from 200 sites in 30 states should help resolve that question.

"There is no question that it's spreading bat to bat and spreading from bat to bat rapidly," he said. "If it turns out the fungus is living in the caves anyway ... humans moving around doesn't mean anything."

Many of the caves in question are in the 919,000-acre Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia, which this week announced it would extend a ban imposed last year that only affected caves considered to be at high risk for the fungus.

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Surf Conditions

Water Temp: 58°

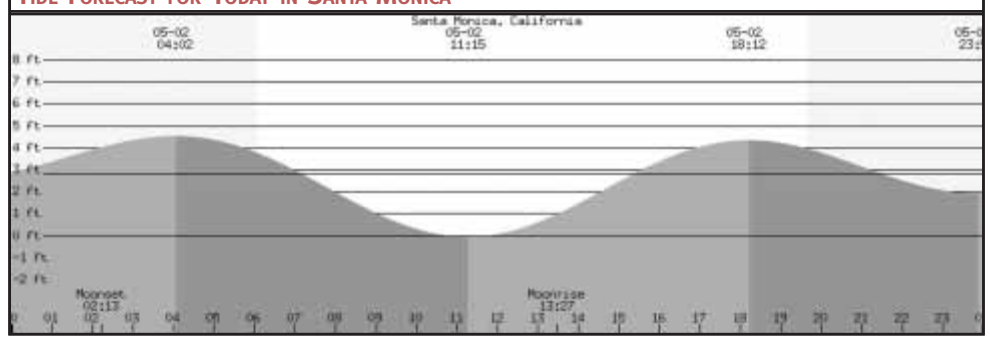
Swell Forecast (3-5 FT)

Saturday the 2nd a light swath of New Zealand SW is expected, coming in from 200+ degrees with 14+ second periods. Sunday the 3rd it looks like wind swell will come in as the storm system passes.

Long Range Synopsis

Monday the 4th the wind swell will likely continue with sloppy chest+ waves around west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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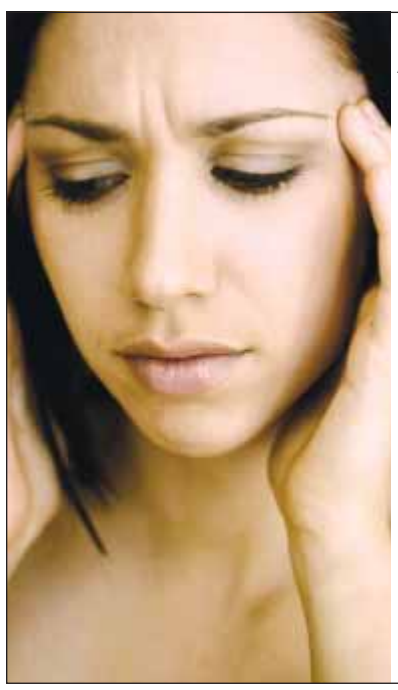
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BEACH REPORT CARD

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 28, 2009**

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 -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay'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.

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Goldfinger (NR) 1hr 51min
7:30

Thunderball (NR) 2hr 10min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) 1hr 42min
11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35

The Informers (R) 1hr 38min
4:45, 7:15

Is Anybody There? (PG-13) 1hr 32 min
12:05, 2:20

Battle for Terra (PG) 1hr 25min
11:10 a.m., 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:10

Observe and Report (R) 1hr 46min
9:45

I Love You, Man (R) 1hr 50min
12:00, 2:30, 5:05. 7:40, 10:15

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

Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:35, 2:20, 5:15, 7:45, 10:25

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG-13)
11:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:10, 9:45, 10:45

Earth (G) 1hr 30min
11:00 a.m., 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30

Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
11:05 a.m., 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

Fighting (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:45, 7:15, 10:10

Obsessed (PG-13) 1hr 40min
12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Paris 36 (Faubourg 36) (PG-13) 2hr 00min
1:40, 7:00

Sin Nombre (R) 1hr 36min
4:30, 9:50

Naked Ambition: An R Rated Look at an X Rated Industry (R)
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50

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

The Merry Gentleman (R) 1hr 50min
1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:45

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

17 Again (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:10 a.m., 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (PG-13) 1hr 47min
10:50 a.m., 12:20, 1:30, 3:10, 4:20, 6:10, 7:10, 9:00, 10:00, 11:40

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (PG-13) 1hr 47min
Digital Projection
11:40 a.m., 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50

State of Play (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:20, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

The Soloist (PG-13) 1hr 49min
12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 9:50

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

Let your hair down, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Use the daylight hours for a lighter or more playful activity than your norm. Tap into your imagination. If you are artistic and create your life's masterpiece, you might want to focus, as your creativity is brewing. Tonight: Plan on calm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Family members let you know how much they enjoy your company. Take time for those who are closest to your heart and/or hearth. Though you might feel like there is no limit to over-indulgence, you still might need to direct your energy differently later today. Tonight: Let the sensual Bull out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Invite a loved one or roommate out for brunch or some other fun get-together. Everyone will be happy just swapping ideas and catching up on news, sharing gossip. Maybe going to the movies fits the bill. Tonight: Not far from home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Do some price comparison, and decide what is the best quality buy per dollar. If you are looking for a fun item, enjoy. Worry less about others' judgments. Let go of negative feelings like jealousy or possessiveness. Tonight: Join friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Forget any thought of a quiet few days, afternoons or even hours. That is what your popularity causes. Try to squeeze in all the people and invitations. Confirm a get-together. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ If you feel like closing your door and ignoring the world around you, do so in the daylight hours. Finish off errands and focus on completion and/or naps. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Socialize to your heart's content. You might have a lot of ground to cover and so many friends to visit. Enjoy yourself. Slow down and refuse to push yourself or drive yourself to distraction. Perhaps a quality visit is more important. Tonight: Add mystery ... vanish.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Whether you are going to work or handling some other key situation, others look up to you. Still, understand that enough is enough and liven up plans late afternoon and tomorrow. You need some fun time too. Tonight: Let your hair down.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Take off for a day trip. Whether by car or public transportation, you can opt for an adventure or something different. Explore an art show or a historical area. Listen to your instincts in a conversation that might not be totally connecting. Tonight: A magnet wherever you are.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ One key person absolutely wants and needs your time. The intensity builds as the two of you share more and more. In some way, it is as if you can see no one but each other. Help each other relax. Tonight: Let your mind wander. Off to a movie or put on some music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Others seek you out. Make it easy to make plans and just go with others' preferred choice, even if it is not yours. There will be other days and times. Schedule special time with one person. Tonight: Opt for dinner for two.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Complete work or a project. You could be surprised by how much you accomplish if you focus. Consider a spontaneous get-together at your place. Pick up the phone and start making plans. Tonight: Say yes. Be available.

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

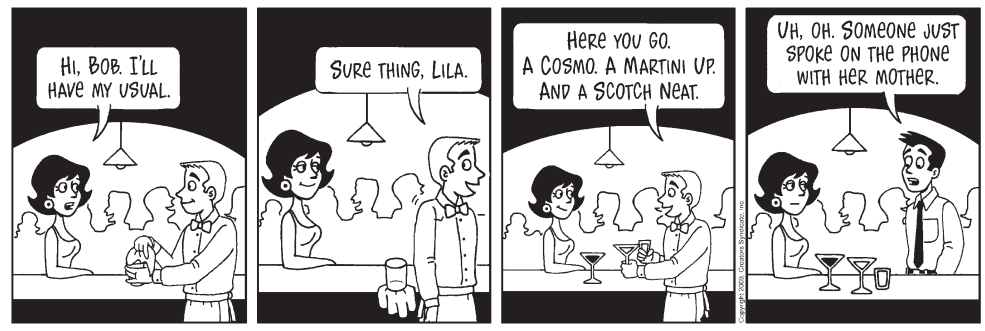
Happy birthday

This year, prioritize, as much will drop on your plate. Often there is confusion about what you must get done as opposed to what should get done. You will feel as if you are doing a juggling act. Details count. Don't take any shortcuts. If you are single, you will meet people with ease. That special person could appear by your next birthday. Certainly, you will be expanding your circle of friends. If you are attached, the two of you need to focus on a long-term goal. Start working on making it real. Do more together outside of the home. VIRGO adds to the fun and often makes you smile.

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



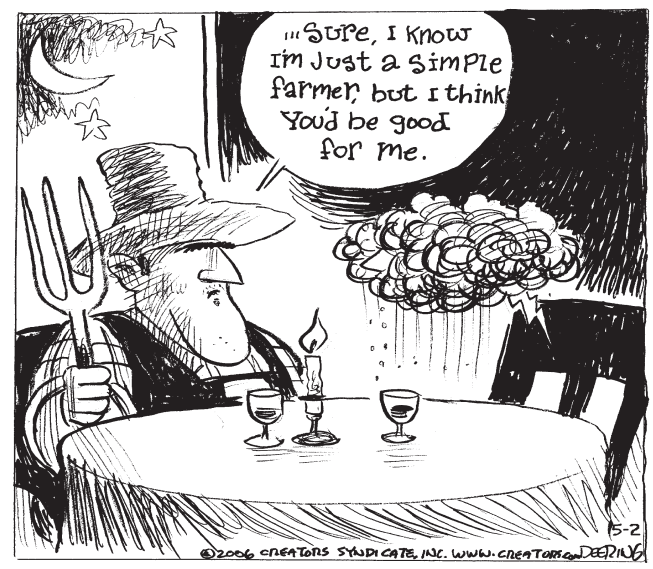
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



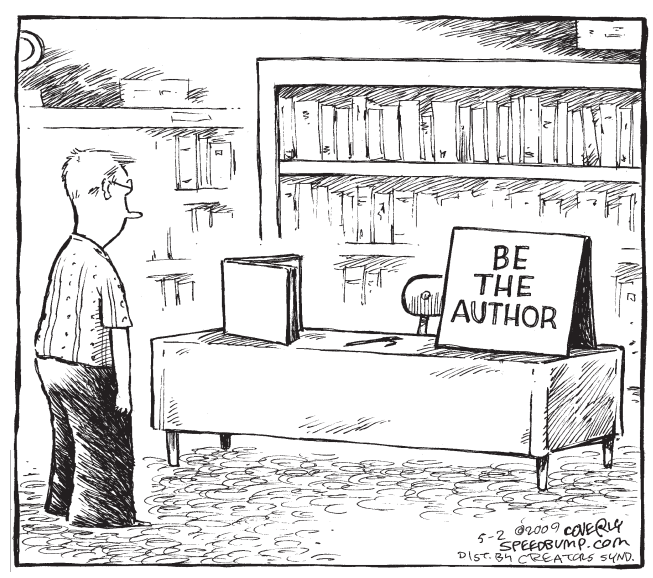
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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*may not be combine with other offers. exp 3/31/09



MYSTERY REVEALED!

Rachel Dardashti *news@smdp.com*

Becky Dishmon correctly identified this photo of the "Ocean Park Pier" mural by Jane Golden, located at the corner of Ocean Park Boulevard and Main Street. She will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out Monday's issue for another chance to win.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Debate group
5 LaBeouf of "Eagle Eye"
9 Endowment
10 Bops on the bean
12 Famed lover
13 Eye-related
14 Qualifying phrase
16 "Give — rest!"
17 Funny Caesar
18 Fumes
20 Gawked
22 Smaller amount
23 "Venice of the Orient"
25 Diva's piece
28 Gets busy
32 "Snookums," e.g.
34 Rock's Brian
35 Simile center
36 Prepares a manuscript
38 Bakery buys
40 Clear
41 Jiffy
42 Singer LeAnn
43 Unveiler's cry
44 Start of an idea

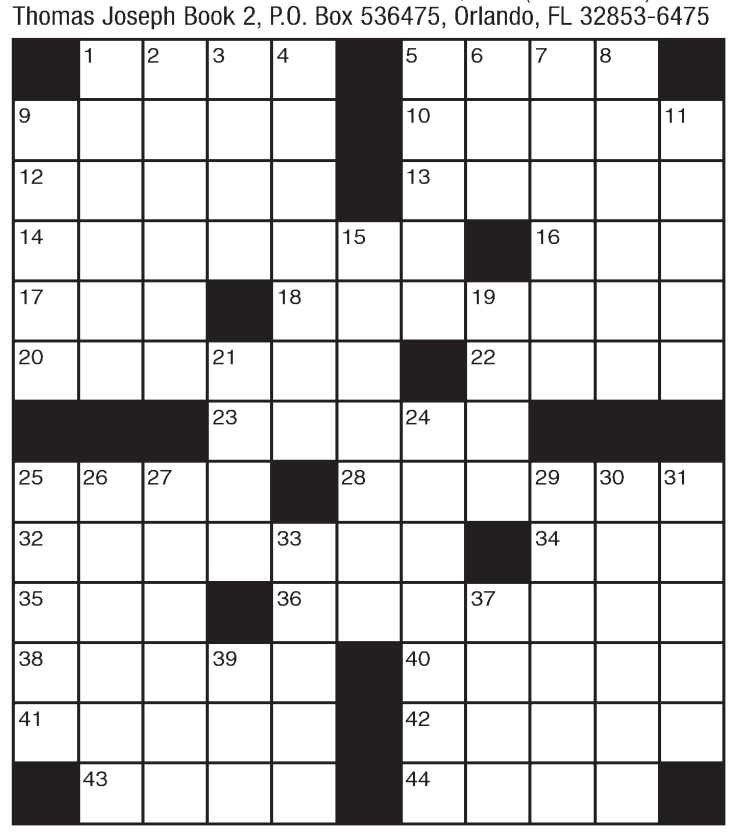
DOWN

1 Business goal
2 Arbor
3 Teller's stack
4 Patsies
5 "Ivanhoe" author
6 Bunny move
7 Eventually
8 Japanese dogs
9 Revolting
11 A lot
15 Trotsky's force
19 Europe native
21 Speckled horse
24 Guardians
25 Removed
26 Tourist stop
27 Napoli nation
29 Bagel choice
30 Left over
31 Vatican leaders
33 Puzzled
37 War of 1812 port
39 TV type

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

Yesterday's answer

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



5-2

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 9 16 24 40 43 Meganumber: 35 Jackpot: $225M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 2 5 8 21 32 Meganumber: 20 Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5: 2 11 14 19 20

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 7 9 EVENING: 2 5 3

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 01 Gold Rush 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1.47.98

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

■ Recent Human Biting: (1) Sheila Bolar, 49, was arrested after biting a transit driver because she wanted to ride only a "hybrid" bus (New York City, January). (2) Aleyda Uceta, 30, was arrested for biting her son's principal during a parent-principal conference (Providence, R.I., March). (3) Curtis Cross was arrested for allegedly biting off another motorist's ear in a road rage incident (New Castle, Ind., April). (4) Lyndel Toppin, 50, bit down on his fiancee's arm, resulting in nerve damage, because she had arranged the cheese incorrectly on his meatball sandwich (Philadelphia, April). (5) Blaine Milam, 19, and Jessica Carson, 18, were arrested for performing an exorcism on their baby daughter that resulted in 20 bite marks (Rusk County, Texas, December).

TODAY IN HISTORY

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.

1908 the original version of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," with music by Albert Von Tilzer and lyrics by Jack Norworth, was copyrighted by Von Tilzer's York Music Co.

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

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

1960 Caryl Chessman, who became a best-selling author while on death row for kidnapping, robbery and sexual offenses, was executed at San Quentin Prison in California.

1972 J. Edgar Hoover died in Washington at age 77 after serving 48 years as head of the FBI.

WORD UP!

risible \RIZ-uh-buhl\, *adjective*:
1. Capable of laughing; disposed to laugh.
2. Exciting or provoking laughter; worthy of laughter; laughable; amusing.
3. Relating to, connected with, or used in laughter; as, "risible muscles."

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Employment

GIVE OF YOURSELF American Cancer Society Discovery Shop needs volunteer sales help. You can contribute by spending 4 hours per week Thurs., Fri., or Sat.assisting in our up-scale resale shop in Santa Monica. Conact Terry or Shaunnah at (310) 458-4490.

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For a complete job overview, more info about our company, or to apply online visit www.blockbyblock.com.

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Applications available 5/5/09
Call 310-395-4545
e-mail: wilshirehouse@rhf.org
Only mailed applications will be accepted.
Mail them to:
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Attn: Occupancy Department
911 N. Studebaker Road, L.B. 90815
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MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 10, $1125/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, granite countertop, wood/tile floors, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $400 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $1065 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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Santa Monica $1695.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath NO pets, stove, refrigerator, Dshwshr, parking 1935 Cloverfield Blvd., #21 Open daily for viewing 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit. Manager in unit #19. Move-in-special-available

Santa Monica $1595.00 2 Bdrms, 1Bath NO pets, stove, refrigerator, parking 1935 Cloverfield Blvd., #21 Open daily for viewing 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit. Manager in unit #19. Move-in-special-available

Palms/LaCienega Hghts $1225.00 2 Bdrms, 1-1/2 Baths, No-Pets appliances, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #7 Los Angeles, Open house daily for viewing 8am-8pm Additional info in Apt, Move-in special -available

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20090406261 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as WORLD FLOORING, 2929 MAXSON RD, #C, EL MONTE, CA 91732, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : HUEY LAM, 2929 MAXSON RD, #C, EL MONTE, CA 91732 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: HUEY LAM
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/20/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 4/18/2009, 4/25/2009, 5/2/2009, 5/9/2009

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From 2:00 to 5:00 pm





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2721 Washington Avenue
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1118 3rd Street #506
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North of Montana	$3,495,000	$1,123,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,747,500	$838,500
South of Wilshire	$970,000	$619,700
Sunset Park	$1,198,500	$698,000
Ocean Park	$1,199,000	$889,495

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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