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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 154

Santa Monica Daily Press

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION

V-BALL TEAMS STAY ALIVE
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE HAVE A NICE TRIP, DARREN ISSUE

Man who robbed older women in Santa Monica to stay in prison

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES A state appeals court panel Tuesday upheld a man's conviction for a string of break-ins that targeted older women in Santa Monica and West Los Angeles, according to reports.

The three-justice panel from California's Second District Court of Appeal rejected the defense's claim that insufficient evidence supported the jury's verdicts on the issue of identity in the case of Jeffery Wayne Langford, according to City News Service.

He was convicted in February 2011 of 21 counts, including first-degree burglary, first-degree robbery, cutting a utility line, making criminal threats, false imprisonment of an elder and assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury.

The early morning break-ins occurred between June 2008 and August 2008 at the homes of seven women, two in Santa Monica, who were between 75 and 93.

In all but one of the burglaries, Langford climbed through a window, confronted the victims and demanded money, jewelry or silver — netting him the nickname "The Silverware Bandit."

A 79-year-old Santa Monica woman who attempted to stab Langford with a screwdriver he had placed on her bed was choked before he released her and eventually tied her hands and legs with extension cords in August 2008, according to the ruling.

In another instance, Langford disabled a victim's medical alert monitor, so she would be unable to call for help, prosecutors said.

"Based on the evidence, the jury reasonably could conclude [the] defendant was the intruder in the seven incidents for which he was convicted," Presiding Justice Tricia Bigelow wrote on behalf of the panel.

Jurors acquitted Langford of charges involving four other women and deadlocked on charges associated with another woman.

He was sentenced in January 2012 to 210 years to life in state prison.

editor@smdp.com

After 49 years, Norms to close in July



Alex Vejar *editor@smdp.com*

EATERY SET TO MOVE ON: **The Norms on Lincoln Boulevard is slated to close in July.**

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

LINCOLN BLVD Seniors who love their early-bird specials and late-night revelers fond of soaking up suds with a plate of hot cakes have to find a new place to dine.

Executives with Southern California restaurant chain Norms announced this week they will be closing their Santa Monica location in July after 49 years of service.

The affordable chain known for its "saw tooth" pennant sign, Googie architecture and "ultimate" meat loaf sold the restaurant at 1601 Lincoln Blvd. to a San Antonio, Texas-based developer in August of last year for $13.5 million, according to public records.

Two adjacent parcels where The Wertz Bros. Antique Mart, now shuttered, and Denny's are currently located have also been sold for roughly $11 million each to developers who want to build hundreds of apartments and ground-floor retail space as they try to capitalize on the need for more housing in Santa Monica, a highly sought after market because of its proximity to the beach and the rapidly growing high-tech community and its well-paying jobs.

Jerry O'Connell, vice president of Norms, said the Santa Monica location will close July 17. Employees have been offered positions at the chain's 17 other locations.

"We sold because of a combination of interest in the property as well as the negative sales impact from the construction of the [Exposition Light Rail Line] on Colorado [Avenue]," which is going to make it more difficult for customers to access and leave the restaurant, O'Connell said.

"It's a fantastic location and it was a very difficult choice for us to make," he added. "It was a business decision."

SEE NORMS PAGE 10

Nurseries called out for problem trees

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE As city officials continue their investigation into the extent of alleged defects in the city's urban forest, arborists point to nurseries as the possible root of the problem.

Members of the Urban Forest Task Force raised concerns about the health of trees after a city arborist noticed that newly-planted trees were dying.

He fired off a letter to the District Attorney's Office alleging that a company contracted by City Hall to plant and care for trees on public property had purchased bad trees with the intent of charging the

SEE TREES PAGE 8

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Watch and discuss
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
2 p.m. — 4:15 p.m.
The film "The Bitter Tea of General Yen," starring Barbara Stanwyck, will be screened and discussed afterward. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Nail Mother's Day
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Decorate your nails with Cha Cha Covers for Mother's Day. There is limited space and the event will be ticketed one hour before program. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Life documentary
Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
The documentary "Lost in Living" will be screened with a Q&A session by director Mary Trunk following the film. The movie will be shown in the Humanities and Social Sciences Building, room 263. Admission is free. For more information, visit maandpafilms.com/lostinliving.

Friday, May 10, 2013

Build the alternative
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
The Alternative Building Materials & Design Expo will feature exhibits on green building and design materials, energy efficiency, water conservation, and more. There will also be hands-on demonstrations and free expert consultations. Admission is free and bike valet is available. For more information, visit altbuildexpo.com.

Fitness at the pier
Santa Monica Pier
200 Santa Monica Pier,
noon — 3 p.m.
The makers of BluePrintCleanse, a set of six drinks that is meant to make people more healthy, will be hosting BluePrintFit, an afternoon of outdoor fitness classes, miniature spa treatments and cold-pressed BluePrintJuice. Sessions are $45 and include a one-day BluePrintCleanse. For more information or to buy tickets, visit blueprintfit.splashthat.com.

Saturday, May 11, 2013

Architect book
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
The Society of Architectural Historians/Southern California Chapter will be presenting a new book called "Edward A. Killingsworth: An Architect's Life," written by Cara Murillo and Jennifer Vollund. Murillo will discuss Killingsworth's work and contribution to the Southern California architectural landscape. A book sale and signing will follow the discussion. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Japanese tea day
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Mothers and daughters can learn about the Japanese tea ceremony in the Multipurpose Room. Space is limited. To register, call (310) 458-8621.

Let's knit
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Knitting, conversation and tea. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Art show
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave.,
7 p.m. — 10 p.m.
The opening for the INCOGNITO exhibition and benefit art sale will feature original artworks by more than 500 contemporary artists. Catering and live music by DJ Eddie Ruscha. For more information, visit smmoa.org.

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

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

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



Officials identify pair killed in plane collision

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALABASAS, Calif. Los Angeles County authorities have released the names of two people who were killed in a collision with another plane that ended with one aircraft crashing and the other landing on a golf course.

Coroner's Lt. Joe Bale tells City News Service the dead are 69-year-old Cheryl Jolene Strawn and 63-year-old Christopher Wade.

Their Cessna 172, which departed from Santa Monica Airport, collided with another on April 29 over the Santa Monica Mountains. Authorities say one plane made an emergency landing on the Westlake Golf Course and all three people aboard were injured, one seriously.

The second plane crashed and burned on a ridge near Calabasas, west of Los Angeles. Both people aboard died.

The National Transportation Safety Board says everyone on the planes was a trained pilot.

The cause of the crash is under investigation.

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

Fire captain to be honored

Santa Monica Fire Capt. Jerry Parker will be honored by the Los Angeles Medical Services for his 39 years serving the public as a paramedic.

Parker started his career with the SMFD in 1972 and began attending paramedic training two years later. To this day he still maintains his paramedic certification by keeping up with his training.

The SMFD was the first fire department in the country to provide paramedic response via a fire engine, officials said.

The ceremony will take place on May 15 in Santa Fe Springs, Calif.

– ALEX VEJAR

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

SMC wins award for being green

Santa Monica College won the statewide annual Energy and Sustainability Awards competition in the facilities and operations category, officials announced Wednesday.

In 2012, the SMC Energy Project was developed and approved by the college's Board of Trustees, and included three main projects: replacing nine old and inefficient boilers; replacing 11,000 of the approximately 16,000 light fixtures on the campus; and a comprehensive renovation of the SMC Center for Environmental and Urban Studies.

In 2009, SMC was named a winner of Santa Monica's Sustainable Quality Awards for its progressive environmental practices and programs that range from education to recycling to transportation.

– AV



Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

NOT IN THEIR HOUSE: **Mark Keppel's Mason Briglio (left) has his spike attempt blocked by Crossroads' Jack Fenster and Aaron Barnett on Tuesday. Crossroads went on to win the CIF-SS Division 3 playoff game in straight sets, 25-15, 26-24,25-20.**

LOCAL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Trio of local v-ball teams advance

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

CITYWIDE All three Santa Monica-based boys' volleyball teams kept their championship hopes alive with first round CIF-Southern Section playoff victories on Tuesday night.

Santa Monica knocked off Whittier Christian in straight sets, 25-18, 25-15, 25-19, at home in Division 3 play. Also in Division 3, Crossroads made quick work of Mark Keppel, 25-15, 26-24, 25-20, also at home.

Across town, Pacifica Christian closed out its first round match in straight sets at home. The Seawolves dispatched Waverly, 25-22, 25-14, 25-19.

Pacifica Christian advances to host Arrowhead Christian in a Division 5 match today, Thursday, at 7 p.m. The match will be held at Crossroads on 18th Street.

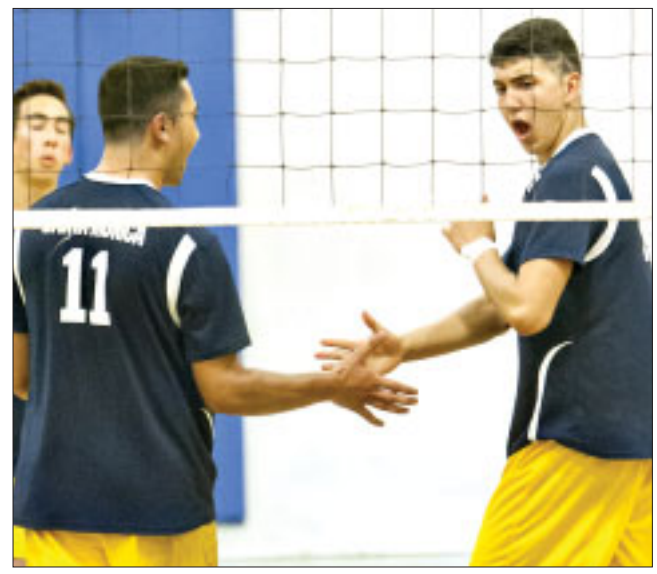
Both Crossroads and Samohi will hit the road today for the second round.

Samohi travels to Yorba Linda, the winner of the Empire League. Crossroads heads for Loara. Both games begin at 7 p.m.

SAMOHI BASEBALL EARNS SHARE OF OCEAN LEAGUE CROWN

Samohi baseball secured at least a share of the Ocean League championship Tuesday with a 3-1 win at rival Culver City.

The two teams square off again today at Samohi in the



Michael Yanow *editor@smdp.com*

YUP! **Isan Contrera (right) of Santa Monica celebrates after scoring a point against the defense of Whittier Christian in the first round of the CIF-Southern Section Division 3 boys' volleyball playoffs at Santa Monica High School on Tuesday. Samohi won in straight sets, 25-18, 25-15, 25-19, to advance to the next round.**

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Keep your eyes open

Editor:

Santa Monica is contradictory. It is a supposed liberal city on one hand, and on the other hand they cater to the developers, causing traffic, density and parking problems for people who live here. I live on Ocean Park Boulevard off of Fourth Street. I wake up to traffic on the ground and traffic in the air. I go to sleep with traffic on the ground and traffic in the air. It sounds like a war zone. With new developments and expansions, you are going to see more and more residents fighting back. Open your eyes and ears, city officials!

Miriam Ginzburg

Santa Monica

Sad to witness

Editor:

I went to a workshop last night at the Civic Auditorium to review the Downtown Specific Plan and hear public comment. The presentation from the city was all about building heights and density and benefits the public would get from various projects. It was the usual dog-and-pony show.

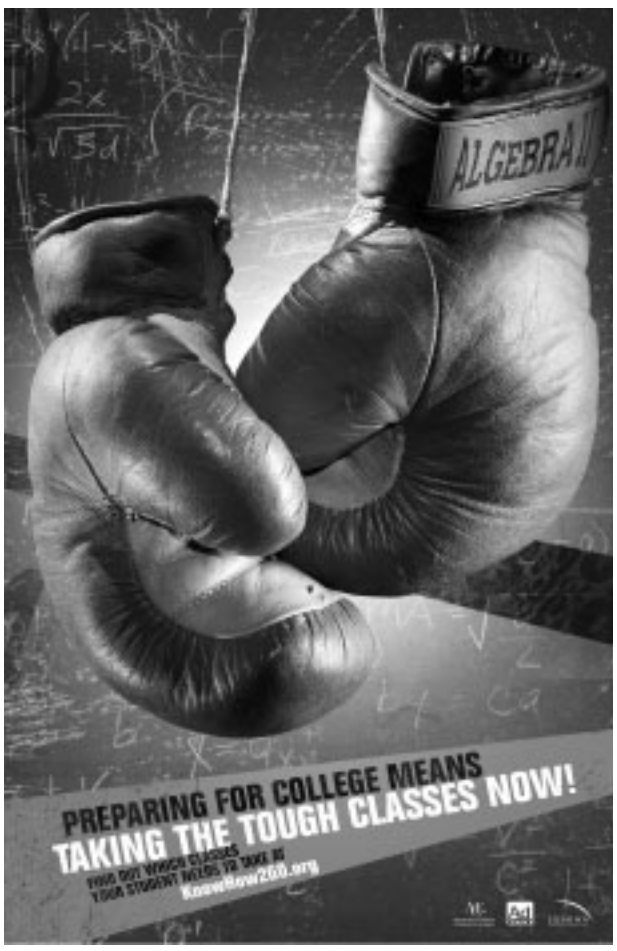
Traffic was the big gorilla in the room nobody talked about. Bottom line, everyone's biggest complaint is not just the buildings, but the traffic they generate. The Planning Commission is really planning backwards. How can they even think about approving one more project until they fix the traffic? Face it, the roads are at capacity now. How can city leaders be blind to the miles of bumper-to-bumper traffic going east every day on Olympic and Pico boulevards and the freeway? Fix the traffic first, then think about building, not the other way around. If the traffic can't be fixed, put a moratorium on new construction. They did that in San Francisco and every marginal building in town was spruced up and given new life.

The way it was presented it seemed like every new mega-structure would result in less and less traffic. Density somehow would be our savior. The little beach town we used to love doesn't have a chance.

These workshops are always very frustrating because the results are always so disappointing. The city presents, the people speak, the city writes it down, ignores it and does exactly what the developers want. There is such a disconnect between the Planning Commission, the City Council and what the people of this city want. It is very sad to witness the process.

Richard Orton

Ocean Park





Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

When is crazy really crazy?

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

After all the news regarding the Boston Marathon bombing, I find myself wondering, when is crazy really crazy and when is it not? Are these brothers crazy? Are they sick or are they evil? What makes for these differences?

Thank you for anything you might add.

Signed,
Confused, Crazy or Evil?

DEAR CONFUSED,

An excellent question, truly a smart one and I say that because most people just have an opinion, emotionally based, never giving it any further thought.

The word "crazy" is used very loosely in our society and generally comes out of making a joke or having a fairly strong opinion about something that differs from your own.

In clinical or scientific forms, mental illness is a quantifiable concept based on the Bell Curve. If one falls underneath the bell of this curve, which accounts for a little more than two-thirds of us, then one is considered normal. If you are at either end, outside of the curve, or if you are an outlier, then you can be considered abnormal. Outliers are people falling way outside of the curve and in science there are usually only a few and they are eliminated from results in order to maintain the curve.

So what you have is a concept where anyone that is not of the norm might be called crazy.

A famous psychiatrist named Thomas Szasz originally challenged this concept. He felt strongly that people differ greatly based on their cultures, languages and therefore social norms vary a great deal and that it is wrong to judge somewhat as being crazy or ill because they are different from us. He criticized his own profession for labeling someone as having a mental disorder because they did not conform to the social norms of our society. He further argued that psychiatry has used it as a means of social control.

If you saw the movie "Shutter Island," then you might understand Dr. Szasz' argument. Fortunately we have come a long way since then; just 30 years ago people who did not like the behavior of an unruly teen or difficult relative could get them locked up in a hospital and medicated if they demonstrated odd behaviors and/or if the person had the money to influence a psychiatrist. This is now outlawed. As research evidence of genetic contributions to mental illnesses grows, and medicines truly help those people who suffer, the categorization becomes more justifiable and somewhat easier to make a distinction.

However, sometimes (what we call) mentally ill people are not suffering and they do not think anything is wrong with them.

So can definition simply be on the basis of someone else being different in his or her social norms or philosophical thinking? As we grow more diversified, both here at home and globally, there are clearly differences in standards, beliefs and behaviors and it might just be best for us to try to understand them versus judging them, even if we don't agree or something seems odd to us.

Not only would this foster tolerance and integration instead of segregation and hatred, but also it might help us to get into the mindsets of others and stop some of the violent behavior like we just witnessed with the Boston bombings.

MANY PEOPLE ARE CALLING THE BOSTON BOMBERS 'SICK,' PROBABLY BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED MAKES US FEEL SICK. BUT SO FAR THERE IS NO REAL EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE MENTALLY ILL.

Many people are calling the Boston bombers "sick," probably because what happened makes us feel sick. But so far there is no real evidence that they were mentally ill. They believe what they believe. Even with our definition of mental disorders, they would only qualify if we compare them to our thinking; they are not different from the thinking of the group to which they belong.

It is a personal opinion that any thinking that includes the harming or killing of others is wrong and most of us would agree. But is it mental illness or evil?

I would say that the Sandy Hook killing of young children or the Colorado shooting in the movie theater were a function of mental illness.

The Boston marathon bombing seems more like evil, yet you have some suggesting sociopathy, which seems to fit, but then the discussion turns to the brain differences on scans between sociopaths and normal and you start moving back toward the illness concept. I would venture to say that anyone that is so filled with hatred that they cannot empathize with a different perspective and that they believe they have a right to murder because of their view is in someway sick. But again, is it crazy sick or sick evil? An excellent question and I am obviously answering a question with a question but trying to understand this and understand each other might just help us all out.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or send your anonymous questions to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters, because it does.

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.



Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

SO FRESH: **Actor Bill Pullman appears in a new documentary named 'The Fruit Hunters.'**

Hunting fruit, talking truffles

FOOD'S A FOCUS THIS WEEK AS "THE Fruit Hunters" documentary opens in Santa Monica, and a story night called "Meanwhile Back at Café Du Monde" takes a bow in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

On Monday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Laemmle's Monica 4-Plex, actor Bill Pullman ("Independence Day") will be on hand to answer audience questions at the premiere of "The Fruit Hunters," a documentary that will screen twice in Santa Monica and at other Laemmle venues, on May 16 at 7:30 p.m. and May 18 at 11 a.m.

Why Pullman? Because he's spearheading a campaign to create a community fruit orchard on an untouched parcel of land in the hills below the Hollywood sign. A prolific backyard orchardist himself, Pullman is just one of several fruit-obsessed figures featured in this film.

From Bali and Borneo to Honduras and Umbria, director Yung Chang travels across culture, history and geography to show how intertwined we are with the fruits we eat. The ranks of the fruit-obsessed include adventurers, scientists and fruit detectives — all dedicating themselves to searching for and saving rare and exotic fruit, and to creating a Garden of Eden in a world increasingly dominated by industrialized monoculture.

The film is inspired by Adam Leith Gollner's best-selling book "The Fruit Hunters: A Story of Nature, Adventure, Commerce, and Obsession," which comes out in a new paperback edition on June 11.

TRUFFLE LOVE

Erika Kerekes is a Santa Monica mom with a full-time job and a popular food blog (In Erika's Kitchen, www.inerikaskitchen.com). Former actress turned event producer Peggy Sweeney-McDonald discovered that her life's most significant moments connected through the legendary Café du Monde in New Orleans.

That café connection led Sweeney to create both a book, "Meanwhile Back at Café du Monde," and a nomadic, food-related storytelling series of the same name that's had a successful run at different restaurants across the city. Kerekes is featured at the Pacific Palisades debut of the series tonight (Thursday, May 9).

Kerekes will tell the tale of the truffle that ate her world. Among other things, she is renowned for — and finally had to take a breather from —Trufflepalooza, a one-off event that mushroomed into an annual foodie-world phenomenon. She will share her obsession with the pungent mushroom and how it grew to consume her.

Other storytellers include Chance Batcheller of Santa Monica Seafood, Norwood Clark of Uncle Darrow's Cajun Restaurant in Marina del Rey, Calif. and more. Dessert and coffee are included, and you can purchase the book, featuring true tales of friends, family and recipes representing life's links through food.

Live onstage tonight (Thursday) at 7:15

SEE **WATCH** PAGE 6

The Q Line

Scene of the crime

It seems as if you can't own anything nice these days in Santa Monica. This past week the office building where the Daily Press is located was burglarized, the thief or thieves making off with a bicycle and bicycle tire. Both were locked in what was thought to be a secured garage, demonstrating that you can never take enough precautions to protect your property.

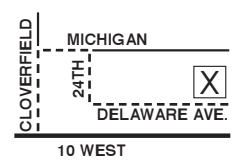
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Have you ever been a victim in Santa Monica of a robbery or burglary? If so, what was stolen and where? Do you feel like you can leave your property locked up, but in public? Or is nothing safe?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.
You can also call **310-573-8354**.


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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

‘The Royale’ punches well, but no knockout

IN 1969, A PLAY CALLED “THE GREAT White Hope” won the Pulitzer Prize for drama and the Tony Award and the New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award for best play. Written by Howard Sackler, it starred James Earl Jones as Jack Johnson, the “Galveston Giant,” who became the first African-American heavyweight boxing champion of the world.

Johnson held that title from 1908 to 1915, and during all those years in Jim Crow America the boxing world looked for a “great white hope” to take the title away from him.

Now, a new play called “The Royale,” a semibiographical tale of Johnson’s fight for recognition and the toll it takes on his loved ones, is stomping the stage in its world premiere at the Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City, Calif.

Written by award-winning playwright Marco Ramirez, “The Royale” is set “sometime between 1900 and 1920” on a stage that is a wooden ring without ropes. David St. Louis, a giant of a man, plays Jay Jackson, a prominent boxer in the “Negro League” who is eager to take on the reigning white champion — an outrageous suggestion at the time. Jackson is modeled after Johnson.

James J. Jeffries, the real-life world champion in Johnson’s era, was persuaded to come out of retirement with an outrageous suggestion of his own. He would fight the black boxer for 90 percent of the take. And Johnson agreed.

In this production, the staging is the thing. St. Louis fights with grace, never laying a hand on his preliminary opponent (Desean Terry), but successfully miming knocking him out, dancing and pouncing while Terry twists and falls. The punches are simulated by a chorus that claps and stomps rhythmically while St. Louis smashes his foot on the floor. It’s a very effective and engaging way to stage a fight.

As news of the upcoming championship fight circulates, many in the beleaguered African-America community betray their alarm by warning the would-be champ that “there will be riots” if he wins. They fear that his life will be forfeited if he goes ahead with the fight.

Jackson remains adamant, however, and in several dignified speeches explains what the championship means to him. Another impassioned speech is given by Robert Gossett, who plays Jackson’s trainer, but in this case Gossett’s diction is so poor that the speech remains unintelligible.

Jackson’s manager, Max (Keith Szarabajka), doubles as the fight announcer and does a serviceable job, but Diarra Oni Kilpatrick, the only woman in the ensemble, is identified as Nina, but not explained. She claps and stomps on cue, but only has one rather superfluous speech; as his sister, she tries to convince Jackson not to engage in the fight for fear he will be killed.

Daniel Aukin has directed this production as well as can be expected for a play that is uneven at best and tedious at times. The staging of the fights by Ameenah Kaplan, the costume designs by Andrew Boyce, and the original music and sound design by Ryan Rumery are, unfortunately, the most successful elements of the play.

“The Royale” will run Tuesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. through June 2 at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, 9820 Washington Blvd., Culver City, Calif. Call (213) 628-2772 for tickets.



Photo courtesy Craig Schwartz

ON STAGE: **(L to R) Robert Gossett, David St. Louis, Keith Szarabajka and Diarra Oni Kilpatrick in the world premiere of ‘The Royale.’ Marco Ramirez’s powerful new play opened on May 5 at Center Theatre Group’s Kirk Douglas Theatre and continues through June 2, 2013.**

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

WATCH

FROM PAGE 5

p.m. in The Oak Room at Steve’s Deli, 1035 Swarthmore Road in Pacific Palisades. Tickets are $25 and seating is limited so call (310) 709-2851 for your reservation.

BEETHOVEN BY WAY OF YOUTUBE

You’ve heard it a million times, the “Ode to Joy” from Beethoven’s “Ninth Symphony.” Now you have the opportunity to hear four soloists, selected by way of a YouTube contest, performing the renowned melody in beautiful Barnum Hall on the campus of Santa Monica High School Sunday, May 12 at 4 p.m.

New West Symphony, led by music director Marcelo Lehninger, and iCadenza, a consulting and career development company, co-created the SymphoNet Young Artist Competition, a YouTube challenge for classical singers.

This Sunday, the winners of that contest will perform in the final concert of New West Symphony’s Masterpiece Series: soprano Emily Dyer, mezzo-soprano Grace Newberry, tenor Casey Candebat and bassist Steve Pence.

“The Ninth Symphony” was Beethoven’s final complete symphony. It was also his greatest work and is considered by many critics to be the greatest piece of music ever written. It is also the first example of a major composer using voices in a symphony. Beethoven’s rousing “Leonore Overture No. 3” opens the program.

Learn more at www.newwestsymphony.org or call (866) 776-8400.

IN MOTION

Barnum Hall also hosts a performance by Santa Monica College’s resident contemporary dance ensemble, Synapse Dance Theatre, Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11.

The program features new repertory by professional guest artists, award-winning faculty artists and up-and-coming student choreographers. Jae Lee and Roberta Wolin-Tupas co-direct the company, which will showcase modern dance, contemporary, hip-hop, lyrical jazz, jazz funk and other styles of movement.

The program features works by Wolin-Tupas; guest artists Brian Moe and Laura Smyth; and faculty choreographers Sean Green, Mark Tomasic, Karen McDonald, Angela Jordan and Denise Leitner. Of special note, student choreographers whose repertory will be performed include Alberta Keyes, Kardale Holland, Mario Bayo and Mawiyah Dowd. For tickets call (310) 434-3005 or visit www.smc.edu/eventsinfo.

REAL SISTERS IN ‘CINDERELLA’

Three sisters — Beau, Ashleigh and Brook Dawson — will play Cinderella and her two evil stepsisters, as Los Angeles Children’s Theatre presents the beloved fairy tale at The Little Theater in West Los Angeles. It opens at 11 a.m., Saturday, May 11.

The production boasts magical effects, song and dance, extravagant costumes and props and memorable characters as portrayed by professional actors.

The prince, played by Victor Andres, is debonair and humble. The mother, played by Sheila Guerrero, is obnoxious and plays favorites with her two “natural” daughters. And the godmother, played by Manette Antill, is as wise as she is majestic.

Cinderella dances a memorable dance with the prince, but then is discovered as a ragamuffin in a ragged dress. Will the prince love her when he finds her? Was she the thief who stole the glass slipper for her own or the soon-to-be princess? Will the prince even let her try on the glass slipper in such a state as she is?

“Cinderella” is suitable for all audiences, ages 3 and up and runs from May 11 to June 2 at The Little Theater, 12420 Santa Monica Blvd. in West L.A.; more info at www.theblackboxtheater.org, or call (310) 622-4482.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She has also reviewed theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

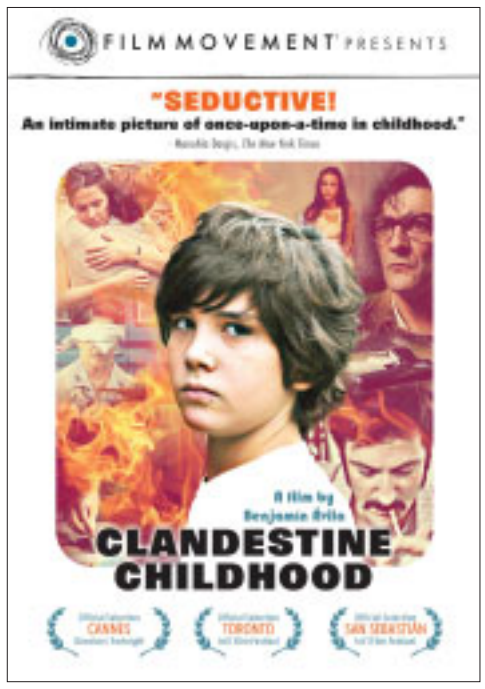




DVD REVIEW

‘Clandestine Childhood’ is inspired filmmaking

BY JACK NEWORTH
Special to the Daily Press



In any creative writing class it’s likely the teacher will encourage the eager and hopeful students to write about what they know because it will generally contain more passion and authenticity.

Argentinean writer/director Benjamin Avila’s first feature film, “Clandestine Childhood” (“Infancia Clandestina”), is a brilliant and riveting cinematic memoir of his actual childhood that focuses on events in 1979 during the bloody period of Argentina’s “Dirty War.”

The story of a family on the run is told through the eyes of 12-year-old Juan who, along with his parents, uncle and baby sister, have fled to Brazil from Argentina. Juan’s parents and uncle are members of the revolutionary group Montoneros, and have changed their names and identities so that they can ultimately return to Argentina to launch a counter offensive against the brutal military dictatorship.

What is an unavoidably dark reality is handled with great care and sensitivity in a beautifully photographed and intimate film. Despite the grim back story, Avila is visually able to remind us what it’s like to be a young boy coming of age. Juan not only discovers girls but, given his family’s dangerous circumstances, must cope with becoming a man.

Every actor in the film delivers honest and unaffected performances for which Avila must share in the credit.

You care about the characters because they seem so real. It starts with young Juan (Teo Gutiérrez Romero), a thoughtful, curious young boy caught in the middle of a brutal world. The entire movie hinges on his character, but Romero pulls it off convincingly.

So many scenes are simple and yet memorable. In a park Juan is with his mother, Cristina, played by Natalia Oreiro, whose natural beauty is enhanced by seemingly not wearing a drop of makeup. Crawling around on the blanket with them is Juan’s adorable baby sister. Smitten with a charming 12-year-old classmate, Maria (Violeta Palukas), Juan timidly asks his mother about love. Playfully, Christina tries to get the details from her shy son. The result is a touching scene between mother and son which is believable and endearing.

Another scene that resonates comes when Uncle Beto (played by Ernesto Alterio, who manages to steal each scene) essentially explains the birds and bees to his young nephew. Beto does so by demonstrating to the mesmerized Juan the proper way to savor a chocolate-covered peanut.

A bit later Juan convinces Maria to ditch school and spend the day with him at an amusement park. In a brilliant montage which captures childhood joy, the two wind up in a visually intriguing mirror labyrinth. Juan tries to persuade her to run away with him as he has stolen some money from his parents he naively thinks they could live on forever.

At 12, Maria is, of course, too young and loves her family way too much to join him. Rebuffed, Juan realizes he can’t escape the reality of his dangerous life and reluctantly returns home.

Considering the subject matter, “Clandestine Childhood” could have easily been too dark of a story to tell. Instead, it’s romantic, joyful and gorgeously shot. And when tragedy does occur, it’s handled so delicately that it doesn’t contrast too harshly with the rest of the film’s tone.

The emotional impact of this powerful story is enhanced even more when, during the credits, we see photographs of the real characters in 1979, including a very young Avila who, 30 years later, would write and direct a jewel of a film.

“Clandestine Childhood” is available anywhere new DVDs are sold.

Jack can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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TREES
FROM PAGE 1

city to replace them.

Subsequent reports commissioned by City Hall indicated that a number of factors have conspired to damage those trees, but arborists throughout the industry believe that nurseries, in particular, hold much of the blame.

Nurseries are accused of poor propagation practices that maximize profits while damaging the health of the specimens.

Arborists say the businesses treat trees like product, keeping young trees in pots far longer than intended in order to minimize the amount of space they take up.

That can lead to problems with roots that grow to the shape of the container, potentially cutting the tree off from needed nutrients and years from its life.

If those trees get pushed off on cities or other customers who buy in bulk, bad stock could be doomed to failure before it ever gets planted, the theory goes.

Nurseries also tend to grow trees with slender stems because the plants are crowded and require support from stakes in the ground, said Donald Hodel, environmental and horticulture advisor for the UC Cooperative Extension of Los Angeles County.

"That doesn't mean they can't be planted, but it means that whoever is planting them has to be careful," Hodel said. "There are remedial things that they have to do to help correct the problems."

Hodel inspected trees in Santa Monica at the request of West Coast Arborists, the company that is paid millions by City Hall for tree care and planting, in December and January.

In a report dated Jan. 10, Hodel reported that trees planted by the company in recent years "are adequate and typical of industry trees for this period." Some trees could benefit from some minor corrective pruning and others had post-planting issues but that "wholesale condemnation of these trees is simply unwarranted."

David Cox, chairman of the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers and CEO of L.E. Cooke Co., a nursery in Visalia, Calif., acknowledges that nurseries have sold problem trees, but that many tree failures have more to do with what happens to the plants after they leave for their new homes.

Installers, as he calls them, have a responsibility to help trees out by cutting circling roots so that they have the ability to grow out normally, part of the "remedial work" to which Hodel referred.

Even those who claim decades of experience run into problems when it comes to the details like cutting the root ball, preparing the canopy or even planting the tree at a proper depth, Cox said.

"I'm not saying that nurseries are without blame, and there are probably trees that have been planted that shouldn't have been," Cox said, "but the installer should have caught that. If there's a major flaw in the tree, they should know not to plant it."

City arborist Robin Beaudry said he raised concerns about sub-par trees being planted but was ignored by city officials, which led him to file the complaint with the county's Public Integrity Division, which investigates corruption and the misuse of public funds.

Other problems frequently pop up, like death by overwatering. Those inexperienced in tree care often mistake browning leaves with thirst, leading them to pour more water onto the roots of the young tree which can crowd out oxygen and lead to disease, Cox said.

Other circumstances beyond anyone's control may also have impacted the quality of trees coming into the city.

The problem with older trees in small containers was compounded when the stock market crashed in 2008, causing home and commercial construction to plummet and the need for landscaping to plunge along with it.

While some nurseries junked their stock, others held on in hopes that the economy would turn around, Cox said.

Santa Monica comes with a unique pressure. The City Council accepted the Urban Forest Master Plan in November 2011, a document which spells out specific kinds of trees that can be planted on each street in the city.

Some of those, like the Canary Island date palm, are more rare than others, and can be difficult to find, leaving a contractor like West Coast Arborists and employees in the Public Landscape Division to choose between leaving a space blank or filling it with a sub par tree.

"Let's pick species that are commonly available, where nurseries are growing them and have staff impact the trees," Andy Trotter, an employee with West Coast Arborists, the company that plants trees for Santa Monica, told the Urban Forest Task Force in April.



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

YOUNGSTERS: **A number of new trees line 12th Street.**

The company will turn over a database of trees that have failed and how often they have been replaced, although a timeline for that release has not yet been worked out, city officials said.

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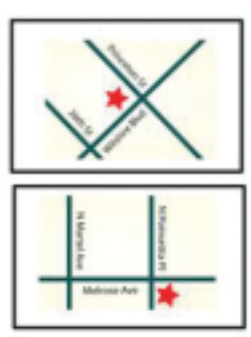

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Photo courtesy Wendy Perl

CHAMPS: **(L-R) Samohi seniors Julie Munoz, Jamie Hom, Marissa Padilla, Jennifer Eyler, Monica Norris and Rachel Paris pose after securing a ninth-straight Ocean League title on Tuesday.**

ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

league finale.

If Culver City wins the road game it creates a flat-footed tie for first place. If that transpires, a coin flip will decide the No. 1 seed from the league when it comes times for playoff pairings.

"I'm happy for the kids," Samohi head coach Kurt Schwengel said. "They were shell-shocked last year to not be champions."

Culver City swept the final two games of the season last year to send Samohi to a rare second place finish in league.

Samohi ace Conner Greene is slated to start the finale, but Schwengel said that an abdominal injury may sideline him. If Greene can't take the mound, fellow senior Ryan Barbarin may be asked to make the start.

"We're not terrified at the thought of Conner not starting," Schwengel said. "Ryan has been getting better and better every time he goes out there."

Barbarin has been used as a relief pitcher for much of the season when he's not manning third base.

SAMOHI SOFTBALL TAKES TITLE — AGAIN

For the ninth year running, Samohi softball is the champion of the Ocean League.

An 11-0 win over Morningside at Memorial Park on Tuesday improved Samohi to 9-0 in league and was the 89th consecutive league victory.

Samohi closes out the season today at Memorial Park against Culver City. The game begins at 3:15 p.m.

RUGBY SQUADS MOVE ON TO FINALS

A trio of Santa Monica Rugby Club teams were victorious in playoff semi-final games last Saturday setting up appearances in the finals this weekend at Cal State Fullerton.

The under-18 team reached the finals with a 36-22 win over Hawaiian Gardens at Webster Middle School in Malibu.

The under-16 squad took to the road, also against Hawaiian Gardens, and came away with a 27-22 win.

In under-14 play, Santa Monica sent San Clemente packing with a 41-25 win.

The U-14 team advances to face Santa Clarita on Saturday at 11 a.m. At 2 p.m., the U-16 team faces the Young Aztecs. Rounding out the day will be the U-18 team against the Mustangs.

For more information, visit www.santamonicarugby.com.

SAMOHI COACH SHARES SCREEN WITH SHEEN

Samohi assistant baseball coach Tony Todd is set to make an appearance on longtime friend Charlie Sheen's FX show "Anger Management" today at 9:30 p.m.

Todd, who splits his time between coaching and acting, has been a frequent cast member this season.

Sheen is a longtime supporter of the baseball program at Samohi. He's given tens of thousands of dollars to the team he was once a part of during his high school days.

daniela@smdp.com









NORMS
FROM PAGE 1

Norms made its debut in 1949 when Norm Roybark, a Los Angeles native, opened his first coffee shop near the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street. Norms prides itself on serving breakfast, lunch and dinner 24 hours a day, seven days a week, embracing the slogan, "We never close."

The chain is still owned and operated by the Roybark family.

Longtime customers said they felt as if employees at the Santa Monica location were family.

"I know most of the names in there, [and] they know me," said Katherine Sweeney, 70, who was leaving Norms Wednesday at lunchtime. "It's friendly. I'm really going to miss it."

Sweeney said she wrote a letter to the City Council urging the body to do what it could to stop the sale. She said she received no response.

"Santa Monica has had a lot of changes and I'd love to move out if I could afford it," she said, echoing statements heard at many community meetings over the past few years as residents battle it out with developers who have been flooding the city by the sea with cash, building thousands of housing units and ground-floor commercial space.

There are those in the community who believe development is killing off treasured businesses like Norms and Carlson's Appliances, while others welcome the influx of housing in hopes that increased supply will bring down the cost of living in Santa Monica.

So far that hasn't happened as home prices and rents continue to rise. Now with the loss of Norms, so too will the cost of a T-bone steak.

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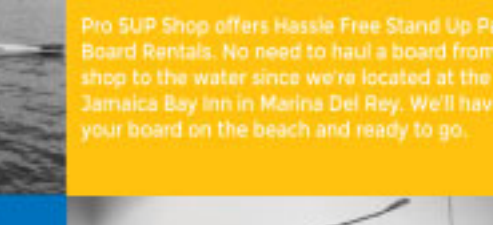
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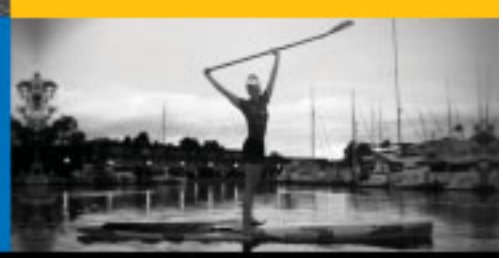
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High hospital bills go public, but will it help?

CONNIE CASS & LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON For the first time, the government is publicly revealing how much hospitals charge, and the differences are astounding: Some bill tens of thousands of dollars more than others for the same treatment, even within the same city.

Why does a joint replacement cost 40 times as much at one hospital as at another across the country? It's a mystery, federal health officials say.

"It doesn't make sense," Jonathan Blum, Medicare deputy administrator, said Wednesday. The higher charges don't reflect better care, he said.

And the amounts are too huge to be explained by obvious differences among hospitals, such as a more expensive regional economy, older or sicker patients, or the extra costs of running a teaching hospital, he said.

The average charges for joint replacement range from about $5,300 at an Ada, Okla., hospital to $223,000 in Monterey Park, Calif., the Department of Health and Human Services said. That doesn't include doctors' fees.

Hospitals within the same city also vary greatly. At Beth Israel Medical Center in New York, the average charge to treat a blood clot in a lung is $51,580. Down the street at NYU Hospitals Center, the charge for the same care would be $29,869.

At the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, the list price is $16,861.

That isn't necessarily what you pay.

Medicare pays hospitals on its own fee schedule that isn't based on the listed charges, Blum said. And insurance companies routinely negotiate discount rates with the hospitals.

But patients who are uninsured can be billed the full amount. And some with private insurance may find their share of the bill is inflated as a result of a hospital's higher charges, officials said.

Blum said the Obama administration hopes that releasing the information, at the website www.cms.gov, will help lead to answers to the riddle of hospital pricing — and pressure some hospitals to lower their charges.

The database also will help consumers shop around, he said.

The variations shouldn't be a surprise, since hospitals might violate antitrust regulations if they shared "proposed or negotiated rates" with each other, said Rich Umbdenstock, president of the American Hospital Association. Forty states do require or encourage hospitals to make some payment information publicly available, he said.

"The complex and bewildering interplay among 'charges,' 'rates,' 'bills' and 'payments' across dozens of payers, public and private, does not serve any stakeholder well, including hospitals," Umbdenstock said.

Consumer advocates said making the charges public is significant, even if most patients don't pay those rates.

"I think the point is to shame hospitals," said Chapin White of the nonprofit Center for Studying Health System Change.

Dr. David Goodman, co-author of the Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care, said, "It does show how crazy the system really is, and it needs some reform."

Goodman argues that hospitals should be required to go further and post the charges that patients actually pay out-of-pocket, depending on what medical coverage they have. The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy has long found wide geographic variation in Medicare payments for the similarly ill, yet people who receive more expensive care don't necessarily receive better care. Sometimes hospitals just add tests or treatments they don't really need.

A hospital's charges are akin to a car dealership's "list price." Hospitals say they frequently give discounts to the uninsured — $41 billion in financial aid in 2011.

But some people pay full price, or try to afford it, because they don't know they can seek a discount, White said.

And even for those who do bargain, the listed charge "is the opening bid in the hospital's attempt to get as much money as possible out of you," he said.

At Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, Md. — serving an affluent community at the gates of the National Institutes of Health — the average charge for simple pneumonia was $5,284. Compare that to $79,365 at Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia.

The database lists the average charges for the 100 most common Medicare inpatient services at more than 3,000 hospitals. The prices, from 2011, represent about 60 percent of Medicare inpatient cases.

"Hospitals that charge two or three times the going rate will rightfully face scrutiny," Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius told reporters.

And consumers will get insight into a mystifying system that too often leaves them with little way of knowing what a hospital will charge or what their insurance companies are paying for treatments, Sebelius said.

Previously, the price information that the government collects from hospitals wasn't available to the average consumer, although the data could be purchased for uses such as research, officials said.

The department also is making $87 million in federal money available as grants to states to improve their hospital rate review programs, research why hospital charges vary so much, and get more information to patients.

Todd Park, an assistant to President Barack Obama on technology issues, said he envisions entrepreneurs creating apps to help consumers compare hospitals and researchers combing through the data to explain the cost differences.

"Transparent marketplaces are more competitive, and more competitive marketplaces drive down costs," Park told reporters at the White House. "And that's certainly the hope here."

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **64.4°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Modest blend of leftover Southern Hemi and short-period WSW-W swell; winds lightest early

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Tiny blend of Southern Hemi and WSW-W swell leftovers;
watching for light/variable Southerly AM winds

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small SW groundswell; watching for light/variable Southerly AM winds

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Minor SW groundswell

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of: **May 1, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / 40
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, SIMA, and Orcutt/Winnick Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	C	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	D	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

Dow Jones average gains, holds on to 15,000 level

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The Dow Jones industrial average rose, closing above 15,000 for a second day after breaching the landmark level for the first time Tuesday.

On Wednesday, a day without any major economic releases, investors focused on company earnings as reporting for the first quarter draws to a close. Although earnings growth has slowed from last quarter, profits are at record levels and projected to rise throughout the year.

Internet company AOL plunged as its subscription revenue fell, and hamburger chain Wendy's slumped after it reported revenue that fell short of Wall Street's expectations. On the positive side, high-end grocer Whole Foods and the video game publisher Electronic Arts rose sharply after predicting full-year profits that were higher than analysts were expecting.

Scott Wren, a senior equity strategist at Wells Fargo Advisors, predicted more gains in the short term, but he also said a pullback was likely at some point because the rise in the market is beginning to overstate the improvement in the economy.

"We're still going to keep grinding higher," Wren said. But, he added: "I do think the market is ahead of itself."

Stocks have defied predictions that a sell-off would follow the spring surge as signs emerged that growth could be set for a slowdown. Both the Dow and the Standard & Poor's 500 index have gained every month of the year and are trading at record highs.

On Wednesday, AOL plunged $3.68, or 8.9 percent, to $37.74 after the company reported earnings that fell short of the forecasts of Wall Street analysts who follow the stock. Subscription revenue fell 9 percent.

Wendy's fell 34 cents, or 5.6 percent, to $5.78 after it reported a 2 percent rise in revenue to $603.7 million, short of the $615 million forecast of analysts.

Materials and information technology companies gained the most of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 index, rising 0.9 percent and 0.8 percent respectively. The two industry groups have surged in the last month and are finding favor with investors after lagging the index for the first three months of the year.

That suggests that investors are moving from the so-called defensive stocks — those which offer good dividends and can grow regardless of the state of the economy — into industries that will benefit more if the economy accelerates. Gains for the year so far have been led by health care stocks, which have advanced 19 percent, compared with 8 percent for technology companies.

"We're seeing some sector rotation," said Chris Bertelsen, the Chief Investment Officer of Global Financial Private Capital. Defensive stocks "have had a huge run this year ... I think you are seeing some change of attitude in the market."

The Dow closed up 48.92 points, or 0.3 percent, at 15,105.12. The index is 15.3 percent higher for the year. The S&P 500 index was 6.73 points higher, or 0.4 percent, at 1,632.69, extending its advance for 2013 to 14.5 percent.

About 90 percent of companies in the S&P 500 index have reported their earnings for the first quarter.

Financial analysts predict that earnings will end up rising 5.1 percent versus the same period a year ago, according to S&P Capital IQ. Although that's slower growth than the 7.7 percent growth of the previous quarter, they are expected to grow 12 percent by the fourth quarter of 2013.

Whole Foods climbed $9.39, or 10.1 percent, to $102.19 after the natural foods store chain said its fiscal second-quarter net income rose 20 percent. The company also raised its profit forecast for the full year.

Electronic Arts, which makes the Madden Football games and SimCity, jumped $3.15, or 17.1 percent, to $21.56 after it projected profits for the current fiscal year that were higher than analysts were expecting.

In other trading, the Nasdaq composite gained 16.64 points, or 0.5 percent, to 3,413.27. The Russell 2000, an index of smaller stocks, rose 2.59 points, or 0.3 percent, to 970.41.

Freight transporter C.H. Robinson Worldwide was the biggest decliner in the S&P 500 index, falling $4.30, or 7 percent, to $57.26 after the company said that its profit margins were being squeezed.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note was little changed at 1.77 percent. The yield has climbed from 1.63, its lowest of the year, last week after a surprisingly strong employment report Friday.

In commodities trading, the price of crude oil rose $1, or 1 percent, to $96.62 a barrel and gold climbed $24.90, or 1.7 percent, to $1,473.70 an ounce.

The dollar fell against the euro and ended the day higher against the yen.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Sorcerer (NR) 2hrs 01min
Cruising (R) 1hr 42min
7:30pm

Discussion between films with William Friedkin.

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

Croods (PG) 1hr 38min
1:55pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm

Scary Movie V (PG-13) 1hr 25min
12:45pm, 10:10pm

Place Beyond the Pines (R) 2hrs 20min
12:50pm, 3:50pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
1:30pm, 2:50pm, 4:45pm, 6:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:10pm

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

Iron Man 3 (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
11:15am, 2:20pm, 5:30pm, 6:45pm, 8:30pm

Oblivion (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:05pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Big Wedding (R) 1hr 29min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Great Gatsby (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
10:00pm

Jurassic Park 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
12:15pm, 3:30pm

42 (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
11:05am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

Pain & Gain (R) 2hrs 09min
11:00am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:55pm, 10:45pm

Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

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

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

World Before Her (NR) 1hr 30min
7:30pm

Paradise: Love (Paradies: Liebe) (NR) 2hrs 00min
4:30pm, 9:55pm

Renoir (R) 1hr 53min
1:00pm, 6:15pm

To the Wonder (R) 1hr 52min
3:35pm, 8:55pm

At Any Price (R) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

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

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

Happy Birthday

Trent Tackbary: Local actor and dog lover.

Out late tonight, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might want to keep a closer eye on your finances. An opportunity could appear that allows unusual growth. Avoid quick actions and decisions right now. You need to give this decision time. Tonight: Indulge a loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Lunar eclipses generally bring surprises -- if not now, then in the following months. Today's eclipse brings you the chance to have a new beginning. Tonight: Out late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★ You might wonder what is going on. Your natural response is to observe, take in information and see what opens up. Give yourself time to sort through the details of a project. Venus moving into your sign allows you to use the principle of attraction. Tonight: Happily head home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your circle of friends could go from being active to being very quiet, which will leave you wondering what is next. Re-evaluate certain life goals. You might be aiming for a desire that is no longer valid, and you'll want to revise your wish list. Tonight: Go for what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Tension builds. The idea of throwing in the towel could go through your mind. Avoid making any definite decisions right now. A friend will support you in what you want, even if it's not necessarily what is best; that knowledge might not be available. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Reach out to someone you really care about. Understanding evolves to a new level, which allows greater give-and-take. Recognize that if you back off and look at the big picture, you will see another option. More information also will come forward. Tonight: Opt for a distraction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Discuss a change with a key partner or an adviser. Your finances go up and down as they rarely have before. You see life in a new light as a result. Look at the long term, and make it a point to have a long-overdue discussion with a loved one. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Let someone have his or her way. You might not be sure of the validity of this person's ideas, but in time you will know. This person has a lot of character and a strong personality. You'll want to honor his or her requests. Tonight: Initiate nothing. See what comes forward.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You are more limited now than you might realize. Understand that it might be best to put off taking any action, unless is to make a personal resolution such as starting a diet or cleaning out your desk more often. Tonight: Work out or sit in a hot tub. Let your stress dwindle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Tap into your creativity if you see problems arise. You might not want to take action just yet; however, there is no reason you can't brainstorm in the meantime. Tonight: Put on your dancing shoes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Stay anchored. You might see a chance for a new beginning where your domestic life is concerned. If you don't see it yet, know that you will in the near future. Tonight: Do your thing.

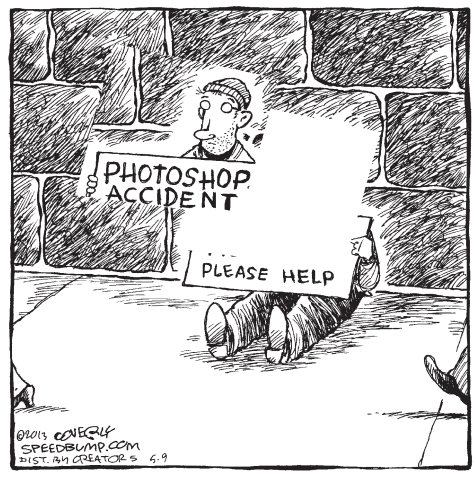
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Reach out to several people whom you have put off calling. Expect a strong reaction. You'll feel much more passionate about a problematic issue than you have in a while. Test out your ideas on a friend who is willing to play devil's advocate. Tonight: Join a pal for dinner.

Thursday, May 9, 2013

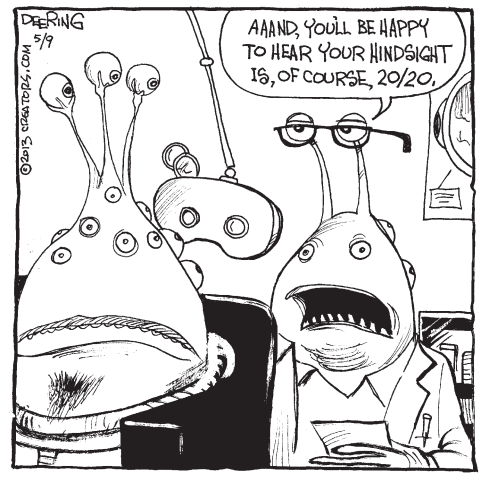
This year, if a part of your life is out of sync, you will opt to let go and change that experience to a more positive one. Your sign's stubbornness will be used well, as you will not give up once a decision is made. If you are single, your appeal soars; however, you might not be up for the dating game. Fortunately, you have the option to decide. If you are attached, remember that your significant other is half of the bond. Do not be too me-oriented. A fellow TAURUS lets you know that he or she does not see eye to eye with you.

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

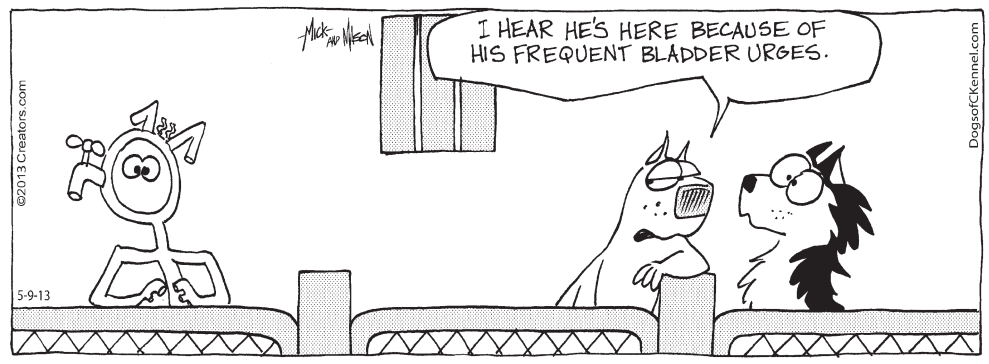
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



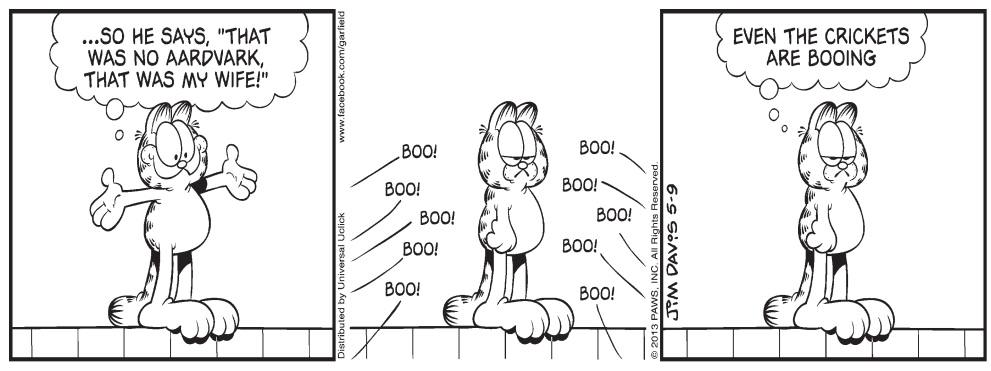
Strange Brew
By John Deering



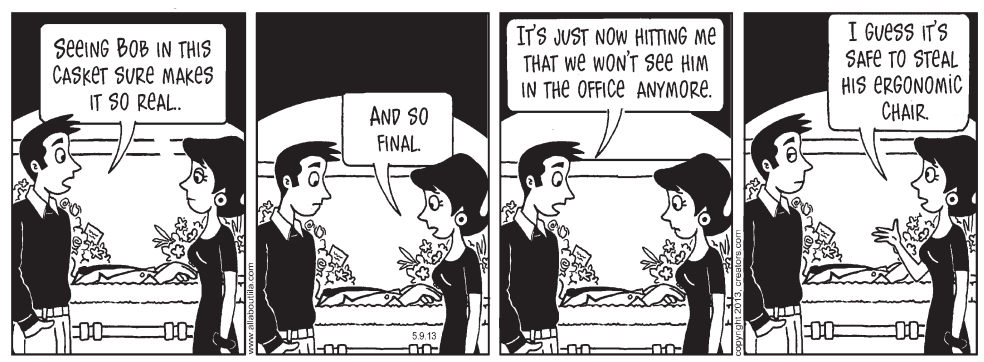
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lateral, e.g.
5 Holiday event
11 Pining
12 Doomed flier
13 Dessert fruit
14 Acropolis setting
15 Requested
17 Words with pickle, stew or jam
18 Coarse files
22 Possessed
24 Try for a basket
25 Really enjoy
26 Ring legend
27 Practical
30 Magic Johnson, once
32 Not as green, maybe
33 Paris pal
34 Confounded
38 Dream up
41 Like an eyesore
42 Lone Star State city
43 Trick
44 Sense
45 Went 80

DOWN

1 One of a bear trio
2 Great serves
3 Reorganizing
4 Placid
5 Singer Edith
6 Cast makeup
7 Enthusiastic
8 Verb for you
9 Brownish gray
10 Twisty turn
16 June honoree
19 Absorbing
20 Warsaw native
21 Commotion
22 Sneaker problem
23 Hotspot offering
28 Peaceful
29 Steamy
30 Fall behind
31 Affairs
35 Nice fellow
36 Different
37 Colored
38 Scoundrel
39 Wish undone
40 Superlative suffix

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

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

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			
42						■	43			
44						■	45			

5-9



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The Lord Works in Strange Ways: At least 11 people were killed and 36 injured on March 15 in Tlaxcala, Mexico, when a truck full of fireworks exploded as Catholic celebrants gathered. Rather than remain in the safety of their homes, they had been moved to honor Jesus Tepactepec, the patron saint of a village named after him.

■ Recent Icons: (1) In March, a vegetable wholesaler in India's Jharkland state decided that a pumpkin he purchased was so enormous (about 190 pounds) that it must be a reincarnation of the god Shiva -- and he began worshipping it. A priest counseled the man to continue his fealty until the following Sunday, a holiday, after which he should carve it into pieces for devotees. (2) In Buri Ram, Thailand, in March, a woman sliced open a sausage to find the distinctive body of a very small kitten, which she took to be a symbol of some sort deserving to be placed onto an altar. Neighbors gathered to pray to it, also, and several said they had considered the woman so fortunate that they played her age (52) in a local lottery, and won.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1969 – Carlos Lamarca leads the first urban guerrilla action against the military dictatorship of Brazil in São Paulo, by robbing two banks.

1970 – Vietnam War: In Washington, D.C., 75,000 to 100,000 war protesters demonstrate in front of the White House.

1974 – Watergate Scandal: The United States House of Representatives Judiciary Committee opens formal and public impeachment hearings against President Richard Nixon.

WORD UP!

dais
\ DEY-is, DAHY-, deys \ , noun;
1. a raised platform, as at the front of a room, for a lectern, throne, seats of honor, etc.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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2107 Oak St. #1. 2 Bd + 1 Bth. Hdwd floors, laundry, pet friendly, laundry onsite, private storage, SM permit street parking. $2195

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2013057712 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 03/22/2013 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as AVITAR COFFEE, AVITAR COFFEE COMPANY. 530 S. BARRINGTON AVE 101 , LOS ANGELES CA 90049. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: AVITAR RANDO 530 S. BARRINGTON AVE 101 LOS ANGELES CA 90049. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)03/22/2013. /s/: AVITAR RANDO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 03/22/2013. 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 04/18/2013, 04/25/2013, 05/02/2013, 05/09/2013.

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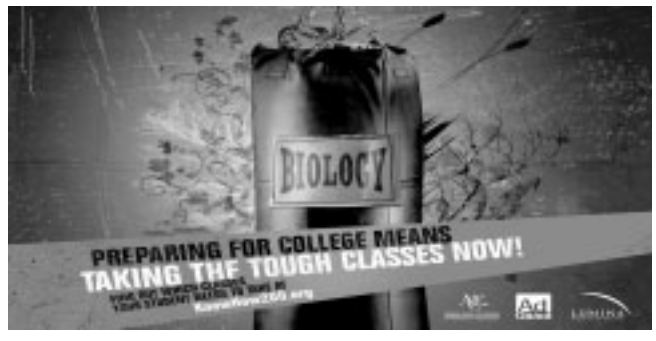
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I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.
~ Abraham Lincoln

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th

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18 Residential Units



2434 Oak Street
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Open Sunday, May12th, from 2:00pm—5:00pm
4 Units in 1 Building

* Great Sunset Park Location
* Units w/ Private Patio Areas
* Vaulted Wood Ceilings
* Open Floor Plans



1033 Pearl Street
$1,499,000
Open Sunday, May 12th, from 2:00pm—5:00pm
4 Units in 2 Separate Buildings

* Great Sunset Park location
* Quiet Residential Neighborhood
* Beautifully Maintained
* New Windows



2502 5th Street
$1,599,000
Open Sunday, May 12th, from 2:00pm—5:00pm
House + 3 Units

* 3 Bedroom House
* 3, 1-Bedroom Units
* 4 Blocks to Trendy Shops
* 5 Blocks to the Beach



2524 5th Street
$1,599,000
Open Sunday, May 12th, from 2:00pm—5:00pm
House + 4 Units

* House 2 Bedroom + 1 Bath
* 4 Units 1 Bedroom + 1 Bath
* 4 Blocks to Trendy Shops
* 5 Blocks to the Beach



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

Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 1,980,000
North of Montana	=	$ 4,195,533
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,492,500
South of Wilshire	=	$ 660,000
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,305,000
Ocean Park	=	$ 1,107,250

Statistics updated every Friday

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