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Santa Monica Daily Press
MAY 11-12, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 156

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE I LOVE YOU MOM ISSUE

FIND OUT WHERE TO TAKE MOM SUNDAY
SEE PAGE 2



PEDAL POWER

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Participants take a spin class led by Nick Hounslow of Cycle House during BluePrint's inaugural BluePrintFit! fitness event at Santa Monica Beach on Friday. The event featured three hours of outdoor exercise classes, mini spa treatments and samples of cold-pressed BluePrintJuice.

Civic will have to learn new tricks to survive

New management, facilities and financing critical, consultants say

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer



CIVIC CENTER AUDITORIUM

MAIN LIBRARY The Santa Monica Civic Center Auditorium can survive past its planned June closure, but it will have to rev-

SEE CIVIC PAGE 10

Civics 101: City Hall launches Citizen Academy

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL City Hall wants to strengthen connections with the community and empower up-and-coming civic leaders through a newly-proposed Citizen Academy, a crash course in the nuts and bolts of city government.

The classes, expected to launch in early 2014, will be designed to help residents learn about how local government, community institutions and nonprofits operate and how decisions get made that impact Santa Monica as a whole.

It's similar to the Citizen Academy run through the Santa Monica Police Department, meant to give an inside look at local law enforcement and how it functions in an attempt to demystify how the department operates.

Between 20 and 25 people will be able to participate in each round of classes, and the total cost — roughly $12,000 — would be born by City Hall's General Fund.

City officials hope that it will result in residents better able to navigate the halls of government, able to not only be heard on issues important to them, but hold a more nuanced conversation about public policy, said City Manager Rod Gould.

"People get very knowledgeable, passionate and frustrated because they have all these ideas, they have all the energy and don't know how to get action," Gould said.

At the same time, the academy would allow city officials a chance to interact with residents in a free-flowing manner to collect ideas and get a better understanding of constituents' needs.

Over the course of between six and eight sessions, participants could learn about how the planning process works, the details of transportation and parking plans or even the basics of public meeting participation.

Although members of Santa Monica's most active neighborhood organizations know some of this information already, Gould hopes that exposure to other topics outside of their usual concerns, be that traffic or development, will broaden their perspective on Santa Monica as a whole.

SEE ACADEMY PAGE 11

Calif. moves to comply with 2011 gay history law

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO California education officials have taken the first step toward complying with a law requiring public schools to include prominent gay people and gay rights' milestones in the curriculum.

The California Board of Education this week unanimously approved new standards stating that books, handouts and other classroom materials must avoid "pejorative descriptions" based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

The criteria also encourage teachers to include the contributions of prominent gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in their lessons when it would be historically accurate to do so.

In 2011, the state Legislature passed and Gov. Jerry Brown signed the first-in-nation bill requiring public schools to teach the contributions of gay, lesbian and disabled people in social studies lessons.

The legislation also prohibited the adoption of any materials that reflect adversely on gays or particular religions.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, May 11, 2013

Outdoor open house
Site of future Buffer Park
Exposition Boulevard at Stewart Street
Santa Monica residents are welcome to come check out the site of the future Buffer Park, which is intended to shield residents from the Expo Light Rail Line. There will be tents and tables displaying park designs. Bring your friends and neighbors and enjoy some popsicles and lemonade.

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.

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.

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.

Dance theatre
Lincoln Auditorium
1501 California Ave., 8 p.m.
RhetOracle Dance Company presents their seventh-season production "La Bayadere," a twist on the love story of Solor and Nikiya. Admission is $20. For more information, contact Caroline Hanley at (562) 270-4732.

Sunday, May 12, 2013

Norky of the North Pole
Essentia
2430 Main St., 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Norky the Peneagle, a beloved book character by author Steve Allgeier, is landing in Santa Monica. There will be a special Mother's Day event with the quirky Norky for the entire family. Kids will have a special treat for their mothers at Essentia. The event is free but you must sign up to be placed on the guest list. Bring your cameras to take free pictures with Norky. For more information visit www.myessentia.com/locations/santa-monica, or call (310) 450-7819.

A night with Beethoven
Barnum Hall
601 Pico Blvd., 4 p.m.
New West Symphony will perform Beethoven's "Symphony No. 9." This concert will feature four soloists who were selected from YouTube. Come witness a 21st century rendition of a 19th century classic. For more information, visit newwestsymphony.org

Paint for mom
Paint:Lab
2912 Main St., 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Mother's Day will be celebrated with "Brushes and Bites," an event which will include complimentary wine, cheese and other refreshments. Attendees of the workshop will be painting the pre-selected image of a sunflower. All needed materials will be provided. For more information, visit paintlab.net.

Monday, May 13, 2013

Fashion party
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Film and fashion historian Kimberly Truhler discusses iconic costume design focusing on the Golden Age of Hollywood. Guests will see how the fashion and clothing of Katharine Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe and Audrey Hepburn continue to influence fashion today.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

Rent Control grapples with budget gap

The Rent Control Board plans to take a deeper look at proposals to raise revenues to cover looming budget deficits in advance of a public hearing on the subject in June.

The board asked its staff Thursday to come to that meeting with a variety of scenarios surrounding a proposed registration fee increase that could close the deficit and leave the accounts with a surplus in excess of $100,000.

The current budget plans for a $15 increase in annual fees for each rent controlled apartment registered in Santa Monica, and, for the first time, anticipates splitting that fee between landlords and tenants.

While many board members seemed comfortable with the concept, they have asked for three scenarios on June 13 that include smaller increases and the possibility of phasing the changes in over time so that landlords are not hit with any level of increase all at once.

At the same time, two board members will join an ad hoc committee to explore other ways to raise revenues.

The public hearing is scheduled for June 13.

– ASHLEY ARCHIBALD

CITY HALL

Late report results in 'F' for City Hall

Elementary school students learn the hard way that late homework means a failing grade, and the same is true for City Hall.

City Hall was called out by the city of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Wednesday in a list of 18 water quality miscreants that got a slap on the wrist for their transgressions in 2012.

This list, published in the Los Angeles Times, identifies "significant noncompliant industrial users," putting Santa Monica Charnock Well Field up with jail facilities and a metal finishing shop.

Unlike some of the other names that appear, however, Santa Monica is guilty of a slight oversight, said Lonnie Ayers, project engineer of permitting and enforcement with the Los Angeles Department of Public Works.

The employee responsible for turning in a water-quality sampling report had resigned, and the completed report lingered in city offices for over a month past the due date.

All of the testing, however, had been completed and showed that City Hall did not exceed any discharge limits under its permits.

Chemicals discharged can include arsenic, chromium, copper, lead, oil and grease, said Gilbert Borboa, who's in charge of the Santa Monica's water supply.

There's no administrative penalty at this time, Ayers said.

Although other corporations and organizations have exceeded water quality standards, the number of violators has dropped significantly since Los Angeles began an education campaign.

"We used to publish 35 or 40 names. Now we're down to 18," Ayers said.

– AA

SM PIER

Free Ferris wheel rides for mothers

For everyone out there still stressing on what to get their mom for Mother's Day, you can now breathe a little easier. Pacific Park is offering a free family photo and a Ferris wheel ride for moms this Sunday.

To celebrate the day of motherly appreciation the Ferris wheel will radiate a special sequence of pink, turquoise and yellow lights.

To receive the free photo and ride, all mom has to do is go to the ticket booth between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. The Mother's Day light display will take place between 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.

– HENRY CRUMBLISH



SPLIT UPRIGHTS

Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

Kaleb Denmark from Arrowhead Christian High School spikes the ball over the net as Chris Bobak from Pacifica Christian goes for the block but misses on Thursday. Pacifica Christian lost the second-round playoff game in three sets (25-13, 25-16, and 25-20).

Malibu Courthouse slated for closure

BY MELISSA CASKEY
Special to the Daily Press

MALIBU The curtain is set to close May 31 on the Malibu Courthouse, a site that has played host to cases involving high-profile names such as Robert Downey Jr., Zsa Zsa Gabor and Mel Gibson.

After the closure, challenging a cop in court, attending a preliminary hearing for an infraction and handling other pertinent legal matters are sure to result in longer lines and delayed hearings, according to Los Angeles Superior Court Spokeswoman Mary Hearn, as L.A.'s remaining courts absorb cases from Malibu and seven other shuttered courthouses.

"It's going to get worse and worse. Lines are going to get longer, it's going to take longer to get civil cases heard," Hearn said.

Though news of the Malibu closure first broke

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Billionaire avoids taxes

Editor:

I literally just woke up! So Michael Dell sets up his wife as 49 percent owner to avoid paying property taxes on his purchase price of $200 million for the Fairmont Miramar, where I spent my wedding night 23 years ago.

I feel like such an idiot. I am an educated engineer, but thank goodness for great journalism. So this is why our schools are suffering. Shame on Dell!

This is outrageous.

Lisette Gold
Santa Monica

Need to organize

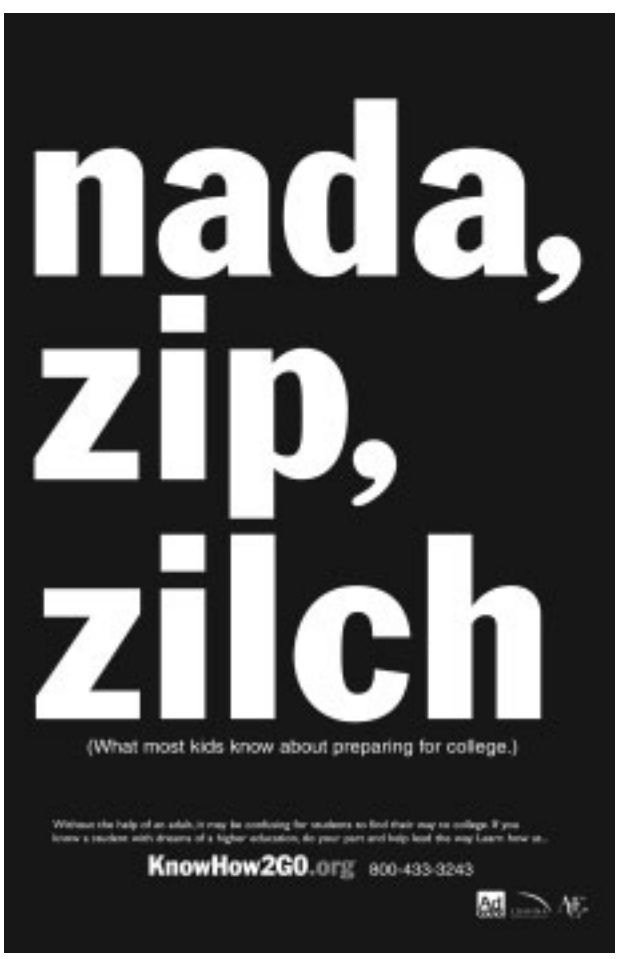
Editor:

Thanks to Jeffrey B., Jeanne L., Adam P., and others for their letters regarding overdevelopment. Now, who is going to organize the group to stop the surge of overbuilding that is engulfing Santa Monica and turning the community into a bulging piggy bank for developers?

Without a group to focus on this issue, publicize the problem and work for better governance, nothing will be accomplished.

Robert Weisberg
Santa Monica

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Curious City

Charles Andrews — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Walking a mile in his shoes

WHERE DO YOU TAKE YOUR EVERYDAY shoes and boots and your special, expensive ones to be repaired, polished, resoled and renewed? Who do you trust? If it's not Ignacio Benavides, 33 years at the "wrong" end of Main Street, you've been missing out. On more than just great shoe care.

Ignacio goes by Alex, for Alejandro, his middle name that he says he dropped because "Ignacio Alejandro Benevides Corona is too long to sign on a check." When I asked him if he chose Alex because gringos could pronounce it a lot easier than Ignacio, he smiled slightly and said yeah.

Ignacio is one of a dying breed, a craftsman carrying on a family tradition who takes great pride in his work, and asks a very reasonable price. (His father, in his 80s, retired only last year, and his four uncles were all shoemakers.)

My family's been going to Ignacio since a friend told us about him 20 years ago. Ever since, we've worried that he charges too little. We've even spoken to him about it occasionally. You're on Main Street, it's gentrifying, rents are skyrocketing and we don't want to lose you.

Four or five years ago a competitor opened up a few blocks down. Has that hurt him? "No," Ignacio says with a grin. "Sometimes I even send people down there, if they don't like my prices or they think I can't do it. They usually come right back."

He started out in Santa Monica on Pico Boulevard, just east of Santa Monica High School, taking over from a shoemaker who, he found out too late, had lost all his business. His rent in the '70s was $150 a month, doubling by the time the building was sold in late 1980 and he was forced to move.

He found his present location, just south of Pico, in December, and even though his rent jumped to $900 a month, he thought it was a good place to be. It had been an upholstery shop, and way before that (1921-23) Nordskog Records, the only place in L.A. you could buy recordings by black artists, and the first label to record a black New Orleans big band, that of the legendary Kid Ory. Ignacio knows this only recently, because a customer brought in a newspaper clipping, which he proudly framed but doesn't yet have on the wall.

Ignacio's customers do things like that for him, because he's such a likable guy, and you understand pretty quickly what a gem of an anachronism he is. In the competitive small business arena of Santa Monica, and this tightening economy, there he is, still on Main Street, with customers he's had for decades and a shock of really thick, wavy gray hair that makes every man jealous. Although married 45 years, Ignacio clearly endures as a ladies' man. "I'm ugly, and now I'm old, but the ladies still come in and make a fuss." It's that hair.

His shop has provided for a family of four sons, none of whom wanted to go into the business, even though he'd bring them here from Montebello on Saturdays and in the summer and let them try a few simple jobs to get a taste for it. "When I die," Ignacio notes matter-of-factly, "hasta la vista the business."

He would reward the boys with a fishing expedition to the Santa Monica Pier at the end of the day. "Mackerel, bonita, sometimes a small shark. You have to be careful when you step on them, on the pier, because while you watch out for the teeth, the tail comes around like a razor!"

When he was a young boy in Michoacan, he'd hunt rabbits for food, with a slingshot he carved himself. He showed me, folding and cutting a piece of paper, how he would make cool kites that looked like they had flapping wings, and sell them to younger kids for 20 cents.

You learn all sorts of interesting things at Alex's Shoe Repair. "We would catch lobsters too, but they don't bite your hook. You have to have three hooks and a weight" — he grabs a pencil and draws a picture — "and then you have to be real careful the way you pull them out … ," and he proceeds to give a show and tell.

Here's what else you should know about Ignacio and his magic shoe shop.

The place looks like a bomb hit it. There are horseshoes nailed above the door, dusty dream catchers in the window, sets of small rubber cartoon figurines and, oh, about a million more tchotchkes, fighting for space with 2 million pieces of leather and such. He's either doing landmark business or a lot of people forget to pick their stuff up. Both, probably. And clearly, Ignacio has a hard time throwing anything out.

He always stands by his work. On the rare occasions when it doesn't seem quite right to you, he makes it right, usually adjusting on the spot until you're happy.

Don't mind the person who seems to be hanging out there. I can't figure out if Ignacio has a kind heart for someone down on their luck who would love to sit in a chair for a few minutes, or if, as he sometimes tells the stories, the ones he kicks out come back to break his windows and slash his tires. Last time I was in there a friendly, normal-looking older guy was picking some nice guitar — and also laughing at nothing, often. Made me think of Syd Barrett, Pink Floyd's crazy diamond institutionalized founder.

Call first. If you just come by when Ignacio told you your belt would be ready, good luck. I don't sweat it; if I don't get my boots that day I know I'll at least get a good story. And always, always, save your ticket.

MUSIC AT THE MALL

I left an excellent performance at the tiny Raw Star Café on Pico last Saturday to walk over to Santa Monica Place to catch something that sounded interesting. Peter Asher, the legendary half of British Invasion duo Peter & Gordon (died 2009) and mega-successful producer/manager for James Taylor, Linda Ronstadt, and too many to mention, was anchoring a show by a band of old Brit rockers, led by a former Moody Blue and a former Holly, who promised to perform the Beatles "Abbey Road" album "in its entirety."

They did, in two parts, quite credibly, but there was so much more to this concert. It was like a showcase of iconic '60s English rock, and if the promoters had been more informative I think more people would've turned out, though there was a sizable crowd, and many got a nice view from the second and third level railings.

The many anecdotes, especially from Asher's Apple days in London, were priceless. The excuse was Brit Week, but I say more please, spring, summer and fall. Another great place for live music, the center plaza of Santa Monica Place.

All that good music, within walking distance.

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 27 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com.

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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.

This past week, Q-line asked:
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?

Here are your responses:

"YES. I'M AN EX-LANDLORD IN THIS lovely town of San Malicious and years ago, somebody tried to steal my little sports car. But if I had not had a band on the steering wheel to secure it, it would've been taken. And years later, a woman tried to steal from my credit card. So I had to knock out the credit card and get another one. So no, I don't feel that one can be safe in this city or in this world."

"I PERSONALLY HAVE NEVER BEEN burglarized, but of course have family and friends who have been. Mostly car vandalism. You raise the question, 'Is nothing safe anymore?' My answer: Not in Santa Monica. Look around you at the army of bums, lowlifes, drug addicts, crazies, and assorted ne'er-do-wells that now call Santa Monica home. And we are the prey and victims on all levels. When I was growing up in a small town on the east coast, these types would enter the town on one end preparing to set up their trades, but the police would have them out the other end of town before nightfall. Therefore, no crime. So sorry your building has now joined the victim ranks of these experienced, thieving, professional cruds."

"WHENEVER YOU HAVE A GROUP of people forming a society you will have those who are thieves. These malcontents feel others are responsible for their incorrect choices in life and that the benefits of society's labors should be free to them. I've had bicycles stolen from me in the past, I now try to be more careful in protecting what I have acquired from hard work. It's funny that the liberal press that's stolen so much truth from society is itself stolen from by the very ungrateful people it chooses to always defend."

"AT SANTA MONICA PLACE, YEARS ago, someone stole my bicycle. Fortunately I saw them by it, then ride off on it. Luckily, they came my direction, I barely had time to stop them – body slamming into them, knocking them down to the street. Thief got a concussion, but I got my bike back. My bike was worth more than the skull of a criminal."

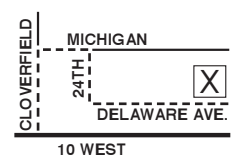
"WE LIVE IN AN APARTMENT BUILDING north of Wilshire Boulevard that has a three-level parking garage completely out of view from the street. Over the past five months we have had three incidents in which a number of cars each time were broken into and vandalized, including cars being keyed in the garage. For whatever reason, the police are not letting the general public know there is a significant car break-in problem north of Wilshire. It seems to be a persistent problem up here. I don't know why the Daily Press is giving scant attention to it, but it's very significant. Cumulatively over the three waves, the damage now totals $40,000, approximately. We have attempted to contact building and safety here in Santa Monica but code compliance tells us that the apartment building's parking levels are grandfathered and there's nothing that code compliance can do to enhance safety because the grandfathered rights of the landlord outweigh the risk to the well-being and safety of the tenants. We do want your readers to be aware of the fact there is a significant car break-in problem in Wilshire."

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Four pit bulls blamed for So. Calif. jogger's killing

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALMDALE, Calif. A pack of dogs remained under quarantine at a Mojave Desert shelter on Friday as investigators tried to determine whether they were involved in a mauling that killed a jogger.

By afternoon, Los Angeles County sheriff's homicide investigators had not announced any DNA match between the six pit bulls seized Thursday and the four believed to have attacked the woman in the high desert neighborhood of Littlerock earlier in the day, Deputy Guillermina Saldana said.

The county coroner's office identified her on Friday as Pamela Marie Devitt, 63, a local resident.

A woman in a car saw pit bulls attacking the runner in the area 65 miles northeast of Los Angeles. The driver called 911 and honked her horn to try to get the dogs to stop, sheriff's Lt. John Corina said.

An arriving deputy saw a single dog still attacking the jogger and tried to chase it off, Corina said.

"The dog ran off into the desert, then turned around and attacked the deputy," who took a shot at the animal before it ran off, Corina said.

The woman died in an ambulance on the way to a hospital, said Evelina Villa, spokeswoman for the county Department of Animal Care and Control.

Hours later, sheriff's and animal control officials served a search warrant on a home near the site of the attack and took away eight dogs, six pit bulls and two mixed-breeds. A 29-year-old man from the house was arrested on suspicion of cultivating marijuana.

The owner was cited previously because one of the dogs had attacked a horse, Villa said. She did not immediately have details.

The dogs were being kept under quarantine for rabies observation at a Lancaster shelter, said Marcia Mayeda, the county's animal control director.

"They're fine now," she said of their behavior. "They're all separated so they're not able to engage in a pack behavior, where they group up together and may act aggressively."

Their strange surroundings also may have intimidated them, she said.

Mayeda said the animals, five females and three males, are all adults weighing between 40 and 70 pounds, with the biggest being an overweight female Australian shepherd mix. The other mixed-breed appears to be a Labrador-collie, she said.

Not all of the dogs are licensed, spayed or neutered as required by county and state law, she said.

The agency will seek to have any dogs involved in the attack destroyed, Mayeda said. The others will be licensed, spayed or neutered as required and three of them — the legal limit — will be returned to the owner while the rest will be placed for adoption if they are friendly, Mayeda said.

However, there still was a chance that the attacking animals were strays.

"In these areas, you might have a situation where people dump animals out in rural areas," said John Mlynar, a spokesman for the nearby city of Palmdale.

People living near the site of the attack said stray dogs constantly roam the area and have attacked people before.

"It's really scary," Diane Huffman, of Littlerock, told KABC-TV. "I don't know what to think. I really think I'm going to be getting a gun to protect myself."

The jogger's death was the latest of at least five deadly dog attacks in California in the past two years.

Last month, Claudia Gallardo, 38, of Stockton, was mauled to death by a pit bull in the front yard of a home where the dog lived.

In February, Elsie Grace, 91, of Hemet, was killed by a pair of pit bulls at a motel.

In June 2011, two pit bulls escaped from their yard and mauled a neighbor in her San Diego backyard. Emako Mendoza, 75, suffered arm and leg amputations before dying months later. The dog's two owners were convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

In June 2012, an 8-month-old boy, Tyzhel Latella McWilliams, was mauled to death by a pit bull at a home in Lemon Grove, near San Diego.

Anyone who spots an aggressive dog, even behind a fence, can contact Los Angeles County animal control officers to investigate, Mayeda said.

If behavior problems are found, the owner will be cited for violations or encouraged to seek dog training.

"They'll be put on notice that there are people concerned about their animals," she said.

Calif. woman hit cop to go to jail to quit smoking

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Think you've heard of every way possible to quit smoking Etta Mae Lopez came up with a new one: slap a cop so you'll go to jail, where smoking isn't allowed.

Lopez smacked Sacramento County sheriff's Deputy Matt Campoy in the face Tuesday as he left the main jail at the end of his shift. He grabbed her and took her inside the jail, where she slapped his arm as soon as he turned her loose.

Once she was handcuffed, the 5-foot 1-inch Lopez told Campoy she picked him because he was in uniform and she wanted to make sure she struck a law enforcement officer.

"She waited all day for a deputy to come out because she knew if she assaulted a deputy she would go to jail and be inside long enough to quit her smoking habit," Campoy told The Sacramento Bee.

The deputy said he tried to sidestep Lopez as he left the jail through the usual gathering of family members who linger outside the facility a few blocks from the state Capitol.

"I stepped to the left again and she suddenly stepped into me and slapped my face," he said. "I've been telling everybody that I have a new Irish name: Nick O'Derm."

Lopez, 31, pleaded no contest to misdemeanor battery on a peace officer and was sentenced Thursday to 63 days in jail, with credit for the three days she served this week, said Shelly Orio, a spokeswoman for the county district attorney's office. Lopez also was sentenced to five days for violating her probation from a 2010 drunken driving conviction.

Among the conditions included in her sentence: an order to have no contact with deputies.

Obama says healthcare law 'here to stay'

BY JIM KUHNHENN & JULIE PACE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Caught between nervous Democrats and emboldened Republicans, President Barack Obama on Friday stepped up the sales pitch on his health care overhaul as the final elements of his top domestic achievement go into effect. With his legacy and the law's success at stake, Obama said: "The law is here to stay."

Behind the scenes, the White House readied a campaign-style effort to get healthy young people to sign up for the insurance "exchanges" in order to keep premium costs from skyrocketing. On Capitol Hill, House Republicans are planning yet another vote to try to try to repeal the law.

The insurance exchanges are the centerpiece of the landmark overhaul of the nation's health insurance system and the White House mobilization is crucial to the success of the health care law and, by extension, to Obama's place in history as the first president in decades to expand health care coverage.

"There's a lot that this law is already doing for Americans with insurance," Obama said during a Mother's Day-themed event at the White House. "There's a lot more that's going to happen for folks who don't have insurance."

But he cautioned: "We still have a lot of work to do in the coming months to make sure more Americans can buy affordable health coverage."

And he urged the public not to be swayed by what he said were scare tactics from critics of the law who might blame it for rising premiums.

"Don't be bamboozled," he said.

Underscoring the policy and political consequences, the White House plans to employ both the resources of government as well as those of his reconfigured political operation as it aimed to enroll 7 million people in health insurance exchanges between Oct. 1 and the end of March. The goal is to get 30 million people to sign up within five years.

However, the composition of those signing up for the new exchanges matters just as much as the overall totals. In order to keep premium costs down, officials say they must register 2.7 million healthy people between the ages of 18 and 35 in order to counteract the costs of ensuring seniors and people with health problems.

The effort comes as the public remains divided over the health care law. As a result, the White House is planning an election-like campaign to target those uninsured or individually insured young people, an effort reminiscent of the sophisticated voter outreach that helped Obama win twice win the White House. The administration has identified where many of the healthy and uninsured young live and will be working with health clinics, hospitals, churches and other groups to sign them up for the exchanges.

Organizing for Action, an outside political group supporting Obama, will also be involved in the effort to promote the exchanges.

Administration officials say one-third of the young people they need to sign up for the exchanges live in California, Texas and Florida. Just over 50 percent are minorities and 57 percent are men.

The administration's challenge is to overcome both confusion and lack of awareness about the law. A new poll from the Kaiser Family Foundation showed more than 4 in 10 Americans didn't know the Affordable Health Care Act was still law or was being implemented, and about half feel they don't have enough information about the law to know how it will affect them.

However, the officials said they expect some of those views to shift after the exchanges are fully operational, in part because many Americans will realize their health didn't change and those that are uninsured will see the benefits of the law.

Besides enrolling needed participants, the White House effort is designed to rally the public around the health care law to stave off yet another challenge from Republicans. Three years after it became law, the health care overhaul remains a target of GOP lawmakers determined to overturn it.

Greeenhouse gas levels set record

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON Worldwide levels of the chief greenhouse gas that causes global warming have hit a milestone, reaching an amount never before encountered by humans, federal scientists said Friday.

Carbon dioxide was measured at 400 parts per million at the oldest monitoring station in Hawaii which sets the global benchmark. The last time the worldwide carbon level was probably that high was about 2 million years ago, said Pieter Tans of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

That was during the Pleistocene Era. "It was much warmer than it is today," Tans said. "There were forests in Greenland. Sea level was higher, between 10 and 20 meters (33 to 66 feet)."

Other scientists say it may have been 10 million years ago that Earth last encountered this level of carbon dioxide.

The measurement was recorded Thursday. The number 400 has been anticipated by climate scientists and environmental activists for years as a notable indicator, in part because it's a round number — not because any changes in man-made global warming happen by reaching it.

When measurements of this chief greenhouse gas were first taken in 1958, carbon dioxide was measured at 315. Levels are now growing about 2 parts per million per year. That's 100 times faster than at the end of the Ice Age.

Before the Industrial Revolution, carbon dioxide levels were around 280 ppm, and they were closer to 200 during the Ice Age. There are natural ups and downs of this greenhouse gas, which comes from volcanoes and decomposing plants and animals. But that's not what has driven current levels so high, Tans said. He said the amount should be even higher, but the world's oceans are absorbing quite a bit, keeping it out of the air.

"What we see today is 100 percent due to human activity," said Tans, a NOAA senior scientist. The burning of fossil fuels, such as coal for electricity and oil for gasoline, has caused the overwhelming bulk of the man-made increase in carbon in the air, scientists say.

At the end of the Ice Age it took 7,000 years for carbon dioxide levels to rise by 80 parts per million, Tans said. Because of burning of fossil fuels, such as oil and coal, carbon dioxide levels have gone up by the same amount in just 55 years.





The Re-View

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's a family affair at Courtyard Kitchen

IN MY LAST COLUMN I EXPRESSED how we adapt other cultures into our food. This week I'm excited about how people from other lands can come to Santa Monica and open up an American-style restaurant with nice ambiance and great American food!

The Courtyard Kitchen is owned by chef Ari Selimovic from Bosnia, and his daughter Mila waits tables and generally runs the place. It's in a real courtyard in the heart of Santa Monica; nothing fancy, just outside tables sheltered with umbrellas with a brick floor, but great food for such a casual place.

Six salads, six appetizers, six sandwiches, four main dishes, great macaroons (even if misspelled on the menu) and kids' plates. And even more on the breakfast menu! And six kinds of tea. Prices are quite reasonable.

My eggplant parmesan was a good choice, made just the way I like it. A tuna salad sandwich and a BLT were both wonderful. The BLT was served on an especially flavorful bread from the Corner Bakery and spread with a spicy mayonnaise that added to the combination of flavors. And the plates came with organic mixed greens, which I found went really well with the sandwiches.

By and large the food is prepared in a healthy way, like we try to eat at home. A lot of the products are organic and locally sourced. The only beef I saw on the menu was a steak salad with blue cheese and balsamic vinegar. Otherwise it was all chicken, tuna, shrimp, salmon and lots of vegetables.

The kids' menu looks great, just what every kid wants: pizza, grilled cheese sandwich, and peanut butter and jelly. Now is that American or what?

So far I've missed out on what looks like the best they have to offer. The breakfast menu looks fantastic, but I haven't had a chance to get there yet for breakfast.

Lox and bagel, eggs, oatmeal, omelets and frittata, French toast and pancakes and, my all time favorite, eggs Benedict. I'll get there soon, but I don't go out often for breakfast, so I decided to write this review before I had breakfast there.

Don't leave without trying one or two macaroons. The salted caramel with a chocolate center and the raspberry with a fruit filling were the best I've ever had — even better than in France! No beer, wine or espresso yet, but they are coming.

The restaurant seems to be open every day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the brunch is all day Saturdays and Sundays. They have takeout and do catering. If you overeat, you can walk into the dance studio at the back of the patio and work it off.

For breakfast, lunch, or just a stop-in for one of their six teas (with a macaroon), this is just a really nice place run by really nice people. That shows up on the Internet, where both the food and the service get ratings as good as any place in town.

AN EXTRA HELPING

I stopped by the new Spago Beverly Hills this week and sat at the bar next to the drink station. It's true, the menu is half Japanese!

I started with a little box of sashimi; two pieces each of tuna, hamachi and uni with a flavored rice ball. I washed it down with a small bottle of sake. Delicious! Then I had the sliced veal chop (so good I gnawed on the bone for several minutes after I had eaten all the slices and dipped them into the rich dollops of sauce on the plate). I also enjoyed a generous 4-ounce pour of Malbec in a proper glass.

Amir, sitting next to me, gave me a bite of his ravioli in carbonara sauce, and one bite was enough. It was so rich. When I didn't order dessert, Amir ordered two with an extra spoon, and I had a couple bites of two extraordinary desserts, served in just the small portions I like.

OK, I spent my whole week's allowance on that one meal, but it was worth it. And watching the mixologists shaking and mixing was better than most of the movies I see.



Michael Yanow editor@smdp.com

PUTTING IT TOGETHER: **Chef and owner Art Selimovic prepares a salad for a customer at The Courtyard Kitchen on Montana Avenue. His daughter helps run the front of the house.**

If you go

Courtyard Kitchen
1211 Montana Ave.
Santa Monica, Calif. 90403
(310) 587-2333

Spago Beverly Hills
176 N. Canon Dr.
Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210
(310) 385-0880

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com.



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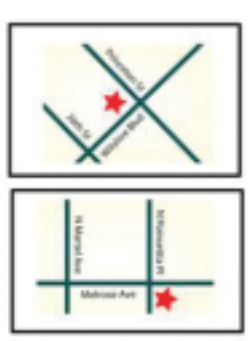

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Saddle Peak Lodge is perfect place for your last supper

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

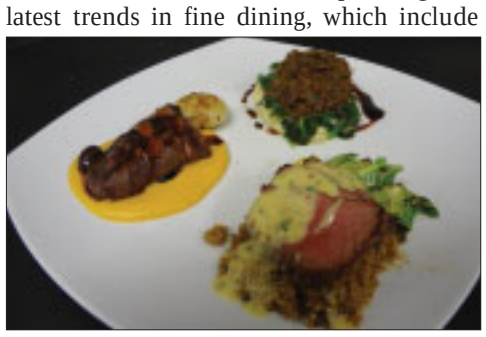
I'm sitting at my desk, the right side of my face is completely numb and all I can think about — not that I need another thing to make me drool — is the Saddle Peak Lodge.

The rustic, log cabin restaurant tucked away in the hills of Malibu was the site of my "last supper" four weeks ago. Since then I have had four wisdom teeth pulled, a filling fixed and a deep cleaning. Until recently, I was unable to eat a decent meal because of my recovery, which means I survived on soups, mashed potatoes, yogurt, really ripe bananas and macaroni and cheese. (OK, I snuck in a burger from The Counter two weekends ago as I my body was shutting down from a lack of red meat.)

Maintaining my sanity has been difficult. Aside from the drugs prescribed, my only solace has been memories of the wild game trio I ordered at the lodge that included tender, slow-roasted buffalo short ribs with molasses and elk tenderloin with brandied cherries. There was also the pear salad with goat cheese, walnuts and blueberry-fig vinaigrette and the agnolotti with wild mushrooms, truffle essence and parmesan. It was a decadent meal, befitting a man about to go under the knife.

That meal has sustained me and I must thank the restaurant's publicist and manager for treating me to Sunday dinner.

The lodge has been a dining gem for generations, but in the last few years it has become more modern, incorporating the latest trends in fine dining, which include



FULL PLATE: **The chef's wild game trio.**

locally-sourced produce and lighter sauces that let the food speak for itself.

The service is impeccable. Our waiter seemed to be able to sense when we needed more wine before we did and he was attentive without being annoying. He was very knowledgeable when it came to the various wines offered — most from California-based wineries — and the different starters and entrees, which range from $34 to $54. My dining companion and I sipped on a delightful cab-franc from Paradigm, which has deep roots in Napa Valley. It was gentle, but with a definite palate profile. At over $100 a bottle, the price is a tad steep, but you certainly get what you pay for.

The lodge is ideal for special occasions like a wedding anniversary, college graduation or Thanksgiving dinner (you better make reservations now if you expect to get a seat for turkey day). It truly offers a unique dining experience that is hard to duplicate anywhere else because of the location and décor. I went from the hustle and bustle of West Los Angeles to the tranquil hills of Malibu, the sun setting to my right as my dining companion and I made our way north on Pacific Coast Highway. The beautiful scenery helped get us in the mood for a relaxing, romantic dinner by the lodge's stone fireplace.



Photos courtesy Saddle Peak Lodge

TAKE A SEAT: **The rustic interior of the Saddle Peak Lodge helps diners get in the mood and is provides a truly unique setting.**

If you go

Saddle Peak Lodge
419 Cold Canyon Road.
Calabasas, Calif.
91302
(818) 222-3888
www.saddlepeaklodge.com/

When we arrived I was struck by the lush foliage, the many mounted heads, old books and hunting rifles lining the walls. It truly felt as if I was back in Mammoth at my favorite cabin getting ready for the next day's adventure on the slopes.

Each course was presented beautifully. The flavors melded well together and I had no complaints about the quality of the ingredients or how each dish was prepared. I could tell that those in the kitchen take great pride in their work.

Following the meal I had a chance to digest with the executive chef, a young and impressive Christopher Kufek, whose story was truly inspiring. A troublemaker as a youth, Kufek stumbled upon Saddle Peak Lodge a few years back when he was researching places to take his mother for a nice dinner as pay back for being so patient with his teen antics. He was immediately drawn to the place and felt compelled to seek employment there.

After knocking on the backdoor several times over three months, he was finally offered a job. He started at the bottom and worked his way up. Now the 27-year-old former carpenter is running the show. I found it refreshing that an institution with so much history now has a relatively young buck leading the way. Kufek, who trained under James Beard Foundation award-winner Gavin Kaysen, is slowly putting his stamp on the menu, staying true to the classics (think wild game) while always looking for fresh ideas. He is sure to keep the restaurant relevant and on the cutting edge, even though when visiting you'll feel as if you've taken a step back in time.

kevinh@smdp.com







CIVIC
FROM PAGE 1

olutionize its layout, amenities and management structure if it plans to compete with other entertainment facilities in Los Angeles, a team of policy experts told residents Friday afternoon.

Members of the Public Policy Institute, including former Santa Monica City Manager John Alschuler, recommended an entire reboot on existing thinking about the 10-acre parcel that lies to the south of City Hall, even contemplating hotel, residential or commercial development on the site to subsidize the arts center, which could be run by a separate nonprofit organization with an appointed board.

Gone was talk of a soccer field to be shared with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, instead replaced by an urban cultural center where patrons of the Civic could attend a show or conference and then walk a short distance for a cup of coffee or glass of wine.

"We have to give people a reason to go there beyond nostalgia," Alschuler said.

The City Council voted in October to mothball the Civic by June 30 after City Hall lost its redevelopment agency, which was going to fund a $51 million renovation of the aging facility.

That caused Nederlander Group, a private management firm, to back out of a deal to run and book the Civic, which had run at a deficit for years.

Rather than try to find money to make basic seismic repairs and put out $2 million to subsidize the money-losing operation while facing other budget pressures, the City Council decided to cut the city's losses and mothball the facility at the relatively low cost of $185,000.

That closure could result in even more damage to the center should existing systems fall into disrepair from disuse, said D'Lynn Waldron, who put on multiple productions at the site.

That $51 million figure could be half of what's needed to bring the facility back to life and ready to enter the ring with the other performance spaces in the Los Angeles region, said Dan Massiello of Kosmont Companies, a real estate advisory firm for municipalities.

Between the center's state of disrepair and antiquated facilities, the decision to save it is an emotional one, based on its importance to the identity of the city and to its residents, the team said.

"If this was simply a question of economic logic, or if this was simply a question of quality of the performance space, we would be recommending that the building be torn down and rebuilt. It is certainly not a cost effective thing to do to preserve it," Alschuler said.

That option was taken off the table for this discussion, but it will force residents and City Hall to think long and hard on what they want at the site, and how they plan to pay for it.

Operating revenues alone will never be enough to fund the debt service on loans needed to revitalize the facility, and traditional uses of the center will have to stop, said Mike Ross, who runs the Pasadena Convention Center.

At present, 40 percent of the center's use comes from city departments, which pay nothing for the service.

The center must charge industry rates and manage the Civic at industry standards, something it struggled to do when managed by the Community & Cultural Services Department.

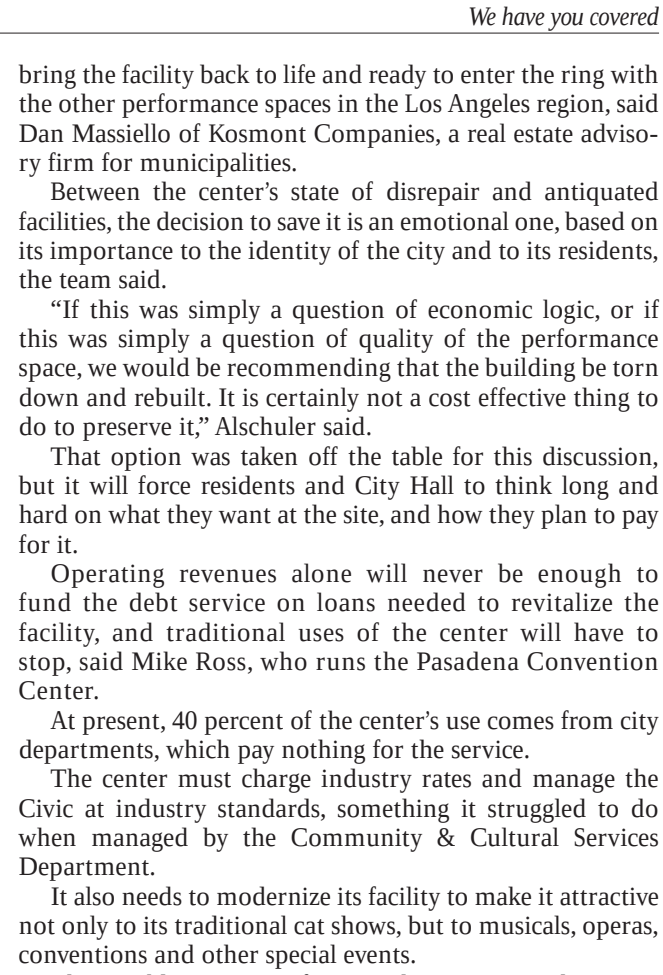
It also needs to modernize its facility to make it attractive not only to its traditional cat shows, but to musicals, operas, conventions and other special events.

That could mean reconfiguring the interior so that 2,000 of the 3,000 seats retract at the push of a button, while the remaining 1,000-seat capacity hovers above in a balcony, said John Sergio Fisher, an architect who specializes in theater consultation.

Improved acoustics, projection and comfier seats are also musts, he said.

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ALL NATURAL

Standing next to a replica pool, owner of Environmental Sculpturing Ronald Corona (left) and his wife Nadine Bozon-Vialle (right) explain the advantages of natural, chemical-free swimming pools at the 10th annual AltBuild Expo at the Civic Auditorium on Friday afternoon. The expo runs through Saturday. For more information, visit www.altbuildexpo.com/

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ACADEMY
FROM PAGE 1

"Everything is interconnected," he said.

Community leaders like Zina Josephs of the Friends of Sunset Park applauded the academy in concept, but wanted more information on how people would be selected.

Others, like Alin Wall of the Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition, shared that concern and hoped that the classes would be targeted at a younger audience.

"I think generally it's a great idea," she said. "I feel it should be aimed at residents under 30 years old in order to get younger people involved in the community."

Those interested will have the chance to apply in early 2014. Roughly two dozen will be selected by a panel, although the exact composition of that group has not yet been decided, Gould said.

City Hall also wants to draw younger residents into the mix, as well as its more vocal critics.

"We're hopeful to get people who are not in positions of responsibility or power, or well-known names in the political milieu, people who are considering getting more involved, and are involved at a lower level," Gould said.

That includes younger people who have only "dabbled" up until now, he said.

Citizen academies have taken off throughout the country in recent years to boost civic understanding of and participation in local government.

The Institute for Local Government, the research and education affiliate of the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities, found nearly 100 academies organized through city managers' offices, police departments or other ends of city government.

They've been recognized as a way to create a new civic leadership pool and create connections with hard-to-reach communities.

The model surfaced in the late 1990s, and evolved from academies run through police departments as a way to humanize officers in the eyes of residents, wrote Adam Scott Marcus in a 2007 paper "Local Government Citizen Academies: Is Knowledge Power?"

They are seen as a way to not only inform citizens, but also planners who have an academic knowledge of how things work, but sometimes lack what Marcus refers to as "tacit" knowledge held by people who experience conditions on the ground daily.

"[B]oth technical and tacit forms of knowledge are valid and planners must figure out how to utilize them both," he wrote.

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COURT
FROM PAGE 3

last November when the county announced projected budget shortfalls of up to $85 million in the Superior Court system's $734 budget, information of where cases would be transferred and how the court's employees would be impacted only began surfacing recently.

As of June 3, all new and pending Malibu traffic and non-traffic infraction cases will be transferred to the Santa Monica Courthouse, the next-closest court to the Malibu Courthouse. Santa Monica will hear unlawful detainer cases from Malibu as well, while small claims cases go to Inglewood and limited civil cases head to Chatsworth.

Hearn said the county has yet to make the final determination on whether traffic tickets can still be paid at the Malibu ticket counter next to the courthouse.

Felony and misdemeanor cases are being sent off to the Van Nuys Courthouse, forcing Los Angeles County Sheriff's detectives who normally work in Malibu to make a bit of a trek for their cases.

Malibu/Lost Hills Station Capt. Patrick Davoren said losing Malibu's Courthouse not only affects distance traveled by detectives and traffic deputies, but also serves as a loss of familiarity.

"Keeping the judicial system close to home is always the preferred method of operation," Davoren said. "There's a little more personal touch when you have it close and the judge and (district attorneys) all know Malibu, as opposed to having bigger cases when you have to drive to a different town where the people working in the court don't know your area."

During the 2011-12 fiscal year, the Malibu Courthouse handled a total of 45,670 cases, including 35,535 traffic infractions, 4,333 misdemeanor filings and 5,148 non-traffic infractions. Numbers for the 2012-13 fiscal year in Malibu were not yet available.

The Malibu Courthouse's 13 employees are set to transfer to other courthouses as well, though Hearn acknowledged steep layoffs are in the works and should be doled out before the fiscal year ends on June 30.

"Starting in 2010 we laid off 350 employees, and that began a series of delays and impacts to our system … . Last June we laid off another 300 and closed 56 other courtrooms," Hearn said. "Now we're looking at another series of layoffs numbering in the hundreds."

The Malibu Courthouse opened in 1990 in the town's Civic Center, neighboring an old sheriff's substation.

"That was nice," Davoren recalled. "[As an officer], when you had a case, you just walked next door."

Now, Davoren's staff faces a longer commute from Lost Hills to places like Van Nuys and Inglewood.

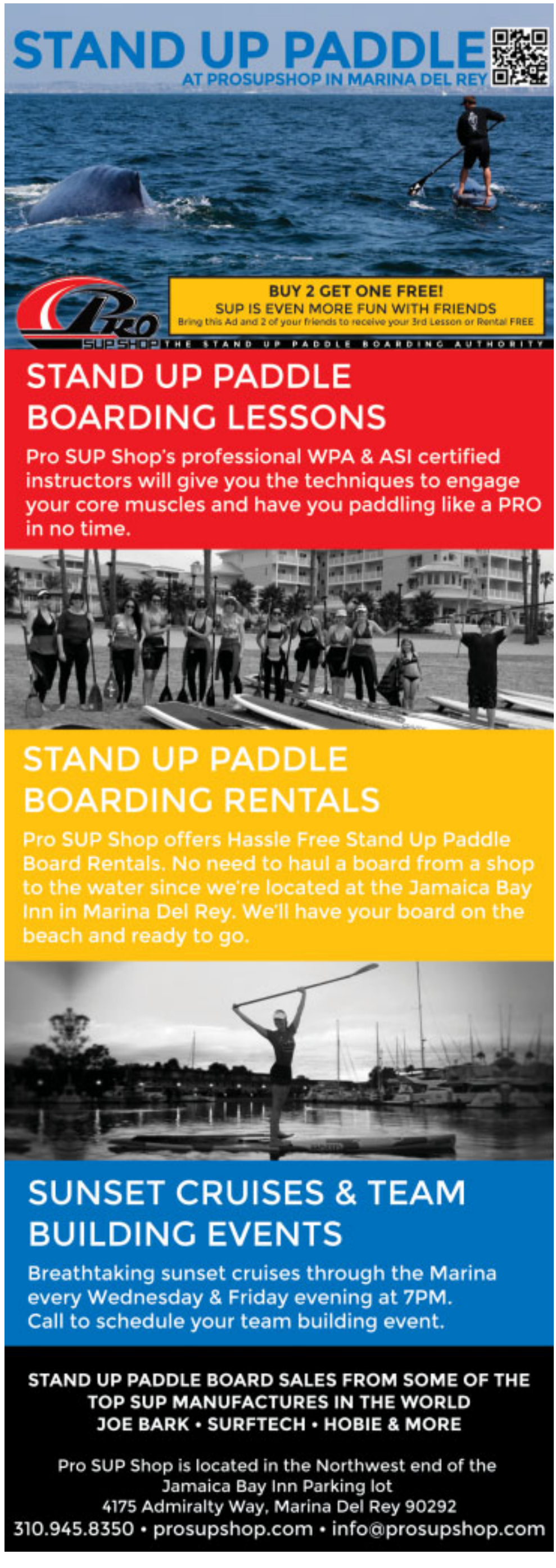
"Driving to the Malibu court is give-or-take 20 minutes. A major part of our detectives' day could now be spent driving 45 minutes or an hour in rush hour to Van Nuys or wherever," he said. "And that's extra time that takes away from their time to be out in the field conducting investigations and handling other cases."

Other courthouses slated for closure at the end of May include Huntington Park, Whittier, Pomona, West L.A., Beverly Hills, two courts in San Pedro and the Kenyon Juvenile Justice Center in L.A. Several factors played a part in deciding which courthouses would be "repurposed," Hearn said, including the cost of running the courthouses, prioritization of criminal cases and on-site holding cells.

editor@smdp.com

This article first appeared in the Malibu Times.

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **64.8°**

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small SW groundswell; watching for Southerly winds to return

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

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
Modest new SSW-S swell moves in

TUESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high occ. 4ft
Modest SSW-S swell continues; keeping an eye on the winds

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 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerrillos 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 Alisa 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
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunnos 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 17308 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	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 CMW 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.

MLB

Umps fined, suspended after 2nd mistake

BY BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK Major League Baseball suspended umpire Fieldin Culbreth for two games on Friday because he was in charge of the crew that allowed Astros manager Bo Porter to improperly switch relievers in the middle of an inning.

Culbreth and the rest of his crew — Brian O'Nora, Bill Welke and Adrian Johnson — were also fined an undisclosed amount, after MLB admitted its umps goofed for the second straight day.

"The rule covering pitching changes was not applied correctly by the umpiring crew," MLB said in a statement.

The problem in Houston came a day after Angel Hernandez and his crew in Cleveland failed to reverse a clear-cut home run after looking at a video review. MLB vice president Joe Torre said the umpires made an "improper call."

It's recently been a rough run for umps. Crew chief Tom Hallion was fined earlier this month after getting into a verbal spat with Tampa Bay pitcher David Price.

The latest trouble occurred in the seventh inning at Minute Maid Park. And while baseball does have video replay for some hard-to-tell calls — and has talked for a couple of years about expanding its scope — there was no mistaking what umpires saw.

With two outs and the Astros ahead 5-3, Houston reliever Wesley Wright came in from the bullpen and threw several warmup pitches from the mound. Porter, a first-year manager, then ran onto the field to stop him and brought in another reliever, Hector Ambriz.

Angels manager Mike Scioscia argued, correctly contending Wright was required to pitch to at least one batter. But the umpires permitted Ambriz to stay in and Scioscia put the game under protest — it became moot when the Angels rallied to win 6-5.

Pinch-hitter Luis Jimenez was on deck when Wright entered. Once Ambriz took over, Scott Cousins came up as a pinch-hitter.

On Friday Porter was upset that he caused the problem.

"Personally I want to apologize to their whole crew for putting them in that position," he said. "It's unfortunate for the game of baseball."

Culbreth provided little clarification after the game.

"Well, the only thing I can tell you is that all matters concerning protests are handled through the league office," he said.

Porter said he spoke with Culbreth after the game and apologized to him when he realized he was wrong. But he wanted he still wanted to make a public apology.

"There are some repercussions, and again as I sit here today, it's more that I feel sorry for the crew chief and the crew for having to wear what it is that happened last night," Porter said.

Wright, one of the pitchers involved in the fiasco, thinks it's unfortunate that Culbreth was suspended. He said when it happened; he figured he was going to have to stay in to face a batter.

"When they told me I was out of the game I was just kind of like: 'Maybe I don't understand the rule,'" he said. "It was just one of those weird situations."

A day earlier, a mistake in Cleveland caused a lot of commotion.

Adam Rosales and the Athletics were certain he'd hit a game-tying home run in the ninth inning against the Indians. Three umpires went to a video review and instead upheld the original call on the field that the ball didn't clear the left-field wall.

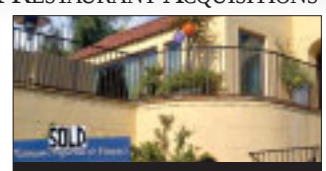
Oakland manager Bob Melvin was ejected and was later contacted with MLB officials.

The mistake drew attention all over the majors. Pittsburgh manager Clint Hurdle said he'd never before seen an obvious miss despite replay.

"This is the first one where there definitely is a line drawn where you go, 'Wow,'" he said.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, May 11, 2013
The Exorcist (R) 2hrs 1min
7:30pm
Discussion following the film with director William Friedkin, who will be signing copies of his new book "The Friedkin Connection: A Memoir" before the screening.

Sunday, May 12, 2013
The Sound of Music (G) 2hrs 54min
5pm

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

Croods (PG) 1hr 38min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:05pm

Big Wedding (R) 1hr 29min
7:45pm, 10:10pm

Place Beyond the Pines (R) 2hrs 20min
12:25pm, 3:40pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Peeples (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:45am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
11:30am, 2:45pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

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

Iron Man 3 (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
10:25am, 1:55pm, 8:25pm, 11:45pm

Oblivion (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
11:25am, 2:20pm, 5:15pm, 8:05pm, 11:00pm

Great Gatsby (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
10:45am, 1:25pm, 4:50pm, 5:10pm, 8:10pm, 11:30pm

Great Gatsby in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:05pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:25pm

42 (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
1:45pm, 4:55pm, 8:10pm, 11:20pm

42 (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
10:35am

Pain & Gain (R) 2hrs 09min
10:50am, 2:00pm, 5:05pm, 8:15pm, 11:25pm

Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:25pm

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
11:00am

G-Dog (NR) 1hr 32min
11:00am

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

Reluctant Fundamentalist (R) 2hrs 08min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Iceman (R) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Company You Keep (R) 2hrs 05min
1:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm

Source Family (NR) 1hr 38min
11:10am

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

Happy Birthday

Reyaneh Azima: Longtime Santa Monica hair stylist at Hair Designers Studio, loves the Wynn Hotel.
Craig Owens: VP, Minuteman Parking and Ocean Park resident/surfer.

Do what you love tonight, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You will want to have a discussion involving your finances and potential growth. You have a lot of opinions and a variety of information, but it always is worth brainstorming with someone who has a similar perspective and different knowledge. Tonight: Say "yes."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Do not let someone push you into spending more than you desire. You know your limits, and you might not want to waver. Follow your instincts as to what is best for you. Tonight: Treat a friend to a movie.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You are full of personality and excitement. An offbeat friend can't seem to leave you alone. You might want to incorporate this person into some of your plans. Tonight: Whatever you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ For some reason, you might be out of sorts and not feeling good. You could be assessing a situation differently from those around you. Make time for a dear friend who often shares with you, and vice versa. Tonight: Play it low-key.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ A friend will reach out to you, probably to take off on a day trip or go to a fair or an art show. Make it your pleasure. Crowds offer an opportunity to meet someone new and interesting. Unexpected developments force a change of plans. Tonight: Follow the crowds.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Relax, and you will achieve what you want. You sometimes have a heightened sense of responsibility. Do check in with an older friend or relative who shares many different ideas. A mini-vacation might be involved with future plans. Tonight: Appreciated for who you are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Be spontaneous. Your sense of fun and adventure will come out. Wherever you are, you open up to new ideas and have a good sense of direction. Tonight: Where your mind can roam.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Bring forth more information than you have in the past. You have a situation that is changing the more you open up. When you keep your ideas to yourself, others are left to use their imagination. You might be surprised at some of the responses. Tonight: Say "yes."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might want to defer more to others, unless you want to go your own way. Though you are a strong, independent personality, you also often want to be with your friends. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Get into a fun project, or run some errands. A surprise easily could land on your doorstep. Maintain a sense of humor, and you'll have an easy time working through any problem that could emerge. Tonight: Know that you do not need to do anything.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be out of sorts with a friend who often throws a boomerang into your life. Know that this person probably won't change. You'll have a decision to make. Allow your inner child to emerge. Tonight: Give yourself a little more freedom to express who you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You are on top of your game, and you'll enjoy yourself to no end. Listen to what is being shared within your immediate circle of friends. Know when to say "enough." You do not like to hurt anyone's feelings, but sometimes it is necessary to speak up. Tonight: Do what you love.

May 11-12, 2013

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

This year you open up to many new ideas. You naturally will test your intuition and willingly experiment more. Many of you will continue to stay within the conservative boundaries you have established -- at least for the most part. If you are single, use care with anyone who might pop into your life from out of the blue. This person might not be as open or as clear as he or she would have you think. If you are attached, the two of you might opt to make a major purchase toward a long-term goal. GEMINI often encourages more wildness in you.

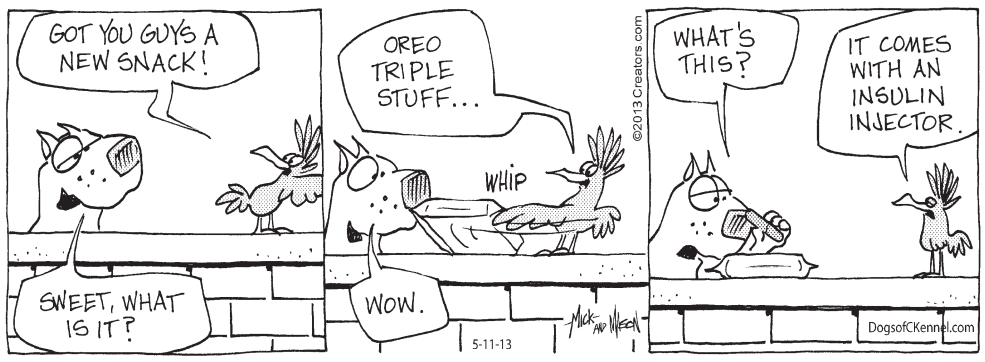
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



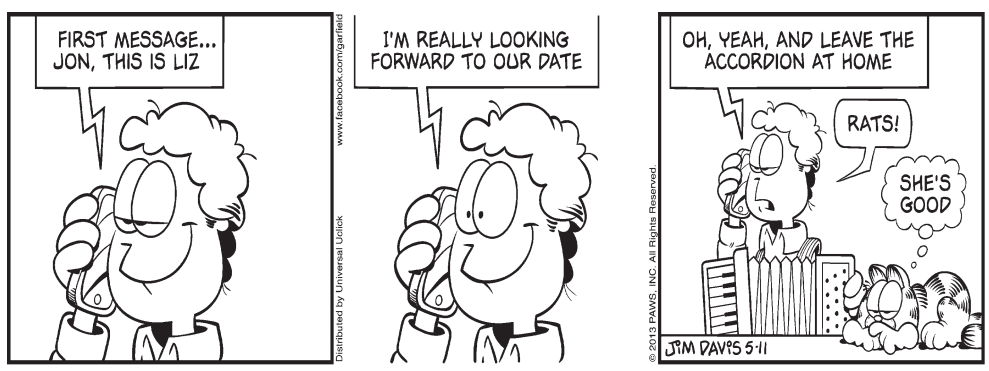
Strange Brew
By John Deering



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 ★★★★

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

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

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

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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 Deep ravine
6 Gather together
11 Phone word
12 Magna —
13 Bother
14 One with a record
15 Singer Franklin
17 What's more
18 According to
19 Regal furs
22 Hosp. areas
23 Mob member
24 Sharpens
25 "The Lord — ..."
27 Relaxing place
30 "Inka Dinka Doo" singer
31 Bowler, for one
32 Carnival city
33 Citation's jockey
35 Broadway orphan
38 Like burlap
39 Hoe targets
40 Dancer Castle
41 Nasser's successor
42 Lab work

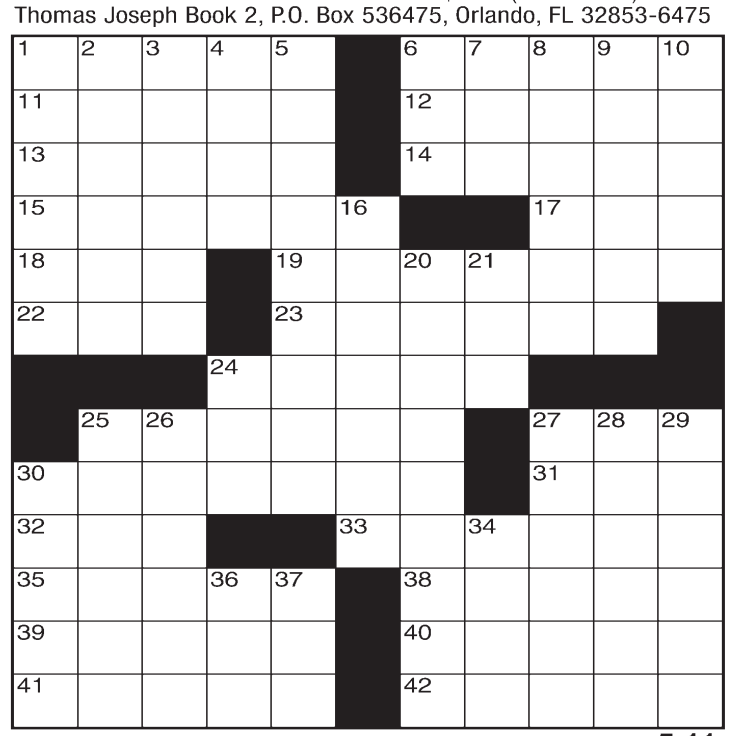
DOWN

1 Low-quality
2 Listener
3 Changes
4 Louver piece
5 Protective sort
6 Pro
7 Writer Brand
8 Secret
9 Pothead
10 Hourglass bits
16 Short solo
20 Common sense
21 "— your loss!"
24 Pa. neighbor
25 Old English coin
26 De-creased?
27 Removes whiskers
28 Report card signer
29 Makes amends
30 Entices
34 Apple center
36 Lupino of films
37 Id —

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

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



5-11



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Questionable Judgment:** The Narcotics Task Force of Jackson County, Miss., arrested Henry Ha Nguyen, 41, in April as operator of a large marijuana grow house -- a facility that would normally reek of the distinctive pot fragrance. However, Nguyen had thought of that and tried to mask the smell, but chose the alternative scent produced by buckets full of what appeared to be human feces.

■ (1) A vendor at the largest bazaar in Buenos Aires has recently been selling knock-off "toy poodles" that were actually artistically groomed ferrets raised on steroids. A news dispatch from June 2012 suggested that such a report might be an "urban legend," but a Buenos Aires TV investigation exposed the scam in March, revealing two victims, one of whom paid the equivalent of about $150 for his "pure-bred." (2) Wayne Klinkel's golden retriever Sundance, locked in a car while Klinkel, of Helena, Mont., went to dinner in December, set about dining himself on whatever he found, including the five $100 bills Klinkel had stashed. Klinkel managed to recover the scraps (in precisely the way you suspect he did), washed and dried them several times, and as of early April, was still awaiting word whether the U.S. Treasury would exchange his scraps for five new ones.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1846 - President James K. Polk asked for and received a Declaration of War against Mexico, starting the Mexican-American War

1857 - Indian Revolution: Indian rebels seize Delhi from the British.

1858 - Minnesota is admitted as the 32nd U.S. State.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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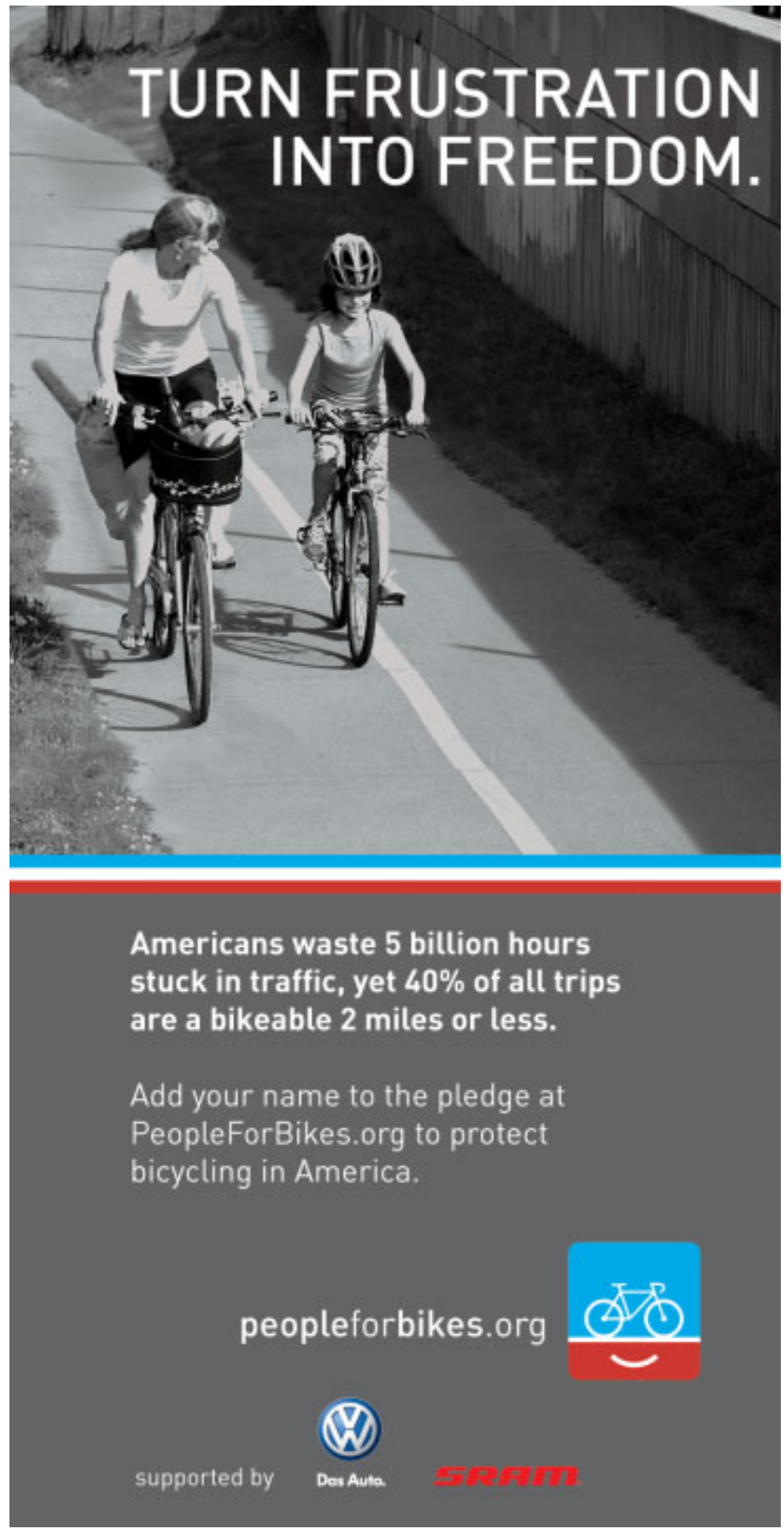
DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2013067725 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 04/04/2013 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as HIROS KITCHEN. 11301 W. OLYMPIC BLVD. #642 , LOS ANGELES, CA 90064. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: HIROYO KALMANSON 11301 W. OLYMPIC BLVD. #642 LOS ANGELES, CA 90064. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:HIROYO KALMANSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 04/04/2013. 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 04/15/2013, 04/22/2013, 04/29/2013, 05/06/2013.

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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

Happy Mother's Day

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18 Residential Units



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Open Sunday, May 12th, from 2:00pm - 5:00pm
4 Units in 1 Building

- Great Sunset Park Location
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$1,499,000
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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



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Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Mid 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
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