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Santa Monica Daily Press



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SEE PAGE 7

We have you covered

THE I'VE GOT WORK TO DO ISSUE

City Council eases restrictions on outdoor signs

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET For the last 18 months, Frank Strauss, owner of the Fedora Primo hat shop on Pier Avenue just off of Main Street, has put out a rack of hats and a small sign to attract business into his store.

The sign, which simply reads "Hats," and the rack are both positioned within Strauss' property line, although the rack might edge a bit into the public right of way.

And for the last 18 months, while city employees embarked on a study of the ramifications of signage and merchandise displays in reference to potential changes in the sign and zoning codes, Strauss has gone, for the most part, unmolested.

That wasn't always so.

Portable signs and sandwich boards, even on private property, were not allowed under Santa Monica's sign code until the City Council voted to amend the statute at its meeting Tuesday night.

As a result of that vote, merchants will be able to display signs on their own property, as well as have the ability to affix signs to the side of the building that stick out into the overhead space, and others like windowboxes that are best suited for displaying menus.

SEE SIGNS PAGE 10

Gold's Gym trainer dies in Ocean Ave crash

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

OCEAN AVE A former Ford model and trainer at Gold's Gym in Venice was taken off life support and died Thursday morning after suffering critical injuries when she was hit by a tourist while riding her motorcycle on Ocean Avenue, police said.

Investigators said alcohol played a role in the accident, which occurred Saturday night on the 1700 block of Ocean Avenue.

Sandy DeSoto, 48, of Marina del Rey, was riding her BMW motorcycle after watching a boxing match with friends when a 74-year-old man from New Jersey made an illegal U-turn and drove directly in DeSoto's path. DeSoto struck the driver's side of the car and was thrown from her motorcycle, Lewis said.

Paramedics treated DeSoto at the scene and she was transported to a local hospital with severe injuries.

Lewis said the driver was arrested for driving under the influence and was later released after posting bail. DeSoto is believed to have been drinking before the accident, Lewis added. The driver was staying at a local hotel with his wife, the two in town for a family member's graduation.

Lewis said no criminal charges have been filed yet, but a case could be submitted to the District Attorney's Office next week. The accident is still under investigation.

DeSoto was a popular trainer at Gold's Gym, where a memorial was created to honor her, a member of the gym told the Daily Press. Employees at Gold's did not

SEE CRASH PAGE 3



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

MIXIN' IT UP: **Victor 'DJ Legend ONE' Alcala (center) instructs Belle Gutierrez (center left), Paul Daniels (right) and Damontae Richmond (left) on the fundamentals of mixing during the weekly DJ class at the Virginia Avenue Teen Center Thursday afternoon. Alcala learned to DJ 14 years ago from the Teen Center and wants to give back to his community. After-school programs like this help keeps keeps away from gangs and drugs and are a part of City Hall's response to youth violence.**

Collaboration to combat youth violence making moves

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Few could argue that City Hall and the multitude of nonprofits that function here ignore the needs of the youngest members of the community.

There exist programs for every kind of age group, problem area and demographic, which tend to pop up like mushrooms after a rain when a major act of violence or tragedy occurs.

But those efforts remain uncoordinated, often duplicating services. They can be difficult to access, forcing children in need to seek help elsewhere if they do not meet a batch of criteria specific to the organization.

Lisa Golden, a psychologist and member of the Parent Teacher Association, estimated that there are four or five mental health agencies providing services at Santa Monica High School alone, although some

SEE TEAM PAGE 8

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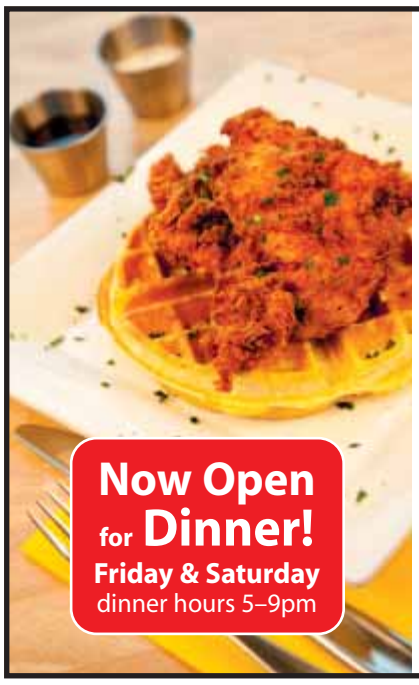
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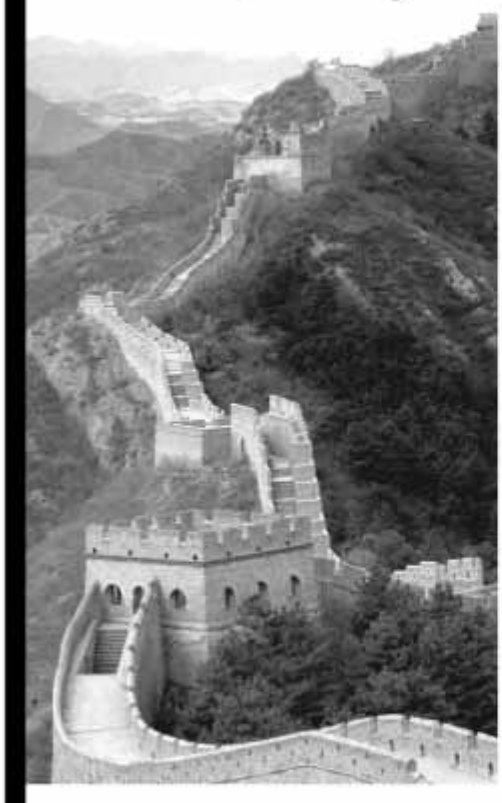


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, May 14, 2011

Jews for Japan
Beth Shir Shalom
1827 California Ave., 11 a.m.
Beth Shir Shalom Synagogue will present a children's concert to raise money for the young victims of Japan's recent earthquake and tsunami. The interactive community concert will feature Neil Comess-Daniels performing songs from his recent CD of original music for children, titled "On This Day And All The Time." He will be joined by world-renowned master cellist Lynn Harrell, violinist Helen Nightengale, Brad Cobb on bass, vocalist Margaret Marston, and Alan Abrahams on drums and percussion. "Kids for Kids" will also spotlight the talents of temple members Harrell and Nightengale who are artist ambassadors to Save the Children, an organization that creates lasting change in the lives of children in need worldwide. A $10 is requested for each adult and child. Milk and cookies will be served immediately following the concert. For more information call 310-453-3361 or e-mail roselee@bethshirshalom.org

Fire Service Day
Citywide
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
The Santa Monica Fire Department will celebrate Fire Service Day by hosting open houses at all its fire stations. Stations will be open to the public for tours. For more information, visit santamonicafire.org, or call (310) 458-8761.

'Bye Bye Birdie'
Lincoln Middle School
1501 California Ave., 7 p.m.
The Lincoln Drama Club presents "Bye Bye Birdie," the Tony-award winning musical about the phenomenal Conrad Birdie, a 1950's rock and roll star who travels to a small Ohio town to bestow "One Last Kiss" on his biggest fan before he is drafted into the army. This production also takes place on Sunday at 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 15, 2011

Santa Monica Classic
2600 Barnard Way, 6:30 a.m.
Participate in the 2011 Santa Monica Classic 5K and 10K runs and help environmental watchdog Heal the Bay raise funds and keep local beaches clean. The finish line is just steps away from the Santa Monica Pier.
For more information go to http://santamonicaclassic.com.

Conserving community character
Fairmont Miramar Hotel
101 Wilshire Blvd., 9 a.m.
The California Preservation Foundation (CPF) invites community development professionals, neighborhood advocates, and anyone interested in the well-being of their communities to help define the future of historic preservation at its 36th annual statewide conference. With the theme "Preservation on the Edge," the conference will redefine traditional notions of historic preservation and explore its essential role in economic development, community character, and sustainability. Dozens of sessions range from seminars and panel discussions to mobile workshops and study tours. Participants can earn continuing education credits, enjoy invaluable networking opportunities, and earn at least some free access by volunteering at the conference (based on the amount of volunteer service). The conference will take place from May 15 – 18. For more information visit www.californiapreservation.org or call (415) 495-0349.

Benefit concert for Elemental Strings
First Presbyterian Church
1220 Second St., 2 p.m.
American violinist Elmar Oliveira and pianist Robert Koenig will perform in this benefit concert for Elemental Strings, a nonprofit organization that provides young string players with the opportunity to develop and strengthen their musical skills and love for music. For more information, visit elementalstrings.com.

Children come first
Santa Monica Pier
Trapeze School of New York, 6 p.m.
The Leaps…n…Boundz Foundation invites families from around the city to come and enjoy a circus-like atmosphere at the Trapeze School of New York. Proceeds go to benefit the foundation, an adaptive sports and recreation program for children with special needs of all ages. For more information, go to www.leapsnboundz.com.

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

SMO

Bloom kicks off state assembly race with fundraiser

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom will begin his bid for the State Assembly, District 41 with a fundraiser at the Santa Monica Art Studios on June 5.

The seat is currently held by former Santa Monica Board of Education member Julia Brownley, who will be termed out by the 2012 election. It covers the coast as far north as Port Hueneme, and is bordered on the west by Topanga State Park, and Santa Monica to the south.

When Brownley ran in 2006, she raised $700,000 to compete with her opponent's $1.2 million.

Based on those figures, Bloom believes this primary and general elections, against an as of yet undetermined slate of candidates, could cost $1 million.

"It's very daunting," Bloom said. "I'm going to have to take the fundraising I've done locally to a new level."

Bloom plans to focus his campaign on the collapsing state budget, education and the environment, three topics he feels resonate with local voters.

"It's not a new issue, but it's something that we need to address on a systemic level. It's going to take individuals able to get beyond the polarization that exists in Sacramento," Bloom said. "I made my mark here in Santa Monica and elsewhere helping to bring disparate points of view to resolution."

He hopes he can convince voters he'll be able to bring that success to the capital.

The fundraiser takes place at the Santa Monica Art Studios at SMO on June 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DAILY PRESS

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

Samohi, Xrds move on; St. Monica edged in five games

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

CITYWIDE It was a mixed bag for Santa Monica-based boys' volleyball teams in the second round of the CIF-Southern Section playoffs on Thursday.

Crossroads was able to slip past La Salle at home in four games; 25-16, 25-20, 23-25, 25-21.

The Roadrunners advance to face San Gabriel, the winner of the Almont League on Saturday at home in CIF-SS Division 4. The game is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Crossroads had previously dispatched La Quinta in the first round on Tuesday.

Santa Monica High School, the No. 1 seed in Division 4, won a road game against Montebello in four games; 25-12, 25-18, 17-25, 25-20. The win sets up a road game in the quarterfinals for the Vikings against Bishop Montgomery on Saturday. The game is scheduled for 4 p.m.

St. Monica, coming off winning the Camino Real League with a perfect 10-0 record this year, took San Gabriel Academy to five games on the road, but were unable to advance to the quarterfinals. The scores were: 25-12, 25-18, 17-25, 25-20.

daniela@smdp.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



FISTS IN THE AIR

Stephanie Salvatore *news@smdp.com*

DeAnn McEwen, chair of the Joint Nursing Practice Commission, joins Saint John's nurses in voicing concerns for nurses' rights and working conditions at the hospital on Friday. The gathering also included support from State Sen. Fran Pavley and Assemblywoman Julia Brownley. Nurses at Saint John's Health Center will vote later this month whether or not to unionize.

CRASH

FROM PAGE 1

return phone calls seeking comment. Anyone with information should contact Detective Chris Dawson at (310) 458-8954 or Sgt. Jeff Wiles at (310) 458-8950 or the Santa Monica Police Department (24 hours) at (310) 458-8495.

DeSoto was born in Minnesota, lived in Los Angeles until she was 10 and then moved with her parents to Guatemala where she attended high school and college, according to a biography posted on DeSoto's website, www.definedbodies.com

As a kid, DeSoto trained in horse jumping and track, where she held records in the 100, 200 and 400 meters, hurdles, high jump and the long jump. She was also involved in motor cross until an accident derailed her athletic career.

It was that accident that led her to study weight training and nutrition. DeSoto eventually became a trainer, fitness therapist and nutritionist with over 20 years of experience. She was also a certified rescue diver and licensed cosmetologist, according to the website.

"Beauty starts from the inside and builds out, after all," she wrote on the site.

Her passions included her work, pets, her boat and riding her motorcycle.

"I love the desert, it's remarkably beautiful and so serene, I was drawn to buy a home there where I enjoy gardening, listening to music, and hiking with my three dogs," she wrote on the site.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Solution for flight schools

Editor:

At the April 25, 2011 Airport Commission meeting, as part of the Annual Noise Report, consultant Vince Mestre of Mestre Greve Associates reported that during 2010 there were 104,490 total aircraft operations (52,245 takeoffs and 52,245 landings) at Santa Monica Airport. Of those, 12,853 were "jet operations," 66,216 were "itinerant operations," and 45,472 were "local operations."

On weekdays, a majority of the local operations are "Touch and Go's." On the weekends, the majority are "Taxi Backs." During a Touch and Go, an airplane lands, slows down, raises flaps, applies power and takes off without stopping. During a Taxi Back, an airplane lands, stops, proceeds to end of runway, and takes off again. Both Touch and Go's and Taxi Backs involve flying a six or seven minute loop pattern over residential neighborhoods. There can be as many as four aircraft flying these loop patterns at the same time, which means that planes are landing, taking off, and flying over people's houses every two minutes.

Concerned residents of neighborhoods surrounding Santa Monica Airport (SMO) have been observing airport operations this spring. Three reports based on analyses of observations can be found at www.friendsofsunsetpark.org.

By looking up registrations for each tail number, together with other data from various flight tracking web sites, residents have been able to determine the operators of each aircraft and thus divide the takeoffs into three major categories: (1) Jet Aircraft, (2) Flight Schools and Training Flights, and (3) Other Prop Aircraft.

For example, on April 22, 2011, a total of 58 takeoffs were recorded between 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. – an average of one takeoff every three minutes. Of those, 60 percent were flight school training related. A single plane (N2092L operated by Skyward Aviation) accounted for 30 percent of all takeoffs during the period, performing 17 Touch and Go's. In other words, one plane took off 17 times and landed 17 times within three hours.

Page 5 of the report on April 22 shows trends. During a combined observation time over several days of 13 hours, 248 takeoffs were observed. Fifty-eight percent were flight school related, 9 percent were jet aircraft, and the remaining flights involved prop and turbo prop planes not connected to flight schools.

At Airport Commission meetings, residents in Santa Monica, Venice, Culver City, and West Los Angeles have complained about the noise from prop planes constantly flying over their homes. Is there a solution to this problem? What if flight school owners had their students practice their Touch and Go's elsewhere?

There are many outlying civil aviation airports that have farmland, river washes, or desert under their arrival and departure flight paths. Rather than practicing at SMO, a student pilot could take off once from SMO, obtain valuable navigational training en route to an outlying airport, perform numerous Touch and Go's (without flying over thousands of homes), return to SMO, and land once.

There could be increased costs involved for the student pilot. However, residents feel that those costs pale in comparison to the price that they have been paying over the years with the constant noise and pollution of the flight school planes over their homes.

Lloyd Saunders
Sunset Park



On the Beat

NRO Richard Carranza — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Peer pressure starts early on

Q: AS A CONCERNED PARENT, I WOULD like to know when is the best age to discuss drugs and alcohol prevention with my kids.

A: Don't put off talking to your children about alcohol and other drugs. As early as fourth grade, kids worry about pressures to try drugs. School programs alone aren't enough. Parents must become involved, but most parents aren't sure how to tell their children about drugs. Keep open communication.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

• Tell them that you love them and you want them to be healthy and happy.

• Say you do not find alcohol and other illegal drugs acceptable. Many parents never state this simple principle.

• Explain how this use hurts people. Physical harm — AIDS, slowed growth, impaired coordination, accidents. Emotional harm — sense of not belonging, isolation, paranoia. Educational harm — difficulties remembering and paying attention.

• Discuss the legal issues. A conviction for a drug offense can lead to time in prison or cost someone a job, driver's license, or college loan.

• Talk about positive, drug-free alternatives, and how you can explore them together. Some ideas include sports, reading, movies, bike rides, hikes, camping, cooking, games, and concerts. Involve your kids' friends.

HOW DO YOU SAY IT?

• Calmly and openly — don't exaggerate. The facts speak for themselves.

• Face to face — exchange information and try to understand each other's point of view. Be an active listener and let your child talk about fears and concerns. Don't interrupt and don't preach.

• Through "teachable moments" — in contrast to a formal lecture, use a variety of situations, television news, TV dramas, books, newspaper.

• Establish an ongoing conversation rather than giving a one-time speech.

• Remember that you set the example. Avoid contradictions between your words and your actions. And don't use illegal drugs, period!

• Be creative! You and your child might act out various situations in which one person tries to pressure another to take a drug. Figure out two or three ways to handle each situation and talk about which works best.

• Exchange ideas with other parents.

HOW CAN YOU TELL IF A CHILD IS USING DRUGS?

Identifying illegal drug use may help prevent further abuse. Possible signs include:

• Change in moods — more irritable, secretive, withdrawn, overly sensitive, inappropriately angry, and euphoric.

• Less responsible — late coming home, late for school or class, dishonest.

• Changing friends or changing lifestyles — new interests, unexplained cash.

• Physical deterioration — difficulty in concentration, loss of coordination, loss of weight, unhealthy appearance.

WHY DO KIDS USE DRUGS?

Young people say they turn to alcohol and other drugs for one or more of the following reasons: to do what their friends are doing, to escape pain in their lives, to fit in, boredom, for fun, curiosity, and to take risks.

Take a stand! Educate yourself about the facts surrounding alcohol and other drug use. You will lose credibility with your child if your information is not correct. Establish clear family rules against drug use and enforce them consistently. Develop your parenting skills through seminars, networking with other parents, reading, counseling, and support groups. Work with other parents to set community standards -— you don't raise a child alone. Volunteer at schools, youth centers, Boys & Girls Clubs, or other activities in your community.

If you have any suspicions, and would like to speak with me one-on-one, please do not hesitate to give me a call or e-mail. My contact information can be found below, or you can visit the Santa Monica Police Department's website at www.santamonicapd.org, and my information is listed in the Neighborhood Resource Officer tab.

Q: My teenage daughter was told some very personal information by her friend, and now my child is unsure if she should tell someone out of concern for her friend's safety. How should I handle this?

A: Many kids tell and share secrets with friends and siblings. Unfortunately, sometimes secrets can hurt people and even be dangerous. It's important that children be able to differentiate between secrets that are OK to keep, and secrets they should never keep. Adults can help children learn this by teaching them when to keep a secret and when not to, and by instilling in them positive decision-making skills, self-esteem, and trust in adults.

The rule is if a secret can't hurt someone or something, keep it. If a secret can hurt someone or something, tell an adult. If you're not sure, tell.

It's OK for children to keep surprise parties and presents secret because these secrets will make someone happy and won't be a secret forever. But children should never keep it secret if someone is being bullied, or if someone is involved in dangerous behavior like fighting, weapons, vandalizing property, or using drugs.

Sometimes it can be hard for children to decide whether to tell a secret or keep it. The possible consequences may not be clearly negative or positive, the child may not want to violate someone's trust, and he or she may not want to get in trouble.

Here are some ways you can help your children make positive decisions about secrets:

• Take time to listen carefully to your children's fears and feelings about the people and places that scare them or make them feel uncomfortable.

• Tell kids to trust their instincts. If they think something may be wrong or may hurt someone, act on it.

• Make sure they know that no one has the right to ask them to keep a secret from their parents.

• Remind your children that no one, not even a teacher or close relative, has the right to touch them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable.

• Tell them that no adult should ever ask them to keep a special secret, especially one that makes them feel uneasy.

• Let children know that they can tell you anything and you'll be supportive. Take complaints seriously and take action.

This column was prepared by **NRO RICHARD CARRANZA** (Beat 1: coastal, beach and Santa Monica Pier). He can be reached at (424) 200-0681 or richard.carranza@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

More protection for renters

A bill that extends renters' rights cleared a crucial hurdle at a State Judiciary Committee last week. The bill would allow tenants who have been served a three-day notice to "pay or quit" to keep their homes if they pay back rent, new rent costs and reasonable attorney fees.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you think the bill is fair, or does it give too much leeway to renters?

Here are your responses:

"THIS LAW IS WRONG. IT SHOULD BE addressed case by case. Judges have always allowed renters to stay if they paid back rent unless there were other problems. Bad tenants can abuse this law by repeatedly not paying and waiting maybe months to go to court and then starting their dirty tricks again. But of course this law will pass since traditionally everyone hates landlords, especially here in Commie Monica."

HOLDOVERS FROM LAST WEEK, REGARDING the Expo Light Rail buffer zone on Stewart Street and Exposition Boulevard:

"HI, I LIVE ON EXPOSITION BOULEVARD directly across from what appears to be the main entrance according to the design map on the tables of the last community meeting I attended at the City Yards. I object to this configuration of traffic into the maintenance yard for the Expo line. It will be unsafe for the children who live directly across from this planned entrance because of the emissions from the increased truck traffic, noise pollution, and disruptive to the peace and tranquility of our neighborhood.

IN REGARD TO THE BUFFER ZONE, I BELIEVE a garden such as Ocean View Gardens would be great especially for those residents on Exposition Boulevard who are mainly apartment dwellers who don't have the space to grow and tend the earth. The joy of harvesting fresh vegetables and picking flowers for your home is so beneficial for one's health and environment. It would be wonderful to see a small park with the focus on exercise stations or course there as Stewart Park does not have this and Clover Park is a bit far to walk to. Better yet, I would love to see a re-configuration of the proposed maintenance yard to extend the buffer zone to Stewart Street so all the residents on Exposition benefit from it and the noise is buffered to include the 2800 block of Exposition. Thank you for allowing me to voice my thoughts and wishes."

"THAT SITE IS SURROUNDED BY LARGE, retail/commercial projects. It should be dedicated to the neighborhood as a retail/commercial free zone specifically for environmental and social/recreational enhancement. The public benefits from the surrounding developments should be used as a funding source for whatever elements the local neighborhood defines, designs, and requests. There is no need for city or private partnerships or ongoing funds. Nor should it be designed with a commercial element attached (including housing) which will only increase out of neighborhood utilization and additional impacts. Why add anymore of what already will be flooding that community. This needs to be a public benefit which truly serves the public already living there."

"I LIVE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT IS directly affected by the building of the MTA Rail Yard on Exposition Boulevard. With other neighbors I helped establish that SM gave us the buffer zone. This is a land space that should be for the benefit of nearby residents to mitigate some of the impact of the dents, I put forward a short range and long range plan: A) Using the allocated $2 million for a sound wall and a green zone (possible community garden, high bamboo, endangered trees/plants, etc.). Establishing the buffer zone as a "land bank" for residents. B) Creating an account for the buffer zone and negotiating with future developments in the Pico Neighborhood to pay money into for community benefits. This money and hopefully some future money from City Hall or donations could enable the residents to develop the buffer zone further. There could be with a community building for a nonprofit organization "Neighbors helping Neighbors" (creating jobs in the neighborhood for neighbors), or green houses. It should be determined by residents for residents no developers or corporations/private schools or of that sort.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE IDEAS I PROPOSED to some residents groups: My vision of a community garden, would be one with fruit trees and vines besides, vegetables and flowers. Trees like avocado trees which are green year round will help to filter the air and buffer the noise. To make it a landmark similar to an arboretum, I thought of proposing to the city a design competition (including watering systems and water stations, pathways, roofed bench sides with overhead solar panels and water collection) between public and private middle and high schools and make it also open to teenage youth groups (city groups, scout groups and church groups).

THE SANTA MONICA COLLEGE MAY WANT to help with the installation, and do soil testing and other projects. Public and private elementary schools, plus younger youth groups could enter in a garden plot design. Preschool and kindergarten groups could submit colored garden pictures. This would mobilize more of the community. The Emeritus College and public or religious senior groups could also be interested to get involved. We could even interest the art community to design special fencing and art sculpture designs to install small wind turbines for electric power when not enough sunshine. Specially designed benches and water stations could enhance the garden, which would also need some structures to house bathrooms and tools. A green house would be wonderful.

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Lago, Valentino are true Italian

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN Santa Monicans who love authentic Italian food do not have to travel to Tuscany to get it. It turns out there are two quality restaurants right here, according to the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce West.

The nonprofit, formed in the late 1980s to promote and foster economic and trade relations between Italy and the West Coast, recently bestowed upon Locanda del Lago and Valentino Ristorante Italy's top culinary award, the "Q" Seal of Quality.

It's the first time the Q has been awarded to a restaurant outside of Italy, said Letizia Miccoli, executive director of the chamber.

The Q certifies restaurants that preserve Italian history, culture, quality and authenticity. Restaurants are required to pass an extensive series of rigorous tests proving they follow the traditions of Italian agricultural and food products. They must emphasize and feature the Italian gastronomic culture, as well as the image of Italian restaurants abroad; guarantee the quality standards of Italian hospitality; include a certain percentage of denomination Italian wines; present a menu written in Italian; ensure there is at least one Italian-speaking person to engage with customers and offer the highest quality of extra virgin olive oil.

Valentino, founded in 1972 by Piero Selvaggio, was also the winner of the "LA Top Chef Italian" competition at the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Westwood.

The other two top winners were Ago in West Hollywood and Da Pasquale Trattoria in Beverly Hills. Honorable mentions went to Il Moro in West LA, Caffe Pinguini in Playa del Rey and Osteria Latini in Brentwood.

Continuing with the Italian flavor, the chamber is hosting all next week (May 16 to May 21) a series of events, tasting dinners and seminars in various locations across the county that highlight Italy's wines.



Photo by John Blanchette

YUM! **Executive Chef Walter Cestrone of Locanda del Lago serving his Terrina di Pollo, Foie Gras wrapped with chicken pate covered in prosciutto di Parma.**

Viva Vino LA (www.vivavinola.com) will highlight wines from the regions of Campania, Friuli, Marche, Piedmont, Puglia, Sicily, Tuscany, Umbria and Veneto. Event partners include, The Wine House, Pourtal, Locanda del Lago, Il Fornaio and The Tasting Panel Magazine.

"Los Angeles is one of the biggest markets for Italian wine and this provides an opportunity for the most complete and comprehensive setting for retail and on-premise wine decision makers," said Anthony Dias Blue of Blue Lifestyle, one of the event's sponsors.

If you can't make it out to an event, Pourtal Wine Bar in Downtown will be feature some of the wines from Viva Vino.

Cheers!

kevinh@smdp.com

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The Santa Monica City Council is now accepting applications for appointment of members to the following City Boards and Commissions:

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Architectural Review Board	1
Arts Commission	3
Commission for the Senior Community	2
Commission on the Status of Women	2
Disabilities Commission (Must be persons with self-identified disabilities.)	2
Housing Commission (Must be participants in a Housing Authority Section 8 Program and one member must be 62 years of age or older.)	2
Library Board	1
Personnel Board	1
Planning Commission	3
Recreation and Parks Commission	1
Social Services Commission	3

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income that may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's Office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/boards. All current applications on file will be considered.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, June 21, 2011.
Appointment to be made by City Council, June 28, 2011.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

Library Alehouse the place to be for craft beer week

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

MAIN STREET In my imbibing infancy, I found Budweiser to be palatable, enjoyed the crisp burn of the High Life and chugged with happiness ice cold Coors Light at many USC tailgate parties. But then I stumbled upon craft brews — in particular IPAs — and my drinking days have never been the same.



No longer could my taste buds be subjected to the bland, watery froth of the major producers. I was all about boutique brewing where the refreshing aroma and delightful bitterness of hops punch you in the face, while the sweet, caramel malts provided a warm bed to rest my head.

Given my love for great beer, you better believe I'll be at the Library Alehouse (libraryalehouse.com) on Main Street this Monday through Sunday, as they celebrate American Craft Beer Week (craftbeer.com). It's the first time in its six year history that American Craft Beer Week will have official events hosted in all 50 states, making it the largest celebration of U.S. craft brewers.

The Alehouse is hosting an event every night of the week, kicking off Monday, May 16 with Jeremy Raub of Eagle Rock Brewing, a staple on the local scene. It's not often you get a chance to chat with a professional brewer or owner while sipping on their product, and from my experiences at beer events in the past, it is an opportunity you don't want to pass up if you are a true beer geek.

On Tuesday, Firestone Walker will be in the house, along with the Taste of the Nation L.A. to benefit Share Our Strength in their fight against childhood hunger. A dollar of every purchase will benefit the organization. They'll have the Velvet Merlin, Pale 31 on cask and the almighty barleywine Abacus. Momma said knock you out! There will also be some pretty tasty treats for $2 each.

I'm looking forward to experiencing Brouwerij West's Belgians on Wednesday night. This is a new beer company in Palos Verdes run by two guys who love Belgians and wanted to give some classic recipes a Southern California twist, most likely using homegrown hops. These guys are brewing, bottling, and distributing their own brews. Gotta love the commitment.

Some other beers to be available throughout the week that I am salivating for are the 22nd anniversary barrel-aged vanilla bean imperial stout from Karl Strauss and the Populist IPA from Eagle Rock. And if those beers don't grab you, the Alehouse has plenty others on tap.

When it comes to sipping on suds, if it isn't at least 6.5 percent alcohol, I'm not messing with it. Go big, or go home.

Cheers!

kevinh@smdp.com

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TEAM
FROM PAGE 1

will turn students away simply because they have insurance.

Situations like Golden described are being targeted by the Youth Resource Team, a group commissioned by the City Council in September 2010 to address what some see as a convoluted and failed system attempting to care for young people in Santa Monica.

The mission: To create the most effective youth and family support system in the country, so that Santa Monica and its nonprofits can spend their resources wisely to create substantive improvements in the area of youth violence, and become the yardstick by which other communities measure their own success.

To a degree, the plight of Santa Monica's youth seems to be a silent problem to rank and file civilians.

In a community survey released in April, concern over gangs and youth violence has dropped to an all-time low, with only 14 percent of the 407 respondents ranking it as a high priority. For another 55 percent, it didn't register.

In contrast, in 2007, 31 percent of respondents said that they were concerned about youth violence and gangs in Santa Monica.

However, since 1989, 40 young people between the ages of 15 and 25 have been shot to death in Santa Monica, said school board member and team participant Oscar de la Torre.

"Ask any mother who has lost a child to homicide or gun violence. That family is permanently affected by the trauma caused by youth violence," de la Torre said.

Violence can take other, less extreme forms. High achieving students break under the pressure of advanced coursework and extracurricular activities, and those labeled "at risk" who balance the stress of poverty with violence, drugs and alcohol.

A large number languish in the middle, not performing to their potential, but obscured by the more evident needs of the kids on the extreme ends of the spectrum.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SPRAY: **Local artist Zox (right) instructs Angel Garcia and other teens on how to lay down a light sketch with the airbrush for a portrait during the weekly airbrush class at the Teen Center at Virginia Avenue Park. Many of his students have gone on to art schools.**

Although many agencies exist to try to fix pieces of the problem, the bigger picture gets lost, said Julie Rusk, Santa Monica's director of Human Services.

"We suffer from everybody pulling their own boat," she said. "We're trying to get people to leverage what they do so it's more connected and the community is aware of the services that are out there."

In response, Rusk's department and a 28 other community leaders have come together under the umbrella of the Youth Resource Team to hash out priorities and roles and ensure that children of all ages get the support that they need, from a family-focused approach when young to drug or violence counseling when they mature.

Since September, the team has been meeting monthly, first to set goals for its work, and now to create benchmarks of success, indicators that can be easily measured to give a sense of whether or not the programs are working.

Coordinating the groups, most of which are focused on a very narrow band of issues and clientele, can be a challenge.

"OK, we understand that preventing youth violence is really about creating a strong network of youth and family develop-

SEE **TEENS** PAGE 9

big blue bus

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TEENS
FROM PAGE 8

ment in our community," Rusk said. "We know we have a lot of strong nonprofits and effective programs doing work, we're just not as sure what we're doing is comprehensive and integrated."

One of the main difficulties is overcoming legal hurdles surrounding the children's confidentiality.

"On a practical level, to service kids, you need to know who they are," Golden said. She represents the PTA Council on the Youth Resource Team.

Different agencies have funding sources that come with criteria, some of which surround the kinds of services they should provide, and others the amount of information that can be shared.

"We need an understandable grid, a map of what do we have, where do we go and a system for communicating that is appropriate and respects the limits of individual confidentiality," Golden said.

By summer, the team plans to present a full list of recommendations of priorities and streamlining options to the City Council, which will be used to coordinate efforts, but also funding.

That underlying question of funds is an ever-present elephant in the room said Barrie Levy, a consultant for the Westside Domestic Violence Center.

Although Levy is not directly involved in the Youth Resource Team, her program does have a representative pushing for the inclusion of a component addressing the culture of male violence as a method of cutting down on domestic abuse.

In a time of funding cuts and budget slashing, participation in an effort billed to the City Council at its April 12 meeting as a way to respond to hard times through collaboration can feel like signing your own death warrant.

"The goal is to take all those little pieces and make one picture, but everyone has competing needs," Levy said.

Nevertheless, the groups involved are putting forth a heroic effort to achieve the vision of an integrated resource, she said, even if no one is quite sure what it will look like when the dust settles.

One thing is for certain — the team will be successful if it can make it easier for children and families to get the help and support they need.

"At the end of the day, it's all about being able to navigate a complicated world," Rusk said.

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SIGNS

FROM PAGE 1

The changes take effect June 23.

Merchandise displayed outside of pocketed vestibules is still a no-no, but during what was meant to be a four-month study of the consequences of allowing outdoor signage on public space, very few of the rules surrounding either merchandise or signs seemed to get enforced.

Suffering businesses that took the opportunity to display signs and merchandise reported gains in an otherwise dark period, said Gary Gordon, president of the Main Street Business Improvement Association.

"In 2009, things were scary, and they're still not good," Gordon said.

Boutiques on Montana Avenue were closing rapidly, and other stores on Main Street were beginning to follow suit.

"Everybody seemed to be talking about what could be done to help small business. One of the things on the list was to have the city revisit what it had decided about signs and they said no, just flat out, no," he said.

A plea from struggling businessowners caused the City Council to relent, at least as long as the study period was under way.

The change was dramatic, said Christina Norton, manager at Agabhumi, a store specializing in clothing and accessories from Bali.

Agabhumi took advantage of the unofficial testing period by putting a sandwich board sign out in front of the store.

"I'd watch people walk by, read something on the board, and walk right in," Norton said. "There's the instant knowledge that it really does work. You can have only so much advertising presence in certain places."

Much like Fedora Primo, which is hard to see because it is set back on a side street, Agabhumi sits back on the sidewalk, slightly recessed from main foot traffic.

"It's important for us to have something that will stick out," Norton said. "It's easy to glaze over it."

As for the other options which will be permitted next month, the signs that project out from the side of the building have to be approved by the Architectural Review Board, which can be a long and expensive process, Gordon said.

"It's a lot different than an A-frame chalkboard you stick outside and write, 'I've got shoes and hamburgers today,'" Gordon said. "It takes a certain amount of time and money."

While business owners and advocates protest that restricting the signs denies them tools they need to weather the "pre-recovery" economy, the City Attorney's Office maintained that they couldn't put up signs in public spaces without opening it up to everyone.

And they meant everyone.

"I hate raining on people's parades, especially when they're having a hard time," said City Attorney Marsha Moutrie. "It isn't just sign creepage, although that's a problem. The First Amendment law is so difficult to conform to."

If the businesses are allowed to have signs, so can food trucks, religious groups and political groups.

"It doesn't allow us to favor commercial over non-commercial," Moutrie said.

Enforcement also must be dealt out evenly or the ordinance will become completely unenforceable under law, Moutrie said.

For the time being, ordinance or no ordinance, Strauss will continue to put out his rack of hats.

The merchandise falls under another code, which was not voted upon by the City Council on Tuesday, although elected officials directed staff to look at how merchandise could be better displayed.

"The rack is just so important," Strauss said. "I couldn't even tell you how many people come in."

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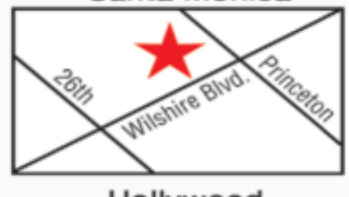
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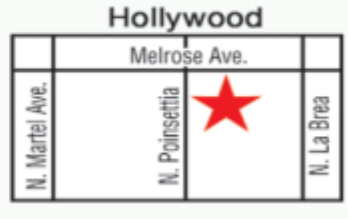
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Highs and Lows of the Criminal Justice System – Drug Offenses

One of my clients recently commented to me that she was very thankful that our criminal justice system afforded her an opportunity to help her kick her nasty drug habit. Her comments got me thinking about how often the criminal justice system is denigrated and maligned by a large majority of the population (and a large majority of those who go through the system) for the inability to rehabilitate and treat offenders in order to prevent a reoccurrence or repeat offense. Despite this widely held sentiment, there is a much better track record of success when it comes to the system's approach to drug offenses. California law makers and prosecutorial agencies decided long ago that it is far better to treat drug offenders than to punish them. This is a precarious and often delicate relationship because while no one wants to condone drug use, virtually everyone realizes that harsh punishments more often than not simply breed recidivism. This article will focus on two ways to combat drug use through the criminal justice system: DEJ and Prop 36.

California's drug laws maintain a close relationship with the electorate of California. That is to say that as popular feelings and opinions on drugs softens, so too do the laws criminalizing drug possession. For example, California Penal Code Section 1000, more commonly known as DEJ (Deferred Entry of Judgment), and the passage of Proposition 36, reflects California citizens' collective sentiment that drug offenders should be given every available option to seek treatment and stop using drugs before a court imposes jail or prison.

DEJ is covered by Penal Code Section 1000 and applies to cases where a person is caught in possession of a controlled substance, smoking device, or even alcohol. The basic principle behind DEJ is that is an offender in possession of a controlled substance (i.e. cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy or a pipe, etc.) may enter a guilty plea, stay clean, take drug treatment classes, and then have the guilty plea withdrawn and the case dismissed after an 18 month period. Note that even if the underlying offense is dismissed some employers and licensing agencies may still pursue administrative action. DEJ only applies to cases where the controlled substance is for personal use (meaning not a sales case) and where the offender is first determined to be eligible. Moreover, if an offender violates DEJ and defies a court's orders the judge may enter the guilty plea and sentence the offender accordingly.

In order to be found eligible for the DEJ program it must be demonstrated that: 1) There are no prior convictions for any offense involving controlled substances, 2) The offense charged did not involve a crime of violence or threatened violence, 3) There is no evidence of a violation relating to narcotics or restricted dangerous drugs, 4) The defendant's has not previously violated probation or parole, 5) The defendant has not been placed on DEJ within 5 years of the offense date, and 6) The defendant has no prior felony conviction within five years. If all of these requirements are satisfied, then a person is eligible for DEJ and has the opportunity to earn a dismissal.

Similar to DEJ, Proposition 36 was passed by California voters in November 2000 as a legislative means to allow drug offenders to receive probation with treatment rather than incarceration. For practical purposes, Prop. 36 is a secondary option to get addicts and users treatment when DEJ and/or other programs have failed to get people the help that they so desperately need. A user is ineligable for probation under Prop. 36 if they have a prior felony "strike" within five years, if in the same case they have been convicted of a non-drug related felony or misdemeanor, if they were in possession of a firearm while under the influence, and/or if they have twice failed Prop. 36 or continuously refuses treatment.

A person sentenced to Prop. 36 will complete drug treatment classes, counseling, and whatever other courses are deemed appropriate by the court. The offender will also submit to urine or blood testing as well. Upon successful completion of the Prop. 36 program the case is not automatically dismissed as is the case with DEJ; however, one can petition to the court to dismiss the action with a showing that they have successfully completed the program and gone above and beyond what was required.

The DEJ and Prop. 36 programs can work wonders for drug users and offenders. It is often quite refreshing to see someone enter the program as a downtrodden, distraught, and disheveled drug addict and exit the program clean, sober, and enlightened about the many dangers of drug use. I will never forget the look of happiness, joy and relief that filled my client's face when the judge congratulated her on her progress and then dismissed her case. There was applause from the small audience in the courtroom, and my client felt as though she had accomplished something positive rather than felt the shame of having committed a crime. It was refreshing to both of us that the criminal justice system actually helped and truly served the interests of justice.

If you or anyone you know has been arrested for a drug related offense or any other misdemeanor or felony offense contact criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor Jacob Glucksman through The Legal Grind immediately to preserve your rights!

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY JACOB GLUCKSMAN, A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY. HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

Disclaimer: this article does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney client relationship.

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4:00-5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00-6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00-6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
6:00-7:00pm	(2nd & 4th Monday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
12:00-2:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz (By appointment Only)
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

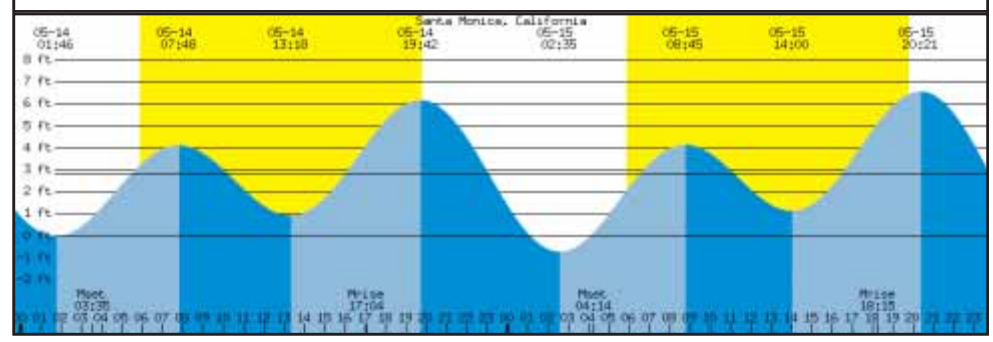
Swell Forecast

Should see a slight pulse of SW come ashore, around waist high or slightly better at south facing breaks. A touch of NW wind swell is showing up on the long range, but waist max is all west facing breaks are looking at right now.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks similar.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **April 6, 2011**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.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 -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 12
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 32

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA

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

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

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

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

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, May 14
Michael Keaton double feature.
Batman (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
Batman Returns (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
7:30pm

Sunday, May 15
Michael Keaton double feature.
Pacific Heights (R) 1hr 42min
Clean and Sober (R) 2hrs 4min
7:30pm

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

Thor (PG-13) 1hr 54min
9:30am, 12:20pm, 3:10pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Hesher (R) 1hr 42min
9:35am, 12:05pm, 2:35pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

African Cats (G) 1hr 29min
9:45am, 12:10pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
7:20pm, 9:50pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
9:50am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Fast Five (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
10:20am, 1:20pm, 4:15pm, 6:10pm, 7:20pm, 9:10pm, 10:15pm

Everything Must Go (NR) 1hr 40min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
10:50am, 1:50pm, 4:50pm, 7:50pm, 10:50pm

Soul Surfer (PG-13) 1hr 45min
10:15am, 12:50pm, 3:25pm

Rio 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
10:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:25pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
10:05am, 1:05pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:05pm

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

Last Night (R) 2hrs 00min
3:10pm, 7:40pm

Princess of Montpensier (La Princesse de Montpensier) (NR) 2hrs 19min
1:40pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm

Forks Over Knives (PG) 1hr 30min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

13 Assassins (R) 2hrs 06min
4:00pm, 9:20pm

Exporting Raymond (PG) 1hr 26min
1:00pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 9:50pm

In A Better World (R) 2hrs 8min
11:00am

Hanna (PG13) 1hr 51min
11:00am

Pom Wonderful Presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold (PG13) 1hr 27min
11:00am

Jane Eyre (PG13) 2hrs 1min
11:00am

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Something Borrowed (PG-13) 1hr 43min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:05pm, 9:45pm

Jumping the Broom (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:45am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Water for Elephants (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
10:50am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
11:50am, 2:05pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:50pm

Go for It! (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:40am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@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. Hint: it's on Pico Boulevard.

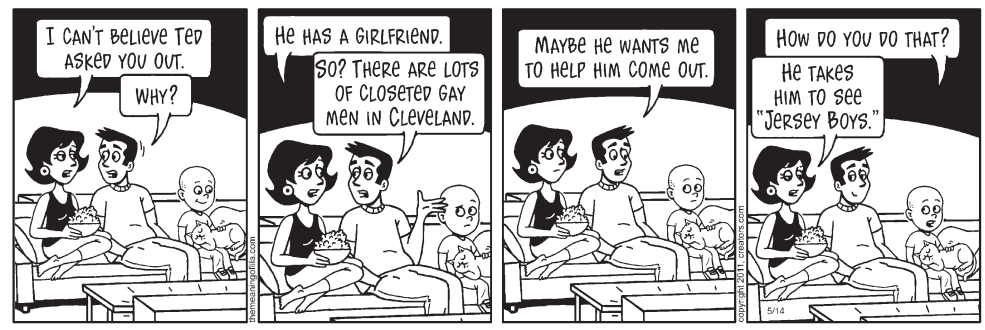
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



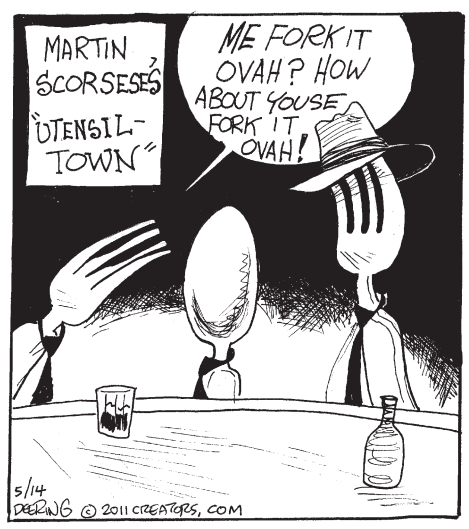
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Join friends for dinner tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ An underlying tone of seriousness flows into whatever you do. You cannot change what is, so make plans carefully. New possibilities surround a relationship later. Worry less about what is happening. Recognize that it is only a passage. Tonight: Listen to a loved one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★ The best ideas could fall apart, as you are tired and dragging. Your sense of humor emerges, allowing greater give-and-take, even in a difficult situation. Make an adjustment for the moment. Understand that you are human. Tonight: Get organized for tomorrow.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You might want to be playful and fun, but somehow your jokes fall on a humorless audience. Your fun ideas are received as if you were inviting someone to the morgue. Leave this crowd and go join some friends. They may have a more fun way to live this Sunday! Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You have a better sense of direction and compassion than in the recent past. Your ability to reconnect and regenerate comes through with a family member who might be depressed. Tonight: Touch base with an older relative.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Even if you mean to be lighthearted, you come off far more serious than you realize. Keep communication flowing by not commenting so much. It would be best to curl up with a good book or head to the movies. Give yourself a welcome break. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You could be angry with yourself. Instead, relax and accept what is. You can find many ways to get around this problem. Perhaps you are putting too much emphasis on this issue. Tonight: Buy a treat on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Be willing to experiment and open up a new avenue or path. What you reject in the first half of your day is acceptable and exciting by late afternoon. Give yourself time to mellow out. Tonight: As you like.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ If you are in the mood to vanish, you will be better off for the downtime. Perhaps you need to give some time to feeling sorry for yourself or a little sad. Once you do, you will notice how fast your mood will pass. Keep the socializing to a minimum. No wild parties. Tonight: Vanish while you still can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Stay focused with an older friend or in an important discussion. This person has a way of changing the topic that you cannot seem to prevent. Look at the issues and ask yourself how important they really are. Tonight: Join friends for dinner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ The mere thought of an older relative seems to create pressure in your mind. Don't allow yourself to tense up, as it is your judgments that are causing this reaction. Let go and handle a responsibility or two. Tonight: Think "tomorrow."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A difficult call or communication could start the day on a dreary note, where you wonder which way to go. Decide if this event is going to color your day. Opt to go to the movies or a concert where you can relax and let your mind wander. You will be in a good mood before you know it. Tonight: Break from tradition.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You could be way past your limit and need to make important decisions. Your way of handling what others think is complicated is your familiarity. If someone becomes quiet or withdrawn, you understand how to handle it. Work with another person's foibles. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

Happy birthday

This year, work on not being overly serious. That attitude has a place perhaps in your professional life, but not with friends and loved ones. You enter a new luck and life cycle this year. The first year is unusually lucky, with the possibility of expansion in various facets of your life. If you are single, you might push away suitors with this grim demeanor. Lose it quickly, as someone special could be on the sidelines. If you are attached, add that spark back into your relationship. LIBRA works well with you.

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

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 ★★★★

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

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

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



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Rogue
6 Makes invalid
11 Off limits
12 Following
13 Permit
14 United Nations goal
15 Sawmill machine
17 Tall tale
18 Designer Claiborne
19 Like some engines
22 Hot time in Paris
23 Measure of astronaut stress
24 Stellar hunter
25 Debt medium
27 Turn sharply
30 Breaks away
31 The lot
32 Movie computer
33 Geometric diamonds
35 Rework
38 Waned
39 Knightley of "Atonement"
40 France's longest river
41 Slip
42 Accomplishments

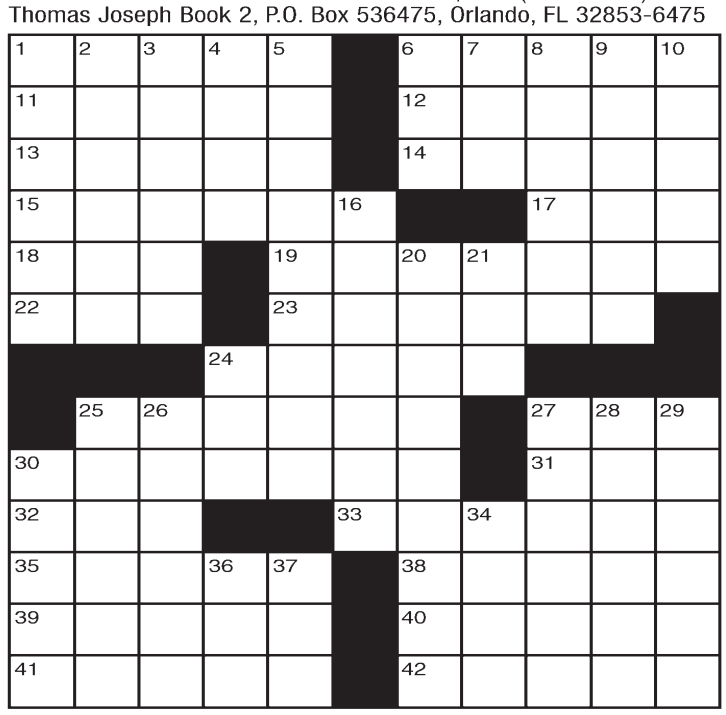
DOWN

1 Basic need
2 Coin-flipping command
3 Burning
4 Night light?
5 Utility network
6 Bigwig, briefly
7 Unbroken
8 Slanted type
9 Compliant
10 Dulcet
16 Oil company
20 Volume setting?
21 Fancy vase
24 Pindar work
25 Library patron
26 Sweet treat
27 Malawi neighbor
28 Writer Camus
29 Moves smoothly
30 Tremble
34 Bassoon's kin
36 Favoring
37 Old salt

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

Yesterday's answer

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



5-14

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

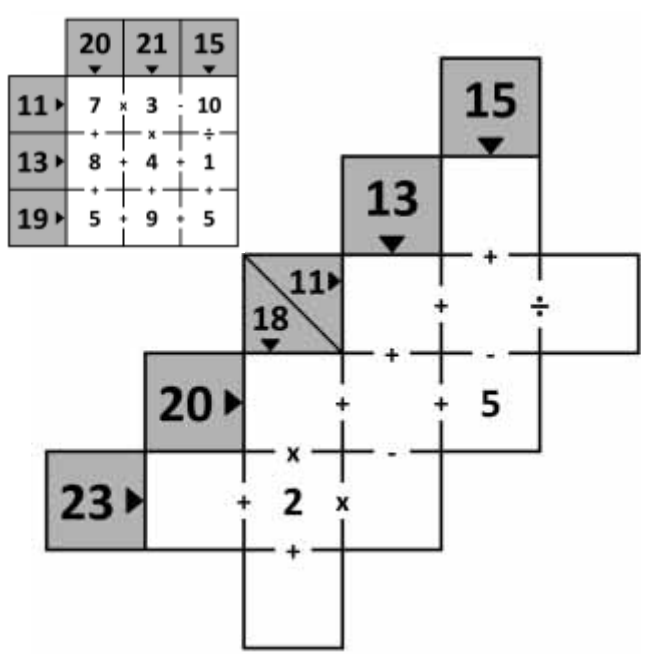
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

3, 5, 8, 8, 9, 10, 12, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1243



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Meganumber: 8
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Fantasy 5: 12 32 34 36 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 6 1
EVENING: 5 1 2

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 02 Lucky Star
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:46.07

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In 2007, Australian Wayne Scullino, then 30, quit his job in Sydney and somehow convinced his wife they should sell their house and move to Wisconsin for the sole purpose of rooting for the Green Bay Packers, about which he had enjoyed an inexplicable fascination since age 15. Said Scullino, "At some point, you've got to ... start living the life you want to." After one season, the Scullinos returned home, but in February 2011, he was of course back in the U.S., on hand in Dallas for the Packers' victory in Super Bowl XLV. Scullino says his Australian friends are still bewildered. "I try to talk to them about it," he said, "but they just don't get it."

■ In January 2010, shortly after News of the Weird's report, the U.K. government admitted that the British-made "magic wand" bomb-detector its own Department of Trade and Industry was promoting for export to police in Mexico and the Philippines was useless (no better than a Ouija board). Earlier, several British firms had sold thousands to Iraqi police at dollar equivalents of $16,000 to $60,000 (from a manufacturing cost of about $20 each). Furthermore, according to City of London police, "hundreds" of Iraqis had died in Baghdad after suicide bombers were mistakenly allowed into secure areas after being "cleared" by the wands. In January 2011, BBC News reported that a new British company, Univall, featuring a respected retired Army colonel as spokesman, had resumed selling the wands, to Bulgarian police.

■ Sigurdur Hjartarson's life's work is his Phallological Museum in the fishing town of Husavik, Iceland. As the world's only all-penis attraction, it draws tourists by the thousands, eager to see the 276-specimen collection of desiccated or stuffed organs from a wide range of animals. However, only in April (15 years after it opened) did the museum acquire a human penis, donated by the late Pall Arason, an acquaintance who, said Hjartarson, "liked to be in the limelight ... to be provocative." To an Associated Press reporter inquiring of the "size" of Arason's donation, Hjartarson said only, "You will just have to come and see it."

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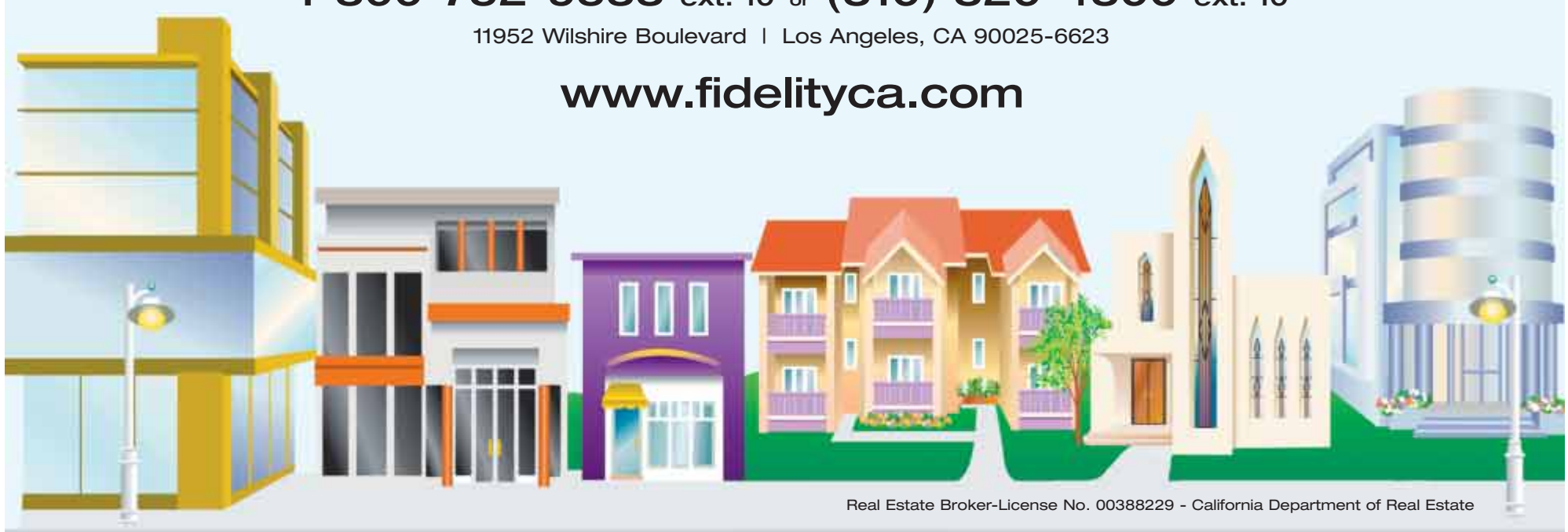
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As promised, each month I'll update you on the comps for Santa Monica Single Family Homes

	previous period	current period	% change
	February, March & April 2010	February, March & April 2011	
Santa Monica Canyon			
Number of Sales	11	7	-36%
Average Days on the Market	131	110	-16%
Lowest Price	$1,049,000	$800,000	-24%
Median Price	$2,525,000	$1,895,000	-25%
Highest Price	$8,000,000	$5,300,000	-34%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$805	$753	-6%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	94%	95%	1%
North of Montana			
Number of Sales	14	13	-7%
Average Days on the Market	33	105	218%
Lowest Price	$1,749,000	$1,639,000	-6%
Median Price	$2,420,000	$2,825,000	17%
Highest Price	$4,000,000	$5,480,000	37%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$714	$743	4%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	98%	89%	-9%
North of Wilshire (Between Wilshire and Montana)			
Number of Sales	4	12	200%
Average Days on the Market	13	88	577%
Lowest Price	$1,385,000	$700,000	-49%
Median Price	$1,706,500	$1,375,000	-19%
Highest Price	$2,650,000	$3,100,000	17%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$707	$778	10%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	99%	95%	-4%
South of Wilshire			
Number of Sales	4	2	-50%
Average Days on the Market	102	42	-59%
Lowest Price	$625,000	$570,000	-9%
Median Price	$730,000	$597,500	-18%
Highest Price	$930,000	$625,000	-33%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$616	$524	-15%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	83%	-14%
Sunset Park			
Number of Sales	16	11	-31%
Average Days on the Market	52	67	29%
Lowest Price	$672,599	$675,000	0%
Median Price	$901,250	$934,000	4%
Highest Price	$1,675,000	$2,295,000	37%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$595	$834	40%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	98%	140%	43%
Ocean Park			
Number of Sales	6	9	50%
Average Days on the Market	102	68	-33%
Lowest Price	$720,000	542000	-25%
Median Price	$758,500	$1,100,000	45%
Highest Price	$1,260,000	$2,200,000	75%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$755	$697	-8%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	94%	95%	1%