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WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 159



# Santa Monica Daily Press

*We have you covered*

REAL ESTATE HEATS UP
SEE PAGE 3

THE AT FULL STRENGTH ISSUE

## Companies struggle to get workers out of cars

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Anyone who's taken a spin west down Interstate 10 in the morning or east during the evening knows that anything but wheels are spinning in the face of the thick commuter traffic.

City Hall is in the middle of an update to its policies to cut down on congestion by delivering the promised "no new net trips" during peak commute hours set down in the 2010 Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), which is supposed to dictate development in the city by the sea for the next 20 years or so.

But almost 20 percent of Santa Monica's biggest employers find themselves unable to comply with current regulations, instead opting to pay for the option to drive into the city.

Laws to improve air quality in California allow entities like the South Coast Air Quality Management District to require employers of a certain size to limit air pollutants emitted by employees traveling to and

SEE TRAFFIC PAGE 6

## Scorecard shows weakness at SMC; has flaws of its own

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BOULEVARD A new state-mandated scorecard to measure performance at Santa Monica College shows declines in four of six measures over the past five years, but uses methodology that leaves school officials questioning its usefulness.

The report card builds off an older model which tracked student success in getting a degree, sticking through at least three consecutive terms, finishing at least 30 class units within six years and accomplishing certain career development or college preparation goals.

It also adds two new categories, which look at student accomplishment in career technical education and success rates of students who take a college-level math or English course if they entered community college unprepared to do so.

Over the past five years, completion rates, progress for students behind in math and English and the number of students making it through career technical education have all declined, according to the report.

Students receiving degrees, certificates or meeting transfer requirements dropped from 58.2 percent for those beginning school in the 2002-03 school year to 51.4 percent for those who started in the 2006-07 year, the most recent data available.

Progress in remedial math dropped from 31.4 percent to 29.4 percent over the same time period, and progress in remedial English dropped by 5 percentage points to 43.4 percent.

SEE SMC PAGE 7



**HIGH FLYER**

Michael Yanow *editor@smdp.com*

**Daredevil Mike Anders of Santa Monica takes a swing on the rings at the original site of Muscle Beach on Monday evening.**

## Gov. Brown takes restrained view of state spending

JUDY LIN
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Riding a wave of state tax revenue, Gov. Jerry Brown released a budget proposal Tuesday that looks much different from the ones Californians have become accustomed to in recent years: It has a surplus.

Brown is proposing a $96.4 billion spending plan for the coming fiscal year that starts July 1, funneling more money to K-12 schools but otherwise taking a cautionary approach to spending.

He wants to spend extra money on schools in economically disadvantaged com-

SEE BUDGET PAGE 10

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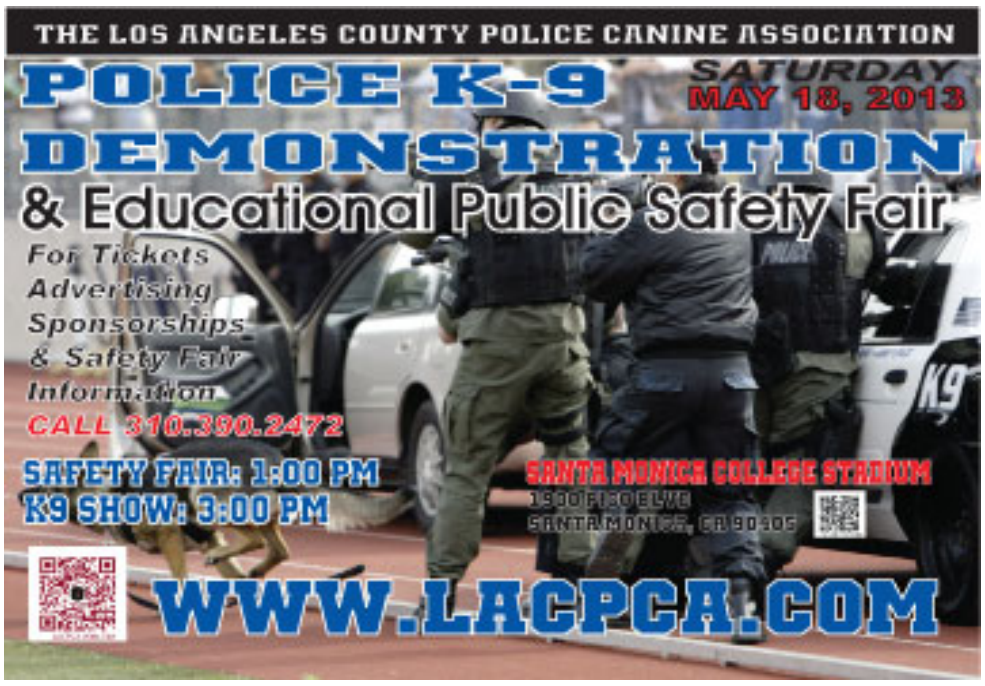
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| 1513 Glencoe Avenue | $735,000 |
| 2512 4th Street | $720,000 |

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|---|---|
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| 727 Hill Street | $770,000 |
| 2613 6th Street #F | $715,000 |
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# What's Up Westside

## OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

### Wednesday, May 15, 2013

**Remember the trees**
Third Street and Arizona Avenue
10 a.m.
Local activist group Treesavers will demonstrate five years after 23 ficus trees were removed from Downtown amid controversy. More trees along Second and Fourth streets were marked for removal, but Treesavers rallied to help limit the number actually uprooted.

**Book it**
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
The Montana Avenue Branch Book Group will be discussing "The Whistling Season." In turn of the 20th century Montana, a young housekeeper and her eccentric brother leave a profound impact on the lives of a Big Sky widower and his three rugged sons. For more information, visit smpl.org.

**Fanboys unite**
Mi's Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade,
9 p.m.
Comedians re-write classic movies and TV shows to their liking. Featured performers have impressive credentials under their belts including "Parks and Recreation" and "Big Trouble in Little China."
For more information,
call (310) 451-0850.

### Thursday, May 16, 2013

**Just bike it**
Citywide
6 a.m. — 10 a.m.
Ditch your car and head out to work on two wheels for Bike to Work Day. Metro is offering pit stops as an added incentive to join in. There will be snacks, special goodies and bike information available at participating stops. Santa Monica's pit stops include: City Hall on Main Street, REI on Santa Monica Boulevard, Water Garden on Colorado Avenue, Colorado Center on Broadway and the Art Institute on 31st Street. As an added bonus, Big Blue Bus and Metro are offering free rides to bicyclists all day.

**Reading pals**
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St.,
3:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
The PAWS 4 Reading program improves children's reading and communications skills by employing a powerful method — reading to a dog. But not just any dog. PAWS dogs are certified therapy animals who volunteer with their owner/handlers as reading companions for children. Today, hundreds of certified therapy dogs are working throughout the United States in grassroots and national organizations providing an attentive ear for children. For more information, visit smpl.org.

**Freshest of the fresh**
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Fresh food abounds if you know where to look for it. From Farmers' Markets to backyards to empty lots, there is a variety of edible food in our midst. Learn from volunteers and experts who are helping to find and distribute L.A.'s hidden bounty of food during this panel discussion. For more information, visit smpl.org.

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

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

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




## CORRECTION

Incorrect information appeared in a Saturday, May 11 article titled "Civic will have to learn new tricks to survive." The organization that reviewed information about the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium was the Urban Land Institute.

# Southern California home sales surge in April

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

SAN DIEGO Southern California home prices neared a five-year high in April as sales accelerated in more expensive markets, a research firm said Tuesday.

The median price for new and existing homes in the six-county region hit $357,000 last month, rising $11,500 during April alone and up 23.1 percent from the same period last year. It marked the 13th straight month of annual gains and the highest median price since June 2008, when it was $360,000.

Sales were unusually brisk for an April, growing 9.5 percent from last year to more than 21,415 homes It was the highest April sales tally since 2006.

A healthier economy is enticing buyers, and rising prices are encouraging sellers, fueling sales in mid- to high-end markets, said John Walsh, DataQuick's president.

Sales between $300,000 and $800,000 rose 35.4 percent from last year while sales above $800,000 climbed 51.4 percent. On the low end of the market, sales below $300,000 slid 21.1 percent.

Investor purchases and all-cash buyers stayed near all-time highs, the San Diego-based research firm said.

Absentee buyers — mostly investors and second-home purchasers — bought 30.2 percent of the region's homes in April, up from 28.4 percent a year earlier. Cash buyers accounted for 33.5 percent of purchases, up from 32.2 percent.

All six counties posted double-digit price increases in percentage terms and strong sales. Orange, the most expensive county with a median sales price of $535,000, tied with Los Angeles for the biggest price gain in percentage terms and had the strongest sales increase.

Foreclosed homes were a smaller part of the sales mix, lifting the overall median price because they tend to sell at steep discounts. Homes that were foreclosed upon during the previous year accounted for 12.4 percent of existing home sales, down from 28.8 percent a year earlier and from 56.7 percent in February 2009.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

### Santa Monica a bike-friendly place

More bicyclists are jumping onto Santa Monica roads, and now the city by the sea has gotten recognition for it.

The League of American Bicyclists has bestowed upon City Hall a Silver award to signify its place as a bicycle-friendly community, officials announced Tuesday.

Jennifer Klausner, executive director of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, is expected to present the award at 5 p.m. today to Mayor Pam O'Connor.

"The Bicycle Friendly Community Silver award is presented only to communities with remarkable commitments to bicycling. You should be very proud of this accomplishment," wrote Nicole Wynands, program manager for the League of American Bicyclists.

Before the award is presented, Santa Monica Spoke and city officials will lead a bicycle tour highlighting new bicycle routes, parking and other facilities in the city, many of which have been installed within the past two years since the adoption of the Bicycle Master Plan, which will dictate how Santa Monica's streets will change to become more bike-friendly in coming years.

Those interested in participating in the ride can gather at 3:30 p.m. in the courtyard behind City Hall.

Santa Monica was also named the fifth most bicycle-friendly city in the nation by Walk Score, a company that provides information about how easy it is to walk, and now bike, through neighborhoods.

In 2011, Walk Score ranked Santa Monica the 12th most walkable city in the country and fourth most walkable city in California.

– ASHLEY ARCHIBALD

**YOUR OPINION MATTERS!**

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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File photo

TAKING A BIG CUT: **Samohi senior outfielder Alex Turner takes a swing against Inglewood earlier this season.**

**LOCAL SPORTS ROUNDUP**

# Spring prep playoffs in full effect

**BY DANIEL ARCHULETA**
Managing Editor

CITYWIDE Ocean League baseball champ Santa Monica heads into the postseason with momentum.

Winner of 10 of the past 11 games, including a perfect record in league play, Samohi (20-10 overall) opens at home against Knight on Thursday in the CIF-Southern Section Division 3 playoffs.

Palmdale Knight enters as the second place finisher in the Golden League with a 19-5 record.

The two teams last faced each other during the 2008-09 playoffs. Samohi won the first round game, 1-0.

Samohi was eliminated by Downey last year in the first round.

Thursday's game is scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 9

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

### Obama gets a free pass

**Editor:**

Santa Monica Daily Press columnist Jack Neworth has railed against former President Bush for a long time ("Bush painted U.S. into corner," Laughing Matters, May 3). That's just sad, since President Bush has been out of office for the past five years, and yet President Obama's legacy of high taxes, higher spending, and the height of regulations had done us more damage in those five years than anything that Bush did during his eight years in office.

The rallying cry of many liberals, including Mr. Neworth, has been the oft-repeated, now retired: "Bush lied. People died." In 2005, The Washington Post reported a large cache of chemical weapon agents discovered in Iraq. Shortly after the WikiLeaks cables were released three years ago, classified diplomatic cables confirmed that Saddam Hussein and his Baathist regime did indeed have weapons of mass destruction, with the extensive capability for WMD.

Now the Obama Administration is under fire, from obstruction of justice to national security failures. The gun-walking program Operation Fast and Furious endorsed illegal purchases of firearms to track down drug cartels. Democrats and Republicans have discredited the Benghazi talking points as scrubbed and edited. The IRS abusively targeted conservatives.

Regarding these disturbing revelations, I have only this to say to Neworth:

"Where were you when Obama was bankrupting the country after inheriting one of the strongest counterterrorism networks in history? Please show me all the articles critical of Obama and the five solid years of Democratic rule that you must have written, and if you didn't, what does that say about your integrity?"

**Arthur Christopher Schaper**
Torrance, Calif.

### Going easy on 'em

**Editor:**

Bill Bauer's column was much too kind to the clueless politicians ("Nothing like clueless politicians," My Write, May 13).

As to the trainers using city property to conduct their business, no competent real estate broker/advisor/consultant would ever allow a client to enter into a percentage clause lease with that type of tenant and under the conditions described. In fact, if the client insisted on entering into such an agreement, most astute brokers would make sure that they had sufficient documentation whereby they advised the client to forgo such an action. The result of the City Council's action, in no uncertain terms, is a giveaway of public property to private interests.

Relative to Ted Lieu's SB 333, why the hell should celebrities and politicians be afforded special status? In fact, the average citizen is more likely put at greater risk in a swatting incident than the celebrities and politicians that SB 333 aims to protect. Police would be more likely to both know and recognize a celebrity or politician at their homes, thus they would be less likely to act in a way that might cause harm to them. This likely is not the case for the non-celebrity or non-politician who would probably be subject to police arrest/restraint until such time as their identity can be confirmed.

**Joseph Palazzolo**
Santa Monica






## The Taxman

Jon Coupal

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Don't leave 'em with two nickels to rub together

IN A BUNKER SOMEWHERE IN Sacramento, a secret committee meeting of state power brokers is taking place. Let's listen in as the chairman addresses the members:

"Welcome to this week's meeting of the 'Don't Leave Them With Two Nickels to Rub Together Committee.' It is good to see that the public employee union bosses, who represent the highest paid government workers in all 50 states, are in attendance. They are the heart and soul of our movement. Then of course, we must acknowledge those newspaper editors from some major papers, who work so hard to help our cause of increasing the tax burden on average Californians. Special mention and thanks must go to the representatives of the Los Angeles Times, a publication whose institutionalized hostility to Proposition 13 is legendary — it hardly seems like it has been 35 years since Howard Jarvis labeled your paper 'the enemy of the people.' Also, I want to give a shout out to the several leftist professors from taxpayer-supported universities who have joined us today. And lest I forget, our special interest enablers in the private sector, most of whom profit directly from government spending, are here today to lend their support.

"As you know, our number one target continues to be Proposition 13 and its protections for taxpayers. Although we have been successful in making California number one in state sales tax, gasoline tax, and in income tax rates, we rank only 15th in property taxes. This, I know you all agree, is an outrage. California, must always strive to be number one.

"Of course, we are aware that Proposition 13, which limits annual increases in property tax bills, and requires that voters have the final say on new local taxes, is very popular with the public at large. Surveys show that it is at least as popular as it was when it received almost two-thirds of the vote in 1978.

"However, we have a clever plan to increase the tax burden on all taxpayers, but especially homeowners, without ever having to admit that we support higher taxes. Our objective is to reduce the two-thirds vote needed to approve new per parcel taxes, taxes that can be used for any purpose and are imposed over and above the regular property tax. We also want to make it easier to raise sales taxes that everyone pays, to support our favorite projects.

"Our strategy is to promote the lowering of the vote required to approve new taxes by saying we are just trying to make voting on tax increases more democratic. This way, we can appear to have clean hands, while making it much easier to increase the tax burden on average folks.

"This week, a number of our favorite bills will be heard by our friends in the Senate Governance and Finance Committee. These bills would make it easier to approve new property taxes for school facilities, new bonds for libraries — paid for through higher property taxes — new sales taxes to fund community and economic development projects, and new sales taxes for transportation projects. And you will be pleased to learn that we have many more bills like these in the pipeline.

"On a final note, as we move forward with our agenda, let's remember, the best way to get more out of taxpayers is to make voters think someone else will be paying the higher taxes. Look at Proposition 30 as a template for further success. We were able to convince many voters that the burden would be borne by the wealthy, although it also increased sales taxes on everyone. So, let's stay focused on divisive taxes, like parcel taxes, that appear to impact only property owners, even though renters, too, will pay through higher rents. And as we work to undermine Proposition 13, let's remember to keep repeating our talking points.

"When we attack the two-thirds vote, tell the folks that we are not trying to raise their taxes, 'We are just making the process more democratic.' And when new taxes appear on the ballot, focus on gaining the support of those who are unlikely, or who believe they are unlikely, to have to pay. Just say, 'The tax burden will fall on someone else who should be paying their fair share.' Finally, if voters remain unconvinced, say, 'It's for the children.'

"This week's meeting of the 'Don't Leave Them With Two Nickels to Rub Together Committee' is adjourned. Let's go out and redouble our efforts to undermine the taxpayer protections provided by Proposition 13."

**JON COUPAL** is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.




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## Your column here

Dr. James L. Snyder
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Now that's news I can really use

I HAVE A TERRIBLE CONFESSION TO GET off my chest. It is a secret I have tried to hide from family and friends for years. Up to this point, I have been fairly successful in hiding this but I believe the time has come to clear the air.

Having a secret is a terrible burden to bear especially around people who know you. You always run the risk that somebody is going to find out and then tell everybody and then the whole world knows your secret. The purpose of a secret is so that nobody knows. If it gets out, it is no longer a secret.

I even tried to keep this from the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, which comes as close to walking on water as I have ever come. Several times, she has come close to finding out this deep-seated secret of mine.

Even though this is risky business, I need to make a full confession. Someone has said that confession is good for the soul, but I am not quite sure.

My confession is this, and please do not hate me because of it; I love to take afternoon naps.

There, I said it. I am not sure what it did for my soul but I do not feel any happier about making this confession.

I am a firm believer in what some people refer to as the "power nap." The problem is I live amongst a people that believe if you take a nap in the afternoon you are either very young are getting very old. The former is not the issue, and I will take issue with the latter.

I must admit that there was a time in my life when I did not take time out for naps. In fact, I had a hard time going to bed before midnight. I hated going to bed and could not wait until morning came so I could jump out of bed and get back to work. Do not get me wrong, I was not a workaholic. I just liked what I was doing.

I am not sure when it started, but I noticed a few years ago I was not resisting going to bed like before. I did not fight it is much as I used to. If the truth were known, hopefully it won't be, as soon as my head hit the pillow the Sandman started doing his thing.

It was not long before I started sneaking 40 winks in the afternoon.

I distinctly remember one afternoon when my wife came in and said, "You're not taking a nap, are you?"

I know lying is not a good thing, especially to your spouse. Sometimes when you are in a fix such as I was in at that moment, the truth scampers in the opposite direction.

"No," I stuttered as she looked at me. "I was just meditating."

"I guess everybody snores when they're meditating," she said with a smirk on her face.

From then on, it was a game trying to get in a nap without getting into trouble. I did find out that after one of my "power naps" I was able to do a lot more work. However, I kept that bit of information to myself.

Then my whole world changed.

Don't you like it when something happens proving you are right? It does not happen very often to me, when it does, I relish it like a freshly baked apple fritter.

I happened to be watching some television news program. I confess I was half dozing and watching at the same time, but suddenly they said something that got my full salute attention.

According to the news story, and they can't put it on TV unless it's true, right? But according to this story, research showed that there was a great deal of benefits associated with afternoon naps.

That was enough for me and I, like the gentleman I am, called for my wife to come and watch this news story with me. Some things in life should be shared and this was one of them.

Afternoon naps drastically reduce the danger of heart attack and improve a person's memory.

"So," I said to my wife after the story, "what do you think of that?"

She smiled and looked at me and said, "Well, it must work because you never forget to take a nap."

I will forgive her for the hilarious laughter following her remark. Just so you know, the laughter did not come from me. I may have been smiling on the outside but I was snorting on the inside.

For years, I thought taking an afternoon nap was rather beneficial. Now I have the proof and I can indulge in a daily "power nap" without feeling any sense of guilt at all. I love it when I have been proven right.

Now I take great delight in one of my favorite Bible passages.

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29).

A friend of mine often says, "Come apart and rest a while or you'll just come apart." An afternoon nap has unashamedly become part of my daily activity.

The **REV. JAMES L. SNYDER** is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship in Ocala, Fla. Call him at (866) 552-2543 or e-mail jamessnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamessnyderministries.com.

## The Q Line

### Cash from overseas

The Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau held its fourth annual Travel and Tourism Summit last week during which they released figures that showed tourists and the hotels they stay in pumped $1.5 billion into the local economy in 2012. Of that, $48.8 million went directly into City Hall's General Fund, which supports basic city services.

**So, this week's Q-Line question asks:**

A handful of hotels are being planned for Downtown, but some residents are working to put a stop to them because they see any form of development a danger to their quality of life. Where do you stand? Should we allow more hotels to be built in the city by the sea?

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


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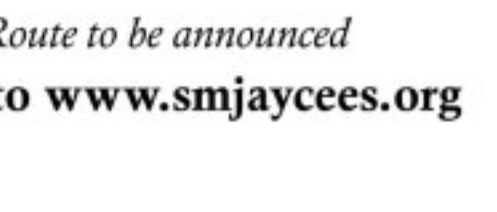
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Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

IN MOTION: **Pedestrians run across the crosswalk on Colorado Avenue and Second Street.**

# TRAFFIC

FROM PAGE 1

from work.

Alternatively, companies can buy special credits produced when high-polluting, often old, cars are taken off the road and scrapped, removing a source of carbon monoxide, particulate matter and other chemicals that contribute to the Southland's infamous air quality problems.

Although the AQMD's restrictions apply to businesses with 250 employees or more, Santa Monica officials chose stricter policies, imposing requirements on businesses with 50 or more employees.

These "emission reduction plans" ask employers to ensure that roughly one-third of employees find alternative ways to work, be it carpooling, the bus, bicycling, walking or telecommuting. That helps them meet the standard 1.5 "average vehicle ridership," a measure of how many cars are carrying workers to the job site on any given day.

Not every company feels it can meet that standard, however.

Of the 160 companies that fall under the ordinance, 31 choose to buy credits to meet the gap between City Hall's requirements and what they and their employees are able to accomplish in terms of trip and emissions reduction.

That measure is determined by an annual survey undertaken by the employer where they track their employees' car use for a week.

Macerich, the company that owns and operates Santa Monica Place and other malls across the country, falls into that category.

The company has 250 employees at its corporate headquarters in Santa Monica, and offers them ride share and alternative working hours to help with their commutes, said Genene Kruger, senior vice president of human resources at the company.

However, the company still needs to top off with credits to provide "flexibility to support the time and travel needs of our employees when they cannot carpool or telecommute," Kruger said.

Roughly 29 percent of the companies that do not meet the standards are major grocery story chains, including the Trader Joe's on Pico Boulevard, Albertsons, Vons and two of the three Whole Foods Markets in the city.

The final Whole Foods, the largest in the city at 23rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard, used to do the same, but managed to work with city officials to bring the number of cars traveling to the site down, said Jacquilyne Brooks de Camarillo, transportation management coordinator with City Hall.

The supermarket was in constant conflict with its neighbors over parking around the store, which residents said was often occupied by employees who moved their cars every few hours to get around parking restrictions.

Rather than continue to buy credits and perpetuate the problem, the site created a "commute buddy" program, which identified employees who could travel together either on foot, by carpool or on the bus.

That helped employees who leave work at odd hours, after buses have stopped running and before many would feel comfortable walking home from work alone.

Finding ways to meet vehicle ridership targets does more than just solve problems with neighbors — it can save a business

SEE **COMMUTES** PAGE 7


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## COMMUTES
FROM PAGE 6

money.

All employers with 50 or more employees must pay $12.28 per person to City Hall to support costs associated with monitoring City Hall's rules, but those that can demonstrate that they've met their targets for three years get a discount unavailable to those who buy credits.

It also provides a level of certainty about costs, since the price of a credit can vary greatly year to year.

That's because a credit is a commodity traded on the open market. They're created when the AQMD pays a car owner to take their smoggy vehicle off the road earlier than they might otherwise have, said Sam Atwood, spokesperson for the AQMD.

"Typically, older vehicles are higher polluting. In some cases, we get what are known as 'gross polluters,' which can emit 500 times as much as a newer vehicle," Atwood said. "What this program does is get these older cars off the road sooner than would otherwise occur if the owner drove it into the ground."

The estimated pollution savings are translated into credits, which can then be sold to professional brokers, similar to carbon credits bought and sold by businesses.

That means credits can be relatively cheap or extremely expensive, and an employer has to purchase enough for the year, said Brooks de Camarillo.

City officials hope that it will soon be easier for employers, both large and small, to coordinate ride sharing programs and other forms of trip reduction. After all, the majority of businesses in Santa Monica don't fall under existing rules, nor do their employees who commute.

The LUCE calls for "transportation management associations," groups of employers that work together to widen the pool of possible carpool compatriots to make it easier for people to find their ideal "commute buddy."

No such association exists today, but a pilot van pooling project in the Bergamot area is just getting off the ground to try to capture employees from various businesses in the district.

Next, officials will try out a different program in Downtown, Brooks de Camarillo said.

"We're looking at the Downtown, being more transit and bicycle heavy," Brooks de Camarillo said. "We need to make one that is customized to the Downtown."

Efforts continue even as a move to strengthen trip reduction measures makes its way to the Planning Commission, which will consider a new ordinance that raises the bar on carpooling and applies certain restrictions to new construction and even residential buildings for the first time.

It also raises deeper policy questions about housing production in the city, which is jobs-rich and housing-poor.

"The number one antidote to the 'commute and pollute' problem is proximity. Putting worker-affordable housing near jobs makes the use of mass transit more likely, and in some cases can mean walking or biking to work," said Councilmember Kevin McKeown. "Car-pooling and emission credits will continue to be needed stopgaps until we correct decades of unwise regional land use."

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## SMC
FROM PAGE 1

Although neither "disappointed nor particularly surprised" by the results, the information comes with a big caveat, said Randal Lawson, executive vice president of SMC.

It excludes any student without a Social Security number because the community colleges don't have system-wide identification numbers and use Social Security numbers to track students when they move from college to college.

That means international and undocumented students do not get factored into the mix.

Those students comprise 14 percent of the population of SMC, Lawson said.

When the SMC Office of Institutional Research added those students back into the population, almost every metric improved, according to the report.

While the report doesn't accurately reflect the population of SMC, it also makes it impossible to measure schools against other schools. Although information gathered falls into specific categories, each school defines what goes where, meaning schools can inflate their performance by setting lower standards than their neighbors.

Still, the scorecard has provided college officials with something they never had before — a breakdown of student performance by those considered "prepared" for college, meaning the first class they took at SMC was college-level, and those "unprepared" who had to take a remedial course.

While 51.4 percent of the students counted in the report got their degree, transferred to a four-year or got a certificate, that number jumped up to 75.8 percent for prepared students.

Only 40.5 percent of unprepared students managed to hit that goal.

They also outperformed unprepared students in hitting the 30-unit mark, but tended not to meet "persistence" goals at the same rate, where 65.7 percent of unprepared students stuck it out for three consecutive terms compared to 61.4 percent of prepared students.

Although the declines look "disturbing" at first blush, it's hard to make definitive statements about it until the college has additional years for comparison, said Louise Jaffe, a member of the SMC Board of Trustees.

The breakdown of prepared and unprepared students, however, is very useful, and may be critical to changing the way people think about community college, she said.

Community colleges, unlike CSUs and UCs, accept any student who applies, regardless of academic prowess. Students who assume they're going to community college may not think their high school work matters as much, Jaffe said.

"This clear difference on what's going to happen based on how well-prepared you are or are not is an important communication device," Jaffe said.

SMC will take the information in this report and its own internal measures to inform budgeting and policy moving forward, as it has in the past, Lawson said.

Two years ago, in the midst of budget cuts, SMC officials set aside roughly $500,000 for supplemental instruction to target students who needed extra support to get up to college level after high school.

Entire curriculums were reformed to cut down on the length of time that students stay in developmental classes, Lawson said.

"Half a million was a significant amount of general funds that we allocated there because the board believed strongly that this would work," Lawson said. "We will continue to do that, and I do think that the situation will slowly be better."

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# ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

### CROSSROADS V-BALL IN FINAL FOUR

Crossroads' boys' volleyball is a win away from an appearance in the CIF-SS Division 3 final.

The Roadrunners host South Pasadena today, Wednesday, at 7 p.m.

Crossroads advanced to the semifinal with a comeback win over Warren on Saturday. South Pasadena needed four sets to dispatch Heritage Christian to qualify for the game.

On the other side of the bracket, No. 1 seed Camarillo knocked off Samohi in five sets in the quarterfinal. Camarillo advanced to meet Hemet, also on Wednesday.

The Division 3 final is scheduled for Saturday at Santiago Canyon College.

### SAMOHI SOFTBALL AT HOME FOR FIRST ROUND

After cruising to a ninth consecutive Ocean League softball title, Samohi earned a first-round home playoff game in CIF-SS Division 4.

Samohi will face the winner of a wild card game between Hesperia and Palm Springs, which took place on Tuesday. The result from that game was not available at presstime.

Samohi finished the season 15-10 overall and 10-0 in league. The year was highlighted by Samohi's 90th consecutive league victory.

The Vikings' first round game is scheduled for Thursday at 3:15 p.m. at Memorial Park.

### RUGBY TEAMS CLINCH TITLES

Both the under-16 and under-14 boys from the Santa Monica Rugby Club won their 2013 Southern California Youth Rugby championship matches on Saturday at Cal State Fullerton.

The U-14 team crushed Santa Clarita, 43-0, in earning their age group title.

The U-16 squad knocked off the undefeated Young Aztecs, 16-15, to secure their crown.

The Santa Monica U-18 team also appeared in the final of their group, but they fell to San Diego, 36-7.

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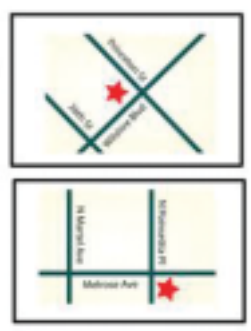
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## BUDGET
FROM PAGE 1

munities, giving California a new narrative from the multibillion dollar deficits that led to teacher layoffs, IOUs for state workers and deep spending cuts for nearly all government programs just a few years ago.

At the same time, the Democratic governor is maintaining his pledge to keep spending under control by resisting demands from within his own party to spend more freely and fully restore the safety net programs cut during the recession.

"This is not the time to break out the champagne," Brown said in revising his budget from January. "It's a call for prudence, not exuberance."

Brown's conservative outlook in revenue in the year ahead is putting him at odds with members of his own party, who are eager to spend the additional revenue to restore health care programs and social services.

He announced a spending plan that is $1.2 billion lower than he projected in January despite the state receiving $4.5 billion more than expected from personal income taxes so far this fiscal year and a surge of revenue from the sales and income taxes voters approved last fall.

The administration is taking a cautious approach in what it estimates the state will have over the next 12 to 18 months. Its forecast for growth of personal income is lower in part because the federal government did not extend a 2 percent payroll tax reduction. The governor projects that personal income growth will be only half that originally forecast this year, falling from 4.3 percent to 2.2 percent.

Brown's spending plan earned him rare praise from Republican lawmakers, who generally called hailed it as common sense approach.

"We have common ground with the governor in a belief that we cannot return to a culture of overspending that drives new budget crises," said Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff, R-Diamond Bar, said in a statement.

The governor's budget, however, sets up a showdown with his fellow Democrats in the month the Legislature has to pass a state budget.

Assembly Speaker John Perez, D-Los Angeles, called the governor's budget pessimistic and suggested that lawmakers will not have to stick with the same revenue forecast. The Legislature's nonpartisan budget analyst is expected to provide its own economic forecast.

Democrats control both houses of the California Legislature and only need a simple majority to send their budget to the governor.

Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, said the governor proposed such a restrained budget that it left no room to restore cuts to courts, welfare, health care and the wide array of safety-net programs that have been reduced since the recession.

Advocates for the poor say California's poverty level has jumped from 6 million to 8.7 million since 2008, with 2.2 million of them children.

"I agree we must aggressively pay down our state's debt and set aside money for a reserve, but there's a disappointing aspect to this proposal," Steinberg said in a statement. "It's important that we also begin making up for some of the damage done to tens of thousands of Californians."

Brown also faces an uphill battle in getting his education funding change through the Legislature, even though he says his plan sends disadvantaged schools an extra 4 cents out of every $1.

The governor is setting aside $1.9 billion to modify the state's K-12 funding formula by giving proportionately more money to schools with high numbers of lower-income students, English-learners and foster children. But Brown's plan has been criticized by lawmakers in his own party because some of the school districts they represent are wealthier and would not see as much extra money.

While backers of Brown's proposal have characterized the proposal as a matter of civil rights, some Democrats suggested that giving disadvantaged students more money would mean that not all students would be treated equally.

"The local control funding formula is an interesting problem because it's not really a partisan issue. It's more of a geographic issue," said Assemblyman Jeff Gorell, R-Camarillo, who serves as vice chair of the Assembly Budget Committee. "I think most legislators would like to see some changes in that formula."

The governor said spending more on disadvantaged children is the right thing to do and said Democratic lawmakers "in their heart-of-hearts" want to help them.

"I think the idea in a Democratic Legislature of helping the less advantaged is very persuasive," he said.

In addition to personal income tax revenue running ahead of projections, California voters approved Brown's Proposition 30 last fall to increase the state's sales and income taxes. Under the state's education funding formula, most of the extra money will be sent to public schools.

Overall K-12 spending is projected to rise from $47.3 billion in the 2011-12 fiscal year, Brown's first budget since reclaiming the governor's office, to $66.5 billion in the 2016-17 fiscal year. His budget provides $1,046 more per student in the coming fiscal year.

Brown also is proposing to use $1 billion to help public schools implement more rigorous academic standards.

The governor faced a $25 billion deficit when he took office in January 2011. The plan he released Tuesday maintains a $1.1 billion reserve fund for unanticipated expenses.

Brown's budget proposal now goes to the Legislature, which has a June 15 deadline to pass a spending plan.

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# Markets climb, led by small-company stocks

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK The prospect of continued stimulus from the Federal Reserve and rising optimism among small business owners helped push stock prices back to record levels.

Small business owners were slightly more optimistic in April, according to a survey released Tuesday by the National Federation of Independent Business. That helped push the Russell 2000, an index of small-company stocks, up 1 percent.

The Russell index is 15.7 percent higher since the start of the year, and is doing better than the Standard & Poor's 500 index, which includes larger, global companies. Small stocks are doing well because they are more focused on the U.S., which is recovering, and don't have as much revenue from recession-plagued Europe as larger companies do.

For stock investors, the U.S. economy is "not too hot, not too cold," says Michael Sheldon, chief market strategist at RDM Financial. It's weak enough that the Fed will continue its $85 billion-a-month economic stimulus program, but strong enough for companies to generate healthy earnings.

"There is a lot of momentum in the market right now," says Sheldon. "It's largely being fueled by the Federal Reserve and modest growth in the U.S."

The U.S. economy grew 2.5 percent in the first quarter. While hiring has picked up, the unemployment rate is still at 7.5 percent, above the 6.5 percent rate that the Federal Reserve is targeting. As a result the central bank is expected to keep buying bonds to hold down long-term interest rates and encourage more borrowing and spending.

Earnings of companies in the S&P 500 index, meanwhile, are expected to rise 5 percent in the first quarter, and grow even faster in the second half of the year, according to S&P Capital IQ.

The Dow rose 84 points, or 0.5 percent, to 15,176, as of 2:19 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The S&P 500 index rose 12 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,645. Both are at all-time highs.

The market rose from the opening bell and climbed steadily throughout the morning before slowing in the early afternoon.

It got support after hedge fund manager David Tepper said that he is still bullish on stocks. Speaking on CNBC, Tepper said that investors shouldn't worry about the Fed tapering its stimulus program. The money manager has about $18 billion dollars under management, according to the broadcaster.

Banks and insurers rose 1.4 percent, the biggest gain among of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 index. Financial stocks are the biggest gainers in the index during the past month, advancing 5.7 percent.

Bank of America climbed to its highest in more than two years. The lender's stock rose 34 cents, or 2.7 percent, to $13.31. JPMorgan rose 57 cents, or 1.1 percent, to $50.23.

Stocks had a lackluster start to the week Monday as investors questioned whether stocks have risen too far, too fast this year. Even news that retail sales unexpectedly rose in April failed to give the market a boost. The Dow ended the day slightly down and the S&P 500 was flat.

The Dow has risen 15.8 percent this year and the S&P 500 index is 15.4 percent higher. The Dow will have gained for 18 straight Tuesdays if it closes higher. The only day with a longer streak of consecutive gains is Wednesday, with 24, according to Schaeffer's investment research.

Oil edged lower, falling 87 cents, or 0.9 percent, to $95.17 a barrel. Gold fell $9.80, or 0.7 percent, to $1,424.50. Copper dropped the most among major commodities, falling 7.2 cents, or 2.1 percent, to $3.288 a pound.

The dollar edged higher against the euro and the yen.

Among stocks making big moves;

• Take-Two Interactive Software Inc., the online video game publisher whose titles include "Grand Theft Auto," rose 35 cents, or 2.1 percent, to $16.73 after the company reported a profit in its fiscal fourth quarter. Take-Two's as revenue more than doubled on sales of "BioShock Infinite" and other video games.

• Sony's U.S.-listed shares jumped 10 percent after hedge fund manager Daniel Loeb called for the company to sell part of its entertainment business and use the money to shore up its struggling electronics operation. The stock rose $1.90 to $20.79.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.95 percent from 1.92 percent. That means demand for the ultra-safe investments declined. The yield on the note is close to its highest in six weeks. It hit a low for the year of 1.63 percent on May 1.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 18 points, or 0.5 percent, to 3,465. The Dow Transport index, considered by investors to be a leading indicator of economic activity, rose 101 points, or 1.6 percent to 6,446.

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## Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **64.6°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Easing SSW-S swell; small WNW-NW swell-mix; plus peaks early; keeping an eye on the winds

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Easing SSW-S and NW swell-mix; keeping an eye on the winds

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Small blend of Southern Hemi and NW windswell energy

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Minor SW swell and NW windswell; starting slow - frst signs of long period energy from the SW start to arrive in the afternoon

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 8, 2013**

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**QUICK STATS** (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 8
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8
- Number of wet days -- 3
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 24 / 29
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, 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 Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks. | | |
| Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth. | A | A+ |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private). | A+ | A+ |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Latigo Canyon Creek mouth. | A | A+ |
| Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Puerco State Beach at creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd. | A | F |
| Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence. | A+ | A+ |
| Surfrider Beach (broach location)- daily. | A | A+ |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east. | B | F |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon. | A+ | A+ |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero). | A+ | A+ |
| Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs. | A | B |
| Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Tuna Canyon. | D | ns |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth. | A+ | A+ |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| 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+ | 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+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain. | A+ | F |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua). | A | A+ |
| Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain. | A | F |
| Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain. | A+ | F |
| Santa Monica Municipal Pier. | C | A+ |
| Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain. | A+ | A |
| Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms). | A+ | A+ |
| Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain. | A+ | A+ |
| Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain. | A+ | A+ |
| Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south. | A+ | A+ |
| Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.. | A | A+ |
| Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower. | A | B |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth. | A | F |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain. | A+ | F |
| North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach. | A+ | A+ |
| Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty). | A+ | A+ |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain. | A+ | F |
| Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant. | A+ | A+ |
| Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain. | A+ | A+ |

**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.

# Kobe Bryant auction dispute headed for June trial date

**GEOFF MULVIHILL**
Associated Press

CAMDEN, N.J. Kobe Bryant and an auction house that wants to sell memorabilia from his high school days and early pro career are heading for a trial next month, unless they can work out a deal before then.

U.S. District Judge Renee Bumb on Monday set June 17 as a trial date, but also set a court-guided mediation session for Friday in a case that's the manifestation of an ugly family dispute that all sides seem to want to resolve quickly.

"Maybe I should have had you bring your witnesses today and we would have tried the case," Bumb said at a hearing. "You're all so ready to go."

The main reason she didn't schedule the trial for an earlier date was that Bryant's father, Joe "Jellybean" Bryant, said he could not get to a trial sooner because he's coaching a Thai team in the Asian Basketball League playoffs.

The animosity became public earlier this month, shortly after Berlin, N.J.-based Goldin Auctions announced its plan to auction off Bryant's mementos, which date to his days at Lower Merion High School outside Philadelphia. Goldin's April 30 announcement promised a June sale of 100 items provided by Bryant's mother, Pamela Bryant.

The collection includes high school uniforms, signed basketballs, trophies and other items, to be auctioned off along with 900 other items. It gave Pamela Bryant a $450,000 advance, which she used to buy a home earlier this year in Las Vegas.

The same day the firm announced the auction, the NBA star's lawyers sent Goldin a letter asking it not to hold the sale, arguing that the collection belonged to Kobe Bryant, not to his mother.

Since then, the auction house filed a lawsuit in New Jersey seeking the right to sell the materials.

Kobe Bryant has sued in California, saying that some of the items — a surfboard from the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards and a trophy — were last seen in his home there.

Several family members have submitted statements taking sides.

Joe Bryant, a former NBA player himself, and Kobe Bryant's grandmother are siding with Pamela Bryant, saying that Kobe told his mother she could have the items.

Bryant's sister, Sharia Washington, gave lawyers a statement supporting her brother.

The court filings also dredge up old troubles, including Pamela and Joe Bryant saying Kobe made them move out of his California home after he met the woman who would become his wife. Washington brought up other times when she said her mother wanted to make money off Kobe Bryant's name.

Though a trial date was set, there are several legal questions.

Bryant's lawyer, Christian Carbone, said he may continue to argue that the case should be dealt with in California, though Judge Bumb said there is no reason not to handle it in New Jersey.

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BUSINESS @ SUNSET NETWORKING MIXER
Hosted by Wilshire Restaurant
Wednesday, May 15, 2013
5:30 to 7:30 PM

Enjoy a small bites from Wilshire Restaurant, Mix and Mingle with hospitality industry professionals from around Santa Monica.

Register at smchamber.com/networking
Or call the Chamber at 310.393.9825
Each attendee receives 2 drink tickets and appetizers

$15 for Members in advance
$20 for Members at the door
$25 for Prospective Members

Wilshire Restaurant
2454 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90403

## MOVIE TIMES

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

**Three Kids (NR) 1hr 21min**
7:30pm
Discussion after the film with director Jonas D'Adesky. Belgian beer reception to follow.

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

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

**Big Wedding (R) 1hr 29min**
7:30pm, 10:10pm

**Place Beyond the Pines (R) 2hrs 20min**
12:45pm, 3:55pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

**Peeples (PG-13) 1hr 35min**
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

**Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min**
1:10pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:05pm

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

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

**Oblivion (PG-13) 2hrs 05min**
11:20am

**Oblivion (PG-13) 2hrs 05min**
2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:40pm

**Great Gatsby (PG-13) 2hrs 23min**
11:15am, 2:20pm, 5:35pm, 8:50pm

**Great Gatsby in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 23min**
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:20pm, 10:30pm

**42 (PG-13) 2hrs 08min**
11:00am, 1:55pm, 4:50pm

**Metropolitan Opera: Giulio Cesare Encore () 4hrs 35min**
6:30pm

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

**Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min**
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

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

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

**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

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

## TIME FOR SOME FUN, GEM

### ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You are a very inquisitive person by nature. Expect an upswing in your curiosity. You just can't seem to get enough answers. You could meet a younger person or a potential new friend in your meanderings. Tonight: You might need to talk a child or loved one down.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You have given a lot of time and thought to a future purchase, and you might decide that today is the right day for you to make it happen. Be sure to clue in a partner on your plan, and weigh some last-minute details. Tonight: Spend money only on what has been planned.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You have a way with words that has become renowned. Your softer side emerges, and it becomes apparent that many people around you appreciate this side of you. Tonight: Time for some fun.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Understand that you have been dominant as of late. An event occurs that could urge you to slow down. Recognize that you might have missed a major facet of an idea or project. Honor a request from a loved one. Tonight: Your treat.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You'll sense a major swing or change in what is happening. You have been more cautious than you have been in a long time. As a result, when you decide to toss caution to the wind, you will feel a great sense of relief. Tonight: It is your call.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Use the daylight hours to further any project. You will gain the support you want, but you still might have much to consider regarding your direction and choices. Tonight: At a ballgame or some other favorite pastime.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You might feel like a fish swimming upstream. Listen to someone's comments and suggestions. Know that you don't always need to take the hard road. You are where it counts. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Seek out different perspectives. In the process, you might find that you are extremely reactive. Ask yourself what is going on. If you can't put out the flames, detach. By doing this, you finally will be able to see the big picture. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Deal with one person at a time. Listen to a discussion, and give each person some say. Someone you can trust helps you and others pull a project together. Diversity will add to its strength. Others will continue to give you feedback. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter. You are grounded and together as far as knowing which way to go. If you tap into your creativity, solutions will come forward. Others give you feedback. Tonight: Spend time with a friend.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Defer to others, and let them see the results of their actions. You can't predict the outcome of a project any more than they can. The experience will add to their abilities. Tonight: Pretend that it is Friday night.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your imagination leads, and your mind follows. Nevertheless, you might want to present your ideas in an intellectual manner. You can do it all. Listen to feedback, and understand how important it is to keep a family member in the loop. Tonight: Take a walk after dinner.

**Wednesday, May 15, 2013**

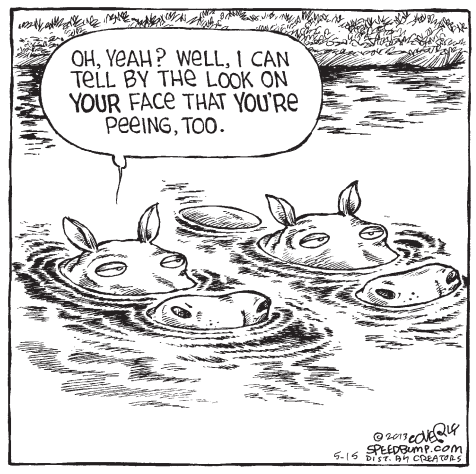
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year you will gain insight by reaching out to others. Start conversations, and be open to others' ideas. You also could develop an interest in investing or organizing your finances. If you are single, you will be expanding your circle of friends. It is through one of your pals or associates that you will meet someone of interest. If you are attached, communicate and extend an olive branch to your sweetie. Don't allow your differences to become disagreements. LEO might be unusually attractive to you.

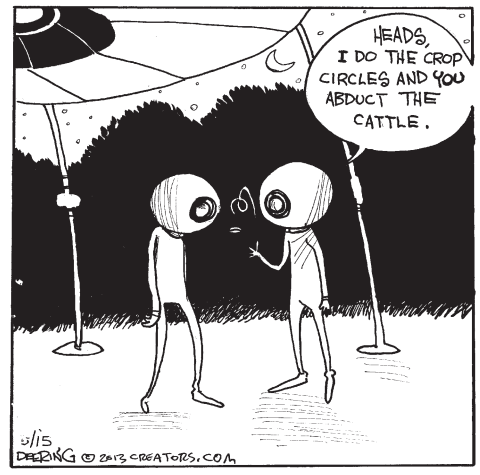
**Email QLINE@SMDP.COM. WE'LL PRINT THE ANSWERS.**
Sound off every week on our Q-Line™. See page 5 for more info.



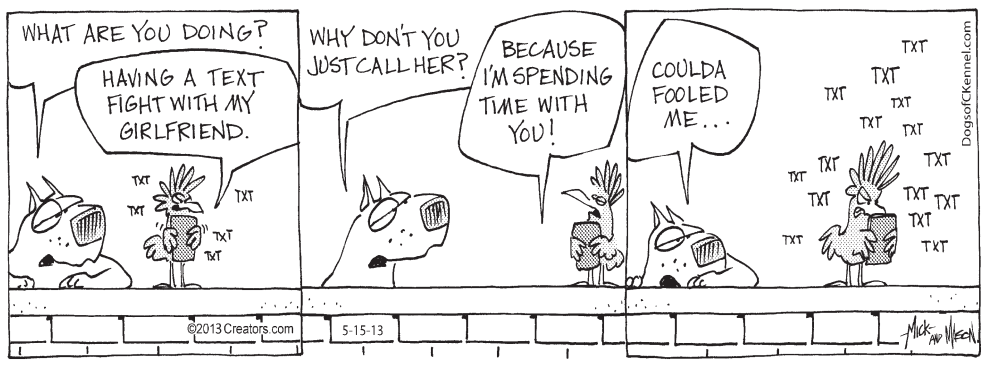
## Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



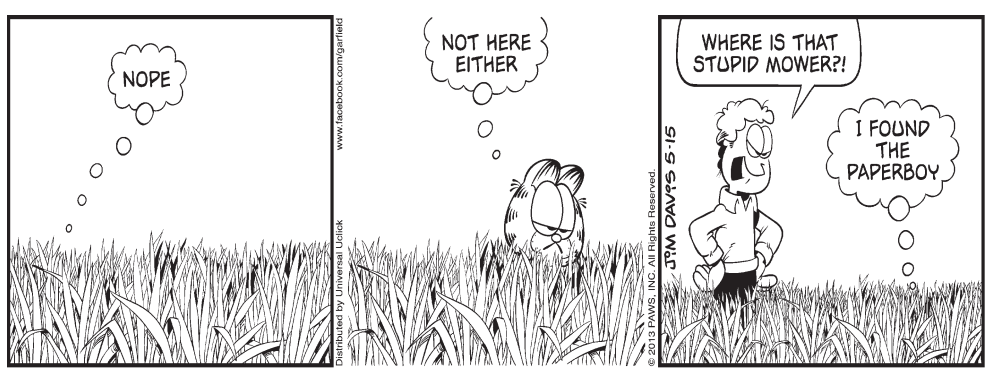

## Strange Brew
By John Deering



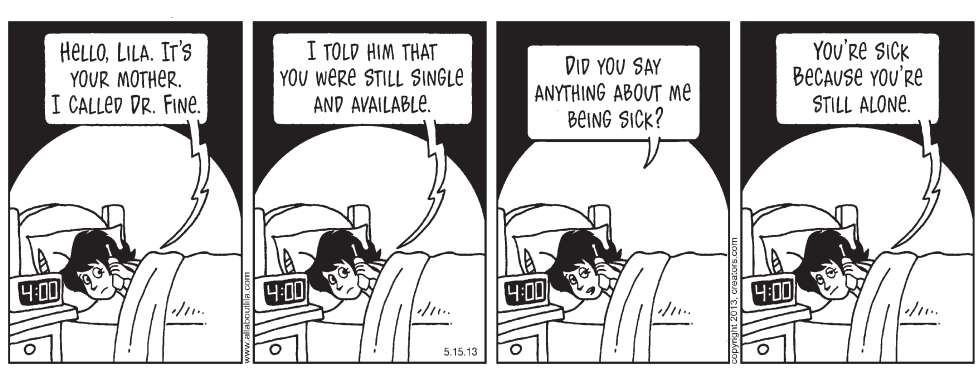

## Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni




## 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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

## GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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# MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

# *CROSSWORD*

## By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

**1** Moolah
**5** Blockhead
**9** 44th president
**11** Other name for Myanmar
**12** Stately home
**13** Spring sign
**14** Drink cooler
**15** Dessert choice
**17** Dessert choice
**19** Victor at Fredericksburg
**20** Publicity act
**21** Filming site
**22** Confiscate
**24** Stir-frying vessel
**26** Rides the waves
**29** Cry loudly
**30** Dessert choice
**32** Dessert choice
**34** — culpa
**35** Bye, in Baja
**36** Nest sound
**38** Prolonged attack
**39** Painter Matisse
**40** Coop group
**41** Nasty

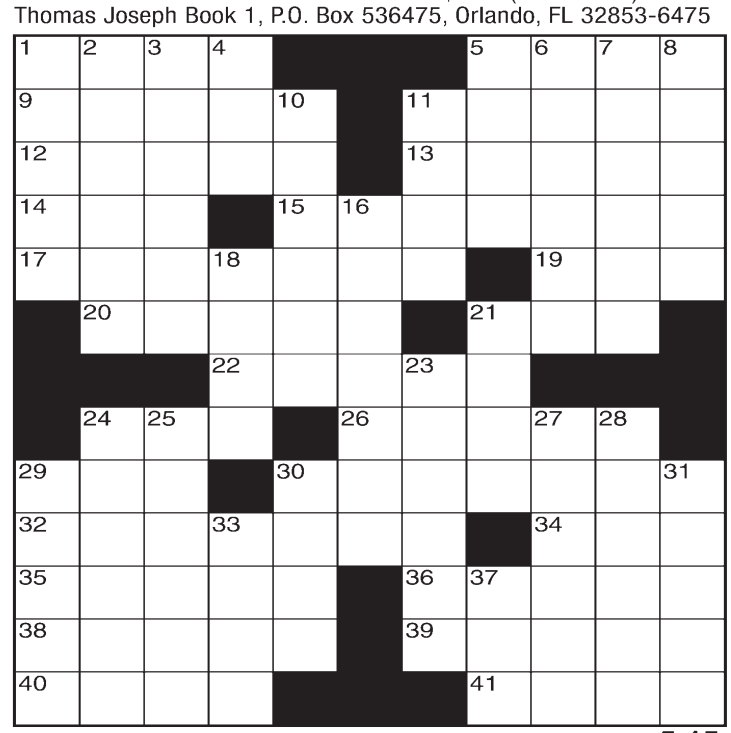
**DOWN**

**1** Humorous
**2** Early calculator
**3** Most rational
**4** Insurance grp.
**5** Scorch
**6** Player in Camden Yards
**7** High-cholesterol dish
**8** Ellington contemporary
**10** Recherché
**11** Ensemble
**16** Craftsman
**18** Walrus feature
**21** Lowly worker
**23** Swiss banking center
**24** Surfer's car
**25** TV's Conan
**27** Drought byproduct
**28** Rugged range
**29** Hide away
**30** Do some modeling
**31** Short putt
**33** Clothing
**37** Skirt edge

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

**Yesterday's answer**

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



5-15

## DAILY LOTTERY

**POWERBALL**
Draw Date: 5/11
6 13 19 23 43
Power#: 16
Jackpot: $360M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 5/10
1 19 20 39 49
Mega#: 28
Jackpot: $170M

**SUPER LOTTO PLUS**
Draw Date: 5/11
30 31 32 34 39
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: $9M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 5/14
2 8 25 30 32

**DAILY 3**
Draw Date: 5/14
MIDDAY: 1 0 8
EVENING: 4 1 1

**SANTA ANITA PARK**
Draw Date: 5/14
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:46.27

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

■ At a Jan. 8 public meeting, Cooper City, Fla., Commissioner Lisa Mallozzi, annoyed with local activist (and former commissioner) Gladys Wilson, told her (according to video and audio of the meeting), "(B)low me." Wilson, 81, said later she did not understand what the phrase meant; Mallozzi said later that she meant only that she needed to blow her nose.

■ Passive possession of child pornography is not a victimless crime, authorities say, because by definition a child had been abused in the creation of the image, but that reasoning was no relief for New Zealander Ronald Clark, who was sentenced to three months in jail in Auckland in April for watching pornographic cartoon videos of short-statured elves and pixies. A child-protection activist acknowledged that no child was harmed in the creation of the Japanese anime artwork, but insisted that it was still injurious because "(I)t's all part of that spectrum." Clark said he wondered if he might also be convicted for viewing sexual stick-figure drawings.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**1953** – Cubmaster Don Murphy organized the first pinewood derby, in Manhattan Beach, California, by Pack 280c.

**1957** – At Malden Island in the Pacific, Britain tests its first hydrogen bomb in Operation Grapple.

**1958** – The Soviet Union launches Sputnik 3.

**1960** – The Soviet Union launches Sputnik 4.

**1963** – Project Mercury: The launch of the final Mercury mission, Mercury-Atlas 9 with astronaut L. Gordon Cooper on board. He becomes the first American to spend more than a day in space.

## WORD UP!

**quacksalver**
**\ KWAK-sal-ver \ , noun;**
1. a charlatan.
2. a quack doctor.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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## Beauty

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## Announcements

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drive-by comedian

## Employment

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## Computers

COMPUTERS..
SR. SOFTWARE ENGRS in Santa Monica, CA. Dsgn/dvlp highly-available web apps for online content delivery system. Reqs: Bachelor's +5 yrs exp. Apply: EdgeCast Networks, Inc., Attn: L. Evans, Job ID#SSE909, 2850 Ocean Park Blvd., Ste. 110, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

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S.M. Large (10' W x 25' L x 8' H) enclosed garage, alley access, 17th & S.M. Blvd., $250/mo., Bret (310)994-5202.

WEST LA Large, bright 2br upper on Barrington near National. Appliances, closed garage, on-site laundry, well maintained building. Near Wholefoods $1800/mo. 310-828-4481 or 310-993-0414 after 6pm.

WLA Spacious 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, upper apt, near SM. Blvd/Bundy. Large bedrooms & baths, stove, fridge, D/W, fireplace, laundry, new carpets, parking, smaller quiet building, $1785/mo Info (310) 828-4481

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## For Rent

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(310)869-7901

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

2104 Ocean Park Blvd. #2. 2Bd + 1Bth. Large top floor unit with hardwood floors. Pet friendly. D/W. Parking. $2075

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1011 Pico Blvd. #18. 2Bd + 1Bth + Loft. SM Art Colony. Modern building. Hardwood floors. Central Air. Two balconies off loft. Underground 2 sxs parking spaces. Laundry onsite. No pets. $2495 p/m.

110 Granville #401. 3Bd + 2.5Bth. Penthouse in Brentwood. Hdwd floors, views, W&D in unit, stainless steel appliances. $3795 p/m

633 Indiana Ave. in Venice. 3Bd + 1Bth. Lower unit in duplex. Pets ok. Hardwood floors. Tandem parking. Laundry onsite. $2550 p/m

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~ William Shakespeare

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* Vaulted Wood Ceilings
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### 1033 Pearl Street
### $1,499,000
### 4 Units in 2 Separate Buildings

* Great Sunset Park location
* Quiet Residential Neighborhood
* Beautifully Maintained
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### 2502 5th Street
### $1,599,000
### 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
### House + 4 Units

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



| Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale as of Mid May 2013 | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Santa Monica Canyon** | = | $ 6,159,750 |
| **North of Montana** | = | $ 4,109,438 |
| **Between Wilshire & Montana** | = | $ 2,364,143 |
| **South of Wilshire** | = | $ 873,00 |
| **Sunset Park** | = | $ 1,491,174 |
| **Ocean Park** | = | $ 2,152,167 |
| **Statistics updated every Friday** | | |

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