Lotus
lotusinterworks.com
We Build Small Biz Apps!
Call 310.442.3330 Today!

"Born and raised in Santa Monica. The only local cab company."
Taxi! Taxi!
310-444-4444
Hybrid • Vans SantaMonicaTaxi.com
Not valid from hotels or with other offers • SM residents only • Expires 12/31/12
SM to LAX $30

smdp.com
THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 160

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

HOME PRICES ON THE RISE
SEE PAGE 3

THE BLACKOUT ISSUE

Tourists account for $1.39B in SM in '11

Some 11,400 jobs supported by one of city's largest industries

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PICO BLVD Just over 6.7 million people visited Santa Monica in 2011 and pumped a record $1.39 billion into the local economy, a 20 percent increase in spending over 2009, according to a report released Wednesday by the Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The report was unveiled at the bureau's third annual Travel and Tourism Summit, held in partnership with Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Marina del Rey and West Hollywood. Organizers highlighted marketing efforts both nationally — Brand USA — and at the state level — Visit California — to drive international tourism and create much-needed jobs that they said could not be outsourced overseas.

"[This year] marks the 30th anniversary of [the] Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau and today we are celebrating just how far our industry has come," said Misti Kerns, president and CEO of the bureau, the taxpayer-funded nonprofit founded in 1982 to help promote Santa Monica as a premier travel destination.

"In 1983, Santa Monica was home to five full-service hotels, the average visitor spent $31 per day and 42 percent of visitors traveled car-free," Kerns added. "Today, Santa Monica has 15 full-service hotels, the average visitor spends $234 per day and 75 percent of Santa Monica hotel visitors never use a car once they are here."

That's good news for the city by the sea as the increased spending helped create 1,700 new jobs in or around the local hospitality industry, a 17.5 percent increase over 2009, the last time the bureau tracked the impacts of

SEE TOURISM PAGE 13



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

CHEESE: **The Route 66 sign on the Santa Monica Pier is a popular destination for visitors.**

Teen Parent Program struggling to hold on

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI A program at Santa Monica High School that supports teen parents and faculty with new children is using innovation to shore up an uncertain funding future, but could use a little help from the community.

The Teen Parent Program at Santa Monica High School gets most of its money from the state, funds which allow Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District employees to provide daycare, education and counseling to teen parents in the district and the Westside.

Many travel by bus to see their children and get the services offered at the Infant Toddler Center, tucked away behind the language building on the Samohi campus.

"I tell them they could write a crazy book about their experiences on public transportation," said Gizelle Graves, the facilitator for the Infant Toddler Program.

The Infant Toddler Program serves 26

SEE PROGRAM PAGE 12

Festival to celebrate all things that make Santa Monica tick

BY SAMANTHA MASUNAGA
Special to the Daily Press

CLOVER PARK The rhythms of bossa nova will blend with the aromas of vegetarian cuisine and possibly the whir of a blender powered by a stationary bike at the 21st Annual Santa Monica Festival this Saturday at Clover Park.

The event celebrates the connections between the business, art and sustainability sectors of the city by the sea and will run from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Organizers are expecting about 7,500 to 9,000 people to attend.

"One of the main themes of this festival is bringing the community together," said Allison Ostrovsky, cultural affairs supervisor for City Hall.

SEE FESTIVAL PAGE 10


Andrew Thurm
COLDWELL BANKER
310.442.1651
AndrewThurm@aol.com


We Cure Property Management Headaches
Contact: 2010 Realtor of the Year
Robert Kronovet
Kronovet Realty
310-829-9303
Info@Kronovet.com

$12.95 SIZZLING DINNER
SPECIALS... COOL PRICES!
SERVED FROM 4 PM
SOUP OR SALAD, CHOICE OF ENTRÉE & BEVERAGE
DELI TO THE STARS
IZZY'S
1433 Wilshire Boulevard, at 15th Street
310-394-1131 OPEN 24 HOURS

Family Dentistry

General, Cosmetic, & Implant Dentistry

MODERN, COMFORTABLE AND RELAXED ATMOSPHERE

Gentle Dentistry | Sedation Available | Digital Technology | Smile Makeover | Flexible Financing

SANTA MONICA TOOTH DOCTOR

Basic Cleaning, Exam and full Mouth Xrays

$65.00

Free Cosmetic Consultation

– Modern facilities, gentle dentistry, sedation

Ali Mogharei DDS

(310) 829-2224

2222 SANTA MONICA BLVD, SUITE 202, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

Check our monthly promotions on our website **www.santamonicatoothdr.com**

NOW CALLING ALL DANCERS, SINGERS, & ACTORS TO BECOME...

A CHORUS LINE

SUMMER CAMP 2012

Sing, dance, create art projects, enjoy the summer sun, & put on a musical!

July 9th-Aug 3rd, 10a-3pm, Monday-Thursday

CAMP SHOW FRIDAY EVENING AUGUST 3rd

Campers ages 7-15 yrs old – $795/camper (includes camp t-shirt)

Pre-camp yoga available 9am-10am daily for an additional $230/4 weeks

The Pretenders Studios -

Register by May 1st - *310.450.1800*

1635 16th Street, Santa Monica CA 90404

"Supporting Santa Monica, Support your community."

SkyCar LIMO

Towncars and Vans

- Beautiful Towncars and Vans
- Reservations required
- Charter/Party service
- Call for value pricing

$35

LOCAL TOWNCAR SERVICE

Santa Monica to LAX

(add $10 for pickup from LAX)

(310) 828-3333

www.passengerswanted.net



Your Trusted Source

Adult Day Service Center

The right choice for quality care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.

1527 4th St., 2nd Floor • Santa Monica

WISE & Healthy Aging

(310) 394-9871

Enjoy a Free Preview Day on Us!

www.wiseandhealthyaging.org

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Calming class
Douglas Park Clubhouse
2439 Wilshire Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Learn the secrets of Tibetan Buddhist meditation during this practice session. A book study will also be held during the by-donation event. For more information,
call (310) 451-4368.

Awareness on screen
Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave., times vary
The FILManthropy Festival is a unique event for instigating and inspiring change by showcasing films that inspire, educate, raise awareness and motivate, so that audiences may open their minds and their hearts to creating a better world. The FILManthropy Festival encourages patrons to not only watch these inspiring films, but to do something — to work for change.
For a schedule of films and screening times, visit filmanthropyfestival.org.

Starting fresh
Museum of Flying
3100 Airport Ave.,
6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
In honor of its 30-year anniversary celebration, the Cancer Support Community–Benjamin Center is bringing together two exceptional artists — Janet Roberts and Billy Zane — for an exclusive gallery event to benefit the organization. Showcasing 15 environmentally-friendly paintings from each artist, proceeds will help sustain free-of-charge programs offered at West L.A.'s CSC-Benjamin Center. For more information,
call (310) 314-2555.

Friday, May 18, 2012

Bowling for benefits
AMF Bayshore Lanes
234 Pico Blvd., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Santa Monica-Malibu Substitute Teachers are holding a fundraiser dubbed Bowling for Benefits Two. There will be unlimited bowling, free shoe rental and prizes for just $20 per bowler. Proceeds go to help local subs. For more information, call (310) 395-1528.

Dance, dance, dance
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7 p.m.
Santa Monica College's Global Motion World Dance Company presents "Olakino," a program of choreography from across the globe. "Olakino," Hawaiian for "health," reflects the 2011-12 SMC Global Citizenship theme of "Health, Wellness & the Pursuit of Happiness." This performance also takes place on Saturday. For more information, call (310) 434-3467.

Fine wine
Ruskin Group Theatre
3000 Airport Ave.,
8 p.m. — 10 p.m.
"Sideways the Play," adapted by Rex Pickett from his own novel, follows two friends — Miles and Jack — on their journey across the Santa Ynez wine country on one last blowout trip before Jack gets married. Along the way, Miles and Jack must face their uncertain futures … just as soon as they figure out how to survive their chaotic present. For more information, call (310) 397-3244.

Sweating it out
Senior Recreation Center
1450 Ocean Ave.,
9 a.m. — 10 a.m.
Seniors are invited to this low-impact aerobic exercise program that works all parts of the body, from head to toe. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

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

CIVIC CENTER

Work crew causes power outage

A construction crew working on the Palisades Garden Walk park on Wednesday at noon struck underground power lines causing an outage that affected just over 3,000 customers, a spokesperson with Southern California Edison said.

The outage struck a wide area of the city, from 20th Street in the east, Ocean Avenue to the west. Marine Street to the south and Arizona Avenue to the north.

Edison restored power by mid-afternoon to all but 50 customers as of 5 p.m. on Wednesday.

The outage forced Santa Monica High School administrators to send students home early for the day.

DANIEL ARCHULETA

CITYWIDE

Vacancy spurs candidate search

Applications are now available for a position on the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women.

The nine-member commission advises the City Council and city officials on issues relating to women and girls, while also implementing its own 2010-15 Strategic Plan.

This plan outlines key priorities for women and girls in Santa Monica, including domestic violence and safety issues, mentoring and leadership opportunities.

Candidates must be Santa Monica residents and committed to attending meetings, which are held every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Additional project participation will also be necessary to accomplish the Strategic Plan.

Applications are available at City Hall, 1685 Main St., in the lobby's information booth or in the City Clerk's Office, room 102. Forms may also be sent via mail as per request by calling (310) 458-8211, or filled out online at www.smgov.net/cityclerk.

SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

MID-CITY

Santa Monica-UCLA opens new building

A new medical building with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council was recently added to the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

The three-story, 50,000-square-foot building, located at 1223 16th St., houses eight operating rooms for outpatient surgery, a linear accelerator used for radiation treatment, a laboratory and pharmacy. The building also contains clinical offices for the Food & Drug Allergy Care Center, Center for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, in addition to departments like sleep medicine and nephrology.

In addition to its functional capabilities, the building was also noted for its green features, like its efficient water systems, construction with recycled and locally-sourced materials and a rooftop photovoltaic system that provides about 15 percent of the building's energy needs.

This is the first structure in the UCLA Health System with LEED Gold recognition, hospital officials said.

Architects relied on modernist design for the building's atrium and material choices, which include glass, steel, concrete and bamboo.

The structure also contains a fully automated parking system, which parks and retrieves cars not unlike a giant vending machine. Visitors pull into one of six parking platforms, exit their cars and the system automatically places the car into a space specific to its size. When leaving, visitors can swipe their parking ticket and wait until their car is retrieved.

This system can accommodate 385 cars with a 50 percent smaller footprint than that of conventional garages.

SM

SoCal home prices climb in April

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO Southern California home pricevs increased in April as the supply of properties for sale — especially low-cost homes in foreclosure — remained tight, a research firm said Wednesday.

The median price for new and existing homes and condominiums in the six-county region climbed to $290,000, up 3.6 percent from the same period last year, DataQuick said.

It was the first annual increase in 16 months and matched the highest price since December 2010.

There were 19,284 homes sold, up 5.1 percent from a year earlier.

DataQuick said there were fewer sales of foreclosed properties, which tend to go for lower prices. Higher-priced coastal markets also showed signs of improvement.

"The housing market continued its painfully slow crawl

SEE **HOMES** PAGE 12



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

GIVING PROPS: **Pacifica Christian's John Register (right) is congratulated by his teammates after hitting a grand slam during a 30-0 playoff victory over Newbury Park Adventist on Wednesday at North Venice Little League.**

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Pacifica Christian baseball cruises in playoff opener

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

VENICE Pacifica Christian blew past Newbury Park Adventist, 30-0, Wednesday in the wild card round of the CIF-Southern Section Division 7 baseball playoffs at North Venice Little League.

The game was called after five innings sending Pacifica Christian on to the first round to face North County Christian on Friday on the road.

Pacifica Christian finished the regular season as the second place team in the Heritage League.

ST. MONICA SOFTBALL SENT PACKING

St. Monica's softball team was eliminated in the wild card round of the CIF-SS Division 5 playoffs, 1-0, by Marymount on Tuesday at Memorial Park.

St. Monica finishes the season with a 12-11 overall record.

daniela@smdp.com

RECYCLE NOW!
Aluminum Cans
$1.80 per pound with
this coupon expires 5-31-12
Aluminum Plastic Glass Bi-Metal Newspaper
CardboardWhite/Color/Computer Paper Copper & Brass
Santa Monica Recycling Center
2411 Delaware Avenue in Santa Monica
(310) 453-9677
CLOVERFIELD MICHIGAN 24TH DELAWARE AVE. 10 WEST

TAXES
ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Step up enforcement, education

Editor:

I have written a few times about the practices of bike riders and their lack of obedience of the traffic laws, which I do feel is more from their ignorance of the law than anything and that points a bit of responsibility back to the city for lack of education.

I read today a letter from a biker complaining about runners using the bike lanes ("Bike lanes just for bikes," Letters to the Editor, May 14)), which again I feel is lack of information diffusion to the community by the city. I personally don't know whether or not runners are allowed to run in bike lanes, but going back to my original and chief complaint, bikers are still blatantly violating laws by running stop signs, riding on sidewalks, and again I have repeatedly seen SMPD officers do nothing about it.

We need education and enforcement of the law. This is getting dangerous and as I have said before, it will be very unfortunate if it takes a near fatal or fatal accident to see the city do something. We invest so heavily in things that bring the city more revenue, but how about investment on keeping our citizens safe?

I was driving the other day and approached a four-way stop. I came to a full and complete stop and noticed bikers approaching from another direction and thought I would conduct a small, controlled experiment. I knew they wouldn't stop but having the right of way, proceeded (at a speed safe enough to not hit them) and sure enough, he and his friend (men in their 50s and old enough to know better) ran the stop sign and yelled at me. When I pulled over and rolled down my window and told him that in fact he needed to stop at the sign the same as motorists, he laughed me off (and flipped me off).

I wonder if a cop had been there if they would have ticketed them, but this is my plea to the SMPD, please start avidly ticketing cyclists with the same determination that you do motorists who disobey traffic laws. And City Hall, please spend some money on signage and education of cyclists and make sure that any and everyone on a bike knows the laws they need to obey and we will have a safer, more synergetic community with motorists and cyclists.

Alex Fieglein
Santa Monica

Paying for murder

Editor:

RE: "Attack on conscience," Letter to the Editor, by Anita C. Cuttler, May 14.

I have no sympathy for people who claim their conscience tells them to deny women their right to choose. I might have some sympathy for their beliefs (not their actions that deny women the right to their own bodies) if I found any sympathy for mine, especially my deeply held pacifist beliefs.

The pro-fetus-ers scream and yell about the death of a fetus, but say nothing when it comes to war. My tax dollars go to murders and killings and still I must pay and pay and pay my taxes. I don't get the choice of "exempt" or sending all my tax money to social programs, or other options. I must pay for murder of full human beings.

When I get an option to send my tax dollars to programs that do not include the killing of others, I will find sympathy for the pro-fetus-ers' beliefs, and support legislation that exempts them from paying for abortions. Until then, they can swallow their attacks of conscience just like I have had to swallow mine for over 40 years of being a committed pacifist.

Kathryn Kosmeya-Dodge
Santa Monica



Life Matters

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

Dog house for husband

DEAR LIFE MATTERS,

I am furious with my husband because he did not give me anything for Mother's Day! Not even flowers. The kids gave me things that they had made me in school and we all went to breakfast that he paid for, but I have a 6-month-old little boy. You would think he would notice and get a clue. I am barely speaking to him and he has asked me "what is wrong?" I just say nothing or "you should know." I don't want to stay mad, how do I let this go and how do I get him to see his own behavior?

Thank you,
Very Angry

DEAR VERY ANGRY,

You are clearly very upset, which makes me wonder about a few things. First, what were you expecting for Mother's Day? Obviously, you expected something more, but why? Is it because you have received gifts from your husband in the past? Or perhaps this is what your father did with your mother? Or is it because you saw what some of your friends got and you didn't?

No pun intended, but expectation is the mother of disappointment!

Do yourself a favor and think about this, and then I think you will begin to realize that while you may feel angry, you are probably more hurt or scared. There is usually hurt or fear or both underlying anger. We prefer to get angry because it makes us feel more powerful. Do yourself a favor and try to be a little more introspective before talking to him, or worse yet, blowing up at him.

Second, what has been going on in your marriage? It is unusual to be this hurt if you are really getting along and communicating well.

Often, men get hurt and jealous when there is a new child. But mothers can get hurt too if they feel that they are not getting the support and help they need. If this is going on, but it only comes out in fighting or through sarcasm, then maybe your husband is angry and didn't want to give you a gift. Could he be angry with you for being a good mother but forgetting to be his wife? This is just something to consider. Also take into account whether you have already been angry with him before this incident occurred. Again, I don't know if you have received gifts in the past, but if you have, this might be a clue.

You mentioned that you have a 6-month-old son; there is no question that they can steal away a lot of our attention. Actually, a lot if not most of marital problems start with the first child because of the radical changes in your relationship. You are no longer a romantic dyad but now you have a triangle. Triangles are always difficult to negotiate, but with an infant negotiation is near impossible, therefore things can be really rough. You mentioned other children, so a question I have for you is how did you do with the first kids? Were there any problems in your marriage that you perhaps never resolved?

OFTEN, MEN GET HURT AND JEALOUS WHEN THERE IS A NEW CHILD. BUT MOTHER'S CAN GET HURT TOO IF THEY FEEL THAT THEY ARE NOT GETTING THE SUPPORT AND HELP THEY NEED.

Lastly, with all due respect, I don't know of any place where it is written that a gift is expected from our husbands on Mother's Day. It really depends on the couple.

So when you write about his bad behavior, I'm unsure of what you mean. Do you mean his disappointing you, or hurting your feelings? After reflecting on what this all means to you and what you are hurt about or what your fears might be, tell him in a calm, non-accusatory way. The real secret to staying in love is communication. This is something you need to start and soon. Don't withhold from your husband; talk to him.

Finally, if you are having trouble communicating the way you know that you need to, seek couples counseling. Don't wait until it is too late and please remember that it takes two to make a relationship.

I hope this helps you let go, and to forget about changing his behavior; just start talking and see if you can't become good friends again.

Good luck.

Dr. **JOANNE** Barge is a licensed psychologist and a licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or e-mail your anonymous questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Ashley Archibald
ashley@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Ron Hooks, Taylor Van Arsdale, Merv Hecht, Cynthia Citron, Tom Viscount, Michael Ryan, JoAnne Barge, Katrina Davy

NEWS INTERN
Samantha Masunaga
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

VICE PRESIDENT–BUSINESS OPERATIONS
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Chelsea Fujitaki
chelsea@smdp.com
Justin Harris
justin@smdp.com

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Michele Emch
michele.e@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
We have you covered

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

smdp.com

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2012. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

© 2012 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

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



Back to Nature

Reese Halter
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Colorado's Rocky Mountain high

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL Park in Colorado straddles the great continental divide. It's home to the headwaters of the mighty Colorado River. This southern Rocky Mountain park is dominated by rugged peaks, evergreen forests and breath-taking alpine tundra.

Summers can be warm with lightning and thunderstorms and winters can be cold. This high elevation park sits between 7,800 and 11,800 feet above sea level.

As you enter the park heading west on U.S. Route 36, be sure to get out of the vehicle; stop, smell and listen. On a warm summer's day the breezy air is filled with the butter-scotch scent of ponderosa pine. These mag-nificent, three-needles-in-a-bundle, prickly, barreled-shaped cones and furrowed russet bark trees stand proud, guarding the gateway to the west. Listen to the wind and experience what John Muir, mountaineer and naturalist extraordinaire, wrote: "This species gives forth the finest music to the winds."

Ponderosa pine is a very interesting tree that grows across the American West and up into southern British Columbia. It is fast growing in its youth yet very long lived, eas-ily exceeding 600 years. That is a rare trait in the tree world. Moreover, these water spe-cialists thrive in drier ecosystems, along with Rocky Mountain Douglas-firs and grasses.

Ponderosa pines and Rocky Mountain Douglas-firs evolved with frequent, low intensity surface fires. They do this by hold-ing their branches at least 20 feet above the forest floor and 16-inch thick bark provides excellent insulation against the heat of the fast moving surface fires.

There are over half a million lightning strikes each summer in the southerly Rockies. Many of the ponderosa ecosystems on the east side of the park have been allowed to burn and so these forests resem-ble the grandeur of the ecosystem and the natural fire cycle.

Most ponderosa forests across the West, however, have been prevented from burning for the past 90 years or so. They are over-crowded, susceptible to disease and prone to insect attacks. When fire re-enters these forests, the seedlings and saplings growing underneath the mature ponderosa and Rocky Mountain Douglas-fir trees act as a ladder enabling fire to get into the treetops or crowns. Ponderosa pines and Rocky Mountain Douglas-firs have not evolved to contend with crown fires. The high intensity fires burning today across the west are killing mature ponderosa and Rocky Mountain Douglas-firs, removing seed sources and scorching forest floors.

As you travel along Route 36 it passes the edge of Beaver Meadow. In the autumn it is a renowned location to watch the 1,100-pound bull elk or "wapiti" — Shawnee for white deer — sparing for the rights to mate with a harem. The high-pitched bugle of rutting males sounds like the ancient forest primeval attracting thousands of visitors in October.

Rocky Mountain National Park has exquisite high elevation subalpine forests that are perfectly engineered for snow and cold weather. The pungent mountain air smells of subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce. These beauties with their tall spire-like crowns, evolved to shed snow and also hold it, dominate the high country.

Lodgepole pines, named because the Native Americans used the straight trunks to hold up their teepees, also live in these mar-velous snow forests. Lodgepole pines are specially adapted to crown fires. Their cones open from the heat of fires providing viable seeds, which quickly germinate and re-colo-nize burnt-over lands.

The trees that live almost 2.2 miles above sea level at the top of the southerly Rockies are the venerable limber pines. They handle extreme cold, blasting winds filled with shards of ice particles and scalding summer sun. Admirable limber pines can live for well over 1,000 years.

These majestic subalpine forests of the southerly Rockies are crucial because they retain snow and release it very slowly in the spring and summer. This runoff feeds the headwaters of the Colorado River, which is arguably the most important river in the U.S. and certainly without a doubt the major fresh-water river of the American West. The melt water from this river alone sustains tens of millions of people including the entire cities of Las Vegas, Phoenix, Tucson and San Diego.

Alarmingly, global warming has caused a steady decline, over the past 50 years, in the amount of snow received in the southern Rockies. Climate experts have predicted by 2035 that the Rocky Mountain snowpack could be further reduced by 60 percent, cut-ting summertime flow in half. Moreover, the harbingers of global warming — indigenous tree-killing bark beetles — have laced into the park and its plentiful food source, pine trees. Rising temperatures across the West have enabled adaptable mountain pine bee-tles an opportunity to speed up their breed-ing cycles; now two generation within one year.

Rocky Mountain National Park is about a 90-minute drive north of Denver. It's a spec-tacular place to explore nature this summer with your family.

Dr **REESE** Halter is a distinguished conservation biologist and author of the award-winning "The Insatiable Bark Beetle," Rocky Mountain Books.

The Q Line

Pulling away

There's a movement gaining speed that is calling for Malibu to pull away from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you oppose the district splitting up, or do you think it's time for Malibu to break off?

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**.

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$1 EXAM
includes FULL XRAYS AND INVISALIGN CONSULTATION
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
No need to be embarrassed if you haven't been in for a long time complex cases welcome
"NO HASSLE" DENTAL INSURANCE PROCESSING
We will take care of all your insurance paperwork
WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide provided as a courtesy
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to
AND OF COURSE WE DO
-Invisalign -Periodontist on Staff -Oral Surgeon on Staff
-Cosmetics and Implants -Zoom bleaching -and more
SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589
WILSHIRE BLVD. 15TH ST. 14TH ST. ARIZONA AVE.
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM







Google strives to enlighten with new search tool

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Google is introducing a new tool, designed to make its search engine smarter.

The new feature debuting Wednesday draws from a Google-built database of more than 500 million people, places and commonly requested things to provide a summary of vital information alongside the main search results.

Google Inc. spent the past two years poring through online encyclopedia Wikipedia, the CIA Factbook and other sources to expand a database of 12 million items that it picked up as part of its 2010 acquisition of Metaweb.

The information warehouse, which Google calls a "Knowledge Graph," is an attempt by the Internet's dominant search engine to provide answers as quickly and concisely as possible so users don't have to sift through a hodgepodge of Web links displayed on the main results page.

The nuggets of information will appear in boxes to the right of the main search results. Google will gradually roll out the feature to its logged-in users in the U.S. during the next few days before extending it to a wider audience.

The changes come as one of Google's biggest rivals, Internet social networking leader Facebook Inc., prepares to complete an initial public offering of stock that is dominating the technology spotlight. The Knowledge Graph's unveiling comes a week after the second-largest search engine, Microsoft Corp.'s Bing, announced an overhaul that will highlight more information mined from Facebook — insights that typically don't show up in Google's results.

The Knowledge Graph will work in different ways.

If a person enters a search request, such as "kings," that can be interpreted in several ways, Google will now display a box on the right side of the page listing several other options, such as the Los Angeles Kings hockey team, the Sacramento Kings basketball team and the Kings TV show. Clicking on any of these choices will deliver results exclusively devoted to that topic.

Queries on specific people or places will generate thumbnails that list key statistics about the topic. Google bases its assumption on what people are most likely to want to know on an analysis of past search requests.

Google is hailing the Knowledge Graph as an important step in Internet search's evolution. The company is trying to make the difficult transition from merely presenting a list of Web links to delivering the kinds of responses that people expect when they pose a question to an expert.

"This used to be the stuff of dreams because we didn't really know how to accomplish it," said Amit Singhal, a Google fellow who has been studying search for 22 years. "The dream has always been to understand things like you and I do, so this this really feels like a sea change."

The Knowledge Graph also will help address another problem vexing Google.

As websites seeking traffic have learned to manipulate commonly requested search terms, their links have been appearing more frequently on the first page of Google's results, even though they might not have the most relevant information. Google periodically tries to remove the rubbish by tweaking its ranking system, only to have websites figure out new ways to outfox the search formula.

If the Knowledge Graph works like it's supposed to, it will give visitors less reason to leave Google's website.

Although Google says that isn't its main objective, anything that gives people a reason to hang around for longer periods, and perhaps enter more search requests, promises to help the company make more money. Google distributes ads all over the Web, but it reaps its highest profit margins from commercial links that are clicked on its own website.

Anything that keeps people on Google longer is likely to amplify complaints that the company is more interested in promoting its own services than pointing visitors to other helpful Internet destinations.

Singhal doesn't see it that way. "As we answer more of our users' questions, we save them time," he said. "Time is the only quantity that we can't make more of. When people save time, people search more. The Web gets more traffic and all boats rise."





New scrutiny for nuke plant as restart looms

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The idled San Onofre nuclear power plant is facing new scrutiny from Congress as the utility that operates it moves closer to proposing a fix to get the twin reactors back in service.

The chair of the U.S. Senate's environment committee pressed federal regulators Tuesday to disclose details about the design of the plant's troubled steam generators, in which hundreds of tubes that carry radioactive water have been damaged by unexpected vibration and friction.

Meanwhile, operator Southern California Edison said it was working toward meeting federal benchmarks that could open the way for a restart of at least one of the reactors, perhaps in time to meet summer power demand.

The twin reactors, located along the coast between San Diego and Los Angeles, have been shut down for more than three months while investigators try to determine the cause of the unusual tube wear.

On Tuesday, Sen. Barbara Boxer asked Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko for documentation on how the federal agency reviewed a series of modifications to the generators, which might be the culprit in the mechanical trouble. Boxer, who chairs the Environment and Public Works Committee, sent a similar letter to SCE parent Edison International.

At issue is whether Edison sidestepped any federal requirements by conducting extensive design changes, a claim leveled by an environmental group that said the alterations are at the heart of the plant's problems.

"Concerns have been raised that design changes in the steam generators contributed to accelerated wear in tubes carrying radioactive water," wrote Boxer, D-Calif. "The determination to restart the San Onofre reactors must ensure the safety of the millions of Californians who live and work near the plant."

A 13-page report issued by Friends of the Earth, a group critical of the nuclear industry, warned that running the plant at reduced power would not resolve problems with badly worn tubing.

Earlier this month Edison announced a tentative plan to restart and run the seaside reactors at lower power, at least for several months, because engineers believe that will ease vibration that could be eroding tubes.

The four generators at San Onofre each have nearly 10,000 alloy tubes that carry radioactive water.

The generators function something like a car radiator, which controls heat in a vehicle's engine. The generator tubes circulate hot, radioactive water from the reactors, which heats a bath of non-radioactive water surrounding them. That makes steam, which is used to turn turbines to make electricity.

The tubes represent a critical safety barrier — if a tube breaks, there is the potential that radioactivity can escape into the atmosphere.

The Friends of the Earth report also expanded an earlier allegation that Edison misled federal regulators about the modifications, a claim disputed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the company.

The trouble began to unfold in January, when the Unit 3 reactor was shut down as a precaution after a tube break. Traces of radiation escaped at the time, but officials said there was no danger to workers or neighbors. Unit 2 had been taken offline earlier that month for maintenance, but investigators later found unexpected wear on hundreds of tubes in both units.

The NRC has said there is no timetable to restart the reactors, which were replaced in 2009 and 2010 in a $670 million overhaul.

The report, written by Vermont-based nuclear consultants Fairewinds Associates, suggested the best alternatives might be scrapping and replacing the costly equipment, or spending as much as $400 million on repairs.

"Power reductions do not solve underlying and serious degradation problems," the report said, warning that running at reduced power could spread the damage and result in tube fractures.

Gradual wear is common in such tubing, but the rate of erosion at San Onofre alarmed officials since the equipment is relatively new. The company last week said more than 1,300 tubes will be taken out of service, a far higher number than previously disclosed, but that number is well within the margin to allow the generators to keep operating.

The generators were designed specifically to meet a federal test to qualify as "in-kind," or essentially identical, replacements, which allowed them to be installed without prior approval from federal regulators.

The report said a string of complex modifications involving tubes and supports should have triggered a more extensive review by the government, including public hearings, but did not.

In a statement, NRC spokesman Victor Dricks said the company informed the agency of the steam generator design changes "in accordance with NRC requirements," and that portions of the design were reviewed by federal inspectors during the installation. He added that a team of investigators is reviewing those changes as part of its probe into tube wear at the plant.

The agency announced Tuesday it was launching a routine review of analyses that Edison performed during the past three years for changes in plant equipment or procedures that could affect safety. The review was not prompted by the problems with the generators.

State officials have warned of possible power shortages in the region this summer while the plant remains dark.

Edison said in a statement that "the health and safety of the public and employees is the number one priority for San Onofre."

AC Construction
General Contractor | Residential & Commercial Construction
Remodeling & New Additions | Free Estimates
310.278.5380
LIC# 801884 • FULLY INSURED

Local, Secure, and Family run for over 30 years
SANTA MONICA MINI STORAGE Established in 1978
(310) 450-1515
1620 14th st. Santa Monica, CA 90404
www.SantaMonicaMiniStorage.com

EXPLORE
METRO EXPO LINE NOW OPEN
Metro Briefs
WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

All Aboard Metro's Expo Line!
Take advantage of direct and convenient rail service between Downtown LA and the Westside on Metro's new Expo Line. Discover Culver City's dining scene, Expo Park museums, downtown nightlife and more. Plan your trip at *metro.net*.

Subway Extension, Regional Connector Approved
Metro's Board of Directors approved the final environmental impact reports for both the Westside Subway Extension to the Mid-Wilshire area and the Regional Connector through Downtown LA. Both rail projects are now a step closer to awarding contracts and beginning construction. More details are available at *metro.net/westside* and *metro.net/regionalconnector*.

Work Scheduled for Wilshire Ramps to I-405
Construction is getting underway to build new on- and off-ramps at Wilshire Boulevard as part of the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project between the I-10 and US-101 freeways. The project adds a 10-mile HOV lane on the northbound I-405. For more information on construction schedules and upcoming closures, visit *metro.net/405*.

Take Expo Line to Cleopatra Exhibit
Ride the new Expo Line to Expo Park/USC Station to see Cleopatra: The Exhibition at the California Science Center, starting May 23. Discover more than 100 priceless Egyptian artifacts, including colossal statues, jewelry and coins from Cleopatra's lost palace in Alexandria. For details on the exhibit and how to save on tickets, visit *metro.net/discounts*.

Bike to Work Day – May 17, 2012
Show your pedal power for Bike to Work Day on Thursday, May 17. Metro and community partners will host pit stops for two-wheeled commuters throughout Los Angeles County, with snacks and bicycle resource information. For more information about Bike Week events and pit stop locations, check *metro.net/bikeweek*.

Metro
If you'd like to know more, visit *metro.net*.

HUNGER READS THE MORNING PAPER, TOO.
1 IN 6 AMERICANS STRUGGLES WITH HUNGER.
TOGETHER WE'RE FEEDING AMERICA

SAVE YOUR MONEY AND ONE DAY IT'LL RETURN THE FAVOR.
FEEDTHEPIG.ORG

Keep it positive!
POSITIVE EXISTENCE Printing & Design Experts 310-314-3537 www.peprinting.com
Celebrating 18 years of providing quality printing solutions to Santa Monica businesses.

Simply Roasted Whole Foods

• All natural prime roast beef – The best you'll ever eat!
• Fresh roasted turkey breast • Certified angus beef
• Organic vegetables roasted to perfection
• Free-range chicken breast

"WHERE SLIDERS RULE"
147 South Barrington Ave, LA, CA 90049
Located near Sunset in the Brentwood Village
Phone (310) 476-1100 | Fax (310) 476-9400



Now Open!

ROAST
DELI & MARKET

LUNCH SPECIALS





Chicken Teriyaki & Vegetable Tempura
Served with miso soup, rice and small salad. $6.75

Salmon Miso
Salmon Teriyaki with Sweet Miso Sauce
Served with miso soup and corn tempura $8.95

Chirashi Sushi
Assorted Sashimi over rice
Served with miso soup and corn tempura $12.95

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
11:30a to 12:30p – Free Soft Drink

Free Regular Sushi Roll or Hand Roll
With Any Purchase
Original Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase
Expiration 5/31/12

oops! SUSHI & SAKE BAR

310.478.8991
11670 W Gateway Blvd. | Los Angeles CA 90064
www.oopssushi.com

Free Hearing Test

Audiometric Testing
Video Otoscopy
Visual Hearing
All Free Battery

FREE

Modus Hearing Aids
3130 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90006 M to F, 9 to 5

323-731-6842

Call Now! Make an appointment

30% to 40% Lower Price Guaranty Ken Lee, UCLA graduated, Board Certified



Starkey S
Directional Mic
Noise Reduction
Digital Speech Map

Analog
BTE $360



Oticon and Phonak
Next Generation Noise Reduction
Dual Directional Mic and No Feedback

Up to 18M No Interest, Up to 60 M Instalment

Don't Shout! I can help you.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Civic Center Parking Structure Lighting Upgrade Project
SP2245

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **May 25, 2012**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

RECOMMENDED PRE-BID JOB WALK:
May 17, 2012 at 1:00 PM
330 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $200,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 35 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $500.00 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have a **C-10** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.



Culture Watch

Sarah Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

They love Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES IS MISUNDERSTOOD. Paraphrasing Woody Allen, it's dismissed as having no culture except for yogurt, or simply dissed as La La Land, paparazzi paradise, a city without a center — and the list goes on.

But there's one couple dedicated to a deeper appreciation of Los Angeles, its social history, crimes, literature, architecture and more.

In addition to the company they run — Esotouric: Bus Adventures into the Secret Heart of Los Angeles — Kim Cooper and Richard Schave have devoted themselves to "demythifying" this megalopolis through popular blogs, cultural salons and championing community causes.

Richard's L.A. obsession began as a student at Santa Monica's Crossroads School. "I always wanted to go downtown," he told me during lunch at the 18th Street Coffee House. "Anytime I met a friend who could drive, I'd say let's go see the old movie houses on Broadway, but no one was interested."

Back then, no one went downtown. It was seedy and scary. But Richard memorized page 634 of the Thomas Guide, covering downtown L.A.'s historic core.

Growing up in Venice, Kim loved the downtown library, but she had to sneak out to get there. Being discouraged from going only made downtown a more desirable destination for her.

Kim and Richard met and despised one another at UC Santa Cruz in the late 1980s. Kim said, "He looked like this English schoolboy, riding a bike with a basket and a cricket hat on his head," and Richard added, "She just seemed impossible." But they had some friends and professors in common, including renowned architecture critic and lover of L.A., Reyner Banham.

Years passed, and thanks to one shared friend, they ended up at a party together. Though each remembered how much they hated one another, they found themselves attracted to one another and sharing their passion for the real Los Angeles.

TURNKEY YEAR

After following an eclectic career path, Richard received a degree in computer science from Cal State L.A.; Kim had done curatorial work at the Museum of Contemporary Art but "I didn't like to be supervised." She started creating "zines," hip niche publications, later selling thrift store collectibles on eBay.

And she had an idea for a book; 1947 was the year of the still-galvanizing Black Dahlia murder and the killing of mobster Bugsy Siegel. "I was sitting on this book proposal for 10 years," Kim told me, "looking at L.A. in 1947, a turnkey year, as you look through the filter of the city's criminal history, to understand its social history and how it developed. It was a time when women were entering the work force, the growth of the suburbs, major demographic shifts in the population."

She mentioned the forgotten kidnapping of a young Compton girl, whose skeleton was later discovered in the desert, and a murder/suicide by a traumatized veteran in Los Feliz who lost his cool because of a burned roast. "No one remembers these stories," she said. "In small towns, big crimes are what everyone remembers, they become memory maps for the community, but this sense of community and continuance is lost in L.A."

Kim began reading newspapers on microfilm in Glendale until Richard's father loaned her his UCLA faculty library card, and wrote a story a day about L.A.'s criminal history on the corresponding 1947 date.

With his computer science degree, Richard convinced Kim that a book was old school and she should blog instead. "So I wrote my girlfriend a blogging engine," and Kim recruited the mutual friend who reintroduced them, a historic preservationist, to document the scenes of the crimes she was writing about as they look today. This became a popular blog called "The 1947 Project," 1947project.com.

At dinner with friends, the idea of a bus tour to these crime locations came up — and Esotouric (Kim's title) was born. After early trial and error, Richard began refining the five-hour excursions into "three-act plays" with a narrative structure and stops along the way for specialty snacks, and they began adding literary and architectural tours to their line up.

Their hands-down most popular tour is the Black Dahlia, but other neighborhood true crime and literary tours (Charles Bukowski's L.A.; James M. Cain and the Birth of L.A. Noir) also bring in the crowds.

Through their volunteer work curating the Downtown Art Walk over an 18-month period (they're no longer involved), they connected with a group of cultural creatives, inspiring them to create LAVA: L.A. Visionary Association, where artists and others list specialty L.A. events online. This resulted in a series of monthly salons at Clifton's Cafeteria, free to anyone wishing to enjoy intellectual conversations about L.A.'s culture.

When Clifton's closed for renovations, their relationship with a LAVA member morphed into their newest venture, a quarterly literary salon honoring the storied history of Musso and Frank's restaurant in Hollywood. Stanley Rose's bookstore next door and the Writers Guild, then across the street, helped set the scene for "The Algonquin Roundtable West," a small private room in the back where only the greatest writers of the 20th century were allowed to enter and drink: Hemingway, Faulkner, Fante and "Day of the Locust" author Nathanael West among them.

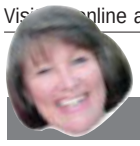
This weekend, May 19 and 20, Esotouric offers a pair of tours delving deep into L.A.'s noir past, from the fictional spaces inhabited by Raymond Chandler's legendary 1940s detective Philip Marlowe to the real-life horrors of the San Gabriel Valley's true crime scenes, "Raymond Chandler's L.A.," and "Blood and Dumplings." Find out more here: www.esotouric.com or (213) 373-1947.

ALPERT AWARDS

Last Friday in Santa Monica, The Herb Alpert Foundation and California Institute of the Arts gave their 18th annual Alpert Award in the Arts to five exceptional mid–career artists, each receiving a $75,000 award, including Nora Chipaumire, dance; Eisa Davis, theatre; Kevin Everson, film/video; Myra Melford, music; and Michael Smith, visual arts.

"This year's winners represent the essence of the Alpert Award," Alpert said. "They take aesthetic, intellectual and political risks, and challenge worn-out conventions. They're unafraid of the unknown."

Sarah Spitz is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She reviews theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.



Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Two evenings, lots of people

IN MY VIEW, IT'S CAUSE FOR rejoicing when a play is beautifully written and is performed by actors who are at least as brilliant as the writing. Mostly because it doesn't happen all that often.

Two new shows demonstrate what I mean.

"Love Struck," which opened at the Beverly Hills Playhouse on May 11, is a collection of eight one-act plays, each delivering thoroughly engaging performances by its players. But the brief "plays" are most often vignettes that feel like serious versions of the sketches on "Saturday Night Live." They set the scene, briefly pique your interest, and then end abruptly, without resolution.

They make you wonder, was the author, Dale Griffiths Stamos, trying out each individual idea to see if it was worth creating acts II and III around them? Or had he decided "to hell with it," and abandoned them to dangle in limbo?

There were a couple of exceptions, however. Both provided by Barbara Bain. In the first, titled "Identity," she brilliantly portrays a woman in the throes of Alzheimer's who has a distressingly fragmented confrontation with her husband (Peter Van Norden) and her son (Dave Roberts).

In her second appearance Bain is paired with the inimitable Nick Ullett in a delightful scene in which he attempts to charm her and charms the audience as well. She is the proprietor of the "Love After 70" matchmaking service and he is a friend that she hasn't seen for 50 years.

Maggie Grant, who directed all the bits and pieces, also appears in two sequences: as the quarrelsome wife of Bob Ebinger in the office of quirky psychiatrist Paul Jacek, and again as a psychiatrist trying to break through the defenses of a bully played by Matthew Brenher. Brenher, who has been assigned by the court as her patient, holds her in contempt for running what he calls "a traffic school for the psyche."

Fine performances are also turned in by Tara Windley and Eric Charles Jorgenson as they deliver confessional monologues to a parish priest.

The other new show this week is called "Synesthesia," subtitled "Artistic Telephone Across the Genres." Or, to put it simply, a progression, as in the children's game "telephone," in which a concept is changed each time it is repeated.

This is a clever idea that doesn't quite work, probably because the participants in the activity aren't actors, but artists working in other mediums.

Ruby Karen leads off by breaking open a Chinese fortune cookie and thinking aloud on camera about its message. She doesn't tell us what it says, but what she thinks about it. And then, to illustrate her thoughts, she climbs aboard an aerial ring that is manipulated by Luca Cecchini and performs aerial acrobatics.

Aldo Pisano, a spoken word artist, then appears on screen to talk about his reactions to Ruby Karen's performance and on stage to tell a story based on his impressions of what her act was trying to communicate to him.

Then comes John Bobek, singer/songwriter, to compose and sing a song extrapolated from Pisano's story.

None of the performers had been told what the fortune cookie's message actually is, and they are given two weeks to prepare their presentation for the next scheduled performer.

Each performer's contribution is preceded by a candid interview right after they've seen the previous artist's "act," and since they haven't had time to absorb the emotions that the act has engendered in them, they all say the same thing: "What an exciting and daunting challenge this is!" (Much like the "SNL" host of the week always starting off with how thrilled he is to be hosting "SNL.")

Bobek is followed by Marc Rosenthal, a lighting and projection designer whose abstract photographic projections didn't really work. They were repetitive, not very imaginative, and so light as to be nearly invisible.

Then singer Michael Bonnabel accompanied his song with American Sign Language, John Achorn performed an original commedia dell'arte piece, and Rocco Vitacco played a number he had composed for musical theatre.

Lastly, and most unlikely, Chef Michael Dunn appeared to announce his quest for a food combination that nobody had ever created before.

To the accompaniment of a film showing him cooking up a mysterious batch of glop, members of the company raced through the theater offering sealed Chinese take-out boxes to the audience. Told to not open them until everyone had been served, the audience was buzzing with anticipation.

Fortunately, Dunn didn't offer us the recipe. The "new food combination" consisted of a small, fuchsia-colored gelatinous rectangle sweet enough to give you instant diabetes, accompanied by sweet white unidentifiable strings that looked like sauerkraut and tasted like strings.

Do not expect to see it any time soon at Trader Joe's.

To wrap things up, Ruby Karen came back on-screen to reveal the message in the fortune cookie. Which had absolutely nothing to do with anyone's presentation.

This offbeat experimental production was created by Electric Pear Productions and produced by Athena Theatre and Bootleg Theatre. It is directed by Cate Caplin, who kept the performances, and the actors, moving with speed and panache.

And, despite my unsubtle reservations, it was actually a kind of fun evening.

"Love Struck" will continue at The Beverly Hills Playhouse, 254 S. Robertson Blvd., Beverly Hills, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. through May 27. Call (323) 960-7787 for reservations.

"Synesthesia" will continue at the Bootleg Theatre, 2220 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, on Mondays only at 7:30 p.m., through June 11.

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

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

LEGAL GRIND®
Justice Served Daily®
since 1996

A Roundabout Way Of Thinking

Drivers in Santa Monica might have noticed some recent changes to many intersections around town that have people wondering if they are headed down the Champs Elysees towards the Arch de Triumph or perhaps lost on an English country road. The roundabout intersection has made a roundabout trip across the world to Santa Monica with the hopes of easing traffic congestion and making the roads safer for drivers and pedestrians alike. Drivers here in Santa Monica must be aware of the traffic rules and regulations that govern roundabout driving so that motorists are not stranded like foreigners in a foreign land. Here are some basic rules and explanations about roundabouts that will hopefully help you on your way around town.

The basic definition of a roundabout is a circular junction in which road traffic must travel in one direction around a central island. Roundabouts increase safety in the community by requiring drivers to both decrease their speeds and in turn increase their awareness upon entering the intersection. Roundabouts also increase a neighborhood's aesthetic appeal by creating charming and unique architectural designs. Neatly landscaped circles or placement of a statue, monument, or flagpole give roundabouts a homely and suburban feel despite their very urban purpose. Pedestrians are often prohibited or discouraged from entering the center circle of a roundabout, but pedestrians and drivers can nonetheless enjoy the visual charisma that the intersection adds to a community. Roundabouts facilitate motorists, bicyclists, runners, and dog-walkers in an efficient and competent manner.

Roundabouts have some negative drawbacks as well. Larger vehicles and trucks may find it difficult to navigate through narrow roundabouts that are not built to handle such vehicles. The recent implementation of roundabouts in Santa Monica has also caused some backup and unwanted traffic delays at roundabouts where drivers are not familiar with the traffic laws and traffic flow. On the same note, there is a greater risk of traffic collisions and accidents from drivers who are simply not paying attention to their surroundings. Roundabouts require far greater concentration and awareness than do conventional squared intersections.

Upon entering a roundabout, drivers should first notice a sign or traffic indicator alerting the driver to slow down and prepare to yield. A painted dashed line will also alert drivers that they are entering a roundabout intersection. Unless otherwise indicated, drivers do not have to come to a complete stop; however, the situation may require a complete stop depending on traffic conditions at the time. Remember, pedestrians always have the right of way! So, if you see a bicyclist, jogger, or walker you must stop in order to allow that person safe passage. If there are no other cars in the roundabout and no pedestrians, the driver can then safely enter the roundabout. Most Santa Monica roundabouts are one-way, meaning a driver can only make a right turn to enter the roundabout and a right turn to exit the roundabout.

A driver that is already in the roundabout has the right of way over a driver that is entering the roundabout. Thus, if you are the car that is approaching the roundabout and slowing down getting ready to turn into the roundabout, do not expect another car that is already in the roundabout to stop or slow to let you in! This area tends to be one of the most confusing aspects of roundabouts, but if you remember that the car already in the roundabout has the right of way…you should be alright. Regardless of who has the right of way, drivers should nonetheless always remain vigilant and aware of their surroundings to prevent any kind of accident. Keep a slow to moderate speed while circling depending on the traffic at the time. Also, it is very important that drivers remember to use their turn signals. Turn signals alert circling drivers inside the roundabout and allow other drivers to adjust speeds based on turns. Moreover, a turn signal also notifies drivers waiting to enter the roundabout that the path is clear for them to safely make the maneuver.

Avoid unnecessary traffic citations, accidents, and congestion by following these simple roundabout rules. Remember to be aware, vigilant, and attentive to your surroundings at all time. Adjust to a roundabout way of thinking and enjoy the ride around town!

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.

www.LegalGrind.com

$45 Coffee & Counsel® Schedule

@ THE NOVEL CAFÉ, located at 2127 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica

Although our doors are closed during construction, we're still open!

CALL 310.452.8160 TO CONFIRM TIMES

Info@legalgrind.com

MONDAY

4:00-5:00 pm (1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal Law, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman

TUESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)

4:00pm-5:00pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month). Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, contract disputes, commercial disputes, landlord/tenant disputes, personal injury medical malpractice, and wrongful death.

5:00 - 7:00 pm Wrongful termination, harassment; discrimination; wage and hour ;denial of unemployment benefits; and general counseling on issues in the workplace w/ attorney Nina Baumler. (Call for Appointment. Nina Baumler comes on Tuesdays at the 2901 Ocean Park location of the Novel Café)

WEDNESDAY

11:00am-3:00pm Special Education Law (By appointment only. Also available by appointment on Mondays or Fridays from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm) Attorney Alison Arkin has extensive experience working with parfents of special needs children with a wide range of disabilities, and can help them obtain appropriate services from both school districts and regional centers. She has experience with every level of the process including obtaining appropriate assessements, representation at IEP meeting, mediations, settlement negotiations and hearings.

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)

4:00-5:00pm (By appointment only) Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injuries cases with Attorney and Legal Grind founder Jeffrey J. Hughes

FRIDAY

4:00-5:00pm (2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with Attorney & former Deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman. By Appointment only

4:00-5:00pm (1st & 3rd Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.

SATURDAY

10am-11:30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday/month) Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills & Living Trusts, Will Contests, Probate, Elder Law Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, Construction Contracts Family Law including Divorce, Child/Spousal Support, Prenuptial Agreements, Personal Injury, Accidents, Premises and Product Liability, & Legal Malpractice with Attorney Richard Ruman. (By appointment only-Please call Call Dick at 310.273.7474)

12PM TO 2PM Personal Injury free consultation; Regular consultation on all areas of Estate Planning, Landlord/Tenant rights, Mortgage Litigation, Premises Liability, Construction Accidents, and Products Liability with attorney SandeepAgarwal. (By appointment only-Please call Mr.Agarwal at 866.844.4125)

Legal Grind, Inc. is certified by the State Bar of CA as a Lawyer Referral & Information Service (#110), and was the recipient of the ABA's 2001 Legal Access Award. www.accesslegalgrind.com

Copyright © 2010-2011, Legal Grind, Inc.



FAN LOVE

Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School fans celebrate with player Ethan Kahan (center) Tuesday at home after the Vikings defeated Campbell Hall in three games to advance to the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 championship game on Saturday at Cypress College.

FESTIVAL

FROM PAGE 1

Attendees can explore several themed areas, including the Eco Zone, where local organizations will show residents how to incorporate environmentally minded actions into daily living, and the Marketplace, which will feature Earth-friendly products from independent vendors.

The Food Salon — one of last year's most popular attractions — has expanded and includes a culinary stage where two local chefs will take on the Chef's Challenge. This activity will test their ability to make an easy and affordable dish in 15 minutes, with ingredients from the Santa Monica Farmers' Market, Ostrovsky said.

Other highlights include cooking demonstrations for salads, wraps and tacos, in addition to a discussion about City Hall's push for Meatless Mondays, a global initiative that encourages individuals to cut back on meat based on its environmental impact and the health benefits of a more vegetarian diet.

A cookbook workshop will enable attendees to learn about the recipes used in the demonstrations and test them at home.

"Our whole focus would be how to create affordable and sustainable meals," Ostrovsky said. "We just wanted to have a lot of elements and a practical, take-away theme."

Festival-goers can also sample fare from various food trucks, like Border Grill's modern Mexican cuisine and Waffles de Liege.

In contrast to the food sector, the Active Santa Monica area will offer 20 minute classes in activities like Zumba, yoga, gymnastics and world dance. The Annenberg Community Beach House will also be on hand for demonstrations of stand-up paddleboarding and beach volleyball.

Bicycle enthusiasts can visit Bike Zone, which will offer tips on bike repair, maintenance and safe riding, along with handling and rodeo skills.

As part of the push for sustainability, the festival will offer a free bike valet. Festival-goers who take Metro can present their Metro pass or Metro rail ticket at the information booth to receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win a bicycle or other prizes. Bicyclists will also receive a free raffle ticket if they use the valet on 25th Street at Ocean Park Boulevard.

Admission is free.

For more information about the festival, visit www.smgov.net/festival.

news@smdp.com







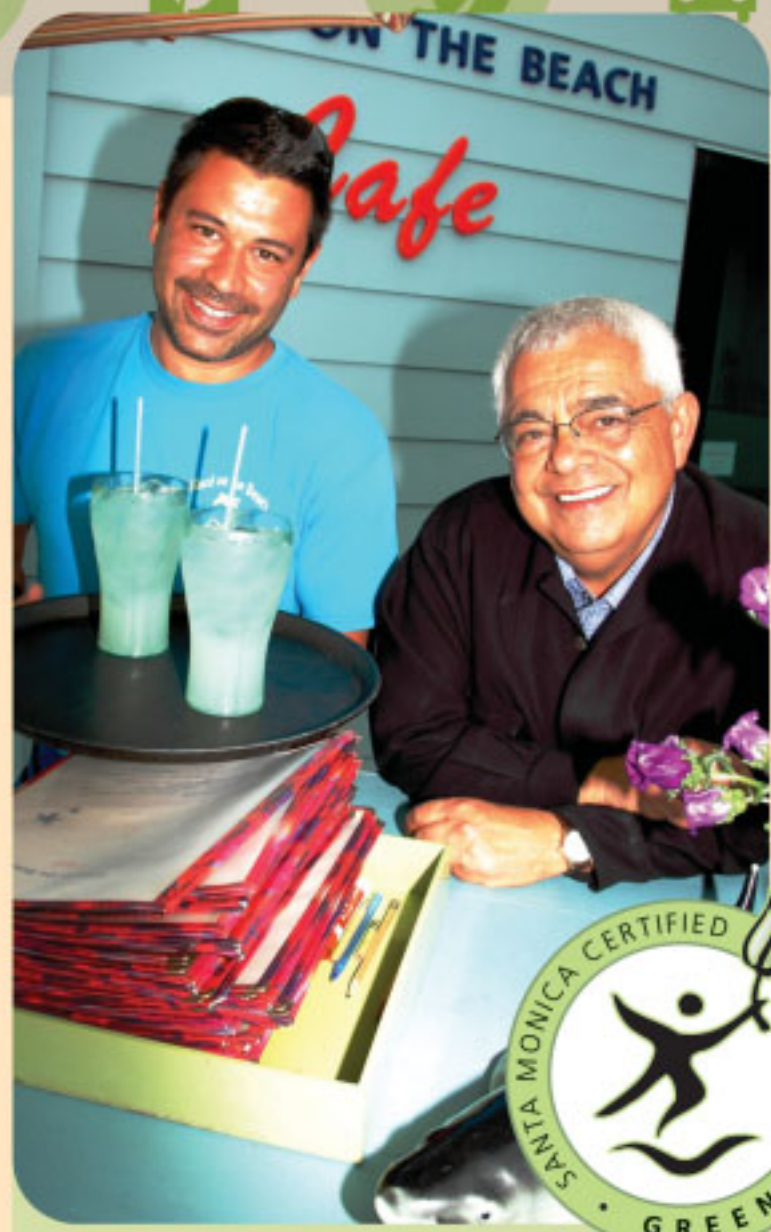
Think Santa Monica First

Fred Deni's Back on the Beach Café has been a Santa Monica tradition since 1989 - a treasured spot for locals and tourists alike.

Serving the beach crowd and patrons of the Annenberg Community Beach House, Fred's restaurant offers local and seasonal cuisine complimented by breathtaking views of the ocean, mountains and the Santa Monica Pier.

Both indoor & outdoor seating is available, along with catering services and event planning. Back on the Beach Café finished an extensive remodel in 2010 and re-opened its doors as a greener and more efficient operation, earning **Santa Monica's** Green Business Certification.

Back on the Beach Café
445 Pacific Coast Highway
backonthebeachcafe.com



"We've welcomed generations of Angelinos. Come enjoy the beach with us!"

- Fred Deni, Owner and Nikola
Back on the Beach Café

Visit Sustainable Works and Buy Local this weekend at the Santa Monica Festival!
Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
in Clover Park, 2600 Ocean Park Blvd.

For more on the Buy Local campaign, visit buylocalsantamonica.com

SustainableWorks

Buy Local SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com ™

Buying locally reduces our carbon footprint, supports community sustainability goals and makes Santa Monica a nicer place to be!

PROGRAM
FROM PAGE 1

children, and another two expected to enroll in the next two weeks will bring it to capacity.

Like so many social services, it has taken hits over the past several years, holes officials have filled with a patchwork of creative solutions like opening its doors to paid clients in the district and inviting federal programs in to open up spots for new babies.

Still, there is a budget shortfall estimated at $20,000 for the current year as well as costly equipment needs.

When a visitor walks into the center, they first see the main room kept clean by hospital-type booties slipped over dirty shoes to avoid tracking contaminants near the children. To the right is a smaller play area, and to the left a kitchen and nursing station complete with the ever-necessary coffee maker.

Though well-appointed, the program needs at least four more cribs by fall 2012 to replace ones that new state laws deem a danger to children, all of which are expensive and require special licenses.

That means they must be bought, not donated.

New play equipment falls into the same category, like a loft for infants to climb which would ring in at approximately $1,000.

Graves lights up when she talks about the loft.

"It's just what they want to do," she said. "They have a drive to explore."

Not only do the babies like to climb, adults want them to as well if it can be done in a safe, controlled environment.

The movement helps build muscles and gives the little ones a feeling of achievement and self-esteem when they manage to move on their own, Graves said.

But the big purchases add up in the face of a constant need for sanitary supplies, wipes and name-brand diapers — only Huggies and Pampers at the center — and the occasional laundry machine catastrophe.

That's bad news for a program that relies on the state's California School Age Families Education program (CalSAFE) for childcare funding, monies that have been slowly whittled away through cuts since California fell on hard times.

It wasn't just the state. Students with children that graduated from high school and went on to Santa Monica College used to get their childcare covered by the college via City Hall.

That was how it worked, but no longer, said Judy Abdo, director for Child Development Services at the district.

Instead of closing up shop, the program got scrappy.

A few years ago, the center expanded its clientele from teen parents to the staff and some city employees who could pay the full cost of childcare — $700 a month for toddlers and $1,100 a month for infants.

Two years ago, officials invited the federal Early Headstart program to the party, opening up an additional eight funded spots.

The program still runs a $20,000 deficit, though it is difficult to guess what it will be in the coming year, Abdo said.

Though the center has been able to cobble together solutions, things could get worse.

Gov. Jerry Brown announced Monday that state officials had been overly optimistic when estimating the government's deficit. What was expected to be a $9.2 billion gap turned into $15.7 billion.

According to the State Assembly Budget Committee, Brown's strategy for closing the deficit includes another $452.5 million in cuts to childcare and development programs.

No one knows how this will affect things in Santa Monica because each source of funding is so targeted, Abdo said.

"They look at the macro picture, and this is very micro," she said. "When they say they're going to reduce the amount of money spent on childcare, they're talking about these giant numbers in the hundreds of millions. When it comes down to an individual family, it's really impactful."

Each dollar spent on childcare impacts at least two lives — the mother trying to get through high school and the child who will rely on the parent for years to come.

According to a report released in 2010, 98,000 students and their 62,000 young children have enrolled in the program statewide.

Those enrolled showed lower rates of high school drop out, low birth weight children and repeat pregnancies than the national average.

Although the last decade has given plenty of statistics about the program's success, it's the anecdotes that remind people why it's so special.

"You go in there and see the student parents and the faculty parents talking to each other because they have the same issues going on," Abdo said. "They have an infant or toddler child and yet one of them could be the teacher of the other."

To donate to the program, write a check to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District with a memo to the Teen Parent Program or Infant Toddler Center. Checks can be sent to the Child Development Services office at 2802 Fourth St., 90405.

ashley@smdp.com

Culver City VOLVO
YOUR WESTSIDE VOLVO DEALER
#1 Volvo Dealer*
*in the Western United States
4 Miles from Santa Monica • Open Saturdays • Hertz Rental Car on Property
Presidents Award Winner • 19 Bays, Largest Service Capacity on Westside
Abundance of Service Loaners • Large Part Inventory in Stock, Largest in LA
Family Owned and Operated • Complimentary Car Wash with Every Service
Shuttle Service 6 Days A Week • FREE WIFI and Starbucks Coffee Bar
4 Volvo Master Techs with 117 Years Experience • Vista Winning Expert Technician
Easy Access, Freeway Adjacent • 50 Years Westside Volvo Dealer




OIL & FILTER SPECIAL
• Install Volvo oil filter
• Add up to 7 qts. motor oil (Synthetic oil additional)
• Top off all fluids
• Check/adjust tire pressure
• Multi-point inspection
$15.00 + tax
Castrol
Valid only at Culver City Volvo. Present coupon when order is written. Volvo vehicles only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Void where prohibited by law. No cash value. Offer expires 06/31/12.
COUPON SPECIAL
50% Off
Your Next Scheduled Maintenance
Valid only at Culver City Volvo. Present coupon when order is written. Volvo vehicles only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Void where prohibited by law. No cash value. Offer expires 06/31/12.
11201 W. Washington Blvd, Culver City, CA 90230 • (888) 420-8992 • culvercityvolvo.com

HOMES
FROM PAGE 3

back toward normalcy last month," DataQuick President John Walsh said.

Properties that were foreclosed upon in the previous year made up 28.6 percent of existing-home sales in April, down from 33.8 percent in the year-ago period and the lowest since January 2008. In February 2009, foreclosed properties accounted for 56.7 percent of existing-home sales.

Short sales — in which the price was less than the amount the seller owed on the mortgage — accounted for 18.4 percent of existing-home sales last month, up from 17.3 percent a year earlier.

Sales of homes between $300,000 and $800,000 rose 3.5 percent in April from the same period last year. while sales for less than $200,000 fell 4.7 percent last month.

The four coastal counties — Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego and Ventura — accounted for 71.5 percent of sales last month, up 68 percent from April 2011. The two inland counties — Riverside and San Bernardino — had been driving much of the gradual rebound.

TOURISM
FROM PAGE 1

tourism on the local economy.

City Hall also relies on hotel stays and sales tax to fund essential services like police and fire. Roughly $35 million went into City Hall's General Fund last year thanks to the tax on hotel beds, according to the bureau, and estimated sales tax generated by visitor spending increased by 30 percent, totaling $8.6 million.

"Tourism is our mainstay," said Mayor Richard Bloom, who believes Santa Monica should serve as a model for the state as elected leaders desperately try to find ways to raise revenues and entice companies to locate to the Golden State.

"[Tourism] dollars come back to our communities, our state," Bloom said.

The tourism industry contributed roughly $102 billion to the state's coffers last year, said Caroline Beteta, president and CEO of Visit California and vice chair of the board for Brand USA, the nation's first coordinated effort to market to foreign tourists. Both groups have been airing commercials featuring celebrities like Rob Lowe and picturesque locales to entice vacationers.

"We bring you good news," she said before launching a video of President Obama's speech in January at Disney World in which he unveiled new initiatives to increase travel and tourism, including visa reform and increased promotion of national parks. "There's an incredible, unprecedented alignment of the stars … in terms of how our industry is viewed. … We're finally getting Americans to understand the importance of tourism."

Nationally in 2010, tourism represented 2.7 percent of gross domestic product and 7.5 million jobs. The White House said in January that more than 1 million jobs could be created over the next decade if the U.S. increases its share of the international travel market. The U.S. share of spending by international travelers fell from 17 percent to 11 percent between 2000 and 2010, due to increased competition and changes in global development, as well as security measures imposed after Sept. 11, according to the White House.

"Tourism is the number one service we export," Beteta said. "That means jobs."

Beteta encouraged those in the hospitality industry to continue their efforts to market their destinations, particularly since travelers are becoming more savvy and cost conscious. With competition on the rise, it's critical to reinvest.

"You can never go dark," she said.

City officials said Santa Monica experienced a "break-out" year in 2011, something which can be attributed to a few factors, including a more robust economy and enhanced efforts by the state and the federal government to market Santa Monica and the U.S. as a place to vacation.

"We now have someone else carrying the message, putting that open sign up," Kerns said.

It also doesn't hurt that Santa Monica is home to a picturesque coastline and is situated near the Los Angeles International Airport and major tourist attractions such as Universal Studios, Disneyland and Hollywood. Surveys show that families prefer beach activities first, followed by theme parks, being out in nature and shopping.

Another contributing factor for the increase in sales tax revenue generated by visitor spending could be the half-cent sales tax increase approved by Santa Monica voters that went into effect halfway through 2011.

VIEW OF VISITORS

Californians once again comprised the majority of those visiting Santa Monica from inside the U.S., according to the bureau's report, followed by folks from Texas, New York, Illinois and Nevada. For international tourists, Australia/New Zealand led the way, followed closely by Germany, Japan, Asia-Pacific Islands and the United Kingdom.

Of those visiting, 75 percent said they were here for pleasure. Overnight guests tended to stay an average of 3.9 days, down from 5.4 in 2009. Of those, 14 percent said Santa Monica was their destination of choice.

The average travel group size was 2.4 people. The average daily spending per person in Santa Monica was $144.79, up from $118,46 in 2009. The average median household income was $85,700 compared to $66,700 in 2009. Sixty-five percent were first-time visitors.

Tourists spent most of their money in 2011 on shopping (roughly $475 million), followed by meals (nearly $288 million), lodging ($285 million) and beverages ($151.7 million).

International visitors accounted for 46 percent of Santa Monica's guests, followed by U.S. citizens from outside California (35 percent) and those living in California (19 percent).

The bureau's goal is to attract more international tourists since they tend to stay longer, drive less and spend more. Kerns said the drop in international visitors (2 percent) compared to 2009 is of some concern and the bureau will continue to monitor the trend to see if it reverses. She believes changes to the visa program should help the numbers rebound.

kevinh@smdp.com



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ATTENTION: **People gathered at the Sheraton Delfina on Wednesday to discuss tourism.**

Get Cash For Your Gold & Jewelry!

California's Premier Jewelry Buyer Is Paying The Highest Prices For:


Diamonds


Gold


Watches

WE BUY: Rolex - Cartier - Patek Philippe - Tiffany - Chopard - Van Cleef - David Yurman
Broken & Unwanted Gold Jewelry - 10k - 14k - 18k - 24k - Silver - Coins and More!

LIMITED TIME SPECIAL OFFER!
$25 INSTANT BONUS
On Any Transaction Over $100
$50 INSTANT BONUS
On Any Transaction Over $500!
Offer Ends Soon!
(Bonus not valid on coin sales)
Lic. No. 19651221



DIAMOND & GOLD exchange

Santa Monica
2629 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica 90403
(310) 829-9800

Hollywood
7280 Melrose Ave.
Los Angeles 90046
(323) 653-9009

Mon - Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat 11am to 5pm
www.DiamondAndGoldExchangeUSA.com

Santa Monica


Hollywood


California Recycles
Recycle, Refurbish, Reuse
You can also shop for recycled office products and compostable tableware and utensils in our online store.
www.californiarecycles-store.com
Recycle Old Electronics
For Cash*
We pay the best rates for:
Cell Phones • TVs
Computers • And much more
Drop your items at:
18351 Eddy Street, Northridge CA 91325
MENTION THIS OFFER FOR CASH * Some restrictions apply
(818) 886-0800 • www.californiarecycles.com

DON'S
Cutting Edge
20% OFF
Haircuts
BEFORE 1 PM - with mention of this ad
Ask for Tracy
2918 Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica
Call for an appointment 310.315.1098
Tues-Fri: 9-6pm Sat: 8-5pm
Appointments not required.

YOUR WEEKEND
Just Got Funnier!
May 18th - 19th
All-Star Comedy
Every Friday & Saturday
@ 9pm
J.R.'s Comedy Club
(inside) At
Earth Wind & Flour
Andrew Norelli
$15 Cover
Dinner & Show
$29.99
Includes the Cover
7:30pm
Seating for Dinner at 7:30pm
Dave Landau
Norelli seen on Jimmy Kimmel Live & the Late Show with Craig Ferguson
Reservations 310.853.6957
2 for 1 Admission
w/This AD - Expires 5/19
Earth, Wind, & Flour Address:
2222 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90403
www.SantaMonicaComedy.com

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO WASTE A RESOLUTION ON 'have a clean home'.
96% of customers would refer The Maids to friends and family.
Call now to receive your free, no-obligation estimate
310-280-0300
www.MAIDS.com
The Maids
Referred for a reason.

Healthy eating can cost less, agriculture study discovers

SAM HANANEL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Is it really more expensive to eat healthy?

An Agriculture Department study released Wednesday found that most fruits, vegetables and other healthy foods cost less than foods high in fat, sugar and salt.

That counters a common perception among some consumers that it's cheaper to eat junk food than a nutritionally balanced meal.

The government says it all depends on how you measure the price. If you compare the price per calorie — as some previous researchers have done — then higher-calorie pastries and processed snacks might seem like a bargain compared with fruits and vegetables.

But comparing the cost of foods by weight or portion size shows that grains, vegetables, fruit and dairy foods are less expensive than most meats or foods high in saturated fat, added sugars or salt.

That means bananas, carrots, lettuce and pinto beans are all less expensive per portion than French fries, soft drinks, ice cream or ground beef.

"Using price per calorie doesn't tell you how much food you're going to get or how full you are going to feel," said Andrea Carlson, scientist at the USDA's Economic Research Service and an author of the study.

For example, eating a chocolate glazed donut with 240 calories might not satiate you but a banana with 105 calories just might.

In the comparisons, the USDA researchers used national average prices from Nielsen Homescan data, which surveyed a panel of households that recorded all food purchases over a year from retail outlets.

The cost of eating healthy foods has been the subject of growing debate as experts warn Americans about the dangers of obesity. More than a third of U.S. adults are obese, according to the government, and researchers expect that number to grow to 42 percent by 2030.

"Cheap food that provides few nutrients may actually be 'expensive' for the consumer from a nutritional economy perspective, whereas food with a higher retail price that provides large amounts of nutrients may actually be quite cheap," the study said.

The USDA study criticizes a 2010 report from researchers at the University of Washington, which found that calorie-for-calorie junk food is more cost-effective for low-income people than eating healthy.

Adam Drewnowski, director of the Nutritional Sciences Program at the University of Washington and lead author of the prior study, said he stands by his findings that a healthier diet generally costs more. He said there is no government recommendation for how many pounds of food an American should eat each day, but there are federal guidelines that suggest a 2,000 calorie diet.

"Some of these calories are in fact empty calories, so from the standpoint of nutrition they are not terrific," Drewnowski said. "But the empty calories keep you from being hungry, and this is why people buy them, especially lower-income people."

Margo Wootan, a nutrition advocate with the Center for Science in the Public Interest, said some people don't think they get as much value from fruits and vegetables as they get from other foods.

"If they buy a bag of chips for $2, they think it's a good deal, but if they buy a bag of apples for $2, they think it's a lot," Wootan said. "We need to do more to help people understand that fruits and vegetables are not as expensive as they think they are."

Wootan said shopping smart can make healthy eating more affordable. Consumers should be more flexible about choosing less expensive fruits and vegetables that are in season and supplementing those with frozen or canned fruits and vegetables so they don't have to throw away as much.

FTC: Skechers deceived consumers with shoe ads

JENNIFER C. KERR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The government wants you to know that simply sporting a pair of Skechers' fitness shoes is not going to get you Kim Kardashian's curves or Brooke Burke's toned tush.

Skechers USA Inc. will pay $40 million to settle charges by the Federal Trade Commission that the footwear company made unfounded claims that its Shape-ups shoes would help people lose weight and strengthen their butt, leg and stomach muscles. Kardashian, Burke and other celebrities endorsed the shoes in Skechers ads.

Wednesday's settlement also involves the company's Resistance Runner, Toners, and Tone-ups shoes and claims of deceptive advertising for those shoes as well.

Consumers who bought the shoes would be eligible for refunds, though it's not clear how much money they'll get. The FTC says that will depend on how many claims are received in the eight-month filing period. Buyers can go to the FTC website to file a claim.

Most of the $40 million federal settlement would be returned to consumers, but a small amount of the settlement would be used to administer the payouts.

The settlement is related to a broader agreement also announced Wednesday that resolves a multi-state investigation led by the attorneys general from Tennessee and Ohio and involving more than 40 states. The company will provide an additional $5 million to the states, and pay $5 million in class-action attorney fees.

"The FTC's message, for Skechers and other national advertisers, is to shape up your substantiation or tone down your claims," said David Vladeck, director of the agency's consumer protection bureau. For millions of consumers, he said, "the only thing that got a workout was their wallet."

The commission settled similar charges with Reebok last year over its EasyTone walking shoes and RunTone running shoes. That $25 million agreement also provided customer refunds.

Skechers denied the allegations but said it settled to avoid long litigation.

Reality TV, religion give birth to top baby names

STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Reality TV is giving birth to some of the most popular baby names. No, not Snooki. But Mason, as in Kourtney Kardashian's son, jumped 10 spots to become the second most popular name for newborn boys in 2011.

The more traditional Sophia is the new top name for girls, while Jacob is No. 1 for boys for the 13th straight year, according to the list released Monday by the Social Security Administration.

Kardashian, the reality TV star, gave birth to Mason in December 2009 following a heavily publicized pregnancy. In 2010, Mason jumped from No. 34 to No. 12. Last year, 19,396 baby boys were named Mason, an increase of nearly 4,600, by far the biggest jump for any name.

"It shows what we're paying attention to, what we're thinking about," said Laura Wattenberg, creator of the website babynamewizard.com. "Today, you can't walk through a supermarket without learning more than you hoped to know about the Kardashian family. That's just reality."

Rounding out the top five for boys: William, Jayden and Noah. Michael came in sixth, the lowest ranking since 1948.

Isabella, which had been the top girl's name for two years, dropped to second place in 2011. Emma, Olivia and Ava rounded out the top five.

The Social Security Administration provides lists of baby names dating to 1880 on its website. The top two names that year were John and Mary. John is now No. 27 and Mary has fallen to No. 112 — the lowest for both names.

The list, which also includes top baby names by state, draws millions of viewers. The agency hopes that people go to the website to see the baby names and stay to learn about other services, said Social Security Commissioner Michael J. Astrue.

Top girl names tend to be more volatile — changing from year to year — while the top boy names are more stable, Astrue said. William, for example, has been a popular boy's name for more than 100 years, never falling out of the top 20. Mason is the exception, entering the top 100 for the first time in 1997.

On the girls' side, Sophia first cracked the top 100 in 1997. Isabella dropped off the list altogether from 1949 to 1990.

Social Security also tracks which names increase in popularity and which ones drop.

The fastest rising name for girls: Briella, which jumped 394 spots, to No. 497. Briella Calafiore stars in "Jerseylicious," a reality TV show about battling stylists at a beauty salon in Green Brook, N.J. She's also in a spinoff called "Glam Fairy."

Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is the star of another reality TV show about New Jersey called "Jersey Shore." Snooki has never cracked the list of top 1,000 names, but she is in the midst of a well-publicized pregnancy, so stay tuned.

Barack and Mitt have never made the list, either. But Willard, which is Mitt Romney's first name, was on the list as recently as 1989.

Brantley was the fastest rising name for boys, jumping 416 spots to No. 320. Brantley Gilbert is a singer who had a No. 1 country hit called "Country Must Be Country Wide".

Americans get baby names from a lot of places — religion, relatives and, yes, popular culture, Wattenberg said. She likened baby naming trends to "a fossil record of our culture."

Parents tend to shy away from names that conjure up negative emotions — Adolf fell off the list for good in 1929. But, Wattenberg said, parents aren't necessarily paying homage to celebrities when they give their children the same name. In many cases, they are simply using a name they might not have heard otherwise.

"Celebrity naming is just about the exposure and about everybody hearing that name at the same time," Wattenberg said. "It's not about the fame, it's about the name."

Religion continues to have a big influence on baby names, but with a twist.

"The traditional biblical names were New Testament names — John, James and Mary and Elizabeth," Wattenberg said. "Today, the hot names are all names from the Old testament precisely because they were neglected for so many generations."

In addition to Jacob and Noah, Elijah at No. 13 and Joshua at No. 14 are all from the Old Testament.

Among the names that fell in popularity, Brisa dropped more spots than any other — 343 places, to No. 807. Dana, Desiree and Denise also plummeted.

Brett dropped more than any other name for boys, 119 spots, to No. 508. Jamarion, Shaun and Jaydon also dropped.

Social Security counts names with different spellings separately. For example, Aiden was No. 9 among boys, while Aidan was No. 107 and Aaden was No. 797. Among the girls, Sophia was No. 1 while Sofia was No. 19. Sophie was No. 51. Zoey was No. 28 and Zoe was No. 31.

Elvis returned to the list at No. 904, after dropping off for a year. When Elvis dropped off the in 2010, it ended a run that had started in 1955.

Astrue, a big Elvis fan, said he was all shook up when Elvis left the list.

"Congress may not listen to me," Astrue said. "But God bless the American people for listening to me last year when I raised concerns about Elvis dropping off."

Were they listening to him when they named their daughters after the star of "Jerseylicious?"

"I don't even know what that show's about," Astrue said.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE

Advertising:	smdp.com/**advertising**
E-dition Archives:	smdp.com/**archives**
Classifieds:	smdp.com/**classifieds**
Listings (Calendar):	smdp.com/**communitylistings**
Submit an Event:	smdp.com/**submitevent**
Contact Us:	smdp.com/**contactus**
DBA Info:	smdp.com/**dba**
Site Search:	smdp.com/**search**

smdp
READ US ON THE GO
www.smdp.com/**mobile**

smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press
office **(310) 458-7737**

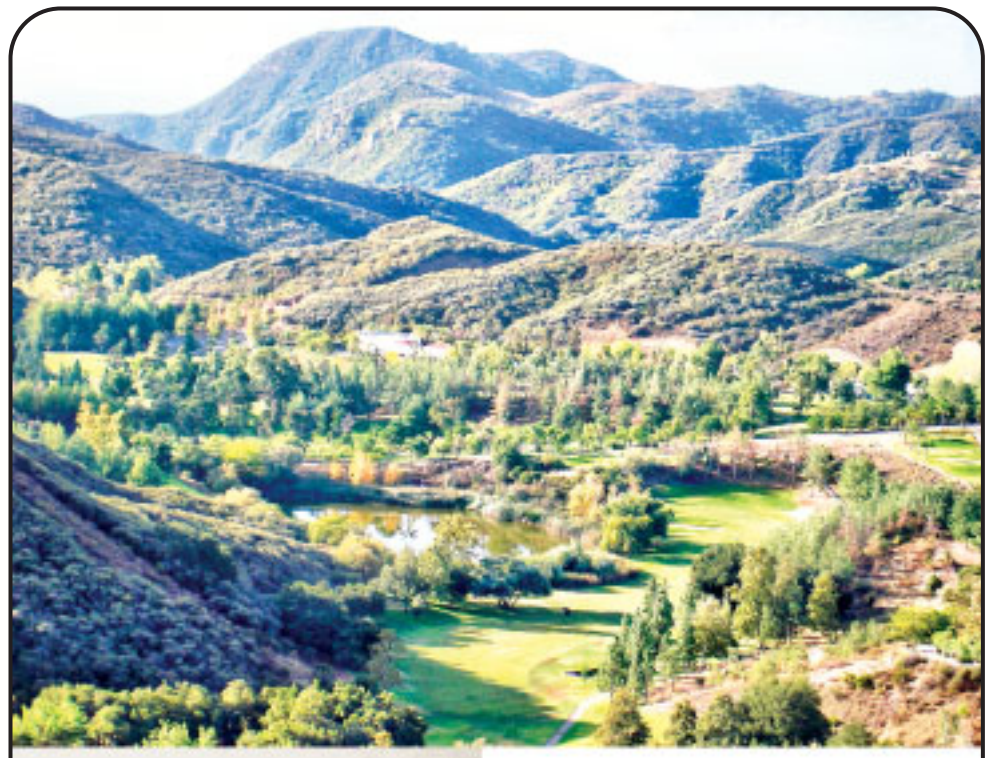
PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!
Yes, in this very spot!
Call for details **(310) 458-7737**
smdp
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press
Santa Monica Daily Press

Celebrating 40 Years
NOW LEGAL SERVICE
24-HOUR ATTORNEY SERVICE

- Rush Messenger Service
- Rush Court Filings
- Licensed Process Servers
- Mobile Notaries
- Mobile Copy Service
- Drivers Equipped with a Handheld Radio for Immediate Contact

* Get a FREE Lunch with every 10 Deliveries
(213) 482-1567
nowlegalonline.com
***CALL US FOR DETAILS**





$55
18 holes w/cart
($20 discount from reg. rates)
Mon-Thurs until May, 31st 2012
Santa Monica Daily Press Deal

OPEN 7 days a week.
GREEN FEES: Monday-Thursday $75 w/cart
GREEN FEES: Friday-Sunday $100 w/cart
(818) 889-6680
www.themalibugolfclub.com

Malibu Golf Club is a privately owned golf course which extends open play to the public. Situated high above Malibu in the picturesque Santa Monica Mountains, with various sloping topography, this course is one of the most beautiful in Los Angeles.

MALIBU GOLF CLUB
901 Encinal Canyon Road | Malibu, CA

SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 65.7°

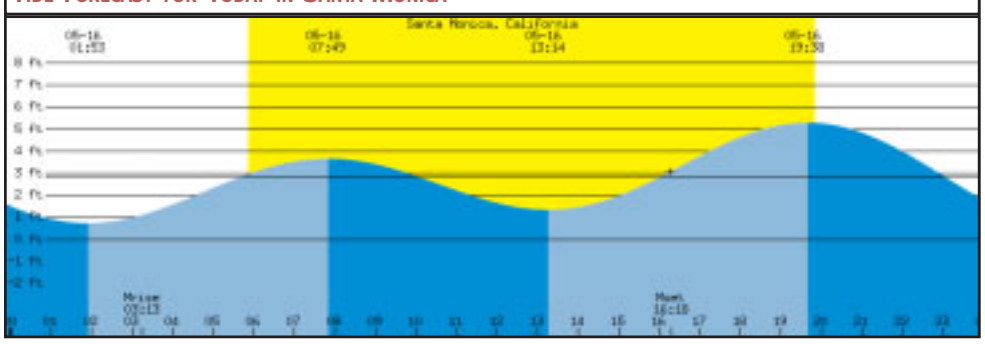
Swell Forecast

The southerly swell should fade to chest max, with only knee to waist high sets expected at west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

SOUTH FACING BREAKS ARE LOOKING AT WAIST TO CHEST HIGH SETS, WEST FACING BREAKS CHEST HIGH.

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 **May 9, 2012**

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 – 8
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill – 8
- Number of wet days – 12
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather – 31/37
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather – 8/0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Oiler – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LacarGUY, SMA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
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.	F	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A+	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	D	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24577 Malibu Rd..	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)– daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19640 PCH stairs.	F	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
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.	ns	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Potrero Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
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+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	A+
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+	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 lifeguards are happy.

HORSE RACING

Trainer 'disappointed' with peers' questionable behavior

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BALTIMORE Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas criticized the behavior of a few of his peers Wednesday, saying the actions of a few recent Kentucky Derby winners have tarnished the reputation of his profession.

Speaking at Pimlico Race Course, site of Saturday's Preakness, Lukas said, "I'm very disappointed as a trainer that we have the stigma of some of our Derby winners not carrying the banner."

He cited Rick Dutrow, who is appealing a 10-year suspension in New York for multiple medication violations, and Chip Woolley, who last year allegedly urinated on slot machines at a track in Iowa.

Lukas also mentioned I'll Have Another trainer Doug O'Neill, who won the Derby on May 5 but faces charges of drugging a horse in California. O'Neill has denied the accusation.

"We've got Dutrow under suspension. We've got Chip Woolley (urinating) on the slot machines in casinos. And now Doug, at least, has some gray area hanging over him," said Lukas, who will saddle Optimizer in the Preakness.

"That bothers me, frankly. I think those guys are all good enough they don't need for there to be doubts. I think they can train horses and not have that problem in front of them. They can do it the right way. That's just the way I feel. I would say that if they were standing right here."

Dutrow's Big Brown won the Derby and Preakness in 2008. He sends out long shot Zetterholm in the Preakness.

Woolley in 2009 trained long shot Derby winner Mine That Bird, who ran second in the Preakness. Last year, security staff escorted Woolley from the casino at Prairie Meadows Racetrack.

O'Neill, meanwhile, has been accused by the California Horse Racing Board for "milkshaking," the illegal practice of giving a horse a blend of bicarbonate of soda, sugar and electrolytes. The mixture is designed to reduce fatigue and enhance performance.

"We played by the rules and I am vigorously fighting the previous allegations," O'Neill said Wednesday.

O'Neill, who has Santa Monica ties, faces his third total carbon dioxide violation in California and fourth in a career that has spanned 25 years.

O'Neill's most recent violation dates from an Aug. 25, 2010, race at Del Mar in California. A blood test on his horse Argenta showed elevated levels of TCO2 before it finished eighth.

He faces penalties ranging from a minimum 90-day suspension and a $5,000 fine to a maximum 180-day suspension and fine of $15,000 depending on whether a hearing officer's report finds aggravating circumstances or not.

"I'll Have Another, along with every other horse in our barn goes through an intense physical exam and a blood and urine exam," O'Neill said. "We run pure horses. We run a great operation, and anyone who comes to our barn all know that we love the horses and do everything we can to keep them at the top of their game. If I didn't win the Derby, you guys wouldn't be asking that."

CYCLING

Lance Armstrong wants doping questions to end

BY JIM VERTUNO
AP Sports Writer

AUSTIN, Texas Lance Armstrong's cycling career is behind him. Now he says the doping questions should go away as well.

Armstrong says he's finished talking about doping rumors and allegations that dogged his seven Tour de France titles, after a nearly two-year federal investigation that closed with no charges being filed against him.

In recent interviews with Men's Journal and the "Gavin Newsom Show" on Current TV, Armstrong said he's "done" with the performance-enhancing drug question.

"This has been a (13)-year question," Armstrong said in an interview with Newsom to be aired Friday.

Armstrong, who has always denied doping, pointed to "500 to 600" negative drug tests in his career.

"Blood, urine, hair, whatever they wanted to take. At some point, somebody's going to have to answer that question," Armstrong said. "I'm not wasting any more of my time."

And he's still being tested. As a competing triathlete, Armstrong is subject to random testing by sports anti-doping authorities. Armstrong is expected to compete in the Ironman triathlon in Hawaii on Oct. 13.

U.S. federal prosecutors in February closed their investigation into Armstrong and allegations of doping on his winning Tour de France teams. Armstrong said then that the end of the investigation should also end any questions about whether he took performance-enhancing drugs. Armstrong won every Tour from 1999-2005 and made a comeback to race in 2009-10, though he did not win those events.

"It's over. I'm moving on," he told The Associated Press in February.

Armstrong also suggested then that he would ignore attempts by doping investigators to continue looking into his cycling career. The World Anti-Doping Agency has urged U.S. federal authorities to give them evidence collected in the criminal investigation.

"I don't want to get bogged down with that. I'm not concerned with that. I'm not going to worry about that," he said at the time.

Through a spokesman, Armstrong declined further comment Wednesday.

SEE NEWS HAPPENING OR HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT?
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press CALL US TODAY (310) 458-7737

MOVIE TIMES

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

Le Diable Probablement (NR) 1hr 35min
7:30pm

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

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
1:15pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm

Dictator (R) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 4:05pm, 6:35pm, 9:15pm

Dark Shadows (PG-13) 1hr 53min
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:45pm, 9:45pm

Hick (R) 1hr 35min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

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

The Dictator (R) 2hrs 00min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:15am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:45pm

Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) 1hr 28min
1:30pm, 6:00pm

Pirates! Band of Misfits 3D (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15am, 3:50pm, 8:30pm

Think Like a Man (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
1:00pm, 4:10pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Dark Shadows (PG-13) 1hr 53min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Five-Year Engagement (R) 2hrs 04min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
1:45pm, 5:15pm, 8:30pm

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

Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:15pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:55pm

Under African Skies (NR) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Darling Companion (PG-13) 1hr 43min
1:30pm, 7:10pm

Marley (PG-13) 2hrs 25min
4:00pm, 9:45pm

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

Battleship (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:01am

Hunger Games (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:30am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

Artist (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:55am

Safe (R) 1hr 35min
2:40pm, 5:20pm, 7:50pm

What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13) 1hr 40min
12:01am

Bernie (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:35pm, 10:20pm

Lucky One (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:25am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Girl in Progress (PG-13) 1hr 30min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
12:15pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Get some R&R, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Just when you feel a situation is improving, you'll discover the other party seems to shut down. Though you view this difficult situation to be long term, it will end this year. Drum up a little more patience. Tonight: Do your thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★ You might choose to say little, yet your mind is on overload with all of your thoughts. You'll express yourself succinctly and gently, in hopes of being heard. The truth is that you are getting tired of the situation. Tonight: Take a break from irritations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Look to a friendship in order to make necessary changes. Clearly what you thought was OK in the past no longer is, or at least might not be right now. Understanding will help far more than you think. Trust your sixth sense. Tonight: Where the fun is. Do not allow a bad mood to settle in.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ A take-charge attitude does a lot for getting key matters handled. You might need to use that approach for now, because you really have little choice. Others respond in a fashion that might surprise you. Tonight: To the wee hours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Allow more creativity into the most mundane chores or interactions. You will enjoy your life so much more as a result. Recognize what is happening with someone you put on a pedestal. Tonight: Wherever there is music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might feel as if a partner wants something you cannot give. A financial situation could be wearing you down. You simply might need to say "enough," and mean it. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might be causing your own problem. Sometimes you cannot help but reveal your feelings, whether it is with a look or how you approach a situation. Listen to suggestions, but also understand you need a change. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Toss yourself into whatever you feel must be done. You cannot keep putting an important matter on the back burner. You see a situation far differently than others. Your caring comes through to a family member or daily friend. Tonight: Get some extra R and R while you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Even if a meeting is difficult or a friend is irritable, do not let it bother you. You will soon discover exactly what has been ailing this person. Indulge a partner or loved one who is always there for you. Tonight: Play away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might need to walk out the door several times in order to release your stress. Someone you believe has no right to do what he or she is doing might challenge you. Know that you can close down if need be. Tonight: Get a massage or soak in the tub.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You have a very sunny way of approaching others that works on nearly everyone. A situation that surrounds someone at a distance could be problematic at best. Your sense of humor helps you lighten up. Tonight: Hang at your favorite haunt.

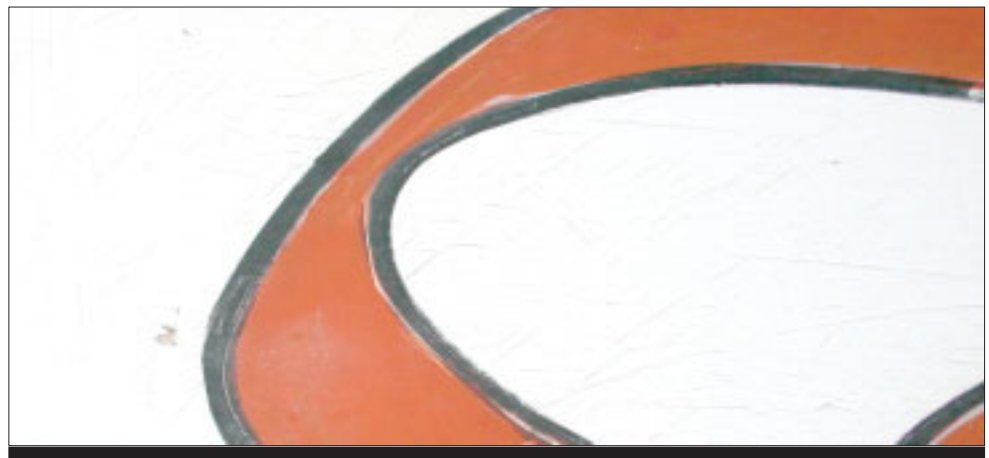
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Recognize that not everyone is capable of giving at the level you can. Center yourself, then proceed. No one can honor your interests as well as you can. A partner might seem disinterested, but he or she could be tired. Tonight: Buy that item you have been eyeing.

Happy birthday

This year you act on a long-term desire that you have not revealed to many people. You could experience moments of insecurity, as you will tend to take risks. If you are single, you could date quite a few people. Many of them might not be who you think they are. If you are attached, you spend a lot of time together as a couple. Accept certain idiosyncrasies. ARIES has a blunt way with words that can be hurtful.

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



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.

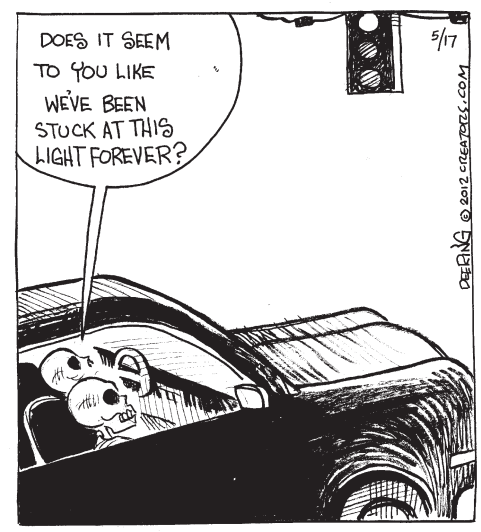
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



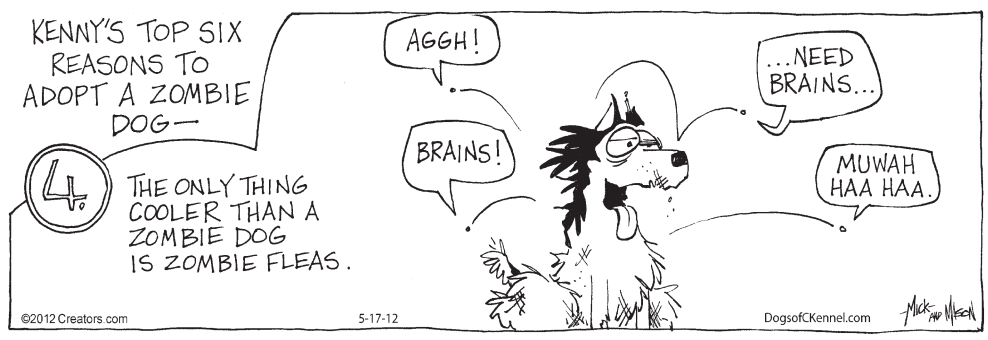
Strange Brew

By John Deering



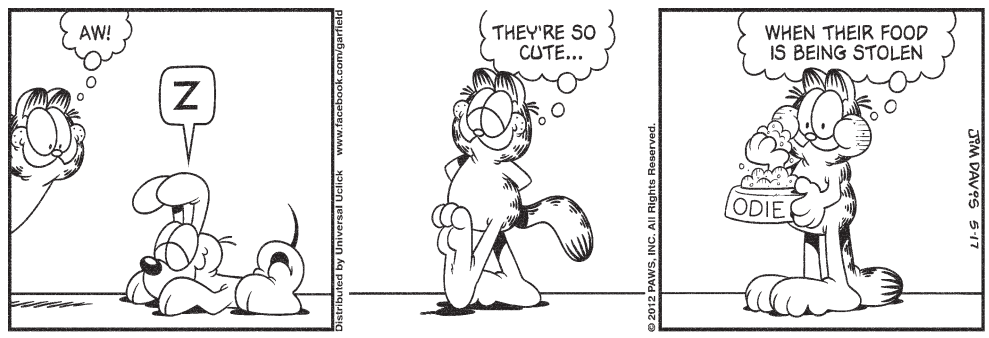
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



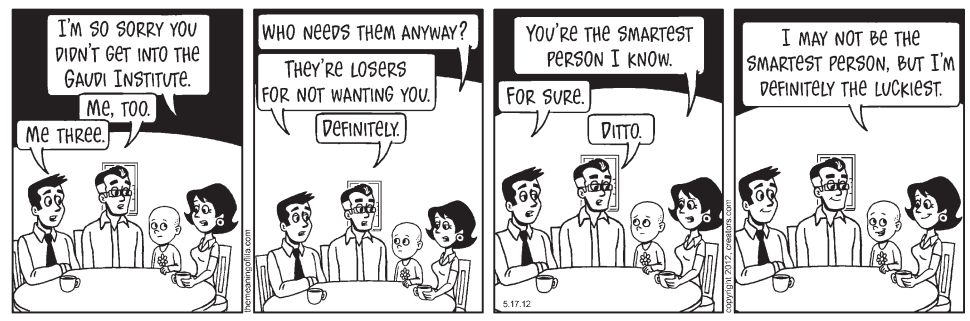
Garfield

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 ★★★

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

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

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

For every dollar you spend with a **local business**, as much as

70 cents

stays right here - supporting our schools, services and the community.

buy local santamonica.com ™

Buy Local SANTA MONICA

It makes a difference!

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Un-emotional
5 Alex Haley book
10 Bailiwick
11 Of axons and dendrites
12 Zesty flavor
13 Diner
14 Europe, Asia and Africa
16 Inherited wealth
20 Violent pains
23 Trick-taker, often
24 Oboe parts
25 Plains grazer
27 Writer Fleming
28 Model stickers
29 Antebel-lum area
32 Seasoned pros
36 "Put It on Me" rapper
39 Junk, e.g.
40 God of death
41 Painter Dix
42 Yonder items
43 Profound

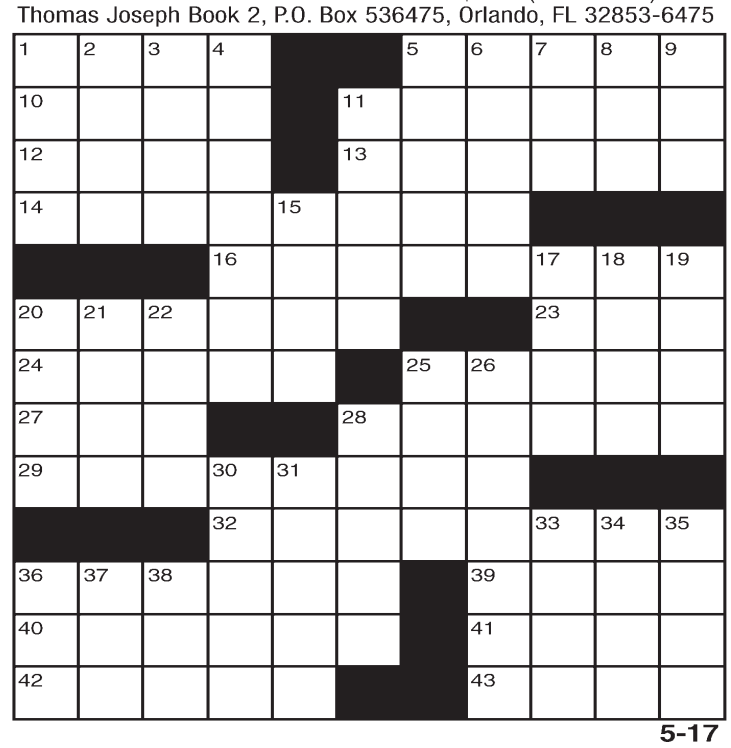
DOWN

1 Roman censor
2 Test type
3 Advance
4 Blondie's mate
5 Kingdom
6 Surpass
7 Mine matter
8 Road sealer
9 Devious
11 Bookish group
15 Flamenco cries
17 "Apollo 13" org.
18 Earth sci.
19 Urges
20 Jazz combo
21 Get better
22 Tear
25 Sister of Amy, Jo and Meg
26 Sleepy Hollow name
28 Ranch guests
30 Whiskey drinks
31 Stan's pal
33 Staff symbol
34 Postmark part
35 Word in an octagon
36 Write hastily
37 Bat wood
38 Carnival city

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

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



5-17

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

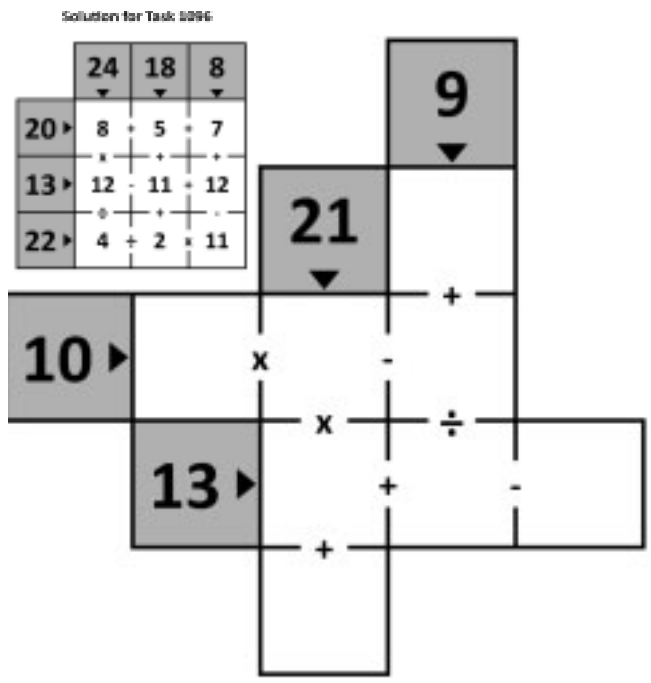
• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

Go to www.zokigames.net for more fun and challenging games and links to our mobile phone apps.

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

2, 3, 8, 8, 9, 11, 12, 12



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: May 15
10 11 12 14 24
Meganumber: 6
Jackpot: $25M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: May 12
10 24 26 30 35
Meganumber:6
Jackpot: $16M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: May 15
4 12 15 31 32

DAILY 3
Draw Date: May 15
MIDDAY: 3 1 4
EVENING: 7 9 8

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: May 15
1st: 07 - EUREKA
2nd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
3rd: 04 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME: 1:44.01

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

■ Oh, Dear!: (1) At a March Chicago Symphony Orchestra performance, the music continued uninterrupted as two patrons engaged in a fistfight over box seating. Conductor Riccardo Muti "never stopped conducting," said a patron. "He very gracefully, without missing a beat -- literally -- he brought (the second movement) to a very quiet and subdued close." (2) It costs $8,500 (plus $3,000 annual dues) to join the ultra-prestigious New York Athletic Club, which counts Olympic champions among its upper-crust members. However, an April brawl in a back room, said to have begun over a woman, saw (according to witnesses) fighting "wolf packs" in a "lion's pit" that resulted in several bloody injuries, with two people sent to the hospital and three arrested.

■ Some villagers in China's Shandong Province who are too poor or isolated to hook up to home heating fuel service have an alternative, according to a March report by China News Center. They take giant, heavy-duty balloons that resemble 15-foot-long condoms and walk to filling stations to inflate them with natural gas every four or five days. The danger of explosion is high, but the balloons remain many villagers' best option.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1805 - Muhammad Ali becomes WÇli of Egypt.

1809 - Napoleon I of France orders the annexation of the Papal States to the French Empire.

1814 - Occupation of Monaco changes from French to Austrian.

1814 - The Constitution of Norway is signed and the Danish Crown Prince Christian Frederik is elected King of Norway by the Norwegian Constituent Assembly.

WORD UP!

spruik
\ sprook \ , verb;
1.
To make or give a speech, especially extensively; spiel.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

$7.50 per day. Up to 15 words, 30 cents each additional word.

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!*

Some restrictions may apply.

Prepay your ad today!

VISA MasterCard American Express Card

(310) 458-7737

*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not gauranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements
Creative
Employment
For Sale
Furniture
Pets
Boats
Jewelry
Wanted
Travel
Vacation Rentals
Apartments/Condos
Rent
Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commerical Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services
Business Opportunities
Yard Sales
Health and Beauty
Fitness
Wealth and Success
Lost and Found
Personals
Psychic
Obituaries
Tutoring

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out ***www.smdp.com*** for more info.

Employment

Assisted Living community is looking for part time dishwasher for its kitchen. Fingerprint background check and pre employment drug test required. If interested come to 2107 Ocean Ave. to fill out an application. EOE

COMMISSION SALES rep needed part time with internet marketing experience. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

HOUSEKEEPING
Immediate positions available in the Saint Johns Health Center
All shifts available
Hospital housekeeping/English preferred.
Call 310/829-8431 for interview

MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT
Looking for ideal candidate to complete work orders and prep apartments for move in of a senior apartment building. Competitive wage and benefits. Must have clear criminal background and be drug free. Please apply at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405.

For Sale

Best offers, brand new wheelchair, walker and shower chair for sale. Call Bruce at (424) 229-0316

For Rent

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310)869-7901

3485 Sawtelle #17. 2 Bd + 1 Bth. Top floor corner w/ large balcony. Intercom, (1) gated parking, pool. $1595.

1271 Granville Ave. #301. 3Bd +3Bth corner penthouse with loft. $3775

2436 Louella Ave. 3 Bd + 2 Bth house in Mar Vista. 2,081 sq ft, carpeted floors, 2 car detached garage, LARGE kitchen. $3950.

1705 Crest Dr. 2Bd + 1Bth. Hardwood floors, W&D inside. $2095

WE HAVE MORE VACANCIES ON THE WESTSIDE. PETS WELCOME

www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

Bookkeeping Services

Accounting & Bookkeeping Service
Call 310.828.5494

QUICKBOOKS BOOKKEEPING SERVICE
Call 310 977-7935

Massage

A weekly massage and hair removal by Frank at your home. 323 973 0389 and Leave a Message Please.

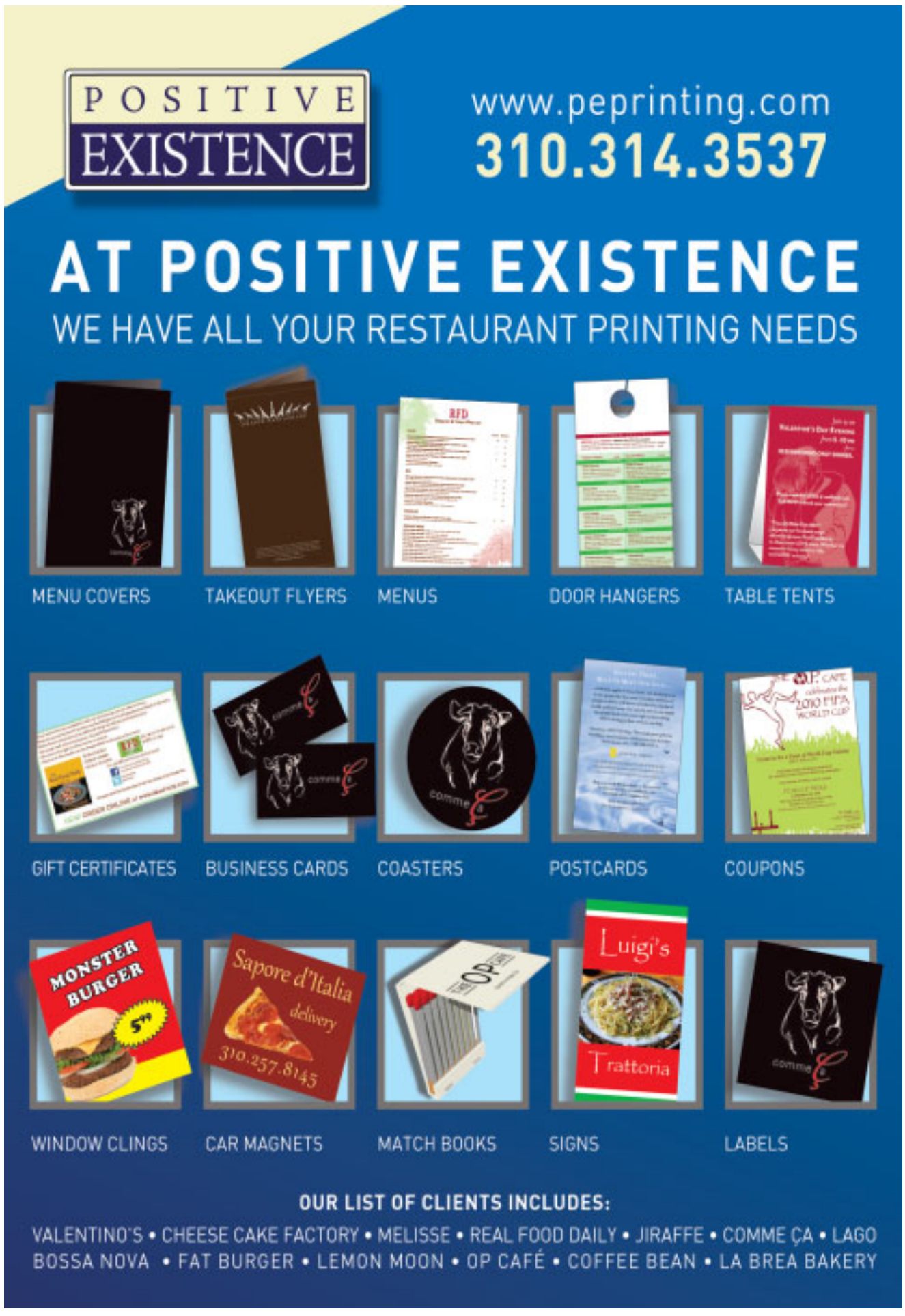
BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Experience Tranquility & Freedom from Stress through Nurturing & Caring touch in a total healing environment. Lynda, LMT: 310-749-0621

Services

Handyman

The Handy Hatts
Painting and Decorating Co.
SINCE 1967
RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL
SPECIALISTS IN ALL
DAMAGE REPAIR
"EXPERT IN GREEN CONCEPTS"
Free estimates, great referrals
FULL SERVICE HANDYMAN FROM A TO Z
Call Brian @
(310) 927-5120
(310) 915-7907
LIC# 888736





CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

Prepay your ad today!

VISA MasterCard American Express Card

(310) 458-7737

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: $7.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 30¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.



Kate Bransfield

Estates Director
Society of Excellence
Previews Properties Specialist
Coldwell Banker - Montana Avenue
310.395.1133
Kate@SantaMonicaListings.com

Featuring Your Home First!

....To find out how I get your home 1,000% more exposure online on over 100 websites

.....To find out the most up-to-date Santa Monica real estate information

....for more information & multiple photos of these Properties

visit:

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

619 Euclid Street

In Escrow

Great Square Footage

$2,899,000

North of Montana
Great Location



526 Palisades Avenue

In Escrow

17,250 +/- Square Foot Lot

$4,200,000

North of Montana
Vintage Treasure



Wants & Needs Corner

I represent Well-Qualified Buyers
who are looking for the following:

- Raw land or tear-down North of Montana & West of 7th St *(or possibly West of 10th Street)*
- Single Family Home *(minimum 3 bedrooms)* North of Montana up to $2,500,000
- Single Family Home North of Montana & West of 17th St *(minimum 4 bedrooms)* up to $5,300,000

If you or a neighbor are contemplating selling,

please contact me

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Mid May 2012

Santa Monica Canyon	=	$2,587,833
North of Montana	=	$4,175,826
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,353,571
South of Wilshire	=	$1,053,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,179,182
Ocean Park	=	$1,721,700

Statistics updated every Monday

Kate Bransfield
Proud Sponsor Of:

FRANKLIN Elementary School

Roosevelt Elementary School

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL
SANTA MONICA, CA

Santa Monica LITTLE LEAGUE established 1950

What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.