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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 169

Santa Monica Daily Press



SAMOHI FACES FAMILIAR FOE
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE **PRESS CONFERENCE** ISSUE

Ballot defeat means deeper cuts ahead

JUDY LIN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Now what? With few tricks up their sleeves, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and state lawmakers agree they can no longer avoid deep cuts to schools and government services after California voters rejected their special election budget proposals.

"I think the message was clear from the people: Go all out and make those cuts and live within your means," Schwarzenegger said Wednesday in Washington, D.C., after voters rejected a complex slate of propositions that included a spending cap, higher taxes, borrowing and raiding money from programs dedicated to young children and the mentally ill.

Schwarzenegger said the budget cuts ahead may be more painful than California voters realize.

Tuesday's ballot defeat was resounding, with two-thirds of voters rejecting the five budget-related propositions. They overwhelmingly passed a sixth proposition, which denies lawmakers and state elected

SEE **ELECTION** PAGE 11

Dealing with cliques in elementary school

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MONTANA AVENUE The alliances, bullying and teasing — it's not just a plot straight out of the teen hit "Mean Girls," but a normal occurrence in elementary schools.

That's what a group of parents learned on Tuesday night at Franklin Elementary School where Dr. Dorli Burge, a clinical psychologist and professor at UCLA, gave a talk about social interaction between girls in the

SEE **CLIQUES** PAGE 10



Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

WORKERS UNITED: **Nurses from Saint John's announce the filing of a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board on Wednesday.**

Saint John's nurses claim intimidation

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

MID-CITY Nurses at Saint John's Health Center who want to unionize have filed a third complaint with the National Labor Relations Board, claiming hospital managers threatened to arrest nurses who spoke about patient care at a recent City Council meeting.

Registered nurses held a news conference near Saint John's on Wednesday, saying hospital managers have continually harassed and intimidated those who have tried to organize, forcing nurses to communicate with each other behind closed doors with fear of losing their jobs. Some of the nurses have been working at the medical center for decades.

The latest complaint comes as the hospital faces prosecution by the labor board for allegedly violating federal laws by "interfering with, restraining and coercing" registered nurses by interrogating them and by forbidding them from wearing ribbons expressing their support for quality patient care, said Joe Newlin, a representative with the California Nurses Association (CNA), the union representing registered nurses.

A trial is scheduled for June 22, according to the CNA.

A representative from the National Labor Relations Board could not be reached for comment.

Nurses are calling for Saint John's to enter into a "fair organizing agreement," which will set up ground rules for an election in which nurses would vote for or against unionization. Nurses attempted to unionize six years ago, but the vote failed.

"The environment now is hostile toward nurses … ," said Lori Hammond, a life-long Santa Monica resident and a registered nurse in labor and delivery at Saint John's for almost 29 years. "As we said before, [the decision to join CNA] is ours and ours alone and we would like to make it without fear or retaliation. An organization that so blatantly wastes important resources to crush the hope, dreams and spirit of its workers is an organization that in the end will destroy itself because they will be left with just shells of nurses, nurses that have no spirit of their own."

Representatives from Saint John's declined to comment.

Liz Baker-Wade, a registered nurse at Saint John's for 10 years, spoke at the City Council meeting last week, presenting a report conducted by nurses on patient care.

While that report did highlight some

SEE **NURSES** PAGE 12

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Prose and poetry

Novel Cafe
212 Pier Ave., 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Come read, listen and enjoy free open prose and poetry readings every Thursday. Everyone and all genres are welcome, including poetry, fiction and non-fiction, as long as there is a 1,000 word limit per reader. Visit forthmagazine.com/weeklyreadings.php or call (310) 396-8566 for more information.

Laughter club

Shakti's Elements
717 Broadway, 11 a.m. — noon
Laugh your socks off in this form of body-mind yoga exercise for all ages and fitness levels. Visit www.kimselbert.com for more information, or call (310) 849-4642.
Cost in $10 per person.

Friday, May 22, 2009

Movie night by the bay

SM Pier
8 p.m.
Catch the world premiere of Dana Brown's latest release "Highwater." The movie is a story of paradise found and later lost. Tickets can be purchased on the pier's Web site, www.santamonicapier.org. Tickets will also be available at the door, but on a first come, first served basis.

Movies and more

WISE and Healthy Aging
1527 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
A movie and discussion will be held on the second and fourth Friday of each month followed by a lively discussion led by peer counselor Bert Dragin. Dragin has an extensive background in film having produced, written and directed three motion pictures. Each session is $3 per person and includes film, popcorn and discussion. Call (310) 394-9871 ext. 373 for more information.

Saturday, May 23, 2009

Yoga in the park

Palisades Park
Ocean Ave. and Palisades Ave., 10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Start your weekend off right with an energizing and rejuvenating yoga class in Palisades Park overlooking the ocean. Beginners and all levels are welcome. All you need is your yoga mat. If you have always wanted to try yoga, this class is for you. All classes are paid for by donation. Call (310) 560-4317 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi softball faces familiar foe in playoffs

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Playoff matchups usually feature teams that are seeing each other for the first time that season.

Apparently the seeding committee of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section didn't have that in the cards for Santa Monica High School's softball team (22-6 overall, 10-0 in Ocean League play) which has drawn a familiar foe in the first round of the Division IV playoffs.

For the third time this season, Samohi, winner of the Ocean League, will face South Torrance with the two teams having split a doubleheader in March. South finished fourth in the Pioneer League and advanced to the first round by defeating Lompoc in a wild card game.

"We're familiar with them," Samohi Head Coach Debbie Skaggs said. "But, every one is at a different point now.

"They are a different team, we are a different team."

She said that familiarity can go both ways.

In one sense, both teams can effectively game plan against each other. On the other, certain players have matured during the year making preparing for them that much more difficult.

Working in Samohi's favor is the fact that star pitcher Celisha Walker will be on the mound this time around. She was injured during the previous meetings, but has rebounded in time for the playoffs.

Possibly making matters worse for South, Skaggs said that Walker is proving to be a double threat, with her bat heating up at the right time of the season.

"I told the girls to be prepared for a good hurler on the mound," South Torrance Head Coach Dana Kuwahara said. "Hopefully our bats come around and can handle (Walker)."

That sentiment is shared by Samohi's Skaggs, whose team will have to face South's top starting pitcher Jessica Cherness, who defeated the Vikings earlier this season.

Skaggs credited Cherness with shutting down her offense during the first meeting and expects more of the same today during the 3:15 p.m. game at Samohi.

SEE ROUNDUP PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

RISKY BUSINESS: **The water near the Santa Monica Pier has been rated one of the most polluted in the state by Heal the Bay.**

Poor water quality may have better days ahead

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN There is finally some good news to come out of Heal the Bay's 19th Annual Beach Report Card for the Santa Monica Pier.

While the beach is still among the dirtiest in the state, making the top 10 "Beach Bummers" list and earning an F for water quality once again, the outlook is positive for a better grade next year thanks to the replacement of the aging and deteriorated pier storm drain, a project that was just completed this week.

The new drain, which is expected to cure the problem of dry weather runoff by diverting it to the Santa Monica Urban Runoff Reuse Facility for treatment, could mean the pier will post marks of As and Bs in the 2010 report card.

"There are some piers in California that are 'A' beaches," Mitzy Taggart, a senior scientist with Heal the Bay said on Wednesday during the release of the report card at the pier. "It's hard to get an 'A' but they get them."

The nonprofit organization analyzed available year-round data for bacteria levels at approximately 324 beaches across the state, finding that 85 percent had good water quality during the dry summer months, while 55 percent received poor grades during the wet weather season. More than 500 locations were monitored for dry weather grades.

Los Angeles County once again performed poorly in the report card, its beaches having the overall worst water quality in California, giving it a strong presence on the "Beach Bummers" list.

One beach that did move down on that list was the area around the Santa Monica Pier, which went from the second slot in 2008 to number five this year.

Councilman Bobby Shriver said he hopes the beach will move onto the report's newly established "Honor Roll" next year. Approximately 24 percent of beaches were

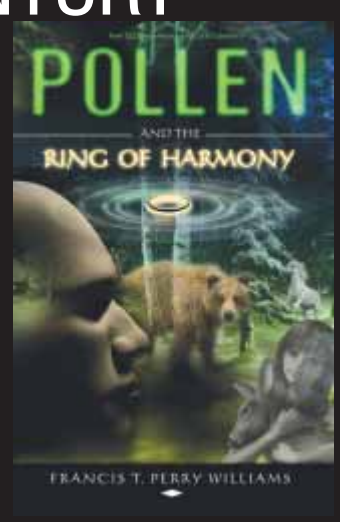
SEE REPORT CARD PAGE 12

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Shame on The Shores

Editor:

Numerous times I walk from my home on Sixth [Street] and Pier [Avenue] to the post office on Neilson Way.

Every Tuesday I pass by The Shores apartments. Every Tuesday I inform the yard crew that they cannot be using gasoline-powered leaf blowers in the city of Santa Monica. They shrug their shoulders like they don't speak English. I speak fluent Spanish and I explained to them the law in Santa Monica. Lo and behold the leaf blower action stops for a total of eight minutes, just long enough for me to walk into the post office building.

[The other day] I informed the office staff at The Shores of the infractions. Their response was "So what? Who are you?." Nothing else. When I exited the building, the yard crew was at it again. During this time two Santa Monica squad cars passed in front of the gardeners, one of whom had the blower in his hand, blowing trash into the gutter that drains to the ocean.

The Shores is allowing gross violation of Municipal Code Section 4.08.270, which reads "No person shall operate any motorized leaf blower within the city." And they act as though they have immunity from environmental laws because they cater to the rich and shameless.

Shame on The Shores – gross polluters who thumb their noses at the regulations we Santa Monican's have passed to keep our air breathable and our beaches clean.

The Rev. Glenn Roland
Santa Monica

Time for a transfer

Editor:

I am a Santa Monica resident who is frustrated with the city's unwillingness to enforce its leaf blower law. A few months ago, I called the police to complain about the constant noise and dust generated by leaf blowers in my neighborhood. The police told me that using a leaf blower is illegal in Santa Monica, and if the police witness someone using a leaf blower they will issue a ticket for a $1,000 fine. I told them that an officer could make the city $10,000 a day walking through my neighborhood. I was told the police had a shortage of officers and could not spare anyone to enforce the leaf blowing law. I asked them whether there was anything I could do. They sent me pamphlets, which describe Santa Monica's leaf blower law, and suggested that I give these pamphlets to the gardeners who are using leaf blowers.

Over the next several days I handed pamphlets to close to 20 different gardeners. Every single one told me that they were fully aware of Santa Monica's leaf blower law and the $1,000 fine, but had no reason to obey the law because the police didn't care. Some of the gardeners were very hostile, and ultimately I stopped handing out pamphlets because I feared for my safety. I then went back to the police, and told them that hand delivering the pamphlets was too dangerous, and suggested that the police send their pamphlets to homeowners. They said they did not have the staff to send out their pamphlets nor money to pay for stamps. I offered to volunteer my time. I was referred to a volunteer coordinator who ignored my calls.

Santa Monica certainly has no shortage of parking enforcement officers. The air and noise pollution caused by leaf blowers does exceptionally more public harm than illegal parking. It is time for the Santa Monica Police Department to transfer two of its parking enforcement officers to leaf blower enforcement. I urge everyone who agrees to repeat this suggestion to the police chief and City Council.

Elena Segal
Santa Monica

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
EMAIL TO: EDITOR@SMDP.COM OR FAX TO (310) 576-9913



Your column here

Dr. Mark Leenay

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's never too late to make a change

MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH, A tribute to our nation's 37.9 million 65-plus population. Older Americans Month is a great time for seniors to establish or renew their commitment to protecting their health. Many illnesses — often thought of as being age-related — can be prevented by making some simple lifestyle changes. It's the small things that can make healthy aging possible.

As first steps, seniors should stop smoking, exercise regularly and maintain a healthy weight. It is especially important for older Americans to eat nutritious foods. Older adults require the same nutrients as younger people, but should generally eat smaller portions, except for fruits and vegetables. Staying social by attending community events, keeping active by learning something new, and challenging the brain by playing mind games are ways seniors can adopt a healthier lifestyle.

Secondly, Older Americans Month should be a reminder to schedule any doctor appointments seniors have been putting off. Routine doctor visits and preventive screenings are some of the best ways seniors can protect their health and avoid serious health problems.

Seniors should bring all their medications to their appointments and closely review them with their doctor to make sure they're using them appropriately and avoiding potential drug reactions. It is also a good idea to bring a friend or relative along to doctor appointments so they can take notes on the doctor's recommendations as well as important test results such as blood pressure and cholesterol readings.

Finally, seniors should evaluate their Medicare plan to ensure it meets their health needs and fits their budget.

Seniors should check to see if the doctors whom they regularly visit are included in their Medicare plan's network and if the plan will cover preventive screenings. Taking a close look at their current plan and reviewing the other options available to them will allow seniors to be fully prepared to make any changes that are necessary during Medicare's Annual Election Period in the fall.

In addition to Medicare, many private companies, including subsidiaries of UnitedHealth Group, offer a variety of Medicare plans that offer benefits to help older adults live healthier, more secure lives. Seniors can visit www.Medicare.gov to review their Medicare options and make sure they've chosen a plan that's right for them.

Adopting a healthy lifestyle should not be an "all-or-nothing" attempt. Small, steady changes are easiest to achieve and maintain, and Older Americans Month is the perfect time for seniors to get started on their path to a healthier life. The most important thing seniors can do to enhance their overall well-being is to get started today.

Here are eight things seniors can do now to make a significant difference later in the life.

1) Quit smoking: Smoking is one of the top root causes of death, leading to heart disease, cancer and stroke.

2) Exercise regularly: There are easy ways older adults can get exercise without having a gym membership, such as taking a walk around the block or parking a little farther away from your destination.

FINALLY, SENIORS SHOULD EVALUATE THEIR MEDICARE PLAN TO ENSURE IT MEETS THEIR HEALTH NEEDS AND FITS THEIR BUDGET. SENIORS SHOULD CHECK TO SEE IF THE DOCTORS WHOM THEY REGULARLY VISIT ARE INCLUDED IN THEIR MEDICARE PLAN'S NETWORK AND IF THE PLAN WILL COVER PREVENTIVE SCREENINGS.

3) Maintain a healthy weight: Being underweight, overweight or obese increases risks for certain health problems.

4) Eat nutritious foods: Older adults require the same nutrients as younger people, but should generally eat smaller portions, except for fruits and vegetables.

5) Stay social and active: Get involved in your community and attend local events. Volunteering is a good way to keep busy and meet new people.

6) Challenge your mind: Take a class at your local community college and learn something new. Tackle a crossword puzzle or try Sudoku.

7) Manage your medications: Older adults must be careful to prevent drug interactions from their medicines. Tell your doctor about all the drugs, vitamins and herbs you take.

8) See your doctor: Routine doctor visits and preventive screenings are some of the best ways seniors can protect their health and avoid serious health problems.

DR. MARK LEENAY is senior medical director and vice president of clinical affairs for Ovations, UnitedHealth Group's senior health and well-being unit, and is board certified in geriatric, palliative and family medicine. He is an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Minnesota and holds an appointment at its Comprehensive Cancer Center.

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Broken role models

WITH AN ONGOING DEBATE ABOUT THE dearth of quality role models for young girls, when the Bratz dolls dress more provocatively than the Pussycat Dolls and even Dora the Explorer required a Glamour Shots makeover, it's a relief for parents knowing that a few women have emerged of late as bona fide mentors, poised to set positive examples for their daughters.

One girl who distinguished herself from the heap is Bristol Palin.

The daughter of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin begrudgingly entered into the spotlight last fall when her mom was running on the GOP presidential ticket with Sen. John McCain and it became apparent from her burgeoning belly that the boy Bristol had started dating while he was dating her best friend had knocked her up.

Bristol is now keeping busy in her new role as a teen mom and teen ambassador for Candies (the company best known for manufacturing shoes favored by prostitutes and tweens, and for employing other role models like twice-divorced, mentally incapacitated, single mother of two, Britney Spears; Ashlee Simpson, who, like Bristol, also got pregnant out of wedlock; "Heroes'" star Hayden Panettiere, who became famous when she was 17 by dating a co-star 12 years her senior; and Black Eyed Peas lead singer and former meth addict, Fergie).

She's on a national tour talking about preventing teen pregnancy (perhaps forgetting she told Fox News a few months ago that abstinence is "not realistic at all" for teens, and that her now ex-boyfriend recently admitted to Larry King that they used protection a whopping "most of the time"). Her cup of admirers undoubtedly runneth over (not to mention her bra cups from nursing) after each speaking engagement.

An additional young leader with overflowing cups is Miss California. Carrie Prejean may not have won the coveted Miss USA title last month, but she still managed to capture the attention of America's youth by explaining "opposite marriage" as being biblically incorrect and having the director of the Miss California pageant pay for her breast enlargements prior to the Miss USA competition so she'd have "the best possible confidence in order to present herself in the best possible light on a national stage." For letting all the girls out there know that a small mind is good enough to be the runner-up, and that big boobs equal big confidence, Carrie is already a legend.

Vanessa Hudgens, 23, is another young woman whose role model credentials are on the rise. She made herself known to 5-year-old girls everywhere as the squeaky clean brainiac Gabriella Montez in the wildly popular "High School Musical" trilogy, in addition to roles in other Disney fare like "The Suite Life of Zack and Cody" and Nickelodeon's "Drake and Josh."

To the delight of the parents of those 5-year-old girls everywhere who have Vanessa's face plastered on their walls, T-shirts and lunch boxes, she announced last week that she will show nudity in a film "when the time is right," especially if it's an "amazing movie." Fortunately she's already had some practice with indecent exposure. In 2007, sexy photos she shot of herself in her birthday suit hit the Internet to the delight of the older brothers of those 5-year-old girls everywhere.

Another shooting star not unaccustomed to viral images is Lindsay Lohan. Two years ago photos surfaced of her sticking a knife into her mouth while another girl pulled down Lindsay's shirt and pointed a knife at her chest. And last week's Life & Style magazine quoted Lindsay's mother as saying that the thrice-rehabbed, convicted drunken driving starlet "is a good person to have watch over [her 15-year-old sister] right now."

But it is Elizabeth Edwards who has surfaced in recent days as the true paragon of feminism. After publishing a book about her resilience in overcoming her husband's betrayal with another woman and telling Oprah in the first of a series of media interviews — "There is no excuse for women to do this … women need to respect women"— she has succinctly taught girls everywhere that trust and fidelity in relationships are out of their control as long as loose women are out there lurking in dark corners waiting to pounce on their men.

Because surely if John Edwards hadn't betrayed his cancer-stricken wife with Rielle Hunter, he would have remained faithful. Parents everywhere are reportedly snatching up copies of Elizabeth's book for their daughters so they can teach them how to properly stand by their man, and that dignity, accountability and family privacy are highly overrated, especially when there's a seven-figure book deal to be had.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithccarroll@hotmail.com.

The Q Line

Holding pattern over jet ban

A U.S. appellate judge upheld an injunction last week restricting City Hall from enforcing its ban on certain jets at Santa Monica Airport. An FAA hearing officer also ruled that the ban violated the city's agreement with the agency.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

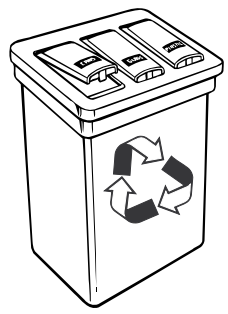
Should City Hall press its case further and perhaps take it all the way to federal court?

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Simple Real Food

Amanda Cushman — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A slice of heaven

I ENJOYED A WONDERFUL DINING experience the other night at Shutters in Santa Monica. One Pico is the name of the hotel's restaurant located right on the beach with ocean views from every window. First of all, Shutters is an amazing place. The whole thing just works so well. But the predominant feeling is of Nantucket or Cape Cod right on the beach. Since I am from the East Coast, I immediately feel at home when walking into the lobby, the place is just gorgeous and I have been there for a number of functions and events and each time am struck by the same feeling of comfort and ease.

Recently renovated, One Pico is located right next to the lobby and as you enter there is a long bar that leads into the lovely dining room.

I invited a friend and we were seated next to the window, which was a treat as the sun was setting.

The service was gracious and attentive and the small details such as room temperature butter for your bread and sea salt served in a tiny dish were not only noticed, but greatly appreciated.

There is a prix fixe menu offered that is quite a deal — $34 for a three course meal that includes choices such as fava bean salad, yellow fin tuna and filet mignon. We both ordered off that menu as well as a salad from the dining menu that I couldn't resist; shellfish and avocado that was served with meaty chunks of lobster, perfectly cooked shrimp and plump mussels over a bed of baby arugula. This was a perfect salad and for me that is saying something.

The dressing was just right, the ideal amount of seafood and the balance of flavors between the lobster and avocado was sublime. I will definitely order this again on a return trip.

For my first course I enjoyed a generous serving of creamy burrata with cured ham, basil and a scattering of homemade garlic crumbs. My friend had a lovely salad of fava beans, shaved artichokes and pecorino cheese. Both appetizers were executed beautifully.

For the entrée we had filet mignon with roasted asparagus and spring onions and seared tuna with salsa verde and crisp sautéed vegetables.

Once again the food was perfect, cooked just the right amount, seasoned well, and each bite was better than the last. I must say I could have licked my plate it was that good. The meal was served appetizingly presented on white plates by efficient, professional waiters.

We ended with a cheesecake served with fresh blueberries and blueberry sorbet that was also excellent.

I highly recommend One Pico, chef Michael Reardon deserves all the accolades he has received for his attention to detail, simplicity of preparation and ability to combine flavors with such perfect results. I will definitely be back for another terrific meal at this lovely spot in Santa Monica.

AMANDA CUSHMAN is a culinary educator who has cooked professionally for 25 years. She teaches privately for groups of two to 20 students. She has developed hundreds of recipes for cookbooks as well as food magazines and Web sites. She can be reached amandascooking@gmail.com.



Restaurant Snapshot

Merv Hecht — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Baking genius rises with Huckleberry

GENERAL COMMENT: ZOE NATHAN IS one of the best pastry chefs in town. Her desserts at Rustic Canyon Wine Bar are terrific. And they look pretty good at the new Huckleberry on Wilshire Boulevard, but getting to them is another story. Keep reading.

WHERE: 1014 Wilshire Blvd. Telephone: (310) 451-2311.

WHEN: Currently Wednesday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's best for breakfast.

BEST DISHES: The breads and the pastries are the reason to go there.

BEST FEATURE: The baked goods.

WORST FEATURE: It's almost impossible to get served in a timely way, and it's way too loud to eat inside. Maybe that will get better as the novelty of a new place wears off, but for now I recommend take out only — if you don't mind standing in line a long time. There seems to be only one person serving no matter how many people are in line, and each customer seems to have a dozen questions to ask before ordering.

WHAT TO DRINK: No beer, no wine, a good cup of coffee is $3.50 to $4.50, but it is good.

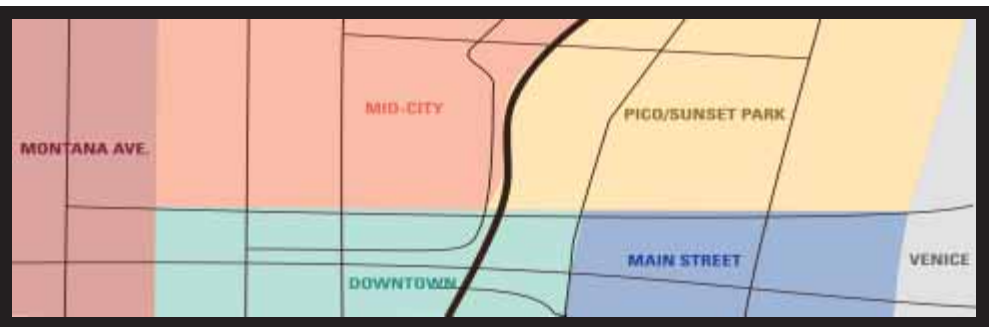
PRICES: Some items are really high. A small chocolate chip cookie is $2.50. The blueberry tart I was eyeing was $4. A beef sandwich is $12.50. A turkey meatball is $2 and you would want several to make a meal. Most of the customers I've seen are eating the salads, which are more reasonable. You can get a good sandwich or breakfast plate between $8 to $12, which is not bad.

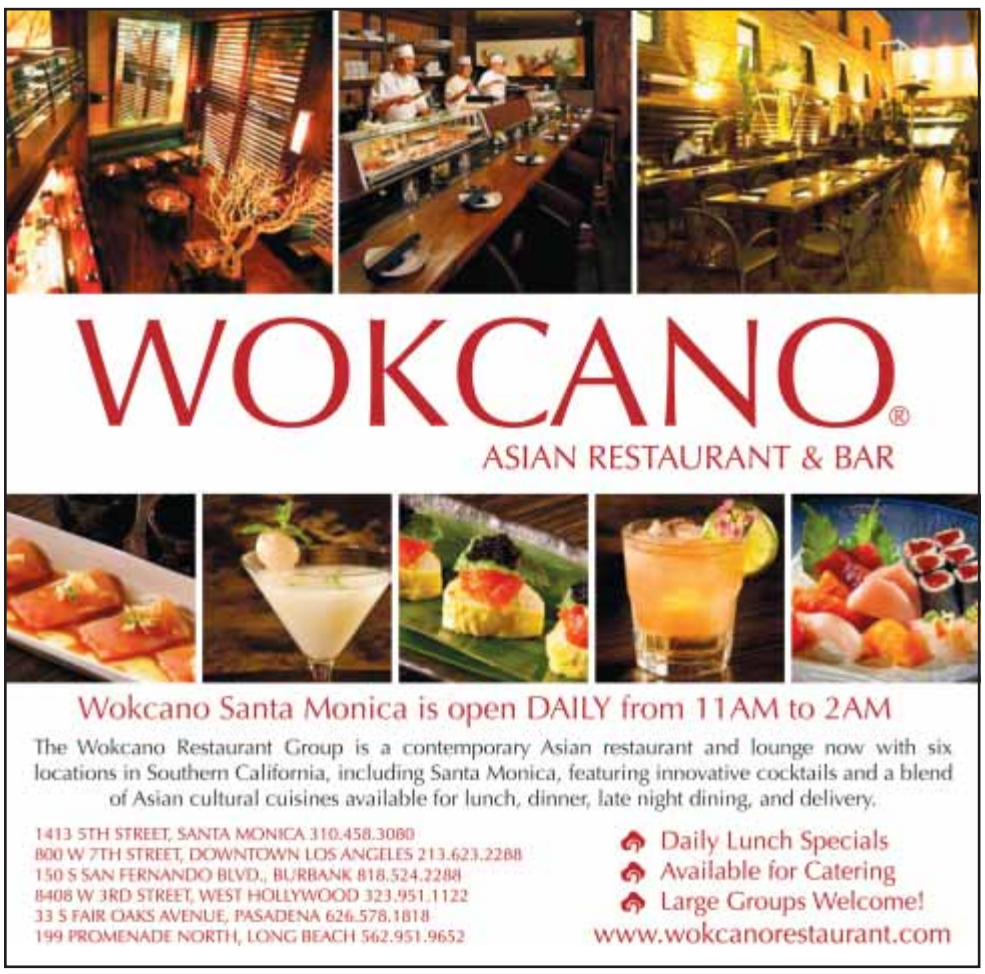
BOTTOM LINE: At the moment it's a madhouse, but it could improve with time. It's a great place for breakfast, and Santa Monica needs that. But the hours are too short and we need them to open up every day, and stay open for my afternoon coffee break at 4:30 p.m.

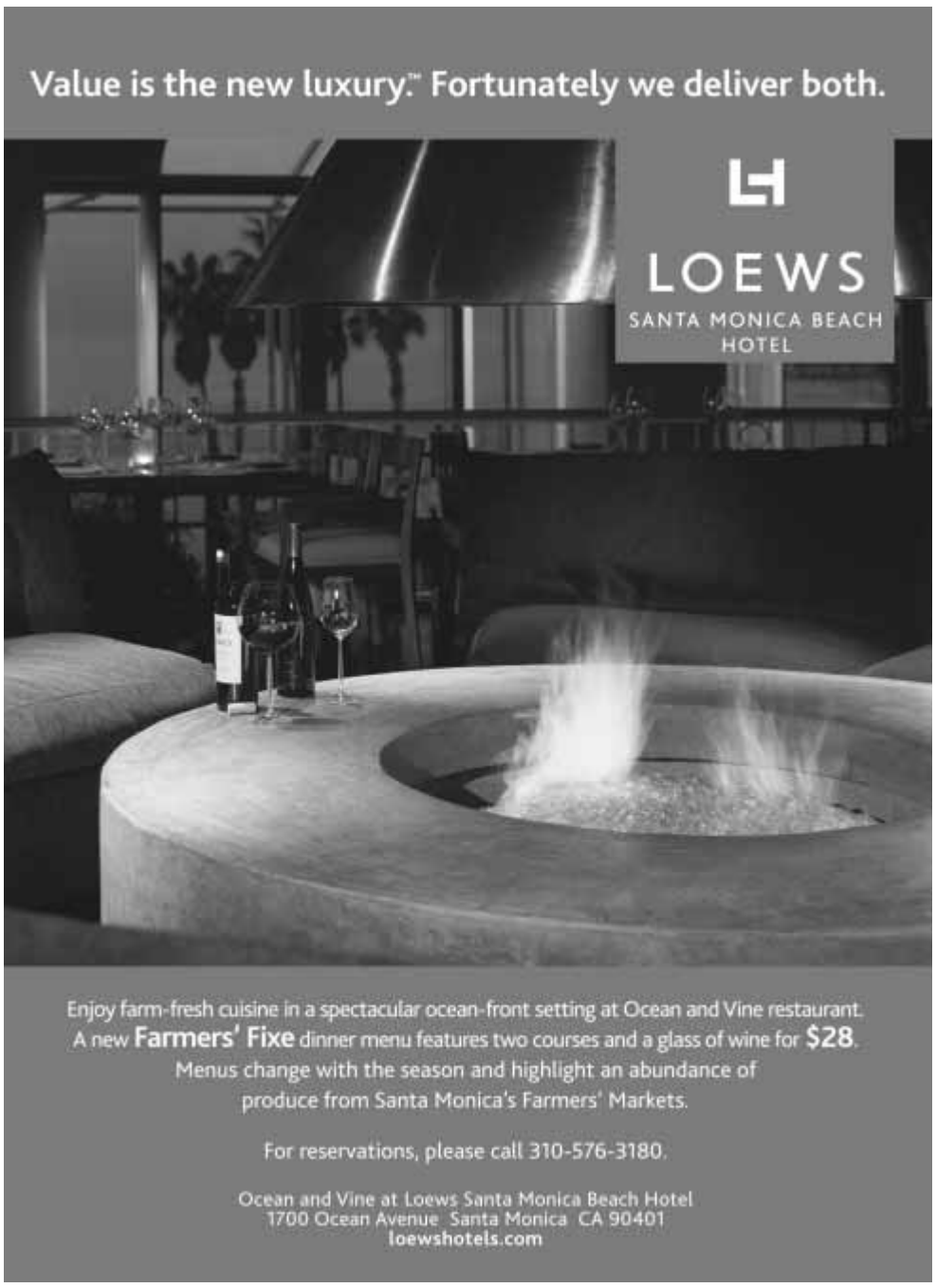
MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com

westside DISH

YOUR GUIDE TO DINING IN Santa Monica, Brentwood, West LA and Venice Beach







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Le Marmiton 1327 Montana Ave (310) 393-7716
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Patty's Gourmet Take & Bake Pizza 625 Montana Ave. (310) 576-6616
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Big Jos 1955 Broadway (310) 828-3191
Bistro Of Santa Monica Santa Monica Blvd (310) 453-5442

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Parents learn about social dynamics of cliques

FROM CLIQUES PAGE 1

later elementary school years, speaking about the power of cliques.

The event was sponsored by the Learning Differences and Parent Education Group, a subcommittee of the Franklin Elementary PTA that brings to light topics related to parenting, previously hosting talks by experts who covered issues such as sibling rivalry and ADHD.

"We feel as though girls social awareness are changing, particularly in the fourth and fifth grade, and we wanted to provide a forum for parents to hear about the different issues that might arise on the playground between girls," Sheila Spencer, who serves as co-chair of the subcommittee, said.

The event was not held in response to any sort of incident at the elementary schools, but a number of parents who attended mentioned their own children's experiences, speaking of queen bees and gossiping and group exiles. Some talked of how their children have been bullied, while others spoke of whose friendships have ended because of cliques.

While such social dynamics are often associated with middle and high schools, the group mentality does form in the latter elementary school years when children begin to connect with each other differently and start gaining more independence from their parents, relying on their friends more for support.

It's the age when the notion of popularity enters the picture.

"All of us are in a group and all of us have to figure out how to get along in groups," Burge said. "Groups have the power to be good, but they could also be quite cruel."

She adds that the social situations are also applicable to boys.

There are several rules that dictate the functionality of a group — its members must be like their peers, find a place in the social hierarchy, play a role and be in, or be out, she said.

Burge quoted research that showed approximately 15 percent of students are classified as being popular, while another 45 percent are considered to be accepted. There's another large group of students whose status is ambiguous, followed by students who are classified as neglected, rejected, submissive, and rejected and aggressive.

She said that bullying can typically go down the social ladder, perpetuated by a bullied student against a peer lower in the hierarchy. Which student is teased can depend on the chemistry of the clique at the time.

Children who are going through difficult times with their friends, whether it's through gossiping, teasing or feelings of exclusion, have a better time coping with their problems if they have a trusting relationship with their parents and other adults. Those who engage in other activities outside of school, will also be more likely to recover quickly.

When approached by their children about such an issue, parents should listen as much as possible without providing much input. The best thing for parents to do is to provide a safe environment at home and not feel as though they need to be the knight in shining armor, Burge said.

Parents should not approach the child who is teasing their daughter themselves, but should rather contact a teacher. Establishing a relationship with the other children's parents can also be helpful.

Gretchen Jacott, a parent at Grant Elementary School, said she was surprised to learn about cliques forming in elementary schools, something she expected would take place in middle school.

"I'm more concerned about junior high," she said.

Spencer, said that she feels it's important for parents to coach and guide their children and talk openly about such issues.

"I think it's about being proactive in trying to understand some of the challenges facing girls today as they change and their relationships change with their peers," she said.

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Samohi volleyball loses in second round of CIF-SS playoffs

FROM ROUNDUP PAGE 3

If Samohi is to win, its bats will have to generate more spark against Cherness, Skaggs said. She added that catcher Emma Woo has really started to swing the bat and expects her to play a key role on offense.

"The kids are hitting the ball better, playing better defense and communicating better," Skaggs said. "Those are all positive things that could lead to success in the playoffs."

SAMOHI VOLLEYBALL EXITS PLAYOFFS

The Vikings' boys volleyball team lost in the second round of the CIF-SS Division III playoffs to Oaks Christian in five sets, 25-23, 14-25, 25-22, 23-25, 15-11.

CROSSROADS TO HOST PLAYOFF GAME

Crossroads' baseball team will host Academy of Academic Excellence today at Clover Park at 3 p.m. in the first round of the CIF-SS Division VI playoffs.

The Roadrunners finished the season 14-5 overall and 5-3 in the Delphic League.

daniela@smdp.com





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Some highlights of the program include:

- Patriotic music provided by a local talented school choir and high school marching band
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- A dove release
- 21-gun salute
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City of Santa Monica

Event parking is available at the parking structure at Santa Monica College at 16th Street and Pico Boulevard and college parking lot located at the southeast corner of Pico Boulevard and 14th Street. The Big Blue Bus will be providing shuttles to and from Woodlawn Cemetery from 9:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There is no charge for parking or the shuttle. There will be NO parking allowed on the grounds of Woodlawn Cemetery.

For more information call 310-458-8717

Budget deficit primed to increase

FROM **ELECTION** PAGE 1

officials pay raises when the state runs a deficit.

Defeat of the measures means California's deficit for the fiscal year that begins in July will grow from $15.4 billion to $21.3 billion, roughly a quarter of projected general fund spending.

The shortfall remains that great even after lawmakers account for billions in aid from the federal stimulus package and more than $12 billion in higher income, sales and vehicle taxes imposed earlier this year.

A sharp drop in tax revenue has left a widening gap between the state's income and its spending obligations.

The Republican governor has proposed shortening the school year by seven days, laying off up to 5,000 state employees and taking money from local governments, a move that will directly affect police and firefighting services.

Schwarzenegger is open to lawmakers' alternatives to the budget options he presented nearly a week ago, said the governor's spokesman, Aaron McLear.

"If there are other ideas about how to close that $21 billion deficit, he wants to talk about that," he said.

Tens of thousands of teachers also face the prospect of layoffs. The state's largest teachers union, the California Teachers Association, has threatened legal action to recover $9.3 billion that would have been repaid to schools over several years under one of the rejected measures.

But Democratic lawmakers who hold a majority in the Legislature said they have few alternatives. Earlier this year, they cut $15 billion and enacted more than $12 billion in temporary increases to the sales, income and vehicle taxes.

There is little appetite for additional tax hikes.

"I don't think there is anyway to avoid significant across-the-board cuts," said Senate Majority Leader Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento. "Nothing will be immune from cuts."

Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, D-Los Angeles, said the Legislature will immediately begin budget hearings and try to pass an agreement before the start of the new fiscal year on July 1.

Rejection of the special ballot propositions will force lawmakers to approve a balanced budget without raising taxes again, said Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, R-San Luis Obispo, who is in line to become Assembly minority leader next month.

Blakeslee said the state may have to lay off workers, impose furloughs and renegotiate labor contracts to squeeze savings.

Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders agreed during an afternoon meeting that they must move quickly to fill the yawning deficit hole, Blakeslee said.

"The longer the wait, the deeper the cuts," Blakeslee said after the meeting, which lasted less than an hour.

Blakeslee said earlier Wednesday that state spending had been inflated in recent years by the dot-com boom and housing bubbles, and now must be reined in. The governor's proposed budget for the coming fiscal year will bring California back to 2005 spending levels.

Senate Republicans on Wednesday released a package of proposals focused on cutting state bureaucracy and relaxing business regulations.

Most state workers are taking two-day-a-month furloughs as part of the governor's mandate to reduce spending by 10 percent.

Schwarzenegger also has proposed laying off thousands of prison guards. Under his plan, the state would transfer undocumented immigrants to federal facilities and transfer more nonviolent offenders to local jails.

Tuesday's ballot rejection puts other unions on the defensive. Republican lawmakers recently blocked approval of a contract agreement with the largest state employee union, the 95,000-member Service Employees International Union Local 1000. They wanted to wait until the magnitude of the deficit could be gauged after the election.

SEIU members had agreed to be furloughed one day a month instead of the two imposed on other state workers.

The local's spokesman, Jim Zamora, said the union remains hopeful that the Legislature will approve the contract, which he said can save as much as $360 million through mid-2010.

"We know how big the deficit is. Rather than being victims of arbitrary cuts, we want to be participants," he said.

Despite the doomsday scenarios, California voters showed little interest in the special election, with most not bothering to cast ballots. According to the secretary of state's office, counties are reporting a preliminary turnout of 23 percent, or roughly 4 million of California's 17.1 million registered voters.

The lowest turnout on record for a California special election was 36 percent in 1993.

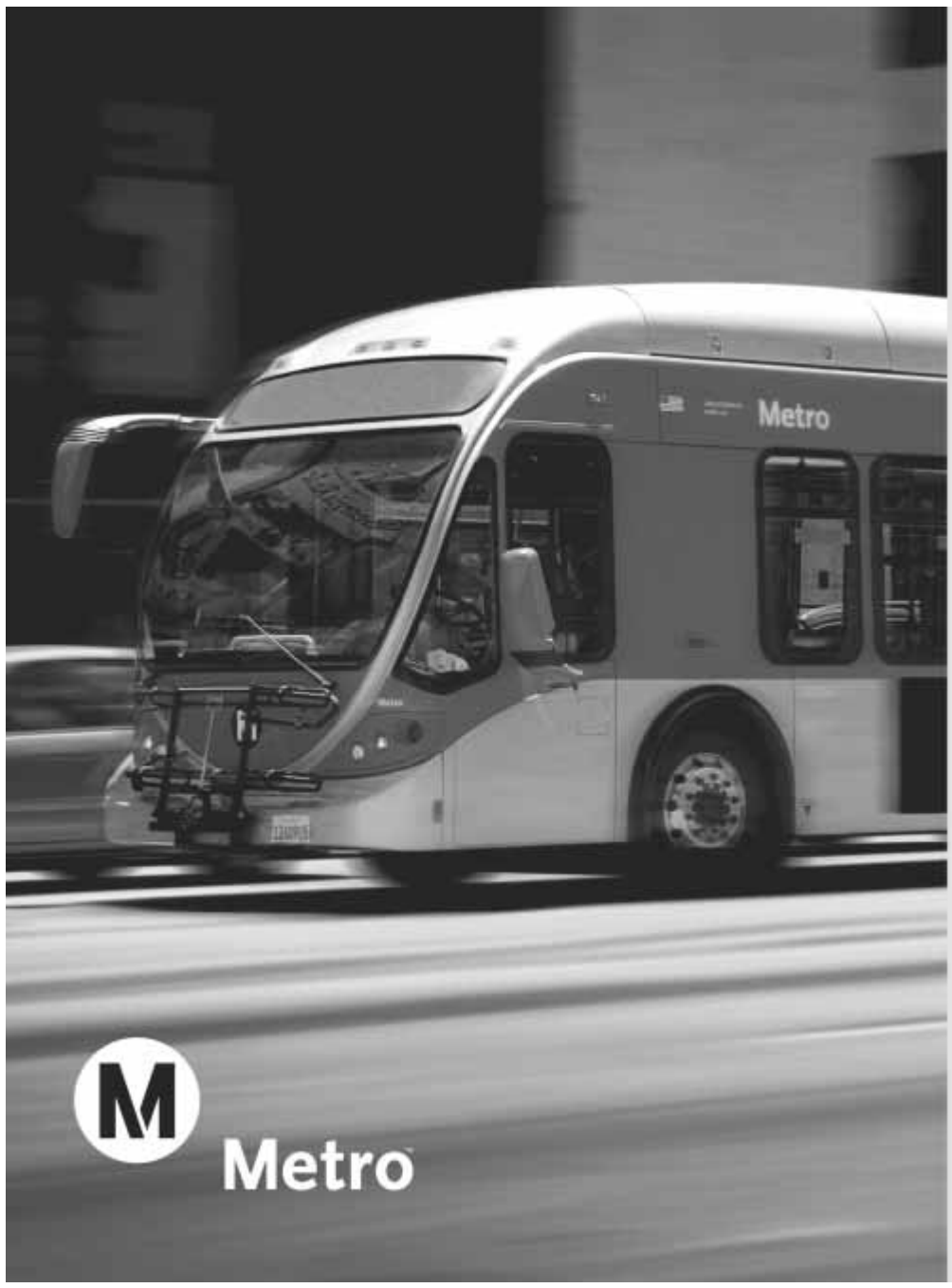
Joseph Zeccola, a 39-year-old drama and reading teacher, said the election results underscore how education ranks in California's spending priorities.

Schwarzenegger proposed cutting $3 billion from education and reducing the school year by five days if the ballot propositions had passed. Because they did not, the administration will seek to cut $5.4 billion from schools, which could shorten the school year by 7.5 days, trigger teacher layoffs and increase class sizes.

"It really seems like an assault on public education," said Zeccola, who expects to be laid off from his job at Los Angeles Academy Middle School at the end of June. "It will have a tangible impact."

The governor also proposed cuts to health care for children from low-income families, foster care and child welfare services.

He said he would borrow nearly $2 billion from cities and counties if Tuesday's measures failed. Such a move will be felt in nearly every household. Local government officials say police and fire services would be reduced, school class sizes would get larger, libraries would cut their hours and local parks would be messier.



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Pier could be headed off Beach Bummers list

FROM **REPORT CARD** PAGE 3

listed in the Honor Roll for having straight A+ the entire year.

"It's very embarrassing for the city of Santa Monica to have one of the most polluted beaches in the state, particularly under this great facility of the pier," Shriver said during the report card's unveiling.

Better water quality is expected with the completion of the pier storm drain project, which finished about four months ahead of schedule. The project was funded through Measure V, which voters passed in 2006 to pay for more than $40 million in water quality improvements. The storm drain is also expected to eliminate ponding of urban runoff, which can foster the growth of bacteria that then gets carried away into sea.

The pump for the storm drain was installed on Wednesday and was expected to be in operation shortly thereafter.

"We're just doing everything we can to eliminate potential sources of bacteria," Swain said. "We don't even know if we identified all of them yet.

"We definitely eliminated the pier storm drain in dry weather as being the source of bacteria."

Taggart said that she expects to see measurable improvement in the pier in next year's report. She pointed out that most of the beaches at Santa Monica received good grades.

"People should not be afraid to go to the beach, but quite the opposite," she said.

The state budget crisis apparently had an impact on the beach report card this year after Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's line item veto took out about $1 million in funding for state beach monitoring, according to Heal the Bay.

The result was that counties that rely on state funding, including San Diego, Santa Barbara and Ventura, had to eliminate or reduce their programs, leading to a lack of data for the beach report card.

"The reason beach water quality testing is so important is because the types of pollution that will make you sick from swimming is something you can't see or smell," Taggart said.

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THE TOP 10 BEACH BUMMERS

- Avalon Harbor Beach on Catalina Island (Los Angeles County)
- Cabrillo Beach Harborside (Los Angeles County)
- Pismo Beach Pier (San Luis Obispo County)
- Colorado Lagoon (Los Angeles County)
- Santa Monica Municipal Pier (Los Angeles County)
- City of Long Beach at L.A. River outlet (Los Angeles County)
- Poche Beach (Orange County)
- Surfrider Beach at Malibu Creek (Los Angeles County)
- Campbell Cove State Park Beach (Sonoma County)
- Doheny Beach at San Juan Creek (Orange County)

Saint John's facing prosecution

FROM **NURSES** PAGE 1

positives, it also focused on concerns about staffing ratios. Baker-Wade said in the days following the meeting, security threatened to have her arrested by the Santa Monica Police Department. Baker-Wade and other nurses said they spoke before the council because City Hall has a development agreement with Saint John's regarding the construction of a new facility and would like for elected officials to step in.

"The irony is that by threatening us for talking about an organizing agreement, the hospital administration has shown that an organizing agreement with fair ground rules is the only way that RNs' rights will be respected," Baker-Wade said.

Nurses at the press conference were joined by clergy from the community, including The Rev. James Conn, a former Santa Monica mayor.

The clergy members blasted Saint John's for not following the "Catholic doctrine." The hospital was founded and is owned by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, which follows the healing mission of the Catholic Church.

"I believe that all faiths believe in justice and justice in the work place often has to do with organizing, but it always has to do with being able to speak your mind, being able to say what you think is wrong and to address those grievances," Conn said. "We know that healing happens because of the care of nurses, doctors and other professionals and that should be the focus of Saint John's."

Nurses said they are concerned about patient care and would like an avenue to address their concerns and have input in the decision making process. They would also like representation during employee evaluations.

There are roughly 530 nurses at Saint John's, according to CNA.

kevinh@smdp.com

Environmentalists criticize offshore oil plan

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA MONICA A group of environmental leaders have criticized a proposal by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger that could bring the state $1.8 billion by allowing the first new oil drilling off California's coast in more than 40 years.

The proposal would revive a project on the Santa Barbara coast that was rejected by the State Lands Commission in January.

The legislation would give the Department of Finance the ability to reconsider the proposal.

The Finance Department's representative on the commission was the lone vote in support of the drilling project.

Fed reports unemployment rates could get even worse

SARA LEPRO
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Bank stocks led the market lower after the Federal Reserve cut its economic forecast and said unemployment could get worse.

The Fed's prediction Wednesday that the jobless rate could approach 9.6 percent — worse than its previous forecast of 8.8 percent — was especially ominous for banks since that data is a component of the government's recent "stress tests" designed to determine how healthy banks are.

The midafternoon release of minutes from the Fed's meeting deflated an earlier rally in financial shares, which had been rising after Bank of America Corp. said it raised $13.5 billion in a share offering. That put the bank more than halfway toward raising the capital it needed to under the "stress tests," whose results were announced two weeks ago.

The sharp swings in financial shares has been a typical market pattern in recent weeks as investors rush into and out of bank stocks based on the latest thinking about how well the industry will endure the economic slump and a credit crisis that brought down three Wall Street investment banks.

In other parts of the market, energy stocks surged as oil topped $62 a barrel for the first time since November, and Treasury prices rose smartly after the Fed said it might increase its purchases of government debt.

Carl Beck, a partner at Harris Financial Group, noted that the Fed's new estimate for unemployment is much closer to the "worst-case scenario" figure the government used during its tests on the 19 largest U.S. banks.

"Does that mean there is a worse case scenario than that?" Beck said. "I don't think after what we've seen over the last six to eight months that you can discount anything at this point."

The Dow Jones industrials fell 52.81, or 0.6 percent, to 8,422.04. The blue chips had been up as much as 117 points in early trading. The Standard & Poor's 500 index slipped 4.66, or 0.5 percent, to 903.47, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 6.70, or 0.4 percent, to 1,727.84.

Bank of America was the only major bank to get through the downdraft in financial shares, ending up 24 cents, or 2.1 percent, at $11.49.

Regional bank Regions Financial Corp. fell 35 cents, or 6.7 percent, to $4.89 after announcing a $1.25 billion capital raise in order to meet the government's demands to shore up its balance sheet.

Analysts are welcoming the capital raises from banks as a sign of stability and a vote of confidence in the financial system, but they fear banks are still a long way from scrubbing all the stains off their balance sheets.

"There is some uncertainty about the financials as a sector and people are a little bit leery about getting too involved with them," said Doreen Mogavero, president of Mogavero, Lee & Co. in New York.

Energy stocks posted some of the day's biggest gains. Marathon Oil Corp. rose 68 cents, or 2.3 percent, to $30.38, while Schlumberger Ltd. rose $1.03 to $55.04.

Stocks ended mixed Tuesday after a record low in housing construction undermined optimism that had been building in recent weeks about the beleaguered housing market, which had been beginning to show some early signs of easing a three-year slide.

Despite back-to-back dips on Tuesday and Wednesday, the S&P 500 index is still up 33.5 percent since March 9, and about even with the beginning of 2009. Many market-watchers think stocks could be due for another fall after their steep ascent over the past two months.

"Just as markets sometimes go too far on the negative in the short-term, they can go too far in the positive," said Subodh Kumar, an independent investment strategist in Toronto. "I think right now the markets will have trouble keeping momentum."

Cell phones double as digital rattles

ROSE HANSON
For The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio When Annamarie Saarinen needed to soothe her ailing daughter, she used a rattle — downloaded to her iPhone.

Jeff Hilimire uses a white noise application on his phone to make shushing noises for his infant daughter. And Tracie Stier-Johnson lets her young daughters answer trivia questions on her phone while waiting in the doctor's office or at parent-teacher conferences.

"You can only play 'I spy' so many times," said Stier-Johnson, 40, of Racine, Wis., whose daughters like the "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" game she loaded on her iPhone.

Parents have handed their cell phones to children as distractions since they were invented, and toy versions tap into kids' love of pushing beeping buttons and playing with electronic gadgets like the ones their parents have. But a mushrooming number of applications on smartphones have parents using them more than ever as modern baby rattles.

These wired-up phones allow parents to play number and letter games with their preschoolers or to get a few minutes of quiet when children watch movie clips on a plane or while waiting for a restaurant table.

Jenny Reeves, 34, of San Antonio, lets her boys — ages 3 and 2 — type words or flip through pictures of themselves and their dog on her BlackBerry when they have to pass time without books. Her older son is learning to send e-mails to his grandparents and dad that say, "I love you."

"It's almost as good as lollipops," Reeves said.

People also are making their phones parenting helpers, downloading applications to turn them into impromptu baby monitors, to research nutrition information in grocery aisles and to check their babies' growth rate compared to average measurements.

Hilimire, a 33-year-old father from Atlanta, started putting his iPhone to use before his daughter was born, when he timed contractions with the phone's stopwatch and downloaded software that showed the size of the growing baby.

Now when his infant daughter gets fussy in the car or during a walk, he puts his iPhone in her carrier to play the free application called White Noise Lite. "It immediately relaxes her," he said.

Stier-Johnson leaves her iPhone near her sleeping 3-year-old daughter to listen for her to wake when she sits near her pool, which is out of range for her regular baby monitor. An application she downloaded prompts her phone to call her home number or her husband's iPhone when her daughter makes a noise.

And the phones have been put to work in times of crisis, too. Saarinen and her husband Paul, of Minneapolis, used a program called Cardio Calc on his iPhone to track their infant daughter Eve's health information during a recent stay in a Boston hospital for heart surgery to repair problems including a leaking valve.

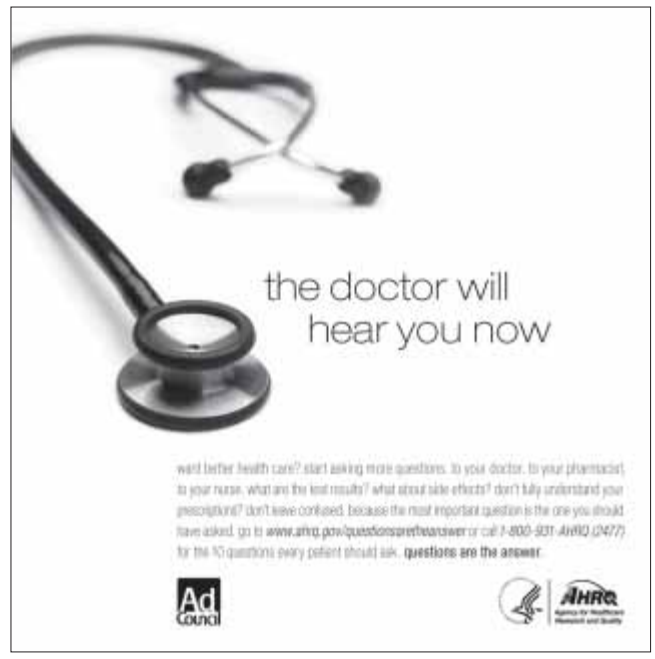
A free rattle application, Baby Rattle Bab Bab Lite, showed spinning graphics and chimes when Eve moved it around. It stopped her most intense crying when she was coming off pain medication, Annamarie said.

Smartphones can be an expensive child diversion, to be sure. Some parents set rules for kids to try to prevent damage, such as no shaking and no carrying the phone on hard surfaces in case it's dropped.

And some have trouble keeping their phones away from the children, or worry about limiting phone time once the children move into elementary school.

Brooks Duncan, of Vancouver, British Columbia, has to hide his iPod touch from his 2-year-old. "If he sees it, he'll go for it and want to play with it," said Duncan, 35, who bought the device when his children started arguing over their grandfather's iPhone.

Sascha Seegan, lead mobile device analyst for PCMag's network of Web sites, said a good chunk of available apps are useless. Apple's App Store has 35,000 applications for iPhone and iPod touch. Handango.com sells 140,000 titles for various phone brands, and a couple hundred of those are aimed at parents and young children, said Alex Bloom, president and chief executive officer.





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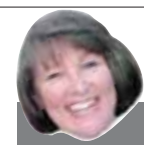
City of Santa Monica
Notice Inviting Bids

Pursuant to section 600 of the City Charter, newspapers adjudicated to be newspapers of general circulation published in the City of Santa Monica are hereby invited to submit bids to publish legal notices, and other matters required to be published, for the City for the 2009-10 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009. The City shall consider the following criteria when selecting the official newspaper for the publication of such notices:

- Proof of adjudication
- Amount of bid (ad rate)
- Circulation (including copies per issue, documented readership and trends)
- Delivery methods (newsracks, home delivery, on-line, other)
- Publication schedule (weekly, daily)
- Percentage of local news carried
- Fiscal intregity
- Reputation of publication

In no case shall the contract prices for such publication exceed the customary rates charged by such newspaper for the publication of other comparable legal notices. The City reserves the right to reject all bids.

Bids should be submitted in writing to the **Office of the City Manager, Attn: Newspaper Advertising Bid, 1685 Main Street #209, PO Box 2200, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2200** and received no later than **Friday, May 29, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.**



Play Time

Cynthia Citron — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The soft shriek of truth

LYDIA R. DIAMOND'S NEW PLAY, "Stick Fly" is "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" turned inside out. You all remember the 1967 movie in which the beautiful young white woman brings her brilliant black fiancé home to meet her liberal upper-class parents? Well, in "Stick Fly" the parents are upper class, intellectual African-Americans, and the two brothers (one a surgeon, the other an about-to-be published novelist) have brought their girlfriends home to meet them.

"Home" in this case is their elegant summer "cottage" on Martha's Vineyard that has been owned by their mother's illustrious family since the 18th century. And it's not in Oak Bluffs, the traditional African-American community on the island, but in an area where almost all of the neighbors are white. "Although I'll bet they all wish we'd move to the Bluffs," the father notes wryly.

"Stick Fly" is a play about race and class and gender issues, about diversity, and about white privilege. It's also about family relationships, sibling rivalry, and what makes a man a man. All brought to the forefront infused with comedy, anger, resentment, some gripping industrial-strength dialogue, and a few secrets.

The head of the family is Dr. Joseph LeVay (John Wesley), a distinguished neurosurgeon, but an undemonstrative, overbearing father who treats both his sons with undeserved contempt. The older son, Flip (Jason Delane), is merely a plastic surgeon, which doesn't count for much with his father. The younger son, Kent (Chris Butler), has been acquiring college degrees while he tries to figure out what he wants to do with his life. His successful novel answers that question for him, but not for his father.

Dr. LeVay, however, always true to his own "macho" image, knocks himself out being courtly and charming to the women his sons have brought home.

Kent's woman is Taylor Bradley Scott (Michole Briana White), an intensely emotional entomologist with father issues. Her father, a renowned prize-winning sociologist, left his family before she was born, and so she is awkward and overly chatty as she tries too hard to "fit in" to this unfamiliar family setting.

Flip's girlfriend is a stunning white woman, Kimber Davies (Avery Clyde), who confidently displays all the typical pseudo-liberal attitudes of her Peace Corps generation and earns the immediate enmity of almost everybody else, especially Taylor.

Even with all these strong characters, however, the real heart of the play is Cheryl, the 18-year-old "kitchen help" who compels everyone to examine their prejudices, their beliefs, and their behavior. As Cheryl, Tinashe Kajese performs an acting tour de force, being in turn submissive, arrogant, angry, and then, in one thoroughly moving scene, a raving hysteric. While all the other actors, admittedly, are extraordinarily genuine and skilled, she is magnificent.

Also magnificent is John Iacovelli's set, the inside of a beautifully furnished and stately home, and Christian Epps' lighting design, which brings in the golden sunlight of early morning on the Vineyard so poignantly that you can almost smell the dew.

Award-winning director Shirley Jo Finney, well known to southern California audiences (her most recent play here was the acclaimed "Yellowman" at the Fountain Theatre), has managed her outstanding cast with a reliable hand as each of them makes their individual Matrix Theatre Company debut. And, as might be anticipated, this sterling production has just been extended for an additional month.

"Stick Fly" will run Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through June 28 at The Matrix Theatre, 7657 Melrose Ave., in Los Angeles. Call (323) 960-7740 for tickets.

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

Parker concerned for surrogate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Sarah Jessica Parker says she's concerned for the safety and well-being of the surrogate through whom she and husband Matthew Broderick are expecting twins.

The "Sex and the City" star tells "Access Hollywood" that the attention has led to an invasion of the woman's privacy. Parker says the stress has taken its toll on her, and she worries about her "and the safe delivery of our children."

The 44-year-old says in an interview airing Tuesday that the surrogate's telephone and computer have been hacked into, and she's received threats. Parker says it hasn't ended there: "She's had friends threatened and family threatened and she's had family of friends threatened."

"I care deeply about her and I am incredibly outraged by the sort of extraordinary and unprecedented invasion of her privacy," says Parker. "I think even given the unfortunate way we live now in this unending appetite for the more salacious information, it has still shocked me, and it has still really disappointed me."

Parker said a pregnant friend of the surrogate was also chased by the paparazzi.

"She's had a friend who was thought to be her chased down a highway ... This friend is nine months pregnant — chased down a highway by photographers and dare I call them 'reporters.' I guess that's how they identify themselves," she said. "It's crossed lines — Pretty much all the lines have been crossed."

The couple has a 6-year-old son, James Wilkie Broderick.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

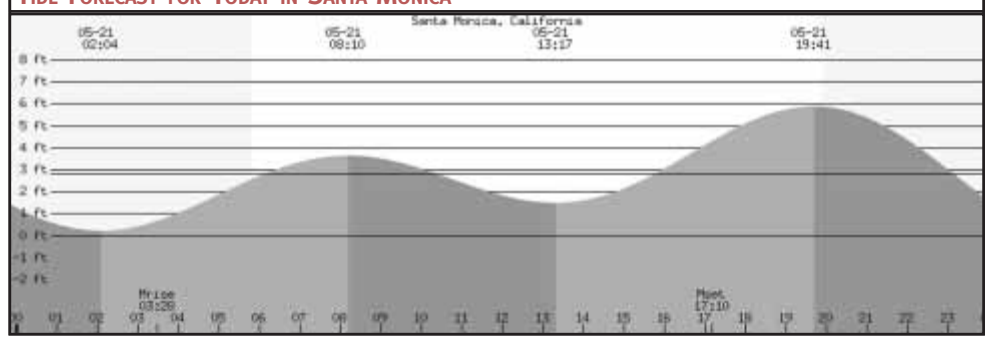
Swell Forecast (1-1 FT)

Thursday the 21st looks small as well, knee high at best most everywhere. A slight bit of wind swell may help west facing breaks with an occasional waist high set from time to time, but overall, it's looking pretty weak.

Long Range Synopsis

Friday the 22nd looks small too, knee high at best most everywhere, perhaps waist high at times at west facing breaks from the wind swell.

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 four weeks up to the ending date of: **May 13, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 48
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 48

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Tommy (PG) 1hr 51min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Angels & Demons (PG-13) 2hrs 20min
12:30, 3:45, 6:50, 10:00

Brothers at War (R) 1hr 52min
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

Obsessed (PG-13) 1hr 45min
2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50

Star Trek (PG-13) 2hrs 6min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG-13) 1hr 40min
2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30

Earth (G) 1hr 30min
12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Angels & Demons (PG-13) 2hrs 20min
12:50, 1:20, 4:00, 4:30, 7:10, 7:40, 10:10

Angels & Demons (Digital) (PG-13) 2hrs 20min
12:10, 3:30, 6:40, 9:50

Star Trek (2009) (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20

Star Trek (2009) (PG-13) 2hrs 06min (Closed caption & descriptive video)
12:20, 3:20, 6:20, 9:20

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Jerichow (NR) 1hr 33min
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50

Tyson (R) 1hr 30min
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

Management (R) 1hr 33min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

Little Ashes (R) 1hr 52min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

17 Again (PG-13) 1hr 42min
7:40

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (PG-13) 1hr 47min
Noon, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00

State of Play (PG-13) 1hr 58min
1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

The Soloist (PG-13) 1hr 49min
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

X-Men Origins: Wolverine (PG-13) 1hr 47min
Digital Projection
1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

Next Day Air (R) 1hr 24min
12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:40

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

Your treat, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Follow your high energy and interests. Opportunity strikes when you least expect it. Consider options presented in a meeting. Finally, you get a glimmering of what could happen. What is stopping you? Tonight: Your treat.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Finish off any paperwork or matters that demand thought and reflection. Anger or frustration could come out of left field — so you think. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Gather your friends, and draw different opinions, a lot of humor and many different perspectives. Share more and understand what motivates others. Walk in their shoes. You will be able to grasp much more about key people. Tonight: Try to make it early.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Stay on top of your work, responsibilities and other details. A comment could hit you the wrong way, causing an explosive or difficult situation. Someone clearly demonstrates his or her feelings and caring. Tonight: Catch up with a friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep seeking out new perspectives and attracting different types of solutions. Opportunity strikes if you are ready to seize the moment. Others seem unusually imaginative. Seek out experts in order to get feedback. Tonight: Go for something different.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Stay open to a partner's or associate's suggestions, unless you want to have a brush with this person's temper. Use good sense with nutrition and exercise. If you always wanted to take a class in yoga or martial arts, think about doing so now. Tonight: Go with another's suggestion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Others continue to dominate. Be aware of another's anger, and attempt to assuage a situation before it gets worse. Understand this person's limits, but sharing this knowledge with them might not be smart right now. Tonight: Share your imagination.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Toss yourself into work, and get as much done as possible. Establish limits and do not back off of them. Avoid daydreaming and not focusing. A family member or roommate could be holding something back. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Sometimes you could have a hard time dealing with all the commotion in your life. Clear out problems through brainstorming with several inspired associates. Know that you have limits, and honor them. Tonight: Only what appeals to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Center on what is important. Don't allow anyone to distract you. Understanding blossoms when sharing some wild ideas. Be careful with a sure-bet financial deal. It probably is too big of a risk. Tonight: Happily mosey on home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Keep communication flourishing. Don't hesitate to go for a long-thought-of idea or dream. Reactions could be most helpful in steering your course. Tap into Lady Luck, who seems to be right there. Talk about what you want. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Your instincts guide you with money and business. Still, do a reality check and question your decision through a talk with someone who has been a sound adviser. Someone you meet today could be withholding some information. Tonight: Indulge a little.

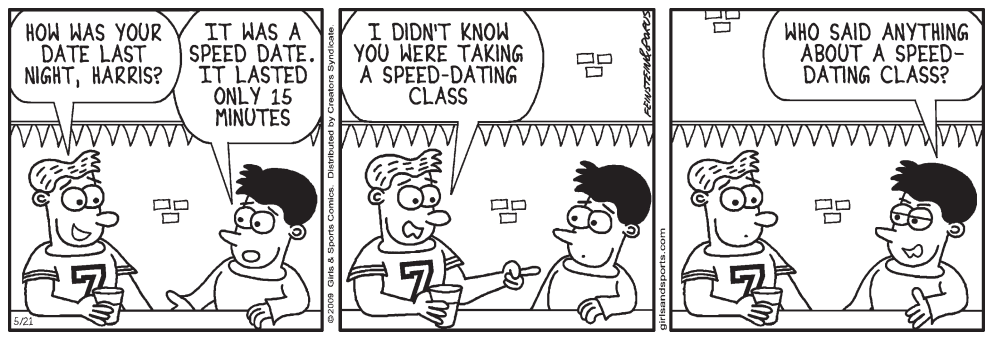
Happy birthday

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

This year, you make a difference in the outside world and within your immediate circle. You might need/want a lot of time alone to reflect. In truth, you will transform and grow in new ways. Getting past many self-imposed barriers will become a possibility. What you want could tumble into your lap from out of nowhere. Be aware that others observe and care about your community and public image. If you are single, you meet people with ease. Relationships might not be on a steady course at first, especially this year. You could choose someone quite special who isn't available. TAURUS understands you well.

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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Santa Monica, CA

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 ★★★

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Check the Web site for color. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Obi-Wan's portrayer
5 Lover
10 Infamous emperor
11 Uncommon
12 Pernicious
13 Took a stroll
14 Bonanza
16 Ride a sailboard
20 New York cathedral, familiarly
23 Glimpse
24 Learns about
25 Act part
27 "Exodus" hero
28 Increases
29 Quixote target
32 Talkative folks
36 Remnant
39 Pennsylvania port
40 Glorifies
41 Balance
42 Valleys
43 Skin art, in slang
4 US/USSR tension
5 Bring close to boiling
6 Room sides
7 Refuge
8 Drink cooler
9 Homer's neighbor
11 Graceful birds
15 Belongs
17 Calls on
18 Budget amount
19 Club costs
20 "Saint Joan" writer
21 Co-star of Felicity and Eva
22 Aspirin target
25 Auctioneer's cry
26 Stephen of Comedy Central
28 Ties
30 Live
31 Breath fresheners
33 Neighborhood
34 Basic idea
35 Match parts
36 Rocker Nugent
37 Chopping tool
38 Lass

DOWN

1 Fresh
2 Jacob's son
3 The Emerald Isle

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	■	■	5	6	7	8	9
10				■	11					
12				■	13					
14				15				■	■	■
■	■	■	16					17	18	19
20	21	22				■	■	23		
24					■	25	26			
27			■	■	28					
29			30	31				■	■	■
■	■	■	32					33	34	35
36	37	38				■	39			
40						■	41			
42					■	■	43			

5-21

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 2 4 9 15 42 Meganumber: 13 Jackpot: $16M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 2 6 27 35 36 Meganumber: 1 Jackpot: $14M

Fantasy 5: 7 20 26 38 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 8 0 EVENING: 7 6 2

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 06 Whirl Win 2nd: 10 Solid Gold 3rd: 01 Gold Rush RACE TIME: 1.45.36

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In April, the City Council of Vero Beach, Fla., grappling with the question of how much skin can legally be exposed in public, adopted the definitions that at least two other Florida jurisdictions use (and which were reported in News of the Weird). "Buttocks," for example, is "the area of the rear of the body which lies between two imaginary lines running parallel to the ground when a person is standing, the first or top such line drawn at the top of the nates (i.e., the prominence of the muscles running from the back of the hip to the back of the leg) and the second or bottom line drawn at the lowest visible (sic) of this cleavage or the lowest point of the curvature of the fleshy protuberance, whichever is lower."

■ Convicted Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols, now serving a life sentence in the Florence, Colo., "Supermax" prison, filed a 39-page federal lawsuit in March alleging unconstitutional "cruel and unusual punishment" because the refined-food, low-fiber meals give him "chronic constipation (and) bleeding hemorrhoids." He demanded fresh raw vegetables and other high-fiber foods, necessary to "keep one's body (i.e., God's holy temple) in good health." Nichols was joined in the lawsuit by fellow Supermax resident Eric Rudolph (the convicted abortion-clinic and Atlanta Olympics bomber), who claimed "gas and stomach cramps" and observed that "our bodies" are "sacred and should be treated as such."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1959 the musical "Gypsy," inspired by the life of stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, opened on Broadway.

1979 former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in the slayings of Mayor George Moscone and openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk; outrage over the verdict sparked rioting. (White was sentenced to seven years, eight months in prison; he ended up serving five years and committed suicide in 1985.)

WORD UP!

satiety \suh-TY-uh-tee\, *noun*: The state of being full or gratified to or beyond the point of satisfaction.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20090645564 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FLECK PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, AI #/ON 2483367, 12760 W. WASHINGTON BLVD., SUITE 201, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES; PO BOX 66035, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : FLECK PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC., 12760 W. WASHINGTON BLVD., SUITE 201, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/1/2002. /s/: FLECK PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC., CEO, JEFFREY FLECK
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/1/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 5/7/2009, 5/14/2009, 5/21/2009, 5/28/2009

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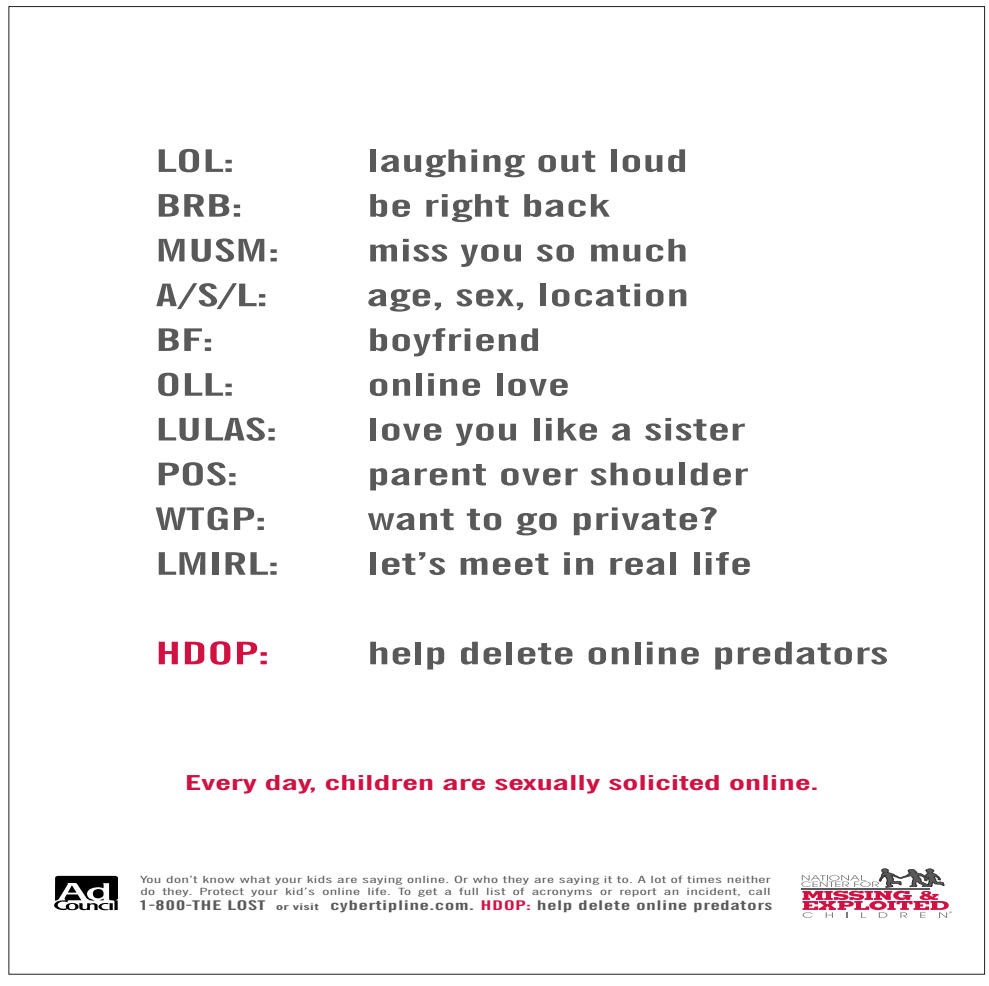
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720 17th Street
1 Bed, 1 Bath
$1,399,000
Lowest Priced
Single Family Home
Open Sunday, May 24th from 2-5 pm



123 Georgina Avenue #2
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$1,349,000
North of Montana
Beautifully Updated Townhome
Open Sunday, May 24th from 2-5 pm



2721 Washington Avenue
Charming 2 Bed, 1 Bath
Or
Build Your Dream Home!
$1,449,000
Easy to Show
Call for Appointment



1222 Princeton Street #17
2 Bed, 1 Bath
$459,000
Top Floor Unit at
Wilshire and Princeton
Open Sunday, May 24th from 2-5 pm



1118 3rd Street #506
2 Bed, 2 Bath
$1,299,000
Fabulous City & Ocean Views
Beautifully Remodeled 2008
Easy to Show
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1135 Berkeley Street
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$1,500,000
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	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
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North of Montana	$3,522,500	$1,012,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,600,000	$930,000
South of Wilshire	$899,500	$599,250
Sunset Park	$1,112,500	$727,000
Ocean Park	$1,249,000	$964,750

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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