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FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 164

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

ALL EYES ON FREE AGENCY
SEE PAGE 12

THE WHERE THERE'S SMOKE ... ISSUE

Pot bust raising questions

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

SM AIRPORT Federal law enforcement officials earlier this month found more than 300 pounds of marijuana on a plane that departed from Santa Monica Airport, raising questions about security at small, general aviation facilities.

SEE **BUST** PAGE 10

Smoking ban may expand

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Santa Monica's already strict anti-smoking laws could get even tougher.

Responding to residents' complaints that the existing ban on smoking in the common areas of apartments and condos doesn't go far enough, City Council members Gleam Davis and Kevin McKeown are asking their colleagues to support a proposal that would extend the no-smoking zone to include many residents' private patios and balconies.

Significant details of the potential new ordinance — including how it would be enforced — are to be determined.

But if a majority of council members support the idea on Tuesday night, the City Attorney's office would be directed to prepare an enhanced anti-secondhand smoking ordinance that would come back before the council for final approval.

As members of the political party Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, both

SEE **SMOKING** PAGE 8



Wendy Perl *perlphoto.com*

SKY WALKER: **Santa Monica High School's Celisha Walker leaps into the air to grab a high chopper while Hayley Condon (right) watches on Thursday at Samohi. The Samohi Vikings won the CIF-SS Division 4 playoff game, 12-0, over El Segundo.**

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

Samohi's Walker does it all during huge win

Vikings top El Segundo, 12-0, advance to second round of CIF-SS playoffs

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Celisha Walker was a one-woman wrecking crew on Thursday.

The senior pitcher committed to play for New Mexico State next year threw a complete game shutout against El Segundo during a 12-0 rout to open the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 4 playoffs.

Oh, and she went 3-for-3 at the plate with a single, double and triple. She also knocked in three runs as the Vikings advanced to face the winner of the Garden Grove-Apple Valley game, also played on Thursday. Results were not available at presstime.

"I was feeling confident today," Walker said. "I have a good defense behind me."

That defense played a major role early on as the Vikings fended off El Segundo's best scoring opportunity with the game tied at nil in the top of the third inning. With El Segundo's Erin Burner on first, Aly Doering hit a sharp ground ball to Walker who committed a throwing error trying to force Burner at second. The ball trickled into center field putting runners at first and second with just one out.

With the game very much in doubt, Walker was able to escape the inning, setting the stage for the Vikings to break the game open.

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 8

Samohi baseball ousted

It's one and done for the Santa Monica High School baseball team.

The Vikings surrendered a three-run lead in the bottom of the seventh inning to Quartz Hill only to lose 11-10 in extra innings during the first round of the CIF-SS Division 3 playoffs on Thursday.

"It's a tough way to go out," Samohi Head Coach Sheldon Philip-Guide said. "Hopefully, the seniors will remember that it was a good season, and the underclassmen will hopefully learn from it."

Samohi's Alonzo Gonzalez started the game, giving up three earned runs through six innings. Senior catcher Julien Solomita hit a homer in the losing effort.

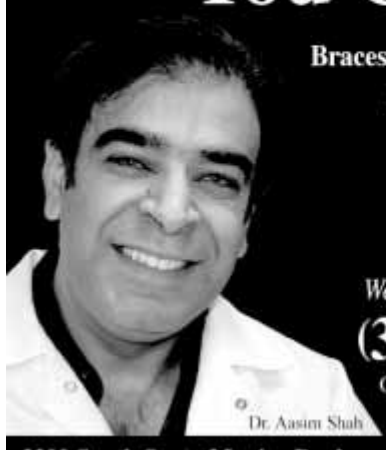
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, May 21, 2010

'Damn Yankees'
Santa Monica College's Theatre Arts Main Stage
1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"Damn Yankees," the classic Tony Award-winning Broadway musical about a baseball fanatic who trades his soul to the devil to lead his team to a pennant victory against the New York Yankees, will be presented May 21-30. Tickets are $20 general admission, $18 for students and senior citizens, and $15 for SMC students and employees.

Soulfege at the Dakota
Dakota Live Music Lounge
1026 Wilshire Blvd., 10:30 p.m.
Self-described as a mix of hip hop, reggae, and funk, Soulfege was founded by two Harvard students with their belief in the power of music to better the world. They have spread their music across the globe through BBC Worldservice, MTV Africa & NPR and recently charted in the top 10 on the nationwide Jambands.com/RELIX chart.

Saturday, May 22, 2010

iCycle Bicycle Festival
Santa Monica Public Libraries
The libraries in Santa Monica are hosting a free festival of bicycles and cycling with each branch offering different workshops. The Main Library at 601 Santa Monica Blvd. is celebrating the festival from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., featuring workshops on safety, repairs, and maintenance; bicycle registration; BMX flatland, fixed gear and mountain bike demonstrations; children's crafts, bike rodeo and parade. There's free bike valet for those arriving on two wheels, and free bicycle registration for Santa Monica residents. The Fairview Branch on 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. is hosting, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m., a bicycle maintenance and safety workshop, bicycle registration, refreshments and door prizes. At the Montana Avenue Branch on 1704 Montana Ave., from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m., you can create decorations and also register your bike, for ages four and up.

Comedy night
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
Pico Boulevard at 27th Street, 8 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Acclaimed playwright Christopher Durang presents two one-act comedies, "The Actor's Nightmare," a spoof, and "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You," a satire. Tickets cost $18 or $15 for students and seniors. For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

'Dear Harvey — A Play About Harvey Milk'
Santa Monica Public Library's Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m.
The Celebration Theatre Company of West Hollywood is presenting a free reading of "Dear Harvey — A Play About Harvey Milk" to mark the first observance of Harvey Milk Day in the state of California. The play celebrates the pioneering gay and civil rights leader through letters and reminiscences of those who knew him.

Cross your Ts
The Kaufman Brentwood Branch Library
11820 San Vicente Blvd., 2 p.m.
Graphologist Paula Sassi will discuss the mysteries that strokes of handwriting can reveal in the library's free program, "Cracking the Case, Using Handwriting Analysis." The event is free and open to the public and will be held in the community room of the library. For more information, call (310) 575-8273.

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.



City acquires more Downtown real estate for development

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Today it's the site of a couple of drab bank buildings, but City Hall officials say the southeast corner of Fourth Street and Arizona Avenue could be much more.

The City Council last week agreed to pay $42.5 million for the 52,500-square-foot property, a purchase that officials said will complement 67,500 square feet of already City Hall-owned real estate on Fifth Street south of Arizona Avenue.

There's no plan for the properties yet, but officials said the area will be a key part of bringing more open space — and more pedestrian traffic — to parts of the city center that border the Third Street Promenade.

"It's in a location that really lends itself to doing a lot of good for the downtown," said consultant Rob York, who worked with the Bayside District Corp. on the transaction.

Councilman Kevin McKeown said the purchase was a part of a plan to build on the promenade's success.

"So long as the small individual properties surrounding the promenade were individually developed, we'd never get the integrated planning it will take to create a larger public space," he said.

The site could become a mixed-use development that includes a large public plaza or park, he said. A subterranean parking garage could also be part of the package.

Housing and Economic Development Director Andy Agle said the transaction is likely to be the last large purchase City Hall will make in the downtown area.

Meetings to begin developing a concept for the property and nearby City Hall-owned parcels could begin in the fall, he said.

Under the terms of the deal the council unanimously approved last week, the city's redevelopment agency would purchase the property for an amount not to exceed $42.5 million, financed by the sellers at 6.75 percent. The annual payments would start at $1.6 million and would grow to $3.6 million by 2042. The RDA in turn would lease the property to City Hall to cover the cost of the repayments.

> **"IT'S IN A LOCATION THAT REALLY LENDS ITSELF TO DOING A LOT OF GOOD FOR THE DOWNTOWN."**
>
> **Rob York,**
> Consultant for the Bayside District Corp.

nickt@smdp.com

Toyota to invest $50M in electric car plant

DAISY NGUYEN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The heads of Tesla Motors Inc. and Toyota Motors Corp. surprised the auto world Thursday by announcing a partnership to develop and build electric cars at a recently shuttered auto plant in the San Francisco Bay area.

Akio Toyoda, CEO of the world's largest automaker, said Toyota will invest $50 million in Tesla when the company begins selling stock to the public, and Tesla CEO Elon Musk said his company will purchase the New United Motor Manufacturing Inc. factory, known as Nummi, in Fremont where the Model S electric sedan will be built.

"We're going to create electric cars together," Musk told a news conference at Tesla's office in Palo Alto. "It's a great honor to work with a company like Toyota, one of the automobile leaders of the world and one I've personally long admired."

SEE ELECTRIC PAGE 9

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

More additions to Santa Monica Place

On the heels of announcing the addition of a new and improved Disney Store, Santa Monica Place is adding nine more stores to the mix of nearly 60 retailers and restaurants already scheduled to open.

The new additions cover every floor of the shopping center, slated to open Aug. 6. Ever, Kenneth Cole, and Ugo Cafe will call the mall's first floor home. Disney, Charlotte Russe, Hot Topic, Skechers, Bertini and Gallini are scheduled to open on the second floor. On the third level Dining Deck, Tutti Frutti Frozen Yogurt will be joining the six chef-driven restaurants already signed.

"Retailers are extremely enthusiastic about Santa Monica Place and the vibrant community of people who live, work and visit here," said Anne Singleton, vice president of leasing for Macerich, the company that owns the mall. "We are especially pleased with the list of local, national and regional names ... that continue to reflect the interesting, balanced retail mix we are creating for this property."

Bertini is one of the locally-based retailers, offering men's and women's shoes and accessories. Ever and Gallini also add more of a local touch to the shopping center, as Ever is an L.A.-based store and Gallini is a Santa Monica retailer.

Ever is a celebrity favorite which offers travel collections for men and women, and Gallini features men's clothing and furnishings. Another local addition, Ugo Cafe, is a popular Italian Cafe located in Culver City.

Some of the less local retailers are: Charlotte Russe, a fashion-forward retailer for young women; Hot Topic, a teen clothing and accessories store; Skechers, which will specialize in the brand's Shape-ups toning footwear; and Kenneth Cole, known for men's and women's clothing, shoes and accessories.

Other retail attractions already slated to open include a new Bloomingdale's and a new Nordstrom, plus a growing roster of specialty stores including Barneys Co-op, Burberry, Kitson, Nike, and Love Culture.

DAILY PRESS



WIN! Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

(Above) New Roads' Anthony Carrillo prepares to release a pitch against Dunn on Thursday at West Los Angeles College. New Roads won the first round playoff game, 7-0.

(Right) New Roads' Nick Rhys scores while Dunn's CJ Mione watches on Thursday.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trouble trusting the post office

Editor:

The schools have their hand out yet again, looking for more funds via Measure A. The "mail-in-only" election deadline is this coming Tuesday, May 25, 2010. The schools again have made it their goal to screw every property owner because they cannot spend within their means. If the measure passes, my property taxes will go up again.

The only way to vote is by mail. I still haven't received my ballot. I have made three calls to the L.A. County Registrar of Voters only to be told that my ballot was mailed. They don't want to "risk" sending me a duplicate. I calmly explained multiple times that I never received the first one. So, what happens if I am unable to vote?

This seems more than unfair, it seems that the fix is in. If people don't get ballots, they don't get a vote. What part of this system is deemed democracy? Who made the decision that this was a "mail-in" election?

Since when does an election depend on the competence of the United States Postal Service?

If this measure passes, without my vote being counted or submitted, do I still have to pay the tax?

Lori Emerson
Santa Monica

More airport noise

Editor:

Every day there are very noisy planes going over Ocean Park from Santa Monica Airport because of the FAA's diversion of small aircraft from their usual flight path. I jotted down a couple today to report to noise@smgov.net and they represent dozens more. The noise they make is far in excess of the normal noise made by small planes taking off on the usual route from SMO in a direct line from the airport over the golf course to the ocean because of the need for planes on this now diverted flight path to climb more rapidly over the higher ground of the Sunset Park mesa and Ocean Park hills.

Personally, I do not object to modest use of the airport by small planes since that has been allowed for many decades, but it is outrageous to inflict this amount of disturbance on otherwise peaceful residential neighborhoods. The FAA is creating so much ill will by experimenting with flight paths in this way. Residents are already up in arms over the ever-increasing number of dangerous and polluting jets that use the airport. If this abuse of residents continues there will soon be a large lobby seeking to close down the airport altogether.

Karen Blechman
Santa Monica

Ficus are not affordable

Editor:

I own properties in the Sunset Park area and have ficus trees on the parkways. I've listened to my neighbors complain how destructive these tress are to infrastructure and property. The root system overtakes access areas adjacent to the sidewalks and present public safety hazards to our citizens. The roots destroy walkways and prohibit other vegetation from growing. In addition, ficus root systems cause foundation damage and mold issues. I've called City Hall, and the city arborist told me that the "canopy creates a natural filter system for the air." In addition, I was sent a note from the city maintenance general mail system with an attachment PDF on how to clean berries. This is City Hall's proactive response. How much do taxpayers spend on lucrative contracts to prune the trees and make ongoing repairs to our city's hard scape. In a time when our city is struggling with our budgets, City Hall needs to remove these white elephants. We need landscaping that is harmonious with the environment, and low in maintenance costs.

Bob Gomez
Sunset Park

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



Write Rachel

Rachel Iverson — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Ending a strange arrangement

DEAR RACHEL,

I had a baby with a male friend and we have an open relationship. The problem is that I'm in love with him, but he still hooks up with other women. I thought I had come to terms with our relationship, as it is, but the older our daughter gets, the more I want to give her a steady home. How can I get the father of my baby to stop sleeping around and be monogamous with me?

Signed,
Ready To Be Steady

DEAR READY TO BE STEADY,

This is a tricky one. You seem to have come to some kind of agreement with your daughter's father that initially allowed him to see other women. Now, you'd like to renegotiate the terms of that agreement. If the birth of your daughter hasn't inspired this man to be monogamous, he may not be a monogamous-relationship kind of guy. However, you'll never know until you talk to him. Tell him that you'd like to set a healthy example for your daughter by showing her what a committed relationship looks like. Hopefully he wants the same. If he doesn't, you may have to choose between him and another man who can be the role model you desire. Since you're in love with your daughter's father, it will be hard to let him go. However, if he doesn't eventually want to settle down, you may have to look elsewhere for the stable home life you want for both your daughter and yourself.

DEAR RACHEL,

I'm miserable. I ruined the best relationship I've ever had. I wish I could take back my actions, but it's too late. I broke the heart of the perfect man, and now he wants nothing to do with me. We fell in love, and then I cheated on him with someone I don't even like. I couldn't stop myself. What's my problem?

Signed,
Miserable

DEAR MISERABLE,

I recently received a letter from another reader who freaked out because her relationship was too good to be true. So you're not alone. There's a common tendency to self-sabotage "perfect" relationships out of fear. The more intense the relationship, the greater the chance that one or both people involved will destroy it beyond repair. When a relationship's good, there's more to lose, and so the stakes become higher. High stakes create high pressure that causes some people to self-destruct. It's a self-fulfilling prophecy when we create the exact outcome that we fear most. In this case, you may have subconsciously sabotaged your relationship because you were scared of losing it. But shouldn't a good relationship feel good? Not if you don't think you deserve to be happy. If you're like most people, you may also be scared of getting your heart broken and feeling devastated. Or it could be that a healthy relationship feels foreign to you because you equate romance with dysfunction. In other words, fear can keep you from enjoying a fulfilling relationship.

You may feel that there will never be a man as perfect for you as your ex, but if you learn from this situation, you will get another chance at love. For the future, remember this: Just because you feel fear, doesn't mean you have to act on it. Next time a relationship makes you feel scared, avoid taking action until the fear has subsided. In this way, you can avoid regret by sidestepping impulsive, fear-based decisions.

DEAR RACHEL,

I don't trust my female friends with my husband. I have two close female friends in my social circle. I love them both dearly, but I don't trust them with my husband. They're both single and looking for love and my husband's a catch. Whenever I have them over to the house, they come in full make-up and sexy clothes, even when we're just going for coffee. They're both promiscuous and flirtatious and one of them has had an affair with a married man in the past, so I know she'd do it again. Lately, I've made the decision to spend less time with my friends because I don't want them around the house. Am I right to be wary of them, or am I being paranoid to think that my friends want to steal my husband?

Signed,
Suspicious

DEAR SUSPICIOUS,

I don't know if you're generally suspicious of other women's intentions towards your husband or if this is a friend-specific situation. From what you've told me, you may have legitimate concerns that your friends are untrustworthy. If these two specific female friends of yours make you feel uncomfortable, by all means don't invite them to your house when your husband is around.

Regardless of your friends' intentions, you must be able to trust your husband in order to maintain a healthy relationship with him. If you spend a significant amount of time worrying that your husband will cheat on you, there may be a deeper issue at work, either between you and your husband or within yourself, that needs to be addressed.

RACHEL IVERSON is a freelance writer, dating coach and author. Her book, "Don't Help A Man Be A Man: How To Avoid 12 Dating Time Bombs," has been endorsed by Dr. John Gray, author of "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus." For more information on Rachel or her book, visit www.rebelgirlpublishing.com. For dating advice, contact: rachel@rebelgirlpublishing.com.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Queen for a day

DESPITE THE TITLE, THIS COLUMN IS NOT about West Hollywood or the gay lifestyle. (Nor is it about the heterosexual lifestyle.) It's definitely not my intent to offend anyone from GLAAD. (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, not the trash bag manufacturer.)

Frankly, why we're so concerned about someone's sexual preference is beyond me. And yet the 2004 presidential election was a referendum on gay marriage and whether one chooses to be gay. Funny, but I don't remember choosing to be heterosexual.

Somehow the religious right managed to make gay marriage the overriding issue (reaffirming H. L. Mencken's "Nobody ever went broke underestimating the intelligence of the American public").

During the '04 election, Jeff Gannon was a Neo-con male prostitute turned "journalist." (His website was MilitaryStud.com, not to be confused with the Columbia School of Broadcasting.) Inexplicably, with only one weekend of journalism training, Gannon became a White House reporter. In baseball terms, that's like going from Little League on Monday to the Yankees on Friday.

Gannon was at the White House approximately 200 times, often when there was no press conference. I've always suspected that he had a client, I mean, contact, high up in the Bush Administration.

But back to my title. "Queen for a Day" was actually a reality TV show, circa 1956. Five female contestants would reveal the sad details of their tragic lives. This would invariably leave the audience in tears, so it was definitely not a sit-com.

Finally, the audience would vote (applause measured by a suspect "applause meter"). The woman with the most depressing story would be crowned Queen for a Day and win a slew of prizes. (I always worried that the other four women would go home and commit suicide.) Given our present economy, maybe they ought to bring the show back?

Tom Duggan, an opinionated drunk, hosted another program of that era. Duggan had an equally obnoxious panel who would sit around a table, nosh on cold cuts and pastries, smoke cigars and argue. (Definitely not PBS programming.)

The panelists were also sponsors. Overweight Eddie Gevirtz owned Regal Furs and always brought gorgeous, high-heeled models wearing mink stoles. (This was before feminism or PETA.)

Another panelist was Eddie Nalbanian, the dapper owner of Zachary All, a men's store on Wilshire. It's scary but I still remember Eddie's deadpan pitch, "We have clothes in all sizes: cadet, extra short, regular, long, extra long and portlies." I'd hate to be a cadet or a portly.

I mention all of this because at my apartment building we have a TV room with a new high-def big screen. (We also got new blinds in the gym. Our cup runneth over.) During the NBA playoffs, especially when the Lakers are playing, an eclectic group of us gather to watch the game and solve world problems. It's a bit like the Duggan show, but without cigars or gorgeous girls modeling furs. (Damn!)

The gathering includes Lakers fans of all ages. Ethan, 14, a talented basketball player who starts Santa Monica High School in September; Liam, 13, a first baseman in the Westchester Babe Ruth League; and Kamran, 18, who works part-time at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter, and graduates from Samohi in June. The ages of these three combined is five years less than Carol, our lone female "member," has been an M.D. (Since 1960.)

We have two more doctors. Peter runs an AIDS foundation, and went out on a limb that Orlando would beat Boston and then the Lakers. (Currently Orlando is down 0-2, and the Lakers are up 2-0 so the limb's a bit shaky.) Andy is a heart surgeon. God forbid, someone in the group has a heart attack, Andy might be the M.V.M. (Most Valuable Member).

Others in our "posse" include Russell, a mortgage broker, and Daniel, a surf instructor and organic coconut entrepreneur. (I couldn't make this stuff up.) Lastly, while on their breaks, security guards Juan and Douglas might pop into the TV room to offer their opinions.

And, much like a certain body part we all sit on, everyone in the group has an opinion. Kobe's stupendous, or Kobe, in that L.A. Times fashion layout, looked like a cross between Tupac and Liberace. (I think the former.) Some think Phil Jackson is a Zen genius, while others say he's an example of the Emperor's Clothes. (For me, it's the former, again.)

Without mentioning names (Hartman), some in the building resent our watching the Lakers and consider it a complete waste of time. I disagree. Paraphrasing from the iconic "Wide World of Sports," our bonding enhances the thrill of victory and eases the agony of defeat. That said, if we can't have girls modeling furs at least cold cuts and pastries would be nice.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Trust must be earned

City Hall has vowed to strictly enforce development agreements (DAs) after a comprehensive review showed that the majority of past DAs were not in compliance and that City Hall failed to properly review them.

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

Do you trust the current City Council and staff to negotiate and properly monitor future DAs, which are expected to play a larger role under the new Land Use and Circulation Element?

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Notice of Request for Qualifications

RFQXP8902-001 Phase 2 Project & Construction Management Services

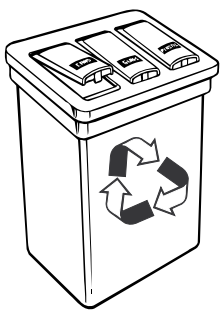
The Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority ("Authority") is seeking Statements of Qualifications from qualified firms to provide project and construction management (PCM) services in support of Phase 2 of the Exposition Line Project. The effort is anticipated to commence in August 2010 and be completed within five years.

Selected Offer shall assist the Authority in the procurement, management, oversight and close out of Phase 2 of the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project.

A goal of 18% Small Business Enterprise participation has been established for this contract.

To obtain copies of the Request for Qualifications, go to the Authority website www.buildexpo.org, Opportunities, Contracting, RFQ No. 8902-001 Project and Construction Management Services.

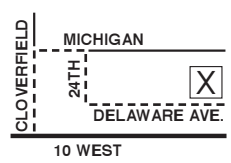
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Ready Business

Firm: California home sales dip in April

JACOB ADELMAN
Associate Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Home sales in California dipped about 1 percent from a year ago, with the biggest declines occurring in inland areas that had been fueling the market's rebound, a tracking firm reported Thursday.

Escrow closed on 37,481 homes last month, down from 37,967 in April 2009, San Diego-based MDA DataQuick said.

Last month's sales volume was up 0.5 percent from 37,295 in March.

DataQuick also said the median home price for the state was $255,000 in April, unchanged from March and up more than 15 percent from $221,000 in April 2009, when prices reached their low for the current cycle.

Last month's year-over-year increase was the sixth in a row, following 27 months of declines.

DataQuick president John Walsh said the difficulty of potential buyers getting so-called "jumbo" loans — generally defined as loans in excess of $417,000 — was a factor tamping down sales, especially in high-priced coastal neighborhoods.

"For months we've seen growing signs of a recovery taking hold," he said. "But plenty of challenges remain."

Another reason for the decline could be buyers delaying their purchases to take advantage of a new state tax credit that became effective May 1, he said.

In coastal Marin County, sales increased nearly 41 percent last month to 245 from the year-ago-level, while sales jumped more than 25 percent to 556 in San Mateo County and almost 12 percent to 2,669 in Orange County.

In inland counties, sales declined about 18 percent to 591 in Solano County, more than 13 percent to 469 in Sonoma County, and more than 12 percent in San Bernardino County.

DataQuick spokesman Andrew LePage attributed the decreases to the dwindling supply of foreclosed homes that had been selling briskly a year ago.

Foreclosures comprised about 38 percent of resales last month, down from almost 55 percent a year ago.

In a nine-county region of Northern California, sales dipped about 2 percent to 7,003 in April from a year earlier. In the six-county region of Southern California, sales dropped 1 percent to 20,299 from April 2009.

The median home price in Northern California increased almost 22 percent to $370,000 last month from $304,000 in April 2009. In Southern California, the median price rose about 15 percent to $285,000, up from $247,000 in the year-ago period.

Mojave cross mysteriously reappears

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE A cross honoring America's war dead that was stolen from a federal park in the Mojave Desert has been mysteriously replaced or returned, officials said Thursday.

A maintenance worker spotted the cross on Sunrise Rock, the same place a 7-foot metal cross had stood for decades, said Linda Slater, spokeswoman for the Mojave National Preserve.

The cross apparently was put up during the night, but it was unclear whether it was the original or a replica, Slater said.

There was no immediate word on whether the cross will be covered, removed or allowed to stand.

A cross made of metal pipe and filled with concrete stood on the remote outcropping 200 miles northeast of Los Angeles before someone cut its retaining bolts and made off with it on May 9 or May 10. That theft remained under investigation.

Veterans groups had offered $125,000 in rewards for information leading to an arrest.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars first placed a wooden cross on Sunrise Rock in 1934 to honor troops killed in World War I.

The metal cross that was stolen was erected in the late 1990s by the memorial's longtime caretakers, Henry and Wanda Sandoz of Yucca Valley.

Henry Sandoz, 71, made a replacement cross on Saturday but had not put it up because the couple was awaiting permission from the federal parks service, Wanda Sandoz said.

"We would love to do it, but we have to abide by the law or we're just like the people that stole the one that was there," she said. "We've got it tucked away in an old barn."

She and her husband had not yet seen the latest cross placed on top of Sunrise Rock.

If the original cross has been returned, "that would be wonderful. We would be real happy with that," she said.

However, Sandoz, 66, said the couple would not want a replacement that did not adhere to the specifications of the original memorial.

"We've had offers from all over the United States from people wanting to help" replace the cross, she said. "One gentleman wanted to make a granite cross, 10-foot, and another a redwood. And they would be beautiful ... but we really want what the veterans chose."

The first metal cross was the object of a legal dispute for about a decade. A former park service employee sued on grounds that the Christian religious symbol was unconstitutionally located on government land. Congress reacted by transferring land under the cross to private ownership.

In April, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to order the removal of the cross while a lower court decides whether the land transfer was legal. However, the cross was covered with wooden boards.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Stick 'em up

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, AT 9:05 P.M.,
Officers responded to the corner of Second Street and Pier Avenue regarding a report of an armed robbery. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told officers that he was walking when a man approached him, pulled out a handgun and demanded the victim's bag. He gave up the bag, which contained a laptop, glasses and a wallet. The suspect then fled. At around 9:30 p.m., officers received another call about an armed robbery in the area of Fourth Street and Rose Avenue in Venice. Witnesses to both robberies provided police with a similar description of the suspect. Officers transported the first victim to the scene and he positively identified the suspect. The suspect was placed under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Rodolfo Aviles, 18, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $50,000.

SUNDAY, MAY 16, AT 1:35 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of Second Street regarding a shoplifting suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the suspect walked out of a store after tripping the alarm. In his possession was an Adidas bag filled with merchandise from several stores on the Third Street Promenade, including Abercrombie and Fitch, and Levi's, police said. The suspect told officers that a friend gave him the bag to hold. During the investigation, officers in Palisades Park detained two men believed to be accomplices. Officers confirmed that all three conspired to steal the items and they were placed under arrest for burglary and conspiracy, police said. The suspects were identified as Daniel Gutierrez, 18, of Los Angeles; Moises Martinez, 20, of Los Angeles; and Luis Prestegui, 19, of Los Angeles. Bail was set at $20,000 each.

SUNDAY, MAY 16, AT 6:48 A.M.,
Officers were on routine patrol in the 1300 block of Seventh Street when they observed a woman jaywalking. When officers tried to make contact with the woman, she allegedly became verbally abusive. She resisted officers' attempts to talk with her and kicked at them, police said. Officers eventually were able to place the suspect under arrest for resisting. As officers placed her under arrest, they observed a clear plastic baggy under her, police said. The baggy turned out to contain methamphetamines. The woman was booked for possession of a controlled substance, resisting arrest, a probation violation and jaywalking. She was identified as Jillian Gilbert, 45, a transient. She was not eligible for bail.

THURSDAY, MAY 13, AT 1:06 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1400 block of Fifth Street regarding a female slumped over the steering wheel of her car with the engine still running. When officers arrived, they saw the woman in her blue BMW, apparently intoxicated. Officers said the driver had watery, bloodshot eyes, slurred speech and they could smell alcohol on her breath. Officers turned off the vehicle and had the driver exit the vehicle. Officers had the driver perform a series of field sobriety tests. Officers determined that the driver was drunk. The driver refused to take a chemical test. She was booked for driving under the influence and a probation violation. She was identified as Amy Grebe, 27, of Colorado. Her bail was set at $25,000.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, AT 1:43 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of the Third Street Promenade regarding an employee in custody for theft. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the store manager who said a store employee was stealing merchandise. The manager did her own investigation and said she saw the employee remove security tags from some clothing. When confronted, the employee allegedly admitted to taking off the tags and at least four thefts. The manager placed the employee under citizen's arrest for theft. The suspect was booked for burglary. She was identified as Kwanisha Foster, 24, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at $20,000.

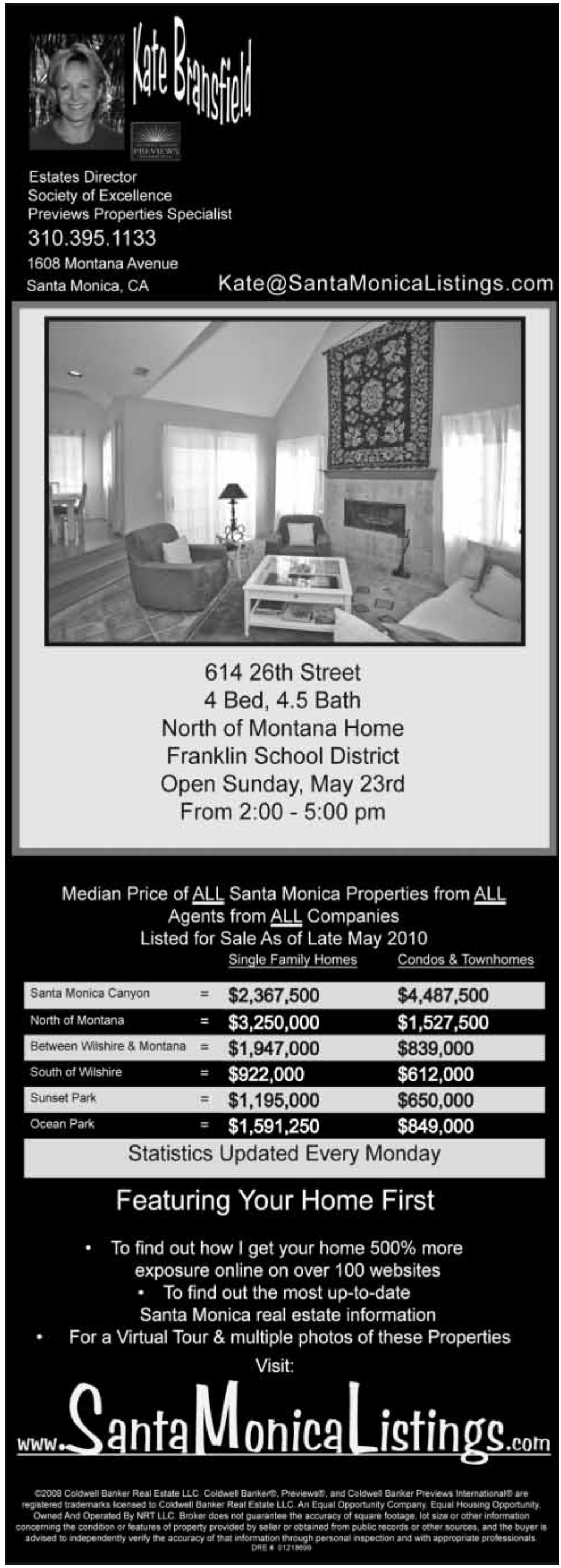
TUESDAY, MAY 11, AT 3:45 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1600 block of 11th Street regarding a commercial burglary that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the suspect tripped an alarm by cutting through a window screen. Officers took the suspect into custody and placed him in the backseat of a cruiser. When officers checked the backseat of the police car, they found by the suspect's feet a small baggy containing marijuana. The suspect was booked for burglary and possession of marijuana. He was identified as Emilio Dominguez, 48, of Huntington Park. His bail was set at $20,000.

TUESDAY, MAY 11, AT 5:08 P.M.,
Officers responded to the area of 14th Street and Olympic Boulevard regarding a case of animal cruelty. When officers arrived, witnesses told them that the suspect violently yanked his dog to the ground by using the leash, slamming its head into the pavement. The owner also allegedly kicked, punched and hung the dog by its leash. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for cruelty to animals. The dog was transported to an animal hospital for observation. The suspect was identified as Clarence Godley, 37, of Santa Monica, His bail was set at $20,000.

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Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.



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Wendy Perl *perlphoto.com*

POW! **Kelsey Hom slaps a ball into play on Thursday during a 12-0 romp over El Segundo.**

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

"Our girls have been in that situation before," Samohi Head Coach Debbie Skaggs said. "I knew [Walker] could get out of it.

"Celisha is all nails."

The Vikings wasted little time responding to the brief threat.

Hayley Condon began the bottom of the third with a blast off the left field fence, narrowly missing a home run. Kelsey Hom, who led the team with four runs batted in, promptly sacrificed Condon to third, setting up the game's most pivotal moment.

Walker followed and slapped a single into left field, scoring Condon and giving the Vikings the only run they would need.

"The better team won today," El Segundo Head Coach Keith Cameron said. "They hit the heck out of the ball."

Cameron, who coached his team to the division finals last year, said that he sees big things in the future for Samohi.

"I think Santa Monica will make a good run if they keep playing like this," Cameron said.

daniela@smdp.com

SMOKING
FROM PAGE 1

Davis and McKeown said tenant protections would have to be an important aspect of any new law restricting smoking.

"I personally do not envision a system that allows smoking to be used as an excuse for the eviction of a tenant," Davis said.

She would like to see an ordinance that would bar smoking on patios and balconies that are within 20 feet of a neighbor's residence.

Banning smoking inside apartment and condo units — an idea favored by some local anti-smoking activists including Rent Control Board Commissioner Robert Kronovet, who has filed forms to place a ballot measure establishing an outright ban on smoking in multi-unit buildings before voters — is not on the table, she said.

"I do not want to reach into people's [apartment] units and begin to proscribe what they can or cannot do," she said.

McKeown said the idea behind the proposal is to improve tenants' quality of life without being intrusive.

"There are people who are going to think that this is way too strict and people who are going to think this is way too lenient, and that may indicate that we have found an appropriate middle course," he said.

Esther Schiller, the director of the nonprofit group Safe Air For Everyone (S.A.F.E.), said she was "ebullient" at the news the council could enhance its restrictions on smoking.

"The ban on smoking in common areas has not proven to be sufficient," she said.

If Santa Monica bans smoking on balconies and patios, it would join Glendale, which recently adopted a similar ordinance, Schiller said. Two other California cities — Belmont and Richmond — have banned smoking inside multi-unit housing buildings, she said.

Santa Monica's prohibition on smoking in common areas took effect last year and has drawn criticism from some residents opposed to secondhand smoke who say it is too difficult to enforce. Under the law, a resident whose neighbor refuses to obey the ban has to file a complaint in small claims court to compel compliance.

The council will have to decide whether a potential new smoking ordinance would require City Hall to take over enforcement responsibility.

Both Davis and McKeown said they're keeping open minds on the question.

Kronovet, meanwhile, said he has not yet begun gathering signatures for his proposed ballot initiative and doesn't expect the measure to qualify for the November election. Still, he said he plans to assemble a team to gather signatures and hopes the effort will sway the council to adopt a more sweeping ban.

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ELECTRIC
FROM PAGE 3

Toyoda flew in from Japan to make the announcement a day after both companies finalized the deals.

"I spent time at Nummi and learned much about working in America there, so I feel a sense of attachment (to the plant)," Toyoda said. He also said in a statement that through the venture, Toyota hopes to learn from Tesla's "challenging spirit, quick decision-making and flexibility."

Analysts said the partnership enhances the credibility of Tesla, a Silicon Valley start-up just a few years ago, and boosts Toyota's image after being fined a record $16.4 million for its slow response to an accelerator pedal recall.

"Many had doubted (Tesla's) ability to deliver on all its promises, but Toyota must have conducted substantial due diligence before making this investment," said John O'Dell, senior editor for car adviser Edmunds' GreenCarAdvisor.com.

The news stunned city officials from Downey, who expected to vote Thursday on a lease deal allowing Tesla to rent 20 acres of city property south of Los Angeles. Downey spent months courting the automaker to locate its factory there, and officials said they were certain of clinching a deal after meeting with Musk recently.

"Tesla has been extremely disingenuous in their dealing with Downey, and I now have new appreciation as to why America is fed up with many large corporations," Downey Councilman Mario Guerra said. "This last-minute betrayal is even more shocking because (Downey) was hours away from signing the lease with Tesla that would have been an economic boon for the city."

Downey had offered to waive $6.9 million in rent in hopes that the plant could create up to 1,200 jobs and revitalize its reputation as Southern California's high-tech hub.

Musk said there was no effort to mislead Downey officials, adding that parts of the deal with Toyota were only resolved Wednesday.

"We weren't sure could a deal be put together, could Tesla afford Nummi," Musk said. "These were question marks that that were only resolved yesterday."

Tesla, which currently makes a two-seater electric sports car costing $109,000, said its goal is to produce increasingly affordable electric cars. It has been scouting for a site to build the Model S, which is scheduled to go on sale in 2012.

The Model S is slated to sell for $49,900, including federal tax credits, and is designed to travel as far as 300 miles on a three- to five-hour charge.

The Nummi plant, established in 1984 as a joint venture between General Motors Co. and Toyota, employed 4,700 workers. GM made the Pontiac Vibe there but withdrew from the alliance last year after filing for bankruptcy protection.

Toyota made the Corolla sedan and Tacoma pickup at the plant but said in August that without GM, it could not sustain the factory. The last of nearly 8 million vehicles that moved through the sprawling facility rolled off the lot last month.

The fate of the plant had been unclear. At its closure, plant executives said some employees would stay on while they try to sell off equipment and clean up. Executives also said the plant would try to find a buyer and work with city and state officials to identify the best new use for the site.

Musk would not disclose what Tesla paid for the factory. It bought only a parcel of the sprawling Nummi plant.



DEDICATED

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Jim Casalor, 61, (left) works out with Peter Bluementhal, 40, at the Santa Monica Family YMCA on Wednesday, May 19. Bluementhal has been weight training for more than 20 years. He has competed in the California Special Olympics for 15 years and holds numerous powerlifting championship titles. He has bench pressed 253 pounds and dominated his class. Bluementhal announced last October that he is retiring from competition although he will continue to workout at the Santa Monica Family YMCA. He swims laps for an hour and weightlifts with his friends every day. 'I like working out at the YMCA with my friends, we are a family here,' said Bluementhal.

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BUST
FROM PAGE 1

Authorities said two men and a woman were arrested after landing at the Pontiac Municipal Airport in Pontiac, Ill. The airport is much smaller than SMO, with only 33 flights per day and just 11 planes parked on the premises, according to aviation website www.airnav.com.

The pilot, Alan Luster, 46, of Marietta, Ga., and his two passengers, 30-year-old Cher Holland of Los Angeles, and 44-year-old Ernest Austin of Fontana, Calif., were charged with trafficking cannabis and could face up to 60 years in prison.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security tracked the 1971 twin-prop Beachcraft with Texas ownership after taking off from SMO on May 3. The agency became suspicious when its flight path was altered and information on its take-off location and destination was determined to be fraudulent, according to the Associated Press.

Local law enforcement officials and employees at SMO were notified months in advance by Immigration and Customs Enforcement that an investigation was underway and were asked to keep an eye on Luster's movements. SMO Airport Manager Bob Trimborn said Luster had flown out of Santa Monica "a few times."

"We were told to provide support and that's what we did," Trimborn said.

Using personal planes and smaller airports to transport drugs is not uncommon, but Trimborn and local law enforcement officials said they could not remember any such cases at SMO prior to this most recent arrest.

"It is very unusual," said Santa Monica Police Department's Sgt. Jeff Wiles, a 30-year-veteran of the force who is in charge of security at SMO.

Wiles said the pot bust is not cause for alarm. Security at SMO is on par with other general aviation airports, with officials following guidelines set by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Wiles did not want to describe SMO's security plan in detail so as not to tip off any potential threats.

However, he said SMO is patrolled 24 hours a day, seven days a week by civilian security officers. These officers are not sworn in and do not carry firearms. They are instructed to notify police if they see something suspicious, Wiles said. In addition to security, the civilian officers also check runway lights and perform other duties related to airport operations.

"They have the authority to shutdown the runway if there is an emergency," Wiles said. "They are fully trained on airport security and safety and go through constant training with the Department of Homeland Security, ICE [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] and different federal agencies and are in constant contact with the FAA."

Airport security has the authority to approach pilots and ask them for their current pilot certificate, medical card and registration for the aircraft per FAA guidelines and pilots must comply.

Access to the runway is restricted and those who rent spaces to park their aircraft must go through a background check before being issued access cards, Wiles said.

While TSA provides security at commercial airports like LAX, general aviation airports do not fall under TSA's jurisdiction. That said, TSA has issued guidelines for general aviation airports to follow and send our security inspectors to make contact with airport managers and offer assistance in training.

Some of the TSA's guidelines include: limiting student pilots access to aircraft ignition keys; putting pilots through a background check before issuing access cards; encouraging pilots to use an auxiliary lock on propellers, throttle and tie-downs to make it more difficult for unauthorized users to gain access; installing outdoor area lighting; and creating a community watch program.

While it may seem like the most simple security measure, keeping an eye out for anything unusual can be the most effective method for spotting problems, said Chris Dancy, spokesman for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), an advocacy group with over 400,000 members founded in 1939.

"At general aviation airports you are dealing with most likely a small community that knows what looks right and what doesn't," Dancy said.

A recent survey by Ambry Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide showed that those airports that participated in AOPA's airport watch program saw a decrease in crime while those that didn't experienced an increase.

The study, conducted by Daniel J. Benny, Ph.D., showed that crimes against people at airports with the program declined from five in 2002 to zero in 2004; the same type of crime jumped from three to six at non-adopter airports. Crimes against property dropped from 30 to three at adopter airports while those that didn't use the program saw a jump from 45 to 88.

Benny said most of the security changes at adopter airports were simple and relatively inexpensive: providing security awareness training, posting signs encouraging people to report suspicious behavior, or making simple physical security improvements such as locks and additional lighting.

"This proactive approach is a key factor in the avoidance of new security mandates from the Department of Homeland Security Transportation Security Administration that could be costly to the general aviation airports," Benny said.

kevinh@smdp.com





European debt crisis causes stocks to drop 376 points

STEVENSON JACOBS& TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Stocks plunged again Thursday as more investors woke up to the possibility that economic problems such as Europe's debt crisis might spread around the world and stop the growing recovery in the U.S.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 376 points, its biggest one-day point drop since February 2009, and all the major indexes were down well over than 3 percent. Meanwhile, interest rates fell sharply in the Treasury market as investors once again sought the safety of U.S. government debt.

With Thursday's drop, the Standard & Poor's 500 index, considered the best indicator of the stock market's performance, is down almost 12 percent from its 2010 high close of 1,217.28, reached April 23. That means the market is officially in what's called a correction, a drop of 10 percent or more from a recent high. This is the first correction since stock indexes hit 12-year lows in March last year. The fact it has occurred in just 19 trading days shows how anxious traders are right now.

Analysts said there was no big event to set off Thursday's selling. More investors seemed to be grasping the possibility that the U.S. recovery could be in jeopardy. And many were wondering whether the stock market's big rebound since March 2009 may not have been entirely justified.

"The economic recovery story has started to look like a mirage and the new reality is a return to credit crunch conditions" like those seen during the financial crisis, said Tom Samuels, manager of the Palantir Fund in Houston. "If that's correct, stock prices are well ahead of economic reality."

Investors are concerned that the debt problems in European nations like Greece and Portugal will spill over to other countries, cause a cascade of massive losses for big banks and in turn halt the economic recovery in countries beyond Europe, including the U.S. They're also worried that China might take steps that will limit its economic growth, which would also affect the U.S. recovery. Analysts said the market is vulnerable to rumors about any of the major economies right now.

Investors appear increasingly convinced that European countries will need to adopt stringent spending cuts to pay down their heavy debt loads, independent market analyst Edward Yardeni said. Such cuts would likely to lead to long economic slump for those countries, a prospect that investors may now be accepting as reality as they sell stocks and the euro, the currency shared by 16 European nations, Yardeni said.

The euro, which has become a key indicator of confidence in Europe's economy, managed to rise to $1.2496 in late afternoon trading, a day after hitting $1.2146, a four-year low. But its advance didn't help stocks.

"The drop in the euro is the initial phase of a long-term, multi-year economic decline in Europe," Yardeni said. "It shows a declining confidence in the workability of the EU (European Union) monetary union, and that's why their stock markets are down."

"It's starting to look like one of these tragic stories were one person falls through the ice, then everyone else rushes in to help and ends up drowning," he added.

The market's slide over the past four weeks on worries about the global economy has been a painful reminder of the turbulent days during the 2008 financial crisis. On April 26, the Dow closed at its highest point since the market hit bottom on March 9, 2009. Since then, it has fallen nearly 1,000 points. It has fallen by at least 100 points in nine of the 18 trading days since its peak.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow fell 376.36, or 3.6 percent, to 10,068.01.

The S&P 500 fell 43.46, or 3.9 percent, to 1,071.59. The Nasdaq composite index fell 94.36, or 4.1 percent, to 2,204.01.

At the New York Stock Exchange, only 153 stocks rose compared with 2,994 that fell. Volume came to a heavy 2.1 billion shares.

The market got some confirmation from a Federal Reserve official that Europe's problems could be a "potentially serious setback." Fed Governor Daniel Tarullo said that if the debt crisis curbed lending and the flow of credit globally, that would endanger both the U.S. and global recoveries, he says.

"Although we view such a development as unlikely, the swoon in global financial markets earlier this month suggests it is not out of the question," he said in prepared remarks.

Analysts said traders were retreating from any investment thought to be too dangerous to own right now. That has meant heavy selling in stocks, commodities and troubled currencies like the euro.

Obama to ask Congress for more nuclear energy loans

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON President Barack Obama is poised to ask Congress to agree to $9 billion more in loan guarantees for the nuclear energy industry, a Democratic aide said Thursday, in a renewed push for nuclear power as the growing oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico highlights the risks of fossil fuel production.

At the insistence of Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California, the request for more spending on nuclear energy would be coupled with $9 billion in loan guarantees for renewable energy such as wind and solar, according to the aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity before a formal announcement from the White House.

The request would be tacked onto a multibillion-dollar spending bill for Afghanistan, Haiti and other programs that Congress is expected to finish after Memorial Day. Taxpayers would have to pay $180 million to support the loan guarantees, essentially putting up insurance for nuclear companies that would have trouble borrowing money to build new plants without the federal backing.

The new spending follows $18.5 billion in nuclear loan guarantees the Obama administration announced in February to spur building of the first nuclear power plant in the U.S. in almost three decades, part of a broad shift to lessen dependence on foreign oil and reduce the use of other fossil fuels blamed for global warming. Obama called for "a new generation of safe, clean nuclear power plants" in his State of the Union speech this year.

Some $8.3 billion of the money announced in February was for helping Southern Co. build new reactors in Burke, Ga. Energy Department officials have said the remaining loan guarantee authority was only enough for one project, and there had been several other finalists before Southern Co. was selected.

Mitch Singer, a spokesman for the Nuclear Energy Institute, said Thursday that the additional loan guarantee funding should give the Energy Department "most, if not all, the resources needed to grant conditional loan guarantees to the other finalists."

Along with the loan guarantees for nuclear and alternative energy projects, the administration also will use the upcoming spending bill to restore $2 billion to a $6 billion alternative energy program initiated by last year's economic stimulus bill, the Democratic aide said. That's another priority for Pelosi. The money had been borrowed for the "cash for clunkers" program.

Separately Obama has requested Congress to authorize even more money for nuclear loan guarantees in his budget request for 2011.

Supreme Court nominee Kagan built unity while at Harvard

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON Elena Kagan, President Barack Obama's pick for the Supreme Court, gets high marks as a peacemaker for the fractious faculty of Harvard Law School while she was dean. But even her supporters here say she also has a temper.

Professor Charles Fried, while calling Kagan "masterful" for her ability to work well with the diverse faculty at Harvard, recalled how she once blew up at him after some students said there were pages missing from a constitutional law exam.

Fried said he sent an e-mail to students explaining a resolution he thought had been approved. But, in fact, Kagan had worked out a different resolution.

"She came steaming into my office and said, 'Why have you done that? It's a confusing situation and you've made it worse.' She screamed and shouted at me and slammed the door and stormed out," Fried said.

"Two minutes later, she came back and said, 'I'm sorry I shouted.' I said, 'Elena, don't apologize, you were right.' "

"She was dynamic, aggressive, sometimes abrasive," said Detlev Vagts, a professor who clashed with Kagan over the appointment of Jack Goldsmith, a former assistant attorney general in the Bush administration. "There was quite a turnover of her top management group when she was named dean," he said.

Critics initially balked at Goldsmith's appointment, questioning whether he had helped write memos authorizing the use of harsh interrogation techniques on suspected terrorists. In a book published in 2007, Goldsmith said he had rescinded two memos — written by attorneys who previously ran the Office of Legal Counsel — that gave the military and the CIA broad latitude in interrogating prisoners.

Kagan was able to win strong support for Goldsmith and the faculty easily approved his appointment.

In a conference call organized by the White House this week, John Podesta, the former White House Chief under President Bill Clinton, said Kagan showed some of the same traits when she was on the president's staff as counsel and domestic policy adviser in the mid to late 1990s. Clinton "wanted strong people around him to say, 'Jeez, boss, I think you don't have this one right'," Podesta said.

Kagan fit that bill, he said. "She has the personality that would be up in my face or up in Larry Summers' face, or up in Bill Clinton's face if she thought we were off the law or off what made sense."

At Harvard, Vagts said Kagan, 50, was "dismissive" of him when he tried to express his concern over Goldsmith's appointment and later when he objected to Kagan's plan to group retiring professors near one another in a set of offices.

"I thought she was a little ruthless in pushing the retiring people offstage," he said.

Vagts also said Kagan had a reputation among some for raising her voice during contentious meetings.

"There were some pretty noisy interviews with those people on her staff," he said.

But many former colleagues say Kagan had a warm, open-door management style and always welcomed other points of view.

"I was a frequent dissenter and I was never silenced," said professor Alan Dershowitz.

"To the faculty, she was as fair as anybody could be. She brought in faculty members from very diverse points of view. You couldn't tell what point of view she was coming from," Dershowitz added.

Kagan's supporters at Harvard say she ruffled feathers because of the high standards she set for herself and the law school. During her tenure as dean, she oversaw the first major curriculum reform in more than a century and made more than 40 teaching appointments, bringing in conservative professors such as Goldsmith and easing tension on a faculty that had been perceived as largely liberal.

They also cite her efforts to make Harvard a more welcoming place, providing free coffee for students and faculty, setting up an ice-skating rink and creating places where students and professors could naturally mingle.

Fried said Kagan went out of her way to laud the work of faculty members. He recalled that Kagan put on a dinner and conference for him after he published a book.

"She recognized people's accomplishments in a big way," Fried said. "That was such a large part of her management style. It was not pro forma. It was sincere."

Dershowitz said Kagan had "near universal support" from the faculty. "It was a golden age when she was the dean. It was a very good time for the faculty, a very good time for the students."



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

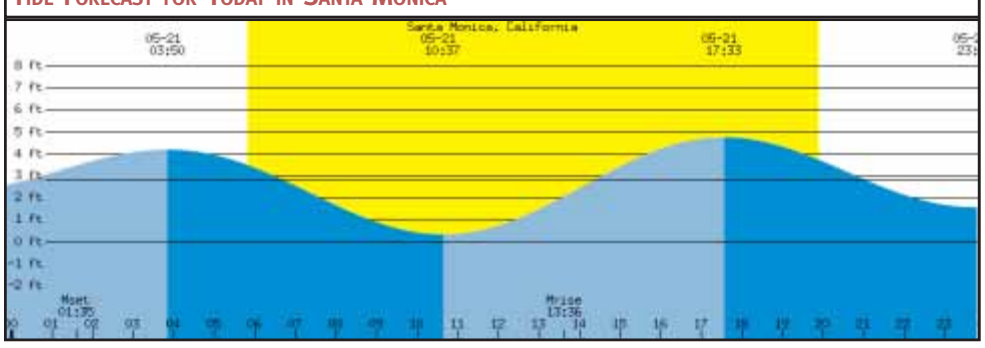
Swell Forecast

Looks like the NW wind swell will increase to chest to head high for west facing breaks. South facing breaks are looking at mostly chest high waves from the southern hemi and some NW wrap.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see the arrival of the French Poly swell. Most south facing breaks are looking at head high+ waves early on.

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 11, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 24
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 21

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alina creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	F
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.	B	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	B	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	D
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	D	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	F
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	F	D
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	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+	F

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay 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.

NBA

Free agency watch dominates league

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI Doc Rivers knows his Boston Celtics aren't the NBA's biggest story right now.

Take a back seat, Celtics, despite being on the cusp of another trip to the NBA finals. Same for you, defending champ Lakers. The Magic and Suns, well, they're basketball afterthoughts right now as well.

Unless you're in Los Angeles, Boston, Orlando or Phoenix, the NBA's final four might almost be like a forgotten four.

Welcome to LeBron Watch 2010, simultaneously going on alongside D-Wade Watch, Bosh Watch ... oh, yeah, and sweeps month in NBA playoffs. The calendar still says May, the finals start in June, yet with the Celtics and Lakers up 2-0 in the conference finals and three of the previous four series ending in sweeps, there seems to be more interest in waiting for the free-agency window to open.

"It's the biggest story I can remember since I've been in the league," said Rivers, the Celtics' coach.

Indeed, it overshadows all right now, and even NBA commissioner David Stern isn't downplaying the significance of what looms at 12:01 a.m. on July 1, when some of the game's biggest stars like LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh will have their cell phones ringing like mad with potential suitors on the other end of the line.

"It actually shows the importance, I guess, to the culture that that's a subject of some discussion that will continue to be heated as we head to July 1 and beyond," Stern said. "That just shows what a fixture the NBA has become, and that the comings and goings of our players have become stories unto themselves."

Not just stories.

They're the story.

"It's overshadowing world hunger and the oil spill and everything else," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said sarcastically. "It's the biggest story in the United States right now — where LeBron is going to play. You know, health care? Oil spill? But LeBron, we gotta know where he's going to play.

"I guess a lot of people must be very interested in it."

Face it, many of the playoff series so far haven't exactly been scintillating battles — half of the 12 series completed so far have ended in either four or five games. There's been only one Game 7, and the way things look right now, the conference finals could end fairly quickly on both coasts. If both end in sweeps, there will be nine off days before the finals open June 3.

And that's another problem: Fast-ending series have given some teams long breaks between rounds, lulls that just let all the storylines surrounding free agency pick up even more steam.

Celtics guard Ray Allen acknowledged free agency is a big story, adding "but we're here. This is what we're talking about now."

For his part, the commissioner also insists he's still fixated on the Lakers-Suns and Celtics-Magic series.

He and Allen might be in the minority.

In Ohio, Gov. Ted Strickland was part of a song written in James' honor and sung to the tune of "We Are the World," the lyrics begging the two-time MVP to stay with the Cleveland Cavaliers. In Miami, a website the Heat put up about how to keep Wade in South Florida crashed hours after launch because it was getting 300 hits per second. In New York, it's almost like a LeBron-or-bust campaign is going on, with both the Knicks and Nets hoping.

"Come July 1, just about everything goes. Before July 1, nothing goes," Stern said. "I suppose if the governor wants to sing a song to the tune of 'We Are the World' or New York Magazine wants to do a cover with LeBron in a Knick uniform, the last time I looked, my jurisdiction had its limitations and it doesn't include those two instances. So it's kind of interesting and some fun. "

Two years ago, all the rage at this point in the conference final round was the potential for another Lakers-Celtics matchup in the finals, East vs. West, storied franchise vs. storied franchise.

It could happen again next month.

No buzz this year, at least, not yet.

No, the rage is all about James, who won't play another game that matters to the NBA for about 5? months. It's all about Wade, too, and whether he'll leave the Heat. And then there's Bosh, whose decision whether or not to stay with the Toronto Raptors may influence what James and Wade choose to do with their next contracts.

"Sports in general is politics, especially at the professional level," said Jared Dudley of the Phoenix Suns. "Brett Favre, is he playing or not? I think it's good for the NBA, them talking about that."

James is the biggest domino out there, of course.

"That guy is a franchise changer," Rivers said. "And if he decides to leave, it's going to change two franchises. If he decides to stay, it changes one or it continues one, so it's a huge story. ... It would be like if Michael Jordan had become a free agent and decided that he was going to leave. That story would have been just as crazy, so it deserves what it gets."

It's only going to get better — or worse, depending on perspective — in the coming days.

"I am seriously sick of talking about LeBron James — every little whim, dissecting everything he says," NBA legend and analyst Charles Barkley said on ESPN radio.

Get used to it, Chuck.

"The only thing that is worse," Van Gundy groaned, "is the lead-up to the NFL draft."

Some players who are still playing this season don't seem all that interested, either.

"We've got our hands full with what we're trying to do," Lakers guard Derek Fisher said. "And anything else would be a distraction for us."

James is dominating headlines almost everywhere, even with both conference finals going on without him. Wade, who has been in court in Miami for the past week because two ex-partners are suing him for $25 million in a failed restaurant deal, gets about as many questions at that courthouse about free agency than his legal issues. Bosh has surely picked up more Twitter followers in recent days, especially after he used his feed to ask the world if he should stay in Toronto or leave.

All attention is good attention, Rivers thinks.

"I've got to think it's good for our league overall," Rivers said. "When they're leading off talking about the NBA over the NFL on most nights, that's pretty good. And so I think it's probably good for us."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature
Zabriskie Point (NR) 1hr 52min
and If... (NR) 1hr 51min
7:30

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Back-up Plan (PG-13) 1hr 38min
2:30, 7:30

Kick-Ass (R) 1hr 57min
1:15, 4:20, 7:05, 9:55

A Nightmare on Elm Street (R) 1hr 37min
12:05, 5:05, 10:05

Iron Man 2 Digital Presentation (PG-13) 2hr 4min
12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15

Babies (PG) 1hr 19min
11:20am, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 7:55, 10:15

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

MacGruber (R) 1hr 28min
10:20am, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50

Shrek Forever After 3D (RealD 3D, Digital Presentation) (PG) 1hr 33min
9:45am, 11:15am, 12:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15, 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 10:15

Just Wright (PG) 1hr 51min
11:00am, 2:00, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35

Iron Man 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 5min
11:20am, 2:15, 5:10, 8:15, 11:15

Iron Man 2 Digital Presentation (PG-13) 2hrs 5min
10:15am, 1:15, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20

Date Night (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:45am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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

Exit Through The Gift Shop (R) 1hr 43min
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

Princess Kaiulani (PG) 1hr 52min
1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45

Looking for Eric (NR) 2hrs 12min
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

City Island (PG-13) 1hr 55min
1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50

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

Shrek Forever After 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 33min
11:00am, 1:30, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30

Robin Hood (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:10am, 1:10, 2:10, 4:20, 5:20, 6:40, 7:40, 8:30, 9:45, 10:45

Letters to Juliet (PG) 1hr 45min
11:30am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30

How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 1hr 38min
1:20, 3:50

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

Get sleep, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Plunge into work. Communication flourishes if the topic is work, business or money. Stay focused on your day-to-day life rather than the big picture. Even if you feel that someone might not hear it, share your perspective. Tonight: Make plans that work for you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your enormous resourcefulness emerges in a discussion about funds. Keep the big picture in mind when dealing with others. Others might not grasp the ramifications of some of their thoughts. Tonight: Christen the weekend right!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ If you can take a personal day or head home early, do. You need some downtime to visit with a roommate or family member. You hear news that might force you to take a stand. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Keep conversations moving and incorporate someone's changing views. Your ability to adapt and flex proves to be most complimentary to several key people. A meeting provokes some questions. Ask. Tonight: Where it is happening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Weigh the pros and cons of an investment involving your innate skills. One could look at the situation in many different ways. Listen and then decide what you want to do. A respected person has very strong opinions. Tonight: Treat a friend or two to munchies after work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You peak in a work-related situation. You listen well, revise thinking when need be and move in a new direction. Express your unusual practicality and grounded perspective. A late-day meeting could become a social happening. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Much goes on in your mind and behind closed doors. Though you might want to get an impression from a key person, you wonder how discreet he or she may be. That person might know more than you think. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Zero in on what works. A meeting helps broadcast news and draws many people's support. You could be surprised by everything that you hear. A new slant on an issue opens up communication. Tonight: Lead the TGIF celebrations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You are in the limelight. Others seek you out for financial advice on work-related issues. Don't step beyond your boundaries. You don't want to be blamed for bad advice. Be open to different ideas. Tonight: Invite an associate or two to join you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Do necessary research. Return calls. With some help, you might find that there is a lot more to a story than you were aware of. Note what would be most effective in making someone listen to your position or belief. Tonight: Try a different type of happening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A partnership increases in importance as you see how easily you can work with this person. One-on-one relating in general proves to be more efficient than usual. Your worries might not be justified. Tonight: Continue the theme.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Others might continue to seek you out en masse. Your ability to understand what is going on with others grows. Ask questions. Exchange ideas. Stay open to a better route or a more successful method or path. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

Happy birthday

This year, attempt to break past self-imposed mental barriers. You might be surprised by how many doors could open up. Understand where you develop your ideas from. Retest them. Emphasize your ingenuity and ability to revitalize stale ideas and projects. If you are single, make sure you want to say goodbye to that status. You will have many opportunities to do so. If you are attached, the two of you could start acting like newlyweds with a little more open thought. VIRGO often helps you relax.

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

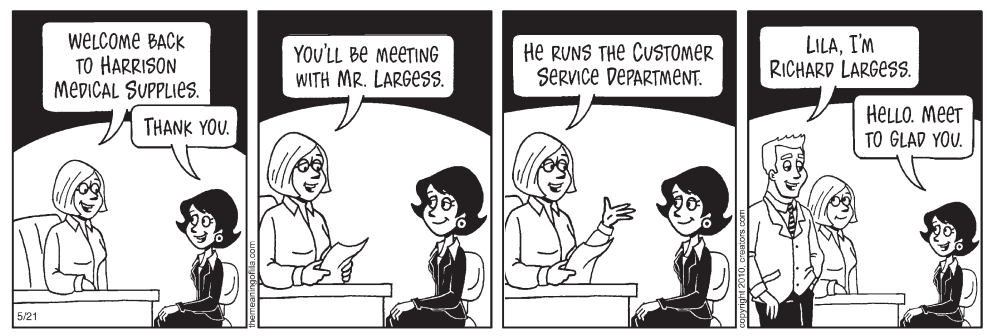
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



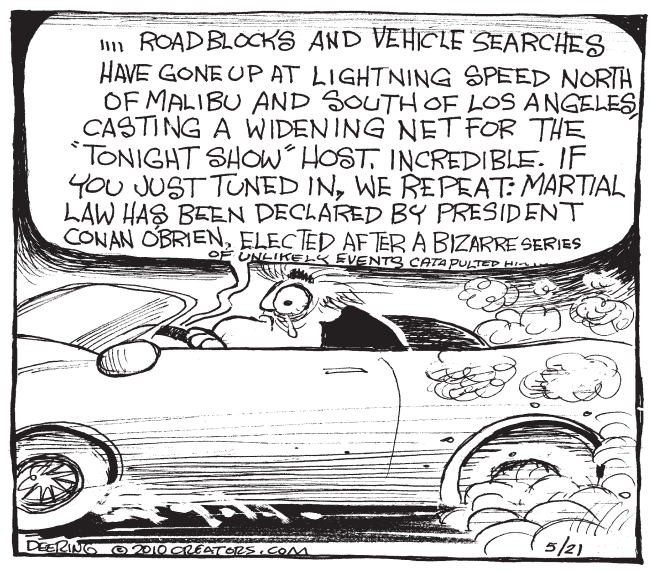
Garfield

By Jim Davis



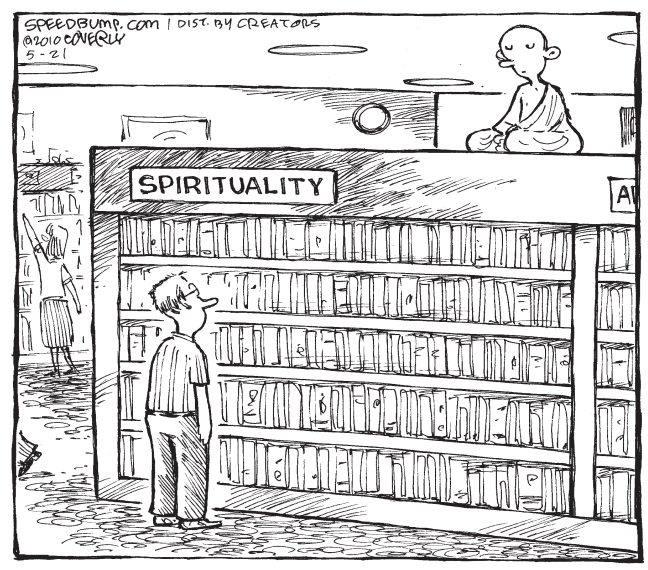
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly





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 ★★★★

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

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

ARITHMe™ CrossMath

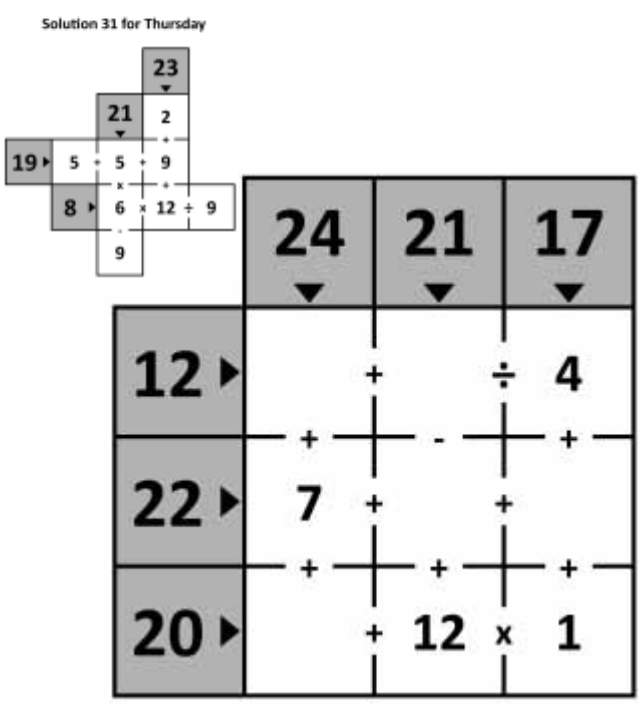
• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

3, 8, 9, 12, 12

Solution 31 for Thursday





MYSTERY PHOTO

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II *news@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*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Worry
6 Lute's cousin
11 Uncertain state
12 Not available
13 Studio sign
14 Inclines
15 "That's revolting!"
16 Like some TV
18 Porpoise's place
19 Bay Area airport code
20 Louvre fill
21 Writer Buchanan
23 — a limb
25 Break off
27 Chiding sound
28 The Yokum boy
30 Different
33 Apiece
34 Hot dog holder
36 Greedy desire
37 Sign of error
39 Concealed
40 Rosters
41 Burner setting
43 Grabs
44 Sports official
45 Grayish
46 Ship poles

DOWN

1 Boutique buy
2 Encircled
3 City on the Missouri River
4 Kimono sash
5 Frosh housing
6 Skips
7 "What's — for me?"
8 City on the Arkansas River
9 Toward the rear
10 Stop-watch button
17 Alien craft
22 Writer Beattie
24 Part of Mao's name
26 "La Mer" composer
28 Roof sight
29 Capek play
31 Thin cut
32 Church leaders
33 Furs
35 Comfy spots
38 Proofing note
42 Pointer

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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					■	44				
45					■	46				

5-21

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 11 13 19 37 40 Meganumber: 26 Jackpot: 54$M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 4 8 32 34 43 Meganumber: 14 Jackpot: 16$M

Fantasy 5: 9 11 12 23 35

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 7 5 6 EVENING: 2 5 1

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 07 Eureka 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:43.70

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

■ Erlyndon Joseph Lo, 27 and a graduate of Southern Methodist University law school, was arrested in April after threats against a Dallas women's clinic that performs abortions. Police were tipped the day before when Lo appeared at the federal courthouse in Plano, Texas, and sought a formal judicial ruling that would protect him from harm, even if he were to use deadly force "to defend the innocent life of another human being."

■ (1) In April, outdoing the recent partisan spats in the U.S. Congress, several dozen members of the Ukrainian parliament squared off over a cooperation-with-Russia bill that eventually involved headlocks, punching, a smoke bomb, glue (in the voting machines) and cartons of eggs tossed at the speaker's platform. Russian president Dmitry Medvedev called it the chamber's "traditional elegance." (2) Sweden's Metro newspaper reported in March that a 21-year-old inmate at Kirseberg prison in Malmo faces discipline for continuing his protests against jail conditions by aiming his gas-passing directly at guards.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1972 Michelangelo's Pietà in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome is damaged by a vandal, the mentally disturbed Hungarian geologist Laszlo Toth.

1979 White Night riots in San Francisco following the manslaughter conviction of Dan White for the assassinations of George Moscone and Harvey Milk.

1981 Irish Republican hunger strikers Raymond McCreesh and Patsy O'Hara die on hunger strike in Maze prison.

1990 Democratic Republic of Yemen and North Yemen agree to a unity, merging into Republic of Yemen.

1991 Former Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi is assassinated by a female suicide bomber near Madras.

1991 Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, flees Ethiopia, effectively bringing the Ethiopian Civil War to an end.

1994 Democratic Republic of Yemen unsuccessful attempts to secede from Republic of Yemen, war breaks out.

WORD UP!

plucky
\PLUHK-ee\ , adjective;
1. Having or showing pluck or courage; brave.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Yard Sales

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To Benefit Saint John's Health Center
FABULOS ITEMS FOR SALE
Saturaday and Sunday May 22 & 23
9a.m. to 3p.m.
11870 Santa Monica Blvd
Between Bundy and Barrington

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Clearing out storage units! Ethernet cables, keyboards, office chairs, tables, couches; Tons of miscellaneous tech items, office supplies, furniture, & more. Everything & the toilet seat! Cash only please.

When: 5/22 8am-4pm
Where: 1221 Second Street, 4th Floor Santa Monica, CA

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Saturday, May 22
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
2607 3rd Street

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3206 BAGLEY AVE. 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, dishwasher, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. $1050 $1000 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice unit 13 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

617 MIDVALE, 2+1.5 Townhouse style. Stove, fridge, dishwasher, microwave, tile countertop, wood and carpet floor. W/D hookups, parking, no pets. $2600/mo. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

9849 TABOR St.Unit 6, Palms, 1bdrm/1bath.$1095/mo Stove, fridge, carpets, wall AC, ceiling fan blinds, balcony, parking, on site laundry no pets. $1000 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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(310)869-7901

10550 Santa Monica Blvd. 2+1, former Art Space gallery $1950

1214 Idaho # 7 2+1.5 Bath $2495 Townhouse, Pet OK

1234 11th St. 2+ 1.75 bath, granite counter tops $2195

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MAR VISTA 11924 Courtleigh dr. units 9&10 stove, fridge, blinds, vinyl, utilities included, on-site laundry, parking, no pets, $950 & up/mo $1000 off move-in (310)737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $975 & up $1000 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA

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2+1, st, ref, gar, lwr
$1300

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BACH, st, fr, ln
$750

1657 Federal Ave, #5
2+2, lwr,st,fr,ln,hdwd, cpt,pkg-1
$1475

2814 Westwood
4+2, st, fr, d/w, cpt, w/d, 2 car garage, fenced bkyd
$3000

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st (stove), fr (fridge), cpt (carpet), sgl (single), bach (bachelor), ln (laundry), gar (garage), hdwd (hardwood floors), lwr (lower), upr (upper), htpl (hotplate), pkg (parking), w/d (washer/dryer), hu (hook-up), d/w (dishwasher), c-fn (ceiling fan), fp (fireplace)

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MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $1000 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1795.00 3bdrms, 1-3/4 baths, + Den, no pets, stove, refrig, dshwshr, parking. 12058 Culver Blvd. #Upper Unit Open daily 8am-7pm. Additional info in unit

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WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th place unit F 2bdrm/1bath, stove, dishwasher, microwave, blinds, carpet, laundry, gated parking, no pets, $1350/mo, $1200 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th place unit C 2bdrm/1.5 bath, stove, dishwasher, microwave, blinds, carpet, laundry, gated parking, no pets, $1495/mo, $1200 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20100437941 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as THIS SHOT WON'T HURT; ADMINISTRATIVE WEB WORKS, 21734 SEPTO ST. #112, CHATSWORTH, CA 91311, LOS ANGELES COUNTY; 906 W. 59TH PLACE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : OSHARYE HAGOOD, 21734 SEPTO ST. #112, CHATSWORTH, CA 91311 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)3/31/2010. /s/: OSHARYE HAGOOD; OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/31/2010. 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 4/30/2010, 5/7/2010, 5/14/2010, 5/21/2010

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20100447419 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as INTERACTIVE INTUITION, 1020 S. SHERBOURNE DRIVE, SUITE 305, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : ROSS C. BERMAN, 1020 S. SHERBOURNE DRIVE, SUITE 305, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035; ANN R. BOHRER, 1020 S. SHERBOURNE DRIVE, SUITE 305, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035 This Business is being conducted by, husband and wife. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)3/17/1994. /s/: ROSS C. BERMAN; CEO
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 4/1/2010. 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 4/30/2010, 5/7/2010, 5/14/2010, 5/21/2010

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