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Volume 10 Issue 163



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

HOME BIRTHS ON THE RISE
SEE PAGE 14

THE WORKING FOR THE WEEKEND ISSUE

Committee to look at bond, parcel tax

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS The school board voted unanimously Thursday night to reconvene a citizen-led committee to look at the possibility of a future parcel tax and bond measure.

The committee, which is authorized to have up to 35 members and $50,000 for polling, last got together for the successful Y and YY campaign, which is supposed to bring almost $5.5 million into district coffers this year from a half-cent sales tax hike.

Although it went idle, it was understood that committee members would come back to discuss the possibility of extra funding measures — a bond, which can be used for capital projects like buildings, and a parcel tax, which can pay for salaries and programs.

Board members stressed that the vote was not a promise, just a precautionary measure to give the district options in case the state

SEE SCHOOLS PAGE 11



PROTECTION

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

City Hall recently installed highway-style barricades at the entrances to the Downtown Farmers' Market, which is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, to protect shoppers from careless or malicious drivers. The system, in the planning for three years, uses nets and heavy-duty cables to catch and stop vehicles without serious injury to the driver. This comes nearly eight years after an elderly man plowed through the market, killing 10 and injuring scores more.

Former supe of SMMUSD dead at 53

Dianne Talarico succumbs to cancer

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PACIFICA, CALIF Former Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Dianne Talarico died this week after a battle with lung cancer.

She was 53.

Talarico replaced former Superintendent John Deasy in July 2006, and served the district during a tumultuous two years marked by success in promoting programs for underprivileged students as well as conflict over special education.


TALARICO

She left her post at the Canton City Schools in Ohio, where she served for superintendent for five years, to work at SMMUSD.

Talarico was passionate about children, said Chief Academic Officer Dr. Sally Chou, and that passion shone through in the goals she set and how she approached them.

The pair worked together as associate superintendents in San Francisco for a time.

SEE TALARCIO PAGE 8

Embassy tenants' homes safe, for now

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

THIRD STREET Residents of the Embassy Hotel and Apartments can breathe a little easier.

The City Attorney's Office, Rent Control Board and owners of the Embassy reached a settlement agreement announced at last week's City Council meeting, which gives the residents' four years to leave the apartments and collect relocation benefits.

The settlement also gives the Embassy owners the right to offer tenants a buy-out if they choose to leave sooner.

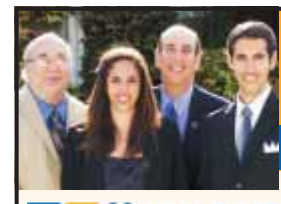
"They have the ability to negotiate a

SEE EMBASSY PAGE 10

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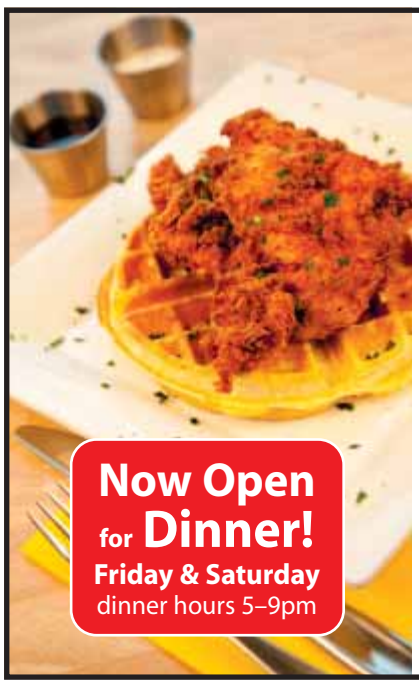


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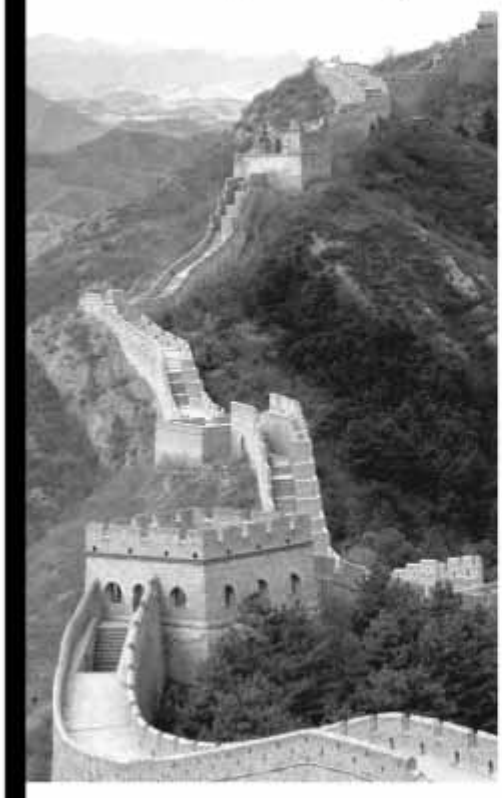
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, May 21, 2011

Street Trees Workshop
Main Library,
10:30 a.m. — 12:30 a.m.
What trees do you want to see on your street? This workshop will give residents a key opportunity to help determine tree species for specific streets in the event that a street tree needs to be replaced in the future. Recommendations will be included in the City's draft Urban Forest Master Plan. The meeting will be led by the city's Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force. For information, call (310) 458-8974.

SHAPE Bikini Body Tour with Kourtney Kardashian
Santa Monica Beach
Lot 4, 9:30 a.m.
SHAPE Magazine will once again hit the beach with fitness classes, summer fashion shows, interactive beauty cabanas, product-packed gift bags and more. Reality TV star Kourtney Kardashian will also be on hand for a signing from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

The Big 'Bu'
Viceroy Hotel
1819 Ocean Ave., 2 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Did you know there are more than two dozen wineries in … Malibu? While guests have tasted wines from across California and around the world, now LearnAboutWine.com presents the most local stop on Learn About Wine's tasting tour: Malibu, The Big "Bu." For more information, visit www.learnaboutwine.com.

Student photo show
Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Blvd., 10 a.m. — 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Santa Monica College 32nd Annual Student Photography Show will be held in the college's Photo Gallery and Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery. The show runs through June 4. For information, call (310) 434-3434 or (310) 434-4289.

Sunday, May 22, 2011

This little piggy
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St.,
12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
"Barnyard Madness with the Three Little Pigs" is a zany musical romp with the swingin' singin' McPig Sisters and their wolverine admirers. A kid-pleasing mix of 1940's boogie-woogie, Grand Ole Opry-type vaudeville, and a Romeo and Juliet story line. Cost: $10.50 for kids 12 and under; $12.50 for adults. For more information call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

Priest tackles Big Bang
St. Monica Catholic Church
Trepp Center,
725 California Ave., 7 p.m.
The Young Ministering Adults Ministry at St. Monica Catholic Community will sponsor the presentation, "The Church and Space," featuring Dr. William R. Stoeger, S.J. Dr. Stoeger, a Jesuit priest and staff scientist for the Vatican Observatory Research Group, will discuss the Catholic Church and its perspective on intelligent life, along with other topics including divine creation, cosmology, astrobiology, and the Big Bang Theory. Admission is $9. For more information call (310) 566-1531

Deep in the heart of Texas
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
When a young doctor in a remote factory town on the Tex-Mex border is accused of sexual misconduct in his consulting rooms, he learns that corporate politics can override the course of justice in the play "Sand in the Air." With satirical humor, the play explores the ever-increasing limits and distortions of personal freedom in a world manipulated by corporate and political controls. "Sand in the Air" is inspired by an actual Texas court case. Cost: $18 ($15 students/seniors).

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Assembly field taking shape

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom will have some pretty stiff competition for the 41st District Assembly seat.

Social activist Torie Osborn officially announced her bid to succeed Assemblywoman Julie Brownley Thursday, touting high-profile endorsements from Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-Los Angeles), activist Tom Hayden and former Santa Monica Mayor Denny Zane, a co-founder of Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, the city's leading political party.

Villaraigosa, along with other heavy hitters in Los Angeles politics, will be present at a campaign kickoff event and fundraiser for Osborn scheduled for June 12 at a private home in the Pacific Palisades.

"I'm running because California is in trouble and needs the strongest possible leadership in Sacramento," said Osborn, a 25-year resident of Santa Monica who ran the Liberty Hill Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center. "I believe in a California with world-class schools and colleges, a clean environment, and affordable high-quality health care. I believe we can make California's government as smart and creative and progressive as its people."

Osborn earned an MBA from UCLA's Anderson School and served as a senior advisor to Villaraigosa on homelessness and poverty policy, served as chief civic engagement officer for the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, and is currently a senior strategist for California Calls, a network of 25 organizations throughout California committed to government reform.

"Throughout my career, I have brought people together to create solutions and organize for results," Osborn said. "That's energy I want to bring to this campaign, and that's the spirit I want to bring to Sacramento."

The primary for the Assembly seat is scheduled for June 2012. The 41st District comprises parts of the coast, the Santa Monica Mountains, and the San Fernando Valley, including Santa Monica and the Pacific Palisades.

Osborn's connections in Los Angeles, as well as her ties to former state Sen. Sheila Kuehl, still politically engaged even though she no longer holds public office, will surely make her a strong contender and pose a serious challenge to Bloom, who is not as well known outside the confines of Santa Monica.

Bloom officially announced his candidacy last week when he schedule his own campaign kickoff event on June 5 at the Santa Monica Art Studios.

KEVIN HERRERA

CITYWIDE

Tutors needed for homeless kids

School on Wheels, a nonprofit dedicated to helping homeless children excel in school, is desperately seeking volunteers to tutor children at homeless shelters and group homes in and around Santa Monica.

"Every day we are seeing more and more homeless children and we need more tutors to be able to help these kids with their homework and studies," said Sinead Chilton, marketing consultant with School on Wheels.

Last year, School on Wheels helped 6,200 kids, but there are more than 290,000 homeless children in California, Chilton said.

"We need more help."

Tutoring takes place at the Upward Bound House family shelter, local libraries and the Salvation Army.

Those interested can go to www.schoolonwheels.org to learn more.

School on Wheels was founded in 1993 by Agnes Stevens, a retired teacher who began tutoring homeless kids in a park in Santa Monica, encouraging them to stay in school.

KH



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

DOWN TIME: **Samohi's baseball team huddles after a 9-3 playoff loss to Montebello at home on Friday.**

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Montebello eliminates Samohi from playoffs

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI The Vikings' late-season surge was stopped cold Friday by Montebello in the first round of the CIF-Southern Section Division 3 playoffs.

Santa Monica High School's baseball team, winners of 10 of their last 14 games, had their chances, but were rebuffed at every turn by Montebello starting pitcher Anthony Millan during a 9-3 loss at home.

"We had our opportunities, had the bases loaded a few times, but we couldn't get runs across," Head Coach Sheldon Philip-Guide said. "They certainly took advantage of their opportunities.

"[Montebello] is a good team, they didn't make the playoffs for nothing."

Montebello struck early against Samohi starter Andrew McRitchie during a first-inning rally that saw the Oilers score three runs.

McRitchie settled down in the second inning, holding the score at 3-0. Samohi seized the opportunity to get back in the game with a pair of runs in the bottom half of the inning.

All-Ocean League designated hitter David Tyre-Vigil led off the inning for the Vikings with a double to deep left field. He was later pushed across the plate by Trent Nelson's RBI single to left field. Benny Arce's infield sacrifice would score sophomore catcher Lino Lares later in the frame to make the game close at 3-2.

But, that's as close as it would get for the Vikings, who finished the season 13-17 overall and 10-0 in league play.

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 10

Seafood dealer to plead guilty in whale meat case

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN L.A. A Gardena seafood dealer who imported endangered whale meat from Tokyo and sold it to Santa Monica eatery The Hump and other sushi restaurants in the Southland will plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge, according to reports.

Ginichi Y. Ohira, 50, was charged in Los Angeles federal court with knowingly selling a marine mammal product for an unauthorized purpose, in violation of the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Specifically, Ohira sold protected sei whale meat to The Hump at the Santa Monica Airport, which closed its doors last year after federal prosecutors charged the owner and a chef with sales of the federally-protected mammal, according to court documents obtained by City News Service.

Ohira began importing whale meat from Japan about 10 years ago. Among his customers was a sushi chef at The Hump.

The meat was discovered in visits to the restaurant by undercover agents working with environmental advocates behind the Oscar-winning documentary "The Cove," who conducted their own surveillance operation in which they used video cameras and tiny microphones to document the illegal activity.

The advocates pocketed pieces of meat and placed

SEE **HUMP** PAGE 8



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Better bike it

Editor:

Dear City Hall,

I am one of many who actually do ride bikes around town. It does save on gas, hassle-free parking, and no traffic worries. I was happy to read of your "Bike to Work Day" in the SMDP, but so disappointed to bike by City Hall, only to find a "coffee table" set up out front, and already being broken down by 9:45 a.m. Really! That is the best this city can do to promote the bicycle campaign?

Maybe I will just "drive by" next time!

Claudia Prevost
Santa Monica

Now you know

Editor:

Congratulations to Tom Viscount for his really intriguing account of the long-ago mystery of Thelma Todd's untimely death and news of her grand mansion on the Pacific Coast Highway ("Who killed the Ice Cream Blonde?" Santa Monica Stories, May 19, page 3). I used to drive by it almost daily as I lived in Malibu, and worked in Los Angeles. I always wanted to know more about the house and its owner, and thanks to Mr. Viscount, I now know much more. Thanks, too, to the always enjoyable Daily Press.

Lee Ray
Santa Monica

Freedom of choice

Editor:

What if men were the sex who had to carry a child for nine months, then endure the pain of child birth and be the primary caregiver in an infant's first months of life? That entails changing copious amounts of diapers and wiping lots of spittle. I wonder how they would like being told what they could and couldn't do with their bodies. I have a feeling they wouldn't want government of any kind meddling in their affairs when it came to the question of choice.

And since most of our elected officials are male, it seems pretty obvious that we wouldn't even be having this debate. But in reality, it is women who carry the child and bear childbirth and nurture the helpless infant during its early life. And now it's primarily a lot of elected men who want to take women's choice away from us.

I am the mother of three wonderful children. I love kids, but I feel they should enter a world where they are wanted and loved by those who created them, not forced upon those who, in error, created a human they could never love. Stop screwing women over and over, and let us make our own choices.

Maureen Murphy
Santa Monica

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On the Beat

NRO Artis Williams — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Keeping kids away from guns

Q: I PURCHASED A HANDGUN A FEW YEARS ago for personal safety. Now that I have a family, I still have the gun for personal safety. How can I keep the gun at home safely?

A: Having a gun at home for personal defense is a personal choice and one that should not be taken lightly. If you can legally possess and/or purchase firearms, and decide to keep a gun in your home, there are a few things you need to consider.

STORING THE FIREARM

There are a variety of safety and storage items available on the market today. The safest way to store a gun would be to restrict access to the firearm and prohibit unauthorized use of the gun.

First, a firearm stored in the home should be stored unloaded and kept in a place where it is not easily accessible, like a lock box or gun safe. This way the firearm is not found by children, thieves or anyone else that you don't want to handle or remove the firearm.

Second, a firearm should have some type of locking mechanism that prevents the operation of the firearm if it is discovered by someone who is not authorized to use it. A couple of common locking mechanisms are trigger locks (which prevent access to the firearm's trigger) and cable locks (cable locks loop through the firearm's action to prevent operation). Both locking mechanisms are effective methods of preventing accidental and unauthorized use of your firearm.

Remember, safety devices and storage units are only as secure as the precautions you take to protect the key or combination to the lock! Firearms and ammunition should be stored separately. For eligibility and purchasing requirements, and a list of Department of Justice-approved firearms safety devices and gun safe standards, please visit the California Department of Justice website at http://oag.ca.gov/

You may be guilty of a misdemeanor or a felony if you keep a loaded firearm within any premises that are under your custody or control and a child under 18 years of age obtains and uses it, resulting in injury or death, or carries it to a public place, unless you stored the firearm in a locked container or locked the firearm with a locking device to temporarily keep it from functioning.

FAMILIARITY, MAINTENANCE

Here is something many gun owners don't consider: When guns are first purchased, they are held, shot at the range, taken apart and put back together again, and stored away. But if you own a gun, when was the last time you held it? When was the last time you checked it to make sure it functioned properly? Can you access, unlock and load the firearm in a hurry if you needed to? Will the firearm work if it wasn't properly maintained?

Many times gun owners purchase their firearms and safely store them for months (or even years) at a time before they are used. Being unfamiliar with your gun can be an accident waiting to happen. Whether you find yourself in an emergency or just handling the gun after it has been stored for a long time, not knowing how to use the gun can lead to accidental firing where someone could be seriously hurt or killed.

Neglecting to properly clean and oil a firearm could lead to a malfunction or failure of the gun when you may need it.

FIREARMS AND CHILDREN

Here is a topic that is very important for anyone who has children, nieces, nephews, cousins or any children in a home where a gun is kept. Children are naturally curious about things they don't know about or they believe are forbidden. When children start to ask questions or act out "gun play," you may want to address his or her curiosity. Take the time to talk to your kids about guns in a manner they can relate to or understand. Take the time to talk about the difference between what is make believe, such as movies, television and video games, and what is real. Let kids know that a real gun can hurt and kill people. By talking to children you can remove the mystery and reduce natural curiosity.

Here's another thought.

You may not have a firearm in your home or you have a firearm that is kept unloaded and locked away where your kids cannot find and access it. But what if your kids go to a friend's or relative's home for the afternoon or overnight? Is there a gun kept in that home? If a gun is kept in that home, how is it stored?

Talk to you children so they know what to do if they find a gun. Kids could discover a gun when a parent or another adult is not around. A child should know the following rules and be taught to practice them:

•Stop

The first thing a child should do if he/she finds or see a gun is stop what they are doing.

• Don't touch

A child should not touch a gun he/she finds or sees. A child should not touch or pick up a gun and take it to an adult!

• Leave the area

Immediately leave the area. Do not try to take a gun from another child or prevent another child from using the gun.

• Tell an adult

Tell an adult about the gun he or she has seen including times when other kids are seen playing with or shooting guns.

This column was prepared by **NRO ARTIS WILLIAMS**, Beat 7 (Sunset Park). He can be reached at (424) 200-0687 or artis.williams@smgov.net.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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The Q Line

Gap lingers on

A report by Education Trust-West found the achievement gap between white and minority SMMUSD students persists despite efforts to close it.

This past week, Q-line asked:
What do you think can be done to bridge the gap?

Here are your responses:

"THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, EVEN THE kids of the French aristocracy are going to start having problems in school, if schooled in America!"

"THE DO-GOODERS ARE GOING TO HAVE to accept the fact that not all kids are going to do equally well, no matter what the schools do. Some kids don't speak English. Some kids have to worry about becoming homeless, or where their next meal is coming from. Some kids are just lazy because their useless parents don't bother to push them to study, or punish them if they don't. And some kids are just plain dumb."

"START EARLIER. MAKE SURE EVERY child, regardless of their economic conditions, has access to and attends a quality early education program for at least two years. Give them an even start with their classmates. Maintain a high quality program in classes as small as possible but never over 24 through the primary years. Provide early screening for any physical or developmental delays and appropriate treatment where needed. Also vision and hearing screenings and appropriate treatment. Prevent rather than remediate."

"THE ONLY WAY YOU ARE GOING TO close the gap between whites and minority students is to improve the home life of the minority students. I do not believe it is a genetic thing. I know myself, when I was a little boy, my mom had a stroke when I was 10 years old and for four years I didn't have a stable home life, I didn't know where I was going to be living, and I just didn't care about school. So once I had a stable home life when my dad remarried, I did much better in school. So I think to help out the minority students we have to check out their home life and make sure they have two parents that love them and nurture them. Again, I don't think it's genetic."

"WHAT SO-CALLED CITY LEADERSHIP organization is worse than the post office? Yep, you guessed it, the SMMUSD school board. It is packed with wealth-hating redistributionists who detest successful people who are saddled with only a 50 percent tax rate. This attitude is indicative of phere toward low-income students' learning ability. Black students and their parents have the responsibility to strive for academic quality, not our white-hating school board. Studying and passing tests are considered by many blacks as being a 'whitey.' Good education equals a good job equals many quality choices in life. Our socialist school board brethren, some who name their spawn not George after Washington, but Fidel after Castro, are the reason for the black IQ subtraction in our school district."

"MORE RESOURCES NEED TO BE DEDICATED to early childhood development so that all students start off on an even playing field. But even that will not solve the problem. In the end it comes down to the family and what is happening in the home. An unfortunate reality is that institutional racism does still exist in our society and many minorities are unable to move up because of racism, a lack of access to higher education and other factors, including their own lack of determination, hence living a lifetime in poverty. It's difficult to keep an eye on your kids when you are working two or three jobs to support them. More resources are great, but until parents of these students are able to dedicate more time to parenting, I believe the gap will persist and could grow larger. More tutoring will help, but parents need to get involved."

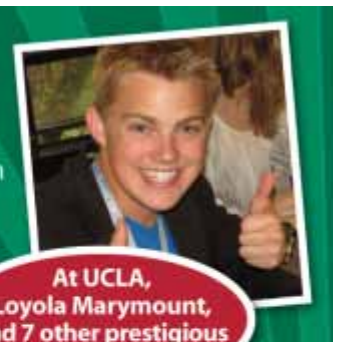
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The Re-View
Merv Hecht
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Cats aren't the only ones craving good seafood

WHEN I WAS LAST IN THE BIG APPLE, three of the four high-end restaurants in Midtown where I ate specialized in seafood, the current restaurant craze. The first, Milos, where you can pick out your own fish from an ice table, is very reminiscent of restaurants in China, although there you can choose a snake. We also went to La Marea and Le Bernardin, two Michelin-star restaurants where the menus were dominated by fish dishes.

So on the way back home, I was complaining that there are no specialty seafood restaurants in our neighborhood. Yes, we have Gladstone's, but that's best for lunch on the patio overlooking the beach, not for fine dining at dinner. And I like Ocean Avenue Seafood, where the menu changes daily to reflect the day's catch, but you don't choose the fish while it can still see you!

With that in mind, imagine how pleased I was to receive an invitation the day after we returned to the new Hungry Cat in Santa Monica Canyon, and I was blown away by the menu, the wine list, and the quality of the food, as well as the prices. It sure feels good to be home.

First of all, it too specializes in seafood. But not only is it a seafood restaurant, it's really two in one — cold seafood plates, and cooked fish dishes. The new owners have remodeled the old Beach House by putting the cocktail bar at the south end, a raw fish bar in the middle, and most of the restaurant tables at the north end.

On a weeknight, the bar was jammed with young couples. The seafood bar was also full and looked like a really nice place for a light dinner with a glass of wine, especially if you are dining alone. We took a table for three in the restaurant area. It too was pretty full, and it was quite loud everywhere until late in the evening.

The restaurant features seafood platters typically seen in beach city restaurants in France. The one at the table next to us arrived with three tiers — oysters on the bottom, clams and mussels in the middle, and crab legs, urchin, and maybe some lobster on the top. Our neighboring diners were washing it down with champagne and having a wonderful time. OK, it costs $155 for the three tier platter, but it easily serves three or four people.

I ordered the grilled asparagus and the halibut. The grilled asparagus was a bit of a surprise as it arrived looking a bit like a salad. There were dark arugula lettuce leaves, the small green grilled asparagus, and a delicious sauce made in part from ground walnuts. And sitting on top was a breaded coddled egg! The flavors and textures went exceedingly well together, and it was a light and delicious beginning.

When the halibut arrived, and I tasted it, I knew I had gone to heaven. The texture was silky, the fish flavorful, moist and cooked just right. It was served on a bed of greens, peas (instead of the fava beans listed on the menu), and black trumpet mushrooms, in a light sauce. It was as good as any fish dish I had had in New York.

In general the prices are amazingly reasonable for the quality. A dozen oysters for $30 is less than most restaurants in town. The asparagus at $12 and the halibut $32 (it's the most expensive dish on the menu). That's about half what the Michelin-star restaurants charged in New York.

To end the meal we bravely turned down the delicious sounding desserts and ordered a cheese plate. The generous portions of both famous and less famous cheeses came with almonds in honey and was served with several slices of delicious, warm, grilled French bread.

The wine list offers about two dozen each of red and white wines at reasonable prices, with many in the $30 range, and, surprisingly, the list does not include the usual suspects.

Over the last 40 years, after seeing so many restaurants come and go in this spot, I'm convinced this one is here to stay. The staff is intelligent and friendly (especially Nicolas, the manager), the menu is interesting, the food preparation exceptional, the prices reasonable, and the wine list accessible.

And it's obviously the time for seafood.

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





Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

GOOD GRUB: **Cured meats available at The Market's Norcino Salumeria Cheese Bar.**

The Market opens to large crowd

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

SM PLACE Foodies on the hunt for freshness flocked to Santa Monica Place on Friday for the grand opening of the remodeled shopping center's latest attraction, The Market, a 45,000-square-foot section of the third floor dining deck that features artisanal treats and a top-notch cooking school.

A miniature version of San Francisco's Ferry Building, The Market has an open-air atmosphere with a pleasant color pattern, high ceilings, lots of natural light and a clean look that draws attention to the diverse selection of purveyors who pride themselves on producing organic fare.

The idea is to complement the fine-dining found on the mall's third floor as well as the Farmers' Markets held every Wednesday and Saturday just blocks away on Arizona Avenue. The Market includes a French chocolatier, a farm-sourced skin-care company, wine and cheese shops, a farm-to-table cafe and gelato.

The centerpiece is Primi Al Mercato, an Italian-food retail and restaurant concept (with an on-site pasta maker) from Piero Selvaggio, owner of Westside industry power spot Valentino.

Macerich Co., the owners of Santa Monica Place, were smart to include The Market, helping boost the mall's presence as not just a shopping destination, but a culinary hub worthy of being located in the city by the sea, which is known as much for its restaurants as its progressive public policy. Personally, I haven't purchased one piece of clothing from a store in the mall, but I've eaten at nearly all of the restaurants and the posh food court and will keep going back. Most of the grub is delicious.

The Market should become a major attraction, and we look forward to having lunch on its patio overlooking Fourth Street. While not the most picturesque view, the breeze and sunshine will make it a pleasant place to munch.

We didn't have much time to check out the food (our lunch hour is more like 15 minutes), but we did look at menus for the restaurants and found the prices to be comparable to other fresh fare restaurants in the area. Our next stop will certainly be the Norcino Salumeria Cheese Bar, also run by Selvaggio, to purchase some savory cured meats and rich, creamy cheese for weekend gatherings. As the weeks go by, we'll try others and fill you in.

The only thing we wish The Market included is a butcher. It would be nice to purchase premium cuts of beef, pork, lamb, chicken and fish, along with other ingredients at the various purveyors to come up with a tasty dish for a dinner party of just supper with the family. That would really compliment the Farmers' Markets. Right now the closest thing is Norcino's.

We recommend checking out The Market, even if it's just to browse. There's plenty to see and the energy is palpable. We're sure you'll end up walking away with something, or maybe you'll sit in on a cooking class and learn a new technique.

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ILLEGAL: **Posh sushi restaurant The Hump closed doors last year after it was caught selling endangered whale meat.**

HUMP
FROM PAGE 3

them in a plastic bag for genetic testing, which later showed the meat was sei whale, which are found worldwide and are endangered but are sometimes hunted in the North Pacific under a controversial Japanese scientific program.

Charges against the restaurant and chef were dismissed in 2010 after the eatery admitted serving up sei, pledged to make a substantial contribution to whale preservation or endangered species groups and shut down entirely.

The misdemeanor carries a maximum penalty of one year in federal prison, one year under supervised release, and a fine of $100,000, prosecutors said.

A date for Ohira's guilty plea is expected to be set Monday, according to reports.

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TALARICO
FROM PAGE 1

"She supported the kids, especially those not as fortunate and privileged," Chou said.

Talarico was a driving force behind the SMMUSD's Young Collegians program, which takes students with grade point averages of about 2.0 and supports them through college-level coursework at Santa Monica College.

The first cohort of those students will graduate high school this year. Each of them will go on to higher education, and many will be the first member of their families to do so, Chou said.

"Her focus was closing the achievement gap," Chou said. "She didn't want the kids to fall behind."

Talarico also helped out in more personal ways, visiting Olympic High School and teaching students there to make jewelry, which was a pastime of hers, Chou said.

Controversy rocked the district during her tenure, although much of it had percolated under the surface before she arrived.

She was at the helm when the district's chief financial officer, Winston Braham, resigned after refusing to sign off on a financial report Talarico approved. His resignation helped bring to light the district's use of confidentiality agreements, a policy enacted by former Superintendent John Deasy to cut down on costs associated with providing special education services. Parents of special education students were forbidden from discussing the services their children received.

The use of the agreements was heavily criticized by members of the City Council, which temporarily withheld thousands of dollars in financial aid to the district, and many parents, who felt there use created a culture of fear within the district. The council eventually gave the schools the cash — around $530,000 — after it was convinced that reforms were being made.

Talarico also weathered the arrest of Thomas Beltran, an ESL teacher at Lincoln Middle School who plead guilty to sexual assaulting female students. He was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

She left the district in 2008, citing a need to be nearer to her husband in Northern California, and became superintendent at a school district in Burlingame.

Beyond her achievements and struggles, many in the district will remember Talarico for her ready smile and can-do personality.

"She would roam the whole office, asking 'How are you doing?'" said Board of Education member Maria Leon Vasquez. "She was all over this community. I will always remember her for her great smile and compassion."

Even when the going was tough and the obstacles loomed large, Talarico had a humor and strength that could conquer adversity, Chou said.

"She would say, 'Non c'é la faccio piu!' (I can't take this anymore!)," Chou said. "Then she would laugh, and start all over again."

Talarico is survived by her husband, four stepchildren, mother, brother and sister.

The family is arranging a celebration-of-life service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Burlingame Community for Education Foundation, P.O. Box 117730, Burlingame, CA 94011

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Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

THEFT: **Montebello's Daniel Lopez steals third base ahead of Samohi's Danny Galvan's tag attempt on Friday during a 9-3 playoff loss.**

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 3

Montebello would tack on six insurance runs on starter McRitchie and relief pitcher Albert Garcia, as the Oilers advanced to the second round.

For the Vikings, who began the season on shaky ground, the loss ends what was a surprise turnaround that saw the Vikings win their second straight league title.

On the other side of the diamond, Montebello head coach Rafael Guiterrez was surprised to see McRitchie start the game. He expected junior Adam Padilla, Samohi's ace, to be on the mound come game time.

He had prepared his team to face the right-hander, but said that his Oilers made adjustments once they saw the tall lefty on the bump.

"Our guys took advantage of [McRitchie's] control," he said. "We didn't waste any chances."

Philip-Guide defended the choice to start McRitchie, his go-to pitcher at home this season. He thought the senior would dig deep, saying, "I wanted to give him a chance to win one at home,"

Despite the early playoff exit, the future is promising for the Vikings, a team that started seven underclassmen on Friday. The Vikings return Padilla, the league's MVP and team leader, as well as a number of juniors and sophomores that were named all-league this season.

"This year has taught us underclassmen a lot about what it takes to be successful," Padilla said. "Hopefully this experience pays off next season."

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LIFE'S PLAYBOOK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

2011 NFL draft pics Mikel Leshoure (left) and Marcell Dareus answer questions from fourth graders at Grant Elementary School on Pearl Street Friday afternoon. The draftees were there to teach kids about healthy living.

EMBASSY
FROM PAGE 1

buy-out," confirmed Deputy City Attorney Alan Seltzer. "The offer of the Embassy cannot be less than the relocation benefit, and there is 'no harassment' in the terms."

The settlement saves nine apartments, occupied by an unspecified number of people, from being converted into hotel rooms under the terms of the Ellis Act, which allows a landlord to remove rental properties from the market at will.

Embassy LLC and Embassy Properties, L.P., the two corporations that own and operate the building, wanted to convert 19 units into extra hotel rooms, saying that it was a burden to operate the building as both a hotel and apartment complex.

Those 19 units became apartments in a 2000 settlement agreement between City Hall and the owners in a dispute over the failure to collect and pay the city tax on hotel beds.

The owners decided to remove those 19 units from the rental housing pool under the Ellis Act, but City Hall objected, saying that the owners had waived that right in the 2000 agreement.

In February 2009, the owners filed a petition for writ of mandate, requesting that a judge tell City Hall to back off.

A court battle between Embassy, City Hall and the Rent Control Board ensued.

There was just one group missing: The tenants.

Tenants had no lawyer in the court when the City Attorney's Office and Rent Control Board triumphed in a lower court, and then lost in appeal, leaving the tenants with the distinct possibility they could be asked to leave their homes at any point.

"Because of that loss (in the appellate court), it is possible with the case returned to trial court, that the city and Rent Board will lose again," City Attorney Marsha Moutrie explained at the April 12 City Council meeting. "If that happens, the tenants could be evicted immediately."

The settlement agreement reached in recent weeks takes that possibility off the table, much to the relief of the tenants, although mixed feelings remain.

Several of the tenants have lived in their apartments for decades, said one resident, who wished to remain anonymous.

"We believe that the city fought for the tenants' interests and got the best deal possible, but some of the tenants have lived in the Embassy for over 20 years, and no one wants to be evicted from their homes even if it is four years from now," the tenant said. "The conversion of the Embassy to a boutique hotel is another death knell of the old Santa Monica, which is becoming the Beverly Hills by the sea."

Although the City Attorney's Office did not represent the tenants during the lawsuit, it can provide protection to them if they feel they're being harassed into leaving the Embassy before the four years are up.

Seltzer did not believe that there would be a harassment issue, but said that the Consumer Protection Unit of the City Attorney's Office would handle any complaints by the tenants.

Although the Embassy owners would have preferred a shorter move-out period, they are happy that the lawsuit is over with, said Anthony J. Oliva, the attorney that represented Embassy LLC and Embassy Properties, L.P.

"In any settlement agreement, both parties have to accept a result that wasn't their preference," Oliva said. "I think they feel that they reached a fair agreement with the city and the Rent Control Board."

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SAFE FOR NOW: **The City Attorney's Office, Rent Control Board and owners of the Embassy reached a settlement agreement which gives residents there four years to leave their apartments and collect relocation benefits.**

SCHOOLS
FROM PAGE 1

budget picture took a turn for the worse.

"I want us to be nimble enough to be able to react quickly and decisively if conditions call for that kind of reaction," said board Vice President Ben Allen.

Having a recommendation from the committee on hand in case state money — now suggested to be flat from the previous year, rather than severely slashed — falls through would give SMMUSD the flexibility to move forward with a funding measure of some kind, Allen said.

That's a distinct possibility if Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed tax extensions don't get past legislators.

"If the state measure fails, or something like that, I want there to be a structure in place to make that sort of judgment call if necessary," Allen said. "I don't want the inevitability of something on the ballot."

To that end, several board members seemed wary to give the committee the $50,000 for polling on the parcel tax that may or may not see the light of day.

"We should set aside the money because it is prudent, but it's unlikely that it will be spent," said board member Laurie Lieberman.

Board members also discussed the composition of the commission, which lost two members when Lieberman and Nimish Patel became board members and has no representation from Malibu.

The support of Malibu residents would be essential to any measure passing, and Lieberman encouraged those who applied for, but did not get on the Financial Oversight Committee to throw their hats into the ring for the parcel tax and bond committee.

Committee members are under significant pressure to get a recommendation out if they intend to get a parcel tax on the November 2011 ballot.

They only have until Aug. 10 to make their findings and report back to the board of education.

Board member Ralph Mechur suggested that the committee focus its energies on the potential parcel tax until that deadline passed, and then move onto the proposed bond measure, which would not be due until early 2012.

Lieberman was hesitant to make any formal request that put off the consideration of bond funding, which will be necessary to finish work on facilities throughout the district, officials said.

Analysis of a bond measure is actually leftover work from the last time the committee convened, and she felt that it was too easy to put off the infrastructure funding for the more immediate need to cover operations.

"It was always supposed to come back together to address capital needs in the district that have not been addressed by BB," Lieberman said, referencing the $268 million bond measure that is paying for school repairs and renovations.

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Please help keep Santa Monica clean, safe and healthy by recycling used motor oil and filters!

Used motor oil contains toxic substances such as benzene, lead, zinc, and cadmium and is hazardous to the health of human beings and the safety of the environment. Believe it or not, over ***20,000,000 gallons*** of used motor oil are unaccounted for each year in California. Most of this oil leaks, drips, or is illegally dumped onto our streets. You can do your part to help by recycling used motor oil and filters at the following locations.



SANTA MONICA USED MOTOR OIL AND FILTER RECYCLING LOCATIONS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center
Location: 2500 Michigan Ave. *Phone:* (310)458-8255
Hours: Wednesday - Friday 9 am to 1 pm, Saturday 9 am to 2 pm

Santa Monica Community Recycling Center
Location: 2411 Delaware Ave. *Phone:* (310)453-9677
Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am to 5 pm, Saturday 8 am to 2 pm

EZ Lube √
Location: 1757 Lincoln Blvd. *Phone:* (310)392-2514
Hours: Monday - Friday 7 am to 7 pm, Saturday 8 am to 5 pm

Firestone Store √
Location: 1817 Lincoln Blvd. *Phone:* (310)399-7171
Hours: Monday - Friday 7 am to 7 pm, Saturday 8 am to 5 pm, Sunday 9 am to 4 pm

Jiffy Lube √
Location: 2344 Pico Blvd. *Phone:* (310)392-1994
Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am to 9 pm, Saturday 8 am to 6 pm, Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

O'Reilly Auto Parts √
Location: 2018 Lincoln Blvd. *Phone:* (310)392-8601
Hours: Monday - Friday 8 am to 9 pm, Saturday 8 am to 8 pm, Sunday 8 am to 7 pm

Volkswagen of Santa Monica √
Location: 2440 Santa Monica Blvd. *Phone:* (310)829-1888
Hours: Monday - Friday 7 am to 8 pm, Saturday 7:30 am to 4 pm

W. I. Simonson √
Location: 1626 Wilshire Blvd. *Phone:* (310)829-4511
Hours: Monday - Friday 6:30 am to 6:30 pm

√ - Indicates the location provides a 40¢ per gallon reimbursement

Call locations for quantities accepted.

*To receive a **FREE** oil and filter recycling container and for additional information please call **(310)458-2213.***
*For additional recycling locations call **1-888-CLEAN-LA.***
sustainablesm.org/hhw

Recycle Used Oil

Funded by a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)

City of Santa Monica

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

Feds consider use of mouse poison in CA sanctuary

BY JASON DEAREN
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO To help a tiny, rare seabird with a declining population, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is studying a plan to kill off non-native house mice with poison on the Farallon Islands, a marine sanctuary off the coast of Northern California.

But even the idea that a poison would be used in the pristine environment has drawn criticism from some conservation groups that argue the aerial drop of thousands of rodenticide pellets would instead harm many creatures throughout the food chain.

The possible use of mouse poison on these rugged islands about 28 miles west of the Golden Gate Bridge demonstrates the balancing act faced by wildlife managers as they seek to eradicate one species to benefit another.

At risk is the small Ashy Storm-petrel, a seabird with a global population estimated at no more than 10,000. Half of the Storm-petrel's global population uses the Farallon Islands, known to researchers as California's Galapagos Islands, to breed.

More than 400 species of birds have been identified on the Farallones, and the refuge is home to a menagerie of whales, great white sharks, seals and sea lions.

Yet at certain times of year the islands' ground appears to move, as thousands of mice scurry across it. Some researchers estimate that at times there are as many as 500 mice per acre.

"We know this is a massive infestation of mice, and rodenticide is the only thing proven to be the most effective," said Doug Cordell, a spokesman for the service. "But we're not going to do anything that carries more risk than benefit to the ecosystem of the Farallones, that's the bottom line. We haven't settled on an option yet, including the option of doing nothing."

The mice, believed to have been passengers on 19th century sailing vessels that stopped at the islands, alone do nothing to the Ashy Storm-petrel.

Instead, their numbers draw the attention of hungry migratory burrowing owls. Those owls feast on the mice until the population dwindles, then turn to Storm-petrels, their chicks and eggs.

The Ashy Storm-petrel is not currently listed as an endangered species, but Cordell said it is considered endangered by international conservation groups and in the U.S. is considered a species of concern.

Pesticides have been used to protect birds from rodents on islands before, with mixed results.

In 2002, the National Parks Service used a rodenticide called brodifacoum, which is being considered for use on the Farallones, on Anacapa Island, one of the Channel Islands off the coast of Santa Barbara.

The project, the first of its kind at the time, was done to protect the diminutive Xantus's Murrelets from non-native black rats.

While there was some collateral damage to other species, a study published in the journal Marine Ornithology found that nesting and breeding efforts by Xantus's Murrelets improved greatly after the black rat was killed off.

In October 2008, about 48 metric tons of the rodenticide was dropped over Rat Island in the Aleutians as part of a habitat restoration project led by fish and wildlife.

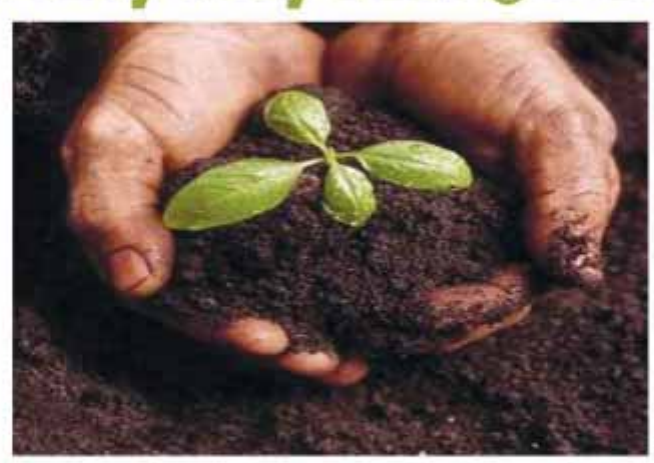
The poison was believed to be the cause of death of 46 bald eagles and hundreds of gulls, according to a 2010 study of the carcasses by the Ornithological Council.

"This is one of those complex issues, and right now there doesn't appear to be any clear easy answers," said Maggie Sergio, director of advocacy for WildCare, an animal rescue organization opposed to the use of the poison. The group said it had gathered more than 2,000 signatures for a petition opposing the proposal.

"We need to continue looking for alternatives and do something else other than drop tonnage of rat poison over pristine wilderness. There's got to be a better way," she said.

Still, not all conservation groups are opposed in principal to the idea of using rodenticide to save the struggling Storm-petrel.

Compost Workshop
Saturday May 21st @ 9:30 AM



Learn how you can compost at home!
Open to all Santa Monica Residents
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave
Resource Recovery & Recycling Division
310-458-2223
www.smgov.net/r3

NASA sting nets woman offering moon rock for $1.7M

BY ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A woman offering to sell a moon rock for $1.7 million was detained in a NASA sting, authorities said Friday.

It is illegal to sell moon rocks, which are considered national treasures. The gray rocks, which were gifted to each U.S. state and 136 countries by then-President Richard Nixon, can sell for millions of dollars on the black market.

NASA agents and Riverside County sheriff's deputies detained the woman, who has not been identified, after she met Thursday with an undercover NASA investigator at a restaurant in Lake Elsinore, about 70 miles southeast of Los Angeles, the sheriff's office said.

They swooped in after the two agreed on a price and she brought out the rock, authorities said.

NASA had been investigating the woman for several months before the meeting. The space agency planned to conduct tests to determine whether the rock came from the moon as the woman claimed.

"We don't know if it's lunar material," said Gail Robinson, deputy inspector general at NASA.

The woman has not been arrested or charged. It was unknown how she obtained the rock or came to the attention of NASA.

About 2,200 samples of lunar rocks, core samples, pebbles, sand and dust — weighing about 840 pounds — were brought to Earth by NASA's Apollo lunar landing missions from 1969 to 1972. A recent count showed 10 states and more than 90 countries could not account for their shares of the gray rocks.

NASA houses 70 percent of its lunar rock and soil samples at a special lab at Johnson Space Center, and another 14 percent are in New Mexico. The rest are either on loan for study or display — or are unaccounted for.

In 2009, the Rijksmuseum in the Netherlands confirmed that one of its rocks was a fake and not an artifact collected by the Apollo 11 crew.

A rock presented to Honduras was recovered in a 1998 NASA sting after a Miami collector offered $5 million for it.

Riot among 150 inmates breaks out at Calif. prison

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Seven inmates were taken to outside hospitals after a riot at a maximum-security prison in California on Friday, including two inmates who were being treated for serious injuries, prison officials said.

The fight among about 150 inmates at an outdoor recreation yard was broken up after guards fired a warning shot and used pepper spray at California State Prison, Sacramento, about 20 miles east of the state capital.

One inmate underwent surgery for multiple stab wounds, while a second was in "stable" condition for a broken left hand and broken eye socket, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation spokeswoman Peggy Bengs said. The inmate with the broken bones also was repeatedly stabbed, she said.

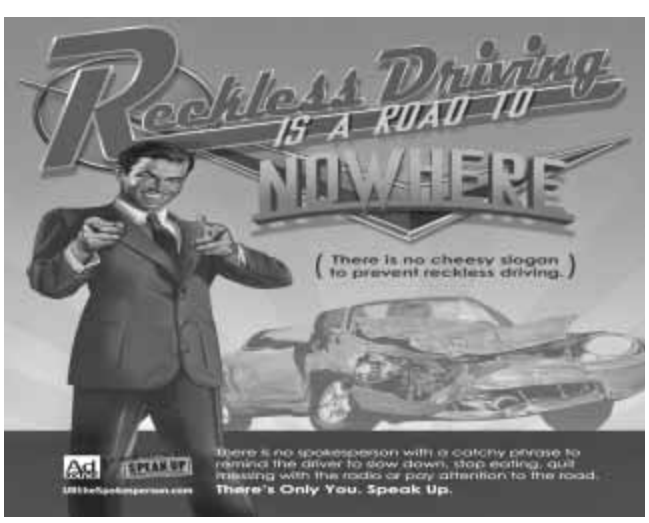
Two more inmates were released back to prison after they were treated, while two others were being treated for relatively minor injuries, she said. She did not have the condition of the seventh inmate. Other inmates were treated at the prison for minor injuries, she said, and could be taken to outside hospitals if needed.

No guards or other staff members were hurt during the skirmish, which began about 10:30 a.m. The fight involved inmates from several different racial groups, but it is not clear why it started, said Bengs and Terry Thornton, another department spokeswoman.

"That is, of course, going to be investigated," Thornton said.

It took about five minutes to contain the fight, Bengs said. The prison, which houses about 3,000 inmates, halted most inmate movements while the riot was investigated.

The brawl was on the B-Facility main exercise yard at the prison, which opened in 1986. It is next door to the much older Folsom State Prison. About 1,700 employees work at the California State Prison, Sacramento.

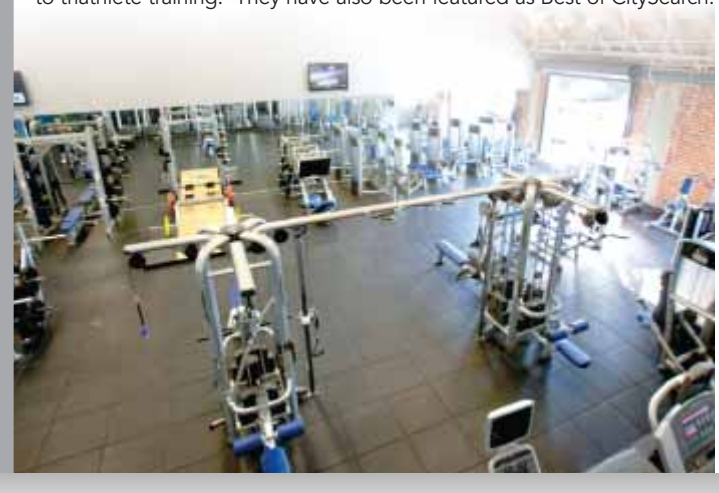


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BIKE TO WORK DAY May 19

On Thursday, May 19, take your bike to work and bring your helmet or bike when boarding for a FREE ride on the Big Blue Bus! Metro, Culver City and other local transit agencies are doing likewise. Visit: metro.net/bikeweek for details.

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Home births up, driven by natural birth subculture

BY MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA Home births rose 20 percent over four years, government figures show, reflecting what experts say is a small subculture among white women toward natural birth.

Fewer than 1 percent of U.S. births occur at home. But the proportion is clearly going up, study by researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found. The new figures are for 2004 to 2008. Home births had been declining from 1990 to 2004.

The increase was driven by white women — 1 in 98 had their babies at home in 2008, the most recent year for which the statistics were available.

Only about 1 in 357 black women give birth at home, and just 1 in 500 Hispanic women do.

"I think there's more of a natural birth subculture going on with white women — an interest in a low-intervention birth in a familiar setting," said the lead author, Marian MacDorman of the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics.

For all races combined, about 1 in 143 births were at home in 2008, up from 1 in 179 in 2004.

Geographically, 27 states had significant increases during those four years. Montana, Vermont and Oregon had the most home births — about 1 in 50 births were at home in those states.

Alaska's rate was nearly as high, and it's clear that some home births occur because women are in remote locations and are not able to get to hospitals in time for delivery.

The increase is notable because doctors groups have been increasingly vocal about opposing home births, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has for years warned against home births, arguing they can be unsafe, especially if the mother has high-risk medical conditions, if the attendant is inadequately trained or if there's no quick way to get mother and child to a hospital if something goes awry.

Doctor participation in home births declined by 38 percent from 2004 to 2008. The percentage of home births attended by certified midwives and nurse-midwives grew, meanwhile.

Home births increasing? "From our perspective, that's not the best thing for the overall health of babies and women," said Dr. George Macones, an obstetrician at Washington University in St. Louis who chairs ACOG's Committee on Obstetric Practice.

Exactly how unsafe home births are is a matter of medical controversy, with studies offering conflicting conclusions. And some argue that hospitals present their own dangers of infection and sometimes unnecessary medical interventions.

The CDC researchers did find that home births involving medical risks became less common from 2004 to 2008. Home births of infants born prematurely fell by 16 percent, so that by 2008 only 6 percent of all home births involved preterm births. That's less than half the percentage in hospitals.

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Hollywood


Ohio mom gets life term in baby's microwave death

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAYTON, Ohio An Ohio woman convicted of killing her month-old baby daughter in a microwave oven was spared the death penalty and sentenced Friday to life in prison without parole.

Montgomery County Common Pleas Judge Mary Wiseman sentenced China Arnold, 31, of Dayton, who psychologists testified showed no signs of serious mental illness. Arnold declined to make a statement during her sentencing.

Arnold was convicted last week of aggravated murder by the same jury that recommended her punishment. Jurors deliberated about six hours Thursday and Friday.

Prosecutors say Arnold intentionally put 28-day-old Paris Talley in a microwave and turned it on after a fight with her boyfriend. The couple had argued over whether the boyfriend was the infant's biological father.

Defense attorney Jon Paul Rion argued that the evidence pointed as much to the boyfriend as it did to the child's mother, who Rion said was drunk at the time.

After Friday's hearing, Rion told the Dayton Daily News he would appeal. He did not immediately return a message left at his office by The Associated Press.

The prosecutor's office had no immediate comment.

Medical experts testified that the baby died quickly after her temperature reached between 107 to 108 degrees Fahrenheit. They said she probably was in the microwave for more than two minutes.

"She died because she was overheated," said Dr. Marcella Fierro, retired chief medical examiner for Virginia. "She was cooked."

It was Arnold's third trial in her daughter's 2005 death. Her first trial ended in a mistrial when new witnesses surfaced just before closing arguments. Her second trial ended in a guilty verdict and a life sentence. But an appeals court overturned the conviction when it found prosecutorial misconduct and said the trial judge erred in not allowing a relevant witness to testify.



CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

Ocean Park Boulevard Complete Green Street Project (SP2131)

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **Thursday, June 9, 2011**, ~~Thursday, June 16, 2011~~, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

MANDATORY JOB WALK: **Monday, May 23, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.**
N/E corner of Neilson Way and Ocean Park Blvd
Santa Monica, CA 90405

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $5,184,000
CONTRACT CALENDAR DAYS: 393
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $720 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500 Per Day

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

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



SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 61°**

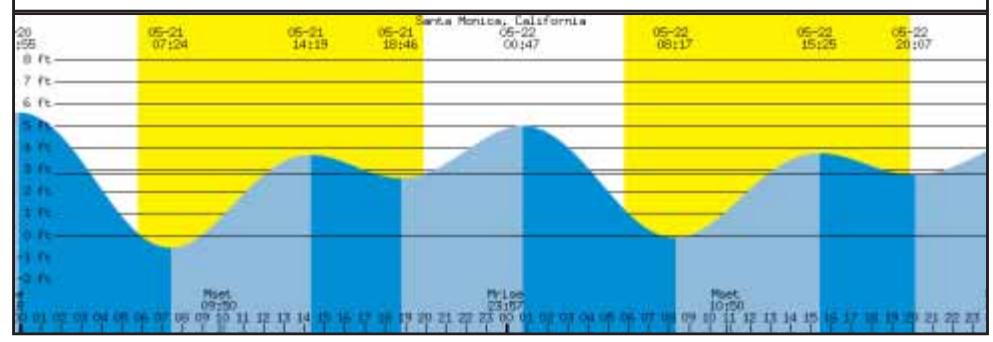
SWELL FORECAST

The southerly swell should start to fade to head high max at south facing breaks. West facing breaks are looking at waist to chest high sets.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

THE SOUTHERLY SWELL SHOULD FADE TO CHEST+, PERHAPS HEAD HIGH ON THE BETTER SETS AT STANDOUTS. SOME LIGHT WIND SWELL IS EXPECTED AT WEST FACING BREAKS, ABOUT WAIST TO CHEST THERE.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 12
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 32

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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.

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, May 21

Tod Browning double feature!
Freaks (NR) 1hr 4min
The Devil-Doll (NR) 1hr 18min
7:30pm

Sunday May 22
Renaissance (R) 1hr 45min
5:30pm
Panel discussion following.

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

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

Hesher (R) 1hr 42min
10:50am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Cost of a Soul (R) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:25pm

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

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

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
11:45am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

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

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
9:30am, 12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Rio 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
9:35am, 12:05pm, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
9:40am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
10:30am, 1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Princess of Montpensier (La Princesse de Montpensier) (NR) 2hrs 19min
11:00am

In a Better World (Haevnen) (R) 1hr 59min
11:00am

Forks Over Knives (PG) 1hr 30min
2:30pm, 7:40pm

Beaver (PG-13) 1hr 31min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

13 Assassins (R) 2hrs 06min
4:50pm, 10:00pm

Hey, Boo: Harper Lee & To Kill a Mockingbird (NR) 1hr 22min
11:00am

Exporting Raymond (PG) 1hr 26min
11:00am

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

How to Live Forever (NR) 1hr 32min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

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

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
10:15am, 1:30pm, 4:45pm, 8:00pm, 11:15pm

Something Borrowed (PG-13) 1hr 43min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Water for Elephants (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
10:50am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:50pm

Everything Must Go (R) 1hr 40min
11:35am, 2:15pm, 4:50pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
11:00am, 1:25pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

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

Just go with the moment, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You meet a responsibility but also season your day with fun. You probably have too many choices for your own good, each one looking better than the last. Be spontaneous. Don't live in regrets, but in the now. Tonight: Where the action is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You simply cannot and will not stay put. You know what you want to do; make it so. Don't hesitate to take action and move a long-desired project forward. Others discover just how neat this all is. Tonight: Whether you like it or not, you're in the limelight.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Finally, you know what you want and go for it. Have that overdue discussion. Be willing to take a new slant on a situation. With this perspective, you'll have so many more options. Tonight: Just go with the moment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Others do whatever they believe will grab your attention. Be willing to take on a personal matter, with some support from another person. Be more aware of what others expect, and you will find there could be fewer problems. Tonight: Snuggle in over dinner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Tackle a project early while you have the energy. Know when enough is enough and clear out. You also need a healthy balance of fun and good times. Observe some more, and you will come up with an answer to your question. Tonight: Nap first, then decide.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your very playful manner draws many people closer. You might wonder what is going on with a key loved one who seems to be changing before your very eyes. You know what needs to happen. Evaluate each step toward the main goal. Tonight: Take it moment by moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Ponder opportunities that you had not even considered before. Honor who you are when dealing with a family member. The more generous of spirit you are, the better the end results will be. Isn't that what you want? Tonight: Let your hair down.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Be willing to understand what is happening. That looks like patiently listening to a friend or loved one and helping him or her discuss an emotional topic. You both will feel more complete and clear afterward. Postpone a project. People are more important. Tonight: If you are tired, honor your feelings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Think carefully before formally committing to a purchase or a set of interactions. Check both your budget and finances before saying yes. You want to make sure you can follow through. You might go through many more changes than you anticipated. Tonight: Full of lively discussions and exchanges.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Sometimes you are on such a roll that you might not slow down and stop sufficiently. You might need to back off and talk to a roommate or close loved one. You will get more complete answers. Tonight: The going could be expensive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by everything that is going on. You might wonder exactly what is needed to make you and others feel better. Don't hesitate to ask for what is necessary. Take a nap if you are grouchy -- OK? Tonight: Feeling better ... now choose.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. You could be most surprised by all the opportunities that stream in because of a newfound adaptability, especially with your friends. Tonight: Vanish with a favorite friend.

Happy birthday

This year, you are able to energize in a new way. Streamline and walk through the frivolous, making it more of a reality. You lack patience for anything or anyone who doesn't have depth. If you are single, check out all new potential suitors. Some might not be all they project themselves to be. If you are attached, you manifest a high level of changeability, which could irritate your sweetie. Let this person know how much you care! AQUARIUS helps you see the other side.

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



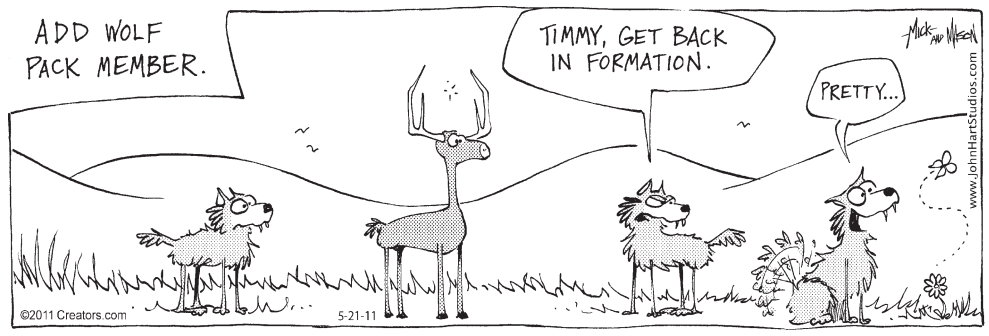
MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

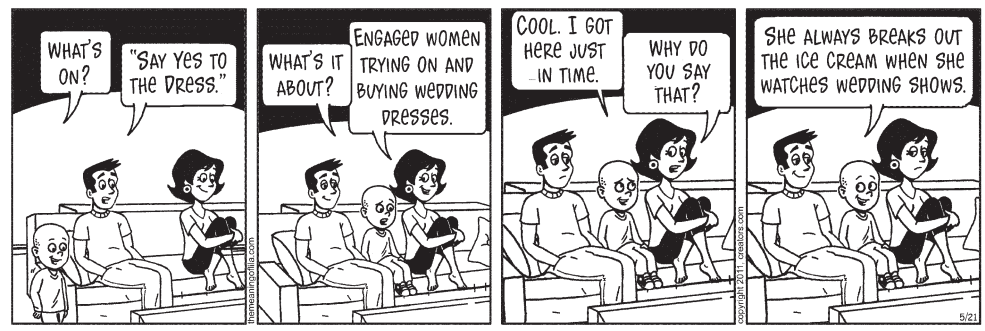
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



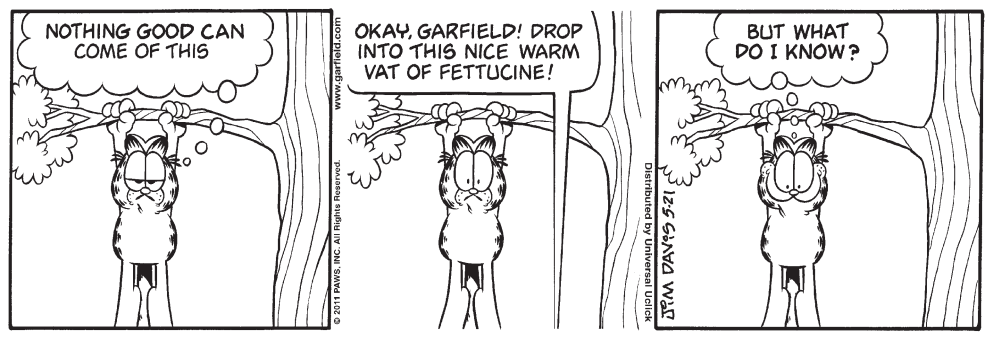
The Meaning of Lila

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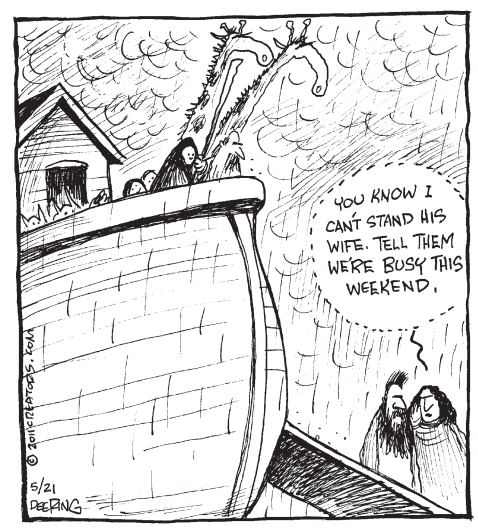
Garfield

By Jim Davis



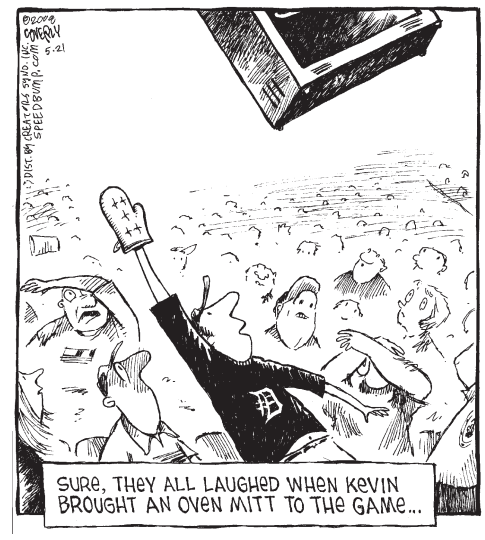
Strange Brew

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 ★★★★

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

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

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



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Burgles
5 Tea party guest
10 Poppy product
12 Columbus' home
13 Md. neighbor
14 Demand
15 Break off
16 — Plaines
18 "Lenore" author
19 Soft leathers
21 Serengeti sight
22 High-school VIP
24 Jibe
25 Pop stars, often
29 Picks up
30 Fame
32 Reduce
33 According to
34 Golf position
35 Alabama city
37 Carp
39 Knucklehead
40 Made a choice
41 Rich veins
42 Physics amount

DOWN

1 Boxing ring border
2 Become chatty
3 Notebook
4 Day light
5 Almost forever
6 Clark's rival
7 Place for some blackbirds
8 Butterfly's case
9 Eroded
11 Mob member
17 Lawyer's title
20 Is overly fond
21 Admit
23 Experience
25 Groom's attire
26 Lens cover?
27 Nabokov work
28 Shoplifts
29 Cook's herb
31 Calls for
33 Butter servings
36 Curly cohort
38 LP speed unit

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

Yesterday's answer

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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			

5-21

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

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

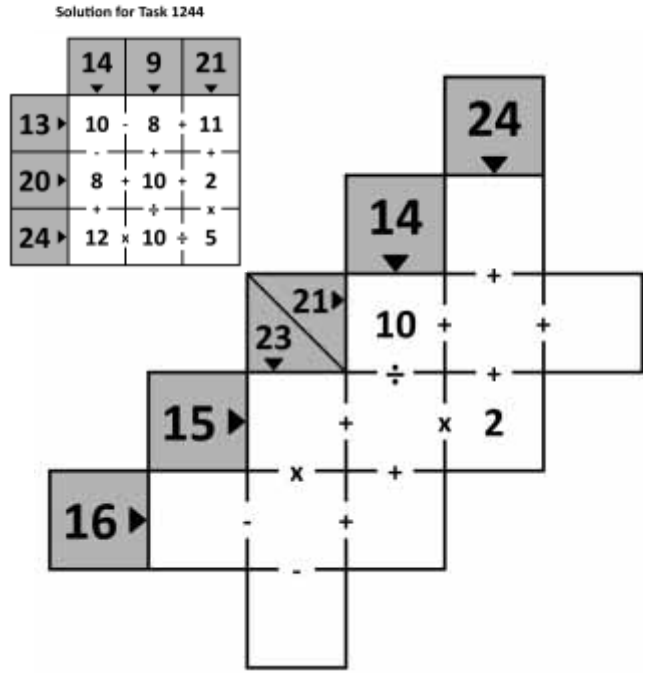
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Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

1, 5, 5, 6, 7, 10, 10, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1244



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Fantasy 5: 3 18 23 30 35

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 1 7 EVENING: 8 8 9

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ (1) "(G)o ahead and shoot me," said Rodney Gilbert, 57, who was embroiled in a domestic tiff with his girlfriend Kimberly Gustafson in Ocala, Fla., in February. According to police, Gustafson, after cocking the gun in a room with several witnesses, then turned to walk away without firing until Gilbert trailed after her, shouting his final words several more times. (2) "You're going to shoot? Right here," said now-deceased Roberto Corona, pointing to his chest. Corona was refusing to reveal the whereabouts of his sister to her husband, David Sanchez-Dominguez, who had asked Corona several times before pointing his handgun at him.

■ A Tulsa, Okla., physician, writing in a 1992 issue of the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine, reported on a 32-year-old woman whose neighbors had just had a large satellite dish installed in their yard. The woman became convinced that she was being wooed by Donald Duck and that the dish had been placed there to facilitate his communicating with her. She spent lots of time "hovering" around the dish and eventually undressed and climbed into it, where she said later that she had consummated marriage to Mr. Duck.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1674 The nobility elect John Sobieski King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania.

1725 The Order of St. Alexander Nevsky is instituted in Russia by Empress Catherine I. It would later be discontinued and then reinstated by the Soviet government in 1942 as the Order of Alexander Nevsky.

1758 Mary Campbell is abducted from her home in Pennsylvania by Lenape during the French and Indian War.

1863 American Civil War: Siege of Port Hudson – Union forces begin to lay siege to the Confederate-controlled Port Hudson, Louisiana.

WORD UP!

foofaraw
\FOO-fuh-raw\ , noun;
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2. A fuss over a matter of little importance.

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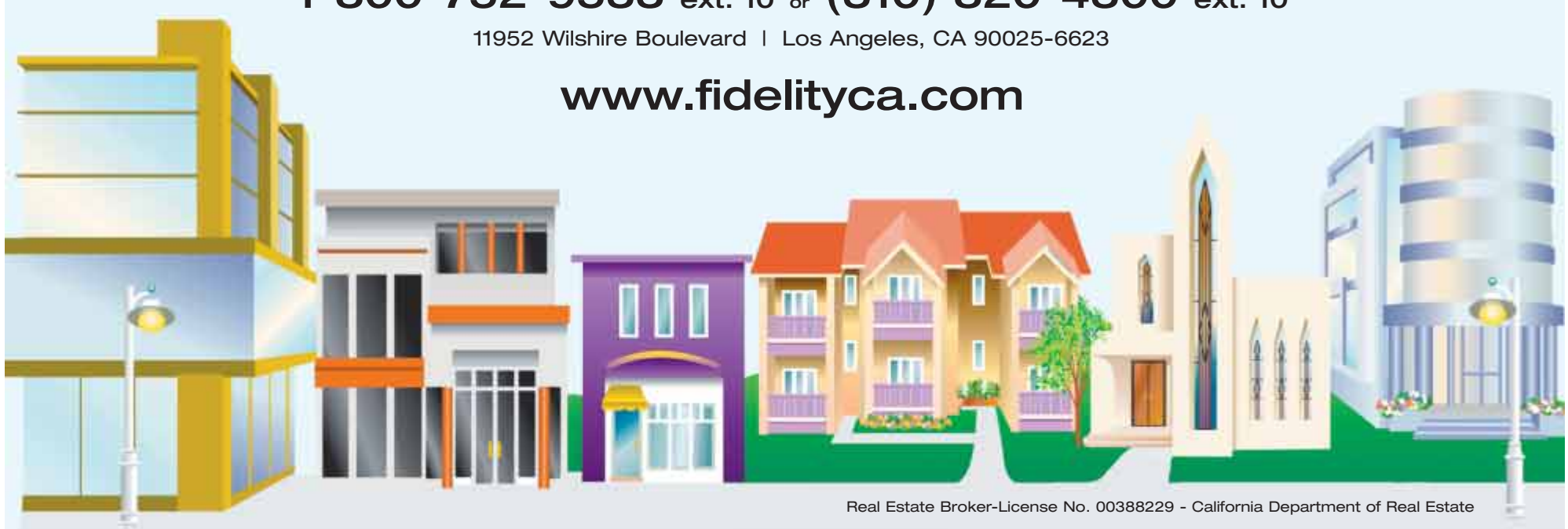
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South of Wilshire	=	$737,000	$497,000
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