



Santa Monica Daily Press

CUTTING CALORIES?
SEE PAGE 16

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE GETTING LEGAL ISSUE

Carob tree removal plan moves forward

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A group of declining carob trees that stirred some controversy last month after city officials unveiled a plan for the specimen's removal will soon be on the outs.

The City Council on Tuesday approved a \$395,000 project that calls for the removal and replacement of approximately 300 carob trees that were identified in an independent study as posing a safety hazard to the public.

The project drew the ire of several residents in the north of Montana Avenue neighborhood last month after city officials released the results of the study by HortScience, questioning whether all of the 300 carob trees in the report were really in declining health. While the 300 trees targeted for removal is spread throughout the city, a sizable portion comes from the north of Montana Avenue neighborhood.

The tree proposal was unveiled in the midst of the ficus controversy in Downtown Santa Monica which came to a head last week when 23 of the shady specimens were removed from Second and Fourth streets. About seven ficus trees are awaiting relocation.

"It's always good to go the extra mile for the trees and to preserve our mature tree canopy," Jerry Rubin, the leader of the Santa Monica Treesavers, said.

While city officials initially proposed removing all 300 trees identified in the report, approximately 202 will be reassessed to see whether their status can be rectified by corrective pruning, according to Elaine Polachek, the community maintenance director.

The report rated trees on a scale of one to 12, the latter posing an immediate threat to the public. The 98 trees that will be removed first have a risk rate of 10 or higher while the remaining 202 have a risk of eight or nine.

"We are going to come back to the council for that plan and continue the community outreach process in the interim by going to the neighborhood groups," Polachek said.

The reassessment came as a result of a community meeting earlier this month when several residents requested that city officials give the 202 trees another look. Some residents pointed out that the methodology used in the tree rating, based on aggregate scoring, could mean that a low failure risk tree could be removed simply because of its size.

The rating system was based on three factors, each of which were ranked on a scale of

SEE TREES PAGE 10

LIFESTYLE



Alex Thompson news@smdp.com

GEARS OF THE UNKNOWN: Richtotheie (top), Alex Cantarero (left) and Morgan Strauss (right), who make up the core group of Crimanimalz, are contemplating what to do as their next move.

Worth doing again?

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DOWNTOWN The members of Crimanimalz have an existential dilemma.

The bicycle activists want to be defined by more than just their recent freeway bike rides that have drawn a considerable amount of media attention. Clips of their rides have generated nearly 100,000 views on

a number of video sharing Web sites such as YouTube, LiveLeak and Vimeo, but the group wants to do more to raise awareness for their cause. The group has also received a number of messages via the Internet from fellow cyclists who laud their activities.

There's only one problem, they aren't quite sure what cause they want to champion.

SEE RIDE PAGE 13

City Hall appeals injunction on jet ban

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL One week after a U.S. District Court judge issued a preliminary injunction allowing commercial jets to operate at Santa Monica Airport, city officials are seeking to reverse the order, filing an appeal in the state appellate court on Friday.

Judge George Wu ruled on May 16 that City Hall could not enforce a stoppage on categories C and D aircraft while the Federal Aviation Administration completes an internal review examining the legality of the ban.

City Hall filed the application for a stay on the district court's order at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

"The application argues that the city is likely to succeed on the merits of the case because the city — as airport proprietor — has the power to conform airport usage to airport facilities in order to protect safety," Kate Vernez, the assistant to the city manager for governmental relations, said.

In addition to the appeal, City Hall is also seeking the appellate court for a stay on the injunction during the appeal process.

"We are confident of our legal position," FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said.

Both parties have been arguing for decades about runway safety issues at the general aviation airport, which is considered a reliever for LAX. The airport is unique in that there are homes located within 300 feet of both ends of the runway.

Sunset Park residents have expressed concerns about the possibility of an aircraft one day overshooting the runway and landing on homes.

The aviation agency has made several runway safety proposals in the past, including most recently a suggestion to install at 70-knot Emergency Material Arresting System that would be designed to stop roughly 97 percent of operations at the airport and 90 percent of categories C and D jets — the for-

SEE BAN PAGE 11

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Calendar

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WEEKEND EDITION, MAY 24-25, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Building self esteem

1401 Olympic Blvd., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.

In these classes you will have an opportunity to learn why you have low self esteem, how to move past the barriers that keep you stuck, and become the confident, self assured person you want to become. These free classes take place at Memorial Park. For information, call (310) 230-5163.

Hitting the right note

Santa Monica Main Library, 2 p.m.

Take a musical journey around the world with L.A. Philharmonic Pianist Junko Ueno Garrett when she plays pieces from Gabriel Faure and Sergei Rachmaninov, to name just a few.

Santa Monica on two feet

1436 Second St., 10 a.m.

The Santa Monica Conservancy leads a two-hour tour that explores more than 130 years of Santa Monica history from its wild west frontier beginnings to the metropolis of today. Starting from the 1875 Rapp Saloon, the route includes many landmarks and concludes at the 2003 NRDC building. For information, call (310) 496-3146.

Does the slipper fit?

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 and 3 p.m.

"Cinderella" is an original Rudie-DeCarlo musical for kids 2 to 102, featuring a charming prince, zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 651.

Sunday, May 25, 2008

Running all over Brentwood

11640 San Vicente Blvd., 8 a.m. — Noon

This 5 to 10K run/walk along scenic San Vicente Boulevard will raise funds for the Westside YMCA. Participants will be given a T-shirt and goody bag. The event will also feature live music, good eats and a giant expo.

Life of a geisha

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.

Direct from Kyoto, geisha Komomo gives a brief performance of dance and music, before signing copies of her book, "A Geisha's Journey: My Life as a Kyoto Apprentice."

Barbecue on the high seas

13755 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey, 11:30 a.m.

Hornblower's Memorial Weekend Barbecue Cruise features breathtaking views, award-winning service, a lavish buffet and live entertainment. For more information, call (310) 301-6000.

The other Jerry's kids

1348 14th St., 7 p.m.

Cubensis brings the sights and sounds of a live Grateful Dead concert to 14 Below every Sunday. Cubensis is known for whipping its faithful crowd into a swirling psychedelic mass for three hours straight.

Get it while its fresh

Downtown Mar Vista, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Head out to lovely Mar Vista for the weekly Farmers' Market. Located at the corner of Grandview and Venice boulevards, the market includes fresh fruits and vegetables as well as some prepared foods.

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.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD
Paying tribute

Before you fire up the grill or plop down on the sofa to watch some classic war flicks, you may want to honor those who made that possible by attending Santa Monica's 70th Annual Observance of Memorial Day at the Woodland Cemetery located at 1847 14th St. The program, which will kick off at 11 a.m. Monday, is being presented by a consortium of local charitable and service oriented organizations, as well as City Hall. The program will feature patriotic music from the choirs at Lincoln and John Adams middle schools and the award-winning Fairfax High School marching band. Santa Monica Police Explorers will serve as the color guard for the event.

The keynote speaker of this year's event will be U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Mark F. Heinrich, director of logistics operations which provides support to our military personnel currently deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. An aircraft flyover is also planned between 11 a.m. and Noon, and the cemetery is warning residents not to be alarmed.

No vehicles will be allowed to park on the cemetery grounds due to the large number of attendees expected. However, free parking for the event will be available directly across the street from the cemetery in the parking structure of Santa Monica College, located at 1900 Pico Blvd. Big Blue Bus will provide free shuttle bus service from the parking structure to the cemetery and back. The event and bus ride are free.

PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
Watch the road

The California Highway Patrol began its three-day "maximum enforcement period" on Friday for the Memorial Day weekend, with officers looking for drunken drivers, speeders, and people not using their seatbelts.

The effort continues through 11:59 p.m. Monday.

During this period, up to 80 percent of all CHP officers will be on patrol. During last year's Memorial Day weekend, 37 people died in vehicle crashes statewide, and about half of them were not wearing seatbelts, said CHP Capt. Calvin Beard.

At the same time, the CHP cited 1,614 motorists statewide for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, Beard said.

"No matter how long or short the road trip, always wear a seatbelt," Beard said. "It can make a difference between life and death in a crash."

SEE BRIEFS PAGE 13

HEALTH



File photo

HEALTHY PRACTICES: The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health would like to remind cooks that combining warm temperatures and the great outdoors could be a recipe for disaster if food isn't properly handled. Some common illnesses may be caused by food-borne bacteria.

A cookout not a sick out

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITYWIDE As Memorial Day approaches, many Santa Monicans might be dusting off their grills, and preparing to spend the holiday weekend enjoying picnics at the beach, camping, or barbecuing in the backyard.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health would like to remind cooks that combining warm temperatures and the

great outdoors could be a recipe for disaster if food isn't properly handled.

"Cooks should only have to worry about whether there's enough food on the table for a gathering and not whether the food will make people sick," said Jonathan E. Fielding, director of public health. "Food contains bacteria that could cause food poisoning if the dishes are not properly prepared or cooked."

"Simple food safety precautions such as

washing your hands before and after handling raw food and maintaining correct temperatures during and after cooking will ensure your guests walk away with great memories of a good meal instead of a nasty illness."

Some common symptoms that may be caused by food-borne bacteria include diar-

SEE COOKING PAGE 23

University health care workers authorize strike

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES Union leaders say health care workers at University of California medical facilities have voted to authorize a strike, but officials are committed to maintaining services at Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital

during any work stoppage.

Union President Lakesha Harrison says the vote announced Friday means the 20,000 members of Local 3299 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees could walk off their jobs 10 days after the union notifies the UC system that a strike has been called.

Officials at the University of California, Los Angeles released a statement on behalf of all 10 UC campuses, saying managers, supervisors and contract employees would make sure there is no interruption in health care services.

SEE UCLA PAGE 13

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stop demonizing the homeless

Editor:
I used to think that newspapers were neutral in what it reported. I know that the writers express their own point of view, but, it seems that your paper is systematically demonizing the homeless by printing all and every derogatory story about the homeless and never writing anything that doesn't demonize them.

It seem to me that you publish any letter to the editor that bashes the homeless, starting with the article about, "how safe do you feel in Santa Monica." A woman wrote she thought that the transients/homeless were responsible for the two murders. If she meant that the people who are responsible don't live in this town, she is probably right. They probably left in their Mercedes.

And then you printed another article about aggressive panhandling. If you call someone holding a sign and asking for money as aggressive, then I need to be locked up ... because I practically yell at people over the phone for money. All the businesses have their own signs and for one reason only, they want your money. What's the difference? I have never witness ed any type of aggressive panhandling, except the night I did it as an experiment. I admit, I was aggressive, but, like I said, no different than any salesman who's got to meet a quota.

I assume you wrote this article from the textbook of the Bush Administration. Propaganda first, scare them, then get the sheep to agree with us, because the article on the panhandling campaign should of been rewritten as "listen people, we're going to tell you how to think. In fact, we're going to spend \$100,000 so you know we mean business." Telling people how not to be human beings? Crazy! Do people in Santa Monica really need someone to do a study to let them know how to act? I guess so.

You should be proud of your campaign against the homeless, because I see in [the] paper, you published another anti-homeless letter to the editor. This time the writer stated he had to leave because of the "homeless problem." I don't think Santa Monica lossed anything.

And here is the most unethical part of this whole war against the homeless. You would think by reading the police blotter that you print on every Friday that the only crime that is committed is by homeless people? I guarantee that if we check the police blotter for the week that it would show that there were other crimes committed by people that live in a home. But this is part of the whole demonization of the homeless and its being conducted by you. A newspaper? What happened?

And the paper isn't the only one to blame. Where are all the ex-homeless, or compassionate people, why don't you write to the editor? Oh, I am sorry, my mistake, an ex-homeless person did write in. He stated that he was taking advantage of everybody's generosity and was buying drugs with the money he got off the street, and that people shouldn't give money to the homeless. How funny is that? Par for the course for this paper.

Bobby Kennedy once said ... that those that live with us are our bothers, that they share the same short moment of life, that they seek, as do we, nothing but the chance to live out their lives in purpose and happiness

It's OK to give money to a homeless person. That's your right Everyone makes up life. Not everyone but the homeless.

David Poyet
Santa Monica

Bitch!

Whine!

Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 5.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Prehistoric prejudice

I DON'T THINK OF MYSELF AS A BIGOT. I try not to pre-judge anyone or lump individuals into some negative category. I do these things not just because it's the right way to behave, but also because they lead to a fuller life. If I presumed that because someone is in a particular group he or she must be stupid, violent, or dishonest, then I might deprive myself of meeting a very interesting person. So I was disappointed in myself a few days after arriving in France when I learned that I had unwittingly been prejudiced against an entire group — prehistoric men and women.

When our tour bus pulled into the area of France where many archeological discoveries have been made, one of the first things I saw beside the road was a sign that read, "Cro-Magnon Hotel." My reaction was, "Who would want to stay there?" I mean, when I'm staying in hotel, I at least want the maids to walk upright. I don't want to stay in a place whose advertising slogan might be, "Our updated rooms come with fire."

But I was completely wrong, totally prejudiced in these opinions. The next day we had a guide take us to a museum and to some archeological sites. Christine was an anthropologist, archeologist, and a paleontologist. For all I know she might have also been a proctologist. So I had to assume that everything she told us about prehistoric man was true. First of all, she defined things for us. She said that "prehistoric" did not mean primitive, savage, or uncultured. It just refers to a time before things were written. In other words, the following might be considered a prehistoric paragraph.

Christine explained that Cro-Magnon and other prehistoric men and women were people — just like you and me. They walked upright, they were about our size, and there is nothing to suggest that they were stupid. I guess I can no longer think of "The Flintstones" as a documentary.

Cro-Magnon man, who is named for the place where his bones were found, was not a club-wielding caveman. They didn't even live in caves. They lived in shelters near caves. There is also no evidence that they were violent. There is evidence that they had a great deal of leisure time. However, there is no indication that they filled this leisure time by taking Princess Cruises.

In the museum that Christine took us to, there is a reproduced figure of a boy. The interesting thing to me was that even though the boy

was between 10,000 and 15,000 years old, he still lived at home. Obviously, the Cro-Magnon man had not yet discovered tough love.

One thing these prehistoric people were experts at was art. I was humbled when I saw their sculptures, drawings, and paintings. Sometimes they were realistic, sometimes representative. They even used perspective which wouldn't be used so effectively again until the Renaissance. I guess I expected stick figures like I draw, but there was nothing unsophisticated about their work.

We were also a pretty sophisticated group. Nobody giggled at the mention of "Homo Erectus." And we acted like adults when we learned that not all of these prehistoric folks were uh, high brows. They enjoyed a little "bathroom humor," which I had always thought began with Homo Catskillikus.

I MEAN, WHEN I'M STAYING IN HOTEL, I AT LEAST WANT THE MAIDS TO WALK UPRIGHT.

When I mentioned to Christine that many of the horses and bulls reminded me of Picasso, she said that Picasso had seen the cave art and had admired it. In fact, he said that he had met his masters and that there was nothing that could be invented that the Cro-Magnon man hadn't already invented. Obviously, Picasso could not predict the advent of the toaster oven.

I hope I've learned my lesson. Now that I've seen how wrong I was about Prehistoric Man, perhaps my feelings about other groups are equally misguided. You can't judge someone by the accent they have or the clothes they wear or the car they drive. Maybe I shouldn't be so disdainful, for example, towards people who say, "between you and I," or those who sit behind me at the movies and talk, or even Republicans. Well, maybe my goals have to stay realistic.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. You can contact him at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his website at lloydgarver.com

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ODDS OF A CHILD BEING DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM:
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STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

“What is it about shopping? Is it the act itself? Are we seduced by the artistry of stacks of perfectly folded sweaters? Are we lured by the opportunity to disguise ourselves? Is it that we think we’ve gained some sort of upper hand when we find a bargain?”
— SMDP Mariel Howsepian writing in “West Dressed.”

“We feel it’s a good culminating activity that gives them a good opportunity to reflect on their experience here.”
— Titia Murphy, an eighth grade social studies teacher at John Adams Middle School who was an interview coordinator during the school’s exit interviews. More than 300 graduating students at the school treated their exit interviews this week with equal importance, a rite of passage in which the eighth graders are confirmed ready to set off to a bigger and more challenging campus.

“Sen. Kennedy has built a record of legislative achievement unmatched in our history (often working with Republicans despite his status as the GOP’s official punching bag); with some saying he has had more impact on the lives of Americans than most of the nine presidents he has served under.”
— SMDP columnist Bennet Kelley writing in “The Soap Box.”

“The school district can now go about finding a superintendent who is smart and strong and who is attracted to the opportunity to build his or her own cabinet, allowing for the sort of clean sweep that is needed to bring about the culture of change called for in the recent special education audit.”
— Tricia Crane, said regarding the potential departure of Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Superintendent Dianne Talarico. Crane has been a special education activist who has been critical of the district in the past.

“These are the best dry weather grades since the report went statewide.”
— Mark Gold, Heal the Bay president, regarding the 18th annual Beach Report Card.

“I don’t do drugs because I have an addictive personality. I know this about myself, so I’ve always been immune to the sales tactics of conventional drug dealers. But flying isn’t a drug in the conventional sense and Jonathon Conant of Trapeze School New York isn’t a conventional drug dealer.”
— SMDP columnist Kenny Mack writing in “Word in Edgewise.”

“If you are going to be a professional surfer, you have to learn how to read the ocean and waves. If you are going to be a real estate investor, you need to know how to evaluate a real estate transaction to see if it is a sensible deal. Many successful investors know quickly if they have come across a deal and thus lock it up quickly.”
— SMDP columnist Mike Heayn writing in “Real Estate 101.”

“I wish I had checked my e-mail from fellow Treesavers before I took my daughter Olivia to her preschool on Second Street so that I might have prepared her for the tragic sight in front of her school — slaughtered trees, their branches strewn haphazardly in the middle of the street, their stumps still full of sap, a testament to the fact that they were living and thriving only hours before.”
— Sherry Martini, Santa Monica resident regarding the removal last Friday of 23 ficus trees on Second and Fourth streets.

“There is a strong desire to frame the campaign in terms of compassion ... so this isn’t about judging people or stereotyping anyone. It’s about helping people to see that direct giving may not be the most compassionate choice.”
— Tanja Hester, a senior associate with consulting firm GMMB on City Hall’s anti panhandling campaign.

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The QLine

DINING IN SANTA MONICA

This past week, Q-line asked:

Where is your favorite place to eat in Santa Monica and why?

Here are your responses:

"NORMS IS THE BEST PLACE TO EAT AT in Santa Monica because of reasonable prices, very good food and its clean southern style cooking and hospitality. Izzy's is also good. Good prices and good food."

"BUD'S DELI ON OCEAN PARK [Boulevard] has been there 30 years and I've never had a bad meal."

"I DON'T DINE OR SHOP IN SANTA Monica anymore – too much traffic, no parking, too many bums and dangerous transients around, day and night."

"HI, MY NAME IS TAYLOR AND I WOULD just like to say that Ocean Park Pizza has the best pizza and the only place I would ever go."

"IT WOULD PROBABLY BE MCDONALD'S because everything else is overpriced for what you get, and McDonald's has pretty good fries, too. You don't even need ketchup with them."

"THE BEST RESTAURANT I HAVE EVER eaten pizza is Ocean Park Pizza on Ocean Park Boulevard. It is absolutely just like New York and I'm from New York."

"MY FAVORITE RESTAURANT TO DINE IN pretty much is La Cabaña on Rose Avenue. The food is just so delicious. I haven't been there for many, many years but I have very fond memories of that restaurant. The guacamole is absolutely to die for and so is the Mexican food – tortillas, tamales, enchiladas, huevos rancheros. It's just delish."

"IT WOULD NOT BE FAIR TO MENTION one of all of the restaurants in Santa Monica today without mentioning one of the best restaurants of the past. That restaurant would be Java Time. It was located on Third Street ... next to JC Penny on Wilshire Boulevard. Great, reasonably priced steaks and salads with more than a polite staff of waiters. I am nearly certain that nearly every one living in Santa Monica at that time dined in Java Time's warm atmosphere, including national politicians, actors and actresses, and a lot of plain folks just like me. Java Time is gone, but in my mind has not forgotten. And if any of the waiters of Java Time during that time are still around I again say, thanks pals, you are the best of the best."

"RICK'S [TAVERN] ON MAIN STREET HAS the best, daily delicious bargains anywhere. He's got a back patio and my husky pooch is welcome out front to share a T-bone. Izzy's Deli is the place for those late night pleasures. Their soups are a great bargain."

"I HAVE TWO FAVORITE RESTAURANTS. The first one is Noma, the Japanese restaurant at the corner of Wilshire and 21st Street – marvelous food. The second place is Fromin's Deli, also on Wilshire at the corner of 19th. Very, very good food as well."

"MY FAVORITE RESTAURANT IS THE Bookmark Café at the Main Library in Santa Monica. The food is great, love the atmosphere and the prices are reasonable."

"BUD'S DELI HAS THE BEST SALADS and I've been going there for years and I just love it there."

"I HAPPEN TO THINK OCEAN PARK PIZZA is the best pizza I have ever had. It's like New York style and I'm from back east. People need to know more about it. It's absolutely amazing – very family oriented, they have a little patio in the back and the pizza is just amazing."

"MY FAVORITE PLACE TO EAT IN Santa Monica is Bread & Porridge on Wilshire – excellent breakfast, excellent dinner, wonderful waiting staff and a charming owner, plus a good wine selection."

"I USUALLY DINE OUT IN EITHER Brentwood or the Palisades because the ambiance in these two cities is so much more charming and low key. Here are my Santa Monica favorites – Golden Bull in the Santa Monica Canyon, Gilbert's on Pico, Rae's on Pico, Spumoni on Montana, snug Harbor on Wilshire and Casa Escobar on Wilshire for the strongest margaritas in town. All have great food and are wonderful reminders how Santa Monica once was."

"MY FAVORITE PLACE TO EAT IN SANTA Monica is a place I have eaten at over 5,000 times. It's my mother's kitchen. Nothing beats a home-cooked meal."

"IF YOU ARE A HOMELESS PERSON THE best place to eat are the dumpsters behind Denny's and Norms restaurants because when they throw out food you know the food is not so old because they serve so many meals. When I want to have some fresh food, I go into Vons deli sandwich and can walk out without paying for it. But Norms and Denny's are really great if you go behind them and dig in the dumpsters."

"I LIKE TO EAT. MY FAVORITE restaurant is Rusty's on the Santa Monica Pier. It's a beautiful setting, great environment, great hamburgers, great barbecue chicken and the staff is very friendly."

"MY FAVORITE PLACE IS THE GOLDEN Bull in the Santa Monica Canyon. It's been there for years. It's traditional, it's quiet, a full bar, nice booths, wonderful help and very good food. It's not a yuppie place. It's a great place to dine and reasonable, too. And for Mexican food, Casa Escobar on 25th and Wilshire – again old style, been there since '64. Good food, good service, good employees and a good feeling, and once again, a full bar."

"I LIKE O'BRIAN'S AND CASA ESCOBAR. The food is good, fair price, consistent, service and drinks the same."



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A child is calling for help.



Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Prevention is the best cure

AS I RECOVER FROM MY EARLY SUMMER cold, I am reminded to consume many vitamin C rich foods. Vitamin C is one of the most heavily researched of all of the vitamins and minerals, and research has shown that large doses of vitamin C may help bolster the immune system. The recommended doses of vitamin C range from 60-400mg and even up 3,000mg depending on the research you read. For the upper limit doses, supplements will take you there. Yet, there's no getting around the fact that food sources will always prevail.

We don't need research to tell us to eat an orange when we are sick. Instinctually we do it. Luckily citrus fruits are available year round everywhere in the US. Living in one of the citrus producing states only helps to ensure that we get the freshest food sources available. This is good to know since vitamin C is a very delicate vitamin. It breaks down as the fruit is exposed to more and more air. One reason why juice is not the best source, once opened, it is just asking for insults from oxygen. Over time, the vitamin C levels will diminish.

The richest food source of vitamin C, the kiwi fruit, might lose up to 25 percent of its

vitamin C within a three week period. As long as the fruit is still intact, the vitamin C is still in there. The season for kiwi is November through May.

Oranges are the next richest fruit source and you can get them all year long. To get the freshest oranges, visit the farmer's market and get your organic oranges, lemons, and grapefruits from Garcia's organic citrus farmers.

As an anti-oxidant, it is the job of vitamin C to protect the plant; to act as a defense system. Foods grown organically or without pesticides, essentially, without any outside help, develop the strongest defenses. Just like people who persevere under extreme conditions, plants too will figure out a way to survive by tapping into their available resources.

I was buying my usual supply of citrus and was speaking with the owner who has the cutest baby in the world. In my new husky voice that either makes me sound old, according to one friend, or sexy, according to most men, I told Mr. Garcia that I did not want to give my germs to his little one. With that, he grabbed a bag and filled it with Persian limes, which look more like lemons and taste milder than any citrus fruit I have ever eaten. But I

Grapefruit and arugula salad

1 grapefruit, any variety
4 cups arugula
2 Tbsp fresh herbs which compliment flavors: Optional (mint, rosemary or tarragon)
2 Tbsp lemon juice and zest of one lemon
1 Tbsp honey
2 tsp Dijon mustard
1 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
Sea salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste
1 Tbsp walnuts, chopped

Peel and section grapefruit and cut crosswise into small triangles
Wash and dry arugula and herbs using a salad spinner or colander to drain
In a mixing bowl, whisk together dressing ingredients: honey, Dijon, salt and ample black pepper
Divide arugula between two bowls
Toss with dressing to coat
Top with grapefruit sections and wal-

nuts. Eat and enjoy!

To make this a more complete meal, top with your favorite protein source such as steamed tilapia or poached free-range chicken

Sweet Citrus Savior
2 oranges, any variety
2 Persian Limes
1 lemon, juice and zest
2 Tbsp dried cherries
2 Tbsp ground walnuts
1/2 - 1 cup lowfat yogurt

In a serving bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, zest and yogurt
Peel and separate the orange and Persian lemon pieces
Cut crosswise into small triangles
Divide the citrus into two small bowls and top with yogurt lemon sauce
Sprinkle with dried cherries and walnuts and enjoy.

love the idea of eating a lemon/lime without the puckering puss. I have been eating 2-3 per day and wanted to create a recipe to pay homage to my new love.

ELIZABETH BROWN is a registered dietitian and

certified holistic chef specializing in weight management, sports nutrition, disease prevention and optimal health through whole foods. See her "Eat 2 Liv Pilot" on her YouTube channel: The Kitchen Vixen. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net

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City to remove carob trees

FROM TREES PAGE 1

one to four — the tree's likelihood of failure, the size of the tree or limb most likely to fail and the type of activity and object on which the tree or limb might fail. The score for each factor was tallied for the final rating.

Several carob trees have failed in the city in the past several years. Since 2001-02, more than 60 carob limbs have fallen, half of which have occurred since the 2005-06 fiscal year.

Walt Warriner, the community forester, said among the factors considered in assessing a tree's failure potential is its condition, overall health and the history of the particular species.

He noted that a phased-in approach to removing the trees is important in order to maintain a healthy forest for future generations. Warriner pointed to stretches of 10th and 12th streets, which he said are packed with carob trees that are all the same age and same condition.

"It's important we phase those trees out and put in new species so our successors are not faced with this problem in the future," he said.

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Elaine Polachek,
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ON THE WAY DOWN: The City Council on Tuesday approved a \$395,000 project that calls for the removal and replacement of approximately 300 carob trees that were identified by an independent study as posing a safety hazard to the public.

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File photo

HOLDING PATTERN: A week after a judge issued a preliminary injunction stopping the city from enforcing a ban on some jets at Santa Monica Airport officials are seeking to reverse the order.

Legal battle over jet ban continues

FROM BAN PAGE 1

mer which approaches the runway at 121-140 knots and the latter at 141-165 knots.

The enhanced safety measures would consume more runway than the 40-knot EMAS, which the FAA previously proposed. Both options were rejected by the City Council as being insufficient.

The ban, adopted in March, was set to go into effect at 12:01 a.m. on April 24 but was suspended by City Hall later that

day after the FAA filed a temporary restraining order. The federal agency requested the restraining order in an attempt to enjoin City Hall after it indicated plans to proceed with the ban despite a cease-and-desist order issued the day before the ordinance was to go in effect.

"Our primary concern is safety at Santa Monica Airport and we will continue to press that cause," Vernez said.

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AMOEBABA MUSIC

Activists contemplate their ultimate mission

FROM RIDE PAGE 1

Media coverage of the group's rides have reported that the Crimanimalz were protesting everything from the price of gas to the inclusion of bike-only lanes on freeways, but members believe their mission is more simple than that.

"I don't really care about gas prices," said Richtotheie, one of the groups seminal members. "If gas prices go down, it's not like we'd stop riding."

The group's most recent group ride on May 9 took them from the Bundy Drive on-ramp to the I-10 Freeway heading eastbound to the I-405 Freeway, where they took the overpass and headed northbound to the Santa Monica Boulevard exit. As part of the ride, a few members of the group of roughly 30 cyclists and in-line skaters hung a banner over the side of the 17th Street overpass of the I-10 Freeway stating, "Ride a bike, you'd be home by now."

"That (statement) alone is about speed," said Alex Cantarero, one of the groups founders. "Bikes are faster than cars in a traffic jam."

All the attention the freeway rides are generating have led the newfound activists to contemplate a number of core issues. Seeing that their efforts have been successful in attracting interest, they can't help but wonder what else could they tackle.

During a recent interview, the group said that where there are homeless people they will be there to feed them, or where there are vehicles that exceed the maximum weight allowed on Santa Monica's surface streets they would be there to inform law enforcement authorities about the injustice.

"There are plenty of SUVs that exceed the weight limit, but you never see anybody do anything about that," said Richtotheie. "But if a cyclist runs a red light, there will be a bunch of cops there to give him a ticket."

While they were cracking wise about those other issues, there is one fundamental reason they have come together for their controversial rides.

"We just want it to be known that cyclists are a marginalized group of commuters," said Morgan Strauss, the third member of the group's core. "It's just not safe out there (for riders)."

While riding bicycles on the freeway isn't exactly the safest activity to engage in, Crimanimalz believe it is worth it if they can get their message of freewheeling transportation across to just one auto commuter. They said that most commuters who witnessed their rides cheered or honked their horns in support.

"Riding on the freeway will always be a part of me," Cantarero said. "Every time I see a freeway on-ramp I'll get chills and remember what we were able to do."

Recently, the core members of Crimanimalz took to the I-10 Freeway again, but this time under the cover of night. They entered at the 20th Street on-ramp heading west during the early morning hours of May 15. Before exiting, the small band of riders weaved in and out of every lane, enjoying the solitude that comes with riding on a desolate roadway.

"There was something more surreal (about riding on an empty freeway)," Strauss said. "It had a manifest destiny kind of feel to it as we were heading toward the sea."

While Strauss enjoyed the esoteric aspect of the jaunt, another rider had a more practical reaction.



Photo courtesy Alex Thompson

RIDE OR DIE: Richtotheie rides his tall bike, 'KabukiSky,' during the Crimanimalz ride on the I-10 Freeway on May 9. A total of three in-line skaters also took part in the event.

"If we would have been stopped (by the California Highway Patrol), it would have been bad," said Richtotheie, who was one of two riders who were stopped by CHP officers during the May 9 ride. He was let off with a warning, but was told that if he were caught again he would face a misdemeanor charge.

"They were really nice about it, but I think they were serious about citing me next time," he added.

He said that the warning wouldn't stop him from mounting another ride in the future, but it does give him reason to be concerned.

Despite their encounter with the law, Crimanimalz will continue their freeway rides for the foreseeable future. They would like to target freeways outside of Santa Monica and have identified a number of possible rides, but the group is tight-lipped when it comes to divulging its next endeavor.

They have considered doing a number of rides simultaneously across the greater Los Angeles area, but wouldn't give specifics. They do expect more riders to take part in future trips, but said that they would like to continue to use the power of word of mouth to find new members.

"We've received a bunch of messages from our Web site and other places, but we just want to keep it on the hush for now," said Strauss. "We have only been serious about adding people that we know."

daniela@smdp.com

UCLA officials vow to continue service

FROM UCLA PAGE 3

The union represents approximately 5,425 employees at UCLA, including 3,200 patient care technical workers, most at UCLA Medical Center, and 2,225 service workers, most on the main campus. Among the patient care technical workers are radiology, respiratory and operating room technicians. Among the service workers are cooks, servers and other food service and catering personnel; custodians, groundskeepers and other facilities and maintenance employees; campus shuttle drivers, information kiosk and other transportation services workers; as well as food service, custodial and housekeeping personnel at UCLA medical facilities in Westwood and Santa Monica, and their affiliated medical school.

Contract negotiations have lasted about 10 months and focused on wages. Union officials say contracts expired earlier this year.

Labor contracts for the patient care technical works and service workers are negotiated separately by the University of California Office of the President on behalf of the 10 UC campuses. Contracts for the union's separate bargaining units expired earlier this year, and UC and the union have been unable to agree on terms. UC is involved in post-fact-finding mediation with the union and a state mediator and is hopeful of a resolution on the remaining issues in the near future.

The union represents radiology, respiratory and operating room technicians; cooks, food servers and caterers; and custodians, groundskeepers and other maintenance workers in the UC health care system.

Associated Press contributed to this report.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FROM BRIEFS PAGE 3

The maximum enforcement effort coincides with a statewide "Click It or Ticket" campaign to encourage drivers and passengers to buckle up. Various law enforcement agencies, including the Santa Monica Police Department, are taking part in the initiative, supported by grants from the California Office of Traffic Safety. The "Click or Ticket" campaign runs until June 1.

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Prices on the rise

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Home sales rose 3.3 percent in the Los Angeles area in April, compared with the same period a year ago, and the median home price fell 27.1 percent to \$435,500, according to figures released Friday.

Statewide, home sales increased 2.5 percent in April, while the median price of an existing home fell 32 percent to \$403,870, according to the Los Angeles-based California Association of Realtors.

The 10 California cities and communities with the highest median home prices in California during April were:

- Saratoga, \$1,480,000;
- Manhattan Beach, \$1,372,500;
- Los Gatos, \$1,335,000;
- Santa Barbara, \$1,067,500;
- Cupertino, \$918,500;
- San Carlos, \$885,500;
- Danville, \$829,000;
- Redwood City, \$817,500;
- San Clemente, \$809,500;
- Santa Monica, \$780,000.

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STATE BRIEFS

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Felony charges for dog owner

Felony charges have been filed against the owner of a pit bull that attack and seriously hurt a Southeast Area Animal Control Authority officer.

Antoinette Michelle Jenkins is charged with one count of owning mischievous dogs causing bodily injuries for a May 7 pit bull attack on officer Vince Hernandez, who underwent surgery for injuries to his right hand and arm.

Los Angeles County prosecutors also charged the Lakewood woman with two counts of animal cruelty because of the unhealthy condition of her dogs.

Hernandez went to the Jenkins home after she had agreed to give up three of her five dogs to comply with a city ordinance permitting only two dogs per household. A pit bull named Rocky attacked the officer and the other dogs joined in.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANAHEIM

Worker crushed by bin

A metal bin filled with rubble shifted and crushed a worker to death at an Orange County industrial site.

The 49-year-old worker, whose name is being withheld, was standing near the bin at Anaheim's CTI Telecom when the load shifted and tipped on him on Thursday.

A co-worker found the man face-down and unconscious with his lower torso crushed. Sgt. Tim Schmidt says the man was dead when paramedics and police arrived.

The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health is investigating.

AP

SIERRA MADRE

Homes aren't threatened

A mudslide has closed two roads in the foothill community of Sierra Madre as wet and whirly weather bounces through Southern California for a second day.

James Carlson of Sierra Madre's emergency operations center reports that debris washed down onto roads in a steep canyon area before dawn Friday. A plow was brought

in to clear the muck.

Many homes are sitting in the canyon northeast of Los Angeles below a huge area that was denuded by a recent wildfire. Residents of those homes were urged to leave Thursday night when a thunderstorm pounded the hill-sides but Carlson says few did.

Carlson says no homes are in immediate danger but there's a chance of more rain coming in to loosen the hill-side.

The National Weather Service is predicting a 20 percent to 40 percent chance of storms in Southern California through the day. Light rain has fallen in a few areas but it should be nothing like the lightning, thunder, tornadoes, snow, hail, wind and other weather that hit the region on Thursday.

AP

SAN DIEGO

Hazing caused two expulsions

Two fraternities at San Diego State University have been expelled because of hazing and alcohol violations.

Thursday's ousting of the Lambda Chi Alpha and Delta Sigma Phi fraternities come as two other fraternities remain on interim suspension because of mass drug arrests earlier this month.

University spokesman Jack Beresford says Delta Sigma Phi was expelled after three pledges kidnapped a fraternity member during initiation week and knocked him unconscious with a chokehold.

An investigation revealed a pattern of frat house hazing incidents.

Lambda Chi Alpha was expelled for violating the terms of its interim suspension by having alcohol at a social function.

The fraternity had been placed on interim suspension after a pledge was hurt in a March hazing incident, and Lambda Chi Alpha got a second interim suspension after the drug arrests.

Phi Kappa Psi and Theta Chi are still on interim suspension after the drug investigation.

AP



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Scientists: Spacecraft on track for landing on Mars

BY ALICIA CHANG
AP Science Writer

PASADENA A robotic dirt and ice digger is on course to make an unprecedented landing near Mars' north pole, but the riskiest part of its 10-month voyage lies ahead, mission managers said Thursday.

NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander has sailed through 419 million miles of space since launching last summer and has 3 million miles to go before Sunday's touchdown. If successful, it would be the first spacecraft to set down on the Red Planet's high northern latitudes.

"We've had a very clean flight to Mars through this point," said Ed Sedivy, program manager at Lockheed Martin Corp., which built Phoenix.

Landing on Mars is challenging: More than half of all attempts have ended in disaster.

If all goes as planned, NASA will have a trio of operating robots on Mars. Unlike the twin rovers Spirit and Opportunity, which landed in equatorial regions in 2004, Phoenix will be stationary.

For Phoenix to be successful, it will have to survive a 12,000-mph plunge into the atmosphere and use friction and a parachute to slow down.

Phoenix will attempt a soft landing with the help of pulsing retro rockets designed to

guide it gently to the surface. By contrast, the rovers used parachutes and cushioned air bags that bounced and rolled across the surface.

NASA has not had a successful powered landing in more than three decades since the twin Viking spacecraft fired their thrusters in 1976. The last time the space agency attempted a powered landing was during the 1999 Mars Polar Lander mission, which ended in failure when the spacecraft prematurely shut off its engines.

Phoenix is set to touch down in a broad, shallow valley in the northern arctic region believed to hold a vast storage of underground ice.

The three-legged probe will dig trenches in the icy soil and study whether liquid water ever existed at the site. It will also search for traces of organic compounds.

Peter Smith of the University of Arizona, Tucson, said there's no guarantee scientists will find evidence of past water or carbon-based material at the target site.

"There is no signpost today that says 'Land here. This is the best spot,'" Smith said.

Phoenix, named after the mythological bird that rises from its ashes, is pieced together from a lander mission that NASA scrapped after the Polar Lander failure.

Scientists pulled the lander, which was 70 percent complete, out of storage and used it for the \$420 million Phoenix mission.

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Farmers losing bread

Winter wheat growers succumb to nature

BY BLAKE NICHOLSON

Associated Press Writer

BISMARCK, N.D. Jerry Blotter has grown winter wheat on his central North Dakota farm for decades. This year, he's destroying much of his crop and seeding corn and spring wheat instead.

A lack of soil moisture last fall, lack of protective snow cover for the young plants over the winter and lack of rain in the spring left him no choice, despite the added cost of reseeded.

Blotter, who farms near Coleharbor, said he lost or killed off about 400 of his 550 winter wheat acres.

"Because of the lack of moisture, it just didn't have anything to get it up and going when it broke dormancy (this spring)," he said. "It wasn't really a tough decision, because there was no crop there."

Other Upper Midwest farmers are in the same position, plowing under their winter wheat and starting anew with different crops, industry officials say.

Winter wheat is seeded in the fall for harvest the following summer. It has become popular because it saves farmers time in the spring, and yields have been strong in recent years. Also, prices have moved closer to those for spring wheat after years of running behind.

Last fall, farmers in North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana seeded nearly 5.3 million acres of winter wheat, up from 4.8 million acres the year before, according to federal Agriculture Department data.

In North Dakota, the problems this spring are primarily in the central and western part of the state, which have been harder hit by dry weather, said Erica Peterson, a marketing specialist with the North Dakota Wheat Commission.

In Montana, "we've heard some spotty reports of the same kind of thing, where folks have either had winter kill or the spring rains haven't come," said Cheryl Tuck, spokeswoman for the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee.

Neither Peterson nor Tuck had an estimate on the number of winter wheat acres in their states that have been lost or destroyed this spring.

The Agriculture Department Risk Management Agency regional office in Billings, Mont., does not expect to have figures for another month. Data also will not be available for the entire region, because winter wheat cannot be insured against winter kill in North Dakota and part of South Dakota. In areas where the crop often does not make it through the winter, it can be insured only if the plants get a good start in the spring.

"We understand there's new, hardier varieties being developed all the time," said Kathleen Gilbertson, a senior risk management specialist in Billings. "But in our crop insurance world, we deal with past statistics."

Blotter said the crop insurance program is unfair and should at least compensate North Dakota farmers for loss of seed and time, if not for the actual lost crop.

A program that pays farmers in the Dakotas who grow winter wheat also lost some acreage this spring. Blake Vander Vorst, a Ducks Unlimited regional agronomist in Bismarck, estimated that up to 15 percent of the 5,700 acres planted through the program last fall will be seeded to other crops this spring.

Ducks Unlimited, a conservation group, provides the incentives with the help of chemical companies because winter wheat minimizes field disturbance in the spring when ducks are nesting because it is seeded in the fall.

Weak bears might miss a snack

BY PAUL FOY

Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY Bears will have to work harder to get the smelly leftovers in these trash bins.

The Ashley National Forest near Vernal is introducing modified Dumpsters with a hefty steel plate instead of a flimsy vinyl cover.

Campers will lift a 20-pound trap door on the steel lid to deposit their trash.

"And we're hoping the bears aren't going to get smart enough to learn that," forest spokesman Louis Haynes said.

Some Forest Service campgrounds in Utah had to be closed last summer for trapping of nuisance bears, and a bear fatally mauled an 11-year-old boy in American Fork Canyon after dragging him out of his tent.

At the Ashley forest, about 175 miles east of Salt Lake City, trash haulers K&K Sanitation Inc. of Roosevelt made the Dumpster modifications free of charge.

The problem with the old design was that

bears learned to jump on the vinyl tops and collapse them. Then they had plenty of food for the picking.

"The modified Dumpsters should make that almost impossible," forest recreation officer Kim Bartell said.

To make it more difficult, the trap doors have a spring-loaded handle that requires finger dexterity, like a car door, to operate.

Trash containers are only half of the equation. Campers still must use them.

"Campers should not leave food, garbage or other attractants like soap or toothpaste around their campsite. If food isn't being prepared or eaten, it should be stored inside a vehicle," said Mike Elson, deputy district ranger.

Bears' acute sense of smell can pick up the odor of even small crumbs in a tent or grease in a fire pit.

K&K owner Elvin Kettle was distributing the modified Dumpsters Friday to all campgrounds along the south slope of the Uinta mountains, from Rock Creek to Uinta Canyon.



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Sub-par visitor season anticipated in Alaska

BY RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska With runaway fuel prices, it's somehow fitting that Jim and Wilma Fowler's Airstream Safari sports a green sign, "Alaska or Bust," on the back window of the 25-foot travel trailer.

The couple's friends were flabbergasted that they were driving 3,800 miles to Alaska from Oak Park, Calif., for a three-month trek in their son's adopted state. Still early in their sojourn, the Fowlers have put in 5,000 miles and paid \$2,300 for the diesel fueling their Ford F20 — and they're not bust broke yet, said Jim Fowler, 70, a retired aerospace worker.

"It's getting closer every day, though," he laughed at an Anchorage RV park.

"It really hurts to have to pay that, but what do you do? We're not filthy rich, but we're lucky enough to afford to do this with limitations."

Alaska's tourism leaders anticipate many more like-minded travelers to a state where summer visitors far outnumber its population of 640,000. But with burgeoning oil prices and the U.S. toying with a recession, Alaska's second largest private industry would be lucky to break even with last year's record season, which saw 1.7 million-plus visitors who spent more than \$1.5 billion in the state, according to the Alaska Travel Industry Association.

"I'm concerned. If we are flat overall, I would be pleased," said association president Ron Peck. "I hope we reach the same level as last year. If I'm wrong and we get above that, I'll be tickled pink. But I would not bet my next born child that we are going to have an increase in visitors."

For many travelers, however, the nation's largest state is a once-in-a-lifetime dream vacation that can take years to plan and save for. It's a destination packed with opportunities to see moose, bears, caribou, bald eagles and whales, a hunting and fishing Mecca, a frontier full of glaciers, mountains, fjords, outdoor adventures and Alaska Native culture.

Many tourism businesses are banking on that mystique to keep Alaska from joining a national trend that has folks staying closer to home. A random sampling of hotels and B&Bs suggests a solid summer, although the Bed and Breakfast Association of Alaska estimates that bookings among its members are down by as much as 20 percent.

Particularly optimistic are wilderness guides catering to wellheeled clients.

Hugh Rose, a Fairbanks-based photographer and guide, said he is booked solid for 11 excursions, which can run as high as \$8,300 for a 20-day trip that includes treks at Prudhoe Bay, Prince William Sound and Denali National Park and Preserve. He said he's already filled all seven slots for that trip in 2009 and people are waiting for him to set dates for 2010 so they can put down their \$500 deposits.

"The clientele I deal with is, for the most part, fairly upper end," Rose said. "The mortgage crisis did not affect them because their house is paid for. They are upper middle class and retired."

Some businesses are seeing more foreign travelers taking advantage of the sagging dollar. For that same reason, Alaska can attract Americans forgoing overseas trips, according to the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau.

"Unlike other parts of the U.S., we have the exotic appeal, but we're a domestic desti-

nation," said spokeswoman Shelly Wozniak. "That's a boon for us."

Cruise ship passengers, the backbone of Alaska's travel industry, are expected to remain on par with last year's numbers — slightly more than 1 million. But that's because the cabin capacity remains unchanged and cruise line companies offer deep discounts when necessary to fill their rooms, said John Binkley, president of the Alaska Cruise Association.

Binkley expects spending will be down away from the ships, with passengers buying fewer souvenirs and taking fewer, less expensive, shore excursions.

"It might seem that the numbers look good, but the economic impact is not as good," he said.

Binkley said bookings are down about 10 percent in his family's Fairbanks-based business, Riverboat Discovery, which offers sternwheeler day tours on the Chena and Tanana rivers.

Also down are campground bookings, if two RV parks owned by Scott Reisland in Denali National Park and Preserve are any indication. Bookings of caravans — groups of RVs traveling together — are down 50 percent and there have been a lot of cancellations, Reisland said.

Bookings are up slightly at his 105-room Denali Grizzly Bear Resort, which caters to independent travelers. This year he's seeing more Europeans booking rooms and RV spaces.

"But I still think it's going to be a bad year for the state, for highway RV traffic," he said.

Fuel prices — approaching the \$4 a gallon mark for regular unleaded nationwide — could be a significant deterrent, judging by an industry consumer study of people interested in driving to Alaska through Canada. Six percent of the respondents said gas prices would be a deterrent in the fall of 2006, when the national average for unleaded was just under \$2.25 a gallon. A year later, when the national average for unleaded was inching toward \$3 a gallon, the number had jumped to 21 percent.

Still, workers at the visitor center in Tok — the first major Alaska community after crossing the Canadian border — say they're seeing the same level of RVs as they did last summer. Some RV rental companies are, too.

ABC Motorhome Rentals in Anchorage is offering fuel credits of up to \$250 and expects to match last summer's bookings, which accounted for nearly 3,400 RV rentals. Much of the business coming to the company in the last couple years is from RV owners, said counter manager Kerri Schiavi. They're opting to fly here for the trip they've waited so long to take.

"A lot of people don't want to put it off," Schiavi said. "They're not letting a few hundred dollars difference stop them."

Not yet anyway.

This summer looks promising for Dan Oberlatz, owner of guiding company Alaska Alpine Adventures, which is an affiliate of outdoor gear retailer Recreational Equipment Inc. and also runs other guided tours. Oberlatz, however, said he set his fees a year ago, never imagining fuel prices would skyrocket, inflating the cost of ferrying clients in vans and air taxis.

He plans to raise next year's prices on the assumption the cost of fuel will keep climbing.

"If the recession continues, if gas prices continue to go up, 2009 could be the year of reckoning for Alaska tourism," he said.

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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 62°

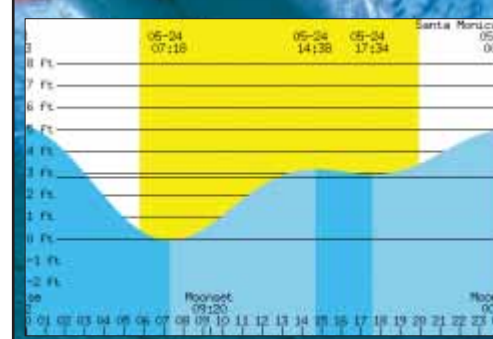
SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)

Knee to waist high surf at south facing breaks, smaller at west facing breaks. Weather should clear, but areas south of LA could see some unsettled conditions. Winds should be calm in the AM, but blow onshore in the afternoon to 20 mph as the weather-producing low moves out of the area.

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TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **May 20, 2008**

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

QUICK STATS

(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 2

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 3

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 45

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by

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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.

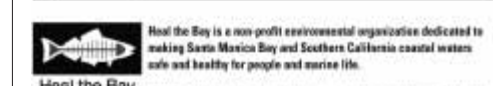
LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cienegas Beach, at Arroyo Sepulveda Creek mouth	C	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Palms Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lockwood and Las Alitas creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Tennyson Canyon drain	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauque)	A+	ns
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wilshire Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	D	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A+	ns
Lafayette Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Selkirk Canyon at San Blocker County Beach	A	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	D	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marine Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Sunridge Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Sunridge Beach (beach location) - daily	B	ns	Venice Beach - projection of Topaz St.	A+	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 15048 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pine Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DWR jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns	Dockweiler Beach - opposite Hygienic Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns			

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.

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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 these areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

Woods to skip Memorial following knee procedure

BY DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press Writer

Memorial, a tour official said.

This is the second time in three years that Woods has had a two-month layoff before a major championship. He missed nine weeks in 2006 while coping with the death of his father, returning to the U.S. Open at Winged Foot and missing the cut for the only time in a major.

“Tiger was looking forward to playing at the Memorial,” said Mark Steinberg, his agent at IMG. “But unfortunately, the timing of his recovery will not allow him to do so.”

Tiger Woods decided Friday not to play in the Memorial as he recovers from knee surgery, meaning he likely will go to the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines without having played a tournament in two months.

Woods, who had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee April 15, was hopeful of playing before the U.S. Open. But his office notified the PGA Tour that he would not enter the

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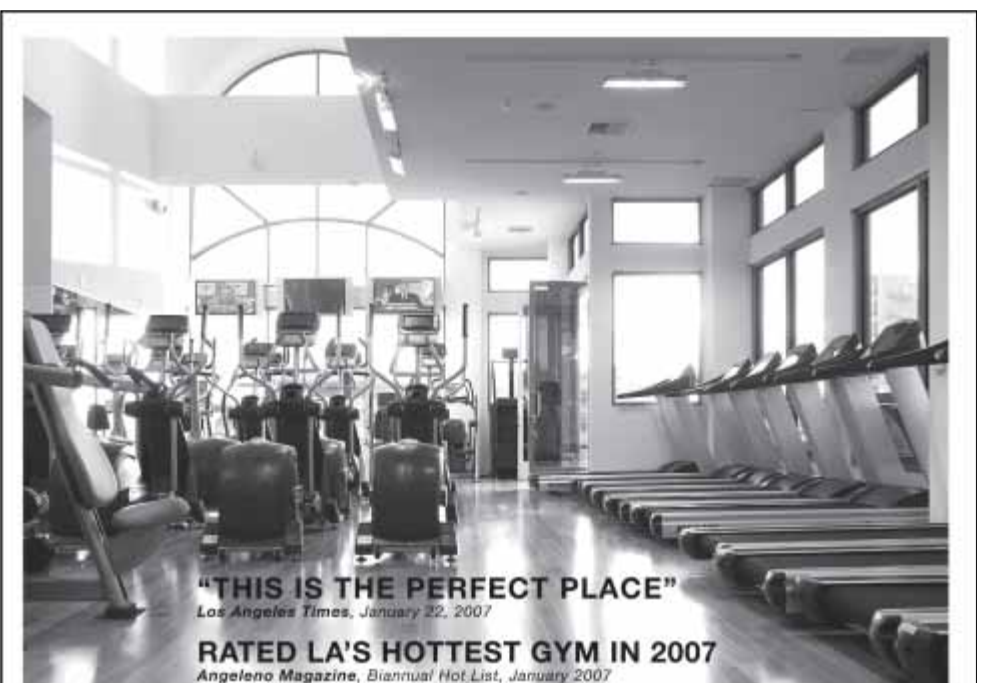
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Heaven's Gate (1980) 3 hrs 39 min
7:30

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1441 Third Street
Promenade

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull 2 hrs (PG-13)
10 a.m., 11:30, 1 p.m., 2:25, 4, 5:25, 7, 8:25, 10
The Fall (R) 1hr 57min
2, 7:20
Harold and Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay
1 hr 42 min (R)
11:15 a.m., 4:45 p.m., 10:15
Baby Mama 1 hr 36 min (PG-13)
10:15 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 3:10, 5:40, 8, 10:30

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
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Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG-13) 2 hrs.
10:45am, 12:15pm, 1:45pm, 3:15pm, 4:45pm, 6:15pm, 7:45pm, 9:15pm, 10:45pm
The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian
11a.m., 12:05p.m., 2, 3:30, 5, 6:40, 8:10, 9:50
The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian
Digital Presentation (PG) 2 hrs 20 min
1pm, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) 1hr 51min
11:10 a.m., 2:05 p.m., 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
Speed Racer (PG) 2hrs 15min
10:55 a.m., 1:55 p.m., 4:55, 7:55, 10:55

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Redbelt (R) 1hr 39min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

Jellyfish (NR) 78 min
12:45 p.m., 5:10, 9:45
The Visitor (ZPG-13) 1hr 48min
1:30, 4:20, 7:25, 10
Smart People (R) 1hr 33min
1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:00
Priceless (PG13) 104 min
2:45 p.m., 7:15

MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE
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Iron Man (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
11:00 a.m., 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:05, 5:00, 6:00, 7:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00, 12:00 a.m.
Made of Honor (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:50 a.m., 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
What Happens in Vegas (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20

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

Paint the town red, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Others take their cues from you. On some level, being the model of good behavior could take a lot out of you. Later you will worry less and relax more. Do what you must in the earlier hours. Tonight: Paint the town red.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ What might not have been apparent before becomes black-and-white. If you're traveling or dealing with someone at a distance, you are all smiles. This person reveals his or her feelings. He or she is sincere. Tonight: Revel in the moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Relate to one person at a time. Give special time to each person, listening as well as sharing. You could be very happy with the end results. If you focus and don't let your mind wander, you will give a big gift. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Pull back and allow others the space to come forward. It is nice to have someone declare his or her feelings or let you know just how important you are. Sort through calls and invitations, and go with your heart's desire. Tonight: Say yes to living.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Lying low might not be too hard to do. If you look at this slower period as one in which you are building the energy needed for the near future, you could find it a snap. Get ready for the social whirl. Tonight: Live it up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Keep your spirits high, allowing your imagination and fun side to dominate. You could be surprised by how good you feel. Interactions with children and loved ones inevitably put a smile on your face. Tonight: Understand that you too can get tired once in a while.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ A project suddenly could be much closer or further from completion. You could be wondering what happened. Stay centered, and understand your limits. Invest time and care in your family. Tonight: Entertain from your pad.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Speak your mind, liberally dipping into ingenuity and choosing your words with care. What you might trigger now could last for quite a while. Enjoy what is going on between you and someone else. Tonight: Say yes to an invitation. Get to know someone better.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ What you think might be a solid investment could surprise you if you find experts on this type of financial risk. Be happy that you took your time. When you do make a choice, it will be the right one. Tonight: Nap and then decide.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Act like how you feel. You might be surprised by people's reactions. Often you think you know what people will do. You don't. Tonight: Do what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Finish up any errands this morning. Choose to do something just for yourself, whether it is getting a haircut or going to the gym. The pace is about to become very hectic. Make private time for a special friend. Tonight: Rest and relaxation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Go with spontaneity, and you'll discover just how rich your life is. Many options and friendships clearly become part of your life. Let feelings come forward. Reverse directions if you feel it is appropriate. Tonight: Call it an early night.

Happy birthday

Prepare to walk in a new direction next year. Though you might believe you are quite content, when the time comes you will be ready to blaze a new trail. Relating becomes a specialty this year, allowing for more closeness, if you are attached. As a couple you might plan a very special trip together for winter 2009. If you are single, you suddenly discover that you are deep into a relationship. Be willing to let go of conservative ways. Look not to answers or resolutions, but to how everyone can get what he or she wants. CAPRICORN helps you bottom out.

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



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Janric Classic 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 Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
GOLD

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

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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

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

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PS0803 11/08

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

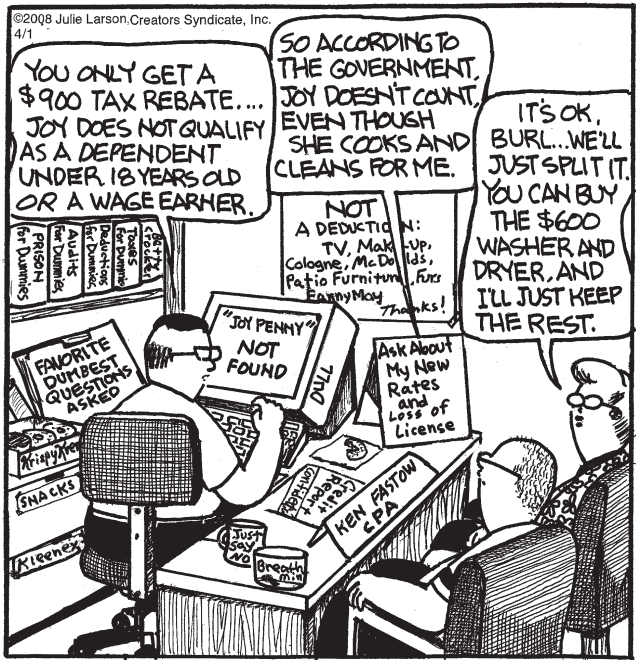
Garfield

By Jim Davis

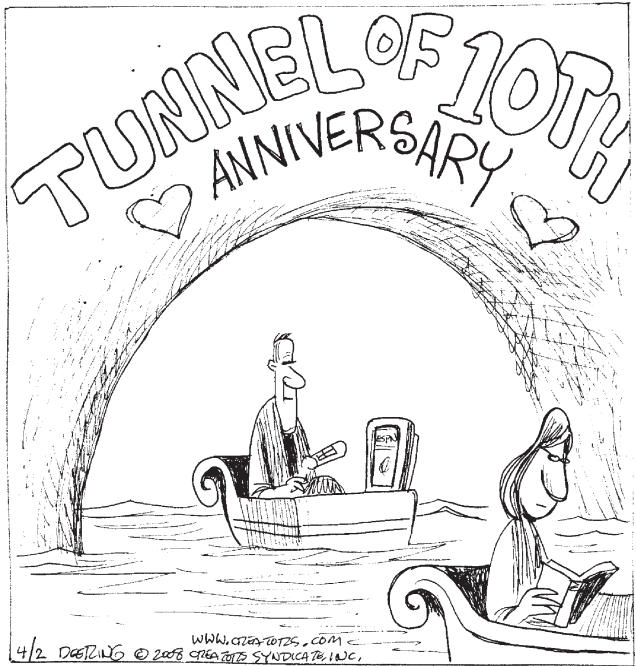
Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

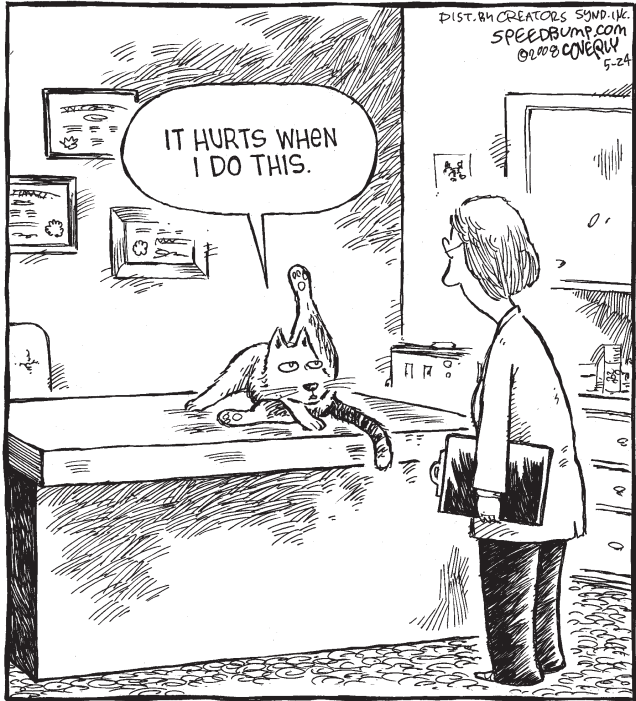
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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

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CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
- 1 "Pinocchio" fish
- 5 Nebula makeup
- 10 End-table items
- 12 Left at sea
- 13 Be real
- 14 Caesar's land
- 15 Greek export
- 16 Luau strings
- 18 Sailor
- 19 Long step
- 21 Tooth-paste flavor
- 22 "Absolutely!"
- 24 Sub system
- 25 "Absolutely!"
- 29 Be glum
- 30 Strata
- 32 Naval answer
- 33 Canyon critter
- 34 Copying
- 35 Got fit
- 37 Consumed
- 39 Correct text
- 40 Pollster's find
- 41 Rushing amounts
- 42 Deuce beater

DOWN

- 1 Staff symbols
- 2 Lenient quality
- 3 Asylum seeker
- 4 Harvest goddess
- 5 Airport area
- 6 Copy
- 7 Raid
- 8 Gofer's job
- 9 Maze label
- 11 Fox News show
- 17 Hound holders
- 20 Put out
- 21 Compassion
- 23 Computer records
- 25 Famed cellist
- 26 First bid
- 27 Gat
- 28 Dahl or Francis
- 29 Pirate address
- 31 Baseball's Koufax
- 33 Includes
- 36 Complete
- 38 Knack

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

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
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35			36			37	38		
39						40			
41							42		

DAILY LOTTERY



4 8 11 22 30
Meganumber: 4
Jackpot: \$17M



1 13 20 30 44
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: \$34M



2 4 14 33 39



MIDDAY: 4 2 6
EVENING: 6 3 6



1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:49.51

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

Arrested in Tahoe City, Calif., in March and charged with stabbing his roommate: Timothy Stilleto, 45. (2) Arrested in Austin, Texas, in April after a SWAT standoff in which police tried to serve warrants for parole violation and other charges: Don Truevillain, 24. (3) Arrested in Jefferson County, Wis., in March and charged with a vicious murder: James A. Hole, 34.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1883 The Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was dedicated by President Chester Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland, and opened to traffic.

1819 Queen Victoria was born in London.

1844 Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message, "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

1935 The first major league baseball game to be played at night took place at Cincinnati's Crosley Field as the Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-1.

1941 The German battleship Bismarck sank the British dreadnought Hood in the North Atlantic.

1958 United Press International was formed through a merger of the United Press and the International News Service.

1962 Astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Aurora 7.

1976 Britain and France opened trans-Atlantic Concorde supersonic transport service to Washington.

1977 In a surprise move, the Kremlin ousted Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny from the Communist Party's ruling Politburo.

1980 Iran rejected a call by the World Court in The Hague to release the American hostages.

2001 23 people died when the floor of a Jerusalem wedding hall collapsed beneath dancing guests in a horrifying scene captured on video.

WORD UP!

aright \uh-RYT/, **adverb**: Rightly; correctly; properly; in a right way or manner.

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UN chief: Myanmar to allow all aid workers

JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press Writer

UNAYPYITAW, Myanmar U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, on a mission to open Myanmar to international disaster assistance, said the ruling junta agreed Friday to allow "all aid workers" into the country to help cyclone survivors.

Ban's comments came after a crucial two-hour meeting Friday with the junta leader, Senior Gen. Than Shwe, the country's most powerful figure. Myanmar's junta has until now refused to allow an influx of foreign aid and experts to reach survivors of the May 2-3 Cyclone Nargis.

The United Nations chief did not say whether Than Shwe had acceded to the most urgent request by international aid agencies _ to allow their foreign experts into the hardest-hit region, the Irrawaddy delta.

However, when asked if he thought the agreement was a breakthrough, Ban told reporters: "I think so." One foreign aid official called it a "significant step forward."

A senior U.N. official present at the meeting said Than Shwe also gave the green light for foreigners to work in the hardest-hit region, the Irrawaddy delta, which has been virtually off-limits to them.

Ban "saw no reason why that should not happen, as long as they are genuine humanitarian workers and it was clear as to what they were going to be doing," said the official, who requested anonymity for reasons of protocol.

The official said government authorities had earlier not been able to give this assurance of access because they needed a "green light from the top."

HEALTH

Remember to use proper techniques

FROM COOKING PAGE 3

rhea, abdominal cramps, vomiting, dehydration, and fever. Most of these types of illnesses are caused by three problems: Allowing "cold" foods, like potato salad, to get warm or "hot" foods, like casseroles or meatballs, to get to room temperature; handling food with contaminated hands; and not cooking foods such as meat or chicken thoroughly.

BEFORE YOU BARBECUE OR PREPARE FOOD:

- Always wash your hands with hot water and soap before and after handling any food, especially raw meat, poultry, or seafood.
- When marinating for long periods of time, it is important to keep foods refrigerated. Don't use sauce that was used to marinate raw meat or poultry on cooked food.
- Keep raw foods, especially meat, poultry, or seafood, away from cooked foods. Do not use the same plate, tray or utensils for raw and cooked foods.
- Keep meats, salads, and other perishable foods in the refrigerator until you are ready to

use them. If you store your food in a cooler, keep the temperature at or below 40 F (4 C), and keep the lid closed as much as possible. Pack plenty of extra ice or freezer packs to insure a constant cold temperature. Store your cooler in the shade, away from birds and animals.

■ Barbecues should be pre-heated before cooking. When using a charcoal grill, preheat the coals on your grill for 20 to 30 minutes.

DURING COOKING:

- Always check the temperature of the food before you stop cooking. Use a food thermometer to make sure food has reached a safe internal temperature:
- Beef, veal, lamb steaks, roasts: At least 145 F (63 C) for medium rare and to 160 F (71 C) for medium.
- Ground beef (hamburgers), ground pork: At least 160 F (71 C).
- Ground poultry (chicken or turkey burgers): 165 F (74 C).
- Poultry breasts, whole poultry: At least 170 F (77 C).
- Fish: Should be opaque and flake easily

with a fork.

- Shrimp, lobster, crabs: Meat should be pearly and opaque.
- Clams, oysters, mussels: Shells should be open.

AFTER COOKING:

- Put cooked food on a clean plate or tray.
- Don't use leftover marinade or sauce from the raw food on the cooked food.
- Keep all food covered to prevent cross contamination and to avoid attracting flies.
- Eat food as soon as it is ready.
- Leftovers should be placed in shallow containers, and refrigerated. Food may be covered when cool.
- Leftovers should be re-heated to 165 F (74 C) before eating.
- Eat leftovers within two days.

For more information on food safety in a home kitchen, check out the "Fight Bac!" Web site from the Partnership for Food Safety Information at www.fightbac.org.

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