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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 181

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered
THE POWERFUL FRIENDS ISSUE

HOME PRICES DROP
SEE PAGE 3

Brownley backs Osborn's Assembly bid

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN Liberal activist and candidate for the 41st Assembly District Torie Osborn picked up a significant endorsement over the weekend, winning the support of Assemblywoman Julia Brownley, D-Santa Monica.

Osborn, a 25-year Santa Monica resident, is looking to succeed Brownley in 2012. Brownley is being forced out because of term limits.

The endorsement came during Osborn's campaign kickoff event held in the Pacific Palisades on Sunday.

"I'm thrilled," Osborn said of the endorsement. "It is the most important endorsement. It's personally and politically meaningful and Julia's faith in me is wind under my wings. I'm very proud and pleased."

Brownley joins Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Los Angeles City

SEE OSBORN PAGE 8

'Spider-Man' producer Laura Ziskin dies at 61

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Laura Ziskin, who produced the "Spider-Man" movie franchise among many other hits in a 35-year Hollywood career, has died. She was 61.

Ziskin, who fought a seven-year battle against breast cancer, died Sunday evening at her Santa Monica home, according to a statement from the Entertainment Industry Foundation.

Over a 35-year career, Ziskin was producer or executive producer of such crowd-pleasers as "No Way Out" with Kevin Costner, "Pretty Woman" with Richard Gere and Julia Roberts, and "As Good As It Gets," which won Academy Awards for Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt.

She produced the three "Spider-Man" features and at the time of her death was working on a fourth, "The Amazing Spider-Man."

In the 1990s, Ziskin was president for five years of Fox 2000 Pictures, a subsidiary of 20th Century Fox that released more serious or quirky fare, including "Fight Club" and Terrence Malick's "The Thin Red Line," which was nominated for seven Academy Awards.

She also produced the Academy Awards telecasts in 2002 and 2007. She was the first woman to be solo producer of the show.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, Ziskin joined with other women in the entertainment industry and the media to form Stand Up to Cancer, a nonprofit organization that has raised some $200 million to fight the disease.

Born in the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles, Ziskin studied filmmaking at the University of Southern California, wrote for game shows after graduating in 1973 and got her start in features as personal assistant to producer Jon Peters.

She is survived by her husband, screenwriter Alvin Sargent, and her daughter, Julia Barry.



STAR POWER
Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*
Teen pop star Selena Gomez sings one her hit songs from her new album at Santa Monica Place on Monday afternoon.

Big Blue Bus costs major moolah to run

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

CITY HALL In the second to last City Council meeting of the fiscal year, city staff packed the consent agenda with 31 items slated for approval, and a price tag of $20.66 million.

That's the largest amount spent on con-

SEE CONSENT PAGE 6

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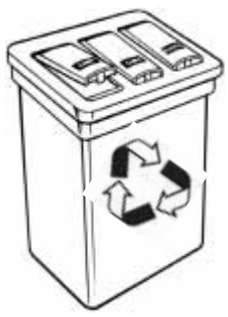
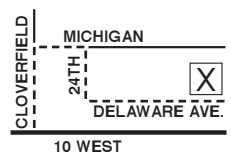
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Dancing at the beach
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6:30 p.m.
Donna Sternberg & Dancers presents the third work in Sternberg's Science Series, bridging dance and science through the artistic interpretation of scientific principles. This work uses the varied environment of the Annenberg Beach House to examine how both dancers and audience view and interpret their environment, framing reality on shifting sands. Wear comfortable shoes and sun protection. For more information, call (310) 458-2257.

'Inside Job'
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
The library is offering a free screening of "Inside Job," an Oscar winning documentary that sheds light on the global financial crisis of 2008, which, at a cost over $20 trillion, caused millions of people to lose their jobs and homes in the worst recession since the Great Depression, and nearly resulted in a global financial collapse. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Time for toddlers
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m.
Join Mr. Jesse for stories, rhymes, songs and even puppets. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Super fresh
Second Street and Arizona Avenue
8:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
This weekly Farmers' Market is widely considered one of the best in the Southland. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Bingo!
Senior Recreation Center
1450 Ocean Ave.,
1:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
Hit the Senior Center for a spirited game of bingo. Organizers promise creative prizes. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Be a volunteer
Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St.,
9:30 p.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Learn about the many volunteer opportunities at senior service provider WISE & Healthy Aging during this orientation. For more information, call (310) 394-9871 ext. 492.

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



SoCal home prices decline in May

JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Southern California's median home price saw its largest year-to-year drop in 20 months in May, as buyer uncertainty, tight credit and lackluster hiring restrained housing demand, a tracking firm said Monday.

The median in the six-county region was $280,000 last month, down 8.2 percent from $305,000 in May 2010, San Diego-based DataQuick said.

The year-over-year drop was the largest since September 2009, when the median fell 10.9 percent. The median was unchanged from April.

Home sales, meanwhile, dropped 17.4 percent from 22,270 in May 2010 to 18,394 last month, marking an 11th consecutive month of year-over-year sales declines. Last month's prices were the lowest for a May since the median dropped to 16,917 in May 2008.

May's home sales were barely changed from 18,344 in April, although transactions have increased an average of 5.7 percent between April and May since DataQuick began keeping records in 1988, the firm said.

DataQuick president John Walsh attributed the sharp year-over-year sales decline to last year's expiration of the federal home-

SEE **PRICES** PAGE 9



Photo courtesy Santa Monica College

PEOPLE ARE TALKING: **Santa Monica College students spread the word during the school's graduation ceremony last year.**

Santa Monica College's graduation going global

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CORSAIR FIELD For the second year in a row, Santa Monica College's graduation is going global.

SMC's Commencement Exercises, which will be held at 6 p.m. today on Corsair Field, will be webcast live and available on the SMC Alumni webpage (alumni.smc.edu).

Families and friends from all over the world who will not be able to attend graduation will again be able to watch the ceremony and see the graduates receive their diplomas.

About 550 graduates are expected to attend the festive ceremonies, which will also feature Commencement Speaker UC Berkeley Chancellor Dr. Robert J. Birgeneau. In addition, the SMC Foundation's Distinguished Alumni Awards will be presented to restaurateur Martin Jeffrey (Jeff) King and SMC math professor Terry Green.

Through the Alumni webpage, graduates will also be able to watch videos and read and post comments. Graduates and SMC friends are encouraged to "like" the Association's Facebook fan page (www.facebook.com/SMCAlumniAssociation) and upload their graduation photos. They can also tag their pictures on Flickr or Twitter with #smcgrad11 that will be published on the association's website.

After the ceremonies, the Alumni Association and Associated Students are co-hosting a reception on the Quad, with free hors d'oeuvres, beverages, a deejay and a photo booth where pictures will be taken and uploaded to the Alumni website. A compilation video will be available on the website about a week after graduation.

"Even after the graduates move their graduation tassels from right to left and transition from students to alumni, they will forever remain a central member of the SMC family," says Dr. Barbara Ige, alumni coordinator. "We will always be here to celebrate and support them, as we are doing today."

news@smdp.com

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi's Hess, Levy take top league honors

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI It's safe to say that it has been a good year for Samohi boys' volleyball.

First the team from Santa Monica High School won the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 title last month, now it's cleaning up with postseason awards.

Senior middle blocker Julian Hess was named Ocean League Most Valuable Player, while senior outside hitter Charles Levy was named Most Outstanding Player. The awards come on the heels of a perfect 9-0 record during league play.

"They dominated for sure," Head Coach Liane Sato said. "They deserve it."

In all, the Vikings had eight players who received all-league honors.

The first team includes juniors Trevor Pye and Ethan Kahan. They are joined by senior Jack Cramer and sophomore Dane Keckin. The second team features senior David Cline and junior Cody O'Connell.

Despite losing a number of seniors, Sato is optimistic that her returning underclassmen have what it takes to make a return to the success the Vikings saw this season.

"Hopefully it will helps us," Sato said. "It makes a huge difference when you get deep into the playoffs."

As if the Ocean League awards weren't enough, the team also garnered notice for their work in other areas.

In addition to league accolades, Levy also earned a special honor specific to Samohi. He was tapped as the first recipient of the

SEE **ROUNDUP** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't be fooled

Editor:

I strongly disagree with claims that government has no business protecting babies against circumcision and that parents and medical or religious authority should decide what is best for the child!

Besides the doubtful claim of knowing what is "best," it is not that simple!

The Supreme Court has ruled in the past that many religious practices are illegal, such as the polygamy once practiced by Mormons, or the refusal by Christian Scientists to seek medical care for desperately ill children. It is also illegal to spank, mutilate or starve children or have sex with them or sell them into prostitution, regardless how religiously disturbed you are. Since circumcision is a lucrative business, those performing it can't be said to be totally without monetary interests.

The critical question is whether male circumcision is harmful, and we "intactivists" argue that cutting off part of an infant's penis, while he screams in agony, is painful, barbaric, and at times deadly. It has irreversible physical, and often troublesome psychological, impact. This bizarre ritual is never performed in more enlightened, humane cultures, like the Scandinavian countries, where people are healthier with far lower rates of the illnesses circumcision promoters claim to fix.

Just as people should be free to choose what religion they follow, with certain legal and humanistic restrictions, men should be free to choose whether or not they have their foreskins surgically removed.

If others can permanently alter your own body without your consent, you really have no freedom at all. And the fact that it is all based on an ancient myth, makes it that much more primitive and ridiculous. People refer to the procedure as "time tested!" So was animal and virgin sacrifices to please imaginary gods. So was the notion that the Earth was flat and that everything circulates around the Earth. Although "time tested" by primitive people, most don't believe that anymore.

Since the Bible has been proved wrong by science or logic on every single point, why should such a disgusting obsession with a baby's genitals be honored?

For the religiously inclined, why not follow a more recent myth? Whether he was an historic figure or not, at least Jesus made sense when he allegedly told his disciples that if circumcision were good, his father would have made boys that way! Or, has the Gospel of Thomas, especially saying 53, conveniently been ignored because it casts serious doubt about the myth of the Abrahamic Covenant, never mind the absence of supporting evidence for this event? Yes, religious contradictions can be troublesome!

And who can better decide what's "best" for the child than the child himself, when grown and able to make the decision on his own? Among those lucky ones left intact, how common is it that they decide to have themselves circumcised later in life, except for rare cases of medical problems or insanity? What's healthy about cutting off the shield that protects the most sensitive part of men's genitals from rubbing against underwear? And to suggest that circumcision protects against HIV and sexually transmitted diseases is absolutely horrible!

Not only is it totally wrong, but it sends a very dangerous message of having unprotected sex because a removed foreskin does the job! I shudder at the thought of the backlash we are certain to be faced with in Africa, where males are fooled to believe that circumcision protects, with no regard for their partners.

Jorg Aadahl
San Mateo





What's the Point?



David Pisarra — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Please decrease the sleaze

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THE MOST DANGEROUS place in the world is being between a politician and a camera; the theory being that the politician will do anything to get in front a camera for some publicity. Having known many a political figure, I can say that there is a certain element of truth to that.

Like most media hounds, I too have been known to be assertive with members of the press. I've chased down a reporter who was doing a story that I wanted to be quoted on. I've sat around the empty ballroom atop the Sheraton Delfina waiting for a reporter to finish up with the interview before me so that I can have a 30-second conversation with him and make a new contact.

My publicist has his own speed dial button on both my office and cell phones. I regularly troll the wires to see if there is a good opportunity for my name and commentary to be inserted into the public forum.

As a writer of a weekly column for almost 10 years now, I've written many stories, and I've had many items pitched to me about what would make for a good story. People send me their books and products that they are hoping I will write about and get them some publicity. My columns for the Daily Press, Huffington Post, the GoodMenProject and others are circulated across the Internet by people who think that I have something to offer.

So when I complain about the media, and its content, I'm not doing so as someone who has an ax to grind, or out of illogical jealousy that someone else is getting publicity. I have personal experience with the world of media, from both sides, and that makes for an informed opinion.

I have been on roundtable discussions with media celebrities such as Gloria Allred and I can share that she is gracious in person. Aggressive as she is when the red light comes on, she also remembers that others are there as well for promotion of their services and she respects that.

People have hounded me to do a story about their lives and the grave injustices that the family court system has done to them. I regularly receive letters, e-mails and boxes of papers from fathers and mothers who feel that they were wronged by some judge. Politely declining to cover some stories is part of being a provider of content to my editor.

In the almost 10 years that I've been writing for the Daily Press, I've had multiple discussions with various editors over what is appropriate for my column, for the paper, and the media in general. The media has a job, it is to be a check on the power of government, it is to educate the public, and it is to entertain.

Lately however, I feel that the media has become unbalanced.

With the rise of the Internet and the proliferation of access to digital media such as cellphone cameras and video, the easy access to file sharing services such as Limewire, Youtube and Facebook, we have become a society that is inundated with sleazy behavior.

From wayward governors to pregnant teen moms, we have been feeding on a steady diet of atrocious behavior. This weekend's latest round of photos being circulated by Congressman Weiner's detractors is just the latest and most disheartening example of bad judgment.

THE MEDIA HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO QUALITY JOURNALISM, AND WHILE THERE WILL ALWAYS BE GOSSIP MAGAZINES, I THINK THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA SHOULD REIN IN THE SLEAZE A BIT.

So far this summer I've had three conversations in the pool at the Loews Hotel regarding the multiple stories of bad behavior by celebrities. I find it quite sad that someone would work as hard as these celebrities and politicians do, and then cause their own downfall by what is in reality very juvenile behavior. The lies are laughable, if they were so pathetic and anemic.

The collateral damage done to the families is one thing, but it is the collective damage done to our social psyche that I am worried about. It seems like there is a race to the bottom to see just how prurient and salacious we can become.

When the naked pictures of a congressman are headline making, no matter how fit he may be, it destroys the respect the office should be given.

I don't mean to sound all Pat Robertson, but there comes a time when the media needs to ask the question of "Do we really need to share this?" I think the trashy pictures, the salacious stories, and the endless errata of people's lives needs to be thought through a bit more. The media has a responsibility to quality journalism, and while there will always be gossip magazines, I think the mainstream media should rein in the sleaze a bit.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.



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Your column here

Dr. William Barclay
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bush tax cuts have created years of economic disaster

THIS MONTH MARKS THE 10TH anniversary of the first of the two tax cuts sought by the President George Bush. The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act was enacted in 2001 to be followed, in 2003, by the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act.

Ten years later, it is time we assess the actual results of these tax cuts, looking at economic performance rather than political promises. The results have been a disaster for the U.S. economy and for almost all of the American people. We have experienced very slow income and employment growth for the vast majority of families, an extremely unequal distribution of the direct financial benefits from these measures, and, very slow growth in the economy as a whole.

As someone who has personally received these tax cuts during the past 10 years, I feel it is my responsibility to speak out.

Supporters of tax cuts for high income households, such as House majority leader John Boehner, argue that wealthy people are the "job creators" and that tax cuts will encourage them to create jobs and that these new jobs will, in turn, increase employment opportunities and improve the wages of the remainder of the population. Did any of these benefits occur after the Bush tax cuts? The quick and accurate answer is, no, they did not.

Adjusted for inflation, the median weekly earnings of working Americans actually fell by 2.3 percent from the end of the 2000–01 recession to the onset of the Great Recession. This is unique in the post WWII period. Further, the recovery from the 2000–01 recession was the slowest of any post WWII recession to date, requiring 39 months before the number of employed Americans reached the pre-recession level. Where is even a scintilla of evidence that tax cuts such as those passed in 2001 and 2003 generate income and employment growth for the vast majority of the population?

A significant part of the failure of the Bush tax cuts to generate jobs and income growth flows from the top-heavy distribution of the benefits conveyed by these measures. The vast bulk of the reduced taxes were reaped by a very small number of families. In 2011, the average tax reduction to families receiving an income of $1 million or more (about 321,000 families) will be $139,199. For this less than 0.5 percent of all families this is a reduction in taxes of $860 million/week. Compare these tax benefits to the yearly savings proposed by cutting the WIC program: $833 million. An obvious question is, why can't this very small group of extremely high income families give up just one week of their tax cut to provide nutrition for the tens of thousands of women and children that benefit from the WIC program? More significantly, in light of the deficit hysteria gripping Washington D.C., the combined impact of the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts has been the addition of more than $2.6 trillion to the federal debt. This included more than $400 billion in interest payments on the debt necessary to pay for the cuts.

FROM THE END OF THE RECESSION UNTIL THE ONSET OF THE GREAT RECESSION, THE ECONOMY GREW AT A SLOWER RATE THAN IN ANY OTHER POST RECESSION PERIOD SINCE WWII.

Of course, one might forgive these policy failures if the promise of economic growth had been fulfilled. On this measure, however, the record is even worse. The 2000–01 recession ended in the fourth quarter of 2001, just in time for the first Bush tax cut to take effect.

From the end of the recession until the onset of the Great Recession, the economy grew at a slower rate than in any other post recession period since WWII. Thus, despite promises from the advocates of the tax cuts, the reality was slower growth rather than faster growth. The additional tax cut in 2003 did nothing to increase the pace of economic growth.

In sum, the Bush tax cuts were a bad idea at the time and are an even worse idea today. Ending these cuts for incomes over $250,000 would generate over $100 billion a year in additional revenue. If we also created additional tax rates for very high-income families (e.g. at $500,000, $1,000,000, $5,000,000 and $10,000,000) we could increase federal revenue by more than double that amount and put us on the road to reducing deficits and debts.

BARCLAY worked for 22 years in financial service before retiring in 2004. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago in the Liautaud Graduate School of Business and is a member of Wealth for the Common Good.

The Q Line

Rent to own

The Santa Monica Rent Control Board last week approved its annual rent adjustment – a 3.2 percent increase with a ceiling of $52. That means renters can expect to pay more later this year when the increase goes into effect. The board could have approved a 3.5 percent bump or a 2.6 percent bump with a $7 flat fee.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What do you think about the increase? Is it fair or should it be more or less?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102**.









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CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

sent since the Nov. 9, 2010 meeting where the City Council approved $20.6 million for a new insurance plan for municipal employees with provider Cigna.

This time, the bulk of the total comes from the purchase of liquefied natural gas, or LGN, for the Big Blue Bus system, a one-year contract with four additional one-year options for a total of $12.5 million over the course of all five years.

BBB operates 125 natural-gas powered buses, and will add another 15 to its fleet by December. The system currently consumes 270,000 gallons of LNG each month. The fuel is produced locally, in Boron, Calif.

Another $4.4 million of spending on the consent agenda is also expected to go to the bus system.

NATURAL GAS RELATED COSTS

BBB staff put a number of items related to maintaining and dispensing natural gas for its fleet, totaling $1.76 million.

The fueling station itself needs very expensive and very rare parts that can take months to get after a problem is discovered.

It also gets a lot of use, dispensing up to 3,250,000 gallons of compressed and liquefied natural gas each year.

A competitive bidding process ended with the General Physics Corporation coming in as the lowest bidder with a $560,235 bid for maintenance of the facility. The contract is for a single year with three extensions.

A much bigger cost is the maintenance of the fuel systems on the buses themselves.

The buses in BBB's LNG and compressed natural gas fleet need special maintenance on its fuel systems to keep up with government regulations as well as the requirements of the engine manufacturer, Cummins Engines.

As a result, staff requested $1.2 million over the course of three years for the necessary maintenance.

If approved, the contract will go to FAB Diversified Services, Inc.

BUS PARTS, REPAIR

Half of the requested spending on the bus system comes from bus parts, repair and cleaning.

The council is expected to approve $900,000 over the course of three years for replacement parts for BBB engines.

City Hall received four bids for the contract, with Cumins Cal Pacific LLC coming in at the lowest price with the steepest discounts. The BBB buys original manufacturer parts to stay in compliance with state and federal emissions standards.

If approved, another $250,000 will be dedicated to Plexiglas window guards, essentially protective sheets that, when vandalized, can be peeled off and replaced much more cheaply than replacing the entire glass window.

That's a separate, three-year contract with Transit Products & Services. Three companies bid on the contract.

A local company will likely get the contract to do the repairs on the buses and fire vehicles, all of which are done at the BBB maintenance yard, which has the facilities to do repairs on the large, heavy vehicles.

Grigsby's Santa Monica bid in at $280,000 for a three-year contract that includes two optional one-year extensions. Services include "bumper to bumper" preventative maintenance and pick up and delivery of the vehicles, which should free up staff to stay at their posts.

A separate company, Bus Systems Unlimited, is being recommended to keep the air conditioning systems in the buses working properly.

That contract, worth $450,000 for a three-year term, went to Bus Systems after only one other company put in a bid for the work.

The BBB system also requested $160,000 for cleaning tanks to the Ipax company for cleaning tanks to wash off parts removed from buses while they're being serviced.

The non-hazardous, water-based cleaning systems reduce the time needed for repair and allow the BBB to safely fix the bus components, according to the staff report.

BBB FACILITIES

It's not enough to keep the buses up and running if BBB administration has no place to take care of the day-to-day operations of the multi-jurisdictional bus lines.

The council is expected to approve $156,262 to repair the roof on the BBB administration building on the 1600 block of Seventh Street.

Although the Public Works department originally thought that the building would only need a patch job, the tar-and-gravel-based roof there now will be replaced with a more durable PVC membrane roofing system.

Four companies bid on the project, with Eberhard bidding nearly $55,000 lower than the highest bidder.

While those and other repairs to the BBB building are underway, City Hall will extend a contract with Design Space Modular for temporary trailers for staff to work in.

The council originally approved $253,000 for the trailers, but the project is now expected to take four months longer than anyone planned because, after demolishing the inside of the building, staff found holes cut into steel beams, major plumbing problems and a great deal of the interior framing that needed to be brought up to fire and building code.

The repairs can only be made after detailed drawings are done and submitted to plan check, and in the mean time, City Hall will need to spend another $56,800 on trailer rentals until the work is done.

PRINTING SERVICES

Time tables and route information are critical to users of the BBB system, and can be found at over 75 businesses, six kiosks, many community spaces and any of the 200 buses that make up the public transit system.

Staff recommended that the Pacific Graphics company get the $400,000, four-year contract to do the printing and delivery of all of those pamphlets. Pacific Graphics beat out six other companies for the deal.

Approximately 900,000 are printed and distributed each quarter.

By law, City Hall must also contract with a local newspaper to print not only notices of bids for contracts, but also information about public meetings.

Staff chose the Santa Monica Daily Press for a $60,000 contract for the next fiscal year to print those notices. The selection was made on the basis of the paper's circulation, percentage of local news carried and reputation.

IT'S ALL ABOUT PARKING

Parking is a perpetual conundrum in Santa Monica as City Hall tries to craft policy to both provide parking for the millions of tourists that provide much-needed income to the local economy as well as to pursue its goal of being a sustainable, no new net trip municipality.

To further the goals of convenience, city staff recommends that $50,000 go to the Sentry Control Systems company to finish work on an automated parking system recommended by the 2009 Walker Parking study.

There are 12 off-site public parking structures in the Civic Center and Downtown areas of Santa Monica, many of which are in the process of being converted to all-auto-

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CONSENT
FROM PAGE 6

mated pay systems.

The $50,000 would pay for those machines to be covered, which protects them from the rain, and for integration with the BBB pass system so that monthly parkers can have a combined bus pass.

The City Council asked staff to make that happen in March as part of the Downtown Interim Parking Plan, which is supposed to make life easier on monthly parkers as several parking structures get shut down as a result of proposed construction in the Civic Center and Downtown areas.

Most parking structures in city limits are run by Central Parking System, a company which has a contract with City Hall through 2012. Staff recommend a $284,077 increase in that contract to include management services for the Civic Center lot, Parking Structure 10 and the mid-town parking lots.

Lot 5, near Virginia Avenue Park, would also have a formalized bike valet service, which at the moment is a trial project paid for by Proposition C money.

In further keeping with the Walker Parking study, City Hall will likely spend $75,000 with the Nelson Nygaard planning company to study in-lieu parking fees.

Those fees, which businesses in the Bayside Business District pay rather than provide parking on-site, are used for parking improvements throughout the city. The $1.50/square foot fee hasn't been changed since the program was started in 1986.

PALISADES GARDEN WALK

The creation of the $46.1 million park will finally get under way with a $913,000 contract with American Landscape Inc. for demolition, tree removal and tree relocating for the project site if the City Council signs off on this item.

Site preparation includes getting rid of all of the existing concrete, light poles and other features, as well as getting the area ready for the 55,000 cubic yards of dirt from a nearby construction site that will be used to build the four hills included in the park design.

That work will save City Hall approximately $2.8 million through the course of the project, according to the staff report.

Also included is the relocation of 58 trees, including three, intertwined ficus' known as the Three Amigos, and the removal of several trees that are in poor health.

American Landscape Inc.'s bid came in $500,000 cheaper than the other bidder, Environmental Tree & Design.

MARKETING SERVICES

The Annenberg Community Beach House has been up and running for two years now, and it hopes to become a destination for television filming, movie filming and photo shoots as well as other private events.

Hospitality Atelier, a business development and marketing consultant, has worked with the Beach House staff for those two years, and staff recommend extending the contract with the company for another year, ending June 30, 2012, for an extra $45,625.

Staff credit Hospitality Atelier with a 57 percent increase in revenues in the past fiscal year.

The company will focus on reaching out to local businesses.

ACCESSORIZING

First it was just food that came on trucks, but now could be work boots and other safety accessories.

If the City Council approves, an on-site mobile shoe store will be available at various locations in the city so that employees and construction workers that are working on city projects will have access to government-approved safety shoes and boots.

It could cost City Hall $260,000 to pay Lehigh Outfitters, LLC to make these products available.

CONTRACT MONITORING

City Hall relies on the Comprehensive Housing Services company to monitor its affordable housing program to make sure it meets prevailing wage laws.

Prevailing wage is an hourly wage, as well as benefits and overtime, paid to workers on government jobs. It's based on wages in the geographic location where the work is being done.

In 2009, the City Council put $175,000 toward monitoring services, but that money is expected to run out within a month. With a great deal more construction to begin in the near future, staff recommended that an additional $120,000 be put up for future monitoring.

Of the five companies that bid on the project, CHS had one of the lowest bids, but a great deal more experience working with City Hall.

AIRPORT LANDING FEE PROGRAM

Airport officials recommend to the City Council to extend a contract with Vector Airport Solution for airport operations, data management, reports, billing and collections.

VAS already performs these services for 21 percent of receipts, which is capped at $100,000 per year. It assesses these fees against non-based aircraft, which pay $2.07 for every 1,000 pounds of gross landing weight.

According to the staff report, the company has better technology than Santa Monica Airport to track and capture aircraft that land, which increases the fees paid to the airport.

ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION

The Office of Sustainability and the Environment identified another $674,410 to finish three environmental support projects for the Olympic Well Field, the second largest local source of water for Santa Monicans.

City Hall is obligated by a recent settlement with Proctor and Gamble to monitor the quality of the water at Olympic Well Field, work which will be folded into an existing contract with ICF International, a California-based company that does ground water remediation at the City Corporate Yard site.

There are, however, two other wrinkles in the plan.

Two of the monitoring sites lie within the Expo Light Rail line right of way, and may need to be abandoned and relocated.

Additionally, City Hall is continuing to look for other parties that could be responsible for the chemical contamination that forced City Hall to buy water from the Metropolitan Water District while a treatment plant was constructed.

Should the council approve the change, $401,906 will go toward the extra monitoring, $116,678 will pay for finding new monitoring sites and another $155,826 will be spent on investigating other sources of pollution.

PEST CONTROL

Rodents, flies, cockroaches, oh my!

The City Council will have the opportunity to approve a $300,000 contract for integrated pest management services to continue a program begun in 1996 to get rid of pests while reducing the amount of harmful chemicals used.

The work has gone through an informal bid process up to now because the dollar amount hasn't necessitated council action, but the three-year contract had to go through the entire bidding process.

Innovative Pest Management came in with the lowest bid out of five companies to provide services to 32 public buildings.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE PROPOSED BIENNIAL BUDGET
FOR FY2011-13 AND ADOPTION OF GANN RESOLUTION

The City Council, Housing Authority, Redevelopment Agency and Parking Authority of the City of Santa Monica will hold a public budget hearing on June 21, 2011. The council meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California. All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the City's entire proposed budget. At the meeting on June 21st, the City Council will also adopt a resolution for the determination of the GANN Appropriation limit for fiscal year 2011-12. A copy of the documentation used in calculating the limit is presented in the FY2011-13 Proposed Biennial Budget.

The entire proposed City Budget can be inspected by the public in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or viewed on the Internet at www.smgov.net. City Hall is open from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10th. City Hall is closed on Friday, June 3rd and June 17th. Copies of the proposed FY2011-13 Biennial City Budget are also available to view at the City's Main Library located at 601 Santa Monica Boulevard and branch libraries at 1704 Montana Avenue, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard and 2601 Main Street.



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OSBORN

FROM PAGE 1

Councilman Bill Rosendahl and former state Sen. Sheila Kuehl in supporting Osborn, the former head of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center. She served as a senior advisor on homelessness and poverty to Villaraigosa.

Brownley introduced Osborn to a crowd of more than 200 supporters as a "seasoned candidate" with more than 40 years of experience working for social justice.

"I know a leader when I see one, and Torie Osborn is the kind of leader that this district needs," Brownley said. "She represents the values that we all care about, and — when Torie begins to express her passion about the possibilities for California's future — she engages you, she inspires you, and you know that you are witnessing something very special."

Osborn's main opponent is Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom, a fellow Democrat.

Bloom said he was disappointed to learn of Brownley's decision but it wasn't surprising to him given Kuehl's support for Brownley during her first run for the Assembly.

Even so, Bloom said he is confident his record will resonate with voters. He has dedicated himself to solving the homeless problem and protecting the environment during his 12 years on the City Council.

"I think what is important to people are accomplishments," Bloom said. "I've shown that I can get things done when it comes to issues that are important to the residents and voters in this area. Whether it's the environment or issues like homelessness and education, or one of the most important things, which is balancing a budget, those are things I have not just been successful in, but have excelled at."



Photo courtesy Torie Osborn

OSBORN AND BROWNLEY

The two candidates from either party to earn the most votes in the June 2012 primary will face off in the November general election.

The event Sunday raised roughly $40,000 for Osborn, who said she is on track to raise at least $250,000 by the June 30 filing deadline.

Osborn said her priorities if elected will be increasing funding for education, protecting the environment and helping more people afford quality health care. She supports raising taxes to achieve those goals.

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ROUNDUP
FROM PAGE 3

Male Athlete Norm Lacy Award, named for the late longtime athletic director who passed away last year.

Teammate Eric Barber also earned a special designation. He won the school's Morgan McKinzie Award and was selected to receive the Ford All-CIF Male Athlete of the Year Academic Award.

The team as a whole was ranked in the top three of the Ford All-CIF Academic Awards Program as well.

XRDS V-BALL PLAYERS MAKE ALL-LEAGUE

Crossroads' boys' volleyball team isn't the only Santa Monica-based team to receive all-league honors.

The Roadrunners placed four players on the All-Alpha League team.

The first team includes Jake Hurwitz and Taylor Moldo. The second team is highlighted by Milo Charney-Rosen and Aaron Lipp.

The awards cap a successful season for Xrds that saw the Roadrunners reach the quarter-finals of the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 playoffs where they lost to eventual runner-up San Gabriel, which was defeated by Samohi in the final.

daniela@smdp.com

PRICES
FROM PAGE 3

buyer tax credit. Homebuyers had charged the market last May to cash in on the incentive before it disappeared.

"A year ago we were talking about sales reaching a four-year high," Walsh said. "Now sales are stuck at a three-year low. The government stimulus is long gone and some of the fundamental drivers of housing demand have yet to strengthen enough to lift sales to even average levels."

Weak job growth and concern among potential buyers that prices had not yet bottomed out were also putting a drag on the market, Walsh said.

Richard Green, who directs the University of Southern California's Lusk Center for Real Estate, said sales were being depressed by the apparent scarcity of financing for mid-to-high-priced homes.

Transactions below $200,000 made up 30.6 percent of last month's deals, up from 26.8 percent a year earlier, while sales between $300,000 and $800,000 accounted for 38.9 percent of all deals, down from 44.4 percent a year earlier, DataQuick said.

The higher-end sales were being held up because banks remained reluctant to extend loans that are too high to be resold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the government-supported companies that buy home loans from lenders and package them into bonds with a guarantee against default, Green said.

"The less expensive housing is selling," he said. "But everything else is just sitting there."

More than half of the existing homes sold came from distressed property sales, DataQuick said.

Foreclosures accounted for 33.4 percent of last month's sales, down slightly from 33.8 percent in April and 33.9 percent a year earlier.

Short-sale transactions, in which lenders allow distressed homes to be sold for less than what is owed on them, accounted for 18 percent of existing home sales. That was up from 17.1 percent in May but down from 20.1 percent a year earlier.

Bob Hamidi, an Orange County-based real estate agent, said he's been seeing more business than DataQuick's numbers suggest. But he said he'd be selling more homes — and at higher prices — if banks were more willing to lend.

"It's mostly the difficulty of getting financing that has kept sales and prices down," Hamidi said.

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Corporate buyout deals give stock market a lift

CHIP CUTTER
DAVID K. RANDALL
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK A new round of corporate deals nudged stock indexes higher Monday, although concerns over Greece's debt led some investors to the safety of government bonds.

Wendy's/Arby's Group Inc. rose 2 percent after the company said it would sell control of its Arby's restaurant business to a private equity firm that owns several other quick-service franchises, including Moe's Southwest Grill and Auntie Anne's. Clothing maker VF Corp., whose brands include Wrangler and The North Face, jumped nearly 10 percent after agreeing to buy the boot maker Timberland for more than $2.2 billion.

When big companies use their cash to make an acquisition, it shows that they think there are values in the market, said Ryan Detrick, senior technical strategist at Schaeffer's Investment Research.

"That's a good sign of confidence when we desperately need some," Detrick said.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 41 points, or 0.4 percent, to 11,993 in afternoon trading. The Standard and Poor's 500 added 5, or 0.4 percent, to 1,275. The Nasdaq composite rose 5, or 0.2 percent, to 2,649.

All three indexes are down more than 4 percent over the last month because of concerns that the U.S. economy is stalling. Stocks have fallen since late April following dismal reports on the housing market, manufacturing and jobs. On Friday, the Dow fell below 12,000 for the first time since March.

The Dow average and the S&P 500 have closed higher only one day so far in June, last Thursday, on news that U.S. exports hit a record in April. The Nasdaq has closed higher only twice this month.

Stocks rose broadly on Monday. Materials and energy companies were the only two of the 10 industry groups in the S&P index to lose ground. Energy companies like Chevron Corp, which lost 0.9 percent, fell after crude oil dipped to nearly $97 a barrel.

Among U.S. corporations, Forest Laboratories Inc. rose 2 percent after the drugmaker said a fund affiliated with billionaire investor Carl Icahn plans to nominate four directors to the company's board. And electronics retailer Best Buy Co., grocer Kroger Co. and BlackBerry maker Research in Motion Ltd. will release earnings later in the week.

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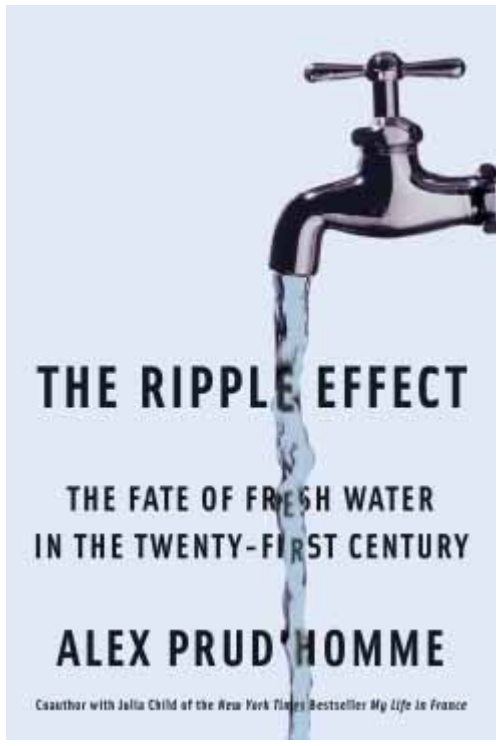
BOOK REVIEW

Shortages of fresh water seen as emerging threat

JERRY HARKAVY
For The Associated Press

Even as motorists fret about the cost of gasoline, a rising chorus of jeremiads warns that shortages of freshwater, not oil, will trigger the most pressing challenges of the 21st century.

A spate of books and articles has laid out possible scenarios in which population growth, pollution and mismanagement will lead to a scarcity of water in some regions. The idea that large population centers such as Phoenix and Las Vegas could be rendered uninhabitable may no longer be the stuff of apocalyptic fiction.



Alex Prud'homme, co-author with his great-aunt Julia Child of "My Life in France," makes a thoughtful and compelling case in "The Ripple Effect: The Fate of Fresh Water in the Twenty-first Century" that policymakers and average citizens should pay more attention to the precious but undervalued commodity that flows from their taps. Future wars, he suggests, may be fought over water.

This comprehensive account, reflecting exhaustive research that took Prud'homme across the country, contains a series of dramatic stories and colorful characters that highlights the degradation of the nation's once pure and abundant waters.

The book begins with the 2005 murder of a 43-year-old Ph.D. hydrochemist and mother of three whose body was recovered from the bottom of a 35-foot concrete tank at a water purification plant in northern New Jersey. The unsolved mystery serves as an introduction to the various ways in which our water supply can be contaminated.

Prud'homme segues into the sad history of some of America's most chemically befouled waters, including Newtown Creek in the New York borough of Brooklyn and the Housatonic River in Pittsfield, Mass., before detailing the impact of agribusiness-related pollution in Wisconsin and the Chesapeake Bay region.

He descends 580 feet below midtown Manhattan for a fascinating report on construction progress on a 9-mile-long tunnel that was planned more than 50 years ago to meet New York's demand for water. It's now set for completion in 2020 at an estimated cost of $6 billion.

Population growth is sure to contribute to future water scarcity, particularly in the fast-growing Southwest. Another factor is climate change, as rising temperatures result in more frequent floods and droughts. Because the biggest users of water are irrigated agriculture and power generation, the effects go well beyond the trickle from household taps.

Prud'homme sees Phoenix "as a kind of experiment in extreme living, like a dress rehearsal for life on Mars, or perhaps for a future America beset by regions of extreme heat and dryness." Las Vegas "could be relinquished to the dust, heat and tumbleweeds."

Other issues include privatization of water supplies, exemplified by the efforts of former oil wildcatter T. Boone Pickens to suck up rights to groundwater that can be sold to thirsty cities across Texas.

The book also examines bottled water, a "cultural phenomenon" embraced by tens of millions of Americans despite an exponentially higher cost than tap water and the questionable effect of the bottles and the fuel required to transport them.

Amid the gloom and doom, water managers are seeking drought-proof supplies of freshwater, or what Prud'homme calls "the hydrologic Holy Grail." One idea is to modify the weather by seeding clouds with dry ice particles, a technique still unproven. More realistic, perhaps, is desalination of seawater, a method used in Saudi Arabia that requires large quantities of energy.

The more ambitious visions include "Flipping the Mississippi" to divert water from the nation's amply supplied midsection to the thirsty West. But the author deems such ideas as unrealistic, preferring solutions that work with nature rather than disrupt its balance.

Examples of wise water management include Singapore, which controls demand through high water taxes, efficient technologies and constant reminders about the need to conserve. A gold star also goes to Intel, whose water-efficient semiconductor fabrication plant in the Arizona desert has become a model for industrial conservation.

"The Ripple Effect" offers a balanced and insightful assessment of what could emerge as the dominant issue in decades ahead. Anyone seeking a deeper understanding of the threat to what the author calls "the most valuable resource on earth" would do well to heed his message.

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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City of Santa Monica



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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast

Our next southern hemi swell is due, running chest max at most west facing breaks. NW wind swell looks nil, so once again knee high at west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Southerly swell build throughout the day, starting out chest high, then head high late in the afternoon at south facing breaks.

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 **June 8, 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 -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 27 / 8
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

LEGAL NEWS

Former big leaguer Dykstra pleads not guilty in bankruptcy case

GREG RISLING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Former New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Lenny Dykstra pleaded not guilty Monday in a federal case where he's accused of embezzling money from a bankruptcy estate.

An out-of-sorts Dykstra appeared in a Los Angeles federal courtroom where he entered his plea while flanked by a new attorney, a deputy federal public defender. His previous lawyer, Mark Werksman, wouldn't comment about why he no longer represented Dykstra, but noted a judge has declared the one-time baseball star indigent.

Federal prosecutors contend Dykstra, 48, sold or destroyed more than $400,000 worth of items from an $18.5 million mansion without permission of a bankruptcy trustee.

When U.S. Magistrate Judge John McDermott asked Dykstra if he understood the charges, the ex-big leaguer gave an incoherent response.

"I don't understand it, but I understand them," said Dykstra, who appeared dazed.

If convicted of all counts, Dykstra faces a maximum of 80 years in prison. A trial date is scheduled for Aug. 9.

Dykstra is being held in the Los Angeles County Jail after state prosecutors filed grand theft auto and drug possession charges against him and two men.

He was charged with 25 misdemeanor and felony counts of grand theft auto, attempted grand theft auto, identity theft and other crimes.

Prosecutors contend the three men tried to lease luxury cars from dealers this year by providing false information and claiming credit through a phony business called Home Free Systems.

Police who arrested Dykstra last month said they found cocaine, Ecstasy and the synthetic human growth hormone Somatropin at his San Fernando Valley home.

He faces up to 12 years in state prison if convicted on those charges. He is scheduled to be arraigned in the state case Thursday.

Dykstra, who bought a Ventura County mansion once owned by hockey star Wayne Gretzky, filed for bankruptcy two years ago, claiming he owed more than $31 million and had only $50,000 in assets.

Dykstra spent 12 years in the big leagues and helped the Mets to the World Series championship in 1986. He was a three-time All-Star in the 1990s while with the Phillies.

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MOVIE TIMES

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(310) 260-1528

Call theater for information.

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

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Empire of Silver (Baiyin diguo) (NR) 1hr 52min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
12:40pm, 3:40pm, 6:40pm, 9:40pm

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

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
12:00pm, 2:35pm, 5:20pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:25pm

Super 8 (PG-13) 1hr 52min
10:50am, 12:40pm, 1:45pm, 3:35pm, 4:35pm, 6:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:25pm, 10:10pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
11:45am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:35pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
10:45am, 1:40pm, 4:40pm, 7:35pm, 10:30pm

Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

Incendies (R) 2hrs 10min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

First Grader (NR) 1hr 45min
1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Midnight in Paris (PG-13) 1hr 28min
1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:20pm, 4:30pm, 5:40pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm

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

Thor (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:10am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) 1hr 31min
11:00am, 1:20pm, 3:40pm, 6:00pm, 8:15pm, 10:30pm

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
12:20pm, 4:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:20pm

Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (PG) 1hr 31min
11:05am, 1:35pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 9:35pm

Cave of Forgotten Dreams 3D (G) 1hr 30min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

File Photo

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.

Take some personal time, Cappy

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for more information. Your willingness to forge ahead will make a considerable difference. You see a new path quite suddenly. A smile helps encourage others to find the right way. Tonight: Allow your mind to roam.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Deal with others directly. You might not be able to tolerate someone entering your personal realm. Listen to what is going on behind the scenes. Extremes seem to keep you juggling different concerns. Remain centered, and head in the right direction. Tonight: Visit over dinner.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Listen to news with a touch of cynicism. Allow greater give-and-take in your relationships. A child or loved one could be overly serious and want his or her way. You can try to help this person see the rainbow of possibilities like you do. Tonight: Listen to offers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You might want to juggle different interests more carefully. A boss might surprise you in the most unexpected manner. A tendency to overindulge comes out -- that is one of your prevalent characteristics under stress. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your enormous creativity remains key in nearly all areas of your life. A child or loved one might need more attention, and lets you know it. How do you indulge his or her need but not reward demanding behavior? Know when you have had enough. Tonight: Be playful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ If you can stay close to home, please do. You could be very tired and dragging. An element of surprise surrounds financial dealings and perhaps a partnership. Know that there is very little you cannot do. Just ride out the moment. Tonight: Happy at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep communication flowing. You might be taken aback by someone's views. Take good care of your health. Stop kidding yourself about how you feel. A family matter could drag you down. Tonight: Catch up on someone's news.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Curb a need to have others do what you want. Often, you might have difficulty letting go of control. Know that you can only control yourself. Communication could be stagnant at times. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your spunk characterizes much that goes on. How you see a changeable situation could vary with your mood. A meeting takes on unusual significance. Let go of a need to have control or have things happen your way. Tonight: Celebrating living.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might not realize how blue or quiet you are. Others react and tend to push hard to have a situation fall as they might want. Let go for now. Take a walk to reduce stress, knowing full well where you are heading and why. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Focus on friends and getting together. A meeting might hold more of a social significance than the reason it has been formally called for. You might be obsessing over a conversation or issue. Let go, if you can. Tonight: Follow your friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You could be in a situation where you need to take action. Don't sell yourself short. You will be on top of a professional or community issue before you know it. Relax, but be willing to accept more responsibility. Take a stand if need be. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you see life from a more vital and dynamic perspective. You will attract people who might want to harness your energy and power. The issue will be how to effectively deal with a power play or control game. The only way to win is not to play. If you are single, you discover the importance of having a vital bond. Use caution with those you attract. Often, people put on a strong act to mask vulnerability. If you are attached, the two of you need to respect your differences. The bond will gain strength, veracity and empathy as a result. SAGITTARIUS often can be challenging.

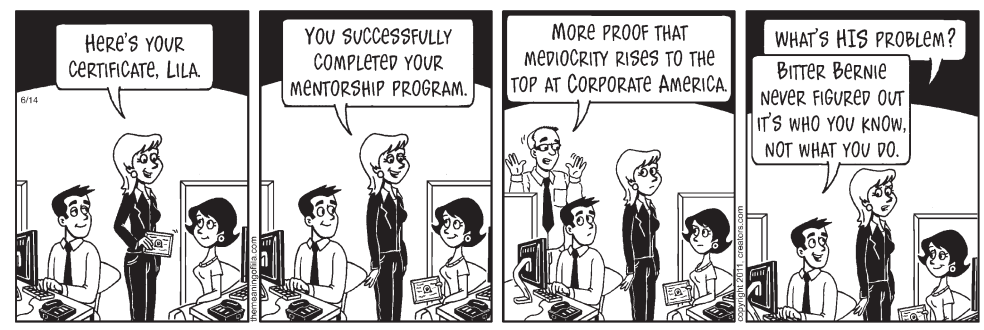
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Irish county
7 Charity affair
11 One-celled organism
12 Brewpub choices
13 Semaphore pennants
15 Immune system component
16 Ship wood
18 "Clumsy me!"
21 Printed matter
22 Straw hat
24 Make a choice
25 Purr producer
26 Tear
27 Pilot
29 Cairo's river
30 Apply plaster
31 Romantic flower
32 Subject
34 Jolly Rogers
40 Clickable picture
41 Female grad
42 Nice guy
43 Maintain

DOWN

1 Xenon, for one
2 Paris pal
3 Firewood unit
4 Attacked
5 By surprise
6 Bulldog's home
7 Milk buy
8 In the style of
9 Trip segment
10 Cart puller
14 Parade sight
16 Lukewarm
17 Superfluous
19 Louvre setting
20 Mona Lisa feature
21 Grind — halt
22 Frying need
23 Big galoot
25 Explorer John
28 Genetic oddity
29 "I'm stumped"
31 Hunting weapon
33 High point
34 Porker
35 Drink cubes
36 Director Howard
37 Guitar blaster
38 African grazer
39 Easy mark

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

6-14

ARITHMO™

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– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

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

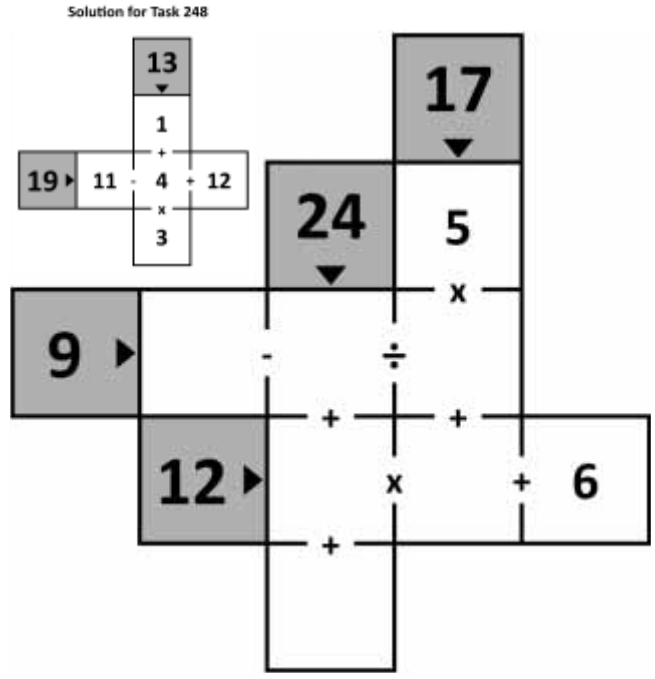
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

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

2, 3, 3, 9, 12, 12

Solution for Task 248



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 18 21 27 37 38 Meganumber: 7 Jackpot: $42M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 24 27 34 36 Meganumber: 17 Jackpot: $3M

Fantasy 5: 9 26 27 32 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 4 4 EVENING: 4 6 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 01 Gold Rush 2nd: 10 Solid Gold 3rd: 12 Lucky Charms RACE TIME: 1:41.47

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

■ News of the Weird has reported several times on the confusion many art gallery visitors reveal in evaluating "abstract impressionist" pieces when they compare them to random scribblings of toddlers (and animals, such as chimpanzees and elephants). In April, academic researchers at Boston College reported that, indeed, gallery patrons correctly differentiated serious works from squiggles only about 60 percent to 70 percent of the time. Commented one survey subject, apparently realizing his confusion: "The chimpanzee's stuff is good. I like how he plays with metaphors about depth of field, but I think I like this guy (Mark) Rothko a little bit better."

■ The powerful suction of swimming pool filters can trap not only toddlers against the drain but a grown man in excellent physical condition, according to a lawsuit filed in May by the family of the late John Hoy Jr., who drowned when unable to pry himself loose from the vacuum drain of a hot tub at the Sandals resort in Nassau, Bahamas, in 2010. (The most notorious drain-pegging of all time was perhaps a 1994 incident at a Scottish Inn motel in Lakeland, Fla., when a 33-year-old guest's penis became stuck in the drain, apparently as he was testing the filter's suction. That story did not appear in News of the Weird, but several sources cite a July 1994 story in the Sarasota Herald Tribune.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1951 UNIVAC I is dedicated by the U.S. Census Bureau.

1952 The keel is laid for the nuclear submarine USS Nautilus.

1954 U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a bill into law that places the words "under God" into the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance.

1955 Chile becomes a signatory to the Buenos Aires copyright treaty.

WORD UP!

cosher
\KOSH-er\ , verb;
1. To treat with special fondness.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
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North of Montana	=	$3,495,000	$1,384,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,995,000	$799,000
South of Wilshire	=	$699,000	$485,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,099,000	$534,500
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