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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2009
Volume 8 Issue 192

Santa Monica Daily Press



ARTISTIC MESSAGE
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE FOR A GOOD CAUSE ISSUE

Job cuts to hinder economic recovery

JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES California's economic recovery will be stymied by massive state work force cuts that could boost the unemployment rate to more than 12 percent and restrain growth even after housing markets stabilize, according to an economic forecast released Tuesday.

The quarterly Anderson Forecast from the University of California, Los Angeles predicted that 60,000 government positions would be eliminated as lawmakers try to reduce the state's $24.3 billion deficit, making tepid growth likely until early 2011.

The jobs would be culled from public education, health care and other sectors that receive state funding, Anderson Forecast senior economist Jerry Nickelsburg said.

An economic recovery "will be held back by a rising tide of former state employees conserving their spending while they seek work in the private sector," Nickelsburg said in the report. "The impact, which will be felt in the coming year, is decidedly negative and will retard economic growth in 2010."

The forecast said the construction and retail sectors will continue shedding jobs, and the state's unemployment rate would reach a high of 12.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2010. Unemployment will not dip back into the single digits until late 2011, the report said.

The state's unemployment rate was 11 percent in April, the last month for which Employment Development Department statistics were available.

"The stalled California economy is simply not producing the jobs required for the new entrants to the labor force over the next

SEE JOBS PAGE 9



Photo courtesy Mark Steines

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK: **Dr. Bob Hamilton, who lives in Santa Monica, treats a young boy during a visit to Sierra Leone in April. Hamilton, along with the Lighthouse Medical Mission, visits villages and cities in Africa to provide critical medical care to those less fortunate.**



Photo courtesy Mark Steines

ASSISTING: **Santa Monican Dr. Bob Hamilton talks with a man about the health of the small child in their arms during a humanitarian mission to Sierra Leone in April. Hamilton arranges trips to parts of Africa, along with the Lighthouse Medical Mission, to provide treatment to those in need.**

Local doctor organizes Walk to Africa event

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SIERRA LEONE A trying week had just ended and Dr. Robert Hamilton was ready to go home.

The trip to Sierra Leone had been an overwhelming experience to the small team of volunteer American doctors and nurses led by the Santa Monica pediatrician to the war-torn country, fully expecting devastation following a more than decade long civil conflict but nevertheless surprised by the level of poverty and illnesses among its citizens.

After closing the clinic and seeing the last of more than 1,000 patients who came to seek the Lighthouse Medical Mission, Hamilton got in a taxi to head to the airport, stopped by a woman who began desperately pounding on the window, lifting her child and pointing to a large abscess on their leg.

"I looked at this and thought oh my gosh," Hamilton recalls of his first trip to Sierra Leone in 2001. "The airplane was going and I had to leave the country.

"I felt so impotent at that moment to do anything."

The moment stuck with Hamilton over the years and gave him reason to return to the small African country, serving as motivation to help cure a nation that for about 11 years suffered through a civil war that left more than 50,000 people dead.

"The children all had fevers, the kids all had worms because of the infrastructure," he said. "There was no fresh water, no medical care, nothing."

The Lighthouse Medical Missions, which is affiliated with the Lighthouse Church on 20th Street and Wilshire Boulevard, has since taken eight trips to Sierra Leone, most recently in April with a team of about 50 doctors and non-medical staff, almost all of whom were volunteers and paid their own air fare. The doctors have been to Liberia, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

A trip to The Gambia, a small nation in Western Africa, is planned for October and a team will be dispatched to Sierra Leone next year.

To pay for the two trips, each of which costs about $50,000, the Lighthouse Medical Missions will hold its inaugural Walk to Africa fundraiser on June 27, asking participants to walk an 8-mile-route around Santa Monica starting at Crescent Bay Park.

Hamilton said he expects about 1,000 people to turn out for the event, which will feature celebrity appearances, including Lamar Odom from the Los Angeles Lakers.

"We're doing a very healthy inspirational good green event that is going to benefit a country," he said. "I think we have all the elements for a wonderful event."

Aside from providing medical attention, the Lighthouse team has also built schools and constructed water projects, hoping to rebuild the infrastructure. They also offer religious services.

Dr. Albert Phillips of Saint John's Health Center has been to Sierra Leone four times, having previously went on medical missions to Central America with Hamilton years before.

He practices medicine differently than in the United States because there are fewer resources available and the diseases are typically further advanced.

SEE WALK PAGE 8


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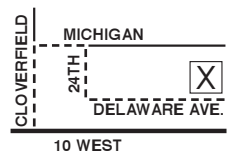
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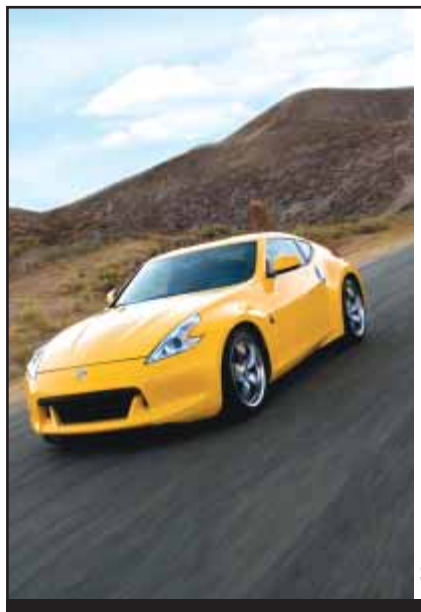
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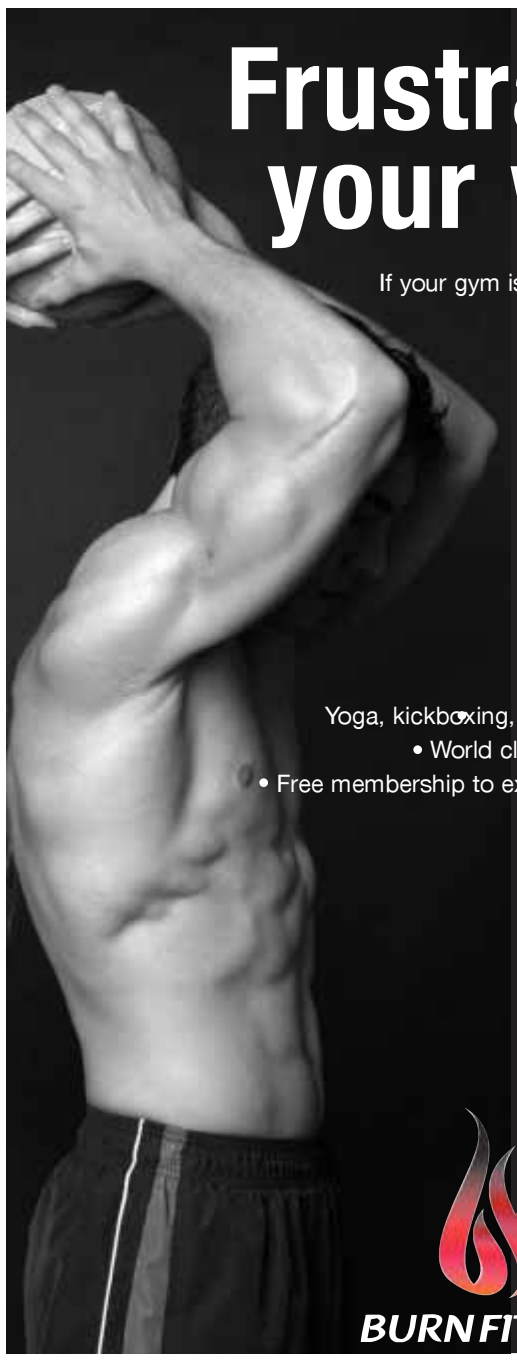
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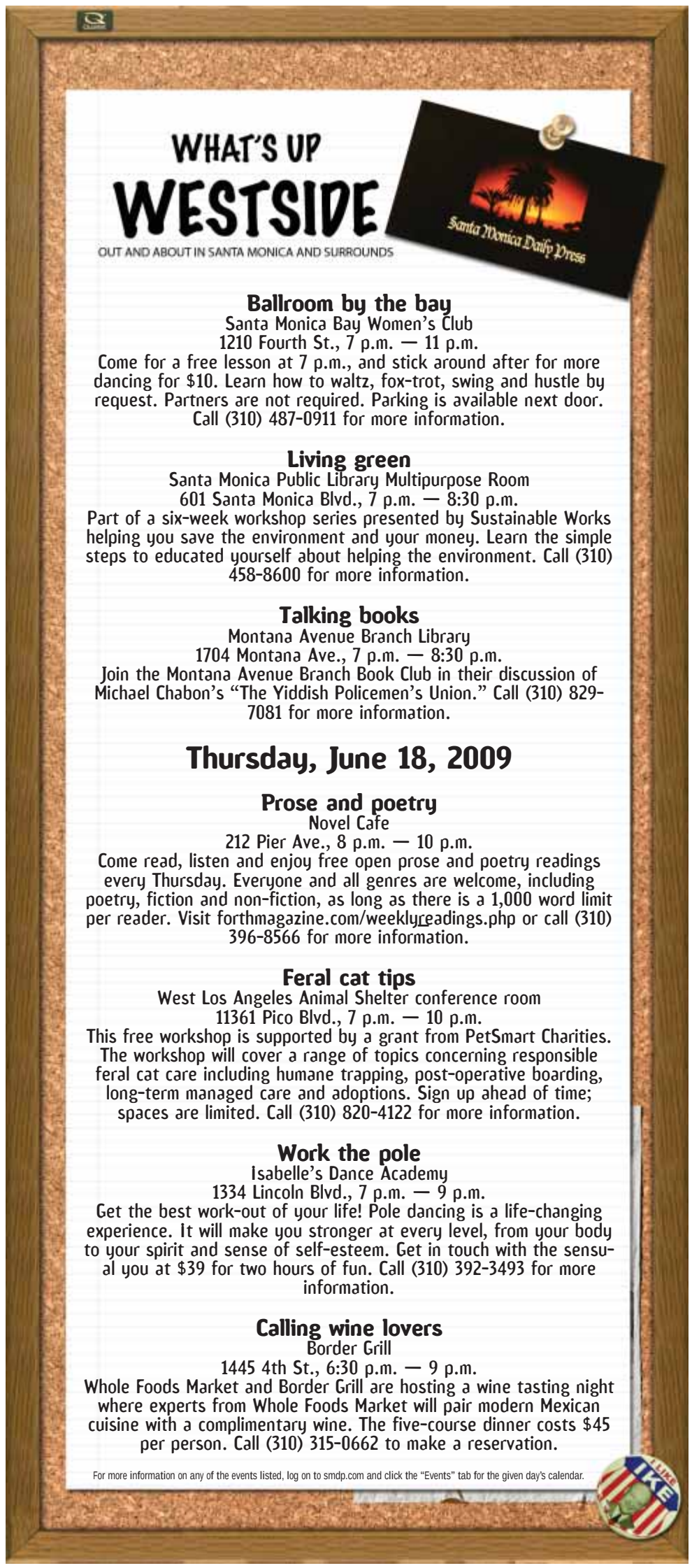
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Living green
Santa Monica Public Library Multipurpose Room
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Part of a six-week workshop series presented by Sustainable Works helping you save the environment and your money. Learn the simple steps to educated yourself about helping the environment. Call (310) 458-8600 for more information.

Talking books
Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Join the Montana Avenue Branch Book Club in their discussion of Michael Chabon's "The Yiddish Policemen's Union." Call (310) 829-7081 for more information.

Thursday, June 18, 2009

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

Feral cat tips
West Los Angeles Animal Shelter conference room
11361 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m. — 10 p.m.
This free workshop is supported by a grant from PetSmart Charities. The workshop will cover a range of topics concerning responsible feral cat care including humane trapping, post-operative boarding, long-term managed care and adoptions. Sign up ahead of time; spaces are limited. Call (310) 820-4122 for more information.

Work the pole
Isabelle's Dance Academy
1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
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Calling wine lovers
Border Grill
1445 4th St., 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Whole Foods Market and Border Grill are hosting a wine tasting night where experts from Whole Foods Market will pair modern Mexican cuisine with a complimentary wine. The five-course dinner costs $45 per person. Call (310) 315-0662 to make a reservation.

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.

Mixed emotions on gay marriage anniversary

JARED GRIGSBY
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Jonathan Abernethy-Deppe vividly remembers the excitement he and his longtime partner felt standing in line at City Hall a year ago, shortly after California began granting marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

The pair walked into a bustling scene at the clerk's office in June 2008, greeted by other happy couples and county workers implementing a state Supreme Court ruling that overturned California's gay marriage ban. The first same-sex nuptials in the state took place one year ago Tuesday.

"It was celebrated by not only the same-sex community but the whole community," said Abernethy-Deppe, who held an intimate wedding a month later with his now-husband David.

But the Abernethy-Deppes say their upcoming anniversary won't be nearly as jubilant.

A new voter-approved gay marriage ban has since passed. And last month the same Supreme Court upheld Proposition 8 — which amended the constitution to limit marriage to a man and a woman — while allowing the estimated 18,000 same-sex marriages that took place from June to November of last year to stand.

Abernethy-Deppe said that's put him and his husband in the uncomfortable position of celebrating a right that many of their friends don't have.

"We have a debate between us about whether or not we should even accept the benefits that we have from our marriage as long as there are people being discriminated against," he said.

While his husband would rather opt out of the benefits for now, Abernethy-Deppe wants to "take advantage of every benefit and push it to its farthest extent and prove that same-sex marriage is a benefit to society."

Tom Felkner and his husband, Bob Lehman, said they're equally ambivalent about their upcoming anniversary.

"Had we not have lost Prop. 8, I think there would be a lot more celebrating on the one-year anniversary," Felkner said. "Unfortunately, all of our energies have gone

SEE MARRIAGE PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

RECOGNIZING ARTISTIC TALENT: **Grand prize winner Lauren Fleck is congratulated by Councilman Richard Bloom for winning the 'Smoking Doesn't Belong Here' art contest at Grant Elementary on Tuesday afternoon. Students throughout the local school district were asked to create a poster about the no smoking law, with the winner's work being featured on Big Blue Buses.**

Kids tell parents 'just say no'

BY NATALIE JARVEY
Special to the Daily Press

GRANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Usually it's the job of parents to warn their children about the risks of smoking, but for Santa Monica's elementary students the roles have been reversed.

Fifth graders throughout the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District were offered the chance to compete in an art contest to raise awarness about City Hall's recent anti-smoking ordinances.

The winner of the contest was announced Tuesday at Grant Elementary School with the selected artwork displayed on a Big Blue Bus to officially launch the "Smoking Doesn't Belong Here" campaign.

Before announcing the winners, councilmembers Richard Bloom and Kevin McKeown spoke to the students, reminding them about the importance of the city's anti-smoking laws.

"In places where people are smoking in public, we've decided that it's just not OK," Bloom told the attentive young crowd. "You're going to be helping us to let the grownups know what they should be doing in public."

Lauren Fleck, a student at Grant Elementary, won the contest with her drawing of Santa Monica as a smoke-free city.

"I wanted to show what our city looks like and all the best things about it and say not to damage it," Lauren said.

Her drawing was chosen out of 100 submissions from six elementary schools by a panel of judges for her creativity, originality, neatness, written description and adherence to the rules. For winning first place, her design will become part of the city's anti-smoking campaign, appearing on the side of Big Blue Bus transit coaches. Two other students from Grant Elementary, Antonio Lucero and Malana Felix, received honorable mention for their artwork and given plaques and tote bags for their efforts.

All three winners seemed to have taken to heart the theme of no smoking.

"I think [the anti-smoking campaign] is good because smoke really damages a lot beside just the person who's smoking," Lauren said.

Classmate and first-runner-up Malana echoed Lauren, saying that people help the Earth when they don't smoke.

For winning, Lauren's fifth grade class, taught by Shelley Smith, received a $500 donation to go toward the funding of the arts, which Grant Principal Alan Friedenberg said is important to help keep

SEE BBB PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Steps to a balanced budget

Editor:

Ron Lowe seems to be missing the point ("The anti-tax charade," June 12). The problem is not a few Republican hostage takers but the 63 percent majority of Democrats that control both the state Senate and Assembly and will not do what they need to do. Ron, this is a democracy and not a one party system like China and North Korea. The real problem is that the state of California and the U.S. government use the same failed accounting methods. They elect psychics to make projections for future tax receipts, then go spend the money for good causes while putting it on charge cards. What is so complex about the budget?

Step 1 – Determine what was collected in 2007

Step 2 – Make the budget in 2008 based on 2007 collections

Step 3 – Spend only that amount in 2009

Step 4 – Repeat each year

Step 5 – Only create future budgets with collected money

David Alsabery
Santa Monica

Disappointed in Obama

Editor:

Wildlife cannot speak for itself, neither can it vote on political issues that are or should be listed on election agendas. If we lose wildlife and plant species, our planet will suffer more than just not having the animals around to see such as at a zoo or in backyards. I am very distressed that President Obama is not going to protect the polar bear. Doesn't he know that drilling Alaska will not produce enough oil and/or gas for Americans' use? The figures I got from geologists, etc. in 2008 are: America uses 25 percent of the oil that is produced in foreign countries, yet Alaska would produce 3 percent.

It is fruitless to drill for oil and/or gas in Alaska.

Who would want to destroy Alaska by drilling for oil and/or gas? We should do everything we can to save this and other states. The answer obviously is wind and solar power. Coal is not clean. So the removal of mountain tops is also fruitless.

President Obama needs better advisors. I voted for him because I felt he was a president who cared about America and had a genuine interest in moving ahead with wind and solar power as the answer to our energy needs. Solar and wind power is a total win-win situation: no destruction of the wilderness, wind and sunshine are free, animals, plants and insects wouldn't become extinct, and it'd employ a lot of people.

Cheryl Erb
Santa Monica

No reason to be suspect

Editor:

It is disheartening to see such outcry when it comes to true progress in a modern country as our own. Why is it that unless you are a conservative male, upper class and Caucasian, one is to be suspect of your opinion? Judge Sotomayor has not only a stellar work record with profound accomplishments, she is a shining example for the underclass. She gives hope that maybe there is a reason to work hard in this harsh world; maybe some change and opportunity is on the horizon. Why should her pride in her personal heritage be of any threat to anyone? Am I supposed to think that as a Caucasian of a privileged class, everyone wants to be like me or I should be suspicious of them? Next we'll be reinstating witch hunts!

Jayne Pitchford
Santa Monica



Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Live long and propser

This is part one of a two part series

WARNING: THIS ARTICLE MAY CONTAIN scene spoilers

I avidly awaited the latest cinematic offerings of the new "Star Trek" and "Terminator" mythologies. These two films were such a wonderful display of solid conservative values that I was surprised that the progressive plutocrats of planet Hollywood allowed them off the launch pad.

While my naysayers may consider my argument to be the wanton ravings of a man whose brain has been eaten away by Denebian slime devils, please allow me to have a little fun at your discomfiture.

First of all, the new "Star Trek" (aka Star Fleet Academy 90210) has kept all of the best elements of the original 1966 series. You know, hot chicks wearing mini-skirts and go-go boots while killing aliens in outer space. Sounds a lot like Sarah Palin killing polar bears in Alaska, doesn't it? Sorry, though, but I just can't assimilate uber-liberal Oprah Winfrey in Seven of Nine's spandex jumpsuit nor do I believe that she and Rosie O'donnell could fit in the Enterprise's shuttle craft hangar bay without beefing up the rear suspension first.

What has been fascinating for me over the relative space/time continuum has been the multiple reincarnations of the technocratic utopia found in Star Trek's United Federation of Planets. Despite the warm and fuzzy "we-are-all-peaceful-citizens-of-the-universe" motif that has dominated the genre since the mid 1960s, it has always been a source of amusement to me that the crew of the Enterprise invariably engages in atomizing one annoying alien species after another with photon torpedos. This plot device is necessary as it is more exciting blowing up alien bad guys for two hours than it is investigating the paleontological importance of fossilized Cardassian buffalo poop.

Is it an inconvenient truth that the governmental model of the future that creator Gene Roddenberry created as signature backdrop for the future New World Order was the United States Navy?

Nothing ironically speaks to the consensual 23rd century technocratic socialism of illusory hopey-changeyness like the no-nonsense U.S. Navy management model with its top-down primate driven, "Red Alert! All-hands-man-your-battle-stations" attitude. After all, the U.S. military is just so reflectively analogous to the hyper-spaced out hippies of the alternate parallel universe found amongst the xeno-populii inhabiting the Venice Beach extraterrestrial drum circle, wouldn't you agree? Most of these off-worldly aliens couldn't take an order at a McDonalds let alone take an order from a superior officer on board a starship.

These mind-melded Jovians simply reason, "Like, dude! Who needs dilithium crystals to go to warp drive when you can just cruise on impulse power with this bong load of Romulan 420?" It is reputed, however, that this Romulan stuff will really take you where no one has ever really gone before!

Rather than set a conservative phaser on "stun," they'd much prefer to set their liberal gray matter on "stoned."

And of course, conservatives instead of liberals would necessarily be the reasonable evolutionary high-end achievers to launch the Enterprise on its continuing pro-life mission to spread humanity throughout space. After all, when has any hopium smoking, social welfare tribble ever launched anything other than lachrymose lamentations concerning the size of their next unearned check while still parked in a Section-8 housing space dock?

It's hard to live long and prosper when Obama's going to disrupt our healthcare and all the General Motors jobs on Earth are going off-planet to ObamaMotors in China. Beam me up, Scotty. There appears to be no intelligent life in this administration!

"Star Trek" represents the halcyon conservative values of initiative, intelligence and tenacity without special interest treatment based on intra-species political prostitution. Talent should always trump liberal-minded racialism on any month of Saturnian Sundays. (Mr. Spock says that a "Sunday" on Saturn is 12.381275 Earth days long, by the way. Do the math for leap year, folks. Pretty grim numbers, eh?).

During the movie, Cadet Uhura was field promoted to lead communications officer over a less proficient senior lieutenant which was a foremost example of conservative titular talent advancement over Ferengi-cratic based identity politics.

Her promotion came not because of the color of her skin or that she possessed an anatomically convenient "innie" instead of an "outie" but that she was the individual most uniquely qualified to perform the task at hand. Looking totally hot in a mini-dress was merely a bonus! Please note that this conservative-acclaimed evolution was accomplished without some whining Klingon from the NAACP or NOW reasonably within a parsec.

Next week we'll have a look at the near future of 2018's "Terminator Salvation" when John Connor, leader of the pro-life conservative Resistance, fights the soulless San Francisco/Silicon Valley based iMachines of Nancy "Skynet" Pelosi.

"Aah'll be baahck"

STEVE BREEN will beam back down in a couple weeks from a parallel honeymoon universe and is still "the best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com.

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WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stick to the shtick

I WAS READING THE L.A. TIMES LAST Friday when I came across an op/ed by Bill Maher entitled "Enough with the Obamathon." Thinking the comedian would write something funny like Larry David's New York Times pieces on undecided voters and "Brokeback Mountain," I read on. There was some good material that I'm sure will make it into Maher's stand-up act, but I was surprised this 53-year-old, skirt-chasing pothead of a comic thinks he's qualified to offer advice on public policy to our Columbia undergrad, Harvard Law Review, elected in a historic landslide, chief executive. By the time I finished reading, I realized two things: the L.A. Times is so desperate to sell papers that they'll publish just about anyone and Bill Maher's perception of himself has gotten so out of whack that he actually thinks he's smart.

Before we get to his criticisms, let's consider the source. Bill Maher isn't a journalist or even a pundit, he's a clown. I don't care that he's been hosting a political talk show with a comedic edge since 1993, he's still the same guy who's been on the road doing jokes about ganja and genitalia for three decades. Just because the guests on his show are knowledgeable about politics doesn't mean he is, but he's been in Hollywood for so long that he's starting to buy his own shtick.

He's the kind of person who thinks people suck up to him because he's special, not because it's their job — and he probably believes the models and video vixens he dates are attracted to him and not the power of his position. So when it comes to something like public policy, I'll call Bill Maher to get his thoughts just as soon as I get off the phone with Sarah Palin.

Not to put too fine a racial point on it, but from my experience, Bill Maher's idiotic rant is the perfect metaphor for what it's like to be a minority in the workplace.

We're barely halfway through the first year of Barack's first term and the host of a comedy talk show wants to know why he hasn't fixed the systemic, long-term problems of the financial services, energy, and health care industries yet.

Even when facing multiple crises, each of historic proportions, being capable and competent at his job isn't good enough; Obama has to be perfect. Whenever Maher wants to start solving some problems himself, he's got the cash and the name recognition to run for national office and win — though I'm sure he'd rather stay in L.A. and smoke joints at the Playboy Mansion.

He expanded on his critique later on his HBO show when he said, "If you can't shove some real reform down (the Republicans') throats now, then when? Folks, Barack Obama needs to start putting it on the line in fights against the banks, the energy companies, and the health care industry. … What he needs in his personality is a little George Bush. He needs to stop worrying about being loved and bring out that smug, insufferable swagger that says, 'suck on it, America.' I'm glad Obama is president, but the audacity of hope part is over. Right now, I'm hoping for a little more audacity."

Let me tell you something about our president, Bill. Unlike you, he's got class. He's not going to shove anything down anyone's throat (a cute line you've been wearing out lately — it must work great at Hef's), pick fights with people whose help he needs, or be insufferably smug.

Making policy deals in Washington is an art, not a science, and nothing is ever more than an election cycle away from being undone. Banks, utilities, and HMO's make a lot of money doing business as usual and use it to buy votes in Congress. Their lobbyists have controlled the system for a long time, and they're as interested in giving that up as you were in marrying Coco Johnson, buying her a house in Beverly Hills, and raising a family with her.

Remember that you're not a commentator, you're a comic. And the fact that you're befuddled by ballot questions means you should stick to doing bits where you pretend to soil and pleasure yourself and leave public policy discussions and analysis to those of us who are smart enough to understand it.

For me, the best moment in the HBO show on Friday came right after the Obama critique.

In case anyone was thinking of taking Bill Maher seriously, he followed it with, "I'll be at the blah blah hotel in Vegas," plugging his next stand-up gig and proving that despite his embarrassing attempt at editorializing, he's really just a clown who's here to make you laugh.

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider living in Santa Monica who hopes to bump into Bill Maher so he can relay this message personally. His past columns are archived at www.ifyoumissedit.com and he can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com

The Q Line

Too little, too much?

The Rent Control Board recently approved a 1 percent rent increase for the coming year pleasing renters and upsetting landlords.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you think the Rent Control Board got it right or did they shortchange property owners?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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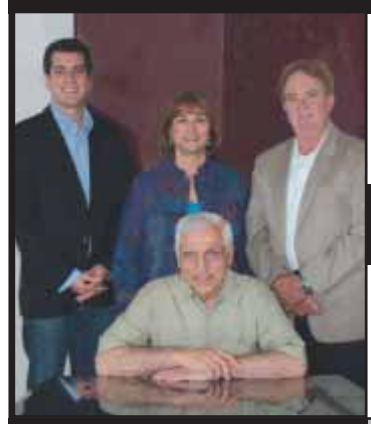


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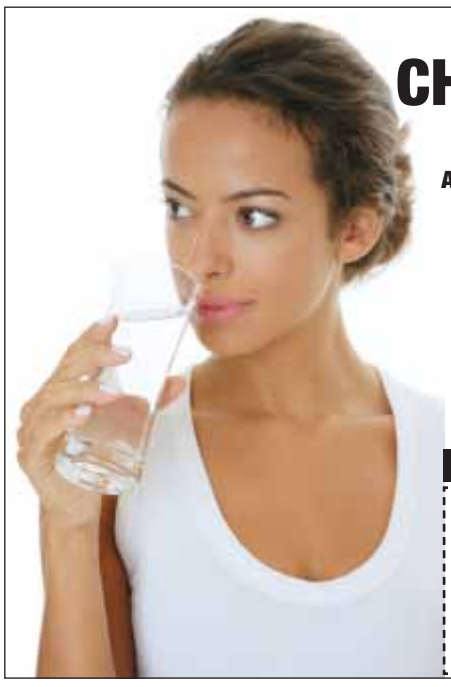


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MEDIA

Las Vegas paper gets subpoena to ID posters

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS A Nevada newspaper says it has been served a federal grand jury subpoena seeking information about readers who posted comments on the paper's Web site.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported Tuesday that its editor, Thomas Mitchell, plans to fight the request, which the newspaper received after reporting on a federal tax fraud case against business owner Robert Kahre.

The subpoena seeks the identities and personal information about people who posted comments on the story. The newspaper said prosecutors told the judge in the case that some comments hinted at acts of violence and the subpoena was issued out of concern for jurors' safety.

Mitchell said anonymous speech is "a fundamental and historic part of this country." The newspaper would consider cooperating if specific crimes or real threats were presented, he said.

The newspaper said the subpoena bears the name of U.S. Assistant District Attorney J. Gregory Damm, a lawyer on the Justice Department team that is prosecuting Kahre and others on charges including income tax evasion, fraud and criminal conspiracy.

Grand jury proceedings are secret, and the subpoena is not a public record.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney for Nevada declined to comment.

The newspaper said it received the subpoena June 2, a week after its story describing the government's case against Kahre, a Las Vegas construction company executive accused of paying contractors with gold and silver U.S. coins based on the precious metal value of the coins but using the much lower face value of the coins for tax purposes. Kahre and the other defendants have pleaded not guilty.

The story drew nearly 175 online comments by Monday night, most in support of Kahre and critical of the government and jurors and attorneys in the case.

One commentator said: "The sad thing is there are 12 dummies on the jury who will convict him. They should be hung along with the feds."

Another called Damm a "socialist, fascist Mormon" and a "Nazi moron."

The comments are written under pseudonyms. Along with the real names of people who posted comments, the subpoena asks the newspaper for the writers' gender, birth date, physical address, telephone number, Internet service provider, IP address and credit card numbers.

After a 2003 raid on Kahre's business, Kahre and several of his workers sued Damm, two Internal Revenue Service agents and others who were involved. That civil matter is pending.

In 2007, Kahre sued Damm and agents of the FBI and IRS, alleging criminal behavior. U.S. District Court Judge David Ezra dismissed the complaint in December, and Kahre appealed to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Two years ago, Damm prosecuted a similar tax case against nine defendants, including Kahre. The trial ended with no convictions and four acquittals.

Five defendants were partially acquitted, and two of them were dropped from the indictment that generated the current case.

LABOR

MySpace to slash workforce 30 percent

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES MySpace said Tuesday it is cutting nearly 30 percent of its work force in a bid to become more efficient, bringing its staffing level more in line with its more popular rival, Facebook.

The move, the latest cost-cutting effort at the site, comes less than two months after the unit of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. hired former Facebook executive Owen Van Natta, 39, as its new chief executive.

It also comes a day after data from tracking firm comScore show Facebook has caught up with MySpace in monthly U.S. visitors for the first time.

"Simply put, our staffing levels were bloated and hindered our ability to be an efficient and nimble team-oriented company," Van Natta said in a statement.

The cuts amount to about 420 people, bringing the total number of MySpace's U.S. staff to 1,000. As of May, Facebook had about 850 employees worldwide, the vast majority in the United States.

MySpace's user base has stagnated at about 125 million worldwide users, while Facebook said its usage has doubled to more than 200 million in less than a year.

Until now, MySpace still had the edge among U.S. users. But numbers from comScore show that in May, MySpace and Facebook both had about 70 million users apiece in the United States.

MySpace generates more revenue, according to Internet research firm eMarketer; it estimates that MySpace generated about $605 million in global advertising revenue last year, compared with $250 million for Facebook. MySpace's revenue is expected to shrink next year while Facebook's is seen as growing.

The company said the restructuring crosses all of its U.S. divisions.

Jonathan Miller, the former AOL chief executive hired as News Corp.'s chief digital officer in early April, said the social hub's work force had grown "too big considering the realities of today's marketplace."

Van Natta said the goal was to put the site on a more entrepreneurial footing and "return to an environment of innovation."

But eMarketer analyst Debra Aho Williamson said that could prove difficult for an organization that has lived under the corporate structure of News Corp. for the past four years.

"Thirty percent is more than a haircut. It's chopping the head off," Williamson said. "It's obviously a very aggressive move by Owen Van Natta and Jon Miller to send a message to the marketplace that they're really taking the turnaround of MySpace seriously. It says, 'Wow, we're really going to try to change this culture.'"

ECONOMY

Obama wants new financial agency for consumers

ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON Setting up a certain fight with big business, President Barack Obama is proposing a new regulatory agency to police lenders and protect consumers in credit, savings and other banking transactions .

The consumer agency and a newly empowered Federal Reserve will be two of the central elements of a broad overhaul of the financial regulatory system that the president will announce on Wednesday, officials said.

Already the nation's central bank, the Federal Reserve would supervise large financial institutions that are considered so big that their failure could undermine America's economy, according to the administration proposal.

But even as the Fed gains new powers, Obama also would transfer some banking authority that now rests with the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department to the new consumer agency — the Consumer Financial Protection Agency.

"There is going to be streamlining, consolidation and additional overlap so that you don't find people falling through the gaps, whether it's the consumer protection side, the investor protection side, the systemic risk that we need to make sure is avoided," Obama said Tuesday.

The expanded Fed role and the new consumer regulator are likely to be the two main political flash points in the administration's proposal. Many bankers oppose a new consumer protection regulator and many lawmakers in Congress worry the Fed could turn into a too-powerful and independent financial overseer. Friction over those points could slow any major overhaul of banking and market regulations.

In addition to having the Federal Reserve supervise "systemically significant" institutions, Obama will recommend a council of regulators, which would include the Fed, to monitor risk throughout the broader financial system.

The arrangement is designed to prevent any more crashes like those that felled AIG and Lehman Brothers.

The plan does not attempt major consolidation of regulatory agencies and does not inject itself in an ongoing debate over whether to bring some insurance companies under federal oversight.

Asked on CNBC whether the plan stopped short out of political concerns, the Obama said: "We want to get this thing passed. We think speed is important ... but we don't want to tilt at windmills. ... We want to get the best regulatory system in place."

Obama's decision to create a consumer agency comes amid criticism that mortgage lenders and credit card companies have taken advantage of unwitting customers and saddled them with debt. The financial crisis was precipitated in part by the preponderance of securities backed by mortgages that went sour when the housing market collapsed.

Treasury spokesman Andrew Williams said lax consumer protections contributed to the financial crisis and that the recession revealed even more weaknesses in consumer protections across the spectrum of financial markets. The new agency, he said, will "help ensure that consumers have the protection and the representation they deserve."

The new regulator would have the power to impose fines and allow states to pass laws that are stricter than the federal standards — an approach favored by consumer advocates. Consumer protections are now spread among various state and federal authorities, including the Fed, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission and banking regulators.

"Tremendous problems could have been avoided had such an agency weighed in against some of the abusive practices that Congress acted on only recently," said Travis Plunkett, legislative director of the Consumer Federation of America, citing excessive bank fees and misleading practices.

But business leaders made their opposition clear.

David Hirschmann, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Center for Capital Markets, said the chamber will oppose a standalone agency "that cannibalizes regulatory expertise, adding yet another regulatory layer."

The administration will also have to use its political skills to strengthen the Fed. While Democrats generally agree with a need for regulatory changes, many oppose relying too heavily on the Fed.

They say its status as a politically independent organization would make it difficult to keep the newly empowered organization in check.

"What happens if the representatives of the people and the president want a certain action and it's not taken?" asked Rep. Paul Kanjorski of Pennsylvania, a senior Democrat on the House Financial Services Committee.

"You can't fire the chairman of the Federal Reserve," Kanjorski said.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, chairman of the Banking Committee, is likely to become Obama's toughest opponent on Capitol Hill.

In private deliberations with the administration, Dodd has advocated an alternative plan to strip the Fed of its regulatory role entirely. Dodd's plan would create a new consolidated bank regulator that would assume the roles that the Fed and Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. now play in helping regulate state-chartered banks.

Under this scenario, the Fed would focus on its existing mission as the nation's central bank — setting monetary policy and acting as a "lender of last resort."

Lawmakers, including Dodd, also say they are open to the administration's proposal that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. be put in charge of dismantling financial institutions that the Fed and Treasury Department decide pose a threat to the economy.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., chairman of the House Financial Services Committee, has not taken a position on the administration's plan to bolster the powers of the Fed. A spokesman said Frank supports the idea of monitoring risk across the financial system.

In a staff document circulated last week, House Republicans on the committee argued that expanding the Fed's responsibilities and increasing government spending pose "a far more significant source of 'systemic risk' to our nation's economy than the failure of any specific financial institution."

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the Santa Monica Rent Control Board adopted Regulation 3031 at its regular meeting of June 11, 2009.

These changes, as set forth below, will become effective by promulgation the day after publication in this newspaper.

3031. General Adjustment Number 32

(a) Amount of General Adjustment

(1) Mobile Homes and Mobile Home Spaces
Commencing on September 1, 2009, landlords of controlled mobile homes and mobile home spaces may increase maximum allowable rents by 1%, except as provided in subsection (c) below.

(2) Controlled Units Other Than Mobile Homes and Mobile Home Spaces
Except as provided in subsection (c) below, commencing on September 1, 2009, landlords of controlled units other than mobile homes and mobile home spaces may increase maximum allowable rents by 1% or $8, whichever is greater, but no more than $16.

(b) Definition of Maximum Allowable Rent
For purposes of this section, the maximum allowable rent is the lawful rent in effect on August 1, 2009. This is composed of the rent level certified pursuant to Regulation 13005 (which represents the base rent ceiling, as defined by Section 1804 of the Rent Control Law, plus any individual or general adjustments authorized prior to the date of certification) plus any subsequent increases otherwise authorized by law and/or any subsequent general adjustments not precluded by a final Board decision or addendum unless:

(1) The Board has rendered a decision in a base rent petition, a threshold rent petition, an individual adjustment petition or addendum after certification. In such a case the maximum allowable rent is the rent established by such decision or addendum, plus any subsequent increases otherwise authorized by law and/or any subsequent general adjustments not precluded by a final Board decision or addendum; or

(2) For tenancies commencing October 1, 1995 through December 31, 1998 for which a vacancy rent increase has been lawfully established pursuant to Section 1954.50 et seq. of the Civil Code, the maximum allowable rent is the new maximum allowable rent established after vacancy plus any individual rent adjustments established in any subsequent Board decisions or addenda and/or general adjustments not precluded by a Board decision or addendum.

(3) For tenancies commencing on or after January 1, 1999, for which a vacancy increase has been lawfully established under Civil Code Section 1954.50 et seq., the maximum allowable rent is the new base rent after vacancy plus any individual rent adjustments established in any subsequent Board decisions or addenda and/or subsequent general adjustments to which the unit is entitled under this chapter.

(4) For condominium units which have not been separately sold and which are rented by tenants whose tenancies commenced between January 1, 1996 and May 7, 2001, the maximum allowable rent is the lawful rent in effect on May 7, 2001, plus applicable general adjustments as set forth in regulation 3302(c) and subsequent general adjustment regulations.

The registration fee pass-through set forth in Chapter 11 or any other surcharges permitted by law as set forth in Regulation 3100 et seq. shall not be considered part of the maximum allowable rent.

(c) Restrictions on Landlord's Entitlement to General Adjustment
A landlord shall not increase rents or serve a notice attempting to increase rents if any of the following circumstances exist:

(1) The unit's tenancy commenced on or after September 1, 2008, and a new base rent after vacancy was lawfully established for the unit.

(2) The unit received a rent increase pursuant to regulation 3304 based upon a decision issued on or after September 1, 2008.

(3) The unit's first rental since the adoption of the Rent Control Law commenced on or after September 1, 2008, and the unit's base rent was therefore established on or after September 1, 2008.

(4) The landlord is not in compliance with any provision of the Santa Monica Rent Control Charter Amendment or regulations promulgated thereunder.

(5) The landlord has not properly registered the rental unit for which the rent increase is sought.

(6) The landlord has failed to pay in full all outstanding registration fees and penalties which have not otherwise been barred by the statute of limitations.

(7) The landlord has failed to correct conditions specified in a citation or notice of violation of health, safety or housing laws existing at the subject property with respect to any unit or the common areas of the building.

(d) Notice Requirements

(1) In order to increase rents pursuant to this section, a landlord must give notice as required by California Civil Code section 827. A landlord may serve a notice of the general adjustment rent increase on or after July 1, 2009.

(2) No landlord shall increase rent unless the notice contains the following form language: "The undersigned (landlord) certifies that this unit and the common areas are not subject to any uncorrected citation or notices of violation of any state or local housing, health, or safety laws issued by any government official or agency." If a landlord fails to comply with this subsection, the tenant may refuse to pay the improperly noticed increase, may seek administrative or civil remedies under the Rent Control Law, and may raise the landlord's noncompliance as an affirmative defense in any resulting unlawful detainer action.

(e) Any rent increase notice served in violation of any provisions of this regulation shall be ineffective to increase maximum allowable rents pursuant to this section.

A complete copy of this regulation is available at the Rent Control office, 1685 Main Street, Room 202, (310) 458-8751 or on the website: www.smgov.net/rentcontrol

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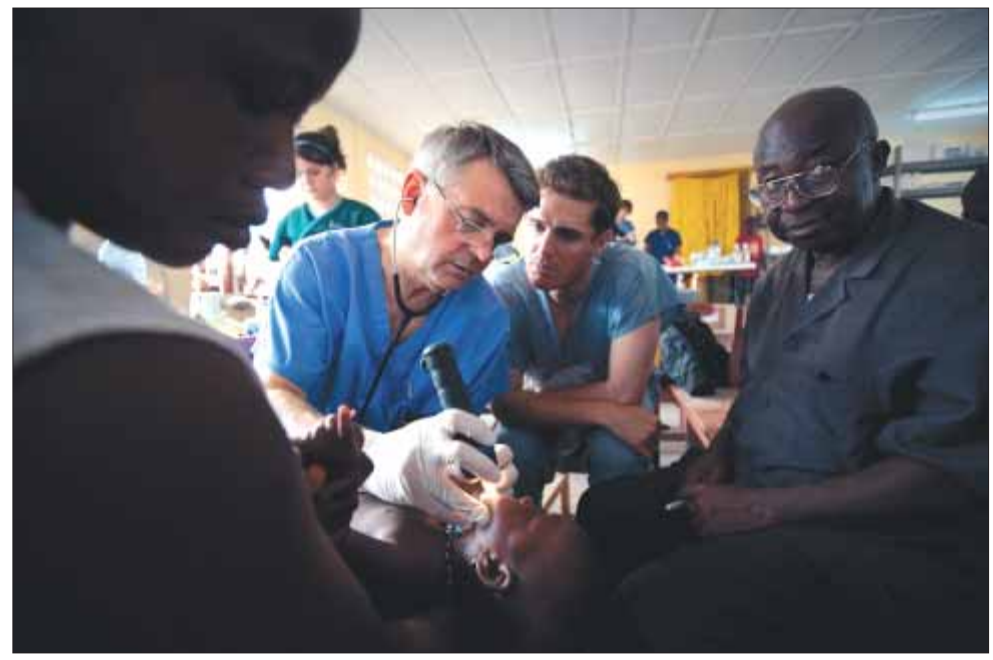


Photo courtesy Mark Steines

HANDS FOR THE NEEDY: **Dr. Bob Hamilton examines a patient during a recent trip to Africa.**

Doctors provide pro bono medical attention to Africans

FROM **WALK** PAGE 1

"It was a shock to see the amount of suffering the people undergo in the country where there are under 100 doctors," he said. "Essentially, the people have no healthcare."

But members of past teams said that conditions in Sierra Leone have improved.

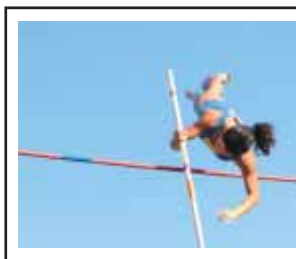
Harrison Sommer, an associate pastor at Lighthouse Church, went on the first trip in 2001 when the country was still on the fringe of civil war, seeing armed guards and UN vehicles throughout.

"There was a feeling of unrest yet underlying relief because it looked like the war was coming to an end," Sommer said.

In the most recent trip, the team had multiple meetings with the United States ambassador and even met with the president of the country, Ernest Bai Koroma.

"There have been buildings built, clinics and schools and there have been water projects that provide tens of thousands of gallons of fresh water," Sommer said. "The effect of consistency of really going back over the years is something we're beginning to see."

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Winner's class gets $500

FROM **BBB** PAGE 3

the arts thriving.

"At most schools, including Grant, we get no funding for the arts," Friedenberg said. "We basically fund the classes that we offer for the kids."

With the money, Smith said she hopes to buy more art supplies or host field trips for her students. She aknowledged the importance of the contest in helping her students "see that their artwork can actually make a difference in a community."

This is exactly the message that Southard Communications, creators of Santa Monica's anti-smoking marketing campaign, were trying to convey with this contest.

"The goal here is to engage the students to get the message out about non-smoking and to get the message out to parents about non smoking here in Santa Monica," said Roxana Janka, vice president of Southard Communications.

Over the last several years, the city has passed a series of ordinances preventing smoking in outdoor public spaces, including the Third Street Promenade, the beach, outdoor dining areas and bars. The "Smoking Doesn't Belong Here" campaign is an attempt to increase awareness about these laws through signs, advertisements and a Web site.

The art contest was just one part of the efforts aimed at educating children in hopes of reaching their parents and other community members.

"To me it's inspiring that our kids find a voice through art to help grownups understand the importance of our no smoking laws," McKeown said. "These kids will grow up healthier because of Santa Monica's non-smoking ordinance."

news@smdp.com

Experts: Personal income frozen

FROM **JOBS** PAGE 1

couple of years to prevent these elevated levels of unemployment to persist once the job layoffs cease," Nickelsburg said.

The forecast was released as state lawmakers wrangle over a budget proposal that was likely to include billions of dollars in cuts to education, health care and social spending.

Legislators clashed over the cuts, fee increases and plans to borrow from local governments, with Democrats divided over whether to push for tax increases and Republicans saying they won't provide the votes needed to raise taxes or to endorse cuts in prison budgets.

Nickelsburg said in an interview that a failure to reach an agreement could tip the state into dangerous territory.

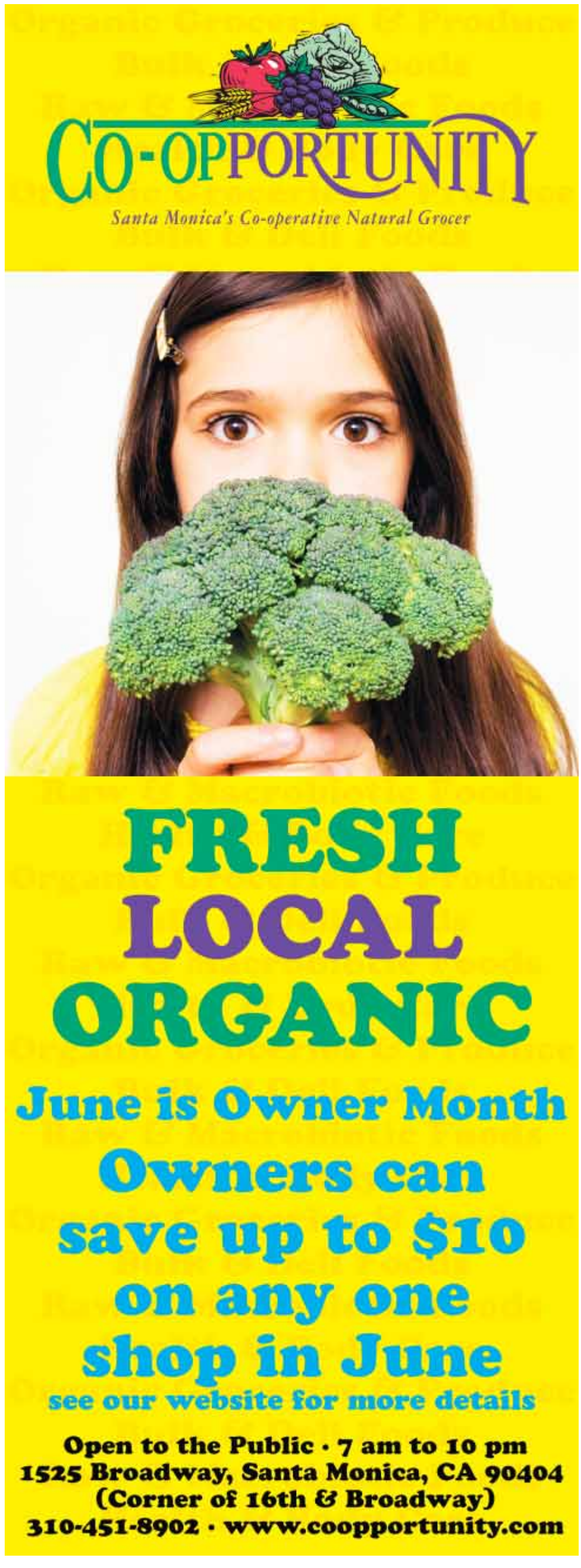
"Then you don't have the legislators and the governor figuring out what should be cut and what shouldn't. You have things like across-the-board slashing, and that's inefficient," he said. "Out of all the bad options, that's the worst. Unfortunately, it's not just an academic option. We see examples of this all the time."

The forecast was most optimistic in its discussion of the housing market, which forecasters predicted was due for a recovery later this year now that prices had become more affordable and housing supply was coming in line with demand.

The state's overall economy will begin to pick up in 2010 and will grow at normal levels by the beginning of 2011, the forecast said.

Forecasters also said personal income would remain stagnant through the first half of next year, but that new opportunities in alternative energy — along with new investment in medical technology, software and research — would result in faster than average growth in personal income in 2011.





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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

Smoking-cession campaign offers free supplies

On Monday, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and County health officials teamed up with the Ralphs Grocery Company to launch an anti-smoking campaign. The effort includes the distribution of 30,000 two-week starter kits containing nicotine patches or gum -- California's largest ever free distribution of nicotine replacement materials.

The Santa Monica Ralphs had distributed between 20 and 25 kits by midday Tuesday, according to pharmacy technician Anthony Edwards.

The program is funded at no cost to taxpayers, said Aurelio Rojas, Ridley-Thomas' communications director. Funding came out of the county's settlement allotment from a lawsuit against the tobacco industry. The L.A. Care Health Plan also contributed.

In a press release, Ridley-Thomas said the efforts of public cessation programs have made "remarkable strides" in reducing smoking rates in the county.

"But we also know that there is still a whole lot more work to be done that will require more innovation," he said, pointing out the new effort's public-private collaboration.

Any County resident of 18 years of ago or older is eligible to receive a free kit, provided he undergoes a preliminary screening and agrees to take a follow-up survey.

For more information on the distribution, visit http://laquits.org. DAILY PRESS

KCRW

Radio station launches three iPhone apps

KCRW now offers three applications for 99 cents each on the Apple App Store.

The KCRW Radio app provides live streaming of the on-air, music and news channels with real time playlists and an events calendar. The In Studio and Good Food apps give users the ability to "watch" radio -- offering video highlights from performances on Morning Becomes Eclectic and interviews with chefs and Farmers' Market updates from Good Food.

"The innovative iPhone and iPod touch are the perfect devices to let KCRW bend the boundaries of what radio is," said Jennifer Fero, KCRW's assistant general manager, in a press release. "Who says you can only listen to radio?"

"Radio can again be an intimate medium that you can bring with you everywhere," added director of new media Anil Dewan.

KCRW, a National Public Radio station based in Santa Monica, offers a mix of programs -- including independent music, news, talk and arts. It was one of the first radio stations to offer live online streaming. KCRW has members in every U.S. state and listeners in more than 180 countries.

To listen, tune in to 89.9FM or visit http://www.KCRW.com. DP

Prop. 8 detractors ready measure

FROM **MARRIAGE** PAGE 3

into our disappointment and not celebrating people gaining their civil rights and gaining their equality."

In the weeks since the Supreme Court's May 26 decision to uphold Proposition 8, gay marriage proponents have turned their attention toward rallying support for a planned 2010 ballot initiative seeking to again legalize same-sex nuptials.

Meanwhile, two federal lawsuits filed on behalf of gay couples seek to put the issue before the U.S. Supreme Court, including one by famed attorneys Theodore Olson and David Boies, who opposed each other in the 2000 presidential election challenge, Bush v. Gore.

Late Tuesday, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, one of the named defendants, filed his response to the complaint filed by Olson and Boies, saying the lawsuit "presents important constitutional questions that require and warrant judicial determination."

California Attorney General Jerry Brown, another defendant, filed his response last week, saying he agrees that Proposition 8 "imposed a special disability on gays and lesbians and their families on the basis of sexual orientation" in violation of the U.S. Constitution's promise of equal protection and due process.

Schwarzenegger didn't elaborate on the merits of the lawsuit.

"The governor's filing is not unanticipated, while we'd like to see him stand up for the California Constitution as enacted by the voters," said Jeff Flint of Protect Marriage, the group that sponsored Proposition 8 and has asked a judge to intervene in the case.

A call seeking comment from Olson and Boies was not immediately returned.

As part of their statewide campaign for the 2010 ballot, gay rights groups say they want to focus on reaching out to more conservative parts of the state that carried Proposition 8 in the last election, as well as protecting existing same-sex marriages.

"Their presence in California serves to show that married gay couples don't cause any problems," said Jennifer Pizer, director of the marriage project at Lambda Legal, which argued against Proposition 8 before the California Supreme Court.

Equality California and California Faith for Equality planned to commemorate the anniversary of the first same-sex weddings Tuesday with gatherings in San Francisco and Los Angeles, followed by ones elsewhere in the state Wednesday.

Louise Brooks, spokeswoman for California Faith for Equality, said organizers want to celebrate last year's milestone in gay rights while renewing calls to push for continued same-sex marriage rights.

She said the events, designed to be more like vigils than parties, are "a remembrance of what we once had but don't have anymore."

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Dire climate report offers hope

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON Rising sea levels, sweltering temperatures, deeper droughts, and heavier downpours — global warming's serious effects are already here and getting worse, the Obama administration warned on Tuesday in the grimmest, most urgent language on climate change ever to come out of any White House.

But amid the warnings, scientists and government officials seemed to go out of their way to soften the message. It is still not too late to prevent some of the worst consequences, they said, by acting aggressively to reduce world emissions of heat-trapping gases, primarily carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels.

The new report differs from a similar draft issued with little fanfare or context by George W. Bush's administration last year. It is paradoxically more dire about what's happening and more optimistic about what can be done.

The Obama administration is backing a bill in Congress that would limit heat-trapping pollution from power plants, refineries and factories. A key player on a climate bill in the Senate, California Democrat Barbara Boxer, said the report adds "urgency to the growing momentum in Congress" for passing a law.

"It's not too late to act," said Jane Lubchenco, one of several agency officials at a White House briefing. "Decisions made now will determine whether we get big changes or small ones." But what has happened already is not good, she said: "It's happening in our own backyards and it affects the kind of things people care about."

Lubchenco, a marine biologist, heads the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

In one of its key findings, the report warned: "Thresholds will be crossed, leading to large changes in climate and ecosystems." The survival of some species could be affected, it said.

The document, a climate status report required periodically by Congress, was a collaboration by about three dozen academic, government and institute scientists. It contains no new research, but it paints a fuller and darker picture of global warming in the United States than previous studies.

Bush was ultimately forced by a lawsuit to issue a draft report last year, and that document was the basis for this one. Obama science adviser John Holdren called the report nonpartisan, started by a Republican administration and finished by a Democratic one.

"The observed climate changes that we report are not opinions to be debated. They are facts to be dealt with," said one of the report's chief authors, Jerry Melillo of Marine Biological Lab in Woods Hole, Mass. "We can act now to avoid the worst impacts."

Among the things Melillo said he would like to avoid are more flooding disasters in New Orleans and an upheaval of the world's food supply.

The scientists softened the report from an earlier draft that said "tipping points have already been reached and have led to large changes." Melillo said that is because some of the changes seen so far are still reversible.

Even so, Tom Karl of the National Climatic Data Center said that at least one tipping point — irreversible sea level rise — has been passed.

A point of emphasis of the report, which is just under 200 pages, is what has already happened in the United States. That includes rapidly retreating glaciers in the American West and Alaska, altered stream flows, trouble with the water supply, health problems, changes in agriculture, and energy and transportation worries.

"There are in some cases already serious consequences," report co-author Anthony Janetos of the University of Maryland told The Associated Press. "This is not a theoretical thing that will happen 50 years from now. Things are happening now."

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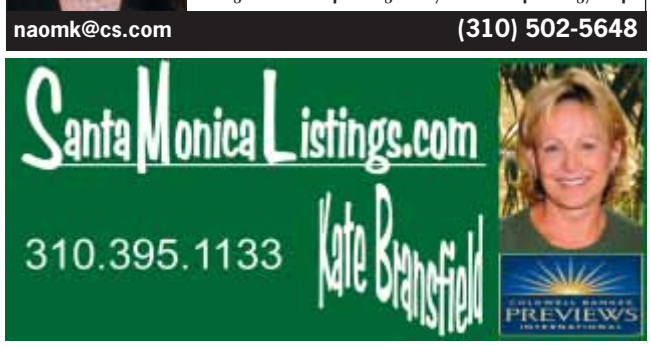

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 63°

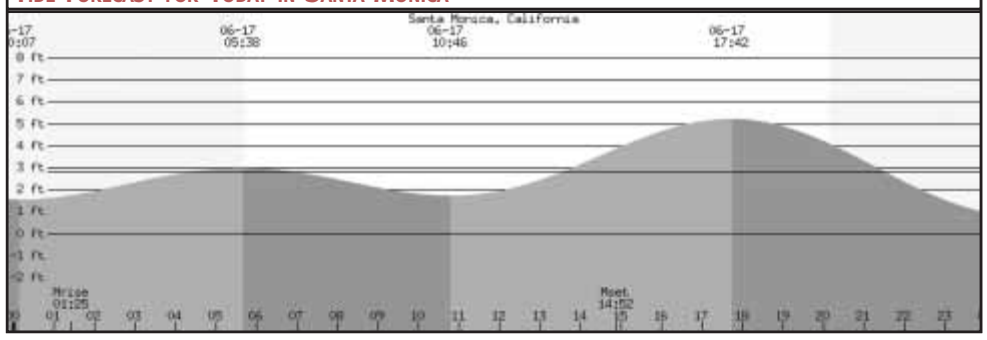
Swell Forecast (3-5 FT)

The southern hemi swell should back down to around chest high, and with 13- or 14-second periods. Wind swell remains nil. Winds should be light and variable in the AM, and up to 15 mph onshore in the afternoon.

Long Range Synopsis

Thursday the 18th the south swell should diminish further to waist+ around south facing breaks, perhaps chest high at standouts.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for the Urban Forest Task Force

The City of Santa Monica is forming an Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force to advise on the development of a long-range urban forest master plan, review specific urban forest issues related to the master plan, and serve in an advisory capacity to City Council on urban forestry issues. The Task Force will initially work with the Community Forester, other City staff and the City's consulting Landscape Architect during the development of the plan by gathering community input and formulating recommendations based on that input for the long-range urban forest master plan. During the development of the plan the Task Force will be meeting monthly with at least 4 additional community workshops. Applicants should be willing to dedicate as much as 14 – 18 hours each month to serve on this Task Force.

The role of the Task Force will be to:

- Focus on the development of the long-range urban forest master plan
- Conduct community meetings to learn resident concerns regarding the long term management of the community forest
- Evaluate the public's input and apply it to the long-range urban forest master plan where practical and/or feasible
- Make revisions to the street tree designation list
- Assist staff throughout the plan's development to create standards for streetscape development projects
- Make recommendations for strategic goals, objectives, implementation measures, and timelines for achievement of those goals

Applications for the Task Force may be obtained from the City's web site at www.smgov.net

Applications must be returned no later than 3:00 PM, June 30, 2009 to:
Director of Community Maintenance, 2500 Michigan Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90404.
Attn: Rosona Starks

All questions may be directed to
rosona.starks@smgov.net

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 **June 9, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 8 / ns

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

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Visit www.smjaycees.org for more info.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Drag Me to Hell (PG-13) 1hr 39min
2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Land of the Lost (PG-13)
2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 9:55

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) 1hr 45min
2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:

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

Up (PG) 1hr 36min
1:10, 3:40, 6:20, 9:00

Up (Digital 3-D) (PG) 1hr 36min
2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Star Trek (2009) (PG-13) (CC) 2hrs 06min
1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:10, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25

Land of the Lost (PG-13)
1:45, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35

The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 (R) 2hrs 01min
1:05, 2:05, 3:45, 4:45, 6:35, 7:35, 9:20, 10:20

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

The Brothers Bloom (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Every Little Step (PG-13) 1hr 36min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45

Easy Virtue (PG-13) 1hr 33min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

Unmistaken Child (NR) 1hr 42min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40

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

Terminator Salvation (Digital) (PG-13) 1hr 54min
1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20

My Life in Ruins (PG-13) 1hr 38min
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10

Angels & Demons (PG-13) 2hrs 20min
12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:00

Away We Go (R) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30

Imagine That (PG)
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

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

Say yes, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Your ability to move forward enhances key projects. You see the end results of this creativity and innate gift. An element of the unexpected defines much of what happens. A friendship increases in importance. Tonight: Remember that you are the key player!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Do you feel edgy or vaguely out of sorts? Listen to others with more care than usual. If you have something on your mind and feel you cannot get clarity, relax — you probably will. The unexpected becomes the norm. Tonight: Up late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on what goes on. Consider what is happening with others. Someone who has a big impact in your life could develop a case of flakiness or unpredictability. Step back and rethink your decision. Look for more dynamic options. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ A must appearance cannot be avoided. Reach out for others and read between the lines. The unexpected runs riot, forcing you to reschedule plans. Tap into a respected associate's mind for solutions. Tonight: Burning the midnight oil.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Reach out for those who are close to you, though not physically. One must nurture a relationship to keep it going, even more so if it's at a distance. Many people offer good will and possibilities. Allow more innovative ideas in; do not automatically nix them. Tonight: Off to the movies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might want to share more with a key person. You respect this person's feedback too, and are willing to listen when your ideas differ. Question all you want; others will be unpredictable. Tonight: Relate individually.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Continue what is becoming a tradition of deferring. Others need your understanding more than your opinion. You simply might not be comfortable in this role, but for now, it is yours. Tonight: Say yes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might want to rethink a personal issue and handle a matter directly. Listen to what is happening within your immediate circle or with co-workers. Tonight: Relax in your own style.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Carefully let your hair down, as not everyone can handle totally liberated you! Extremes surround a personal situation, especially involving real estate and security. Opportunities come through conversations and others in general. Tonight: Easy does it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Pressure mounts, and you see a situation far differently. What seems to be a clear financial matter or a good risk needs to be eyed with caution. In fact, deception runs heavily in that area of your life. Remain a cynic. Tonight: Hang out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Opportunities knock on your door, sometimes confusing you and other times delighting you. Sort out your options by finding experts and different opinions. Know that you might not be looking at everything correctly. Tonight: Just keep asking.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Surprising expenses could surge, encouraging you to take a hard look at your spending. You might decide to investigate alternatives. Do necessary reading and researching of problems, looking for more effective ways to handle them. Tonight: Don't overindulge, as much as you would like to.

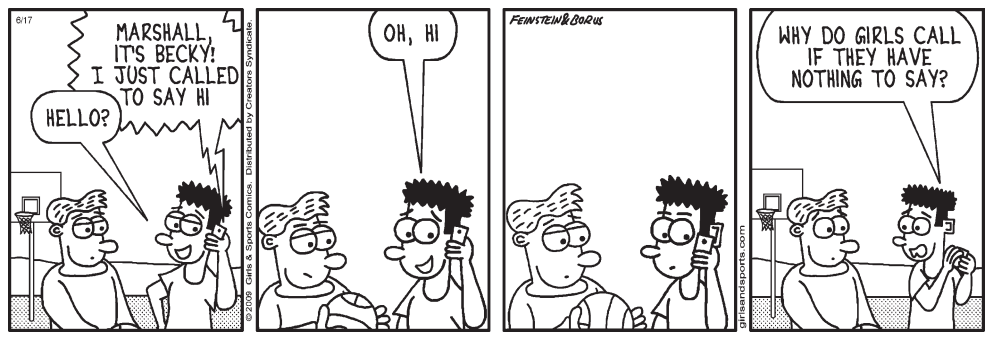
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

Happy birthday

This year, aim for exactly what you want. Listen to friends and key support groups, as you can count on them. Though you often yearn for a broader vision and want to create more peace and greater happiness, the solutions that appear are multiple and at times confusing. Gather opinions, but know when to say "enough." If you are single, you'll meet many people. Most likely, your next sweetie will appear through a friendship. If you are attached, the more you do together, the more you bond. Work to fulfill a goal, but also just enjoy each other more. Play together. ARIES frequently points to the correct path.

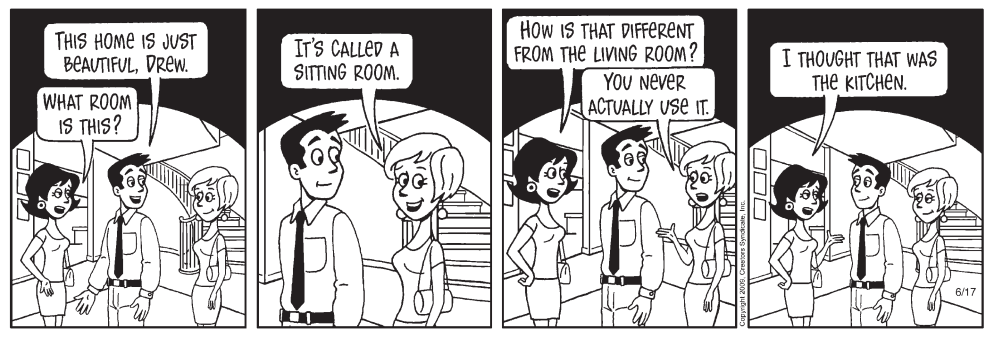
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



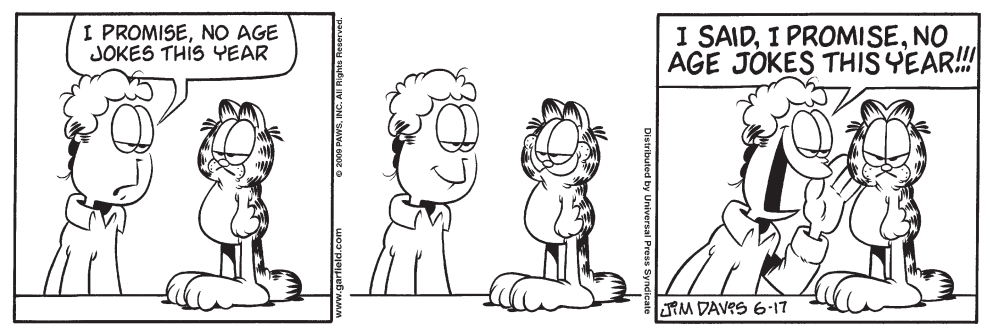
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★

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

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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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Like some negligees
5 Snooty fellow
9 Big name in TV talk
11 Im-passioned
12 Bowling round
13 Rage
14 Gift from Santa
15 Way back when
17 Sawing wood
19 Big weight
20 Pig part
21 Golfer Hogan
22 Nebraska city
24 Leg, in slang
26 Orange peels
29 Okra unit
30 Define
32 Codger
34 Carnival city
35 Farm sights
36 Skilled
38 News subject
39 Oven feature
40 Beatty film
41 Team

DOWN

1 Hay sites
2 Kitchen coverings
3 Coloring tool
4 Sweet tuber
5 Spill the beans
6 Make void
7 Coos Bay setting
8 "Dark-ness" poet
10 Balloon fill
11 Viper feature
16 New York neighbor
18 Hotel unit
21 Rock group
23 Suggest
24 Switch to breaking news
25 Confused
27 Money, in slang
28 Shoplifted
29 Tough puzzle
30 Fence feature
31 — Dame
33 Takes in
37 Slight, in slang

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

6-17

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 6 11 20 32 44
Meganumber: 38
Jackpot: $46M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 11 29 31 44
Meganumber: 1
Jackpot: $37M

FANTASY 5: 1 4 14 17 34

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 9 9 5
EVENING: 8 7 3

DAILY DERBY
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 08 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1.46.28

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

■ When courts in Nashville, Tenn., get too backed up, a local tradition allows judges to appoint well-known local attorneys to act as "special judges" to help clear dockets. According to a months-long investigation by WTVF-TV, broadcast in April, it appears that at least some of the "special judges" used their power largely to dismiss speeding tickets, including at least one instance of a lawyer's dismissing his own client's ticket. The station found that of almost 1,800 speeding tickets dismissed by courts during the time investigated, 1,300 were by the "special judges."

■ The U.S. Air Force has spent an estimated $25 million training combat pilot Lt. Col. Victor Fehrenbach but is about to discharge him involuntarily because he is gay. Born of military-officer parents, Fehrenbach has earned 30 awards and decorations, with tours flying F-15Es in Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq, and was one of the elite fighters called on to patrol the air space over Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11, 2001. Also about to be discharged solely for being gay is Army infantry officer Daniel Choi, a West Point graduate and Arabic speaker, who would be (based on a 2005 Government Accounting Office report) at least the 56th gay Arabic linguist to be dismissed from the U.S. military since the first terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in 1993.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1971 the United States and Japan signed a treaty under which Okinawa would revert to Japanese control.

1972 President Richard M. Nixon's eventual downfall began with the arrest of five burglars inside Democratic national headquarters in Washington, D.C.'s Watergate complex.

1986 President Ronald Reagan announced the retirement of Chief Justice Warren Burger, who was succeeded by William Rehnquist.

WORD UP!

salutary \SAL-yuh-ter-ee\, *adjective*:
1. Producing or contributing to a beneficial effect; beneficial; advantageous.
2. Wholesome; healthful; promoting health.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,945,000	$1,048,500
South of Wilshire	$899,500	$599,500
Sunset Park	$1,168,000	$698,000
Ocean Park	$1,307,000	$848,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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