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JULY 25-26, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 225



Santa Monica Daily Press

FELINE-FRIENDLY SKIES?
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE CLEARING THE AIR ISSUE

EPA begins study on SMO lead emissions

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SUNSET PARK The Environmental Protection Agency on Friday began collecting air and soil samples at Santa Monica Airport for a new lead emissions study that could lead to stronger federal regulations.

A team of researchers is expected to spend approximately a week gathering samples on airport property and conducting air monitoring at the site toward the west end of the runway and what is considered the maximum impact site toward the east end. They will also collect dust and soil and interview residents at approximately half a dozen homes near the airport.

The purpose of the study on lead particles from piston planes at SMO is to develop a model that will help federal officials form new regulations for emissions. Officials stressed that the study is not a health risk assessment, though its data could be used for one in the future, nor does it look at emissions from jets — a hot button issue for neighbors surrounding the airport.

"This is a really scientific study to improve the (existing) model so that the air quality model can be used across the country at different airports," Arnold Den, the senior adviser at the EPA's San Francisco office, said. "That is really the primary purpose as opposed to doing a specific health risk or risk assessment from lead emissions."

The study was triggered by a petition in 2006 by Washington D.C.-based Friends of the Earth to study the impact of leaded fuel, focusing on aviation, the largest remaining mobile sources of lead.

The EPA selected Santa Monica Airport because there are no stationary sources, such as plants or factories, within a mile that could alter results. SMO was also a strong candidate because it was already the subject of a South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) study that looked at ultra-fine particles and lead at the airport, giving the EPA a foundation from which to work.

Officials said the levels at SMO are lower than the national standard.

The agency also found it attractive that SMO is one of the nation's oldest general aviation airports in a dense urban area.

Air traffic overall at SMO has been down over the past several years and is at historically low levels. There were 124,000 flight operations at the airport last year, down from 230,000 just 10 years ago, a decrease that is attributable to the economy, Airport Manager Bob Trimborn said.

Trimborn added that he doesn't anticipate much of a difference between the EPA's findings and those found in the AQMD report.

Federal officials said they don't believe that the downward trend will skew results, noting that it's one that is taking place at airports across the country and is reflected in the national decrease in leaded aviation gas usage.

Trimborn said that the monitoring at the airport will not affect operations.

"No one will even know it's happening unless you see people standing next to the monitors," he said.

The results of the study will be available early next year.

The sampling portion of the study commences nearly six months after EPA officials first proposed it at a well-attended Airport Commission meeting.

Den said the community has been cooperative since.

"I'm just amazed at their willingness for us to come in and do what it takes to sample soil and put up what I'll call noisy air monitors in their backyard," he said.

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Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

TESTING THE AIR: **A plane flies over a lead detection device at the east end of the Santa Monica Airport on Friday afternoon. The EPA is conducting a lead emissions study at the site.**

The lone ranger at work

It is up to Det. Larry Nichols to solve Santa Monica's 66 cold-case homicides

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Det. Larry Nichols doesn't have the luxury of calling for backup.

As the lone investigator assigned to the Santa Monica Police Department's Cold Case Unit-Homicide, it is Nichols' sole

SEE COLD CASES PAGE 10

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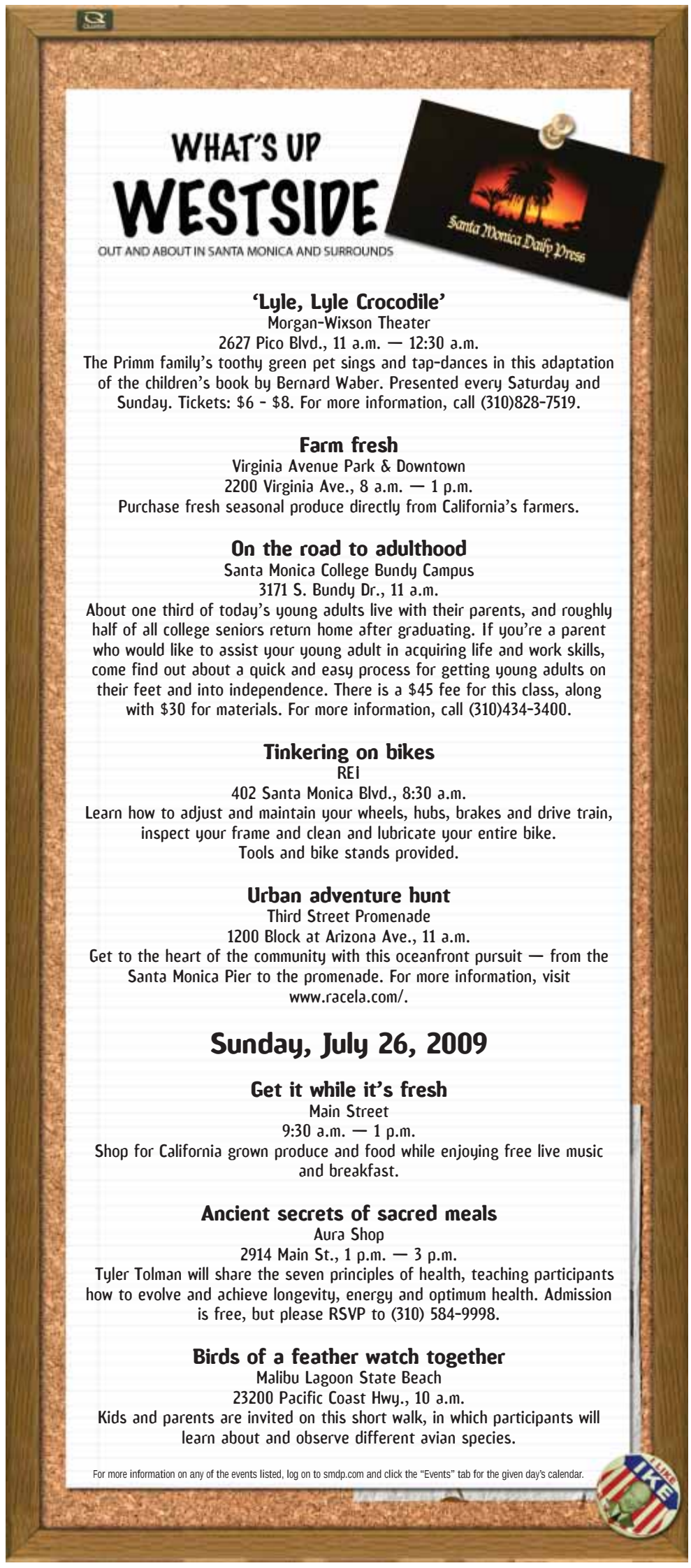
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On the road to adulthood
Santa Monica College Bundy Campus
3171 S. Bundy Dr., 11 a.m.
About one third of today's young adults live with their parents, and roughly half of all college seniors return home after graduating. If you're a parent who would like to assist your young adult in acquiring life and work skills, come find out about a quick and easy process for getting young adults on their feet and into independence. There is a $45 fee for this class, along with $30 for materials. For more information, call (310)434-3400.

Tinkering on bikes
REI
402 Santa Monica Blvd., 8:30 a.m.
Learn how to adjust and maintain your wheels, hubs, brakes and drive train, inspect your frame and clean and lubricate your entire bike.
Tools and bike stands provided.

Urban adventure hunt
Third Street Promenade
1200 Block at Arizona Ave., 11 a.m.
Get to the heart of the community with this oceanfront pursuit — from the Santa Monica Pier to the promenade. For more information, visit www.racela.com/.

Sunday, July 26, 2009

Get it while it's fresh
Main Street
9:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Shop for California grown produce and food while enjoying free live music and breakfast.

Ancient secrets of sacred meals
Aura Shop
2914 Main St., 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Tyler Tolman will share the seven principles of health, teaching participants how to evolve and achieve longevity, energy and optimum health. Admission is free, but please RSVP to (310) 584-9998.

Birds of a feather watch together
Malibu Lagoon State Beach
23200 Pacific Coast Hwy., 10 a.m.
Kids and parents are invited on this short walk, in which participants will learn about and observe different avian species.

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.

Legislature approves budget plan

JUDY LIN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Lawmakers on Friday approved a complex package of spending cuts, accounting maneuvers and raids on local government coffers to fill California's gigantic budget deficit, providing hope that the state might begin a slow climb out of a deep financial hole.

The action came after a grueling month for the Legislature as the state dealt with a historic financial crisis that has grown more dire by the day, driven by a dramatic drop in income tax revenue amid the recession.

The cash crisis has become so acute that California has been forced to send IOUs instead of payments to thousands of state contractors and was facing the prospect of being unable to fund pension contributions or pay employees by September.

The cuts imposed by the Legislature are extraordinary. The deal will mean teachers are laid off, college students will pay more, parks will be closed, and office buildings will be sold off. Lawmakers agreed the scope of the cuts was distasteful, but most said they had little choice.

"The only way to do it is to spread the sacrifice. That is why this budget is an acceptable budget to me, it saves our state from financial ruin and from drowning into the fiscal abyss," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said, adding he was pleased that they avoided passing tax increases. "We have endured the darkest of storms and the harshest of winds. ... We have emerged battered and bruised, but we are intact and we are still standing."

The package of about 30 bills first passed the Senate after an all-night session Friday, then was approved by the Assembly in the afternoon. It was similar to the deal announced earlier this week by Schwarzenegger and legislative leaders.

The Assembly rejected two of the most controversial measures, a plan to take about $1 billion in transportation funding from local governments, and allowing oil drilling off the California coast for the first time in 40 years. That was to have brought in $100 million this fiscal year.

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 13



JUST LIKE OLD TIMES

Photo courtesy Pier Restoration Corporation

Dancers take to the dance floor during the Twilight Dance Series on Thursday at the Santa Monica Pier.

Homelessness told through a camera lens

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

VENICE Through the lens of a camera, Rebecca Curry re-lived what it was like to be homeless.

Armed with an SLR digital camera, the former client of OPCC's Daybreak recently ventured back to the streets to capture the memories of a dark two-year-period, taking a picture of her son's stuffed animals in their old room at the women's shelter and shooting the familiar sight of a man pushing a cart on Los Angeles Street.

"It gave me a chance to look back on being homeless … and accept the direction that I was ready to go and move on to get myself housing," Curry said.

She is one of nine current and formerly homeless mentally-ill women who recently wrapped up a 12-week course on documentary photography at Venice Arts, which, through a grant from the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, collaborated with Daybreak women's shelter on a pilot project that combines the arts with social services.

Their work will be on display starting Saturday going through Aug. 31 at the Venice Arts Gallery in an exhibit titled, "Got Caught Up Out There," telling the story of survival on the streets, whether it was urinating on themselves to be unappealing to men or riding endlessly on the bus to stay safe.

"In terms of really lifting up the voices of those who tend to be the most voiceless, lifting up their stories, we thought this would be a really wonderful opportunity," Lynn Warshafsky, the executive director of the nonprofit arts organization, said.

Some of the women, including Curry, came to the program with some photography background, whether it was through school or a hobby they picked up. The course covered the technical aspects of digital photography, but primarily focused on using the medium to tell stories and empowering themselves in the process.

There was insecurity on the part of some women as to whether they had the ability to learn to use the cameras and related equipment. Others wondered whether they could effectively communicate accounts of being homeless, Amy Turk, the director of Daybreak, said.

"In the end they felt this sense of pride in terms of being able to learn how to use the cameras, how to scan pictures and use computers and see the power in their story through art," she said. "The group became cohesive too and they provided a lot of support to each other as they told their story."

Curry was homeless for roughly two

SEE **CAMERA** PAGE 12

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Walk a mile

Editor:

Mr. Pineiro's response on the homeless issue dodged the fundamental, inconvenient truth ("No excuse for breaking the law," page 4, July 22). The essential and immediate question that Mr. Pineiro ignored is: Where does a homeless person sleep?

Yes, of course, it would be a good thing if the Salvation Army and other facilities had enough room and enough money to help all of the homeless people. The fact is that they do not.

Mr. Pineiro forgot one of the basic rules. Walk a mile in a homeless person's shoes. Where do you sleep? Some place where you might feel relatively warm like a doorway that is out of the wind and where you won't be stepped on? Does Mr. Pineiro think that homeless people should just keep walking all night so they won't be lying down?

Yes, there are a number of facilities in Santa Monica to assist homeless people. They are centered around transitioning people to the mainstream. This includes providing mental healthcare. However, there are more homeless people than there are facilities that can accept them. City Hall has taken steps to encourage homeless people to get help. The prohibition against privately handing out food was designed to get people to facilities that could provide assistance. It wasn't so that Santa Monica could be labeled the "meanest city to homeless people." If homeless individuals have to go to facilities to get food, they can be approached to get them help other than just feeding them.

With the number of layoffs, more and more people are forced to make the agonizing decision of whether to have shelter or food to eat. The demand on pantries and food banks is soaring. More and more people are forced out of their homes or apartments.

So, Mr. Pineiro, when you are turned away from a shelter, where would you sleep so that you wouldn't be labeled a lawbreaker? May I suggest that you make a large donation to the Westside Food Bank so that more social service agencies can provide food and encourage the less fortunate to get the help that they need.

Jeanne Laurie
Santa Monica

Creating an unfair burden

Editor:

As a Santa Monica resident and independent health insurance agent, I write to express objection to creation, passage, and adoption of a proposed Public Option, a public plan contrary, unfavorable, and not in the best interest of the public.

In reality, passage, adoption, and implementation of a "public option" shifts healthcare costs to private payers. In addition, deterioration and possible implementation of private insurance is a result and potential unintended consequence of action being considered by the president.

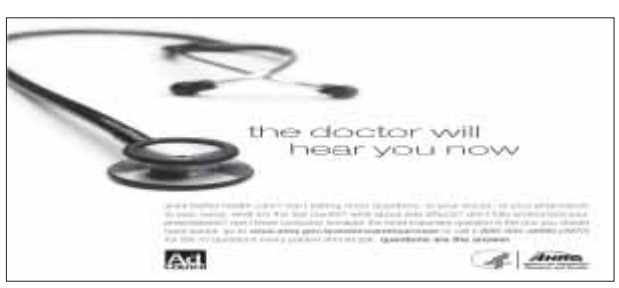
Paying less for health care and healthcare service does not mean the service costs less. Healthcare providers don't accept what the government gives. One can only look to the number of physicians who don't accept assignment under Medicare. Healthcare providers shift unpaid costs to private payers as a matter of protection and financial necessity.

Private insurers must cover their costs and maintain adequate reserves to pay claims under law.

Under a public option, private insurers are forced to raise premiums to compensate for and offset cost shifting and result in private insurance becoming more expensive.

A public plan has the potential to be priced below true costs and operate at a loss or deficit. Thus, more and more Americans would go for a cheap public plan.

Robert Donin
Los Angeles





Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The feline-friendly skies

IT HAD TO HAPPEN. IN THE LAST SEVERAL years, Americans have spent more and more money on luxuries — for pets. We've seen the arrival of gourmet foods for pets, hotels for pets, and even bikinis for pets. So I shouldn't have been surprised the other day when I learned that there is now an airline for pets. That's right, all of Pet Airways' passengers are animals — and not the kind that sit next to you and snore or spill their drinks on you. I'm talking about the kind that you feed and take for walks.

I don't blame anyone for not wanting to put their pets in a crate that goes with cargo or luggage. I wouldn't want our dog to travel like that. But somehow, we've all gotten along for many years without asking our pets if they want a window or an aisle seat.

OF COURSE, IN THESE TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES, THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE PETS. BUT THERE ARE STILL OTHERS WHO WILL PAY OVER $900 FOR THEIR DOGS TO HAVE TESTICULAR IMPLANTS SO THEY CAN STILL LOOK 'MACHO' AFTER THEY'VE BEEN NEUTERED."

Americans will spend an estimated $45.4 billion on their pets this year. That's more than the gross domestic product of all but 64 countries in the world. That's more than we spend on movies, video games, and music combined. I don't think we're going to hear about the pet industry asking for a bailout.

Of course, in these tough economic times, there are people who can't afford to have pets. But there are still others who will pay over $900 for their dogs to have testicular implants so they can still look "macho" after they've been neutered. (It's true, just look up "Neuticles" on Google).

We spend more than twice as much on our pets as we did a decade ago. There are probably all kinds of reasons why this is so. More people work at home, so maybe they want the company of a pet. Maybe more single people have decided they don't need to be alone. And maybe as our world gets more mechanized, there's a desire to have something that's actually alive — something that you don't have to plug in or reboot.

For whatever reason, pets have increasingly become part of the family. More than half of all dog owners say they consider their pet's comfort when they buy a car. (I wonder what percentage considers their in-laws' comfort when they buy a car). People buy clothing for their pets, celebrate their birthdays, and put braces on their teeth. That's a bit over the top, don't you think? Sure, I leave the TV on for our dog, but I can't help it if he likes sports.

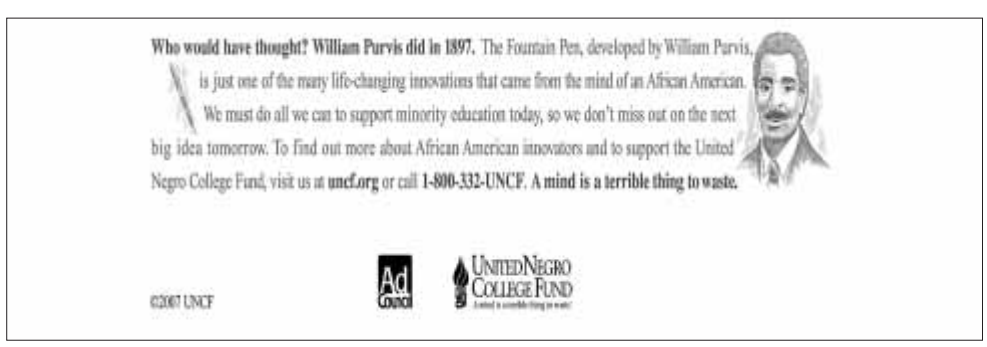
Having your pet fly as a passenger on Pet Airways isn't any more expensive than putting him or her on a regular airline. It falls into the coddling "let's have him be more comfortable category" like the car a pet owner might buy. The seats have been removed from the plane's cabin, and pets travel in air-conditioned comfort in their own private kennel crates. A veterinary technician checks on them throughout the flight. When the plane lands on an in-between location, a flight attendant takes them for a walk, looking for the most convenient patch of grass. For their in-flight entertainment, they probably get to watch something like "Milo and Otis" or "Old Yeller." It all sounds pretty good, doesn't it?

But I worry about what problems might develop, and I wonder if the owners of Pet Airways have thought this whole thing through. Of course, there is no first class and coach distinction on these flights. But how long will it take for some ritzy pet owners to request that their fancy cats or dogs fly up front, away from those that came from the pound?

I'm also concerned about the possibility of "ethnic profiling." With concerns about security so high, will an American spaniel or an Irish setter be waved right onto the plane, while people in uniform stop and search a Russian wolfhound or an Afghan? And you know they're going to be suspicious of a cat who happens to be a Persian.

There are bound to be some civil rights, anti-discrimination lawsuits brought against this pets-only airline. They'll be brought by people who want to get on that plane along with the pets. Here's why: the passengers travel comfortably, there's no line for the bathroom, and every 15 minutes, the airline's president walks down the aisle with kind words and snacks. When was the last time you were treated like that on a regular airline?

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his Web site at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.



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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Write Rachel

Rachel Iverson
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Holding out for Prince Charming

DATING IS HARD. MULTIPLY THAT LEVEL of difficulty by 100 and you find yourself dating in L.A. — the entertainment capital of the world. With the daily influx of beautiful, artistic, ambitious, career-oriented people, it's no surprise that meaningful relationships can fall to the bottom of one's to-do list. That's why I refer to Hollywood as "The Frontline of Dating."

However, the weakness of the L.A. dating scene is also its strength. How many other cities can boast such an array of fascinating people? With personality traits, looks and interests to suit every taste, L.A. is an ideal place to date, as long as you know how to avoid the dating landmines.

That's what motivated me to write the ultimate dating survival guide, "Don't Help A Man Be A Man: How To Avoid 12 Dating Time Bombs." Based on over 300 interviews, straight from the Hollywood scene, the book uses time-tested, practical solutions and real-life stories to illustrate the 12 dating time bombs that are fatal to a satisfying relationship. I knew that if I could help people date successfully in Hollywood, where every dating hazard is intensified, I could help them date anywhere, even in Santa Monica. Endorsed by Dr. John Gray, (author of "Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus") my book frees men and women from fixing, saving and changing the people that they date. My "Dating Survival Tips" are designed to not only help you survive, but thrive in the dating world until you're able to recognize the best partner for you.

Over the course of this column I hope to receive questions from readers as they venture out into the dating scene. Here are a few to get the ball rolling.

Q: Dear Rachel,

Since I can remember, I've had this vivid image of my ideal man in my mind and no man I date compares to him. My friends say I'm too picky and unrealistic. What do you think? Am I having premonitions of my future dream guy, or have I invented a fantasy that's destined to destroy my love life?

— Where's Prince Charming?

A: Dear "Where's Prince Charming,"

First of all, don't beat yourself up for fantasizing about your own personal Prince Charming — you're not alone. As young, impressionable girls, most women had Cinderella in their bedtime story rotation at one time or another and can sympathize with your dilemma. However, Cinderella was a fairy-tale (not an E True Hollywood Story) and as an optimistic realist, I remind you that in real life no man or woman is perfect. On another note, it doesn't matter whether the ideal man in your head is a fantasy, a premonition, or a side of your own personality that's seeking expression. The point is, the guy in your head is sending you a message loud and clear — you need his personality traits in your life.

What can you do? Write out his best characteristics (e.g., confidence, intelligence, good sense of humor) on a piece of paper and circle the top three, then practice integrating these qualities into your own personality until they become a part of you. Once you do this, you may find that you no longer seek these same traits externally in a partner. But if you do, the icing on the cake is that like attracts like, so you'll be increasing your chances of meeting a man (outside of your imagination) who possesses qualities you can enjoy past a first date. Your best partner still won't be perfect, of course, but he'll be tolerably annoying on his worst day and maybe even ideal at his best.

Q: Dear Rachel,

Is love enough to make a relationship work?

— Confused.

A: Dear "Confused,"

When I was younger, I used to wonder why Tina Turner sang the song, "What's love got to do with it?" I thought love was the most important thing in the world. Over time, I've come to realize the deeper meaning of that song, i.e.: love and compatibility are mutually exclusive characteristics. You can love friends, romantic partners and even family members without enjoying their company at all. If your romantic partner has qualities that are deal-breakers for you, no amount of love can compensate for your incompatibility and the relationship will eventually end. A satisfying relationship needs love, chemistry and compatibility. In other words, you can love someone without liking him or her very much. So, no, I don't think love alone is enough to make a relationship work.

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

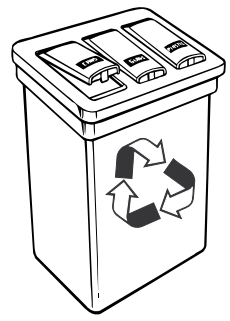
MUSM: miss you so much
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Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

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The Q Line

HOME FOR THE HOMELESS?

This past week, Q-line asked:
The ACLU filed a suit last week claiming City Hall violated constitutional rights by arresting a group of six plaintiffs for breaking a local law against camping when there is a lack of sufficent shelter beds to accomodate the homeless. What do you think of the ACLU's lawsuit?
Here are your responses:

"THE ACLU IS NOTORIOUS FOR STIRRING the pot on all kinds of trouble-making issues. Santa Monica is overloaded with indigents and bums, who I constantly have to walk around and sidestep, for they're sprawling on our streets and sidewalks. The laws are there to try to help the citizens a little bit. These bums and vagrants are constantly pushing the envelope. They need to abide by the law or pay the penalty, like everyone else. But the ACLU smart asses probably will win. They are way too powerful."

"CONSTITUTIONALLY, THE UNITED STATES of America is a government of the people, and the people have a right to enjoy the common areas of our great nation as long as they behave. State, county and municipal statutes affecting the common areas must have constitutional soundness and they're often put to the vote of the people. The ACLU is there as a watchdog to make certain this process of the government is followed. I am pleased that the ACLU is looking into this camping issue."

"BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN TURNED INTO a giant tourist trap by our Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights run city, we get a large influx of tourist transients and bums, especially in the summer, and we couldn't possibly house all these people in shelters. It's nice we offer shelters, but it shouldn't be mandatory that we taxpayers house everyone for free. The homeless are supposed to obey all the same laws as everyone else, nor be subjected to police harassment just because they're unshaved or not wearing the newest fashions."

"MAYBE THE ACLU CASE, THE LATEST nightmare involving the 'homeless,' will help to get Santa Monica out of the thriving, yet horrendous for the citizens, homeless business. Let us only hope so."

"YES, I THINK IT'S TOTALLY RIDICULOUS that these miscreants arrested these people. I'm an ex-landlord in the city of San Malicious, and I remember giving a garage to people that needed help, because I was also the ex-captain of a feeding group that would give food to the homeless."

"THE ACLU OUGHT TO CRAWL BACK into the hole it came out of. The only judge that would make a favorable ruling on this frivolous lawsuit would be Sotomayor. Thankfully, she's busy elsewhere."

"THE ACLU IS JUST IN IT FOR THE PUBLICITY. They care little about the bums. Of course, if they like the bums so much, they (the homeless) ought to camp on the lawns of the people running the place (the ACLU). The ACLU people can have the bums, because nobody else wants them, and we sure as heck don't."

"I SURE DO, AND I PRAY THAT THEY WIN, TOO."

"I DO BELIEVE THE ACLU HAS A CASE, but I also believe that it's very interesting that they don't file lawsuits against Beverly Hills or Malibu, who have no shelters. Santa Monica should respond by closing their Samoshel shelter, which was opened in 1994 as a temporary shelter and, 15 years later, is still open. By the way, it's also located on bus yard property that was used with MPA money, and is not being used for transportation. The city has never paid the MPA back for that money."

"I THINK IT'S LIKE NAZI GERMANY TO arrest people for being homeless. Many people are homeless. I remember World War II in Europe, living among the rubble, and these people were never arrested. What you're doing is arresting people for their terrible tragedy and illness. I think this is the bottom of cruelty."

"THE HOMELESS ARE HUMAN BEINGS, and if the government cannot give them a shelter, they have the right to survive and the right to sleep wherever they can find a place to sleep. It is not their fault if a person is homeless or has no shelter. There are not enough shelters. We are spending too many billions on war and other things, and we need this money to help people who are very poor."

"NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED. What did you expect from the ACLU? They make their money by suing. They are extortionists. It's part of doing business in this town, just like a third-rate Banana Republic. The ACLU is just another organization making a good living off the bumsters. Build it and they will come — except build it in Riverside. Send all the bums there with their dogs, shopping carts, and the ACLU, helping to make license plates. Come to think of it, get the bums on the City Council to go there too — now there's a task worthy of the ACLU."

"THE ACLU LAWSUIT IS AN ABUSE OF the legal system. The homeless in Santa Monica were not evicted from a Santa Monica apartment, nor are they homeless due to the foreclosure of their Santa Monica homes. They are here due to Santa Monicans Renter's Rights giving away millions of our tax dollars to social service providers, which constitutes a magnet for L.A. County's homeless. The ACLU should have sued Rolling Hills Estates, Bradbury, La Cañada, San Marino and Beverly Hills. Those wealthy cities provide little or no homeless services and little or no low-income rental housing."

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Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trying to rise to the top

LAST WEEKEND I ATTENDED THE CASTING call in Austin, Texas for season six of the "Next Food Network Star." This is the sixth time I have applied for the show but the first time I have ever attended a casting call. I had high hopes that this casting call would teach me something about the application process. I was hoping I would learn what the casting people are looking for. I was hoping they could at least tell me whether or not I should keep applying for the show. But all I learned was that if they liked you, you would get a call back the next day.

I didn't get a call back but I was the only one who submitted an audition video on the spot. Perhaps they liked me and since they already had my audition video, there was no need to call me back.

I won't know the outcome until November when the finalists are chosen. There is nothing more I can do now except to keep moving ahead and try other avenues.

No matter what happens, I had a great time in Austin. I stayed at the Hyatt with a room overlooking Lake Austin. I felt at peace as I watched the skullers go by. When I broke my foot last year, I rekindled a love for rowing.

I also visited the original 80,000-square-foot Whole Foods Market. It was my literal heaven on Earth. This is where I bought my evening meal and kombucha fix. My other meals were eaten either at the hotel or adjacent restaurants.

Here are some recipes based on my Austin dining experience at Zax. I hope you too will enjoy the spicy soup paired with the sweet salad. Mmm-mm, so delicious!

Visit Elizabeth's Web site for her videos and other interesting tidbits, www.TheKitchenVixen.com.

Chicken Tortilla Soup

1 1/2 pounds chicken breast, slow cooked
2 yellow onion, chopped
6 cloves garlic, minced
3 jalapeños, seeds removed, minced
1 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. chili powder
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 cup white wine
28 ounce can fire roasted crushed tomatoes, Muir Glen
15 ounce can black beans, drained
16 ounce bag yellow corn
32 ounces chicken broth
1/2 lime, juiced (to garnish)
1 bunch cilantro (to garnish)
1-2 ripe avocados (to garnish)

For best results, cook chicken in a slow-cooker/crockpot for up to eight hours on low heat. I used the mango barbecue sauce from last week's recipe to immerse my chicken as it cooked. You can also immerse your chicken in tomato sauce, chicken broth or water with herbs such as oregano, basil and thyme. Or slow cook the chicken on the stove top while chopping vegetables. Shred chicken as it cooks.

In a separate deep sauté pan or stock pot, sauté onions in a little broth or olive oil until the onions are soft and fragrant. Add the garlic and jalapeño blend with cumin, chili powder and Worcestershire sauce. Stir in white wine, tomatoes, black beans and corn. Allow flavors to meld. Add shredded chicken and chicken broth to reach desired consistency. While soup is simmering on medium-low, prepare tortilla strips.

Tortilla Strips

12 corn tortillas
High heat canola or avocado oil
1/2 lime, juiced
2 tbs. chili powder
1 tsp. sea salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Brush some oil on two baking trays. Place six tortillas on each tray. Sprinkle with oil, lime juice, chili powder and salt. Bake for 8-10 minutes until tortillas are slightly crisp. Cut into strips to sprinkle on Chicken Tortilla Soup. Otherwise it's really just a tomato based chicken soup. Top each bowl of soup with tortilla strips, avocado pieces, chopped cilantro and a squeeze of lime juice.

Candied Pecan and Pear Salad with Sweet Vinaigrette

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
2 tbs. maple syrup
Juice of 1/2 lemon
1/2 tsp. Dijon mustard
1/4 tsp. sea salt
1/4 tsp. ground black pepper
Bunch mesclun greens
1 pear, sliced 1/4 inch thick
2 tbs. blue cheese, feta or goat cheese

Blend first six ingredients with a fork. Toss with greens. Top with pear slices, candied pecans and crumbled cheese.

Candied Pecans

1/4 cup milk
1/2 cup maple syrup
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. sea salt
1 tbs. vanilla
1/2 cup pecans

Combine first four ingredients in a small sauce pot. Bring to a rolling boil. Remove from heat. Add vanilla and blend. Add pecans and stir to coat thoroughly. Pour onto baking sheet covered with parchment paper. Allow to cool. Add to salad, cereal, yogurt or fresh fruit.

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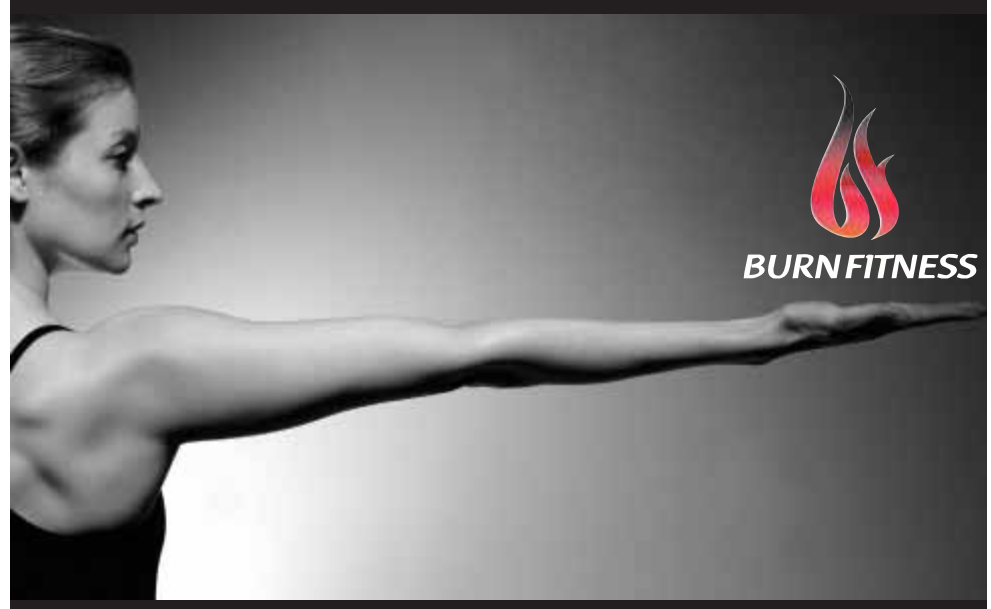
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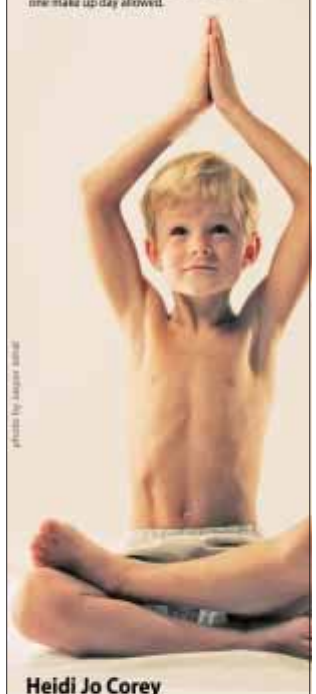
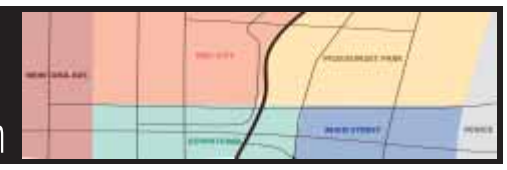


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66 cold cases are on books

FROM COLD CASES PAGE 1

responsibility to solve the 66 cases that fill a large, fire-proof filing cabinet located on the second floor of the Public Safety Facility.

While the challenge may seem daunting to some, Nichols, a 19-year-veteran who began his career in law enforcement as a patrol officer with the LAPD, enjoys the opportunity to bring closure to the families of the victims. And not being on-call, leaving him more time to spend with his wife and son, doesn't hurt either.

"It's not the long hours so much anymore, it's that this is a very tedious job," Nichols, 49, said during an interview Thursday about the challenges that come with heading a unit that didn't exist until two years ago. "I mean you are literally looking for a needle in a haystack. Not all crimes are solved right in front of your face. They really do take a lot of leg work."

The Cold Case Unit, which also includes a detective dedicated solely to sex crimes, was created in September 2007 after former Capt. Jacqueline Seabrooks, now chief of police for Inglewood, conducted a feasibility study to determine if creating the unit was even a possibility given staffing levels. There are five homicide detectives dedicated to robbery/homicide.

Seabrooks, who was serving as the commanding officer in charge of the Office of Criminal Investigations, was approached by a detective under her command who asked if having a cold case unit was possible, prompting the study.

"And what a great suggestion it was," said Seabrooks, who left the SMPD to join Inglewood before the Cold Case Unit was established. "I must admit that I was pleased to later learn that Chief [Tim] Jackman approved the establishment of the program."

Seabrooks has created a Cold Case Unit at the Inglewood Police Department, "the basis for doing so is to ensure a community, and certainly the loved ones of homicide victims, that the police do not ever stop looking to resolve these cases.

"And more to the point, all things being equal, where there is a need, it is simply the right thing to do."

When Jackman joined the SMPD he said there were a few cases that "bothered" him, including the murder of a German tourist in 1998 that at that point had not been solved (in February authorities arrested Paul Carpenter in Kingston, Jamaica for the murder). This led Jackman and his staff to do a comprehensive review of unsolved cases, and it became clear that there were at least 250 cases in which DNA evidence had not been analyzed. With new DNA technology available, Jackman felt it was imperative to dedicate more resources to clearing these cases.

He assigned Nichols to the homicide section and Det. Karen Thompson, whom he calls a "bloodhound," to the sex crimes unit.

"These are crimes that I call life-time crimes because they impact the victims or their families in a way that no other crime does," Jackman said. "These crimes linger with people and can be very psychologically devastating. These are crimes that people never forget.

"So in many ways these are the most serious crimes and it made sense to devote extra resources to it. I've got very extraordinary detectives doing phenomenal jobs."

The formation of the unit came just as Nichols was looking to make a change. The long hours working homicide were wearing on him. He wanted something more stable. With the Cold Case Unit, he has set hours for the most part and is still able to do what he loves most.

"When you work patrol, you arrest people and write the report and that's it, you're done," Nichols said. "After a while you get to thinking about what happens after that. What's the next step? That was basically what drove me to want to be a detective, to be able to see a case all the way through to the prosecution.

"There's nothing like getting a guilty verdict and have the family of the deceased sitting behind you in court," Nichols added. "It's the best feeling in the world."

OFF THE GROUND

Getting the unit up and running was a challenge. Various detectives had different ways of organizing their files, leaving Nichols with a mess to sort out. He devised a system which he believes can hold up long after he's gone.

Once he finished organizing the files, Nichols dove right in, analyzing each of the 66 cases, finding out which ones had more evidence than others and therefore would be easier to solve.

"After talking with my colleagues in the LAPD, they told me to start with the most recent cases first because chances are you will have an easier time finding people," he said. "The older a case is the more difficult it is to find people."

Nichols starts from the front page and works his way back, watching old interviews on video, conducting Internet searches to locate witnesses who may have moved. From there he starts knocking on doors, sometimes driving to San Diego or Northern California to prisons for interviews. When his work calls for him to visit more dangerous locales, he usually brings a fellow detective with him.

"Oh yeah, it's time consuming," he said. "You have to look at the evidence you have and determine how much you can realistically get out of each case. You have to prioritize. … I have several cases in the hopper right now."

The cases date as far back as 1970. The most recent is from 2004.

A cold case is defined as any homicide that is five years old or older. There is no statute of limitations for homicide in California.

TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGHS

While some cases may have proved difficult to solve decades ago, new technology, including DNA analysis, has helped lead to convictions, Nichols said. Three cases have been cleared because of DNA technology and just recently Nichols received some good news regarding bullet casings recovered from a gang homicide at Eddie's Liquor in 1998.

Nichols heard of a forensic scientist at the University of Leicester in Britain named Dr. John Bond who helped develop a breakthrough in crime detection — applying an electric charge to a metal such as a gun or bullet, which has been coated in fine conducting powder, similar to that used in photo copiers. When the charge is applied, the powder displays a residual fingerprint, even on casings that have been exposed to heat. It was previously believed that heat generated by gunfire would destroy any fingerprints. Quite the opposite. The heat actually helps the process by essentially burning the print onto the casing.

"The technique works on everything from bullet casings to machine guns," Bond said in an interview with insideengineer.com. "Even if heat vaporizes normal clues, police will be able to prove

SEE COLD CASES PAGE 11



Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

ONE-MAN OPERATION: **Det. Larry Nichols stands in front of cabinets containing the 60-plus binders of unsolved cold case murder files at the Public Safety Building on Thursday morning.**

Technology aids investigations

FROM **COLD CASES** PAGE 10

who handled the gun."

Nichols sent casings to Bond, who was able to lift a partial print.

"Now if we do have somebody who we are looking at, we can do a comparison," Nichols said. "Unfortunately we have only a partial print and do not have enough points to put it into the system and get a match, but it could help us in the future. … It's just another piece of this big puzzle I have to solve."

While television shows make the processing of DNA evidence look simple, with results coming in before the commercial break, it isn't that way in real life. Since the SMPD does not have its own lab to analyze DNA, samples must be sent out, and that can mean delays in processing. Nichols said it isn't uncommon to wait at least three weeks to get samples back.

"It's very important," Nichols said of DNA evidence. "But it's not the end all. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done."

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REPORT

On **TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2009, at 5:45 p.m.** the Santa Monica City Council will hold a public hearing regarding the approval of the Stormwater Management Reports, describing each parcel within the City and the amount of each parcel's Stormwater Management Fee and Clean Beaches Special Tax for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Stormwater Management Fees are a funding source for watershed management activities, including periodic upgrades and construction of drainage facilities, maintenance of the storm drain system, catch basin cleaning, public education, runoff pollution control enforcement and other programs that protect the economic, recreational and biological resources of Santa Monica Bay from urban runoff pollution. Each Fee is billed through the L.A. County Tax Assessor on one's 2009-2010 property tax bill. The hearing will be held at the COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 213, CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, at which time the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the Reports. Copies of the Reports have been filed with the City Clerk's Office and City libraries, and are available for review. Further information may be obtained by calling the Watershed Management Program Coordinator, (310) 458-8223.





Photo courtesy Emily Jacobson

CANDID MOMENT: **A woman at OPCC's Daybreak Shelter in Santa Monica passing time.**

Venice Arts exhibit allows homeless women tell stories

FROM **CAMERA** PAGE 3

years, forced out of her apartment after she could no longer pay rent. She spent about 10 months at Daybreak and finally moved into an apartment in Los Angeles in June.

She decided to take the photography class to fill up some free time she had during the day.

> **IT GAVE ME A CHANCE TO LOOK BACK ON BEING HOMELESS ... AND ACCEPT THE DIRECTION THAT I WAS READY TO GO AND MOVE ON TO GET MYSELF HOUSING."**
>
> **Rebecca Curry**
> former OPCC Daybreak client

"They showed me that I took the right way out to get help instead of just living on the street," Curry said about the experience.

Maya Myers, a professional photographer who served as a mentor for the program, described the initial challenge of gaining the trust of the students, assuring that they would not exploit them.

She was able to do so by simply treating the women like they were human beings, as equals.

While much of the class involved going out in the field, there were days when the women would just sit in class and discuss how they felt about homelessness in society.

"I think that was when they saw we wanted to hear what they said and respected who they were," Myers said.

The women in the program are at different stages in their transition out of homelessness. Some are recently sheltered, others are still on the streets. A few women have moved into transitional housing and at least one has enrolled in a photography class at Santa Monica College.

"I think (the program) validated their experiences," Turk said. "Being able to tell it through art helped them feel more prideful about where they have been and where they are going."

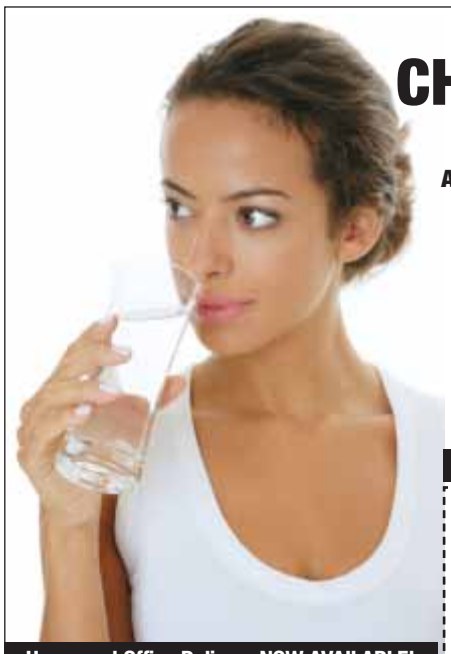
The learning experiences weren't limited to the students.

For Myers it was the first time working with homeless women after having helped at-risk youth with various arts organizations for three years.

"I think one of the things that really affected me is exactly how sensitive and vulnerable these women were because of the idea of being homeless and how society sees them," she said. "They are just extremely protective of themselves in every sense of the word.

"It completely opened up my world."

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Budget includes deep cuts to services

FROM BUDGET PAGE 3

The loss of $1.1 billion from the budget package means Schwarzenegger will have to use his authority to make even deeper cuts to close the gap. The governor vowed to make more cuts sometime next week to make up the difference and restore a reserve fund he has long sought.

The passage of the bills brought a measure of relief to a bewildered lawmakers after a marathon session. "I don't even remember if it's afternoon, evening or night," said Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, D-Los Angeles.

She acknowledged that the fixes aren't permanent: "We do not exactly know where the economy is going right now."

Hallye Jordan, a spokeswoman for state Controller John Chiang, said the controller hopes to decide within the next two weeks when California can stop issuing IOUs to cover its bills.

The budget agreement will be felt in nearly every community of the nation's most populous state.

Cuts to public schools are expected to force teacher layoffs, more crowded classrooms and scaled-back offerings in art, music and sports.

College students will pay hundreds of dollars more per year in fees, course offerings will shrink and tens of thousands of prospective students will be turned away.

Welfare, health care programs for low-income families and in-home services for the disabled and elderly will be reduced. Nearly 40,000 will have their in-home support services terminated.

Even state workers, long protected by powerful public employee unions, have been affected. Schwarzenegger has ordered them to take three days off a month without pay, equating to a 14 percent pay cut.

An undetermined number of state parks will close after Labor Day, and the state will be authorized to sell 17 state office buildings to raise cash, renting the space back from the new landlord. The Orange County Fairgrounds also will go on the market.

The oil-drilling measure emerged as one of the most contentious, with Assembly lawmakers debating for more than an hour before Democrats prevailed in killing it. Assemblyman Pedro Nava, a Democrat from Santa Barbara who has long opposed the project, said the governor appeared to be willing to hijack California's future because of a budget crisis.

The spending cuts amount to roughly 60 percent of a budget deficit projected at $26 billion through June 2010. The size of the shortfall is unprecedented, representing nearly 30 percent of the state's $88 billion general fund.

Spending hasn't been at that level in California since 2005, underscoring the severity of the state's economic collapse. Its unemployment rate of 11.6 percent is the highest on record, and personal income tax revenue to the state fell 34 percent during the first half of the year.

When Schwarzenegger signs the budget agreement, state officials hope it will be enough to satisfy the bond markets and allow the state to begin taking out short-term loans.

But other issues loom.

The state's largest employee union, representing 95,000 workers, is asking its members whether they want to authorize a strike or walkout to protest the monthly furloughs.

Cities and counties, meanwhile, have said they might to stop the state from taking some $4 billion in local tax money. Local governments throughout the state, hit by declining property and sales taxes, already are laying off law enforcement officers, firefighters and other employees, while trimming park maintenance, library, trash and other services.

"This budget deal doesn't just kick the can down the road; it kicks it off the road into our front yard, and we've got a toxic mess spilling out that cities and counties are going to have to clean up," said San Jose Mayor Chuck Reid.

The Assembly's decision not to take $1 billion in transportation money from local governments succeeded in heading off a threatened lawsuit from cities and counties. The vote came after an intensive lobbying campaign by mayors and local officials from around the state, who bombarded lawmakers with letters and calls.

The rapid decline in tax revenue and Republicans' insistence on no tax increases left lawmakers with few options but to cut spending, borrow money from elsewhere and resort to various accounting tricks to balance its books.

One of those gimmicks was to defer state employee paychecks by one day, from June 30 to July 1, 2010, for a savings on paper of $1.2 billion. The state also will accelerate collection of 2010 personal income and corporate taxes to bring in revenue earlier than anticipated.

Schwarzenegger said the budget resolution is a sign to the financial community and the public that California is back in business — even if its image has been tarnished.

"I think the people that sometimes suggest that the American dream or the California dream is evaporating I think is absolutely wrong," he said. "I think the California dream is as strong as ever."

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Officials say Craigslist continues to sell sex

DON BABWIN
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO Two months after Craigslist promised to rid itself of advertisements placed by prostitutes, law enforcement officials say the classified ad site is still in the business of selling sex.

From a sheriff who has no intention of dropping his lawsuit to an attorney general who suggests that he and colleagues could further pressure the company to crack down on online prostitution, they say they are not through with Craigslist.

"It makes me wonder, do they really think I'm sort of stupid, some bobblehead who will think they changed it?" said Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, who sued the San Francisco-based company earlier this year, calling it the nation's largest source of prostitution. "They seem to insist on being cute and playing games (and) it's getting old."

Dart and others acknowledge that when the popular site pulled the plug on its "erotic services" category and replaced it with a new "adult services" section, it did away with the most graphic photographs.

But they say there is no mistaking that sex is still being sold on the site. Ad after ad include photographs of scantily clad women in suggestive poses. Many offer massages or undefined services — "Just imagine what we could do," reads one; "Your wife or girlfriend won't do this for you, but we will," reads another — with listing prices that vary depending on how much time is required.

In an e-mail, Craigslist CEO Jim Buckmaster dismissed Dart's lawsuit as a publicity stunt.

"The citizens of Cook County would arguably be better served if their sheriff spent his time addressing actual crime, rather than using the courts to generate personal publicity," he wrote.

Craigslist announced the changes in May amid mounting criticism of the ads and pressure to do something about them, which grew when a Boston-area area man was accused of fatally shooting a woman who placed an ad on the site.

In addition to eliminating the "erotic services" category, Craigslist promised to pre-screen all submissions to the new section and charge a fee.

At the time, Dart's attorney said Craigslist's attorney told him the changes would render the lawsuit unnecessary and suggested Dart drop it.

But there were questions then about the new category and how Craigslist would monitor it before allowing ads to be posted. Attorneys general said Craigslist had broken previous promises to monitor erotic ads.

"They are so thinly disguised, the real question is how they are permitted to be there if, in fact, the site is doing the screening and policing that they said they will do," Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said.

Dan Gallagher, Dart's attorney in his lawsuit, said it is impossible to read many of the ads without concluding they are solicitations for prostitution — such as ones he's seen from women who offer escort services for as little as 15 minutes.

"They (Craigslist) go to great lengths to say this is just a site so that people can meet one another to fulfill their romantic aspirations," he said. "I don't think having an escort for 15 minutes is a fulfillment of romantic aspirations."

Astronauts change batteries

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. Astronauts outfitted the international space station with fresh batteries in an extra-long spacewalk Friday, moving slowly and even loitering at times to avoid a repeat of the suit trouble that cut short the previous outing.

Despite their dawdling pace, Christopher Cassidy and Thomas Marshburn managed to install all four new batteries.

For the second spacewalk in a row, Cassidy ended up with rising carbon dioxide levels in his suit. But the problem did not crop up until the battery work was complete, toward the end of what turned out to be a seven-hour, 12-minute spacewalk.

Before the spacewalk, Mission Control had requested Cassidy and Marshburn to take their time heading out to the far end of the space station, where the critical battery changes awaited them.

It was difficult dealing with all the stiff bolts, and the men paced themselves accordingly as they pulled out 9-year-old batteries and plugged in new ones.

The last time Cassidy went out, on Wednesday, he was so gung-ho and moved so fast that the air-cleansing canister in his suit could not keep up. That resulted in rising carbon dioxide levels that forced an early end to the spacewalk.

"He's a Navy SEAL, he's in great shape, and so we really needed to tell him, 'Hey, we know you can do this really well and really fast ... just slow down a little and take your time,'" explained flight director Holly Ridings.

The spacewalkers took the advice to heart. But despite Cassidy's effort to stay relaxed, his metabolic rate was a little high at times and Mission Control urged him to take it easy. Marshburn, in fact, took on some extra chores early on to give his partner a break.

Six-and-a-half hours into the spacewalk, Mission Control reported that carbon dioxide levels were rising slightly in Cassidy's suit. The astronauts were advised to start wrapping everything up.

"OK, guys, come back nice and steady," Timothy Kopra called from inside the shuttle-station complex. "Nice and slow," one of the spacewalkers repeated to himself as he traversed the 150 feet from the work site to the hatch. They said they were both a little tired.

"And, guys, the boss says that you've earned a day off tomorrow," Kopra said. Their reply: "Wo"

Two of the four new batteries assigned to Cassidy and Marshburn should have been installed Wednesday. Only two fresh batteries were hooked up during that shortened spacewalk. The extra work pushed the length of Friday's spacewalk past the usual 6 1/2 hours.

BOOKREVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON

'The Secret'

By Beverly Lewis • Bethany House

In this new series published by Bethany House, Beverly Lewis once again takes us into the world of the Amish people. This is set in the present. In her previous book "Forbidden" in the "The Courtship of Nellie Fisher" series (reviewed in this paper July 25, 2008) we got a glimpse of Amish life. We get another glimpse in this one.

The local of this one is an "idyllic town nestled between the city of Lancaster on the West, and the village of Intercourse to the East." It should remain so except for one thing. Grace's 21st birthday is approaching. Her mother is acting strangely. The mother is given to going out in the middle of the night and walking through the corn fields. Then one night she takes a suit case with her and goes to the train station leaving behind a husband and three children. "She'd been known to be the impulsive sort. But now Lattie was older...and a good deal wiser." Lattie's mother states, "Truth be told, Lattie's disappearance was the last thing she'd expect from this daughter." It has been over 20 years she has been holding this secret. What effect will it have on those close to her?

Her husband, Judah, wonders, "Is Lattie still grieving Naomi? Her sister had died in her sleep several years earlier, within days of Gracie's birthday, as he recalled."

Hers isn't the only secret being kept. Judah has secrets also and is not communicating with the offspring. In another plot line we have a young woman named Heather who is suffering from cancer. "I've no time for doom and gloom" she tells herself. She hasn't told anyone yet since she is afraid of the treatment she would have to undergo. She has a memory of her mother who also had cancer dying from the treatments. She wishes to try homeopathic methods first. She figures there is time enough to tell others.

In the story of Heather suffering from cancer we are brought up to the point where she moves back to Lancaster County. Her father has some real estate and is developing it. She decides it is time to share the news.

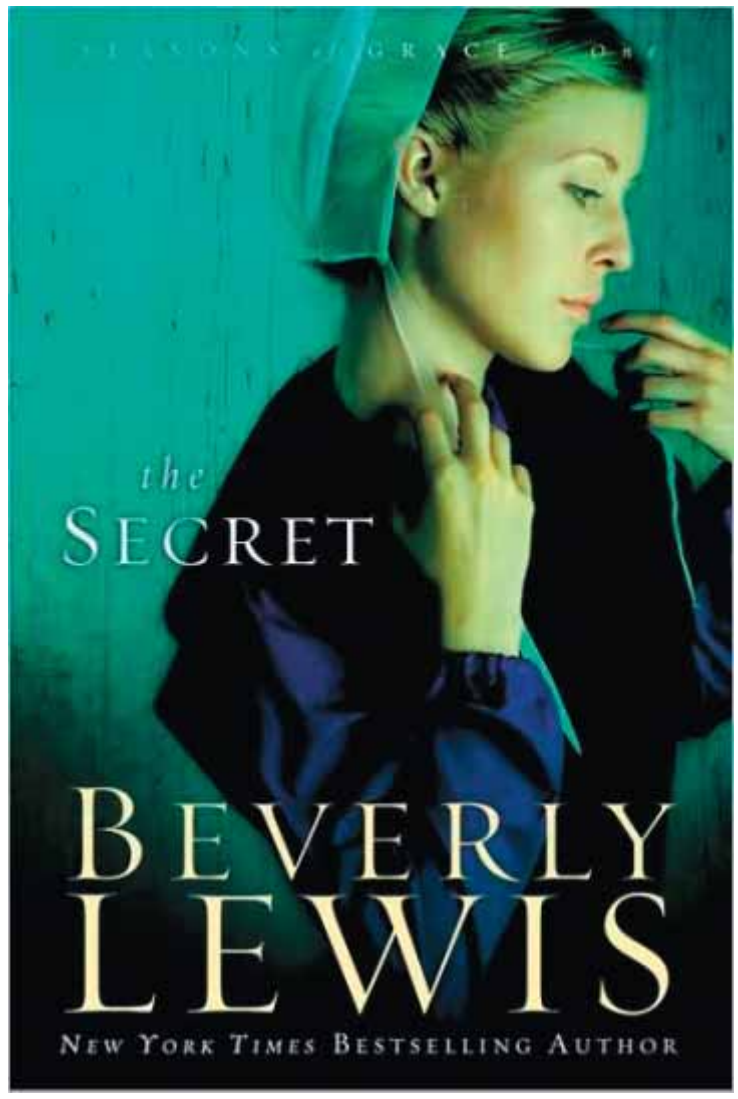
Lattie finds what she is looking for, or at least thinks she has found it. But in doing so she opens a can of worms.

The strands or plot lines are not fully resolved in this one book. We are taken only so far. There are promises implied that will move the story along for as many volumes as are needed. Hopefully in the next book in the series we will have closure.

Lewis seems to enjoy telling stories concerning this sect in America. This time she deals with the present rather than a historical period. In her story telling she helps us understand this group and their adjustment to modern technology. The technology is the phone and the automobile. For fans of Lewis this is a very rewarding suspenseful tale.

Lewis and her stories have appeared on bestsellers lists including "USA Today" and "The New York Times." She has over 70 books to her name.

Pick up a book and you will find yourself in another place or time. Read non-fiction and you discover new truth or you add to your present knowledge. Write to the best looking book reviewer in Santa Monica and expand yourself. Smdp_review@yahoo.com.



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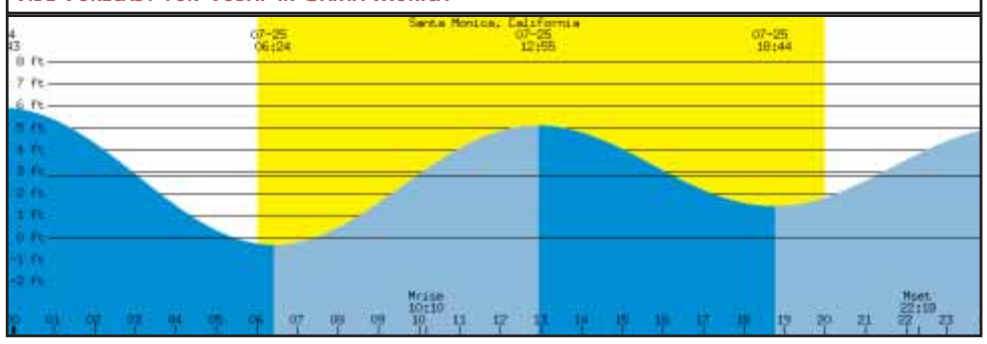
Swell Forecast

Head high surf is expected around most all south facing breaks with the better set waves running a foot or so overhead. Periods should run 16 seconds from 200 degrees.

Long Range Synopsis

Early this week the lagging, 14-second periods should arrive from the Cook Island swell, bringing only chest high waves to 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 four weeks up to the ending date of **July 21, 2009**

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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 -- 44 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / 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 Cerrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza 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	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	C	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	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	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	F	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)	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	D	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	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	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	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'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.

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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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Associated Press

'WWII-Behind Closed Doors: Stalin, the Nazis and the West'

Yet another fascinating documentary series from the BBC involving World War II. This double disc, six episode series examines how Joseph Stalin, the supreme leader of the Soviet Union who was a tyrant responsible for the death of millions, developed some unlikely relationships during the Second World War. Besides the Allied commanders, Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt, Stalin forged a pact with Hitler and the Nazis. For the first time on television, this ambitious series from award-winning filmmaker Laurence Rees ("War of the Century", "Nazis-A Warning From History") uses exclusive evidence gained from the actual conversations and secret meetings Stalin conducted with Roosevelt, Churchill and Nazi leaders, to dramatically reveal the true natures of the three leaders and how the meetings they had - and the decisions they made - shaped the world today. Illuminating interviews and lavish reconstructions really add an insiders perspective about the relationships between these powerful leaders. (BBC)

'Race to Witch Mountain' 2-Disc Edition

Dwayne Johnson re-unites with director Andy Fickman ("The Game Plan") in this popular family sci-fi adventure where a tough-talking Las Vegas taxi driver (Johnson) joins forces with otherworldly siblings to stop a global disaster. With a ruthless adversary on their tail, Sara (Anna Sophia Robb) and Seth (Alexander Ludwig) display astonishing supernatural abilities and Jack becomes a reluctant hero as he helps them evade their pursuer. As Witch Mountain reveals its long hidden secrets, Jack discovers that his young passengers are the only key to saving mankind. Deleted scenes and bloopers are part of the bonus materials. (Disney)

'Midnight Express- (Blu-ray)

This double Oscar-winning suspense classic from 1978 is based on a true story about Billy Hayes (Brad Davis), a young American caught at the Turkish border trying to smuggle hashish. Essentially on his own, enduring daily beatings, facing a very uncertain future and fearing for his life, with options dwindling Billy soon comes to the decision that the "Midnight Express" (inmate slang for "an escape") is perhaps his last hope. Winner of six Golden Globes, written by Oliver Stone and directed by Alan Parker, the dark drama also stars Bob Hopkins, Randy Quaid and John Hurt. Parker's 32-page photographic journal and essay booklet from his on-set experiences are included in the bonus materials as well as a making-of segment and the director's commentary. (Sony)

'Assault in the Ring'

The latest documentary from HBO revisits the ill-fated 1983 junior middleweight boxing match between Billy Collins Jr. and Luis Resto. The story looks at new evidence about some shady pre-fight activities involving Resto, his trainer Panama Lewis and the athletic commission representatives. In Madison Square Garden on the evening of June 16, undefeated Nashville-native Collins was favored to win, but what ensued changed the boxers forever. Resto had seemed to pull off an upset, but the post-victory celebration was cut short when it was discovered padding from his gloves had been removed illegally before the fight by his trainer. Resto was subsequently incarcerated and banned from the sport as was trainer Lewis. The story continues from there with a deeper investigation and revelations to a tragic event and yet another black eye on the sport and hopes for some level of redemption. (HBO)

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at sportandcinema@gmail.com

MOVIE TIMES

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

Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG) 1hr 45min
5:00

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
11:15 a.m., 2:45, 6:15, 9:45

Up (PG) 1hr 36min
11:40 a.m., 2:15, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG-13) 2hrs 24min
12:10, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15

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

G-Force (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15 a.m., 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 9:05

G-Force: In Disney Digital 3-D (PG) 1hr 28min
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05

The Proposal (PG-13) 1hr 48 min
11:05 a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35

Public Enemies (R) 2hrs 23min
12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
10:30 a.m., 12:00, 2:00, 3:30, 5:30, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30

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

(500) Days of Summer (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15

The Answer Man (R) 1hr 35min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50

Moon (R) 1hr 37min
1:50, 4:20, 9:30

The Hurt Locker (R) 2hr 7min
1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15

Food, Inc. (PG) 1hr 33min
11:00 a.m.

Herb & Dorothy (NR) 1hr 27min
11:00 a.m.

Irene in Time (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:00 a.m.

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

Orphan (R) 2hrs 3min
1:20, 3:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 11:40

The Ugly Truth (R) 1hr 35min
11:10 a.m., 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:10, 10:10, 11:30

Bruno (R) 1hr 22min
12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 5:30, 6:50, 8:00, 10:20

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (PG) 1hr 34min
11:40 a.m., 2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20

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

Late night, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Complete a project or get a certain job done. Others try to lure you out to play. The change will be most welcome. Do relax with friends and loved ones. Don't let an unexpected development get to you. Tonight: Rest, then out on the town.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ In many people's eyes, your presence enhances the moment. Relaxed, you let go and become a different person. Isn't that a shame? Let others get to know the playful, frisky Bull. Tonight: Relish every moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Sometimes you feel you need to be out and about, which prevents you from enjoying a lazy day, perhaps at home, or at least at a calmer pace. If you want, invite friends over for volleyball or a barbecue. Make it easy if you decide to be the ever-gregarious Twin. Tonight: Home is your castle, too.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ If you hold back and don't express your resentment, you could be quite uncomfortable. Try diplomacy. If you have a choice, let kindness set the tone, whether you air the problem or not. Tonight: Hanging out with friends or loved ones.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Curb a need to be possessive. You don't always have control. A little sugar goes a long way. You are happiest around your friends, even with a loved one and/or family member with you. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Clearly others really appreciate your efforts to bring family and/or friends together. You could be a little tired. Eliminate errands or take a nap. In your mind, someone or several people are acting strangely. Tonight: Remember, you are top dog.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Play it low-key during the daylight hours, and you will have all the energy you need for later. Whether you are aware of an admirer or not, someone is goggling over you. Take a nap if you can; you will need it. Tonight: Could be very, very late.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Surround yourself with people you care about. Take in news, and understand what is being offered. Your mental outlook could determine the end results. A child or new friend could send tremors through your life. You can handle what happens. Tonight: Head home early.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You might want a different response than you get when handling a personal matter. Someone who is very kind and caring lets you know how much your sense of direction means to him or her. The unexpected occurs when you least anticipate it. Tonight: Work on your juggling act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Reach into your imagination and make plans, which could be akin to a constantly changing Ferris wheel. Hop on and get into the fun. Rigidity and status quo have no place here. Tonight: Let go of the tried-and-true.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You enjoy company nearly anytime. If someone cancels plans, don't be alone. A financial matter could color your choices, like it or not. Tonight: Dinner and a movie.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Defer to others and make it possible to really have a good time. Have some quality experiences within a friendship or close bond. Talking about problems doesn't give much time for living. Experience each other as you did originally. Tonight: Togetherness works.

Happy birthday

This year, lighten up and relax more often. If you put your best foot forward and remain generous and caring, you'll come out on top. The unexpected comes into play with partners, finances, communication and sometimes traveling. Use these surprises rather than react. If you are single, you could meet someone while just going to the bank! If you are attached, let go of a newfound habit of being critical. Everyone will be happier! LIBRA brings out the best in you.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Knee protectors
5 Great serves
9 TV tryout
10 Cloth units
12 Skirt
13 Mindful
14 Some nuts
16 Signing need
17 Friend of Harry and Hermione
18 Surmised
20 Steals
22 Favorites
23 Extreme
25 Rigging support
28 Comic-strip makeup
32 Skunk
34 Dyeing need
35 Maximum amount
36 Busy
38 Punches
40 Titanic, for one
41 Deserve
42 Each
43 Takes in
44 Some wines

DOWN

1 Bed item
2 Reunion group
3 Extinct bird
4 Baseball's Casey
5 Humble
6 Farm grazer
7 Go by
8 Block border
9 Still life favorites
11 Posts
15 Maid's tool
19 Bridge
21 Undiluted
24 Side-winder
25 Tic
26 Common allergen
27 Charm
29 Made level
30 Heady brews
31 Building unit
33 Runs to
37 Workers' home
39 "Skedaddle!"

R	A	F	T	■	■	N	O	N	O	■
O	G	R	E	S	■	A	M	O	N	G
A	R	E	N	A	■	P	A	P	E	R
D	E	E	■	G	R	E	N	A	D	A
S	E	T	T	E	E	S	■	R	A	P
■	D	R	O	L	L	■	S	K	Y	E
■	■	A	N	Y	■	C	H	I	■	■
R	I	D	E	■	A	L	A	N	S	■
A	C	E	■	D	R	E	D	G	E	S
B	A	Z	O	O	K	A	■	Z	A	P
I	R	O	N	S	■	T	B	O	N	E
D	U	N	C	E	■	S	I	N	C	E
■	S	E	E	S	■	■	D	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				■	44				■

7-25

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 3 8 21 50 52 Meganumber: 2 Jackpot: $48M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 26 31 32 43 45 Meganumber: 18 Jackpot: $9M

FANTASY 5: 6 8 27 30 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 6 3 EVENING: 0 4 3

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 07 Eureka 2nd: 12 Lucky Charms 3rd: 10 Solid Gold RACE TIME: 1:49.78

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

■ In May, police in Winder, Ga. (pop. 10,200), arrested a marijuana seller with a quite-low-tech delivery system. A wireless doorbell was hidden on a tree in woods alongside a house, and when the buzzer sounded, a bucket was lowered from a second-story window. The buyer put money in, the bucket was raised, and the dope would be sent back down. (2) A former Australian state deputy premier revealed in June that the federal government had so far paid out 67,000 compensation claims regarding the February brush fires, though only 2,000 homes were damaged.

■ Lawyer Larry Wilder, who works part-time as city attorney for Jeffersonville, Ind., was found by police in the early morning hours of June 3, sleeping off an apparently heavy night of drinking. He was discovered in a neighbor's yard, his head and torso inside a garbage can that was tipped over on its side, with his legs sticking out. He had recently represented the city in a high-profile case in the Indiana Court of Appeals.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1866 Ulysses S. Grant was named General of the Army of the United States, the first officer to hold the rank.

1868 Congress passed an act creating the Wyoming Territory.

1946 The United States detonated an atomic bomb near Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in the first underwater test of the device.

1952 Puerto Rico became a self-governing commonwealth of the United States.

1956 The Italian liner Andrea Doria collided with the Swedish passenger ship Stockholm off the New England coast late at night and began sinking; at least 51 people were killed.

1963 The United States, the Soviet Union and Britain initialed a treaty in Moscow prohibiting the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere, in space or underwater.

1909 French aviator Louis Bleriot became the first person to fly an airplane across the English Channel.

WORD UP!

skulk\SKUHLK\ , intransitive verb: 1. To hide, or get out of the way, in a sneaking manner; to lurk.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #102 $950 Single, stove, fridge, blinds, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $1095 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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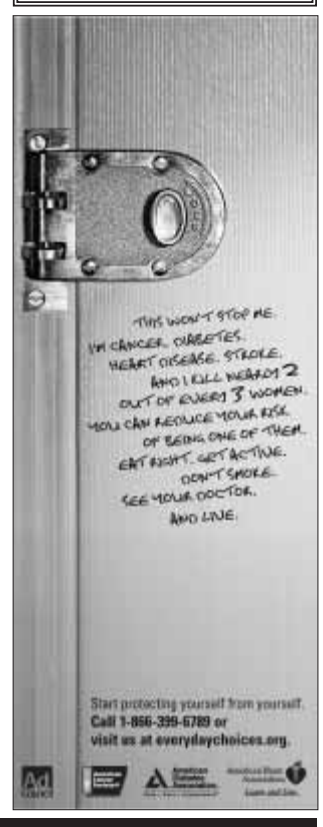
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North of Montana	$3,197,000	$1,049,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,895,000	$989,000
South of Wilshire	$899,000	$575,000
Sunset Park	$1,157,000	$744,250
Ocean Park	$1,650,000	$842,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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