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Volume 10 Issue 230



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

FLASHBACK TO THE LA MONICA BALLROOM
INSIDE

THE **CONTRAST** ISSUE



File photo

SAVED: **ReCork is collecting corks for charity.**

Used wine corks go to a good cause

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE The sound of a popping cork is music to many people's ears, but it means something different to Matt Hughes.

Hughes is the director of ReCork, a non-profit organization that collects used wine corks and repurposes them to make shoes with the help of the Vancouver-based shoe maker Sole.

ReCork was established by Amorim Cork America, an arm of the Portuguese cork producer Amorim, to help reclaim some of the 13 to 14 billion corks used every year, many of which end up in landfills.

Although ReCork has successfully gathered over 16 million corks, it needed a little help to catapult over the 20 million cork mark, which Hughes called a "milestone number."

That's where Gerri-Lynn Becker came in.

Becker is the director of operations at the California Wine Club, a 21-year-old organization that ships wine to its members across the country.

"Ultimately, it came down to a moment in my kitchen," Becker said.

She had opened a bottle of wine and was about to throw the cork into the recycling container when she stopped.

"I'm embarrassed to say, I never considered what to do with the cork," she said. "I thought, 'Wait a second, I can't put this in recycling.'"

Becker knew that both she and many of the customers of her club drink wine regularly, and she got to wondering: Where did all those corks go?

SEE **CORKS** PAGE 9



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

COASTING: **A family rides along the beach bike path near the Santa Monica Pier on Tuesday. City Hall's draft Bike Action Plan is receiving praise.**

Activists applaud City Hall's bike plan

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Members of bike activist group Santa Monica Spoke got the first peek at City Hall's draft plan for bicycle facilities and improvements across the next two decades, and, for the most part, they seemed pleased.

"It was the best thing I read all summer!" said bicyclist Michael Feinstein, referring to the tome of a draft Bike Action Plan, a large document that spells out, in great detail, the vision city planners have created to improve access, education and supporting facilities to make bicycling easier, safer and more pleasant in Santa Monica.

Although much of the commentary was positive — many comments were prefaced by rounds of applause or generic accolades — bicyclists present did have commentary about which streets needed extra love to

SEE **PLAN** PAGE 8

Flash mob participants use big crowds as cover

ERIC TUCKER & THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

The July 4 fireworks display in the Cleveland suburb of Shaker Heights was anything but a family affair.

As many as 1,000 teenagers, mobilized through social networking sites, turned out and soon started fighting and disrupting the event.

Thanks to social networks like Twitter and Facebook, more and more so-called flash mobs are materializing across the globe, leaving police scrambling to keep tabs on the spontaneous assemblies.

"They're gathering with an intent behind it — not just to enjoy the event," Shaker Heights Police Chief D. Scott Lee said. "All too often, some of the intent is malicious."

Flash mobs started off in 2003 as peace-

SEE **MOB** PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011

'I Know You Art, But What Am I?'
Gallery 1988
214 Pier Ave., 11 a.m. — 6 p.m.
What better way to honor Pee-Wee Herman than with art. Peruse artwork inspired by the iconic funny man. For more information, call (424) 238-5988.

Art from rags
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
Sonya Nimri, author of "Just For the Frill of It" and "Beadalicious," leads a class on paper mache. Stop by and make art from rags and paper. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011

There's gonna be a storm
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Hwy., 4:30 p.m. — 6 p.m.
The Santa Monica Rep's new adaptation of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" offers magic, mystery, comedy and romance, and promises to be a visual and sonic treat, featuring enormous puppets, physical theater and original songs. The show is staged outside the Marion Davies Guest House, so bring your hats and sunscreen (giant Elizabethan ruffles not required). Cost: free, reservations required, late seating available. For more information, call (310) 458-4904 or visit www.santa-monicarep.org.

Gather 'round the campfire
Temescal Gateway Park
15601 W Sunset Blvd., 7 p.m.
Sponsored by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Family Campfire Evening is a nature program that features family activities and a fun way to learn about the great outdoors. The campfire songs and marshmallows are provided, you can just bring yourself. Meets at the Stone Amphitheater. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 858-7272 x131, or visit www.lamountains.com

Friday, Aug. 12, 2011

Tell your story
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 10:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m.
Retired English professor Lawrence Owen lends his experience to "Writing for the Future," a writing workshop for seniors. Workshops occur Fridays through Aug. 26, with each one covering simple writing assignments and exercises designed to give the authors a glimpse of who they are. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Before he gets big
McCabe's Guitar Shop
3101 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
Come see a live performance by Robert Ellis, up and coming Texas country and folk singer, who the New York Times hailed as a cross between Jackson Browne and George Jones. Cost: $15. Open to all. For more information, call (310) 828-4497 or visit www.mccabes.com.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

Choosing new street trees

Santa Monica's streetscapes might be changing soon; city officials are determining replacement species for diseased or damaged street trees and want residents' input.

The replacement tree recommendations are part of the Urban Forest Master Plan, which will be presented to the City Council for approval on Dec. 13.

Residents are encouraged to find out what might replace the trees on their streets. A full list of trees can be found online at santamonicatrees.com, or by calling the Public Landscape Division at (310) 458-8974.

If residents wish to comment on the selection, remarks may be submitted by e-mail to trees@smgov.net or by mail to Public Landscape Division, Attn: UFMPTF, 2600 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif., 90405.

Residents can also make their comments in person at Urban Forest Task Force meetings on Sept. 7 and 14.

Residents will have until Sept. 14 to comment on the proposed replacement trees.

COLIN NEWTON

COLORADO AVE

BBB planner receives fellowship

Paul Casey, senior service planner for the Big Blue Bus, was awarded the Swedish-American Bicentennial Fellowship for his professional work and accomplishments at the BBB.

"It's a huge honor to have Paul recognized for his forward thinking, not just locally, but internationally," said Linda Gamberg, marketing and public information coordinator for the BBB.

The award comes from the Swedish Institute, a government agency that values international culture and education.

The fellowship administers the Swedish-American Exchange Fund, a travel grant for non-academic research and professional enrichment that allows recipients to travel to Sweden for four weeks to generate projects in public administration.

Casey's fellowship begins Sept. 1. Casey will travel to Malmo, Sweden, where he will conduct research on sustainable city planning. He will then travel to Stockholm to research the local transit system and its solutions to traffic congestion.

"We're hoping that Paul will be able to bring back some international strategies on both circulation and sustainabiltiy," Gamberg said.

City Hall and the BBB are also hoping that Casey will bring back strategies for dealing with any challenges involving the installation and implementation of the upcoming light rail system, Gamberg added.

Casey began working with the BBB in 1999. He designed two Rapid Transit routes, negotiated service parameters with the MTA and planned several Mini Blue routes.

Casey also negotiated agreements for fare payment programs with UCLA and Santa Monica College.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

CN **LIVING INSTALL: A city-contracted work crew transplants a large jacaranda last year.**

Capsized fishing boat found on Palos Verdes shoreline

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALOS VERDES ESTATES The Coast Guard launched a sea search and immigration officials searched onshore for people who might have been aboard a small fishing boat found capsized in the water just off Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Six hours after the panga boat was discovered at 6 a.m. Tuesday, no one had been located, said Coast Guard Petty Officer Adam Eggers.

He said it was hard to tell what happened to the boat or whether anyone was on board when it capsized. The boat was found in a rocky area call Bluff Cove at the foot of steep cliffs that form the Palos Verdes Estates coastline.

However, there was no damage to the hull, so authorities thought it might have capsized offshore.

Seventeen near-empty gas cans were recovered, Eggers said. All were tested and had traces of fuel, he said. Such containers are sometimes used to carry drugs.

Panga boats are typically used for fishing in Mexico and carry only a few people. Smugglers often dangerously overload the boats and use them to smuggle people or drugs from Mexico to points along the California coast.

Seas have been calm, but Eggers said the water was still in the 60s.

There has been an increase in the last couple of months in the number of panga boats in the Los Angeles area, Eggers said.

Last month, 15 immigrants had to call for help after being left stranded on Santa Cruz Island by a smuggler. Two days later, 14 immigrants were found at a park near Laguna Beach in Orange County, immigration officials said.

"Since so many patrols are going on down by the border, the thinking is that if they come farther north, it will be easier. It isn't true because we have the same process and same patrols and helicopters and it doesn't matter if the mission is rescue, first aid or law enforcement," Eggers said.

If those on board are in the water, whether they went in at midnight or 6 a.m., "hypothermia has already set in," he said.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Rent control response

Editor:

Bill Bauer's statement that the 2011 general adjustment for rent-controlled units is 3.2 percent with a $52 cap ("Renters sandbagged by 3.2 percent increase," My Write, Aug. 8) was correct. Otherwise, his facts were wrong, his understanding of the rent-control law misinformed, and his prescription for future Rent Control Board action irresponsible.

First, Action Apartment Association's lawsuit did not claim that the formula used to calculate past years' general adjustments deprived owners of a fair return as Bauer writes. Rather, the suit claimed that the Rent Control Board violated the city charter by failing to consider certain taxes when calculating the general adjustment (GA).

And the board did not "cave" when it decided to settle the lawsuit; it acknowledged that the Rent Control Law does in fact require it to consider those taxes in its GA calculation and brought the litigation to a close by committing to include them.

The resulting 3.2 percent increase is admittedly higher than it would have been without those taxes. But because the GA is calculated on the change in owner costs and taxes from year to year, now that the previously-excluded taxes are factored in to the GA calculation, their effect in future years will be negligible unless they rise dramatically, which they are not expected to do. Bauer's suggestion that the taxes' inclusion this year presages large GAs for years to come results from a basic misunderstanding of the how the GA is calculated.

Bauer's suggestion that "SMRR should push rent control staff" to propose a GA formula based on Social Security increases is equally ill informed. First, staff is nonpolitical and answers not to SMRR or any other political party, but to board members, who are the people's elected representatives; staff follows the board's direction, not the other way around. Second, and more fundamentally, the factors that must be considered in calculating the GA are set forth in the Rent Control Law, which was created not by the board, but by the voters. Staff cannot recommend, and the board could not adopt, a GA formula based on some other methodology without violating the people's will as expressed in the law — a course of action that would lead to further litigation of exactly the same type that the board just settled.

Nor should it be forgotten that there have been statewide ballot initiatives in recent years aimed at eliminating rent control in California entirely, or that the state law that created the disparity between lower, long-controlled rents and market rents that Bauer complains of was the product of a years-long effort in Sacramento (thankfully unsuccessful) to wipe out local rent controls. Far from helping our most vulnerable neighbors, a three-year rent freeze of the kind that Bauer advocates would only rekindle those efforts.

None of this is to suggest that the board is insensible to the real hardship faced by Social Security recipients, those living on unemployment benefits, or those who are working at low-wage jobs and barely managing to keep a roof over their heads. Anyone who has listened to the board over the past few years knows that members struggle with those issues constantly. But the resolution to those issues will not be found in costly litigation of the kind that would inevitably result from Bauer's proposals, or ill-conceived ideas that flout the voter-approved charter and invite further statewide limits on local government's ability to work to solve local problems.

Stephen Lewis
Public Information Manager
Santa Monica Rent Control

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

The phases of life

A CONNOISSEUR OF ROMANTIC COMEDIES, I learned ages ago that despite how hilarious and charming Katherine Heigl and Cynthia Nixon are when they have it unknowingly smeared on their cheeks, there's actually nothing adorable about real life, non chick-flick poop.

In truth, when it becomes embedded in your fingernails after changing a particularly messy diaper and the only way to get rid of the real or psychological stink is to cut them off and bleach the cuticles, no immature but ultimately tenderhearted guy will ever regard feces as if it were a coat of blush and gaze at you lovingly, realizing at long last that he's found his soul mate. As such, most parents drop everything when their children turn 2-ish to impart unto them a set of tools to deal with their own waste.

Yet, a few months into trying to get my daughter out of diapers, I'm questioning why we're really trying to potty train her at this exact moment.

The first two years of her life were spent in successive phases. There was the Will She Successfully Breast Feed phase (no), followed by the Will She Choke or Have An Allergic Reaction To Anything She's Being Fed phase (no) and the Will She Ever Learn To Nap phase (yesssss!). Then there was the Will She Ever Crawl and Walk phases (yes and yes), the Will She Be Weaned Off The Bottle Without Issue phase (no, and 11 months later she still won't drink milk), and the Will She Bite Other Kids phase (not yet, fingers crossed).

Each phase comes equipped with its own set of books, tools, stickers, charts, diagrams, gear, television programs, unsolicited advice, and tales of lessons learned the hard way. We've weathered more phases than Jessica Simpson's love life.

Luckily, at the moment everything seems to be smooth sailing. My daughter throws herself into music and art with flair, cheerfully plays and explores on the playground and outside, and except for virtually every flight on which she's been awake (and some on which she's been asleep), I consider myself a fortunate mom (fingers crossed).

For that reason, I'm not sure I have the emotional fortitude to embark on a new journey right now, especially since I don't envision any sort of short- or medium-term relief as a result of the Will She Learn How To Go On The Potty phase. It's not like once she's trained I can leave her sitting on the toilet with a newspaper while I go downstairs to take a nap or cook dinner. I mean, I'll still have to wipe her until she's, like, 5 or 6. With wiping being the worst part about diapers, what's the benefit of doing it while she's sitting on a toilet? With the narrow little potty seat fixed on top, there's much less room to work than the changing table.

Hearing things from other moms like, "Well, you just have to expect accidents and always have a change of clothes handy. It's not a bad idea to keep a portable potty in the back of your car, too," doesn't inspire me to shop for Dora the Explorer panties.

I've never really understood the little pots that some people use to train their kids. Who, exactly, cleans them out, and how? That seems to be up there with cloth diapers and '90s grunge rock in terms of filth. And what I'll save in diapers will undoubtedly be made up for in carpet-cleaning expenses. I also know I won't have any patience to wash and reassemble her car seat if she soils it repeatedly. Maybe we can just stop taking her places.

I'M GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO BOYCOTTING POTTY TRAINING ENTIRELY. WHAT'S THE WORST THAT'LL HAPPEN IF I JUST STOP TRYING TO TEACH HER?

I'm giving serious consideration to boycotting potty training entirely. What's the worst that'll happen if I just stop trying to teach her? Even neglected kids eventually wear underwear without incident, right? Presumably even Precious was potty trained at some point. The preschools might not take my daughter in diapers, but the public school has to. I'm pretty sure that's the law. And despite the fact that she thinks it's a riot to look at the potty and talk about what others do on it, I strongly suspect she won't notice or care if we quietly make it go away.

"Guess who just went pee pee on the potty?" my husband called out from the bathroom last week in the baby-talk way that all adults swear they'll never do until each and every single one of them becomes a parent and does it.

"Did my big girl go pee pee on the potty?" I cried with delight. "Yaaaaaay! Now you get some chocolate!"

"Chock-wit?" she squealed with her legs dangling from the toilet, clapping her hands with joy.

"Yes," I explained. "Here's an M&M. And if you go poo poo or pee pee on the potty again, there's more where that came from."

She ate it and when a second one wasn't forthcoming, the bliss quickly drained from her face.

"So, let me get this straight," her scowl seemed to say, "I pee on the potty and get a single stinking M&M. But last night, when I had a loaded diaper, Daddy and I sat on the couch and shared an entire bag of M&Ms. I think we can effectively kiss the potty training crap goodbye, folks."

At least we're on the same page of this phase.

More at meredithcarroll.com.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 13!
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Slain homeless man's dad wants officers sanctioned

THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The father of a mentally ill homeless man who died after a violent confrontation with police in an Orange County suburb is calling for the toughest sanctions possible against the officers, but experts said Tuesday that winning a conviction of any type could be tough.

Even though several videos depict parts of the July 5 bloody encounter between Kelly Thomas, 37, and six officers in Fullerton, previous cases have shown repeatedly that simply capturing the use of force on tape is often not enough to prosecute.

"Police officers are police officers," said Stan Goldman, a professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. "Not everyone is going to be prepared to convict them for what some might see as them doing their job."

Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas said his office is trying to determine whether officers used excessive force. The officers were investigating reports of someone burglarizing cars at a transit hub and tried to search Thomas' backpack when they got into a fight with him.

The police have said Thomas fled and resisted arrest.

A bystander with a cell phone recorded the incident from a distance, and in the footage, Thomas can be heard screaming out for his father. A bus surveillance tape showed agitated witnesses describing how officers beat Thomas and repeatedly used a stun gun on him.

City surveillance footage that has not been made public is also believed to depict the incident.

Thomas suffered severe head and neck injuries and was taken off life support July 10.

His death has become a lightning rod for protest in Fullerton, prompting hundreds to stand outside the police station and demand the resignation of police Chief Michael Sellers. A singer from a nearby town has even written a ballad about the case.

Rackauckas said he had not seen any evidence the officers intended to kill Thomas, but he has not ruled out any charges and his office is trying to expedite the criminal investigation by adding extra investigators.

The coroner's office has not determined a cause of death because it is waiting for the results of toxicology tests.

Rackauckas said prosecutors generally can file murder charges if they find that officers acted with such malice that it approached an intent to kill. He said prosecutors could also file involuntary manslaughter charges if they find that the officers used excessive force.

Ron Thomas, the dead man's father, said he believed his son was the victim of a hate crime and was targeted because he was homeless and mentally ill. Though investigations are ongoing into the incident, he said he believed one officer had repeatedly struck his son in the face and that showed an intention to kill him.

"They kept beating and beating his face," he said. "What was the intent? It certainly wasn't apprehension."

Police spokesman Sgt. Andrew Goodrich said he would not comment on assertions made by Ron Thomas, but said he was confident the district attorney would conduct a full and fair investigation.

Goldman, the Loyola professor, said police officers are trained to see danger when often there is none, for instance assuming everyone they approach could be armed or on drugs. Even videos that appear to depict cut-and-dry instances of police brutality often only show a limited snapshot of an incident, he said.

In this case, the surveillance videos don't show every detail of the confrontation, Susan Kang Schroeder, the district attorney's chief of staff, has said.

"What studies tend to show is not that officers lie, but officers tend to interpret certain situations more menacingly than does the general public," Goldman said.

Perhaps the nation's most notorious video depicting police use of force was the Rodney King beating in Los Angeles in 1991. Four white LAPD officers were acquitted, triggering outrage and rioting in some black communities.

"Though a camera can be 100 percent accurate ... the perspective of the camera is different from that of an officer." said Harland Braun, who successfully defended one of the Los Angeles police officers accused in the case.

In Fullerton, the city manager wants an independent consultant to conduct an internal investigation into police department procedures in the wake of Thomas' death and will ask the City Council to approve hiring Michael Gennaco to lead the probe.

"We will be looking at training, supervision, policies, procedure and the way these cases are investigated," said Gennaco, a specialist in examining law enforcement agencies and chief attorney for the Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review, a civilian oversight committee that monitors the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The Q Line

Hiring locally

City Hall is contemplating forcing new developments to hire local residents before considering people from outside of the area.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think the city should pursue this concept or let the open market prevail?

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





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California's high-speed rail proposal cost on the way up

ADAM WEINTRAUB
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Building tracks for the first section of California's proposed high-speed rail line will cost $2.9 billion to $6.8 billion more than originally estimated, raising questions about the affordability of the nation's most ambitious rail project at a time when its planning and finances are under fire.

A 2009 business plan developed for the California High-Speed Authority, the entity overseeing the project, estimated costs at about $7.1 billion for the equivalent stretch of tracks. Officials say those estimates were made before detailed engineering work and feedback from communities along the proposed route.

The latest estimates are contained in two environmental impact studies that were shared with The Associated Press before their public release on Tuesday.

The rail authority's chief executive, Roelof van Ark, said planners anticipated the higher costs as more information about land acquisition and other details related to actual construction became known.

"We've had cost increases, but I believe the costs are now realistic and fair," he said.

Van Ark also said he expects the estimated total cost of the project, originally pegged at $43 billion, to rise.

Construction of the first stretch of tracks — as much as 140 miles from south of Merced to just north of Bakersfield — is scheduled to begin by September 2012 using $3.5 billion in federal money and an estimated $2.8 billion from the sale of state bonds approved by voters.

The higher cost estimates already have been factored into the federally funded construction, van Ark said.

The decision to start the planned 800-mile system in the Central Valley, linking relatively small towns, has generated criticism that the project could become a high-priced "train to nowhere." In a critical report earlier this year, the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's office said the rail line should start near coastal population centers and recommended moving control of the project from the largely independent rail board to the state Department of Transportation.

The eventual plan is for a system of high-speed trains running from San Francisco to Los Angeles and Anaheim, with stops in the Central Valley.

Critics say the higher cost estimates contained in the environmental reports, the first detailed look at the project, is another warning sign that the rail line should be halted until cost and routing questions can be worked out.

State Sen. Doug La Malfa, R-Willows, said he is preparing legislation that would ask voters to reconsider the project in June 2012. Voters authorized $9 billion in bonds for the project in 2008, although most of those bonds have not yet been sold.

"This thing is well on its way to massive cost overruns," La Malfa said.

The documents being released Tuesday lay out specific route alternatives for the 178 miles of planned tracks between Merced and Bakersfield, with an estimated total cost of $10 billion to $13.9 billion, depending on which route is selected. The first portion to be built covers most of that area.

Supporters of the rail project, the nation's most ambitious, said the private sector will be a significant source of funding and that the money will start flowing once work begins.

La Malfa and other critics say the fiscal problems facing the federal and state governments, and the likelihood that Congress will continue to cut federal spending as it tries to reduce the nation's debt could choke off funding.

"The costs are starting to escalate and we need to take a time-out," he said.

Federal transportation officials remain supportive of California's project. The per-mile cost for the Central Valley segment is expected to be less than or in line with international averages for high-speed rail projects, said Roy Kienitz, undersecretary for policy with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"Our goal is to help the state's decision-makers choose a design that avoids unnecessary costs, and we're pleased the authority has embraced many of the recommendations from the high volume of public response," he said in a statement.

Moving the initial section of tracks from the Central Valley would jeopardize federal money received for construction because it was granted with a strict timetable and requires that the work be done in the valley.

The environmental reports give a range of costs for different route options and contain higher land-acquisition costs based on a survey of specific parcels along the proposed routes. For example, up to $3.8 billion of the increased cost is associated with elevating the train tracks for up to 42 miles.

The rail authority will hold a series of public meetings and accept public comments until Sept. 28, before the board chooses a preferred route.

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BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Powerful solar flare has limited impact on Earth

The sun unleashed a powerful solar flare early Tuesday, the largest in nearly five years.

Scientists say the eruption took place on the side of the sun that was not facing Earth, so there'll be little impact to satellites and communication systems.

Space scientist Joe Kunches at the government's Space Weather Prediction Center in Colorado says there were reports of brief short-wave radio disruptions in Asia, but little else.

The sun is transitioning from a quiet period into a busier cycle. Scientists estimate there will be a spike in the number of such solar eruptions over the next three to five years.

The last time there was such a strong solar flare was in December 2006.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Man pleads guilty to plane stowaway charge

A man accused of breaching layers of airport security by using an expired boarding pass with someone else's name to get aboard a cross-country flight pleaded guilty Tuesday to a stowaway charge.

Olajide Oluwaseun Noibi, 24, entered the plea in federal court and agreed to pay Virgin America for the cost of the flight from New York to Los Angeles.

Noibi faces up to five years in prison when he is sentenced Nov. 28.

Noibi was arrested on June 29 at Los Angeles International Airport after authorities determined he was using the expired boarding passes and presenting outdated student identification.

In response to a question from U.S. District Judge Manuel L. Real, Noibi acknowledged that he had been under some kind of psychiatric care in 2010.

Deputy federal public defender Carl Gunn declined to answer reporters' questions about the psychiatric care and the outcome of the hearing.

While prosecutors did not find that terrorism applied in this case, the incident has raised questions about the effectiveness of screening procedures. Identity checks at airport security checkpoints were put into place as one of many new measures after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Ohio man suspected in 1978 SoCal murder

An Ohio man arrested in connection to a 1978 murder of a Los Angeles business executive will be extradited to California to stand trial.

Los Angeles investigators say 62-year-old Walter Randolph Peartree was arrested at his home in Delaware, Ohio, Monday on a murder warrant. The Delaware County Prosecutor's Office said Tuesday that he has signed papers waiving an extradition hearing and will be sent to California.

Peartree was arrested after cold-case investigators found forensic evidence linking him to the crime

He is suspected in the April 10, 1978, stabbing death of 52-year-old James Gentry in his Westside home. The slaying went unresolved until a few months ago, when scientific testing requested by cold-case detectives showed Peartree was in Gentry's home at the time of the killing.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Paddle the L.A. River gets ceremonial first run

Government officials have kicked off a program to open part of the Los Angeles River to legal kayak excursions.

The officials floated for 30 minutes Monday along a few hundred yards in the Sepulveda Basin area of the San Fernando Valley to inaugurate the Paddle the Los Angeles River pilot program.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued the license to operate the program along a natural-looking, soft-bottom stretch of the 51-mile river, which is otherwise mostly known as a concrete-lined flood-control channel.

The supervised excursions will be limited to two 10-person tours each Saturday and Sunday through Sept. 25. The fee is $50 per person plus a handling charge.

City Councilman Ed Reyes told the Los Angeles Times that keeping the river off-limits has punished the community.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Charges dropped in alleged kidnapping over Shaq

Los Angeles County prosecutors have dropped the case against seven gang members accused of kidnapping a music producer who claimed to have a sex tape of Shaquille O'Neal.

At the prosecution's request, a judge Tuesday dismissed kidnapping, assault and robbery charges.

District attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison says prosecutors believed Robert Ross was attacked but his credibility as a witness was undermined by some of his own testimony and behavior outside court. No details were provided.

Mark Overland, Ross's attorney in a lawsuit against O'Neal, says he has confidence in Ross's credibility.

Ross testified that in 2008, following a business dispute, he falsely told O'Neal he had a sex tape. Ross claims that two weeks later he was attacked by gang members who mentioned O'Neal.

O'Neal denied involvement and wasn't charged.

AP

LOS ANGELES

UCLA law school gets $10 million donation

The UCLA School of Law has received a $10 million gift to establish a business law institute.

The school announced Tuesday that alumnus Lowell Milken had made the donation to create the Lowell Milken Institute for Business and Law. It's the largest single donation to the law school in its history.

Milken is a wealthy businessman, philanthropist and education reformer. He is chairman and co-founder of the Milken Family Foundation.

AP

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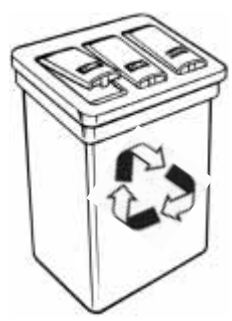
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PLAN
FROM PAGE 1

make cyclists comfortable, or where resources should be put to help out bikes the most.

That's exactly what city planners Lucy Dyke, Francie Stefan, Michelle Glickert and Colleen Stoll were hoping to hear.

"We're looking for different kinds of comments, be they corrections, ideas or other things of substance," said Dyke, the deputy director of special projects.

Over the course of the next month, a variety of community groups and official boards and commissions will get to see and comment on the plan, which will eventually go to the City Council for adoption.

In the meantime, the document represents months of work assessing the needs of the Santa Monica bicycling community and creating priorities that will be put into practice over the course of the next five to 20 years.

The plan has been in the works since the council passed the Land Use and Circulation Element, or LUCE, in 2010, which included direction for bicycle improvements to be built into the overall fabric of the city's development.

It's part of City Hall's overall effort to reduce the number of car trips that Santa Monicans take, the "no new net trips" philosophy that planners hope will help alleviate Downtown gridlock despite a larger population and increased development.

Planners can also use the final product to apply for money from the California Department of Transportation Bicycle Transportation Account, a $7.2 million per year block of funding used to make matching grants that requires applicant cities to have a five-year plan in place.

The plan envisions millions of dollars worth of investment in the first five years alone, which will expand the existing 37 miles of bicycle facilities to include additional parking, showers and other amenities as well as new and better-designated bike lanes and places where the roads are shared with cars, called "sharrows."

By 2015, City Hall hopes to almost double the number of miles of designated bikeways to 69, and bring that to 88.7 miles by 2030, while at the same time increase the percentage of people biking to work from the current 3.4 percent to 25.

In those first five years of the plan, City Hall wants to make changes that will strengthen the overall core of the bicycle network in the city, including "easy" restriping and the more difficult — read "expensive" — road improvements.

The plan envisions major new shared lane markings in the bus lane along the Broadway bike path, as well as a green buffer zone to protect bicyclists from the peril of riding in what riders call the "door zone," where they are in danger of being hit by drivers and passengers of parked cars who open their car doors into the bike lane.

It also spells out changes along Michigan Avenue which will be established as a "Neighborhood Greenway," an area of lower traffic that will link bicyclists to critical destinations like Santa Monica College, Santa Monica High School and the ever popular beach bike path.

Ocean Park Boulevard, Pearl Street and a section connecting Barnard Way to Bundy Drive are also slated for improvements, as is Ocean Park Boulevard at the California Incline to cut down on conflict between cars and bicycles.

Many others set to be finished within the first five years are detailed further in the plan.

Infrastructure is also set to improve, with new bike facilities coming online by the end of the month, and funding already secured for 2,500 new bike parking spaces throughout the city.

While those changes can come online by 2015, the longer timeline includes things that residents "might not yet be ready for," Dyke said.

That includes adding bicycle and pedestrian paths to San Vicente Boulevard, as well as inter-regional paths connecting Santa Monica to the surrounding cities that also are putting energy into improving their bicycle resources.

Santa Monica Spoke members seemed mostly happy with the document, but wanted to see more protected bikeways, called bicycle tracks, as well as specified streets that prioritize bicycles over cars to make it safer for new and experienced riders.

There were also calls for education, both for car drivers and bicyclists. Members requested additional wayfinding signs to give bicyclists a sense of where the lanes and paths would be available.

Overall, it got a thumbs up.

"If this group of people thinks it doesn't go far enough, and the rest of Santa Monica thinks it goes too far, it's probably right where it should be," said Meghan Kavanagh, a licensed cycling instructor.



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

RIDING ALONG: **A cyclist heads south on the Main Street bike route on Tuesday.**

Full, street-by-street details are available at www01.smgov.net/planning/whats-new/index.html.

Those interested can send comments in to the Planning Department, Planning Commission or City Council. The draft plan will be presented to the Planning Commission today, and will go before the City Council on Aug. 23.

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CORKS
FROM PAGE 1

The answer: Flooring tiles, shoes, craft materials, sports equipment and automotive gaskets, among dozens of other uses.

Becker's research led her to ReCork, which already partnered with manufacturers to reuse the natural cork, and then went the extra mile to plant new cork trees in Mediterranean climates.

Together, Hughes and Becker created the Put a Cork In It! campaign, reaching out to anyone and everyone with an extra cork on their hands and asking them to send them in to ReCork.

The California Wine Club committed to paying the cost to mail each shipment, which would then go to Sole, which will then donate shoes to needy children.

To sweeten the deal, the club promised $10 of wine for every 30 corks sent in.

They quickly had to rescind that offer.

"One person, in Oregon, had 15,000 corks!" Becker said. "The common response from people is 'I didn't know what to do with them, or I was saving them for an art project."

Within 48 hours of the campaign's launch, the club received 30 requests for postage, and now, weeks before the Sept. 30 deadline, ReCork is about to surpass its 20 million cork goal.

Hughes expected that a shipment en route would push them over the edge.

Local wine bars are still hearing about the program, but think it could be a useful outlet for the hundreds of corks they go through a week.

Rachel Bryan, the sommelier at the Pourtal Wine Bar, was excited to hear about a local California program.

The bar always set the corks aside for recycling, but didn't think it had an option to get rid of them locally.

"We used to send our corks to an organization in Philadelphia that fought autism. We mailed them then," she said.

Now, a local comes and picks them up to use in art projects.

Over at Bodega, owner Greg Seares said that he avoids corks, opting instead for screw tops and synthetic caps.

"With regular cork, five percent of the wines we get are 'corked,' and have a problem and the wine is ruined," Seares said.

The corks he did accrue, he usually threw away.

This past week, however, Bodega collected several bags for a customer who'd requested them for an art project, but never picked them up.

He was happy to hear there might be a way to dispose of the bags, which were taking up space in his office.

"It seems silly to throw them away," he said. "That's a totally cool, good use."

The Put a Cork In It! campaign is ongoing until Sept. 30. After the deadline, ReCork plans to plant 1,000 new cork trees in Portugal.

The California Wine Club may stay involved after that, but people can still ship their corks in for free to ReCork.

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MOB
FROM PAGE 1

ful and often humorous acts of public performance, such as mass dance routines or street pillow fights. But in recent years, the term has taken a darker twist as criminals exploit the anonymity of crowds, using social networking to coordinate everything from robberies to fights to general chaos.

In London, recent rioting and looting has been blamed in part on groups of youths using Twitter, mobile phone text messages and instant messaging on BlackBerry to organize and keep a step ahead of police. Blackberry's manufacturer, Research in Motion, later issued a statement offering empathy for the rioting victims.

"We have engaged with the authorities to assist in any way we can," the statement said.

And Sunday in Philadelphia, Mayor Michael Nutter condemned the behavior of teenagers involved in flash mobs that have left several people injured in recent weeks.

"What is making this unique today is the social media aspect," said Everett Gillison, Philadelphia's deputy mayor for public safety. "They can communicate and congregate at a moment's notice. That can overwhelm any municipality."

A Philadelphia man was assaulted by a group of about 30 people who were believed to have gotten together through Twitter. In 2009, crowds swelled along the trendy South Street shopping district and assaulted several people.

On June 23, a couple dozen youths arrived via subway in Upper Darby, outside Philadelphia, and looted several hundred dollars of sneakers, socks and wrist watches from a Sears store. Their haul wasn't especially impressive but the sheer size of the group and the speed of the roughly five-minute operation made them all but impossible to stop.

"The good thing is there were no weapons and nobody tried to stop them, either," Upper Darby Police Chief Michael Chitwood said. "The only people that tried to stop them were the police when they rounded them up."

Dubbed "flash mob robberies," the thefts are bedeviling both police and retailers, who say some of the heists were orchestrated or at least boasted about afterward on social networking sites.

In recognition of the problem, the National Retail Federation issued a report last week recommending steps stores can take to ward off the robberies. There have even been legislative efforts to criminalize flash mobs.

The Cleveland City Council passed a bill to make it illegal to use social media to organize a violent and disorderly flash mob, though the mayor vetoed the measure after the ACLU of Ohio promised it would be unconstitutional. The bill was at least partly inspired by the Shaker Heights disturbances on July 4.

Social networking and technology companies often have policies for coordinating with law enforcement authorities.

Twitter, for example, says it requires a court order or subpoena to share non-public information about its users with law enforcement — including protected tweets. But company officials also warn they can't review the more than 200 million tweets sent daily on the website and that some of the information may be inaccurate if a user has created a fake or anonymous profile.

Jonathan Taplin, director of the innovation lab at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communication, said he was not surprised to see people using social media for organizing flash mob robberies.

"You are essentially having a world where you have 25 million people who are underemployed and 2 percent of the population doing better than they ever have," Taplin said. "Why wouldn't that lead to some sort of social unrest? Why wouldn't people use the latest technologies to effect that?"

In Los Angeles last month, thousands of ravers forced rush-hour street closures when they descended on a Hollywood cinema after a DJ tweeted he was holding a free block party. The sudden crowd dispersed only after police fired bean-bag bullets at the restive revelers and arrested three.

And in April, a man was shot when hundreds of rival gang members congregated along the Los Angeles seafront in Venice, sparking pandemonium as people scattered for cover. The group had gathered after some of them posted on Twitter and police were still strategizing their response to the huge crowd when shots rang out.

Los Angeles police Capt. Jon Peters said law enforcement's challenge is to try to sift the ocean of tweets and Facebook updates for signs of trouble.

"We need to be able to get better on the intelligence side to pick up on communications that are going on," he said.

Gillison, the deputy mayor from Philadelphia, said the police department there has reached out to younger community members and friended some of them on Facebook. This enables officers to monitor the traffic that could generate flash mobs and some have been prevented, he said.

In April, about 20 teenagers entered G-Star Raw, a high-end men's clothing store in the Dupont Circle neighborhood of the District of Columbia, and stole about $20,000 worth of merchandise despite employees' efforts to grab the apparel back, store manager Greg Lennon said. D.C. police have investigated leads but have not made arrests in the case.

Lennon said he later saw Twitter postings, apparently written after the robbery, that referenced the theft, with one person describing having been in the store and making plans to come back.

The National Retail Federation said 10 percent of 106 companies it surveyed reported being targeted in the last year by groups of thieves using flash mob tactics.

"Retailers are raising red flags about criminal flash mobs, which are wreaking havoc on their business, causing concerns about the safety of their customers and employees, and directly impacting their bottom line," the federation said in a report, which advises retailers to monitor social media networks and report planned heists to the police.

That's exactly what Lennon does. He says he checks his store's Facebook page to see who's visiting, and monitors Twitter for any reference to his store and its merchandise.

Gillison and others blame at least part of the problem on bad parenting.

"They're 12 years old and not around the corner from their home. Where's their parents?" said Chitwood, the Upper Darby police chief. "If they're out doing flash mob thefts when they're 12, what the hell are they going to be doing when they're 16?"





Dow jumps 429 points on Federal Reserve's statement

STAN CHOE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The Fed spoke — and financial markets rallied.

The Dow Jones industrial average surged more than 429 points, its tenth-highest point gain in history and the biggest since March 2009. It was just one day after the Dow had its worst point decline since 2008.

The Federal Reserve pledged to keep its key interest rate at its record low of nearly zero through the middle of 2013. The central bank also said that it has discussed "the range of policy tools" it can use to spur the economy.

Bob Doll, chief equity strategist at BlackRock, said the Fed's decision to hold interest rates at a very low rate for two years is "unprecedented" and called it a kind of "backdoor quantitative easing." In June, the central bank finished a second round of buying Treasury securities, also known as quantitative easing, in hopes of boosting the economy.

"Markets are going to do what they would have done if the Fed went out and bought securities," Doll said. He said he expects investors will return to stocks after the broad sell-off of the least few weeks.

He expects stocks to continue to rally because a slow-growing U.S. economy won't harm corporate profits. As a whole, the companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index reap more than half their revenue overseas. What's more, companies have already cut costs significantly, have hoarded cash and squeezed more production out of workers. Even as the U.S. economy has slowed, the S&P 500 as a whole was expected to earn record profits this year.

"Corporate America has demonstrated that it can generate good growth and profits despite a weaker U.S. economy," Doll said.

The Dow rose 429.92 points, or 4 percent, to 11,239.77. On Monday, the Dow plunged 634.76 points in the first trading day after Standard & Poor's downgraded the U.S. one notch from its top AAA credit rating to AA+.

The S&P 500 rose 53.07, or 4.7 percent, to 1,172.53. The Nasdaq composite index rose 124.83, or 5.3 percent, to 2,482.52.

At first, markets reacted much differently to the Fed's statement. Stocks fell as much as 205 points after the Fed's 2:15 p.m. EDT statement.

Gold surged more than $50 per ounce to $1,774. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note briefly touched a record low of 2.03 percent, after closing Monday at 2.34 percent.

An hour later with less than 45 minutes until the market closed, stocks rallied, gold retreated off its high and the yield on the 10-year Treasury note quickly headed higher. It was at 2.26 percent late Tuesday. A bond's yield drops when its price rises.

Howard Silverblatt, senior index analyst at S&P, called it the "Big Ben turnaround," referring to Fed chair Ben Bernanke.

The industries that did best on Tuesday were the ones that fell the most on Monday. Financial stocks in the S&P 500 rose 8.2 percent after falling 10 percent Monday. Materials companies, which rely on a stronger global economy for their profits, rose 5.9 percent.

Only seven of the 500 stocks in the index had declines. All 30 stocks in the Dow rose. Bank of America Corp., which was down more than 20 percent Monday, rose 16.7 percent, the most of any stock in the Dow. Aluminum maker Alcoa Inc. was up 8 percent.

Technology company MEMC Electronic Materials Inc. led the S&P 500 higher, gaining 19.1 percent.

Boosting the stock market isn't one of the Fed's jobs, but that hasn't stopped investors from parsing every word of the statements made by the Fed and Bernanke.

The Fed's mandate is to keep prices stable and promote low unemployment, not boost stocks. But a stock dive after Fed comments has happened before. On June 3, the stock market suffered a late-day dive when Bernanke spoke at a conference. Investors said they were looking for a hint of new plans to spur economic growth. When that didn't come, all three major indexes sank.

After Bernanke outlined the plan for a second round of quantitative easing in August 2010, the S&P 500 index gained 28 percent over eight months. Investors pointed to that rebound as evidence that quantitative easing worked — and so did Bernanke. This sentiment led some people to believe that if stocks fall too far, the Fed would come to the rescue.

The Fed said in its statement Tuesday that it expects "a somewhat slower pace of recovery over coming quarters." It had said as recently as six weeks ago that temporary factors, such as the high price of gasoline this spring and Japan's March earthquake and tsunami, would end and the economy would grow at a faster pace in the second half of the year. But on Tuesday, the Fed said those factors were only part of the reason that the economy grew at its slowest pace in the first half of 2011 since the recession ended in June 2009. It now expects slower growth over the next two years.

Economists now believe there is a greater chance of a U.S. recession because the economy grew much more slowly in the first half of 2011 than previously thought. The manufacturing and services industries barely grew in July. The unemployment rate remains above 9 percent, despite the 154,000 jobs added in the private sector in July.

Economies across the globe are also struggling.

Worries are growing that Spain or Italy could become the next European country to be unable to repay its debt. High inflation in less-developed countries, which have been the world's main economic engine through the recovery, is another concern. China's inflation rose to a 37-month high in July.

Those economic concerns have pulled attention from stronger corporate earnings this spring.

Dish Network Corp. reported Tuesday that its second-quarter net income rose 30 percent to $334.8 million on stronger revenue. Among the 441 companies in the S&P 500 index that have already reported their second-quarter earnings, profits are up 12 percent from a year ago.

The housing market, though, remains weak. Homebuilder Beazer Homes USA Inc. said its loss widened last quarter after it closed on fewer homes.

Consolidated trading volume was heavy Tuesday, at 9.2 billion shares. Nearly 12 stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange.





Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast

Chest high day for south facing breaks. West facing breaks are looking at waist to at times chest high surf.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking at a slight increase at south facing breaks, more along the lines of shoulder high, maybe even head high at times at standout south facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **August 3, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisa 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 Blocker County Beach.	F	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	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.	ns	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.	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.	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).	B	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.	C	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.

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

Heal the Bay

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

NFL

L.A. City Council approves framework for new stadium

BY JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The City Council approved a framework deal Tuesday that would grant a private developer access to tax-free financing to help it build a 72,000-seat NFL stadium on the city's convention center campus.

The council's 12-0 vote set the stage for city leaders to later consider binding agreements with developer Anschutz Entertainment Group on the project's financing, leasing arrangements and other details.

"This is not the beginning of the end but perhaps the end of the beginning," Councilman Eric Garcetti said before the vote was taken.

The agreement anticipates the issuance of $275 million in tax-exempt bonds for the relocation of a convention center hall to accommodate the proposed $1.2 billion football venue.

It would require AEG to extend a series of financial guarantees over the course of the project as a safeguard against shortfalls and other risks.

The council vote gives AEG officials the solid demonstration of city support that they said they needed in order to ramp up their efforts to secure a team at the planned stadium known as Farmers Field.

"It sends a very strong message to the league now," AEG president and CEO Tim Leiweke said at a news conference after the vote.

NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said in a statement after the vote that the league was aware of the council vote and would continue to monitor all stadium developments in the Los Angeles area.

Sports management mogul Casey Wasserman, an early collaborator with AEG on the stadium proposal, praised the council's decision in a statement.

"This is a long process, but today marks a step forward in reaching our larger goal," he said.

The firm's stadium plan is one of two competing proposals to bring professional football back to Los Angeles some 16 years after the Rams and Raiders left the nation's second-largest market.

Warehouse magnate Ed Roski's Majestic Realty Co., which also has not yet secured a team, has permits in place to build a separate 75,000-seat stadium about 15 miles east of Los Angeles, in the city of Industry.

John Semcken, a Majestic vice president, said in a statement after the vote that its proposal would generate more money and jobs and be a better choice for the NFL.

"We are more active than ever and are currently working with the league, owners and teams to bring a franchise back to Los Angeles," he said.

The Los Angeles council members are set to take up the additional binding votes over the next nine months, with groundbreaking on the new venue possible as early as June.

Council members would still have a chance to ask AEG to help fund stadium infrastructure, such as its transit connections, and to establish job training programs as the binding agreements are considered, said Chief Legislative Analyst Gerry Miller, who led the city team that negotiated the framework deal.

"Until those final terms are accepted, you can change them," he said.

NFL

Experience helps McClain play faster for Raiders

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

NAPA Now that Rolando McClain no longer has to spend his time thinking about being in the right place and worrying about getting his teammates into the correct defense, the Oakland Raiders hope he'll be able to make even more big plays.

With a year of experience as an NFL middle linebacker under his belt, McClain hopes to be able to get to the ball faster, disrupt offenses more often and become the big-play linebacker the Raiders hoped they added when they drafted him seventh overall in 2010.

"When you can play fast without thinking about what you do, it gives you the ability to play fast as well as make plays, so now I'm not worried about what I do, now I can look at the formations and think about what the offense is going to do instead of worrying about what I'm going to do," McClain said. "It enables me to play a lot faster."

McClain said there were only a couple of games as a rookie where he felt truly comfortable with his knowledge of the defense and could attack the opposition instead of just react.

Even with a change in defensive coordinator after Chuck Bresnahan took over for John Marshall and no formal offseason workouts because of the lockout, McClain believes he's far ahead of where he was a year ago just trying to keep up as a rookie.

That has already been evident on the practice field, where McClain has appeared faster and more disruptive than he was a year ago. He has even gotten into a few tussles with teammates, pleasing coach Hue Jackson, who is counting on McClain to lead a defense that returns 10 starters, including Pro Bowl defensive lineman Richard Seymour.

"What I'm trying to get him to understand is this defense flows through him," Jackson said. "He gets to see it all. Richard is the veteran, obviously, but McClain gets to see the offense. Richard's hand is down on the ground, but this guy (McClain) needs to be the unquestioned leader of our defense, and he should be and he can be. That's what I expect from him. I'm always in his ear because I know what this young man can be. He's a really, really good football player, but I'm asking him to be great. I'm not looking for him to be good. I want No. 55 on this team to be great."

Being anointed the leader of a defense that includes more decorated and experienced players like Seymour, who has won three Super Bowls and been selected to six Pro Bowls in his career doesn't come naturally to the reserved McClain.

He says he's not a "rah-rah" guy but he is filling that role at times this year.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Queen of the Sun: What are the Bees Telling Us? (NR) 1hr23min
7:30pm

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

Cowboys & Aliens (PG-13) 1hr 58min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Change-Up (R) 1hr 41min
12:45pm, 3:40pm, 6:30pm, 9:20pm

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Friends With Benefits (R) 2hrs 00min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:05pm, 9:40pm

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

Smurfs 3D (PG) 1hr 26min
11:15am, 4:45pm, 10:10pm

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
10:05am, 1:05pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 10:05pm

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 1hr 47min
10:35am, 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 6:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm

Help (PG-13) 2hrs17min
9:30am, 12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:20pm, 10:40pm

Smurfs (PG) 1hr 26min
10:30am, 1:05pm, 2:00pm, 3:30pm

Captain America: The First Avenger 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
9:30am, 12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

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

Tabloid (R) 1hr 21min
1:10pm, 3:30pm, 5:50pm, 8:10pm, 10:15pm

Trip (NR) 1hr 47min
10:00pm

Point Blank (A Bout Portant) (R) 1hr 24min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Buck (PG) 1hr 29min
1:00pm, 5:20pm

Life in a Day (PG-13) 1hr 30min
3:00pm, 7:40pm

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

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
12:05pm, 3:10pm, 6:15pm, 9:25pm

Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
10:30am, 1:25pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:10pm

Cowboys & Aliens (PG-13) 1hr 58min
10:45am, 1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Change-Up (R) 1hr 41min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Horrible Bosses (R) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

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

Do whatever you want tonight, Cappy

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Many people take their cues from you. You have a lot to evaluate with financial implications. Just because a partner or key associate is negative about a new project, it might not be that serious. Avoid challenging this person right now. Tonight: Feeling pressured?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Pull back, especially if you believe you have dotted all your i's and crossed all your t's. With perspective, you will see where you might need to tighten up plans, procedures or other matters related to a project. Tonight: Follow your imagination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ One-on-one relating takes another twist, though you could feel a little frustrated. Know that you need to be secure and not worry so much. Remember, a level relationship is indeed a rare find, as it involves two different people. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Many people have very different ideas. Take in more information and question your choices more openly. Get feedback. A family member could be quite stern, touchy and/or cold. A boss or situation involving a superior has a tone of the unexpected. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Stay even and mellow as others seem to go from serious to optimistic. Know what you feel, and follow through. The unexpected occurs when dealing with matters involving travel, communication and possibly law. Tonight: Do your thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ If you cannot find a solution, know that it is a strong possibility there isn't one. Your creativity seems to find answers when no one else can. Trust in your ability to get past a problem. Understanding opens doors. New insights come forward. Tonight: Let your hair down.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Basics count. Though a partner or associate could be unusually optimistic, you see problems. Perhaps you can find a balance. Negativity won't help you create what you desire. Take some time off if you are pushing too hard. Tonight: At home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter and get past a private issue. Understanding evolves to a new level once you start talking and sharing. Recognize when you can't do anymore. Tonight: Talk over a meal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Be more realistic about what you can do. You might be a bit overly sensitive about what you are offering in a situation. Everyone feels limited at times. Don't push so hard right now. Tonight: Let someone else treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You have energy and focus. Normally, people would be inclined to go along with you; however, those around you have an unusually combative quality. You don't need to take on anyone's anger. You might want to listen. Tonight: Whatever you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Know when to lay low and listen more. How you handle others, especially someone who is touchy, could encourage anger. You might be inadvertently triggering him or her. Listen to this person's complaints with an eye to minimizing your role. Tonight: Take some much-needed time off.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You'll gain many more supporters than you thought possible. A partner could disagree and might be remote. Remember, you have no control over anyone. And this is a perfect example. Tonight: Midweek break.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you have a special opportunity to change your daily life. If you are honest with yourself, there are certain areas of your life that don't work. Rather than let them undermine the quality of your life, why not clear them out? You will discover that this task could be more easily achieved than you thought possible. Your quality of living will improve as well. Take good care of your health, as stress could be a factor. If you are single, you could meet someone in your day-to-day travels. You don't need to go looking. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from focusing on a key mutual interest. CAPRICORN pitches in.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

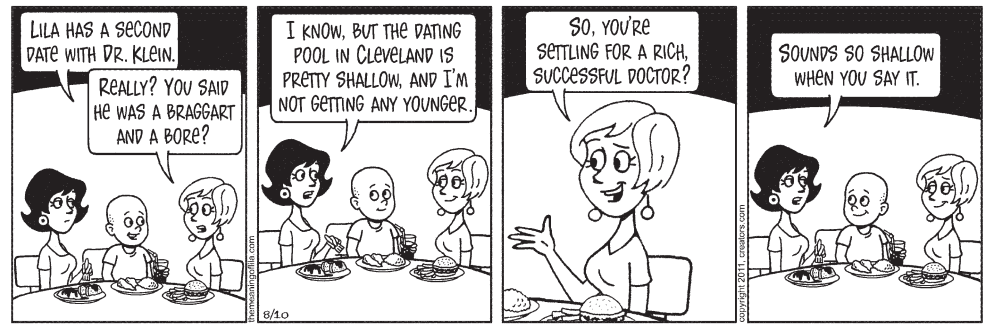
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



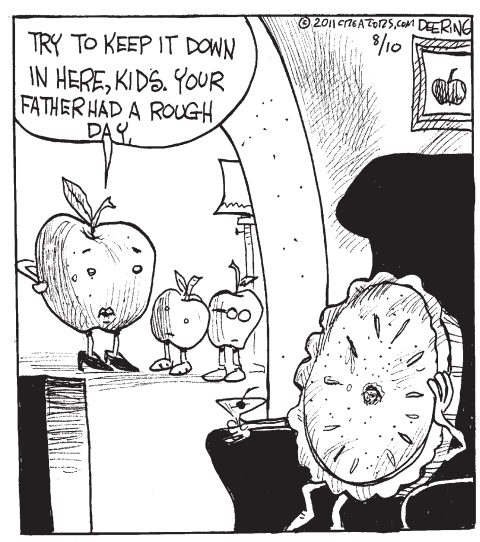
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Conks out
5 Spring shape
9 Entertain
11 Greene of "Bonanza"
12 Web-surfing need
13 Greek vowel
14 One, for Juan
15 Baltimore team
17 Pittsburgh team
19 Speedy plane
20 Yarns
21 Understand
22 Houston player
24 Collins base
26 Intuit
29 Boxer Norton
30 Los Angeles team
32 Cleveland team
34 Farm grazer
35 Minuscule
36 Piano piece
38 Makes smooth
39 Ventilated
40 June honorees
41 Hand over

DOWN

1 Block
2 "Right away, boss!"
3 Writer Welty
4 Compass dir.
5 Singer Perry
6 Threat words
7 Devour
8 Minimum amount
10 Hams it up
11 Clark's co-worker
16 Uses for support
18 Adam Arkin's dad
21 Big ringer
23 Suez outlet
24 League of Nations base
25 Verily
27 Fasten down
28 Worn down
29 Passed bad checks
30 Calendar boxes
31 Garbo, for one
33 Taverns
37 Quirk

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

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

8-10

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

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

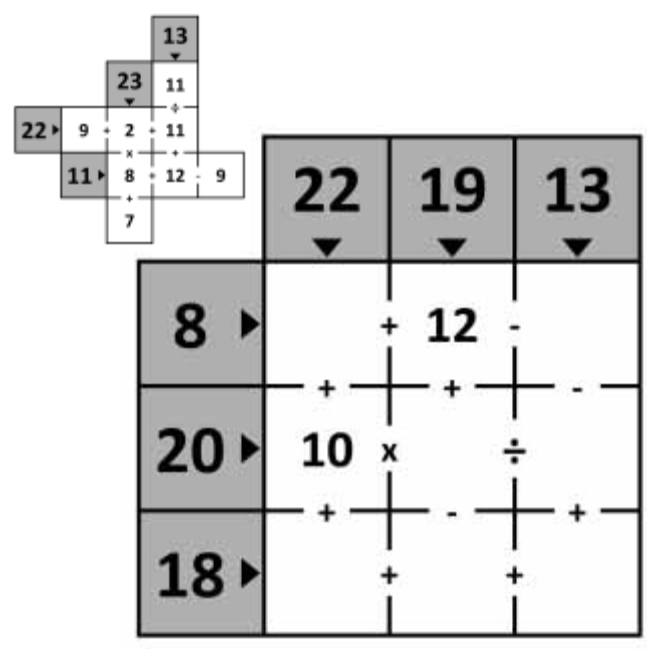
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

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

5, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12

Solution for Task 556



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 6 24 28 33 42 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 12 20 30 38 40 Meganumber: 7 Jackpot: $11M

Fantasy 5: 2 6 20 23 38

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

DAILY DERBY 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 01 Gold Rush 3rd: 08 Gorgeous George RACE TIME: 1:43.81

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

■ The notorious Santa Croce monastery in Rome was closed in May (and converted to an ordinary church) on orders from the Vatican following reports about Sister Anna Nobili, a former lap-dancer who taught other nuns her skills and who was once seen lying spread-eagled before an altar clutching a crucifix. Santa Croce was also an embarrassment for its luxury hotel, which had become a mecca for celebrities visiting Rome.

■ The Talented Mr. Zhou: Zhou Xin, 68, failed to get a callback from the judges for the "China's Got Talent" TV reality show in June, according to a CNN report (after judge Annie Yi screamed in horror at his act). Zhou is a practitioner of one of the "72 Shaolin skills," namely "iron crotch gong," and for his "talent," he stoically whacked himself in the testicles with a weight and then with a hammer.

■ The elegant, expansive, gleaming new glass-and-concrete indoor stairway at the Common Pleas Courthouse in Columbus, Ohio, opened recently, to mostly rave reviews for its sense of space and light, creating the feeling of walking suspended on air. However, as Judge Julie Lynch and other women soon discovered, the glass partitions at each step make it easy for perverts to gawk from underneath at dress-wearing women using the stairs. "(Y)ou're on notice," Judge Lynch warned her sister dress-wearers, "that you might want to take the elevator."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1901 The U.S. Steel Recognition Strike by the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers begins.

1904 Russo-Japanese War: the Battle of the Yellow Sea between the Russian and Japanese battleship fleets takes place.

1913 Second Balkan War: delegates from Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, and Greece sign the Treaty of Bucharest, ending the war.

WORD UP!

amaranthine
\am-uh-RAN-thin\ , adjective;
1. Unfading; everlasting. 2. Of or like the amaranth flower. 3. Of purplish-red color.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011057920 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/05/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LEONIAN PICTURES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Susan Kaye Bernhardt 827 Hollywood Way, #344 Burbank, CA 91505. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Susan Kaye Bernhardt. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/05/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 08/03/2011, 08/10/2011, 08/17/2011, 08/24/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011050406 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/20/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BUBBLES SALON BOUTIQUE INDOOR PLAYGROUND, PLAYATBUBBLES.COM, HOT YOGA MAMA, HOT YOGA MOMMA, HOT YOGA MAMA.COM, HOT YOGA MAMMA.COM, HOT YOGA MOMMA.COM. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Arthur B. Associates 4727 Wilshire Blvd. #601 Los Angeles, CA 90010. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Arthur B. Associates. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/20/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 07/20/2011, 07/27/2011, 08/03/2011, 08/10/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011060063 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/07/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LOCAL YOCAL. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Kristen Nora Johnson 1019 20th St. Santa Monica, CA 90403. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Kristen Nora Johnson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/07/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 08/03/2011, 08/10/2011, 08/17/2011, 08/24/2011.

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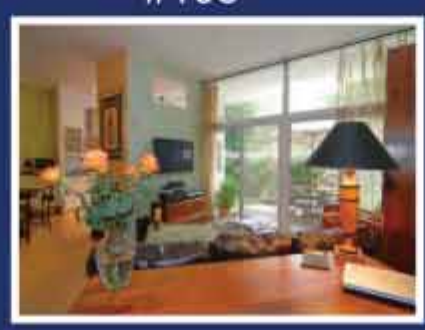


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North of Montana	=	$3,392,000	$1,100,000
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