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FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 2012

Volume 11 Issue 230

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

LIFE AFTER THE OLYMPICS
SEE PAGE 5

THE TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES ISSUE

State high court takes Expo Line environmental suit

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES The California Supreme Court announced Tuesday that it would take on a case by a group that accuses the Exposition Light Rail Authority of violating environmental laws and jeopardizing the safety of Angelenos.

The organization, Neighbors for Smart Rail, appealed to the California Supreme Court after the Second District California Court of Appeal sided with the Expo Authority in April.

The organization had sued to stop work on the second phase of the project that would extend light rail 6.6 miles from Culver City to Downtown Santa Monica, but lost at both the superior and appellate courts.

"[Neighbors for Safe Rail] is gratified by the court's decision to review these very important issues," said Terri Tippit, president of the organization and the West of Westwood Homeowners Association, in a press release. "Blocking Overland (Avenue) and Westwood (Boulevard) 24 times per hour will have a devastating impact on traffic and public safety, and all evidence shows that Expo didn't study it as required."

The organization holds that the Expo Authority erred in its environmental analysis by using projected traffic patterns from 2030 to estimate the project's impacts on air quality and traffic rather than information from 2009 when the document was first drafted.

Its arguments leaned heavily on a series of court decisions from the Fifth and Sixth districts of the Court of Appeal that rejected the use of future conditions as a baseline for an environmental impact report.

Though the Second District Court of Appeal discounted that argument out of hand, the group hopes that the Supreme Court will take a different view.

"You're supposed to compare the existing environment to what will happen with your project," said Michael Eveloff, a spokesperson for Neighbors for Smart Rail. "What Expo chose to do was instead of using 'existing' as it exists, they'd study as it will exist in 2030."

SEE SUIT PAGE 10



ON THE HOOK

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Richard Perez. 32, catches a shark off the Santa Monica Pier on Thursday.

Paying up to live in town

School bond would be 12th assessment

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS At the Aug. 1 meeting of the Santa Monica-Malibu Board of Education, Gus Hasselquist made a plea.

The older man owns four properties that fall within district boundaries, which means the $385 million bond measure the board approved for the November ballot that night would impact him, drawing at his pension and Social Security check.

Could the board include a senior exemption for the bond, Hasselquist asked, much as they had for the most recent parcel tax, Measure R, passed in 2008?

His question illuminated two points.

First, the confusion between a parcel tax and a bond — Hasselquist feared he would be charged on each parcel individually, whereas a bond charges the owner based on the assessed value of their property.

The second will be a question facing voters in the district in November — what's the tipping point?

If approved, the new bond measure, which would be used to improve facilities and make needed seismic repairs to local campuses, could cost homeowners an average of $185 per month, depending on the value of their home.

Because it's a bond, the answer to Hasselquist's direct question was a regretful "no" — no such senior exemption exists for a bond, unlike a parcel tax.

If approved by voters in November, the bond would add to the 11 other local and regional assessments that already appear on Santa Monica tax rolls, including Measure R and a previous bond, Measure BB, approved in 2006.

According to tax documents provided by the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller's Office, those two measures alone cost one homeowner on the 1000 block of Centinela Avenue $421.68 in the 2011-12 fiscal year, or slightly more than half of the $792.52 tacked on by the nine other assessments.

SEE BOND PAGE 11



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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Aug. 10, 2012

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The Fairmont Miramar's FIG hosts Indulge Santa Monica as part of the Los Angeles Food & Wine Festival. Chef Ray Garcia will feature his trademark farm-to-table style along with chefs from the Westside's Bar Pintxo, Joe's and Jiraffe. Cost: $350. For more information, call (310) 319-3111.

Walk it out
Downtown Santa Monica, Main Street, Montana Avenue
Call for times
If you're interested in learning more about the city this summer, take a walking tour around Downtown Santa Monica, Main Street and Montana Avenue. When participating, you will discover all of Santa Monica's best stores, restaurants, art exhibits, entertainment and history with fun stories to go along. Admission costs $20 per person. Tours take place seven days a week. For more information, call (310) 595-4526.

Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012

Willy in the great outdoors
Reed Park,
tennis court No. 1
Corner of Seventh Street and Wilshire Boulevard,
8 p.m.
Shakespeare Santa Monica has worked with the city of Santa Monica to produce over 14 Shakespeare plays throughout the years. This year, they are performing "All's Well That Ends Well." Cost: $20 suggested donation. Another performance will take place on Sunday.
For more information, call (310) 270-3454.

The search for TV Man
Barnes & Noble
1201 Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m.
Local author and director Steve Kosareff presents his new documentary, "TV Man: The Search for the Last Independent Dealer," a story focusing on the American television industry. See the film and check out his book, "Window to the Future." Admission is free. For more information, call (310) 392-4728.

Oh, Dorothy
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St.,
call for times
Sit back, relax and enjoy the Santa Monica Playhouse's free performances of "Dorothy's Adventures in Oz," presented Aug. 11-12 and Aug. 18-19. The production is perfect for families. For more information, call (310) 394-9779.

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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





Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

GREEN WHEELS: **People look at a Cadillac Escalade hybrid on the Santa Monica Pier during an event promoting alternative fuel vehicles.**

Study: Cleaner cars helping to reduce L.A. pollution

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles area still has some of the nation's dirtiest air, but a study released Thursday concluded cars are belching far fewer pollution-causing fumes.

The level of dozens of volatile organic compounds in the Los Angeles basin fell about 98 percent in the past 50 years, according to a study funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"The reason is simple: Cars are getting cleaner," said a statement from study co-author Carsten Warneke of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

In the basin, which has about 13 million people, concentrations of volatile organic compounds have declined an average of 7.5 percent a year since 1960 and fell by half between 2002 and 2010 even as gasoline usage soared, the study found.

The reduction in chemicals such as benzene, toluene and formaldehyde likely was due to the use of cleaner cars and reformulated fuels driven by California's strict air pollution regulations and by better engines, the study said.

"Every model year in cars is getting better and better," Warneke said in a telephone interview. "The more efficient the engines get, the cleaner they burn."

Volatile organic compounds are key ingredients in the formation of ozone, one of the most harmful components of air pollution.

"This is the biggest knob to turn the ozone production down," Warneke said.

However, the reduction of such compounds didn't lead to a similar reduction in ozone levels.

"The air chemistry that leads from VOCs to ozone is more complex than that," said a press statement about the study. "Ozone pollution in the Los Angeles basin has decreased since the 1960s, but levels still don't meet ozone standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency."

The number of days that had unhealthy levels of ozone has dropped from around 200 a year to around 100 a year, Warneke said.

The Los Angeles region had the highest ozone levels in the nation last year, according to an annual survey by the American Lung Association.

Not all volatile organic compounds showed drastic declines. Smaller declines were found in the levels of propane and ethane, which can be produced from non-vehicle sources such as natural gas production and use, the study said.

A previous study found that the airborne level of another such compound, ethanol, actually increased. It can be produced from corn or other crops and is increasingly used as a gasoline additive.

The new study was based on a review of decades of data and on atmospheric sampling by ground and air. It was published online Thursday in the Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres, a journal of the American Geophysical Union.

Bill bars agencies from cellphone jamming

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A year after San Francisco's transit agency touched off a global free speech debate by jamming cellphones to block a protest, lawmakers are taking steps to pre-empt a similar scandal.

On Thursday, the state Assembly approved a bill that would prohibit agencies from disrupting cellphone service without probable cause and a court order.

"Open and available communication networks are critical to public safety and a key element of a free and open society," Sen. Alex Padilla, who wrote the bill, said in a statement.

The Los Angeles Democrat cited 911 access as a key concern.

Officials with the Bay Area Rapid Transit system came under fire last year when the agency cut subterranean cellphone and wireless data service in San Francisco subway stations to disrupt a planned protest. The move sparked even larger protests and had critics around the country comparing the agency to a Middle Eastern dictatorship.

Assembly members condemned the BART decision on Thursday and expressed hope the SB 1160 would serve as a wakeup call to other agencies considering jamming cellphones.

"The dysfunction of the BART system is well known in my area," said Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, D-San Francisco.

Ammiano called last year's cellphone jamming "undemocratic" and said the agency has a history of "reacting inappropriately by even the most mild and benign civil actions by the populace."

BART did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Following last year's incident, the agency adopted a policy that permits cellphone jamming without court review if officials believe a service disruptions or illegal action is imminent.

After some revisions in the Assembly, the bill now goes back to the Senate for final approval.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get rid of the word 'marriage'

Editor:

This letter is to clarify some of the issues surrounding the concept of gay marriage in hopes that people on both sides of the issue can find some middle ground ("Seeing both sides," Letters to the Editor, Aug. 8).

I recently had a heated discussion with a gay rights activist, who insisted that a civil union is not as good as a gay marriage. "Separate cannot be equal," he shouted.

I replied by asking him to think of the number 7.

5 + 2 = 7, right? (Yes, he said.)

And 6 + 1 = 7, right? (Yes, he said.)

And 3 + 4 = 7, right? (Yes, he said.)

Well, 6 is different from 3, and 4 is different from 1.

And 6+1=7, and 3+4=7.

This shows that things can indeed be separate and equal.

I have turned to mathematics to bring some objective logic into the picture.

From what I can see, the core issue here is "equal rights" which are also referred to as "human rights."

Yes people have the right to choose whom they will love. Yes adults have the right to enter into a union that is recognized by the government. This union, normally called marriage, brings with it various tax benefits and legal rights.

The core of the issue is to extend those rights to gay couples and lesbian couples. Very few people are arguing about the "rights" (tax benefits, etc.). Some people seem to be very emotionally attached to the word marriage. And it can be confusing. The union itself of two adults is called a marriage. Then there is a marriage ceremony, which often takes place at a house of worship (church, synagogue) and may include a long, white dress, a walk down the aisle and the exchange of wedding rings.

Many straight couples have been married at a justice of the peace without a traditional marriage ceremony. Technically, we could say that they have civil unions, since a judge and not a religious leader married them. If the issue is to extend the rights and benefits of marriage to gay couples and lesbian couples, then please let's focus on calling it a civil union. A civil union can be structured to legally provide the exact same benefits and rights as a marriage. Yes a civil union can be separate and equal to marriage in a legal sense.

If the issue is that gay couples and lesbian couples want the right to have a marriage ceremony in a house of worship, well that complicates things. Then it becomes a freedom of religion issue, which is why so many churches are fighting the concept of gay marriage. There are many places of worship where gays and lesbians are welcome. But the fact is, some religious leaders oppose homosexuality. They are not correct or incorrect, they are allowed to believe what they want.

Here is an example. I am vegetarian. Some people who eat meat will tell me to my face that I am "a stupid tree-hugger." They are allowed to believe that, and I am allowed to disagree with them. They even have the freedom of speech to say what they think as long as they do not threaten me.

I would like to make a few things clear. In no way do I support hate crimes. I am a straight female who has never been married. My goal in writing this letter is to get to the core of the matter — equal rights for gay couples and lesbian couples.

Please, let's call it a civil union and not gay marriage.

If you want to have a marriage ceremony that's fine. Call the ceremony a wedding if you like.

We can pass laws to ensure "separate but equal" rights for gay couples and lesbian couples once we take the hot-button word of marriage out of the picture.

Sadia Carone
Hollywood, Calif.



Back to Nature

Reese Halter — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Ancient forests may hold key to human anti-aging

RECENTLY, MORE ATTENTION is being focused on anti-aging and I believe that nature, in particular cliff trees, can show people the way to age more gracefully.

Along the cliffs from Niagara Falls to the islands north of Tobermory there exists some of the world's oldest cliff-dwelling trees. Some of those trees live within 60 miles of 7 million people in southern Ontario and the megalopolis of Toronto.

Hyperion, a coastal redwood, is the tallest tree on Earth at 379.3 feet and growing. General Sherman, a mountain Sequoia, is 274.9 feet tall with an astounding base of 102.6 feet. Not all ancient trees, however, are tall or big. Methuselah, a bristlecone pine, is over 4,750 years old and is the world's oldest living single-stemmed tree. He's not tall or big. He's weather-beaten, gnarly and near immortal.

The Niagara Escarpment is 435 miles long and made up of 400-million-year-old sedimentary rocks. For 130 million years, the escarpment was under a Silurian Sea. Those rocks contain a rich mixture of tiny sea-dwelling animals without backbones known as invertebrates.

About 13,000 years ago the dolomitic caprock of the escarpment emerged from under the immense Wisconsinan Ice Sheet. For another 6,000 years it remained submerged under glacial Lake Algonquin. Lake levels fluctuated for thousands of years, but about 3,500 years ago the Niagara Escarpment resembled the landform seen today.

The rock faces of the Niagara Escarpment are awesome. The maple and beech forests provide exquisite habitat for many critters. For instance, there are over 300 species of birds; 54 types of mammals, including the eastern Pipistrelle bat; and 32 kinds of reptiles like the endangered northern dusky salamander and the threatened eastern Massasauga rattlesnake. The escarpment is also a favorite destination for hikers and rock-climbers.

Until the late 1980s, little was known about the eastern white cedars growing along the cliff faces. University of Guelph botanist Professor Emeritus Douglas Larson began to explore the trees growing out of shear rock faces and on ledges. What he quickly discovered was that these trees were old.

Eastern white cedars are amazing trees with a wide flexibility enabling them to live in swamps, on acidic thin soils and along cliffs. An average tree can produce in excess of 260,000 seeds in a lifetime. And each tree has the ability to clone itself by rooting a branch that touches the ground. This trait protects swamp eastern white cedars when they tip over. They don't die easily.

As a matter of fact, native North Americans steeped bark and needles from eastern white cedar, which provided vitamin C, and saved the French explorer Jacques Cartier and his men from the disease scurvy in 1535-36. Cartier aptly named this tree *arbor vitae* or the tree of life.

Native North Americans used eastern white cedars to build canoes and longhouses. The wood is highly rot resistant. They also derived many medicines from these trees.

In 1989, Dr. Larson and his newly formed Cliff Ecology Research group began to actively explore the cliff-dwelling eastern white cedars along the escarpment. Led by ecologist and rock climber Peter Kelly, the group used ropes to rappel cliff faces. They began to find thousand-year-old living, weather-beaten and in many cases upside down eastern white cedars.

With the assistance of Global Forest Science, a conservation institute, and others, Larson's group began the formidable task of mapping the entire 435-mile length of cliff dwelling forests. What they discovered was extraordinary, and Kelly and Larson have presented it in a splendid book entitled "The Last Stand."

Along the Bruce Peninsula they found two exceptionally ancient dead trees. One tree had 1,653 rings, or years of growth. Some growth rings were worn away from the other tree. Kelly estimated its age to be 1,890 years (over 690,000 sunrises).

That antiquitous eastern white cedar would easily have outpaced Canada's oldest known living tree — a 1,697-year-old yellow cedar from coastal British Columbia.

Over the next decade, Peter Kelly went on to discover the oldest living eastern white cedar on the Niagara Escarpment; he called it the Ancient One with 1,320 rings or years of growth. It was born at the time the first Buddhist temple was built.

He found other ancient, upside down, twisted, deformed yet defiant survivors; he gave them names like Octopus Tree, Water-Fall Tree and Flying Elephant Tree.

These ancient trees, just like the American bristlecone pines, exhibit no signs of aging. Gerontologists are awed that there is no evidence of any chromosomal changes, including shortening of their tips as trees age.

They, like the near immortal bristlecones pines of the eastern central White Mountains of California, out-grow the ground beneath them; the sedimentary rocks break down before the trees die.

Erosion of sedimentary cliff faces and rock-falls along the Niagara Escarpment are what eventually kill the eastern white cedars. Similar to the bristlecones, eastern white cedars are able to survive with as little as 10 percent living bark and thrive for centuries while hanging on literally by threads of life.

The key to long tree life is slow, at times almost imperceptible, growth. Our species has much to learn on anti-aging from this long-lived, persistent strategy of making haste slowly.

"Earth Dr." **REESE HALTER** is an award-winning broadcaster and distinguished biologist. His latest books are "The Incomparable Honeybee" and "The Insatiable Bark Beetle." Contact him through www.DrReese.com.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Is there life after the Olympics?

IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE BUT in just over 48 hours the London Olympics will be history. For me, this begs the eternal, existential question: What the hell am I going to do now?

Frankly, being a fan of the Olympics hasn't been that easy. In the past week and a half I've watched so much TV that I've had to change the batteries in my remote. Twice.

The overriding observation I've taken from the games is … gawd, I've gotten flabby! Seeing all those six-pack abs, I suddenly realized that my stomach looks like the Pillsbury Doughboy. (Please don't e-mail suggesting sit-ups.)

How addicted am I to the Olympics? Put it this way, I probably should practice, "Hi, my name is Jack." It started right from the opening ceremonies, which even featured the 86-year-old queen of England in a James Bond spoof. To be honest, however, her highness looked like she'd prefer to be somewhere else, or anywhere else. As Barbara Walters critiqued on "The View," the queen "looked grumpy." Whoopi Goldberg suggested that the queen's grimace might have been because "her girdle was too tight."

Also participating in the opening ceremonies was Paul McCartney. I love the Beatles. As a kid I saw "Help" 10 times and I still have "The White Album." (To my younger readers, an "album" was a circular piece of vinyl that … never mind.)

I hate to say this, but Sir Paul looks disturbingly like Bruce Jenner (1976 decathlon gold medalist but famous today as the Kardashian's stepfather). The striking resemblance between Paul and Bruce suggests that either the two have the same plastic surgeon, or that after a certain number of face lifts everyone tends to look alike.

Speaking of looks, but thankfully in a more positive vein, every Olympic sport seems to have its own unique physique. The gymnasts are short but muscle-bound, the swimmers are giants with humongous shoulders and the sprinters are like piston-powered machines.

While on the subject of swimmers, has there ever been a more adorable Olympian than high-school senior Melissa Jeannette ("Missy") Franklin? All she did in London was win four gold medals, one bronze and set the world record in the 200 meter backstroke. And she just turned 17 in May!

Franklin is 6 feet, 1 inch tall and has size 13 feet, or "built-in flippers," as her father jokes. (I'm sure she's thrilled he said that ... not.) Missy refuses endorsements so she can remain an amateur and swim in college. How admirable is that? She's so all-American sweet, Wheaties should put her on their cereal box for the next decade.

But it looks like the Wheaties honor might go to gymnast Gabrielle Douglas. At 16, Gabby, nicknamed "The Flying Squirrel," is the first American to win team and all-around gold medals at the same Olympics and the first African-American to win the individual all-around competition.

NBC reportedly paid $1 billion for the broadcast rights to the 2012 Olympics. Another indicator that the games are grossly overly commercialized, it's estimated that "The Flying Squirrel" may leave London with endorsement deals in excess of $10 million.

Apparently, the American Olympic Committee pays our athletes. It breaks down to $25,000 for gold, $15,000 for silver and $10,000 for bronze. (But there's no truth to the rumor that for fourth place you get a set of steak knives.)

Commercialism aside, there also are no end to heart-warming stories at the London Olympics. To me none is more inspiring than "Blade Runner" Oscar Pistorius from South Africa, aka "the fastest man on no legs."

Born without fibula, when Oscar was 11-months both legs were amputated below his knees. Amazingly, he runs on carbon fiber artificial limbs. Pistorius was eliminated in the 400 meter semi-finals, but in my book he won gold. (American hurdler Lolo Jones also overcame enormous childhood hardships and it annoys the hell out of me she's criticized for finishing fourth.)

As the games wind down, one thing I won't miss are the 20 minutes of commercials every hour. (Including endless promos for Matthew Perry's upcoming show, which I fear looks like a real turkey.) I also won't miss Ryan Seacrest, who evidently has to be on every show NBC produces. And while I'm a Bob Costas fan, at 60 he must be an alien because he doesn't age like a human.

But I will miss turning on the TV day or night and seeing incredibly gifted athletes from all over the world competing on the greatest stage. And I will miss rooting for the U.S. against China in the medal count. (We probably should let them win or they may demand we pay back all the money we've borrowed.)

The next summer games are in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. What am I going to do between now and then? Please don't e-mail suggesting sit-ups.

If he isn't too busy changing batteries of his TV remote control, **JACK** can be reached at jns-mdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

Representing Malibu

Three Malibu residents have decided to run for the Board of Education. Many in that city have said that they feel under represented on the board.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think having a Malibu resident on the board gives the city a voice when it comes to education issues and why?

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 **310-573-8354**.



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J.D. Power and Associates May 2012 Edward Jones ranked "Highest in Investor Satisfaction with Full Service Brokerage Firms" according to the J.D. Power and Associates 2012 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study℠.[1]



1 Edward Jones received the highest numerical score among full service brokerage firms in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2012 Full Service Investor Satisfaction Study℠. Study based on responses from 4,401 investors measuring 16 investment firms and measures opinions of investors who used full-service investment institutions. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in February 2012. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com.



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From jail cells to art studios

DAVID RUNK
Associated Press

DETROIT For Hugo Navarro, the 5-by-9-foot jail cell that serves as his studio in southwest Detroit is an admittedly creepy place to immerse himself in his work.

Unlike jailhouse artists who find creative inspiration behind bars, however, the 56-year-old is there by choice. He paints at 555 Nonprofit Gallery and Studios, a decade-old arts organization that this year moved into its new home in the Detroit Police Department's former Third Precinct station.

The city closed the building in 2005 as part of a department-wide reorganization, and the former lobby where residents once could walk in to report crimes now is an airy gallery. Detectives' offices now serve as classroom and studio space. And potentially claustrophobic cells — bars still on their doors — are fostering creativity.

"I didn't really have anything in mind before going to my jail cell," said Navarro, whose colorful paintings of Detroit's shuttered Michigan Central Depot and fires gutting homes adorn some of the cells near where he's worked for the past few months. "I just let myself go and let my inside do the work."

The Third Precinct renovation is among a handful of projects nationwide converting old police facilities, including one in Chicago that is becoming live theater venues and one in Philadelphia that is being converted into homes. For Carl Goines, a co-founder of 555, says the project is a balancing act between preserving parts of the police station's past and making it a welcoming place for artists.

"This is a space that's taking on a new life. It's a space that's becoming inspirational," said Goines, a sculptor. "It pushes them to take their work to a new level."

555 is leasing its new home from Southwest Housing Solutions, a nonprofit community developer that bought the former precinct in 2009 and spent about $2 million on the project. Garage space at the building houses Detroit Farm and Garden, a gardening, farming and landscape supply store.

While Southwest Housing Solutions traditionally is involved in residential projects in southwest Detroit, developing roughly $100 million in housing and real estate, making sure the former precinct didn't languish as vacancy in one of the city's stronger neighborhoods made its reuse more important.

"It's exactly what we wanted it to be," said Tim Thorland, the developer's executive director. "The great thing about the gallery space is that it's a continuous work in progress."

In Philadelphia, the former 26th Precinct Police Station, which sat vacant for years, is being renovated with the upper floors as apartments, said architect Victor Barr Jr. of VLBJR Architects Inc. Much of its history as a neighborhood law enforcement hub was erased by time and earlier reuse, but salvaged architectural details are being recreated to bring back some of its character. Arches in the basement, Barr said, mark where cells once stood.

In Chicago, the Griffin Theatre Company acquired a former police station and plans to start construction in September on the first of two live performance spaces. The building's large cells are too massive to remove, said William Massolia, a founding member, so they'll be used to house a green room, dressing rooms and a box office.

"We're going to be using some of what was there and not disguise the fact that it was a police station and a jail," Massolia said.

At 555, an official opening event is planned for Sept. 14 and the building is a work in progress. In years to come, part of a second floor that once was home to a locker room used by officers could become a dance studio. A gym where officers once could play basketball might be a place for performances.

That raw potential is part of what makes it attractive. Elizabeth Sutton, 42, a photographer who is part of 555's board and an educator at the Detroit Institute of Arts, is turning first-floor space formerly used as detectives' offices into a darkroom. She said the building's past enters into her thinking as she works there.

"I'm really sensitive to space," Sutton said. "One of the things that I kind of like about this is that it is sort of institutional and industrial. But at the same time I think it is really open to transformation."

A mind is responsible for the traffic light, the blood bank, ice cream, peanut butter, the doorknob, the microphone, the elevator, clothes dryer, lawn mower, pacemaker, the typewriter, guided missile, mailbox, the air conditioner, automatic transmission, curtain rod, baby carriage, lawn sprinkler, fountain pen, dust pan, the hand stamp, first open-heart surgery, cataract laser, fire extinguisher, doorstop, home security camera, the golf tee, fire escape, potato chip, food preservation, synthesized cortisone, the guitar, railroad telegraphy, envelope seal, printing press, bicycle frame, rocket catapult, insect destroyer gun, ice cream scoop, window cleaner, laser fuels, folding chair, gas mask, mop, refrigerator, pressing comb, urinalysis machine, door lock, electric cutoff switch, telephone transmitter, stair-climbing wheelchair, hairbrush, egg beater, eye protector, electric lamp bulb, biscuit cutter, chamber commode, almanac, horse shoe, lunch pail, motor, lantern, key chain, furniture caster, ironing board, sugar-refining system, lemon squeezer, portable weighing scales, wrench, airplane propeller, ore bucket, steam boiler, portable x-ray machine, cotton chopper fertilizer, street sweeper, cattle-roping apparatus, spark plug, galoshes, casket-lowering device, clothes wringer, disrail car coupling, riding saddles, and so on and so on. The list is endless. Indeed, it's time to stop and celebrate the fact that each and every one of the wonderful innovations mentioned here came from the mind. The mind of an African American. By supporting minority education, you keep open the possibility of tomorrow's great ideas. Because of all the things that the human mind has created, perhaps the most amazing is the one that has yet to be created. And that possibility is
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New shows' stars are full of hope but nervous, too

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. It's the moment before the moment of truth.

The new fall series are in the wings, just days or weeks from bursting into view and discovering their fate. Their stars, producers and network bosses are full of anticipation and resolve.

That's what the recent Television Critics Association powwow was all about: Casts and execs parading before the nation's TV reporters to get them stoked.

Granted, many of the stars who hawked their show with such conviction were relying on blind faith. Most were still a few days from resuming production. Some hadn't even seen any upcoming scripts. Their only firsthand knowledge was based on the series pilot they shot months ago.

But never mind the unknowns to be dealt with once they got back to work. They were excited that soon their show would reach the public and, just maybe, catch fire and air for years, then reign forever in syndicated reruns — a jackpot that might bring them new or boosted fame and untold riches, even a place in the annals of great TV.

The stakes are sky-high and, each fall, hope springs eternal.

So does reasonable doubt for most of the stars. They know launching a series that clicks with viewers is like striking oil or taking gold at the Olympics.

The painful truth is, the shows the stars came plugging at TCA will most likely be gone a year from now, when some of the same actors could be right back here promoting their next series — those actors, that is, who are lucky enough to land another series so quickly.

Consider Laura Benanti from the upcoming NBC comedy "Go On," who a year earlier sat here on the dais in the Beverly Hilton Hotel's grand ballroom as part of the ensemble of NBC's "The Playboy Club" — which was axed last fall after airing just three weeks.

Alongside her was "Go On" co-star Matthew Perry, who last season was at TCA plugging his ABC sitcom "Mr. Sunshine."

During the "Go On" session one reporter's question to him began with, "A lot of people in this room liked 'Mr. Sunshine,'" whereupon Perry got laughs with a joke at his own expense: "THIS is the room where people liked 'Mr. Sunshine'?"

"Mr. Sunshine" came and went in early 2011. Now Perry (whose new show got a sneak preview on Wednesday after NBC's Olympics coverage) is primed to take another swing.

So is Anthony Anderson, whose many TV credits include the Fox drama "K-Ville," which lasted just a few weeks in fall 2007.

Now he's in the NBC sitcom "Guys With Kids," and exuding positive energy.

"It's the job that I have at hand," said Anderson at NBC's poolside party, "so I send nothing but positive energy to it. That's the only way it's going to be successful. You manifest your own destiny."

Other actors have other coping techniques.

Mindy Kaling, fresh from "The Office," is the creator-writer-star of the Fox comedy "The Mindy Project," which suggests she might be feeling extra waves of pressure.

But there's good news, she said, for a multi-hyphenate: "When you're starring in a show you're also writing, you don't have extra time to do the neurotic things I would normally do, like obsess."

"You get nervous as hell," confided series veteran Michael Chiklis, now back with "Vegas," a CBS drama. "I feel like this show is such a great thing, but I'm mildly superstitious and afraid to be cocky. I don't want to get ahead of myself."

Terry O'Quinn, who scored belated TV stardom on "Lost," now is headlining as a devilish landlord on ABC's spooky thriller "666 Park Avenue," and he takes nothing for granted.

"I feel very uncertain, not terribly well-balanced," he said with a wan smile, "and having done this for a living for this long, that's a fairly normal state. I hope the show succeeds, but I've become pretty philosophical about the numerous failures that one suffers in this business."

For many stars, the best policy at a moment like this is to stay sharply focused on just doing the job, and let the rest of the process take care of itself.

Justin Bartha stars as one-half of a committed gay couple in the NBC comedy "The New Normal," and while declaring his pride in the show he confessed, "I don't even know when it will air, to be honest."

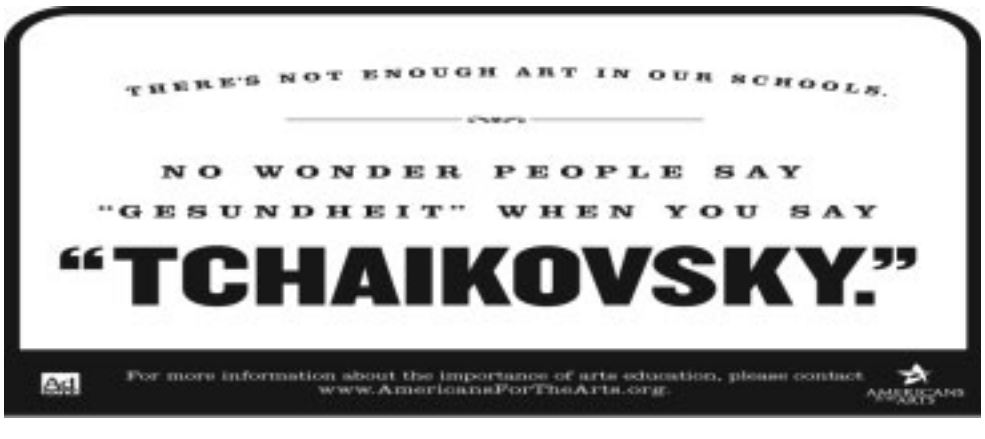
"Everybody is cautiously optimistic," said his co-star Andrew Rannells (a Tony winner for the hit musical "The Book of Mormon"), adding with cautious optimism, "our fingers are crossed."

Jordana Spiro, who formerly starred in the TBS comedy "My Boys," insisted that right now she means to "keep my head down and do good work and not look like a schmuck" on her new Fox drama, "The Mob Doctor."

But after it premieres, that could change. "If people really respond to it I may get a bit dizzy and say, 'Whoa, wait a second! This is kind of a big deal!'"

Meanwhile, nothing can hold back JoAnna Garcia Swisher. A star of the NBC sitcom "Animal Practice" (which gets a post-Olympics preview on Sunday), she already is dreaming about a big deal.

"I'm always hoping for the best, that's my personality," she explained with a grin. "I'm already thinking about syndication!"



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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Fighting City Hall with wire cutters

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3, AT 1:10 P.M.,

Santa Monica police officers on patrol near City Hall were flagged down by a city employee who said they saw a woman walk over to some wires leading up to the City Council Chambers and cut them. Officers said that two wires for the cable television hook-up were cut at two different spots. The suspect was detained and a pair of wire cutters were allegedly found in her purse. The suspect was arrested for vandalism. She was identified as Janice Mayhan, 62, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at $500.

SUNDAY, AUG. 5, AT 2:46 P.M.,

Officers assigned to the Third Street Promenade bicycle unit responded to the Apple Store located at 1248 Third St. regarding a report of a woman trying to buy something with a phony credit card. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who told them that the suspect entered the store and asked for the best iPad available. She then gave a clerk a Visa card for payment. The card was declined. The suspect then provided another Visa card and that too was not accepted. A check on the cards with the issuing bank revealed that the cards were fraudulent and employees called police after detaining the suspect inside the store. She was placed under arrest and booked for burglary, possession of forged access cards, theft, two warrants and a violation of probation. She was identified as Kristianna Maddox, 20, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at $21,122.

SATURDAY, AUG. 4, AT 3:42 P.M.,

Officers responded to a radio call regarding an armed robbery at the Rite-Aid at 1808 Wilshire Blvd. When officers arrived, they made contact with a security guard at the store who said he saw the suspect take several items from the shelves and try to conceal them inside a bag and jacket. When the guard confronted the suspect, he allegedly pulled out a hypodermic needle and tried to stab the guard with it. The guard dodged the strike and the suspect fled. The guard followed him for several blocks and called police. The suspect eventually stopped at a carwash and tried to hide in a bathroom. Police were able to locate the suspect and he was placed under arrest. Police recovered roughly $390 in merchandise, as well as the needle used in the alleged assault. The suspect was booked for robbery and two outstanding warrants. He was identified as Chad Plump, 30, a transient.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3, AT 9:13 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1200 block of the promenade – Sephora – regarding a suspicious person. When officers arrived, they made contact with security at the fragrance boutique who said that the suspect, who was standing by the cashier's table, was trying to purchase a $400 gift card using a fraudulent MasterCard. When the card failed to go through, employees called the bank but could not get through to anyone. While inspecting the card, the employees said they noticed several inconsistencies, leading them to believe it was a fake. Officers made contact with the suspect, at which time they learned he had warrants for his arrest for burglary. The suspect was placed under arrest and searched. Officers said they found two more bogus cards in his possession. Officers also learned that the suspect allegedly bought something at Quicksilver with one of the cards. The suspect was eventually booked for burglary, possession of forged credit cards, violation of probation and the burglary warrants. He was identified as Justin Muir, 26, of El Monte, Calif. No bail was set.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1, AT 8:13 P.M.,

Officers responded to the Santa Monica Pier regarding a report of an assault in progress near the pier stairs. When officers arrived, they saw three men who were believed to be involved in the altercation. Officers went to detain them, at which time one of the suspects jumped on a bike and rode off, ignoring the officers' commands to stop. The other two suspects allegedly refused to comply as well and they were taken to the ground and handcuffed. The third suspect, seeing that his friends were being arrested, circled back and surrendered to officers. Two women told the officers that they were taking pictures of the pier with their cell phones when the suspects approached them and grabbed one of their phones. When they tried to get it back, one of the suspects allegedly punched one of the women in the head and face until she fell to the ground. Both victims started walking toward the sub-station on the pier to notify police. The suspects followed and allegedly taunted the victims, calling them "rats." One of the women started filming the suspects with her phone, at which time she was allegedly attacked. Both suffered minor injuries and were treated at the scene. The suspects were placed under arrest for various charges, including robbery and participating in a criminal street gang. The suspects included one 17-year-old resident of Los Angeles. He was taken to juvenile detention. The other suspects were identified as Carlos Lara, 18, and Alberto Montano, 19; both of Los Angeles. Bail for the two was set at $90,000.

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news@smdp.com
Editor-in-Chief Kevin Herrera contributed to this report.

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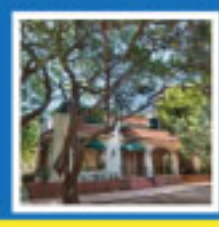

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Photo courtesy Exposition Light Rail Authority

PASSING BY: **A train on the Expo Line leaves the Farmdale Station in Los Angeles.**

SUIT
FROM PAGE 1

That's 15 years after the light rail line is expected to operate.

Environmental documents are also supposed to demonstrate ways to lessen the impacts of projects on the environment around them.

The neighbors' second point focuses on areas of the environmental document where the Expo Authority agrees to work toward mitigating those problems, rather than offering concrete solutions.

The group points to the Exposition station planned for Westwood, which includes no parking but a promise to work with Los Angeles officials to reduce any parking-related impacts.

"Show me the impact, show me the mitigation and show me the certainty (that you can fix it)," Eveloff said.

In its response to the neighbors' first appeal, filed in November 2011, attorneys for the Expo Authority accused the residents of challenging the environmental document when their real objective was to force the project to avoid "their" neighborhood, Cheviot Hills.

It also points to an extensive public process and two environmental documents drafted before the version Neighbors for Smart Rail is challenging was adopted.

Eveloff and his group are not convinced.

The Blue Line, another piece of the Los Angeles light rail system, is on pace to have its deadliest year since it was built over two decades ago, according to the Associated Press.

Six people have been struck and killed by the Blue Line, including four who committed suicide.

"I think that what you've seen with the Blue Line and what you've seen with Expo, like lots of noise problems, vibration problems, abnormal track wear … maybe it wasn't well-thought out," Eveloff said.

The lawsuit will not slow progress on the second phase, wrote Gabriela Collins, a spokeswoman for the Expo Authority, in an e-mail.

The first phase of the $2.4 billion project stretches from Downtown Los Angeles to Culver City. It is already operating, although there are reports of problems with pieces of its track.

The second phase, the focus of the state Supreme Court case, consists of seven stops, three of which are in Santa Monica. It's expected to arrive by 2015.

Current modeling projections estimate that by 2030, the line will transport 64,000 riders daily.

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BOND
FROM PAGE 1

Another $109.21 of that total paid for the proceeds of bonds issued by Santa Monica College to support the construction occurring on that institution's various campuses.

Would the additional cost break the bank for some Santa Monica taxpayers?

Neil Carrey isn't so sure.

Carrey is the chair of the district's Economic Feasibility Committee, the group that crafted the bond and hired a research firm to conduct a poll to assess its political viability.

Most people don't look at the details of their tax bills, Carrey said.

"The answer, like anything, is that if people see the amount it could concern them," Carrey said.

It may be helpful to the bond effort that approximately 70 percent of Santa Monicans rent.

The average apartment dweller would see a $16 bump in their monthly bills as a result of the bond, less than a tenth of what homeowners can expect.

According to Goodwin Simon Strategic Research, which conducted the polling, renters were considerably more likely to support the bond than homeowners, particularly homeowners over the age of 50.

Homeowners should think of measures like bonds and parcel taxes as investments in their property's value rather than a detrimental tax, Carrey said.

Homes near good schools fetch a premium price, and hold their property values.

Realtor Kate Bransfield sees it every day in her business, which receives a lot of calls for properties near Franklin and Roosevelt elementary schools.

"Do the schools affect property values? Absolutely," Bransfield said. "I've had people move here from across the country who have done their homework, saying, 'I don't care if it's a tent, I want to be in the Franklin area.'"

Some people see extra assessments to support schools as an investment in their home's value, other see them as the factor that pushes a home out of their reach.

"I've had the property taxes affect somebody's ability to afford a property on occasion," Bransfield said, although it varies on a case-by-case basis.

If the bond passes in November, most people won't realize it immediately even if they are the kind of person who reads their tax bill line by line.

Unlike parcel taxes, bonds don't hit bills immediately. It can take two or three years before the school district would be ready to issue any of the bonds, meaning property owners wouldn't see an increase in their bill from the get go.

District officials are mindful of the fact that some, like Hasselquist, live on fixed income and could be negatively impacted by the new cost that would appear on their bills.

"That was one of the reasons that we put in the senior exemption for the parcel tax," Carrey said. Bonds have neither a low-income nor a senior exemption.

It was a struggle for some board members as well, and Superintendent Sandra Lyon spoke specifically to the trade off when she introduced the item to the board on Aug. 1.

Board members voted 6 to 1, with Boardmember Ralph Mechur against, to put the bond before the voters.

The collective investment will come back to taxpayers in terms of increased property values, decreased crime and increased earnings, wrote Boardmember Oscar de la Torre in an e-mail.

"The societal cost of failing to educate our youth is a lot greater," de la Torre wrote. "Statewide, our public education system is (in) crisis, and Santa Monica must serve as an example of what happens when residents, homeowners and renters alike work to support and sustain our public schools."

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Heat wave brings power conservation call

Managers of California's electrical grid have issued a statewide call for power conservation due to an intensifying heat wave.

The California Independent System Operator says a so-called "Flex Alert" is being declared for Friday through Sunday, but conservation will also be helpful during Thursday afternoon's peak hours when air conditioners drive energy consumption.

Valleys and inland areas have been sweltering in triple-digit highs all week under the influence of strong high pressure over the southwestern U.S. Forecasters say the heat combined with rising humidity will continue through the weekend.

The heat is on as the San Onofre nuclear plant remains offline due to problems with its steam generators.

The "Flex Alert" is intended to prevent operating reserves from falling to the point that a Stage 1 Emergency occurs.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORRANCE

Man arrested for message on Chick-fil-A

A 30-year-old man has been arrested for investigation of vandalism after police say he scrawled "tastes like hate" on the side of a Chick-fil-A restaurant in a Los Angeles suburb.

Torrance police say Manuel Castro was taken into custody Wednesday night after they found him in West Hollywood. Castro posted $20,000 bail and was released. It wasn't immediately known if he had retained an attorney.

The message, accompanied by a cow, was found last Friday as gay marriage supporters ramped up protests against the corporate owner's opposition to same-sex unions.

The flap began last month when Chick-fil-A President Dan Cathy told a religious publication that the company backed "the biblical definition of a family."

AP

LOS ANGELES

Feds ask for public help in child porn case

Federal authorities are asking for public help in identifying two adults and two young children seen in child sex videos discovered by computer forensics agents in Los Angeles.

A "Jane Doe" arrest warrant has been obtained in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., for the suspected child pornography producer.

The Homeland Security Investigations child exploitation unit believes the woman produced videos showing herself and an adult male having sex with two children, one of them 3 to 5 years old and the other 5 to 7 years old.

Eight photographs of the woman were released Thursday.

Agents believe the woman lives somewhere in the United States.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement says agents discovered the videos during a computer forensics examination in an unrelated child porn case.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Schools chief exhorts courage from educators

Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent John Deasy is urging school administrators to be more courageous in standing up for youth rights in the upcoming school year.

Deasy addressed hundreds of district leaders on Thursday in the Superintendent's Annual Administrators' Meeting held at a south Los Angeles high school.

Deasy notes four main goals for the nation's second-largest school district for 2012-13: launching federal curriculum standards, putting more college prep courses at high schools, mainstreaming more English learners and students with disabilities into regular classes, and expanding professional development for educators.

The superintendent says the most daunting challenge will be coping with reduced state funding. He says the state has all but abandoned its commitment to public education and notes the state spends more on prisons than schools.

AP

RIVERSIDE

8 charged in sex trafficking ring

Eight people were charged Thursday for their roles in a sex trafficking ring where gang members recruited teenage girls from high schools in Riverside and San Bernardino counties and had them work as prostitutes in the Los Angeles area, authorities said.

Four suspected Rolling 60 Crips were charged with conspiracy and sex trafficking, while four women also face various charges. It wasn't immediately known whether any of the defendants had retained an attorney.

Seven of those charged took part in running the sex trafficking ring that involved seven teenage girls, six of whom were under the age of 18. Federal prosecutors said Kimberly Alberti, 19, of Riverside recruited most of the victims from a high school she attended and made promises that the sex trade was lucrative.

"Alberti would prey on young, vulnerable females who sometimes had no support at home," according to court documents.

The girls were then brought to Compton and other parts of South Los Angeles where they were taught how to be prostitutes and then began working on the street, authorities said. Paul Bell, 27, of Lynwood often threatened the girls with violence and may have kept them locked in an apartment, court documents show.

Bell has at least eight prior convictions over the past 10 years, including force with a deadly weapon, false imprisonment and sex with a minor.

AP

ALTADENA

Man falls 125 feet to death in canyon

Authorities say a 19-year-old man has fallen 125 feet to his death in a Los Angeles-area canyon.

The San Gabriel Valley Tribune says Christian Funes of Los Angeles was hiking with friends in Eaton Canyon in Altadena when he fell Wednesday evening.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

AP

Number of homes facing foreclosure rose in July

ALEX VEIGA
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES More U.S. homes started on the foreclosure path in July, as lenders tackled a backlog of mortgages gone unpaid even as they pulled back on home repossessions.

The number of homes that received an initial notice of default — the first step in the foreclosure process — increased 6 percent in July compared to the same month last year, foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac Inc. said Thursday.

Filings of initial default notices have increased on an annual basis for three months in a row.

The trend comes as banks work to make up for time lost last year as the mortgage-lending industry grappled with allegations that it had processed foreclosures without verifying documents.

The nation's biggest mortgage lenders reached a $25 billion settlement in February with state officials. That cleared the way for banks to address their backlog of unpaid mortgages.

On average, 104,000 homes have entered the foreclosure process each month going back to May. That's well below the 178,000 per-month average in 2009, the year with the highest monthly average, RealtyTrac said.

The increase in homes entering the foreclosure process raises the possibility that more properties could end up being foreclosed upon in coming months. But of late, banks have been dialing back home repossessions and increasingly allowing the borrower to sell the home in a short sale. That's when the bank agrees to accept less than what the seller owes on the mortgage.

Banks took back 21 percent fewer homes last month than in July last year, RealtyTrac said. Repossessions were down 1 percent from June. They've been down on an annual basis every month going back nearly two years.

"Lenders are much less likely now than they were even a year ago or two years ago to repossess a property after they've started the foreclosure process," said Daren Blomquist, a vice president at RealtyTrac.

Completing the foreclosure process can potentially open banks up to liability if they're accused of improper procedures. And short sales, on average, sell for $25,000 more than a bank-owned property, Blomquist said.

As a result, lenders are much more likely to look for alternatives, such as a short sale, a loan modification or refinancing.

So far this year, home repossessions have averaged about 57,000 a month. That puts the nation on track for just under 700,000 completed foreclosures this year, below the 800,000 recorded in 2011.

The latest crop of homes entering the foreclosure process does not signal that there is a fresh wave of homeowners in distress and missing payments. The majority of the loans entering the foreclosure process are mortgages that date back to the housing bubble years, Blomquist said.

Even so, the increase in foreclosure-starts could boost the number of homes that end up on the market for sale at a sharp discount to other properties. That means, barring another outcome, many of the homes that entered the foreclosure pipeline in recent months could end up weighing down the values of nearby homes when they hit the market.

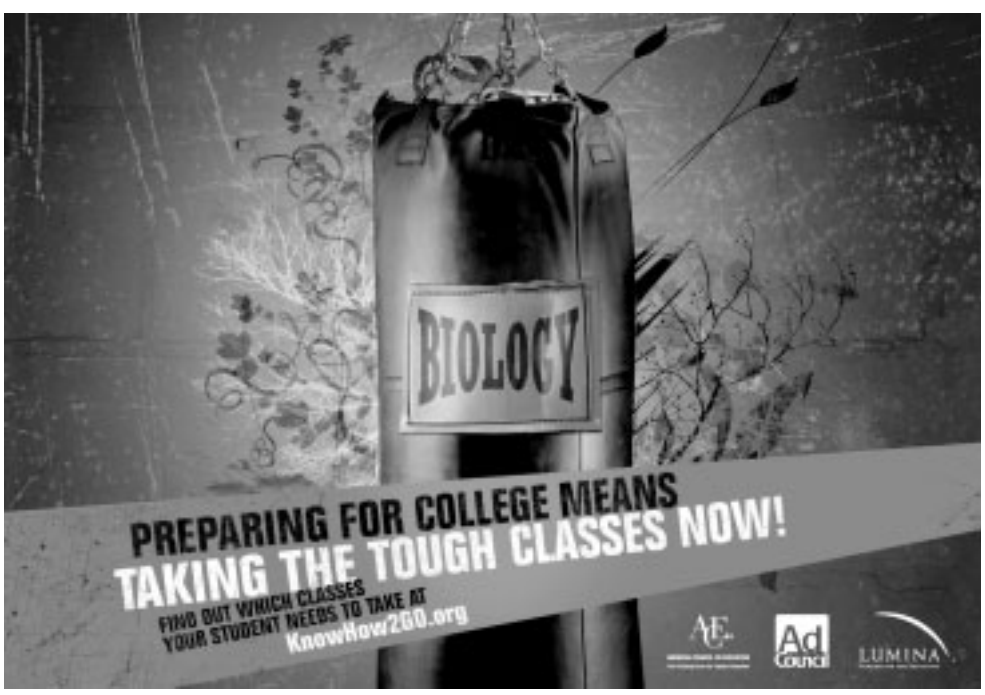
A stronger housing market could mitigate the impact of future foreclosures on home prices, and home sales are expected to end up ahead of last year. But many economists still say the market is years away from a full recovery.

The number of homes receiving foreclosure-related notices last month increased generally in states where the courts play a role in the foreclosure process. Among them: New Jersey, Florida, Ohio and Illinois.

Many homes on the foreclosure path were left in limbo in those states last year, while mortgage lenders sorted out the foreclosure abuse allegations.

In contrast, foreclosure activity was down sharply in Arizona and California — foreclosure hotbeds throughout the housing downturn, but states where the court does not factor into the foreclosure process.

That didn't keep California from posting the nation's highest foreclosure rate last month. One in every 325 households reported a foreclosure-related notice in July, more than twice the national average.



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Report: Drought worsens in crucial farm states

JIM SUHR
AP Business Writer

ST. LOUIS The Plains states where the production of corn and soybeans is key are being hit harder by excessive drought conditions in the wake of the hottest month on record in the continental U.S., contributing to a surge in global food prices.

The weekly U.S. Drought Monitor map released Thursday showed that the amount of the contiguous U.S. mired in drought conditions dropped a little more than 1 percentage point, to 78.14 percent as of Tuesday. But the expanse still gripped by extreme or exceptional drought — the two worst classifications — rose to 24.14 percent, up nearly 2 percentage points from the previous week.

That's because key farm states didn't get as much benefit from rains as elsewhere on the heels of temperatures in July that federal scientists said were so high they broke a record set during the Dust Bowl of the 1930s.

Growers in Iowa — the nation's biggest corn and soybean producer — saw their conditions further deteriorate, with the amount of that state in extreme or exceptional drought more than doubling from 30.74 percent last week to 69.14 percent now. In neighboring Nebraska, the expanse of land considered in the two worst drought categories rose to 91.2 percent, up 8 percentage points. The amount of Kansas in exceptional drought also more than doubled, up to 38.58 percent from 17.45 percent, while extreme or exceptional drought in Illinois spiked roughly 10 percentage points, to 81.18 percent.

"Same song, tenth verse last week as much of the Plains saw the pattern of excessive heat and dryness persist, leading to more expansion across Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and parts of Texas," Mark Svoboda, a climatologist with the National Drought Mitigation Center, wrote in Thursday's report.

Those dry conditions have factored into a sharp rise in global food prices after three months of decline, the U.N.'s Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization said in its monthly price report Thursday.

Severe drought punishing the U.S.'s midsection has sent corn prices soaring by almost 23 percent, and expectations of worsened crop prospects in Russia because of dry weather sent world wheat prices up 19 percent, according to the FAO, which keeps close tabs on volatile global prices. Spikes in the prices of staple foods have led to riots in some countries in recent years.

The U.S. leads the world in exporting corn, soybeans and wheat, and the surging prices are expected to be felt across the international marketplace, hurting poor food-importing countries, said a study by British charity Oxfam issued on the eve of the U.N. report.

The FAO said its overall food price index climbed 6 percentage points in July, although it was well below the peak reached in February 2011. The FAO's index, considered a global benchmark used to track market volatility and price trends, measures the monthly price changes for a basket of food items including cereals, oils and fats, meat, dairy products and sugar.

Corn, wheat, soybean and sugar prices rose. But on a brighter note, the July report said the price of rice and dairy products remained constant and the agency's meat price index fell.

Nonetheless, Oxfam cautioned that "millions of the world's poorest will face devastation" because of the rising prices.

"This is not some gentle monthly wake-up call — it's the same global alarm that's been screaming at us since 2008," Oxfam spokesman Colin Roche said after the latest figures were released. "These new figures prove that the world's food system cannot cope on crumbling foundations. The combination of rising prices and expected low reserves means the world is facing a double danger."

The U.S. Agriculture Department reported this week that as of Sunday exactly half of the nation's corn crop was rated poor to very poor, up 2 percentage points from the previous week and creeping closer to the peak of 53 percent of 24 years ago. Some 39 percent of soybeans now fall under those two categories, rising 2 percentage points for the second straight week and eclipsing the 1988 benchmark of 37 percent.

The nation's rangeland and pastures are faring even worse, with roughly three-fifths rated to be in poor to very poor shape — the largest area thus affected in 18 years.

"Indeed, recovery from this summer's extraordinarily hot, dry weather will be a lengthy process, requiring the change of seasons and multiple soaking rainfall events — not just occasional showers," wrote Brad Rippey, a USDA meteorologist.

That's perhaps because July was so brutal for growers. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported Wednesday that the average temperature last month was 77.6 degrees, eclipsing the old record from July 1936 by 0.2 degrees. Records go back to 1895.

"It's a pretty significant increase over the last record," said climate scientist Jake Crouch of NOAA's National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, N.C. In the past, skeptics of global warming have pointed to the Dust Bowl to argue that recent heat isn't unprecedented. But Crouch said this shows that the current year "is out and beyond those Dust Bowl years. We're rivaling and beating them consistently from month to month."

Thirty-two states had months that were among their 10 warmest Julys, which Crouch said shows the breadth of the heat and associated drought.

The first seven months of 2012 were the warmest on record for the nation. And August 2011 through July this year was the warmest 12-month period on record, just beating out the July 2011-June 2012 time period.

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ROAST DELI & MARKET

Signs of an economic recovery hard to read

CHRISTINA REXRODE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The stock market has the summer doldrums.

U.S. stocks dawdled between small gains and losses Thursday with investors unable to decide what to focus on: incremental encouraging news about the U.S. economy, or incremental negative news about China and elsewhere.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 10.45 points — just 0.08 percent. It has barely budged for most of the week, rising Monday through Wednesday but only by small fractions of a percent. The relative quiet is partly due to a lack of major developments in the European debt crisis or decisive news on the U.S. economy. Another reason is simply because traders like to clear out for vacation in August.

"I think there are more active managers in the Hamptons than there are in Manhattan," said Hugh Johnson, chairman and chief investment officer of Hugh Johnson Advisors in Albany, N.Y.

David Abuaf, chief investment officer of Hefty Wealth Partners, wasn't in the Hamptons: He was in his office in Auburn, Ind. And he, also, was watching the markets languish.

"There has been nothing systemically consistent, either good news or bad news," Abuaf said. "So a lot of professional asset managers are saying, 'I don't know where I want to put my money, but if I don't invest now then my clients are going to start demanding their money back.'"

The Dow closed at 13,165.19. It was down about 51 points at its lowest and up 23 at its highest, meaning it had a spread of about 74 points throughout the day. The average spread for the year so far is much higher, about 134 points, according to Dow Jones Indexes.

Changes in the other indexes were equally underwhelming. The Standard & Poor's 500 was virtually flat, rising 0.58 points to 1,402.80. The Nasdaq edged up 7.39 to 3,018.64.

The trendless market was a product of conflicting news about the world economy.

In the U.S., the government reported that the trade deficit fell to the lowest level in 18 months, which is generally considered good for the economy. In June, the U.S. enjoyed lower prices for the oil it brought in and higher sales of the cars, pharmaceuticals and industrial machinery it shipped out.

But the report also brought a troubling sign that China, which grew even through the global recession and afterward, can't prop up world markets forever. U.S. exports to China dropped more than 4 percent. Separately, China reported that growth slowed in auto sales and factory output.

Another emerging-market giant, India, reported lower industrial output for the third time in four months.

Advance Auto Parts fell after reporting lower revenue and net income, losing nearly 4 percent, or $2.65, to $67.92. Cosmetics company Elizabeth Arden jumped 13 percent, rising $5.06 to $44.02, after reporting strong international sales.

Online brokerage E-Trade jumped nearly 7 percent, rising 55 cents to $8.57, after the company unexpectedly fired its CEO. The company didn't spell out its reasons for the dismissal, but the stock has languished and the company's largest shareholder, hedge fund Citadel, has clamored for change.

Across the Atlantic, there were a few foreboding reminders that Europe's economy remains in trouble.

Germany's Commerzbank predicted lower profits for the rest of the year, worrying that customers are too nervous to invest or take out loans.

Greece reported that unemployment soared to 23 percent in May from 17 percent the year before. Among people under 25 years old, 55 percent are out of work.

All year the market has swung back and forth on even small developments out of debt-hobbled Europe. But Thursday, investors apparently didn't mind.

"Investors are essentially giving (European) policymakers a pass over the next few weeks because it's summer," said Jeremy Zirin, chief equity strategist at UBS Wealth Management. "But when summer is over and everyone is back in September, markets are not going to be willing to give policymakers as much time and as much rope."

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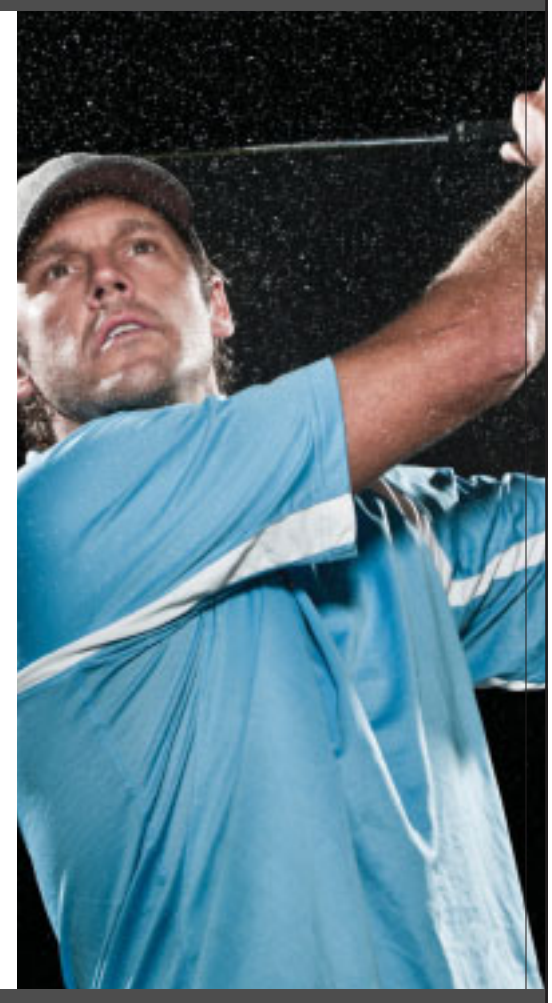

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:
Text Amendment 12-001, CM Main Street Commercial, C4 Highway Commercial Districts and A Off-Street Parking Overlay District. Recommendation to amend Santa Monica Municipal Code [SMMC] Sections 9.04.02.030, 9.04.08.22.030, 9.04.08.28.040, 9.04.08.38.040 and Subchapter 9.04.12 to permit off-street food truck venues in the CM Main Street Commercial District and C4 Highway Commercial District by Performance Standards Permit. [Planner: Paul Foley] Applicant: City of Santa Monica.
The Planning Commission will also hold a study session on the community benefits issues paper as part of the Zoning Ordinance update process, with presentation by consultant Vivian Kahn from Dyett & Bhatia. [Staff: Jory Phillips, Consultant: Vivian Kahn]

WHEN: Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall 1685 Main Street Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 66.4°

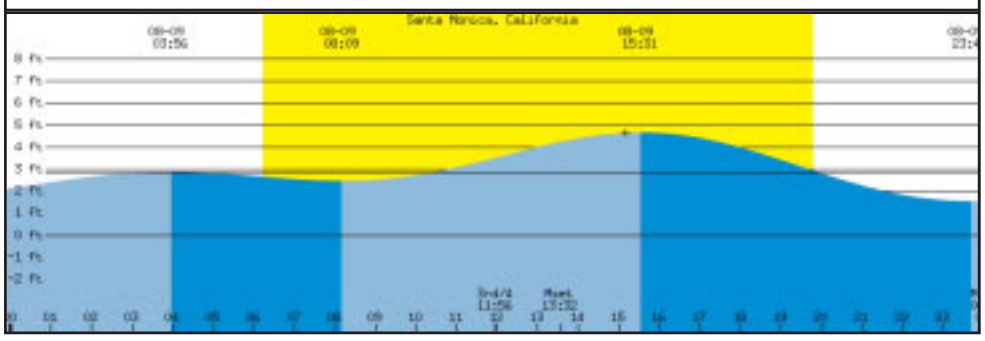
Swell Forecast

Should run waist to chest at south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Should run chest high at south facing breaks in the early morning with periods running 23 seconds at times as forerunners from the next swell come into SoCal, building throughout the day.

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 1, 2012**

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 -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 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, Goodbrook Family Foundation, simplehuman, LiterGUY, SMM

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 Lechusa and Las Alias creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Dread 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.	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	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 17300 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
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).	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	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.	A+	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 CIWW 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.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Barkley says Trojans have ratcheted up intensity

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Matt Barkley plans to take a freshman approach to his fourth and final training camp for Southern California.

"I'm not really thinking of it as my last camp," Barkley said Wednesday. "I just don't think of stuff like that, but kind of try to approach it like my freshman year. ... I know a lot more than I did that year, but it's still a fun experience."

While coach Lane Kiffin said Barkley's approach hasn't changed much year to year, Barkley acknowledged that the goals are different this time around with the team being bowl eligible after it was banned for the past two seasons because of sanctions stemming from the Reggie Bush scandal.

"I think our mindset to this year has just changed in terms of being bowl-eligible and the chance to do something special," Barkley said. "You just have to keep your head up and know that there's a light at the end of the tunnel."

The constant learning that comes with being a quarterback has kept Barkley's mindset fresh. After starting as a freshman and playing two years without a postseason, he decided against going to the NFL in December to play with the Trojans one more year with a shot at a bowl.

"I've always just figured I don't want anyone else to know something that I don't know so if I'm studying film or whether it's the playbook, I have the fear of failure of being asked a question or being out there not knowing what to do," he said.

Fellow USC quarterback Cody Kessler said that knowledge has transferred over to the entire position group.

"It's kind of cool to see that from a guy, especially with so much talent and how big he is, hype-wise, and how big around the country he is, to kind of take time to help me and Max (Wittek) and show that he really cares about the team. He's putting his time into us and he has to worry about his career at the same time."

Last season the Trojans didn't have a clear-cut backup quarterback, but Kiffin said Tuesday that there will be one to start the 2012 season.

He hopes to make a decision between Wittek and Kessler by the end of camp.

"I think both (backups) are doing well," Kiffin said. "Max (Wittek) has gotten bigger and stronger in the offseason and Cody (Kessler) has really improved on a big area of concern, which was lengthening his stride, getting away from the line of scrimmage being one of the shorter guys we've had before."

Ali's Wicked
Benefit Event

THE BRITISH COMMUNITY OF SANTA MONICA IS HOSTING A BENEFIT FOR

ALISON aka ALI from London

SATURDAY AUGUST 18TH 2012
FROM 5PM - UNTIL 1 AM
AT THE COCK'N BULL
2947 LINCOLN BLVD.,
SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
(310) 399-9696

ALI WAS DIAGNOSED WITH STAGE 4 COLON CANCER AND AT THIS TIME IS UNDERGOING EXTREME CHEMO THERAPY.

We hope everyone can come and show their suport for Ali, as wel all know the British & American communities always come together when one of our own is in need and during desperate times.

If you are unable to attend, and would like to donate or purchase raffle tickets, please email:
wickedali7@gmail.com



MOVIE TIMES

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

Breathless (UR) 1hr 30min
Band of Outsiders (NR) 1hr 37min
7:30pm

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

Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13)
2hrs 16min
12:45pm, 7:00pm

Campaign (R) 1hr 37min
12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
1:00pm, 4:45pm, 8:30pm

Hope Springs (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
5:05pm

Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 1hr 40min
4:15pm, 10:15pm

Nitro Circus: The Movie 3D (PG-13)
1hr 28min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
10:30am, 1:40pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 11:15pm

Total Recall (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
10:40am, 1:40pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Ted (R) 1hr 46min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Campaign (R) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
10:45am, 2:30pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

Watch (R) 1hr 42min
9:45pm

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG)
1hr 34min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 1hr 34min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm

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

Intouchables (R) 1hr 52min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13)
1hr 31min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Farewell, My Queen (Les adieux a la reine) (R)
1hr 40min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

To Rome With Love (R) 1hr 35min
4:20pm, 9:45pm

Ruby Sparks (R) 1hr 44min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

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

Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Total Recall (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 33min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:55pm, 10:25pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
11:15am, 3:00pm, 6:45pm, 10:30pm

Hope Springs (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Celeste and Jesse Forever (R) 1hr 29min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

Work late tonight, Virgo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Talks in the morning, though somewhat good, will blossom in the afternoon, if you wait. You have a tendency to go to extremes as the day goes on. Tonight: Hang with friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You wake up feeling great, but note an energy change later today. Your finances play a big role in what happens. A friend means well but comes up with a somewhat dubious idea that he or she thinks is great. Practice saying "no." Tonight: Treat time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Don't even think about your morning. No matter what conversation you are a part of, you might feel as if you are tired or aren't right on top of things. Don't worry. By late afternoon, you'll feel great -- just in time for a wild weekend! Tonight: All smiles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Sit back and understand what is happening with a friend. Avoid getting too much into the ideas surrounding a new theory or a potential trip. Brainstorm with a respected authority about money. You still might need some time before making a decision. Tonight: Assume a low profile.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You are in tune with your needs, and it appears others are, too. Focus on the possibilities of working with a partner. You might not be totally straightforward, or you could choose not to reveal the whole story. Do this, and you'll succeed in confusing the situation. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Take a stand. You could be relating on a one-on-one level. What you hear and what someone is thinking could be quite different. When you are in a conversation, be sure to clarify information. Tonight: Work late.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for more information. You need to gain a broader perspective than what you have. Through detachment, you'll see a solution that could make everyone happy. Prioritize in order to get projects done. Tonight: Read between the lines.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ One-on-one relating proves to be most satisfying. What you believe to be a short meeting could become quite a fun get-together. You can justify taking so much time, as it is Friday. Schedule some time with a loved one later today. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Listen and decide if you can go along with others' plans or suggestions. You might want to get down to the basics of a situation, but others are not in the mood. Stay centered in what works well for you. Tonight: Assume the role of party animal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to be creative and open to new ideas. Allow more clarity in a discussion about plans. You like to keep the veil of excitement over upcoming events. Understand that this mystery might be most unappealing. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Allow your creativity to flow. You'll come up with unusual ideas that others will admire. You might want to use care with your finances. You easily can make a mistake when counting your charge or signing a bogus agreement. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Listen to news that is forthcoming. You have a way with a family member or roommate that makes this person more inclined to say "yes" to one of your ideas. Tonight: Happily head home.

Happy birthday

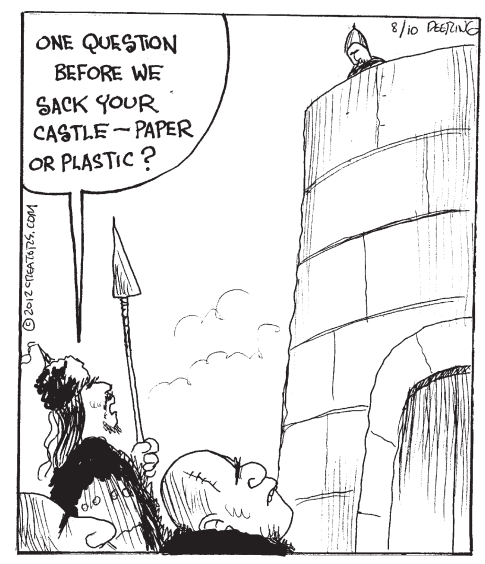
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year you open up to a new way of thinking, and others find conversations with you to be exciting. Your creativity bubbles no matter what you do. Friends surround you, and in situations where you are out with them, you meet new people with ease. By networking, you will gain professionally. If you are single, you will have many potential suitors. You are likely to meet the type of person you want to be with. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy your time together. GEMINI counts on you as a friend.

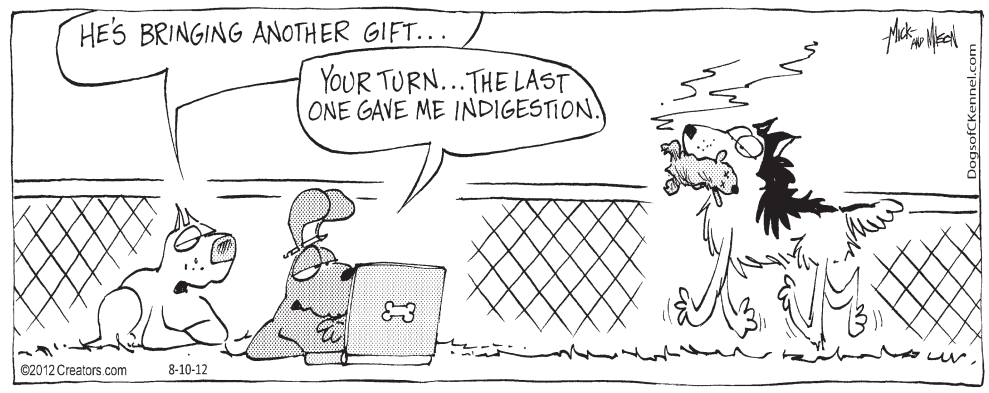
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



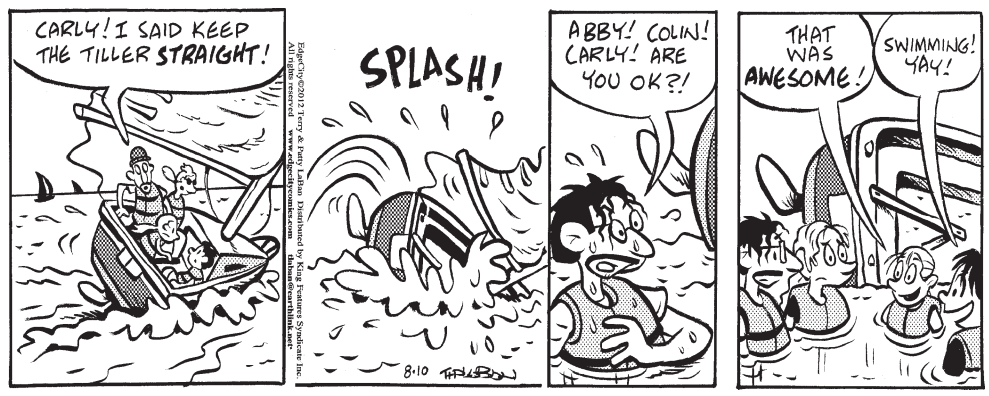
Strange Brew
By John Deering



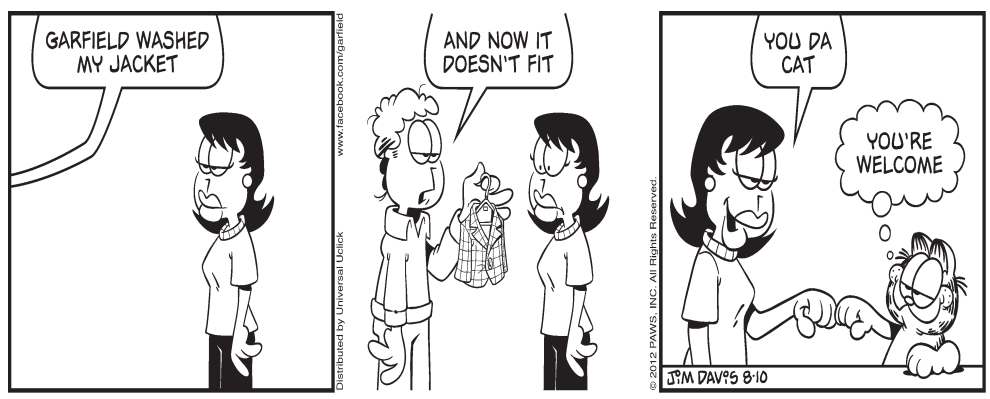
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



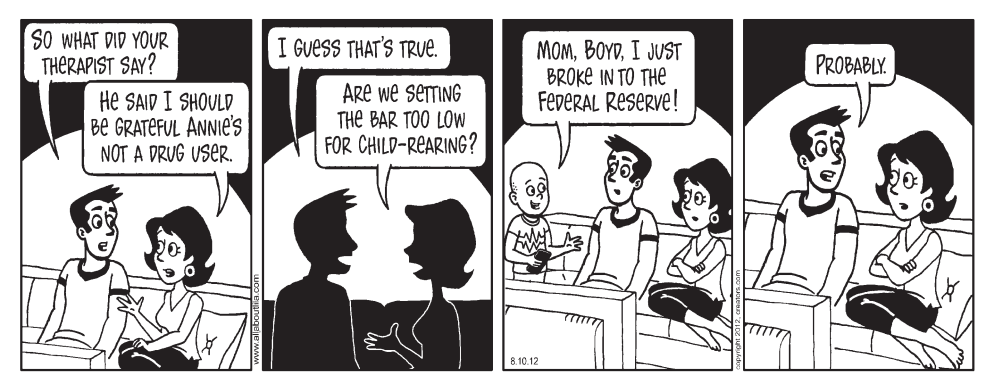
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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 ★★★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@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.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

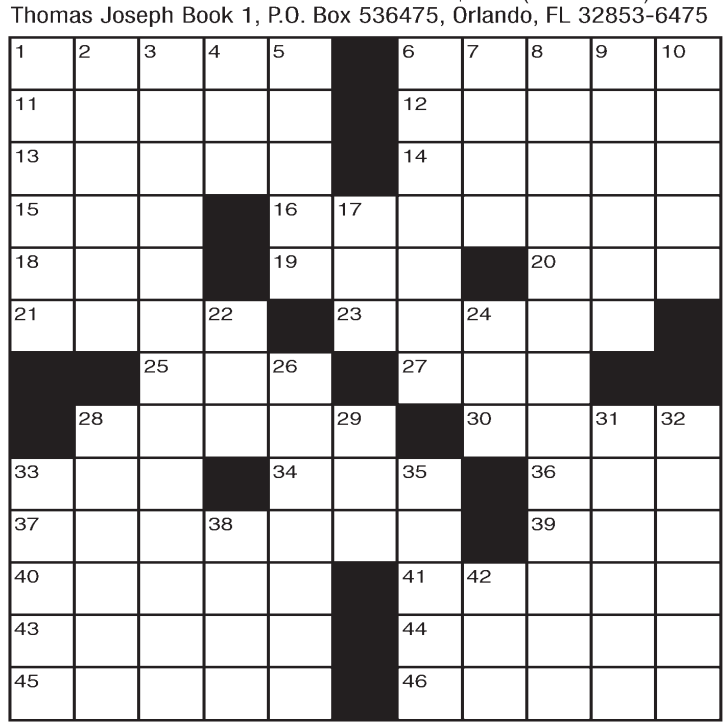
ACROSS
1 Bring close to boiling
6 Inferior
11 "Today" star
12 Like lambs
13 Small movie
14 Scots and Irish
15 Hole number
16 Like clear nights
18 Pindar poem
19 Harden
20 "— your loss!"
21 Opposition votes
23 Wear down
25 Towel word
27 Block
28 Sides in an ongoing battle
30 Compared with
33 Gloss target
34 Lot sight
36 Valuable rock
37 Montana neighbor
39 Bar topic
40 Brownish gray
41 Mission man
43 Wading bird
44 Exemplary
45 Zellweger of "Chicago"
46 Forbidden acts

DOWN
1 Like loafers
2 40% of North America
3 "Sabrina" co-star
4 Floral ring
5 Attire
6 Found
7 Finished
8 "Sabrina" co-star
9 Being
10 Kicks back
17 "How I Met Your Mother" role
22 Middling card
24 Lynx or lion
26 Hide
28 Cow chow
29 Plopped down
31 Turkish peak
32 Staircase posts
33 Subsequently
35 Swift
38 Fencing weapon
42 Flurry

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

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: August 7
30 32 33 42 48
Meganumber: 7
Jackpot: $21M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: August 8
6 22 31 36 43
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: August 9
3 4 15 31 39

DAILY 3
Draw Date: August 9
MIDDAY: 6 6 5
EVENING: 6 9 4

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: August 9
1st: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
2nd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:43.49

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

■ New York City's tap water is already widely regarded as world-class, in safety and taste (and subjected to a half-million tests a year by the city's Department of Environmental Protection). However, two entrepreneurs recently opened the Molecule water bar in the city's East Village, selling 16-ounce bottles of the same water for $2.50, extra-filtered through their $25,000 machine that applies UV rays, ozone treatment and "reverse osmosis" in a seven-stage process to create what they call "pure H20." The owners of Molecule are a restaurateur/art dealer and a "social-justice activist" who is a "former world champion boomerang player," according to a July Wall Street Journal profile.

■ Yet another woman made the news recently for having loaded up, over several years, in breast augmentation surgery. Paula Simonds, 44, of Miami, who is known professionally as model Lacey Wildd, is approaching her goal of having breasts large enough to place her in the top five in the world. However, the quest is grossing out her six kids -- two young, two grown and (especially tough) two in high school, where the taunts flow freely. Currently, Simonds measures herself as an "L"-cup, headed for a "triple-M."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1954 - At Massena, New York, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Saint Lawrence Seaway is held.

1961 - First use in Vietnam War of the Agent Orange by the U.S. Army.

1969 - A day after murdering Sharon Tate and four others, members of Charles Manson's cult kill Leno and Rosemary LaBianca.

1971 - The Society for American Baseball Research is founded in Cooperstown, New York.

WORD UP!

vicinage
\ VIS-uh-nij \ , noun;
1.
The region near or about a place; vicinity.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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- Roomates
- Commerical Lease
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Loans
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- Vehicles for Sale
- Massage
- Services
- Computer Services
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Announcements

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Employment

268Ocean House, an upscale retirement community, is looking for an ideal candidate to work as a receptionist at our front desk. Job duties include answering phones, greeting residents and visitors and responding to inquiries. Some light clerical work is also involved. This is a full time position and benefits eligible after 90 days. If you are interested, please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave., SM, 90405 or fax a resume to (310) 314-7356.

ATTENTION LEGAL SECRETARIES, LEGAL AIDES, PARALEGALS, LAW OFFICE MANAGERS AND STAFF
Great opportunity for extra income through referrals. We are a legal document courier service looking to expand our business and pay top referral fees for new accounts set up at area law offices, to inquire further, please email bsberkowitz@aol.com or call 213-923-4942

OCEAN HOUSE, an upscale assisted living community, is looking for qualified candidates to be caregivers for our elderly residents. Duties include dressing, bathing, escorting residents, and documenting care. Looking for afternoon shifts and various weekend shifts as well. Must have positive attitude and a love for seniors. All potential employees must have a clean criminal record. If you are interested, please fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. Santa Monica, CA 90405 or fax a resume to (310)314-7356.

Retirement community is looking for PT dishwasher and PT cook to help out dining operation. Must have good attitude and love for seniors. Previous experience preferred. Schedule will include weekends. Pre-employment drug screen and background check required. If interested, please come to 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405 and fill out and application. EOE.

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Help Wanted

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Garage Sale Saturday 10am-4pm
2600 Alley, 7th Street. Balloons.
Building material, clothing, linens, furniture, suitcases, T.V.'s, VHS tapes, electronics, bricabrac, etc.

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A-1 DONATE YOUR CAR! Breast Cancer Research Foundation! Most highly rated breast cancer charity in America! Tax Deductible/Fast Free Pick Up. 1-800-771-9551 www.carsforbreastcancer.org

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Messanine office for rent at 1424 Ford St. The central tower building. Santa Monica 90401. (310) 276-3313 Please leave a message

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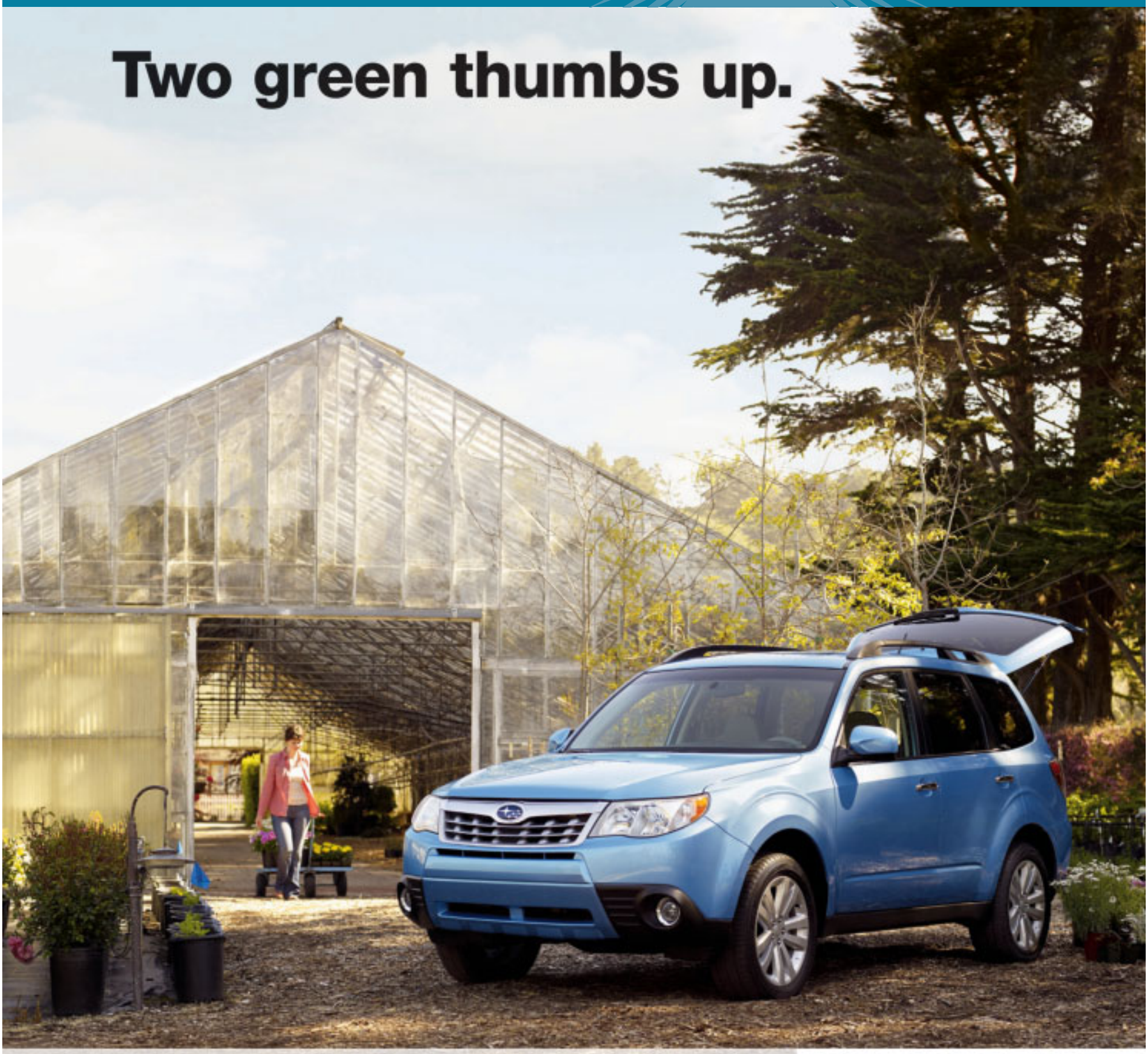
THE SUBARU A LOT TO LOVE EVENT

Two green thumbs up.



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*Claim based on cumulative awards won since 1997 from Car & Driver (5 Best Trucks), ALG (Residual Value Awards), and Polk (Polk Automotive Loyalty Award).
†MSRP excludes destination and delivery charges, tax, title and registration fees. Dealer sets actual price. 2012 Forester 2.5X Limited pictured has an MSRP of $26,995.

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