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Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 235



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

GOING MAINSTREAM
SEE PAGE 11

THE THIS WAY, THAT WAY ISSUE

Council stalls Civic, Samohi improvements

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A number of popular projects throughout Santa Monica will be put on hold or downsized so that City Hall can balance the loss of its Redevelopment Agency with a list of projects it believes are too big to fail.

A five-member City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to put the brakes on $141.9 million worth of projects, including renovations to the landmarked Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, a $55 million overhaul of facilities at the Santa Monica High School campus and a program that would have promoted home ownership at Mountain View Mobile Home Park.

Those projects have been temporarily sacrificed to the Department of Finance, the state agency that is overseeing the dissolution of California's over 400 redevelopment agencies as part of a bill passed by the state Legislature in December 2011 meant to plug holes in California's leaky budget.

That process became more brutal for cities when the Legislature passed a budget

SEE PROJECTS PAGE 9



DOUSING THE FLAMES
A Santa Monica firefighter puts out a fire at 14th Street and Colorado Avenue on Wednesday.
Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Ironing out the kinks

Problem found with Parkmobile app

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN With any new technology, there are bound to be some bugs that need to be worked out.

Catiana Vitanza found that out the hard way when she and her family parked at one of Santa Monica's new "smart" meters near the Main Library on a recent Sunday evening.

Instead of using coins or a credit card, Vitanza was curious and wanted to try out the new Parkmobile app advertised on the face of the meter head. The app allows users to pay for parking using a smartphone. The idea is that parkers will no longer have to carry change and can add more time remotely if they find themselves running late. The service also sends a text message to let people know how much time they have left.

It sounds convenient, but when Vitanza returned from dinner she found a parking ticket waiting for her.

"We just couldn't believe it," she said of the ticket. "We did everything right, it said the payment went through. It would have been easier for us to just put in our credit card. Thirty seconds and we're done. Instead we spent 20 minutes signing up and it was such a disappointment."

Vitanza said she felt a little uneasy when she saw the meter blinking red, as in expired. But she checked the Parkmobile website and

SEE METERS PAGE 10

Not building parking could cost developers more

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL City officials have begun circulating an update to a 26-year-old program that they expect will nearly quadruple the amount of money raised from developers to expand the Downtown parking supply and reduce vehicle trips.

According to a draft report by consultant Nelson/Nygaard, the proposed parking in-lieu fee would cost developers a one-time charge of $20,000 for each code-required parking space that they choose not to build on-site.

The fee would apply to a change of use as well, like when a parcel changes from a retail store, which requires less parking by code, to a restaurant, which needs

SEE PARKING PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012

Fun for all ages
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 4 p.m.
Free public workshops for all ages allow participants to explore personal objective and gain experience through working with professional artists. Workshops will be presented Thursday, Aug. 16 and Tuesday, Aug. 21 from 4 p.m. — 5:30 p.m. for ages 7 to 12; Aug. 17, 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m. for adults (18+); and Aug. 22, 4 p.m. — 5:30 p.m. for teens (13 to 17); and a special Enchanted Fairytale Interactive Theatre Adventure for kids 4 to 10 on Aug. 18 from 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m. All workshops take place at the Santa Monica Playhouse and advance reservations are required. For more information, call (310) 394-9779.

Laugh it up
Mi's Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third St., 8 p.m.
The Westside Laugh Party is celebrating its first year with a roster of comics including Jeff Dye, Theo Von and Matt Price. Cover: $10. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

Drink wine, save dogs
Bodega Wine Bar
814 Broadway, 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Forte Animal Rescue will be hosting a fundraiser at Bodega Wine Bar. Bodega will donate 10 percent of sales that evening to Forte, a dog rescue outfit. For more information, visit bodegawinebar.com.

From Mali to the beach
Santa Monica Pier
7 p.m.
Amadou & Mariam will headline this week's installment of the Twilight Concert Series. They blend music from their native Mali with a touch of rock 'n' roll. Cost: free. For more information, visit www.twilight-series.org.

Friday, Aug. 17, 2012

It's a classic
Loews Santa Monica
1700 Ocean Ave.,
6:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Loews invites you to California Classic Evenings, featuring farm-to-table inspired California cuisine, easy-going atmospheric sounds and ocean views. For more information, call (310) 458-6700.

Play in the park
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 "The Taming of the Shrew." Cost: $20 suggested donation. This play also takes place on Aug. 23 and Aug. 24. For more information, call (310) 270-3454.

Saturday, Aug. 18, 2012

Textiles, anyone?
City Yards
2500 Michigan Ave.,
9 a.m. — 2 p.m.
The Resource Recovery & Recycling Division is hosting a textiles collection event at the City Yards, helping you to find a new home for all your unusable clothing, towels, bedding and so much more. Residents are encouraged to take reusable goods to any of the many charities benefiting the Santa Monica area. For more information, visit www.smgov.net/r3.

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

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

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



From Mali with vigor

Amadou & Mariam blend traditional music with a touch of rock 'n' roll

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER Post-Olympics blues have you down?

Think about taking in tonight's Twilight Concert Series at the Santa Monica Pier with Amadou & Mariam — the internationally acclaimed blind musical duo, who mix traditional Mali sound with rock guitars.

The innovative pair look forward to playing the gig.

"We hope that we will have a nice big crowd and that they will love and enjoy the show. Our music is about love and solidarity," Mariam said. "We would like them to feel that our music is universal."

Their upbeat world music blends intricate rhythms and a danceable beat and their show is sure to have the Santa Monica crowd rockin' out.

Amadou and Mariam met at Mali's Institute for the Young Blind, where they performed in the institute's Eclipse Orchestra, directed by Idrissa Soumaouro, and found they shared an interest in music.

Their first album, "Sou Ni Tile" and its title track, "Je Pense a Toi," was a hit in France selling 100,000 copies. The duo became inseparable and eventually married, continuing to play concerts while they gained a strong following. By 2003, world-Latin music star Manu Chao approached them to produce their 2004 album "Dimanche a Bamako," and later in 2006 they recorded, together with Herbert Gronenmeyer, the official anthem for the 2006 FIFA World Cup that topped the German charts that June.

Since then, the couple has toured with Coldplay and U2 and jammed with musical greats David Gilmour (Pink Floyd) and Johnny Marr (The Smiths). They've played at the opening ceremonies of the last two World Cups, played major festivals in the U.S. including Coachella and Lollapalooza and had the honor of performing at a Nobel Peace Prize concert for President Barack Obama.

"We felt it was a big honor to play for President Obama and it was an amazing moment in our lives," Amadou said. "To prepare for the event we tried to be ourselves and simple and be able to enjoy that moment."

When they first started out, they never expected their music to be so widely recognized and loved by so many people.

"We knew that it would please people but not this huge level," Amadou said.

Amadou & Mariam boldly break fresh ground, while preserving their instantly rec-

SEE TCS PAGE 8



HERE IT COMES

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A woman points out where some of the features for the upcoming Pico Library will be located during a groundbreaking ceremony at Virginia Avenue Park on Wednesday. The library is expected to be completed in late 2013.

Thousands line up for right to work legally

AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. Nathaly Uribe has all the papers she needs to get a work permit — something the 17-year-old daughter of a construction worker only dreamed of growing up as an illegal immigrant in the United States.

The high school senior said she hopes a federal program beginning Wednesday and defers deportation for illegal immigrants will make it easier to get a decent job and help pay for college.

"This is my country. It's where my roots are," said Uribe, who moved from Chile when she was a toddler and lives in Glen Burnie, Md. "It feels great to know that the country that I call home is finally accepting me."

Thousands of young illegal immigrants lined up Wednesday hoping for the right to work legally in America without being deported. The Obama administration's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals could expand the rights of more than 1 million young illegal immigrants by giving them work permits, though they would not obtain legal residency here or a path to citizenship.

At least 13,000 people stood in line in Chicago, clutching reams of paperwork, for a workshop led by immigrant rights advocates at the city's Navy Pier. Hundreds of potential applicants waited outside nonprofit offices in Los Angeles for help filing paperwork to open the door to the staples of success in America — a work permit, and then later a Social Security number and driver's license.

"It's something I have been waiting for since I was two years old," said Bupendra Ram, a 25-year-old communications graduate student in Fullerton, Calif., who still needs supporting documents from his Fiji Islands home before he can apply. "This offers us an opportunity to fulfill the dreams I've had since I was a child."

Less than three months before an expected tight presidential election, the new immigration program is mired in controversy. Republican critics accuse President Barack Obama of drafting the plan to boost his political standing with Latinos ahead of November's vote and say the program favors illegal immigrants over unemployed American citizens during dismal economic times.

In Arizona, which passed one of the nation's toughest anti-immigration laws, Gov Jan Brewer signed an executive order Wednesday directing state agencies to deny driver's licenses and other public benefits to illegal immigrants who obtain work authorizations under the program. Brewer said she's following the intent of the current state law denying public benefits to illegal immigrants.

To be eligible for the federal program, immigrants must prove they arrived in the United States before they turned 16, are 30 or younger, have been living in the country at least five years and are in school or graduated or served in the military. They cannot have been convicted of certain crimes or otherwise pose a safety threat.

Initial concerns that federal authorities might take a tough approach on applications or that a Republican presidential victory could unravel applicants' gains have largely been pushed aside by massive interest from thousands of young people eager to work.

In Los Angeles, one immigrant rights' group started hosting hourly information

SEE WORK PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Mr. Smith goes to court

Editor:

David Pisarra's recent column mentions that divorcing couples increasingly fight over custody of family pets. ("Canine custody concerns," What's the Point?, Aug. 14.) As post-modern as this sounds, this is hardly a 21st century phenomenon. In the delightful comedy "The Awful Truth" (1937), divorcing spouses Cary Grant and Irene Dunne fight for custody of their pet dog Mr. Smith. I won't reveal the clever bit of courtroom trickery that fools the judge into awarding custody of Mr. Smith to Ms. Dunne.

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica

Santa Monica isn't Hollywood

Editor:

The signs are clear that a Vegas-style development is in Santa Monica's future should the City Council approve the Fairmont Miramar's expansion plan. Despite the Miramar developer's claims that they will not bring a Hollywood-style night club to Santa Monica, they have done just that by opening a club designed by a man described as the "king of L.A. nightlife ("L.A.'s king of nightlife mellows out with new SM hangout," Aug. 9)"

This new club, which the article said allows "those on the Westside to get a taste of Hollywood without all the hassle," is exactly what we have been afraid of! Santa Monica is not Hollywood, and we prefer that it stay that way. The opening of the Miramar's new club shows that any promises they make about their expansion plans being appropriate for the Santa Monica community cannot be trusted. We urge the City Council to take note of the developer's broken promises, and to preserve the special quality of our community.

Kay Ward and Eleanor Blumenberg
Santa Monica





Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Saying 'no' to your boss

DEAR LIFE MATTERS,

I am overwhelmed at work. While I thoroughly enjoy my work and the people I work with, I am having a hard time getting everything done. Unfortunately my boss does not seem to notice my predicament and continues to hand me new projects to work on. We do have a very good working relationship and my performance reviews are consistently strong year after year, but I worry that I cannot continue to keep my high standard of work with the growing number of projects I am asked to manage. My friends say that I need to learn to say no, but it seems so hard to say that to the person who signs my paycheck. Do you have any advice as to how I can manage my workload without sabotaging my career?

Signed,
Overworked

DEAR OVERWORKED,

Having a heavy workload is something that a number of professionals deal with. While it is a good sign that your boss trusts you and wants to assign you new projects, there is a limit to each person's capacity.

Have you clearly communicated to your boss that you are overwhelmed? A number of successful professionals tend to accept new projects with a smile on their face and then vent or stress out behind closed doors. If you consistently complete each project on time and at a high level it may be that your boss does not realize that you are feeling inundated because you consistently deliver to their standards. In addition, if you are taking work home with you or staying late your boss may not see the hours or time you are putting into your work.

Consider using your shared Outlook calendar as a tracking system for the projects you are working on. This may provide your boss with a visual of where you are already dedicating your time. You might also choose to have a weekly status update meeting where you can discuss which projects you are working on and where you are with each task. This regularly scheduled meeting will provide you with an open opportunity to share your current portfolio without you having to initiate the potentially tough conversation with your boss.

Before saying no to a particular project, make sure to ask yourself a few questions to evaluate the project and current situation. Can you delegate this or another project to a teammate? Are there other project duties that can be postponed in order for you to prioritize the new task? How important or time sensitive is this new project? Will taking on this task hurt the other projects you are already committed to? Are you the only person who can complete this project? Make sure that you have valid reasons for declining this new project and that you are not just turning down the request because the project looks too difficult or that you cannot commit because of personal or external obligations.

Try putting yourself in your supervisor's chair and consider how the team will be impacted if you turn down a particular project. Explore possible solutions that would help lessen the blow and have those ready to share with your boss. If you do decide it is time to say no on a particular project or request, make sure that you have a valid reason and that the conversation takes place at a time that is appropriate. It is generally best to start this conversation earlier rather than later so your leader can work on an alternative approach. Make sure that you start the conversation in a positive and open-ended nature where your supervisor can provide their input and recommendations. For instance, you might want to frame your request with the analysis you went through and the impact for the company rather than a flat out "no" or personal reasons for why you cannot accept the new responsibility.

Politely declining a project from your boss requires sufficient preparation and tact. I would encourage you to try out the following strategy. When you are presented with the next project or task, ask your boss for advice about what you could delegate to another team member or which project could be delayed in order for you to work on this new task. Asking for their input and advice allows your supervisor to take an active role in helping you be successful on the job. It also brings to light the struggles you are facing and ensures that you are not alone in figuring things out.

KATRINA DAVY, M.A., Ed.M, is a professional career counselor who has worked in university and private settings. She holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia universities. Visit her online at www.kdcareer.com. Send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com. All questions are kept anonymous; let us help you with your life matters!



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Your column here

Sheldon Richman

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Paul Ryan: Would-be savior of the welfare-warfare state

PAUL RYAN MAY BE THE CONSERVATIVE'S conservative, but understand what that means: He's out to save the welfare/warfare state from its own intrinsic unsustainability. He's no small-government man.

Ryan's budget blueprint, at best, wouldn't balance the budget for three decades and meanwhile would add trillions in debt. He would only slow President Obama's planned spending increases. If Ryan got his way, spending as a percentage of GDP would fall only to 20 percent. It was 18 percent when Bill Clinton left office in 2001. Ryan also wants more military spending.

But there's more to Ryan than his budget. In virtually all other respects he supports big government.

In the Bush years, Ryan voted for everything: No Child Left Behind (which increased the centralization of education), the Medicare drug entitlement, housing subsidies, unemployment-benefits extension, the bank bailouts, and the 2008 subsidies to failing Chrysler and GM. In voting for TARP (the Trouble Asset Relief Program), Ryan said, "Madam Speaker, this bill offends my principles, but I'm going to vote for this bill in order to preserve my principles."

Ryan is equally committed to intrusive government in other areas. He supported Bush's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, voting for all the attendant big spending. When the House took votes on winding down the occupation of Iraq, Ryan voted no. He's an advocate of the American empire, which endangers Americans physically and fiscally.

His voting record on civil liberties is horrendous. He voted to make the Patriot Act, a collection of liberty-violating powers, permanent; he voted for warrantless surveillance after Bush got caught doing it illegally; and he voted for indefinite detention without trial or charge.

How, then, can we explain Paul Ryan? The fiscal crisis is the key. Unless the government reduces spending growth or raises more revenue (or does both), in a few years the federal government will be able to pay for nothing but interest on the debt. According to the Congressional Budget Office, Social Security and Medicare are projected to account for over 40 percent of the federal budget by 2020 — they're at 37 percent now — and will continue to grow, consuming half the budget in 2030. Today, program benefits exceed revenues. (Until recently the programs produced surpluses, which the politicians spent.) Their alleged trust funds contain Treasury IOUs that will have to be repaid with more borrowed money and interest payments — the full debt already surpasses GDP. The 75-year unfunded liability of the programs now stands conservatively at over $30 trillion.

In other words, this can't go on forever, and as economist Herb Stein said, anything that can't go on forever will stop.

No politician can be happy with that prospect. A budget spent entirely on interest payments, Social Security and Medicare would leave nothing for war, occupation, and the other elements of an imperial foreign policy. Nor would there be money to buy off constituencies at election time. A politician with no discretionary funds at his disposal is an unhappy politician, indeed. Hence the desperation to do something.

The politicians' problem is that there is not a lot they can do. The public appetite for deep budget cuts is nonexistent. Even tea partiers say don't touch Medicare and Social Security. Conservatives don't like cuts in military spending. Mitt Romney's choice of Ryan as running mate implies that he thinks people are ready for a budget hawk (even though Ryan really isn't one), but that may turn out to be a fatal error.

Nor can the government get out of its mess by raising taxes. Not only are higher taxes a bad idea in a floundering economy (and any other time), revenues as a percentage of GDP have been steady since World War II (not counting recessions), regardless of tax rates. That means higher rates merely stimulate avoidance, evasion and leisure over income-producing activity.

Now we can see what Ryan stands for. At its most optimistic, his budget plan would merely stabilize the government's fiscal condition at higher levels of spending without making any significant change in the welfare/warfare state.

Our freedom and prosperity, however, require that government be radically shrunk — which demands liquidation of the empire, respect for civil liberties, and conversion of entitlements to mutual-aid and other private organizations.

SHELDON RICHMAN is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) and editor of The Freeman magazine.

The Q Line

In the weeds

City officials have so far refused to grant a business license to the owner of a laboratory that tests medical marijuana samples for potency and the presence of pesticides and mold.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Is banning a marijuana laboratory where no pot is sold a solid plan, or should City Hall ease up and allow the business?

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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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Disney/CML

PLAYING THE PART: **Rachel Wallace and Nicolas Dromard in 'Mary Poppins,' which returned to the Center Theatre Group/Ahmanson Theatre on Aug. 9. It closes on Sept. 2.**

Poppins play a 'rare gift'

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO MY PARENTS, I may have been a deprived child because I never saw the Disney film "Mary Poppins," nor did I read the P.L. Travers stories that the film was based on.

So when I attended the opening of the musical "Mary Poppins" at the Ahmanson Theatre last Friday, I had no knowledge of the storyline beforehand. Naturally, I knew many of the songs because they've penetrated popular culture. "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," "A Spoonful of Sugar" … come on, admit it, you're humming along as you read these titles.

Well, there is just one thing to say about the current touring production of "Mary Poppins"— go!

This is a stage work that I would never even consider reviewing. Why? Because when something so pure and joyous washes over you, you simply have to give yourself over, count your blessings and appreciate it as the gift it is.

The singing is beautiful and the staging is wondrous, from the fold-out dollhouse set of the Banks family's London home "sometime at the turn of the last century" to the fantastical park that comes to life in Technicolor neon pastels so fast you don't know how the change occurred before your very eyes.

You will love Mary (Rachel Marshall) and even if you were a stalwart fan of Dick Van Dyke as Bert, Nicolas Dromard will utterly charm you. Statues and dolls come alive, kites are flown, lives are transformed and yes, Mary Poppins is carried away on the wind with her umbrella.

The children in the audience were all incredibly excited but well-behaved, some singing along gently, and kids and adults alike clapped along with the music throughout.

It's a rare treat that will please the entire family, no matter how young or old. "Mary Poppins" is at The Ahmanson Theatre, but only through Sept. 2. Visit www.CenterTheatreGroup.org or call (213) 628-2772.

ROTHKO AND RED

On the more cerebral side of the music center is the Donmar Warehouse Production of "Red" at the Mark Taper Forum, the critically-acclaimed play about artist Mark Rothko, which opened on Sunday.

Rothko was an abstract artist of the "New York School," a contemporary of Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning, renowned for large canvases with rectangular shapes floating in deeply-layered, subtle shades of contrasting colors.

Contemplated long enough they begin to pulsate, a word that frequently arises in the script by John Logan. Pulsating with his own energy, respected actor and Tony nominee for this role, Alfred Molina embodies the warring instincts within Rothko.

Rothko was a reader of Nietzsche, who wrote about opposing dualities, the rational and the emotional, the Apollonian and the Dionysian, radiance and darkness, all of which we both hear about and see onstage.

Rothko is working on a mural he's been commissioned to do for the luxe Four Seasons restaurant, housed inside New York's Seagram's Building, then a new temple to modernism by two towering architectural giants of the 20th century — Mies van der Rohe and Philip Johnson.

Rothko is an artist of purist intentions who nevertheless accepts a large fee to have his work serve as an "overmantle" — as he sneeringly calls paintings selected to hang over a mantle or couch — in this house of commercial consumerism and power players. In a word, he's conflicted.

He hires an assistant, played by Jonathan Groff, who at first accedes to and later challenges Rothko's irresolvable paradoxes. There's an explosive scene where they paint the undercoat of a giant canvas in red onstage and come out looking like they've bloodied themselves.

It's the perfect metaphor for the verbal battle scenes that ultimately bring Rothko to conclude he must give up the commission, and that's not a spoiler. Not covered in the play, much later in his life Rothko committed suicide.

"Red" is at the Mark Taper forum until Sept. 9. Visit www.CenterTheatreGroup.org/Red or call (213) 628-2772.

TENNIS COURT SHAKESPEARE

It was quite a revelation to discover that we have, right here in Santa Monica's midst, a company working with both aspiring and professional actors "to educate and enrich through the medium of

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Terrific cast plays destruction well

REMEMBER WHEN "MUTUALLY ASSURED destruction" meant maintaining détente with Russia — or else?

As the threat of nuclear war hung like a mushroom cloud over all our heads, the thought that nobody would survive kept everybody from pushing the button.

Oh, for the good old days.

But wait, there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel (to coin a Cold War phrase), and it's in the form of a funny new play by Emmy-winner Peter Lefcourt, now having its world premiere at the Odyssey Theatre.

In "Mutually Assured Destruction," rattled hero Arnie (the incomparable Kip Gilman) finds it easier to cope with the "evildoers" in his life if he can think of them as the countries they most resemble.

It's a funny conceit, carried off by the outstanding ensemble of actors whose faces you've long been familiar with.

Stuart Pankin, who plays Herb, the cuckolded husband, has starred in more than 50 off-Broadway and regional theater productions, has been a series regular on nine primetime television shows and been a guest star in more than 200 television productions. He plays Arnie's best friend in this production.

Bobby Costanzo, who plays Murray, the accountant who is having an affair with Herb's wife Eve (Brynn Thayer), has co-starred with Billy Crystal, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Nicolas Cage, Anne Bancroft, and Bill Murray, and as Joey's father on "Friends."

Gina Hecht, who plays Carol, Arnie's wife, was last seen co-starring with Jason Alexander in "The Prisoner of Second Avenue."

The story begins when Arnie, who has driven 20 miles to Canoga Park to save $20 on an oil change (his wife calls it an example of his "selective thrift"), stumbles on Murray and Eve having a clandestine lunch.

Not telling burns a hole in Arnie's pocket, but he keeps the secret. But that doesn't matter to Eve, who thinks he's told.

And the story wends its silly way from there.

It's worth seeing because it's a fun night out and because director Terri Hanauer has done a commendable job of steering her excellent cast through its far-fetched paces.

"Mutually Assured Destruction" will continue at the Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through Aug. 26. Call (323) 960-5772 for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

WATCH

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Shakespeare." That quote comes from the mission statement of the aptly named Shakespeare Santa Monica.

Now in its ninth year, the company brings in top flight speech and acting coaches, as well as instructors in the art of movement and other techniques, for an immersion in Shakespeare, resulting in both free and affordable public performances of select Shakespearean plays at the end of their training.

This summer, we have "All's Well That Ends Well" and "The Taming of the Shrew" both unfolding on a tennis court at Christine Emerson Reed Park as the stage, with the audience watching from the grandstand bleachers.

Last Saturday, without scenery or props and very little by way of costuming, with just a little "willing suspension of disbelief," that tennis court became the courts of Florence and France for "All's Well That Ends Well," considered one of the Bard's problem plays because it's neither comedy nor tragedy. While you might think that playing Shakespeare on a tennis court poses a "problem," in the capable hands of this enterprising group it's both an inventive setting and an entertaining production.

John Farmanesh-Bocca, company director, definitely takes it in the direction of the comic, and it's a lightning fast 90 minutes long, streamlining some of the denser elements and keeping the plot clear and easy to follow. There are a lot of laughs and you even get a chance to throw tennis balls at the French army!

Tonight Shakespeare Santa Monica premieres "The Taming of the Shrew" with four performances only, alternating with three remaining performances through Aug. 25 of "All's Well That Ends Well." Dates, tickets and times here: www.jfbny-la.com/shakespearesantamonica/purchasetickets.html

Have a ball — and toss it!

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She reviews theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #4021 PROVIDE REVERSE OSMOSIS ANTISCALANT FOR USE IN THE TREATMENT OF POTABLE DRINKING WATER.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline Is August 29, 2012 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

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Fighting for Your Unemployment Benefits

In these tough economic times many people are finding themselves out of work, sometimes for the first time in their lives. More than three million Americans are fired each year. After the initial shock of being fired has worn off, the practicalities of having to navigate the unemployment insurance system come into sharp focus.

Generally, you are entitled to unemployment benefits if you are unemployed through no fault of your own, for example, if you were laid off, fired for a reason other than misconduct, or quit your job for good reason. Once the Employment Development Department (EDD) has received your application for benefits, it usually conducts a telephone interview with you, and also with your employer, to find out why you were fired.

Unfortunately, some unscrupulous employers challenge their former employee's application for benefits even when that employee was fired through no fault of his or her own. In this case, the employer usually claims that the employee was fired for misconduct.

If your application for benefits is denied, you have 20 days to file an appeal. If you believe that your benefits were unfairly denied, it is very important that you file a timely appeal. You will receive a hearing date about 4-6 weeks later. Sometimes, the employer does not even bother to show up to the appeal hearing; they were counting on the fact that you wouldn't fight the denial of your benefits.

The hearing is your chance to explain your side of the story to an Administrative Law Judge. It is natural to feel nervous before the hearing, but you will feel better if you are properly prepared to present your case. You should ask to review the EDD's file on your case, which will include the interview notes with your employer. This means you will get a chance to see what your employer said about why you were fired. You can also send a written request to your employer asking to inspect your personnel file pursuant to Labor Code Section 1198.5. You can ask witnesses who can corroborate your version of events to come with you to the hearing. If they can't come, you can ask them to give you a written statement to take along with you. You can also ask the EDD to subpoena witnesses for you. Finally, you should familiarize yourself with the law that applies to your case. A good starting place is the "Benefit Determination Guide" on the EDD website: http://www.edd.ca.gov/UIBDG/default.htm.

You don't have to bring an attorney with you to the hearing, although you may feel more confident with the support of an attorney experienced in this area. The Legal Grind can put you in touch with an attorney who can help you through the process, from advice on preparation to representation at your appeal hearing.

Depending on the circumstances of your termination, you may also wish to seek legal advice to determine whether you have any legal claims arising out of your discharge. Although most workers in California are "at will" employees, which means they can be fired for any reason or for no reason at all, even "at will" employees cannot be fired in certain circumstances. For example, an employer cannot fire its employee for a discriminatory reason; or because s/he made a health and safety complaint; or because she took time off to perform jury duty. This is a complex area of the law, and an attorney can advise you on whether you may have grounds for a wrongful discharge suit.

Upon investigation of the circumstances of your termination, an attorney may also identify violations which took place during your employment. For example, you may have an overtime claim if your employer did not pay overtime pay (time and a half) for all hours over eight in a day, and forty in a week, or a claim for meal period premium pay if you were unable to take an uninterrupted 30 minute meal break per five hours worked. Exploring potential claims with an attorney may help to give you some peace of mind in this difficult time.

NINA BAUMLER IS AN ATTORNEY WHO PRACTICES EXCLUSIVELY IN EMPLOYMENT LAW. MS. BAUMLER CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR BY VISITING WWW.LEGALGRIND.COM.

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MONDAY
4:00-5:00 pm (1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal Law, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman

TUESDAY
9:00am-12:00pm Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)

4:00pm-5:00pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month). Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, contract disputes, commercial disputes, landlord/tenant disputes, personal injury medical malpractice, and wrongful death.

5:00 - 7:00 pm Wrongful termination, harassment; discrimination; wage and hour ;denial of unemployment benefits; and general counseling on issues in the workplace w/ attorney Nina Baumler. (Call for Appointment) at the 2901 Ocean Park location of the Novel Café.

WEDNESDAY
11:00am-3:00pm Special Education Law (By appointment only. Also available by appointment on Mondays or Fridays from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm) Attorney Alison Arkin has extensive experience working with parfents of special needs children with a wide range of disabilities, and can help them obtain appropriate services from both school districts and regional centers. She has experience with every level of the process including obtaining appropriate assessements, representation at IEP meeting, mediations, settlement negotiations and hearings.

5:00-6:30pm Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields

THURSDAY
12:00-2:00pm Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz (By appointment only)
4:00-5:00pm (By appointment only) Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injuries cases with Attorney and Legal Grind founder Jeffrey J. Hughes

FRIDAY
4:00-5:00pm (2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with Attorney & former Deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman. By Appointment only

4:00-5:00pm (1st & 3rd Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.

SATURDAY
10am-11:30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday/month) Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills & Living Trusts, Will Contests, Probate, Elder Law Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, Construction Contracts Family Law including Divorce, Child/Spousal Support, Prenuptial Agreements, Personal Injury, Accidents, Premises and Product Liability, & Legal Malpractice with Attorney Richard Ruman. (By appointment only-Please call Call Dick at 310.273.7474)

12PM TO 2PM Personal Injury free consultation; Regular consultation on all areas of Estate Planning, Landlord/Tenant rights, Mortgage Litigation, Premises Liability, Construction Accidents, and Products Liability with attorney SandeepAgarwal. (By appointment only-Please call Mr. Agarwal at 866.844.4125)

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TCS
FROM PAGE 3

ognizable trademarks: the exquisite song craft, Amadou's thrilling electric blues guitar and the magical interplay of their two voices, which first brought them popularity.

And as their celebrity has grown around the world, the scope and ambition of their music has grown with it. Amadou has often said that the invitation to share songs and ideas with other musicians and finding new ways of expression is the most exciting adventure any musician can undertake. And it is that sense of shared openness and collaborative opportunity which is at the heart of Amadou & Mariam's new album, "Folila."

The story of "Folila" — the word means music in Bambara — boasts three distinct chapters and is a tale of how two records became one.

"The original idea was to make two albums: a crossover record in New York City, where Amadou and Mariam have many musical friends and relationships and the other a more rootsy album recorded in Bamako with mostly African guests and African percussion instead of a drum kit," said Marc-Antoine Moreau, the duo's longtime manager and producer.

Both plans came to fruition, but when Amadou and Mariam listened back to the richness of the two sessions, a third way suggested itself: to combine the two recordings in a seamless, organic fashion. The result is "Folila," a near-perfect example of how tradition and modernity can work together to generate creative forward movement, two parallel rails leading to a common musical destination.

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Photo courtesy Santa Monica Pier

AMADOU & MARIAM

WORK
FROM PAGE 3

sessions over the last month to keep up with the frenzy. The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles has handed out 12,000 information packets about the program and is encouraging all eligible immigrants to apply as long as they have stayed out of legal trouble, said Angelica Salas, the organization's director.

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney does not support so-called Dream Act legislation for illegal immigrants who attend college — a key group that Obama aims to reach with this program. The former Massachusetts governor has also criticized the deferred action program but has not said it he would reverse it, pledging instead an unspecified "civil but resolute" long-term fix to illegal immigration.

So far, the measure has won favor for Obama along Latinos — many who view immigration as a litmus test when choosing a political candidate, said Manuel Pastor, director of the University of Southern California's Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration.

"What this has done is to signal that the president, who was unable to get comprehensive immigration reform, does at least care about the situation of these immigrants," Pastor said. "This is something that has been overwhelmingly popular in the immigrant population and in the Latino population in general."

Some Republican lawmakers have accused Obama of sidestepping Congress and creating a backdoor amnesty program.

"It's a betrayal of American young people," said Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, a California Republican. "We're supposed to be representing the interests of the American people — not people who come here illegally from other countries."

In an internal document outlining the program's implementation, Department of Homeland Security officials estimated more than 1 million people would apply in the first year and about 890,000 would be eligible.

On Wednesday, immigrants lined up for help filing applications at workshops around the country. Others sought identity documents from consulates to be able to apply.

Jaqueline Cinto said she's still working on gathering the documents she needs, knowing it's her only shot at putting her master's degree in education to good use. But she's nervous that filing the papers might put her relatives at risk for deportation — even though Homeland Security officials have said they will generally not use applicants' information to track down other family.

"I am even more afraid that I might be denied," said Cinto, 26, who came to New York more than a decade ago from Mexico.

In central California, one group has been warning farmworkers and their children not to sign up for the program at all.

"Immigration agents could haul them off that same day," said Manuel Cunha, president of the Nisei Farmers League. "Even if they don't, if this policy is disbanded, now ICE has the addresses of all the families. Why would you want to squeal on your parents?"

The documents to prove identity could include passports, birth certificates, school transcripts, medical, financial and military records.





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IN ACTION: **The school district's annual Stairway of the Stars concert is a regular event at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium. Improvements to the facility have been put on hold.**

PROJECTS
FROM PAGE 1

trailer bill that empowered the Department of Finance to cut cities off from property and sales taxes if it disagrees with certain redevelopment-related payments.

If the state department gives a thumbs up to Santa Monica's projects, City Hall can take them up again. If not, no dice.

At the same time, the City Council chose to press on with $115 million worth of projects, despite the fact that they might not be safe from the state's clutching hands.

Those projects, including an estimated $20 million program that provides housing vouchers to elderly residents on the verge of homelessness, could have "considerable consequences" if City Hall were to halt them in midstream, said Andy Agle, director of Planning and Economic Development.

"This is really significant. This is not future housing," Agle said, referring to the 81 seniors who use the housing vouchers. "These are actual people relying on these vouchers, actual seniors that without these vouchers we think many of them would be on the street."

Similarly, city officials will argue to save several affordable housing projects, two of which would be cut off half-built if the Department of Finance chooses to deny them.

Other projects, like the $47 million Palisades Garden Walk Park and the Town Square Park in front of City Hall, are technically less critical but stopping progress wouldn't provide much savings.

"That's a huge site," Agle said. "To leave six acres as a big, unfinished construction project will have very significant implications for the community."

Instead, city officials can shave approximately $6 million off of the project without a huge impact on the public's perception of the park.

The Pico Library, traffic signal upgrades, Colorado Esplanade project and enhancements to the Exposition Light Rail stations coming into the city will all proceed more or less as planned.

Staff did recommend to cut off three major initiatives, however.

The Civic Center Joint Use Project, a collaboration with the local school district to revitalize several sports facilities on the campus, was rejected by Department of Finance officials earlier this year because the agreement was executed one day too late.

"We will go back and say that we think this is a bonafide agreement, but it puts the city and the school district at risk," Agle said. "Both of us think that this is the time to take a breather before we continue to spend money."

A program that gave Mountain View residents an ownership option on mobile homes in the park will end after it provides homes to the 10 families and individuals that have applied since the program became available.

Finally, renovations to the landmarked Santa Monica Civic Auditorium will be put on hold, indefinitely.

The building, which once attracted the stars of the 1960s era when it hosted the Academy Awards and has agreed to play home to varied events like the Santa Monica Cat Show and rock shows like the Silversun Pickups, will operate through June 2013.

If no other funding sources become apparent, the building will be mothballed.

It's the most visible loss to the city, both in terms of the building's size and prominent location and what it means to the 20 members of city staff who will lose their jobs.

City officials have said they will do their best to find those staff members other jobs at City Hall or elsewhere.

Originally, the plan was to close the building down and immediately launch renovations, said Jessica Cusick, cultural affairs manager with City Hall. Now, the staff will have to try to ferret out other resources to pay for the seismic retrofits and other improvements.

Shutting the building down will save City Hall money in the short term. The building currently operates at a deficit of $2 million a year on average, and shutting the building down is only expected to cost around $250,000 per year, according to an estimate created in 2011.

Even on ice, the building won't keep forever, Agle warned.

"A dead building dies quickly, and it's not without expenses," he told councilmembers.

Council members voted to accept the contingency plan, but without much gusto.

Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis called it a "sad motion," and lamented the loss of the Samohi collaboration.

"We send a message with the facilities we put our children in," Davis said.

City officials worked hard to avoid this outcome, even traveling to Sacramento to plead the case, although there was little to show for it, said Mayor Richard Bloom.

"This is affecting real lives, real jobs," Bloom said. "There are people in this city that won't have jobs in the future and there are jobs that aren't being created because of projects that are being reduced in size or aren't happening at all."

It's a problem across the state, with uncertain consequences for California, wrote City Manager Rod Gould in an e-mail.

"No one can clearly assess the full cost of the fiscal distress of cities for the state," Gould wrote.

Lost capital for local projects will slow an already sluggish recovery and keep unemployment rates high as cities hit bottom and shed employees.

"But instead of deferring capital maintenance and critically-needed facilities, we should be investing in infrastructure that provides short-term economic stimulus and long-term competitiveness," Gould wrote.

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LUNCH SPECIALS





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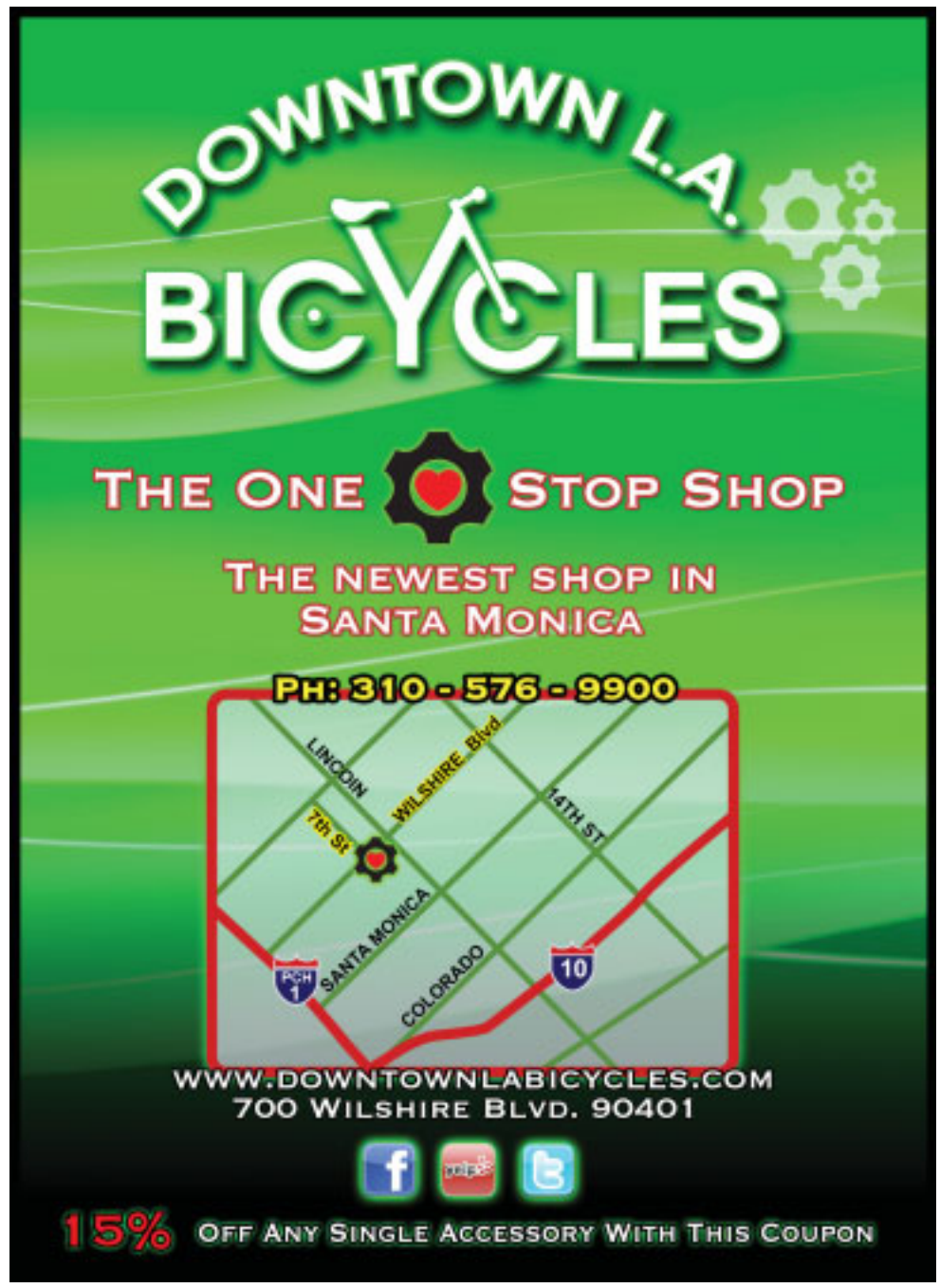
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METERS
FROM PAGE 1

it assured her that even if the meter didn't register, parking enforcement would be able to confirm that she paid. Apparently that's not the case.

Vitanza and her family fell victim to what Parkmobile Executive Vice President Laurens Eckelboom called "human error."

Eckelboom said Parkmobile, an Atlanta-based company that has quickly become one of the largest providers of cashless parking systems in the U.S., incorrectly entered the wrong times that parking restrictions are enforced in that area. Instead of 9 p.m., Parkmobile believed the restrictions ended at 5 p.m. on Sundays. Therefore any payment made after that time would not register with the meter, leaving the parker vulnerable to being ticketed.

And that's not the only problem. City Hall's assistant finance director, Don Patterson, said there are some instances when communication between the mobile device and the meter is lost and the payment doesn't register.

"It's not happening at a particular meter or location, it's just kind of random," Patterson said. "It's like a cell phone dropping a call."

Patterson said the number of meters impacted is very small, about one complaint a week, or around a 3 to 4 percent failure rate. But the good news is that those who use Parkmobile can print out a receipt and send it, along with the citation number, to the Santa Monica Police Department and have parking tickets dismissed.

"Performance has been better, but we want to make sure we continue to improve," said Patterson. "It's meant to be a convenience and we will continue to work with the company to ensure it is. … Technology is great when it works."

If the failure rate does not improve, City Hall could cancel the contract and go with a different provider, Patterson said.

"We can't have this happening every week," he said.

City Hall last year spent $4.5 million on the purchase and installation of 6,100 new parking meters with ground sensors that can send information back to city officials letting them know parking habits and the availability of parking. The sensors also zero-out meters after a car exits its spot, ending the practice of leaving time on a meter for the next parker.

City Hall expects to make $1.7 million more in parking meter revenue over the next year or so, according to a staff report.

Eckelboom even said Parkmobile will reimburse Vitanza if her ticket isn't thrown out. He also assured Santa Monicans that the company will thoroughly review protocols and fix any issues that arise.

"In the end, we are doing hundreds of thousands of transactions a month and millions every year," he said. "Chances of this happening again are very slim."

His assurances do nothing for Vitanza, who said she will never use the app again.

"It seems like a very good idea, but it kind of defeats the purpose when it doesn't work right," she said.

Those who find themselves in a similar situation as Vitanza should contact City Hall's parking office at parking.office@smgov.net or call (310) 458-8295. Patterson said e-mail is best so city officials can better track complaints.

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PARKING
FROM PAGE 1

more.

It would also expand the boundaries in which the fee is assessed from the 1986 Bayside Mall Assessment District — which falls between Fourth Street to the east, Wilshire Boulevard to the north, Second Street to the west and Broadway to the south — to the much-larger Downtown district defined by the 2010 Land Use and Circulation Element, or LUCE, which sets guidelines for development in the city.

That district runs from Lincoln Boulevard to the east, Wilshire Boulevard to the north, Palisades Beach Road to the west and along the Santa Monica Freeway to the south.

The current program, set to expire in 2016, charges $1.50 annually for each square foot of new building space added in the district after 1986 for which parking isn't provided. Residential development was charged half that.

That fee gathered roughly $7 million over the last 25 years, wrote Erika Cavicante, senior development analyst with the Housing and Economic Development Department, in an e-mail.

The proposed fee would be expected to accumulate $30 million over a 30-year period in the expanded area.

The $20,000 may seem daunting, but it's actually less than a developer would pay for a single space.

Parking spaces can range in cost from $21,000 per space for automated parking to $53,000 per space for public parking with amenities, Cavicante wrote.

The program would be voluntary, with developers paying in if they either didn't want to provide the parking or couldn't do it on-site because of space constraints.

The money gives City Hall more flexibility to deal with parking and traffic issues in the Downtown, rather than relying on developers to find ways to squeeze in parking, wrote Juan Matute, of the UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies, in an e-mail.

City Hall can purchase or lease parking from private property owners who aren't using all of their available parking, as well as provide funding for programs and infrastructure that reduces parking demand, Matute wrote.

"The proposed program will lead to more effective utilization of existing parking, biking, walking and transit resources," he wrote. "It will enable continued growth in Downtown Santa Monica while making real steps toward the LUCE's goal of no new net trips."

City Hall can't just use the estimated $30 million for anything under the sun.

There has to be a reasonable relationship between the fee and what it's used for, Cavicante wrote. Proposed uses include expanding the parking supply in the area, creating greater access and managing the parking demand efficiently.

Kathleen Rawson, CEO of Downtown Santa Monica Inc., hopes there will be some attention to growing the number of the available amount of centralized parking spots Downtown.

City officials presented the draft report to Rawson and the Downtown Santa Monica Inc. District issues committee Tuesday morning.

"The key to the success of the in-lieu fee is how the money is spent," Rawson said. "If the money can be spent on brick-and-mortar parking spaces, and there's a plan to have those parking spaces built — city-approved, not just an idea of where they go and how it's funded — then people are likely to buy into it."

If, on the other hand, that money is used mainly to create policies and infrastructure that encourage people to get out of their cars, that appears too much like the Transportation Impact Fee, another cost on development meant to support transportation infrastructure, Rawson said.

"We think we're some time away from people being out of their cars entirely here, and people's nod to the environment is getting a Prius rather than abandoning their car altogether. Those Priuses need parking spaces," Rawson said.

The draft plan is in its initial stages. It will still go before several other stake holders before city officials present it to the Planning Commission later this summer and the City Council in early fall.

ashley@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA
First AME Church by-the-Sea
is having a Pre-Holiday Parking Lot Sale
Saturday, August 18th from 8 to 1 pm
choices of vintage Winfield China, Ethnic Dolls,
Educational material, new clothing and more.
Come join the fun!

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‘Shades of Grey’ marketing phenom goes mainstream

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK You’ve bought rope for that special someone, picked up a few sex toys and read those “Fifty Shades of Grey” books a time or three. You know who you are.

Well, no need to skulk about at naughty shops or the hardware store as Fifty Shades of Consumption makes it further into the mainstream.

Stuart Weitzman and Marc New York have Grey-struck campaigns in the fat September issues of fashion magazines, the former touting black stilettos and high, Anastasia Steele-worthy boots called “Fifty Fifty,” named not for the blockbuster bondage books but equal parts leather and stretch.

“Stuart has always known that people just think shoes. They daydream shoes. They lust after shoes 24/7,” said Susan Duffy, Weitzman’s senior vice president of marketing. “It’s almost like ‘Fifty Shades of Grey.’ People want 50 pairs of shoes. It’s a love affair.”

EMI Music is feeling the love. It’s putting out “Fifty Shades of Grey: The Classical Album” next month in partnership with E L James herself, ahead of the British writer’s first visit to the Pacific Northwest locales where her hunky gazillionaire Christian Grey and his new-to-kink love interest dwell.

While James goes about remedying that geographical blip on her resume, she let loose Monday with her first licensing agreements for a range of products in North America.

Coming soon: official Fifty stockings and garters and printed tights. Undies and jammies and robes. T-shirts and knit tops and hoodies.

Add those to a slew of parody books, many self-published, beauty giant Bobbi Brown’s new set of “Come-Hither Shades” for eyes in, yes, grays and marketing references and tie-ins for everything from iPad covers to bathroom fixtures. There’s even a critical reader’s guide, “Lighter Shades of Grey,” that counts the number of times Ana mutters “Oh my.”

These days, we’re all Fifty Shades of somethin’.

“We don’t always get a chance to connect our clients’ brands to current day entertainment or news. But when we do, tie us down and hold us back!” said David R. Schlocker, founder and president of DRS and Associates, a luxury marketing and PR firm in Los Angeles for architectural, interior design and building clients.

The company recently pitched “Shades of Gray” kitchen and bath decor, including a Laufen washbasin with seductive curves and edgy Graff faucets in a brushed nickel.

Grey-sessed consumers have kept the books atop best-seller lists for more than 25 weeks, shot pre-orders for the EMI album to the top of classical picks on iTunes and Amazon — and breathlessly lobbied online for their choices to play Christian and Ana in the movie.

Meanwhile, Town & Country magazine bares a teaser on its September cover, “50 Shades of Rockefeller,” for a story about a great-great-granddaughter of John D. and her new book, apropos of nothing more than the fresh-faced lexicon.

Trojan, the condom guys, had hundreds lining up for free vibrators last week on the streets of Manhattan, using “pleasure carts” like the ones for selling hot dogs. The crowds were so big the city shut them down temporarily, until the company procured the proper permits. Trojan doled out 10,000 vibrators over two days.

While Trojan has been selling vibrators since 2009, first-quarter sales this year — around the time the Fifty books hit it big — were up about 14 percent from the same quarter a year before, according to Nielsen.

“Thanks in part to the rise of pop culture hits such as ‘Fifty Shades of Grey’ and ‘Sex and the City,’ many consumers are looking for products to help add some spice and increase the pleasure within their relationships,” said Bruce Weiss, vice president of marketing at Trojan.

This is what Simon Reed, 28, knew about that as he waited patiently for a vibrator with about 400 other people in Midtown: “My girlfriend sent me.”

The Fifty phenom has also filled up Etsy with bondage crafts and is keeping Grey-maniacs at Pinterest busy. At Amazon, “Laters, Baby” wall decals with a handcuff motif are on sale, honoring one of Christian’s fave farewells (stolen from his brother).

Wendy Ong, EMI’s vice president of classics in the U.S., hasn’t seen this kind of action in forever.

“Who would have thought classical music and ‘Fifty Shades of Grey,’ you know. It’s a stretch, right, but it’s actually a great partnership,” she said. “It’s amazing in this day and age for these books to be causing so much interest in classical music.”

Not all classical music, mind you. The download and CD due out Sept. 11 on Capitol Records (owned by EMI) includes 15 tracks featured in the books, including the obscure “Tallis: Spem in Alium” by The Tallis Scholars, as in Chapter 25, Book One.

The recording as a single download climbed to No. 1 on iTunes in July for classical music in the UK and US.

Robert Pattinson hasn’t read the books and told a Comic-Con crowd he would probably just lick the pages if he tried, but the newly solo actor showed up in a few shades of gray for the New York premiere Monday of his new movie, “Cosmopolis,” and again to ring the opening bell on the New York Stock Exchange.

R-Patz was in Gucci, but bespoke tailors Norton & Townsend back home in the UK came up with a line of menswear in Fifty-friendly shades of generous grey, guilty pleasure grey and gentle grey.

As for rope, one of Manhattan’s largest and oldest hardware stores, Garber Hardware in the West Village, noted a 10 percent uptick in sales from about March — soon after the books took off — to July, compared with the same period a year ago.

“Anecdotally speaking, it would certainly be reasonable to attribute that to the Fifty Shades phenomenon,” said Nathaniel Garber, the great-great-grandson of the store’s founder.

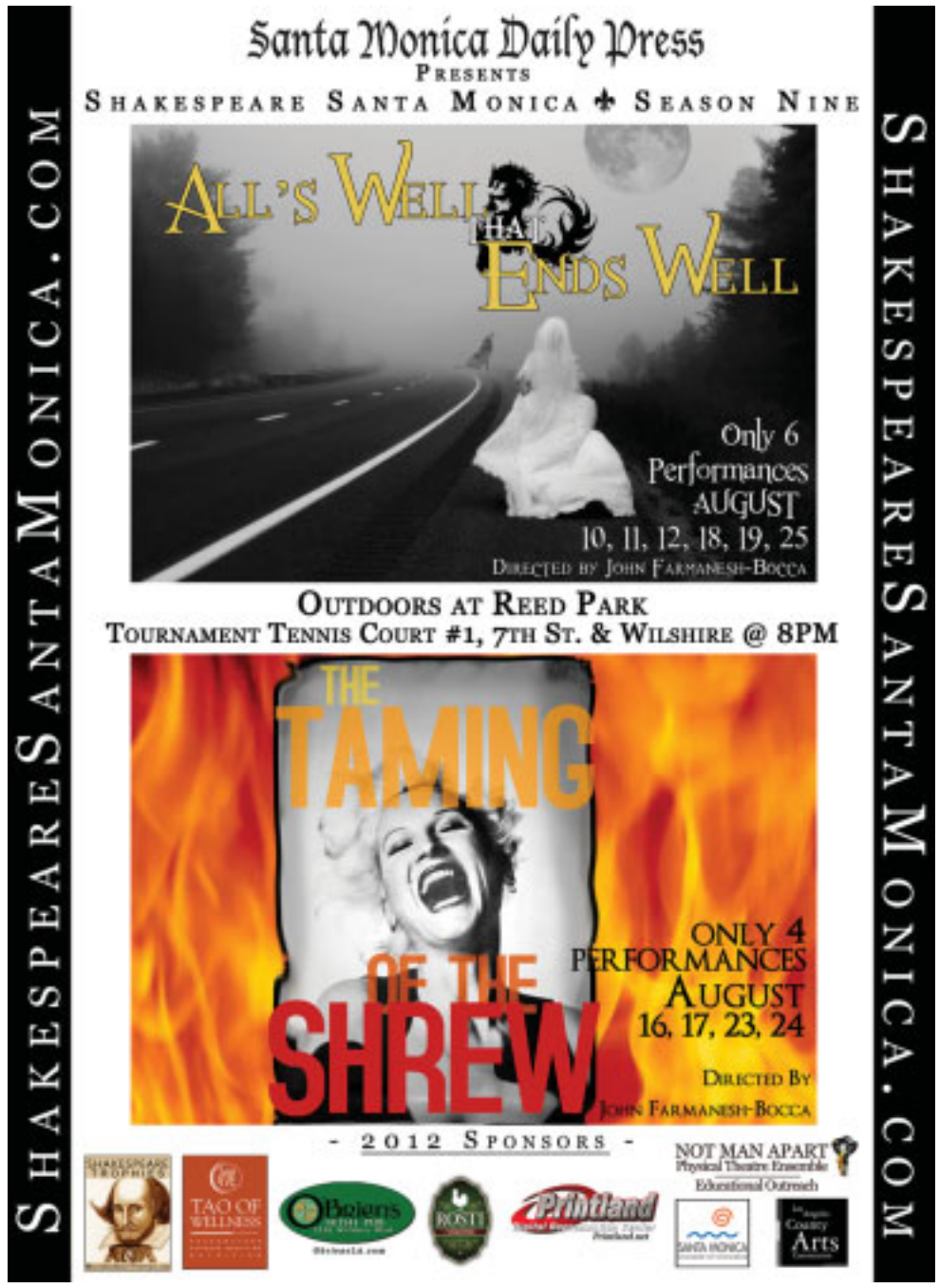
Hmmmm.

Grey, by the way, should rethink his choice of rope — in the first book he requests five feet of natural filament during a trip to the hardware store where Ana works. Garber recommends a 12-gauge, non-braided nylon. “It’s soft. Non-braided is also easier to tie,” he said.

Sales are roof-raising for Babeland since all things Fifty took over. With three adult toy stores in New York, one in Seattle and a website, co-founder Claire Cavanah reports a 40 percent boost in business, with eye-popping increases for bondage toys.







SURF REPORT



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SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 64.9°

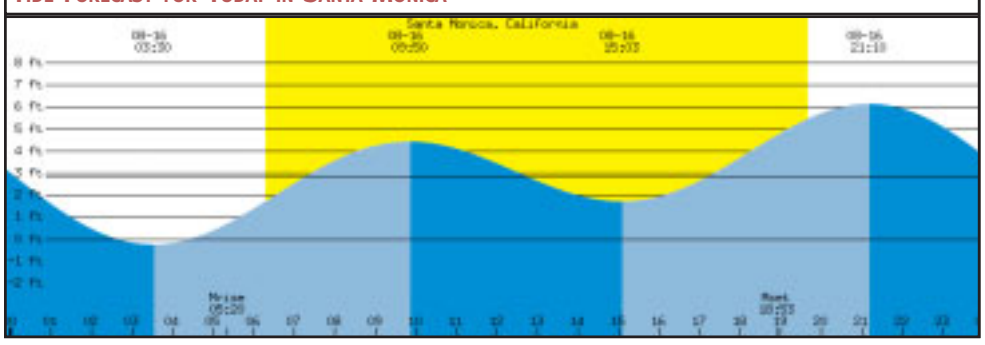
SWELL FORECAST

Forerunners from the next swell come into SoCal, building throughout the day. West facing breaks should see at least waist high waves.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

CHEST TO HEAD HIGH SURF AT SOUTH FACING BREAKS. DIRECT WEST FACING BREAKS ARE LOOKING AT WAIST MAX SURF.

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 8, 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 / 33
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 33

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodbrook Family Foundation, simplehuman, LazerGUY, SMAA

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 Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	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 (breach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Corbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Los Flores State Beach at Los Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Los 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 17208 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.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CBW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

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MLB

Giants Cabrera suspended after testing for testosterone

JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Baseball Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Melky Cabrera was suspended 50 games Wednesday following a positive test for testosterone, putting an abrupt end to what had been an MVP-caliber regular season and throwing the San Francisco Giants' playoff hopes into doubt.

Cabrera leads the National League in hitting. His penalty was the first for a high-profile player since last year's NL MVP, Ryan Braun, had his suspension overturned by an arbitrator last winter. The Braun case led to revisions in the drug agreement between owners and the players' association to better define procedures for handling the urine samples.

"My positive test was the result of my use of a substance I should not have used," Cabrera said in a statement released by the union. "I accept my suspension under the Joint Drug Program and I will try to move on with my life. I am deeply sorry for my mistake and I apologize to my teammates, to the San Francisco Giants organization and to the fans for letting them down."

Cabrera is batting .346 with 11 home runs and 60 RBIs in his first season with San Francisco and is five hits shy of 1,000 in his big league career. Flashing bright orange spikes, he singled and hit a two-run homer last month in the National League's 8-0 win in the All-Star game, earning MVP honors for the game and securing homefield advantage for the World Series.

"It's disappointing. Obviously, Melky means a lot to all of us, was part of our championship and provided some really good moments here," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "It's something that everyone has to deal with and it's something baseball is trying to stay away from and it happened."

Cabrera could still win the NL batting title. He has 501 plate appearances, one less than the minimum required to win a batting championship for a player on a team playing 162 games. However, under 10.22(a) of the Official Baseball Rules, he would win the batting title if an extra hitless at-bat is added to his average and it remains higher than that of any other qualifying player.

He will miss the final 45 games of the regular season and serve the remainder of the suspension at the start of next season or during the postseason, depending on whether the Giants make the playoffs and how far they advance. If the Giants wanted him to become active in the middle of a playoff series, they would have to play a man short from the start of the series until the suspension ends because rosters can't be altered mid-series.

"We were extremely disappointed," the Giants said in a statement. "We fully support Major League Baseball's policy and its efforts to eliminate performance enhancing drugs from our game."

Cabrera became the second Giants player to receive a drug suspension this season. Reliever Guillermo Mota was penalized for 100 games in May, becoming just the third major league player disciplined twice for positive drug tests. Mota is eligible to return Aug. 28, barring rainouts, and began a minor league rehabilitation assignment Tuesday with the Giants' rookie team in Arizona.

It was not immediately known whether Cabrera's positive test occurred before the All-Star game. The union initially filed a grievance, which would have caused the case to go before an arbitrator, but then dropped it, a person familiar with the process said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because that detail was not announced.

Cabrera told CSN Bay Area on July 27 that he had been tested for performance-enhancing drugs the previous week, though it's unknown whether the test he referenced resulted in the positive test.

Drug-testing labs check urine for its ratio of testosterone to epitestosterone, which usually is 1 to 1 in adult males. If the lab notices any abnormality, it conducts an isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS) test to determine whether the testosterone is exogenous, or came from outside the body.

There have been four suspensions under the major league drug program this year, with Philadelphia infielder Freddy Galvis and free agent outfielder Marlon Byrd also suspended 50 games apiece. There have been 70 suspensions under the minor league drug program.

In mid-May, MLB and the players' union agreed to drop the 100-game suspension imposed on Colorado catcher Eliezer Alfonzo for a positive drug test because of the same procedural issues that came up in the case of Braun. Alfonzo missed 48 games — the final 15 of last season and the first 33 of this year.

Braun's 50-game suspension for a positive test was overturned in February by arbitrator Shyam Das after Braun's lawyers argued his urine sample was not handled in the manner specified by baseball's drug agreement. Das, who had been baseball's permanent arbitrator since 1999, was fired this spring.

Last December, slugger Manny Ramirez received a 50-game suspension for a second positive drug test. The 12-time All-Star signed a one-year minor league contract with the Oakland Athletics on Feb. 20, but was released in June per his request while playing for Triple-A Sacramento before even reaching the big leagues with the A's.

Ramirez retired from the Tampa Bay Rays in April 2011 rather than serve a 100-game suspension for a second failed drug test. The penalty was cut to 50 games because he sat out nearly all of last season.

The 28-year-old Cabrera, who became a marketing phenomenon this year with nicknames like "Got Melk?" "Melk Man" and "Melky Way," produced a 51-hit month in May. Cabrera batted .429 in May with three homers, five triples, seven doubles and 17 RBIs. He hit safely in 25 of 29 games. The 51 hits matched Randy Winn for most hits in a month since the club came to San Francisco in 1958.

Cabrera also set the San Francisco record for most hits in May, passing Hall of Famer Willie Mays' 49 from 1958.

"My first reaction, extremely saddened — a great kid who's having a great run," former Yankees teammate Alex Rodriguez said. "Just sadness overall."

A-Rod tutored both Cabrera and Robinson Cano when they were coming up, even inviting Cabrera to Miami to work out with him in recent years.

"I'm sure he's sad and confused," Rodriguez said.

Cabrera came to the Giants in a trade with Kansas City last November that sent left-hander Jonathan Sanchez to the Royals. Cabrera — who signed a $6 million, one-year deal to avoid salary arbitration — batted .305 with 44 doubles, 18 homers and 87 RBIs last season.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Malcom (NR) 1hr 30min
The Big Steal (NR) 1hr 39min
7:30pm

This screening is free to all current American Cinematheque members, with regular pricing for non-members. Discussion between films with director Nadia Tass and actor Ben Mendelsohn.

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

Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13) 2hrs 16min
1:00pm, 7:00pm

Campaign (R) 1hr 37min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

Step Up Revolution (PG-13) 1hr 40min
4:15pm, 10:00pm

Nitro Circus: The Movie 3D (PG-13) 1hr 28min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

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

Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:20pm, 10:30pm

Total Recall (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Campaign (R) 1hr 37min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:45pm, 10:15pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
11:20am, 2:50pm, 6:30pm, 10:10pm

Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:15pm

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) 1hr 34min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

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
11:45am, 3:10pm, 6:20pm, 9:30pm

Total Recall (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
11:50am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 33min
6:25am, 11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:55pm, 10:25pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
12:10pm, 4:05pm, 7:45pm

Hope Springs (PG-13) 2hrs 01min
7:00am, 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

Order in tonight, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ The unexpected occurs. You discover just how much someone cares, as this person spontaneously decides to express his or her affection. The end result will be that you are beaming from ear to ear. Your attitude is contagious. Tonight: Be authentic.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Much goes on at home. Please note the many thoughts that race through your head. Be sure to do some comparison shopping before purchasing a big item. You have the tendency, and are in just the right mood, to go way overboard. Tonight: Order in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You tend to say the right words at the right time. A meeting with a group of friends proves to be a very exciting experience, as someone seems to be bouncing off the walls. Tonight: All smiles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might decide to go off and buy this and that. You could have a great time, but the results could be problematic. Someone you look up to could be difficult right now, as he or she is so unpredictable. Tonight: Make your favorite meal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might hear news that results in hurt feelings. The person delivering this news does not intend the message to have that outcome. In fact, he or she is trying to demonstrate his or her caring and support. Tonight: Friends are full of fun and energy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You might want to share more of yourself. The element of timing plays a role, and most likely, it is not clear when the best time is. A partner or friend surprises you with his or her actions. Tonight: Not to be found.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Emphasize what you want from a friendship. Ask for the support you want in a meeting. Clearly, others have difficulty anticipating what you want. Learn to express yourself more often and assume you have a receptive audience. Tonight: Where the action is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Take a stand quickly, and refuse to sell yourself short. You know what you want and in which direction you would like to head. In order to accomplish more of what you want, you will need to take the lead. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Look past the obvious when relating to a loved one or a child. What did he or she not say? This person does not intend to be secretive, but it is just the way he or she is. Tonight: Let music be a dominant theme.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Relate to someone directly, be it about business, networking or a personal matter. You will be surprised by what you hear, so much so that you might opt to head in a different direction. Give yourself some time to respond. Tonight: Make it cozy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Others might see your knee-jerk action as being off-the-wall. You could be taken aback by their reactions, since you know there is logic behind them. Let your creativity emerge. As a result, solutions will be found. Tonight: Let a love affair come back into your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You seem set on doing a job a certain way. You will resist approaching it in any other manner. Recognize that others could distance themselves because of your attitude. Stay centered and do your thing. A family member still surprises you! Tonight: Head home.

Happy birthday

This year you grow and evolve to a new level. Events will come forth that allow you to understand more emotionally and learn more intellectually. Your efforts to network and become more socially integrated seem to come through to others. If you are single, you meet people with ease. A friendship could be instrumental in making a romance happen. You could meet Mr. or Ms. Right through a friend. You could be quite excited about this person. If you are attached, be more sensitive to your sweetie. Remember, a relationship is made of two people who both need attention. Another LEO can match you. He or she makes quite a competitor.

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

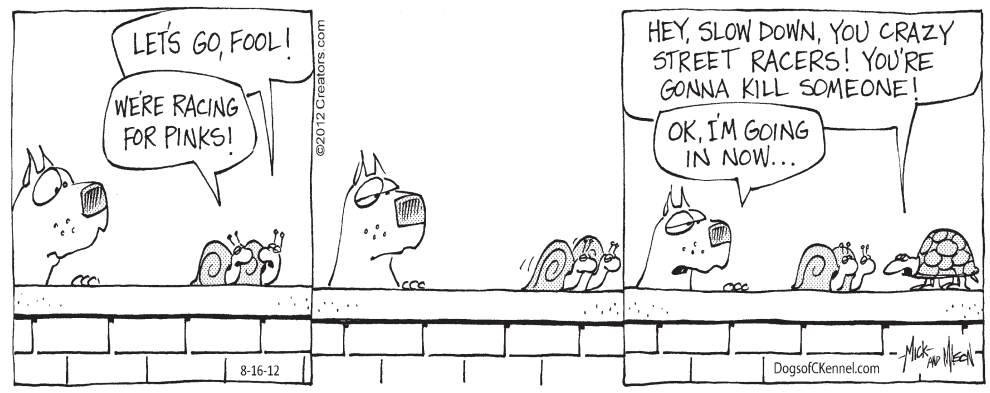
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



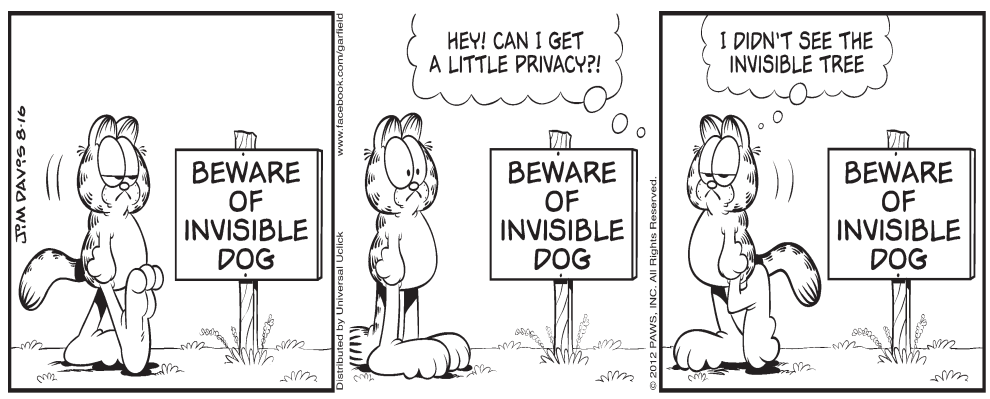
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



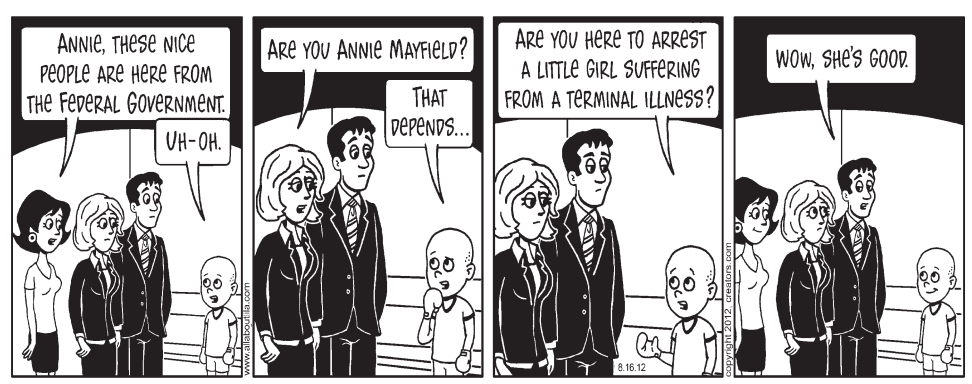
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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 Somewhat
5 Grounds
10 Kenya neighbor
12 Deal maker
13 "Sophie's Choice" costar
14 Head out
15 Freud topic
16 Ingot's big brother
18 Place for mixing at home
20 — de la Cité
21 "— girl!"
23 2016 Olympics setting
24 Ocean motion
26 Elmer of cartoons
28 Ship record
29 Skilled
31 Hold
32 Cufflinks' kin
36 Prying aid
39 Spanish cheer
40 Seoul setting
41 Stable mothers
43 Foils' cousins
44 Following
45 Office sights
46 Take ten

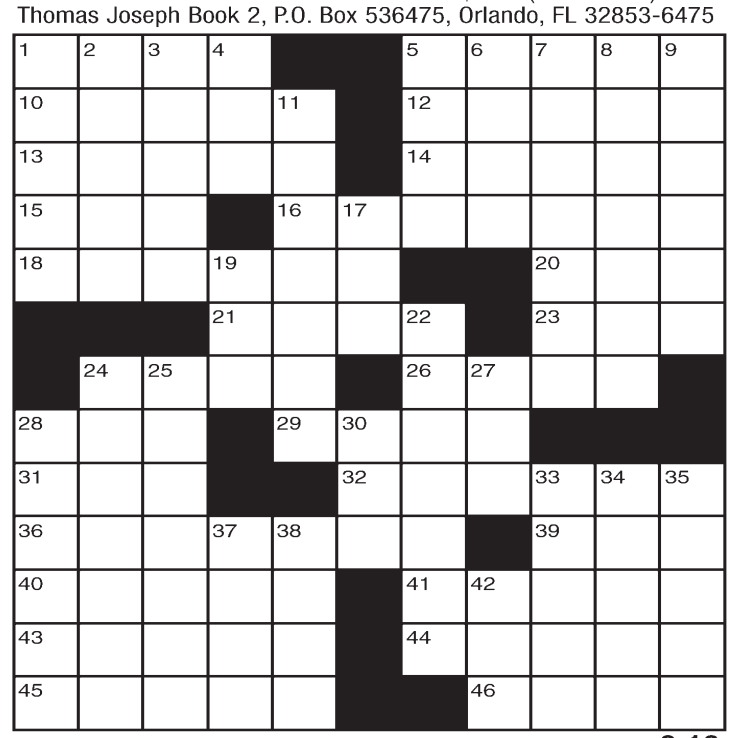
DOWN

1 Crooked
2 Swell
3 Block-head
4 Shoe shade
5 Ump's call
6 Like some cheeses
7 Albatross or auk
8 Spurious
9 Platter player
11 Annulled
17 Hosp. areas
19 Auction action
22 Validates
24 What a water-skier hangs on to
25 Overlooks
27 Salt Lake City player
28 Made secure
30 Seventh letter
33 Carried
34 Guinness and Baldwin
35 Stop-watch button
37 Calendar row
38 Game fish
42 Melody

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

Yesterday's answer

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



8-16

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/14
15 23 34 39 55
Meganumber: 32
Jackpot: $45M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 8/11
6 19 39 40 43
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/15
3 4 14 26 39

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 8/15
MIDDAY: 8 3 1
EVENING: 2 4 8

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 8/15
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:47.65

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

■ Fern Cooper, 65, and 13 other cataract-surgery patients arrived at Ontario's Oakville Trafalgar Hospital on June 25 to learn that they would not receive the usual anesthesia because the hospital had decided to schedule an "experimental day" to evaluate how unsedated patients responded. (The Ontario Health Insurance Plan had recently cut anesthesiologists' fee.) A topical numbing gel, plus doctors' reassurances were provided, but Cooper, previously diagnosed with severe anxiety, told the Toronto Star of the terror she felt when, fully awake, she watched the surgeon's scalpel approaching, and then cutting, her eyeball.

■ Catherine Venusto, 45, was arrested in July and charged with breaking into the computer system of the Northwestern Lehigh School District in Pennsylvania (where she formerly worked) and changing the records of her two children (and while at it, reading private e-mails of 10 school officials). Venusto allegedly switched a daughter's F grade to M (for medically excused) and one grade of her overachieving son from 98 to 99.

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1960 – Joseph Kittinger parachutes from a balloon over New Mexico at 102,800 feet (31,300 m), setting three records that still stand today: High-altitude jump, free-fall, and highest speed by a human without an aircraft.

1962 – Eight years after the remaining French India territories were handed to India, the ratifications of the treaty are exchanged to make the transfer official.

1964 – Vietnam War: A coup d'état replaces Duong Van Minh with General Nguyen Khanh as President of South Vietnam. A new constitution is established with aid from the U.S. Embassy.

WORD UP!

concatenate
**\ kon-KAT-n-eyt ** , verb;
1. To link together; unite in a series or chain.

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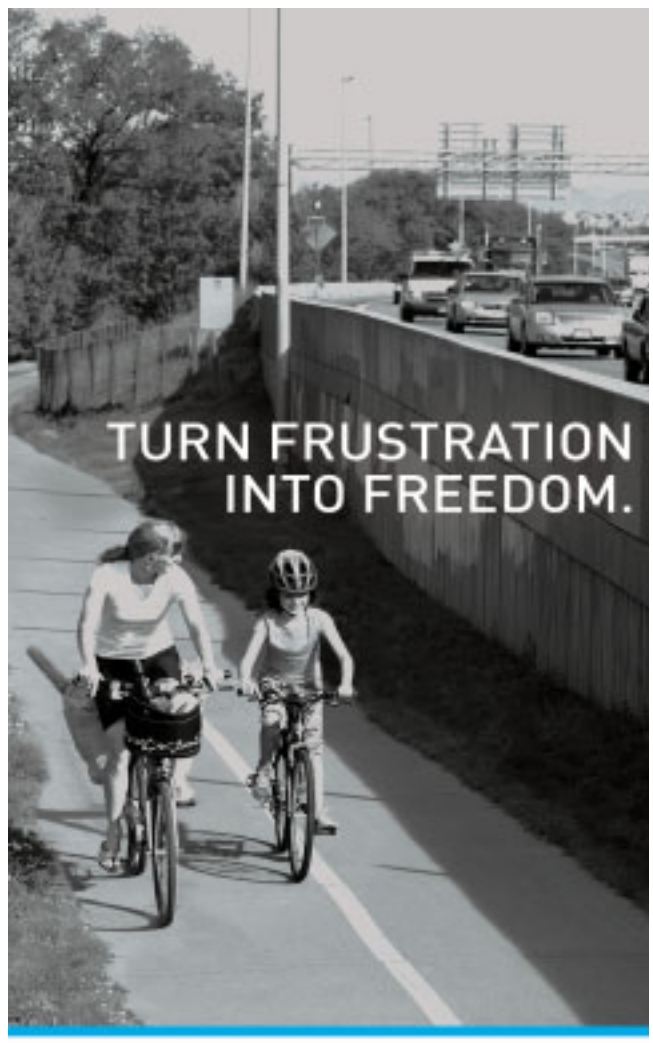
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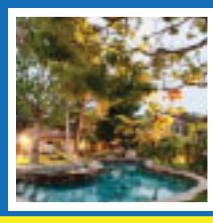
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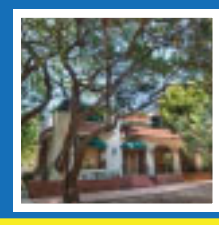
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