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FRIDAY AUGUST 28, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 253

DODGER DAYS OF SUMMER
SEE PAGE 5

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE TINKERING ISSUE

Only one applicant for Rent Control Board

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL There once stood a stack of more than two dozen applications from residents who were interested in replacing late Councilman Herb Katz after he died in January from cancer, making up a larger pool of candidates than in the election just a few months prior.

It's been a different story for the vacancy on the unsung Rent Control Board.

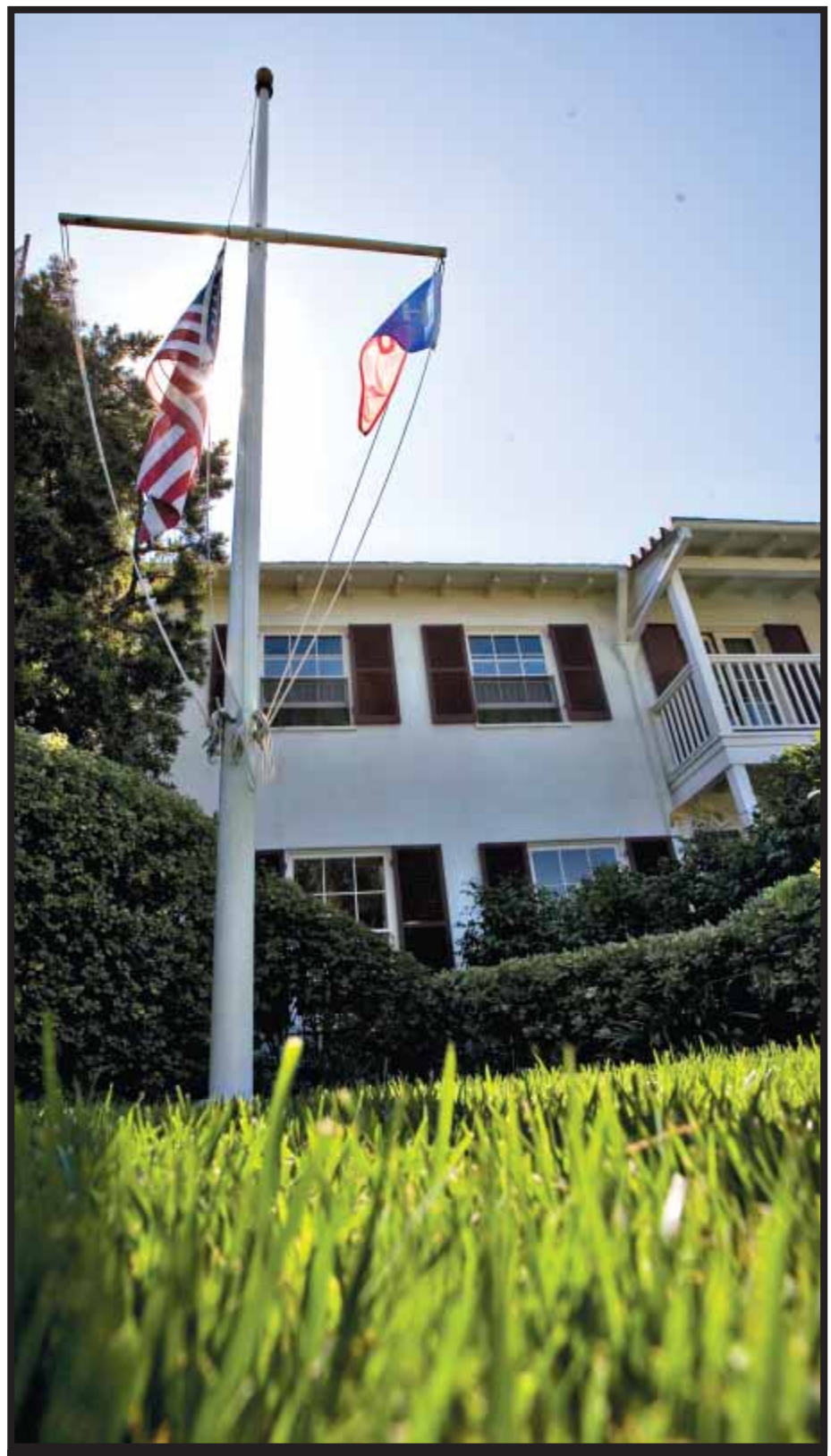
Christopher Braun, a 34-year-old chiropractor who narrowly lost to landlord Robert Kronovet in the November 2008 election, was the only person to submit an application by Wednesday evening's deadline to fill a vacancy left by former Chairman Joel Koury, who resigned last month to spend more time with his young family.

The lack of interest in the board, which handles all matters related to landlord and tenant issues in rent controlled buildings, came as a surprise to many.

Kronovet, who last year became the first person to win a seat on the board without the political backing of the influential Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights (SMRR), said he reached out to a variety of individuals to apply for the position, including bankers, former City Councilmembers, property owners and tenants, some of whom reportedly indicated that they would consider it.

"I can't understand why some people allowed themselves to be intimidated and let the government function as is," Kronovet said. "Here is a chance for citizens who have been complaining to be involved."

SEE RENT CONTROL PAGE 10



FITTING TRIBUTE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

An American flag flies at half-mast Thursday morning at the home of City Councilman Bobby Shriver in memory of the late Sen. Edward Kennedy. Kennedy was his uncle.

TAKING IT IN

Prowling the promenade

Editor's Note: This is a series in which Daily Press writers overhear and observe happenings around Santa Monica.

BY EMMA TROTTER
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN A girl in a yellow halter top sits on the edge of the ivy-covered triceratops fountain on the Third Street Promenade. She runs her fingers through her curly brown hair as the wind lifts it gently.

The street is packed with people, however, and her peaceful moment is short-lived.

"Mommy, take a picture of me right there!" a young boy shouts, clambering past the seated woman. His sister stands on the other end of the fountain, framing the shot.

A moment later, the girl is joined by her perturbed boyfriend, who examines the bottom of his foot and speaks forcefully in a foreign language.

Lots of different languages can be heard on the promenade. It's early evening on Wednesday, and the tourists are out in force.

"You know what?" a woman pushing a stroller says wearily to the rest of her family. "How about we walk around just a little bit longer?"

Outside J.Crew, a girl consults at least two generations of female family members about a potential purchase.

"I'm gonna go see if they have bigger sizes," she says, flapping her arms impatiently.

A couple converses over a locked bike with a small dog in its basket. A man holds two Starbucks drinks as his companion digs through her purse. Near Fatburger, another man uses a pay phone — a rare sight these days.

"Never use anyone else's eye make-up!" a woman lectures her daughter outside Sephora. "You can get an infection."

A few people out on the promenade today are on the job. Downtown ambassadors in red shirts, khaki shorts and straw hats cruise up and down the sidewalks, looking for rule-breakers — one asks a man on his cell phone to extinguish a cigarette — or

SEE PROMENADE PAGE 11

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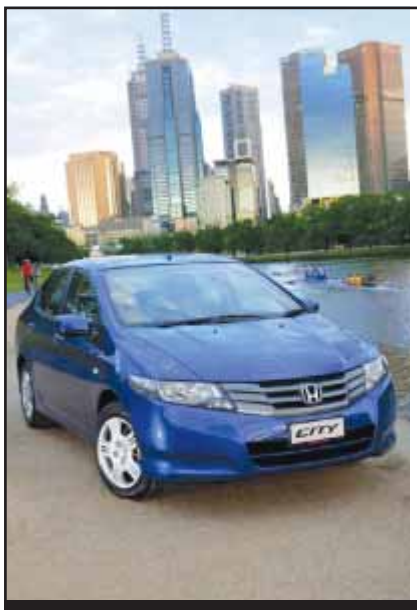

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

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Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009

Farmers' Market
Virginia Avenue Park & Downtown
2200 Virginia Ave., 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Purchase fresh seasonal produce directly from area farmers.

Ocean appreciation celebration
Santa Monica Bay Aquarium
1600 Ocean Front Walk, 12:30 p.m. — 6 p.m.
Celebrate and appreciate the ocean during the last days of summer. Normal admission rates apply. Continues Sunday. For more information, visit www.healthebay.org/calendar.

Pier in pictures
First United Methodist Church
1008 11th St., 9 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
The First United Methodist Church presents a beautiful, free photo exhibit by church member Allan Walker to coincide with the Santa Monica Pier's 100th anniversary. The exhibit features contemporary images of the famous structure. This exhibit will be open daily through Sept. 9.
For more information, call (310) 393-8258.

Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009

'Cinderella: The Musical'
Santa Monica Playhouse, main stage
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Audiences help romance bloom in this delightful musical for all ages, featuring a charming prince, a zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. Birthday and tea parties are available with every performance of "Cinderella." Admission is $10.50 — $12.50.
Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2 for more information.

Monday, Aug. 31, 2009

Game day
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Have fun, meet new people and challenge your mind playing bridge or Scrabble for free every Monday.
Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

WILD RIDE

Ray Solano news@smdp.com

Valeria Gonzalez and Jakie Razo, both age 10, take a spin on Pacific Park's 'Scrambler' at the Fifth Annual PALpalooza on Wednesday. Sponsored by the Santa Monica Police Activities League and Pacific Park, more than 400 children particpated from different PAL programs across Southern California.

Revamping a classic piece

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

BROAD STAGE What does an Asian-American youth orchestra, a West African drum ensemble, and a punk-folk-country-protest musician all have in common?

The answer is Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, best known for its fourth movement, "Ode to Joy."

Billy Bragg, the punk, folk, country and political singer-songwriter, is premiering his new version of "Ode to Joy" for North America at the Broad Stage this Saturday. It is the third time his rendition has ever been performed.

In 2007, the British pop singer was commissioned to translate the German words of "Ode to Joy." It was premiered by the London Philharmonic in 2008 at the Royal Festival Hall in the presence of Queen Elizabeth.

Until a 1996 soccer game between England and Germany, Bragg did not focus much of his attention to Beethoven's creation despite its messages of brotherhood and peace. The symphony is set to the words of the German poem "An die Freude" written in 1786 by Friedrich Schiller.

"The teams marched onto the pitch to 'Ode to Joy' and I thought, 'That's not fair! Beethoven's a blooming German,'" Bragg told the Los Angeles Times. "But in that context, Beethoven wasn't being a German, he was being a European. And so was I. That's what I was thinking of when I wrote the lyrics: People brought together by culture, by reconciliation."

When Bragg wrote his version of "Ode to Joy," he concentrated on what he felt was an important line in Schiller's poem: "Alle Menschen werden Brüder" ("all men become brothers").

The concert is a celebration of the Ninth Symphony and its message about connection and communication across all borders. In this way, various multicultural groups perform their versions of different parts of the symphony.

In addition to the Asia America Youth Orchestra playing the piece under the direction of David Benoit, Bragg will perform and conduct a sing-along of "Ode to Joy." The performance also features jazz singer Dwight Trible, bluegrass vocalist

SEE **BRAGG** PAGE 12

Drumming up support for SMFD

BY CATHERINE CAIN
Special to the Daily Press

A lunch at the fire station awaits anyone who donates $1,000 or more to the Santa Monica Firefighters Association's Firefighters Relief Fund — one of only two yearly fundraisers.

The association, comprised of current and retired firefighters from the SMFD, puts out a program twice a year with advertisements from businesses and donations from citizens, though citizens can also place advertisements. The support received from the fundraiser will be used for health benefits for retired firefighters and to assist families of firefighters who have been injured or killed at work.

"We've had a company do our fundraising for the last 15 years," said firefighter Ryan Demirdjian. "Things have changed now; those companies try to take a percent. Everyone's having a tough time everywhere … we don't want people to scrape up, then have it go to a big company … . We feel it's more important that it's not about how much we raise but that every dollar is accounted for."

In addition to helping out retired firefighters when they can, as the fire department has no retirement pension plan, the association also uses donations to support organizations from little league to the burn institute.

The association offers various incentives for donation levels: $50 earns an association supporter sticker; $100 earns an association mug; $250 — $750 earns a care package. Starting at $1,000, supporters receive a wall plaque and a lunch at the station. A donation of $2,500 earns a desktop plaque in addition to the lunch, and $5,000 gets a wall plaque with an ax, a full page ad in the association's safety program and lunch at the station.

Businesses can also buy tax-deductible advertisements in the firefighters' bi-annual publication containing safety information and advertisements from local merchants and professionals.

To place an advertisement or to donate, call (310) 699-3338.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Forget Expo and focus on subway

Editor:

It seems that every day we learn about another objection to the possible construction of Phase 2 of the Exposition Light Rail Line from Culver City to Santa Monica. On a regular basis we read about the fiasco brewing over a site selection for the light rail maintenance yard; we ponder the bewildering decision to have the westernmost portion of the alignment travel down Colorado Boulevard; and we hear the persistent protests voiced by residents further east in Cheviot Hills, Rancho Park, and the west of Westwood neighborhoods about noise, pollution, and proximity to elementary schools.

Simple logic tells us that vehicular gridlock will be unbearable at the many ground level grade crossings all along the route. As objectionable as these things are, the most troubling issue associated with this light rail project was just recently revealed by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The Santa Monica Daily Press reported on Aug. 8 that preliminary studies (cost effectiveness standards) may show that the presence of the Expo Line will dilute the potential ridership from the Wilshire Boulevard "Subway To The Sea." The result being that the subway may never be built all the way to the sea.

At a subway extension update meeting two weeks ago, MTA officials made it clear that current plans call for extending the subway under Wilshire only as far as either Westwood or Brentwood, not Santa Monica. What this means is that the MTA may be about to commit the biggest blunder of all time. Based on demographic, geographic, and economic reality, the greatest need for a mass transit rail system to the Westside is along the Wilshire corridor, without question. It is helpful to appreciate the fact that Santa Monica and Downtown Los Angeles are not the only two destinations people need and desire to take the train to. Santa Monicans will take the system to work in Westwood, Century City, Beverly Hills, the Miracle Mile, Koreatown and points east.

Conversely, individuals living in these neighborhoods as well as Echo Park, Pico-Union, and MacArthur Park will take the subway to their work throughout Santa Monica. Tourists and conventioneers will take the subway to all intermediate points of interest. The subway not only provides us with these demographic advantages, but also many technical ones, too. The subway has six cars per train versus three for the light rail system; the subway can thus carry 810 passengers per train, light rail only 432. The subway has trains running at 5-minute intervals, versus 10-minute intervals for the light rail. Thus, the subway can carry a total of 14,256 more passengers per hour in both directions; not forgetting that the subway has no ground level grade crossings, no noise, no pollution, zero above ground proximity to schools and travels a great deal faster than light rail.

Because of the current economic conditions affecting or federal, state and municipal governments, it is necessary to make decisions that are logical, pragmatic, and economically sound. For this reason, for these times, and for the greater good of the whole region, the MTA will be wise to curtail its pursuit of Phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line and apply its projected cost of well over $2 billion toward building the extension of the Purple Line "Subway To The Sea" all the way under Wilshire to Santa Monica. In making this decision we will eliminate all of the negatives associated with Phase 2 of the Expo Line and accordingly accentuate all of the positives the subway will offer our society for at least the next century or two.

Charles R. Follette
Santa Monica

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The Soap Box

Bennet Kelley

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The lion's work must live on

ON THE NIGHT MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot, Robert Kennedy calmed an Indianapolis crowd by quoting from the Chorus in Aeschylus' Agamemnon: "Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart, until, in our own despair, against our will, comes wisdom through the awful grace of God."

The Chorus' words echoed throughout the life of Ted Kennedy whose glories were matched by its tragedies. Yet after each tragedy, Teddy rode to carry the mantle left by his brothers to "struggle against the common enemies of man: tyranny, poverty, disease, and war itself."

Two generations ago, Sen. Kennedy quoted his fallen brother that "[f]ew will have the greatness to bend history itself," but the arch of American history since that time clearly bears his name. Sen. Kennedy built a record of legislative achievement unmatched in our history, as he co-sponsored over 500 public laws (often working with Republicans despite his status as the GOP's official punching bag) and has had more impact on the lives of Americans than most of the nine presidents he has served under.

But it has been health care that has defined his career and drove his decision to challenge President Carter for the Democratic Party nomination in 1980. Today 20 million low-income Americans receive access to quality primary care at community health centers; seven million receive health insurance after losing their job through COBRA; 25 million who change jobs will be protected from losing their health insurance due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; 11 million children will be covered under the Children's Health Insurance Program; 500,000 HIV/AIDS patients will receive medical care under the Ryan White CARE Act; and more than 60 million workers have been able to take time off from work to care for a loved one or get medical care under the Family & Medical Leave Act all thanks to the Senate's last lion.

Sadly, his heroic heart gave way before he could see his dream of an America where "the state of a family's health shall never depend on the size of a family's wealth." His death should give the Democrats a renewed sense of purpose to fulfill this dream.

The senator's death should not just be an impetus to renewed debate on health care, however, but an impetus to renew our entire political debate. As I wrote last summer, when the senator's diagnosis was announced, his passing would also mark the end of an age of giants who had made the nation what it is today. This age has given way to our current era of sound bite politics which has left us few leaders with the boldness to appeal to our better selves to build a better nation for all Americans.

It is hard to imagine this today, as some on the right wasted little time before using the senator's death as a platform to spew hate, but it was a Republican who gave the eulogy for President Kennedy. He could have been speaking about the past month of vitriol when he condemned the fanaticism, hatred and "false accusations that divide us."

THE SENATOR'S DEATH SHOULD NOT JUST BE AN IMPETUS TO RENEWED DEBATE ON HEALTH CARE, HOWEVER, BUT AN IMPETUS TO RENEW OUR ENTIRE POLITICAL DEBATE.

One of Kennedy's best friends in the Senate was conservative Orrin Hatch, who had come to Washington with the intention of ushering liberals like Kennedy out. At Kennedy's 70th birthday party, Hatch not only conceded defeat but added that "I have come to appreciate that the country is better for it." In mourning his friend, Hatch expressed concern that Washington has become "too bitterly partisan" and hoped that "America's ideological opposites in Congress, on the airwaves, in cyberspace, and in the public square will learn that being faithful to a political party or a philosophical view does not preclude civility … [as] we must realize that in the end, we have to put aside political pandering, work together and do what is best for America."

As Robert Kennedy said that fateful night in Indianapolis, "[w]hat we need in the United States is not division [and] hatred … but is love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country." That is the legacy of Camelot whose chapter in American history came to a sad close this week.

In concluding his brother's eulogy, Sen. Kennedy said simply what many of us would say of him today: "[t]hose of us who loved him and who take him to his rest today, pray that what he was to us and what he wished for others will some day come to pass for all the world."

The Senate's last lion roars no more, but "the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die."

BENNET KELLEY can be reached at bennet@bennetkelley.com.

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OLL: online love
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life
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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Dodgers breathe easier

BORROWING FROM JOHN STEINBECK, WHO borrowed it from Shakespeare, it's been the summer of my discontent. Even the weather. Until just this week, August was more like "June Gloom."

Politically, it's been the summer of unruly mobs at Town Hall meetings, Teabaggers, and Birthers. Their latest theory is that Hawaii wasn't legally a state. Can you say "cuckoo?"

Last week Republicans ripped Obama for his Martha's Vineyard vacation, ignoring that their guy set the presidential vacation record. Like after the Aug. 6, 2001 PDB "Bin Laden Determined to Attack in U.S." With a "what, me worry" demeanor, W. split for Crawford. Hey, there was brush to clear!

So, no health care reform, and the wars drag on at $3 billion a week ($5 trillion price tag by the time we leave, if we ever leave). October will mark eight years in Afghanistan, aka "where empires go to die."

Alexander the Great, Genghis Kahn and the Russians all failed ignominiously in Afghanistan. George Santayana, the Harvard poet, wrote "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Yogi Berra wrote, "It feels like déjà vu all over again."

With all this grim news, at least the Dodgers are still in first place. (How's that for a segue?)

Last Thursday I went to the Dodgers game against the Cubs. (Russell Martin hit a grand slam homer to win it.) Unfortunately, the Dodgers have been on a downward spiral since the All-Star game and have been worse since Manny's return. Not good.

Thankfully the boys in blue won Thursday afternoon 3-2 to take the series from the surging Rockies.

I went to the Cubs game with my neighbors Robin, Colleen, Oscar, (Colleen's service dog) and Alan, Colleen's friend's 60-year-old brother who's developmentally disabled. Like "Rain Man," Alan has a vast amount of information but instead of Judge Wopner, it's "The Lawrence Welk Show." That night I learned way more than I ever wanted to know about Lawrence Welk, the polka potentate.

As we were stuck in bumper-to-bumper traffic two things dawned on me. How come there's no mass transit to Dodger Stadium? And is there anything I'm less interested in than Lawrence Welk?

The Hollywood Bowl, which seats 1/3 of Dodger Stadium, has 10 buses going from the Westside. The Dodgers said that the city used to provide two bus lines but stopped in 1992 due to budget cuts. Not very green, Mayor Villaraigosa

Meanwhile Alan wasn't nearly through with Lawrence Welk trivia. The show apparently began in 1951 and ran until 1982. It originated from the long since demolished Aragon Ballroom in Ocean Park where they performed before crowds of 7,000.

It's been years since I've been to Chavez Ravine. After the tedious one-and-a-half-hour commute, I remembered why. But, as we pulled into the parking lot, we saw the sun setting softly on the tree-lined Elysian Hills, the San Gabriel Mountains beyond and through the sky duster palm trees that surround the stadium. It brought back a flood of wonderful memories, and plenty of heartache (for older Dodgers fans, two words: Jack Clark).

Opened in 1962, Dodger Stadium is the third oldest park in major league baseball, behind Boston's Fenway and Chicago's Wrigley, built in 1912 and 1914 respectively. I learned this from Wikipedia. From Alan I learned about Myron Floren, Mary Lou Metzger and the Lennon sisters.

With a spectacular view of Downtown Los Angeles, Dodger Stadium is a landmark. Andy, a heart surgeon friend, and architecture buff, calls it, "A masterpiece of mid-century modernism." Slightly more pedestrian, I love the handy cup holders on the back of the seats. Plus, there are pastrami sandwiches and matzo ball soup at Dodger Stadium now, courtesy of Canter's Deli!

Our seats were in "Mannywood Adjacent," across from the left field bleachers. Manny works the crowd like a Vegas lounge performer. Every warm-up between innings, he tossed the ball to the clamoring fans. Now that he's off steroids, I worry that may be the only way Manny's going to get a ball into the stands.

We all had a great time, especially Oscar who nearly inhaled his Dodger dog. Thrilled, Alan repeatedly reminded us that he had predicted that Martin would hit a home run. (But it beat hearing about Lawrence Welk.)

The Dodgers are in first by four games. I'd pray if I thought that would help them win the division but, as an atheist, I don't imagine I have much pull. I'll say this: if they don't win at least the wild card, with apologies to Shakespeare and Steinbeck, it really will be the summer of my discontent.

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com. Teddy Kennedy, R.I.P.

The Q Line

Troubling increase

An article by the Daily Press revealed that crime is on the rise in Santa Monica. The majority of the increase has been fueled by property crimes.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Have you been the victim of crime this year? If so, what took place?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.

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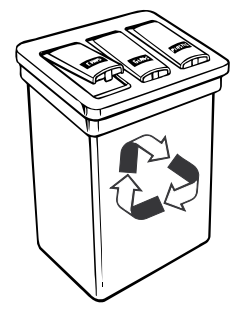
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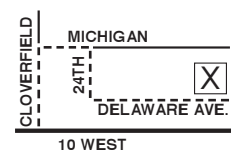

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Introduction and First Reading of an Interim Ordinance**

Applicant: City of Santa Monica
Location: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Introduction and First Reading of an Interim Ordinance to Modify the Development Standards in the OP-4 Ocean Park Multiple Residential District Relating to Side Yard Setback and Open Space Requirements.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: OP-4 Development Standards
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Paul Foley, Principal Planner, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at paul.foley@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

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 más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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.

A not-so-quiet stroll

TUESDAY. AUG. 18, AT 1:54 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1900 block of Arizona Avenue regarding an attempted robbery. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told officers that he was walking to work when he was confronted by the suspect, who demanded $20. The victim, in fear for his safety, walked to a nearby fire station for help. As the victim walked to the station, the suspect reached into his backpack and acted as if he had a knife, police said. The suspect then chased the victim and threatened to stab him. As the victim attempted to get assistance inside the fire station, the suspect fled. Officers were able to locate the suspect a short time later. He was positively identified by the victim and placed under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Erik Selmanson, 30, of Downey. No bail was set.

MONDAY, AUG. 17, AT 3:10 A.M.,
Officers conducted a traffic stop on a white Saturn for traveling 3 to 5 mph. During the traffic stop, officers noticed that the occupants of the vehicle were not wearing their seat belts. During the investigation, the officers believed that the driver was under the influence of a controlled substance. The driver, Rene Garcia, 31, of Santa Monica, was arrested for DUI and a parole violation. The other two occupants, Hector Castillo, 29, and Mayra Arroyo, 22, both of Santa Monica, were arrested for public intoxication.

MONDAY, AUG. 17, AT 7:17 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding a shoplifting suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said they observed the suspect, 53-year-old transient Connie Phillips, walk into the store and grab a jacket for sale and place it into her purse. She then allegedly exited the store, failing to pay for the jacket, which was valued at $79.50. Security recovered the jacket and held Phillips until officers arrived. She was placed under arrest for burglary. Her bail was set at $20,000.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18, AT 2:08 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1900 block of Euclid Street regarding an assault. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who stated that her fiancé attacked her when they arrived at his home. The fiancé allegedly became upset when his significant other refused to take his nephew's girlfriend home. The suspect, Eric Barnes, 47, of Santa Monica, allegedly struck the woman in the head. The victim then went outside to call the police. The suspect followed and proceeded to choke the victim, police said. The suspect let go of the victim prior to the arrival of officers. Barnes was booked for assault with a deadly weapon and a parole violation. He was not eligible for bail.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19, AT 3:50 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling in the area of the 1000 block of Alley Four when they observed a person walking in the alley. Officers started to drive toward the suspect, who then reversed direction and walked away very quickly. The man was wearing dark clothing, a beanie and a backpack. Because of an increase in burglaries in the area, the officers became suspicious and approached the suspect to see what he was up to. During their conversation with the suspect, officers discovered there was a warrant for his arrest. During a pre-booking search, officers located bolt cutters in the suspect's backpack. The suspect, Ronald Smith, 58, a transient, was booked for the warrant, probably cause burglary and possession of burglary tools. Smith was not eligible for bail.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 19, AT 4:21 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue – Sears – regarding a theft suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who told them that they observed the suspect remove a pack of socks. The suspect then placed one pair in his pants pocket, police said. The suspect then exited the store, failing to pay for the socks, valued at $11. Officers placed the suspect, identified as Michael Herschman, 18, of Oak Park, Calif., under arrest for petty theft. His bail was set at $1,000.

THURSDAY, AUG. 20, AT 3:50 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1300 block of Third Street Promenade regarding someone trying to pass a phony $100 bill. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who stated that the suspect paid for make-up with a $100 bill. The clerk was able to see that the bill had the security strip for a $5 bill. Other clerks notified police while the suspect paid, received change and left with merchandise. Officers detained the suspect outside the store. Further investigation revealed that the suspect, Beatriz Ramirez, 25, of Los Angeles, had in her possession two additional $100 bills that were actually $5 bills. The suspect was arrested for forgery. Her bail was set at $20,000.

SUNDAY, AUG. 23, AT 8:56 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling the area of Lincoln and Pico boulevards when they observed a female striking a male companion in the chest. Officers made contact with the couple and determined that the two were romantically involved. After speaking with the female, police believed she was under the influence of heroin and methamphetamines. The female was placed under arrest and booked for being under the influence of a controlled substance. She was identified as Heidee Clark, 24, a transient. Her bail was set at $2,500.

Squeezing the most out of summertime

MEGAN K. SCOTT
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK It's almost sundown for summer.

For many families, there are only a few days left before earlier bedtimes, hectic morning routines and homework assignments take away from quality family time.

Here are some things you can do with the kids to make the most of the last days of summer.

BE A DO-GOODER

Help those who are less fortunate, said Charlotte Reznick, author of "The Power of Your Child's Imagination." See if the local soup kitchen needs a young server. Bake cookies or make cards for a nursing home or homeless shelter. "It really helps them develop compassion for others," said Reznick, an educational psychologist and UCLA associate clinical professor. "It also helps them feel better about themselves." Plus, you're ending the summer on a wonderful note, she added.

GO BERRY PICKING

Find a u-pick-em berry farm to harvest fresh berries with the kids, said Heather Flett, co-author of "The Rookie Mom's Handbook." Use the berries to make a pie or jam, add them to pancakes or pop them straight into your mouths. "It's a fun field trip for them, and they're learning something," said Flett, a mom of two. "If you can make the connection between having healthy food and what they get in their lunch boxes that's a plus."

PLAN A DAY TRIP

Have the kids think of one thing they want to do before summer ends that is within round-trip driving distance on a tank of gas, said Mary Giles, Executive Editor of Disney FamilyFun. Some suggestions: a minor league baseball game, the zoo or aquarium, an amusement or water park, hiking or tubing. "Sometimes families can reach the end of summer and feel like the time slipped away before they really took advantage of what the season offers," Giles said in an e-mail. "This idea gives everyone the chance to have one last hurrah — to do one of the things they most enjoy about summertime and, hopefully, make some lasting memories."

HAVE A FAMILY FAVORITES DAY

Each person picks his or her favorite thing or activity from the summer, such as favorite game, food or book, said Nina Senatore, an assistant professor of education at Simmons College in Boston. "Put it all together and have a super family favorites night," she said. That might mean hot dogs on the grill, a game of Scrabble and reading from someone's favorite book. Choosing a favorite thing from the summer teaches kids evaluation skills, said Senatore. "And it's a nice way for families to remember the fabulous things they were involved in over the summer."

DO A ROLE REVERSAL

Choose a day or part of a day for a role reversal, said Bonnie Harris, author of "Confident Parents, Remarkable Kids." The children get to tell you what they are going to do — within reason. (Make sure they know you have veto power if the choice of activity is impossible or inappropriate). "Children are programmed during the school year from waking to sleeping — what to do, and when and how to do it are dictated by adults all day long," Harris said in an e-mail. "Let's give them one or two days a year at least to call the shots and see what they come up with."

GO CAMPING IN THE BACKYARD

Pilar Guzman, editor-in-chief of Cookie, said she recently went over to another family's house who had set up a tent and fire pit in their backyard and moved their outdoor furniture around the pit. The kids collected sticks for marshmallow roasting, and everyone sat around the fire making s'mores. Camping at home is the perfect end-of-summer activity, Guzman said: "A reminder of the freedom of summer and of living outdoors — but keeps you close to home where you need to be to get organized before school starts."

HANG OUT AT HOME

Kids are so busy during the summer with camp, swimming lessons and family vacations, said Christina Vercelletto, senior editor at Parenting. Now that camp is over and most families are back from vacation, it's a great time for kids to reconnect with their friends and spend time at home, said Vercelletto, a mom of three. "Do a craft in the backyard, have the kids help you in the vegetable garden, slow down and try to do relaxing activities before school starts," she said.

JFK Library opens doors to mourners

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON The doors have opened for the public viewing of the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy.

Mourners had collected outside the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum for hours before the viewing Thursday.

The casket arrived after a motorcade traveled 70 miles from the family compound in Cape Cod past sites of significance to his life.

Hundreds of people lined the route to the library, where his body will lie in repose for two days.

He is to be buried Saturday at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

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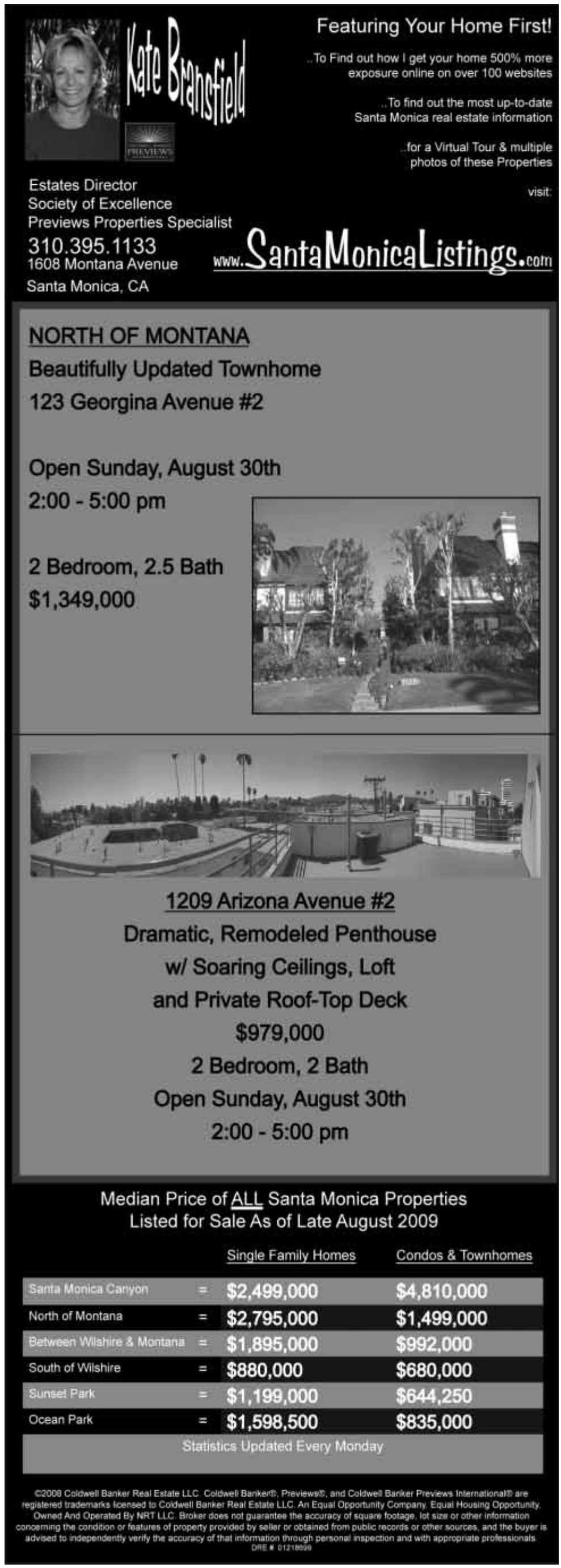

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Moon rocket test scuttled for now

PAUL FOY
Associated Press Writer

PROMONTORY, Utah A mechanical failure forced a NASA contractor on Thursday to call off the first test firing of the main part of NASA's powerful new moon rocket.

The test wasn't immediately rescheduled as officials scrambled to learn the root cause of the failure.

Alliant Techsystems Inc. called off the rocket burn with just 20 seconds left on the countdown clock. Operators cited failure of a power unit that drives hydraulic tilt controls for the rocket's nozzle. The rocket was anchored to the ground in a horizontal position for the test.

It was a setback for a carefully staged, $75 million event that drew thousands of onlookers. Alliant hoped the routine test would prove the performance of a new program for space exploration that, like the test rocket, may not fly because of NASA budget problems.

There was no indication anything was wrong with the rocket itself, which packs 1 million pounds of chemical propellant, enough to boost a 321-foot-long vehicle 190,000 feet into the atmosphere.

At a news conference in Utah, officials said the power unit for the nozzle controls, which steers a rocket in flight, was robbed of fuel, apparently because of a faulty valve.

That had immediate implications for the space shuttle, which uses a nearly identical system. Officials in Utah immediately notified their counterparts at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where NASA has had to twice delay the launch of Discovery for other reasons.

The Ares test problem could introduce a new delay in the launch of Discovery, previously set back because of a shuttle fuel valve and weather.

Shuttle managers said Thursday they will examine what went wrong with Ares and decide by early Friday whether to go ahead with a launch set for 11:59 p.m. EDT Friday.

The Ares rocket is the centerpiece of the plan started by President George W. Bush to send astronauts back to the moon by 2020 and then on to Mars. That plan, and all of NASA's human space program, is under review by a special independent panel, which will make recommendations to President Barack Obama on Monday. Some space experts expect the Ares rocket program to be modified or canceled.

But Thursday's glitch won't be a reason for that, experts said.

Problems, delays and outright failures are common in tests of new rockets and is nothing to worry about, said two former top NASA officials.

"The development of all launch vehicles is spotty and checkered at best," said Scott Hubbard, once director of NASA's Ames Research Center and now a professor of astronautics and aeronautics at Stanford University. "The fact that they are having troubles is not surprising at all."

Even after more than 125 flights, the space shuttle gets glitches like this that causes delays, Hubbard said. The shuttle Discovery has had its launch delayed twice this week. Once was because of a signal problem, the other due to weather.

Former NASA associate administrator Alan Stern, now associate vice president of Southwest Research Institute of San Antonio, said the company was prudent in not pushing with the test.

"This is a big deal, if it goes badly there are serious consequences," Stern said. But a delay in a test isn't necessarily a bad thing and shouldn't effect the White House's decision on whether to continue with the Bush moon program that features Ares rockets.

"This is a normal occurrence," Stern said.

NASA preps shuttle for launch

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. NASA will try to launch space shuttle Discovery to the international space station late Friday night, after back-to-back delays caused by bad weather and fuel valve trouble.

It will be the third try for NASA, which is still struggling to understand why a critical shuttle fuel valve appeared to malfunction Tuesday midway through the fueling process.

The valve was tested Wednesday night, and all indications were that it was a problem with a sensor rather than the valve itself. The hydrogen fuel valve, a big 8-inch device, is located in Discovery's engine compartment.

After meeting Thursday, mission managers decided they needed more time to settle on a plan if the problem reappears, and aimed for a liftoff late Friday night.

"The better part of valor here is to take a day, let us go polish that (plan) off, really make sure we understand what's going on," said Mike Moses, chairman of the mission management team. "The team was 80, 90 percent of the way there already" in the analysis.

In an unusual lineup of events, NASA had two launch opportunities for Friday, in the early wee hours and just before midnight. Liftoff time will be 11:59 p.m.

Moses joked about bypassing Friday's first opportunity. "Just to put the right spin on it, we're here to not talk about a scrub. In fact, we're still going to launch on Friday. So that's good," he said at a news conference.

Thunderstorms ruined the first launch attempt early Tuesday morning; the valve problem canceled an early Wednesday attempt.

Forecasters put the odds of good launch weather at just 60 percent. Thunderstorms are a concern for both fueling and launch.

NASA has until Sunday to launch Discovery, otherwise the shuttle will have to get in line behind a Japanese cargo ship and a Russian spacecraft set to go to the space station in September. That would push the shuttle mission into mid-October.

Seven astronauts are assigned to the 13-day flight. They will deliver a full load of space station supplies, including a treadmill named for Comedy Central's Stephen Colbert.

Colbert won the online vote earlier this year for naming rights to a yet-to-be-launched space station room.

Stock market continues steady uptick with gains

SARA LEPRO
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The stock market's rally plodded along Thursday, sustained by sharp gains in financial and industrial shares.

Major indexes overcame early losses and finished slightly higher, including the Dow Jones industrial average, which added 37 points to set a fresh 2009 high. The Dow has risen for eight straight days, its longest winning streak since April 2007.

Trading lacked enthusiasm, however, as it has over the past week, with many investors shying away from making greater commitments to stocks.

Volume has been extremely light as many traders go on vacation, adding to the market's recent choppiness. The day's economic news, including a slightly smaller-than-expected dip in initial unemployment claims and a benign reading on gross domestic product, did little to excite investors.

Analysts say the market has been running on its own momentum more than anything else, adding that a lot of the improving economic data has already been priced into stocks.

A lot of activity has also been driven by short-covering, analysts say, which tends to amplify gains in the market. Short-covering occurs when investors have to buy stock after having earlier sold borrowed shares in a bet they would fall.

Traders have been anticipating a pullback for weeks, but the dips that have occurred tend to be met with more buying.

"There is just too much cash sitting on the sidelines," said Phil Orlando, chief equity market strategist at Federated Investors.

After giving up as much as 84 points early on, the Dow rose 37.11, or 0.4 percent, to close at 9,580.63. The Dow's eight-day advance totals 445 points, or 4.9 percent.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.86, or 0.3 percent, to 1,030.98, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 3.30, or 0.2 percent, to 2,027.73.

Both the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq composite indexes have finished higher seven out of the past eight days, rising about 5 percent over that period.

About eight stocks rose for every seven that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.16 billion shares, up from 1.05 billion at the close on Wednesday.

Despite the run-up in stocks, investors are nervous about overextending the market's massive spring and summer rally, in which stocks have risen more than 45 percent off of 12-year lows since early March.

"You tend to have those moves run out of steam at some time," said Art Hogan, chief market analyst at Jefferies & Co.

Big gains in a handful of financial stocks helped to turn the market around Thursday. Shares of American International Group Inc. surged nearly 27 percent, rising $10.15 to $47.84, as analysts speculated the company might be reconciling with former CEO Maurice "Hank" Greenberg, who could help bring private capital to the company. AIG shares have more than doubled in eight days.

CIT Group Inc. jumped 22.8 percent, adding 29 cents to $1.56. Citigroup Inc. rose 42 cents, or 9.1 percent, to $5.05.

Shares of Boeing Co. rose, giving a boost to the Dow, after the company said its long-delayed 787 aircraft will be ready for its first flight by the end of this year. Shares jumped $4, or 8.4 percent, to $51.82.

Energy stocks, which had weighed on the market early in the day, pulled off of their lows as oil prices turned higher. Like stocks, oil prices have been extremely volatile in recent weeks as investors try to determine whether current prices are warranted given still weak demand.

Crude for October delivery added $1.06 to settle at $72.49 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Among the economic news Thursday, the Labor Department said first-time jobless claims fell 10,000 last week to 570,000, just shy of economists' expectations. Workers continuing to file for benefits, however, fell more than expected, declining to 6.13 million from 6.25 million in the previous week. It was the lowest level for continuing claims since early April.

Meanwhile, a Commerce Department report showed the economy shrank at a 1 percent annualized rate in the second quarter. The updated figure was unchanged from a preliminary reading on GDP, and slightly better than the 1.5 percent decline that was forecast.

Bond prices were mostly lower even after a strong auction of seven-year notes. The yield on the 10-year note rose to 3.46 percent from 3.44 percent.

The dollar was mixed, while gold prices inched higher.

In other trading, the Russell 2000 index of smaller companies slipped 0.25, or 0.04 percent, to 583.77.

Asian stocks fell after China said it would cut investment in some industries. Japan's Nikkei stock average lost 1.6 percent, while China's main index fell 0.7 percent.

Britain's FTSE 100 fell 0.4 percent, Germany's DAX index fell 0.9 percent, and France's CAC-40 lost 0.5 percent.

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Little interest in filling vacancy on SM Rent Control Board

FROM RENT CONTROL PAGE 1

Braun, who since the election has been volunteering with an organization that helps resolve tenant and landlord disputes, said he began thinking about making a run for the vacancy soon after Koury announced his resignation, submitting an application on Monday.

"It's something I definitely wanted to do to serve the city," he said.

The application period opened on Aug. 7 and closed at the end of business on Wednesday. The board is expected to make an appointment at its next meeting on Sept. 3 when the new commissioner will be sworn in immediately. The replacement will serve until the next municipal election in November 2010 when the seat will be up for a two-year term.

Candidates are required to have Santa Monica residency and be registered to vote in the city.

Braun received endorsements from various organizations during the previous election, including SMRR and the Santa Monica Democratic Club. Given the electoral history with the board, it was widely believed that Koury, an incumbent, and Braun would win the two seats on the council, the latter being vacated by Jeff Sklar, who was termed out.

"I think the very fact that nobody else applied probably showed that there wasn't a huge interest in the position and there was a strong feeling that there was a good candidate (Braun) who was the first choice," Patricia Hoffman, the SMRR co-chair, said.

Early returns on Election Day showed Kronovet holding steady at second place, gradually losing the lead over Braun as the night progressed. By the morning, results showed incumbent Joel Koury with a commanding first place lead, followed by Braun and Kronovet for the two available seats on the board.

But as the weeks went by and more votes were counted, Kronovet, who ran unsuccessfully for the board in 2006, began closing the gap.

The final tally showed Kronovet with a 62-vote advantage, or 28.7 percent as opposed to Braun's 28.58.

While the board at its Aug. 6 meeting established a process to seek a new commissioner that included accepting applications of interest, it is not required to automatically appoint Braun.

"If they all agreed to accept additional nominations at the next meeting next Thursday, they could," said Tracy Condon, Rent Control Board administrator. "However, they did ask for interested people to submit applications."

Kronovet said he believes that it's a foregone conclusion that Braun will get selected since the other three members on the board — Jennifer Kennedy, Marilyn Korade-Wilson, and Zelia Mollica — were all endorsed by SMRR in the previous election.

Attempts to reach the board members, aside from Kronovet, were unsuccessful.

"This is a chance for registered voters to step into elected office … and they don't put their money where their mouth is," Kronovet said.

melodyh@smdp.com

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPORTATION TO CULTURAL DESTINATIONS

The City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division provides grants to local schools and nonprofits for transportation to and from cultural activities with funds provided by the County Prop A Local Return program. Trips must be accessible to the public; destinations must be accessible to the disabled. Grantees may use a private bus, SMMUSD bus, Big Blue Bus or other public transportation.

Applications are now available for trips between Sep '09 and Jun '10. Deadline for submission: 5 pm, Friday Nov 20, 2009. To apply, contact Santa Monica Cultural Affairs at 310.458.8350, or nathan.birnbaum@smgov.net

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L.A. water usage way down

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The nation's second-largest city cut water use by an overall 17 percent in July compared to a year earlier, officials said Wednesday.

Southern California is facing a water shortage because of drought and regulatory restrictions on supplies, and the city of Los Angeles has made broad appeals for conservation, imposed restrictions on landscape irrigation, raised rates and fielded inspectors to look for violators and issue fines.

The Department of Water and Power, which has 680,000 water customers and 1.4 million electric customers, said single-family homes cut water use nearly 21 percent, multifamily properties cut use more than 8 percent, businesses cut usage nearly 22 percent and government properties reduced usage more than 34 percent.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said in a statement that he was encouraged because the city must reduce its reliance on imported water and the cutbacks came during the summer.

The reduction may have been aided by weeks of unusually mild weather before the onset of more typical heat this week.

Huge reductions in electricity usage were also reported.

The DWP saved a record 318 gigawatt-hours for the fiscal year ending June 30, an amount that equals removal of 53,000 households from the grid and avoids 178,700 metric tons of greenhouses gases.

"We are making healthy strides in the right direction," said David Nahai, the DWP's chief executive officer and general manager.

Tourists, locals enjoy pedestrian-only mall

FROM **PROMENADE** PAGE 1

those in need of assistance.

"Excuse me, ma'am, is he bothering you?" one jokingly asks a female street musician who is conversing with another ambassador.

At the Dance Zone cart, a vendor taps his foot as he plays techno favorite "Sandstorm" for passersby. A walk up and down the promenade exposes tourists and locals alike to many different kinds of music — radios blast from inside stores, and street performers play guitar, saxophone and even some traditional Russian instruments.

"I've got my little audience here," comments one performer as he finishes a rendition of the "Pink Panther" theme song that caught the attention of several young children. "VIP seating?"

A woman in a skirt that clinks and jingles as she walks sings to herself as she passes two teenage brothers playing guitar. They've traveled all the way from Madison, Wis., to draw a small crowd.

Other youngsters are enjoying their last free summer days. The boys dutifully walk their bikes along the pedestrians-only street. Groups of girls share benches, huddling over their shopping bags, or head back from the beach in their bikinis.

"Crybaby! Wah! Wah!" a girl in the middle of one such group bursts out, plenty loud enough for her friends and anyone else nearby to hear. "Lame!" she adds, crossing and uncrossing her lime green Converse-clad feet.

> **I'VE GOT MY LITTLE AUDIENCE HERE. VIP SEATING?"**
> Performer
> Third Street Promenade

For an unfortunate few, school has already started. A boy wearing a blue backpack walks resignedly beside a girl carrying a formidable stack of textbooks. Her plain beige skirt rests a few inches above her knees, both too long and too short to be considered fashionable.

A young boy and his father share an early dinner at Yankee Doodle's. In between bites, the boy roars and growls at passing pigeons.

"I scared it!" he shouts triumphantly as one hurriedly waddles away from him.

Some people are out trying to gather signatures or raise money for various causes.

"Can I have five minutes of your time today, ladies?" one asks. "Oh, I guess not. Have a nice day just the same."

Still more are out simply to panhandle.

"Dreaming of a burger," reads the front of one man's sign. "Why lie, I need a beer," the back reveals.

"Struggling to support two wives, three mistresses, 12 children and one very ugly dog," another man's sign proclaims.

A group of women speaks excitedly in an eastern European language as they head back to the parking garage. One word and hand motion is recognizable in any language, however.

"Hi-yah!" one shouts, playfully slapping her friend.

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

JUST AN EASY DAY: **Derek Reckley (right) and his friend Jessica Starodoj enjoy lunch by the triceratops fountain on the Third Street Promenade Thursday afternoon.**

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Keep safe, keep cool

High temperatures are forecasted for this weekend throughout Los Angeles County, particularly affecting the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys.

Los Angeles County Public Health Director Jonathan E. Fielding would like to remind everyone that precautions should be taken, especially by those people sensitive to the heat.

"While people don't need to be told it's hot outside, they do need to be reminded how to take care of themselves, children, the elderly, and their pets when the weather gets hotter," said Fielding. "When temperatures are high, prolonged sun exposure may cause dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

"Never leave children, elderly people, or pets unattended in closed vehicles, even with the windows 'cracked,' because temperatures inside can quickly rise to life-threatening levels."

In areas of poor air quality, heat may be worse. If you plan to be outdoors, take precautions to protect yourself from the heat. Symptoms of dehydration and heat cramps include dizziness, fatigue, faintness, headaches, muscle cramps, and increased thirst. Individuals with these symptoms should be moved to a cooler, shaded place and given water or sport drinks. More severe symptoms such as diminished judgment, disorientation, pale and clammy skin, a rapid and weak pulse, and/or fast and shallow breathing may indicate heat exhaustion or impending heat stroke and requires immediate medical attention.

Several tips for beating the heat include:

• Wear light, loose-fitting clothing.

• Drink water or electrolyte-replacing sports drinks often (do not wait until you are thirsty), and avoid drinking alcohol.

• Offer help to those in your neighborhood with limited access to air conditioning and transportation, such as seniors or those who are ill. Check on them frequently or take them to a location with air conditioning.

• During peak heat hours stay in an air-conditioned area. If you don't have access to air conditioning in your home, visit public facilities such as shopping malls, parks and libraries to stay cool.

• Avoid unnecessary exertion, such as vigorous exercise during peak sun hours, if you are outside or in a non-air conditioned building.

• Stay out of the sun if you do not need to be in it. When in the sun, wear a hat, preferably with a wide brim, and loose-fitting clothing with long sleeves and pants to protect yourself from sun damage.

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Photo courtesy

COOL DUDE: **Singer/songwriter Billy Bragg will be joined by musicians from various walks of life for an eclectic performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony this Saturday at the Broad Stage.**

Bragg plays The Broad

FROM **BRAGG** PAGE 3

Susie Glaze, folk and blues singer/guitarist Ernest Troost, a West African dance and drum group called the Dafra Drum Ensemble, a 30-piece Oaxacan brass ensemble called Banda Philharmonica and pianist/organist Justin Bischof.

Tickets can be purchased at www.beethovenbragg.com for $55, $75 and $100. Proceeds benefit Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, L.A., which encourages communities of faith to help fight poverty. For more concert information, e-mail kcandaele@gmail.com or call (310) 430-1954. The Broad Stage is located at 1310 11th St. The concert begins at 7 p.m. on Aug. 29.

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Madonna booed for defending Gypsies

ALINA WOLFE MURRAY
Associated Press Writer

BUCHAREST, Romania At first, fans politely applauded the Roma performers sharing a stage with Madonna. Then the pop star condemned widespread discrimination against Roma, or Gypsies — and the cheers gave way to jeers.

The sharp mood change that swept the crowd of 60,000, who had packed a park for Wednesday night's concert, underscores how prejudice against Gypsies remains deeply entrenched across Eastern Europe.

Despite long-standing efforts to stamp out rampant bias, human rights advocates say Roma probably suffer more humiliation and endure more discrimination than any other people group on the continent.

Sometimes, it can be deadly: In neighboring Hungary, six Roma have been killed and several wounded in a recent series of apparently racially motivated attacks targeting small countryside villages predominantly settled by Gypsies.

"There is generally widespread resentment against Gypsies in Eastern Europe. They have historically been the underdog," Radu Motoc, an official with the Soros Foundation Romania, said Thursday.

Roma, or Gypsies, are a nomadic ethnic group believed to have their roots in the Indian subcontinent. They live mostly in southern and eastern Europe, but hundreds of thousands have migrated west over the past few decades in search of jobs and better living conditions.

Romania has the largest number of Roma in the region. Some say the population could be as high as 2 million, although official data put it at 500,000.

Until the 19th century, Romanian Gypsies were slaves, and they've gotten a mixed response ever since: While discrimination is widespread, many East Europeans are enthusiastic about Gypsy music and dance, which they embrace as part of the region's cultural heritage.

That explains why the Roma musicians and a dancer who had briefly joined Madonna onstage got enthusiastic applause. And it also may explain why some in the crowd turned on Madonna when she paused during the two-hour show — a stop on her worldwide "Sticky and Sweet" tour — to touch on their plight.

"It has been brought to my attention ... that there is a lot of discrimination against Romanies and Gypsies in general in Eastern Europe," she said. "It made me feel very sad."

Thousands booed and jeered her.

A few cheered when she added: "We don't believe in discrimination ... we believe in freedom and equal rights for everyone." But she got more boos when she mentioned discrimination against homosexuals and others.

"I jeered her because it seemed false what she was telling us. What business does she have telling us these things?" said Ionut Dinu, 23.

Madonna did not react and carried on with her concert, held near the hulking palace of the late communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Her publicist, Liz Rosenberg, said Madonna and other had told her there were cheers as well as jeers.

"Madonna has been touring with a phenomenal troupe of Roma musicians who made her aware of the discrimination toward them in several countries so she felt compelled to make a brief statement," Rosenberg said in an e-mail. "She will not be issuing a further statement."

One Roma musician said the attitude toward Gypsies is contradictory.

"Romanians watch Gypsy soap operas, they like Gypsy music and go to Gypsy concerts," said Damian Draghici, a Grammy Award-winner who has performed with James Brown and Joe Cocker.

"But there has been a wave of aggression against Roma people in Italy, Hungary and Romania, which shows me something is not OK," he told the AP in an interview. "The politicians have to do something about it. People have to be educated not to be prejudiced. All people are equal, and that is the message politicians must give."

Nearly one in two of Europe's estimated 12 million Roma claimed to have suffered an act of discrimination over the past 12 months, according to a recent report by the Vienna-based EU Fundamental Rights Agency. The group says Roma face "overt discrimination" in housing, health care and education.

Many do not have official identification, which means they cannot get social benefits, are undereducated and struggle to find decent jobs.

Roma children are more likely to drop out of school than their peers from other ethnic groups. Many Romanians label Gypsies as thieves, and many are outraged by those who beg or commit petty crimes in Western Europe, believing they spoil Romania's image abroad.

In May 2007, Romanian President Traian Basescu was heard to call a Romanian journalist a "stinky Gypsy" during a conversation with his wife. Romania's anti-discrimination board criticized Basescu, who later apologized.

Human rights activists say the attacks in Hungary, which began in July 2008, may be tied to that country's economic crisis and the rising popularity of far-right vigilantes angered by a rash of petty thefts and other so-called "Gypsy crime." Last week, police arrested four suspects in a nightclub in the eastern city of Debrecen.

Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia also have been criticized for widespread bias against Roma.

Madonna's outrage touched a nerve in Romania, but it seems doubtful it will change anything, said the Soros Foundation's Motoc.

"Madonna is a pop star. She is not an expert on interethnic relations," he said.

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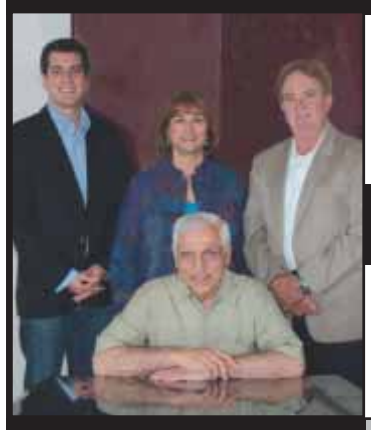
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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **08APP-005 (Appeal of Landmark Designation 07LM-011)**
3030-3060 Nebraska Avenue

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission
APPELLANT: NMS Properties & Nebraska Studios, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: NMS Properties & Nebraska Studios, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Appeal of the Landmarks Commission designation of the former industrial building at 3030-3060 Nebraska Avenue as a City Landmark. The property was constructed in 1951 and was the initial home of the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) upon the school's founding in 1972 through its departure from the site in 1992. The Landmarks Commission filed the designation application on November 12, 2007 and unanimously voted to designate the property on February 11, 2008.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 08APP-005
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Roxanne Tanemori, AICP, Senior Planner, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at roxanne.tanemori@smgov.net. The Landmark Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

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.

NFL

Raiders break camp, ponder coming season

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

NAPA Soon after Todd Watkins pulled in a touchdown pass from Jeff Garcia and the three horns rang out to signal the end of practice, the trucks pulled up and the Oakland Raiders started packing for home.

Their 31-day stay in wine country was officially over and the Raiders will now make their final push to the start of the season at their year-round headquarters in Alameda.

"I'm happy to go home," Pro Bowl cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha said Thursday. "It was long. I think we are the only team that's still in? Golly."

Some of the issues that arose since the team arrived here July 28 will be following them back home. Most notably, coach Tom Cable will still be hounded by reports that he assaulted defensive assistant Randy Hanson at the team hotel in Napa earlier this month.

The Napa police and the NFL are investigating the attack, which is sure to make more news in the weeks to come. Cable said once again Thursday that he's not concerned about it.

He's more focused on the on-the-field issues that materialized in training camp. A big focus this offseason was upgrading a passing game behind quarterback JaMarcus Russell that has struggled mightily the past three years.

Russell started slowly in terms of finding a rhythm with his receivers in camp but perhaps had his best two days of practices this week with crisp passes that were thrown on time and on target.

After being somewhat coddled in his first two NFL seasons, Russell says the passing game might soon be able to carry the offense on days the running game isn't clicking.

"We're getting there," Russell said. "It's a process and we're going through it together. It's not like it's one person's job. Everybody's job has to be done in order to get there. We're on our way."

The Raiders were dealt a setback in camp when one of this summer's early stars, Chaz Schilens, went down with a broken bone in his left foot while running a route in practice. Schilens emerged late last season as a rookie and was becoming Russell's go-to receiver before the injury, which could sideline him for the first month of the season.

With Schilens out, that puts more pressure on rookies Darrius Heyward-Bey and Louis Murphy. Heyward-Bey had problems holding onto the ball early in camp, raising even more questions about whether the Raiders made a mistake when they drafted him seventh overall ahead of more accomplished receivers like Michael Crabtree and Jeremy Maclin.

Heyward-Bey has only one catch in the first two exhibition games but has been much better of late in practice as more balls have been thrown his way.

Murphy, a fourth-round pick, has been a pleasant surprise since offseason workouts and has four catches and a touchdown in the first two games.

The Raiders also got a boost this week with the return of Javon Walker, the only receiver on the roster with more than 30 career catches.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Mays dreaming of a big senior season for Trojans

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Taylor Mays occasionally receives photos of shiny new cars with ostentatious rims, and he sometimes hears tales of landscaped McMansions in faraway suburbs. His former Southern California teammates haven't stopped tweaking and critiquing his decision to stay behind.

"Cush is the worst," Mays says of ex-Trojans linebacker Brian Cushing, his former roommate and the Houston Texans' first-round draft pick. "He just bought a nice house and a Porsche Cayenne. He sent me pictures. I'm like, where's mine? He still owes me money, too."

But the NFL rookie lifestyle can wait a few more months. Mays still has a few things to do before he leaves L.A.

The All-American safety surprised even himself last spring when he returned to USC for his senior season. A near-certain first-round pick who always figured he would be a three-and-done Trojan, Mays instead chose to do his part to keep USC at the sport's pinnacle for another year.

"The NFL is always going to be there, but your senior season isn't always going to be," Mays said. "I'll have a chance to put that last, final stamp on everything. USC is more than just me. It's about leaving something for the guys who come behind you."

Mays is more than a defensive standout for the No. 4 Trojans, who are favored to win their eighth straight Pac-10 title. He has become the face of the West Coast's marquee program, adorning the cover of the media guide and spurring talk of a Heisman Trophy run with his highlight-reel hits and a new attention to interceptions.

Mays carries major responsibilities this season for the Trojans, who have little time to get their rebuilding project together before a Sept. 12 trip to face No. 6 Ohio State.

Despite three new starting linebackers and a revamped line, USC's defense must be outstanding this fall to assuage the growing pains of a rebuilt offense around freshman quarterback Matt Barkley, who was selected to be the Trojans' starter Thursday by coach Pete Carroll.

In a program built on the steady leadership of Carson Palmer, Matt Leinart and Mark Sanchez, Mays is the most important leader in uniform this fall — and if USC's fortunes ride on Mays and his defensive teammates, that's exactly how he wants it. After all, that's why he's still here.

"I would love to leave something with this program to remember," Mays said. "With the standards we have at SC, that's got to be a national championship. We're going to work hard every day to get there, but I wanted another chance to do that. It's important to me."

Mays is the Trojans' highest-profile holdover since Leinart, who also postponed NFL riches for another run at the national title. Both players also love the USC experience, with its picture-perfect weather, exciting campus life and remarkable connections to Hollywood and other industries.

While his former teammates sweated through training camp and whiled away their free time in Cincinnati or Green Bay, Mays filmed funny YouTube videos with the USC Song Girls, dated a Trojans volleyball player and went to the beach.

The Seattle native also didn't have many players' financial impetus to go pro: His father, a former NFL lineman, is a manager at Microsoft, while his mother is an executive at Nordstrom.

"Everybody who knows me well is glad that I came back," Mays said. "We talked about it every day for two months, just back and forth, but I know I made the right decision, even before we start playing."

Carroll famously wasn't thrilled by Sanchez's decision to leave USC last spring. He says he would have supported Mays' departure, but Mays' decision made the entire coaching staff's life much easier, given his unimpeachable example in the weight room and the meeting room.

"I know Taylor, so I wasn't surprised at all," Carroll said. "He was unflappable. He did a great job of understanding what was important to him and what he wanted to do, what legacy he wanted to leave at USC. I admire him for grasping that and doing what he thought was right. It's more than a program to him."

Mays is considered the fastest player on a speedy team, but he's also a musclebound hitter who strives to emulate Sean Taylor, the late Redskins and University of Miami star whose jersey and framed photo are in Mays' room.

After making just four interceptions in his first three seasons, Mays will be going after the ball more this year.

SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 66°

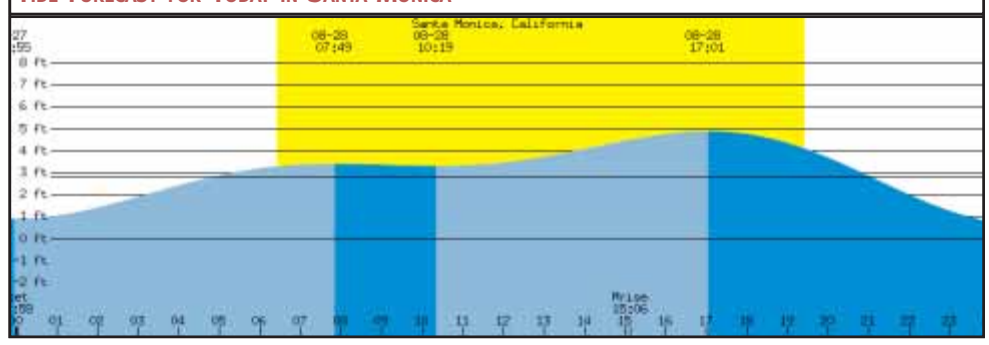
Swell Forecast

Today the southern hemi swell is expected to fade to chest+, but head high sets are not out of the question.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks smaller, perhaps waist to chest high around south facing breaks from a combo of fading southern hemi (14-seconds from 180) and Ignacio swell (11 seconds from 200). NW swell (290° with 12+ second periods) is expected around west facing breaks, chest high at most west facing spots, and possibly head high at times at standouts.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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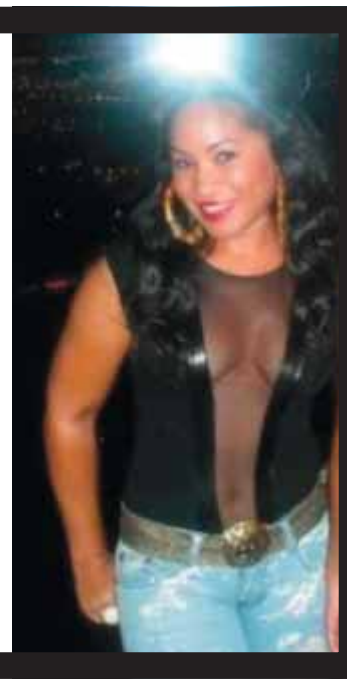

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **August 19, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 28
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 7 / 28

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	B	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	B	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach 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 19948 PCH stairs	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay 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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MOVIE TIMES

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

Woodstock (NR)
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard (R) 1hr 29min
1:40

Funny People (R) 2hr 16min
4:05, 7:15, 10:30

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15

Play the Game (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

Taking Woodstock (R) 1hr 50min
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

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

Shorts (PG) 1hr 29min
11:30am, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50

Ponyo (Gake no ue no Ponyo) (G) 1hr 40min
11:05am, 1:30, 4:05, 7:05, 9:40

The Time Traveler's Wife (PG-13) 1hr 48min
10:50am, 1:25, 4:10, 7:15, 9:55

Julie and Julia (PG-13) 2hrs 3min
10:45am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

Halloween II (2009) (R) 1hr 41min
12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:45

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
9:30

My One and Only (PG-13) 1hr 25min
11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:35, 7:55, 10:20

Post Grad (PG-13) 1hr 29min
12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:00

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

Paper Heart (PG-13) 1hr 29min
1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10

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

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

Flame & Citron (Flammen & Citronen) (NR) 2hrs 10min
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

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

Final Destination (R) 1hr 22min
12:30, 5:40, 10:40

The Final Destination 3D (R) 1hr 22min
11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 11:45

Inglourious Basterds (R) 2hrs 32min
12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 8:30, 10:30

G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra (PG-13) 1hr 58min
12:40, 3:40, 4:50. 6:40, 9:40

District 9 (R) 1hr 53min
1:20, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00

District 9 (Digital Projection) (R) 1hr 53min
11:40 a.m., 2:30, 5:20, 8:15

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

Happy birthday, Daniel!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Staying on topic at work could become increasingly more difficult, as your mind splits for the weekend. Whatever your plans are is where you need to be. If possible, leave the office early. Those who are responsible might be a bit down. Tonight: Take wing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Your ability to break from your pattern and move forward comes out. Don't get yourself locked into an uncomfortable situation. The resolution could be unusual. A child or loved one might be discouraged or need some time. Tonight: Remain responsive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You have the ability to say "yes" or "no." You can bypass a suggestion as long as you remain sure of yourself. Fatigue builds. Tonight: Head home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Many shed their responsibilities on you. Ask yourself what to do about all the last-minute demands. Do what you must, but decide to be less available in the future. Demonstrate flexibility for the moment. Tonight: Call it a day as soon as you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Someone might be inadvertently limiting your options. Fatigue could mark a decision. Optimism surrounds a creative venture, whether it is a project, child or a budding relationship. Trust yourself. You have what it takes. Tonight: Whatever works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Much comes in from out of left field. It appears you are limiting yourself unnecessarily. You might think you are coming from a centered, strong point of view. Complete work early if possible. You need this weekend. Tonight: Visit with a friend on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Conversations take on a lively tone, but consider screening your calls if you ever want to leave work! Negativity keeps bubbling up from out of left field, forcing you to think about what is happening. Detach. You will gain a perspective. Tonight: Find friends to hang out with.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Continue to offer sound advice. Make it a point to follow your own suggestions as well. You could get yourself in a jam with a friend or roommate if you aren't careful. Listen to his or her cues. This person means what he or she says, just like you do. Honor boundaries. Tonight: Your treat.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Bypass an issue. A boss or someone you need to answer to could be a drain. Evaluate the possibilities with an eye to positive changes. Tonight: Remain clear and direct.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Continue to be less active than usual. In this specific role, you'll gain new insights. Tonight: A good night's sleep.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Meetings prove to be fruitful. Stay in charge of a problem, knowing that you must change directions, for everyone's well-being. What has been difficult might cease to be, as you are given a little support. Tonight: Hang with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others have strong ideas. Assuming a leadership role demands greater flex and understanding. You might want to move past a problem; understand you will need the support of others. Yes, a partner could be challenging, but you still can head in the appropriate direction. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

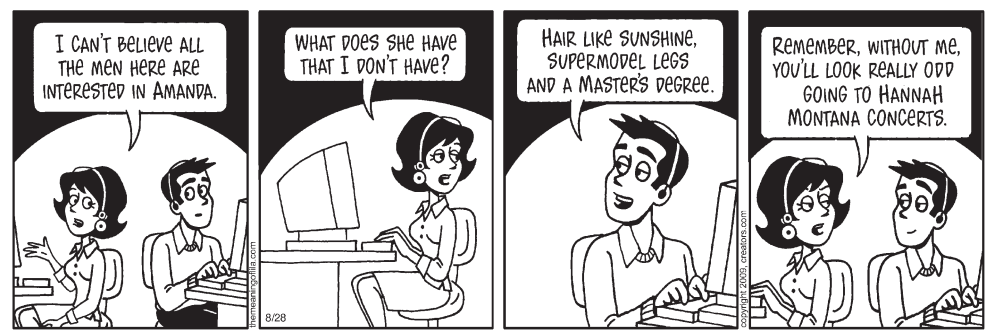
Happy birthday

You will make a difference this year if you decide to let go of a dogmatic attitude. How you handle a situation and the choices you make could define your year. Look at your attitude and decide how much it plays into the end results. You might be surprised by what a factor your mood could play. Observe what happens to those who are positive. If you are single, you'll meet someone of interest through your work or daily meanderings. Let the process of getting to know each other go full circle. If you are attached, defer more often to your significant other, especially concerning domestic matters. SAGITTARIUS often shares his or her opinion.

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

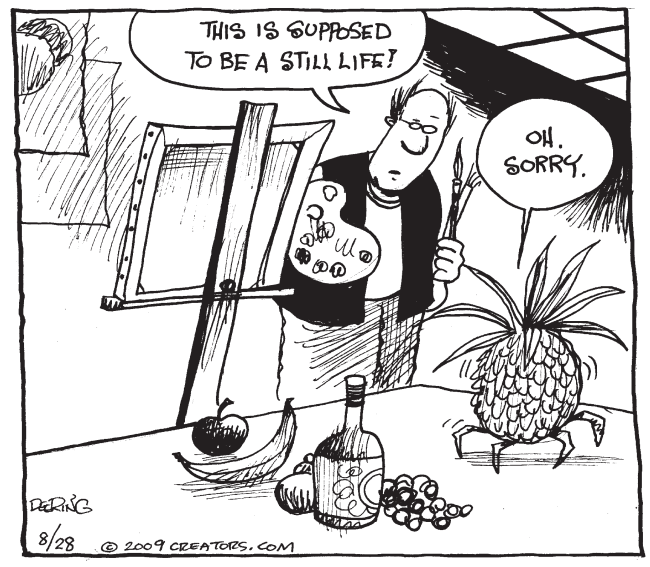
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

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



Garfield
By Jim Davis

Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly

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• As little as 3 hours per week
• Parking available
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1527 4th St.
Santa Monica, CA

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 ★★★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Loses weight
6 Spring sign
11 Principle
12 Free of suds
13 Dustin's "Midnight Cowboy" role
14 "Something's — Give"
15 Cigar bit
16 Old hand
18 Go left
19 Charge
20 Butter serving
21 Greek vowel
22 Spotted
24 Heed
25 Gary's home
27 Tears
29 Ring islands
32 Pigged out
33 Bar worker: Abbr.
34 Tell tales
35 Kilmer of "The Doors"
36 By the unit
37 Scathing review
38 "My Fair Lady" lady
40 Men of Mecca
42 Frisco footballer
43 Children's author Eric
44 Perfume
45 Small fry

DOWN

1 Rake with gunfire
2 Flat papers
3 Being worked on
4 — amis
5 Halted
6 Secret lingo
7 Carnival city
8 Close to correct
9 Ritzy home
10 Ocean lane
17 Glow
23 Powerful bunch
24 Lennon's wife
26 Draw in
27 Baltimore team
28 Tilted type
30 Prone
31 Detects
33 Set off
39 Buddhism branch
41 Bob's partner

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					■	14				
15			■	16	17		■	18		
19			■	20			■	21		
22			23			■	24			
■	■	25				26			■	■
27	28			■	29				30	31
32			■	33			■	34		
35			■	36			■	37		
38			39		■	40	41			
42					■	43				
44					■	45				

8-28

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 3 12 19 22 40
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: $325M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 7 18 36 42
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: $16M

FANTASY 5: 1 4 11 15 23

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 6 9
EVENING: 6 5 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:42.79

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

■ "Tubifex worms": Using a flexible-hose camera, public utility officials in Raleigh, N.C., inspected a faulty water pipe under the Cameron Village shopping district in April and found a pulsating, tennis-ball-size mass attached to a pipe wall. Local biologists identified it as a colony of tubifex worms that navigated the system until finding a propitious feeding spot. Officials have attempted to assure residents that the worms are somehow no threat to water quality.

■ (1) In April, researchers at the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City reported the ability to encase scorpion venom in "nanoparticles" that were somehow able to guide the venom intravenously to the human brain, to attack tumors, potentially doubling the venom's success rate. (2) A team from Britain's University of Warwick announced in April that it had built a speedy, fully functioning Formula 3 race car using biodegradable ingredients in the frame (including carrots, potatoes and soybean foam) and chocolate oils in the fuel.

TODAY IN HISTORY

475 The Roman general Orestes forces western Roman Emperor Julius Nepos to flee his capital city, Ravenna.

1845 Scientific American magazine publishes its first issue.

1916 World War I: Italy declares war on Germany.

1924 Georgian opposition stages the August Uprising against the Soviet Union.

1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom: Martin Luther King, Jr. gives his I Have a Dream speech.

1979 An IRA bomb explodes on the Grand Place in Brussels.

1981 The National Centers for Disease Control announce a high incidence of Pneumocystis and Kaposi's sarcoma in gay men. Soon, these will be recognized as symptoms of an immune disorder, which will be called AIDS.

WORD UP!

saturnine \SAT-uhr-nyn\ , adjective: 1.Born under or being under the astrological influence of the planet Saturn. 2.Gloomy or sullen in disposition. 3. Having a sardonic or bitter aspect.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out ***www.smdp.com*** for more info.

Obituaries

PETER MANZI, 91, beloved father and grandfather, passed away at home July 22nd after a two-year battle with cancer. Born Christmas Day, 1917, in New Haven, Connecticut, Pete was a decorated World War II Veteran (43rd Division) with a long career in the Floral industry. He lived in southern California for the past 60 years, the last 16 in Santa Monica. Long widowed, "Grandpa Pete" was well loved by the families in his Sunset Park neighborhood. He leaves behind daughter and son in law, Patti and Reiner Braun, and grandsons, Dylan and Justin, of 1811 Pier Avenue, Santa Monica, 90405.

Announcements

DEAR SWEEET AND BEAUTIFUL LORD NITYANANDA OF GANESHPURI-I HAVE BEEN YOUR DEVOTEE FOR 20 YEARS AND HAVE NEVER OWNED A HOUSE OR HAD SIGNIFIGANT MONEY.PLEASE NITYANANDA OF GANESHPURI YOUR MERCY,POWER,LOVE,WEALTH, AND GENIUS KNOWS NO BOUNDS I MEAN EVEN THE GREATEST MINDS IN THE WORLD HAVE THE INTELLIGENCE AND OPULENCE OF A BOWL OF RETARDED DOG'S URINE COMPARED TO YOU NITYANANDA.NITYANANDA OF GANESHPURI I HUMBLY ASK YOU PLEASE DEPOSIT $20,000,000 INTO MY HSBC ACCOUNT AND PLEASE SEND ME THE TITLE DEED TO A 2 BEDROOM CONDO IN OLYMPIC TOWERS NYC THAT I DONT BORROW I OWN.AND PLEASE TELEPORT A BEAUTIFUL FEMALE 23 YEAR OLD SERVANT TO ME WITH YOUR MAGIC SIDDHI.OH SWEET LORD NITYANANDA YOU ARE THE BEST!THANK YOU OPULENT KING OF YOGA!

Employment

WLA CAFE Full-time, Part-time, Cashier. With deli/grill experience. Must speak English. Must have valid drivers license Please call (310) 985-0080

Help Wanted

ATTENTION: INTERNATIONAL Wellness Company Expanding ONLINE COMPUTER WORK! Work from anywhere 24/7. Great pay. Will train. Request info online: www.KTPGlobal.com or 1-800-330-8446. (Cal-SCAN)

BECOME A HOST FAMILY: Promote International Understanding. Volunteer Host Families needed for High School Exchange Students. Open your heart, open your home. 1-866-462-3423 or www.afice.org (Cal-SCAN)

MECHANICS: UP to $15,000 BONUS. Keep the Army National Guard Rolling. Fix Humvees, Strykers, etc. Expand your skills through career training. www.NationalGuard.com/Mechanic or 1-800-GO-GUARD. (Cal-SCAN)

OVER 18? AVAILABLE to TRAVEL? Earn Above Average $$$ with Fun Successful Business Group! No Experience Necessary. 2wks Paid Training. Lodging, Transportation Provided.

Help Wanted

1-877-646-5050. (Cal-SCAN)

Business Opps

ALL CASH VENDING! Be Your Own Boss! Your Own Local Vending Route. Includes 25 Machines and Candy for $9,995. MultiVend LLC, 1-888-625-2405. (Cal-SCAN)

For Sale

BOSENDORFER 130CL rare handmade Viennese upright piano like grand Black Ebony mint condition factory warranty $30,000-610 657 6060

Auction

ABSOLUTE AUCTION - No Minimum Bid/ No Seller Reserve! September 2nd @ noon. 5,500 sq.ft. home, guest house, horse corral on 1 acre. Nuevo, Riverside County. www.AuctionCA.com (661) 325-6500. (Cal-SCAN)

Charity

GIVE OF YOURSELF
American Cancer Society Discovery Shop needs vounteers- 4 hours per week
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310 458-4490

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For Rent

*1 MONTH FREE SPECIAL
1240 Yale St. 2+2 $2150.00/ Studio $1350 Granite countertops, gated parking, laundry, cardio room, controlled entry, Gas and Electric included- cats welcomed
(310) 828-5001 Mosscompany.com

12309 CULVER Blvd unit 12, 1bdrm/1bath $995/mo. stove, fridge, carpets, blind, laundry, utilities included, gated parking, intercom entry, no pets. $500 off move-in (310) 578-7512, jkwproperties.com

2478 Corinth Ave. $1595 front unit 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, ceiling fan, onsite laundry, small gated front yard 2 parking spaces, 20 lb. pet OK w/ deposit $300 off move-in (888)414-7778

3623 KEYSTONE Ave.unit 5, $675 bachelor, lower, fridge, microwave, carpet, blinds, utilities included laundry, no parking, no pets $300 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice 1+1, #25 $1225/mo stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $750 off move-in (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice unit 40 single, $1075/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

For Rent

833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2395 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310)869-7901

1214 Idaho Ave. #3 1+1 $1575 Lower with private patio, updated, parking.

1120 6th St #5 2+1$2095
Perco floors, 2 parking spaces

1334 Euclid St #3, 1+1 $1250

1011 Pico Blvd. #8 2+2, Loft, 3 levels modern building, available after 9/1 $2695

Please visit our website for complete listings and information on vacancies in Santa Monica and the Westside
www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

MAR VISTA near Marina. $1050/mo 1bd+den 1ba, carpet, blinds, stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking, no pets. 310-456-5659.

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. units 3 1+1 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1125/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1995.00 2bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwshr, washr/dryr, loft, parking 4077 Inglewood Blvd #7 To view this apartment, Please call for appt: (310)780-3354

PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave #1 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1400/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS 2+2 3633 Keystone ave #4 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1425/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #104 $850 Single, stove, fridge, blinds, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $1025 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3540 Overland units 2 & 5 $965 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $700 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS ADJ/ LaCienga Hghts. $1075.00 1 Bdrm, 1Bath, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #10 Open daily 8am-8pm . Additional info in unit

Run your personals here!
Call us today at (310) 458-7737

For Rent

Santa Monica $1195.00 1 Bdrms, 1Bath NO pets, gas, paid stove, refrigerator, parking 2535 Kansas Ave., #210 Open daily 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit. Manager in unit #101.

TRI-LEVEL TOWNHOUSE in Culver City. 4044 Jackson Ave. 3 bdrm/2.5bath, $2650. non-smokers. Stove, fridge, microwave, dishwasher, carpet, hardwood floors, fireplace, balcony, garage, no pets.(310)578-7512 wwwjkwproperties.com

WESTWOOD: 617 1/2 Midvale unit 2.& 3 Bachelor, no kitchen, sink, fridge,hot plate, microwave, ceiling fan, carpet, street parking, no pets $850/mo (310)578-7512 wwwjkwproperties.com

WLA $1750/MO. Large bright 2 bdrm upper, on Barrington near National. Very spacious. Large closets, crown moldings, stove/refrigerator. Closed garage. Well maintained, charming, older building. FREE MONTH WITH ONE YEAR LEASE (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6pm.

WLA 1457 Westgate #D 1+1 upper stove, fridge, blinds, wood/tile floors, carport parking no pets $1225/mo (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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Notices

NOTICE
Pursuant To California Self-Storage Facility Act (B & P Code 21700 ET SEQ) the Undersigned Will Sell At Public Auction. On The Below Listed Day, Time, And Location. Notice Of Public Sale Of Personal Property: The Personal Property Including, But Not Limited To Listed Items Stored By The Following Persons Or Businesses On The 9th Day Of September 2009 At 1:30 PM At: AA Olympic SS 3250 Olympic Blvd. Santa Monica, Ca. 90404 (310) 829-2525
THE FOLLOWING LIST IS A DE-SCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD:
Storage Unit #
2224 - Mary Ellen Hopkins - boxes, fabric, bags, plastic containers, wicker basket, luggage, table
2727 - Lee Brownstein - boxes, plastic containers, pictures, entertainment center, file boxes
AUCTIONEER: K.E. AUCTION SERVICE 12127 Mall Blvd. A-178 Victorville, Ca. 92392
CA. BOND # FS836-21-31
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN825803 9-9-09 Aug 28, Sep 4, 2009

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091033427 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LIFESTAR BROKERAGE, 1739 BERKELEY ST,STE 110A, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404, LA COUNTY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : LIFESTAR LIFE BROKERAGE & UNDERWRITING SERVICES, CORP 1739 BERKELEY ST, STE 110A, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)7/09/2009. /s/: JOHN E. PAOLETTI, PRESIDENT
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/9/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 8/7/2009, 8/14/2009, 8/21/2009, 8/28/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091034896 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as TOOLS4KIDS, 1112 MONTANA AVE, #431, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405 LA COUNTY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : CRAIG TURKEL 1112 MONTANA AVE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)7/9/2009. /s/: CRAIG TURKEL
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/9/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 8/7/2009, 8/14/2009, 8/21/2009, 8/29/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091110370 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as JEWELS FOR AUTISM, 17214 WELBY WAY, LAKE BALBOA, CA 91406, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : MAYE KONGMALAY, 17214 WELBY WAY, LAKE BALBOA, CA 91406 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: MAYE KONGMALAY
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/22/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 8/21/2009, 8/28/2009, 9/4/2009, 9/11/2009

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091102616 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ARTNOT PROPERTIES & MANAGEMENT, 2609 BRIGHTON AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JAMES D. RABB III, 2609 BRIGHTON AVE, LOS ANGELES; NICOLE C. MCDUFFIE, 2609 BRIGHTON AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 This Business is being conducted by, a general partnership. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)4/1/2004. /s/: JAMES D. RABB III
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/21/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 8/21/2009, 8/28/2009, 9/4/2009, 9/11/2009

The 14 users currently in the teen chat room.

goodt2hug: 14, female, Daytona, FL
joey16: 16, male, Hackensack, NJ
robbiew: 38, male, Daytona, FL
b-ball_tommy: 15, male, Pocatello, ID
tu_tu: 16, female, Burlington, VT
duffme: 44, male, Minneapolis, MN
QTpie: 30, male, Chicago, IL
ty1989: 15, female, Naperville, IL
harrys_grl: 12, female, Appleton, MN
slugger20: 17, male, Jackson, MS
qtrback21: 26, male, Brooklyn, NY
suzie14: 14, female, Portland, OR
hiphopper: 13, female, Plano, TX
paperboy: 41, male, Beaverton, OR

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council
You don't know what your kids are saying online. Or who they are saying it to. A lot of times neither do they. So get involved. To protect your kid's online life or report an incident, call 1-800-THE-LOST or visit cybertipline.com. NOW: help delete online predators
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