



Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE MIXING IT UP ISSUE

Parents scramble to send students back to campus

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Labor Day weekend might serve as a respite from work, but it doesn't provide immunity from the madness of back-to-school preparations.

With schools set to commence this week, parents have been scrambling to stock up on supplies for the coming academic year, snatching up the essentials, from backpacks to pencils.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has tried to relieve the stress from the shopping experience by asking all of its schools to release a suggested list of class materials that students should purchase before the start of the year.

William Grant began hitting up Target and other stores last week using the list, purchasing items for his son, William Grant Jr., who will begin the first grade at Roosevelt Elementary School.

"It's hectic because you still have your job and this is his job that (my son) is getting into," the elder Grant said. "But it's exciting for him, he gets to meet new kids and have a fun time."

Grant, whose family recently moved back from Maryland, said he didn't refer to a school list when his son first entered kindergarten last year and ended up buying unnecessary supplies, joking that he didn't want to be the parent whose child was short on pencils and paper.

"There were so many glue sticks and crayons and notebooks and pencils," Grant said.

Dave Steer, a spokesman with GreatSchools.net, an online resource for

SEE SHOPPING PAGE 13



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

STOCKING UP: Santa Monica High School student Joe Colajezzi and his father, Tom, shop for back-to-school supplies at Staples on Wilshire Boulevard on Friday. School for most local youth begins Tuesday. Experts say that the current slumping economy won't affect school shopping.

Suspect in SM stabbing could be tied to L.A., Chicago murders

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A Santa Monica man who stands accused of stabbing a neighbor in April could be hit with murder charges next week for the 2001 death of a Los Angeles fashion student who briefly dated actor Ashton Kutcher.

The L.A. County District Attorney's Office is expected to file murder charges against 32-year-old Michael Thomas Gargiulo, according to Officer Ana Aguirre of the Los Angeles Police Department.

Gargiulo was arrested in June for an unrelated attempted murder and burglary case involving a Santa Monica woman who lived just a block away from him, and has been in custody ever since.

While the LAPD would not release the name of the victim in the Hollywood case, citing that it's an open investigation, several Chicago-area newspapers this week identified her as 22-year-old Ashley Ellerin who was found stabbed to death in her home in February 2001, just one day after Kutcher, the former "That 70's Show" star, stopped by her house to take her to a post-Grammy party.

When nobody answered the door, Kutcher reportedly peeked through a back window and saw what he thought were red wine stains on the carpet. Those stains were reportedly drops of blood.

Gargiulo, who worked in plumbing and heating installation, was also investigated in the 1993 unsolved murder of a former classmate in a Chicago suburb, according to

SEE SUSPECT PAGE 12

SMPD's drivers check point by the numbers

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

MAIN STREET The Santa Monica Police Department conducted a sobriety/driver's license check point here last Saturday, screening 254 vehicles and arresting two drivers for being under the influence of alco-

hol, authorities said.

The checkpoint, which was set up on the 2600 block of Main Street for several hours, was the sixth of several checkpoints to be conducted over a 12-month period, said SMPD Sgt. Larry Horn.

During the operation, 1,156 cars passed

through the checkpoint.

In addition to the two arrests, officers impounded three vehicles and issued a citation to one driver for operating a car without a license.

Funding for the program was provided by a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety,

through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The SMPD reminds drivers, if you plan on drinking, have a designated driver or call a taxi cab to take you home safely.

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



'Excuse for a Swordfight'

1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m. — 9:45 p.m.

A. F. Cronin presents his hysterical new comedy, "Excuse
for a Swordfight," a delightfully funny and a biting
satiric look at the blind ambition and thoughtless formulas
that dominate our entertainment industry. To purchase
tickets or get more information, go to
TheatreforaSmallSpace.com. or call (310) 393-3018.

'And Awaay We Go To Wonderland'

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.

Little Red Riding Hood? Jack and the Beanstalk? Sleeping
Beauty? Hansel and Gretel? Now you can have them all as
kids 2 to 102 help save the fairytale world, solving riddles,
predicting the future, traveling through time, and
experiencing a mini-language lesson along the way. For
more information, call the Santa Monica Playhouse at
(310) 394-9779.

Workouts for teens

3026 Nebraska Ave., 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Max offers two daily classes teaching teens how to exercise
and eat properly in a cool and fun environment. They
get to hang out afterwards in the wi-fi lounge, play
Nintendo Wii, or simply surf the Internet. For information,
call (310) 867-1650.

Sunday, Aug. 31, 2008

Get it while it's fresh

Downtown Mar Vista, 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

Head out to lovely Mar Vista for the weekly Farmers'
Market. Located at the corner of Grandview and Venice
boulevards, the market includes fresh fruits and vegetables
as well as some prepared foods.

The other Jerry's kids

1348 14th St., 7 p.m.

Cubensis brings the sights and sounds of a live Grateful
Dead concert to 14 Below every Sunday. Cubensis is
known for whipping its faithful crowd into a swirling psychedelic
mass for three hours straight.

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.



CORRECTION

In a photo entitled "Play Ball" that appeared in the Aug. 29 edition of the Daily Press,
the caption should have read the game between the Santa Monica College women's soccer
team and the team from Taft College tied, 1-1.

Dance club is anything but square

BY CHRISTINA YOON

Special to the Daily Press

MARINE PARK Scattered around Marine Park are locals involved in the usual park activities such as tennis, basketball and barbecues. But few park regulars know that it is also home to one of Santa Monica's hidden gems and oldest traditions.

The Red Ribbon Squares, Santa Monica's official square dance club, will begin its new season of weekly classes on Sept. 16 in the park's clubhouse. Longtime members hope that by working in partnership with Santa Monica Parks and Recreation, they can get new members to get as hooked on square dancing as they are.

"Any organization has trouble recruiting young people," said Ruth Needle, a former president of the Red Ribbon Squares

and the club's current visitation chairperson. "Our goal by working this year with parks and rec. is to attract a wider audience, though usually word of mouth works best."

The club will hold an eight-class session, costing \$42 for Santa Monica residents and \$46 for non-residents. Students can enroll online at recenroll.smgov.net or through the SeaScape newsletter, delivered free to local mailboxes throughout the year and available for free at most city facilities including the Ken Edwards Center and the public library.

The club has held classes and dances out of Marine Park since it opened in 1959. In 2001, then mayor Michael Feinstein awarded the Red Ribbon Squares with a commendation naming it the official square dance club of Santa Monica. The goal of the classes is to introduce newcomers to

square dancing and line dancing, familiarizing them with the formal square dance calls and moves. Needle said that although everyone who tries the class loves it, it's often difficult to get students to return.

"It is a commitment," she said. "You can't learn it in one or two weeks. But we do a lot of line dancing, which is easier, you don't need a partner and you don't need the big fancy petticoats."

Members of the Red Ribbon Squares attend the classes, calling themselves "angels," to help the new dancers. Although it does take time to get the moves down, Needle is confident that anyone could become an expert, even with no dance experience.

"If you can walk you can dance," she said.

SEE DANCING PAGE 10



Christina Yoon news@smdp.com

PRIDE: Ruth Needle shows off the commendation given to the Red Ribbon Squares naming it Santa Monica's official square dance club.



IRIE, MAN

Fabian Lewkowicz FabianLewkowicz.com

Legendary reggae band Toots & the Maytals performs during the 24th Annual Twilight Dance Series on Thursday. The concert was the final installment in the summer concert series.

Commission looks to fill vacancies

BY CATHERINE CAIN

Special to the Daily Press

CITY HALL The Santa Monica Commission of the Status of Women is looking for a few good women to fill two vacancies. Applications are currently being accepted on an ongoing basis.

Established in 1981, the commission is charged with improving the status of women in the local community. The commission ensures that issues relevant to women and girls have policies created for them and are investigated. Leadership opportunities and career advancement options are created and made available for women by the commission. To continue these actions and trends, the commission wants to hire Santa Monica residents who commit to supporting, improving, and advocating for the conditions of women, according to city staff.

Currently, the members of the commission are creating a plan to prioritize key goals, objectives, and tasks aimed at improving the opportunities for women and girls in the city. The nine members and one youth

intern of the commission regularly recommend policies, programs, and actions affecting women to the City Council.

In 2004, the commission's Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Santa Monica and the Work/Life Survey both provided data for the business community and other policymakers concerning education, employment, income, domestic violence and other issues facing the girls and women of Santa Monica.

Additionally, the commission presents one woman each year with the Outstanding Woman Leader (OWL) award. Women who receive the award are chosen because they demonstrate personal or professional dedication to making the lives of girls and women better.

The commission meets every second Wednesday at 7 p.m. and invites the public to participate. Those who are interested may request applications through mail by calling (310) 458-8211 or can apply at www.smgov.net. Applications are turned in at the City Hall, 1685 Main St. in the City Clerk's office, Room 102.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Two-sides to every coin
Editor:

While it is always encouraging to see advanced technology brought to bear on persistent problems like traffic control and congestion (“A cure for what ails you,” page 1, Aug. 27), it is prudent to bear in mind that, like the proverbial two-edged sword, its application can cut two ways. The tacit assumption is that this more potent [traffic light management] system will be used to speed us to our destinations, but there is no barrier, either technological or legal, to prevent it from being used to give the green light to promoting “traffic calming,” as city staff likes to euphemistically call traffic jams by design. It will be a real test of faith to sit at red lights with no other cross traffic in sight and wondering when you can resume your journey. But, trust them, they’re professionals.

Bill Worden
Venice

Talk is cheap
Editor:

If Steve Breen is so perfect, why isn’t he running for president. He talks like a man with a paper head.

Jacqueline Kestler
Culver City

No go without meat
Editor:

Jeff Mackey says we should not eat meat (“Eat a burger, skip a shower,” page 4, Aug. 26). Meat tastes too good to give up, so I do not foresee giving up meat. Sure, salads, fruits and vegetables are good. But a dinner without meat is like a car without an engine. No point to it.

Mike Kirwan
Venice

Outrage over the Olympics
Editor:

I was mesmerized at the militaristic precision with which the Opening Ceremonies for the Olympic Games were conducted. It gave me pause to conjecture that such military precision could only be achieved in a totalitarian state like the Peoples Republic of China. It brought back memories of Mao Zedong’s Cultural Revolution in which 65 million people perished, an event which induced the fear to perform precisely today in the minds of the performers. Not well-known is that the first American to die at the hands of Mao’s thugs was Capt. John Birch, an intelligence analyst for General Claire Chennault’s Flying Tigers. See <http://www.jbs.org/index.php/about/john-birch>.

The Chinese regime is still officially communist, even though the totalitarian “ism” called communism has been responsible for the deaths of over 100 million innocent human beings during the last century.

It is hard to imagine that the 1972 Munich Olympic Games would have been held there if Germany had still glorified Hitler in 1972. Yet the 2008 games are being held in China despite its continued glorification of Mao.

The president of the United States did, by his presence and his silence, extend the hand of friendship and legitimacy to the Chinese communists at the Beijing Olympic Games. I think that Americans should be outraged.

Frank M. Pelteson
Las Vegas



Modern Times
Lloyd Garver

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Leave sports alone

I WANT TO DISCUSS TWO DEVELOPMENTS in the world of sports. One probably makes sense, but I don’t like it. The other is ridiculous, and maybe a little ugly. Major League Baseball has decided to try out video replay to help umpires make certain decisions, and women’s golf has decided that all members must be able to “effectively communicate in English” by 2009 or face suspension. I’ll bet you can guess which of these two decisions ticks me off the most.

There are some 120 foreign-born professional golfers playing in the LPGA — the governing body of women’s golf. The biggest foreign contingent is from South Korea, and the “learn English or else” policy just so happened to have been announced at a meeting with the South Korean players.

I’ve always had an open mind and felt that those who believe in “English only” policies regarding education, voting and driving literature, etc. are certainly entitled to their wacko point of view. But now has that jingoistic, anti-foreigner feeling invaded sports, too?

One of my favorite things about sports is that the games often involve people from different countries. At any baseball game, you might see teammates who were born in different countries laughing in the dugout as they teach each other how to say, “The umpire is a bum” in different languages.

The LPGA claims that the reason for the language policy is that sponsors want the golfers to speak English. Really? Why don’t we see sponsors demanding that athletes in other sports based in the United States speak English better? And how do they plan on deciding if a woman golfer speaks English well enough for them? Golfers will actually be required to pass an English proficiency test. I hope they give this test to everybody, not just to those players born in foreign countries, because we know that there are plenty of American athletes who couldn’t pass an English test.

Obviously, I don’t know if the reason for this policy is because of the sponsors or because of some negative feelings for foreign-born players. But I do know that it seems wrong. They want to push them to be more “American” so they are instituting a policy that seems un-American? LPGA, take a mulligan and cancel this policy before it becomes even more of an embarrassment.

And then there’s baseball. Although many of us sports fans often refuse to admit it, umpires are human. Because they are human, they make mistakes. They aren’t making more bad calls then they used to, but they are being shown to have made more bad calls. In the old days, no one could be sure that the umpire had made a mistake. Today, when an umpire blows a call, it’s shown over and over again on television. So Major League Baseball announced that they

will be using video replays for disputed home runs, whether a ball is fair or foul, and if a fan interfered with the ball.

I understand the reason behind it, but I don’t embrace this idea wholeheartedly. Somehow the game got along fine without it for all these years. It seems to be in the same category as selling sushi at the ballpark instead of just hot dogs and beer. We know it’s possible, but do we really need it?

THE LPGA CLAIMS THAT THE REASON FOR THE LANGUAGE POLICY IS THAT SPONSORS WANT THE GOLFERS TO SPEAK ENGLISH. REALLY? WHY DON’T WE SEE SPONSORS DEMANDING THAT ATHLETES IN OTHER SPORTS BASED IN THE UNITED STATES SPEAK ENGLISH BETTER?

I’ll miss the manager running out to the umpire to argue that he’s positive that the ball the umpire said was a home run was actually a foul ball. I’ll miss seeing the umpire and the manager ridiculously miming the parabolas that each of them feels the ball took as it went out of the park. And I’ll miss seeing the multi-million dollar a year manager kicking dirt on the umpire’s shoes like a three year old when he doesn’t get his way.

But at least the system will only be used for a few situations. They aren’t going to stop the game for a replay every time a coach, manager, or player thinks an umpire has made a mistake. So when there’s a close play at the plate, you’ll still have the pleasure of seeing a chubby manager waddling out there to yell at the umpire. And because it’s not women’s golf, that manager can yell at the umpire in any language he chooses.

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

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STRAY talk

A CENTER-CUT, NO-FAT REVIEW OF WHAT WAS SAID THIS PAST WEEK BY FOLKS THE WORLD OVER AND RIGHT AT HOME

“We’d just chill and party and come back and make music about it.”
— Up-and-coming rapper Shwayze, who graduated from Malibu High School.

“What you have are people who are an influential part of the business community in this town. I think the City Council really appreciates when we endorse them on things like the UUT because they recognize the influence we have on businesses and residents in Santa Monica.”
— Chamber of Commerce President Laurel Rosen.

“I’m the oldest child so it came as a shock for my parents to have to cough up the money.”
— Santa Monica College freshmen Deepti Singh regarding the high price of textbooks.

“When asked how much money a person would have to earn to be considered rich, McCain said, “I think if you’re just talking about income, how about \$5 million?” In John McCain’s America, if you make \$2 million you’re middle class, if you make \$250,000 you’re poor, and if you make \$50,000 you’re screwed.”
— SMDP columnist Kenny Mack writing in “Word in Edge Wise.”

The QLine

KEEPING IT LOCAL

This past week, Q-line asked:
While Santa Monica features a number of attractions that consistently draw visitors from outside the city, there are some that believe they attract trouble. A gang-related shooting last week appears to have occurred just as the Twilight Dance Series concert was letting out at the pier confirming some of those fears.

Would you rather have the city become an isolated, sleepy beach town that would lack many of the superb services we covet, or continue with high-profile events and attractions that bring prosperity to the area?
Here are your responses:

“I’D PICK AN ISOLATED, SLEEPY BEACH town.”

“CALLING TO SAY THAT THE TWILIGHT Dance Series is probably the greatest thing that Santa Monica has had for the last 25 years. Our public events over the years have been canceled like the Fourth of July fireworks. The Twilight Dance Series is fantastic and should never be stopped.”

“SANTA MONICA IS WAY PASSED BEING able to go back to being a sleepy beach town. Where does it say that is has to be an either/or question? The question is, which of the high-profile events have brought a net profit to the city coffers. Who profited? How much of that profit was paid for through the use of city services? In other words, where does the money originate and where does it go?”

“WE ARE SANTA MONICA. WE DON’T want this prosperity corrupted by trouble-makers. It used to be a beautiful town. We can’t even take our family and guests coming from out of town to our beach or shop-

ping. The pier? Forget it. The pier has to have a limit of how many vendors it has. And do away with the Twilight Dance Series. The movie night is good.”

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Screenwriter is a living miracle

BY TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE

Special to the Daily Press

For one Westside writer, the production of his new film, "Henry Poole Is Here," is nothing short of a miracle. In fact, Albert Torres is still pinching himself during our interview. Five years ago Torres was at a point where he had given up trying to be a professional screenwriter. He spent two years working his day job — marketing for the House of Blues — and admits, "I had sunk into a dark phase of my life ... part of it was due to the fact that I wasn't writing."

Motivated solely by creativity, Torres wrote "Stain," [the original title of "Poole"] the story of a desperate guy, in a desperate situation trying to find hope. Prior to "Stain" Torres claims he was, "Trying to create spectacles that I thought would be well received and easy to sell." His goal, however, with "Poole" was to write a movie he really wanted to see.

We've all heard the cliché "write from your heart," but in Torres' case remaining true to his spirit is exactly what propelled his career. "Stain" landed Torres an agent, who sent the project out, which led to meetings and opened industry doors.

By the time director Mark Pellington got on board with "Stain," Torres was already finishing the sci-fi adaptation of "Altered Carbon" for Silver Pictures. "Carbon" is still in "development." I ask Torres to comment on the number of films written versus those that actually get made. He reflects momentarily then answers, "It's almost like a lottery."

Torres is acutely aware that, "It is a blessing to work in the film industry ... So many people," he says, "want to be in this position."

He is genuinely humble when he admits, "It is miraculous to be able to move along this business and succeed, but that said, you're always, in the back of your mind, waiting for this party to end. At some point," he says rather self-effacingly, "You think, something's gonna go wrong and I'm gonna go flip some burgers somewhere." Then adds, with a hint of gentle sarcasm, "And that thought keeps you on your toes."

There's a distinct and direct analogy between the themes in "Poole" to those of Torres' career. Torres gave up on his life's ambition much the way his protagonist gave up on his life. And like Henry Poole, Torres' faith and resuscitated belief in himself and his path in life provides a happy ending. For Torres, success translates to having a great film under his belt.

On his process, Torres says he, "Reacts to themes. If you don't know what you're writing about the plot will be empty and you'll feel there's something missing." For Torres, the human aspects of the story are most important. "You can say, 'well [the story's] about a guy, that's on a train, and it's a runaway train and he's trying to stop it from going over a cliff', but that's just the action. Where is the humanity? What is it about his character that makes this different than watching or playing a video game?"



IT IS MIRACULOUS TO BE ABLE TO MOVE ALONG THIS BUSINESS AND SUCCEED, BUT THAT SAID, YOU'RE ALWAYS, IN THE BACK OF YOUR MIND, WAITING FOR THIS PARTY TO END. AT SOME POINT."

Albert Torres
Screenwriter

Torres is currently working the adaptation of Chuck Palahniuk's "Survivor" for director (and friend), Francis Lawrence. I tell him, "Writer Clark Gregg said it took seven years to complete 'Choke.'" Torres has been working on "Survivor" for five. "Hopefully", I joke, "Not every day." Torres quips, "Not even every month."

Back before either Lawrence or Torres (who met at Loyola Marymount University film school) had "professional careers," says Torres, "We had read this book and thought to ourselves, 'Wow, wouldn't it be great to make this into a movie?'"

Years later, Torres' agent asked if he had any dream projects he wanted to work on. The first thing out of Torres' mouth was, "Survivor." He then told his agent he might be able to get Lawrence (who was filming "Constantine" at the time) on board. After talking with Lawrence, they met with producers who had access to financing and secured the rights to the book. Torres is proud of the adaptation and how it's evolved.

Having a film produced and being on set for "Poole" has changed the way Torres writes. He's learned that, "Visuals have a deeper impact than a whole page of dialogue ... and to write in a more economical fashion ... The first draft that you show anybody has to be a good read. Sometimes, it has to be overwritten." In one instance on the set of "Poole" the crew spent two hours setting up a hallway shot, when Torres and Pellington looked at each other and had the same reaction, "Why are we shooting this?" Torres explains, "That was a scene that had always been in [the script], but at the end of the day we didn't need it to make the story flow." Torres is thrilled with the results of "Poole."

Now Torres finds himself in the fortunate situation where he is offered writing assignments, nevertheless, he continues to use his heart as a job barometer asking himself "Would I go see this movie?" If the answer is, "no" or even "maybe" Torres thinks twice about accepting the assignment.

TAYLOR VAN ARSDALE is a writer/producer and movie reviewer for the Daily Press. She can be reached at Tailfish@roadrunner.com

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Kitchen Vixen

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The best time to start is now

“SAUCE PANS IN SUMMER, CREPE PANS in fall, when winter is here, there’s food for us all.” A little trick to help you remember when it’s time to “season” your cookware, courtesy of Niles Crane from the famed show *Frasier*.

Can’t remember which way to turn your clocks? Simply say, “Fall back, spring ahead.” That whole process does not make sense to me. Did you know that traffic accidents increase the Monday after we turn our clocks ahead?

And then there’s the cliché about spring cleaning, “out with the old, in with the new.”

As a recovering clothes addict, I am convinced that this so called “Spring cleaning” was invented by the fashion industry to get women to buy new wardrobes each year.

I do enjoy a good purge, no matter what the “season,” not of the food kind though. That shows lack of appreciation for the food and your body. But purging your belongings is cleansing.

As I reduce my “things” I am happy to donate everything that clutters my life. You know what they say, “One woman’s trash is another woman’s treasure.” I don’t want to contribute to landfills and every positive step makes a difference.

I feel the same way about food choices and exercise habits. Every positive step makes a difference.

You shouldn’t need the threat of swim-suit season to motivate your butt. Instead think: “There’s no time like the present.”

Whether we’re talking about food, clothes or clocks, change is an ongoing process and time is of the essence. Don’t be overwhelmed by the process. Instead, take it one step at a time.

When your energy is low, simply ask yourself, “What do I need right now?” Sometimes you need a break from what you’re doing, a chance to clear your head. You may need some nourishment, food or water. Perhaps you need to be active because you’ve been sitting too long. Only you can decide what you truly need, right now.

While clearing my bookshelves, I paged through my high school yearbook. I was voted best dressed. So many of the sentiments were the same: “To a sweet girl with a great sense of fashion. You will go far in life.” They were right. I did go far, more than 3,000 miles from home.

When you’re young, you feel that you have all the time in the world to accomplish your dreams.

You are often asked, “Where do you see yourself in 20 years?” My classmates thought I would pursue a career in fashion.

Perhaps the reason so many of us are obsessed with clothing is because we aren’t comfortable in our own skin. As I learn to accept my body and all the changes it has gone through over the past 20 years, I can now answer that question: I see myself accepting what is, right now.

With respect to nourishing your body, I

Cleansing Tea (to meet hydration needs)
Jasmine Green tea (1 tsp. loose tea leaves or 1 tea bag)
8 oz water
1/2 inch ginger, peeled & chopped
2 teaspoon “Green” powder
6 mint leaves
Juice of one lemon
Brew tea. Cool in the refrigerator. Pour cooled tea into blender. Add ginger and “green” powder. Blend. Pour over ice. Garnish with fresh mint. Add lemon juice to taste.

Vital Vinaigrette (perfect for dressing your veggies)
1/2 cup canola oil
1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
1 Tablespoon Dijon Mustard
1 Tablespoon Maple Syrup
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1/2 teaspoon sea salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
Place all ingredients in a blender and blend.

Must Have Marinade (makes protein foods easier to digest)
1/3 cup canola oil
1/2 cup tamari (wheat free soy sauce)
1/2 cup water
2 Tablespoons maple syrup
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. dried thyme
1 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. curry powder
1 tsp. dried oregano
1 tsp. chili powder
1 tsp. paprika
1/4 tsp. fresh ground black pepper
Place all ingredients in a blender and blend.
Note: Fish should not be marinated for more than two hours. Be sure to cook the marinade or discard.

can guide you toward the things you need as you go through each day, but ultimately you have to discern what you need right now.

You need water. Your body is ideally 60-70 percent water and it must be replenished each day.

You need protein for immune function, growth, repair and maintenance of the body.

And, you need the vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and fiber in vegetables. You also need essential fats.

I’m still recovering from my clothes addiction, but living more in the moment allows me to ask and answer this question every time I spring clean, “Is this something I need right now?”

Here are some recipes which will help you meet your needs, now.

ELIZABETH BROWN is a registered dietitian and certified holistic chef specializing in weight management, sports nutrition, disease prevention and optimal health through whole foods. She can be reached at eat2liv@earthlink.net.

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Dance club hopes to continue its legacy

FROM DANCING PAGE 3

Santa Monica engineer Lisette Bauersachs tried the square dance classes for the first time this summer with a friend and fell in love instantly.

"It's so much fun I can't even begin to say," Bauersachs said. "I've already signed up for the next season."

Despite the challenge of learning the calls and moves, Bauersachs, who had no previous dance experience, was hooked as soon as she learned about the tight-knit community that formed the club.

"Their members are so warm and welcoming, and even though they're experts they were so sweet to us," she said.

In addition to the artistic aspect of square dancing, Bauersachs was surprised to find that it was quite a workout as well.

"One woman had a pedometer while dancing and at the end she had walked three miles," she said. "And you don't even know it. You blink and the next thing you know it's 9:30 and you have a lot of fun."

The truly dedicated students continue to take classes for several months until they are expert enough to become a member of the Red Ribbon Squares. Needle estimated that most people could get to that level in less than a year.

"About nine months," she said. "You can have a baby, or you can learn to dance."

Members of the Red Ribbon Squares have the privilege of participating in the club dances at Marine Park, which are led by square dance callers hired from around the world.

"The good callers sign contracts a year in advance," Needle said.

The dances are held on the second and fourth Saturday of every month to alternate with a West Los Angeles square dance club called Heels and Souls.

The events sometimes have themes, such as this month's Aloha Night, and last all evening, providing refreshments and a chance for members to socialize. Alcohol,

however, is prohibited.

"I don't care how much you drink, you lose your balance and your equilibrium," Needle said. "You don't want to be on someone else's toes."

Although no beginners are allowed at these dances, they're encouraged to come to watch the mastery of the members.

"We were told that come September they'll have their formal dances," Bauersachs said. "I'm dying to see them dancing in their full regalia."

Members not only dance together but also partake in the time-honored traditions of the club, many of which have been around since the Red Ribbon Squares were started in 1950 by Bob Bevan and his wife Betty.

One tradition still upheld today is an individualized, intricate badge worn by all of the members with different parts signifying things such as positions held in the club and the number of visits they have paid to other clubs. In years past, the club had a "sheriff" who would make sure that all members wore their badges at the dances to avoid a fee of 25 cents.

"That was when a quarter could still buy a cup of coffee," Needle said.

Bauersachs, who hopes to someday become experienced enough to be asked into the club, said that these traditions are as much a part of the appeal of the club as the dancing.

"There are all these requirements, which I find fascinating," she said. "I was just like, 'Wow! I just thought I signed up for a class.'"

Both veterans and the newly converted recognize the importance of spreading the word about the square dance classes to continue the traditions and culture of the Red Ribbon Squares.

"You need the next generation to come in or it'll die out as an art form," Bauersachs said.

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Stabbing suspect was questioned in 1993 murder case

FROM SUSPECT PAGE 1

Chicago-area newspapers.

Authorities questioned Gargiulo after the death of 18-year-old Tricia Pacaccio, who was killed outside of her family's home in Glenview, an unincorporated section of Cook County, Chicago.

The Chicago Tribune reported on Thursday that Pacaccio was stabbed in the chest as she was about to unlock the front door of her home in the early morning hours of Aug. 14, 1993. Gargiulo, who was a classmate at Glenbrook South High School, lived just one street away.

The newspaper stated that detectives believed the victim knew her attacker.

She was set to begin at Purdue University the week after her murder, according to the newspaper.

Reports indicated that Gargiulo was never charged because there wasn't enough evidence linking him to the crime. Cook County officials declined to comment on Pacaccio's case since it is an open investigation.

Diane Pacaccio, the victim's mother, told the Chicago Sun-Times on Thursday that, "If I ever, to this day, have one reason given to me — I don't care what reason they give — just give me a reason. Don't just say they couldn't convict him."

It was through his possible involvement with the Pacaccio case that first set the Santa Monica Police Department on the path toward the Santa Monica resident. Investigators collected DNA at the crime scene in the 1200 block of 12th Street and processed it through the CODIS (Combined DNA Index System).

The national database revealed a matching profile of the suspect that was previously inputted by Cook County officials, according to Lt. Darrell Lowe of the SMPD.

"We spoke with investigators about their particular case and obviously they provided us with the name and identity of the potential suspect and our investigation continued from there," Lowe said. "All the Chicago link did for us is provide us with a name."

Gargiulo was arrested at the Rite Aid on Wilshire Boulevard. Investigators believe Gargiulo broke into the victim's apartment, awakening her and stabbing her several times during a struggle, the suspect later fleeing on foot. The victim was transported to a local hospital where she was treated for her injuries.

Police at the time of the arrest said they weren't sure whether the break-in was premeditated or a random act, but noted that she was home alone at the time.

Lowe said that the Pacaccio case could have some influence on the Santa Monica case, though it wouldn't have an impact unless it went to sentencing.

Gargiulo is being held on 1.1 million bail and is due to appear in court on Sept. 4 for a pre-trial hearing.

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Economy won't impact shopping

FROM SHOPPING PAGE 1

parents looking for information on schools, said that the back-to-school jam can be avoided by waiting until after classes begin.

"A great practice is to get a baseline of supplies like pens and notebooks and wait for school to start," Steer said. "You can gauge what the child actually needs before breaking out the shopping list and going to the mall."

The end of the summer typically delivers a good level of business for children's clothing stores as students want to start the year off with a new wardrobe.

Miel on Montana Avenue, a store that caters to kids from newborn to 10-year-olds, has been seeing more and more shoppers coming in the past few days, but is expecting a rush immediately following Labor Day.

"A lot of the kids come in and are excited because they are going to school and picking out their first day of school outfit," Miel owner Stacey Riggins said. "A couple of kids have to wear uniforms to school and the minute they get home, they rip them off and put on the new clothes."

Experts believe the current economic downturn will not have an effect on spending during the back-to-school craze as many parents have set aside a portion of their stimulus checks for purchases.

The National Retail Federation, the industry's trade organization, found that in a survey of more than 8,300 respondents that the average family will spend nearly \$600 this year on back-to-school purchases, up from approximately \$563 the previous year.

Anthony Patino, a marketing professor at Loyola Marymount University, said that when it comes to spending money on education, parents will not skimp, despite the economic climate.

He warned that as a result, retailers who experienced a higher-than-anticipated level of business shouldn't expect the same success around the holidays.

"When children are in school, people find ways to devote funds in that direction," Patino said.

Parents could find ways to save money by looking for sales and shopping online where there tends to be a bigger discount, Patino said.

With new technology being incorporated into the educational experience, electronics spending is expected to continue to rise this year. The National Retail Federation estimates that parents will spend more than \$151 this year on technology-related purchases, up from \$129 last year.

Much of the purchases typically include items like computers, mobile phones and

portable music players, which can be used to store non-entertainment related documents and notes.

"Plenty of colleges require students to have laptops now," Shawn Dubravac, an economist with the Consumer Electronics Association, said. "It's no longer a luxury for students to take technology to school, but a necessity and requirement."

Dubravac added that more students are carrying mobile phones as their functionality increases.

"Parents recognize kids can do a variety of tasks on mobile phones, not the least of which is keeping in touch with home," he said.

PREPARING FOR A HEALTHY SCHOOL YEAR

An important aspect of back-to-school preparation — one that might be overlooked in the hype that surrounds the shopping experience — is ensuring the students are in the best physical shape to take on the new year.

Parents should begin taking their children off the summer sleep schedule in advance of the school year, tucking them in bed earlier at night and waking them up at a reasonable hour, according to Virginia Barrow, a pediatrician at Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA and director of the pediatric residency program.

"Kids like routine," Barrow said. "They function best when they have routine."

One item that parents might want to put a considerable amount of thought into is the backpack. Barrow suggested purchasing a backpack that has wide pad and shoulder straps, packing light and organizing to use all compartments. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of the child's weight, she said.

"Weigh the kid, weigh the backpack and reassess," she said.

When it comes to lunch, parents should consider packing something for their kids during the first few weeks, especially if the students are in elementary school.

Sending children off to school with something that reminds them of home — such as a lunch box packed by mom or dad — will give them comfort during the day.

In terms of the contents of the lunch box, parents should avoid packing juices and sodas and opt for healthier items like fruits and vegetables.

Most importantly, Barrow suggests involving children in their lunch choices, making the experience more fun.

"Involving kids in those choices will help increase their comfort level," she said.

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Gas prices up as Gustav threatens refineries

BY STEVENSON JACOBS
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Retail gas prices swung higher Friday — the first increase in 43 days — as analysts warned that a direct hit on U.S. energy infrastructure by Hurricane Gustav could send pump prices hurtling toward \$5 a gallon.

Meanwhile, oil prices ended the day slightly lower, falling for a second straight session. But prices fluctuated sharply as some traders feared supply disruptions and others bet the government will release supplies from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve if Gustav wreaks havoc in the Gulf of Mexico area — home to a quarter of U.S. crude supplies and 40 percent of refining capacity.

Gustav, which regained hurricane strength Friday, was spinning away from Jamaica on a course toward Gulf Coast states including Louisiana — three years to the day since Hurricane Katrina slammed into the state and tore up oil rigs and refineries.

Fears of another monster storm have sent wholesale gasoline prices shooting up in the Gulf region, forcing filling stations to pass on the costs by raising pump prices ahead of Labor Day weekend.

A gallon of regular gasoline jumped about a penny overnight to a national average of \$3.669, according to auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express.

That's the first increase since prices



**UNTIL THIS HURRICANE HITS,
THE TREND HAS TO BE HIGHER TOWARD
THE \$120 LEVEL."**

Jonathan Kornafel

Asia director for brokerage Hudson Capital Energy in Singapore

peaked at an average \$4.114 a gallon on July 17, an all-time high.

Jeff Rubin, chief economist at investment bank CIBC World Markets, said that record could be shattered if Gustav seriously disrupts offshore energy production.

In 2005, pump prices jumped from slightly more than \$2 a gallon to above \$3 after Katrina and Hurricane Rita destroyed more than 100 oil platforms and damaged several refineries.

"The price consequences could be even worse this time," Rubin said in a report, noting that oil and gasoline inventories are lower than when Katrina and Rita hit. "Any replays of the 2005 storm season could see gasoline prices soar to \$5 per gallon."

Gustav was moving northwest of Jamaica toward the Cayman Islands after triggering floods and killing 59 people in Haiti and eight more in the Dominican Republic.

Light, sweet crude for October delivery fell 13 cents to settle \$115.46 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after earlier rising as high as \$118.76. On

Thursday, prices fell \$2.56 at \$115.59 a barrel, the first time this week it closed lower.

Analysts attributed the volatility to doubts over whether Gustav will affect offshore energy production, as well as speculation that the Energy Department will tap the Strategic Petroleum Reserve should the storm threatens supplies.

"Until this hurricane hits, the trend has to be higher toward the \$120 level," said Jonathan Kornafel, Asia director for brokerage Hudson Capital Energy in Singapore. "If this turns out to be a non-event, the market could really come roaring back down."

As Gustav advanced, oil companies were pulling employees off installations.

Royal Dutch Shell PLC has evacuated nearly 670 workers. BP PLC was also removing personnel from the region, while Exxon Mobil said it was bracing its structures for heavy wind and rain.

Transocean Inc., the world's largest offshore drilling contractor, said Friday it had evacuated about 400 workers from 11 offshore drilling rigs in the Gulf. Transocean

still has 1,150 workers in the region.

Weather research firm Planalytics predicted as much as 80 percent of the Gulf's oil and gas production could be shut down as a precaution if Gustav enters the region as a major storm.

Forecasters said Gustav might slip between Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and the western tip of Cuba on Sunday, then march toward a Tuesday collision with the U.S. Gulf Coast — anywhere from south Texas to the Florida panhandle.

"It seems there will be at the very least a slight hit to production," Kornafel said. "But everything is up in the air until Monday or Tuesday."

Gustav is the first storm of the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season to pose a serious threat to offshore oil and gas installations in the Gulf.

Some analysts, however, noted that lower appetite for oil products in the United States could well dampen Gustav's effect on the Gulf area's oil output.

"U.S. oil demand is currently 1.6 million barrels a day lower than when Katrina struck," said Olivier Jakob of Petromatrix in Switzerland. "There is today more U.S. refining capacity offline for economic reasons than can be destroyed by Gustav."

In other Nymex trading, heating oil lost 0.07 cent to settle at \$3.1819 a gallon, while gasoline fell 1.15 cents to settle at \$3.0099 a gallon. Natural gas fell 10.7 cents to settle at \$7.943 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, October Brent crude fell 12 cents to settle at \$114.05 a barrel.



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Katrina's unclaimed dead entombed, Gustav looms

BY JOHN MORENO GONZALES
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS At 9:38 a.m. on Friday, about 200 mourners rang handbells to mark the moment three years ago when New Orleans' levees were breached by high waters from Hurricane Katrina, flooding most of the city and leading to the deaths of about 1,600 people.

Eighty-five victims of the storm left unclaimed by any survivors were finally laid to rest as another deadly storm, Hurricane Gustav, strengthened in the Gulf of Mexico and threatened the city.

A horsedrawn carriage carried the last seven gleaming coffins to the mausoleum on Friday, while jazz trumpeter Ken Ferdinand played "Amazing Grace." The other 78 victims were interred on Thursday in a scramble to beat an evacuation order expected Saturday.

"We look ahead to a better day, as we also prepare ourselves for another threat," Mayor Ray Nagin said as he helped lift and guide the last coffin into the tomb.

The audience at the memorial service sat under the hot sun because tarps intended to shelter them were requisitioned for the approaching storm. Gustav also canceled a planned eight-block jazz funeral procession for the service.

Gustav was swirling at an agonizingly slow pace near Jamaica on Friday after being blamed for at least 71 deaths in its path. Forecasters said it could hit the Louisiana

coast early next week as a major hurricane: the first in the state since Katrina.

"I think God is reminding us that on the eve of Katrina, God can bring nature back," said retired Army Gen. Russell Honore, who was credited with taking control of the mayhem following Katrina. Honore said if Gustav spares New Orleans, it should be a reminder that more work needs to be done with Katrina recovery.

The memorial itself is an example of the pained rebuilding. A relatively small \$1.2 million project in the multibillion dollar Katrina recovery, it had been stalled for nearly a year until officials made a last-ditch effort to construct it by the third anniversary. It's still missing plaques that will identify all the known victims.

Julia Powers, a forensic specialist on loan from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help the New Orleans coroner with the unclaimed dead, said her work will not be done with the burial. About 50 of the 85 unclaimed bodies have been identified, but some families were dispersed by Katrina and could not be located. Others were too poor, or too distant a relative to bury the bodies themselves.

"We're not done exhausting all leads," Powers said. "A good thing about the mausoleums is that caskets can be removed later if a family should come forth and want to bury them themselves."

In coastal Mississippi, also devastated by Katrina, a morning memorial was held in the town of Waveland.

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Obama, McCain vie for suburbanites, white women

BY ALAN FRAM

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON Kathy Melkey stands astride some of the fault lines between Barack Obama and John McCain.

The 49-year-old substitute teacher from Granby, Conn., is a white woman, an independent and a suburbanite. Each of those groups is closely divided between the two presidential candidates.

"I'm waiting for somebody to wow me here," said Melkey, who says she likes Obama but could change her mind.

Polls indicate a close race. An Associated Press-Ipsos poll and other surveys taken before the Democratic and Republican conventions provide a look at how Obama and McCain are doing with blocs of voters.

MCCAIN'S STRENGTHS

The 72-year-old Republican senator from Arizona and Vietnam War prisoner is doing strongly with whites, older voters and several types of men. But there's little evidence he is benefiting much from the age and racial contrasts between himself and Obama, 47, who would become the first African-American president.

McCain's 10 percentage point lead among whites in the AP-Ipsos poll is 7 points less than President Bush's margin with the group in 2004 and similar to Bush's 12-point

advantage in 2000. His 9-point lead among those age 65 and older is significant — they tend to vote in high numbers — but is about the same Bush did in 2004.

McCain and Obama, the Illinois senator, are running about evenly among men. McCain is up by 17 points with white men — less than Bush's margins in both his victories. The Republican leads by 16 points with married men and 10 points with suburban men — similar to Bush's edge in each category in 2004 and 2000.

McCain leads by 11 points among whites who've not completed college — a group Obama lost badly in the Democratic primaries to Hillary Rodham Clinton. McCain's edge is not as strong as Bush's 23-point margin with that group in 2004 and his 17-point advantage in 2000. As expected for a GOP candidate, McCain is dominating white evangelical voters.

OBAMA'S STRENGTHS

As in the primaries, Obama is supported by about nine in 10 blacks, according to recent ABC News-Washington Post and Pew Research Center polls. That's about how Democrats John Kerry and Al Gore did in 2004 and 2000 respectively. To benefit more from black loyalty, Obama will have to increase their turnout above the 11 percent of voters they comprised in 2004.

Obama also has large leads among

Hispanics and people under age 30, in both cases outdoing Kerry's 2004 performances.

Obama's advantage among women was 13 points in the AP-Ipsos poll — 10 points better than Kerry did. Obama and McCain are about even among white women and the Democrat leads among suburban women — both improvements over 2004. The survey was taken before McCain selected Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate.

To capitalize on Obama's appeal to female voters, campaign spokesman Bill Burton says they will emphasize McCain's anti-abortion views to make it hard for him "to climb his way out of the real problem he has with women."

WEAKNESSES

Obama is laboring to win over Clinton's supporters. She used an emotional speech to the convention Tuesday to call him "my candidate." Pew and ABC-Post surveys found seven in 10 of her backers behind Obama while a CBS News-New York Times poll found six in 10 — ominous numbers for Obama, even though those polls were conducted before the convention. McCain has churned out television ads aimed at prying those voters away from Obama.

McCain, who defied Bush on campaign finance and other issues, has a 38-point lead among conservatives — a big edge but well behind Bush's 69-point margin in 2004.

About three-fourths of Democrats back Obama and the same number of Republicans support McCain — significantly below the nine in 10 votes exit polls show both Kerry and Bush got from their own parties four years ago.

BATTLEGROUND

Independents are closely split between McCain and Obama. Kerry and Bush finished even among this group in 2004, and Bush won them by 2 points in 2000. Mike DuHaine, McCain's political director, said the campaign's focus will be on the broad group of voters in the political middle.

"The battle in this election will be very much among independent swing voters" and other centrists like conservative and moderate Democrats, said DuHaine.

Suburban voters are divided evenly, as usual in recent presidential elections, but there are gender differences. McCain leads by 10 points among suburban men in the AP-Ipsos survey, while Obama has roughly the same advantage with suburban women.

Catholics, often pivotal, are divided closely between the rivals. The ABC-Post poll shows McCain ahead by 11 points among white Catholics. The AP-Ipsos poll was conducted July 31-Aug. 4 and included telephone interviews with 833 registered voters, for whom the margin of sampling error was plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.



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State budget plan fails in Senate

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO The state Senate on Friday failed to pass a spending plan that was nearly identical to one presented last week by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, pushing the state closer to a modern-day record for a budget impasse.

The budget bill failed on a 24-15 vote, generating no support from Republicans. Two GOP votes are required to reach the two-thirds majority needed for approval.

The leadership will bring it back for another vote later in the day, but that also is not expected to succeed.

Among other issues, Democrats and Republicans disagree over whether to raise the state's sales tax temporarily, which the Republican governor has proposed.

The Senate's leader, Democrat Don Perata, said majority Democrats gave Schwarzenegger nearly everything he wanted and that it is now up to Republicans to offer an alternative budget.

"The governor wanted budget reform to limit spending. He gets it. The governor wanted a sales tax increase. He gets it. The governor wanted deeper cuts ... he gets it," Perata said. "The only demand we did not give the governor is the tax break — the tax cut after the temporary tax expires."

Last week, Schwarzenegger released

what he described as a compromise plan to close the state's \$15.2 billion deficit.

He called for a temporary 1 percent sales tax increase that would dip a quarter percent below the current level after three years. It would generate \$4 billion in the current fiscal year and slightly more in the following two years before the sales tax would be reduced permanently.

Schwarzenegger also called for nearly \$10 billion in cuts, creation of a rainy day fund to be tapped only during lean budget years and giving the governor authority to cut spending in the middle of the fiscal year when revenues are sliding.

Under the version presented Friday in the Senate, the state would make virtually all the spending cuts Schwarzenegger sought but would forgo the sales tax roll back. Instead, the sales tax would return to its current level after three years.

Republicans criticized the tax increase, noting rising unemployment and a souring economy.

"A tax increase right now during this fragile time in the California economy should be the last thing we do, not the first thing we do," said Sen. Bob Dutton, R-Rancho Cucamonga. "It's clear to me that increasing taxes will only put more Californians out of work and delay the economic recovery."

Republicans also said the plan presented Friday tweaked

Schwarzenegger's proposal in ways that made it even more unpalatable.

They said it failed to give the governor authority to cut spending unilaterally in tough times. It also gave lawmakers the ability to tap the rainy day fund with a bare majority vote, rather than the two-thirds vote Schwarzenegger sought.

California is now two months into its fiscal year without an approved spending plan. The latest the Legislature has gone before approving a budget was in 2002, when it passed a budget on Aug. 31.

This year's impasse is almost certain to go longer, with Republicans and Democrats remaining far apart on how to deal with the deficit. Lawmakers acknowledged frustration over the deadlock.

"Here we are on Day 60 of an impasse in California ... and people look to the state Capitol and wonder, 'What are those people doing?'" said Sen. Roy Ashburn, R-Bakersfield.

It was the second time a budget bill has been brought to a full vote in the Legislature since the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

Earlier this month, the Assembly rejected a Democratic spending plan that called for raising \$6.6 billion through tax increases on the wealthy and corporations.

California is one of just a few states to require a two-thirds majority to pass a spending plan.

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SYDNEY FROM \$909* Las Vegas FROM \$169* San Francisco FROM \$189* Seattle FROM \$189* Chicago FROM \$279* Vancouver FROM \$299* Buenos Aires FROM \$599* Hong Kong FROM \$609* Bangkok FROM \$659* Paris FROM \$795* Rome FROM \$815* London FROM \$819* Beijing FROM \$879* Tokyo FROM \$1105*	BAHAMAS CRUISE FROM \$199* INCLUDES 4-day cruise aboard the Norwegian Sky in an inside stateroom. FEATURES Miami, Grand Bahama Island, Nassau, Great Stirrup Cay, Miami. UPGRADE Ocean view stateroom from \$259*. Las Vegas FROM \$199* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 3 nights 4-star accommodations. Baja Mexico Cruise FROM \$219* INCLUDES 4-night cruise aboard the Royal Caribbean Monarch Of The Seas in an interior stateroom. FEATURES Los Angeles, San Diego, Catalina Island, Ensenada, Los Angeles. UPGRADE Ocean view stateroom from \$269*. Western Caribbean Cruise FROM \$349* INCLUDES 4-day cruise aboard the Carnival Imagination in an interior stateroom. FEATURES Miami, Ocho Rios (Jamaica), Grand Cayman (Cayman Islands), Miami. UPGRADE Ocean view stateroom from \$379*. Riviera Maya FROM \$619* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers & 3 nights all-inclusive 3.5-star accommodations.	INCA DISCOVERY TOUR FROM \$695* INCLUDES 8-day small group GAP Adventure tour with accommodation, transport & local guides. ITINERARY Guided tour of Sacred Valley, 4-day Inca Trail hike with local guide, cook & porters with a guided tour of Machu Picchu. New York FROM \$699* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 3 nights 3-star accommodations. Puerto Vallarta FROM \$715* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers & 5 nights all-inclusive 3-star accommodations. BONUS FREE room upgrade & \$50 resort credit. China Express Tour FROM \$755* INCLUDES 8-day small group GAP Adventure tour with transport, accommodation, tour leader & local guides. HIGHLIGHT Tiananmen Square & Forbidden City guided tour. ITINERARY Beijing, Great Wall, Xi'an, Terracotta Warriors, Zhujiajiao Canal Town, Shanghai.	COSTA RICA GUANACASTE FROM \$755* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers & 5 nights all-inclusive 3-star accommodations. Jamaica FROM \$779* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 5 nights all-inclusive 3.5-star accommodations. Montreal FROM \$779* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 4 nights 4.5-star accommodations. BONUS 4th night is FREE. Oahu FROM \$799* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 4 nights 3-star accommodations. UPGRADE 4-star accommodations from \$869*. Cancun FROM \$889* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 7 nights all-inclusive 3-star accommodations. Caesar's Footsteps Tour FROM \$979* INCLUDES 7-day Topdeck tour with tourist-class hotel accommodation, sightseeing & some meals. HIGHLIGHT Champagne picnic in Paris beside the Eiffel Tower. ITINERARY Rome, Florence, Lucerne, Paris, London.	PUNTA CANA FROM \$999* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 5 nights all-inclusive 4-star accommodations. Cayman Islands FROM \$1145* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers & 5 nights 5-star accommodations. BONUS 5th night is FREE. Florence Tuscany FROM \$1175* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 5 nights 4-star accommodations. BONUS 5th night is FREE. Beijing FROM \$1269* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 5 nights 5-star accommodations. Rio de Janeiro FROM \$1355* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare & 5 nights 3-star accommodations. UPGRADE 4-star accommodations from \$1525*. London FROM \$1499* INCLUDES roundtrip airfare, hotel transfers & 5 nights 3-star accommodations with a hop on-hop off bus pass. UPGRADE 4-star accommodations from \$1699*.

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SURF REPORT

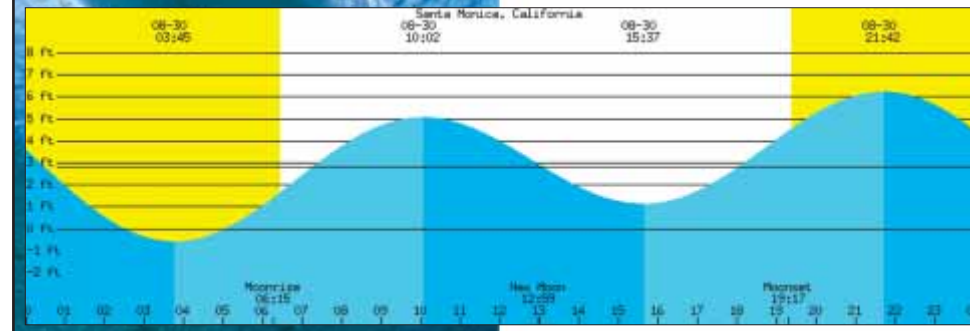


SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 67°

SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)
Saturday the 30th some moderate southern hemi is due from activity that formed recently east of Easter Island. This is looking to bring waist to chest high sets from 180 degrees and hold ground swell-long 16-second periods. No NW wind swell is expected for SoCal. Sunday the 31st this SW is looking to back off to waist+. Wind swell though is expected, and models today have upgraded this possibility.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
ON MONDAY, THE SW SHOULD DECLINE TO WAIST HIGH ...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **August 26, 2008**

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 -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by **simplehuman**

Goldhirsh 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 Cleanup and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Seco Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Palms Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Locks and Las Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Tennesson Canyon drain	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chantreque)	A	ns
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	D	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wilshire Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	B	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain	A	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	C	ns
Lafayette Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Selkirk Canyon at San Blocker County Beach	C	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marine Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily	C	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	D	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	C	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	D	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zero)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	B	ns
Big Rock Beach at 18048 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pine Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DWR jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hygienic Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns			

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.

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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 debris 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 these areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.



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MOVIE TIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Ave. (323) 466-FILM A Hard Day's Night (NR) 1hr 25min John Lennon: Imagine (NR) 1hr 40min 7:30	Death Race (R) 1hr 29min 11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10 Fly Me to The Moon 3-D (G) 1hr 30min 11:45am, 2:05, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00 Tropic Thunder (R) 1hr 47min 11:00am, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:50, 10:45 The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor, The (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:20am, 5:10, 10:35 Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2, The (PG-13) 1hr 57min 2:15, 7:50 The House Bunny (PG-13) 1hr 38min 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741 Elegy (R) 1hr 48min 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 Bottle Shock (PG-13) 1hr 50min 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55 Trouble the Water (NR) 1hr 36min 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00 Tell No One (Ne le dis a person-	ne) (NR) 2hrs 05min 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15 MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:30 The Longshots (PG) 1hr 34min 11:40am, 4:30, 9:30 Traitor (PG-13) 1hr 50min 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, 12:15am The Pineapple Express (R) 1hr 45min 11:30am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20 Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) 1hr 38min 1:50, 6:50 Babylon A.D. (PG-13) 1hr 30min 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00, 12:20am Mamma Mia! (PG-13) 1hr 48min 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10
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For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Where the fun is, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Consider a new beginning for an important relationship. If single, you will acknowledge the smiling faces – some single – who surround you. You might feel negative or uptight. Pressure builds around plans. Tonight: Where the fun is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Use your imagination when dealing with someone who might be a little sad or overly uptight. New beginnings become possible if you are willing to talk and accept your side of a problem. Tonight: Live it up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Stay close to home. Invite favorite people over if you feel you must have a party or fun happening. Make it OK to be a scrooge or hermit for now. You might just need some extra down time. Tonight: Keep it low-key.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Though you might have wanted to put off a discussion or talk, you see that there is no way around it. New beginnings result for those who can accept responsibility or do something differently. Visit with a neighbor or a friend you rarely see. Tonight: Drop expectations. Listen and share.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ Your expenses are out of control. Talk about what needs to happen financially with a key family member. Try to avoid being so serious. Still, a conversation is pivotal, and new beginnings become possible. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your efforts do count. Look around. You might feel like everyone hangs on you. You make the party. You center a conversation. Express your caring in a way that makes sense to that chosen person. Take a nap if you're dragging. Everyone needs you. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Much goes on behind the scenes. You seem to regain that old magic and charm. You could give in to depression or overthink a situation. Stop. Take some much-needed private time, even if everyone else is social and getting together. Tonight: Mysteriously vanish!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. Zoom in on it. Do not deny friends your presence at their various get-togethers. Crowds become you right now. An older friend could be touchy. You cannot make everyone happy. They need to make themselves happy. Tonight: Center of the action.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ An appearance seems inevitable. Try not to fight it; just let go and let it happen. An older friend or relative proves to be quite demanding. How you project yourself or act might be noticed more than you realize. Do you care? If you do, change your attitude. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Take off on a day trip or a weekend excursion. Try to get going early on, as you could hit an obstacle or two. Do not be too serious; just let go. You can make situations more difficult or a lot easier. Tonight: Experiment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Work with a partner directly. One-on-one relating proves to be most fruitful. News from a distance or a call provides much happiness. Touch base with key friends as well. A serious talk seems inevitable. Tonight: Don't run from commitment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Know when you cannot really impact another's attitude or change plans more to your liking. Relax and try another person's style. See if it works for you. Visit with friends. A talk heralds a new beginning. Tonight: Say yes.

Happy birthday

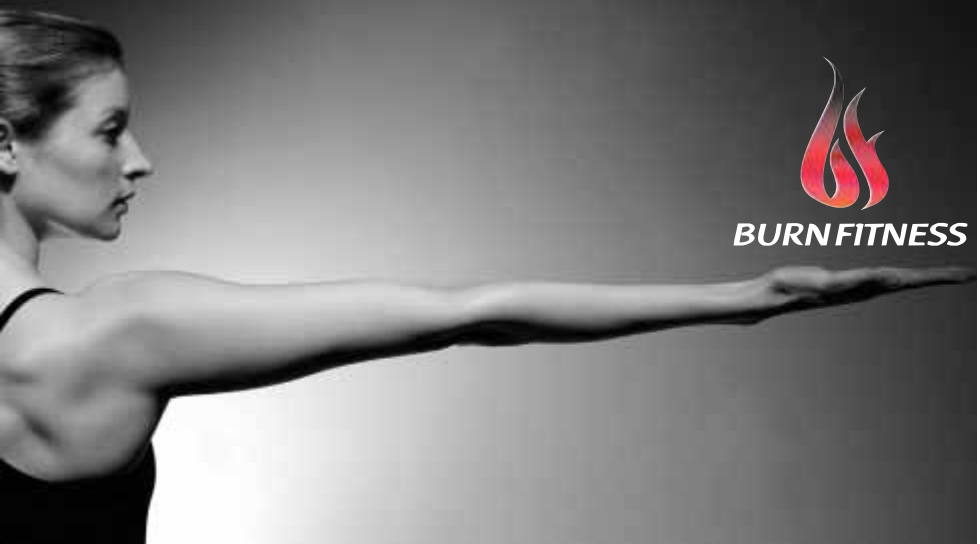
This year, you could decide to venture in a new direction in some segment of your life. Wherever you so choose, you get a new beginning. Express a seemingly endless creativity while trying not too hard to confine a product. You could be overly serious at times. If you are single, you are a magnet for the opposite sex this year. Decide what and whom you want. You will manifest a gift or talent. If you are attached, curb a tendency to be too me-oriented. Though you feel renewed and excited about life, allow your partner to share some of how he or she experiences life. VIRGO can feel like a burden at times.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ Dynamic	★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive	★ Difficult
★★★ Average	

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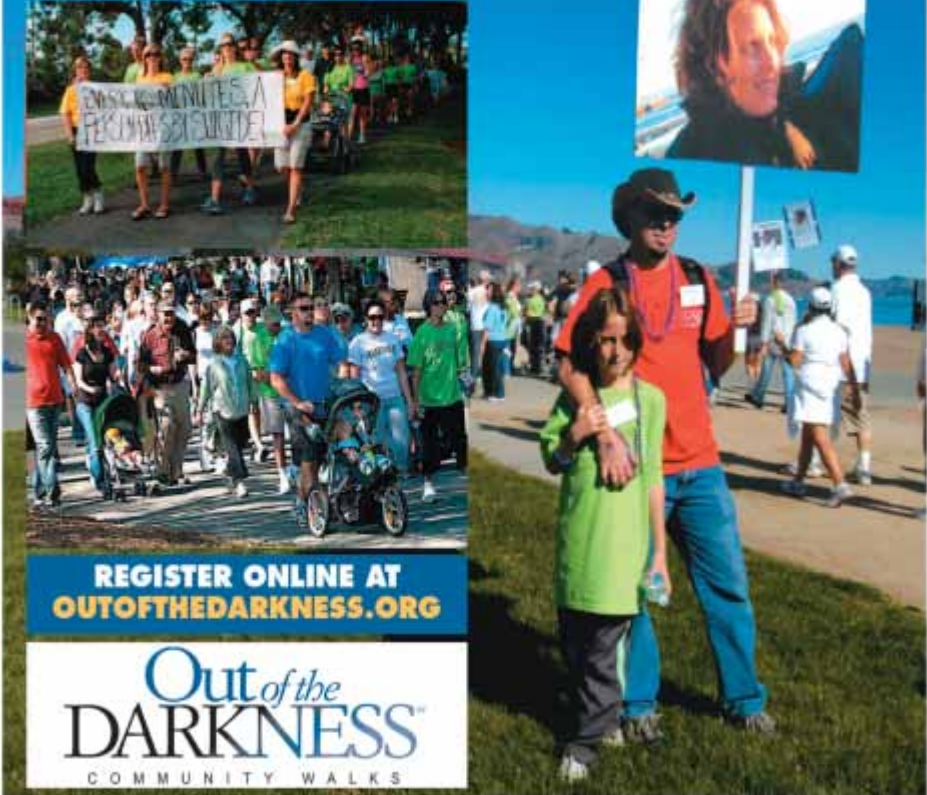
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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

ANNIE JUST CAME BACK FROM HER SIX-WEEK TRIP TO EUROPE

AND HER BOYFRIEND SURPRISED HER WITH FLOWERS AT THE AIRPORT

AND THERE WERE MORE FLOWERS WAITING FOR HER AT HER APARTMENT

BELIEVE ME, IF YOU TAKE A SIX-WEEK VACATION, I'LL GET YOU AS MANY FLOWERS AS YOU WANT

8/30

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FEINSTEIN & BORUS

girlsandsports.com

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

THAT GUY'S REALLY CUTE. DEFINITELY.

LET'S GET A CLOSER LOOK.

CREDIT CARD DEBT, MOMMY ISSUES AND BAD SKIN.

YOU HAVE TO BE SO CAREFUL IN DIMLY LIT BARS.

8/30

Ask Lila at www.meaningoflila.com

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The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

JOURNALISM SCHOOL - STORM REPORTING 101:

OK, GRAB YOUR CAP, LOOK GRIM, AND LEAN INTO THE WIND... WATSON, YOU'RE COVERING THE STATION LOGO ON YOUR MIC AGAIN!

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RAESIDE 8-30

adrian@raesidecartoon.com

Garfield

By Jim Davis

WHAT A GREAT BOOK!

IT'S PERFECT FOR SNEAKING SNACKS

MUNCH MUNCH

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JIM DAVIS 8-30

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

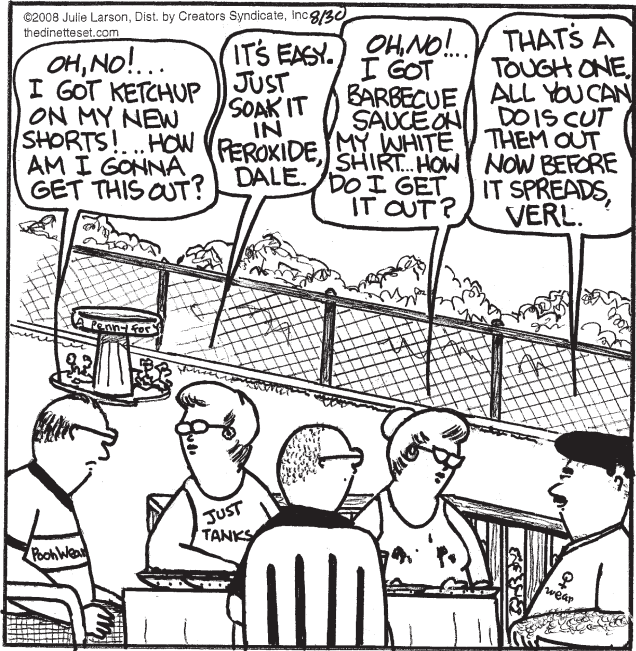
FAITHFUL

THEY SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO MAKE "MYTHBUSTERS" POP-UP BOOKS.

8/30

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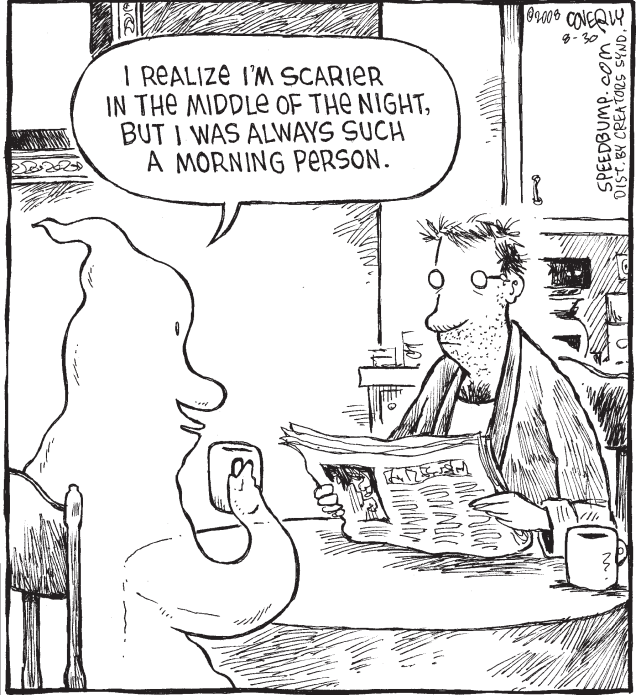
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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 38 Made

1 Abner's blank

7 Goes bad 39 Goals

11 Danseur's 40 Town

forte leaders

12 Cave

sound

13 NC-17

movie

attendees

14 Track part

15 Camp

sights

16 "Search

me"

17 Thus

18 Generic

19 Floral

rings

21 June

honoree

22 Sale

mediator

25 Soup buy

26 "Som-

mersby"

star

27 Ransacks

29 Hotel

worker

33 Writer

Canetti

34 Singer

Lena

35 Sermon

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36 Wolfish

37 Mall

come-on

DOWN

1 Let up

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5 Favorites

6 Score

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10 Flew

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16 Nurse, at

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18 Frasier's

brother

20 Borders

22 Letter

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23 Diamond

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24 Jotting

spot

25 Fold

28 Highway

strips

30 Happen

31 Personal

32 Actions

34 Fling

36 Gettys-

burg loser

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

Yesterday's answer

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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					

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MEGA MILLIONS 6 16 24 34 36
Meganumber: 30
Jackpot: \$132M

Super LOTTO 10 18 20 36 42
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: \$15M

Fantasy 5 4 14 17 20 32

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 0 8 3
EVENING: 1 3 0

DAILY DERBY 1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:46.14

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In July, convicted drug dealer Marcus Anderson opened the door of the Corrections Department van taking him to court, climbed out and walked away into downtown Baltimore. It was an ordinary van without a prisoner cage and whose driver had no gun, handcuffs, phone or radio (because Anderson had arrived late at the pick-up point for the regular prisoner van). An exasperated Judge Charles Bernstein later asked whether the driver had given him bus tokens, too. "If I were a young enterprising criminal," said the judge, "I'd come to Baltimore to set up my practice. This is the place to be. This is the Promised Land."

■ "Brain fingerprinting," reported in News of the Weird in 2000 and 2003 from the experimental work by former Harvard research associate Lawrence Farwell, achieved a breakthrough in July in India, when two murder suspects were convicted based in part on that technology. Though Farwell's theory is somewhat different, the "Brain Electrical Oscillation Signature" used in Mumbai operates on a similar principle, that a different brain area activates when one recalls an actual experience than when one recalls something he merely learned about. Thus, in the India cases, neurologists concluded that the defendants either were present at the murder scene or had actually looked for or transported the murder weapon (and not that they had just read or been told about those facts).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1797 the creator of "Frankenstein," Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, was born.

1861 Union Gen. John C. Fremont instituted martial law in Missouri and declared slaves there to be free. (However, Fremont's order was countermanded days later by President Lincoln).

WORD UP!

redress \rih-DRES\, *transitive verb*:

1. To put in order again; to set right; to emend; to revise.
2. To set right, as a wrong; to repair, as an injury; to make amends for; to remedy; to relieve from.
3. To make amends or compensation to; to relieve of anything unjust or oppressive; to bestow relief upon.

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DBAS

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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/7/2008. 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 8/16/2008, 8/23/2008, 8/30/2008, 9/6/2008

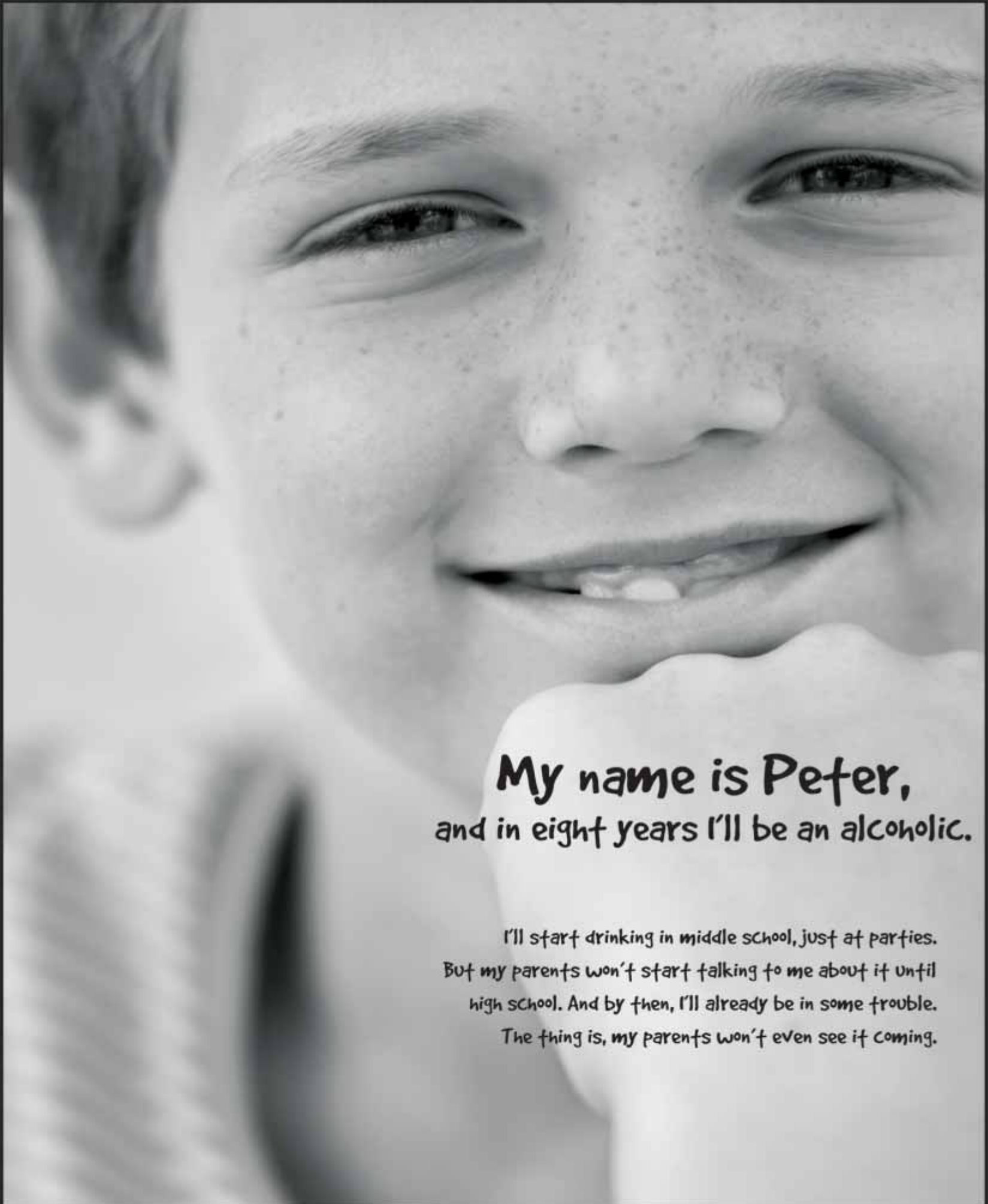
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Average Price of **All** Santa Monica Properties Listed for Sale As of Late August 2008

Single Family Homes

Condos & Townhomes

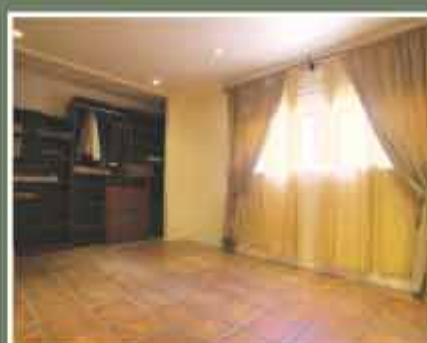
Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$ 3,139,273	\$ 5,730,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 4,029,435	\$ 1,993,833
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 3,640,875	\$ 1,013,096
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