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Volume 9 Issue 252



Santa Monica Daily Press

FINAL WEEK OF DANCE SERIES
SEE INSERT

We have you covered

THE **AWAITING WORD** ISSUE



SCHOOL DAYS

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Students search for classes and pick up books during the second day of school at Santa Monica College on Tuesday.

School board considers solar deal

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS The rooftops at nine Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District campuses could soon be getting solar panels designed to generate two-thirds of the district's electricity needs, under a deal expected to receive approval from the school board at its meeting tonight.

The board signed off on the plan in principle months ago and is being asked tonight to finalize a deal with Regeneration Finance that district officials say will save SMMUSD slightly more than $1 million on electricity costs during the next 25 years.

Under the proposal, the district would provide space for the solar panels at nine campuses free of charge and would enter into a 25-year contract to purchase electricity from Regeneration. The company would agree to sell electricity to SMMUSD at $0.131 per kilowatt hour with an annual escalator of four percent. The proposal is expected to prevent 23,822 tons of greenhouse gases from being produced over the term of the deal.

"The nice thing about this for us is that we will have a guaranteed rate that we know we can budget for and not have to deal with the fluctuation in power costs," said Superintendent Tim Cuneo.

Under the deal with Regeneration, a company called PermaCity would install and maintain the panels.

The proposed contract includes a handful of deal points board members suggested at an earlier meeting, Cuneo said, including an "educational component" to the project and a stipulation Regeneration should "use local labor where commercially practicable."

"We don't have any reservations or we would not have brought it forward," Cuneo said of the proposal.

For Regeneration's part, school campuses make profitable sites for solar panels in part because the best months for converting the sun's rays into electricity are also the months

SEE **SOLAR** PAGE 8

Investor Icahn ups bid for Lions Gate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Activist investor Carl Icahn raised his bid for the boutique film studio Lions Gate Entertainment Corp. on Tuesday, driving up shares to a new high.

Icahn, who has been tussling with the studio's management for more than a year, said he is now offering $7.50 per share, up from $6.50. The move comes after he lowered his bid by 50 cents to $6.50 in July but failed to win over more Lions Gate investors.

Lions Gate shares jumped 88 cents, or 14 percent, in morning trading to $7.37 after setting a new annual high of $7.40.

Icahn said his new offer will only be valid if the extra shares that the company recently issued to Lions Gate director Mark Rachesky are rescinded or converted into nonvoting stock.

Lions Gate, which has resisted Icahn's takeover effort, did a debt-for-equity swap in July in a bid to dilute his stake in the company. It issued 16.2 million new common shares to Rachesky, boosting his stake to 28.9 percent, while diluting Icahn's stake to 33.5 percent from 37.9 percent. Icahn has asked the Supreme Court of British Columbia to reverse the swap.

Lions Gate is based in Vancouver, Canada, though it operates out of Santa Monica. Its most recent releases include "The Expendables" and "The Last Exorcism." And it was also behind the Oscar-nominated movie "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' By Sapphire."

The company said in a statement that it will decide "promptly" whether to recommend that shareholders accept Icahn's latest offer.

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010

On the road to self-discovery
Aero Theatre
7:30 p.m.

After you've mastered the basic of downward dog and child's pose, stop by the Aero Theatre for the world premiere of "Titans of Yoga." From the physician consultant to President Clinton to the "First Lady of Yoga." experts share their experiences in life, addiction, depression and disease. A Q&A will follow with director Johannes R. Fisslinger and others involved in the film.

'Signs of the Forest'
Arena 1 Gallery
3026 Airport Ave., 12 p.m. — 6 p.m.

"Signs of the Forest" is a group exhibition about the forest, metaphorically, physically and philosophically. Each of the 16 artists in the show has been working with nature and/or stories, leaves, branches, or materials which have replaced them in contemporary urban settings, ask the viewer to recall the feeling of "forest" — where the forest itself is but a signifier for nature itself. For more information (310) 397-7456. This event takes Wednesday-Saturday.

Freshen up
Downtown Santa Monica

Arizona Avenue and Second Street, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m. Get the freshest fruit and produce available at this weekly Farmers' Market. There are also a variety of prepared foods available.

Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010

The 'Doctor' is in
Santa Monica Pier
7 p.m.

Dr. John, the funky New Orleans icon, will make the pier the right place at the right time as he closes out the Twilight Dance Series. Eddie Baytos opens this free concert.

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 On page 3 of the Aug. 31 edition of the Daily Press, a pullquote regarding the haunting of Route 66 mainstay Cigars and Stripes in Illinois should have been attributed to Ronnie Lottz, the owner of Cigars and Stripes, not the Georgian Hotel.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

High-tech teaching

Santa Monica College Monday opened its first Digital Learning Studio, a cutting-edge classroom equipped with new technology to improve learning through collaboration.

Modeled after the "Hyperstruction Studio" at the University of California at Riverside, which began in January, 2008 as a teaching experiment, the "classroom of the future," will offer students iPads, SMART interactive whiteboards and response clickers, high-definition video capabilities and mobile furniture, officials said.

A lucky 32 students will be able to experience the hands-on classroom at a time, with one iPad designated to every four students and easily moveable furniture for dynamic classroom configurations.

Ten classes will be taught in the studio, including basic math and English, speech and communications.

The digital studio is located in room 153 of the Letters and Science Building, and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Asian American and Native American Pacific Island Serving Institutions Program grant. SMC qualified for the grant by enrolling about 15 percent Asian-Americans, Native Americans or Pacific Islanders, about 5 percent more than federal guidelines require.

DAILY PRESS

DOWNTOWN

SM firefighters raise money

From Aug. 27-29, Santa Monica firefighters volunteered to help "Fill the Boot" with donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, a non-profit organization working to find a cure for the hereditary disease.

Standing for a few hours a day on Santa Monica Boulevard on the Third Street Promenade, firefighters raised $7,828.68, more than $1,000 more than last year.

Proceeds aim to help fund MDA programs, which includes research, health care services, advocacy and education.

DP



Photo courtesy Oregon State University

BIG DAY: **Former Samohi star Ryan Katz is set to lead Oregon State against TCU on Saturday.**

NCAA FOOTBALL

Big stage set for Katz' first college start

Former Samohi star prepares to lead Oregon State against TCU

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

CORVALLIS, Ore. What a way to make a debut.

Former Santa Monica High School standout quarterback Ryan Katz is scheduled to make the first start of his college career Saturday against No. 6 ranked TCU as he leads No. 24 Oregon State in the season opener.

Making the stakes even higher is the location of the game: the new Cowboys Stadium and its 100,000-plus seating capacity.

Katz, who is a sophomore, doesn't seem to be too fazed about such a daunting task.

"I think it's a good opportunity for me," Katz said. "It should be a fun game."

Since graduating from Samohi in 2008, Katz has been relegated to being a backup with few opportunities to take the field. That changes on Saturday.

"Ryan is well prepared, and that is the best thing for him as far as the confidence and being able to handle it," OSU Head Coach Mike Riley said during a press conference on Tuesday. "There will still be

SEE **KATZ** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bikes have a place

Editor:

The purpose of the LUCE plan is to set development standards that make Santa Monica a cleaner, healthier and more livable city. The LUCE plan aims to improve cycling infrastructure in the city, something which has taken a back seat for too long. Many past public meetings I have attended have been dominated by motorists demanding improvements for their mode of transport. Now that cyclists in Santa Monica have a voice, Bill Bauer seems a little bit vexed ("Whose public benefits?" My Write, Aug. 30).

Santa Monica is home to Google, Yahoo, and many other smaller tech or creative firms. Companies flock here for a reason. Agensys is doing the courting, and Santa Monicans have the full power to make the decision. Agensys does bring quite a few good things to the table, but that does not mean that we should bow down and lower our standards. Our citizens have the right to make legitimate requests on things that affect their quality of life. If someone is "hardcore" because they deeply care about the community they live in, then I want to see some more of these residents popping out of the woodwork and voicing their opinions. But in a more civilized and less spiteful manner than Bill Bauer.

Bauer's article seems to lack focus and takes Don Quixote-like swings at his imaginary foes. If Bauer cannot see the benefits of cycling then that is his loss. But his personal attacks cannot go unnoticed. Barbara Filet is just one of the vocal supporters of a bike thoroughfare on Agensys grounds. If he was dutiful enough to attend more public meetings concerning this development project, then he would realize how many more locals are championing the bike path in question.

Mihai Peteu
Santa Monica Spoke

Getting the economy rolling

Editor:

After a morning of reading about our disintegrating economy, joblessness, decreasing GNP, home foreclosures, bankruptcies, soaring deficits and looming prospects of high taxes, increases in healthcare premiums and even yet more government regulations, I decided to take a time out; so my wife and I would try to relax over lunch at our favorite cafe in Santa Monica. We ordered our usual ice tea and sandwiches, but I was still musing about our deteriorating economy, which was once the strongest in the world.

As I was nibbling on my BLT, I began to overhear a conversation between the guys sitting at the table across from us. They seemed enthusiastic and were animated as I began to pick up bits and pieces of their discussion. It seemed they had developed some kind of new product and were working out the details of production, marketing, advertising and distribution. I then realized that I was witnessing the birth of a new private enterprise and I was impressed. I thought this is what America is all about. It is these three guys and all those like them that really fuel our economy. This is what creates jobs, which in turn produces revenue for our government. It is the "good ole" American entrepreneurs that make this country great, not government politicians who may never have had an original idea in their life and serve only to stifle our ambitions.

Then I thought, Washington, turn us loose and we the people will get this economy humming again.

Don Wagner
Santa Monica



Your column here

Kelly Olsen

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Long history of supporting biodiesel

MR. D. GOLSTEIN'S LETTER AND WILD accusations about myself and Santa Monica Police Sgt. Jay Trisler, and our reaction to two serious crimes that took place just outside my residence on the evening of Aug. 19, seemed to be based on significant misinformation ("Thieves or environmentalists," Letters to the Editor, Aug. 27). I believe it would be helpful to Mr. Golstein and your readers to have the actual facts about this incident and important issue.

Around midnight of that evening I witnessed two men stealing large quantities of a valuable commodity from an adjacent business, which is a Carl's Jr. fast food establishment. My questions to the men of what they were doing displeased one of the thieves and he struck me. These two individuals were later apprehended and arrested for the theft and the assault.

The material that was being stolen was used restaurant cooking oil. This is a highly sought-after commodity and when properly collected and recycled into biodiesel fuel it becomes an essential tool in getting our nation off our foreign and domestic oil dependency and putting an end to the madness of continuing to drill for oil.

For used cooking oil to be successfully recycled into biodiesel, it must be properly handled by reputable companies that are certified and follow environmentally sound practices. One of the legitimate companies that collects used oil in Santa Monica and recycles it into biodiesel is family-owned, has a large investment in their business, goes through a lot of costly governmental regulation and has employees that depend on their jobs to pay their bills and take care of their families. These are hard working people struggling to stay in business and provide a valuable environmental service to our community.

Mr. Golstein characterized the thieves that were caught stealing the oil and committed the assault as a couple of kids with an "entrepreneurial sprit." In fact, these "kids" were large men with a sophisticated operation consisting of a heavy-duty commercial truck, hoses, generator and at least four professional grade containers capable of holding several hundred gallons of oil. This type of operation could easily rake in $5,000 to $10,000 per week stealing used cooking oil. These are organized and violent thieves and are stealing source material from the rightful, environmentally-responsible recyclers.

Mr. Golstein claimed that the efforts of Sgt. Jay Trisler and myself to stop these thefts are motivated by our support of "corporations" and "big oil." There is no evidence to support Mr. Golstein's irresponsible accusations. As for Sgt. Trisler, he is an excellent officer, serves our community with integrity and I believe he is owed a public apology.

As for myself, I initiated Santa Monica's first Alternative Fueled Vehicle Policy 18 years ago when I was on the City Council. This policy prohibits the purchase of a gasoline vehicle if any other fueled vehicle exists. Because of this policy and my constant rally against the use of fuel made from crude oil, Santa Monica has become a leader in the use of electric, natural gas and biodiesel-fueled vehicles. Besides my efforts to further the use of biodiesel made from recycled cooking oil, I'm an active member of and volunteer for the electric vehicle advocacy group, Plug In America, I'm a member of the Sustainable Transportation Club, I have an electric vehicle on order and I'm a major bicycle advocate. If I'm working on behalf of "big oil" and "corporations" as Mr. Golstein contends, I'm not serving them very well.

Mr. Golstein stated that the thieves should not be stopped and instead I should "lead an effort with young people, local businesses and the sanitation authority to begin a project which converts cooking oil into biodiesel which could be used to operate buses, garbage trucks and generators."

These are the exact things I have been doing for the past several years. I organized a day-long biodiesel educational summit at Santa Monica's Crossroads School where students from that school as well as Santa Monica High School were taught about the benefits of biodiesel. I convinced the owners of a Santa Monica garbage collection company to run their fleet of collection trucks on biodiesel made entirely from recycled cooking oil, including oil recycled from Santa Monica fast food establishments and hotels.

I organized the first Los Angeles area Biodiesel Conference, which was held here in Santa Monica. I have advised several of the past and current council members on the use of recycled cooking oil based biodiesel, and at the request of the city manager, I met with senior city staff to educate them about the benefits of recycled cooking oil based biodiesel and how the collection and recycling of the oil could be expanded in our community and the resulting fuel used by the city's vehicles. I have been doing the things Mr. Golstein suggested, except I put them in action and made them a reality many years prior to his letter.

I ask that Mr. Golstein consider supporting our efforts to ensure that this valuable environmental resource is not allowed to be turned into a commodity for organized, violent thieves that make our neighborhoods unsafe, and is instead collected, recycled and returned to our community as fuel by companies that are locally owned, job supporting, neighbor friendly and environmentally responsible.

KELLY OLSEN is a former Santa Monica City Councilman and planning commissioner.

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Sisters you don't want in your family

EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE A LOT OF GOOD people at Saint John's Health Center doing their best to provide outstanding care to patients, the decisions made by management and the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System undermine that good work. As its sewage repeatedly pollutes our air, water, and beaches — and it remains indifferent to the traffic choking our streets — the hospital proves itself to be Santa Monica's worst neighbor. As they offend their own core values of respect and stewardship, Sister Sue Miller and the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas, have proven themselves to be the worst Catholic ministry ever.

First of all, they lie. The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System entered into a development agreement with the city of Santa Monica laying out the exact terms and conditions of the reconstruction of Saint John's after the Northridge earthquake. Because of the pressure the estimated 29,000 daily new car trips to the hospital would put on the surrounding community, the Sisters agreed to build a 422-space underground parking garage. Construction of the new campus is just about finished, but there is no additional parking capacity. And the fact that they've applied for an amendment to their development agreement relieving them of their obligation to build the garage means there probably never will be any additional parking capacity.

Sister Sue and her enabling local land use attorneys/lobbyists will argue that steps are being taken through a Transportation Demand Management Plan to make up for the un-built garage. But the fact that there are no signs that the Sisters ever planned for or designed that garage, as required by the development agreement, means they haven't operated in good faith, as required by California law. You'd think good faith is something that would come naturally to an order of nuns.

They also cheat. In an effort to keep its registered nurses from exercising their right to form, join, or assist the California Nurses Association, Saint John's management committed six different violations of federal labor law. They illegally barred off-duty RN's from organizing in the hospital, illegally threatened off-duty employees with arrest, and illegally created the impression that employees were being followed and/or watched. Also, when RN's wore white ribbons as "an expression of union solidarity, as well as a concern about the hospital's non-compliance with a staffing law dealing with nurse-patient ratios," management illegally prohibited wearing the ribbons and illegally threatened discipline against RN's who didn't comply. That kind of behavior toward people who work tirelessly on behalf of Saint John's patients is hard to condone when your core values require you to "recognize the sacred worth and dignity of each person."

In addition to their established lying and cheating, we've just discovered that they steal. Last week, the Civil Fraud Section of the United States Attorney's Office and the Office of the Inspector General for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that they had reached a settlement with Saint John's over allegations that the hospital had overcharged for "outlier payments" designed to re-pay hospitals for ridiculously expensive care. Without admitting any wrongdoing, the hospital agreed to pay $5.25 million in fines for "turbocharging" or "jacking up already outrageous bills" for seven years between 1996 and 2003.

Who was the victim of this crime spree? Who were the Sisters robbing blind for almost a decade? It was the single payer for seniors' health care, the taxpayer-funded social safety net known as Medicare. They were violating the sacred trust between generations.

At this point, nothing shocks me when it comes to Saint John's, The SCLHS, or Sister Sue. I was a little surprised when spokeswoman Tish Starbuck said the development agreement didn't "require" the construction of the parking garage, rather "gave permission to build it" because she was inadvertently breaking news. But to me, the fact that Sister Sue and her giant hospital corporation masquerading as a Catholic ministry have been screwing over the U.S. Treasury seems par for the course. I like the fact that the Justice Department is making her cut a respectable seven-figure check, but that just makes our City Council look weak and ineffectual by comparison.

The Sisters were obligated to submit their (nonexistent to date) plans for both the building and the operations of the North Subterranean Parking Garage before they could start on the Chan Soon-Shiong Center, now fully constructed. Given that fact, I can't help but wonder what would have happened if the council had, as required by Santa Monica Municipal Code Sec. 9.48.190, reviewed the Saint John's development agreement "at least every 12 months from the date the development agreement is entered into." If the council had conducted the required annual review even once over the past decade (and counting), the Sisters wouldn't be able to get out of building that garage by saying, "Sorry, we put a hospital on top of it."

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider with four-quadrant crossover appeal who hopes the Planning Commission and/or the City Council rejects Saint John's application to amend their development agreement (why should it be amended?).

The Q Line

Ticket to ride

The Big Blue Bus increased its fares this week for the first time in years. Some feel the new rates may hurt some of the transit system's most vulnerable riders, including the elderly and disabled.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think the fare increase will deter you from riding the BBB, or is the increase long overdue?

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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WALL STREET

Stock market ends weak month with modest gains

BERNARD CONDON
STEPHEN BERNARD
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK The stock market ended its worst August since 2001 with meager gains Tuesday after minutes from the latest Federal Reserve meeting showed officials' increasing concern about the economy.

Stock indexes gave up most of their gains in mid-afternoon after the release of minutes from the Fed's Aug. 10 meeting. Fed officials said during their discussions that they recognized that the economy might need further stimulus beyond the purchases of government debt the central bank announced that day. Some of the officials acknowledged that economy had softened more than they had anticipated.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended with a gain of 5 points, having been up 64 following a reading on consumer confidence in August that came in stronger than expected. Stocks fell sharply for much of August after a series of reports suggested that the recovery has weakened.

The S&P 500, the measure used most by stock market professionals, finished August with a loss of 4.7 percent. It was the S&P 500's worst showing for the month since August 2001, when it lost 6.4 percent as the dot-com bubble collapsed. Year-to-date, the S&P 500 is down 5.9 percent.

Some traders said there was disappointment that the Fed wasn't pessimistic enough to consider quicker steps to stimulate that economy.

Dan Cook, senior market analyst with the brokerage firm IG Markets, said the minutes gave a picture of a cautious and conservative Fed. While officials acknowledged the economy's problems, they chose to take only small, initial steps. Traders who have hoped the Fed would be more aggressive to stimulate the economy soon aren't so sure now that the central bank will act.

"People are thinking maybe we need more of a downturn before the Fed will jump in," Cook said. Unlike traders, he said, "the Fed moves like a glacier."

The Dow rose 4.99, or 0.05 percent, to close at 10,014.72.

Broader indexes were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 0.41, or 0.04 percent, to 1,049.33. The Nasdaq composite index fell 5.94, or 0.3 percent, to 2,114.03.

Other market indicators also had dismal performances in August, having surged ahead in July on a series of strong earnings reports. The Dow lost 4.3 percent in August, while the Nasdaq lost 6.2 percent.

Rising stocks outpaced falling ones by about 4 to 3 on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume was low at 4.5 billion shares.

Volume has been very light in recent days, which can exaggerate movements in the market.

"The low volume (is a sign) there's not a lot of belief on either side," said John Merrill, chief investment officer at Tanglewood Wealth Management. The market "is treading water as people are looking for a discernible trend."

Treasury prices rose, sending their yields lower, as cautious investors put money back into bonds. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which helps set interest rates on mortgages and other kinds of loans, fell to 2.47 percent from 2.53 percent late Monday.

A weaker reading on manufacturing activity in the Midwest Tuesday was the latest report to follow the negative trend. The drop in the Chicago Purchasing Managers Index was similar to declines seen in other regional manufacturing reports earlier this month.

Some investors worry that the signals of weakness in the economy emerging recent weeks could suggest a slowdown throughout the second half of the year and possibly even a dip back into recession.

Joseph Battipaglia, market strategist at Stifel Nicolaus & Co., said the drop in August matters less than what caused it: signs that economic growth is slowing, or worse.

"The evidence suggests we're going into a recession," he said. "The S&P has held nicely north of 1,000 but we'll break through it."

Overseas, Japanese stocks were hammered as the yen hovers near a 15-year high against the dollar. Many Japanese companies like Sony, Panasonic and Toyota rely heavily on exports, so a stronger yen cuts into their profits. Japan's Nikkei stock average tumbled to a 16-month low, falling 3.6 percent.

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MEDIA

'Madden' meets social media

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Electronic Arts is bringing its popular "Madden" football game to Facebook. "Madden NFL Superstars" launches as a free application Tuesday.

The game lets players create fantasy teams featuring more than 1,500 current NFL players from this year's team rosters. The fantasy teams compete with one another on Facebook. Or, they can play against fantasy versions of the season's actual NFL teams.

Electronic Arts Inc. plans to make money from the game by letting players pay nominal amounts of money for better players and other game content. Those microtransactions are expected to add up, though the majority of players are expected to play the game without paying a dime.

"NFL Superstars," which comes a week before the football season kicks off, follows EA's "FIFA Superstars" soccer game for Facebook. That game has about 4 million players.

EA Sports President Peter Moore said the idea is to bring "Madden" to a broader audience beyond the fans of the console version, which sells about 5 million to 6 million units each year and can be complicated to play.

"NFL Superstars" was created by EA Sports and Playfish, the social game company EA bought last year for $275 million.

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MEDIA

MTV pulls Viacom out of slump with 'Jersey Shore'

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES MTV is finally getting its mojo back, thanks to the tanned twenty-somethings of "Jersey Shore."

Ever since its December debut, the show's buzz has been huge — even making it into one of President Barack Obama's speeches. The July 29 start of the second season, shot in Miami, drew 5.3 million viewers, nearly quadruple the original opener. And audiences have been staying put ever since.

"It's like a train wreck," said Tina Cordova, a Washington, D.C.-based contractor, who gathers with her "Jersey"-loving girlfriends to watch every Thursday night. "You just can't look away."

"Jersey Shore" is just one contributor to a ratings rebound that MTV has enjoyed since January. It marks MTV's first consistent gain in three years.

That's a big win for parent company Viacom Inc., as its movie studio Paramount Pictures has been paring down its slate. Higher ratings mean advertisers from fast food chains to clothing retailers are lining up to get on board. Analysts say that should help boost the stock price in the months ahead.

Executives say that it's no fluke that many of its shows including "Jersey Shore" are taking off. The executives credit new programming spending and plenty of research into what young people want to see: more real situations, less fake glamour and fewer competitions.

"'The Hills' was definitely a fabricated reality and 'Jersey Shore' and 'Teen Mom' are more harsh, authentic realities. And that is what's resonating much more today," said Van Toffler, president of MTV Networks' Music and Logo Group, which oversees the flagship network and other channels such as CMT.

MTV's ratings had been steadily declining as some of its reality shows such as "Real World," now in its 24th season, were getting old. Sister networks Comedy Central and Nickelodeon have ebbed and flowed for several years.

But since the beginning of July, MTV's ratings are up 22 percent among its core audience of people ages 12 to 34, and ratings are up 15 percent in core demographics across key Viacom channels MTV, Comedy Central, Nickelodeon and TV Land.

A mix of new reality shows, scripted comedies and such up-and-coming comedians as Daniel Tosh on "Tosh.0" are all helping the mix.

"Our anchor tenants in the building are connecting with their fans," said Judy McGrath, MTV Networks' chief executive. "A lot of work went into it, and it's working."

Toffler said that Millennials - young people born roughly since 1980 - are more conservative and family-based than the generation before them. He said they like to learn their life lessons alongside mindless fun.

Edging away from contrived scenarios and extravagant lifestyles and toward regular people and their problems is also striking a chord with audiences during hard economic times.

It's no mistake that "Jersey Shore's" partyers enjoy their late-night clubbing after stints working at a gelato shop, or that Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino's formula for success consists of such mundane tasks as "gym, tan and laundry."

> **"OUR ANCHOR TENANTS IN THE BUILDING ARE CONNECTING WITH THEIR FANS. A LOT OF WORK WENT INTO IT, AND IT'S WORKING."**
>
> **Judy McGrath**
> MTV Networks' Chief Executive.

"It's people they can identify with," said Brad Adgate, a senior vice president and director of research at ad agency Horizon Media. "Really, a part of their success has been driven by that."

Among other MTV winners is "The Hard Times of RJ Berger," a coming-of-age comedy that is a rare foray for MTV into scripted programming. Audiences also have been drawn to "The Buried Life," in which four people chase "100 things to do before you die" while making other people's dreams come true for every task of their own that they accomplish.

Caris & Co. analyst David Miller says MTV's ratings are as "golden" as spray tan and he rates Viacom's widely traded Class B stock "above average" with a target price of $42, about a third above the current level.

With Viacom set to renew a $4 billion share buyback program starting in October, shareholders should see stock prices rise as profits are concentrated among fewer shares. "We can see why management is salivating over buying back stock at these levels," Miller wrote in a research note.

Viacom's advertising revenue rose 4 percent in the latest quarter compared with last year, marking the second straight period of increase. Because advertising increases typically trail ratings gains by six to eight months, Miller wrote, the recent ratings boom should translate into more advertising dollars soon.

Aside from MTV, the Web video-inspired show "Tosh.0" on Comedy Central is attracting more men under 34 than any other television show on Wednesday nights. User-submitted clips with such names as "Giant Butt Girl" and "Wedding Vomit" suggest the kind of tawdry humor that is making guys laugh.

Nickelodeon's dominance among pre-teens is also getting a boost from its new math-focused "Team Umizoomi" show, which runs on alongside longtime hits "SpongeBob SquarePants," "iCarly," and "Dora the Explorer."

Even 88-year-old Betty White is helping grow the company's fan base among a slightly older crowd with the show "Hot in Cleveland" on TV Land, which debuted to a huge audience of 5.8 million in June. The channel's fans, nurtured on traditional sitcoms such as "Hogan's Heroes" and "Gilligan's Island," were ready for an original show, White said.



SOLAR
FROM PAGE 1

when classrooms use the least amount of energy.

That allows the company to get a premium for excess electricity generated during the summer, according to Todd Friedman, Regeneration's vice president of sales and business development.

"The value of the energy produced during the summer months is the highest," he said.

The solar panels would be installed at the following campuses: Grant Elementary, Franklin Elementary, McKinley Elementary, Muir/SMASH, Rogers Elementary, Roosevelt Elementary, Cabrillo Elementary. Pt. Dume Elementary and Webster Elementary.

nickt@smdp.com

KATZ
FROM PAGE 3

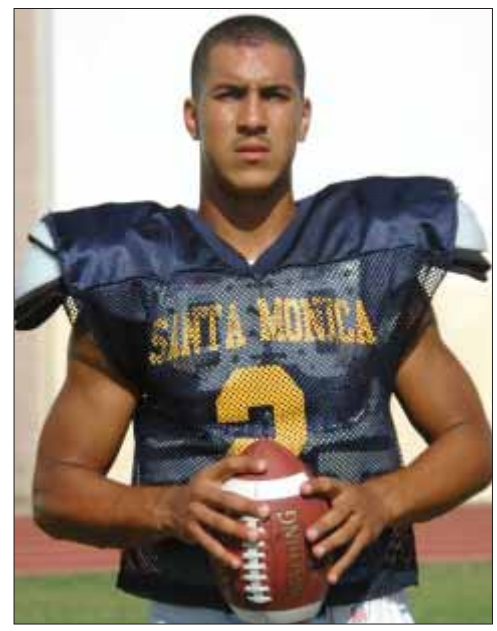
some butterflies now, it's his first start, and he has been looking forward to this for a long time. As soon as (players) decide where they're going to college, they start thinking about that time when they are going to get to play. He has been here for over two years and he's well prepared. With that preparation, comes a natural excitement, which is a lot of different emotions."

Helping ease any anxiety Katz may have heading into the game is the work he put in during the summer. He and the heralded Rodgers brothers, running back Jacquizz and wide receiver James, have gone as far as leading players-only practices to build chemistry as Oregon State heads into the season nationally ranked.

"It went well," Katz said of the practices. "It was good to see guys stick around during the summer."

If Katz is experiencing any jitters in the days before taking on TCU he'll have to get over that fast. TCU comes into the game on the heels of an appearance in a Bowl Championship Series game last season and should give the OSU Beavers a hard time in what is technically a neutral site game, despite being played in TCU's home state of Texas.

"I know Coach Riley's philosophy is to run the ball," Katz said, "but I feel that we'll get opportunities to take shots down the field, giving us a balanced attack."



File photo

KATZ

As for those nerves, Katz told the Daily Press he'll take that in stride.

"I'm just ready to come out and play," he said. "Considering that it's been two years since high school, I'm just excited to get at it again."

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Hurricane Earl could force evacuations

EMERY P. DALESIO
Associated Press Writer

RALEIGH, N.C. A powerful Hurricane Earl threatened to sideswipe much of the East Coast just ahead of Labor Day, worrying countless vacationers who planned to spend the traditional last week of summer at the beach.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency warned people along the Eastern Seaboard to prepare for possible evacuations and islanders in the Turks and Caicos hunkered down in their homes Tuesday as the Category 4 hurricane steamed across the Caribbean with winds of 135 mph.

North Carolina officials late Tuesday announced the first evacuation would be Ocracoke Island beginning at 5 a.m. Wednesday. Tourists would be ordered to leave the barrier island accessible only by ferries, but those who live there year-round have the option to stay.

Earl was expected to remain over the open ocean before turning north and running parallel to the East Coast, bringing high winds and heavy rain to North Carolina's Outer Banks by late Thursday or early Friday. From there, forecasters said, it could curve away from the coast somewhat as it makes it way north, perhaps hitting Massachusetts' Cape Cod and the Maine shoreline on Friday night and Saturday.

"My guests are calling and they don't know what to do and I don't know what to tell them," said Dave Dawson, owner of the oceanfront Cape Hatteras Motel in Buxton, N.C.

Forecasters cautioned that it was still too early to tell how close Earl might come to land. But not since Hurricane Bob in 1991 has such a powerful storm had such a large swath of the East Coast in its sights, said Dennis Feltgen, spokesman for the National Hurricane Center.

"A slight shift of that track to the west is going to impact a great deal of real estate with potential hurricane-force winds," Feltgen said.

Even if Earl stays well offshore, it will kick up rough surf and dangerous rip currents up and down the coast through the Labor Day weekend, a prime time for beach vacations, forecasters said.

The approaching storm troubled many East Coast beach towns that had hoped to capitalize on the BP oil spill and draw visitors who normally vacation on the Gulf Coast.

On Monday, Earl delivered a glancing blow to several small Caribbean islands, tearing roofs off homes and knocking out electricity to people in Anguilla, Antigua and St. Maarten. In Puerto Rico, nearly 187,000 people were without power and 60,000 without water, Gov. Luis Fortuno said. Cruise ships were diverted and flights canceled across the region. But there were no reports of deaths or serious injuries.

On Tuesday, gusty winds from Earl's outer fringes whipped palm fronds and whistled through doors in the Turks and Caicos Islands as tied-down boats seesawed on white-crested surf.

Islanders gathered to watch big waves pound a Grand Turk shore as the wind sent sand and salt spray flying.

"We can hear the waves crashing against the reef really seriously," Kirk Graff, owner of the Captain Kirks Flamingo Cove Marina, said by telephone as he watched the darkening skies. "Anybody who hasn't secured their boats by now is going to regret it."

> **"A SLIGHT SHIFT OF THAT TRACK TO THE WEST IS GOING TO IMPACT A GREAT DEAL OF REAL ESTATE WITH POTENTIAL HURRICANE-FORCE WINDS."**
>
> **Dennis Feltgen**
> Spokesman for the National Hurricane Center

In the U.S., FEMA administrator Craig Fugate said state and local authorities may need to order evacuations along the Eastern Seaboard later this week if the storm does not veer away as expected.

"Today is the day to make sure you have your plan completed and your supplies in place," he said.

As of late Tuesday afternoon, Earl was centered about 150 miles east of Grand Turk island — and 1,000 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, N.C. — as it headed northwest at 14 mph. Close on its heels was Tropical Storm Fiona, which had weakened considerably and not expected to get stronger at least for a couple of days.

Carl Hanes of Newport News, Va., kept an eye on the weather report as he headed for the beach near his rented vacation home in Avon, N.C. He, his wife and their two teenage children were anticipating Earl might force them to leave on Thursday, a day ahead of schedule.

"We're trying not to let it bother us," Hanes said before enjoying the calm surf.

In Rehoboth Beach, Del., Judy Rice said she has no plans to leave the vacation home where she has spent most of the summer. In fact, the Oak Hill, Va., resident plans to walk around town in the rain if it comes.

"I kind of enjoy it actually. You know, it's battling the elements," Rice said. "I have seen the rain go sideways, and, yeah, it can be scary, but I have an old house here in Rehoboth, so it's probably more important that I am here during a storm than anywhere."

In the Florida Panhandle, which has struggled all summer to lure back tourists scared away by the Gulf oil spill, bookings were up 12 percent over last year at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. The resort is nowhere near Earl's projected path, and spokeswoman Laurie Hobbs said she suspects the increase in reservations was partly because of a discount the hotel is offering and partly because of the hurricane.

"Weather drives business," she said. "They go to where the weather is best."



Migrants: Crossing Arizona worth risk

AMANDA LEE MYERS
JULIE WATSON
Associated Press Writers

NOGALES, Mexico Hector Ortega stumbled across the body of a fellow migrant as he walked across Arizona's harsh desert in the searing summer heat. He tried not to look too closely.

With nothing to be done for the deceased, Ortega and the others trudged on, guided by a smuggler across the U.S. border, determined to complete their illegal odyssey even as they endured record-high temperatures and fever-pitch resentment.

At 64, the farm laborer with a weathered face, strong hands and silver hair protruding from his baseball cap was stoic about the body — someone's journey cut short near a stand of scrub bush and cactus.

"What can you do about it in the desert?" he asked.

Deaths of illegal immigrants in Arizona have soared this summer toward their highest levels since 2005 — a fact that has surprised many who thought that the furor over the state's new immigration law and the 100-plus degree heat would draw them elsewhere along the 2,000-mile U.S.-Mexico border.

But at the Pima County morgue in Tucson, Ariz., the body bags are stacked on stainless-steel shelves from floor to ceiling. A refrigerated truck has been brought in to handle the overflow at the multimillion dollar facility.

In July, 59 people died — 40 in the first two weeks when nighttime temperatures were the hottest in recorded history, hovering around the low 90s. The single-month death count is second only to July 2005, when 68 bodies were found.

Of this July's deaths, 44 were on the Tohono O'Odham Nation, a reservation the size of Connecticut that shares 75 miles of Arizona's border with Mexico. The tribe is opposed to humanitarian aid on its lands, believing it invites violence.

Twenty-two more people died in the first 30 days of August.

Even with the prospect of a torturous death, and the bitter wrath they face in Arizona, immigrants, including Ortega, say the state's vast, sparsely populated terrain is still the best place for border jumpers.

"In Tijuana, you have two walls that you have to get over," said Ortega, who first came across in 1976 to work in West Coast agricultural fields. "This is much easier here. You just have to watch out for the snakes. That's why I prefer to walk in the daytime and not at night."

He admits he's afraid when he crosses, but states flatly, "It's worth the risk."

Even though — after two days of traversing the desert — he and his group were caught by U.S. Border Patrol agents when they reached a freeway and their ride wasn't there.

Resting at a shelter for failed border crossers that sits atop a steep hill in Mexico overlooking the city of Nogales, Ortega expanded on his motives. "It's the only way to make a little money to support my family," he said.

The shelter is a simple but large home with warnings about the dangers of the crossing posted on its walls. It gives those who've been sent back across a hot meal of tortillas, rice and beans, and bunk beds stacked three high.

One room has been converted into a chapel. On a recent night, a woman sobbed quietly while another migrant tried to comfort her.

Ortega knows risks. He is from Apatzingan in Michoacan, where drug gangs have shot up federal agents and terrorized the impoverished farm town.

Roberto Hernandez de Rosas, a quiet 18-year-old with a quick smile, said his family paid a smuggler $1,500 to take him and his brother across the Arizona desert and on to Los Angeles.

Hernandez's brother had already made the trip three times and the smuggler told them Arizona was still the easiest place to cross.

He was told it would cost twice as much to cross from Tijuana, where smugglers sell immigrants fake documents to walk through the port of entry.

"The town where I'm from, it's like being in jail, it's like a death," said Hernandez, who is from a mountain village in the impoverished southern state of Puebla. "You have to think twice about crossing the desert, but when you don't have any money, you need to look for a better life."

Hernandez and his brother were spotted by a Border Patrol helicopter in the morning after walking through the desert during the night. Authorities returned Hernandez to Mexico but his brother was jailed because he'd been deported before.

Hernandez had been at the shelter for a few days waiting for his brother to be released from custody because he had all his documents. After that, Hernandez said he wanted to go back home rather than attempt another crossing.

But he expected his brother to try again because his 2-year-old son is in Los Angeles.

Most of those who trickled into the shelter planned to try again, shrugging off Arizona's new law giving local authorities the power to arrest them — currently stayed by a federal court order. They are also unfazed by the Mexican government's warning to its citizens to avoid the state.

Sofia Gomez, of an aid group called Humane Borders, said crossers are traveling through even more remote areas than in previous years. At the same time, anger over illegal immigration has led to people shooting up the water stations her group has placed in the desert.

"They're taking a higher risk and they're not making it," Gomez said.

So far this year, the body count is at 171, the same number the Pima County Medical Examiner's Office had seen at this time in 2007, the year the office saw a record 217 deaths.

Most of the deceased were young, healthy men — at least at the outset of their trips. By the time they reach the morgue, many are in advanced stages of decomposition and beyond recognition. Bag after bag is tagged with "John Doe" or "Jane Doe" as officials wait for families to come forward to report loved ones missing.

But often the relatives of the deceased are waiting back home to hear from them, believing they are busy working in the United States.

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New data: Fewer kids in foster care

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

NEW YORK The number of U.S. children in foster care has dropped 8 percent in just one year, and more than 20 percent in the past decade, according to new federal figures underscoring the impact of widespread reforms.

The drop, hailed by child-welfare advocates, is due largely to a shift in the policies and practices of state and county child welfare agencies. Many have been shortening stays in foster care, speeding up adoptions and expanding preventive support for troubled families so more children avoid being removed from their homes in the first place.

The new figures, released Tuesday by the Department of Health and Human Services, show there were 423,773 children in foster care as of Sept. 30. That's down from 460,416 a year earlier and from more than 540,000 a decade ago.

California had the biggest one-year drop — from 67,703 to 60,198. Just eight years ago, the state had more than 90,000 children in foster care.

Florida, Illinois, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania are among other major states that have lowered their numbers sharply over the decade.

"It's extraordinary," said Terri Braxton, a vice president of the Child Welfare League of America. "There's been a major focus on foster-care awareness, on new legislative policies, and it's heartening to see that these efforts are finally paying off."

Though many of the initiatives are at the state level, Braxton said the trend had been aided by a federal law, the 2008 Fostering Connections Act. It allows use of federal funds to assist children who leave foster care to live with relatives other than their parents — an arrangement which in the past was generally not eligible for federal aid.

Braxton said many challenges remain, including dealing with the increasing number of foster youths aging out of the system without a permanent family. The number of such youths rose from 19,000 in 1999 to a record high of nearly 30,000 in 2008.

Kathi Crowe, executive director of the National Foster Care Coalition, said a key factor behind the lower foster care numbers was the greater emphasis on preventive services, so fewer children needed to be removed from their homes.

"And in cases where they are removed, there's now a real priority to provide the kids with permanent homes so they don't languish in the system any longer than they need to," she said. "All those things combined — it's all good news for kids."

Richard Wexler of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform, which seeks to reduce the number of children unnecessarily placed in foster care, said he was encouraged by the lower number of children taken from their parents in the first place.

Overall, entries into the system were down 6.5 percent for one year, and down 17 percent since they peaked in 2005, he said.

"This is one more indication that, at long last, the politics of child welfare is catching up with reality," Wexler said in an e-mail. "The proportion of children deemed 'substantiated' victims of child abuse in this country peaked in 1993 — it's never been as high since. Yet for more than a decade afterward, states kept taking away more and more children."

"Now, finally, it's sinking in that most cases labeled 'neglect' — the single largest category of maltreatment — are really poverty, and it makes more sense to try to deal with the poverty than destroy the family," Wexler wrote.

Wexler also said that several heartland states — including Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa and the Dakotas — were continuing to take children into foster care at relatively high rates.

"The gap between these states and best practice has grown," he said.

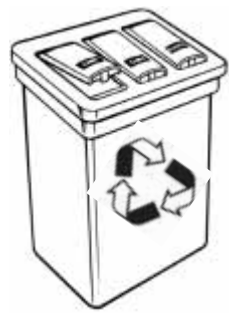
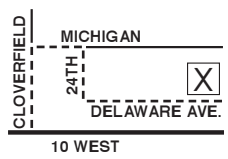
The new data was contained in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System report released annually by HHS's Administration for Children and Families.

The average length of stay in foster care has been reduced by more than 10 percent since 2002, according to the report — the mean stay is now 26.7 months.

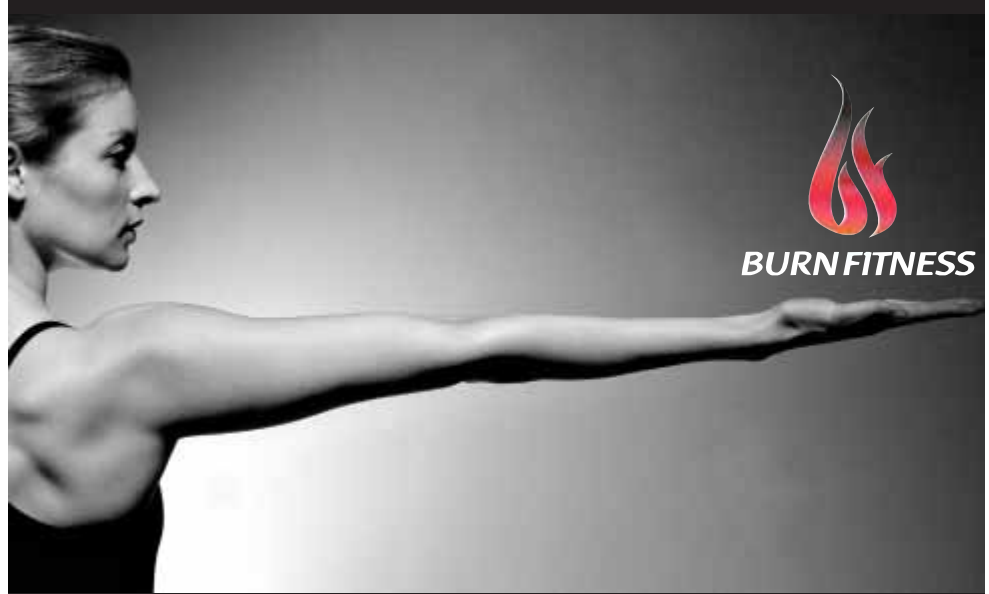
Of the 423,773 kids in foster care on Sept. 30, 53 percent were boys. Twenty percent were Hispanic, 30 percent black and 40 percent white; 114,556 of them were available for adoption.


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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

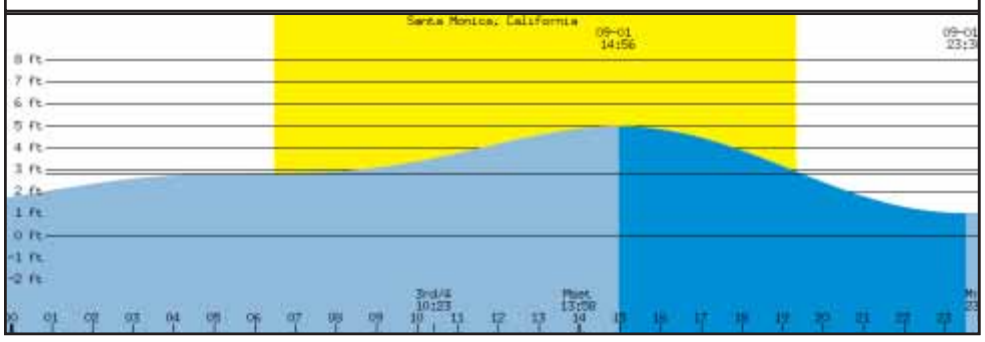
Swell Forecast

It looks like a waist high day most everywhere.

Long Range Synopsis

Friday we should see some SSE energy come ashore from Easter Island, about chest high max for breaks able to pull in a 170° angle. Elsewhere, knee to waist is the call.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **August 25, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 44 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 2 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; Grousbeck Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA; Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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 Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A+	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	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.	D	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.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns

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

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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 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.

LEGAL NEWS

Attorney: Frank McCourt didn't want to share Dodgers

GREG RISLING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES An estate-planning attorney testified Tuesday that a distraught Frank McCourt told her last summer he would not sign a revised marital agreement that would share the Los Angeles Dodgers with his wife.

Leah Bishop said she spent months drafting a new version of the agreement per the couple's request in mid-2008 that kept a half-dozen luxurious homes in Jamie McCourt's possession, but called for everything else to be jointly owned.

Frank and Jamie McCourt broke up last October after nearly 30 years of marriage. The pact is the center of a divorce dispute between the estranged couple that could determine who owns the Dodgers.

Frank McCourt maintains the agreement provides for his sole ownership of the Dodgers, while Jamie McCourt contends it should be thrown out and the assets should be split evenly under California's community property law.

Bishop said that despite a series of e-mails and letters exchanged among her, the couple and their advisers between August 2008 and early 2009, Frank McCourt never expressed concern about making the team community property until May 2009 when he sent an email to Bishop.

Two months later, Bishop said she met with Frank McCourt for more than three hours where he opened up to her about his marriage.

Frank McCourt said his wife wanted to be part of his businesses after they moved to California from Massachusetts, Bishop testified. Once she was elevated to be the Dodgers' chief executive officer, Frank McCourt told Bishop that she was creating problems in the front office.

"He said she was lacking rationality," Bishop recalls him saying. "He said he just realized that she thinks she can run the team. That's a total disconnect."

She added that Frank McCourt said he wanted to focus on his companies and thought it best if his wife wasn't involved with the Dodgers.

"He wanted her to do something else that occupies her time, and it wasn't the Los Angeles Dodgers," Bishop said.

Frank McCourt also wasn't happy with his wife's spending habits, Bishop said, detailing how he told her that he had taken out more than $100 million from his businesses to go toward their homes and that the couple had spent about $800,000 on security.

Frank McCourt had said his wife wanted the homes free of any debt, she said.

Bishop said Frank McCourt clammed up toward the end of their meeting after he did much of the talking.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Titans of Yoga (NR) 1hr 10min
7:30pm
Discussion following with director Johannes R. Fisslinger and "Titans" Dr. Dean Ornish, Shiva Rea, Vinnie Marino, Beth Shaw and others.

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Eat Pray Love (PG-13) 2hrs 13min
12:00pm, 3:05pm, 6:10pm, 9:20pm

Lottery Ticket (PG-13) 1hr 39min
2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:40pm

Nancy McPhee Returns (PG) 1hr 49min
1:30pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:10pm

The Kids Are All Right (R) 1hr 44min
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

The American (R) 1hr 45min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Eat Pray Love (PG-13) 2hrs 13min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:05pm, 10:10pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:30am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:05pm

The Switch (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:10am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Takers (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:25pm

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World (PG-13) 1hr 53min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Avatar in Digital 3D (PG-13) 2hr 30 min
11:00am, 2:30pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

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

Cairo Time (NR) 1hr 43min
1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 10:00pm

Get Low (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

The Concert (Le concert) (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
1:40pm, 4:20pmm 7:10pm, 9:50pm

The Wildest Dream: Conquest of Everest (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:40pm

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

Dinner for Schmucks (PG-13) 1hr 50min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:05pm, 9:45pm

Salt (PG-13) 1hr 39min
12:05pm, 2:30pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

The Expendables (R) 1hr 43min
2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm

The Other Guys (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Vampires Suck (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:00pm, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm

The Last Exorcism (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:30pm, 2:50pm, 5:15pm, 7:40pm 10:05pm

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

Burn the candle at both ends, Virgo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might make first contact! Stay open to others. If others don't return the favor, it doesn't mean you are doing something wrong. Keep flowing, knowing there is an intrinsic disconnect. Tonight: Join friends for a midweek break.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Your possessive side emerges in your dealings. Self-discipline can go only so far. Sitting on your feelings could backfire and come out in an odd manner. Creativity can fill in some of the gaps, but wild risking could be problematic. Be sure that you can accept the end results. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Though you might be on cruise control, others are not. How you deal with interference and others' issues is more important than you believe. Be careful about saying one thing but doing another. Try to stay authentic and centered. Tonight: What you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ You might be overthinking an issue. As a result, molehills become mountains. Try to step back and get outside of yourself. Communication could be out of whack, as people are not connected to their feelings. Give yourself and others space. Tonight: Catch up on a pal's news. Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Knowing your goals, even just for a day, could help make plans move forward more easily. Prioritize accordingly. You will avoid getting waylaid by details and people. Confusion could happen when trying to handle a financial matter. Do you think you have all the facts? Tonight: With friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Pressure builds, making you wonder what is acceptable and what you need. Sometimes there is a conflict of interest between your personal and professional lives. Consider your image within your immediate circle. How do you want others to think of you? Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ If confusion swirls, detach and distance yourself. You will gain a perspective, but not in the middle of this situation. Don't hold yourself back. Worry can become fear and paralyze you. Take a risk; otherwise you have nothing. Tonight: Let your imagination choose.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Work with a key associate or individual. A meeting and phone calls could distract you. Stay focused. Concentrate on what is needed. Another person points to the right path. Tonight: Get together with a favorite person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Others will keep coming at you unless you establish barriers. Know what you want, and follow through. You are unlikely to see eye to eye with a boss or with someone on a work-related matter. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Emphasize completion and accomplishment in areas that are important to you. Easily, you see a situation differently from others. Be careful with news, as it might not be all facts. Know that there is more forthcoming. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ If you keep hitting a blockage, what do you do? It is critical to keep moving. Know that when you keep hitting a brick wall over and over, it means the path isn't accessible. Be willing to try alternatives. A key person in your life might be nit-picking. Tonight: Let your hair down.

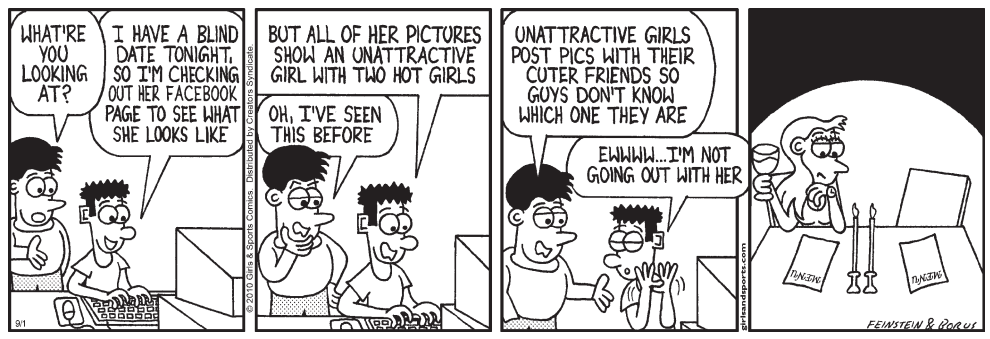
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Defer to others. In fact, if others want to lead a project, all the better. You might be happier staying close to home or working from home. You also might want to focus on matters other than work. Tonight: Order in.

Happy birthday

This year, tension often mounts. Work, professional commitments and community issues seem to fall on your shoulders. Practice saying that you have had enough. Practice asking for help. Your creativity will flourish if you pace yourself. You also might seem fussy to others. Learn to relax. If you are single, you could meet someone through your work. Take your time getting to know this person, especially if work and pleasure are mixed.

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

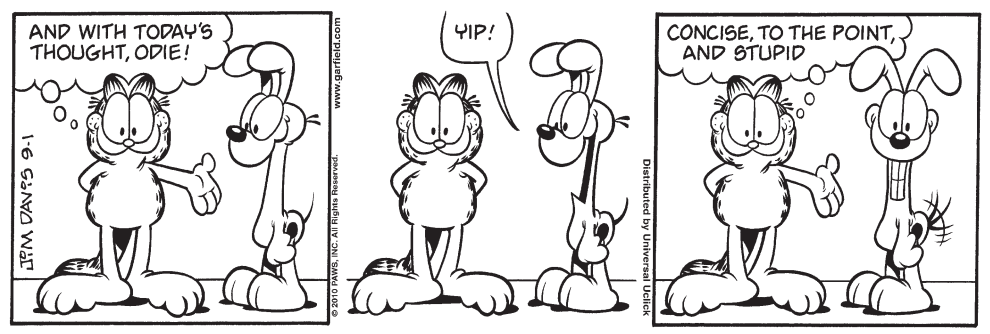
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



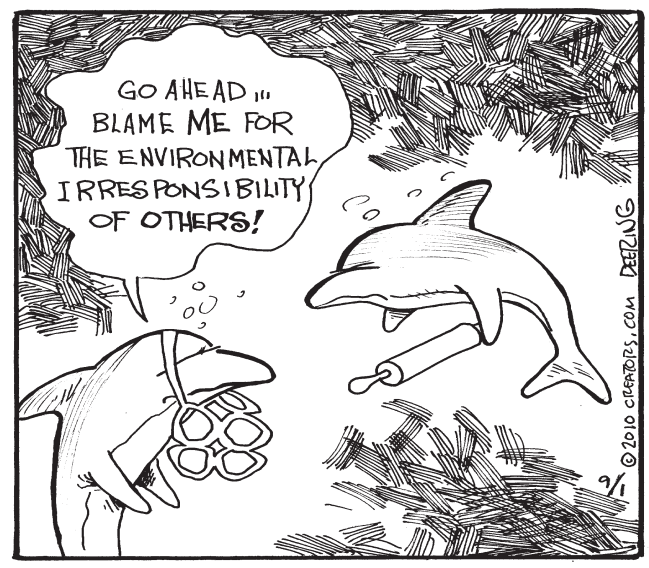
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★

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

ARITHMO™ CrossMath

+ × − ÷

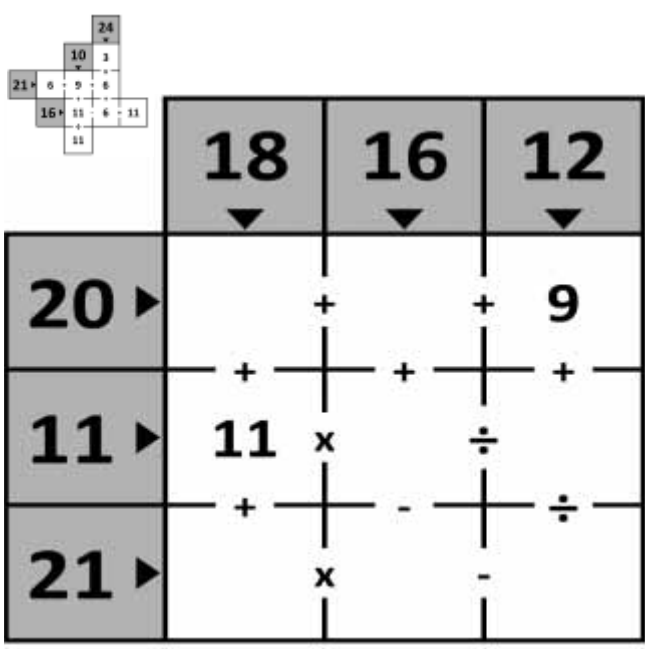
• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 4, 5, 5, 9, 12, 12

Solution for Task 506





MYSTERY PHOTO

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II *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*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Cried
5 Mason of movies
11 Car bar
12 Come to
13 Whirled
14 Confirm
15 Sweetie
16 Forest danger
17 Was bold
19 Shirt protector
22 Coarse stuff
24 Chip dip
26 Tabloid fodder
27 Temporary calm
28 Gaggle group
30 Muscularly fit
31 Complete
32 Used a towel
34 Hymn ender
35 Avenue tree
38 Off-color
41 Pennsylvania port
42 In the area
43 Stagger
44 Sickness
45 Throws in

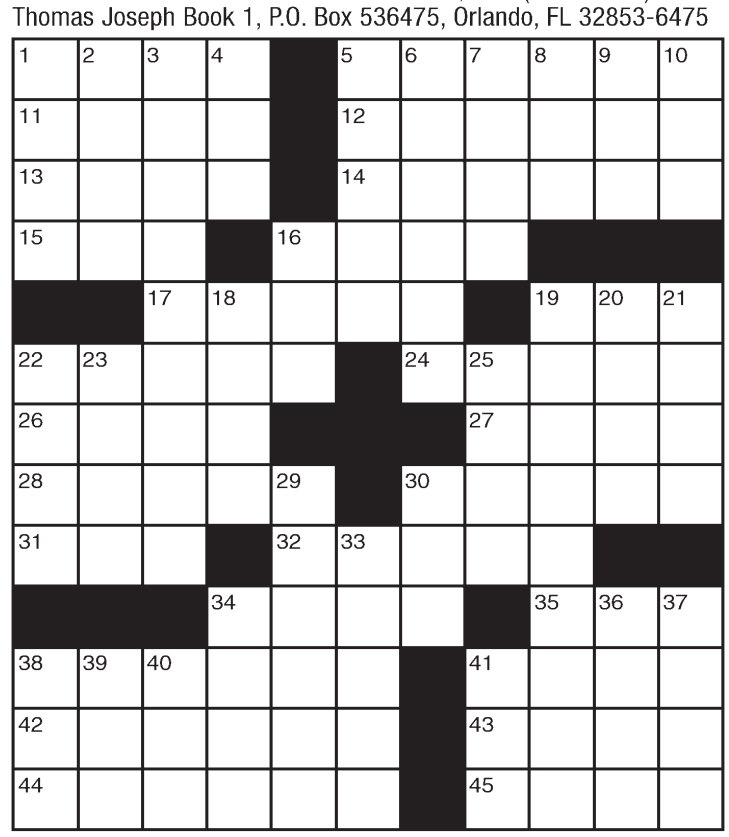
DOWN

1 Launder
2 Business fair
3 Sacked
4 Toe count
5 Madame Curie
6 Oscar and Tony
7 Velocity
8 Enjoy Aspen
9 Bunny's boss, for short
10 Some amount of
16 Make tempura
18 Museum topic
19 Erred
20 Land in the sea
21 Lacking locks
22 Border
23 Bearing
25 Lotion additive
29 Poet Spenser
30 Pie dish
33 Frail
34 Blue hue
36 Told tales
37 "Alice" diner
38 Zodiac animal
39 Writer Levin
40 Peru coin
41 Hurler's stat

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

Yesterday's answer

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



9-1

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 10 26 32 41 Meganumber: 31 Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 11 20 36 39 41 Meganumber: 3 Jackpot: $11M

FANTASY 5: 2 5 19 31 33

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 8 2 EVENING: 2 4 6

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 04 Big Ben 2nd: 12 Lucky Charms 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:47.59

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

■ Another Pampered Pet: Gail Posner (the widow of legendary hostile-takeover executive Victor Posner) died in March in south Florida but left a will that endowed her beloved Chihuahua Conchita (and two other, less-loved dogs) a $3 million trust fund plus the run of her $8.3 million mansion for their remaining dog years. (After all, Conchita has a style to maintain, including a four-season wardrobe, diamond jewelry and full-time staff.) Mrs. Posner's only living child, Bret Carr, who admits he had issues with his mother, is challenging her $26 million-plus will (that left him $1 million), mostly because, he said, Mrs. Posner's staff and bodyguards suspiciously wound up with the bulk of the riches on the pretense that they would be caring for Conchita.

■ More British Welfare Spongers: In May, the Daily Mail profiled the Houghtons of Crawley, West Sussex (Lee, 42, and Jane and their five youngest children), who live in free government housing and draw monthly benefits of the equivalent of about $1,600, without doing a bit of work -- because Lee has a "personality disorder" and daughter Chelsea, 16, has attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and needs a caretaker to help with her baby. The Houghtons admit that they spoil their kids at Christmas with lavish gifts, and the reporter noted the presence of four TVs, two Xboxes, three DVD players, mobile phones for everyone, and a computer and laptop. Lee is unpopular with his neighbors, who call the police on him frequently because of his drinking. Said Lee, "If people want to work, good for them. I would if I could...."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1763 Catherine II of Russia endorses Ivan Betskoy's plans for a Foundling Home in Moscow

1772 Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa founded in San Luis Obispo, California.

1804 Juno, one of the largest main belt asteroids, is discovered by German astronomer Karl Ludwig Harding.

1836 Narcissa Whitman, one of the first English-speaking white women to settle west of the Rocky Mountains, arrives at Walla Walla, Washington.

WORD UP!

beek \ BEEK \ , verb;

1. To bask or warm in the sunshine or before a fire.
2. (Of wood) to season by exposure to heat.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO 20101055489 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TWIN DOVES, 12033 GOSHEN AVE. #5, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: DIANA C. REYES, 6611 CONVOY CT., SAN DIEGO, CA 92111; URSULA M. REYES, 12033 GOSHEN AV #5, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049. This Business is being conducted by, an individual. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein /s/: DIANA C. REYES, CO-OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 7/30/2010.
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 federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code).
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Sunset Park	$1,150,000	$529,000
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