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WEDNESDAY
9.16.15
Volume 14 Issue 264

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Public hearing on BBB fare increase brings ample complaints from residents

BY JENNIFER MAAS
Daily Press Staff

A public meeting was held last Thursday to inform Santa Monica residents about the changes to Big Blue Bus fares, during which many attendees expressed their deferring opinions over the proposal.

As previously reported by the Daily Press, BBB will be adding 11 percent more service over the next 12 months as part of the Evolution of Blue campaign in order to provide connections to the upcoming Expo Light Rail Line.

In order to offset their costs and bring some of BBB's products inline with regional averages, the base bus fare will increase by $0.25 to $1.25 per ride. Express fares will increase to $2.50 (50 cent increase), seniors/disabled fares and day passes will not see a change, tokens will increase to $1.25 (25 cent increase), the 13-ride ticket will increase to $14 ($2 increase), a 30-day pass will rise to $50 ($10 decrease), a youth 30-day pass will drop to $38 ($2 decrease) and an express 30-day pass will increase to $89 ($9 increase). A new rolling 7-day pass will be made available for $14.

Big Blue Bus director of transit services, Ed King led the meeting,

SEE BUS PAGE 8

Alumnus chosen to spearhead St. Monica athletics

Cruz hired after unceremonious departure from USC

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

More than 35 years after graduating from St. Monica Catholic High School, Frank Cruz is back as its athletic director following an abrupt ending to a high-profile job.

St. Monica officials touted Cruz's coaching experience in the high school, college and national ranks, as well as his leadership skills and strong alumni connections after selecting him to fill the

SEE SPORTS PAGE 6

Concerns over classroom temps heat up

SMMUSD trying to keep learning spaces cool

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

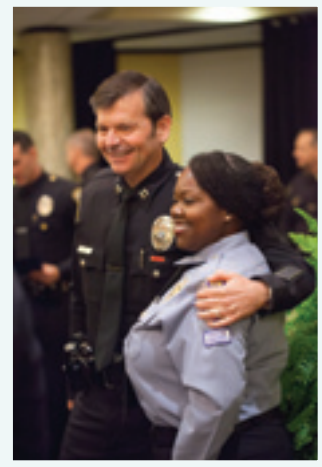
With warm temperatures persisting in Southern California at the start of the school year, local students and teachers have complained about heat in their classrooms as the Santa Monica-Malibu school district attempts to provide relief.

The issue was raised at the Board of Education meeting earlier this month by Sarah Braff, president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association, who urged district officials to con-

SEE SCHOOL PAGE 7











WELCOME Nicholas Salazar editor@smdp.com

The Santa Monica Police Department held a New Hire Ceremony on September 15 to welcome newly hired personnel from 2013 to the present. The event showcases the department's appreciation for employees and officers alike.

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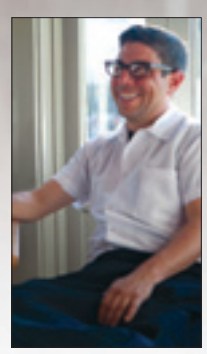
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

September 16

Morning Beach Walk with Rebecca Bruno

Beach House Choreographer-in-Residence Rebecca Bruno leads a group beach walk informed by her dance practice. This will be a very casual walk down the beach as a group, sharing some of the meditative movement processes that Bruno and dancer/collaborator Samantha Mohr have been developing during the development of Bruno's new work, Elemental Forms. Please wear sun protection and comfortable shoes. RSVP at http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 - 10 a.m.

Coastal Cleanup Education Day

Join Heal the Bay at Tower 18! Learn about wastewater and environmental stewardship. For more information call 800-HEAL-BAY or visit www.healthebay.org/ccd. Tower 18, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Commission for the Senior Community Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission for the Senior Community. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 1:30 p.m.

1, 2, 3 Launch Tube!

Build mini vehicles from recycled materials and launch them with reDiscover Center's wind tube. For ages 4 and up. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting of the Santa Monica Planning Commission. City Hall, Council Chamber, 1685 Main St., 7 p.m.

Bollywood Bhangra Beats

Learn the art of Bollywood dancing from Jon Paul, principal dancer of the world-renowned Blue13 Dance Company. Bollywood Bhangra Beats is an electrified whirlwind of heart-pumping, shoulder bumping, hopping, jumping Indian dance for all levels of women and men, and incorporates warm-up, technique, and choreography in Bollywood and Bhangra styles of the subcontinent. Cost: $147, Non-resident: $169. Please register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/46149 or call (310) 458-2239. Palisades Park, 7 - 8 p.m.

Homeless to Housing Forum: Successful Models for Change Forum

Strategists Lloyd Pendleton, Matt Mankelevitch and Kerry Bate from Utah, who ended chronic homelessness in the entire state by giving homes to the homeless, and saved 74 percent on their budget, will be joined by State Senator Holly Mitchell, Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian, State Senator Ben Allen, L.A. City Council Members Gil Cedillo, David Ryu, and Mike Bonin for the Homeless to Housing: Successful Strategies for Change forum. Harmony Gold Theater, 7655 Sunset Blvd., 7 p.m.

September 17

Homework Help @ Pico Branch

Get help with your homework. This drop-in program offers a separate study area, basic supplies, and friendly volunteers to assist with homework questions. For students in grades 1-5 only. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

LEGO Block Party at Main

Use your creativity to make something remarkable. We provide the Legos, you provide the fun. Ages 4 and Up. Main Library, Children's Activity Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Housing Commission. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4:30 p.m.

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Main Library

Affordable Housing discussion

The City of Santa Monica Housing Commission invites the Santa Monica Community to its next two meetings:

1) The regular monthly meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 17.

2) A special meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 26.

Both meetings will be held in the Multipurpose Room of the Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica, California 90401. The Housing Commission, a seven-member board that advises the Santa Monica City Council on affordable housing issues, is inviting the public to share their experiences with and views on affordable housing in Santa Monica, information that will be incorporated into a comprehensive Housing Commission report on the funding efficacy for new development and preservation of the current affordable housing stock in the City. This report will be submitted to the City Council in December 2015.

The meeting place is wheelchair-accessible. If you require any special disability related accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting, access to an amplified sound system, etc.), please contact the Housing Division at (310) 458-8702 at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. An audio recording of the discussion will be made available on the City of Santa Monica's video and audio meeting archives at www.smgov.net and on the Santa Monica Housing Division's webpage at www.smgov.net/housing.

For more information, contact the City of Santa Monica Housing Division at (310) 458-8702 or visit www.smgov.net/housing.

- SUBMITTED BY CARRIE LUJAN

Citywide

Bike-Pedestrian Safety Enforcement

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) will step up Bike & Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations with focused enforcement efforts on primary collision factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The police department identifies locations where pedestrian and bike collisions are prevalent, along with the violations that led to those collisions. Traffic officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic and collisions occur in an effort to lower deaths and injuries.

Field enforcement operations will take place on Wednesday, September 16, between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Officers will be looking for violations engaged in by drivers, bike riders and pedestrians alike that can lead to life changing injuries. Special attention will be directed toward drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks and similar dangerous violations.

Additionally, enforcement will be taken for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bike riders will be stopped and citations issued when they fail to follow the same traffic laws that apply to motorists.

All riders are reminded to always wear a helmet; those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

- SUBMITTED BY SERGEANT RUDY CAMARENA

Citywide

"TILT! Equinoxes & Solstices Explained"

As the area moves through the Autumnal Equinox and mark the beginning of Fall, most residents are only vaguely aware of what the equinoxes and solstices really are.

Come remedy this disconnect from the natural world, and find out what's up with some related myths, like that egg story. The show is preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m., offering the latest news in astronomy and space exploration, a family-friendly "tour" of the constellations, and the chance to ask astronomy-related questions. Tickets are available at the door and cost $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single show or telescope-viewing session, or $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill."

For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice. The John Drescher Planetarium, which features a Digistar projection system, is located near the elevators on the second floor of Drescher Hall. Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.

- DAILY PRESS STAFF

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

In Case You Missed It: "5 Flights Up"

A long-time married couple (Morgan Freeman and Diane Keaton) who've spent their lives together in the same New York apartment become overwhelmed by personal and real estate-related issues when they plan to move away. (Film runtime: 92 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8:45 p.m.

Recreation & Parks Commission

Meeting of the Recreation & Parks Commission. City Hall, Council Chamber, 1685 Main St., 7:30 p.m.

September 18

10th Annual AltCar Expo

The City of Santa Monica presents AltCar Expo, a free event held in conjunction with AltBuild Energy. Now in its 10th year, AltCar Expo the nation's leading forum for green car ride and drive, public education and demonstration of the latest green technology vehicles. AltCar Expo will present the most extensive array of sustainable vehicles in one place, including: electric, plug-in hybrid, hybrid electric, natural gas, propane, biodiesel, ethanol and hydrogen vehicles. Most are available to test drive and many may even be purchased during the Expo. The event will feature a number of North American vehicle debuts, lectures and demonstration opportunities. Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, 1855 Main St., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pharaohs Festival

Food, culture, history, art and music. Friday 4p-10p; Sat. & Sun. 10a-10p. For more information call 310-738-3595 or visit www.pharaohsfestival.com. Third Street Promenade, 1200 block, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

1450 Ocean: Zumba Craze with Diana Flores

Zumba is a latin-inspired, calorie-burning, dance-fitness experience. In this fitness party, you will burn more calories than you thought you could. Join us for a workout that is so much fun you won't even feel like you're working out. All fitness levels welcome. Drop-in available for $10. Cost: $83, Non-resident: $95, Drop-In $10. Please register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/45878 or call 310-458-2239. Palisades Park, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Introduction to Finding Funders (for Nonprofits)

Introduction to the Foundation Center's database of U.S. foundations, corporate giving programs, and public charities. Length of class is 1-1/2 hours. Seating is first come, first served. Requires familiarity with using a mouse & keyboard. For more information, please visit the Reference Desk or call 310-434-2608. Main Library, Computer Classroom, 2nd Floor, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Discussion, Q&A, and book signing with Dr. Stephen Sideroff

What are the roots of our resistance to beating stress? Dr. Sideroff's book The Path: Mastering the Nine Pillars of Resilience and Success is the first to answer that question. Based on 40 years of research and clinical work, the book masterfully blends empirical evidence and personal journey to explain the roots of our resistance and illustrates how individuals can follow a clearly delineated and measurable path to move beyond destructive childhood patterns and what Sideroff terms "our biological mismatch" with the modern environment we live in. Question and answer session and book signing to follow discussion. Mystic Journey Bookstore, 1624 Abbot Kinney Blvd., 7 - 9 p.m.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The 'Race'

Editor:

I am writing this Letter to the Editor of the Santa Monica Daily Press, or as I should say, a Commentary of The Race of the Republican Presidential Primacy Debates for the 2016 Election. My name is Bob Haddad, and I am a Proud Registered Republican Santa Monica Voter. The Santa Monica Daily Press has been my 'eyes and ears' of everything 'hand and foot' locally in Santa Monica. Even though the SMDP provides my local news, I also feel that the SMDP should keep us, in Santa Monica, informed of the national news, the Presidential Race. My commentaries of the Republican Race, hope to bring excitement and joy to all of Santa Monica, as does the thrill of any competitive event.

As in any race, there are League competitions, as well as, Quarterfinals, Semifinals, all with the goal of reaching the Finals. As of August 6, 2015, the League competitions of the Republican Presidential Primary Debates, have started. Hosted by Facebook and Fox News Channel, Moderators Bret Baier-Special Report, Megyn Kelly-The Kelly File, and Chris Wallace-FOX News Sunday, gave us the Pollster Trends of the 'Republican Race' in Cleveland, Ohio at the Quicken Loans Arena. Donald Trump took an early commanding lead with 25%, followed by a small group consisting of Ben Carson 12%, Ted Cruz 10%, and Jeb Bush 9%. Behind them grew a bigger group of Mike Huckabee and Scott Walker 6%, Carly Fiorina 5%, John Kasich and Marco Rubio 4%, with Rand Paul 3% rounding out the Top 10.

On September 16, 2015 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, in Simi Valley CA, the next League Debate competitions of the Republican Race will be even more exciting. Hosted on CNN and Salem Radio Network, Moderators Jake Tapper - CNN and Hugh Hewitt - Salem Radio will give us the Pollster Trends, with all the voters in the stands cheering on their favorite Republican. As of September 4, 2015 Donald Trump is still commanding a larger lead of 32.1 %, followed further behind by Ben Carson 13.8% and Jeb Bush 8.3%. The rest of the competition is falling behind fast, still early in the race, with Ted Cruz 6.1%, Marco Rubio 5.5%, Mike Huckabee 5%, Scott Walker 4.6%, John Kasich and Carly Fiorina 4%, and Rand Paul 2.5%, again rounding out the Top 10. As a result of the tough competition, Former Governor of Texas, Rick Perry, dropped out.

With an early start, of an exciting competition, for the Presidential Election 2016, the 'Republican Race' is still far from over. Donald Trump and Ben Carson are giving us a great performance, while Jeb Bush and Ted Cruz are falling back, early in the race. Stay with me, as the Debate Race continues. This is Bob Haddad, a Proud Registered Republican Santa Monica Voter, commentating from the Santa Monica Daily Press.

by Bob Haddad
Santa Monica





Curious City

Charles Andrews — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How I learned how our city works

"CURIOUS" BEGINNINGS

I've been writing ever since I can remember. From fifth grade on, teachers fooled me into thinking I might have some flair for it, and I bought it.

When I looked back, years later, at some of my youthful scribblings, I thought they were pretty crappy, even for my age. So, were they all leading me on? Conspiring to give a pitiable student hope?

Sad to say, but that was my only talent. Not a jock, no obvious artistic talents and a consistent C student, until the forced epiphany of being drafted during the height of the Viet Nam war turned me into an A student.

But I was always good with words. Every single third grade weekly spelling test, 100 percent; won the Spelling Bee for my grade school and went to the state tournament in Albuquerque with dreams of the nationals in D.C., but I flamed out in the second round. Childhood ambitions to be a doctor (wait, science? math?) turned into Journalism school.

Fast forward through 40 years of music journalism. It was my passion, my strength. I had the experience and knowledge to back up my strong opinions about music. But 40 years of anything is enough, eh?

So in 2007 I'm getting ready to make my second one-year camping expedition around all of Europe, family in hand. Launch date: summer, 2011. Shouldn't I document this momentous expedition? Might not the good folks in Santa Monica be interested in the impressions and comparisons from a resident of 25 years? Santa Monica Daily Press publisher Ross Furukawa thought so, and the traveling predecessor of "Curious City" was launched, as "Three Innocents Abroad" (a slight reworking of the title of Mark Twain's 1869 travel journal).

Having decided to give up my paying job as a music editor (which I could have continued from abroad, but who wants to leave a raucous German Bierhalle or Greek Panagiri at midnight to meet a deadline to write a review of some stupid album?), I was enjoying writing about people and places for a change, and my home town certainly was full of more stories than I could tell.

So what would my first Santa Monica column be about? There was no question. For literally 20 years I had been fighting City Hall to get the basketball courts at Los Amigos (now SMASH/John Muir schools) and Joslyn Parks open during the hours they were supposed to be open. Maybe now with the power of the press (??) behind me, I could get some action.

IT HAD BEEN AN ON AND OFF BATTLE

I'd persist for a few weeks or months, get the runaround, stonewalled, phone calls not returned, then give up. Which was the whole idea, I believe. There was a man named McGrath who seemed to be in charge most of that time, but I rarely got to talk to him and never met him in person, though I requested a meeting many times.

At Los Amigos the gates to the basketball and tennis courts were locked maybe 30 - 50 percent of the time when they shouldn't have been. At Joslyn, they were locking the baskets at dusk, which in the winter could be around 4:30.

So I bravely went forth with my new "Curious City" column to get to the bottom of things. Three months and three columns later, nothing had changed, except that I learned a lot about our city staff and government which, unfortunately, in these ensuing years, has only been reinforced.

I went first to Karen Ginsberg, Director of Santa Monica's Community and Cultural Services Department. We spoke in her office for 45 minutes and she explained all the reasons why the courts at Joslyn couldn't be open for evening play (even though they had been for 40 years preceding the new early closing rules). The problem was the lighting, she told me. Joslyn didn't have the "basketball court lights" that were required, and it would be prohibitively expensive to install them. But she sent me off to Devin Starnes, the Custodial Services Manager - he would be the one to deal with.

Not on the lights, he wasn't, no authority there, though he did try to steer me to people who had information. Starnes was open, amiable, and seemed to be trying mightily to figure out how to get that gate at Los Amigos open when it should be. But after three months, nothing had changed despite his new procedures, and my last column reported that frustration.

As it turns out, just after that, the gate at Los Amigos opened. Always. Open on time, closed on time (not early). Every single time I checked it, which was hundreds of times in the last two and a half years. Perfect. Until a Monday a couple weeks ago.

So I called Starnes, now promoted to Facilities Maintenance Manager, told him how amazed and pleased I was that he finally got that 20-year problem fixed for good, and also reported on the one day it wasn't open. He said he'd check and get back to me, he did, it was a minor mix-up, now fixed.

The lights? Rec and Parks Commission chair Phil Brock, whom I had never met but who read my column and asked to meet me at Joslyn after dark, had an immediate assessment upon reaching the courts - um, let's call it, "baloney!" There was plenty of light to play, he agreed.

He put it on the agenda of the next Commission meeting, told the Commission of his in-person assessment and suggested the courts stay open until at least 8:30 each night. I never got a chance to present all my arguments and data about the light measurements I took and the fact that there is no such thing, except as an industry designation of convenience, for marketing, as "basketball court lights," because Ginsberg, who had previously told me several different ways that opening those courts past dusk just couldn't and wouldn't happen, meekly agreed that night that she had no objection. Done.

Not done, I offer, without Brock's common sense assessment, and intervention. Los Amigos unlocked, not done without a supervisor, Starnes, who cared enough to work three months to find a solution that no one else, in 20 years, would even answer a phone call about.

It can work this way. Why doesn't it?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We have to make bureaucracy sexy." - Jennifer Pahika

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for almost 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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WINNER

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Your column here

Maria Fotopoulos
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Rethinking wildlife's place in our interconnected world

YET ANOTHER MAJESTIC MOUNTAIN LION has lost his life, in a hit and run, on a highly trafficked Southern California highway. This is the 14th mountain lion to die on LA area roads since a 2002 tracking study began.

Mountain lions in California have been classified as "specially protected mammals" as a result of Proposition 117, which prohibited trophy hunting in 1990. Even with that protection, the roads have nonetheless taken their toll. Southern California mountain lions have one of the lowest survival rates among any population in North America, comparable to hunted populations.

Through the tracking study of the big cats of the Santa Monica Mountains, we know the most recent victim was P-32 ("P" for puma). Remarkably, he navigated at least four freeways before he died in August, short of his second birthday, in search of a new home. The Santa Monica Mountains are 153,000 acres, the average male lion needs about 100,000 acres of natural habitat, and home to perhaps 10 adult lions, according to the National Park Service.

The big cats in the Santa Monica Mountains live essentially on an "island," since extensive urban development and some of the country's busiest highways are very real barriers to their movement. No cats have successfully dispersed out of the Santa Monica Mountains since tracking began, with P-32 being the latest casualty. P-22, who managed to cross two eight-lane freeways and travel through highly urbanized areas to end up in Griffith Park, is not technically considered a success, as he still is on an "island" with no opportunity to mate.

On the opposite coast, Florida panthers share a similar predicament, isolated in the southern part of the state, with as few as 100 remaining. Both populations lack genetic diversity because of their isolation.

It's not easy being an urban cat in 21st century California. Traveling to liberal Santa Monica did not help a young cougar who wandered into town in 2012; he ended up shot dead outside a yoga studio, as did a cougar that entered Berkeley in 2010. And south of LA, in Orange County, being hit by a moving vehicle is the No. 1 cause of mountain lion deaths, with the 241 Toll Road being particularly treacherous: 15 cougars killed in recent years.

These are harbingers for wildlife in all states.

The U.S. has a long history of killing off the country's cougars; recorded mortality since 1902 is 155,000. But recordkeeping is limited, so we can guess the actual number is significantly higher. And in the eastern U.S., the cougar is extinct.

Today, it's unlikely the mountain lion population in the U.S. exceeds 30,000, according to the Mountain Lion Foundation. For some perspective, there is real concern about the future of wild lions being able to survive in Africa even within the next few decades; their numbers may be between 20,000 and 30,000, and they remain in only some countries there, where once they roamed the entire continent. An estimated four mountain lions are killed as "trophies" to every one lion killed as a trophy in Africa. If we viewed our wildlife differently, this would be considered genocide.

This latest tragic loss of a big cat on a California freeway brings home, again, the urgency of designing, funding and building wildlife crossings, and ensuring that the concept is integrated into the review process for developing new roads and considered when roads are refurbished. As well, a more comprehensive working process of the environmental impact on biodiversity that involves wildlife management agencies, conservation groups, highway agencies, city and state planners, engaged citizens and developers is needed to ensure that all future infrastructure and development accommodate needs greater than those of just Homo sapiens.

In Southern California, according to urban wildlife experts, creating a safe passage for wildlife in one of the last undeveloped areas on highway 101 will provide a way to help ensure that cougars have a future in the Santa Monica Mountains. Leading the charge on this project are the Santa Monica Mountains Fund and the National Wildlife Federation.

American cougars are a national treasure to be cherished and protected, but clearly they aren't on the radar screen for enough people; it took nearly four years for the SoCal cat tracking study just to get funded.

But mountain lions were in California long before 38 million people (and counting) claimed most every part of the state; ditto for the rest of the country (323 million people and counting). We have an obligation as defenders of the planet to direct more energy into doing a much better job of protecting and coexisting with our wildlife, and helping it thrive.

In an ever-growing rebuilt landscape that's suburbanized and urbanized, unique biodiversity needs our help. Failing to stabilize U.S. population at sustainable numbers will make protecting our biodiversity even more difficult, if not impossible. Thus, stabilizing and reducing human population is essential to a sustainable U.S. and all its wildlife.

Cougars are nocturnal hunters and adventurers. P-32 was hit and killed last month sometime in the wee hours of the morning between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. Maybe we should close freeways at night to reduce cougar deaths. Now, that proposal might bring some attention to our wildlife!

MARIA FOTOPOULOS is a senior writing fellow with Californians for Population Stabilization. She writes about the impact of population growth on the environment and biodiversity.

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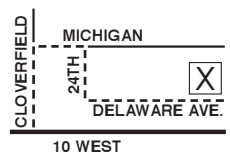


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SPORTS

FROM PAGE 1

void left by his predecessor, Rick Bruce.

"It's a real blessing for us that he'd take a job like this," school president Thom Gasper said of Cruz. "He approaches things strategically, having been at that higher level, and he sees where things are heading."

Cruz was hired to oversee sports for all grades at the private K-12 school, a departure from previous leadership structures.

He arrives at St. Monica following an undignified departure from his post as the head baseball coach at USC, which fired him in 2013 after investigating NCAA rules violations in the program.

Cruz "knowingly" broke rules that limit the number of hours student-athletes can spend on staff-supervised activities, USC athletic director Pat Haden said in a press release at the time.

Cruz declined to comment on the violations and the end of his tenure at the Los Angeles-based university, saying he wanted to keep the focus on St. Monica's students and athletic programs.

Gasper said St. Monica officials contacted the USC athletics department as they vetted candidates for the administrative vacancy.

"Pat Haden couldn't say enough good things about him," Gasper said. "He had great things to say about Frank in this role. I feel good about this hire."

Cruz already had decades of experience coaching in Southern California and beyond when he took the helm of the USC baseball program, for which he had previously worked as an assistant and volunteer assistant.

He was coach of Loyola Marymount's baseball team for a dozen seasons starting in 1997, leading the program to three consecutive West Coast Conference titles and three NCAA Regionals appearances in a row. He earned coach of the year honors three times and served a term on the NCAA baseball rules committee.

Cruz has also coached at the national level, leading Team USA to the gold medal in 2004 at the FISU World University Championships.

Cruz, a 1977 graduate of St. Monica, attended Santa Monica College before transferring to Pepperdine, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees. He started coaching baseball at Los Angeles-University, where he taught health and physical education.

"He brings enormous qualities to the table," Gasper said of Cruz, who was inducted into St. Monica's athletic hall of fame in 2012. "He's been a successful coach for a number of years in high school and college and national settings. We're really fortunate that he knows how coaches think, that he knows best practices in athletics. He's an alum, too, so he's connected to our alumni and people on the Westside."

Gasper said he was impressed by Cruz's leadership during St. Monica's first football game of the season. He also said a parent praised Cruz for how he handled an injury at a recent junior varsity football game on the road.

"He's a class act and knows what to do in those moments," Gasper said. "That experience, you can't buy."

Cruz, who is also serving as head coach of the St. Monica girls golf team, said he hopes to strengthen the relationships between sports programs at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Gasper noted that the school has had success with K-12 administration in other departments.

"We're trying to get more continuity and develop a system where the kids know a little bit about the system," Cruz said. "We want to make it feel like one and keep them interested in staying at St. Monica through high school."

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SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1

sider the wellbeing of the children and adults who occupy the rooms on a daily basis.

"This is my third year in a row asking for a plan on heat, a very specific plan on heat," she said. "Our teachers our suffering. Our students are suffering. Our staffs are suffering. It's not OK."

Most SMMUSD classrooms don't have air conditioning, which has been a sore subject in the district for decades.

In a recent email to parents, Superintendent Sandra Lyon said officials are looking into "long-term" cooling options but did not specify a timeline. She also outlined what the district is doing in the meantime.

According to Lyon, the district has installed wall fans to improve circulation and has replaced faulty blinds to keep out direct sunlight. Roller shades are being put in across the district throughout the school year.

Lyon told Braff the work is ongoing and that district officials are sending out notices to teachers so they "know what to do when it does get too hot."

Teachers have been advised to open windows in the morning and keep classroom lights off when possible. They have also been told to encourage students to stay hydrated.

Outdoor activities, after-school practices and athletic events will be canceled if necessary.

"We know they're not enough," Lyon told Braff, referring to the short-term responses. "There's not a quick solution."

The matter recently came to the attention of Henry Kirolos, a UCLA physician who specializes in preventive and primary care.

He said one of his patients is a John Adams Middle School teacher who reported that her students couldn't focus in her hot classroom.

Kirolos added that it's difficult to teach when students are loosening their shirt collars, fanning themselves and wiping sweat off their faces during instruction time.

He cited a scholarly article by Glen I. Earthman regarding the impact of school conditions on academic performance, which points to a study that determined optimal classroom temperatures to be between 68 and 74 degrees Fahrenheit.

"If children are hot and sweaty inside the classroom, they're not going to be able to concentrate," Kirolos said. "It's not conducive to learning."

Braff acknowledged that the wall fans are helping, but said more must be done to address heat-related concerns.

"We need a board policy on what temperature we stop at," she said. "I think that's something we really need to look at. I'm aggravated about this because this has been a drumbeat for my last three years, and I don't feel we've made very much progress."

Braff lobbied for air conditioning and wondered aloud whether money from the district's two recent bond measures could support temperature control.

"What is our plan?" she said. "We have plans for a million other things way into the future. We have been talking about heat for 15 or 20 years.

"It is not sufficient just to have fans. The temperatures are changing, the air is changing, the quality is changing, and we have to change with it."

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BUS

FROM PAGE 1

opening with the statement that BBB does not like to raise fares and has not done so since 2010.

"It's a very painful process," King said. "The staff struggled with this for many, many months, and we know it's not favorable or a really interesting thing to do, we know our customers don't like it ... Secondly, we have implemented a great deal of new service over the last couple of years. And in order to sustain that, and sustain our service improvements in integrating with the Expo Light Rail, we're going to have an 11 percent increase in the number of operating hours and miles that we operate every year. We have 545,000 to 550,000 service hours this year and it's going up next year."

King went on to say that BBB did have a little bit of reserve, which has helped them to keep the fare increase down. BBB has also invested in their infrastructure.

"We have added 67 new buses in our fleet in the last two years, which is remarkable because we only have 200 buses. So we've been able to keep our maintenance costs down. [We are] asking you, the customer, to share the burden and help cover the cost of 56,000 new operating [hours] this next year."

King explained that when a rider pays cash to ride the bus it is a 23 or 24 second transaction versus around a 4 second transaction with a TAP card, "which really slows down service."

"[We are] trying to move people to an alternate medium of paying besides cash. This improves service, improves connections between buses and between our buses and other systems and gets people to their destination a lot faster."

King made it very clear BBB wants rides to "switch from cash to other mediums," which correlates with the increase in cash fare and tokens. King said this was the reason behind the creation of the new 7-day pass, available for $14, which "for $2 a day allows the customer to ride the bus as many as they want, from until we open till close."

Several residents were interested in the new pass and approved of its creation, though many said they still favor the 13-ride pass, which some even buy in bulk. Residents seemed divided on whether the $2 increase on the pass, from $12 to $14, was justifiable.

One issue attendees raised was the price of the youth 30-day pass, which was lowered from $40 to $38.

A Santa Monica High School mother was not pleased with this change, stating the decrease will not help because the school does not sell the youth pass and offers only the 13-ride pass. The mother called the youth pass a "dismal failure" and questioned why the youth fare was not lowered during the 2010 fare adjustments. Another resident took it so far as to say there should be no student fare, stating that students should be able to get to school for free.

To those comments King responded, "Students need to pay their fare share."

"We have reached out to the school district to collaborate financially … but they won't do that."

King explained how BBB came to their final numbers for the proposed increases.

SEE FARE PAGE 9







FARE

FROM PAGE 8

"We looked at industry best practices, and peer transit systems in Long Beach, Culver City, and Torrance and made timed connections. We looked at fare mediums they offer, and this is what we came up with … Our current fare is well below the average, which is why we're recommending the 1.25 [per ride] fare."

King said the new revenue will increase the BBB fare box revenue, as BBB is currently only recovering 20 - 23 percent expenditures from fare boxes.

"The industry average is in the high 20 - 30 percent, so there will be a new increase to that."

The conversation began to shift when some in attendance complained about the wait times at bus stops, King spoke to the improved number of operating hours on Pico Boulevard, Lincoln Boulevard, Santa Monica Boulevard and Wilshire Boulevard.

"We have invested a lot of new service hours [with a] correlation with expenditures. There was 3.2 percent increase in this fiscal year, next fiscal year [it will be] over 5 percent."

A long discussion then began over the design and layout of the new bus stops, which King said were approved by City Council and that BBB does not favor at the moment either.

The conversation also turned to whether the fare increases would be used to pay for BBB employees' salaries. King said they would not be and also said the salary increase for those in the BBB administration has been around a 2.5 percent increase over the last three years.



Nicholas Salazar editor@smdp.com

STUDENT TICKETS: BBB held a public meeting to solicit input on fare increases last week. Public speakers advocated for lower student fares.

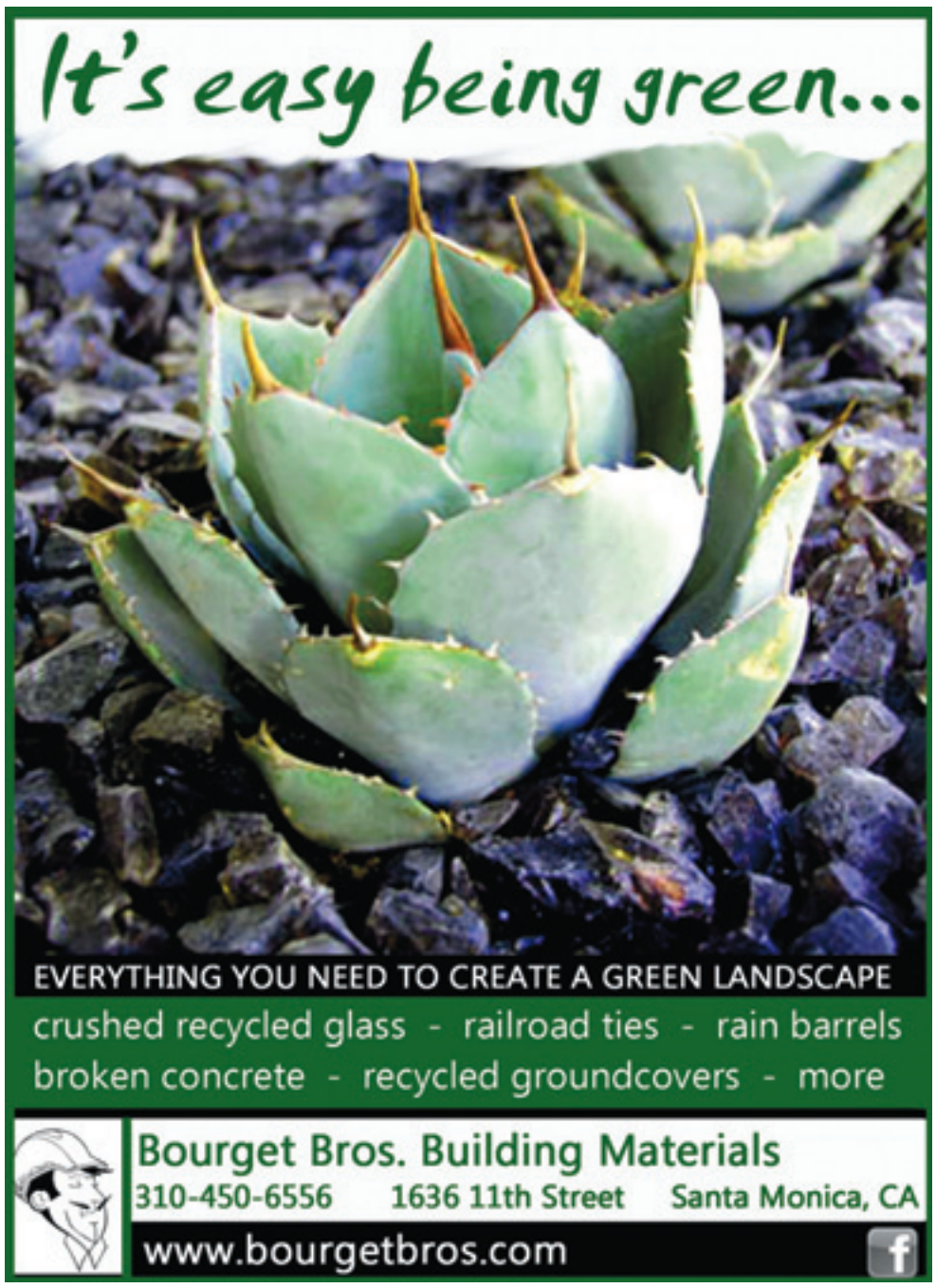
One resident brought up the idea that BBB may lose a category of customers based on their fare increase, to which King said BBB had considered that risk.

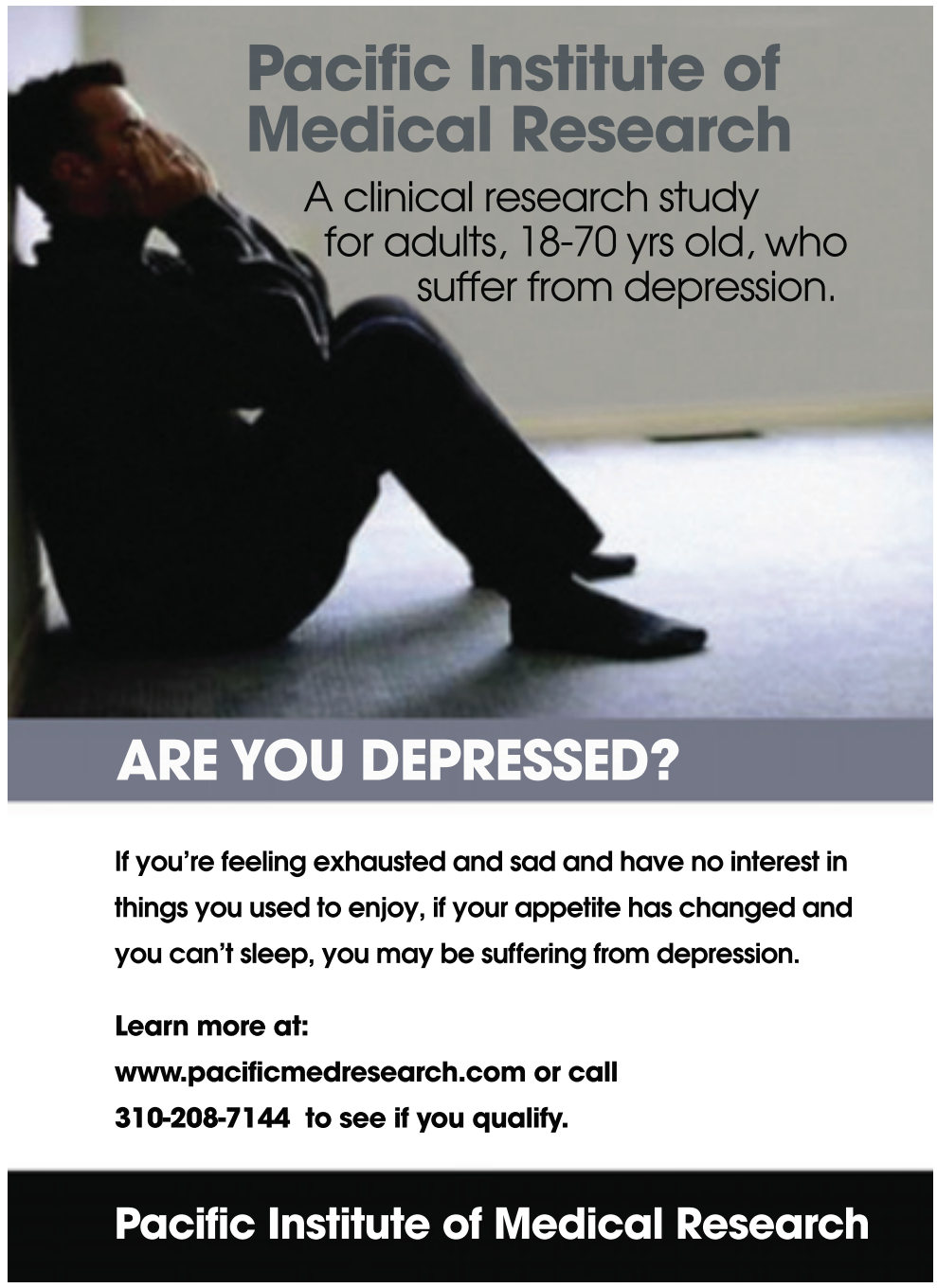
"We did anticipate that we could lose some customers due to the fare increase. [We] used a formula that predicts customers loss based on fare increase and balanced it against the increased service area."

City Council approved the service changes in April of this year. Council adopted their biennial budget in June that included the BBB's revenue projections and council is expected to hear the item for a third time as part of their consent calendar on October 27. New fares will be implemented on January 10 of 2016.

Residents can find more information about the fare proposal at http://bigbluebus.com.

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Record Southern California rain swamps roads, swells rivers

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A record-breaking storm slammed parched Southern California on Tuesday, cutting off power to thousands, jamming traffic during the morning commute and stranding some people in surging waterways.

Downtown Los Angeles saw a staggering 2.38 inches, breaking a record for rainfall for the date and marking the second-wettest 24-hour period on record for September, National Weather Service meteorologist Robbie Munroe said.

Swift-water rescue crews plucked three people and a dog from tree branches as the Los Angeles River quickly swelled from its usual trickle to a raging torrent.

"Me and my dog, we got caught by the rising waters. We had to climb up a tree to wait it out," said David Quinones, a homeless man who lives in an encampment along the riverbank just north of downtown. "We were just kind of clinging on for dear life."

Quinones told KABC-TV that he and his dog were doing OK, and he was going back to the river to check on his camp.

In northeastern Los Angeles County, two people were rescued from a swollen creek near Asuza. In nearby San Gabriel, two homes were red-tagged after their foundations eroded when a concrete retaining wall collapsed along a wash near a construction site. No injuries were reported.

The storm grew after a low-pressure system from the northwest part of the state combined with the remnants of former Hurricane Linda, which formed Sept. 6 in the Pacific Ocean off Mexico and later dissipated off Baja California.

In neighboring Arizona, the monsoon brought punishing wind and driving rain to the Phoenix area Monday night. Trees and utility poles fell, knocking out power to 18,000 customers, and the Veterans Affairs hospital was damaged. The facility was closed to new admissions, and some patients were relocated.

The main pulse of the Southern California storm hit overnight, then tapered off at midmorning.

Traffic backed up following spinouts and fender benders on several slick freeways. Flooding shut down Interstate 710 southeast of downtown. Westbound Interstate 210 in Pasadena was expected to be closed for several hours after a big rig overturned and blocked all lanes, California Highway Patrol Officer Monica Posada said. Nobody was hurt.

Gutters overflowed and floodwaters rushed down residential streets throughout greater Los Angeles, stalling cars in intersections. At least 130 elderly people were evacuated after water came through the roof of a three-story assisted-living apartment build-

SEE WEATHER PAGE 11

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WEATHER

FROM PAGE 10

ing in West Hollywood, according to county fire officials.

Widespread power outages were reported. Southern California Edison said 11,600 of its customers, mostly in Los Angeles County and to the east in San Bernardino County remained without electricity early Tuesday afternoon.

Earlier, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power said its crews were working to restore electricity to about 8,200 customers.

The weather service issued a flood advisory for Los Angeles County as rain fell at a rate of a third of an inch an hour in some areas. It also warned that the downpours raised the possibility of debris flows near recent wildfire burn scars.

The wet weather was not expected to relieve the state's record drought but could be a harbinger of El Nino, the ocean-warming phenomenon that may bring heavy rain to Southern California this winter, Munroe said.

"El Nino increases your odds for getting more energetic storms, but you can't really attribute it to any specific storm," he said. "But a rainfall like this means we're heading in the right direction."

The storm stretched east into inland desert regions and south to Orange and San Diego counties.

The rain offered a brief respite from hot and dry conditions, as temperatures dropped into the 70s in some areas. Temperatures were expected to spike again, and humidity will drop by Wednesday, forecasters said.

In Los Angeles, the rain gave electrician Jerry Valens, 38, the day off from work at an outdoor construction site.

"Yesterday we were digging ditches, and today we were supposed to run cables," he said. "I bet those ditches are full of water now!"

He said the storm likely would mean more digging Wednesday, but he didn't care. "Bring on the rain! I'm sick of all this drought," he said.

Associated Press writers John Antczak and Amy Taxin contributed to this report.

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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **74.1°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small South swell, new SSW swell starts to show.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high
New SSW swell moves in for exposures. Small windswell.

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to chest high
SSW/S swell mix for exposures. Small windswell.

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
SSW/S swell mix for exposures. Small windswell.

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 **January 12, 2015**

HEAL THE BAY · 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 · beachreportcard.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 -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33/20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5/19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA, Swain Barber Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for at least 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+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	D
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (broach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	F
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	B
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	F	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	D
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	ns	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	F
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	B	B
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

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

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

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.

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON SEPT. 1 AT APPROXIMATELY 5:15 P.M.

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 900 block of 14th Street in regards to a 911 hang-up call. When officers arrived, they saw a woman, later identified as Luda Rosenberg, 53, of Santa Monica, and asked her to come to the front door. Rosenberg opened the door and she was holding ice against her arm and when asked what happened, she stated that her boyfriend, later identified as Gilbert Manriquez, had hit her with a pan. According to Rosenberg, Manriquez became upset when she wanted to join him for an appointment. A heated verbal argument ensued, and Rosenberg said her boyfriend swung a frying pan at her. In an attempt to block the pan, she raised her arms and it struck her forearm. The subject then stated that she got the hydrogen peroxide bottle from the freezer and placed it against her injured arm when it accidentally spilled on her boyfriend. Manriquez had a different story and stated that Rosenberg was the aggressor and he simply used the pan as a shield from her hitting him. Officers could not determine who the primary aggressor in this incident was. Rosenberg and Manriquez were arrested for domestic violence. Bail was set at $50,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 366 calls for service on Sept. 14.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Battery Neilson/Hill 12:48 a.m.
Party complaint 1900 block of 17th 2:21 a.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Olympic 2:45 a.m.
Prowler 1200 block of 20th 3:25 a.m.
Petty theft 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 5:46 a.m.
Vandalism 1400 block of 19th 6:49 a.m.
Burglary 3200 block of Colorado 7:43 a.m.
Theft of recyclables 600 block of Ocean 7:55 a.m.
Traffic accident 9th/Olympic 8:11 a.m.
Vandalism 2200 block of Stewart 8:34 a.m.
Fraud 1000 block of 25th 8:47 a.m.
Elder abuse 2600 block of 20th 9:02 a.m.
Illegal weapon 4th/Adelaide 9:03 a.m.
Identity theft 1000 block of 22nd 9:03 a.m.
Grand theft 2100 block of Colorado 9:04 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 6th 9:20 a.m.
Fraud 2600 block of 30th 9:30 a.m.
Bike theft 3100 block of Main 9:45 a.m.
Vandalism 600 block of Wilshire 9:47 a.m.
Fight 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 9:54 a.m.
Burglary 1600 block of 10th 9:57 a.m.
Silent robbery alarm 200 block of Hill 10:15 a.m.
Petty theft 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 10:39 a.m.
Petty theft 1600 block of Ocean 10:43 a.m.
Bike theft 1800 block of 11th 10:44 a.m.
Found property 1700 block of Cedar 10:48 a.m.
Grand theft 1300 block of Ocean 10:50 a.m.
Speeding 26th/San Vicente 11:34 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 6th 11:50 a.m.
Traffic accident 17th/Colorado 11:56 a.m.
Injured person 900 block of Santa Monica 12:11 p.m.
Fraud 1500 block of 10th 12:21 p.m.
Speeding Cloverfield/Colorado 12:56 p.m.
Lewd activity 1600 block of Ocean 1:07 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 900 block of Santa Monica 1:21 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 6th 1:21 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 6th 1:29 p.m.
Traffic accident Cloverfield/Michigan 1:33 p.m.
Petty theft 900 block of Ocean 2:18 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 6th 2:20 p.m.
Bike theft 900 block of California 2:37 p.m.
Traffic accident 1700 block of 20th 3:02 p.m.
Hit and run 2000 block of Montana 3:08 p.m.
Battery 600 block of Santa Monica 3:19 p.m.
Bike theft 600 block of Montana 3:34 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking tickets 1500 block of 2nd 4:06 p.m.
Bike theft 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 4:15 p.m.
Auto burglary 800 block of 26th 4:43 p.m.
Hit and run 14th/Santa Monica 4:44 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking tickets 1500 block of Olympic 4:45 p.m.
Fight 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 4:45 p.m.
Petty theft 600 block of Santa Monica 6:02 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 50 calls for service on Sept. 14.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 800 block of 2nd 12:24 a.m.
Request fire 1500 block of Ocean 4:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block of Ocean 4:34 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of Harvard 6:14 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 14th 6:27 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 7th 6:51 a.m.
EMS 1900 block of 18th 7:10 a.m.
EMS 300 block of Civic Center 7:55 a.m.
EMS Lincoln/Olympic 8:08 a.m.
Odor of natural gas 1600 block of 7th 9:49 a.m.
EMS 2300 block of ocean park 11:05 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 4th 11:22 a.m.
EMS 1200 block of Lincoln 11:27 a.m.
EMS 1000 block of 2nd 11:31 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Franklin 12:08 p.m.
Automatic alarm 300 block of 23rd 12:27 p.m.
EMS 4th/California 12:42 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of 9th 12:49 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 1:41 p.m.
EMS 1800 block of Cloverfield 1:59 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 2:03 p.m.
EMS 7th/Olympic 2:23 p.m.
Public assist 1600 block of Ocean Park 2:27 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1000 block of 5th 2:36 p.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom/Santa Monica 2:39 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 10th 2:40 p.m.
EMS 7th/Olympic 2:41 p.m.
EMS 1900 block of Lincoln 2:44 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Harvard 2:53 p.m.
Assist LAFD 700 block of north Kingman 2:59 p.m.
EMS 20th/Interstate 10 3:03 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block of 15th 3:12 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of 7th 3:17 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fragment
6 Relaxing resorts
10 Embassy worker
11 Used up
12 Stock unit
13 Be a sponge
14 Gofer's assignment
15 Last number
16 Actor Wallach
17 Common verb
18 Was in front
19 Making merry
22 Stagger
23 Roman censor
26 Razing
29 PC key
32 Word of accord
33 Road sealer
34 Like a short play
36 Kismet
37 Pebbles' mom
38 Kayak's cousin
39 Spot in the ocean
40 Hunter in the stars
41 New driver, usually
42 Pulses

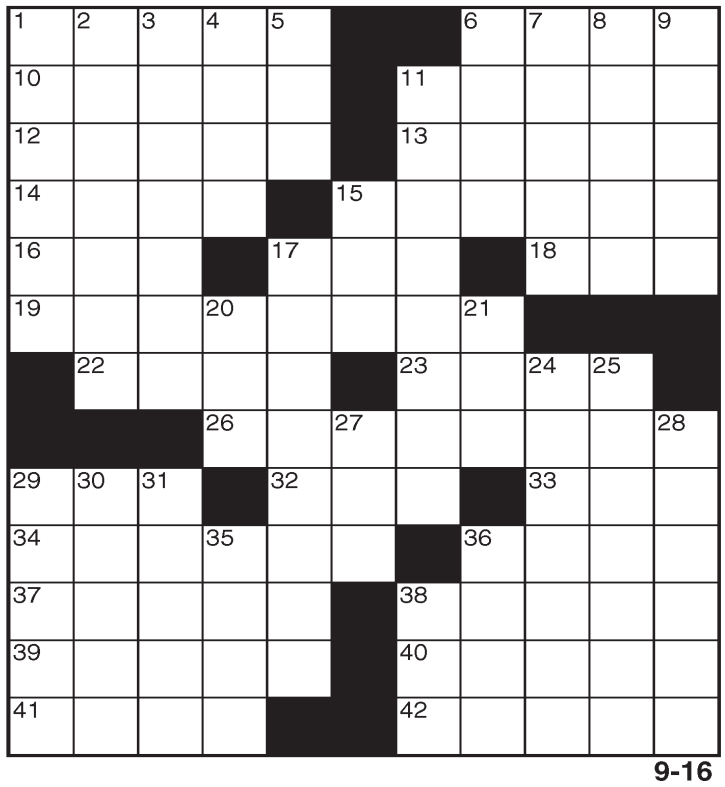
DOWN

1 Annoy
2 Asthma sufferer's device
3 Difficult to pin down
4 Bottle plug
5 Storm center
6 Reach across
7 Bike part
8 Trig topic
9 Spirited horse
11 Academic area
15 Work wk.'s end
17 Urban prowler
20 Slippery one
21 Lass
24 Fairy queen
25 Barhopping
27 Horse healer
28 Salad makeup
29 Namely
30 Ouzo flavor
31 Southern lass
35 Prayer end
36 Flight cost
38 Corn core

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

Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



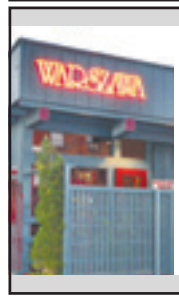
9-16

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify this image's location wins a prize. The photo is located west of 15th Street. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.



What's a Pierogi?
Come to Warszawa to find out!
www.WarszawaRestaurant.com
1414 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica CA 90401
Hours: Tue - Sat: 5PM-11PM, Sun: 5PM - 10PM, CLOSED Monday



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 ★★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 9/12
2 3 13 16 35
Power#: 27
Jackpot: 185M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 9/11
5 11 31 50 67
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 15M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 9/12
4 10 15 33 46
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 8M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/14
1 3 9 23 25

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/14
MIDDAY: 2 2 8
Draw Date: 9/14
EVENING: 1 5 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/14
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:45.85

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**

WORD UP!

tommyrot
1. nonsense; utter foolishness.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1980 – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines join the United Nations.

1982 – 1982 Lebanon war: the Sabra and Shatila massacre in Lebanon takes place.

1987 – The Montreal Protocol is signed to protect the ozone layer from depletion.

1990 – The railroad between the People's Republic of China and Kazakhstan is completed at Dostyk, adding a sizable link to the concept of the Eurasian Land Bridge.

1992 – The trial of the deposed Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega ends in the United States with a 40-year sentence for drug trafficking and money laundering.

1992 – Black Wednesday: The pound is forced out of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism by currency speculators and is forced to devalue against the German mark.

1994 – The British government lifts the broadcasting ban imposed against members of Sinn Féin and Irish paramilitary groups in 1988.

2005 – The Camorra organized crime boss Paolo Di Lauro is arrested in Naples, Italy.

2007 – One-Two-GO Airlines Flight 269 carrying 128 crew and passengers crashes in Thailand killing 89 people.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The Federal Aviation Administration recently granted (likely for the first time ever) an application to fly a paper airplane. Prominent drone advocate Peter Sachs had applied to conduct commercial aerial photography with his "aircraft" (a Tailor Toys model with a tiny propeller and maximum range of 180 feet), and the agency, concerned with air traffic safety, accommodated by treating the request (unironically?) under the rules for manned flights (that, among other restrictions, Sachs must not exceed 100 mph and must engage a licensed airplane pilot to fly it). "With this grant," said the "victorious" Sachs, "the FAA has abandoned all logic and sensibility."

■ The streets of Jackson, Mississippi, apparently have potholes that rival the worst in the country, but without adequate budget to fix them, according to Mayor Tony Yarber. His remedy, offered earnestly to constituents in August: prayer. "I believe we can pray potholes away." (Yarber, elected in 2014, was pastor of the Relevant Empowerment Church.)

■ Charged with choking and punching his fiancee: Mr. Daniel Gentleman, 28 (Prescott, Arizona, May). Charged with killing her husband and burying his body in a manure pile on their farm: Ms. Charlene Mess, 48 (Attica, New York, April). Charged with sexual assault: Mr. Huckleberry Finn (Keene, New Hampshire, July). And prominent in the news (confusingly so) when the Food and Drug Administration approved the so-called "female Viagra" drug Addyi in August: FDA spokesperson Dr. Janet Woodcock.

Say "yes" to a fun invitation, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You could be dragging far more than you realize. Motivate yourself by working on a project that has been on the back burner. Be willing to ask a partner to pitch in and help you. You have done plenty of favors for this person in the past. Tonight: Chill out at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ If you are angry with someone, do yourself a favor and opt for a discussion rather than holding in your feelings and exploding. You might be surprised how much can be handled calmly in this situation. Tonight: Let someone explain where he or she is coming from.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Clear the air in a sensitive way. You will be surprised by what you can accomplish once you have aired out a problem. Your schedule becomes busier and busier. Be ready for a pleasant diversion or some interference, depending on your outlook. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Extend yourself, and be open to a different approach, especially regarding a domestic matter. You will be the one in charge who has the final say on what goes on in your home. Relaxing your boundaries might be difficult. Tonight: Add some spice to the mix.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You might not realize that you often come off as pushy. Today, someone could start backing away because of what he or she perceives your attitude to be. A conversation is likely to be melodramatic later in the day. Tonight: Have a long-overdue talk with a family member.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might be at the point of changing direction, but try to hang in there a little while longer. With Jupiter, the planet of luck, in your sign, there could be a sudden shift in what is going on. Communication brings better results in the afternoon. Tonight: Say what you feel.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could become the office cheerleader this morning, as you seem to express so much positive energy and enthusiasm. Be aware of the costs of choices you make in the afternoon. Listen to what is being said, but clarify where you stand. Tonight: Make it your treat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might wonder why you have experienced such extremes lately. You seem to go from wanting to cocoon at home to feeling ready for nearly anything. Do not get into someone else's conflict, even if you are vested in the outcome. Tonight: Whatever suits your fancy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You could be in a situation where you would prefer to share more of what is happening within you. Do this in the morning, as others are likely to be more receptive then. All you need to do is observe and listen. Cut off someone who is being sarcastic. Tonight: Take a personal night.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might be baffled by a boss's response to you. Clearly, this person has an issue with something you have done. In a discussion with him or her, make an attempt to clear the air without getting personal. Neutralize any negativity. Tonight: Join a friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You will be on top of a project and have the perspective needed to bring it to fruition. How you see a personal matter could change after a conversation. Please confirm what you have heard before reacting. In the long run, verifying is the smart thing to do. Tonight: A force to behold.

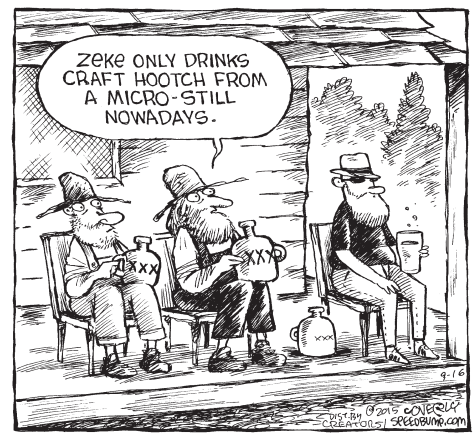
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might be able to visualize a better interaction with someone who is key to your life. Sometimes you get in a tangle with this person. Neither of you is comfortable with the situation. Have this discussion in a good moment. Tonight: Say "yes" to a fun invitation.

Wednesday, September 16, 2015

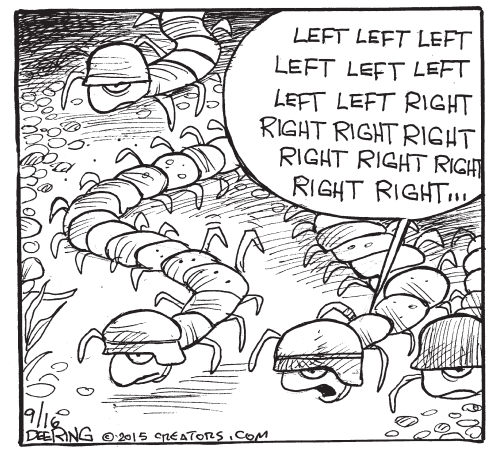
This year you discover that your moods can change rather quickly. The source of your emotional swings tends to be money-related. You might have decided that you want to build a stronger financial base. In the next two years, you will see the rewards of this goal. If you are single, you could meet someone sensational. Together, you'll make a great pair. If you are attached, the two of you often react strongly to each other. If your sweetie can't handle your mood swings, your changeability in the next 12 months will be a source of trouble. SCORPIO tends to be a mystery.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



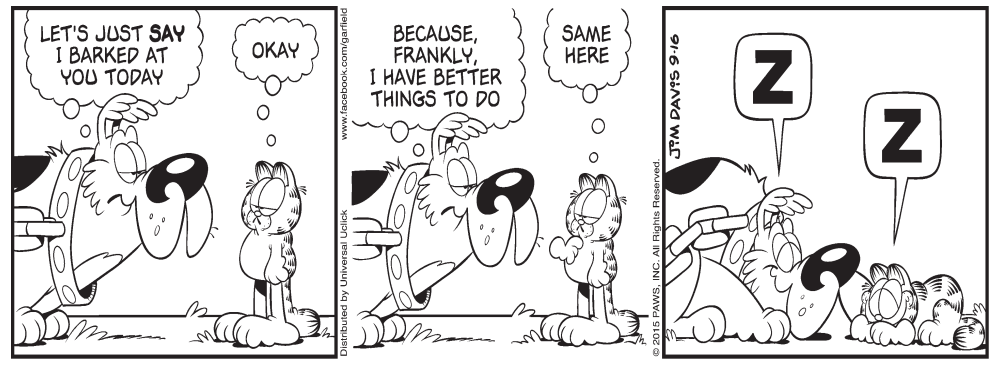
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni

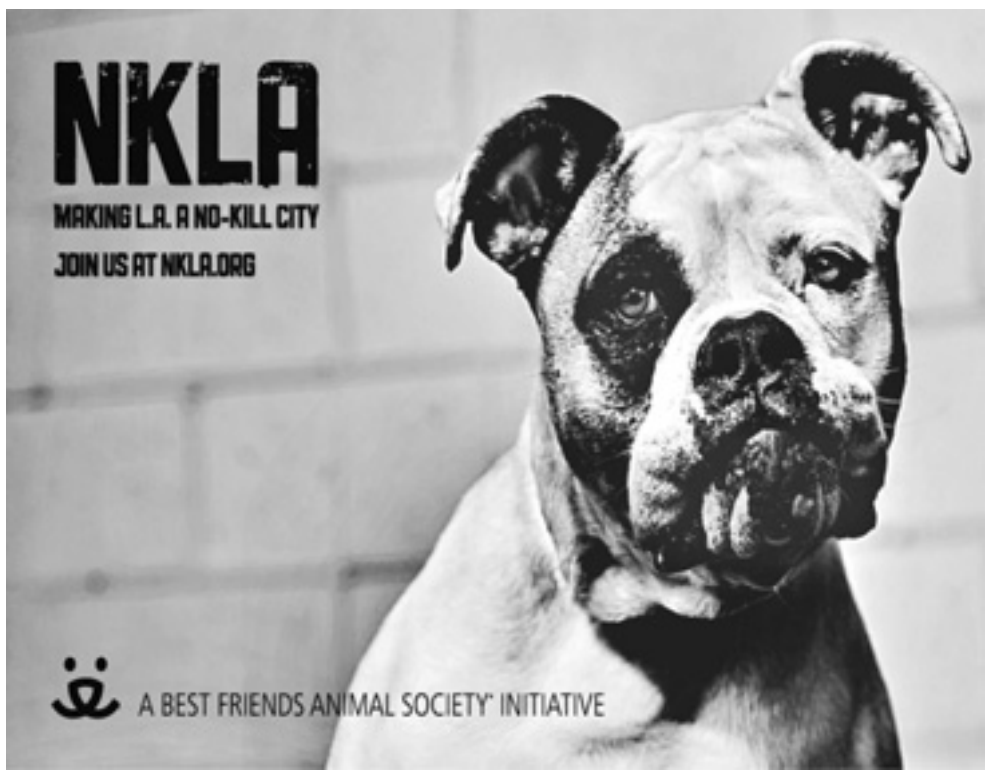


Garfield
By Jim Davis



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





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

Business Opportunities

Business Opportunities

Project manager familiar graphics and printing uploading files and getting files ready for prepress. Must have amazing organizational skills. Office is located in the heart of downtown Santa Monica. Please send Resume to: Mike@peprinting.com

Employment

Help Wanted

LUMBER YARD PERSON Local lumber yard in Santa Monica looking for full time person to work in yard. Will train. (310) 395-0956

NOW HiRING CREW MEMBERS ArcLight Cinemas is hiring Crew Members who are responsible for greeting guests, concessions, cafÈ/ bar, ushering, cleaning auditoriums and restrooms, ticketing, and guest services. Competitive pay and benefits. ArcLight opens at Santa Monica Place this fall. Print readers send resumes to recruiting@arclightcinemas.com; online readers click weblink to apply.

Real Estate

Commercial

SANTA MONICA OFFICE SUITES- For Lease in beautiful garden building. Approx. 600 square feet, Office suite. Utilities included. †30th Street near Ocean Park Boulevard. $1,995.00 a month.†(310) 456-7031 ext.175.

For Rent

MAR VISTA 3 BEDROOM HOUSE TO SHARE. SEEK MATURE ROOMMATE, MALE/ FEMALE LR, KITCHEN, BATH, DEN, PATIO/ YARD, GARAGE, WASHER/ DRYER. PETS CONSIDERED. $1400 PLUS UTILITIES. AVAILABLE OCTOBER 12. (213) 255-0776

West Side Rentals

West LA NEWLY RENOVATED 2 BED 2.5 BATH TOWNHOUSE IN WEST LA 2-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,700.00 to MONTH, Deposit 2000, Available 10115. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1067784

Santa Monica ONE BEDROOM - MONTANA AVE. 1-car Parking included, Paid water, Rent $2,095.00, Deposit 2295, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1211294

Santa Monica 1 BED, 1 BATH APARTMENT Parking available, Rent $1,950.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1216298

West LA 2B2B FOR LEASE IN AWESOME COMMUNITY! Parking included, Rent $4,414.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1195932

West LA $2400 WLA 2-car Tandem Parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,400.00 to 00, Deposit 2400.00, Available 92815. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1215385

Santa Monica LOCATION! FLEXIBLE LEASE, FULLY FURNISHED 3BED3BATH, SLEEP 8 3-car Garage parking, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable & gardener & association fees, Rent $5,900.00, Deposit 2000, Available 91615. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1214354

West LA LARGE PRIVATE UPPER 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN GARDEN BUILDING 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $1,550.00, Deposit 1550, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=525726

Marina Del Rey LUXURY MARINA DEL REY LIVING Parking included, Rent $3,625.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1216268

West LA LIVING...LUXURY, CONVENIENCE, AFFORDABILITY...THIS SPACIOUS FLAT IS OPEN NOW! 1-car Garage parking, Paid utilities & gardener & pool service, Rent $2,899.00, Deposit 750.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=791702

Santa Monica DELIGHTFUL BEACH HOUSE IN SANTA MONICA Street parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable & gardener, Rent $7,800.00 to including utilities, Deposit 3500, Available 11115. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=493175

Santa Monica 1-BEDROOM APARTMENT 1-car Gated parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $1,600.00, Deposit 1600.00, Available 10115. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1088598

Brentwood 3 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH SHORT TERM AVAILABLE 2-car Carport parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $4,900.00 to 7500, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1203388

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Santa Monica UPDATED 2 BEDROOM W. GREAT LOCATION!! 2-car Carport parking, Rent $3,500.00, Deposit 7000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1209864

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