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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 271

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*We have you covered*

SAMOHI REGROUPS
SEE PAGE 3

THE NICE SIDE OF TOWN ISSUE

## 'House of Rock' to face the music for hosting events

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

NOMA A single-family home that doubles as an event venue for charitable causes has drawn the attention of the City Council after residents in the upscale neighborhood voiced concerns that the establishment is effectively a business masquerading as a residence.

The La Mesa Drive home, known as "The House of Rock," has hosted large events complete with live music, arc lighting and valet parking for its guests and plans to throw several more before the year is out, including one on Oct. 18 for cancer-research center City of Hope.

According to advertisements for the event, those tickets sell for $600 a pop.

Neighbors have gone to the City Council to object to the practice, which they feel is incompatible with the otherwise residential street in one of Santa Monica's wealthiest neighborhoods.

"This is clearly in violation of R1 zoning," Diane Dykema, the owner of a home across the street, told the council on Sept. 11.

Neither the City Attorney's Office nor Code Enforcement believes the property is being used inappropriately, however, Mayor Richard Bloom and Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis agreed to bring the matter before the council on Oct. 2 with the goal of altering

SEE HOUSE PAGE 10



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

IN THE SHADE: **A landscaper loads mulch into a wheelbarrow at a house on La Mesa Drive on Wednesday. The owners of the house are improving it to attract potential buyers.**

## Grants target storefronts

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BOULEVARD When Peter and Eleanor Path open the doors to their store Acapillow Friday evening, they'll have more to show off than their new product line.

Acapillow, a furnishing store that sells locally-made products made out of recycled materials, is the first business to participate in a pilot project conceived by the Buy Local campaign to encourage businesses to spruce up their storefronts by partnering with local artists.

The Paths will have a window display tentatively entitled "Modern Living," a work by Santa Monica artist Steve Craig that Peter Path promises will be "eye-catching." At the same time, the store will serve as a pop-up gallery for two other local artists.

He hopes that the sculpture will snag the attention of passersby and tempt them into the Pico Boulevard store, which has suffered over the past decade from declining wholesale contracts which made up the bulk of the business.

That's the kind of improvement that the Buy Local campaign is hoping to inspire while at the same time getting the word out on talented local artists, said Jennifer Taylor, chair of the Buy Local Santa Monica Committee.

"Santa Monica has one of the highest concentrations of artists in the country," Taylor said. "We have all of this talent here, let's match businesses with local artists to help benefit the businesses and commercial districts."

Buy Local started with businesses that fell within the Pico Improvement Organization district because the area already had a committee focused on art and streetscapes.

The Business Improvement District kicks in to match the grant, and the business itself must contribute either money, time, materials or another in-kind match.

The grants don't add up to a huge amount for the campaign — $1,000 for Acapillow — but an improved facade or customer-facing window can mean big things for a small retailer.

SEE GRANTS PAGE 12

## Most see health law being implemented

JENNIFER AGIESTA
RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON It still divides us, but most Americans think President Barack Obama's health care law is here to stay.

More than 7 in 10 say the law will fully go into effect with some changes, ranging from minor to major alterations, a new Associated Press-GfK poll finds.

Only 12 percent expect the Affordable Care Act — "Obamacare" to dismissive opponents — to be repealed completely.

The law — covering 30 million uninsured, requiring virtually every legal U.S. resident to carry health insurance and for-

SEE LAW PAGE 9

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# What's Up Westside

## OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

### Thursday, Sept. 27, 2012

**Welcoming a hero**
Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Lt. Col. Tammy Duckworth — the famed Purple Heart recipient and one of the top officials in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs who electrified audiences with her speech at the Democratic National Convention — will give a free talk at Santa Monica College. After recovering from her injuries, Duckworth ran for the House in 2006. After losing a close race, she became director of Illinois' Department of Veterans Affairs. In 2009, President Obama appointed her assistant secretary of Veterans Affairs where she sought to improve the standard of care for vets. For more information, call (310) 434-4303.

**The whole deal**
Locanda del Lago
231 Arizona Ave., 7 p.m.
This popular eatery's whole-animal dinner series continues with Guinea hen on the menu. There will be five courses all designed to highlight this specialty. Cost: $42 per person; another $18 per person for unlimited house wine; or another $30 per person for a specialty wine paring menu. For more information, call (310) 451-3525.

### Friday, Sept. 28, 2012

**Consider the alternative**
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
The AltCar Expo & Conference provides one of the most extensive presentations of alternative technology vehicles and transportation, infrastructure, renewable energies, energy efficiency and urban planning found worldwide. The AltCar Ride & Drive Area offers a rare hands-on experience with all technologies. For more information, call (310) 390-2930.

**Almost ready for showtime**
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Sheetal Gandhi completes her 10-week artist residency with a new site-specific dance on the Beach House grounds. This outdoor performance includes an ensemble of community participants and winds around the Beach House in a melancholy and ecstatic exploration of the outdoors, family, togetherness and separation. Friday is the final dress rehearsal. Performances will take place Saturday and Sunday. For more information, visit annenbergbeachhouse.com.

**Dig the pier's porch**
Santa Monica Pier
6 p.m.
Unwind on the front porch of Santa Monica for music and a free movie. Each Friday night through Oct. 19, the pier will host free flicks and a DJ spinning records. This week's movie is the classic "The Wizard of Oz."
For more information, visit santamonicapier.org/frontporchcinema.

**The king and his men**
Morgan-Wixson Theatre
2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
"All the King's Men" is the story of the rise and fall of a political titan in the South during the 1930s. It won the Pulitzer Prize in 1947, and in 1949, the film adaptation became Best Picture. More recently in 2006, it became a hit film starring Jude Law and Sean Penn.
For more information, visit morgan-wixson.org.

### Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012

**Plenty of peppers**
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave., 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Like chilis? Get your fill during this annual chili roast at the Pico Farmers' Market. Buy them by the bundle, they go with almost everything. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

**Crawling for Carmageddon**
Various locations
2 p.m. — 8 p.m.
UMeTime will host the Carmageddon II Pub Crawl featuring local area restaurants and bars with 100 percent of the net proceeds going to Heal the Bay. Pub crawl participants must download the app to receive food and drink specials via real-time blastouts. First 300 people receive a free shirt. For more information, call (323) 330-9559.

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

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

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




## CORRECTION

Incorrect information appeared in the Sept. 26 article "Residents take city to court over bus ads." AIDS Walk Los Angeles will take place on Oct. 14.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE

### Suspected murderer pleads not guilty

The homeless man charged with raping and strangling two women in the early 2000s in Santa Monica plead not guilty Tuesday to murder charges, according to various reports.

Edrick Dashell Gross, 47, is charged with two counts of murder in the deaths of Jacqueline Ovsak, 42, and Dana Caper, 41, along with the special circumstance allegation that the women were killed during a rape and that Ovsak was killed during the commission of a burglary.

Ovsak's body was discovered on April 5, 2001 in an abandoned building in the 1500 block of Seventh Street. Caper was found on the 800 block of Palisades Park on the side of the bluffs on Oct. 29, 2002.

Both homicides were investigated until leads ran out and the cases went cold, police said.

In September of 2007, investigators assigned to the department's cold case unit, re-opened both investigations and through DNA processing and new investigative leads, Gross was identified and linked to both murders.

He was arrested Aug. 15 in Los Angeles and has remained in jail without bail. His next court date is set for Oct. 11, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

– KEVIN HERRERA

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

### Police collecting unwanted drugs

The Santa Monica Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public another chance to prevent drug abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription pills.

Bring medications for disposal to the front of the Public Safety Facility on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. An officer will be available at the curb to make it easy for people to drive up and drop off the drugs.

The service is free, anonymous and no questions will be asked, police said.

During the four previous take-back events held, over 774 tons of medication were collected nationwide, of which more than 58,000 pounds were collected in the greater Los Angeles area alone, officials said.

The initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue, said SMPD Sgt. Richard Lewis. Medication that languishes in cabinets is highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines – flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash – both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Four days after the first take-back event in September 2010, Congress passed the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an "ultimate user" of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the attorney general to accept them. The act also allows the attorney general to authorize long-term care facilities to dispose of their residents' controlled substances in certain instances.

The DEA has begun drafting regulations to implement the act, a process that can take as long as 24 months. Until new regulations are in place, local law enforcement agencies like Santa Monica and the DEA will continue to hold prescription drug take-back events every few months, Lewis said.

The Public Safety Facility is located at 333 Olympic Dr. in the Civic Center. For more information, visit santamonicapd.org or call (310) 395-9931.

– KH

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# Samohi tries to avoid three-game skid

**BY DANIEL ARCHULETA**
Managing Editor

NEWHALL, Calif. Santa Monica football's trek down murderers' row continues on Friday with a tilt at powerhouse Hart.

This is the third difficult foe in successive weeks for Samohi, who have lost two straight — to Mater Dei and Valencia.

The Vikings (2-2) knew heading into the season that these games would be a challenge, but what has upset Head Coach Travis Clark and his boys most is that both losses were blowouts.

Clark doesn't want to see that again as he prepares for a Hart team (3-1) that likes to air out the ball.

"I can't worry about them too much," Clark said. "It's about us, making sure we do the little things

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 11

# Learn how to be victorious in your garden

**BY SARAH A. SPITZ**
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN In 1940, "The Victory Gardens Leaders Handbook" was published to encourage Americans to grow their own food, with straightforward how-to lessons in planning and starting a garden, saving seeds and canning vegetables from backyards and community spaces.

Tin was hard to come by, canned foods were disappearing from shelves and fresh produce was scarce because there were soldiers and a war effort to feed. Food rationing had begun, and the call went out to start "Victory Gardens" in the name of patriotism. Nearly 20 million Americans responded to the challenge: Victory Gardens were estimated to grow up to 40 percent of all the vegetable produce being consumed nationally at the time.

In 2012, we face wars on other fronts: climate change, drought, genetic modification resulting in crop-killing superbugs and weeds, consolidation of the seed supply, soil depletion from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, political polarization preventing passage of a farm bill, and a stock market that bets on future prices of produce and livestock. With childhood diabetes on the rise and an epidemic of obesity, we need healthier diets and more nutritious foods.

Sounds like an active call for a 21st century Victory Garden effort — and, just in time, it's here!

Empowering people once again to "grow their own" and now in its third year, The Grow LA Victory Garden Initiative (GLAVG) offers four-week, low-cost classes in gardening basics throughout Los Angeles County. Classes are taught by University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) L.A. County Master Gardener program volunteer instructors.

Taught seasonally in fall and spring, the current crop of 25 classes includes three on the Westside: beginning Sept. 29 at Santa Monica High School; and starting Oct. 6 at Venice Community Garden and in West L.A. at University High School.

Yvonne Savio, director of the UCCE L.A. County Master Gardener program, said the need for the initiative was propelled by the public.




Image courtesy University of North Texas

VINTAGE: **A Victory Garden poster from 1943 that was created by the U.S. Office of War Information.**

"The bad news of the economy, publicity on diabetes and obesity all resulted in many more requests for our help in 'How do I grow a garden?' We were determined to offer the public basic gardening classes throughout L.A. County," Savio said.

Classes cover the basics in seed starting, transplanting, healthy soil, backyard and worm composting, weed and pest management, container gardens, beneficial insects, propagation, harvesting and more. Prior attendees called the workshops "life changing" and said they "loved interacting and meeting with people who are just as passionate about social change and food security as myself."

Savio's goals for the initiative include community building: "We hope that gardeners will register for the class session that's close to them, so they can join

SEE **GARDENING** PAGE 11

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

### Keep your guard up

**Editor:**

Residents be aware!

As my husband and I were walking along Ocean Avenue after dinner last night, a homeless woman walks alongside us, starts yelling loudly, jumps across my husband and punches me in the face, and runs off.

We immediately call the police to report this, and when the police arrived, they were very familiar with this woman and had answered many calls regarding previous disturbances by her over the past weeks!

We in Santa Monica have become so used to the homeless we pass in the parks, sleeping in doorways and taking up the Third Street Promenade benches, we forget the fact that they can be a threat to our safety.

We need to wake up, Santa Monica. We should not allow the lax attitude of the Santa Monica Police Department, which patrols our streets. It might be more than an assault/misdemeanor that happens to one of us next time.

**Claudia Prevost**
Santa Monica

### Medication in the meantime

**Editor:**

I feel that a moratorium on cannabis dispensaries would be a step backwards for Santa Monica ("Council to consider moratorium on pot shops," Sept. 24). City Hall can develop necessary regulations without depriving its residents of a legal outlet from which to procure their medication in the meantime.

I believe it is difficult for anyone to say that there are negative consequences from medical marijuana. However, when citizens are forced to turn to black or gray market sources for a drug, the negative consequences are quite obvious. Black markets foster crime where there would be none.

I hope the City Council decides to set a good example rather than just following the example of other cities, particularly the ones which have taken medicine from people who need and want it while the city leaders scratch their heads.

**Maitland Vaughan-Turner**
Malibu, Calif.

### Don't insult intelligence

**Editor:**

Melissa Grant makes an impassioned plea in her letter calling for help to pass Proposition 30 and defeat Proposition 32, although it struck me more as hyperbole than fact ("Calling for help," Letters to the Editor, Sept. 23). Nonetheless, as an independent voter, I want to hear all sides of an argument.

However, telling me I need better education if I disagree with her is patently offensive and arrogant. I am quite capable of making my own choices, thank you very much. In my opinion, the elitists of both parties that reflect this attitude harm their position more than help it.

**Robert Scura**
Santa Monica




## Life Matters



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

# Reducing stress at work

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

Simply put, my job is incredibly stressful. With numerous budget cuts our staff has been reduced dramatically, but the workload has not changed. It is just dumped on those who perform. I enjoy what I do, but find it difficult to make it through the day and still have energy for things I like to do outside of the office, if I can even get out of the office! While I know it will be difficult to simply do less, I would like ideas about how I can better manage my stress level at work.

Signed,
Stressed Out

**DEAR STRESSED OUT,**

Stress has become quite common in today's workplace, especially given the current climate. In fact, according to the American Psychological Association (APA), nearly 70 percent of professionals report that work is a significant source of stress. While some stress can be helpful in keeping us motivated to accomplish tasks at work, a high level of stress can have significant negative impacts. Recognizing that you are feeling stressed at work can be an important sign that action needs to be taken to remedy your situation.

The most important thing to consider here is taking care of yourself. Although it may be hard to find time for everything, making time to exercise, spend time outdoors, eating a good meal and prioritizing a good night's sleep can have amazing effects on your mood and your ability to handle stress. If you are feeling stressed at work, not able to make time for things you enjoy outside of work and feeling as though you are always behind, you may be harming your body more than you know.

Pay attention to your physical health and your state of mind. Taking care of yourself, both physically and mentally, is crucial in order to be productive and effective at work. Beyond the suggestions listed below you should always consult your physician if you feel as though your stress is no longer manageable.

Focus on taking things one step at a time. Sometimes thinking of everything that has to be done as a whole can lead to feeling overwhelmed and out of control. Try breaking down all of the things that are on your plate into actionable tasks. Determine things that can be done relatively quickly as the feeling of crossing things off your to-do list can help lift your mood and help you become more productive on the larger things on your list.

Analyze your day. Over half of the professionals surveyed by APA indicated that they feel less productive as a result of workplace stress. Take an inventory of where you spend your time during the day and consider how you might be able to re-arrange your schedule to take advantage of times when your concentration is best or your energy level is high. For instance, if most people come into the office at 9 a.m., you might benefit from coming in an hour earlier to have time to work on projects with limited distractions or interruptions.

**TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY, IS CRUCIAL IN ORDER TO BE PRODUCTIVE AND EFFECTIVE AT WORK.**

Focus on strengthening relationships with others at work. Developing positive relationships with your colleagues can help serve as a stress buffer. When we have support and others empathize with the feelings we are going through, we often feel better about our ability to tackle difficult situations. Relying on others when possible and finding ways to delegate projects and responsibilities can help reduce stress. Consider if there are others on the team who might be able to help you finish a given task or project.

Finally, make sure your workspace is conducive to productivity. Having a cluttered desk or chaotic workspace can make it hard to stay on task and may lead to feeling stressed or overwhelmed. Take time to organize your workspace at the end of each day. Even just five minutes of organizing your files and important documents will make you feel much better about coming back into work the next morning.

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




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# Anti-Muslim filmmaker's probation case creeps on

GILLIAN FLACCUS & GREG RISLING
Associated Press

CERRITOS, Calif. The federal probation violation investigation targeting the man behind the anti-Muslim video inflaming the Middle East is proceeding slowly and privately, reflecting the explosiveness of the case.

Federal officials have said nothing publicly about the case, and neither has Nakoula Basseley Nakoula's attorney. Nakoula has put his home up for sale and gone into hiding since violence erupted over the 14-minute YouTube trailer for "Innocence of Muslims," a crudely made film that portrays the Muhammad as a religious fraud, womanizer and pedophile.

Enraged Muslims have demanded punishment for Nakoula, and dozens have died in violent protests linked to the movie. A Pakistani cabinet minister on Monday offered a $100,000 bounty to anyone who kills Nakoula.

Meantime, First Amendment advocates have defended Nakoula's right to make the film even while condemning its content. President Barack Obama echoed those sentiments Tuesday in a speech at the United Nations.

"We understand why people take offense to this video because millions of our citizens are among them. I know there are some who ask, 'Why don't we just ban such a video?'" he said. "The answer is enshrined in our laws. Our Constitution protects the right to practice free speech."

Against that backdrop, federal officials are looking into whether Nakoula, 55, violated probation for a 2010 check fraud conviction by uploading the trailer to YouTube. Nakoula was sentenced to 21 months in prison and ordered not to use computers or the Internet for five years without approval from his probation officer.

If he's found in violation, he could be returned to prison. If not, he'll remain free. Either way, federal officials will face criticism, either from those who say Nakoula's free speech rights were trampled or from those who believe he should have been punished for inciting violence with the video.

"This case breaks the mold," said Mark Werksman, a defense attorney in Los Angeles and a former federal prosecutor. "If the video hadn't gone viral, and caused the Arabic world to blow up, who would care if this guy is using YouTube? It's all about politics with this guy."

Because of the international complexity, probation officials handling the case are taking plenty of time to make a decision and likely are getting input from throughout the federal government, said Lawrence Rosenthal, a professor at Chapman University's School of Law in Orange.

"My best guess is decisions about this case are going to be made at very high levels," Rosenthal said, surmising federal prosecutors, Justice Department headquarters and even the State Department may be weighing in.

Steven Seiden, a defense attorney representing Nakoula in the probation matter, did not reply to questions by email Tuesday and has not replied to several written requests for an interview with him or his client. The U.S. attorney's office declined to comment.

In most federal cases, a probation officer who decides someone has committed a serious violation submits a confidential report to the sentencing judge, who then can pursue a probation revocation hearing — a mini-trial of sorts — where probation officials must prove the violation.

If the judge finds the individual in violation, the court can return the defendant to probation, send him to prison or impose additional terms of probation without prison time.

Normal cases can move very quickly — sometimes taking days — once a probation officer has prepared a report, Werksman said. In this instance, however, the political and diplomatic ramifications likely have officials scrutinizing every step.

Probation officials first must be able to prove there was a violation, and that could mean a lengthy investigation into whether Nakoula or someone else posted the video on YouTube, said Heidi Rummel, a former federal prosecutor and criminal law professor at the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law.

In addition, the terms of Nakoula's supervised release indicate he was allowed to use computers with prior approval from his probation officer. It's possible he received approval to post the trailer for "Innocence of Muslims."

"Usually the probation officer will be most interested in preventing him from engaging in any kind of activity related to the original crime, so another factor would be what kind of permission did the probation officer give him?" she said. "Why would (the film) be of concern in a bank fraud case? That's a whole nother wrinkle."

If federal probation officials — or those

SEE FILM PAGE 6

## The Q Line

**On the rebound**

A recent Daily Press article discovered that property values are on the rise in Santa Monica.

**So, this week's Q-Line question asks:**
Does the news of increasing values give you confidence in the real estate market and why?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.





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# New channel on menu at McDonald's

LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES The question of the moment at 700 pioneering McDonald's restaurants: You want TV with those fries?

Not just any television, but the custom-made M Channel, formulated and tested with the same attention to detail that made Big Macs and Chicken McNuggets cultural icons.

The channel's aim is to offer exclusive content to entertain customers. More ambitiously, it also intends to create promotional and sales opportunities for record companies and others who want to dive into McDonald's vast customer pool.

Lee Edmondson, who has spent more than eight years developing the concept for McDonald's and years beforehand pondering it, said the fast-food chain is thinking way outside the TV box.

"It is a vision that is more than television," more than the "passive relationship" that viewers have with gas station or supermarket TV feeds, said Edmondson, who comes from a venture-capital background.

The M channel is akin to a broadcast network with its own news, entertainment and sportscasts localized for cities and even neighborhoods, he said. But there's more: It will supersize the experience by directing viewers online for shopping or other opportunities.

Get details on a featured electronic toy or be among the first to download a music video discovered via M Channel. Want to get close to artists you heard on your coffee break? Enter to win backstage concert passes or maybe lunch with them (just a guess, but the location may not be optional).

M Channel's goal is to target different audiences at different times of day and be so area-specific that a restaurant could show high school football game highlights to hometown fans, Edmondson said. News reports are taped by local station anchors for the channel.

Among those who have enlisted as content providers are producer Mark Burnett ("Survivor," "The Voice"), ReelzChannel and broadcast stations. A range of advertisers, minus other restaurants and perhaps alcoholic beverages, will be welcome, Edmondson said.

For now, the programming is in its infancy. At a McDonald's in Costa Mesa, south of Los Angeles, a flat-screen TV tucked in a corner showed an hour-long loop that included weather; a trivia quiz that promoted "Jeopardy!"; features on windsurfing in Maui and auto racing, and a Hollywood movie report packaged by ReelzChannel.

A mom grabbing a meal with her two children briefly glanced at a tech segment on back-to-school products including computers and smartphones before exiting.

Other diners sitting close to the TV were buried in their laptops, phones or magazines, the screen showing the distinctive arched "M" logo merely providing wallpaper.

Ruby Lua of Santa Ana, who works at a nearby supermarket, took a break from texting to say she preferred the satellite feed the restaurant used to show. How about if the channel offered music and related downloads?

"That would be more interesting," said the 18-year-old Lua, perking up.

That opening is just what Edmondson wants to exploit.

"If you see a piece of content that connects with you immediately, we've provided you a value," he said. "If we can do it consistently, we become a trusted source of information ... and a great way for content providers to engage with consumers."

Major music companies are intrigued.

"Interscope values a new way of communicating to customers where our content is positioned front and center to a massive audience," said Jennifer Frommer, the company's head of brand partnerships. "The channel provides a platform to market music in ways that have never been done before."

The pilot project, which began testing in scattered Western outlets two years ago, recently completed expansion to all McDonald's California outlets from San Diego north to Bakersfield. All told, the eateries get nearly 15 million monthly visits from adult customers alone.

M Channel could expand to the roughly 14,000 McDonald's nationwide within 18 months of getting the "go" from the company and franchisees, Edmondson said. He declined to predict when the green light could come for the project that has advanced with caution, the giant chain's approach to making changes.

The end game Edmonson foresees: Versions of the channel in McDonald's worldwide, and perhaps the birth of a template for other industries. So far, the investor-funded Channel M has consumed tens of millions of dollars and it "will be that again to pull it off," he said, declining to give an exact figure.

The M channel is "a smart thing to do," said Valerie Folkes, a marketing professor at the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

TV sets, which originally sprouted in auto service shops and elsewhere to keep customers distracted while cooling their heels, have new potential in a splintered media market.

"Advertisers face difficulties not only in reaching the right people but also in capturing their attention," Folkes said. "Here they have people who they know are customers and who are more inclined to listen to their message."

How will McDonald's Corp. judge M Channel's value?

"Ad revenues are important, but the channel must be positively received by our customers in order to be viewed as a success," said Brad Hunter, senior marketing director for McDonald's USA.

Philip Palumbo, who owns 11 McDonald's in San Diego County and is the marketing co-op head for the county's outlets, has seen an immediate benefit from the pilot project: No more complaints to workers about the network fare his customers saw via satellite.

"The content was not necessarily appropriate," Palumbo said. "The big things were politics. Others were violence, usually on the news, or medical stuff like showing surgery."

As Folkes of USC put it, "You can imagine a news story about 'pink slime' is not going to make a McDonald's customer eager to eat that Big Mac."

## FILM
FROM PAGE 5

above them — decide not to proceed against Nakoula, the public likely will never know what went into the decision or who was involved without a court proceeding, Rosenthal said.

If the case does go before a judge, Nakoula could argue he was singled out on a probation technicality for exercising his right to free speech, Rosenthal said.

Either way, the outcome to the investigation could take a long time and isn't as straightforward as it may seem, said Rummel, the former prosecutor.

The issues are unusual for the probation revocation context and the allegations may be difficult to prove," she said.

"It's not like they have a couple dirty drug tests and two weeks later they're in court."








## Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

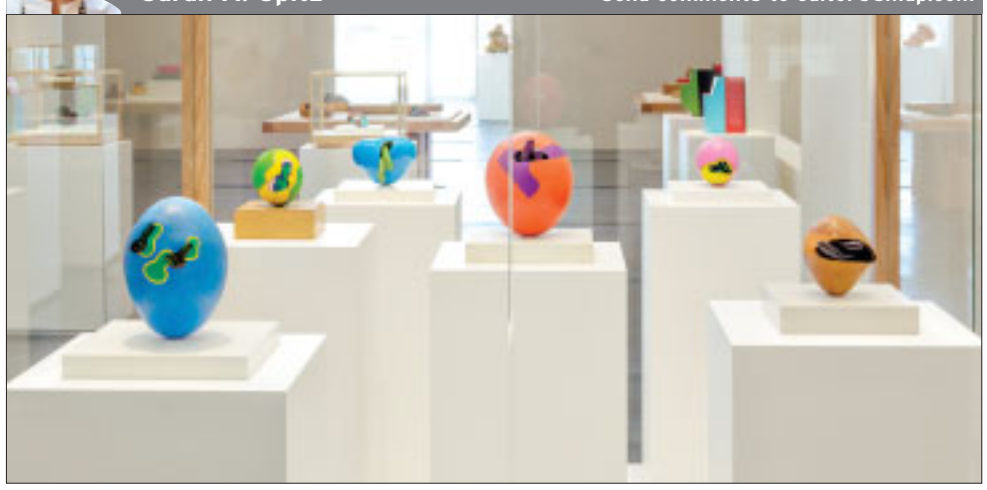


Photo courtesy LACMA

MODERN WITH A TOUCH OF TRADITION: **A view of the Ken Price installation at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. The exhibit is now open and runs through Jan. 6.**

# Clay, film and fashion

TO CALL KEN PRICE PROLIFIC WOULD BE AN understatement. He was in many ways the artist's artist and though widely influential he was not widely exhibited until recently. Now, posthumously, he is being celebrated at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, which presents "Ken Price Sculptures: A Retrospective." Although he did not live to see it — he passed away at age 77 in February of this year — Price was actively involved in planning the exhibition, designed by his close friend, "starchitect" Frank Gehry.

And at Frank Lloyd Gallery at Santa Monica's Bergamot Station, a beautiful collection of Price's more intimate works — paintings on ceramic cups and bowls, silk screens and lithographs — display his sense of playfulness.

Price was born and raised in the Pacific Palisades and first studied ceramics at Santa Monica City College (as it was known then). After a degree from USC, he later became a student of Peter Voulkos at the Otis College of Art and Design, one of the pivotal figures in contemporary ceramic art who opened Price's mind to the possibilities of clay as an artistic material.

He was a close friend of many artists who came to prominence by way of the legendary Ferus Gallery, a who's who of today's contemporary art veterans: Larry Bell, Billy Al Bengston, John Altoon, John McCracken, Robert Irwin and Ed Ruscha. Ferus gave Price his first solo exhibition in 1960.

Price is revered as the artist who helped liberate and elevate ceramics from a cottage craft into a form of high art. He created large minimalist, abstract and biomorphic-shaped clay sculptures, using a brilliant color palette influenced by Mexican pottery, and unique finishes, including his own glazes as well as bright acrylic paints, which he sanded down to reveal colors within the colors.

New York Times art critic Roberta Smith described his work as "wildly contaminated with pop, surrealism, kitsch and the psychosexual."

Start your tour of Price's work with a terrific video produced by Ollie Bell, with Larry Bell touring the Frank Lloyd Gallery show, which runs through Nov. 10: vimeo.com/49977613. For more info, call (310) 364-3866 or visit www.franklloyd.com.

Afterward sample Price's musical influences, Chet Baker and Miles Davis, at a LACMA jazz concert in his honor. Baker's music is saluted by trumpeter Brian Swartz and his ensemble; and pianist John Beasley (who played with Davis) and his quintet pay homage to Davis' first quintet.

Get in the groove at LACMA on Thursday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m.; the retrospective will be free and open to the public from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. www.lacma.org/event/ken-price-jazz-concert. "Ken Price Sculpture: A Retrospective" continues at LACMA through Jan. 6, 2013. lacma.org/art/exhibition/ken-price

### THE LAND OF EIRE AT THE AERO

If your taste runs to storytelling with a brogue, find both at The Los Angeles Irish Film Festival; it opened Wednesday at the Aero Theatre. There are new feature films, shorts, a couple of Irish classics, filmmaker discussions, a fundraiser and an art exhibit — "Sea of Exchange" — involving L.A. and Irish artists who'll build a boat over the course of the five-day event, to be launched at the end of the festival.

Films on the docket include Kirsten Sheridan's "Dollhouse" and Ian Fitzgibbon's "Death of a Superhero," two very different coming-of-age dramas, tonight at 7:30 p.m.; on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. another double bill features two emotionally powerful movies, Ciaran Foy's "Citadel," and Terry McMahon's "Charlie Casanova."

Possibly the festival's biggest highlight takes place on Saturday at 4 p.m. The documentary "Bernadette" by Lelia Doolan profiles civil rights activist Bernadette Devlin. "Bernadette" was filmed over a nine-year period from 2002-11.

Known as "Castro in a miniskirt," in 1969 she became the youngest woman ever elected to the British Parliament. Devlin was an unabashed radical who fought discrimination against Catholics and survived an assassination attempt.

Following the screening, a private fundraising reception, billed as "A Liberation" features "A Quintet of Mad, Bad and Dangerous Irishwomen," including filmmaker Doolan and beloved Irish actress Fionnula Flanagan. More info here: www.itsmyseat.com/ALiberation.

For details on all the other films and screening times, visit www.lairishfilm.com.

### FASHION QUEEN

I'm a contrarian who never understood the world of fashion, which I considered frivolous and hedonistic. But I was persuaded that fashion can be art by the documentary "Diana Vreeland: The Eye Must Travel" now on screen at the Landmark Theatres in West Los Angeles.

Vreeland, "the Empress of Fashion" invented the role of fashion editor in her 50-year career that included her spectacular successes at Harper's Bazaar and later as edi-

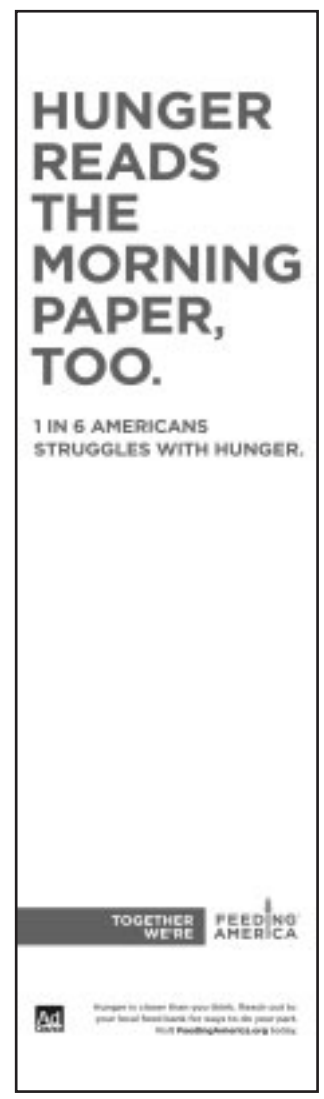
SEE **WATCH** PAGE 8









## WATCH
FROM PAGE 7

tor-in-chief of Vogue Magazine. She later injected life into what had been a moribund archival collection collecting dust at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute, turning it into one of New York society's most talked about extravaganzas, along the way raising some eyebrows.

Vreeland changed the entire landscape of fashion with her visionary layouts in exotic locales. She did not just set the standard, she invented it. She lived an A-list life, with Jackie Kennedy, Anjelica Huston, Twiggy, Lauren Bacall and Richard Avedon just a few of the names associated with her.

The film was directed and produced by Lisa Immordino Vreeland, married to Mrs. Vreeland's grandson, and features footage from interviews done during Vreeland's lifetime with George Plimpton, TV interviews with Dick Cavett and 40 other interviews with her family, the designers, editors, photographers and models she worked with.

It's a wonderful film about a force of nature. "Diana Vreeland: The Eye Must Travel" can be seen at The Landmark Theatres in West Los Angeles. More info at www.landmarktheatres.com.

Lastly, don't miss the second incarnation of Art Platform, the modern and contemporary art fair Sept. 28-30 at the historic Barker Hanger at Santa Monica Airport. I'll be attending a preview and will report back next week. To attend, find out more here: www.ArtPlatform-LosAngeles.com.

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

# Mr. Sexy Back tries to bring Myspace back

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK "Who am I to say I want you back? When you were never mine to give away."

Those are the opening lines of a song that accompanies a "New Myspace" promotional video. The once-mighty social network is trying to stage yet another comeback with the help of Justin Timberlake. The new site, for which people can request an invitation, looks a bit like an entertainment-focused version of Pinterest, with a dash of Twitter and Facebook thrown in.

But Myspace has tried redesigns before, to no avail. Will it work this time?

"If you break my heart a second time, I might never be the same," continues the song, "Heartbeat," by the group JJAMZ.

From the sound if it, Myspace wants to win the hearts and minds of tech-savvy hipsters. Founded in 2003 and initially a fast-rising star, Myspace attracted mostly teenagers and twentysomethings, offering them a place to express themselves online. It peaked in 2008 with some 76 million U.S. visitors in October. The site lost its footing as the fun of customizing profile pages began to bore its users and the site's heavy use of banner advertisements slowed the speed at which pages loaded. At the same time, people were already migrating to Facebook, which counted users 35 and older among its fastest-growing demographic.

The company's new promotional video offers a 2-minute and 18-second peek into a slick, image-heavy site. The site's much cleaner look is a stark contrast to the old Myspace, which users often derided as messy and cluttered. Posted this week, the video promises that Myspace will start "totally from scratch," as if trying to shed its former self. It doesn't say when the new site will launch, only that it's "not ready quite yet."

The new Myspace will let users connect to the site with their Twitter or Facebook accounts, a sign that it won't be competing with those sites as a social networking service. Rather, Myspace will continue with its entertainment focus, as a place to play and discover music, add photos, videos and playlists and connect with artists.

Timberlake, who's featured prominently in the video, will likely play a big part of the MySpace revamp. The former 'N Sync pop star, with a group of other investors, bought MySpace last summer from News Corp. for $35 million, mostly in stock. That was quite a difference from the $580 million that News Corp. paid for the company in 2005, when it was still an Internet darling.

MySpace, of course, isn't Timberlake's first foray into social networking. He played Napster co-founder Sean Parker, a party animal and early Facebook adviser, in Aaron Sorkin's "The Social Network" in 2010.

In August this year, research firm comScore put Myspace's monthly unique visitors at 28 million, making it the 43rd most visited Web property in the U.S. It's behind the likes of not just Google, Facebook and Twitter but startups such as Tumblr, along with the reviews site Yelp and WebMD.

"The new design certainly looks beautiful and it could certainly spur a lot of initial interest," said Clark Fredericksen, spokesman for research firm eMarketer, which used to put out ad revenue estimates for MySpace but no longer does. "But there are going to be significant challenges for any company looking to enter the digital music space. You have a lot of entrenched players who are really successful."

Those players include Spotify, Pandora, Rdio, not to mention Apple Inc.'s iTunes.

There's also the mobile question. It's unclear from the video what plans the new MySpace has for mobile devices such as Android smartphones, iPhones and tablet computers. Fredricksen points out that cloud-based music — streamed over an Internet connection — is shifting toward the mobile platform primarily. We are all on the go with our music. MySpace is entering a crowded market here, too.

Representatives for Specific Media, which owns Myspace, did not return messages for comment Wednesday. Timberlake's publicist also did not return an email for comment. With only the slick demo and the poppy, bittersweet lyrics of the JJAMZ song to offer details about the "New Myspace", these lines stand out:

"Maybe I'm ashamed to want you back. Maybe I'm afraid, you'll never stay."



## LAW
FROM PAGE 1

bidding insurers from turning away the sick — remains as contentious as the day it passed more than two years ago. There's still more than another year before its major provisions go into effect on Jan. 1, 2014.

Although the overhaul survived a Supreme Court challenge in June, the November election appears likely to settle its fate. Republican Mitt Romney vows to begin repealing it on Day One while Obama pledges to carry it out faithfully.

But the poll found that Americans are converging on the idea that the overhaul will be part of their lives, although probably not down to its last comma. They don't totally buy what either candidate is saying.

"People are sort of averaging out the candidates' positions," said Harvard School of Public Health professor Robert Blendon, who tracks polling on health care issues.

Forty-one percent said they expect the law to be fully implemented with minor changes, while 31 percent said they expect to see it take effect with major changes. Only 11 percent said they think it will be implemented as passed.

Americans also prefer that states have a strong say in carrying out the overhaul.

Sixty-three percent want states to run new health insurance markets called "exchanges." Open for business in 2014, exchanges would sign up individuals and small businesses for taxpayer-subsidized private coverage. With GOP governors still on the sidelines, the federal government may wind up operating the exchanges in half or more of the states, an outcome only 32 percent of Americans want to see, according to the poll.

Developed with researchers from Stanford University and the University of Michigan, the poll also found an enduring generation gap, with people 65 and older most likely to oppose the bill and those younger than 45 less likely to be against it.

Republicans remain overwhelmingly opposed to the overhaul and in favor of repeal. But only 21 percent said they think that will actually come about.

Romney supporter Toni Gardner, 69, a retired school system nurse from Louisville, Ky., said that until a few weeks ago she was sure her candidate fully supported repeal, as she does.

But then Romney said in an interview there are a number of things he likes in the law that he would put into practice, including making sure that people with pre-existing medical problems can get coverage. The Romney campaign quickly qualified that, but the candidate's statement still resonates.

"If Romney gets in, he'll go with parts of it," Gardner said, "and there are parts of that he won't go with."

Gardner thinks expanding coverage will cost too much and may make it harder to get an appointment with a doctor. Besides, she doesn't believe the government can handle the job. She's covered by Medicare — a government-run health system — but says "that wasn't a choice that I had."

At 26, Santa Monica, Calif., web developer Vyki Englert has only bare-bones health insurance coverage. Her parents, a preschool teacher and a self-employed photographer, are uninsured. Englert says she thinks the law will largely go into effect as passed. (Among 18- to 29-year-olds, 60 percent think it will be implemented with only minor changes or none at all.)

Englert says that she supports guaranteeing coverage to people with health problems and that provisions such as broader coverage for birth control will help younger women such as her.

"I kind of see a day-to-day way where this law could benefit me," she said. Englert says the health care law dovetails with a trend toward consumerism in her generation. Older Americans "don't have the context of the young people," she added. "They are looking more at the theoretical impact on the budget and the country."

Overall, the poll found Americans divided on repeal, with neither side able to claim a majority. Forty-nine percent said the health care law should be repealed completely, while 44 percent said it should be implemented as written.

The notion that the law will be implemented with changes, captured in the poll, mirrors a discussion behind the scenes in Washington, particularly among some Republicans.

"Whoever wins the election, the (health care law) is going to be modified," Mark McClellan, who ran Medicare under former President George W. Bush, said in a recent interview.

Congressional Republicans say if tax increases are on the table in budget negotiations with a re-elected Obama, changes to the health care law or delays in implementation are also fair game.

Some parts of the law already are in effect; its big push to cover the uninsured doesn't come until 2014.

Public opinion about the law itself has barely budged since 2010, soon after it passed. At the time, 30 percent supported it. That's now 32 percent. And 40 percent opposed the overhaul. That's now 36 percent.

Misconceptions about the law that reigned two years ago live on, including former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's widely debunked charge that it would create "death panels" to decide on care for the elderly and disabled. In 2010, 39 percent believed the law would set up committees to review individual medical records and decide who gets care paid for by the government. Forty-one percent still hold that view, according to the poll.

The poll asked people to say whether 18 different items were in the law or not and to rate how certain they were about their answers. Just 14 percent were right most of the time and sure of it.

Still, knowledge about what the law actually does is growing. More people are aware of provisions that allow adult children to stay on their parents' coverage until age 26, impose insurance mandates on individuals and businesses, and protect those with pre-existing medical conditions.

The poll was conducted Aug. 3-13 and involved interviews with 1,334 randomly chosen adults nationwide. It has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

The survey was conducted online by GfK using its KnowledgePanel sample, which first chose people for the study using randomly generated telephone numbers and home addresses. Once people were selected to participate, they were interviewed online. Participants without Internet access were provided it for free.


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## HOUSE
FROM PAGE 1

local law to further regulate the space.

As it stands, homeowners are free to hold events at their residences provided they don't violate other laws, and they're not required to go to City Hall for permits.

In fact, the only permits issued for the parties at the "House of Rock" are for one-day valet parking, and staff can't limit the number of those that are issued, said Sam Morrissey, a traffic engineer with City Hall.

Davis and Bloom hope the rest of the council will join them to direct staff to look at ways to regulate what some are dubbing "party houses" to lessen their impact on neighbors, be it through a modification of an existing permit type called a Temporary Use Permit, or TUP, or by drafting a new law altogether.

That would allow City Hall to limit the number of events that could occur in a single year or put restrictions on the hours that such events could take place, Davis said.

"I'm not trying to prevent people from having a wedding in their back yard or a birthday party at their house. Certainly people should be able to use their residences to host events for family and friends, that's not the issue," Davis said. "Here's someone who's taken the house and says it's temporary, but for a period of time is running it as a business in a residential zone."

Elaine Culotti, the current resident of the house, takes issue with that characterization.

Culotti owns Porta Bella, a design firm specializing in custom furniture and interiors. She's overseen the renovation of the home, which is a city landmark and former residence of Kathryn Grayson, an actress and operatic soprano singer who died in 2010.

Culotti and other friends in the interior design world redid the interior of the home in rocker fashion, installing microphone panels in nearly every room — including the bathroom — so that every space in the house could record music.

The upper floor of the 5,000-square-foot home is reserved for a professional sound studio.

The concept is that the entire house is an instrument, waiting to be played, Culotti said.

The events thrown at the house serve a dual purpose, both bringing in funds for charitable causes and raising the profile of the house, which Culotti expects to go on the market soon.

It's effectively a fancy house-flip, and once sold Culotti will move on to a new residence.

"I want it to be exposed and for people to see it," Culotti said.

To run events out of the home, the La Mesa house must also be Culotti's residence, which she claims it is despite the fact that the house is owned under the name of Greg Briles, who's connected to the Porta Bella company.

In a letter addressed to her neighbors, Culotti explains that the house will be show-cased between Sept. 15 to Dec. 6, and that the charity events were a "thank you" to the designers who helped remodel the house.

To reduce the impact on neighbors, she assured them they would hire security for the events and shuttles to and from off-site parking at Paul Revere Middle School.

Despite the attempt at outreach, none of her neighbors ever came to her with their concerns, Culotti said.

"My hope is that they do it the right way and open up a dialogue," Culotti said.

That hope may not go far if the City Council decides to step in.

The move is less about Culotti or her events, which seem to end at a normal hour and be somewhat sensitive to neighbors' needs, and more about the possibility of someone with less concern replicating the model, Davis said.

"I think we need to find a way to address the concerns, not just of this operation, but other people who may decide they want to do this with their homes as well and we want to control it," Davis said.

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Photo by Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

GOT 'EM: **Samohi's Nick Cardiel sacks Valencia quarterback Sean Murphy last week.**

## SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 3

right. It's all in the details."

He said that little mistakes have snowballed into a problem against Mater Dei and Valencia. And when that problem arises, it has a tendency to get the players down on themselves, Clark said,

Not losing his team's confidence has been his mission for the week's practices. Clark knows the losses can be deflating, but he attacks that with his own vigor for the game.

"The coaches keep showing up with enthusiasm to coach," he said. "I'm still encouraged, I'm still talking it up. It rubs off on those kids.

"I'm going to stay positive no matter what goes down until we figure it out."

There was some optimism to be had last week against Valencia. Facing a big deficit, Samohi was able to rally for a pair of second-half touchdowns.

Clark inserted touted wide receiver Sebastian LaRue at quarterback, energizing the team. He ran mostly the wild cat formation, often tucking the ball and ripping off big gains. Clark wanted to save that tactic for Ocean League play, but saw the opportunity last week to roll it out and see what it could do.

With the knowledge that it works, Clark said it should continue to be a part on offense until somebody figures out how to stop it.

Quarterback Ryan Barbarin will still start the game, but if the offense bogs down against Hart, expect to see LaRue under center.

As for the players, they are just trying to keep everything in perspective.

"It's been rough," linebacker Nick Cardiel said. "We're trying to keep our spirits up. The season is early, it's not over yet.

"This Hart team isn't going to just walk all over us."

Despite entering the road game as underdogs, Clark holds fast to the notion that if everybody maintains their assignments they may walk away with an upset.

"We have a chance in all of our games," Clark said. "Problem is, it can get out of hand real easy. If we put together four quarters, we'll be fine."

If Samohi is to win, it will be without the services of running back Will Taylor and offensive lineman Pete Breceda. Taylor will sit after experiencing a concussion last week against Valencia. Breceda missed last week's game with an ankle injury.

Cardiel said that other guys will have to rise up to replace the All-League Breceda and speedy Taylor.

"[Hart] is going to bring a lot of pressure," Cardiel said. "We just have to make it work this game. We know what we have to do."

The game is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday at College of the Canyons.

daniela@smdp.com

## GARDENING
FROM PAGE 3

an ongoing local Neighborhood Garden Circle to share not only their excess produce, but their knowledge and experiences as well."

The series at Santa Monica High School beginning this Saturday is led by master gardeners Julie Strnad of Mar Vista, and Lucia Burke of Santa Monica.

Strnad has been a master gardener since 1997 and has racked up more than 1,000 hours of volunteer time. With her specialty presentation on container gardening, she's trained other master gardeners as well as teaching at community gardens and in low-income communities; she volunteers with the Las Doradas Early Childhood Education Center in the Oakwood section of Venice; and her home garden has been twice featured on the Mar Vista Green Gardens tour.

Burke, a native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is a professional garden designer and installer focusing on kitchen gardens, who works with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as school garden coordinator at Samohi and Olympic High School. She also worked for three years at Virginia Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills. In 2007, she received her certificate from the Gardening and Horticulture Program at UCLA Extension.

The classes are $55 for the series or $15 per class; contact lucia.burke@verizon.net to register.

Savio maintains an active e-mail list that the general public can join. Anyone interested in gardening is invited to join either or both of her resource e-lists: 1) Community Gardening and Food Security; 2) School Gardening. Send her an e-mail at ydsavio@ucanr.edu.

For Grow LA Victory Gardens class locations and registration information visit celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/Common_Ground_Garden_Program/Grow_LA_Victory_Garden_Initiative_Classes.

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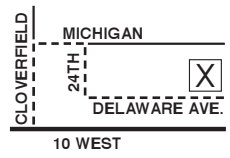


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## GRANTS
FROM PAGE 1

Path certainly hopes it will translate into increased foot traffic for his store as he launches a new line of fully-customizable furniture.

Acapillow is located on the downslope of Pico Boulevard near Interstate 10. Drivers either fly by the store or crawl, depending on the traffic. That can make it difficult for customers to notice his store or access it when they do.

Either way, the market for high-end furniture and pillows is rocky, Path said, and it's not made any better by the presence of big-box retail.

"We're hurting, retail's hurting," Path said.

An enticing storefront can help that, said James Dion, a retail store consultant and founder of Chicago-based Dionco Inc.

"The first thing they do before the customers walk into the store is see your store," Dion said. "Not only do they see your store, but what they see has to be inviting."

Good windows are simple and tend to follow a "less-is-more" theme, and the contents and design must correlate to the kinds of products that a customer can expect to see inside the store, Dion said.

That's exactly what Craig tried to achieve with his piece for the Acapillow window.

The piece has a mannequin's head and a screen with a whacky, futuristic feel that plays off some of the furniture in the store, particularly a mid-century modern chair that's one of Craig's favorites.

"It should be eye-catching, that's for sure," Craig said.

Although the collaboration is meant to draw people into the store, Craig feels that he will benefit from the additional exposure.

Santa Monicans who frequent the Main Street Farmers' Market may already be familiar with some of Craig's work, particularly a drawing machine that he brings with him to the market roughly once a month, but displaying his work in the window will show a different side to his art.

And it's fun.

"I wish I had a little more time, but it's a lot of fun to do this kind of thing. It's great being a kid again," Craig said.

Acapillow's event will begin at 7 p.m. Friday at its location on 3018 Pico Blvd.

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# Slipping in polls, Romney assures voters 'I care'

BEN FELLER &
STEVE PEOPLES
Associated Press

WESTERVILLE, Ohio Slipping in states that could sink his presidential bid, Republican Mitt Romney declared Wednesday that "I care about the people of America" and can do more than President Barack Obama to improve their lives. In an all-day Ohio duel, Obama scoffed that a challenger who calls half the nation "victims" was unlikely to be of much help.

Romney's approach reflected what he is up against: a widening Obama lead in polls in key states such as Ohio, the backlash from a leaked video in which he disparages Obama supporters as government-dependent people who see themselves as victims, and a campaign imperative to make his policy plans more plain.

With under six weeks to go, and just one week before the first big debate, Obama's campaign reveled in the latest public polling — but tried to crush any sense of overconfidence. "If we need to pass out horse blinders to all of our staff, we will do that," said campaign spokeswoman Jen Psaki.

The day's setting was Ohio, where Obama's momentum has seemed to be growing. It's also a state no Republican has won the White House without carrying.

Romney, eager to project confidence and brush aside suggestions that he was faltering, went after working-class voters outside Columbus and Cleveland before rolling to Toledo. Obama rallied college crowds at Bowling Green State University and Kent State University, reminding Ohioans their state allows them to start cast ballots next week. Early voting has already begun in more than two dozen other states.

For Romney, in his appearances and in a new TV ad in which he appeals straight to the camera, it was time for plain talk to contrast himself with Obama, and to mince no words about his expectations.

"There are so many people in our country who are hurting right now. I want to help them. I know what it takes," Romney told the crowd in Westerville. "I care about the people of America, and the difference between me and Barack Obama is I know what to do."

That message so late in the campaign — a presidential nominee declaring his concern for all the people of the country — was part of his widening effort to rebound from his caught-on-video comments at a fundraiser.

In those comments, made last May but only recently revealed, Romney said "47 percent of the people" pay no federal income tax, will vote for Obama no matter what, see themselves as victims, think the government must care for them and do not "take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

New opinion polls, conducted after the video became public, show Obama opening up apparent leads over Romney in battleground states, including Ohio and Virginia. And majorities of voters in Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania say Romney's policies would favor the rich over the middle class or the poor.

Specifically in Ohio, two surveys show the president crossing the 50 percent mark among likely voters. A Washington Post poll found Obama ahead 52 percent to 44 percent among those most likely to turn out, and a Quinnipiac University/CBS News/New York Times poll showed a 10-point Obama lead among definite voters.

Noting anew the Romney video comments, Obama said Wednesday: "We understand that America is not about what can be done for us. It's about what can be done by us together, as one nation, as one people."

And he added: "You can't make it happen if you write off half the nation before you take office."

Romney was showing signs of picking up his pace, and he did not mince words about his expectations.

"Were we to re-elect President Obama there is no question in my mind we'd face four more difficult years," he said. "If, instead I — no, instead, when I become president, we're going to get this economy growing again, we're going to do the things that ignite this economy."

Romney scheduled a blizzard of interviews with ABC, CBS and NBC, his second round of broadcast network appearances in three days after weeks of ignoring their requests. He also did interviews Tuesday with Fox News and CNN.

"I'm very pleased with some polls, less so with other polls," he told ABC.

The new Romney TV ad, at 60 seconds, is a longer and softer approach in which he speaks about people struggling to pay for food and gas with falling incomes.

At one point on Wednesday, the two candidates spoke from different sections of northern Ohio at the same time, their scenery as different as their message.

At a factory in Bedford Heights, Romney appeared on a stage surrounded by visual evidence of Ohio's manufacturing base — giant coils of steel wire, metal beams, yellow "caution" signs — and spoke as machines whirred in the background. He appeared with Mike Rowe, an everyman TV personality and pitchman.

Obama appeared at two packed college basketball arenas, delivering his message first to a boisterous crowd of more than 5,000 at Bowling Green and then to 6,000 screaming supporters at Kent State.

He said a student who introduced him broke his wrist during a game of ultimate Frisbee. Exhorting the crowd to vote, he said, "You got to play through injuries."

The campaigns tried, too, for footholds on other fronts.

Both sides kept up their attempts to paint each other as weak in dealing with China, efforts aimed at wooing support from working-class voters whose jobs might suffer from imports from China.

Romney also focused Wednesday on interest paid on the national debt, a subject he hasn't regularly discussed in his standard campaign speech. His comments came after a Washington Post poll showed the federal debt and deficit are the one set of issues where he has an advantage over Obama with likely voters.

Romney's running mate, Paul Ryan, took a sharper approach. He told radio host Sean Hannity that Obama was using hollow tactics to paint his opponents as evil.

"He's basically trying to say 'If you want any security in your life stick with me. If you go with these Republicans they're going to feed you to the wolves. It's going to be a dog-eat-dog society,'" Ryan said.

In recent weeks, Romney has lost his polling edge on the economy generally, with more people saying they now trust Obama to fix the nation's economic woes.

Fighting back, new Republican-leaning independent groups jumped in Wednesday with advertising aimed at voters who supported Obama in 2008 but are undecided now.

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# Families key but doctors have role in elderly driving

LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON Families may have to watch for dings in the car and plead with an older driver to give up the keys — but there's new evidence that doctors could have more of an influence on one of the most wrenching decisions facing a rapidly aging population.

A large study from Canada found that when doctors warn patients, and tell driving authorities, that the older folks may be medically unfit to be on the road, there's a drop in serious crash injuries among those drivers.

The study, in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, couldn't tell if the improvement was because those patients drove less, or drove more carefully once the doctors pointed out the risk.

But as the number of older drivers surges, it raises the question of how families and doctors could be working together to determine if and when age-related health problems — from arthritis to frailty to Alzheimer's disease — are bad enough to impair driving.

Often, families are making that tough choice between safety and independence on their own.

"It's very scary," said Pat Sneller of Flower Mound, Texas, who talked her husband, Lee, into quitting about a year after he was diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's disease.

The couple had recently moved from California, one of the few U.S. states that require doctors to report drivers with worrisome health conditions to licensing authorities. Pat Sneller was stunned to learn Texas doesn't require that doctor involvement, and health workers advised her to ride with her husband and judge his abilities for herself.

Eventually her husband called home in a panic, lost while driving in unfamiliar Dallas for volunteer work. A long scrape on the car that he couldn't explain was the final straw. In 2010, she persuaded him to quit driving, although the now-72-year-old's license remains good until 2014.

"He still says occasionally, 'I can still drive, you know,'" Pat Sneller said.

By one U.S. estimate, about 600,000 older drivers a year quit because of health conditions. The problem: There are no clear-cut guidelines to tell who really needs to — and given the lack of transportation options in much of the country, quitting too soon can be detrimental for someone who might have functioned well for several more years.

It's never an easy discussion.

"It did not go over so well," Benjamin Benson recalls of the time when his sons told the 87-year-old they feared his reflexes had slowed too much for safe driving.

"I've never had an accident," the Peabody, Mass., man said. His family's response: "Well, do you want to wait for the first one?"

The retired accountant wasn't ready to quit then, but he quietly began to analyze what would happen to him and his wife, who doesn't drive, if he did.

His longtime doctor wouldn't advise one way or the other. So over a few months, the couple tried online grocery shopping. They took a taxi to the dentist, not cheap at $38 round-trip. But Benson calculated that maintaining and insuring the car was expensive, too, when he drove only 3,000 miles a year.

A few weeks ago, Benson surprised his family by giving away the car, and he says he's faring fine so far.

"Most people in our age group know that it's inevitable and play around with the idea that it's going to come and the only question is when," Benson said. "I didn't want to be pushed into it."

Unlike in most of the U.S., doctors in much of Canada are supposed to report to licensing authorities patients with certain health conditions that may impair driving. Ontario in 2006 began paying doctors a small fee to further encourage that step — and researchers used the payments to track 100,075 patients who received those warnings between April of that year and December 2009 (out of the province's more than 9 million licensed drivers).

They compared the group's overall rate of crashes severe enough to send the driver to the emergency room, before the warnings began and afterward, and found a 45 percent drop, reported lead researcher Dr. Donald Redelmeier, a University of Toronto professor. While the study included adult drivers of all ages — for conditions ranging from epilepsy to sleep disorders, alcoholism to dementia — most were over age 60. A small percentage of the province's licensed drivers have received warnings, Redelmeier stressed, and licenses are suspended by authorities between 10 percent and 30 percent of the time.

His study highlighted one reason physicians don't like to get involved: About 1 in 5 of the patients who were warned changed doctors. There also was an uptick in reports of depression.

Doctors aren't trained to evaluate driving ability, and the study couldn't tell if some drivers were targeted needlessly, noted Dr. Matthew Rizzo of the University of Iowa. Yet he called the research valuable.

"The message from this paper is that doctors have some wisdom in knowing when to restrict drivers," said Rizzo. His own research shows some cognitive tests might help them better identify who's at risk, such as by measuring "useful field of view," essentially how much your brain gleans at a glance — important for safety in intersections.

Today, the American Medical Association recommends that doctors administer a few simple tests in advising older drivers. Among them:

• Walk 10 feet down the hallway, turn around and come back. Taking longer than 9 seconds is linked to driving problems.

• On a page with the letters A to L and the numbers 1 to 13 randomly arranged, see how quickly and accurately you draw a line from 1 to A, then to 2, then to B and so on. This so-called trail-making test measures memory, spatial processing and other brain skills, and doing poorly has been linked to at-fault crashes.

• Check if people can turn their necks far enough to change lanes, and have the strength to slam on brakes.

Dr. Gary Kennedy, geriatric psychiatry chief at New York's Montefiore Medical Center, often adds another question: Are his patients allowed to drive their grandchildren?

"If the answer to that is no, that's telling me the people who know the patient best have made a decision that they're not safe," said Kennedy, who offers "to be the bad cop" for families or primary care physicians having trouble delivering the news.

There are no statistics on how often doctors do these kinds of assessment.

"It's this touchy subject that nobody wants to talk about," said Dr. Marian Betz of the University of Colorado.

# Akin, McCaskill both courting Republicans in Missouri

DAVID A. LIEB
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. His spot on the ballot now guaranteed, Missouri Senate candidate Todd Akin began rebuilding support Wednesday among fellow Republicans who shunned him after a remark about "legitimate rape" while Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill honed an election strategy that will use Akin's own words to portray him as an extremist.

Akin won a pair of high-profile Republican endorsements Wednesday from former presidential candidate Rick Santorum and tea party favorite Sen. Jim DeMint. Perhaps just as importantly, the National Republican Senatorial Committee — which had pulled millions of dollars of planned advertising after Akin's remark — said Wednesday that it hopes Akin wins and cracked open the possibility of again getting involved in the Missouri campaign.

While Akin attempts to shore up support among the Republican base, McCaskill is incorporating Akin's rape comments into a strategy courting politically independent voters and more moderate Republicans. In the coming days, for example, she plans to roll out a "Republicans for Claire" initiative featuring individuals such as Kansas City businessman Warren Erdman, who once served as chief of staff to former Republican Sen. Kit Bond.

McCaskill's goal is "to help folks realize that this election is about more than just party identification," said McCaskill spokeswoman Caitlin Legacki. "It's about a clear choice between Claire — who is a moderate, independent senator for Missouri — and Todd Akin, who is not just too extreme for Missouri, but in a lot of ways too extreme for his own party."

While McCaskill highlights a middle-of-the-pack ranking on a conservative to liberal scale, Akin is attempting to shift the focus away from his own remarks to McCaskill's ties to President Barack Obama and her support for his stimulus act and federal health care overhaul.

"For Akin, the strategy is to try to bring all the Republicans back home — to try to remind Republican voters that he's their candidate and the alternative is electing Claire McCaskill, a Democrat, that many of them don't like," said Peverill Squire, a political science professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Akin got off to a good start on that Wednesday, a day after the deadline passed for Missouri candidates to get a court order to withdraw from the Nov. 6 ballot. Santorum and DeMint issued a joint endorsement describing Akin as a "principled conservative" and describing Missouri as an important battleground in Republican efforts to gain the four seats necessary to win control of the Senate from Democrats.

"We support Todd Akin and hope freedom-loving Americans in Missouri and around the country will join us so we can save our country from fiscal collapse," Santorum and DeMint said.

Santorum's Patriot Voices political action committee plans to donate to Akin and has hired staff for an on-the-ground effort in Missouri, said spokeswoman Virginia Davis. The Senate Conservatives Fund, which DeMint helped build, now also is considering coming to Akin's financial aid.

In a fundraising e-mail, Akin said the Santorum and DeMint endorsements "are huge for our campaign and show that real conservative leaders are stepping up."

Akin has apologized repeatedly since a TV interview aired Aug. 19 in which he said women's bodies have a natural defense against pregnancy in cases of what he called "legitimate rape." He rejected calls from top Republicans — including presidential candidate Mitt Romney — to quit. Yet the National Republican Senatorial Committee and Crossroads, a group affiliated with Republican strategist Karl Rove, dropped plans to aid Akin.

On Wednesday, NRSC Executive Director Rob Jesmer hinted at the potential to reconsider that decision.

"There is no question that for Missourians who believe we need to stop the reckless Washington spending, rein-in the role of government in people's lives, and finally focus on growing jobs in this country that Todd Akin is a far more preferable candidate than liberal Senator Claire McCaskill," Jesmer said in a statement.

Sen. Patty Murray, chairwoman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, described the evolving position of the Republican committee as "absolutely shameful." The Democratic committee already has spent about $1 million on TV ads in Missouri and has reserved $4.3 million of additional advertising between Oct. 9 and Election Day.

As the dropout deadline passed, McCaskill began running an ad in Missouri highlighting Akin's remark about rape as the culmination of comments he made over the past year-and-a-half expressing criticism of Social Security, Medicare, the federal minimum wage and federally financed student loans. But McCaskill's campaign may not pummel TV viewers by repeatedly re-broadcasting Akin's rape remark. Rather, McCaskill plans to use it to help illustrate a broader narrative against Akin.

On Wednesday, for example, Democrats were highlighting Akin's position on earmarks instead of his rape remarks. Missouri Democratic Party Chairman Mike Sanders, a former prosecutor, said he had filed complaints with the Federal Election Commission and the Office of Congressional Ethics alleging Akin had solicited financial support from the Senate Conservatives Fund in exchange for switching his position on earmarks.

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# SURF REPORT




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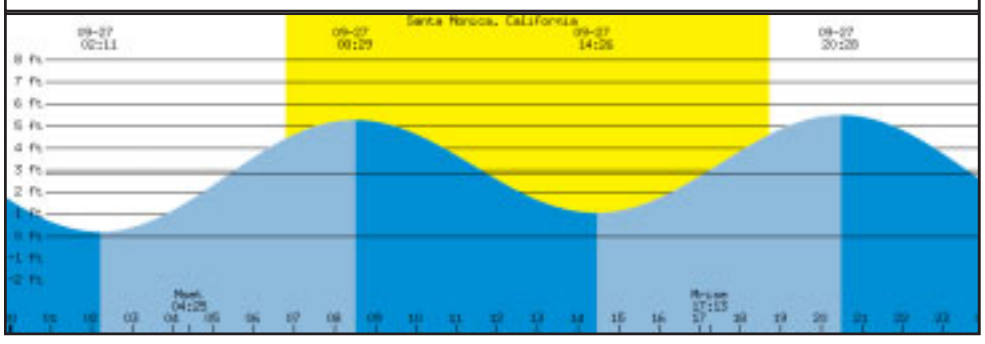
## Swell Forecast

**South facing breaks should run at least chest high. West facing breaks are looking at waist max waves.**

## Long Range Synopsis

Could see head high swell from Miriam at south facing breaks. West facing breaks are looking at knee to waist high surf.

## Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica




BEACH REPORT CARD

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Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **September 19, 2012**

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**QUICK STATS** (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 29 / 10
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 10

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

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

| LOCATION | DRY | WET |
|---|---|---|
| Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks. | ns | ns |
| Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private). | F | ns |
| Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach. | B | ns |
| Latigo Canyon Creek mouth. | A+ | ns |
| Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach. | A | ns |
| Pwerco State Beach at creek mouth. | A | ns |
| Marie Canyon storm drain at Pwerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd. | A | ns |
| Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence. | B | ns |
| Surfrider Beach (breach location) - daily. | A | ns |
| Malibu Pier - 50 yards east. | F | ns |
| Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon. | A+ | ns |
| Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero). | A+ | ns |
| Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs. | A | ns |
| Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Tuna Canyon. | ns | ns |
| Topanga State Beach at creek mouth. | A | ns |
| Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach. | C | ns |
| Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach. | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain). | A | ns |

| 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. | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain. | A+ | ns |
| Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua). | A+ | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain. | A+ | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain. | A | ns |
| Santa Monica Municipal Pier. | A | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain. | A+ | ns |
| Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms). | A+ | ns |
| Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south. | A+ | ns |
| Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St. | A+ | ns |
| Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower. | B | 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 CBAW 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'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 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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NFL

# With Goodell at table, ref talks heat up

**TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Sports Writer

With Commissioner Roger Goodell at the table, the NFL and referees' union pressed toward a settlement Wednesday to end a three-month lockout that triggered a wave of frustration and anger over replacement officials and threatened to disrupt the rest of the season.

Two days after a controversial call cost the Green Bay Packers a win, both sides were said to be nearing a deal and several reports put regular officials back at work perhaps as early as Sunday.

ESPN reported that "an agreement in principle is at hand." The New York Times said the sides "were closing in" on a new agreement.

The NFL declined to confirm that a tentative contract was imminent.

The union wants improved salaries, retirement benefits and other logistical issues for the mostly part-time referees. The NFL has proposed a pension freeze and a higher 401(k) match.

"Until somebody tells me differently, it's not really changed," Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt said.

Talks resumed Wednesday morning and continued past 6 p.m. following a 14-hour meeting that started Tuesday. Goodell attended that session as well as four meetings last week.

"We want to go back to work but it has to be the right deal for 121 guys," NFL field judge Boris Cheek said. "We have to be patient and let this work itself out."

Some coaches, including Miami's Joe Philbin and Cincinnati's Marvin Lewis, instructed players not to speak publicly on the issue, especially after a barrage of comments that accompanied Monday night's Green Bay-Seattle game, which the Packers lost 14-12 on a missed call.

Fines against two coaches for incidents involving the replacements were handed out Wednesday.

New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick was docked $50,000 for trying to grab an official's arm Sunday to ask for an explanation of a call after his team lost at Baltimore Sunday. And Washington assistant Kyle Shanahan was tagged for $25,000 for what the league called "abuse of officials" in the Redskins' loss to Cincinnati on Sunday. Two other coaches, Denver's John Fox and assistant Jack Del Rio, were fined Monday for incidents involving the replacements.

"I accept the discipline and I apologize for the incident," Belichick said.

But many players indicated the replacement-ref issues were too significant to ignore.

"Would you let a Toyota dealership work on your brand new Rolls-Royce? That doesn't work right, does it," Dallas safety Gerald Sensabaugh said. "Our brand is so big, it's so important to a lot of people. There's no way you can have guys that don't have experience at that level."

NEW PARKING RATES IN EFFECT
OCTOBER 1 (Beach lots effective November 1)



Highlights of the new parking rates include:



- Reduced parking rates for most evening Downtown parkers.
- Reduced parking rates in the Civic Center and Library.
- Increased parking rate at the beach lots during peak periods.
- Increased on street parking meters to $1 or $2 per hour, depending on location.
- Reduced free parking period to 90 minutes in Downtown Structures.

For more information and a complete listing of new parking rates, please visit www.smgov.net/parking.

City of Santa Monica

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## MOVIE TIMES

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

Los Angeles Irish Film Festival
**Dollhouse (NR) 1hr 35min**
**Death of a Superhero (NR) 1hr 37min**
Discussion between films with director Kirsten Sheridan and actor Jack Reynor.
7:30pm

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

**Expendables 2 (R) 1hr 42min**
4:25pm, 9:25pm

**Campaign (R) 1hr 37min**
1:50pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 9:45pm

**Hope Springs (PG-13) 2hrs 01min**
1:55pm, 7:00pm

**Lawless (R) 1hr 55min**
2:05pm, 4:10pm, 6:50pm, 9:30pm

**Words (PG-13) 1hr 36min**
2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

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

**Bourne Legacy (PG-13) 2hrs 15min**
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:20pm, 10:25pm

**Dredd (R) 1hr 36min**
11:50am, 5:10pm, 10:20pm

**Dredd 3D (R) 1hr 36min**
2:30pm, 7:50pm

**Finding Nemo 3D (G) 1hr 40min**
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:15pm

**Resident Evil: Retribution 3D (R) 1hr 35min**
11:30am, 2:05pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

**Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 1hr 51min**
11:30am, 1:35pm, 2:15pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm, 9:45pm, 10:30pm

**End of Watch (R) 1hr 49min**
11:35am, 2:25pm, 5:15pm, 7:55pm, 10:35pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
**1332 Second St.**
**(310) 478-3836**

**Intouchables (R) 1hr 52min**
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 10:10pm

**17 Girls (17 Filles) (NR) 1hr 30min**
1:00pm, 3:20pm

**Arbitrage (R) 1hr 40min**
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

**Master (R) 2hrs 30min**
1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

AMC Criterion 6
**1313 Third St.**
**(310) 395-1599**

**Possession (R) 1hr 31min**
11:50am, 2:20pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

**House at the End of the Street (PG-13) 1hr 41min**
11:45am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

**ParaNorman (PG) 1hr 33min**
11:40am, 5:00pm, 10:05pm

**Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min**
12:45pm, 4:35pm, 8:25pm

**Resident Evil: Retribution (R) 1hr 35min**
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:25pm, 8:00pm, 10:20pm

**ParaNorman 3D (PG) 1hr 33min**
2:25pm, 7:40pm

**10 Years (PG-13) 1hr 40min**
11:35am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

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

# Figure out weekend plans, Virgo

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**
★★★ Your intuition directs you as to which way to go, though you could feel stuck between a rock and a hard place. You see the potential for change, but you need a boss or supervisor to go along with you. You might opt not to share everything you are thinking. Tonight: Not to be found.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**
★★★★★ A friend seems to zero in on an issue, which helps you to verbalize and express your thoughts. A partner cares, but he or she initially might show it as hostility. Get past this person's behavior. Detach, and you will see more. Tonight: Where your friends are.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**
★★★ You are on top of your game, and you understand what makes an associate function in the way that he or she does. Open up to a talk, and share more of what you think is needed. Be aware of what others suggest as well. Tonight: A must appearance.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**
★★★★★ Detach before making a final decision. You intuitively want to know more of what could make a situation work. By stepping back, you will gain greater insight for how to proceed. Tonight: Your feelings need to lead the way.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**
★★★★ Recheck any agreements that could impact your finances. You have very high ideals, and you want to satisfy them. Sometimes double-checking is important in ensuring that everything is proceeding as you'd like. Tonight: Deal with a family member directly.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**
★★★★ Defer to someone who really wants to call the shots and make the decisions. You might not agree with this person, but you need to witness the end results of his or her actions. Tonight: Make calls and figure out weekend plans.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**
★★★★ You deal with others directly and with self-confidence. You know what your expectations are, and, for the most part, you share them with those involved. You could get into a heated conversation at first, but let it go -- don't let it mar your interaction. Tonight: Off to the gym.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**
★★★★★ Your sense of direction calls for some quick decisions. Your ability to see beyond an issue and understand the consequences of certain actions allows you to make the right move. Tonight: Choose something fun.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**
★★★★ Think through a problem with key players. What you see happening is OK, even if on some level you don't buy someone else's version of the story. Nevertheless, you plan on making an important change because you see the wisdom of making it. Tonight: Happy to be home.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**
★★★★★ Keep conversations moving. You have an intuitive sense of what you want to hear. Do not let frustration build, and realize that you have no control over others. Stay upbeat. A conversation opens up a situation. Tonight: Visit with a friend over a drink and munchies.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**
★★★★★ You might not understand the financial implications of what you are seeing. Someone might be more deceptive than you think. If you are unsure, say little and avoid making any commitments. Tonight: Think "budget."

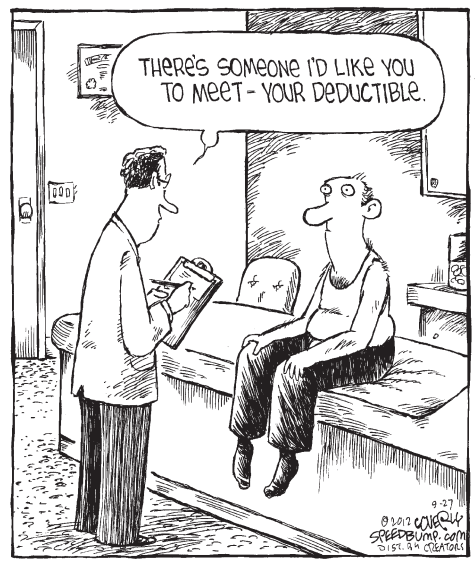
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**
★★★★★ You might want to understand what is going on with someone at a distance. You could be unusually aggravated with a loved one, but let these feelings pass. A friend encourages you to go along with his or her idea. Say "yes." Tonight: Beam in what you want.

## Happy birthday

This year you experience many different feelings that help guide you. You sometimes wonder which voice to listen to, but only you can decide that. You often have issues with the opposite sex. Maintain your sense of humor, and everything will work out fine. Transform your attitude, and you'll transform your life. If you are single, you come from a place of compassion when you meet someone. Be vulnerable yet open to the fact that this person might not be Mr. or Ms. Right. If you are attached, share a new hobby with a sweetie in order to become closer. PISCES can drag you down.

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

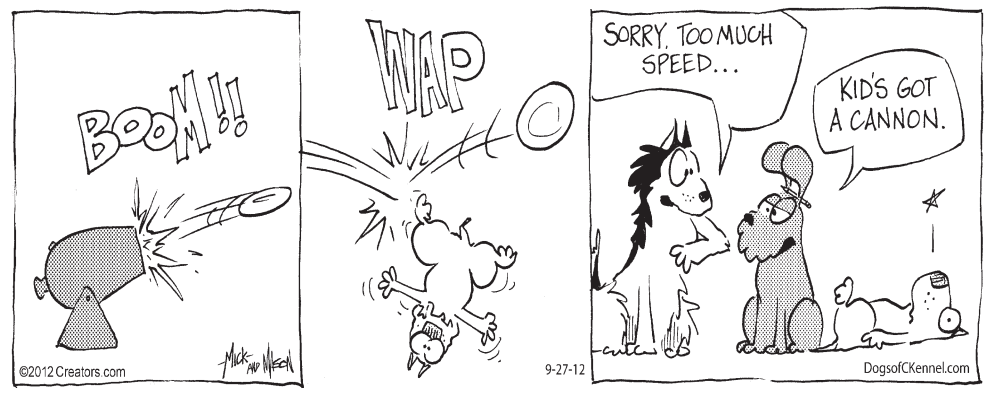
## Speed Bump — By Dave Coverly



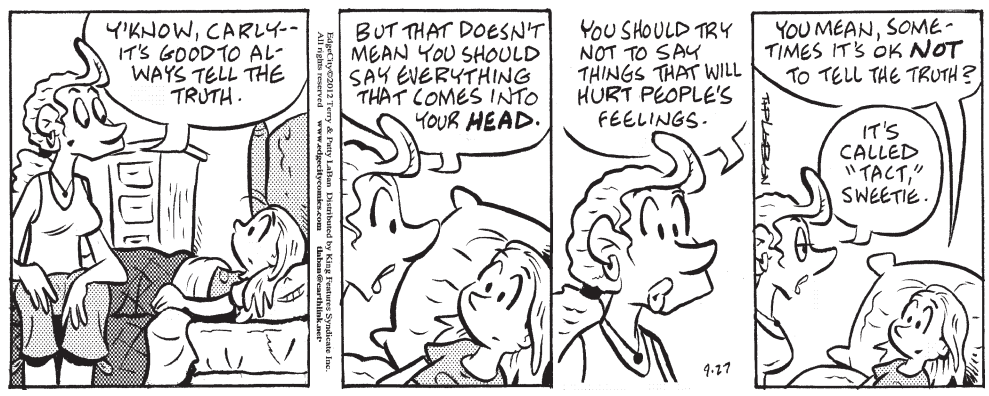

## Strange Brew — By John Deering



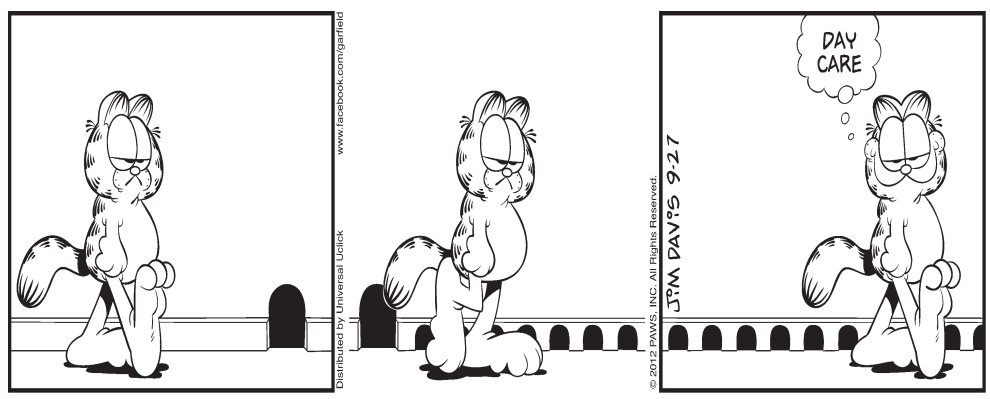

## Dogs of C-Kennel — By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



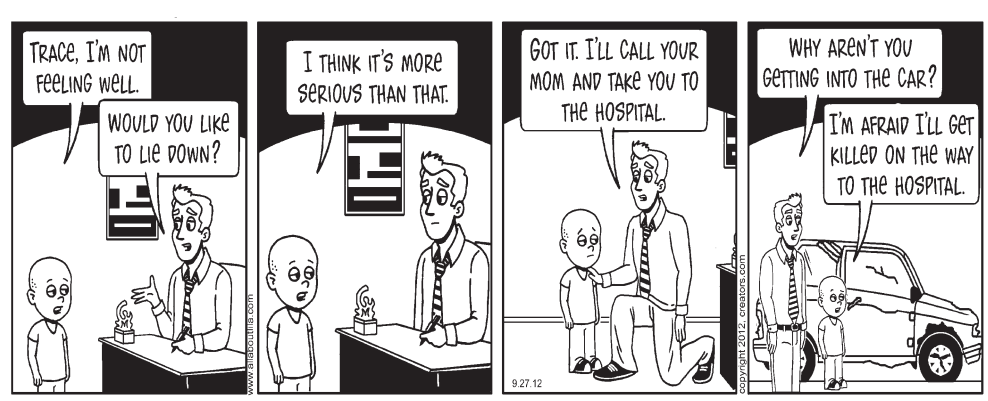

## Edge City — By Terry & Patty LaBan




## Garfield — By Jim Davis




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



# Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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# MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

**The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com*. Hint: It's not the mural at Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards.**

# *CROSSWORD*

## By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

**1** Wanes
**5** Sacred beetle
**11** Pointless
**12** Players' place
**13** Othello, for one
**14** Way
**15** Pine Bluff setting
**17** Stage signal
**18** Trumpet accessories
**22** Mythical weeper
**24** Over-indulge
**25** Adj. modifier
**26** Vein yield
**27** Oboe parts
**30** Potato choice
**32** Insertion signal
**33** Pendulum path
**34** Patchy-barked tree
**38** Some time
**41** Stratford river
**42** Humphrey's love
**43** Inoperative
**44** Wilde character
**45** Weaponry

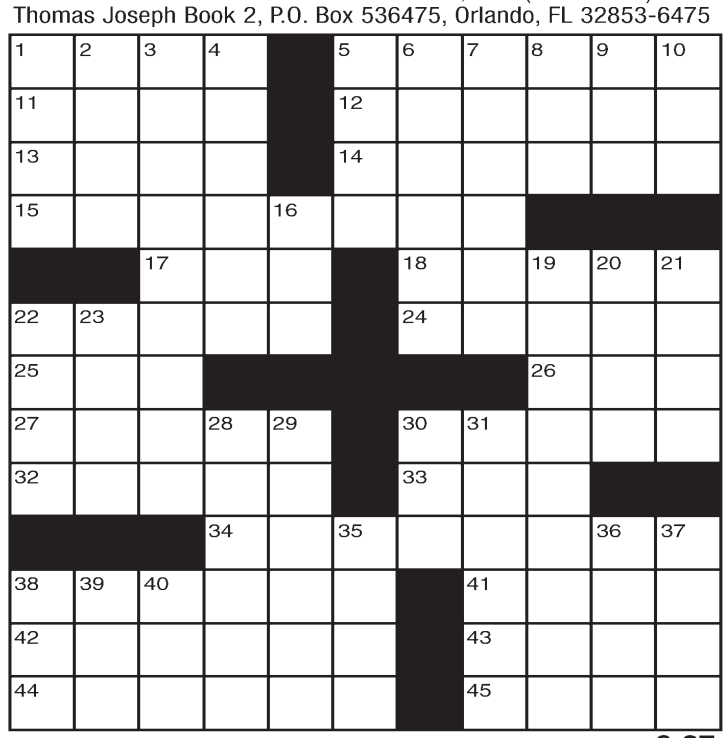
**DOWN**

**1** Jane Austen book
**2** Churlish one
**3** Place for a blurb
**4** "Ghost Story" author
**5** Snead and Shepard
**6** Defeats decisively
**7** Misbehaves
**8** Fan sound
**9** Hoopla
**10** Nap site
**16** Maiden-name label
**19** Protected oneself
**20** The Emerald Isle
**21** Winter glider
**22** DEA agent
**23** Notion
**28** Yen
**29** Fashions
**30** Lamb lament
**31** Spanish fleet
**35** Small coin
**36** Be nomadic
**37** Cuts off
**38** Pub pints
**39** Fighting
**40** Gaul invader

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

**Yesterday's answer**

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



9-27

## DAILY LOTTERY

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 9/25
7 8 23 50 51
Meganumber: 26
Jackpot: $21M

**SUPER LOTTO PLUS**
Draw Date: 9/26
13 18 31 38 44
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $27M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 9/26
15 23 30 38 39

**DAILY 3**
Draw Date: 9/26
MIDDAY: 1 4 6
EVENING: 1 7 0

**SANTA ANITA DERBY**
Draw Date: 9/26
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:44.14

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

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Many Americans are still outraged that no major banking officials were punished for the malpractices that produced the 2008 financial collapse. However, in July, Richard Eggers, age 68 and with an otherwise-unblemished record, was fired by Wells Fargo -- only because of a 49-year-old conviction for attempting to rig a laundromat machine by making a "dime" out of cardboard. Wells Fargo said its hands were tied by a new federal law requiring dismissal of anyone with past convictions for "transactional crimes" (aimed at identity theft and money-laundering). (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, which administers the law, has a waiver procedure, but the process is complicated, and Wells Fargo said it feared being fined if it did not terminate Eggers promptly.)

■ In July, Labor Party councillors in the Netherlands demanded that weather forecasters be punished for incorrect predictions -- since poor weather drives down resort business, resulting in slower hiring. One hotelier in Hoek van Holland lamented that the forecasters, ironically, were getting worse "(d)espite having more forecasting tools than ever before." (A week before that, tourist managers in Belgium reportedly called for "less pessimistic forecasts," and one urged meteorologists "to pay as much attention to sun as they do to rain.")

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**1954** - The nationwide debut of Tonight Starring Steve Allen (The Tonight Show) hosted by Steve Allen on NBC.

**1956** - USAF Captain Milburn G. Apt becomes the first man to exceed Mach 3 while flying the Bell X-2. Shortly thereafter, the craft goes out of control and Captain Apt is killed.

**1959** - Nearly 5000 people die on the main Japanese island of Honsh✣ as the result of a typhoon.

**1961** - Sierra Leone joins the United Nations.

## WORD UP!

**palter**
**\ PAWL-ter \ , verb;**
1. To talk or act insincerely or deceitfully; lie or use trickery.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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## Announcements

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## For Rent

West L.A. Best Location. Lower 1 bdr, 1 bath, just renovated and close to transportation, shopping and park. $1295. 2606 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Please call (310) 666-8360

## Education

Finish High School at home in a few weeks. First Coast Academy, 1-800-658-1180x130. www.fcahighschool.org

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Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

Yearbooks "Up to $20 paid for high school yearbooks 1900 - 1988. www.yearbookusa.com or 214-514-1040.

## For Rent

WEST LA Large, bright 1br upper on Barrington near National. Closed garage, appliances, on-site laundry, well maintained building. Near Wholefoods $1375/mo 310-828-4481 or 310-993-0414 after 6pm.

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DRE # 01218699

## 3.8% Tax on Some Real Estate Transactions
## Beginning January 1, 2013

Beginning January 1, 2013, the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act (PPACA) imposes a new 3.8 percent tax on some investment income.

It's a complicated tax, so we Realtors won't be able to predict how it will affect every buyer or seller.
Your Tax Consultant/CPA should advise you on this.

This tax will not be imposed on all real estate transactions, a common misconception.

Rather, when the legislation becomes effective in 2013, it may impose a 3.8% tax on some income from interest, dividends, rents (less expenses) and capital gains (less capital losses).

The tax will fall only on individuals with an adjusted gross income (AGI) above $200,000 and couples filing a joint return with more than $250,000 AGI (adjusted gross income).

*Applies to:*
- Individuals with adjusted gross income (AGI) above $200,000
- Couples filing a joint return with more than $250,000 AGI

*Types of Income:*
- Interest, dividends, rents (less expenses), capital gains (less capital losses)

*Formula:* The new tax applies to the LESSER of
- Investment income amount
- Excess of Adjusted Gross Income over the $200,000 or $250,000 amount

***If you are considering selling a property in the near future,***
***I highly recommend talking to your Tax Consultant well-before January, 2013***

| Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Single Family Homes From ALL agents in ALL companies Listed for Sale As of Late September 2012 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Santa Monica Canyon | = | $1,953,857 |
| North of Montana | = | $3,547,800 |
| Between Wilshire & Montana | = | $2,932,125 |
| South of Wilshire | = | $905,500 |
| Sunset Park | = | $1,701,667 |
| Ocean Park | = | $1,189,000 |
| Statistics updated every week | | |

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**What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!**

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.