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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 278



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT'S ON TAP?
SEE PAGE 2

THE FALL INTO OCTOBER ISSUE

BBB releases performance numbers, still tardy

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL All Big Blue Buses are frequently late, data used by public transit officials to evaluate routes shows.

The performance indexes were released at the last City Council meeting as part of BBB's effort to inform the public about how decisions to increase or cut service on routes are made. BBB staff now plans to publish the

SEE BBB PAGE 8

Schools drop out of lunch program

MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The Agriculture Department says 524 schools — out of about 100,000 — have dropped out of the federally subsidized national school lunch program since the government introduced new standards for healthier foods last year.

The new standards have met with grumbling from school nutrition officials who say they are difficult and expensive to follow, conservatives who say the government shouldn't be dictating what kids eat and — unsurprisingly — from some children who say the less-greasy food doesn't taste as good. But USDA says the vast majority of schools are serving healthier food, with some success.

According to USDA data released Monday, around a half-percent of schools have dropped out since last year. Ninety of those 524 schools that have dropped out said specifically that they did so because of the new meal-plan requirements. Most of the

SEE LUNCH PAGE 10

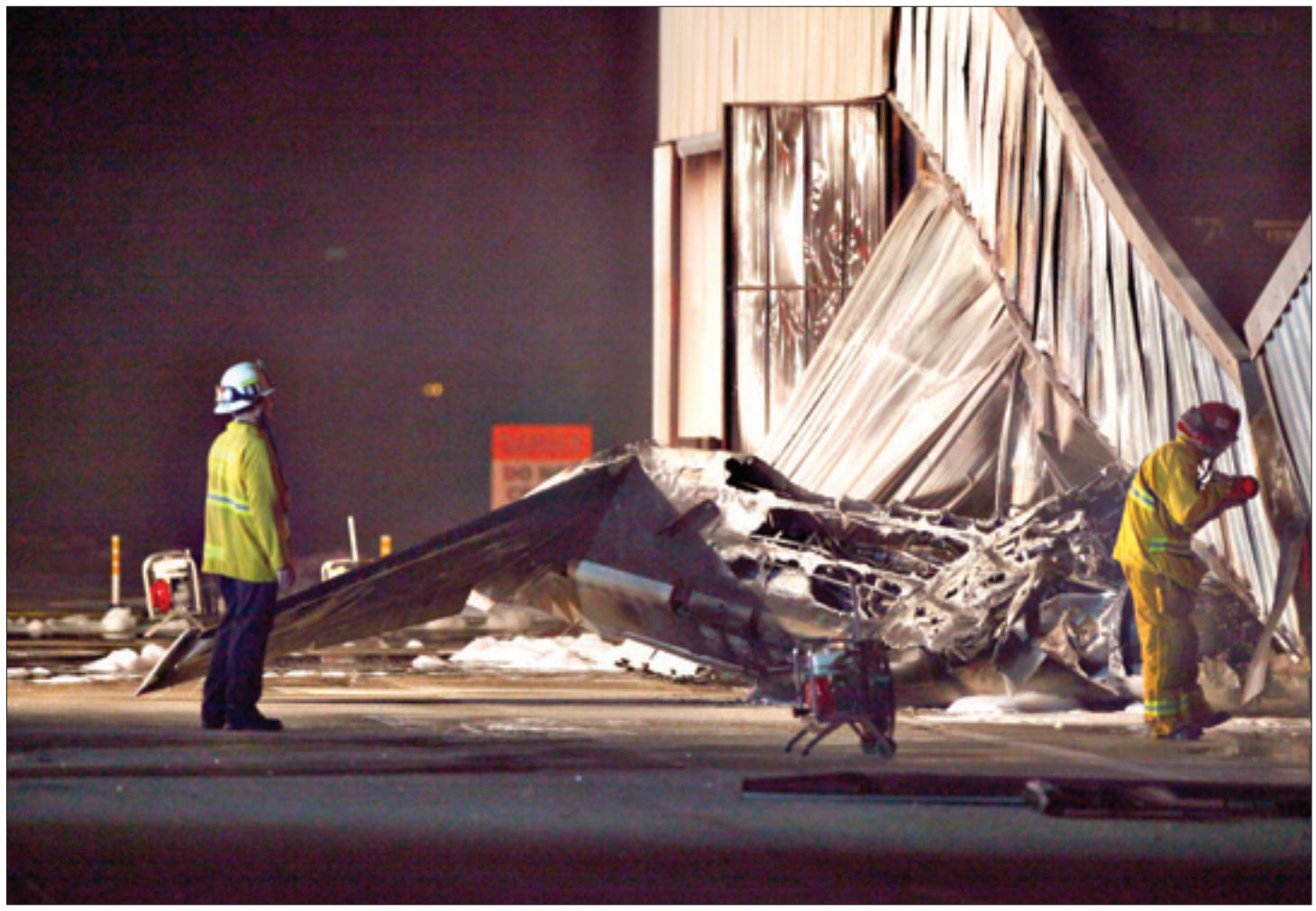


Photo courtesy David J. Hawkins

ASSESSING THE DAMAGE: Fire fighters survey the crash site of a small jet that went down at Santa Monica Airport on Sunday evening.

CEO of Morley Builders and son believed dead following SMO crash

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Santa Monica Daily Press

SMO The president and CEO of Morley Builders, the company responsible for building the Main Library and Shore Hotel, and his son are believed to have died in a plane crash at Santa Monica Airport Sunday night, a company official said in a release.

John Mark Benjamin, 63, and his son, Luke Benjamin, were believed to have been on board the twin-engine Cessna Citation jet, which veered off the right side of the runway and into a hangar at 6:20 p.m. The hangar caught fire and collapsed on to the plane, making the wreckage unreachable initially.

At a news conference Monday afternoon at the airfield, Van McKenny of the National Transportation Safety Board, which is leading the investigation, said two cranes would be needed to lift the wreckage of the hangar so investigators could determine how many people were onboard.

There are reportedly no survivors.

The plane was owned by a Malibu-based company called Crex MML LLC. A call made to the White Pages phone number listing for the company address connects to the elder Benjamin's voicemail. It's unclear if Benjamin was the owner of the plane.

Robert Rowbotham, president of Friends of the Santa Monica Airport, said he was shocked to hear that a jet hit a hangar.

"I've never even heard of a jet having an issue at Santa Monica Airport," he said. "I'm interested myself. Something broke, that's what I assume, but again that's speculation, I'm not an investigator."

Hundreds of neighbors gathered around the edge of the airport, watching the smoke, according to Rudy Romero, 82, who lives nearby on Clover Street.

"We heard the blast," he said. "Since I've lived here, 51 years, I've seen three bad ones here. I've seen a lot of them. They scare you."

SEE SMO PAGE 9



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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013

Stories for the little ones
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Reach within
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 5:30 p.m.
For both beginning and continuing students, this tai chi class teaches the 24 movements of the Yang style simplified form. For more information, visit beachhouse.smgov.net.

Hitchcock screening
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 6 p.m.
Filmmaker Elaina Archer will screen and discuss "Rear Window," the 1954 classic from Alfred Hitchcock. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

SMC Trustees meeting
Business Building Room 117
1900 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
The Santa Monica College Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meeting. Hear from the superintendent of the college as well as a report about enrollment development. For more information, visit smc.edu

Cracking up
Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade,
8:30 p.m.
Check out Unpopular Opinion, a stand-up comedy show presented by Cracked.com. This is a 21-and-older event and admission is $5.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2013

Day at the market
Third Street Promenade
8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Visit one of Southern California's finest Farmers' Markets for the freshest of the fresh. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Story time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Story series for children 3 to 5 years old. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Mindful meditation
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 6 p.m.
Take a pause in your day to refresh and pay attention to your senses, feelings and thoughts.

Career planning
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 6:30 p.m.
Set career goals and learn to manage your time and energy to achieve them. Professional career counselor Carina Lin will lead the workshop.

Talking planning
City Hall
Council Chambers
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Planning Commission will hear testimony from the developers of two proposed hotels slated for the corner of Fifth Street and Colorado Avenue. Learn what community benefits the developers are proposing.

Improv training
Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade,
7:30 p.m.
Take advantage of a free improv comedy training class. RSVP at westsidecomedy.com or call (310) 451-0850 for more information.

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

In the photo package entitled "Feeling the after GLOW," which appeared in the Sept. 30 edition of the Daily Press, it should have identified artist Marni Gittleman as the creator, along with reDiscover Center and Leslie K. Gray, of "GLOWmashpere," an art installation that was the main featured photo on the front page. To learn more about her work, visit www.marnigittleman.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMO

Sierra Club endorses park at SMO

Advocates of transforming Santa Monica Airport into a community park received an endorsement Monday from grassroots environmental agency Sierra Club.

"The Sierra Club believes that the replacement of SMO with a great park including land for hiking and restoration of native species would not only address public health needs, but would also offer very much needed open space to the west side of Los Angeles and Santa Monica area," wrote David Haake, chairman of the organization's West Los Angeles group.

Representatives of Airport2Park.org, a coalition of community groups and neighbors who are spearheading the initiative, announced they were thrilled with the first environmental endorsement of their monthlong campaign.

The push to transform the property began in April, when City Council directed staff to investigate the reclamation of the western-most 2,000 feet of SMO's runway.

After July 1, 2015, when City Hall's agreements with the Federal Aviation Administration and aviation tenants expire, the space could be reassigned. Officials with the FAA contend City Hall is required to operate SMO as is until at least 2023.

The Airport2Park.org coalition will hold a free public forum at 6 p.m. this Thursday, Oct. 3, at the Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, located at 1343 Ocean Park Blvd.

Residents are encouraged to come and share ideas for the project.

– GREG ASCIUTTO

SM LIBRARY

Children's reading program sees increase

Santa Monica youth traded beaches for books this summer, according to a press release from City Hall.

More than 4,000 children and teenagers took part in the Santa Monica Public Library's summer 2013 reading program, which featured 320 story times and reading-related events.

The 10-week program, sponsored by the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library, encouraged youth to read more than 1.9 million minutes during the summer.

Attendance in the program has nearly tripled in the past decade, and involvement continues to grow, city officials said.

– GA





Photo courtesy 18th Street Arts Center

BALANCED: Friends practice their yoga poses while sipping on some beers at 18th Street Arts Center's BAM Fest two years ago.

Craft beer, art fest heads back to SM

BY GREG ASCIUTTO
Special to the Daily Press

MID-CITY Already starting the weekend countdown?

The 18th Street Arts Center is bringing its popular Beer, Art and Music Festival (BAM Fest) back to Santa Monica this Saturday, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

From Los Angeles-based Angel City Brewery to the Boston Beer Company, more than 40 craft beer venders will serve a crowd that is expected to reach 1,500.

"It's really focused on selecting some of the best craft beer breweries in the local area, and we have almost all of them," said event organizer Nicole Gordillo Schimpf of Tap & Cheer Events.

Small, locally-owned breweries like Los Angeles Ale Works and The Dudes' Brewing Company will be pouring alongside the likes of beer giants Sierra Nevada, Dogfish Head and Stone.

SEE BAM PAGE 9

Scientists keep eye on rare plant burned in fire

ASSOCIATED PRESS

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. As plants slowly grow back at the site of this year's Springs Fire, scientists are hoping against hope that a rare succulent found only in the Santa Monica Mountains will be among the blooms.

Thousands of Verity's liveforever, a threatened species, could be found in just eight spots in the mountains, all in the footprint of the May wildfire, the Ventura County Star reported.

In assessments so far, researchers have been able to locate just 10 plants that looked untouched by flames. But those plants were dried out, and it's unclear whether they are dead or will come back after some rain.

"We're very concerned," said Stephen McCabe, the research director at the University of California, Santa Cruz Arboretum who has studied liveforever species since the 1980s. "But we're not sure until we see what will happen in the winter ... and how much recovery will happen."

Found on rock faces in areas blanketed with heavy marine fog, the plants often are sunken into beds of lichens — another complication for the recovery because the lichen also burned, according to the newspaper.

The fire occurred during the plant's growth season and likely before it spread seeds, researchers said.

The fire in May charred 38 square miles of brush along coastal Ventura County.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

In need of more public art

Editor:

Excellent and important piece by [columnist Charles] Andrews ("Please, let that stupid mushroom cloud go," Curious City, Sept. 28-29).

For me, as the creator and chair of the Santa Monica Arts Commission that approved "Chain Reaction," and a 10-year member, it was the art that was the issue, not the politics. I continue to see it that way. It is a unique work, probably the most important in the city's collection and, of course, it's interesting that it was privately funded.

In an important city like Santa Monica, we don't have much in the way of art. Even our newest, best library at Sixth Street is without art, and "Chain Reaction" looks like it was just dropped off by a truck and left there.

Paul Leaf
Santa Monica

There will be a next time

Editor:

So it would seem that a jet landing at the Santa Monica Airport veers off the runway and hits a hangar. I do not know what, if any, casualties there are. Well, better that it hit a hangar at the airport than hit someone's home. At least this time. Who knows where the next one, and there will be another one sooner or later, will hit.

Mike Kirwan
Venice, Calif.





Our Town

Ellen Brennan — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Public benefit or project mitigation?

TRAFFIC DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM) is a program City Hall has touted as the answer to gridlock on city streets. TDM is a program in which property owners and employers will offer incentives to employees and residents to forego the use of cars. It assumes many employees will live in the immediate area, and will ride a bike, walk or ride the Exposition Light Rail Line to work.

But the Housing Authority has shown that the average employee in the area can afford an apartment at rents of $1,000 to $1,500, while market rate housing in the Bergamot area is expected to be around $2,400. Unless rents are brought in line with wages, the area will not house local workers. Remember, the light rail only travels along a single line in space. Most riders will live in a small area within a mile of the tracks. People living elsewhere may take buses, or they may drive to work in Bergamot, defeating the plan for the area.

The proposed TDM program turns on the assumption that the developers can find enough people who can afford area rents and will still give up their cars.

In the past, Santa Monica has been notoriously lax about enforcement. Because the charming pocket parks around Downtown were not part of land deeds, they disappeared with ownership change. Because enforcement was not in place, Craig Jones, developer of "Jonesville" (the area between Seventh and Fifth streets, Colorado Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard) was able to negotiate the bundling of all his affordable apartment units into one building. He immediately syndicated all his market-rate building at the current multiplier of the yearly rents, then walked away when it became apparent that the current multiplier of the affordable housing rents would not cover the cost of construction. Jones was reportedly living in Thailand. The city lost 54 affordable units.

The goal of development is profit. The shorter the time frame of an investment, the higher the return. To facilitate the highest return in the shortest amount of time, developers sell the project or parts of the project as soon as is feasible. The Hines development agreement supposes the various buildings in the project may be built by different developer/owners. So Hines will be selling entitlements to others and letting them do the developing.

In the Hines agreement, there are interesting limitations for the TDM program and interesting bits of information about how it will be managed.

First, it is considered a "community benefit." Now, any sane person without a profit motive and need to manipulate the perception, would agree that a public benefit is one that benefits the public more than it burdens the public. It's no community benefit if, after all the gambits have been tried, there are still more car trips than there were before the project was built. It may have mitigated the damage the project has done to the area traffic pattern, but it hasn't benefited the public. The additional traffic will steal time from commuters who don't fit the profile of biker, walker, transit rider and need to make a living in the area. The TDM may have made it possible for the project to be built, as it contributed to the perception used to justify the adding of more height and density to an already gridlocked area. However, it should not be classified as a public benefit. As a project mitigation measure it's a benefit to Hines and no one else, forcing many people to change their lifestyles to benefit Hines.

The goal of the TDM is to equal the number of car trips for each building as estimated in the environmental impact report. The TDM kicks in when the first creative office building receives a certification of occupancy. At the end of the first year, a report is required. If the Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR) equals 1.75 times the goal, it's considered a pass. If it equals 2.0 of the goal, it's considered a good faith try. If after the second year the building has not met its goal, the TDM manager can sit down with city planners and make some changes that will make it easier for the buildings to meet their goals. Defaults bring fines, but it's not considered a default if the TDM manager is working with City Hall "in good faith."

When the project is built out, total p.m. car trips (between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.) will be monitored by card keys that identify the user as employee, resident or visitor. Carpool cars count as one-half a trip. Visitors who pull tickets don't count toward the TDM total as they're considered neighborhood shared-parking patrons.

Because different developer/owners may be involved, the build-out calls for a project transportation coordinator, who will manage the program, handle yearly reports, maintain a website and monitor progress. If for any reason this TDM program sunsets, or fails, or is diluted by the City Council (as they excused Saint John's hospital from building their parking structure) Hines will be gone, and the residents who have lived their lives here will have to cope with a major traffic explosion.

Unexpected things happen with enforcement. At a Planning Commission meeting several years ago, Tim McCormick (former head of Building and Safety) said in his yearly report, "My department has had 1,300 calls for service without a single call back." If that kind of failure happens with the Hines TDM, Hines will have pocketed the profit while the area becomes swamped with unmovable traffic.

For no reason can this TDM program be allowed to fail. It must be in place for the life of these buildings, not as a public benefit (which it is not), but as a protection from the excesses of development, in place to protect the city, the residents and the region.

ELLEN BRENNAN, retired stockbroker, former chair of the Pier Restoration Corp., authored this column. She and other members of the Our Town group can be reached at ourtownsantamonica@gmail.com.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Connecting with old friends

IT'S SAID THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE NEW old friends. True friendship only comes with shared experiences. You never really know if that new friend will pass the test of time. So many things happen in this life to separate us. Heck, it's hard for couples who live together to stay connected, hence my job as a divorce lawyer.

In today's world it is simultaneously easier and harder than ever to stay connected.

This summer, my friend Kelly Hayes-Raitt was traveling throughout the Middle East and I was able to keep up with her thanks to Skype. This is truly a "Jetsons" moment. When I was a kid, the Jetsons had a video phone and I thought it was so cool. Who knew that in 30 years it would be something that I relied on to keep track of a gallivanting friend?

Skype is one of those tools that is growing in usage as my circle of friends expands across the globe. It allows me to have conversations with wannabe producers in New Jersey. (They wanted to take my book, "What About Wally?" and make a TV show out of it.) I've used Skype to get the latest gossip in Ajijic, Mexico where I go to write. I use it weekly with a filmmaker I'm working with in New Jersey for another film project; this one has a much greater chance of success.

The ability to have a face-to-face conversation while on opposite sides of the planet is amazing.

This week I used real-time online video to hold a conference with an old college friend who is writing her book and we did an online editing session thanks to the technology. Seeing her "in person" and vice versa allowed us to pick up on the visual cues that a telephone call doesn't give access to.

Similarly, I had a conference call with an old high-school friend who made a movie called "INUK." It was written and directed by Mike Magidson. It is the story of a young man's journey to find himself. It takes place in the frozen land of Greenland.

Mike and I went to high school together and I have memories of him on campus being a very sweet, fun, easygoing young man. We reconnected on Facebook and I've been reading his posts about this movie for a couple of years. Turns out he's still a great guy.

His movie has won 22 awards so far and is having a screening tonight at the Director's Guild and I get to go! I haven't seen Mike in 30 years, except for a brief Skype video call where we chatted about the making of his film. He started out years ago as an editor and then became a documentarian.

After making two documentaries in Greenland, he needed a narrative to tell the full story of how the modern world affects the traditional indigenous population of Greenland, so he wrote "INUK" with Jean-Michel Huctin. The story of how the movie is made is interesting because Magidson used non-professional actors and was filming in the outdoors of a frozen land.

Having old friends succeed is one of the great pleasures of life. From our high school days we have a New York Times best seller (not me yet) who teaches people how to retire wealthy; that's David Bach. My friend Matt Crevin teaches people how to get into the sports world if you're not on the field with his "Voice of the Box" podcast and books.

Magidson's movie will be screening this coming Friday at the Laemmle on Second Street. I'll be tweeting about it tonight from the Director's Guild if you want to get an update on my thoughts. I'm @davidpisarra on Twitter.

I like having old friends. I like being able to drop an e-mail or Skype someone and have an instant connection that goes beyond what the electrons in the wires convey.

It's even better when I get to see them succeed.

DAVID PISARRA is a Los Angeles divorce and child custody lawyer specializing in father's and men's rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra

The Q Line

No more transfers

The Big Blue Bus is seriously considering eliminating transfers from one bus to another as a cost-saving measure and to raise more revenue by having riders purchase $4 day passes. The transfers currently cost 50 cents. Last fiscal year, 661,000 transfers were issued but the elimination will impact only 3.8 percent of BBB riders, transit officials said.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think Big Blue Bus should eliminate transfers?

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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Report: Truancy may cost state billions

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES California must act to reduce rampant truancy that saw an estimated 1 million elementary students absent in the last school year and may cost the state billions of dollars through increased crime and poverty, according to a study released Monday by the state attorney general's office.

"The empty desks in our public elementary school classrooms come at a great cost to California," the report said.

The report, scheduled for release at an anti-truancy symposium in Los Angeles, said children have unexcused absences from school for a number of reasons, including family issues, neighborhood safety concerns and bullying. It called for a sweeping battle against absenteeism that brings together parents, educators, lawmakers, law enforcement and community groups.

"The findings are stark. We are failing our children," the report's executive summary concluded.

The report was based on information from around 550 elementary schools, as well as surveys and interviews with school district and county education officials, district attorneys involved with anti-truancy work, non-profit groups, parents and state prison inmates.

It cited California Department of Education figures that found nearly 30 percent of all public school students were truant during the 2011-2012 school year — including about 1 in 5 elementary schoolers.

Nearly 2,000 elementary schools — about 30 percent — reported truancy rates of between 20 and 40 percent and nearly 10 percent had even higher rates, the report said.

"Some schools report that more than 92 percent of students were truant" that year, the report said.

The report also estimated that about 1 million elementary school children were truant in the 2012-2013 year, based on a sampling of school districts, and that nearly 83,000 missed 10 percent or more of the school year due to unexcused absences.

"To put this into perspective: we are discussing a 6-year-old in the first grade who has stacked up as many as 20, 30, even 80 absences in a 180-day school year," the report said.

More than 250,000 students missed more than 18 school days in the year, the report estimated.

School districts, who receive government funding based on student attendance, lose $1.4 billion per year to truancy, the report estimated.

Studies indicate that chronically truant students are more likely to drop out of high school and to end up jobless or turn to crime, the report said.

"Factoring in the costs of incarceration and lost economic productivity and tax revenues, dropouts cost California an estimated $46.4 billion per year," the report said.

"To be smart on crime, combating truancy must be a core goal of state public safety policy," the report concluded.

That means dealing with issues that lead to absenteeism in early grades, including health problems such as asthma and diabetes as well as family struggles that range "from the relatively mundane to the truly harrowing," the report said.

"In our interviews with district officials, poverty, homelessness, incarceration, evictions and job loss were repeated over and over as obstacles to school attendance," the report said.

The report cited a 30-year-old mother of three who was trying to hold down a job while the children's father was behind bars.

"The mother understood that school was important but reported that she was unable to make the kids go to sleep at night and every morning she had to fight with her three kids to get to school. Some days she just gave up," according to the report.

Another woman, asked what would help get her child to school, replied: "a permanent place to live.stability, safety and less stress regarding where we are spending the night tonight," the report said.

"Families who live in unsafe neighborhoods are reluctant to allow their children to walk to school," the report said.

A school district official in one city mentioned a girl who missed school because she had seen a killing and "was afraid to go outside," the report said.

The study laid out a blueprint for battling absenteeism by collecting better statewide attendance information; providing early intervention such as sending letters to parents or making home visits; dealing with issues that lead to truancy and, as a last resort, prosecuting repeat offenders under the state's anti-truancy laws.

It also said lawmakers should consider making school truancy and absence rates a factor in judging a school's performance.

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Stocks fall as government heads toward shutdown

KEN SWEET
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK Stocks fell Monday as Wall Street worried that a budget fight in Washington could lead to an event far worse for the economy— a failure to raise the nation's borrowing limit.

Investors pulled back from stocks as a budget standoff between Republicans and Democrats in Congress threatened to push the government into a partial shutdown for the first time in 17 years. Lawmakers have until midnight Tuesday to reach a budget deal that would keep government in full operation.

There is a simple reason why the budget battle — and, more importantly, an upcoming fight over the debt ceiling — are so crucial: the credit of the United States is the bedrock that nearly every other investment is built upon, largely due to the assumption that the nation will always pay its debts.

"The concern is government has become so polarized that if it cannot pass (a budget), there's a greater chance that the debt ceiling battle will go to the brink or possibly lead to a default," said Alec Young, global equity strategist with S&P Capital IQ.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 128.57 points, or 0.8 percent, to close at 15,129.67. The Standard & Poor's 500 slid 10.20 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,681.55 and the Nasdaq composite dropped 10.12 points, or 0.3 percent, to 3,771.48.

Monday's decline adds to what has been eventful September for investors. Stocks hit an all-time high on Sept. 18 after the Federal Reserve voted to keep up its economic stimulus program. But that enthusiasm vanished as Wall Street began to worry that the political bickering between Democrats and Republicans would lead to a government shutdown and crisis over the debt ceiling.

Even with the worries about a shutdown and debt ceiling, investors are still optimistic about the long-term health of the U.S. economy. The S&P 500 index rose 3 percent in September and is up 18 percent for the year.

With September behind them, investors now head into a worrisome October.

A brief shutdown wouldn't hit the economy and stock market hard. But a prolonged one, lasting two weeks, could lower the annual growth rate for the economy by 0.3 percentage point, according to a report by Macroeconomic Advisers. If a shutdown were to last the entire month, it could cut the annual growth rate by 0.7 percentage point. That is because hundreds of thousands of federal workers would go without a paycheck.

"You're putting a lot of people, at least temporarily, out of work and out of pay, and that will affect spending," said Kathy Jones, vice president of fixed income strategy at Charles Schwab. "It slows down activity on companies that depend on federal contracts."

Some investors think a shutdown could be a positive event in the long-term. The political pressure could force politicians to get down to business and negotiate — particularly on the issue of the debt ceiling.

"This may be good thing in the long run because it may lead to compromise," said J.J. Kinahan, chief strategist at TD Ameritrade.

Treasury Secretary Jack Lew said last week that the government would run out of borrowing authority by roughly Oct. 17. The last time the debt ceiling issue came up in August 2011, it led to Standard & Poor's downgrading the United States' credit rating. The Dow went through nearly three weeks of nauseating triple-digits moves almost daily.

"This sort of political brinkmanship is the dominant reason (the United States' credit) rating is no longer 'AAA,'" Standard & Poor's analysts Marie Cavanaugh and John Chambers wrote in a note to investors Monday.

If domestic and foreign investors begin to question whether the U.S. will pay its debts, it could throw every other investment out of alignment.

"It's a threat to the center of the global financial system," said Jake Lowery, portfolio manager at ING U.S. Investment Management.

Despite fears of default, the bond market was fairly quiet Monday. The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note eased to 2.62 percent from 2.63 percent late Friday. Bond investors are in a wait-and-see mode.

They can deal with a government shutdown. However, if the political dysfunction becomes worrisome enough that it raises questions about the debt ceiling, "it might be more difficult for the bond market to absorb that," Lowery said.

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BBB
FROM PAGE 1

data, which they had been using internally, on a quarterly basis.

None of the bus routes are meeting the industry standard of 85 percent punctuality. Only one route, the 41, is on time even 80 percent of the time. Several of the routes are late more often than on time.

Councilman Ted Winterer told Big Blue Bus director Ed King that the on-time performance "needs work."

"We hear from a lot of people that if we had more reliable and timely service, we'd get an increase in ridership," Winterer said.

"We absolutely understand that we are woefully inadequate in on-time performance," King responded. "And that needs to be raised to industry standards."

King pointed out that BBB has begun to address the tardiness by making adjustments to two popular lines, the 7 and 3 (and their Rapid counterparts). In June, BBB increased the frequency of the 7 from every 15 minutes to every 12 minutes. In August, they added more midday Rapid 3 buses to avoid overcrowding.

The top three most popular routes are the 7, 1 and 3.

The 7, which runs along Pico Boulevard between Downtown and the Rimpau Transit Center, took in more than 700,000 passengers between April 1 and June 30 and is late about 30 percent of the time.

The 3, which runs along Lincoln Boulevard and Montana Avenue between LAX and UCLA, and the 1, which runs along Santa Monica Boulevard and Main Street between UCLA and Venice, carry almost as many riders as the 7 and are late more frequently.

On average, City Hall pays $1.85 per rider. The buses make back about a quarter of their cost to the city.

The 7, and three other routes, recouped about a third of their operating cost, according to the BBB report. The 11, which runs between UCLA and Santa Monica College and is being considered for removal, was in the middle of the pack in terms of fare recovery.

It has very low ridership and there are numerous alternate ways to get from SMC to UCLA, said Linda Gamberg, BBB community relations officer.

Low ridership is not the sole reason a route is discontinued, Gamberg explained.

She compared the 11 to the 4, which costs more ($4 per rider) to operate, but serves a neighborhood with fewer transit options.

"The 4 ridership has been low for quite a while," she said. "But we've kept it in service, basically because it's the only service through some of the neighborhoods north of Montana."

Overcrowding was not a significant issue during the evaluated quarter. When buses are filled to 130 percent of seated capacity for sustained periods of time, BBB considers it a problem. None of the buses reached that mark during the quarter. Seven of the 20 routes did have sustained periods when there were more passengers than seats, according to the report.

The 7 was the most crowded route, with the 4 and the 20, which runs between Downtown and the Culver City Expo Line, being the least crowded.

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SMO
FROM PAGE 1

Residents like Romero who live near the airport have for years fought to close or limit operations at SMO out of fear of planes crashing into homes, some of which are located within 300 feet of the ends of the runways. Sunday's crash is sure to elicit more calls for safety enhancements and a ban of larger jets.

The City Council in March 2008 voted to restrict the fastest jets — Category C and D — from using SMO, but the Federal Aviation Administration ultimately blocked that from going into effect.

Romero said he opposes the jets.

"When they had the little planes, it was nice," he said. "We used to sit out here and have a little barbecue and watch them take off. They were a little noisy, but they weren't bad. But these jets have to go. The jets are too loud."

Karin Barrett, who also lives on Clover Street, said she was unfazed by the crash.

"I heard it, but I didn't see any flames or anything," she said.

Barrett, who's lived next to the airport for 30 years, said she's seen a few crashes and she can mimic the sounds of a failing plane. Once, her children saw the scared face of a pilot in the middle of crash landing.

She isn't bothered by the noise and said that the threat of danger is everywhere.

"Everywhere else there's places it could have happened," she said.

David Goddard, president of the Airport Commission who has come out in favor of restricting flights, said he saw the smoke from National Boulevard as he was returning home.

"The loss of life is tragic, but we're certainly grateful that it was contained on the airport property and that no residences were affected," he said. "It reinforces the community desire to materially reduce operations at the airport or close the airport."

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>
> Rudy Romero
> Resident

A City Hall statement called the crash "tragic," and praised the Santa Monica Fire Department's quick response.

"The fire department arrived within three minutes of the initial call from the airport," the release stated. "The fire was knocked down within 50 minutes from the time of the first arriving unit."

City officials are expected to go before the council in March to discuss a range of options for SMO if City Hall is allowed to shut it down or curtail flights following the expiration of an agreement with the FAA. City officials contend the agreement ends in 2015, while the FAA says the date is 2023.

"Options likely to be discussed then range from operational restrictions

or reductions to partial or full closure," read a statement from City Hall. "However, any decisions about the future of the airport will eventually be made within the context of a complex jurisdictional and legal context."

There are some who believe that the Surplus Property Act obligates the airport to remain in perpetuity. Many expect a long legal battle.

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The Associated Press contributed to this story.

BAM
FROM PAGE 3

For a ticket price of $50, attendees will be able to sample them all.

Along with unlimited beer samples, the fourth annual BAM Fest offers live entertainment, local art exhibitions and lectures from industry professionals.

"We've included crash courses to educate people, basically 20-minute breakout sessions that cover how to do homebrewing … how to pair beer and food, just kind of the intricacies of the craft beer world and the art that goes into it," said Gordillo Schimpf.

Local musicians Ben Bateman, Cory Phillips & the Groove Orchestra, Kotolán and Raul Pacheco & The Immaculate Conception will throw down an eclectic mix of Japanese, Latin, funk and country sounds throughout the afternoon.

Additionally, gourmet food trucks specializing in American, Asian, Latin and organic cuisine will be on hand to complement the tastings.

The primary focus of BAM Fest, however, is the Santa Monica arts community.

All of the event's proceeds will go to the 18th Street Arts Center, which for 25 years has served local artists by offering long- and short-term residency programs and sponsoring public exhibitions.

BAM Fest 2013 will give the public an opportunity to explore the work of the organization's Artist Labs Resident Adriá Juliá, whose installation focuses on the relationship between the camera and the bodies that operate it.

A number of other 18th Street resident artists will open their studios for the afternoon as well.

"I think people in Santa Monica are ... open to the idea of trying new things and that's what this event is about," Gordillo Schimpf said. "It's about sampling unique beers, listening to local live music, being exposed to contemporary art people might not normally go and see."

To see the full list of venders, purchase tickets or learn more about the event, visit 18thstreet.org.

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LUNCH
FROM PAGE 1

rest did not give a reason.

Eighty percent of schools say they have already met the requirements, which went into place at the beginning of the 2012 school year.

"It's important to remember that some schools weren't as close to meeting the new standards, and they may need a little more time for their students to fully embrace the new meals," said Dr. Janey Thornton, the USDA deputy undersecretary in charge of the school meals. She said it is clear that the majority of schools think the new standards are working.

In an effort to stem high childhood obesity levels, the new guidelines set limits on calories and salt, and they phase in more whole grains in federally subsidized meals served in schools' main lunch line. Schools must offer at least one vegetable or fruit per meal and comply with a variety of other specific nutrition requirements. The rules aim to introduce more nutrients to growing kids and also to make old favorites healthier — pizza with low-fat cheese and whole-wheat crust, for example, or baked instead of fried potatoes.

If schools do not follow the rules, or if they drop out, they are not eligible for the federal dollars that reimburse them for free and low-cost meals served to low-income students. That means wealthier schools with fewer needy students are more likely to be able to operate outside of the program.

Some school nutrition officials have said buying the healthier foods put a strain on their budgets. A study by the Pew Charitable Trusts' Kids' Safe and Healthful Foods Project, also released Monday, said that 91 percent of school food officials the group surveyed said they face challenges in putting the standards in place, including problems with food costs and availability, training employees to follow the new guidelines, and a lack of the proper equipment to cook healthier meals.

The group said almost all schools they surveyed had expected to meet the requirements by the end of last year. Even though some schools are still working out the kinks, "It shows that this is certainly doable," said Jessica Donze Black, director of the Pew project, which has lobbied for healthier foods.

Leah Schmidt, president of the School Nutrition Association and director of nutrition programs at a Kansas City, Mo. school district, said any schools that would consider forgoing the federal funds would have to have very few students eating the free and reduced-cost meals.

She said it is to be expected that some schools have met challenges.

"Any time you have something new, you're going to have some growing pains," she said.

Dr. Howell Wechsler, the CEO of the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a group that is aiming to reduce childhood obesity, said that though some schools are still working to catch up, many have exceeded the standards. The alliance has worked with more than 18,000 schools in all 50 states, and Wechsler says many are thinking of creative ways to encourage healthy eating, like holding walk-a-thons or farmers' markets to raise money instead of bake sales.

He said that many of the schools have reported better academic performance and less student sick days as a result.

"Just about all of the schools that participate with us they say there is a difference," Wechsler said.

As some schools struggled to follow the new guidelines at the beginning of the last school year, USDA relaxed some of the original requirements. In December, the department did away with daily and weekly limits on meats and grains that school nutrition officials said were too hard to follow.

Congress has also had its say on the standards. In 2011, after USDA first proposed them, Congress prohibited the department from limiting potatoes and French fries and allowed school lunchrooms to continue counting tomato paste on pizza as a vegetable.

The school lunch rules apply to federally subsidized lunches served at reduced or no cost to low-income children. Those meals have always been subject to nutritional guidelines because they are partially paid for by the federal government, but the new rules put broader restrictions on what could be served as childhood obesity rates have skyrocketed.

Schoolchildren can still buy additional foods in other parts of the lunchroom and the school. Separate USDA rules to make those foods healthier could go into effect as soon as next year.

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Global study: World not ready for aging population

KRISTEN GELINEAU
Associated Press

The world is aging so fast that most countries are not prepared to support their swelling numbers of elderly people, according to a global study going out Tuesday by the United Nations and an elder rights group.

The report ranks the social and economic well-being of elders in 91 countries, with Sweden coming out on top and Afghanistan at the bottom. It reflects what advocates for the old have been warning, with increasing urgency, for years: Nations are simply not working quickly enough to cope with a population graying faster than ever before. By the year 2050, for the first time in history, seniors over the age of 60 will outnumber children under the age of 15.

Truong Tien Thao, who runs a small tea shop on the sidewalk near his home in Hanoi, Vietnam, is 65 and acutely aware that he, like millions of others, is plunging into old age without a safety net. He wishes he could retire, but he and his 61-year-old wife depend on the $50 a month they earn from the tea shop. And so every day, Thao rises early to open the stall at 6 a.m. and works until 2 p.m., when his wife takes over until closing.

"People at my age should have a rest, but I still have to work to make our ends meet," he says, while waiting for customers at the shop, which sells green tea, cigarettes and chewing gum. "My wife and I have no pension, no health insurance. I'm scared of thinking of being sick — I don't know how I can pay for the medical care."

Thao's story reflects a key point in the report, which was released early to The Associated Press: Aging is an issue across the world. Perhaps surprisingly, the report shows that the fastest aging countries are developing ones, such as Jordan, Laos, Mongolia, Nicaragua and Vietnam, where the number of older people will more than triple by 2050. All ranked in the bottom half of the index.

The Global AgeWatch Index (www.globalagewatch.org) was created by elder advocacy group HelpAge International and the U.N. Population Fund in part to address a lack of international data on the extent and impact of global aging. The index, released on the U.N.'s International Day of Older Persons, compiles data from the U.N., World Health Organization, World Bank and other global agencies, and analyzes income, health, education, employment and age-friendly environment in each country.

The index was welcomed by elder rights advocates, who have long complained that a lack of data has thwarted their attempts to raise the issue on government agendas.

"Unless you measure something, it doesn't really exist in the minds of decision-makers," said John Beard, Director of Ageing and Life Course for the World Health Organization. "One of the challenges for population aging is that we don't even collect the data, let alone start to analyze it. ... For example, we've been talking about how people are living longer, but I can't tell you people are living longer and sicker, or longer in good health."

The report fits into an increasingly complex picture of aging and what it means to the world. On the one hand, the fact that people are living longer is a testament to advances in health care and nutrition, and advocates emphasize that the elderly should be seen not as a burden but as a resource. On the other, many countries still lack a basic social protection floor that provides income, health care and housing for their senior citizens.

Afghanistan, for example, offers no pension to those not in the government. Life expectancy is 59 years for men and 61 for women, compared to a global average of 68 for men and 72 for women, according to U.N. data.

That leaves Abdul Wasay struggling to survive. At 75, the former cook and blacksmith spends most of his day trying to sell toothbrushes and toothpaste on a busy street corner in Kabul's main market. The job nets him just $6 a day — barely enough to support his wife. He can only afford to buy meat twice a month; the family relies mainly on potatoes and curried vegetables.

"It's difficult because my knees are weak and I can't really stand for a long time," he says. "But what can I do? It's even harder in winter, but I can't afford treatment."

Although government hospitals are free, Wasay complains that they provide little treatment and hardly any medicine. He wants to stop working in three years, but is not sure his children can support him. He says many older people cannot find work because they are not strong enough to do day labor, and some resort to begging.

"You have to keep working no matter how old you are — no one is rich enough to stop," he says. "Life is very difficult."

Many governments have resisted tackling the issue partly because it is viewed as hugely complicated, negative and costly — which is not necessarily true, says Silvia Stefanoni, chief executive of HelpAge International. Japan and Germany, she says, have among the highest proportions of elders in the world, but also boast steady economies.

"There's no evidence that an aging population is a population that is economically damaged," she says.

Prosperity in itself does not guarantee protection for the old. The world's rising economic powers — the so-called BRICS nations of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — rank lower in the index than some poorer countries such as Uruguay and Panama.

However, the report found, wealthy nations are in general better prepared for aging than poorer ones. Sweden, where the pension system is now 100 years old, makes the top of the list because of its social support, education and health coverage, followed by Norway, Germany, the Netherlands and Canada. The United States comes in eighth.

Sweden's health system earns praise from Marianne Blomberg, an 80-year-old Stockholm resident.

"The health care system, for me, has worked extraordinarily well," she says. "I suffer from atrial fibrillation and from the minute I call emergency until I am discharged, it is absolutely amazing. I can't complain about anything — even the food is good."

Still, even in an elder-friendly country like Sweden, aging is not without its challenges. The Swedish government has suggested people continue working beyond 65, a prospect Blomberg cautiously welcomes but warns should not be a requirement. Blomberg also criticized the nation's finance minister, Anders Borg, for cutting taxes sharply for working Swedes but only marginally for retirees.

"I go to lectures and museums and the theater and those kinds of things, but I probably have to stop that soon because it gets terribly expensive," she says. "If you want to be active like me, it is hard. But to sit home and stare at the walls doesn't cost anything."







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TUESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Easing old SW-SSW swell; NW swell-mix fills in further for exposures;
larger sets at standout combo spots in the far western part of the county

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Easing old SW-SSW swell; NW swell-mix continues;
larger sets at standout combo spots in the far western part of the county

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
New SW-SSW swell moves in - chest plus sets before dark; potential NW swell-mix

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
SW-SSW swell builds further/tops out; minor NW energy;
Slightly larger sets for select standouts with fair-good conditions there

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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 25, 2013**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 4
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 26 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	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.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	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 DBW 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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Oakland Raiders face injury questions for Chargers game

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. The Oakland Raiders head into preparations for Sunday's game against San Diego with uncertainty at four key offensive positions.

Quarterback Terrelle Pryor is still recovering from a concussion that kept him out of Sunday's loss to the Washington Redskins.

Running back Darren McFadden, fullback Marcel Reece and center Stefen Wisniewski are also nursing injuries from the game and coach Dennis Allen said Monday it was too soon to determine their status for this week.

Allen did get one question answered already. The game time has been moved from 1:25 p.m. PDT to 8:35 p.m. to give enough time to convert the Oakland Coliseum from baseball to football after the Athletics host a playoff game on Saturday night.

The NFL and Raiders had been hoping to keep the original start time but that proved impossible when baseball set the start time for the baseball game at 6:07 p.m. PDT on Saturday. With about 18 hours needed to convert the Coliseum from baseball to football, the game time needed to be switched.

Pryor had been set to start Sunday despite being knocked out last Monday in Denver with a concussion. But the Raiders (1-3) changed plans Saturday night after Pryor asked to wear a tinted visor because of sensitivity to light. That is a symptom from concussions and led to the decision to keep Pryor out of the game.

"We wanted to make sure that we exercised extreme caution in this situation," Allen said. "We probably went a little bit above and beyond what typical protocol would be. We just deemed that it wasn't worth the risk."

The other three key offensive players all got hurt during Sunday's game. McFadden (hamstring) and Reece (knee) both left in the first half and didn't return, while Wisniewski played the entire game despite having a sprained knee.

Reece underwent an MRI on Monday, while McFadden and Wisniewski did not need further tests. Allen said he does not expect McFadden to miss much time, if any, and that Reece does not need surgery on his knee but offered few other details.

"We're one day out, so I really don't know," he said.

The Raiders offense struggled without Pryor, McFadden and Reece, failing to score after the first quarter in a 24-14 loss to the Redskins.

Rashad Jennings took over much of the running load and gained 45 yards on 15 carries while catching eight passes for 71 yards in his most extensive action this season. He's ready for more of the same this week if necessary.

"You always approach it the same way," he said. "If you have the right mentality nothing really changes. You prepare that you're carrying the load always. We hope he's healthy. He's a big part of this team. Whatever role I'm asked to take on I'll be ready for it."



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AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-3924

Battle of the Year 3D (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:45pm, 7:45pm

Battle of the Year (PG-13) 1hr 49min
4:45pm, 10:25pm

Lee Daniels' The Butler (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:05pm

Baggage Claim (PG-13) 1hr 36min
1:35pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Short Game (PG) 1hr 40min
2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

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

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (PG) 1hr 35min
11:10am, 1:30pm, 4:10pm, 6:45pm, 9:15pm

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 in 3D (PG) 1hr 35min
11:55am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Family (R) 1hr 52min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Rush (R) 2hrs 03min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:35pm, 10:30pm

Prisoners (R) 2hrs 26min
11:25am, 3:10pm, 6:50pm, 10:20pm

Insidious: Chapter 2 () 1hr 45min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Don Jon (R) 1hr 30min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

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

In a World... (R) 1hr 33min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Blue Jasmine (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:40pm, 7:10pm

Salinger (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
4:10pm, 9:40pm

Enough Said (PG-13) 1hr 33min
1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:20pm, 4:30pm, 5:40pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm

For more information, e-mail **editor@smdp.com**

VISIT WITH FRIENDS TONIGHT, AQUARIUS

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Others desire your precision and your ability to handle details. Your compassion comes across through your semi-businesslike attitude. Tonight: The challenge is not to get involved in a power play.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ The morning might be the most important part of your day. Your follow-through counts with a boss or with someone you would like to impress. Your creativity will inspire others, especially a close friend. Tonight: Live today as if there were no tomorrow.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You will flow with ease in the morning. Make important calls at that time, and/or handle any dealings involving others. By afternoon, you will be best served by cocooning at home. Tonight: Head home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Try to be more in sync with others, and know full well what you need to do. Honor a change that is going on, even if you do not necessarily feel comfortable with it. Let someone know how much you care. Plan to visit this person soon. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Move forward with a project that has been on the back burner. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like to be in the afternoon. Tonight: Head home early.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might sense a change of energy midday. Use the high energy of the afternoon to forge ahead with an important cause; otherwise, a loved one could become very difficult. Understand that this person is set on having things go his or her way. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Use the morning to the fullest, when networking is favored and getting along with others is highlighted. You will have your way, as long as you use the time well. Tonight: Be less available.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of the fact that you are about to accept yet another responsibility. If you don't want to take on this task, make yourself more aware of the nuances in your conversations. Tonight: Only where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You'll have a limited amount of time to proceed in a certain direction or to blaze a new trail. Allow your innate leadership qualities to emerge. Know that the possibility exists that you no longer will have the same freedom to explore alternatives. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ A partner might demand more of your attention than you willingly want to give him or her this morning. Do not be surprised if this behavior resurges later today. Detach, and perhaps distance yourself, in order to see how to integrate what you must do. Tonight: Surf the Web.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might feel as if you are a social director on a cruise, as so many people want to see you and speak with you. You give a sense of direction to many people's dreams. Tonight: Visit with friends over dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Get an early start, if possible, and handle the most important matters first. You could find that you won't be able to concentrate to the same degree, come afternoon. A meeting with a boss or parent might steal the scene. Listen to what this person says. Tonight: Opt to not be alone.

Tuesday, October 1, 2013

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

This year you will alternate between being the extreme extrovert and the recluse whom no one can find. You will network and expand your horizons, yet you also will take frequent timeouts. During the more introverted periods, you will reflect and verify whether you have made the right choices for yourself. If you are single, meeting people comes easily; however, learning to choose the right person is a different issue entirely. If you are attached, enjoy the closeness that the two of you create as a couple. LEO can be hard on you, but he or she won't ever criticize you in public.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
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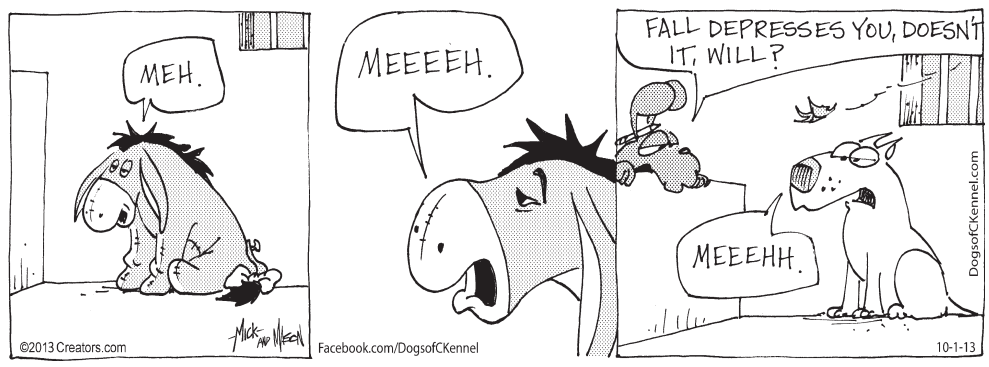
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



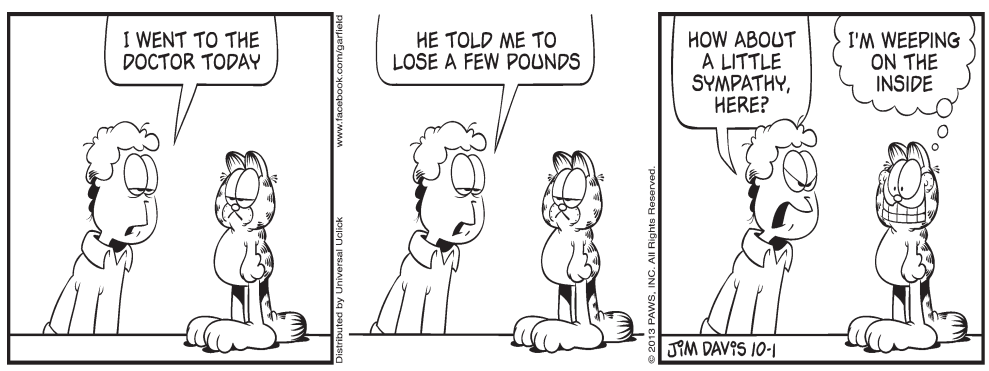
Strange Brew
By John Deering



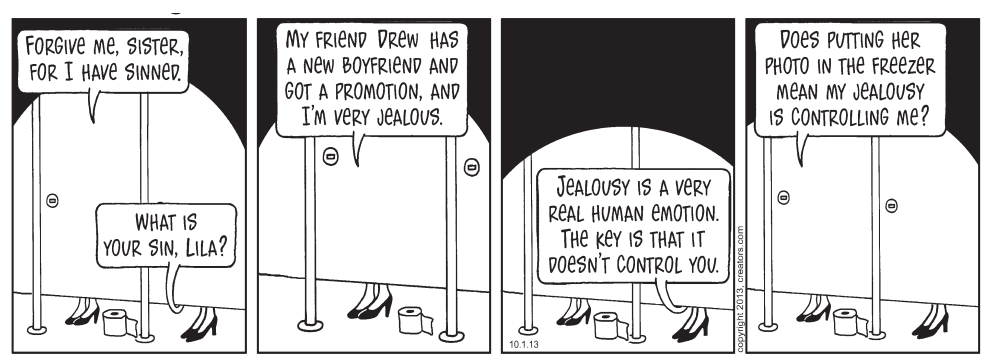
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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 ★★

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

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

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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* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

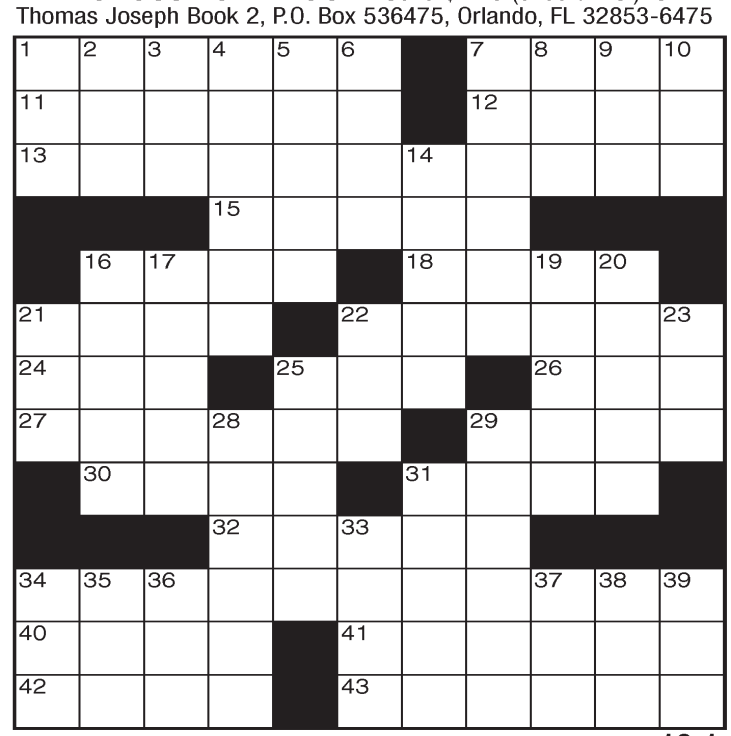
ACROSS
1 Behind bars
7 Rum-soaked cake
11 Houdini feat
12 Wildly excited
13 Stephen King book
15 Singer Lotte
16 Golf pegs
18 Reclined
21 Fish features
22 Cautioned
24 Say more
25 Martini base
26 Game cube
27 Corned beef sandwich
29 Portent
30 Rotisserie part
31 Nevada neighbor
32 Boulder
34 Stephen King book
40 Sneaker problem
41 Merchant
42 Verne captain
43 How some drugs are taken

DOWN
1 Pilot's place
2 Fire remnant
3 Rink material
4 Soup servers
5 Fencing swords
6 College head
7 Marketplace
8 In the past
9 "— appetit!"
10 Wisdom bringer
14 "Blowin' in the Wind" singer
16 Ocean's motions
17 Finish
19 Nepal neighbor
20 Horse sound
21 Way off
22 Finish first
23 Lion's home
25 Influence
28 Café's cousin
29 "Streetcar" cry
31 Big name in auto racing
33 Words of approximation
34 Oxford bigwig
35 Exalted poem
36 Web address piece
37 Angled pipe
38 Twisty fish
39 Use a crowbar

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

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



10-1

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 9/28
14 47 52 53 54
Power#: 5
Jackpot: $70M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/27
9 23 27 49 51
Mega#: 38
Jackpot: $189M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 9/28
6 22 29 44 46
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: $15M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/30
6 13 21 28 36

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 9/30
MIDDAY: 7 1 1
EVENING: 7 2 6

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 9/30
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:44.58

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In August, the Mother Nature Network website showcased an array of camping gear seemingly designed for the daintiest of those ostensibly "roughing" it. The Blofield outdoor couch inflates in minutes to produce a facsimile of a Las Vegas lounge sofa. The Rolla Roaster's 42-inch-long steel fork assures elegance (and evenness) in marshmallow-roasting. For fashion-conscious backwoods women, Teva makes high-heeled hiking sandals ($330). The mother of all Swiss army knives, by Wenga, has so many gadgets that it suggests a parody of a Swiss army knife. To be a camper is to sleep in a tent, though, and why not the trailer-mounted Opera tent, including hardwood floors and a wine cooler?

■ A July direct-mail campaign by Canada's Conservative Party, intended to show concern for the disabled population, might have fallen short, according to a Toronto Star report. The first wave of brochures, "Supporting Jobs for All Canadians" (meaning the disabled as well), featured the well-known wheelchair symbol and a message in a series of Braille dots. However, the brochure was useless to blind recipients, who could neither see the dots nor read them, as the dots were printed on a flat surface.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1918 – World War I: Arab forces under T. E. Lawrence, also known as "Lawrence of Arabia" capture Damascus.

1920 – Sir Percy Cox lands in Basra to assume his responsibilities as high commissioner in Iraq.

1928 – The Soviet Union introduces its First Five-Year Plan.

WORD UP!

instauration
\ in-staw-REY-shuhn \ , noun;
1. renewal; restoration; renovation; repair.
2. Obsolete. an act of instituting something; establishment.

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Announcements

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Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Early October 2013

Santa Monica Canyon	=	**$ 2,769,571**
North of Montana	=	**$ 4,437,706**
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	**$ 2,675,516**
South of Wilshire	=	**$ 1,032,450**
Sunset Park	=	**$ 1,583,222**
Ocean Park	=	**$ 2,471,500**

Statistics updated every Friday

Proud Sponsor of:

FRANKLIN Elementary School
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LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL SANTA MONICA, CA
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