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OCTOBER 3-4, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 284



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TAXING POP?
SEE PAGE 4

THE TIME TO SCRAMBLE ISSUE

Homework policy undergoes changes

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS A 20-year-old homework policy that's been criticized as antiquated and confusing saw major changes on Thursday when the Board of Education approved a set of revisions that parents hope will cut the hours spent on afterschool studies.

The modifications come nearly a year after the board formed an ad hoc committee that reviewed both the homework policy and administrative regulations following concerns from the community that students received an inordinate amount of homework, cutting into time with their families.

The blame was placed in part on confusion of the existing policy and what some believed was a lack of communication between teachers and with parents.

Proponents of the revised policy said the changes encourage collaboration among administrators, teachers and parents and directs all parties to develop together an effective homework plan specific to each school site through its respective governance council.

"This is all about communication," Debbie Bernstein, a parent and former teacher at University High School, said. "In the past parents talked to parents, and teachers talked among themselves along with administrators on this subject, but largely parents, teachers, and administrators do not spend much time communicating formally on this topic, if discussing it formally at all."

The revised administrative regulation also changed the amount of time that students should spend on homework every day. The old guidelines advised that first graders spend between 10-20 minutes daily, or 40-80 minutes a week, while the new regulations fixed the time to 20 minutes daily or 80 minutes a week.

Those ranges were also removed for second, third, fourth and fifth grades, replaced similarly with times on the higher end of the spec-

SEE HOMEWORK PAGE 12



PEACEFUL VISION

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

People watch as activists gather around a large peace sign north of the Santa Monica Pier to commemorate the United Nations' 'International Day of Nonviolence' and the anniversary of Gandhi's birth on Friday afternoon. The celebration also marks the start of the World March for Peace and Nonviolence, which began on Friday in New Zealand and will circle the globe.

Street performer law to get second look

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN The issue of whether a local ordinance regulating street performers is legal will soon come to the City Council after a U.S. appellate court ruled that a Seattle law requiring permits for the artists is unconstitutional.

The council is expected to take up the matter in a yet-to-be scheduled study session where city staff will present options for maintaining or revising the existing ordinance, which requires a $37 renewable permit for performers on the Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica Pier and Transit Mall.

The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in June struck down a 2002 ladw that established new regulations for street performers in the Seattle Center, an 80-acre park and entertainment complex, requiring permits and limiting activity to designated spaces. The rules also allowed only passive solicitation, required performers to display a badge and prohibited anyone other than Seattle Center employees from engaging in "speech activities" within 30 feet of where visitors waited in line.

A balloon artist and Seattle Center regular, Mike Berger, filed a lawsuit challenging the regulations on the grounds that they violated free speech protections. The U.S. District Court sided with Berger in 2005 and that decision was later appealed by the city of Seattle.

Santa Monica City Attorney Marsha Moutrie has been following the case to see whether Seattle officials were going to petition the U.S. Supreme Court for review, in which case City Hall would have joined in efforts to urge judges to do so. But Seattle officials have since decided to forgo the appeal, leaving the Berger decision to stand.

She noted that there are significant differences in the Santa Monica and Seattle

SEE PERFORMERS PAGE 13



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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009

Arts for all ages
Senior Center
1450 Ocean Blvd., 9:30 a.m. — 4:40 p.m.
Join the Senior Arts Foundation and the City of Santa Monica for the Second Annual Senior & Family Intergenerational Arts Festival: Celebration of Life. The event will feature exhibitions, demonstrations and interactive workshops on everything from drumming to bookmaking to acting. Festival admission is free. Please call (310) 393-0701 x 21 or go to www.SeniorArtsFoundation.org for more information.

Youth photogs
McKinley Elementary School
2401 Santa Monica Blvd., 12 p.m. — 2 p.m.
Participants in the "Kids with Cameras" program will be displaying their work in a photo exhibition followed by a community conversation. The Santa Monica Bay Human Relations Council started the program to create an awareness of civic responsibility in the Mid-City neighborhood. Please call (310) 399-7049 or e-mail Fabian@FabianLewkowicz.com for more information.

Eco Fine Art Exhibit
L.A. Marler Studio and Gallery
3000-B Airport Ave., 12 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Drop by local artist Louise Anne Marler's studio to experience her "Oil is History" exhibit. Featuring conceptual junkyard photos, Marler explores how past methods of transport give way to a new era. The event is free, with eco-friendly merchandise available as well. Call (310) 449-4477 for more information.

Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009

Film time
UnUrban Coffee House
3301 West Pico Blvd., 5:30 p.m.
Before the National Day of Protest against the War in Afghanistan, come to the UnUrban Coffee House for a screening of "Rethink Afghanistan." Tickets are free, but a donation is requested at the door. Please RSVP at rethink.bravenewtheaters.com/screening/show/12855.

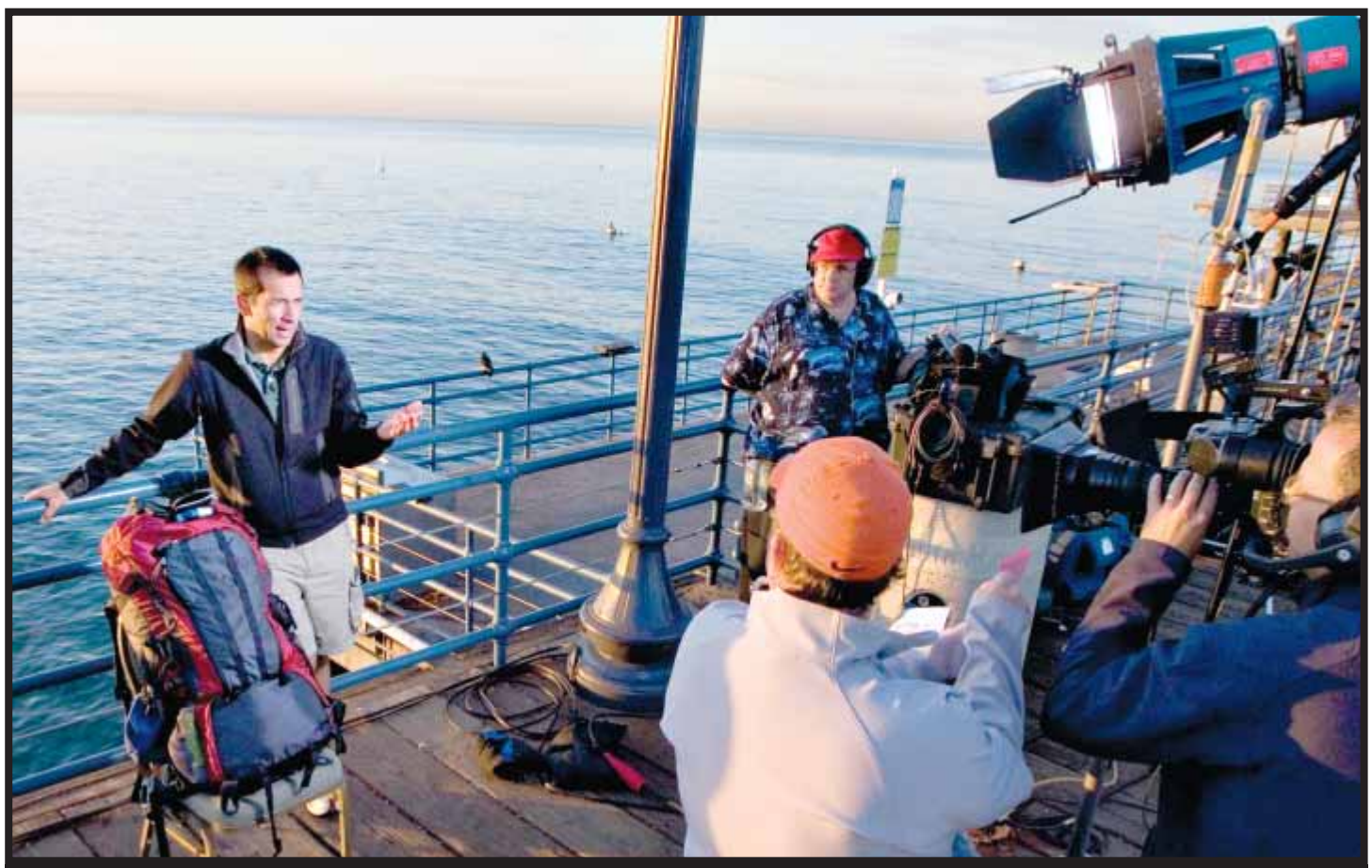
Free concert
The Broad Stage, SMC Performing Arts Center
1310 11th St., 4 p.m.
Relax with an afternoon of chamber music, solos and new musical arrangements performed by the faculty members of the SMC Music Department. Please arrive early because seating is on a first-come basis. Visit www.smc.edu for more information.

St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals
Reed Park
1122 Seventh St., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Have your animals receive a traditional Franciscan blessing on the Feast of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals. The event is hosted by St. Monica Men's Spirituality Ministry. Call (310) 392-7744 for more information.

Take a tour around Santa Monica
DMV parking lot
2235 Colorado Ave. at Cloverfield Boulevard, 2 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Discover the city of Santa Monica from a whole new perspective during the Santa Monica Conservancy's bus tour of Santa Monica Landmarks. Become familiar with the history, beautiful scenery, and architecture of the city on board a Big Blue Bus. Admission is $30 for members of the Santa Monica Conservancy and $35 for the general public. An advanced reservation is required.
Call (310) 496-3146 for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.





BRAVE SOUL

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

CBS 'Early Show' weatherman Dave Price gives his report from the Santa Monica Pier Friday. Armed with only $50, his Blackberry and a laptop, Price has to make it back to New York within a week, relying on his wits and the kindness of strangers.

John Muir flea market turns 19

BY MARISSA LYMAN
Special to the Daily Press

A local flea market will be celebrating its 19th anniversary this weekend by honoring the very people it serves to benefit — kids.

All of the usual vendors will be out Saturday morning at the John Muir PTA flea market, but this time they will be joined by a brand new Kids' Corner featuring games, food, face painting, a bounce house and much more.

"We do a lot of fundraisers, and instead of having a silent auction ... we wanted to have more vendors and make this really benefit the children and the community/school relationship," PTA President Helene Seisay said.

John Muir students will be helping to make the Kids' Corner possible, with the second grade hosting a bake sale and the third grade sponsoring a used toy sale.

"Since it's the 19th anniversary, we're definitely looking back at the history and what it's offered for John Muir," Clay Engels, a John Muir parent and the flea market's manager said.

Since it began almost two decades ago, the flea market has raised thousands of dollars for programs at John Muir Elementary School.

"It first got started with some parents trying to come up with creative way to generate a revenue stream for the PTA to be able to bring it back to the kids," Engels said, citing the education cuts that all of California's public schools have had to deal with. "They really had to be creative to come up with the funding themselves."

Today, things such as John Muir's music, art, computer and science programs are all made possible through the flea market's funding. Additionally, the money covers all of the school's buses for enriching field trips to places like the Channel Islands and Watts Towers.

> **"THE PTA HAS TO BE CREATIVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CHILDREN HAVE THE SAME THINGS THAT WE TOOK FOR GRANTED AS KIDS OURSELVES."**
>
> **Clay Engels,**
> flea market manager and John Muir parent

"It really is vital," Engels said. "The PTA has to be creative to make sure that the children have the same things that we took for

SEE MARKET PAGE 11

Billionaire gives $100 million to Saint John's

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MID-CITY A billionaire pharmaceutical developer has donated $100 million to a Santa Monica hospital, with more than half the funds going to research projects and facilities.

Patrick Soon-Shiong and his wife, Michele Chan, donated the money to Saint John's Health Center, a 380-bed Catholic hospital.

Saint John's Chief Executive Lou Lazatin said Thursday $55 million will create several research centers and fund future projects.

The donation includes $35 million already spent on renovating and expanding the hospital and $10 million to attract doctors and scientists.

The couple donated a separate $35 million to Saint John's in 2007.

Soon-Shiong is the founder and chief executive of Los Angeles-based Abraxis BioScience, a biopharmaceutical company that makes drug treatments to combat cancer.

Man charged with posing as doctor

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A man has been charged in Los Angeles with posing as a fertility doctor so he could sexually molest people while pretending to give them physical examinations.

Police said Friday that Jeffrey Graybill posed as a Dr. Richardson at a West Los Angeles clinic and used the Internet to solicit patrons. The Internet advertisements offered people up to $4,000 monthly for sperm donations in support of stem cell research.

Police say Graybill, who has no medical training, set up meetings to examine patients in Marina del Rey and Santa Monica. The district attorney's office has charged the 40-year-old with sexual battery by fraud, identity theft, practicing medicine without certification and other sex charges.

It was not immediately clear how many people he tried to molest.





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't harm cats by declawing

Editor:

Please consider enacting a ban on declawing of cats in the city of Santa Monica. Declawing is a separate amputation of each of the last bones in cats' toes. Declawing a cat puts that cat at a higher risk of losing its home because of the behavior problems (biting and litter box avoidance) that occur after declawing. Statistics show that declawed cats are more likely to be relinquished.

Declawed cats, because they are more likely to lose their homes, put an extra burden on the already over-burdened animal shelter system. Physicians do not recommend declawing a cat to protect a person, with a compromised immune system, because a declawed cat is more likely to bite. Declawing with a laser is still an amputation of the last bones in cats' toes and is just as painful or maybe even more painful as other methods of declawing.

There are many humane alternatives to declawing. Routine nail trims, appropriate scratching posts, Soft Paws (vinyl sheaths that fit over the nail), and double-sided sticky tape all work well. Declawing is illegal in much of the rest of the world. It is considered inhumane and characterized as mutilation. Please make the city more humane toward our companion animals.

Paulette Rochelle-Levy
Santa Monica

Declawing doesn't save lives

Editor:

Declawing is the number one cause of litter box problems in cats.

Veterinarians who declaw as well as the American Veterinary Medical Association violate fraud and negligence laws because they tell Americans that there are no serious side effects from declawing, which is not true. Declawed cats are expensive and dangerous to own. Anyone who recommends declawing should be held accountable to replace floorboards, drywall and sofas that get urinated on by declawed cats.

Declawing has compromised the health and welfare for all cats. The AVMA and most American veterinarians deny that declawed cats pee, bite, get sick and go homeless more often than clawed cats. The AVMA says that declawing "saves cats" yet shelters are swamped with peeing and biting cats – cats that declawing was supposed to "save." What other important aspects of cat health and welfare have American veterinarians chosen to ignore? What other cat health research is bogus?

Annie Bruce, author of "Cat Be Good"
Boulder, Colo.

Shut it, Fox News

Editor:

My 25-year-old son, who just completed his master's degree and is still unemployed, cannot get decent health insurance because of pre-existing conditions (a minor arm operation seven years ago).

Our system works better for insurance companies that it does for the American people. Tens of millions of Americans have no health insurance, living one accident or illness away from total financial disaster. Hundreds of millions of Americans who have insurance live with the constant worry that they might lose it if they move, change jobs or lose their jobs – or that their insurance company might cancel their plan when they get sick.

At the same time, the monopolistic oligarch executives of health insurance firms are making obscene millions in compensation.

This totally unfair oligarchy system must end. Please support President Obama in his attempts to fix this horrible system. And tell Fox News to shut up.

Bohdan Oppenheim
Santa Monica



Your column here

Maria Fotopoulos — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Taxing sodas is needed to combat obesity

THE INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTING TO THE country's rampant obesity is continuing one of the most dishonest and patently absurd advertising campaigns in recent history. Launched this summer, the campaign is airing two new commercials this month.

In one of the spots, a fit, middle-class "mom" drives by a home with a foreclosure sign and then a storefront with an out-of-business sign (Get it? Times are tough!) before arriving at her middle class home, unloading her kids (who may be on the verge of being overweight) and groceries, which include a very visible, large soda pop bottle.

"Families around here are counting pennies to get through this economy, so when we hear about another tax, it gets our attention," says the actress portraying mom.

"Washington is talking about a new tax on juice drinks and sodas; they say it's only pennies, but those pennies add up when you're trying to feed a family."

The final line is, "Tell Congress, no taxes on juice drinks and sodas."

Another spot says, "Congress shouldn't be adding taxes to the simple pleasures we enjoy, like juice drinks and soda."

Really!

It'd be interesting to identify that point in time at which beverages loaded up with sugar became a necessity for survival. When I was a child, a nickel Coke from the drug store fountain was a rare afternoon treat — and it was probably all of six ounces. The producers of these questionable communications should be embarrassed by the insinuation that the Big Gulp is a necessary staple in the family food budget.

Additionally, when did drinking sugar-laden beverages move up the chart to status as beloved American pleasure?

The spots are "Paid for by Americans Against Food Taxes." Apparently we're supposed to believe this is some grassroots movement of concerned parents who won't be able to afford Coke or Pepsi and juice boxes — when maybe an actual apple would be cheaper and healthier. If ever there were communications that have the hand of corporate America and the stink of corporate greed, these are them.

Looking beyond the attribution on the commercials, we find that behind the grassroots façade are Burger King, the California Grocers Association, Canada Dry, Cargill, Coca-Cola, Dr. Pepper, Domino's Pizza, Jack in the Box, McDonald's, Pepsi, Red Bull, 7-Eleven, Welch's and Yum! Brands, along with an assortment of beverage associations, vendors and packagers. Curiously, numerous Hispanic organizations too. I'm speculating that the thousands of individuals signed up for this "cause," as per the claims of the Web site, are the employees of these organizations, as well as a few nut jobs who think taxing sugary drinks with no nutritional value somehow infringes on their rights to live as they want. No one wants to take away your soda; you may just have to pay more for it. Folks, it's been done with alcohol and cigarettes, so we've got precedent. Fundamentally, there's really no difference in taxing liquid sugar — abusing it generates significant health problems, just as cigarettes do.

IT'S ESTIMATED THAT A ONE-CENT TAX PER SUGARY DRINK OUNCE WOULD GENERATE $14.9 BILLION IN THE FIRST YEAR. THAT COULD MAKE A DENT IN A LEVEL OF BASIC HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND PREVENTATIVE HEALTH EFFORTS.

Too many of us are fat, which increases health care costs to treat the resultant diabetes, heart disease and other obesity-related problems. It's estimated that a one-cent tax per sugary drink ounce would generate $14.9 billion in the first year. That could make a dent in a level of basic health care coverage and preventative health efforts.

Of course if we listen to lobbyists such as Kevin Keane of the American Beverage Association, "It wouldn't even make a dent in addressing the health care challenge or the obesity challenge." In other words, the American Beverage Association prefers hooking its consumers on sugar and laying the foundation for disease early with youth. (Through a tax, there might be a potential drop in soda pop sales which might make a dent too in the compensation of CEOs like Coca-Cola's Muhtar Kent, who last year earned nearly $20 million as a sugar pusher.)

Let's err on the side of potential positives and go with recent findings in the "New England Journal of Medicine." Besides raising revenues, the study said, a beverage tax might lower soda and sugary drink consumption enough to generate a small weight loss and reduced health risks among many Americans.

MARIA FOTOPOULOS is a communications consultant and writer in Los Angeles. Reach her at mariaf@turbodogcommunications.com.

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The Q Line

Clipping declawing practice

This past week, Q-line asked:
The City Council recently directed staff to draft an ordinance that would ban the veterinary practice of declawing cats. Do you think declawing should be made illegal and why?
Here are your responses:

"YES, ABSOLUTELY. DECLAWING SHOULD be made illegal. It is an inhumane practice and can have many horrible side effects. Also, if a cat is let outside accidentally or deliberately, it is totally defenseless against any predator or attacker."

"YES, I THINK DECLAWING SHOULD BE made illegal. The answer to why: you go have your toenails and fingernails pulled out, and you'll have your answer why."

"I BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE ILLEGAL TO DECLAW a kitty cat simply because it is cruel. It should be noted that a cat's claws are its main form of defense and a great aid in covering up kitty cat poop in the littler box. Still, I might make an exception and allow the kitty cat to be declawed if the kitty cat's owner is willing to have their own fingers and toenails removed. However, I do subscribe to having a kitty cat's nails clipped for kitty cat's good."

"CAT DECLAWING IS CRUEL AND ANY owner or veterinarian that does it should have their fingernails yanked out with a pair of pliers."

"YES, I OWNED A BEAUTIFUL DECLAWED cat from a former tenant that moved to Venice. And my little cat was adorable, she looked like a Beatrix Potter kitty. So I really don't know, but I guess I trust the veterinarian."

"WE SHOULD NOT BE DECLAWING CATS AT all, so I completely support a declaw ban. I think it's cruel for the cats. I am a Santa Monica resident and a full blown supporter of this declaw ban issue."

"I BELIEVE THAT DECLAWING CATS should be banned. Declawing cats is an antiquated process that has already been banned throughout most of the developed world. Declawing cats is inhumane and unnecessary. It involves surgically amputating part of the animal's foot and that can lead to a lot of pain and suffering for the cat as well as behavioral problems. Some cats begin to bite humans once they've been declawed because they've lost their natural defense. Placing a cat into a home from a shelter or pound is more difficult once the animal's been declawed, because that animal must always be kept inside. It is possible to train cats to use scratching posts. That's a way for them to sharpen their claws appropriately. There are always ways to have these domesticated animals live with us without resorting to such archaic and cruel surgeries."

"I'M A VETERINARIAN IN SANTA MONICA, and I would like to submit my opinion to support the ban on declawing cats. The procedure is completely unnecessary and very inhumane. I've seen cats who've suffered from this procedure, which is actually an amputation of the digits, and some of the problems that result from this procedure include increased biting behavior, litter box avoidance, phantom pain and lingering pain in the digits from improperly performed procedures. So I would strongly urge the City Council to approve a ban."

"ALL OPERATIONS ARE DANGEROUS BECAUSE of the threat of infections and heart failure, especially in older animals. There is also psychological damage. What is even more obscene than declawing is the fact that our state just passed a mandatory neutering law for dogs and cats. This bill was sneaked in without any press coverage from TV or the newspaper, otherwise there would have been major opposition. Big Brother now has the right to demand your pets dingleberries, and maybe soon they will sneak in a bill to neuter newspaper reporters they don't like. What we need is a bill to neuter all politicians."

"YES, I THINK THAT DECLAWING should be banned. Besides the excruciating pain that it causes cats, it leaves cats without their defense — their claws — leaving them vulnerable to other cats and animals."

"I THINK DECLAWING SHOULD BE MADE illegal in Santa Monica. It should be made illegal everywhere for that matter. It's inhumane and it's cruel and anyone that really loves cats wouldn't do it. Obviously since they're making up to $1,000 with each procedure, they're more concerned about the money than the health of the cat."

"DECLAWING IS ONE OF THE MOST horrendous, inhumane and debilitating procedures and should not be performed on our precious cats. Humane alternatives exist. The City Council should do the right thing and unanimously vote to ban this veterinary practice."

"THE PRACTICE OF DECLAWING CATS IS cruel and inhumane and should be banned. Please ban this cruel practice."

"I AM CALLING TO SEE IF I CAN GIVE MY support for banning the declawing of cats in the Santa Monica area. I believe there are more humane ways for taking care of the situation."

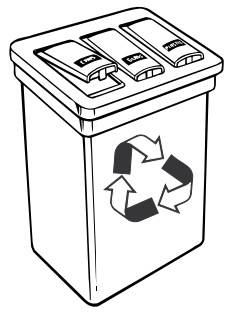
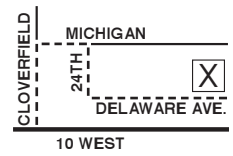
"I WOULD LIKE TO PROTEST ANY DECLAWING of any cats. I think it's the most inhumane thing I have ever witnessed. I knew a cat once that had been declawed and as it got older it couldn't even walk. I am very, very, very much against it, and thank you so much for bringing this to everyone's attention. No more declawing."

"I JUST WANT TO ADD MY THOUGHTS AND feelings on the injustice that happens when we do this to our animals. Something to think about is they're teachable animals. When child that bites its fingernails, you wouldn't amputate its fingers to stop it from biting. You would work with it and teach it to have different behavior as you can do with a pet. And it's an obligation once you're a pet owner to take care of a pet, not mutilate it."

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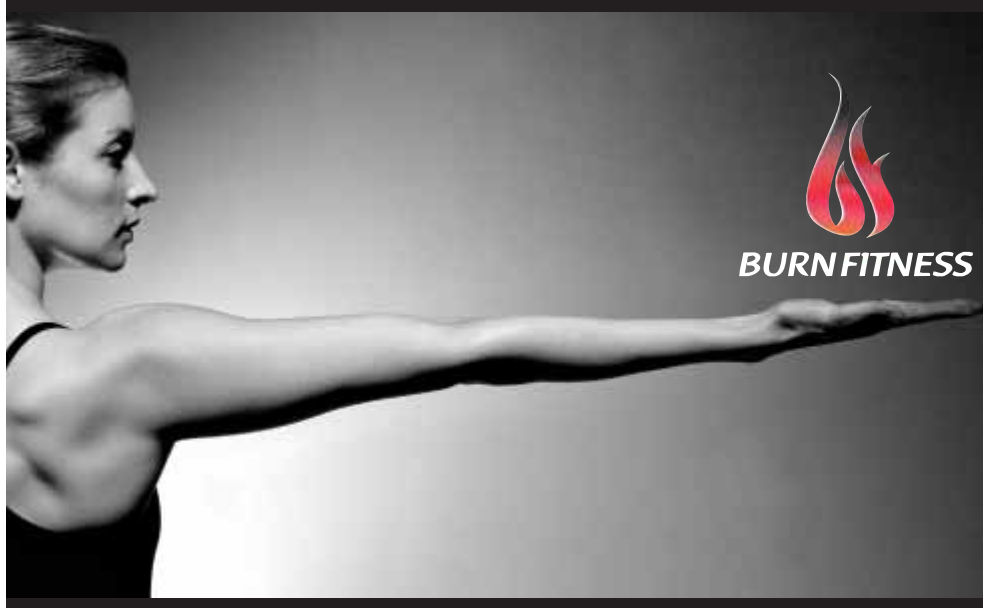
121: one to one ADN: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location** B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWL: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know CAG: chuckle & grin CIO: crying in disgrace CNP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DQMOT: don't quote me on this EG: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FITCRWTK: for more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth G2G: got to go G: grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GD&R: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMBO: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you H&K: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night **HDOP: help delete online predators** HHIS: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don't know IMA: I hate acronyms IMC: if I remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my not so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IOW: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I will always love you ITSWM: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? LDR: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let's meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LULAS: love you like a sister** LUVAGNE: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOSS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex NSS: message NYF: more to follow MUSH: miss you so much NADT: not a darn thing NFSQC: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of affection PEBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJI8: pardon me for jumping in but PSMIF: put on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT: cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L: spam for life SEYE: smiling ear to ear SMCOSH: shoot hot coffee out of nose SMD: slaps head in disgust SF: surfer friendly SWEM: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STR: search the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: see you soon TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TLLB: tell it like it is TMI: too much information TOY: thinking of you TTYL: talk to you later UW: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn't it be nice if **WTGP: want to go private?** WTG: way to go WU: what's up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you'll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

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As local food gains, local planners face decisions

MICHAEL HILL
Associated Press Writer

Chickens finally can roost legally in Bozeman, Mont.

And it's thanks largely to a group of food-minded locals calling itself the Community Led Urban Chicken movement — that's right, CLUC — that persuaded city officials to lift restrictions on the increasingly popular practice of keeping backyard birds for eggs or meat.

Such encounters between so-called locavores (people who strive to eat locally produced foods) and bureaucrats are increasingly common as more people try to bring a taste of the farm to the city.

As the popularity of eating local has moved from the high-end restaurant scene to the mainstream, local food has become a priority issue for more mayors, city planners and zoning officials who must make decisions about everything from chicken coops and farmers markets to more expansive policies designed to boost consumption of fresh food.

"All across the country, city officials are beginning to realize that the food system isn't merely like other businesses — office supplies or electronics," said Nevin Cohen, an assistant professor of urban studies at The New School in New York City. "Food is something different that affects cities in a different way. So there's a role for government in figuring out how to get the food system right for a city."

Local food is a tiny part of the overall U.S. food market, but it's growing fast as consumers become more discerning about the quality of their food and where it comes from. The market research firm Packaged Facts estimates demand for local food will grow to $7 billion in 2011, up from around $4 billion in 2002.

Americans' growing taste for local food is most apparent in the farmers markets sprouting up nationwide like corn stalks in summer. The 4,900 farmers markets counted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture is double the number tallied in 1996.

But even something as benign-sounding as a place for local farmers to sell lettuce and apples can pose zoning or planning issues. Markets need variances if they're to be set up in noncommercial areas. Impacts on the neighborhoods need to be considered: Are there enough parking spaces? Will unsold vegetables will be left to rot on the curb? Will it be too noisy?

"People think it's going to be a two-week process, and it ends up being a six-month process," said Rob Sentner, a member of the local planning commission and open space committee in Upper Milford, Pa., near Allentown.

Sentner said behind-the-scenes work for a market in Upper Milford included tweaking local regulations to define what a farmers market is and demonstrating that it met state health and agricultural standards.

It's not any easier in bigger cites. Los Angeles Councilwoman Jan Perry, who has helped land four farmers markets in her district, said it takes tenacity and working around logistical issues. She recently helped launch Los Angeles' Food Policy Task Force, which will take a more systemic approach to bringing local produce across the city.

Those kinds of citywide efforts, many aimed at fighting obesity among poor people, are becoming common. San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom in July issued the city's first comprehensive food policy, which places an emphasis on regional food. New York City's Planning Commission in September approved a proposal to offer tax incentives to land more grocery stores that devote shelf space to fresh produce, meats and dairy.

Kimberley Hodgson, manager of the American Planning Association's Planning and Community Health Research Center, said more municipalities are starting to consider plans that take into account whole regions — city and country — as they consider the entire food chain from production to disposal.

"This is the new trend because planners are realizing that there is such an urban-rural linkage to the food system," Hodgson said. "So to just focus on the city or county food system really ignores the other parts of the system."

This is not always simple. Local officials sometimes must balance the desire for fresh food with the nuisance factor. New York City officials asked to legalize bee keeping within the city limits this year were essentially being asked to favor urban beekeepers and local honey lovers over residents who fear getting stung.

Then there is the chicken issue. It's illegal in many cities because of the noise and the mess. But with more people agitating to raise chickens in their back yards, a lot of municipal officials are rethinking their laws.

"People came up and said, 'Hey we like the idea of knowing where our food comes from. We like the idea of having a sustainable food source in our back yard,'" said Brit Fontenot, assistant to the Bozeman city manager. "'Why can't we look at removing this restriction?'"

Chapel Hill in North Carolina gave the OK to chicken keeping earlier this year, as did Buffalo, N.Y. The Iowa City Council is considering a backyard chicken ordinance, and officials in Washington — which in September opened a new farmers market just blocks from the White House — are considering easing restrictions on raising chickens within 50 feet of homes, which would allow more residents to raise the birds.

But officials in some other towns have balked. The Denver Suburb of Aurora, Colo., declined to allow it in June. Aurora Neighborhood Support Division manager Ron Moore said given factors like noise and sanitary concerns, city council member simply saw little reason to change the law.

In Bozeman, chicken keeping can officially commence on Oct. 29. CLUC organizer Alison Sweeney said she can't wait to move her chicks from a friend's house to within the city limits.

"I'm so excited," she said. "They're so precious."

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For Diwali, savory snacks as popular as sweet treats

MICHELE KAYAL
For The Associated Press

If you rolled a bit of Christmas, New Year's Eve and the Fourth of July all into one, then catered the affair with heaps of sweets and savory snacks, you'd begin to get a taste for what it means to celebrate Diwali, India's best known festival.

The sugary treats known as "mithai" — thousands of tons are prepared for Diwali every year — tend to get most of the attention during this holiday that marks the victory of good over evil and light over darkness.

But Indian food is all about balance and contrasts. Salty, spicy snacks collectively referred to as "namkeen" or "karam" play an equally important role during Diwali, which this year falls on Oct. 17.

Piquant little diamonds called shankarpali; chili-spiked mixes of flaked rice and lentils called chivda; and crisp, golden noodles called ribbon pakoda serve as both munchies and gifts, the latter an element as critical to Diwali as to Christmas.

"It's a time when a lot of family connections and kinship ties are strengthened," says Sharmila Sen, a humanities editor at Harvard University Press and expert on Indian food. "For women, it's important that their families send these elaborate presentations of nuts and savories to their husband's family, thereby strengthening the ties."

The legends behind Diwali — a word taken from the Sanskrit word dipavali meaning "row of lights" — vary by region in India, but people of every faith line windows and doorways with small clay or silver oil lamps, and trim homes, shops and businesses with brightly colored lights. Firecrackers pop and screech from early morning. Businesses close their fiscal year and open new books.

Diwali also is a time for visiting friends and family, and the delicate, time-consuming savories — which are easily made in large quantities — are exchanged between homes.

"In one neighborhood you're going to have 50 or 60 families and you're going to feed all the immediate neighbors," says Abraham Varghese, executive chef at Washington's Indique Heights, who recalled rolling and cutting shankarpali with his brothers as a child. "We would go to all the homes we knew, and to the poor home."

The treats often are wrapped as colorfully as possible, baled in reds, golds, greens and marigold, the colors of happiness and auspicious beginnings, Sen says.

In times past, gifts would be placed on platters and draped in elaborate fabrics. Today, they are more likely to come in wrapping paper that mimics the patterns of those fabrics or in colorful cellophane.

Bright cardboard boxes, platters fashioned from dried palm or banana leaves, and clay pots also are used. Occasionally, a silver platter is used to deliver the savories to a very important client or hard-to-please in-laws.

The idea of giving savories — as well as sweets — is rooted in the principles of Indian cooking. Indian cuisine is about balancing taste elements, about playing hot, sour, sweet, salty, bitter, astringent and umami (savory) off one another, says Raghavan Iyer, an award-winning cookbook author and chef at Minneapolis restaurant Om.

"With Indian food you have to associate the word 'balance,'" he says. "So in addition to the sweets, savory does play a big role."

Crisp, spicy snacks serve another crucial function at Diwali. Because they are deep-fried, they keep for weeks in air-tight containers. Which means a host can always have a big stash on hand to accommodate hungry holiday visitors.

"Diwali is all about snacking," says Sangeetha Sarma, a Washington food publicist who grew up in the South Indian city of Chennai. "It's the Festival of Lights, but it's really like Thanksgiving."

Editor's note: Diwali savory snack recipe for Thattai. The name for these fried treats, thattai, may have been taken from the Tamil word meaning "flattie" or "pattie." These South Indian treats sometimes are found in shops, but connoisseurs swear by the fresh taste of homemade.

THATTAI

Start to finish: 1 hour
Servings: 8

4 cups rice flour
1/2 cup urad dal flour (or chickpea flour)
2 tbs. yellow split peas, soaked in hot water for 10 minutes
1 tsp. cayenne pepper, or to taste
2 tsp. sesame seeds
10 curry leaves, roughly torn (optional)
Salt, to taste
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter, cut into small pieces
1 1/2 cups water
Vegetable or canola oil, for frying

Arrange a large sheet of waxed or parchment paper on the counter near the work area.

In a large bowl, combine both flours, the yellow split peas, cayenne, sesame seeds, curry leaves and salt. Using a pastry cutter or two knives, cut in the butter. Add 1/4 cup of the water and begin making a dough.

Add water 1 tablespoon at a time until the mixture has the consistency of pie crust. Working on the waxed or parchment paper, form the dough into 1-inch balls, then use a rolling pin to flatten each into a disc about 1/4 inch thick. Set the discs on the paper, then use a knife to cut the discs into quarters. Using a fork, prick each piece in several places.

In a large, deep skillet over medium, heat about 1 inch of oil. To test the oil, place a small piece of bread it in; it should sizzle.

Carefully slip the quarters into the oil. Do not crowd the skillet. Turn them occasionally with a slotted spoon, frying until golden brown. Transfer to paper towels to drain. When completely cool, store in an airtight container. Will keep for several days.

(Recipe adapted from the blog "Food in the Main" at http://srefoodblog.blogspot.com)

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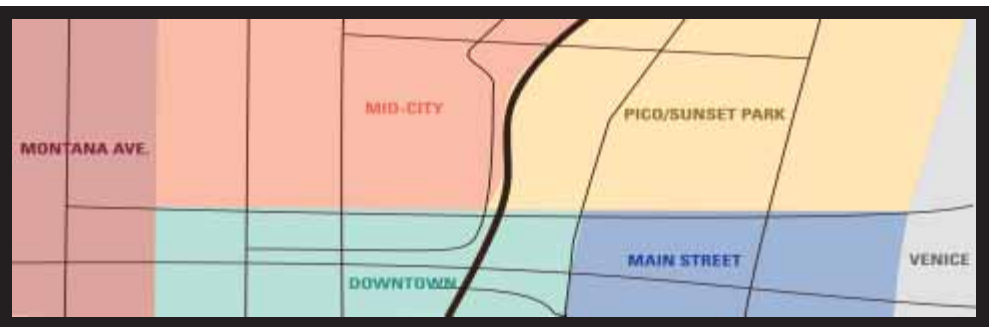
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Irish vote again on European Union treaty

SHAWN POGATCHNIK
Associated Press Writer

DUBLIN The future of the European Union hung in the balance Friday as Ireland's voters decided once again whether to ratify a treaty aimed at making the 27-nation body more decisive and effective.

As polls closed following 15 hours of voting, the pro-treaty opposition party Fine Gael said its own national survey indicated a 60 percent "yes" vote. But aides to Prime Minister Brian Cowen said unofficial tallies from the ruling Fianna Fail party indicated a narrower "yes" majority of around 53 percent.

No professional pollsters or media organizations conducted exit polls. Official results come Saturday.

A second Irish "no" would doom the Lisbon Treaty, a painstakingly negotiated blueprint for sharpening EU institutions following the bloc's rapid eastward expansion since 2004.

EU chiefs say new voting rules are needed to promote stronger policies in combating cross-border crime, terrorism and ecological threats. But the treaty can't become EU law unless every member ratifies it — and Ireland is the only EU member requiring majority approval from voters.

Ireland rejected the treaty in June 2008, but is voting again after EU leaders reaffirmed Ireland's military neutrality, control over tax policies and right to keep abortion outlawed in this predominantly Catholic country. The EU also reversed its plans to prune the bloated size of the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, after the Irish registered strong opposition to losing their seat at the table part of the time.

Prime Minister Brian Cowen has ruled out staging a third vote — meaning an Irish "no" this time would kill, not just delay, a treaty several years in the making.

Opinion polls in the past week indicated a solid "yes" verdict this time around. And the exit poll by Fine Gael, the major opposition party and a staunch backer of the treaty, suggested this would be confirmed in Saturday's official figures.

Fine Gael said its activists quizzed 1,000 voters at 33 locations nationwide, a survey size that typically generates an error margin of three percentage points. The party said 60 percent had declared they voted yes, 40 percent no.

"These are very encouraging numbers for the yes side," said Billy Timmins, Fine Gael's director of elections.

Electoral officials said turnout among Ireland's 3.08 million voters was around 50 percent nationwide, similar to 2008's referendum, but higher in the key urban centers of Dublin and Cork.

Cowen and opposition leaders both emphasized that a second "no" would do the most damage to Ireland itself. The country's recession-hit economy requires European Central Bank support to revive its banks and combat a runaway deficit. Cowen says future foreign investment requires Ireland to be an EU enthusiast, not an outsider.

Treaty opponents accused the EU of seeking greater powers to impose unpopular policies on Ireland, including legalized abortion and euthanasia, increased immigration, higher taxes and lower wages.

One of the most emotive anti-treaty posters contended that passage of the treaty would slash Ireland's minimum hourly wage from 8.65 to 1.84 — a claim refuted by experts but readily swallowed by some working-class Dubliners.

"I can't scrape a living as it is and things're getting worse every month. Now the EU wants to drag our wages down to what they pay in Poland," said Gerard O'Driscoll, a 53-year-old taxi driver who spent Friday alongside scores of other cabbies blocking central Dublin roads to protest their falling incomes.

O'Driscoll said he sometimes already earned less than 1.84 an hour because of too much competition, including from jitney immigrant cabbies who wouldn't join the protest. He said the only way to make the government pay attention to his plight was to "punch them square in the jaw and vote no."

Many anti-treaty voters said they were incensed that their own government and EU chiefs refused to accept Ireland's initial "no" as a final answer.

"Governments try to steamroller us, whether it's in Dublin or Brussels. Just look what happens when we vote no. They make us vote again!" said Eugene Gorman, 27, who parked his bicycle — festooned with slogans saying "No. Seriously" — outside a polling station near Trinity College Dublin.

Others said they felt Ireland had no real choice but to support the EU now, given how Irish economic fortunes have collapsed following last year's 53.4 percent "no" vote.

"In good times, we can fancy ourselves as an independent country. We don't have that luxury this time," said Eithne Brennan, 35, who said "no" in 2008 but cast a pro-treaty ballot Friday in a polling station inside a Catholic girls' school. "The painful truth is we'd be bankrupt without Brussels."

If Lisbon becomes law, more policy decisions would be permitted by majority rather than unanimous votes in European summits. Those policies, in turn, would increasingly be shaped by the elected parliaments of each nation and the European Parliament, which currently has little say.

Projecting this more decisive EU abroad would be a new fixed-term president — in place of a decades-old system that rotates the presidency among governments every six months — and a new foreign minister.

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UCLA stabbing suspect nabbed

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Three UCLA students and four other young men have been arrested for their roles in a fight at an off-campus party in which two UCLA students were stabbed.

UCLA spokesman Phil Hampton said two students were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder Thursday on campus. Another was arrested on suspicion of being an accessory to attempted murder.

Hampton says a fight broke out Sept. 22 at a Lambda Phi Epsilon party. One UCLA student was stabbed in the arm, another was stabbed in the stomach.

Campus police arrested the four non-students nearby that night. Interviews led investigators to the three students involved.

The four non-students were arraigned on charges of attempted murder and aggravated mayhem and are each being held on $2 million bail.

Flea market to feature activities for the kids

FROM MARKET PAGE 3

granted as kids ourselves."

Just this year, the PTA decided to expand the flea market to include both the first and the third Saturday of every month. While still successful, the turnout for the third Saturday has not been as high as the first Saturdays' typical 40 vendors and $1,200-1,500 in revenue.

"There's an ebb and flow to it," Engels said.

Additionally, as the flea market is held in the parking lot of Olympic High School, the $1 entrance fee goes to benefit programs at that school as well.

"It's a very nice and symbiotic relation for public schools in the community," Engels added.

The flea market is characterized as a bazaar, with vendors selling a little bit of everything. On any given Saturday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., market-goers can find items such as clothing, used CDs, records, antiques and jewelry. The Kids' Corner will now be a permanent fixture at the flea market as well.

"We want this to be the place where people go on a Saturday," Seisay said.

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New homework policy still draws some concerns

FROM **HOMEWORK** PAGE 1

trum, which drew concerns from parents.

The length of time that students spend on homework in the middle school was clarified. For example, whereas seventh graders were previously given assignments that took 90 minutes total or 20-30 minutes a class, the revised policy states that they spend 80 minutes daily.

The board decided to remove the time allotment for the high school, believing that there is too much variation in the rigor of courses with many students taking advanced placement and honors courses.

"It really didn't make sense to have a policy which we knew a large percent of students were basically not going to be able to follow because their choice of academic classes," school board President Ralph Mechur said. "We felt the better way of creating an effective policy was to have high schools create their own plans that would be more closely followed than what was suggested."

He added that there hasn't been much research on the impact of homework at the high school level.

Parents said they would have liked to see the time limits kept, believing the homework problem could persist.

"Members of the board say that research on guidelines limiting homework is based on only one study," Claudia Landis, a parent, said. "To turn the question around, I ask, where is the research that says intensifying homework beyond that recommended by senior staff and the homework committee is beneficial?

The revised policy has also drawn concerns from teachers who said they had little issue with the existing policy and see the changes as potentially an infringement of academic freedom.

They also had concerns on the prescribed nature of the policy, pointing out that a homework assignment might take one student 10 minutes and another even longer. In the latter case, the parent should come talk to the teacher, Sarah Braff, the vice president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association and Will Rogers teacher, said.

Braff said the homework problem only involves a small number of teachers.

"I would like to think that a teacher who has experience in being a teacher and has a B.A. and M.A. in education has some knowledge about what is good for children and what is not good for children and should be treated as a professional," Braff said.

The lone vote in opposition to the changes came from Oscar de la Torre, who said there needs to be more discussion with teachers. School board members Jose Escarce and Maria Leon-Vazquez were absent.

He said that the revised guidelines were more complicated than they needed to be and also had concerns with removing the time limits for the high schools.

"I support the policy but I feel we need more time and dialogue with teachers who are in the end implementing the policy," he said.

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SOULFUL: **Singer/guitarist Alfie Alessandra plays his blues and pop covers on the Third Street Promenade on Friday afternoon. Alessandra has been playing on the promenade for six months.**

Street performers support local law

FROM **PERFORMERS** PAGE 1

laws that might leave the former unaffected by the court ruling. Seattle's old law concerned a large open area, one that doesn't exist in Santa Monica, and involved a public park, whereas the local ordinance doesn't require permits for performances in those types of spaces.

"It's an issue about whether that factual difference would make any difference as to the application of the larger decision to Santa Monica," Moutrie said.

City Hall has not received any threats of litigation regarding the ordinance.

The board for the Downtown management organization, the Bayside District Corp, recently took a position to support the existing ordinance as written, including the permitting requirements, which officials said have worked well in keeping order on the promenade and Transit Mall.

"Our permits are extraordinarily affordable and it allows the city and Bayside to work with the performer population, to help make things equitable for performers and to ensure that they all have access to the street," Kathleen Rawson, the CEO of Bayside, said.

Bill Tucker, the board chair, called the permitting process a reasonable method for helping the performers understand what's expected of them and how to control activity on the street.

"It just can't be an after-the-fact that people go out there and not know what to do," Tucker said. "It would be bad policy and it would become chaotic."

Street performers have for the most part expressed support for the existing law, which they also agree keeps some order on the promenade where competition can become tight.

"They should have people audition to improve the quality to a certain degree," Jeremy Weinglass, a pianist who has performed on the promenade for three months, said. "There are so many people now, it takes away from the quality."

Performers seeking permits must fill out an application with their name, address, proof of identity and detail of their act and instrument. The permits must be renewed every year and displayed during the performances.

> **"OUR PERMITS ARE EXTRAORDINARILY AFFORDABLE AND IT ALLOWS THE CITY AND BAYSIDE TO WORK WITH THE PERFORMER POPULATION, TO HELP MAKE THINGS EQUITABLE FOR PERFORMERS AND TO ENSURE THAT THEY ALL HAVE ACCESS TO THE STREET."**
>
> **Kathleen Rawson**
> CEO, Bayside District Corp.

The street artists have to comply with other regulations concerning noise and spacing, keeping a distance from other performers and maintaining a safe circulation in case of an emergency. Performers are also not allowed to stay in a specific location or within 125 feet for more than two hours during a six-hour period.

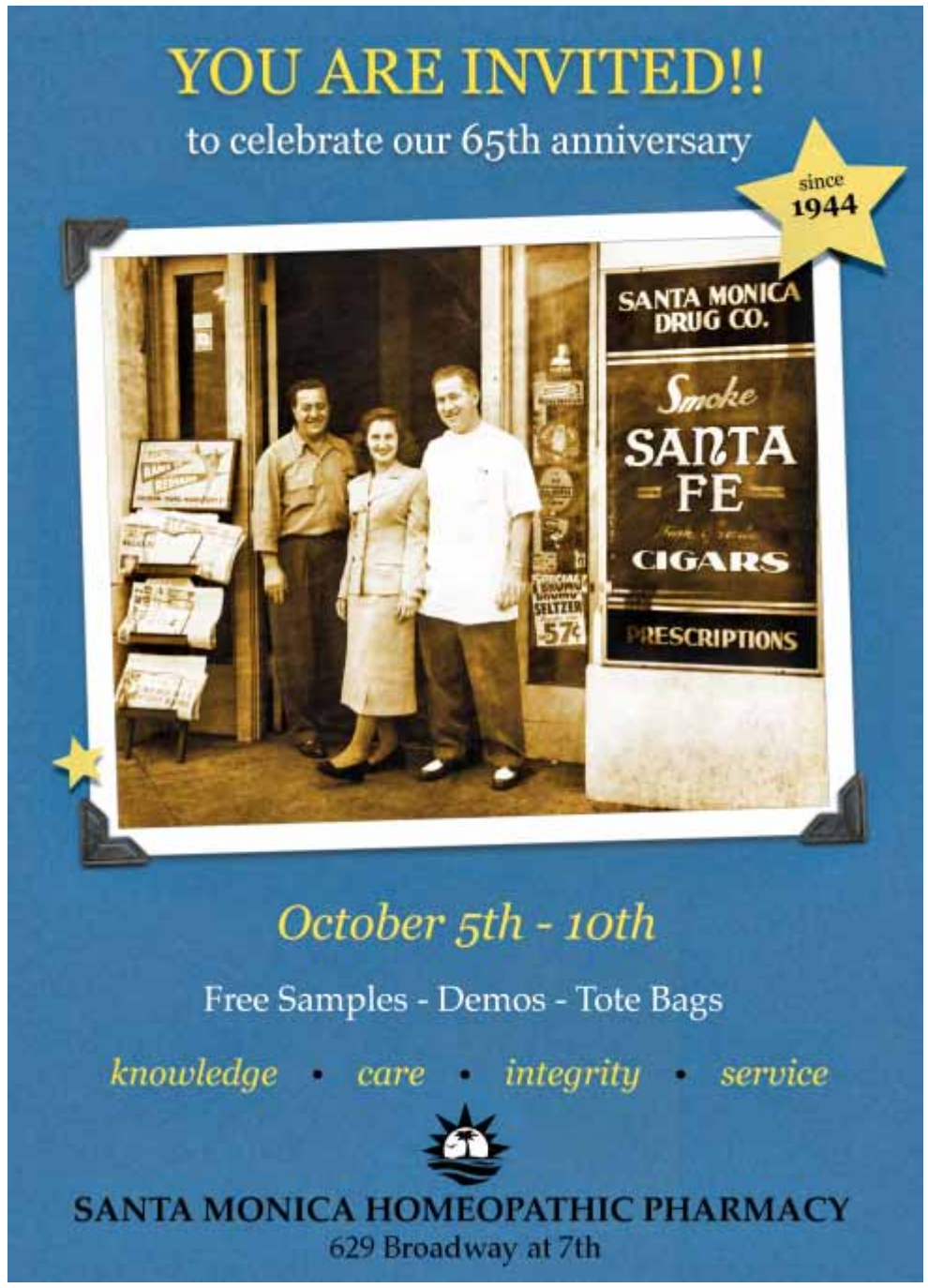
Dorian Lopez, a clown from Mexico City who has been performing for just a week, said he would like to see the time limit restriction relaxed.

"The weekends are really crowded," he said. "It'd be nice to have a change and be allowed to stay longer in the same place."

DERRICK OLIVER contributed to this report

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Border crossing deaths to exceed last year's totals

JACQUES BILLEAUD
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX The number of immigrants who died while sneaking across America's southern border in the last 12 months is expected to surpass the previous year's total, even as fewer people are getting caught entering the country illegally.

The U.S. Border Patrol says 378 people perished near the border during the 11-month period that ended Aug. 31. The death toll is likely to rise in the coming days as the government finishes its tally for the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30.

Immigrant rights advocates say the numbers reflect deep flaws in America's border enforcement, because as the Border Patrol puts more agents and technology in certain spots, smugglers turn to more remote migration routes where enforcement is weaker, thus exposing their clients to more perilous conditions, such as triple-digit summer heat.

"There is a very large increase in the rate of deaths, despite the economic downturn, less immigration and the increase in the number of Border Patrol agents. This shows that our border strategy is having a truly horrifying cost in human lives," said Kevin Keenan, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of San Diego and Imperial Counties in California.

Border Patrol spokesman Lloyd Easterling said the agency has sent its search-and-rescue crews out at least 444 times in the last year to reach immigrants in distress, installed rescue beacons where immigrants in trouble can signal for help, and run public service advertisements that warn of money-hungry smugglers who will expose them to dangers.

"We want to make sure that our efforts are focused on preventing the border crossings to begin with and target these human smugglers who take people out into these locations and put their lives at risk," Easterling said.

More than half the deaths in the fiscal year that just ended were reported in Arizona, which became the busiest illegal entry point along the border after the federal government tightened enforcement in El Paso, Texas, and San Diego in the mid-1990s.

Texas ranked second in immigrant deaths, followed by California and New Mexico.

The leading cause of death was exposure to the heat. Other causes included drownings in rivers and drainage canals, homicides by bandits who target immigrants during the long walk across the border, and rollovers of smuggling vehicles.

Nine illegal immigrants who were being smuggled into the country died in June when the SUV they were traveling in lost control and rolled over on a remote highway in Sonoita, Ariz. Twenty-seven immigrants were crammed in the Ford Excursion, which had its rear seats removed to make room for more people. A tire on the vehicle blew out under the weight of the smuggling load. Nineteen others were injured.

Thirteen deaths in September would make the recently ended fiscal year more deadly than the previous year, when 390 deaths were reported. The record of 492 deaths was set in 2005.

A report released this week by the ACLU and Mexico's National Commission of Human Rights called the deaths a humanitarian crisis and recommended that the Border Patrol put more resources into its search-and-rescue operations.

Arturo Sarukhan, the Mexican ambassador to the United States, said in a statement that his country has made its own efforts at trying to prevent the deaths.

Sarukhan said Mexico runs media campaigns warning would-be immigrants about illegal border crossings, and it participates in a program in which arrested immigrants are flown from Arizona to Mexico City in hopes of keeping them away from border towns where they would run into smugglers who want to sneak them back into the United States.

Jennifer Allen, director of the Border Action Network, an immigrant rights group based in southern Arizona, said the answer to reducing border deaths is for Congress to overhaul America's immigration policies so that it's easier for immigrants to come into the country safely and they don't have to rely on smugglers for help.

Employers slow to make hires

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER & JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON Job hunters will face long odds well into next year. As the unemployment rate inches closer to 10 percent, most businesses are nowhere close to hiring again.

Uncertain about prospects for recovery — the economy's and their own — employers cut 263,000 jobs in September, the government said Friday. Unemployment crept up to 9.8 percent.

As the economy slowly turns around, sales are slowly growing and many companies are starting to make money again. But they're doing it by cutting costs, squeezing more work out of fewer employees and relying on part-timers and cheap overseas labor.

Until companies are confident the recovery is here to stay, they will probably keep laying off workers. The economy lost 62,000 more jobs in September than in August, and the unemployment rate notched up from 9.7 percent to a new 26-year high.

Most economists say the recession is probably over. But the recovery isn't robust enough to embolden businesses to hire again.

"Fear is a large factor for many companies," said Michael Williams, dean of the graduate school of business at Touro College in New York. "What happens after the government's stimuli end? Does the recovery morph into something durable, or is there an abyss on the other side?"

President Barack Obama called the jobless figures a sobering reminder that progress to reverse the recession will come in fits and starts.

Employers are expected to continue cutting payrolls for six to nine more months. Economists think the jobless rate will go as high as 10.5 percent around the middle of next year before declining gradually.

It could take three or four more years for unemployment to fall to normal levels. The worst recession since the Great Depression has already claimed 7.2 million jobs, and analysts figure 750,000 more jobs could disappear over the next six months.

The drumbeat of job losses is creating fear that Americans won't start spending again and the recovery may fizzle. Some worry the economy might succumb to a "double dip" recession — meaning it would stop growing and start shrinking again.

"This recovery looks like roadkill," said Christopher Rupkey, economist at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi. "The heavy layoffs have stopped, but there are simply no new jobs available, and the harder the jobs are to get, the harder and longer this road to recovery is going to be."

After the recession of 1981 and 1982, the economy added 1.2 million jobs in the first six months of recovery. By contrast, after the 2001 recession, the economy lost 1.1 million jobs before unemployment peaked two years later. It was dubbed a jobless recovery.

Economic historian John Steel Gordon says this could be a jobless recovery, too, with businesses wringing more work out of the employees they still have and relying on part-time and overseas help.

"It's actually worse now," he said. "Companies aren't going to hire until it becomes obvious we're back in a lasting growth cycle."

Until then, economists think, the few industries creating jobs will probably include health care, education, legal services, data processing and transportation. And early next year, the federal government will be hiring for the 2010 census.

In the last economic recovery, the financial industry drove job growth, but that probably won't happen this time. Job growth should also be slow in construction, manufacturing and retail.

All told, 15.1 million Americans are out of work — twice as many as at the start of the recession. Counting laid-off workers who have settled for part-time work or just given up, the unemployment rate is 17 percent, the highest on record since 1994.

People are also staying out of work longer. The number of people jobless for six months or longer jumped to a record 5.4 million. That's more than one-third of the unemployed, a record.

A key Obama adviser noted that while the job losses in September were the most since July, layoffs are way down from a recession high of 741,000 in January.

"We still think the overall trend is moving in the right direction," said Christina Romer, chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. "We're going from much larger job losses earlier this year. We want them to moderate more."

Alan Krueger, chief economist at the Treasury Department, would not rule out seeking another a second economic stimulus package — a decision he said could be made later. Republicans say the first package, $787 billion worth, isn't helping stanch job losses.

"Wasteful government spending is not the solution to what ails this economy," said Indiana Rep. Mike Pence, chairman of the House Republican caucus.

A House bill to add 13 weeks of unemployment benefits for people in states where the jobless rate is 8.5 percent of higher has stalled in the Senate. Hundreds of thousands of people already have exhausted their benefits or are about to.

The September unemployment rate would have been higher — perhaps over 10 percent — if not for the exodus of 571,000 people from the work force, economists said. Many of them were so frustrated over a lack of work that they simply abandoned the search.

Older workers who are laid off are also dropping out and filing for Social Security benefits at a faster-than-expected pace, the government says. Applications for retirement benefits are 23 percent higher than last year. Disability claims are up about 20 percent.

Bernard Baumohl, chief global economist at the Economic Outlook Group, says he's optimistic the recovery won't fizzle. But he says it will "jagged and uneven," with more pain ahead for jobseekers.

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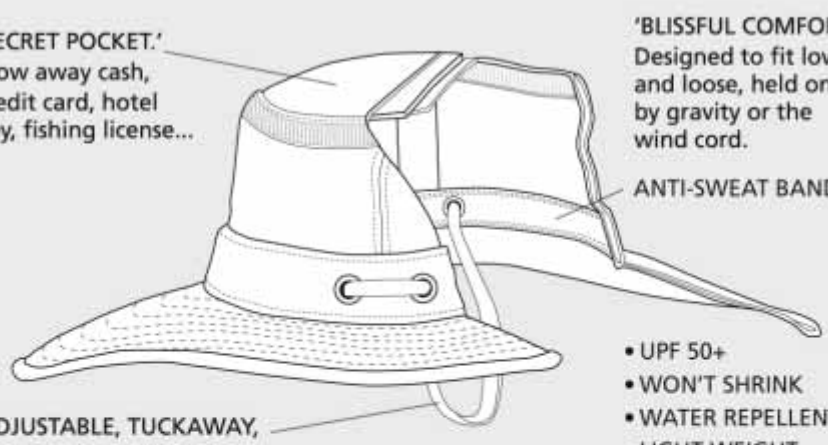
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Gate splits border community in half

JOHN CURRAN
Associated Press Writer

DERBY LINE, Vt. For decades, the towns of Derby Line, Vt., and Stanstead, Quebec, have functioned as one community.

Located on either side of the border, they share a sewer system, emergency services, snowplowing duties and the border-straddling Haskell Free Library and Opera House, where a skinny black line across the hardwood floor of the reading room marks the international border running through the property.

Work began Thursday, though, to erect of a pair of 5-foot-tall steel gates across two previously unguarded residential streets — a project that is dividing the towns physically but uniting them in displeasure.

Border authorities call the gates a necessary evil to stem smuggling and illegal alien crossings. Locals say there's enough security — surveillance cameras and patrols by U.S. Customs and Border Protection — as it is.

"I've always considered Derby and Stanstead like brother and sister," said Mary O'Donnell, 57, of Stanstead, walking into the library to use a computer Friday. "We've always been on friendly terms. Now, suddenly, 9/11 hits and everybody in the U.S. freaks out. So we're now going to get some really ugly things at the end of the streets that I don't think is going to serve much of a purpose."

The remote-controlled steel gates, which are in the process of being installed, will open for emergency vehicles, border agents and snow plows, but they will cut off automotive access by civilians on Phelps and Lee streets, which run perpendicular to the border.

"Over the years, we've noted that criminal smuggling organizations are bringing people in from all over the world to use those roads in the Derby Line area to smuggle people into the U.S. from Canada," said Mark Henry, operations officer for the U.S. Border Patrol. "People are also using those roads to smuggle people into Canada from the U.S."

Many who are caught smuggling aliens across the border using the streets have been found to be in possession of maps — downloaded from the Internet — showing the layout, officials say.

Last month, an alleged con man who had confounded authorities all over the world was caught here. Juan Guzman-Betancourt told the Border Patrol he had unknowingly walked across the border into Vermont from Canada after his car broke down.

But by then, plans were already in the works for the gates, which will hang from two granite-faced steel posts on either side of the roadways.

One gate is being paid for by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the other by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. They'll be maintained by both countries.

Locals don't question the need for border security.

"The USA has the right to take the measures, as a sovereign state has the right to take the measures it deems necessary to protect its borders and its people," said Andrew Preston, 70, of nearby Baldwin's Mills, Quebec. "But some of the fallout from that, unfortunately, is that it harms communities like these," said Preston, who was using the library Friday.

It's the psychological impact of tightened security that bothers some.

"We really don't consider the border a border," said drugstore owner Roland Roy, who sits on the three-member board of trustees for the Village of Derby Line. "We consider the village as all one. These gates split the community."

Two existing border crossings — one on Route 5 in Derby Line, another along Interstate 91 — handle most of the international traffic. The unguarded streets are used primarily by locals, many of them familiar faces to the border authorities.

Texas jury convicts handyman of slayings

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas A handyman accused of killing six people in a cross-country spree was convicted Friday in two of the deaths, and could face the death penalty.

Paul Devoe, 46, was accused of killing five people in Texas and one in Pennsylvania in August 2007. The jury deliberated for less than 30 minutes before finding him guilty of capital murder in the deaths of two teenage girls.

The girls' family members, who were holding hands before the verdict was read, cried, smiled and nodded when the verdict was announced.

Prosecutors say Devoe fatally shot 41-year-old Michael Allred at the bar he worked at in Marble Falls, then drove to the home of his ex-girlfriend, Paula Griffith, in Jonestown and shot her, her 48-year-old boyfriend, Jay Feltner, her daughter, Haylie Faulkner and Hensley, a friend of Haylie's.

Travis County prosecutor Gary Cobb said he was happy with the verdict.

"Having somebody like that be found guilty and be assured that he will never be allowed to hurt anybody again gives me a great degree of personal satisfaction," Cobb said.

Devoe is only on trial for the girls' killings. It's common in Texas for prosecutors to split multiple charges into separate trials. Prosecutors can still seek trials for the remaining killings.

The punishment phase of the trial begins Monday. Jurors will decide whether to give Devoe the death penalty or life in prison without parole. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty for the deaths of 15-year-old Haylie Faulkner and 17-year-old Danielle Hensley.

"We clearly think he deserves the death penalty and that's why we're seeking it," Cobb said.

NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



Photo courtesy Questar

'America's Classic Ballparks'

Hosted by actor Jeff Daniels ("Something Wild," "Dumb and Dumber," "The Squid and the Whale"), here's a nostalgic look at an earlier America that fell in love with baseball in an era when owners built bigger arenas to house our fast-growing national pastime. By 1923, 15 iconic steel and concrete parks had been built, yet no two were alike. Each had its own unique character, and fans were close to the action. This documentary traces the history of four classic American ballparks using both archival footage and modern film: Wrigley Field (1914), Comiskey Park (1910), Tiger Stadium (1912) and Fenway Park (1912). The presentation also incldues rare major league film segments, classic photos, and insightful comments by Hall of Fame players and announcers who share their innermost feelings about the parks, the game, and the fans including such greats as Ted Williams, Al Kaline and Ernie Banks. (Questar)

'Paul Newman: The Tribute Collection'

One of Hollywood's most iconic movie stars is given a well-deserved and fitting tribute with this package. Gathered here for the first time are 13 of his best films including special editions of "The Hustler" and "The Verdict." The baby blue box set with 17 discs also contains a compelling coffee table book that traces the story of Newman's ascent on the silver screen including a stunning array of photos, some of which have never been seen before. (Fox)

'Hero' Special Edition

Known for his rich visual presentations, director Zhang Yimou ("Raise the Red Lantern," "Shanghai Triad") directs Jet Li in this action film. Li, as a nameless warrior, arrives at the ruler's palace with three weapons, each belonging to a famous assassin who had sworn to kill the emperor. As the nameless man spins out his story, the ruler presents his own interpretation of what might really have taken place. Brilliant cinematography, plenty of action and an all-star team of Tony Leung, Maggie Cheung and Zhang Ziyi helped this picture garner a Best Foreign Language Oscar nomination in 2002. A making-of segment, breaking down a fight scene and an interview with Jet Li are included. (Miramax/Genius)

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'Grey's Anatomy' Fifth Season

Patrick Dempsey, Ellen Pompeo, Katherine Heigl and Sandra Oh star in this popular medical drama and all the life-changing surprises of the doctors, nurses and technicians of Seattle Grace hospital. Every episode from season five are on the seven-disc offering as well as many bonus materials including outtakes and unaired scenes. (ABC/Disney)

Film and television author **RANDY WILLIAMS** reviews the latest movies, television shows, documentaries and music programs now available for purchase online or at your local retail store. He can be reached at www.sportandcinema.com



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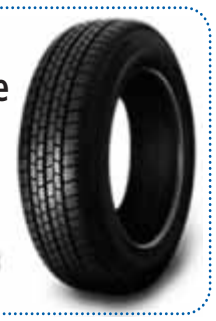
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Public Meeting Notice

City of Santa Monica

The City of Santa Monica will be holding a Public Meeting to update the community on planned improvements for the Resource Recovery Center.

City staff and the consultant team, along with representatives from Southern California Disposal and Allan Company, will make a presentation about the public/private partnership and improvements to the transfer station and recycling facility. You'll hear about the one-stop recycling station for residents, self-haul green waste and recycling facility, improved household hazardous waste repository, canopy covered materials buy-back area, and consolidated transfer station.

Meeting Date & Time:
Thursday, October 15, 2009, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Meeting Location:
Virginia Avenue Park – Thelma Terry Building
2200 Virginia Avenue
Santa Monica, California 90404

For further information on this project, please contact Michael Collins at (310) 434-2611 or michael.collins@smgov.net.

The Thelma Terry Building is wheelchair accessible. For special accommodations, including translation services, please contact Phil Tong at (310) 458-2205 or phil.tong@smgov.net three working days prior to the meeting. TTY/TDD (310) 917-6626.

Virginia Avenue Park is served by Big Blue Bus Lines 7 and 11. For additional public transportation information, please call the Big Blue Bus at (310) 451-5444.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

The Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to discuss general policy matters and issues pertaining to the City's ongoing effort to prepare new Land Use and Circulation Elements of the City's General Plan. This will include input, discussion, and possible action on policies, process, materials, timeline, participation strategies and related issues pertaining to the Land Use and Circulation Elements of the General Plan. Additional policy issues may be discussed regarding climate change and sustainability programs, small business issues on the commercial corridors, and development project review. Regular policy discussion meetings are scheduled on the first Wednesday of each month. Discussion topics are set in advance of the meeting and are available at City Hall and online at www.santa-monica.org.

WHEN: **Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

City of Santa Monica

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about the meeting agenda, please contact Kyle Ferstead, Planning Commission Secretary by e-mail at kyle.ferstead@smgov.net or by telephone at (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net/planning. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, and #8 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
http://www.shapethefuture2025.net (Land Use and Circulation Element)

MOTION



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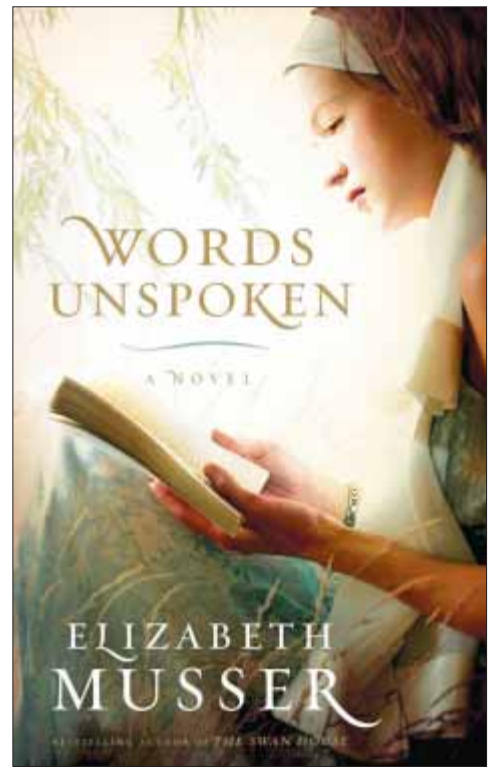
BOOK REVIEW

BY DANE ROBERT SWANSON



'Words Unspoken'

By Elizabeth Musser • Bethany House



Sometimes there are things left unsaid that should have been expressed. We tend to live a life of secrets. When we keep secrets they tend to come back and influence our present actions making us an enigma to those around us.

On the other hand some things are best not revealed.

This story concerns image. Our main character, Lissa Randall, is afraid to move on with her life after an accident that took the life of her mother. She feels things are being taken away from her. She becomes destructive. "Sometimes they only whispered faintly, a vague accusation. At other times they shouted, furious, demanding."

She wants to keep her horse whom she hardly has time to tend for. "Lissa remembered holding on to Caleb and saying over and over, "It's going to be all right. We are going to survive. I swear it. This will not destroy us, Caleb. We are going to survive." Her arms were tight around his neck; she felt his warm breath and held him tight.

"Had she said these things? Did she still believe them? Now she was the one longing for arms to close tightly around her and swear to her, swear to her on everything under the sun that things were going to change. She was going to make it, and these terrible voices would stop."

Her life has become a life of routine. She can't move forward or make plans. She is ready to go on to college but needs the confidence to move on. This is seen in her fear of driving. Having failed her driving test because she is nervous, she has a tester turns to her and say: "Well, if you don't mind me saying so, I know you can pass. It's not that you don't know how to drive. It's just that you're so doggone nervous.

"I know a man who's really great at helping kids who are afraid of driving. He runs a school. He's kinda old, but he's good. Been teaching kids to drive for 30 years now."

So we are introduced to Ev McAllister who is a main character in the story. "What we need is to work on building up your confidence, young lady" He does this through driving lessons and taking her slowly to places that push her to confront the past.

There are a number of plot lines going on in this book. There is the mystery of who S.A. Green is; an author who wishes to remain unknown. A.S. Green wants to be known only through the books written. One of the books, "Eastern Crossing," is already being used in schools. Green has never been seen. Green has an investment company handle all the money that the books generate.

When the old investment counselor is retiring he hands the account to a younger investment counselor who is a risk taker and embezzles funds from the account to pay for junk bonds. Then the market drops.

Another line follows an up-and-coming writer who is determined to find out just who S.A. Green is and write an article and let the world know the identity. But, as we read the story, there is a good reason why S.A. Green is not seen.

This is a well written book and holds together to the end. The ending is satisfying and that is all we can ask of a story.

Contact **DANE** at smdp_review@yahoo.com. Thank you for your readership.

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What happens in Dublin gets fixed in Dublin

MORLAN HIGGINS IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE actors currently working in L.A. theater. I've never given him anything but a rave review. And this is another one.

As a lonely and troubled widower in Irish playwright Colin McPherson's mesmerizing "Shining City," Higgins pours out his guilt and his angst to therapist William Dennis Hurley. (These two also worked brilliantly together in 2005 in the world premiere of Athol Fugard's stunning "Exits and Entrances.") In "Shining City," which takes place in superstitious, Blarney-ridden Dublin, Higgins believes he is being haunted by his wife's ghost. He is, instead, actually haunted by the fact that he had become restless and indifferent to her in the last years of their marriage. She has recently been killed in a taxi accident, and Morlan grieves that he "didn't even know where she was going — or coming back from."

After confessing that he and she had stopped communicating with each other, Higgins twitches and weeps through a 16-page monologue about the decay of their marriage and his accelerating descent into apathy. It's an amazing feat, and Higgins accomplishes it without losing the audience's rapt attention for even a moment.

During this monumental recitation, Hurley sits immobile, just listening attentively and occasionally offering a brief word of encouragement. His task of being silent, engaged and concerned is nearly as difficult to carry off as Higgins' long emotional narrative.

Hurley, in fact, has problems of his own. A troubled young man who has voluntarily left the priesthood, he is also in the process of leaving the woman he has been living with and who has borne his child. She (Kerrie Blaisdell) turns up suddenly at his new half-unpacked digs to plead with him to come home. He responds that he will provide everything necessary for her and their daughter, but he doesn't want to be with her anymore. At this point, her distress turns to anger and they engage in a brutal shouting match that, like every other conversation in this engrossing play, has the bitter ring of truth to it.

There is a skewed sexual element in this play as well. In Higgins' case it involves his quest for a "connection" with a woman, rather than actual sexual intimacy. In Hurley's, his loss of faith in God is accompanied by doubts about himself and his capacity for love, and he engages in a brief and moving homosexual interaction with a man he meets in a park. Benjamin Keepers plays the role of the money-strapped prostitute with a soft sensitivity that perfectly tempers Hurley's tense awkwardness.

"Shining City," like most of McPherson's award-winning plays and films, (most notably "The Weir" and "The Seafarer"), is a nearly two-hour talkathon. But director Stephen Sachs, co-artistic director of the invariably outstanding Fountain Theatre company, has staged this series of conversations with such a fine dramatic flair that you barely notice the dearth of physical activity. The talk is all, and incredibly excellent talk it is!

The Los Angeles premiere of "Shining City" will continue at The Fountain Theatre, 5060 Fountain Ave., in Los Angeles Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Dec. 19. Call (323) 663-1525 for tickets. And hurry! This is definitely a must-see.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

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PREVIEWS

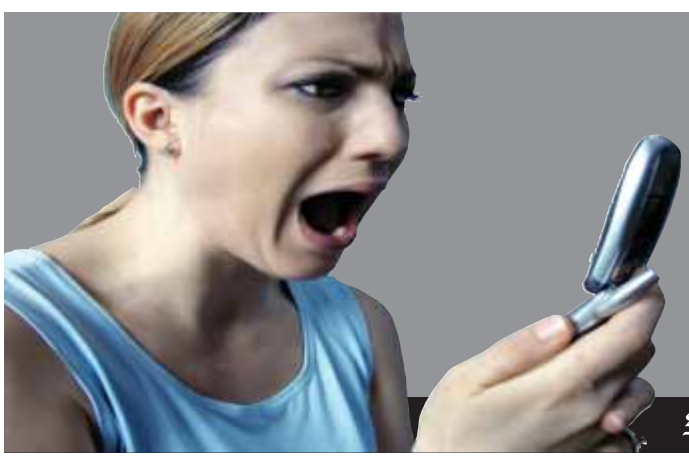


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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 68°

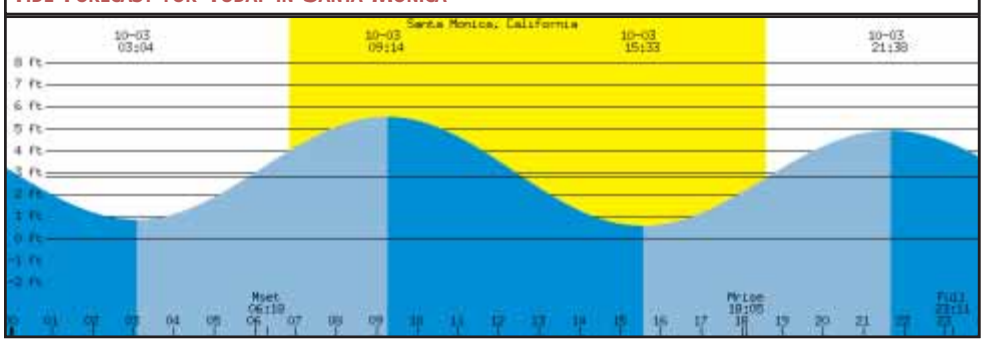
Swell Forecast

Wind swell is expected to increase slightly. Likely to bring waist to at times chest high waves to west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Chest+ waves around most south facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **September 29, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cerritos 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 Alisos creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	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.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
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.	C	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 D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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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NCAA FOOTBALL

Undefeated UCLA seeks recognition

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES The Pac-10's only undefeated team is back at work, preparing for a weekend showdown with the conference leader in the Bay Area.

If you had guessed early last month that UCLA's meeting with Stanford would fit those criteria instead of No. 7 Southern California's visit to Berkeley on that same Saturday, even Bruins coach Rick Neuheisel might not have believed it.

Yet shortly after UCLA's last victory, Neuheisel had begun to think this Pac-10 season could be just as wide open as it now appears.

"I said after we took the field against Kansas State (on Sept. 19) that after what had taken place that day, the cards were being reshuffled in the Pac-10," Neuheisel said Monday. "Certainly last week did nothing to dispel that notion. It's a very competitive conference, and you'd better line up each weekend, or you're going to get one in the chops."

Every team in the conference has received that blow to the chops except UCLA, which emerged from its only bye week with its first 3-0 start in four years after victories over San Diego State, Tennessee and Kansas State. With the Cardinal (3-1) riding a 2-0 conference start after beating up both Washington schools, the Bruins' visit to Stanford Stadium shapes up as a chance to stamp the winning school's rebuilding program with definite success and a likely national ranking.

Neuheisel is still preaching caution, but UCLA's fans already realize that a sixth consecutive win over Stanford could put the Bruins back in the national spotlight midway through his second season in charge of his alma mater — not that the Bruins care about such things.

"We'll squash that in the locker room," senior cornerback Alterraun Verner said. "Being UCLA, we've always got to have that chip on our shoulder and just go out there and play hard. We've showed a lot of room for improvement, so this is a great chance to iron a lot of that out."

UCLA's defense shows early signs of being formidable, allowing just one touchdown and 11 total points after the first quarters of all three games. The Bruins haven't allowed more than 300 yards in a game this season, and they've already made eight interceptions while playing exceptionally well on third downs (12 of 45, 26.7 percent).

With an extra week to prepare for bruising tailback Toby Gerhart and the Stanford speed, UCLA should be fully prepared for the rematch of a game won last year by the Bruins on a last-minute touchdown pass by Kevin Craft, who's back in the starting lineup after losing his job in the offseason.

NCAA FOOTBALL

USC, Cal game loses luster

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

BERKELEY After all that went wrong for California in 2007, coach Jeff Tedford did take one valuable lesson from a season that started with so much promise only to end in bitter disappointment.

The best way to make sure one bad loss doesn't send a season spiraling out of control is to work on the players' psyche instead of devising better schemes.

"Back then, I just focused on Xs and Os," Tedford said. "They were tough losses that we had two years ago and instead of me spending time motivating the team and looking for things in the locker room that were maybe getting us down, I spent all my time trying to come up with plays and things like that. So I learned a lot as a coach that year that there's a lot more to it than just Xs and Os."

Tedford will carry that lesson into Saturday's game against No. 7 Southern California (3-1, 1-1 Pac-10), when the 24th-ranked Golden Bears (3-1, 0-1) will try to bounce back from a 42-3 loss at Oregon to get back into the conference race.

The Bears were poised to move into the top five in the AP poll with a win last week, but instead plummeted 18 spots following the most lopsided loss in Tedford's eight years in Berkeley.

As bad as defeat was, the only thing that could make it worse is allowing it to linger into this week. That's just what happened to the Bears back in 2007, when they were set to move up to No. 1 before losing 31-28 to Oregon State. Cal lost again the following week and the week after, and ended up dropping six of its final regular-season games.

"We were hanging on to those losses," running back Jahvid Best said. "Guys were still talking about it after the fact. We didn't do a good job putting those disappointing losses behind us. This team will. We put that loss behind us. We don't mention it, we don't talk about it, we just get ready for the next game."

What makes that job easier is knowing who the opponent is this week. The game against the Trojans is always the measuring stick for Cal. The Bears have won just once since Pete Carroll arrived at USC in 2001, a 34-31 triple-overtime thriller six years ago.

USC has won at least a share of the last seven Pac-10 titles, making five trips to the Rose Bowl in that span. Cal is looking for its first Rose Bowl bid since the 1958 season and needs a win this week to keep that dream viable.

"Winning the Pac-10 is not out of the picture at all, so the older guys who've been through it will talk to young guys and tell them to just forget about it," Cal quarterback Kevin Riley said. "You learn from it, you move on. That's all that you can do."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, Oct. 3
Crocodiles (NA) 1hr 38min
4:00

Double Feature
Berlin Calling (NA)1hr 40min
Short Cut to Hollywood (NA) 1hr 34min
7:30

Sunday, Oct. 4
Clara (NA) 1hr 47min
3:00

Buddenbrooks-The Decline of a Family (NA) 2hr 5min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 2min
1:15, 4;15, 7:15, 10:15

I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell (R) 1hr 45min
12:00. 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 10:30

Jennifer's Body (R) 1hr 42min
2:40, 7:30

Love Happens (PG-13) 1hr 49min
11:15 (am), 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

9 (PG-13) 1hr 19min
12:40, 5:15, 10:00

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

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
11:50 (am), 3:10, 6:15, 9:20

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) 1hr 21min
11 (am), 1:30, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

The Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:40 (am), 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15

Surrogates (PG-13) 1hr 29min
12:15, 2:45, 5;10, 7:40, 10:05

Toy Story & Toy Story 2 in 3D Double Feature (G) 2hr 49min
10:00 (am), 2:00, 6:00, 9:55

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
11:30 (am), 12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:30, 5;30, 7:00, 8:00. 9:30. 10:30

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

The Cove (PG13) 1hr 36min
11 (am)

Art & Copy (NA) 1hr 28min
11 (am)

Fallen Idol: The Yuri Gagarin Conspiracy (PG) 1hr 30min
11am

Irene in Time (PG13) 1hr 34min
11 (am)

Bright Star (PG) 2hr 14min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

The Burning Plain (R) 2hr 5min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

The Providence Effect (PG) 1hr 47min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:55

Paris (NR) 2hr 24min
1:10, 4:10, 7;10, 10:00

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

District 9 (R) 1hr 53min
1:10, 9:10

The Informant! (R) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20

Inglourious Basterds (R) 2hrs 32min
12:00, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00

Fame (PG) 1hr 47min
3:50, 6:30

Fame in Digital Projection (PG) 1hr 47min
11:40 (am), 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

Pandorum (R) 1hr 48min
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:20 (am), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

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

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ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You seem to resonate with energy and enthusiasm. You might wonder when enough is enough when dealing with a demanding boss. How you approach this person might depend on your mood. You do hold the better hand right now. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Know when to pull back and center yourself. You don't always need to take action. In fact, this might be an excellent time to pull back and rethink an issue. If you can avoid being put on the spot, all the better. Tonight: Play it low-key if possible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Your sense of well-being and understanding comes out in a big way. You might not have all the solutions, but you certainly step up to the plate. A partner could be testing your commitment. Know when to say enough. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Others look to you to take the lead. You might wonder exactly which way to go, as you are presented several different options. Others could test your boundaries and assertiveness. Know when to cut the chatter and act. Tonight: A must appearance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Take off as soon as you can. You will enjoy a change of pace and scenery. You could be amazed by what you are seeing and the perspective you gain when you let go of the tried-and-true. Communication could be heavy if you choose to answer your phone. Tonight: Let your imagination rock and roll.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Deal with others individually, and you might feel more relaxed. Different people could overwhelm you. It will take the ability to juggle different forces. A child or loved one wants more attention. Tonight: With a favorite person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You like popularity, don't you? Yet you could be overwhelmed by a family member's requests and the rest of the world knocking on your door. Think positively and worry less about the hectic pace. Tonight: So many people, so many options.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Feel free to change your plans. How you deal with others could be perfectly OK, but someone still could take offense when this person doesn't get what he or she wants. Relax and get into a favorite hobby or pastime. Tonight: Don't push.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your playful demeanor belies a very powerful, dynamic thinker. Don't lose your centering over pressure, especially pressure from finances. Weigh the pros and cons of a risk, and decide if you can sustain a loss. Tonight: So many choices.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You easily could rain on someone's parade. You might opt to work from home or take an extra day off. Unfortunately, many people need you. Most certainly, you might wish you didn't answer your phone. Tonight: Try being a recluse. It just might work!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Keep communication moving; return calls. If you have a problem, talk about it rather than feed it in silence. Though someone's initial reaction might not be what you want, you discover that it all works out. Tonight: Hang out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Be aware of the cost of a plan. You might decide not to head in a previously chosen direction. Don't get uptight with a friend or in a meeting. No one can control you if you don't want him or her to. Claim your power. Tonight: Try not to go overboard.

Happy birthday

This year, you often juggle many different people or ideas. You see value in opposing ideas. You learn the power of detaching in order to find answers. If you are single, the world is your oyster, and you certainly can apply that slogan to your love life. Still, be aware of what you want ultimately in a relationship, though some of you might enjoy just dating. If you are attached, the two of you might be very different, and you need to learn to respect your differences rather than use them to fight over. ARIES can be challenging.

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

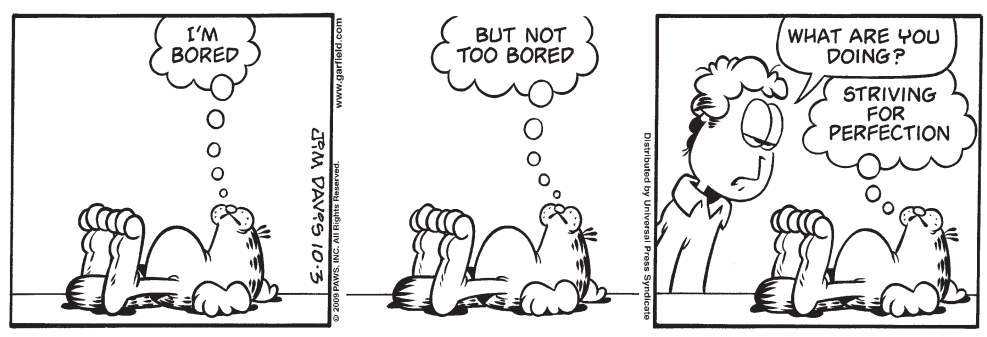
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



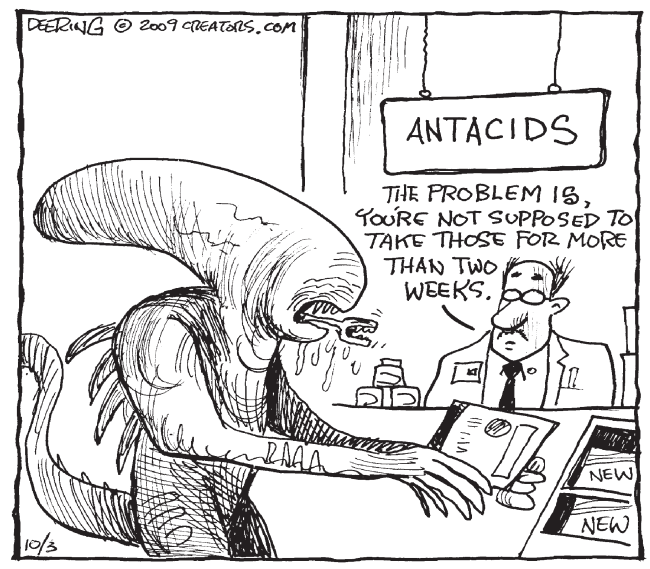
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



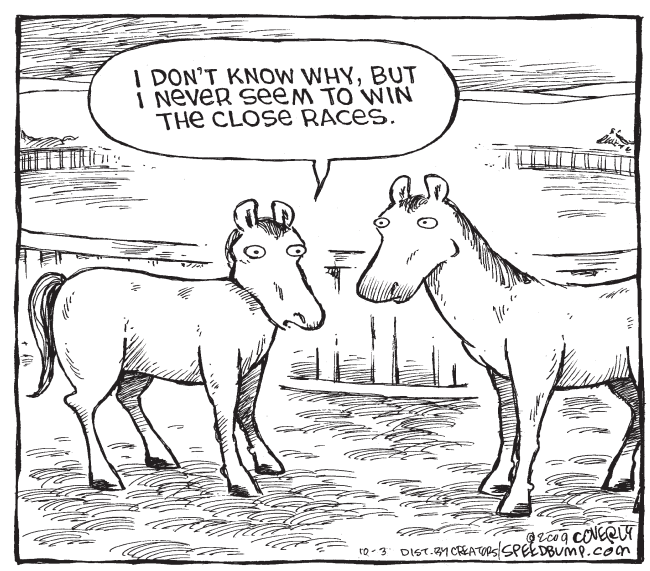
Garfield
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Speed Bump
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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Graceful birds
6 Get smart
11 Marsh bird
12 Concur
13 1836 battle site
14 Targets
15 Scatters
17 Drill need
18 Pot brew
19 Geese groups
22 Skill
23 Easter symbols
24 Casual shirts
25 Downhill ride
27 Soaked
30 Earnest
31 Cut drastically
32 Will Smith movie
33 Rank indicator
35 CSA president
38 Baltimore player
39 Operative
40 Pizzeria sights
41 Snappish
42 Frilly nightwear

DOWN

1 California's Mount —
2 Confused mass
3 Highest point in Turkey
4 Iditarod end
5 Shaken collectible
6 Fall back
7 Conceit
8 Fit for farming
9 Depends
10 High homes
16 Sea dogs
20 Travel widely
21 USO patrons
24 Snap
25 Cow chow
26 Cutlery
27 Set aside
28 Use up
29 Minute
30 Egypt's Anwar
34 Gushing review
36 Acct. addition
37 Hog home

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					■	14				
15					16	■	■	17		
18			■	19		20	21			
22			■	23						■
■	■	■	24					■	■	■
■	25	26					■	27	28	29
30							■	31		
32			■	■	33		34			
35			36	37	■	38				
39					■	40				
41					■	42				

10-3

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Meganumber: 11
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SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 4 18 20 23 39
Meganumber: 14
Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5: 9 10 15 20 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 0 8 1
EVENING: 7 2 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:44.40

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Three physicians, reporting in The Canadian Journal of Urology in July, described how they handled an emergency-room patient who arrived with a ballpoint pen in his urethra. The man, 57, had assumed that the insertion would be pleasurable, and when it wasn't, thought initially that maybe the pen was not in far enough. After pushing further, to even greater discomfort, he thought that if he pushed it all the way through, it would exit in his rectum, where he could remove it more easily. (Actually, they're not connected.) Doctors removed the pen with the same procedure used to remove kidney stones.

■ Two longtime News of the Weird ongoing sagas came to an end this summer. In August, the annual Gotmar festival in India's Madhya Pradesh state was finally banned, after "centuries" of tradition. Residents of two neighboring villages would come together once a year to bombard each other all day long with rocks (resulting in dozens of bloody injuries and, most years, deaths), but at the sundown cease-fire, both sides would bandage their wounded and celebrate with each other (only to do it all over a year later). And in July, H. Beatty Chadwick, 73, was finally released from a Pennsylvania jail after serving more than 14 years behind bars because a series of judges believed they could thereby force him to admit that he was hiding marital assets from his 1995 divorce (which he always denied). Chadwick was the longest-serving incarcerated American who had not been charged with a crime.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1863 The last Thursday in November is declared as Thanksgiving Day by President Abraham Lincoln as are Thursdays, November 30, 1865 and November 29, 1866.

1873 Captain Jack and companions are hanged for their part in the Modoc War.

1908 The Pravda newspaper is founded by Leon Trotsky, Adolph Joffe, Matvey Skobelev and other Russian exiles in Vienna.

WORD UP!

incarnadine \in-KAR-nuh-dyn\ , adjective, verb: 1. Having a fleshy pink color. 2. Red; blood-red.

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833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2350 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA near Marina. $1050/mo 1bd+den 1ba, carpet, blinds, stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking, no pets. 310-456-5659.

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. units 3 1+1 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1095/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1550.00 2bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwshr, washr/dryr, 2-car garage 12048 Culver Blvd. #202 Open daily 8am-7pm. Additional info in unit

MDR adj. $900 Large Studio, Full kitchen with stove & refrigerator, large closets, carpets, laundry, parking. Info (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m.

PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave #1 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1365/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #104 $1015 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $975 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3540 Overland unit 2 $900 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $700 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS ADJ/ LaCienga Hghts. $995.00 1 Bdrm, 1Bath, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #10 Open daily 8am-7pm . Additional info in unit

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091292401 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MY PLANET LEX, 2554 LINCOLN BLVD., #249, VENICE, CA 90291, COUNTY OF LA. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JOYCE M. SNEED, 2554 LINCOLN BLVD., #249, VENICE, CA 90291 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: JOYCE M. SNEED
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 8/21/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of

DBAS

a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 9/19/2009, 9/26/2009, 10/3/2009, 10/10/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091363676 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as HOLLYWOOD UNITED LAPL, 11630 CHAYOTE ST, #4, LOS ANGELES, CA 90049. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JAMAL THOMAS, 826 S. HOBART BLVD., #207, LOS ANGELES, CA 90005; GILBERT MONTOYA, 1857 N. WILTON PL, #401, LOS ANGELES, CA 90028 This Business is being conducted by, an unincorporated association other than a partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: JAMAL THOMAS
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 9/4/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 10/3/2009, 10/10/2009, 10/17/2009, 10/24/2009



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1209 Arizona Avenue #2
2 Bed, 2 Bath
REDUCED $899,000
Dramatic, Remodeled Penthouse
Call for Appointment



Open Sunday, 2-5 pm

2254 21st Street
3 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$1,250,000
Great Sunset Park Home
Open Sunday, October 4th 2-5 pm



123 Georgina Avenue #2
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$1,349,000
North of Montana Updated Townhouse
Call for Appointment



Open Sunday, 2-5 pm

1175 Amherst Avenue #3
2 Bed, 2.5 Bath
$649,000
Amazing Price, Wonderful Design!
Open Sunday, October 4th 2-5 pm



3247 Mountain View Avenue
3 Bed, 1 Bath
REDUCED $799,000
Wonderful Mar Vista Location!
Call for Appointment

SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY

ENSURING THAT THE PAST HAS A FUTURE

THE SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY PRESENTS "LANDMARKS OF SANTA MONICA" Bus Tour
Sunday, October 4, 2009, at 2 P.M.
Guided by architectural historian and past Conservancy president, Marcello Vavala.
Visit Santa Monica 's designated landmark structures and historic districts
Space is limited and advance reservations are required.
Tickets are $30 per person for Santa Monica Conservancy members $35 for the general public
Tickets can be purchased online at www.smconservancy.org. Checks may be mailed to Santa Monica Conservancy P.O. Box 653 , Santa Monica 90406 and must be received by Oct. 1, 2009
For more information call 310-496-3146.

Visit:

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from All Agents from All Offices Listed for Sale As of Early October 2009

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,395,000	$4,810,000
North of Montana	$3,025,000	$1,474,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,948,500	$919,000
South of Wilshire	$859,000	$624,500
Sunset Park	$1,299,000	$669,250
Ocean Park	$1,488,000	$989,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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