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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 275

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TROJANS IN FOREIGN TERRITORY
SEE PAGE 16

THE UP IN SMOKE ISSUE

Council: No smoking for new tenants

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Smoking of all kinds took a blow Tuesday night when the City Council both voted to ban smoking for new tenants of apartments and condos and, in a separate decision, approved a 45-day moratorium on any medical pot shops trying to open up in Santa Monica.

Anti-smoking advocates cheered when the council, with a 5-2 vote, finally passed a measure that would remove the right of new tenants to smoke in their homes and empower their neighbors to take them to court if they did so.

At the same time, landlords will be required to canvass existing tenants to determine whether or not they intend to smoke in their current residences.

Residents can choose to disclose their units as smoking or nonsmoking or refuse to

SEE BAN PAGE 12

Council moves to cut strings on 'House of Rock'

Design house events went too far, members say

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council took a group of business people to task Tuesday night for allegedly running an event venue in a multi-million dollar home in one of Santa Monica's most exclusive neighborhoods.

All seven members of the council approved a motion to ask the City Attorney's Office to come back with specific legislation to stop the practice, which residents say is ruining the quality of life on the street and causing an imminent danger by blocking access for emergency responders.

House of Rock, LLC., a for-profit business, has been hosting large-scale events at a landmarked home on La Mesa Drive that used to belong to songstress and actress Kathryn Grayson as part of a self-described "crafty" marketing scheme meant to sell the property by the end of the year.

The house, also called the House of Rock, is a design home, meaning that different designers were tapped to decorate rooms in the house. This time, the theme was music. Each room has a microphone panel to capture sound and a professional sound studio is located in the upper story.

The business has already hosted two events, both benefiting charities, in an attempt to raise money for good causes and bring publicity to facilitate a quick sale, said

SEE HOUSE PAGE 11



DITCHING THE CAR

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Students, city employees and parents walk to work and school along California Avenue on Wednesday during Bike It! Walk It! Day.

Unemployment falls in nearly 90 percent of U.S. cities

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON Unemployment rates fell in August in nearly 90 percent of large U.S. metro areas, mainly because more people gave up looking for work.

The Labor Department said Wednesday that unemployment rates dropped in 329 large cities, the most in four months. Rates rose in 24 cities and were unchanged in 19.

The decline in rates across America's cities was largely for a bad reason: The government only counts people as unemployed if they are actively looking for work.

The trend closely matched the national figures. The U.S. unemployment rate fell in August to 8.1 percent from 8.3 percent, also because more people stopped searching for jobs and weren't counted.

The metro data are more volatile than the national figures because they aren't adjusted for seasonal factors, such as summer hiring.

The four cities with the biggest drops in unemployment were all in Mississippi,

SEE JOBS PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2012

Welcoming an artist
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
The city's Cultural Affairs Division will host an opening reception for Julia Morgan 2012: Contemporary Women Architects in Los Angeles — a new exhibition created as part of the Julia Morgan 2012 Festival, a statewide pilot project of Landmarks California which focuses on her life and work. Cost: free. For more information, visit annenbergbeachhouse.com.

Arizona on his mind
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave., 7:30 p.m.
Pico Youth & Family Center presents Jeff Bigger's "Welcome to Arizona," his take on the complex history of American immigration conflicts. The one-man show is based on his book, "State Out of the Union: Arizona and the Final Showdown Over the American Dream." For more information, visit www.jeffbiggers.com.

Friday, Oct. 5, 2012

Boom Boom in words
Barnes and Noble
1201 Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m.
Author Mark Kriegel will be on hand to sign copies of "The Good Son: The Life of Ray 'Boom Boom' Mancini." Mancini, who once claimed the title of boxing world champion, will also be in attendance.

Under the lights
Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
St. Monica football will host Santa Fe League rival St. Genevieve at Corsair Field. St. Monica enters the game 4-2 overall and 1-0 in league.

Who likes the Beatles?
Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
The Samohi Symphony presents its tribute to the Beatles with a night of takes on classic hits. The event is rounded out by an audience sing-along and a performance by rock band FKB. The performance will be held at Barnum Hall. Cost: $20; $10 for students. For more information, call (310) 739-3907.

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

Beer, please
18th Street Arts Center
1639 18th St., 1 p.m. — 6 p.m.
The BAM Fest returns with plenty of quality beer, live music and art. There will be 30-plus breweries participating. The event is not just about beer, it's an opportunity to raise the profile of the 18th Street Arts Center, which bills itself as an artists' residency program that provokes public dialogue through contemporary art-making. For more information, visit 18thstreet.org.

Making mandalas
Santa Monica/Westside YWCA
2019 14th St., 6:30 p.m.
In this two-hour workshop, learn the art of creating your personal, freestyle mandala using colored pencils, collage and crayons. Mandalas have been used throughout history and in many cultures as a vehicle to promote meditation, healing, self-awareness and to tap into the unconscious. Art experience not required. Supplies will be provided. For more information, call (310) 452-3881.

Singing about Chuck E's love
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Rickie Lee Jones first shot to fame in the late 1970s with the hit "Chuck E's In Love." Since, she's spanned genres and styles while always remaining true to her songwriting roots. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

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

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

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



Holiday sales seen rising 4.1 percent in 2012

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK Americans are expected to spend more during what's traditionally the busiest shopping season of the year, but they're not exactly ready to shop 'til they drop like they have been in the past two years.

The National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group, said Tuesday that it expects sales during the winter holiday shopping period in November and December to rise 4.1 percent this year. That's more than a percentage point lower than the growth in each of the past two years, and the smallest increase since 2009 when sales were up just 0.3 percent.

The projections are an important indicator for retailers that depend on the last two months of the year for up to 40 percent of their annual sales. But the estimates also offer valuable insight for economists who closely watch consumer spending, which accounts for up to 70 percent of economic activity.

The holiday shopping season is one gauge of not only the shopping habits, but also the mindset of the average American during what has turned out to be a slow and uneven economic recovery. Right now, people are feeling better about rising home prices and a rebounding stock market, but job growth is still weak and prices for everything from food to gas are higher.

"In all the years, this is the most challenging year doing a forecast," said Matthew Shay, president and CEO of the National Retail Federation, based in Washington, D.C. "There are so many uncertainties."

No one's feeling those uncertainties more than U.S. shoppers. Darlene Johnson of Silver Spring, Md., says her outlook has improved in the last few months. The value of her 401(k) retirement plan has risen. Home sales where she lives are up again, and her neighbors are getting higher prices for their houses.

Still, Johnson, who's been grappling with higher food and gas prices, says the economy is still not stable enough for her to splurge during this holiday shopping season.

Last year, she overindulged and spent about $5,000. It took until this past May to pay down her credit card debt. As a result, this year, she plans to cut her holiday spend-

SEE SALES PAGE 10



Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

HEADED DOWNFIELD: **Santa Monica wide receiver Sebastian LaRue runs past a Hart defender last Friday during a loss.**

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Samohi expects an athletic Morningside in league opener

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

INGLEWOOD, Calif. Morningside football can be tricky.

Number swaps, position platoons and plenty of athleticism are just a few things Santa Monica (2-3 overall) has to deal with as they open Ocean League play at Morningside on Friday.

"I don't trust what I see," Samohi head coach Travis Clark said. "They like to make things difficult to figure out."

Besides who plays where and what number they have on their backs, Clark said that athleticism is what stands out after watching a couple of games worth of film.

On offense, Morningside likes to stretch the field with two different quarterbacks taking snaps. On defense, they are a ball-hawking group that tries to make plays while a pass is in the air.

As Samohi tries to snap a three-game losing streak and start league play off on a good foot they have some homework to do.

Clark said that he wants to see his squad play with more physicality, something that was lacking during the skid. Facing the likes of Mater Dei, Hart and Valencia and their massive interior linemen tends to do that to a team.

Not to underestimate Morningside (3-2 overall), but they don't pose the same physical challenge that the past three weeks have presented, Clark said.

Still, Clark doesn't want his Vikings to take the Monarchs for granted.

Senior wide receiver Sebastian LaRue hopes Friday gives Samohi the opportunity to return to the explosive offense that routed Redondo Union and Palisades to begin the season.

"They look athletic and fast," LaRue said, seconding his coach's thought. "But, some of the play is kind of sloppy. If we play down to their level it could be anybody's game."

The league opener couldn't have come any sooner for the slumping Vikings. Team morale remains high, but Clark knows that another loss certainly wouldn't help their cause to repeat as league champs.

"I try to stay positive, that's what I do," Clark said. "But we need to get back to the things we were doing early in the season."

Getting back in the win column will be a matter of bottling up Morningside's combo at quarterback. Both four-year varsity player Gregory Adams and Justin Lewis get what appears to be equal time under center — and both can pass.

Clark knows what to expect from Adams, but Lewis is another story. He noticed his arm strength first, but only the game can reveal what he's capable of against Samohi's defense, which has given up big numbers the past three games.

"They are dangerous," Clark said. "And they're motivated."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Welcome to the nanny state

Editor:

Congratulations, Santa Monicans! You are officially a member of a city, largely thought to be one of the last bastions of free love and socialist living, that has decided to dictate whether you can use a legal substance in the privacy of your own home! Wow. Fun. Not only that, the city will now have landlords survey tenants to find out who's being naughty or nice. Those surveys will be logged with the city. Ah, freedom. You smell slightly of cigarettes and desperation.

What the heck, City Council? What is wrong with you? You authorize the construction of ticky-tacky apartment buildings up and down our narrow streets (26th Street and Broadway, I have no words for how ugly that building is), but decide, hey, yeah, let's put smokers of a legal substance on a "list." Maybe next you could make all smokers wear a cute little badge so the rest of us know who they are and what they do.

Tobacco is a legal substance. If someone is living next to a person who smokes two or three or four packs a day (and who does that anymore at $5 a pack?), then, OK, there may be a problem, a problem resolved by means other than punishing every smoker in the city. Further, to legislate against smokers who live in apartments or multi-family dwellings, but not against single-family home dwellers, is discriminatory.

I am ashamed, Santa Monica, that I live in this city that used to be so fair and fun, full of moderate, caring citizens, and a City Council that had some semblance of sanity.

I am not a smoker. I don't care if my neighbor smokes. I invested in a $60 air purifier because of my allergies (I do so love the Santa Ana winds) and would gladly buy one for each room of my home before I would deign to tell my neighbor that he/she no longer has the right to privacy in their home and to consume a legal substance. In that case, can I dictate whether someone drinks in their home when they sometimes get into a fight with their spouse, starts breaking things, and yells at the refrigerator? How about the person who starts and runs his/her car outside my window, exhaust wafting in like the scent of night-blooming jasmine? Or the guy who uses a little too much cologne and passes by my bedroom window, causing me to sneeze for 15 minutes? Alcohol, cigarettes, cars and cologne, all legal substances, all occasionally annoying and none of which I should be able to legislate to my own benefit.

This has gone too far. Santa Monica City Council, you should be ashamed. If any smokers out there want to sue the city, I would support you!

By the way, the mural on Broadway at about 17th Street near a pre-school, who approved that piece of artistic vomit? Sure, approve that, but dictate what we citizens do in our own homes. Sheesh, you are an embarrassment.

Stacy Westly
Santa Monica





Life Matters

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

Coming clean on HCV

DEAR LIFE MATTERS,

The woman I am engaged to was just told by her doctor that she has hepatitis C (HCV). We are both confused and scared. We don't know what it means or if it is the same or similar to HIV?

Do you know anything about this? Even if you don't know much about it, can you help us deal with what this means for our lives and how to handle our feelings and the tension we now both feel?

We started to look it up online and really got scared so we are hoping you can shed some light. We often read your column and are hoping you will pick our question.

Signed,
Very Troubled

DEAR VERY TROUBLED,

I actually do know something about this because I am certified in the treatment of substance abuse, but also licensed psychologists have to be somewhat on top of these types of things because they affect mental health.

Obviously, a diagnosis such as this can be deeply troubling and cause concern and tension in your relationship if you don't know what it means or perhaps more importantly, how she got it.

First off, please do not go searching the Internet. While it does have good information, it is also full of misinformation and horror stories that most often are not true.

The best place to get your information is through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the National Institute of Health. But better yet, see a good physician that specializes in this.

Hepatitis C is actually affecting more people worldwide than HIV. Approximately 3.2 million people are chronically infected, according to the CDC.

HIV is the virus that can lead to AIDS. While there is still a significant problem with HIV in the age group of 18-24, and more so among minorities that are not educated on the subject, it is not as widespread as HCV that does not lead to AIDS. It is a different virus altogether, one that only affects the liver, but can be deadly.

The frightening reality is that many people have been infected with the hepatitis C virus and don't even know it. Unless you are tested for it or get really sick, you may not know until it becomes a real problem. That is because there are no symptoms until you actually get sick from it.

However, the virus does not make everyone sick. Many never get sick, but of those that do, it is frequently a function of their own unhealthy behavior.

Anything that is damaging to the liver, such as alcohol or drug abuse, increases the odds of getting sick from the virus if you have it. Even marijuana use, which most people think is benign, builds up fat cells in the liver, which helps carry and perpetuate the virus.

You should definitely check your health behaviors and do what is best to keep the virus from multiplying.

Also, this is not a death sentence. Even for those who are seriously ill, there are many good treatments. You don't necessarily need treatment, but if caught early, you can rid yourself of the virus altogether.

Even better, there are newer drugs with fewer side effects coming on the market late this year or early in 2013.

So now, you are worrying about how did she get it and what does this mean for your relationship? I don't know your age and don't want to assume, so I will just give you the history and basics.

It was and still can be transferred through blood transfusions. However, the United States some 20 years ago started provisions to protect against this form of contagion.

You can only get HCV through blood-to-blood contact so sexual transmission is possible, but not likely. Some folks prefer safe sex to avoid the possibility. You are actually more likely to get it through a shared razor or toothbrush or from unsanitary manicure or tattoo equipment. Always use your own manicure equipment and if you want a tattoo, be very careful about the artist you choose.

Having said that, the most likely way of contacting HCV is through drug use. Shared needles or shared straws from bloody noses are a major cause of transmission.

Some people simply do not know and may never know how they got it.

You and your fiancée know if any of these apply and this can help you figure out the how of it. But going forward, be careful with the things I have mentioned above. And see a specialist as soon as possible.

Unfortunately it can be transferred to a fetus so it may compromise having children. But before you go there, see if it is early enough to eradicate with the treatments that are out there or coming soon.

I know it is not good news, but it doesn't have to be the worst news in the world either.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage/family therapist. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or e-mail your anonymous questions to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters, because it does!





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Brown's TV ads for tax initiative misstate facts

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown began airing five new television commercials for his November tax proposal Wednesday, some of which misstate how the billions of dollars Proposition 30 would raise through higher sales and income taxes could be spent.

Typical of the commercials is this statement from one of them: "Money must go to the classroom and can't be touched by Sacramento politicians." While some of the money raised by Brown's Proposition 30 would go to public schools, which account for more than half the state's general fund, the statement is misleading and contradicts comments the governor himself has made.

In its review of the ballot initiative, the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office said the money would help balance the state budget and says "future actions of the legislature and the governor would determine the use of these funds."

Proposition 30 would raise billions of dollars a year for state programs and prevent nearly $6 billion in cuts to public schools and colleges in the current budget year if voters approve it. While much of the new revenue falls under California's minimum school-funding guarantee, which it set by law, the initiative also would free up billions of dollars for the state's general fund budget, where politicians in the Legislature could spend it on public safety, health care and a variety of other programs.

Supporters said the constitutional guarantee in Proposition 30 ensures that schools will get the funds they are supposed to after billions of dollars were diverted or postponed in recent years because of budget deficits.

The claim in the TV commercials mirrors the claim made for months by a rival tax proposal on the November ballot, Proposition 38, which would raise income taxes on a sliding scale on nearly all Californians. Proposition 38 would send money directly to school districts on a per-student basis, bypassing the Legislature.

That idea has proved popular with voters. Brown adopts the same message in his new TV ads for his own initiative.

"All of the information in the ad is correct except for the proposition number, which should be 38, not 30," said Nathan Ballard, a spokesman for the Proposition 38 campaign. "It boggles the mind that they would try to make this claim. Their tax revenue does what it does, which is go into the general fund."

Three of the five ads Brown's campaign began airing Wednesday make the claim that politicians can't touch the money. None of the ads fully explain how the money would be raised through Brown's initiative.

In the two commercials in which the Democratic governor is seen pitching the proposal, Brown says Proposition 30 "asks the highest income earners to pay a little bit more to keep our economy strong."

None of the ads mentions that the statewide sales tax would be raised by a quarter cent for four years and specifically says that income taxes for people who make more than $250,000 a year would be raised for seven years.

Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, which is opposing Proposition 30, called the ads a sign of desperation by the governor. Recent public opinion surveys show his initiative with support of just half of California's likely voters.

"It's absolutely false. It's the Sacramento politicians who establish the budget. They put in these trigger cuts and they could take them out tomorrow," Coupal said, referring to the $6 billion in cuts to public schools and colleges approved by the state Legislature if Brown's tax initiative fails in November.

State Controller John Chiang, who appears in one of the ads, said that Proposition 30 does guarantee schools get the money they are due in California's state budget, although he conceded that it frees up billions of dollars that could be spent at politicians' discretion. The money would go into a special account, with 11 percent for colleges and 89 percent for kindergarten-12th grade schools.

"Those revenues go into a protected account, and it's protected, it has to go to education. That has not happened in the past," Chiang said. "Sacramento politicians have touched the money that was supposed to be directed to education."

When Brown and the Democratic legislative leaders jointly announced the tax initiative in March, they described a wide array of benefits if voters approved it. Their news release at the time said the "initiative is designed to balance the state budget, prevent further cuts to education, provide a progressive tax structure and provide constitutional protections of public safety realignment funding."

The Q Line

Running together

A trio of Malibu residents are running for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Board of Education. Interestingly, the trio are running as a slate instead of operating as individual candidates.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think this is an effective strategy or do they dilute the vote by running somewhat together?

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

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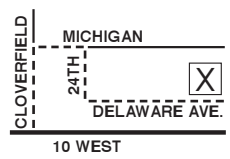


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STATE BRIEFS

INGLEWOOD

State takes over school district

California has taken over the Inglewood Unified School District after agreeing to a $55 million bailout for the nearly bankrupt system.

The state schools chief on Wednesday appointed Inglewood High School graduate Kent Taylor as administrator of the Los Angeles-area district.

Taylor currently is superintendent of the Southern Kern Unified School District. He'll oversee day-to-day operations for the Inglewood district, which has about 15,000 students. The elected school board will have an advisory role.

Inglewood was taken over by the state last month after Gov. Jerry Brown approved up to $55 million in emergency loans to keep it afloat. The loans must be repaid within 20 years.

The district had warned it could be broke by December. It blamed enrollment and state funding declines, along with poor financial decisions.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Woman charged in husband's death gives DNA sample

A nationally known professional tennis referee charged with the coffee-cup killing of her husband gave police a DNA sample Wednesday after dropping her opposition to the procedure.

Lois Ann Goodman, 70, who is charged with beating her husband to death with the cup last April, was accompanied by about 25 supporters, including friends and relatives, when she appeared briefly in court for a pretrial hearing.

A judge scheduled Goodman's next hearing for Nov. 8.

In the meantime, defense attorneys say they have a huge amount of evidence and court documents provided by prosecutors to review before a trial is scheduled.

Goodman was arrested in August just before she was to referee at match at the U.S. Open.

Her attorneys say her 80-year-old husband was the victim of a freak accident.

Authorities initially believed Alan Goodman fell down stairs at home while she was away but later decided it was homicide. Prosecutors now believe he was struck 10 times on the head and stabbed with the broken cup.

The couple were married nearly 50 years and have three grown children.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Mentally ill woman shot by LAPD awarded $3.2M

A federal jury has awarded $3.2 million to a mentally ill woman who sued after Los Angeles police shot her and shocked her with a Taser.

The Los Angeles Times says jurors last Friday found that officers were negligent, malicious and used excessive force in their confrontation with Valerie Allen.

Her attorneys say Allen is bipolar and was in a manic episode when she grabbed a wooden stake and knocked down an officer who confronted the incoherent woman in September of 2009.

Other officers shot her three times and shocked her with a stun gun.

Allen was charged with assault with a deadly weapon but the charge was dropped.

Police Chief Charlie Beck says he stands by the officers and a department review concluded they acted reasonably.

AP

LOS ANGELES

No Doubt settles lawsuit over 'Band Hero' video game

No Doubt has settled its lawsuit against gaming giant Activision over the use of the band's likenesses in the videogame "Band Hero."

Court records show the Grammy-winning band reached a settlement Monday. The band sued over a feature in the game that allowed players to perform other artists' songs using the likenesses of frontwoman Gwen Stefani and other band members.

Activision Publishing Inc. had denied all wrongdoing. A judge ruled earlier this year that No Doubt could argue fraud, violation of publicity rights and breach of contract claims at a trial scheduled Oct. 15.

The band's 2009 lawsuit claimed the game turned it "into a virtual karaoke circus act."

The band's attorney, Bert Deixler, declined comment and an attorney for Activision did not return a phone message.

AP

BURBANK

Pilot's body found on freeway off-ramp

The body of an Alaska Airlines pilot has been found on a Southern California freeway off-ramp.

The Los Angeles County coroner's office says 55-year-old Clifford Morris of Richland, Wash., was found Tuesday night in Burbank. A cause of death hasn't been determined.

KNBC-TV says the body appeared to have been dumped near the Scott Road off-ramp of Interstate 5 near Bob Hope Airport.

Burbank police officers responding to a man-down call just before 6 p.m. found the body.

Police say it is being investigated as a suspicious death.

AP

LANCASTER

SoCal inmate dies in Lancaster prison

An inmate has died at a Southern California desert prison.

The Los Angeles County coroner's office says 63-year-old Steven Bogue died Tuesday afternoon at the Antelope Valley State Prison in Lancaster.

City News Service says the cause of death hasn't been disclosed.

AP

RIVERSIDE

Accrediting agency OKs medical school

A national accrediting agency has approved a University of California, Riverside, plan to open a full medical school.

It will be the sixth UC medical school.

Report: Dietary supplements illegally labeled

GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Dozens of weight loss and immune system supplements on the market are illegally labeled and lack the recommended type of scientific evidence to back up their purported health claims, government investigators warn in a new review of the $20 billion supplement industry.

The report, released Wednesday by the Department of Health and Human Services' inspector general, found that 20 percent of the 127 weight loss and immune-boosting supplements investigators purchased online and in retail stores across the country carried labels that made illegal claims to cure or treat disease.

In addition, many of those and other supplements lacked the scientific studies recommended to support their suggested uses.

Some products went so far as to state that the supplements could cure or prevent diabetes or cancer, or that they could help treat people with HIV or AIDS, which is strictly prohibited under federal law.

Consumers may not just be wasting their money on pills or tablets, but they could be endangering their health if they take a supplement in place of a drug thinking it will have the same effect, the report concluded.

"Consumers rely on a supplement's claims to determine whether the product will provide a desired effect, such as weight loss or immune support," the report said. "Supplements that make disease claims could mislead consumers into using them as replacements for prescription drugs or other treatments for medical conditions, with potentially dangerous results."

The market for dietary supplements — which can include anything from vitamin C tablets to capsules of echinacea — is a huge one with hundreds of products. The inspector general's investigation focused on one segment that officials said is booming.

Federal law doesn't require supplements to go through rigorous testing to prove they are safe or even that they work. The Food and Drug Administration can act only after consumers get sick or a safety issue comes to light.

The Office of Inspector General found that in numerous cases, when companies did submit evidence to back up their health claims, it fell far short of government recommendations.

One company submitted a 30-year-old handwritten college term paper to substantiate its claim, while others included news releases, advertisements and links to Wikipedia or an online dictionary, according to the report.

Overall, the review raises questions about whether the system is allowing companies to mislead consumers, investigators said, and recommended that FDA ramp up its oversight. The report did not name individual brands or products, and also did not estimate the total number of dietary supplements on the market.

In response, the food safety agency said in written comments it would consider asking Congress for more oversight powers to review supplement companies' evidence proving their products' purported health benefits. FDA agreed that the agency should expand surveillance of the market to detect spurious claims that supplements can cure or treat specific diseases.

FDA recognizes the importance of the concerns raised about industry compliance and will address the recommendations as its resources and priorities allow, FDA spokeswoman Tamara Ward said in a statement Wednesday.

Investigators also found that 7 percent of the weight loss and immune support supplements they surveyed lacked the required disclaimer stating that FDA had not reviewed whether the statement on the label was truthful.

NY ballet star Yvonne Mounsey dies in L.A.

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Yvonne Mounsey, who danced major roles for George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins with the New York City Ballet in the 1950s and went on to found an influential West Coast ballet school, has died. She was 93.

Mounsey died of cancer on Saturday at her Los Angeles home, said her daughter, Allegra Clegg of Los Angeles.

Mounsey danced with the City Ballet from 1948 to 1958, rising from soloist to principal dancer.

She was the Dark Angel in Balanchine's "Serenade" and Siren in his 1950 revival of "Prodigal Son," which were among her favorite roles, her daughter said.

For Robbins, she originated the roles of the Queen in "The Cage," the Harp in "Fanfare" and the Wife in "The Concert."

Mounsey was born Yvonne Louise Leibbrandt in 1919 on a South African dairy farm outside of Pretoria. She began taking ballet lessons at 7 with a former member of Russian ballerina Anna Pavlova's company.

She later studied and danced in England and performed around the world with various companies, including the famed Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo.

She was with another company, the Original Ballet Russe, when Balanchine saw her in New York in 1940. He created a part for her in his 1941 "Balustrade."

She became stranded in Cuba in 1941 when the other dancers on tour went on strike and the company disbanded. She survived by becoming a successful nightclub dancer.

"She walked into one of the fanciest nightclubs ... and got a job and stayed there for a year," her daughter said. "She was so resourceful. She came from a farm, a very poor upbringing and it was like, 'OK, I'm here in Cuba and I have no resources. What do I do?' "

Mounsey also taught herself Spanish, she said.

After her New York City Ballet years, she helped co-found a ballet company in her native South Africa.

In 1966, Mounsey moved to Los Angeles and opened the Westside School of Ballet, teaching the neoclassical Balanchine technique, which has become a signature style of ballet in America. The Santa Monica school became influential and its students have included former City Ballet star Jock Soto and current company principal dancers Andrew Veyette and Tiler Peck. The school also counts Joy Womack, the first American woman to dance with the Bolshoi Ballet, among the world-class dancers it has trained.

Mounsey never turned away a student, her daughter said.

"She just had this love and passion for ballet that exuded from her," she said. "She just wanted you to enjoy dancing and enjoy that art form, because 98 percent of her students would never become professional ballet dancers."

Mounsey stressed passion and discipline in art and life, her daughter said.







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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Ben Gibbs / Ben Gibbs Photograph

MOVING: **Diavolo Dance Theater at The Broad Stage in the L.A. premiere of 'Transit Space.'**

Autumn arts blitz

THE BROAD STAGE STARTED ITS FALL season last weekend with a big bang and a loud beat. Like Cirque du Soleil in miniature, minus the contortionists and trapeze artists, Diavolo Dance Theater specializes in creating its own stage magic.

Perhaps better defined as gymnasts and athletes, the dancers whirl, twirl, swoop, swirl, show off B-boy street dance moves, spinning on their heads and hands to high-speed original music.

On sets inspired by skateboard ramps and a giant balancing half-barrel (representing a boat), they run up, crawl over, jump on and over, dangle from, leap at and catch one another from great heights and distances.

Diavolo's roots are local, and the artists' energy was matched by the enthusiastic roar of a cheering audience.

Highlights of The Broad Stage's upcoming theater season include the return of Shakespeare's Globe Theater with "Hamlet" Nov. 15-25; and the West Coast premiere of "Freud's Last Session," with Judd Hirsch as Sigmund Freud and Tom Cavanagh as C.S. Lewis. The father of psychiatry and the Oxford professor and theologian clash over the existence of God, love, sex and the meaning of life; Jan. 16-Feb. 10.

This Saturday, singer-songwriter and eight-time Grammy-Award winner Rickie Lee Jones performs. Her newest album "The Devil You Know" celebrates songs by others with unique takes on classic tunes by The Rolling Stones, Neil Young and Rod Stewart, among others.

Later this month veteran stage, screen and TV actor Hal Holbrook offers his one-man hit show, "Mark Twain Tonight," channeling the American literary master on Oct. 13, while "new journalism" rock star Tom Wolfe engages in a conversation with screenwriter Howard Rodman on Oct. 29 about his seven decade-long career as author of "The Right Stuff" and "Bonfire of the Vanities." They're celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Library Foundation of Los Angeles.

Experience the incomparable virtuoso piano stylings of Richard Goode, who offers crowd pleasing classical and romantic music by Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven on Oct. 30. And if it's jazz you love, you could be "Steppin' Out with Ben Vereen" on Oct. 19, a one-man show spanning the show-biz icon's 40-year career.

There's much more this month and all year long; visit thebroadstage.com for details, dates and reservations.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU

While watching late night TV, playwright Lynn Nottage came across a 1930s film called "Babyface" featuring a young African-American actress named Theresa Harris. This discovery set her on a path to discover a generation of African-American film actors who, as Nottage says "plied their trade in relative obscurity … relegated to the margins of the frame."

Nottage has put a fictionalized version of one of these actors on-stage in the West Coast premiere of "By the Way, Meet Vera Stark" at Geffen Playhouse. I can't remember a recent play whose actors have so wowed me — and the crowd.

Sanaa Lathan is maid Vera Stark, who's angling for a role in a film called "The Belle of New Orleans," in which her neurotic boss, aging (and drunken) screen star Gloria Mitchell (Amanda Detmer) will star. It launches Vera on a career that does not end well.

All the actors are outstanding, including Kimberly Hébert Gregory, and Merle Dandridge, who play dual roles. This isn't a musical, but the ladies display powerful singing voices in the context of their characters.

The first act is all 1930s Hollywood glamor, glitz and bombast with studio heads, directors, actors and "the help" engaged in farcical comedic action. In contrast, there are very different scenes between the witty trio of aspiring black actresses, each trying to find her own way, by hook or crook, into the industry.

The second act is a satirical take on the

SEE **WATCH** PAGE 9

Bond movies still beating the odds

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES Over the last 50 years, the owners of the James Bond movie franchise have had heart-stopping crises as thrilling as the ones that face their fictional secret agent.

They've nearly gone bust more than once and have come close to losing all of their rights in court.

But the franchise has survived and thrived under the family of late producer Albert R. "Cubby" Broccoli, whose name has graced every official Bond intro since "Dr. No" in 1962.

The son of Italian immigrants was a risk-taker, and his earlier ventures included farming the vegetable bearing the Broccoli name that his uncle brought to America. After years of hustling his way into Hollywood, Broccoli fought for the movie rights to the Ian Fleming novels and passed his faith in the British spy tales to his children.

"Cubby used to say, 'This is the goose that laid the golden egg, keep it safe,' " said Broccoli's youngest daughter, Barbara, now the series' co-producer, in a phone interview from London. "One of the things he said was we're temporary people making permanent decisions. When you have a franchise, and you're invested in it as emotionally as we are, you make decisions based on the health of the franchise going forward."

For five decades, the Broccoli family has held on to its 50 percent stake in the "007" movies, while studio partner Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. owns the other half. The series is one of the longest running in history, having made $4.9 billion in ticket sales over 22 films. The 23rd Bond movie, "Skyfall," is set to premiere Oct. 23 in London.

It's not like the formula for action, sex and intrigue has always worked perfectly. Some films fell flat, like "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," George Lazenby's infamous one-Bond wonder.

The franchise has occasionally needed new blood to keep it fresh, and there have been six Bonds so far.

For "Skyfall," the family is making another noticeable change: it cast 31-year-old Ben Whishaw as Bond's gadget guru, Q. The last two movies did without the longtime sidekick, who had been played by the late Desmond Llewelyn in an epic 16 Bond films.

"The decision was made to make him a younger man, as would be the case these days," said Wilson by phone. "Let's hope he goes on as long as Desmond Llewelyn did."

It may seem a minor casting decision, but nothing is taken lightly by the family that has stuck with Bond this long. Their tribulations are brought to life in the documentary, "Everything Or Nothing," which debuts Friday on EPIX.

In one incident from the 1970s, the film explains, Broccoli's Canadian co-producer, Harry Saltzman, had squandered his Bond fortune on outside investments. Instead of turning to his partner for help, Saltzman pledged their production partnership Danjaq as collateral on nearly $20 million in personal loans from Swiss bank UBS.

Broccoli enlisted his stepson, Wilson, a practicing lawyer, to prevent the production company from being foreclosed on by the bank. Wilson argued Saltzman couldn't pledge 100 percent of the production entity without consulting his partner. In the end, the Saltzman-Broccoli partnership broke up. Saltzman bitterly sold his stake to United Artists, now a subsidiary of MGM, and was left penniless. Bond narrowly escaped unscathed.

In another segment, the family faces off against real-life nemesis Kevin McClory, an Irishman whose early script work with Fleming allowed him to win the movie rights to "Thunderball."

The rights form the basis for "Never Say Never Again," a 1983 remake. The film brought leading man Sean Connery back as Bond after a 12-year hiatus, and was a way for Connery to snub the producers that he felt had shortchanged him.

That year, Connery's Bond and Roger Moore's Bond in "Octopussy" hit theaters just months apart, though "Octopussy" won the box office battle. Due to the bitter rivalry, "Never Say Never Again" isn't included in Danjaq's count of 23 Bond flicks.

WATCH
FROM PAGE 8

kinds of academic panel discussions that follow film screenings these days, focusing on the cult status of "The Belle of New Orleans," and Vera's role in the context of black and feminist cultural history. Included as part of this discussion are film clips from "Belle" and faux TV footage of Vera's embarrassing interview on a 1973 TV talk show on the eve of her short-lived comeback in Las Vegas. The footage is interspersed with a live version of the interview, cutting back and forth to the panel discussion.

The structure is clever, the acting beyond compare, but I admit the play lagged a bit for me; it could easily be edited and made sharper. But this is one play you do not want to miss. It's both hilariously funny and smart social commentary.

"By the Way, Meet Vera Stark" is on-stage at the Geffen Playhouse through Oct. 28. www.geffenplayhouse.com/

ON THE WALLS

The second annual Art Platform contemporary art fair took off at Santa Monica Airport's Barker Hangar last Thursday through Sunday. When you're viewing such a quantity of art all at once, your eyes can glaze over, especially when there's so much repetitive and derivative work, like the whole trend toward apocalyptic end-of-the-world visions, and at the other extreme — infantilized sinister cartoon art that I call "blobular."

Then there's the stuff that draws your eyes like a magnet. I found it in the ceramic work of David Hicks, whose gigantic clay wall hangings are tactile, earthy and gravity-defying. An L.A.-born artist, he's represented by Mindy Solomon Gallery in St. Petersburg, Fla.

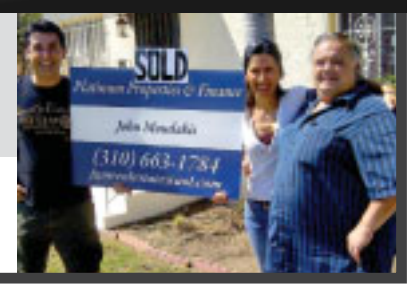
I loved the kinetic artworks by GRAV (Groupe de Recherche d'Art Visuel), originating in Latin America in the 1960s, featuring joyous, colorful and explosive expressions, especially in the art of Julio Le Parc and the recently-deceased Horacio Garcia-Rossi. Based in Italy, this cultural association has a Westwood outpost; view the art online at www.art1307.us/

David Hockney, known as the painter of California's light, is a master of drawing and his exquisite line portrait of close friend Celia Birtwell from the 1970s drew me into Leslie Sacks Fine Arts Gallery in Brentwood. On view now at the gallery is the work of artist Minjung Kim, whose intricately patterned and connected constructions are graceful and thought provoking. Visit in person or online at www.lesliesacks.com/artists/minjung-kim-1.

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

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Scott LaFleur, Director of Horticulture, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Sun., Oct. 7, 11 a.m. "Lush Landscapes,"
Richard Hayden, Principal Landscape Designer, Hayden Landscape Design

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SALES
FROM PAGE 3

ing to $1,500.

"I felt too much pressure financially," said Johnson, who works for the National Institutes of Health, a government agency that's a conglomerate of research centers. "I am not going to do it to myself again."

It's Americans' worries about the economic uncertainty that led the National Retail Federation to predict slower growth during the winter holiday shopping season than the increase of 5.6 percent and 5.5 percent in 2010 and 2011, respectively.

Still, the forecast is higher than the average growth of 3.5 percent for November and December over the past 10 years. And it continues a growth trend that began after holiday sales fell 4.4 percent in 2008 during the middle of the recession. (The federation for the first time is counting online sales and sales from the auto parts and accessories business. It has revised every year's holiday figures from 2000 to reflect the change.)

The federation's forecast also is still more optimistic than the International Council of Shopping Centers, a mall trade group that last week said it predicts a 2.9 percent increase. It's also higher than the 3.3 percent growth estimated by ShopperTrak, a Chicago-based analyzer of retail foot traffic, last month.

The forecasts come as retailers wrap up what's expected to be a strong back-to-school shopping season. There have been no official numbers out on sales for that shopping period, which is typically the second biggest shopping season of the year and a barometer for what people are willing to spend during the winter holidays. But Ken Perkins, president of RetailMetrics LLC, said he expects revenue at stores opened at least a year to be up 5 percent for the combined August and September months.

But predicting holiday spending is never easy. Take last year's holiday period. Overall sales were strong, but sales don't tell the whole story: Retailers' profits were eroded because they had to do a lot of discounting to get shoppers to spend, particularly during the final weeks before Christmas.

And all the economic variables that will likely have an impact on this year's shopping season make predicting sales that much more difficult. Among them, the worry that the U.S. economy will fall into another recession next year. That's when tax increases and deep government spending cuts will take effect unless Congress reaches a budget deal.

Retailers and economists are hoping history doesn't repeat itself. The last time there was such a budget battle, in August 2011, it ended with the country losing its top credit rating, nervous investors fleeing the stock market, and shoppers taking a break from buying.

Still, Americans are more optimistic than they have been in a long time. Consumers' confidence rose to a seven-month high in September even as the unemployment rate has been stuck at around 8 percent, according to the Conference Board. Gallup Poll, which tracks consumer confidence daily, also registered a pickup in confidence last month to the highest level since May. The upcoming presidential election seems to be having an impact on how shoppers' view the economy, economists say.

Adding to that, Americans have seen their stock portfolios grow as The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index has surged more than 15 percent this year. And national home prices were up in July 1.2 percent compared to the same month last year, according to the Standard & Poor's/Case Shiller index released last week. That's the second straight year-over-year gain after two years without one.

Still, some economists question whether the higher level of confidence among Americans is sustainable. Confidence has been bouncing around since the recession and the current level is still well below what's considered healthy. Moreover, the spike in confidence has yet to translate into a surge in spending.

"You have to be confident to spend, but because you're confident doesn't necessarily mean you'll spend," said Dennis Jacobe, chief economist at Gallup Poll.

For their part, retailers already are being cautious. John Challenger, CEO of Challenger, Gray & Christmas, says retailers are expected to increase holiday hiring by 6 percent to about 700,000 for the October through December period compared with a year ago, when that figure was 660,200. That's well above the 324,900 hired during the financial meltdown in 2008, but still below the 746,800 level in pre-recession 2006, and well under the nearly 850,000 seasonal workers hired during the height of the dot.com boom in 1999. NRF predicts merchants will hire between 585,000 and 625,000 seasonal workers for the holidays. That's in line with last year's 607,000, according to the trade group's measure.

And they're already starting to offer enticements to lure holiday shoppers. Kmart, a division of Sears Holdings Corp., Toys R Us and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. have announced last month they're either lowering or waiving the upfront services fees for their interest-free pay-over-time program. All three said the moves were in response to complaints from shoppers.

JOBS
FROM PAGE 1

where the work force shrunk by 1.8 percent to 1.3 million. In Hattiesburg, the unemployment rate dropped to 7.3 percent from 9 percent. In Jackson, it fell to 6.7 percent from 8.2 percent. Pascagoula and Gulfport-Biloxi reported the next biggest declines. Yet the state barely added jobs in August.

The two cities with the biggest increases were in Washington state: Yakima's rate jumped to 10 percent from 8.2 percent, and Wenatchee's rose to 7.2 percent from 5.7 percent. Both are centers of apple production and their rates can be volatile during the harvest season.

In Denver, where President Barack Obama and GOP challenger Mitt Romney are set to debate Wednesday night, the unemployment rate fell half a percentage point to 7.7 percent. Unemployment also dropped in Las Vegas, where Obama has been preparing for the debate, although it was still painfully high at 12.3 percent. Nevada has the nation's highest unemployment rate of 12.1 percent.

There were some signs of progress in the report. The unemployment rate is below 7 percent in 123 metro areas, up from 73 a year ago. And the rate tops 10 percent in only 54 areas, about half the number compared with a year ago.

The lowest unemployment rate was in Bismarck, N.D., where it was 2.6 percent. North Dakota has benefited from a boom in oil and gas drilling.

The highest rate was in El Centro, Calif. and Yuma, Ariz. which both reported rates of 29.9 percent. Both cities have large numbers of migrant farm workers.

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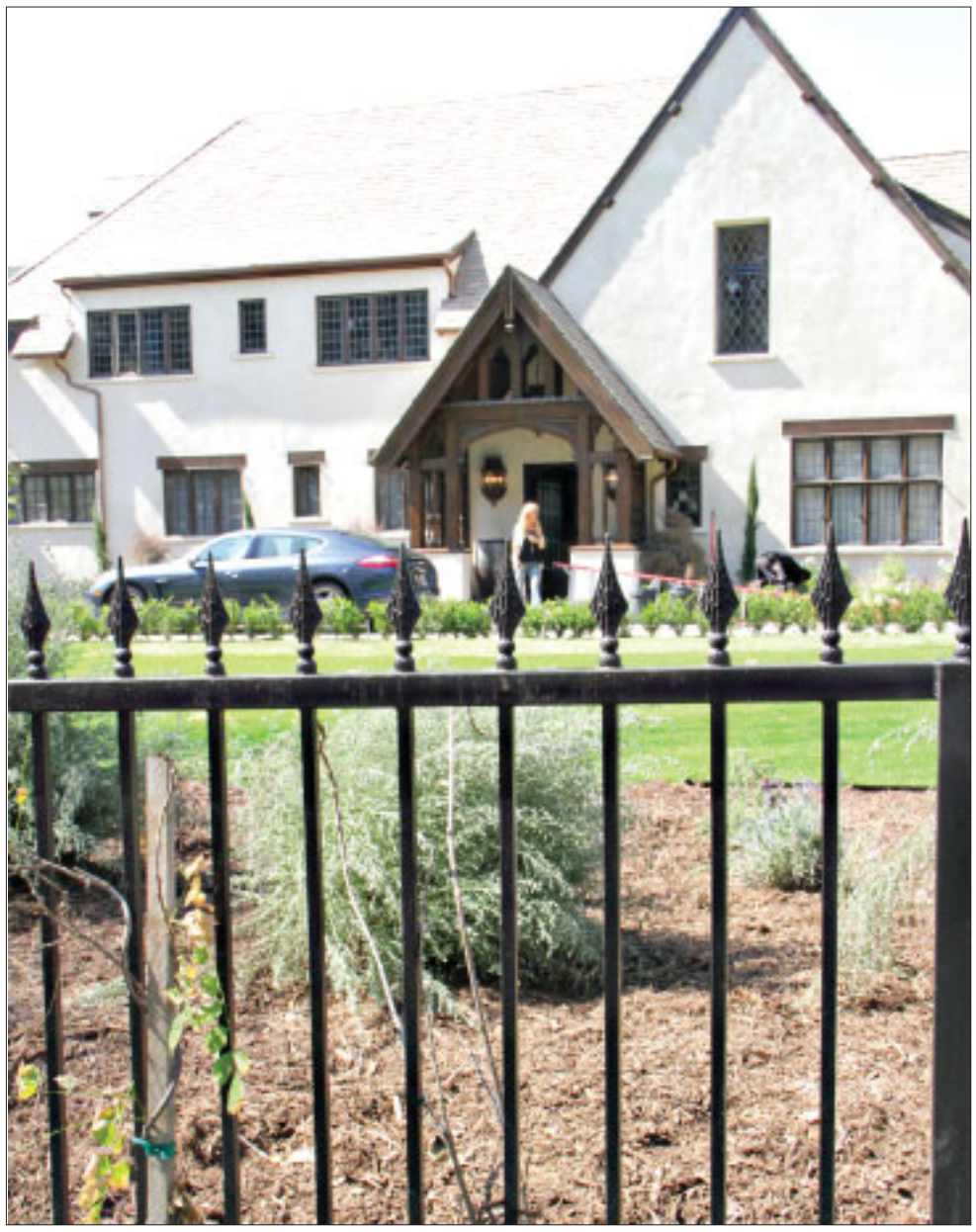
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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

A LOOK AT THE PLACE: **This home on La Mesa Drive has been the subject of a dispute between its owners and neighborhood residents. Dubbed 'The House of Rock," it has been the site of events that have drawn the ire of people living nearby.**

HOUSE
FROM PAGE 1

Elaine Culotti, one of the designers involved who also purports to live at the residence.

They have used valet parking, arclights, a temporary stage for live music and shuttles that blocked the entirety of the street, according to angry neighbors.

There are six more events planned between now and Dec. 6., at which point the home will be shut down for sale.

That's not soon enough for other residents of La Mesa Drive, who say that the parties go on long past the claimed 10:30 p.m. shut down and make it impossible for them to leave their homes in case of emergency.

Although neighbors have complained and even hired attorneys to help with their cause, both Code Enforcement and the City Attorney's Office have repeatedly stated that there's nothing to be done because Culotti claims the home as her primary residence, and is therefore allowed to throw parties.

One neighbor, Gisela Friedman, wasn't so sure.

Friedman told council members that although Culotti said she lived at the home, the gates were often padlocked from the outside.

"That's a highly unusual way to lock your house when you live there and have children inside," Friedman said.

Since city officials were having difficulty solving the problem using conventional methods, the council had to find another way.

Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis and Mayor Richard Bloom brought the item to the council in an attempt to craft a solution that could put an end to a situation Councilmember Kevin McKeown described as "uniquely egregious."

"I cannot recall ever seeing a business entity so shameless about disrupting a residential neighborhood," McKeown said.

Davis put forward a general framework for City Attorney Marsha Moutrie, suggesting either a new ordinance specifically tailored to design homes or a change to an existing construct called a temporary use permit that would give City Hall more discretion over what goes on and how many people attend the events.

Although residents do feel that the City Council should put a damper on the House of Rock, some, like Jerry Manpearl, were initially concerned that doing so would hurt their attempts to host weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs or even their own charitable fundraisers at their home.

"I am convinced that there's no intent by the council to in any way limit the kinds of events at our house and confident that whatever you come up with would not limit events at our house," Manpearl said.

However, he warned them to avoid a law that caused a "chilling effect" that could limit charitable, political and social events.

The City Council will not have another meeting until Oct. 23, meaning any relief for the neighborhood is at least three weeks out.

Moutrie cautioned the council against haste, noting that Culotti's attorney, Benjamin Reznick, would likely file suit against City Hall if he saw any potential violation of the First Amendment in the proposed ordinance.

"I have a feeling that our understanding of the First Amendment is going to get tested again, and I'm OK with that," Moutrie said.

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BAN
FROM PAGE 1

say at all.

That information will be given to all new tenants when they move into a building, a point which raised privacy concerns amongst tenants' rights advocates.

It was the third time the council had voted on the issue, approving it on first reading in July and then, in a highly unusual move, failing to pass it on second reading after Mayor Richard Bloom changed his vote, ostensibly over concerns of how a smoking ban would apply to medical marijuana users.

In the past, the matter was caught between council members who fought with the idea of prohibiting a legal activity in private residences and those who feared the negative health impacts of secondhand smoke from cigarettes and other substances.

Tuesday night was much the same, with council members scrambling for some way to push forward with the issue after multiple motions failed, killed largely by concerns of Councilmembers Bobby Shriver and Bob Holbrook that the measures didn't go far enough and Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis and Mayor Richard Bloom that others went too far.

In the end, five council members agreed to ban smoking. The other two, Councilmembers Pam O'Connor and Kevin McKeown, voted against the law.

Councilmembers also asked city officials to go back to representatives of condominium owners to figure out how they could best put the new rules in place and how homeowners' associations could keep track of smoking versus non-smoking units.

The City Attorney's Office didn't connect with medical marijuana advocates, said Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky.

Although advocates always hope for dramatic change, they fully supported the incremental approach embraced by the council, said Esther Schiller, executive director for Smokefree Air For Everyone.

In a second item, the City Council voted unanimously to pass a 45-day moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries within city limits.

City Hall received 15 inquiries and one actual business license application for medical marijuana facilities, all as the city of Los Angeles grappled with a challenge to its recently-enacted ban on dispensaries.

Just as Santa Monica took up the issue, Los Angeles dropped it.

"On the day L.A. just repealed its ban, don't we feel just a little silly and out of touch?" said Richard McDonald, president of Golden State Collective.

McDonald turned in a business license application for a collective cultivation operation at the same location within the city that he originally set up a medical marijuana testing facility, which was eventually shut down by city officials.

He's in the middle of a lawsuit with City Hall over a denial of a business license for the testing lab.

City officials asked for more time to explore the regulatory landscape surrounding medical marijuana dispensaries, which they say is in flux until the California Supreme Court makes decisions on six medical marijuana cases it recently accepted.

That could take a year or more, said Karen O'Keefe, director of state policies for the Marijuana Policy Project, calling it a "phony excuse."

McKeown pushed for a more aggressive approach, calling for a "serious look" at how to have functional marijuana dispensaries in the city.

"I don't think it's right for us in 2012 to keep our heads in the sand," McKeown said.

Although the moratorium technically only lasts 45 days, it can stretch as much as two years if the council decides to extend it.

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Photography by Brandon Wise

FREELANCE Photographer

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Cash-strapped states weigh tax policy on drilling

JULIE CARR SMYTH
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio For decades, one tiny county in the rolling hills of Ohio's rural reaches was a depressed farm community saddled with double-digit unemployment. Now, Carroll County boasts more active oil and gas wells than any other in the state, and the tax dollars are flowing right along with the crude and natural gas.

And in the same county, where unemployment reached 13.4 percent in 2009 amid declines in agriculture, there's now bustling activity at Carroll restaurants, car dealerships and the area's one hotel.

While the economic surge has been a welcome relief, Carroll County and others enjoying the newfound prosperity aren't all that interested in sharing the wealth. But that decision might not be theirs to make.

Ohio lawmakers and policymakers in other states are weighing how to use taxes and fees on oil and gas production to bolster state budgets and economies without alienating local communities or scaring away energy development.

In Ohio, many Carroll residents are up in arms over a proposal by Republican Gov. John Kasich to raise severance — or taxes on high-volume drillers — and then share the wealth from the state's oil and gas boom through an income tax cut.

"I'm not for supporting everybody else with what we're doing, when this has been an area that's been depressed for a long time and nobody's done anything to help us along the way," said Amy Rutledge, who directs the visitors' bureau and local chamber. "Why should Appalachia Ohio support the rest of the state?"

A dozen states since 2011 have seen proposals to impose a new tax on oil and gas production, or to raise, lower or amend an existing tax, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Most of the proposals have died or never got off the ground, though Florida passed a measure reducing severance taxes to offset the higher cost of new technology needed to extract the hard-to-get oil remaining in those fields.

At least 36 states impose some sort of severance tax on oil, gas, coal, timber and minerals, generating more than $11 billion in revenue in 2010. Of those, 31 states levy severance taxes specifically on production of oil and gas, according to the legislative conference.

Pennsylvania is the only state that's part of the recent Marcellus and Utica boom that imposes no production tax. For now, state lawmakers have opted for an impact fee based mostly on the number of wells. Proceeds are targeted toward boosting regulation and repairing or upgrading roads and bridges around burgeoning well sites.

Of the first $202 million that Pennsylvania collected since approving the impact fees in February, the state gets $23 million off the top and $107 million is being split among 37 counties and some 1,500 municipalities hosting gas well. The remainder is ticketed for state regulatory agencies.

West Virginia also opted to increase permit fees rather than raise its severance tax.

Proponents of the production tax approach, including Kasich, argue that taxes on the extracted oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids can bring long-term benefits to state economies that impact fees can't. Once the resources are tapped and well construction is completed, wells could continue producing for half a century, according to some experts.

The Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center, a liberal think tank, estimated the state lost $300 million between October 2009 and January by not passing a proposed tax on oil and gas production.

Kasich's tax plan is similarly stalled, as fellow Republicans who lead the Legislature grapple with the political fallout.

Though the national Americans for Tax Reform has sanctioned Kasich's plan as compatible with its anti-tax hike pledge, that doesn't mean the well-funded energy industry couldn't run ads against lawmakers who support the increase when they come up for re-election in two years.

As it stands, Ohio's production tax rates — 20 cents a barrel on oil and 3 cents per 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas — are among the lowest in the country. Annual collections on oil production have remained roughly flat from 2007 to 2011.

According to the Ohio Department of Taxation, tax revenue on natural gas production rose by less than 2 percent last year — up $40,000 to $2.1 million — despite an explosion of drilling activity that has included 391 new shale wells permitted the last 20 months. And Ohio never thought to tax natural gas liquids, a newly developing revenue area for the industry.

By contrast, total taxable sales in Carroll County rose 33 percent from 2011 to 2012, from $94.9 million from January to June of last year to $125.7 million during the same period this year. That meant more than $300,000 in additional sales tax revenue for the county — one of about two dozen across eastern and southern Ohio benefiting from the boom in exploration mostly of the Utica Shale formation.

That uptick comes in a county that had been struggling against rising unemployment.

Dairies that once thrived in Carroll, the state's smallest county in total area, dwindled over the past 20 years as family farms struggled and shrank as it became harder to make money in the milk business. Tree and nursery farming — a business dependent on people having extra spending money — is now the county's largest industry.

Oil and gas taxes collected in Carroll and Ohio's 87 other counties are sent to state oil and gas regulatory programs, not to the general revenue fund, as in many other states. Texas, for example, saw $3.6 billion added to state coffers from its oil and gas severance taxes in the fiscal year that ended last month, according to the state comptroller's office.

Some states — including Alaska, Wyoming and New Mexico — reserve a portion of the oil and gas production taxes they collect for permanent funds. Interest from the funds can be used to help balance state budgets, providing support to government services like education, health care and environmental protection.

Oil and gas producers in Ohio oppose Kasich's plan. They argue that growth will result in the industry paying $1 billion in

SEE **TAXES** PAGE 14



U.S. service firms grow at fastest pace in six months

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON U.S. service companies grew in September at the fastest pace in six months, helped by a sharp increase in customer demand.

The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, said Wednesday that its index of non-manufacturing activity rose to 55.1, up from 53.7 in August. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion.

The report measures growth at businesses that employ roughly 90 percent of the U.S. work force, from retail and construction companies to health care and financial services firms. The service sector has grown for 33 straight months.

In September, the survey noted that consumer demand rose sharply, which could help lift economic growth from its tepid pace and ultimately lead to more hiring.

A measure of current sales activity jumped to 59.9, up from 55.6 in August. And a gauge of new orders rose to 57.7, up from 53.7 in August. Still, the report noted that job growth slowed at service firms last month.

"Overall, this is an encouraging survey," said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. "But more than a couple of stronger surveys will be needed to conclude that the economic outlook has brightened dramatically."

Faster growth at service firms also coincided with the first month of growth at U.S. factory activity since May. The ISM manufacturing survey, released Monday, said growth was also driven by a sharp jump in new orders.

Still, without more jobs and higher pay, economic growth is unlikely to accelerate from the paltry 1.3 percent annual rate recorded in the April-June quarter.

A separate report Wednesday from payroll processor ADP said private employers added 162,000 jobs last month. While modest, such hiring is generally too little to rapidly lower the unemployment rate.

The ADP survey has also diverged sharply from the government's more closely watched employment report. The Labor Department releases its September job figures on Friday.

The ISM survey showed service companies kept adding jobs in September, although at a slower pace. A measure of hiring in the survey fell to 51.1, down from 53.8 in August.

Service companies have been a key source of job growth this year. They have created an average of 133,000 jobs per month, or 95 percent of the net jobs added since January.

Still, many of the new service jobs have been low-paying retail and restaurant positions.

Job growth will feature prominently in Wednesday night's debate between President Barack Obama and GOP challenger Mitt Romney in Denver, the first of three in this year's election. The economy is the top issue on most voters' minds with just five weeks left before Election Day.

Obama is expected to highlight the 5.1 million jobs created by private employers since February 2010. Romney will likely focus on the unemployment rate, which has been above 8 percent for the past three and a half years.

TAXES
FROM PAGE 13

new taxes by 2015, even without any regulatory changes. They also point to local communities like Carroll County that are benefiting greatly from the boom.

Governments that raise taxes and increase impact fees risk driving away a lucrative new industry that could help with budget woes, said Kathryn Klaber, president of the Marcellus Shale Coalition, which represents producers.

"Businesses are looking at the return on the significant investment to explore and extract a resource and their overall costs, including what they're being asked to pay in taxes and fees," Klaber said. "Governments are looking at it from kind of the other side of that coin, which is how much can we extract revenue for government needs and position this revenue in a politically salient way. Those two perspectives often result in a real mismatch of interests."

The Kasich administration argues that if energy companies want the resources badly enough, they will have to come to Ohio to get them. The governor points to the nearly 400 new wells permitted, and 140 drilled in the Marcellus and Utica formations since December 2009.

Carroll County's Rutledge said she just wants to guarantee her county is standing strong when the boom subsides.

"It's not that we don't want to share, but we should be given more of a consideration because it's happening here," she said. "We're the ones that have to deal with all the things that come with progress: more traffic, more people, more crime. At this point, the companies have been taking great care of the roads, but who's to say what's going to happen for the next 15 years?"





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Ranchers see increase in grass thefts amid drought

RUSSELL CONTRERAS
Associated Press

VAUGHN, N.M. Petty crime and burglaries aren't unusual in New Mexico's isolated Guadalupe County, but lately Sheriff Michael Lucero has seen thieves steal something a bit unexpected: grass.

With drought drying out grazing land and driving up hay prices, some ranchers in New Mexico have started cutting neighbors' fences or leaving gates open so their cattle can graze on greener pastures.

Authorities in other drought-stricken states say they've seen similar fence cuttings, along with thefts of livestock and other materials as ranchers struggle to stay in business. In some cases, stealing a neighbor's grass may be the only way for a rancher to feed his livestock, but victims say their livelihood is being threatened too.

"We've had around five cases in the past few weeks where someone says his cattle just happened to walk through a gate that just happened to be open or an instance where a fence was clearly cut," Lucero said. "And I suspect there are more cases, but they aren't being reported."

Ranchers from Missouri to Texas and west into New Mexico have sold off huge portions of their herds this year because the worst drought in decades dried up their pastures and they couldn't afford to buy food for their animals. While grass thefts might seem relatively harmless, ranchers say they threaten the businesses and animals that are left.

"If they don't have enough grass on the ranch, they have to sell their cattle," said Leon Porter, a rancher in Corona, N.M., who sold half his herd this year to keep going.

It's not clear just how many grass thefts have happened since most aren't reported, and even when they are, most don't result in arrests, said Myles Culbertson, executive director of the New Mexico Livestock Board.

"It's extremely hard to make a case. You almost have to have an eyewitness," he said.

But reports from individual counties show an increase. In Colorado, for example, the Larimer County Sheriff's Office has received four reports of hay thefts in two months, the most it has seen in years, spokesman John Schulz said.

"We typically see an isolated case here and there, but nothing like this," Schulz said.

In one case, Wellington, Colo. rancher Ted Swanson said $5,000 worth of hay was taken from a field over the Labor Day weekend. Swanson said the thieves knew what they were doing because they stole high quality alfalfa from storage and ruined lower quality to get it.

"I felt sort of astounded," said Swanson, who never had been robbed of hay in 20 years of owning his ranch. "I couldn't believe it happened."

The drought hurt hay production as the same time it damaged grazing land, and in some cases, ranchers can't find or afford hay to replace bales that are stolen. In Texas, for example, an 800-pound bale of hay costs about $150, roughly twice as much as it did at this time last year.

"We sell small, 2-by-3 bales of hay now for around $20," said Tom Schacht, manager of Parker Feed and Western Supply in Parker, Colo. "Last year, the same bale was around $14. It's because of the shortage."

Some farmers in Missouri have tried to deter thieves by painting bales of hay bold colors to help identify stole bales sitting on others' property.

In Texas and New Mexico, local authorities have asked the U.S. Border Patrol and other federal agencies to help watch for suspicious behavior around ranches, including cattle rustling and grass theft.

"We are seeing a pattern. It's hard to monitor since we are busy trying to catch DUIs and other crimes, so we need more eyes and ears," said Luna County Sheriff Raymond Cobos, whose New Mexico county borders Mexico and sits just west of El Paso, Texas.

Cobos recently unveiled a plan involving a number of local and federal law enforcement agencies in the fight against ranch-related property crimes. His deputies also are taking classes on cattle branding to help identify stolen livestock.

"We see people with cowboy hats transporting cattle and hay all of the time, and we think nothing of it," Cobos said. "But now if we see them at 3 a.m. in the morning ... we have to stop and think: Is there something wrong?"

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SURF REPORT



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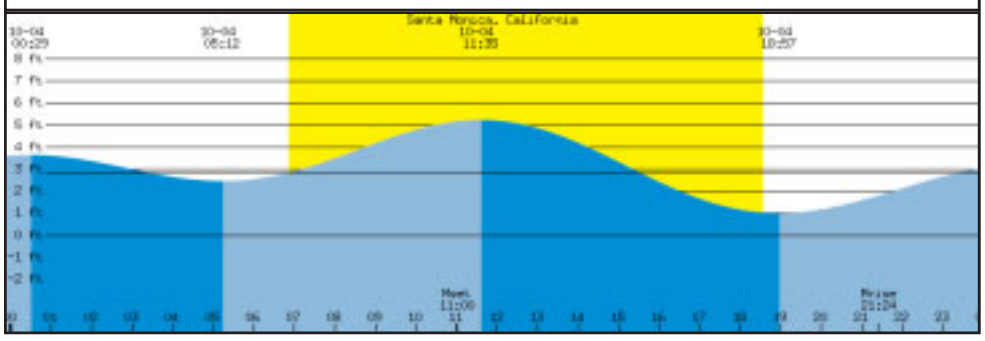
Swell Forecast

Should see chest to head high waves at south facing breaks, waist high at south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking at chest high waves at south facing breaks, knee to waist at west facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **September 26, 2012**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 16
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 16

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	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 Blocker County Beach.	A+	ns
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24672 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	B	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach 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 19648 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 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.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Westward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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.

NCAA FOOTBALL

No. 13 USC in foreign territory for Utah road trip

LYNN DEBRUIN
AP Sports Writer

SALT LAKE CITY In their ongoing bid to get back to where they once were, in the hunt for a top BCS bowl, the 13th-ranked Trojans will have to go where they haven't ventured in 95 years.

It's been that long since Southern California played Utah in Salt Lake City, and after a bye-week break for both teams, Utah fans finally get a chance to see what they've been missing Thursday night.

"The stadium should be electric that night," Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said. "It's going to be a big event and we need our players to feed off that. ... As long as we channel the energy and not let it get out of hand, I think we'll be all right."

USC coach Lane Kiffin is hardly a fan of night games, and doesn't expect this one will be easy.

"We'll have our hands full," Kiffin said. "They're coming to play. Their last game means nothing. They'll be fired up and the crowd will be into it and we'll have to play really well."

The "last game" Kiffin cited was Utah's Pac-12 opener two weeks ago in which Arizona State tore through a once-proud Utes defense, rolling up 512 yards on offense and winning 37-7 in a game that really wasn't that close.

"Arizona State really did a number on us in the throw game," Whittingham said. "The play-action pass boot game really did the damage. We've got to continue to try to shore that up. Traditionally, we've had good pass defense and hope to get back on track."

The Utes (2-2, 0-1 Pac-12) were without defensive end Joe Kruger in that game, and Whittingham wouldn't say for sure if he'd be ready Thursday.

Likewise, USC (3-1, 1-1) was without center Khaled Holmes in its only loss this year, a 21-14 road setback to Stanford that knocked the Trojans from the No. 2 ranking.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The Conformist (R) 1hr 47min
7:30pm

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

ParaNorman (PG) 1hr 33min
4:15pm

Campaign (R) 1hr 37min
5:00pm, 9:55pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
1:45pm, 5:15pm, 8:45pm

Lawless (R) 1hr 55min
9:30pm

Robot & Frank () 1hr 30min
1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Words (PG-13) 1hr 36min
2:15pm, 7:30pm

ParaNorman 3D (PG) 1hr 33min
1:50pm, 7:00pm

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

Hotel Transylvania 3D (PG) 1hr 31min
12:10pm, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 7:50pm, 10:15pm

Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:25am, 1:55pm, 4:25pm, 6:55pm, 9:30pm

Trouble with the Curve (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:20am, 1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

End of Watch (R) 1hr 49min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 5:10pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Hotel Transylvania (PG) 1hr 31min
11:30am, 1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:15pm

Lawrence of Arabia 50th Anniversary Event: Digitally Restored () 4hrs 20min
1:00pm, 7:00pm

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

Arbitrage (R) 1hr 40min
1:20pm, 7:00pm

Just 45 Minutes from Broadway (R) 1hr 30min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Master (R) 2hrs 30min
3:50pm, 9:30pm

Waiting Room (NR) 1hr 21min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 9:55pm

186 Dollars to Freedom (NR)
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

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

House at the End of the Street (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:35am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:25pm

Looper (R) 1hr 58min
11:25am, 12:35pm, 2:15pm, 3:40pm, 5:10pm, 6:45pm, 8:00pm, 9:45pm, 10:45pm

Dredd (R) 1hr 36min
11:55am, 4:55pm, 9:40pm

Dredd 3D (R) 1hr 36min
2:25pm, 7:15pm

Won't Back Down (PG) 2hrs 01min
11:45am, 1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm

Taken 2 (PG-13) 1hr 31min
10:00pm

Resident Evil: Retribution (R) 1hr 35min
11:30am, 5:00pm, 10:05pm

Resident Evil: Retribution 3D (R) 1hr 35min
2:35pm, 7:35pm

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

Have fun tonight, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Remedy any confusion, at least on your side. With your busy pace, you might regret nixing an event or an offer to take a break. Tonight: Express what you have been holding back.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Note an emerging possessive streak. What is going on with you? You might need to take a timeout for a personal assessment and for working on your self-image. Consider making a much-needed change that you have in mind. Tonight: Take care of errands first.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You are comfortable with having a plethora of options. You might regret a recent decision you have made, but you will have an opportunity to remedy that remorse soon enough. Hang in there. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You have several days before you have to make a decision. Think carefully about what you will choose. Make appointments to see your doctor and dentist -- not that you will have a problem, but it could prevent a problem from happening. Surprises lie ahead. Tonight: Get some R and R while you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You could regroup and become upbeat about a difficult situation. Use this skill more often to avoid being upset or for trying to understand a different perspective. You might be hoping for some positive news. It could be delayed, but it will happen. Tonight: Find fun with a friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Be willing to take a stand, no matter what is occurring. Key people might act erratically. Someone dotes on you adoringly; let this person know what you want. You feel upbeat, despite your many responsibilities. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Reach out for someone at a distance. A cohort could be distorting a situation more than you realize. You will gain more information and insight about this person if you speak to him or her about opening up lines of communication. Tonight: Times are changing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You have a lot to say and do. A close associate steps in, as he or she needs attention and wants to express some creativity. Be careful -- the unexpected could occur with this person. An offer or invitation will reappear. Tonight: Try out a suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might be overwhelmed by requests. In some cases, you will need to say "no." Some of the key people in your life could be more unstable than usual. Give them space if a difficult conversation occurs. Tonight: Consider starting the weekend early.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Focus on errands and your own well-being. If you are working, you might experience a need to be very attentive. Take nothing for granted today -- not your pet, health, favorite plant or group of friends. Tonight: Put your feet up. Relax.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your creativity and ingenuity could take an interesting turn. You might wonder exactly what works and what will remain experimental, until you find the answers. Remember that with you, everything changes quickly. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

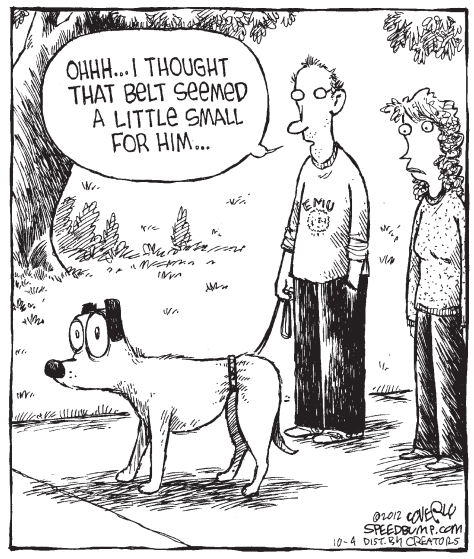
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Anchor in and enjoy yourself. You could have a lot of questions about a real-estate matter and/or a domestic issue. You cannot push right now in these areas, but you can remain open to conversations when others are ready. Tonight: Order in.

Happy birthday

This year others can count on you for feedback, as you tend to be quite verbose. Your ability to detach from yourself and your life will prove to be essential to your year and overall happiness. Distant elements, educational opportunities, travel and issues involving the law might not move as fast as you'd like, but you will arrive where you want to be in due time. If you are single, you could meet several people. The person who is quite different will be the right one for you. If attached, a trip will invigorate your relationship. Keeping communication open will be a snap. GEMINI always has a different perspective.

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

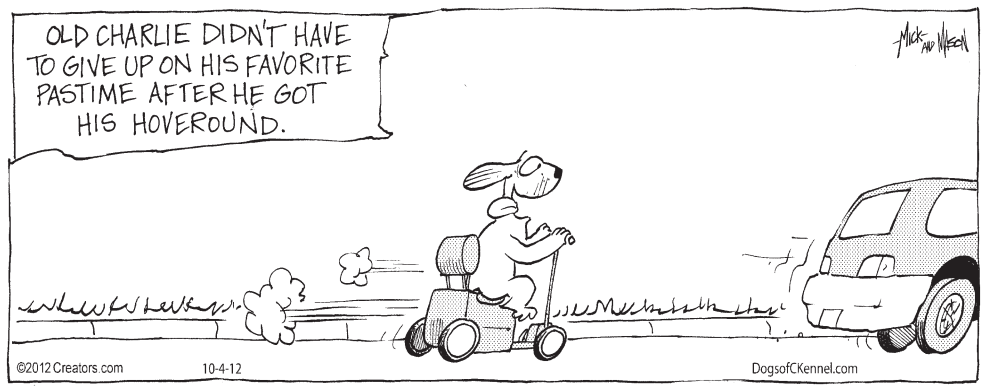
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



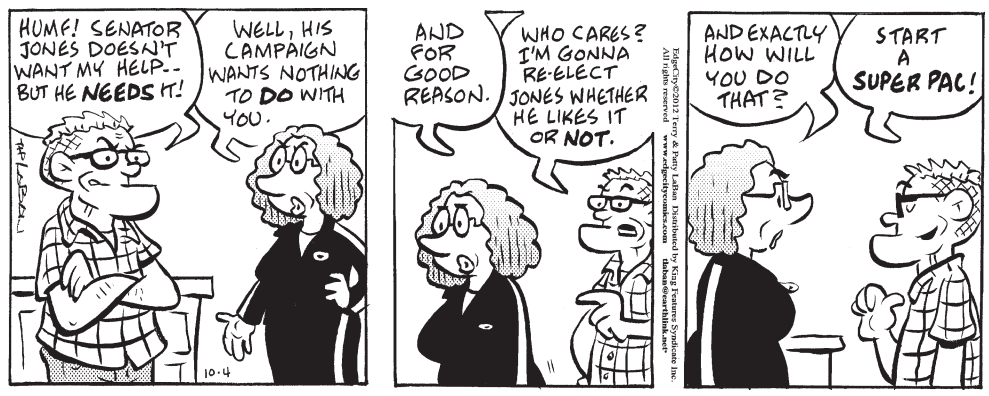
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



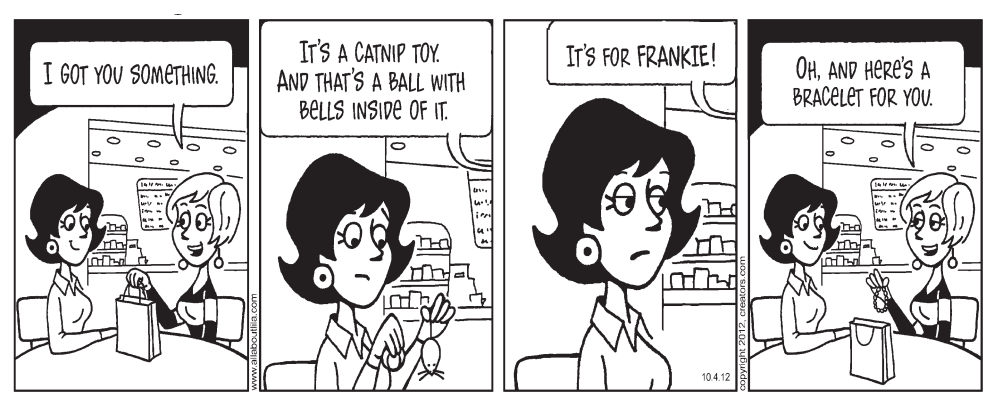
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

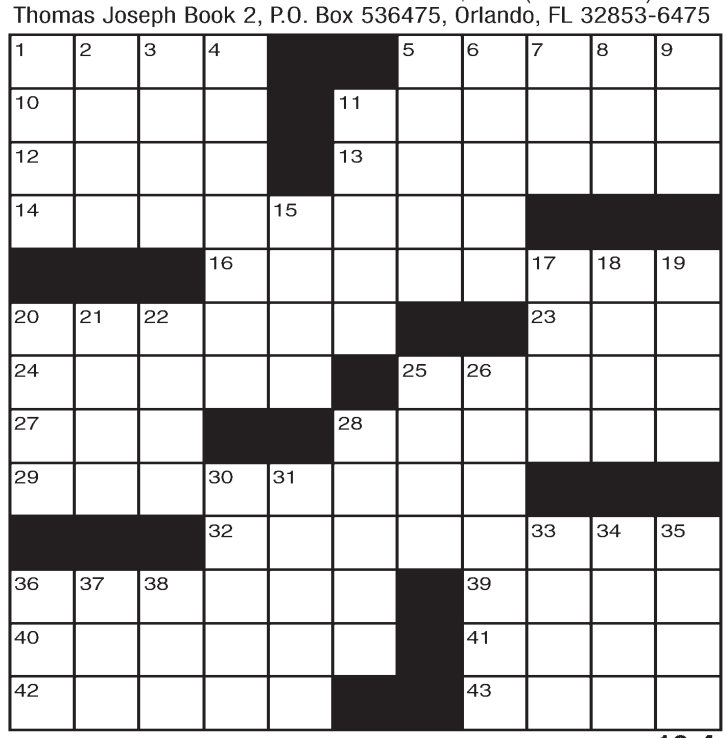
ACROSS
1 First-rate
5 Like some glass
10 Leave out
11 Freshman's cap
12 Heredity unit
13 Gofer's job
14 Pangolin, e.g.
16 Egg-laying mammal
20 Justice symbol
23 "Patience — virtue"
24 Sharpens
25 Gets away
27 Possess
28 Floor makeup
29 Republican symbol
32 African mammal
36 Men's accessory
39 De-crease?
40 Old autos
41 Pay to play
42 Active folks
43 Rocket top

DOWN
1 Forum wear
2 Sign of trouble
3 Milk buy
4 Chapel topper
5 Floppy top
6 Bird of basketball
7 — roll
8 Take the title
9 Homer's neighbor
11 Software test versions
15 Pub brews
17 Berth place
18 Not new
19 Impudence
20 Pump, for one
21 Monk's cover
22 Last of the Stuarts
25 Doting
26 Baryshnikov, for one
28 Farm sights
30 Origami need
31 Calls cabs
33 Florence's river
34 Goes bad
35 Leg bend
36 TV's Koppel
37 Swearing-in vow
38 Jargon suffix

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

Yesterday's answer

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



10-4

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/2
10 11 20 42 55
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: $36M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 9/29
3 4 27 30 39
Meganumber: 3
Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/3
9 14 28 32 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 10/3
MIDDAY: 8 3 2
EVENING: 2 0 9

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 10/3
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:41.22

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Missouri Associate Circuit Judge Barbara Peebles was suspended in September and recommended for removal by the state judicial commission for various offenses, including being late for work and destroying a court document in order to avoid embarrassment. The most serious charge, according to a St. Louis Post-Dispatch report, was that she allowed her "clerk," Whitney Tyler, who was Peebles' personal friend and hairdresser (and apparently without formal legal training), to dispose of as many as 350 cases as Tyler saw fit. Said one lawyer, "Until the judge (showed up), (Tyler) was the judge."

■ A sign at the entrance of the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor asks that visitors "conduct yourself with dignity and respect at all times. Remember, this is hallowed ground." However, as the New York Post reported in September, visitors to the National September 11th Memorial in New York City show no such restraint, with some treating that hallowed ground more like a "Disney attraction." They sit (or worse, lie down) on the bronze-plaque names of the dead, and lay (and spill!) their drink cups on them, creating an "almost cheerful" atmosphere, the Post said. The head of New York City's retired association of emergency medical service firefighters said the elegant memorial more resembled a visitor's "kitchen table."

TODAY IN HISTORY

2001 – NATO confirms invocation of Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

2001 – Siberia Airlines Flight 1812: a Sibir Airlines Tupolev TU-154 crashes into the Black Sea after being struck by an errant Ukrainian S-200 missile. 78 people are killed.

2003 – Maxim restaurant suicide bombing in Haifa, Israel: 21 Israelis, Jews and Arabs, are killed, and 51 others wounded.

WORD UP!

**true \ troo ** , verb;
1. To make true; shape, adjust, place, etc., exactly or accurately: to true the wheels of a bicycle after striking a pothole.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Commerical Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
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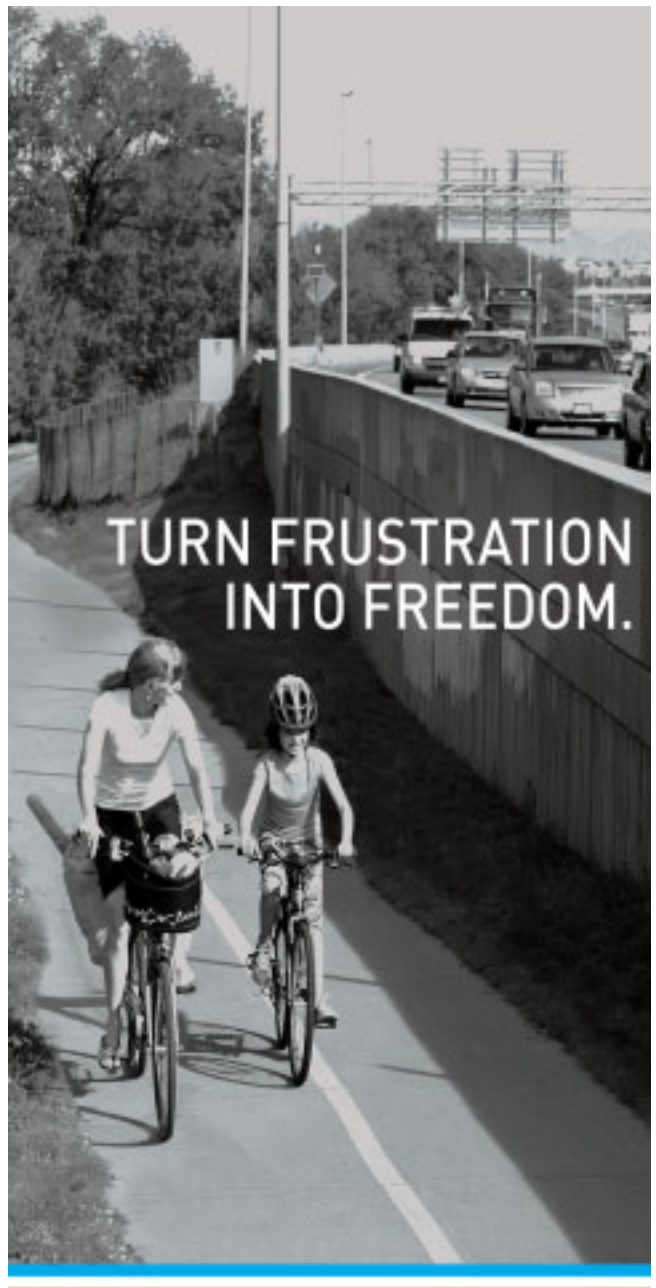
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DRE # 01218699

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Single Family Homes From ALL agents in ALL companies Listed for Sale As of Late September 2012		
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,709,500
North of Montana	=	$3,523,875
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,916,375
South of Wilshire	=	$839,600
Sunset Park	=	$1,497,889
Ocean Park	=	$1,557,667
Statistics updated every week		

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Santa Monica

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

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