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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 291

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO DO?
SEE PAGE 3

THE DUDE CAN SHRED ISSUE



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

SEEING SIGNS: **'For rent' signs sit in front of an apartment building on Fifth Street.**

Rent Control Agency runs $275K deficit

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The Rent Control Agency ran a $275,000 deficit last fiscal year, $86,000 less than originally projected.

Rent Control Board administrator Tracy Condon said that the board's reserves will cover the current deficit and that a recently imposed fee hike will even next year's budget.

SEE RENT PAGE 7

Police: Dry ice blasts at LAX not terrorism

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Police said Tuesday they don't believe two dry ice explosions this week in restricted areas at Los Angeles International Airport were an act of terror, and they're pursuing the theory that the blasts were the

SEE LAX PAGE 8



Photos by Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

IT'S COMING: **A worker leaves the construction site of the Expo Light Rail Line at the corner of 17th Street and Colorado Avenue on Tuesday.**

Public gets look at Memorial Park plan

Neighborhood location of future light rail stop

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CROSSROADS Memorial Park Neighborhood planners are looking to spruce up Colorado Boulevard while adhering to the density and height restrictions of the Land Use and Circulation Element, city officials said at the first community meeting about the project Monday night.

The Exposition Light Rail Line Memorial Park station will be in the area of Santa Monica College, Saint John's Health Center, and the UCLA Medical Center, which serve or employ about 36,000 people combined, said Peter James, strategic planner. The Expo station at 17th Street and Colorado Boulevard is projected to be operational by mid-2015.

City officials and the project's consultants spoke to about 50 community members at Crossroads School before breaking off into small groups to discuss the plan. They emphasized that the project will be working within the framework defined by the Land Use Circulation Element, a plan-

SEE PLAN PAGE 10



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

ACTION: **Brandon Van Noord rides his board at The Cove skate park in Memorial Park.**

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013

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

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

Write a play
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 1 p.m.
Channel your inner Shakespeare and learn the basic elements of playwriting. Anna Stramese will instruct the class and teach dramatic structure and creative process.

Mindful meditation
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 6 p.m.
Take a pause from your day and refresh yourself by sitting and paying attention to your feelings, senses and thoughts. Consultant Natalie Bell will guide the session.

Planning Commission meeting
City Hall
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Planning Commission will discuss conditional use permits for alcohol licenses at 120 Wilshire Blvd. and 1314 Seventh St. The commission will also review proposals for new hotels at 501 Colorado Ave. and 1554 Fifth St.

Thursday, Oct. 17, 2013

What's new?
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m.
Attend this current events discussion moderated by Jack Nordhaus.

Study buddy
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
3:30 p.m.
Trained volunteers will be on hand to provide drop-in homework help. The session will focus on math and reading and is available to all students in grades 1-5.

Housing Commission meets
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
4:30 p.m.
Santa Monica Daily Press Editor-in-Chief Kevin Herrera will be on hand to discuss media representation of affordable housing issues.

College time
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Review components of college applications for the following systems: University of California, California State University and the new Common Application. Get tips on writing a great personal statement. The session is open to students in their final two years of high school.

Book discussion
Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center
2200 Virginia Ave., 7 p.m.
Join the Pico Library's monthly book discussion group for a talk on "Beautiful Ruins" by Jess Walter. The group is temporarily meeting at the Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center while the Pico Library is under construction.

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**



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Clawing its way to the big screen

The Paw Project, a Santa Monica nonprofit that advocates for the nationwide ban of a veterinary practice called "declawing," will host a West Coast-premiere of its self-titled documentary this weekend in Santa Monica.

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex, at 1332 Second St., will screen the 58-minute movie at 11 a.m. this Saturday and Sunday. "The Paw Project," which released to a limited audience in New York last month, will be followed by a question-and-answer session with director Jennifer Conrad on both days.

Filmed between 1999 and 2009, the documentary highlights Conrad's fight against declawing, a surgical process of bone and claw amputation that can cause extreme pain and nerve, tendon and ligament damage in cats.

"It causes behavioral changes – they don't want to use the litter box ... and they start to bite," said Conrad, who has worked in the veterinary industry for 20 years. "Because of those behavioral changes ... declawing actually causes cats to lose their homes"

The procedure is used to prevent cats from damaging furniture or causing injury to their owners, said California Veterinary Medical Association President Ron Kelpe.

"I would tell you pretty confidently that it is not our first choice when someone presents a cat to us that's having a destructive problem," said Kelpe.

Kelpe argued, however, that the decision to declaw cats should be left to pet owners, not state legislators – something that Conrad has spent a decade fighting to change.

In 2009, Conrad and the Paw Project were instrumental in banning declawing in Santa Monica. Since she began her campaign in the late '90s, cats belonging to 5.2 million Californians are no longer susceptible to the procedure, she said.

"What I really feel will happen is, as the film gets seen by people and they realize it's the right thing to do, legislators will follow."

To purchase tickets to one of the screenings, visit pawproject.org.

– GREG ASCIUTTO

CITYWIDE

Rotary Club accepting grant applications

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica is accepting applications for its Community and Youth Grants program from Santa Monica nonprofit organizations.

The grants, which range from $500 to $3,500, can be requested for capital, equipment or new program development, but not for annual operating needs or special events.

Organizations must provide proof of their nonprofit status and verify that the funds will be used for the benefit of the Santa Monica community.

Applications are due Thursday, Oct. 31. Call (310) 917-3313 for more information.

– GA

SAMOHI

The Beatles take Samohi stage

The Santa Monica High School Orchestra will perform its third annual "The Beatles at Barnum" concert 7:30 p.m. Friday in the school's Barnum Hall.

Humorist and noted Beatles historian Marvin Lewis will host the event, which features full orchestral arrangements of Beatles songs, audience sing-alongs and other performances.

General admission tickets are $20 – $10 for students. All proceeds will benefit the Samohi Orchestra Program. Audience members are encouraged to dress up as their favorite Beatle or rock 'n' roller.

For more information about the event and to buy tickets, visit samohiorchestras.org.

– GA



File photo

POWERING UP: Solar panals line the top of the Olympic Studios apartment building on the corner of Olympic Boulevard and 20th Street. The project helped contribute to a substantial increase in solar capacity in Santa Monica in 2008 under the Solar Santa Monica initiative.

California spends big money on alternative energy tech

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES California has spent billions of dollars in recent years on alternative energy programs, even as education, public safety and other spending was cut, a newspaper reported.

Over the years, state money has funded some failed projects and private companies with political ties, the Los Angeles Times reported Sunday.

"Suddenly, you look up and there are literally hundreds of millions of dollars going into investments that produce marginal benefits," said state Sen. Roderick Wright, D-Inglewood, who sits on the Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

For example, California agencies are investing nearly $15 million to build hydrogen fueling stations, though there are little more than 200 hydrogen-powered vehicles in California. Other purchases include milk trucks that run on cow manure.

Typically, projects are paid for with little-noticed consumer fees or small charges on electricity bills. A $3 fee on license plates is paying for the hydrogen fueling stations.

State disbursements last year included $317 million for renewable-energy projects; about $250 million for advanced transportation projects; and $44 million for research grants, according to a report by the Legislative Analyst's Office.

The programs make California an international leader in an emerging field, said Michael Peevey, president of the California Public Utilities Commission.

"We are on a mission to deal with climate change," he said. "It is considered a great success story."

His commission estimated that each year, the various fees add $24 to the average electric bill for a residence and $12 to the average gas bill.

Much of the nearly $15 billion the state has spent on energy efficiency and alternative energy over the past decade moved through about 20 programs run by the commission, the California Energy Commission and the Air Resources Board.

The largest program involved rebates and subsidies for commercial and residential installation of solar panels and other energy-saving technologies.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fountain uncertainty

Editor:

Your City Hall fountain story ("Gates around City Hall fountain to come down," Oct. 12-13) seems to say, in summary, "Santa Monica is having trouble getting water to flow downhill. Replacing 52 rose bushes with concrete is a thorny issue!"

Will it dribble? Will it hold? Guess it depends (pun intended).

Kieran Connell
Venice

Public transit a joke

Editor:

Edward F. King, director of Transit Services for the Big Blue Bus, tiptoed around one large problem experienced with the Big Blue Bus and GLOW.

My wife and I did spot one of the very small notices, taped on the narrow wall behind a driver on one of the buses. We don't do social media, and we do read a local newspaper every day. We decided to be good citizens and not try to drive, but take the No. 8 Downtown for the show.

The bus arrived on time at 31st and Ocean Park; the trip down started in a reasonable way. The more riders got on, the worse that element got. We never did understand completely what the driver was shouting. No PA system? No electronic billboard? The driver was reduced to having to shout – over the noise of the bus and passengers. Whether anyone not directly in front could hear that things were different on this night, we can't be sure. We didn't see any handout, nor any notice on the outside of the bus nor the entrance that might have given riders a clue. Did no one figure it would be dark by the time passengers got on?

But we all duly arrived at the location for the shuttle. And there, in the middle of the darkness, with a hundred people or more milling about, there was a grand total of two BBB employees trying to tell people which shuttle to take. One had a loudspeaker of some sort, but again, shouting seemed to be the order of the day.

We never heard a decent explanation of what each of the two shuttle routes promised (and the map provided wasn't much help). We never heard which of two corners we should stand on to wait for the shuttle we wanted. And after watching at least four buses pull up, offload passengers, then drive off again without taking anyone on, and without any explanation, we said, "To hell with it" and grabbed a bus back home.

This is the second time we gave BBB a chance on a special event. It may well be the last.

After living with public transportation in Frankfurt, Germany and Tokyo decades ago, we still have to view BBB as an in-joke, as rank amateurs playing at pretending that Santa Monica is interested in welcoming tourists and transporting them and its own citizens around conveniently.

Charles Fox
Santa Monica



Curious City



Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Want to buy a park with an ocean view?

WAIT A MINUTE. IS IT THE WEEKEND already?

I know, I know, legions of fervent followers of this Curious City column are probably spinning out of control right now, seeing it on a Wednesday and thinking they must have lost half a week somehow.

Chill, guys. Deep breath. Now, stop using your Santa Monica Daily Press as your calendar and trust your smart phone, or your sundial or Mayan rock. It is Wednesday, you just have to adjust to the switch. But the world will go on, the waves will still roll in south and north of our pier, and, gosh, I kind of like it here in the middle of the week.

This column has been residing in the weekend edition of the Daily Press for most of the year, but, here's the deal: so what? Change is good. And I requested it. I don't like Mondays, but Wednesday is Friday on my mind. And if Wednesday morning papers didn't come, call Lady Madonna, not our circulation department. But Art, Paul — not at 3 a.m., OK? (Yes, I like music references, and anyone who got all these, write me, there will be a prize. No Googling!)

If you found this column for the first time — thanks! I hope my humble scribblings about our great little city, teetering nation, the great big world and the unknowable universe will provide some fast food for thought, perhaps gnashed teeth and muttered curses, maybe sometimes a smile.

I'd love to know your thoughts, good, bad and ugly, through a comment at the bottom of the online page, or a letter to the editor or directly to me. You all know lots more than I do, and reader comments have sometimes led me into a future column.

This switch happened at a good time because I wanted to say something — one thing, mostly — about the new ordinance passed by the City Council regulating private trainers doing their for-profit thing in our parks, but there seemed to be an unusual amount of confusion and uncertainty about what exactly happened that night, so I held off.

God knows there has been tons of ink about that ordinance since, and I don't mean to beat a dead horse, or open old wounds on a dead horse or reinvent the wheel to haul that dead horse away. But here's what bothered me all along. As I read all the news stories, letters and commentary, I felt there was a first question that wasn't being asked.

Why is this even an issue? Why should we even consider selling off our precious park space in the first place? Let businesses operate in our parks and force our citizens to deal with it? What are parks for? Aren't they supposed to be little oases of green and trees where you can get away from your cares and the bustle of the city and just relax and rejuvenate? Meditate and medicate? Can you do that if a fitness boot camp full of over-stimulated drill instructors and their minions is hogging the grass that should be open space, jumping and sprinting, grunting and enthusing all around you? I don't think so.

I'm not some couch potato curmudgeon who thinks people who love to exercise are in need of mental health services. I've walked almost every street in Santa Monica since the beginning of the year, and I love my one-on-one basketball with my buddies. I care about my health, and I care about yours.

But the time and place for group exercise is in a gym, not our parks. Possible exception: if the city starts offering free or low-cost classes, on a very limited basis. Not filling Palisades Park and making the babies cry, not at 6 a.m. and making everyone cry.

I read recently in the National Parks & Recreation Association newsletter that Andy Bass, recreation manager for Reno, Nev., when he became aware of rogue commercial operators in his parks there, decided to co-opt them.

"We went to fitness centers in our city to have them offer free classes" in our parks, he said. "They said 'What?'" But he persisted and eventually found enough fitness businesses that would volunteer their instructors to run four classes. The fitness clubs get exposure through television and newspaper coverage, which has brought them new customers, he said. Smart.

What we've done here is just a giveaway. We used to be called, when I moved here 27 years ago, the People's Republic of Santa Monica. I'm becoming discouraged that it has now become the Kingdom of Commercial Interests (also, the Developers' Playground).

We're near the very bottom among California cities for green space per population. It's a precious commodity here that many are starting to focus on expanding. That's a great big fat reason alone to not sell off what little we have to for-profit businesses.

I was curious what the law was before this ordinance came up, so I asked Rec & Parks Commissioner Phil Brock and City Councilman Kevin McKeown. They agreed that there was nothing previously that specifically addressed this issue.

McKeown wrote, "Laws tend not to be written until conflicts arise, and the phenomenon of large numbers of sizable groups doing commercial fitness training in our parks is fairly recent."

Brock explained that what was previously prohibited was any transaction that involved an exchange of money on the spot. But some trainers got around that, he said, by taking their clients' money in advance or in cash in the parking lot before the class started.

Brock said he was opposed from the beginning to any such business in our parks, but decided to back a compromise when he saw the council was not going to ban it. But it almost happened: three successive votes by the City Council that night to ban or much more seriously restrict commercial operations failed on a 3-to-3 tie vote. McKeown voted for people over businesses each time, as did Bob Holbrook and Tony Vasquez. I applaud them.

And I keep wondering who most of our City Council members think they represent.

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 27 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com.

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After the Bell

Merv Hecht
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Reaping the benefits of dividends

INVESTORS DON'T SEEM TO THINK much about dividends. But in a sense, the dividend that a company pays can be the most important indicator of value that we have. For example, when interest rates are low, and bonds can't provide more than 3 percent at best, and savings accounts give almost nothing, a stock that pays a dividend of 2 to 3 percent seems like a good investment.

But, people say, "I might get the dividend, but lose it all back in a decline in stock price." Technically that's true, but the fact that the dividend exists provides a very good hedge against much decline in the price of the stock. This is because if the stock price goes down, the percentage return of the dividend goes up, and if the percentage return gets higher than other stocks of equal quality, lots of buyers will come out of the woodwork and drive the price back up.

But, or course, that depends on the financial strength of the company. Last year, as a test (my wife says a "lark") I bought four stocks that paid dividends between 9 and 17 percent just to follow them and see what happens. One is out of business. Two are limping along, but still paying a dividend. One is doing well and the price of the stock is up. But, overall, I am losing money on this test. And that's what I would expect with low quality, high risk stocks.

But there are lots of stocks out there that are really solid and pay a nice dividend. One of these is Apple (AAPL), which, for a while, paid a dividend over 3 percent. Today the dividend is 2.5 percent, but that's better than I can get at my bank. And if the stock goes down, the dividend itself will make it attractive to investors.

Sovereign Self Storage (SSS) has been a very profitable holding for me. True, it's at a new high right now, and I might take my profit and run. But it still looks like a good solid buy, and it pays a dividend right now of 2.8 percent. If it dips I would buy it.

Aflac (AFL) is another solid company, and currently pays a 2.2 percent dividend. I bought it recently (along with Whole Foods, which does not pay much of a dividend) as a growth stock investment.

Another high yield stock is China Mobile (CHL). That company is a bit less solid that the others I've mentioned because it has a lot of competition. But there is a possibility that it will make some deal to represent and distribute Apple products in China, and that could be very profitable for them. In spite of a run-up in the stock, at today's price it still pays a dividend of 3.5 percent. For a stock with significant upside, that seems like a good risk. I bought some.

If you are interested in taking advantage of high dividends, one way is to invest in one of the many funds that specialize in high dividend stocks. Cullin and JP Morgan are two sources that have been recommended to me.



DO THE MATH

Years ago I had a friend that was a very successful financial manager. His clients included a number of the royal families in Saudi Arabia and other Mideast oil producing countries. He only bought large cap stocks that had not only paid a good dividend for at least 10 years, but during that period the dividends had increased by a certain percentage. For a long time it was an amazingly successful strategy.

I'M SEEING MORE WARNINGS ABOUT VOLATILITY BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF THE YEAR.

Then came the hi-tech bubble, and the market shifted from solid large-cap stocks to high-risk start ups with huge upside potential — and huge potential for you to lose all your investment. My friend's strategy was no longer mainstream, as other managers showed astronomical returns.

This might be a good time to revisit his strategy. That's not to say that the tech sector is not good. I think this is a good time to invest in it. But don't buy stock into just one company: I'm investing only in the QQQ index to reduce the risk of a big loss.

Finally, a couple of miscellaneous observations. I'm seeing more warnings about volatility between now and the end of the year. So this might be a good time to hedge your portfolio with short-term inverse options. For the long term I continue to suggest getting out of bonds. The bond market is not looking good for 2014.

For information about **MERV HECHT** and more details on the strategies and stocks he writes about in this column, visit his website at DoubleYourYield.com.

The Q Line

Exercising rights

Last week, the City Council voted to charge personal trainers who use public parks to get their clients in shape. Trainers say their clients are mainly residents who have a right to use the parks, which they pay tax money to maintain. However, others argue City Hall has the right to recoup costs associated with providing that space and need to regulate trainers so that everyone can enjoy the limited room.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Where do you stand? Do you think trainers should pay? If so, do you agree with the fees established by the City Council?

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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LAPD officer pleads not guilty to felony assault

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A Los Angeles Police Department officer pleaded not guilty Tuesday to a charge of assault alleging she repeatedly kicked a handcuffed woman who later died.

Los Angeles County district attorney's spokeswoman Jane Robison said Officer Mary O'Callaghan appeared in court for her arraignment and pleaded not guilty to felony assault under color of authority.

O'Callaghan, 48, remains free on her own recognizance and is scheduled to return to court Dec. 5 for a procedural hearing.

Alesia Thomas, 35, died July 22, 2012, following a struggle with O'Callaghan and several other officers who went to her home after she left her two children, ages 12 and 3, outside a police station at 2 a.m.

O'Callaghan's attorney Robert Rico said O'Callaghan has never had a sustained complaint during her 18 years with the department and has compiled an exemplary record that included a public commendation for helping a family whose Christmas gifts were stolen in 2004.

According to a report on the incident by the Los Angeles Police Commission, a civilian oversight board, the 228-pound Thomas resisted as officers attempted to arrest her on suspicion of child abandonment. She was handcuffed and her legs were restrained. O'Callaghan allegedly kicked Thomas seven times in the groin, abdomen and upper thigh before the woman lost consciousness and later died at the hospital.

An autopsy found Thomas, a drug abuser who was bipolar, had cocaine in her system, but left her cause of death as "undetermined" because the struggle couldn't be excluded as a contributing factor. Thomas had no internal injuries or bruising, the coroner's report said.

A dashboard camera in a police car recorded the incident and it was reviewed by the commission, which determined O'Callaghan used unreasonable force. The LAPD has not released the video and denied a request by The Associated Press for a copy, citing the ongoing investigation.

Benjamin Crump, who is part of a team of attorneys representing Thomas' children in a lawsuit against the LAPD, said the videotape should be made public.

"We don't want to have to accept the police or their representatives' interpretation of what caused Alesia's death," Crump said. "We have a right and demand to see that video for ourselves."

L.A. schools leader wants to slow down iPad rollout

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The leader of the nation's second-largest school district moved Tuesday to put the brakes on an ambitious $1 billion plan to place iPads in the hands of every student after some of the first to get them used the devices to tweet, text and play games rather than study.

Under a revised plan, all 650,000 students in the Los Angeles Unified School District would have iPads to use by the end of 2015 rather than the original target date of 2014. Principals and certified teachers at all of district campuses would have the extra time to attend orientation programs on the use of the devices.

"I am hopeful that this revised plan meets the concerns of board members over how best to provide our students with the technology they need to excel in the classroom and succeed in their careers," Superintendent John Deasy said in a statement.

Concerns were expressed last month that the original target date was too ambitious after more than 300 students at three of the first campuses to receive iPads quickly cracked their security settings and began surfing the Web.

Several students at Roosevelt High School said they went on Facebook and YouTube. Others said they downloaded games from various sites and played them in class. Some, however, said they cracked the codes so they could actually do research for school assignments.

The district is spending $1 billion to buy the iPads and wire every school with WiFi. It recently distributed the devices at 47 campuses.

Deasy proposes handing out the next batch by April to three dozen of the district's campuses most lacking in technology. Other schools would get them between August 2014 and December 2015.

The Board of Education is expected to consider the revised proposal at a special meeting on Oct. 29.

Deasy said it's important to get the tablets to students quickly because computerized state testing is being introduced in 2015.

Fire weather watch upcoming in several SoCal counties

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Forecasters say portions of Southern California can expect another round of high winds and hot, dry weather conditions that that will raise the threat of wildfire.

The National Weather Service has issued a fire weather watch for mountain areas in Ventura and Los Angeles counties starting Wednesday morning through the afternoon.

Meteorologist Stuart Seto says gusts of up to 45 mph are expected in the mountains with the return of inland Santa Ana winds.

The Santa Clarita and San Fernando valleys will also be under a fire weather watch.

Forecasters say the conditions — including very low humidity — are expected to persist into Thursday, when temperatures will drop and winds will shift.

RENT

FROM PAGE 1

The agency now has about $1.2 million in reserves.

The Rent Control Board is charged with setting the annual rent increase, as well as settling disputes between landlords and tenants.

The board's expenditures were less than projected primarily because legal expenses were less than anticipated, Condon said. The board allotted $50,000 in legal fees, but used only $624 during the fiscal year.

Revenues were down only slightly because interest earnings were less than expected.

"I have to say this is welcome news," said board member Todd Flora. "It's the start of the reductions but we all know we've got a ways to go. [Board member Christopher] Walton and I will continue to review our options and brainstorm ideas for both revenue enhancement and expenditure efficiency."

Wes Wellman, past president of the Action Apartment Association, said that the board runs a deficit because the Rent Control Agency is overstaffed.

"The staff maintains that they can't cut back staff levels without reducing services," he said. "But that's not supported by anything quantifiable. It's not supported by any factual analysis, just opinion."

Earlier this year, the Rent Control Board voted to raise fees for the first time since 2006. For the first time, landlords were not able to pass all of the expenses onto the tenants. Landlords are only allowed to pass $13 per month to residents. Resident fees will not increase this fiscal year.

In the coming fiscal year, landlords will pay about $19 per unit. With the fee increase, the Rent Control Board is projecting a slight surplus.

> **I HAVE TO SAY THIS IS WELCOME NEWS. IT'S THE START OF THE REDUCTIONS BUT WE ALL KNOW WE'VE GOT A WAYS TO GO. [BOARD MEMBER CHRISTOPHER] WALTON AND I WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW OUR OPTIONS AND BRAINSTORM IDEAS FOR BOTH REVENUE ENHANCEMENT AND EXPENDITURE EFFICIENCY."**
>
> Todd Flora
> Rent Control Board member

Wellman claimed that the large reserve, not increased fees, should be used to cover the deficit.

"I think it's unfair to charge residents, and now to some degree landlords, based on fear rather than actual need," he said.

Wellman claims that workload at the Rent Control Agency is down, but that expenditures remain too high.

"You'd rather the deficit be lower rather than higher," he said. "But on a percentage basis the difference between the projected budget and the final budget was very small."

dave@smdp.com

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

City of Santa Monica

SUBJECT: **Adopt a Resolution Making Findings of Local Climatic, Geological and Topographical Conditions and an Ordinance Adopting the 2013 California Building Standards Code and Santa Monica Local Amendments**

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
PROPERTY OWNER: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Introduction for first reading a resolution making findings of local climatic, geological and topographical conditions and an ordinance that adopts the 2013 California Building Standards Code and Santa Monica local amendments to the California Building Standards Code.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2013, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 2013 Building Code Adoption
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Ron Takiguchi at (310) 458-2201, Extension 5595 or by e-mail at ron.takiguchi@smgov.net. The Building Code Ordinance is available at the Permits Center Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7 and #9 service the City Hall and Civic Center.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



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LAX

FROM PAGE 1

work of a disgruntled employee.

The bombs were made by putting dry ice in 20-ounce plastic bottles and could have caused serious injury to anyone in close proximity, though no one was hurt, said Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief Michael Downing, who heads the department's counter-terrorism and special operations bureau. Police are treating them as seriously as if they were pipe bombs.

"Our intent is to find the person who did it, build a prosecutable case, and put them in jail," he said.

Investigators have not identified a suspect. They were interviewing employees Tuesday and requesting that anyone with information come forward.

Police believe the explosions were set off because of an internal labor dispute and not terrorism because of the locations of the devices and because people weren't targeted, Downing said.

One device exploded in an employee men's room Sunday night in Terminal 2. Remnants of an exploded bottle also were found that night on the tarmac area near the Tom Bradley International Terminal, but an employee threw it away. The same employee found an unexploded bottle Monday evening and then reported what he found the previous day.

There were no reports of any injuries or evacuations. Flights were delayed Sunday night, but no flights were affected Monday.

While the two terminals are not connected, Downing said an employee could walk or drive between them on the tarmac.

Investigators were checking surveillance video and planned to hand out pamphlets to employees telling them about the serious nature of the crime and that it wouldn't be tolerated, Downing said.

While there are cameras in some of these restricted-access areas, Downing said there isn't as much camera coverage as in the public-access areas.

Investigators also were waiting for the results of fingerprints and DNA testing on the exploded devices, said Cmdr. Blake Chow, assistant commander of the counter-terrorism and special operations bureau.

Chow said while police are pursuing the disgruntled employee theory, they won't know for sure what the motive is until an arrest is made.

Airport police have increased patrols. The airport also has increased its checks on some employees — asking them to produce valid IDs — and will continue to do so until the case is solved, said Arif Alikhan, deputy executive director for Homeland Security and Law Enforcement at Los Angeles World Airports.

"We're increasing our presence, increasing our tempo, educating our employees, talking to all employers about this," Alikhan said. "We're doing everything we can."

Employees have to undergo a criminal history check and pass a security threat assessment to receive access badges at the airport, Alikhan said. To enter a restricted area, employees must swipe their badges, be on an access list or have ID verified by a security officer, depending on the location.

Depending on the type of work they do or their level of access, some employees might have to go through the TSA security checkpoint for screening to get to work, Alikhan said.

Dry ice is widely used by vendors to keep food fresh.

According to the Transportation Security Administration's website, passengers can pack perishables in up to 5 pounds of dry ice in their carry-on or checked baggage as long as it's properly packaged — meaning the package is vented. Even so, the agency reserves the right to not allow it on the plane if they believe it poses a security concern.

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Airport Administration Elevator Modernization
SP 2265

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **October 30, 2013,** to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

RECOMMENDED PRE-BID JOB WALK:
October 15, 2013 at 10:00 AM
3223 Donald Douglas Loop South
Santa Monica, California

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $340,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 90 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $500.00 Per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have a B license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

PLAN
FROM PAGE 1

ning document expected to dictate how land is used in the city by the sea for the next 20 years or more.

"In this case it defined our maximum heights and floor area ratio," said Francie Stefan, city planner. "I know a lot of you care about density and growth issues."

Building heights, as defined by the LUCE, range from two- to five-stories. The base floor area ratio (FAR) is 1.5, with a max of 2.0 FAR. The LUCE allows for a small increase in FAR under specific provisions. FAR is the ratio of a building's total floor area to the size of the piece of land it sits on.

City officials are expanding the boundaries of the plan — the focus of which is Memorial Park — as they are defined by the LUCE, said city official Joanna Hankamer. Boundaries originally established as Olympic Boulevard and Colorado Boulevard are expanding to Wilshire Boulevard and Pico Boulevard to encompass the hospitals and the college.

The LUCE calls for nearly doubling the park's size, which John Kaliski, project consultant, called "a fantastic idea." One proposal for expanding the park is through a capping of Interstate 10.

"I think all of us know that that's probably a very ambitious endeavor but one of the reasons we wanted [Tongva Park engineers] Buro Happold on our team is that they have specific experience with doing those types of projects and they should be able to bring a dose of pragmatism to that idea and figure out how it might be possible," he said.

An unscientific poll of more than 70 respondents conducted by the consulting group found that currently many people do not use the park itself. Most people use it for active recreation.

> **I KNOW A LOT OF YOU CARE ABOUT DENSITY AND GROWTH ISSUES."**
>
> **Francie Stefan**
> City planner

"This is identified as a activity center-low," James said of the area as a whole. "It's a lesser-than activity center than the big boys at Bergamot and Downtown."

The poll also showed that while residents of the neighborhood used several means of transportation, including bikes, cars, buses, and walking, people who work in the neighborhood rely heavily on cars.

From 17th Street to the Downtown station at Fourth Street, the Expo Line will run above ground and City Council has expressed a desire to improve Colorado Boulevard, where the train will run, to show Santa Monica's "best side," Hankamer said.

The south side of Colorado is being rebuilt, she said, with new trees and a relocated curb. City Hall received a grant from Metro to improve landscaping on the north side of Colorado in the same way.

For more information on the Memorial Park plan, visit smgov.net and search "Memorial Park Neighborhood," e-mail memorialparkplan@smgov.net, or call (310) 458-8341

dave@smdp.com



American stocks down as investors wait on debt news

JOSHUA FREED
AP Business Writer

The stock market was whipsawed Tuesday as the on-again, off-again talk of a debt deal in Washington made investors wonder just how pessimistic they should be.

Stocks were flat or down all day, but the size of the losses waxed and waned depending on which politician was giving a press conference. The market closed with its first loss in a week, with the Dow Jones industrials down 133 points. Yields on short-term government debt rose sharply as investors worried about the possibility of a default.

Indexes were down only slightly early Tuesday, when Republican and Democratic leaders in the Senate reported that a deal over increasing the nation's borrowing limit appeared to be getting closer. But after House Republicans came up with their own competing plan later in the day, and it was rejected by Democrats, stocks fell further.

The stakes are high and the deadline is getting nearer. Unless the borrowing limit is raised, the U.S. will bump up against a Thursday deadline after which it can no longer borrow money to pay its bills, which could lead to a default on government debt. That possibility has rattled markets all month.

After markets closed, Fitch Ratings said it might downgrade the government's AAA bond rating. The agency said it sees a higher risk for default because of the uncertainty over whether Congress will raise the debt limit. Fitch said it will make a final decision by the end of March at the latest, depending on how long any agreement to raise the debt ceiling lasts.

It was clear that traders were hanging on every word out of Washington. The losses on the Dow shrank by about 40 points during a short press conference by House Speaker John Boehner shortly before noon Eastern.

Another reason for Wall Street's pessimism is that any deal reached this week might simply set up another showdown a few months down the road.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 133.25 points, or 0.9 percent, to 15,168.01. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 12.08 points, or 0.7 percent, to 1,698.06. The Nasdaq composite fell 21.26 points, or 0.6 percent, to 3,794.01.

The losses were broad. All 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 fell and three stocks fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange.

Uri Landesman, president of Platinum Partners, a New York-based investment management group, said he thinks there will be a deal, but that investors are making a mistake to focus on it so heavily since the economy still has so many risks. Investors aren't appreciating the risk of poor economic reports, slow profit growth and the possibility of flare-ups in conflicts with Iran and Syria, which could cause a spike in energy prices.

"There's a lot more risk to the downside," Landesman said. "I don't think things are that robust out there."

Among stocks making big moves:

• FedEx shareholders were happy about expanded stock buybacks. FedEx's stock rose $4.71, or 4 percent, to $120.08.

• Charles Schwab rose $1.02, almost 5 percent, to $23.03 after the brokerage company said its quarter profit rose 19 percent as trading and interest revenue increased.

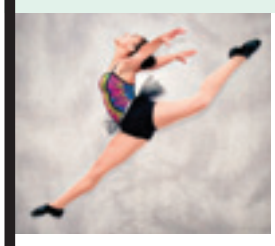
• Advertising company Omnicom Group reported adjusted results and revenue that were higher than analysts had expected. Its stock rose $1.01, almost 2 percent, to $64.96.

Parts of the bond market have started to show signs of stress.

The yield on the 10-year T-note rose to 2.73 percent from 2.69 percent on Friday. Bond trading was closed Monday for Columbus Day. Yields on three-month and six-month T-bills also rose.

The yield on the one-month T-bill nearly doubled in only a few hours, going from 0.18 percent early Tuesday to 0.34 percent by the afternoon. It's considered to be the T-bill most likely to be affected by a federal government default. Money market funds owned by Fidelity and JPMorgan Chase & Co. have been selling off their one-month T-bill holdings to limit their exposure to the security.

The price of oil fell $1.20 to close at $101.21 as negotiations over Iran's nuclear abilities began.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **65.1°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
New/small SW swell tops out; small SSE Octave swell;
minimal NW swell; nice conditions and small surf

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small mix of holding SW swell, SSE tropical swell,
and minimal NW swell; nice conditions and small surf

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small mix of easing SW swell, SSE tropical swell,
and minimal NW swell; nice conditions and small surf

SATURDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal blend of SW and NW swells; nice conditions and small surf

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 **October 9, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 3
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	C	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	C	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19048 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Centerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	C	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	D	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 CSW 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.	C	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.

Raiders take different approach to bye week

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. Oakland Raiders coach Dennis Allen is taking a different approach to the bye week this year.

Almost half the team was excused from the first practice of this season's bye week as Allen gave almost all of the team's veterans and injured players time away from the field.

After the team held morning meetings, the veterans got some rest and treatment while the younger players held a short practice to tune up the passing game and clean up some mistakes. That's a contrast to last year's approach, when Oakland held mostly full practices during its week off in Allen's first year as coach.

"I just felt like with where we're at as a football team, especially with the health of the football team, that I thought it was important for the veteran players to get some time to really take care of their bodies and get themselves back healthy and ready to go for next week," Allen said Tuesday.

The Raiders (2-4) are riddled with injuries and were forced to cobble together a makeshift offensive line in Sunday's 24-7 loss at Kansas City. Guard Mike Brisiel was forced to play at center after backup Andre Gurode left the game with an injury with starter Stefen Wisniewski already hurt. That gave rookie Lamar Mady his first offensive action as a pro at right guard.

Matt McCants, who played only a handful of snaps before starting against San Diego on Oct. 6, was forced back into action at right tackle after Tony Pashos got hurt.

The Raiders have already had to move Khalif Barnes from right tackle to left tackle because of injuries to Jared Veldheer and Menelik Watson, and Lucas Nix made just his fourth career start at left guard.

Running backs Darren McFadden and Rashad Jennings also are nursing hamstring injuries, putting the bye week at a most opportune time.

"It's very important," receiver Rod Streater said. "I think it's going to help get some linemen back. Just any nicks and bruises we have the week off will help us out."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

The World Belongs to Us (NR) 1hr 24 min
7:30pm
Discussion with writer-director Stéphan Streker after the film, followed by a Belgian beer reception.

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

Captain Phillips (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
1:00pm, 4:10pm, 7:15pm, 10:20pm

Rush (R) 2hrs 03min
1:10pm, 4:05pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Prisoners (R) 2hrs 26min
2:30pm, 6:20pm, 9:50pm

Romeo and Juliet (PG-13) 1hr 42min
4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:25pm

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

Gravity 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:45am, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:15pm, 5:15pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:45pm, 10:30pm

Gravity (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:00am

Captain Phillips (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
11:30am, 2:50pm, 6:15pm, 9:35pm

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (PG) 1hr 35min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Runner Runner (R) 1hr 31min
11:20am, 1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Machete Kills (R) 1hr 47min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Don Jon (R) 1hr 30min
11:40am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

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

Wadjda (PG) 1hr 38min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Summit (R) 1hr 35min
1:40pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

A.C.O.D. (R) 1hr 28min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Parkland (PG-13) 1hr 32min
4:20pm

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

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

PAY SOME BILLS FIRST, AQUARIUS

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might want to pull back and observe rather than act. You are likely to be surprised by what you realize, especially situations involving spending, your finances and/or an emotional tie. You will feel re-energized by late afternoon. Tonight: Surprise a loved one!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max, when you feel as if you can get past a problem. Laughter surrounds an impending decision that could allow greater flow in your communication. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You want to make a good impression, but how you do that will be very important. Recognize who you want to impress, and determine the reason why. You will make stronger decisions once you recognize what is going on within yourself. Tonight: Make a big splash.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Reach out for more information. At some point during the day, you will decide that you have enough feedback and can back off. Express your caring for someone by giving him or her a token of your affection. Listen to a heartfelt suggestion. Tonight: Have a long-overdue talk.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Come to a mutual understanding with a partner. You will need to tap into your instincts if someone is not being very clear in a discussion. A surprising action or situation could throw you into limbo for a little while. Tonight: Buy tickets to a play.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might come off far more assertive than you have in a while. Some people will acquiesce, whereas others will be more dominant. You could see these behaviors manifesting as early as today. Make time for an important talk. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Let someone else share more of what he or she feels. Know that it is important to listen. You could be quite frustrated when dealing with this person on a regular basis. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could make all the difference in what happens. The choice is yours whether you should invest more energy and creativity into a situation or project. If you do, others will appreciate your efforts. Why hold back? Tonight: Share more with a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Holding back might feel right for a while, but knowing when to suspend that behavior this afternoon will be important. Your imagination and intellect merge, which allows you to have more options. Tonight: Know when to let your hair down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Speak your mind with the full expectation of being heard loud and clear. Your reception has much to do with your presence. Encourage others to exchange ideas. Check out an investment with care, especially if it will affect your home life. Tonight: Relax at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You won't be comfortable with a financial matter, yet you still might consider giving the OK to proceed. Don't. Use your strong intuition to hold off on giving your support for now. Be open up to a wild option that pops up. Tonight: Make the most of the moment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Your strong personality melts barriers and allows greater give-and-take. Your caring opens up others, especially a child or new friend. You will discover that this person is more emotional than you are! Tonight: Accept someone's surprising gesture.

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

This year you sometimes feel as if you have too many options on your plate. A lot of energy will be directed toward your career or your role in the community. You will experience success as well, especially if you deal with the public. If you are single, you will meet someone out of the blue. In a year, you will know much more about this person's role in your life. If you are attached, take on a project with your sweetie, and let him or her have an equal role. You will like the outcome. Do not kid yourself about ARIES. You have the same issues.

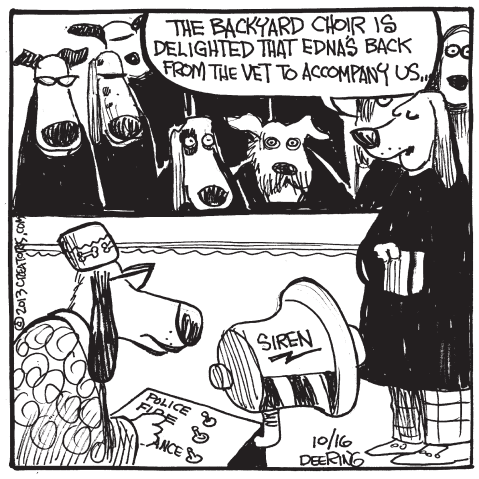
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

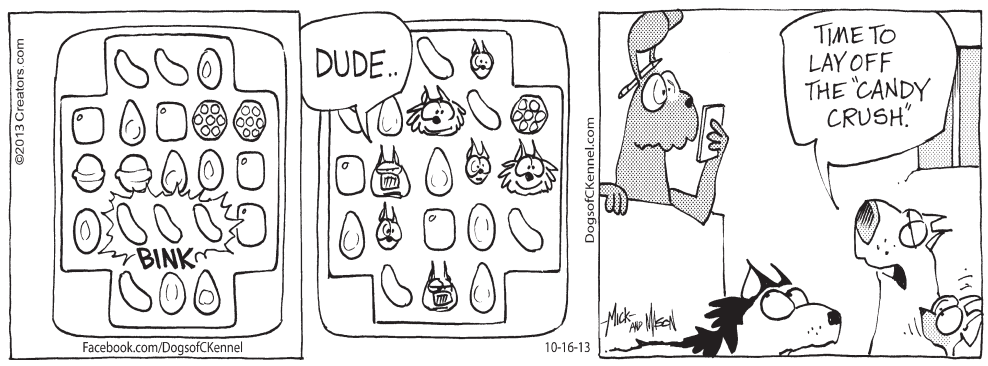
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



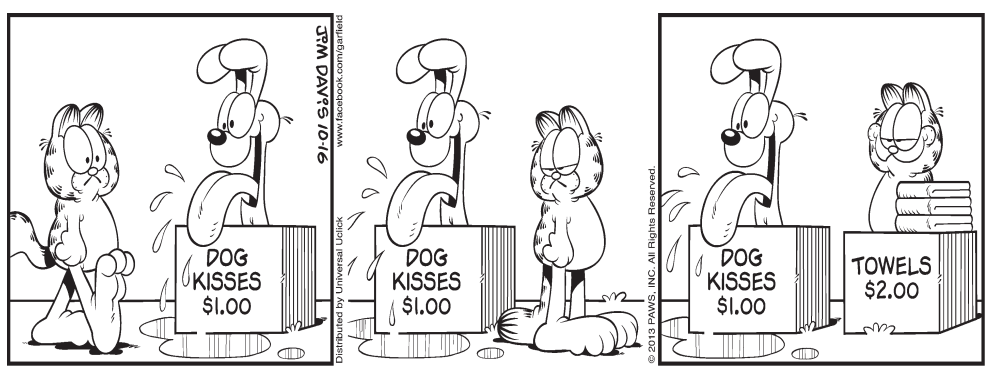
Strange Brew
By John Deering



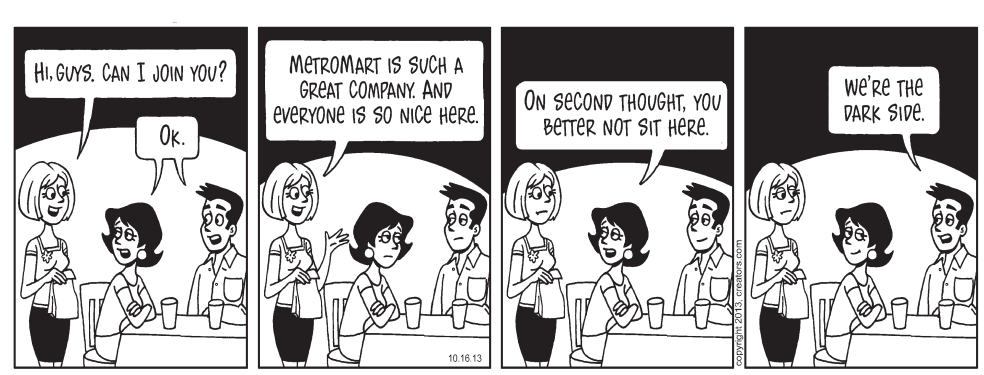
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fencing swords
6 Courage
10 Open, in a way
11 Hall of Fame catcher
12 Slender
13 Majestic
14 Vegas number
15 Blow one's top
16 Turn bad
17 Frost relative
18 Pig's place
19 Using foul language
22 Zilch
23 Alpha follower
26 Worrying excessively
29 Small tablet
32 Fall behind
33 Conk out
34 Magazine worker
36 "Good heavens!"
37 Desire
38 Travel papers
39 Orchestra members
40 Keen
41 Jazz club units
42 Circus star

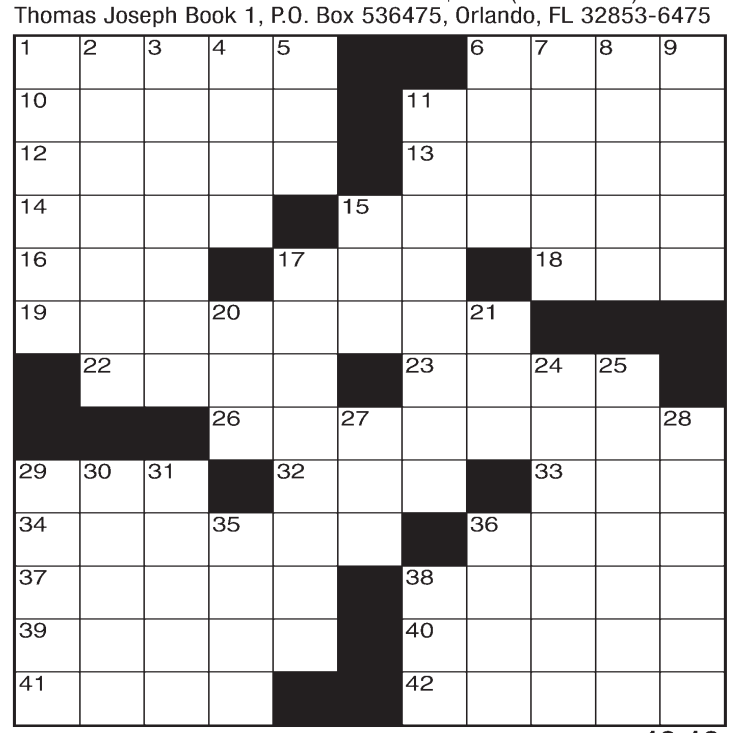
DOWN

1 Uproars
2 It's beside this answer
3 Summer quaff
4 Young men
5 Bond, for one
6 Turns right
7 Goads on
8 Characteristic
9 Like soy sauce
11 Lunch carrier
15 Floral ring
17 One way to decide
20 TV spots
21 Acquire
24 Nice chunk of change
25 Bring to life
27 Ring setting
28 Yellowstone sight
29 River to the Rio Grande
30 Pueblo material
31 Course chunk
35 Course needs
36 Layered mineral
38 Brewery sight

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



10-16



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ At Hong Kong's traditional "Hungry Ghost" festival in August, in which people burn fake money on top of ancestors' graves to support their afterlife styles, a weaker economy and inflation seem to have upped the ante for the gifts. An August Wall Street Journal dispatch noted that the denominations of burnable "currency" sold in stores have appreciated, including one "valued" at one trillion Hong Kong dollars (US$130 billion). (Some festival-goers asked, sensibly, about how the ancestor could expect change from such a bill if he needed to make a small afterlife purchase.)

■ The family of the great Native American Olympic athlete and Oklahoma native Jim Thorpe (1888-1953) was so disappointed that the then-governor of Oklahoma would not properly honor Thorpe on his death that one faction of his family moved the body to Pennsylvania, where he had no discernible ties but where municipal officials eagerly offered to name a town after him. Since then, Jim Thorpe, Pa. (current population, 4,800), has withstood legal challenges seeking to return the body to Oklahoma, including a recent federal court decision upholding the entire town as a Native American "museum." One grandson said that Thorpe spoke to him at a sweat lodge in Texas in 2010, telling him to leave the body in Jim Thorpe, with "no more pain created in my name."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1975 - The Balibo Five, a group of Australian television journalists based in the town of Balibo in the then Portuguese Timor (now East Timor), are killed by Indonesian troops.

WORD UP!

arraign
\ uh-REYN \ , verb;
1. to call or bring before a court to answer to an indictment.
2. to accuse or charge in general; criticize adversely; censure.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Announcements

Announcements

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Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Mid October 2013

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North of Montana	=	**$ 4,035,778**
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	**$ 2,675,516**
South of Wilshire	=	**$ 719,500**
Sunset Park	=	**$ 1,833,150**
Ocean Park	=	**$ 2,866,333**

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