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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 306



Santa Monica Daily Press

PEARL OF A PLACE
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE HALLOWEEN NEARS ISSUE

Council bans cat declawing

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A controversial veterinary procedure to clip the claws of feline paws can no longer be performed in Santa Monica after the City Council voted on Tuesday to ban the practice that animal rights advocates have described as amputation.

The ordinance, which will take effect 30 days after a second and final reading next month, will prohibit onychectomy — also known as declawing — and flexor tendonectomy from being performed on cats, a surgery that is likened to cutting off the last joint of all 10 human fingers.

Proponents of the ban have argued that declawing is not only physically painful, but leaves cats more vulnerable to abandonment and relinquishment because of the behavioral changes that take place following the procedure, including urinating and defecating outside of litter boxes and biting because clawing is no longer a viable defense mechanism.

But opponents of the ordinance similarly argue that taking away the option of declawing could also lead the cats to be abandoned by owners who feel they have no other option than to leave their pets at the animal shelter or euthanize them.

With a 6-1 vote, the council passed the ordinance on first reading, which is when a public hearing is held. Councilman Richard Bloom was the lone dissenting vote, believing that while declawing should be discouraged, taking away the option would lead to a far worse outcome for the cat.

"If those who state that the proposed ban would lead to the death of cats are correct then we will be complicit in that outcome," Bloom said.

His proposed amendment to the ordinance that declawing be allowed only to prevent abandonment, relinquishment and euthanization after veterinarians counsel pet owners on alternatives was shot down.

SEE BAN PAGE 12



NICE GRAB

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Jocelyn Schutte, 24, carries six pumpins during the 'All You Can Carry' pumpkin patch at the Farmers' Market on Wednesday. People paid $5 for a chance to carry as many pumpkins as possible down a 25-foot runway.

Cops apprehend murder suspect

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN A suspect in the brutal beating of Santa Monica resident Preston Brumfield is in police custody after spending more than a week on the run, police said Wednesday.

Jason Eddie Coleman, 27, of Santa Monica, was arrested by patrol officers from the LAPD's 77th Division in South Los Angeles on Sunday night and transferred to the Public Safety Facility where he was booked for murder and two warrants for narcotics possession, said SMPD Sgt. Dave Hunscke.

Three others — Sammy Murphy, 50; Gwindon Love Murphy, 65; and Jason Anthony Hurtado, 26 — were arrested earlier this month by SMPD officers following an intense, undercover investigation that involved the use of court-authorized wiretaps. The suspects, who have been charged with murder, conspiracy to commit an assault with a deadly weapon and violations of the state's Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act, are believed to be members of a Santa Monica street gang engaged in narcotics trafficking near Woodlawn Cemetery.

Hurtado was charged with murder in October 2008 for the shooting death of 28-year-old Byron Lopez of Gardena, who was killed in the 2000 block of Court 19, according to police.

All four suspects have pled not guilty and are expected back in court Nov. 5, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. If convicted they each face life in prison.

Brumfield was found late at night on Sunday, May 11, 2008 severely beaten and laying in a pool of blood on the sidewalk in

SEE SUSPECT PAGE 13

City Hall agrees to purchase another building

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Add one more building to the growing list of city-owned properties.

The City Council on Tuesday decided to purchase a 4,700-square-foot building at 1654 19th St., which has been the home of CityTV for the past year.

City Hall in July of 2008 entered a 10-year lease with two, five-year options for the cable television station, which previously occupied the ground-floor of an office building at the corner of Sixth Street and Broadway. The rental agreement included an offer for City Hall to purchase the property for $3.2 million by a deadline of Oct. 31.

Officials estimate that the cost of tenancy over the next two decades will be approx-

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 13

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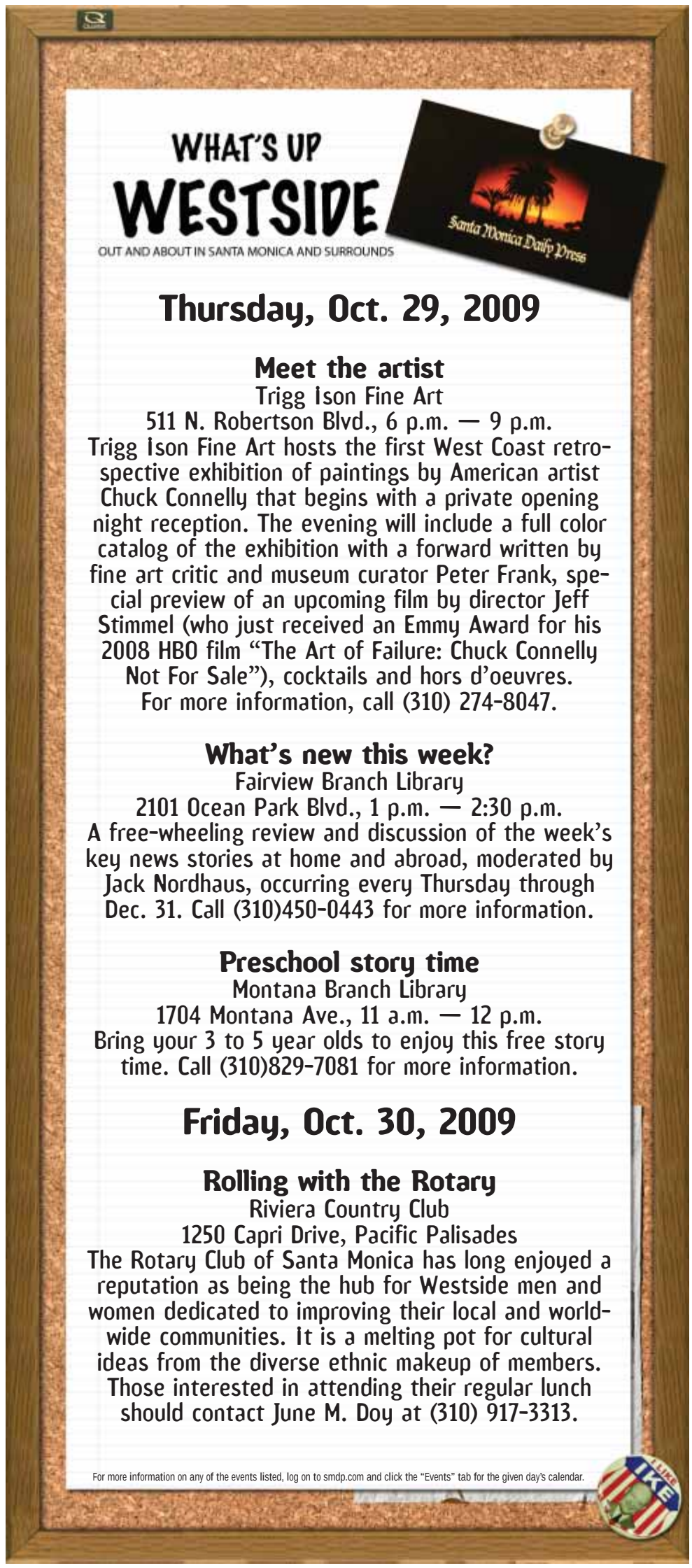
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Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009

Meet the artist
Trigg Ison Fine Art
511 N. Robertson Blvd., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Trigg Ison Fine Art hosts the first West Coast retrospective exhibition of paintings by American artist Chuck Connelly that begins with a private opening night reception. The evening will include a full color catalog of the exhibition with a forward written by fine art critic and museum curator Peter Frank, special preview of an upcoming film by director Jeff Stimmel (who just received an Emmy Award for his 2008 HBO film "The Art of Failure: Chuck Connelly Not For Sale"), cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. For more information, call (310) 274-8047.

What's new this week?
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.
A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad, moderated by Jack Nordhaus, occurring every Thursday through Dec. 31. Call (310)450-0443 for more information.

Preschool story time
Montana Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave., 11 a.m. — 12 p.m.
Bring your 3 to 5 year olds to enjoy this free story time. Call (310)829-7081 for more information.

Friday, Oct. 30, 2009

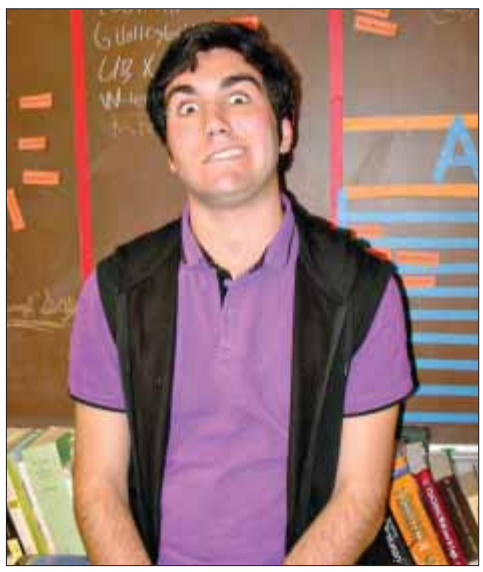
Rolling with the Rotary
Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades
The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and world-wide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the diverse ethnic makeup of members. Those interested in attending their regular lunch should contact June M. Doy at (310) 917-3313.

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

What Kids Are UP To – HALLOWEEN

By Catherine Cain

Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photos by Catherine Cain *news@smdp.com*

EVAN KAHN, JUNIOR:

"I have my long, creepy man-wig, my bloody shirt and my fake heroin. They said 'Pulp Fiction' would be tough — I can handle tough. Vincent Vega is good to go."



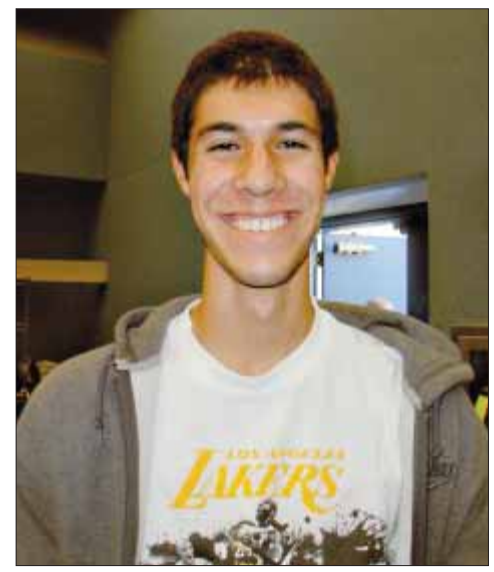
LEIGH BUSHNELL, SENIOR:

"I'm going to be a dead 'mean girl' for Halloween from the movie 'Mean Girls.' I plan on being Regina, run over by a bus. That's so disgusting. The point is to be more dead than cute."



LILY ROTHSCHILD, SENIOR:

"A group of friends and I are going as the characters from Mario, and I'm going to be Toad or Peach. In all, we'll probably have five characters represented. I will never be too old for Mario."



SCOTT OPERMAN:

"This year for Halloween I'm going to be Pacman while my girlfriend is going to be Mrs. Pacman. We found this idea online and we already made our own costumes. We made a custom T-shirt with our names and everything. Can you say cutest couple?"

Local family holds a special memorial tradition

BY CATHERINE CAIN
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN L.A. Monica Moore's family has a special way of cherishing the memory of her grandmother, Rose Caruso, who passed away in 2001 with Alzheimer's disease. Every year, Moore rallies her family to participate in the Alzheimer's Association's Memory Walk to fight the disease.

"I have two teams," Moore said. "One is in honor of my grandmother … I always walk in honor of her with my family. It's our yearly memorial with her."

Last year her team consisted of 12 people, including her family, her parents, her brother and his family.

Moore, who is the director of programming for the WISE Adult Day Service Center, is also team captain of her "professional" team, made up mostly of other workers. She sends out e-mails and coordinates the event.

Moore works mainly with people with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Her grandmother, who eventually didn't speak, move or recognize her family, had to be placed in a facility at the same time Moore was graduating from high school, and Moore said her grandmother's experience made a large impact on her life choices.

"She's the main reason I do what I do professionally," Moore said. "I had to make sense of why she got this disease, and for me that meant doing something in the field."

The walk, which begins at 7 a.m. Nov. 1 in Downtown L.A., is aiming for about 3,000 people, Moore said. Last year, Moore said the association was aiming to collect about $1 million, though that goal was not made. This year, her family's team has raised about $900 and her work team has raised another $300.

Unfortunately, Moore said state budget cuts have affected research organizations immensely. Individual sponsors are also donating less money this year.

Despite these setbacks and the fact that several other organizations also hold major fundraising events at the same time of year, such as AIDS Project Los Angeles, Moore is not overly concerned. When she runs into someone who cannot donate because they are already supporting a different event, she is satisfied to know they have some other cause.

"It's a very moving experience," Moore said. "Sometimes family members bring their Alzheimer members and push them in wheelchairs."

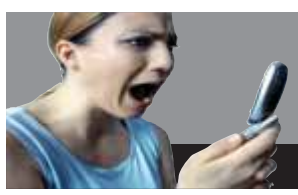
Moore has participated in the walk for 12 years with her family.

"We're all here in Santa Monica together," Moore said. "We are all very dedicated to the walk. It's a very important day to us each year."

news@smdp.com

"[MY GRANDMOTHER] IS THE MAIN REASON I DO WHAT I DO PROFESSIONALLY … I HAD TO MAKE SENSE OF WHY SHE GOT THIS DISEASE, AND FOR ME THAT MEANT DOING SOMETHING IN THE FIELD."

Monica Moore



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Coach Taylor's greatest gift

Editor:

Former Santa Monica College head coach Robert Taylor passed away this week at the age of 64. For the better part of 30 years, Taylor walked the sidelines as an assistant and head coach for the Corsairs, mentoring the countless young men who crossed his path along the way.

Chances are that you haven't heard of Taylor. However, you've probably heard of some of his more well-known players. Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Chad Ochocinco (also known as Chad Johnson) and Carolina Panthers receiver Steve Smith, were teammates at Santa Monica College from 1997-98. After struggling with personal and academic problems, both men arrived at the junior college in need of guidance and a second chance, both on and off the field.

In these two young and impressionable athletes, Coach Taylor saw something worth taking a chance on. He recognized a unique talent in each: the special type of gift that, with the right attitude, guidance, and opportunity, was capable of taking both men to great heights. In these young men, Taylor saw something similar to what he saw in every young man whom he coached, the potential for a successful life, and, the potential for his own impact to help make that life possible.

Now, the job of an inner-city junior college coach is not exactly an easy one, nor is it a financially lucrative one, to say the least. But Taylor never set out for fame, nor did he ever care about fortune. What Taylor cared about was helping young people succeed. As a result, Coach Taylor gave his players more than just a spot on a roster and a seat in the classroom. For many, he gave them a path to college; in some cases, he gave them a path to the NFL. Whatever the case was however, Coach Taylor did his best to give all his young men a path to success in life.

NFL Films once documented the story of Coach Taylor and several of his more famous players. During the segment, Taylor talked about the importance of serving others and making sacrifices in your own life, in order to help others to become successful in theirs. Taylor talked about the idea of living and giving, about how if you did your best to serve others, if you lived the right way, and if you did the right things in life, then eventually you would "get paid in the end" for it.

It was a poignant moment, and it was clear the longtime coach realized the magnitude of his life's work. Taylor understood that if he invested himself fully into the young men he coached, and that if he did the best he could to help those men get ahead in life, then it wouldn't matter how much money he made or how much status he received along the way. Taylor knew if he did all the right things, that he would eventually get rewarded for it in the end. Clearly, Taylor wasn't talking about money or material wealth. He was talking about something far greater – eternal wealth.

And so, on the occasion of Taylor's passing on to the "biggest game of all," I would like to offer a grateful thank you to a great coach – and more importantly, to a great man – for the impact that his life and his words have had on so many, including upon this humble soul. While we may have lost a great one from among the coaching ranks, we can all rest assured that somewhere, high above the football fields of Santa Monica, Coach Taylor is basking in his reward. For an old ball coach, today is finally pay day.

Coach Frank DiCocco
Tallahassee, Fla.





Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Taking risks when trimming locks

MOST BALD PEOPLE PROBABLY FANTASIZE that having the ability to get a haircut would change how the world sees them and they see it.

That's why I'm probably the kind of haired person they curse the most. I have a head full of thick, long hair, yet it takes me forever to get around to making an appointment to get it cut. Like cleaning a messy closet or getting an oil change, it's always a relief afterward, but I put it off endlessly nonetheless. Hair elastics and turbans were clearly invented with people like me in mind.

Last week, for the second time in 15 months, I got my hair cut.

"Are you going to get a 'Mom Cut?'" my husband Rick asked as I walked out the door to go to the salon. He's asked the same question every time I've gotten my hair cut for the past five or six years.

I always call him on the way home to say not only did I get a Mom Cut, but I got The Carol Brady Special — helmet-shaped on top with an upside down, paper-hand fan shape along the back of the neck. He always says he'll love me anyway. One day I just might actually get a Mom Cut and then we'll see if he's really a man of his word. (Of course, this is coming from the same person who also believed I was a natural blonde. After I ceased getting highlights about three years ago, Rick looked at me several months later and asked if I had dyed my hair brown. Bless his heart.)

When I was in sixth grade I ripped out an ad from *Seventeen Magazine* with an angry-looking model hawking gum.

"This is how I want my hair cut," I announced to my mom, showing her the picture.

"Hmmm, OK," she said. "Just bring the picture when we go to the salon. I'm not sure if your hair type can do that, but we'll ask them."

"No, I want to go alone," I told her for no memorable reason.

After the haircut I went up the block to browse at the bookstore, feeling especially sleek and mature with my new hairstyle.

"Can I help you, young man?" the salesperson asked. I burst into tears. To this day, if I had my way, I'd still bring my mom with me every time I get my hair cut. Just to be safe.

Before and since, I've never been a big risk taker when it comes to haircuts. When I got 3 or 4 inches chopped off last week, I told the stylist that I wanted longer layers in the front. I didn't realize I needed to specify that I still wanted my hair all one length. Now the pieces in front are a little longer than the back and I've been feeling self-conscious, like I might be trying to appear hipper than I am, or I'm a very religious Jewish man.

No matter how short I cut my hair, though, my dad's always telling me to get it shorter. But he's bald, and, I think, jealous. Clearly, misery loves company.

At 14 months old, my daughter hasn't had a haircut yet even though she has a lot of hair for her age. I'd be proud of it if it was something she or I accomplished, but I don't think either one of us can take credit. I actually knew she had a lot of hair when I was pregnant with her. Once during a sonogram they told me she had hair on her neck.

LIKE ME, GETTING RICK TO GET HIS HAIR CUT IS ALWAYS A STRUGGLE. HE STARTS TALKING ABOUT THE NEED TO GET ONE 10 TO 12 WEEKS BEFORE IT ACTUALLY HAPPENS. HE CREATES DRAMATIC EXCUSES FOR EACH TIME WHY HE HAS TO PUT IT OFF ANOTHER WEEK.

"Do you mean her hair is so long it's grown down to her neck, or she has a hairy neck?" I asked the nurse, panicked, realizing that having a bad hair day in utero does not bode well for hair life outside the womb. To be on the safe side, I stocked up on Aqua Net and tracked down Vidal Sassoon, who's agreed to be permanently on call.

Like me, getting Rick to get his hair cut is always a struggle. He starts talking about the need to get one 10 to 12 weeks before it actually happens. He creates dramatic excuses for each time why he has to put it off another week. He's the finest method actor I know who's never actually taken a drama class. Lee Strasberg would be proud.

I've actually cut Rick's hair the last few times. Even though I'm the furthest thing from a beautician, the results haven't been too bad. Plus, I've found I really enjoy standing over him with a pair of scissors and a razor. I assume he thinks it's what death row feels like after all appeals have been exhausted.

Each time I just tell him what I always tell myself — even if it's a bad cut, it'll grow back. Except for the bald people (sorry, again).

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Life Matters

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

Childbirth can lead to divorce

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I am very distraught. After 12 years of what I thought was a good marriage, I have discovered that my husband is having an affair. He blames it on me, but up until the time our child was born, we had a great sex life, were best friends and he never complained. Now with our child only 3 years old, it looks like we may not make it. I still love him and I beg him to go to counseling but he is completely shut down. Is this my fault? Am I crazy to want to make it work? Is there anything that I can do?

Signed,
Despondent

DEAR DESPONDENT,

I am so sorry to hear that you are experiencing this and it makes total sense that you would be depressed. After all this time and a child together, it is not "crazy" to still love your husband.

I can't say how much fault is yours. Generally, when it comes to relationships, I think in terms of 50/50 or close to it. But fault is too strong a word. No one wants their marriage to fail. Relationships are full of conflict and require a lot of attention and work. Love is never enough. Assuming you picked a good partner, one whose character you liked, someone you had a lot in common with, then the secret of staying in love is communication.

What I find interesting is that you were great for nine years but not so good the last three, which coincides with the birth of your child. Unfortunately, that first little bundle of joy does not always bring happiness to a marriage. In fact, it is often the beginning of marital conflict. For many if not most of the couples I have seen, their trouble started with the birth of the first child.

Having children is the great event most people look toward and children bring lots of joy to most families. But the sad truth is that when you have your first child, you go from being a dyad to a triangle. Triangles are very difficult to negotiate and infants cannot be negotiated. Someone is going to be left out and it is usually the father.

All those romantic walks you use to take along the beach, long talks over a glass of chianti, lots of time for each other is now replaced with dirty diapers, spilled milk and little time for one another. Lack of sleep doesn't help either. But the real problem, should it occur, is a kind of unconscious process that takes place. Fathers often feel left out. Feeling replaced, jealously and anger bubbles up in them but good men say to themselves, "I want my child to have a good mother; I want my wife to be a good mother. What kind of man must I be if I have these feelings?" They feel guilty about their "bad" feelings. The natural impulse is to suppress them but this is not good for the relationship.

The truth is that these feelings are completely natural and normal and if you anticipate them and keep the lines of communication open, they don't have to cause problems in the relationship. Unfortunately, most couples do not think this will happen to them.

Often these feelings come out in sarcasm or he simply looks for other ways to get his emotional needs met. It can be anything from working long hours, drinking too much with the guys or having an affair. However, it doesn't just start there, usually there is some fighting and further distancing that occurs first. Mom being tired and needing extra support herself, may also feel abandoned. She probably doesn't even know what her husband is feeling, he may not know himself and with both feeling abandoned, arguments start over things that don't really matter. They don't even know why they are fighting. But increased feelings of alienation can lead to looking for getting needs met in other ways or places.

Clearly it could all be prevented and if there is not interruption of this downhill spiral, it can end in a bad way or at the very least yet best, in a counselor's office. Discovering the truth and realizing that you never stopped loving each other is the blessing that can come from talking this out and learning to enjoy your child together. The good news is that the second one is never as hard. There are no more triangles!

I hope you and your husband will consider this and that you can recapture what you had. Good luck.

DR. BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist. Her offices are in Brentwood. Please send your questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com or visit us at www.newshrink.com. All questions are kept anonymous. Please let us help you with your life matters.

The Q Line

Lunch on four wheels

Downtown restaurant owners are concerned about the impact the food truck craze has had on their bottom lines, complaining that the operators of these trucks do not have to play by the same rules or pay the same taxes and fees, therefore creating an uneven playing field.

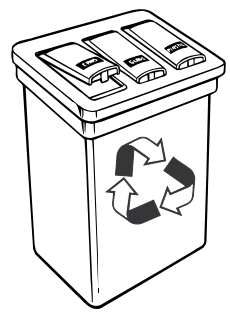
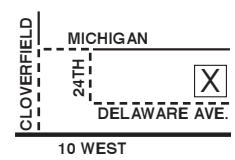
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

Are you a fan of the food truck craze and do you think their presence hurts local restaurants and delis?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.


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The Re-View

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fine wine right at home

THERE'S AN AREA IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE where great wines are produced, and from the vineyards you can see oyster beds in the blue Mediterranean Sea. The best village to experience the oyster and wine relationship is Bouzigues, in the area called Coteaux du Languedoc, near the well known town of Sete. A few miles west of Bouzigues, toward Meze, is the area of picpoul production.

As far as I know wines made exclusively from the picpoul grape are only produced in this small region. I've tried the picpoul from roughly two dozen producers in this small area. The picpoul from the Joudan family, to me, is far and away the best. I'm not the only one who likes this wine; in 1886 professor of viticulture G. Foex called "piquepoul gris" one of the best wines in the Midi.

Picpoul de Pinet, the white wine of choice for the locals to drink with oysters, is a light, somewhat mild wine with good acidity and some mineral flavors that doesn't interfere with the briny taste of the oysters, and seems to compliment their taste and texture. Also, the locals like the price — it's not expensive, and it is made simply as a clean, usually non-oaked wine meant to be consumed right away, without aging. I would expect the better quality picpoul by the bottle to sell for about $15 in a wine shop, and to sell for about $25 in a high-end restaurant. Typical tasting notes refer to a crystal clear wine with green and gold highlights, a soft, delicate nose with hints of acacia and hawthorn blossom, and a fresh, cleansing mouth feel with mild acidity on the finish.

While very popular with oysters, picpoul is also delicious with chilled fish dishes, such as anchovies in dill, and with soft cheeses and, like almost everything in life, with chocolate.

You can experience these wines yourself in Santa Monica. Picpoul is available at Gjelina restaurant on Main Street (along with a number of other interesting wines on their excellent list) and at Anisette Brasserie, on Santa Monica Boulevard, just west of the Third Street Promenade, where I'm the wine director. Try the picpoul with some oysters and e-mail me your thoughts.

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com

Roasted side of salmon is easy

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A side of salmon is an easy and elegant way to serve a crowd. Total prep time is about 10 minutes. Another 20 minutes in the oven and this flavorful dish from Katie Lee's "The Comfort Table" is ready to go. Lee suggests serving any leftovers chilled in a salad.

Herb-roasted Salmon

Start to finish: 30 minutes (10 minutes active)
Servings: 12 to 14
3 cups loosely packed mixed fresh herbs, minced (such as parsley, thyme, chives and mint)
1/2 cup light brown sugar
1/4 cup Dijon mustard
1 tbs. kosher salt
2 tsp.ground black pepper
Two 3- to 3 1/2-pound whole sides of salmon with skin (should be about 1 1/2 inches thick at the thickest part)
2 lemons, thinly sliced

Heat the oven to 450 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a medium bowl, combine the herbs, sugar, mustard, salt and pepper.

Place the salmon on the baking sheet, skin side down. Spread the herb mixture evenly over each piece of salmon. Top the salmon with lemon slices. Bake for about 15 to 20 minutes, or until the salmon is just opaque at the center. Use the parchment paper to help transfer the sides of salmon to a serving platter.

Recipe for lava lamp sparkling wine

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This simple, attractive cocktail from Maria C. Hunt's "The Bubbly Bar" is called lava lamp because the bubbles in the wine make the pomegranate seeds rise and fall in the glass.

Lava Lamp

Start to finish: 5 minutes
Servings: 1
1 ounce Pama pomegranate liqueur or 3 tablespoons pomegranate juice
5 ounces brut sparkling wine
3 pomegranate seeds

Pour the pomegranate liqueur or juice into a fluted glass. Fill the glass with sparkling wine, then drop in the pomegranate seeds.

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Obama's Healthcare Debate and Dr. Chao's 8 Herbal Ounces of Prevention

--By Ed Rampell
Independent Reporter

CLAREMONT, Calif. President Obama's healthcare reform effort dominates American news. From raucous meetings to Sen. Max Baucus' suggested legislation, front-page stories, headlines, op-eds, talk radio, TV talking heads and blogs chronicle and wrangle over proposals to change America's medical insurance. Republicans fight Democrats, liberals battle conservatives. U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson interrupts the President during a joint session of Congress and "teabagger" protesters denounce Obama for plotting "death panels" and big government takeover of America's healthcare. Progressives endorse single payer, while the public option, a co-op plan, doing nothing at all, etc., are debated. Amidst all this sound and fury something crucial is overlooked: prevention. One commentator who hasn't neglected this essential factor is comedian Bill Maher, host of HBO's "Real Time." During the presidential race Maher observed on his cable TV program, "none of the [candidates'] plans address the real problem. We won't stop being sick until we stop making ourselves sick. Because there is a point where even the most universal government health program can't help you. They can't outlaw unhealthy food or alcohol... " Maher added, "the government isn't your nanny." Indeed, even if Washington insures everyone, individuals pursuing unhealthy lifestyles can fall ill. As Maher observed: "Fifty years ago, children didn't even get Type 2 Diabetes. Now, it's an emerging epidemic. As are a long list of ailments which used to be rare... " (A 2004 Journal of the American Medical Association report found: "Higher consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages is associated with ... weight gain and an increased risk for development of type 2 diabetes in women... ") In his televised rant, Maher asserted, "diet and exercise don't fail ... [A] new Duke University study showed exercise ... is just as effective a cure for depression as Paxil and Zoloft ... [I]f Republicans can sell the idea of preemptive war, Democrats have to at least get us interested in ... preventive medicine." The HBO humorist's notion is older than the U.S. In 18th-century colonial America Dr. Benjamin Franklin noted: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." While universal health insurance may be worthwhile, individuals must also be active participants in their own wellness, instead of passive victims complicit I their sicknesses.

The Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line is a healthy soft drink alternative consisting of beverages that are 100% natural and vegan, without sugar, caffeine, calories, glutens, artificial sweeteners or preservatives, and which feature a variety of health benefits. It is safe to drink Dr. Chao's Herbal Beverage every day as much as you want without any limitations. The eponymous Dr. Chao refers to U.S. People Foods & Beverages Company President Ted Chao's illustrious ancestor, Baoyin Chao, a famous herbalist from Guizhou Province in Southwest China who, in the 1870s, was a sort of Asian Gregor Mendel or George Washington Carver.

Ted and his family, which includes three brothers and a sister, followed in his famous great-great-grandfather's footsteps. When Ted grew up, his family "always used the herbs for nutrition and treatment, and knew their uses very well." The family established a hospital, institute, clinic and herbal school at Guizhou, where Ted started working in 1989 when he was 24, after graduating with a master's degree from Guiyang College of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Guizhou's capital.



Among those who believe soda is an addictive silent killer loaded with sugar, preservatives, carbs and often caffeine responsible for much of America's obesity and diabetes epidemics is Chinese herbalist Ted Chao. Previously herbs - plants with healing properties from Mother Nature's "pharmacy" -- were consumed in tablet, pill or powder form. But drawing upon his family's herbal heritage, as well as China's 5,000-year-old medical tradition, Ted has rendered herb-based recipes into liquid form that can be consumed in eight-ounce flip top recyclable tab cans.

Ted had come to America and was thinking how to make "the consumption of herbs more convenient for consumers." The Chinese entrepreneurial herbalist started working with the Northern California-based National Food Laboratory, which, according to its website, is "a consulting organization specializing in transforming inspiration and experience into innovative food and beverage development." Ted and the NFL looked into the best way to preserve the herb's beneficial properties while providing convenience for users. Ultimately, they hit upon the idea of liquefying the herbs, and the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line was born., They are processed into soft drinks at a FDA certified beverage factory in Wisconsin that also produces V8 juice.

Doctor Baoyin Chao spent years in the mountains studying the properties of herbs, applied his knowledge to a practice that included thousands of patients and compiled a sort of herbal encyclopedia. The formulas for the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line are derived from This manu-script, which consists of hundreds of pages of parchment, containing handwritten recipes in Chinese characters. Ted joked that if this writer read Chinese, he would not have shown the loosely bound pages to him. Like the Kentucky Colonel's "secret recipe" for Col. Sanders' "finger lickin' good" chicken (which, by the way, includes 11 herbs and spices), Ted refuses to disclose and publish the closely guarded formulations of his forebear, a sacred family text that remains a patented trade secret.

However, in an interview at the Claremont, California headquarters of the firm he is the president of, U.S. People Foods & Beverages Company. Ted revealed the recipes, properties and benefits of the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line. " '**Lady Drink**,' as its name implies, is designed specifically for females. This is as an anti-menstrual pain, anti-PMS, herbal detox beauty drink with anti-oxidants for removing impurities from women's internal systems," Mr. Chao explains. "Lady Drink improves facial skin. It excretes toxic substances, has anti-aging benefits, promotes blood circulation and ovarian health, regulates the endocrine system, and enhances kidney and liver functions. It also helps reduce weight and alleviates acne." USPFB's president adds that Lady Drink is made with Herba Leonuri (Motherwort Herb), Saffron, aloe and Fructus Momordicae.

"The 'Stress Reliever' alleviates symptoms caused by stress, such as headaches, insomnia, irritability and back pain," Ted explained. "It has Cordyceps [caterpillar fungus], saffron, Fructus Momordicae [Grosvenor Momordica fruit] and Herba Hyperici Japonici [St. John's Wort], Herba Houttuyniae (Heartleaf), Rubus Suavissmus (Sweet Leaf Extract), and Lavender."

The "**Adult Drink**," Ted said, " is similar to Viagra, but in a natural way. It's designed to increase sexual health, by stimulating the healthy production of sexual hormones and glands, and combats sexual exhaustion." The herbs in this concoction include Herba Epimedii, which, in English is called, appropriately enough, Horny Goat Weed.

According to Ted, a fourth drink named "21" will be on the market by the end of 2009 with a most practical function that could have come in handy in that popular 2009 comedy, "The Hangover": curing the effects of overdrinking. Down the road, U.S.P.F.B. plans to introduce herbal-based foods, such as "herbal ice cream, which will be as sweet as normal ice cream - but without sugar," Ted said. U.S.P.F.B. also intends to grow its own herbs here in the U.S.A. as well as to expand its distribution beyond the health and organic food stores, such as Whole Foods Market and Clarks Nutrition & Natural Foods Market, where the Dr. Chao Herbal Drinks are currently sold.

Ted's master plan is to bring the wisdom of the East to the West, in the shape of healthy soft drinks that can replace sugary, syrupy sodas and the like. "I want to introduce herbal drinks to the whole world. When the public knows the value of herb drinks, they will love it," he insisted. Although well aware that alternative beverages are obviously not the sole solution to America's medical insurance dilemmas, the Chinese herbalist believes that by being proactive in their own wellbeing and choosing to consume healthful products, Americans can avoid pitfalls such as diabetes and obesity. "Herbs can supplement healthcare," proclaimed Ted.

This great-great-grandson of a venerable Chinese herbal doctor hopes that his herbal ambrosia will have an impact similar to how the introduction of the ancient Chinese science of acupuncture affected healing practices in the Western world. If, as Ben Franklin observed, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," then as far as Ted Chao is concerned, the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line provides eight herbal ounces of preventive healthcare per can.

If you are interested in getting Dr. Chao Herbal Drinks Coupons, Call us at: 877-2DR-CHAO or Email info@uspfb.com.
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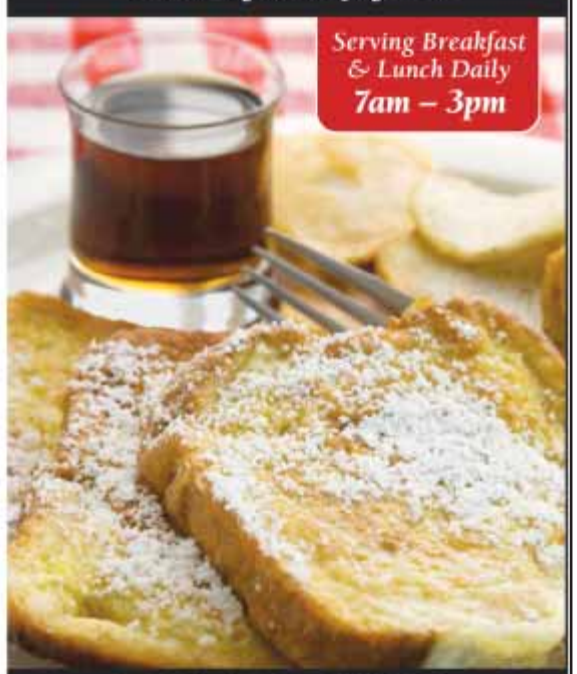
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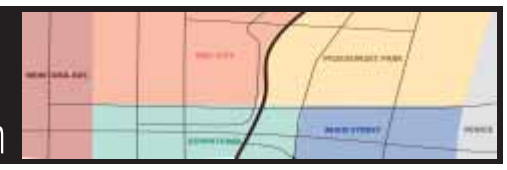
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Dennys Restaurant 1645 1560 Lincoln Blvd	(714) 251-5409
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I Cugini Restaurant 1501 Ocean Ave.	(310) 451-4595
Il Fornaio 1551 Ocean Ave.	(415) 945-0500
Infuzion Cafe 1149 3rd St. #100	(310) 393-9985
Interactive Cafe 215 Broadway	(310) 395-5009
Ipanema Cafe 150 Santa Monica Place	(310) 838-8586
Ivy At The Shore 1535 Ocean Ave.	(310) 278-2908
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Locanda Del Lago 231 Arizona Ave.	(310) 451-3525
Loews Santa Monica 1700 Ocean Ave.	(310) 458-6700
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Michaels 1147 3rd St.	(310) 395-7911
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Perrys Pizza 2600 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 372-3138
Perrys Pizza 1200 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 458-3975
Perrys Pizza 2400 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 372-3138
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256 Santa Monica Pier (310)393-PIERS

Scarboni 312 Wilshire Bl	(310) 704-8079
SONNY MCLEAN'S 2615 Wilshire Blvd.	(310) 449-1811
Stefano's 1310 Third Street Promenade	(310) 216-7716
Sunset Bar & Grill 1240 Third Street	(310) 393-3959
Sushi Mon 401 Santa Monica Blvd	(310) 576-7011
Sushi Roku Santa Monica 1401 Ocean Av	(310) 655-3372
Sushi Shogun 1315 Third Street	(213) 500-4989
Sushi Teri Express 1551 Ocean Ave. #130 B	(310) 394-2189
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Yangtze 1333 Third Street Promenade	(310)260-1994
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Abbots Pizza Company 1811 Pico Blvd	(310) 314-2777
Acapulco Restaurant 3360 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-8665
Air Conditioned 2819 Pico Blvd	(310) 829-3700
Ameci Pizza Pasta 2218 Lincoln Bl	(310) 314-0090
B B Q Garden 1707 Pico Blvd.	(310) 450-6494
The Bread Factory Inc 1900 Pico Bl	(310) 434-4653
Buddha Boba 1701 Pico Bl	(626) 674-8882
Bud's Famous Deli & Desserts 2727 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-6860
Cafe Bolivar 1741 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 581-2344
Campos Mexican Food Inc 2008 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-4477
Classic Pizza 2624 Pico Blvd	(310) 399-0452
The Counter 2901 Ocean Park Bl #102	(310) 399-8383
The Daily Pint 2310 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-7631
El Indio 2526 Pico Blvd	(310) 450-8057
El Pollo Loco Restaurant 1906 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 392-9800
El Torito 3360 Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 450-8665
El Texate 316 Pico Blvd.	(310) 399-1115
Fresh & Natural Cafe 1900 Pico Blvd	(310) 392-0516
Ocean Park Pizza 2819 1/2 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-9949
Georges Burgers 3101 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 452-0445
Gilbert's El Indio Mexican Food 2526 Pico Blvd.	(310) 450-8057
Hotel Casa Del Mar Restaurant 1910 Ocean Way	(310) 581-5533
The Hump 3221 Donald Douglas Loop South	(310) 390-3177
The Hungry Pocket 1715 Pico Blvd	(310) 458-5335
Il Forno Caffe & Pizzeria 2901 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-1241
Josie Restaurant 2424 Pico Blvd	(310) 581-4201
La Playita 3306 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 452-0090
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Le Pain Du Jour 828 Pico Blvd #2	(310) 399-4870
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Pedals Cafe One Pico Blvd.	(310) 587-1707
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Santa Monica Bar and Grill 3321Pico Blvd	(310) 453-5001
Santinos 3021 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 779-1210
Sheraton Delfina 530 Pico Blvd	(310) 399-9344
The Slice 1622 Ocean Park	(310) 453-2367
Spitfire Grill 3300 Airport Ave.	(310) 397-3455
Star Of Siam 3133 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 396-9511
Subway 2901 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 396-3004
Sunset Grill 1701 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-7546
Tandoor India 2622 Pico Bl	(310) 581-9964
Tom's No 1 Pico 2350 Pico Blvd.	(310) 396-4481
Typhoon 3221 Donald Douglas Loop	(310) 390-6565
UnUrban Coffeehouse 3301 Pico Blvd.	(310) 315-0056
Valentino Restaurant 3115 Pico Blvd	(310) 829-4313
Richie Palmer's Pizzeria1355 Ocean Ave	(310) 255-1111
Vitos 2807 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 450-4999
Windows Restaurant 530 Pico Blvd.	(310) 399-9344
Yongs Cafe 3020 Nebraska Ave.	(310) 828-4775
Yuni Sushi 1928 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 396-4039
Zabies 3003 Ocean Park Blvd	(310) 392-9036

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Amelia's 2645 Main St.	(310) 396-9095
Bravo Pizzaria & Deli 2400 Main St.	(310) 392-7466
Chinois On Main 2709 Main St.	(310) 392-3038
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf Ocean Park Blvd.	(310) 396-6706
Creative Sushi 2518 Main St.	(310) 396-2711
Dhaba Cuisine Of India 2104 Main St.	(310) 399-9452
Elvira's Cha Cha Chicken 1906 Ocean Ave.	(310) 581-1684
The Enterprise Fish Co 174 Kinney St.	(310) 392-8366
Euphoria Loves RAWvolution 2301 Main St.	(310) 392-9501
Finn McCools Irish Pub & Restaurant 2700 Main St.	(310) 452-1734
Goudas & Vines 2000 Main Street	(310) 450-6739
Groundwork Coffee Co. 2908 Main St.	(310) 930-3910
The Galley 2442 Main St.	(310) 452-1934
Holy Guacamole 2906 Main St.	(310) 314-4850
It's All Good Bakery 2629 Main St.	(310) 260-0233
Joes Main Street Diner 2917 Main St.	(310) 392-5804
La Vecchia Cucina 2654 Main St	(310) 399-7979
Library Alehouse 2911 Main St.	(310) 314-4855
Lula Cocina Mexicana 2720 Main St.	(310) 392-5711
Main Street Bagels 2905 Main St.	(310) 392-6373
Malia 2424 Main St.	(310) 396-4122
Manchego 2510 Main Street	(310) 450-3900
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Schatzi On Main 3110 Main St	(310) 399-4800
Shoop's Delicatessen 2400 Main St	(310) 452-1019
Sparky's Fine Frozen Yogurt 3110 Main St. #12	(310) 399-4513
Urth Caffe 2327 Main St.	(310) 749-8879
Via Veneto 3009 Main St.	(310) 399-1843
The Victorian Baker Cafe 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-4956
Wildflour 2807 Main St.	(310) 452-7739
World Café 2640 Main St.	(310) 392-1661
Yose Restaurant 2435 Main St.	(310) 255-0680

VENICE

26 Beach Restaurant 3100 Washington Blvd.	(310) 823-7526
Abbot's Habit 1401 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 399-1171
Abbot's Pizza Co 1407 Abbot Kinney Blvd	(310) 396-7334
Agra Indian Kitchen 2553 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-8749
Axe 1009 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 664-9787
Azteca Restaurant 835 Sunset Ave.	(310) 396-6576
Baby Blues BBQ 444 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 396-7675
Beechwood 822 W. Washington Blvd.	(310) 448-8884
Benice 1715 Pacific Ave.	(310) 396-9938
Big Daddy and Sons 1425 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 508-2793
The Brig 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-7537
The Brick House Cafe 826 Hampton Dr.	(310) 581-1639
Cafe 50's 838 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 399-1955
Casablanca Restaurant 220 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 392-5751
Chaya 110 Navy St.	(310) 396-1179
China Beach Bistro 2024 Pacific Ave.	(310) 823-4646
Danny's Deli 23 Windward Ave.	(310) 566-5610
French Market Cafe 2321 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 577-9775
Great Western Steak & Hoagie Company 1720 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 450-4545
Hal's Bar & Grill 1349 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-3105
Hama 213 Windward Ave.	(310) 396-8783
James Beach 60 N. Venice Blvd.	(310) 823-5396
Joe's Restaurant 1023 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 399-5811
La Cabana Restaurant 738 Rose Ave.	(310) 392-6161
La Meditrina 1029 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-5000
Lands End Restaurant 323 Ocean Front Walk	(310) 392-3997
Lilly's French Cafe & Bar 1031 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-0004
Lincoln Fine Wines 727 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 392-7816
Maos Kitchen 1512 Pacific Ave.	(310) 581-8305
Piccolo Ristorante 5 Dudley Ave.	(310) 314-3222
Primitivo Wine Bistro 1025 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 396-5353
Rose Cafe 220 Rose Ave.	(310) 399-0711
Shima 1432 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-0882
Siam Best Restaurant 2533 Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 827-8977
Stroh's Gourmet 1239 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 450-5119
Szechwan Restaurant 2905 Washington Blvd.	(310) 821-6256
Uncle Darrow's 2560 S Lincoln Blvd.	(310) 306-4862
Wabi-Sabi 1635 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 314-2229
Wacky Wok 2805 Abbot Kinney Blvd.	(310) 822-7373

MARINA DEL REY

Beachside Cafe 4175 Admiralty Way	(310) 821-5313
C & O Cucina 3016 Washington Blvd.	(310) 301-7278
Cafe Del Rey 4451 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-6395
California Pizza Kitchen 3345 Fiji Way	(310) 301-1563
Casa Escobar 14160 Palawan Way	(310) 822-2199
Chart House 13950 Panay Way	(310) 822-4144
The Cheesecake Factor 4142 Via Marina	(310) 306-3344
Chin Chin 13455 Maxella Ave Ste 266	(310) 823-9999
Chipotle Mexican Grill 4718 Admiralty Way	(310) 821-0059
Harbor House Restaurant 4211 Admiralty Way	(310) 577-4555
Islands 404 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-3939
Jer-ne at The Ritz-Carlton 4375 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-1700
Kaya Sushi 13400 Washington Blvd.	(310) 577-1143
Kifune Restaurant 405 Washington Blvd	(310) 822-1595
Le Marmiton 4724 Admiralty Way	(310) 773-3560
Mercedes Grille 14 Washington Blvd	(310) 827-6209
Mermaids-Juice Java & More 14045 Panay Way	(310) 306-3883
Rainbow Acres Natural Foods 4756 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-5373
Sapori Ristorante 13723 Fiji Way	(310) 821-1740
Tony P's 4445 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-4534
Tsuji No Hana 4714 Lincoln Blvd	(310) 827-1433
The Warehouse Restaurant 4499 Admiralty Way	(310) 823-5451



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Bay Bridge failure stirs fear, anger over new span

JASON DEAREN &
SUDHIN THANAWALA
Associated Press Writers

SAN FRANCISCO When 5,000 pounds of metal broke off the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and rained down on traffic during rush hour, the accident resurrected fears about the safety of a span that millions watching the 1989 World Series broadcast learned had failed during an earthquake.

The terrifying scene on Tuesday left only one motorist with minor injuries, but stirred anger over the constant delays and soaring costs of the still-unfinished new eastern span of the Bay Bridge, which has become the largest public works project in California history.

"I thought I was going into the Bay," said Andrea Nelson, who saw the crossbar and two rods fall and bounce on the road ahead of her. She swerved and her car spun out as she ran over the rods, which gashed her tires.

"I have lost so much confidence in the experts, the millions of dollars that are being spent to reconstruct and build a new bridge," she said. "I just find it shocking and unacceptable."

Officials provided no precise estimate of when traffic would reopen on one of the region's major transportation arteries. But a state transportation official said it might be as soon as Thursday.

Construction crews worked through Tuesday night fighting winds that gusted to 35 mph as they brought in heavy machinery to try to move the metal and make repairs. On Wednesday, the strong winds continued to hamper efforts to repair the bridge that carries about 280,000 cars each day.

"We have several thousand pounds of steel we have to place hundreds of feet off the deck, so worker safety is a concern," said Bart Ney, a spokesman for the California Department of Transportation.

The pieces that failed were parts of major repairs done last month after state inspectors discovered a crack in an "eyebar," an important structural beam. The rods that broke were holding a saddle-like cap that had been installed to strengthen the cracked eyebar.

Caltrans engineers were trying to figure out why the recent repairs — which were supposed to last until the new bridge opened in 2013 — failed in less than two months.

Ney said the strong winds likely played a role in the failure, which heightened concerns by some experts about the integrity of the repair and the bridge's safety in an earthquake. Scientists in 2008 said there is a 63 percent probability of a quake similar to the 6.9-magnitude Loma Prieta temblor in the Bay area over the next 30 years.

Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, a civil engineering professor at the University of California, Berkeley who studied the effects of the 1989 earthquake on the bridge, called the repair last month a "Band-Aid" that jeopardized public safety to get the bridge open quickly.

"When this eyebar fractured, this is very serious element of this part of the bridge. So the safety issue is very serious here," he said.







COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAMOHI

Car wash to fund wrestling

The Santa Monica High School wrestling team continues preparation for its 50-year anniversary campaign with a car wash fundraiser this Saturday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Santa Monica High School north parking lot.

Having graduated nine varsity starters from last year's sixth place CIF-ranked team, head coach Mark Black says "the Vikings will field a young but experienced lineup this season."

Seniors Ben Yura and Paul Chen lead a group of five returning varsity lettermen including Austin Chadwick, Wesley Evans, Gianni Forster, AJ Mims and Neil Thomas.

The competitive season begins with a Thanksgiving Freshmen Novice Tournament at El Camino College and progresses to six varsity tournaments and another six lower level weekend competitions. The team will be competing in the Pioneer League with four dual meets in January and February including home competitions against Torrance, Jan. 7, and Beverly Hills, Feb. 4.

For further information or to make a donation go to www.smbwc.com.

DAILY PRESS

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

Staying safe on Halloween

The Santa Monica Police Department and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children want to remind parents to play it safe on Halloween night, offering tips on how to protect their young ghouls and goblins.

• Be sure older children take friends and younger children are accompanied by a trusted adult when trick or treating.

• Accompany younger children to the door of every home they approach and make sure parents and guardians are familiar with every home and all people from which the children receive treats.

• Teach children to never enter a home without permission from their parents or guardians and to never approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian.

• Make sure all children wear reflective clothing and carry a glow stick when out at dusk and at night.

• Make sure children are able to see and breathe properly and easily when using facial masks. All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.

• Teach children to never approach a home that is not well lit both inside and outside.

• Teach children to stay alert for any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents, guardians and/or the property owner.

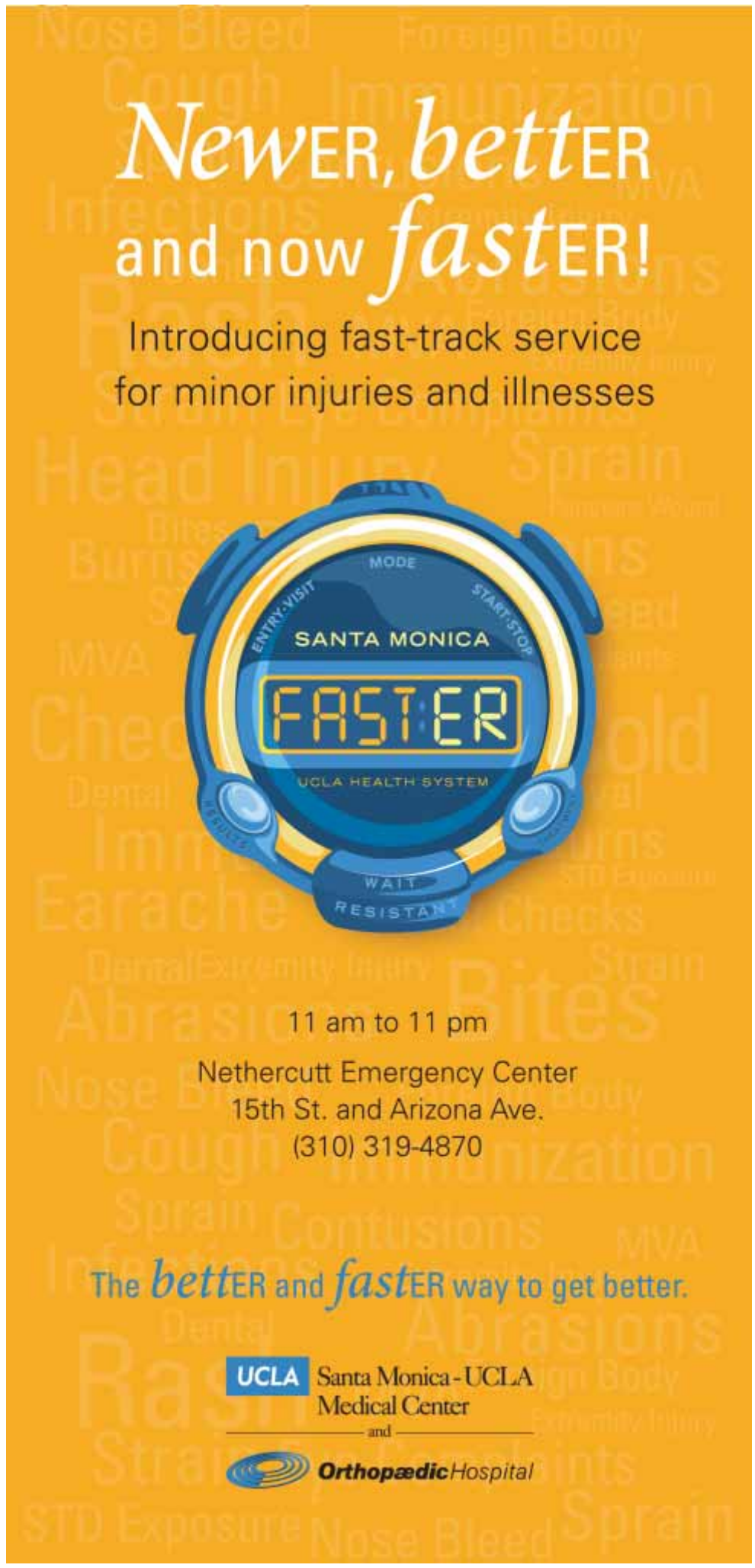
• Teach children that if anyone tries to grab them to make a scene; loudly yell "this person is not my father/mother/guardian;" and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming and resisting.

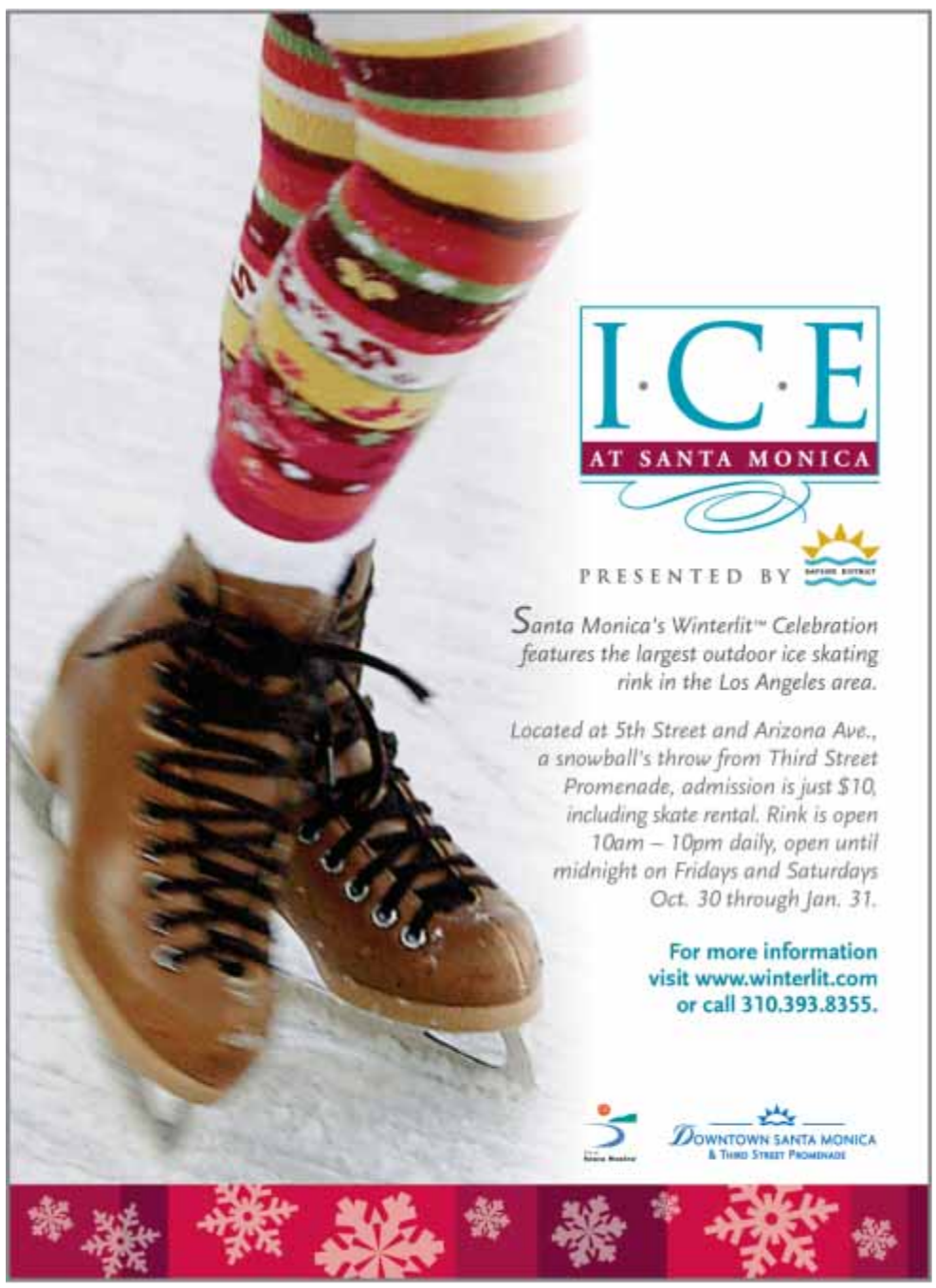
• Consider organizing or attending parties at home, in schools, or in community centers as a good alternative to trick or treating.

For more information, go to www.missingkids.com

DP









TIMBER! Photo courtesy Thomas M. Sipos

An acacia tree on 23rd Street fell on top of this Volvo Tuesday night because of severe winds.

No more clipping claws in SM

FROM **BAN** PAGE 1

Another amendment that prohibits licensed medical professionals to package declawing with other surgeries was also denied. Councilman Bobby Shriver, who did vote for the ban, supported the amendments.

The ordinance comes just months before a new state law that would restrict cities from banning declawing goes into effect on Jan. 1. The only other California city with a ban is West Hollywood.

"This is a no-brainer for anyone who has a conscious," Leah Allers, a Santa Monica resident, said.

Allers has a cat that was declawed by its previous owner, which crippled it to the point where the pet lost its balance. The cat jumped off a balcony and fell three stories because of its crippled paw, landing on its face. The cat suffered a fractured skull.

"It would not have happened if she had not been declawed," Allers said.

The ban has been opposed by various veterinary professional groups, including the California Veterinary Medical Association.

Mark Nunez, a veterinarian and president of the association, said that he has performed one declaw procedure in the past two years and talks about half a dozen people out of the surgery every week.

"When someone comes to me with behavioral issues, I do not recommend declaw, I recommend other options," he said.

He said there are certain situations where the pet owner cannot be talked out of declawing. Those are the cases where he fears the pet might otherwise lose its home or life.

"There are some people who truly love their cat and they believe if I can't have this cat then no one can have this cat," he said. "They choose euthanasia."

Nunez said that pets can be legally euthanized even if they are healthy.

While various professional associations have opposed the ban, a group of local veterinarians are supportive.

Annie Harvilis, an Ocean Park resident and veterinarian, said she refuses to perform declawing on cats and often warns clients that the procedure could make the pets more likely to bite.

"Companion animals give us a neat form of unconditional love and the least we can do in return is protect them from inhumane treatment," she said.

melodyh@smdp.com

A Heartfelt Celebration

Honoring 30 Years of Service

The Heartfelt Foundation, begun in 1979, is a volunteer-driven 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to serving and assisting people in any form of need. 100% of all donations received go directly to those whom the Foundation serves.

Heartfelt's mission statement is: "Changing people's lives through the healing power of heartfelt service."

We believe at Heartfelt that as each of us extends into being our brother's keeper and into that awareness of taking care of one another, the planet does transform and it does lift and it does make a difference. It happens one by one.

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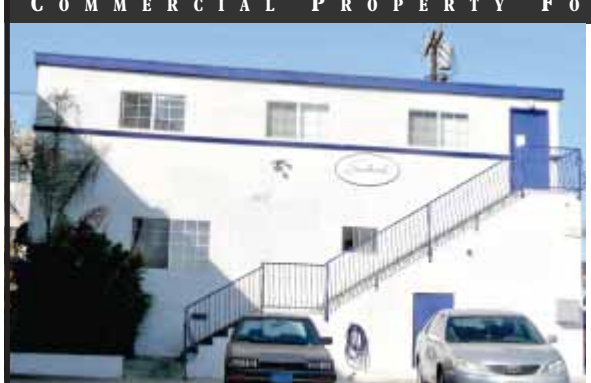
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New bike center planned for mall garages

FROM COUNCIL PAGE 1

imately $2.5 million. Including the purchase cost, City Hall's net cost to buy the building would be about $700,000.

"At the end of 20 years, the city could sell the property or maintain it for city operations," a city staff report said. "Unless there is a dramatic decline in property values, the present value of the property's sale price should exceed the city's net cost to purchase the property."

City Hall has purchased a handful of properties over the past several years, including a cluster on Fifth Street in Downtown.

NEW BIKE CENTER FOR PUBLIC STRUCTURES

Parking in the structures adjacent to Santa Monica Place won't just be for cars soon.

A new bicycle center equipped with rentals, related retail, and attendant and self-parking is planned for Structures 7 and 8, which flank the northeast and southwest corners of the mall and are slated to undergo renovation next year.

Construction of the center will be funded by an approximately $1.67 million grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and a $904,000 local match obligation by City Hall. The money was originally allocated for a similar bike facility at Parking Structure 2 in the 1200 block of Second Street but was shifted to the mall garages because of concerns over whether the grants could be retained because of design issues at the former that could jeopardize its ability to meet a tight time frame.

Annette Colfax, the transportation demand manager at City Hall, said that the mall structures are appropriate for a bike center because of their proximity to the future Exposition Light Rail terminus on Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street. Plans for the two garages have also already cleared environmental and California Coastal Commission review.

NEW ORDINANCES APPROVED

The council approved an ordinance that regulates the number and type of driveways permitted for parking lots that have more than 40 spaces.

The ordinance will make an interim ordinance that was set to expire on Dec. 11 permanent. It requires that parking lots with 21-40 spaces have one double driveway. Lots with more than 41 spaces must be approved by the transportation planning manager based on safety, efficiency and effectiveness.

The law will go into effect 30 days from adoption.

City officials also decided to extend an interim ordinance concerning sideyard setback standards through Nov. 10, 2011.

The ordinance affects lots that are 50 feet or greater in width in the OP-4 district, requiring a minimum sideyard setback of 8 feet for portions of buildings that have a secondary window, blank wall or primary window on a sideyard facing the street, such as properties located on corners.

The council must still approve the ordinance on a second and final reading at its next meeting.

melodyh@smdp.com

Suspects in beating death plead not guilty

FROM SUSPECT PAGE 1

front of 1948 20th Street. He had a previous head injury which required him to have a metal plate installed in his skull, police said.

Brumfield was transported to Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center where he died four days later. Brumfield, 49, had been a recognizable street figure in the Pico Neighborhood. SMPD Police Chief Tim Jackman said residents were "outraged" by the murder. Detectives said Brumfield was beaten because he allegedly insulted one of the suspects, an alleged member of the Graveyard Crips.

Detectives were forced to use wiretaps because of the nature of the investigation. It was difficult to infiltrate the gang because of its small size, around 20 active members, and its level of intimidation within the community, Jackman said.

Detectives turned to the D.A.'s Office and the California Department of Justice for assistance in securing the phone taps, which were approved in late 2008. While listening for any information on the Brumfield murder, detectives heard suspects discussing drug deals.

The investigation expanded, leading to the arrests of six suspects for the distribution of cocaine.

This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with additional information is encouraged to call the SMPD, Criminal Investigations Division at (310) 4589-8451 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8427 (24 hours). Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call We Tip at 1-800-78-CRIME (1-800-78-27463).

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Westside Residents To Plan Subway Extension
Public meetings are being held to plan various station locations along the proposed routes of the Westside Subway Extension. Metro is currently studying two alternatives for the proposed extension of the Metro Red or Purple lines. Visit *metro.net* or call 213.922.6934 for times and locations.

'Tis The Season To Go Metro
Celebrate the start of the holidays with more than 80 years of tradition. The Hollywood Christmas Parade once again marches down Hollywood Boulevard on Sunday, November 29. Metro Rail's Hollywood/Highland and Hollywood/Vine stations are located on the parade route. Make Santa's "Nice List" by making your trip on Metro.

Downtown Connector Meetings Begin November 5
Update meetings are being held on the proposed Regional Connector Transit Corridor through downtown LA. The project would create a seamless light rail transit link between the Metro Gold and Blue Lines. Visit *metro.net* for times, dates and locations.

Metro
If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1.800.464.2111, or visit *metro.net*.

LOL: laughing out loud
BRB: be right back
MUSM: miss you so much
A/S/L: age, sex, location
BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
LULAS: love you like a sister
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
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House Democrats prepare to finally unveil health bill

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON House Democrats reached agreement Wednesday on key elements of a health care bill that would vastly alter America's medical landscape, requiring virtually universal sign-ups and establishing a new government-run insurance option for millions.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi planned a formal announcement Thursday morning, but details were still being finalized, lawmakers and aides said. Officials said the legislation could be up for a vote on the House floor next week.

The rollout would cap months of arduous negotiations to bridge differences between liberal and moderate Democrats and blend health care overhaul bills passed by three separate committees over the summer. The developments in the House came as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., tried to round up support among moderate Democrats for his bill, which includes a modified government insurance option that states could opt out of.

Reid met Wednesday with Arkansas Sen. Blanche Lincoln, who faces a potentially tough re-election next year.

The final product in the House, reflecting many of President Barack Obama's priorities, includes new requirements for employers to offer insurance to their workers or face penalties, fines on Americans who don't purchase coverage and subsidies to help lower-income people do so. Insurance companies would face new prohibitions against charging much more to older people or denying coverage to people with health conditions.

The price tag, topping $1 trillion over 10 years, would be paid for by taxing high-income people and cutting some $500 billion in payments to Medicare providers. The legislation would extend health coverage to around 95 percent of Americans.

"I'm pretty confident that we've got the right pieces in place," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, one of the three panels involved in writing the bill. "We can quibble over parts of it, but the fact is when you're taking a 60-year-old system that grew up in a rather haphazard fashion and you're trying to bring some coherence to it, these are sort of the things you have to do at the beginning of that process."

Plenty of work remains to be done before a bill could land on Obama's desk — and there's still no guarantee that Congress can complete the legislation before year's end, as the president wants. If Obama does sign a health overhaul bill, he will have bucked decades of failed attempts by past administrations, most recently by former President Bill Clinton in the 1990s.

House leaders hope to finish the bill before Veteran's Day, Nov. 11. The Senate is aiming to start debate sometime in the next several weeks.

Bills passed by the House and Senate would have to be merged before a final product could be sent to Obama, and there are a number of differences between the two chambers that would have to be reconciled. Among them are the different approaches to the public plan. The House does not include the opt-out provision for states, and it has more stringent requirements for employers. The Senate would use a tax on high-value insurance plans to pay for the bill, an approach that the House version doesn't have.

In the end, Pelosi, D-Calif., and other House leaders were unable to round up the necessary votes for their preferred version of the government insurance plan — one that would base payment rates to providers on rates paid by Medicare. Instead, the Health and Human Services secretary would negotiate rates with providers, the approach preferred by moderates and the one that will be featured in the Senate's version.

That marked a defeat for liberal lawmakers, who argued for months that a public insurance plan tied to Medicare would save more money for the government, and offer cheaper rates to consumers. Moderates feared that doctors, hospitals and other providers, particularly those in rural states, would be hurt, and in the end they looked poised to prevail, despite constituting a distinct minority in the 256-member House Democratic caucus.

Some liberals were prepared to accept the negotiated rate structure. Others were still withholding support, even while pointing to Reid's inclusion of a government insurance plan in the Senate bill as a victory in itself.

"We were laughed at in August. Who would have thought that the Senate bill would have a public option?" said Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-Calif., a co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Woolsey was noncommittal about whether progressives would accept the negotiated rates. "This is not walkaway time and it is not acceptance time," Woolsey said.

Members of the progressive caucus, along with lawmakers from the black and Hispanic caucuses, were scheduled to meet with Obama at the White House on Thursday, she said.

The legislation would set up a new purchasing exchange where small businesses and individuals without affordable health care options could shop for and compare insurance plans. The new public plan would be one offered in the exchange, and it would be optional; an analysis by the Congressional Budget Office of early versions of the bill said that the public plan would be expected to cover 9 million to 10 million people by 2019.

The House plan also envisions a significant expansion of Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for low income people.

Democratic leaders still faced disputes over prohibiting taxpayer money for abortions and health care for illegal immigrants, issues they hoped to resolve after the bill's unveiling.







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MLB

Observers: Dodgers and divorce don't mix

GREG RISLING
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES The last couple of weeks have been downright brutal for Dodger fans.

Not only did the team get booted for the second consecutive year by the Philadelphia Phillies in the National League championship series, but now fans are learning about the front-office infighting during the season between owner Frank McCourt and his wife and former Dodger chief executive officer Jamie McCourt.

The couple's pending divorce and questions over whether the pair share ownership of the Dodgers threatens to throw the offseason in disarray and may crimp the team's ability to re-sign players or pursue free agents.

The team already has plenty to deal with this winter. The Dodgers face the most potential players eligible for free agency with 16, including Manny Ramirez, who must decide if he will exercise his $20 million option for next season and return. Manager Joe Torre is entering into the final season of his three-year contract.

This scenario has been played out before — albeit on a smaller stage with the San Diego Padres, a Dodger rival. Former owner John Moores sold a portion of the team earlier this year to a group lead by former Arizona Diamondbacks CEO Jeff Moorad, a deal driven by Moores' difficult divorce from his wife, Becky. Moorad's group will get complete control of the Padres within five years.

Robert Nachshin, an attorney who represented Moores in the divorce case, said Major League Baseball officials understand divorce is common, but might be queasy that the McCourts have gone public with their grievances.

"It's unfortunate that it's public," said Nachshin, who also has represented former Giants slugger Barry Bonds and other athletes. "It's not good for baseball. It's not good for the Dodgers. It's not good for the McCourts."

On Tuesday, Jamie McCourt filed for divorce, sought to regain her $2 million job and claimed she is the rightful co-owner of the Dodgers. Superior Court Commissioner Scott Gordon postponed the hearing until Nov. 5, saying he needed to review all the documents. Neither Jamie nor Frank McCourt were in court Wednesday.

Jamie McCourt claims her husband wanted her out of the team's front office as a way to "humiliate and ostracize" her. She said in a declaration that she was excluded from management decisions and had lodged a workplace harassment complaint with team attorneys.

She was fired on Oct. 21 — the same day the Dodgers were bounced from the playoffs by the Phillies.

In response, Frank McCourt said he fired his estranged wife because she was having an affair with her bodyguard and doing a poor job.

In a filing submitted by the Dodgers that opposes her return to the team, Dodgers attorneys allege that Jamie McCourt took a trip with her bodyguard-driver, Jeff Fuller, in early July to Israel on team business, but then headed to France for 2Ω weeks and billed the Dodgers for the trip. Jamie McCourt is also accused of not giving her husband any information about her assignments as chief executive and not providing the team with her schedule of public appearances.

In a declaration filed by Frank McCourt, he references Fuller as well, saying before his wife went on the trip she asked him for three things — one of which was to have Fuller be her driver.

Fuller, who worked for the Dodgers since January 2007 and was director of protocol, was let go earlier this month.

Jamie McCourt's attorney, Dennis Wasser, declined to comment.

How the Dodgers will spend their money next season is not known. The team's 2009 payroll was just north of $100 million, ranking ninth highest in the majors.

Nachshin believes the McCourts will have to spend millions of dollars on legal fees.

"I predict each side will spend $10 million," he said.

Jamie McCourt also wants access to perks including travel by private jet, stays at five-star resorts and use of the Dodgers owners' suite. She wants $321,000 a month in spousal support if reinstated to her former position. If not, she believes she should be paid nearly $488,000 per month.

Nachshin believes if Jamie McCourt's request for $321,000 or more in monthly spousal support is granted, it would be the highest awarded in California. He said he's handled a case where $100,000 a month was awarded and many colleagues tell him that's the highest amount they're aware of.

He added she's unlikely to be reinstated to her former position with the Dodgers. Nachshin said an order requiring Frank McCourt to rehire her would be unprecedented.

Whomever is the team's owner in 2010, Dodger players and personnel don't believe the feud will hamper the payroll or affect the team on the field.

"I got to believe in my heart they're going to handle it the right way," pitcher Jon Garland said.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Defense makes Oregon dangerous

ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. Oregon's resilient defense has received little attention while the rest of the teams has made headlines.

The season-opening loss to Boise State, LeGarrette Blount's punch, his suspension and his possible reinstatement — and even a whiff of a quarterback controversy — have been the big news around the 10th-ranked Ducks this season.

All the while, the Ducks' D has steadily developed after losing six starters from last season and even a couple of key contributors to injury.

Oregon (6-1, 4-0) has allowed just three touchdowns to its Pac-10 opponents this season, but faces perhaps its biggest challenge Saturday when fourth-ranked USC (6-1, 3-1) visits Autzen Stadium.

The Ducks are the only team in the Pac-10 without a league loss.

"Chemistry," cornerback Talmadge Jackson explained. "Our chemistry's always been good here, but this year, we've really jelled as a whole defense and not just individual units, and we've really played team defense. There's no egos here."

The unheralded defense has twice as many sacks (22-11) as their opponents.



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 66°

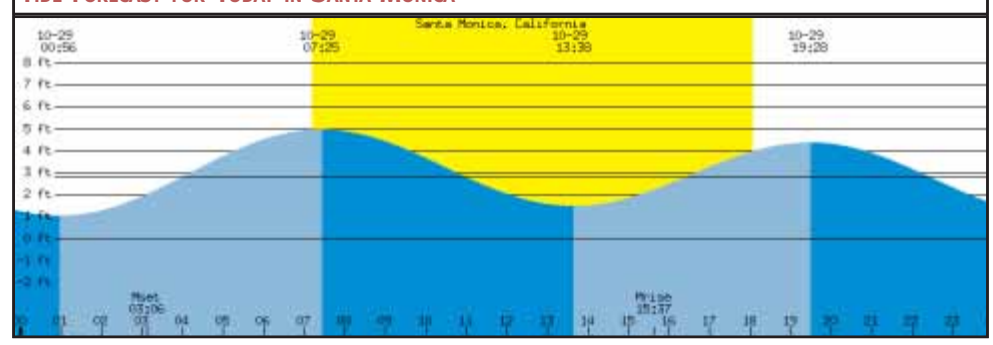
Swell Forecast

Should see a dramatic decrease in NW wind swell with waist to maybe chest high waves around west facing breaks. Winds should be lightly offshore in the morning, and onshore in the afternoon 8-12 mph.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks small as well, perhaps just ankle to knee high most everywhere. Winds should be lightly offshore in the morning, and onshore in the afternoon 8-12 mph.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **October 14, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 2
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
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 Lechasa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	C	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
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

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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.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:25, 4:25, 7:30, 10:20

The Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 40min
2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45

A Serious Man (R) 1hr 45min
2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:10

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

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

Paranormal Activity (R) 1hr 39min
1:15, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 10:05

Astro Boy (PG) 1hr 34min
1:50, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
12:20, 1:45, 2:45, 4:10, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40

Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant (PG-13) 1hr 48min
2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00

Saw VI (R) 1hr 31min
12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

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

Amelia (PG) 2hr 0min
1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

The Maid (La Nana) (NR) 1hr 34min
1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35

Motherhood (PG-13) 1hr 30min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

New York, I Love You (R) 1hr 43min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

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

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 3D (PG) 1hr 21min
11:40am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:00

Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1hr 47min
3:50

Couples Retreat — Digital Projection (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

The Informant! (R) 1hr 48min
1:10, 6:30

Law Abiding Citizen (R) 1hr 48min
12:20, 1:30, 2:50, 4:20, 5:20, 6:50, 7:50, 9:20, 10:20

Michael Jackson's This Is It (PG) 2hrs 1min
9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:45

The Stepfather (PG-13) 1hr min41
12:10, 2:40, 5:10

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

Kick up your heels, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Read between the lines. Your fiery side emerges when dealing with others, though you would be well advised to keep some information to yourself. If you sense a major change in the wind, you aren't wrong. Tonight: Say yes to playing the recluse (just for a night).

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You are ready to zero in and hit a home run. Don't get distracted by someone's display of anger. Stay true to yourself. Make a vow to take better care of yourself in the next few months. Tonight: Find a friend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ A must-do situation could cause you some trouble. Avoid reactions, as opposed to thoughtful reactions. Just because there are some fireworks doesn't mean you cannot claim your power. Tonight: Accept a situation with a loved one.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your ability to intuit through a difficult situation keeps you on top of your game. You might be considering a home-based business or a home office. Just don't give up your day job -- yet. Tonight: Where there is music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ A partner wants to relate directly with you. Let this person, though you could find the situation quite irritating. You might not be able to contain yourself as your temper flares. Be aware of the impact of your words. Tonight: Talk over dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Defer to others and let their intentions and concerns come forward. A comment could cause your temper to flare out of the blue. Note what you normally do with your anger, and decide if that is an effective way of handling these feelings. Tonight: Let someone else choose.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Dig into work and get the job done. You could be put out by a friend or a meeting. Clearly, this person is pushing in a direction that you are not comfortable with. Realize what is happening here, and then act. Tonight: Fit in a visit to the gym or some exercise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Someone acts out when dealing with you. You cannot control this person at the moment. You could feel as if someone is attempting to contain your ideas, energy and abilities. Stop. Relax. Then tune in to your creativity. Tonight: Kick up your heels.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Be careful when dealing with a personal matter. You don't want to reveal too much too fast. Fatigue could mark your decisions. Knowing that, listen and say little, and even if you are fretting, know that everything can change in a moment. Tonight: Happy to be home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to move in a new direction. A meeting or conversation could prove to be more explosive than you initially thought it would. Be even and steadfast if you state opinions, or say nothing. Uproar can occur nearly anywhere. Tonight: Find your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You might want to duck, as different parties seem to be a little too verbal for your taste. You might want to hide rather than be the person some of this anger is directed at, even if you have nothing to do with the situation. Tonight: Join a pal for munchies and let go of the day.

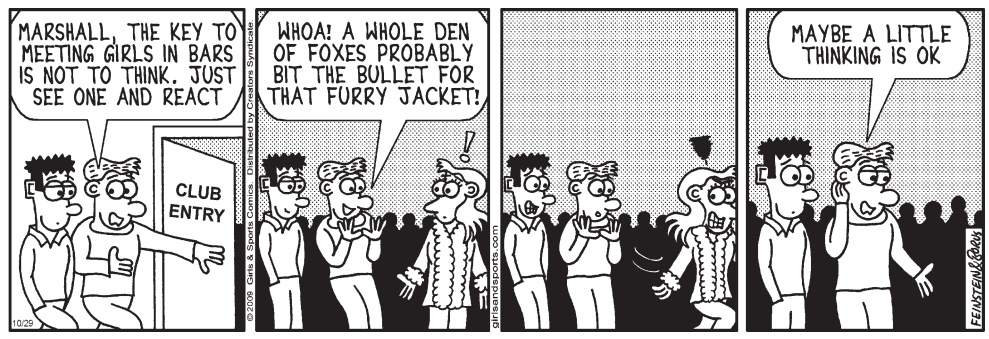
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your energy could be important in resolving a problem involving someone at a distance, or a legal matter could become more and more frustrating. Be smart, and turn to some project or meeting that is less stressful. Tonight: Do your thing.

Happy birthday

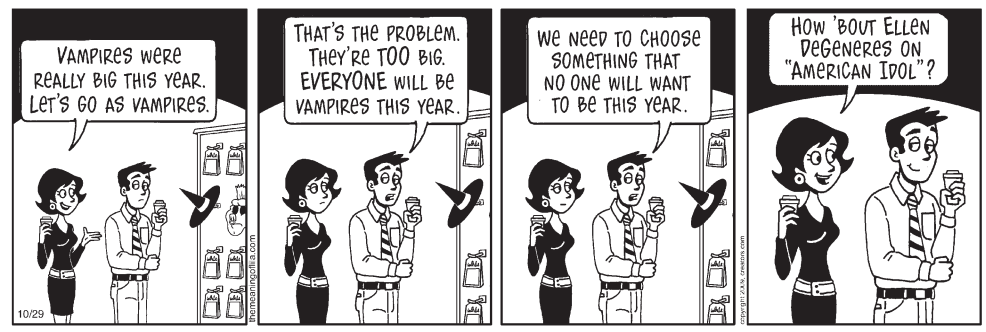
This year, people might seem more reactive or feisty. You will need to make a decision in your head as to boundaries on issues and when to establish your limits. A boss or an authority figure could ride you hard, and sometimes you could feel overwhelmed. Working in conflict can be difficult, but it might be worth it. Only you can decide. Sometimes you find an ingenious solution. If you are single, you might not want to be alone, but be careful as to whom you decide to do the tango with. Try not to come from neediness. If you are attached, the two of you are often in conflict. Agree to disagree. Respect your differences. PISCES encourages creativity.

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

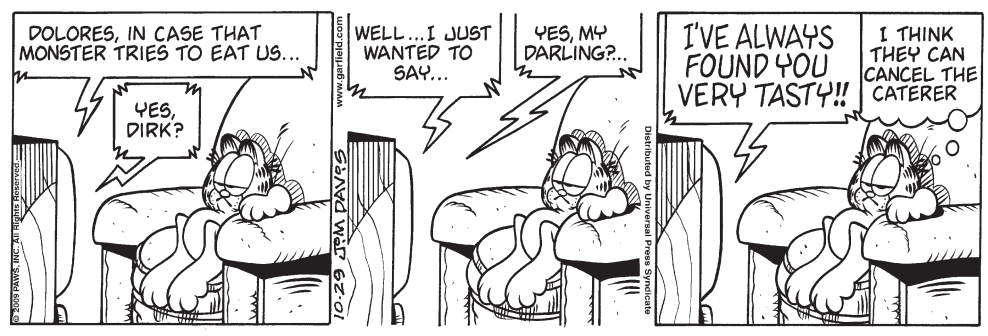
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



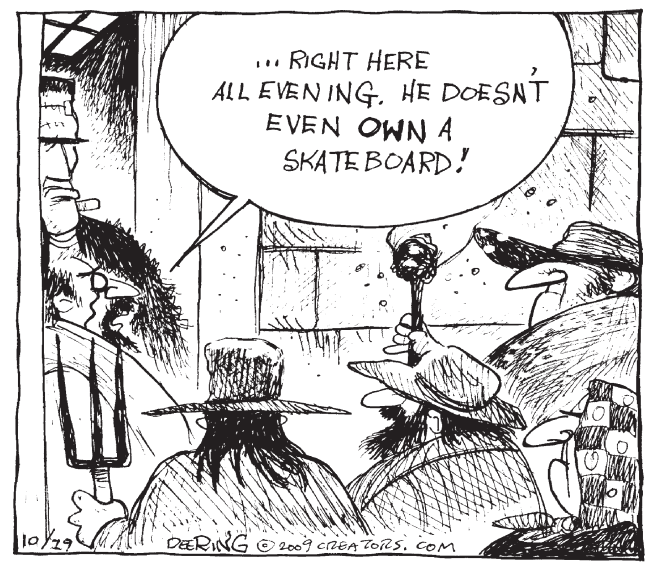
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Leslie Thomas *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Like bucks
5 Old newsmen
11 Uttered
12 Montana on TV
13 Speech problem
14 Indifference
15 "Pollock" star
17 Foreseeing skill, for short
18 Model sticker
22 Sinful city
24 Deli fixture
25 "I" strain
26 Icarus, to Daedalus
27 Blow one's top
30 Massage targets
32 Paris underground
33 That lass
34 Quite a lot
38 Marigold color
41 Bakery buy
42 Rectitude
43 Inspiration
44 Shamed
45 Crockpot contents

DOWN

1 Lawn pest
2 Parched
3 Attacked verbally
4 Rio Grande city
5 Burn
6 Rafting hazard
7 Soon
8 Tolkien tree creature
9 Fan sound
10 Bashful
16 LP speed unit
19 Stopped gambling
20 Lotion additive
21 Eye part
22 Appear
23 Shrek, for one
28 Darkroom output
29 Taste bud locale
30 Nile snake
31 Entrances
35 Parrot snack
36 Different
37 Murdered
38 Eggs, to Caesar
39 Umbrella part
40 Notre Dame's Parseghian

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				■	12					
13				■	14					
15				16				■	■	■
■	■	17			■	18		19	20	21
22	23				■	24				
25			■	■	■	■	■	26		
27			28	29	■	30	31			
32					■	33			■	■
■	■	■	34		35				36	37
38	39	40				■	41			
42						■	43			
44						■	45			

10-29

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 7 13 37 46 51
Meganumber: 2
Jackpot: $40M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 10 11 26 32
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $11M

Fantasy 5: 13 20 24 28 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 0 0
EVENING: 4 2 5

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1.40.59

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

■ The mayor of the Paris suburb of Levallois-Perret, faced with an overcrowded highway D909 through town, "solved" the problem recently by making the street one-way, sending traffic speedily into the adjacent town of Clichy-la-Garenne. That city's mayor (a political rival of the Levallois-Perret mayor) reacted by making his portion of D909 one-way back toward Levallois-Perret, creating a dilemma at the city limit. Other authorities are working to resolve the impasse.

■ Chutzpah! In the tiny east Texas town of Tenaha, police allegedly extorted traveling motorists by subjecting them to bogus traffic stops, perhaps finding small amounts of drugs, and then offering to forgo prosecution if the motorists would forfeit their cars and other property. The forfeited items were then sold to fund a special police recreation account. Last year, the ACLU of Texas filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against both the police and local prosecutor Lynda Russell, and in September 2009, Russell asked the state attorney general if she could pay her legal expenses from the alleged extorted recreation account.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1665 Battle of Ambuila, where Portuguese forces defeated the forces of the Kingdom of Kongo and decapitated king Antonio I of Kongo, also called Nvita a Nkanga.

1675 Leibniz makes the first use of the long s (?) as a symbol of the integral in calculus.

1787 Mozart's opera Don Giovanni receives its first performance in Prague.

1792 Mount Hood (Oregon) is named after the British naval officer Alexander Arthur Hood by Lt. William E. Broughton who spotted the mountain near the mouth of the Willamette River.

1859 Spain declares war on Morocco.

1863 Sixteen countries meeting in Geneva agree to form the International Red Cross.

WORD UP!

conflate \kuhn-FLAYT\ , transitive verb; 1. To bring together; to fuse together; to join or meld.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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L.A. 1523 Holt Ave unit 1+1 large lower unit stove, fridge, hardwood, parking, cat OK with deposit, $1195, $500 off move-in (310) 578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

L.A. GROVE area 428 N Orange Grove unit 101 1+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile bathroom separate tub/shower hardwood/ vinyl floors, on-site laundry no pets $1195/mo $500 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA 12760 Matteson Ave #8 1+1 $925/mo stove, fridge, tile and vinlyn floors, blinds, parking, laundry, no pets non smoking call between 5:30-7:30pm units shown by appt.only $750 off move-in (310) 439-1928 jkwproperties.com

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: $5.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.

Classifieds

GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it. Santa Monica Daily Press

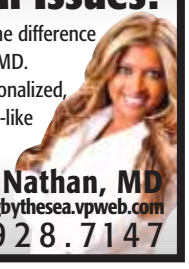
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Kate Bransfield
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Society of Excellence
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310.395.1133
1608 Montana Avenue
Santa Monica, CA

Day Light Savings Reminder!

When you go to bed Saturday night, October 31st(Halloween)....
Be sure to set your clocks **back** one hour.

Since the batteries in your smoke detector should be changed twice a year,
I'll remind you each time we change our clocks, to change your batteries as well …….it's important.





As promised, I will remind you twice a year to take care of these important safety issues:

Inside your home:
- Change the batteries in all of your smoke detectors.
- Clean and/or change the filters in your furnace.
- Clean out any lint and/or fabric from the vents of your clothes dryer.
- Check electrical outlets for potential fire hazards such as frayed wires or loose fitting plugs.
- Check for overloading of electrical outlets, fuse boxes, extension cords etc.
- Keep a filled and ready-to-use, multi-purpose fire extinguisher accessible.
- Check water heater for leaks and corrosion.

In your yard:
- Remove all dead trees & keep healthy trees & shrubs trimmed & away from utility wires.
- Remove dead leaves and all debris from your gutters and downspouts.
- Repair driveway & walkways that are cracked, broken or uneven to provide a level surface.

Oh, by the way, if you or someone you know is thinking of buying or selling a home,
and would appreciate my level of service, I'd love to help. So, just contact me and I'll happily follow up.

Starting Sunday, Novemeber 1st, Sunday Open Houses will be from 1 - 4 pm

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

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,650,000	$4,810,000
North of Montana	$2,897,500	$1,349,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,887,000	$913,500
South of Wilshire	$859,000	$599,000
Sunset Park	$1,249,500	$542,000
Ocean Park	$1,599,000	$1,049,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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