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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 311

Santa Monica Daily Press

U.S.ARMY

SHE'S IN THE ARMY NOW
SEE PAGE 5

We have you covered

THE PARK IT ISSUE



Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

WORK TO DO: **City workers rush to repair a ruptured water main near the corner of Washington Avenue and Second Street on Tuesday.**

Water main failure floods neighborhood

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

WASHINGTON AVE A 10-inch water main burst near Washington Avenue and Second Street Tuesday afternoon, sending torrents water rushing into underground garages, flooding parked cars, city officials said.

The cause of the break and the extent of the damages was not known at presstime, however, several residents were seen bailing water from their BMWs and Volvos as city workers rushed to pump out the water and lay new pipe.

"The way it was coming in and gushing in was just horrific," Anna Littles said of the water. "I was surprised the water rose as high and fast as it did in the garage."

Residents were advised to contact their insurance companies and City Hall's Risk Management Division, which handles claims for damages. The division can be reached at (310) 458-8910. A liability claim form can be downloaded at www.01.smgov.net/finance/risk/index.htm.

Gil Borboa, the water resources manager for City Hall, said the water main, made of cast iron and installed in 1967, ruptured around 3 p.m. Crews were able to shut off the water about 30 minutes later and set up several pumps to clear the water from garages. Only one apartment building seemed to be without water following the shut off.

Crews planned to have the ruptured main repaired by midnight on Tuesday.

"Sometimes it is hard to tell what caused the break," Borboa said. "It could have been a hairline fracture … ."

Changes in the weather or small seismic shifts could have aggravated a fracture, causing the pipe to burst, Borboa said.

"These mains are under some serious pressure, around 100 [pounds per square inch] go through that line," he said.

A typical home has a PSI of 40 or 50.

To make matters worse, some residents in the area were also without power because of upgrades being made by Southern California Edison. Power was expected to be restored by 6 p.m. with Edison using a generator until a failed conduit is repaired today. A section of Wilshire Boulevard from Second Street to Third Street was blocked off because of the installation of a high-voltage cable, said Mark Olson with So Cal Edison.

"I feel like I'm in the 18th century — I've been reading a book by candlelight. It changes everything," said Victoria Holt. "It's really made me think … . If we have a disaster, what haven't I got? I don't think we're prepared."

Residents said the one positive was that neighbors banded together to get cars and other belongings to dry ground.

"I don't even know what to think about this," said Pat Minahane. "But I guess what I'm really appreciating is all the neighbors helping each other."

CARLEE JENSEN contributed to this report.

kevinh@smdp.com

Verizon opens parking lot for businesses

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

BROADWAY Parking is never easy to come by, but in the heart of the city's light industrial district where businesses have exploded over the past 30 years, it can at times seem impossible to find.

But there will be some temporary relief to the long-standing parking problem along the eastern stretch of Broadway after City Hall and Verizon recently entered a short-term lease agreement in which the telecommunications company agreed to open its lot on the 2200 block for businesses to use for free until Nov. 22.

The lease came in response to concerns from local business owners about the expected loss of parking from road construction that was anticipated to begin this month on Broadway Place, an alley that sits to the south side of the street, blocking as a result access to on-site parking spaces,

SEE PARKING PAGE 9



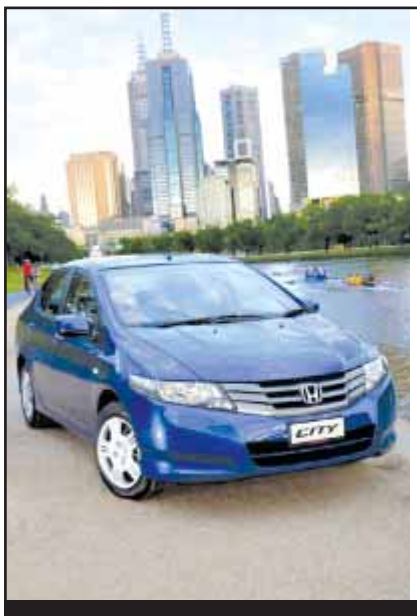
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009

Hip flicks
AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade, 9 a.m.
Come to a free screening of "Cherrybomb" starring Harry Potter's Rupert Grint. The screening will be part of the American Film Market festival being held in Santa Monica from Nov. 4 — 11. Contact Jo Galloway at (713) 582-5535 to sign up. Space is limited.

Ballroom by the bay
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club
1210 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — 11 p.m.
Come for a dance lesson at 7 p.m. and learn how to waltz, foxtrot, swing, hustle and dance the on a 3,000-square-foot floor. No partner is required. Parking is available next door. Price is $10. Call (310) 487-0911 for more information.

Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009

Pole dancing for fun and fitness
Isabelle's Dance Academy
1334 Lincoln Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Get the best work-out of your life learning how to pole dance. Pole dancing will make you stronger at every level, from your body to your sense of self-esteem. Get in touch with your sensual side. Lessons are $39. Call (310) 392-3493 for more information.

Sustainable eating
Santa Monica Main Library
MLK Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Learn about the "nose to tail" movement. "Eating the Whole Farm" will cover how farmers, customers and chefs are working together to revitalize traditional farming and cooking methods by growing and eating everything on the farm. Panelists will include chefs and farmers alike, as well as Evan Kleiman from KCRW's "Good Food." Call (310) 458-8600 for more information.

Literary lecture
Santa Monica College
HSS 165, 1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Percival Everett, distinguished professor of English at the University of Southern California, will be lecturing on his book, "When It's Torture." Everett is an award-winning novelist and author of fiction. The event is free. Call (310) 434-4003 for details.

Friday, Nov. 6, 2009

"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"
Malibu Stage Company
29243 Pacific Coast Hwy., 8 p.m.
The Malibu Stage Company presents the musical "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" by Joe DiPietro and Jimmy Roberts. The musical is put on every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Admission is $35. Call (310) 429-2665 for more information.

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009

Headliners only
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 10 p.m. — 11:30 p.m.
Enjoy a comedy extravaganza for only $10 on the promenade. Six comedians will perform. Minors are prohibited from attending the event, which is located in the alley behind Barney's Beanery. Call (310) 451-0850 or (818) 216-4215 for more information.

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



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

BODY OF WORK: **Students at Roosevelt Elementary school created works of art as part of the school's Reflections art program.**

Students express thoughts on beauty

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MONTANA AVENUE Beauty is …

"For people with a passion for fashion and for love," one girl said.

Beauty is …

"Nature," another student said.

Beauty is …

"Friends," according to another young girl.

Those are just some of the sentiments expressed by a group of students at Roosevelt Elementary School who through an art project with the Parent Teacher Association recently artistically displayed their thoughts on the concept of beauty.

A part of the Roosevelt PTA's Reflections Art Program, approximately 300 pieces representing various media from paint to collages to mixed media will be on display at the school's auditorium for the next two weeks, kicking off with an opening reception and awards ceremony tonight at 6:30.

"It encourages students to express themselves creatively and for them to have an opportunity to be recognized for it," Diana Hobstetter, the chair of the PTA's Reflections committee, said.

While all students tonight will receive recognition for their entries, a select few will be awarded as the best in their respective categories — music, dance, film, literature, photography, painting and drawing — and go on to the district level competition. If successful, the winner will then go on to higher levels of competition, eventually ending up in the national race.

The program saw participation explode this year, going from roughly 70 entries to more than 300, which represents about half of the student population, an increase that some attribute to heightened communications efforts, including a new Web site.

Jen Maxcy, the PTA president at Roosevelt, said the program introduces students to the idea of unlimited media that goes beyond the conventional paintings and drawings.

"They are not told they have to do a painting, they are not told they have to do it this way or that way," Maxcy, who has two children at Roosevelt, said. "For them, they can see a piece of art, an expression and I think it's a lovely thing."

Among the participants was Gigi Grossman, a fourth grader who focused her project on friends, drawing caricatures and taking photos of her friends.

Grossman, who is Hobstetter's daughter, said her original plan was to make her family the subject of her piece but found it difficult to take photos since so many members live out of state.

"I think it's really fun to do an art project that is themed," she said.

The auditorium on Monday was transformed into an art gallery showcasing the young thoughts of elementary school children, its walls covered in construction paper and canvases that are splashed with bright cheerful colors. Some students experimented with unconventional methods, one using a hanger and another a mirror for their projects.

Sofia Rossignol, a kindergarten student, focused her project on a white fish because she liked it. Her peer, Natalie Anderson, drew a butterfly and a flower.

"I decided to draw that because it's pretty," Anderson, also a kindergarten student, said.

Many of the pieces were created during a series of lunchtime workshops hosted by parents who would set up tables with art supplies on the playground.

"It's really a great example of building upon children's creativity and artistic expression in a variety of ways," Natalie Burton, the principal, said.

melodyh@smdp.com

AFM a market with a crop of fresh producers

BY ANNE STALLONE AND DAVID KATZ
Special to the Daily Press

OCEAN AVE For the next week, Downtown will become the world's largest boardroom, as thousands of filmmakers, agents and distributors from roughly 70 countries gather in local hotels and movie theaters to compete in an intense bidding war for the latest crop of potential Academy Award winners.

While film festivals like Cannes and Sundance provide opportunities for celebrities and Hollywood hotshots to celebrate the art and culture of filmmaking, the American Film Market (AFM), which opens today and runs until Nov. 11 is more like a prolonged power lunch where independent films are critiqued by producers and distributors looking to make bids in hopes of landing a lucrative project.

It is estimated that $800 million worth of transaction will be made during the market's run.

The AFM was founded in 1981 and is produced by the Independent Film and Television Alliance to pitch projects to 8,000 industry professionals. It is an annual gathering in Santa Monica that brings film

SEE AFM PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

SETTING UP: **Technician Geoff Brackemyre sets up the audio/visual displays for the American Film Market inside the lobby at the Loews beach hotel on Ocean Avenue on Tuesday.**

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121: one to one ADN: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location** B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWL: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin CID: crying in disgrace CNP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DQMOT: don't quote me on this EG: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FMTYEWTK: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth G2G: got to go G: grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GD&R: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMBO: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you H&K: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night **HDOP: help delete online predators** HHIS: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don't know IHA: I hate acronyms IIRC: if I remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my not so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IOW: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I will always love you IYSWIM: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? L8R: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let's meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LULAS: love you like a sister** LUWAMH: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOSS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you so much NADT: not a darn thing NIFOC: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of affection PEBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJIB: pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: put on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT: cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L: spam for life SETE: smiling ear to ear SHCOON: shoot hot coffee out of nose SHID: slaps head in disgust SF: surfer friendly SNERT: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STW: search the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: see you soon TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TILII: tell it like it is TMI: too much information TOY: thinking of you TTYL: talk to you later UW: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn't it be nice if **WTGP: want to go private?** WTG: way to go WU: what's up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you'll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't pitch the dog

ANYONE WHO DOES IN-HOME SALES work will tell you it's a waste of time to make presentations to people who aren't decision makers. Make all the small talk you have to, but wait until both husband and wife are sitting at the kitchen table before you start selling. The point is that only a decision maker can say yes when you ask for the sale, so anybody who doesn't have the ability to cut a check becomes the dog by default — and you don't pitch the dog.

The Mid-City community has been dealing with the problems associated with having an active construction site at Saint John's Health Center for 15 years — including parking scarcity and rivers of sewage running through the streets, into our storm drains, and onto Will Rogers State Beach (which closed for a day-and-a-half because of a sewage spill on the same day the hospital's sewage system had a "mechanical failure").

The nurses who provide care at the hospital have also experienced health problems from sewage: like nausea, vomiting, and headaches caused by the perfume used to mask the smell. Recently, City Hall received an application to change the Development Agreement (DA) with Saint John's so the hospital can "defer" constructing 422 underground parking spaces it committed to building when the DA was drafted. Unfortunately for the neighbors, the nurses, and city, none of them are negotiating with the decision maker because that person never comes to Santa Monica; though City Hall doesn't seem to care and is ready to give up the parking spaces.

Saint John's is only one of 15 hospitals (they bought two this year for $300 million) and clinics in four states that make up the much larger Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System — and I do mean much larger. According to their June 2009 Operating Information and Management Discussion, in the first six months of this year Gross Patient Service Revenue for SCLHS and Affiliates was over $2.5 billion. As the global economy was melting down, SCLHS earned almost $30 million in profits; yet in spite of the sound financial health of its parent corporation, Saint John's claims they don't have the money to fix their sewage problem or to construct the promised parking spaces.

The local hospital can cry poverty because none of the 15 facilities has the power to spend SCLHS money. Since it was re-organized in 1994, even the Board of Directors at the SCLHS doesn't have much actual authority. In terms of the "acquisition, lease, sale, or mortgage of assets," the board is only charged with "recommending" a course of action to SCLHS members; the members are the ones with the power to approve a significant expenditure, though the board may spend "up to an amount determined by the SCLHS members." SCLHS spokesperson Christine Woolsey was unwilling to disclose that number.

These "Members" are the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas — as represented by the Community Director and the Community Council. They belong to an order of nuns with roots in 17th century France who came to Kansas from Nashville in the mid-1800's to do typical nun stuff: educate children, care for the sick, and provide homes for orphans. Fast-forward about 150 years and the number of hospitals and clinics in their healthcare ministry grew as the number of sisters in the order shrank. The nuns needed help and re-organized so that the SCLHS president (William Murray) handles day-to-day operations, though the SCL Community Council "remains the Corporate Member with specific reserved powers."

Those powers mainly reside in the person of Sister Joan Sue Miller, community director (known as Sister Sue). She sits on the SCLHS board and has been on the Community Council since 1986. I called her office and asked for her help with the sewage coming from her hospital. She was aware of the problem — she even stuck to the line that it comes from the construction of the new building — but directed me to call Bill Murray because she doesn't handle "specifics." She expected me to believe she doesn't how much money Murray is allowed to spend without the council's authorization. When I followed up by asking if she'd been on the council for 25 years she said, "Please don't do this."

Last week community members and RN's got together with Gleam Davis and Kevin McKeown from our City Council and Jason Perry and Jim Ries from our Planning Commission to discuss sewage, parking, and abatement of hazardous materials (reps from Saint John's were invited, but had more important things to do). Four things came out at that meeting: the DA is a city ordinance so not building those parking spaces could be a violation of the law; Planning Commission Director Eileen Fogarty is the person who would have to approve the hospital's application to break that law; our City Council would then have to grant permission to break that law; and the council literally has no idea who it's negotiating with at St. John's Heath Center.

For future reference, it's Sister Sue from the Sisters of Charity in Leavenworth, Kansas. She's the decision maker and everyone else is the dog. But will our City Council roll over and play dead for her and her giant hospital corporation disguised as a Catholic ministry?

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider with four-quadrant crossover appeal who thinks all Santa Monicans should call Sister Sue, Bill Murray, and Eileen Fogarty to express their concerns about St. John's Health Center. His past columns are archived at www.ifyoumissedit.com and he can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com.

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Melody Hanatani
melodyh@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Ryan Hyatt, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Merv Hecht, Ron Scott Smith, Mike Heayn, Brian Hepp, Mariel Howsepian, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, Steve Parker and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERNS
Catherine Cain, Marissa Lyman, Carlee Jensen, Derrick Oliver
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNS
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Grace Wang
gracew@smdp.com

Drew Swadling
drews@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
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410 Broadway, Suite B
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Praise for a wife on the war front

I LOVE MY WIFE.

Pvt. Lisa Gregory-Breen of recruit Bravo Company 068-02 last week embarked on her first steps toward her career as a professional war fighter in the U.S. Army. She joins the other young women of Bravo Co. who represent a constitutional directive that boasts 1.96 million other service members and citizen soldiers who stand ready to do violence on behalf of our republic so the rest of us 303 million Americans may sleep peaceably at night.

Do the math folks. It's a big responsibility with too few willing to hump that pack. It would be nice if Mr. Obama would recognize and act upon that. He's looking like four more years of Donald Rumsfeld every day. Mr. Obama seems to pursue victory in his "War of Necessity" like a dog chasing a car. It seems that he wouldn't know what to do with it if he actually caught it!

I get to say with a lot of pride that Pvt. Lisa Gregory-Breen joins my father, son, grandfathers, great-grandfathers, several uncles, cousins, my old Navy shipmates and myself as military kindred.

It's obvious that the women of Bravo Co. 068-02 have a bigger set of gonads than most of the granola-eaters that swarm Whole Foods pimping petitions from Amnesty International about women's rights. Lisa finds it incomprehensible that the fair weather feminists and their Beta-males of Code Pink can't seem to wrap their collectivist panties around the idea that 11-year-old Afghani girls being married off to 50 year-old "moderate Talibani" men to cook, clean, sew and provide concupiscent comfort is more reprehensible than anything Glenn Beck says. My wife wants to stop Afghani women from having their ears and noses hacked off by jihadis for voting in whatever masquerades as an "election" these days in Afghanistan. She wants to stop the Taliban from sexually mutilating young girls because corrupted jihadi theology dictates that "Allah says so."

Lisa wants Afghani women to enjoy the same rights that she enjoys. War's not the answer, you say? Folks, if Democrats had won the Civil War, we'd still have slaves.

But President Half-Measures thinks he can negotiate with the "moderate Taliban." He should check his big book from Narcissists Anonymous about the success of politically expedient "half-measures." Is it an inconvenient truth that Mr. Obama has directed more taxpayer-funded vitriol at a cable news station than he has dedicated against the Taliban? Senior White House advisors Rahm Emanuel, David Axelrod and Valerie Jarrett have spent more time castigating Fox News in the last 90 days than say anything that the terrorists might find offensive.

Lisa finds it offensive that Afghani women have taken to immolating themselves to escape abusive marriages to "moderate Talibani." She signed a petition back in the 1990s for Afghani women's rights when the Taliban took power after the Soviets left. She has now decided that instead of signing another politically impotent petition, she signed enlistment papers so she could open up a king size Tennessee-flavored can o' whoopass on the enemies of humanity on the far side of the world.

The month of October was the worst month for casualties in Obama's "War of Necessity" than in the previous eight years. It's still "all Bush's fault?" Remind me again who's allegedly leading the charge of the Rainbow and Unicorn Light Brigade over at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. How many more group therapy sessions is the Captain Candypants going to hold out on the golf course until his "Goldilocks" foreign policy of "not too hot, not too cold, but just right" manifests as an actual decision?

Just before my wife left for boot camp she told me, "I'm a little nervous, bunny. So you better not dump me while I'm gone because if you do, I'll hunt you down and kill you because I'll have learned how!" My wife doesn't believe in divorce, she believes in murder. She really meant that part in our marriage vows about, "… until death do us part." That's commitment, folks.

So let me reiterate: I love my wife! And I love her cooking, too!

My wife is excruciatingly intelligent (she did marry me after all, heh), and while she is committed to victory as the commander-in-chief is not, she enters her military service with some trepidation but anybody who has served in the Armed Forces understands and shares that with her. Welcome to the club, honey! There are 24.7 million veterans in the U.S. of which 1.7 million are women. To my wife and to the other of women of recruit Company Bravo, we got your back and give you all a rousing, "Hooah!"

And a big "thank you" to their drill sergeants. Teach 'em right. Help bring 'em home safe when the job is done.

STEVE BREEN salutes his brothers and sisters in arms this coming Veteran's Day and is still "the best looking mailman in the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com.

The Q Line

Parking perks

City officials are considering a proposal that would introduce parking validation to the city's many garages.

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

Do you think that parking validation is a good idea, and why?

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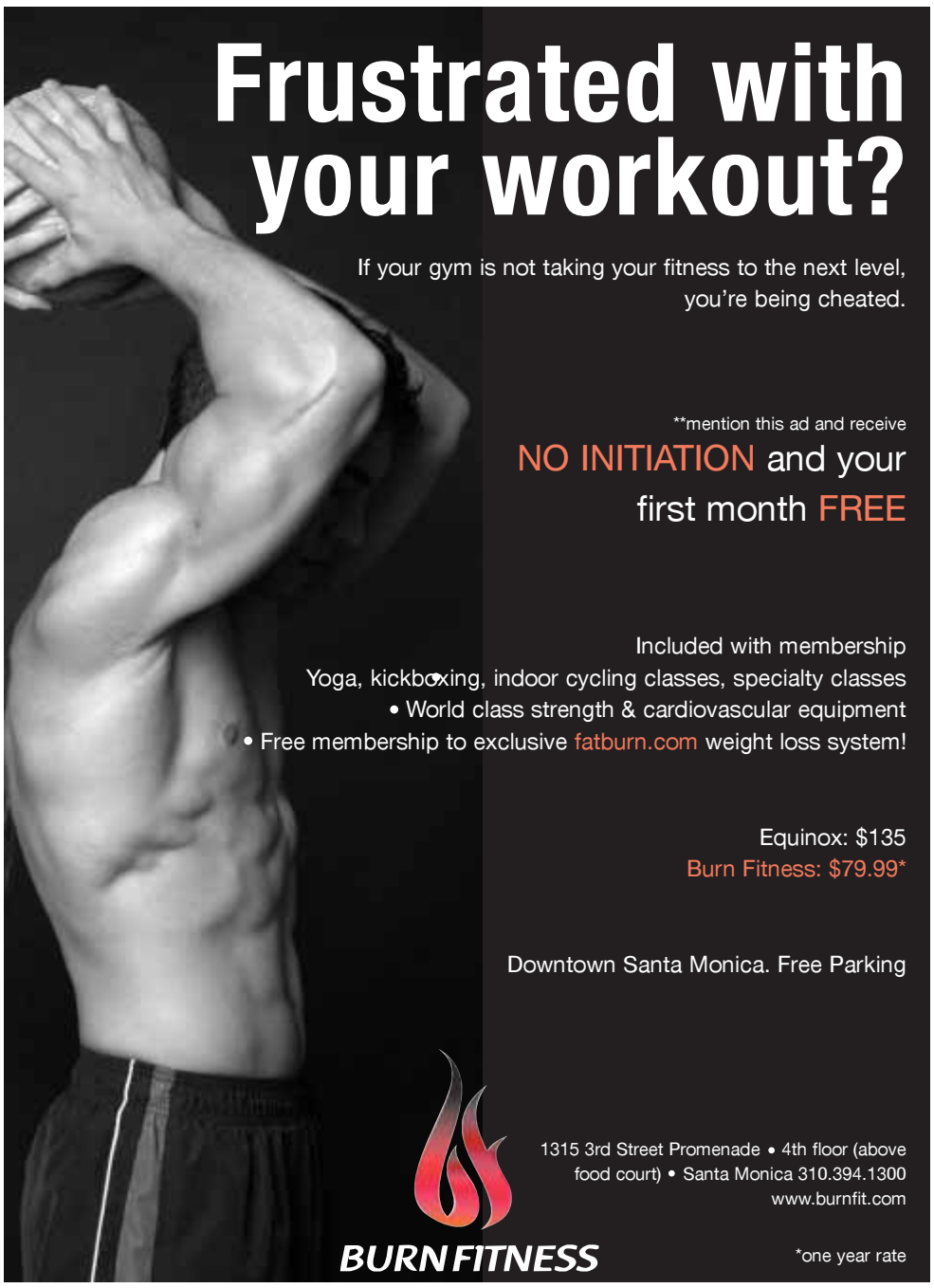


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WALL STREET

Investors big on energy and industrial stocks

SARA LEPRO & TIM PARADIS
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Investors sidestepped some of their doubts about the economy and bought energy and industrial stocks as commodity prices rose.

Stocks ended back-and-forth trading mostly higher Tuesday as a spike in the price of gold and corporate dealmaking extended an advance from Monday. The gains in commodity prices helped stocks pare early losses.

The Dow Jones industrial average slipped 18 points, while broader indexes rose modestly.

Investors were encouraged by billionaire investor Warren Buffett's decision to pay $34 billion for the railroad Burlington Northern Santa Fe in what he termed an "all-in wager" on the future of the U.S. economy. Meanwhile, tool maker Stanley Works struck a deal to acquire Black & Decker Corp. for $3.46 billion in stock.

They also took some cues from commodities including gold, which jumped to a new high after India's central bank bought $6.7 billion worth of the metal from the International Monetary Fund.

Still, even with the gains in commodities, traders remained on edge about unemployment and the strength of an economic recovery.

Concerns about unemployment grew after health care products maker Johnson & Johnson said it would cut up to 7 percent of its global work force and streamline its business structure to save up to $900 million next year. Investors worry high unemployment will make it hard for the economy to sustain recent growth.

Financial stocks fell after the British government injected more money into Royal Bank of Scotland PLC and Lloyds Group PLC. That fanned worries about the troubles with bad debt still facing many banks.

Traders have been uneasy in recent weeks, wary about whether the economic recovery can maintain its third-quarter growth once government stimulus measures are removed. The Commerce Department said last week the economy grew at an annual rate of 3.5 percent during the summer.

The uncertainty about the economy has led to swings in the market. The Dow has risen or fallen more than 100 points in six of the last eight trading days, the most volatility since March.

Analysts said a break in the advance could ease worries that the market has run too far.

"This is a much-needed healthy pause and reassessment. It ran so far," said David Darst, chief investment strategist for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in New York.

The Dow fell 17.53, or 0.2 percent, to 9,771.91, after being down as much as 86 points. The Dow rose 77 points Monday following reports of improvements in manufacturing and housing.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.53, or 0.2 percent, to 1,045.41. The index is up 54.5 percent from a 12-year low in early March.

"WE'RE SEEING A NATURAL EBB AND FLOW OF RISK APPETITE."

Kevin Gardiner
Head of investment strategy for Europe, Middle East and Africa at Barclays Wealth.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 8.12, or 0.4 percent, to 2,057.32.

"We're seeing a natural ebb and flow of risk appetite," said Kevin Gardiner, head of investment strategy for Europe, Middle East and Africa at Barclays Wealth.

Analysts expect trading to be choppy this week, as investors digest a frenzy economic reports. Investors are watching the Federal Reserve, which concludes a two-day meeting on interest rates Wednesday, for any clues about the economy and the direction of interest rates.

Investors also looked past increases in automobile sales last month. Ford Motor Co. said sales rose 3 percent from October last year, while General Motors Corp.'s sales rose 4 percent. It was the first monthly sales increase for the nation's largest automaker since January 2008. Meanwhile, Chrysler's sales fell 30 percent.

Bond prices fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.47 percent from 3.42 percent late Monday.

The dollar was mixed against other major currencies.

Crude oil rose $1.47 to settle at $79.60 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, while gold surged to a new high of $1,087 an ounce.

Shares of Burlington Northern jumped $20.93, or 27.5 percent, to $97 after Buffett's move.

That pulled other railroads higher. CSX Corp. rose $3.13, or 7.3 percent, to $45.97, while Norfolk Southern Corp. advanced $2.52, or 5.4 percent, to $49.15.

Black & Decker jumped $14.66, or 31 percent, to $62, while Stanley Works rose $4.54, or 10.1 percent, to $49.69.

Johnson & Johnson fell 56 cents, or 0.9 percent, to $58.93.

Royal Bank of Scotland fell 69 cents, or 5.5 percent, to $11.96, while Lloyds shares 28 cents, or 5.2 percent, to $5.72.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 8.22, or 1.5 percent, to 570.62.

Three stocks rose for every two that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.4 billion shares compared with 1.5 billion Monday.

Overseas, Britain's FTSE 100 fell 1.3 percent, Germany's DAX index fell 1.4 percent, and France's CAC-40 dropped 1.5 percent. Markets in Japan were closed for a holiday.

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ECONOMY

Auto sales show industry beginning to stabilize

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT After months of roller coaster-like sales, the auto industry offered signs of recovery from its yearlong slump on Tuesday, as most automakers reported higher levels of U.S. sales in October.

GM, the largest U.S. automaker, reported its first monthly sales gain in almost two years, while Hyundai and Subaru were huge winners thanks for their popular models and fuel-efficient sedans. Other top automaker — Toyota, Ford, Nissan —also posted higher sales.

The mood was in contrast to a year ago, when consumers were frightened away from showrooms by the early effects of the financial meltdown, plunging stock markets and the credit freeze.

Automakers had said this October would be a test of the strength of the auto market after the volatile effects of the government's Cash for Clunkers program. The industry staggered through a tough September following the summer's clunker-fueled sales surge.

The industry still has to see its way through a number of economic challenges, said Bob Carter, a Toyota vice president. Americans remain anxious about high unemployment, while consumer confidence remains dampened.

"We expect the recovery to be very gradual, extending into next year and beyond," he said.

Demand for new cars and crossovers fueled the better October sales for General Motors Co. and Detroit rival Ford Motor Co.

GM's sales rose 4.7 percent, while Ford notched a 3-percent gain. Japanese rival Toyota Motor Corp. said its sales edged up less than a percent. Less rosy news came from Chrysler Group LLC, whose sales fell 30 percent, though they improved from September.

Ford's top economist Emily Kolinski Morris said last month's sales signal a real underlying demand for new vehicles after the distorting impact of the clunkers program. The economy, she said, is "in transition from recession to recovery."

"We expect consumers to remain cautious as the recovery continues," she told analysts and reporters during a conference call.

Hyundai, based in South Korea, said its sales jumped 49 percent, boosted by its fuel-efficient Elantra sedan. Japanese automaker Subaru also topped the winner's list with a 41-percent surge, helped by strong sales in its Outback and Forester models.

Ford's sales got a boost from new product launches and it gained U.S. market share for the 12th time in 13 months. Its critically acclaimed vehicles continue to grab buyers from rivals. Ford has also benefited from consumer goodwill because it didn't take government bailout money or go into bankruptcy, as General Motors Chrysler did.

Fuel-efficient models like the Ford Fusion sedan and Escape small sport utility vehicle sold well, with both notching sales jumps of around 25 percent. Ford's overall car sales rose 11 percent over last October, while crossovers climbed 23 percent.

More than 80 percent of Ford's sales last month came from 2010 models, which also helped the company lower its incentives.

That was in line with the industry, which spent less to give car buyers big rebates. Automakers focused on clearing out old inventory and on selling 2010 models, which are not discounted as heavily.

Susan Docherty, GM's new sales chief, acknowledged that it led the industry in spending on rebates, low-interest financing and other incentives in October. Edmunds estimates GM spent $4,277 per vehicle sold versus the industry average.

The company spent more as it phases out the Pontiac and Saturn brands, and because it had a high number of 2009 models left in its inventory, Docherty said.

Chrysler, the maker of the Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram truck brands sold 65,803 vehicles last month, up 6 percent from September. That was when its sales slumped because dealerships could offer few popular models. The automaker, which is announcing a new product strategy on Wednesday, is aiming to show steady improvement from month to month.

Looking to boost November sales, Chrysler will offer a slew of new incentive programs this week.

Honda's U.S. sales edged lower, weighed by a big drop in sales of its popular Civic car.

HEALTH CARE

Senate investigates insurer pricing

TOM MURPHY
AP Business Writer

The Senate Democratic chairman said Tuesday the panel is investigating how health insurers price the coverage they sell to small businesses, which have struggled for years with soaring premiums.

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, has sent letters to several big health insurers, including UnitedHealth Group Inc., WellPoint Inc. and Aetna Inc., asking for information on how they set rates and premiums for policies covering groups of 50 people or fewer.

The senator, who announced the inquiry at Tuesday's hearing, also requested information on individual compensation that exceeds $5 million annually, according to a statement from his office.

Democrats and the insurance industry have been in an all-out struggle over the health care overhaul sought by President Barack Obama. Democrats have pushed for stripping the insurers of their decades-old exemption from federal antitrust laws.

In August, Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., announced an investigation similar to Harkin's. He sent letters to six insurers requesting details about their plans for small businesses and how coverage decisions are made. Waxman chairs the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

The Senate letters note that a survey of state insurance commissioners found small businesses face average rate increases of 11 percent to 16 percent for 2010.

But some business leaders told a Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee hearing Tuesday that they're dealing with even larger price hikes.

Walt Rowen, owner of Susquehanna Glass Co. in Columbia, Pa., said he saw an initial quote for coverage that involved a 128 percent cost increase. He eventually found a policy that cost 43 percent more.

Rowen said before Tuesday's hearing that he has probably changed insurance carriers eight times in the past 10 years to get better rates. He also has introduced high-deductible plans to reduce premiums.

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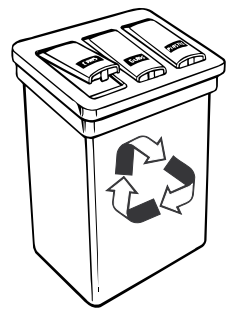


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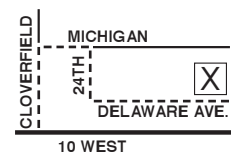
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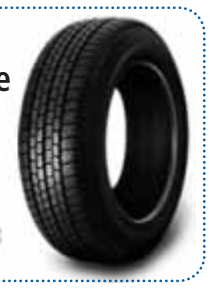


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Gay marriage is put to a vote in Maine

DAVID CRARY &
GLENN ADAMS
Associated Press Writers

PORTLAND, Maine Gay marriage was put to a vote in Maine on Tuesday in a closely watched referendum that gay-rights activists across the country hoped would prove that public opinion is turning in their favor.

Voters had to decide whether to repeal or affirm a state law that would allow gay couples to wed. The law was passed by the Legislature last May but never took effect because of a petition drive by conservatives.

A vote to uphold the law would mark the first time that the electorate in any state endorsed gay marriage. That could energize activists nationwide and blunt conservative claims that same-sex marriage is largely being foisted on states by judges and that the public is not ready to embrace the idea.

However, repeal — in New England, the region of the country most supportive of gay couples — would be another heartbreaking defeat for the marriage-equality movement, following the vote against gay marriage in California a year ago.

It would also mark the first time voters had torpedoed a gay-marriage law enacted by a legislature. When Californians rejected same-sex marriage, it was in response to a court ruling, not legislation.

Five other states have legalized gay marriage — Iowa, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Connecticut — but all did so through legislation or court rulings, not by popular vote. In contrast, constitutional amendments banning gay marriage have been approved in all 30 states where they have been put on the ballot.

In addition to reaching out to young people who flocked to the polls for President Barack Obama a year ago, gay-marriage defenders tried to appeal to Maine voters' independent streak — the flinty, just-let-me-be attitude embodied by the state's lobstermen, loggers and outdoorsmen.

Both sides in Maine drew volunteers and contributions from out of state, but the money edge went to the campaign in defense of gay marriage, Protect Maine Equality. It raised $4 million, compared with $2.5 million for Stand for Marriage Maine.

Elsewhere on Tuesday, voters in Washington state decided whether to uphold or overturn a recently expanded domestic partnership law that entitles same-sex couples to the same state-granted rights as heterosexual married couples.

Among other ballot items across the country:

• Measures in Maine and Washington that would limit state and local government spending by holding it to the rate of inflation plus population growth.

• A measure in Maine that would allow dispensaries to supply marijuana to patients for medicinal purposes. It is a follow-up to a 1999 measure that legalized medical marijuana but did not set up a distribution system.

• An Ohio measure that would allow casinos in four major cities: Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Toledo.



Movie industry comes to Santa Monica

FROM AFM PAGE 3

industry professionals and their expertise from around the world to the largest film market in North America.

Sales agencies represent at the AFM with bundles of films to sell to regional film distributors whose companies set up shop here to buy. Projects in all stages of development meet with whom they need to facilitate reaching their goals. Independent filmmakers with a single finished product to sell to a foreign distributor can do that at the AFM. A script with talent attached can find a financier.

The market is also for hundreds of movie screenings important to developers, packagers, pitchers, financiers, licensers and distributors — 445 different movies will be shown at market, 100 per day and 73 of them world premiers beginning at 8:30 a.m. running every two hours and culminating at 9 p.m. daily.

During the market the freshest comedies to supernatural thrillers, and the latest in content from Arabia to L.A. to China, are marketed and screened, selling out many prominent Santa Monica theaters and screening rooms. Only films represented by exhibiting production and distribution companies may screen at the AFM. The film catalog for 2009 and the screening schedule are posted on thefilmcatalog.com where you can also watch trailers.

Santa Monica businesses like Uroborus on Main Street notice the increase in revenue that comes with the friendly international visitors that enjoy and want to take home some West Coast flavor. Local production facilities treat more visitors to tours of their facilities, said Ken Locsmandi of Filmworks/FX, a local production company attending the AFM.

The Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) funded a report in 2006 on the economic impact of AFM locally and found that the event contributes $11 million to the local economy, generating an estimated $500,000 in taxes for City Hall and $300,000 for the state. The breakdown of tax revenues generated for City Hall are approximately $400,000 collected from hotel taxes and $100,000 in retail sales tax and related fees.

The AFM offers an impressive line-up of discussions moderated and paneled by top executives and savvy industry big shots. Seminar programmers include the Director's Guild of America (DGA), the Screen Actor's Guild/Indie (SAG), Writer's Guild of America (WGA), American Society of Cinematographers. AFM badges are not required and the cost of admission is about $40 to attend an informative hour and a half panel. There are at least two different AFM seminars each day. Scheduled seminars begin Friday 9 a.m.

The weekend is rich in constructive seminars. Saturday Nov. 7 at the posh Fairmont Miramar Hotel is the event "Pitch Me!" where filmmakers pitch their product to a panel of industry experts and receive candid and personalized feedback and coaching. Moderators include the producer of the "Wonder Years" and the director of "Capote."

Saturday afternoon there is a class with director Dov S-S Simens on producing topics such as deal memos, revenue sources, profit participation scenarios, foreign sales, split rights deals, production and distribution agreements. Sunday at 11 a.m. the British Academy of Film and TV Arts hosts a distribution strategy class at Le Merigot Hotel.

Concurrent events are strategically scheduled around the AFM. They include the AFI Fest, AFCI Cineposium '09, and the Brittania Awards. The AFI Fest is headquartered at Mann's Chinese Theater through Nov. 7, where all American Film Institute screenings are free to the public this year and winners qualify for the short film category in the Academy Awards. Other film related events hosted in Santa Monica include the Santa Monica Film Festival scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14.

Here are some recommended tips for newbies on how to work the film market. Find 30 to 50 companies that may be right for your film considering budgets and genres. Create a list of each executive in charge of acquisitions (from trades and company Web sites only). Focus on the furthest first. Call the AFM Office and request a 15 minute meeting with the right person by name. Keep in mind that the second meeting is the next goal. Leave behind a card, a synopsis, a summary of the film's unique, creative and financial attributes, a list of people attached or committed, and a half-page budget summary. If you have a completed film, prepare a promo trailer and make it accessible via the Internet.

Contact buyers and distributors one month in advance with the reel and then request to set up a meeting for the first four days of the market. Having an attorney available is recommended. Admission is $795 for full access, or $295 for half market, allowing access starting on day five.

news@smdp.com

LUCE will address parking shortage through parking districts

FROM PARKING PAGE 1

including for Back on Broadway restaurant.

"We can't even get into the limited parking that we have," Fred Deni, the owner of Back on Broadway, said.

A Verizon representative was not available for comment.

Business owners in the area have for years been lobbying Verizon to open its surface parking lot for local employee parking, noting the benefits the company would receive, including revenue from leasing. The company however has turned down offers because of plans it has for the site.

"It really is such a waste of property to sit there empty," Deni said.

The neighborhood around Back on Broadway has changed dramatically in the 30 years since the restaurant opened, joined by art galleries and production studios.

"The whole alley is being squashed so when the alley situation came up, it was just the last straw," Deni, who contacted City Hall last week about the impending construction on Broadway Place, said.

The issue of parking is one that will be addressed in City Hall's Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), which is a comprehensive planning document for Santa Monica. Eileen Fogarty, the planning and community development director, said the LUCE will establish transportation demand management districts where opportunities for shared parking and even shared commuting between small businesses will be identified.

The model has worked well at the Rand Corp. and Water Gardens where there has been a 50 percent reduction in single occupancy vehicle trips through vanpooling and disincentivizing individual parking by charging fees.

Sitting at 2201 Broadway, the lot is big enough to fit about 30 cars. There are also metered spaces on Broadway, which now have extended hours to accommodate customers of the nearby restaurants.

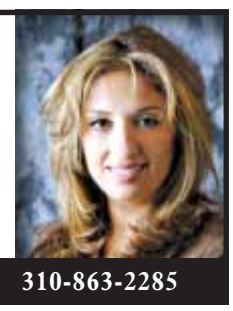
"We're really pleased and excited that Verizon has stepped up to help businesses in the interim and certainly would be great if we could work out something in the longer term," Jennifer Taylor, senior development analyst for the Economic Development Division of City Hall, said. "It's not that they have been unwilling, but they had some plans for that site for a while and didn't want to obligate themselves."

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SM PIER

'Kooza' extends run

The big blue and yellow circus tent that is occupying a sizable chunk of real estate adjacent to the Santa Monica Pier will be sticking around for a little while longer.

Cirque du Soleil said Monday that its traveling show "Kooza" is extending its run in Santa Monica through Dec. 20. The two-and-a-half hour show featuring clowns, acrobats and an impressive contraption called the Wheel of Death originally was scheduled to run through the end of November.

Cirque declined to disclose box-office figures and would say only that there has been "overwhelming demand" for the show.

The new block of tickets for the 29 additional performances is currently on sale. The seating capacity in the Cirque tent is 2,500, according to the show's promoters.

If you end up missing the Santa Monica engagement, all is not lost. In January, "Kooza" will travel to the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, where it will run Jan. 8-31.

Performance schedule

- Tuesdays through Thursdays at 8 p.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Sundays at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

No performances on Mondays

Non-peak ticket prices

(Weekdays; Tuesday through Friday 4 p.m.)
- Adults: $60 to $125
- Children (ages 2-12): $42 to $87.50
- Students and Seniors: $54 to $112.50

Peak ticket prices

- (Weekends; Friday 8 p.m. through Sunday)
- Adults: $65 to $135
- Children (ages 2-12): $45.50 to $94.50

DAILY PRESS

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HERE COMES THE FOG

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

A heavy coastal fog covers Downtown Santa Monica on Tuesday afternoon, dropping temperatures to the low 60s.

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?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life

HDOP: help delete online predators

Every day, children are sexually solicited online.

Ad Council You don't know what your kids are saying online. Or who they are saying it to. A lot of times neither do they. Protect your kid's online life. To get a full list of acronyms or report an incident, call 1-800-THE-LOST or visit cybertipline.com. HDOP: help delete online predators
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INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
CHECK OUT THE HOROSCOPES ON PAGE 13!



Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 62°

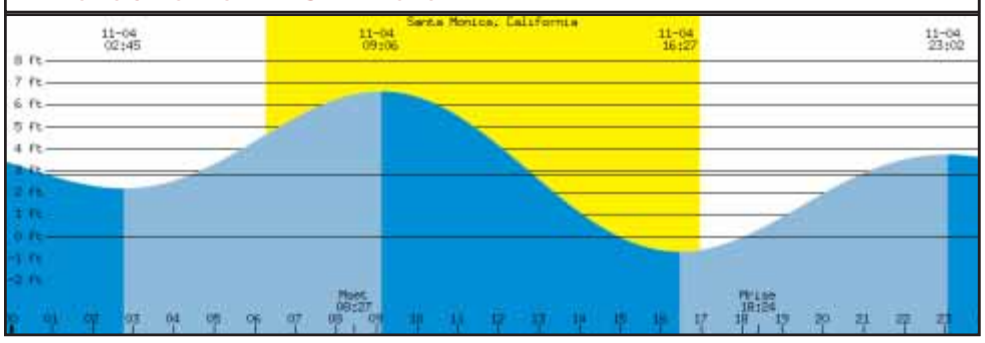
Swell Forecast

NW swell should back off to around waist high or so for west facing breaks. Winds should be light and variable in the AM, and onshore in the afternoon 8-12 mph.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see NW swell start to build in from the Gulf system. This though is looking smaller than surf we'd see over the weekend.

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 / 9

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The 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 Las 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
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

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.

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LEGAL NEWS

Clippers owner agrees to pay $2.73 million

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Los Angeles Clippers owner and real estate mogul Donald Sterling has agreed to pay a record $2.73 million to settle allegations by the government that he refused to rent apartments to Hispanics, blacks and to families with children, the Justice Department announced Tuesday.

The Justice Department sued Sterling in August 2006 for allegations of housing discrimination in the Koreatown area of Los Angeles. Other defendants were Sterling's wife, Rochelle, and the Sterling Family Trust.

The defendants allegedly made statements to employees indicating that African-Americans and Hispanics were not desirable tenants.

Court filings indicated that Sterling rented to fewer blacks and Hispanics in Koreatown than would be expected based on demographics, according to the Justice Department.

In settling the lawsuit, however, the defendants denied any liability.

Robert Platt, an attorney for Sterling and the trust, issued a statement saying his clients denied any acts of discrimination.

"The fair housing attorneys could not identify a single individual who was wrongfully denied the right to rent an apartment," he said. The trust has a zero-tolerance policy regarding housing discrimination, he said.

However, insurers for the trust decided it was cheaper to settle the case than to keep fighting, Platt said. Those insurers will cover the settlement.

Sterling owns the NBA's Clippers and manages 119 apartment buildings with more than 5,000 apartment units in Los Angeles County.

"Housing is a basic human need, and yet decades after passage of the Fair Housing Act, far too many still encounter barriers like discrimination," said Thomas Perez, assistant attorney general for the civil rights division.

"The magnitude of this settlement should send a message to all landlords that we will vigorously pursue violations of the Fair Housing Act," he said.

The settlement, which will be considered by a Los Angeles federal judge, also covers two related lawsuits by former tenants at one of the Sterling properties. In those cases, a black family and an interracial family with children contended that private yards that had been part of their apartment were demolished because of their race, the Justice Department said.

Under the settlement, Sterling and the other defendants would pay a $100,000 civil penalty to the government and would pay $2.63 million into a fund to pay monetary damages to tenants who were harmed.

The Justice Department's previous record settlement for discrimination in the area of rental housing was $2.2 million in a 1996 case.

Four years ago, Sterling agreed to pay an undisclosed sum and nearly $5 million in attorney fees to settle an unrelated 2003 lawsuit that claimed he tried to drive non-Korean tenants out of apartments he bought in Koreatown. The lawsuit was brought by the nonprofit Housing Rights Center and 18 other plaintiffs.

That ruling came two weeks after a jury found in Sterling's favor in a lawsuit filed by a former property manager, Sumner Davenport, who claimed he sexually harassed her. Davenport also alleged that Sterling's companies had racially prejudiced employment and housing practices.

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
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AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day (R) 1hr 27min
1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 10:10

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
4:10, 9:45

The Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:40, 7:10

A Serious Man (R) 1hr 45min
2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
4:40, 7:20, 10:00

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (PG) 1hr 21min
2:20

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

Paranormal Activity (R) 1hr 39min
1:15, 3:20, 5:30, 7:50, 9:30, 10:05

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

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
1:45, 4:10, 7:00

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
12:10, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40

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

Saw VI- Digital Presentation (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 5min
1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

The Maid (NR) 1hr 49min
1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35

Bronson (R) 1hr 47min
1:30, 7:00

New York, I Love You (R) 1hr 58min
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55

The Fall (NR) 2hr 13min
4:00, 9:25

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

Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:20, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Law Abiding Citizen (R) 1hr 48min
12:10, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 7:40, 9:20, 10:30

Michael Jackson's This Is It (PG) 2hrs 1min
11:30 (am), 12:00, 1:00, 2:10, 2:50, 3:50, 4:50, 5:40, 6:40, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:20

The Stepfather (PG-13) 1hr min41
1:30, 6:50

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

Catch a movie, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Keep communication flowing, even if you aren't exactly sure others are getting it. You might want to change your communication style if that helps others wake up. Your fiery side comes through with creativity. Tonight: Hang out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Your possessive side emerges frequently. You might not be getting all the facts. Rethink a situation more clearly. Your sense of humor helps someone relax. Conversations will clear the air. Tonight: Your treat.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Let others come forward. You seem more willing to share and open up than in the past. Your sense of humor emerges with someone at a distance. This person seems more open to receive you than before. Tonight: Act like top dog.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Sometimes the less said the better, especially as someone seems to open up more and share. You hear so much, you feel that you need to rethink a situation more carefully. Apparently, you didn't have the complete story. Tonight: Just for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep working on stabilizing a situation. Your effort will pay off, as you might be the only one who gains clarity. Others might need you to point out the path, explaining what direction to go in. A key person responds to an overture. Tonight: Where the fun is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You might need to re-establish your opinions and abilities. Your ability to get past a problem might be instrumental. Be careful with suppressing your anger right now. The end results could be less than perfect. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise. A walk works.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Take the high road, and you'll understand a lot more quite suddenly. Detach, get out of your head and identify with another person. It becomes clear how much you are deceiving yourself. Tonight: Relax to a movie.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Work with individuals and get past a restriction. You also might need to take a hard look at your home to see if it might need some winterizing. Check out the plumbing with care. Consider a home office. Tonight: Dinner with a pal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Deal with others directly. You could discover that you don't have the hand you might like to play. Let go and do something very different. Understand what is motivating others, and then you will understand everything you need to. Tonight: Only say yes to an offer you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Dive into work without thought. Get as much done as possible. Listen to news that streams in your direction. Understand what someone wants. Exchange ideas, and you just might find a solution. Tonight: Put your feet up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your playful side emerges. Some people, even in a work-type scenario, might not believe you or take you seriously. Straighten out your attitude, and you'll get more appropriate results. Tonight: Midweek break.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could take the day off and be somewhat of a vegetable. Recycle and understand what is asked of you. Know that a decision doesn't have to be made today, and in fact it might be better if it isn't. Tonight: Order in.

Happy birthday

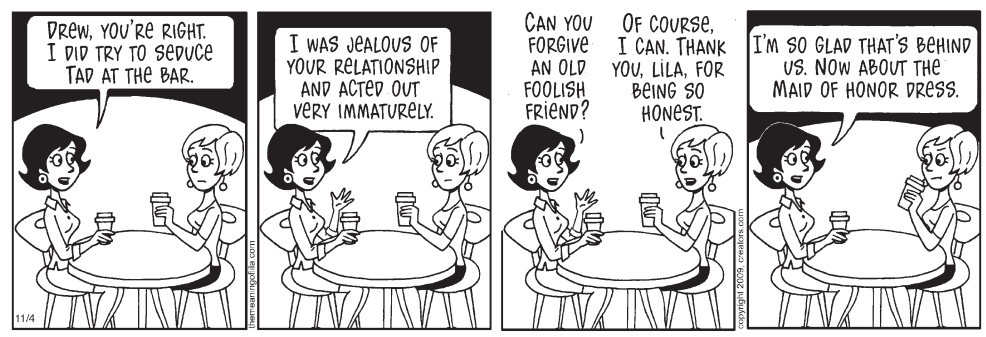
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year, you open up to new opportunities and possibilities through a partner. What has been personally confusing starts to clear up. You understand a lot more than you realize, even if you choose to play dumb. Let others reveal themselves. Bosses push hard and have strong expectations. You know much more than you realize. If you are single, you could meet someone through a former partner or associate. Don't dive into this relationship too fast. If you are attached, the two of you learn to rely more on each other. Go on some old-fashioned dates together. Add to the steaminess of your relationship. GEMINI looks at key issues with you.

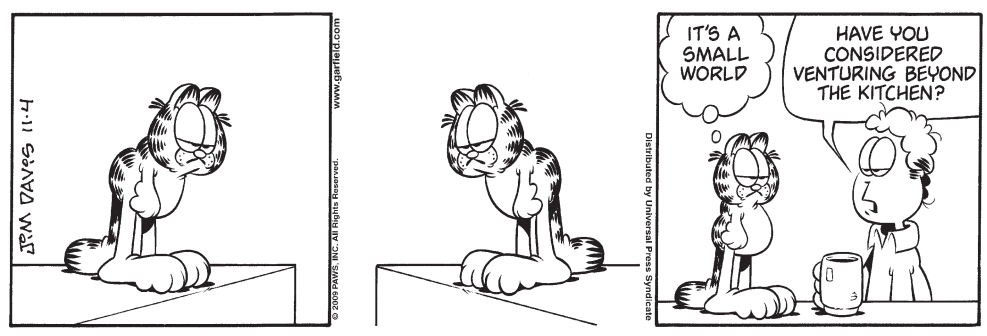
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



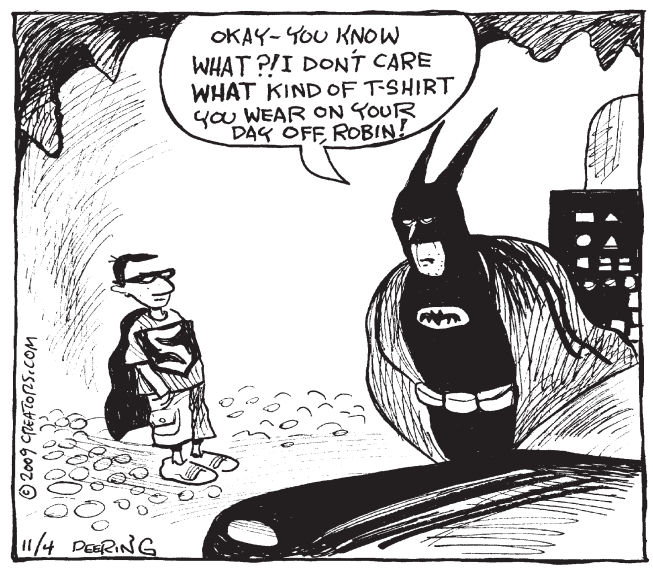
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



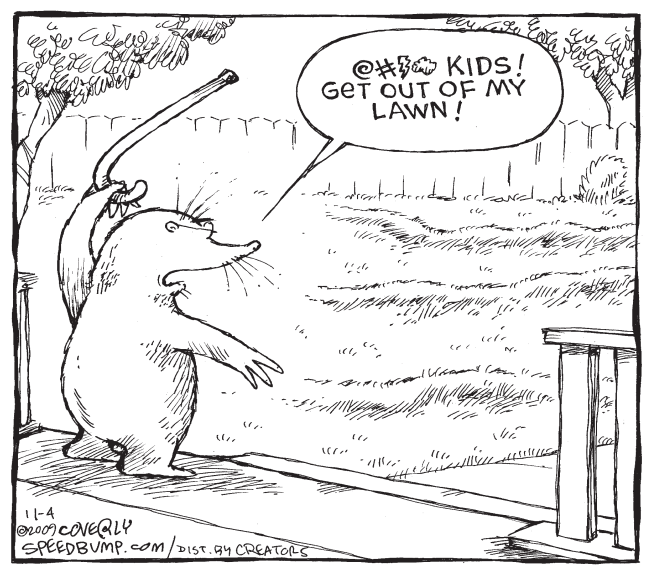
Garfield
By Jim Davis



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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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 Deep sleep
5 Office seekers, for short
9 Corn-husker city
11 Utter
12 Hold up
13 Singularly
14 Big head
15 Go ballistic
17 South-western capital
19 Cut off
20 "Bye!"
21 Cub's cave
22 Happen again
24 Chess pieces
26 Leaflet
29 Farm father
30 Non-pluses
32 Investi-gate
34 Rhone water
35 Track athlete
36 Past plump
38 Surround-ed by
39 Was a snoop
40 Foots the bill
41 Singer Seeger

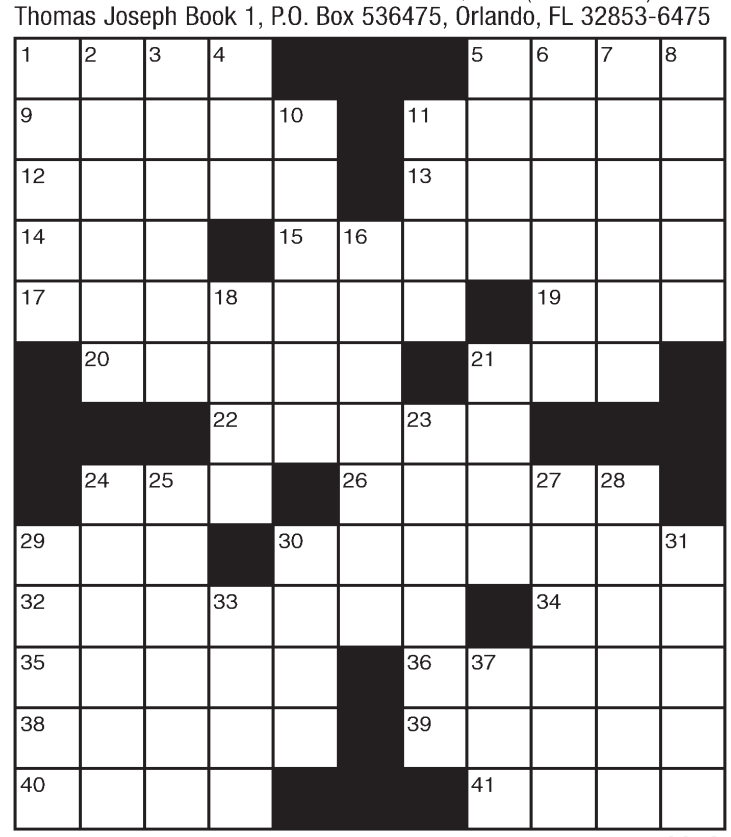
DOWN

1 Ciphers
2 Last letters
3 Cager Moses
4 Cry of insight
5 Trend deter-miner
6 "Becket" actor
7 Loser to Roosevelt
8 Go under cover?
10 Ensign's answer
11 Race goal
16 Hard-to-define influence
18 Ocean bird
21 Pull along
23 Incite
24 High points
25 Take on
27 "Fawlty Towers" star
28 China buy
29 Chart anew
30 Tennis legend Bjorn
31 Shoe material
33 Eye part
37 Jazz style

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

Yesterday's answer

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



11-4

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 15 17 29 38 Meganumber: 20 Jackpot: $50M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 6 10 15 18 23 Meganumber: 22 Jackpot: $14M

Fantasy 5: 12 17 30 33 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 6 3 EVENING: 1 8 4

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 05 California Classic 3rd: 01 Gold Rush RACE TIME: 1:44.12

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

■ New York City, which is sued more than 1,000 times a year, has a policy of settling some lawsuits quickly to avoid the risk of expensive judgments. The New York Daily News reported in October that more than 20 lawsuits, going back several years, were filed by members of the East 21st Street Crew (a well-known Brooklyn gang notorious for selling crack cocaine), and that the city has settled every time, paying out more than $500,000. The "civil rights" lawsuits were over possibly illegal searches and for criminal charges that the city later dismissed.

■ Worth Every Dollar: (1) New Zealand's Waikato National Contemporary Art Award in September (worth the equivalent of US$11,000) went to Dane Mitchell, whose entry consisted merely of discarded packaging materials from all the other exhibits vying for the prize. Mitchell called his pile "Collateral." (Announcement of the winner was poorly received by the other contestants.) (2) At a Christie's auction in September in New York City, London artist Gavin Turk's empty, nondescript cardboard box (the size of an ordinary moving-company box) sold for $16,000. (Actually, it was a sculpture designed to look exactly like an empty, nondescript cardboard box.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1333 Flood of the Arno River, causing massive damage in Florence as recorded by the Florentine chronicler Giovanni Villani.

1429 Joan of Arc liberated Saint-Pierre-le-Moûtier.

1501 Catherine of Aragon (later Henry VIII's wife) meets Arthur Tudor, Henry VIII's older brother – they would later marry.

1576 Eighty Years' War: In Flanders, Spain captures Antwerp (after three days the city is nearly destroyed).

1737 The Teatro di San Carlo is inaugurated.

WORD UP!

sommelier \suhm-uhl-YEY; Fr. saw-muh-LYEY\ , noun; 1. A restaurant employee who orders and maintains the wines sold in the restaurant and usually has extensive knowledge about wine and food pairings.

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Statistics Updated Every Monday

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