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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 307

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

FULL ELECTION RESULTS
SEE PAGE 10

THE WHAT'S NEXT? ISSUE

City Council challenger still in election mix

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN With nearly 6,000 ballots left to count, one local race remained too close to call on Wednesday, as Bob Holbrook and Ted Winterer were neck and neck for the final available four-year City Council term.

The latest totals showed Holbrook was in third place in the race for three seats with 10,184 votes, just 146 more than Winterer's 10,038.

The Los Angeles County Clerk's Office on Wednesday reported there were 5,954 unprocessed provisional and vote-by-mail ballots. Officials said they would release updated vote totals as early as Friday evening, though the certified election results could come as late as Nov. 30.

Both Holbrook and Winterer on Wednesday emphasized the election's outcome was yet to be determined.

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 10

Local voters approve tax increase, new tenant protections

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN In a landslide, Santa Monica voters approved a half percent sales tax hike on Tuesday and overwhelmingly urged City Hall to spend half of the estimated $12 million the increase is expected to raise to fund local public schools.

The tax, known as Measure Y, passed with 61 percent of voters in favor and 39 percent opposed. It required only a simple majority to succeed.

The higher sales tax rate of 10.25 percent will take effect April 1, 2011.

Voters also sent a strong message to the

SEE MEASURES PAGE 11

Patel a surprise winner in school board race

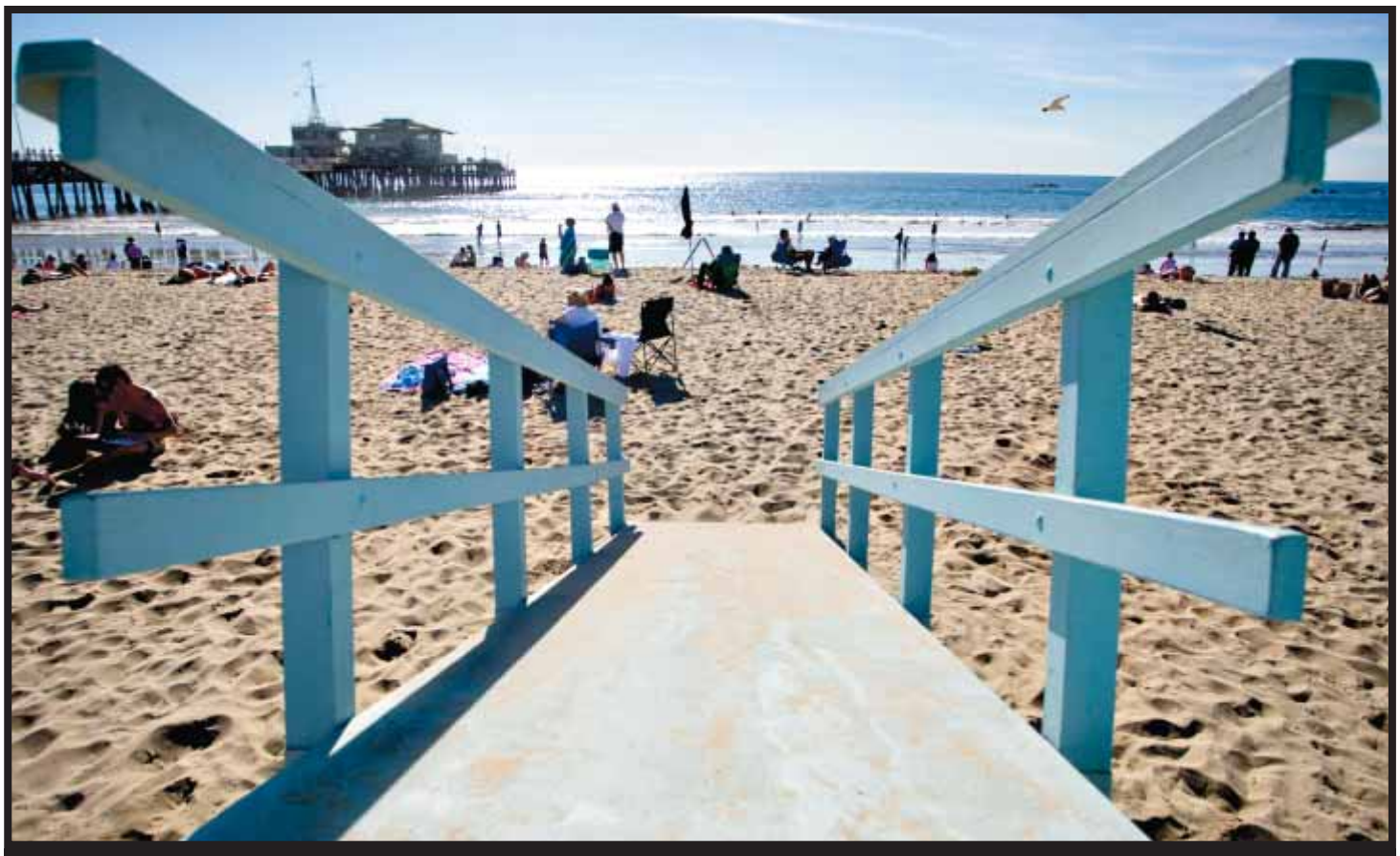
BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Nimish Patel, the newcomer to Santa Monica politics who out-fundraised his opponents in the school board race but failed to win a single major endorsement, has notched an upset victory, unseating current board president Barry Snell.

Patel had earned 10,298 votes by Wednesday, good for fourth place in the race for four seats, just ahead of Snell, who received 9,169 votes and will leave the board after serving one four-year term.

The top three finishers were: Laurie Lieberman, who received 14,258 votes;

SEE SCHOOL BOARD PAGE 12



BEACH DAY

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

People sit in the sand and soak up the sun on Santa Monica Beach on Wednesday afternoon during a day that felt more like summer than fall. Temperatures were in the 90s across the Los Angeles area and more heat is expected through the weekend.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Culver City presents challenge for Samohi

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Culver City may be in second place in the Ocean League, but Santa Monica High School's head football coach still thinks the championship goes through the Centaurs.

"They are always contenders for the league title," Samohi Head Coach Travis Clark said. "Obviously, their talent is deep."

Culver City (5-3 overall, 2-1 in league) has won four-straight Ocean crowns and is just a game behind first place Inglewood as the Centaurs prepare for Samohi on Friday at Santa Monica College's Corsair Field.

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 12


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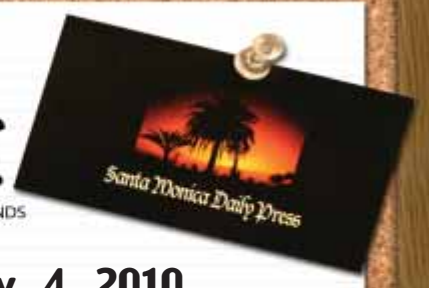
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What's Up Westside

Out and about in Santa Monica and surrounds



Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010

'Mary Poppins'
Morgan Wixson Theater
2627 Pico Blvd., Call for times
Kids on Stage Musical Theater presents the Family Classic "Mary Poppins." Mary Poppins is a mysterious and magical English nanny who is blown by the east wind to Number Seventeen Cherry Tree Lane, London and into the Banks' household to care for their children. Encounters with chimney sweeps, shopkeepers and various adventures ensue. Each class brings its own unique flavor to the stage with hi jinx, laughter, singing and dancing. For more information, call (310) 314-0035.

'Loveland'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
Actress turns grief into hilarity in "Loveland." What's so funny about death? Plenty, if you're award-winning writer/performer, Ann Randolph, renowned for transforming horror into humor. For information, call (310) 394-9779.

Pier inside
Santa Monica Pier
11 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Get an insider's look at the Santa Monica Pier and its surrounding areas through photographs taken by participating members of the Los Angeles Photography Project. Sponsored by Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation, the art exhibit will be housed in the Carousel Hippodrome for two months. The exhibit will be open Sunday — Thursday. For more information, visit www.santamonicapier.org.

Friday, Nov. 5, 2010

Football Friday
Santa Monica College
1900 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.
Santa Monica High School's football team is hosting Ocean League rival Culver City at Corsair Field. The game has playoffs implications.

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.

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WELCOME TO PARADISE

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau Welcome Ambassadors greet attendees on Ocean Avenue as they arrive for the American Film Market on Wednesday, the first day of the week-long event that features more than 400 motion pictures.

Metallica plays charity gig at Barker Hangar

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SM AIRPORT Grammy-Award winning rock gods Metallica tonight will serenade video game geeks at Barker Hangar in an effort to raise $1 million for soldiers returning from combat.

The multi-platinum band known for its heavy metal offerings will perform during the launch party for Santa Monica-based video game developer Activision's "Call of Duty: Black Ops," one of the most highly-anticipated, first-person shooters to be released this year.

The event will raise funds for The Call of Duty Endowment, a non-profit organization that helps soldiers transition to civilian life and assists them in establishing jobs and careers.

"We are honored to have Metallica partner with us to pay tribute to the brave servicemen and women who have risked their lives at war only to return home to find their biggest challenge is searching for a job," stated Robert Kotick, CEO of Activision Blizzard. "Today, the unemployment rate for veterans is 21 percent higher than the rate for all Americans, with veterans' unemployment topping 500,000. We believe that the business community can and should do more."

Tickets will not be for sale, but fans of the band can win tickets by going to the group's website, ww.metclub.com. The band warned fans that security at Barker Hangar, which is located at the Santa Monica Airport, will be high and they should not even think about sneaking in.

"PS: The Santa Monica Airport is a fully functioning airport and pretty damn serious about their security," Metallica write on their website. "We were asked to relay to you that anyone attempting to sneak on to the grounds of the airport will be subjected to the long arm of the law … including possible arrest. So as much as we would love to have all you all join us there, if you do not win a ticket, probably best to sit this one out."

Metallilca and Activision have a prior relationship. The band released "Guitar Hero: Metallica" in 2009. Formed in Los Angeles in 1981 by drummer Lars Ulrich and guitarist and vocalist James Hetfield, Metallica have become one of the most influential and commercially successful rock bands in history, having sold more than 100 million albums worldwide and playing to tens of millions of fans the world over.

"The Call of Duty" franchise has broken several sales records, with one installment, "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2" topping $1 billion in sales.

Black Ops will release worldwide on Nov. 9.

After the Santa Monica show, Metallica is heading to Australia for the Oceania leg of the World Magnetic Tour, which kicked off in October 2008 in promotion of the band's ninth studio album, "Death Magnetic."

news@smdp.com

COLLEGE TENNIS

Xrds product Gibbs plays in national tourney

BY PATRICK HOURIHAN
Special to the Daily Press

NEW YORK Local product and Stanford University freshman Nicole Gibbs will be playing in the National Intercollegiate Indoor Tennis Championships this week. The tournament starts today and is held at the United States Tennis Association's Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, NY.

Gibbs, who graduated from Crossroads High School last June, will be competing in the 32-woman singles field. She will attempt to become the best indoor college tennis player in the country at the very place where Rafael Nadal and Kim Clijsters won the U.S. Open this past summer.

"There's going to be a lot of competition

SEE **GIBBS** PAGE 11

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL

League-leading Samohi eager for the playoffs

BY PATRICK HOURIHAN
Special to the Daily Press

SAMOHI Over 100 students, parents and area volleyball fans packed the Santa Monica High School side of the campus' North Gym for the Vikings' second matchup of the season against Ocean League rival Beverly Hills on Tuesday afternoon.

Santa Monica won in their final home game of the regular season by a final score of 3-2 in five games, with game scores of 21-25, 27-25, 25-21, 21-25, and 15-3. It was senior night for the girls, in a match that proved to be tougher than anticipated.

After dropping game one, the Vikings won two straight and looked to finish the Normans off in four. But the girls from Beverly Hills brought some fight to go along with their two-dozen or so fans and forced a deciding game five. Samohi Head Coach

SEE **VOLLEYBALL** PAGE 12



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Support medical research

Editor:

More than 10 million Americans are affected by diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa and age-related macular degeneration that cause blindness. Alarmingly, with an aging population, that number is expected to increase 50 percent by 2020. While many of us have never heard of these diseases, let alone understand their causes and effects, the possibility of their impact on our lives or the lives of those around us is significant. Here, in neighborhoods across Santa Monica, people of all ages meet the challenges of life with blinding diseases every day.

I was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa 12 years ago, when the doctor noticed pigment in my retina during a routine eye exam. The process of going blind is very challenging, but interesting. It is a series of losing bits and pieces of your everyday life, and those pieces become your former life, the former "you." I have learned to say goodbye, over and over again.

Now I dedicate my life to finding treatments and cures for blinding diseases through the Foundation Fighting Blindness. As an ordained nondenominational minister, I help people cope with the feelings they may experience, such as loss, grief and transition, during their process of going blind.

I am thrilled that for the first time in history, there is real hope for restored vision for people affected by retinal diseases. Recently published results from a breakthrough study funded in part by the Foundation Fighting Blindness, show that gene therapy restored significant vision in five children and seven adults who were previously blind due to a severe form of retinitis pigmentosa, a blinding genetic disease which affects people from birth. By injecting a missing gene directly into the back of the eye, patients experienced dramatic improvements in visual acuity, peripheral vision and light sensitivity. One of the trial's youngest participants, a 9-year-old boy, has experienced some of the most striking results, regaining his ability to ride his bike, play baseball and read the chalkboard in class. When asked what was best about his restored vision, his response was simply, "colors." With a variety of ongoing clinical trials, this breakthrough sets the stage for the use of gene therapy in many more retinal diseases moving forward, with hope for further success.

This trial would not have been possible without the essential financial support provided by the Foundation Fighting Blindness and other funding organizations. Non-profit organizations often provide the start-up venture philanthropy capital necessary to begin new research not funded by the government. With federal funding for medical research limited to supporting studies with proven results, unexplored research receives little to no funding. The potential for new breakthrough research can therefore be very limited by lack of initial funding. However, the seed money most frequently provided through venture philanthropy allows scientists to investigate uncharted territory. In essence, venture philanthropy funding is the catalyst that can drive research to widespread funding from federal sources, such as the National Institute of Health.

Each of us has the opportunity to play a pivotal role in such venture philanthropy, whether by investing our time as volunteers or our dollars as funders. Our involvement and dedication to non-profit organizations that offer support for medical research is critical. Now, more than ever, supporting early research can significantly impact the lives of our neighbors, friends and families today and for generations to come.

Yvonne Chester
Santa Monica

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Your column here

Sarah Mosko

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Buddy, can't spare a dime for the poor environment?

HOW MUCH ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY FOR access to clean air and drinking water?

What's a fair price to keep toxic chemicals out of the food supply, to insure the future of ocean and freshwater fish stocks, to keep public parks open, and to stem the melting of the polar ice caps so our coastal cities remain above sea level and polar bears won't go extinct?

Questions of this sort prompted me to investigate how much the federal government and my home state of California (and ultimately us, the taxpayers) actually spend on environmental protection. Turns out neither comes close to one thin dime on the dollar.

Federal environmental spending, like defense spending, comes under discretionary spending which in 2009 amounted to $1.2 trillion or about one-third of the total $3.5 trillion federal outlay. Mandatory spending makes up the remaining two-thirds of the federal budget (nearly $2.3 trillion) and goes to hefty programs like Medicare, Social Security and interest on the national debt.

Discretionary spending is divided into two broad categories, national defense and non-national defense, with defense spending eating up 53 percent of all discretionary dollars in 2009. The government keeps tabs on federal environmental spending in a category called natural resources and environment (NRE) which totaled $35 billion or just 2.8 percent of discretionary spending and a meager one percent of total federal spending.

What this means in dollars and cents spent on behalf of each person in the country is easy to compute using the U.S. Census Bureau estimate that the country's population in 2009 slightly exceeded 307 million: Per capita federal spending for NRE was just $114.49, dwarfed by the $2,139.24 spent for every man, woman and child on national defense.

That's just 31 cents per day spent on my (or your) behalf to preserve the environment versus $5.86 spent daily in one's name for national defense.

Historically, the picture has looked much the same, although there were modest relative upticks in NRE spending during Bill Clinton's and especially Jimmy Carter's presidency where, in 1980, funding for NRE reached an all time high of almost 6 percent of discretionary dollars.

Remember, Carter is the president who also installed solar panels on the White House, only to see them removed when Ronald Reagan took office. President Obama, by the way, has just pledged to reinstall them by spring 2011.

That relatively more was spent three decades ago than now on NRE seems backwards given that threats to the environment of Herculean proportion in today's headlines — like ocean acidification and fish depletion, deforestation, global warming, environmental contamination from endocrine disrupting chemicals in everyday consumer products, and a Texas-sized cesspool of plastic trash in the Pacific Ocean — were on the radar of far fewer scientists back then and had not yet entered the general public's consciousness.

The folly of the huge imbalance between discretionary spending on national defense and NRE is brought into focus by the concept of environmental security which has gained political traction in recent years, especially as relates to U.S. dependence on foreign oil. This concept cautions that political instability and turmoil can emerge wherever there is competition for natural resources (e.g. water, land, fossil fuels) or when masses of people are displaced as a result of drought or famine triggered by environmental degradation, as in desertification, deforestation, soil erosion, or declining marine fisheries.

Environmental security acknowledges that each nation's environmental foundations — its soil, minerals, vegetation, water and climate — ultimately underpin all socioeconomic activities and consequently political stability. The U.S. is no exception, yet we fund environmental preservation as though it is the concern of some minor special interest group.

California is our most populous state and is generally regarded as a progressive leader on environmental issues. Perhaps the dearth in federal environmental spending is compensated for at the state level?

California's expenditures for natural resources and environmental protection accounted for 6 cents of every dollar in the state's 2009-10 budget ($7.3 billion out of $119 billion), according to the California Department of Finance. Per capita, this amounted to $190.

Adding it all up, the federal government and the state together spent $305 in the last year to keep the environment safe for me. Given what a good pair of walking shoes or membership at a health club can set you back, this doesn't seem like much.

And with unemployment and the economy driving most political discourse these days, the likelihood seems near zero that the pieces of the federal and state budget pies carved out for the environment will grow any time soon. Case in point: the allocation for the environment in the California budget just enacted for 2010-11 was cut to 5.5 percent, reflecting a spending drop of $415 million compared to the previous year.

I, however, am all for diverting a good chunk of the spending in my name on military defense and foreign wars to funding efforts to stave off very real looming threats to both national security and my own personal well-being from our fossil fuel-based economy, environmental contaminates, water shortages, global climate change and the like.

If only there was a spot on federal and state income tax forms letting us choose how our tax dollars will be spent.

SARAH MOSKO is an environmental writer in California who blogs at sarahmosko.wordpress.com.

(MEREDITH CARROLL is on vacation. Her column "Meredith Pro Tem" will return next week).

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Life Matters

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

Helping a sibling who's on the edge

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

My little brother is, and has been, a little monster. While growing up he was constantly acting out and causing problems for the family. But now, he's in real trouble. He has picked the worst friends and he has gotten himself arrested for not only DUI, but also felony possession of drugs. He could go to prison. I guess I should clarify that he is my little brother. I am seven years older but he is not so little anymore. He is over 6 feet tall and he turned 18 earlier this year. My family is so upset and none of us understand because we are a close, loving family and none of us have ever used drugs or been in trouble. We rarely drink alcohol; only to celebrate special occasions. There was no abuse, physically, verbally or emotionally, ever.

When my brother starting acting up in his teenage years, my parents took him to a psychologist for testing. He was not ADD; he has a pretty high IQ and no apparent learning disabilities. The psychologist did say that he seemed detached and to be lacking in empathy and we agreed that he wasn't quick to bond as a child.

My mother is blaming herself because she says she was not a good mom when my brother was first born. But we say that it's not her fault because she had bad post-partum depression. Once she was better, she did everything she could for him and all of us.

Do you have any thoughts or suggestions?

Signed,

Scared for my little brother

DEAR SCARED,

I am so sorry to hear of your family problems or actually, pain. This is a very painful situation and it is also a very serious one.

There are so many possibilities in terms of what may have caused this. Your brother may have some neurologic abnormalities but I am going to assume and hope that the psychologist your brother saw was a neuropsychologist, specializing in testing of this nature.

There is also the possibility that something traumatic happened to him that you do not know about. One out of six boys are sexually molested and it is so shameful for most that few ever come to their families or friends to ask for help.

The thing that grabs my attention is that he was not quick to bond as a child and that the psychologist found him to be detached and lacking in empathy. There are diagnoses for these behaviors or traits and combined with his recent behavior, some would say that he might have Conduct Disorder, a precursor to becoming a sociopath. This is very scary, to say the least. But what jumps out at me, and I think is worthy of serious consideration, goes back to your brother's early years when he was first born and your mother was seriously depressed. This definitely is not a matter of your mother being at fault or an indication of her being a bad mother. She should definitely forgive herself and get over taking the blame.

However, a lack of early bonding and attachment could be the culprit here. A lack of attachment, a disturbed attachment or the loss of an attachment has major consequences. The exception to this is if we are fortunate enough to have someone to help us process our grief as soon as possible.

Obviously, infants don't know, i.e., are not cognizant of what they are experiencing and cannot process it but they do feel it and remember it in their bodies and hearts. A lack of attachment can mean that they never learn to trust attachments and do not form bonds easily. They may bond with other "detached" folks and often use drugs to fill the void. This is not real or healthy attachment; it is only a false sense of family and a way to avoid the emptiness.

The good news is that scientific research regarding attachment has shown that it can literally be turned around with good psychotherapy. We now know if there is a good relationship with the therapist, your brother could actually form an attachment with the therapist and that this experience would be generalized to others, ending with a newfound ability to trust and form attachments. There is also neurobiological research that shows that the brain actually changes when attachments change. It is all contingent on staying in therapy and having a therapist that is empathic and attuned; one that you can actually form a healthy attachment with. If you can get your brother into this type of treatment, his entire life can change.

If you need more information on attachment, please do not hesitate to contact me. Good Luck!

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage/family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Send your questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.

The Q Line

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Too much noise

The City Council has recently taken up the topic of noisy street performers on the Third Street Promenade. They are considering a change in law that would limit allowable decibel levels.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think that street performers are too loud, or do you feel that the council should lay off?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**



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Traveling Back to Fitness

Taylor Van Arsdale
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Turning it up a notch

SATURDAY MORNINGS, TOM WILLIAMS, the owner of Burn Fitness teaches a private cardio class for his longtime clients. I have heard it is the hardest class at the gym. Even the trainers quake at the mention of this class. But I've been feeling like my progress has slowed. I'm still losing weight, but it's a snails pace in comparison to how quickly I shed weight (almost 30 pounds now) in the beginning of the program. Since I've been at Burn Fitness, I've been exposed to some of the best and most up-to-date nutritional information and the most qualified trainers, so I know that along with watching calorie intake, upping cardio is the best way to get that insidious fat moving out of the body.

I'm not sure what level of insanity compelled me to request to try the class, but request I did and I was granted entry.

Now you should know something about me; I also report on bands/concerts and as it turned out, the night before this class I was at the Roxy on Sunset and by the time I got home and got to bed it was almost 2 a.m. Five hours, three Advils, and two Tylenols later I was at the gym. OMG!

The hour-long class is organized in 90 second intervals; 60 seconds of an exercise; followed by a 30 second push (an increase in that particular exercise); then a rest of about 15 seconds (possibly less ... it felt like less) then right back at it. Williams graciously tells me I should stop at the minute mark and catch my breath, and allows me to modify the exercises so that I don't collapse.

We start out with legs, doing 20 reps of crossovers — jumping over the aerobic step blocks. This exercise is repeated four times. In between plyometric jumping, we hold ourselves over the aerobic steps in a squatting pose, at a cool 90-degree angle, just holding … (still holding) … that pose. You wouldn't think holding one position would be so difficult, but in about 60 seconds my legs are burning so much I can't think straight. Williams is the epitome of encouragement, though, shouting out, "Doing good. 20 more seconds. You got it!" and the one that gets me, "We will all do this together!" He makes you feel like you're part of team. God knows I don't want to let my teammates down. I hold that pose.

After our leg sets, the fun continues. Does anyone remember the Reebok commercial that pictured a shapely girl and a hot guy standing at the base of a Mayan pyramid? He looks at her. She looks at him. They nod in secret agreement and then run up the steps of the pyramid, all the way to the top … without stopping. If you think that's difficult, Williams has us grab weights and run the stairwell. That means almost four flights of stairs, up and down, four times. Isn't that the same number of steps at Chichen Itza? It feels like it.

Granted, some of the folks in his class are in top shape, so it's easy for them — or at least it seems to me as though they're blithely skipping up the steps. It's honestly not the case. Everyone is getting an intense workout, sweating bullets. Mind you, I'm the only one without a weight in hand, and I'm shot. The class concludes with arms, more stairs, and push up holds.

Maria Alvarez, a pretty, petite brunette who looks amazing, is also taking the class. She's been with Williams for four years and has lost 10 pounds, using the Fatburn.com program and watching what she eats. She says, "The workout is different each week. We do work the same muscles, but in different ways and that makes it more exciting."

To say that every muscle in my body is sore would be an understatement. I'm sore in places I didn't know muscles existed. Can you really be sore under your arms? The answer: uh, yes.

"Even though I work out twice a week … I still feel sore for two days after taking that class." It's comforting to know that Alvarez feels the same way I do.

What helps get you through it? The music: which on this particular day included some Kid Rock and Shakira.

Williams' class makes you realize no matter how conditioned you are there's always room to improve, always something to strive for. You can't be complacent, folks. You gotta try to make your life better and when you take steps to do so, the pieces start to fall into place.

"He changed my life, helping me to learn how to take care of my body. You just feel so much better. You have so much energy," says Alvarez. It's true. I'm running on practically no sleep; but when I get home I feel like I can conquer the world. Carpe diem.

TAYLOR can be reached at tailfish@roadrunner.com.

By the numbers

Starting Weight: 182
Pounds Lost: 27.5
Current Weight: 154.5
Goal Weight: 135
Pounds to Lose to Goal: 19.5

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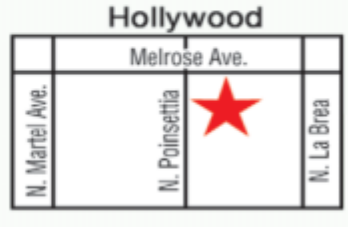
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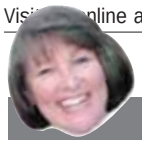
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A witch in time just as fine

THERE ARE CERTAIN WITCHES THAT everyone remembers. The trio in "Macbeth" brewed toil and trouble in a steaming cauldron. Elizabeth Montgomery from "Bewitched" did the dishes by twitching her nose. The Wicked Witch of the West melted when Dorothy threw a bucket of water on her. But unless you are a movie and theater aficionado, you may not immediately remember Gillian Holroyd of "Bell, Book and Candle," the New York City witch who cast a spell to make a neighbor that she fancied fall in love with her.

John van Druten wrote the play in 1950 and it is definitely a reflection of its time: simple, complacent, and unsophisticated. By 2010, however, it has become a dated, predictable, period piece — an old chestnut. But still fun, in an "Importance of Being Earnest" sort of way. And still nostalgically pleasing to theatergoers "of a certain age."

So The Colony Theatre in Burbank was packed to the rafters recently when Willow Geer took to the stage to become the latest Gillian. Geer, of the famous acting dynasty, is most often seen in Shakespearean dramas produced at her family's outdoor Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga Canyon. She is a gifted actress, winsome and appealing, usually, but in this production she appears edgy and tense, and even a little shrill. Or at least that's how she appeared on opening night. A little more bitchy than witchy.

The spell she casts on Shepherd Henderson (adroitly played by Michael A. Newcomer) begins as an act of vengeance when she discovers that he is soon to marry an old schoolmate of hers whom she particularly loathes. Then, after Shep falls into her trap, she begins to care for him in spite of herself.

The complication here is that witches can't feel love. Nor can they cry. And so, like Pinocchio, Gillian wants to become a human. She is abetted by her Aunt Queenie, a rambunctious, flamboyant Mary Jo Catlett, who literally steals the show (no witchcraft involved). And by her brother Nicky (Will Bradley) whose witchery generally takes the form of practical jokes and minor mischiefs.

The fifth character is Sidney Redlitch (Benton Jennings), a writer bent on exposing the witch culture presumably thriving in New York. An interesting piece of trivia: in the 1958 movie, the part of the alcoholic writer was played by comedian Ernie Kovacs.

Richard Israel, co-artistic director of Hollywood's West Coast Ensemble Theatre, makes his Colony Theatre directorial debut with this production and keeps everything moving at a bewitching pace. But the icing on this sugary confection is the clothing provided by costume designer Sharon McGunigle — especially the outfits worn by Aunt Queenie. The mix of patterns and colors are dizzying and dazzling, and Catlett carries them off with panache.

So ring the bell, open the book, and light the candle, and come and sit for a spell. Especially if you believe in witchcraft!

"Bell, Book and Candle" will continue at The Colony Theatre, 555 North Third St. in Burbank Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Nov. 21. Call (818) 558-7000 for reservations.

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

Playwright Lisa Kron's new work targets hubris overload

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK What playwright Lisa Kron calls "the central event" of her childhood happened in sixth grade.

Kron, a smart kid and something of a teacher's pet while growing up in Lansing, Mich., proudly finished work one day that her most beloved teacher was surely going to praise.

"I went up to her and I was like, 'Miss Green! Miss Green! Miss Green!' And she turned around to me and she said, 'I'm talking. To someone else.' And then she turned away. I was flush with embarrassment," Kron recalls.

"For weeks afterward I just mulled it over in my mind. I was like, 'Oh, no. When I die, the world will keep turning. And as interested as I am in myself, that's how interested everybody else is here in themselves.' So that's what I think I'm doing all the time as a playwright, repeating that moment."

Kron, 49, has done so with some success. Her "2.5 Minute Ride," a one-woman play about her father, a Holocaust survivor, won an Obie, and her "Well," a mother-daughter drama, ran on Broadway and earned her a Tony Award nomination.

This month, Kron's exploration of hubris hits a new high with "In the Wake," her powerful new play at The Public Theater that in many ways is her most conventional in form and yet ambitious in content.

The piece examines America's relentless optimism and avoidance of sacrifice through the allegory of a young, smart, well-off woman named Ellen who has really never suffered loss. When Ellen embarks on an affair, she tries to keep both her boyfriend and her new love without choosing either. It's a risky strategy.

Full of great dialogue and rich scenes, Kron's seven-character work brings up questions about whether our society is unaware of our own self-destructive impulses and how we can sustain our way of life without giving something up.

"I don't want this play to say, 'America is blind, and it's wrong and it never should have happened in the first place.' I think the point of the allegory is that with grand visions, there's always an underside to them," Kron says. "But that doesn't make them any less worthy or grand."

The show's director, Leigh Silverman, who also worked on "Well," credits Kron with stepping outside her comfort zone. "It is a big, complicated, ambitious play," says Silverman. "I think that she is always interested in pushing her audiences, and pushing her collaborators, and pushing herself to find the challenging, rigorous, interesting, provocative, theatrical next step."



There's a lot more than turkey to look forward to this November. For starters, jazz sensation, Nnenna Freelon. Then, Broadway's darling Christine Ebersole. And a **free Sunday afternoon concert** with brilliant young musicians. All at the enormously intimate 499-seat Broad Stage. But let's talk turkey: call or go online for seats. ASAP.

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Gov. Schwarzenegger wants federal climate law

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is seizing on the defeat of an oil-industry attempt to derail California's landmark global warming law, saying Wednesday it provides proponents of clean energy and climate control the perfect opportunity to put those issues back on the national agenda.

Schwarzenegger attributed the resounding failure of Proposition 23 to a wide breadth of opposition that brought together groups that traditionally are at loggerheads, including Democrats and Republicans and environmentalists and business leaders.

He said the measure's lopsided defeat — 61 percent of voters rejected it — gives supporters of global warming regulation the momentum to push a similar law through Congress.

"This was such an extraordinary coalition. We're going back to Washington to get this jump-started again," the governor told reporters on a conference call. "The Democrats can't do it without the Republicans. We've got to get together to find the sweet spot."

The 2006 Global Warming Solutions Act, which made California the first state in the nation to enact greenhouse gas regulations, is a signature of Schwarzenegger's administration. It orders industrial emission limits starting in 2012 and fossil fuel energy reductions commencing in 2020.

An effort to adopt similar legislation in Congress has stalled.

Proposition 23, which was backed largely by out-of-state oil companies and refiners, sought to delay implementation of the restrictions until the state unemployment rate, which now stands at 12.6 percent, drops to 5.5 percent and holds steady there for a year. That has occurred just three times in three decades.

Former Secretary of State George Shultz, who co-chaired the No. on 23 campaign, said its defeat shows climate change is no longer a partisan issue.

"Somehow it's gotten out that Republicans don't cotton to this issue. We got to be sure to wake up our fellow Republicans," said Shultz. "This worked because it was broad-based. We have to proceed on a nonpartisan basis."

That will be an uphill battle despite the clear message California voters sent, said Frank O'Donnell, president of Clean Air Watch in Washington D.C.

Even before Tuesday's election, which put the House of Representatives in Republican hands, Congress showed little inclination toward climate-control legislation, O'Donnell said.

"The likelihood of a big, national economy-wide program is very slim for the near future," he said. "It's going to be a very tough climb."

Proposition 23 was funded by $9 million in contributions largely from oil-industry companies. Opponents raised more than $32 million from a diverse source of contributors, including the Sierra Club, the Teamsters union, venture capital firms and alternative energy businesses.

The National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, which contributed $100,000 to the yes vote, called the measure's defeat "tragic." The association blamed it partly on the voter wave that elected Jerry Brown governor, re-elected Barbara Boxer to the U.S. Senate and sent their fellow Democrats to several other statewide offices.

The association's president, Charles Drevna, also accused the measure's opponents of leading a "sophisticated multimillion-dollar misinformation campaign" that he said would ultimately drive companies out of the state.

"The defeat of Proposition 23 will hurt families across California by destroying jobs and raising costs of gasoline, diesel fuel, electricity and more," Drevna said in a statement Wednesday. "It is the wrong medicine at the wrong time for California's ailing economy."

Schwarzenegger dismissed such arguments as "trick" language that failed to fool voters. He said the law created jobs by fomenting a clean energy industry.

"It was a victory over greedy oil companies," Schwarzenegger said of the measure's defeat.

It was also a victory the governor took personally.

"I hate being beaten in anything. For my ego, it was also very important," Schwarzenegger said. "This protects one of my legacies I'm very proud of."

Jubilant Democrats solidify hold on state Legislature

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Democrats retained control of both legislative chambers and won a major victory in this week's elections when voters approved Proposition 25, lowering the threshold to pass a state budget from a two-thirds vote to a simple majority.

What that also means, though, is Democrats will have almost no one else to blame for the way the state's money is spent after Gov-elect Jerry Brown, a Democrat, also replaces Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger in January.

"There's an old saying, 'Be careful what you ask for.' And the people of California have now given Democrats what they asked for: they've got total control," said Senate Minority Leader Bob Dutton, R-Rancho Cucamonga. "There shouldn't be any more excuses."

Only one legislative seat changed hands during Tuesday's vote, even though all 80 Assembly seats and half the 40 Senate seats were up for election.

Democrats picked up Assembly District 5 when their candidate defeated conservative Sacramento lawyer Andy Pugno, who attracted national attention because he represented supporters of the Proposition 8 ban on same-sex unions. The 2008 initiative limiting marriage to a man and a woman was overturned by a federal judge in August.

At the same time voters were increasing the power of the majority party, they may have made Democrats' job more difficult by passing three other ballot measures.

They lowered the margin for adopting a budget, but rejected increasing fees to pay for state parks, decided to require a two-thirds vote to pass fee increases, and closed loopholes that last year let the Legislature take $5.5 billion from local governments.

Moreover, it will still require a two-thirds vote to raise taxes, though only a simple 50 percent majority to pass a budget. That leaves Democrats to deal with a new budget deficit estimated at $12 billion without some of the one-time measures that have been used to bridge previous budget gaps.

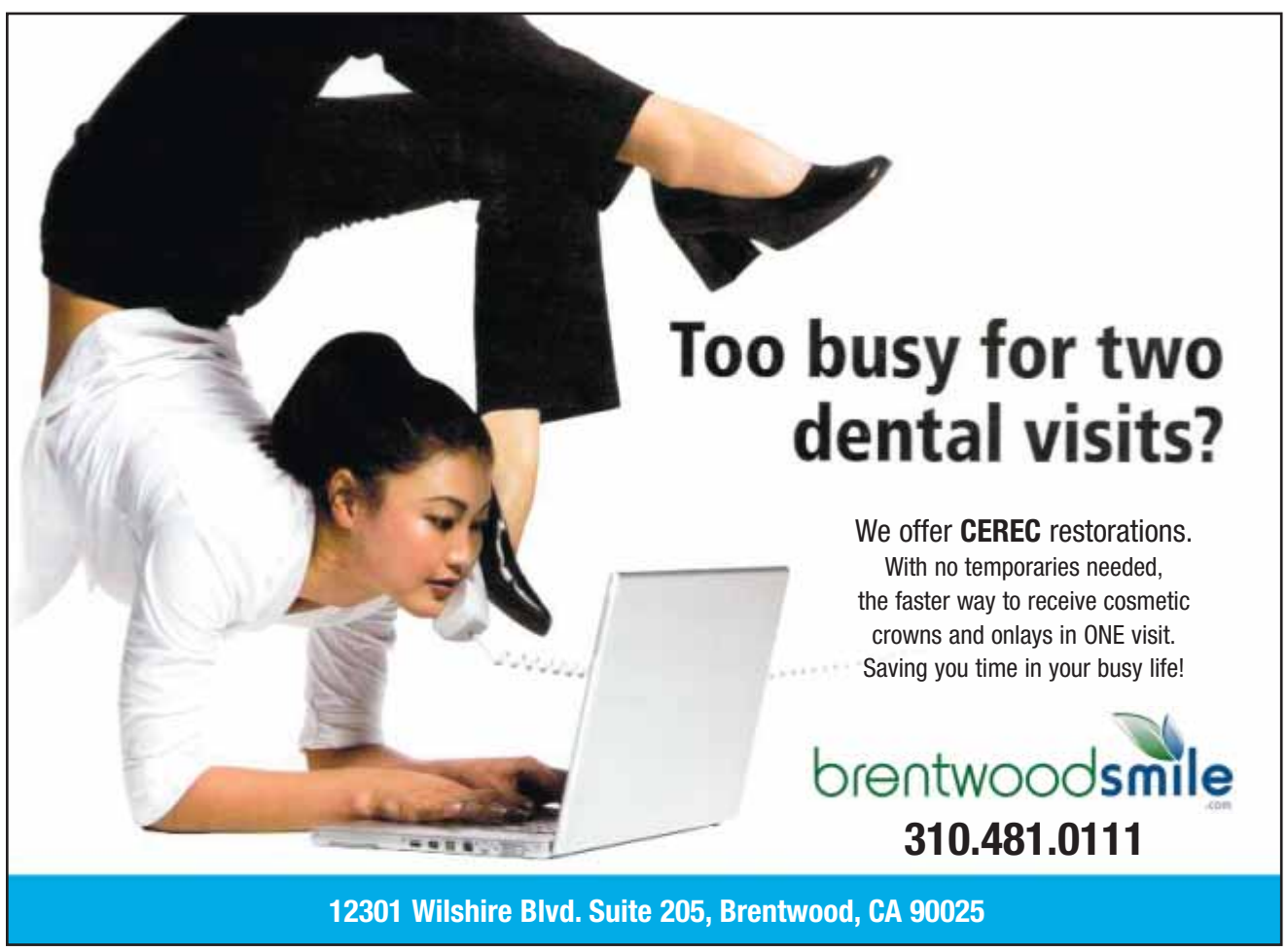
"The voters gave with one hand and took with the other," said Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento. "They also lessened the tools that we have."

Steinberg predicted a net benefit for Democrats because they will no longer have to bargain with Republicans for the few final votes needed to pass a budget. He said Democrats may return to voters as early as next spring to consider new taxes and fees.

And he said state government should pass more responsibilities to local governments because they will have more of the money. That, Steinberg said, could be good because it will move services closer to the people who benefit.

Steinberg and Assembly Speaker John Perez, D-Los Angeles, joined Brown in promising to work with Republicans. Steinberg and Perez echoed Dutton in saying state government's priority must be on creating jobs and improving the state's economy.

Democrats have controlled the Legislature for years and that won't change, Dutton said. Republicans will offer their ideas, he said, but Democrats don't have to listen.





Pot activists vow to keep legalization fight alive

LISA LEFF & MARCUS WOHLSEN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES It seemed an easy sell in California: The state that gave us medical marijuana would allow pot for recreation.

Then came the ads, newspaper editorials and politicians, warning of a world where stoned drivers would crash school buses, nurses would show up at work high and employers would be helpless to fire drug-addled workers.

A day after voters rejected Proposition 19, marijuana advocates wondered how they failed in trendsetting, liberal California.

Was it the fear of the unknown? An older electorate more likely to oppose pot? Voters reluctant to go any further than they already had with the nation's most lax pot laws?

Whatever the reason, activists vowed Wednesday to push on in California, as well as in states that rejected other pot measures Tuesday.

"Social change doesn't happen overnight," said Paul Armentano, deputy director of the National Organization for Repeal of Marijuana Laws.

In South Dakota, voters rejected for the second time a medical marijuana measure — a step first taken by California in 1996 and by 13 other states since. Oregon voters refused to expand their medical marijuana program to create a network of state-licensed nonprofit dispensaries.

A medical marijuana measure on Arizona's ballot remained too close to call Wednesday.

The California initiative, which would have allowed adults age 21 and older to possess and grow small amounts of marijuana, failed 54 to 46 percent. An Associated Press analysis of exit and pre-election polls found voters opposed Prop 19 regardless of race, gender, income or education level.

Blacks and Latinos, for example, opposed the measure at about the same rate as whites. That despite evidence that pot advocates presented during the campaign that minorities are disproportionately arrested on marijuana offenses.

"There is a sense of people wanting to move into a new policy ... but still being wary of what that change might mean," said Ethan Nadelmann, director of the pro-legalization Drug Policy Project.

Roger Salazar, a spokesman for the successful campaign to defeat Prop 19, agreed that misgivings about possible social problems from increased marijuana use helped seal the measure's fate.

But he also blamed backers for leaving it up to local governments instead of the state to set sales regulations. He also faulted them for promoting the measure as a revenue windfall for the state and a way to undercut drug traffickers and free up police to pursue more serious crimes.

"The risks of legalizing something as important as marijuana were far greater than the potential benefits, and the benefits were far from guaranteed," Salazar said. "If they are going to come back with something, it has to be a lot more tightly written."

Preliminary election returns showed Prop 19 winning in 11 of 58 counties, with the strongest support in San Francisco and Santa Cruz.

But in a sign of what a tough sell it was, Prop 19 lost in the state's vaunted marijuana-growing region known as the "Emerald Triangle" of Humboldt, Mendocino and Trinity counties.

Many in the region feared the system they created would be taken over by corporations or would undercut a cornerstone of the local economies by sending pot prices plunging.

Those most anxious about the economy were not convinced that legalizing pot was worth the potential tax revenue or jobs created by a newly legal marijuana industry.

Abbey Kaufman and Matt McDonald toked up "a few blunts" during the Giants World Series celebration in front of San Francisco City Hall despite a strong police presence.

The 20-year-old San Franciscans said they each voted yes but both said they weren't disappointed Prop 19 failed.

"Right now, you can smoke as much pot as you want on the streets of San Francisco," Kaufman said. "If it had passed, marijuana would have been treated like booze and there would be a big crackdown on public smoking."

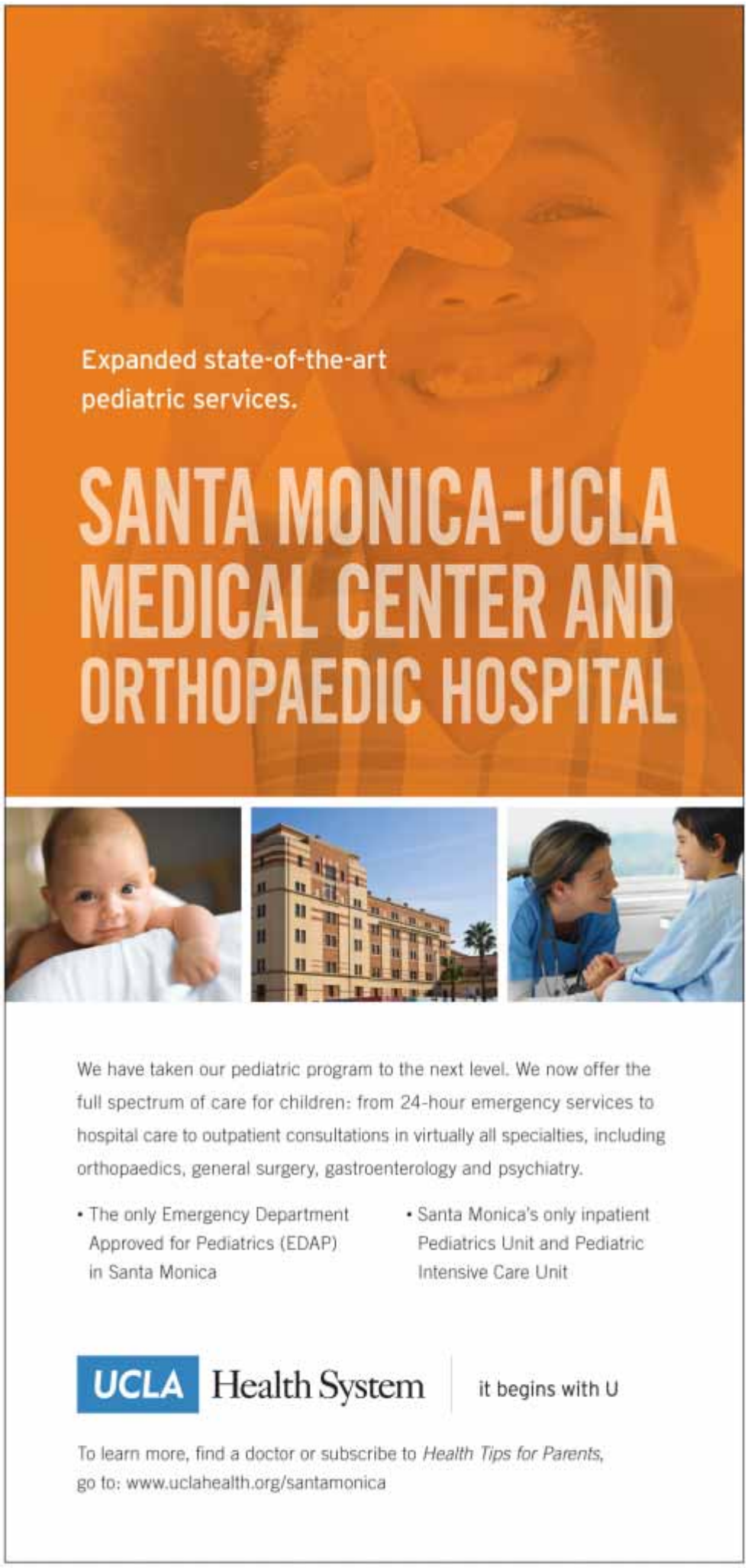
"I think a lot of stoners voted yes just because, but I think we're better off that it didn't pass."

Richard Lee, the Oakland, Calif., medical marijuana entrepreneur who sponsored Prop 19 and spent $1.4 million of his own money to qualify the measure for the ballot and try to get it passed, drew hope in the generational divide among the voters.









ELECTION 2010

Results are in ...

COUNCIL FOUR-YEAR TERM

Name	Votes	Percent
KEVIN MCKEOWN	13,037	21.8
PAM O'CONNOR	11,534	19.3
BOB HOLBROOK	10,184	17.1
TED WINTERER	10,038	16.8
JEAN MCNEIL WYNER	3,162	5.3
JERRY RUBIN	2,995	5.0
JON LOUIS MANN	2,697	4.5
TERENCE LATER	2,327	3.9
DANIEL CODY	2,205	3.7
LINDA ARMSTRONG	1,378	2.3

COUNCIL TWO-YEAR TERM

Name	Votes	Percent
TERRY O'DAY	12,592	33.1
GLEAM OLIVIA DAVIS	10,632	27.9
ROBERT KRONOVET	5,674	14.9
SUSAN HARTLEY	4,923	12.9
DAVID GANEZER	4,181	11.0

RENT CONTROL BOARD FOUR-YEAR TERM

Name	Votes	Percent
M KORADE WILSON	12,523	35.0
BILL WINSLOW	11,944	33.4
TODD FLORA	11,256	31.5

RENT CONTROL BOARD TWO-YEAR TERM

Name	Votes	Percent
CHRIS BRAUN	13,692	100.0

MEASURE Y
HALF CENT SALES TAX INCREASE

Name	Votes	Percent
YES	15,622	60.8
NO	10,045	39.1

MEASURE YY
USE TAX ADVISORY

Name	Votes	Percent
YES	17,126	67.6
NO	8,196	32.3

MEASURE RR
EXTENDS EVICTION PROTECTION

Name	Votes	Percent
YES	15,553	65.2
NO	8,281	34.7

*Source: Los Angeles County Clerk's Office.
All precincts have reported.

COUNCIL
FROM PAGE 1

"I'd rather be ahead than behind at this time, but [Winterer] is a very good guy and a very well-respected candidate, and this is a tough one for both of us at this point," Holbrook said.

Winterer, who was leading Holbrook in early returns, was the runner-up in the 2008 council contest. On Wednesday he said he was holding out hope he could prevail.

"There are still lots of provisional and vote-by-mail ballots to be counted, and in addition we're trying to get a count of the number of rejected absentee and other ballots and we are weighing our options," he said.

The top two finishers in the contest for full council terms were incumbents Kevin McKeown, with 13,037 votes, and Pam O'Connor, with 11,534.

O'Connor won her fifth term on the council despite again being the target of negative ads from the slow-growth group the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City.

"I guess the citizens of Santa Monica realize I'm doing a good job and they want me to stay," she said.

She dismissed attack ads that portrayed her as being in the pocket of big developers as baseless.

"They used lies and innuendo, and the voters in Santa Monica haven't been fooled by that," she said of her critics.

McKeown won his fourth term.

"I ran a simple and positive campaign on my record of responsiveness to residents, and I deeply appreciate the broad support that again let me come in as top vote-getter," he said. "It is possible to earn victories in Santa Monica the old-fashioned way."

Besides Winterer, no other challenger came close to winning a seat on the council. The next-best performance in the four-year contest came from Jean McNeil Wyner, who received 3,162 votes.

In the race for a pair of two-year terms, appointed council members Terry O'Day and Gleam Davis easily defended their seats. The third place finisher in that race, Robert Kronovet, trailed by nearly 5,000 votes as of Wednesday.

"We got defeated soundly. We were very surprised," Kronovet said. "It's strange, we really don't know where our voters went."

I GUESS THE CITIZENS OF SANTA MONICA REALIZE I'M DOING A GOOD JOB AND THEY WANT ME TO STAY."

Pam O'Connor,
Mayor Pro Tem

nickt@smdp.com



GIBBS
FROM PAGE 3

because it's mostly upperclassmen playing in the tournament and only a handful of freshman," admits Gibbs. "I think each match will be really challenging and winning rounds will be an accomplishment in and of itself. Hopefully, I won't have to play anyone from my team until late in the tournament, but that all depends on how the draw pans out."

Gibbs will be competing in New York with three other players from Stanford and will also represent the Cardinal along with fellow freshman Kristie Ahn in the 16-team doubles field. The two have been consistently paired together since the beginning of the summer after they won the doubles title at the USTA Pro Circuit $50,000 event in Carson, Calif. in May.

"I would say the Cardinal have some of the best players in the draw, we are hoping at least," said Gibbs. "I think we will be some of each other's biggest competition but there are a lot of really excellent players from other schools as well. Hopefully, the girls from Stanford can all make it late in the week and force the issue and have to play each other."

Gibbs grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and moved with her family to Manhattan Beach before starting high school. She transferred to Crossroads her junior year and now calls Santa Monica her home. Her first professional title win was at an International Tennis Federation Professional Circuit event in Mexico City in 2007. In August, she reached the final of the 2010 USTA 18-year-old National Championships that was held in San Diego and now trains full-time at the USTA Training Center-West in Carson.

"You always represent where you come from and where your home is," said Gibbs. "For me, Santa Monica was the happiest part of my high school career. For sure I had the most fun while living in Santa Monica and that is where the majority of my friends are. And I plan to be spending a lot of time here in the summers and years to come."

news@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Nick Laham

GIBBS

MEASURES
FROM PAGE 1

City Council by backing the advisory ballot item Measure YY with 68 percent of the vote. The advisory urged the council to commit half of the new revenue to education programs.

Revenue not spent on schools would go into the general fund, giving the council wide latitude over how it's spent. The measure's official language stated the money would be used for "police, fire, paramedic and emergency 911 response, school, educational and after school programs, public transit, services for the disabled, gang and drug prevention programs, environmental, library and other general fund services."

The campaign to pass the measure drew support from the education community, which viewed the sales tax hike as a replacement for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's failed parcel tax proposal that was defeated in a special election held in May. The parcel tax, which required two-thirds of the vote to pass, was narrowly defeated.

Leaders of the Yes on Y campaign hailed its passage as a benefit for the schools and for the broader community.

"Everyone in Santa Monica benefits from great schools and safe neighborhoods. They make Santa Monica one of the most desirable places to live in the state and in the nation," said Tom Larmore, co-chair of the campaign.

MEASURE RR PASSES

Voters also overwhelmingly approved Measure RR, which grants greater eviction protections to renters.

The measure adds requirements that a landlord show good cause to evict any tenant and serve a warning notice giving reasonable time to correct a rental agreement violation, except if the violation is nonpayment of rent.

It also adds a prohibition against evicting long-term elderly tenants, disabled or terminally ill tenants for owner occupancy unless the proposed owner-occupant is also elderly, disabled or terminally ill, or a relative who plans to live in the unit falls into one of those categories.

Measure RR received 65 percent of the vote.

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Santa Monica Rent Control Board
Westside Center for Independent Living
WISE & Healthy Aging

Topics Covered:

Code Enforcement
Consumer Fraud
Crime Prevention
Disability Rights
Elder Abuse
Family Law
Government Benefits
Healthcare Rights
Housing Discrimination
Income Tax
Mortgage Fraud
Landlords and Tenants
Wills and Trusts

SANTA MONICA
SENIOR LAW DAY

Are you age 50 or older with questions about legal or benefits issues? Get your questions answered, one-on-one, by representatives from the City of Santa Monica and nonprofit agencies.





Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Santa Monica Public Library
Multipurpose Room
601 Santa Monica Blvd.
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

FREE!
RSVP by calling
(310) 458-8644
Space is limited
Light refreshments provided



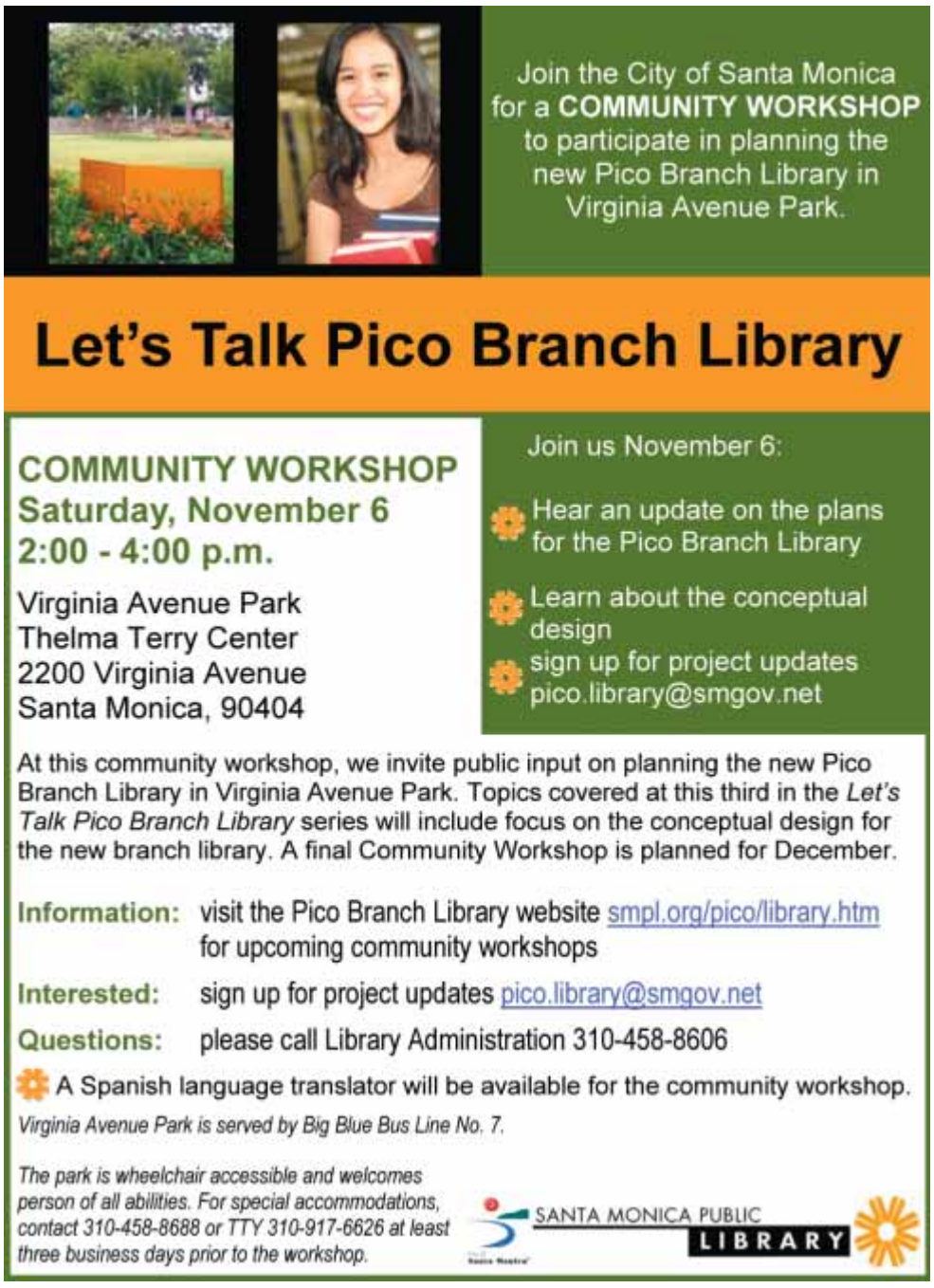
City of Santa Monica

The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, call Library Administration at 310-458-8606 at least one week prior to event.

LIFELong LEARNING COMMUNITY

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 7*, 8, 9, 10* and Tide Ride (*closest stops)



VOLLEYBALL
FROM PAGE 3

Liane Sato's girls however, led by senior setter Tess Walther, proved too strong as the Vikings allowed only three points to Beverly Hills in the final game.

"Tess has been showing improvement on and off the court all season long," said Coach Sato before the game. "She has shown considerable improvement with her set consistency, footwork, agility and quickness. She is a natural leader and is doing a great job running our offense and will do well leading our team into the playoffs."

Earlier this season, the Vikings traveled to Beverly Hills and swept the Normans in three games with scores of 25-17, 25-23, and 25-22.

Last season, Santa Monica and Beverly Hills split regular season games — the Normans swept the Vikings in Beverly Hills early in the season and Santa Monica came back late in the season to win at home. Samohi ended Ocean League play in second place with a record of 9-1, being narrowly edged out by Beverly Hills.

The Samohi girls' volleyball team is currently atop the standings of the Ocean League and ranked No. 9 in Division 3-AA on California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section's weekly poll.

Now, with just one game left in the regular season, the Vikings are likely to enter the postseason with some momentum as the regular season league winners, avenging last season when the Normans took home the crown.

The Vikings will travel today to play another Ocean League rival, Hawthorne, at 3:15 p.m. for the girls' final game of the regular season.

news@smdp.com

SCHOOL BOARD
FROM PAGE 1

Oscar de la Torre, who received 12,634 votes; and Ralph Mechur, who received 11,430 votes.

Even with nearly 6,000 ballots yet to be counted, candidates acknowledged the results were unlikely to change.

"I thought I still had work I could help the board with, so there's some disappointment. But overall I think that I did a good job and that the new [board] members will also do a good job," Snell said Wednesday morning.

Patel, who had been in sixth place when early election returns were posted just after 8 p.m. on Tuesday, saw his ranking steadily rise as the night wore on. His seat on the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board wasn't assured until after 2 a.m. on Wednesday.

"I haven't slept. I'm living off some adrenaline right now but I feel fantastic," Patel said Wednesday afternoon. "I didn't think it looked good when the early precinct reporting numbers came out, but you've got to watch it to the end. I was very excited come 3 o'clock in the morning."

Patel raised nearly $90,000 for his campaign, giving him a huge financial edge.

"My fundraising obviously was a big factor to get my communication out there," he said, though he added he believed his combination of business experience, his work on the district's Financial Oversight Committee and his platform of bringing change to the school board was what appealed to voters.

nickt@smdp.com

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

Samohi, which is 4-4 overall and 1-2 in league, comes into the contest in fourth place, two games behind Inglewood.

Clark said the secret to beating Culver City comes on defense. Culver City has scored a league-leading 286 points this season largely on the backs of wide receivers Kevin Porche and Alex Jackson, who have combined for 14 receiving touchdowns this season.

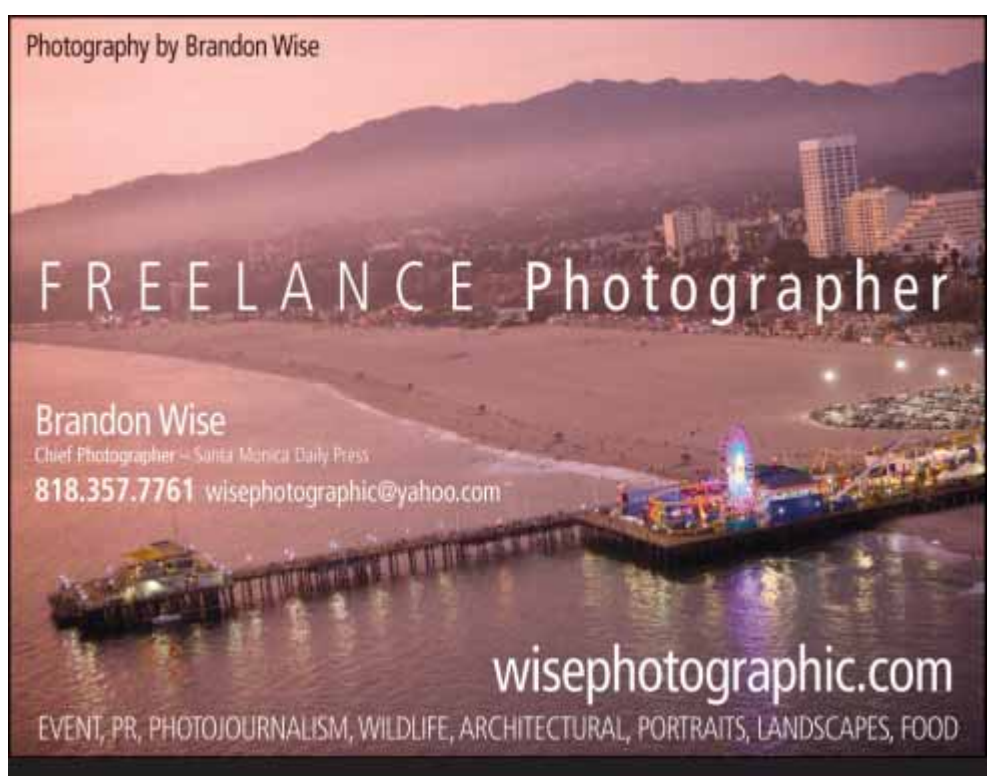
Porche poses a multi-faceted threat as the junior is as likely to line up at wide receiver as he is at running back and at times quarterback. Clark believes his defense is up to the challenge in a game which could decide the Vikings' playoff fate.

Clark would rather face Porche and Jackson as wide receivers instead of ball carriers. He wants to force Culver City quarterback Jordan Arrington to pass against Samohi's talented defensive backfield. He likes his Vikings' chances with cornerbacks Kori Garcia and Dylan Muscat roaming the field. The duo will be all the more key as starting safeties Chris Ransom and Deon Bishop are sidelined with injuries.

"This is our Super Bowl," Clark said. "This is a huge game in front of us."

news@smdp.com





Former CIA agent Valerie Plame begins second act of life

JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

NEW YORK She's posed on the red carpet at Cannes in a flowing designer gown, at Deauville in a sleek black bustier and palazzo pants. She exchanges e-mails with Naomi Watts. Sean Penn hung out at her house. Not for nothing have they called Valerie Plame Wilson the Glamorous Spy.

And yet for years, she lived a life of secrecy that most of us would have trouble fathoming, unable to tell her best friends what she actually did for a living, or her own husband where she was flying off to in the middle of the night.

How do you go from one life to the other? Not very easily — still, she says, as she prepares for another round in the spotlight with the release Friday of "Fair Game," the movie based on her infamous 2003 "outing" as a CIA agent.

"I have found it a real challenge to be a public person," Plame Wilson said in an interview this week from Santa Fe, N.M., where she now lives with her husband, former ambassador Joe Wilson, and their 10-year-old twins. "I was in a world where discretion was good. All of a sudden that changed overnight. That was not easy at all."

And to those critics who claim she's thoroughly enjoyed profiting from that celebrity — red carpets, photo shoots, book and movie deals — Wilson has this to say, her voice hardening slightly: "Listen, I loved my job. If none of this had happened, I'd still be overseas working, happily, right now. But that wasn't the card I was dealt."

"This," of course, is the now well-known story of how Plame's CIA cover was blown, leaked by Bush administration officials in retribution, she and her husband claim, for her husband's public accusation that the administration was twisting intelligence to exaggerate the Iraqi nuclear threat and justify going to war.

An investigation led to the conviction of I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, then Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff, of perjury, obstruction and lying to the FBI. Bush later commuted Libby's 30-month prison sentence.

As for Wilson, she wrote a book about the ordeal, as did her husband. It was published — some 10 percent of it literally blacked out because of redactions demanded by the CIA — in 2007, the same year the family moved to Santa Fe to build a new life. There, Plame Wilson enjoys being a mother, does part-time work for a scientific research group, the Santa Fe Institute, and also is collaborating on a spy novel — yes, about a female covert agent.

But back to the CIA leak investigation, which at the time seemed to divide the world into admirers and bitter critics of the Wilsons. With the movie coming out, and the critics sharpening their knives yet again, is the couple prepared?

"They're using the same talking points again — it's all part of a campaign to denigrate me and my husband," says Plame Wilson, who has long been particularly riled by the accusation that she was nothing more than a "glorified secretary" at the CIA — a point the movie makes sure to refute. "But we've learned to shut this out. We don't want to waste energy on it. We're really proud of this film and we stand by it. This is a story of power, and the abuse of power."

Certainly the film has plenty of star wattage. Plame Wilson is portrayed by Watts, and Penn plays the extroverted, showboating Joe. The film is directed by Doug Liman, who also directed "The Bourne Identity" and "Mr. and Mrs. Smith."

Liman, despite his action-film background, also has an interest in politics as the son of Arthur Liman, the lawyer who served as chief counsel for the Senate's investigation of the Iran-contra affair. However important he found the CIA leak story, though, Liman says it was the characters of Valerie and Joe Wilson that motivated him to take on the film.

"If you just have an issue, then you should hold a rally," he said in an interview this week. "If you have great characters, then you should do a movie. I fell in love with the characters — this outspoken, colorful, flamboyant former ambassador, and this incredibly private secret agent. The neighbors must have thought, here was this ambassador with his trophy wife and their twins. But after getting her kids to school, she heads to Langley, where she is a clandestine operative in the area of weapons of mass destruction."

A key irony in making the film was that Plame Wilson could tell the filmmakers anything they wanted to know about the emotional side of her story — including details of her marriage. She just couldn't tell them the facts. Every CIA agent signs a secrecy agreement when she joins. "It's good for life," she notes pointedly.

So Liman and his team had to flesh out the story from material in the public domain, and from other CIA sources. Some people spoke to him, he says, "because they were outraged that she was being disparaged. Valerie could not defend herself, and that was used against her. Imagine — if you defend yourself, you go to jail."

One aspect of the film that some have criticized is how it portrays what happened to Plame's "assets" overseas — the valuable contacts she had cultivated as a spy. A review in Variety called a plot twist involving an Iraqi scientist, a composite character, "apocryphal and manipulative," to which Plame Wilson quips: "I'm pretty sure they weren't on the Intel distribution list, last time I checked!"

Asked what happened to "assets" like these, she answers carefully: "The CIA saw a damage report. I didn't see it. But I can say that I know what happened to some of these assets. I know that some people were placed in severe jeopardy, and it ended badly."

On a less serious note, Plame Wilson allows that being portrayed onscreen by one of the most beautiful actresses in Hollywood isn't all bad. "It could be worse," she jokes. But she has a hard time judging whether Watts "got" her as a character.

"You see yourself from the inside looking out," she says. "But my friends say Naomi got me. And I do think Sean got Joe — I wish they'd shown more of his sense of humor, but I guess it wasn't about that."

As the movie heads for its opening weekend, Plame Wilson is happily home in Santa Fe — though she still has security concerns for her family, and "we're aware of our security posture," she notes.

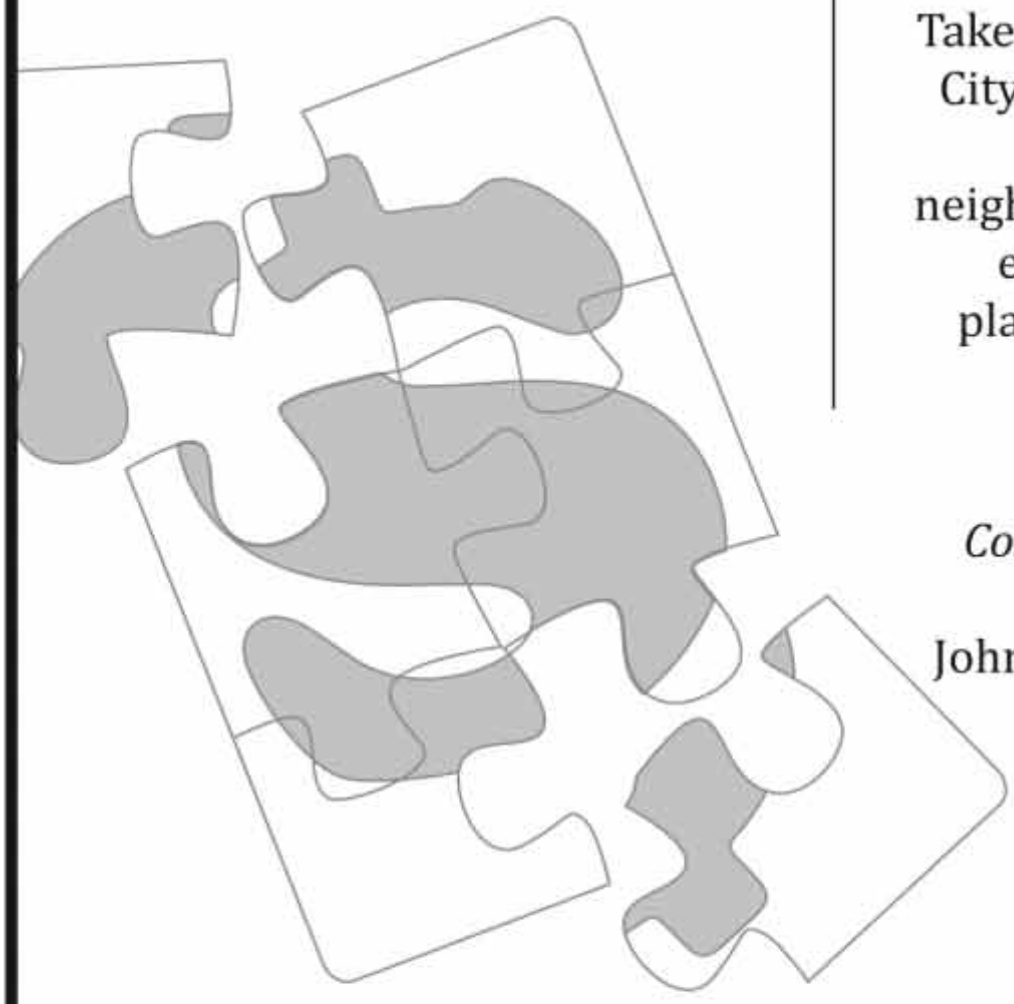
"We've rebuilt our lives here," she says. "We're pursuing other things. We want this episode to be a chapter, not the whole book."

As for her 10-year-olds, Trevor and Samantha, she says, "This has been part of the wallpaper of their lives. But they're healthy and happy."



Can we talk?

A community conversation with City Manager Rod Gould about your neighborhood projects, the economy and our future.



There is a lot happening in Santa Monica! Take advantage of this opportunity to meet City Manager Rod Gould to get an update on projects happening in your neighborhood. Rod will put the state of the economy into a local perspective as planning begins for the FY2011-12 and FY2012-13 budget.

November 8, 7 p.m.
Cosponsored by Ocean Park Association
(Neighborhood meeting at 6 p.m.)
John Muir Elementary School Auditorium
2526 6th Street

November 15, 7 p.m.
Cosponsored by
Wilmont Neighborhood Coalition
Ken Edwards Center Lunchroom
1527 4th Street

November 17, 7 p.m.
Cosponsored by Pico Neighborhood Association
Virginia Avenue Park
Thelma Terry Community Room
2200 Virginia Avenue

November 30, 7 p.m.
Cosponsored by
Friends of Sunset Park
Grant Elementary School Auditorium,
2368 Pearl Street

December 2, 7 p.m.
Cosponsored by
North of Montana Association
Montana Branch Library
1704 Montana Avenue

All locations are wheelchair accessible. For additional disability-related accommodations or for more information about these meetings, please call (310) 458-8281 or visit www.smgov.net/budget.

Presented by:

City of
Santa Monica®

Voters bring another wave of change to politics

MICHAEL RUBINKAM
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA From Pennsylvania to Arkansas, New Hampshire to Ohio, the electorate turned over incumbents Tuesday like a gardener turns over earth. Republicans reaped an impressive harvest nationwide, but in some places their sweep reversed balances of power where Democratic roots run deep.

The GOP's reward: Governing a fickle, angry electorate in a time of busted state budgets and high anxiety about jobs and joblessness. And for voters in states that flipped from Democratic to Republican control, what they sought — change — is definitely in store.

In Ohio and Wisconsin, high-speed rail projects may be scuttled. In Pennsylvania, privatization of the state liquor stores is back on the table. In the Democratic stronghold of Minnesota, long-dormant GOP proposals to establish racetrack gambling, require a photo ID for voting and amend the state Constitution to ban gay marriage may find new life. And everywhere, they promised to focus on the economy.

"Wherever you were, the mantra was jobs, jobs, jobs jobs," said Randall Miller, a politics professor at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

But "states don't really control their economic destinies," he said, so "Republicans might reap a whirlwind by not being able to do very much themselves and fulfill expectations which are contradictory."

Eating breakfast at a diner near Allentown, Pa., voter Eric Heiselman sounded almost giddy as he described the backlash against Democrats and President Barack Obama.

"I liked Mr. Obama's prediction of change. We didn't get the change we want, so we're changing again," Heiselman said Wednesday morning. "Which is a good thing. It's what America is all about."

The GOP seized control of about a dozen statehouses Tuesday night, including double upsets in four states in which they wrested both Senate and House legislative chambers from the Democrats.

Republicans nationwide promised to wield their newfound power to restrain the size and scope of government and jolt the economy — and said they understand that voters will hold them responsible if they fail to deliver.

"They've given us a second chance, so we better get it right this time," veteran Republican Rep. Joseph Pitts of Pennsylvania said Wednesday.

The GOP did especially well in Pennsylvania, winning a hotly contested U.S. Senate race, picking up five congressional seats and reclaiming the governor's mansion and the state House from Democrats in their biggest electoral victory since 1994.

Republicans were jubilant — "Now Pennsylvania's a red state," party boss Rob Gleason declared — but they will face the same challenges that confounded their Democratic predecessors.

Incoming Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett has promised to close a projected $5 billion budget shortfall without raising taxes or fees, but didn't tell voters how he will do it or what spending cuts he will propose.

Republican leaders in the Pennsylvania House have discussed proposals to cut business regulations, slash the size of the Legislature, and fold the oft-maligned Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission — where political patronage jobs abound — into the Department of Transportation.

Perhaps the biggest electoral surprise came in Minnesota, where Republicans took control of both legislative chambers for the first time since 1972 and ousted House Transportation Committee Chairman Jim Oberstar, a 36-year incumbent and dean of the state's congressional delegation.

Oberstar's loss was a stunner because it came in Minnesota's northern Iron Range, one of the most Democratic parts of the state.

Trio charged with aiding Somali terror group

AMY FORLITI & JIM SUHR
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS A federal grand jury has charged three men, including one from St. Louis and one from Minneapolis, with conspiring to funnel money to a terrorist group in Somalia that the U.S. says has ties to al-Qaida.

In an indictment returned Oct. 21 and unsealed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in St. Louis, prosecutors charged St. Louis taxi driver Mohamud Abdi Yusuf, a Somali national who immigrated to the U.S. as a refugee, with one count of conspiracy to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization and three counts of providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization — the radical Islamist group al-Shabab.

The government contends that Yusuf and Abdi Mahdi Hussein sent money through a Minneapolis wire-transfer business where Hussein worked to al-Shabab supporters in Somalia between 2008 and at least July 2009. Hussein, who is also of Somali descent, is charged with one count of conspiracy to structure monetary transactions. Yusuf also faces that count.

Duane Mohamed Diriye, who prosecutors contend was on the receiving end of some transactions, is charged with conspiracy and terrorist-funding counts and is believed to be in Somalia or Kenya.

The government says that Yusuf used aliases to wire the funds to al-Shabab supporters in Somalia through Qaran Financial Express, where authorities say Hussein worked. It was one of three Minneapolis money transfer businesses searched by FBI agents in April 2009.

Kulane Darman, president of Qaran Financial Express, told The Associated Press he doesn't know Hussein and the information from the government is incorrect.

"I don't know this person. This person never worked for me," Darman said.

According to the indictment, Yusuf, Hussein and other unspecified alleged schemers tried to mask thousands of dollars worth of wire transfers by breaking them up into small, independent transactions. They spoke in code and used bogus names, all to skirt laws governing wire transactions and to avoid detection, authorities said.

Federal agents arrested Yusuf on Monday in St. Louis and arrested Hussein on Tuesday in Minneapolis.

Both men made court appearances Tuesday. Yusuf's federal defender declined to comment Wednesday. A message left with Hussein's federal defender was not immediately returned, but authorities say he was released on bond. A phone listing for him was not available.

On Tuesday, a similar indictment was unsealed in California alleging that three San Diego residents coordinated fundraising and money transfers to al-Shabab in 2007 and 2008. Two of the San Diego men pleaded not guilty Wednesday. The third, who is accused of providing a Somali house for al-Shabab fighters, had a hearing scheduled for Friday.

The U.S. government's push to dry up funding sources of potential terrorist outfits has been an increasingly common tactic, complementing traditional military efforts, said Jeffrey Addicott, the director of the Center for Terrorism Law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio.

"The war on terror is not just about putting steel on targets," Addicott said. He added that going after funding can reduce logistical support of terror groups.

In August, authorities announced that 14 people in Minnesota, California and Alabama had been indicted for supporting what the U.S. government called a "deadly pipeline" routing money and fighters to al-Shabab. Seven of those people had been charged previously in Minnesota.

And last month, a Virginia man pleaded guilty to supporting al-Shabab and posting online threats to the creators of "South Park" for what he perceived as insults to the prophet Muhammad.

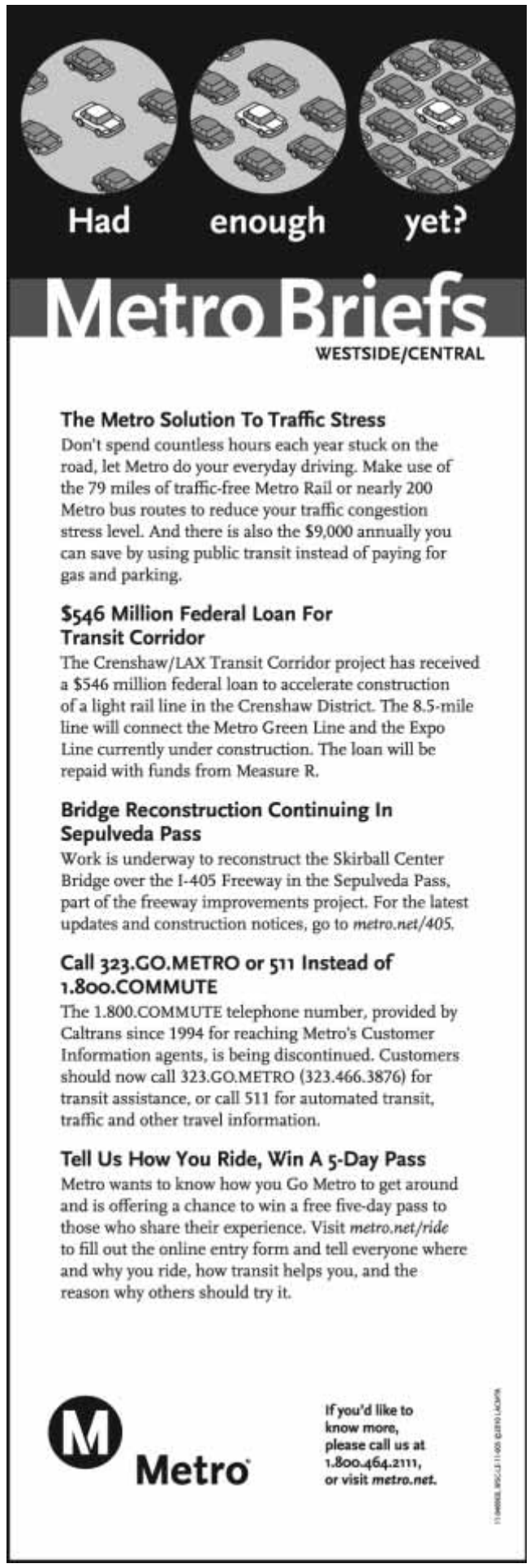
Somalia has not had an effective government since warlords overthrew a socialist dictator in 1991 and then turned on each other, causing anarchy in the nation of 7 million people. Al-Shabab fighters, who embrace a radical form of Islam, have been battling Somalia's weakened government and have been branded a terrorist group with ties to al-Qaida.

Authorities in the United States have been investigating al-Shabab for the last few years — with the center of the investigation in Minneapolis. Since late 2007, roughly 20 young men — all but one of Somali descent — have left Minneapolis in waves to fight with al-Shabab.

In October 2008, a Minneapolis man carried out a suicide bombing in Somalia, becoming the first known U.S. citizen to become a suicide bomber. At the time, the FBI said he possibly had been "radicalized" in Minneapolis.

The investigation in Minneapolis is ongoing. A total of 19 people have been charged in the Minnesota case, facing a variety of counts ranging from providing material support to terrorists to perjury.

According to 2009 figures, Minnesota is home to 32,300 Somalis, the largest population of Somali immigrants in the U.S. Local Somalis say the actual population is much higher.







SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

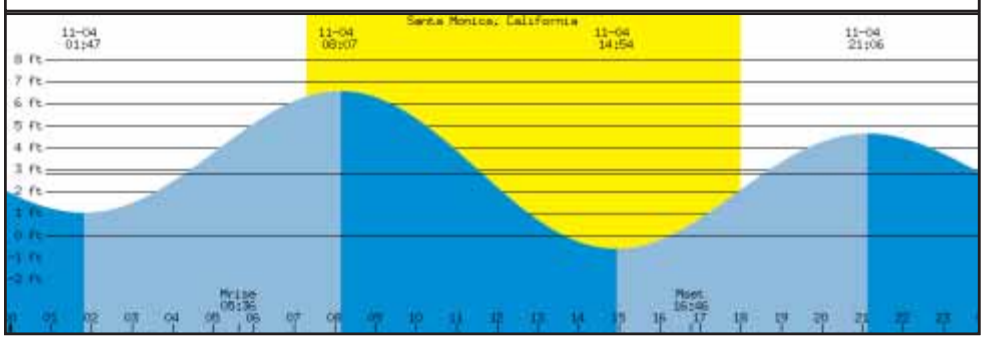
Swell Forecast

NW should back down some, about head high around most west facing breaks and 2-3 overhead at standouts.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking like a head high day around most all west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **October 27, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 4
- Number of wet days -- 11
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 17
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 26

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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

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

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.

MLB

Dodgers exercise option on outfielder Scott Podsednik

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles Dodgers have exercised their half of a $2 million mutual option for next season on outfielder Scott Podsednik.

He has until Thursday to decline or exercise his side of the option.

Podsednik joined the Dodgers in a late July trade from the Kansas City Royals. He became the regular left fielder after leg injuries to Manny Ramirez.

Podsednik, who turns 35 in the offseason, missed the final few weeks of the season with plantar fasciitis.

For the season, he hit .297 with 35 stolen bases and 63 runs in 595 at-bats.

The option carried a $100,000 buyout if the Dodgers had declined. If Podsednik declines, he doesn't get the buyout.





City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Roberts Business Park Development Agreement Float-Up, 2848-2912 Colorado Avenue. Discuss the applicant's Development Agreement proposal for an approximately 300,000 sf mixed-use project concept consisting of: [a] Production and post production studio and creative arts space; [b] Ground floor neighborhood-serving retail and restaurant space; [c] Up to 170 housing units totaling approximately 50% of the project's total floor area; [d] Ground-floor public plaza allowing pedestrian access through and around the property; [e] Street improvements to include: [f] New north-south access road along the subject property's east property line; [g] Fair share portion of Pennsylvania Avenue extension between Stewart and Stanford Streets; and [h] A two-level subterranean parking garage. [Planner: Jing Yeo] **APPLICANT / PROPERTY OWNER: E.D.D.G. Inc. / Roberts Business Park Santa Monica LLC.**

WHEN: **Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

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

ESPAÑOL

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

SEE NEWS HAPPENING OR HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT?

smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press CALL US TODAY **(310) 458-7737**

MOVIE TIMES

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

Queimada (Burn!) (NR) 2hr 12min
7:30pm
Introduction by Larry Karaszewski and Maurizio Grimaldi, son of Queimada producer Alberto Grimaldi.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Legend of the Guardians 3D: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG) 1hr 30min
8:00pm, 10:20pm

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
7:30pm, 10:25pm

Life As We Know It (PG-13)
7:50pm, 10:30pm

Catfish (NR) 1hr 34min
7:35pm, 9:50pm

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

Son of Rambow (PG-13) 1hr 36min
8:00pm, 10:45pm

Saw 3D (R)
7:50pm, 10:15pm

Jackass 3D (R)
7:30pm, 8:15pm, 9:50pm, 10:40pm

Paranormal Activity 2 (R)
8:10pm, 10:30pm

Hereafter (PG-13)
7:40pm, 10:40pm

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

Never Let Me Go (R)
7:45pm

Nowhere Boy (R) 1hr 37min
10:15pm

Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest (R) 1hr 52min
8:00pm

Conviction (R)
7:40pm, 10:10pm

You Will Meet A Tall Dark Stranger (R) 1hr 38min
7:50pm, 10:10pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Town (R)
7:30pm, 10:30pm

Secretariat (PG)
7:45pm, 10:35pm

Social Network (PG-13)
7:30pm, 10:15pm

Red (PG-13) 1hr 38min
7:35pm, 10:10pm

Paranormal Activity 2 (R)
7:40pm, 10:00pm

Stone (R) 1hr 45min
8:10pm, 10:40pm

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

Put on your dancing shoes, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Please note the sense of awkwardness evolving from a well-intended conversation. If you tap into your instincts, you will come out way ahead. Curb a tendency to overthink things. Allow an inspiring friend to take the lead. Tonight: Go with a sudden change.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Juggling your different needs could take you in an interesting direction. Ask yourself how feasible your choices are. Someone in charge naturally tumbles into the role of devil's advocate. Tonight: Go with another person's suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You are surrounded by such abundance that you could easily feel a step out of beat. Your ability to think and understand what others cannot separates you from many. Use your ingenuity to bridge this potential barrier. Tonight: Put on your dancing shoes.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Give serious thought to making a much-needed adjustment to your life. This new aspect easily could revolve around your domestic life, a new perspective or potential travel. Don't look at a situation as either/or, and it will transform. Tonight: Head home first.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Though you might feel you cannot juggle a new opportunity in your life, you can. Stop. Toss negative thinking out of your life, and eye newfound potential. Someone you care about could be not only imaginative but also capable of weaving quite a haze around an important issue. Tonight: Visit with friends early on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Understand that a knee-jerk reaction could be more than reasonable. Whether it is acceptable or the correct choice might be another issue. Explore options presented by someone in your daily life. Schedule a checkup for the near future. Tonight: All smiles.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Your enthusiasm could either spin out in many different directions, invigorating many different areas, or, if focused, it could help you hit a home run. Ask yourself which path you would prefer. Someone sets your imagination on fire. Tonight: Don't overthink.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Sometimes it is best to find the bleachers and sit down and watch the play. Detached, you will be able to make better decisions and greet opportunity in an unexpected manner. Tonight: Let the fun and games begin ... after a nap.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Only you can trip yourself up right now. Surrounded by a strong group of supporters, plenty of ideas and the ability to cut through the frivolous, you prepare to knock on a new door in life. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others continue to respect and request your leadership. Many reach out for you or respond to your gestures. Let communication open up a financial discussion. Be careful to stay in the realm of possibilities! Tonight: Where your friends are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Detach and honor an internal commitment. You often seek out experts, hop on the Internet and look for the path as yet unfound. Use this trait to help secure the path to success. Tonight: No money risks!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Whether dealing with one individual or a sequence of individuals, your personal, focused attention can move a project forward, open up a bond and/or create a greater sense of trust. Follow your instincts, recognizing the potential problems. Tonight: Give a loved one special attention.

Happy birthday

Be careful with a need for solitude. Recognize the function of being alone for you as an individual. Just don't allow this need to evolve into a defense mechanism, preventing you from relating. Your personal and domestic life develops an inspiring tone. Some of you will choose to live by water. Your creativity seems like an endless fountain, always available. If you are single, you meet people with ease, and you tumble into a very romantic and exciting bond. This person might not be around all the time. If you are attached, the two of you knit a closer tie. A fellow Scorpio can be quite challenging.

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



MYSTERY REVEALED!

Kevin Herrera *kevinh@smdp.com*

City Hall employee Tatiana Morrison correctly identified this photo of the CB2 sign at the Santa Monica Place mall. She will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out tomorrow's paper for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

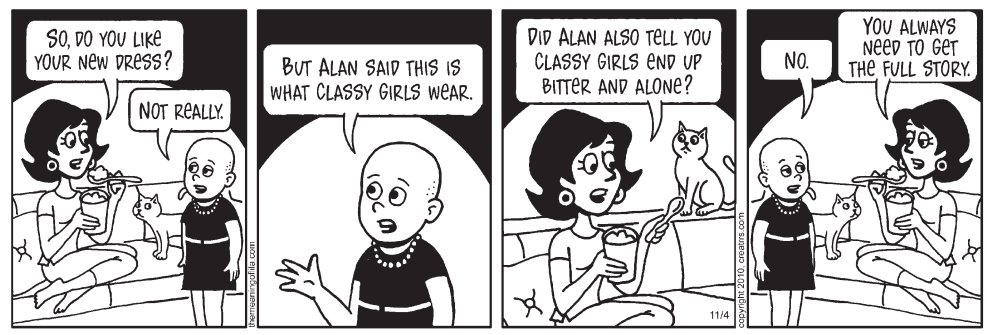
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



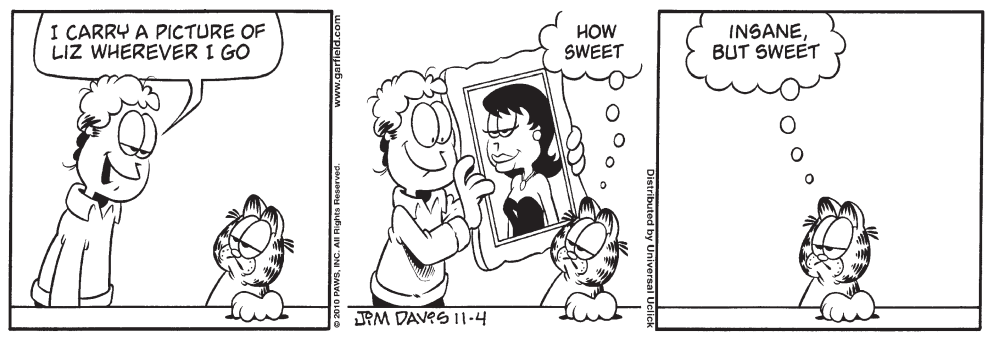
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



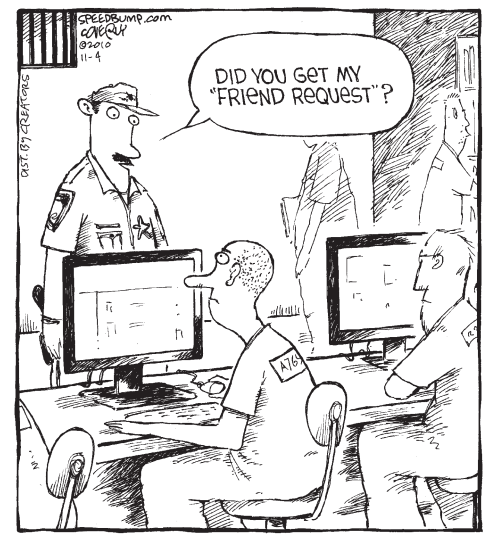
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Concert highlight
5 Pale brown
10 Later
11 Sent messages, of a sort
12 Writer Rice
13 Poker ploys
14 Braggarts
16 Kitchen appliances
20 Block border
23 Couple
24 Pens for hens
25 Fierce fighter
27 Tattoo setting
28 Most rational
29 Poultry buys
32 Table protectors
36 Frolic
39 Opera highlight
40 Burglar deterrents
41 Easter symbol
42 Tubular pasta
43 Sediment

DOWN

1 Wild guess
2 "Dear me!"
3 Musical Horne
4 Easy dance
5 Den group
6 Be real
7 "— your loss!"
8 Ingenuous cry
9 Mag. workers
11 Pay for everyone
15 Low digits
17 Keenness
18 Regrets
19 Database option
20 Surgery souvenir
21 Matador's foe
22 Capital of Italia
25 Salts
26 Load, as software
28 Bus units
30 Derision
31 Crooner Mel
33 Pennsylvania port
34 Annoy
35 Utters
36 Limit
37 Frothy brew
38 Moving need

L	I	S	T	■	■	■	B	R	I	G
A	N	T	E	S	■	A	R	E	N	A
U	S	U	A	L	■	L	A	P	A	Z
D	E	P	■	I	N	S	T	O	R	E
S	C	O	R	P	I	O	■	S	O	D
■	T	R	O	U	T	■	P	E	W	■
■	■	■	O	P	R	A	H	■	■	■
■	J	U	T	■	O	R	A	L	S	■
S	O	T	■	S	U	C	T	I	O	N
A	B	O	L	I	S	H	■	A	L	E
T	O	P	A	Z	■	E	L	B	O	W
U	N	I	T	E	■	S	A	L	E	S
P	E	A	S	■	■	■	H	E	D	Y

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			

11-4

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CrossMath + × − ÷

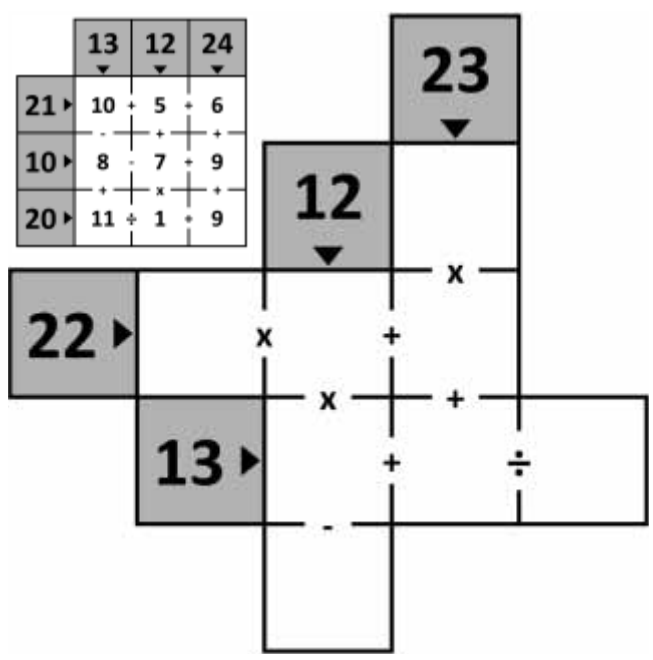
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

2, 2, 7, 9, 9, 10, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1016



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 1 3 12 16 54 Meganumber: 46 Jackpot: $16M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 9 25 30 31 46 Meganumber: 7 Jackpot: $13M

Fantasy 5: 6 15 22 25 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 4 1 0 EVENING: 3 9 5

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 02 Lucky Star 2nd: 10 Solid Gold 3rd: 11 Money Bags RACE TIME: 1:46.08

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

■ In an April journal article, University of East Anglia professor Brett Mills denounced the 2009 British TV documentary series "Nature's Great Events" on the ground that the program's omnipresent and intrusive video cameras violated animals' privacy. "(The animals) often do engage in forms of behavior which suggest they'd rather not encounter humans," he wrote, "and we might want to think about equating this with a desire for privacy."

■ British entrepreneur Howard James, who runs several online dating sites, opened another in August to worldwide attention (and, allegedly, thousands of sign-ups in the first five days): dates for ugly people. James said new members (accepted from the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia and Ireland) will have their photos vetted to keep out "attractive" people. (Based on the web pages available at press time, the photo-evaluation process is working well.)

■ Beyond "MacGyver": Keith Jeffery's book on the British intelligence service MI6, published in September and serialized in The Times of London, revealed that the first chief of the SIS (Secret Intelligence Service) during World War I recommended, as the best invisible ink, semen, in that it "would not react to (ink-detecting) iodine vapor" and was, of course, "readily available."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1921 Japanese Prime Minister Hara Takashi is assassinated in Tokyo.

1921 The Italian unknown soldier is buried in the Altare della Patria (Fatherland Altar) in Rome.

1922 In Egypt, British archaeologist Howard Carter and his men find the entrance to Pharaoh Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

1924 Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming is elected the first female governor in the United States.

WORD UP!

hyperbolic
\ hahy-per-BOL-ik \ , adjective;
1.
Using hyperbole; exaggerating.
2.
Of or pertaining to a hyperbola.

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Announcements

Santa Monica - Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive proposals for a blade computing chassis and storage area network. RFP's are due to the SMMUSD Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before Thursday, 11/18/2010 at 2:00pm at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened. Each proposal must be sealed and labeled with RFP title, number and due date. Contact Hunter Gaines at hunter.gaines@parsons.com or (310)954-2273, for information.

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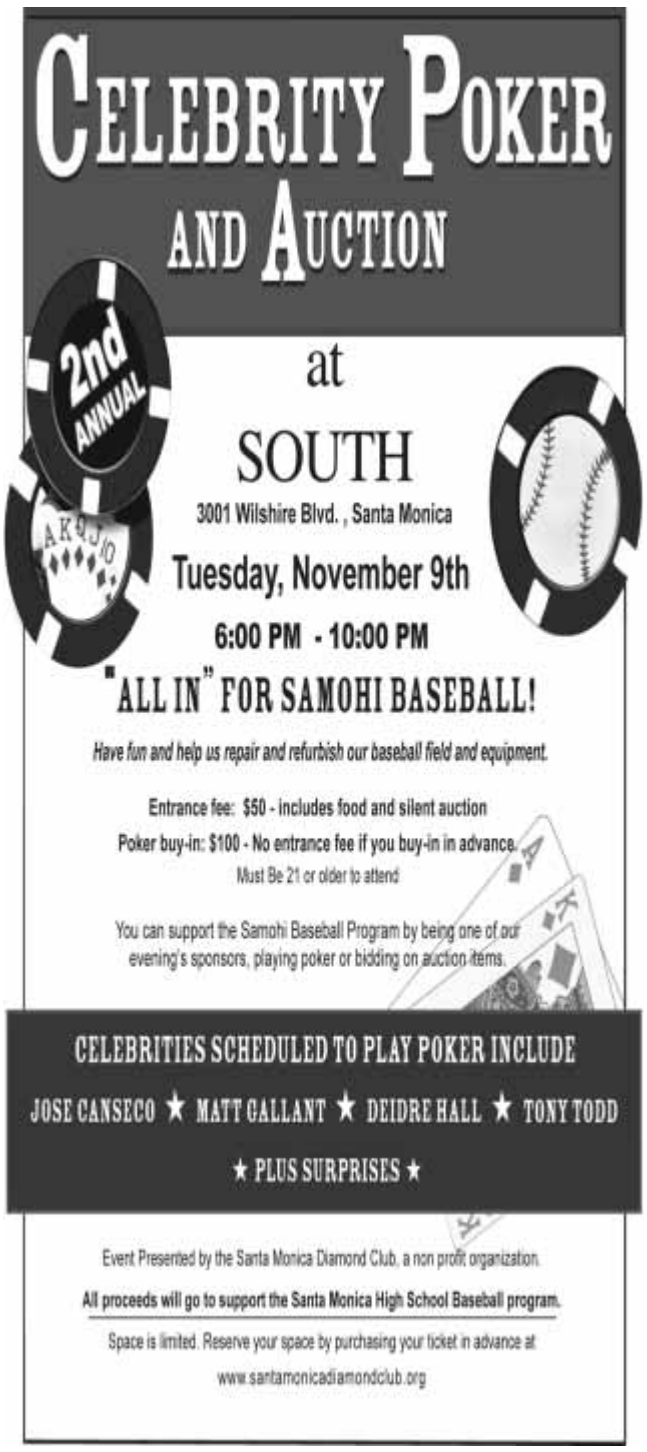
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Kate Bransfield

Estates Director
Society of Excellence
Previews Properties Specialist

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Santa Monica, CA

Day Light Savings Reminder!

When you go to bed Saturday night, November 6th....
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.

Now that we are back in Standard Time
ALL Sunday Open Houses will be from 1 - 4 pm

Featuring Your Home First

- To find out how I get your home 500% more exposure online on over 100 websites
- To find out the most up-to-date Santa Monica real estate information
- For a Virtual Tour & multiple photos of these Properties

Visit:

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

Median Price of ALL Santa Monica Listings from All Agents from All Offices Listed for Sale As of Early November 2010

	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$1,912,500	$2,350,000
North of Montana	$3,074,500	$1,295,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,774,500	$ 672,000
South of Wilshire	$849,000	$559,000
Sunset Park	$1,199,000	$529,000
Ocean Park	$1,365,000	$835,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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