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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2013
Volume 13 Issue 1

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

COOL TIME TO GARDEN
SEE PAGE 8

THE DID YOU SEE THE SUNSET? ISSUE



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

THE SITE: A map included in a crucial planning document states that this parking lot on Berkeley Street could house a commercial development.

Resident group, City Hall propose correction to LUCE

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writers

CITYWIDE City officials are scratching their heads over the origins of a map included in an important planning document that changes the designation of some lots from residential to commercial.

The "A Lots" are used for parking but historically they retain underlying residential zoning, Councilmember Kevin McKeown said in a letter to Northeast Neighbors, a community group that has led the charge against the lots' new designation. In the Land Use Circulation Element (LUCE), a map depicts many of these lots as zoned for commercial uses. The LUCE was created to guide development for years to come.

No one could recall discussing or voting on the map during the LUCE debate, McKeown said in his letter.

SEE MAP PAGE 10

SoCal homebuying sees October uptick

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO Southern California homebuying climbed last month compared with September but sales fell short of a year earlier, a research group reported Tuesday.

A total of 20,150 houses and condominiums were sold in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties in October, up 5.4 percent from a month earlier, DataQuick reported.

However, sales were down 4.4 percent from October 2012, and they were 14.4 percent lower than the October sales average, the San Diego-based company said. Southern California hasn't topped average

SEE HOMES PAGE 10

Dog walker accused of endangering young child

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

CITY HALL A professional dog walker has been charged with child endangerment after a 4-year-old girl was badly bitten by a dog under the woman's care, city officials said.

Rebecca McGroerty was looking after a 10-year-old Staffordshire terrier and was given detailed instructions by the dog owner to always keep the pet muzzled and on a leash while it was outside of the home, located along the 2300 block of 23rd Street. The owner also told McGroerty that the dog was afraid and aggressive toward small children, city officials said.

She was not to have anyone other than employees or residents inside the home where the dog was. But on Oct. 19, the City Attorney's Office alleges McGroerty let the 4-year-old girl, who was not a resident, into the home, at which point she was attacked. The dog was not muzzled and was off-leash at the time of the attack, city officials said.

The girl suffered injuries to her leg that required stitches. She was later released to her parents.

The dog was impounded by the Santa Monica Animal Control Unit for a 10-day quarantine and released to the owner by the Los Angeles County Public Health Veterinarian. Muzzle and leash restrictions were placed on the dog, however, they were already voluntarily being used by the owner prior to the incident, police said.

McGroerty, who could not be located for comment, was charged by city officials and is expected in court later this month.

The American Kennel Club classifies the Staffordshire terrier as "courageous and strong," with an athletic build and intelligence. "He is often identified by his stocky body and strong, powerful head. … Although friendly, this breed is loyal to his family and will protect them from any threat."

kevinh@smdp.com

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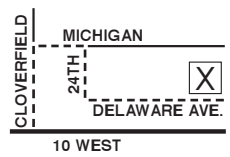


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2013

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

Get your skates
Fifth Street and Arizona Avenue
2 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Hit the rink at ICE at Santa Monica, a popular holiday attraction. For more information, call (310) 461-8333.

Excel with Excel
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Create advanced formulas and perform multi-level data sorts at this Microsoft Excel information session. Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, call (310) 434-2608.

Westside writers
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
The Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators is hosting a session for all writers and illustrators specializing in children's books. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Recipe for academic success
Main Library
601 Main St., 7 p.m.
All students in grades 6 through 12 are welcome to attend this workshop on how to reduce stress over grades and school work. The workshop will be led by academic life coach Hayden Lee.

Thursday, Nov. 14, 2013

Baby Time
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m.
Bring your babies down to the library for story time. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

U.S.-China relations
Santa Monica College Humanities & Social Science Building
1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Attend this free lecture from University of California, Irvine Professor Jeffrey Wasserstorm, editor of the Journal of Asian Studies. Wasserstorm will discuss the history of bilateral relations between the United States and China since 1900. For more information, call (310) 434-4303.

What's new?
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m.
Join this current events discussion with moderator Jack Nordhaus.

LEGO block party
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 p.m.
Show off your imagination and build something great at this LEGO party. Open to children over the age of 4.

Homework help
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 3:30 p.m.
Drop-in homework help for students in grades 1 through 5. Trained volunteers will be on hand to provide assistance with math and reading.

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

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

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





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Coyotes moving to city's southern limits

BY GREG ASCIUTTO
Special to the Daily Press

SUNSET PARK Coyotes have strayed from their comfort zone near the base of the Santa Monica Mountains and set up home near the city's southern border, according to community sources.

Over the past few months, residents of the Sunset Park neighborhood have reported spotting up to five of the wild animals around Penmar Golf Course and Santa Monica Airport, according to an e-mail thread obtained from Friends of Sunset Park President Zina Josephs.

The latest reported sighting occurred the evening of Nov. 11 at Ocean Park Boulevard and 25th Street.

"This has been going on for a couple of years, but now the e-mails are more frequent and there seems to be a family of coyotes, not just one or two," wrote Josephs. Residents, who say they have found the remains of cats and, in one particular case, a rabbit, are concerned for the safety of their children and that another litter of coyotes could be born in the area.

City Hall confirmed that the animals have been spotted in the region, though noted it is unclear how many there are or whether or not they have permanently settled in the region.

"They've been seen around the airport, Penmar Golf Course and Sunset Park neighborhood," said Sgt. Mike Graham, supervisor of SMPD's Animal Control Unit. The coyotes have been spotted at all hours of the day and night, he added.

"We haven't captured any of them," said Santa Monica Airport Manager Stelios Makrides. Traps have been set, however, with the intention of relocating the animals out of the region.

The Animal Control Unit is asking the community to call (310) 458-8594 in the case of a coyote sighting. To reduce the likelihood of a coyote finding its way into your backyard, the unit recommends to:



Photo courtesy National Parks Service

ALL EARS: This photo shows a coyote in the Santa Monica Mountains, an area long known as home to the wild animals.

- Refrain from feeding or providing shelter to any type of wildlife.
- Keep garbage cans securely shut and spray them with ammonia multiple times a week to eliminate food odor.
- Rinse bottles and cans before recycling.
- Turn on motion-activated lights and sprinklers.
- Avoid feeding pets outdoors, or make sure to bring in food and water bowls during the night.
- Keep a careful watch on small pets and children.

Should you be approached by a coyote, Animal Control suggests to wave your arms, shout in a loud tone and throw objects at it while maintaining eye contact. Make yourself appear large and intimidating; never turn your back to the animal, but try to move toward populated areas if possible.

To ensure the safety of your animals, avoid bushy areas on walks and stay close to high-pedestrian traffic areas. Never allow them to interact with the coyotes, and keep them indoors at night.

"The biggest thing is if they don't supply a food source for the wild animals, then the wild animals will go somewhere else," Graham said.

editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CLOVERFIELD BLVD

Diesel fuel giveaway at 76 station

Car maker Audi is hosting a free diesel giveaway today at the 76 gas station, located at 1776 Cloverfield Blvd.

From 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., drivers of all clean-diesel vehicles, regardless of manufacturer, are welcome to a complimentary tank as part of "Audi Clean Diesel Day." Non-diesel Audis are invited to fill their tanks for free as well.

Additionally, a pit crew will be on location to hand detail all Audis.

Customers are limited to 30 gallons per vehicle, and no large trucks are permitted.

– GREG ASCIUTTO

Late-payment rate on mortgages down in 3Q

ALEX VEIGA
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES Fewer U.S. homeowners are falling behind on their mortgage payments, aided by rising home values, low interest rates and stable job gains.

The trend brought down the national late-payment rate on home loans in the third quarter to a five-year low, credit reporting agency TransUnion said Tuesday.

The percentage of mortgage holders at least two months behind on their payments fell in the July-September quarter to 4.09 percent from a revised 5.33 percent a year earlier, according to the firm, whose data go back to 1992.

The latest rate also declined from 4.32 percent in the second quarter.

The last time the mortgage delinquency rate was lower was the third quarter of 2008.

Within a few years of setting that mark, foreclosures began to mount as home values tumbled from housing-boom highs, leaving many homeowners in negative equity — owing more on their mortgage than the value of their home. The dynamic drove mortgage delinquencies higher,

SEE **PAYMENT** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Pining for the good old days

Editor:

I was born in Santa Monica 92 years ago. The city was a quiet, lovely beach city. Now, it's a duplicate of Beverly Hills. Everything is expensive – clothes, eating places. I can't understand why the change! I can't afford the mall, Montana Avenue or Main Street for apparel. Why do I have to go to Kohl's, Walmart and Target in other cities? Are more buildings, condos, apartments more important than stores that the non-pricey people can afford?

I keep thinking that perhaps someone will do something to help us. Palm Springs, Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage have both expensive and less expensive stores all over the city. Why are we less fortunate? Santa Monica is sad. No longer a charming beach city, just traffic and expensive living.

Peggy Charles
Santa Monica

Inspirational

Editor:

Thanks for the portrait of Natalie Lewis ("Senior runner has (almost) done it all," Community Profile, Nov. 4). There was much in it I did not know about her.

May I add a little to the portrait? Natalie is my favorite over-80s cyclist. She rides an old bike, the frame lovingly decorated with hand-painted flowers. She has attached a bunch of bright plastic flowers on her basket on the front.

On the way to yoga at the Y, to the art classes on Second Street, to the stairs on Adelaide Drive or just to go shopping, she likes to wear a high viz jacket when cycling. Natalie can get quite animated when complaining about drivers who cut her off or fail to see her. Yes, she has had a few inattentive car drivers, one of them leading to a broken bone.

If you see her bike parked on the street, make sure to leave her a note of appreciation. There are not many who can cycle like Natalie can cycle. Natalie, you make us proud! For the rest, over 80 or under, who need to drive their car around town, look out for Natalie, and make sure she stays safe!

Michael Cahn
Santa Monica





After the Bell

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Do as I say, not as I do

FOR YEARS I'VE BEEN TELLING PEOPLE not to buy individual stocks because if that one company goes down you can lose all or most of your investment. If, instead, you invest in an index, an ETF, or a basket of related stocks, if one of the companies goes down you are only lightly impacted.

But last month I started buying individual stocks. Why? I guess I'm getting older. For whatever reason, I'm getting desperate for immediate income. I'm not willing to get that in the bond market because interest rates have no place to go but up, and when they do the value of bonds will go down. And short-term bonds, which are somewhat immune to that effect, don't pay enough interest to be worthwhile.

So where can I get an immediate bang for my buck? Two answers: high-yield dividend stocks and sometimes a short-term investment in some company that you have reason to believe will move up for a short-term gain.

I don't want to overstate my success on this. We just got back from our 50th law school reunion and we noticed the success of the Harvard endowment fund. And I watch Warren Buffet's progress. Both did a lot better than I did so far this year. Of course I didn't even begin to match the increase in the S&P index for the year. But a major reason for that is that in spite of my fears about bonds, I still keep between 30 to 40 percent of my portfolio in either cash (waiting for a big dip in the market as a buying opportunity, which has not happened this year) and short-term bond funds. I do that because it's just good sense not to put all your investment money into equities.

So only about 65 percent of my portfolio was in equities this year, and that's the main reason I can't compete with the S&P index in profitability on the whole portfolio. Nevertheless, I've done really well this year, with nice profits on almost all of my picks. I've recovered my losses on Apple from last year, and my only really negative holding has been GDX, the gold mining company index. It doesn't hurt to hold a small amount of a gold-related stock because it acts as a hedge against a major downturn. But I think silver would have been a better choice, and at some point when my gold calls expire I expect to take the loss on gold and buy silver instead. Silver has doubled in value over the past four years, but is now well below its recent high.

Many professional advisors are currently warning that the market is in a bubble, and ready for a big dip. That might be true, and I'm keeping about 20 percent of my investment portfolio in cash right now in case it's true and a buying opportunity arises. But I want income. So here are a few of the positions I've taken.

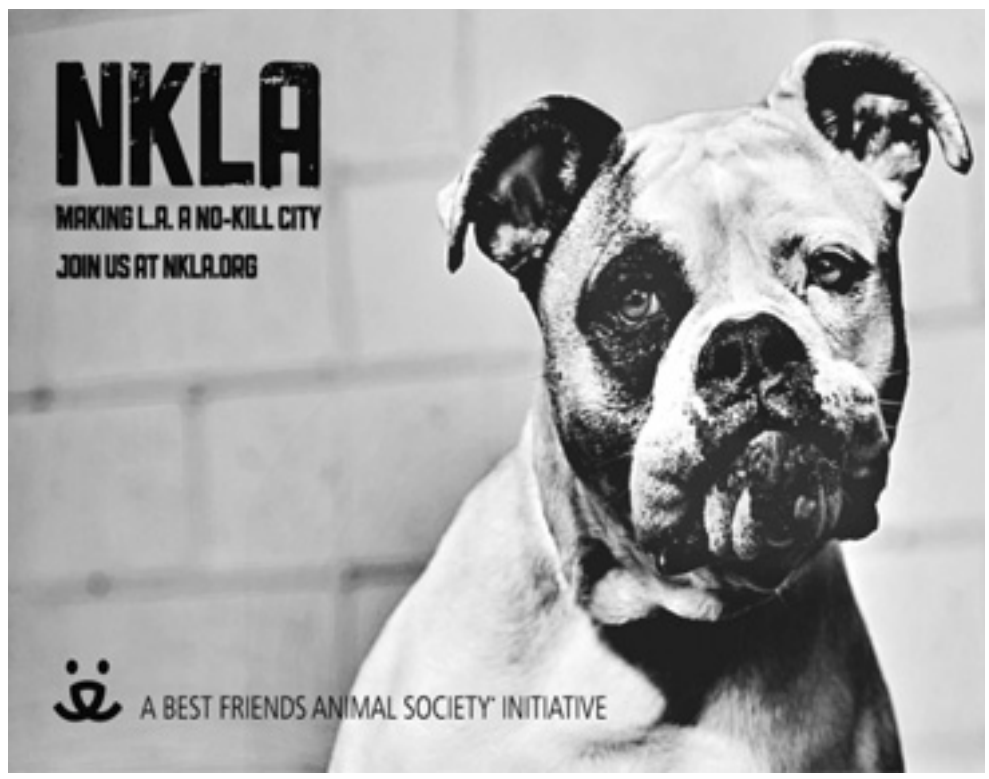
TransCanada (TRP) pipelines. I've heard that the U.S. is going to start exporting natural gas. This should improve the position of pipeline companies. So I've bought into several of them, like TRP. I also plan to own some SPX, the natural gas pipeline index. TRP's current price of $45 is right in the middle of its 52-week range, and at this price pays a 4 percent yield. In the same line of thought, I also bought TLP, a master pipeline company paying a 6 percent dividend; EPB pipelines, paying a 6.3 percent dividend; and KMP, paying 6.4 percent.

Kimberly Clark (KMB). This is a company with a lot of good brands, and with the economy picking up all around the world, especially in Europe, they should stand to benefit from this. The price of $108 is at the high end of the 52 week range, so I would buy this stock by selling naked puts below the current price, and either continue to pick up premiums if the stock stays strong, or acquire the stock in a dip.

Waste Management (WM). I've owned this from time to time, and in good periods, as it cycles up, I try to pick up a few dollars in short-term capital gains. At $43 a share, it pays a 3.4 percent dividend. This price is also toward the high end of the 52 week cycle, but the dividend is good, the company seems very stable and is in an area that seems to me to be pretty recession proof. I don't see waste declining over the next few years.

So, now we'll have some interesting positions to talk about over the next few months.

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



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Your column here

Richard Corlin
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Passing the cost on to patients

FRANK CLEMENTE WROTE IN ("MEDICAL device tax giveaway would deny Americans healthcare," Your Column Here, Nov. 2-3) complaining about the Republican efforts to end the 2.3 percent excise tax on medical devices (part of the funding for Obamacare) calling that a "corporate tax giveaway." Does anyone think that tax, like all other taxes, isn't going to be passed along to the patients in the form of a higher price for those devices? What about some of the other sources of funding for this bill, the 0.9 percent tax on all incomes over $200,000 (a number calculated to be just a little bit higher than what a Congressman makes) or the 3.8 percent tax on the profit from the sale of real estate, including private homes?

The real problem with these commentaries is that almost everyone responds with their own political bias, either from a liberal or conservative point of view. The truth is that the entire process in Washington was, and remains, driven by political considerations and not health policy considerations, as it should have been. There are two groups to blame — Democrats and Republicans.

The two bills generated by the Senate and House were developed in a highly partisan environment without going to a conference committee at the end because the death of Sen. Ted Kennedy and his replacement by Scott Brown (a Republican) upset the political balance of the Senate. The Republicans have complained mightily about many aspects of the bill, but not about any of the things that are really wrong with it. There are some problems, but most of them are about what should have been in the bill.

LET'S GO THROUGH THE LIST.

• There is a massive shortage of nurses in this country. There is nothing in this bill to increase the number of nurses trained each year.

• There is a growing shortage of physicians in this country, particularly in primary care. There is nothing in this bill to expand the size of medical schools to increase the physician output. Similarly, there is a shortage of primary care residency positions; nothing here to increase them either.

• The amount of medical school debt that graduates have is an increasingly severe problem, often preventing young physicians from practicing where they are most needed. Nothing in this bill deals with relief from those debts, perhaps tied to a period of service in the National Health Service Corps or to a signed contract to accept Medicaid patients, for example.

• In October 2009, the Congressional Budget Office issued a report stating that adoption of California-type tort reform nationwide would save our healthcare delivery system $54 billion. That wasn't in there either.

• We will be providing the for-profit health insurance companies with tens of millions of new premium-paying customers. Nothing in this bill calls for limiting (or even eliminating) the profit they make on the taxpayer-paid part of their business, or requiring them to provide any free care to the poor or uninsured (like every other company, hospital and medical group involved in healthcare delivery does).

THE TRUTH IS THAT THE ENTIRE PROCESS IN WASHINGTON WAS, AND REMAINS, DRIVEN BY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND NOT HEALTH POLICY CONSIDERATIONS, AS IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN.

• Increases in tobacco excise taxes that many medical groups lobbied to get passed were supposed to be used only for anti-tobacco education and to compensate states and counties for the cost of caring for tobacco-related illnesses. In most areas (including Los Angeles), much of that money was allocated by local governments to general fund expenses instead. Nothing in this bill forces that money to be used the way it was supposed to be.

The list goes on and on and on. Part of the problem is that correcting the bill by adding these items in now will be harder than it would have been to begin with.

It's time we should all stop responding as either Democrats or Republicans and all start responding as citizens and current or future patients and demand that all the people who work at either end of Pennsylvania Avenue establish a committee with a majority of technical experts who know what healthcare delivery is all about to draft legislation that will keep the good parts of Obamacare, change the bad parts, and add in the missing parts and then pass that bill intact. Then we can have health care reform legislation that will work the way it should.

DR. RICHARD F. CORLIN, M.D., is a Santa Monica-based gastroenterologist and past president of the American Medical Association.

The Q Line

Airing it out

City Hall recently sued the Federal Aviation Administration to determine who has control of Santa Monica Airport after 2015.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks: What would you like to see happen with Santa Monica Airport? Should it still be an aviation field or something else all together?

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



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Slain LAX TSA officer's life celebrated at service

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES At a memorial service filled with tears, prayers and songs, the Transportation Security Administration officer who was killed by a gunman at Los Angeles International Airport was remembered Tuesday as a devoted public servant who greeted every traveler with a grin and never passed up an opportunity to talk about his children.

Gerardo Hernandez became the first TSA officer killed in the line of duty Nov. 1 when a man authorities say held a grudge against his agency pulled a rifle from a bag and opened fire at the airport's Terminal 3. The man methodically targeted TSA agents, wounding two others and also a school teacher before airport police shot and captured him.

Some 500 people turned out Tuesday to honor Hernandez at the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, including the two agents who were wounded.

The nearly two-hour memorial began with a solemn eulogy offered by the Rev. Paul Griesgraber, who quoted Psalm 23. It was followed by a soulful rendition of "Amazing Grace" that was performed by a chorus of blue-uniformed TSA officials.

As the group sang, some in the audience of law enforcement officers, firefighters, military personnel and others wiped tears from their eyes. Those who attended included U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck, Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca and Mayor Eric Garcetti.

The mayor said Hernandez's upbeat manner "spread the love through every corner of this Earth" as he greeted travelers from all over the world.

He was the perfect person to have around to lighten the mood of travelers and TSA agents during stressful times, several colleagues said.

"His charisma was contagious," recalled fellow TSA Officer Lisandro Jimenez.

Hernandez, who joined the TSA in 2010, was checking passenger IDs and boarding passes when he was shot.

"Every single day, he took pride in the role he played to keep the American people safe," Holder said. "Over the years, the contributions that he and others have made — and the tireless work of TSA employees across the country — have too often been unappreciated, overlooked or even discounted."

As he was working, a gunman walked up, pulled a semi-automatic rifle from a duffel bag and shot him at point-blank range, then shot him again as he lay wounded, authorities have said. Paul Ciancia remains hospitalized and has been charged with crimes that could get him the death penalty.

The 23-year-old unemployed motorcycle mechanic had a handwritten letter stating he made the conscious decision to try to kill multiple TSA officers and "instill fear in your traitorous minds," according to authorities.

Authorities haven't given a motive for the attack, but federal agents are investigating possible ties between Ciancia and a widely circulated conspiracy theory that the U.S. government is preparing to establish a totalitarian state.

Among others at the ceremony were the wounded TSA agents, Tony Grigsby and James Speer, as well as Hernandez's wife, Ana, and the couple's 14-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter.

Guilty plea in Miss Teen USA extortion case

GREG RISLING
Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. A Southern California computer science student pleaded guilty Tuesday to hacking the computers of Miss Teen USA and other young women, secretly photographing them and threatening to post the pictures online if they didn't send him more naked photos.

Jared James Abrahams, 19 answered a series of questions from U.S. District Judge James Selna in an Orange County courtroom, including an explanation of the crimes that were committed.

"I hacked several girls' computers and, using their webcams, took photos of them when they weren't aware," Abrahams said meekly.

Abrahams pleaded guilty to three counts of extortion and one count of unauthorized computer access. He faces up to 11 years in prison and fines of up to $1 million when he's sentenced in March.

Prosecutors say that over the past two years, Abrahams hacked into the computers of at least a dozen women in their late teens or early 20s from various states and countries, including Miss Teen USA Cassidy Wolf. Abrahams and Wolf went to high school together.

Court records say he also sent the women anonymous emails telling them he had downloaded nude photos of them. He told them he would publish the images on social media sites if they didn't send him additional pictures or undress for him. If the women complied, Abrahams promised to destroy the images.

At least two of his victims gave in to his demands, authorities said.

"Did you know you were extorting them when you made these demands?" Selna asked.

"Yes," Abrahams responded.

Dressed in matching gray pants and shirt with a black jacket, Abrahams told the judge he has autism and has been under treatment for the past 10 years. He said he was on three medications Tuesday, but he said they wouldn't affect his ability to enter a guilty plea.

Outside court, his attorney Alan Eisner said Abrahams apologizes for his actions, and that the autism played a contributing role in the scheme.

"The social disorder had, certainly, a part in it," Eisner said. "Again, I say that not to blame the conduct on anything, not to make an excuse for the conduct, but that's part of the full picture."

In Wolf's case, Abrahams was able to take nude photos of her without her knowledge, authorities said. He posted a naked photo of Wolf online after she didn't respond to him.

According to an FBI affidavit, Abrahams told Wolf: "Your dream of being a model will be transformed into a porn star."

Wolf, also 19 and a graduate of Great Oak High School in Temecula, won the Miss Teen USA crown in August. She has spoken publically about the incident, saying she would use her fame to highlight cybercrime.

Abrahams is accused of employing similar hacking tactics used by a Florida man who was sentenced to 10 years in prison last year after he broke into the personal online accounts of Scarlett Johansson, Christina Aguilera and other women and posted revealing photos and other material online.

Once nearly extinct, streetcar gets new life in America

JASON KEYSER
Associated Press

KENOSHA, Wis. When the auto plant here closed, this prosperous Wisconsin port city on Lake Michigan lost more than just its largest employer. Its sense of vitality seemed to drain away, and city leaders set out to find something that would inject life into the brick-storefront downtown while the economy went through a transition.

What they came up with was obsolete: an electric streetcar. Kenosha decided to bring back a relic that once clattered around metropolitan areas in pre-war America but was abandoned on the march to modernity.

More than a decade later, the experiment is now popping up all over. More than 30 cities around the country are planning to build streetcar systems or have done so recently. Dallas, Portland and Seattle all have new streetcar lines. Most projects involve spending millions of dollars to put back something that used to be there — often in the same stretches of pavement.

"It goes along with the revival of inner cities all over America," said Steve Novick, transportation commissioner in Portland, which has spent more than $250 million to replace the lines the city shut down in 1950. "It's too bad that they weren't kept here all along."

Many city planners are convinced that old-timey cars tethered to overhead electric cables or their updated descendants — futuristic and low-slung — ignite economic development in a way that buses cannot — and with a whiff of romance. Embedding rails in roads is part of resurrecting entertainment districts and capitalizing on the return to urban living by young professionals and empty-nesters bored with suburban life. And since streetcars run with traffic rather than on separated lines, the systems can cost as little as $50 million, a fraction of the expense of light rail.

"It really is about creating a certain kind of neighborhood feel and fabric," said Patrick Quinton, executive director of the Portland Development Commission.

Since Portland's line opened, $3.5 billion in development has sprouted within blocks of the tracks. A section of old rail yards and warehouses is now the trendy Pearl District, home to galleries, restaurants, shops and housing. The system has been expanded to nearly eight miles and each weekday carries 13,000 people, who can track arriving cars on their smartphones.

Salt Lake City, where the last streetcars vanished in 1946, is set to open a two-mile line next month. It's part of a planned "greenway" of parks, bike paths and trails designed to attract 4,000 new households and 7,700 jobs by 2030.

For technology firms and "talent-driven companies, it's definitely a selling point" for business locations, said Quinton.

American companies are making streetcars again for the first time since the 1950s. Most new systems use sleek cabins with doors that slide open at street level.

Voters in Los Angeles and Kansas City have approved new taxes for streetcar projects. A handful of cities, including New Orleans and Philadelphia, are delighted they don't have to. Their streetcars survived the mid-century purge and continue making their rounds.

Kenosha built its system in 2000 for about $6 million, mostly funded by a federal grant, using 1950s-era cars cast off by the city of Toronto. It revived a line that had carried passengers from 1903 to 1932.

The middle-class town of about 100,000 was once a vibrant port, and grand civic buildings from the early 1900s line the grid of broad boulevards and narrow lanes.

Today, the city is something of a bedroom community for nearby Milwaukee and Chicago. A more diverse economy is bringing jobs back and the lakefront has blossomed with condominiums, two museums, parks, a heated boat storage facility and a harbor bristling with sailboats.

Before the two-mile streetcar loop was laid, the downtown "was very dark," said Joe Catuara, standing outside his bustling hot dog shop — aptly named Trolley Dogs. "Now it's lit up more, there are businesses." A row of shops, bookstores and cafes borders one side of the line.

The annual ridership of about 50,000 isn't large, but that may not matter, said Mayor Keith Bosman because the aim is to create atmosphere, much like public art, more than just transportation. He said the line helped hook the developer who put hundreds of new condos on the site of the old demolished Chrysler plant.

The city plans to double the system beginning as early as next year with a new leg that would help take in 85 percent of the downtown businesses, as well as residential areas and a hospital, with the goal of luring more offices and housing downtown.

For now, the antique cars — drifting past almost empty and with a ghostlike whine — seem mostly an aesthetic touch, offering a burst of color against the dazzling blue backdrop of Lake Michigan.

Some are unimpressed. It's a "trolley to nowhere," said Pat Lawler, 83, sitting on a downtown bench. "In Kenosha, people drive their cars."

Still, the streetcars have soaked into the town's fabric. The old cars with their rounded edges and original bulbous light fixtures appear in street murals and in black and white photos on the walls of downtown shops, and each year the town holds a streetcar festival.

"It makes a bigger town seem smaller," said Jenna Hass, 29, who pays $1 to ride the streetcars with her 3-year-old son, Tyler, between museums or just for fun.

"We get that a lot," Preston said with a grin.







Gardening Without Guesswork

Arnulfo Bahena
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Plant cool-season vegetable gardens now



Photo courtesy Arina Habich

FRESH: Organic carrots are perfect to plant in the cool season.



Photo courtesy Mila Croft

TASTY: Cabbage also enjoys a cooler climate to thrive.

NOVEMBER IS AN IDEAL TIME TO PLANT A COOL-WEATHER vegetable garden. In Santa Monica there are two distinct seasons for kitchen gardens, March through September, sometimes called the warm season; and the cool season, from October through April. The overlap during March and April means we can be harvesting cool-season crops while we're planting summer favorites.

Each season has its own palette of edible plants and vegetables. We're all quite familiar with warm-season veggies, but what falls into the cool-season category is often a bit unclear. If you cluster the choices into "families," however, it's pretty simple.

These "second season" veggies are leaf crops (all lettuces and chards), peas, root crops (beet, radish, turnip, carrot), and cole crops (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kale).

Many of these vegetables are quick growers, meaning you can plant them multiple times during our cool-season period and have fresher-than-Farmers'-market harvests. Just as you marvel about the exceptional, old-fashioned flavor of home-grown tomatoes, you'll be astounded at the true carrot flavors, the vibrant green flavors of chard and kale, and super sweet-tasting English peas.

Locate your edible garden in full sun. Lettuce, chard and radish can take a bit of shade if needed.

Because we expect kitchen gardens to be highly productive areas of our home gardens, proper preparation is important to success. We take a lot out of the soil in the way of produce so we have to supply plenty of nutrients in advance.

Prepare your planting area in three simple ways:

• Add lots of compost, often referred to as soil amendment or planting mix. It's impossible to have too much. This improves the texture of your soil, increases water retention, and makes it easier for plants to absorb nutrients. Remember, however, that compost or amendments are not fertilizers, even though there likely are nutrients in them.

• Feed the soil. Here's where fertilizers come in. In kitchen gardens, always use organic plant foods. At the same time you add compost, also add a pre-plant fertilizer. Later, after plants are established, you'll want to use an organic vegetable food.

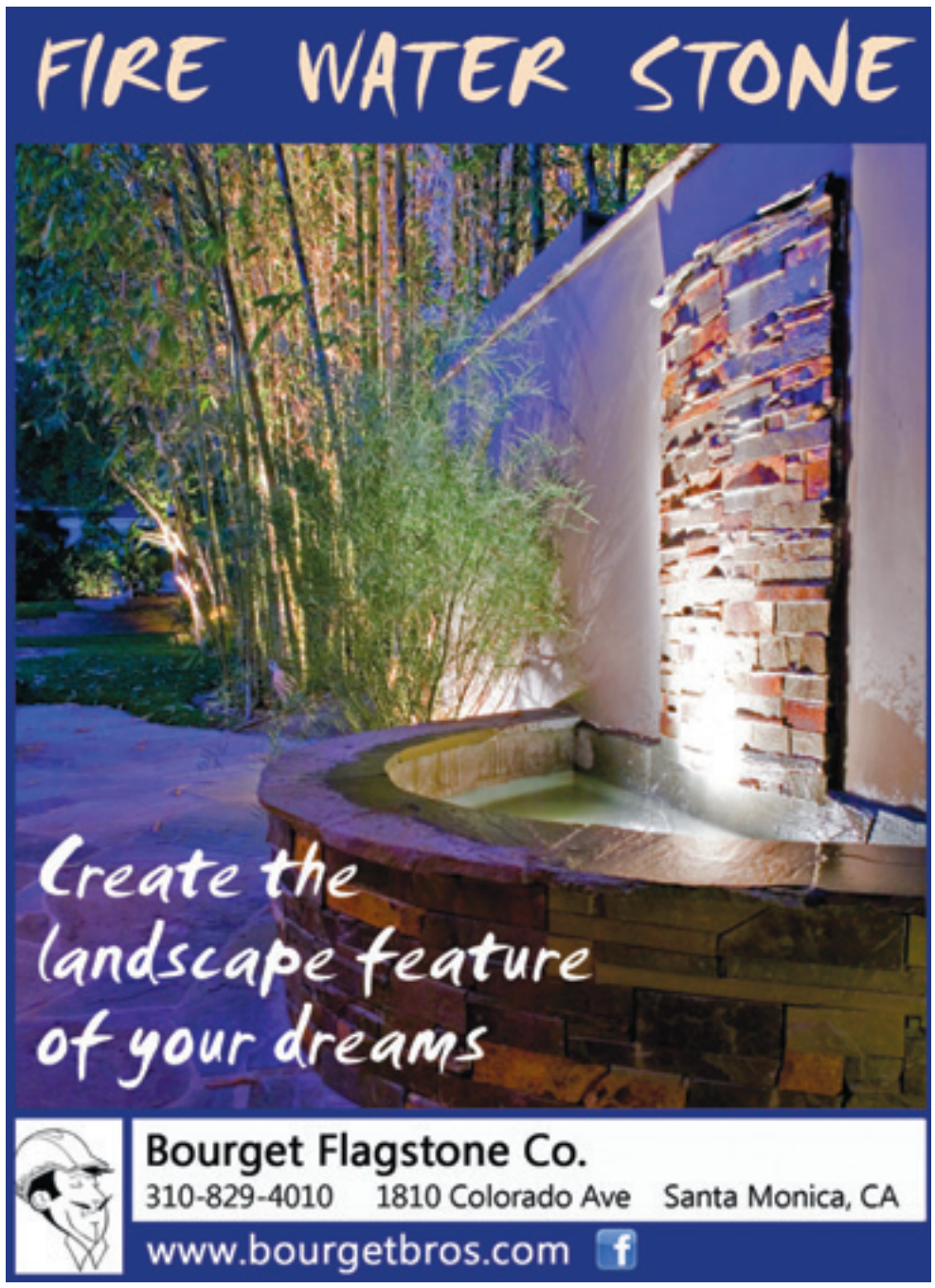
• Turn the soil to the depth of 8-inches. This will mix in your compost and pre-plant fertilizer into the soil. Well-turned, well-amended soil is especially important for root crops like carrots and beets. They'll form misshapen veggies (or not grow well at all) if you don't follow this step.

Remember, as with all edible crops, regular watering is important. If you're planting from seed, keep the soil surface moist (not soggy) until seedlings sprout and the first true leaves appear. If you're planting seedlings from packs, keep them regularly moist for at least three weeks while they send out new roots and become established.

Winter rains may be sufficient at times, but be sure to water your kitchen garden regularly in between rainstorms. As mentioned, many cool-season crops can be enjoyed rather quickly. Leaf lettuces, baby carrots, radishes, beet greens and kale can all be harvested as early as four weeks after planting.

ARNULFO BAHENA, CCNP, is the manager for Armstrong Garden Centers located at 3226 Wilshire Blvd. in Santa Monica. E-mail him your gardening questions to growingdialogue@armstrong-garden.com or call (310) 829-6766. Visit Armstrong Garden Centers online at armstronggarden.com.







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This Thanksgiving, try a handmade apron

JENNIFER FORKER
Associated Press

Every apron tells a story, according to EllynAnne Geisel, who collects vintage aprons and sews her own.

Yet despite the nostalgic appeal of old aprons, many crafters still enjoy making their own. Some are elaborate, with ruffles and embellishments, while other are simple and can be made quickly — perhaps in time for Thanksgiving.

Geisel, of Pueblo, Colo., curates a traveling museum exhibit, Apron Chronicles, launched in 2004 with 150 vintage aprons and 46 stories and images. She hopes to get people reflecting on their apron memories.

"When we tie on our own aprons, we in a sense bring (our loved ones) back," Geisel says.

She includes many of the hundreds of stories she's heard in "The Apron Book" (Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2006), which also includes instructions for sewing three basic patterns that pay homage to vintage apron styles. In the book, one woman remembers her grandmother, a farmer's wife, by holding onto her white cotton bib apron. A man recalls his mother wearing her dressy apron when hosting her afternoon bridge club. Another woman treasures her old white apron, covered in her three young daughter's handprints, now that the girls are grown.

Geisel was among those who threw down their aprons during the 1960s when aprons seemed to some a symbol of women's oppression and household drudgery.

"Women tossed them — even those lovingly sewn by their own mothers and grandmothers — straight into the giveaway bag," she writes.

In recent years, aprons have made a comeback, especially among younger women — and men — and in introductory sewing classes. Check the usual places online — Pinterest, Etsy and crafters' blogs — to find hundreds of handmade aprons, vintage and new.

"I think we just got tired of looking alike," explains Geisel. "There's nothing wrong with shopping out of a catalog, but what was lost is our understanding that our clothing and our homes are arenas where we can express creativity."

An apron is a good first sewing project, says sewing instructor Nicole Smith, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who also works at Etsy.com.

"It's a great way to learn a machine," she says. "You can make the apron as complicated as you want."

Her apron-sewing classes attract men with specific criteria: "The guys would add things to their butcher aprons, such as a partitioned pocket, to store the tools they were using while cooking," she says.

Students often return later for help personalizing their handiwork with embroidery or appliqué, Smith says.

Yvette Martinez of Brighton, Colo., sews aprons — and only aprons. Don't ask her to sew pajamas or to hem pants; that's not fun, she says.

She has made about 75 aprons in two years, most of them for friends.

"I just have a passion for aprons. I love, love, love how unique they each are and can be," Martinez says. "It's fun how you can use so many different notions and buttons and zippers and lace and ribbon and all kinds of pretty things to make them fashionable and unique."

She favors the halter-style bib apron, and recommends using oil-cloth fabric because it wipes clean with a damp cloth.

The easiest apron to make? Attach ribbon to a dish or flour-sack towel.

"All the edges are finished, so all you need to do is find something you'd like to use as the tie," says Smith. "And it'd be really useful all (Thanksgiving) day."

Geisel is asking readers to put on an apron the day before Thanksgiving for Tie One On Day, which promotes gestures of kindness. "It's an opportunity to do an act of kindness before giving thanks on Thanksgiving," Geisel says. "There are so many people who need to know they are not invisible." Find out more at her website, Apron Memories.









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MAP
FROM PAGE 1

Northeast Neighbors filed a public records request in an attempt to find the origins of the map but came up empty handed.

"It was not clear to staff as to what led to the map being inserted," said City Manager Rod Gould. "And why and whether or not there was adequate documentation of that change, much less public consideration, is very much in question."

Recently, developer West Century Partners proposed a five-story, 60-foot-high commercial building on two lots at Berkeley Street and Wilshire Boulevard. One of the two lots is an A-Lot, which previously had underlying residential zoning requiring all building to max out at two stories.

Gould said that city officials are in favor of designating the A Lots as residential, as they were previously, in the upcoming Draft Zoning Ordinance, which will go before the Planning Commission next month and council in March.

"If the council agrees with maintaining the previous designation of the A Lot, that would in turn necessitate an amendment to the LUCE itself," he said. "And there may be other clean-ups and clarifications that may be necessary to the LUCE after the Planning Commission and council are finished with the Zoning Ordinance and it would be our intention to bring those all at once with one amendment sometime in late spring 2014."

It is unclear how this will impact that proposed building on Wilshire and Berkeley. Tricia Crane, a member of Northeast Neighbors, has been vocal in her frustration over the new designation.

"We have been told over and over again that the LUCE preserves neighborhoods and that they will remain unchanged in terms of height and density and then we discovered this 'mistake' that would have permitted five stories of mixed use development on a residential parcel," she said.

Crane is as concerned with City Hall's inability to identify the source of the changes as she is with the changes themselves.

"Even if the City Council votes to make a LUCE amendment, to me the more important question is who did this?" she said. "Something was pushed through that was not properly vetted and approved. The public process was violated and there should be an investigation, not a quick fix."

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HOMES
FROM PAGE 1

sales in any month in more than seven years.

The median price paid for Southern California homes — meaning half the homes sold for more and half for less — was $383,750. That was a half-percent increase from September.

It was the fourth month in a row that the median price "more or less moved sideways," although it was up nearly 22 percent from October of last year, DataQuick said.

"Our read on the market is that after playing some rapid catch-up, home prices hit a bit of a midsummer wall," DataQuick President John Walsh said. "It took a very specific set of circumstances to trigger price gains of 20 percent or more over the course of a year. We had a pitifully low number of homes for sale, incredibly low mortgage rates and unusually high levels of investor purchases. In recent months, each of those drivers has reversed somewhat."

Sales of middle- and high-priced homes continued to outpace those of lower-cost ones. The number of homes sold for less than $200,000 dropped nearly 40 percent in October compared with the same month a year earlier, while sales of homes for $800,000 or more rose nearly 33 percent, DataQuick reported.

"Low-end deals have been relatively weak largely because of an inadequate supply of homes for sale," DataQuick said in a statement. "Many owners still can't afford to sell their homes because they owe more than they are worth, and lenders aren't foreclosing on as many properties, further limiting supply."

PAYMENT
FROM PAGE 3

peaking at nearly 7 percent in the fourth quarter of 2009.

The rate of late payments on home loans has been steadily declining over the past five quarters. At the same time, U.S. home sales and prices have been rebounding over the past two years, while foreclosures have been declining.

Moderate but stable job gains, still-low mortgage interest rates, and tight supply of homes for sale have helped fuel the housing rebound. That's also made it easier for homeowners to refinance, catch up on payments or sell their home, avoiding foreclosure.

Even so, the mortgage delinquency rate is still above the 1 to 2 percent average historical range. That suggests that many homeowners still are struggling to make their payments. It also reflects that many home loans made during the housing boom remain unpaid but have yet to work their way through the foreclosure process.

Loans made in the years after the housing boom are generally being paid on time, so as more of the older loans listed on banks' books as unpaid get resolved, the overall mortgage delinquency rate should continue to decline, said Tim Martin, group vice president of U.S Housing for TransUnion's financial services business unit.

"The new mortgages are still performing very well, at very low delinquency rates," Martin said. "That's why we're expecting more improvement to come."

TransUnion forecasts that the national mortgage delinquency rate will drop to just under 4 percent by the end of year.

All the states posted an annual drop in late-payment rates during the third quarter, with California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado and Utah registering declines of more than 30 percent.

TransUnion draws its data from 52 million installment-based mortgages in the U.S.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **62.8°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

SUNDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal WNW swell eases. Mostly shows for standout spots with 1-3' surf there

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 **November 6, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 23 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	C	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	F	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	B	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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.

Scandal, latest loss have Dolphins fans fed up

STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

DAVIE, Fla. Miami Dolphins fans are venting on Twitter and complaining on radio about the team owner, the coach, the general manager and even the backup left guard.

A harassment case and a loss to a winless team can have that effect.

Already staggered by a scandal that has prompted an NFL investigation, the Dolphins must now try to bounce back from their worst loss of the year. Rather than taking out their frustrations of the past two weeks on the hapless Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the Dolphins came out flat Monday night, dug a 15-0 hole and lost 22-19.

The loss left the Dolphins at 4-5, with the five defeats coming in the past six games. Fed-up fans took the latest loss hard, and many said owner Stephen Ross should fire everyone, himself included.

With the harassment case involving offensive linemen Jonathan Martin and Richie Incognito likely to remain unresolved for at least a couple of weeks, second-year coach Joe Philbin will try to salvage the season beginning Sunday at home against San Diego.

Philbin, now 11-14 at Miami, won a vote of confidence before Monday's game from Ross, but that could change depending on the findings of the NFL's special investigator. He'll meet this week with Martin, who is with his family in Los Angeles and receiving counseling for emotional issues.

Ross also plans to meet with Martin in California on Wednesday. The second-year pro suddenly left the team two weeks ago, and his attorney has alleged Martin was harassed daily by teammates, including Incognito, who has been suspended.

The case inspired a national debate about workplace bullying, attracting a throng of media that has filled the Dolphins' locker room the past week. The team, however, declined to blame the case on its latest loss.

"Yes we faced a lot of distractions, but leading up to this game, the last few days I've had a good feeling that the guys were ready to play," quarterback Ryan Tannehill said.

A bigger factor might have been the absence of two starters in a line that was already lousy. At Tampa, the Dolphins netted a franchise record-low 2 yards in 14 carries.

That's 5.1 inches per carry. At that rate, they would need 71 carries to get a first down. Nate Garner whiffed on several blocks filling in for Incognito at left guard, but no one on the line seemed to get any push downfield.

"Not a good job by us," right tackle Tyson Clabo said.

There are plenty of other issues. Run defense is supposedly the team's strength, but Miami allowed 140 yards on the ground against the injury-riddled Bucs, whose fourth-string running back scored the decisive touchdown. The Dolphins have sunk to 25th in the league in run defense.

Tannehill played well but misfired on a long pass to an open Mike Wallace, who was targeted seven times and totaled 15 yards. The $60 million receiver still has only one touchdown this year. First-round pick Dion Jordan was also a nonfactor again at linebacker, playing only nine snaps on defense.

While the scoreboard in Tampa argued otherwise, Tannehill said the harassment case unified the team. He predicted the Dolphins will yet bounce back.

"I feel like we've really come together over this adversity," he said. "This could've gone two ways: Guys could split up and take sides by dividing the locker room, or we could come together. ...

"Life is full of adversity. Not everyone deals with a situation like this, but you have to be able to face it. The old adage: As many times a horse knocks you off, you get back on. That's the mentality I have, and that's the mentality I think this team has, and we've just got to keep going."

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Mur Murs (NR) 1hr 21min
7:30pm

Stay for a discussion with director Agnés Varda after the screening.

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

Thor: The Dark World (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:45pm

Ender's Game (PG-13) 1hr 54min
12:45pm, 3:45pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

About Time (R) 2hrs 04min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Counselor (R) 1hr 51min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Metropolitan Opera: Tosca Encore (NR) 3hrs 35min
6:30pm

Gravity 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Ender's Game (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Captain Phillips (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
11:45am, 3:10pm

Last Vegas (R) 1hr 30min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:40pm, 7:45pm, 10:45pm

Free Birds (PG) 1hr 30min
11:00am, 4:00pm, 9:30pm

Free Birds in 3D () 1hr 30min
1:30pm, 6:45pm

Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (R) 1hr 33min
11:35pm, 2:15pm, 4:50pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

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

All Is Lost (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

Capital (Le capital) (R) 1hr 53min
4:10pm, 9:40pm

Kill Your Darlings (R) 1hr 35min
4:30pm, 9:55pm

How I Live Now () 1hr 41min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Enough Said (PG-13) 1hr 33min
1:50pm, 7:30pm

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

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

BE LAZY TONIGHT, SCORPIO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You have a lot of oomph as you start your day. How you use it will be your call. Some of you might decide to tell someone off, while others simply will use the energy to become whirlwinds of effectiveness. Tonight: All smiles!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Know when to pull back and head in a new direction. You could feel off-kilter as you wake up. Ask yourself what you need to change in order to feel better. Communication is your strong suit. Initiate any necessary discussions. Tonight: Use your imagination as you vanish.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone who is very important to your life. You could take this person's nonresponsiveness personally. The issue is more likely to be one that is unrelated. Tonight: Join a pal for a midweek break.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Assume your natural role as leader. Communication could have a harsh quality to it. Refuse to take someone's attitude personally, but you also might want to establish boundaries. Claiming your power could be more important to you in the long run than you realize. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Take the high road and you will do just fine. Conflicts could mark the beginning of the day, yet chummy interactions will mark the end of the day. You'll make the difference because of your attitude, personality and understanding. Trust your instincts. Tonight: Live it up!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Deal with a problem directly, which might involve dealing with an individual directly. Know the difference between assertiveness and aggressiveness. Veer toward the former. Tonight: Make it a cozy duo, even if it is just you hanging out with your best friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Others seem to keep coming to you with requests. The problem lies in that so many ask so much of you. Before you know it, you could become angry. Say "no" more often. Only you can balance your demands. Tonight: Accept an offer that might have you out on the town.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Pace yourself, and know when enough is enough. Yes, you have a lot of energy, a strong will and much endurance. In a sense, you are unstoppable when you decide to accomplish a goal or do something important for you. You refuse to see obstacles. Tonight: Be lazy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your fiery ways push aside any obstacle you might come across. Be diplomatic with a higher-up or parent. In the long run, you will be happier. A partner points to a new path where creativity and happiness seem to merge. Tonight: Let go and enjoy the moment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You could decide to maintain a low profile as you sense an issue coming in from out of left field. You don't always have to handle every problem. Focus on an issue involving home and/or real estate. Opportunities come through a partner. Tonight: Happy to be home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ A partner might be difficult at best. Back off, and duck out of the way of this person's fireworks. Answer calls and get into some errands and/or other responsibilities. Tonight: Have a chat over munchies.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might feel the need to indulge a loved one who lets you know that he or she is not up to snuff. That effort will ease this person's mood, but do not break your budget. Tonight: Make nice.

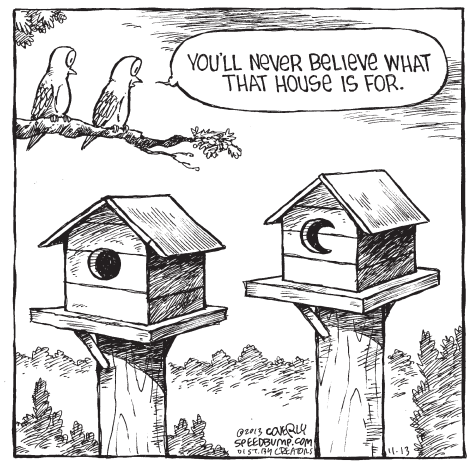
Wednesday, November 13, 2013

This year you enter a new phase where you start feeling more and more upbeat. You might need to clear out or distance yourself from an overassertive relative or friend. You will feel much more optimistic and willing to open up as a result. Travel and/or meeting a foreigner will expand your mental awareness. If you are single, you could be dating Mr. or Ms. Right at the present time ... or very soon. If you are attached, make vacation plans that take you off the beaten path. ARIES can push your buttons.

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

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

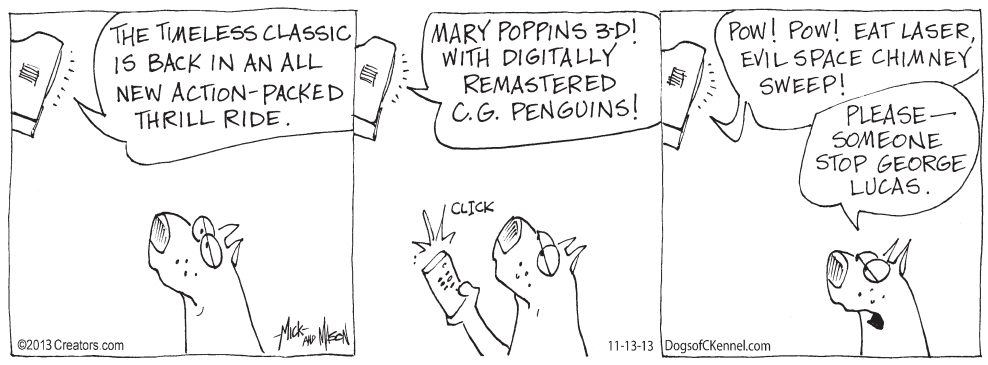
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



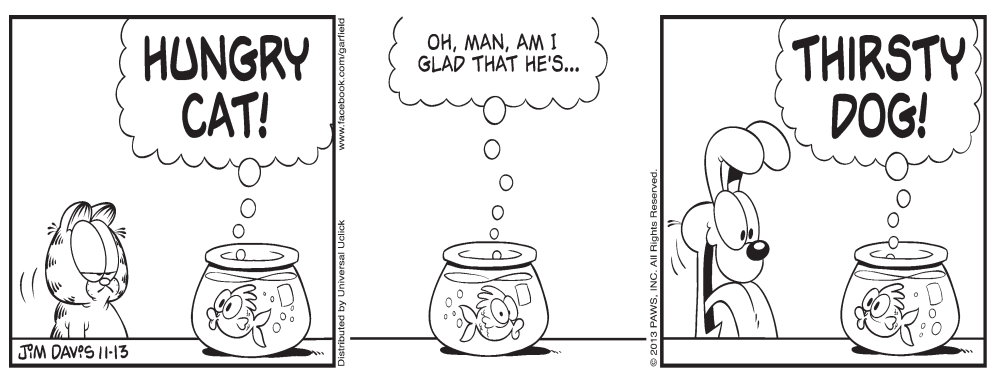
Strange Brew
By John Deering



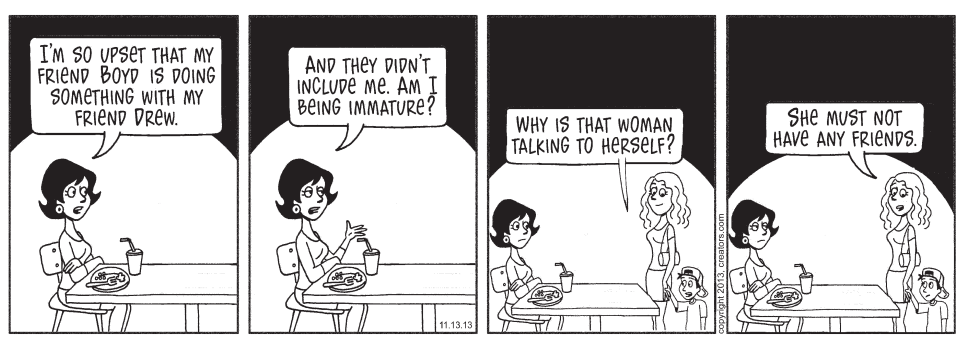
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Scatter
6 Summon
10 Stash of valuables
11 Studio output
12 Sized up
13 Sun-dried brick
14 Spirit
15 Shish kebab need
16 Stop fasting
17 Here, to Henri
18 Cunning
19 Not too quick
22 Opera highlight
23 Disco
26 Spurring on
29 Golf goal
32 Tokyo, formerly
33 Antique auto
34 Relaxed
36 Birdbath spot
37 Hooded snake
38 Like some checking accounts
39 Rival
40 Deduce
41 Depend
42 Furtive looks

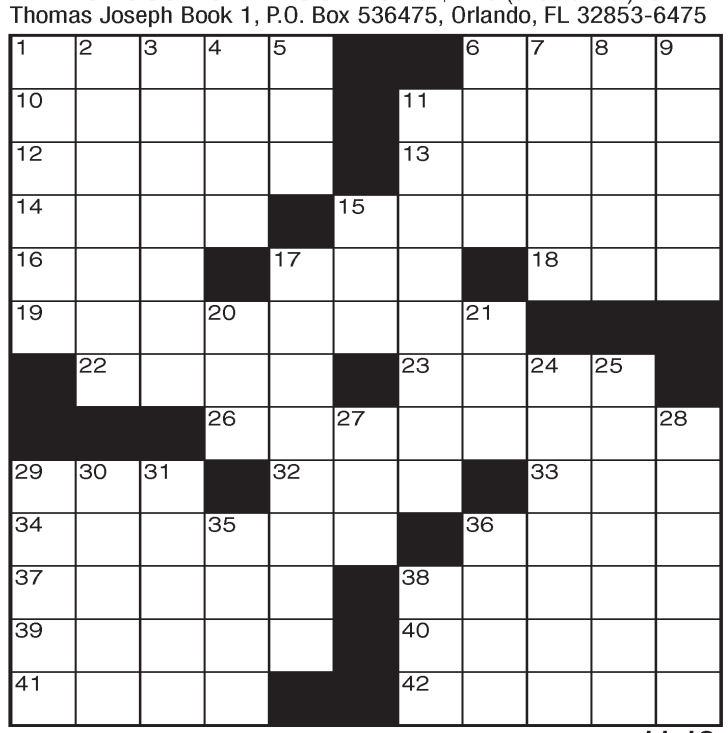
DOWN

1 "The Iron Lady" star
2 Refrain bit
3 Shoulder muscle
4 Tied up
5 Tie the knot
6 Programming output
7 Attests
8 Defame, in a way
9 Suspicious
11 Coping
15 Bio. or chem.
17 "It seems to me ..."
20 Brief drop
21 Mercury or Mars
24 Tall grazer
25 Common pay period
27 Exalted poem
28 Dead ducks
29 Harness race horse
30 Make amends
31 Defy authority
35 Base group
36 Solitary
38 Wee bite

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

Yesterday's answer

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11-13

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/9
3 9 37 49 56
Power#: 32
Jackpot: $110M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/8
41 42 51 57 65
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: $132M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/9
7 14 34 41 46
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: $31M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/12
10 22 23 24 25

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/12
MIDDAY: 7 1 3
EVENING: 6 4 9

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 11/12
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:41.62

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

■ Various studies show "churchgoers" to be happier, more optimistic and healthier than other people, leading some atheists and agnostics to wonder whether the church experience could be fruitfully replicated but minus the belief in God. Hence, the "Sunday Assembly" was created in London, and has now spread to New York City and Melbourne, Australia, with 18 other hoped-for openings by year's end, according to a September report in The Week. Founders seek such benefits as "a sense of community," "a thought-provoking (secular) sermon," "group singing" and an "ethos of self-improvement," exemplified by the motto "live better, help often, wonder more," and they hope that eventually Sunday Assembly will organize Sunday school, weddings, funerals and "non-religious baptisms."

■ First Things First: An alleged drug ring in the Brooklyn, N.Y., neighborhood of Sheepshead Bay was busted in September after police cracked a stream of Internet messages offering heroin (called "DOB") and cocaine ("white girl"). Among the messages was one sent at 6:45 one Friday evening advising customers that they had "45 minutes" to get their orders in for the weekend because the sellers would obediently shut down at 7:30 (i.e., sundown) for the Jewish sabbath.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1985 – Xavier Suarez is sworn in as Miami, Florida's first Cuban-born mayor.

1986 – The Compact of Free Association becomes law, granting the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands independence from the United States.

WORD UP!

diathesis
\ dahy-ATH-uh-sis \ , noun;
1. Pathology . a constitutional predisposition or tendency, as to a particular disease or affection.

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- Major Fixer/Teardown - Anywhere in Westside - $700,000 - $1,100,000
- Single Family Home (Fixer OK) - Westside Pavilion Area - Minimum 2+1.75 - Walking Distance to Shops - Up to $900,000
- Single Family Home - Santa Monica, Brentwood, Palisades - Minimum 3+1.75 - $1,200,000 - $3,500,000
- Single Family Home - Bel Air, Malibu, Westwood - Pool or Room for a pool - Minimum 3 + 1.75 - $1,200,000 - $3,000,000
- Income Property/Teardown - Santa Monica or Brentwood - $1,000,000 - $4,000,000

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Mid November 2013

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North of Montana	=	**$ 4,331,529**
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	**$ 2,675,516**
South of Wilshire	=	**$ 849,750**
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