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Volume 12 Issue 5

Santa Monica Daily Press

Metro

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EXPO LINE ROLLS ON
SEE PAGE 3

THE COOL SCIENCE ISSUE



VILLAGE TRAILER PARK

Residents lose fight to save trailer park

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council on Wednesday gave the go-ahead to build a mixed-use housing development where a trailer park now stands despite protests of those concerned that the decision would displace some of Santa Monica's most vulnerable residents in return for a development of questionable value.

The 4-2 decision — with Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis and Councilmember Kevin McKeown against — ended a six-year saga over the Village Trailer Park, which co-owner Marc Luzzatto first intended to close in 2006.

Councilmember Bobby Shriver was absent for the vote.

SEE TRAILER PARK PAGE 11

Priest cops plea in battery case

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A priest at St. Anne Catholic Church in Santa Monica has plead guilty to battery and providing alcohol to a minor, police announced Thursday.



VENEGAS

Rafael Venegas plead guilty Nov. 9 to one count of misdemeanor battery and one count of furnishing alcohol to a minor, also a misdemeanor, and was sentenced to one day in jail, 364 days of probation, 160 hours of community service and counseling through the Catholic Archdiocese, which must contain a segment dealing with sexual compulsion, said Sgt. Richard Lewis, spokesman for the Santa Monica Police Department.

Venegas was initially charged by the City Attorney's Office with one count of sexual battery and providing alcohol to a minor. Police began their investigation in July after a 20-year-old woman, who was not a parishioner of St. Anne's, told them that she was assaulted on church property in September of 2011.

Representatives from St. Anne's and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles could not be reached for comment by presstime.

kevinh@smdp.com

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



SURGIO PUTS IN WORK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Kids watch as their fellow seventh grade students operate the Da Vinci medical robot named Surgio during a hands-on demonstration at John Adams Middle School on Thursday morning. Named by JAMS student Alma Blanco that morning, Surgio allows surgeons to perform procedures.

Lincoln students fly high with astronauts

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL More often than not, when an administration calls a school assembly, it's to give a long-winded but well-intentioned talk on self-esteem or the dangers of alcohol and other substances.

When one of the first images to pop up on the huge pull-down projector screen was an upside down woman floating next to a man in zero gravity, any notions of a "typical" morning were quickly dispelled.

Lincoln Middle School was one of 24 schools across the nation on Thursday to participate in a teleconference with astro-

SEE SPACE PAGE 12

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Nov. 16, 2012

Lay of the library
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 12:30 p.m.
Docent-led tours of the library are offered the third Friday of each month. Find out where the fiction section is and where to find a computer to search the Internet with. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Dance, dance, dance
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
The past and present meet for an eclectic celebration of life. Tap Dance Widows Club, an innovative flagship work by Louise Reichlin & Dancers, ignites and brings together multiple dance forms. For more information, call (213) 385-1171.

Award winner
The Santa Monica Little Theater
2420 Santa Monica Blvd., 8 p.m.
Pulitzer Prize-winner "How I Learned to Drive" is a funny, surprising, and devastating tale of survival as seen through the lens of a troubling relationship between a young girl and an older man. This is the story of a woman who learns the rules of the road and life from behind the wheel. For more information, call (213) 268-1454.

Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012

Second spin
City Yards
2500 Michigan Ave.,
9 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Do you have any textiles around the house that you would like to recycle? This is your chance. And while you're at it, stay for a holiday workshop that will teach you how to reuse old textiles for projects around the house. Did you know that T-shirts make a perfect wrapping for presents? For more information, visit www.smgov.net.

For the love of desserts
The Art Institute of California
2900 31st St., 1 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Taste some of the choice offerings from celebrity pastry chefs during the Just Desserts Festival. There will be vendors, classes and book signings. Cost: $50-$100. For more information, call (818) 756-1260.

All of the lights
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street, 6 p.m.
Santa Monica Place and Downtown Santa Monica join forces for a community tree lighting complete with an appearance by Santa. The mall's center court will be home to the start of the holiday season. For more information, visit www.santamonicaplace.com/events.

Senior stories
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St., 7 p.m.
Elders from throughout the Los Angeles area will share their personal histories and participate in a Q&A session, followed by a reception in the Edgemar Center's gallery space. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. For more information, call (310) 399-3666.

To be or …
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., times vary
"Hamlet" is never more fabulous than when acted by one of the best Shakespeare companies in the world. For the fourth time, the bard hits The Broad with Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. This fresh, fast, and youthful staging is brimming with existential angst, Oedipal impulses and paranormal activity. Even if you've seen "Hamlet" a hundred times before, missing this one would be the greatest tragedy of all. For more information, call (310) 434-3200.

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





Daniel Archuleta *news@smdp.com*

ON ITS WAY UP: **A worker sprays down the base of a pillar Thursday that will eventually make up part of a bridge over Cloverfield Boulevard for the Expo Light Rail Line.**

State Supreme Court says Expo Line can continue as planned

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

DOWNTOWN The California Supreme Court has denied a request by a group of Westside homeowners to stop construction on the second phase of the Expo Light Rail Line from Culver City to Santa Monica, public transit officials announced Thursday.

The court late Wednesday denied the request by Neighbors for Smart Rail, which filed a lawsuit to block construction of the 6.6-mile transit line out of concern that the Exposition Construction Authority allegedly failed to properly study the project's impacts on traffic and the environment by using hypothetical traffic conditions as a baseline.

The court did not issue a written opinion explaining why it denied the request, which had also been shot down at the appeals court level.

The authority said last month that halting construction would cost about $90 million and jeopardize thousands of jobs. Work on the $1.5 billion light rail line began in August and will continue, officials said in a statement.

The extension of the line from Culver City will include seven new stations, including a terminus at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street near Santa Monica Place and the Third Street Promenade.

"This decision preserves thousands of direct and indirect jobs just when our local economy is slowly starting to recover," said Expo Board Chair and Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who represents Santa Monica. "At the same time, it keeps our efforts to build a modern transit system on-track."

Representatives with Neighbors for Smart Rail said they respect the court's decision and emphasized that their lawsuit is still active and have faith that the court will ultimately rule in their favor.

"Why build something that was poorly designed and based on a flawed study," said Michael Eveloff with the neighborhood coalition. "It is inconsistent with previous Supreme Court decisions and several appellate court decisions and it seems like a terrible risk to spend valuable tax money building a project that could very well have its approvals redrawn."

Service on Phase 1 of the Expo Line began in Spring 2012. Construction of Phase 2 is expected to be completed in late 2015, officials said.

kevinh@smdp.com

Despite what they say, voters favoring local taxes

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. When it comes to new taxes, voters tend to say government should ask for money from somebody else, like the rich. But that doesn't always hold true, especially on the local level.

During last week's elections, voters across the country, and in Santa Monica, opted to raise taxes to help their cities, counties and school districts.

"I'm OK with being taxed for making sure we don't go under and people are taken care of," said Elizabeth Boyd, 35, an independent voter in Sacramento. "I think it's really good for us to pay for schools and make sure they're kept open and teachers aren't being laid off for ridiculous reasons."

In California, 171 of the 240 local tax and bond measures on the Nov. 6 ballot won approval, a 71 percent pass rate. Those increases came in addition to voters passing statewide tax hikes championed by Gov. Jerry Brown. Ohio voters approved all local library taxes and a majority of local school bonds.

Santa Monica voters were one of those municipalities, approving Measure ES, a bond for local public schools.

Voters in Alabama, Oklahoma and Colorado were among those also passing local tax increases.

Statewide tax measures did not fare as well. They failed in three of the five states where they were on the ballot. Even in California, statewide tax increases have failed far more often than they have passed.

Local revenue measures generally do better than statewide tax hikes, in part because voters feel more assured about how the money will be spent.

Anti-tax activists warn that voters who approved new fees will come to regret it.

Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, said people will "get sticker shock as to the total amount of tax burden they have. When you add them all up, they are going to start to wonder, 'What hit us?'"

He says some will come to realize "it would have been better to adopt certain reforms."

Voters seem to agree in theory, if not in

SEE **TAXES** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

God isn't that petty

Editor:

To Matt Barber ("God will not be mocked," Your Column Here, Nov. 13),

I have not mocked your God with my vote. I only chose the candidate I considered best equipped to lead our nation for four more years.

You, sir, seem to mock your God by suggesting that he is abandoning this country out of pique for our resultant choice. What a petty fellow is your God. His omnipotence and powers of forgiveness have limits, I guess. By any chance does your God have an opinion about the death penalty, and our vote to repeal it? Or does your God now subscribe to Nine Commandments? Are not the "Post-Born" covered by your God? By the way, sir, have you ever sinned, and required redemption? Presumably you have, or you yourself would be sitting more than metaphorically on your God's right hand.

If there is a God, I'll presume He or She still is in the business of being patient with their children, even as they stray from your opinion of their behaviors.

Forrest Murray
Santa Monica

SMRR's betrayal

Editor:

In a 4-2 decision, the City Council was given a choice between two plans for a development agreement for the Village Trailer Park. One option gave the developer many millions of dollars in special development rights, greatly in excess of zoning code, as a reward for destroying an entire neighborhood and throwing 100 families out of their home. The other plan gave the developer a little less special rights, but preserved the homes of the remaining residents.

The two deciding votes were cast by Terry O'Day and Pam O'Connor, whose Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights nominations were rejected by a majority of the SMRR members. However, the SMRR Steering Committee overrode the vote of its membership and gave Mr. O'Day and Ms. O'Connor the SMRR endorsement, which directly resulted in their winning their seats on the City Council. The results of the SMRR Steering Committee's betrayal to its membership has now come to fruition as the City Council has adopted the policy that developers can now use development agreements as a tool to destroy rent-control housing.

Jeff Segal
Santa Monica

Taking away tradition

Editor:

Well, they did it again! The Grinches on the City Council and their Grinchy staff have trashed another Santa Monica Christmas tradition; first the Christmas story scenes and now the beautifully-decorated Christmas tree on the Third Street Promenade enjoyed by residents, tourists and children alike ("Downtown X-mas tree may run afoul of local law," Oct. 31). Maybe we can string some lights on that rusty eyesore on the lawn near City Hall.

Since the city Grinches have been so successful in eliminating Christmas traditions in Santa Monica, perhaps we should send them to New York City to bring down the traditional Christmas tree in the Rockefeller Center. Why should NYC have such a big tree on display and we have none?

Don Wagner
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Sore winner or sour grapes?

HOPEFULLY THIS WILL BE MY LAST column on the 2012 election. However, following last week's missive I received a flurry of e-mails. (One through seven is a "handful," eight to 15 is a "flurry" and more than 15 means it's time to get a new e-mail address.)

Some suggested that I was being a "sore winner" gloating over Barack Obama's decisive victory. Some even questioned that it was decisive at all, which is mind-boggling compared to George Bush's victory in 2004.

A day after the 2004 election, Bush announced that he had a "mandate" and was going to inform Congress that he intended to "spend his political capital." He then toured the country with his plan to allow people to convert their Social Security into stocks. (Had he prevailed, after the 2008 crash the country would have been one long bread line!)

But Bush won the electoral college by only 286-257 and the popular vote by 3,012,166, whereas Obama won 322-206 and by nearly 3,700,000 votes. In reminding you of these numbers, honestly, I'm not trying to be a sore winner. As Jack Webb of "Dragnet" used to say, "Just the facts, ma'am."

The truth is, at least in my lifetime, no president has ever been so rudely disrespected as has Obama. For example, during his healthcare address to Congress in 2009 he had Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) shout out, "You lie!" During the 2010 State of the Union, Supreme Court Justice Alito dismissively shook his head as Obama commented on the infamous Citizens United Supreme Court decision that led to unprecedented campaign donations. (Romney spent over $1 billion while Karl Rove spent $400 million and is probably right now hiding from the Koch brothers.)

And the last example of boorish behavior occurred this past January. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer, on an airport tarmac, defiantly stuck her finger right in President Obama's face. She later said she had felt "threatened." What did she think, Obama was going to "jack" her car?

Rooted in disrespect is the pathetic birther movement being trumpeted by Donald Trump. (No pun intended.) On the campaign trail, even Romney joked about it. "And nobody has ever asked to see my birth certificate." (Poor Mitt, he was gracious on election night but now he's claiming Obama won only because he "promised blacks, Hispanics and young voters gifts.")

At Fox News, after predicting a Romney landslide, they're apoplectic over the election results. (As evidenced by how desperate they are to turn Benghazi into Watergate.) On cue, Ann Coulter said the election only proved, "In the U.S. there are more takers than makers" and predicted our collective doom. (She's such a cheerful sort.)

And in all 50 states secession petitions have begun to circulate. On the Internet is a great photo of angry Teabaggers holding a sign that is supposed to read "Secede," but spells "Secdee." (Another example of Teabonics?)

But perhaps suffering the worst case of sour grapes was evidenced by 28-year-old and pregnant Holly Soloman of Mesa, Ariz. According to police records, Solomon and her husband Daniel, both Romney supporters, argued loudly in a local parking lot over the fact that Daniel had carelessly not voted. Uh, oh.

Inexplicably furious, Holly got behind the wheel of her Jeep SUV and began chasing Daniel around the parking lot. (If only there was a video on YouTube!) Momentarily, Daniel hid behind a light pole, but as he was trying to run away Holly ran him over and pinned him underneath the vehicle. Yikes! Daniel was rushed to Scottsdale Medical Center where he remains in critical condition. Holly was booked on charges of domestic violence and aggravated assault. (And really aggravated sour grapes.)

It would appear that the overriding "message" the voters sent last week was directed at Congress instructing them to stop obstructionist bipartisan bickering and work together. In that vein, on election night, Obama phoned Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader McConnell but both were supposedly asleep. (Wouldn't you get up if it's the president of the United States calling? Apparently not.)

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE OVERRIDING 'MESSAGE' THE VOTERS SENT LAST WEEK WAS DIRECTED AT CONGRESS INSTRUCTING THEM TO STOP OBSTRUCTIONIST BIPARTISAN BICKERING AND WORK TOGETHER.

Even Sen. John McCain (R-Arizona), who's a sad caricature of himself, is vowing to defeat Obama's possible nomination of Susan Rice as secretary of state, claiming, "She's not very bright." That's ironic considering that McCain brought us Sarah Palin, who wasn't sure if Africa was a country or a continent, claimed Sputnik bankrupted the U.S.S.R., asserted that Paul Revere warned the British and told grade-schoolers that the vice president is in charge of the Senate.

On an encouraging note, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal lectured fellow Republicans to "stop being the stupid party." In the same speech he added, "We've got to stop dividing the American voters."

So, in Gov. Jindal's bi-partisan spirit, I suppose I shouldn't criticize how poorly Romney, Ryan, Trump, Grover Norquist and Fox News have taken the election results. After all, none ran over anybody with a car. At least as far as I know.

Unless there's more than 15 of you, **JACK** can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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Supermajority holds promise and peril for Democrats

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. With supermajorities in both houses of the state Legislature, Democrats have a historic opportunity to push their agenda on issues such as tax reform, workers' rights and changing the initiative process.

They could reach too far, though, if they can't restrain the impulses of their most liberal members, leading to actions that will turn off middle-of-the-road voters. One of the key political dramas of the coming year will be how legislative leaders and Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown walk that line.

"We all recognize that we have to use this new power wisely, and we can't overplay it," Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg said in an interview Thursday. "On the other hand ... we also don't want to underutilize the chance we have to continue to help California grow and thrive."

Many Democrats are anticipating what the party can do now that they no longer need Republican votes.

Steinberg suggested changing the state's tax structure, restoring money to social services and modifying the ballot initiative process by requiring proponents to work with legislators to fine-tune their proposals and ensuring that initiatives expire after a certain number of years.

He also said Democrats could use their two-thirds majorities to place a measure on the ballot seeking to legalize same-sex marriage by overturning Proposition 8 if the U.S. Supreme Court eventually upholds California's constitutional ban.

Steinberg cited as an example of potential over-reaching Democratic state Sen. Ted Lieu's support for an effort to triple the state's vehicle license fee.

Assemblyman Jim Nielsen, R-Gerber, said he does not trust Democrats to keep themselves in check.

"I think some of these folks are genetically incapable of fiscal prudence. The spending will outgrow whatever surpluses we have," said Nielsen, who has been the Assembly Republicans' point person on the budget.

The legislative supermajority will let Democrats unilaterally raise taxes, if they choose, for the first time since California voters passed Proposition 13 in 1978. The landmark initiative increased the legislative vote threshold to pass tax increases to two-thirds.

The central provision of Proposition 13, which rolled back property taxes and strictly limited their annual increases, also could come under review by Democrats. Some Democrats say they favor placing a measure on the ballot that would ask voters if they want to raise the limit on annual property tax increases for corporations, while leaving the limit in place for homeowners.

Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, D-San Francisco, said the supermajority breathes new life into his proposal to tweak Proposition 13 to prevent corporations from avoiding tax increases when properties change hands.

The two-thirds majorities also give Democrats the ability to override gubernatorial vetoes, such as the one earlier this year on an Ammiano bill that would have provided overtime pay, meal breaks and other labor protections to caregivers, nannies and house cleaners.

Yet there have been no overrides since 1979, during Brown's first tenure as governor, and lawmakers risk undermining a governor of their own party if they use it.

"It's kind of like Christmas," Ammiano said of the supermajority. "The gifts under the tree look really nice and you're happy. But when you open up the gifts, you have to be pretty judicious."

The Assembly will need to follow the governor's guidance and not go too far, said Speaker John Perez, D-Los Angeles.

"We need to be very responsible with the limited resources that the state has, and we need to be thoughtful about making decisions that create the opportunities to grow jobs and get people back to work in the state," Perez said Thursday in a telephone interview.

There is no interest in raising taxes beyond those just approved by voters, he said.

Voters passed Brown's Proposition 30, which increases the state sales tax for four years and income taxes on those making more than $250,000 a year for seven years. Voters also approved a separate initiative that will send $1 billion more per year to the general fund by closing a corporate tax loophole.

Perez also noted that Democrats will lack their two-thirds majorities for much of the next year as two incumbent senators leave for Congress and Assembly members run for their vacant seats and for the Los Angeles city council.

Even if Democrats want to restrain themselves, they will face pressure from public employee unions. Union may seek to roll back some of the recently enacted pension changes and get cost-of-living increases for employees who have gone without raises during the state's budget crisis.

The Q Line

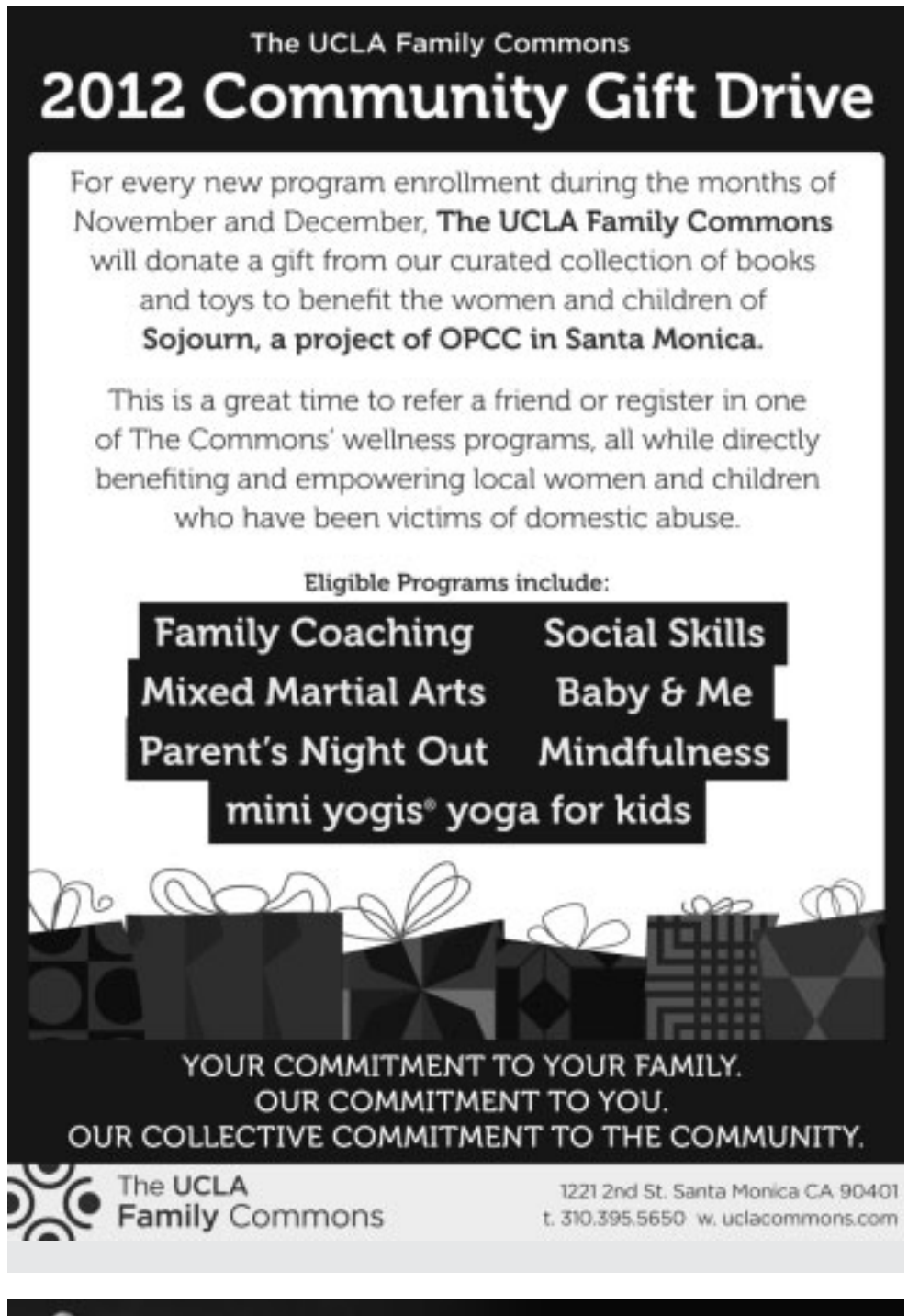
Make your pick

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom is locked in a near dead-heat with Betsy Butler to represent the 50th Assembly District. Just votes separate the two as county officials tally the rest of the ballots.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Who do you hope pulls out the win and why?

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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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

State tests: 31% of kids physically fit

State fitness tests administered to California's school-age children shows fewer than a third of tested students were in good physical shape.

The state Department of Education said Thursday that the 2012 Physical Fitness Test found 31 percent of 1.3 million fifth, seventh and ninth graders passed all six fitness measures. That percentage is about the same as 2011.

It also rated nearly 30 percent of children as having high health risks due to body fat.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson says the results reveal a tremendous public health challenge.

Kids were assessed for aerobic capacity, abdominal, trunk, and upper body strength, body composition and flexibility.

About 25 percent of fifth-graders passed all six tests, 32 percent of seventh-graders and 37 percent of ninth-graders.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Bomb scare shuts down Union Station

Union Station in downtown Los Angeles has reopened after a bomb scare forced a temporary shutdown of the bus, train and subway hub.

A spokesman for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority says a bomb squad detonated a suspicious package left on a train platform Thursday afternoon.

Marc Littman says the package did not contain any explosives.

The station was evacuated after the package was discovered around 2 p.m., forcing passengers to get off Metrolink, Amtrak and MTA trains and board buses to get to nearby operating stations.

AP

LOS ANGELES

County sheriff's deputy charged with murder

A veteran sheriff's deputy was charged Thursday with the off-duty murder of a neighbor who had fought with the officer's adult son.

Francisco Gamez II, 41, kept his back to a judge as he stood under guard behind a glass panel during his first court appearance.

He didn't turn around during the brief hearing, apparently trying to avoid being photographed by news cameras in the courtroom.

The deputy also was charged with attempted murder and discharging a weapon from an occupied vehicle.

His arraignment and plea were postponed until Dec. 12 by Superior Court Judge Shelly Torrealba.

Bail was set at $4 million. If convicted, Gamez could face a maximum prison term of 75 years to life.

The fatal shooting occurred on June 17 in the Sylmar area of Los Angeles.

Gamez's 20-year-old son had called his father after having an altercation with 38-year-old Armando Casillas, prosecutors said.

The deputy is accused of driving to the scene, confronting Casillas and another man, and firing two shots. Casillas died and the other man was not hit.

Gamez, a deputy for 17 years, was arrested Thursday by Los Angeles police after months of investigation.

"The off-duty acts that led to the arrest of Francisco Gamez are deeply disturbing to me and to the entire Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department," Sheriff Lee Baca said Wednesday.

Gamez had been assigned to the West Hollywood station since 2005 and was relieved of duty with pay on July 3.

Proceedings were expected to begin Thursday to stop Gamez's pay, and termination was likely, sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Mars rover Curiosity set to hit the road again

After playing in the sand, the Curiosity rover is poised to trek across the Martian landscape in search of a rock to drill into, scientists reported Thursday.

The six-wheel rover has been parked for more than a month at a sand dune where it has been busy scooping up soil, sniffing the atmosphere and measuring radiation levels on the surface. Its next task is to zero in on a rock and that requires driving to a new location.

Mission deputy scientist Ashwin Vasavada expected Curiosity to be on the move in the "next few days."

"It's the bedrock which really gives you the story of ancient Mars," said Vasavada of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which manages the $2.5 billion mission. "The soil is a little harder to interpret because we don't know how old it is or where it came from."

The car-size rover touched down in Gale Crater, an ancient depression near the Martian equator, in August on a two-year mission to probe whether the landing site once had conditions capable of supporting microbial life. Armed with a high-tech suite of instruments, it's the most sophisticated spacecraft to ever land on the red planet.

During the first three months, a weather station aboard Curiosity detected brief drops in air pressure, a sign of whirlwinds in the region.

"These events are starting to occur more and more often," said Manuel de la Torre Juarez of NASA JPL. "We expect to see more in the future."

Previous rovers have spotted and even recorded dust devils dancing across the Martian terrain, but scientists said Curiosity has not yet seen evidence that the swirling winds have lifted dust.

Curiosity's ultimate destination is a 3-mile-high mountain rising from the center of the crater floor that's rich in mineral deposits. Scientists had hoped to drive to the base of the mountain before the end of the year, but that doesn't look likely after the extended stay at its current spot.

AP

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‘Dog Whisperer’ Millan looks forward to new lease on life

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Very soon, Cesar Millan will have a new television show, a book, a tour, a documentary, and — if she says yes — a fiancee.

The year is ending on a high note for Millan as he ends his reign as TV’s “Dog Whisperer” and bounces back from a suicide attempt in May 2010 that left him unconscious and hospitalized.

In “Cesar Millan: The Real Story,” he talks publicly for the first time about the overdose that almost took his life. The documentary, which airs Nov. 25 on Nat Geo Wild, will also launch a global speaking tour.

“It’s rare when someone with his level of celebrity is willing to completely open up and share the struggle and hardship it took to find success and happiness,” said Geoff Daniels, executive vice president and general manager of Nat Geo Wild. “Cesar doesn’t hold anything back, and I’m certain our audience will feel even closer to him for it.”

The 43-year-old Mexican-born dog handler rose to fame in 2004, when his first TV series, “The Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan,” became National Geographic’s top-rated show. Millan grew up in Culiacan, the largest city in the Mexican state of Sinaloa, and worked on his grandfather’s farm in the hopes of becoming the best dog trainer in the world.

At 21, alone and unable to speak English, he crossed the border and lived on the streets for two months before getting a job as a groomer and walker. Jada Pinkett (pre-Will Smith) hired him and got him an English tutor when she learned he wanted to be on TV.

As his popularity grew, his professional and personal lives appeared rosy: he became an author, made appearances in movies and on television, and his wife gave birth to two sons. In 2010 though, things took a tumble: his go-to pit bull, Daddy, died in February; a month later, he learned his wife of 16 years planned to divorce him; in May, he attempted suicide.

“I felt defeated, a big sense of guilt and failure. ... I was at the lowest level I had ever been emotionally and psychologically,” he wrote in June on his website without mentioning his overdose.

He rejected antidepressants, choosing instead to get a grip through his pack dog wisdom and use exercise, discipline and affection to heal, he told The Associated Press. Another pit bull trained by Daddy has taken over Daddy’s duties, though Junior will never take his place.

“Daddy was my Tibet, my Himalaya, my Gouda, my Buddha, my source of calmness,” Millan said.

A new love in his life also helped, one whom Millan calls “the one.” Jahira Dar lives with Milan and his youngest son in Los Angeles, and Millan said he planned to propose soon.

“It’s a surprise,” he joked. “I am a traditional guy, so I like to do the whole parent thing. I know they are going to say yes, but I like the whole Cinderella story.”

Besides meeting Dar, constant work also helped him turn it around, said Millan, who described himself as a punctual workaholic who delegates chores and seldom cracks a smile. He runs a rehab complex, the Dog Psychology Center, at a ranch in Santa Clarita, a magazine and a philanthropic foundation, and sells his own line of dog products and instructional CDs and DVDs. His seventh book, “A Short Guide to a Happy Dog,” is due out Jan. 1, and Nat Geo Wild will premiere a new show, “Leader of the Pack,” on Jan. 5. “Dog Whisperer” ended its run on Sept. 15.

The new series, which was filmed in Spain, aims to increase pet rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming around the world. It will feature his training philosophy, a belief that every dog knows its place and follows rules set by the pack leader — in this case, a human such as an owner or a trainer.

His success hasn’t been without critics. Bonnie Beaver, a board-certified veterinary behaviorist in Texas, said he mishandles animals and that he is losing credibility because “in some situations, he is actually making a diagnosis.”

“He may not even recognize he is making a diagnosis,” she said, adding that when he says a dog has separation anxiety or dominance problems, “he’s putting a label on it and in reality that label is a diagnosis.”

In California, that is legal, but in Texas it is not, she said, because “making a diagnosis and setting up a course of treatment is restricted to certain professionals.”

Daniels dismissed the critics, saying that “few have ever spoken to him directly or taken the time to understand what he is all about — which is a man with a deep passion for helping animals and people.”

That passion for animals — especially dogs — is evident. Millan said he’s never met a dog he didn’t like, and chose a canine as his lone companion for a hypothetical stranding on a deserted island.

He also defended his love for pit bulls, saying: “It’s not the breed, it’s the human behind the dog.” Rehabbing dogs is easy, he said, but training people is not.

“A dog would never see me as a Mexican or immigrant or think things people say about me. Dogs don’t rationalize. They don’t hold anything against a person. They don’t see the outside of a human but the inside of a human,” he said.

But there are some times when he prefers people over animals. He was tactful when he said he had both a human and a canine best friend. And he was quick to say that he preferred the Super Bowl over the “Puppy Bowl,” the Animal Planet’s pet-friendly TV show that features puppies romping on a room-sized football field.

“I have a ‘Puppy Bowl’ every day,” he explained.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Transient arrested for attempted murder

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SATURDAY, NOV. 3, AT 5:30 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers were ordered to check in on a patient at UCLA Medical Center who claimed to have been stabbed in the chest earlier that morning while walking on Seventh Street near Olympic Boulevard. The man told officers that as he was walking someone came up from behind him and started stabbing him in the chest. The victim turned and kicked the suspect, who fled on a bicycle. The victim walked to Samoshel — a homeless shelter and access center — to treat his injuries. He tried to locate the suspect, but when he had no luck he decided to go to the hospital for treatment. With the help of officers assigned to the Homeless Liaison Program, detectives were able to identify the suspect. An arrest warrant was issued and the suspect was picked up by the LAPD on Nov. 9 for riding his bike without a headlight. Santa Monica police took custody of the suspect and he was booked for attempted murder. He was identified as Steve Benavidez Rodriguez, 50, a transient. His bail was set at $100,000.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9, AT 7:09 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1800 block of Lincoln Boulevard regarding a report of shoplifting. When officers arrived they spoke with the gas station manager who told them that the suspect entered the store, poured himself some coffee and then stuffed several pastries into his jacket and then walked out without paying for anything. The manager confronted the suspect and asked for the items back. The suspect allegedly began yelling and struck the manager in the upper body with a clenched fist. The manager, fearing for his safety, ran into the store to call police. The suspect followed and knocked over a cell phone rack, damaging products. He then allegedly tore open several bags of chips and threw them all to the ground. He then fled. Officers located the suspect about an hour later on the 500 block of Olympic Boulevard. He was detained and positively identified by the store manager. The suspect was placed under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Graham Acen Cox, 32, a transient. His bail was set at $50,000.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9, AT 6:15 P.M.,
Officers on patrol were at the corner of 15th Street and Wilshire Boulevard when they saw a man allegedly walk against a red light at 14th Street. Officers drove up to the man so they could warn him about the red light violation. The suspect allegedly started running north on 14th Street. Officers gave chase and saw the suspect throw something before he stopped running. Officers detained him and searched the area. They said they found a glass pipe used for smoking methamphetamine. Officers knew the suspect from a prior arrest in which he allegedly tossed drugs before being arrested. Police felt they had their man and placed him under arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia and a probation violation. He was identified as Carlos Joaquin Vidal, 41, a transient. His bail was set at $20,250.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7, AT 9:01 P.M.,
Officers on patrol on the 1800 block of Lincoln Boulevard saw a red Subaru with a defective rear license-plate light. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the 700 block of Michigan Avenue. During the stop the driver allegedly told officers that he did not have any identification on him and provided a name and birth date. Officers ran the information through their computer and determined the driver was trying to pull a fast one. The driver's true identity was determined and officers learned that he did not have a driver's license at all. Further more, the man was on probation for burglary in another county. He was placed under arrest for providing false information and being unlicensed. Officers searched the vehicle and said they found methamphetamine stashed in the driver's side floorboard. The suspect was ultimately booked for drug possession, and the two other charges, plus a probation violation. He was identified as Francisco Narvaez, 19, of Bellflower, Calif. No bail was set.

TUESDAY, NOV. 6, AT 11:31 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 700 block of Pico Boulevard regarding a report of a man selling joints for $1. When officers arrived they found the suspect and detained him. He was found to have a blue container with what appeared to be five marijuana cigarettes inside. He told officers that he was not offering them for sale and that the pot was for personal use. Officers contacted a witness who told them that she saw the suspect offer the pot to all who passed by him for $1. Officers also found a cardboard sign which read that he was selling the cigarettes for $1 each. He was placed under arrest for possession and a probation violation. His bail was set at $20,000. He was identified as Matthew Augustadt, 39, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, NOV. 1, AT 4:49 P.M.,
Police responded to a home located on the 1900 block of 20th Street regarding a report that it had been burglarized. When officers arrived they made contact with the owner who said that he left his home around 7 p.m. on Oct. 31 for about 30 minutes. When he returned, he said he noticed that the screen to a kitchen window had been removed and that his Apple computer was missing. Evidence was collected and on Nov. 9 investigators were able to identify a suspect. A warrant was issued and the next day officers found the suspect sleeping inside his car on the 2300 block of Kansas Avenue. Officers took the suspect into custody. In the backseat of the car police said they found the computer. The suspect was booked for burglary. He was identified as Chase Kelly Scott, 20, a transient. His bail was set at $50,000.

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news@smdp.com

Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

EXPOSITION CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT PHASE II SCE UTILITY RELOCATIONS

SCE Advice Letter Number: 2808-E

Date: November 9, 2012

Proposed Project:

Southern California Edison Company (SCE) is proposing to relocate various 66 kilovolt (kV) subtransmission lines, distribution lines and telecommunications lines to accommodate several bridge structures, station facilities, street improvements, and guideways associated with the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority's (Expo Authority) Exposition Corridor Transit Project Phase II (Expo Phase II Project) in the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica.

Below is a description of the SCE 66 kV relocations along the Expo rail corridor (please refer to the enclosed map):

• **Olympic Boulevard near 22nd Street (Santa Monica):** An overhead double-circuit SCE 66 kV pole line crossing over and south of Olympic Boulevard would be raised on taller poles to provide adequate clearance of the proposed Expo/Olympic Bridge. SCE will remove one 75-foot wood pole in the SCE Santa Monica Service Center parking lot, and one 75-foot wood pole on the east side of 22nd Street immediately in front of SCE's service center; such poles would be replaced with an approximately 110-foot light weight steel pole and a 95-foot wood pole, respectively, so that the 66 kV pole lines would be raised to cross over the proposed bridge structure and overhead catenary system poles, and connect to an existing 70-foot tubular steel pole on the north side of Olympic Boulevard.

• **Bundy Drive at the Expo ROW (Los Angeles):** An overhead single-circuit SCE 66 kV pole line, including a 16 kV distribution circuit, on the west side of Bundy Drive between Tennessee Avenue and Olympic Boulevard would be removed and relocated underground to ensure adequate clearance of the proposed Expo/Bundy Station and bridge structure. To facilitate the undergrounding of the 66 kV line, two new tubular steel riser poles ranging in height between 75 and 85 feet (which would replace existing wood poles ranging in height between 70 and 80 feet) would be installed on either side of the proposed bridge structure. To facilitate the undergrounding of the existing 16 kV distribution circuit, two new wood distribution poles would be interset near the new tubular steel riser poles. In addition, south of the Expo ROW, two approximately 70-foot wood 66 kV poles would be replaced with new poles ranging in height between 80 and 90 feet to accommodate additional third party utility relocations. The Expo Authority would perform the underground substructure work, including installing vaults and duct banks. Once this work has been completed, SCE crews would pull all cables through the new underground ducts, install the new poles, and string conductor.

• **Sepulveda Boulevard at the Expo ROW (Los Angeles):** An overhead single-circuit SCE 66 kV line along the west side of Sepulveda Boulevard would be removed and relocated underground between Pico Boulevard and Exposition Boulevard, as well as along the north side of Exposition Boulevard between Sepulveda Boulevard and S. Bentley Avenue, to avoid conflicts with the proposed Expo/Sepulveda Station. To facilitate the undergrounding of the SCE 66 kV pole line, two new tubular steel riser poles ranging in height between 75 and 110 feet would be installed at the ends of the new underground line on the east side of Sepulveda Boulevard and in the Expo ROW north of the intersection of S. Bentley Avenue and Exposition Boulevard. As part of this work, on the west side of S. Bentley Avenue south of Exposition Boulevard SCE would install a new 35-foot engineered tubular steel guy stub pole. In addition, north of Pico Boulevard on the east side of Sepulveda Boulevard, SCE would also need to replace an existing approximately 100-foot wood 66 kV pole with a new 66 kV wood pole of similar height in order to accommodate additional third party utility relocations. The Expo Authority would perform the underground substructure work, including installing vaults and duct banks. SCE crews would pull all cables through the underground ducts, install all poles, and string conductor. Once the relocated circuit is cutover, SCE would remove its old overhead facilities, and top the existing poles down to the remaining Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) circuit heights to enable LADWP to continue to utilize the poles for its overhead distribution circuits.

In addition, there are various locations along the corridor where SCE will be relocating distribution and telecommunications facilities, including:

• **Venice Boulevard near Robertson Boulevard (Los Angeles):** Overhead SCE Edison Carrier Solutions (ECS) telecommunication lines on the west side of Venice Boulevard would be relocated underground to accommodate the Venice Boulevard underpass. Because several communication companies jointly own or lease space on this pole line, Expo's contractor will install a common joint trench duct bank, through which SCE ECS will pull and splice the converted underground telecommunications facilities. SCE ECS will install two new wood riser poles similar in height to the existing wood pole line to reconnect the underground telecommunications cable to the existing overhead telecommunications pole line beyond the Venice Boulevard underpass, and remove its former overhead lines in the underpass area once cutover.

• **West of Centinela Avenue on the Expo ROW (Los Angeles):** Overhead distribution lines west of Centinela Avenue on the Expo ROW would be removed, relocated, and raised to provide adequate clearance of the approach to the Expo/Centinela Bridge. This single SCE 16 kV overhead circuit consisting of wood poles that are approximately 55 feet tall would be relocated by SCE crews. This work would involve installing three poles ranging in height between 60 and 70 feet to enable the distribution pole line to be raised and remain in place over a proposed mechanically stabilized earth wall, which is being constructed by the Expo Authority, near the proposed Expo/Centinela Bridge.

While not involving any relocation of facilities, SCE may need to replace 1-2 poles at the following location:

• **Overland Avenue near the Expo ROW (Los Angeles):** SCE may need to replace 1 - 2 66 kV poles, pending the outcome of additional engineering studies to determine if existing poles need to be replaced to accommodate new third-party risers associated with the undergrounding of LADWP electric and communications lines along Overland Avenue. Should this be required, SCE anticipates any 66 kV pole(s) requiring replacement would generally be of similar height and type as the existing poles.

SCE's construction is anticipated to begin on or after December 27, 2012, and is expected to be completed by first quarter of 2014.

EMF Compliance: The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requires utilities to employ "no cost" and "low cost" measures to reduce public exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMF). In accordance with "EMF Design Guidelines" filed with the CPUC in compliance with CPUC Decisions 93-11-013 and 06-01-042, SCE would implement the following measure(s) for this project:

• Utilize subtransmission structure heights that meet or exceed SCE's preferred EMF design criteria.

• Utilizing underground subtransmission construction per customer request.

Exemption from CPUC Authority: Pursuant to CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III.B.1, projects meeting specific conditions are exempt from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. This project qualifies for the following exemption:

"f. power line facilities or substations to be relocated or constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document [Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration] finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation."

In February 2010, the Expo Authority Board of Directors certified the FEIR for the Expo Phase II Project (State Clearinghouse No. 2007021109). The FEIR reviewed the relocation of SCE's utility facilities pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As noted in a subsequent CEQA Clarification Letter issued by the Expo Authority on October 24, 2012, which provides clarification of SCE project elements along the corridor that were certified in the FEIR, the relocation of SCE's utility facilities utilities cause no significant and unavoidable environmental impacts.

Public Review Process: Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that the utility has incorrectly applied for an exemption or believe there is a reasonable possibility that the proposed project or cumulative effects or unusual circumstances associated with the project, may adversely impact the environment.

Protests must be filed by November 29, 2012, and should include the following:

1. Your name, mailing address, and daytime telephone number.
2. Reference to the SCE Advice Letter Number and Project Name Identified.
3. A clear description of the reason for the protest.

The letter should also indicate whether you believe that evidentiary hearings are necessary to resolve factual disputes. Protests for this project must be mailed within 20 calendar days to:

California Public Utilities Commission
Director, Energy Division
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

AND

Southern California Edison Company
Law Department - Exception Mail
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770
Attention: C. Lawson

SCE must respond within five business days of receipt and serve copies of its response on each protestant and the CPUC. Within 30 days after SCE has submitted its response, the Executive Director of the CPUC will send you a copy of an Executive Resolution granting or denying the request and stating the reasons for the decision.

Assistance in Filing a Protest: For assistance in filing a protest, contact the CPUC's Public Advisor in San Francisco at (415) 703-2074 or in Los Angeles at (213) 576-7057.

Additional Project Information: To obtain further information on the proposed project, please contact:

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Phone (323) 720-5290

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Santa Monica, CA 90404
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EXPOSITION CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT PHASE II SCE UTILITY RELOCATIONS

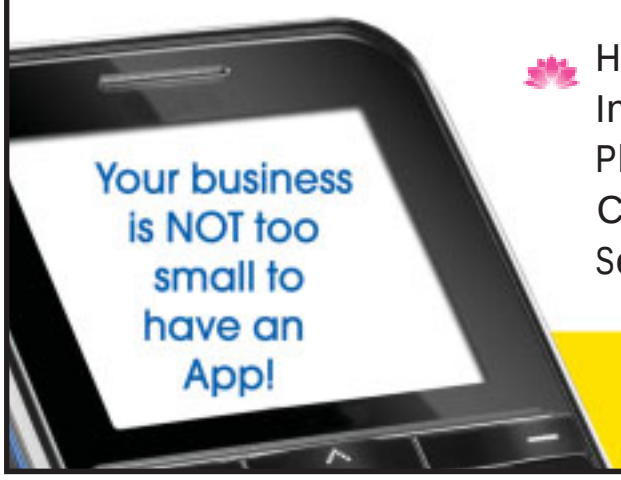
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TAXES
FROM PAGE 3

practice.

National exit polling after last week's elections showed that only 1 in 10 would welcome new income taxes for all Americans. And half of the electorate said the wealthy should pay more.

The "tax the other guy" mentality is dominant in polling in even in the most cash-strapped states, according to a 2010 study by the Pew Center on the States and the Public Policy Institute of California.

Despite those survey results, voters tend to have a more favorable opinion about increasing taxes when they can see that the extra revenue will benefit their community directly. A 2010 analysis by The Associated Press found that voters in a large cross-section of states passed 50 percent or more of the local tax initiatives that came before them.

Such numbers show that "citizens often want more spending —and are willing to pay for it — than the political leaders are willing to allow," said David Brunori, who studies state and local taxes as a professor of public policy at George Washington University.

And while a slew of voter-approved tax increases in a state such as California, where progressives have a stranglehold on politics at all levels, may not come as a shock, similar behavior in more conservative places is perhaps more telling.

Residents in Baldwin County, Ala., described as "very conservative" by school Superintendent Alan Lee, voted by nearly a two-thirds margin to renew a 1-cent-per-dollar sales tax for schools. Lee had threatened to close schools, eliminate hundreds of positions and cancel athletic programs if the tax renewal failed.

In Oklahoma, voters easily approved more than a dozen increases in local sales or property taxes. In the conservative Oklahoma City suburb of Moore, voters endorsed both property and sales tax increases to help fund parks and recreational facilities.

Ohio voters approved all 15 local library funding measures before them and passed 55 percent of the proposed school tax hikes, a slight improvement over last year's passage rate, according to the Ohio School Boards Association.

Even El Paso County, Colo., the birthplace of the state's famed Taxpayers' Bill of Rights, which requires voters to sign off on even the smallest increases, last week decided to raise local taxes to fund the sheriff's department."

In California, Sacramento voters, who tend to be more conservative than other areas of the state, supported a sales tax hike by a 2-to-1 ratio in addition to two school construction bonds.

"That's a pretty clear choice of the people," City Councilman Darrell Fong said. "They don't want to see a reduction in service, especially when it is to public safety and parks. They know we've made the cuts already."

A solid majority of voters across the state backed the Democratic governor's budget-balancing Proposition 30, which will raise income taxes on those making more than $250,000 a year and boost the state sales tax by a quarter-cent.

Roy Ulrich, who teaches tax policy at the University of California, Berkeley, says such results mark a tipping point long in the making.

"It's really remarkable that people are beginning to raise their own taxes," he said. "The face of the electorate is changing considerably. It's not the end, but it's the beginning of the end of the tax revolt."

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TRAILER PARK

FROM PAGE 1

The East Village development, as proposed, would replace the existing 109-space park with a 377-unit complex composed of three buildings. A section of the property would also contain 10 of the original trailer pads ostensibly for the use of residents who wanted to stay.

The plan represented an 8 percent reduction in the overall size of the project and 14 percent reduction in the number of units compared to the last time the City Council reviewed the plan.

It also came with a seven-part relocation plan for the remaining residents of the park who have been living for years uncertain of whether or not they would be able to remain in their homes.

Many took deals offered by the developers and left. Others died waiting.

Although it was not the project Luzzatto had originally envisioned, he said he was happy with what had come out of half a dozen years of negotiation because it brought closure.

"I feel good about it," he said. "I'm happy with the outcome, and I'm happy for the residents."

The vote opened up the option for some of the residents to move into city-owned Mountain View Mobile Home Park with brand-new units, paid for by the developer, something that would not have been possible without the development agreement, Luzzatto said.

The decision disappointed McKeown, who felt that the council ignored many substantive issues that had been raised by members of the public in recent weeks.

He had wanted to put off the vote until newly-elected council members Tony Vazquez and Ted Winterer had taken the dais and were able to reflect Santa Monicans' most recent electoral choice.

"I am so disappointed with this process," McKeown said.

Throughout the night, McKeown found himself at the head of the speakers' queue, bringing up concerns including potential seismic problems with the land underneath the proposed development and the loss of 99 rent-controlled spaces in the park.

Ten of the 109 will be preserved under the plan, a concession made by the developers in the final iteration of the design, but the affordable housing built into the project will not equal the amount lost in either number or value, McKeown said.

He pushed instead for what came to be known as "the Goldman alternative." The plan, put forward by local architect Ron Goldman, proposed to keep enough of the pads to allow all existing tenants to remain on the property and build a smaller development.

That was a non-starter, Luzzatto told the council.

"The Goldman plan does not work," he said. "We won't do it, we're not interested in it."

Although the hearing took over three hours, little changed from beginning to end.

Luzzatto agreed to increase certain cash amounts of a seven-part relocation plan to sweeten the deal for residents and Councilmember Terry O'Day asked that the project retain lush landscaping reminiscent of the existing park.

Davis attempted to make a substitute motion that would stall the decision until questions about land values could be resolved, but the council's will was not with her.

"I appreciate the concessions the developer has made and the improved relocation package, but it's difficult for me to evaluate the plan without on-site appraisals and the value of the homes in which people live," Davis said, explaining her no vote.

The development agreement proposes certain relocation payments for residents based on the value of the physical trailer rather than the trailer, its location and the fact that it sat on a rent-controlled pad.

That was inappropriate, said Sabrina Venskus, a land-use and environmental attorney representing some park residents.

Over 40 California jurisdictions require that the unit be valued "in-place," meaning that the price would have risen as a result of them being in Santa Monica, Venskus said.

"It's extraordinary that Santa Monica, with its pro-renters rights reputation, that they would not be willing to demand in-place value when 40 other jurisdictions do," Venskus said.

Although East Village jumped one of its biggest hurdles Wednesday, it is not yet a done deal.

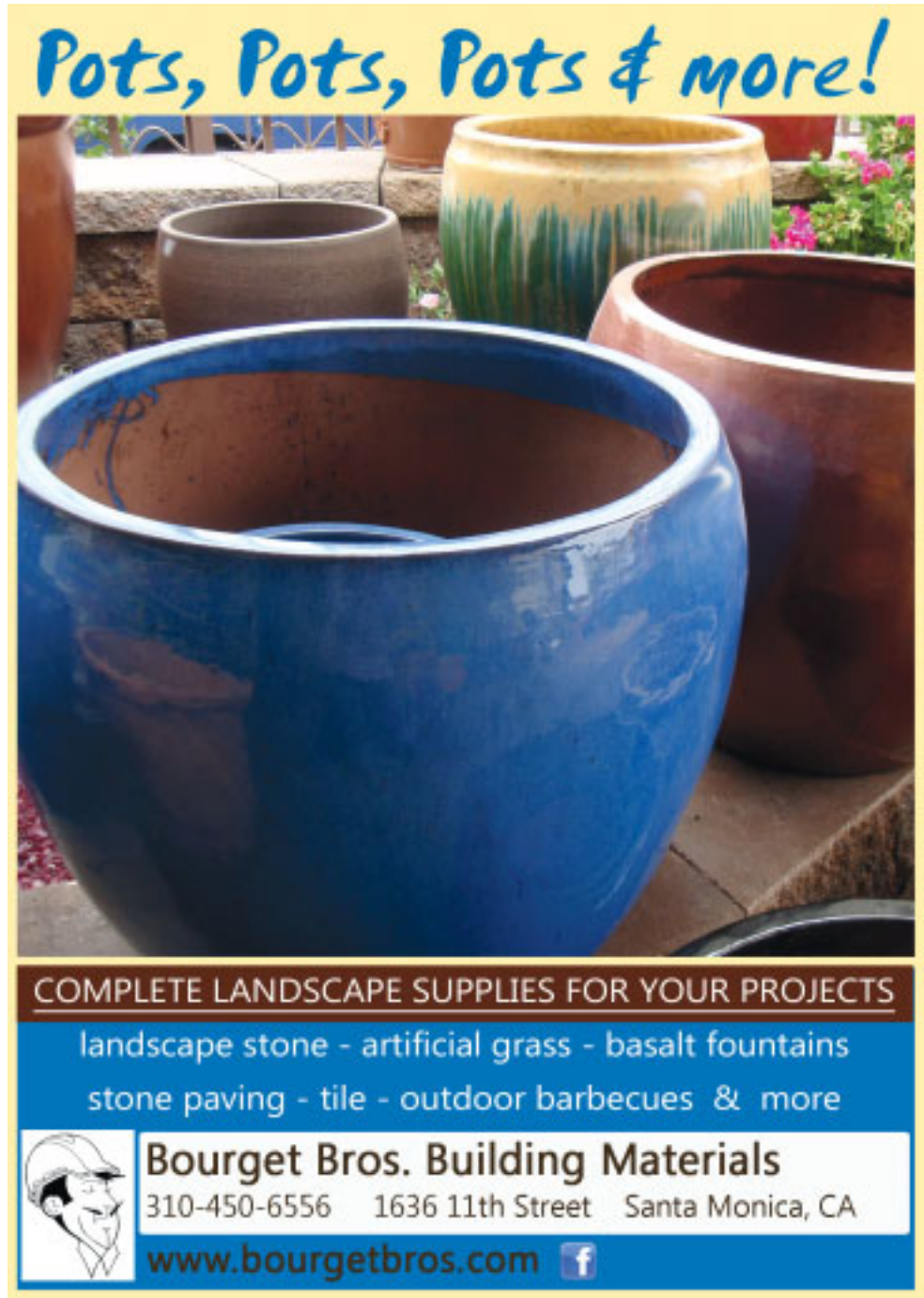
Two residents, Loretta Newman and Catherine Eldridge, have a judgment from the Los Angeles Superior Court saying that they cannot be moved from their homes without an order from the local government.

Newman's trailer is smack dab in the middle of the development, making it impossible to move forward with the plans with her home in place. Furthermore, part of the contract with City Hall dictates that no permits may be issued until the developers can say they have the land all to themselves.

"There are likely legal battles ahead no matter what we do tonight," Davis said.

Luzzatto must also go before the Rent Control Board for a removal permit for the park.

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SPACE

FROM PAGE 1

nauts on the International Space Station.

The program was a collaboration between the Student Spaceflight Experiment Program, the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education, NASA and the U.S. Department of Education to inspire young people to engage in math and science.

Each school was allowed to ask a question to either Space Station Commander Sunita Williams or astronaut Kevin Ford as they floated in space, or Leland D. Melvin, Earthbound at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

The astronauts have heard of Lincoln before.

The school earned the opportunity to join the conference after a team of students won a national competition that put one of their experiments on board the SpaceX Dragon capsule, a private vessel that took supplies to the International Space Station in early October.

Astronauts were tasked to make Silly Putty in the zero-gravity environment using materials provided by students in a 10-inch Teflon tube. Students will get a chance to compare their putty to that made in space to see if the radically different conditions result in changes to the substance.

Several of those involved in the experiment — Alexander Soohoo, Dean Chien and Francis Abastillas — had a front row seat to Thursday's presentation.

"I'm shocked, it's humbling," Abastillas said.

Lincoln students watched as the scene from the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum appeared in front of them. After a brief introduction by Deputy Secretary of the Department of Education Tony Miller, the real stars of the party — the astronauts — appeared on the screen.

"Houston, this is station. We are ready for the event," a voice cracked over the sound system.

The two figures appeared on the screen, Williams upside down from the perspective of the kids in the audience. Ford quickly attempted to break the illusion of direction in zero gravity.

"I would tell you my commander is upside down, but maybe the camera is upside down, and I am," Ford said.

Then the questions began.

How do you contact your family on Earth? What do you do with your spare time? What was your first ah ha! moment?

The astronauts shared the challenges of moving around in space without gravity to hold one to the ground, or performing medical maneuvers like chest compressions if pushing against the victim only forces you away from their body.

The solution: Float upside down, place your feet against the ceiling and push downward, Williams said.

"It's a little like a dream, being here," Ford told the students.

Cole Pillar and Ksenia Zinkelvich, eighth graders at Lincoln, were tasked with the school's question. They'd each turned in a similar question, which was chosen out of hundreds of entries.

By that time, to the disappointment of many, the astronauts had turned off their feed and questions were being fielded by Melvin, who has also traveled in space.

"What is the most difficult thing to adapt to when you get to the (International Space Station), and when you get back," the pair asked.

Melvin's answer surprised them.



Ashley Archibald *ashley@smdp.com*

SKY HIGH: **Lincoln Middle School students take part in a teleconference with astronauts.**

"Going to the bathroom, because everything in space floats," he said.

It wasn't quite what they were looking for, they said.

The presentation was the culmination of two years of work on the part of science teachers Marianna O'Brien and Carol Wrabel, who caught wind of the opportunity and went out seeking money to apply.

It takes $20,000 to get the experiment into orbit because you're effectively renting space on the International Space Station, a pricey endeavor by all accounts.

O'Brien submitted the original grant to the California Space Grant Consortium out of UC San Diego in August 2010. She received word roughly four months later that the project had been approved.

This was a year before the students who would eventually send their project into space would even attend an eighth grade class at Lincoln, but the consortium decided to put its money behind the students and the teachers, said Tehseen Usman Lazzouni, assistant director of the California Space Grant Consortium.

The Lincoln application won in part because it came with a plan to disseminate information about the project beyond the eighth grade and touch hundreds of students in the process.

"It was a big decision for us, but we felt we could reach out to so many students," she said.

With money worries aside, O'Brien and Wrabel went to the students. They received 400 submissions right off the bat, and roughly 20 students put in the time every day after school — sometimes until 7 p.m. — working on their projects.

A Santa Monica selection panel pared that number down to three, which were sent off to the National Center for Earth and Space Science Eduation, which selected the winning Silly Putty experiment.

"Silly Putty captured people's attention," Wrabel said. "Every kid has played with Silly Putty."

The experiment is expected to come back down to Earth by next week, at which point the students will be able to open it up and compare the space-bound putty to the normal kind.

The whole process captured the imagination of the kids, and has been a wonderful opportunity, Wrabel said.

"The piece that's most exciting is that these kids have never experienced anything like this, and they never will again," Wrabel said.

ashley@smdp.com

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A tale of two discounters

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK This holiday season, the biggest discount chains in the U.S. will tell the tale of two very different shoppers: those that have and those that have not.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, on Thursday acknowledged that its low-income shoppers continue to struggle in the economy and issued an outlook for the fourth quarter — which encompasses the holiday shopping period __ that falls below Wall Street estimates. On the same day, its smaller rival Target Corp., which caters to more affluent shoppers, said it expects results during the quarter to exceed the Street's projections.

The two discounters offer valuable insight into how Americans will spend in November and December, a period that's traditionally the busiest shopping period of the year. Some merchants depend on the holiday shopping season for up to 40 percent of their annual sales, but economists watch the period closely to get a temperature reading on the overall mood of American consumers.

The forecasts seem to confirm a trend that has taken shape during the economic downturn. Well-heeled shoppers spend more freely as the economy begins to show new signs of life, while consumers in the lower-income brackets continue to hold tight to their purse strings even as the housing and stock markets rebound.

Wal-Mart and Target both are discounters, but they cater to different customers. Wal-Mart, which says its customers' average household income ranges from $30,000 to $60,000, hammers its low-price message and focuses on stocking basics like tee shirts and underwear along with household goods. But Target, whose customers have a median household income of $64,000 a year, is known for carrying discounted designer clothes and home decor under the same roof as detergent and dishwashing liquid.

Even the tone that the retailers struck on Thursday was different. Charles Holley, Wal-Mart's chief financial officer, told reporters during a call that the retailer's customers still are worried about high unemployment and higher basic costs for things like gas. He said he also worries that they also will have some anxiety over big tax increases and spending cuts — known as the "fiscal cliff" — that will take effect in January unless Congress and the White House reach a budget deal by then.

Meanwhile, Gregg Steinhafel, Target's chairman and president, told investors: "We feel good about our ability to deliver inspiring merchandise, most-wanted gifts, and unbeatable value, while also generating expected profitability."

The fortunes of the two retailers have changed during the economic downturn.

Wal-Mart at first fared well during the slowdown as affluent shoppers traded down to its stores. But the company eventually began to lose some of its core low-income shoppers in the process.

The company posted nine consecutive quarters of revenue declines in its U.S. namesake business as it moved away from its lowest prices strategy and got rid of thousands of basic items its core customers covet in an effort to de-clutter the stores.

Wal-Mart's namesake U.S. business, which began re-emphasizing low prices and restocked shelves in 2010, reversed the decline last year. The business has recorded five consecutive quarters of gains in revenue at stores open at least a year, an indicator of a retailer's health.

But its momentum has slowed. Wal-Mart said Thursday that its namesake U.S. business had a 1.5 percent increase in revenue at stores open at least a year. But the gain is short of the 1.8 percent increase Wall Street expected. It's also a slowdown in growth from the 2.2 percent gain the business posted in the second quarter and the 2.6 percent increase it had in the first quarter.

Wal-Mart issued a fourth-quarter profit outlook that's below analysts' forecasts. For the quarter, it expects earnings per share to be between $1.53 and $1.58, below the $1.59 analysts expected.

"It shows that its consumer is still struggling," said Ken Perkins, president of Retail Metrics, a research company.

Target, based in Minneapolis, initially struggled during the economic slowdown. Its fashion-forward image hurt it during the downturn: People didn't perceive Target as having the best prices.

To combat that, the retailer expanded its food offerings and began to emphasize low prices in its advertising — two things that put it in direct competition with Wal-Mart. It also started a 5 percent discount program for customers who use its branded credit or debit cards.

But its focus on prices and groceries cost it some cachet, and its performance has been choppy. The latest results show that Target has found a balance between fashion and price. Target said Thursday that revenue at stores open at least a year rose 2.9 percent in the third quarter, roughly in line with Wall Street estimates.

For the fourth quarter, which ends in January, Target said that it anticipates adjusted earnings of $1.64 to $1.74 per share. That beast the $1.51 per share analysts expected.

"Looking ahead, we are confident in our holiday merchandising and marketing plans," said Kathee Tesija, Target's executive vice president of merchandising.

The difference between the two discounters is becoming more apparent during the holiday shopping season, as both discounters attempt to cater to lure different shoppers into stores.

Wal-Mart last week said it will offer deeper discounts and a broader assortment of merchandise. The company also started its holiday layaway program a month earlier than a year ago and lowered its fees for the program from $15 to $5.

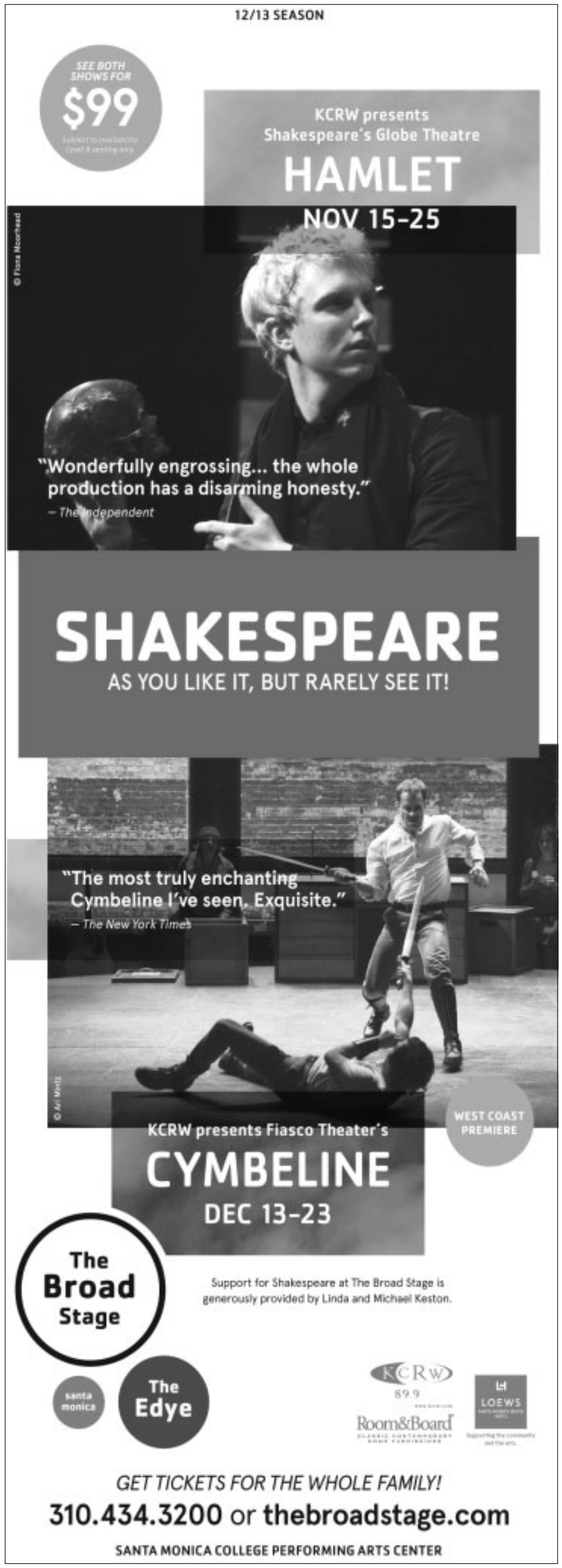
The move seems to working. It has booked an additional $300 million in layaway business compared with a year ago. The company will record sales for layaway during the fourth quarter.

Target, on the other hand, is trying to appeal to higher-end shoppers.

The retailer is teaming up with luxury merchant Neiman Marcus to offer a limited collection spanning from fashion to sporting goods. More than 50 products from 24 designers, including Oscar de la Renta and Diane von Furstenberg will be available at both stores and on their websites starting Dec. 1 until they are sold out. Target is also bolstering its home area with names like Nate Berkus, which launched late last month.

Target told investors Thursday that it hasn't offered layaway like Wal-Mart because its customers haven't asked for it. Still, the retailer is playing up value.

Target for the first time is matching prices that customers find on identical products at some online competitors this holiday season, including Walmart.com and Amazon.com. The price match program, which covers the period from Nov. 1 through Dec. 16, is an attempt to combat the "showrooming" trend in which shoppers use their smartphones while they're in stores to browse for products at cheaper prices.



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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Appeal 12-007 of Architectural Review Board 12-355, 2525 Colorado Avenue. Appeal of Architectural Review Board 12-355 denial of a Sign Adjustment for an upper level wall sign and conditional approval of modification to an existing sign program and sign plans for Ruben Postaer Associates (RPA), a tenant within the existing Colorado Center (formerly Yahoo@ Center) business park. [Planner: Laura Beck] **Applicant/Appellant: John Clark. Property Owner: CA Coloardo Center, LLC.**

Conditional Use Permit 12-009, 2005 Main Street. A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) is requested to allow the operation of an exercise facility in a vacant tenant space of an existing single-story commercial building. The 1,394 square foot tenant space would consist of 910 square feet of exercise area, 259 square feet of retail area and 225 square feet of support area. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.04.08.28.040(g), a Conditional Use Permit is required to allow the operation of an exercise facility in the CM, Main Street Commercial District. [Planner: Grace Page] **Applicant: Circuit Works Santa Monica, LLC. Property Owner: 201 Main Street, LLC.**

The Planning Commission will also hold a study session on the Zoning Ordinance Update to discuss draft mixed-use and commercial development standards and design guidelines. [Staff: Jory Phillips]

WHEN: **Wednesday, November 28, 2012 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 this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at 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, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. 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 Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Sandy, careful consumers lower U.S. retail sales

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON Superstorm Sandy combined with cautious consumers to lower retail sales in October and raise concerns about weaker economic growth and a tepid holiday shopping season.

Consumers may also be holding back because of anxiety over big tax increases and spending cuts — known as the "fiscal cliff" — that will take effect in January unless Congress and the White House reach a budget deal by then.

Retail sales dropped 0.3 percent last month after three months of gains, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. Sales at auto dealers fell 1.5 percent, the most in more than a year.

The storm depressed car sales and slowed business in the Northeast at the end of the month, economists said. The government said Sandy forced some stores and restaurants to close and lose business, while others reported higher sales ahead of the storm as people bought supplies.

Online and catalog purchases fell 1.8 percent, the most in a year. Widespread power outages prevented some online shopping.

But sales slowed in eight of the 13 broad categories tracked by the government. Electronics, building supplies and clothing stores all posted lower sales. The broad declines suggest October's weakness went beyond the storm.

"Looking past (Sandy's) impact, U.S. consumers appeared to dial it back a notch," said Robert Kavcic, an economist at BMO Capital Markets. "There was relatively broad-based weakness in this report."

The retail sales report is the government's first look at consumer spending, which drives 70 percent of economic activity. Economists say the November and December sales figures will provide a better picture of the economy's health.

If sales rebound, that would suggest the October decline was a temporary lull exacerbated by the storm. But ongoing weakness would show that consumers are scaling back on spending, perhaps because of concerns that their taxes will increase next year.

Retailers traditionally see a lull in October because consumers take a break before buying holiday gifts. But Americans' fixation on the presidential election and Superstorm Sandy worsened the trend, said Ken Perkins, president of Retail Metrics, a research firm.

The average shopper is also starting to worry about the fiscal cliff, Perkins said. He expects stores will step up discounting in the coming weeks to make up for lost business.

Most economists expect sales to rebound in the coming months. That's because Americans will begin to repair the damage from Sandy and replace cars that were destroyed in the storm.

One hopeful sign that the weakness could be temporary: Consumer confidence rose in November to its highest level in five years.

But economists point out that consumers may be forced to make storm-related repairs a priority. That could cut into holiday sales.

Diane Swonk, chief economist at Mesirow Financial, said that Manhattan accounts for nearly 20 percent of spending nationwide at luxury retailers.

Chris Christopher, an economist at IHS Global Insight, reduced his forecast for holiday shopping to a gain of 4 percent compared with last year, down from 4.5 percent. He cited Sandy's disruptions and potential consumer concerns about higher taxes for the downgrade.

Some merchants have already begun discounting, after seeing signs of slower sales in November.

Macy's Inc., which operates more than 800 stores, said last week that it has extended promotions in the Northeast region because Sandy disrupted sales. The Cincinnati-based department store chain also said that fourth-quarter profits would be below analysts' expectations.

Luxury merchant Saks Inc., which operates Saks Fifth Avenue, said Tuesday that it will increase discounts after forecasting sales at stores open for at least a year would be unchanged for the holiday period.

Steve Sadove, chairman and CEO of Saks, told investors that sales typically rebound after an event like Sandy, but the question is how long it will take.

"We saw an immediate loss of business during the storm, and we are still generating lower sales in many of the locations," he added. Stores affected by Sandy accounted for 40 percent of Saks' total revenues.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: November 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB 12-352, 2800 Wilshire Boulevard: Grocery Store
- ARB 12-390, 3204 Lincoln Boulevard: Office
- ARB 12-429, 2400 Ocean Front Walk: Public Restroom
- ARB 12-431, 304 Santa Monica Boulevard: Retail

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail laura.beck@smgov.net, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines, 2, 3, Rapid #3, 7, & 9 serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

Computer problems at United delay travelers

JOSHUA FREED & SAMANTHA BOMKAMP
AP Airlines Writers

NEW YORK A computer outage at United Airlines delayed thousands of travelers on Thursday and embarrassed the airline at a time when it's trying to win back customers after glitches earlier this year.

The two-hour outage held up 250 of the 5,679 United flights scheduled for Thursday, the airline said.

From Los Angeles to London, Boston to San Francisco, frustrated fliers tweeted snarky remarks about the problem. It was United's third major computer mishap this year.

"Does anyone have a Radio Shack computer or abacus to help United get their system fixed?" tweeted Lewis Franck, a motorsports writer flying from Newark, N.J., to Miami to cover the last race of the NASCAR season.

In a subsequent phone call with The Associated Press, Franck added: "Why is there a total system failure on a beautiful day? What happened to the backup and the backup to backup?"

United said the technology problem occurred around 8:30 a.m. EST and was fixed by 10:30 a.m. But morning delays can ripple throughout an airline's network for the rest of the day even after the underlying cause is fixed. That's because once a plane departs late, it can be hard to make up for lost time.

The glitch involved communication between dispatchers at the company's operations center in Chicago and planes at airports around the world, United spokesman Rahsaan Johnson said. Dispatchers communicate information such as weight and fuel loads to pilots, who need it to operate the flight. Johnson said the airline has identified the specific problem, and said it won't happen again.

The stock price of United Continental Holdings Inc. fell 47 cents, or 2.4 percent, to $19.51 on a day when shares of other big airlines rose.

United has been struggling with technology problems since March, when it switched to a passenger information computer system that was previously used by Continental. United and Continental merged in 2010. That system, called "Shares," has needed extensive reworking since March to make it easier for workers to use.

In August, 580 United flights were delayed and its website was shut down for two hours because of a problem with a piece of computer hardware.

Johnson said the problems on Thursday were not related to integrating the computer systems of the two airlines.

He said 10 Thursday flights were canceled because of the problem. He said 80 percent of the airline's flights were still on time. By comparison, government statistics show United and Continental each with about 83 percent of flights on time in November 2011.

He said that the problem affected planes that came from United. Planes that came from Continental, and regional flights on United Express, were not affected.

CEO Jeff Smisek acknowledged on Oct. 25 that some customers avoided United over the summer because of its computer problems. He said the airline had fixed those problems by improving software and adding more spare planes to its system, among other moves.

"We expect to earn back those customers that took a detour and we expect to attract new customers as well," he said at the time.

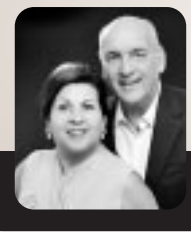
Thursday's problems were exactly what United did not need, said airline and travel industry analyst Henry H. Harteveldt of Atmosphere Research Group. "This event shows an unacceptable lack of planning at United," he said.

"This merger has been an outright disaster on almost every count. United must make some changes in its executive leadership, starting with the CEO" and including its chief information officer if it wants to restore confidence among passengers, he said.

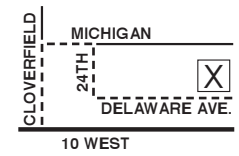
That confidence appeared shaken on Thursday.

Michael Silverstein, who works in finance, was supposed to be on a 6:01 a.m. flight from Los Angeles to San Francisco. The computer outage had already caused him to miss one meeting. Worried about missing another, he walked off the plane and bought a $195 last-second ticket on a Southwest Airlines flight to Oakland, Calif.

"I'm frustrated because I'm missing a meeting that I thought I had plenty of time for," he said.

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City of Santa Monica

Community Meeting for Crossroads School Science Learning Center Project

Monday, November 26, 2012
7:00PM

Virginia Avenue Park – Thelma Terry Building
2200 Virginia Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90404

You are invited to attend a community meeting to review the design for a proposed new science learning center at Crossroads School for Arts & Sciences. The proposed project consists of a new three-story, 45-foot high building containing 12 classrooms on the Crossroads School campus.

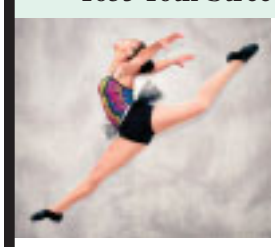
This meeting is to obtain comments from the public before hearings are conducted by the Planning Commission and City Council. You will have an opportunity to provide direct feedback to City Planning staff and the developer. For further information, please contact Tony Kim, Senior Planner at (310) 458-8341.

RSVP appreciated to (310) 458-8341.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation.

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



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YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 58.6°

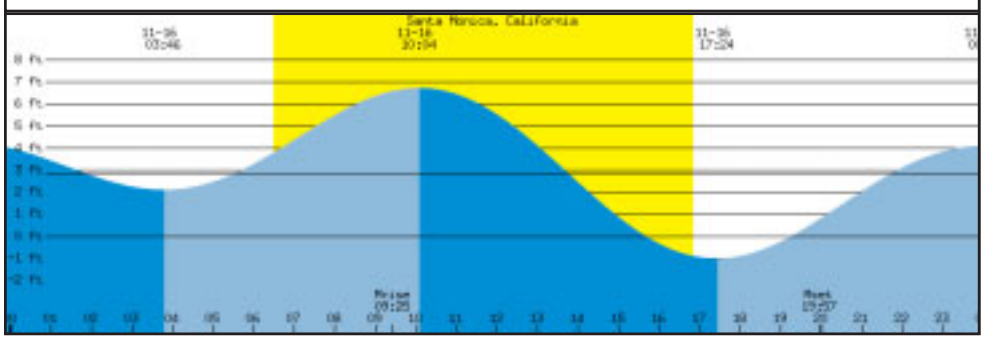
Swell Forecast

Should be chest high at south facing breaks, knee high at west facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking more like a waist high day for south facing breaks, knee high at 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 **November 7, 2012**

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 -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 28 / 3
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodstock Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMM

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	B	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	A
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Topa Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 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).	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
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 CIWW 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 non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

NBA

On crutches, D'Antoni takes over the Lakers

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. Mike D'Antoni circled the court 2 feet at a time, moving smoothly on crutches while his Los Angeles Lakers went through drills orchestrated by his assistant coach and brother, Dan.

Although D'Antoni's surgically replaced knee is slowing him down a bit, he couldn't wait any longer to get the Lakers rolling.

D'Antoni formally took over the Lakers on Thursday, four days after the slow-starting club hired him to replace Mike Brown. The former Knicks and Suns coach is still on crutches and pain medication, but knee surgery couldn't keep him away from the Lakers any longer.

Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak welcomed D'Antoni after practice at a news conference packed with dozens of media members. D'Antoni is likely to make his sideline debut Sunday night against Houston.

"I'm really happy to be here — excited," D'Antoni said. "(We're) starting to put stuff in now. Might take a little bit, but Mitch has said, and I'm sure you guys know, we're built to win this year. This is not a five-year project. We have a window, and we're going to try to get through it."

D'Antoni's affable charm immediately worked on the Lakers, who praised their new coach's demeanor during their first few hours together. The coach acknowledged few qualms about taking over the star-studded roster that got off to a 1-4 start to the season, speaking instead of the limitless possibilities of the Lakers' talent within his creative style of coaching.

D'Antoni said he rooted for Jerry West's Lakers while growing up in 1960s West Virginia, and he won't have any problem transferring his allegiances after trying to beat the Lakers for so many years in Phoenix. The coach also realizes his up-tempo style of play will mesh nicely with the Lakers' heritage under Magic Johnson — who has already criticized D'Antoni's hire.

"We would love to be able to play Showtime-type basketball," D'Antoni said. "Now, they might have done it the best that you can do it. We would like to get some place close to that. I think that would be awesome."

Los Angeles has gone 2-1 under interim coach Bernie Bickerstaff since Brown's firing, and D'Antoni indicated Bickerstaff is likely to run the team at home against Phoenix on Friday night.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Development Agreement 11-017
3402 Pico Boulevard
APPLICANT: TC Pico Development, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: TC Pico Development, LLC

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

Discussion of concept plans for a proposed Development Agreement (11DEV017) for a new mixed-use project at 3402 Pico Boulevard. The project involves the construction of four new buildings ranging between two and four stories in height that would include a total of 260 residential units, approximately 2,999 square feet of ground floor commercial area, and approximately 505 parking spaces within a two-level subterranean parking garage.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2012, AT 6:30 PM**

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

HOW TO COMMENT

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

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 11DEV017 (3402 Pico Boulevard)
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Tony Kim at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at tony.kim@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.smgov.net.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 2, 3, Rapid 3, and, 9, 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 Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Kryptonite! (NR) 1hr 38min
One Day More (NR) 1hr 51min
7:30pm
Discussion between films with director Ivan Cotroneo

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
12:15pm, 3:20pm, 6:25pm, 9:30pm

Sessions (R) 1hr 38min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) 1hr 42min
11:50am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Citadel (R) 1hr 24min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 9:45pm

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

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:30pm, 10:00pm, 11:30pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:45pm, 4:15pm, 7:45pm, 11:15pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:45pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Wreck-It Ralph in 3D (PG) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:10pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:20am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Cafe de flore (NR) 1hr 38min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Royal Affair (En kongelig affaere) (R) 2hrs 13min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

Searching for Sugar Man (PG-13) 1hr 25min
4:40pm, 10:10pm

Back to the Sea (PG) 1hr 36min
1:00pm, 3:20pm

El cartel de los sapos (R) 1hr 55min
5:40pm, 8:20pm

Mea Maxima Culpa: Silence in the House of God (NR) 1hr 46min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
10:45am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:45pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:15am, 12:05pm, 2:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm, 10:30pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
10:45am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Chasing Mavericks (PG) 1hr 51min
11:30am, 2:30pm, 5:30pm, 8:20pm, 11:00pm

Cloud Atlas (R) 2hrs 44min
11:00am, 3:00pm, 7:00pm, 11:00pm

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

Party the weekend in, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might feel as if you carry the weight of many on your shoulders. You are willing to give 110 percent, no matter what you do. Realistically, saying "no" might be more appropriate than letting yourself be overwhelmed. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You have the ability to see beyond the obvious, and you often nix situations because of their likely ramifications. On the other hand, you know when to take a risk on something worthwhile. Tonight: Go for exotic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ One-on-one relating becomes successful, if you go with the flow. You might feel as if you do not have enough energy to do everything you want to do. A partner becomes fiery out of the blue, which catches you off guard. Tonight: Try to get rid of the momentary friction.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Others are demanding, and you could be unusually distant, which will be frustrating to those who want you to respond immediately. You might resent the intrusion of those who make demands. Tonight: Enjoy your space.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Work, tasks and your to-do list all catch up with you today. Focus, and get as much done as possible. You'll want to enter the weekend free and clear. Tonight: Party the weekend in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Though you might not be sure of your weekend plans yet, your mind could be long gone. Your ability to daydream is fueled by a suggestion or two from close friends. Your sense of direction and ability to follow through on key projects seem to awaken your mind. Tonight: Loosen up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Be sensible when making plans. If you feel the need to handle a personal matter, do. In the long run, following your desires will make you more efficient. If you feel the need to make a change or a move, discuss it with a family member first. Tonight: Don't push.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Keep conversations moving. You will accomplish a lot more if you just relax and go with the flow. Someone might decide to revamp his or her schedule, which could have a definite impact on you. Listen to someone else's news. Tonight: Meet a friend at a favorite spot.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You could be tired of having to be so precise and careful with your funds. Should you choose to loosen up, you will see the results almost immediately. Proceed with caution, even if you do not want to. In the long run, you will be left smiling. Tonight: Your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Remain sure of yourself, yet also understand that others might not be as driven as you are. Evaluate what is happening, and understand that differences are natural. Your uniqueness is what puts you in the position of gains and growth. Tonight: Curb some sarcasm.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might want to try a different approach. Discuss this matter with someone you trust who can give you adequate feedback. Understanding evolves between you and another person after a long-overdue conversation. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

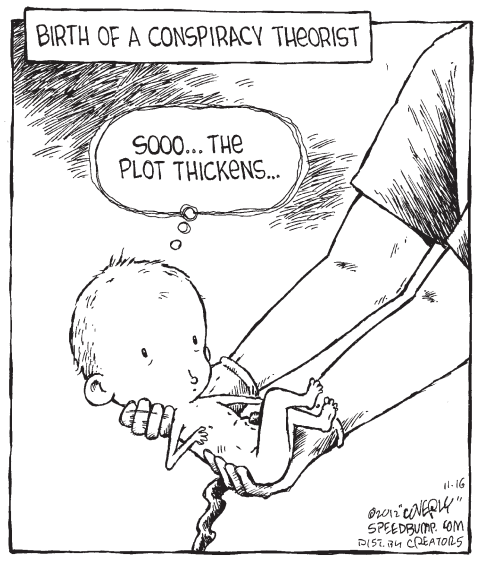
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Friends surround you, as they show their support and offer you a sense of direction. You could be taken aback by what is happening with someone you care dearly about. Tonight: With friends.

Happy birthday

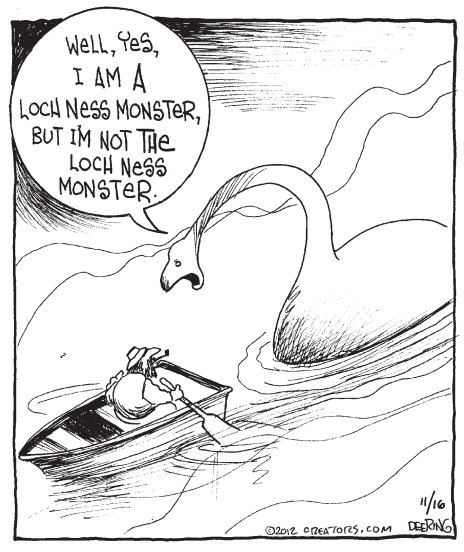
This year you transform part of your life and make it more to your liking. It will be a slow but worthwhile process that will affect other areas of your life as well. You become a better communicator, and others listen to what you have to say. If you are single, your sensuality speaks even if you decide to downplay it. You have many options, so choose with care. If you are attached, the two of you might want to invest in a special acquisition together. Be direct with others, especially loved ones. CAPRICORN understands your depth.

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

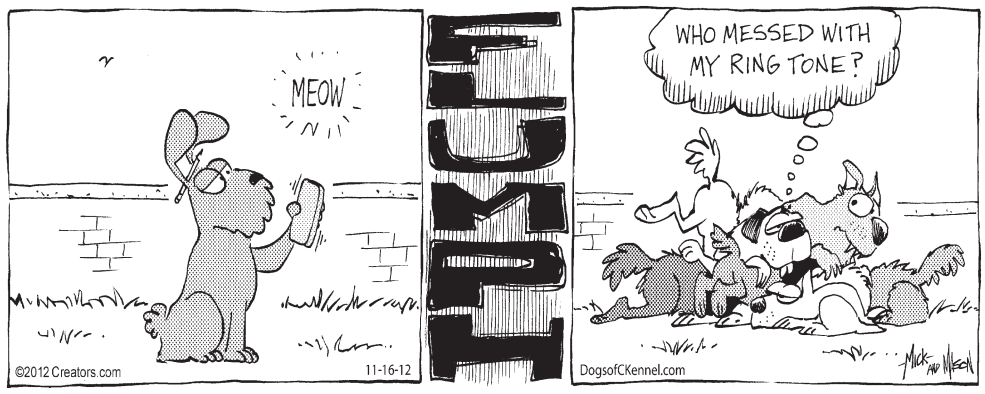
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



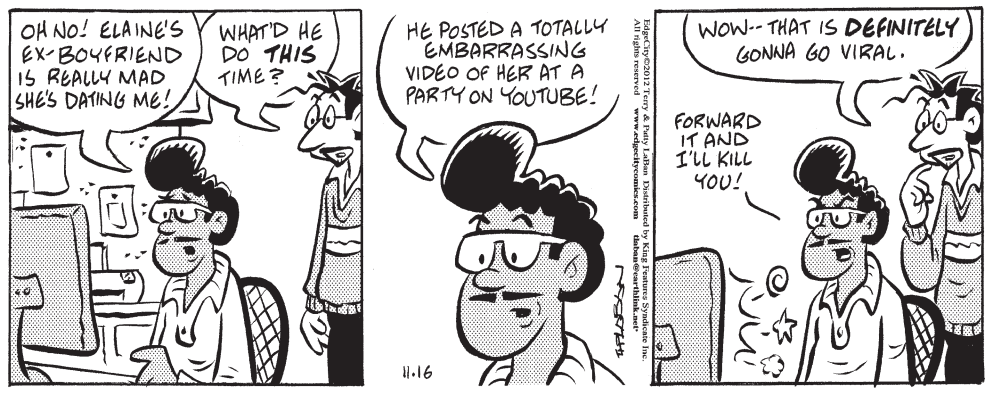
Strange Brew
By John Deering



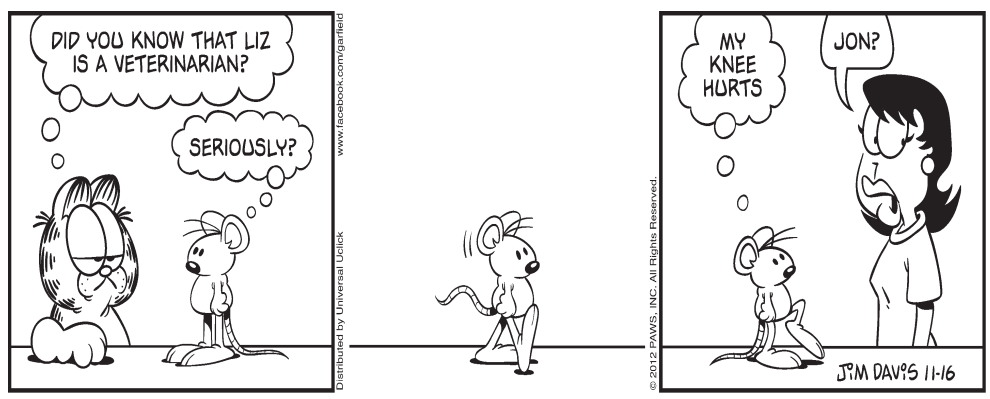
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

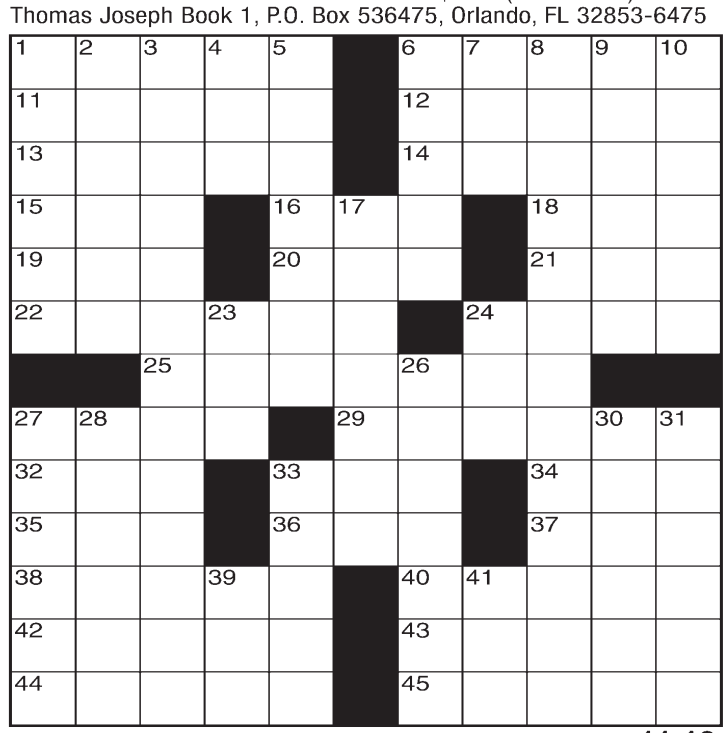
ACROSS
1 Slugger Wade
6 College study
11 Make amends
12 Plain silly
13 Ebb
14 Makes bootees
15 Like '60s fashion
16 Golf support
18 Auction buy
19 Maximum amount
20 Was ahead
21 Shade
22 Like the German "das"
24 Parachute part
25 Moose's kin
27 Bakery buy
29 Bothers
32 Ellipse bit
33 PC connection letters
34 Holiday lead-in
35 Stadium cry
36 Pig's place
37 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
38 Degrade
40 Detroit team
42 Boss, at times
43 Promptly
44 Chair designer Charles
45 In the buff

DOWN
1 Money collector
2 "Becket" actor
3 Hit for Elvis
4 Safari sight
5 Homesteader
6 Amplified, in a way
7 Writer Beattie
8 Hit for Elvis
9 Playing the country
10 Took it easy
17 Most spooky
23 — kwon do
24 Guest's bed
26 Ancient Asian city
27 Wine holder
28 Mideast region
30 Broad way
31 Poked fun at
33 Manual readers
39 Spot
41 — bind

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

Yesterday's answer

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



11-16

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/13
6 12 31 46 56
Meganumber: 34
Jackpot: $26M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/14
11 15 25 31 32
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/15
2 3 7 11 37

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/15
MIDDAY: 3 9 9
EVENING: 6 2 8

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 11/15
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1:45.07

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

■ "Why You Little ...!" (1) A teenager, apparently fed up with his parents' commandeering of their home's basement for an elaborate marijuana-growing operation, turned the couple in in August. The Doylestown Township, Pa., couple (a chiropractor mom and software engineer dad) had sophisticated hardware and 18 plants. (2) Police in Athens, Ga., searching for Homer Parham, 51, at his house in September, came up empty, and his wife said he wasn't there. But as officers were leaving, the couple's young daughter said, "Mommy locked Daddy in the closet." Parham was found hiding in a high-up crawl space.

■ America now has about 700 pet "aftercare" facilities, providing funeral services to the nation's companion animals, according to a September NBC News report. Oakey's, in Roanoke, Va., performs 800 to 900 pet cremations annually and provides about 20 customers a year with pet caskets, part of the estimated $53 billion America spends on pets (higher than the Gross National Products of more than 100 countries). The basic charge of Heartland Pet Cremation of St Louis is $275 for a private cremation, including a "basic" urn and memorial video slideshow. (For the more upscale, other facilities offer deluxe urns, taxidermy, freeze-drying pets and creating a synthetic diamond out of pet ashes.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1920 - Qantas, Australia's national airline, is founded as Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Limited.

1938 - LSD is first synthesized by Swiss chemist Dr. Albert Hofmann at the Sandoz Laboratories in Basel, Switzerland.

1940 - World War II: in response to the leveling of Coventry, England by Nazi Germany's Luftwaffe two days before, the Royal Air Force bombs Hamburg.

WORD UP!

dovetail \ DUHV-teyl \ , verb;
1. To join or fit together compactly or harmoniously. 2. In carpentry, a joint formed of one or more such tenons fitting tightlywithin corresponding mortises.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Storage Space
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Market Research Analyst. MA reqd. Send resume to Content Media Corp, 225 Arizona Ave, #250, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Retirement community is looking for PT receptionist Must have good attitude and love for seniors. Previous experience preferred. Schedule will include weekends. Pre-employment drug screen and background check required. If interested, please come to 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, 90405 and fill out and application. EOE.

Taxi drivers needed. Age 23 or older, H-6 DMV report required. Independent Contractor Call 310-566-3300

Yard Sales

SALE SUNDAY Nov 18 11-3, clothing, classy Hats and Shoes (size 12) and new and old jewelry. American Legion post 46 5309 Sepulveda Blvd. CC, come early for breakfast $5. Breakfast proceeds will benefit veterans.

For Rent

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(310)869-7901

1417 11th St. 1Bd + 1Bth. Parking. No laundry. Available after November 30th. $1475 per month.

637 Washington Blvd. MDR. 2 Bd + 1Bth. Fourplex. Pets ok. Private garage. $1995

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Services

MEALS ON WHEELS WEST(Santa Monica, Pac.Pal, Malibu, Marina del Rey, Topanga)Urgently needed volunteers/drivers/assistants to deliver meals to the homebound in our community M-F from 10:30am to 1pm. Please help us feed the hungry.

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Lost & Found

Lost black chihuahua. Last seen on 6th and oceanpark on Tuesday, Nov. 13th. Special condition on his left eye. Wearing a black collar with blue tags. Little boy & girl really missing their dog. Please help Blackie come home. REWARD. (310) 806-5277

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012206072 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 10/16/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as PASSTHEBCBA. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Dana Meller 10639 Woodbridge St. Unit 306 Toluca Lake, CA 91602. This Business is being conducted by: a Partnership. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Dana Meller. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/16/2012. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK.

DBAS

A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/09/2012, 11/16/2012, 11/19/2012, 11/26/2012.

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