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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2009

Volume 9 Issue 4



Santa Monica Daily Press

SQUIRREL DRIVES DUCKS NUTS
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE LAKERS BETTER TURN IT AROUND ISSUE

Retail sales point to subdued holidays

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON Improved retail sales gave Wall Street a boost Monday but provided little hope for a robust holiday shopping season that might invigorate the economic recovery.

The October figures, driven by a surge in auto sales, exceeded economists' expectations. Yet consumers are so squeezed by tight credit and rising unemployment that economists don't expect to see significant spending until well after year's end. Even optimists

SEE **RETAIL** PAGE 9

PREP SPORTS ROUNDUP

Pacifica Christian stays alive in v-ball playoffs

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

BORON Pacifica Christian's girls volleyball team is one step closer to a championship.

The Seawolves defeated Boron High School on Saturday in three sets to advance to the semifinals of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 5AA playoffs. Pacifica Christian will take on Saddleback Valley Christian at home today at 7 p.m.

The other half of the playoff bracket features Fairmont Prep versus Connelly.

The Seawolves finished the regular season undefeated in Heritage League play.

Samohi girls v-ball

Santa Monica's drive for a girls volleyball CIF-SS title ended Saturday against Pasadena Poly.

The Vikings, who finished second in the Ocean League, defeated Bolsa Grande and San Gabriel to advance to the quarterfinals.

St. Monica ends season on a high

St. Monica finished its season with a 28-21 victory over Western Christian on Friday.

The victory improved St. Monica's record to 3-6 overall and 0-4 in Santa Fe League play. The victory helped the Mariners triple its win total from a year ago when the team went 1-8.

daniela@smdp.com



WALKING THE WALK

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Donors walk through the balloon archway during the first annual NephCure Walk at Lincoln Middle School Sunday morning. The walk was established to raise money for the NephCure Foundation and their fight to cure two kidney diseases.

Santa Monica, Beverly Hills battle for Broad museum

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CIVIC CENTER Today it is nothing more than a paved lot, sandwiched unnoticeably between the Santa Monica Courthouse and Civic Auditorium, serving the parking needs of visitors to both.

But soon the 2.5 acres that sit in this up-and-coming area could welcome a new museum housing some of the world's finest collections of contemporary art, featuring names like Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec and Andy Warhol, further solidifying the city's identity as a cultural destination in the L.A. arts scene.

The Broad Foundations — which is made up of the Broad Art Foundation and Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation — is proposing to build and operate a museum that would display a collection that includes approximately 2,000 pieces by more than 200 artists. Broad would be paying for all but a small percentage of the design and construction costs, which would fall to City Hall in the amount of about $1 million.

The City Council tonight is scheduled to discuss the conceptual proposal and decide whether to authorize City Manager Lamont Ewell to enter negotiations with the Broad Foundations, which was started by philanthropists Eli and Edythe Broad, who also helped fund Santa Monica College's latest performing arts center, The Broad Stage.

SEE **MUSEUM** PAGE 8

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Foreigners unite
Santa Monica College Quad
1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Come celebrate International Education Week with a free festival of food, music and dances from around the world. The student troupe Folklórico de SMC will perform Chinese, salsa, Bollywood and Mexican dances. For more information, contact Teresa Morris at (310) 434-4126 or morristeresa@smc.edu.

Meet the actor
Apple Store
1248 Third Street Promenade, 6 p.m.
Meet actor Joel McHale at the Santa Monica Apple Store as he discusses his new NBC show "Community." The event is free, but space is limited, so arrive early. Call (310) 576-1101 for more information.

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2009

Quality of life
Santa Monica Public Library: MLK Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Come to a free discussion with Ben Sherwood, a former NBC executive and author of "The Survivors Club," a close examination of those who survived extraordinary circumstances and the science behind it. Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, visit www.smpl.org or call (310) 458-8600.

Children's storytime and crafts
Santa Monica Public Library: Children's Activity Room
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:45 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.
Join Erica Silverman, children's author of the award-winning Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa easy reader series as she tells stories about our favorite cowgirl and her funny horse. Ages 5 and up are welcome to attend this storytime and craft activity.
Call (310) 458-8600 for more information.

Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009

Justice, post 9-11
Santa Monica College
HSS 165, 11:15 a.m.
Is Bagram the new Guantanamo? Learn the answer to this question as Dr. Kal Raustiala, director of UCLA's Ronald W. Burkle Center for International Relations discusses "War and the Courts after 9/11." The event is free. Call Grace Smith at (310) 434-4003 for more information.

Meet the author
Every Picture Tells a Story
1311-C Montana Ave., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Author and illustrator James A. Own will debut "The Shadow Dragons," the latest thrilling chapter in the young adult series, "The Imaginarium Geographical Chronicles." He'll be signing books and introducing new print and original artwork.
Call (310) 451-2700 for more information.

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

Space shuttle Atlantis lifts off on supply mission

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. With 100 Internet-savvy NASA fans cheering on the shuttle and churning out constant Twitter updates, Atlantis sailed smoothly into orbit Monday with six astronauts and a full load of spare parts for the International Space Station.

The supply run should keep the space station humming for years to come, and the shuttle astronauts in space through Thanksgiving.

Atlantis was clearly visible as it shot through thin afternoon clouds, to the delight of Twittering space enthusiasts who won front-row seats to the launch. The contest winners splashed news — mostly tweeting "wow" and "amazing" about the liftoff — over countless cell phones and computers in 140 characters or less.

"What's exciting to me is that they've captured the spirit and the excitement that we all feel, and they were able to capture it in a very few number of characters," NASA space operations chief Bill Gerstenmaier said with a chuckle. "They're amazing, little, short statements about what they felt."

Atlantis will reach the space station Wednesday. As the shuttle blasted off, the station was soaring 220 miles above the South Pacific. Launch director Mike Leinbach wished the astronauts good luck and said, "We'll see you back here just after Thanksgiving."

"We're excited to take this incredible vehicle for a ride and meet up with another incredible vehicle," Hobaugh replied.

NASA wants to stockpile as many pumps, tanks, gyroscopes and other oversize equipment as possible at the space station, before the three remaining shuttles retire next fall. None of the other visiting spacecraft is big enough to carry so many large pieces.

The space agency expects to keep the space station flying until 2015, possibly 2020 if President Barack Obama gives the go-ahead.

During their 11-day flight, Hobaugh and his crew — including the first orthopedic surgeon in space, Dr. Robert Satcher Jr. — will unload the nearly 30,000 pounds of equipment and experiments. Most of the gear will be attached to the outside of the space station on storage platforms.

Three spacewalks will be conducted beginning Thursday to hook everything up and get a jump on the next shuttle flight.

The launch seemed to go perfectly. Only three small pieces of foam insulation were spotted coming off the fuel tank, and it was not a concern, said Bill Gerstenmaier, head of NASA's space operations.

"What a great way to start this mission," Gerstenmaier told reporters. He cautioned the flight ahead was tough and "we need to stay focused."

While NASA officials were pleased, the Twittering invitees were downright ecstatic. They were among the first to sign up online last month for the opportunity to see a launch up close, and filed Twitter updates practically nonstop.

"The wifi and cellular networks are so bogged down with excited tweets that it is hard to get messages out," posted Laura Burns, 33, a Columbia, Md., software systems engineer.

NASA estimates the 100 tweeters, or tweeps as they're called, have a following of more than 150,000. The space agency sees it as a beneficial outreach program, especially as the shuttle program winds down and the future remains murky.

SEE SPACE PAGE 9

Heads of UC, CSU want big funding increases

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERKELEY, Calif. The heads of California's public university systems say they need more money from the state — a lot more.

University of California President Mark Yudof says the 10-campus system needs a $913 million increase in state funding next year. Meanwhile, California State University Chancellor Charles B. Reed is recommending asking for an increase of $884 million for 2010-11.

Both are seeking the approval of their governing boards, which meet this week.

UC and the 23-campus CSU — the nation's largest public university system — have taken deep cuts in state funding. Yudof and Reed say they hope the extra funding would help restore some campus cutbacks and prevent major fee increases.

On Wednesday, UC's governing Board of Regents will consider raising student fees about 32 percent.

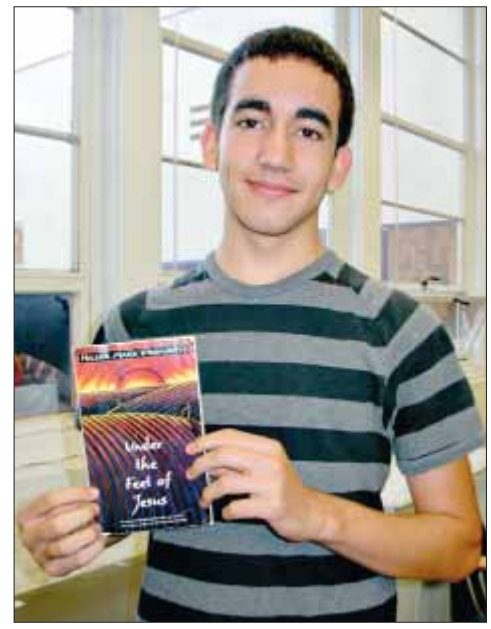
What Kids Are UP To – READING

Catherine Cain — Send comments to editor@smdp.com



photos by Catherine Cain

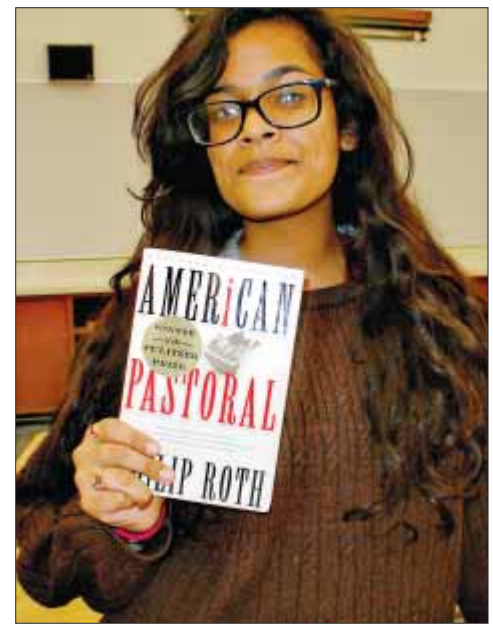
SKY CRANE
SENIOR, HOLDING "OTHELLO" BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
"I'm reading 'Othello' for English, but for pleasure I'm reading a collection of articles and essays from 'The New Yorker' called 'The New Gilded Age' about the economic boom and investment bubble of the late 90s."



ALI CHAMAS
SENIOR, READING AND HOLDING "UNDER THE FEET OF JESUS" BY HELENA MARÍA VIRAMONTES
"This book is interesting. I don't read a lot. I enjoy fiction, though."



KYRA SWEENEY
SOPHOMORE, HOLDING HER BRAILLENOTE
"For English I just finished reading 'Pride and Prejudice" for my independent reading assignment. We're also reading 'The Odyssey.' I think my favorite books would have to be the 'Twilight' series. I have a lot of other favorites, but that would take a long time. I download the books from a Web site. They have about 30,000 books."



SALONEE BHAMAN
SENIOR, HOLDING "AMERICAN PASTORAL" BY PHILIP ROTH
"I'm reading 'American Pastoral,' and am on the last few pages … but I'm also working my way through 'Winesburg, Ohio.' I have a real thing for short stories."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Where there's smoke there's fire

Editor:

Why should someone who would like to sit and enjoy his or her own residential outdoor patio or balcony, possibly with family and friends including children, be forced to go or stay indoors if there is an inconsiderate person or persons smoking on another nearby residential outdoor patio or balcony? That is only one of many reasons why our City Council should continue on its positive health and environmental campaign to protect non-smokers from the very harmful effects of smoking. Our council should act now by adding some much needed and reasonable further protections against drifting tobacco smoke for people living in apartments and condominiums.

Jerry Rubin
Santa Monica

Plenty of chances to help

Editor:

Thank you for printing Aranzasu de la O's article, "Slain youth betrayed by a community, not a bullet," Nov. 9. I also want to encourage the community to get involved as volunteers and donors. There are several amazing youth services organizations in Santa Monica that can benefit with more support from community members and businesses. Like Aranzasu, I benefited deeply from the Virginia Avenue Project because the programs helped me discover my creativity, abilities and potential. That, combined with caring mentors, really inspired me to live authentically and actively. I also found once-in-a-lifetime opportunities at the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) and other community organizations. I encourage kids and adults to find these opportunities as well, as participants, volunteers, mentors, board members and/or donors. It takes a village.

Simon Hanna
Director of Development
Virginia Avenue Project

Not pleased with AFM parking

Editor:

Not everyone is thrilled about the American Film Market being here in Santa Monica. For those of us who live near the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel where the marketing is taking place, we are very negatively impacted. Between the Loews, AFM, and the Santa Monica transportation department, no one seems to have the funds to place parking attendants at adjacent parking lots to prevent parking lot abuses by AFM visitors. With all this millions in profits I hear about, how about using a bit of it to help the residents out.

Louise Steiner
Santa Monica

Supporting veterans

Editor:

From Santa Monica's Arlington West, just click on "Pipes Are Playing".

On this Veterans Day, I am grateful to still be above ground, sucking air, and so much more. The grave markers at Arlington West are but grim reminders of the high price paid to prevent a repeat of the Holocaust and 9-11. Every night I pray for our military in harm's way, that such horrors will not recur, that our government will never again send off our military "to kill and die to tie" or "to lose." If not for "victory," then don't send them. If not for "victory," bring them home. That our government will truly take care of its wounded warriors after their wars are over. Would that the world were a place of peace, love, and brotherhood. The pictures belie that I am sad to say. It isn't simple, easy, or without controversy. It's life.

Be at peace and welcome home.

God bless America and God bless us all.

John Medlin
U.S. Army, RVN 1969-70
Santa Monica



Back to Nature

Reese Halter

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The mysterious mountain lion

KNOWN BY DIFFERENT NAMES INCLUDING phantom cat, cougar, panther and puma, this extraordinary furtive feline is not only at the top of the food chain but is the most perfect hunter to walk the earth. Mountain lions are feared, with good reason, by all prey. They are loathed by farmers and ranchers.

From its small head to the distinct black tip of its tail, a male measures 11 feet long and weighs an average 225 pounds. The ancient Amazonian Tupi tribe dubbed this cat "the false deer" recognizing that this predator blended so completely into its environment with its tawny brown coat. Its eyes and forehead have black markings; its throat and chest are white and its long tail is as thick as a man's wrist.

Since the last glacial period, this beauty of a beast had the largest range of any animal in the Western Hemisphere. The closest related kin of the mountain lion is the cheetah. Whether it came across the Bering Strait or evolved in South America is still debated. All but gone now in the eastern United States, except for a dwindling number of Floridian panthers, it has retreated to the forests of the West extending from the northern Rocky and Coastal Mountains into Mexico and as far south as South America.

The mountain lion depends on forest cover and will deliberately avoid openings, meadows and clearcuts. They are nocturnal, highly secretive, elusive and, contrary to popular belief, rarely seen in the wild. Special adaptations in the eyes enable it to see up to six times better than a human in the dark. And a thin membrane at the back of the eye boosts night vision and gives this animal an eerie mirrored greenish shine when light is shone into its eyes.

They cannot focus well in the dark at close range. Front whiskers, usually 24, combine with bristly hairs on their paws to help them feel their way in the dark by sense of touch and by movement of air currents. Specialized and sensitive ears enable them to hear both high and low frequencies and swivel their ears around with the assistance of some 30 different muscles.

So what makes this puma such a fearsome, lethal hunter? It is the awesome combination of sinewy muscles which enable it to spring 30 feet ahead and 18 feet in the air, sledgehammer front paws with retractable switchblade claws, a muzzle with an enormous grasp and teeth that slice and dice better than any butcher's knife.

Mountain lions are solitary. Their muscular spines lack ligaments and so they are able to slink low to the ground and stealthily hunt their prey. Their preferred prey are mule deer, though elk and moose also comprise a large component of their diet.

No other predator on this planet can take down prey that is eight times larger than itself. Mountain lions routinely sneak-up on their unlucky and unwary prey and pounce. Eight out of 10 times they are successful. Their teeth instinctively pierce the jugular, razor sharp claws rip open the windpipe and powerful front paws pull back the head until the neck snaps.

Mountain lions mate at any time during the year. Males are polygamous. Females are excellent single mums. The mating ritual and copulation can last up to 16 hours. Numerous copulations are necessary to induce ovulation and an unfit male would lack stamina to mate for an entire day. Soon after mating, females chase males away, for males are known to eat young kittens.

When the spotted kittens are born about 90 days later, one to five per litter, they are blind until 10 days after birth. Kittens stay with mothers for up to 18 months while they learn the fine art of hunting. A mountain lion does not reach its full size until its fourth year.

The best cougar territory may hold one cat per two square miles. And while a cat may prowl up to 20 miles a day, usually it ranges from one to five miles a day. Males have a home range of up to 500 square miles and are very territorial.

More people are killed by lightning each year than mountain lion fatalities total over the past 100 years. If mountain lions encounter domestic stock they will kill dozens of animals. This is because in nature it's feast or famine; and when prey is plentiful, instinctively a hunter will kill.

A mountain lion can pack away 18 pounds of meat in a sitting. On average over a winter they will eat about 13 pounds a day, which translates into a deer, elk or moose every seven to 10 days.

A mountain lion needs wilderness. Scientific understanding of this beast is limited and, therefore, it is very difficult to manage.

A house cat and a mountain lion have much in common, with size being the main difference. Wild cats are exposed to the same diseases as are humans but have developed a resistance to them through genetic solutions.

Policy-makers need to safeguard the existence of the truly mysterious mountain lions. They are crucially important in keeping a healthy balance of big game deer, elk and moose populations. They also hold the genetic answers to solving many human diseases and, perhaps, ultimately the destiny of our species.

DR. REESE HALTER is a conservation biologist and founder of the international conservation institute Global Forest Science. His most recent book is "The Incomparable Honeybee and the Economics of Pollination," Rocky Mountain Books. Contact him through www.DrReese.com.

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 410 Broadway, Suite B, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.



What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Be careful what you wish for

I WAS HAVING A LATE NIGHT SNACK AT La Cachette last week (it was underwhelming to say the least since I had to send back the bisque) with a friend and we were discussing the law, and a question I get asked about weekly, the 10-year rule on spousal support in California.

Alimony is the great fear of every working spouse who has a non-working spouse. It used to be just a man's concern. Not anymore. Men can be the recipient of spousal support just as much as women can.

Here's a situation. He's 57, she's 54, they have a good time together. One week it's the theater, the next it's a bike ride and picnic. They're both old enough, and have seen enough to know that today is what matters because tomorrow can disappear quickly.

After a few months of serious dating, "the talks" start. She drops a hint about wanting a long-term commitment. Her friend just got re-married. "Wouldn't it be great to know we had a secure future together?" she asks. They get married.

This is a wonderful thing, people finding each other and forming a loving, lasting relationship that will carry both of them through the end of their days.

The law in California is pretty clear on this issue, if you are married more than 10 years, the court can retain jurisdiction over how much alimony you are paying, for the rest of your life.

These days men and women are working later in life, sometimes out of necessity, sometimes out of boredom. For the non-working spouse, that's a great thing, because it means that the higher income will be used to determine lifetime spousal support.

She's a healthy, active lady, who still likes to go bike riding and hiking. Eight years later and he's had a heart attack, stays home most days and wants alimony for the rest of his life. He wants to keep up the lifestyle that he has become used to, he just wants it without her, so he'll wait the two years and then take her money.

In the case I described above, after 10 years and two months, he files for divorce.

A sad but true tale of late life marriage. She's on the hook for a lifetime of alimony. Ten years is going to cost her about 14 years of paying for his theater tickets, his mortgage, and his daily bottle of wine. Can a pre-marital help prevent this? Yes. A properly drafted pre-marital, sometimes called a pre-nuptial agreement, can prevent a person from having to pay alimony for the rest of their life.

Why does California make someone pay alimony at all is also a question that I often get asked. The reasons for spousal support are outdated in some ways, but realistic in others. The law looks at marriage like a partnership, where two people are building a life together, and if that partnership breaks down, then there needs to be an equal division of the benefits of that partnership.

The property of the partnership — homes, boats, cars, stocks — can be easily divided, but the opportunity costs of being in the marriage are harder to divide. Traditionally, the man was working on his career while the woman was making the home. His opportunity for career advancement was enhanced because she was taking care of the home life.

Alimony was the way the courts would balance out the fact that he had a better career and greater opportunity for making money, because of her contributions to his life. In the Ozzie and Harriet world of the '50s and '60s, she was raising the kids, while he brought home the bacon. She needed to be provided for in that world because she didn't have as many opportunities to be self-sufficient.

The facts of life have changed because of the feminist movement. Thanks to a balancing of women's opportunities as they have entered the workforce, they can now look forward to the same obligations as men.

Nowadays, with more women making equal pay, and frequently greater pay than their husbands, the spousal support rules are allowing men to be the recipient of alimony. He can marry well, and get used to a certain lifestyle, and if the marriage breaks down, he has a right to expect that lifestyle to continue, sometimes for the rest of his life.

When the 54-year-old lady was dropping hints about marriage, she may have been thinking about alimony. After all, she's not stupid. But it never occurred to her that she'd be the one having to pay. This is one more time where the law of unintended consequences kicks in, and now she's on the hook for a lifetime of alimony.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

The Q Line

Be-all and end-all

The Route 66 Alliance last week named the Santa Monica Pier as the official end to the famous Route 66. This designation has angered some historians who say that the pier is not the time-honored end of the Mother Road and feel that the alliance and others are just trying to make a buck.

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

Do you think the pier should be considered the end of Route 66 or should history prevail? Do you even care?

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

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The Quackers
Phyllis Chavez
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Hungry squirrel drives ducks nuts

Editor's Note: The Quackers are three awesome ducks – Rusty, Richard and Sydney – from the canals of Venice who are on a mission to educate the community about the dangers of global warming and the importance of practicing sustainability, all while surfing the most gnarly waves possible.

Richard has always been a problem solver, the "go to" guy whenever something sticky came up. He has the ability to see things from many different perspectives, which really works for him. If Rusty or I hit a wall on a project, we run it by Richard and snap, a solution is born.

Recently something happened that turned Richard's world upside down. The "problem solver" ran into a problem that seemed to defy resolution. That problem was a squirrel. It caused so much havoc and built such a lengthy "rap sheet" with Richard that he stopped referring to it as the "cute little squirrel" and started calling it "Public Enemy No. 1."

Richard welcomes all creatures to our wildlife friendly yard. By providing food, water, cover and a place to raise young, he has created a magnet that attracts local, and on occasion, migrating wildlife.

Richard throws out a special welcome mat for his favorites, the birds. When the weather starts to change, leaves begin to fall and food gets harder to find, he goes out of his way to make sure each bird feeder is brimming with black oil sunflower seeds. He says during this time of the year the nutritious protein and healthy oil from the seeds are just what a bird needs to fuel up for the coming winter days.

In a big tree in the courtyard, Richard set out multiple feeders and a combination drinking station/birdbath, creating a haven that allows us to enjoy the musical chirping of many different birds. Black phoebes, house finches, bushtits, hummingbirds, doves, and Richard's favorites, tiny American goldfinches, all grace us with their presence. It was a place of joy and tranquility but that all changed the day Public Enemy No. 1 sauntered into the yard.

He was not the first squirrel to drop by. Scores of others had been quite content to nibble on fallen seeds, nose around a bit and move on. Not Public Enemy No. 1. He wanted it all and was determined to take it, feeder and all if necessary.

Richard met the challenge head on. He moved the feeders higher, lower, sideways and finally from the tree to a pole. He tried new designs and experimented with different materials but Public Enemy No. 1 would not leave those feeders alone. That acrobatic, high wire aerialist, one squirrel demolition crew continued to chew through wood, plastic and even metal to achieve his goal. As his "piece de resistance" that greedy little rodent chewed off all the perches so not a bird could eat.

Richard became desperate. He heard adding chili peppers to birdseed would not harm or bother the birds but would deter a worrisome squirrel. He added his hottest, fiery New Mexico chili to the seed and was sure his problem was solved. He heard a noise as he walked away and turned to see Public Enemy No. 1 dangling upside down from the top of the bird feeder using both paws to shovel handfuls of chili laced birdseed into his mouth with no ill effect.

Richard was so obsessed with his problem he began to lose it. One day when we paddled out to surf, he just kept paddling. He might have ended up in Catalina if Rusty had not yelled and screamed for him to stop. When he finally did catch a wave that day he shot out in front of me, pearled, flipped his board and took us both down in a tremendous wipeout.

Since he had always been the "go to guy," it made it hard for Richard to ask for help, even from us. The turning point for him finally came the night he served us ice cold pizza and bubbling hot ice cream for dinner and never realized it. At that moment he put away his pride and asked for help.

The first thing we did was call for takeout and then we dove into action. Rusty and Richard designed and built a new, finely meshed, steel reinforced feeder. After an exhaustive search of every yard sale in Santa Monica, I found a perfect large, slick surfaced, smooth-lipped, dome-shaped lampshade. I re-purposed it by hanging it as a guard between the hanging wire and the roof of the bird feeder. If my theory proved correct, Public Enemy No. 1 had just run out of luck.

It may have been Rusty's last minute brainstorm that made it all work. Thinking the squirrel might behave better if he had his own food and a place to eat, he borrowed an old dog dish from a neighbor, filled it with a blend of nuts, seeds and a big dollop of peanut butter and placed it in the newly designated squirrel zone.

Several weeks have passed and still peace continues to reign in the courtyard. Since there was a name already on that old dog dish, Public Enemy No. 1 is now known as Fido.

PHYLLIS and the Quackers can be reached at phyllis@phyllischavez.com. The Quackers have a new, amazing Web site! Stories, pictures and a blog at www.thequackers.com.

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Santa Monica From A to Z

Alisandra Rand and Melissa Rader
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Never too soon to start yoga

DURING OUR PREGNANCIES, WE PRACTICED yoga to try to relieve stress, backaches, and that awful swelling in our knees and ankles. We did specific exercises to help us get our bodies in shape to deliver and keep our minds calm and focused through the excruciating pain of childbirth. After the birth, we attended mommy and me and post-natal classes to whip our tummies back into shape.

Addison is definitely a yogi in training. She slept in relaxed butterfly just as soon as she came home from the hospital, and she's always exploring her new body by moving it in all kinds of ways. So when she started mimicking yogis in Palisades Park doing downward facing dog, we decided to find out whether our toddler children could benefit from yoga as well.

Developing a yoga practice can help kids relieve stress, increase their attention spans, and start down the path towards a healthy lifestyle, according to children's yoga expert Helen Garabedian. Garabedian, author of "Itsy Bitsy Yoga for Toddlers and Preschoolers: 8-Minute Routines to Help Your Child Grow Smarter, Be Happier, and Behave Better," claims "you are never too young (or old) to enjoy the benefits of yoga."

Although Santa Monica is yoga central, there aren't many studios in town that offer yoga for younger children. Addison took a mommy and me class for kids 3-12 months at YogaCo, a gorgeous donation-based studio that just opened on the Third Street Promenade. They offer classes for the entire family, including the novel daddy and me class.

Kelsey Oldershaw, one of the founders of YogaCo, didn't have much luck interesting Addison in the poses designed to foster the relationship between parent and child, but Addison did have fun playing with the toys. I got a great ab workout, as Oldershaw has created a practice specifically for getting rid of that post-natal belly bump. Since there were no other moms in class that day I got a private lesson, which is not bad for $20.

I wanted to try out some of the classes designed for children, but Oldershaw explained that Addison was probably a bit young for the mini yogis class, which is geared for kids ages 3 to 13. She suggested we check out the family yoga class on Sunday with Ania Mechlinska. So we did. It was also quite small, with just one other mommy and her adorable son, Logan, 2.

Addison and Logan began by showing off their down dogs for each other. According to Garabedian, "many crawlers and early walkers come into downward facing dog pose naturally as part of their development. Down dog helps these youngest children bear weight into their arms and legs simultaneously, and, by doing so, they are coordinating the use of the upper and lower halves of their body."

So Addison and Logan were off to a great start, but then baby yoga came to a screeching halt.

When Mechlinska tried to help the kids into a cobra pose, Logan took off like a shot to explore his new surroundings. Mechlinska then patiently tried to entice the kids back to the practice with beautiful yoga pose cards from Europe. The kids each chose an animal and we tried to get them to attempt the pose. Addison did fish pose instead of butterfly, but it's a start, right? Then Mechlinska tried to get her to do double dog, a partner pose where the baby does a dog on top of the mother's. She must have tried 20 times before Addison would even attempt it, but finally she did. Success! By then all Addison wanted was her sippy cup so we left the kids to wander and play and started on some sun salutations.

It's normal for children to become distracted, especially when starting out in a practice. Mechlinska stresses, "kids need structure so the key is to keep coming. Even the most tough to focus kids will settle in after a few sessions." She also suggests getting a children's yoga book and practicing animal poses with them in the park. Just keep it "simple and fun," Garabedian urges, so that children aren't pushed to their frustration point.

Garabedian also notes that toddlers learn from observation, which means that if we do the poses, they will copy us. Sure enough, watching us practice was what brought the kids' attention back to the yoga. After making castles out of blocks and dancing with Addison (truly beautiful to watch), Logan finally came around and showed us his magnificent cobra.

Although Zora doesn't practice yoga poses in the park, she could definitely use some calming zen in her active toddler life, so we decided to check out the free yoga class offered by Kelly Cunningham at the Ocean Park Branch Library. Kelly has a high tolerance for kiddie chaos, which she definitely needed as the room was filled with older toddlers and young preschoolers. Some of the young yogis spent the class climbing on their caregivers or just sitting stunned, but many valiantly tried all the poses, which was adorable. Cunningham focused on animal poses, (and what kid doesn't like animals?) which she incorporated into a story to keep the kids entertained.

With all the twisting, falling, and pretzel-like bending, I wondered if we needed to worry about injuries. There's no cause for concern, according to Garabedian. As long as the children are "bringing themselves in and out of the pose independently, they are physically unable to move their bodies beyond their natural limits."

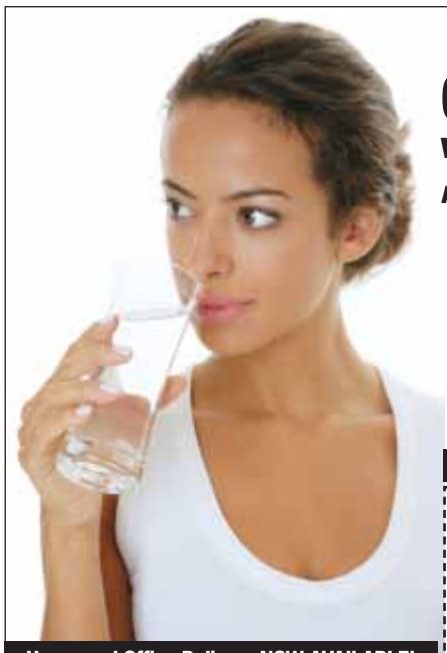
Ocean Park Branch Library Yoga for Kids, Mondays 10:30 a.m., through Nov. 30, free; YogaCo family yoga is at 3 p.m. on Sundays for $16; Other classes around town: Yogaworks on Montana, Tuesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:25 p.m. for kids, ages 3-6, and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:25 p.m. for kids 7 and up; Santa Monica Yoga playdate, Fridays 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; Yo Mama Yoga, Saturdays at 10 a.m., kids, ages 6 weeks to 6 years.

UPCOMING EVENTS THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, Nov. 21: Coastal Clean-Up at Will Rogers Beach, 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 22: Make a wreath at the Craft and Folk Art Museum, 1:30 p.m., reservations required; McCabe's concert, Randy Kaplan, 11 a.m.; Los Angeles County Museum of Art NexGen 12:30 p.m.; Oliver! at the Hammer Museum, 11 a.m.

Find a local calendar and helpful links at smatoz.blogspot.com, or leave a suggestion for places to visit.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON PROPOSED VACATION OF PORTIONS OF EXCESS PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY WITHIN WOODLAWN CEMETERY IN THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA

The Woodlawn Cemetery (Cemetery) is nearing capacity. Over the last year, staff has examined various options to increase the capacity of the Cemetery and Mausoleum and to achieve financial sustainability in the near future. Vacating portions of non-essential roadway within the Cemetery is necessary for the development of additional interment grounds associated with the implementation of the Cemetery Business Plan.

On November 10, 2009, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 10438 (CCS) declaring its intention to order vacation of portions of excess public right-of-way within the Cemetery and set a public hearing for December 8, 2009 at 5:45 p.m. The Drawing No. 4731 of the portions of excess right-of-way proposed to be vacated is on file and is available for review in the Civil Engineering Division located at 1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Pursuant to Part 3, Chapter 3, "General Vacation Procedure", of the California Streets and Highways Code, the City Council directed the City Clerk to set a public hearing on the proposed vacation proceedings as follows:

DATE & TIME: **5:45 p.m. on December 8, 2009, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard**

LOCATION: **City Council Chambers
1685 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Santa Monica, CA 90401**

All persons interested in or objecting to the proposed right-of-way vacation may appear before the City Council at the public hearing to offer evidence in relation thereto.

For more information contact City of Santa Monica at (310) 458-8721.

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Museum would fulfill creative plan

FROM **MUSEUM** PAGE 1

City Hall however faces stiff competition from the city of Beverly Hills and a third city, which foundation officials declined to name.

The foundation approached Beverly Hills officials a year ago about developing a museum on a strip of land at the intersection of Wilshire and Santa Monica boulevards where there is a cluster of privately-owned properties, Mahdi Aluzri, the assistant city manager for Beverly Hills, said.

The proposal there is to build a museum that would have more than 43,000 square feet of gallery space, an outdoor public plaza, a sculpture garden, archives, offices for the foundation, and ground-floor retail to help activate pedestrian life on Santa Monica Boulevard.

"It's a very wonderful opportunity for the city and Mr. Broad," Aluzri said. "It's highly visible. It's pretty much the most traveled intersection in all of Southern California and the name of Beverly Hills being synonymous with a world-class collection of contemporary art would be a wonderful thing for both parties."

Aluzri said that he most recently received a concept design for the museum in October and is now working with Broad on completing the scope of the project and moving forward with an environmental assessment.

The museum would be one of several art facilities to come online in Beverly Hills where the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is slated to be developed at the old post office on Crescent Drive and Santa Monica Boulevard.

Santa Monica joined the list of contenders when Ewell and several members of his senior staff met with Broad more than two months ago about opening a museum in the Civic Center, noting the changes in store for the area in the future, including a public park, new condo development and the Exposition Light Rail terminal.

Ewell said the proposed location in Beverly Hills is a "terrible area."

"It's terrible in the sense of shoehorning what could be a beautiful signature building into a very small condensed space when (Broad) has a great opportunity to come to Santa Monica where he would be surrounded by 2,500 high-end luxury hotel rooms, where we have literally millions of people who come through Santa Monica each year, where directly across the street you have the Rand Corp. with what is considered to be a beautifully designed building with world leaders who come in and out of that facility.

"This could be a cultural center that is second to none."

Under the Santa Monica proposal, the Broad Foundations would lease the space on Main Street from City Hall for a long-term lease at a nominal amount. City Hall would also have the option of buying the Broad Art Foundation's property on Barnard Way where a portion of the art collection is currently housed.

Karen Denne, spokeswoman for the Broad Foundations, said there is interest in completing the project quickly, though there is no time frame specified.

"Both (Santa Monica and Beverly Hills) are great locations and both also have challenges," Denne said. "Clearly Mr. Broad thinks they are both great locations."

Denne said that as the collection grew over the past several years, Broad began thinking about opening a museum that would also house administrative offices for the foundation and storage space for the artwork.

The foundation has loaned pieces from the collection more than 7,000 times since 1984 to nearly 500 museums.

A museum in the Civic Center would fulfill a part of City Hall's Creative Capital Plan, which calls for such a facility along with the refurbishment of the Civic Auditorium, which is almost underway.

The council in September authorized the city manager to enter negotiations with the Nederlander Organization for a private/public partnership in the management of the historic venue, which was once home to the Academy Awards and drew names like Elton John and Bob Dylan.

The proposal has also been well-received by the local artist community, excited about seeing a facility that would anchor a cultural arts scene that includes the galleries at Bergamot Station, the artist studios at 18th Street Arts Center and numerous theaters including the Miles Memorial Playhouse.

"They really see this as a way of realizing a long-term desire of having a world-class visual arts institution," Jessica Cusick, the cultural affairs manager for City Hall, said. "People are really excited and really see the potential."

melodyh@smdp.com

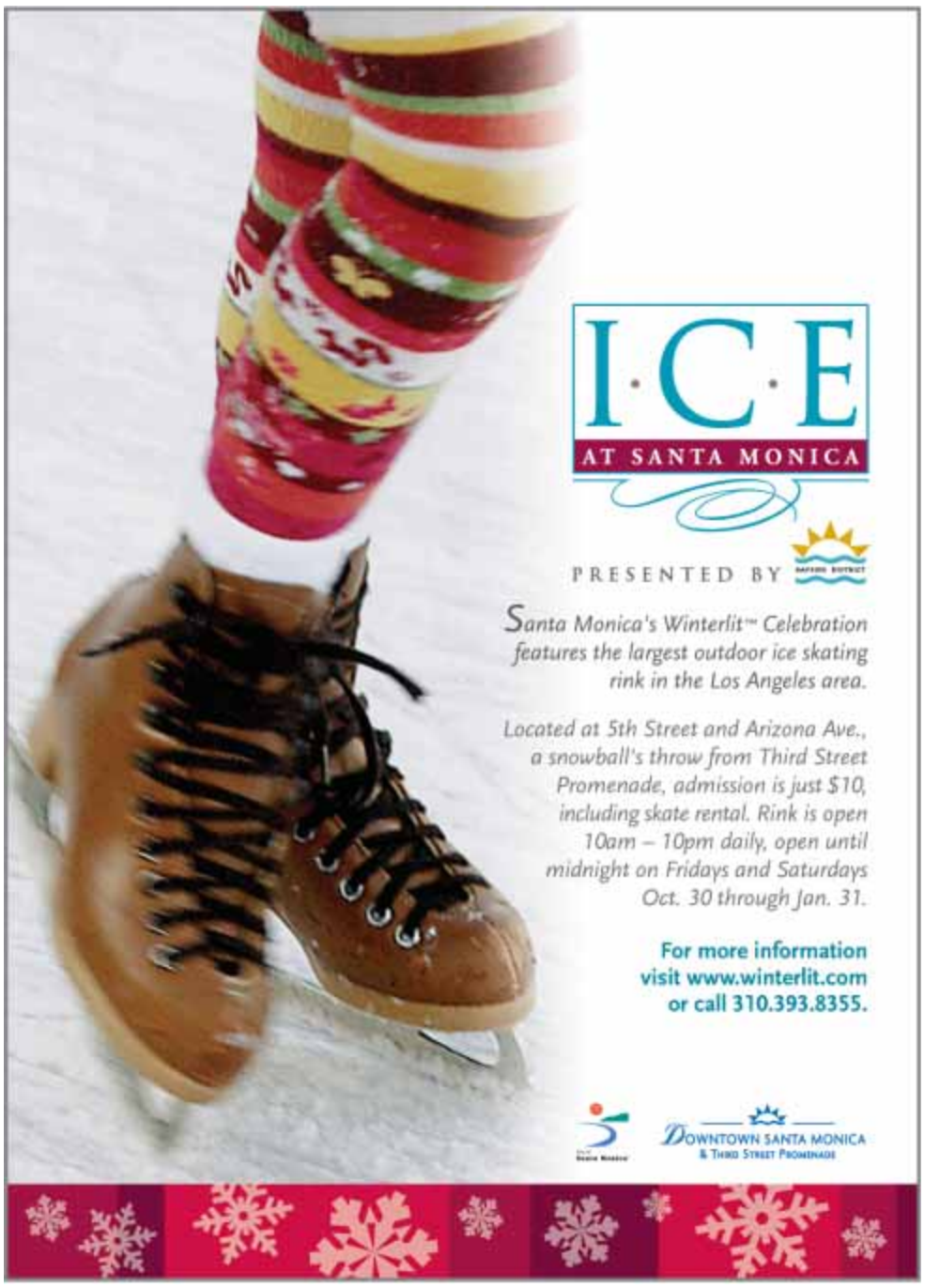




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CRAFTY

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Larry Camp (left) of Icorp talks with Richard and Celia Gerry about his traditional, hand-carved stone Buddhist altar incense vases and urns from Vietnam at the Los Angeles Asian and Tribal Arts show at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium on Saturday afternoon.

Astronauts to miss Thanksgiving

FROM **SPACE** PAGE 3

Obama has yet to chart a course for American astronauts, beyond the shuttle and station. A moon rocket under development is supposed to replace the shuttle, but the lunar exploration program is in jeopardy.

This is NASA's last shuttle flight of the year and one of only six remaining. "Five to go ... it's starting to hit home, I have to admit," Leinbach said.

If all goes as planned, Atlantis' six spacemen will return to Earth the day after Thanksgiving, bringing home a seventh astronaut, Nicole Stott, who has been living at the space station since the end of August.

The astronauts will have to forgo the usual Thanksgiving fare. NASA did not pack any special dinners aboard Atlantis. Hobaugh, the commander, didn't want any.

If the astronauts want poultry on Thanksgiving, they'll have to settle for turkey tetrazzini in rehydratable pouches or thermostabilized chicken fajitas. There's also plenty of barbecued beef brisket.

On the Net:

NASA:
http://www.nasa.gov/mission(underscore)pages/shuttle/main/index.html
Twitter: http://twitter.com/nasatweetup/ksc-sts-129-tweetup

Number of credit cards drops

FROM **RETAIL** PAGE 1

predict scant improvement over last year's holiday season.

Consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of total economic activity, so wary shoppers are a worrisome sign for retailers entering the crucial holiday season.

"U.S. consumers are no longer panicked, but they remain cautious," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com. "They are spending just enough to keep the economy out of recession, but not enough to fuel a self-sustained expansion."

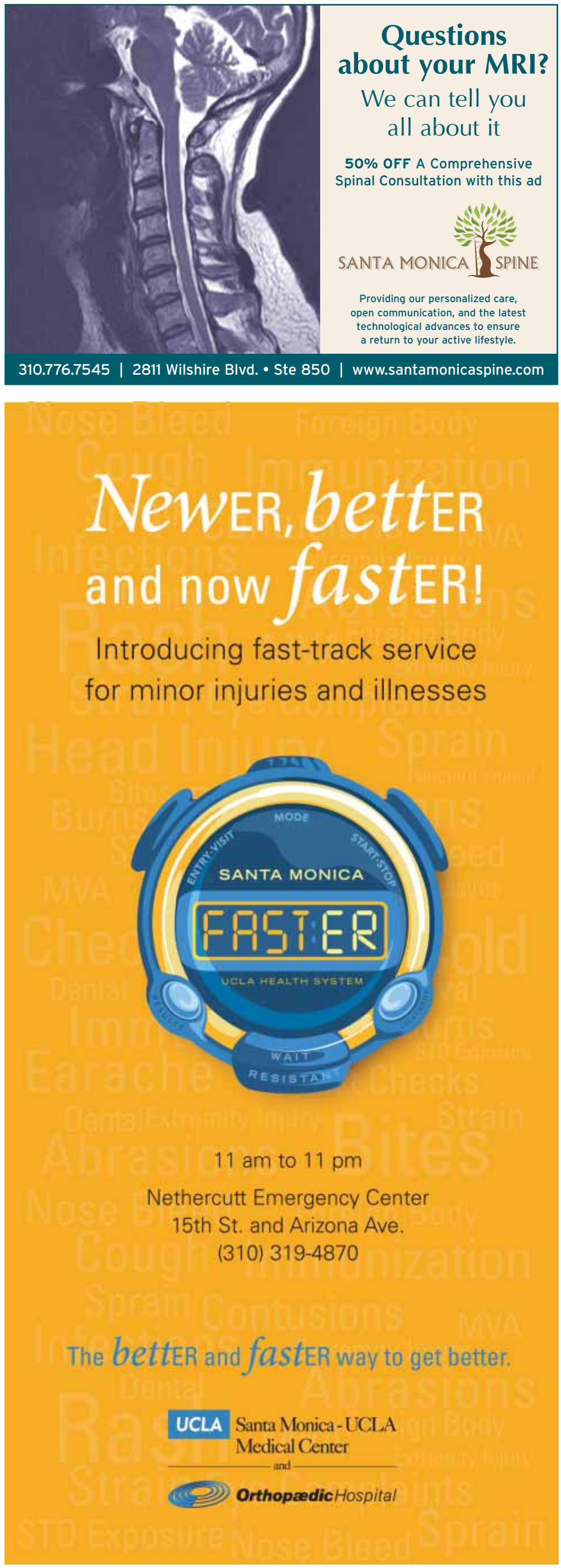
Retail sales rose 1.4 percent last month, the Commerce Department said. But excluding a big rebound in auto sales, the gain was just 0.2 percent. Strength at general merchandise stores like Wal-Mart and Target was offset by sales declines at furniture stores, appliance stores and hardware stores.

Zandi said one telling statistic about household finances was that the number of bank credit cards in circulation has fallen 18 percent since the year began. That's happened as banks facing soaring loan losses have tightened credit standards.

Consumer credit has now fallen for a record eight straight months through September and households are struggling to manage their debt levels after the most severe recession since the 1930s.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke warned Monday of "important headwinds," such as the weak job market and tight credit conditions. These forces "likely will prevent the expansion from being as robust as we would hope," he told the Economic Club of New York.





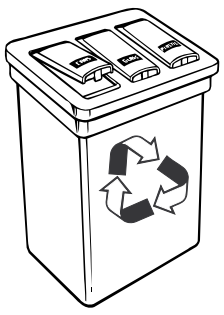


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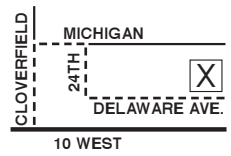


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- **Submission deadline is December 2, 2009 at 3:00 PM PT.**

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-8281 or by e-mailing your request to kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
- http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

Twitter to overhaul user list seen as partisan

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Social-networking site Twitter plans to end a service that links prominent message posters with new users, a service that was criticized in California because of perceived unfairness toward GOP gubernatorial candidates.

Twitter co-founder Biz Stone said Monday the San Francisco-based company will overhaul its "suggested users" list, which links Twitter users with a pool of about 500 celebrities, sports figures and politicians they might want to follow.

"That list will be going away," Stone said at a conference in Malaysia. "In its stead will be something that is more programmatically chosen, something that actually delivers more relevant suggestions."

Names on the suggested user list are selected by company officials. In California, Democratic gubernatorial hopefuls were placed on the list, a move that greatly boosted their number of followers. Republican candidates were left off until recently.

The difference in treatment drew outcries from good government groups and contributed to a decision by the California Fair Political Practices Commission to hold hearings next year. The commission plans to examine whether it needs to regulate how campaigns intersect with social media.

In the three weeks since an Associated Press story about the suggested user list, Twitter executives added all three of the Republican candidates seeking to replace Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is termed out of office after next year.

The switch gave each Republican a significant bump in followers, demonstrating the list's reach and influence.

Former eBay chief executive Meg Whitman, who led the Republican field with 4,160 Twitter followers, jumped to nearly 61,000 followers. Former Congressman Tom Campbell went from 1,660 followers to 57,500, while state Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner's nearly 2,600 followers increased to 56,500.

By comparison, Attorney General Jerry Brown, the presumed Democratic gubernatorial candidate, increased from 960,000 followers to 1 million during the same three-week period.

Twitter also added Carly Fiorina, who is seeking the Republican nomination to challenge Democratic U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer next year. The list's expansion drew praise from Kim Alexander, president of the nonprofit California Voter Foundation.

LA pushes to get repaid for $3M Jackson memorial

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles city attorney still plans to seek reimbursement of the $3 million the city spent for the Michael Jackson memorial, a spokesman said Monday, despite an audit concluding the event pumped even more dollars into the local economy.

The July 7 memorial at Staples Center was a $4 million boon for local hotels, restaurants and other businesses, according to the report released Friday from the city's chief legislative analyst and city administrative officer. The City Council's Public Safety Committee is expected to review the report next week.

City Attorney Carmen Trutanich is still committed to seeking reimbursement from Staples owner Anschutz Entertainment Group, or AEG.

"The bottom line is the city attorney's very committed to recouping the taxpayer's dollars," spokesman John Franklin said. "During these tough economic times right now, that's big money. We're laying off, people are getting furloughed. ... It's still money that we put out for a memorial service for Michael Jackson."

AEG President and Chief Executive Tim Leiweke has accused Trutanich of trying to bully the company into paying.

The audit said the city spent $3.2 million on the event, including $2 million in police overtime. However, it noted that there was no ordinance in place at the time that would require the organizer to reimburse city costs. That measure was only adopted on Oct. 26.

Given the memorial's economic benefits and the lack of an ordinance, "the city may wish to cease pursuing cost reimbursement," the report concluded.

Calls to representatives of AEG before work hours Monday were not immediately returned.

Jackson, 50, died of an overdose of sedatives on June 25. His star-studded memorial service at Staples Center brought in thousands of people to the city. The city had nearly 4,000 police out at the arena, the Jackson family compound in Encino and a cemetery to deal with expected crowds. There were no reported problems.



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For UCLA Riders: From 10pm Wednesday, November 25 until 7am on Monday, November 30, all lines will operate to and from the Ackerman Terminal only, since the Hilgard Terminal will be closed all weekend.

For more information call 310.451.5444 or visit BigBlueBus.com

Millions will have to repay part of Obama tax credit

STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON More than 15 million taxpayers may owe the government $250 or more because of how the IRS last spring set up President Barack Obama's tax break that was designed to help consumers spend the U.S. economy out of recession.

Individuals with more than one job and married couples in which both spouses work may have to repay the government $400, either through a smaller tax refund or a larger tax bill, according to a report released Monday by the Treasury Department's inspector general for tax administration. Social Security recipients who also earn taxable wages may have to repay $250.

The tax credit, which is supposed to pay individuals up to $400 and couples up to $800, was Obama's signature tax break in the massive stimulus package enacted in February. The credit has increased weekly paychecks for 95 percent of working families, giving them cash to help boost consumer spending during the worst economic recession in decades.

Workers concerned about whether they are withholding enough taxes can use a calculator on the IRS Web site to find the appropriate amount that should be withheld.

Taxpayers can adjust their withholding by filing a new W-4 form with their employer. But with only a month and a half remaining in the 2009 tax year, it's getting late to make adjustments.

Most workers started receiving the credit through small increases in their paychecks in April. The tax credit was made available through new tax withholding tables issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

The withholding tables, however, do not take into account several common categories of taxpayers. And that could force some people to repay what the government gave them.

For example, a worker with two jobs gets a $400 boost in pay at each job, for a total of $800. That worker, however, only is eligible for a maximum credit of $400, so the remaining $400 will have to be paid back at tax time — either through a smaller refund or a payment to the IRS.

The IRS recognized there could be a similar problem for married couples if both spouses work, so it adjusted the withholding tables. The fix, however, was imperfect.

A married couple is eligible for an $800 credit. However, if both spouses work and make more than $13,000, the new withholding tables give them each a $600 boost — for a total of $1,200.

There were 33 million married couples in 2008 in which both spouses worked. That's 55 percent of all married couples, according to the Census Bureau.

Also, a single student with a part-time job gets a $400 boost in pay. However, if students are claimed as dependents on their parents' tax returns, they don't qualify for the credit and would have to repay it when they file their returns.

Some retirees face even bigger headaches.

More than 50 million Social Security recipients received $250 payments in the spring as part of the economic stimulus package. Those lump sum payments were intended to provide a boost for people who didn't qualify for the tax credit.

However, the payments were sent to many retirees who also received the tax credit. Those retirees will have the $250 payment deducted from their tax credit — but not until they file their tax returns next year, long after the money may have been spent.

"More than 10 percent of all taxpayers who file individual tax returns for 2009 could owe additional taxes," said J. Russell George, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration.

Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, called problems with the tax credit "another unfortunate example of what can happen when Congress and the White House rush through legislation like the stimulus without thinking through the consequences."

The tax credit is also available for 2010. George said the problems will continue if workers don't adjust their withholding for next year.

For many, the new tax tables will simply mean smaller-than-expected tax refunds. The average tax refund this year was about $2,800. A little more than three-fourths of the 143 million taxpayers filing a return last spring received refunds, according to the IRS.

But for 15.4 million taxpayers, the new tax tables will mean an unexpected tax bill, according the IG report.

The IRS was aware of the issues when the withholding tables were released last spring and waged a public awareness campaign to get people to check their tax withholding, said Michael Mundaca, acting assistant treasury secretary.

"It's just technically how withholding works," Mundaca said. "It's an approximation and therefore for some people there will be overwithholding and for some people there will be underwithholding."

Separately, the IRS estimated that about 65,000 taxpayers could face penalties for not withholding enough taxes in 2009 because of the Making Work Pay tax credit. However, those taxpayers will be eligible to have the penalty waived, IRS spokeswoman Michelle Eldridge said.

The credit pays workers 6.2 percent of their earned income, up to a maximum of $400 for individuals and $800 for married couples who file jointly. Individuals making more than $95,000 and couples making more than $190,000 are ineligible.

On the Web:
IRS Making Work Pay tax credit: http://tiny.cc/g7d83
IRS withholding calculator: http://tiny.cc/AtuhO

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 62°

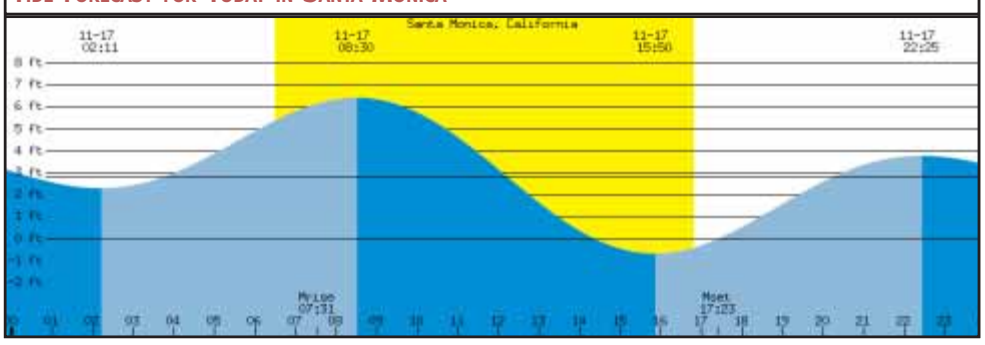
Swell Forecast

Looks smaller, perhaps knee to waist most everywhere.

Long Range Synopsis

LOOKS RATHER SMALL AS WELL.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **November 10, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 35
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / 11

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

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

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'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.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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17-year-old luger Kate Hansen surprising herself

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

Kate Hansen still hasn't discussed Olympic plans, such as finding hotel rooms and tickets, with her family.

Might be time to speed up that process.

The 17-year-old, sandals-wearing, ukulele-playing high schooler from Southern California was a surprise winner of USA Luge's race-off series this fall. Now, Hansen has a spot on the World Cup roster and a real chance to compete in the Vancouver Olympics, something even she thought was a farfetched notion.

"No one really thought it's going to happen," Hansen said Monday. "Including me."

Think again, kid.

Her path to the Olympics will not be easy. Making the World Cup team doesn't assure her anything other than a chance to compete in the first two races on the international circuit, starting this weekend in Calgary, Alberta and then Nov. 28-29 in Igls, Austria. If she doesn't collect a top-nine finish in either race, she'll need to re-qualify to keep her spot on the World Cup team.

Still, just having an Olympic chance is enough to keep the La Canada, Calif. native more than happy these days.

"I cannot stop thinking about it," Hansen said. "At the beginning of this process, it was all just 'OK, I'm going to do my best.' But as each race has gone by, it's becoming more and more real. And I think about it all ... the ... time. I think about finally calling my parents and being like 'Mom, guess what?' Or sending that text to my friends saying it's going to happen. It's been my dream for so long."

As luge stories often do, Hansen's started on a lark.

Born and raised in Southern California, Hansen got started as a 10-year-old at a USA Luge slider search event in Long Beach, Calif., earning an invitation to Lake Placid. For someone with palm trees in the yard, a love of surfing and an absolute hatred of cold weather, luge didn't seem like a natural fit.

Luge seemed more a hobby than anything else until 2008, when Hansen won the junior national title. From there, she's been flying. Schoolwork largely gets done over the Internet thanks to some understanding teachers, friends keep in touch by texting and Facebook. No one in her circle really gets luge, Hansen said — but they all know the significance of the Olympics.

"I never thought this would happen in a million years," Hansen said.

This wasn't a fluke, either. Hansen dominated the race-off series.

Her spot on the World Cup team was formally wrapped up Sunday, when she won a two-run qualifying race in Whistler, British Columbia — the sliding site for the 2010 Games and the track where she broke two vertebrae in a scary crash last year. Hansen's two-run time Sunday of 1 minute, 40.975 seconds was more than seven-tenths ahead of any other U.S. racer, a huge gap in a sport like luge.

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Between the Folds (NR) 1hr
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
2:30, 6:00, 9:30

Pirate Radio (R) 1hr 55min
1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

Ten9eight (NR) 1hr 25min
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00

A Serious Man (R) 1hr 45min
1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35

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

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
12:00, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30

Disney's A Christmas Carol (PG) 1hr 36min
1:45, 4:10, 6:45, 9:00

Disney's A Christmas Carol in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

The Fourth Kind (PG-13) 1hr 38min
12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50

Men Who Stare at Goats (R) 1hr 30min
12:30, 2:50, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20

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

The Maid (La nana) (NR) 1hr 49min
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:15

Love Hurts (PG-13) 1hr 50min
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55

Irene In Time (PG-13) 1hr 49min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00

Precious (R) 1hr 49min
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15

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

The Box (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:30 (am), 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

Couples Retreat (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:30, 6:40

Law Abiding Citizen (R) 1hr 48min
11:40 (am), 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

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

Paranormal Activity (R) 1hr 39min
1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 8:00, 10:10

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
4:20, 9:20

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

Go where the action is, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Your energy changes dramatically. Try to detach and look at a situation as if you weren't a player. You might like what you see. A special effort goes a long way, especially if you don't expect a response. Tonight: Surf the Net. Watch a movie.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Deal with others directly and with a smile. What seems OK actually might not be. Work with a close associate or loved one directly. The end results will prove to be far better. Refuse to delegate at the present moment. Tonight: Relate on an individual level.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Keep pushing for different answers and solutions. Though you might not be the final person making the decision, you could make a difference by asking questions. Clearly, someone cares a lot about you; decide what you want to do here. Tonight: Sort through possibilities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Dig into work realizing just how much you can accomplish if you do your work but also diligently court another's favor. Though on some level you might be resentful because you have to play this game, you will. Someone admires your style, even if you are frustrated. Tonight: Go home and relax.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You might express an unusual playfulness that stems from having too much energy. Plug some of this energy into your work. A relationship will benefit from your attitude, and you'll create a lot of romantic interest if you are single. Tonight: Enjoy just being.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ If you can work from home, do. You might feel more relaxed in this atmosphere. Some of you might want to spend some time dealing with a domestic or personal issue before diving into what you must do. A gentle approach goes far. Tonight: Close to home base.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep conversations moving, and you might be surprised by the results. You might want to convince a sibling or neighbor to follow your lead. Take a proactive stand in order to make a situation work. A meeting or discussion might have some irritating features. Know that it all will work out. Tonight: Meet a pal and hang out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of the cost of proceeding in a certain direction. You might feel as if you need to try something very different or listen more carefully to what is being shared. News comes your way that could impact you financially. Tonight: Take a hard look at your budget, and then decide.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are in prime shape and ready to take a stand. What you perceive, many do not. You need to be explicit as far as what you are seeing and the direction you are heading. Understanding will grow to a new level if you keep dialoguing. Tonight: Try something different.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Know when to back off or do something differently. Your humor and understanding might not be appreciated. Someone needs to see the issue by him- or herself. A partner or associate could be quite aggressive or assertive. Tonight: Fly solo.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Don't lose focus. A friend or loved one pushes hard to get his or her way. Honor your own priorities if possible. Understanding grows between you and someone else. Listening to this person's view doesn't mean you agree. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Open up to new possibilities, especially if they surround a boss or someone you respect. Note that others frequently watch what you are doing and follow your lead. Go for a brisk walk if you're stressed out. Tonight: Don't count on it being early.

Happy birthday

This year, possibilities occur through a very assertive person. That person could be you, and others could be reacting to your style. You will start looking at different ways of making money or opt to cut back. If you are single, carefully check out anyone you meet. Someone might not be everything you think. Take your time establishing a bond. If you are attached, try to enlist your significant other in your projects more often. SAGITTARIUS has great ways to spend your money!

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

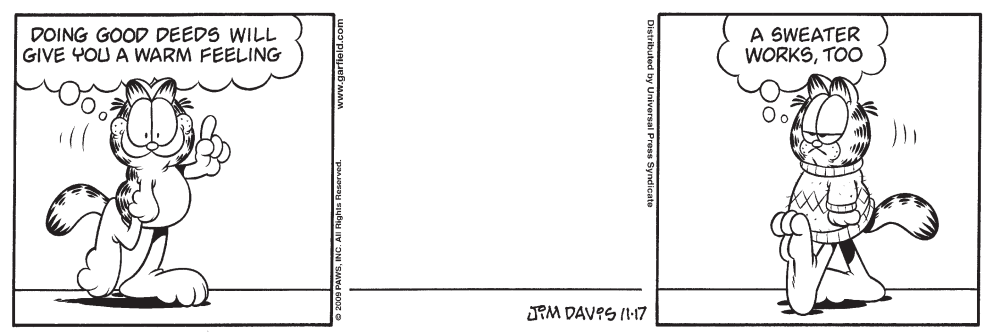
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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



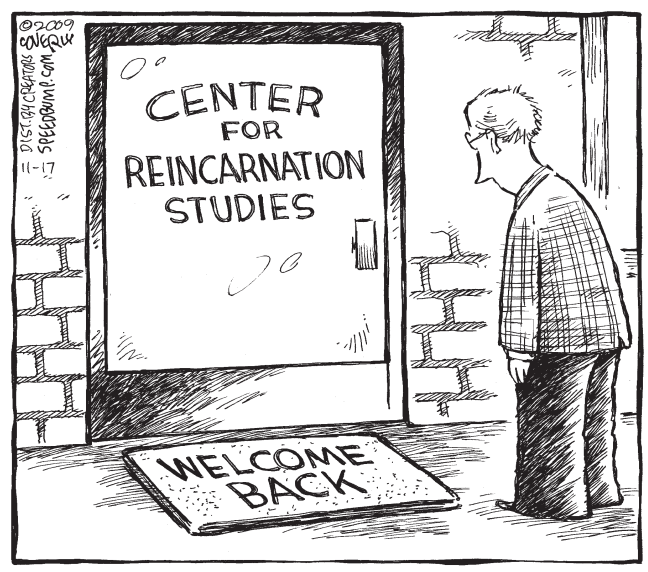
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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Leslie Thomas *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Parish head
6 Fire starter
11 Quite impressed
12 Irritation
13 "Two Tahitian Women" painter
15 Print units
16 Free (of)
17 One or more
18 Some square dancers
20 Farrow of film
21 Snaky letter
22 Writer Thomas
23 Print units
26 Puts on the wall
27 Turkey neighbor
28 Braille unit
29 Summit
30 Column-supported roof
34 Aardvark's snack
35 Parisian pal
36 S. Dak. neighbor
37 "The Card-players" painter
40 Concur
41 Playwright Clifford
42 Most college applicants
43 Like Thor and Odin

DOWN

1 Deadly snake
2 Laughable
3 Lead to
4 Leather tool
5 Return to a younger age
6 Taters
7 Greedy one
8 Super-hero from Atlantis
9 Spoiling
10 Nairobi natives
14 Melodies
19 Free from fat
22 Swimmer Biondi
23 Heartbeat sound
24 Tool-making time
25 Appre-hension
26 Distant sight
28 Capitol part
30 Walks ner-vously
31 Central
32 Some change
33 Past plump
38 Actor Cariou
39 Commo-tion

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

11-17

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 27 43 45 49 54
Meganumber: 44
Jackpot: $17M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 15 33 37 38 47
Meganumber: 16
Jackpot: $22M

FANTASY 5: 7 10 13 34 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 2 5
EVENING: 3 2 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.48.73

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

■ Troubling Products: (1) Mattel is accepting pre-orders for the April 2010 release of the newest doll in the Barbie/Ken line, the spiffily dressed Palm Beach Sugar Daddy Ken (apparently to be showcased with a much younger, trophy-type Barbie). (2) Even more troubling (but so far only a prototype) is Alex Green's "Placenta Teddy Bear," exhibited in London in September and Newcastle, England, in October at the "(re)design" showcase of "sustainable toys" with children's themes. After the placenta is cured and dried, it is treated with an emulsifier to render it pliable and cut into strips with which to stitch Teddy together, thus "unify(ing)" mother and baby.

■ CNN, reporting from the London Zoo in August, described the excitement surrounding news that the zoo would soon acquire a 12-year-old male gorilla from a preserve in France. Zoo officials were pleased, but its three older female gorillas were almost ecstatic. Shown posters of "Yeboah," the male, female "Zaire" "shrieked in delight"; "Effie" wedged the poster into a tree and stared at it; and "Mjukuu" held the photo close to her chest, "then ate it."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1858 Modified Julian Day zero.

1863 American Civil War: Siege of Knoxville begins – Confederate forces led by General James Longstreet place Knoxville, Tennessee under siege.

1871 The National Rifle Association is granted a charter by the state of New York.

1876 Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's patriotic Slavonic March is given its première performance in Moscow, to a warm reception by the Russian people.

1878 First assassination attempt against Umberto I of Italy.

1911 The Omega Psi Phi fraternity, the first African-American fraternity at a historically black college or university, is founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

1922 Former Ottoman sultan Mehmed VI goes into exile in Italy.

WORD UP!

hoi polloi \hoi-puh-LOI\ , noun;
1. The common people generally; the masses.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Obituaries

JANET S. ASKREN

Janet S. Askren, age 71, died Thursday, November 12, 2009 at Mercy Regional Health Center after an extended battle with Parkinson's Disease. She had recently been diagnosed with colon cancer. She was a longtime resident of St. Joseph Senior Village, Manhattan.

Ms. Askren was born May 14, 1938 in Osborne, Kansas, to Charles Richard "Dick" Mann and Leta L. (Watson) Mann.

She was raised in Topeka, Kan., and graduated from Topeka High School in 1956. Ms. Askren attended Washburn University in Topeka for two years, where she was a member of the Delta Gamma sorority. Ms. Askren worked as a psychiatric aide at the Topeka State Hospital after college.

On August 10, 1961, she married Merlin Gayle Askren in San Diego, California. They were later divorced.

In 1966, she moved to Santa Monica, Calif., where she resided until 1991. She was a staff assistant at the Fairview Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library from 1974 to 1990, when she was forced to retire due to health issues. While in Santa Monica, she was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Ms. Askren was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Marilyn McCulley Mann.

Survivors include a brother, David Michael Mann, Topeka; a daughter, Marisa Askren-Newman, Santee, Calif.; a grandson, Alex Loupe, Menifee, Calif.; a granddaughter, Olivia Loupe, Santee, Calif.; and nephews Scott McCulley, Burien, Wash.; Kurt McCulley, St. Louis, Mo., and Dan McCulley, Manhattan.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, November 21st, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with The Reverend Thomas D. Miles officiating. Inurnment will be in Sunrise Cemetery, Manhattan, Kansas.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to St. Joseph Village and the Parkinson's Disease Association. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

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1244 Euclid 2+1 upper unit #10 stove, fridge, marble bathroom floors, carpets blinds, free standing balcony, parking, pets OK with deposit .$1725/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2295 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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For Rent

L.A. 1523 Holt Ave unit 1+1 large lower unit stove, fridge, hardwood, parking, cat OK with deposit, $1175, $500 off move-in (310) 578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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

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

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 224 1bdrm/1bath, carpet, granite counter tops, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, no pets. $1000/mo $500 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12766 Matteson Ave #8 2+2 $1375/mo stove, fridge, tile and vinlyn floors, blinds, parking, laundry, no pets call between 5:30-7:30pm units shown by appt.only $500 off move-in (310) 439-1928 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12766 Matteson Ave #6 1+1 $1025/mo stove, fridge, tile and vinlyn floors, blinds, parking, laundry, no pets call between 5:30-7:30pm units shown by appt.only $500 off move-in (310) 439-1928 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA near Marina. $1050/mo 1bd+den 1ba, carpet, blinds, stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking, no pets. 310-456-5659.

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1050/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $500 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. unit 1 2+2 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1395/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1495.00 2bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwshr, washr/dryr, 2-car garage gas-fireplace. 12048 Culver Blvd. #202 Open daily 9am-7pm. Additional info in unit

MV/MDR adj. $900 Large Studio, single, Full kitchen, stove & refrigerator, large closets, carpets, laundry, parking. Info (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m.

MV / MDR adj.$1100 one bedroom upper appliances, new carpet, private balcony, laundry, parking, Info (310)828-4481 or (310) 993-0414 after 6 p.m.

PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1375/mo $500 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

For Rent

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $950 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

PALMS 3540 Overland 1+1 unit 2 $850 Stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, laundry, street parking, no pets. $700 off move-in special. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

PALMS ADJ/ LaCienga Hghts. $925.00 1 Bdrm, 1Bath, NO PETS, stove, refrg, parking 2009 Preuss Rd., #10 Open daily 9am-7pm . Additional info in unit

PALMS NEWER building ask about move-in specials $925 + singles. $1195 + 1bdr, $1545 + 2bdrm.Gated entry + park.Tile floors + granite, 2 elevators, A/C 2848 Overlans Ave (310)839-3647

PRIME LOCATION Westwood, North of Santa Monica 2+2 remodeled, gate/garage no pets 1607 Greenfield Ave. $1750 (310)666-4033

SANTA MONICA $1200.00 1 bdrm, 1 bath, no pets, stove, refrig, patio, parking 2533 Kansas Ave., #109 Open daily for viewing 8am to 7pm. Additional info in apt Mgr: apt #101

SANTA MONICA $1750/mo. 19th Street near SM. Blvd., spacious 2bd/1bath, Large private patio, new carpets, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry, parking, small building. Info (310)828-4481.or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m

SANTA MONICA Condo. 1301 Franklin 2+1 stove, fridge, microwave, tile floors, dish washer hardwood floors. Washer/dryer hookup. Intercom entry. Gated, shared garage parking. Cat OK w/deposit $1950 $700 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

SANTA MONICA Prime location 2+2 hardwood floors, newely remodeled parking included $1850 & $1950 1423 15th Street. Sarah (310)597-7211

SM 1228 Berkeley St.Single $1195/mo, 1 month FREE OAC furnished $1295 1 month FREE OAC & flat screen HDTV Newly remodeled units, new appliances, new wood floors, private enclosed garage pets OK (310)278-8999

VENICE 714 1/2 Indiana Ave. 2 bedroom 1 bath lower unit stove fridge ceiling fans tile hardwood floors laundry gated entry no pets $1695 (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091679589 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as THEOMEGA-BOY, 17147 MARTHA ST, ENCINO, CA 91316. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : DAVID AMICHAI, 17147 MARTHA ST, ENCINO, CA 91316 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/5/2009. /s/: DAVID AMICHAI
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/6/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. 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 11/17/2009, 11/24/2009, 12/1/2009, 12/8/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091580308 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LETO REALTY; HOUSEGROUSE.COM, 11318 BIONA DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : BRIAN LETOURNEAU, 11318 BIONA DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: BRIAN LETOURNEAU
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/19/2009. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. 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 11/17/2009, 11/24/2009, 12/1/2009, 12/8/2009

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First Ten Months of 2008 compared to First Ten Months of 2009

Santa Monica Single Family Homes

Santa Monica Canyon

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	15	11	-27%
Average Days on the Market	129	67	-48%
Lowest Price	$1,487,000	$875,000	-41%
Median Price	$2,050,000	$2,175,000	6%
Highest Price	$5,295,000	$4,700,000	-11%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$869	$805	-7%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	96%	94%	-2%

North of Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	60	46	-23%
Average Days on the Market	52	83	60%
Lowest Price	$1,575,000	$1,400,000	-11%
Median Price	$2,970,325	$2,325,000	-22%
Highest Price	$8,600,000	$4,500,000	-48%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$900	$780	-13%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	93%	-4%

Between Wilshire and Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	17	19	12%
Average Days on the Market	57	90	58%
Lowest Price	$1,337,500	$1,027,125	-23%
Median Price	$2,011,000	$1,600,000	-20%
Highest Price	$3,000,000	$2,800,000	-7%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$861	$660	-23%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	95%	-2%

South of Wilshire

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	11	3	-73%
Average Days on the Market	40	96	140%
Lowest Price	$550,000	$659,500	20%
Median Price	$830,000	$739,000	-11%
Highest Price	$2,300,000	$790,000	-66%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$549	$686	25%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	98%	96%	-2%

Sunset Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	27	31	15%
Average Days on the Market	59	67	14%
Lowest Price	$780,000	$675,000	-13%
Median Price	$1,075,000	$1,100,000	2%
Highest Price	$2,520,000	$1,875,000	-26%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$668	$611	-9%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	94%	95%	1%

Ocean Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	13	15	15%
Average Days on the Market	178	62	-65%
Lowest Price	$615,000	$650,000	6%
Median Price	$1,050,000	$1,175,000	12%
Highest Price	$2,225,000	$2,775,000	25%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$892	$792	-11%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	92%	96%	4%

Santa Monica Condo's & Townhomes

Santa Monica Canyon

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	1	3	200%
Average Days on the Market	330	51	-85%
Lowest Price	$1,150,000	$1,014,000	-12%
Median Price	$1,150,000	$1,475,000	28%
Highest Price	$1,150,000	$5,100,000	343%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$824	$1,304	58%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	100%	93%	-7%

North of Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	26	16	-38%
Average Days on the Market	68	119	75%
Lowest Price	$465,000	$414,000	-11%
Median Price	$1,246,500	$1,207,500	-3%
Highest Price	$5,800,000	$3,175,000	-45%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$913	$855	-6%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	90%	91%	1%

Between Wilshire and Montana

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	94	110	17%
Average Days on the Market	62	51	-18%
Lowest Price	$317,000	$280,000	-12%
Median Price	$768,000	$726,000	-5%
Highest Price	$1,600,000	$3,100,000	94%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$615	$583	-5%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	96%	-1%

South of Wilshire

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	91	77	-15%
Average Days on the Market	83	79	-5%
Lowest Price	$100,000	$156,126	56%
Median Price	$590,000	$530,000	-10%
Highest Price	$1,040,000	$945,000	-9%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$509	$457	-10%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	96%	96%	0%

Sunset Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	28	18	-36%
Average Days on the Market	60	53	-12%
Lowest Price	$345,000	$439,000	27%
Median Price	$732,500	$564,000	-23%
Highest Price	$1,199,000	$975,000	-19%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$491	$419	-15%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	97%	98%	1%

Ocean Park

	previous period 1-1-08 thru 10-31-08	current period 1-1-09 thru 10-31-09	% change
Number of Sales	44	48	9%
Average Days on the Market	104	61	-41%
Lowest Price	$360,000	$280,000	-22%
Median Price	$705,500	$770,500	9%
Highest Price	$1,750,000	$1,200,000	-31%
Average Price Per Square Foot	$712	$617	-13%
Average Sale Price / Average List Price	95%	96%	1%

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