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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2012
Volume 12 Issue 9

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TURKEY WITH YOUR POLITICS
SEE PAGE 3

THE ALMOST THE BIG DAY ISSUE

SMC to offer winter courses

Proposition 30, improving economic outlook cause reevaluation by officials

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BLVD Santa Monica College officials announced Tuesday that they will offer classes this winter thanks to the passage of a school-funding measure on the November ballot, Proposition 30, and an improving economic picture painted by the California Legislative Analyst's Office.

The move reverses a September decision to leave the six-week program out of the college's budget.

The winter session will consist of at least 250 class sections, which officials hope will ease some of the burden on students strug-

SEE SMC PAGE 10



SMC GRADUATION

County cracks down on mislabeled seafood

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN L.A. Consumers rely on labels to tell them what they're buying, but as it turns out, that might not work so well in the Los Angeles fish market.

A special task force of local, state and federal agencies found that restaurants and markets across the L.A. region were selling consumers seafood that didn't always live up to the name on the label, including several in Santa Monica.

According to the report by the Seafood Task Force, 74 percent of facilities investigated were either substituting one fish for another without informing their customers or claiming that certain fish came from a specific part of the world without proof.

Although the survey was meant to be an informational exercise, officials referred at least two establishments to law enforcement.

Seafood mislabeling can have serious health impacts, not to mention the unfair burden on consumers' wallets, said Tony Bell, spokesperson for Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, the elected

SEE COUNTY PAGE 11



CRAYFISH



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

WHAT'S COOKING? **Sous chef Martin Cervantes prepares lobster at The Lobster on Tuesday.**

Motorcyclist killed in collision with Big Blue Bus

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

PACIFIC PALISADES A motorcyclist lost his life Tuesday morning when he collided with a Big Blue Bus and was pinned underneath, police said.

The man died at the scene. Authorities are still investigating and have not released the name or age of the deceased.

An official with the bus company said the BBB driver was making a legal left turn onto Sunset Boulevard from Marquez Avenue when the motorcyclist ran into the side of the Route 9 bus. The collision occurred around 10:30 a.m.

There were no passengers on the bus, said Suja Lowenthal, government and community relations manager for the BBB.

"It's a tragic situation," she said. "We expect the driver is quite shaken up and we have to ensure that he is assessed and provide all the services he needs."

Lowenthal was still gathering information and could not provide details on the driver's condition, his tenure with the bus company and what next steps the BBB will take following the fatal collision.

kevinh@smdp.com

Bloom leads by slimmest margin yet for Assembly

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

NORWALK, CALIF. Only 79 votes separate Mayor Richard Bloom and Assemblywoman Betsy Butler in their race for the 50th

SEE ELECTION PAGE 3

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2012

Getting fresh for the holiday
Downtown Farmers' Market
Second Street and Arizona Avenue, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Take advantage of this last opportunity to get farm-fresh produce for your Thanksgiving dinner. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Feeding the needy
St. Monica Catholic Community
725 California Ave.,
3 p.m. — 6 p.m.
St. Monica Catholic Community will host its annual Thanksgiving dinner for those who may be facing particular financial hardships this season and those who find themselves alone this holiday. The dinner is free of charge and will be served in the auditorium. For more information, call (310) 566-1500.

Game on
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Join other players and learn about the mysteries and secrets of chess and other strategy games. This program is for youth, their families and caregivers. No registration required. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012

Thankful for skating
ICE at Santa Monica
1324 Fifth St.,
10 a.m. — 10 p.m.
Ice skating by the beach? The annual ICE at Santa Monica rink will be open on Thanksgiving to give locals a taste of winter. For more information, visit www.downtownsm.com/ice.

A Westside Thanksgiving
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St.,
11 a.m. — 3 p.m.
Celebrate Thanksgiving Day with a hearty traditional dinner. Last year many students, singles, low-income families, seniors and those who were homeless joined the celebration. While there, you'll have the opportunity to have a basic medical consultation, a haircut, basic eye exam and pick up some donated clothing. For more information, visit westsidethanksgiving.org.

Friday, Nov. 23, 2012

Get crafty
Third Street Promenade
12 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Downtown Santa Monica invites the little ones to get creative and decorate ornaments for the holidays. Third Street Promenade between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue.
For more information, visit www.downtownsm.com.

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

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

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

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



ELECTION
FROM PAGE 1

Assembly District as of Tuesday afternoon, county officials say.

That's the lowest margin so far in the contest, which Bloom has consistently led since the initial batch of results was announced on Nov. 7.

Bloom now commands 85,508 votes, and Butler 85,429 — a .04 percent difference.

The new numbers come after another 130,063 ballots were added across the county. There are another 215,991 left to count, officials say.

Another vote update is expected on Friday afternoon.

news@smdp.com

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Families talk turkey over Thanksgiving dinner

JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

Ah, Thanksgiving. A little turkey, some cranberry mold, maybe apple pie with ice cream, some football on TV. Getting together with the cousins. Catching up beside the fire. Togetherness.

On second thought: Scratch that. What were we thinking? This was an election year.

"The Thanksgiving table will be a battleground," says Andrew Marshall, 34, of Quincy, Mass.

Like many extended families across the country, Marshall's includes Democrats and Republicans, conservatives, liberals and independents. And so, like many families that count both red and blue voters in their ranks, they're expecting fireworks. Things had already gotten so bad on Facebook, the family had to ban political banter.

"It was getting brutal," says Marshall.

SEE **DINNER** PAGE 9

LOCAL SPORTS ROUNDUP

SMC football takes home awards

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SMC You can say it was a good year for Santa Monica College football.

They finished the season as the Pacific Conference champs for the second time in a row and have been rewarded for their efforts with a boat-load of conference honors, it was announced this week.

The Corsairs swept the three top honors with quarterback Alfonso Medina winning Offensive Player of the Year, cornerback Qujuan Floyd earning Defensive Player of the Year and Gifford Lindheim taking home Coach of the Year.

The first team on offense and defense included 10 SMC players.

On defense, defensive lineman Marcus Manley, linebacker Austin Ehrlich and punter Ret Tillman made the squad. On offense, center Brian Polio, lineman Dominique Vaughn, wide receivers Ralph Gordon II and Reggie Mitchell, running back Myles Johnson and kicker Jose Esquivel also received nods.

The second team includes three Corsairs with linebacker Ben Brown, cornerback Rico Wright and tight end Dominique Bierria making the cut.

The Corsairs finished the season 9-2 with an appearance in the American Championship Bowl, where they lost to Southwestern College.

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN V-BALL HONORED

Pacifica Christian girls' volleyball capped a successful season with All-Liberty League honors.

Senior Kiani Lane was named Most Valuable Player after a season of leading the Seawolves to a 32-3 record and an appearance in the final of the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 playoffs.

The first team includes junior Grace Minchin, senior Genevieve Hook and sophomore Maile Lane.

Kiani Lane is being recruited by Rice, Gonzaga and Notre Dame.

news@smdp.com



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

THERE HE GOES: **SMC running back Myles Johnson was named to the All-Pacific Conference team.**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Critical thinking

Editor:

In regards to Lincoln's statement, and I paraphrase, we would indeed lose our freedoms if left to an antiquated system of fruitless beliefs, but I digress ("God will not be mocked," Your Column Here, Nov. 14).

You obviously subscribe to the erroneous yet unfortunately effective school of, "Tell a lie a thousand times and it will become a truth." You are consistent, I'll hand you that. In response to yet another one of your religious-themed essays, I posit this: Open your mind and accept the fact that one does not require a (insert deity or religious affiliation here) in order to be a compassionate, kind, loving, industrious, decent and peaceful human being, whom, it so happens, is not encumbered by an intellectually stifling dogma, regardless of "brand."

Due to the First Amendment, you have every right in this country to speak your mind, but at the close of day, yours are merely opinions and we all know what they are like. But when you arrogantly claim to speak on behalf of all Americans, you pretty much step over a line that even your limited scope of imagination can't embrace, or refuses to.

The God you speak of is nowhere to be found in the Constitution, and our forefathers knew all too well (Age of Enlightenment) the consequences of a "religiously infected" rule of law. Evangelism, dominionism, all religions in general are nothing more than the writings of man, for man and for man's purposes. As history has proved repeatedly, man is not infallible. The recitation of ancient scriptures, those written by said man, cannot compete with the actions of a truly free and courageous, enlightened individual.

So chill, Mr. Barber, no one is mocking your God. As man named this particular God a man, due to his arrogance, it follows that to fear the wrath of this invisible "Man-God" is simply the result of those repetitive untruths I mentioned earlier, and amount to absolutely nothing but continued fear. In reality, "He" is a phantom perpetrated in this case by white men. It appears that the reign of the "white man's patriarchy" and his invention is coming to a much needed finale. An evolution is taking place, albeit slowly but surely.

As is your right, by all means continue your proselytizing, but know this – its effect and historically-tainted results are falling (and failing) on an increasingly awakening populace. (Seeing how I don't believe in your "hell," we can dispense with any hollow threats.) It should be quite obvious by now that a growing number of enlightened individuals have chosen not to mock your God, but rather the men who have insidiously used fear, intimidation and guilt in order to enslave a perfectly good mind. It has been a very long imprisonment, but stuff happens; sort of like evolution!

This is not necessarily a linear, black-and-white existence. It is a beautiful opportunity to experience the multiple shades/twists and turns of a progressive evolution, and all that that entails, without fear of archaic dogma or myths of old. Yeah, it's wake-up time – and it is good! The days and frightful nights of men in gowns and funny hats, and those charismatic charlatans with outstanding pompadours telling everyone just how to live one's life, are rapidly waning and none too soon. Good riddance!

So carry on, Matt and friends, and lament your pitiful state of self righteous indignation along with your refusal to see anything past that Bible plastered to your nose. Those of us who have acquired and respect the ability to think critically will continue to marvel at the possibilities when a mind is truly opened, fearless and finally freed.

B. Jones
Santa Monica

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• **editor@smdp.com**



The Taxman

Jon Coupal — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

It's scary season, again

THIS FALL HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY frightening. There have been the little monsters at our doors on Halloween, the monstrous politicians invading our homes through the television and there has been that property tax bill in the mail box.

Fortunately, as a direct result of Proposition 13, which limits increases in a property's assessed value to 2 percent annually, most property owners have a good idea what their tax bill will be even before opening the envelope. Still, every year at this time, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association reminds taxpayers to carefully examine their latest property tax bill. Although not common, assessors do make mistakes.

Taxpayers should understand the various charges and make certain that they are not being dunned for more than they are legally obligated to pay. The best way to check a tax bill is to have your previous year's bill handy for reference.

Checking the bill is especially important for those who bought their homes a few years ago at the height of the market. If the current home value is actually lower than the assessed value shown on the tax bill, the owner is entitled to file for a reduction in taxes.

Typically, the property tax bill will show three categories of charges. They are the General Tax Levy, Voted Indebtedness, and Direct Assessments.

GENERAL TAX LEVY

The General Tax Levy is what most people think of when talking about property taxes. It is based on the assessed value of land, improvements and fixtures. This charge usually makes up the largest part of the tax bill and it is the amount that is limited by Proposition 13.

Proposition 13, passed overwhelmingly by voters in 1978, established a statewide uniform tax rate of one percent of assessed value at the time of purchase and limited annual increases in assessed value to no more than 2 percent. From a practical standpoint, this means that once the base year value of your property is established, the General Tax Levy cannot be increased more than 2 percent each year. This allows all property owners to predict their property tax bills into the future and budget accordingly.

The best way to check to make sure that your current General Levy of Assessment is correct is to compare it with the previous year's bill. The increase should be no more than 2 percent unless there have been improvements to the property like adding a room to a house.This bears repeating: Because of the current decline in property values in California, many recent home buyers are entitled to a reduction in their property tax bill to an amount even lower than the tax would be on their home's Proposition 13 adjusted base value. Although the reduction is temporary — taxes will go up again when the property regains value — the savings are permanent.

If in doubt about the current value of your property, check sales of comparable homes in your neighborhood. If homes like yours are selling for less than the valuation on your latest bill, contact your county assessor and ask that the value and resulting tax be adjusted to reflect true current value.

VOTED INDEBTEDNESS

Voted Indebtedness is made up of those bonds and per parcel taxes approved by the voters.

Local general obligation bonds for libraries, parks, police and fire facilities and other capital improvements are repaid exclusively by property owners. Because a minority of the population is required to pay the entire amount, the California Constitution of 1879 established the two-thirds vote for approval of these bonds. This assures a strong community consensus before obligating property owners to repay debt for 20 or 30 years.

Until the year 2000, local school bonds also required a two-thirds vote, but the passage of Proposition 39 lowered the vote to 55 percent. (Of course this did very little to improve schools as was promised). Because the 55 percent requirement guarantees that most school bonds will pass, regardless of merit, many homeowners are seeing a significant increase in the Voted Indebtedness column on their tax bills.

Less common than bonds are per parcel taxes. These are taxes on property ownership, not on property value. Under Proposition 13, they require a two-thirds vote and are also listed either under "Voted Indebtedness" if they are being imposed to repay bonds or under "Other Levies" if they are for operational expenses of a local government entity.

DIRECT ASSESSMENTS

Ironically, under the system in place for over a century, property taxes go into the general fund and are used for local services unrelated to property. For services to property, such as sidewalks and sewers, we pay extra. These charges are known as direct assessments.

Because of Proposition 218 — the Right to Vote on Taxes Act, placed on the ballot by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association in 1996 — property owners must be given a meaningful say in approving new assessments. Before an assessment can be imposed, or increased, property owners must be informed in writing and be given the opportunity to cast a protest vote on the new assessment or assessment increase.

One final note about property taxes: Although it does not appear on your property tax bill, hundreds of thousands of California homeowners are, for the first time, being assessed a state property tax levied by the California Department of Forestry. HJTA is challenging the legality of this tax in court through a class action lawsuit.

For more information regarding your property tax bill go to HJTA.org and click on Frequently Asked Questions, then scroll down to "About Property Tax Assessments".

If you have a question about your property tax bill you should contact the office of your county assessor. It's your money and you have a right to be certain that your bill is correct.

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association– California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

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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. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.



Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's not about the Twinkies

NEVER HAS A GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE WITH creamy filling received so much attention as the crumbling of Hostess Brands, although the fact is it's not actually about the Twinkies.

It's about having a basis for comparison. Just try feeling superior eating a piece of spelt bread while knowing that the same rubbery loaf of Wonder white bread that once sat inconspicuously in the back of the refrigerator for an entire winter and still managed to maintain enough elasticity to roll into a ball tight enough to bounce off the kitchen floor in the spring will never make an appearance again — it'll be awfully tough (the spelt bread and any credible semblance of condescension).

It's about telling your kids how your seventh-grade classmates all used to buy Ring Dings for a quarter in the lunchroom and engage in regularly scheduled contests to see who could peel off the chocolate layer without piercing the cake, and having your own kids know what you're talking about instead of looking at you like there's a ring and a ding loose in your head, and if you were allowed to eat that then how come they're not allowed to have a cookie for their morning snack — and after lunch.

It's about trying to unravel a Yodel without it breaking (hint: it's not possible).

It's about how the filling in a Hostess Apple Pie is as closely related to an actual apple as the watermelon flavor in a Starburst candy is related to anything with a thick green rind, and the Hostess Cherry Pie is as connected to something that once contained a pit just as the syrup in a can of peaches ever came from anything in the vicinity of the state of Georgia. Which is to say, not at all.

But back when a diet candy named Ayds proudly took up residence in legitimate pharmacies and men with more make-up than Tammy Faye Bakker and long, teased hair wearing tight leather pants were considered tough and sexy while singing songs like "Karma Chameleon," it was something, anyway, when trying to reach five servings of fruit each day.

It's about having your own brand of awesomeness — Donettes — because being a regular donut wasn't awesome enough for the revolutionaries at Hostess.

It's about having tried Funny Bones just once and maybe only realizing right this very moment that it was possibly the world's perfect food — peanut butter cream cuddled up in devil's food cake and covered in a chocolate-frosting-like paste. But you'll never be able to confirm it because, alas, they're now only available on eBay for precious sums of money, or perhaps tucked into a corner of your small intestine from that time you split a package four ways during recess in 1982.

It's about never, ever knowing what a pink Sno Ball tastes like, because who ever actually ate one? Even if it was nice for a minute to believe that legal marijuana in Colorado and a cream-filled chocolate cake covered with marshmallow frosting and coconut flakes could have enjoyed a moment in time at the same time.

It's about acknowledging that Twinkies are too sacred to ever attempt to make them from scratch using any of the endless recipes that have recently been made available online. While you might not really mind taking it on as a hobby, it would be futile to try and literally recreate the Twinkie, because where can you actually buy sodium stearoyl lactylate and dextrin that doesn't require top-level security clearance?

It doesn't matter that you haven't had a Twinkie in 20 years (even though it wasn't on principle, you just kind of forgot about them, and then even when you remembered, you saw they also started carrying wasabi almonds at that gas station where you always stop to use the bathroom on the way home from the airport and those just seemed a little less wrong).

Because it's really not about the Twinkies. At all.

As everyone knows, it's all about the Hostess Cupcakes. Whether it's the delicate white swirl dancing and weaving on top of the thick fudge topping or perfectly moist cake grinning neatly underneath while patiently hiding the perfectly creamy, if not suspiciously thick, filling, it was as close to heaven as you'll get while you're still breathing.

R.I.P., Hostess. We'll all be saving some room for you on the other side. (Because you can stop taking CrossFit classes and Lipitor after you're already dead, right?)

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

Looking deep

With Thanksgiving upon us, we were feeling a bit introspective.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What are you thankful for and why?

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



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Authorities nab four men in alleged terror plot

GILLIAN FLACCUS
SHAYA TAYEFE MOHAJER
Associated Press

UPLAND, Calif. Four Southern California men have been charged with plotting to kill Americans and destroy U.S. targets overseas by joining al-Qaida and the Taliban in Afghanistan, federal officials said Monday.

The defendants, including a man who served in the U.S. Air Force, were arrested for plotting to bomb military bases and government facilities, and for planning to engage in "violent jihad," FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said in a release.

A federal complaint unsealed Monday says 34-year-old Sohiel Omar Kabir of Pomona introduced two of the other men to the radical Islamist doctrine of Anwar al-Awlaki, a deceased al-Qaida leader. Kabir served in the Air Force from 2000 to 2001.

The other two — 23-year-old Ralph Deleon of Ontario and 21-year-old Miguel Alejandro Santana Vidriales of Upland — converted to Islam in 2010 and began engaging with Kabir and others online in discussions about jihad, including posting radical content to Facebook and expressing extremist views in comments.

They later recruited 21-year-old Arifeen David Gojali of Riverside.

In Upland, 40 miles east of Los Angeles, Santana's apartment was shuttered Tuesday, but as reporters gathered nearby someone stealthily removed a sign that read "Don't burn the Qur'an, READ IT!" from an upstairs window.

Jen Collins, who lives two doors down, said she only realized Tuesday that a federal raid she witnessed last week was related to the terrorism probe.

"Everything looked normal to me and then Friday I see FBI swarming my neighborhood. It was like something coming out of the movies or TV," Collins said.

At least a dozen agents, equipped with a sledgehammer and crowbar, swarmed the apartment, she said.

Authorities allege that in Skype calls from Afghanistan, Kabir told the trio he would arrange their meetings with terrorists. Kabir added the would-be jihadists could sleep in mosques or the homes of fellow jihadists once they arrived in Afghanistan.

The trio made plans to depart in mid-November to carry out plots in Afghanistan, primarily, and Yemen, after they sold off belongings to scrape together enough cash to buy plane tickets and made passport arrangements.

In one online conversation, Santana told an FBI undercover agent that he wanted to commit jihad and expressed interest in a jihadist training camp in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

The complaint also alleges the men went to a shooting range several times, including a Sept. 10 trip in which Deleon told a confidential FBI source that he wanted to be on the front lines overseas and use C-4, an explosive, in an attack. Santana agreed.

"I wanna do C-4s if I could put one of these trucks right here with my, with that. Just drive into, like, the baddest military base," Santana said, according to the complaint.

Santana added he wanted to use a large quantity of the explosive. "If I'm gonna do that, I'm gonna take out a whole base. Might as well make it, like, big, ya know," he said.

According to the complaint, at the shooting range that day both Santana and Deleon told a confidential FBI source they were excited about the rewards from becoming a shaheed, which is Arabic for martyr.

Ten days later, during another trip to the shooting range to fire assault-style rifles, Santana told the source he had been around gangs and had no problem taking a life.

On Sept. 30, Gojali was recruited to the plot after he was asked if he had it in him to kill in jihad. Gojali answered, "Yeah, of course."

"I watch videos on the Internet, and I see what they are doing to our brothers and sisters. ... It makes me cry, and it gets like I'm, like, so angered with them," Gojali said, according to the complaint.

The men wiped their Facebook pages of radical Islamist content and photos of themselves in traditional Muslim attire, and devised a cover story that they were going to Afghanistan to attend Kabir's wedding.

Federal authorities said the trio and the FBI's confidential source bought airplane tickets last week for a Sunday flight from Mexico City to Istanbul, with plans to later continue to Kabul.

After Kabir began talking to him about Islam, Santana said he "accepted Islam without knowing anything about it besides it being the truth" and that he believed the religion would help him "fit in and actually be able to fight for something that's right," according to the complaint.

If convicted, each defendant faces a maximum of 15 years in federal prison.

Kabir is being detained in Afghanistan. The other three appeared for a detention hearing Monday in Riverside, and all but Gojali were remanded to federal custody with no bail. His detention hearing was delayed.

After-hours calls left for the men's attorneys were not immediately returned Monday.

A preliminary hearing is slated for Dec. 3, and an arraignment is set for Dec. 5.

Kabir is a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Afghanistan. Santana was born in Mexico, while Deleon was born in the Philippines. Both are lawful, permanent U.S. residents. Gojali is a U.S. citizen.

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Big disappointment in brain injury treatment study

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO The hunt for brain injury treatments has suffered a big disappointment in a major study that found zero benefits from a supplement that the U.S. military had hoped would help wounded troops.

The supplement is marketed as a memory booster online and in over-the-counter powders and drinks. It is also widely used by doctors in dozens of countries to treat traumatic brain injuries and strokes, although evidence on whether it works has been mixed.

U.S. scientists had high hopes that in large doses it would help speed recovery in patients with brain injuries from car crashes, falls, sports accidents and other causes. But in the most rigorous test yet, citicoline (see-tee-KOH'-leen) worked no better than dummy treatments at reducing forgetfulness, attention problems, difficulty concentrating and other symptoms.

"We very much were disappointed," said Dr. Ross Zafonte, the lead author and a traumatic brain injury expert at Harvard Medical School. "We took a therapy that is utilized worldwide and we found that at least its present use should be called into question."

The study involved 1,213 patients aged 18 and older hospitalized at eight U.S. trauma centers. They had mild to severe traumatic brain injuries — blows to the head resulting in symptoms ranging from dizziness to loss of consciousness and with complications including brain bleeding or other damage.

Half of the patients received citicoline — also known as CDP choline — in pills or in liquid within 24 hours of being injured. The dose of 2,000 milligrams was much higher than used in over-the-counter products and it was given daily for three months. The rest got a dummy treatment, and all were followed for six months.

Most patients improved on measures of memory, learning and other mental functions, but those on the supplement fared no better than those given dummy treatment. That suggests their improvement was due to the normal healing process.

A total of 73 patients died during the study, about equal numbers in both groups.

Zafonte noted that citicoline patients with the mildest injuries did slightly worse than those who'd been given dummy treatments. Those results could have been due to chance, but he said they only reinforce the conclusion that the supplement should not be used for traumatic brain injuries.

The study appears in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

More than 1 million Americans suffer traumatic brain injuries each year and 53,000 die. Military data show more than 250,000 cases have occurred in service members since 2000, many during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

There is no effective treatment for these injuries.

"The military would have been overjoyed if this had been the one," said Dr. Robert Ruff, co-author of a journal editorial and neurology chief at the Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The study results imply that a single drug alone won't be sufficient to help these patients improve, he said.

Citicoline is a naturally occurring brain compound made of choline, a chemical needed to build brain cells. Choline is found in some foods including beef liver, eggs and wheat germ. Commercial versions of choline and citicoline are both sold as diet supplements.

Lab studies in animals had suggested that high doses of citicoline could help speed recovery from brain injuries, with almost no side effects.

Several studies in humans examined citicoline as a possible treatment for strokes but had mixed results. Still, it is widely used in Europe and Japan to treat strokes and brain injuries. The product used in the study is made by the Spanish pharmaceutical company Ferrer Grupo, which makes prescription-grade citicoline.

Dr. Steven Zeisel, a choline scientist and director of the University of North Carolina's Nutrition Research Institute, said it's still possible citicoline would work if used in combination with other potential treatments, but to determine that would require another rigorous and costly study. He was not involved in the research.

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development helped pay for the study, along with grants from several universities. The government institute has spent nearly $30 million since 2002 to fund a research network seeking treatments for traumatic brain injuries.

The citicoline results were eagerly anticipated in a military-commissioned Institute of Medicine report last year on potential nutritional treatments for traumatic brain injury. Besides citicoline, the report said other nutrients being studied held some promise, including fatty acids and zinc.

Zafonte, the study's lead author, was on the committee that wrote the report.

"It's back to the drawing board," he said. "We all had such hope this would make some difference."

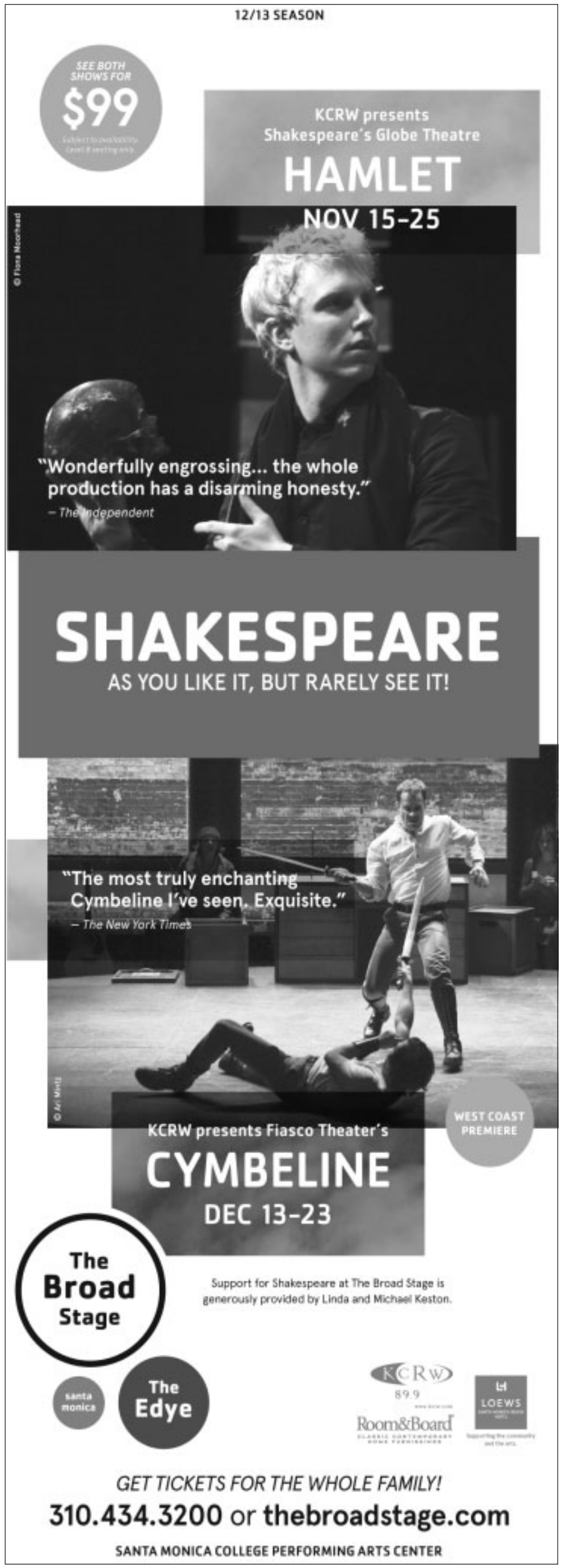
City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2412-2413 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following are summaries of Ordinance Numbers 2412 and 2413, which were adopted by the City Council on November 13, 2012.

Ordinance Number 2412 prohibits operating a single family residential property for a commercial purposes including, but not limited to as an event facility. Such operation would be inconsistent with current zoning law, but current law does not include a prohibition of sufficient clarity to facilitate enforcement.

Ordinance Number 2413 amends the Municipal Code to permit roof top structures that constitute a third story if the structure will be used in conjunction with roof deck restaurant dining on the Santa Monica Pier.

These ordinances will become effective thirty days after adoption. The full text of the ordinances is available upon request from the Office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone (310) 458-8211.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

IN YOUR KITCHEN

Thanksgiving safety tips

Thanksgiving is one of the busiest days of the year for families. The Los Angeles County Fire Department wants to remind residents that safety is the most important thing to remember on this holiday, especially in the kitchen where there is a lot of activity.

Here are some tips to ensure everyone is safe and giving thanks this year.

- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Stay at home when cooking your turkey.
- Keep children at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- Keep pot and pan handles pointed inward on the stovetop to prevent spills.
- Don't let electric cords dangle off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Have an ABC-rated fire extinguisher readily available.
- Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working.

For more information on Thanksgiving safety, including how to properly operate a turkey fryer, visit www.nfpa.org.

– DAILY PRESS

CITYWIDE

Hotel discounts for locals

Santa Monicans with family members coming for a visit over the holidays can take advantage of the Extra Bedroom Program, which offers discounted hotel rates to locals, officials with the Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau announced Tuesday.

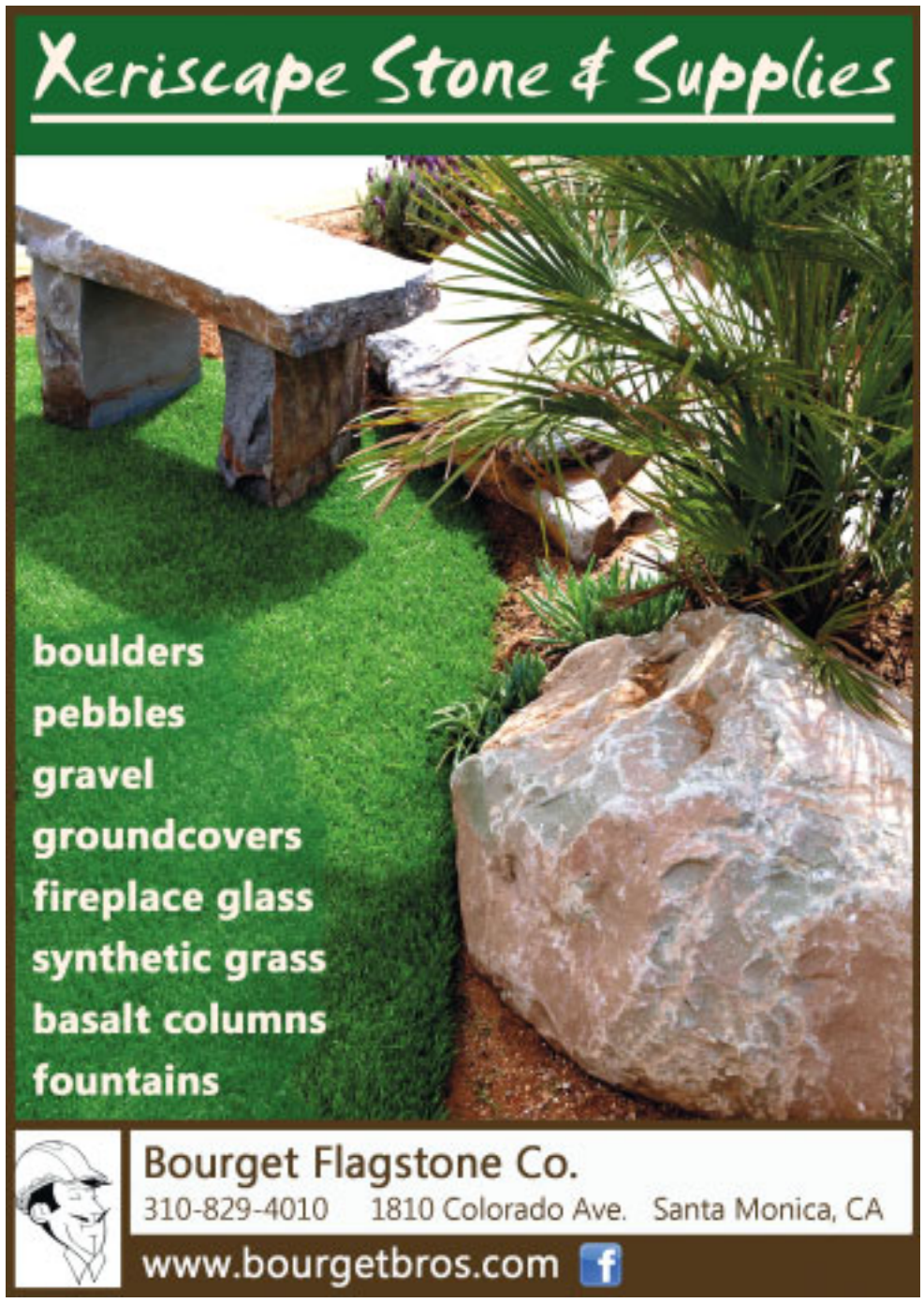
Now through Jan. 25 Santa Monicans simply need to show proof of residency (California ID or driver's license) to take advantage of a number of discounted rates and special offers from participating hotels.

"The Santa Monica hospitality community is delighted to make it easier for residents to accommodate their guests during one of the busiest travel seasons of the year," said Misti Kerns, president and CEO of the bureau. "We encourage residents and their visiting family and friends to stay local and explore all the great things Santa Monica has to offer during the holiday season!"

For a full list of Extra Bedroom Program offers and participants, visit www.santamonica.com/extrabedroom, or call (310) 319-6263.

– DP

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DINNER
FROM PAGE 3

And now, it will all play out in person. In this family, the older generation is more liberal, the younger more conservative. So Andrew, a conservative, particularly expects friction with his aunt, Anne Brennan, 57. "She firmly believes in what she believes in, and we'll go head to head with it," he says.

As for Brennan, she's looking on the bright side: the wine they'll drink. "You always bring a good bottle," she told Andrew at a family dinner a few days ago — perhaps softening him up for the holiday. No dice. "What are you talking about?" Andrew replied. "The wine just amplifies it."

But the Marshalls seem to be relishing the occasion. Not so the Davidson family in Alabama.

In fact, things have gotten so tense over politics between Brian Davidson, a 40-year-old attorney in Helena, and his father, 130 miles away in Russellville, that they've changed plans, forgoing their usual gathering.

"We're not even going," says Brian, who voted for Barack Obama, and describes his father as "a little to the right of Glenn Beck." Better to skip this one, he says, than suffer "a non-recoverable blowup."

Davidson, a Boy Scout leader and the father of two school-age sons, once was firmly conservative, even serving as an officer in the Young Republicans Club at the University of North Alabama. His parents — particularly Dad — always taught him and his brother to think for themselves, he says.

And so he did. Davidson eventually realized he no longer fit in with the Republican Party, which he saw as moving rightward, and now considers himself a political moderate with liberal positions on issues like gay marriage and the legalization of marijuana — he supports both — and conservative positions on foreign and fiscal policies.

Each Thanksgiving, Davidson typically loads up his family and makes the 130-mile drive to his parents' house. This year, Davidson will take the kids to wife Kim's family instead, but even that could be tricky: They are conservative as well. So Brian and Kim will try to avoid any topics that could lead, they say, to "an Obama rant" around the table.

"Anything can cause it," Brian says. "We're just going to suck it up."

For some families, it's not necessarily the presidential race that divided them. The Cox family in Colorado has long been split over the legalization of marijuana — ever since Diane Cox first caught her son, David, trying to smoke the drug when he was 14.

David, now 31 and a peach farmer in Palisade, Colo., has volunteered for years on efforts to legalize marijuana. Diane, meanwhile, has spearheaded several successful protests to ban medical marijuana dispensaries in nearby towns — even waving "BAN THE POT SHOPS" signs on the side of the road.

Colorado's recent vote to legalize marijuana for recreational use again divided mother and son, who served as regional coordinator for the legalization campaign. Discussion of the vote is likely at the family Thanksgiving, but David Cox doesn't seem TOO worried. "I don't think awkward's the proper term. The proper term is more, dissentious," he says with a chuckle.

After all, Cox says, some things are more important than politics. "They can see that I'm a successful, hardworking person," he says of his parents, "so they have absolutely nothing to say because I'm doing fantastic and they know it."

In Minnesota, the issue dividing Jake Loesch's family isn't marijuana but gay marriage. Voters defeated a proposed amendment that would have banned same-sex marriage in the state, and Loesch, 24, of St. Paul, was deputy communications director for Minnesotans United for All Families — a group that fought the gay marriage ban. (It remains illegal under state law.)

Loesch is a conservative, like his huge family. He had difficult conversations with some aunts, uncles and grandparents when he took his recent job, and as the political season heated up, he tried increasingly to avoid the subject: "Having those conversations is healthy for the political process, but sometimes, when it's with family, it can be really, really hard."

But he found common ground with his grandmother, who is 85. She disagreed with his stance, but after the election, she posted on his Facebook wall: "Congratulations, Jake — even tho I didn't agree with your stance on the issue I will have to say you really put your heart and soul into your convictions — and I must say I'm proud of you!!!"

"Our family is very understanding of everybody's opinions," says Jake's grandmother, Bunny Arseneau. "We know where everybody stands because we're a very open family. Your opinion is your opinion and we respect you for it."

And so, Loesch says, he is hoping for the best at Thanksgiving — after all, they're still family. Adds his grandmother: "My father was of the old school. You never leave the house mad at each other, and you never go to sleep mad at each other."

As for the Marshalls in Massachusetts, there's hope that the political discourse, however charged, may at least carry some levity as well.

Last Friday night, some family members gathered at the home of Andrew's parents, in Hingham, Mass., for homemade pizza and wine — a dry run, maybe, for the bigger Thanksgiving dinner.

As a fire crackled in the fireplace, so did the political discourse.

"I did vote for Obama," noted Rebecca Malone, 27, Andrew's sister.

"Oh my God!" replied Andrew. "I didn't know that! You're out!"

But the family did find a few areas of agreement — for one thing, they all agreed on medicinal marijuana.

And though some voted for Democrat Elizabeth Warren for Senate, who won, and others didn't, they all agreed that outgoing Sen. Scott Brown was good-looking.

As the wine flowed, Andrew waxed philosophical.

"If we didn't care, we wouldn't sit here and battle," he said.

Added Anne, his liberal aunt: "And it's all so much more interesting than the Kardashians."


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SMC
FROM PAGE 1

gling to get the coursework they need to graduate on time.

"We want to help the students make progress," said Susan Aminoff, a trustee at SMC. "A lot of students rely on this."

The extra classes will cost $1.5 million, said Don Girard, senior director of government relations and institutional communications with SMC.

That figure would have been higher, but officials budgeted enough money to keep the campus operating through the winter period despite the proposed lack of classes.

"Proposition 30 provides stability with regard to state funding," said Chui Tsang, president of SMC. "For the good of our students and for the good of our state, we are acting now to restore our winter class offerings."

Although the measure does not give new money to the school, it will prevent further, deeper cuts on top of the 12 percent that's been taken from the campus since 2008.

The Legislative Analyst's Office report is cautiously optimistic about state finances, which have been consistently rocky for the better part of a decade.

The state agency predicts that the state could have an operating surplus of $1 billion after the 2014-15 fiscal year, a trend expected to continue until the 2017-18 fiscal year when the office expects to have a $9 billion surplus.

"We all steeled ourselves for a continuation of four years of really bad news," Girard said.

Instead, officials got an early Christmas present that gave them the confidence to put up the additional money needed to pay for the classes.

The state will use cash from Proposition 30 to pay down its debt, something that paves the way for funding increases down the road, Girard said.

"For those of us who are into it at the granular level, the manner in which they're being responsible about it gave us confidence," he said.

It gives students more hope that they will be able to get out of school on time and potentially transfer in the spring.

The college imposed a cap on the number of units students can take during the regular session, which makes it more difficult to get the right classes and move on, said Jesus Vasquez, vice president of the SMC Associated Students.

"This will really give students the ability to continue and transfer on. More class offerings assist the overall student population," he said.

Students still have concerns about how the new classes will be assigned, something that was not made clear in an e-mail sent out to all those enrolled at SMC.

"Students are barely finding out since the notification just went out this morning," Vasquez said. "There are definitely worries."

The winter session is one of the smallest offered at SMC so far. Last year, the school provided 400 classes, down from a high of 800.

To plug in those 250 classes at all, college officials had to work quickly after the results of the election were finalized, said Louise Jaffe, a trustee at SMC.

"Staff's ability to get it together this quickly after Nov. 6 to restore the winter session speaks to how they're constantly sensing the environment and adjusting to make decisions to keep this all upright and serve the mission of the college," Jaffe said.

SMC isn't out of the woods just yet.

The school will still run a $4 million deficit, a vast improvement over the $7.8 million deficit that it could have faced, according to a presentation by Chris Bonvenuto, the director of finance for the college in September.

The school has been using its reserves to offer classes, but that is almost at an end — reserve levels have dropped from $23 million in the 2010-11 school year to a projected $11 million by the end of the 2012-13 school year.

SMC officials also recently agreed to give non-teaching staff a 1.25 percent raise next summer and one-time $1,000 bonuses, something that officials had resisted prior to the passage of Proposition 30.

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Thanksgiving Day Trash Schedule
There is no collection on Thursday, November 22nd.
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Thursday's routes will be collected on Friday.
Friday's routes will be collected on Saturday.
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COUNTY
FROM PAGE 1

official who called for the review and father of the restaurant grading system.

"If people are being charged $5 for something they should be charged $4, and it's intentional, that's fraud," Bell said.

The list of restaurants and markets reviewed was based off of one used by the international nonprofit Oceana in a similar review earlier this year. While the nonprofit did not give out the names of establishments visited, the Seafood Task Force had no such compunction.

Of the seven Santa Monica outfits that got tested, five were found to have violations that ranged from swapping a less expensive fish for a more expensive fish in some recipes to mislabeling the fish's origin.

Misofishy, a restaurant on the 1900 block of Lincoln Boulevard, was found to be substituting crawfish for "popcorn" baby lobster in one of its recipes, and escolar for white tuna.

Escolar is difficult for humans to digest, and can cause serious gastrointestinal problems, said Jonathan Fielding, director and health officer at the Los Angeles Department of Public Health.

"If you're not getting what you think you're getting, that could be problematic," Fielding said.

Misofishy representatives did not return calls by presstime, but Enterprise Fish Co., just off of Main Street in Santa Monica, did.

According to the list, Enterprise Fish Co. was passing off "swai" as "basa." If you've never heard of those fish before, they're freshwater catfish, said Chef Bruce Choi, and they're effectively the same thing.

In fact, they're so similar that his supplier labels the box that they come in "basa," sometimes with a second marking that says "swai filets," and Choi has to ask the company which one he's actually getting.

The restaurant put "basa swai" on its menus, something the inspectors said would not fly. Instead, they will have to reprint menus with the name "basa/swai" and get servers to tell customers which one they're receiving.

"For me, with my experience with the Health Department, it's always best that we give them everything that they want," Choi said.

The Lobster on Ocean Avenue ran into a similar problem.

Next to the restaurant's name, inspectors wrote "Improper identification of 'Country of Origin,'" something General Manager Jack DeNicola described as "silly."

The illegal alien was halibut, listed on The Lobster's menu as "Alaskan." However, since the restaurant couldn't prove that the fish came directly from Alaskan waters, officials said it was mislabeled, DeNicola said.

"It's not like we were getting tilapia and saying it was yellowtail," DeNicola said. "We just couldn't prove it came out of Alaskan waters."

That's despite the fact that the fishermen that caught the fish brought it into Alaskan ports.

The restaurant gets its fish from the Santa Monica Seafood Co., an organization which sends teams to the docks and inspects facilities that supply its fish.

It, too, was saddled with an "Improper identification" label.

The wide world of seafood labeling is a complicated one, partially because it's difficult to tell where the bad actors are in the supply chain, be it the fishermen selling the original catch, the suppliers who sell to retail locations or the restaurants and markets themselves.

There have been multiple attempts to regulate it, including one by Santa Monica's new State Sen. Ted Lieu.

Lieu put forward a bill that would have required restaurants to tell consumers where the fish or seafood is from and whether it was farm-raised or caught in the wild.

They managed to get it out of the Health Committee, but it was shut down by a restaurant lobbying group, Lieu said.

"One of the issues raised from restaurants is that sometimes they didn't know or they were just being told by the supplier and had no independent way of verifying," Lieu said.

Lieu said he will move forward with another version of the bill in the coming year, this time with more input from restaurateurs.

At the federal level, Rep. Ed Markey (D-Massachusetts) carried a bill called the "Safety And Fraud Enforcement for Seafood Act," which would have required seafood that entered the United States be traceable.

As it stands, the United States imports 91 percent of its seafood, and 54 percent of the world's fish production is processed at sea or soon after landing, which makes it impossible to identify fish without forensics, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Law Enforcement.

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SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **60.8°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3 ft
BIGGEST LATE; Smaller WNW swell leftovers through the morning; New WNW and SSW swells picking up with sets to chest/shoulder high for top exposures before dark

THURSDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **4-5 ft** shoulder to head high occ. 6 ft
New WNW swell builds further and tops out during the day; Plus sets at standouts; SSW builds further; Light AM winds

FRIDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
WNW swell easing through the day; SSW swell holds; Light AM winds

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
WNW and SSW swells fade; plus sets at top combo spots

Tides

Are very manageable to start the week, becoming more of an issue as the tide swings are a bit more extreme towards the end of this week. Deep morning high tides of 5'+ just before sunrise will slow the more tide sensitive breaks down Thursday and into the weekend. Keep it in mind when planning a surf.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 14, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 8
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 23 / 22
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 10

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	B	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	C	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

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

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

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

Heal the Bay'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 true survey of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Pac-12 has eight bowl-eligible teams

JOHN MARSHALL
AP College Football Writer

PHOENIX Just two years ago, the Pac-12 didn't come close to filling its bowl allotment, sending four teams to the postseason.

Two of those teams went to BCS bowls — Oregon played for the national championship and Stanford played in the Orange — but it wasn't what the conference was hoping for, even as a 10-team conference.

In its first season as the Pac-12, the conference bounced back, sending seven teams to bowl games a year ago.

It's even better this season: eight bowl-eligible teams, two possibly to BCS games, an outside shot at the national title game.

After a season of teams beating up on each other and some surprising upsets, the Pac-12 has re-emerged as a powerhouse conference.

"It's just indicative that this conference is really good and really competitive, and I think has done pretty well on a national scope," Oregon State coach Mike Riley said Tuesday.

There's still a lot to be decided in the final two weeks.

No. 15 UCLA has the South Division's spot in the Nov. 30 Pac-12 championship game wrapped up, but can have an impact on who wins the North in the final weekend of the regular season.

The Bruins, who have a two-game lead over Southern California after beating their SoCal rivals last week, host No. 11 Stanford, which shook up the BCS standings by knocking off then-top-ranked Oregon last weekend.

If the Cardinal beat UCLA, they will win the North and face the Bruins again the next week in the Pac-12 title game. If UCLA wins and No. 5 Oregon beats No. 16 Oregon State in the Civil War on Saturday in Corvallis, the Ducks will play the Bruins in the championship game.

What may be the best scenario from a conference standpoint would be if Stanford and Oregon both win.

If the Cardinal beat the Bruins on Saturday, it won't matter who wins the Pac-12 title game the next week since the champion has a slot in the Rose Bowl already waiting. If Oregon beats Oregon State, the Ducks are almost certain to get an at-large bid to a BCS bowl, most likely the Fiesta.

Oregon still has an outside shot at the national championship game, but, at No. 5 in the BCS standings, would need some help from the teams ahead to play in Miami on Jan. 7.

"The only thing that matters is winning on Saturday," Oregon coach Chip Kelly said. "You can run through 27,000 scenarios, but if we don't win Saturday, none of them come true."

The Pac-12 has plenty of postseason options.

Arizona has had a successful first season under coach Rich Rodriguez, fighting a thin roster with an explosive offense to win seven games.

Up Interstate 10 in Tempe, Todd Graham also has Arizona State bowl eligible in his first season as coach, clinching the six-win mark last week by rolling over Washington State in the final home game for the Sun Devils' seniors.

The desert rivals face each other on Friday in their annual rivalry with bragging rights and positioning for a bigger bowl on the line.

Riley's Beavers shook off consecutive losing seasons and dire predictions for this one to win eight games so far and become bowl eligible.

Washington corrected its problems during a three-game losing streak midway through the season to become bowl eligible for the third straight season.

USC didn't live up to its national-title expectations, losing four games, but will still head to a bowl in the first season after its two-year bowl ban was lifted.

Utah is facing some long odds to make it nine Pac-12 teams in the postseason.

The Utes are 4-7 heading into their season finale against Colorado, which in most years would knock them out of the bowl picture.

But if there aren't enough eligible teams to fill the 35 bowls, teams with the highest APRs will be placed in a group for bowls with open slots to negotiate with. Utah has an APR of 33 and, with a win over the Buffs, could be in the running for a bowl with schools like Rice, Wake Forest and Missouri.

Don't beat Colorado and it won't matter, sending Utah to its first four-win season since 2000.

"I've told this team many times you shouldn't need a carrot out in front of you to play hard," Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said. "It should be just for the respect of the game and the competitive fire that is within. That should be enough."

Even if the Utes don't squeak in, it's been a good year for the Pac-12.

What was supposed to be a runaway to the title game by Oregon and Southern California turned into one of the most competitive seasons in recent years for the conference.

It started with Stanford upending USC's national-title hopes in the conference opener and the standings changed seemingly every week, capped by the Cardinal's overtime win over Oregon last Saturday night.

Once the dust settles, the Pac-12 will have teams playing throughout December, maybe even a couple in January.

"We kind of predicted it coming in, you could see it happening: this is the most competitive this league has been ever, I think," Riley said. "It's very exciting for the fans, but very hard on the coaches."

And good for the conference.

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Life of Pi (PG) 2hr 5 min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:45pm, 11:00pm

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

The Sessions (R) 1hr 35min
10:30am, 5:55pm

Argo (R) 2hr
12:50pm, 8:20pm

The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) 1hr 42min
3:30pm, 11:00pm

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

Argo (R) 2hr
10:30am,1:35pm, 4:45pm, 7:50pm, 10:50pm

Flight (R) 2hr 19min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Life Of Pi 3D (PG) 2hr 6min
11:00am, 2:00 pm, 5:15pm, 8:30pm, 11:20pm

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

Rise Of The Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hr 23min
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

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

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1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Red Dawn (PG-13) 1hr 33min
11:55am,2:30pm,5:10pm,7:50pm,10:25pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
10:35am, 1:20pm, 4:05pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hr 2min
10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:45pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

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

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hr 23min
11:15am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:45pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 41min
10:45am,1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

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

At home tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You are coming from an anchored position, though you will want to hold back a little bit. Gain more knowledge as to what types of people you might need to deal with. Tonight: Do your thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Don't hold back, even if you feel like you don't have enough clout to speak up. Take your time making a decision; otherwise, you could be extravagant in decisions about money, food, feelings, etc. Tonight: Work as a team.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Take a stand and carefully consider what you hear. Even if you feel 100 percent correct now, others might not feel the same. You can handle a lot of pressure, and you will find a way that lets both you and someone else be right. Tonight: Go with a friend's suggestion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Reach out for more information. You might not have a situation under control as much as you might like. Tap into your creativity, and allow someone to share more of his or her thoughts and feelings. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You move slowly into your day, feeling full of energy by late afternoon. Follow through on what you must do, but leave some free time for yourself. You flourish when you indulge your personal interests. It is important to have a healthy balance of fun and work. Tonight: A friend chimes in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You pick up on many different vibes, some of which are in conflict with each other. The best move is to do nothing until you are sure about how you feel. Someone you look up to cannot express enough gratitude for how you handle yourself. Tonight: Run with someone's plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Pace yourself and expect to complete what you must. From late afternoon on, an important phone call could come in. Be open and listen to what is happening; be willing to share your feelings. Give that person an extra boost of confidence. Tonight: Hang out.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Your imagination carries you far and demonstrates an ability to reframe any situation. You easily will lend an ear to help a loved one who is burdened with a financial or emotional decision. Venus enters your sign and increases your desirability. Tonight: A midweek break.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Emotions could run high, as you might feel backed into a corner. Remember, this is just your perception. If you can alter your understanding of the situation, you will discover a way out. A surge of compassion and energy will push you forward. Tonight: Head home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your words make a big difference to a friend. This friendship might not be strictly platonic on one side. You need to be careful with your words and also with this person's feelings. You will get a lot done, despite being overwhelmed. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your possessive side comes out when dealing with a financial matter. You know what is correct, so follow through accordingly. A meeting late in the day lets you know that you made the right decision. Tonight: Let a meeting move into dinner or munchies.

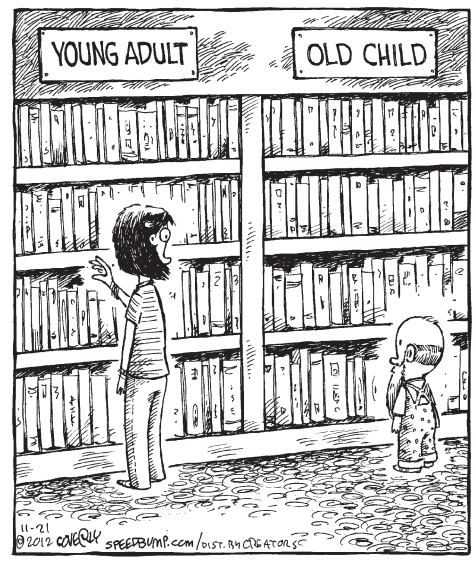
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You are all smiles, and you know which way to go. Your sense of what works comes from a family member. You sometimes feel overwhelmed by your personal life. Tonight: Yours to play out.

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

Happy birthday

This year you might find that you are under pressure more often than not. As a result, you frequently send out mixed messages. Fortunately, many people who surround you are positive, and their energy floats toward you. If you are single, you'll need to work hard if you want to stay unattached, as you could have more than one suitor coming forward at the same time. If you are attached, the two of you might decide to plan and take that special trip. You also will benefit from a romantic weekend or two away. PISCES likes how you think.

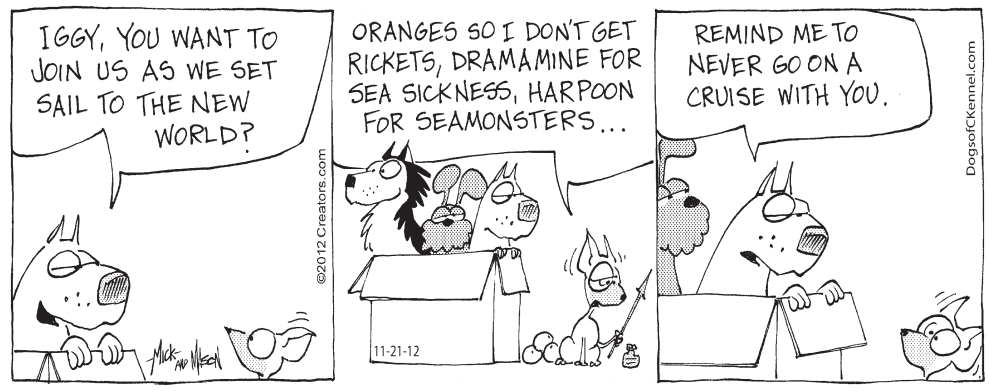
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



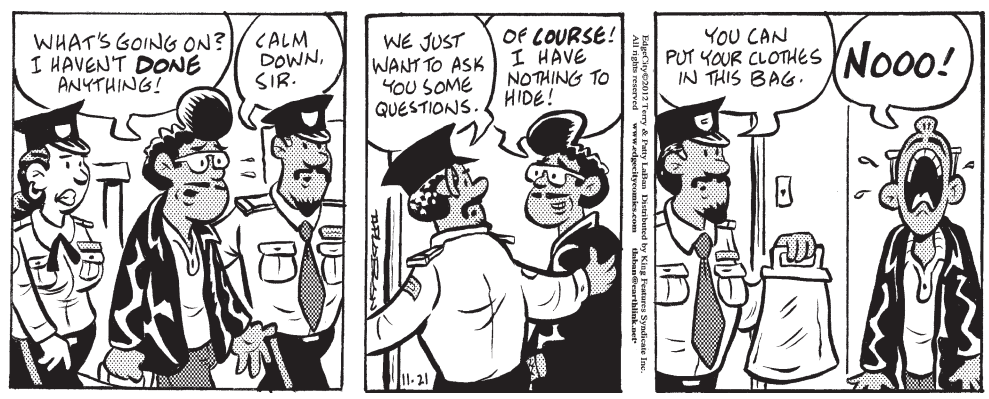
Strange Brew
By John Deering



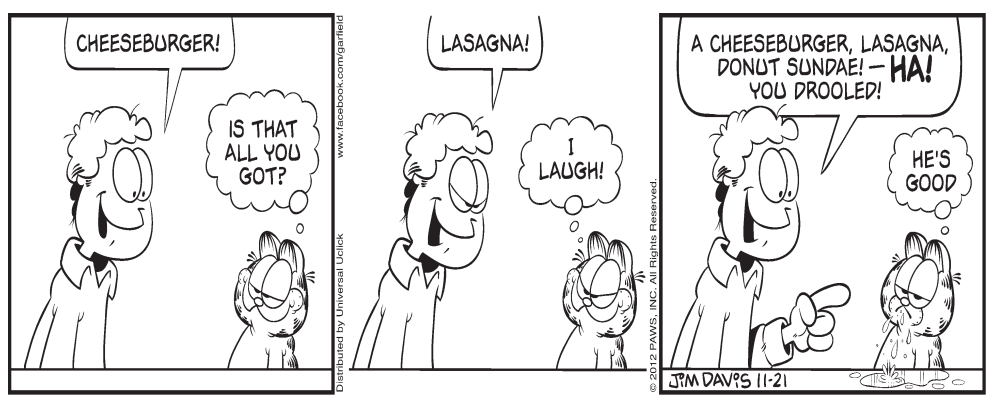
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Cave sound
5 Setting items
11 Steel ingredient
12 Cry of discovery
13 The Eternal City
14 Did book work
15 Ram's mate
16 Yale students
17 Printer's need
19 Sailor, in slang
22 "Dr. Who" baddie
24 Steak choice
26 Shepard in space
27 Shade trees
28 Tourist stop
30 Crosses creeks
31 Take in
32 Really dug
34 Song for two
35 Set ablaze
38 Current unit
41 Grow dim
42 Pub workers
43 Article
44 Setting items
45 Harvest
20 "This round's —!"
21 Porgy's love
22 Blocks up
23 Lotion additive
25 Boyfriend
29 Designer Ralph
30 Drenched
33 Prom crowd
34 Floor model
36 Notion
37 Office helper
38 Crunch targets
39 Driver's aid
40 Favoring
41 Fragrant tree

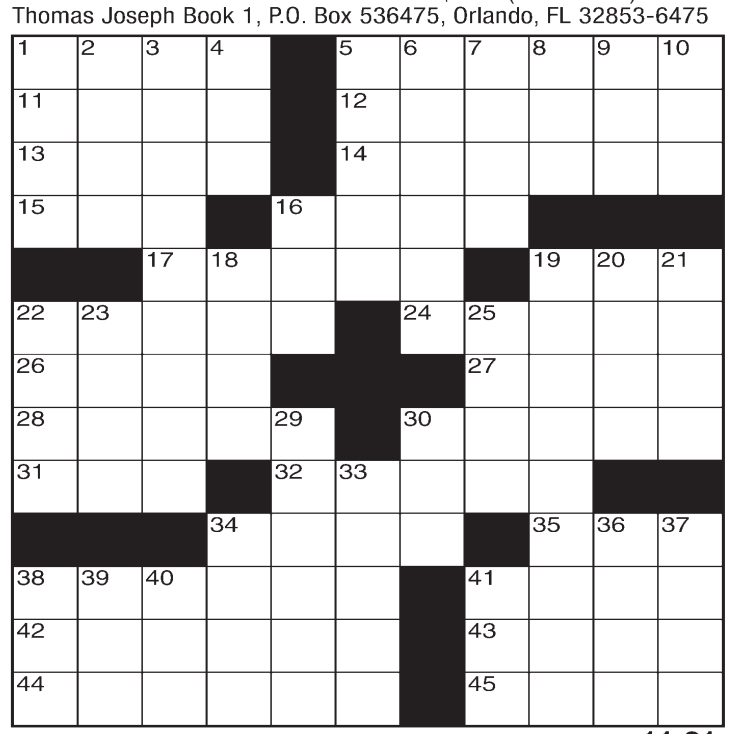
DOWN

1 The Emerald Isle
2 Cornfield pest
3 Diamond feature
4 Low digit
5 Boat bottoms
6 Buff buff
7 Eye part
8 Horse healer
9 — out a living
10 Melancholy
16 Mouse-spotting cry
18 Painter Magritte
19 Give a fancy coat to

L	A	P	S			B	E	H	A	R	
E	L	O	P	E		I	M	A	D	E	
A	L	T	A	R	C	L	O	T	H	S	
P	I	E		M	I	L		B	E	E	
S	E	N	D	I	N		F	O	R	T	
	S	T	O	N	E		A	X	E	S	
			R	E	M	I	T				
S	T	E	M		A	D	A	P	T		
P	A	N	S		T	E	L	L	E	R	
I	M	A		M	I	A		A	T	E	
T	A	B	L	E	C	L	O	T	H	S	
E	L	L	I	S		S	W	E	E	T	
S	E	E	D	S			E	R	R	S	

Yesterday's answer

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



11-21

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MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/16
5 24 26 29 53
Meganumber: 36
Jackpot: $33M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/17
8 9 16 22 26
Meganumber: 15
Jackpot: $13M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/20
14 23 24 25 30

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/20
MIDDAY: 9 3 7
EVENING: 7 5 8

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 11/20
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:43.38

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

■ India's notorious bureaucracy records deaths particularly ineptly, to the advantage of men seeking an alternative to divorce. They find it easier merely to swear out a death certificate on one wife so they can marry another, but that means the first wife will face years, and maybe decades, of campaigning to convince officials that she is not dead. BBC News chronicled the plight of Ms. Asharfi Devi, now 64, in September as she was finally declared "alive" after being deserted by her husband at age 23 and ruled dead at age 40. After Devi finally earned a hearing and brought relatives and evidence to the village council, deliberations took eight more months. Notwithstanding the ruling, the husband stuck to his story.

■ Darren Hieber, 33, became the most recent person to choose drastic means to reconcile with an ex. Twice Hieber, of Onawa, Iowa, arranged to have himself shot in order to win his ex-wife's sympathy. The first hit man shot Hieber in the leg, but the wife still ignored him, and a second job was arranged in March, with two different shooters, but that failed, also. Adding to his frustration, Hieber was sentenced to 10 years in prison in August because it is illegal in Iowa to have yourself shot.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1990 - The Charter of Paris for a New Europe refocuses the efforts of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europeon post-Cold War issues.

1995 - The Dayton Peace Agreement is initialed at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, Ohio, ending three and a half years of war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The agreement is formally ratified in Paris, on December 14 that same year.

WORD UP!

fob
\ FOB \ , noun;
1. A short chain, usually with a medallion or similar ornament, worn hanging from a pocket.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Prepay your ad today!

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*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not gauranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS:
Announcements, Creative, Employment, For Sale, Furniture, Pets, Boats, Jewelry, Wanted, Travel, Vacation Rentals, Apartments/Condos, Rent, Houses for Rent, Roomates, Commerical Lease, Real Estate, Real Estate Loans, Storage Space, Vehicles for Sale, Massage, Services, Computer Services, Attorney Services, Business Opportunities, Yard Sales, Health and Beauty, Fitness, Wealth and Success, Lost and Found, Personals, Psychic, Obituaries, Tutoring

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ATTENTION LEGAL SECRETARIES, LEGAL AIDES, PARALEGALS, LAW OFFICE MANAGERS AND STAFF
Great opportunity for extra income through referrals. We are a legal document courier service looking to expand our business and pay top referral fees for new accounts set up at area law offices, to inquire further, please email bsberkowitz@aol.com or call 213-923-4942

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

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

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

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For Sale

1965 Aristocrat Low Liner Camp Trailer. Very good condition. $1500 or best offer. (310)384-5674 or (310)210-4587

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COULD RUN HERE!
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For Rent

Large, dry safe. double garage for rent. Best Location, WLA. $350 (310)666-8360

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310)869-7901

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

1037 5th St. 1 Bd + 1 Bth. Top floor. Balcony. Pet friendly. $2095 per month.

11937 Foxboro Dr. 3Bd + 3Bth house in Brentwood. $4590 per month. No pets. Double garage. Hdwd floors. 2 fireplaces.

WE HAVE MORE VACANCIES ON THE WESTSIDE. MOST BUILDINGS PET FRIENDLY.

www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

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CALL US **(310) 458-7737**

Commercial Lease

THREE OFFICES IN SUITE ON PROMENADE--Furnished



Three adjacent furnished offices in six-office suite on Third Street Promenade. Brick walls, skylights, exposed redwood ceiling, original artwork. One office with window on Promenade, two interior offices with windows onto skylit area. Includes use of waiting room and kitchen. Parking passes available. $2950/month for all three; will consider renting individually. 310-395-2828x333.

Services

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

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: $7.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 30¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.



Happy Thanksgiving



Kate Bransfield

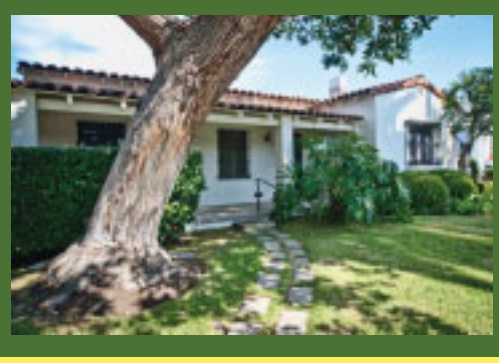
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In Escrow

$2,199,999

* Absolutely Charming, Vintage Spanish
* 2 Bedrooms + 2.5 Baths

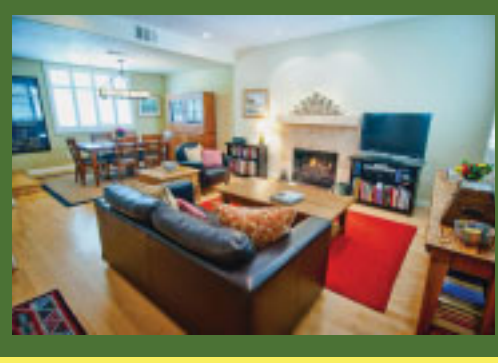


954 14th Street #5

$1,249,000

* Wonderful Townhome
* 2 Bedroom + 2.5 Baths

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday
November 25th
1pm to 4pm



603 16th Street

For Lease

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, November 25th
1pm to 4pm

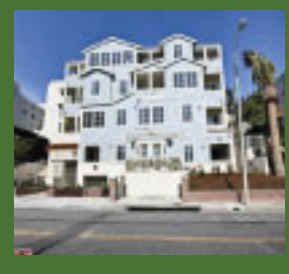


* 3 Bedrooms
* 1 Bath with Vintage Tiles
* Newly Finished Beautiful Hardwood Floors
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1751 Appian Way

For Lease

$6,400 per month



* Prime Santa Monica Beach Location
* Offers a Unique, Single-Story Floor Plan
* Captivating Ocean Views
* New Construction
* Hampton's Style Appointed with Premium Finishes

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Mid November 2012

Santa Monica Canyon	=	-0-
North of Montana	=	$4,003,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,511,625
South of Wilshire	=	$ 819,500
Sunset Park	=	$1,184,767
Ocean Park	=	$1,842,800

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What is Your Home Worth? Contact Me to Find Out!

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