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NOVEMBER 28-29, 2009

Volume 9 Issue 14



Santa Monica Daily Press

'GHOST' CAGES A CAUSE FOR CONCERN
SEE PAGE 8

We have you covered

THE STILL LOVING LEFTOVERS ISSUE

Relief felt at 4th St. stairs

BY NICK TABOREK
Special to the Daily Press

CITY HALL A stepped up park ranger presence in the vicinity of Fourth Street and Adelaide Drive seems to have cut down the number of early morning fitness classes taking place in the neighborhood.

But even with the increased vigilance, some residents say more needs to be done to keep the neighborhood, which has long been a popular workout site because of two steep public staircases nearby, from being overrun with joggers.

"I'm happy enough for now," Adelaide Drive resident Terry Sanders said of the more frequent patrols. "It's reduced the amount of cars and it's reduced the amount of congestion."

Still, he said he'd like to see City Hall build an alternate staircase in Palisades Park or create additional parking restrictions in the area to limit use.

In April, the City Council directed staff to look into both of those ideas and to consider closing the stairs at night, among other proposals aimed at reducing impacts on the neighborhood. So far none of the items have been brought back to the council for consideration.

Curbing crowds of exercisers in the area became an issue for City Hall last year after long-standing complaints about noisy workouts held on a Fourth Street median — some of them organized by professional trainers involving extensive fitness equipment — prompted two well-attended neighborhood meetings.

To Santa Monica Police Sgt. Jay Trisler, the improvement in the neighborhood has been the result of better public outreach combined with cracking down on people who were conducting fitness classes in the area.

"We're out there trying to educate people to be neighborly and if they're running a [fitness] business without a permit then they have the ability to be cited," Trisler said.

Statistics on the number of citations issued in the vicinity were not available at presstime.

"From my point of view it's mission accomplished," said City Councilman Bobby Shriver, who lives in the area. "They're not conducting those classes at 5:30 in the morning outside peoples' windows anymore."

But heavy use of the stairs leading up to

SEE STAIRS PAGE 10



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

HAVING THEIR FILL: **Michael Segal picks up his order of tacos from the Calbi food truck on Wilshire Boulevard Wednesday. Concerned about the recent mobile food influx into Santa Monica, the Bayside District Corp., a private-public management company for Downtown, will ask the City Council to consider new regulations, limiting the number and location of where the trucks will be allowed.**

Putting food trucks on a diet

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN There could be restrictions on the way for those popular specialty-food trucks that have popped up around the Third Street Promenade in the past year.

Concerned about the recent mobile food influx into Santa Monica, the Bayside District Corp., a private-public management company for Downtown, will ask the City Council to consider new regulations, limiting the number and location of where the trucks will be allowed.

"While we understand that these mobile food vendors can be a very good thing for Downtown and any area, we are concerned that if we have a proliferation of those trucks they could have a negative impact on businesses," Kathleen Rawson, the CEO of Bayside, said.

The increased presence of the reinvented food truck has recently been the subject of concern in Downtown where restaurant owners complain about customers lost to a mobile entity that neither has to pay rent nor the high assessment fees to conduct business in a coveted location near the beach.

So-called roach coaches have long been a fixture at construction sites but the food trucks became a phenomenon recently, seeing the arrival of organic-minded Green Truck, Kogi, which sells Korean-inspired barbecue beef tacos, and the rival Calbi Korean BBQ.

During a meeting on Nov. 19, the Bayside board decided that it would request the council to consider strengthening existing regulations that require food trucks to have a vendor permit through the Santa Monica Police Department and a business license through City Hall, Currently, trucks can conduct business in any legal parking spot but are limited to 30 minutes after which they must move at least 100 feet away. Food truck owners have said that it takes longer than 20 to 30 minutes to fill the orders.

The trucks must also be located at least 10 feet away from the entrance of doors, vestibules, driveways and outdoor dining areas of any business.

Bayside is suggesting that the number of trucks be limited between Ocean Avenue and Fifth Street where there is a higher concentration of restaurants.

"The board is not interested in limiting where there is not a problem but really it's more of a response to the merchants in the immediate Downtown area," Rawson said.

Rob Rader, a member of the Bayside

SEE FOOD TRUCKS PAGE 11

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LOEWS

WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Mothers' circle

motheringminds
Marine St., 2:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Many women want a place where they may talk about both the positive and negative experiences of motherhood, and this group offers a forum where women can speak honestly and openly about the challenges and joys of being a parent. This group provides a relaxed and nurturing environment where all experiences are welcome, and where mothers may feel supported and understood. Call (310) 922-6969 for more information.

Yoga in the park

Palisades Park
Ocean Avenue and Palisades Avenue, 10 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Come every Saturday and start your weekend off right with an energizing and rejuvenating yoga class in Palisades Park, overlooking the ocean. Beginners and all levels are welcome. All you need is a yoga mat and an open heart. If you've always wanted to try yoga, this is the class for you. Suggested donation is $12. Call (310) 560-4317 or e-mail jonathan@alignmentforlife.com for more information.

Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009

'Cinderella: The Musical'

Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Audiences help romance bloom in this delightful Rudie-DeCarlo musical for kids and adults of all ages, featuring a charming prince, a zany fairy godmother, silly stepsisters and a zealously well-meaning stepmother. Birthday and tea parties are available with every performance. Admission is $10.50 — $12.50. Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2 for more information.

Monday, Nov. 30, 2009

Heal yourself

Kathmandu Boutique
1844 Lincoln Blvd., 5 p.m. — 6 p.m.
Experience peace and wellness while cleansing and energizing your body through pranic healing. Master Choa Kok Sui has worked successfully with ailments ranging from asthma, arthritis and cancer to addiction, depression and phobias. It is an effective no-touch healing technique that increases the body's own ability to heal itself. As you allow your body to absorb divine love, divine peace and divine energy, you will regain mental clarity, joy, happiness and peace of mind. Everyone is welcome for free.
Call (310) 883-8371 for more information.

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2009

Write away

Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., noon — 2:30 p.m.
Calling all writers! Get inspiration, guidance and support for free. Call (310) 450-0443 for more information.

Yoga in the park

Palisades Park
Ocean Avenue and Montana Avenue, 4:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
This is a gentle beginner's yoga class that emphasizes breathing, stretching, slow movement, strengthening, balance and relaxation — a relaxing and invigorating class for beginners and anyone looking for a gentle approach to yoga. Bring a yoga mat or beach towel and a suggested donation of $10. E-mail meghanmbowen@gmail.com 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.





SAY CHEESE!

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Nicole Graebner shares her holiday wishes at the PayPal 'I Wish' campaign tent on the Third Street Promenade Friday morning. The campaign gave people a chance to win prizes and interact with the PayPal brand during Black Friday, the traditional start of the holiday shopping season.

Global warming's hidden riches

KARL RITTER
Associated Press Writer

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of an occasional series of stories leading up to December's climate conference in Copenhagen, reporting on the impact, future and responses to climate change.

TASIILAQ, Greenland Gert Ignatiussen returns to this fjord-front Inuit town with the spoils of his hunting trip. Six seals, all killed with a single shot to the head.

With nimble handwork, his wife Bartholine cuts them up on the porch of their wood-frame home, saving the best meat for dinner. Ignatiussen throws leftover chunks of flesh and intestines to the yelping sled dogs fettered on a dusty slope below the house.

The blood-drenched scene offers a glimpse into Greenland's past — a time not long ago when seal hunting meant survival to nomadic Inuit tribes in one of the most hostile climates on Earth.

Inside, Ingatiussen, 54, shows what he believes is Greenland's future: A collection of mineral-rich rocks that he has stashed away in a drawer if he ever needs money.

Global warming is melting the fringes of the frozen world where Greenland's Inuits have hunted seal, whale and polar bear for generations. It's thawing the permafrost on which their homes are built. It's disrupting Arctic wildlife and fish stocks, and making hunting trips more dangerous by thinning the ice that supports their dog sleds.

But all is not doom and gloom. The retreating ice could uncover potential oil and mineral resources which, if successfully tapped, could dramatically change the fortunes of this semiautonomous Danish territory of 57,000 people.

The U.S. Geological Survey estimates there are more than 18 billion barrels of oil and gas beneath the Arctic waters between Greenland and Canada, and 31 billion barrels off Greenland's east coast.

North Sea resources of the same magnitude have made Norway one of Europe's richest countries.

Even if only a small part becomes recoverable as the Arctic sea ice retreats, it would be enough for a major boost in living standards for Greenland's tiny population.

"If we find those kind of quantities of oil and gas and the prices remain at current levels, then Greenland would be a very wealthy country, no doubt," said Joern Skov Nielsen, the director of Greenland's Bureau of Minerals and Petroleum.

Finding hydrocarbons would be crucial to help Greenlanders realize their long-held

SEE WARMING PAGE 11

Atlantis astros back on Earth

MARCIA DUNN
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. Space shuttle Atlantis and its seven astronauts returned to Earth with a smooth touchdown Friday to end an 11-day flight that resupplied the International Space Station.

With bright sunlight glinting off it, the shuttle swooped through a clear sky and landed on the runway right on time. Mission Control said no one could remember such welcoming conditions; there were no clouds in sight for the midmorning arrival, and the temperature was in the 50s.

"Couldn't have picked a clearer day," commander Charles Hobaugh said during the final approach. Mission Control congratulated him on a "picture perfect" landing.

It was an especially sweet homecoming for two of the crew.

Astronaut Nicole Stott was away for three months, living at the space station. Fellow crew member Randolph Bresnik's baby daughter was born last weekend.

"Everybody, welcome back to Earth, especially you, Nicole," Mission Control radioed.

Hobaugh and his crew spent a week stockpiling the space station. They delivered big spare parts and performed three spacewalks to install equipment and carry out maintenance.

The pumps, gyroscopes and storage tanks should keep the outpost in business for another five to 10 years, long after Atlantis and the two other shuttles are retired.

Stott was feeling the full effects of gravity for the first time since she rocketed to the space station at the end of August. Her mission lasted 91 days. Hobaugh said she was doing "great."

Bresnik, a Santa Monica High School graduate, had even bigger plans: to hold his infant daughter for the first time.

Abigail Mae Bresnik was born Saturday night, right after her father took his first spacewalk. But he'll have to wait until Saturday to see her. Bresnik's wife, Rebecca, stayed home in Houston with Abigail and 3-year-old big brother Wyatt.

Atlantis — which brought back broken equipment from the space station's water-recycling system — logged 4.5 million miles and circled Earth 171 times.

This was Atlantis' next-to-last mission. Only five shuttle flights remain, all to the space station next year. Station construction will essentially end at that point, so NASA used the trip to send up as many hefty spare parts as possible.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The benefit of opposing Prop. T

Editor:

The Santa Monica City Council, backed by enthusiastic community support, is doing all it can to convince Eli Broad to locate his art museum in the Civic Center area ("City Council pursues Broad museum," Nov. 19). This wonderful opportunity demonstrates how grateful we should be that Proposition T was defeated in 2008. If you recall, Prop. T would have capped annual development in the city at 75,000 square feet, with some exceptions that would not have applied to a Broad art museum. If the city's quest is successful, Mr. Broad's museum alone could easily use half of the construction that Prop. T would have allowed. Imagine if the mayor had to tell Mr. Broad, "Santa Monica would love to house your world-class art collection, we have the ideal location for it, but we have already approved a market and an office building this year. Thanks for your interest, Eli, see you in Beverly Hills." The defeat of Prop. T allows City Hall to pursue once-in-a-lifetime opportunities like the Broad art museum. Thanks to City Manager Lamont Ewell for taking the initiative to try to bring the museum to Santa Monica, and to the City Council and residents of the city for recognizing the chance to add to Santa Monica's cultural heritage.

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica

Health care reform now

Editor:

After all the knuckle dragging and insurance company pandering, posturing, threatening, whining, fear mongering, lie spreading and bullying, do you suppose the uninsured American people could get a break with a health care bill that is at least as watered down as this will pass? The politics are tedious and puts the fact that the American people rejected the status quo. Can you imagine the sheer frustration, waste of breath, compromise, and hard work on the part of the Democrats going down the tubes if this thing fails? It seems that those in the Senate and Congress have forgotten who they are representing. Pass the bill. Hear our voice, the voice of the majority and pass this health reform bill!

Jane Watkins
Santa Monica

No smoking

Editor:

The SMDP reports that Councilwoman Gleam Davis "has concerns about the impact to smokers" who smoke on their balconies in order to protect the health of their families by keeping their residences smoke free.

People on upper floors have families, too. True enough, smokers who light up on lower balconies in my apartment building are not smoking in their living rooms. They're smoking in mine. That's the bottom line.

David Stoughton
Santa Monica

Peace please

Editor:

Bikes are great and cars are a necessity. We need them both. Now let's all be polite and patient with each other so we can solve other problems.

K. Klarin
Santa Monica





Modern Times

Lloyd Garver — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The heroes of healthcare

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT SOME POLITICAL strategists are geniuses. They have taken something that has been hated, reviled, and scorned by Americans for generations and turned it into an institution that many now believe we must protect, foster, and preserve. No, I'm not talking about telemarketers who call during dinner. I'm talking about the medical insurance industry.

Over the years, I've heard many people say, "I love my doctor," but, until now, I never heard anyone say, "I love my health insurance." But to some, medical insurance companies have become the "Heroes of Healthcare." During the Great Healthcare Debate, legislators and their "gullibles" are saying they like their current healthcare system so much that they don't want anyone to touch it. In fact, there are claims that the very idea of changing the healthcare system is un-American.

Obviously, if people don't like a certain approach or the principles or cost of any of the proposed legislation, they should object. I'm talking about those who now claim that we don't need to change anything about healthcare at all. Not a single Republican voted to even open up debate on the issue. Obviously, they don't think we need to change anything. They're probably even OK with not having any current magazines in the waiting rooms.

When both of my kids were born, we got bills from the hospital that included tests for my wife that she didn't get, treatments that she didn't receive, and medications that weren't prescribed for her. Each time I complained to the hospital. They said it was their procedure to bill for all of these things. It was a "package" -- like one of those Las Vegas "Three days, six nights" things or whatever they're called. They couldn't understand why I was so upset, since my insurance company would probably pay for the overcharges. I told them I was upset because the bills didn't represent the truth. They immediately corrected them. They didn't argue or fight or even put me on hold listening to "Moon River." This showed me that they knew the bills were unfair. Unfair? They even charged my wife for ice. I guess we're lucky they didn't ask us to chip in for the air-conditioning.

Do you know even one person who doesn't have a similar story?

One of the objections of the naysayers has to do with the government getting involved in healthcare. Haven't they ever heard of Social Security and Medicare? Would they like those to be abolished, too?

And of course there's the cost objection. These people didn't object to government spending when it came to the Bush and Obama bail-outs of the financial industry, but they don't like the idea of spending whatever it takes to fix healthcare. Oh I forgot, they don't think it needs fixing.

Oh, really?

The U.S. spends more on healthcare than any other country, yet, the last time the World Health Organization put out its rankings, we were 37th in healthcare — in between Slovenia and Costa Rica. Don't those who oppose any change think we should at least move up to, I don't know, maybe 15th and kick Iceland's butt out of there?

WHEN A RIDE IN AN AMBULANCE FOR THREE BLOCKS COSTS HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS, SHOULDN'T SOMEONE LOOK INTO THAT? IS WAITING 11 HOURS IN AN EMERGENCY ROOM OK WITH THOSE FOLKS WHO DON'T WANT ANYTHING CHANGED?

Usually, our medical bills are so hard to read, that most of us don't bother trying. Couldn't the billing system use a little reform?

When a ride in an ambulance for three blocks costs hundreds of dollars, shouldn't someone look into that?

Is waiting 11 hours in an emergency room OK with those folks who don't want anything changed?

If the senators were all really voting their "consciences" as so many of them claim, don't you think at least a dozen or so Democrats would disagree with parts of the bill and at least a similar number of Republicans might think, "Hey, that's not bad?" It's an amazing coincidence that on something this complex so many consciences happen to line up with their party's agenda.

I just hope that a whole bunch of senators don't yell so much in opposition or in favor of the healthcare bill that they hurt their throats. It would be a shame if they had to seek medical attention. Oh, wait a minute. It wouldn't be a problem for them at all. Members of Congress already have great healthcare.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his Web site at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.

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The Q Line

No smoking in apartments?

This past week, Q-line asked:
A Rent Control Board member is supporting a ban on smoking in all apartments in Santa Monica. He plans to send the idea on to City Council. Would you support an apartment smoking ban or do you think it goes too far?
Here are your responses:

"I WOULD SUPPORT A NO-SMOKING-in-apartments ban. Tenants are captive audiences of these inconsiderate smokers. It is absolutely disgusting to have these individuals endangering people's health and ruining their quality of life."

"I DO NOT SEE IT AS A BAN ON SMOKING. I see it as a ban on those who smoke passing on their death wish in the form of deadly secondhand smoke to non-smokers. Former President James Earl Carter and surgeon general C. Everett Koop mention loudly during their tenure in office that 500,000 Americans die annually in the United States due to the residual effects of smoking tobacco in the form of cigarettes. Trust me, folks, it is not a pleasant death. It is a death that renders a strong, 200 pound man to a 98 pound weakling hacking, coughing and gagging for one final breath. Trust me, folks, cigarettes are bad news. And those of you who smoke can live without cigarettes — at least live longer. I subscribe 100 percent to a ban on smoking cigarettes in, on or around residential apartment buildings."

"WHAT ABOUT THE RIGHTS OF THE DISABLED pot smokers?"

"I REALLY THINK THAT SOMEBODY NEEDS to get on this bandwagon, this is really reverse discrimination. And if Santa Monica wants to pass all these laws, then they should not benefit from the taxes on cigarettes, they shouldn't sell them in the city. But, you know, getting back to the apartment, you're paying rent — that is your domain. And it's not like you're doing something illegal, and you know, you don't want people smoking in public places and such, that's fine. But in your own domain is really going too far, and somebody needs to get on the bandwagon and stop this."

"SMOKING SHOULD BE BANNED IN UNITS to even in single-family houses. If a non-smoker can smell it, it needs to be banned. The non-smoker's right to breathe clean air outweighs the smoker's right to smoke. If the smokers don't like it they can move."

"IT GOES TOO FAR. I'M A SANTA MONICA resident, I live in a rent controlled apartment, I've lived here for 20 years. I am a non-smoker. I do not smoke. Telling people what they can do in their apartments, in the privacy of their own home, whether it's a rented apartment, a condominium or a stand-alone home, it goes too far. The rent control board has better things to do than to tell people how to live their lives inside their own apartments and homes."

"THE GUY NEXT DOOR FARTS TOO LOUD and it smells. The lady below me fries pork sausages every morning and it makes me sick. We should outlaw farts, pork sausages and cigarettes in apartments."

"I WOULD WHOLE-HEARTEDLY SUPPORT an apartment smoking ban."

"HERE WE GO AGAIN. BIG BROTHER, uhhh … I mean, Big Sister in this town is going to bestow their wisdom on us, the unenlightened. First off, I don't smoke and I sympathize with non-smokers, but here again we have another politically-correct law — bad smokers, bad cars, bad drinkers, bad males, bad individualists who try and usurp the village. What's after that, bad fornicators? People will only be allowed time with politically-correct, approved mates. Does anyone in this town use the $70 million library? "The Fountainhead," "1984," "Brave New World." Again our City Council comrades have shown us the light and the new world order."

"MY NEIGHBORS SMOKE ON THE PATIO below my bedroom and living room. I don't think they do this maliciously, however, if they don't want to smoke in their apartments, why should I endure the smoke in mine. I do support that ban and I hope it goes through. I'm sure smokers have different opinions, but if they smoke in their own apartments, fine, I don't have a problem, but when they are smoking out on their patios because they don't want the smoke to stink up their own apartments, they are infringing on my rights by damaging my health."

"YES, ABSOLUTELY BAN SMOKING IN apartments in Santa Monica, and then we should start banning the loud music in Santa Monica because it is very annoying. Yeah, two great ideas."

"I SUPPORT A BAN ON SMOKING IN all apartments in Santa Monica. Smoking, aside from not being good for someone's else, poses a safety risk for those exposed to second-hand smoke … , as well as fire hazards. In addition to that, there is incredible expense by landlords to get red of the smell of cigarette smoke when a tenant leaves their apartment. So I support a ban 100 percent."

"OF COURSE I WOULD SUPPORT AN apartment smoking ban and no, I don't think it goes too far. In fact, I don't think it goes far enough. For a healthy population, let's make the smoking ban worldwide. Period."

"SMOKING SHOULD DEFINITELY BE banned in and around all apartments, as well as all condominiums. In fact, to do it right, stop selling cigarettes, cigars and any other paraphernalia in the city and surrounding areas."

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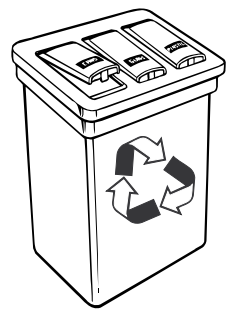
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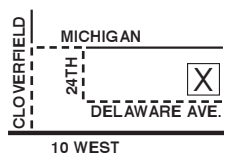


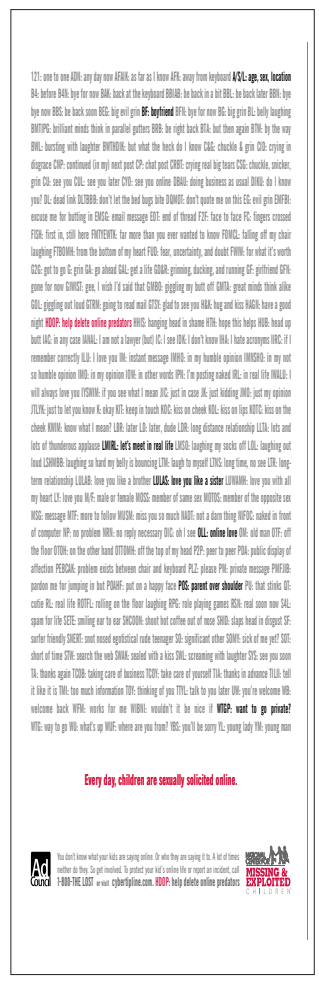
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121: one to one ADN: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location** B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way BWL: bursting with laughter BYTHEWAY: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin CD: crying in disgrace CWP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker, grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don't let the bed bugs bite DUNNT: don't quote me on this EG: evil grin EMFBI: excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed FISH: first in, still here FMTEWTK: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it's worth G2G: got to go G: grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GD&R: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN: gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I'd said that GMBO: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you H&K: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good night **HDOP: help delete online predators** HHIS: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don't know IHA: I hate acronyms IIRC: if I remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMXSHO: in my not so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IOW: in other words IPN: I'm posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I will always love you ITSWM: it you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the cheek KWIM: know what I mean? LDR: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let's meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNC: long time, no see LTR: long-term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LUVLAS: love you like a sister** LUVMAM: love you with all my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOSS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you so much NADT: not a dam thing NFFOC: naked in front of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of affection PEBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJIB: pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: pot on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT: cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L: spam for life SEEK: smiling ear to ear SMCOSN: shoot hot coffee out of nose SMD: slaps head in disgust SF: surfer friendly SNERT: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT: short of time STR: search the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: see you soon TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TLLK: tell it like it is TMI: too much information TOY: thinking of you TTFL: talk to you later UR: you're welcome WB: welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn't it be nice if **WTGP: want to go private?** WTG: way to go WU: what's up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you'll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

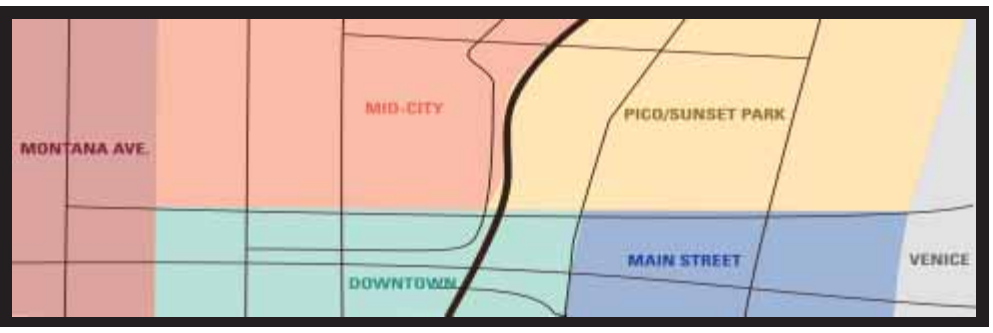
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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) FOR ST. MONICA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY CAMPUS ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given on the completion and availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed campus enhancement project located at 725 California Avenue.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project is a two-phase campus enhancement and parking improvement plan for several existing facilities on the St. Monica campus. The project would improve the facilities available to the students, parishioners and the community. The project would also reduce the existing parking deficit and improve the availability of parking onsite with the construction a subterranean parking garage. The two development phases are projected to be completed within a period of 7 to 10 years. Each of the two phases is described below.

Phase I
Phase I involves replacing the existing Pastoral Center with a new community center and subterranean parking garage; upgrading both the elementary and high school facilities by retrofitting much of the existing facilities and incorporating a minor addition to the east wing of the high school; converting portions of the Trepp Center into specialty lab classrooms; renovating the campus courtyard/playground; and interior renovations to the gymnasium.

Phase II
Phase II involves modernizing the existing school auditorium and updates to the elementary school and the west wing of the high school.

The proposed project would not increase school enrollment or church capacity. Instead, the proposed project would supply additional parking and improve facilities for existing parishioners and students

ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS: The Draft EIR determined that implementation of the project will result in the following significant impacts: Significant Unavoidable Impacts: Transportation / Circulation

HOW TO COMMENT / PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A 30-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the Draft EIR. **The comment period will begin on November 25, 2009 and end at 5:30 p.m. on December 30, 2009.** Written comments should be sent to:

Steve Mizokami, Associate Planner
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Fax: (310) 458-3380
steve.mizokami@smgov.net

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:
A copy of the Draft EIR and background materials are available for your review on the City web site: http://www01.smgov.net/planning/planningcomm/environmentalreports.html

The Draft EIR and background materials may also be viewed at the following locations:
- City Planning Division, Public Counter, Room 111, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
- Office of the City Clerk Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA
- Santa Monica Main Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA

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'Ghost' traps, long lost, keep catching lobsters

CLARKE CANFIELD
Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Maine Beneath the cold ocean waters off the coast of Maine, the nation's lobster breadbasket, lie hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of old wire lobster "ghost traps." Lost over the years to storms, boats — even the knives of fishermen who've cut them from their buoys to settle scores — many of the traps continue catching lobsters.

Marine biologists say lost and abandoned lobster, crab and other fish traps plague coastal waters around the globe, putting pressure on a number of already-stressed fish populations. In U.S. waters alone, millions of dollars' worth of marketable seafood is lost each year.

Lobstermen this winter will grapple up gear from selected spots in the first large-scale study of ghost traps along the Maine coast. Nationwide, other studies are focusing on lost traps off the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts.

"It would be very interesting if we could drain the ocean and look at what's down there," said Holly Bamford, head of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Debris Program. "We might be surprised."

The extent of Maine's ghost-trap problem isn't fully known, but lobstermen say they sometimes recover traps that contain skinny lobsters — ones that appear to have not eaten — or shells from lobsters that have starved and withered away to nothing or been eaten by other lobsters.

Most lobstermen feel it'll get worse with a new federal regulation requiring them to use a certain type of rope on their gear. The rope, they say, is prone to breaking and will result in even more lost traps.

Fishermen have been losing and discarding equipment for as long as they've plied the world's seas. But the range and impact of that refuse has grown in the past 50 years as fishing has increased, especially with more durable, non-biodegradable equipment.

The ability of lost lobster traps to continue fishing diminishes as the bait — herring or some other oily fish — dissipates. Still, scientists believe the traps continue catching lobsters, attracting creatures in search of shelter. And while the traps are required to have escape vents that break free over time, not all vents break free as intended.

"Ghost fishing" studies are under way or recently completed along all U.S. coasts. They include looks at Dungeness crab traps in Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California; blue crab and sea bass traps off North Carolina; blue crab traps in the Chesapeake Bay and the Gulf of Mexico; spiny lobster traps in Florida; and fish traps in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Other studies have looked at the impact of lost fishing nets found in Puget Sound in Washington and off the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, where more than 600 tons of nets were collected.

In Maine, the Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation has received a $200,000 grant to look at the issue. The foundation plans to recruit 10 lobstermen in each of seven Maine harbors to grapple for lost traps late this winter or early spring, said Laura Ludwig, who is heading the project.

The findings will be recorded and assessed in hopes of determining how effective the traps are at fishing after they've been lost in the deep. Depending on their condition, the recovered traps will be returned to their rightful owners, recycled or disposed of.

In Maine, where lobstermen actively fish more than 2 million traps, it's estimated that 5 to 10 percent — 100,000 to 200,000 — are lost in any given year. In a decade, that could be 1 or 2 million lost traps; if that's the case, there could be as many abandoned and lost traps off the Maine coast as ones currently in use.

Ben Crocker Jr., a lobsterman from Roque Bluffs in eastern Maine, says most lobstermen feel the lost traps aren't actively catching lobsters because they're so mangled and don't have bait in them.

"It's mostly just garbage on the bottom," he said.

Two winters ago, Ian Lussier of Owls Head grappled for lost traps with another lobsterman in Penobscot Bay and recovered several hundred traps in depths of 100 to 400 feet, he said. Some had tags showing they were owned by lobstermen who hadn't fished in more than a decade. Some traps were wooden, which haven't been used for the most part for 25 years.

How much lobster the traps are catching is almost a "non-issue" for Lussier because he believes so few are caught.

The bigger issue, he says, is a new federal regulation that aims to protect endangered North Atlantic right whales by outlawing use of floating rope that connects lobster traps on the ocean bottom and sometimes entangles the whales.

Lobstermen say the sinking rope sits on the rocky bottom, where it easily abrades and breaks free, resulting in more lost gear. Lussier said he lost 87 traps out of his 800 between April 5, when the rope law went into effect, and the middle of June, because the rope deteriorated on the rocky bottom.

"What's going to happen is more traps are going to build up on the bottom in areas where we have to use sinking line," Lussier said.

Worldwide, concerns about lost gear are growing.

Besides continuing to catch fish and shellfish, lost nets and traps have been known to snag whales, seabirds, turtles and other animals, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reported this year. They can also hurt the benthic, or ocean-bottom, environment and create navigational hazards.

Frank Chopin, a senior fisheries officer with FAO in Rome, said more people are taking part in programs and campaigns to recover the gear. But there hasn't been a systematic approach to removing it.

"It's a complicated issue," he said. "And it's not going to go away."

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Kitchen Vixen

Elizabeth Brown
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Be mindful, frugal with Thanksgiving leftovers

NOW THAT YOU SLAVED IN THE KITCHEN for days on end to feed all your family and friends, the last thing you want to do is cook some more. You can either give away leftovers, eat them as is, or turn them into new, lighter fare to take you through the weekend, and even into Monday, as you begin your holiday shopping.

I love finding creative ways to stretch my food dollar. Not only does a frugal food budget allow you more flexible spending in other areas of your life, but it also shows an appreciation for the food you've received.

You can use any leftover meat, even vegetarian protein sources, to make these economically efficient entrees. And don't let those veritable veggies go to waste. Although twice-cooked vegetables do lose some nutrition, by adding other fresh, flavorful ingredients you waste not, want not while bringing new life to leftovers.

Even if you've had your share of turkey, you can still flex your creative muscle by experimenting with these ingredients. Then find someone in need who will appreciate your thoughtful gesture, hard work and heartfelt warmth when they receive the most precious gift of all this holiday season — love, as food.

These tasty treats will feed loved ones while decreasing your food budget as well as your waistline, plus they will give you the necessary energy to spend your savings on holiday gifts. Everyone wins!

ELIZABETH is a registered dietitian and certified holistic chef who believes that every food and everyone deserves a second chance. For more information, please visit her Web site at www.thekitchenvixen.com.

Crunchy "cash conscious" turkey salad

4 cups chopped leftover turkey meat, white, dark, whatever you have leftover
2 cups red grapes, cut in half
4 stalks celery, diced
1/2 cup pecans or walnuts, chopped

Dressing

3/4 cup Fage brand Greek yogurt
1/4 cup canola mayonnaise
1 tbs. apple cider vinegar
1 tbs. honey
1 tbs. poppy seeds
Zest and juice of 1/2 lemon
Sea salt and ground pepper to taste

Combine dressing ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Add chopped turkey, grapes, celery and pecans. Toss to coat everything evenly.
Makes 12 servings, 3/4 cup each. Per serving: 160 calories, 15g protein, 10g carbs, 1g fiber, 6g fat, 200mg omega-3 fats. Significant source of selenium, manganese and zinc. Serve on a bed of leafy greens to increase vitamins, minerals and fiber per serving.

"Tender friendly" turkey enchiladas

2 cups shredded leftover turkey
2 (15 ounce) cans ranchero beans
1 tbs. olive oil
1 small yellow onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tbs. ground cumin
2 tsp. red pepper flakes
1/2 bunch cilantro leaves, chopped
1 cup shredded Monterey jack cheese, organic (try almond or rice versions)
12 corn tortillas
1 cup salsa
1 cup shredded cheddar, almond or rice, Lisanatti brand
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Heat oil in a large skillet. Sauté onion until soft. Add garlic and sauté until fragrant. Add cumin and red pepper flakes and blend flavors. Add ranchero beans and turkey meat. Heat thoroughly on medium heat. Do not cover skillet. Continue to stir and heat ingredients until most of the liquid has evaporated and the ingredients have thickened. Remove skillet from heat. Mix in Monterey jack cheese and cilantro. Coat 9-by-13 inch baking dish with a little oil to keep enchiladas from sticking. Place 1/2 cup turkey mixture down the middle of each tortilla. Fold sides of the tortilla in and place fold side down in baking dish. Place tortillas side by side to create two rows of six. Pour salsa over tortillas then sprinkle with cheddar cheese. Bake 15 minutes or until cheese has melted. Makes 12 servings. Per serving: 180 calories, 12g protein, 23g carbs, 5g fiber, 5g fat. Significant source of B vitamins, calcium, iron, magnesium, selenium and zinc.

"Greenback" greens

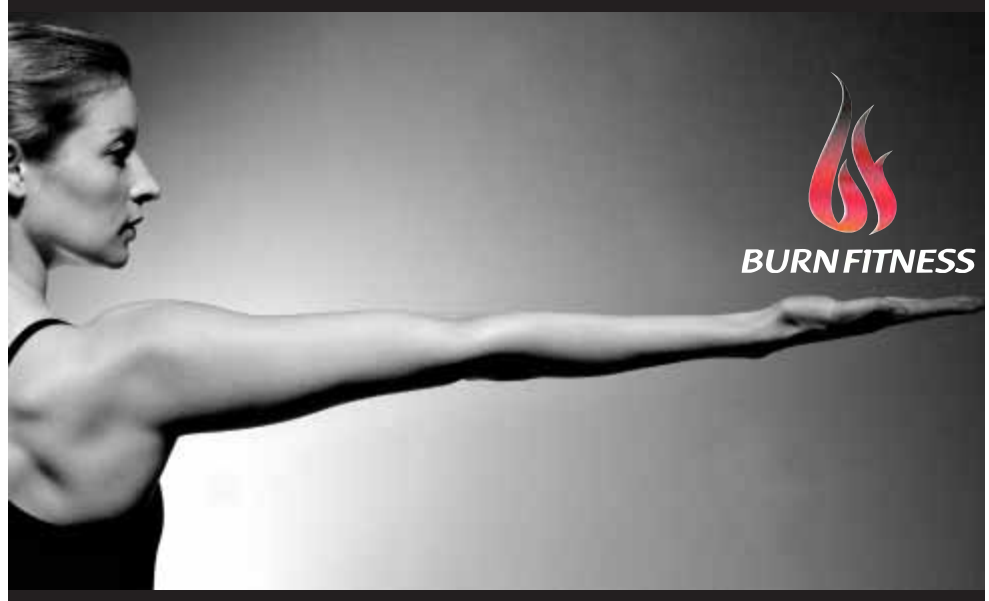
2 cups leftover vegetables, broccoli, cauliflower, green beans, etc.
1/4 red onion, sliced
1/2 cup frozen peas
1 clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. olive oil
1 tsp. Tamari
1 tsp. minced ginger or 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. curry powder
1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
Zest and juice of 1/2 lemon
Ground pepper to taste

Heat oil in a medium size skillet. Add onions and cook until soft. Add garlic and sauté until fragrant. Add chopped leftover vegetables and peas. Add Tamari blend ingredients. Add ginger, curry, red pepper flakes and lemon juice and zest. Blend ingredients. Add pepper to taste. Heat until vegetables are slightly crisp and all flavors are blended evenly. Adjust seasonings as needed. Makes six servings. Per serving: 50 calories, 3g protein, 8g carbs, 4g fiber, 1g fat, 78% Daily Value for vitamin C. Good source of folate.

"Double dipped" dressing, stuffing or potato cakes

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Take any leftover mashed carb, even add leftover corn. Coat a baking sheet with canola oil. Take 1/4 cup mashed carb mixture. Flatten onto oiled baking sheet. Bake for 15 minutes per side or until each side is crispy and brown. No nutrition info here. Please enjoy one cake with a lean protein and vegetable side and everything will balance out!

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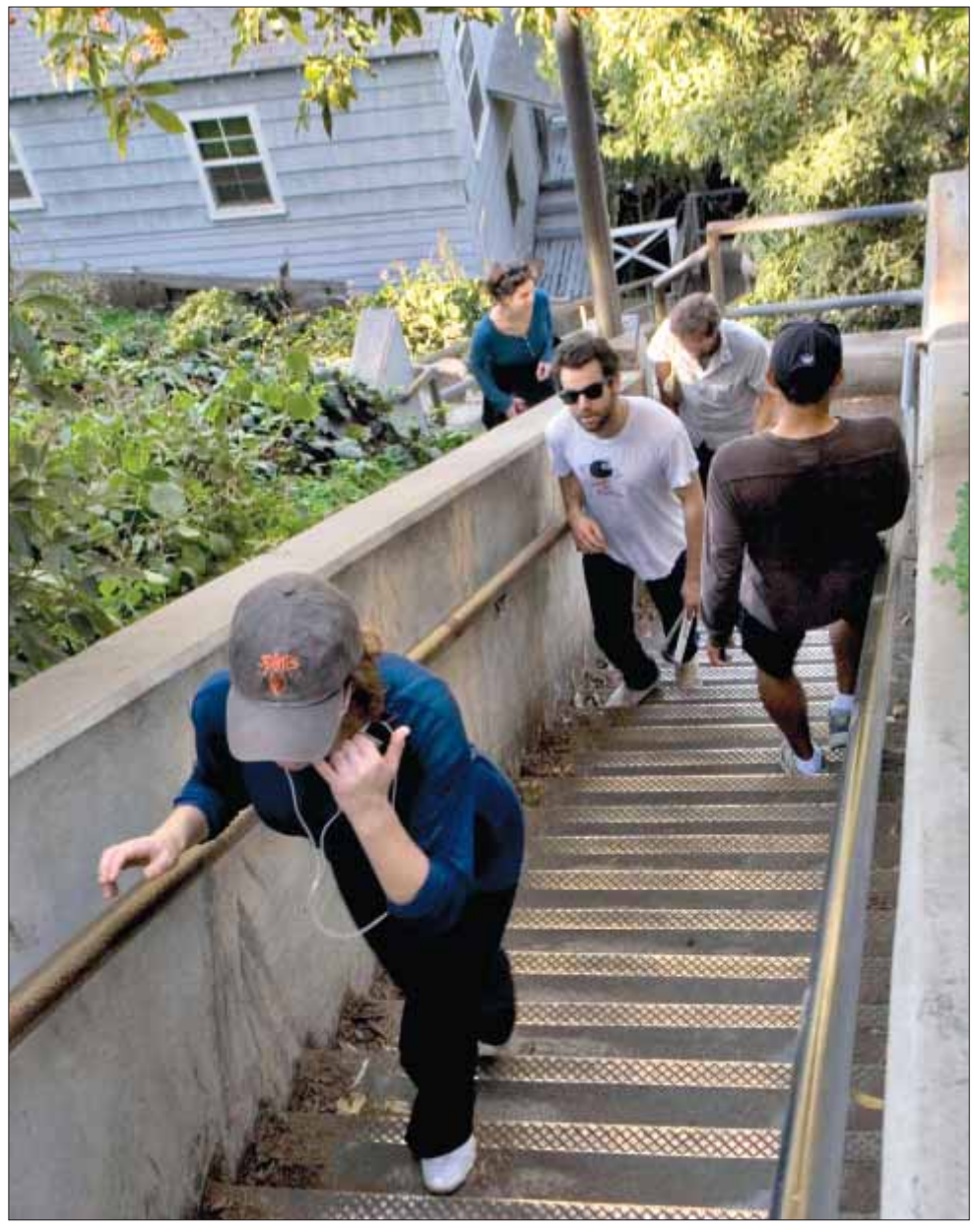


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WORKING OUT: **People walk up and down the Fourth Street stairs on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. A stepped up park ranger presence in the vicinity of Fourth Street and Adelaide Drive seems to have cut down on the number of early morning fitness classes that take place in the neighborhood, angering residents.**

City staff studying options

FROM **STAIRS** PAGE 1

Adelaide Drive, Shriver acknowledged, continues to be an issue for some residents who would like to see City Hall take further action.

Lee Swain, Santa Monica's director of public works, said proposals like creating new parking restrictions or barring use of the stairs at nighttime are complex policy decisions that require detailed legal analysis.

Closing the stairs at night, for example, would involve cooperation with the city of Los Angeles because the stairs span Santa Monica's border.

"We know it's an ongoing concern and we're trying to do what we can to address areas of concern where we can," Swain said. "But many of them are complex issues that are going to take some time to formulate [responses to]."

Swain said he expects the City Attorney's Office to begin work on several of the proposed measures within the next two weeks. He declined to say when staff would update the City Council on the proposed solutions.

"Staff is working hard to handle a lot of different things and these are also issues that we want to deal with as quickly as possible," he said.

As for building stairs in Palisades Park, Swain said finding funding has been an issue.

"The city is always looking at grant opportunities," he said. "The problem is because of the financial health of the nation there's really not a lot of grant opportunities out there."

For his part, Shriver said he's content to wait for city staff to update the council on its findings.

Meanwhile, many joggers who frequent the Adelaide stairs said they haven't been affected by City Hall's efforts to deter people from working out in the median. On a recent Wednesday afternoon as a park ranger surveyed the intersection of Fourth Street and Adelaide, a steady stream of people made their way up and down the steps or stretched in the grass areas next to sidewalks.

A Fourth Street resident who gave his name only as Bob said the number of exercisers and personal trainers who use the area is sharply down from a year ago, but people still crowd onto the median when an officer isn't around.

"They kind of survey the situation and see what they can get away with," he said.

Drew Gordon, of Hollywood Hills, waved off the signs designating Fourth Street's grass median "for walking and jogging only" as he snuck in his pre-workout stretching routine while the park ranger was out of sight.

"If you come here on a Saturday everybody's stretching on the grass," he said.

Lisa Clifton, of Venice, comes to work out at the steps every other day and said any new regulations should leave easy access to the public staircases.

"It's lean times. I can't afford a gym membership right now, so this is my gym," she said.

During a typical afternoon workout she said she usually sees about 50 people using the steps for fitness.

"For the number of people that are here when I'm here, everybody's very orderly and quiet," she said.

news@smdp.com



Council to consider relaxing windscreen regulations

FROM **FOOD TRUCKS** PAGE 1

board, said he believes the food trucks should be managed similarly to the carts on the promenade, which is handled by a third party. The carts also pay a rent-like fee.

"We should use them as a way to enhance the Downtown experience overall," he said.

Rader has eaten at both the Kogi and Dosa trucks, the latter of which serves Indian fare.

"They are not downscale at all," he said. "They add something to the district and we would be crazy not to take advantage of this new phenomenon."

The newest vendor planning to make its way to Santa Monica is the Sweets Truck, which will sell popular picks from bakeries and candy shops in the L.A. area. The business is expected to launch early next month.

Greg Rogers, spokesman for Sweets Truck, said locations will be picked so that there is no direct competition with area businesses.

"We are trying to avoid the typical locations that all the other trucks go to," he said.

Rogers said he finds it ironic that a request for more stringent regulations will come from Bayside when just last month a dineLA food truck was allowed on the promenade.

"They were kind of giving a nod that they were wanting to be a part of the whole truck scene," Rogers said.

Council to consider changing rules for windscreens

A set of guidelines that regulates patio wind guards for restaurants on Ocean Avenue could see some revisions after several businesses were warned for alleged illegal use earlier this year.

The council is expected to consider changes next month to the Outdoor Dinning Standards for Ocean Avenue, a city planning document that establishes rules for restaurants along the beach-facing corridor.

The policy states that outdoor dining areas are to be designated by semi-permanent barriers that are removable and stand no taller than 3 feet, 6 inches from the sidewalk level. Windscreen attachments from the barrier are permitted but must be transparent and no taller than 2 feet, bringing the combined height to 5 feet 6 inches.

Both BOA Steakhouse and Ma'Kai Lounge received warnings earlier this year, the latter because the weather screens created an enclosed patio.

The screens are seen as necessary to protect patrons from the elements, making the outdoor dining area usable in windy or rainy conditions.

The restaurants have committed to keeping the wind screens rolled up except in inclement weather pending the council's consideration of the outdoor dining policy, Yibin Shen, the deputy city attorney for City Hall, said.

While the restaurants never filed a lawsuit against City Hall, the council for several meetings had on its closed session agenda an item that pertained to "anticipated significant exposure to litigation" involving BOA and Ma'Kai.

Bayside is planning on asking the council to support limited use of the windscreens pending approval by the Architectural Review Board.

"The board supports limited use of the screens so that those outdoor dining patios are viable in inclement weather," Rawson said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Some worry about what future riches may bring

FROM **WARMING** PAGE 3

dream of cutting the annual 3.4 billion kroner ($680 million) lifeline from former colonial power Denmark that currently rules out full independence. It's still a big "if."

To date no oil has been found in Greenlandic waters. Even if discoveries are made in new areas under exploration, the most optimistic estimates say commercial production is at least 10-15 years away because of the long time-scale involved when developing offshore oil and gas fields.

Even so, local decision-makers are getting prepared. Last year the Greenland parliament approved the creation of a sovereign wealth fund similar to that which Norway uses for its surplus oil income.

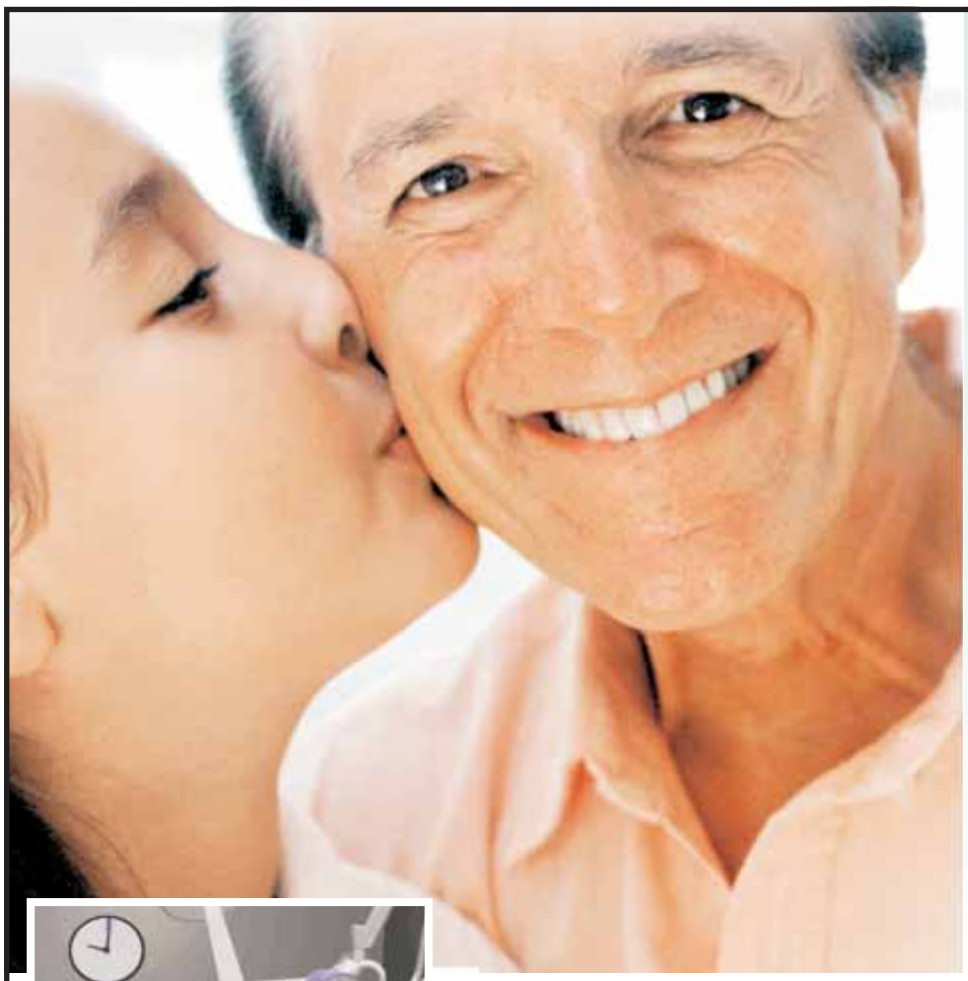
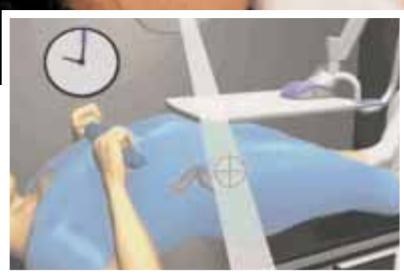
Any payoff from minerals would be smaller, but more immediate. The giant island is believed to be rich in base metals such as zinc, and iron; precious stones like diamonds and rubies; and precious metals like gold and platinum. It's also a potential hotspot for rare earth minerals used in electronic gadgets including mobile phones and flat-screen TVs.

The problem is 80 percent of the island is covered by an ice sheet that is up to 2 miles (3 kilometers) thick, which means exploration is only possible in coastal regions. Even there conditions are far from ideal due to the long winter with frozen ports, 24-hour darkness and temperatures regularly dropping below -20 F (-30 C) in the northern parts.

However, as the climate slowly warms, more of Greenland is opening up for exploration.

Despite the promise of wealth and independence, many Greenlanders regard the hypothetical treasure trove buried beneath their feet with ambivalence. Lynge worried about what kind of Greenland it would produce — a once-pristine landscape flecked with oil derricks and hulking smelting facilities?

"Out of my window I see fjords and mountains and icebergs," he said. "Caribou, musk ox and an occasional polar bear. Wonderful country. Then a generation from now, two generations from now, what will meet the eye?"



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Tornante
Steve Parker
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A new Leaf on life

TWO WEEKS AGO, IN LOS ANGELES AND Santa Monica, Nissan officially launched their five-passenger Leaf electric car to the American media and public. We were there getting the latest info on what will most likely be the first mass-produced EV family car sold in the U.S.

The events brought out Nissan/Renault chief Carlos Ghosn, numerous company public relations people, various engineering-types and even vice president of Nissan Design America, Bruce Campbell, who had a hand in styling the car, inside and out.

Nissan's huge, worldwide PR campaign for Leaf, based around a nationwide tour of the car, is becoming a model of non-news news which, because the car is so unique, almost guarantees media coverage of anything Leaf-related.

For instance, few if any of the Leaf's specifications have changed since first announced months ago. The company still says Leaf will have a 100-mile range, will be recharged through 110-volt home power in eight hours, while using a 220-volt "fast charger" can refill the lithium-ion batteries to 80 percent of their capacity in a half-hour, and that a 10-minute charge at a public charging facility can add about 31 miles to the car's range.

The 300-pounds of battery packs are installed under the Leaf's floor, allowing designers to make the most of interior space. There's an electric motor driving the front wheels using half-shafts. Though Nissan says it's a five-passenger hatchback, the rear seat seems large enough for two full-sized adults at most. The instrument panel is futuristic, as expected, and Nissan says the LED headlights and rear lamps use only half the energy of conventional auto lighting.

No pricing announcement has been officially made, but near-$27,000 sounds about right. Ghosn told me the other night that the car will be "priced competitively" with cars of similar size, but in reality there is currently no comparable car sold anywhere in the world.

With (probably) unintended irony, the Leaf launch was held in Bergamot Station. The Bergamot facility dates back to 1875 when it was built as a stop for the Pacific Electric Red Line trolley running from Los Angeles to the Santa Monica Pier.

The Bergamot event offered a (probably) unintended statement that electric-powered transportation is hoped to be returning to Southern California, at least, in a big way.

Ghosn told me at the launch that Leaf sales will begin in Japan at the end of 2010, and by 2012 the car will be produced in England and near Nissan's U.S. headquarters in Smyrna, Tenn. The company has borrowed $1.6 billion from the U.S. Department of Energy to revamp one of their Tennessee plants to manufacture the Leaf. The first Leafs (Leaves?) sold in the U.S. will be imported from Japan.

I asked Ghosn if Nissan would be developing gas/electric hybrids; the hybrid Altima sold in the U.S. uses Toyota technology. He told me that for certain markets hybrids make sense and his company will stay involved.

"But," he said, "there already is a leader in hybrids (Toyota). In just 10 years hybrids have become 2 percent of the market, a remarkably fast rate of growth. But with Leaf, Nissan is now the leader in EVs."

He expects EVs to be 10 percent of the world auto marketplace by 2020; Renault is expected to release its own version of Leaf within a year or two of Nissan's EV going on sale. Ghosn said that Nissan will continue to develop EVs and wants to have several EV models available for sale within the next five to 10 years.

STEVE PARKER is a two-time Emmy Award-winner who has covered the world's auto industry and motor racing for over 35 years. He created, writes and moderates the only all-automotive blog on The Huffington Post at www.huffingtonpost.com/steve-parker. Parker hosts live one-hour automotive and motor racing call-in radio shows each Saturday and Sunday at 5 p.m. on www.TalkRadioOne.com (free podcasts of Steve's previous shows also posted on that site). Contact Steve through his own automotive issues Website at www.SteveParker.com.

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NEW DVD RELEASES

BY RANDY WILLIAMS



‘Hogan’s Heroes’

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Bob Crane stars as Col. Hogan in this mid-60s comedy series portraying the leader of a group of allied inmates in a German WWII POW camp conducting an espionage and sabotage campaign right under the noses of their warders. When it debuted in 1965, World War II was only 20 years in the past, and many still had deep feelings of hurt and loss. But with a wacky mix of programs on air at the time (“Gilligan’s Island,” “The Munsters,” “My Favorite Martian,” “My Mother the Car,” “I Dream of Jeannie,” “The Addams Family,” “Mr. Ed,” “McHale’s Navy” and “The Beverly Hillbillies”) the show fit in and succeeded from the start benefiting from good writing and a terrific array of characters. Every episode from the six seasons are included on 27 discs. Bonus segments: Clip from CBS’ Fall Preview Show — Seven Wonderful Nights; Richard Dawson Remembers; Hogan’s Theme Song: Performed by Bob Crane and his band; Werner Klemperer at the Emmys (1968 and 1969); A Conversation with Co-Creator Al Ruddy and a Komic Monakle from Mad Magazine. (CBS/Paramount)

Al Ruddy and ‘Hogan’s Heroes’

Al Ruddy has been a producer in Hollywood for five decades. In that span he has developed over three dozen projects for film and television and has been honored with two Academy Awards for Best Picture — “The Godfather” in 1972 and “Million Dollar Baby” in 2004. While the Montreal-born, New York City-raised Ruddy has achieved great success in motion pictures, it all started with a wacky idea he had for a television series that would become a classic. I had a chance to talk with him about the creation “Hogan’s Heroes,” and its recent release on DVD.

Q. Tell us how the concept for “Hogan’s Heroes” came about?

A. I was working as a computer programmer at the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica and in my apartment building there was a comedy writer living upstairs. When he showed me his scripts and mentioned how much he got paid, a light went on. I called an unemployed actor friend of mine — Bernie Fein. Convincing him we could write jokes we took an office at the old Writers Building where the pros scoffed at us. They thought we were retarded — and we probably were.

After nine months we had something but soon realized dealing with prison stories you needed a hero so we altered it a bit and somehow got a meeting with CBS. We find ourselves facing a row of VIPs including the founder William S. Paley. Paley tells my agent standing there that he finds the idea of Nazis as comic characters reprehensible. I’m naïve and standing there with nothing to lose I proceed to act out the whole thing from the sirens, guns, dogs barking and the accents. Paley starts to laugh then the others laugh with him.

They buy the show.

Q. How was the series initially received?

A. Jumped into the top ten from the start and remained there for its entire run of 230 shows. It was also syndicated all over the world.

Q. To what do you attribute that to?

A. Ed Feldman was a terrific producer and he hired a core group of writers who really knew the characters and how they related to each other.

Q. Where did that success lead for you?

A. My goal was to produce movies and low and behold in a blink of an eye I get calls from every Hollywood studio asking what other ideas I had. I had a meeting with Robert Evans and Peter Bart and the next thing I know I have a three picture deal at Paramount with an office and a secretary. Soon after I am asked to produce “The Godfather.” Not bad for someone who hadn’t studied film or writing. I do consider myself very lucky indeed.

RANDY WILLIAMS can be reached at www.sportandcinema.com

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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Writing, tight direction make play worthy

TO BE AN ARTIST IS TO BE AN OUTSIDER. A loner. A person overwhelmed by his passions. And more than a little insane.

That's the premise of Stacy Sims' play "As White As O," now having its world premiere at the Road Theatre in North Hollywood.

In sympathy and fascination we watch as a group of artists, swamped by their unique perspectives, explore and grapple with the vicissitudes of their world. And we follow the emergence of Jack (an endearing Vince Tula), whose history has rendered him numb and fearful, as he returns to life, to love, and to hope.

Jack's problems include a schizophrenic and delusional mother (a frighteningly crazy Elizabeth Sampson), dead to him since his childhood, and a bipolar father (Mark St. Amant), an artist whose most remarkable creation is his home, which he has transformed with "found" art, much like Simon Rodia's towers in Watts. In addition, Jack has a physical condition called synesthesia, which involves a jumbling of his senses so that the letters of the alphabet are seen in colors ("A is red, B is blue, and O is white") and "hope smells like a foggy morning."

As the play begins, Jack, who had spent his childhood helping the father whom he adored "decorate" their home in Rabbit Hash, Ky, has come to New York to see it installed as an objet d'art in a show called "The Innocents: 30 Years of Outsider Art in America." And there it stands, in a corner of the gallery, glowing in its radiant colors, adorned with buttons and discs and decapitated doll heads and coins in a garish and oddly beautiful display.

The house has been brought to New York by Clara (Lauren Clark), a canny entrepreneur who had "discovered" Jack and his father and had made a documentary film about them and their work.

Another artist whose work she has included in the show is Ed (Ramon de Ocampo), whose art consists of a stark, black-painted wall of nails draped with a panel of bright red rose petals. Ed is also constructing what he calls Jack's "anti-history" on a blackboard as he interviews him and tracks his emotional wanderings from the present to the past and back again.

Meanwhile, downstage left, the lunatic who is Jack's mother rants and raves in a discomfiting frenzy, shaking with fretful spasms, reliving the trauma of giving birth again and again, and, in calmer moments fantasizing that she is a goddess, the wife of Zeus. "See my crown," she coos. A wildly disturbing presence at first, Elizabeth Sampson, in her consummate artistry, makes the mother a gripping and sadly appealing character.

Also arriving at the gallery to view Jack's house is Lily (Kate Mines), an old girlfriend whom Jack defines as "a zealot with A.D.D.," and Eva (Keelia Flinn), the girl he loved and abandoned back in Rabbit Hash. Rounding out the ensemble are Joe Calarco, Jennings Turner, and TJ Marchbank as gallery roustabouts, Heather Williams as Ed's very pregnant wife, and Bryna Weiss as the patient and caring nurse/attendant at the insane asylum.

In the end, it is Ed, patiently cataloguing Jack's feelings of numbness, who manages to break through to the maturing man inside. "There are degrees of paralysis," he tells Jack. "People stir things up in order to feel something, but you don't have to move to feel anything." And he persists, "We all come from some kind of crazy," until finally, Jack is able to acknowledge that "desire tastes great."

There is much to admire in this unusual play. The actors are superb, thanks to Sam Anderson's tight direction, and the small stage is illuminated by Desma Murphy's incredible set design. Jeremy Pivnick has provided his always-impeccable lighting design, and Mary Jane Miller, David Marling, and Adam Flemming have enhanced the production with their costumes, sound, and video design, respectively.

"As White As O" is not an easy play. Starting off slowly, it barrages the viewer with a confusing jumble of unidentified characters and lots of esoteric jabber, so as to leave you thinking, "Omigod, it's going to be one of those plays!"

But it quickly sorts itself out and becomes engrossing, thought-provoking, and in the end, thoroughly satisfying. All due to good writing, tight direction, and a fine and talented group of actors.

"As White As O" will continue at The Road Theatre in the Lankershim Arts Center, 5108 Lankershim Blvd. in North Hollywood, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Dec. 12. Call (866) 811-4111 for tickets.

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Mike Vaughan at Topanga. Photo taken by Matt Vaughan.

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Man denies setting 2003 S. California wildfire

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, Calif. A convicted burglar has claimed in jailhouse interviews that he was badgered into confessing to starting a 2003 wildfire that burned about 1,000 homes in the foothills above San Bernardino and allegedly caused five people to die of heart attacks.

"I've terrorized that city as much as anyone," Rickie Lee Fowler said. "But I've never lit a fire and I've never killed anyone."

Fowler, 28, of San Bernardino, was indicted by a grand jury last month. He has pleaded not guilty to five counts of murder and one count each of arson of an inhabited structure and aggravated arson. Prosecutors have not decided whether to seek the death penalty.

In jailhouse interviews this month, Fowler told the Riverside Press-Enterprise and the San Bernardino Sun that he was in state prison several years ago, serving time for burglary, when investigators got him to acknowledge setting the so-called Old Fire.

"I did admit to it. But I did it so they'd stop pressuring me, badgering me," Fowler told the Press-Enterprise from the West Valley Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga.

Fowler denied that he was the man who got out of a white van and tossed a lit road flare into dry brush to start the fire along Old Waterman Canyon Road on Oct. 25, 2003.

The nine-day blaze raged over more than 142 square miles of foothills.

"The community wants to crucify someone. They're angry. I understand," Fowler told the Sun. "I guess they're looking for justice, but get the right person. I had nothing to do with it. I really didn't."

The suspected driver of the van, Martin Valdez Jr., was later shot and killed in an unrelated incident in the town of Muscoy.

Investigators contend Fowler was the van's passenger and he set the fire in an attempt to burn down his godfather's house because the man wouldn't give him methamphetamine or money.

Fowler said he suspected Valdez might have played a role in starting the fire.

However, Fowler, an acknowledged graffiti vandal, said he was with another tagger in San Bernardino at the time.

"I saw the smoke and then the ashes came," he told the Sun.

Less than two months later, he was arrested in a $720 robbery case, which was later reduced to burglary.

In 2004, he was sentenced to 15 years in prison on two burglary convictions.

SIP: Kosher wines uncork their premium side

MICHELLE LOCKE
For The Associated Press

NAPA, Calif. Vintner Ernie Weir wants to make one thing perfectly clear. Yes, his wines are kosher. But first and foremost, they are award-winning Napa Valley wines.

"Some people ask about kosher; we explain it to them. Some people don't ask about kosher; we don't explain it to them. It just kind of works. It flows," says Weir, owner with his wife, Irit, of Hagafen Cellars in Napa. (Hagafen means "the grapevine" in Hebrew.)

Weir came to the Napa Valley 36 years ago — a time when feelings of ethnic pride were surging — with a dream of making a wine that connected with his heritage.

Back then, that was a bold move. Kosher wine in America — which for years had been made with Concord grapes that require sweetening to be palatable — was, to put it nicely, a less than premium beverage.

Today, things are different.

"There are fantastic wines from California, New Zealand, Israel," says Aron Ritter, who started the Kosher Wine Society in New York four years ago after realizing "there was nothing out there for a kosher consumer."

It may not have the high profile of the Italian or French industries, but winemaking has been an integral part of Jewish culture for centuries. A number of Jewish holy days and religious rituals involve wine, including the weekly observance of the Sabbath, which includes a prayer, the kiddush, said over the wine.

Making a wine kosher isn't complicated.

"People always ask me the question: What makes wine kosher?" says Joseph Herzog, partner and general manager of Herzog Wine Cellars in Southern California, a major producer and importer of kosher wines. "I tell people this: Really, wine is kosher. You've just got to keep it kosher. It's crushed grapes fermented. There's nothing non-kosher about it."

Requirements for keeping wine kosher include not working on the Sabbath, and making sure that, at critical points, the wine is handled only by Sabbath-observant Jews who strictly observe kosher dietary laws.

Ingredients also must be certified by a regulating body, such as the Orthodox Union of New York. Most of the ingredients that go into wine are no problem, but some animal-based products are ruled out, such as gelatin, sometimes used as a fining agent to assist in filtering the wine.

Modern technology has solved another problem of kosher wine, which needs to be heated when it's going to be used in certain settings, such as when it might be poured by waiters who are not observant Jews.

That used to mean almost boiling the wine, not a good idea. But flash pasteurization, often used before the juice ferments and done in less than a minute, does not harm the wine, Weir says.

Wine doesn't play a big part in Hanukkah, the Jewish celebration of light over darkness commemorating victory in battle and the subsequent finding of a miraculous cruse of oil that stayed lit for eight days.

Still, that doesn't mean you can't look for something light to go with the traditional foods — latkes, potato pancakes with sour cream, latkes with apple sauce, and sufganiot, or jelly doughnuts.

"You need wines that are really nice and balanced," says Weir. "Often times wines with high acidity go really well."

So, a sparkling wine is a nice match for the doughnuts, and a sauvignon blanc, riesling or pinot noir — depending on whether meat is served and what kind — balances the latkes.

Ritter regularly holds tasting events and likes to come up with pairing suggestions for traditional foods. For Hanukkah, celebrated this year Dec. 11 to 19, he says "you can never go wrong with a nice sauvignon blanc with some latkes."

Weir makes all the familiar varietals of the Napa Valley as well as some wines that are a little less familiar, including roussanne, a white wine that blends the tart freshness of a sauvignon blanc with the richness of a chardonnay.

For years, he made only dry wines, afraid to play into the old stereotype of sweet and cheap.

But with a few decades of experience under his belt, that's changed and he now makes dessert wines when the late-harvest fruit required for it is available.

"I have enough confidence to make sweet wines," he says with a smile.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

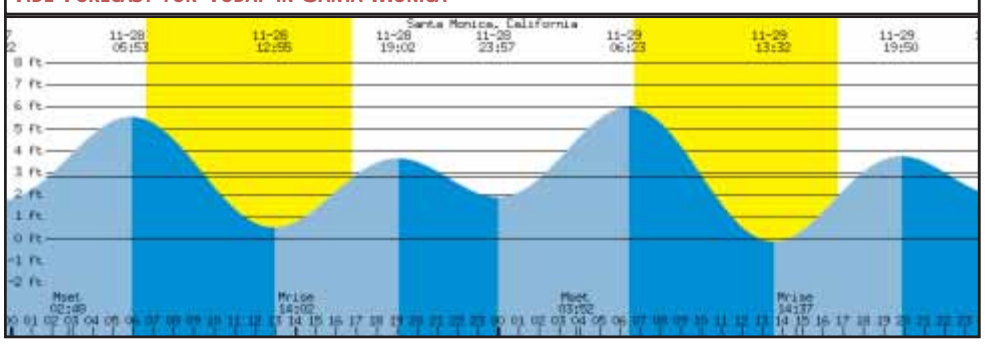
Swell Forecast

Should only see perhaps a 10-20% decline in swell. Sets around most west facing breaks should be at least head high. Direct south facing breaks are looking at chest high sets from the wrap.

Long Range Synopsis

Should see this swell back down, perhaps to chest high max around west facing breaks, waist high around direct south facing spots.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **November 23, 2009**

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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 -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 2

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 Cerrillo Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
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+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	B	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Rameer Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
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.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	C	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	F	A+
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.	A	ns
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).	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

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In tobacco-loving Va., bars to quit cold-turkey

BOB LEWIS
AP Political Writer

RICHMOND, Va. The bluish haze that has hung over the Third Street Diner's bar and booths for decades finally lifts next month as a new anti-smoking law takes hold in Virginia, a huge shift for a state whose tobacco habit dates to the Jamestown settlement some 400 years ago.

Starting Dec. 1, Virginia will join dozens of other states that ban smoking in restaurants. Restaurants in Virginia will be allowed to have a smoking area only if they segregate smokers into rooms with ventilation systems separate from those that heat and cool non-smoking patrons.

For most of its history dating to colonial times, tobacco was Virginia's premier crop and economic staple. Frescoes of the golden-brown leaf adorn the ceiling of the Capitol rotunda, a short cab ride from the massive factory that supplies the world with Marlboros.

Yet this year, strict new curbs on lighting up where food and drink are sold were enacted by lawmakers in Richmond and in Raleigh, N.C., major tobacco capitals where cigarette giants Philip Morris and R.J. Reynolds have been accustomed to getting their way.

North Carolina's law takes effect Jan. 2 and will allow smoking on outdoor patios and in private membership clubs, as does Virginia's law. Unlike Virginia, North Carolina law will not allow any smoking in restaurants.

Virginia restaurant industry lobbyist Tom Lisk expects only about 10 percent of the state's restaurants to retain smoking areas.

"A number of them, because of that requirement in the law to create or construct a separate room, don't have the wherewithal to do it, so they're just banning smoking altogether," said Lisk, who last winter opposed the bill.

Some, like Williamsburg blues and jazz nightspot owner Randall Plaxa, decided to go smoke-free well ahead of the deadline.

Others, like the Third Street Diner and the Beatles-themed Penny Lane Pub two blocks away in downtown Richmond, will move their puffing patrons into upstairs quarters that already comply with the law.

To Maher Elmasri, the change is an unfair threat to his authentic hookah restaurant in Vienna. He's spending thousands of dollars on architects, engineers, builders and ventilation contractors to keep the hookah — a tall, ornate water pipe popular in Arabic cultures — in use at his Middle Eastern restaurant, Lebnan Zaman.

"Am I confident I can stay in business? I don't know that I am confident. I just know that I have to do this to survive," said Elmasri, a Palestinian immigrant.

Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia have laws that ban restaurant smoking, according to the American Lung Association. Some of them exempt hookah lounges. But by the time Elmasri learned that Democratic Gov. Timothy M. Kaine and legislative Republican leaders were rushing their compromise bill toward passage, it was too late. North Carolina provides no hookah exemption, either.

"It's like the government going into the Cheesecake Factory and saying, 'You can't serve cheesecake any more,'" Elmasri said.

For the restaurant industry, Lisk argued that allowing separate smoking rooms put small, family-owned places at a disadvantage to large franchise chains. A total ban would be more fair, he said, and many anti-smoking activists agreed.

Now, as the effective date of Virginia's law approaches, most restaurateurs are relieved it's here, Lisk said.

"Some of them wanted to ban (smoking) all along, but didn't for competitive reasons," he said. Now, Lisk added, they can prohibit smoking altogether knowing that very few competitors will spend the money necessary to offer a smoking area.

"I am counting on that so much," said Plaxa, who made J.M. Randalls smoke-free on Father's Day.

He lost the hard-drinking, hard-partying, smoke-'em-if-you-got-'em crowd and saw sales fall nearly $250,000 as liquor and beer orders dropped by nearly half. But food orders are up 44 percent, and wine sales have increased eightfold, Plaxa said.

While he hasn't fully recouped the money the late-night party animals spent, costs have gone down. Smoke took a toll on his equipment and maintenance budget, it yellowed the walls and drapes, cigarettes burned holes in tabletops and upholstery, and ashes left carpets in ruins, he said. He also sees steady growth in a higher class of customer that may ultimately be even more profitable for his business.

"The more responsible person is a person who doesn't smoke. These people take care of themselves. They're in bed by 10 or 10:30 at night and they're up before sunrise next morning to work out," he said.

A few restaurants can retain smokers under the new law without making any structural changes. Two — Penny Lane and Third Street Diner — have long had separately ventilated rooms upstairs. Penny Lane has an open-air patio, which can also accommodate smokers under the new law.

"From a business standpoint, we are lucky," said Lisa O'Neill, Penny Lane's manager and daughter-in-law of its owner, Terry O'Neill.

pullquote: "It's like the government going into the Cheesecake Factory and saying, 'You can't serve cheesecake any more.'"

— Maher Elmasri, owner, hookah restaurant Lebnan Zaman

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Saturday, Nov. 28
A Hard Day's Night (NA) 1hr 27min
Head (New 35mm print) (NA) 1hr 26min
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 29
The Wizard of Oz (NA) 1hr 41min
7:30 p.m.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (R) 2hr 1min
10:50 am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
11:00 am, 2:35, 6:15, 9:45

Pirate Radio (R) 1hr 55min
11:20 am, 2:05, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25

Michael Jackson's This Is It (PG) 2hrs 01min
11:10 am, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

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

2012 (PG-13) 2hr 38min
11:30am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30

Disney's A Christmas Carol in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
10:30am, 1:00, 3:30, 5:55, 8:25, 11:00

Men Who Stare at Goats (R) 1hr 30min
10:00am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min
9:50am, 2:30, 7:25

Fantastic Mr. Fox (PG) 1hr 27min (Digital Presentation)
10:50am, 1:15, 3:40, 6:00, 8:30, 10:50

Ninja Assassin (R) 1hr 39min
10:15 am, 12:00, 12:50, 3:20, 4:45, 5:50, 8:20, 9:55, 10:55

Old Dogs (PG) 1hr 28min
10:05 am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05

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

Coco Before Chanel (PG-13) 2hr 5min
1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

The Messenger (R) 2hr 7min
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55

Precious (R) 1hr 49min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

End of Poverty? (NR) 1hr 46min
1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 10:15

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

The Blind Side (PG-13) 2hr 6min
11:40 am, 1:00, 2:40, 4:05, 5:40, 7:00, 8:40, 10:00, 11:40

Planet 51 (PG) 1hr 31min
12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:00, 9:20

The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG-13) 2hr 10min
11:30 am, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30

Where the Wild Things Are (PG) 1hr 34min
11:20 am

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

Relieve that stress, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Be assertive. Ask. You might be delightfully surprised by what someone offers or is willing to do. Friends surround you and are more than willing to chip in and do their fair share. Tonight: Join with another's imaginative flights of fancy!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Keeping your feelings and ideas hemmed in might not be worth it. Your ability to move past problems often occurs when you're by yourself and processing. Others do see the mood change. Consider ways of letting go. Tonight: Indulge in a stress-buster.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. Friends have an agenda, and they let you know it in no uncertain terms. Although communication and wit naturally merge with you, that isn't the case with others. Listen to what someone shares. Tonight: A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ A must appearance seams to be inevitable. Your drive and sense of direction point to new ideas and different situations. Brainstorm with a roommate or family member about the best way to handle the upcoming holidays. Tonight: Drop the word "no."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ If you want to take off, do so before your schedule becomes too complicated. An early start gives you plenty of time to visit with different friends and accomplish what makes you happy. Respond to someone's imaginative flights of fancy. Tonight: Enjoying the moment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Buddy up with a friend or loved one, whether you decide to go shopping or just to the movies. The meaning of an experience often is heightened by the presence of another person. Share more and enjoy more. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Others tend to run with the ball. You might have to go at full gallop to catch up, no matter what is happening around you. Keep conversations open and informative. Be sure that both of you don't have the same information. Tonight: Go over suggestions, then choose.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Investigate what is happening with a child or loved one. You know how to handle a problem, but don't have the right timing. A family member means well. Work with this person's suggestions. Tonight: Easy works.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Tap into your imagination, and recognize where you made an error. You have a sense of humor and the ability to laugh at yourself, as well as help others laugh at themselves. Tonight: Think "mistletoe." Think "romance."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Recognize the importance of certain key people in your life. Often you have difficulty expressing your appreciation to others for their role in your life. Slow down and do just that at this time. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Return calls and catch up with a friend or loved one. Together you will have a better day. Whatever activity you decide to do will be enhanced by the other person. You can count on this person's feedback, whether you want to hear it or not. Tonight: Favorite place for dinner.

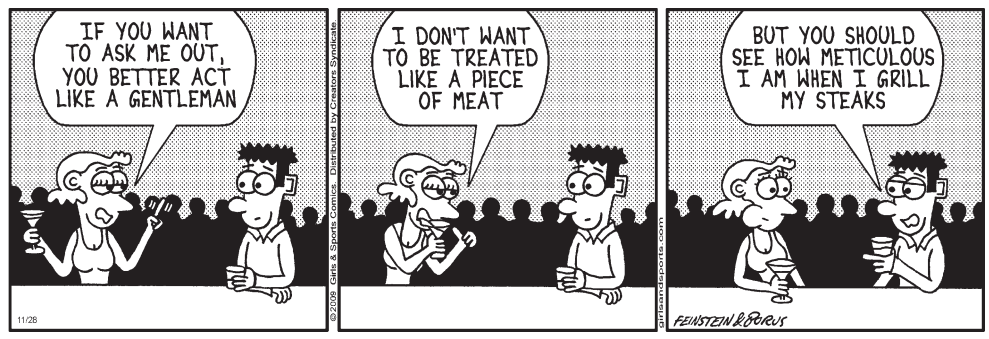
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You could have difficulty isolating exactly what is happening with your funds. An error exists, whether it is you, someone else or the bank. You won't be content until you clear out confusion. Tonight: Start your Christmas-gift list.

Happy birthday

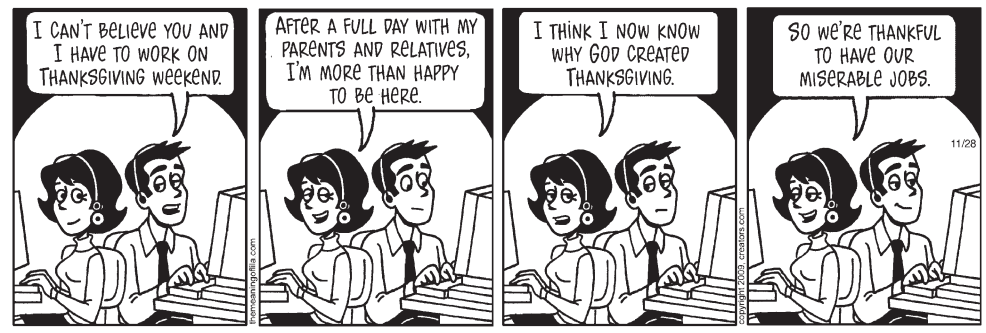
This year, you add a more upbeat, creative touch to situations. In a sense, you become a role model as to how to handle adversity. Your sixth sense kicks in frequently during conversations. Sometimes you know who is calling before you pick up the phone. If you're buying a new car or computer, you will tend to spend more, but you are likely to enjoy the new item. If you are single, you could be enchanted by someone you meet this year. Be aware that you could be putting this person on a pedestal, and he or she can only fall off. If you are attached, a very special quality evolves through your communication. Build on newfound closeness. ARIES can inspire you to take a risk.

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



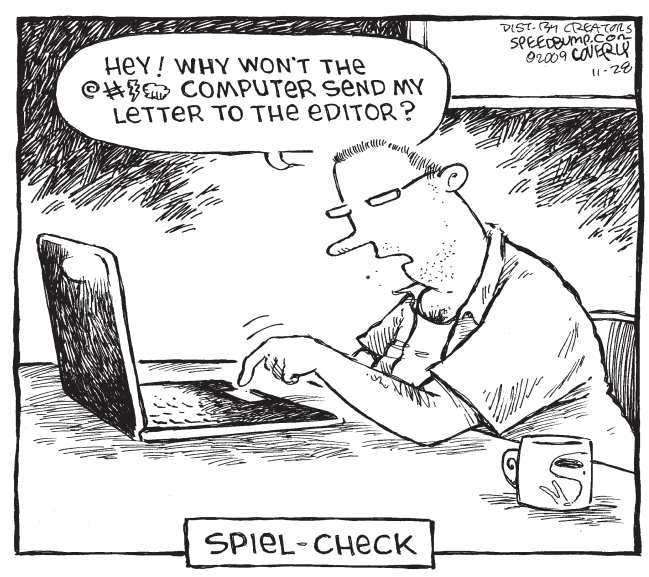
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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 Winter air
6 Spiny plant
11 Make amends
12 Big rigs
13 Italian physicist
14 Likely winners
15 Moon-struck
17 Writer Harper
18 Dogfight partici-pant
19 Subter-fuge
22 Crimson
23 Trio from a genie
24 — Python
25 Origin
27 Track trip
30 Tremble
31 Novelist Kobo
32 Corrode
33 Fabled sailor
35 Modify
38 In a way, in slang
39 Enter a password
40 Prepare to propose
41 Cleaned, in a way
42 Takes to the sky

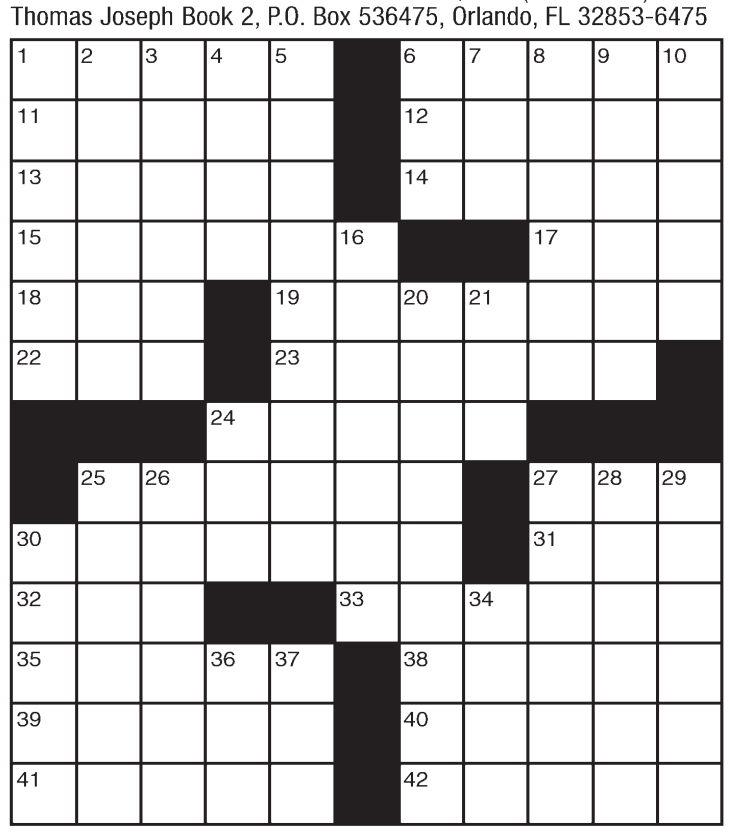
DOWN

1 Expen-sive spread
2 Right now
3 Like cookie dough
4 Aware of
5 Give a message
6 Fool
7 Ingenuous cry
8 Audrey Tautou film
9 Band creations
10 German steel city
16 Shows clearly
20 Some stars
21 Retiring
24 Coffee, in slang
25 Sundial feature
26 Power problem
27 Tar pits site
28 One that lessens
29 Piano parts
30 Closes up
34 Taboo, to tots
36 Some music
37 It's a blast

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



11-28

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 10 11 35 37 50
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: $47M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 10 13 14 47
Meganumber: 20
Jackpot: $29M

Fantasy 5: 10 18 20 22 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 9 9
EVENING: 8 3 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.45.86

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

■ (1) The epic drought that hit central Texas this year, causing a 30-foot drop in the water level of Lake Travis near Austin, also helped police solve three stolen-vehicle cases. Of the three exposed at the bottom of the lake in July was one, with key still in the ignition, missing since 1988. (2) Emergency-room doctors writing in the Archives of Surgery in September reported that light alcohol-drinkers survived brain injuries better than either non-drinkers or heavy drinkers.

■ "The final taboo" and "a second coming out" are what John Outcalt, a 42-year-old New York City filmmaker, calls the Gainers and Encouragers gay subculture of men who (the gainers) try to transform their bodies by eating all the food they can or who (the encouragers) get a sexual thrill out of enabling the gainers. The of-average-weight Outcalt said (in a December 2000 issue of the weekly Time Out New York) he's a "chub chaser" who helps organize conventions (Encouragecons) and likes watching bodies "going from point A to point B, and whether it's gaining hair, getting larger, or getting fat, I find it sexy and exciting."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1095 On the last day of the Council of Clermont, Pope Urban II appoints Bishop Adhemar of Le Puy and Count Raymond IV of Toulouse to lead the First Crusade to the Holy Land.

1443 Skanderbeg and his forces liberate Kruja in Middle Albania and raise the Albanian flag.

1520 After navigating through the South American strait, three ships under the command of Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan reach the Pacific Ocean, becoming the first Europeans to sail from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific.

1582 In Stratford-upon-Avon, William Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway pay a £40 bond for their marriage license.

1811 Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 73, was premiered at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig.

WORD UP!

gourmand
\goor-MAHND; GOOR-mahnd; GOOR-mund\ , noun;
1. One who eats to excess.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 2 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1295, townhouse style, stove, carpt, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$700 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

On Ocean $100/MO with swimming pool. UCLA Students Free food lobster, shrimp, avocado 310)395-1047

1244 Euclid 2+1 upper unit #10 stove, fridge, marble bathroom floors, carpets blinds, free standing balcony, parking, pets OK with deposit .$1695/mo (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

1248 11TH st.unit A 2bdrm/1 1/2bath, lower carpet stove, blinds, laundry, vinyl flooring, balcony parking, no pets.on site manager $1650.(310)393-6322 www.jkwproperties.com

833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2275 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

CHARMING FULLY furnished guest house short term $3500/mo HWF, private patio yard, secure, all utilities included, one parking, South of Wilshire walk to all (310)482-2046

Culver City 4058 LaSalle Unit B lower duplex unit 1bdrm/1bath, hardwood floors, ceiling fan, breakfast nook, washer/dryer stove, fridge, parking, no pets. $1600/mo (310)578-7512 www.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

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821 Pacific St. #5
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www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

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 $1175/mo $700 off move-in (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 213, Single stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, tiling, flooring, granite counter tops, with utilities, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. $900/mo (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 #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 3976 Inglewood Blvd. , 2+2 lower $1375/Mo stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091565986 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SOCCERCLEATS101, 8601 LINCOLN BLVD, 3-207, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : BRYAN BYRNE, 8601 LINCOLN BLVD, 3-207, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 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)1/1/2009. /s/: BRYAN BYRNE
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/15/2009. 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 11/14/2009, 11/21/2009, 11/28/2009, 12/5/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20091573485 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SENTRY EDOCS, AI #/ON 3210969, 19553 BOWERS DRIVE, TOPANGA, CA 90290. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : BRYAN MARKS, 3201 OAKHURST AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90034; GREGG MOORE, 19553 BOWERS DRIVE, TOPANGA, CA 90290 This Business is being conducted by, a general partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: BRYAN MARKS
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/16/2009. 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 11/14/2009, 11/21/2009, 11/28/2009, 12/5/2009

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North of Montana	$2,897,500	$1,550,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,662,500	$779,000
South of Wilshire	$850,000	$607,500
Sunset Park	$1,164,000	$639,000
Ocean Park	$1,365,000	$1,049,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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