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Volume 15 Issue 21

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MYSTERY PHOTO .....PAGE 13

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WINTER VIEW

Matthew Hall editor@smdp.com

Winter has come to Santa Monica. The city has experienced foggy, cloudy weather recently and cool temperatures will persist into next week.

Ethics investigation up for approval next week

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

It could take up to three months for the City's recently hired advisor to complete his review of potential ethical violations and return with a report.

Council's upcoming meeting on Dec. 15 includes a proposed scope of work, timeline and budget for the analysis.

The Council recently authorized hiring an independent advisor to address concerns about the way the city has handled ethics complaints related to the Oaks Initiative and the hiring/firing of Elizabeth Riel. In both cases, local advocates argued the City's actions have eroded public trust and potentially violated standards of behavior.

"The outside advisor will conduct an independent and balanced review of city practices and how they align with good governance principles of accountability, transparency, responsiveness, and the highest ideals of public service," said the staff report.

John Hueston was chosen from among several potential candidates. He is a former division chief and assistant U.S. attorney. In his application he said he had investigated Enron as part of a national taskforce, worked on corruption cases for the county of San Bernardino that resulted in criminal prosecutions, and has worked for multiple other municipal agencies.

"As a former public servant, I find it extremely rewarding to work with public governments and agencies to identify problems and craft solutions for better governance and process," said Hueston.

In November, staff said the first order of business would be for Hueston to determine the scope of his own work.

"Mr. Hueston has provided a proposed scope of work for the independent review that would take place over a 75 to 90 day period," said the staff report. "His work would focus on five phases or areas: 1. Review of events and processes pertaining to the Elizabeth Riel matter. 2. Assessment of the Oaks Initiative and efficacy of existing laws, rules and procedures. 3. Identification of municipal "best practices." 4.

SEE OAKS PAGE 6

Student-run carnival puts science in play

Will Rogers expo incorporates STEM concepts

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

The best shooters in basketball are sometimes said to be "lighting it up," and the phrase was taken quite literally this week at Will Rogers Learning Community.

Using little more than cardboard and tape, fourth-graders Daniel Acosta, Jessica Padilla and Darragh Flanders built a scaled-down basketball hoop for a special science expo. And as fellow students took turns playing their game in the local elementary school's crowded cafeteria Wednesday morning, balls that passed successfully through the cylinder pushed a switch below the base of the

SEE SCIENCE PAGE 9









Ray Solano editor@smdp.com

CAINE'S ARCADE: For the third year in a row, 2nd and 4th graders were inspired to create their own cardboard arcade by applying science concepts in matter (2nd) and electricity (4th). All of the other grade levels have also been working on Engineering projects this month, making this STEM Month at Will Rogers on Wednesday.

Wintry storm dumps snow on snow-starved Sierra Nevada

CHRISTOPHER WEBER & JANIE HAR
Associated Press

The biggest storm to hit the slopes of the Sierra Nevada this season triggered cheers Friday from the snow-starved ski resorts of California and the businesses that surround them.

Elsewhere in the drought-stricken state, rain and wind gusts prompted high surf warnings and repeated cautions from highway patrol to slow down when driving.

Severe weather moved south from the Pacific Northwest, where fierce storms this week sent rivers bursting from their banks, spilled boulders and trees onto a major highway and spawned a rare tornado that snapped power poles and

SEE STORM PAGE 10


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Dec. 12

Holiday shopping on Ocean Park

Businesses on Ocean Park Boulevard between 16th and 18th streets will be celebrating their annual holiday event with sales, trunk shows, a book signing, sidewalk vendors, a henna tattoo station, sidewalk chalk decoration, art and goodies at each stop. And there is a rumor Santa will be passing through.

1450 Ocean: Selfie Saturday: A Yoga Workshop with Katie McCulla

For advanced practitioners. Please bring a mat, towel and reusable bottle; water fountain onsite. Cost: $38 for Santa Monica residents, $44 non-residents. To register go to https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/47238 or call (310) 458-2239. Palisades Park, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

1450 Ocean: Second Saturdays - FREE Open Craft Lounge

The second Saturday of every month at Camera Obscura Art Lab is special - all are welcome to work on projects, take in a mini-workshop, and stretch their craft-legs. Palisades Park, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Fairview Book Group @ Pico Branch

Book group to discuss "A Death in the Family" by James Agee. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Meditation Basics

The first half of the class will be educational with a special topic each month, the second half of the class will be hands on meditation. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

1450 Ocean: Repair Cafe

This event brings together community experts with folks seeking to learn how to repair common household items. Palisades Park, 12 - 4 p.m.

Bookmaking: Make a Memory Book

Bind together your own book to keep special memories, and embellish it with fabric. To help the Santa Monica Public Library celebrate its 125th Anniversary, participants are encouraged to share their own stories and memories of the Library while creating their books. Sponsored by the Friends of SMPL. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 2 - 4 p.m.

Charlotte Rae presents The Facts of My Life

From Car 54, Where Are You? to Sesame Street, to her beloved role as Mrs. Garrett on The Facts of Life, Charlotte Rae has entertained generations of television and stage fans. But her life hasn't always been filled with the laugh track that accompanies most sitcoms. Join us as she discusses her new autobiography with her co-author/son Larry Strauss and very special guests. A book sale and signing follows. This is a ticketed event. Free tickets will be released one hour prior to program. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 - 5 p.m.

Menorah Lighting

Every night during Hanukkah local organizations will be on hand to celebrate the Festival of Lights. For more information call 310-393-8355 or visit www.downtownsm.com. Third Street Promenade, 4:30 - 10 p.m.

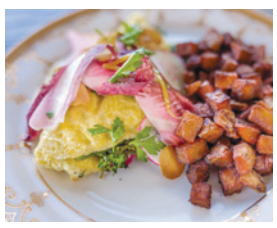
Sunday, Dec. 13

1450 Ocean: A Watercolor Journey with Timothy Kitz

Join urban sketcher and watercolorist Timothy Kitz in a six week immersive watercolor course, open to all levels. Sundays 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 1/10, 1/17, & 1/24. Cost: $140 - Drop-In participa-

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

The menu features seasonally-inspired, elevated comfort-food cuisine alongside an extensive assortment of artisanal beer and specialty wines.


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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

St. Monica's

Vigil for all victims of gun violence

All are invited to gather in prayer for the National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence. Residents are invited to come to remember the victims of gun violence and pray for hope, peace and love in their honor. The National Vigil came about because of the Sandy Hook shootings. By the 3rd anniversary of the Sandy Hook shootings, an estimated 90,000 more Americans will have died from gun violence. Help shine a light on this tragic toll.

The event will be held on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 5 p.m. (Program from 5 - 5:20 p.m.) at St. Monica Catholic Church, 725 California Ave. Meet in front of the church.

All are invited to gather in prayer for the National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence. This event is hosted by the Catholic Parishes of Santa Monica.

There will be a bell ringing ceremony where the names of loved ones who were victims of gun violence will be said as the bell is rung, 31 photos and stories of gun violence victims will be on display to symbolize the 31 homicides each day in America and there will be singing of songs of peace and votives.

- SUBMITTED BY SUZANNE VERGE

Downtown

Approximately 9,000 pounds of non-perishable food donated to OPCC

The spirit of the holidays was in full swing on Sunday, December 6 at Meet Me Under the Fig Tree, a free annual community event hosted by Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows and MSD Capital.

Families gathered under the historic Moreton Bay fig tree to celebrate the season with live performances by the Santa Monica High School Orchestra, Clare Means and Grammy Award Winning pianist Bill Cunliffe. The event was hosted by Greg Goldner and Gauri Ramnath, while guests enjoyed holiday cookie decorating, hair braiding, mini manicures by Exhale Mind Body Spa, a bounce house, a petting zoo, mural painting and a whimsical ginger bread house display, as well as meet and greets with members of Santa Monica's Fire Department and Police Department.

Once again, pictures with Santa Claus proved to be extremely popular. Additionally, families enjoyed furry four legged friends from the Los Angeles based Best Friends Pet Adoption clinic and an interactive exhibit with Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium. Guests were also treated to a complimentary raffle, which featured prizes donated by community partners including Del Frisco's, Helens Bikes, Joan's on Third Santa Monica, Metre Records, The Lobster, Thyme Cafe, Truxton's, and Westside Acupuncture. along with prizes from the hotel by Exhale Spa, Fig Restaurant and a two night stay at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and Bungalows.

Culinary offerings included pumpkin soup, grilled cheese sandwiches and apple cider from FIG Restaurant and hot chocolate from Zenbunni.

Attendees were encouraged to bring non-perishable food to be donated to OPCC. In total, approximately 9,000 pounds of food and over $700 was collected for OPCC and will be distributed to deserving individuals and families in the community.

"We are honored to have hosted another successful Meet Me Under the Fig Tree for Santa Monica" said Ellis O'Connor of MSD Capital's Hospitality Group. "For years now, we have enjoyed being one of the first events of the holiday season, allowing residents to mingle and enjoy the historic Moreton Bay Fig Tree. We are always astounded at the generosity of the Santa Monica community and thankful to be able to provide an opportunity for the community to come together and think about those who really need our help this season. We hope that people will continue to think of those in need in Santa Monica throughout this entire holiday season and will continue the spirit of giving. I'd like to encourage every Santa Monica resident to contact OPCC or any one of the other great charities and organizations throughout Santa Monica to see what they can do to help."

On Monday, December 7, representatives of OPCC gathered at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows to load the donated food items onto their trucks.

"Meet Me Under the Fig Tree is such a great community celebration that we look forward to every year. We are honored to once again be part of such a special event that benefits a great cause and provides an opportunity for the community to gather during the holiday season," said John Maceri, OPCC Executive Director. "The donations from this event will directly help thousands of individuals and families in need during this holiday season. Thank you to the Fairmont Miramar Hotel and MSD Capital for hosting this annual Santa Monica holiday tradition."

- SUBMITTED BY JACQUELINE KERNS, PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

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

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

tion is available for $30. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/47210 or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Interfaith Jazz Vespers

Chris Dawson's Holiday Swingset - Jazz. Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 14th Street & Ocean Park Blvd., 5 p.m.

Vigil for Victims of Gun Violence

All are invited to gather in prayer for the National Vigil for All Victims of Gun Violence. This event is hosted by the Catholic Parishes of Santa Monica. St. Monica Catholic Church, 725 California Ave., 5 p.m.

Menorah Lighting

Every night during Hanukkah local organizations will be on hand to celebrate the Festival of Lights. For more information call 310-393-8355 or visit www.downtownsm.com. Third Street Promenade, 4:30 - 10 p.m.

Samohi Orchestras Night at Wurstkuche

Wurstkuche will donate a portion of the night's sales to the Samohi Orchestras. For more info contact Samohi Orchestra Parents Association at samohi.orchestraparents@gmail.com or call Alisa Stewart at 310-817-3070. Wurstkuche, 625 Lincoln Blvd., 6 - 9 p.m.

Aqua Aerobics

This shallow and deep Aqua Aerobics program includes the use of jogging belts and water barbells to increase strength and cardiovascular fitness. Each class is an hour in length and includes stretching, cardio, and strength training. These classes are geared toward each participant's fitness level and beginners are encouraged to attend. $10 per class, includes parking. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 9 - 10 p.m.

Monday, December 14

Landmarks Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. http://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Landmarks-Commission. 7 p.m., City Hall, 1685 Main St.

DIY: World Holiday Cooking Carnival

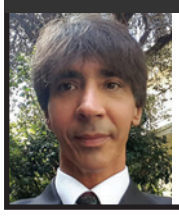
Join organizers for a showcase of traditional holiday plates, non-alcoholic holiday drinks, and desserts from around the world. Members of the community will share their recipes and step by step instructions of how to cook or bake their traditional food. Each hour they will showcase a different type of food, dessert or drink. 3 – 7:30 p.m., Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.



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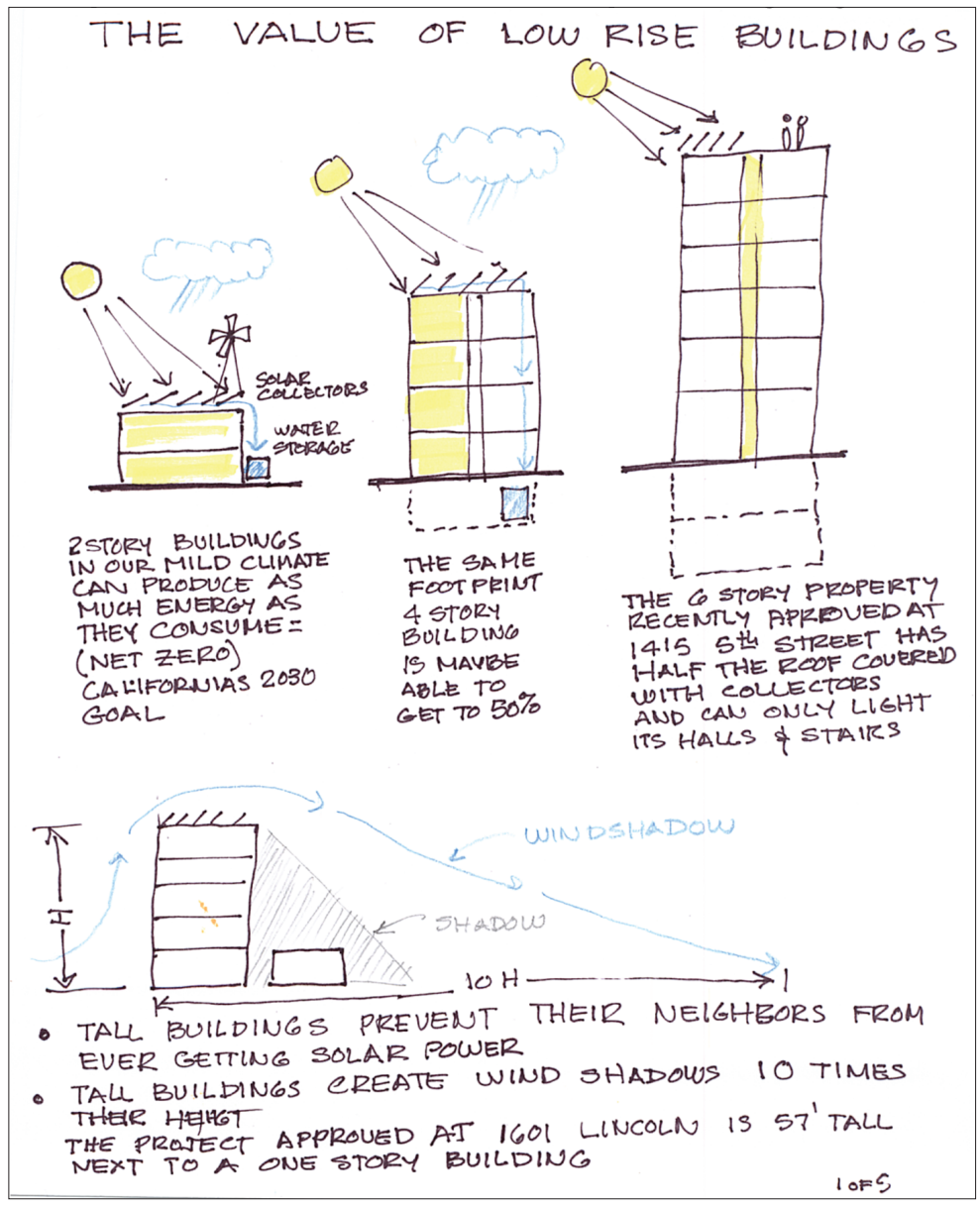
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SMart Thinking

By SM a.r.t. Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Why a low rise city?

SMART (SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTS FOR a Responsible Tomorrow) has long advocated for a low rise City: that is a City primarily with buildings no taller than four stories. In this first part of two articles, we will dig deeper and discuss the benefits of such a low rise City. The most important benefit is sustainability. Because the cleanest, nearest energy source is the sun, which is relatively abundant here, so we can design our buildings for maximum photovoltaic gain primarily with roof top solar collectors and with future advanced photovoltaic glazings:



The problem with high rise buildings is they make bad neighbors by shading and blocking lower neighbors from getting their photovoltaic sunlight and block their access to the natural afternoon breezes that could be used to offset the need for expensive energy consuming air conditioning. Thus tall buildings create the adverse effect of "a race to the sky "as buildings try to outdo one another to get higher to get sun access for power and access to wind. Technologies are being developed that may allow photovoltaic gain from walls, windows, and other surfaces, but we need to reduce energy consumption TODAY as we know from the current Paris Climate Conference's warnings. So the limited areas of roofs are today our best energy source. In low-rise buildings, the roof top supply available for solar energy is inevitably more in line with the energy demands of the building than it is for mid or high rises.

Low rise buildings are typically 40'-50'

SEE **SMART** PAGE 5



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

SMART

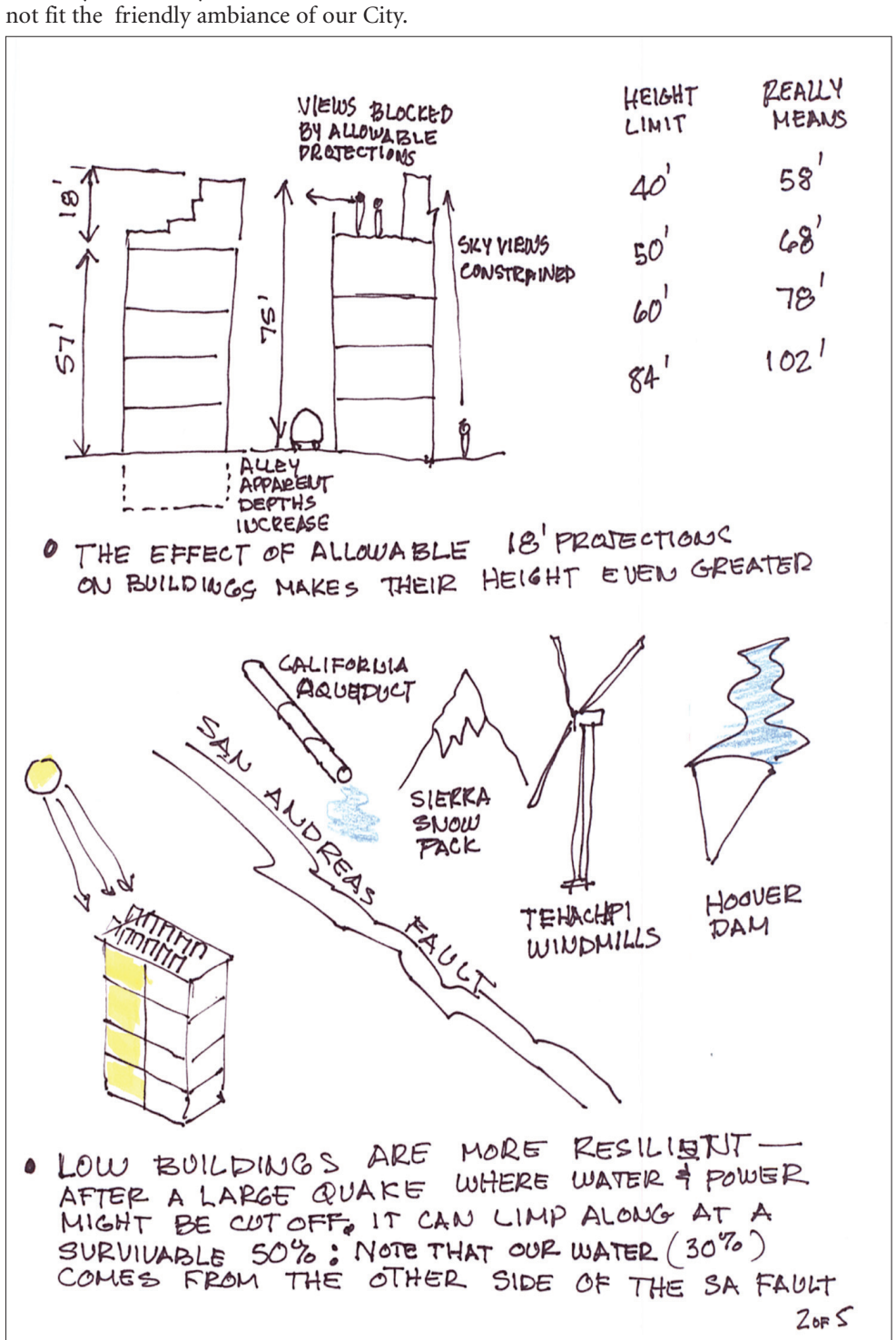
FROM PAGE 4

high, but because of allowable parapets, elevators etc., up to 18 additional feet of height is allowed which can block views, and creates canyonized alleys and streets which do not fit the friendly ambiance of our City.

separates the City from its far flung energy and water sources.

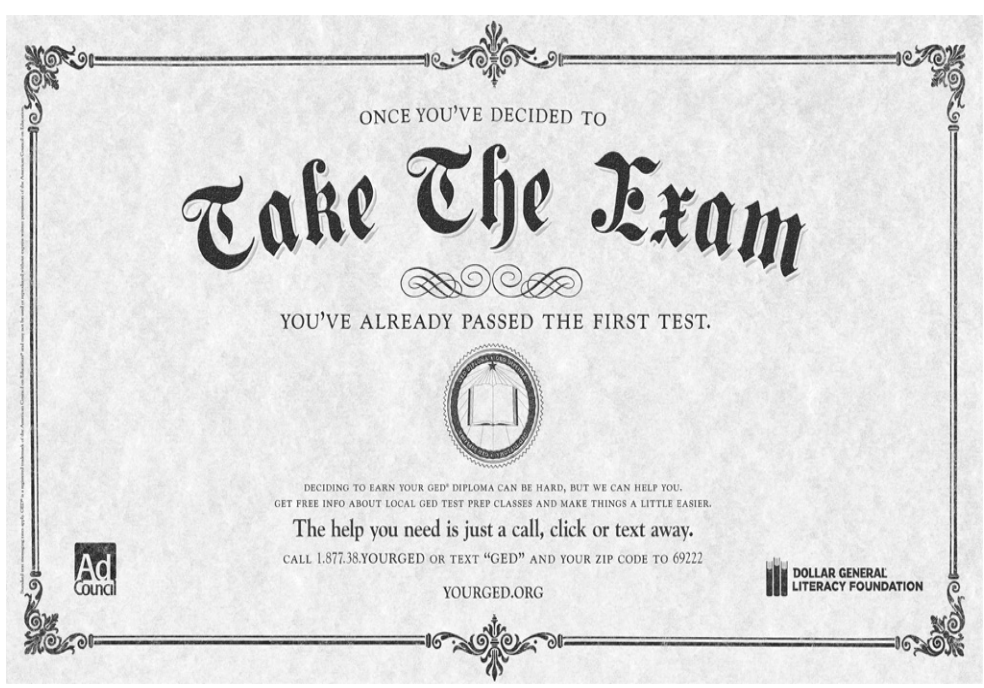
In next week's part two article we will discuss the other numerous advantages of low rise buildings to our City's future.

SMa.r.t. (Santa Monica Architects for a Responsible Tomorrow)



Finally low rise buildings are more survivable (resilient) in the event of a catastrophic earthquake when the City will be limping along at reduced water and power availability. This is particularly true if the quake occurs on the San Andreas Fault that

Thane Roberts AIA, Mario Fonda-Bonardi AIA Planning Commissioner, Robert H. Taylor AIA, Ron Goldman FAIA, Daniel Jansenson Architect, Samuel Tolkin Architect, Armen Melkonians Civil & Environmental Engineer, Phil Brock Chair, Parks & Recreation Commission. For previous articles, see www.santamonicaarch.wordpress.com/writings



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THE TRADITION CONTINUES
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5pm • Continue the celebration at the Interfaith Jazz Vespers at Mt. Olive Church, followed by a parking lot party at 6:30pm to welcome the Nativity Scenes.
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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SMMUSD Diversity

Editor:

Diversity should also include additional male teachers. If 50 percent of the school population is male, then 50 percent of teachers should be as well.

The feminization of our schools is not healthy for young boys who tend to learn in a far different manner than girls (sorry to generalize).

My son didn't get a good education due to being forced to sit for long spells, quietly. Have you ever seen a 7-year-old boy do so? My daughter thrived in that environment.

So, how about those male role models, SMMUSD?

Deborah Ford
Santa Monica

OAKS

FROM PAGE 1

Drafting a report summarizing the review and recommendations for implementation of best practices. 5. Presentation of findings to Council The scope of work would be an amount not to exceed $400,000 with a 5% contingency."

Hueston said the City of Santa Monica enjoys a very involved constituency with the highest expectations for good governance and transparency.

"My challenge will be to listen to all opinions but retain an independent focus," he said.

According to Hueston, he has already begun to work.

"I have already solicited input from members of the public and intend to continue to do so," he said. "I have also reviewed submissions to the City Council and presentations by members of the public to date to ensure that I understand the full ambit of public concern."

editor@smdp.com



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www.itstooeasy.org



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Santa Monica

Piper Preschool collects toys for children in domestic violence shelters

The holidays are truly about giving for the young students of Piper Preschool in Santa Monica. From now until Christmas, the students and their families are donating presents to other children who are less fortunate through a school-wide toy drive to benefit the local charity Present Now.

"We've already collected a pretty large amount of gifts from our families," said Jesse Biltz, CEO of Piper Preschool, who says the school is aiming for 100 percent participation from its 300 families.

The school selected Santa Monica-based non-profit Present Now as a partner for the toy drive because the charity has a year-round gift-giving program that service disadvantaged children living in domestic violence shelters across Los Angeles, Orange County, Ventura County and Palm Springs.

"We've found that having a local connection is the best way for our school to help directly. As Present Now works with children, it is a great fit for us," said Biltz. "Being around children at the school every day puts life and our 'important' things into perspective. It's hard to imagine them going through such a confusing and difficult time. and we want to help however we can."

The new toys will be collected and delivered to Present Now to be used for their Presents Program, which includes several themed packages for the children. On their birthdays, the children receive a Presence of Being Box, which contains a kit to bake a homemade cake, a restaurant gift card for a birthday dinner out on the town, and a surprise birthday gift. On Valentine's Day, they receive a Presence of Love Box, which includes an age-appropriate digital toy or learning device, such as Leapfrog or Apple products. In the fall when children go back to school, they receive a Presence of Mind Box, which includes a new backpack filled with school supplies

Present Now's gift-giving program is designed so that children receive thoughtful presents throughout the year, and the holiday toy drive will help them stock up for 2016 and beyond. Members of the community who wish to donate to Present Now can find more information at www.presentnow.org.

- SUBMITTED BY K. PEARSON BROWN

4th Street

Santa Monica Youth Orchestra kicks off holiday festivities with 2015 Winter Concert

The Santa Monica Youth Orchestra (SMYO) will present its 2015 Winter Concert at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at Saint Augustine's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1227 Fourth St. Some 104 talented musicians, ranging in age from 7- to 15-years-old, will perform a festive program featuring music by John Williams, Richard Rodgers, Gioachino Rossini, Sally Albrecht and others. The event also features a youth choir performance. The program is under the direction of SMYO music director Shou Ping Liu and SMYO choir director Anaïs de la Morandais. The concert is open to the public, with a requested donation of $10.

"These kids have enormous talent, and we're so proud to share it with the community," said SMYO founder Shabnam Fasa. "Our mission is to cultivate cultural understanding, cooperation, and peer mentorship among its participants through a shared love of music."

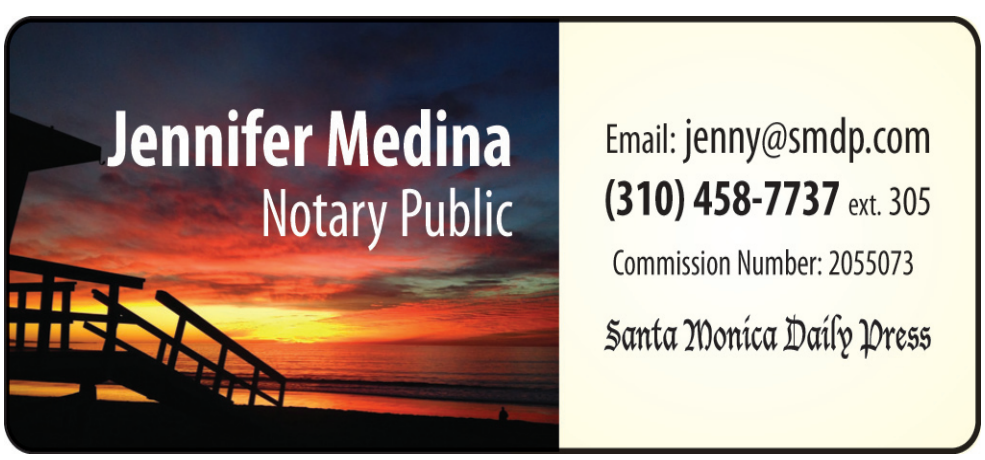
Fasa founded the group with Julius Reder Carlson in 2011 to provide tuition-free music education to a diverse cross-section of local youth. "Music is a positive way to bridge gaps and to create a bond between people who might otherwise have little in common. It conveys a message of peace and empowerment," Fasa said.

The program's faculty consists of skilled musicians and experienced teachers with a passion for music making. As a program of the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Clubs, SMYO reaches out to local youth to provide music training, supplemented by a wide range of educational activities including music history lectures for students, music appreciation classes for parents, and music field trips designed to provide live exposure to a wide variety of musical genres.

"The benefits music provides to children goes well beyond the reward of being able to play an instrument. Research findings show music training enhances academic performance, improves memory, builds social skills and provides a sense of achievement," said Tim Blaylock, CEO, Santa Monica Boys & Girls Clubs. "We've seen the benefits first-hand as many of our Club members who participate in SMYO learn cooperation and collaboration, patience and perseverance, as well as the skills of good citizenship as they work together to make music."

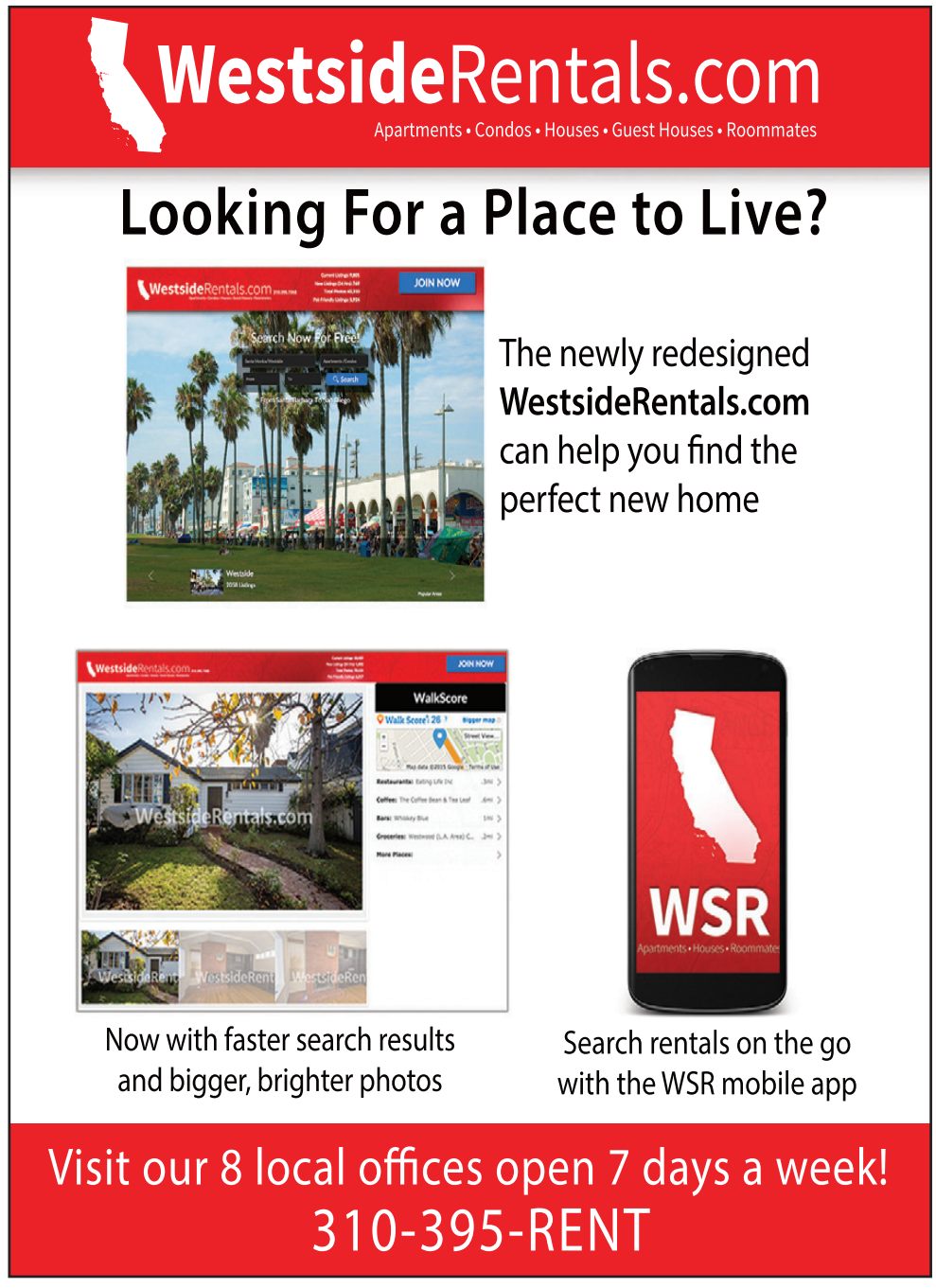
SMYO gives several public concerts each year, including seasonal concerts involving "theme" performances (Bach, "Latin" Music, Beethoven, etc.) and community concerts held in conjunction with local events. For more information about the Santa Monica Youth Orchestra (SMYO), visit www.santamonicayouthorchestra.org.

- SUBMITTED BY MARY DICESARE









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Ray Solano editor@smdp.com

GAMES: The Caine's Arcade concept inspires youth to create using every day items. Visit www.cainesarcade.com for more information.

SCIENCE

FROM PAGE 1

hoop that activated a small light bulb.

That aspect of the project reinforced lessons about electricity and circuits for the trio, who were among the dozens of students with arcade-style games that emphasized principles of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) at the school's annual indoor carnival.

"It really engages them in the learning," said Laura Simon, the school's STEM coordinator. "Everyone wants to be able to make their game and make it well. ... It's fun for the kids and makes them understand more about the world they're living in."

The event is among the numerous avenues through which educators are infusing curricula with science concepts and activities at Will Rogers, which fashions itself as a STEM-focused school. All students work on at least four engineering projects each year, and this week there was a campus-wide introduction to computer science and coding.

More than 70 percent of Will Rogers students were deemed proficient or advanced in science on standardized tests in 2012-13, slightly below the district figure that year (78 percent) but significantly higher than the state rate (59 percent). About two-thirds of Will Rogers students were found to be proficient or advanced in math on standardized exams in 2012-13, topping the district and state figures of 62 percent and 50 percent, respectively.

Simon said STEM makes particular sense at the elementary school level because the students have one teacher who can integrate the lessons across academic subjects.

"It's natural for kids to do it at this age," she said. "It's just continuing what kids do and building on their natural curiosity rather than shifting away from it [in school] and then having to come back to it later. It's continuing that and just adding some perspective along the way."

The school's carnival was inspired by "Caine's Arcade," a short documentary about a 9-year-old boy who built arcade games out of cardboard boxes and everyday objects.

When Will Rogers launched its rendition of the homemade arcade three years ago, all students were invited to participate. But the expo has since been incorporated into learning time for second- and fourth-grade students, Simon said.

Students in other grades came through the cafeteria in a series of sessions Wednesday, and students who were involved in making games took turns running their stations and roaming around the room to see what their peers had crafted. There were several different skee-ball games as well as a fortune-telling spinner, pinball, Plinko, air hockey and many other attractions.

A day earlier, engineers from toy company Hasbro visited campus and shared with students what it's like to have jobs that involve scientific principles on a daily basis.

"The kids see that what they're doing is like what people do in real life," Simon said. "That was really powerful."

After the arcade, project leaders were tasked with counting the color-coded tickets they collected and creating graphs to assess the popularity of their games by grade level. Students were also planning to write about their experiences, bringing English skills into an activity that already involved science, math and business lessons.

Asked what he learned about science, Flanders first looked across the buzzing cafeteria.

"It's all around you," he said.

jeff@smdp.com

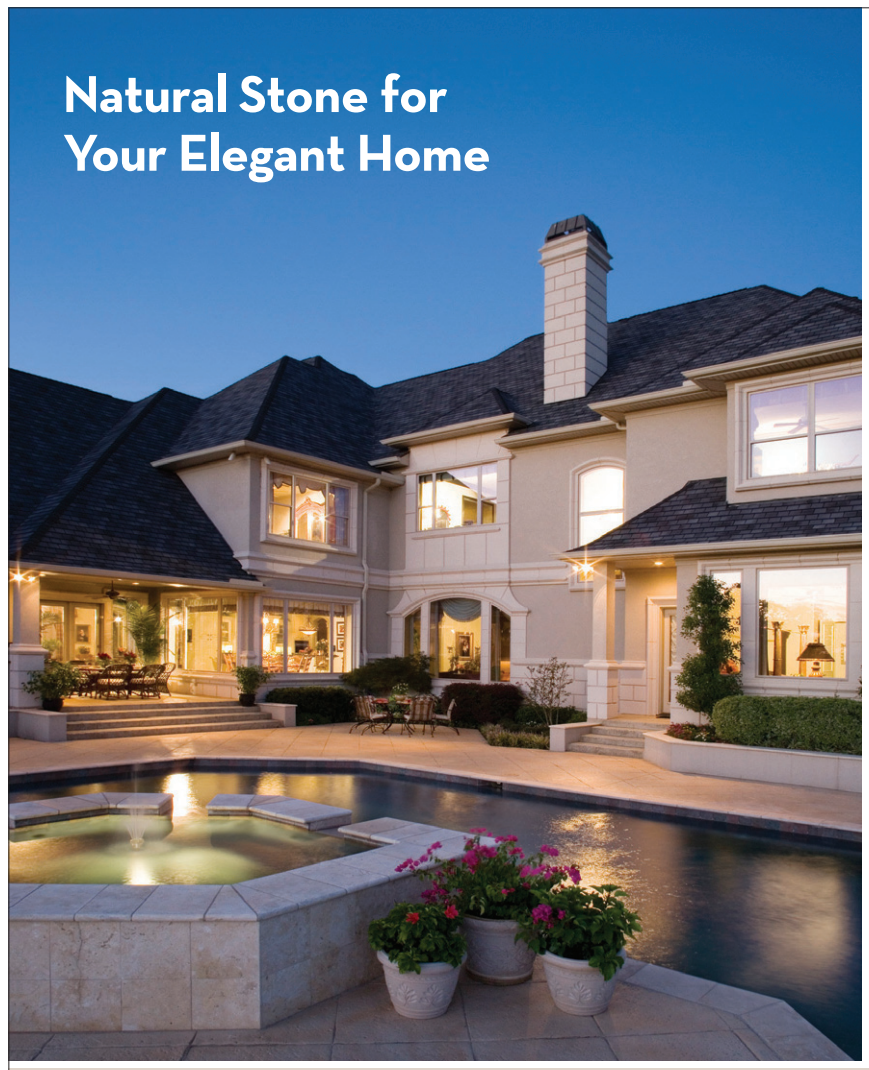
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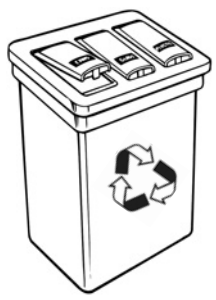
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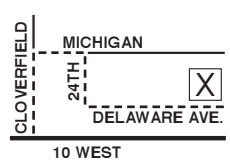
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CONGRESSMAN TED LIEU TELEPHONE TOWN HALL

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STORM

FROM PAGE 1

battered homes. But the storms had one positive effect — easing drought concerns after an unusually dry summer.

In Washington state, the latest report from the U.S. Drought Monitor on Thursday showed the area west of the Cascade Mountains is no longer in drought. Cities like Seattle, Everett and Tacoma implemented water shortage plans when unseasonably dry summer conditions left the region parched.

California also needs all the snow and rain it can get, given four years of drought that have dried up reservoirs and left trees parched. Even a wet winter is not expected to end the drought, but this week's stormy weather brought on by a tropical atmospheric river is the kind Californians used to see before drought set in.

"This is the kind of storm we've been missing for the last four years of drought," said Doug Carlson, a spokesman with the California Department of Water Resources. "This is the kind of storm we would need a lot of to start digging our way out of the drought."

Higher snow peaks in the Sierra Nevada didn't hit 3 feet as projected, but there was still a foot or two of snow, enough to keep sledders, skiers and snowboards happy, National Weather Service meteorologist Dawn Johnson said Friday.

Lake Tahoe-area ski resorts, property managers and mom-and-pop retailers have been giddy to see snowy conditions this early in the season.

"It's full-on winter out here," said Jerry Bindel, general manager of Aston Lakeland Village vacation condominiums in South Lake Tahoe. "This is great news all the way around."

The National Weather Service issued a high-surf advisory for many coastal areas, with peak waves around 30 feet in places such as Santa Cruz, California.

To the south in Ventura County, surging waves inundated several low-lying streets along the coast as a very large Pacific swell hit Friday. Rough seas surged over the Ventura Pier during high tide, and seawater streamed through residential neighborhoods.

Mike Laan took a break from his job with the city of Ventura's tourism bureau to join hundreds of residents snapping photos of the huge waves.

"They're bigger than I've ever seen," Laan said. "When they're breaking, the waves are higher than the pier. The water is going all the way past the sand to the streets."

The pier was damaged by the battering surf and closed indefinitely. No serious damage was reported to homes, and the high tide receded by midmorning.

Just north of Ventura two surfers in their 20s were unhurt after being rescued from choppy waters at Mondos Beach.

A female surfer was pulled ashore by a passer-by, county fire Capt. Mike Lindbery said. Her male companion got stuck between breaking waves and onshore rocks and had to be pulled out by county rescue swimmers.

"Mondos usually has a good surf break, on good days," Lindbery said. "Today is not a good day."

Another storm is expected this weekend, which could bring another 2 feet of snow to parts of the Sierra.

The Southern California coast remains under a high surf advisory through Sunday, with unpredictable waves topping 10 feet.

Elsewhere, a brief but intense thunderstorm sent pedestrians scattering Friday in downtown Los Angeles, and hail furiously pelted nearby Highland Park. To the east, snow chains were required on a major route to ski resorts in the San Bernardino Mountains. Yet amid the bursts of wet weather, a small brush fire broke out near Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu.

The National Weather Service reports rain in the San Francisco area for Sunday.

Highway Patrol Officer Sean Wilkenfeld said Oakland, California, officers responded to twice as many calls for stranded vehicles and traffic collisions because of rainy conditions Friday morning.

"We're asking people to slow down, increase the following distance and give yourself extra time to go wherever you're going," he said.

Forecasters have said a strong El Nino weather system could drench California and other parts of the West in the coming months. However, Johnny Burg, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Seattle, said he didn't believe the latest Northwest storms were related to El Nino.

"We just had a jet stream pointed at us, and it brought successive storms," he said. "We don't see the effects (of El Nino) until the winter."

Weber reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writers Scott Smith in Fresno and Donna Blankinship and Lisa Baumann in Seattle contributed to this report.

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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **63.9**

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **5-7 ft** head high to 2 ft overhead occ. 8ft
Healthy WNW swell holds early with above sizes, coming down in the PM. Modest S/SSW swell peaks. Expect some leftover chop in the AM. Big AM high tide.

SUNDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
Fading WNW swell - largest early. Modest S/SSW swell. Offshore AM wind due. Big AM high tide.

MONDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
Old WNW swell mix drops, new WNW swell joins in. Modest scale S/SSW swell holds. Big AM high tide. WNW winds due.

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 **January 12, 2015**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 19

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	D
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	F
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	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).	B	A+

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON DECEMBER 2 AT ABOUT 3:05 P.M.

Patrol officers received a call of a woman who had illegally entered an apartment at 502 Colorado Ave. and refused to come out. The resident of the apartment briefly left and kept his door unlocked. When he returned, he saw the suspect (Erin Bishop) inside. She began to act erratically and yelled at him to get out. In fear of a confrontation, the victim resident exited his own apartment. Bishop locked the door behind him and refused to let him back in. When the officers arrived, she refused to open the door for them, and refused to come out. A locksmith was called and the lock was drilled out. Officers entered the apartment and removed Bishop, ultimately placing her under arrest for trespassing, several bench warrants and violating her probation. Bishop, 39, of Santa Monica had bail set at $11,000

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 347 calls for service on Dec. 10.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Assault w/deadly weapon 1400 block of 4th 12:52 a.m.
Auto burglary 1900 block of 19th 1:53 a.m.
Shots fired 1500 block of 5th 2:01 a.m.
Vandalism 1500 block of 4th 2:03 a.m.
Battery 1500 block of Ocean 4:11 a.m.
Traffic accident 26th/Olympic 5:22 a.m.
Strongarm robbery 2400 block of 16th 7:44 a.m.
Truant juvenile 1400 block of Franklin 8:06 a.m.
Petty theft 800 block of 4th 9:08 a.m.
Grand theft 500 block of San Vicente 9:15 a.m.
Sexual assault 300 block of Olympic 9:17 a.m.
Hit and run 24th/Marguerita 9:41 a.m.
Elder abuse 1700 block of Wellesley 9:46 a.m.
Theft of recyclables recyclables 4th/Idaho 9:54 a.m.
Petty theft 1700 block of Cloverfield 10:18 a.m.
Petty theft 200 block of Santa Monica Pier 10:39 a.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block of Grant 11:08 a.m.
Speeding Lincoln/Colorado 11:36 a.m.
Traffic accident 7th/Colorado 11:58 a.m.
Traffic accident Cloverfield/Broadway 12:02 p.m.
Domestic violence 1400 block of 9th 12:09 p.m.
Burglary block 2900 block of 4th 2:05 p.m.
Speeding 4th/Interstate 10 2:06 p.m.
Petty theft 1700 block of Wilshire 2:49 p.m.
Burglary 500 block of Georgina 3:05 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block of 2nd 3:10 p.m.
Fight 1700 block of Lincoln 3:11 p.m.
Traffic accident 21st/Ocean Park 3:19 p.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Wilshire 3:21 p.m.
Traffic accident 1100 block of Lincoln 3:42 p.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Wilshire 3:47 p.m.
Petty theft 2400 block of Lincoln 3:51 p.m.
Traffic accident 17th/Olympic 4:23 p.m.
Drunk driving 21st/Wilshire 4:31 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block of Washington 4:57 p.m.
Petty theft 1800 block of Euclid 5:34 p.m.
Hit and run 20th/Olympic 5:42 p.m.
Traffic accident 1600 block of Santa Monica 5:50 p.m.
Burglary investigation/walk 1200 block of 9th 6 p.m.
Traffic accident 5th/Santa Monica 6:01 p.m.
Battery 500 block of Olympic 6:31 p.m.
Identity theft 800 block of 11th 6:36 p.m.
Bike theft 900 block of 7th 7:17 p.m.
Speeding 200 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 7:39 p.m.
Hit and run 1600 block of 11th 7:53 p.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Santa Monica 8 p.m.
Fight 600 block of Broadway 8:54 p.m.
Bike theft 2nd/Santa Monica 9:42 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 34 calls for service on Dec. 11

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Automatic alarm 500 block of Olympic 12:49 a.m.
EMS Ocean/San Vicente 1:06 a.m.
EMS Olympic/26th 5:22 a.m.
Flooded condition 7th/San Vicente 5:36 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of 7th 8:42 a.m.
EMS 700 block of Ocean 9:05 a.m.
EMS Centinela/Pico 9:26 a.m.
EMS 7th/Arizona 10:34 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 10:44 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of Maple 10:45 a.m.
EMS 1600 block of Cloverfield 10:47 a.m.
EMS 1600 block of 17th 11:51 a.m.
Traffic collision with train 7th/Colorado 11:58 a.m.
EMS Cloverfield/Broadway 12:04 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 12:12 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pl 12:16 p.m.
EMS 1900 block of Pico 12:49 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 20th 12:55 p.m.
EMS 3000 block of Lincoln 1:45 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Main 3:13 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 2nd 3:14 p.m.
EMS 4th/interstate 10 4:17 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 4:22 p.m.
EMS 100 block of Wadsworth 4:34 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of Lincoln 4:53 p.m.
EMS 2400 block of Chelsea 5:02 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Santa Monica 5:49 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 20th 5:59 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 5th 7:16 p.m.
EMS 600 block of Santa Monica 7:19 p.m.
EMS Lincoln/Santa Monica 8 p.m.
EMS 1000 block of Michigan 9:15 p.m.
EMS 2200 block of Wilshire 9:20 p.m.
EMS Ocean/Broadway 9:33 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lunar sight
7 Food writer Sheraton
11 Take out
12 Shortly
13 One
14 Pony's pull
15 Wizards
16 Art class staple
17 Amorphous mass
18 Force unit
19 Aid in crime
21 Put a stop to
22 Webmaster's figure
25 Relieve
26 Chicken tenders
27 Pencil part
29 Moolah
33 Jacket flap
34 Unbilled role
35 Pay to play
36 Official documents
37 Those people
38 Pay back
39 Dumbo's wings
40 Not optional

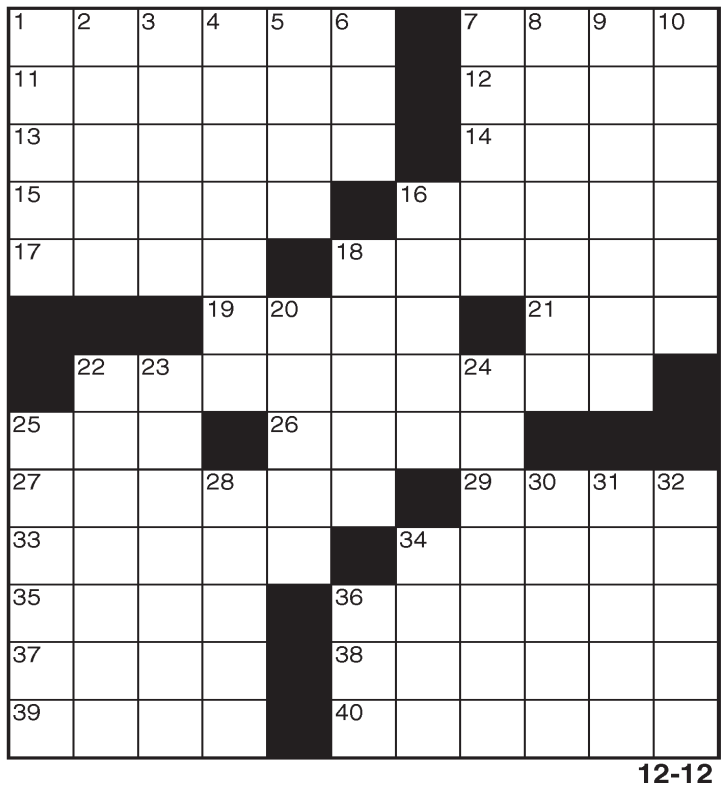
DOWN

1 Cake bit
2 Kidney-related
3 Pedro's pal
4 Pledge drive reward
5 Nights before
6 Spectrum end
7 Showy parrot
8 Highly worried
9 Joe and Jelly Roll
10 Mean
16 Small, to Simone
18 Not in a million years
20 Angled edge
22 Voracious fish
23 Travel kit plug
24 Manhunt target
25 Tell
28 Appears
30 Add a change to
31 Suit fabric
32 Cheated, in slang
34 Spelunking site
36 Skillet

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

Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



12-12

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



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

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

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL (calottery)
Draw Date: 12/9
7 10 16 46 56
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 164M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/8
7 17 37 49 73
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 66M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/9
7 11 13 40 47
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 23M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/10
9 12 13 19 27

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/11
MIDDAY: 7 9 0
Draw Date: 12/10
EVENING: 6 1 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/10
1st: 09- WINNING SPIRIT
2nd: 02- LUCKY STAR
3rd: 08- GORGEOUS GEORGE
RACE TIME: 1:43.97

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**

WORD UP!

fortnight
1. the space of fourteen nights and days; two weeks.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1948 – Malayan Emergency: Batang Kali massacre – 14 members of the Scots Guards stationed in Malaya allegedly massacre 24 unarmed civilians and set fire to the village.

1950 – Paula Ackerman, the first woman appointed to perform rabbinical functions in the United States, leads the congregation in her first services.

1956 – Beginning of the Irish Republican Army's "Border Campaign".

1958 – Guinea joins the United Nations.

1963 – Kenya gains its independence from the United Kingdom.

1964 – Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta becomes the first President of the Republic of Kenya.

1969 – Years of Lead: Piazza Fontana bombing – The offices of Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura in Piazza Fontana, Milan, are bombed.

1979 – Coup d'état of December Twelfth: South Korean Army Major General Chun Doo-hwan orders the arrest of Army Chief of Staff General Jeong Seung-hwa without authorization from President Choi Kyu-ha, alleging involvement in the assassination of ex-President Park Chung-hee.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Inexplicable: He was a "well-traveled professional with close to seven figures in the bank," according to a November New York Times profile, who had recently, gradually given $718,000 to two Manhattan psychics who had vowed to help reunite him with a former love (even though she is dead and, said one, reachable only if he built an 80-mile bridge of gold past her "reincarnation portal"). Though the psychics have been identified, a private investigator said the very personality problems that made the man a victim will also make him a "terrible witness" in court.

■ Readers' Choice: Massachusetts became perhaps America's most religiously advanced state in November when its Registry of Motor Vehicles implicitly granted official recognition to the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (whose adherents believe, generally, that hard evidence of God's existence is no stronger than that of FSM's existence). Ms. Lindsay Miller of Lowell proudly displayed her driver's license, whose photo is of Ms. Miller wearing a metal colander on her head -- since a "religious" head covering is the only type permitted in official ID photos. (FSM'ers are known as "Pastafarians.") (As News of the Weird has reported, the Czech Republic issued at least one official "colander" ID in 2013, and in January 2014, Pastafarian Christopher Schaeffer took his seat on the Town Council of Pomfret, New York, decked out in his finest colander-ware.)

Go for a drive tonight, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You'll hear much more from an older relative than you might want to. Don't internalize this person's words. Use your intuition to the max, and you'll get great results. A loved one knows exactly what to say to achieve the results he or she wants. Tonight: Near good music.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You could get past an issue with ease if you were willing to detach and look at the big picture. A friend who inspires others and you too could be unusually vague. This behavior is not intentional. Several close loved ones, friends and/or family members delight in doting over you. Let them. Tonight: Go for a drive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your ability to manage a problem yet still look as if you are having a good time emerges. You probably need to put in some hours with a project. One-on-one relating proves to be a source of happiness. Someone who has been a problem finally will level out. Tonight: Be a team.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Defer to others, and understand what is happening with them. Allow your creativity to flourish, and decide what plans would suit you best. You might not make the same choices if you consider the end results. Ask your friends for feedback. Tonight: Wherever you are, the party is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You know what lies ahead. Let others go off and do whatever they want; you have holiday errands to clear out. You also might bring home a tree if you get enough done. Stick to a tight schedule and budget once you get going. Tonight: Know when you are too tired to go on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Tap into your creativity, and you'll discover that you have more answers than you originally thought possible. You'll get a lot done. A new friend will be delighted to have your attention. The caring between you builds as a result. Tonight: Embrace the weekend!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might have a project in mind, and will need to make time to dive right in. You will discover how much more relaxed you are afterward. Someone close can't seem to get enough of you. Express your appreciation of this person. Tonight: Happily at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You have a way of starting a conversation that will leave even the most reluctant person with something to say. Your romantic and/or sensual nature speaks to someone you care a lot about. Be willing to be more open about your feelings. Tonight: Enjoy the good vibes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of what you are committing to, even if it is just dinner with a friend. You won't want any unwanted expenses as you head into the holidays. A family member inadvertently might reveal a secret that could shock you. Tonight: Buy a present on your way home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Making plans and keeping schedules could create some confusion. You and a friend might be so excited by what you are doing that this won't even matter. If you sense something is about to happen, follow your instincts. Tonight: Be with the one you love or like!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Many thoughts will travel through your mind, but you might choose not to share them. You could be more vulnerable than usual. Be willing to help make someone else's dream a possibility. This person will respond in kind. Tonight: A compliment is meant to be just that; nothing more.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Aim for what you want. You might consider hosting a tree-decorating party or asking someone to help you bake. Plan on a day trip to a favorite antique shop or flea market in the next few days. You'll feel unusually inspired and into the holidays. Tonight: Follow your friends.

Weekend Edition, December 12-13, 2015

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

This year provides many opportunities for growth, and perhaps better communication and happier days in general. Your finances remain a key issue, which you can't seem to avoid. Follow your instincts -- more often than not you are right-on. A family member or a domestic situation creates tension. If you are single, you could meet someone quite exotic from out of the blue. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy each other's company even more than usual. You love being alone together. CAPRICORN's demands often make you feel as if you are slacking off.

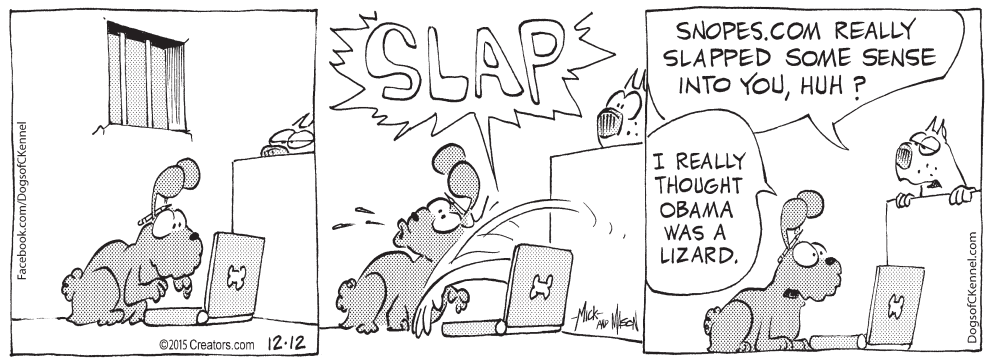
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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Employment

Help Wanted

***** EARN $100 CASH ***** $100 Cash paid for focus group participation. No experience needed. Earn $100 in cash for 4 hours of offering opinions on court cases. Groups held in Santa Monica, CA on Thursday, 12/17 from 12-4 and 6-10pm. All ages and education levels welcome. To apply call Focus Group on Monday, 12/14 ONLY between the hours of 7am and 3pm at 903-952-1962. Calls will not be accepted at any other times.

Real Estate

Commercial

SANTA MONICA OFFICE SUITES- For Lease in beautiful garden building. Approx. 300-600 square feet, Office suite. Utilities included. †30th Street near Ocean Park Boulevard. $1,100.00 - $1,195.00 a month.†(310) 456-7031 ext.175.

West Side Rentals

Brentwood BRAND NEW 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATHROOM UNITS 2-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener, Rent $4,395.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1229822

Santa Monica BEAUTIFUL SANTA MONICA TOWNHOME FOR RENT 2-car Private Garage, Paid partial utilities & water & trash & association fees, Rent $11,200.00, Deposit 11200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1186938

Venice WALK TO ABBOT KINNEY! 2-car Carport parking, Paid trash & gardener, Rent $4,995.00, Deposit 9990, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1223679

West LA MODERN STYLED COURTYARD BUILDING WITH SWIMMING POOL ON A GREAT QUIET STREET IN WEST LOS ANGELES 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $2,250.00, Deposit 1500, Available 122015. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239134

West LA CHARMING 2 STORY BUILDING WITH VINTAGE SPANISH TILED ROOF. 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,895.00, Deposit 1500, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239129

Santa Monica BEAUTIFUL SANTA MONICA APT WITH WD IN UNIT!! 1-car Covered parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $3,895.00, Deposit 3895.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1131195

West LA 2 BED2.5 BATH WCITY-MOUNTAIN VIEWS. BRIGHT TOP FLOOR APARTMENT! 2-car Garage parking, Rent $4,099.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1206536

West LA APARTMENT 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $2,495.00, Deposit 2495.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239566

Brentwood LARGE 3 BEDROOM PENTHOUSE IN A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD! 2-car Parking included, Rent $5,500.00 to per month, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233521

Santa Monica NEWLY REMODELED UNIT- BAMBOO WOOD FLOORING 1-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $4,080.00, Deposit 5080, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233250

Venice GRACIOUS 4 BED 3 BATH IN A HIP STREET IN LOS ANGELES Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $10,000.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235713

West LA SPACIOUS 2 BED2 BATH2 BALCONY APT IN GREAT WEST LA NEIGHBORHOOD 2-car Gated parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,625.00, Deposit 2625, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238505

Venice 2 BLOCKS TO VENICE BEACH - 2 BEDROOMS BEACH BUNGALOW APARTMENT IN LA Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $3,850.00, Deposit 3500, Available 22816. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235157

Santa Monica WOOD PLANK FLOORING! TANDEM PARKING INCLUDED! 2-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $2,195.00, Deposit 2295.00, Available 12815. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236657

Marina Del Rey FABULOUS 1900 SQ.FT. 4-LEVEL TOWNHOUSE IN GATED COMPLEX WNEW FLOORING, 2-PATIOS, LRG MASTER SUITE, 2-car Garage parking, Paid trash & gardener & pool service & association fees, Rent $4,195.00 to per mo, Deposit 4195, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238898

Santa Monica LOVELY AND SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM IN A FANTASTIC SANTA MONICA LOCATION Street parking, Paid utilities, Rent $3,300.00, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1234358

Venice VENICE BEACH 2 STORY APARTMENT, ROOF DECK, STEPS TO SAND 1-car Parking included, Paid gardener, Rent $2,700.00, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=840598

Venice VENICE! AMAZING WATER VIEWSPRIVATE CANAL...SPACIOUS AND UPDATED 3 BDRM HOME! 4-car Garage parking, Paid water & trash & gardener & pool service & association fees, Rent $7,995.00, Deposit 7995, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=722401

Venice VENICE BEACH TWO FLOORS PENTHOUSE 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable, Rent $5,000.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1180136

Santa Monica SUNNY 2BD HOME IN SANTA MONICA! WD & SS APPLIANCES INCLUDED! PET FRIENDLY! 2-car Parking included, Rent $4,495.00 to and up, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1156068

Marina Del Rey CONTEMPORARY LOFT IN MARINA ARTS DISTRICT 1-car Gated parking, Paid water & trash & pool service, Rent $2,700.00, Deposit 2700, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1230990

Marina Del Rey UNIQUE 2 BED, 2 BATH FLOORPLAN WITH GREAT AMENITIES Garage parking, Rent $3,163.00 to AND UP, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1202280

Santa Monica REMODELED 2BD1BATH IN SUNSET PARK. SMALL PET OK! Street parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,300.00, Deposit Ask, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=964337

Brentwood APARTMENT No Parking, Rent $1,690.00 to And Up, Deposit 400, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1225771

Santa Monica BEACH LOCATION LARGE 1 BEDROOMS Permit parking, Paid water & trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $2,895.00 to 3100, Deposit 2895, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1223689

Santa Monica ONE BEDROOM ONE BATH FURNISHED OCEAN VIEW 1-car Valet parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $8,000.00, Deposit 16000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1101740

Santa Monica MODERN STUDIO LOFT W FLOOR TO CEILING WINDOWS & HUGE PATIO! 20 FT. TALL CEILING 1-car Parking included, Rent $3,780.00 to 00, Deposit 750, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1210853

West LA 2 BED 2 BATH AVAILABLE 2-car Parking included, Paid utilities, Rent $2,300.00, Deposit 2300, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1037490

Santa Monica INCREDIBLE GARDEN STUDIO Street parking, Paid utilities, Rent $3,130.00, Deposit 3130, Available 31216. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236254

Marina Del Rey CHARMING SINGLE FAMILY HOME 2-car Garage parking, Paid gardener, Rent $3,400.00, Deposit 5100, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236227

Venice 2BR - 2 BATH, WALK TO FAMED ABBOT KINNEY (VENICE BEACH) Parking available, Paid water & gardener, Rent $4,150.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1202575

Brentwood GORGEOUS BRENTWOOD POOL HOME 3-car Garage parking, Paid gardener, Rent $9,500.00, Deposit Negotiable, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1073012

West LA 1BD1BTH-$1695-SEC DEP REDUCED IN HALF OAC! 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,695.00, Deposit 1695, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=884024

Marina Del Rey BRIGHT, SPACIOUS, UPDATED 2 BDRM 1 BATH, ALL WOOD FLOORS, 1 CAR GARAGE, STEPS TO THE BEACH 1-car Garage parking, Paid utilities, Rent $3,200.00, Deposit 3200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1231025

Brentwood 3 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS Parking included, Rent $4,650.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233016

Santa Monica NEWLY RENOVATED TWO BEDROOM SANTA MONICA APT 1-car Covered parking, Paid water, Rent $3,200.00, Deposit 3200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239760

Brentwood NEWLY REMODELED TRADITIONAL APARTMENT 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,545.00 to per month, Deposit 1545.00, Available 121015. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=745690

Santa Monica BEAUTIFULLY & SPACIOUS 22- BLOCKS FROM THE BEACH! 1-car Garage parking, Paid water, Rent $4,200.00, Deposit 4200.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1226051

Santa Monica SAN VICENTE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT 1-car Garage parking, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable & gardener, Rent $3,200.00, Deposit 1000.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1060559

Santa Monica STUNNING 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT NEAR THE BEACH Garage parking, Rent $6,490.00, Deposit 5900, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1230890

Santa Monica 2 BEDROOM LOFT, 2 BATH UPPER CORNER UNIT IN GREAT SANTA MONICA LOCATION CLOSE TO BEACH 2-car Parking included, Rent $3,495.00, Deposit 3495.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=519031

West LA 3 BED3 BATH BEAUTIFUL MODERN CONDO. PRIME LOCATION - S.OF SANTA MONICA BLVD 2-car Gated parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & association fees, Rent $3,950.00, Deposit 6000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232267

Santa Monica 2BD 2BA CONDO W LIVING & FAMILY ROOM LAMINATE & TILE 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,975.00, Deposit 2975.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236431

Santa Monica HOLIDAY SPECIAL! $600 OFF DEC.RENT!!!! TIS THE SEASON.... 1-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $1,995.00, Deposit 1995, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238662

Marina Del Rey MODERN CONDO IN THE MARINA ARTS DISTRICT!!! 2-car Garage parking, Paid trash & association fees, Rent $3,150.00, Deposit 6300, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1227326

Marina Del Rey ULTIMATE FULL SERVICE HIGH RISE LIVING IN THE COVE!- CITY & MTN. VIEW 2-car Subterranean parking, Paid trash & gas & cable & gardener & pool service & association fees, Rent $4,795.00, Deposit 4795, Available 1416. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1231434

Venice 813 VENICE RETREAT 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $5,800.00 to and up, Deposit 1000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236493

West LA BRAND NEW 3 BEDROOM, 3 BATHROOM FOR RENT 2-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener, Rent $3,895.00, Available 1716. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239161

Venice SPACIOUS AND COMFORTABLE 4 BEDROOM HOME IN VENICE 2-car Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $7,425.00, Deposit 1000, Available 1716. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236260

Venice AMAZING 2 BEDROOM BEACH BUNGALOW DUPLEX HOME 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $3,950.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235720

West LA *** NEWLY REMODELED 11 *** CLOSE TO THE SHOPS, BEACH, BUS STOP & UCLA SHUTTLE 1-car Parking available, Paid water & hot water & trash, Rent $1,550.00, Deposit 995.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1041310

Brentwood BEAUTIFUL 3 BEDROOM CONDO IN THE HEART OF BRENTWOOD 2-car Subterranean parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $4,950.00, Deposit 4950, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1211138

Brentwood TREE LINED STREET HOME 3-car Parking included, Paid gardener, Rent $5,350.00, Deposit 10700, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1000855

Venice GREAT 1 BEDROOM IN CITY OF VENICE 1-car Gated parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,350.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238252

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Buyers Needs

I am working with well-qualified Buyers to find the following properties:

Single Family Home
Approx. 4,000 sq ft
Franklin School District
Up to $4,500,000

Single Family Home
North of Montana, East of 14th Street or Brentwood
Minimum 5 + 4.5
Pool
$6,200,000

Single Family Home
Minimum 3+ 1.75
Franklin School District
Up to $2,500,000

Single Family Home w/ guest house, duplex, or triplex
Santa Monica
Up to $2,800,000

Single Family Home
Walking distance to beach in Santa Monica, Hermosa, or Manhattan Beaches
Minimum 2 + 2
Up to $4,000,000







Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Mid December 2015

		Average Price	# of Listings
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$5,410,000	4
North of Montana	=	$5,936,259	15
North of Wilshire	=	$2,572,333	6
South of Wilshire	=	$1,683,000	3
Sunset Park	=	$2,327,900	10
Ocean Park	=	$3,114,500	2

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