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Volume 15 Issue 23

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Santa Monica Public Library's Strategic Plan approved

BY JENNIFER MAAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Public Library Strategic Plan, aimed at guiding future development of library services based on community input, was approved unanimously by the City Council at a Dec. 8 meeting.

Staff reported that this was the first time in 20 years the library had embarked on a strategic planning process and that it was a collaborative effort among library staff, an innovation tech task force, expert guides, the library board and community members.

The staff report stated that the process included 11 community forums with 201 participants, a survey with 1,983 participants and 14 staff sessions. The key findings and recommendations gathered from these endeavors were that the library is a life-long learning and community hub; that books are prized; that collaborative work and meeting spaces improved technology; that maker spaces and art exhibits are desired; and that partnerships with the tech community, schools and community organizations are vital.

The strategic plan was created based on community feedback, best practices and trends, and staff insights with four strategic focus areas for what the library should be within the community: a vibrant learning center, a wellbeing cultivator, a dynamic third place and a community and cultural connector.

A vote was cast by staff on Sept. 10 approving the plan.

Staff reported that their next steps, upon the council's approval of the plan, were an implementation team, jump start projects and CIP planning.

City Manager Rick Cole's response to the Library's plan was very positive.

"The library has always been a

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 6











SANTA VISITS UCLA

Matthew Hall editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica firefighters helped Santa deliver gifts to children at UCLA Medical Center on December 14. Local firefighters raise money to support the program, purchase the gifts and act as Santa's helpers as he brings holiday cheer to children in the hospital.

Oaks Initiative 'expected' to apply to all city employees of division head status, above

BY JENNIFER MAAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Councilman Kevin McKeown faced an unusual foe when he attempted to act on employee accountability and transparency at last week's council meeting — City Hall's previous efforts to ensure accountability and transparency.

At the Dec. 8 meeting, former Mayor McKeown asked the council to consider his request that staff prepare an ordinance clarifying and implementing the Oaks Initiative prohibition against public officials accepting employment from city contractors. However, the quicker-than-expected start of work by an independent ethics advisor sapped support for McKeown's proposal.

"This is about what's called a revolving door," McKeown said. "It's a situation where somebody has employment where they have a working relationship with a company and where there is at least a potential that, that public connection will turn into private benefit if we don't rule against it."

McKeown acknowledged the City is currently working with an outside consultant, former division chief and assistant U.S. attorney John Hueston, on issues of transparency, the Oaks Initiative, campaign finance reform and the proper relationship of council to the city man-

SEE OAKS PAGE 7

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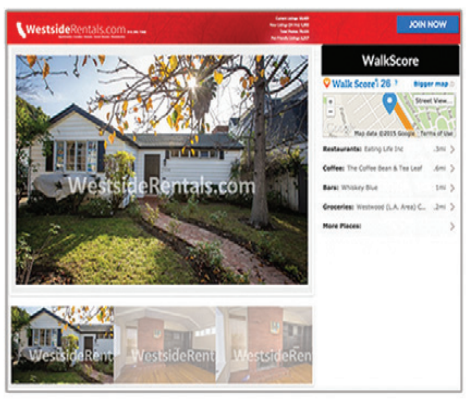
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Dec. 15

Online Shopping
Introduction to how online shopping works, and how to shop safely online. Intermediate level (requires proficiency with using the mouse & keyboard). Seating is first come, first serve. For more information, please visit the Reference Desk or call (310) 434-2608. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Teen Time
A space just for Teens. Stop by and play board games, make some crafts, play music, do homework or just talk to your friends. Refreshments will be provided. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Cookie Decorating Party
All materials will be provided. Ages 6 and up. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Movie Screening: Cinderella (2015)
When her father unexpectedly passes away, young Ella finds herself at the mercy of her cruel stepmother and her scheming step-sisters. Live action Disney adaptation. (105 min.) Seating first come, first served. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 - 5:15 p.m.

City Council Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica City Council. City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Get Crafty: Holiday Ornaments
Celebrate the holidays by making a tree ornament. Limited space; free tickets available 30 minutes before program. Ages 4 & up. Montana Avenue Branch, 1704 Montana Ave., 7-8 p.m.

Lincoln Middle School Choir Concert
Featuring chorus, chorale, concert choir, chamber choir and magrigals. Tickets are $3 each, benefitting the LMS choir program. Student pre-orders are available through school. Any remaining seats will be sold at the door at 6:50 pm the night of the concert. Due to space limitations, this show may sell old prior to the concert date. For more info contact Mrs. Counte at vcounte@smmusd.org or (310) 393-9227 ext 73153. 1501 California Ave., 7 p.m.

John Adams Middle School Orchestra Holiday Concert
For more info contact Angele Woo at awoo@smmusd.org or 9310) 452-2326 Ext. 72-226. Visit: http://www.jamsinstrumentalmusic.org/. Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

Commission for the Senior Community Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission for the Senior Community. Ken Edwards Center, 1:30 p.m.

Books for Cooks
Kitchen Kid presents stories and a cooking lesson. Limited space, call to register. Ages 4 - 8. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Introduction To T'ai Chi
Instructor Pat Akers will introduce the gentle flowing movement of T'ai Chi exercise. Appropriate for all ages and fitness levels. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Creative Kids Club: Old Time Fun and Games @ Main
Celebrate the library's 125th anniversary with some crafts and games circa 1890. Ages 4 and up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Montana Branch Book

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Author donates royalties to Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica's Mar Vista Gardens Steppers

In the spirit of giving during this holiday season, author Julie Mayerson Brown is donating 100 percent of royalties from sales of her romantic holiday-themed novel "The Long Dance Home" (World Nouveau, 2012) to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica Mar Vista Gardens Steppers.

The Steppers is a nonprofit dance program located at the Los Angeles public housing development. In addition to dance instruction, Steppers provides at-risk children and teens with the inspiration, mentoring and support they need to help break the family cycle of poverty.

The main character in "The Long Dance Home" is a former ballerina, which inspired Brown's donation pledge to the dance troupe. The donation is for books sold through Dec. 31.

Set in a small town at Christmastime, "The Long Dance Home" is about choices that alter life's path and dreams that come true when they are least expected. "The Long Dance Home" is described as a sweet and funny tale of Cece Camden, a cautious, organized planner who has her life all figured out. At her 29th birthday, nothing goes according to plan and the former ballerina is thrown into turmoil. With financial woes and boyfriend trouble, Camden makes an impulsive decision that sets into motion the unraveling of her meticulous life plan.

The book is available on Kindle for $2.99 tinyurl.com/TLDH-Brown2015 and in hardcopy wherever books are sold and on Amazon, amazon.com/Long-Dance-Julie-Mayerson-Brown/dp/1938208072 .

For more information, visit juliemayersonbrown.com.

- SUBMITTED BY LEANNE BLACKWELL

SMMUSD

SMMUSD to hold special board meeting

The SMMUSD Board of Education will hold a special meeting on Thursday, Dec. 17, 2015, at 5 p.m. in the district office board room.

Due to the numerous agenda items that had been postponed during previous meetings, as well as those items already planned for upcoming meetings, the district determined that a special board meeting in December would be necessary.

The agenda for the special meeting will be posted on the district's website at: http://www.smmusd.org/board/meetings.html.

- SUBMITTED BY GAIL PINSKER

Downtown

Metro test train vs. 18 wheel stake bed truck

On December 10, at 11:58 a.m. the Santa Monica Police Department responded to Colorado Avenue and 7th Street regarding a collision between a Metro Test Train and an 18 –wheel stake bed truck.

The initial investigation revealed that the driver of the 18-wheel truck was travelling westbound on Colorado Avenue approaching 7th street. The Metro Test Train operated by the Conductor was also travelling westbound on the tracks located in the middle of the roadway, at an unknown distance to the rear of the truck. Once at the intersection of Colorado Ave. and 7th Street, the driver of the stake bed truck, initiated a left hand turn against posted signs prohibiting such turns, and was struck broadside by the train, causing damage to the truck and its diesel fuel tank and the Metro Test Train to derail.

The driver of the truck, sustained minor injuries and was transported to a local hospital for treatment. The Metro Test Train was carrying the Conductor and three Metro employees at the time of the collision. The Conductor and one Metro employee complained of minor upper body pain, and were treated by Santa Monica Fire Department Paramedics declining further medical treatment.

The Santa Monica Police Department is continuing to investigate the cause of the collision and anyone with information is asked to contact Investigator Jason Olson at (310) 458-8954; Sergeant Christopher Smith at (310) 458-8950 or the Santa Monica Police Department (24 hours) at (310) 458-8495.

If you wish to remain anonymous, you can call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME (1-800-78-27463), or submit the tip online at www.wetip.com. You will remain completely anonymous and may be eligible for a reward, up to $1,000.00, if your information leads to an arrest and conviction.

Callers can also contact Crime Stoppers by either calling (800) 222-TIPS, texting from your mobile, or by visiting their website at www.lacrimestoppers.org. Callers may remain anonymous and may be qualified to receive a $1,000.00 reward by Crime Stoppers.

– SUBMITTED BY LIEUTENANT RICHARD LEWIS

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

Group: 'Wide Sargasso Sea'

Written as a prequel to Charlotte Bronte's novel Jane Eyre, the story follows Antoinette Cosway, a white Creole heress, from the time of her youth in Jamaica to her unhappy marriage to a certain English gentleman. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Planning Commission. City Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 17

The Lyric Chorus in Concert:

Holiday and Broadway Tunes

Ring in the winter with the return of SMC Emeritus Colleges' Lyric Chorus in Concert. The twenty plus member chorus put their audience in the mood for the season with a performance of seasonal songs and Broadway tunes. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

SMASH Middle School Music Concert

Santa Monica Alternative School House middle school band, choir and orchestra students will perform in the SMASH cafetorium. Admission is free and refreshments will be available for purchase, supporting the 2017 8th grade class educational field trip fund

For more info contact Jessica Rishe at jrishe@smmusd.org or Janice Wold at jwold@smmusd.org or call (310) 396-2640. 2525 5th St., 1:20 - 3 p.m.

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Housing Commission. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4:30 p.m.

Organizing Before the Holidays

Learn how to pre-plan and organize for the most popular holidays, from preparing meals, menus, outlining to-do lists, budget, grocery list, holiday cards, and gift giving. Also covered will be ideas for storing decorations for each holiday and where to keep them. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Simbang Gabi (Night Mass) at St. Monica Catholic Community

The Mass will be in English and will feature Filipino music. Bishop Oscar Solis, the first Filipino-American to be consecrated a bishop, will be the celebrant. After Mass there will be a reception in the Grand Pavilion with Filipino cuisine and a performance of traditional Filipino dances by Samahang Pilipino, UCLA. All are welcome! 725 California Ave., 7 p.m.

John Adams Middle School Choral Concert

For more info contact Cecile Blanchard at cblanchard@smmusd.org or (310) 452-2326 Ext. 72-227. Visit: http://blanchardwebpage.weebly.com. Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m.

Recreation & Parks Commission

Meeting of the Recreation & Parks Commission. City Hall, 7:30 p.m.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Community building, one TEDxSantaMonica event at a time

THE SAYING GOES THAT "NOBODY plans to fail, they just fail to plan." Having grown up in California, earthquake country, all my life I've heard about preparations for "the big one" and after the tsunami that hit Japan and caused the ongoing Fukushima disaster, we who live in the tsunami zone need to be even more prepared for disasters.

I was reminded of all of this at Friday night's TEDxSantaMonica event, which was held at Cross Campus on Colorado and 10th. This was a TEDx salon, which is like the major TED events, but the speakers aren't live, the event is a curated selection of video presentations, and then the audience engages in some old time conversation and socializing.

TED Talks, for the uninitiated, are 18 minutes or less of a well-crafted speech that is an idea worth sharing; TED stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design.

Born in 1984 the conference has grown over the years in both size and reputation. Today, most public speakers, authors and entrepreneurs are trying to figure out how to get a TED Talk because they have such a wide appeal and carry an imprimatur of authenticity and approval.

Top TED Talks are viewed tens of millions of times, which leads to book sales, paid speaking gigs, consulting contracts and anything else you can imagine coming from the exposure of your name and ideas to millions of people.

For example, Brene Brown is a vulnerability researcher who studied shame and how it affects our lives and relationships. Her talk has been seen more than 22 million times. In her follow up talk, she says that she was mortified that maybe 600 or 800 people were going to see it; she had no contingency plan for 6 million, let alone the now 22 million.

TED Talks are funny, painful, emotional, entertaining, educational and enjoyable. I watch them on a regular basis thanks to the TED app on my iPhone. Because they are time limited, well crafted and curated, the information is succinct and I know that I'm not locked in to a long, boring, monotonous speech that would be great to fall asleep to.

The more intimate TEDx events are local productions and our leaders of TEDxSantaMonica are Grant Graves, John Bates, Sharon Bates, Nataly Carranza and Adrian Roup, and a hearty band of volunteers like Ilya Klinger who help put on the events. This month the theme was Prepare, and in that vein the American Red Cross was on site with a display. The city of Santa Monica's office of sustainability Joel Cesare was on hand, and Grant Graves was dressed for the event theme in a hard hat and red warning vest to talk about the need to prepare for disasters.

Master of Ceremonies John Bates, is a professional coach (www.speaking.executivespeakingsuccess.com) who helps people improve their presentation skills and make their speeches TED-worthy. He is a wonderful presenter himself, having trained for NASA, Johnson & Johnson, IBM, Boeing and many other major corporations. John is a great friend of mine, and because he believes that everyone has something to share, he created an online training program of his highly sought after boot camp. For a limited time, he is sharing it with people for only $97 if you use the promo code bootcamp100. I've attended many of John's boot camps, and seen the amazing changes in people's comfort level on stage, and that translates into more effective communication.

To be a good communicator is important not just for sales people, but for everyone, because the essence of good relationship is relating, in both directions. The speaker must convey a message, but the listener must be able to receive the message. One of the many things that John teaches, is that to get to the core of someone, you need to tell a story that is emotionally relatable - that means you have to have the emotional vulnerability that Brene Brown speaks of, and tell people what you believe and why, which is what Simon Sinek shares.

On Friday, there were videos about the secondary shoe market for Air Jordans, and on the reproductive habits of corals. They are not at first blush interesting, engaging or funny topics but became so as they were delivered. The speakers shared their love of the subject, and related that love to how the topic affects the world. After the speakers shared their stories, the live participants shared their thoughts and feelings, and were brought closer to each other as a community. To join this community you apply here to be invited: http://goo.gl/forms/aAYxZucIOD

This is the point of TED Talks, ideas worth sharing need to be shared so a community can be built.

DAVID PISARRA is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969.You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra



PRESIDENT
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Jeffrey I. Goodman
jeff@smdp.com
Jennifer Maas
jennifer@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
editor@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Charles Andrews, Jack Neworth, Sarah A. Spitz, Cynthia Citron, Margarita Roze

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com
Jenny Medina
jenny@smdp.com

ASSISTANT GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Cocoa Dixon

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
schwenker@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Forward

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Making our streets safer requires education, enforcement

LAST THURSDAY, A TRACTOR-TRAILER traveled down a street where trucks over 30 feet are prohibited and made an illegal left turn into the path of an Expo light rail test train. Luckily, no one on the train or truck was seriously injured, but we cannot rely on luck alone forever.

Some have concluded that Expo should have been on a 50-foot tall elevated track, as Metro once considered about a decade ago.

Second-guessing decisions from a decade ago won't make our streets safer. We need evidence-based decision-making and actions in support of our goal of reducing traffic fatalities in our city to zero in the near future. With street-level passenger rail returning to Santa Monica after more than half a century, now is the time to educate ourselves about rail safety and to step up enforcement of existing traffic laws so that all road users remain as safe as possible.

The decision to put the Expo light rail at street level along Colorado enjoyed wide support in the community. The alternative, an elevated route on a 50-foot-tall structure that would stretch for nearly a mile along Olympic and require the removal of dozens of mature coral trees, was adamantly opposed by community members and leaders at multiple public meetings. At a city council meeting on February 10, 2009, Councilmember Kevin McKeown said, "I haven't found anybody who thinks Olympic is a better idea."

Expo is bringing big change to the Westside, but it is not so great a change that we cannot learn to safely share the street with this new mode of transportation. Many communities throughout the region and the world have at-grade passenger trains and those in the U.S. have become safer over time. A 2004 report of the U.S. Inspector General found that railway grade crossings experienced a 41 percent decline in crashes in the previous 10 years.

The same report notes that the vast majority - 94 percent - of these crashes were due to automobile-driver error, and that most of the remainder were due to stuck or abandoned vehicles on the tracks. Expo, like other street-level passenger trains, is required to operate at safe speeds through our city streets since, like auto traffic, the train will also have to obey signal lights.

The utmost care was put into making sure that Expo meets the highest safety design standards, but it's up to us to educate ourselves and follow the rules designed to keep us safe, and it's up to the local police to provide consistent and firm enforcement of those rules.

Left turns have been clearly prohibited from westbound Colorado onto 7th Street for at least a year, but drivers still make this illegal maneuver. Anyone who has heard the roar of a car or motorcycle rocketing down our boulevards knows that dangerous driving is commonplace in Santa Monica.

According to data reported to the California Highway Patrol, there have been 261 crashes on Colorado Boulevard between 5th and 17th, with one fatality and 158 injuries since 2007, which is when planners began seriously considering the Expo right-of-way. In that same time, 45 crashes caused by improper turning have injured 38 people.

In all of Santa Monica, 42 people have died in vehicle collisions on Santa Monica's streets and an additional 7,200 have been injured since 2007. Twenty-two of those who died were pedestrians and three were cyclists. In three-fourths of the fatal crashes, the behavior of the driver of the vehicle was the primary factor in the collision, with unsafe speed and failure to yield to pedestrians as the top two causes. According to the City's draft Pedestrian Action Plan, about 70 percent of all pedestrian collisions involve a violation by the driver of a passenger car.

Expo will bring a new way of getting around the Westside and to Downtown L.A., and with it will come increased pedestrian activity near stations and greater consequences for dangerous driving in the Expo corridor. Staying safe on the streets is all of our responsibility and the arrival of Expo will absolutely require more rigorous traffic enforcement, especially along the Expo corridor, to curb dangerous behavior.

Enforcement must be consistent and predictable to be effective. Santa Monica has a regional reputation for consistent and predictable enforcement of parking violations. We need the same for dangerous driving.

It's possible to significantly reduce traffic injuries and deaths through enforcement. In New York City, 70 percent of pedestrian fatalities are caused by dangerous driving, including speeding, failure to yield, distracted driving, and driving under the influence. As part of New York City's Vision Zero campaign, NYPD has issued 42 percent more citations to speeding drivers and 126 percent more citations to drivers who fail to yield to pedestrians. The city also has speed-enforcement cameras that have reduced speeding violations by 59 percent.

More consistent enforcement, along with design changes, has made for safer streets in New York City. Last year was the safest year for pedestrians in New York City's history.

Per the Pedestrian Action Plan, 40 percent of Santa Monica residents say that they are not comfortable walking in the city.

More consistent and predictable traffic enforcement will make the city a better place to live for all residents, visitors, and workers in Santa Monica.

ERNIE POWELL, JUAN MATUTE, LESLIE LAMBERT, CYNTHIA ROSE, JERRY RUBIN, JUDY ABDO, FRED ZIMMERMAN, VALERIE GRIFFIN, JASON ISLAS, JEREMY STUTES, ELENA CHRISTOPOULOS, RICHARD BRAND, AND LAURIE BRENNER for Santa Monica Forward. Read previous columns at santamonicaforward.org.

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MILLIONS OF SATISFIED AIRPORT TRAVELERS SINCE 1977

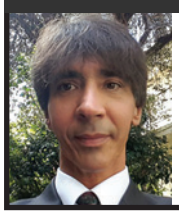

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LIBRARY

FROM PAGE 1

more dynamic plan than sometimes we want to think about it; as just a place for books," Cole said. Cole delved into the history of the earliest library's in the country and how they once lent out microscopes, telescopes, and other things people could use to enhance their lives and education that they would not otherwise have had access to if it weren't for the library. "We have a great library system, but it won't stay great unless it continues to evolve, unless it continues to grow, unless it continues to take cognizance of what's on around it," Cole said.

Councilwoman Sue Himmelrich said that she was particularly happy that the plan included creating more free time at the library when kids are out of school.

Councilwoman Gleam Davis spoke about how important the library is, not just to our children's education, but the city's education as a whole.

"Now of course we know that the vocabulary that you acquire during your first and second year of life really is what sets you on the path for the remainder of your learning experience," Davis said. "So if we want people to be life long learners we sure as heck better be exposing them to a lot of vocabulary in their first few years at the library."

Council unanimously approved the plan to clearly guide future development of library services based on community input and the study of best practices.

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OAKS

FROM PAGE 1

ager. At the time of his request, McKeown said the timeline for approving Hueston's scope of work was unknown and regardless, McKeown said the revolving door aspect was not directly considered when council first hired Hueston.

"And the reason for that was there was litigation on that issue under way with the situation that occurred here in the City and we wanted to let that be adjudicated if that was going to happen. It did not happen. It ended up being settled without their being a court ruling," McKeown said, referring to the settlement between former city manager Rod Gould and the Santa Monica Transparency Project.

"So now I feel it's appropriate that we add to the direction that we're giving our consultant that they work with staff to consider codifying some sort of prohibition regarding revolving door activities. The Oaks Initiative touches on that but it is not significantly specific."

During the discussion, City Manager Rick Cole said Hueston's contract and scope of work would be up for discussion the following week and several councilmembers said any further discussion should be tabled pending review of Hueston's proposal.

"I like the idea that we appointed somebody, say 'Go at it,' and step back," Councilwoman Sue Himmelrich said. "I think we've given direction and don't understand why we are emphasizing one point over another as opposed to letting him evaluate and give his best take on it. I thought our goal here was not to give him guidance so we were not telling him where to end up in the long run."

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said that if directed by council, her department could provide guidance on additional ordinances that might support the existing provisions of the City Charter specific to ethics.

"You could adopt a local ordinance that's stricter than Oaks is, in fact there might be good reasons to do that, the important thing from our legal perspective is that whatever prohibitions you adopt on any individual rights, including the right to seek employment, that they be crystal clear and this could be a good opportunity to do that," she said.

Local government watchdog and transparency advocate Mary Marlow said she was puzzled by the timing of the Dec. 8 discussion and said nothing should be done until Hueston's report, or at least the scope of work, had been approved.

McKeown, backed by Councilman Ted Winterer, said some action would be appropriate to clarify the current expectations of staff.

"By acting tonight the council would make clear to all existing staff in the city what our expectations and the community expectations are," said McKeown. "Even before we codify it into an ordinance, we'd have a statement on the record from this council about expectations."

Ultimately, council unanimously settled on direction to staff that the scope of work by Hueston include specifically a timely analysis of the need for the clarification of issues raised, but not resolved, by the recent transparency of litigation and further direct that council convey to staff that their expectation in the mean time is that the Oaks Provision should apply to all city employees of division head status or above.

However, Councilwoman Gleam Davis took issue with the wording.

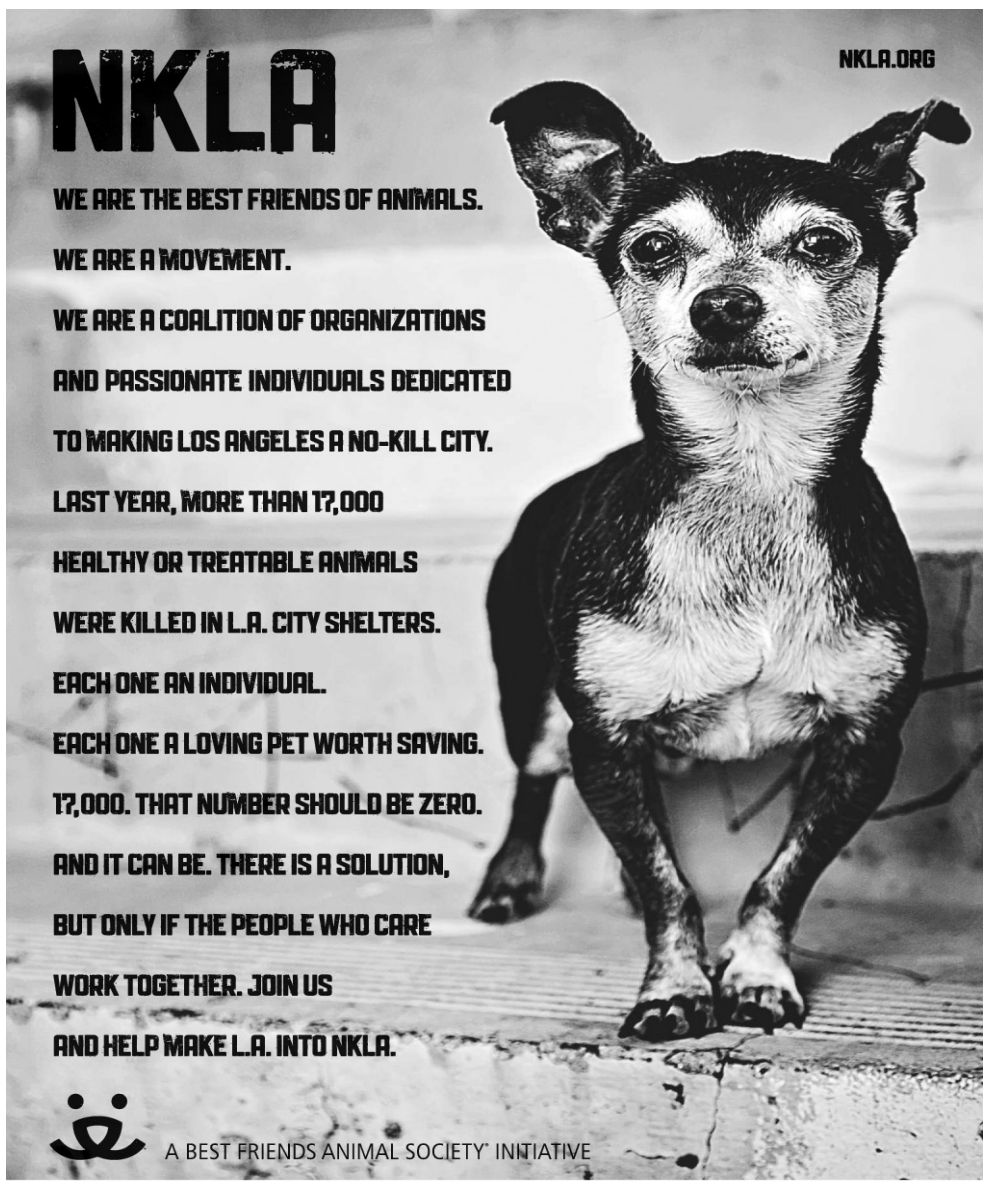
"Whether we call it an ordinance or not, if we say, 'This is what the council's expectations are,' then it's effectively operating as a constraint on people," Davis said. "And I think we better be very clear on what the legal parameters of that constraint are before we do it."

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HOLIDAY COOKING

Matthew Hall
editor@smdp.com

The Pico Branch Library held a holiday cooking demonstration on December 14. Organizers showcased holiday food and drinks from around the world including Polish pierogies, Hanukkah latkes, Puerto Rican Eggnog, Mexican tamales and a Yule Log cake from France (provided by Jamaica's Cakes).

Coquito Puertorriqueno (Eggnog)

Combine 12 ounces of evaporated milk with two egg yolks and strain into a 3-quart pot. Simmer over medium heat until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and cool. Transfer to a blender and add 15 ounces of unsweetened coconut milk, 14 ounces of sweetened condensed milk, 1/4 teaspoon of cinnamon and a pinch of salt. For an adult version add 1 cup of white rum. Blend until frothy and enjoy.







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California storm leaves behind chilly temperatures, winds

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A storm that dumped rain and snow across California moved out of the sodden state Monday, leaving behind cold temperatures, powerful winds and pounding surf.

The National Weather Service said temperatures would be about 10 degrees colder than normal in Southern California and would barely top 60 during the day.

A high-surf advisory was in effect for San Diego County through Tuesday, with unpredictable waves up to 8 feet lashing the coast, accompanied by dangerous rip currents.

Drivers were urged to use caution on mountain roads where gusts up to 70 mph were predicted.

Higher elevations in the Sierra Nevada received 1 to 2 feet of snow Sunday, adding to the powder that fell last week to the delight of skiers and snowboarders, according to the National Weather Service in Reno, Nevada.

"Today, it's just a few lingering show showers," weather service meteorologist Dawn Johnson said. "It's winding down."

Chains were required Monday on several roads leading to the Bear Mountain and Snow Summit resorts after several inches of snow fell on the San Bernardino Mountains. The storm that whipped up Friday dropped more than 6 inches at higher elevations and brought rain, hail and thunderstorms elsewhere.

North of Los Angeles, a 35-mile stretch of northbound Interstate 5 near Castaic reopened after flash flooding sent mud and rocks into lanes.

Sheets of pouring rain made for treacherous driving this weekend. Two parents were killed and their young children were injured when their vehicle apparently hydroplaned and rolled down an embankment during heavy rains in Alameda County on Sunday.

Fire Battalion Chief Stephanie Radecke said a 5-year-old boy and 6-year-old girl survived the crash off a freeway between Livermore and Tracy. The boy suffered head trauma.

Forecasters have said a strong El Nino weather system could drench drought-stricken 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 storms were related to El Nino, a warming in the Pacific Ocean that can alter weather worldwide.



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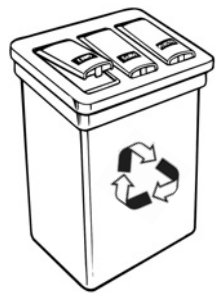


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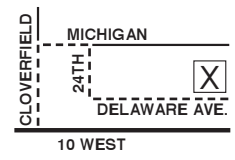


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In schools, on streets and TV, children feel Muslim backlash

MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

A backlash against American Muslims is leaving a mark on some of the nation's youngest minds.

After seeing presidential candidate Donald Trump call on television for barring Muslims from entering the country, 8-year-old Sofia Yassini checked the locks on her family's home in Plano, Texas, imagining the Army would take them away. She raced to her room and stuffed a pair of Barbie dolls, a tub of peanut butter and a toothbrush into a bag. She insisted on bringing boots for the long boat ride she imagined was coming.

When her mother, Melissa, arrived home from her work as a human resources manager, Sofia ran into her arms and cried.

"I want people to understand the impact that their words have on these children," said Melissa Yassini, who described the experience in a Facebook post that had been shared more than 21,000 times as of Monday. "We often forget, we're waging war on one another with words, and we're adults. We can take it. The kids are suffering with this. They go to school every day and they're afraid to tell people they're Muslim. This has to stop."

Anti-Muslim sentiment was building in the days before 14 people were killed Dec. 2 in the massacre at a disability center in Southern California by a Muslim couple investigators say were inspired at least in part by the Islamic State group. Some governors had already said they wouldn't allow Syrians fleeing civil war into their states because of extremist fears. Experts say Trump's call Dec. 7 to keep all Muslims from entering the United States — a plan he said would apply only temporarily and to non-citizens — only fanned the flames.

Parents say their children hear disparaging remarks in their own communities, see hateful bumper stickers and T-shirts, and have had friends abandon them because of their faith.

Ahad Khan, 12, came home from school in rural Westminster, Maryland, in tears because his best friend called him a future terrorist who couldn't be trusted, according to Ahad's father, Raza Khan.

Khan, the chairman of the science department at Carroll Community College, shared Ahad's experience in an open letter to Trump on Facebook. As of Monday, it had been shared more than 4,300 times.

"He is the engine right now for that fear-mongering," Khan said in an interview. "I don't think he realizes that his words matter. He doesn't realize the damaging effect his words can have on people, especially kids."

In the minds of children — many long on imagination and short on political understanding — phrases like "total and complete shutdown of Muslims" can be traumatic, experts say.

"Children expect that society will be nurturing and protective," said Mark DeAntonio, a child psychiatry professor at the University of California Los Angeles. "Statements implying detainment or exclusion for arbitrary reason like race ethnicity or religion create anxiety and trauma."

Some children have questioned their faith and place in American society.

Kafumba Kromah, of Minneapolis, said his 8-year-old daughter asked him: "Why we are Muslims? Why can't we be what everybody else is?" His daughter encouraged him to cancel a trip to his native Liberia for fear he would be barred from returning.

Mehnaz Mahmood, of Dallas, said her 7-year-old son urged her to switch to a black-and-white hijab — so she would look more like a nun — after they were subjected to anti-Muslim remarks outside his school this week.

Sam Madi, of New Orleans, watched coverage of Trump's remarks with his 11-year-old son. He said he feared anti-Muslim sentiment would set back progress in integrating Muslims into American society. Zane Madi plays soccer and spends most weekends with his mother helping the city's homeless.

"We're not prepared for this," said Madi, whose father fled Iraq in the 1970s. "We're not prepared to sit and educate our children why they're not any different from anybody else. I don't think any parent is prepared for that. I don't care what religion you believe or don't believe."

Parents needn't shoulder the burden themselves, said Patricia Greenfield, a psychology professor at UCLA. Teachers should talk about not generalizing Muslims and ask children to reinforce their friendships with Muslim students, she said in an email.

As Khan, the father in Maryland, tucked his son in last week, he left him with the words he recited when he became a U.S. citizen two decades ago: "One nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

"I don't know why, I don't know how people forget that," Khan said later, fighting back tears. "We have to; otherwise we're dividing ourselves."





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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **61.9°**

TUEDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Mix of easing WNW-NW swell and small SSW swell. Lighter wind due, especially in the AM.

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal mix of old WNW-NW leftovers, new/building NW swell, and SSW swell. Light AM wind.

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Minimal NW and SSW swells. Light AM wind.

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 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 3 AT APPROXIMATELY 7:30 P.M.

Officers responded to a disturbance call on the 500 block of Colorado. Upon arriving officers spoke with one of the involved parties, later identified as Maria Hennessy, 20, of Santa Monica. In summary, Hennessy told officers that she and her boyfriend, later identified as Cory Johnson, 32, of Santa Monica, were involved in an argument. Hennessy stated that Johnson threw a cigarette box at her head, and stated that after this action she hit Johnson. Hennessy said she attempted multiple times to gain entrance into her residence in order to get away from Johnson, yet she could not get in and Johnson continued to taunt her.

Officers reviewed the surveillance camera system and saw that both Hennessy and Johnson were striking each other. A determination of whom the dominant aggressor was could not be made, so officers arrested both Johnson and Hennessy. Both were booked for domestic battery. Bail was set at $20,000 each.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 314 calls for service on Dec. 13.

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

Fight 2nd/Arizona 12:04 a.m.
Battery Main/Ashland 12:33 a.m.
Battery 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 1 a.m.
Petty theft 1100 block of 2nd 2:06 a.m.
Party complaint 1400 block of Euclid 2:39 a.m.
Vandalism Main/Kinney 2:57 a.m.
Domestic violence 2500 block of Pico 4:41 a.m.
Burglary 900 block of 18th 7:43 a.m.
Vehicle cite & tow 2300 block of Kansas 7:48 a.m.
Threats 2800 block of the beach 7:48 a.m.
Construction noise 6th/Idaho 8:44 a.m.
Missing person 100 block of Wilshire 9:02 a.m.
Stolen vehicle 100 block of Montana 9:21 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 900 block of 2nd 10:08 a.m.
Identity theft 1600 block of Franklin 10:16 a.m.
Petty theft 1300 block of Montana 10:25 a.m.
Petty theft 500 block of Santa Monica 10:49 a.m.
Hit and run 2400 block of 4th 11:01 a.m.
Burglary 600 block of San Vicente 11:44 a.m.
Traffic accident 400 block of Olympic 11:57 a.m.
Traffic accident 400 block of Olympic 11:59 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 1400 block of Berkeley 1:13 p.m.
Grand theft 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 1:14 p.m.
Injured person 4th/Civic Center 1:39 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100 block of 15th 1:58 p.m.
Critical missing person 1100 block of 7th 2:06 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 1100 block of 9th 2:21 p.m.
Petty theft 1900 block of Wilshire 2:22 p.m.
Hit and run Cloverfield/Colorado 2:31 p.m.
Burglary 1300 block of 12th 2:48 p.m.
Battery 2900 block of Main 2:59 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 2600 block of 25th 3:12 p.m.
Fraud 100 block of Georgina 3:30 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 32nd/Pico 3:42 p.m.
Expired registration 2900 block of Main 3:47 p.m.
Domestic violence 800 block of Montana 3:50 p.m.
Construction noise 1800 block of 7th 4:06 p.m.
Grand theft 1600 block of Appian 4:36 p.m.
Vandalism 2200 block of 3rd 5:20 p.m.
Traffic accident 4th/Ocean Park 6:12 p.m.
Petty theft 2700 block of 4th 6:19 p.m.
Drunk driving 7th/Montana 6:43 p.m.
Indecent exposure 300 block of Arizona 7:21 p.m.
Drunk driving 500 block of Marguerita 8:29 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1400 block of 2nd 9:53 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 44 calls for service on Dec. 13.

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

EMS 3100 block of Neilson 12:54 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block of 2nd 3:20 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of 4th 4:11 a.m.
EMS 800 block of Santa Monica 5:22 a.m.
EMS 800 block of Ocean 6:33 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 7:25 a.m.
EMS Ocean/Bay 7:29 a.m.
EMS 900 block of Centinela 7:47 a.m.
Smoke investigation 800 block of Palisades Park 8:03 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 7th 8:08 a.m.
Elevator rescue 500 block of Colorado 8:32 a.m.
Public assist 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 9:18 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 10:16 a.m.
EMS 200 block of Hollister 12:33 p.m.
EMS 1000 block of 3rd 12:52 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 6th 1:02 p.m.
EMS 4th/Civic Center 1:39 p.m.
EMS 800 block of 2nd 1:50 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of Main 2:39 p.m.
EMS 800 block of 2nd 3:46 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Lincoln 4:34 p.m.
Arcing wires 2800 block of Santa Monica 5:05 p.m.
EMS Barnard/Wadsworth 5:18 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 3rd Street Prom 5:23 p.m.
EMS 1000 block of Wilshire 5:42 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Ocean 6:03 p.m.
Automatic alarm 400 block of Pico 6:04 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block of 14th 6:10 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Leave out
5 Angry
10 Pago Pago setting
12 Not rented out
13 Pep rally participant
15 Everything
16 Angry
17 Letter before omega
18 Sketch again
20 Snare
21 Forays
22 Uses oars
23 Prickly plants
25 Stare stupidly
28 Center
31 Line of symmetry
32 Like some museum paintings
34 Shark feature
35 Peas' place
36 In the style of
37 Legislative VIP
40 Steer clear of
41 Beverage
42 Fills completely
43 Citi Field team

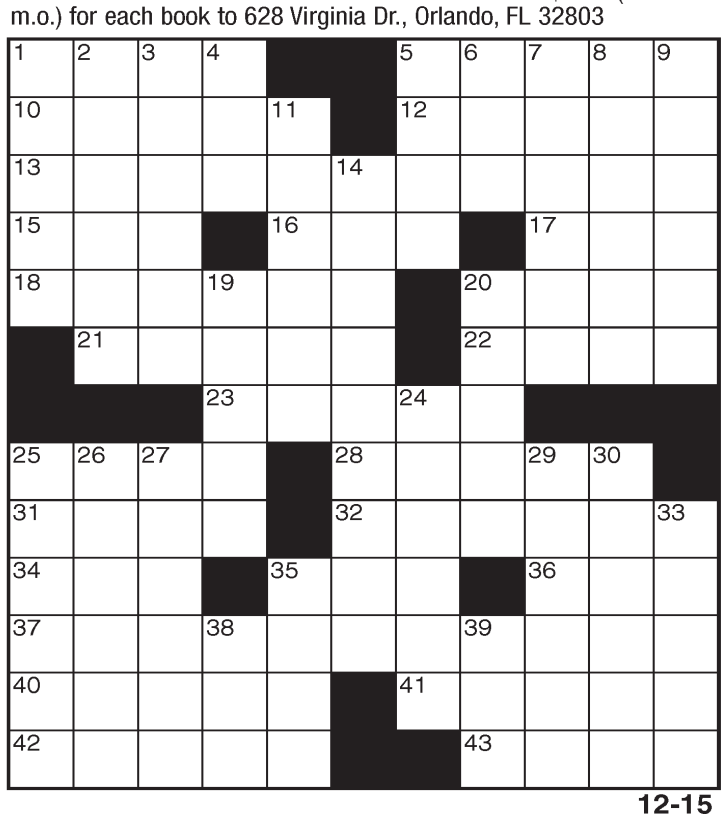
DOWN

1 Film award
2 "Das Lied von der Erde" composer
3 Staunton of "Vera Drake"
4 Foot feature
5 Signaled on stage
6 Gene messenger
7 Master
8 Playground sight
9 Disrobes
11 Spanish fleet
14 Spot for would-be attorneys
19 "Casablanca" nightclub
20 Court event
24 Cared for
25 Blunders
26 Armpit
27 Eventually succeed
29 Concert worker
30 Natural gift
33 Informers
35 Veep's superior
38 Shelley work
39 Sleeve filler

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



12-15

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. 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 ★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL (calottery)
Draw Date: 12/12
2 14 19 30 62
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 180M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/11
14 20 43 54 69
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 74M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/12
11 12 22 24 42
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/13
8 13 14 25 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/14
MIDDAY: 1 7 7
Draw Date: 12/13
EVENING: 9 9 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 12/13
1st: 12- LUCKY CHARMS
2nd: 08- GORGEOUS GEORGE
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:47.74

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!

TELLURIC
1. of or proceeding from the earth or soil.
2. of or relating to the earth; terrestrial.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1960 – Richard Pavlick is arrested for plotting to assassinate U.S. President-Elect John F. Kennedy.

1960 – King Mahendra of Nepal suspends the country's constitution, dissolves parliament, dismisses the cabinet, and imposes direct rule.

1961 – Adolf Eichmann is sentenced to death after being found guilty by an Israeli court of 15 criminal charges, including charges of crimes against humanity, crimes against the Jewish people, and membership of an outlawed organization.

1965 – Project Gemini: Gemini 6A, crewed by Wally Schirra and Thomas Stafford, is launched from Cape Kennedy, Florida. Four orbits later, it achieves the first space rendezvous, with Gemini 7.

1967 – The Silver Bridge over the Ohio River collapses, killing 46 people.

1970 – Soviet spacecraft Venera 7 successfully land on Venus. It is the first successful soft landing on another planet

1970 – The South Korean ferry Namyong Ho capsizes in the Korea Strait, killing over 300 people.

1973 – John Paul Getty III, grandson of American billionaire J. Paul Getty, is found alive near Naples, Italy, after being kidnapped by an Italian gang on July 10.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Justice! In September, federal judge Cathy Seibel ordered the town of Liberty, New York (100 miles from New York City), to stand trial for failure to teach police and prosecutors proper free-speech law -- thus giving plaintiff Willian Barboza revenge for his arrest for writing a "crude" message on the speeding ticket he paid three years ago. Seibel ruled that Barboza's phrase (urging intercourse upon the manure-like town) posed no "imminent" threat and, besides, was obviously just a complaint about government services. Seibel also raised the possibility that money damages will come from the prosecutor's own pocket.

■ Dr. Bilgin Ciftci was fired in October from Turkey's Public Health Institution and later charged with violating one of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's favorite laws -- against "insulting" the president (which carries a maximum four-year prison term) -- because Ciftci had joined a Turkish Facebook thread that was denouncing Erdogan with facial images comparing him to the "Lord of the Rings" character Gollum. The judge, admitting his unfamiliarity, appointed a five-person group of experts to advise him whether the Erdogan-Gollum comparison was "insulting." ("The Lord of the Rings" film director Peter Jackson immediately protested that the images depict not Gollum but his benign alter ego Smeagol, making the comparison obviously uninsulting.)

Take a break, Virgo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Enjoy those around you. You could be a bit taken aback by what goes on in your immediate circle. People seem to be unpredictable but full of fun. If you can take part of the day off, you will happily finish up your holiday shopping. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You are on top of your game. You are likely to see a personal matter in a different light because of a situation happening around you. Through someone else's experience, you'll gain a new insight. Take the lead in an important project. Tonight: Some late-night shopping.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance. How you feel and the way in which you receive this person's news could be rather important. Detach before making any snap judgments. Your ingenuity is likely to prove to be a solution-finder. Tonight: Expect to be greeted warmly.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ One-on-one relating will prove to be quite effective. You might hear so much news all at once that you are likely to feel overwhelmed. Your creativity bubbles up when dealing with a child, love interest or a creative project. Tonight: Throw yourself into the moment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Defer to others, and be direct in how you deal with them. When you are able to detach, you will be surprised by how you view the big picture. You could have too much energy for your own good. Try to be as productive as possible. Tonight: Go along with a friend's ideas.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You understand a lot more than you might want others to know. Focus on what an associate or loved one is doing. Be direct in how you handle a money issue. You will need to rein in any impulsive desires you have right now. Tonight: Take a break from your routine.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You might be a lot more forceful than you realize. You could push someone to his or her limit, or vice versa. Deal with anger before you say something you might regret. Usually you are quite dynamic, but not necessarily right now. Tonight: Wrap up some holiday errands.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might not be aware that you're sitting on some anger. Be more in touch with your feelings, and try to address them sooner. The unexpected occurs around a personal or domestic matter. Don't worry so much about a certain situation. Tonight: Order in. Make it easy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Don't hold back as much as you have been. Enjoy your immediate circle of friends. A loved one might give you an earful once you start to chat. Maintain an unbiased perspective, and don't take any comments personally. Tonight: Meet a friend and buy a new item or two.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Tap into your financial knowledge. Your intuition will tell you what way to go if you are questioning which direction to head in. A boss or someone you look up to seems to be in a bad mood. Maintain a positive outlook, even if he or she cannot. Tonight: Treat yourself now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Your energy soars, especially after someone you care about compliments you. You might feel as if you are on top of what you must do. A surprising event or invitation could be quite fun to be involved with. You like unpredictability. Tonight: As you like it.

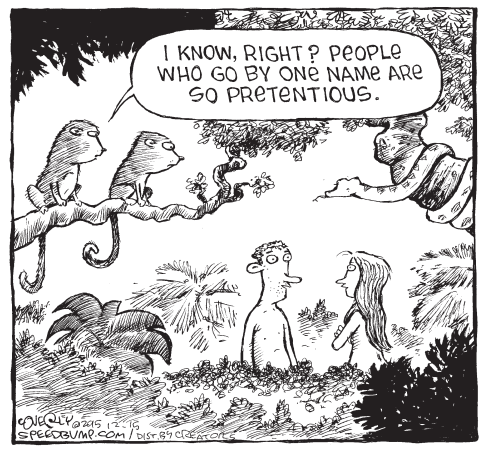
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Know that you need to say less and be a good listener. Use caution with your finances, as you easily could make an error. Someone you look up to will offer you so many options that you might not be sure which way to turn. Stay in touch with your feelings. Tonight: Not to be found.

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

This year you will gain through communication. A neighbor or relative could play a significant role in your year. You will experience moments of sudden insight revolving around a loved one. You will broaden your immediate circle of friends, and this expansion will serve you well. If you are single, you most likely will meet someone through work or through a friend. This relationship will be very special. If you are attached, you'll need to keep your significant other in the loop, or else he or she will feel left out. Your romantic life will be unpredictable but exciting. You tend to have lengthy conversations with AQUARIUS.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



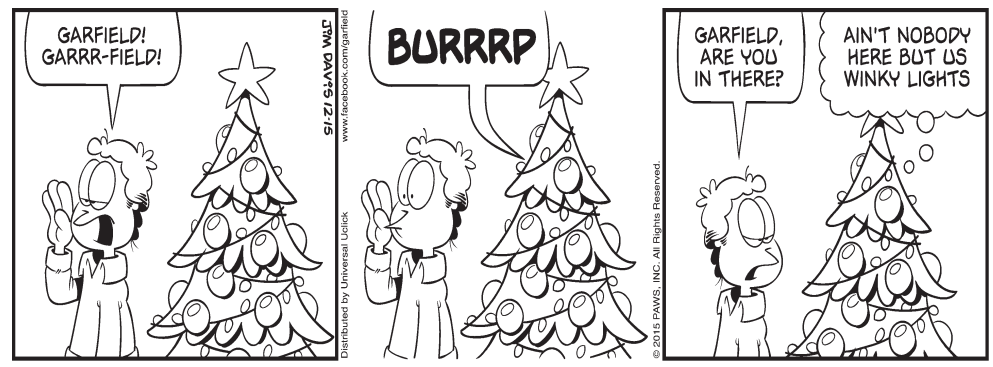
Strange Brew
By John Deering



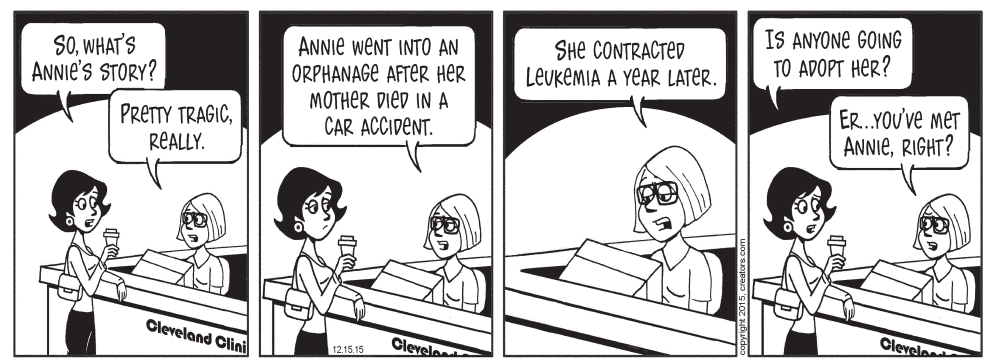
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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Employment

Help Wanted

Chief Technology Officer in Los Angeles, CA area. Establish co's tech vision & lead all aspects of co's tech dev. Work w/ other dept heads as advisor of technologies to improve efficiency & effectiveness. Direct dev & execution of enterprise-wide info security plan. Send res to: Knight Management Insurance Services, 4751 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 111, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

RUSH Legal Notices

RUSH Legal Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. SS028464 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of ESTHEFANY MELGAR for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: ESTHEFANY MELGAR filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: AIDEN MELGAR LOPEZ to AIDEN JAMES MELGAR. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date: 01/08/16, Time: 8:30 AM, Dept: K, Room: A203 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA ñ COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 1725 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press. Date: NOVEMBER 05, 2015

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

Santa Monica SPACIOUS & OPEN 1 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH FLOOR PLAN...IN THE HEART OF SANTA MONICA 1-car Subterranean parking, Paid gardener & pool service, Rent $3,100.00, Deposit 3100, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1217868

Santa Monica CHARMING 1BDRM 1 BA MUST SEE!!! 1-car Parking included, Paid water & gardener, Rent $3,000.00 to 00, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240270

Santa Monica WALK TO BEACH, MONTANA AVE. AND 3RD ST. PROMENADE 1-car Parking included, Paid trash & gardener & pool service, Rent $3,380.00, Deposit 4380, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232672

Venice REMODELED 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH APARTMENT ON ABBOT KINNEY 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & hot water & trash, Rent $2,000.00, Deposit 1900.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1232044

West LA LUXURIOUS AND SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM APARTMENT Garage parking, Rent $3,670.00, Deposit 1500, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1188038

Marina Del Rey $199.00 DEPOSIT OAC! LARGE ONE BEDROOM AVAILABLE NOW! 1-car Covered parking, Paid gardener & pool service, Rent $2,278.00 to and up!, Deposit 199.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1221849

Santa Monica GREAT LOCATION ENJOY THE BEST OF SANTA MONICA! FURNISHED JR 1 BEDROOM. BLOCKS TO BEACH & MAIN ST. Street parking, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & gas & electricity & cable & gardener & association fees, Rent $2,100.00, Deposit 500, Available 3116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=881928

Santa Monica SANTA MONICA LIVING AT ITS BEST! SPACIOUS, BRIGHT 12 BR 1-car Garage parking, Rent $3,000.00 to 4900.00, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1199766

Santa Monica PEACEFUL AND COMFORTABLE 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN THE BEAUTIFUL SANTA MONICA Garage parking, Paid utilities, Rent $5,280.00, Deposit 4800, Available 1216. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1229126

West LA TERRIFIC, BRIGHT, SPACIOUS!!!!! WITH LOTS OF ADDITIONAL STORAGE 2-car Covered parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $3,000.00, Deposit 4500, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238893

Santa Monica 2BD 2BA CONDO W LIVING & FAMILY ROOM LAMINATE & TILE 1-car Carport parking, Paid water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,775.00, Deposit 2775.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236431

Marina Del Rey STUNNING MARINA PENINSULA ARCHITECTURAL 3-car Garage parking, Rent $14,978.00 to 00, Deposit 32000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1238986

West LA PRIME LOCATION (CENTURY CITY AREA) 1-car Permit parking, Paid partial utilities & water & hot water & electricity, Rent $1,950.00, Deposit 3800, Available 121515. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1237469

West LA GREAT PLACE!!! 1-car Parking included, Paid gardener, Rent $1,700.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1242065

Marina Del Rey TOWNHOUSE Parking included, Rent $3,951.00 to And Up, Deposit 1000, Available 121515. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1242076

West LA 2 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS Parking included, Rent $3,507.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1235975

Santa Monica UPPER APARTMENT WITH BALCONY 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $2,595.00, Deposit 2595, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=985275

Brentwood 3 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHS Parking included, Rent $5,100.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233020

Santa Monica MOST BEAUTIFUL AREA IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities & water & hot water & trash & electricity & cable & association fees, Rent $3,500.00 to 4,000, Deposit 3000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236432

West LA BREAK AWAY FROM THE ORDINARYLET YOUR CREATIVE JUICES FLOW IN THIS OPEN CONCEPT FLAT. R2 1-car Parking included, Paid gardener & pool service, Rent $2,799.00, Deposit 750.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=769639

Santa Monica 1 BED 1 BATH BACK HOUSE FENCED YARD 1-CAR GARAGE - 7 BLOCKS TO THE BEACH 1-car Garage parking, Paid water & trash, Rent $2,250.00, Deposit 2250, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1145785

West LA SPACIOUS, 3RD FLOOR APARTMENT WITH BALCONY AND WALK-IN CLOSET 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $1,700.00, Deposit 1800.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1236993

Santa Monica 2 BED 2 BATH CONDO. PERFECT LOCATION IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash & gas & gardener & association fees & maid service, Rent $3,500.00, Deposit 3500, Available 2516. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1141384

Santa Monica LARGE STUDIO APARTMENT IN SANTA MONICA 1-car Parking available, Paid partial utilities, Rent $3,360.00, Deposit 3200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1229136

Brentwood 2BR & 1 OFFICE 2.5 BA CONDO IN PRIME BRENTWOOD AREA - CLOSE TO UCLA & SHOPPING 2-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener & pool service & association fees, Rent $3,600.00, Deposit 3600.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=895980

Santa Monica TOP FLOOR2BLOFT-CLOSE TO MONTANA & THE BECH 2-car Parking included, Paid water & trash, Rent $3,895.00, Deposit 2000, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240930

Venice REMODELED SILVER TRIANGLE COTTAGE BLOCKS TO THE BEACH Street parking, Paid gardener, Rent $4,400.00, Deposit 6600, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1129919

Santa Monica COMPLETELY REDONE NEXT TO SUNSET PARK!!!!!!! 1-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $2,350.00, Available 121515. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=269926

Santa Monica NORTH OF MONTANA CHARMING 3 BED 2 12 BATH Garage parking, Paid gardener, Rent $10,500.00, Deposit 1, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=341425

Santa Monica CHARMING STUDIO APARTMENT NORTH OF WILSHIRE 1-car Parking included, Paid water & trash & gas & electricity & gardener, Rent $1,800.00, Deposit 2500.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1239694

West LA LUXURY CONDOMINIUM ON THE WESTSIDE 2-car Garage parking, Paid water & hot water & trash & pool service & association fees, Rent $3,200.00 to and up, Deposit 3200, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1046014

Marina Del Rey 3 BED 3 BATH LARGE SEPARATE OFFICESTUDIO 2-car Driveway parking, Paid gardener, Rent $4,750.00 to per month, Deposit 9500, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1105450

Brentwood 3 BEDROOMS 2 BATHS FOR RENT 2-car Tandem Parking, Rent $2,995.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=484149

Brentwood BRENTWOOD GOLDEN TRIANGLE FRONT UNIT BALCONY FIREPLACE HARDWOOD FLOORS 1-car Parking included, Paid water & hot water & trash & gardener, Rent $1,795.00, Deposit 1795.00, Available 1116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240456

Marina Del Rey EXOTIC, FULLY FURNISHED PENINSULA TOWNHOME 2-car Garage parking, Rent $6,995.00, Deposit 13990, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233471

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

West LA 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT NEAR MUSCLE BEACH Parking available, Paid utilities, Rent $7,800.00, Deposit 7000, Available 33116. westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1225467

Santa Monica SANTA MONICA BEACH & PIER RENTAL 1-car Parking available, Paid utilities & water & hot water & gas & electricity & cable & gardener, Rent $2,650.00 to to $4,550.00, Deposit 500, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1000470

Santa Monica SPACIOUS, LIGHT-FILLED APARTMENT, LARGE PRIVATE BALCONY, TWO PARKING SPOTS 2-car Carport parking, Paid water & hot water & trash, Rent $2,995.00, Deposit 2995, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1042262

Marina Del Rey 1 BEDROOM, 1 BATH Parking included, Rent $5,940.00, Deposit 0.00, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1233882

West LA RECENTLY REMODELED STUDIO APARTMENT 1-car Carport parking, Rent $1,395.00, Deposit 1395, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1240825

Brentwood SPACIOUS 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH FLOORPLAN Gated parking, Rent $3,290.00 to AND UP (prices change daily), Deposit 800, Available Now! westsiderentals.com/listingdetail.cfm?id=1203745

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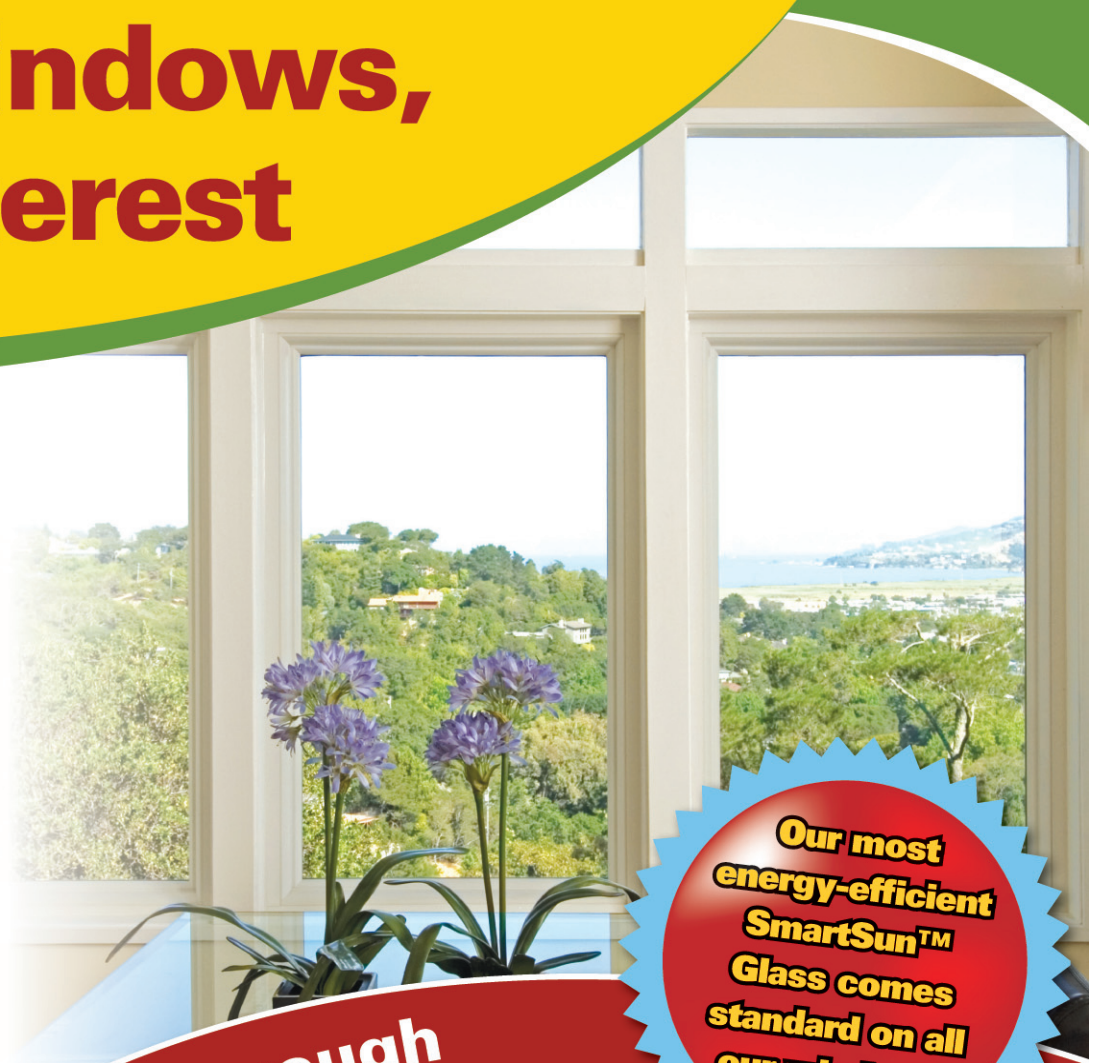
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