SAFETY YOU CAN RELY ON
MILLIONS OF SATISFIED AIRPORT TRAVELERS SINCE 1977
$29 Flat Rate to LAX
424-777-TAXI
1-800-LA1-TAXI
www.LATAXI.com
24 HRS. DEPENDABLE
INDEPENDENT TAXI OF SANTA MONICA

Maintain Your Independence
Our In-Home Care Management professionals evaluate needs and coordinate services to support independent living.
WISE & Healthy Aging
Call (866) 757-9473

smdp.com
Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2012
Volume 12 Issue 33



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

VOICE OF REASON?
SEE PAGE 5

THE WRAP PARTY ISSUE

Moody's downgrades Santa Monica's bond rating

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A leading credit rating agency announced Monday that it would downgrade one of Santa Monica's bond ratings, a move that could lead to higher borrowing costs in the future for City Council-approved bonds.

Moody's Investors Service affirmed City Hall's triple-A rating on its voter-approved general obligation bonds, but downgraded its lease-revenue bonds to AA2, the company's third-highest rating.

That rating, which is a measure of how risky it is for investors to buy bonds, brings City Hall's lease-revenue bond rating in line with industry standards and does not reflect real weakness on the part of Santa Monica's finances, said Gigi Decavalles-Hughes, finance director with City Hall.

"We're not operating under any different

SEE RATING PAGE 10

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Recruiting heats up for Samohi, St. Monica

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

DOWNTOWN A fruitful season is the sort of thing that could help any football recruit draw the eyes of prospective suitors.

That's the case for both Santa Monica and St. Monica as they begin the off-season. Samohi already has wide receiver Sebastian LaRue verbally committed to USC and another handful of Vikings are starting to get looks.

Feisty defensive back Tramaine Taylor, who was the team's on-field hype man all season, has New Mexico State, Troy and Sacramento State interested, said head coach Travis Clark. Taylor was a first-team All-Ocean League selection this season.

If he chooses Sac State he would join Samohi alum quarterback Garrett Safron.

Samohi running back Russell Revis, who made several big plays this year, also has New Mexico State calling as well as San Jose State and Western New Mexico.

Clark said that Revis was a Division 1-type player all along.

Offensive linemen Steve Becerra and Andres Meza have parlayed steady high school careers into interest from Georgetown, among others.

Safety Matthew Rusk-Kosa, who was second team all-league, has caught the attention of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a number of schools from the Ivy League.

Last year, running back Kori Garcia went off to Cal Poly where he redshirted this past season.

SEE FOOTBALL PAGE 11



BOW ON TOP

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Young volunteers prepare gifts during the Best Gift Ever Wrap Party on Tuesday at Santa Monica Place. The party capped the annual charity gift drive sponsored by Santa Monica Police Activities League, Downtown Santa Monica Inc. and Santa Monica Place.

BBB puts cash into new technology

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

COLORADO AVE City Hall has invested big in its Big Blue Bus system, pushing new technological changes and further integration with the regional transportation network meant to make life easier on users.

The Big Blue Bus system has invested $7.153 million out of a total of $15.89 million in technology upgrades planned for local buses in 2012, according to a report released by City Hall.

That doesn't count the money for new bus shelters, a project which is currently out to bid and will not begin construction until October 2013, said Suja Lowenthal, manager of Transit Government and Community Relations with the Big Blue Bus.

The money already spent has paid for the ability to track route productivity, new electronic signs for bus shelters not yet in existence and a system that tracks bus operators' performance, payroll and other details.

The first, a program called the Transit Master provided by Iowa-based Trapeze, came at a cost of $5.46 million and went live in October. The second came online in February.

Some of the technology involved sounds futuristic, like the biometric sign-in terminals that allow bus drivers to be tracked, while others, like the ability to flash information from the dispatch office to monitors in the Drivers' Ready Room are more commonplace.

City Hall has also put aside $7.1 million for upgrades to fare systems that will allow 219 fareboxes to accept Transit Access Passes, common-

SEE BBB PAGE 11

Your Santa Monica Plumber
Call Larry LaBrie Plumbing today!
• Residential remodel & repair
• 24 Hour Emergency Service
• Senior Discount 65+
LIC# 608493
Family Owned and Operated Business
(310) 450-4256 | 1732 Ocean Park Blvd



Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339
In today's real estate climate ...
Experience counts!
garylimjap@gmail.com
www.garylimjap.com
COLDWELL BANKER

SMALL BUSINESS STARTUP?
TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • CORPORATIONS
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

Experienced Cosmetic Dentistry

MODERN, COMFORTABLE AND SPA LIKE ATMOSPHERE
Top of the line technology | Amazing Yelp reviews | Using the best dental labs in the country

SANTA MONICA TOOTH DOCTOR

Basic Cleaning, Exam and full Mouth Xrays
$65.00
Free Cosmetic Consultation
– Modern facilities, gentle dentistry, sedation

Ali Mogharei DDS
(310) 829-2224
2222 SANTA MONICA BLVD, SUITE 202, SANTA MONICA, CA 90404

Check our monthly promotions on our website www.SantaMonicaToothDr.com

"Your Neighbor and Real Estate Specialist for 25 Years."

PETERMULLINS REAL ESTATE INC Lic. #00973691

– 1208 Sunset Ave., 90405
Just Listed and **Just Sold** $1.620 million

– 1730 Pier Ave., 90405
Just Listed and **Just Sold** $1.425 million

cell: 310.600.6976 | petermullinsrealestate@gmail.com

Your Trusted Source

Adult Day Service Center
The right choice for quality care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.
1527 4th St., 2nd Floor • Santa Monica

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871
Enjoy a Free Preview Day on Us!
www.wiseandhealthyaging.org



$55
18 holes w/cart
($20 discount from reg. rates)
Mon-Thurs until January 31th, 2012
Santa Monica Daily Press Deal

OPEN 7 days a week.
GREEN FEES: Monday-Thursday $75 w/cart
GREEN FEES: Friday-Sunday $100 w/cart

(818) 889-6680
www.themalibugolfclub.com

Malibu Golf Club is a privately owned golf course which extends open play to the public. Situated high above Malibu in the picturesque Santa Monica Mountains, with various sloping topography, this course is one of the most beautiful in Los Angeles.

MALIBU GOLF CLUB
901 ENCINAL CANYON ROAD | MALIBU, CA

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2012

Learn to blog
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 4 p.m.
Learn what blogs (short for web logs) are, and how to create your own. Requires proficiency with mouse and keyboard, and basic knowledge of the Internet and e-mail. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, visit the reference desk or call (310) 434-2608.

Book it
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
In Cathleen Schine's "The Three Weissmanns of Westport," two adult daughters and their aging mother fall on hard times and must discover a new life for themselves in Connecticut. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Big Will
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
Poisoning, beheading, cross-dressing and betrayal become fresh and frisky thanks to Fiasco Theater's inventive production of Shakespeare's rarely seen epic romance "Cymbeline." This up-and-coming New York theater company brings us a young ensemble of six versatile actors who resolve the twisted fates of 14 characters with live music that ranges from a cappella madrigals to bluegrass. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012

In the bag
Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main St., 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Environmental nonprofit Heal the Bay returns with its Day Without a Bag to raise awareness about the waste generated by single-use plastic bags. Visit City Hall's help desk to pick up a free reusable bag. For more information, visit healthebay.org.

Shine on
YWCA Santa Monica/Westside
2019 14th St.,
7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Shine is a monthly storytelling series highlighting true stories of positive change told by professional and amateur storytellers. December's theme is family. Cost: $5-$10 donation. For more information, call (310) 452-2321.

Friday, Dec. 21, 2012

Inside the library
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
12:30 p.m.
Docent led tours are offered the third Friday of each month. Docents are able to adapt the tour to focus on various aspects of the environmentally-friendly facility. For more information, visit smpl.org.

By the fire
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
For the fourth year in a row the Miles presents the "Fireside at the Miles" series. Enjoy seven weekends and 16 separate events featuring contemporary music, storytelling, opera, jazz, dance, poetry, beat boxing, a capella singing and more. Performances take place beside the huge vintage fireplace with a cheery eco-log fire. For more information, call (310) 458-8634.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

OCEAN PARK BLVD

Crude bomb goes off

Police believe that a makeshift explosive that went off in the underground parking garage of an apartment building on Ocean Park Boulevard Monday night was probably the work of a prankster or student whose science project got out of control.

No one was injured and nothing was damaged in the explosion, which was reported at 8:39 p.m. at 1413 Ocean Park Blvd., said Santa Monica Police Department spokesman Sgt. Richard Lewis.

The device consisted of a capped plastic milk jug with some kind of acid and aluminum foil inside. When mixed together the ingredients produce a gas, much like mixing vinegar and baking soda. The gas builds up pressure inside the bottle until it explodes.

Lewis said the crude bomb was found by a staircase and not under a car or near a doorway.

"Since it was in an underground garage it sounded like a pretty big explosion, but at the end of the day it wasn't much," Lewis said.

Two fire engines responded to the scene. Forensics collected the remnants of the device to be processed for evidence. So far no suspects are in custody.

Lewis said depending on a motive, those responsible could be charged with making and possessing an explosive device.

– KEVIN HERRERA

MID-CITY

Giving a dollar a day

The Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation, which is charged with raising $4 million annually for local public schools, has launched its annual Dollar A Day Campaign in which families are encouraged to contribute a dollar a day ($365) for every student in their household to invest in educational excellence.

In addition to family contributions, the Ed Foundation will be soliciting donations from past non-parent donors, corporations, foundations and community members.

The Ed Foundation was designated in November of 2011 by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education to be the sole organization responsible for raising money for personnel and professional development at all schools. The centralized districtwide fundraising model is part of the school board's vision to meet students' individual learning needs by equipping all teachers with the knowledge and tools crucial to student success.

The districtwide fundraising model takes effect in the 2014-15 school year, but the fundraising campaign begins now.

Donors will be contributing to four areas to strengthen the district's vision:

• Educational excellence in reading and math: Donors' gifts will provide schools with reading and math coaches and the tools necessary to improve, challenge and accelerate all students.

• Investment in staff: Contributions to this area will make sure that teachers receive education and training that keeps them at the forefront of best practices and educational innovation.

• Instructional classroom assistants: Donors' gifts will provide academically-trained paraprofessionals to assist teachers in boosting student reading and math performance.

• School enrichment: A commitment to this area will ensure that schools continue to choose special programs that enrich students' education and are tailored to each school's environment.

The goal is to get 100 percent of families to participate. Every donor, no matter the size of the gift, will be recognized on the Education Foundation's "Honor Roll of Giving." Donors contributing $5,000 or more will join the Superintendent's Circle and enjoy membership benefits.

Donations can be made online at www.smmef.org or mailed to 1649 16th St., Santa Monica, Calif., 90404.

– KH



UP YOU GO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Staff members at the Santa Monica-UCLA Health Center help a Santa Monica Police Department cadet onto a gurney during a decontamination drill on Tuesday at the hospital. The drill simulated the aftermath of a meth lab explosion and what needed to be done to decontaminate the victims. Members of the SMPD, Santa Monica Fire Department, UC Police Department and the hospital took part in the exercise.

2012: A year of turbulence and altered landscapes

JUSTIN POPE
Associated Press

It was a year of storms, of raging winds and rising waters, but also broader turbulence that strained our moorings. Our atmosphere, our politics, our economy — rarely in memory have they seemed in such constant agitation.

Our emotions, too. In the year's final weeks, amid a torrent of tears in a heartbroken Connecticut town, a rush of grief seemed to wash over all of us from the shooting deaths of 20 children and six adults in an elementary school, and of the shooter's mother in her home. The senselessness and loss plumbed depths of sorrow and outrage we had not felt, together, for many years.

But if 2012 battered us with floods and tempests, and seemed especially dark in its final days, it was also perhaps more distinctively a year of mornings after, when clouds parted and dawn's light fell upon altered landscapes.

Surveying the changes, we were sometimes sanguine, at other times distraught.

There were, of course, the storms themselves, taking not just ferocious but sometimes freakish forms. Americans saw an unusually warm winter, spring tornadoes, summer drought, and a band of concentrated, hurricane-scale thunderstorms that taught millions the word "derecho."

Autumn brought Hurricane Sandy and a wintry nor'easter that disrupted millions of lives and killed hundreds, many swept from their homes in communities with safe-sounding names like New York's Breezy Point and the Rockaways that unexpectedly entered the lexicon of global disaster zones.

When the waters did recede, they revealed a country perhaps one step readier to confront difficult questions: Is our planet changing, and are we

SEE **2012** PAGE 8

WORLD FAMOUS The Omelette Parlor
Since 1967
Quality & Value Always!
Open 6am - 2:30pm Mon. - Fri.
6am - 4pm Sat. - Sun.
310-399-7892
2732 Main St.
Santa Monica
www.theomeletteparlor.com
"The best gift of them all is fellowship around the table!"


Golda Savage
Stand [on] your [own] ground.
Helping sellers & buyers accomplish just that.
310.770.4490
golda@bulldogrealtors.com
BULLDOG REALTORS
1209 Abbot Kinney Boulevard, Venice

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bring back TORCA

Editor:

Santa Monica Daily Press,

Thank you for your great work.

I have friends and neighbors who are tenants who would like to buy the apartments they are renting. I understand that historically Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights was opposed to tenant ownership (TORCA) conversions as it reduces the rental stock. However, with vacancy decontrol and the ease of redevelopment, that opposition should be re-examined to see whether it is truly in the interest of existing, lower rent tenants. I am sure the tenants who were recently displaced by the redevelopment at San Vicente Boulevard and Ocean Avenue would have loved to have bought their units, but now they have nothing, except a grim search for new, far less desirable accommodations.

Over time the stock of rent-controlled units in the city will gradually decline, and the stock of low-rent units will decline even faster. The city can do something now to allow such tenants to feel secure, build equity and leave something of value to their children.

To some, TORCA (Tenant Ownership Rights Charter Amendment) is like a third rail of Santa Monica politics, but perhaps it is time for a serious reevaluation of what is really in the best interest for tenants. I am sure that those tenants who bought their units in the past are forever grateful, and continue to show their gratitude at the ballot box to those who made it possible. However, the same might not be true of new, market-rate tenants.

As redevelopment of old apartments progresses they are replaced by condos for the rich, or low-income housing for the poor, and thus slowly the working and middle classes are being squeezed out. The existing rental stock, when converted via TORCA, will never be desired by the wealthy, but is very attractive to middle and working class families.

Des Borre
Santa Monica

Let's elect Emeritus reps

Editor:

The members of the Emeritus College Executive Council have every right to express their opinions as individuals only because they do not speak for the Emeritus student body ("In response to chatter," Letters to the Editor, Dec. 13).

There is a wide variety of opinions among the 3,200 Emeritus students as to how the winter closure was covertly handled and whether it was fiscally necessary at all.

It would be much healthier and more democratic if Executive Council members were elected directly by the students instead of being selected by Dean Furuyama and incumbent council members.

Evelyn Harb
Santa Monica



Your column here

By Rev. Jennifer Butler and Gordon Whitman Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Moral case for preserving the country's safety net

AS CRACKS FORM AMONG CEOS AND Republican members of Congress over their hardline anti-tax position in the fiscal showdown, religious leaders from across the ideological spectrum have been united in supporting new revenue over additional spending cuts. And they're speaking for their people. A strong majority of religious Americans favor letting the Bush tax cuts for the richest 2 percent of Americans expire. Even reliably conservative groups, such as white evangelical Protestants, are evenly divided on the issue.

The outcome of this debate has profound moral consequences. The government's capacity to invest in the common good and responsibly reduce the debt depends on raising more revenue. Letting tax cuts that only benefit the richest 2 percent expire isn't a magic bullet, but it's a necessary component of a balanced solution that doesn't harm poor families or slash Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits for current or future beneficiaries.

Clergy have spoken clearly about our duty to protect low-income families in the fiscal showdown negotiations. Inspired by the clear mandates of scripture, many of our nation's most prominent faith leaders have drawn a circle of protection around programs such as education funding, food stamps, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. This stance reflects not only religious teachings about justice and compassion, but also popular opinion among people of faith. A post-election poll by Public Religion Research Institute showed that majorities of all major religious demographics (with the lone exception of white evangelical Protestants) oppose cutting protections for the poor in order to reduce the deficit.

In addition to programs aimed expressly at low-income Americans, we also have a responsibility to defend Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security. Social Security keeps 21 million Americans out of poverty every year. Medicaid protects not only low-income children and families, but also provides long-term care to millions of older and disabled Americans. And Medicare is the cornerstone of our national commitment that American seniors receive the healthcare they need regardless of economic status. Using deficits caused by irresponsible tax cuts, unfunded wars, the financial crisis and an inefficient healthcare system as an auspice to weaken programs that ensure basic economic security and access to health care for millions of Americans is wrong. Arguing that we must slash these programs now to avoid destroying them later is a failure of leadership.

Faith leaders of the PICO National Network are telling our elected officials in no uncertain terms that protecting the poor, preserving the social contract and making the richest Americans pay their fair share are non-negotiable priorities. This message is particularly important as corporate CEOs intensely lobby both parties to enact an agenda that cuts taxes for rich people and powerful corporations while undermining needed benefits for seniors and working families. Trickle-down economics and austerity benefit only the wealthy and powerful, and the rest of us pay the price.

THOSE WHO WOULD LET PEOPLE SUFFER RATHER THAN HAVE GOVERNMENT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE PUT POLITICAL IDEOLOGY BEFORE THE COMMANDMENT TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.

Some conservative leaders argue that the religious obligation to care for the vulnerable — which is common to all faiths — applies to individuals but not government. But scripture is clear that nations, not just individuals, will be judged by how we treat the least among us. Furthermore, private religious groups alone cannot meet the needs of struggling families. Just 4 percent of food aid to hungry Americans comes from private sources. Government has to play a strong role. Those who would let people suffer rather than have government provide assistance put political ideology before the commandment to love our neighbors.

The fiscal showdown is a day of reckoning for the conservative movement's long-term "starve the beast" political strategy. For decades, they have cut taxes at every opportunity in order to run up deficits that would force the government to dramatically scale back the safety net. As right-wing lobbyist Grover Norquist put it, the objective is to shrink government to the size where he can "drag it into the bathroom and drown it in the bathtub." The moral imperative to ensure that this plan fails is clear, and the well-being of millions of Americans who are precious in the eyes of God depends on it.

BUTLER is executive director of Faith in Public Life. Whitman is director of policy at PICO National Network.





PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Ashley Archibald
ashley@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Sarah A. Spitz, Taylor Van Arsdale, Merv Hecht, Cynthia Citron, Michael Ryan, JoAnne Barge, Katrina Davy

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

VICE PRESIDENT–BUSINESS OPERATIONS
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Chelsea Fujitaki
chelsea@smdp.com
Justin Harris
justin@smdp.com

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Michele Emch
michele.e@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Nathalyd Meza

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
ross@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
We have you covered
1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913
smdp.com

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2012. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

© 2012 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

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.



The Taxman

Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Is Gov. Jerry Brown the new voice of reason?

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT JERRY BROWN, A life-long Democrat, is now the voice of reason in Sacramento?

There was a time when Democrats were proud to declare themselves the defenders of working people, the middle class or those who aspired to become middle class. As recently as the 1990s, there were Democrats in the legislature who upheld this tradition. Sadly, over time, these defenders of average citizens have been largely replaced by those who are more selective about which interests they care about.

The priorities of this new breed of Democrat has shifted to issues like what kind of light bulbs are you using in your home or how many calories are you consuming. To these "nanny staters," creating the California Blueberry Commission is their idea of helping the economy in a state where several million residents remain unemployed.

These representatives believe that their narrow agenda is so important that anybody who has a job, a business or who has been marginally successful, should foot the bill with higher taxes. When Proposition 30, the $50 billion tax increase, was passed in November, they were jubilant — not just because they would now have more money to spend, but because many believed this represented a new era in California where the public was ready to embrace new taxes. And it didn't hurt their morale that their party elected super-majorities to both houses of the legislature.

Already State Sens. Mark Leno and Lois Wolk have introduced legislation to make it easier to increase property taxes on homeowners. Known as "parcel taxes," homeowners are compelled to pay a set amount for the privilege of living within a community imposing the tax. A young couple in a starter home, an elderly couple in a bungalow and a multi-millionaire in a mansion all pay the same amount. While parcel taxes are legal, they require a two-thirds vote under Proposition 13. If Leno and Wolk get their way, these taxes will be imposed with a lower vote threshold even though a majority of these taxes pass under the current system.

Needless to say, lowering the vote threshold for approval would provide a tremendous advantage to tax backers because those with no obligation to pay are already likely to vote yes. And who are the homeowners hardest hit by these taxes? Why it's those working folks who Democrats used to defend. These bills appear to be only the tip of the iceberg of coming legislation that would undermine the taxpayer protections contained in Proposition 13.

With Democrats in the legislature salivating over opportunities to increase revenue, the role of the once and future governor, whose popularity is at a new high, becomes magnified.

Taxpayers have been justifiably critical of Jerry Brown, especially his willingness to commit to spending $100 billion, or more, on the bullet train, while other pressing budget priorities go unfunded. However, because of Brown's willingness to put his reputation on the line and fully commit his considerable political skills to pass Proposition 30, he is almost singularly responsible for its election success. Unlike his colleagues in the Legislature, the governor has responded to this achievement with a moderate tone. He has said that the state budget should now stay balanced for years to come, and has pledged that any surplus revenue will be used to pay down the "wall of debt" — the principal reason California has the lowest credit rating of all 50 states.

Additionally, Brown has cautioned against "over-reading" voters' intentions and declared he will oppose any additional taxes not approved by a public vote.

Over the years, our renaissance governor has been described as eccentric (and worse) because of his philosophical and spiritual musings that often seem extraneous. However, Democratic leaders in the legislature would be wise to take to heart Brown's recent comment to reporters: "When I was doing Zen meditation in Japan back in the late '80s, before going to bed I'd say with mediators, 'Desires are endless, I vow to cut them down.'"

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

The Q Line

Right choice for mayor

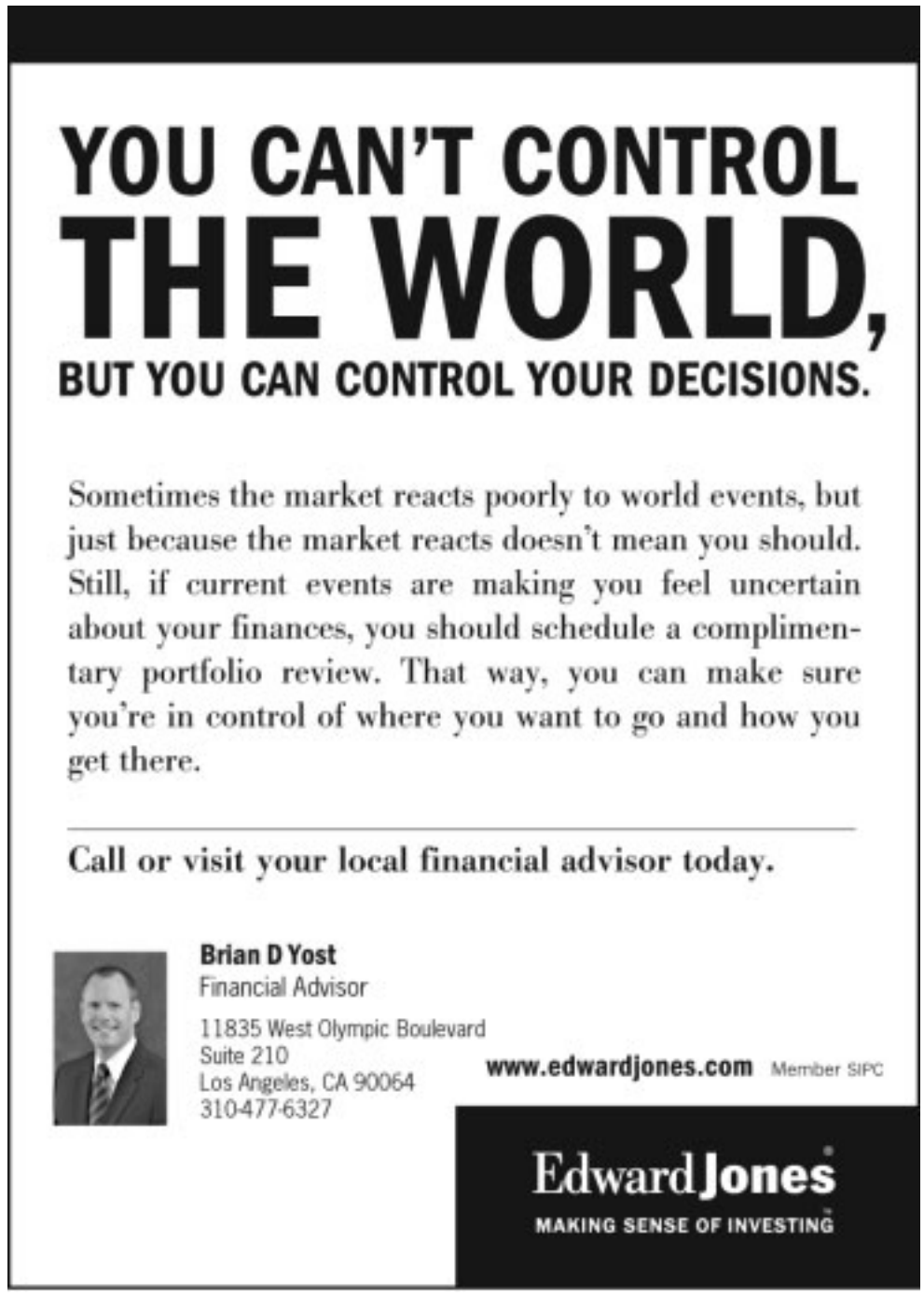
Councilmember Pam O'Connor was selected to serve a fourth term as mayor by her peers on the City Council last week. Longtime member Kevin McKeown was again passed over for the post despite being a favorite among the electorate.

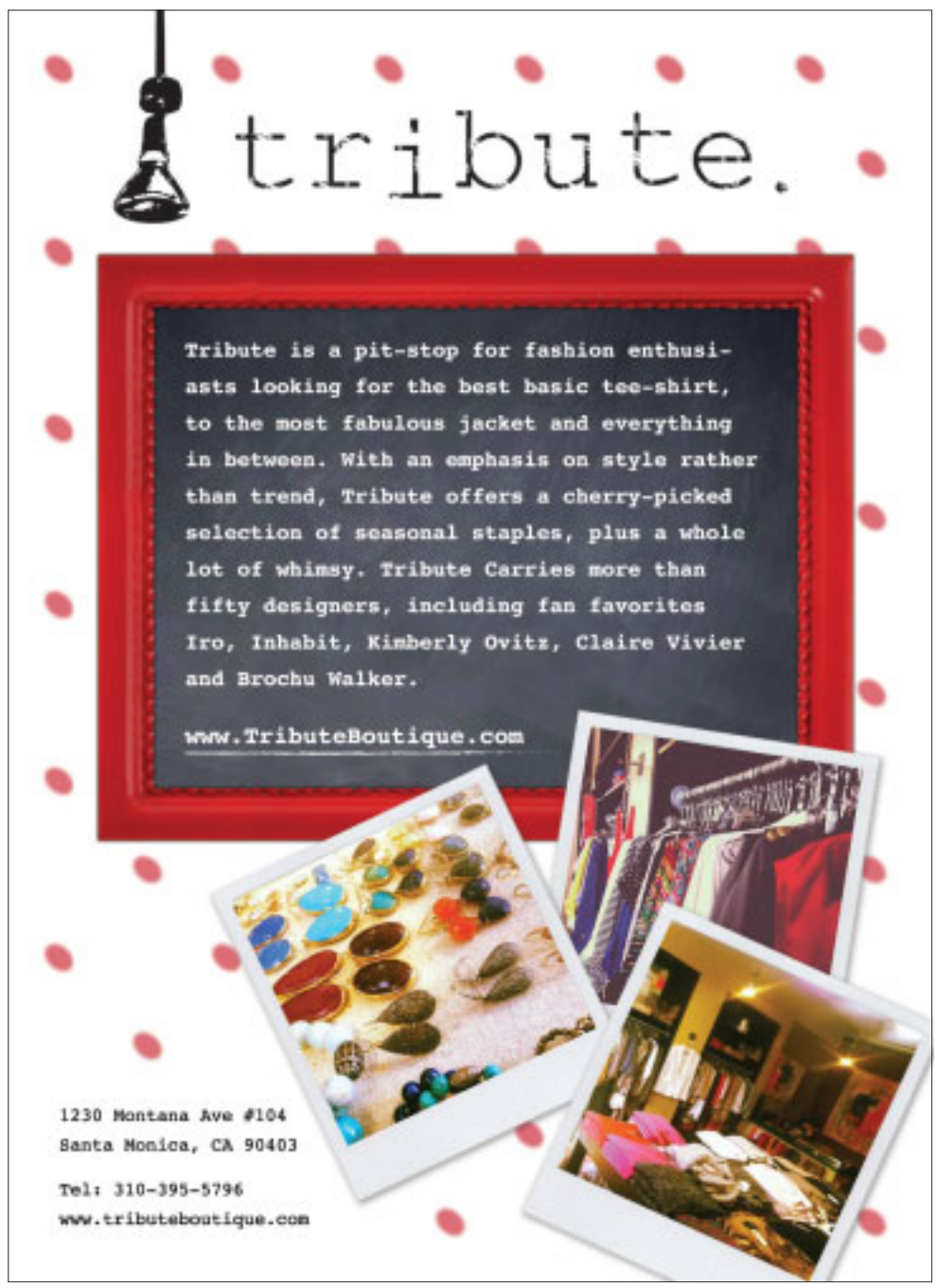
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Should the council have given McKeown a chance to be the mayor or was the right decision made?

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



YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**





Simply Roasted Whole Foods

Family dinner tonight – We've got you covered!

Beef 4 – 8 people

Turkey or Chicken 4 – 8 people

Includes 6oz carved meat & choice of 2 sides, 2 sauces, bread

"Simply Roasted Whole Foods"
147 South Barrington Ave, LA, CA 90049
Located near Sunset in the Brentwood Village
Phone (310) 476-1100 | Fax (310) 476-9400



ROAST
DELI & MARKET

ATTENTION SANTA MONICA LAW FIRMS AND LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

We work Fast!
Specializing in last minute court filings

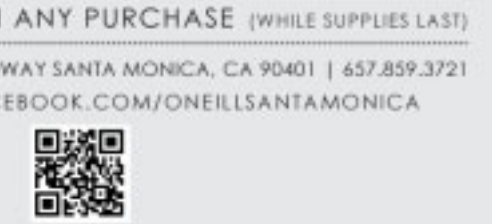
NOW LEGAL SERVICE
24-HOUR ATTORNEY SERVICE

- Trained & retrained recently in Writs and Unlawful detainers
- Daily Court filing runs
- Rush messenger services
- We always require precision & detail when handling creditor rights and evictions
- Court trained motorcyclists

* Get a FREE Lunch with every 10 Deliveries

(213) 202-6035
nowlegalonline.com

***CALL US FOR DETAILS**



O'NEILL
HOLIDAY
SALE
25% OFF
ALL FLEECE AND JACKETS
3 FOR $30 TEES
MIX AND MATCH MENS, WOMENS AND KIDS
FREE CINCH BAG WITH ANY PURCHASE OF $75 OR MORE
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST; ONE PER CUSTOMER)
FREE GIFT BOXES WITH ANY PURCHASE (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)
O'NEILL 131 BROADWAY SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 | 657.859.3721
STAY CONNECTED FACEBOOK.COM/ONEILLSANTAMONICA

Cerberus to sell gun company that makes Bushmaster rifles

JOSHUA FREED
MICHELLE CHAPMAN
AP Business Writers

The company that makes one of the weapons used to kill elementary school children in Connecticut is being put up for sale by its owner, which called Friday's tragedy a "watershed event" in the debate over gun control.

The private-equity group Cerberus Capital Management said Tuesday it will sell its controlling stake in Freedom Group International, the maker of Bushmaster rifles. Investors also continued to bail out of other gunmakers while the retailer Dick's Sporting Goods said it would stop selling military-style rifles.

The activity comes as the political winds appear to be shifting. Some Republicans now say they're willing to discuss the issue of gun control — along with mental health issues and violent video games,

Cerberus cobbled Freedom Group together by buying Bushmaster, Remington, and other well-known gun brands starting in 2006. On Friday, a gunman using what is believed to have been a Bushmaster military-style rifle killed 26 people at Sandy Hook Elementary School in one of the worst mass shootings in U.S history.

"It is apparent that the Sandy Hook tragedy was a watershed event that has raised the national debate on gun control to an unprecedented level," Cerberus wrote in announcing the planned sale. Cerberus owned 95 percent of Freedom Group, according to a year-end 2011 filing for the gunmaker on its website.

Freedom Group said it's the largest firearms manufacturer in the U.S. It sold 1.1 million rifles and shotguns last year, along with 2 billion rounds of ammunition. Its products are sold to law enforcement and military customers, as well as retailers who sell them to hunters and gun enthusiasts.

The so-called Assault Weapons Ban that expired in 2004 restricted the sale of some types of guns like those made by Bushmaster. Freedom Group noted in its filing that new laws along the lines of the expired assault weapons ban "could have a material adverse effect on our business."

Cerberus attempted to distance itself from that debate on Tuesday.

"We are investors, not statesmen or policy makers," the company said in its statement. Firms like Cerberus are basically privately run pools of money that invest in companies on behalf of pension funds including those for teachers, police officers, and other institutions. "It is not our role to take positions, or attempt to shape or influence the gun control policy debate. That is the job of our federal and state legislators," the private-equity firm said.

The sale may have been influenced by one or more of those clients. The announcement comes one day after the California State Teachers Retirement System, a large pension fund, told The Wall Street Journal that it was reviewing its $500 million investment commitment to Cerberus because of the firm's stake in Freedom Group.

Cerberus is best known for its investment in Chrysler. It ended up walking away from that investment as the U.S. government bailed out the car company.

Money made from the Freedom Group sale will be returned to its investors, Cerberus said.

Meanwhile, Dick's Sporting Goods Inc. said in a statement that it suspended the sale of modern sporting rifles in all of its stores. The company also removed all guns from sale and display at its store closest to Newtown.

Shares in publicly-traded gun makers were dropping for a third-straight day.

Shares of Sturm, Ruger & Co. dropped $3.74, or 8.5 percent, to $40.26 in afternoon trading Tuesday. They're down more than 10 percent since Thursday, the day before the shooting. Shares of Smith & Wesson Holding Corp. fell 11 percent to $7.70, and are down 19.3 percent from their Thursday close.

Outdoor goods retailer Cabela's Inc. fell $1.58, or 3.8 percent, to $39.63.

A Cerberus spokesman did not return a phone message left on Tuesday. A representative for Freedom Group could not be immediately reached for comment.

Opaque Instagram ad policy change riles users

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK Instagram, the popular photo-sharing service that Facebook bought this year, is the target of a storm of outrage on Twitter and other sites after a change in its user agreement hinted that it might use shared photos in ads.

It's not clear that anything substantive has changed in Instagram's new terms of service, which were posted Monday and go into effect Jan. 16. As is the case before, the service reserves the right to use shared photos in any matter it likes, though the photographers keep "ownership" of the photos.

The updated terms of service say users agree that their photos could be used "in connection with paid or sponsored content." The current terms say the service can place ads "on, about or in conjunction with your Content."

The fast-growing site is a popular way to share photos from cellphones. Facebook Inc. bought Instagram in September. The cash-and-stock deal was worth $1 billion when it was announced in April, though that fell to about $740 million by the time it was completed because of Facebook's falling stock price.

The updated terms suggests that Facebook wants to integrate Instagram into its ad-serving system, which can, for instance, promote an item by telling users that their friends "Like" it. The new terms make it clearer that Instagram could use your photos to market to your friends.

Instagram announced the change in a blog post, but didn't explain its intentions. It said a concurrent change to the privacy policy, a separate document, would help Instagram function more easily as part of Facebook.

Twitter users were vowing to cancel their Instagram accounts in response to the policy change, complaining that the new terms would essentially let the service sell people's photos for ads.

Stocks gain on optimism that a budget deal is near

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Stocks climbed on Wall Street Tuesday, pushing the Standard and Poor's 500 to its highest level in two months, amid optimism that lawmakers are closing in on a budget deal that will stop the U.S. from going over the "fiscal cliff" at the beginning of next year.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 107 points to 13,342 as of 1:58 p.m. EST. The Standard & Poor's 500 gained 14 points to 1,444. Earlier it went as high 1,447, the highest since Oct. 19. The Nasdaq composite rose 38 points to 3,049.

House Speaker John Boehner told reporters he remains hopeful that a fiscal cliff compromise can be reached, but says President Barack Obama has yet to offer a balanced deficit-cutting plan. Boehner said Obama's latest offer for $1.3 trillion in tax increases over the next decade with $850 billion in spending cuts is not enough. The White House says that President Obama has moved halfway to meet Boehner on budget deal.

"People are cheering the prospect for some compromise in Washington right now," said Joe Costigan, director of equity research at Bryn Mawr Trust Co. "At the moment there is some pretty good news and the market is reacting favorably to it, but the deal isn't done yet."

Stocks slumped after the presidential election Nov. 6 on concern that a divided government would struggle to reach an agreement before Jan. 1, when a series of series of tax increases and government spending cuts are scheduled to take effect if no deal is reached. Those measures could push the U.S. back into recession. The S&P has since recouped all of those losses.

Yet, some investors say that stocks are already pricing in too much optimism. Any deal, while ensuring that the economy avoids the full impact of the "fiscal cliff," will still involve higher taxes and less government. That will be a drag on economic growth, said David Wright, a managing director and co-founder at Sierra Investment Management in Santa Monica, Calif.

"There a just too many naive people thinking that the agreement itself is a significant event — it isn't," said Wright said. "The implementation is going to be negative for the economy."

Stocks also moved a leg higher immediately after Standard & Poor's rating agency said it had raised Greece's credit grade by 6 notches to B-, lifting the country out of default. The threat of a Greek default had roiled markets in the first half of this year. Investors fretted that the heavily indebted nation would leave the euro, opening the way for a break-up of the currency block. The ratings firm said the upgrade reflected its views that the other 16 countries using the euro are determined to keep the Greece inside the currency union.

The Dow Jones is up 2.4 percent in December and is on track to close higher for a fourth straight year. The index has advanced 9 percent in 2012. The S&P500 is also up for the year, gaining nearly 15 percent.

Allstate Corp. gained 66 cents to $41.44 after the company's board of directors approved a plan to buy back up to $1 billion of the insurer's shares by the end of the year.

Eli Lilly also advanced after saying it would buy back its own stock. The drugmaker rose $1.01 cents to $49.34 after saying that its board had approved a $1.15 billion share buyback.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note climbed 6 basis points to 1.83 percent. The yield has climbed 22 basis points since the start of the month.

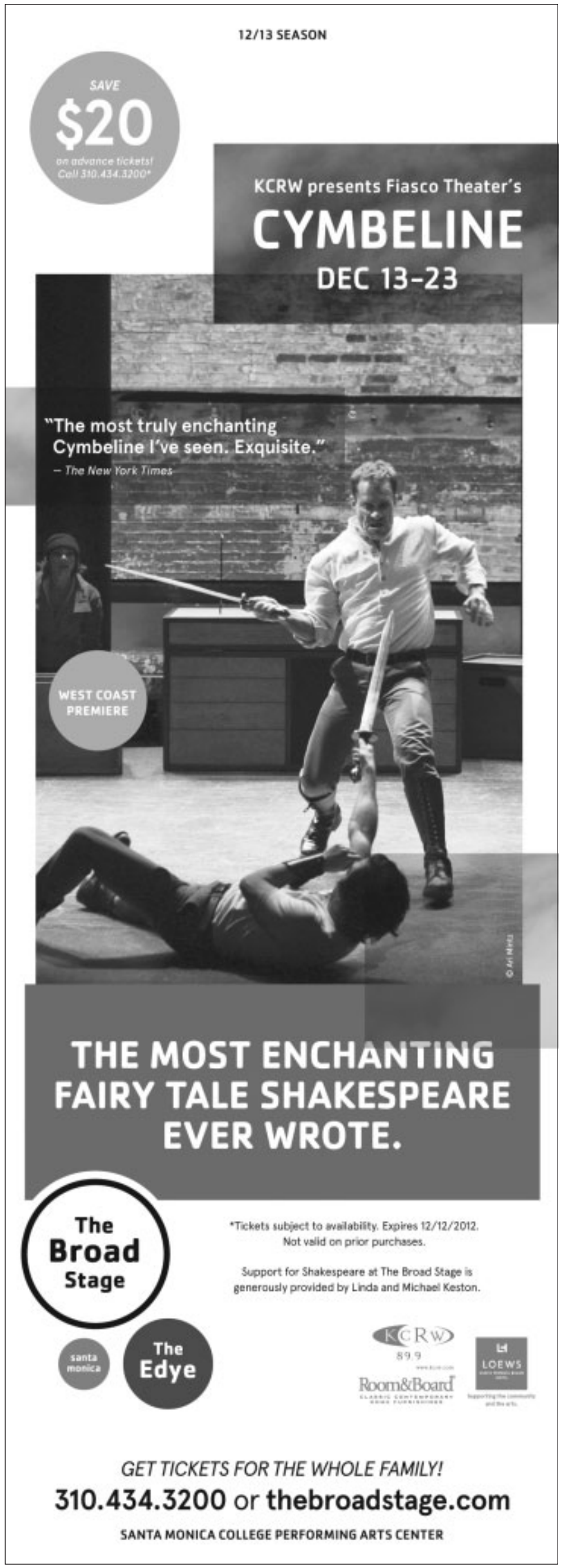
Among stocks making big moves today;

• Arbitron, a provider of radio ratings, surged $8.96 to $46.99 after TV ratings company Nielsen said it would buy it for about $1.26 billion.

• FactSet Research Systems Inc., a provider of financial information to investors, fell $3.69 to $92.70 after it reported earnings and revenues fell short of analysts' estimates.



KANAN CONSTRUCTION
CUSTOM HOMES•REMODELS
DANIEL J. KANAN
General Contractor
Building Dreams Since 1989
(310) 451-3540 (800) 585-4326
Bonded - Insured Lic. No. 554451
www.DanKananConstruction.com



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SANTA MONICA
1220 Second St. | 310.451.1303
www.fpcsantamonica.org
FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, AT 5 P.M.
A celebration with contemporary music.
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, AT 8 P.M.
Traditional music sung by the Chancel Choir.





Build a bundle. Save a bundle.
Bundle auto, home and life for big State Farm® discounts.
So let me show you how State Farm can help protect all the things that matter most – for a lot less than you think.
GET TO A BETTER STATE.®
CALL ME TODAY.
Dave Rosenberg, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0618319
1205 Wilshire Blvd
dave@dr4insurance.com
Bus: 310-458-3400
StateFarm™
EMAIL: dave@dr4insurance.com
1203025 State Farm, Bloomington, IL

2012

FROM PAGE 3

responsible? Even more abruptly, the Connecticut killing spree seemed in one terrible day to bring the long-dormant issue of gun control to the political forefront.

Sandy may also have boosted President Barack Obama in the last days of a close-run re-election campaign that was nothing if not a storm itself — a seemingly endless $6 billion typhoon of negativity that simply exhausted Americans, particularly in a handful of swing states on whose airwaves it made landfall.

But it ended at last, and if the outcome seemed to affirm the status quo, it also laid bare a political topography reshaped by changing demographics.

Just over half the country, disproportionately the young and minority, celebrated Obama's re-election, and three states became the first to approve gay marriage at the ballot box. Among those on the losing side, older and whiter as a group, some were genuinely shocked by the result, and expressed sadness in the conviction that an America that felt familiar to them was slipping away.

After nearly half a decade, rays of sunlight at last shone on the American economy. Unemployment, though still uncomfortably high, fell below 8 percent for the first time in more than three years. Housing began to rebound. Though political gridlock threatened to undermine it, recovery seemed at last at hand.

Yet the flickering revival also illuminated how much may have changed forever. Factories were hiring again, but often couldn't find workers with the needed qualifications. A college degree was the increasingly unforgiving divider between the haves and have-nots, fueling anxiety over its rising price.

One 2012 study reached the remarkable conclusion that even during the depths of the worst recession in the lifetimes of most Americans, the number of jobs available to people with a bachelor's degree never stopped increasing. And even when the economy picked up in 2012, the number of available jobs for those with only a high school diploma continued to decline. In other words, for those with a college degree, the Great Recession never happened. For those without one, it may never end.

Amid great sorrow, there was no shortage of wondrous human achievement in 2012.

Felix Baumgartner, a 42-year-old former car mechanic from Austria, rode a balloon-tugged capsule to the edge of space. Then, as millions watched breathlessly online, he opened the hatch, paused momentarily, and stepped into the void. He tumbled for nine minutes and 24 miles, breaking the sound barrier, before deploying a parachute and landing safely in the New Mexico desert.

No less thrillingly to some, scientists in Switzerland tied the final string of a knot that explains the most elementary workings of the universe: the "standard model" of physics. With the words, "I think we have it," they announced with virtual certainty they had found the so-called Higgs boson "God particle." It was an answer to one of the most basic but bedeviling questions imaginable: Where does mass come from?

At the London Olympics, Jamaican Usain Bolt proved himself the greatest sprinter of all-time, and Baltimore swimmer Michael Phelps became the most decorated Olympian. But for the Americans, victory in the medal table was driven by women —a reward, on the 40th anniversary of Title IX, for a broad-based culture of sports participation. The defining image: 16-year-old

SEE YEAR PAGE 9

Get Cash For Your Gold & Jewelry!
California's Premier Jewelry Buyer Is Paying The Highest Prices For:


Diamonds


Gold


Watches

WE BUY: Rolex - Cartier - Patek Philippe - Tiffany - Chopard - Van Cleef - David Yurman
Broken & Unwanted Gold Jewelry - 10k - 14k - 18k - 24k - Silver - Coins and More!
LIMITED TIME SPECIAL OFFER!
$25 INSTANT BONUS
On Any Transaction Over $100
$50 INSTANT BONUS
On Any Transaction Over $500!
Offer Ends Soon!
(Bonus not valid on coin sales)
Lic. No. 19651221



DIAMOND & GOLD exchange
Santa Monica
2629 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica 90403
(310) 829-9800
Hollywood
7280 Melrose Ave.
Los Angeles 90046
(323) 653-9009
Mon - Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat 11am to 5pm
www.DiamondAndGoldExchangeUSA.com



YEAR
FROM PAGE 8

gymnast Gabby Douglas, suspended with seemingly impossible fluidity and grace at the apex of her jump from a balance beam, en route to the all-around gold medal.

British athletes also exceeded expectations, and after years of grumbling over costs and inconvenience, the hosts seemed actually to enjoy themselves. The opening ceremonies touched all the right notes, celebrating a multicultural nation sufficiently confident in its virtues of cleverness, artistry and humor to resist trying to outdo the Beijing extravaganza four years ago. From Mary Poppins to Monty Python, from a sky-diving queen to Mr. Bean, it was a palpable hit.

There were, as always, those who let us down. Lance Armstrong, the supposedly superhuman cyclist stripped of seven Tour de France titles, humiliated by a meticulous official report that painted him a cheat and a bully. Revered general and CIA director David Petraeus, taken down by an affair with a fawning biographer. Former Penn State football coach Jerry Sandusky, carted off to prison for 30-to-60 years for child sex abuse.

Internationally, there was no shortage of storms in 2012, though less in the way of resolution. Old enmities and grievances resurfaced in the Middle East, clouding the legacy of the 2011 Arab spring. The number of dead in the Syrian civil war passed 40,000. Israeli and Palestinian civilians suffered through another escalation of the conflict in Gaza.

In Libya, four Americans, including much-loved ambassador Chris Stevens, were killed in an attack on the Benghazi consulate that became yet another point of bitter political dispute in Washington.

The European Union accepted the Nobel Peace Prize, but its grand experiment with a single currency teetered. Greeks rioted against austerity, and anti-immigrant groups harking back to the continent's fascist past drew energy from the despair. Spain, Portugal and Italy struggled to right themselves and offer a way forward to an emerging generation that has never tasted opportunity.

Beneath the biggest headlines there were stories where one might spot distant clouds on the horizon — clouds with the potential, at least, to gather into storms.

In February, Congress set in motion planning to open U.S. civilian airspace to unmanned aircraft by 2015. Will domestic drones make possible heretofore unimaginable conveniences, transform our economy and make us safer? Or, as some fear, will they usher in a "surveillance society" where prying eyes above compromise the privacy of every home and back yard?

In September, China unveiled its first aircraft carrier. Will it herald an arms race and future conflict? Or does it merely highlight the wide military gap between the United States and any rival? And will China's slowing economy prove a manageable correction, or the first rumblings of an economic and political earthquake?

In November, in the magnificent but seemingly cursed Great Lakes region of East Africa, refugees again streamed past bodies of the dead, fleeing into the mountains. The city of Goma, Congo, fell to a few hundred rebels, allegedly supported by next-door Rwanda, as United Nations peacekeepers stood by. Would this prove merely another flare-up in a beautiful but crowded and long-suffering corner of the world? Or was it the re-ignition of a conflict that — unbeknownst to much of the world — was the deadliest on earth since World War II, claiming more than 5 million lives.

Your NATURAL STONE Source



Bourget Flagstone Co.
310-829-4010 1810 Colorado Ave. Santa Monica, CA
www.bourgetbros.com

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
of SANTA MONICA
Peace on Earth

Christmas Eve Family Service
December 24 - 4 pm
Children & Youth Choirs, Handbells

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 - 11 pm
Choir, Organ, Harp & Candlelight

1008 Eleventh Street • Santa Monica, CA 90403
11th & Washington - Plenty of free parking in church garage
www.santamonicaumc.org
310-393-8258 • info@santamonicaumc.org

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$1 EXAM

includes FULL XRAYS AND INVISALIGN CONSULTATION
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
No need to be embarrassed if you haven't been in for a long time complex cases welcome

"NO HASSLE" DENTAL INSURANCE PROCESSING
We will take care of all your insurance paperwork

WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide provided as a courtesy
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to

AND OF COURSE WE DO
-Invisalign -Periodontist on Staff -Oral Surgeon on Staff
-Cosmetics and Implants -Zoom bleaching -and more

SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589



WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

WE BUY GOLD
BEST CA$H PRICES IN THE CITY
BRING YOUR SCRAP GOLD AND JEWELRY
3 Generations of Experience – 17 Years in S.M. Provides HONESTY - RELIABILITY - DISCRETION
CRYSTAL KINGDOM – 1418 Wilshire Blvd.
310-393-9911 | M-F 10-5, Sat 10-1

Platinum Properties & Finance
Sellers, if you need to move your property in 90 days or less, I can make that happen!
John Moudakis DRE # 01833441
jgmrealestate@aol.com (310) 663-1784



GERMAN CAR SERVICE
Porsche • VW • Audi • BMW • MINI
- Best alternative to high dealer prices
- Complete service and repair
- 6 month or 6000 mile guarantee
- Locally owned and operated since 1965



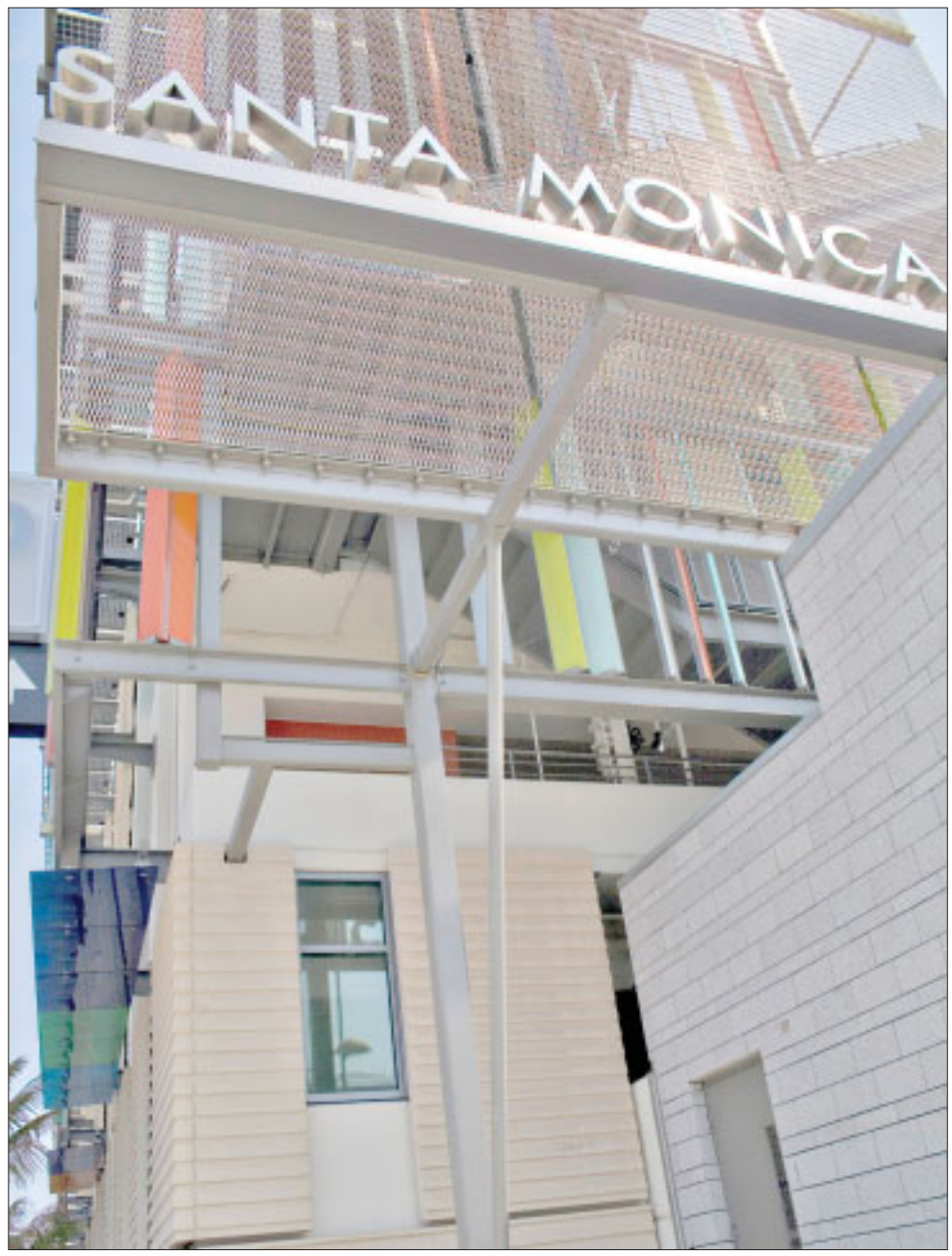
WE HAVE MOVED!
2143 PONTIUS AVE., WEST L.A. | (310) 477-2563

RECYCLE NOW!
Aluminum Cans
$1.80 per pound
with this coupon expires 1-31-13
Aluminum Plastic Glass Bi-Metal Newspaper
CardboardWhite/Color/Computer Paper Copper & Brass
Santa Monica Recycling Center
2411 Delaware Avenue in Santa Monica
(310) 453-9677
CLOVERFIELD MICHIGAN 24TH DELAWARE AVE. 10 WEST

BOB GABRIEL CO. INSURANCE
Personalized Insurance



■ Auto Experts ■ Life, Disability & Pension
■ Homeowners ■ Commercial & Business
■ Workers Compensation ■ Group & Individual Health
Representing "A" rated companies including MERCURY INSURANCE
Mercury Insurance has cut rates on auto, homeowners, and renters insurance. Please call for new discounted rates.
Phone Quotes Available
Family Owned Business
310.829.0305
2325 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica
www.bobgabrielinsurance.com



File photo

THE COST: **The Civic Center Parking Structure was built with lease-revenue bonds.**

RATING
FROM PAGE 1

terms, and circumstances have not changed for us," Decavalles-Hughes said.

Although City Hall isn't planning for any additional lease-revenue bonds in the immediate future, there is some possibility that the decision could impact the costs of future borrowing, she said.

The repayment costs on the $87.6 million in outstanding debt will not likely be impacted.

Moody's put dozens of California cities on review because of the weakness seen in their general fund revenues.

Unlike general obligation bonds, which are paid back using property tax revenues, lease-revenue bonds lean directly on cities' general funds, flexible accounts with money that can be used for most city costs.

Santa Monica used lease-revenue bonds to pay for the Public Safety Facility, the Civic Center Parking Structure, the expansion and rebuild of Parking Structure 6 and all of the Downtown parking structures, Decavalles-Hughes said.

California comes with a number of roadblocks that prevent its cities from raising general fund money, notably Proposition 13, a 1978 ballot measure that capped the increase in property taxes, a major source of revenue for local government, said Dave Jacobson, a spokesperson for Moody's.

Moody's now believes that all of the bonds backed by general funds should run at least two rating "notches" below the grade for the general obligation bonds because of the strain that general funds are under to meet their commitments like paying for police, fire, parks and pension costs, Jacobson said.

At least four California cities have filed for bankruptcy in 2012 including San Bernardino, Vallejo, Stockton and Atwater, and the credit rating agency warned in October that more may follow.

"At the end of the day, the ratings state what we believe the risk is to bondholders and what the likelihood is that they will be paid when the bonds mature," Jacobson said.

Overall, Santa Monica still leads in that category.

Santa Monica's general obligation bonds come with a triple-A rating, the highest score that Moody's offers.

A May 2012 report by Moody's reaffirmed the rating, citing the city's "large and diverse tax base" and "exceptionally strong" financial operations with high reserves.

Local sales tax came in 6 percent higher than budget estimates in 2012, due in part to the opening of the Santa Monica Place mall, and the half-cent transaction and use tax approved by voters in 2010, which was expected to raise $5.7 million annually for City Hall's coffers.

Other sources of income depended on tourism, in particular a tax on hotel rooms, which was expected to increase by 5.7 percent in the 2012 fiscal year.

Fund balances were on the rise through 2012, the report noted, and overall debt represented only 1.7 percent of the city's total assessed value.

The biggest threat noted in the report to the general fund remained the dissolution of the city's Redevelopment Agency, an entity that paid for capital improvement projects to improve blighted areas of the city.

Depending on how that agency is unwound, Moody's reported that the estimated net impact on the general fund could range from $2 million to $12 million.

ashley@smdp.com

BBB
FROM PAGE 1

ly called TAP cards, used by the Los Angeles Metro buses that also run in Santa Monica.

The same money will also pay for six mobile ticket vending machines and the ability to pay for your bus ticket using a mobile phone.

The move is part of a three-year push by the Metro system to integrate with other municipal bus companies to provide seamless service throughout the Los Angeles region, said Rick Jager, a spokesperson for Metro.

"It'll be very user friendly for bus patrons in terms of whether or not he or she has to transfer from one line to another instead of fumbling for correct change or the right monthly pass," Jager said.

The TAP cards also work on the rail systems, including the new Exposition Light Rail line that is slated to reach Santa Monica in 2015, and eight other local bus systems have gotten on board as well, including nearby Culver City.

Mobile ticketing is expected to go live by December 2013, and TAP integration will become available a month later, Lowenthal said.

The Metro system cooperates with mobile applications that allow people with smartphones to pinpoint their bus' location with a few swipes of the finger. Santa Monica also has plans for a mobile app, although it's hit a snag, with a soft launch expected in the middle of 2013, according to the staff report.

A portion of the Transit Master contract will allow residents to call a service in either English or Spanish to get real-time information about their bus.

It's not certain when this option will be available, Lowenthal said.

The "hits" for the Big Blue Bus has not come without at least one miss, specifically an advertising program that would have put digital billboards on the sides of the buses.

The program was originally proposed in 2010 and won legislative approval with the backing of then-Assemblywoman Julia Brownley, and hit deep opposition from other local governments including Los Angeles City Attorney Carmen Trutanich.

It ultimately bit the dust in May 2012 when officials realized that the system couldn't make money off the project and the only two cities that had embraced it — New York and Chicago — had both discontinued the program.

ashley@smdp.com

FOOTBALL
FROM PAGE 1

"I'll be working all winter to make sure these guys find a home to continue their careers," Clark said.

Across town and fresh off an appearance in the semi-finals of the CIF-Southern Section Northeast playoffs, St. Monica has a handful of players getting looks with running back Kevin Holubowski leading the way.

The bruising runner and first team All-Santa Fe League selection has been the subject of interest for recruiters from the University of San Diego, Cal, UC Davis and Cal Poly.

St. Monica head coach Adam Guerra said that no offers have been made as of yet, but is hopeful that something will shake before National Signing Day in the spring.

daniela@smdp.com

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPEN
Community Corporation of Santa Monica

Announces the opening of the **2013 Marketing List**.
To be considered you must pick up an appointment card at
502 Colorado Ave. In the Community Room
between Dec. 3rd and Dec. 31st, M-Th 8 a.m. – 5 p.m..
Friday Dec. 7th, Dec. 21st, Monday Dec. 24th and
Monday, Dec. 31st 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Closed Dec. 14; 25; and 28, EHO

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Annual Paving and Sidewalk Repair Project – SP2236

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, **no later than 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 10, 2013** to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $2,035,000
CONTRACT CALENDAR DAYS: 120
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,250 per Day
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $500 per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the General Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

BROADWAY
WINE & SPIRITS

BROADWAY HOLIDAY SPECIALS!

LOUIS RODERER BRUT PREMIERE 375 ML (SPLIT) ..... $29.99 + TX
LOUIS RODERER BRUT PREMIERE 740 ML (REG $59.99) + TX ..... $39.99 + TX
FIRESTONE DBA BTLS 6PK ..... $6.99 + TX, CRV
FAT TIRE VARIETIES BTLS 6PK ..... $6.99 + TX, CRV



(310) 394-8257
1011 Broadway | Santa Monica, CA 90401



When Struggling with Life Matters
Let Dr. Barge Help

Dr. Barge employs other doctors that work on a sliding scale basis and are also supervised by her. They can help. If you are interested, call (310) 472-2329.



JoAnne Barge, Ph.D. Inc.
A Licensed Psychologist & MFT
310.472.2329
www.drbarge.com
PSY 14116 | MT 18182

When Bad Things Happen to Good People Because of the Carelessness or Negligence of Others.



Robert Lemle

Free Consultation
Over $25 Million Recovered

- Catastrophic Personal Injuries
- Wrongful Death
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Bicycle Accidents
- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Dog Bites
- Trip & Falls

You Pay Nothing Until Your Case Is Resolved

310.392.3055
www.lemlelaw.com

Lemle Law Group, pc



Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.5°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Holding short to mid period WNW-NW swell; Wind/weather improves, but residual bump likely in the AM

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
BIGGEST LATE with larger surf at good exposures; New dose of WNW-NW swell quickly builds in and peaks late; STAY POSTED, STILL PENDING DEVELOPMENT

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
WNW swell slowly shifting more westerly; STAY POSTED, STILL PENDING DEVELOPMENT; Long period forerunner traces of a new SW swell starts to slowly creep in

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small short period wind waves from the west-southwest holding during the day. Light and variable west-northwest winds all day and switching to the east.

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 **December 12, 2012**

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 -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 12
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 19 / 14
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcurGUY, SIWA and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	C	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Las Alloe creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	C	B
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	B
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	C	B
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	B	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	C
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	A
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (paint rec).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	C

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

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

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

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

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

NCAA FOOTBALL

A&M's Johnny Football is AP's Player of the Year

KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

Johnny Manziel ran for almost 1,700 yards and 30 touchdowns as a dual-threat quarterback his senior year of high school at Kerrville Tivy.

Who would have thought he'd be even more impressive at Texas A&M when pitted against the defenses of the Southeastern Conference?

On Tuesday, Manziel picked up another major award for his spectacular debut season. He was voted The Associated Press Player of the Year. As with the Heisman Trophy and Davey O'Brien Award that Manziel already won, the QB nicknamed Johnny Football is the first freshman to collect the AP award.

Manziel's 31 votes were more than twice that of second place finisher Manti Te'o, Notre Dame's start linebacker. He is the third straight Heisman-winning quarterback to receive the honor, following Robert Griffin III and Cam Newton.

Manziel erased initial doubts about his ability when he ran for 60 yards and a score in his first game against Florida.

"I knew I could run the ball, I did it a lot in high school," Manziel said in an interview with the AP. "It is just something that you don't get a chance to see in the spring. Quarterbacks aren't live in the spring. You don't get to tackle. You don't get to evade some of the sacks that you would in normal game situations. So I feel like when I was able to avoid getting tackled, it opened some people's eyes a little bit more."

The 6-foot-1 Manziel threw for 3,419 yards and 24 touchdowns and ran for 1,181 yards and 19 more scores to help the Aggies win 10 games for the first time since 1998 — and in their inaugural SEC year, too.

Ryan Tannehill, Manziel's predecessor now with the Dolphins after being drafted eighth overall this season, saw promise from the young quarterback last year when he was redshirted. But even he is surprised at how quickly things came together for Manziel.

"It's pretty wild. I always thought he had that playmaking ability, that something special where if somebody came free, he can make something exciting happen," Tannehill said. "I wasn't really sure if, I don't think anyone was sure if he was going to be able to carry that throughout an SEC season, and he's shocked the world and he did it."

After Manziel sat out as a redshirt in 2011, Texas A&M's scheduled season-opener against Louisiana Tech this year was postponed because of Hurricane Isaac. That left him to get his first taste of live defense in almost two years against Florida.

He responded well, helping the Aggies race to a 17-7 lead early using both his arm and his feet. The Gators shut down Manziel and A&M's offense in the second half and Texas A&M lost 20-17.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Federal Funded- Big Blue Bus- Bus Stop Redevelopment Program
Federal Aid Project No. FTA Section 5307 Formula Fund-
(CA-90-Y770) (CA-96-X044)
SP2137

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **January 28, 2013**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
December 21, 2012, at 1:00 p.m.
Meet at 612 Colorado Avenue on the corner of 6th Street and Colorado Avenue. Job walk attendees should bring hard hats, boots, and safety vests. The job walk will move (walk 2 blocks) to 4th Street and Colorado Avenue to review one of the Real Time Signage POE trenching locations.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $6,500,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 560 WORKING DAYS
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,650.00 PER WORKING DAY
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $1,550.00 PER WORKING DAY

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A or B** license at the time of bid submission. **In the case that the General Contractor is Class B license, the General shall contract all trenching scope to a subcontractor that has a Class A license.** Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Belgian Shorts Program
7:30pm
Belgian beer reception to follow the screening.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Looper (R) 1hr 58min
1:45pm, 7:15pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Killing Them Softly (R) 1hr 40min
4:30pm, 10:00pm

Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
1:15pm, 4:05pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

Anna Karenina (R) 2hrs 10min
1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:55am, 3:25pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
1:30pm, 5:30pm, 9:30pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:30pm, 3:50pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 4:55pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 6:45pm, 10:15pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in HFR 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:55am, 4:05pm, 8:00pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Intouchables (R) 1hr 52min
7:00pm, 9:40pm

Grey (R) 1hr 57min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Any Day Now (R) 1hr 37min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Hitchcock (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Already Famous (NR)
1:30pm, 4:15pm

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

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:35pm, 10:25pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:05am, 2:40pm, 9:30pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:00am, 2:45pm, 6:30pm, 10:30pm

Playing for Keeps (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:10am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

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

Hit the gym, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You might react in a resistant manner to someone's proposal. Whether it is good or bad, think about the consequences that your reactions might bring. Take a stand, but explain your reasoning behind it. Pressure could build as a result. Tonight: Off to the gym.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Act quickly, or you could miss out on an important opportunity. A conversation with an adviser points to making a more solid decision about present facts. You might have strong feelings for a new friend. Tonight: Take some personal time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Zero in on a goal. The unexpected surrounds a revelation, which allows you to move forward. A partner or loved one supports and even pushes you toward the finish line. Tonight: Only where your friends are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Others look up to you. A surprising event occurs, which will force you to regroup. Understanding evolves after a conversation. You might not like how assertive a friend or loved one is, but at least this person gets the action moving. Tonight: To the wee hours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Work with a partner directly. Unusual information could toss your thinking into "revamp" mode. Verify that what you are hearing is legitimate and factual. Appreciate someone's efforts, and say "thank you" in a way that he or she can hear. Tonight: Only where there is music.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others dominate the scene and want control. That's OK -- you have other fish to fry. While others express their power, you might have some extra time off to go holiday shopping. Tonight: Remain sensitive to a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Easy works, but not everyone is in agreement with you. A family member knows how to push you hard. Your options are: fight, go along with his or her demands, or flee the scene. It is your decision. Honor your needs, even if one of them is to buy this person a muzzle! Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You might want to move past a problem involving someone talking too much. You already have tried to isolate yourself by screening calls. Tonight: Silence is nice.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Tension easily could get the best of you. Do you feel as if someone is dragging you down? You suddenly might decide to toss the shackles and free yourself, which could result in a mouth-gaping audience. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might be coming off stronger than you realize. If someone backs away, he or she probably has good reason. A little softness goes a long way. Go for a walk. Reduce high energy to a level that's easier to manage. Respond to a close friend. Tonight: Relax with a pal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You can flex your budget, or you could consider robbing Peter to pay Paul. The best solution would be to pare down remaining gifts. Brainstorm with a friend. Tonight: Rethink your shopping list.

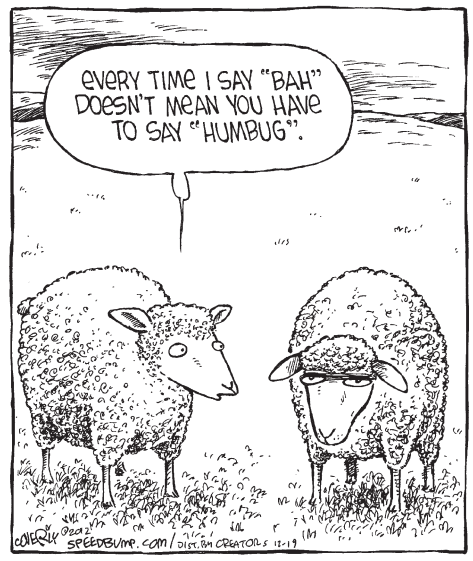
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You can try positive thinking, but that might not bring you what you want. It is too late to write to Santa. Go out, and lasso in exactly what you would like. Tonight: Keep wishing on a star, but only if you must.

Happy birthday

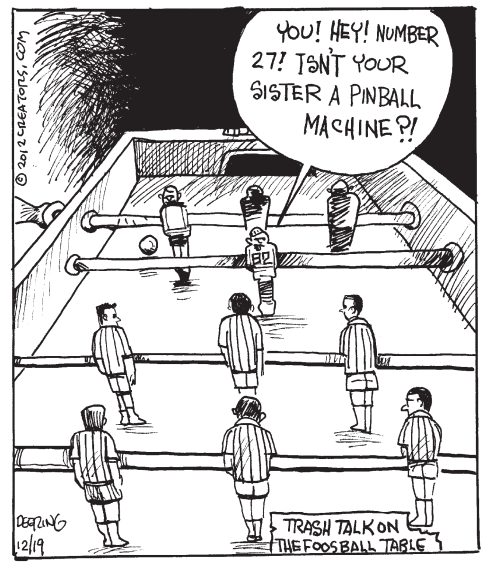
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year you often are inspired to live out a dream or go for what you really want. Sometimes this path can be confusing. Friends and family who are observing you might become cynical. Don't worry -- you know what you are doing. If you are single, you could be drawn to a Capricorn or a very strong-willed individual. Working out this relationship might be important, but only you can make that decision. If you are attached, share more of your newfound inspiration by living it. ARIES can be a bull in a china shop.

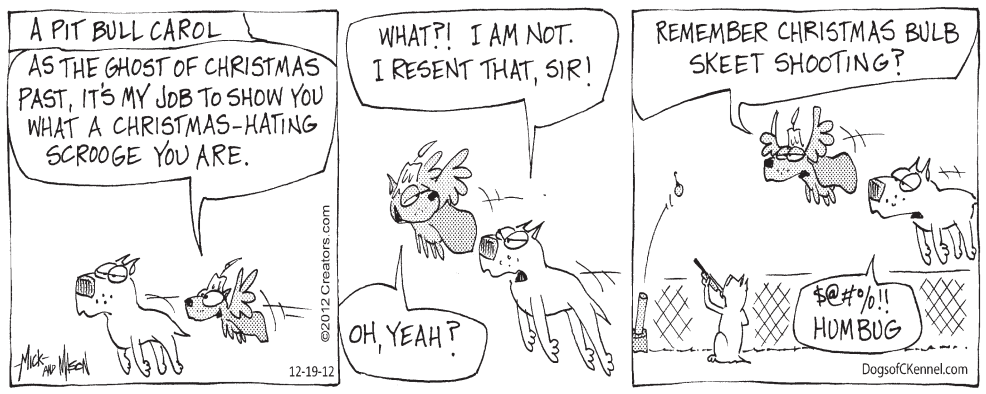
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



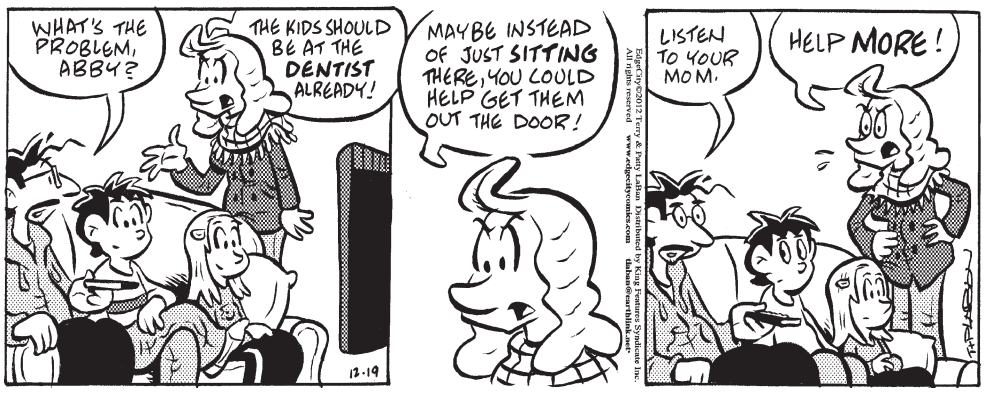
Strange Brew
By John Deering



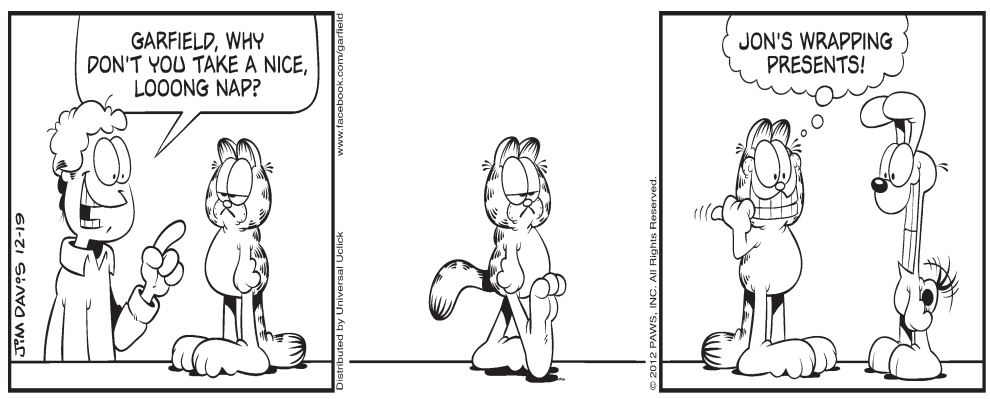
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



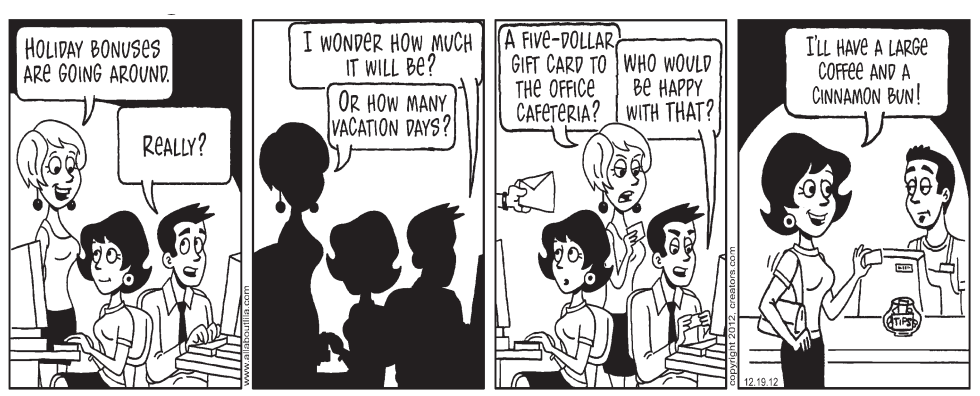
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

For every dollar you spend with a **local business**, as much as
70 cents
stays right here - supporting our schools, services and the community.

buylocalsantamonica.com ™
Buy Local
SANTA MONICA

It makes a difference!



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

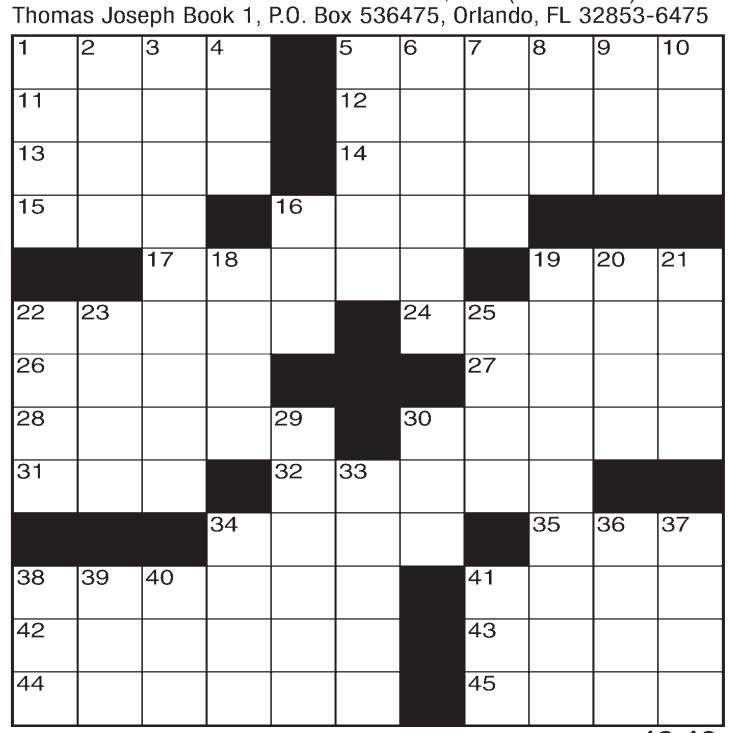
ACROSS
1 "Waterloo" group
5 Defendant in a 1925 trial
11 Iron, for one
12 Tropical fruit
13 Occasion
14 Frittata
15 Masseur's place
16 "Fargo" director
17 Safari sighting
19 Wager
22 Audibly
24 Pasta topper
26 Come down in buckets
27 Harp's cousin
28 With 30-Across, annual visitor
30 See 28-Across
31 Last part
32 Preside over
34 Edinburgh native
35 Make a choice
38 Musical shows
41 Make sound
42 Set straight
43 Mile or meter
44 Wild ones
45 Keenness

DOWN
1 Play parts
2 Radar dot
3 Loaf
4 Tad's dad
5 Stirring aid
6 Carved gems
7 Start the bidding
8 Chum
9 Pupil's place
10 Was inactive
16 El — (Spanish hero)
18 Damaged
19 Be generous at the bar
20 Stocking shade
21 Golfer's supply
22 Basilica part
23 Bank offering
25 "— want for Christmas ..."
29 Stress
30 Purr producer
33 Party VIPs
34 Takes to court
36 Prudish one
37 Head, to Henri
38 Hold up
39 Before, in poetry
40 Through
41 Pool need

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

Yesterday's answer

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



12-19

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/14
11 28 33 41 43
Meganumber: 41
Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 12/15
11 15 24 26 28
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $21M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/18
3 9 12 24 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 12/18
MIDDAY: 3 7 7
EVENING: 2 5 9

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 12/18
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:49.90

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Update: Japanese and Chinese traditions absolutely reject the idea of reusing wooden chopsticks, and for many years Japan's (and then, China's) forests easily met chopstick demand. But Japan requires 23 billion pairs a year, and China 63 billion, which the wood industry (even China's) eventually could not provide. In 2011, Korean-born Jae Lee built a factory in Americus, Ga., near forests of poplar and sweet gum trees that proved the ideal combination of softness and hardness for the sticks. In 2011 and early 2012, he supplied Japanese, Chinese and Koreans with 20 million pairs of "Made in U.S.A." chopsticks every week. (In June, Georgia Chopsticks LLC was inexplicably closed by court order, even though its sales had remained brisk.)

■ Police were seeking a 6-foot-3 man concerning an attempted child-abduction in November after a father intervened as the man led the father's 2-year-old daughter toward an exit of the Fashion Square mall in Charlottesville, Va. The father alerted Fashion Square's security, and the cops took the man into "custody," which turned out to mean escorting him off the property and warning him not to return (catch and release?).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1912 – William H. Van Schaick, captain of the steamship General Slocum which caught fire and killed over 1,000 people, is pardoned by U.S. President William Howard Taft after three-and-a-half-years in Sing Sing prison.

1916 – World War I: Battle of Verdun – On the Western Front, the French Army successfully holds off the German Army and drives it back to its starting position.

1920 – King Constantine I is restored as King of the Hellenes after the death of his son Alexander I of Greece and a plebiscite.

WORD UP!

whinge
\ hwinj \ , verb;
1.
To complain; whine.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

$7.50 per day. Up to 15 words, 30 cents each additional word.

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!*

Some restrictions may apply.

Prepay your ad today!

(310) 458-7737

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

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

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out ***www.smdp.com*** for more info.

Employment

ATTENTION LEGAL SECRETARIES, LEGAL AIDES, PARALEGALS, LAW OFFICE MANAGERS AND STAFF
Great opportunity for extra income through referrals. We are a legal document courier service looking to expand our business and pay top referral fees for new accounts set up at area law offices, to inquire further, please email bsberkowitz@aol.com or call 310-748-8019

COMMISSION SALES Position selling our messenger services. Generous on-going commission. Work from home. To inquire further please email bsberkowitz@aol.com or call 310-748-8019. Ask for Barry.

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

For Rent

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310)869-7901

1417 11th St. #G. freshly renovated top floor unit with hardwood floors. One parking space. $1595 per month.

3420 Federal Avenue #3. Lower unit in pet friendly building. Walk to the park. Hardwood floors, parking, laundry. $1345 per month.

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

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

www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

Bookkeeping Services

Accounting & Bookkeeping Service
Call (310)977-7935

Services

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

Fitness

T'AI CHI CLASSES
in Brentwood
Mondays, 6:00 p.m.
starting Jan. 7
Call Pat Akers
310-339-7463

YOUR AD
COULD RUN HERE!
CALL US TODAY AT
(310) 458-7737

Services

Handyman

The Handy Hatts
Painting and Decorating Co.
SINCE 1967
RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL
SPECIALISTS IN ALL
DAMAGE REPAIR
"EXPERT IN GREEN CONCEPTS"
Free estimates, great referrals
FULL SERVICE HANDYMAN FROM A TO Z
Call Brian @
(310) 927-5120
(310) 915-7907
LIC# 888736

Name Changes

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. SS022929
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of ARYA ALEXANDER KARAMOOZ for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner or Attorney: ARYA ALEXANDER KARAMOOZ filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: ARYA ALEXANDER KARAMOOZ to ARYA ALEXANDER. 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: JANUARY 4, 2013 Time: 9:00am, Dept. A, Room 104
The address of the court is 1725 MAIN ST, 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 20, 2012
JOSEPH S. BIDERMAN, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

$7.50 A DAY LINER ADS!
For the first 15 words.
CALL TODAY **(310) 458-7737**

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012232403 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/20/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DIVERGENT LIGHTING DESIGN, DIVERGENT LIGHTING, DIVERGENT DESIGN, DIVERGENT ENTERTAINMENT DESIGN, DIVERGENT MEDIA ARTISTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: KYLE RUEBSAMEN 4196 MENTONE AVE. CULVER CITY CA 90232. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/22/2012. /s/: KYLE RUEBSAMEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/20/2012. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/19/2012, 12/26/2012, 01/02/2013, 01/09/2013.



CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

Prepay your ad today!

(310) 458-7737

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



COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEWS INTERNATIONAL

Estates Director
Society of Excellence
Previews Properties Specialist
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Montana Avenue
310.395.1133
Kate@SantaMonicaListings.com



Kate Bransfield

DRE # 01218699

www.SantaMonicaListings.com

221 18th Street

SOLD

$2,199,999

* 2 Bedrooms
* 2.5 Baths
* Hardwood Floors
* Vintage Charm
* Gillette's Regent Square



1211 Pearl Street

New Listing

$1,285,000

* 3 Bedrooms
* 2 Baths
* Living Rm w/ Fireplace
* Outdoor Entertaining w/ Koi Pond



954 14th Street #5

$1,249,000

* Wonderful Townhome
* Great Location
* 2 Bedroom
* 2.5 Baths
* Private Sun Deck
* Huge Loft



603 16th Street

For Lease

$6,250 per month

* 3 Bedrooms
* 1 Bath w Vintage Tiles
* Hardwood Floors
* Freshly Painted
* Kitchen Appliances Incld
* Great Neighborhood



Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Single Family Homes From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies Listed for Sale As of mid December 2012		
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,650,000
North of Montana	=	$3,750,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,638,000
South of Wilshire	=	$ 989,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,415,150
Ocean Park	=	$2,022,000
Statistics updated every Friday		

Proud Sponsor of:

FRANKLIN Elementary School

Santa Monica LITTLE LEAGUE established 1950

Roosevelt Elementary School

Santa Monica GIRLS FASTPITCH

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL SANTA MONICA, CA

GREAT FUTURES START HERE. BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA MONICA

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

This is not intended as a solicitation if you currently have a broker. The information has been retrieved from the Multiple Listing Service. Some of these properties have been sold or listed with other Real Estate Agents.