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Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2011

Volume 11 Issue 40



Santa Monica Daily Press

TAX PLAN GAINS TRACTION
SEE PAGE 6

We have you covered

THE QUIET STREETS ISSUE

COMMUNITY PROFILES | LAURIE DELGADO



Photo courtesy Laurie Delgado

DELGADO

Safety net helps single mom dream big

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

SAN VICENTE BLVD Laurie Delgado always dreamt of living by the beach and starting her own business. The in-home care worker went so far as to write both down on a "vision board" so that she wouldn't lose sight of her goals.

But as a single mother without a college degree nor an apartment of her own, she found it difficult to make her dreams a reality.

Those dreams started to fade when Delgado, 51, lost her patient of five years, who grew to become a dear friend. Delgado suddenly found herself without a place to live and was laid off shortly thereafter.

It was around that time that her daughter was heading off to college, forcing Delgado to face the future alone.

"I thought [in-home care] was something I could do for the rest of my life, but like anything in life there are highs and lows," Delgado said. "Unfortunately I was at an all-time low."

Just as Delgado was coming to the realization that she may have to live out of her car, she received a lifeline. Delgado was awarded unemployment benefits and, after five years of waiting, was notified that she had been granted a Section 8 housing voucher and an apartment just blocks from the beach that was owned by nonprofit housing provider Community Corporation of Santa Monica.

Through public assistance, Delgado was able to maintain a roof over her head long enough to she could focus on improving her finances. She volunteered for the Santa Monica Red Cross, where she learned about a program it offered to those looking to become a certified nurse assistant. She enrolled and graduated, hoping to make herself more marketable.

Delgado also enrolled in a self-sufficiency program at St. Joseph Center in Venice,

SEE CP PAGE 8

An army of bell ringers raises money for the needy

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Every year, you see them.

They stand at street corners and in front of busy shopping areas, bundled against the not-so-cold Southern California winter armed with a bell, a Santa hat and a smile to raise money for the unfortunate in what for many is a desperate time of year.

This Christmas season, Salvation Army recruits and employees took over 21 spots in Santa Monica, Venice, Malibu and Pacific Palisades for a successful holiday fund drive that will support the organization in 2012.

The Red Kettle Campaign was crafted by Capt. Joseph Mcfee in San Francisco in 1891. Since, it has grown to include 25,000 workers and volunteers that collected $142 million nationwide in 2010.

The Santa Monica area raised approximately $91,000 between Nov. 18 and Dec. 24, a $10,300 increase over the donations from 2010.

Still, the total fell short of the ambitious $100,000 goal the Salvation Army set, said Dawn Wright, director of marketing and communications for the Salvation Army's Southern California division.

"We're disappointed that we fell short of the goal, but we're so grateful that we met this year's $80,000 budget, and that we exceeded last year's donations," Wright wrote in an e-mail.

Of the 21 locations that helped with the kettle drive, people parted with the most cash at three Santa Monica grocery stores, specifically the Albertsons on the 2600 block of Lincoln Boulevard ($5,834), the Pavilions on the 800 block of Montana Avenue ($4,231) and the Vons on the 1300 block of Wilshire Boulevard ($3,596), according to Salvation Army statistics.

A host of Santa Monica service organizations took part, including the Elks Lodge, Jaycees, Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Rotary

SEE SALVATION ARMY PAGE 9



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City of Santa Monica Holiday Trash Schedule
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011

Holidays still kicking
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street, 4 p.m. — 6 p.m.
Rock out with the music of Leftover Cuties during the Holiday Ever After Concert Series. The series continues through Jan. 2, 2012 with a different artist every night. For more information, call (310) 260-8333.

Occupy 2012
Friends Meeting Hall
1440 Harvard St., 6:30 p.m.
The year-end Activist Support Circle public gathering will be dedicated to, and include, activist community leaders and supporters of the Occupy L.A. and Occupy Wall Street grassroots movement, who will be sharing their activist hopes and aspirations for 2012. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 399-1000.

So fresh, so clean
Arizona Avenue and Fourth Street
This weekly market is considered amongst the best in SoCal. There is everything from seasonal produce to prepared foods. For more information, visit smgov.net/portals/farmersmarket.

Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011

Sounds of the season
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street, 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Carolers will be strolling around the mall singing classic holiday music for shoppers. For more information, call (310) 260-8333.

What's new?
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m.
A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad moderated by Jack Nordhaus. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Friday, Dec. 30, 2011

Kwanzaa on stage
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
Powerful and poignant, heartfelt and humorous the Santa Monica Playhouse presents a special Kwanzaa performances of film, television and stage personality Stogie Kenyatta's acclaimed show, "The World is My Home — the Life of Paul Robeson," about the African-American artist-activist. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 1.

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

MAIN STREET

From waste to waves

ZJ Boarding House is calling on Santa Monicans to drop off old packaging foam (technically it's called Expanded PolyStyrene or EPS) so that it can be recycled into a new, eco-friendly surfboard.

The surf and skate shop on Main Street has set up a collection bin for people to drop off their dense packing foam – most commonly used to protect electronics. The used foam will be picked up, ground up and then shaped into new Marko Foam EPS surfboard blanks as part of Sustainable Surf's "Waste to Waves" campaign, which runs until Jan. 31, 2012.

"Saving your Styrofoam for this process keeps trash out of our dumps and ultimately off our beaches," read a statement from the surf shop, which has embraced the slogan "Turn Your Trash to Slash."

At this time the shop is only accepting white packing foam. Do not deposit food containers, old surfboards, packing peanuts or plastic bags of any kind.

Those who drop of foam can register for a chance to win a free surfboard made from recycled foam and pained by surfer/artist Mike Losness.

For more information, visit zjboardinghouse.com or wastetowaves.org.

Partners in the Waste to Waves campaign include the Surfrider Foundation, Marko Foam and Waste Management.

– KEVIN HERRERA

CITYWIDE

D.A. warns of 'robo-call'

Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley warned consumers Tuesday of a new "robo-call scam" aimed at getting confidential banking information from unsuspecting victims.

The "robo-calls" play recorded messages claiming to be from major banks. The messages state there is a problem with the banking network and ask for verification of banking account information, including credit and debit card numbers, along with personal identification numbers (PINs), according to a statement released by Cooley's office.

"Consumers need to be extremely wary of telephone calls requesting sensitive information about banking or credit cards," Cooley said. "Legitimate banks and financial institutions do not call their customers to request personal identifying information or discuss banking network problems."

Cooley urged consumers to contact law enforcement if they believe they are victims of the fraud.

– KH



CLEANUP TIME

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Christmas trees were already piling up Tuesday at a City Hall-sponsored tree recycling drop-off spot at Reed Park. Santa Monica officials urge residents to dispose of their trees at this location so they can be turned into mulch.

December is a busy month for engagements

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK The heck with lovey-dovey Valentine's Day. Turns out December, with its holiday cheer, romantic winter backdrops and family gatherings, is among the busiest months for popping the question.

"It's a pretty time of year," said Jake Nyberg, 31, a video producer in Minneapolis. He chose Christmastime to drop to one knee in a gorilla suit while teetering on ice skates in front of his beloved. "You know you're going to be around a lot of family. You're going to be seeing all the people you'd like to see after something like this happens."

Sarah Pease, a professional proposal planner in New York, usually gets one or two inquiries a week from nervous grooms-to-be, but once Thanksgiving rolls around, it's more like one or two a day, with most guys looking to propose in December.

While she specializes in elaborate surprise proposals, she says the simple engagement-ring-under-the-tree trick is still popular. "That's a great way to have it as a family affair," she said. "It's dreamy. This is definitely THE busiest time of the year."

Laurent Landau in New York, a partner in the jewelry site DiamondIdeals.com, also sees the December bump: "October, November and early December, we probably see a 50 to 60 percent increase in the number of people buying rings with the purpose of proposing during the holiday season."

And it's not just regular folks; celebs confirm the trend too. Matthew McConaughey announced in a tweet that he proposed to his girlfriend, Brazilian model Camila Alves, on Christmas Day this year. And two days after Christmas, a spokesman for John Legend revealed that the singer recently proposed to his girlfriend, model Chrissy Teigen, in the Maldives.

Christmas is considered one of four big proposal days, along with Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving and New Year's. Thirty-nine percent of proposals occurred between November and February among 20,000 newlyweds surveyed by the popular wedding website TheKnot.com. Of those, 16 percent got engaged in December, more than any other month, according to TheKnot editor Anja Winikka.

SEE **ENGAGEMENTS** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Draining Social Security

Editor:

Hooray for the Social Security tax cut extension! This is great news, that is unless you are planning to retire and have Social Security income when you do.

Have people forgotten the recent Republican wrangle about the future of Social Security solvency? Remember the Republicans want to stop Social Security as we know it. Remember the talk about moving the retirement age to 69, or was that 70. Does cutting the Social Security tax now to save an average of $1,000 a year make any sense? Doesn't this tax cut make Social Security more likely to fold in the future do to lack of funding?

So how great is it to get a $1,000 a year savings but potentially lose Social Security as a retirement option in the future? Since corporate retirement programs have all but disappeared, what will be left for people when they grow old? Is this small payroll tax cut really just a cheap political shot by the Democrats with long-term disastrous implications? Shouldn't the Democrats and Obama instead be focusing only on the Republican-backed $700 billion tax cut for the rich?

Randy Walburger
Santa Monica

Traffic is too much

Editor:

Motivation of some city officials who approved the 401 Broadway complex certainly seems suspect at the least ("Council approves small apartments with no parking," Dec. 16). Parking should be required for this development and all others.

No parking, along with small units, attracts a more transient population. A lack of tenant-provided parking increases traffic in various ways and this lack of parking could indeed start setting a trend, which would increase the unspeakable gridlock. Two weeks ago, during a weekday, it took almost two hours to get from Santa Monica to attend a play near Century City using Olympic Boulevard. (When the tsunami hits, I want to see the bike riders' evacuation route). This is just another reason to go out of Santa Monica for the type of multi-stop errands which cannot be accomplished without a car. The Santa Monica traffic prohibits this type of shopping.

Caroline Mayson
Santa Monica

Different way of doing things

Editor:

I'm a Santa Monica resident. Truth is, the City Council screwed up ("Santa Monica nativity scenes displaced by atheist messages," Dec. 10). It's ridiculous for City Hall to claim their lottery process was "constitutional." It's easy to dictate those who use public property be from Santa Monica; that its fair, unbiased and not negative.

They had a lottery, and two people who aren't from Santa Monica claimed 18 spaces? Ridiculous. This is the same City Council that has torn down hundreds of trees to get federal grants for replanting trees. Pathetic.

The displays are quaint, kind of loopy, but a tradition; my kids enjoy their campiness. I wish CNN reported this for what it was, a City Council swimming in circles because they couldn't think of a smart way to hold a lottery. Just like licensing buskers, not everyone gets a spot. One spot per organization that applies, prove they are legit, or have a big enough flock, and be in the city limits to constitute a spot. It ain't [sic] rocket science.

Rich Martini
Santa Monica

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Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Leaving the baggage behind

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR WHEN WE TEND to reflect on the past and make plans for the future. If we aren't doing this, we probably should be. It is a good idea to take stock of our lives and decide what we are missing, what we need to let go of, and then think about our goals for the coming year.

Resolutions for the new year should be reasonable. We shouldn't set ourselves up for something we may not be able to do. If we fail to keep our resolution it only serves to make us feel bad about ourselves and can lead to feelings of jealousy toward those who have made more progress on their goals.

To have a great chance of success, choose realistic goals and take baby steps. For example, don't try to lose 50 pounds in a few months. Aim for 10 to 15 pounds, and then when you reach that you can aim for another 10 or 20.

If you are unemployed, dream of the better job, but be ready to take the smaller one or volunteer somewhere that interests you until you get your foot in the door and up the first rung of the ladder. Most importantly, don't set yourself up for disappointment, guilt, shame or anger.

This brings me to another very important thing that most of us never think about. When you reflect on the past year, are there any unresolved conflicts or bad feelings that you are carrying around with you? Do you have any resentment? In order to move forward in a positive way, we need to take inventory of ourselves on an internal level. It's easy to look outside ourselves, but we also need to look inside. This is a very private personal reflection that takes a few hours or sometimes days.

The word resentment literally means resentiment, or feelings sent again. I am talking about those old hurts and anger that keep coming back. If we are not ruminating, then we find ourselves returning to these negative feelings from time to time. Clearly, feelings sent again.

Resentments are not good for us; they are unhealthy both emotionally and physically. Recent scientific research has proven that we are healthier and happier when we are joyful and have grateful attitudes, and deep resentment compromises our immune systems. "Resentment cuts us off from the Sunlight of the Spirit" (from the 12 Step programs). If we want to be clean and clear inside we must resolve our resentments and also work through and let go of our conflicts. Not only will this keep you from becoming that dark, bitter person, but it will lead to more energy, a clearer vision going forward for the new year and also better relations.

Others will notice the sparkle in your eye when you get rid of the darkness that sometimes haunts you. Your energy will be different; others will get a more positive vibe from you. But most importantly, you will feel so much better and you then will be free to work on the resolutions you have made.

Some of you have asked how to do that. There are several different ways.

Some people write a list of resentments and conflicts. They think long and hard about them, then decide what part they may have played in creating them. Clean up your side of the street, then either make your amends or let go.

Others talk it out with someone, usually after writing the resentments and conflicts down. It is good to take a little time to write because when you put your first thoughts on paper or computer, others come to mind. This way you are making sure that you are being really honest with yourself. The goal here is to clean house and move on.

For those of you who believe in it, praying for those you resent can also take you a long way.

Whatever you do, make a resolution to resolve those inner negative feelings that really only hurt you.

Don't carry the baggage of 2011 or other past years into 2012.

Make it a happy new year and I wish you the same.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com. Please send your anonymous questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind, let us help you with your life matters.



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The Taxman

Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Recapping the year for struggling taxpayers

AS OUR PLANET COMPLETES ANOTHER trip around the sun, we at the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association join in the tradition of taking stock of what has been accomplished during the year just ending and assess what challenges we face in the coming year.

For a statewide taxpayer organization it is important to remember that what successes we achieved are made possible by our members as well as other individuals and allied organizations. So while I am about to highlight a number of successful activities by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association (HJTA), we thank and appreciate all who helped.

A major accomplishment by taxpayers during 2011 was driving a stake through an extension of the temporary tax increases — increases that were costing the typical California family nearly $1,200 annually — that were approved by the Legislature and Gov. Schwarzenegger in 2009. The higher taxes were accompanied by promises that, in return for even more taxpayer money in our already high-tax state, our political leaders would balance the budget and reform spending.

As the higher income tax, sales tax and car tax, were set to expire, Gov. Brown and his free-spending allies in the Legislature were urging a five year extension. Brown wanted it put to a public vote, while government employee unions pushed lawmakers to go ahead and impose new taxes without input from voters. Those grasping for more taxpayer dollars failed to recognize, or chose to ignore, that the reason government revenues are down is that taxpayers' incomes and quality of life have declined.

HJTA waged a statewide radio campaign to alert taxpayers to the threat. Taxpayer representatives appeared on talk shows throughout the state and made extensive use of the Internet to push out information. Thanks to public pressure, enough fiscally responsible lawmakers were persuaded to hold the line and the temporary taxes expired.

In the courts, HJTA lawsuits forced several local jurisdictions to release information regarding government employee pensions. With some public employees retiring as young as 50 with 90 percent of their pay, taxpayers have a right to know what this is costing them.

The HJTA legal team has also been fighting the new state fire tax that was approved by the Legislature without the constitutionally required two-thirds vote. The state is trying to extract an additional $150 from rural homeowners, most of whom already pay extra to local fire districts for protection. After HJTA challenged the method of implementation by CalFire, the tax plan was withdrawn for further consideration. In the event that property owners end up being charged, HJTA is ready to go to court.

In the Legislature, HJTA successfully lobbied against a number of bills that would have made it more difficult for average citizens to use the initiative process to place measures, like Proposition 13, on the ballot. While most of these bills were defeated, two that would have damaged citizens' right to petition government slipped through to the governor's desk. While Gov. Brown did veto one of those bills as requested by HJTA, he did acquiesce to powerful labor groups and signed another bill that forces all future initiatives onto the November general election instead of allowing qualified measures to be voted on during any statewide election — including June primaries. Unfortunately, this legislation will cause both confusion and "ballot fatigue" for voters who will now have to wade through far more measures in a single November election than if the current practice were retained.

On the political front, HJTA has provided assistance to one local and one statewide initiative proposal that will be on the ballot next year. In San Diego, HJTA helped local taxpayers who qualified a government employee pension reform proposal. The goal is to treat both public workers and taxpayers fairly, and save a city that is perilously close to bankruptcy. In the state arena, an HJTA sponsored committee has helped to qualify "Stop Special Interest Money Now." The initiative would bar corporations and unions from directly contributing to candidates' campaign accounts and prohibit the government from deducting union dues from employees' paychecks without their permission.

Additionally, HJTA helped draft, and is the co-sponsor of, a spending limit proposal that has already been filed and will be circulated for signatures next year. The measure would restore the Gann Spending Limit — its original author, Paul Gann, was a co-sponsor of Prop. 13 — to put a reasonable and realistic cap on annual state and local government spending increases.

So while HJTA has been very busy during 2011, the real work for taxpayers is just beginning. As we begin our next orbit of the sun, it is important to be wary and remember that the powerful Sacramento political class remains something akin to a "flat earth society," where egos are so immense that they believe that the sun revolves around them.

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

Year in review

The Daily Press is currently debating internally which stories should be included in our best of 2011 edition. We would love to hear from our readers.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What were the top local stories of 2011? Remember, local.

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) 458-7737 ext. 107**.









Governor Brown says he is getting support for tax plan

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO Gov. Jerry Brown said Tuesday that he is working to win support from business and labor leaders for his plan to ask voters to raise income taxes on high-income earners and increase the state sales tax, despite competing initiatives from liberal interest groups that say his plan hits working people too hard.

The Democratic governor talked about his 2012 ballot proposal during an interview with reporters on Tuesday. He said the key to winning about $7 billion a year in additional revenue is persuading voters that it's necessary to stabilize California's budget and that the "leadership of California" is behind it.

He said if voters reject the temporary tax increases, "the cuts will be very, very drastic. They're going to be unpleasant any way you look at it."

California faces a $3 billion midyear revenue shortfall and is expected to face a $10 billion deficit in the fiscal year that begins July 1, resulting in a $13 billion gap over the next 18 months. Brown will release his proposal for the next budget year by Jan. 10.

He wants to raise income taxes on a sliding scale, starting with individuals who make more than $250,000 a year, and boost the statewide sales tax by half a cent. The higher taxes would expire in 2017.

Liberal groups are circulating competing ballot initiatives that would impose even higher taxes on the rich and set aside money only for schools. The governor said he hopes to persuade them to rally behind his plan, which he thinks strikes the right balance.

Voters often reject initiatives when they are confusing or when too many of the same type are on the ballot.

"The liberals don't like the sales tax. More conservative people don't like to keep raising the income tax," Brown said. "But I think for the next four or five years it's the most likely to pass. It's reasonable, particularly with all the concern about the growing inequality, and I also think everybody has to be part of the solution."

Brown said business leaders with whom he has spoken have voiced support, as have some wealthy political donors.

"I did find that in talking to very wealthy people, they don't get overly excited about increasing their taxes," with some exceptions, he said. "I talked to Rob Reiner, he was very excited about paying more taxes, and I talked to a few others. But generally, they're more willing to tolerate it than embrace it."

Reiner, a Democrat, has put his money behind previous ballot measures to raise money for schools and early childhood programs. At one time, he flirted with the idea of running for the state's highest office and was a vocal critic of former Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

California Republican Party Chairman Tom Del Beccaro criticized the governor in a news release sent before Brown's Tuesday interview, saying the governor had wasted his first year in office and lost credibility with voters. In particular, he criticized Brown's attempt to extend previously approved increases to the sales, income and vehicle taxes. Those temporary increases were approved in 2009 but expired this year after Republicans refused to continue them.

"He threatened Californians with the fiscal nightmare of draconian cuts to education and services if we didn't adopt his poorly conceived, and economically bad, tax increases," Del Beccaro said.

Man charged in soldier shooting

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN BERNARDINO A California man was charged on Tuesday with attempted murder in the shooting of an Afghanistan war veteran at a homecoming party during what authorities said was a fight over football teams.

But the attorney for 19-year-old Ruben Ray Jurado said his client was apparently under attack when shots were fired at Christopher Sullivan at the party to welcome him home for the holidays.

Prosecutors in San Bernardino County on Tuesday charged Jurado, who surrendered himself to authorities a day earlier for investigation in the shooting that critically wounded the 22-year-old Purple Heart recipient.

Authorities said Jurado, who had played football with Sullivan in high school, began arguing with Sullivan's brother over football teams at the party Friday night and then punched him. Sullivan intervened and Jurado pulled a gun and fired multiple shots, hitting Sullivan in the neck, police said.

Sullivan remains in critical condition. His relatives say the gunfire shattered his spine and left him paralyzed from the neck down.

"He's opening his eyes more," his 20-year-old brother Brandon Sullivan told the Associated Press. "We're just waiting day by day."

Sullivan was wounded in a suicide bombing attack last year while serving with the military in Afghanistan. He suffered a cracked collarbone and brain damage in the attack and had been recovering in Kentucky, where he is stationed, before coming home for the holidays.

Defense attorney Michael J. Holmes said earlier on Tuesday that he wanted to talk to his client and the district attorney before commenting further on the case.

"It appears that he was being attacked and he was on the ground and was being kicked in the back, stomach, the head, and that is consistent with the injuries that I observed," Holmes said. "It is alleged at that point that Mr. Sullivan was shot."

Sullivan was an avid wrestler and football player in high school in San Bernardino, about 60 miles east of Los Angeles. He had nine months to go in the military and then planned to become a firefighter or police officer. He always liked to help people, his brother said.

"Say there was a person at school who never had friends or nothing — Chris would be the person who would go up to him and try to be his friend. He didn't like people to feel alone," Brandon Sullivan said. "He always had a smile on his face."



Decision on Camp Pendleton crosses due in new year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMP PENDLETON A Marine Corps ruling on the future of a pair of crosses at the top of a steep Camp Pendleton hill isn't expected until next year.

An atheist group wants the crosses to come down. Many Marines and their families want the crosses to stay in honor of comrades killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Base officials have sent a recommendation to Washington, but won't say what it is.

Jason Torpy of the Association of Atheists and Freethinkers, told the North County Times he has been bombarded with hate mail, threats and phone calls from people angry at his group for demanding removal of the crosses.

He said there can still be a memorial on the site, but it should be the Marine Corps globe or a nonreligious symbol.

"This can be fixed today unless the Marine Corps is going to insist on having government promotion of Christianity," said Torpy, a 10-year veteran of the Army and a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

The first 13-foot cross was placed high above the base's Camp Horno in August 2003 by a group of Marines, including several who were later killed in fighting in Iraq. The cross was destroyed by fire in 2007. A new cross was erected in 2008, about 60 feet from the original.

The Los Angeles Times wrote a story about the memorial when another cross was erected at the site on Veteran's Day 2011. That's when opponents learned about the crosses, which are not visible from nearby Interstate 5.

There is more to the memorial than the crosses.

Both are surrounded by thousands of rocks carried up by Marines. Many have handwritten messages of love and remembrance.

There are dozens of bottles of liquor, most unopened, each representing a dead Marine's favorite drink, the North County Times said. A reporter for the paper was among a group of journalists who recently visited the site.

There's a football, a still-working watch, pictures of fallen Marines and numerous ID tags from those who didn't make it back alive. Rosaries, boots, cigarette packs and lighters also have been left.

Getting to the site is part of the tribute. Marines take the steepest path because the intensity of the 3,000-foot climb is viewed as nothing when compared to "the ultimate sacrifice" made by the troops who have died, a base spokeswoman told the North County Times.

The silence at the hilltop is interrupted only by wind or echoes of live-fire exercises taking place on other parts of the 125,000-acre base.

Jennifer Tully of Valley Center lost her Marine husband to suicide and was with the group that put up the Veteran's Day cross.

"It's a memorial site to everyone and no one is forced to go up there," said Tully, who also carried a small U.S. flag to the hilltop that day. "It's a place where troops and family members can go and honor the memories and grieve for the losses they have suffered.

"I know we put our heart, soul and tears into getting that cross up there."

In a Dec. 13 letter, former Marine and Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Alpine, urged Col. Nicholas Marano, the commanding officer of Camp Pendleton, to keep the crosses, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported.

"Honoring the nation's military with symbols of faith is a tradition that is on display in national cemeteries from Fort Rosecrans to Arlington, as well as other places that pay tribute to the Armed Forces," Hunter wrote.

"Legal challenges are not only a disservice to our military, but they undermine generations of personal sacrifice on behalf of a nation committed to protecting individual freedom."

In addition to removal of the crosses, Torpy wants an investigation into why some commanders have taken troops to the site and conducted services.

Pentagon regulations forbid the military from promoting any religion.

The man who dedicated the first cross was Maj. Gen. John Toolan. He is now in Afghanistan overseeing Marine Corps forces as on-ground commander of the II Marine Expeditionary Force based at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Toolan was a colonel in 2003 and his name is inscribed on the dedication plaque dated February 2004, the North County Times said.

Toolan has not commented on the controversy and did not respond to the paper's request for reaction.

The final decision may rest with Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps.

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CP
FROM PAGE 1

Calif. Through the program she was able to save money, strategize and start her own business — Headboards Unlimited. She builds her own headboards and sells them at flea markets with plans to launch a website.

"I was tired of just getting by," said Delgado, who chose headboards as her first business venture after building one for herself. "I wanted to design a life for myself. I wanted to set an example for my daughter. … You can't quit. You have to have a vision. I may not have a degree, but I have desire."

While she continues to struggle financially (Delgado is still on unemployment but is looking for work in healthcare to provide a steady stream of income until her business takes off), Delgado said she is more inspired than ever and has hopes of growing her business so she can get off of Section 8, the federally-funded housing assistance program for the elderly, disabled and low-income families.

She wants to share her story to encourage others who may be in a similar situation to not give up hope, and to remind policymakers of the power of public assistance at a time when budgets are shrinking and America's safety net is under attack.

"If it wasn't for Section 8, I would be on the street right now," she said. "And for that I am thankful."

Delgado grew up in East Los Angeles. Her mother was an entrepreneur, opening restaurants, nail salons and a real estate company while Delgado was a teen running track. It's her mother's willingness to go into business for herself that inspired Delgado to try her hand at being her own boss after she was laid off as a in-home care worker after 11 years in the profession.

BECOMING SELF-SUFFICIENT

In addition to her family and friends, Delgado credits the self-sufficiency program at St. Joseph Center with helping her put her plan into action.

The program is offered through Section 8. The city of Santa Monica partners with St. Joseph Center to administer the program. There clients like Delgado are assigned a case manager and are required to meet certain goals, such as working a minimum of 35 hours a week. Clients meet with case managers monthly. As a client's income increases, a portion is set aside in a savings account. They receive the money when they complete the program. Enrollment is voluntary.

"What Santa Monica has done is contract with us in the hopes of providing more wrap-around services," said Kate Westra, manager of housing services at St. Joseph. "It's not solely about increasing one's income, but actually making someone genuinely more self-sufficient so they can get off vouchers."

There's an education component, as clients are taught how to pull their credit reports, create a budget and chart a course for long-term success, "instead of just getting a job at McDonald's," Westra said.

That may take clients longer than the five years the program typically runs for, but Westra said City Hall is supportive of this method and even allows St. Joseph to work with families not on Section 8 but who are low-income.

Delgado's situation was not unlike others enrolled in the program. She never had to create a budget before and was so focused on caring for others that she lost sight of her needs. Continuously living in other people's homes didn't provide her with the stability, nor the need, to fend for herself.

"All of a sudden she ended up in an apartment without those skills to make it work," Westra said. "That is common for a lot of clients."

With community college growing more expensive and unemployment hovering around 11 percent in California, the barriers to success are greater, Westra said.

"We're seeing an increase in instability amongst families and more and more loved ones living together or one the street," she said. "It puts a strain on households."

And on a community. People who are homeless often use a variety of public systems in an inefficient and costly way, according to a report by city staff on the costs of homelessness.

The report cited the New England Journal of Medicine, which found that homeless people spend an average of four days longer per hospital visit than comparable non-homeless people, which adds approximately $2,414 per hospitalization.

Data from the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program demonstrated that the average annual health care cost for individuals living on the street was $28,436, compared to $6,056 for formerly homeless individuals who obtained housing.

That is why City Hall is focusing more of its dollars toward providing permanent-supportive housing and keeping folks like Delgado off the streets. Naturally, it takes someone with the desire to make a better life for themselves.

Westra saw in Delgado that desire. She completed the program (less than 200 people have since the mid-1990s), used the money she saved to fix her car so she could look for work. She invested some of the rest into her headboard business so she could purchase fabric and other materials.

"Laurie is an example of someone who took an opportunity and the tools and resources we had available and utilized them in a way I wish everyone could. … I'd love to be able to connect with everyone who comes through our doors the way we connected with her."

Some may say that Delgado is adept at manipulating the system. Delgado doesn't see it that way. She is using the resources provided to her, and anyone else who is struggling, so that one day she can pay it forward.

"I just feel like I need to give back," she said. "I'm truly grateful."

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File photo

GIVING FOR THE HOLIDAYS: **David Fisher of The Salvation Army rings the bell for donations in front of the Vons market on Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway last year.**

SALVATION ARMY
FROM PAGE 1

Club, Soroptimist Club, Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary and the Pacific Palisades Optimist Club.

All but the last hail from Santa Monica, noted Capt. Mario Ruiz of the Salvation Army.

Each of the service organizations competes against the rest for the spot of top fundraiser. This year, the Rotary Club walked away with the honor, which member Ron Davis attributed to the club's members.

"We have a lot of people dedicated to fundraising for the community, and have a lot of heart for people less privileged," Davis said. "It doesn't surprise me."

That spirit of giving is a hallmark of Santa Monica in general, said Ruiz, a 10-year veteran with the Salvation Army, who has worked in Santa Monica for the past year and a half.

"I've seen how generous the community is and how caring it is," Ruiz said. "They care about the community and the people that live here."

It couldn't come at a better time.

Regional and state unemployment rates were generally lower in November than December, according to a report released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

California's seasonally adjusted rates fell .2 percent, but the overall unemployment rate in the state was 11.3 percent, well above the 8.6 percent seen across the country.

From his position working with the Westside's needy, the high unemployment rate and other factors are still hitting California families hard, Ruiz said.

"It's been getting worse. What we're noticing is that the people who used to give to the Salvation Army are now in need themselves," Ruiz said.

Unemployment, a divorce or a death in the family can change the entire family structure, and those living middle class lives before can find themselves at a loss.

"One of the problems that we notice is that when you lose everything, you feel you can't find a way out," Ruiz said. "You start to lose hope and faith … Sometimes when they're able to come and we can give them something, it gives them some hope."

One elderly woman whose husband died recently came to the Salvation Army seeking help with an electricity bill she could not pay. A case worker told her that they could help, and the woman began to cry, Ruiz recalled.

She told them that she had been on the point of suicide, and this was her last stop.

"We — the Salvation Army, myself and the families and individuals that we have helped — say thank you for having caring hearts and compassion for others," Ruiz said.

If anyone would like to make a donation to the Salvation Army, they can send a check to: The Salvation Army, P.0. Box 7065, Santa Monica, Calif., 90406.

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ENGAGEMENTS

FROM PAGE 3

Winikka's on board. Her fiance, Benjamin Bullington, proposed Dec. 20 by matching a fantasy she'd had "as a child that on my very first date ever I would wear a red dress and we would go to Red Lobster in a red car." Bullington sent a red dress and shoes to her office, then whisked her off in a red car to dine on red lobster.

With help from Pease, the wedding planner, Matthew Fowkes surprised his honey with an impressive yellow diamond on a romantic Christmas week getaway to New York.

"We thought it would be a magical time in the city with all the lights and everything — and it was," said Fowkes, 35, a website founder in Pittsburgh.

Fowkes took Melissa Barnickel, 25, to a French bistro in Brooklyn on Dec. 2 where they were the only guests. The evening included singers belting "Marry Me" by Train, a videographer and photographer recording it all, a tiered proposal cake and a bottle of wine identical to one the pair drank during their first trip together, to Canada.

Fowkes had the wine placed in a box made of Canadian wood, carved with their names. They'll fill it with remembrances at their Sept. 29 wedding and seal it as a time capsule to be opened on their 10th wedding anniversary. And they might just duplicate the proposal cake for their nuptials.

"I was completely surprised," said Barnickel, an analyst for an insurance company. "It was such a fairy tale. Everything was just so thought through."

Brad Carlson, 41, a production executive for Paramount Pictures in Los Angeles, went for the fake-out.

He and Allison Koeppe, 34, had been talking marriage for a while. She thought it might be nice to get engaged the weekend of Dec. 16, when he had business in New York, but he held her off, suggesting they wait until they could figure out a plan.

"She was, like, a plan. What do we need a plan for," Carlson recalled. What she didn't know was he had hired Pease months before to make every moment meaningful when he proposed that Saturday.

They stayed at a fancy downtown hotel and strolled through Washington Square Park on their way to dinner at Babbo. Along the way they encountered a painter in the park whose easel bore a replica of a favorite photo Koeppe had taken on a trip to Italy. As she realized what was about to happen, a guitarist materialized and played "Reminiscing" by Little River Band: "How to tell you girl/ I wanna build my world around you/ Tell you that it's true/ I wanna make you understand/ I'm talkin' about a lifetime plan ..."

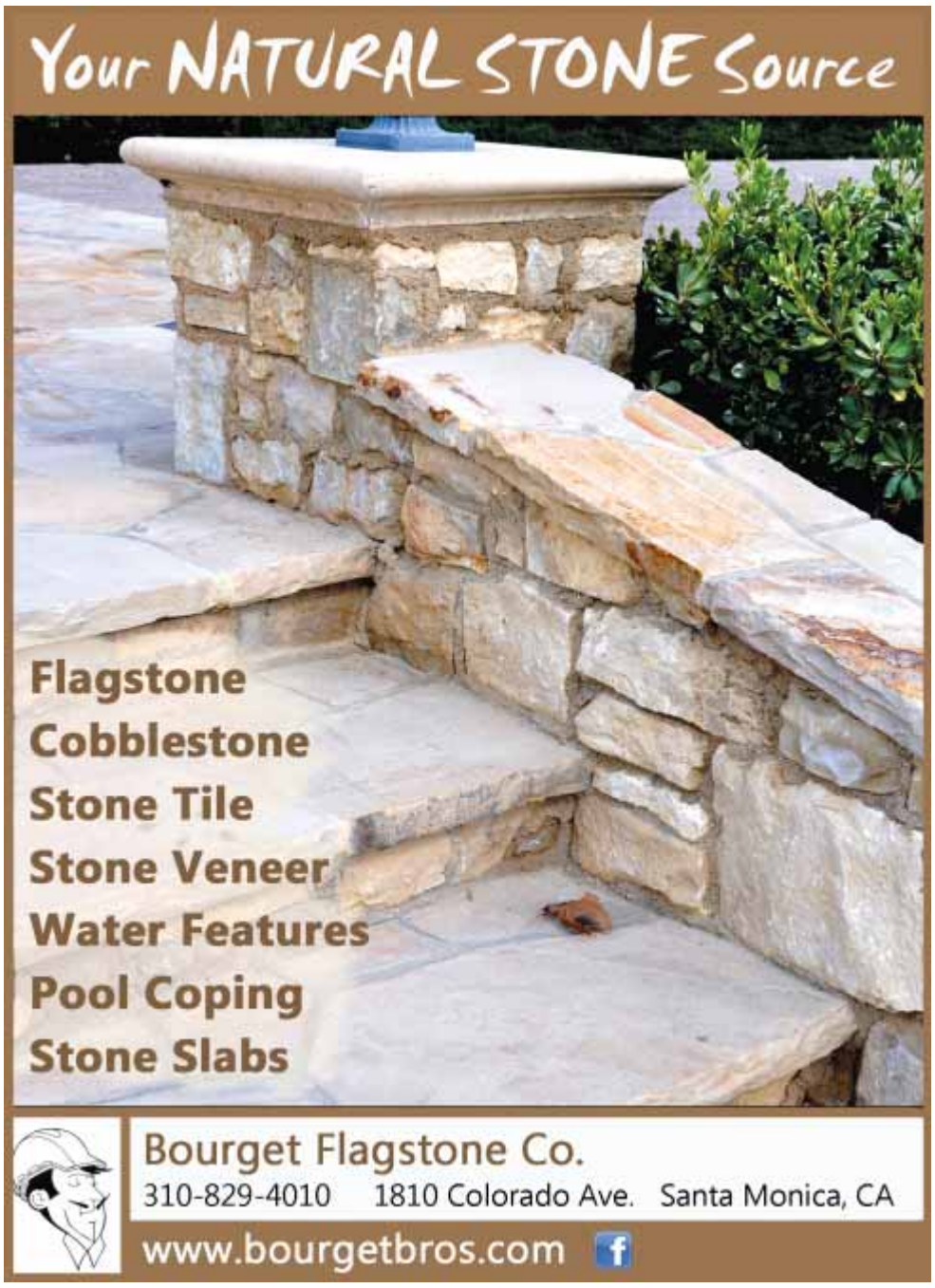
Carlson let Koeppe's closest friends in on the secret and presented her with a video featuring their congratulations back at the hotel. That gesture moved her to tears.

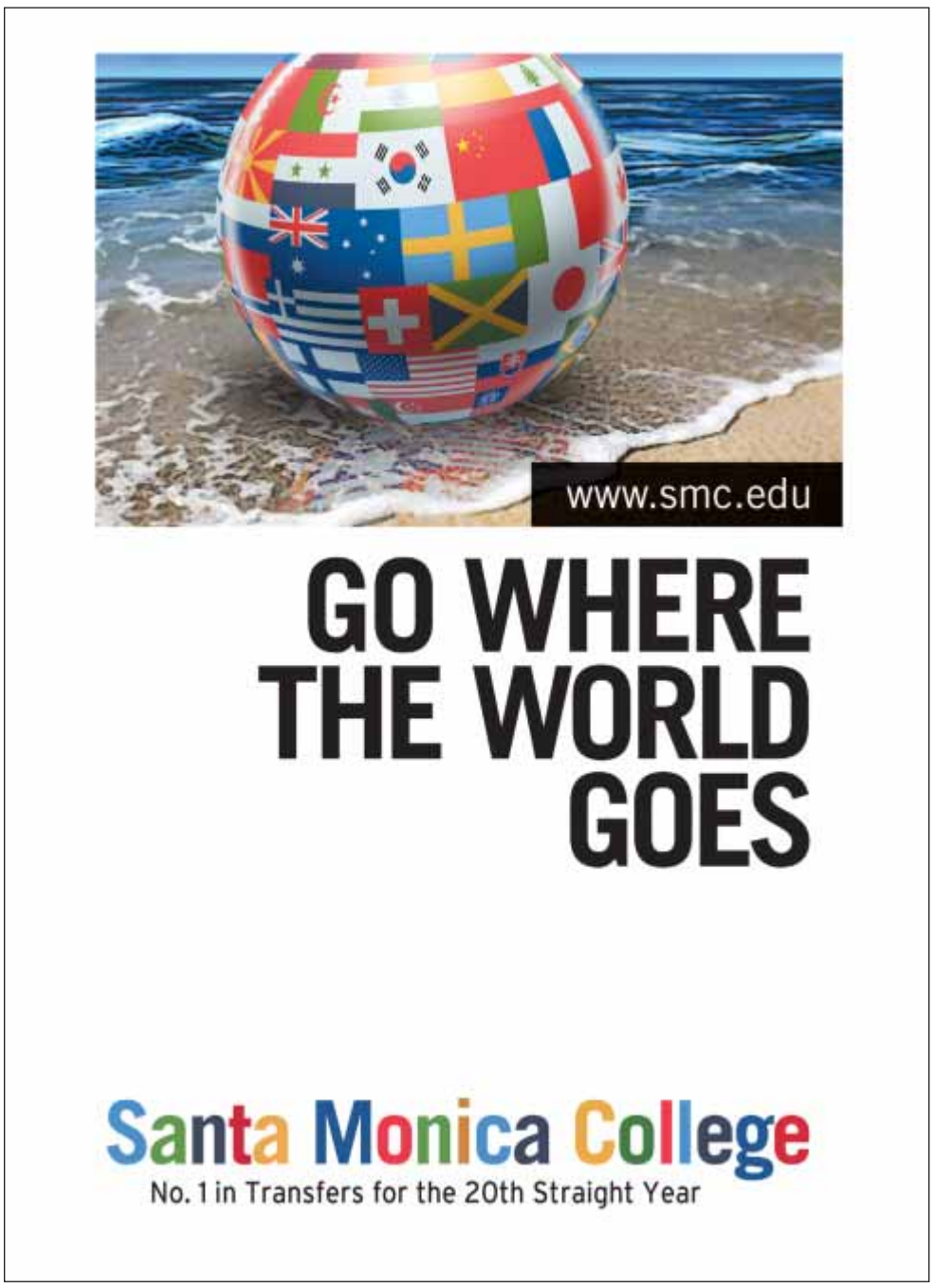
"It was beyond anything I could have imagined," said Koeppe, who's originally from Hopewell Valley, N.J. "New York in December is one of the more romantic places you could be."

Nyberg also went stealth. His fiancee is a freelance photographer and he concocted a fake client who was going to propose in gorilla gear at an outdoor skating rink in downtown St. Paul, Minn.

Nyberg showed up himself Dec. 16 with several friends, all dressed as gorillas who took to the ice.

"There's a nearby park and the trees were all lit up with Christmas lights. The rink is framed by all of these historic buildings. It was perfect," he said. "And I'm not a good skater. I managed to drop to one knee in skates on ice in a gorilla suit. It's sort of a minor miracle."









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New shopper types emerge during holiday season

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

Four types of American shoppers have altered the shopping landscape this holiday season.

There's the bargain hunter who times deals. The midnight buyer who stays up late for discounts. The returner who gets buyer's remorse. And the "me" shopper who self-gifts.

It's the latest shift by consumers in the fourth year of a weak U.S. economy. Shoppers are expected to spend $469.1 billion during the holiday shopping season that runs from November through December. While it won't be known just how much Americans spent until the season ends on Saturday, it's clear they are shopping differently than in years past.

"We're seeing different types of buying behavior in a new economic reality," says C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group.

THE BARGAIN TIMER

Cost-conscious shoppers haven't just been looking for bargains this season. They've also been more deliberate about when to find those deals. Many believe the biggest bargains come at the beginning and end of the season, which has created a kind of "dumbbell effect" in sales.

For the week ended on Nov. 26, which included the traditional start of the holiday shopping season on the day after Thanksgiving, stores had the biggest sales surge compared with the prior week since 1993, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers-Goldman Sachs Weekly Chain Stores Sales Index. The cumulative two-week-sales drop-off that followed marked the biggest percentage decline since 2000. Then, stores had another surge in the final days, as retailers stepped up promotions again.

"Shoppers are budgeting their money and time," says Paco Underhill, whose company, Envirosell, studies how consumers behave in stores. "They're focused on being opportunistic bargain shopping vultures."

THE MIDNIGHT BUYER

Bargain shoppers used to wake up at the crack of dawn to take advantage of big discounts on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. This year, some shoppers instead stayed up late on Thanksgiving night.

This shift in behavior was in large part due to retailers' efforts to outdo each other during the traditional start to the holiday shopping season. Stores like Macy's, Best Buy and Target for the first time opened at midnight on Thanksgiving night, offering deals that once were reserved for the next day.

Twenty-four percent of Black Friday shoppers were at stores at midnight, according to a poll by the National Retail Federation, the industry's biggest trade group. That's up from 9.5 percent the year before when only a few stores were open during that time.

But those hours mostly appealed to the younger set. Of those shopping at midnight on Black Friday, 37 percent were ages 18 to 34. Older shoppers weren't as quick to run to the malls. Only 23.5 percent of 35- to 54-year-olds were in stores by midnight.

Macy's, for one, drew 10,000 people to its midnight opening. Terry Lundgren, Macy's CEO, says many of them were young people who turned out for the Justin Bieber $65 gift sets and discounted fashions.

Anika Ruud, 15, of Boca Raton, Fla., went out with her four cousins to Macy's at midnight and then shopped at Target until 2:30 a.m. She picked up two bras at Macy's for $10. Then, she and her cousins went home to bed.

THE RETURNER

Shoppers who were lured into stores by bargains gleefully loaded up on everything from discounted tablet computers to clothing early in the holiday season. But soon after, many suffered a case of buyer's remorse and rushed back to return some of the items that they bought.

For instance, Elizabeth Yamada, 55, of Fort Lee, N.J., says she got caught up in the shopping frenzy over the Thanksgiving weekend and purchased a $350 coat that was marked down more than 50 percent at Macy's. She returned it a week later.

For every dollar stores take in this holiday season, it's expected they will have to give back 9.9 cents in returns, up from 9.8 last year, according to the a survey of 110 retailers the NRF. It would be the highest return rate since the recession. In better economic times, it's about 7 cents.

THE 'ME' SHOPPER

One for you; one for me.

After scrimping on themselves during the recession, Americans turned more self-indulgent. It's a trend that started last year, but became more prevalent this season.

According to the NRF, spending for non-gift items will increase by 16 percent this holiday season to $130.43 per person. That's the highest number recorded since it started tracking it in 2004.

"This season, the consumer put herself ahead of the giving," says Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst with market research firm The NPD Group.

Betty Thomas, a health care coordinator at a hospital in Raleigh, N.C., says she spent $1,700 on a ring and bracelet for herself and a rug for her home during the holiday season. That's up dramatically from the $200 she spent last year.

"I have been putting other people first," Thomas says. "I definitely felt I earned it."



Survey: Home prices down in major cities

DEREK KRAVITZ
AP Real Estate Writer

WASHINGTON U.S. home prices fell in most major cities for the second straight month, further evidence that the housing recovery will be bumpy and weigh on the broader economy in 2012.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller index released Tuesday showed prices dropped in October from September in 19 of the 20 cities tracked.

The decline reflects the typical fall slowdown after the peak buying season. Prices had risen modestly in April through August in at least half of the cities tracked.

Still, home prices have fallen roughly 32 percent nationwide since the housing bubble burst five years ago and are back to 2003 levels, according to the index.

Prices are even lower in hard-hit areas, such as Atlanta, Cleveland, Detroit, Phoenix and Las Vegas. Washington, New York, Los Angeles and San Diego have seen the smallest declines.

Home values remain depressed despite some modest progress in the housing market.

Residential construction is likely to add to U.S. economic growth in 2011, the first time that has happened in four years. That's mainly because apartments are being built almost twice as fast as two years ago — reflecting a surge in renting and weaker home sales.

The Case-Shiller index measures prices for roughly half of all U.S. homes. Prices are compared with those in January 2000 and the index is based on a three-month moving average. The monthly data are not seasonally adjusted.

Atlanta, Detroit and Minneapolis posted the biggest monthly declines. Prices in Atlanta and Las Vegas fell to their lowest points since the housing crisis began. Prices rose in Phoenix after three straight monthly declines.

David M. Blitzer, chairman of S&P's index committee, said steep price drops in cities such as Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit and Minneapolis were particularly worrisome because their gains earlier this season were so strong.

"Atlanta and the Midwest are regions that really stand out in terms of recent relative weakness," Blitzer said. "These markets were some of the strongest during the spring/summer buying season."

Americans are reluctant to purchase a home more than two years after the recession officially ended. High unemployment and weak job growth have deterred many would-be buyers. Even the lowest mortgage rates in history haven't been enough to lift sales.

Some people can't qualify for loans or meet higher down payment requirements. Many with good credit and stable jobs are holding off because they fear that prices will keep falling.

Sales of previously occupied homes are barely ahead of 2008's dismal figures — the worst in 13 years. And sales of new homes this year will likely be the worst since the government began keeping records a half century ago.

Prices are likely to fall further once banks resume millions of foreclosures. They have been delayed because of a year-long government investigation into mortgage lending practices.

Foreclosures and short sales — when a lender accepts less for a home than what is owed on a mortgage — are selling at an average discount of 20 percent.

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Romney's rivals attack in final Iowa caucus push

DAVID ESPO
AP Special Correspondent

DES MOINES, Iowa Displaying the confidence of a front-runner, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney swept into Iowa on Tuesday ahead of next week's caucuses, shrugged off criticism from his Republican rivals and unleashed an attack on President Barack Obama.

"Mr. President, you have now had your moment. We have seen the results. And now, Mr. President, it is our time," Romney said in excerpts of a speech released in advance by his campaign.

Romney spoke as his rivals vied in increasingly acerbic terms to emerge as his principal, conservative rival in the long march of primaries that will follow the caucuses. The Jan. 3 event is the official kick-off of the competition for delegates to next summer's Republican National Convention.

The strongest rhetoric of the day came from former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who said unequivocally he would not vote for Rep. Ron Paul if the Texan is the party's opponent against Obama next fall. In an interview on CNN, Gingrich said Paul, whose views verge on libertarianism, shows a "systematic avoidance of reality."

In a measure of the political stakes, the candidates and allied groups have spent more than $12 million on television commercials to air through caucus day next Tuesday. Romney, Texas Gov. Rick Perry and supporting groups account for nearly half the total, according to one estimate.

Most of Romney's rivals preceded him into the state during the day at the end of a holiday lull, seeking support in caucuses that are likely to dispatch one or more of them to a hasty campaign exit.

"My idea of gun control? Use both hands," said Perry, setting out on a bus tour in hopes of resurrecting his once-promising candidacy.

"I've been a conservative all my life," said Gingrich. He called Romney a "Massachusetts moderate ... who campaigned to the left of Teddy Kennedy."

In Dubuque, the first stop of a bus tour through the state, Gingrich said his own economic proposal for an optional flat-tax as well as the elimination of all capital gains taxes was a more pro-growth approach than Romney's prescription.

In a radio interview, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum said Romney had "sort of gotten a pass'" when he said in a recent debate he had done all he could as Massachusetts governor to block same-sex marriages in the state.

Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota had a bus of her own, and saw herself as the rightful Romney alternative.

"I am the only consistent conservative in the race and the only candidate with the proven leadership and experience to create more American jobs and repair our economy," she wrote in an email seeking donations for her underfunded candidacy.

Bachmann, Perry and Gingrich have all spent time atop the Iowa public opinion polls in recent months, either alone or alongside Romney, only to fall back.

Recent soundings suggest Texas Rep. Ron Paul is Romney's likeliest threat in Iowa. He is due in the state on Wednesday.

A conservative with libertarian leanings, Paul commands strong allegiance from his own supporters but appears to have little potential to expand his appeal and emerge as a serious challenger for the nomination.

Unlike his rivals and most Republican voters, he says the federal government should have no authority to ban abortion.

And Paul was alone among the GOP contenders in a recent debate in saying the United States should not consider preemptive military action to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, an issue of significant importance to Israel. He warned against jumping the gun, adding, "That's how we got into that useless war in Iraq."

Romney, making his second run for the nomination, has relied on a well-funded and disciplined organization, generally strong debate performances and deep-pocketed allies to keep his balance as others have risen to challenge him and fallen back.

According to one tally of television advertising in the state, the Massachusetts governor and a super PAC run by supporters have spent $3.7 million combined on ads through Jan. 3

The total was exceeded only by a combined $5.5 million for Perry and a super PAC set up by his supporters.

Whatever the outcome, there was a recognition that for some, Iowa might simultaneously be the first and last test of the campaign.

"If I finish dead last way behind the pack I'm going to pack up and go home," Santorum said in a radio interview on WHO in Des Moines. "But I don't think that's going to happen," he added instantly.

Santorum, more than any of the others, has campaigned in Iowa the old fashioned way by doggedly visiting all 99 counties and holding hundreds of town hall meetings.

In Mason City, on a final swing through the state, he, like the others, urged potential caucus-goers to look past the appeal of conservative pretenders.

"The siren song of 'this person can win' has been the mantra of a lot of the candidates," he said. "Vote for me because I can win."

In the state where caucuses propelled Obama toward the White House in 2008, the president's campaign organization pointed toward Election Day next Nov. 6.

With offices in eight Iowa cities, officials said Obama's re-election campaign has placed hundreds of thousands of phone calls since April to potential supporters.

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Hollywood


Colleges grapple with informing parents about suicidal students

JUSTIN POPE
AP Education Writer

The e-mail that arrived at Virginia Tech's health center in November 2007 was detailed and unmistakably ominous. It concerned a Tech senior named Daniel Kim and came from an acquaintance at another college.

"Daniel has been acting very suicidal recently, purchasing a $200 pistol, and claiming he'll go through with it," the e-mail read, adding details of a reported previous suicide attempt with pills. "This is not a joke."

By the time Virginia Tech told Daniel's father, William Kim, about that e-mail, it was too late.

A few weeks after it was sent to the school, he spoke with his son for the last time, Daniel indicating all was well and after final exams he'd be home for the holidays.

A few days after that, parked in his car outside a Target store near campus, Daniel fatally shot himself in the head.

"If I'd known, I could have taken him to doctors, get him on medication, make him normal again," William Kim, who owns a Washington, D.C., convenience store, said in a recent telephone interview, grief still echoing in his voice four years after the fact.

Virginia Tech's actions were all the more confounding coming just months after the murder-suicide rampage on the same campus by another student, Seung Hui Cho, which had supposedly prompted campuses nationwide to rethink their previous emphasis on confidentiality in treating troubled students.

"Who is going to take better care of him than his parents?" Kim said. "I never had the chance to do anything for him. That's a terrible feeling."

In an agreement finalized by a judge last month in a multimillion-dollar lawsuit brought by the family, the Kims settled with Virginia Tech for $250,000, plus an endowed scholarship in Daniel's name. But William Kim also insisted that the agreement include language requiring Virginia Tech to notify parents of a potentially suicidal student unless it documents a reason not to do so.

The university, which admits no fault, maintains the language reflects policies already in place there under a 2008 state law, and wouldn't have made a difference for Daniel Kim anyway. It continues to insist that, after sending local police to check on the student, and despite the detailed e-mail, it had no reason to believe he was actively suicidal and thus didn't need to notify his family.

But the family's attorney, Gary Mims, insists the settlement goes further than the state law, which applies only to students treated by university mental health services. Now, he says, Virginia Tech must at least consider notifying parents if it receives an indication from any source a student may be suicidal. Several experts described it as among the strongest such policies in the country.

The issue of when colleges should notify parents their adult children may be suicidal remains fraught with legal, medical and ethical dilemmas. College policies, state laws and professional codes of conduct vary widely — and occasionally conflict.

Some mental health professionals call the Virginia Tech settlement the latest step in a trend they welcome: Threats to safety increasingly take precedence over preserving confidentiality. They emphasize that in many cases, involving parents is not only right, but helpful.

"There's some good evidence if someone is really sick, that involving family in their treatment planning, the medication, helping them stay on track, are really good things to do," said Greg Eells, director of counseling and psychological services at Cornell University in New York, which has changed several policies to make notifying parents more common. "I think the (Virginia Tech settlement) is kind of affirming that."

But many remain wary of top-down pressure on counselors to notify parents as the default option, even if such policies are well-intentioned and allow exceptions. Many students have just passing thoughts of suicide. Also, relationships with parents may be part of the problem. Involving them too readily might discourage some people from getting help, or complicate treatment once they do.

"The less flexibility we have, it actually compromises care," said Mary-Jeanne Raleigh, director of counseling services at St. Mary's College in Maryland and president of ACCA, the American College Counseling Association. Overly rigid policies mean, she said, "I can't review what is best for the individual standing in front of me because the law is saying you have to x, y and z."

> **"IF I'D KNOWN, I COULD HAVE TAKEN HIM TO DOCTORS, GET HIM ON MEDICATION, MAKE HIM NORMAL AGAIN."**
>
> **William Kim**
> Convenience store owner

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for college students, behind automobile accidents. A 2010 survey of counseling center directors found at least 133 college students had taken their lives in the previous year. The better indicator is probably the rate, estimated at about 6 to 7.5 per 100,000 — though that's only about half the suicide rate for similarly aged people not in college.

But while the research highlights the danger, it also sheds light on why these are tough calls for colleges. Warning signs aren't always as black and white as they were at Virginia Tech. A milder form of suicidal ideation — fleeting hopelessness or thoughts about death —is common among college-age students.

A 2009 survey of 26,000 students at 70 colleges found that roughly half reported having had at least occasional suicidal thoughts. But more than half of those said such thoughts lasted a day or less. Roughly 6 percent of undergraduates reported they had "seriously considered attempting suicide" in the last 12 months. Colleges must determine who's most at risk — typically those who have made detailed plans and acquired means such as a weapon or pills.

"Someone who's seeking help but says, 'I have to admit I have these thoughts five or six times a day and they're kind of scary' — that's someone I wouldn't necessarily feel compelled to call the parents right away," Raleigh said. "That's very different from the person I get a call from at 3 o'clock on a Saturday morning who's been drinking and has immediate plans to kill themselves."

The following are summaries of Ordinance Numbers 2383 through 2385, which were adopted by the City Council on December 13, 2011.

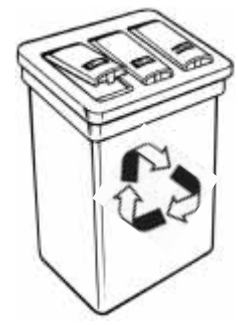
City of Santa Monica

Ordinance Number 2382 enhances protections for tenants by, among other things, amending the Municipal Code to increase permanent tenant relocation benefits and extending tenant harassment protections to all tenants covered by the City's just cause eviction rules.

Ordinance Number 2383 amends the City's zoning ordinance to allow showrooms for all-electric vehicles on the most northerly block of the Third Street promenade, subject to approval of a performance standards permit.

Ordinance Number 2384 amends the Municipal Code to establish compliance monitoring fees based on the cost of ensuring compliance with the City's affordable housing production program.

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

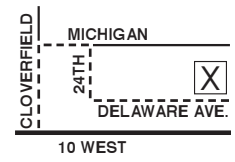


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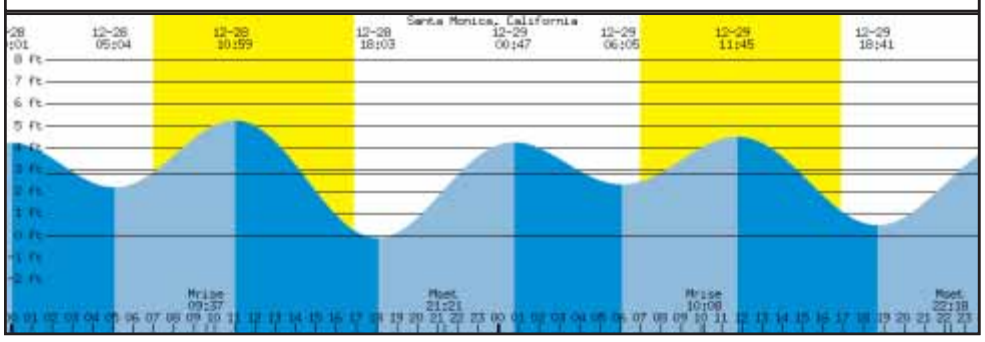
Swell Forecast

Today looks a bit smaller, about chest max for west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Thursday looks a bit smaller, but west facing breaks are still looking at about chest high on the sets.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **December 21, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 6
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 25 / 10
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LacarGUY, SMA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A	B
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	D	A
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	B
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	D
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Rominer Canyon Creek mouth.	B	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	D	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	F
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	D
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	D
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	C	C
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A

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

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

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

MLB

Judge explains reasoning in Dodgers case

JESSICA GRESKO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON A U.S. District Judge in Delaware says a bankruptcy judge erred in freeing the Los Angeles Dodgers from provisions of its current Fox Sports TV contract.

U.S. District Judge Leonard Stark released a 33-page ruling Tuesday explaining his reasoning after he issued an order last Friday to halt the Dodgers' plans to sell the media rights to future games as part of the team's impending sale.

Fox currently has the rights to produce, record and telecast Dodgers games through the 2013 season. The contract gives Fox certain rights in negotiating an extension, including the right to talk exclusively with the team in advance of competing offers. But a judge handling the team's bankruptcy proceedings ruled the "no-shop" provisions were unenforceable in bankruptcy.

Fox has appealed that decision, which hurts its chances of holding on to the broadcasting rights. Lawyers are set to argue the appeal before Stark in January.

Stark said lawyers for Fox have demonstrated a substantial likelihood they will succeed in January's hearing. That's because the bankruptcy judge who freed the Dodgers from the current contract arrangement with Fox improperly relied on a single case in making his decision, Stark said. In addition, Stark wrote that U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Kevin Gross likely made two factual mistakes: finding that the sale of the broadcasting rights was necessary to ensure creditors were paid and finding that the broadcasting rights needed to be sold to maximize the team's value.

The Dodgers sought bankruptcy protection in June after baseball Commissioner Bud Selig rejected a new TV deal with Fox that Dodgers owner Frank McCourt was counting on to keep the franchise solvent. The Dodgers ultimately reached an agreement with the league that calls for a sale of both the team and the media rights. The team must be sold by April 30.

Fox Sports spokesman Chris Bellitti did not immediately return telephone messages Tuesday requesting comment. Dodgers spokesman Robert Siegfried said the team would not discuss Tuesday's opinion.

The April 30 sale deadline in the settlement between the Dodgers and MLB coincides with the deadline for McCourt to pay $131 million to his ex-wife, Jamie, as part of their divorce settlement.





MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Ninotchka (NR) 1hr 50min
Design For Living (NR) 1hr 31min
7:30pm
Introduction by Ernst Lubitsch's daughter, Nicola Lubitsch.

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

New Year's Eve (PG-13) 1hr 57min
10:40am, 1:25pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 10:05pm

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
11:45am, 2:50pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2hrs 40min
10:50am, 2:35pm, 6:10pm, 9:50pm

My Week with Marilyn (R) 1hr 36min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

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

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
9:45am, 1:05pm, 4:25pm, 7:45pm, 11:05pm

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 1hr 27min
9:50am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 5:55pm, 8:20pm, 10:55pm

War Horse (PG-13) 2hrs 26min
11:25am, 12:05pm, 3:00pm, 3:35pm, 6:30pm, 7:05pm, 9:55pm, 10:35pm

We Bought a Zoo (PG) 2hrs 04min
10:15am, 1:20pm, 4:25pm, 7:30pm, 10:35pm

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13) 2hrs 08min
10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:15pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

Muppets (PG) 1hr 38min
9:30am
Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (R) 2hrs 40min
9:30am, 12:05pm, 3:40pm, 7:20pm, 11:00pm

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

Descendants (R) 1hr 55min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Artist (PG-13) 1hr 40min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Dangerous Method (R) 1hr 39min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Shame (NC-17) 1hr 39min
1:40pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

Adventures of Tintin (PG) 1hr 41min
10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG-13) 2hrs 12min
10:30am, 1:50pm, 5:00pm, 8:15pm, 11:30pm

Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
10:40am, 1:45pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm\\

Darkest Hour (PG-13) 1hr 29min
1:15pm, 6:15pm, 11:20pm

Young Adult (R) 1hr 34min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:00pm, 8:30pm, 11:10pm

Adventures of Tintin 3D (PG) 1hr 41min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:20pm, 8:10pm, 10:55pm

Darkest Hour 3D (PG-13) 1hr 29min
10:50am, 3:45pm, 8:40pm

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

Let your imagination choose, Capricorn

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Read between the lines with a friend. At first you might feel this is unnecessary, as this person generally is forthright. Your imagination peaks in a brainstorming session. Tonight: Others wonder if you are Houdini, the way you vanished.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A lot drops on you out of the blue. You handle responsibility well, but that doesn't mean it knocks your socks off. Be willing to say no once in a while. Focus on a meeting that could turn into a brainstorming situation. Tonight: Where the fun is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Do needed research -- now is the time to ask a question, not later. You know what you want. However, is it reasonable and is there a better path? You have a great imagination; now you are finding ways to harness some of those great ideas. Tonight: Working late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Deal with people directly. Your eye contact and gestures tell them when you are not kidding. You might be taken aback by what is going on. Opportunities strike when you zero in on what you want. Tonight: Follow the music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Others seek you out en masse. You might not be able to follow through on your plans because of the constant interruptions. You like hearing from others, but you might need to isolate yourself. An important conversation needs to be postponed until later. Tonight: Talk time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Get as much done as possible. Yes, you are overwhelmed by everything you have to do. Your imagination and creativity could open up a door. Reach out for someone at a distance. Once more, you are reminded just how difficult another person can be. Tonight: Midweek break!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ With everything that is going on around you, you might have difficulty settling down. Suddenly, someone who is distant wants to pull in close. You wonder what is going on with him or her. Your imagination emerges with a simple chore or errand. Tonight: Have a talk with a key partner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Your ability to see a situation through someone else's eyes could be important. Yet your first reaction is to pull back from what this person expresses. Tonight: Kissing goodbye to 2012 as only you can. Isn't it a little early?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Stay centered, knowing you have a lot to accomplish. You could feel overwhelmed by everything that appears. You might have had enough of a friend who, in a sense, is yanking your chain. Tonight: Head home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ A boss or someone you look up to could be down on what you think is a good, workable idea. Know that you might need to instrument this project or do it on your own. Use care with your finances. Tonight: Let your imagination choose.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max, and finish up as much work as you can. Do you feel overwhelmed by what is going on? Keep reaching for more information, or get a respected associate's feedback. Tonight: Your treat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You might not be comfortable with others in the morning. Isolate yourself. You will accomplish more and emerge feeling much better. You have pushed to the max to get to this point. Your ability to circumvent a problem saves the day. Tonight: Happier and ready to greet the world.

Happy birthday

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

This year your ability to adapt and grow comes to the forefront. Many changes could greet you. You might not be thrilled in the immediate future, but ultimately you will be pleased. If you are single, remind yourself that time is an ally. Use it. Don't decide on a commitment until next year. If you are attached, the two of you have different opinions. Respect the differences, and your bond will grow closer. AQUARIUS can offend your sensibilities by their very nature.



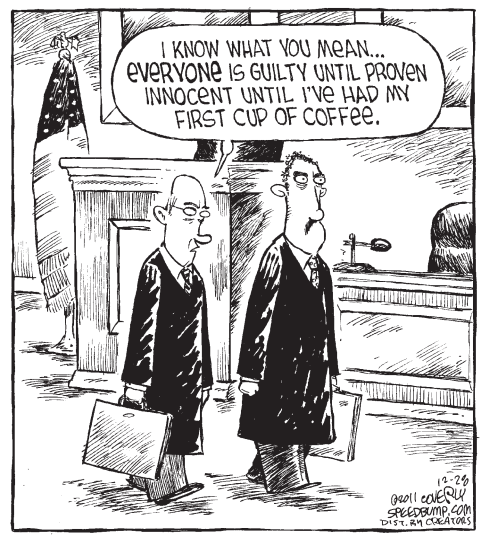
MYSTERY PHOTO

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.

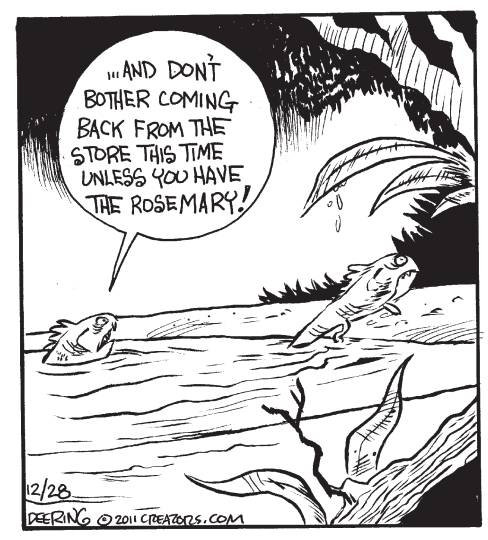
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



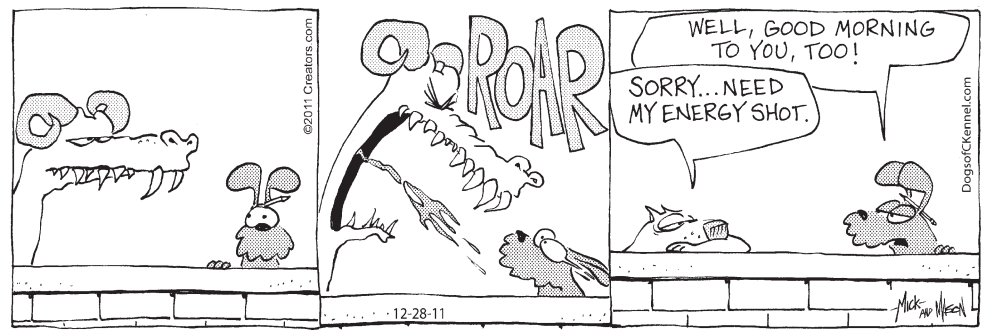
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



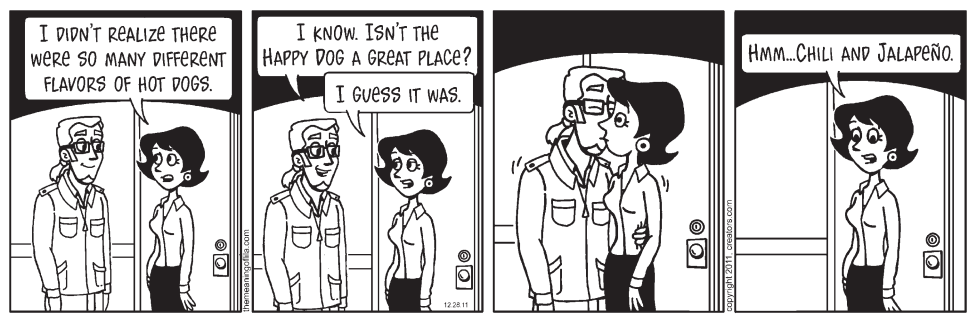
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



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 ★★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Book unit
5 Perfume ingredient
9 Wipe clear
11 Inferno describer
12 Stunned
13 Mayflower name
14 Playwright Burrows
15 City structure
17 City structure
19 Santa — winds
20 Tennis setting
21 Hwys.
22 Hit's counterpart
24 Sunbeam
26 Plane features
29 Decline
30 City structure
32 City structure
34 Prevaricate
35 Bakery output
36 Soda fountain orders
38 Arrested
39 Fencing swords
40 Storage spot
41 Whirlpool

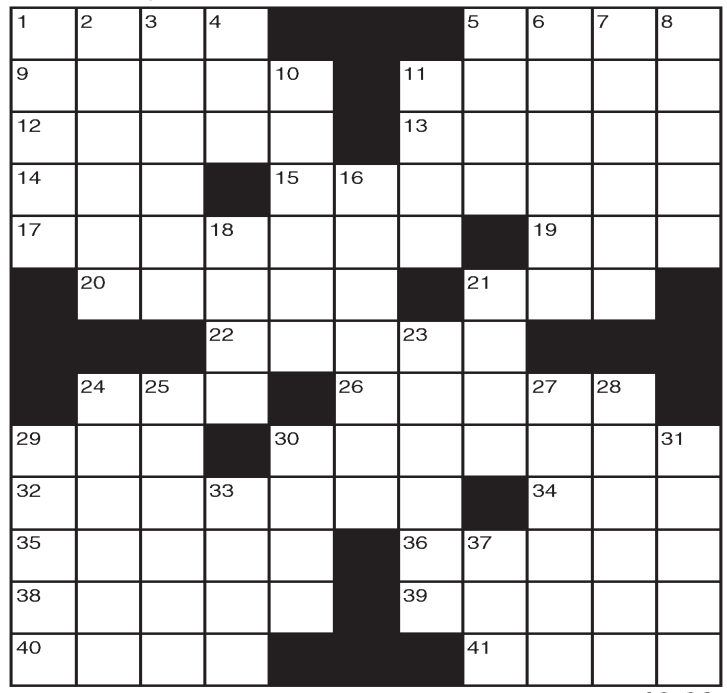
DOWN

1 Brake, for one
2 Middle East language
3 Shady shelter
4 Jargon suffix
5 Shopper's place
6 Zombies
7 Boat backs
8 Nairobi's nation
10 Mystery awards
11 Tyne of TV
16 Skilled performer
18 July birthstone
21 Peruse
23 "Gracious!"
24 Enthusiastic
25 Milestone birthday
27 Worked the soil
28 Apt
29 Rating units
30 Lee of comics fame
31 Cluttered
33 Surrounded by
37 King Kong, for one

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

Yesterday's answer

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12-28

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

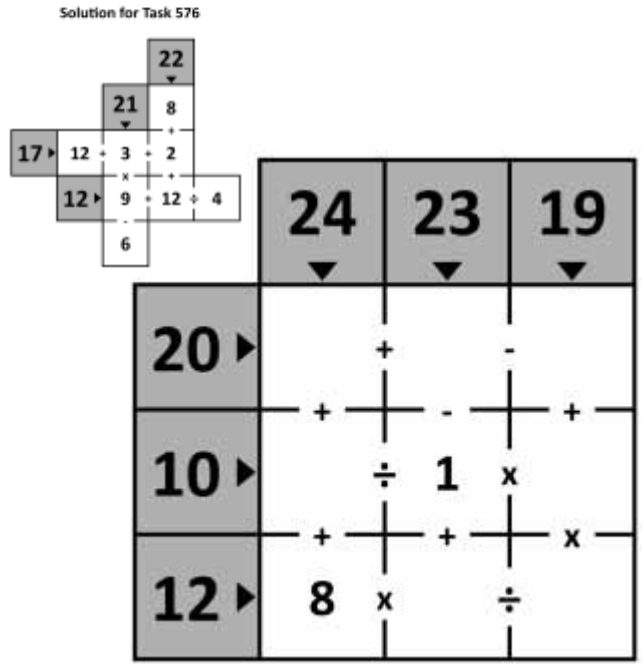
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Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

2, 3, 5, 8, 11, 12, 12

Solution for Task 576



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Fantasy 5: 19 21 22 31 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 2 3 EVENING: 1 6 5

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1:42.83

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ It seemed a rare event (first reported in 1994 but initially regarded as an "urban legend"). However, twice now recently, workers have played a particularly dangerous prank on a colleague. A month after the recent News of the Weird story about Gareth Durrant's lawsuit in England against co-workers who had inserted a compressed-air hose into his rectum, a carpenter's assistant in Nicosia, Cyprus, was jailed for 45 days for pulling the same stunt on his colleague, rupturing his large intestine.

■ Sometimes professionals who overbill for their hours go too far, claiming obviously impossible schedules, such as lawyers News of the Weird reported on in 1992 and 1994 (one, a Raleigh, N.C., lawyer, submitted one client bills averaging nearly 1,200 hours a month -- even though a month only has 744 hours). New York City officials said in October 2011, however, that it's quite possible that city prison psychiatrist Dr. Quazi Rahman actually did work 141 hours one week, including 96 straight (because of a shortage of staff and because he could properly nap during his shifts). They ordered him to return only a tiny amount of his $500,000 in overtime payments for the last year.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1950 The Peak District becomes the United Kingdom's first National Park.

1973 The Endangered Species Act is passed in the United States.

1974 Senegalese marxist group Reenu-Rew founds the political movement And-Jëf at a clandestine congress.

1989 A magnitude 5.6 earthquake hits Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia, killing 13 people.

2000 U.S. retail giant Montgomery Ward announces it is going out of business after 128 years.

2009 43 people die in a suicide bombing in Karachi, Pakistan, where Shia Muslims are observing the Day of Ashura.

WORD UP!

adventive \ ad-VEN-tiv \ , adjective;

1. Not native and usually not yet well established, as exotic plants or animals.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011122617 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 10/26/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SHERMAN OAKS AUDIO AND VIDEO. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Edward C. Herzoff 10766 Crebs Ave. Northridge, CA 91326. This Business is being conducted by: . The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/20/2000. /s/: Edward C. Herzoff. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/26/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 11/28/2011, 12/4/2011, 12/11/2011, 12/18/2011.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011137818 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/28/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as INFAMOUS MONEY CLOTHING. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Andre Wong 400 North Toland Ave. West Covina, CA 91790. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Andre Wong. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/28/2011. 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 12/28/2011, 01/04/2012, 01/11/2012, 01/18/2012.

Statement of Abandonment of Use of Fictitious Business Name
Document Record #2011137826
Current File No.2011079184
State of California, County of Los Angeles
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious Business name:
INFAMOUS MONEY
The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 8/10/2011 in the county of LOS ANGELES.
Registered owners: INFAMOUS MONEY, 400 NORTH TOLAND AVE., WEST COVINA, CA 91790
This business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP
/s/ SUSAN KUSHNATSIAN
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 8/2/2010
Published: SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 12/28/2011, 1/4/2012, 1/11/2012, 1/18/2012

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South of Wilshire	=	$799,000	$499,000
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