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Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2010
Volume 10 Issue 41



Santa Monica Daily Press

BADGER DOES DOUBLE DUTY
SEE PAGE 12

We have you covered

THE HERE COMES 2011 ISSUE

TOP 10 STORIES OF 2010











Photos by Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Santa Monica might be located on the coast, but it is anything but a sleepy beach town. Here are the stories that shaped the city by the sea this year.

BY NICK TABOREK
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN You could say Santa Monica had a little bit of everything in 2010.

From the bizarre — like the revelation back in March that celebrated local sushi restaurant The Hump was illegally selling whale meat — to the heartwarming — like the successful grassroots effort to save the financially challenged Twilight Dance Series concerts last summer — there was hardly a dull moment.

The city was also visited by epic public spectacles like the popular art event GLOW and the L.A. Marathon.

The economy dominated the national discussion for much of the year, and it was a local focal point as well in 2010. All in all it was a mixed economic bag for Santa Monica, with the long-awaited reopening of the Santa Monica Place mall providing a high point, but with many local businesses continuing to struggle and the state's fiscal crisis leading to the first Big Blue Bus fare increase in years. The City Council, for the first time in memory, passed a budget that included reductions in grants to social service providers, though big cuts, layoffs and

SEE TOP STORIES PAGE 8

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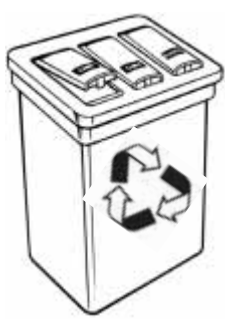
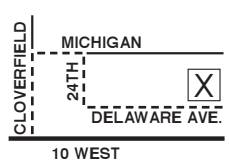
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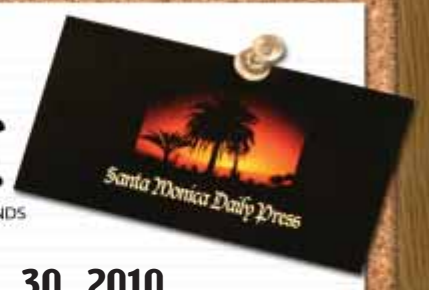
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, Dec. 30, 2010

Badgers unite
Santa Monica Pier
3 p.m.
Join thousands of Badger fans at the world-famous Santa Monica Pier for what could be a record-setting crowd. Show your Badger spirit at the official Wisconsin football Rose Bowl pep rally with the UW Spirit Squad, the UW Band and other special guests. This event is free.

Hang with a Heisman winner
Santa Monica Place
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Meet Wisconsin football great and Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne in the plaza at Santa Monica Place. He will be signing autographs and meeting with fans.

Adventures in Acting
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 4 p.m.
Adventures in Acting helps kids make friends and gain self-confidence and have some theatrical fun at the same time. Participants work with costumes and make-up and are featured in a fully-staged play. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 9.

Talking news
Fairview Branch 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 information, call (310) 458-8681.

Friday, Dec. 31, 2010

A speakeasy New Year's Eve
Basement Tavern
2640 Main St., 5 p.m. — 2 a.m.
Basement Tavern at the Victorian is bringing the speakeasy to street level this New Year's Eve. Join them on Main Street as they open up the three floors of the stunning Victorian house for an all-night prohibition era-style soiree. For more information, call (310) 392-4956.

The Annual All-New New Year's Eve One-Time-Only Musical Revue
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1211 Fourth St., 6 p.m.
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Wine and cheese for New Year's Eve
Paint:Lab
2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Paint:Lab is celebrating New Year's Eve with paint, wine and cheese. This is an open-lab event with no instructor. For information, call (310) 450-9200.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

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Plenty of local options for New Year's Eve



File photo

DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY: **Revelers party at Zanzibar during a New Year's Eve celebration a few years back.**

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Whether it's a black tie affair or a laid-back get together with friends, Santa Monica abounds with choices for ringing in the New Year in style. Here are five of the most interesting sounding options in town:

If you feel like getting fancy, don your black and white cocktail attire and head to Wokcano's Black and White Masquerade Ball. Festivities include live Brazilian Samba music and a fire dancing performance — 1413 Fourth St., $40 in advance, $50 at the door.

For plentiful champagne (OK, it may only be sparkling wine) on a budget, check out Pourtal Wine Bar, where there's a "bottomless bubbly" promotion in effect from 9 p.m. to midnight. A never-ending glass is only $20.11 — 104 Santa Monica Blvd.

To ring in the New Year with a heavy dose of nostalgia, there's nothing like the Basement Tavern, which is going all out 1920s style for the night. Located in the basement of The Victorian, the speakeasy is hosting a prohibition era soiree that will include festivities in the main house — 2640 Main St., $40 pre-sale, $50 at door, includes two drinks.

If you're in the mood for some culture along with your revelry, try the Santa Monica Playhouse, which is presenting a

SEE **NEW YEAR'S EVE** PAGE 10

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

COLORADO AVENUE

More time for more food

The Big Blue Bus and Santa Monica Chapter of the Red Cross are extending the deadline for this year's food drive.

The annual, City Hall-sponsored food drive, which helps families and individuals throughout Santa Monica and the Westside, has been extended until Jan. 10, 2011. Those wishing to donate food can drop off non-perishable items at many local libraries, fire stations, the Public Safety Facility, City Hall or at the BBB Transit Store at 223 Broadway near the Third Street Promenade.

Those wishing to make monetary donations can visit the American Red Cross website at www.redcrossofsantamonica.org.

– DAILY PRESS

Angel statues the subject of L.A. man's search

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The population of winged guardians in the City of Angels is not what it was.

A downtown Los Angeles resident wants to find out what happened to dozens of terra-cotta angel sculptures that once adorned a landmark downtown building that was demolished in 1969.

The Richfield Building, a black, art-deco tower, which was built in 1929 and served as the headquarters for Richfield Oil, was festooned with 40 golden angels wearing roman helmets and breastplates. The 10-foot-tall majestic sentries gazed down on the city from the 12-floor building.

When the tower was pulled down to make way for a generic-looking high-rise complex, the angels were removed and offered for sale for $100 and one of them was bought by an Orange County family.

> **"THE CRANE OPERATOR WEIGHED IT AND FOUND IT WAS 1 TONS, SO I HAD TO HAVE A SPECIAL BASE MADE TO HOLD IT. ALTOGETHER, IT ENDED UP COSTING $10,000."**
>
> Eric Lynxwiler
> Local historian and urban anthropologist

Local historian and urban anthropologist Eric Lynxwiler heard the family was selling the sculpture, so he bought it for $2,500 and attempted to bring it back to his downtown loft in a truck.

"I ended up hiring a crane and a forklift," Lynxwiler told the Los Angeles Times. "The crane operator weighed it and found it was 1 tons, so I had to have a special base made to hold it. Altogether, it ended up costing $10,000."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Nothing wrong with nativity

Editor:

In a recent article, Damon Vix voices concern that the city is subsidizing electricity to light the nativity scenes and is losing revenue from "bagging" parking meters in front of the scenes ("Displaying displeasure with nativity scenes," Dec. 24, page 1). Rules for winter displays in Palisades Park clearly state that sponsors (like the Nativity Scenes Committee) are responsible to pay for any electricity used. Procedures and the reimbursement fee that apply when meters are temporarily taken out of service to accommodate any individuals and non-municipal groups are determined by the city and are reviewed from time to time.

Mr. Vix is also disturbed that the nativity scenes display appears in a public park. However, the U.S. Supreme Court has determined that nativity scenes sponsored by private groups are permitted on public property. A living nativity scene was held this year on public property in Washington, D.C., for example.

What really is at issue here is free speech. The same rules that allow Mr. Vix to erect the solstice display in Palisades Park allow sponsors to erect the nativity scenes there. Mr. Vix, however, seems to think that some types of speech ought to be freer than others. He says the solstice display is "more appropriate for a park" than the nativity scenes and wants City Hall to review (and presumably revoke) the policy allowing the nativity scenes. He seems to think that the city ought to go into the business of censoring speech that has religious content and thereby shut down this historic community Christmas tradition cherished by more than two generations of Santa Monicans and countless visitors.

We do not seek to shut down the solstice display. We welcome a contrasting view. We encourage members of the public between now and the end of the year to walk or drive along Ocean Avenue from Wilshire Boulevard to just south of Arizona Avenue, view both displays, and decide for themselves which presents a more compelling message of love, joy, hope and peace on earth.

Hunter T. Jameson
Chairman, Santa Monica Nativity Scenes Committee

Building bridges

Editor:

Bridge builders needed: In 2011 we can follow the forces of negation on a continuing road to ruin or Americans can connect and unite behind common goals.

The country and world need a lot of new bridges: Between north and south, between rich and poor, between economy and environment, between Israelis and Palestinians, between Muslims and Christians, between technology and nature.

In our complex world, in which increasing differences come head to head more and more often, there is no better work than building bridges.

Just accentuating contrasts will bring us to collective ruin while bridging our differences will provide the country and world with a new and more promising future.

Ron Lowe
Santa Monica



Life Matters

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

Resolutions: Resolve to take baby steps in 2011

Dear New Shrink,

You won't believe this, but my husband and I actually got into an argument over New Year's resolutions. It's nothing serious, mostly silly but I thought I would ask your opinion on it.

I won't say whom, but one of us thinks that resolutions are nonsense and the other thinks that they are important because they help us set our goals and to try to be disciplined for the year ahead.

What do you think?

Signed,
Silly

Dear Silly,

I don't think that resolutions are silly at all but the truth is that most of us do not keep them. This is primarily because we over shoot the mark. We make major promises to ourselves that we are not likely to keep because they are not realistic.

If you are going to make a resolution, you need to consider several things.

1. Is this a realistic goal or a pipe dream?

2. Look over the past year, was there something you know you needed to change or work on but somehow you did not get around to it? If so, maybe that should be a goal for 2011, a resolution, if you are going to keep your promise to yourself this time.

3. Many of our resolutions are unrealistic because they are simply beyond our control; not something we can do on our own without help.

4. If you are talking about stopping some self-destructive behavior like drinking, drugging, overeating, spending, gambling etc., your resolution should be, "I am going to get help with this and try my best to stop it" with the help! Decide what a few help options might be and give yourself until the end of January (no longer) to research them and pick one to get started with immediately.

5. If you have marital conflict or relationship issues, and you had them around this time last year, you need to consider getting the appropriate help and quit wasting time on something so valuable. In order to make your resolution real, have it be that you will call someone for help before the end of January.

6. Lots of people join gyms, spend money on sign-ups for self help seminars, but don't follow through a month or two later. Don't waste the money. Think it through and if you decide it's right for you, perhaps tell a friend or two about it so that you are more likely to keep your commitment.

7. Don't make promises to yourself that you can't keep. Try to be as self-reflective and honest with yourself as you can be and then choose realistic goals. Again, consider telling a friend, or using the buddy system.

8. Keep in mind that we often feel guilty or bad about ourselves if we don't keep a resolution, so what is the point of making it if we haven't really thought it through and made sure that it is a good one for us?

9. It is a good idea to use the first of the year to take stock of ourselves and to think about what we need to be doing going forward. Use your time and thoughts wisely rather then making resolutions that are not well thought out or truly important.

10. In thinking about yourself, be introspective; think about what is valuable and meaningful to you. Whatever you decide to do, it should be based on what is truly important to you and not on what others may think or what you want to do to impress someone else.

11. Perhaps you want to do something to help others, contribute in some way to your community? Maybe your resolution is not just about doing something for you. Resolutions should not only be realistic, they should be meaningful and something you really can and will do because of their importance and value to you.

12. Finally, a resolution is meant to be about bringing you more joy and happiness in the coming year. So make sure that you make one or more that will bring you true inner joy.

Remember, resolutions mean that we have resolved to do something. This requires serious contemplation and should always be something you are sure you want to do, will get help doing if need be, and something that is meaningful to you and will bring joy to your heart.

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist and licensed marriage and family therapist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her web site at www.drbarge.com. Send anonymous questions and replies to newshrink@gmail.com. Got something on your mind? Let us help you with your life matters.

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What's all the fuss about?

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE, those who go out on New Year's Eve and those who stay in until the New Year is at least 10 to 12 hours old.

New Year's Eve is commonly referred to as "amateur night," which is seemingly inaccurate since many of the people who tend to "party like it's 1999" on the last night of the year do it annually, presumably rendering them expert revelers.

Those who've already set their DVRs so they can watch Anderson Cooper or Ryan Seacrest kill time before the ball drops in Times Square imagine that for those with plans to venture out, it'll be a night not unlike a prom — expectations are high, a large sum of money will be spent and the evening will never, ever turn out as planned.

Like high schoolers attending the prom, merrymakers on New Year's Eve generally start preparing for the big night weeks, if not months, ahead of time.

New clothes are almost mandatory for the prom and New Year's Eve, as it's far more dramatic and satisfying to elicit gasps and envious stares when making a grand entrance into either a decorated high school gym or catering hall or a first night soirée in a bar or restaurant in a freshly purchased outfit rather than in the same old thing worn to the homecoming dance or the office holiday party. Of course if it's done correctly, the ensemble — which requires many hours of online research, scores of miles on the odometer to comparison shop, several low-carb crash diets and dozens of minimum payments with double digit percentage interest rate charges to a credit card company — can never be seen in public again, as it will obviously be a repeat wearing of a memorable get-up.

Many people spend a considerable amount of time before the big night searching for the perfect date. Potential candidates are Googled. Mutual friends are covertly consulted. Planned accidental meetings are arranged. But while having a romantic date is generally preferred for the prom and New Year's, going with a friend at least comes in handy when splitting expenses (e.g. the car service or the bar tab), gossiping about other attendees (e.g. "Can you believe she's wearing that?" or "How much do you want to bet he ends up passed out in the alley before the champagne toast?") and having someone to peck platonically when the clock strikes midnight or with whom to dance when "Wonderful Tonight" blares out over the scratchy sound system. However, the big fear of going out on a first date to the prom or on New Year's is that, absent any chemistry, the would-be beau takes off for greener pastures.

At the prom and on New Year's Eve, the emotional temperature is almost guaranteed to skyrocket. Someone always cries. On New Year's, it's too much alcohol that tends to triggers the drama (e.g. "I have no one to kiss at midnight and I'll be alone forever"). At the prom, the tears might flow out of nostalgia combined with fear of the unknown beyond graduation (e.g. "I love you guys so much and I'm never going to see you again"). In both cases, the waterfall usually dries up by brunch the following day and most witnesses are polite enough to pretend that they never saw the meltdown.

On both occasions, food tends to be shockingly expensive and often times the quality is wholly underwhelming. Establishments that on every other night of the year greet patrons for free will demand payment simply for the privilege of walking in the door. Restaurants that accommodate large parties tend to charge dearly in the form of prix-fixe menus for the hassle of serving large, unsupervised groups of teens or over-cocktailed adults. Culinary selections are limited, the food is almost always overcooked and under-heated and knowing that the gratuity has already been factored into the bill of a big party, the wait staff can be impatient or scarce.

When the final notes of Donna Summer's "Last Dance" fade from the speakers or the ball drops in Times Square, it's not uncommon for post-event blues to sink in. Prom attendees with curfews are crestfallen that the big night had a shelf life of just a few hours. New Year's partyers easily turn into pumpkins when the flow of complimentary alcohol comes to an abrupt end.

But, after-party pessimism aside, people past prom-prime who just aren't content spending quiet evenings on the couch waiting for next Dec. 31 shouldn't despair, as there are year-round fête possibilities: weddings. Hardly anyone can get away with wearing the same outfit twice (especially brides), much money will be spent on gifts, many people will imbibe excessively and someone will inevitably cry at each ceremony about not being the one walking down the aisle.

The 2011 batch of wedding invites should start trickling into mailboxes soon. Something to look forward to before next New Year's Eve.

More at meredithcarroll.com.

The Q Line

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Off on a good note

As one year passes and another nears, we couldn't help but wonder what you thought Santa Monica's government should reconsider as we head into 2011.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What should be City Hall's New Year's resolution?

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. 102.**



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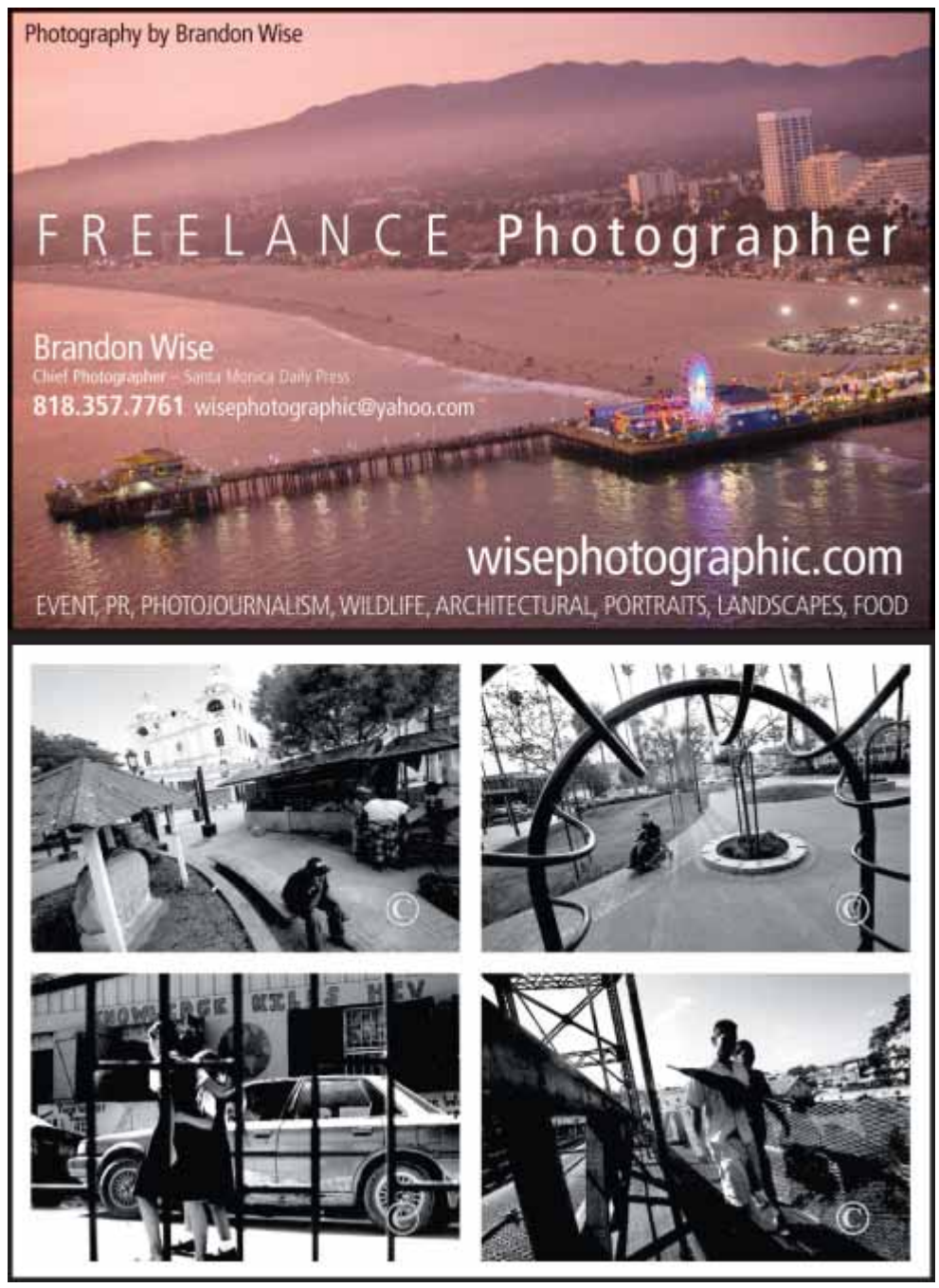
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STATE BRIEFS

BAKERSFIELD

Widow sells off fossil collection

The widow of an amateur paleontologist who amassed a massive trove of exquisite marine mammal fossils gathered from his property near Bakersfield is selling off the collection.

Poor health and financial problems have forced Mary Ernst to auction off fossils gathered by her husband, Bob Ernst, who died in 2007.

The couple lived next to Sharktooth Hill, a national natural landmark. The property is home to one of the richest known deposits of marine mammal fossils, said University of California, Berkeley professor Jere Lipps.

Its parched hills east of Bakersfield, better known for the oil rigs that pump crude from even deeper ancient seabed, were part of a tropical oasis 15 million years ago.

The fossils, which include sharks' teeth and the skeleton of an ancestor of the sea lion, had been on display at a small Bakersfield museum that was started largely to house the fossils.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Hostage situation ends with arrest

Los Angeles police have arrested a man they say held his mother-in-law hostage for six hours in a Hollywood home.

Sgt. Rudy Vidal tells the Los Angeles Times that a domestic violence report sent officers to the home at around 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, leading to a standoff with the man inside.

Vidal says the man surrendered and released the woman at about 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, shortly after SWAT teams arrived.

Vidal says the man wasn't armed and the woman wasn't hurt.

He was arrested on suspicion of making criminal threats. His name wasn't immediately released.

AP

Court denies Schwarzenegger's buildings sale

JUDY LIN
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO The California Supreme Court on Tuesday denied Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's last-minute plea to let him complete the sale of 11 state government properties before he leaves office next week.

Acting Chief Justice Patricia Benke issued a one-sentence ruling denying the Republican governor's petition to allow the transaction to go through before Jan. 3. The ruling means the decision to sell the buildings will fall to Gov.-elect Jerry Brown.

Brown has not said publicly what he wants to do, and a spokesman said the incoming Democratic governor will review the proposal after he is sworn in. As the state's attorney general, Brown declined to represent Schwarzenegger in the case.

"We're disappointed with the court's action," said Eric Lamoureux, a spokesman for the Department of General Services, the state agency in charge of the sale. "This isn't about Schwarzenegger or Brown. The Legislature passed this, and the governor signed it. We intend to carry out the intent of the Legislature when the courts will allow us to do that."

Three former members of the state building authority had sued to stop the sale, saying it amounted to an unlawful gift of public funds and illegally bypassed the state Judicial Council, which has authority over some of the buildings that Schwarzenegger wants to sell.

Schwarzenegger last year proposed selling the state-owned buildings to raise more than $1.2 billion to help close the state's general fund budget deficit. Under the deal approved by lawmakers, the state would continue to use the space by entering into a 20-year lease with the new owners.

Earlier this year, the governor ousted the building authority members after they questioned the long-term consequences for taxpayers and asked the state to perform a cost-benefit analysis.

Those building authority members sued, and an appeals court on Monday barred the sale until it hears arguments Jan. 23.

Anne Marie Murphy, one of the attorneys representing the building authority members, said the suit will continue in an effort to reveal the investors trying to buy the properties.

"What you're seeing here is the absolute intersection of money and power," Murphy said. "We're going to pursue discovery in short order. We want to find out the real names of the investors, both people who have been involved and will be involved going forward."

The Schwarzenegger administration awarded the sale of the buildings — including the Ronald Reagan building in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Civic Center — to California First LLC, a consortium of investors led by a Texas real estate firm and a private equity firm based in Irvine, for $2.3 billion.

The state would net $1.2 billion after outstanding loans on the buildings are paid off.

During a deposition of State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, it was revealed that Santa Ana Mayor Miguel Pulido stands to receive a $500,000 "finder's fee" if the sale went through to California First. It's not clear who would pay Pulido and whether he would be paid.

Benke and six other judges were appointed to the case after the entire Supreme Court recused itself. The high court is housed in the Earl Warren Building at the San Francisco Civic Center, one of the state properties that would be sold.

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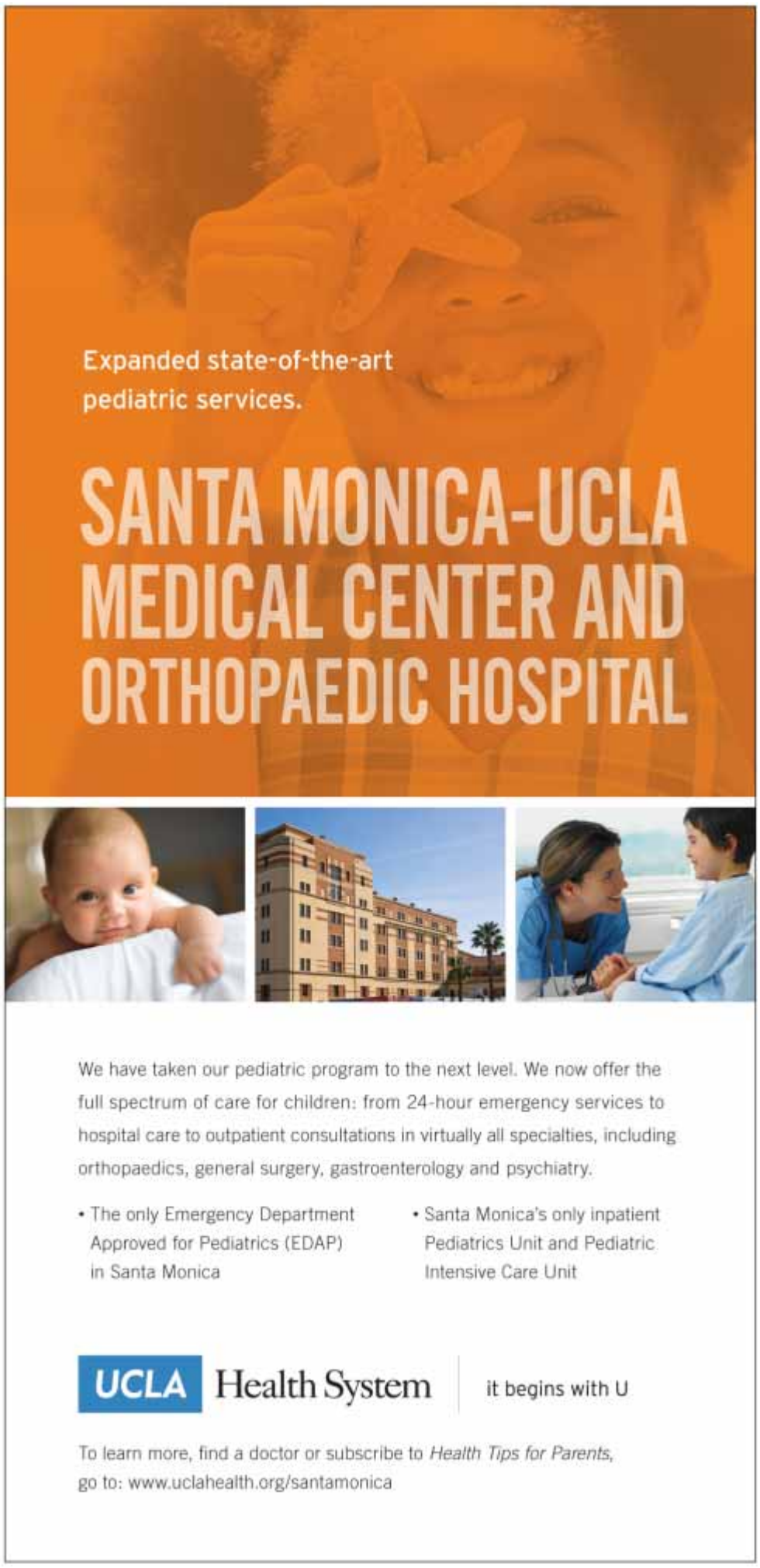



FRIDAY DECEMBER 31ST 2010

8 PM - 2 AM

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

THE THRILL OF THE FINISH: **Runners celebrate on Ocean Avenue after completing the 26.5-mile Los Angeles Marathon in March. It was the first time the race ended in Santa Monica.**

TOP STORIES
FROM PAGE 1

furloughs were avoided.

At the Daily Press, we stayed busy and had a good time telling Santa Monica's tales. Here are our picks for the 10 biggest local stories of the year:

COMMUNITY UNITES TO SAVE SCHOOLS

Back in June, the mood among public school boosters was glum. Facing a $12 million budget gap and more than 60 layoffs at the district, a well-financed campaign to pass a $198 parcel tax to help stave off the cuts had just failed by a narrow margin. But in the wake of the defeat, a new plan emerged — one that brought together school advocates and the electoral might of City Hall's municipal unions. Known as Measure Y, the half percent sales tax increase proposal needed only 50 percent of the vote to succeed (instead of the two-thirds required by the parcel tax) and passed with a landslide on Nov. 2. Expected to raise $12 million per year — half for City Hall and half for public schools — the passage of Measure Y was a sweet victory for school advocates who had worked the entire year to shield district programs from cuts. It also showed the worst recession in decades was no match for a united front put up by Santa Monica's traditional power brokers. Even kids got into the act, setting up "Lemon-aid" stands to help raise funds for the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation. Local restaurants and retail outlets also donated proceeds to the foundation, which raised $1.2 million as part of the 60-day Save our Schools campaign.

MISLEADING MAILERS CAP CAMPAIGN SEASON

With five City Council seats up for grabs in November, voters had an unprecedented chance to, as the saying goes, "throw the bums out." Instead, they issued a ringing endorsement of the status quo by handing each of the five sitting members an electoral victory. Only one challenger, Planning Commissioner Ted Winterer, came close, losing to six-term incumbent Bob Holbrook by a scant 56 votes. The campaign season came with a heavy dose of acrimony, as Santa Monicans for Quality Government — a group many called a front-organization for developers — bank rolled a series of controversial political mailers. The mailers particularly irked the low-growth Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, which took its own barbs for financing attack ads on several incumbents. The story of the 2010 election may not yet be completely written, as SMCLC continues to insist SMQG broke the law by dodging financial disclosure rules. Stay tuned.

FUROR OVER SMO FLIGHT PATH

Noise complaints reached an unprecedented level at Santa Monica Airport in 2010, as nearby residents reacted to what they said was an unacceptable nuisance caused by a shift in the takeoff routes of some low-flying propeller planes. The new route was a six-month experiment the FAA said was aimed at reducing airplane pollution and reducing regional takeoff delays. For residents of Sunset Park and Ocean Park, it was simply a headache. There's no word yet on whether the agency will seek to make the route permanent. But City Hall, with an eye toward pushing for change at SMO when an important agreement between City Hall and the feds expires in 2015, is taking the issue seriously, hiring a lobbyist to pressure the FAA and commissioning RAND to study the airport's impacts. Look for SMO to remain front and center in 2011.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER INVESTIGATED

A police department scandal? In Santa Monica? It happened in 2010. Santa Monica Police Department investigators spent four months gathering evidence against school board member and youth center director Oscar de la Torre, arguing he committed felony child endangerment by allowing a fight between teenagers to continue on his watch. Then, in July, county prosecutors promptly declined to file charges, setting off a flood of criticism that the case may have been a politically motivated witch hunt from the beginning in an effort to tarnish de la Torre's reputation. To calm the storm, City Hall took an unprecedented step and ordered a probe of the police department's work on the case by the Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review. Their report has yet to be released. Will it find fault with SMPD investigators' work, or will it exonerate them? We're just as curious as you are.

SMOKING BAN EXTENDED

The City Council continued its crusade against tobacco use in 2010, extending the ban on smoking to include private balconies and patios in multi-unit residential buildings. Some saw the move as an attempt to dictate a person's private life, but the passion of anti-secondhand smoke advocates convinced the council that the ban was a necessary step to protect public health. Could banning smoking in apartments be next?

SEE **TOP STORIES** PAGE 9

TOP STORIES
FROM PAGE 8

LUCE IS FINALLY APPROVED

It took seven years, but the City Council finally revised its general plan for Santa Monica. The long-range planning document, known as the Land Use and Circulation Element, will guide development over the next 20 years. The next step is putting the principals of the LUCE — neighborhood protection, transit-oriented development, and better use of alternative transportation modes — into effect with specific rules. The first test of the document's force: the massive Hines project planned for a 7-acre parcel across from the future site of the Expo Light Rail Station at 26th Street and Olympic Boulevard. Hearings on the project in 2011 are sure to spark controversy as residents in Sunset Park and the Pico Neighborhood have already expressed their opposition to the project, citing concerns about increases in traffic congestion.

AGONY AND ECSTASY FOR SAMOHI SPORTS

It was the highest highs and lowest lows for Santa Monica High School sports in 2010.

The year began strong for the Vikings as the girls' basketball team, led by senior guard Thea Lemberger, won the school's first California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section title in the sport in early March. Samohi took home the crown by dispatching Summit, 69-63.

On the heels of that triumph, the school's athletic program suffered a devastating loss. Popular athletic director Norm Lacy passed away just weeks later in May due to a heart attack. His funeral, held at St. Monica, was well attended as the community mourned a legend of the local sports scene.

In another twist, Lacy's death came just days before the softball team won its first ever CIF-SS title in the sport. In a fitting tribute, then head coach Debbie Skaggs, a longtime friend of Lacy's, had her team observe a moment of silence before the team's next playoff game. The softball team was joined by every student athlete at the school. The Vikings won that game before an overflow crowd on their way to the title.

"It's with a heavy heart that we play the game," Skaggs said at the time.

CITY HALL ADMITS IT DROPPED THE BALL

In 2010, the topic of development agreement compliance came to dominate the conversation at City Hall for months. The City Council routinely authorizes large-scale buildings after extracting "community benefits" — things like affordable housing, park space or public art — from the developer. But, it turned out, annual reviews of the agreements weren't taking place, and projects had been built while many of the so-called benefits had never been provided. Some litigation ensued, including a suit against the owner of The Plaza at the Arboretum, the largest single affordable housing provider in the city. That suit has been settled, but City Hall spent much of the year wrangling with other parties who hadn't followed through on their obligations. It was City Hall, though, that came in for the most heat for failing to enforce its own rules for decades.

LOSING A LEADER

The year started off on a sad note, with the death of mayor and longtime

SEE **TOP STORIES** PAGE 10





City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE

Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation
Board of Directors
Wednesday, January 5, 2011– 6:30 PM
Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

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No other business will be conducted at the Meeting.



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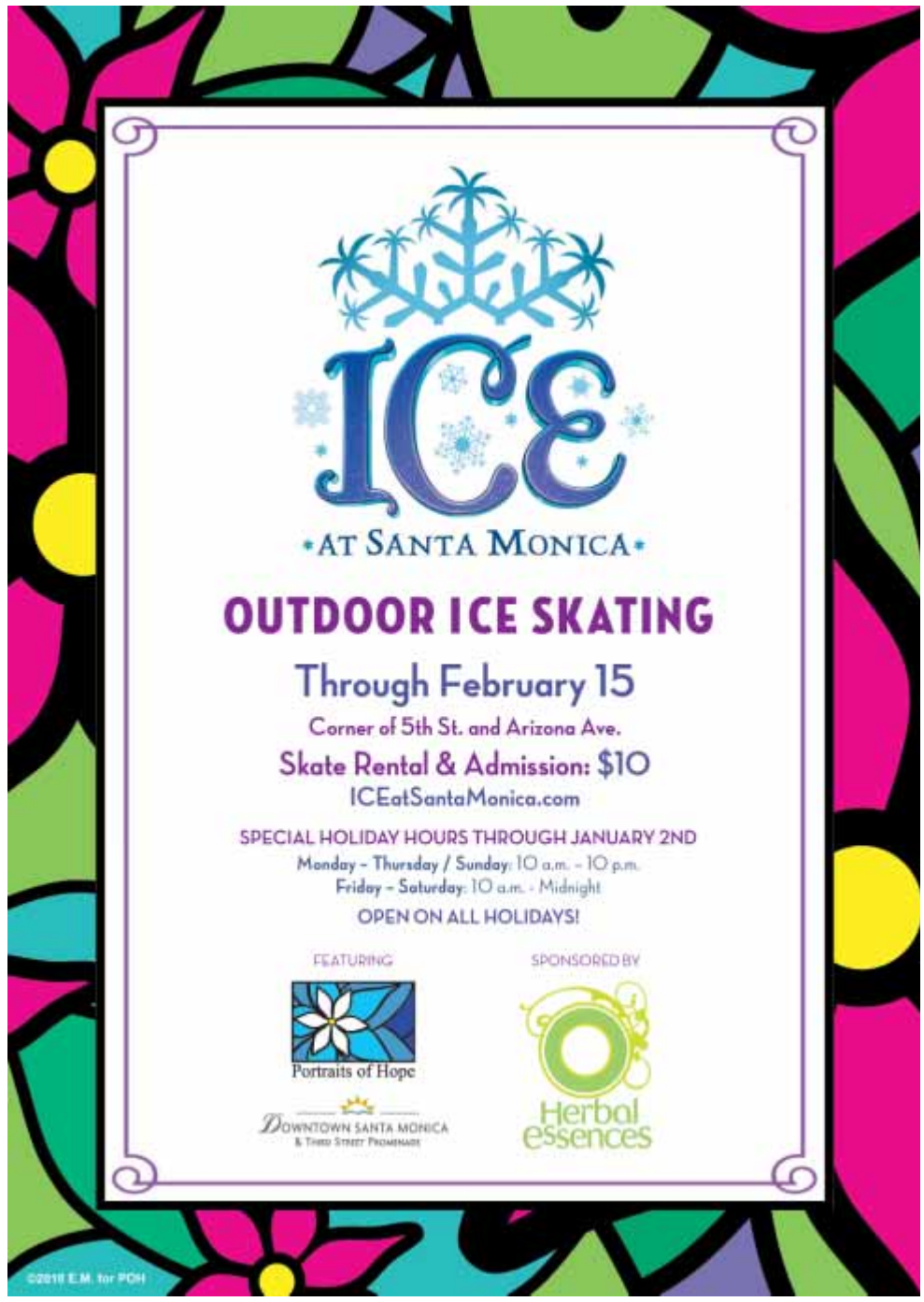
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D.U.I. Do's & Don'ts For The Holiday Season

The holiday season is officially upon us, and thank goodness for that! With a slumping economy, ensuing global conflicts, and our own personal dilemmas this holiday season brings with it a wanted escape for many. But before you go adding extra drops of rum to that eggnog make sure you are aware of some new laws and issues that may drastically affect your driving privileges. California has some of the toughest DUI laws in the country, and while no one plans to get arrested for DUI this holiday season, here 5 helpful tips to remember if you find yourself at the wrong end of a checkpoint:

1) Submit To FSTS: When arrested for DUI many people look for a quick and easy way out of it such as refusing to submit the officer's tests. Well, truth be told, this doesn't really work. Refusing to submit to field sobriety tests (FSTS) will almost always earn a year suspension from the DMV regardless what happens with your court case. Refusing to submit to FSTS might weaken the State's evidence against you, but is it worth risking an automatic one year suspension? This includes submitting a breathalyzer test at the scene of the arrest (called a PAS test). A PAS test might not even be admissible in the criminal case, but if you are below a .08 it will save you a ton of hassle…and probably earn a get out of jail free card. Submit to testing and let a skilled lawyer take it from there. Even if the test results appear "bad," by hiring the right attorney there are many legal arguments and challenges that can be made to the manner in which the tests weand administered, your statements, and the results of the tests.

2) Request A Hearing: if arrested for DUI you will receive a temporary driver's license that is good for 30 days before your license is suspended. However, you have the right to request an administrative hearing with the DMV in order to challenge the suspension. This hearing might also yield valuable testimony from the arresting officers that could help you later on when fighting your case in court. Administrative hearings are conducted either in person or telephonically, are far less formal than a court proceeding, and have a lower evidentiary standard of proof required to sustain a suspension. Administrative hearings must be requested within 10 days of arrest, so make sure to act fast if you are arrested. A trained experienced lawyer is also advantageous in order to help navigate through the complexities of the DMV.

3) Know The Penalties: In most Los Angeles County courtrooms a "standard" first time DUI conviction carries with it a $390 fine, 3 month alcohol program, 3 year probation, and mandatory installation of an ignition interlock device (a new 2010 law that L.A. County D.A.'s and C.A.'s are widely enforcing). Typically, prosecutors will not seek jail confinement on a 1st time conviction. In addition to the fines, the court will add on various penalty assessments and fees that could raise your final bill to upwards of $1,750. Depending on the circumstances of your case (under 21, high blood alcohol, refusal) the court could also order you to complete community service, caltrans work, attend AA meetings, and complete a MADD or hospital/morgue program. A first time DUI conviction is priorable, meaning it will be used to enhance punishment on any subsequent DUI in a 10 year period. A second time DUI begets similar punishment with heightened fines and a mandatory minimum of 96 hours (4 days) in jail. Of course, all of these penalties and punishments are subject to change based on varying circumstances, and it should be noted that there are additional restrictions that the DMV can enforce on top of all the court required punishments.

4) Be Polite & Courteous: No matter what crime you are arrested for, be it for DUI or some other offense, dealing with police officers in a calm, respectful, and appropriate manner is always the best approach and will reward you in the end. Officers will note your behavior in their reports, and any belligerent outburst or tirade will likely be used against you as a sign of intoxication and could also earn you additional charges. Of course the opposite is also true meaning if you are calm and collected it could be used as a sign of non-impairment. Even if you didn't do anything wrong always remember that you attract more bees with honey!

5) Don't Drive!: The easiest tip of all...drink to your heart's content and enjoy the holidays, and when you're done take a cab, ride a bus, or call a friend...just don't drive!

JACOB GLUCKSMAN IS A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY AND FORMER PROSECUTOR IN LOS ANGELES SPECIALIZING IN DUI DEFENSE AND ALL OTHER MISDEMEANOR AND FELONY OFFENSES. MR. GLUCKSMAN CAN BE REACHED THROUGH LEGAL GRIND AT (310) 452-8160.

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MONDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00-6:00pm	Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00-6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:30-7:00pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
1:00-3:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

NEW YEAR'S EVE DONE RIGHT

NEW YEAR'S EVE
FROM PAGE 3

New Year's Eve musical revue, complete with a complimentary buffet supper to kick off the show. Staged by the acclaimed Actors' Repertory Theatre, the show promises family-friendly laughs, along with prizes, sing-a-long songs and dancing in the aisles — 1211 Fourth St. Shows are at 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., $39.50 to $49.50.

If it's high style you want, head to Hotel Casa del Mar, where Catch restaurant is offering a three-course early sitting tasting menu ($85) and a four-course later sitting ($170). There's also a celebration in the lobby lounge that features live music ($40) — 1910 Ocean Way.

And finally, there's the official Playboy New Year's Eve party, this year being held at Santa Monica's Hotel Shangri-La. The event features a star-studded lineup of DJs, and of course, a gaggle of Playboy beauties — 1301 Ocean Ave., $75 general admission, $150 VIP tickets.

nickt@smdp.com

TOP STORIES
FROM PAGE 9

Councilmember Ken Genser, 59, in January. Genser was hospitalized for months, his condition a closely kept secret. A fixture on the dais since 1988 — and a prominent part of civic life for years before that — Genser was a beloved Santa Monican, as the packed house at his Barnum Hall memorial service attested. Terry O'Day was later appointed to fill Genser's seat on the council, and Bobby Shriver briefly replaced him as mayor, until the council in December chose Richard Bloom as the city's figurehead for the next two years. Those close to Genser remembered him for his dedication to his work as both an elected official and city planner who loved architecture, music and dinner with friends.

"He shared with us all a brilliant intellect and a bulldog's tenacity and a compassionate spirit and the heart of a mensch," Bloom said during Genser's memorial.

TOO MANY TAXIS?

Making good on a long-standing threat, the City Council this year limited the number of cabs allowed to operate in Santa Monica to 300 (there had been more than 460 on the streets at last count) and barred all but five companies from doing business in town. The move was aimed at improving service and lessening traffic. But it was a big change for the cab industry, and set off criticism from companies who were shut out of the market, culminating in a lawsuit filed this month alleging discrimination against Armenian-Americans during the selection process. The stakes will be high as City Hall goes to court early next year to argue the case should be thrown out.

nickt@smdp.com

Daniel Archuleta and Kevin Herrera contributed to this report.



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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

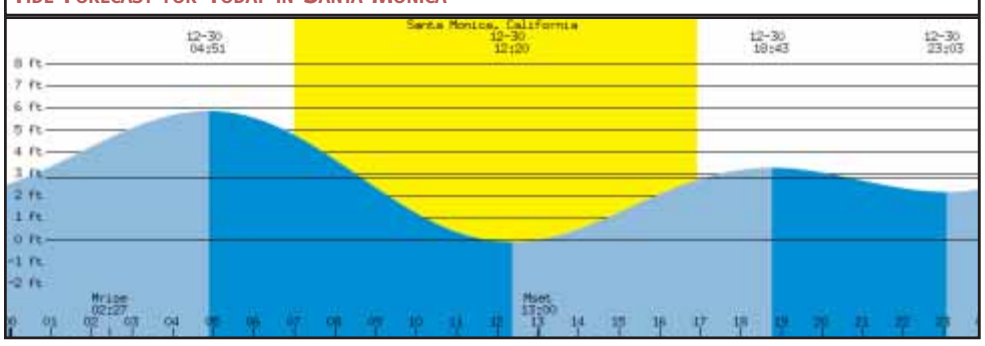
Swell Forecast

It looks like we'll see quite an increase in wind swell, around head high or better for west facing breaks, possibly DOH at times at standouts, but with very short periods and questionable conditions.

Long Range Synopsis

So far, looks like a small knee to waist high day as well.

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 22, 2010**

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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 -- 12
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / 19
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 22

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	C
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	A
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	B
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
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 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	B
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	C
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	C
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	D
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	D	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	C
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	B
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	C
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	C
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	D
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	C	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

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

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

NCAA FOOTBALL

Wisconsin's Doeren doing double duty

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES No matter what happens in the Rose Bowl, Wisconsin defensive coordinator Dave Doeren will be grateful when December ends.

At least then he'll have only one full-time job.

Doeren is performing double duty while preparing his Badgers to face No. 3 TCU's formidable offense, led by four-year starting quarterback Andy Dalton and featuring talented skill players in an unpredictable scheme.

When other coaches get a minute to relax in Los Angeles, Doeren immediately gets on the phone to make calls for his new job at Northern Illinois, which hired him as its head coach two weeks ago. He's recruiting, finalizing his first Huskies coaching staff and making contact with school officials — all in his spare time.

"I'm here. I'm here big-time," Doeren said in a downtown hotel ballroom before ducking outside to check his messages. "I just don't have down time. A lot of coaches can go back to their room and sit down and watch bowl games or play with their kids. That's when I get on the phone."

Doeren's players are grateful he stuck with them long enough to face the unbeaten Horned Frogs, because they realize the magnitude of their challenge. After spending the fall contending with the Big Ten's power-based offenses and big lines, Wisconsin must adjust its entire game to meet TCU's smaller, quicker approach to football.

"It means a lot for him to stay with us," safety Jay Valai said. "We know he's got another heavy-paying job coming up, but one thing we do at Wisconsin is finish. He's showing a lot of character to us."

Jerry Kill left Northern Illinois for Minnesota on Dec. 5, shortly after the Huskies' loss to Miami of Ohio in the Mid-American Conference title game. Northern Illinois searched for only a week before replacing Kill with Doeren, the 39-year-old former Drake player who coordinated the Badgers' formidable defense for the past two seasons.

Kill took off for Minnesota before the Huskies appearance in the Humanitarian Bowl against Fresno State on Dec. 18, but Doeren decided to finish out the season with the Badgers, who were back in the Rose Bowl for the first time in 11 years. The Boise bowl game was left to Tom Matukewicz, who will be Doeren's linebackers coach next season.

Matukewicz will have a perfect record to hang over his boss: He led the Huskies to a 40-17 victory over Fresno State before rejoining Doeren on the recruiting trail.

Doeren doesn't see the extra work as an imposition. After all, December is always busy for schools fortunate enough to reach bowl games.

"I usually recruit for Wisconsin during bowl preparations," Doeren said. "The difference is now I'm recruiting for Northern Illinois. I've got a group of assistants already at work there, and I'm just doing what all of us would normally have to do — just a little more of it."

Doeren, a former graduate assistant at Southern California, recruited a big chunk of the Wisconsin defense that was particularly sharp down the regular-season stretch, forcing 16 turnovers during four straight blowout wins to wrap up its share of the Big Ten title. Doeren's players exhibit impressive loyalty to their coordinator, but they're also happy their success led to his departure.

"He's a father figure to me, so I knew about that Northern Illinois job before it went down," Wisconsin safety Aaron Henry said. "It was kind of like a father telling me that I was ready to move on by myself, that we were ready to go on next season without him. It was an emotional decision, but I'm glad he made it."

Although schoolwork in Madison is wrapped up for the semester, Doeren has his players focused on their final exam.





MOVIE TIMES

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

Ruggles of Red Gap (NR) 1hr 32min
Remember Last Night (NR) 1hr 21 min
7:30pm

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-6232

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1 (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:10am, 10:45pm

Little Fockers (PG-13)
11:25am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

How Do You Know (R) 1hr 56min
2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:10pm, 11:00pm

True Grit (PG-13)
10:50am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
11:30am, 2:20pm, 5:10pm, 8:00pm

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

Tangled in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Little Fockers (PG-13)
10:35am, 1:10pm, 3:50pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Yogi Bear 3D (PG) 1hr 22min
10:30am, 12:45pm, 3:00pm, 5:20pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

Tron: Legacy in Disney Digital 3D (NR) 2hrs 07min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

How Do You Know (R) 1hr 56min
10:30am, 1:15pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

True Grit (PG-13)
11:30am, 2:20pm, 5:10pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

Black Swan (R) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:35pm

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

King's Speech (R) 1 hour 58 min
1:10pm, 2:10pm, 4:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:50pm

Casino Jack (R) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Rabbit Hole (PG-13) 1hr 32min
12:45pm, 3:00pm, 5:20pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third Street Promenade
(310) 395-1599

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1 (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
12:00pm, 3:15pm

Tron: Legacy (NR) 2hrs 07min
10:50am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader in Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
10:45am, 1:25pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Gulliver's Travels 3D (PG)
10:30am, 12:45pm, 3:05pm, 5:25pm, 7:45pm, 10:05pm

Tourist (PG-13) 1hr 43min
10:55am, 1:35pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Fighter (R) 1hr 54min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:40pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:15pm, 10:15pm

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

Use your imagination, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Stay direct in your dealings. The unexpected occurs. Your ability to deal with a boss or respected authority figure emerges. You are clear about the possibilities, and a discussion provides more insight. Tonight: Best with one other person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Pace yourself, knowing you have a lot of ground to cover. Finally, someone is willing to open up. You feel that communication is flourishing. You also might see some anger. Make that OK. Tonight: Go with another suggestion.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You feel more energized than you have in a while. Work with a partner to clear out some to-do errands or preparations for the new year. A partner could be hot under the collar. Watch out. Tonight: Stay easy. Walk; relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Your creativity fills in the blanks. Others understand a lot more than you realize. Creativity and mirth blend together to find solutions. Finally, you understand what has been left unsaid. Tonight: Be naughty and maybe nice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You finally get more clarity on a domestic or personal issue. This knowledge allows you to flow more easily and connect with others. Don't negate the possibility of needing to set stronger boundaries. Tonight: Order in ... get ready.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for others, specifically those you couldn't talk to in the past few weeks. You'll discover how much easier it is now. Exchange good wishes. A fun invitation brings even more fun than anticipated. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Last-minute running around and perhaps spending could keep you busy. Reach out for someone at a distance you often don't hear from. Be careful with a roommate or family member. He or she could be on the warpath. Tonight: Indulge a little.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Approach a friend and/or close loved one. Even if he or she has been difficult of late, you are more likely to get a positive response now. Communication flourishes. Avoid a heated or sarcastic discussion, if possible. Tonight: Know that you are top dog.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Continue to maintain a low-profile. You need extra R and R anyway. You will accomplish much more that way as well. Your ability to clear out problems emerges. Meanwhile, you recover from recent events. Tonight: Do listen to your intuition.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Timing is with you. Go for your key goals and desires. A meeting or group of people could help energize you, pointing to the right direction. With a goal close in sight, you might be impossible to stop. High energy and a sense of direction mix well. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Follow your sixth sense, and you won't go wrong. You understand a lot more than you are letting on. If you are angry or need to clear your mind of an issue, schedule time before the new year. A boss or older friend might need some attention. Tonight: In the thick of things.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Reach out for someone at a distance. You might be more content than you realize if you break out of your mold. Sometimes it is hard to make that decision. Be true to yourself, and be aware of how many actions you do because you "should." Tonight: Use your imagination.

Happy birthday

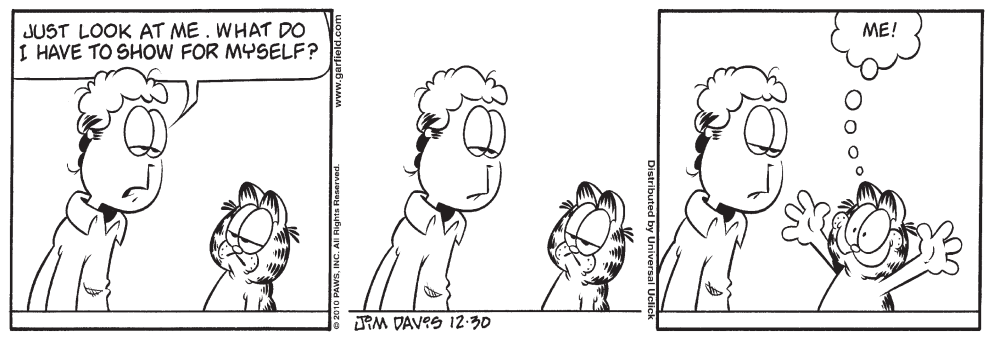
This year, you must eye the big picture more often. If you do, you'll achieve your goals more easily. Friendships support you in making some of your dreams happen. In fact, if you are single, a friendship could become a lot more. Otherwise, you might meet this person through your friends. You have strong magnetism and drive, which, if frustrated, could turn into anger. Learn to set boundaries and express your feelings before they get out of control.

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



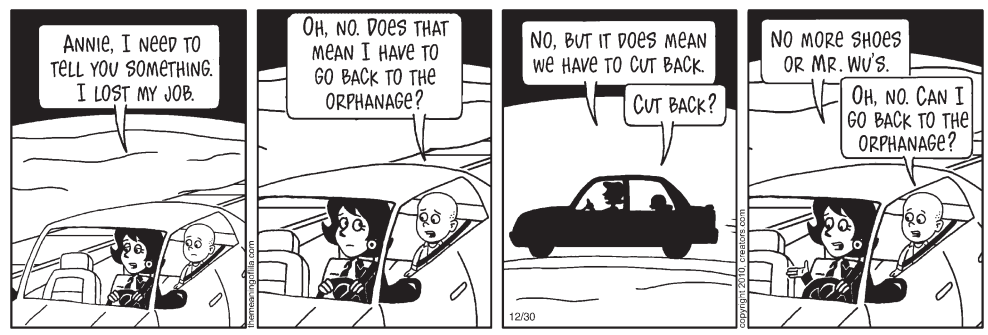
Garfield

By Jim Davis



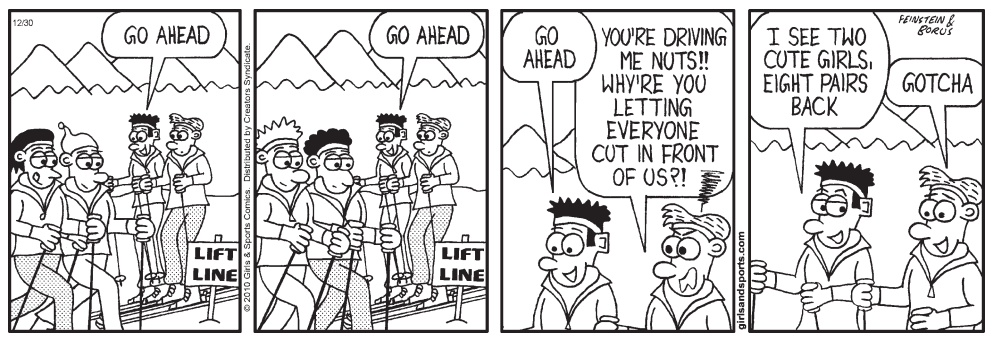
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



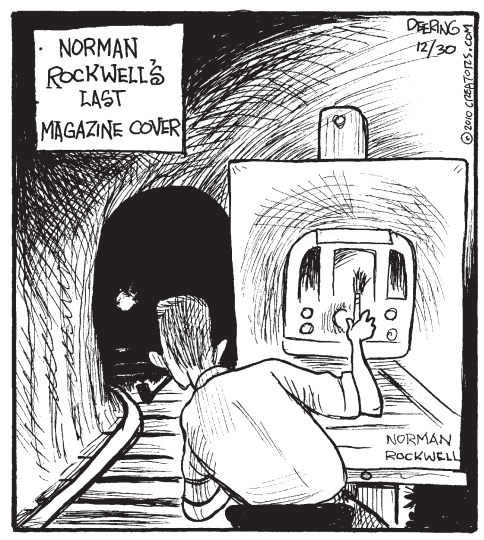
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



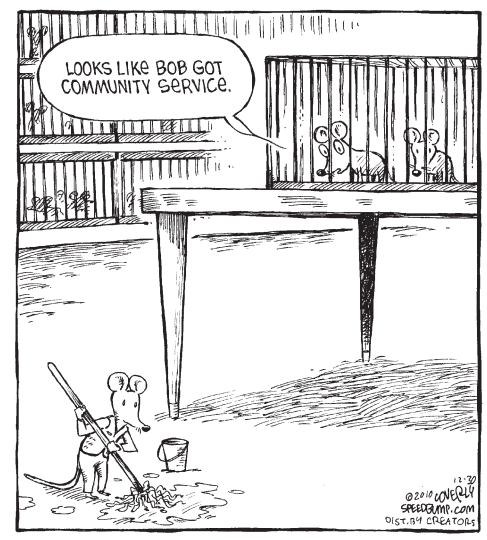
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Inoperative
5 Talk nonsense
10 Nervous
11 Christian of film
12 Serengeti cat
13 Cuban capital
14 License
16 Pontificate
20 Severe
23 Calendar box
24 Convoy component
25 Singer Cleo
27 Arles assent
28 Corduroy feature
29 Fine
32 Complete
36 Floor work
39 Ship's front
40 Cherishes
41 Sharpen
42 Ring figure
43 Printing supply

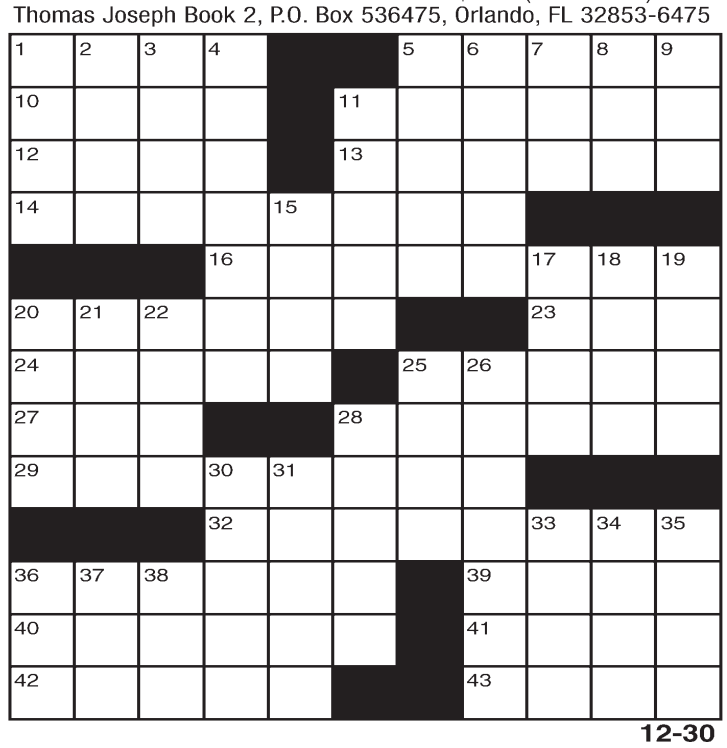
DOWN

1 Valley
2 Falco of "Nurse Jackie"
3 Wildly excited
4 Spirited
5 Town square
6 "Bolero" composer
7 One — time
8 Kayo count
9 Memorable period
11 Top
15 Canal feature
17 Hepcat's phrase of understanding
18 Writer Grey
19 Peepers
20 Halt
21 Faithful
22 Bankrupt
25 Judy's daughter
26 New York university
28 Saturn sight
30 Burning
31 Cruise ship
33 Pressing need
34 — out (fall asleep)
35 Lambs' dams
36 Folder part
37 Groom's answer
38 Smoked salmon

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



12-30

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

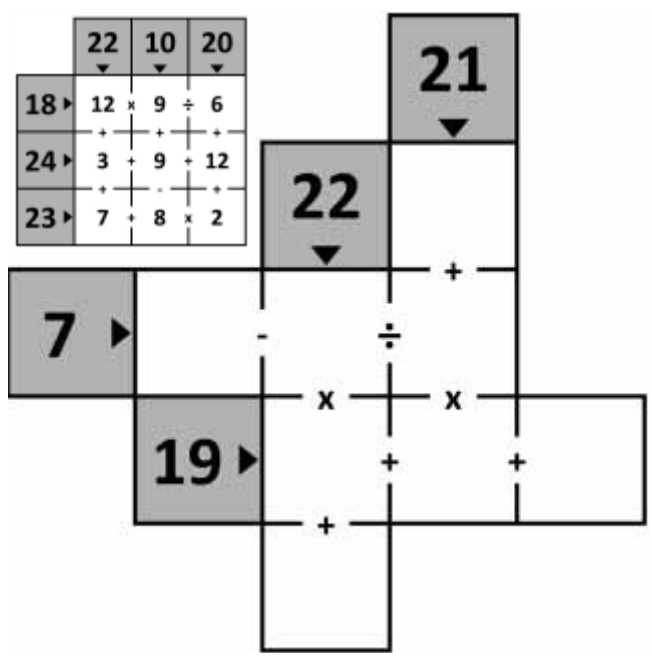
- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 2, 5, 6, 10, 10, 11, 12

Solution for Task 1024



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 6 18 36 40 49 — Meganumber: 7 — Jackpot: $237M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 20 25 41 42 — Meganumber: 25 — Jackpot: $19M

Fantasy 5: 3 14 19 22 34

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 3 4 — EVENING: 2 1 2

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 04 Big Ben — 2nd: 06 Whirl Win — 3rd: 07 Eureka! — RACE TIME: 1:42.49

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

■ An unnamed plumber in Stockholm, Sweden, was arrested in August for attempting to procure sex from an underage girl after he had confronted the girl's father on the telephone. According to the plumber, the girl's sex services were advertised on the Internet, and the plumber paid online and scheduled a session, but the girl failed to show up. The plumber somehow found the girl's home telephone number and demanded a refund from her father, who reported him to police.

■ "Dr." Berlyn Aussieahshowna, 37, was arrested in Boise, Idaho, in November and charged with practicing medicine without a license after she convinced at least two women to let her fondle their breasts under the guise that she was performing a breast "exam." According to police investigators, Aussieahshowna is neither a doctor nor even Berlyn Aussieahshowna. She is Kristina Ross, and is not even a biological female, although she was identified in a 2004 arrest as a male-to-female transsexual. Authorities were puzzled why the two women were duped since both times, "Dr." Aussieahshowna performed her "consultations," including the exams, in bars.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1853 A dinner party is held inside a life-size model of an Iguanodon created by Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins and Sir Richard Owen in south London.

1862 The USS Monitor sinks off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

1896 José Rizal is executed by firing squad in Manila.

1897 Natal annexes Zululand.

1903 A fire at the Iroquois Theater in Chicago, Illinois kills 600.

1905 Former Governor Frank Steunenberg is assassinated near his home in Caldwell, Idaho.

1906 The All India Muslim League is founded in Dacca, East Bengal, British India Empire, which later laid down the foundations of Pakistan.

WORD UP!

engram \ EN-gram \ , noun;

1. The supposed physical basis of an individual memory in the brain.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Announcements

Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center
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Layton

Layton Construction (Construction Manager/General Contractor) and the Owner will be holding an informational meeting for interested subcontractors and vendors regarding this project.

Meeting Location, Date and Time:
Los Robles Medical Center January 11, 2011 Classroom 1 Open House: 4:00 p.m. 215 West Janss Road Presentation: 4:30 p.m. Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Prequalification packets will be distributed at the meeting. Subcontractors must be prequalified in order to bid on the project. Prequalification information must be returned to Layton Construction by 5:00 pm PST on January 13, 2011. Questions regarding the project should be directed to:

Eric Carlson
ecarlson@laytoncompanies.com
801-568-9090

Announcements

Trent Isaacson
tisaacson@laytoncompanies.com
801-568-9090

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833 5TH St. SM upper unit 209 1+1 $1795 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, , wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 20101646752 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/16/2010 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SCHOOL DAY CONSULTING . The full name of registrant(s) is/are: JUDITH A. DAY 2029 GLENCOE AVE VENICE, CA 90291. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/30/2010. /s/: JUDITH A. DAY; OWNER . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/16/2010. 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 12/16/2010, 12/23/2010, 12/30/2010, 01/06/2011.

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Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,574,500	$ 870,000
South of Wilshire	$747,000	$493,750
Sunset Park	$1,073,750	$519,500
Ocean Park	$1,299,000	$749,000
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