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SKECHERS Gives Back to Community



Michael Greenberg and his family celebrated Father's Day by giving back to children in need. BOBS from SKECHERS joined non-profit partners Fashion Delivers and K.I.D.S. to donate shoes, games, clothing and backpacks for nearly 200 families at an L.A. area homeless shelter. Photo courtesy of SKECH-ERS USA.

Local Agents Say Real Estate on the Upswing

By Brian Simon

While opinions are mixed on whether the local economy is in recovery or still in recession, one area that appears to be back on track in the South Bay is real estate. Particularly since the beginning of 2012, agents have begun closing deals that previously sat out there for months and months. In many cases, sellers are getting their asking price or close enough.

According to Re/Max agent Bill Ruane, local residential property values have increased in value roughly 10 percent over the last year. "Homes that were on the market over the last six months sold in the last 30 days," he said. "In fact, May was the best month I've had in 20 years in real estate."

So what gives? Ruane pointed to multiple factors, including a high-earning workforce that wants to live closer to the office instead are listed for the right price."

Case in point, VanHook recently wrote an offer in neighboring Del Aire and by the time the seller had a chance to look it over a couple of days later five more potential buyers had jumped in with bids of their own. "Any kind of situation where there is competition, the fastest runner who's prepared for the race is going to win," said VanHook. "So the most prepared buyer education-wise, being pre-approved, doing all the right things that need to be done... is the buyer who wins."

According to data culled from a recent comparative market analysis, 17 properties in the 1,900 to 5,800 square foot range sold in El Segundo over the past year between \$865,000 and \$1.5 million with the vast majority of those at or near the original asking price. One home on West Palm Avenue listed at \$1.3 million and sold about six weeks later for just over \$1.4 million. While a few of the homes were on the mar-

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BOBS from SKECHERS Hosts Shoe Donation Event at L.A. Area

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Patchy Fog 69°/64°

Friday

Saturday Patchy Fog 72°/66°



of commute, top-ranked schools that appeal to parents, low crime rates, the community's small town charm and other amenities. "Also because the rental market is getting stronger, you can own for the same as you rent, which hasn't happened in 15 years," said Ruane.

Longtime Shorewood Realtors agent Rose VanHook also confirmed that "things are improving" and reported that she is already "doing better this year to date than all of last year." She believes that the low cost of borrowing has allowed "prospective buyers to feel more confident in moving forward." Though lending criteria is still pretty stringent, those who qualify can take advantage of historically low rates that have fallen under four percent-and they are definitely beginning to do just that. "Any time you have more buyers, the balance changes where you have less product and more buyers looking for product," VanHook explained. "It drives prices up and you end up with multiple offers on properties that

Homeless Shelter

Courtesy of SKECHERS

SKECHERS president Michael Greenberg and his family spent Father's Day handing out shoes to homeless children in need.

It was part of the BOBS from SKECH-ERS charitable program in conjunction with non-profit partners Fashion Delivers and K.I.D.S. Together they made this donation day possible for children and families in need at the Sydney M. Irmas Transitional Living Center in North Hollywood, which is part of the L.A. Family Housing Corporation in conjunction with Shelter Partnership. To date, SKECHERS has donated more than one million pairs of kids' shoes through the BOBS from SKECHERS program, which gives a new pair to a child in need for every BOBS footwear purchase. Through SKECHERS' non-profit charitable partners, BOBS donation shoes have helped children in need across the United States and in Central America,

Africa and Southeast Asia.

BOBS unites people across the globe with a single goal: to help children affected by poverty, epidemics and life-changing events. With more than 300 million children worldwide in need of shoes, SKECHERS will continue to expand the BOBS donation program on an international scale. Numerous non-profit groups, charitable organizations, homeless shelters and education programs in the United States, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Jamaica, Haiti and Uganda have received shoe donations from the BOBS program. In addition, tornado victims in Kentucky and Tennessee, and earthquake victims in Indonesia have also received BOBS shoes.

BOBS from SKECHERS launched a year ago for women, and expanded this Spring with men's and children's styles. The footwear is available in stores nationwide, and in key markets around the world. •

People

Congratulations

Molly Heutmaker, a resident of Manhattan Beach, has earned placement on the Gonzaga University Dean's List for spring semester 2012.

Sofi Gomez of Manhattan Beach, has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2012 semester at Marquette University.

Alexandra Pacini, a resident of Manhattan Beach, was among over 1,900 students from Wake Forest University who made the

Spring 2012 Dean's List.

Dakota Ford, son of Dr. Noel L. Chun and Dr. Mary Jo Ford of Manhattan Beach, and Allison Poltash, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gary John Poltash of Manhattan Beach were named to the Spring Term 2012 Deans' List at Choate Rosemary Hall. •

Allison Shuck, of Manhattan Beach, has been named to the University of Delaware's Dean's List for Spring 2012.

Compiled by Cristian Vasquez JUNE 16

Theft: 1700 Block of Nelson Ave. The victim transferred \$300 via Western Union to an unknown party in exchange for concert tickets. The victim never received the tickets.

JUNE 13

Residential Burglary1400 Block of 23rd St. Unknown suspect (s) entered the victim's home by prying open the kitchen window and ransacked the home. No loss reported.

JUNE 11

Grand Theft: 1600 Block of Nelson Ave. Unknown suspect(s) entered victim's unlocked vehicle and stole various items. **JUNE 10**

Vehicle Burglary: 2300 Block of Pine Ave. Unknown suspect(s) smashed rear driver side vehicle window and stole items that were in plain view.

JUNE 7

Grand Theft: 1900 Block of N. Valley Dr. Unknown suspect(s) stole a baseball pitching machine from the batting cages at Live Oak Park.

JUNE 5

Petty Theft: 1500 Block of Curtis Ave.



Readers send us your photos! Do you have a favorite photo? An old yearbook photo? Glamour Shot? Baby photo? We want them. We will accept only one photo, per person, every month. Once a month, we will pick a "Staff Favorite" and the winner will get a **\$25.00 gift** certificate from one of our advertisers.

Email your photos to: Management@ heraldpublications.com.We will only accept emailed photos and they must be in jpg form.



Unknown suspect(s) removed the registration tag from the victim's vehicle without permission.

JUNE 3

Vehicle Burglary: 500 Block of Rosecrans Ave. Unknown suspect (s) used a hidden key to enter victim's locked vehicle and stole various items.

MAY 30

Attempted Vehicle Burglary: 300 Block of N Ingleside Dr. Unknown suspect(s) smashed driver's side window to victim's vehicle, no loss reported.

Mail Theft: 3500 Block of Blanche Rd. Unknown suspect stole mail from a residential mailbox.

MAY 23

Criminal Threat: 2500 Block of Elm Ave. Unknown suspect pushed and threatened to shoot the victim.

Petty Theft: 2300 Block of Palm Ave. Unknown suspect stole victim's credit card, sunglasses, and postal box key from unlocked vehicle.

MAY 16

Petty Theft: 200 Block of 1st St. Unknown suspect(s) entered construction site and took miscellaneous hardware.

MAY 11-JUNE 6

Theft: Mathews Ave. S of Redondo Ave. Sometime during the past 6 months, unknown suspect(s) stole 6 batteries from a *Time Warner* cable box. On June 1st, *Time* Warner reported 4 other cable boxes had their batteries stolen.





Calendar

THURSDAY, JUY 5

• Free Art Exhibition: Kit and Caboodle, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Creative Arts Center, 1560 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Exhibition Dates: June 8 to July 12, 2012. Saturday, Juy 7

• Troop 849 Eagles Forever Banquet, 6:00 p.m., Doubletree Hotel, 21333 Hawthorne Blvd. The event will include a reception, plated dinner, and program honoring the 108 Eagle Scouts from Manhattan Beach Boy Scout Troop 849. SINDAY, JUY 8

· Free Concerts in the Park: Doo-Wah Riders (Country), 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Polliwog Park Amphitheater, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd.

Friday, Juy 13

• Free Shakespeare by the Sea: Romeo and Juliet, 7:00 p.m., Polliwog Park Amphitheater, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Bring picnics, blankets and low back beach chairs. Sat., 7/14 - Two Gentleman of Verona.

• Rollin' South Traffic Style Car Show & Traffic Safety Fair, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., LAPD Ahmanson Recruit Training Center, 5651 W. Manchester Blvd. For information call (323) 421-2588.

Saturday, Juy 14

• Free Elder Abuse Prevention Workshop, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.,Kinecta Federal Credit Union 1440 Rosecrans Avenue. To RSVP, please call (800) 854-9846. This event is open to the public.

Smile Awhile's June 2012

Winner

Our Staff Pick for June is "Devin Preston," which

Sunday, Juy 15

• Free Concerts in the Park: Tom Nolan Band (R&B Motown), 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Polliwog Park Amphitheater, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd.

Friday, Juy 27 • Teen Center Summer Camp: Discopooloza dance party, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Begg Pool, 1402 North Peck Ave. Teens can pay (\$10) on the day of the event. All participants must have a completed Discopooloza Release Form on file at the Teen Center. For more information, contact Andrew Berg, Teen Center Supervisor at (310) 802-5426. ONGOING

• The Mayor's Walk 'N' Talk the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at Peets Coffee & Tea, 328 Manhattan Beach Blvd. Also the third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at North End Café, 3421 Highland Ave.

• Free Classes at the Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden Amphitheater, west side of Polliwog Park. Park on N. Peck Ave. off Manhattan Beach Blvd. Registration required for most Classes. For more information call Julie Gonella at (310) 546-1354. www.mbbgarden.org



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Sophie (dog) and Preston (2 years old). Submitted by Kristen Poulos.



Green Dolphins - Big Smiles after a Big Sand Soccer game in Santa Monica. Submitted by Sass Muncey



This column serves as a community forum where local leaders volunteer to respond to faith and religious questions submitted by readers.

What is salvation?

The concept of salvation is central to the Christian faith. We believe that we are saved from the power of sin and death and given new life. This means that we are forgiven our sins, restored to a right relationship with God and our fellow human beings, and given a new life here and now and eternal life after death.

We also believe that salvation comes to us as a gift from a loving God. We can't earn salvation by doing good things; it is a gift that comes to us through faith in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ-and even that faith is a gift! In other words, salvation is given to us when we put our trust in God's love in Christ. It is also a life-long process in which God continues to help us grow in faith and love through the work of the Holy Spirit.

We are saved *from* a life of struggle with guilt and fear. We are also saved for a life of love, joy, peace, and hope: love that results in joyful service, peace within ourselves and with others, the hope of God's guidance and life eternal. To be saved does not mean we will not suffer. Rather, it gives us assurance that God will help us when suffering comes to us.

God's salvation is not just for individuals. God is also working to save the whole world from hatred, pain, and death, and we are partners in that work.

> —Rev. Lee CarlŠe, El Segundo United Methodist Church

Growing up in Pennsylvania Dutch country, when my grandmother was exasperated with something, she would say: "Give me strength and salvation"!

Asking ourselves questions such as "What is salvation?" is a good thing for we many times use terms and think we know exactly what they are but have really never questioned them as adults.

Whatever salvation meant to my grandmother, I will never know for I never knew a a child but I did know it had something to do with religion!

Many people would most likely define salvation as a saving from wrong doing/"sin" or a deliverance from wrong doing/"evil". Sin, evil, hell then creep into our definitions and light on their meaning must be given as well. Sin is an archery term meaning you have missed the target or bull's eye and hell is Sheol in the Bible which meant you burn in hell when you miss the mark. It was an idiom which meant a state of consciousness not a geographical place. Unfortunately, mistranslations, misunderstandings of idioms, customs and mannerisms of speech have obscured the simple and clear words of the great masters

and orators of the Bible. I might add, in particularly Jesus.

Salvation is found when we regain (assumed lost) our conscious possession of God-given attributes. It comes as a result of going FROM God TO God. The story of the prodigal son is an example. Salvation is a not a thing, not an end but a Way for our salvation is through our unity with God. Salvation comes to all of us as a free gift from God. It is a gift which is total Love and frees ourselves from all limitation. A belief that Jesus in some outer was atoned for our sins is not salvation. Salvation is an inner understanding and overcoming which comes individually as a change in consciousness. We use the Christ consciousness (separate from the man, Jesus) to cleanse the mind and free us from wrong doing. This consciousness gives us that "strength and salvation". Now, whether my grandmother would agree or disagree, I will probably never know!

-Rev. Bonnie S. Wulff, Living the Inner Light Church and Science Of Mind Center, El Segundo

The most basic question that we need to answer in addressing this topic is simply this: Do we even need to be saved at all? The clear testimony of Scripture is an unflinching "Yes". We - as humans - need to be delivered and emancipated from the just penalty due for all our offenses against God's righteous laws. And because the penalty for breaking such laws is unending banishment from God's presence (in a terrible place called Hell) the stakes simply could not be higher.

And here's the Great News: God Himself has undertaken to suffer that punishment and pay that penalty for all who will commit their lives to Him as Savior and Lord.

He did His work (taking sin's penalty) when, in the person of Jesus, the dreadful debt for human sin was fully paid by Him upon the cross. We make our response (committing our lives to Him) when we: (1) Admit that we have broken God's commands; (2) Believe that Jesus has paid sin's debt; and (3) Come to Him as our only Savior and rightful Lord.

It is when we make that simple three-fold (A.B.C.) response that God will cancel our debt, wipe clean our slate, adopt us into His family, walk with us through life, and take us, one-day, to live with Him forever.

Who would want to pass up such an offer of free and full salvation? Make Jesus Christ your personal Savior and Lord today - and that salvation will be yours!

-John Svendsen, First Baptist Church of El Segundo Any person interested in responding to or submitting a question may email us at management@heraldpublications.com. Please note that the intent of the column is to enjoy the exchange of ideas and different viewpoints. We are not interested in and will not publish any negativity, condemnation or prejudice. •



Times are tough for everyone, but tougher for others. If you find you have a little cash available, please donate to one of the following worthy organizations. If you do decide to donate to any of these very worthy causes, please put "Herald Pub" in the memo line, so we can track donations. Give a little, get a lot.

Animals Rule Rescue - 310-971-4347 - info@animalsrule.org · We rescue and foster homeless dogs and provide for their welfare and veterinary care until they are found permanent loving homes through our adoption program.

Bob Hope Hollywood USO at LAX - 310-645-3716 - www. bobhopeuso.org • Help provide a "famous touch of home" for active duty military and families to use computers, watch TV/movies, family room, Xbox, bathrooms/showers, beverages & light meals. Open 24/7.

C.A.S.E. – 310-767-0670 • Assists El Segundo residents in need through a twicemonthly food pantry providing non-perishable food items, personal hygeine products, laundry and cleaning supplies, and paper products.

Counseling4Kids - 310-817-2177 ext. 219 - help@counseling4kids.org · Counseling4Kids is a non-profit organization that provides healing and advocacy for foster care children in your community. Get Involved - Donate - Volunteer - Spread the Word.

El Segundo Concert Band - 424-242-ESCB (3722) - www. esconcertband.org • Raises funds for a variety of performing and music education programs in our community, including the local schools. Helps to provide funding for the El Segundo High School Band, operates the Center Street and Richmond Street Elementary Band and South Bay Summer Music Symposium Camp to keep the music playing.

El Segundo Education Foundation - 310-615-2650 Ext. 229 info@elsegundoedfoundation.org • El Segundo Education Foundation represents a partnership of businesses, individuals, and families organized to support and enhance programs of ESUSD and to promote excellence in education.

Hawthorne Education Foundation – 310-676-2276

Inglewood Educational Foundation - 310-419-2705 • The Foundation is dedicated to generating financial support from the community for the improvement and enrichment of educational opportunities for all students in the Inglewood Unified School District.

Kitten Rescue – 818-347-3037 mail@kittenrescue.org • Non-profit, totally volunteer run organization devoted to finding loving homes for unwanted and abandoned cats and kittens placing approximately 1000 into new homes every year.

Lawndale Elementary School District Educational Foundation - 310-676-1197 – lawndaleed@yahoo.com • The LESDEF provides opportunities for elementary students to achieve their potential by supporting programs and additional resources that engage them and enhance standard curriculum.

Mercy's Village International - 310-906-0518 - jeami@mercysvillage. org

Mychal's Learning Place – 310-297-9333 – info@mychals.org. · Mychal's provides social and recreational after school programs, emphasizing life skills training for youth and young adults with developmental disabilities, encouraging independence and building self-esteem.

Pregnancy Help Center - 310-787-HELP (4357) – www.phctorrance. org • Offering confidential and compassionate support to women and their families. Free pregnancy and STD testing, counseling services, resource referrals and more. Volunteers welcome

RISE GHI (Global Health Initiative) – 1-855-922-RISE – info@riseghi.org • The mission is to improve health care and education in developing countries, beginning with a free clinic and education center in Nigeria.

Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (LA) -888-SPCA-LA1 – info@spcaLA.com • spcaLA is an independent, nonprofit animal welfare organization serving Southern California since 1877. Donations run programs and services including Cruelty Investigation, Disaster Animal Response Team, Humane Education and a variety of shelter services.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU PUSH THE ENVELOPE, IT'LL STILL BE STATIONERY.



South Bay Family Health Care - 310-227-8100 - www/sbfhc.org • Formerly South Bay Free Clinic, SBFHC honors the same mission since 1969; to provide quality health care regardless of their ability to pay.

Torrance Education Foundation - 310-972-6418 - info@ torranceeducationfoundation.org

Tree Musketeers - 310-322-0263 - info@treemusketeers.org • Tree Musketeers empowers young people to be environmental leaders through worldwide programs. Locally they provide a residential tree service while growing our community forest and youth leaders.

Volunteer Center (South Bay) - 310-212-5009 - volcenter.org • In partnership with over 70 nonprofit organizations, the Volunteer Center mobilizes volunteers and provide creative programs to meet community needs.

Wiseburn Education Foundation - 310-291-9805 - info@ wiseburnedfoundation.org • "Founded in 1996, the Wiseburn Education Foundation supports music, arts, and nutrition education programs within the Wiseburn School District.

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Politically Speaking

One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

This morning I'm working on my first cup of joe--the neighborhood cat wrapped around my feet looking for a handout and I'm browsing through the morning rag's report on national tragedies. A small inside page article called my attention to the fact that the Fourth of July is coming, and it got me to thinking about the Founding Fathers and what they would have thought about our stewardship of this ship of state they had handed to us. Thomas Paine, reflecting the challenges of his time, said, "These are the times that try men's souls," but I would suggest those sentiments apply to us as well. Pull up a chair, pour yourself a cup and let's chat a bit.

Do you remember when the very foundation of the American dream was an education from a word-class American university? That the result of that education was a satisfying career...not just a job...but a career of the graduate's choosing? That the graduate could marry, have children and save enough money to buy his own home in a safe neighborhood? That his children could attend a functioning public school and the family be allowed to worship in a religion of its choosing? Wasn't it the dream of every parent that his children would stand on the shoulders of generations past and accomplish that which had eluded his elders? Where did that dream go?

Today, every aspect of that dream (quality university education, post-education career, marriage between a man and a woman, home ownership, quality public schools, practicing religion of one's choice) are all under siege. Elaborating on each of their challenges would be depressing and lead me to add Kahlua to my coffee. Suffice it to say, the American Dream has turned into a cruel mirage.

The most insidious consequence of our failing may be the death of national optimism--the belief in upward mobility and confidence in a brighter tomorrow. Sadly we now focus negatively on just avoiding catastrophe for one more day, one more week, one more year. After nearly four years, 62 percent of the country believes we are still in recession. The best we can dream of is anemic economic expansion that is insufficient to keep up with population growth, and the worst is a flat out 2013 economic recession. In the words of the civil rights movement, "Been down so long, it looks like up to me."

And in this era of discouraging news on an individual level, wouldn't you at least expect a President to respect the rule of law and the will of the people?

The Federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) defined a marriage as between a man and a woman, and is the law of the land, but President Obama has chosen to reject the Constitutional requirement that he enforce the law--but instead supports gay marriage. The issue is not whether or not one supports gay marriage. It is whether or not the President of the United States is required to follow the law. He says "not."

In another arena, only 38 percent of the population supports Obamacare, but the President has chosen to reject the public will, directing the Health and Human Services Department to spend \$2.7 billion over the last three months to implement the unpopular law. Regardless of the decision of the Supreme Court, the President has flipped off the court of public opinion.

On June 15, the President by fiat declared that he will not enforce the provisions of the Immigration Act by stopping deportation of young illegals and beginning approval of work permits. Left unsaid was whether or not the parents of the 800,000 young immigrants will also be exempt from deportation. The President violates federal law, making supreme the opinion of one man.

See One Man, page 12

Financial Planning is a Process Not a Product! So, Who's Looking Out For Your Financial Interests?

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Political Penguin

By Duane Plank

Greetings, comrades and revelers, the day after the Fourth of July festivities. Trust that you all behaved somewhat responsibly? Did not partake in any of the illegality of fireworks, point a dangerous bottle-rocket at one of the neighbors' abodes, the neighbors who are constantly oh-so unfriendly and tightlipped as you try to greet them as they walk their dog by your residence and let the scurvy hound relieve himself on your pristine lawn?

I will take a leap of faith and tell you I behaved just like some of you column fans would have expected me to behave.

The Fourth is the most political of holidays, right? The day, 236 years ago when we declared our independence from the British rogues who had deified and vilified the oppressed who would soon become Americans after braving a scurvyladen boat ride across the pond. Seems that we have patched up our differences with the British folk, and in fact are getting ready to send our finest professional athletes over to jolly old England later this month and try to bring back the gold and the zillion dollars in endorsement money that is out there in the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Now, I will watch a heck of a lot of the Olympic coverage, but not all too interested in waving the jingoistic red, white and blue pom-pom. Yes, I want the American professional athletes to outpoint the professional athletes from the other participating countries, but it just ain't the same as it was back in the day when we would watch the tube and root against the evil Russians, the evil East Germans--especially the East German women who seemed to have more facial hair than the Canadian men's team. In any and all sports...

The Bolshoi that was promulgated back then, that the Games of the Olympiad were pure, was a crock. It was beat the Evil Empire and the other commies. And there were some epic battles between the alleged free world and the Russian empire, but they seemed to take a backseat to politics in 1980, when the miscast peanut farmer President from the sticks of Georgia, one Jimmy Carter, screwed a bunch of our young athletes and decided to boycott the Olympics that year that took place in the very Communist Soviet Union. Red scare and all. Boy, that seems like a long time ago, doesn't it?

Seems that the Commies had invaded Afghanistan and the overmatched one-term President from Plains, Georgia got his skivvies in a bunch and spearheaded a boycott of the Games that took place in Moscow. So shockingly, a bunch of Eastern European athletes brought home a majority of the coveted medals, leaving our getting-paid-under-the-table athletes out in the proverbial cold.

Course the tables were turned four years later when the Soviets and their sympathizers said nyet to attending the Summer Olympics that went off without a hitch in Los Angeles. And opened the doors for a bunch of American guys and gals to win medals in sports that heretofore had been dominated by the men and women/men of the Soviet bloc countries.

Speaking of Afghanistan, why is such a heck-hole of a country allowed to cause so much worldwide consternation? A boycott of the "all-important" Olympics 32 years ago and a war to track down the dirt-bag Bin Laden that has taken the lives of how many Americans? According to a CNN report about three weeks ago, the 2,000th American lost his life in the war that has lasted nearly 4,000 days.

Marine Corporal Taylor J. Baune was killed--number 2,000 for whom the bell tolled. Baune had just been recently married, three months before his deployment to Afghanistan. Can't even fathom sending a son, a father, a brother off to a so-called war, only to have them be returned to American soil in a flag-draped coffin. War for what? Think Bin Laden was sent to the bottom of the ocean a good while ago.

We, and I use that term loosely, found him, eliminated him and sent his sorry carcass into the ocean, to hopefully be devoured by the predatory sharks of the waterways. So, game over. War over. Time to come home, right, Mr. Obama?

Course the POTUS said that he was going to get us out of this mess over there, but like a lot of his campaign promises, they never came to fruition. Which is to be expected. Par for the course. You think that you can actually believe most of the rhetoric that Mitt "The Glove" Romney is currently promulgating as he sharpens his attack on the policies of the one-time community organizer from Illinois?

Did find it interesting that recently a few Demo politicos said that they will be skipping the Donkey Party's nominating convention slated to take place in NASCAR territory, Charlotte, North Carolina, in early September. Seems that some of the Demos who are facing a tough reelection challenge this November would rather distance themselves from the Prez instead of trying to latch themselves onto his coattails. Stiffing an incumbent President is an interesting strategy. We'll see how it plays out in November.

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And finally: I gripe when the price of petrol goes up, so I will now cheer that the rip-off pricing scheme that the oil companies continue to gouge us with has yielded some pricing under four bucks a gallon. Aren't we consumers ever so lucky? •

Our Latest Living Historic Architecture "Self Guided Walking Tour"?

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2

The Manhattan Beach Cultural Heritage Conservancy offers you a FREE brochure to a Self-guided Walking Tour of the southern portion of Manhattan Beach Downtown. Historical preservation is an important element in the retention of the basic character and Walking tour soul of a community. The eighteen architectural styles you will observe date from 1900's – spotlighting 16

residential homes, one former church, and one business. The brochure may be found in many locations in the Downtown area, such as: City Hall, City Library, Chamber of Commerce, Lisa's Gallery, Cotton Cargo, Shade Hotel and in other locations around town. For more information, please contact (310) 372-8520. •

Page 5

FOOD & DINING

Pork Fajitas with Smoky Cherry Salsa

This pork fajitas recipe with grilled pork tenderloin, onions and peppers gets a sweet-smoky aroma and flavor when topped with chipotle-infused cherry salsa. Manchego cheese, though untraditional for fajitas, pairs nicely. Servings: 4 servings Total Time: 45 minutes Ease of Preparation: Easy Health: Low Calorie, High Fiber, Low Sat

Fat, High Potassium, High Calcium, Heart Healthy, Healthy Weight, Diabetes Appropriate

Ingredients:

1 teaspoon plus a pinch of salt, divided 2 cloves garlic, minced

Zest of 2 limes

6 teaspoons lime juice, divided

1 1/4 teaspoons ground chipotle pepper (see Tips), divided

1 1/4 pounds pork tenderloin, trimmed 1 medium white onion, thickly sliced crosswise

1 red or green bell pepper, quartered 1 cup chopped pitted sweet or sour fresh cherries (see Tips) 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro 1/2 cup shredded Manchego or Cheddar cheese

8 6-inch corn tortillas, warmed (see Tips) Steps:

1: Preheat grill to medium-high. 2: Mash 1 teaspoon salt and garlic in a small bowl with a mortar and pestle or a spoon until a paste forms. Mix in lime zest, 2 teaspoons lime juice and 1 teaspoon ground chipotle. Rub the paste all over pork.

3: Oil the grill rack (see Tip). Grill the pork, turning occasionally, until an instantread thermometer inserted in the thickest part reaches 145°F, 13 to 15 minutes. Grill onion and bell pepper, turning occasionally, until charred and tender, 8 to 10 minutes. Transfer the pork to a clean cutting board and let rest for 5 minutes.

4: Combine cherries, cilantro, the remaining 4 teaspoons lime juice, the remaining 1/4 teaspoon chipotle and pinch of salt in a bowl. Finely chop one slice of grilled onion and stir into the salsa.

5: Thinly slice the remaining onion and

the pork. Serve the pork and vegetables with the salsa and cheese on tortillas. Nutrition: (Per serving) Calories - 365 Carbohydrates - 33 Fat - 10 Saturated Fat - 4 Monounsaturated Fat - 3 Protein - 37 Cholesterol - 107 Dietary Fiber - 6 Potassium - 883 Sodium -881 Nutrition Bonus - Vitamin C (87% daily value), Vitamin A (38% dv), Zinc (27% dv), Potassium (25% dv), Magnesium (23% dv), Calcium (18%

pepper. Thinly slice

dv), Iron (15% dv) Marinate pork (Step 2) in the refrigerator, loosely covered, for up to 8 hours. Tips: Chipotle peppers are dried, smoked jalapeños. Look for ground chipotle in the spice section of most supermarkets or online at penzeys.com.To pit fresh cherries, use a tool made for the job—a hand-held cherry pitter; it also works for olives! Or pry out the pit with the tip of a knife or vegetable peeler. To warm corn tortillas, wrap a stack of tortillas in barely damp paper towels; microwave on High for 30



to 45 seconds. Or wrap stacks of 4 tortillas in foil; place in a 375°F oven for 10 to 15 minutes. Wrap tortillas in a clean towel to keep warm.Oiling a grill rack before you grill foods helps ensure that the food won't stick. Oil a folded paper towel, hold it with tongs and rub it over the rack. (Do not use cooking spray on a hot grill.) When grilling delicate foods like tofu and fish, it is helpful to coat the food with cooking spray. By EatingWell, Courtesy of Arcamax.com •



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Dodgers Fall From Grace

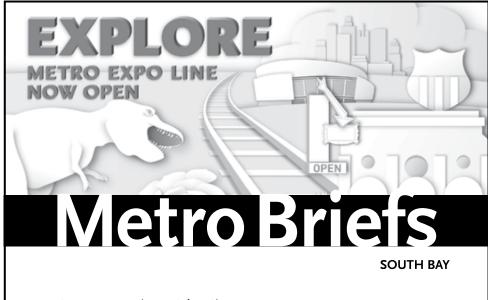
By Adam Serrao

It wasn't long ago that the Los Angeles Dodgers had the best record in the National League West and even beyond that, the best record in all of Major League Baseball. Anyone who watches the game of baseball, however, knows that the same boys in blue that previously had climbed to the top of the league are now looking like bums in blue, sliding all the way to the bottom even faster than they ascended. Certainly, the baseball season is a long campaign. With 162 games to be played to complete the sports year, it is regular to see good teams at times fall into slumps along the way. The Dodgers, however, aren't only in a slump They are on a meteoric descent that when over with may be the worst in team history, begging the question are these in fact the same Dodgers of last year that finished in third place in their division just slightly above the .500 mark?

The Los Angeles Dodgers led the NL West by as many as 7 1/2 games on May 27. At the time that this is presently being written, the Dodgers are now a game back in the standings of the San Francisco Giants and have been shut out five times in six games and six times in 12 games--including all three at San Francisco and at least two out of the four games against the New York Mets. Presently, those same Dodgers have produced only two runs in their last 57 innings played, seeing them lose seven games in a row and 11 out of their last 12. The slide has dropped the Dodgers from five games ahead in the NL West and in first place to where they are now--one game behind the Giants and in second place. These Dodgers don't seem to be the same team they were last year. Now, they seem to be even worse.

To give the team credit, the Dodgers are depleted by injuries that may explain some of their insufficiencies lately. Obviously, Matt Kemp has been out of the lineup for the majority of the year with his hamstring injury. Andre Ethier has been sidelined a few games with an oblique injury. The team's number two hitter and one of the best defensive second basemen in the game, Mark Ellis, almost lost his leg due to complications resulting from the injury that he suffered on May 19 that has seen him sidelined for almost a month and a half now. When you take the number two, three and four hitters out of any lineup in the league all at the same time and for an extended amount of time, you can expect the team's run production to drop off drastically. Not only are the big hitters for the Dodgers sidelined, but the other hitters on the team are being asked to take their spots and step into roles that they are not used to filling, thus having to work harder and thereby producing less.

Even so, help is on its way very soon. While Ethier was only sidelined for a few games, both Kemp and Ellis should be back directly after the All-Star game that takes place on July 10. Once those three get back into the lineup, the Dodgers will once again have their core back and the offense should finally do its part to end its worst slide in years and eventually start scoring runs again. Even through their horrific play of late, however, one thing separates this team from last year's. Stan Kasten and the ownership group that includes Magic Johnson, unlike Frank McCourt, are willing to do whatever it takes to win. Already looking overseas to enhance the team, Kasten and the Dodgers' front office recently signed 21-year-old Yasiel Puig to a seven-year deal in order to hopefully be the Dodgers left fielder of the future. Beyond that, the hot stove is burning white hot with trade rumors that have the Dodgers looking in various areas to improve their team and their brand. "I promise you we'll explore everything," Kasten said of his team's position on the trade market this year. "Look, as candid as we can be, we'te the Dodgers. We're supposed to be See Sports, page 7



Go Metro Expo Line To Culver City

The Metro Expo Line's Culver City and Farmdale stations are now open, making it easier to go Metro to more attractions. Discover Culver City's dining scene along with the museums of Expo Park, Downtown nightlife and more. For more information, go to *metro.net/expo*.

Frankly Plank

By Duane Plank

Dancing around the hardwood floors right now to the old Queen tune "Don't Stop Me Now." Any kind of motivation, sometimes it takes, to flip on the old laptop and tap this out. Next song should'a been the Billy Idol classic "Dancing With Myself." Which is exactly what I was doing.

Miss the dancing that I used to do. Pretty good, I might say? Ask a local lady or two? At least willing--don't stand on the sideline like some caveman. Though I am sure that there were a couple of cavemen who could cut the rug back in the day. And may have done some of my limping gyrations at a local party yesterday. Maybe my attendance had been requested at a couple of local soirees. Wasn't sure at press time where I would hang my hat on the sunny afternoon that was the July 4.

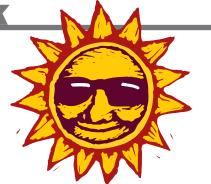
Trying to start making better decisions, the ones that are best for me. Who else matters, right? See the end of the column.

Anyway, ran into a couple of parking dilemmas recently in Gundo. Now one of the perks of living in the town dubbed "Mayberry" is that you can usually find a parking spot pretty darn easily. And that there are few off-limit spots in town. Except in the dubious boondoggle of a parking structure that once housed a now adiosed neighborhood grocery store.

And may someday house another grocery store? Maybe. From what I have been reading and I do occasionally read this papel, that process seems a tad bit derailed, according to the scuttlebutt around town. Anyway, don't know if I have ever slipped a hard-earned quarter into the boondoggle of a parking structure, but will admit to parking two or five times on the fourth level and engaging in some very legal, nefarious activities under the semi-gloaming of a Gundo dusk. Back in the day.

So, and I will get to the sports, but you kind of already know who won the Dodger game last Sunday, don't cha? And I am betting it wasn't the Dodgers (*editor's note: actually it was, but who could blame Plank?*). Team Titanic continues their freefall.

Gonna report about another great sporting event that took place last week. The day-job bosses, who really do a great job of taking care of us worker bees, hosted a Thursday night soiree at Torrance's very own Lucky Strike bowling center. Now, all is well that ends well, but the evening started out a little dicey. Learned a few things along the way. And one of them is to not take any extra stuff into a bowling alley. So I took my cash, my keys in. That was all. Left the cellie in the car and the ID. Which turned out be a small mistake. The man at the door, doing his job, would not allow me in. No ID. No entrance. But when I pointed out my grey hair, he relented, but pointed out that I was



allowed in and being allowed to leave, lots of amusing things occurred. What happens in Torrance stays there, right?

So that saucy-eyed senorita must have been bored one afternoon last week. Wanted to visit the research spot where so many of the pennings of this column have their germination. Took her over there for a brewski, introduced her to column fave *Dodger Girl*. She said she liked the place--may grace us with a return visit. Dodger Girl did not seem impressed, BTW, but might have been still miffed cuz her Dodgers have been on an extended losing streak. And her fave, James "Bologna" Loney, may soon be jettisoned to a permanent spot at the end of the pine. Can't carry a first baseman who can't hit forever, right?

Thanks for all of the supporters who have asked recently about my knee. Especially the somewhat newbie gal, at least to this column, who said that she would help out with a deep tissue massage to the affected area. I need every new reader that I can garner and if that is what it takes, so be it.

Still limping/running around town, but have actually hankered down and set up a doc visit in a couple of weeks. My thought: Torn meniscus. Which is better than a knee replacement. But I am obviously clueless on many things (don't laugh), and will defer to any and all in the med field, especially the medicos who read and love this column. Take any advice that you may have--this is supposed to be an interactive forum, an exchange of ideas?

Now the baseball Halos have hit a little bump in the road in their recent four-game series with Toronto, which is in Canada, for some of you folks who may not know. Speaking of may not knowing, hope my new, quick chica amiga made it back to Texas on Saturday? Ran into the lovely Houston art teacher Amanda as she was killing time locally, waiting for her "friend" to give her lift to LAX. Her "friend" had dumped her off at a Mayberry pub and was allegedly going to return later after watching Mickey Mouse cartoons with his nephew.

I kid you not. This very nice lady was killing time, talking to me, and some would say wasting time, as she texted her "friend" who was watching the Mickey stuff. You kidding me? Hope you got back to Texas, girl!

So back to the Angels. Kinda gonna go back to my mantra of a couple of months ago. The Texas Rangers are darn good. And spotting them a big division lead, even if it

Construction Begins On Wilshire I-405 Ramps

As part of the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project, crews will demolish and reconstruct I-405 freeway ramps over the next year and a half. Construction on the first pair of ramps at Wilshire Boulevard is now underway. Check *metro.net/405* for the latest information on closures and construction schedules.

Look For Metro At CalCon Expo August 2

Contractors, construction professionals and suppliers can learn about \$150 billion in public works projects underway by attending the upcoming California Construction Expo (CalCon) at the Pasadena Convention Center. The government sector is in need of qualified firms to support construction programs. Learn more at *calconexpo.com*.

Measure R Projects Moving Forward

Metro continues to make progress on more than 70 transportation improvement projects funded by voter-approved Measure R. Included in those projects are 48 for highway and traffic reduction, 16 for rail and rapid transit and nine for public transit. Follow their progress at *metro.net/measurer*.

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If you'd like to know more, visit metro.net.

not too smart to not have my ID with me.

And he was right. The rest of the evening proved how "not smart" I was, but I will tell you that I kicked butt in the second round of bowling. Didn't get to bowl the third round. Either my team ditched me, or I ditched them. Second option, that is the one I am sticking to. Anyway, between being early, is not a good thing. Won't even dish on the Dodgers. Mattingly has done a great job of piecing this flotsam and together, but the gig is over, methinks.

Last thought: Definiton of insanity--Doing the exact same thing over and over and expecting different results. Applies to me. Anyone else out there wanna fess up? •



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A Student's Perspective

Society's Addiction to Busy and Ignorance of Rest

By Glen Abalayan, Torrance High School Student

Society has bred a generation of workaholics. It has changed people's attitudes about work and rest. Today, people are working too hard and resting too little. For 200 years, society and personal lifestyles have changed man's definition of the word rest and skewered it from a refuge from daily life into an activity that is looked down upon. With society's rapid pace, changing attitudes and transition into an interconnected global system, can people still get the rest they need?

Unfortunately in a number of developed countries, the answer is most likely to be no. Society has an addiction to staying busy--busy doing work, busy worrying about work, or even busy when there isn't any work. With the introduction of the computer, Starbucks and the disposable coffee cup, people are further disregarding a proper night's rest and replacing it with more activities to keep them away from the bed and into the workplace.

The key cause of society's ignorance for rest is because people tend to not get enough sleep. Unfortunately, today's generation thinks sleeping causes them to miss out on opportunity. But developing a habit of sleep deprivation is a risk to one's health and the safety of those around them.

Not giving your body the rest it deserves can greatly put you at a higher risk of heart conditions. According to the studies conducted by the University of Warwick, an individual who sleeps less than six hours a night has a 15 percent higher risk of developing or dying from a stroke and a terrifying 48 percent greater chance of developing or dying from a heart attack. Sleep deprivation also affects one's appearance and behavior as a lack of sleep can translate into an increase in weight, a short temper and a decrease in attention span and life expectancy.

Sleep deprivation can also endanger the safety of those around you. A study conducted by the British Medical Journal during 2000 announced that individuals who stayed awake for more than 17 hours possessed the behaviors and blood type of a drunkard. Their research involved sleep-deprived drivers taking various tests and compared it to results from an individual with a blood alcohol level of 0.5 percent. After the experiment, they concluded that the sleep-deprived driver actually performed worse than the intoxicated driver. The test's result is an accurate reproduction of real life as the National Sleep Foundation reported in a 2012 survey that 14 percent of truck drivers said they encountered a near miss because of their lack of sleep. The number of truck drivers experiencing near misses is small compared to train operators, with 18 percent, and airline pilots, who are at most risk with a stunning 20 percent.

Along with people not getting enough sleep, another reason for society's lack of sleep is how people spend their time away from work. Ever since the introductions of the television, individuals have spent their time away from work staying up later and giving up sleep to watch television. As the main source of entertainment changes from television to computers, individuals are more likely to stay up late because of the unlimited source of information and entertainment the Internet provides. Although activities such as watching television or using the computer may be considered as a way to unwind, they do not provide the body with any way of recovering from the rigors of everyday life and only gives the user headaches after prolonged use. By failing to take advantage of the time given to rest and instead using it to interfere with one's sleep cycle, the individual is putting their life at risk for the health problems listed earlier.

While society's rapid rate continues to increase, more companies are exploiting tired workers and creating an entire industry dedicated to keeping people awake. Instead of listening to their bodies and giving it a rest, people look for high caffeine beverages to temporarily mask their bodies' yearns. This is where coffee chains like Starbucks and Coffee Bean succeed. Companies such as the world famous Starbucks have mastered the science of marketing and transformed the coffeehouse from a simple beverage store

Sports

big. We intend to be big. Will we look at big things? You bet."

While there is nothing big about the way the Dodgers have been playing on the field recently, fans can rest assure that although it feels like it, it may not be the end of the world just yet. With names like Carlos Lee being rumored to join the Dodgers' clubhouse soon, it is clear that management is doing everything it can to better the team for a run at the playoffs this year. Once the lineup gets healthy and the trade deadline passes, the runs being put up on the scoreboard for the Dodgers should make this, the time of a completely anemic offense, almost to the social watering hole.

As society continues to grow, humanity should be more responsible in listening to their bodies. Contrary to what others may say, rest should be as, if not more, important than what happens during the daily grind. In the issue about society's sacrifice of rest for opportunity, the dangers outweigh the benefits. Although people claim that giving up sleep is the key to success, it is also a path to a shorter life. When given the opportunity to get enough rest, people should take advantage of such an opening instead of wasting it doing senseless activities. The Dalai Lama famously said that man "lives as if he is never going to die, and then dies having never truly lived." In the world's rush toward an everlasting workday, people should take responsibility of their bodies and not ignore its needs in exchange for the mirage of opportunity. •

from page 6

completely forgettable.

Though many fans would love see that 7 1/2 game lead reappear in the standings, when put into perspective, the Dodgers aren't really putting themselves out of misery just yet. Only one game back of the National League West-leading Giants, the Dodgers still have the opportunity to retake the lead in the division standings even before the entire team gets healthy. Even so, if the Dodgers can make it to the All-Star break without slipping much more, then they certainly won't have to worry about the ghosts of last year with the visage of Frank McCourt revisiting their clubhouse anytime soon.





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Department of Transportation provides 'Blueprint for Ending Distracted Driving'

Provided by shopautoweek.com JUNE 7, 2012

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood released the Department of Transportation's "Blueprint for Ending Distracted Driving" during a press briefing Thursday. The plan, which builds on three years of research and initiatives to reduce distracted driving, details what needs to be done to further reduce traffic fatalities caused specifically by texting or talking on a handheld cell phone while driving. "Distracted driving is an epidemic. While we've made progress in the past three years by raising awareness about this risky behavior, the simple fact is people are continuing to be killed and injured -- and we can put an end to it," LaHood explained.

The plan focuses on four main recommendations to Congress, states and individuals and is available for download at www. distraction.gov. Here are the main points: Enact tough laws against distracted driving and provide good enforcement of those laws

As of June 8, 39 states have bans on texting while driving, and 10 states have outlawed the use of handheld devices while driving altogether. The Department of Transportation would like to see the remaining 11 states enact legislation banning texting.

Pilot projects publicizing and enforcing these bans in Hartford, Conn., and Syracuse, N.Y., proved beneficial and did



reduce the amount of texting and driving in these areas. Tickets and fines were issued. During the press briefing, LaHood said an expansion of these pilot projects is underway and will be focused on the areas of Sacramento, Calif., and the state of Delaware. The Motor Vehicle and Highway Safety

Act of 2012 currently includes \$39 million in grants to be awarded to states that have enacted distracted-driving legislation in order to help publicize and enforce the laws. Provided this element of the legislation is not removed before it is approved, these dollars could go a long way toward helping a larger percentage of the U.S. population see a greater reduction in distracted-driving incidents and fatalities.

Provide better education for young people about the dangers of distracted driving

Part of the blueprint discusses the importance of adding data about distracted driving to the standardized driver's training curriculum. In order to get teens involved in spreading the antitexting word, the Department of Transportation launched a design challenge. Teens have been charged with designing an icon that could be shared via social media and become known as a symbol of safe driving habits.

Address safety of developing technology This portion of the plan urges manufacturers to be cautious when designing in-car technology and to take distraction into account. This applies to developers of other handheld devices, too, as many drivers have become accustomed to bringing their technology with them into the car. A complete list of guidelines for manufacturers was rolled out as Phase I of transforming how vehicle manufacturers approach distracted driving. Phase II will further address other handheld devices but has not been released yet.

Get involved

During the press briefing, LaHood introduced a woman whose life had been instantly changed by a distracted driver. She described how she was stopped at a red light three years ago and was hit by someone who had been texting. The impact was severe and caused the innocent driver to suffer brain and spinal-cord injuries among others. She spent every day of the year following the accident in physical therapy trying to recover. Because she needed to work on her rehabilitation, she was forced to miss out on much of her high-schoolaged son's life. She felt horrible about this as she is her son's only parent. Her message was not only that people should not text and drive, but that everyone should let their loved ones know how much they are cared about and needed so that they think twice before texting too. The blueprint encourages parents to talk to teens and suggests community members get involved in enacting legislation to stop distracted driving. Involvement is important because, when all is said and done, the blueprint is nothing more than a recommendation and does not mandate safer behaviors. •

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Tips for Traveling with Extended Multigenerational Family



Families of all ages can enjoy vacations where a variety of activities are offered.

(ARA) - Family travel, also referred to as multigenerational travel, is a growing trend not likely to slow any time soon, with more and more people considering the benefits of traveling with extended family. If the idea of taking a trip with your family - children, parents, grandparents or more - appeals to you, here are some tips that will help ensure your vacation is one everyone in the family will enjoy.

Forty percent of U.S. leisure travelers - 20.8 million people - had taken a multigenerational trip in the previous 12 months, according to a 2011 Preferred Hotel Group study. This year the numbers could grow even more. To plan the best multigenerational trip, possible, follow these insider tips:

Tip 1: Make planning a group activity

The most successful multigenerational vacations are when all family members are involved in choosing the destination. It will take some research to find the right locale for your vacation, and brainstorming with the entire group, young and old, to get ideas of where to go is a wise way to start your travel adventure. Do more people want a secluded trip with outdoor activity options, or does your family lean more toward travel to a big city with lots of shopping and museum visits? If everyone has a say in what type of vacation they enjoy up front, it's easier to narrow down destinations that will make everyone happy.

Tip 2: Find group accommodations While getting separate hotel rooms can work for multigenerational travel, having a large suite or private residence where the entire group can reside provides a more

unified travel experience. The key is to find a place that is comfortable for all and provides many of the conveniences of home, but still feels like a grand escape. An extra consideration: Look for accommodations with a full kitchen so your family can cook and eat meals together as desired. Starting the day with a full family breakfast or ending it with fresh baked cookies and milk can be a bonding experience in itself.

Many resorts have accommodations appropriate for groups, such as the Inn on Woodlake or The American Club Resort in Kohler, Wis. The resort recently opened a nearby private cabin, Sandhill, nestled on 350 acres in the wilderness near the western shores of Lake Michigan and approximately an hour north of Milwaukee. The cabin is close enough so groups can enjoy the amenities of the resort, yet far enough away to feel like a private retreat. This charming, yet rustic, private cabin sleeps six comfortably and has a full kitchen and an attached sauna and poker shack with fireplace.

Tip 3: Research activities



Sandhill, a private escape and part of The American Club Resort in Kohler, Wis., offers a variety of activities for the multigenerational family trip

When you're narrowing down where you'd like to take your multigenerational vacation, consider the activities that are available. You'll want options to entertain both young and old, so be sure to seek variety. Access local travel resources and online travel reviews to find destinations that are a good match for your group. You might even be able to schedule some activities in advance to reduce stress once you have arrived.

Guests of the Sandhill cabin, for example, See Travel, page 10



		VAINTENANCE SUB ITEMS
	#	WHAT TO DO
	1	Rotate tires, and check tire pressure and condition.
Г	2	Replace an cleaner element, check drive belt, and replace dust and pollen filler.
1	3	Reptace baserisation field and basets: field (if equipped).
	4	Replace spark plage, replace timing belt (if equipper), inspect water pump, and impect valve clearance.
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Ask George Expert Answers to Common DMV Questions

By George Valverde – Director, California Department of Motor Vehicles

Do you have questions about general driving related requirements like registration and insurance? Are you unclear about laws and restrictions related to driving? The California Department of Motor Vehicles has answers. Save Time. Go Online at www.DMV.ca.gov

Q. I noticed a handicap parking space on a residential street. The curb was painted blue and has a handicap sign posted. Can anyone request this accommodatÚn if they have a person in need living in their home?

Anyone can request the privilege. Every city has their own policies and each requires different documents and fees from the applicant. Some cities will require the applicant to have proof of a handicapped license plate or placard. The applicant must also prove that there are no off-street parking spaces available in front of the house, such as a garage or driveway. Some cities may also require a doctor's note stating that the applicant is unable to go 50 feet from the curb without the assistance of another person.

Q: I saw a guy on a motorcycle today, riding with a snake wrapped around his neck. Is it legal for him to ride his bike with his pet like that?

Risky behavior! However, yes it is legal. There are no restrictions on transporting pets in a motor vehicle. It is recommended though that you properly secure your pets while transporting them since they can be a distraction to you and other drivers and potentially cause unsafe driving.

Q: If a car has an "exempt" license plate, does this mean that the vehicle is exempt from the rules of the road?

A. No, exempt plates are usually issued to vehicles that belong to public agencies like the city, the county or state. Aside from that, these vehicles and their operators must obey all traffic laws and regulations.

The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Acting Undersecretary Traci Stevens. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.•

Travel from page 9



Straits and Blackwolf Run, home of the 2012 US Women's Open. Both kids and adults enjoy top-notch golf lessons at Kohler Golf Academy. While group activities are plentiful, there are also many options for alone time too - while Dad and Grandpa hit the greens, Mom and Grandma can head to the Kohler Waters Spa and the kids can head to Kamp Kohler, a four-hour camp full of fun activities including crafts and swimming. Tip 4: Adopt the multigenerational mindset Traveling with a group of different aged

have access to renowned golf at Whistling

Traveling with a group of different aged people brings with it a unique set of variables. It's important to remain flexible and set a comfortable pace. There are always traveling snafus, such as uncooperative weather or the kids losing their luggage, but remember to relax and deal with any bumps in the road as they arise. Sometimes overcoming these obstacles can make for the best family memories because you must figure out solutions together and spontaneous activities are often the experiences that are most cherished. •

ch Blv

405



Page 11

PETSPETSPETSPETSPETS Pets Without Partners Purrfect Companions

Big and beautiful, these gentle giants are looking for their second chance in life and for love.

Turner is a lovely four-year-old Greyhound who we are fostering for Fast Friends Rescue. This lovely boy is fresh off the racetrack. At 67 pounds, he's lean and quite muscular. Turner is a bit shy when you first meet him, but he is coming out of his shell beautifully. He leans into us for pets and love and he's soaking the attention. Turner loves to ride in the car and stick his head out the window--he likes to go fast. Don't miss out on this gem of a dog as he is a lovely boy indeed. Turner is neutered, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs and cat-safe.

Wilma is a beautiful Great Dane with crystal blue eyes and a stunning harlequin coat. We

call her Willy for short. She is around seven years old and is a small Dane with a good weight at 100 pounds. Willy is great with just about everyone she meets. She came from an all-adult home and we are looking for the same type of home for her. Willy loves going on walks and is quite good on leash. She is totally housebroken and has been a





Turner

house dog all her life. Willy is not a fan of small dogs. She is afraid of them and needs to be placed as an only dog or with another larger dog. She lived with a Labrador at her prior home. Willy is in excellent health and if we did not know her age we would have guessed her to be around five years old. She is full of energy, has beautiful, clean teeth,

has no visual or hearing problems and is of very good weight. Willy is a love of a dog, so sweet and endearing with a bright and happy personality. She is a great overall dog who is not destructive in the home or in her kennel. Wilma is spayed, current on vaccinations, dewormed, microchipped and good with other large dogs.

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at www.animalsrule.org. If a dog is on our website, it's available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in need of donations for veterinarian bills and our senior dogs. Donations can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to: Animals Rule Placement Foundation at 305 North Harbor Boulevard, San Pedro, CA 90731. All donations are tax-deductible. We are a registered 501©3 non-profit organization.

Saving one animal won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that animal. •

Happiness is waiting around the corner when you adopt a purr-fect partner.



Beanstalk

Beanstalk is a gorgeous little girl. She is known as a "Torbie"--meaning a Tabby mixed with Tortoiseshell markings. In Beanstalk's case, she looks like a Tabby but has a few

orange lines and even a couple of orange spots showing off her Tortoiseshell side. She is a super-sweet little girl who loves to cuddle and play. Beanstalk has a lot of energy and definitely needs a kitten or young kitty buddy in her home. She would love to be adopted with her brother Horchata or her new buddy kitten Jasper. For a little kitten, Beanstalk is so fast she can streak across the room and appear as just a blur. She's truly one of the rare, very special kittens.

Horchata is a very handsome little boy with soft

orange flame points. He is a supersweet little guy who loves to cuddle and play. Horchata is full of energy and all-boy. He comes lumbering through the house at top speed like a big truck. He's very tall and looks like he will be a big cat one day. He has personality and is super playful. He likes to rough and tumble with his sister Beanstalk and his friend Jasper. He's a lover who purts when you talk to him. With his energy, Horchata needs another kitty in his household as a playmate.

Princess is a very affectionate kitty and *adores* people. Princess is great with other cats, dogs and even children, making her the perfect addi-

tion to any home! This little princess is an absolute angel who has been passed over far too often and strangely ends up ignored at adoption events. Princess is a very mellow and easygoing little girl, but the only thing small about her is her size. She has a huge heart and a wonderful purr to match. Princess is very outgoing and loves to play with bubbles! If you are looking for a spectacular girl who is nothing but love, then look no further. Princess would be okay as an only kitty; with a doggie companion, or with any other kitties.

These kittens/cats are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, de-wormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see our other kitties, please check our website at www.kittenrescue.org or email us at mail@kittenrescue.org. Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and

care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue, and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location.

Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue.•



Princess

Happy Tails

Mr.Clooney, Home at Last

After pulling Mr. Clooney from the South L.A. Shelter in February, then with your generous donations, helping him fight off pneumonia for three months to get him healthy enough for surgery to remove two growths, get a dental cleaning and be neutered...Mr. Clooney *finally* found his forever home with Dena and Fred. Here is a little update on how he is doing thus far.

"Hi...We are so happy to have Mr. Clooney as part of our family! He eats everything we put down for him, his dog food is the same food as you fed him. He loves to cuddle, really! When we're on the couch, up he comes and snuggles right in. He is very curious about the cat still and she is very slowly acclimating to him. He is not showing a lot of aggression towards her and a baby gate separates them upstairs. He uses the doggie door all the time. He has marked once that I know of...upstairs on a cat toy on the day after he got here. I haven't used the belly band yet since he has only marked once. We are ordering shampoo today, getting more doggie food and he is going to Home Depot with Fred for "man adventures." Mr. Clooney is well-behaved (for the most part) and is getting over his abandonment episode. I can see he is worried when we leave him still. He is my little shadow all around the house. He is the star of this home--all three of us shout his name when we get home. It's sort of an inside joke about whom he likes better since I walk in the house and there is my daughter with Mr. Clooney asleep in her lap. He likes all of us, but me the least since

I administer his eye drops throughout the day. Thank you for the pictures. Clooney is a wonderful Pug who is providing us a lot of joy and laughter. We are so thankful you saved him from a poor life. His shelter picture makes me want to cry. The rest of his life with us will be safe, secure, loving and full of pug hugs..." – Dena.

When you adopt a "pet without a partner," you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. •



Classifieds

Page 12

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. The Torrance Tribune does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

Schofield Realty

We receive 50 phone calls a month for rental units in town. We need homes & apartments to lease. Call KEN about our Mgmt. program for Homes & Apartments.

310-322-4660

APARTMENT FOR RENT

1BD. Must see! This exceptional onebedroom unit is ultra-luxurious with exquisitely landscaped private outdoor space. A private front entrance and walk-thru to private garage and storage. The unit has a full-sized kitchen with granite countertops, custom alderwood cabinets, stainless steel appliances and refrigerator, front loading washer & dryer, walnut flooring & Italian tile, crown molding, ceiling fan, recessed "can" lighting with dimmer switches, satin-nickel Baldwin locksets, cable ready for flat screen T.V. Magnifying mirror in bathroom with extra large bathtub. Grohe hardware throughout. Central heat & a/c. Internal alarm systems and video surveillance. Also has commercial sound-proofing quite rock and double-paned windows. Located in

One Man

the best area of El Segundo. Walk to beach, shops & restaurants and easy access to freeways. Pets okay upon review. \$2475 rent with 1-year lease minimum. For a virtual tour, click on www.205Standard.com. Available 8/01/12. Call for appt. @ (310) 721-3625.

1BD. A Must See. Beautiful unit has it's own private patio with gas BBQ. hook-up, doublepaned windows, wooden blinds, private onecar garage & storage, front-loading washer & dryer, full-sized kitchen with granite counters, Chrome hardware, custom wood cabinets, gas oven, microwave, & new refrigerator, hardwood flooring & Italian tile, recessed "can" lighting with dimmer switches, crown molding, satin-nickel Baldwin locksets, cable ready for flat screen TV. Extra large bathtub and lighted magnifying mirror in bathroom. Central heat and air. Unit has internal alarm system and commercial sound-proofing guite rock. Walk to beach, shops & restaurants. Pets okay upon review. 1 year lease minimum. \$2,250/mo. 650 sq. ft. Call (310) 721-3625 for appointment.

GARAGE SALE

536 Arena St. ES. Sat.,7/07 8 a.m. - noon. No Early Birds. Moving Sale! Furniture, collectibles, baby clothes, toys, kitchen items, clothing, home decor, exercise equipment, etc.

Come to think of it, I will add a shot of

Kahlua to my morning coffee. Join me? •

On June 25, the Supreme Court said Arizona police have the authority to ask for evidence of legal residency during otherwise legal stops, relaying information on illegals to the federal authorities. Following the ruling the Administration responded by terminating immigration enforcement agreements with the governed by a man who will not abide the state, thereby defying the intent of the court. rule of law or the consent of the governed.

Thomas Paine would undoubtedly agree that these are times that try men's souls. We

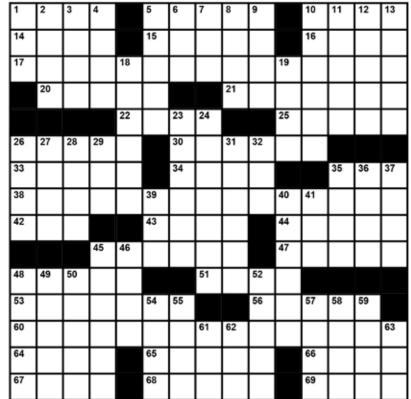
CLASSIFIED AD FORM

The deadline for Classified Ad copy and payment is at Noon on Tuesday. We reserve the right to reject, edit, and determine proper classification of classified ads. E-mail ad copy to: classifieds@heraldpublications.com. Include Visa or M/C number along with billing address and phone number. You may also pay by cash or check.

PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE AD IS PUBLISHED!

RATES: Deadline Tuesday at NOON								
	1 Time	2 Times	3 Times	4 Times				
3 Lines	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$70				
4 Lines	\$45	\$55	\$65	\$75				
5 Lines*	\$70	\$80						





ACROSS

16.

20. Pang

22. Downer

25. Brahman, e.g.

1. K follower 5. Said sheepishly?

14. Old World bird

___ Danger

10. Big laugh line (slang)

15. Charles de Gaulle's birthplace

17. Convention city for felines?

21. Masses formed by heating

26. 1935 Triple Crown winner

30. Ancient Greek weight

33. Lifeboat lowerer

44. Kind of wave

47. Wee

51. Dalai

48. Big sheet

45. Of a great range

34. Fair share, maybe

- 64. Cornstarch brand 65. Mushroom caps
- 66. Dangerous biters
- 67. Capital of Rhône
- 68. Light parody

60. Feline in a Salinger title?

DOWN

- 6. Balloon filler
- 8. Building additions

- 53. Ham it up
- 56. Santa's original reindeer, e.g.
- BIITT GUS TIAIPIA ACHE UFOS SANT RARE NOPE UNDE BOUNCEUPANDDOW HULAOOH UTRICL LETRIP ODEONIDLE RUNBACKANDFORT HOYARATT ICE SETUPON MORSE PUSMEOW FLICKERINANDOU A M E N D I M E AKR TAG AURAE DROSS AYES SENT SCAR

69. Dutch painter, to friends -Atlantic

- 2. Risk prison
- 3. Little impressionist?
- 4. Anastasia's father, for one
- 5. More gloomy
- 7. "Aladdin" prince
- 9. Kosher 10. Diminutive
- 11. Double-reed instruments
- 12. Bat an eye?
- 13. Band on a shield
- 18. As yet
- 19. Creep
- 23. Cleave
- 24. Slow but steady 26. Ends partner

H O	1	2	3	4	5	8	6	9	7
H O R N	9	5	6	7	3	2	8	4	1
N	7	8	4	1	6	9	2	3	5
E T	5	1	2	9	7	3	4	8	6
H Y	8	3	7	2	4	6	1	5	9
Ľ	6	4	9	5	8	1	7	2	3
т	2	9	5	6	1	4	3	7	8
0	3	7	1	8	2	5	9	6	4
0 S S	4	6	8	3	9	7	5	1	2

SUDOKU Medium

5		9			2	3			
				9			2		
2			1	3					
9	4		2			6	8		
		6		7		2			
	8	2			9		7	4	
				5	4			6	
	9			8					
		4	6			9		3	
Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3									

- - 37. The "O" in S.R.O.
 - 39. "Awesome!" 40. Hook up

35. Dwell

41. 20-20, e.g.

27. Filly's mother

29. Certain retrovirus

31. She has a degree

32. Certain refrigerant, briefly

28. All fired up

45. Cooling system (Brit.)

36. Bookbinding leather

- 46. Wyle of "ER"
- 48. Central
- 49. Egg producer 50. "Take your hands off me!"
- 52. Recurring theme
- 54. Eur. think tank
- 55. Field 57. Heavy furniture wood
- 58. European language
- 59. Ilk
- 61. 1969 Peace Prize grp.
- 62. "The Matrix" hero
- 63. Cousin of -trix

Last Week's Answers



35. "My man!" 38. Class for teen felines? 42. But, to Brutus are beset by an endless recession with a na-43. Jack-in-the-pulpit, e.g.

from page 4

tional debt growing at \$4 billion per day. Of the 11 recessions over the last 60 years, this recovery ranks last in terms of GDP growth and ninth in job growth. The American Dream is under the threat of extinction and we are

AD COPY:	CATEGORY:
Jame:	My ad will run forweeks.
	My ad will run forweeks. I have enclosed \$
Address:	
Address:	I have enclosed \$

squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9.

Rea Estate

Buying A Home: Prepare by Getting Your Finances in Order

(ARA) - For those considering buying a home, the current real estate market presents some unique opportunities. One of the side effects of the economic roller coaster ride of the past few years is that home prices have gone down and more homes have gone on the market. For buyers, that means more choices and better deals. However, those same tumultuous years also can also teach buyers a lesson: Make smart buying decisions and be wise with your finances.

Impulsive buying is never a good idea when it comes to a purchase as significant as a home, but it was something of a trend at the height of the mid-2000s. Now, with banks lending far more cautiously, you need to be absolutely certain that your finances are in order - and healthy - to be able to get the best deal on your purchase.

There are a number of steps you can take to get ready to buy a home, and you might need to work on them simultaneously. Consider that you'll need to start saving, if you haven't already, but you'll also need to review your credit score and do what you can to either maintain it or work toward healthier credit. Both of these tasks will help make the home-buying process better for you.

Your credit is an important factor in determining the terms under which you can get a mortgage. Broadly speaking, the better your credit is, the more positively you'll be viewed by lenders - and that can lead to better interest rates. And because you'll be paying off your home for years to come, it's important to get the best rate possible. Start by checking your credit report. You're entitled to one free check of your report, from TransUnion and other credit reporting agencies every year. As much as you need to check your report to find out what shape your credit is in, it's also essential to review it for inaccuracies or fraudulent activity, both of which can have a negative impact on your score.

If your credit health needs some work, start taking action immediately. Paying bills on time, reducing your overall debt and limiting new credit inquiries can all help to build your credit - but be patient as it can take time for your positive actions to take effect. Nevertheless, the sooner you make the effort, the sooner you'll see results.

Making a prudent decision about buying a house comes down to an honest assessment of what you can afford. Keep in mind that you might be approved for a loan that's larger than what is practical for you to afford. While it may be tempting to buy a pricier house, the stress of struggling to make payments could diminish your enjoyment of your new home and even put you at financial risk. One rule of thumb is that most borrowers can afford a home loan that runs about two and a half times their annual salary.

Buying a home is a complex process, but one that is ultimately very rewarding when done right. By organizing your finances well in advance, you'll help set yourself up for success. For more information about credit and buying a home, visit www.transunion. com. •



Make sure your finances are in order - and healthy.

<u>Ope</u>	en Hou	se Direct	<u>ory</u>
• Sun 2-4	708 E. Palm, ES	5bd + office/3ba, 3-car side	by side garage
Kirk Brown	a & Kirk Brown, Jr.	Main Street Realty	310-322-0066
• Sun 2-4	1357 Voorhees Ave., M	B 3bd/1ba	<mark>\$999,000</mark>
Bill Ruane		RE/MAX Beach Cities Realty	310-877-2374
• Sun 2-4	913 Cedar St., ES	2bd/1ba	<mark>\$669,000</mark>
Bill Ruane		RE/MAX Beach Cities Realty	310-877-2374

Real Estate

ket for four or five months—mainly ones listed in 2011--several others closed within a few weeks. As an example, a home on West Pine Avenue sold at its asking price the very same day (May 24, 2012) it listed. "This is definitely the best it has been in three years," said VanHook of today's real estate climate.

At its worse in 2009, local homes may have lost on average about 20 percent of their value compared to when housing was at its peak in the middle of the last decade, Ruane estimated. "We're gaining it back," he said of those values, adding that El Segundo is now transitioning into a seller's market for the first time in years. "And it's a good time to refinance because there are better comps. People should have their property evaluated yearly." Ruane added that short sales and foreclosures are also down by two-thirds and that demand for housing is now higher with less product on the market (fewer than 20 homes listed compared to 60-plus during the peak of the slowdown).

While not quite as booming as residential, commercial values are also up five to seven percent, according to Ruane, who was quick to emphasize that the "for sale" signs on Main Street don't mean businesses are closing. "One owner [who leases out spaces to different businesses] is selling his properties there in order to invest in a larger project," he explained. Ruane also noted that two 1,500-square foot restaurants and a 2,700-square foot professional business will likely lease space at the recently vacated El Segundo Post Office site.

The 3.8 Percent Sales Tax on Home Sales—Should You Worry?

A widely misunderstood 3.8 percent tax likely to take effect for certain real estate transactions beginning January 1, 2013 to help subsidize Medicare has caused some uproar in recent months. But according to data from the National Association of Realtors, the tax will only affect individuals with an adjusted gross income (AGI) above \$200,000 and couples filing a joint return with more than \$250,000 AGI. This automatically excludes 97 percent of American households right off the bat. Even then, the tax will only be assessed on house sales if the capital gain realized is higher than \$250,000 for an individual or \$500,000 for a couple.

Let's say an El Segundo couple makes \$300,000 AGI and bought a home in 2004 at a cost basis of \$400,000. The capital gains exclusion (amount of tax-free profit they can make on the sale of the home) for couples on a principal residence is \$500,000, so the only way they would be liable for the tax is if they sell the home for over \$900,000.

from front page If the house goes for \$950,000, the addi-

If the house goes for \$950,000, the additional capital gains of \$50,000 would then be tacked onto the \$300,000 AGI to create a new AGI of \$350,000. The 3.8 percent tax would now apply to whichever of the following dollar figures is the lesser:

--The amount by which the couple's taxable income now exceeds the \$250,000 threshold (in this case, that's \$100,000 since the AGI is \$350,000)

--The amount of taxable income gained from the sale of the home (\$550,000 profit minus the \$500,000 exclusion, or \$50,000).

Since the second dollar amount is the lesser of the two, the couple would pay an additional tax of 3.8 percent of \$50,000, or \$1,900. If they made \$500,000 or less profit on the sale, they would not pay any additional tax. So in essence, the tax will only impact those with unusually high capital gains on home sales. •







2420 W. Carson St. #120 Torrance, CA 90501



2105 W. 187th St. Torrance

Just behind a beautifully manicured Japanese black pine tree lies a comfortable 3 bedroom, 2 bath single family home in the City of Torrance. Almost 1400 sf. Convenient serene cul de sac. Oversized fireplace in the living room. Spacious sunny kitchen and dining area feature lots of built-ins and generous cabinet space. Several dual paned windows. Master bedroom has attached 3/4 bath with newer vanity. Full bath was recently updated. Grassy backyard has a covered patio. **Listed at \$439,000**







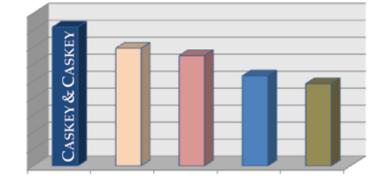


Sales data May 1, 2012 through May 31, 2012. Property types include single family homes, condos and townhomes as reported in the MLS.

Stats by Market Area	Sand Section	Trees	Hill Section	Village	Heights/ Liberty	Mira Costa
Closed Sales	18	11	3	5	4	10
Avg. Days On Market	97	58	41	30	81	73
Avg. Sold Price	\$2,274,618	\$1,482,090	\$2,166,667	\$1,018,200	\$1,185,725	\$1,505,790

Caskey & Caskey Note: The market is very active. We have completed 5 off market sales in May alone. Please call for a free no-obligation market analysis. (310) 200-1960

Caskey & Caskey #1 Manhattan Beach Listing Agent for Over 4 Years



Wanted: Beach Property

- MB Sand Section Walk Street to \$4,000,000
- **MB Sand Section** Lot up to \$3,000,000
- MB or HB Strand Home up to \$6,000,000

CASKEY & CASKEY Finer Home Specialists

(310) 200-1960 Dave@CaskeyAndCaskey.com

- MB Sand Section Townhome up to \$2,000,000
 - North HB Sand Section 3 bed+ up to \$1,500,000
- **MB or North Hermosa** Strand up to \$10 million



