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Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

Volume 12 Issue 69



COULD JERRY HELP CONGRESS?
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE KIDS INSPIRED ISSUE

Will Rogers takes 'Risk' on new mural

Piece meant to inspire students in the arts

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

16TH STREET A week ago, Will Rogers Elementary School had three handball walls, each a powder blue expanse that had faded and chipped with time.

What a difference a week makes.

The three panels are now a riot of color courtesy of internationally-known graffiti artist Kelly "Risk" Graval and local art professor Nathan Ota, who have spent the last seven days applying their considerable skill to the benefit of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District students.

Risk and Ota transformed the walls into a scene depicting Ota's interpretation of the tree of knowledge, clothed in a blue-striped shirt and topped with a school house complete with bell.

Radiating out are rays inscribed with sayings found around Will Rogers Elementary School painted by Risk against a backdrop of his signature color wash style. Both elements characterize other pieces in his "Beautiful Destruction" series, which took him to a wall in Los Angeles' Skid Row.

Those rigid, geometric lines contain lyrics from a Led Zeppelin song "Good Times, Bad Times," and symbolize a new,



Ashley Archibald ashley@smdp.com

SEE ART PAGE 8 DETAILED: Andy Hernandez (front) and Nathan Ota work on the Will Rogers mural Tuesday.

AMC Theatres puts closed captions in four screens

Advocates hope it can be replicated

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A hearing-impaired teen in Santa Monica got his wish this week when a local theater chain announced that it would provide closed captions in four screens in one of its Downtown theaters.

John Butchko was thrilled to receive the news.

He's been advocating in front of public boards and commissions for the last 52 days in an attempt to get AMC Theatres to install special devices that allow the deaf or hard-of-hearing to view dialogue without displaying it on the screen.

The company already had the technology, but told Butchko that technical difficulties prevented them from deploying it in Santa Monica theaters.

That left Butchko and others with no option but to drive 15 miles to a theater in North Hollywood to watch films.

There are 71 other hearing-impaired youth in the local school district alone, as well as adults with hearing loss and non-English speakers who may want to catch a film, he said.

The last movie Butchko saw in Santa

SEE MOVIES PAGE 10

Apartment openings spell new beginning on Fifth Street

Former developer's mess moves one step closer to resolution

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Two long-shuttered apartment buildings on Fifth Street are open for business, closing the door on a dubious legacy left by a former developer who defaulted on promises to City Hall and his

business partners.

The buildings, located at 1420 and 1430 Fifth St., are now owned by NMS Properties, one of the largest housing developers in Santa Monica.

Once closed to the outside and covered in scaffolding and unattractive tarp, the \$22 million project is now complete after

almost three years of negotiation and work for developers, a bank and City Hall.

Jim Andersen, president of NMS, considers the end result a triumph of process that fits both nicely in the NMS portfolio and with the culture of Santa Monica.

SEE HOUSING PAGE 10



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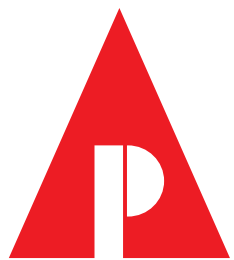
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Calendar

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013

Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013

Roll out the mat
Annenberg Community
Beach House

415 Pacific Coast Hwy, 9 a.m.
Santa Monica Yoga offers classes
for all levels. Admission is \$15 per
class, or \$62 for all five weeks of a
session. Parking is included with full
session registration. For more infor-
mation, visit [annenbergbeach-
house.com](http://annenbergbeach-
house.com).

Story time

Main Library

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11:15
a.m. — 11:45 a.m.

In the Children's Activity Room,
there will be a story series for chil-
dren ages 3 to 5. A ticket is
required to attend each session. A
limited number of tickets will be
given out on a first come, first serve
basis the morning of the event.
Tickets are handed out at the Youth
Reference Desk. For more informa-
tion, visit smpl.org.

Learn chess the easy way
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St.,
3 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Learn the game of chess in a
relaxed, stress-free environment.

All are welcome to attend
and no registration is required.

For more information,
visit smpl.org.

Puppets got jokes
M.I. Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade,
9 p.m. — 10 p.m.

Comedy with puppets, featuring
short and long-form improvised
entertainment. Admission is \$5.

For more information, visit
westsidecomedy.com.

Learn what's going
on in the news

Fairview Library

2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

Join a current events discussion for
adults ages 50 and up. Why not
learn while you're at the library?

Discussion moderated by Jack
Nordhaus. For more information,
visit smpl.org.

Talking classic film

Montana Library

1704 Montana Ave.,
2 p.m. — 4:15 p.m.

There will be a screening of "Local
Hero." The comedy stars Burt
Lancaster as an American, repre-
senting a Texas oil company and the
small inhabitants of a village in
Scotland. The screening is followed
by a discussion with film scholar
Vivian Rosenberg. For more infor-
mation, visit smpl.org.

Unlock your goals

Main Library

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. —
8:45 p.m.

Dr. David Allen and Gary Kobar will
give a lecture on ways you can iden-
tify and realize your physical, men-
tal, emotional and spiritual goals.

The event is located in the MLK, Jr.
Auditorium. Admission is free. For
more information, visit smpl.org.

Friday, Feb. 1, 2013

Let the games begin
Main Library

601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of video and
board games for all ages in the
Children's Activity Room. For more
information, visit smpl.org.



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

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

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

CORRECTION

In the Jan. 29 edition of the Daily Press, it should have said that the movie
"The Invisible War" will be screened at the Aero Theatre on Jan. 31. We apologize.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY
Dead motorcyclist identified

A motorcyclist killed when the bike he was riding collided with a car in Santa Monica was identified Tuesday as a 22-year-old Culver City man.

The collision happened just after 1 p.m. Monday at the intersection of 25th Street and Pico Boulevard, according to police.

Alexander Smollins died at the scene of the crash, said an investigator with the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

Smollins was eastbound in the 2400 block of Pico Boulevard when he struck a car driven by a 26-year-old Inglewood man, said SMPD Sgt. Richard Lewis.

The car had been northbound on 25th Street and turned left onto Pico after stopping at a stop sign when it was struck by the motorcycle.

The crash remains under investigation and anyone who may have witnessed it was urged to call police at (310) 458-8495.

No arrests have been made in the crash. Lewis said Monday that drugs and alcohol did not play a role in the accident.

- DAILY PRESS

CIVIC CENTER
'Chain Reaction' advocates rewarded

In the wake of the City Council vote that extended the deadline for one year to allow activists time to raise money to save the sculpture "Chain Reaction," Dave Conrad and Jerry Rubin will be awarded the first-ever Advocacy Award by the Santa Monica Conservancy during the group's annual meeting next month.

Conrad, son of Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Paul Conrad, who designed "Chain Reaction," and Rubin, a local peace activist, have been working tirelessly for the past year to preserve the controversial piece. They went to the Landmarks Commission and won landmark status for the sculpture, making it the first landmarked artwork in Santa Monica.

Conrad and Rubin are humbled by the recognition they have received.

"[T]his is an honor and a true recognition of the importance of saving and restoring 'Chain Reaction,'" Rubin said in an e-mail.

City officials have been resistant to using limited public art funds to repair the piece, which some believe has sustained extensive damage as a result of exposure to the elements over the last 20 years. Some estimates have put the cost as high as \$555,000.

A lower figure, by conservator Steve Colton, was only \$85,000.

The conservancy's annual meeting and preservation awards will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Eight other awards will be given during the ceremony.

For more information, visit smconservancy.org.

- ALEX VEJAR

DOWNTOWN
Over 100 business honored for sustainability

Real Food Daily, Areal Restaurant and the Santa Monica Museum of Art are among 19 businesses that are nominated for the 2013 Sustainable Quality Awards (SQA), which will celebrate a milestone of having honored over 100 winners since 1995.

A collaboration between the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Works and the city of Santa Monica, the awards were created to recognize local businesses that have made significant achievements in the areas of sustainable economic development, social responsibility and stewardship of the natural environment.

"The SQA program allows us to applaud these businesses and highlight how they make a difference in our local community," said Shannon Parry, assistant director for the Office of Sustainability and the Environment for the city of Santa Monica.

Winners of the award will be announced in early February and will be recognized at an awards luncheon at the Sheraton Delfina Hotel on March 13.

Pre-paid tickets are \$55 for chamber members and \$60 for non-members until March 6. To purchase tickets or for a complete list of nominees, call (310) 393-9825 or visit smsqa.com.

- AV

Q & A

Eco-conscious consumers flex their purchasing power
A conversation with Ted Ning, founder of LOHAS.com

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor-in-Chief

DOWNTOWN Santa Monicans are no strangers to shopping with the environment in mind. From plastic bag bans to alternative-fuel vehicles and incentives for buying eco-friendly products made by local merchants, residents in the city by the sea are at the forefront of a growing trend dubbed LOHAS, short for Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability.



NING

It's all about consumers who are concerned about the environment and want goods or services to be produced in a sustainable way. And shoppers are willing to pay more them.

No one seems to know more about this movement than Ted Ning, founder of LOHAS.com, a hub for consumers who want to learn more, find new products or hook up with other like-minded shoppers.

Ning was in Santa Monica last week to spread the word and help local merchants market their products. The Daily Press met up with him to find out more about the LOHAS movement.

WHEN DID YOU START NOTICING A SHIFT CONSUMPTION?

This has been ongoing since the 1960s during the hippie movement of experimentation. It included new ideas of co-op living, organic foods, new forms of spirituality and not buying into mainstream industrialization. Those individuals who were teenagers at that time are now the boomers of today and are CEOs and founders of LOHAS companies such as Whole Foods, Apple and Patagonia. They are leaders of brands that are influencing culture today, particularly the younger generations who look at "value" differently. They comprise 13-19 percent of the adult population in the U.S. and the market that serves these consumers is over \$300 billion in business to consumer sales and is over \$800 billion globally.

WHAT ARE LOHAS CONSUMERS MOST CONCERNED WITH WHEN MAKING THEIR CHOICES?

LOHAS consumers are box turners. They are the investigators and researchers. If they see

things such as third-party certifications such as USDA Organic or Fair Trade USA or support of nonprofits such as 1% for the Planet or Global Green Grants that are in line with the consumer's values and they feel the company is being transparent with their ingredients and who they are as a company, then they will not only embrace the brand but be a brand ambassador and teacher of others in their community. However, if things do not check out for LOHAS consumers they will be vocal about this issues and become problematic for brands until they correct them. Transparency on product ingredients, product sourcing, employee engagement and workplace democracy is the new wave of demonstrating to LOHAS consumers that a company is values based.

WHAT TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CONSUMERS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PRODUCTS THEY PURCHASE AND HOW CAN THEY GUARD AGAINST GREEN WASHING OR FALSE ADVERTISING?

There are many third-party websites that provide resources on product ingredients and thoughtful depth. These include: Environmental Working Group, www.ewg.org/; Non GMO project, www.nongmoproject.org; and Healthy Child, www.healthychild.org/main/

HOW CAN LOCAL MOM-AND-POPS, WITHOUT LARGE MARKETING BUDGETS, CONNECT WITH THESE CONSUMERS?

With any small business it is important to know who your target audience is and what their touch points are. Santa Monica is a hotbed for "LOHASIANS" as access to active and healthy lifestyle elements is everywhere — yoga studios, beach, organic food, green building, hybrid cars, etc.

LOHASIANS are very active on social media as they are the ones who share new information with others. Successful social media campaigns are the key and the tools are getting better and cheaper every day.

WHERE DO YOU SEE THE LOHAS MOVEMENT IN FIVE YEARS?

I see the integration of what is fringe becoming mainstream. Fringe elements such as EV vehicles, access to recycling and organics, LED lighting, green dry cleaning, green funerals, online yoga, will all be much more accessible.

SEE LOHAS PAGE 9



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't shirk your responsibility

Editor:

City Hall has been less than cooperative as it pertains to the status of the donated outdoor sculpture "Chain Reaction." A piece of art gifted to Santa Monica valued in the hundreds of thousands of dollars at the time of acceptance, why was this sculpture left to deteriorate? ("Council gives 'Chain Reaction' 1 more year," Jan. 24)

All city properties have a maintenance cost. Streets, roads, sidewalks and other public works need to be maintained and repaired when necessary. Could you imagine if the federal government took the same position as it pertains to outdoor structures such as the Statue of Liberty or the Washington Monument – in which untold millions, more money spent on renovations than the original cost of these structures – as an excuse to demand private donations be the source of funding for a public responsibility?

Just who are these nameless and faceless bureaucrats that advise and persuade Santa Monica elected officials into such mindless public policy?

The point of publicly displayed art is to generate controversy, discussion and debate. Paul Conrad's "Chain Reaction" does exactly that. Why would Santa Monica officials use their inability to maintain this city treasure as a flimsy excuse to remove the sculpture?

It's pretty obvious to the naked eye certain Santa Monica officials want to remove a controversial statue under the guise of cost. It's a manufactured excuse to dumb down an honest discussion as to why "Chain Reaction" was not maintained or renovated by Santa Monica since accepting this gift many years ago.

I'm hopeful the elected officials of Santa Monica will not become the first group of city fathers not to accept the city's financial responsibility to maintain this iconic piece of American history and the battle to reduce the level of nuclear proliferation here and around the world.

NJ Antonicello
Venice, Calif.

Tyke target practice

Editor:

The gun industry and its progeny, the National Rifle Association, want to arm everybody, and arm all the teachers in the schools. Arming every teacher in America would be expensive and intrusive. Arm the students.

Consider: A gunman enters a first-grade classroom and is met with a hail of .22 hollow points fired conveniently at the groin level, effectively taking him out. And I bet the kids of today are good shots after playing all those video games.

Such a plan meets NRA's gunslinger-in-chief Wayne LaPierre's axiom of a bad man with a gun is met by a good man (in this case a good munchkin) with a gun – 15 of them.

What a wonderful surprise, a win-win for everybody except the "harvested" (gun) terrorist.

Ron Lowe
Santa Monica

Your column here

Arthur Christopher Schaper

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Mr. Seinfeld goes to Washington

SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS COLUMNIST

Jack Neworth and I rarely agree. He supports gun control. I think that more guns control crime. He still hates Bush for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. I think President Obama is Bush with more bombast, plus extra lift from the mainstream media. South Bay residents despise "Waxman the Taxman." The Santa Monicans chant "Long live King Henry!"

But we do have some things in common. We are both Homo sapiens. We both live in the same Congressional district. We also agree that "Seinfeld" is one funny show.

When Neworth opened his latest column ("One was duped, the other doped," Laughing Matters, Jan. 25) with a reference to "Seinfeld," I could not help but e-mail back to him my favorite episode: "The Old Man." In this episode, Jerry wants to play good Samaritan to an old grump named Sid Fields. He does nothing but curse and berate the comedian, only at the end to ask him "Would you change my diaper?" followed by his uproarious laughter. The old man had been playing Jerry for a fool the whole time.

I was surprised but relieved when Neworth wrote back to me: "Hilarious! I have never seen this episode before!" Instead of bickering and arguing, we were laughing. A liberal and a conservative found some common ground. When I pitched to him the idea that perhaps "Seinfeld" can ease the gridlock in Washington — what "Seinfeld" creator Larry David might call "Curb your Partisan Enthusiasm" for our current leaders — Neworth was not so sure. Then again, the show about "Nothing" could be the perfect cure for a Congress which has done nothing for the last two years, and make us laugh in the process.

Of course, I am not the first one to suggest that Washington politicians, especially the Republicans, need to have more fun. In a recent op-ed, former Reagan speech writer Peggy Noonan told her conservative colleagues: "It's pirate time." Up until recently, the GOP establishment has been whining: "But I don't wanna be a pirate," just as Jerry did when Kramer's low-talking girlfriend showcased her "puffy shirt" for Jerry to wear on a morning talk show for everyone to "enjoy." (By the way, the GOP has a "stuffy shirt" problem: old, rich white men, but no "Festivus for the rest of us!")

Perhaps voters should send Cosmo Kramer to Congress, where he can stand on the floor of the House of Representatives and shout "Serenity now!" Let's just hope

that he doesn't wander into a room of computers, or a caucus of Republicans, for that matter. Maybe we could call in to the U.S. Senate New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, George Costanza's boss, where he can "blooooooow them away" with his own self-involved, self-absorbed filibusters about chicken hot-dogs and why his wife forgot to pack him salami for lunch. I am certain that both sides of the aisle will move for cloture very quickly. One grating monologue, and filibuster reform would be on its way.

Currently, all voters watch the 6 O'clock News and witness a lot of Beltway bitterness and backbiting. Every time one politician tries to make peace, the other sides growls: "You can stuff your 'sorrlys' in a sack, mister!" And we all know what that means! Henry Waxman wasn't my "pick" for Congress, but that does not make me an animal, does it? Maybe if Republicans had sent him a second "thank you," he would not be so mad at them. Or maybe Democrats think that all Republicans are "The devils! The devils!" Perhaps if they and their cost-cutting colleagues went into a coma — just like Elaine's visiting Colombian priest, who was scared by a devilishly painted Puddy after a hockey game — they would spend less time fighting and learn to work together.

Republicans want to cut spending. Why not call their plan "shrinkage?" Democrats want to grow government. Why not call them the "Bubble Boy Party?" Every voter wants government to protect entitlements: to change grandpa's diapers and to take care of "Nanna" or our "Uncle Leo," too. (Jerry, hello!)

Think about it long enough, and it starts making sense. "We the people" are the "masters of our domain." Just because a Democrat or a Republican wins a local contest to represent us in Congress does not mean that they can put their hands on our tax dollars (or anywhere else). They need to make the whole muffin of legislating work before they can start cutting the tops off of government waste, if you know what I mean. I still watch "Seinfeld" reruns just before I go to sleep at night. Perhaps Congress should do the same. (Not that there's anything wrong with that!)

ARTHUR CHRISTOPHER SCHAPER is a writer and blogger on issues both timeless and timely; political, cultural, and eternal. A lifelong resident of Southern California, he currently lives in Torrance.

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The Taxman

Jon Coupal

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Car tax increase is back again

ONE WOULD THINK THAT THE PASSAGE of Proposition 30 — giving California the highest income tax and sales tax rates in America — would have momentarily satiated the appetite of our governing political class before they continued their assault on hardworking California taxpayers. But there is no rest for the wicked. In a matter of days, our legislature will launch a new attack on all Californians who drive a car.

In an unusual procedural maneuver, Assembly Bill 8 (Henry Perea) has already been set for a committee hearing. This is odd since it is so early in the legislative session and strongly suggests to us that the skids are greased for this pernicious piece of legislation.

The bill would increase or extend \$2.3 billion of fees on car owners until 2023. These include smog abatement fees, air quality management district fees, vehicle and boat registration fees and new tire fees. Cumulatively, the impact to citizen taxpayers will be at least \$20 per vehicle annually.

Many of these fees were originally approved in 2007 for the purpose of funding technologies to limit air pollution, including the construction of a hydrogen highway. But here's the real insult: Like Proposition 30 revenue itself which we were told — ad nauseam — would be going to schools, money from this car tax hike are likely to end up in the black hole of the general fund. (Translated, that means government employee pension benefits).

Politically, our fear is that "the fix is in." This same bill was only narrowly defeated last fall, despite the fact that five Republicans voted for it. But why would any legislator who is a member of the party which holds itself out as the fiscally responsible player in the room support a multi-billion tax increase? Simple: In the naïve belief that something positive — regulatory relief for industry — is worth the trade.

AB 8 would remove some of the most outlandish and counterproductive regulations on the diesel trucking industry. If regulatory reform was all that AB 8 was about, this would be the classic no-brainer. But political deals in Sacramento — especially now that the tax-and-spend interests control both houses by a two-thirds margin — don't come without a price. And so the victims here are citizen taxpayers who don't have nearly the lobbyist firepower (or campaign

contributions) as do specific special interests.

Even if this "deal" were worth it as a matter of policy, the majority party has a horrible track record in keeping its promises and shouldn't be trusted. For example, these very fees were supposed to disappear by 2014. But now we're being told they should be extended until 2023. And who's to say that, once the tax hike is in place, the harmful diesel truck regulations won't be immediately reinstated. After Democratic leadership reneged on the deal with Republicans to put a spending limit measure on the ballot in 2012, any Republican who even considers supporting AB 8 is delusional.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 8 ...
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EXTEND \$2.3 BILLION OF
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JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association — California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

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The Q-Line

Budget woes

City Hall could be facing a \$29 million budget deficit by 2018 unless officials can increase revenues or make cuts to programs.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

What do you think could be trimmed to ensure that the city's coffers are not depleted in the next couple of years?

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

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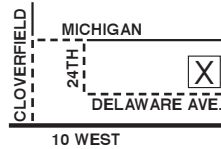
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Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Council OKs 2 pot clinic measures for ballot

The Los Angeles City Council has voted to place two measures on the city ballot to regulate medical marijuana dispensaries.

The council agreed Tuesday to let voters decide on the measures in May. One would limit the number of storefront pot clinics from hundreds to around 100. The other would allow an unlimited number but keep them away from schools, parks and other places.

The council also gave preliminary approval to a third measure, sponsored by Councilman Paul Koretz, which would reduce the number of dispensaries and increase their business tax. However, that measure requires a second vote.

A union and a marijuana collective coalition that backed one of the earlier measures now say they'll back Koretz's measure.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

LA Unified leaders sued over teacher sex abuse

The current Los Angeles schools superintendent and five of his predecessors are being sued on grounds that they intentionally quashed complaints about teacher sex abuse of students over the past two decades.

Attorney Brian Claypool said Tuesday that he filed the suit on behalf of the 12 children and 19 parents he is representing in another lawsuit stemming from the case of a former third-grade teacher facing charges for allegedly feeding students his semen over five years.

Claypool says the superintendents created a culture where administrators were encouraged to dismiss complaints about teacher misconduct.

District General Counsel David Holmquist says in statement that student safety is a top priority and the district continues to extensively review its policies.

— AP

LOS ANGELES

Deputy response times better in contract cities

An audit shows Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy emergency response times are quicker in cities that contract for policing services.

The auditor-controller says it took deputies and average 4.8 minutes to respond in contract cities compared with 5.8 minutes in unincorporated areas.

The Sheriff's Department says the extra minute was caused by remoteness and difficult roads in unincorporated areas.

The audit also found that 91 percent of promised patrol hours were provided in unincorporated areas while 99 percent was provided in cities that pay for sheriff's services.

Sheriff's officials blamed the difference on Board of Supervisors-imposed budget cuts.

The Los Angeles Times says the audit comes days after Supervisor Gloria Molina claimed Sheriff Lee Baca was providing better service to contract cities than to unincorporated county areas.

— AP

OAKLAND, Calif.

Gnomes to stay on Calif. utility poles for now

Small paintings of gnomes that have popped up on utility poles have become a community sensation in Oakland, prompting Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to say Tuesday that it will keep them in place for now.

The hand-painted portraits on 6-inch blocks of wood began going up last year in an apparent effort to brighten up the blue-collar California city. There are currently more than 2,000 of the images on utility poles, with many screwed to the bases.

The gnomes have red hats, white beards and brown shoes. Some of the images contain a mushroom.

Word that PG&E planned to remove the paintings sparked an outpouring of support from residents who said the gnomes add character to the city.

PG&E spokesman Jason King planned to meet Tuesday with the artist, who requested to remain anonymous, and a member of the City Council. The utility hopes to eventually relocate the gnome paintings from the poles to other spots in the same neighborhoods.

"We've received a lot of feedback from residents who love the gnomes," King told The Associated Press. "We're looking for solutions. We'll keep them where people can enjoy them."

King said PG&E did not want to encourage such installations, explaining a proliferation of such images could cause damage or make it difficult for crews to access the poles.

— AP

SANTA ANA, Calif.

OC man arrested after bones found at former home

Police have arrested the former owner of a home in Orange County, a day after a couple doing yard work unearthed human remains.

Santa Ana police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna says 65-year-old Larry Thomas Dominguez was arrested Monday on suspicion of murder based on the remains and statements he made to detectives while being interviewed.

Dominguez and his family lived at the home for more than 20 years until he moved shortly after a 2006 fire and relocated to another part of Santa Ana. The house was sold to neighbors.

Investigators found most of a full human skeleton when they dug further, but no other remains.

Officials from the coroner's office and anthropologists will attempt to determine the age and sex of the person, and when and how they were killed.

— AP

REDDING, Calif.

CHP: Man accidentally runs over girlfriend

A 50-year-old Northern California woman is in critical condition after authorities say her boyfriend accidentally ran over her with a truck.

The Record Searchlight of Redding reports that Gregory Gross of Yuba City stopped to let his girlfriend, Deronda Gail Harris, use the restroom at a gas station on Sunday afternoon.

California Highway Patrol officer Matt Clark tells the newspaper that Gross thought Harris had gone inside when he moved the 3-axle freightliner forward to make a U-turn.

Instead, he found her lying injured on the road. Clark says she had been run over by the right side tires of his truck. The 58-year-old Gross has not been cited or arrested. Clark says drugs nor alcohol was a factor in the incident.

— AP

Humble nickel from 1913 likely to fetch millions

BY STEVE SZKOTAK

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. A humble 5-cent coin with a storied past is headed to auction and bidding is expected to top \$2 million a century after it was mysteriously minted.

The 1913 Liberty Head nickel is one of only five known to exist, but it's the coin's back story that adds to its cachet: It was surreptitiously and illegally cast, discovered in a car wreck that killed its owner, declared a fake, forgotten in a closet for decades and then found to be the real deal.

It is expected to fetch \$2.5 million or more when it goes on the auction block April 25 in suburban Chicago.

"Basically a coin with a story and a rarity will trump everything else," said Douglas Mudd, curator of the American Numismatic Association Money Museum in Colorado Springs, Colo., which has held the coin for most of the past 10 years. He expects it could bring more than Heritage Auction's estimate, perhaps \$4 million and even up to \$5 million.

"A lot of this is ego," he said of collectors who could bid for it. "I have one of these and nobody else does."

The sellers who will split the money equally are four Virginia siblings who never let the coin slip from their hands, even when it was deemed a fake.

The nickel made its debut in a most unusual way. It was struck at the Philadelphia mint in late 1912, the final year of its issue, but with the year 1913 cast on its face — the same year the beloved Buffalo Head nickel was introduced.

Mudd said a mint worker named Samuel W. Brown is suspected of producing the coin and altering the die to add the bogus date.

The coins' existence wasn't known until Brown offered them for sale at the American Numismatic Association Convention in Chicago in 1920, beyond the statute of limitations. The five remained together under various owners until the set was broken up in 1942.

A North Carolina collector, George O. Walton, purchased one of the coins in the mid-1940s for a reported \$3,750. The coin was with him when he was killed in a car crash on March 9, 1962, and it was found among hundreds of coins scattered at the crash site.

One of Walton's heirs, his sister, Melva Givens of Salem, Va., was given the 1913 Liberty nickel after experts declared the coin a fake because of suspicions the date had been altered. The flaw probably happened because of Brown's imprecise work casting the planchet — the copper and nickel blank

disc used to create the coin.

"For whatever reason, she ended up with the coin," her daughter, Cheryl Myers, said.

Melva Givens put the coin in an envelope and stuck it in a closet, where it stayed for the next 30 years until her death in 1992.

The coin caught the curiosity of Cheryl Myers' brother, Ryan Givens, the executor of his mother's estate. "He'd take it out and look at it for long periods of time," she said.

Givens said a family attorney had heard of the famous 1913 Liberty nickels and asked if he could see the Walton coin. "He looked at it and he told me he'd give me \$5,000 for it right there," he said, declining an offer he could not accept without his siblings' approval.

Finally, they brought the coin to the 2003 American Numismatic Association World's Fair of Money in Baltimore, where the four surviving 1913 Liberty nickels were being exhibited. A team of rare coin experts concluded it was the long-missing fifth coin. Each shared a small imperfection under the date.

"The sad part is my mother had it for 30 years and she didn't know it," Cheryl Myers said. "Knowing our mother, she probably would have invested it for us. She always put her children first."

Since its authentication, the Walton nickel has been on loan to the Colorado Springs museum and has been publicly exhibited nationwide.

The coin will be up for grabs at a rare coin and currency auction.

Todd Imhof, executive vice president of Heritage, said the nickel would likely attract lofty bids that only a handful of coins have achieved at auction. That includes \$8 million paid for a 1933 double eagle, a \$20 gold coin, or the world-record \$10 million paid Jan. 24 for a 1794 Flowing Hair silver dollar.

"This is a trophy item that sort of transcends the hobby," he said. "It's an interesting part of American history and there are collectors who look for something like this."

Ryan Givens said he's not keen on selling the nickel.

"First of all, it had been in the family for so long," he said. "It's not like something you found in a flea market or something you just found."

Cheryl Myers said they're often asked why they held on to the coin for a decade after they learned it was authentic instead of immediately cashing it in.

"It was righting a 40-year-old wrong," she wrote in an email. By allowing the American Numismatic Museum to display it for the past decade, it was honoring Walton's wishes.

"It has been quite a ride," she said.

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ART

FROM PAGE 1

hopeful beginning. The Will Rogers mural has similar themes, but rather than starting over, the students are just leaving the gate.

"The rays here are possibilities," Risk said.

The artists have been working for a week straight now, hopping fences when necessary to get extra time in with the mural on weekends when gates at the school were locked.

Ota stopped by Will Rogers on Saturday to begin the detail work on the wood of the tree, adding highlights to the grain and shadows cast by the shirt that the figure is wearing.

It's been a while since he had to get over a fence rather than opening a door, but then again, Ota is more used to working in his studio — evoked by the box-like structure of the school house capping the tree — than getting out in the open air.

Times have changed, of course — now he can use a step ladder and not only has permission, but is encouraged to be there.

It took over a year to get to that point, Principal Steve Richardson said.

The project gained steam with the help of Adam Corlin, a home builder and third generation Santa Monican who got involved with Risk through a project to benefit local non-profit Heal the Bay.

Since, Corlin has acted as a coordinator for the artist, and connected him with the school district. They hope to put a mural in every school.

It's an opportunity to bring arts back into schools where they are being savaged on the budgetary chopping block, and also impart lessons to kids, Corlin said.

"It's nice to let the kids see art being done before their eyes," he said.

Corlin and Risk came to Richardson with the idea of painting a mural both to promote the arts and give back to the school district, which Corlin, and later his children, attended.

"We put together a plan that would be in the spirit of

beautifying the school and bringing attention to the arts, promoting them and legal art versus tagging," Richardson said.

With the decision made, Richardson had to sell it. He went to school employees, the Parent Teacher Association and governance council.

"We really did our due diligence in a year," he said.

Erin Inatsugu, the Will Rogers PTA president, was already familiar with Risk's work after a show in 2011 at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

She was excited by the idea of replacing the faded exteriors of the handball courts for something more colorful, and the opportunity to have kids watch the mural go up was not to be missed.

There was initial concern that the final product would be reminiscent of the graffiti seen throughout Los Angeles on the undersides of freeway overpasses or in dirty, dark alleys. Those fears were dispelled, Inatsugu said.

"We're honored that they wanted to kick this off at our school," she said.

Much of what happened next was good timing.

Ota and Risk attended high school together on the Westside, and painted together for years before going their separate ways. While Risk continued with his graffiti work, Ota traded his spray can in for a brush.

He now teaches at both Santa Monica College and Otis College of Art and Design, and does projects and designs for major alternative clothing labels.

The two reconnected a few years ago after a 20-year hiatus, and despite Risk's urging, Ota was hesitant to jump into the large-scale murals again.

"I finally said I was ready to do a mural and he said, 'I've got one, let's start tomorrow,'" Ota recalled.

Although things came together quickly, it hasn't all been smooth sailing.

Rains came on Thursday, disrupting the paint that hadn't quite set to the wall. They had to go through and press the water out of bubbles that had formed, and then blow-dry the paint down to make it adhere, Ota said.

Still, the artists hope they can get the whole project finished by Sunday, when they will put a coat of protective lacquer down so that students can continue to use the walls for their original purpose — handball.



Ray Solano editor@smdp.com

(SPRAY) CAN DO ATTITUDE: Graffiti artist Kelly 'Risk' Graval works on a mural at Will Rogers Elementary School last week.

Children that wandered up as the artists did their work Tuesday afternoon didn't seem concerned about the possibility of throwing balls at artwork done by an internationally-renowned artist.

They even seemed happy to help with some constructive

SEE MURAL PAGE 9

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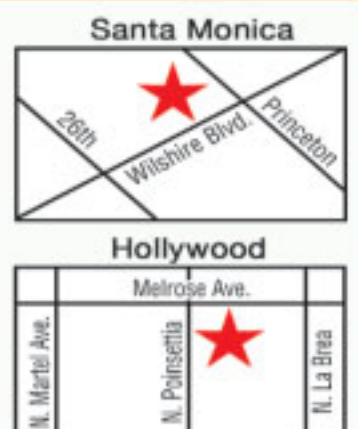


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ONE HANDED

Samohi's Jordan Mathews goes for a layup on Monday as the Vikings hosted Inglewood in an Ocean League game and won 72-68 in overtime. Samo's record improves to 6-0 in league and 17-5 overall.

Morgan Genser editor@smdp.com

MURAL

FROM PAGE 8

criticism, calling to Andy Hernandez, a former student of Ota's who came to help, to make one of the birds on the tree blue.

"I wanted to do that anyway, so I said, 'OK,'" Hernandez said.

As the school day came to an end and classes cleared out, Luis Cosio, a fifth grader at Will Rogers, approached the artists and asked for Risk's autograph on a spray paint can, which he graciously sup-

plied.

Cosio had already known about Risk, and was shocked to hear that the graffiti artist would be painting at his school. He already has a little experience with graffiti, and would like to hone his skills.

That's exactly what Richardson hopes his students will get out of the project — inspiration.

"For kids who have natural gifts around the arts, it gives a sense that they can make a career out of their passion," Richardson said.

ashley@smdp.com

LOHAS

FROM PAGE 3

Although these are common in Santa Monica they are not so available in places like Iowa or Tennessee. I see Santa Monica having door service grocery more commonplace, virtual shopping through video instead of print magazines, lifestyle oriented hotels and integrated living spaces with energy efficient lighting that turns on and off automatically as you leave a room. These are all technologies and much more are available and will be more accessible in the future.

Santa Monica is the entrepreneurial hub of L.A. and embodies much of LOHAS val-

ues and is a reason why many choose to live and work in the area. The buzz and energy is apparent as new products and services start ups come up with innovative ideas. The beauty of the ocean and the vibrancy of the area makes it a perfect place for collaboration with others interested in LOHAS values and connecting with the early adopter LOHASIAN market. Many of the speakers who have presented at the annual LOHAS conference run businesses or nonprofits based in Santa Monica.

To learn more about the LOHAS movement, visit www.lohas.com

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

"Residents will be able to live, work and play without ever needing to get in their cars," Andersen said, referencing the central Downtown location. "This is part of our vision for walkable destination apartments for lease in Santa Monica."

They are already 30 percent leased, Andersen said.

NMS bought both buildings from Bank of America after the bank took them from developer Craig Jones, Andersen said.

Jones, who allegedly skipped the country in 2010, left City Hall in the lurch on dozens of units of affordable housing that he promised to build in conjunction with the market-rate apartments.

Also lost was a \$1.1 million security, which had been promised to City Hall if the affordable housing was not developed.

City Hall secured promises from NMS to build some of those units in a series of settlement agreements. All of the affordable housing that JSM Construction, Jones' company, should have built is now included in developments at 1650 Lincoln Blvd., 1660 Lincoln Blvd. and 1437 Fifth St.

The last is immediately adjacent to the two market-rate buildings that recently opened.

When NMS took the two properties over from Bank of America, they were in shambles.

Jones had gotten roughly halfway through construction when he lost control to the bank, leaving the buildings without a roof.

"Banks are good at lending money and letting other people do stuff," Andersen said.

MOVIES

FROM PAGE 1

Monica was "Over the Hedge" when he was 4 years old.

"I still don't know what that movie is about," he said.

Now, four screens at the AMC 7 Theatre on the Third Street Promenade will be enabled with CaptiView, a device slightly larger than a cell phone, which is shielded so that other movie-goers can't see it.

It fits into the cupholder of the seat, and the captions are transmitted wirelessly so that the viewer can watch the movie and glance down and see the captions that go with the scene.

That works better for the hard-of-hearing, but are somewhat lacking for the deaf, who have to take their eyes off the screen to read every word, said John Waldo, an attorney with Disability Rights Advocates, a law firm in Berkeley, Calif.

Waldo's firm represents the Association of Late-Deafened Adults, who asked AMC to provide caption-viewing equipment. The chain agreed to do so once its movie theaters had transitioned from traditional 35-millimeter film to digital projection.

AMC Santa Monica 7 has digital projection, but until recently, no captions.

The company blamed a technical issue, which Waldo said stemmed from problems trying to get two pieces of technology made by different companies to work together.

The current solution isn't permanent, said Ryan Noonan, director of public relations for AMC, and the company is working toward equipping every auditorium with technology to service the hearing impaired.

"At AMC, we want everyone to be excited about coming to the movies, and part of that goal is to ensure we have the proper assisted moviegoing amenities at our locations," he said.

"When a bank takes over a construction project in the middle of it, they make terrible decisions."

One of those was to leave the building open to the elements during Santa Monica's rainy season. While one of the city's main selling points is its mild climate, allowing the interior of a building to sit exposed to the elements is not a recipe for success.

NMS took over and rehabilitated the buildings. The company, known within city circles for its sub-450 square foot apartments, was now in possession of properties exclusively planned for one and two-bedroom units.

The buildings include 100 units, ranging from 525 and 1,395 square feet, according to a release. The rents begin at \$2,695 for one-bedroom units and \$3,795 for two-bedroom units.

Although some of the floor plans were massaged for greater efficiency and the company swapped in some longer-lasting materials than those called for in the bank's plan, NMS stayed true to the original design of the apartments, Andersen said.

"We spent months fine-tuning how the building would have to look," he said. "We changed some items, but kept to the spirit of the drawing presented to the (Architectural Review Board)."

The size and design of the apartments are new to NMS, but complement the company's portfolio of apartments in Santa Monica, Andersen said.

That assortment will likely grow within the next few years as the company has nine projects waiting to go before various boards and commissions in Santa Monica.

ashley@smdp.com

Butchko's work to raise awareness about the problem ran concurrently with AMC's efforts to fix the problem, said Rod Gould, Santa Monica's city manager who had been moved to call the theater company by Butchko's speech at a recent City Council meeting.

"It has taken a bit of time for the technology and marketing to become synchronized. I am glad it is now a reality," he said.

Others who heard Butchko speak also advocated on his behalf, including the local Parent Teacher Association Council, which drafted a resolution of support.

His efforts were so successful that people in other cities have reached out requesting his help in getting captions in their local theaters as well.

Butchko is hesitant to try his hand in another city, although he agreed to work with advocates one-on-one to teach them how he approached local officials.

Nanci Linke-Ellis, a member of the Santa Monica Disabilities Commission and long-time campaigner for captioning, believes his model can be replicated elsewhere to empower the hearing-impaired community to rally for services like captions.

"It's a terrific strategy, and I'm going to write it up and use it as a template for other incorporated cities," Linke-Ellis said.

The message was particularly powerful because it came from a young person who expressed an earnest desire to see movies so he could participate in normal social life, she said.

"I think that's so compelling because almost everyone is a parent or has a sibling and they can relate to it from that standpoint," she said.

Butchko doesn't seem to have grand designs for the future of the movement right now — he's just excited to see "Life of Pi" this weekend at a movie theater close to his own home.

ashley@smdp.com

Judge OKs \$4B BP oil spill criminal settlement

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS A federal judge on Tuesday approved an agreement for BP PLC to plead guilty to manslaughter and other charges and pay a record \$4 billion in criminal penalties for the company's role in the 2010 rig explosion and oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

U.S. District Judge Sarah Vance said the plea deal was "just punishment" considering the alternatives to the settlement, including the risk that a trial could result in a lower fine for BP.

Before she ruled, Vance heard emotional testimony from relatives of 11 workers who died when BP's blown-out Macondo well triggered an explosion on the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig and started the spill.

"I've heard and I truly understand your feelings and the losses you suffered," she said.

Billy Anderson, whose 35-year-old son, Jason, of Midfield, Texas, died in the blast, recalled the trauma of watching the disaster play out on television.

"These men suffered a horrendous death," he said. "They were basically cremated alive and not at their choice."

BP agreed in November to plead guilty to charges involving the workers' deaths and for lying to Congress about the size of the spill from its broken well, which spewed more than 200 million gallons of oil. Much of it ended up in the Gulf and soiled the shorelines of several states. The company could have withdrawn from the agreement if Vance had rejected it.

BP America vice president Luke Keller apologized to the relatives of the workers who died and for the spill's environmental damage to the Gulf Coast.

"BP knows there is nothing we can say to diminish their loss," he said. "The lives lost and those forever changed will stay with us. We are truly sorry."

Vance told victims' relatives who were in court that she read their "truly gut-wrenching" written statements and factored their words into her decision. She also said she believes BP executives should have personally apologized to family members long before Monday's hearing.

The deal doesn't resolve the federal government's civil claims against BP. The company could pay billions more in penalties for environmental damage.

Keith Jones, whose 28-year-old son, Gordon, died in the rig explosion, said \$4 billion isn't adequate punishment.

"It is petty cash to BP," he told Vance. "Their stock went up after this plea deal was

announced."

BP separately agreed to a settlement with lawyers for Gulf Coast residents and businesses who claim the spill cost them money. BP estimates the deal with private attorneys will cost the company roughly \$7.8 billion.

For the criminal settlement, BP agreed to pay nearly \$1.3 billion in fines. The largest previous corporate criminal penalty assessed by the Justice Department was a \$1.2 billion fine against drug maker Pfizer in 2009.

The criminal settlement also includes payments of nearly \$2.4 billion to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and \$350 million to the National Academy of Sciences.

In a court filing before the hearing, attorneys for BP and the Justice Department argued that the plea agreement imposes "severe corporate punishment" and will deter BP and other deep-water drilling companies from allowing another disaster to occur.

The Justice Department has reached a separate settlement with rig owner Transocean Ltd. that resolves the government's civil and criminal claims over the Swiss-based company's role in the disaster.

Transocean agreed to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge of violating the Clean Water Act and pay \$1.4 billion in civil and criminal penalties. U.S. District Judge Jane Triche Milazzo has scheduled a Feb. 14 hearing to decide whether to accept that criminal settlement. A different judge will decide whether to accept Transocean's civil settlement.

Many relatives of rig workers who died in the blast submitted written statements that were critical of BP's deal. Vance, however, said she couldn't get involved in plea negotiations and only could impose a sentence that adheres to the agreed-upon terms if she accepted it.

Four current or former BP employees have been indicted on separate criminal charges. BP rig supervisors Robert Kaluza and Donald Vidrine are charged with manslaughter, accused of repeatedly disregarding abnormal high-pressure readings that should have been glaring indications of trouble just before the blowout.

David Rainey, BP's former vice president of exploration for the Gulf of Mexico, was charged with withholding information from Congress about the amount of oil that was gushing from the well.

Former BP engineer Kurt Mix was charged with deleting text messages about the company's spill response.

A series of government investigations have blamed the April 20, 2010, blowout on time-saving, cost-cutting decisions by BP and its partners on the drilling project.

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BID #4049 FURNISH AND DELIVER NINE (9) NEW AND UNUSED HONDA MOTORCYCLES, AS REQUIRED BY FLEET MANAGEMENT.

BID #4050 FURNISH AND DELIVER THREE (3) CNG CONVENTIONAL CAB TRUCKS WITH ANIMAL CONTROL BODIES AND ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION UNITS, AS REQUIRED BY FLEET MANAGEMENT.

- **Submission Deadline Is February 15, 2013 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The bid packets can be downloaded at:

- <http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm>

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Regina.Benavides@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: 55°

WEDNESDAY – POOR – SURF: 1-2 ft

ankle to knee high

Small, fading NW swell mix

THURSDAY – POOR TO FAIR – SURF: 1-2 ft

ankle to knee high

Minimal new WNW swell. Best for standout spots which are up to waist high on the sets late.

FRIDAY – POOR – SURF: 1-2 ft

ankle to knee high

Minimal WNW swell eases. Mostly shows for standout spots with 1-3' surf there.

SATURDAY – POOR – SURF: 1-2 ft

ankle to knee high

Small WNW swell leftovers; possible long period NW swell forerunners late.

WIND/WEATHER

High pressure now located off the US west coast will gradually migrate over the western US in the next couple days. This will set up improving and favorable local wind, as well as a warming trend over the next few days. For Tuesday look for light/variable wind in the morning for most regions. Winds range from light to moderate onshore S/SW in the afternoon. For Wednesday through the end of the work week we will see light NE/offshore flow in the morning shift light to moderate onshore WNW in the afternoon.

HEAL THE BAY



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of January 23, 2013

HEAL THE BAY

1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

beachreportcard.org

bro@healthebay.org

800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS

For the last 30 days

Number of sewage spills -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 12

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 10

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by:

simplehuman

LacurGuy

SMA

and Graubek Family Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any floating debris drain on the 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually rise, even though bacteria counts in the water's Beach Closure and Health Warning Program.

LOCATION

DRY

WET

Leo Castle Beach, at Arroyo Sepul Creek mouth.

A+

A+

Nichols Beach at San Nicolas Canyon Creek mouth.

A+

A+

El Pescador State Beach, between Lido and Leo Allen roads.

m

m

Ensign Canyon at El Matador State Beach.

A+

A+

Grand Beach at Torrey Canyon Creek mouth.

A

A+

Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.

A+

A+

Walter Creek, projection of Wildfire Rd. (private).

A+

F

Paradise Cove Pier at Rossmore Canyon Creek mouth.

A+

A+

Escalante Creek, just west of Escalante State Beach.

B

A

Lodge Canyon Creek mouth.

A+

A

Solstice Canyon at San Benito County Beach.

A

F

Puerto State Beach at creek mouth.

A+

A+

Maria Canyon stream drain at Puerto Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.

C

C

Sunflower Beach at Malibu Colony Inn.

A+

A+

Sunflower Beach (beach located - daily).

F

D

Malibu Pier - 58 yards east.

A+

B

Carbon Beach at Sunsetwater Canyon.

A+

C

Los Flores State Beach at Los Flores Creek (joint drain).

A+

A+

Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH drain.

A+

A+

Pine Creek at Los Torrey County Beach.

A+

A+

Tuna Canyon.

A+

A+

Tapscott State Beach at creek mouth.

D

A

Centerville Stream Drain at Castle Rock Beach.

A+

B

Santa Ynez Stream Drain at Castle Rock Beach.

F

B

Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).

A+

A+

LOCATION

DRY

WET

Will Rogers State Beach at Bol Air Bay Club drain near fence.

A+

B

Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon stream drain.

A+

B

Will Rogers State Beach at Torrey Canyon drain.

B

C

Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chetwood).

A

B

Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.

A+

B

Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.

A+

F

Santa Monica Municipal Pier.

F

F

Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice stream drain.

A

F

Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurant).

A+

C

Ocean Park Beach at Adeline Ave. drain.

A

C

Venice City Beach, at the Beach Ave. stream drain.

A+

B

Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.

A+

A+

Venice Beach at Wilshire Ave. drain.

A+

C

Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.

A+

A+

Venice Beach - projection of Tappan St.

A+

A+

Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.

F

F

Ockeville State Beach at Bolinas Creek mouth.

B

F

Ockeville State Beach at Colver Blvd. drain.

A

A

Herb Westchester Stream Drain at Ockeville State Beach.

A+

A+

Ockeville State Beach at World Way (south of OLN jetty).

A+

A

Ockeville State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.

A+

A+

Ockeville Beach - opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.

A+

A+

Ockeville State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.

A+

F

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 swimmers becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococci, 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. This report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or debris found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a real-time indicator of current safety of those areas surveyed. Our sensors are traps.

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

m -- no sample taken.

Heal the Bay

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.

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A-Rod denies PED use report; MLB investigates

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK Alex Rodriguez denied a newspaper report that accused him of buying human growth hormone and other performance-enhancing substances from a Miami-area clinic.

The Miami New Times, an alternative weekly, reported Tuesday that it obtained records detailing purchases by Rodriguez, Melky Cabrera, Gio Gonzalez, Bartolo Colon, Nelson Cruz and Yasmani Grandal from a clinic called Biogenesis, run by Anthony Bosch. The paper also posted copies of what it said were Bosch's handwritten records, obtained through a former Biogenesis employee.

Rodriguez admitted four years ago that he used PEDs from 2001-03. Cabrera, Colon and Grandal were suspended for 50 games each last year by MLB following tests for elevated testosterone.

"We are always extremely disappointed to learn of potential links between players and the use of performance-enhancing substances," MLB said in a statement. "Only law enforcement officials have the capacity to reach those outside the game who are involved in the distribution of illegal performance-enhancing drugs. ... We are in the midst of an active investigation and are gathering and reviewing information."

A baseball official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to make public statements, said Monday that MLB did not have any documentation regarding the allegations. If MLB does obtain evidence, the players could be subject to discipline. First offenses result in a 50-game suspension and second infractions in 100-game penalties. A third violation results in a lifetime ban.

Rodriguez is sidelined for at least the first half of the season after hip surgery Jan. 16. A 50-game suspension would cost him \$7.65 million of his \$28 million salary.

"The news report about a purported relationship between Alex Rodriguez and Anthony Bosch are not true," Rodriguez said in a statement issued by a publicist. "He was not Mr. Bosch's patient, he was never treated by him and he was never advised by him. The purported documents referenced in the story — at least as they relate to Alex Rodriguez — are not legitimate."

Jay Reisinger, a lawyer who has presented Rodriguez in recent years, said the three-time AL MVP had retained Roy Black, an attorney from Rodriguez's hometown of Miami. Black's clients have included Rush Limbaugh and William Kennedy Smith.

Rodriguez spent years denying he used PEDs before Sports Illustrated reported in February 2009 that he tested positive for two steroids in MLB's anonymous survey while with the Texas Rangers in 2003. Two days

later, he admitted in an ESPN interview that he used PEDs over a three-year period. He has denied using PEDs after 2003.

If the new allegations were true, the Yankees would face high hurdles to get out of the final five years of Rodriguez's contract, which call for him to receive \$114 million. Because management and the players' union have a joint drug agreement, an arbitrator could determine that any action taken by the team amounted to multiple punishments for the same offense.

The Yankees said "this matter is now in the hands of the commissioner's office" and said they will not comment further until MLB's investigation ends.

Gonzalez posted on his Twitter feed: "I've never used performance enhancing drugs of any kind and I never will, I've never met or spoken with tony Bosch or used any substance provided by him. anything said to the contrary is a lie."

Colon was not issuing a statement, agent Adam Katz said through spokeswoman Lisa Cohen. Sam and Seth Levinson, the agents for Cabrera and Cruz, did not immediately respond to e-mails seeking comment.

Cruz and Gonzalez had not previously been linked to performance-enhancing drugs. Cruz's team, the Texas Rangers, said it notified MLB last week after being contacted by the New Times.

The New Times report said it obtained notes by Bosch listing the players' names and the substances they received. Several unidentified employees and clients confirmed to the publication that the clinic distributed the substances, the paper said. The employees said that Bosch bragged of supplying drugs to professional athletes but they never saw the sports stars in the office.

Rodriguez appears 16 times in the documents it received, the paper said, either as "Alex Rodriguez," "Alex Rod" or the nickname "Cacique," a pre-Columbian Caribbean chief. The paper said the records list that Rodriguez paid for HGH; testosterone cream; IGF-1, a substance banned by baseball that stimulates insulin production; and GHRP, which releases growth hormones.

Rodriguez's cousin, Yuri Sucart, also is listed as having purchased HGH. Sucart was banned from the Yankees clubhouse, charter flights, bus and other team-related activities by MLB in 2009 after Rodriguez said Sucart obtained and injected PEDs for him.

Also listed among the records, according to the New Times, are tennis player Wayne Odesnik, Cuban boxer Yuriorkis Gamboa and Jimmy Goins, the strength and conditioning coach of the University of Miami baseball team.

Mia Ro, a spokeswoman for the federal Drug Enforcement Administration in Miami, said she could not confirm or deny the existence of an investigation in Bosch or the clinic.

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Aero Theatre 1328 Montana Ave. (310) 260-1528	13) 1hr 28min 11:25am, 1:45pm, 4:15pm, 6:50pm, 9:30pm	Quartet (PG-13) 1hr 37min 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm
Call theater for additional information.		
AMC Loews Broadway 4 1441 Third Street Promenade (888) 262-4386	Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min 11:15am, 2:50pm, 6:45pm, 10:35pm	AMC Criterion 6 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599
Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min 2:15pm, 6:00pm, 9:45pm	Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min 11:45am, 3:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:35pm	Last Stand (R) 1hr 47min 11:20am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:25pm
This Is 40 (R) 2hrs 13min 1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm	Gangster Squad (R) 1hr 53min 11:15am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm	Movie 43 (R) 1hr 37min 11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:55pm, 10:20pm
Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:05pm	Broken City (R) 1hr 49min 11:20am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm	Parker (R) 1hr 58min 11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm
Haunted House (R) 1hr 20min 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm	Laemmle's Monica Fourplex 1332 Second St. (310) 478-3836	Les Miserables (PG-13) 2hrs 37min 11:10am, 2:40pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm
AMC 7 Santa Monica 1310 Third St. (310) 451-9440	Opera in Cinema: Royal Opera House's "La Boheme" (NR) 2hrs 45min 7:30pm	Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min 11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm
Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min 11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm	Argo (R) 2hrs 00min 1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm	Mama (PG-13) 1hr 40min 11:15am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (PG-13) 1hr 28min 12:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:05pm, 10:30pm	Impossible (PG-13) 1hr 47min 1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm	
Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (PG-	Rust & Bone (De rouille et d'os) (R) 1hr 55min 1:10pm, 4:00pm	

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

Order in tonight, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Finally, your communication style makes a breakthrough. You could wonder what you need to do in order to change what is going on. You have thought long and hard about this. Trust your intuition, and you will make the right choice. Tonight: Visit with a friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You might want to think through a decision more carefully. Financial matters come forward that you might want to review. Your ability to move past a difficult situation emerges. Part of this skill is your caring perspective. Tonight: Time for some fun.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Recognize that you finally are achieving long-desired results. You have reason for celebration; invite friends to join you. A sense of negativity surrounds a long-term project. Do not let this thought dominate. Tonight: Share some news with a family member.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You could be surprised at everything that is occurring in your daily life. Your creativity and desire to move forth emerge. You have a lot going on that you have yet to acknowledge. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You have an unusual possessive streak that comes out. Though you often are insightful, you might not understand or see the damage that this behavior could bring. Attempt to hold back, and try not to get caught up in acting on a feeling. Tonight: Pay bills, then decide.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your energy attracts many people, and you'll be acknowledged for everything you do. You could feel rewarded for many hours of hard work. Accept an offer that sounds too good to be true. Communicate the extent of your feelings to a loved one. Tonight: Do what you want!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You sense that you are on the verge of a new beginning. You don't have full knowledge of this opportunity yet, but you soon will. Take today to catch up on errands, but use caution when spending. Tonight: Nap, then decide.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Zero in on priorities. A meeting or a get-together with friends might be more important than you think. You are on the verge of getting an offer or benefiting financially from a different source. Tonight: Call it an early night.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ A loved one starts revealing much more of his or her inner thoughts. Enjoy this process, yet know that it could go on for several months. You might want to handle a career matter or a situation involving an older friend or relative sooner rather than later. Tonight: In the limelight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might have had plans to take off and do some research, but good news could have you rethinking your plans. An opportunity presents itself that might be too good to be true. A somewhat stoic friend plays a large role in decision-making. Tonight: Take in a movie.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Deal with a close associate in a more direct manner. You also can express more of your unconventional thoughts at this point in time. Use discretion with someone you meet today. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You can't help but share good news that is forthcoming. A partner or dear friend could be just as excited as you are. A family matter could involve expansion or the purchase of a new home. Real estate remains fairly solid as an investment. Tonight: Order in.

Happy birthday

This year you merge innovative thinking and efficiency. This powerful combination sometimes gets stunning reactions, but for the most part, it encourages creativity within your immediate circle. If you are single, romance will head your way ... perhaps with an intensity that you find both exciting and difficult. If you are attached, take up a new hobby with your significant other in order to reduce stress. You will become a happier couple as a result. LIBRA might be charming, but he or she does not think outside of the box.

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

Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



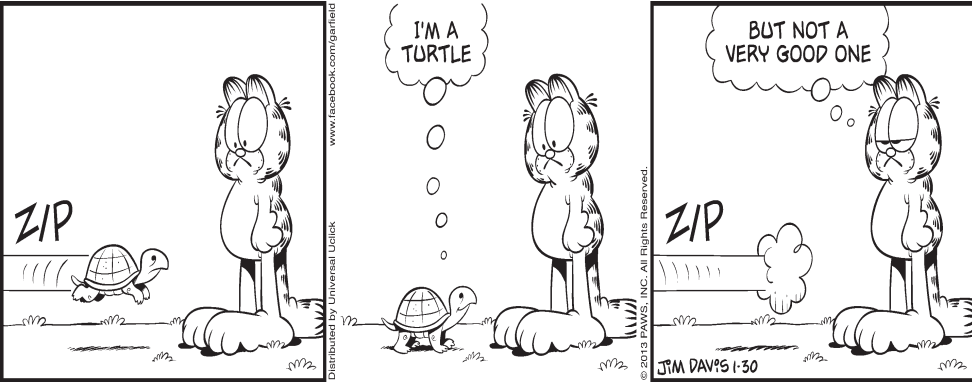
Edge City

By Terry & Patty LaBan



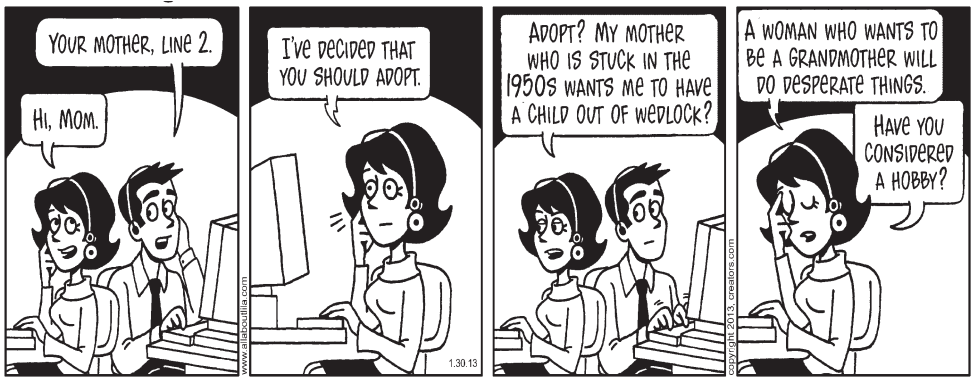
Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta daniela@smdp.com

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Bike pair
- 7 Invites
- 11 Roma's nation
- 12 Computer part
- 13 Job for Petruccio
- 14 Theater award
- 15 "Bye!"
- 17 Optimal
- 20 Lead-in
- 23 "That's gross!"
- 24 Raised
- 26 Big head
- 27 Time to prepare
- 28 — roll
- 29 Soup features
- 31 Actor Wheaton
- 32 Like draft beer
- 33 Travel stops
- 34 Olympics projectile
- 37 River to the Severn
- 39 St. Francis's home
- 43 Salamander
- 44 Painter Georges
- 45 Turn down

- 46 Sneaker features

DOWN

- 1 Deep hole
- 2 Greek vowel
- 3 Block up
- 4 Holly-wood's elite
- 5 Queue
- 6 Cooking mint
- 7 Play start
- 8 Over-power verbally
- 9 Family
- 10 Mole, e.g.
- 16 Startled cry

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

Yesterday's answer

- 17 Good, in Granada
- 18 Incite
- 19 Defeat
- 21 Quarrel
- 22 Lustrous gems
- 24 Lends a hand
- 25 "— had it!"
- 30 Delicate
- 33 Debate topic
- 35 Play group
- 36 Manual reader
- 37 Plus
- 38 Neckline shape
- 40 Writer Levin
- 41 Melancholy
- 42 "— been real!"

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1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13							14			
			15			16				
17	18	19				20			21	22
23				24	25					
26				27				28		
29			30					31		
32							33			
		34			35	36				
37	38				39			40	41	42
43					44					
45					46					

DAILY LOTTERY

Draw Date: 1/25
11 12 17 31 48
Meganumber: 1
Jackpot: \$12M

Draw Date: 1/26
4 10 23 24 44
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: \$17M

Draw Date: 1/29
10 14 26 34 37

Draw Date: 1/29
MIDDAY: 6 2 3
EVENING: 9 5 8

Draw Date: 1/29
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:45.14

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

■ Perspective: A leading "adult" search engine reported in December that, over the last seven years, just two of the most popular Internet pornography websites it analyzes have been viewed 93 billion separate times, which averages to about 13 views for every person on Earth. Given the average viewing time of 11 minutes per visit, the search engine (PornWatchers.com) calculated that men (and a few women, of course) have spent about 1.2 million years watching pornography on just those two sites. Noted the search engine in its press release, "Say goodbye" to calling online porn a "niche." "It's in every living room on this planet."

■ Drunk drivers often try to avoid hit-and-run charges by claiming that they did not realize they hit anything, but their odds drop if there is a dead pedestrian lodged in the windshield, as with Sherri Wilkins, 51, who was arrested in Torrance, Calif., in November, 2.3 miles from the crash scene, after other drivers finally persuaded her to stop. (Wilkins, it turned out, is a "rehabilitated" drug user who worked as a counselor at a Torrance drug treatment center and who claimed to have been sober for 11 years.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1982- Richard Skrenta writes the first PC virus code, which is 400 lines long and disguised as an Apple boot program called "Elk Cloner".

1989- The American embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan closes.

1994- Péter Lékó becomes the youngest chess grand master.

1995- Workers from the National Institutes of Health announce the success of clinical trials testing the first preventive treatment for sickle-cell disease.

WORD UP!

plotz
 \ plots \ , verb;
1. To collapse or faint, as from surprise, excitement, or exhaustion.

Some restrictions may apply.

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Santa Monica Canyon	=	\$10,200,000
North of Montana	=	\$ 5,455,222
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 2,508,000
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 660,000
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,289,544
Ocean Park	=	\$ 749,000
Statistics updated every Friday		

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