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Volume 12 Issue 75



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

DOG CRAZY
SEE PAGE 6

THE MAKING ROOM ISSUE

Fitness trainers unite to fight curbs on park usage

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PALISADES PARK A group of personal trainers and their clients has gone on the public relations offensive in an attempt to win looser regulations on training activities in local parks and beaches.

The Santa Monica Outdoor Fitness Coalition is a group of seven trainers representing 450 clients that use parks and beaches to run for-profit fitness classes.

They take issue with proposed regulations put forward by the Recreation & Parks Commission that would require trainers to pay up to 15 percent of their revenues for the ability to use certain parks and local beaches for training classes.

The commission also recommended that trainers purchase a special permit, costing roughly $100, provide liability release waivers to clients and potentially show personal training certifications, said Karen Ginsberg, director of the Community & Cultural Services Department.

The proposal would come on top of existing requirements that trainers have insurance, business license and police permit.

SEE PARKS PAGE 9



PALISADES PARK

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOCCER

Pacifica Christian streaking toward perfect season

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

WILSHIRE BLVD When Pacifica Christian girls' soccer takes the field against Yeshiva on Thursday, perfection will be on the line.

The Seawolves have gone an unblemished 11-0 thus far this season and the finale at Marine Park gives the school a chance to record its first undefeated campaign in the sport.

"Yeah, we've done pretty well this year," said first-year head coach Guido Hajenius. "We went into the season realizing there is some decent talent for a small school.

"Once we shored up our midfield I knew we'd be fine."

Hajenius was fortunate to have junior Lauren Gaston already on campus when he arrived to lead the group. The midfielder has paced the offense all season, giving her teammates somebody to look up to and emulate.

Gaston is credited with anchoring a component that Hajenius knew would lead to immediate success.

"She's basically our top scorer and all-around strongest player," he said of Gaston. "All the girls watch her."

Joining Gaston in midfield have been senior Sylvano Santos and freshman Joanie Howe. Together, the trio have impressed.

"Those three have come together the way they read the game and the way they play

SEE SOCCER PAGE 8



STACKS AND STACKS

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

IHOP line cook Tony Penaloza serves hot cakes during National Pancake Day on Tuesday. Guests were served free pancakes as part of the celebration. Patrons were asked to consider donating to The Children's Miracle Network in exchange for the breakfast favorite.

Local school bond supporters spent major cash, filings say

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Candidate and independent expenditure campaigns spent over $350,000 on local education-related races and measures on the Nov. 6 ballot, according to recent financial filings.

The election was crowded with six people vying for three open spots on the Board of Education and Measure ES, a $385 million bond measure meant to revitalize school sites, infrastructure and technology — and donations reflected it.

Between candidate committees, Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights and unions, at least $135,656.93 was spent on the Board of Education race alone.

It was an unusually competitive contest, with three Malibu residents gunning to unseat the three incumbents in an effort to win representation for the smaller city for the first time since Kathy Wisnicki stepped down from the board in 2008.

Rather than run independently, Craig Foster, Karen Farrer and Seth Jacobson formed a slate and pooled $30,000 of their own money to pay for their joint campaign.

They only raised $4,401.05 from outside sources, and $17,038.05 went to campaign consulting company JCI Worldwide Inc. in

SEE ELECTION PAGE 8

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2013

The art of Miriam Wosk
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave.,
Call for times
Abundance and Devotion: The Art of Miriam Wosk is the first major survey of the local artist. Wosk is best known for intricate paintings and collages adorned with pearls, glitter, and other vivid ornamentation. For more information, call (310) 586-6488.

Year of the snake
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
3:45 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
In the Children's Activity Room, kids grades K-4 will be able to celebrate the Chinese New Year with some stories and a craft. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Movie night
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The film adaptation of Ray Bradbury's classic "Fahrenheit 451" will be screened at the library. The literature book group will meet Saturday to discuss the book. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013

Afterschool acting workshop
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth Street,
4 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.
Adventures in Acting is a youth theater program that helps your kids make friends, gain self-confidence and have tons of fun as they act, sing and play theater games. Call (310) 394-9779 ext. 3 or visit santamonicaplayhouse.com for more details.

Let's eat!
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
4 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.
In the Children's Activity Room, the Santa Monica Farmer's Market will encourage kids grades 6-12 to try their mouths at being foodies. Seasonal fresh food will be served and attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the food they eat. Admission is free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Friday, Feb. 8. 2013

Bang the drum
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
4 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.
Kids ages 2-6 can discover the joy of drumming. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Admission is free. 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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CLOVERFIELD BLVD

Valentine's Day sale

Daybreak Designs, a program of the Ocean Park Community Center, will host a Valentine's Day sale on Friday, Feb. 8, at the OPCC Cloverfield services center.

Daybreak Designs is a member-run arts and crafts business that seeks to empower women recovering from homelessness and mental illness through creative, personal and financial growth.

All items for sale have been crafted by the hands of formerly homeless women. Women of Daybreak retain 70 percent of the profits from sold items and the remaining 30 percent is reinvested in the business.

Handmade jewelry, greeting cards, quilts, crocheted items, and pottery all crafted by clients and alumni of Daybreak are just a taste of the items that will be for sale.

The sale takes place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call Daybreak Designs at (310) 450-0650.

– HENRY CRUMBLISH

OCEAN PARK

Celebrate the 'green street'

With wider sidewalks, over 100 new trees and more visible bike lanes, city officials are calling Ocean Park Boulevard from Neilson Way to Lincoln Boulevard a "complete green street" and want you to come out and celebrate its unveiling this Saturday.

Starting at 2 p.m. in front of the Santa Monica Alternative School House and John Muir Elementary School between Fifth and Sixth streets, city officials will mark the completion of more than a year of work. There will be live jazz, bicycle demonstrations and even ice cream made by peddle power.

"Ride your bike to the celebration, bike valet will be available and there will be a bike ride down the green lanes," city officials said in a press release.

Partly funded by Measure V, the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, the Ocean Park Boulevard "Complete Green Street" Project seeks to make travel along the busy stretch safer for pedestrians and cyclists while also improving water quality by capturing significant volumes of urban run-off before it reaches Santa Monica Bay, city officials said.

Key elements of the project include:

- Wider sidewalks.
- Parkway/storm water biofilter swales and infiltration areas, and a drip irrigation system.
- Over 100 new trees, new landscaping, and medians.
- New marked crosswalks with enhanced overhead flashing beacons.
- More visible, painted bike lanes and traffic striping, and new bike racks.
- Street furniture, trash and recycling cans, and 75 pedestrian-scaled light poles.
- Traffic signal improvements.
- Los Amigos Park storm drain improvements.

The event, which is co-sponsored by the Ocean Park Association (OPA), will feature Mayor Pro Tem Terry O'Day and Santa Monica Spoke representative Cynthia Rose as speakers. A representative of OPA will also speak.

– KEVIN HERRERA

State Supreme Court hears pot shop ban case

LISA LEFF
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Members of California's highest court expressed skepticism Tuesday over claims that the state's medical marijuana laws prohibit local governments from banning storefront pot shops.

During oral arguments in a challenge to the city of Riverside's ban on medical marijuana dispensaries, several justices of the California Supreme Court said they were bothered by the fact that neither a 1996 voter-approved initiative that legalized marijuana use for health purposes, nor companion laws the Legislature adopted in 2003 expressly state that cities and counties must accommodate retail marijuana stores.

Justice Joyce Kennard said that just because the laws allow eligible residents to use marijuana without fear of criminal prosecution, they did not necessarily take priority over the authority the California Constitution grants local governments to control local land use and zoning decisions.

"The relevant issue before the court is to note the city's regulatory authority over land use ... and that power does not derive from the medical marijuana program. It's a pre-existing power," Kennard said.

But J. David Nick, a lawyer representing a dispensary Riverside officials have sought to close, told the court that lawmakers clearly intended to make marijuana easily and uniformly available for eligible residents statewide, a goal that dispensary bans thwart.

"The word 'regulation' does not, in any way, signal prohibition," Nick said.

The Supreme Court has 90 days to issue its decision in the case, which will decide the fate of pot shop bans already adopted by about 200 cities and counties. Additional jurisdictions put on hold their consideration of either operating rules for pot shops or outright dispensary bans pending the court's ruling.

Many of the local bans were enacted after the number of retail medical marijuana outlets boomed in Southern California following a memo from the U.S. Justice Department, stating that prosecuting pot sales would be a low priority.

The rush to adopt bans has abated over the last 18 months, since the four federal prosecutors in California launched a coordinated crackdown on dispensaries by threatening to seize the properties of landlords that leased space to them. Hundreds of pot shops have since been evicted or closed voluntarily.

Although some medical marijuana advocates had hoped the state court's seven justices also would determine whether pot's federal status as an illegal drug prohibits local governments from explicitly authorizing its distribution at all, as about 50 California counties and cities have, the court Tuesday deliberately shied away from any discussion of federal versus state law.

Among the judges, only Justice Kathryn Werdegar seemed bothered by the effect that allowing local bans would have on the ability of California residents to obtain medical marijuana.

SEE **POT** PAGE 8



UP AND OVER

Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

Santa Monica's Giancarlo Canas (right) jumps over Morningside defender Ivan Orosco on Tuesday at home. After falling behind, Samohi rallied to win the Ocean League game, 3-2. Samohi improved to 6-2-1 in league with the victory.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get rid of it

Editor:

I have worked as a docent in New York City museums. Now every time I drive down Main Street I shudder that "Chain Reaction" is what the natives here would show as their "art." "Chain Reaction" is the ugliest joke ever imposed on any community. It is not art; it is a gigantic black ghost in a world that has just elected a president who is anti war; anti gun.

This council would do away with nativity (birth), but preserve this monstrosity (death). I am appalled that the little ladies of the Santa Monica Conservancy would preserve it. Someone should suggest to Mr. Rubin that he take off the "make love, not war" T-shirt and stop pushing for this terrifying symbol.

Truman is dead. Hirohito is dead. And 135,000 Japanese were dead or deathly injured; and 66,000 in Nagasaki. No one should need to explain it to children or tourists or anyone else. Get rid of it.

Cynthia Webber
Marina del Rey, Calif.

Stop the (reefer) madness

Editor:

The City Council is on record for denying permits for medical marijuana dispensaries, even though Proposition 215 has been state law for over 16 years.

Our corrupt council recently denied Richard McDonald of Golden State Collective a permit to open a lab in Santa Monica, to test the purity and strength of different strains of marijuana for toxicity and potency.

According to Councilman Bob Holbrook, favorite of out-of-state developers, "pot is at least as harmful as tobacco, but more important, it is a precursor drug. I guarantee that anyone who does coke started with pot." Shades of "Reefer Madness;" wake up Holbrook and smell the marijuana!

Holbrook deliberately obfuscates the truth by failing to mention how very few people who have tried pot become heavy users and/or become addicted to hard drugs. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that "there is no conclusive evidence that the drug effects of marijuana are causally linked to the subsequent abuse of other illicit drugs." Holbrook also neglects to mention the well know fact that cigarettes and alcohol are much more harmful to human health.

Marijuana has been proven to help with debilitating symptoms caused by a number of medical conditions. Los Angeles City Councilman Bill Rosendahl not only supports legalizing medical marijuana, he has a medical marijuana prescription for neuropathy. I have not smoked marijuana since 1995 because I was drug tested for my profession. I suffer from peripheral neuropathy, a nerve disorder that causes my feet to experience severe pain.

Criminalizing marijuana has driven it underground, making growers and dealers rich and diverting police resources utilized to enforce a victimless law. Voters in Colorado and Washington have passed referendums legalizing marijuana for recreational use, despite outdated federal laws banning the responsible use of cannabis.

I have long campaigned for Santa Monica to close the airport in 2015 and use the hangers to industrial grow medical marijuana. That way the council could tax marijuana, remove the middleman from reaping the profits and monitor that no sales to minors, and other abuses took place! Properly managed medical marijuana dispensaries can operate safely and taxes on marijuana sales can generate significant revenue and provide much needed local jobs.

It is very important that there is openness, transparency and oversight so there is no skimming, conflict of interest, cronyism and other unregulated abuses stemming from favoritism in granting licenses, etc.

Jon Mann
Santa Monica

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

Your column here

Dr. E. Kirsten Peters Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Famous villain back in the news

MY FATHER TAUGHT ME THE LINE WHEN I was a child: "A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse!"

Those were the words William Shakespeare put into the mouth of King Richard III when he was knocked off his horse in the midst of the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. Richard was killed, ending the rule of the Plantagenet royalty in England and ushering in the time of the Tudors.

Shakespeare famously depicted Richard III as a hunchbacked villain who murdered members of his own family to cement his claim to the throne. Later historians have not all painted such a grim picture of Richard as Shakespeare did, but it's fair to say that no one has made him out to be a quiet pacifist.

Richard made news in his day and now is again stirring up interest in the media. That's because his bones have been discovered under a parking lot in the English city of Leicester.

Part of the evidence that the bones really are Richard's depends on what's called mitochondrial DNA. That's the form of DNA that's passed down through maternal lines, not mixed 50-50 with paternal DNA. Lazy souls like me sometimes call mitochondrial DNA "mama DNA" because mitochondrial is quite a mouthful.

There are two known living descendants of Richard III. One is a furniture maker named Michael Ibsen. He is a descendant of Richard's sister, Anne of York, and thus he carries the "mama DNA" in question. Results of DNA analysis just completed show a high degree of match in the "mama-DNA" of the bones and that of Ibsen.

Ibsen evidently has quite a bit to adjust to these days.

"I never thought I'd be a match," he said as reported by CNN.

There is other evidence that the bones are really those of Richard III. The remains show wounds consistent with the battle blows thought to have ended Richard's life. Archeologists who examined the bones found a total of 10 wounds, eight of them to the head. And the remains were found at what once had been Greyfriars friary. The exact location of the grave had been lost to history, but it makes sense the body would have been buried on ground belonging at the time to the church.

Consistent with the fact that he was killed in battle and his enemies immediately came to power, Richard III didn't get a lot of respect after his death. Jo Appleby, one of the experts on the exhumation team, said that there are signs Richard's body was mistreated after he died, including evidence of "humiliation injuries." Beyond that one can note that the body was wedged into a small hole without a coffin.

Before the DNA work was completed several other lines of evidence were followed up. According to The New York Times, radiocarbon dating of two rib bones from the skeleton were indicative they belonged to an individual who had died between 1455 and 1540. That fits with the historical date of Richard's death in August of 1485.

LOTS OF LINES OF EVIDENCE FIT WITH THE IDEA THAT THE BONES DISCOVERED UNDER THE PARKING LOT ARE THOSE OF KING RICHARD III. BUT IT'S THE 'MAMA-DNA' THAT CLINCHES THE CASE.

It's clear many Brits have a lot of respect for monarchy, even long-ago kings who may have murdered people around them. No cameras were permitted when reporters were allowed to look at the mortal remains of Richard III. And as The New York Times noted, the bones were laid out inside a glass case and on a velvet cushion. Beyond that, two staff chaplains sat beside Richard's remains as reporters walked by. The paper says the production had an air of "solemnity and reverence," which is impressive for any gathering involving a lot of reporters.

The media were shown photographs taken by researchers of the bones when they were discovered. They give the appearance of a body pushed into a small grave, and they show a pronounced spinal curvature that must have affected Richard.

Lots of lines of evidence fit with the idea that the bones discovered under the parking lot are those of King Richard III. But it's the "mama-DNA" that clinches the case.

Let's hear it for mothers everywhere. They do so much for us, including giving us "mama-DNA."

DR. E. KIRSTEN PETERS, a native of the rural Northwest, was trained as a geologist at Princeton and Harvard. This column is a service of the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University.

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The Taxman
Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Uncle Sams want you to pay even more taxes

THERE IS A FAMOUS POSTER, DATING back to World War I, that shows Uncle Sam pointing at the viewer over the words, "I want you for U.S. Army." Of course, at the time, the message was directed to young men.

Today, an updated Uncle Same poster would say, "I want you to pay higher taxes," and he would be pointing at everyone.

In California, the passage of Proposition 30 last November shows that some voters believe that taxpayers are someone other than themselves. After all, the measure was sold as a tax on the rich, and many overlooked that it also included an increase in the regressive state sales tax, which impacts everyone. If you are unemployed and need a new shirt for a job interview, you too will be paying a little more to keep Uncle Jerry happy.

Taxpayers are all of us, and we are being attacked on all fronts. Here is another example from the Sacramento politicians that many have overlooked. Beginning this year, If you are planning a home improvement project for yourself, or you have been hired to do it for someone else, better add a little to your budget because the state has approved an additional 1 percent tax, on top of the new higher state sales tax, on lumber.

In short order, expect to see even more efforts like this from the Capitol to increase the tax burden. With new majorities of tax sympathetic representatives, lawmakers are lining up to introduce legislation to increase taxes on average folks or to make it easier to do so in the future.

And if you live in the Los Angeles area, a center of economic decay, everyone is the target of new taxes. The county is promoting a "rain tax.'" Supervisors want to dun property owners to clean up storm water runoff. This means an addition to the property tax bill from $20 for a condominium, to hundreds of thousands of dollars for owners of large properties, including school districts. In spite of existing programs to clean up this water, the county Uncle Sams are reaching for property owners' wallets. They are doing this for the simplest of all reasons: They can.

And then there is the city of Los Angeles, the poster child for government mismanagement. The city is struggling to meet the unsustainable pension obligations City Council members have approved over the years in return for electoral support from the public employee unions. In response to this dilemma, the council has placed a half-cent sales increase tax on the March ballot. This tax will hit the city's poor especially hard. Of course they, along with everyone else, already pay an additional 1.5 percent sales tax for transportation projects that seem to have benefited few, other than the owners of the companies that have received the construction contracts.

TAXPAYERS ARE ALL OF US, AND WE ARE BEING ATTACKED ON ALL FRONTS.

But this is not enough for Los Angeles officials, who are also looking at a $3 billion bond that will cost average homeowners about $117 annually for 29 years; money they claim will fix the potholes in city streets and restore deteriorating sidewalks. The city has an infrastructure maintenance crisis — at the current rate it would take 60 years to catch up — because council members have put a higher priority on providing high pay and benefits to city employees, than on servicing and maintaining infrastructure already paid for by taxpayers.

For a better understanding of how those who run City Hall think, consider the ordinance they passed which requires that those who park at a broken meter receive a $63 ticket. In Los Angeles, as in most communities, parking enforcement no longer serves the purpose of making parking spots available to everyone looking to patronize local businesses. Parking fines are now regarded as tax revenue and the more the better is the official position.

But, no matter where you live in California or how little you earn, don't ask at whom the Uncle Sams — government officials who go by names like Jerry, Gloria, Zev, Antonio and hundreds of others — are pointing, they are pointing at you, and they want you to pay higher taxes.

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

The Q Line

Park it

A city-contracted consultant has offered up a draft plan that would radically reduce the amount of parking required for new developments in most of Santa Monica.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you agree that developments need less parking than in the past or is this report just wishful thinking?

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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Lifestyle and pop culture drive dog breed popularity

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Help wanted: One trained, easygoing, low-maintenance dog that will work for next to nothing. It was the classified ad that Matthew VanFossan wrote in his head after going blind.

His Labrador retriever, Achilles, "will guide me across busy streets for nothing more than a pat on the head or 'Good boy,'" said the 31-year-old writer-counselor from Los Angeles. "He loves every bit of attention, but he can also go without it. He'll let out a low groan if he's getting too bored."

The breed's friendliness, intelligence and love of physical activity helped make it the most popular dog in America for the last two decades, according to American Kennel Club data released last week. Labrador retrievers are widely used as search and rescue, guide, therapy and service dogs, and they're also perfect for active, outdoors-loving families with children, said club spokeswoman Lisa Peterson.

Labrador retrievers (22 years), cocker spaniels (23) and poodles (22) have been the most popular purebred dog breeds in the United States for a total of 67 of the 128 years the AKC has been counting. The data from the AKC, the country's only nonprofit dog registry, comes from paid registrations by breeders and owners of purebred dogs, and makes the dog eligible for AKC events such as dog shows. More than 40 million purebred dogs have been registered since 1884, Peterson said.

Some critics, like the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Humane Society of the United States, argue that owners mistake club registration as a sign of responsible breeding. "Registry with the AKC simply indicates that a dog had two parents of the same breed," said Cori Menkin, senior director of ASPCA's Puppy Mills Campaign. The AKC acknowledged that registration does not guarantee the quality or health of a dog.

However, Peterson condemned those who increase breeding to meet public demand, saying "responsible breeders do not produce more dogs just to meet popular demand."

Factors, including Hollywood, pop culture and the economy, help drive changes in breed popularity. For instance, the yellow Lab featured in the bestselling memoir and the subsequent movie "Marley & Me," help the breed's popularity skyrocket, Peterson said.

Likewise, the popularity of other breeds has soared thanks to the beagle Snoopy in Charles Schulz's Peanuts comics, "Lassie" for collies, and cocker spaniels from "Lady and the Tramp." Snoopy has been one of the biggest influences, Peterson said, and is the only non-dog to be issued an AKC registration certificate.

But "the No. 1 thing that drives changes in dog popularity is people's lifestyles," Peterson said. In New York City last year, larger breeds such as the Labrador retriever and German shepherd jumped over the smaller Yorkshire terrier. Peterson attributed to the economic recovery, saying "people are going back to larger dogs."

The short-haired dogs are easier to groom, easier to walk and to exercise than the smaller, more time-intensive dogs, she said. She believes smaller dogs became popular because of the recession because that trend started in the 1990s.

Another popular breed, the cocker spaniel, has owners coming back for its friendliness. Carol Bryant, a blogger from Forty Fort, Pa., travels frequently and uses her cocker spaniel Dexter as a networking tool. Dexter is so good that he has his own business cards, she said.

Of the breeds that made most gains in popularity, the most noticeable has been the bulldog, said Peterson. It has inched up the last five years, most recently to No. 5 nationally in 2012, she said.

She attributed some of that to "great visibility. It's the mascot for the U.S. Marines. Think of all the colleges that have bulldog mascots. The Mack truck has a bulldog on the hood. And Tillman and Beefy are real bulldogs who skateboard."

Celebrities such as Brad Pitt, rapper Ice-T and athletes Michael Phelps and Sean White, have bulldogs, she added, which could partly explain why the breed is No. 1 in celebrity-driven Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

Bulldogs "have such great temperaments, they are adorable puppies, they are sturdy and compact, and they have the wrinkles and the eyes. They don't require a lot of grooming or exercise and they love to stay in the house and be with you or if you like the outdoors, they love that too," Peterson said.

The small, sturdy breed also is compatible with owners of all ages, she added, making it ideal for multi-generational families. That comes in handy as the economy forces more adult children to return home.

When it comes to America's top dog for the past 20 years, practicality beat being fashionable. The Labrador retriever's intelligence earned high marks among owners who sought out the breed.

VanFossan, who lost sight in both eyes by age 22, has owned two Labs. He tried using a cane for six awkward months, then got a guide dog — a Lab named Gilly. Their time together became a book in January — "Through Gilly's Eyes: Memoirs of a Guide Dog" — and his second dog is Achilles.

"Achilles is a little more sensitive but is better at remembering. It's incredible. I can go to a new place just once or twice, and he'll have the route memorized. Sensitivity has its advantages," VanFossan said.

Linda Markley, a mother of three in Los Angeles, returned to the breed after her first Lab — a shelter find — died. When the rescues turned up none, she went to a breeder to buy Riley.

Markley said she loves Riley for dozens of reasons, but is most impressed with her memory for human vocabulary and street smarts. She knows words like "keys," "shoes," "park," and "shake," and can understand phrases such as "go to Ryan's room," "go to Jack's house," and "let's go for a hike," the proud owner said.

And Markley has no doubt that Riley understands what she's saying: "She loves sticks, so she doesn't chase balls or swim in the pool. If you say, 'Do you want to go in the water?' she will run the other way."

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Police to review Los Angeles Catholic clergy abuse files

GILLIAN FLACCUS
TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Detectives will review recently released clergy abuse files from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles to see if there's evidence of criminal activity by church authorities, including failure to report child abuse to law enforcement, Police Department officials said Tuesday.

Police will focus on the cases of about a dozen previously investigated priests and are auditing those past probes to make sure nothing was missed, said Cmdr. Andrew Smith. The department will also look at the files for all 122 priests that were made public Thursday by court order after the archdiocese fought for five years to keep them sealed, he said.

Thousands of pages of secret confidential files kept by the archdiocese on priests accused of molesting children show recently retired Cardinal Roger Mahony and other top archdiocese officials shielded priests to protect the church, thwarted police investigations and repeatedly did not report child sex abuse to the authorities.

The files of another 14 priests were published by the Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press last month and revealed a similar cover-up.

"Now what's being alleged is a failure to report, those kinds of things, so there's a new emphasis — it's not just the person that's accused of the behavior, but if it's also if it was not properly reported," said Deputy Chief Kirk Albanese, who heads the detective bureau.

"We're taking a fresh look on cases we've already handled to make sure we don't have reporting issues that got past," he said.

Michael Hennigan, an archdiocese attorney, declined to comment Tuesday.

Mahony, who retired in 2011 as head of the nation's largest diocese, was stripped of his administrative duties on Friday by his successor, Archbishop Jose Gomez.

The same day, Bishop Thomas Curry, a top Mahony aide who made critical decisions on abusive priests, requested to resign from his post as an auxiliary bishop in charge of the archdiocese's Santa Barbara region. Curry was vicar for clergy in the mid-1980s, a position created to handle priestly discipline and other personnel issues.

Both Mahony and Curry have publicly apologized for their handling of pedophile priests.

The LAPD is right to review the files for new information, but it's unlikely anything they find will fall within the statute of limitations in state or federal court, said Rebecca Lonergan, a former federal prosecutor and a professor at the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law.

The statute of limitations on most crimes that would apply to the priest cases is three years under state law and five years under federal law, she said.

Prosecutors could try to prove an ongoing conspiracy among members of the church hierarchy to cover up for abusive priests, but under federal law even that would require proof of criminal activity over a long period of time with one specific criminal act occurring within the past five years, she said.

Clergy were not mandated child abuse reporters until 1997 and by then the archdiocese had implemented significant changes in how it dealt with reports of pedophile priests.

"You have to show that at least two parties were in this together the entire time and that's going to be really hard," Lonergan said. "Most of the documents that have been revealed are bad and show concealment, but they're really old. There's none that show this is going on within the past few years, in the late 2000s."

Prosecutors have previously investigated the archdiocese for its handling of sex abuse cases, but no criminal charges were ever filed against members of the hierarchy.

Smith, the LAPD commander, said his detectives will still do their due diligence.

"I don't expect giant revelations of prosecutions to come out of this, but who knows," he said.

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ELECTION
FROM PAGE 1

the last two months of the campaign. The firm is owned by Jacobson.

The incumbents spent $72,383.19 on their campaigns, with Escarce apparently leading the pack with $31,305.97 followed by Allen at $28,466.72. Maria Leon-Vazquez trailed with only $12,610.50 spent.

Escarce's numbers may be a touch inflated, however.

The local teachers union, under the guise of Santa Monica-Malibu Action Committee for K-12, gave him $15,000, but with explicit instructions.

"With the $15,000, the teachers endorsed all three of us," Escarce said, clarifying that he later broke the money into three $5,000 chunks and distributed the other two to his colleagues Vazquez and Allen.

All three were victorious.

Harry Keiley, the president of the union, did not respond to a request for comment on why the organization structured its donation that way.

A handful of independent expenditure campaigns also got in on the action, with SMRR pitching in $3,279.96 for each of the incumbents and Unite Here Local 11, a labor union, putting $17,038.05 up in the last two months to support the incumbents and directly oppose the Malibu slate.

Although the contentious Board of Education race got a lot of attention, the real money came from the committee organized to support Measure ES, a bond measure that supporters represented as critical to fixing aging infrastructure and opponents characterized as just another property tax.

The Committee for Better, Safer Schools raised almost $300,000 and spent $252,383.07, according to its filing.

The group had backing from locals and parent groups, but a number of law firms, construction companies and businesses with development interests in town also pitched thousands of dollars toward the effort.

Measure ES won the day with 68.06 percent of the vote, well over the 55 percent needed to get a bond measure through.

That, along with the passage of Proposition 30, caused education advocates to breath a sigh of relief.

Proposition 30 was a statewide measure that also passed. It raised income taxes on the wealthiest Californians and also imposed a quarter-cent sales tax increase.

The measure is expected to raise over $6 billion, which is guaranteed to go to schools in the first year.

ashley@smdp.com

SOCCER
FROM PAGE 1

together," Hajenius said. "It has helped other players play at a higher level."

While play at midfield is one of Hajenius' priorities, he knew that improving the defense would have to be the next step if his Seawolves were to excel.

It was another freshman — Katie Barnes — who has led the defense.

Barnes and Co. have allowed just three goals all season, a fact that Hajenius hangs his hat on.

"Katie has added a lot to the defense, we built it around her," he said.

Despite all the success this season, CIF-Southern Section pollsters haven't noticed the turnaround at Pacifica Christian. The Seawolves are currently unranked in Division 7, yet should receive a first round home playoff game for their efforts if they clinch the Liberty League title.

Santa Monica-based teams St. Monica and Crossroads are currently ranked in the division. Hajenius said that being even smaller than those relatively low enrollment schools and in the same city could be leading to the snub, but he can only worry about finishing this season kicking.

"I'm excited to see how it works out," he said.

The game against Yeshiva is Thursday at Marine Park. It begins at 3 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com

POT
FROM PAGE 3

Werdegar pointed to two sections of the law passed by the Legislature to argue that banning marijuana distribution was implicitly disallowed. One states that the Legislature wanted the medical marijuana laws to be applied uniformly throughout the state, while the other states that eligible medical marijuana users can band together to cultivate pot as a collective.

"The Legislature is allowing the cities and counties to regulate in this area," said Jeffrey Dunn, the lawyer representing Riverside.

"That's assuming we agree with your definition of 'regulate,' which is debatable," Werdegar shot back.

The arguments came in a case where Riverside city lawmakers used their zoning powers to declare storefront pot shops as public nuisances and ban them in 2010. The Inland Empire Patient's Health and Wellness Center, part of the explosion of retail medical marijuana outlets, sued to stop the city from shutting it down.

A mid-level appeals court sided with the city, but other courts have come to opposite conclusions. Last summer, a trial judge ruled that Riverside County could not close medical marijuana dispensaries in unincorporated areas because the move did not give the shops any room to operate legally under state law.

An appeals court in Southern California also struck down Los Angeles County's 2-year-old ban on dispensaries, ruling that state law allows cooperatives and collectives to grow, store and distribute pot.

In a separate case in Long Beach, however, an appeals court said federal law preempts municipalities from allowing dispensaries.

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PARKS
FROM PAGE 1

Stiffer fees would not mean extra space, however. Under the proposal, trainers would lose the ability to conduct group classes in parks with less open space, and instead be restricted to one-on-one or one-on-two training sessions in certain parks.

Coalition members believe the proposal, which is expected to go to the City Council in late March, will hurt the trainers, park security and even the local economy, said Erin Dick, spokesperson for the coalition.

"We really think that the city is trying to do the right thing," Dick said. "What we think is the people who have the best knowledge of how to use the parks are the people using it every single day."

The extra fees and permits wouldn't solve the problems that the commission raised, including noise caused by trainers, damage to the grass and the excessive number of fitness buffs in the park preventing others from walking or otherwise enjoying the scenery, she said.

Instead of the extra cash, the coalition recommends a fitness-related community service requirement, like a monthly bootcamp open to the public, or an advisory committee to the Recreation & Parks Commission to help with the trainers.

"That will produce a tangible benefit to the city," Dick said.

Phil Brock, chair of the commission, doesn't share her view.

"Citizens of Santa Monica should not subsidize trainers' business model," Brock said.

He likened the trainers to food trucks that park near restaurants, in this case siphoning business from gyms with promises of cheaper rates since they avoid paying rent.

Owners of brick-and-mortar gyms pay a pretty penny to stay in business in Santa Monica. Kelly Blackwin is co-owner of Fitness Together, a small gym on Fifth Street that specializes in one-on-one and small class training formats.

Rent alone can consume between 20 and 25 percent of monthly revenues, Blackwin said, and the pie only gets smaller after insurance, permits, licenses and staff salaries.

"It's expensive," Blackwin said. "There's a lot of overhead, especially with our location being in Santa Monica."

The cost gave pause to Logan Gelbrich, a Santa Monica native who came back to the city after a professional baseball career and tried to open a gym. He couldn't find a reasonably-priced spot that met city requirements, and set up shop on the bluffs.

He just signed a lease for a gym in Venice, having given up on finding a suitable location in Santa Monica.

"I'm not one of the trainers choosing to be outside over inside," Gelbrich said. "It's just impossible to open a gym."

Although he doesn't like the idea of a 15 percent fee, Gelbrich said he would support it if it kept the door open for outside training.



Photo courtesy Gloria Keeling

OUCH: **Gloria Keeling, 79, had a run-in with a training class near Idaho Avenue that left her with a black-eye and an emergency room visit.**

"Santa Monica is the historic home of fitness, and the most difficult place to do business in the fitness industry," he said.

While City Hall is not necessarily in the business of protecting brick-and-mortars, it does have an interest in keeping its facilities shipshape.

That can be difficult to regulate when it comes to outdoor trainers, Brock said.

Although it's against existing policy to attach workout equipment to trees, for instance, trainers do it regularly, causing damage to the trees.

Trying to enforce the free community classes put forward by the coalition would be near impossible, he said.

"We'd literally have to hire someone in the city to go out and enforce that," Brock said. "The object is to reduce time and effort, use common sense and avoid the work."

For some, the increase in trainer sprawl has become more than a nuisance.

Gloria Keeling, 79, had a run-in with a training class near Idaho Avenue that left her with a black-eye and an emergency room visit.

She was walking down a path at 7:20 a.m. when a fitness group came running. Keeling tried to get out of the way, but her pants got caught on a chain link fence and sent her sprawling.

Her knee and face took the worst of it, Keeling said.

"It was inevitable that something like this would happen," Keeling said.

She's not against classes in general — Keeling herself has been in the physical training business for decades, and still does work with older adults. Having the classes in a narrow space like Palisades Park, however, is a disaster, she said.

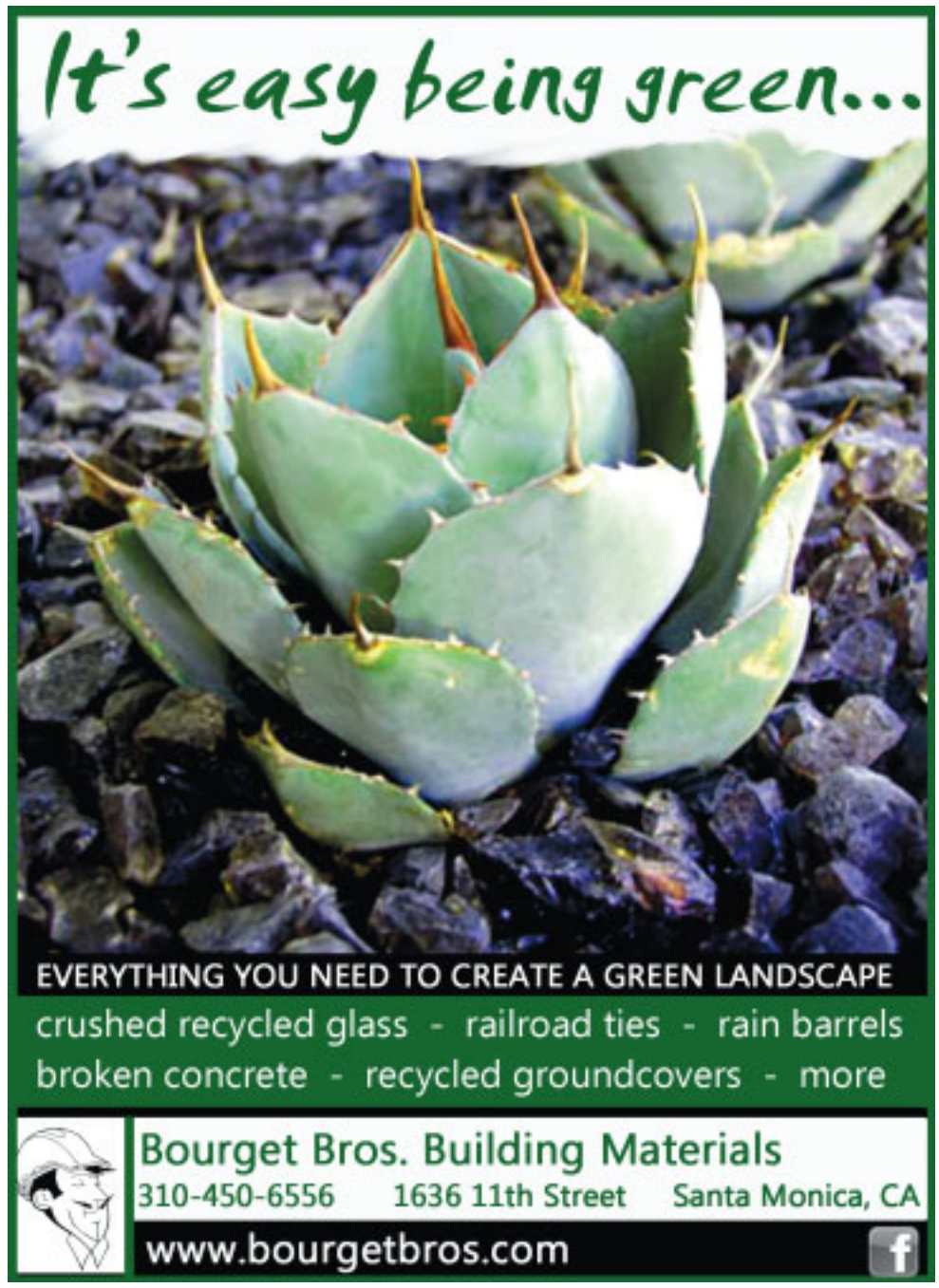
Brock agrees.

"The people I have to respond to and we need to care about are our citizens," Brock said. "The citizens who live near Palisades Park are almost unanimously opposed to trainers there. They want their park back."

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Congress considers putting limits on drone strikes

LARA JAKES
AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON Uncomfortable with the Obama administration's use of deadly drones, a growing number in Congress is looking to limit America's authority to kill suspected terrorists, even U.S. citizens. The Democratic-led outcry was emboldened by the revelation in a newly surfaced Justice Department memo that shows drones can strike against a wider range of threats, with less evidence, than previously believed.

The drone program, which has been used from Pakistan across the Middle East and into North Africa to find and kill an unknown number of suspected terrorists, is expected to be a top topic of debate when the Senate Intelligence Committee grills John Brennan, the White House's pick for CIA chief, at a hearing Thursday.

The White House on Tuesday defended its lethal drone program by citing the very laws that some in Congress once believed were appropriate in the years immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks but now think may be too broad.

"It has to be in the agenda of this Congress to reconsider the scope of action of drones and use of deadly force by the United States around the world because the original authorization of use of force, I think, is being strained to its limits," Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., said in a recent interview.

Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the No. 2 Democrat in the House, said Tuesday that "it deserves a serious look at how we make the decisions in government to take out, kill, eliminate, whatever word you want to use, not just American citizens but other citizens as well."

Hoyer added: "We ought to carefully review our policies as a country."

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee likely will hold hearings on U.S. drone policy, an aide said Tuesday, and Chairman Robert Menendez, D-N.J., and the panel's top Republican, Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, both have quietly expressed concerns about the deadly operations. And earlier this week, a group of 11 Democratic and Republican senators urged President Barack Obama to release a classified Justice Department legal opinion justifying when U.S. counterterror missions, including drone strikes, can be used to kill American citizens abroad.

Without those documents, it's impossible for Congress and the public to decide "whether this authority has been properly defined, and whether the president's power to deliberately kill Americans is subject to appropriate limitations and safeguards," the senators wrote.

It was a repeated request after receiving last June an unclassified Justice Department memo, which fell short of giving the senators all the information they requested.

First detailed publicly by NBC News late Monday, the memo for the first time outlines the Obama administration's decision to kill al-Qaida terror suspects without any evidence that specific and imminent plots are being planned against the United States.

"The threat posed by al-Qaida and its associated forces demands a broader concept of imminence in judging when a person continually planning terror attacks presents an imminent threat," concluded the document.

The memo was immediately decried by civil liberties groups as "flawed" and "profoundly disturbing" — especially in light of 2011 U.S. drone strikes in Yemen that killed three American citizens: Anwar al-Awlaki, his 16-year-old-son and Samir Khan. Al-Awlaki was linked to the planning and execution of several attacks targeting U.S. and Western interests, including the attempt to down a Detroit-bound airliner in 2009 and the plot to bomb cargo planes in 2010. His son was killed in a separate strike on a suspected al-Qaida den. Khan was an al-Qaida propagandist.

White House spokesman Jay Carney, echoing comments Brennan made in a speech last April, called the strikes legal, ethical and wise and said they are covered by a law that Congress approved allowing the use of military force against al-Qaida.

"And certainly, under that authority, the president acts in the United States' interest to protect the United States and its citizens from al-Qaida," Carney said Tuesday.

"It is a matter of fact that Congress authorized the use of military force against al-Qaida," Carney said. "It is a matter of fact that al-Qaida is in a state of war against us and that senior leaders, operational leaders of al-Qaida are continually plotting to attack the United States, plotting to kill American citizens as they did most horrifically on September 11th of 2001."

Three days after 9/11, Congress approved a law authorizing the military to use "all necessary and appropriate force" against al-Qaida and other groups believed to be helping or harboring the global terror network, including the use of drone strikes. In the decade since the attacks, U.S. intelligence officials say, al-Qaida has splintered into a number of affiliates and allied sympathizers. That means the current laws could allow military force against thousands of extremists across the Mideast and North Africa who have limited or no ability to strike the United States.

Currently, both the CIA and the U.S. military are authorized to remotely pilot unmanned, missile-carrying drones against terror suspects. It's unknown exactly how many strikes have been carried out, but experts say that drone attacks in Pakistan are conducted by the CIA, while those in Yemen and Somalia, for example, are by military forces.



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More states push retention of struggling student readers

HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Flunked, retained, held back.

Whatever you call it, increasing numbers of states are not promoting students who are struggling to read at the end of third grade.

Thirty-two states have passed legislation designed to improve third-grade literacy, according to the Education Commission of the States. Retention is part of the policies in 14 states, with some offering more leeway than others.

"Passing children up the grade ladder when we know they can't read is irresponsible — and cruel," said Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback in announcing in his recent State of the State address that third-graders should demonstrate an ability to read before being promoted. He also proposed a $12 million program for improving third-graders' reading skills.

Backers say retention policies put pressure on teachers and parents to make sure children succeed.

But opponents say students fare better if they're promoted and offered extra help. They say holding students back does nothing to address the underlying problems that caused them to struggle and is the single biggest school drop-out predictor. Students who've been retained have a two-fold increased risk of dropping out compared to students with similar academic struggles who weren't retained, said Arthur Reynolds, a professor at the University of Minnesota's Human Capital Research Collaborative, citing studies of students in Chicago and Baltimore.

Retention policies were tried out in large city districts but in recent years have been scaled back or dropped in places like Chicago, New York and Los Angeles. Los Angeles district spokeswoman Monica Carazo said her school system studied retention and determined that "research did not show it as an effective practice."

Ending so-called social promotion was one of Jeb Bush's education reforms when he was governor of Florida, and his nonprofit Foundation for Excellence in Education began touting the reform package after it started in 2008.

"I think reform-minded education chiefs and state legislatures and governors are looking for something to do to help kids be successful and to do that they need policies that aren't the same old, same old," said Mary Laura Bragg, the foundation's director of state policy implementation.

Although the number isn't tracked nationally, some national representative studies show that about one-fifth of eighth graders have been retained at least once, said Reynolds, who has studied retention. He said there is wide variation among school districts, with some in urban areas reporting retention rates as high as 40 percent.

Because students shift away from learning to read in the early grades to reading to learn in the upper elementary grades, most state-mandated retention policies make third grade the make-or-break year. Such policies also give struggling students another year of instruction before they take a test as fourth-graders used to compare the educational performance of states and nations, called the National Assessment of Education Progress.

"I apologize to the rest of the country," said Melissa Erickson, of Fund Education Now, a Florida parent advocacy group, of the spread of her state's reforms. She said Florida's NAEP scores had risen but noted that the test takers most likely to struggle were now a year older.

"Is the goal to manipulate data so the state looks better or is the goal to help kids?"

In Florida, where the policy is a decade old, reading is generally measured by performance on a state-administered standardized test. Exemptions also are allowed for some students, like those who do well on an alternative test or whose teachers put together a portfolio showing they can read at grade level.

Because struggling Florida students can be held back up to two times, Megan Allen has students as old as 13 in her fifth-grade class in Tampa, Fla. Some of the younger ones still talk about whether or not Santa is real and Disney movies. Among their twice-retained classmates, Allen, the Florida Teacher of the Year in 2010, has confiscated sex notes.

"I think it is defeating for them," she said of the retained students. "These are students who are already frustrated and instead of having laws that maybe offer them supports and solutions, we have laws that are more focused on the stick than the carrot."

The fiscally conservative Manhattan Institute studied Florida's policy and found retained students made larger gains than students who weren't retained.

But critics like Shane Jimerson, a professor at the University of California-Santa Barbara, said the study doesn't monitor the students' performance long enough. He said researchers have long known that retained students experience an initial academic boost but that the benefits fade.

One of the states where the Bush-backed Foundation for Excellence in Education has been involved in legislation is Colorado, where Democratic Gov. John Hickenlooper signed a law in May that mandates extra help for struggling young students and bars those considered far behind on reading from advancing to fourth grade without their superintendent's permission. One year earlier, Oklahoma passed a law that requires third-grade students to demonstrate proficiency in reading before advancing to fourth grade. Schools in both states are putting programs in place to help struggling students in advance of the retention piece taking effect in the 2013-2014 school year.

In Indiana, this is the first year third-graders had to pass a state test to move onto fourth-grade-level reading instruction. Initially, 16 percent of third-graders failed the test and had a chance to retake it over the summer. The final statewide results haven't been released, said Stephanie Sample, a spokeswoman for the Indiana Department of Education.

She said some schools are retaining students while others are promoting them to fourth grade and offering them special reading instruction to bring them up to grade level.

"We just want to make sure the kids aren't passed along before they are ready to succeed," she said.

The economy could be part of the reason the reform is gaining traction, suggested Reynolds. He said the main cost of retention — another year of education if the student doesn't drop out — is years away.

"It's a way to say to the public that we have tough standards in our school," said Reynolds, who says early childhood programs have better outcomes. "And because states and districts are in a financial crisis in many respects, there is no high priority placed on programs or practices that are going to have a significant cost initially."

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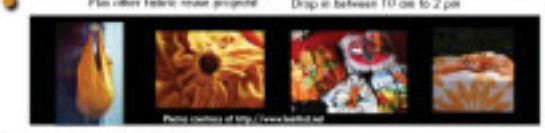
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Clean out your closet and join us for this ONE-DAY special recycling event. Bring clean and dry clothing, paired shoes, bedding, linens, hats, belts, rags and other fabric. Items will be sorted for re-use or recycling.

Saturday, February 9, 2013
{9am to 2pm}
City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave,
Santa Monica, CA

Same Day No Sew T-Shirt Bag Workshop
Plus other fabric reuse projects! Drop in between 10 am to 2 pm



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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **56.3°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Small WNW mix; Potential new WNW starts to show late

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Potential modest WNW swell tops out late; More size for standout spots in the western part of the region with waist-chest high surf there

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Potential modest WNW swell slowly eases; More size for standout spots in the western part of the region 2-3'+ surf there largest early; Watching weather/wind

WIND / WEATHER

A weak coastal eddy will be in place Tuesday through Thursday mornings, setting up light southerly wind in many areas. Look for wind to range from light/variable to light southerly in the mornings, with light to moderate SW to W wind in the afternoons (5-10kts). A marine layer with patchy, dense fog will also prevail at times.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 11
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 28
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alles creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	C	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Malibu Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24872 Malibu Rd.	C	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	F
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH storm.	A+	B
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Topanga Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	B	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	B
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	B	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CSAW jetty).	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NFL

Documents: Officials worried about Superdome electricity

KEVIN MCGILL & MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS Concerned the Superdome might not be able to handle the energy needed for its first Super Bowl since Hurricane Katrina, officials spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on upgrades to decayed utility lines, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press. The improvements apparently weren't enough, however, to prevent an embarrassing and puzzling 34-minute power outage during the third quarter of the game between the Baltimore Ravens and San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

Two days later, officials still had not pinpointed the cause of the outage. The Superdome's management company, SMG, and the utility that supplies the stadium, Entergy New Orleans, announced Tuesday that they would hire outside experts to investigate.

"We wanted to leave no stone unturned," Entergy spokesman Chanel Lagarde told the AP. He said the two companies had not been able to reach a conclusion on the cause and wanted a third-party analysis.

"We thought it was important to get another party looking at this to make sure we were looking at everything that we need to examine," Lagarde said.

SMG Vice President Doug Thornton told a news conference at City Hall later Tuesday that the hiring of a third party does not signify a disagreement between SMG and Entergy.

"It's important for us to have total transparency and we have agreed among ourselves that we will exchange records," Thornton said. "We were metering the power. They were doing the same on their side. We need to figure out what the root cause of this is and fix it."

Documents obtained Monday through a records request by The Associated Press show that Superdome officials worried months ago about losing power during the NFL championship.

Tests on the electrical feeders that connect incoming power from utility lines to the stadium showed decay and "a chance of failure," state officials warned in a memo dated Oct. 15. The documents, obtained by the AP through a records request, also show that Entergy expressed concern about the reliability of the service before the Super Bowl.

The memo said Entergy and the Superdome's engineering staff "had concerns regarding the reliability of the Dome service from Entergy's connection point to the Dome."

The memo was prepared for the Louisiana Stadium & Exposition District, the state body responsible for the Superdome.

Authorities subsequently authorized spending nearly $1 million on Superdome improvements, including more than $600,000 for upgrading the dome's electrical feeder cable system, work that was done in December.

"As discussed in previous board meetings, this enhancement is necessary to maintain both the Superdome and the New Orleans Arena as top tier facilities, and to ensure that we do not experience any electrical issues during the Super Bowl," said an LSED document dated Dec. 19.

Superdome commission records show a $513,250 contract to replace feeder cables was awarded to Allstar Electric, a company based in suburban New Orleans.

Arthur Westbrook, Allstar's project manager for the job, referred all questions about possible causes of the outage to the management company.

A lawyer for the LSED, Larry Roedel, said Monday a preliminary investigation found the replacement work done in December did not appear to have caused Sunday's outage.

Eric Grubman, NFL executive vice president of business operations, told the AP on Tuesday that the league was aware of the city's pre-game upgrades to the utility lines, "which we understood to be important and beneficial."

"SMG and others kept us apprised and those reports gave us no real cause for concern," Grubman said. "It is natural and understandable for energy suppliers to be concerned prior to a huge event. If an engineer is asked whether something is 100 percent failsafe, an engineer will normally say, 'No, there is always a risk of failure.'"

Both Entergy and SMG said Sunday that an "abnormality" occurred where stadium equipment intersects with an Entergy electric feed, causing a breaker to create the outage. It remained unclear Monday exactly what the abnormality was or why it occurred.

The lights-out championship game proved an embarrassment for New Orleans just when it was hoping to show the rest of the world how far it has come since Hurricane Katrina in 2005. But many fans were forgiving, and officials expressed confidence that the episode wouldn't hurt the city's hopes of hosting the championship again.

To New Orleans' relief, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said the city did a "terrific" job hosting its first pro-football championship in the post-Katrina era.

"I fully expect that we will be back here for Super Bowls," he said, noting a backup power system was poised to kick in but wasn't needed once the lights came back.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu told a news conference Tuesday that the outage won't hurt the city's chances of hosting another Super Bowl and he joked that the game got better after the blackout.

"That 34 minutes is not going to cast a shadow over the accomplishments of the city," Landrieu said, calling the event "as near-perfect a Super Bowl as the country has ever seen." He added that officials estimate the game brought $432 million into the city.

Fans watching from home weren't deterred, either. An estimated 108.4 million television viewers saw the Baltimore Ravens beat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31, making it the third-most-viewed program in television history. Both the 2010 and 2011 games hit the 111 million mark.

As for possible culprits, it couldn't be blamed on a case of too much demand for power.

Meters showed the 76,000-seat stadium was drawing no more electricity than it does during a typical New Orleans Saints game, according to Doug Thornton, the Superdome manager.

He also ruled out Beyonce's electrifying halftime performance. She brought along her own generator.

Officials with the utility and the Superdome were quick to note that an NFL game, the Sugar Bowl and another bowl game were played there in recent weeks with no apparent problems.

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
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Double feature

Awakenings (PG-13) 2hrs 1min
Cape Fear (R) 2hrs 8min
7:30pm

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

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
12:30pm, 6:40pm

Broken City (R) 1hr 49min
4:05pm, 10:15pm

ParaNorman 3D (PG) 1hr 33min
1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
3:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:45pm

Stand Up Guys (R) 1hr 33min
1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:05pm, 10:30pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:20am, 1:45pm, 4:05pm

Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min
11:15am, 2:50pm, 6:45pm, 10:35pm

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:45pm

Gangster Squad (R) 1hr 53min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Warm Bodies (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:20pm

Metropolitan Opera: Maria Stuarda ENCORE (NR) 3hrs 20min
6:30pm

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

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Impossible (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Quartet (PG-13) 1hr 37min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

56 Up (NR) 2hrs 24min
1:10pm, 4:30pm, 8:00pm

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

Movie 43 (R) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:25pm

Parker (R) 1hr 58min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Bullet to the Head (R) 1hr 31min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Les Miserables (PG-13) 2hrs 37min
11:15am, 2:40pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

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

Mama (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Get some exercise, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your willingness to look at the bigger picture impresses a higher-up. This person notes your ability to impart knowledge swiftly. Your softer side emerges when dealing with a child. Tonight: Put in some extra hours.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Follow the advice of a well-meaning associate or partner, as shocked as you might be by this person's insights. Even if you don't think that you have all the facts, stay kind and supportive. Ignoring the issue can only cause a problem. Tonight: Make weekend plans.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others could be challenging beyond any level you might have thought possible. Understanding emerges from your ability to come to terms with someone you care a lot about. You will discover the value in saying little. Tonight: Catch up on a loved one's news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You will get a lot done ... and quite efficiently, at that. Be careful when making plans in advance, because you might need to cancel them, as you will today. You might be surprised by an older person's useful insight. Listen carefully. Tonight: Go with a different choice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Make time to visit with a child. You might not be sure what your expectations are with a professional matter. Your positive attitude and willingness to pitch in can only win you friends. Tonight: Get some exercise first.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Understanding what is expected of you might be difficult. You could be quite exhausted from trying to switch gears. Listen to news carefully, especially if it is coming from a key person. He or she will share information that could shock you. Tonight: Follow someone else's lead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Do not underestimate the liabilities involved in a work relationship. It might be best to keep things professional, no matter what the cost. What you might believe to be a mutual understanding could be a hot volcano that is on the verge of erupting. Tonight: Take a long walk.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Be sensitive to how much you have spent as of late. A little self-discipline in the fiscal area will feel much better in the long run. Quit worrying about a potential problem. Understand what is happening with a child or new friend. Tonight: Add some mischief to the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Handle a problem first thing in the morning. Key associates or loved ones could come into a meeting with some interesting news. Carefully evaluate what you hear before launching into action. Tonight: Your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ By midday, you'll feel energized. Know that information you might be keeping from a close loved one or roommate is fine. Some matters are best kept to yourself. An unexpected revelation could shake you up. Do your best to stay calm. Tonight: Time for a midweek break.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your efforts don't go unnoticed, even if you feel that way. Recognize that your hunches have more validity than you'd originally thought. Tonight: Vanish if you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Your playfulness might not be appreciated by a boss or older relative, but the friends in your immediate circle love your sense of humor. Be selective in what you choose to share with others. Tonight: Where all the fun is.

Happy birthday

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

This year you forge a new path. You also often stop and reflect. This combination proves to be very effective in your day-to-day life. Recognize the need to spend more time alone in order to ground yourself. If you are single, your friends or colleagues might prove instrumental in introducing you to someone who intrigues you. Be careful when meeting this person, as he or she might not be everything he or she seems to be. If you are attached, spend several weekends together as a couple; it will nurture your relationship. You will see the results quickly. CAPRICORN reads you cold

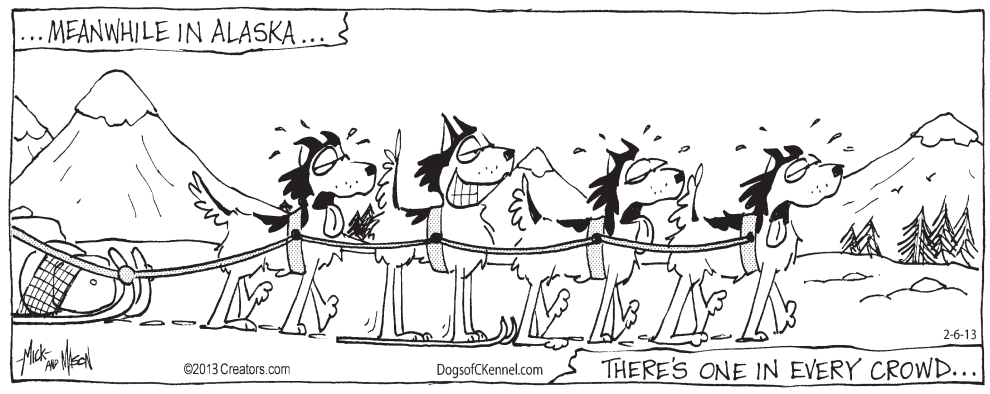
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



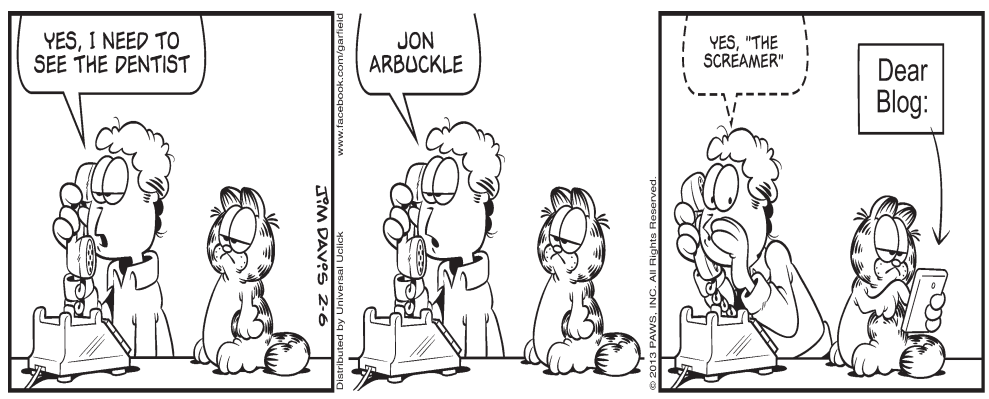
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



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 ★★★

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

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

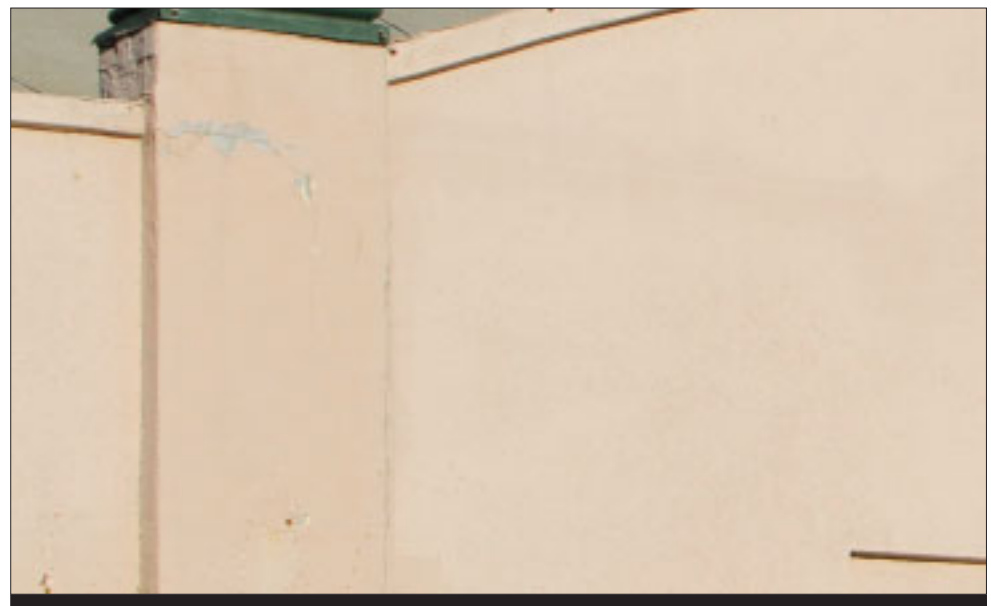
1	5	7	2	4	9	8	6	3
6	9	8	5	7	3	1	2	4
2	3	4	8	6	1	5	7	9
7	6	5	3	8	2	4	9	1
9	2	3	7	1	4	6	5	8
8	4	1	6	9	5	2	3	7
5	8	9	1	3	6	7	4	2
4	1	6	9	2	7	3	8	5
3	7	2	4	5	8	9	1	6

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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 Outpouring
6 Stare stupidly
10 Confine
11 Michael of Monty Python
12 Monsoon weather
13 UV stopper
14 Brit's exclamation
15 Position
16 Unruly crowd
17 New reporter
18 Salon stuff
19 Trooper's order
22 Ring out
23 Tale teller
26 Consider
29 Little devil
32 Spring month
33 Gardner of "Mogambo"
34 In the vicinity
36 Carolina bird
37 Parting word
38 Virtuous one
39 Alerts
40 As expected
41 Different
42 Spirited horse

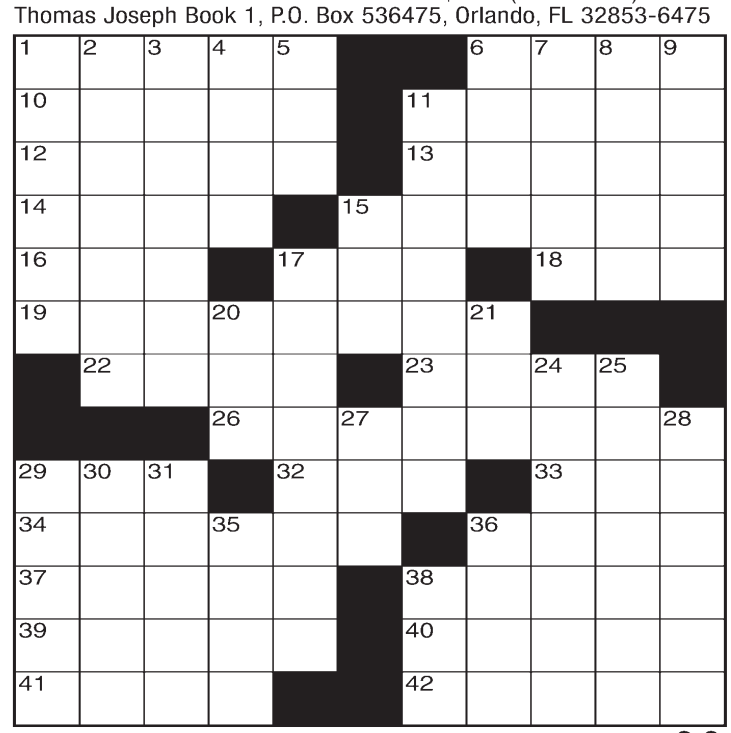
DOWN

1 Scampi ingredient
2 Thick fog
3 Congenial
4 Minute
5 Print measures
6 Strip in the Mideast
7 Next to
8 Show pain
9 Prepare to propose
11 Ample midsection
15 Family vehicle choice
17 Ohio city
20 On the — (fleeing)
21 Carnival city
24 Greed
25 Income
27 Put down
28 Talked excitedly
29 Quite impressed
30 Military award
31 Skating category
35 Painter Magritte
36 Long for
38 Sinking signal

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

Yesterday's answer

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



2-6

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/1
1 30 32 40 41
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: $19M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/2
7 12 15 17 37
Meganumber: 25
Jackpot: $19M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/5
1 10 11 24 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/5
MIDDAY: 8 8 7
EVENING: 4 0 9

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 2/5
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:42.29

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

■ Four days after the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., officials at Public School 79 in New York City decided it would be a good time for a full-blown lockdown drill -- with no advance warning. Though P.S. 79 is a high school and not an elementary school, it is composed of about 300 students with special needs (autism, cerebral palsy, severe emotional disorders) who, with their teachers, were startled to hear the early- morning loudspeaker blaring, "Shooter (or, possibly, "intruder"), get out, get out, lockdown." One adult said it took her about five minutes to realize that it was only a drill. Still, said another, "It was probably the worst feeling I ever had in my life."

■ Neighborhood observers reported in December that the asbestos-removal "crew" working at the former YWCA in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, consisted merely of volunteer teenagers who are students at the local religious Buckeye Education School. State regulations require that asbestos (known to cause deadly respiratory illnesses) be handled only by certified contractors using hazardous-materials gear. Buckeye and other officials, while emphasizing that the students were volunteers, declined to say who authorized them to work.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1989 – The Round Table Talks start in Poland, thus marking the beginning of overthrow of communism in Eastern Europe.

1994 – American pop rock band Maroon 5 was formed. (as Kara's Flowers)

1996 – Willamette Valley Flood of 1996: Floods in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, United States, causes over US$500 million in property damage throughout the Pacific Northwest.

WORD UP!

epexegesis
\ ep-ek-si-JEE-sis \ , noun;
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012257425 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/31/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as HART ANALYTIC CONSULTING. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: ROBERT A. HART JR. 4055 REDWOOD AVE. #451 LOS ANGELES CA 90066. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)11/20/2012. /s/: ROBERT A. HART JR.. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/31/2012. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 1/30/2013, 2/6/2013, 2/13/20/13, 2/20/2013.

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