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Santa Monica Daily Press

RED CROSS HAS A NEW HEAD
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE GET KIDS READING ISSUE

Suspect arrested in 2008 murder

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BLVD Santa Monica police and other law enforcement groups arrested a suspect in the 2008 murder of Santa Monica resident Alexander Merman, authorities announced Friday.

Daniel Edward Becerril II, 36, was arrested in Orange County Thursday by members of the Santa Monica Police Department in coordination with the Huntington Beach Police Department and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

He is being held without bail in Santa Monica Jail on suspicion of one count of murder, as well as six counts of grand theft and multiple counts of forgery and money laundering related to approximately $700,000 in thefts.

His wife, Sandra Becerril, 34, was also arrested for multiple counts of forgery and grand theft, and is being held on $830,000 bail.

Arrests of additional codefendants are currently being made by the Santa Monica Police Department, according to a department press release.

Merman was stabbed to death in his home on 520 Montana Ave. in spring of 2008 after he inquired over approximately $550,000 Becerril either owed Merman or had taken from Merman's investment accounts through his company AP Financial Group.



DANIEL BECERRIL II



SANDRA BECERRIL

"Merman thought he was making an investment," said Police Chief Tim Jackman at a press conference Friday morning. "He began to become suspicious and began mak-

SEE ARREST PAGE 6



FUTURE BOOKWORMS

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Assemblymember Julia Brownley (D-Santa Monica) on Friday kicks off the Read Across California campaign by reading to kids at the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica. She challenged the kids to read for 30 minutes every day for a month. According to the Nation's Report Card, 54 percent of grade-four pupils and 64 percent of grade-eight California pupils tested in early 2009 scored at or above the basic reading level. However, this is below the national average of 66 percent of all grade-four pupils and 74 percent of all grade-eight pupils nationally.

School board seeks more info on Malibu split

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS A presentation by county officials to the Board of Education Thursday night left board members with more questions than they had answers about the cost and implications of Malibu schools leaving the district, and division on how to get more information.

Matt Spies, a spokesperson for the Los Angeles County Department of Education, walked board members and the public through "unification," the convoluted process which would take the five schools located in Malibu and combine them into one unified school district.

Education advocates on the Malibu City Council and the parent group Advocates for

SEE SCHOOLS PAGE 3

Feeling cheated? Small claims court can bring big wins

BY PETER SVENSSON
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK If you feel cheated by a big company and complaining gets you nowhere, what can you do? A handful of recent cases suggest that consumers can, if they're motivated enough, win against big companies in small claims courts.

These "David versus Goliath" battles were won against the likes of AT&T, Honda and others, without resorting to lawyers. The plaintiffs paid minor filing fees, gathered their own research and presented arguments in quick hearings that resemble the average "Judge Judy" episode.

And now, thanks to the Internet, these victors are connecting with other consumers in hopes of helping them replicate their suc-

SEE SUE PAGE 7

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, March 3, 2012

All things Seuss
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
10:30 a.m.
Stop by the library for the Fifth Annual Super Seuss-Abration. The celebration begins with a juggling show. After that, there will be crafts and activities for kids. For more information, call (310) 458-8621.

Diving in
Santa Monica Swim Center
225 16th St., 3 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Kids ages 8 to 18 are invited to the center for free synchronized swimming and water polo classes. Synchronized swimming is up first on Saturday at 3 p.m. Water polo takes place on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Active Santa Monica is sponsoring the weekend. For more information, visit www.smgov.net/swim.

Rocking the place
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.
Enjoy live music at the mall's main plaza every weekend. The artists aren't set, but be ready for some eclectic offerings. For more information, call (310) 260-8333.

Sunday, March 4, 2012

Rallying behind 'Chain Reaction'
Flying Saucers Caffeine and Art Cafe
306 Pico Blvd., 5:30 p.m.
Artists, activists, students and the public are invited to a meeting of Save Our Sculpture, a group that formed to help save "Chain Reaction." City leaders say that it would be too expensive to fix the damaged piece and the public is rallying around Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist Paul Conrad's sculpture located in the Civic Center. For more information, call (310) 399-1000.

Piano man
Crossroads School's Roth Hall
1714 21 St., 2 p.m.
Richard Grayson returns for his annual improvisation piano recital. Grayson joined the music faculty of Crossroads School in 2001 after retiring from Occidental College, where he taught for 32 years. He has made a specialty of classical improvisation, taking themes on the spot and creating pieces in styles ranging from the baroque period through the 20th century. For more information, call (310) 828-1196.

Monday, March 5, 2012

Bridge the gap
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Get together every week to have fun, meet people and challenge yourself playing bridge. This is not a class, so bring your game. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

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



Birds off CA coast coated in oil from natural seep

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES The International Bird Rescue center is seeing a spike in the number of birds coated with oil seeping from the ocean floor along the Southern California coast, with more than 100 brought into the center in the last two months.

Most of the birds have been murres, penguin-like diving birds, but there have also been common loons, Pacific loons, Western grebes, an eared grebe, a surf scoter, and a rhinoceros auklet, IBR Director Emeritus Jay Holcomb said Friday.

Because the oil seepage is natural, there is no money budgeted to round up threatened birds like there would be in the case of a human-caused oil spill, he said. As a result, the only birds the center is seeing are those brought in by people visiting Santa Barbara area beaches.

The IBR had to start seeking donations to help pay for cleaning all the extra birds.

As many as 6,600 gallons of oil a day seep from the ocean floor in the Santa Barbara Channel near Coal Oil Point. The worst time for the birds is November to May, Holcomb said. Many migrate during the summer, so bird populations drop and fewer get coated.

Oil messes up the natural waterproofing on a bird's feathers, leaving the bird unable to maintain its body temperature and susceptible to hypothermia.

Last year, the Los Angeles IBR center got 100 oiled birds during the whole period, and there were even fewer the year before.

"This year, we've already had 109, and we know there are more coming in," Holcomb said.

Murres had disappeared from Southern California until a couple of years ago.

"Now they are the bulk of the birds being oiled. They are expanding their range, which is really exciting because they are nesting on the Channel Islands for the first time in 100 years," Holcomb said.

Some oiled birds are dying before they get to shore, he said. "Some are found cold, wet and hypothermic on the beach. Some don't come to the shore until they are really weak."

He said he couldn't be sure how many of those brought in they had saved or lost, but "some are thriving."



IN A PICKLE

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

St. Monica's pitcher tags Lawndale High's Brian Estrada after he was caught in a pickle and slipped while running back to third at Marine Park on Friday during the SoCal Invitational Tournament. The Mariners lost 9-6.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

CEO named for Red Cross

Wendy S. Jacobs was named the chief executive officer of the American Red Cross of Santa Monica, it was announced Friday.

Prior to her appointment, Jacobs was the deputy executive director and chief development officer of Heading Home, a homeless services agency in Boston. Jacobs' first major mission in Santa Monica is the Red Cross' annual fundraiser the Red Tie Affair on April 21.

"I'm so grateful for the warm welcome that both the American Red Cross and the Santa Monica community have extended to me," Jacobs said.

Jacobs succeeds John Pacheco, who retired Jan. 2 after working 35 years for the Red Cross in the Los Angeles area. Jacobs' appointment begins immediately.

COLIN NEWTON

SAMOHI

Singing his praises

Santa Monica High School choral director Jeffe Huls was awarded an Arts Specialist Award at the 30th annual Music Center BRAVO Awards. The ceremony, which took place at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, was held on March 1.

The Music Center BRAVO Awards recognize teachers and schools for innovation and exceptional visual and performing arts education. Along with the award, winners receive a cash prize dedicated to supplementing their education programs. Information regarding the cash prize was not made available by presstime.

The Music Center is a Los Angeles-based company that advocates the arts. Walt Disney Concert Hall is one of the Music Center's venues.

CN

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 1

Malibu Public Schools, AMPS, have been pushing for a separate Malibu district on the belief that Malibu and Santa Monica have different cultures and different educational needs.

Although Malibu has been treated well by the board, it's inclusion in the district is a "geographic anachronism," said Hans Laetz, a Malibu resident who has lived in the district for 15 years.

"It made sense 50 years ago, but it's time for us to go our separate ways," Laetz said.

Getting there is more difficult than an amiable, "Catch you on the flip side."

There are few absolutes Spies could describe beyond that a successful unification effort in Malibu would have severe — but currently unquantifiable — impacts on facilities bonds and parcel taxes for the two districts.

According to Spies, Malibu would lose proceeds from a parcel tax as well as the obligation to pay for and receive benefits from the bond measure that's currently being used to fund improvements at their high school.

On the other side of the coin, Santa Monicans would have to make up Malibu's share of the bond payments, which would mean more money out of local pockets.

Even those outcomes weren't certain. The bond payments decision could be negotiated as part of the break-up, Spies said.

Malibu Mayor Laura Rosenthal told the board that AMPS and other Malibu community members were willing to put up the cash to hire consultants and other experts to make that cost-benefit analysis more clear, but the board had to indicate a willingness to work with them.

"We will provide the money to do these studies. You would understand our reluctance to raise the money and spend it if you're not going to work with us," Rosenthal said.

Staff cautioned board members on moving ahead with the studies in conjunction with Malibu city officials or AMPS lest it give the impression that the board was giving the OK for Malibu to split from SMMUSD.

"It creates the perception that we're ready to unify the district," Superintendent Sandra Lyon told the board.

That didn't concern board member Jose Escarce, who felt it was clear that soliciting information would not in any way imply an agreement to move forward with Malibu.

"The only thing that we can do without information is stay neutral or oppose this on principle," Escarce said.

Board member Maria Leon Vasquez sided with staff on the basis that she didn't want to move forward with Malibu toward a separation she did not support.

"It's hard for me to work collaboratively

SEE **MALIBU** PAGE 6


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Going elsewhere

Editor:

Thank you for not blaming the demise of the Santa Monica small business solely on rising rents ("Casualties of creative destruction," Feb. 27, page 1). As you pointed out, some of the stores closing or moving out of town are obsolete due to larger retailers and/or the increase in Internet shopping, but you did not mention the anti-business tendencies of Santa Monica, which have prompted many shoppers and business owners to simply go elsewhere.

The half-cent sales tax increase and the plastic bag ban are the primary reasons I have completely stopped shopping here, however, the lack of parking, copious amounts of traffic, belligerent bums at every store entrance and the inability to fix the traffic signals so one can actually get across town in a timely manner were all factors. Many businesses have been forced out of Santa Monica by over regulation and high city fees, some by eminent domain.

Schwartz Glass Co., a family-owned and operated business since the 1950's (I'm guessing) was closed and demolished to make way for the ridiculous light rail project is one example, but I believe the biggest reason businesses are leaving is because the owners are just exhausted by trying to operate a business in a city that despises the act of commerce.

John Linfesty
Santa Monica

Calling for income requirements

Editor:

The city of Santa Monica has an enormous stock of affordable housing. The problem is that it is occupied by people who would not qualify for affordable housing by current standards. Every tenant in a below-market-rate, rent-controlled apartment should be checked annually to see if they meet the city's low- or median-income standards.

If a tenant has done well in life and after a period of three years of being above the city's affordability requirement, the tenant should be required to relinquish their unit so that a low-income individual or family can move in. We all know of people who now make six figure salaries who live in one bedroom, rent-controlled apartments for $500 to $600 per month. Quite simply, people who have been successful in life should relinquish their units to help those who are less fortunate. Greater turn around in the rent-controlled units would also create supply, which would have a general devaluing effect.

Will Evens
Santa Monica



On the Beat

NRO Artis Williams — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Rules every cyclist should know

Q: A FEW WEEKS AGO I REMEMBER reading a column regarding bicyclists riding along the right edge of the roadway and the new sensors City Hall installed at controlled intersections ("Cycling safely on city streets," On The Beat, Jan. 14-15). I have considered using my bicycle more often for transportation and I wanted to know if there are other laws I should know when I am out on my bicycle.

A: If you remember we talked about cyclists having to ride close to the right edge of the roadway when traveling slower the normal speed of traffic (21202(a) VC), but there are other laws that cyclists need to know.

First let's take a look at the Santa Monica Municipal Code:

• Section 3.12.540(a) of the Santa Monica Municipal Code prohibits bicyclists from riding on the sidewalk. Bicyclists must use the roadway when traveling in Santa Monica.

Now let's take a look at the California Vehicle Code. As mentioned above, in the January article I talked about sections 21202(a) (ride close to the right edge of the roadway when traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic) as well as 21201 (reflectors and light required while riding during hours of darkness), but let's take a look at some other rules for bicyclists:

• Section 21650.1 states a bicycle operated on a roadway, or the shoulder of a highway, shall be operated in the same direction as vehicles are required to be driven upon the roadway. During my career I have met many cyclists who ride in the opposite direction of traffic, in other words they ride with traffic coming toward them. There have been various reasons why some cyclists ride this way but in California, it's illegal and a cyclist can be cited.

• Section 21203 prohibits an operator of a bicycle, motorized cycle, motorcycle, roller skates, skateboard, sled or operators of toy vehicles from clinging or holding on to moving vehicles. This means cyclists (and the others previously mentioned) may not hold onto (or attach themselves to) cars, trucks, motorcycles, buses or other vehicles traveling on the roadway. This includes skateboarders/skaters holding on to bicycles traveling on the roadway.

• Section 21204(a) states a person operating a bicycle upon a highway shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached to the bicycle. Subsection (b) states an operator of a bicycle shall not allow a person riding as a passenger, to ride on a bicycle on a highway other than upon or astride a separate seat attached to the bicycle. Simply put, riding on handlebars or foot pegs are not allowed for operators or passengers of bicycles. Each person on the bicycle must have a permanent or regular seat on the bicycle. Parents who have small children (40 pounds or less) must use a seat that secures the child passenger in place and protects the child passenger from the moving parts of the bicycle.

• Section 21205 prohibits an operator of a bicycle from carrying any package, bundle or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

• Section 21208(a) states whenever a bicycle lane has been established on a roadway, any person operating a bicycle upon the roadway at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in the same direction at that time shall ride within the bicycle lane. A cyclist may only move out of the bicycle lane when overtaking another bicycle, vehicle or pedestrian within the lane if the passing and overtaking cannot be done safely within the bicycle lane.

Cyclists may also exit the bicycle lane when preparing to turn onto a private road or driveway, preparing to make a left turn at an intersection and when reasonably necessary to leave the bicycle lane to avoid debris or other hazards. No cyclist may leave the bicycle lane until it is reasonably safe to do so and only after giving the appropriate signal.

• Section 21210 states no person shall leave a bicycle lying on its side on a sidewalk, or shall park a bicycle on a sidewalk in any other position, so that there is not an adequate path for pedestrian traffic.

• Section 21212 requires any operator of a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, skateboard or anyone wearing in-line or roller skates on a street, bikeway or other public bike path or trail and is under the age of 18 to wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet approved by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). If you are unsure about a helmet, look for a sticker with the letters ASTM either inside the helmet or on the packaging that came with the helmet.

• Section 27400 prohibits drivers and cyclists from covering both ears while operating their vehicles on the road. This includes personal headphones/earbuds.

Let's not forget about red lights and stop signs. Bicyclists are required to stop for both stop signs and red lights when operating on the roadway; this includes T-intersections as well.

Now I know I may have thrown a lot of information at you in this column, but if I had to put in simple terms I would say this:

Drivers need to be careful and watch for bicyclists on the roadway. Cyclists have the right and are required to use the roadway when traveling. Cyclists and drivers have to be careful and share the road, but it doesn't give a cyclist carte blanche to ride on the road any way they choose. There are rules cyclists need to follow so everyone may use the roadway in a safe manner.

SAFETY TIP

Drivers of motor vehicles must remember to always look out for cyclists on the roadway. Section 22517 of the Vehicle Code prohibits any person from opening the door of a vehicle on the side available to moving traffic unless it is reasonably safe to do so and can be done without interfering with the movement of traffic. No person shall leave a door open on the side available to traffic for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers.

This column was prepared by Neighborhood Resource Officer **ARTIS WILLIAMS**, (Beat 7, Sunset Park Neighborhood). He can be reached at (424) 200-0687 or artis.williams@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

Making Cuts

Officials with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District are considering cutting $2 million from next year's budget. There has been talk of reducing staff and an increase in class sizes.

This past week, Q-line asked:
If cuts have to be made, where do you think are logical places to look and why?

Here are your responses:

"WHAT DO SANTA MONICA COLLEGE, THE school district, and the city have in common? The Postal Service. All are civil service, all do a terrible job with the overabundance of money supplied. Years ago, the school district had just a principal for each elementary school. Now they have an $80,000-a-year vice principal. Also, most schools now have a therapist counselor, another $80,000 a year. At Edison Language Academy, in reality a non-English speaking elementary school, all the staff get a 5 percent stipend for speaking Spanish. Everyone knows total immersion is the best way to learn English. But you have two unions and racial and negative economic school board life equalizers supporting this huge waste of taxpayer money. The common theme among all of this spending is poor leadership. Unfairness in taxes, employment, expectations, support for certain racial promotion both in the students and bloated staff, especially management, have led to this critical funding problem."

"AS A LONGTIME MEMBER OF THIS community and an ex-landlord to boot, and also a parent who went through Santa Monica schools, I think it would be great to pare down the budget by $2 million because the administrators make more money than the teachers. So let's cut the money for the administrators so we can maybe save $2 million."

"WHAT THEY SHOULD REDUCE IS THE number of officials at the SMMUSD. That would save a lot and start reducing some of the governing factors, and I think there will be enough money left over for regular class sizes."

"I THOUGHT WE JUST ADDED HALF A PENNY to the tax to fund our schools and now they have to cut back? I don't get it. But if cuts are to be made, certainly do not lose any teachers! Increase class size? Are you kidding? Cuts should be at 16th Street — the offices of SMMUSD — first, don't you think?"

"ELIMINATE THE 1,000-PLUS PERMIT students. If rational school districts like Beverly Hills (who eliminated their permit program for financial reasons) cannot afford them, we can't either. If we didn't have the permit students, there would be a budget surplus."

"FIRE ALL THE HIGH-PAID ADMINISTRATORS first, starting with the worthless superintendent of schools who makes close to $400,000 a year with benefits! In our economy we can find someone much better for $50,000. The commies from Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights and their union buddies want to keep everything getting bigger since it adds to their union. We need to throw out all the non-Santa Monica students including those that go here illegally and ones the district allows because a parent works for City Hall and then we can close a couple of schools and lay off dozens of teachers, administrators and other school workers. This would result in having an abundance of money for our own kids who live in our town."

"IF CUTS NEED TO BE MADE IN THE SCHOOL district, they need to start with a number of the highest salaries on the top. Just what is Sandra Lyon doing to earn over $250,000 per year? There are others too in that income category at trict, we see racial tensions at an all time high. I do not blame her for that, but I blame her for not controlling it better. One or two of the schools is a powder keg waiting to erupt with little in place to improve the situation. Taxpayers on every level have been taxed up to the ying-yang! It shows up in property taxes, half percent extra sales taxes, and every year the district needs more. We need forensic independent auditors to have a complete audit of the district. Never rule out corruption! Somehow SMRR figures in this too. Any 'school consultants' that are in SMRR ought to be fired from the district, as a clear conflict of interest exists. Some local activists are always cheering for new taxes for 'our children.' Truth is, they never pay taxes, and they have no children. They need to stand aside so that serious parties can solve these problems. There should absolutely be no extra students from out of the district either!"

"WHY IS IT THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT (in addition to police and fire) seems to be the only sector that, when faced with revenue issues, does not make reductions in pay and benefits? Just about every business and even government employees are accepting reduced compensation in these tough times. Also, why are we paying for the education of students who don't live within the district? If the district reduced compensation and eliminated 'permit' students, there would be no need to make cuts which harm our local students."

"STOP THIS BROKEN RECORD. DESPITE millions of dollars that City Hall transfers to SMMUSD which other districts don't have, this district, who wants to educate non-district students at a net cost after state reimbursement of $4,700 per student, constantly cries poverty. If it eliminated the 1,300 non-district students, there would be savings of $6.1 million a year. Start putting the students' interest in front of the unions. Reduce staffing and facilities to match those required by the number of students who live in our district. Charge out-of-district students out-of-district tuition. Follow the universities and raise endowments. Lower salaries and benefits. Stop crying the same story and get creative. There is no more money. You've been continuously bailed out and now it is time to be accountable to the community which supports you."

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ARREST
FROM PAGE 1

ing inquiries and after a number of months of being unsuccessful in finding out what happened to his money is when we believe the murder took place."

Police believe that Merman, an elementary school teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District, was murdered for financial gain, Jackman said.

Merman's mother, Sophia Merman, said that she was pleased to hear that police broke the case surrounding her son's death.

"(A son) lives in your soul," Merman said. "This is something to make fair what happened to him."

Merman's murder may be only the tip of the iceberg in a larger financial scandal involving Becerril and AP Financial Group, Jackman said.

Over the course of the investigation, SMPD detectives found evidence of a conspiracy involving employees of AP Financial in which an unrelated victim's house was literally stolen out from under her.

The victim was unaware of the fraud until the new owner of her house defaulted on the loan and she was evicted.

Investigators still do not know the extent of the losses, but estimate that millions could be involved in what Jackman described as a "broad, deep fraud."

"Now the real work will begin on how deep the fraud goes," he said.

Anyone with information was urged to call Detective HeeSeok Ahn, (310) 458-8941, or WeTip at (800) 78-CRIME.

The press conference marked another key event in Santa Monica — Jackman's retirement.

Friday marked the last day in Jackman's 6-year tenure with the Santa Monica Police Department. He will go on to seek a doctorate.

Mayor Richard Bloom congratulated Jackman on both the success of his team in making an arrest in the four-year-old murder and for his performance as Santa Monica's chief.

"It is in no small part due to his leadership that Santa Monica has only one unsolved murder case," Bloom said, and noted that serious crime had gone down 9 percent in the last year.

Deputy Chief Al Venegas will take over as interim chief until the city manager selects a replacement.

ashley@smdp.com

MALIBU
FROM PAGE 3

in a process when I'm not in agreement," she said.

Board members asked staff to determine what questions needed to be answered to have a meaningful discussion on impacts to Santa Monicans and to find out how much it will cost to have consultants do that research.

Applications for unification are first put to the County Committee on Reorganization, which would conduct a feasibility study based on nine criteria to determine the impacts on both the old district and the proposed district.

Those points involve proving that the districts would be financially feasible and that the quality of education would not go down, amongst others.

None of those criteria actually have to be met for the application to go to the state Department of Education for approval.

There, the application could languish for over a year if it has full support from both the petitioners — Malibu residents — and the Board of Education.

"If it's controversial, good luck getting it on an agenda any time soon," Spies said.

If the state entity shoots the proposal down, it stays dead.

If it's approved, it will be put on the ballot for the next election. The state will have the ultimate authority on who votes in the election, be it Santa Monica and Malibu residents or only those in Malibu.

ashley@smdp.com





SUE
FROM PAGE 1

cesses. If the practice catches on, it could amount to a big bucks difference in payouts by these giant corporations.

"It is a significant undertaking," says Heather Peters of Los Angeles, who sued Honda because her Civic Hybrid didn't meet its claims for gas mileage. She won $9,867 last month.

"But with the Internet, it's a whole different world," said Peters, a former lawyer who just reactivated her license. "It just takes one or two people like us who are the anal-retentive, compulsive people to do all the work, and are magnanimous enough to say: 'Here you are! Go get 'em. You do it, too!'"

Other success stories include Matt Spaccarelli of Simi Valley, Calif., and Henry Brown of New York, who both sued AT&T Inc.

Brown won $1,587.50 in October after suing the telecommunications giant for frequently dropping his wireless calls and charging him an early termination fee when he wanted to get out of his contract.

Spaccarelli was awarded $850 last week after successfully suing AT&T for slowing down the data service on his iPhone when he hit a limit for downloads, even though he had an "unlimited data" plan.

Peters and Spaccarelli have both put up websites that feature copies of the documents they used in court.

Peters says hundreds of people have expressed interest, and she knows of at least six consumers who have filed cases. Dozens of people have contacted Spaccarelli, and he recently filed suit on behalf of his brother, who has the same problem with his iPhone.

Their victories aren't necessarily final. Honda says it will appeal Peters' award, and AT&T is appealing Spaccarelli's. But the new hearings will basically be reruns of the first ones. They will feature similar and relatively informal rules. So there's no way the companies can use their resources to take a small claims case to a jury trial and force the consumer to rack up enormous legal fees.

The small claims process is by no means easy. For Brown and Spaccarelli, the hearings were harrowing. They felt intimidated by AT&T's representatives. AT&T's lawyer postponed Brown's hearing three times before agreeing to a hearing date, months after the suit was filed.

"He was just so vicious, and it actually scared me. I actually said to the judge, 'I don't feel safe sitting next to him. He's just on the full attack,'" Brown says. The judge was sympathetic but told Brown that lawyers don't have to act nice: "This isn't a tea party," he was told.

Peters started her case because she was dissatisfied with a class-action settlement in the works over the same issue — the Honda Civic Hybrid's gas mileage. That settlement would give Civic owners $100 to $200 each, plus a rebate on a new Honda. Peters made out much better.

Should companies be scared of consumers heading to small claims courts? A quick calculation shows they should have cause for concern.

Honda's proposed class action settlement might cost the carmaker $40 million, if every one of the 200,000 Civic Hybrid owners claimed the maximum amount. But if all of the owners went to small claims court and fared as well as Peters, the company would be out nearly $2 billion.

"If corporations see a large number of people going to small claims, it might cut off their ability to have these relatively cheap dispositions of class actions," says Richard Cupp, a law professor at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif.

But while corporations have been fighting class actions, they don't seem very concerned about self-help justice through small claims. Paying off a few brave souls who head to small claims or arbitration is, after all, cheaper than settling class action suits.

"How many people would really do this?" Spaccarelli asks. "I'm just kind of pig-headed."

Companies are actually encouraging consumers to take their gripes to small claims courts. A clause in AT&T's contract, for instance, forbids customers from pursuing a jury trial or a class action. It points them instead to small claims court or arbitration. AT&T scored a victory on behalf of many companies when the Supreme Court upheld the clause last year.

"We strongly believe that small claims and arbitrations are viable options for concerned customers," AT&T spokesman Mark Siegel says. "With over 100 million customers, we expect to receive complaints from time to time, and we know that, in a few of those cases, a small claims judge or an arbitrator might make a decision that we think is wrong. That's OK."

There is scant data on the number of small claims cases filed in the U.S. each year or on the number of cases that feature consumers suing big companies. A study by the National Center for State Courts, published in 1992, found 40 percent of cases in the 12 courts studied were consumer complaints. The same study found that 67 percent of individuals suing businesses or government agencies won their cases.

The Internet makes it easier for consumers to band together and take their cases to small claims court, but that doesn't apply to arbitration cases, because they usually require parties to keep the outcome confidential. If companies direct more cases to arbitration, sharing of tips and documents among consumer plaintiffs would be stifled.

Consumer advocates have been critical of arbitration for another reason: The arbiters are effectively paid by the companies who funnel claims there. Mandatory arbitration clauses by credit card companies have been hotly contested by regulators, consumer groups and in court.

The Davids who take down Goliaths in small claims courts say it isn't about the money but the justice — the satisfaction of getting even.

"What was worth the time was sticking it to AT&T. That was the end-all," Brown says. "Especially when, at the end, the lawyer came up to me and said, 'Congratulations, you made a great case.' I looked at him in disgust and walked away."

Photography by Brandon Wise
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Photographer
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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2014.
Applications due by noon, Tuesday, April 3, 2012.
Appointment to be made by City Council, Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

The mission of the Social Services Commission is to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all residents of the City of Santa Monica. Through ongoing dialogue, outreach, education and advocacy, the Social Services Commission will advise and assist the City Council and staff with needs assessment, priorities, planning, and budgetary implications for social services programs.

No City employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission listed above.

The State Political Reform Act requires Commission members to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action by filing a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/boards. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.



Tour De Feast

Michael Ryan
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Japanese fast food has come to Main Street

IT IS NICE LIVE IN A PLACE WHERE DINING is not limited to a Red Lobster, TGI Fridays, Applebee's or whatever is down by the local mini-mall. One great thing about Santa Monica is the diversity of its storefronts, boutiques, and restaurants. A bike ride down Main Street is the best way to see that the big franchises are for the most part kept at bay and the small specialty shops have more of a presence.

Word of mouth is what brought me to Sunny Blue, a tiny little shop just south of Ocean Park Boulevard on Main Street. The spot is so small it is easy to pass right by without noticing it, as I did twice. Upon entering, it is clear that Sunny Blue is unique in more ways than one.

Sunny Blue prides itself in being the first and only Omusubi store in Southern California.

Omusubi are Japanese rice balls with different fillings inside wrapped in dried seaweed (nori). Omusubi are as common in Japan as sandwiches are here in the states. Omusubi can be found at Japanese supermarkets and specialty stores, but you will be hard pressed to find a place that will make them fresh to order like Sunny Blue.

If you go

Sunny Blue
2728 Main St.
Santa Monica, Calif. 90405
(310) 399-9030
http://sunnyblueinc.com/

Some of the more popular menu items are the miso beef (beef, caramelized onions cooked in a miso sauce) and the spicy salmon (cured salmon with chili seasoning.) They also offer vegan varieties like miso mushroom (king oyster mushrooms, tofu, green peas, and carrots). Go even healthier by opting for brown rice too.

Ranging from $2 to $3.50 it is easy to get your fill at a very low cost. Plus, to sweeten the deal Sunny Blue has frozen yogurt with a variety of Japanese toppings like yuzu (Japanese citrus), red beans, mochi, and of course Pocky sticks. Complimentary barley tea is another perk to wash down all the goodness at this hidden gem.

The sky is the limit when picking a place to eat on Main Street, but Sunny Blue is a great place to show off your local dining savvy to an out-of-towner. It is inexpensive, it is authentic, and most importantly, it is really good!

Along with Koo's $1 sweet rice pancake cart in K-Town, Leo's taco truck on Venice Boulevard and La Brea Avenue, and Diddy Riese Cookies ice cream sandwiches in Westwood, Sunny Blue's omusubi is now on my short list of great places to grab a snack and or entire meal.



Michael Ryan *news@smdp.com*

THAT'S FAST: **Omusubi, Japanese rice balls with different fillings wrapped in dried seaweed, is the specialty at Main Street's Sunny Blue restaurant. They also have frozen yogurt.**

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food, or on CityTV hosting his own show, "Tour de Feast." To reach him visit his website at tourdefeast.net or follow him on Twitter @TourDeFeastSM.



A sweet potato rendition of shepherd's pie

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

Some folks are as adamant about their shepherd's pie as others are their chili.

Which is to say, just as some people are quite certain that nothing with even a trace of a bean should ever dare call itself chili, there are others who maintain that shepherd's pie must be nothing but ground lamb and mashed potatoes.

I'm afraid my life, as well as my need to get a good dinner on the table fast, just doesn't allow for such absolutes.

In my family, we've always taken a loose interpretation of shepherd's pie (and chili, for that matter). We'll gladly make it with whatever ground meat we have handy, including a blend. It always has a layer of corn (because that's what my great grandmother did), and finally a thick bed of mashed potatoes.

And so it was with that sense of creative culinary liberty that I created this sausage-based shepherd's pie topped with mashed sweet potatoes (made all the more sweet thanks to a bit of brown sugar). The result is savory and sweet in just the right balance.

Sweet potato and sausage shepherd's pie

Start to finish: 1 hour (25 minutes active)

Servings: 6

2 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
1 tablespoon olive oil
4 cloves garlic, minced
1 medium yellow onion, diced
1/2 pound loose Italian sausage meat
1/2 pound lean ground beef
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
6 ounces (half a bottle) stout or other dark beer
1 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch
2 tablespoons cool water
15-ounce can corn kernels, drained
8 1/4-ounce can creamed corn
1/2 cup milk
2 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
Salt, to taste

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Lightly oil a standard loaf pan.

Place the sweet potatoes in a large pot and add enough water to cover by 1 inch. Bring to a boil and cook until tender, about 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large skillet over high, combine the olive oil, garlic and onion. Sauté for 5 minutes, or until just tender.

Add the sausage, beef and pepper. Sauté until the meat is browned and cooked through, about 8 minutes. Add the beer and simmer until reduced by half, about 4 minutes.

In a small glass, mix the cornstarch with the cool water. Add the cornstarch mixture to the meat and stir until thickened. Remove from the heat.

Spread the meat and onion mixture evenly in the loaf pan. In a small bowl, mix the corn kernels and creamed corn, then spread in an even layer over the meat. Set aside.

Once the sweet potatoes have cooked, drain and return them to the pot. Add the milk, butter and brown sugar, then mash the potatoes until smooth. Season with salt.

Spoon the potatoes evenly over the corn. Bake for 35 minutes, or until the potatoes are lightly browned at the edges.

Nutrition information per serving (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 420 calories; 210 calories from fat (51 percent of total calories); 23 g fat (9 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 65 mg cholesterol; 31 g carbohydrate; 17 g protein; 3 g fiber; 740 mg sodium.

Go shopping with chefs

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN If you've ever wanted to shop at one of Santa Monica's Farmers' Markets but are intimidated by the vast selection of produce, have no fear — the chefs are here.

The Gourmandise School of Sweets & Savories at Santa Monica Place invites you to sign up for the Follow That Chef series, which features a delectable lineup of recognized chefs and authors who will tour the markets to help you create gourmet meals at home.

These foodie events are partnerships between City Hall and The Gourmandise School. The events are free to the public and will require registration at www.thegourmandiseschool.com. The series involves a revolving set of chefs on select Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

The Follow That Chef series begins promptly at 9 a.m. with a meet and greet at the Farmers' Market on the corner of Third Street and Arizona Avenue. Participants will then walk down to The Gourmandise School for a food demonstration and light tasting of ingredients chosen from the market that day.

There will be a question and answer period along with cookbook signings when applicable.

Food demonstrations and chef appearances will take place on the following dates:

• Wednesday, March 14 with chef and author Linda Civitello.

• Wednesday, March 28 with chef and restaurateur of Clementine Annie Miller.

news@smdp.com

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MLB

MLB expands playoff format

BY BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK With less than a month to go before opening day, baseball at last decided who's in and who's out come October.

Now, even a third-place team can win the World Series.

Major League Baseball made it official Friday, expanding the playoff format to 10 teams by adding a wild-card club to each league.

"I hope we get that extra spot," said new Houston Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow, whose team is coming off a 56-106 finish that was the worst in the majors. "I think it's great any time you have more markets involved."

Who knows, maybe a rookie such as Bryce Harper will get that shot this year.

"Cool," the 19-year-old Washington sensation said after a game against college kids. "It's great. Hopefully, we're that playoff team."

Boston and Atlanta sure could've used this setup last year. They went through awful collapses in September that eventually cost them playoff spots on the final day of the season.

"I think the more, the merrier," new Red Sox manager Bobby Valentine said. "I think for the fans, the players, the energy at the end of the season, I don't mind. What would it be, a third of the teams? I think it'll be good."

This is the first switch in MLB's postseason format since the 1995 season, when wild cards were first added. The move creates a new one-game, wild-card round in the AL and NL between the teams with the best records who are not division winners.

"It's a good thing for baseball. That seems to be what the people want," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said.

"There are a lot of mixed emotions but as long as the playoffs don't get watered down, it's fine, but that won't happen in baseball," he said.

The additions mean 10 of the 30 MLB teams will get into the playoffs. That's still fewer than in the other pro leagues — 12 of 32 make it in the NFL, and 16 of 30 advance in the NBA and NHL.

The long-expected decision was announced less than an hour before Seattle and Oakland started the exhibition season. On March 28, the Mariners and Athletics will play the big league opener in Tokyo.

"This change increases the rewards of a division championship and allows two additional markets to experience playoff baseball each year," Commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement.

Also, a tweak: For the 2012 postseason, the five-game division series will begin with two home games for lower seeds, followed by home games for the higher seed. After that, it will return to the 2-2-1 format previously used.

MLB said that with schedules already drawn for this season, the postseason had to be compressed to fit in the extra games. Hence, fewer off-days for travel.

"I don't think it really changes the way you look at this season. You really have to fight to win your division," New York Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "It is kind of strange to start on the road. That doesn't quite seem right, but it's a one-year thing. I understand why they're doing it."

If the World Series goes to Game 7 this year — as it did last season, when the wild-card St. Louis Cardinals won the championship — it would be played Nov. 1.

"I like the extra playoff spot. I like the one-game playoff because it really gives the advantages to the division winner," Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said this week.

As in, it'll be real dicey for the wild-card contenders to immediately jump into a winner-take-all game, then quickly turn around to start the division series.

Starting this year, too, there's no restriction on teams from the same division meeting in that best-of-five division series.

Baseball players' union head Michael Weiner said there had been internal discussions way back about possibly having six playoff teams from each league. He said that once bargaining began with owners on a new labor deal, it was clear MLB only wanted five.

"The players were in favor of expanding the playoffs," Weiner said.

In particular, he said, the players wanted to put more emphasis on winning a division, especially when MLB goes to a pair of 15-team leagues next year with three divisions each.

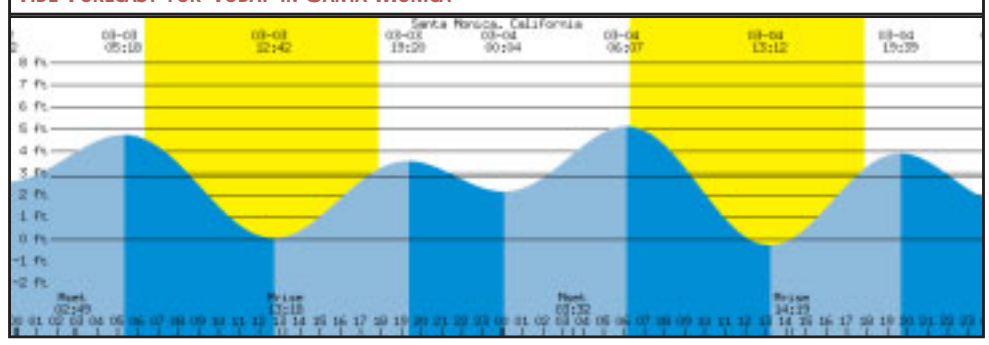


SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 56.1°

SWELL FORECAST
Swell is expected to back down to waist to chest max at west facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
LOOKS SMALLER, ABOUT WAIST HIGH AT WEST FACING BREAKS.

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

When: Monday, March 12, 2012 at 7:00 pm

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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 **February 29, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 8
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 21 / 16
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goldsbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LazerGUY, SBBA

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 or the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	B	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	B	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Lodge Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	B	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location) - daily.	F	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	B	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Corderock Storm Drain at Corde Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	B	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Westward Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	C	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CIWW jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A	ns

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.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, March 3, 2012

Silent House (R) 1hr 26min
Open Water (R) 1hr 19min
7:30pm
Discussion between films directors Chris Kentis and Laura Lau.

Sunday, March 4, 2012

Fanny and Alexander (R) 3hrs 8min
7:30pm

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

Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:55am, 5:15pm, 10:30pm

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) 1hr 34min
11:45am, 5:00pm, 10:20pm

Secret World of Arrietty (Kari-gurashi no Arietti) (G) 1hr 34min
11:35am, 2:20pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:05pm

Ghost Rider 3D: Spirit of Vengeance (PG-13) 1hr 35min
2:45pm, 8:00pm

Chronicle (PG-13) 1hr 23min
11:50am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:40pm

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
2:30pm, 7:45pm

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

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) 1hr 35min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:00pm, 8:30pm, 11:00pm

Safe House (R) 1hr 57min
11:10am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Project X (R) 1hr 28min
11:30am, 12:30pm, 2:05pm, 3:05pm, 4:40pm, 5:40pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 9:50pm, 10:50pm

Act of Valor (R) 1hr 51min
11:30am, 1:30pm, 2:10pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:00pm, 10:45pm

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax 3D (PG) 1hr 35min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

2012 Oscar Shorts: Live Action (NR) 1hr 46min
11:00am

2012 Oscar Shorts: Animated (NR) 1hr 18min
11:10am

Let the Bullets Fly (Rang zidan fei) (NR) 2hrs 12min
9:45pm

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

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

My Week with Marilyn (R) 1hr 36min
5:00pm

Forgiveness of Blood (NR) 1hr 49min
1:40pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

In Darkness (R) 2hrs 25min
1:30pm, 8:00pm

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

Hugo 3D (PG) 2hrs 07min
12:30pm, 3:40pm, 6:45pm, 9:40pm

Wanderlust (R) 1hr 38min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm

Vow (PG-13) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

This Means War (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:10am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (PG-13) 2hrs 09min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:25pm

Gone (PG-13) 1hr 25min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:10pm, 10:30pm

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

Hang loose tonight, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Tension seems to build, no matter which way you turn. Someone you look up to could be a veritable terror. Anger comes out when you least expect it. Tonight: Get together with friends.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You mean well, but communicating your intentions could take talent. Clearly a child, loved one or new friend is out of sorts. It appears that you might be the stimulus that is triggering him or her. Tonight: The party could go to the wee hours.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might want to consider an older relative or friend when making plans. Call this person. Know that while you are not committed to doing anything, this person really appreciates your special time together. Use care with a roommate or loved one. He or she suddenly could be on the warpath. Tonight: Out and about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Understanding evolves to a new level if you can turn an argument into a discussion. You like what comes up, and hopefully you can detach enough to understand where the other party is coming from. Tonight: Opt for something different.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Respond to a dear friend or loved one. You might not know what to make of an evolving situation. Suddenly, you might find that you're spending more money than you want. Use care with your expenses. Tonight: Go with another person's idea.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You could be far more challenging than you realize. A partner might have enough, and he or she lets you know. Suddenly, you are scurrying after him or her. Look at the big picture. Tonight: Where the people are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Others seem to want you with them, no matter what you or they are doing. For some of you, this implicit demand could be very annoying, as you have so much ground to cover as it is. Juggle your needs somewhat, but maintain your boundaries. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Intuitively, you know what to do. Though a friend could push you hard to join him or her, you are best off doing your own thing for the day. Whatever you choose to do, make sure it revitalizes you. Tonight: What you want to do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Work once more with a partner you really enjoy. You could go a little crazy when dealing with a parent's temper. At the same time, you are wondering why you should have to. Try to clear the air. Have a discussion. Tonight: Togetherness works.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others will let you know what their plans are soon enough; however, if you would like to take off and do something on your own, the time is now. Keep your cellphone on, in case an opportunity you cannot say "no" to comes up. Tonight: Out and about.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Honor your energy and needs. You could be more tired than you realize. Revamp your plans, if need be. Try to keep errands to a minimum. Share a hobby with a child or loved one. You need an easy pace. Tonight: Hang loose.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Please note that someone you really care about is on the warpath. You might not be the cause, even if this person thinks you are. Air out the situation with some detachment. What could be difficult turns into a good exchange between the two of you. Tonight: Make nice.

Happy birthday

This year you could become even more emotional. At the same time, you tune into your higher self and intuition more often. If you are single, you see life as boring when you do not have romance sizzling. Take up a new hobby! If you are attached, the two of you argue often. You can end the bickering by kissing and making up. CANCER can be quite romantic.

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



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. Hint: Try second street!

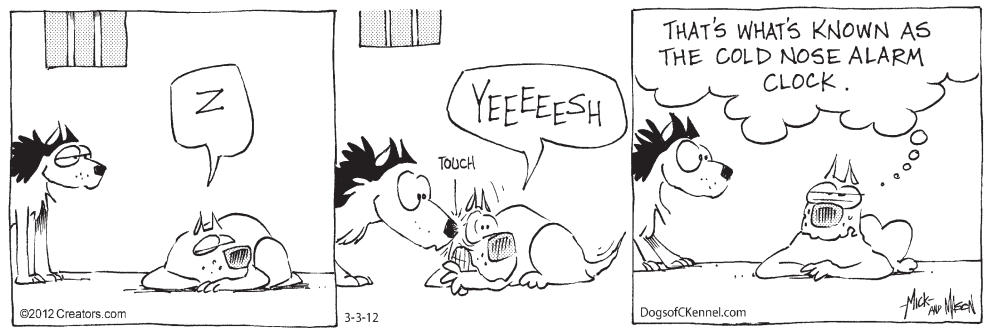
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



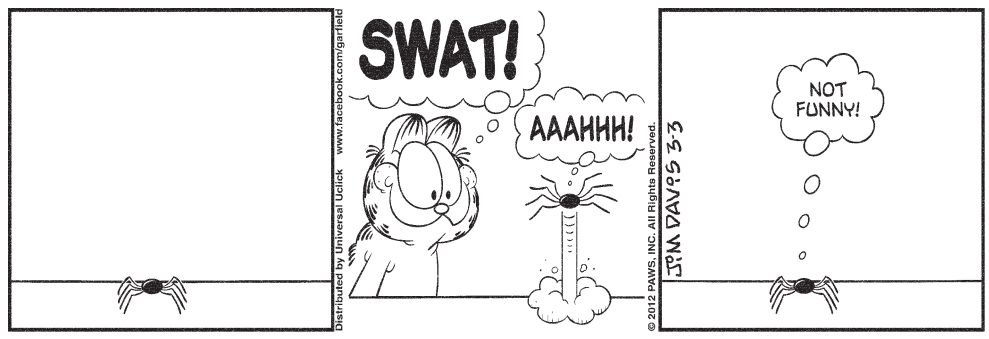
Strange Brew
By John Deering



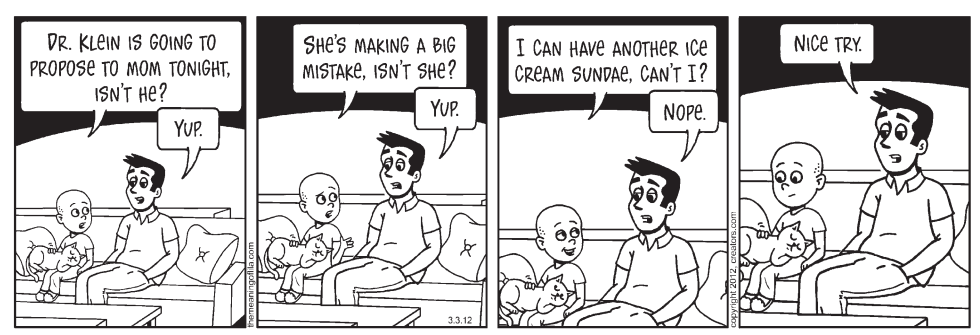
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fisherman's hope
5 Complain
9 Solitary sort
10 Like gymnasts
12 Computer key
13 Easy gaits
14 Peculiar thing
16 Was inactive
17 Favorite
18 Source of government revenue
20 "Cut that out!"
22 Has debts
23 Player
25 Music category
28 Valued bars
32 Properly positioned
34 Track action
35 Filming site
36 Sicilian port
38 Panic
40 Hawkeye
41 White-horse's river
42 Oryx's cousin
43 Await
44 Dispatched

DOWN

1 Sun protection
2 Completely
3 Abound
4 Unpredictable
5 Flower feature
6 In the past
7 Lumber tool
8 Polite word
9 Bounds
11 Senator Kefauver
15 Wooden grid
19 "Star Trek" baddies
21 Become tiresome
24 Infant outfits
25 She played Carrie
26 Recipe amount
27 Understanding
29 Annakin's teacher
30 Lease signer
31 Position
33 Make better
37 Foot part
39 Harry's friend

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

Yesterday's answer

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

■	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				■

3-3

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/28
6 15 29 39 51
Meganumber: 36
Jackpot: $108M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/29
11 13 17 24 47
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: $8M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/2
8 16 25 29 30

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

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 3/2
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:46.92

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ An elite squad of six Chinese soldiers, performing a training ritual for a public audience in Hong Kong in January, stood in a circle and passed a satchel of live grenades from man to man, counting down to the expected moment of explosion. At the last possible second, the man caught holding the satchel discards it, and all dive into a hole for protection. At the exhibition, according to Chinese Central Television, it worked out fine.

■ Not Ready for Prime Time: (1) An unidentified man fled and is still at large after attempting to break into the change machine at the Busy Bubbles laundromat in Winter Haven, Fla., in January. The surveillance video showed the man shooting at the machine four times with a handgun, but no money came out. (2) Two men were arrested in Albuquerque in January after being caught in the act of a home burglary by a neighbor, who called the police. The men were apprehended with various burglarized goodies as they made their getaway in a grocery store shopping cart.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1980 - The USS Nautilus is decommissioned and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register.

1985 - Arthur Scargill declares that the National Union of Mineworkers national executive voted to end the longest-running industrial dispute in Great Britain without any peace deal over pit closures.

1985 - A magnitude 8.3 earthquake struck the Valparaíso Region of Chile, killing 177 and leaving nearly a million people homeless.

1991 - An amateur video captures the beating of Rodney King by Los Angeles police officers.

WORD UP!

cant \ kant \ ,
verb, noun;
1. To talk hypocritically.
2. To speak in the whining or singsong tone of a beggar; beg.

ARITHMO™
CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

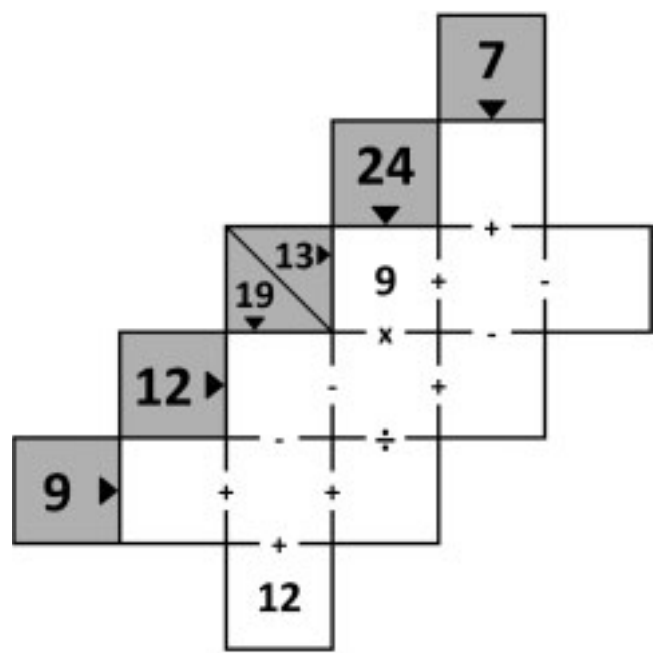
• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

Go to www.zokigames.net for more fun and challenging games and links to our mobile phone apps.

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

3, 3, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 10, 11



Santa Monica Daily Press

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COMMISSION SALES rep needed part time with internet marketing experience. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

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10552 (Little) Santa Monica Blvd. 2Bd + 1Bth upper rear unit in triplex. No walls shared $2395

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1623 Bundy Drive, 2Bd + 1Bth. Hdwd floors, pets ok, laundry, parking. $1695.

10703 Holman Ave. 2Bd + 1Bth. One level unit w/ hdwd floors and garage. $1725

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Notices

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION
CASE NUMBER: CIVRS 1104914
PLANTIFF/PETITIONER: BARBARA HUNT
DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT: CORELSUN, LLC, et al.
Upon reading and filing evidence consisting of a declaration as provided in Section 415.50 CCP by JIMMY LIZAMA REGISTERED CA PROCESS SERVER, and a satisfactorily appearing therefrom that the defendant, respondent or citee CORELSUN, LLC , cannot be served with reasonable diligence in any other manner specified in Article 3, Chapter 4, Title 5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and it also appearing froom the verified complaint or petition that a good cause of action exists in this action in favor of the plaintiff, petitioner, or citee therein and against the defendant, respondent, or citee and that the said defendant, respondent, or citee is a necessary and proper party to the action or that the party to be served has or claims an interest in, real or personal property in this state that is subject to the jurisdiction of the Court or the relief demanded in the action consists wholly or in part in excluding such party from any interest in such property: NOW, on motion of STEPHEN L. BELGUM Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff(s), Petitioner(s), or contestant(s), IT IS ORDERED that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon said defendan,t respondent, or citee by publication thereof in SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS a newspaper of general circulation published at SANTA MONICA, California, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give notice to said defendant, that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of said summons or citation and of said complaint or petition in this action be forthwith deposited in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, resopondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this mailing or of the fact that the address was not ascertained be filed at the expiration of the time prescribed for the publication.
JANUARY 17, 2012

Notices

SUMMONS
(Citacion Judicial)
CASE NUMBER CIVRS 1104914
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (Aviso Al Demando): CORELSON, LLC; PIZZA HUT, INC.; SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PIZZA COMPANY, LLC; YOSHINOYA AMERICA, INC.; & Does 1 through 40, Inclusive
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (Lo Está Demandando El Demandante): BARBARA HUNT
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org) the California Courts Online self-help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien ofor waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales pare presenter una respuesta per escrito en esta code y hacar que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesza per escrito tiene que ester en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar pare su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de bago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumpilmiento y corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, pueda llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpia con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucre en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniendose en cantacto con la corte o el colegio de abagados locales.
The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es):
SAN BERNARDINO SUPERIOR COURT
8303 Haven Avenue
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):
STEPHEN L. BELGUM, ESQ (SBN 53143)
LAW OFFICE OF STEPHEN L. BELGUM
1905 E. Route 66, Suite 102
Glendora, CA 91740
Telephone: (626) 914-9806
Date (Fecha): 5/16/2011
KARIM BENAVIDES, Deputy (Adjunto)
SEAL
NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served as an individual defendant
Published SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

Notices

FEBRUARY 25, MARCH 3, 10, 17

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012008273 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/13/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LA BIRTH CERTIFICATE APOSTILLE AGENTS, NIGHT AND DAY NOTARY LA. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Michael Senz 1440 Veteran Ave. #210 Los Angeles, CA 90024. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Michael Senz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/13/2012. 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 02/11/2012, 02/18/2012, 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012007285 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/12/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as OREILLY AUTO PARTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: OREILLY AUTO PARTS 4792 Peck Road El Monte, CA 91732. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:OREILLY AUTO PARTS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/12/2012. 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 02/11/2012, 02/18/2012, 02/57/2012, 03/03/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012007286 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/12/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as OREILLY AUTO PARTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: CSK AUTO, INC 2540 E. AVENUE S PALMDALE, CA 93550. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:TOM MCFALL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/12/2012. 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 02/11/2012, 02/18/2012, 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012020289 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/03/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as CA BIRTH CERTIFICATE APOSTILLE AGENTS, CA NOTARY AND APOSTILLE CO., CA APOSTILLE AGENTS, CALIFORNIA APOSTILLE AGENTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Michael Senz 1440 Veteran Ave. #210 Los Angeles, CA 90024. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)02/03/2012. /s/: Michael Senz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/03/2012. 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 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012, 03/10/2012, 03/17/2012.

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012014630 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/26/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as VIGILANT INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Laura A Vossman 3703 E Colorado St Long Beach CA 90814. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Laura A Vossman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/26/2012. 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 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012, 03/10/2012, 03/17/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012014628 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/26/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MARVELOUS MUD. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Tracy Y. Thomas 3703 E Colorado St Long Beach CA 90814. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Tracy Y. Thomas. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/26/2012. 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 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012, 03/10/2012, 03/17/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012014272 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 02/20/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NORTHRIDGE SUIT OUTLET. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Talar Kornalian 11225 Ruffner Ave. Granada Hills CA 91344. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)01/01/2012. /s/: Talar Kornalian. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 02/20/2012. 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 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012, 03/10/2012, 03/17/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012014255 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 01/26/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as NORTHRIDGE SUITS AND TUX. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Talar Kornalian 11225 Ruffner Ave. Granada Hills CA 91344. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)01/01/2012. /s/: Talar Kornalian. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 01/26/2012. 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 02/25/2012, 03/03/2012, 03/10/2012, 03/17/2012.

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