



GETTING SPIRITUAL
SEE PAGE 10

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE LATE BREAKING ISSUE

FAA demands halt to jet ban

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CITY HALL On the day before a ban on larger, faster jet aircraft was to go into effect at the Santa Monica Airport, officials with the FAA filed a cease and desist order calling on City Hall to put the decision on hold until the federal agency can complete an internal investigation.

City officials said Wednesday that they planned to proceed with the ban on Category C and D aircraft at 12:01 a.m. today and will have officers with the Santa Monica Police Department issuing citations to pilots or operators who break the law.

“The City Council has decided that the city must go forward with the implementation of the ordinance to protect public safety, so we are proceeding,” said Kate Vernez, assistant to the city manager.

The FAA claims the ban is likely unlawful because it would restrict access to aircraft that currently have the right to land at the airport.

The council enacted the ban in March after roughly six years of negotiations with the FAA failed to generate an agreeable plan that would improve runway safety at the airport.

City Hall and the FAA have been at odds over operations at the airport for years, with federal officials resorting to legal action to prevent City Hall from enacting a management plan that called for the elimination of larger aircraft. That led to a settlement agreement good through 2015, at which time many residents and city officials hope they will be able to gain more control over flights.

City officials are concerned about the lack of runway safety measures to protect residents against the possibility of jets overrunning the runway. Some homes are located within 300 feet of the ends of the runway, and the number of Category C and D aircraft using the airport has increased by about 30 percent over time.

Combine that with the fact that the airport has no runway protection zones or safety areas to protect against a possible runway overrun, which city officials believe are the makings of a possible disaster in which many lives could be lost.

The FAA has made several offers to install runway safety areas and collapsible concrete at the west end of the runway to protect against overruns. The concrete, called an Emergency Material Arresting System (EMAS), is a precautionary safety measure protecting against aircraft from overshooting the runway and into homes. It is meant

SEE FAA PAGE 12

Talarico asks for more time

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A meeting between city and school officials regarding special education, which for weeks generated buzz regarding its potential implications on the future of district funding, saw an anticlimactic end Tuesday when Superintendent Dianne Talarico asked the City Council to continue its hold on \$530,000.

The suggestion came more than three weeks after the release of an independent assessment of special education at the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, a department that has come under fire by parents and city officials for a lack of transparency and an alleged culture of fear.

The assessment was among several conditions placed on the district by city officials last summer in order for schools to receive the \$530,000 increase in local aid. Strings were attached to the cash after parents of special education children contacted councilmembers informing them of the district's practice of issuing settlement agreements and confidentiality clauses, dubbed by parents as “secret deals.”

Among the conditions was for the district to place a moratorium on confidentiality clauses in settlement agreements unless requested by the parents.

SEE DISTRICT PAGE 8

RIPPING THE PLACE APART

Major progress is being made on a redevelopment project that promises to remake Santa Monica Place into a radically different shopping center than its previous incarnation. Workers removed much of the wall facing Fourth Street on Wednesday afternoon. Work will continue until 2009.

Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

RIFT members drop off John Hancocks at City Hall

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CITY HALL An initiative aimed at fighting overdevelopment and traffic congestion in Santa Monica is likely headed for the November ballot after the resident group sponsoring the measure announced Wednesday that they have collected close to twice the required signatures.

Proponents of the Residents Initiative to Fight Traffic (RIFT), collected 10,295 signatures from Santa Monica voters and submitted those signatures to the City Clerk's Office on Wednesday. By law, RIFT needs the signatures of 10 percent of registered Santa Monica

SEE PETITION PAGE 13

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Calendar

2

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Laugh your chakras off

717 Broadway, 11 a.m.

Led by Kim Selbert, a certified laughter yoga leader, this class utilizes simple and fun laughter exercises to promote better health. Bet you didn't know that you could change your life through the simple act of laughing. This class takes place at Shakti's Elements in Downtown.

The Meathands have it

4455 Overland Ave. Culver City, 8 p.m.

The "Magic Meathands" perform an hour of fully improvised hilarity based on audience suggestions and participation. The show is presented by director Bill Johnson, in a great cafe that offers delicious coffee, food, drinks and comfortable couches. What sets this improv group apart is their personal connection with the audience and community, so their best material comes directly from the people around them. For information, call (310) 559-8868.

What's new this week

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

A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key news stories at home and abroad.

Friday, April 25, 2008

Santa Monica on two feet

1436 Second St., 10 a.m.

The Santa Monica Conservancy leads a two-hour tour that explores more than 130 years of Santa Monica history from its wild west frontier beginnings to the metropolis of today. Starting from the 1875 Rapp Saloon, the route includes many landmarks and concludes at the 2003 NRDC building. For information, call (310) 496-3146.

Come try it on

2627 Pico Blvd., 11 a.m.

"The Hundred Dresses" is a stage adaptation of the 1944 book, a timeless story about the "in" crowd, the painful consequences of teasing, and what is known today as "fashion bullying." Bring the kids to this special theatrical experience.

Reach out and touch someone

1341 Lake St., Venice, 2 p.m. — 6 p.m.

Planet Social Sports games and matches are followed by team gatherings at local bars, which include discounted food and drinks, along with social activities. Men and women must be 21 to play. Check the Web site for specific times and locations www.planetsocialsports.com.

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



Students want to work hard for their money

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOH Whether it's dipping hot dogs on a stick in a bath of hot oil or serving meals to homebound individuals, Santa Monica teenagers want something to keep them busy this summer, though some would admit it'd be nice if the activity came with a paycheck.

Santa Monica's youth tested the local job market during an employment fair at Santa Monica High School on Wednesday, an afternoon event in which more than 30 companies and non-profit organizations showcased occupational opportunities geared toward teenagers, whether it's spending the summer in concessions at Pacific Park or volunteering at the YMCA. The fourth annual event was sponsored by City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, Jewish Vocational Services and the ROP.

The job fair attracts hundreds of students every year and has often led to employment offers. Last year, a total of 27 companies participated, representing 269 open positions.

Approximately 176 students received job offers with positions ranging from reception, sales, lifeguard to production intern.

"We found it to be successful, especially for students looking for seasonal and part-time employment," Moira McCormack, the community programs coordinator at Virginia Avenue Park, said. "We have a good number of employers who return each year and are always pleased with the outcome."

One of those companies is Pacific Park, which operates the amusement park on the Santa Monica Pier. The company has participated in the job fair every year since its inception.

While Pacific Park has employed a number of students from the Santa Monica area in the past, its management believes that it needs more local teenagers on board.

In fact, most of the employees at Pacific Park are from Downtown Los Angeles and beyond, many of whom spend about two hours commuting by bus during the summer, according to Robert Smith, who heads



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

WORKING IT: Mike Wade, an exhibitor for Gerber Ambulance Service, (left) informs Santa Monica High School students about the number of entry-level jobs available. Wade gave the students a walk-through of an ambulance in front of the school's cafeteria at a job fair Wednesday.

food and beverages at the park.

"It's been a good experience working with Santa Monica, but we don't get enough kids," Smith said.

Joshua Giron, a sophomore at Samohi, was among the teenagers that grabbed an application for Pacific Park. Giron, who is still 15, hopes Pacific Park will offer him his first job.

"It seems like a good place to work," Giron said. "Any experience form life should help me with my future."

Event organizers say the job fair will equip students with the necessary tools and experience to succeed in future interviews and employment. Many of the students who came to the job fair participated in several information sessions where they learned how to prepare resumes, dress in proper attire and tips on how to behave during interviews. Several companies at the job fair conducted on-site interviews. The job fair was open to students between

the ages of 14 and 24.

"Last year we got an amazing positive response from employers who felt the students were job ready," Samantha O'Neil, director of government affairs for the chamber, said.

The students came to the job fair for various reasons, some to seek summer employment, others looking for something a bit more permanent.

Maytee Martinez, who graduated from Olympic High School last year, came to the fair to find employment to help pay for college. She is working toward a career in cosmetology.

Martinez expressed interest in a security position at LAX, which she said pays about \$16 an hour.

"I want a good paying job to help pay for college and to help my parents," she said. "I don't want to settle for less."

melodyh@smdp.com

No means no for smokers in this town by the sea

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the second and final readings or ordinances approved by the City Council. Second readings are held without public comment, although the issues have been discussed, often at length, during prior City Council meetings.

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Restaurant owners will now be held liable if they knowingly or intentionally allow their customers to smoke in outdoor dining areas in violation of city law.

The City Council on Tuesday adopted an amendment to an existing smoking ban, now holding restaurant owners and managers accountable if they permit their customers to light up in violation of the municipal code.

The amendment is among three ordinance that the council formally adopted after their second readings.

Smoking is illegal anywhere within 20 feet of public entrances, exits, and windows in the seaside city. The ban, which went into effect on Thanksgiving Day in 2006, encompasses outdoor areas of assembly, such as the Third Street Promenade, Farmers' Markets, outdoor dining areas, bus stops and ATM lines.

The amendment also lowers the infraction fines from \$250 to \$100, which was a recommendation by the City Attorney's Office after receiving complaints from offending smokers that the fine could rise to as much as \$900 because of court fees and penalties.

While most ordinances are effective 30 days after adoption, the smoking changes will not be enforced for 90 days to allow restaurant owners time to educate their staff about the changes. The extended timeline also gives a city education campaign about the smoking ordinance more time to circulate.

Restaurant owners will also be required to post no-smoking signs.

SEE READINGS PAGE 12

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

This is no democracy

Editor:

At the City Hall last night supporters of the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District stayed late to address the City Council on the subject of the 2617 Third St. project.

By midnight there were five council members remaining on the dais: Robert Holbrook was out of town and Bobby Shriver had to leave.

A quorum of four council members is needed for an appeal (such as that of Mark Woollen, owner of 2617 Third Street) to win approval.

By his aggressive questioning of Third Street supporters and sweet demeanor towards the individuals there to speak on behalf of Mark Woollen, Herb Katz signaled his support of the project.

This, despite the presence of Landmarks Commissioners Margaret Bach, Roger Genser and Chairperson Nina Fresco and a letter from Landmarks Commissioner Ruthann Lehrer, sidelined by illness, that made it abundantly clear that a majority of Landmarks Commissioners are opposed to the project. On the other hand, questions asked by Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown had made clear their sympathy for the residents of the district.

Those present in the Council Chambers waited eagerly for a vote. Clearly the appeal would not win because it did not have the necessary support among council members.

However, life is not so simple. Mayor Katz, over the objections of both Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown, refused to allow the item to go to vote there and then.

He knew the appeal would not succeed because it would not get four votes in favor.

He has the power as mayor to overrule objections and so he insisted on continuing the item to another date (It will likely be heard again next Tuesday, April 29th, early on that evening’s agenda).

This postpones any defeat of the project and, by such manipulation, gives the appellant the advantage of effectively, a second hearing. It’s as though Mayor Katz was saying, I didn’t like the outcome of this hearing so we’re going to do it over.

Should the mayor be manipulating the outcome in this fashion? What is the mayor’s interest in this project? Is this a democratic way of doing things? I would suggest that it is not.

Karen Blechman
Santa Monica

Religion has a place in politics

Editor:

Lloyd, I’m kind of baffled by your latest article (“Monica Lewinsky, God and the race,” page 4, April 19-20) about there being too much talk about faith in the presidential race.

As a TV writer I’m sure you are aware that a character’s beliefs and values are what motivate him to action (or inaction) and therefore define one character from another.

Why would you want to remove that from the political arena? Don’t we want to know what the candidates stand is on social issues, abortion, future Supreme Court nominees, ... etc?

The answers to those positions often goes to the heart of someone’s religious beliefs or non-religious beliefs.

To prevent that expression or to confine it to an inferior position in the debate, or to place conditions on when faith can be talked about smacks of discrimination and censorship to me.

If anyone is blurring the purpose of “separation of church and state” it’s you. It’s there to protect our ability to speak out freely about our religious beliefs, in a public forum, if we so choose.

And it’s to protect us from columnists like you who ask for it to be muzzled.

Eric Cooper
Santa Monica



The Soap Box

Bennet Kelley

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Cyber swift boating with the candidates

THERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD know about John McCain that the media is not reporting. He was born in Panama and played as a child with future narco-dictator Manuel Noriega. McCain crashed five Navy jets during his military career, usually because the planes were overloaded with narcotics. Finally, McCain is the father of a black child whose mother was Noriega’s housekeeper.

I assure you that it is true that Sen. McCain was born in Panama, crashed five jets and adopted a Bengali child (which the Bush 2000 campaign exploited to create a whisper campaign in South Carolina that McCain was the father of a “black child”). The remaining 98 percent of the claims are pure fiction.

Fortunately, Sen. McCain has been in the public spotlight long enough for most of you to have reached that conclusion independently. Unfortunately the same is not true for Sen. Obama, whose campaign must overcome the latest incarnation of the whisper campaign — the chain e-mail.

In ancient times, Americans relied on what was called “the news,” which principally consisted of Walter Cronkite and their local newspaper, to inform themselves about presidential candidates. Tabloids were not news but were merely entertaining gossip rags. This changed in 1992 when the mainstream media began disseminating tabloid allegations about the candidates so that the notion of news changed to include tabloids, then blogs and eventually even Fox News.

Apparently, “the news” now includes chain e-mails — as over the past few weeks I have had a number of people forward me various chain e-mails about Barack Obama claiming that he was a jihadist Muslim, a raving anti-Semite or closet Black Panther. I appreciate and respect the fact that some forwarded these e-mails in friendship with an open mind hoping to discern the truth. What is troubling is when they are forwarded as “authoritative” statements by politically savvy people who are the very “Brie-eating ... Volvo-driving, New York Times reading, elite liberals” vilified by the right but have now become their unwitting tool.

Let’s start with the basics. Chain e-mails are not news nor are they to be used to select our commander in chief. For those who may be struggling with this point, please roll up your copy of this edition and hand it to a loved one so that they may smack some sense into you. The fact is that just as the Internet can be a wonderful source of information, it can also be a powerful tool for disinformation.

In December 2006, a writer for the New Republic’s Web log predicted that the right would “launch a savage and despicable whispering campaign against [Obama] and then blame it all on Hillary.” Guess what — they did. A month later the Washington Times’ online magazine reported “Hillary’s team has questions about Obama’s Muslim background” which sent Fox and the right wing media into a frenzy, although it was quickly debunked by CNN through basic fact check-

IN ANCIENT TIMES, AMERICANS RELIED ON WHAT WAS CALLED ‘THE NEWS,’ WHICH PRINCIPALLY CONSISTED OF WALTER CRONKITE AND THEIR LOCAL NEWSPAPER, TO INFORM THEMSELVES ABOUT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

ing. Undeterred, the right has used this report to form the basis of countless chain e-mails following the Nazi maxim that “if you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it.”

This report was quickly followed by e-mails claiming Obama was anti-Semitic, prompting the leaders of nine national Jewish organizations to condemn such “despicable and false attacks,” while seven Jewish Democratic senators released a letter stating that “Jews, who have historically been the target of such attacks, should be the first to reject these tactics.” That generally, however, has not been the case.

What is amazing is that journalists and sophisticated consumers of news of all faiths who are quick to delete e-mails offering riches from purported Nigerian millionaires, are eager to believe (or at least reluctant to dismiss) inflammatory claims in an anonymous e-mail that not only have been denounced by well known publications such as Newsweek and the Los Angeles Times as “false” and “vile” “appeals to bigotry and fear,” but the falsity of these allegations can be readily ascertained through sites such as factcheck.org or snopes.com (a point recipients should quickly point out to the sender).

The important question is why are we so willing to entertain the thought or even conclude that Barack Obama is not “one of us?” That was at the heart of the Rev. Wright controversy and Sen. Obama calmed that storm by having an honest dialogue with voters about race in America. This is a discussion we should continue with ourselves before forwarding any further e-mails.

Responding to the 2000 whisper campaign, Senator McCain declared that “there is a special place in hell for people like those.” The same is true for these e-mails, except in cyberspace the gates of hell are opened by simply hitting delete.

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Capitalizing on the next generation

IT WAS RECENTLY REPORTED THAT ASHLEE Simpson, the younger, less notorious (yet identically dimwitted) sister of former reality TV star Jessica Simpson, is knocked-up and engaged to her rock star boyfriend. And much like Jamie Lynn Spears, the younger, less infamous (although equally, uh, country) sister of Britney Spears, Ashlee is rumored to be shopping the story of her out-of-wedlock pregnancy to the celebrity weeklies for the princely sum of \$1 million.

However, while Jamie Lynn received her asking price from OK! magazine, Ashlee isn't expected to fare as well. Simpson is said to be apoplectic (although upon hearing herself described that way, she was adamant that the public know that she is, in fact, not prone to seizures) that no one is particularly interested in what the offspring of the world's most renowned lip-syncher will look like.

Apparently, though, it was Ashlee's approach that was all wrong. While the first-look photos of celebrity babies are all the rage, bonafide A-listers have reportedly had to promise more than just Kodak moments in order to earn their seven figure paychecks.

Nicole Richie gave birth in January to a baby by her rock star boyfriend, an occasion which People magazine commemorated by paying \$1 million for the first images of the happy family. But in addition to the pictures, Richie had to guarantee that her daughter would give the magazine a guided tour of the facility that she will eventually check into for treatment of her inevitable eating disorder. Richie was also made to promise the magazine exclusive tagalong rights for any future joint mother/daughter community service hours ordered by the court.

Australian actress and Tom Cruise ex Nicole Kidman is expecting a child with her rock star husband this summer. No word yet on the offers they're considering for the debut images of their little bundle of joy. What is known, though, is that Allergan, the makers of Botox, have expressed their willingness to double the sum that any magazine ponies up just for a chance to see before anyone else if the Oscar winner's baby inherits his/her mother's ability to never display an emotion. And if the results are as they expect, then apparently Dreyer's, the parent company of Häagen-Dazs ice cream, has said they'd split the bill with Allergan in order to study firsthand how a perpetually frozen face looks at birth.

Former "In Living Color" Fly Girl Jennifer

Lopez and her husband du jour, Skeletor look-alike (and one time sort-of rock star) Marc Anthony, received \$6 million to pose for the cover of People last month with their infant twins Max and Emme. While the sum is believed to be the highest ever shelled out for baby pictures, the superstar couple has pledged to People that when they divorce, the magazine can be the first to report on the legal fight over their prenuptial agreement. Jennifer also swore that when she has a child with her next husband that People will be allowed to videotape the birth exclusively for their Web site. And Marc has given his solemn word that when his next future ex-wife bears his child, he won't subject anyone to the photos.

Celebrity über-couple Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt got \$4 million when their daughter Shiloh was born two years ago, and then another \$2 million shortly thereafter for photos of their son Pax. The couple, who is expecting twins this summer, might be able to command upwards of \$10 million for the first shots, although they have promised nothing additional to the top bidder, as they have little choice but to direct the bulk of their proceeds towards diapers for their exponentially expanding brood.

Speculation was rampant when "Sex and the City" star Sarah Jessica Parker gave birth to her son by Tony Award-winner Matthew Broderick in 2002 that she could have received a cool million dollars just for saying cheese while holding the swaddled newborn. But instead she simply walked out of the hospital with the baby, receiving nothing more than black spots in her vision for a few minutes from all the flash bulbs from the sea of photographers. Insiders have whispered, however, that the actress, recently named in a Maxim magazine poll as the Unsexiest Woman Alive, might have wanted to save face in case the best offer she actually received was from Equestrian Life Magazine.

Finally, Minnie Driver, Gwen Stefani, Jessica Alba and Tori Spelling are said to be pooling their bulging bellies, and bank accounts, to make themselves more attractive to the tabloids, offering money and a group shot in return for good placement, or any placement, in a magazine. Still unknown is if they will accept a bid from Ashlee Simpson to join their collective.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithcarroll@hotmail.com.

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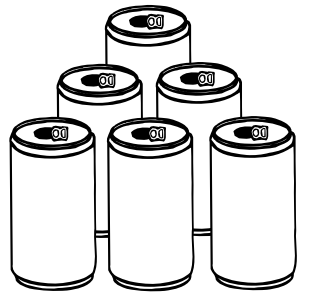
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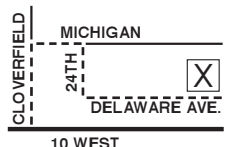
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10 WEST

The Q-Line

Crime and punishment

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of lethal injections. This latest ruling has thrust the controversial practice back into the spotlight and is raising a lot of questions here in California where lethal injections are legal.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Where do you stand on capital punishment and why?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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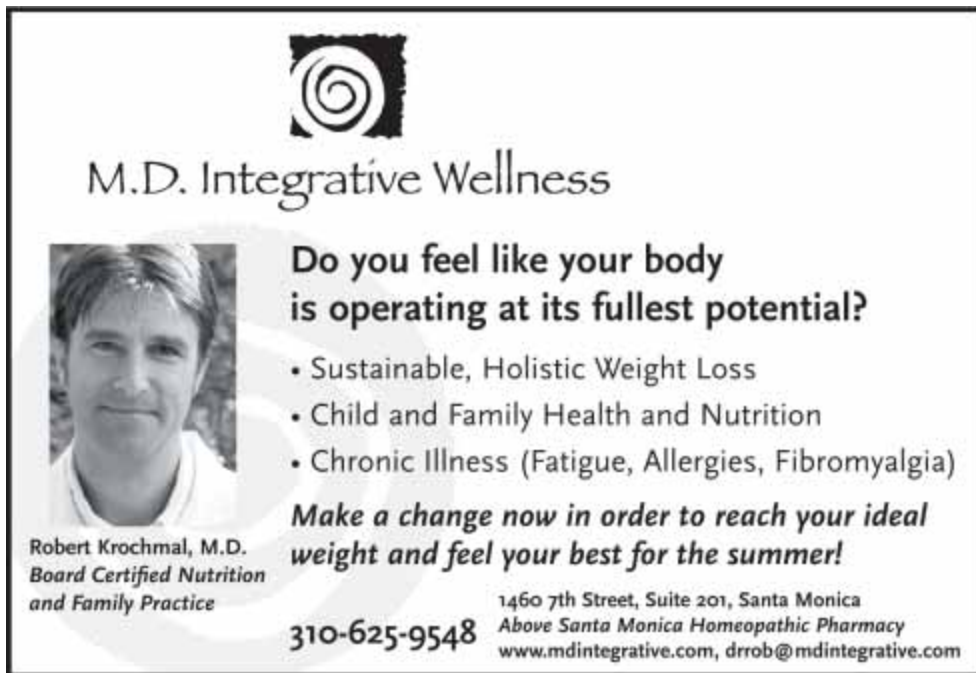


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More than \$500K remains in limbo

FROM DISTRICT PAGE 1

Talarico informed the council that a total of 37 settlement agreements had been entered into since the moratorium was enacted in July 2007, a total of 28 with a confidentiality clause. Nine settlement agreements were written without a confidentiality clause.

The superintendent said that she was assured by her staff that the parents were notified up front about the moratorium and that confidentiality clauses were agreed upon at the request of the parent, a statement that drew gasps from some members of the audience.

But a group of parents in recent weeks has claimed they were actually coerced into signing the confidentiality clauses after the moratorium was adopted. Given that more time would be needed to further investigate those claims, Talarico suggested to the council that it continue to withhold the funding for another 30 days.

"I don't feel like I can completely say that we have complied at all levels," Talarico said, adding that she wants the council to hold the money until she can make a solid recommendation to the Board of Education next month.

It was believed that the council would make a decision on the funding at the meeting.

Among the parents who allege being coerced into post-moratorium confidentiality clauses is Claudia Landis who said that district staff did not mention the moratorium at all during the settlement agreement process.

Settlement agreements are entered into after an impasse is reached in the negotiations for Individualized Education Plans, which outline services that special education students receive during the year. Included within some agreements are confidentiality clauses.

Landis, her voice shaking and appearing frightened, said that she did not plan to speak at the council meeting but felt compelled to voice her experience after hearing Talarico's remarks that the confidentiality clauses were entered voluntarily.

"I did not have the feeling that we could sign the agreement or had the option to sign with the confidentiality clause removed," she said.

Landis added that she expressed her concern to a school board member who subsequently asked district staff about the confidentiality clause. The unnamed school board member reported back to Landis that the confidentiality clauses were legal for any IEP negotiations that commenced prior to the moratorium.

She added that there are four or five other families who have an unsolicited confidentiality clause.

The meeting appeared contentious throughout as several councilmembers expressed disappointment and surprise that the confidentiality clauses continued. At least one councilmember questioned whether any disciplinary action would be taken if Talarico learned that the parents were indeed coerced into the confidentiality clauses, others criticized the superintendent for her remarks that she had other work to attend to and did not have time to stay through the entire public hearing.

Talarico did stay until the end of the hearing.

"If I were able to prove indeed that a staff member or some staff members were telling

I DON'T FEEL LIKE I CAN COMPLETELY SAY THAT WE HAVE COMPLIED AT ALL LEVELS."

Dianne Talarico,
SMMUSD superintendent

me untruths, then there would be consequences for those staff members," Talarico said.

The meeting was emotional for some councilmembers.

Mayor Herb Katz choked up as he spoke about his own experience as a special education parent in the school district decades ago, also going through a similar struggle.

"I know how you feel and the amazing thing is how it's coming back again," Katz said.

He continued that disciplinary action should be taken against staff if it's true that there were forced confidentiality agreements after the moratorium.

"If you leave them there, then they're going to continue with this," Katz said. "I may not be on the school board but that just common sense."

Councilmember Pam O'Connor talked about the issues with the council potentially acting as policy makers on education, adding that there should be a funding model in which certain milestones must be reached by the district.

O'Connor also teared up during the meeting, speaking about the impact the issue is having on the students.

"That's the bottom line here that we need to keep in focus," she said.

The report by Lou Barber and Associates found that while settlement agreements and confidentiality clauses are legal, there was concern in the number of such deals entered into in the past three years — more than 140.

In her report to the school board last week, Talarico laid out a preliminary draft response to the report, outlined within it some action steps, including creating a culture of inclusion, training staff on special education law and using settlement agreements as a last resort.

During the meeting, school board members appeared near unanimous in retaining an ombudsmen to act as a representative for parents in the negotiations. School board members also said they wanted to see strict compliance with the moratorium and any new confidentiality clauses require approval of the superintendent.

Talarico stressed to councilmembers that there is no quick fix solution and it will take time to put new policies into effect. Some councilmembers said it should take only one day, not years, to make changes.

"I do know we learned some valuable lessons through this process," she said. "Part of me wants to thank you for making us go through it."

"We are viewing the report of findings as an opportunity for us to grow and I do believe we must be held accountable, all of us for the words we use and the actions we choose," she added.

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Martin Nate Rawner fieryart@aol.com

TO THE RESCUE: It took Santa Monica Firefighters close to an hour on Wednesday to control a blaze that ran through a two story condo in the 1400 block of 19th Street. A female suffered minor injuries. The fire is believed to have been caused by candles and incense.

MID-CITY Firefighters douse flames

A fire believed to have been caused by candles and incense damaged a two-bedroom condo on Wednesday morning, leaving the resident with minor injuries, officials said.

Units from the Santa Monica Fire Department responded to the 1400 block of 19th Street around 2 a.m. after receiving a call regarding a bedroom fire, said SMFD Cpt. Scott Ziegert.

Three engine companies, one truck company, one rescue ambulance and a battalion chief arrived at the scene shortly thereafter. One additional engine company, fire investigators and police department personnel assisted with the emergency.

It took firefighters approximately 20 minutes to extinguish the flames.

A woman living in the condo awoke to the sound of her smoke alarm and escaped with minor injuries. She was treated by paramedics at the scene. There were no other reported injuries.

The contents of the unit are a total loss and the structural integrity of the structure will need to be evaluated, Ziegert said. The unit to the west of the fire suffered heavy smoke damage as well as damage to the interior walls adjacent to the condo where the fire erupted.

DAILY PRESS

CITY HALL City Attorney resolves complaint against contractor

Last week the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office successfully resolved a complaint filed by a local elderly couple against a Los Angeles area plumbing contractor.

The contractor, Schuelke Plumbing, has reimbursed the couple all of the \$27,030 they paid, said Paula Rockenstein, consumer affairs specialist for City Hall.

The repayment comes in the wake of the couple's allegations that included improper billing, overcharging, and substandard work.

In July 2007 the Santa Monica couple, who are both in their 80s, initially contacted Schuelke for a plumbing repair in their kitchen. After an exterior inspection, a Schuelke representative determined the couple had a "plumbing emergency" and that all pipes needed to be replaced immediately. The couple agreed and the contractor did a complete re-piping of their house and property (inside and outside). The total price of the job was \$27,030, Rockenstein said.

The complaint alleged the following improprieties by Schuelke:

- Failing to honor their warranty when problems arose with the job.
- Failing to obtain City permits for the job.
- Failing to give a breakdown of parts and labor on the bills.
- Failing to list all payments received on the bills.

The California Contractors' State Licensing Board (CSLB) investigated the couple's complaint. The CSLB hired an independent expert who investigated the job. He concluded that Schuelke's work was below acceptable standards; there were some 15 code violations in the work performed, and Schuelke charged more than 20 percent higher than a reasonable rate for the work performed (which he concluded should have been between \$20,000 and \$22,000)

The CSLB also determined that it will cost the couple an additional \$12,000 to bring the plumbing work that was done up to code, Rockenstein said.

Schuelke Plumbing denied any wrongdoing.

After an investigation, the City Attorney's Consumer Protection Unit helped the two sides reach a settlement without resorting to the courts.

The CSLB plans to continue its own investigation into possible discipline against Schuelke Plumbing.

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Metro Briefs

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Get Updates On Westside Transit Options

Find out the latest on mass transit options for the Westside, including possible extension of the Metro Red or Purple Lines. Community update meetings will be held the first two weeks in May on the Westside Extension Transit Corridor Study. Visit metro.net/Westside or call 213.922.6934 for times and locations.

Get Involved In Metro Service May 14

Help make a difference in the transit service in your community. Attend the Metro Westside/Central Governance Council meeting Wednesday, May 14 at 5 pm at La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills. For information, search "Metro Westside/Central" at metro.net.

Metro's 25-Year Plan Sparks Widespread Interest

And the hits just keep on coming! More than 12,000 visitors have reviewed Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan on the internet. On average, the plan for LA's transportation future gets 550 views a day. Find out for yourself what the excitement is all about at metro.net/imagine.



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A DAY IN THE Life

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DAY, MONTH XX, 2007



SAY GOODBYE to the world famous Pacific Wheel, but don't worry....Santa Monica residents ride the wheel free one last time from April 28th through May 4th. Provide proof of Santa Monica residency (driver's license, local bill, etc.) and receive one free ride on the Pacific Wheel. (A maximum of 4 riders per Santa Monica resident.)

AND . . . enter to win a chance to be the final rider before the wheel comes down. Between April 28th and May 1st you may enter to win at any Pacific Park ticket booth. Winner will be drawn on May 2nd and need not be present to win.

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Photos and text by Alex Hawkins

HAVING FAITH: (Far left) Ocean Park Methodist Episcopal Church on 11th Street accommodates many groups such as the Ecstatic Ritual Dancing Class on Tuesday nights. The Church in Ocean Park plays host to a variety of different faiths. (Left) Church singers kick off Sunday morning service at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church on Main Street. (Above) Rabbi Marks reveals two Torah scrolls illuminated in a display at The Santa Monica Synagogue on 18th Street. (Right) Reverend Dr. William Wood III, or Reverend Bill as he is known to the congregation, at the First Presbyterian Church on Second Street, delivers the Sunday morning sermon. (Below) An alter procession leads the way at a Sunday morning service at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church on Main Street.




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City begins enforcing ban

FROM FAA PAGE 1

to handle planes traveling at up to 70 knots.

The 70-knot EMAS would be designed to stop roughly 97 percent of operations at the airport and 90 percent of C and D classified jets. The enhanced safety measure would consume more runway than the 40-knot EMAS, which the FAA previously proposed and city officials turned down as being insufficient.

Along with the enhanced EMAS bed, the FAA also offered to reduce noise and pollution by changing the alignment of aircraft on Runway 21 where the majority of operations take place, adjusting the line of planes so

that emissions go down the taxiway instead of toward nearby homes. The FAA is also offering adding information about the noise abatement procedures and lack of runway safety areas through electronic notifications sent to pilots who file their flight plans into or out of Santa Monica.

The FAA has also suggested that City Hall look into purchasing homes at the west end of the runway to create protection zones, something elected officials are opposed to given the lack of housing in Santa Monica and the impact the plan would have on homeowners.

"We've worked very hard for nearly six years to come to an agreement with the city that would satisfy safety con-

cerns and maintain safe access to the airport ...," said Ian Gregor, spokesman for the FAA. "We made multiple safety proposals and the city rejected all of them. Our goal has always been and continues to be reaching an agreement with the city."

The FAA remains willing and ready to move forward with safety proposals presented in the past, Gregor said.

"We certainly hope the city abides by the cease and desist order," Gregor said.

If not, the FAA could file suit. City officials said they are expected to receive a letter from the U.S. Attorney General's office in response to ban.

kevinh@smdp.com

Living wage law exempts banking

FROM READINGS PAGE 3

The amendment also incorporates state language that does not force employees to eject smokers or ask them to stop smoking if there is risk of physical harm.

SINGLE FAMILY HOUSES TO BE GREEN

New construction of single family homes and duplexes will now fall under Santa Monica's green building guidelines after the council approved a second reading of an ordinance adopting the changes.

The changes to the Green Building Design and Construction Standards will also include an increase in the required number of green building materials used on new construction from four to five.

New construction projects must now include at least one material from at least five of 10 categories that range from insulation to water efficiency to foundation.

Brenden McEneaney, the green building program advisor, said last week that when it comes to materials, developers should look beyond recycled content, including zero-VOC paint and water saving appliances, which will now qualify toward the minimum five green building materials.

The ordinance also changes landscaping requirements for new projects, limiting turf grass to 20 percent and encouraging the use of more drought-tolerant plants.

LIVING WAGE CHANGES

The council adopted an ordinance that amends the Living Wage Law to create an exemption for banking services and eliminates the annual adjustment to the contract threshold.

The existing law establishes a living minimum wage of \$11.50 an hour for employees working under contracts with City Hall that are valued at

\$50,000 or more, except for government agencies and non-profit corporations.

The ordinance allows the city manager to waive the requirements if it limits City Hall's ability to attain certain services, which is an issue that has existed with banking institutions.

"City staff recently surveyed three major banking institutions — Bank of America, Union Bank of California and Wells Fargo — and found that none of the three banks would be able to certify compliance with the city's living wage ordinance," according to a staff report issued for the April 8 council meeting. "City staff subsequently surveyed other cities with living wage ordinances and found that the living wage ordinance was not applied to banking services for a number of reasons."

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FROM PETITION PAGE 1

voters, or 5,800 signatures, to qualify the initiative for the local ballot in November.

"We found that residents, in overwhelming numbers, agree with us that development and traffic in our city is 'out of control,'" said Diana Gordon, co-chair of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City, which is sponsoring RIFT. "Santa Monicans are tired of commercial overdevelopment and ever worsening traffic."

While the number of signatures is important, equally noteworthy is the number of volunteers passionate about the issue who joined SMCLC and spearheaded the petition drive, Gordon said. Volunteers hit grocery stores, post offices, public events, and even went so far as to invite residents into their homes during the final push to help make it easier for them to sign.

"Over 100 residents gathered signatures as part of an historic movement to give residents the right to control and pace future development and related traffic impacts in Santa Monica," Gordon said.

Proponents and traffic experts say that commercial development is a prime source of Santa Monica's growing traffic congestion. RIFT would place an annual limit of 75,000 square-feet on new commercial development for the next 15 years. Schools, hospitals, religious buildings and other community-serving development would be exempt.

The initiative is supported by all five neighborhood groups and is opposed by the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. Officials in City Hall have also expressed some concerns about the initiative, as it would be coming before voters before the City Council has a chance to approve a comprehensive overhaul of development policies and land use.

Tom Larmore, president of the chamber, said previously that the initiative's definition of commercial development is too broad and would hamper efforts to upgrade hotels, movie theaters and medical facilities that sup-

port local hospitals. He also expressed concerns about its affect on building workforce housing through commercial partnerships.

Gordon said the initiative would protect many of the chamber's members, those being the smaller mom-and-pop businesses that are facing competition from larger chains.

"Residents have said time and time again they want to keep independent retailers, the hardware stores, shoe repair stores, in our city and RIFT really helps that to happen," Gordon said.

SMCLC plans to raise money to fund a campaign in support of RIFT. So far the SMCLC political action committee has raised roughly \$50,000, much of which was spent on the signature drive, Gordon said.

Like Santa Monica, a growing number of Southern California communities are putting traffic congestion and overdevelopment limits before local voters. Newport Beach, Thousand Oaks, Oxnard and Redondo Beach are either working on traffic-related initiatives or have enacted them in recent years.

The City Clerk has 30 days, excluding weekends, to verify the validity of the signatures. If the petition qualifies, the City Clerk will present the petition to the council at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

The City Council may do one of the following:

- Adopt the ordinance, without alteration at the regular meeting or within 10 days.
- If petition contains 15 percent of voters' signatures and a request for a special election, order a special election; if petition contains 10 percent of voter's signatures, place the proposed measure on the ballot of the next regularly scheduled municipal election.
- If the council has not yet done so, council may order a report.

Should the council order a report, it will be presented to the council no later than 30 days, at which time the council may adopt the ordinance as presented or call an election as indicated above.

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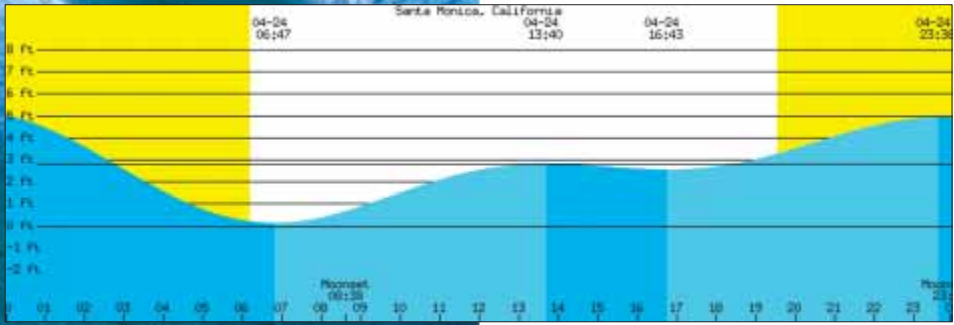
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WATER TEMP: 55°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)
The SW should stay small at knee high for south facing breaks. West facing breaks though are looking at a slight increase in wind swell. This is all predicated on what the low, passing to the north Wednesday, will do in the way of forming close-proximity wind fetch. Models today have downgraded this scenario, but not all models are in agreement today.

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Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 35 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	C	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	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	F	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	F	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	B	ns
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	F	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (beach 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	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	F	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	C	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset 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.

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Heal the Bay



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NFL Walsh talks Spygate with league officials

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

NEW YORK Matt Walsh will get his day with the commissioner. What he has to offer is anyone's guess.

The former Patriots assistant will meet with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell on May 13 about New England's videotaping of opposing teams. It took a couple of months, but the league reached an agreement with Walsh on Wednesday.

During Super Bowl week, and nearly five months after the Patriots were sanctioned for illegal taping of the New York Jets in the season opener — a \$500,000 fine for coach Bill Belichick, a \$250,000 fine for the organization, and the loss of a first-round draft pick on Saturday — there were reports of possible other videotaping by the Patriots. Those reports centered on Walsh, who shot videos for the Patriots during his six-year stint with the organization.

Since the Super Bowl, Goodell's staff has sought a meeting with Walsh.

"Today, Mr. Walsh and the National Football League reached an agreement under which the NFL will provide legal indemnification and a release of claims against Mr. Walsh relating to his employment by the Patriots and the Patriots' videotaping operations," said Walsh's lawyer, Michael Levy of McKee Nelson LLP. "I am pleased that we now have an agreement that provides Mr. Walsh with appropriate legal protections. Mr. Walsh is looking forward to providing the NFL with the materials he has and telling the NFL what he knows."

So what might Walsh have and what does he know? The Patriots say he has nothing.

"The New England Patriots are pleased to learn that Matt Walsh is finally willing to come forward to meet with the NFL," the team said in a statement. "We are eagerly anticipating his honest disclosures to commissioner Goodell next month and the return of all the materials he took during his time of employment.

"We fully expect this meeting to conclude the league's investigation into a damaging and false allegation that was originally levied against the team on the day before this year's Super Bowl."

The allegation was that New England videotaped the St. Louis Rams' walkthrough on the day before the 2002 Super Bowl. Although Belichick admitted to Goodell during the Spygate investigation that his team often taped opposing coaches' signals during games, he adamantly has denied anything about that Super Bowl.

"I've never seen a tape of another team's practice. Ever!" Belichick said at last month's NFL owners meetings. "Certainly not that one.

"I think they've addressed everything they possibly can address. I've addressed so many questions so many times from so many people I don't know what else the league could ask."

In their statement Wednesday, the Patriots reiterated that stand:

"At all times, we cooperated fully with the league's investigation and stand by our initial public statement from Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008: The suggestion that the New England Patriots recorded the St. Louis Rams' walkthrough on the day before Super Bowl XXXVI in 2002 is absolutely false."

The agreement with Walsh, a golf pro in Hawaii, will allow him to "share with the NFL information about activities occurring during his employment with the club from 1997-2003," the league said in a statement.

Walsh also will be required to return any tapes and other items in his possession that belong to the Patriots. He will be barred from using any material related to Spygate for commercial purposes "or in any manner that could reasonably be expected to be disparaging to the NFL" or the Patriots.

He also will not be allowed to speak with any third parties before meeting with Goodell.

Belichick has said the videotaping was a misinterpretation of the rule. He told Goodell he was handing over all the tapes in September, and Goodell destroyed them. So if Walsh has any evidence, it could be quite damaging to Belichick and the Patriots.

"It is important to note that there has never been a confidentiality agreement restricting Matt Walsh, and no legal protections were ever necessary for him to speak to the NFL, to media outlets or to anyone else regarding his employment with the Patriots," the team's statement said.



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MOVIETIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Avenue (323) 466-FILM	1:00, 1:50, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45 Nim's Island (PG) 1hr 35min 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 The Ruins (R) 1hr 31min 3:00, 5:25, 7:40, 10:00 Prom Night (PG-13) 1hr 38min 1:45, 4:10, 7:05, 9:20 The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 53min 1:40, 2:25, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 10:00 Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R) 1hr 51min 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10	1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40 MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 88 Minutes (R) 1hr 48min 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed (PG) 1hr 30min 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:50, 12:10am Superhero Movie (PG-13) 1hr 25min 11:40 a.m., 4:40, 10:10 Leatherheads (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:50 a.m., 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 Shine a Light (PG-13) 2hrs 02min 1:50, 7:20 Where in the World Is Osama Bin Laden? (PG-13) 1hr 33min 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40, 11:50
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third St. (310) 458-1506	Pathology (R) 1hr 33min 2:10, 4:25, 6:45, 9:10 Stop-Loss (R) 1hr 53min 4:10 The Ruins (R) 1hr 37min 1:55, 6:55, 9:20	
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262	Bra Boys (R) 1hr 30min 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15 The Counterfeiters (NR) 1hr 38min 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 Smart People (R) 1hr 33min 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Young@Heart (PG) 1hr 47min	

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

Say yes, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ The unexpected occurs. Listen to feedback and honor the source sharing an important evaluation. Sometimes you might not be right-on; other times you are. Tonight: Opt for a new experience.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ True to form, you open a new door and change the color of a situation. Use your dynamic thinking. A partner will join in, which might not be exactly what you anticipated. Tonight: Quality time with a favorite person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Others run the show but in a manner you can work with. Still, a boss or someone you look up to could be most unpredictable. Tonight: Say yes.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Easy does it. You might be pushing someone too hard. How you find out might not be exactly comfortable. Tonight: In the thick of things.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Take a cue from Taurus when dealing with others. You might tend to scatter a bit too much for a loved one's taste. This person might express his or her dismay in a nonsensical style. Tonight: Ever playful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Stay close to home if you want. In fact, you might accomplish more if you pull back some. Investigate alternatives. Your ability to understand others evolves if you go within for answers. Tonight: Easy does it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your ability to move a situation forward

needs to manifest. Surprising twists and turns stop people right in their tracks. How you explain your version of a project can sway many people to your thinking. Tonight: With pals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ As tempting as a risk might seem, a backfire is likely. Opt for the tried-and-true, even if you think it is boring. It will work far better than you realize. A child could act out in a seemingly irrational manner. Tonight: Ever playful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Funnel your impact where you can make a difference and not where it could be provocative. Consider the fact that you have a limited amount of energy and time. Use it well. Your intuition kicks in. Tonight: As you wish.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might feel that way too much is happening far too quickly. Make inquiries and ask questions. The time is perfect for evaluation, not for action. Tonight: Curl up with a good book.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Zero in on what you feel could be important. Your handling of a personal matter could change once you recognize a heavy limitation. Investigate options before committing any resources, time or money. Tonight: Zoom right in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Your creativity bursts forward because of an unpredictable event. You can hold together an important meeting where others could react strongly, if you want. Your intuition comes through when dealing with a boss or higher-up. Tonight: A must appearance.

Happy birthday

This year, extremes dominate in what appears to be all-or-nothing in nearly all aspects of your life. Often you might be overwhelmed by what you need to accomplish, yet you still manage to do what is necessary. Travel, education and different types of thinking and lifestyles open up doors to your mind. What had been close to impossible could happen, as you see life from a totally different perspective. If you are single, you might be drawn to someone quite unique and different. Relating to this person will help you grow. If you are attached, schedule a special trip together where you can get away from it all. You will need these downtimes together to fortify your bond. SAGITTARIUS helps get down to the real issues, separating fluff from reality.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com> (c) 2006 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

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

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Difficulty
BRONZE

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

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

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By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

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YIKES! WHAT HAPPENED?

SHE WANTED TO REGISTER FOR A STERLING SILVER FORK AND I SUGGESTED THE SPOON. IT LED TO A BIG FIGHT

HOW'D YOU PATCH THINGS UP?

WE DECIDED TO REGISTER FOR A SPORK

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LILA.

HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?

Excuse me?

I JUST TURNED 25. I FEEL SO OLD.

THERE'S BLOOD IN AISLE FOUR.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

I HEAR YOU'RE GETTING INTO ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY HORSE LOGGING.

YEAH, BUT WE DIDN'T REALIZE MAINTAINING A HORSE WAS SO EXPENSIVE.

SO, IS IT PROFITABLE?

DUNNO. WE'VE YET TO DELIVER A SINGLE LOG.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

LOOK, GARFIELD...

I'M DAVE'S 4-24

I BOUGHT A SHREDDER!

WHY?

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

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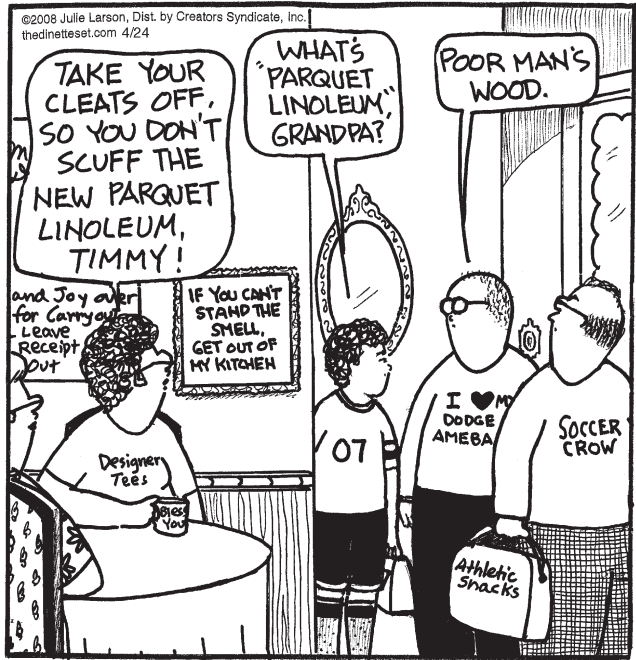
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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Skirt feature
- 5 Worry
- 10 Franc replacer
- 11 Position
- 12 Clip contents
- 13 Lass
- 14 Flecks
- 16 Breaks into bits
- 20 Duel weapon
- 23 Buck's mate
- 24 Flying-saucer occupant
- 25 Number part
- 27 Ran into
- 28 Comic-strip parts
- 29 Strews
- 32 Fly killers
- 36 Store business
- 39 Egg outline
- 40 Dis-inclined
- 41 Soap unit
- 42 Bakery need
- 43 Realized

DOWN

- 1 Map areas
- 2 Sugar serving

- 3 "— La Douce"
- 4 Foot, in slang
- 5 Kick in
- 6 Belt setting
- 7 Cease
- 8 Good serve
- 9 Kayo count
- 11 Campaign tactic
- 15 In the past
- 17 Keeness
- 18 Stir up
- 19 Jazz-club units
- 20 2000 Super Bowl champs
- 21 Guinness of film
- 22 Falafel holder
- 25 Pub missile
- 26 Ready for purchase
- 28 Washing-ton painter
- 30 Autocrats

- 31 Surprise in a story
- 33 Writer Hunter
- 34 Yard tool
- 35 Large number
- 36 Beam of light
- 37 Forbidden fruit taster
- 38 Caffeine source

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

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MEGA MILLIONS 3 22 31 48 54
Meganumber: 9
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Super LOTTO 6 21 22 34 38
Meganumber: 14
Jackpot: \$13M

Fantasy 5 3 10 16 38 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 4 8 9
EVENING: 3 9 0

DAILY DERRY 1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:42.93

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Mayor Art Madrid of La Mesa, Calif., apologized in February for an incident the week before when police found him, along with a female city employee, passed out about 10:30 p.m. Madrid was lying on the sidewalk near an SUV; the woman was in the driver's seat with her legs sticking out the open door; and vomit littered the area. (2) A patient reporting for an appointment with dentist Norman Rubin in Smithtown, N.Y., in March told the New York Post that Rubin was in the otherwise-empty office, passed out, drooling, with a gas mask on his face. (Rubin later told the Post, in defense, that it was, after all, his lunch hour.) ■ Dirk Opalka (whose fox scored 96 of 100 possible points) won best in show at the World Taxidermy Championships in February in Salzburg, Austria, beating over 100 competitors in the art of stretching animal skin over fake bodies so the critters look better than they ever looked alive. The attention to detail was astonishing, according to a dispatch in Der Spiegel, on such features as a stag's nostrils, a hyena's lips, a hamster's whiskers, the neck length of a female peregrine falcon (precisely 5.5 cm), and the proper rosiness of a bat's anus.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1792 the national anthem of France, "La Marseillaise," was composed by Captain Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle.

1800 Congress approved a bill establishing the Library of Congress.

1877 federal troops were ordered out of New Orleans, ending the North's post-Civil War rule in the South.

1898 Spain declared war on the United States after rejecting America's ultimatum to withdraw from Cuba.

1915 the Ottoman Empire began the brutal mass deportation of Armenians during World War I.

1916 some 1,600 Irish nationalists launched the Easter Rising by seizing several key sites in Dublin, Ireland. (The rising was put down by British forces almost a week later.)

1953 British statesman Winston Churchill was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

1970 the People's Republic of China launched its first satellite, which kept transmitting a song, "The East is Red."

WORD UP!

ubiquitous /yoo-BIK-wih-tuhs/, adjective: Existing or being everywhere, or in all places, at the same time.

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Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. SS016606
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of JOSHUA SANTANA for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner or Attorney: LORENA LIMON filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: JOSHUA SANTANA to JOSHUA MATTHEW SANTANA-LIMON. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: 05/08/2008 Time:8:30, Dept. A, Room 104
The address of the court is 1725 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.
Date: MAR. 25, 2008
GERALD ROSENBERG, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 4

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North of Montana	=	\$ 4,225,645	\$ 1,756,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,850,100	\$ 900,431
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 861,632	\$ 729,088
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