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Santa Monica Daily Press

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011

Volume 10 Issue 151



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

GET ON THE BUS
SEE PAGE 3

THE **FLASHING LIGHTS** ISSUE

Big Blue Bus system could see digital advertising

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO The California State Assembly passed a bill Thursday by an overwhelming majority that would allow Santa Monica to install digital advertising on the sides of its buses as part of a five-year pilot program.

The bill, authored by Assemblywoman Julia Brownley (D- Santa Monica), would give the Big Blue Bus system the freedom to raise new revenues, while at the same time requiring city staff to report any problems with the program, like accidents caused by drivers distracted by the flashing signs.

If it works well in Santa Monica, the program could be extended to other cities in the state.

"Public transit agencies across the state are struggling to close transit operating budget deficits while continuing to provide vital transit service to their community," Brownley said. "Providing them a means for securing more revenue while ensuring the safety of drivers and pedestrians makes good economic sense for local transit agencies."

The boards would only be installed on the sidewalk-facing side of the buses, and all advertisements would freeze while buses are on the freeway so that drivers wouldn't get distracted by flashing lights.

Companies would be able to buy ad space on the boards, which would cycle through ads every 2.7 to 10 seconds, according to the bill.

Exactly how long the ads would stay up

SEE **BBB** PAGE 9



KEEPING THE FAITH

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

The Rev. Sebastian Periannan from St. Monica's Catholic Church presides over the National Day of Prayer in front of City Hall on Thursday.

Police say nude woman attempted suicide

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY A Santa Monica woman who was seen dancing naked on top of a roughly five-story building on Main Street threw herself off in an apparent suicide attempt, police said.

Raisa Shamailovna Danilova, 27, was in critical but stable condition Thursday, a day after several people watched as she climbed to the ledge of the One Life Natural Foods market building and leaped off the top floor, said SMPD Sgt. Richard Lewis.

"She suffered a pretty significant head wound," Lewis said. "I don't think she is out of the woods yet."

Lewis said Danilova's father was notified and approved the release of his daughter's name.

After interviewing witnesses and viewing photos taken by a bystander, detectives determined Danilova tried to commit suicide after a day of possibly drinking alcohol and smoking marijuana. She landed feet first near a sidewalk after dancing naked on the roof for several minutes, causing a crowd to gather, witnesses told the Daily Press.

Police are still trying to determine if other drugs were involved, Lewis said.

Lewis said Danilova hit decorative lighting that was strung along Main Street, possibly lessening the impact.

Two people, a man and a woman in their mid to late 20s, were seen with Danilova before she jumped. They ran from the scene but were detained by police shortly after. Detectives interviewed them and they were released, Lewis said.

kevinh@smdp.com

Transient arrested in Culver City double murder

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN A 31-year-old homeless man was in custody Thursday for allegedly murdering a Santa Monica woman and an elderly man whose bodies were found in the older victim's Culver City home, police said.

Zackariah Lehnen, 30, knew the victims, but the exact relationship was not disclosed by police. Lehnen was arrested at 1:30 a.m. in West Hollywood, according to wire service reports.

Police said the victims are 27-year-old Erica Escobar of Santa Monica and 89-year-old Lucien Bergez, a native of France and a World War II veteran.

Officers were called by a maid to the modest home in the 4000 block of Huron Avenue near Washington Boulevard around 10 a.m. Tuesday after the bodies were discovered inside the home, police said.

A cause of death has not been released and authorities are still trying to determine a motive.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, May 6, 2011

Alt Build Expo
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
The Eighth Annual AltBuild Expo and Conference Presented by the City of Santa Monica is the largest and most-respected green design and building expo in Southern California for both professionals and public. Over 150 hand-picked exhibitors featuring the world's best in green building and design materials; energy efficiency techniques and technologies; alternative energy; water conservation and management; environmental plumbing; municipal and state agencies, and non-profit organizations. The event also features more than 40 speakers in all sustainable and alternative building practices. For more information, call visit www.altbuildexpo.com. This event takes place Saturday as well.

'Muse'
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
The producers of this performance promise an evening of dance that will leave you inspired. This performance also takes place on Saturday. For more information, call (310) 458-8634.

'Locked and Loaded'
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m.
"Locked and Loaded," Todd Susman's first published play, stars stage and screen personalities Paul Linke, Andrew Parks, Tarina Pouncy, Terasa Sciortino and Sandra Thigpen and is helmed by award-winning director Chris DeCarlo. For more information, visit santamonicaplayhouse.com.

Saturday, May 7, 2011

Santa Monica Festival
Clover Park
2600 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m.
Head over to Clover Park for the 20th annual Santa Monica Festival, a solar-powered, zero-waste event that is free for all ages and features an eclectic mix of live music and dance, art workshops using recycled and repurposed materials and guilt-free shopping from vendors featuring earth-friendly wares. Fresh and local food will be in abundance from an assortment of food trucks, and cooking demonstrations will be offered throughout the day by chefs and farmers. For more information, visit www.smgov.net/festival.

All about Tennessee Williams
Ruskin Group Theatre
3000 Airport Ave., 8 p.m.
This performance consists of two one-act plays, back to back by the great Tennessee Williams. In the erotic thriller "Green Eyes," a young couple awakens the morning after their shotgun wedding in a New Orleans hotel room. The boy, on leave from Vietnam, confronts his new bride about the mysterious tooth and claw marks on her body. In a power play of fear and desire, the two wage a sexual battle that ignites an explosion of passion. In "The Rooming House," a lonely young woman, deserted by her husband, meets a seemingly sympathetic and attractive young man who appears to embody the warmth and love she so desperately needs. For more information, visit ruskingrouptheatre.com.

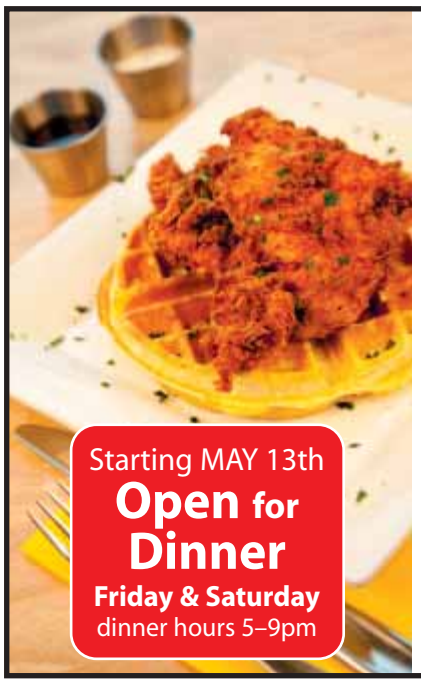
Good old hemp
Kula
1231 Lincoln Blvd., 7:30 p.m. — 10:30 p.m.
TheSolutionsDoc.Com presents a night of community, leadership and hemp activism with special music performances at Kula. This event is part of the second National Hemp History Week, a national grassroots education campaign taking place from May 2nd-8th, being organized to renew strong support for hemp farming in the United States.. For more information, call (310) 422-8148.

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




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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

Harvard recognizes city's fiber optic network

Santa Monica's 10-gigabit fiber optic network, also known as City Net, was selected as one of the top 25 "Innovations in Government" by the Ash Center at the Harvard Kennedy School.

The program was selected for this award in the economic development category for the network's effectiveness in attracting technology companies to the city and supporting existing Santa Monica businesses with a leading edge broadband infrastructure, city officials said.

Santa Monica City Net's model is being replicated by the cities of Burbank and Long Beach, and is in review by Chicago and Calgary.

The network was originally constructed to support traffic cameras, security cameras, real-time parking advisory systems, a traffic signal synchronization system, and real-time mass transit signs. The network also allows City Hall to lease dark fiber and provide lit services to local businesses for affordable broadband.

Santa Monica's advanced broadband initiative provides for a reduction in construction costs for new broadband service, an increase in purchasing power of connected local businesses, and a broadband market expansion for Internet service providers that now offer service to small, medium and large commercial buildings, city officials said.

City Hall has also recently received a "Significant Achievement Award" from the Public Technology Institute (PTI) for the fiber optic network program.

The Roy and Lila Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard Kennedy School is a national nonprofit research and development organization based in Washington, DC, representing local governments.

DAILY PRESS

SAMOHI

Team takes third place in national science bowl

A team of four Santa Monica High School students took third at the National Ocean Science Bowl competition in Galveston, Tex. over the weekend.

Mari LeGagnoux, Madeleine Youngs, Zach Gold and Dana Ritchie beat out 21 other teams in the buzzer battle which put them up against other teens that specialize in a very specific subset of science knowledge: marine science.

As a prize, all four will get a trip to Florida to work with a professor from the University of Miami to check out the Everglades, tag sharks and go snorkeling.

The competition was a nailbiter, Gold said, with the team going to two rounds of double elimination.

"I think we played really well," Gold said. "It was a great competition, a great learning experience and a lot of fun."

DP



Courtesy photo

ALONG FOR THE RIDE: **Santa Monica College's Carla Orendorff has been selected to be a Freedom Rider.**

SMC student to 'get on the bus'

Group will retrace the steps of historic Freedom Rides

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC Over the course of six months in 1961, more than 400 people, both black and white, risked life and limb while traveling on buses and trains through the Jim Crow South to challenge segregation laws.

Those men and women became known as the Freedom Riders, and the repeal of the repressive segregation laws through their efforts was one of the first victories of the civil rights movement.

Santa Monica College sophomore Carla Orendorff on Thursday left on a 10-day journey retracing the path of those activists with a group of 39 other students to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the historic rides.

The students competed in a nationwide contest held by nonprofit broadcaster PBS, which will be airing the "American Experience" episode "Freedom Riders" Monday, May 16 at 9 p.m. in conjunction with end of the event.

They represent a broad cross section of America, coming from 33 states, the District of Columbia, as well as China, Tajikistan and Haiti, and were chosen from their essays, their thoughts on social media and technology in civic engagement and their extracurricular activities.

SEE **BUS** PAGE 9

19 arrested in Venice anti-gang sting

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Federal authorities say 19 people have been arrested for alleged firearms and drug crimes in an anti-gang sting that involved a Venice tattoo parlor run by undercover agents.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives said Wednesday that "Operation Villainz Ink" targeted alleged members of the Venice 13 gang, which operates in Venice and the Culver City area.

ATF spokesman Chris Hoffman says the tattoo parlor attracted a number of suspected gang members who allegedly sold illegal narcotics and committed firearms violations. Hoffman says one man is suspected of selling a gun to an undercover agent.

The four-month investigation was conducted by the ATF and the Los Angeles Police Department, with help from the Drug Enforcement Administration, state Corrections officials, LA County probation officers, and the Inglewood Police Department.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's about activism

Editor:

I think your article "Canary Island palm trees cause a stir In NOMA" by Ashley Archibald (May 4, page 3) missed the true focus of the story. What happened is that Georgina and Marguerita residents engaged in classic community organizing with e-mails, leaflets, neighborhood meetings, appearances before the Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force and the City Council, and finally, with a petition signed by more than 220 residents.

Speaking with a united voice, the residents and homeowners wanted our beautiful and historic palm tree monoculture to be protected and preserved for future generations. Because we organized, the misguided decision to plant sycamores was reversed and a beautiful palm – the Chilean wine palm (Jubaea chilensis) – was instead designated as the future replacement tree for our streets. This story is ultimately about neighborhood commitment and participation.

Cindy Bendat
Santa Monica

No to control

Editor:

I laughed out loud (LOL for all of you kids out there) when I read Hank Baylis' letter to the editor ("Redefine First Amendment," May 4, page 4)). Mr. Baylis suggests that we refine the First Amendment to mean "freedom of speech, within reason." Mr. Baylis, just who will be the person who will decide what is within reason, you? I shudder to think of anyone in this great country who thinks that any of us need to be controlled by the "reason police."

Barry Barker
Santa Monica

Don't be condescending

Editor:

I read your May 3, page 1 article entitled "Santa Monicans react to bin Laden's death" and I found one aspect of the piece nothing short of condescending. The fourth paragraph states:

"There were no reported gatherings in Santa Monica, perhaps because others share a more restrained satisfaction upon hearing that bin Laden had died."

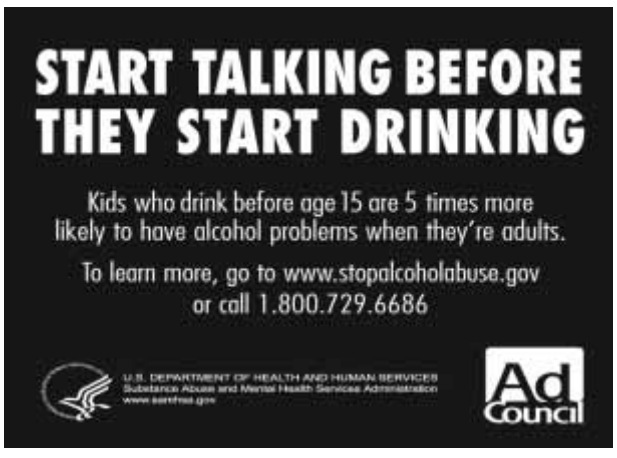
I think to take the editorial perspective that residents of Santa Monica are somehow behaviorally superior to those in Washington, D.C. or New York is completely lacking in any kind of perspective or empathy.

I am a former New Yorker, happy to be living in Santa Monica. On Sept. 11, I was still a resident of New York and spent the better part of my day tracking down family and friends. While, thankfully, I lost no one too close to me, it was a horrible day that I will never forget nor should anyone else.

For people very close to the tragedy, the death of Osama bin Laden brings a sense of closure and while it will never compensate for those lost in New York, Washington, Pennsylvania, Iraq or Afghanistan it does mark a turning point for many. What's around that corner is anyone's guess.

Perhaps if a 767 intentionally crashed into the Third Street Promenade, you would feel differently.

Steve Sole
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**



Courtesy photo

THUMBS UP! **Ex-Marine Larry Foster enjoys his day at the beach.**

Wheel to the sea

READERS OFTEN ASK WHERE I GET THE ideas for my columns. (Some have asked why I bother, but that's another issue.) Today's offering has a rather circuitous evolution.

My friend Bruno has a friend named "C" (short for Cynthia) who underwent brain surgery a few years ago after suffering a major stroke. As part of her recovery, C joined TBI Social Network, a support group for those with traumatic brain injuries. TBI meets the third Monday of every month at Carrows on Ocean Park Boulevard. A year ago, I decided to write about the group and one of the members I interviewed was Steven Lefkowitz.

Steven has attended TBI meetings for 13 years. A former UCLA track athlete, Steven's life changed forever in February of 1980. While in the Andes in Argentina, he was attempting to scale Mount Aconcagua, the tallest peak in the Western Hemisphere. Overnight, and apparently due to insufficient oxygen, Steve suffered a massive brain injury. He was rendered permanently disabled and was hospitalized for the next eight months.

Even disabled, Steven snow skis, river rafts and does yoga. (Just listening to his exercise regimen makes me need a nap.) On Saturday, May 7 along with 40 other disabled "adventurers," and 125 kind-hearted volunteers who push the wheelchairs, he will participate in a 5-mile hike in the Santa Monica Mountains. "It's not exactly Mount Aconcagua," Steven jokes, "but a challenge is a challenge."

The bi-annual "Wheel to the Sea" has been sponsored for the past 26 years by the Wilderness Institute, which operates therapeutic programs for veterans and others throughout California. Founder Brad Childs' father was a Pearl Harbor attack survivor and his brother is a Vietnam vet.

The Institute gets assistance for "Wheel to the Sea" from the Kiwanis Clubs of Thousand Oaks, Canoga Park and Northridge. Also participating is the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority, the Volunteer Mountain Bike Unit, and the California State Parks. Financial donors include: the Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks, Ruth and David Henke, The Childs Fund and individual donors. As the saying goes, "It takes a village."

The event reaches out to individuals in wheelchairs, especially to Iraq, Afghanistan and other military veterans (and their families). Non-wheelchair users with traumatic brain injury, PTSD, blindness, deafness or debilitating illnesses, are also encouraged to join in.

The big day starts at 8 a.m. with a hearty breakfast. Then the group will embark on their naturalist-led hike through Point Mugu State Park. The trail includes rocky terrain and, in times of wet weather, potential mud or stream crossings. But these obstacles have proven only to be opportunities for team-work and trust building.

The event culminates at the Sycamore Cove State Beach where the CHP generously provides officers for the group's safe crossing of PCH. Using specialized wheelchairs, the hikers frolic in the ocean, or at least get their toes wet, something many haven't done in years, if ever. Finally, the long, fun-filled day ends at about 6 p.m. with a family-style barbecue.

Having been on this hike a record 40 times, Steven can attest that all who participate benefit from the physical challenge, social interaction and camaraderie. ("And the food's great, too," Steven says.)

One can't help but be inspired by the courage and determination of the disabled hikers. And in this "me, me" society, it's uplifting to see the generosity of the volunteers.

"Wheel to the Sea" for the fall season is Nov. 5. If you'd like to participate (or make a financial donation) please go to www.WildernessInstiute.com. If you join the hike I have a hunch it'll be a wonderful memory you won't soon forget.

Assuming he hasn't committed hara-kiri over the Lakers' collapse, **JACK** can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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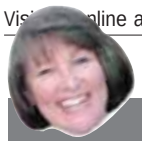
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Play Time
Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Ready for a prison break?

NEIL SIMON AND JASON ALEXANDER would appear to be a theatrical match made in heaven. And so they are.

In Simon's "The Prisoner of Second Avenue," now running at the El Portal Theater in North Hollywood, Alexander romps, rages, and unravels to early Simon at his most hilarious.

Set in 1971, the year it was written, "Prisoner" plumbs the depths of New York City living, from nonfunctioning air conditioning in the summer and nonfunctioning heating systems in the winter, sporadic electricity failures, and water stoppages, to noisy neighbors, rats in the sewers, and garbage strikes. "The garbage keeps piling up; if they don't collect it soon our apartment on the 14th floor will become the second floor!" the beleaguered hero, Jason Alexander, playing a New Yorker named Mel, moans.

The traditional challenges of New York life are exacerbated, however, when Mel loses his job. And here "Prisoner" is very up-to-date. Losing your job in a recession 40 years ago is pretty much the same as losing it today. The stages of grief — anger, anguish, and despair — wash over Mel, and while the audience may empathize with his predicament, they can't help howling at his over-the-top reactions. It's a special treat to watch Jason Alexander do his familiar shtick as a character that was created 18 years before he metamorphosed into that quintessential kvetch, George Costanza.

As his sympathetic wife Edna, Gina Hecht provides a strong, soothing counterpoint to Mel's histrionics — until she, too, loses her patience and becomes his partner in high-decibel lunacy.

"The Prisoner of Second Avenue" is more of a George Burns and Gracie Allen stand-up act, with props, than a fully realized play, but who's quibbling? Alexander and Hecht's performances are more than enough to sustain the first act, and in the second they are joined by Mel's family, a ditzy trio of older sisters and a concerned, take-charge brother, played to perfection by Annie Korzen, Deedee Rescher, Carole Ita White, and Ron Orbach. A Greek chorus of calamity, they have gathered in Mel and Edna's apartment to determine how they can "help out" — if it doesn't cost too much.

Glenn Casale directs this coven of comedic characters with panache, and the pacing is perfect — as is to be expected from this ensemble of long-time professionals.

For me, an additional kick was provided by learning that Mel and Edna's apartment on the Upper East Side was located at 2nd Avenue and 88th Street. That's just two blocks from where I lived in the 1980s. Who knew?

"The Prisoner of Second Avenue" will continue its run Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 6 p.m., and matinees on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 2 p.m. through May 15 at the El Portal Theatre, 5269 Lankershim Blvd., in North Hollywood. Call (866) 811-4111 or (818) 508-4200 or visit www.elportaltheatre.com for tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

The Flash gets the spotlight

MATT MOORE
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA The summer film hype may be around Green Lantern, but as far as DC Comics is concerned, The Flash will share the spotlight.

The Scarlet Speedster is poised for greatness in an event that promises a soaring, if radical, tale that uses superheroes in ways that may surprise both first-time readers and long-time fans.

"Flashpoint," written by Geoff Johns and drawn by Andy Kubert, launches next week with the first of a five-issue mini-series that will also see another 15 separate mini-series and four one-shots through the summer.

Many of the superheroes will be unlike what most people know of them, including Batman, Aquaman and Wonder Woman, the latter now apparently the ruler of not Themiscyra, but Europe! Batman? He's running a casino. Aquaman has sunk an entire continent.

But the center of the story arc remains The Flash, who moves at super speed, and his alter ego Barry Allen, a police crime scene investigator who finds that things are not the way they should be and tries to solve the puzzle.

Johns, DC's chief creative officer and architect of the recent "Blackest Night" epic that gave new energy to Green Lantern, called "Flashpoint" unlike anything he's done.

The Q Line

A better buffer

Residents got a rare opportunity last week to weigh in on a 2-acre buffer zone meant to shield them from the noise made by the future Expo light rail line. Some would like shops, others open space.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What do you think should be built on the site near Exposition Boulevard and Stewart Street?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**


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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

2 deputies allege sheriff jailer lawlessness

Two sheriff's deputies have filed a federal civil rights lawsuit alleging gang-like lawlessness by a clique of Los Angeles County jailers.

The suit was filed Wednesday by deputies Chris Vasquez and Elizario Perez, who say they were attacked by fellow deputies during a Christmas party at a Montebello banquet hall.

The Los Angeles Times says the lawsuit alleges illegal acts and excessive force by an aggressive group of third-floor deputies at the downtown Men's Central Jail.

The Sheriff's Department won't say if the deputies identified in the lawsuit are among the six deputies the department decided to fire in March.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore denies the department fosters lawlessness among jail employees.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Music exec Mo Ostin donates $10 million to UCLA

Music executive Mo Ostin has donated $10 million to the University of California, Los Angeles to build recording and production studios, a rehearsal space and other facilities for student musicians.

The university announced Wednesday that the Ostin Music Center will be constructed next to UCLA's Schoenberg Music Building.

Ostin, who graduated from UCLA in 1951, has worked at Verve, Reprise, Warner Bros. and DreamWorks. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2003.

During his 25-year stint at Warner Bros., Ostin signed acts including the Beach Boys, Neil Young, Prince and the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

The gift is also in the name of Ostin's late wife, Evelyn, who died in 2005.

AP

SANTA BARBARA

1981 Goleta slayings tied to serial killer

DNA evidence links the 1981 killings of a Santa Barbara County couple to a serial killer and rapist who has never been caught, officials said Thursday.

Degraded DNA taken from semen and other evidence at the crime scene was compared to samples from other cases linked to the killer, and all pointed to the same man, the Los Angeles Times and the Santa Maria Times reported, citing information from the sheriff's department.

"With recent advancements in DNA profiling methods, it was important for us to push forward and reevaluate evidence in this case before it deteriorated and became useless," Sheriff Bill Brown told the Times.

Investigators had long suspected that the July 1981 deaths of Cheri Domingo, 35, and Gregory Sanchez, 27, while house-sitting in Goleta were the work of the killer dubbed the "East Side Rapist" and the "Original Night Stalker" (to distinguish him from convicted 1980s "Night Stalker" Richard Ramirez).

Investigators working with the California Department of Justice took more than 50 pieces of evidence from the Goleta slayings, obtained a small amount DNA and matched it through a database. The killer is suspected in at least eight killings and some 40 rapes that took place from 1979 to 1986 in Santa Barbara, Sacramento, Ventura and Orange counties.

The last attack was in 1986, and investigators don't know whether the killer is still alive.

AP

VERNON

City wants $200K deposit in records request

Leaders of the industrial city of Vernon want a $200,000 deposit from the California Assembly speaker to provide records he wants in a move to disband the charter city.

Speaker John Perez, who is sponsoring legislation to disband Vernon, wants a massive amount of city files dating back to 1980.

Leaders of the city south of downtown Los Angeles say it will cost Vernon, which has 96 residents, more than $1 million and take six months to comply with the demand.

Perez sponsored AB46, which would revoke incorporation from cities with fewer than 150 residents, because the size of Vernon has allowed rampant corruption, including exorbitant salaries.

Perez spokeswoman Shannon Murphy tells the Los Angeles Times that the speaker won't pay the $200,000 deposit and he plans to send his own staff to copy and collect the records.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Steeler Hines Ward briefly held in mix-up

Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver and "Dancing With the Stars" contestant Hines Ward was briefly detained at gunpoint Thursday in a mix-up over a reported stolen car, but he was released without being arrested, police said.

Hines and a woman friend were stopped in her car at about 1:30 a.m. in North Hollywood because she had reported the car stolen on April 19, said Sgt. Maria Morrison.

The two had left a restaurant in North Hollywood, said officer Sara Faden.

Police took Hines out of the car at gunpoint and handcuffed him, Morrison said. Hines and the woman were released after she was able to prove the car was hers.

"She had gone somewhere, misparked it, reported it stolen and found it later" but failed to cancel the police report, Morrison said.

Hines cooperated with police while he was detained, she said.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Confession played at murder-for-hire trial

Prosecutors say a man charged with the murder-for-hire of his wife in a Southern California parking garage admitted the plot to a cellmate and asked him to arrange the deaths of the killers.

James Fayed's taped remarks were played for Los Angeles jurors on Wednesday during opening statements in his murder and conspiracy trial. The Moorpark man could face the death penalty if convicted.

Study: Public-sector benefits considered better than private

ADAM WEINTRAUB
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO California's state and local government workers make salaries similar to those at large private-sector employers but get significantly higher retirement benefits, a study issued Thursday concluded.

Teachers, however, make far less after retirement than other public employees in the state.

The conclusions were part of a report by consultants hired by the California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility, a nonprofit involved in research on pension reform.

The group shares roots and some advisers with an organization preparing a statewide ballot initiative that seeks to force changes in government pensions.

The study found taxpayers spend roughly three times what large private employers spend per employee for pensions and retiree health benefits. The gap is far smaller for teachers, and costs are lower for public workers who do not spend their entire career in government.

Public pensions have been the subject of hot debate across the nation, with critics arguing the plans provide richer benefits, guaranteed by taxpayers, than other workers get. Although pension funds have gained back some of the deep losses suffered during the recession, the plans remain underfunded by billions of dollars, and projections show costs to governments increasing in the future as more baby boomers retire.

Capitol Matrix Consulting looked at retirement benefits based on current value for both the public systems and several large private employers, assembling data that could be used to compare different sets of benefits, said Michael Genest, a former state finance director and now a principal with the consulting firm.

"There's no question that there's a funding problem," Genest said.

The new study provides hard data that can inform the debate on solving pension problems, he said.

"The rationale for generous public pensions used to be that public employees accept lower salaries, but that doesn't withstand scrutiny any longer," Marcia Fritz, president of the California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility, said in a news release.

She said a state constitutional amendment aligning public and private retirement benefits will save billions of dollars that could be used to support education, public safety and other government services.

The state's largest pension fund and a coalition of retired workers and public-employee unions quickly raised questions about the study.

The California Public Employees' Retirement System was not allowed to review the report before it was issued, said chief executive officer Anne Staussboll.

"What we have seen reported raises significant policy and legal questions." she said.

The consultants said they did not review the legal issues involved in changing pension benefits for workers already in the system, as proposed this year in a report by California's Little Hoover Commission.

They also acknowledged the difficulty of comparing public and private sector jobs because some government jobs, such as firefighter or prison guard, have few exact private counterparts.

They also said they concentrated on comparable jobs and accounted for the higher concentrations of highly educated managers in the public sector.

Bill OKs college aid for illegal immigrants

LIEN HOANG
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO College students who entered the country illegally appear closer than ever to receiving financial aid in California.

On a party-line vote of 51-21, the state Assembly approved a bill Thursday that allows those students to collect privately-funded college scholarships.

Assemblyman Gil Cedillo, a Democrat from Los Angeles and the author of AB130, has introduced a similar bill every year since 2005. Former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, a Republican, vetoed the legislation repeatedly, but Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown made a campaign pledge to sign it.

Dozens of Democrats in the Assembly spoke in support of the bill, arguing that students should not be punished because their parents brought them into the country illegally. They said immigrant labor makes comfortable, middle-class standards of living possible and that California should reward skilled and educated immigrants.

"Undocumented immigrants, in fact, do have rights, and it's a lie that they don't," Cedillo said.

He named his bill the California Dream Act, but unlike the federal Dream Act, it does not include a path to citizenship.

The bill affects students who are in the country illegally but paying in-state tuition. It allows them to collect college scholarships that are not funded by public dollars. Another bill by Cedillo, still in committee, would make those students eligible for state-funded financial aid.

Illegal immigrants in three other states already have access to financial aid, according to Cedillo's office. His bill now heads to the Senate.

Republicans said the legislation diverts resources from citizens and invites illegal immigration.

"If I were a father in a war-torn country to the south of us, and I couldn't feed my children, and I had no way to pay for their education, I'd be tempted to come here," said Assemblyman Tim Donnelly, R-Twin Peaks. He founded the state's largest chapter of the Minuteman Project, which privately patrols the border for illegal immigrants.

Another opponent, Assemblyman Chris Norby, R-Fullerton, said the bill is pointless because after illegal immigrants receive their college diplomas, companies can't hire them. He referenced the federal Dream Act, which Congress failed to pass last year.

"And until it does, this bill is like a coach on a team saying, 'Yeah, I'll make you practice, you'll do the wind sprints, you'll go through all the drills, but I can't legally let you in the game. And if I do, I'll be punished,'" Norby said.

Cedillo returned to that analogy, saying employers will be able to act with certainty once comprehensive immigration reform is achieved.

"Shouldn't we be prepared for that moment?" he said.





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This is a voluntary unpaid position. Applicants do not need to have a technical background to serve on the committee, but experience or expertise in one or more of the following areas is desirable:

- Urban design, architecture, or landscape architecture;
- Transportation and multi-modal planning, including transit-oriented development, bicycle and pedestrian access;
- Art integration;
- Participation in or knowledge of the LUCE, the City of Santa Monica's recently adopted General Plan Land Use and Circulation Element.

Please visit www.smgov.net/ExpoUDC for details or call 310.458.8341. Applications are due no later than May 18, 2011 at 4 p.m.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Scrubbing the wrong way

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SUNDAY, MAY 1, AT 2:27 P.M.,

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1600 block of the beach after receiving a report of a man exposing himself while showering at the public showers near restrooms and a children's play area. When officers arrived, they detained the suspect while they interviewed several witnesses. Officers learned that the suspect was using the beach showers to bath himself, during which time he exposed his butt several times, police said. Witnesses said the suspect also put both his hands down the front of his swim trunks and was aggressively scrubbing his private parts. All the witnesses said that there were several children and other adults in the play area and using the restrooms that saw the suspect. The children's play area is roughly 20 feet from the public showers. Officers placed the suspect under arrest and he was booked for indecent exposure. He was identified as Nathaniel Ghassan Raikes, 33, a transient. His bail was set at $500.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, AT 5:49 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1400 block of Centinela Avenue regarding a burglary in progress. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who said that she arrived home to find her adult granddaughter, who had been previously kicked out of the home, inside the residence. The victim told officers that her granddaughter moved out three months ago and was told not to come back. Officers determined that the suspect gained access to the home by climbing through a window. The suspect was placed under arrest for burglary, along with an outstanding warrant. She was identified as Errica Yvonne Hunter, 28, of Mar Vista. Her bail was set at $51,000.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, AT 12:25 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1800 block of Ocean Avenue – Core's Coffee shop – regarding a report of an assault that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with the victim who said that while dining in the patio area of the restaurant the suspect walked by and started yelling and screaming for no apparent reason. As he passed the victim, the suspect allegedly pushed a metal barrier, causing it to strike the victim on the top of her head. Officers detained the suspect, who was identified by the victim and placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon and a probation violation. The victim was treated by paramedics at the scene. The suspect was identified as Michael Timothy Parker, 44, a transient. His bail was set at $30,000.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, AT 10:35 P.M.,

Officers on routine patrol on the 1600 block of Appian Way saw a man acting suspicious. Officers tried to make contact with him but he was able to hide and elude officers for several minutes. After checking the area, officers made contact with the suspect and another individual. The two were riding bikes near the Chess Park. One suspect cooperated with officers while the other ran. Police caught up to him at the corner of Ocean and Colorado avenues. Police said both bikes were stolen. Officers said they found bolt cutters and a damaged bike lock near the area where the suspects were first seen. One suspect was also in possession of someone else's identification and bank account information. The suspects were placed under arrest. Erick Phillips, 45, a transient, was booked for possession of stolen property, resisting arrest, possession of burglary tools and possession of lost property, along with riding a bike without a light. His bail was set at $10,000. Christopher Malbrough, 38, a transient, was booked for possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, riding without a light and for having multiple warrants. His bail was set at $56,308.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, AT 12:11 A.M.,

Officers responded to the 1900 block of Main Street – Main Street Liquor – regarding a report of someone's hand being cut off. When officers arrived, they found a man uninjured who appeared to be on drugs. The officers determined that the suspect could not care for himself and placed him under arrest. The suspect was transported to the Santa Monica Jail, where additional tests were conducted. During the booking search, police said they found drug paraphernalia. The suspect, identified as Terell Michael Young, 23, of Los Angeles, was booked for being under the influence and possession of drug paraphernalia. His bail was set at $2,500.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27,

Officers responded to the 200 block of Broadway – Nordstrom – regarding a woman fighting with security at the department store. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said the suspect hid a dress in her pants and walked out without paying. After being detained, the woman allegedly fought with security in an attempt to flee. She was taken into custody and booked for robbery and burglary. She was identified as Malayna Leann Busik, 40, of North Hollywood. Her bail was set at $50,000.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, AT 5:45 P.M.,

Officers responded to Nordstrom to conduct a follow-up investigation related to another shoplifting incident when they were advised by store security that a woman was about to walk out of the store without paying for merchandise. Officers and security detained the woman outside of the store. Security said the woman entered with a stroller and took two pairs of sunglasses, removed security tags and then concealed them in the stroller. Officers searched the suspect and found her to be in possession of a new Coach purse believed stolen from a location on the Third Street Promenade. The woman was booked for commercial burglary. She was identified as Margarita Leticia Diaz, 40, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at $20,000.

news@smdp.com

BBB
FROM PAGE 1

hasn't been determined yet, said Dan Dawson, marketing manager for BBB.

"It's part of the planning," Dawson said. "We have to develop a marketing plan to determine exactly that: What is an appropriate length of time that the ads can stay up to maximize revenue, and not be so fast that they're both unreadable and distracting."

Digital billboards have come under scrutiny over the last decade with opponents claiming that the constantly fluctuating and bright advertisements would cause accidents by distracting drivers.

Studies done to figure out whether or not that's true have either been attacked for being funded by digital advertising companies or were declared inconclusive.

A 2009 review of existing studies by the Federal Highway Administration stated that it found "a disjointed array of isolated studies" that came to contradictory and inconclusive results.

BBB officials feel that the ads are safe, Dawson said.

"Other cities already do this, like Chicago, New York and London. We will be looking to other agencies to see their standards," Dawson said.

Members of the Risk Management departments from Chicago and New York reported that they hadn't seen any increase in accidents, Dawson said.

To keep risks low, the boards would not shine as brightly as the larger billboard versions that are in Los Angeles. These boards would have sensors that would cause them to shine more brightly under sunny conditions, and actually reduce their brightness in cloudy conditions to be less of a distraction.

If applied, the digital boards have the potential to increase ad revenues four-fold. Early estimates put the figure at almost $6 million, but BBB will hire a professional firm to study the matter further if the City Council chooses to allow the signs, Dawson said.

The increase in cash flow would help bridge the system's budget deficits, and hopefully improve service. While rate decreases aren't out of the question, Dawson pointed out that Santa Monica's buses have the lowest fares in the region.

The City Council heard the proposal first in May 2010.

"We saw the technology at a council meeting, and it looked fairly non-intrusive and attractive," said Councilmember Terry O'Day. "Not a bad way to raise revenue and keep fares low."

If the bill passes the State Senate, it will still be another eight to 12 months before the digital ads begin to roll on the buses, Dawson said.

"Once the law is changed, we make the purchase, get them installed, develop a marketing plan and a price structure, it's quite involved," Dawson said. "The law is the first step in a long process."

The bill passed 63 to one, and now heads for the Senate for consideration.

ashley@smdp.com

BUS
FROM PAGE 3

Eleven original Freedom Riders will also be on the bus, sharing their experiences with the students.

"I'm a huge civil rights dork," 22-year-old Orendorff said. "I feel that it was something that greatly influenced my activism, and one of my heroes is Diane Nash, one of the original student organizers. Now I'm going to be riding with her."

Orendorff heard about the event through SMC Professor Melanie Klein, who saw it as a way for her young student to connect her activism with her studies, which concentrated on media and the way stories are shared in our modern society.

A filmmaker and student of social media, Orendorff has been capturing the essence of social movements since she was young. Her father campaigned for indigenous rights, and Orendorff would follow him to rallies, camera in hand.

"I spent my teens documenting immigrant rallies," Orendorff said. "If you weren't there, being able to see it is very powerful."

The essay that won her a spot on the bus focused on using her videography to re-examine history through a fresh lens, and learn it from people who were there, in the flesh.

She wrote it while on her own journey, a two-month, 5,000 mile car trip from Boston to Los Angeles that headed through the South.

"It was a perfect time to be reflecting on this, because I've never been to the South, but I am interested in what was happening there," Orendorff said. "It blew my mind."

Orendorff will be venturing back south a bit sooner than she might have imagined.

The new Riders will begin in Washington, D.C. and continue on through Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and into Louisiana, ending in New Orleans, the intended destination of the first movement.

Part of the program for the students recreating the freedom ride will be producing media content to share their experiences and knowledge with the rest of the world, an aspect that spoke to Orendorff's personal talents and ambitions.

Event organizers hope that material will inspire young people to engage with civil society using the tools that they are uniquely capable of wielding, much like the men and women that stepped onto the buses 50 years ago.

In 1961, the rides got headlines without the added benefit of social media, instead arresting the focus of the nation through the sheer audacity of their actions.

"It's interesting to me the contrast between the original Freedom Riders who just got up and did it," Orendorff said. "They weren't thinking about YouTube, or updating a Facebook status. I think it's interesting that we're taking on this role as documentarians, recording the process."

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Workers enter Japan nuclear reactor building for the first time

TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
Associated Press

TOKYO Workers entered one of the damaged reactor buildings at Japan's stricken nuclear power plant Thursday for the first time since it was rocked by an explosion in the days after a devastating earthquake, the plant's operator said.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said workers connected ventilation and air filtration equipment in Unit 1 in an attempt to reduce radiation levels in the air inside the building.

The utility must lower radiation levels before it can proceed with the key step of replacing the cooling system that was knocked out by the March 11 quake and subsequent tsunami that left more than 25,000 people dead or missing along Japan's northeastern coast.

Workers have not been able to enter the reactor buildings at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant, about 140 miles (230 kilometers) northeast of Tokyo, since the first days after the tsunami. Hydrogen explosions at four of the buildings at the six-reactor complex in the first few days destroyed some of their roofs and walls and scattered radioactive debris.

TEPCO spokesman Junichi Matsumoto called Thursday's development "a first step toward a cool and stable shutdown," which the utility hopes to achieve in six to nine months.

In mid-April, a robot recorded radioactivity of about 50 millisieverts per hour inside Unit 1's reactor building — a level too high for workers to realistically enter. Readings taken later in April in another part of the building were as high as 1,200 millisieverts.

The decision to send the workers in was made after robots last Friday collected fresh data that showed radiation levels in some areas inside the building were safe enough for workers to enter, said Taisuke Tomikawa, another TEPCO spokesman.

Two utility workers, wearing a mask and air tank similar to those used by scuba divers, entered the reactor building for about 25 minutes to check radiation levels. They were exposed to 2 millisieverts during that time, Tomikawa said. Outside the building, the utility erected a temporary tent designed to prevent radioactive air from escaping.

Later, 11 other workers — two from TEPCO and nine from its subcontractors — wearing similar gear went into the reactor building to install ducts for the air filtering equipment. Twenty other workers provided help from outside.

The utility hopes to start allowing workers into the building to set up a cooling system around mid-May. In addition to reducing radioactivity with the new air filtering system, it hopes to reduce it further by removing or covering up contaminated debris inside the building, Matsumoto said.

TEPCO is proceeding with a plan to fill the Unit 1 containment vessel with water to soak the core and cool it, and also plans to install big fans as an external cooling system, he said.

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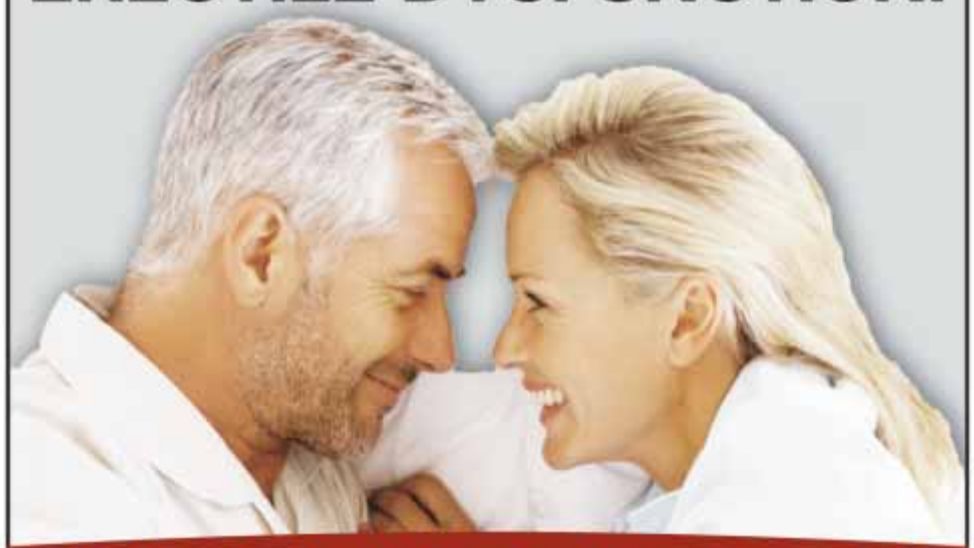
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Pop-up restaurants come, go in a flash

JESSICA MINTZ
For The Associated Press

SEATTLE If you missed the fried rice with pungent shrimp paste at Shophouse Seattle on Monday night, well, too bad. The down-home Thai joint has already shut its doors.

Shophouse creator Wiley Frank spends most nights as sous chef at an upscale restaurant called Lark. But once a week, Frank and his wife transform a nearby bar called Licorous into a short-lived eatery dedicated to simple, authentic Thai street food.

His venture is just one permutation of an emerging class of restaurants called pop-ups, in which chefs set up temporary shop in breakfast spots, art galleries, financially troubled eateries and places that don't normally serve food. Then, after a day, a week or a month, they shut it down.

For chefs, pop-ups are a way to test new dishes, let off some creative steam, expand their brand to new neighborhoods and otherwise take risks without the hefty up-front investment required for a traditional restaurant. In Frank's case, the pop-up is an outlet for his entrepreneurial tendencies that — unlike starting a full-on restaurant — leaves him time to spend with his family.

For customers, pop-ups mean access to high-end food at more affordable prices, as well as the thrill of taking part in something fleeting.

Pop-up restaurants, together with food trucks, were voted the top operational trend for 2011 by chefs surveyed by the National Restaurant Association. Hudson Riehle, an analyst for the trade group, said the here-today-gone-tomorrow eateries are mostly springing up in larger cities.

Pop-ups are gaining traction as culinary schools crank out a growing number of chefs eager to reach a younger generation of restaurant-goers with an increasingly sophisticated palate. Plus, the rise of social media gives these entrepreneurs a way to generate buzz quickly for a temporary eatery.

Money plays a big part in pop-ups' appeal. Bonnie Riggs, an industry analyst for market researchers NPD Group, said that while restaurant traffic has started to recover following declines during the economic downturn, growth is expected to be essentially flat for the next few years. Especially among independent and high-end restaurants, which were hit the hardest during the recession and which continue to struggle to get financing, the race is on to entice people to go out to dinner more.

"It's a battle for market share," Riggs said. "Those who are the most creative and innovative, who pique consumer interest, those are going to be the winners."

Creativity and innovation can be easier to execute with a pop-up than a traditional restaurant, which needs to satisfy investors looking for a return.

Dan Moody, a San Diego-based chef, got his feet wet in the pop-up scene cooking for one of its pioneers, chef Ludo Lefebvre, who has been orchestrating pop-ups in Los Angeles since 2007. When Moody decided to strike out on his own, his first thought was to go pop-up.

"I get to be more playful," Moody said. "At a restaurant, you have to think about how it would work operationally for a long period of time."

For instance, Moody said that at a physical restaurant he wouldn't want to change the menu frequently, because people expect a permanent restaurant to keep offering favorite dishes. A lean pop-up gives Moody the freedom to offer some out-there dishes, such as his own riff on beef Wellington: sous vide filet mignon with porcini-dusted seared foie gras and mustard ice cream.

"I think what makes (pop-ups) hot and trending is the ability for a chef to come out and do something people wouldn't normally get. People get to see a chef's creativity, completely unconstrained by an owner, investors, anything like that," Moody said. "It's the chef's food as he wants to do it."

Opening a pop-up isn't without hassles or risks. Each city has its own set of rules when it comes to securing licenses and permits; for temporary restaurants in unconventional spaces, chefs are wading through gray areas of the law.

It took Moody about three months to find a location, and another two to get Relate Restaurant in shape to open. He gave himself time to order his own pots, pans and other kitchen equipment; it was also harder than he thought to find staff willing to work for this short-term experiment. He had to learn on the fly how to manage the entire business of a restaurant, beyond what happens in the kitchen.

Moody picked an existing cafe in Encinitas, Calif., about 25 miles north of San Diego, that was only open for breakfast and lunch. Both parties would benefit from the arrangement — Moody would get inexpensive kitchen space for a month without having to navigate the tangle of licenses and permits, and the cafe owner could pull in extra revenue and generate press.









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Odd pairings make Sonoran dog work

JOHN MARSHALL
Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. It sounds like the sort of thing frat boys would dare each other to eat — a hot dog wrapped in bacon, stuffed in a puffy roll, then smothered in pinto beans, onions, tomatoes, mustard, jalapeno sauce, cheese, maybe a few crumbled potato chips sprinkled on top.

But taste a Sonoran hot dog — a specialty dog of the Southwest — and the peculiarity washes away, the odd swirl of colors and flavors forming a fusion of flavor that somehow works. And it becomes clear why people — not just frat kids — will drive across town during rush hour to get one. Or two.

"The mayonnaise, the beans, the green sauce — if you were to describe it somebody, they'd be like, I'm not putting that in my mouth," said Mike Lowery, web manager for the University of Arizona athletic department and Sonoran dog enthusiast.

"It's completely different from what we think of as a hot dog and you need to get somebody to accept that," he said. "Once you get past that, they see how good it is."

The Sonoran hot dog, as the name might suggest, is said to have originated from Sonora, Mexico, just over the border from Arizona. Though the exact place and time is hard to pinpoint, Sonoran dogs were served on the streets of Hermosillo, the capitol, around 40 years ago, and tourists have long grabbed late-night "danger dogs" in border towns like Tijuana.

Whatever the dawn of the dog was, it's taken a foothold in Tucson.

The desert town sandwiched between the Santa Catalina and Rincon mountains has had Sonoran-style hot dogs for decades, but the locals' affinity for these delicacies got serious around the early 1990s.

Daniel Contreras, owner of the Tuscon restaurant chain El Guero Canelo, was one of the first proprietors to serve bacon-wrapped dogs smothered in everything from the cupboard.

Now, Arizona's second-largest city boasts well over 100 vendors — the exact number, like the origination point, is tough to determine — selling Sonoran hot dogs, from mobile carts set up under trees and temporary shelters to full-menu restaurants like El Guero's and BK Carne Asada and Hot Dogs.

"Basically, there had never been hot dog places, but now there's a lot of them," said Arturo Contreras, Daniel's brother and El Guero's general manager. "The specific taste is something people here like."

So what makes Sonoran hot dogs so good?

It starts with the bun.

Unlike traditional hot dogs, Sonoran dogs skip the typical bun, coming instead in a soft, puffy blanket of dough known as a bolillo, a savory Mexican bread. The bolillo isn't so much sliced, but almost torn open, the ends left closed so the dog and accompanying garnishments sit atop a boat of dough that's sturdy, yet delicate once it hits the mouth.

"Whenever I take someone there, they're surprised by the bun because it's not the standard hot dog bun we're used to," Lowery said. "It's a slightly sweet bun and that's what makes it a little different than the standard American hot dog."

Well, that and just about everything else.

Since the early days of bacon wrapping, Sonoran hot dogs have become an almost anything-goes endeavor, with everything from sour cream and avocado to shrimp and chorizo, even pineapple and potato chips thrown on top.

The basics are mostly the same, though, starting with the dog in the middle.

Wrapped like a meaty candy cane, the hot dog is grilled so the bacon fuses to it, making it difficult to tell where one starts and the other stops while forming a memorable mouthful that's the foundation of the Sonoran dog.

After the melding of meat, a healthy portion of pinto beans are dropped on top, followed by — and not necessarily in this order — diced tomatoes, onions (grilled, raw, sometimes both), mustard, mayonnaise and either jalapeno sauce or salsa. Ketchup and cheese are always options, too.

When it's done, the Sonoran hot dog looks like a kindergarten finger-painting project — and tastes like nothing you've ever had.

"It is a weird combination, they're right, but there is a bit of thrill where you taste it and makes you want to have another," Contreras said. "When you're eating the hot dogs, about halfway through you start craving another one."

The key, though, is trying that first dog.

Most people who hear about Sonoran hot dogs turn up their noses at first; the unlikely combination of ingredients just doesn't sound right to the mustard-ketchup-relish crowd. But once that first bite goes down, it's a pleasantly overwhelming punch to the taste buds, a wave of flavor pulling in another convert.

"I was tentative a little bit at first," Lowery said. "I had a friend and asked him to take me somewhere that was authentic Mexican food. He took me to El Guero's and said you've got to try a hot dog and I loved it. You've just got to start out by getting it with everything and judge it when you're done."

City of Santa Monica

Bicycle Action Plan Community Meeting

BIKE santa monica

Please join the Santa Monica Planning Commission and Planning & Community Development Department in setting a course of action, prioritizing projects and programs, and preparing to roll out the

Draft Bicycle Action Plan.

Monday, May 16, 2011
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
East Wing
1855 Main Street

Ride your bike – bike valet will be provided. The Civic Center is accessible by Big Blue Bus lines 2, 3, Rapid 3, 7, and 9. Please contact Michelle Glickert for special arrangements or questions 310.458.2204.

Obama makes emotional trip to NYC

BEN FELLER
AP White House Correspondent

NEW YORK Solemnly honoring victims of the Sept. 11 terror attacks, President Barack Obama hugged survivors, thanked the heroes of one of the nation's darkest days and declared Thursday that the killing of Osama bin Laden after all these years was an American message to the world: "When we say we will never forget, we mean what we say."

On a brilliant blue-sky day, one of reflection more than celebration, Obama offered New Yorkers a moment of their own. Standing at the gritty construction site of ground zero, where the towers fell and a memorial now rises, the president laid a wreath of red, white and blue flowers for the nearly 3,000 who died as he marked a turning point for the nation and this city of steely resilience.

For Obama, the day was about the importance of being in New York in the aftermath of the successful raid to find and kill bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader. Obama addressed families who have watched and wondered for nearly a decade whether the government would track down its most infamous enemy.

On this special ground, Obama never mentioned bin Laden's name.

Still, this was where the terrorist inflicted his greatest damage on a similarly sunny day in 2001 when hijacked airliners were crashed into the World Trade Center. Nearly 200 other people died when a third airliner hit the Pentagon — Vice President Joe Biden led a ceremony there on Thursday, and Bush Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld attended — and others were killed when yet a fourth plane crashed in Pennsylvania.

Enthusiastic, emotional New Yorkers waited on streets to see the president, but there were few displays like the more raucous exuberance of a few days earlier. There were happy faces, shouts of "USA! USA!" and flags waved in the crowd, but there also was heavy security and most people were cordoned off blocks from where the president could be seen.

Referring to the daring U.S. raid to take down bin Laden in Pakistan, Obama said of all those who died on Sept. 11: "It says we keep them in our hearts. We haven't forgotten."

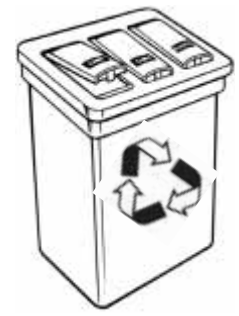
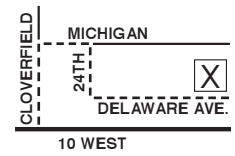
Days after the attacks, President George W. Bush stood here with firefighters and a bullhorn. There was a different feel a decade later as another president paid his respects. Obama met with firefighters, then police, before having a solemn moment at ground zero and meeting privately with families of those who died.

"This is a symbolic site of the extraordinary sacrifice that was made on that terrible day," the president said at Engine 54, Ladder 4, Battalion 9. The firehouse in New York's theater district lost 15 firefighters on 9/11, more than any other firehouse. The fire crews gave him hearty applause.

Obama said the American pursuit of the terrorist leader "sent a message around the world but also sent a message here back home that when we say we will never forget, we mean what we say, that our commitment to making sure that justice is done is something that transcended politics, transcended party."

Bin Laden was shot dead in a raid on his Pakistan compound early Monday in Pakistan, the result of years of painstaking

SEE NYC PAGE 14

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: May 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:
ARB 11-073, 725 California Avenue: Place of Worship
ARB 11-077, 1331 23rd Street: Residential
ARB 11-089, 3020 Lincoln Boulevard: Coffee Shop
ARB 11-106, 816, Pico Boulevard: Retail
ARB 11-108, 2401 Beverly Avenue: Residential
ARB 11-111, 1624 Santa Monica Boulevard: Fast Food Restaurant
ARB 11-131, 1457 Third Street Promenade (AKA 309 Broadway): Retail
ARB 11-134, 2018 Lincoln Boulevard: Retail
ARB 11-135, 2838 Wilshire Boulevard: Retail
ARB 11-174, 1700 Main Street: Public Park

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines, 2, 3, Rapid #3, 7, & 9 serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

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NYC
FROM PAGE 13

intelligence work and a covert military mission in which none of the U.S. commandos was killed.

The president closed his eyes and clasped his hands at the outdoor memorial where the twin towers of the World Trade Center once dominated the Manhattan skyline.

Now the nearby skyline is filled with construction machinery. The emerging skyscraper informally known as Freedom Tower is more than 60 stories high. Mammoth fountains and reflecting pools mark the footprints of the fallen towers.

Obama spoke with children who lost parents and adults who lost spouses. As he bowed his head, a jetliner screamed by, far overhead.

The president also peppered his brief comments with reminders of the challenges ahead, and his call for a new spirit of national unity.

It wasn't a moment for celebrating the military operation that killed bin Laden; that may come Friday, when the president visits Fort Campbell, Ky., home to the Army unit involved in transporting Navy SEALS in and out of bin Laden's compound. White House officials said Obama intended to privately thank participants in the raid.

Obama said Thursday he hoped the results of the raid on bin Laden's compound showed that "we did what we said we were going to do, and that Americans, even in the midst of tragedy, will come together, across the years, across politics, across party, across administrations, to make sure that justice is done."

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, who led the city in the days after the attacks, joined Obama during the day.

Obama invited Bush to join him Thursday in New York, but the former president declined.

Obama's visit came as new details emerged of the operation on bin Laden's Pakistan compound.

A senior defense official said Thursday that only one of the five people killed in the raid was armed and fired a shot — an account that differed from original administration portrayals of an intense firefight. The White House also now says bin Laden was unarmed when he was shot, after officials initially said the terrorist was holding a gun or even firing.

Obama also addressed bin Laden's burial at sea, saying in an interview with CBS' "60 Minutes" that: "Frankly, we took more care on this than, obviously, bin Laden took when he killed 3,000 people."

Such details perhaps mattered little to New Yorkers who suffered most grievously in the attacks and are now deeply gratified to see bin Laden's demise.

Ahead of Obama's arrival, Deanne McDonald stood at the northeast corner of the World Trade Center site waving an American flag in each hand and shouting "Obama got Osama! Obama got Osama!"

"God bless the Navy SEALS," said McDonald, 38, from Brooklyn. She took work off on Thursday to wait for the president, saying she was prouder than ever to be an American.

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Highs and Lows of the Criminal Justice System – Drug Offenses

One of my clients recently commented to me that she was very thankful that our criminal justice system afforded her an opportunity to help her kick her nasty drug habit. Her comments got me thinking about how often the criminal justice system is denigrated and maligned by a large majority of the population (and a large majority of those who go through the system) for the inability to rehabilitate and treat offenders in order to prevent a reoccurrence or repeat offense. Despite this widely held sentiment, there is a much better track record of success when it comes to the system's approach to drug offenses. California law makers and prosecutorial agencies decided long ago that it is far better to treat drug offenders than to punish them. This is a precarious and often delicate relationship because while no one wants to condone drug use, virtually everyone realizes that harsh punishments more often than not simply breed recidivism. This article will focus on two ways to combat drug use through the criminal justice system: DEJ and Prop 36.

California's drug laws maintain a close relationship with the electorate of California. That is to say that as popular feelings and opinions on drugs softens, so too do the laws criminalizing drug possession. For example, California Penal Code Section 1000, more commonly known as DEJ (Deferred Entry of Judgment), and the passage of Proposition 36, reflects California citizens' collective sentiment that drug offenders should be given every available option to seek treatment and stop using drugs before a court imposes jail or prison.

DEJ is covered by Penal Code Section 1000 and applies to cases where a person is caught in possession of a controlled substance, smoking device, or even alcohol. The basic principle behind DEJ is that is an offender in possession of a controlled substance (i.e. cocaine, methamphetamine, ecstasy or a pipe, etc.) may enter a guilty plea, stay clean, take drug treatment classes, and then have the guilty plea withdrawn and the case dismissed after an 18 month period. Note that even if the underlying offense is dismissed some employers and licensing agencies may still pursue administrative action. DEJ only applies to cases where the controlled substance is for personal use (meaning not a sales case) and where the offender is first determined to be eligible. Moreover, if an offender violates DEJ and defies a court's orders the judge may enter the guilty plea and sentence the offender accordingly.

In order to be found eligible for the DEJ program it must be demonstrated that: 1) There are no prior convictions for any offense involving controlled substances, 2) The offense charged did not involve a crime of violence or threatened violence, 3) There is no evidence of a violation relating to narcotics or restricted dangerous drugs, 4) The defendant's has not previously violated probation or parole, 5) The defendant has not been placed on DEJ within 5 years of the offense date, and 6) The defendant has no prior felony conviction within five years. If all of these requirements are satisfied, then a person is eligible for DEJ and has the opportunity to earn a dismissal.

Similar to DEJ, Proposition 36 was passed by California voters in November 2000 as a legislative means to allow drug offenders to receive probation with treatment rather than incarceration. For practical purposes, Prop. 36 is a secondary option to get addicts and users treatment when DEJ and/or other programs have failed to get people the help that they so desperately need. A user is ineligable for probation under Prop. 36 if they have a prior felony "strike" within five years, if in the same case they have been convicted of a non-drug related felony or misdemeanor, if they were in possession of a firearm while under the influence, and/or if they have twice failed Prop. 36 or continuously refuses treatment.

A person sentenced to Prop. 36 will complete drug treatment classes, counseling, and whatever other courses are deemed appropriate by the court. The offender will also submit to urine or blood testing as well. Upon successful completion of the Prop. 36 program the case is not automatically dismissed as is the case with DEJ; however, one can petition to the court to dismiss the action with a showing that they have successfully completed the program and gone above and beyond what was required.

The DEJ and Prop. 36 programs can work wonders for drug users and offenders. It is often quite refreshing to see someone enter the program as a downtrodden, distraught, and disheveled drug addict and exit the program clean, sober, and enlightened about the many dangers of drug use. I will never forget the look of happiness, joy and relief that filled my client's face when the judge congratulated her on her progress and then dismissed her case. There was applause from the small audience in the courtroom, and my client felt as though she had accomplished something positive rather than felt the shame of having committed a crime. It was refreshing to both of us that the criminal justice system actually helped and truly served the interests of justice.

If you or anyone you know has been arrested for a drug related offense or any other misdemeanor or felony offense contact criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor Jacob Glucksman through The Legal Grind immediately to preserve your rights!

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY JACOB GLUCKSMAN, A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY. HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

Disclaimer: this article does not constitute legal advice and does not create an attorney client relationship.

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MONDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00-6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Small Business-startups, Non-profit law, Green & Sustainable Business Practices, Corporations, Contract Drafting, Business Litigation and Employment Law with Attorney Becki Kammerling
5:00-6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
6:00-7:00pm	(2nd & 4th Monday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
WEDNESDAY	
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY	
12:00-2:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz (By appointment Only)
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2st & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

Development Agreement Amendment 11DEV-002, 2401 to 2525 Colorado Avenue and 2400-2500 Broadway. The Property Owner proposes a Fifth Amendment to the Development Agreement for the Yahoo Center office development to revise the current base parking ratio for office use on the site from the current requirement of one parking space per 322SF of office floor area to one parking space per 500SF of office floor area. This Fifth Amendment would also authorize leasing of up to 1,053 existing surplus parking spaces to off-site parties, consistent with the facility's long-standing practice of leasing underutilized spaces while still maintaining sufficient parking for its on-site tenants. [Planner: Roxanne Tanemori, AICP] **APPLICANT/PROPERTY OWNER: CA-Colorado Center, L.L.C. [This project was continued from April 20 & April 27, 2011.]**

WHEN: **Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at **www.smgov.net**. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, and #9 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only 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.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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NBA

Lakers take drama on the road

BY JAIME ARON
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS One big man is struggling, the other is spouting off about "trust issues." Their enforcer got carried away at the end of the last game and is suspended from the next one.

Their mental edge is gone, and so is their home-court advantage. They've even lost the approval of one of their greatest icons.

Asked how to get them to snap out of it, their Zen master coach suggested "flogging them." Then he laughed. Hey, Phil Jackson's retiring in a few days or weeks, so he might as well crack wise.

Such melodrama is vintage Hollywood, but usually for the make-believe folks. Or the Clippers. Certainly not the realm of Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Yet early in their second-round series against the Dallas Mavericks, Bryant and the Lakers are in deep trouble, and they know it.

Los Angeles is down 0-2 going into Game 3 on Friday night. While three teams in NBA history have won a seven-game series after losing the first two at home, no team has rallied from an 0-3 deficit. That makes the next game pivotal in the Lakers' quest for a third straight championship.

"Desperate, that's a strong word," Bryant said. "I think when you play desperate you don't play your best basketball. What we need to do is relax, focus on what we're doing wrong and the mistakes that we're making. We have plenty to review and lock in on."

Their problems start on defense.

Dirk Nowitzki is having his way with the Lakers no matter whether they try covering him with someone big or small. That happens with all teams. The surprise is that Los Angeles is struggling with everyone else, all the way down to speedy little backup point guard J.J. Barea.

Barea scooted all over the court in Game 2 on Wednesday night until the final minute, when Ron Artest swung his forearm and whacked Barea in the face. Artest was thrown out and the league told him Thursday that he can't play in Game 3.

If the Lakers' invincibility wasn't already gone, that cheap shot made it clear how frustrated this team is.

Just look at the inside tandem of Pau Gasol and Andrew Bynum. Gasol is playing so poorly on both ends of the court that he was booed in the second half of Game 2, at least until many fans left early or lost interest. After the game, Bynum spiced things up by saying "all 13 of our guys have trust issues right now," further describing those problems as "deeply rooted."

Lakers great Magic Johnson is disgusted. On Wednesday night, he tweeted, "It's going to be a tough climb to come back and I think their chances are slim." On Thursday, he tweeted that Bynum should've kept his mouth shut.

All told, the Lakers look tired, mentally and physically. Maybe it's the toll of reaching the finals each of the last three years.

This is nothing new, either. They've had several stretches this season when they've looked vulnerable, only to revert to their title-worthy form. Just last round, they lost the opener to the Hornets and were tied 2-2 in the series before Bryant pulled them through. What seemed like a jump-start to another title run is now looking like it might've been a last gasp.

"We don't like being in this position," point guard Derek Fisher said. "It's not familiar, you know? But we are where we are, so we have to make sure we stay together as a group and figure this thing out. We're trying to make history here, and that's not easy. We have to be willing to be accountable, all of us."

The Lakers can't be counted out because they still have Bryant — and because they're playing the Mavericks, a team that tends to blow games and series every postseason.

Dallas appeared headed toward another flop when it gave away a 23-point lead over the last 14 minutes of Game 4 in a first-round series against Portland. But the Mavs haven't lost since, a streak of four wins, with the last three coming on the road.

The road wins are especially significant because Dallas had lost eight straight playoff road games, and 18 of 20. Such performances in Portland and in Los Angeles back up what players have been saying since training camp: These aren't the same old Mavs.

But two games only counts as a good start toward changing Dallas' reputation. And it's not like the Mavericks played two perfect games. The Lakers would've won the opener if a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by Bryant stayed in the cylinder instead of bouncing out.

"This series is far from over," Nowitzki said. "I've been up 2-0 before and ended up losing the series. We've seen a lot of things happen in this league so we've got to stay focused, stay together and let our home crowd ride us and get another great win."

The last time they played in Dallas, the Mavericks gave their best performance of the postseason, their bounceback game following the Game 4 collapse. The building should be even louder this time because of the higher stakes, and because it will be the Lakers' first playoff visit in 23 years.

The Mavs already posted on YouTube an animated video that's sure to get a rousing response when it's played Friday night: "Mamas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up To Be Lakers Fans."

It's the continuation of a series that began with the Mavericks' run to the NBA finals in 2006.

Odds are, the club's video folks are already working on versions for the Thunder and Grizzlies. Just in case.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

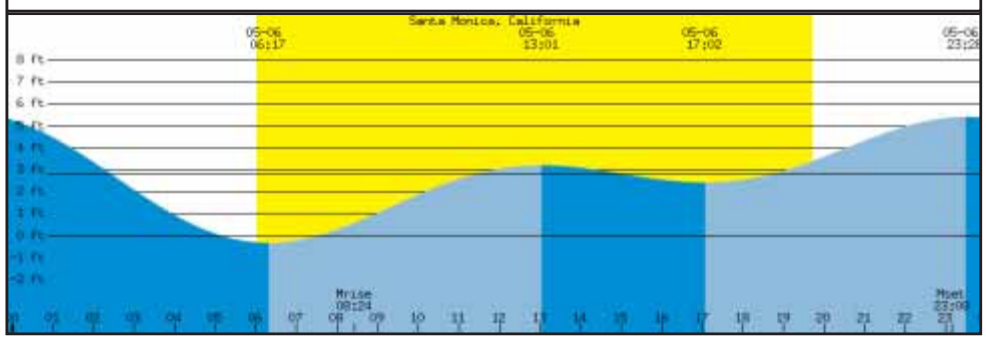
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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 **April 6, 2011**

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 -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 10
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 34 / 12
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 11 / 32

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA

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.	F	F
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	F
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	F
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	C
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	F	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	C
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	B
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	F

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

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'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.

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

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MLB

Source: League wants more access to Dodgers' papers

RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK Major League Baseball wants more complete access to documents on the Los Angeles Dodgers' finances, a person familiar with the sport's investigation of the team tells The Associated Press.

Former Texas Rangers president Tom Schieffer was appointed last month by Commissioner Bud Selig to monitor the team's finances, and met Thursday in Milwaukee with Selig and MLB executive vice president Rob Manfred. The three determined to press ahead with MLB's probe of Dodger finances dating back to Frank McCourt's purchase of the club in 2004, the person said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no public statements were authorized.

The Dodgers said Wednesday that documents requested by MLB had been made available in a "virtual data room" at Dodger Stadium. But baseball officials determined that was insufficient, the person said, because MLB will not be able to remove CD-ROMS for financial analysis and might not be able to print documents without the Dodgers having a record of what MLB is examining.

City of Santa Monica

CORRECTED NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Ordinance Amending the Sign Code**

APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica
LOCATION: Citywide

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following:

Introduce for first reading an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Santa Monica amending Santa Monica Municipal Code Sections 9.52.030, 9.52.140, 9.52.150, and 9.52.160 relating to sign area calculation, permitted projecting signs, attractions or reader boards, and total sign area authorized in the RVC District. Additional changes to municipal code sections relating to signage and outdoor vending issues will also be considered.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011, AT 6:45 p.m.**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Sign Code Ordinance
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Laura Beck at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at laura.beck@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and the Tide Ride serve City Hall.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only 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.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



MOVIE TIMES

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

Much Ado About Nothing (PG-13) 1hr 51min
A Midwinter's Tale (R) 1hr 39min
7:30pm

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

Thor (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
9:15am, 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Scream 4 (R) 1hr 43min
9:20pm

African Cats (G) 1hr 29min
9:45am, 12:10pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:20pm, 9:45pm

POM Wonderful Presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold (PG-13) 1hr 30min
10:00am, 12:25pm, 2:55pm, 5:20pm, 7:45pm, 10:10pm

Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil 3D (PG) 1hr 25min
9:30am, 12:05pm, 2:20pm, 4:40pm, 7:00pm

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

Fast Five (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
10:05am, 12:10pm, 1:10pm, 3:15pm, 4:15pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:45pm, 10:45pm

Hanna (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:55pm, 10:40pm

Prom (PG) 1hr 43min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:25pm

Soul Surfer (PG-13) 1hr 45min
10:15am, 12:50pm, 3:25pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Rio 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:55pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
7:00am, 10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:05pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

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

Last Night (R) 2hrs 00min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Forks Over Knives (PG) 1hr 30min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

Win Win (R) 1hr 46min
4:50pm, 9:40pm

Exporting Raymond (PG) 1hr 26min
2:40pm, 7:30pm

I Am (NR) 1hr 16min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:40pm, 9:50pm

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

Rio (PG) 1hr 36min
10:10am, 12:45pm, 3:15pm, 5:45pm, 8:15pm

Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family (NR) 2 hrs 33 min
10:45pm

Something Borrowed (PG-13) 1hr 43min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 4:55pm, 7:40pm, 10:20pm

Jumping the Broom (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:45am, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Water for Elephants (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
10:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Source Code (PG-13) 1hr 34min
12:05pm, 2:35pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

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

Live in the moment, Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Keep talks moving. You might not be comfortable with everything you are hearing. You might wonder if another choice would be better. Realize what is going on with others before you make a financial decision. Tonight: Hang out with a friend, but make it an easy night.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Be aware of where you are coming from financially. You might be overly tired and withdrawn. Be willing to say "no" to a money offer. Others know that you are authentic and cannot be bought. Tonight: Your treat. Let the good times roll.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You are all smiles and take a leap of faith. Nevertheless, a meeting defines your decisions. You now know which way to go. Understanding evolves to a different level. Be willing to back up your words with actions. Tonight: Living in the moment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ Know that you are best off holding your opinions back. Words come forward that might be irritating but force some type of internalization. You might wonder about the strength of your reaction. Tonight: Know what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might be a lot happier with a personal matter than you originally thought you'd be. Making a decision could lead to substantial discomfort. Realize what a friendship has to offer. Now ask yourself if the friendship is worth it. Tonight: Lots of fun early on.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Tension builds, whether you're conscious of it or not. This situation could change radically if you relax and try another approach. Sometimes a partner is rather assertive. Be willing to be more creative, empathetic and direct. Tonight: A late meeting could dissolve into a fun happening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Your mind is everywhere but present in the moment. Strange things happen when you become too lodged in reverie. Optimism seems to surround you, encouraging you to clear out a problem with a key person. Become more vested in what is happening. Tonight: Split from the tried-and-true as soon as you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Your fun nature seems to separate those who have a lot to offer from those who are just riding your coattails. Your effectiveness is tested to the max, forcing your hand. Do you want or need a different approach? Tonight: Visit over munchies; the rest just happens.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Listen to what is being said, whether you agree or not. You are full of fun and energy. You are very lucky, and you make excellent choices. You seem to be able to handle nearly anything. Look at a situation as you would another person. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You have a lot to do, and you accomplish it quickly. Maintain your sense of humor. Realize what is happening behind the scenes. In a meeting in the evening, you see a situation differently because of a discussion. Tonight: So many people and so much to do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Take off early. Your perspective is subject to change if you imagine what it's like to be someone else. Re-evaluate certain issues. Be imaginative with a child. Tonight: If you get tired early, just say so.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ If you can, work from home, or take a day off. You need a change of pace and will be much happier if you do. Realize what is happening within a relationship. Tap into your sense of humor. Tonight: Christen the weekend well.

Happy birthday

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

This year, be more aware of your finances, the stress around them and the potential for changing that situation. As you look to a new type of interaction, you will feel good and much more valued. You also will consider going back to school, traveling or perhaps allowing different types of people around you. Either way, you will learn much more about the world. If you are single, you could meet someone in your day-to-day travels. If you are attached, the two of you will tumble into one of your more romantic periods. CANCER draws you out.



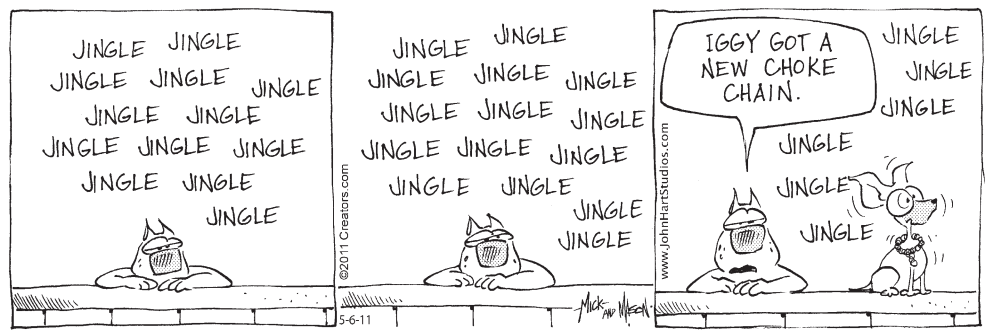
MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@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.

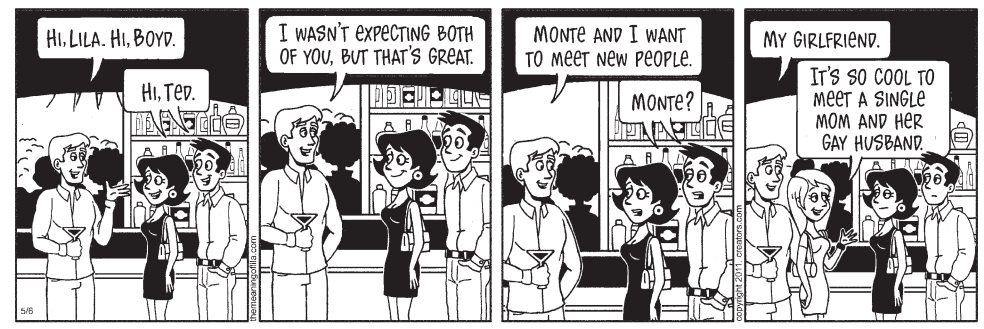
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



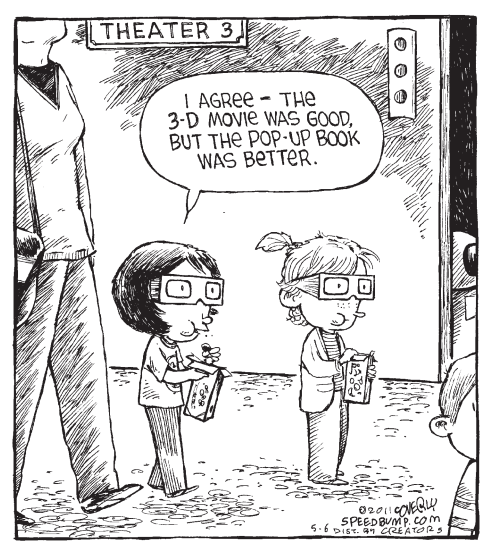
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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 ★★★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Women's quarters
6 Man of many words
11 Unaided
12 Sports venue
13 Indy auto
14 Revolting
15 Inquire
16 Sturgeon eggs
18 Furrow
19 Blue hue
20 Not Rep. or Dem.
21 "My word!"
22 Try
24 Disarray
25 Like some franks
27 Painter Cassatt
29 Family on the Titanic
32 "Lost" network
33 Nile viper
34 Squabble
35 Greek letter
36 Arts-funding org.
37 Sorbonne season
38 Get smart
40 Wanderer
42 Boredom
43 Give addresses
44 Sculpting medium
45 Bowling spots

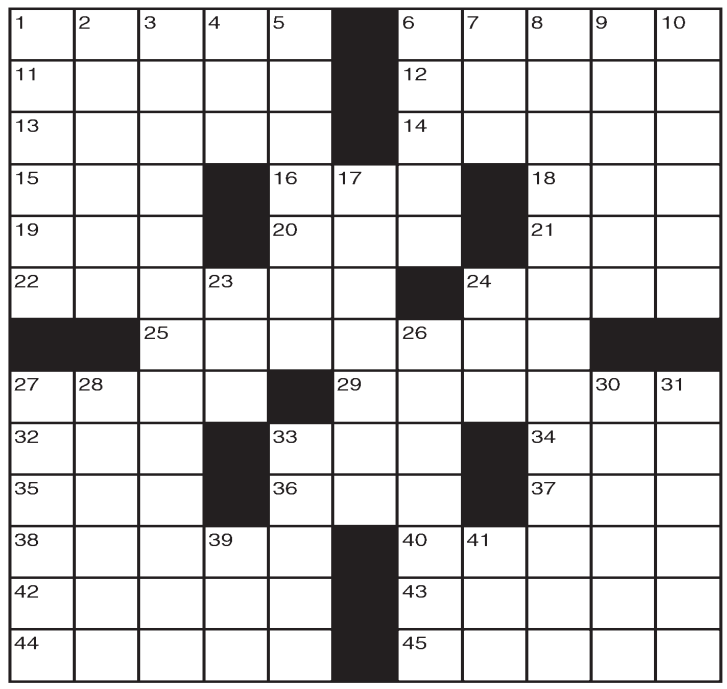
DOWN

1 Badger
2 Denali setting
3 Heavyweight champ
4 Compass pt.
5 Lynch's partner
6 Was furious
7 Bruins legend
8 Heavyweight champ
9 Follows
10 Samples
17 Kind of hit
23 Tissue layer
24 Got together
26 Sevilla speech
27 Sugar sources
28 Not present
30 Turn
31 Stockholm natives
33 "Tomorrow" singer
39 Campaign
41 Man-mouse link

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

Yesterday's answer

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



5-6

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.

• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.

• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.

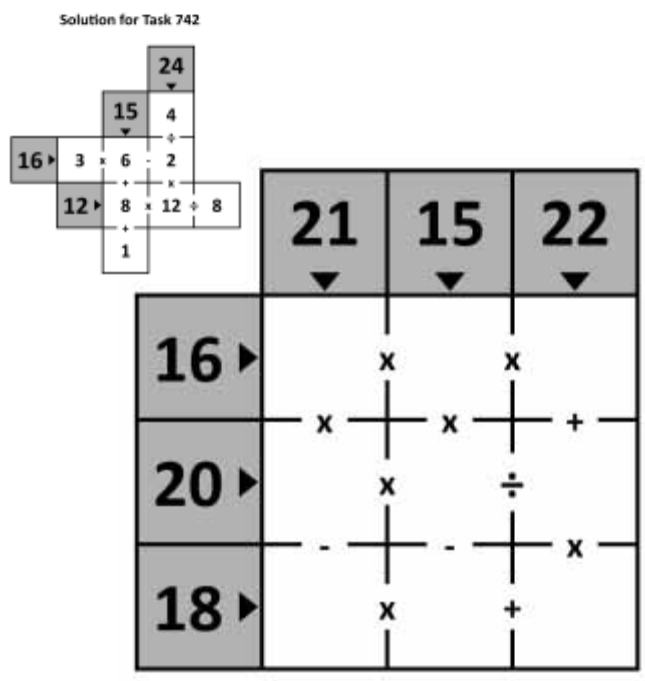
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12

Solution for Task 742



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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A man stole Waltham, Mass., student Mark Bao's notebook computer in March, but Bao used his automatic online-backup service to access the hard drive while the thief was using it, to discover a performance video of a man (presumably the thief) dancing (lamely, thought Bao) to a pop song. Bao uploaded the video to YouTube -- where 700,000 viewers showed it the proper disrespect -- and also tracked down the thief's e-mail address and informed him of his new Internet "stardom." Shortly afterward, the still-unidentified thief turned in the notebook to Bentley University police with an apology to "Mark," begging him to take down the video.

■ Apple's iPad 2 is in short supply worldwide, and so, coincidentally, are paper models of the device demanded by those of Chinese heritage at the Qingming Festival in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Confucian tradition promises good fortune to the dead if their relatives burn impressive-enough offerings at graveside during the festival (as News of the Weird mentioned in 2006). Though local vendors offer paper models of first-generation iPads to burn, and paper Samsung Galaxy Tabs, some families fear that misfortune will ensue if they fail to burn the most advanced version of the iPad. (Low-tech families burn paper copies of money or paper shirts or shoes.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1981 A jury of architects and sculptors unanimously selects Maya Ying Lin's design for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial from 1,421 other entries.

1983 The Hitler diaries are revealed as a hoax after examination by experts.

1984 103 Korean Martyrs are canonized by Pope John Paul II in Seoul

1989 Cedar Point opens Magnum XL-200, the first roller coaster to break the 200 ft height barrier, therefore spawning what is considered to be the "coaster wars".

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