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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 153

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

KEEP IT SIMPLE ON MOTHER'S DAY
SEE PAGE 4

THE GREEN, GREEN, GREEN ISSUE

Street performer sues cops, city for wrongful arrest

Teetotaler says officer claims he was drunk at time of arrest

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

THIRD STREET PROMENADE A street performer has filed suit against three Santa Monica police officers and a former police chief alleging an officer arrested him without cause and then falsified a report to cover up the misdeed.

According to the complaint filed in federal court, Alan Feiman was impersonating comedian Groucho Marx on the Third Street Promenade on Aug. 3, 2011 when he was approached by officers Louis Marioni

SEE COMPLAINT PAGE 13

Professional picker finds old Lick Pier sign

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN As a professional picker with over 35 years of experience digging through what some may consider junk, Bryan Gerston knew he had something special when he stumbled upon a yard sale in the San Fernando Valley last week.

Amongst other odds and ends, he saw a 40-foot-long sign made of galvanized metal with fading red paint. He could make out only one word from the street — "Pier."

"I jumped out of my truck as fast as I could," he said Monday. "I knew it was something good."

That something turned out to be an antique sign for a bath house at the former Lick Pier that once stood near the border of Santa Monica and Venice during the 1920s, a period of extreme migration to Southern

SEE SIGN PAGE 12



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

AT WORK: **Kit Wrentsch of Baby Daze Boutique shows off the store's collection of books. Baby Daze is located on Ocean Park Boulevard.**

Mom-n-pops get green certification

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Angela Lund, owner of Baby Daze Boutique, runs a green business.

Her store provides new and used items for children up to the age of 6, and does a consignment-style swap for parents when their children have outgrown a product that's still in good condition.

"The whole thing is recycling," Lund said. "It keeps them out of the landfill, let's you reduce the products bought and reduce the money spent."

However, Baby Daze didn't qualify for certification as a green business in Santa Monica because only she and her mother, Kit Rentsch, staff the boutique, and the certification through City Hall has a three employee threshold.

Today, Lund has the green business seal of approval proudly displayed in her store courtesy of an initiative begun by the Small Business Development Center at Santa Monica College, which recently leveraged federal grant money to expand the program to cover mom-n-pops.

"We're filling in the gap within the city of Santa Monica to certify home-based businesses with two or fewer employees," said Steven Sedlic, a business advisor with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

The trouble with small and home-based businesses was that they didn't have the same kind of purchasing habits or other infrastructure that a restaurant or larger business seeking the green certification had, said Shannon Parry, a sustainability coordinator with the Santa Monica Office of Sustainability and the Environment.

"Chemical purchases, waste generation, water and energy use, those were behaviors that small businesses take much more at the scale of the individual rather than the corporate purchaser," Parry said.

The natural divide happened somewhere around five employees, and after that there was no list of criteria developed for smaller businesses, she said.

That left a big gap.

"Imagine how many home-based businesses there are, and how many would like to get certified because they are aligned with our ethos," Sedlic said.

The SBDC formed its checklist using the same "guts" as Sustainable Works, a nonprofit specializing in environmental education that works with City Hall, and most other organizations that specialize in making businesses more eco-friendly.

SEE GREEN PAGE 12


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

For all moms
UCLA Family Commons
1221 Second St.,
12 p.m. — 6 p.m.
To show tribute to mothers, the UCLA Family Commons is hosting a week-long celebration for moms everywhere. There will be free events, activities and giveaways sponsored by Santa Monica businesses. For more information and a schedule of events, call (310) 395-5650.

Drink up
Sonoma Wine Garden
395 Santa Monica Place. 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
DJ music fills the air, wine fills the glass, and for one small price you get food, wine, music, charity and an amazing setting. Cost: $50 in advance; $60 at the door. For more information, call (310) 260-8333.

Quick on the draw
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.
Like to draw? Learn how to draw characters in a special way called caricatures and make a story come alive with Kathryn Hewit, the award-winning illustrator of the "Lives of …" biography series for kids. For more information, call (310) 458-8621.

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Finding work
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
6:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Learn the finer points of searching for jobs during this free panel discussion with experts. Everything from resume writing to networking skills we be addressed. For more information, call (310) 434-2608.

Taste of summer
Santa Monica Place
Broadway and Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Enjoy THE SUMMERtaste Series, an event focused around great wine tasting on the second Wednesday of every month — May through October. There will be 10 winery guests pouring over 30 different wines. Don't miss out on the opportunity to taste delicious foods and sip delectable wines in a relaxing setting. For more information, visit santamonicaplace.com.

Friday, May 11, 2012

In the stars
New Roads School
3131 Olympic Blvd.,
7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.
Learn about the stars in the night sky during this regular cosmic discussion. The Santa Monica Amateur Astronomy Club hosts this free event. For more information, call (310) 495-7595.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Family fresh Farmers' Market

During these tough economic times, many could use some help putting fresh food on the table.

So during the month of May, those who spend $5 worth of CalFresh food stamps at the Saturday Pico Farmers' Market will receive $5 in bonus coupons (while supplies last), said Jodi Low, a Farmers' Market coordinator.

Vouchers can only be used on fruits, vegetables and some nuts from certified growers at the market.

For more information, visit www.dpssbenefits.lacounty.org or call (877) 597-4777.

Low said city officials chose the market in the Pico Neighborhood because it has the highest concentration of low-income families in Santa Monica.

"The goal is to educate the local population who is most at risk and eligible about CalFesh and Farmers' Markets," Low said.

The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors proclaimed May 2012 as CalFresh Awareness Month in support of the statewide effort to encourage healthy eating.

It has been estimated that only half of those eligible in Los Angeles County are reportedly receiving benefits.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the number of homes lacking adequate food has more than tripled in the last four years. As a result, the agency noted in a report on food insecurity that hunger negatively impacts the intellectual, physical, and emotional development of children.

KEVIN HERRERA

SMMUSD HDQTRS

Accepting applications

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education is currently accepting applications for openings on its district advisory committees.

Members of the public are encouraged to apply to serve on one of the following committees: Early Child Care and Development, Health and Safety, Special Education, and Visual and Performing Arts. The Board of Education is scheduled to make appointments to fill committee vacancies by the end of June 2012. Membership terms range from one to four years to allow for a balance of expiring terms each year.

District advisory committees provide a method whereby citizens and educators can understand better the attitudes and opinions that are held in the school-community environment.

Such a committee shall have as its purpose improved communication and understanding. It is not the intention that advisory committees become policy-making bodies or that they manage or direct the schools. Committees are advisory in nature only; that is, they inquire, inform, suggest and recommend. It is assumed, however, that through improved understanding and information, the district can and will move in the direction of clearly demonstrated needs and desires of the community to be served.

All DAC members are expected to:

- Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary focus;
- Value, support, and advocate for public education;
- Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the committee and among staff, students, parents, and the community;
- Conduct him/herself in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect.

To learn more about each DAC, please visit www.smmusd.org/DAC/index.html.

KH



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

AHEAD OF THE PLAY: **Culver City's Darian Sylvester (right) scores before Samohi catcher Lino Lares can apply the tag on Tuesday at Santa Monica High School. Culver City won the key Ocean League game, 7-6.**

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Samohi rally comes up short against Culver City

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI The good news is that Santa Monica will have another shot at a chance for an Ocean League baseball crown.

The bad news is that they missed out on the opportunity to clinch at least a share with a 7-6 loss to rival Culver City on Tuesday at home.

With the victory, Culver City is in control for the championship with one regular season game remaining. The two teams square off again on Thursday at Culver City to decide league.

If Samohi wins the crucial game, the two teams would finish the season 9-1 in league and a coin toss would determine who gets the technical No. 1 seed from the league for the playoffs.

Both coaches and players would prefer a one-game playoff to decide it, but they'll have to settle for chance to determine who earns an automatic first round playoff home game.

"Those guys are a good team, we had to play our A game," Samohi head coach Sheldon Philip-Guide said. "It may have been a combination of nerves and Culver City."

The game didn't start too well for Samohi.

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 10

Fed court reverses order for VA system overhaul

PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO A federal appeals court on Monday reversed its demand that the Veterans Affairs Department dramatically overhaul its mental health care system.

A special 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said that any such changes need to be ordered by Congress or the president.

The 10-1 ruling reversed an earlier decision by a three-judge panel of the same court.

The May 2011 ruling had ordered the VA to ensure that suicidal vets are seen immediately, among other changes. It found the VA's "unchecked incompetence" in handling the flood of post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health claims was unconstitutional.

The new decision said courts are powerless to implement the fixes sought by two veterans groups that filed the lawsuit against the VA in 2007. The lawsuits alleged that hundreds of thousands of veterans had to wait an average of four years to fully receive the mental health

SEE **VETS** PAGE 13

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Questioning calming measures

Editor:

Bill Bauer's latest column ("City Hall's worsening traffic nightmare," My Write, May 7) nails it! Would that we lived in a village where we are all a brief bike ride from work and commerce! We don't!

I daily weave through some of the "traffic calming" conundrums Mr. Bauer cites from years past, as well as the "in-progress" year-long nightmare (guaranteed to produce a few wrecks) that used to be Ocean Park Boulevard. Even allowing for "good intentions," the outcome has been (and likely will be) what Mr. Bauer calls "some of the most congested traffic in the nation." Does it have to be this way?

Mark Humphrey
Santa Monica

How we live

Editor:

I agree with everything Mr. Bauer has to say and I, too, have been saying it for years ("City Hall's worsening traffic nightmare," My Write, May 7). Don't our city planners live in the city and can't they observe firsthand what is happening? Doesn't anybody ever look at the demographics of the city to see who really lives here and how they live their lives? Shame on our leaders for following their own agenda and living in their own little white towers!

Suzanne Kleinbub
Santa Monica

Development isn't green

Editor:

Now that we have the seniors out of Palisades Park, I have a great idea what to do with the old Senior Center building. Tear it down and build condo/low rent apt/retail space! That seems to be happening on every corner of Downtown these days anyway.

It will be great when Norms and Denny's are finally torn down so they can be erected there also! And has anyone been over to Ocean Avenue lately and seen the holes that have been dug for the wonderfully named The Village at Santa Monica? If the holes and the gigantic crane that is now there are any indication, these buildings are going to be massive! It boggles my mind. How many more people can we fit in to such a small section of town, not to mention what the traffic is going to be like when all this construction is finished?

Amazingly, I can't get a plastic bag to carry my groceries home, yet somehow all this construction doesn't seem to have any adverse effect on the environment in any way, apparently.

Gavin Purdie
Santa Monica

Ken Edwards Center lifeless

Editor:

Mayor Bloom and City Council members,

I strongly oppose the planned closure of the Senior Recreation Center in Palisades Park.

I can't imagine what lapse in judgment would prompt anyone to consider restricting our seniors' access of this beautiful and valuable resource.

I urge you to continue to operate the Senior Recreation Center as it has been for decades; a safe place for our seniors to meet with their friends for lunch or a cup of tea, enjoy fresh ocean breezes, play a hand of cards in natural lighting and spacious rooms with high ceilings.

I've attended meetings in the Ken Edwards Center and, while it functions well for the occasional meeting, I cannot imagine spending more than an hour or two in that sterile atmosphere, without feeling closed-in and wanting to escape as soon as possible.

What a depressing and lifeless facility it is! The person who designed it should be embarrassed. The people wanting to move the seniors' activities to it should be ashamed.

Warehousing seniors, nor anyone else for that matter, has never been part of Santa Monica's philosophy, and should not start now.

Joanne Curtis
Santa Monica



Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What I don't want for Mother's Day

I LIKE TO THINK I'M A PRETTY low-maintenance gift-receiver. I require nothing more than a card and a ridiculously cheap box of chocolate on Valentine's Day (someone has to keep Hallmark and Whitman's samplers in business). For my birthday, I relish some simple, yet sincere praise for the art of having been born. And for my wedding anniversary I enjoy being thanked profusely by my husband for marrying him (I'm blushing; you're welcome again, honey).

Mother's Day is kind of up there with Valentine's Day in that I don't need much, but my demands are pretty specific. However, they're most accurately measured by what I don't want as opposed to what is acceptable, such as:

• No coupons

This includes IOUs for the completion of future tasks around the house that you should just be doing anyway. Like, it's not a gift to me when you clean up our storage area; it's what you're supposed to be doing all along. This also — and pay close attention here — includes gift certificates. The only way a gift certificate works as a gift is if you also make the appointment for me to get the pedicure, massage or child-free meal and then make sure someone is watching the kids so I can make my escape without worrying about who is feeding, watering and Band-Aiding the young savages.

• No supermarket flowers

Supermarket flowers exist for those times when you just happen to be thinking of me and wanted to tell me in a sweet, thoughtful little everyday kind of way that I rock (or rule) your world. Like, supermarket flowers are the perfect gesture for when you hung up on me in the middle of the day and then realized later that it's not my fault I made you mad. When they are overwhelmingly inappropriate, on the other hand, is when you're trying to say, "Thanks for carrying around these little hellions in your uterus for nine months and then allowing them to pee on you one day only to discover the next day that one of them inexplicably deposited poop in that corner of the closet under the stairs we previously believed no human could actually fit."

• No brunch

I'm not a breakfast person, and breakfast comprises a whole half of brunch. Whether you were planning on cooking it (while I pretend not to be horrified about what you're doing to the kitchen that I will, in some fashion, be responsible by default for cleaning for days afterward) or we go to a restaurant that sticks us with an overpriced version of the same menu it has every other day while I'm stuck trying to figure out what our older daughter will actually eat (unless you know for certain they will make spaghetti with red sauce at 9 a.m.), let's skip it.

• No wet envelopes

As in, get me a card, but make sure you fill it out and seal it in the envelope more than 30 seconds prior to handing it to me. A wet envelope tells me you couldn't be bothered to write "Dear Meredith" and then sign your name at any other time besides right before walking in the room to hand it to me. It also tells me you don't think I think about the moist germs that are living on the envelope's edge, and that tells me you never really knew me at all.

• No knickknacks

Don't buy me those little knickknacks, doodads or "perfect Mother's Day gifts" that you find in the store on the counter next to the cash register. If the store can't find a good place to put them, chances are, neither can I.

IF I NEED A VACUUM CLEANER OR A BLENDER, IT'S BECAUSE I NEED IT — I DON'T WANT IT. THIS ISN'T 1952. I'M NOT JUNE CLEAVER.

• No appliances

Do I really need to tell you that I don't want anything for the house? Don't get me anything for the house. If I need a vacuum cleaner or a blender, it's because I need it — I don't want it. This isn't 1952. I'm not June Cleaver. I don't enjoy vacuuming or blending, no matter how cool and functional the devices are (dads like gadgets, not moms). Get me things I want, please, not things that make me feel like Alice, the "Brady Bunch" maid. However, I wouldn't mind Alice's blue dress. You know, for next Halloween.

• No books

Don't get me a book. If you do, it's just another reminder of one more thing I have no time for. And that makes me sad. I like books. Correction: I liked books. I have two kids younger than 4. Who has time to read? Also, remember when you got me that Kindle? Well, when you buy me an actual book, it's a reminder that you can't remember what else you've bought me.

• No extra time with the kids

I get time with my kids all day, every day. Every. Single. Day. I love them and all, but telling them we're having a special day usually just means special kinds of tantrums. All. Day. Long. It's a nice thought to have extra special time with my offspring on a day that's celebrating them becoming my offspring, but I'd like to politely decline anyway.

More at www.meredithcarroll.com.

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Your column here

Bruce Ferguson

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The U.S. is destroying itself to feed foreign energy markets

ANYONE WHO HAS WITNESSED THE coal extraction process known as mountaintop removal (MTR) has been shocked. The name is perfectly descriptive — tops of mountains are blasted away and bulldozed into valleys to expose underlying coal seams that can be cheaply and efficiently extracted. MTR is violence and destruction on a scale we associate with war, not industrial activity.

As in any war, there are lots of explosions — every day in central Appalachia thousands of tons of high explosives are detonated. And there are casualties — dozens of people have been killed by floods, mudslides, and overloaded coal trucks. One 3-year-old boy was crushed in his bed when a boulder from an MTR site crashed through his home as he lay sleeping. The mining company called the death an "act of God" and paid a $15,000 fine for illegally operating the equipment that dislodged the boulder.

These are the obvious casualties. It's much harder to count the number of premature deaths from cancer, kidney failure, liver failure and birth defects caused by breathing the polluted air and drinking the contaminated water that are the natural byproducts of MTR.

By the end of this 2012, it's estimated that more than 1,200 square miles of Appalachian forests will have been wiped out by MTR — that's an area the size of the state of Rhode Island. The impact on human health, biodiversity, air, and water quality is so extreme that you have to assume that the U.S. is permitting MTR only because we simply cannot keep our utilities and factories running without it. But in fact, the acceleration of MTR over the past two decades has accompanied a robust coal export market that has expanded rapidly in the past five years. It turns out that we are destroying entire regions of our country to meet the energy demands of other nations. Welcome to America, the new third world.

It's astonishing that the tragedy of MTR continues to be ignored by our political leaders and the press. If more than a thousand square miles of America had been laid waste by a foreign enemy, or some cataclysmic act of nature, it would be the media story of the century. But coal corporations are systematically obliterating central Appalachia, and it's as if the destruction is invisible, or is happening somewhere else, not in our own backyard.

Now, rather than moving to stem MTR, the U.S. is about to embark on another ruinous enterprise, one that will also pollute the air, poison drinking water, and may trigger an unprecedented health crisis. And once again, it's all about exports. That is to say, it's all about money.

High-volume hydraulic fracturing (HVHF, or fracking) is a relatively new technology first tested in the Barnett Shale fields of North Texas in the late 1990s. The basic principle is simple — and frightening. Inject millions of gallons of toxic fluids underground and create enough pressure to pulverize the rock that contains the deposits of oil or gas. In MTR, the rock is smashed in the open air; in HVHF, it's smashed thousands of feet below the surface.

The underground injection of vast quantities of toxic fluid has obvious risks, and HVHF has already been linked to over a thousand instances of water contamination around the nation. A peer-reviewed scientific study has shown that the extraction and transmission of shale gas releases so much methane into the atmosphere that it actually has a greater greenhouse emissions footprint than coal. Another peer-reviewed study has shown drinking water wells near shale gas wells are 17 times more likely to be contaminated with methane than other wells in the area.

The industry is waving the flag of energy independence to get Americans to overlook the risks and buy into fracking, but the rush to produce shale gas has little to do with domestic energy needs. At the same time, the industry is sounding patriotic themes, it is also planning to build the infrastructure that will allow it to ship huge quantities of shale gas to overseas markets, where it will command prices that are five, or six, or seven times higher than they are here at home.

In a few years the U.S. will go from being an importer of natural gas to being a major exporter. In fact, we may end up exporting shale gas to countries, such as France, that have decided that fracking is much too risky to be permitted. But France doesn't have to worry, it can always protect public health and its environment by relying on shale gas from that sacrificial energy colony across the Atlantic — the United States of America.

FERGUSON works with Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy, an all-volunteer grassroots organization based in New York State.

The Q Line

Pulling away

There's a movement gaining speed that is calling for Malibu to pull away from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you oppose the district splitting up, or do you think it's time for Malibu to break off?

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



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Orange County man charged with killing girlfriend, sons

GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

ORANGE, Calif. The blood-stained carpet was the first clue Arlet Contreras and her two young sons had not just abandoned their apartment in a gated Orange County complex.

Police began looking for them and Contreras' boyfriend, Shazer Fernando Limas, after a cleaning crew discovered the old stains on the walls and under the carpet they were pulling up.

When an observant officer spotted Limas in a parking lot in a nearby city, however, the 31-year-old fled, leading police on a high-speed chase that ended with his arrest on three counts of murder.

Prosecutors now believe that Limas, who works for a commercial cleaning supply company, stabbed his girlfriend and their two sons, ages 3 months and 2 years, on April 14 — nearly three weeks before police responded to the bloody apartment.

Investigators subsequently found Contreras' body in a Los Angeles County morgue where it had been lying unidentified for 10 days. The children have still not been found but are also believed dead and authorities will resume searching a nearby landfill Tuesday using a bulldozer and cadaver-sniffing dogs, said police Sgt. Dan Adams.

No one filed a missing report on Contreras or her children and there was no sign of trouble before the cleaning crew called police, he said.

"This is like something you'd see on TV, you know, and then you add in a car chase," he said Monday. "We were actively looking for all four of them because when our officers were at the apartment, it was evident that something had happened there and something was wrong. We definitely wanted to check on the welfare of all four of them, but when he led us on a high-speed chase, it raised our suspicion level very much."

Limas made a brief court appearance Monday in Santa Ana. His public defender asked that the arraignment be postponed to provide more time to review evidence in the case. The arraignment was continued until May 23. Limas remains in custody without bail.

On Monday, prosecutors laid out a timeline for the killings but acknowledged they have more questions than answers in the case.

Authorities believe Limas stabbed his family to death on April 14, in part because he reported to Long Beach Memorial Hospital the following day for surgery for a cut on his hand, Senior Deputy District Attorney Scott Simmons said.

Also, Contreras' body was found with stab wounds under a tarp in a gutter in La Puente, a city more than 20 miles north of the couple's apartment, according to police.

Ten days after Limas killed the three, prosecutors said, he purchased a tarp at a Home Depot and dumped Contreras' body the next day.

More than a week later, on May 3, the cleaning crew called police to report the bloody carpet and within a day, Limas was under arrest and police had found Contreras' body.

"There's a lot of things that we're still working on. I don't know what he was doing specifically between the date of the murder and the date of the body dump. I don't know where he stored the body. I believe it was at the apartment somewhere," Simmons said after the court hearing.

Limas was recently ordered by an Orange County Superior Court judge to pay $284 a month in child support to Contreras starting April 1 and that could be a possible motive, Simmons said.

Limas has been cooperative and has talked to investigators but has not provided the location of the children's bodies, he said. Authorities would not say whether he had confessed.

"We're just doing due diligence and doing everything we can to locate these two children," Simmons said. "But I'm confident in the case even if we don't find the children."

Limas has no known criminal history but has a handful of cases in family and civil court, according to court records.

In 2007 court filing, one of Limas' ex-wives said that he grabbed and wrestled her to the door and pointed an air gun at her and pulled the trigger. The gun was empty but the attack aggravated the woman's back injury, according to the request for a temporary restraining order filed in Los Angeles Superior Court.

A judge issued the woman a one-year protective restraining order requiring Limas to stay at least 100 yards away and not call her, records show.

She and Limas filed for divorce days later.

Limas also was ordered to pay $302 a month to support a daughter from another relationship, according to court files.

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Cal State committee OKs new president pay policy

A California State University trustee committee has approved a move to ask campus foundations to pay for raises of up to 10 percent for incoming campus presidents.

The special committee on presidential selection and compensation voted Tuesday to amend its executive compensation policy so taxpayers will not fund raises for new presidents.

Instead, campus nonprofit groups would be asked to raise funds to specifically pay for the salary hikes.

Chancellor Charles Reed says foundations have already offered to contribute more money toward presidential salaries.

The full board will vote on the policy on Wednesday.

The policy has been criticized by faculty, students and lawmakers who say executives should not receive any raises as tuition is being hiked and programs cut.

Cal State has 23 campuses.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

State could ban gay-to-straight therapy for teens

California lawmakers are poised to vote Tuesday on a first-of-its-kind ban on a controversial form of psychotherapy aimed at making gay people straight.

Supporters say the legislation is needed because such treatments are dangerous and can lead to suicide.

Conservative religious groups emphatically reject that view of sexual orientation therapy and say the California bill would interfere with parents' rights to seek appropriate psychological care for their children.

Mainstream mental health organizations have disavowed such therapy.

The debate comes as gay rights issues take the spotlight around the nation with pending legislation in North Carolina and Colorado and recent comments from Vice President Joe Biden, who said he is "absolutely comfortable" with same-sex couples getting the same rights as heterosexual couples.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Partying teen died of acute alcohol intoxication

The coroner says a Los Angeles teenager who died after a night of partying died of acute alcohol intoxication.

The autopsy showed 17-year-old Salvador Preciado's blood-alcohol content was 0.35 percent, more than four times the legal limit to drive, when he died in March after a night of partying in the San Fernando Valley.

The Los Angeles Daily News says the Panorama High School athlete passed out after heavy drinking at a friend's birthday party.

Investigators say friends called school volunteer coach Brian Molina, who took Preciado to a friend's apartment.

Preciado's mother Irma Guevara was then called and told of her son's condition, and they added the teen had fallen asleep. When she arrived to pick him up the following morning, the 6-foot-5, 290-pound football player was dead.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Cal State, faculty union talks break down

The latest round of negotiations between California State University and its faculty union over a new contract has broken down with no new talks scheduled.

CSU spokesman Mike Uhlenkamp says negotiators for the California Faculty Association walked out of a meeting on Saturday after two days of talks produced a settlement on a number of outstanding issues that have held up the contract for 23 months.

CFA spokeswoman Alice Sunshine says negotiators left because university representatives said they would not take action on faculty demands such as class sizes and academic freedom so there appeared no point in continuing the talks.

Both sides say they are disappointed that an agreement could not be reached.

If no new talks are scheduled, a fact-finder will be appointed to propose a resolution.

AP

LAGUNA WOODS

Relatives get dog tags of WWII aviator

The dog tags of a World War II aviator whose remains were discovered on a South Pacific island have been presented to his relatives in Southern California.

The Los Angeles Times says the tags of Marine 1st Lt. Laverne Lallathin were presented Monday during an informal ceremony in Laguna Woods. They were given to Mellissia Christensen and Verne Rainey, the pilot's niece and nephew.

They provided DNA samples that matched Lallathin's left thigh bone and helped identify him. The remains will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery this year.

Lallathin was piloting a B-25 that crashed into a mountainside in bad weather in 1944.

The wreckage was located a month later but the report vanished. It was rediscovered in the 1980s and Lallathin's remains were found two years ago.

AP

BORREGO SPRINGS

Body found in hole could be missing SoCal hiker

A body found in a deep mudhole may be that of a hiker who vanished on Easter in the Southern California badlands.

A mine rescue team from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department may be called in Tuesday to recover the body.

Twenty-five-year-old Guillermo Pino was exploring mud caves in the Anzo-Borrego Desert State Park in eastern San Diego County when he vanished. He had no shoes, water or cell phone.

Hundreds of volunteers searched for days without finding him. However, Pino's family kept searching. The area is pitted with hundreds of caves.

U-T San Diego says on Saturday, family members lowered a video camera down a 50-foot hole in a mud cave and found a body they believe could be Pino's.

AP

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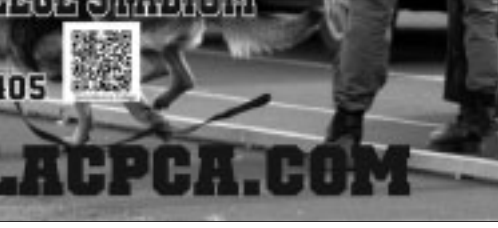


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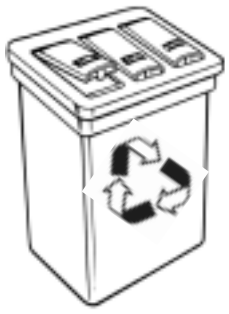


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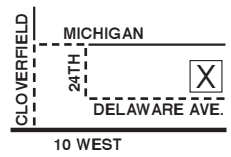


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L.A. museum boss to lead Smithsonian history museum

BRETT ZONGKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The founding president of the Autry National Center of the American West, a group of museums in Los Angeles and Denver, has been named director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, the museum complex announced Tuesday.

John Gray will lead one of the nation's most popular museums, which is on track to host 5 million visitors this year, beginning July 23. Gray had a 25-year career in commercial banking, served in the U.S. Small Business Administration in the Clinton administration and earned a master's degree in business administration before joining the museum field.

In 1999, Gray became CEO of a museum devoted to the legacy of movie star Gene Autry in Los Angeles and is credited with transforming it into a major cultural center. Gray merged it with Colorado's Women of the West Museum and Los Angeles' Southwest Museum of the American Indian. The combined center with more than 500,000 objects also created the Institute for the Study of the American West.

Gray, 63, called the Smithsonian's U.S. history museum the "most important history museum in America." He told The Associated Press he couldn't turn down the opportunity to help lead it, even though he retired in 2010, enrolled in a master's degree program in Eastern classics and built a home in Santa Fe, N.M.

"One of the joys I have is looking at museums through a non-museum eye — what does it actually mean for me?" he said. He recalled his first visit to the Smithsonian was with his family as a child, and he has been a "compulsive museum-goer" ever since.

"Museums have always been the way I learned and understood the world," he said.

Smithsonian officials said they were impressed with Gray's experience transforming the Autry museum to tell a fuller story of American history.

"He took a museum of the American West, including the collections of Gene Autry, and transformed it into an institution representing a broader, inclusive and complicated vision of the American West," said Richard Kurin, the Smithsonian's undersecretary for history, art and culture, in announcing the appointment.

At least one exhibit from Gray's tenure there, "On Gold Mountain: The Chinese-American Experience," was shown at the Smithsonian in 2001.

The National Museum of American Historyn has been criticized for not representing the full scope of U.S. history.

Report: Yahoo director on hot seat to leave board

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO A Yahoo director who didn't challenge an inaccuracy in CEO Scott Thompson's academic record will step down from the troubled Internet company's board, according to a report published Tuesday.

Patti Hart, the head of the Yahoo search committee that hired Thompson in January, reportedly won't seek re-election at the company's annual meeting later this year. That's what unnamed people close to the situation told All Things D, a technology blog affiliated with The Wall Street Journal.

Yahoo Inc., which is based in Sunnyvale, Calif., had no immediate comment.

Hart's resignation would make her the first casualty of a dust-up caused by the recent exposure of a bogus college degree that has periodically appeared in Thompson's official biography.

The bio included a computer science degree that Thompson never received from Stonehill College. Thompson was graduated from Stonehill in 1979 with a bachelor's in accounting, an accomplishment correctly listed in his bio.

The fabricated degree periodically appeared in various summaries about Thompson before Yahoo lured him away from his previous job running eBay Inc.'s online payment service, PayPal. Those earlier falsehoods have raised questions about whether Thompson deliberately allowed the deception to perpetuate and why Hart didn't insist on a more thorough background check before Yahoo hired him.

After Thompson joined Yahoo, the bogus degree appeared on his bio on Yahoo's website and in documents filed April 27 with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

An activist hedge fund that owns a 5.8 percent stake in Yahoo already had been demanding that the company jettison Thompson and Hart. The report about Hart's impending departure comes the day after the hedge fund, Third Point LLC, filed a request to review all the internal Yahoo records that led to Thompson's hiring.

In a Monday memo to Yahoo's employees, Thompson apologized for the distractions caused by furor over his inaccurate bio without offering an explanation on who was responsible for the deception. He also promised to cooperate with an investigation by Yahoo's board into the circumstances surrounding the illusory degree.

After announcing its plans for the inquiry last week, Yahoo provided more details on Tuesday about who will oversee the investigation. The probe will be handled by a committee of three directors who joined the company's board after Thompson was hired.

Alfred Amoroso, a veteran high-tech executive, will lead the committee, which also will consist of John Hayes, American Express Co.'s chief marketing officer, and Thomas McInerney, former chief financial officer for IAC/InterActiveCorp. Los Angeles lawyer Terry Bird will serve as the special committee's independent counsel.

Hart, 56, joined Yahoo's board nearly two years ago. She is also CEO of gambling machine maker International Game Technology. Before joining Yahoo's board, Hart was a director for Korn/Ferry International, which specializes in executive search.

Besides skewering Hart for shoddy research into Thompson's background, Third Point blasted her for an inaccuracy about her academic history.

Obama targets middle-class voters through airwaves

KEN THOMAS & STEVE PEOPLES
Associated Press

EUCLID, Ohio Targeting middle-class voters, President Barack Obama on Monday unveiled a sweeping $25 million, nine-state ad campaign whose centerpiece is a commercial portraying him as the steward of an economic comeback and confronting Republican criticism that recovery has sputtered on his watch.

"We're not there yet," the ad says. "It's still too hard, for too many. But we're coming back. Because America's greatness comes from a strong middle class. Because you don't quit, and neither does he."

Countering from hard-hit Ohio, Republican Mitt Romney argued that Obama's policies are squeezing middle-income Americans and that his business background could help jumpstart the economy.

"The president and I have fairly different visions for what it'll take to get America working again," the former Massachusetts governor said.

The competing economic visions — and the huge Obama investment in TV advertising in battleground states — are shaping a White House race that new surveys suggest is competitive six months before Election Day. A poll of voters in a dozen swing states by USA Today and Gallup found Obama and Romney essentially even among registered voters — Obama 47 percent, Romney 45 percent.

Just weeks old, the Obama-Romney race is playing out in a country in which unemployment is hovering around 8 percent and where many voters are not feeling growth that economists insist is occurring

Monday's announcement of the new advertising effort came just days after Obama opened the latest phase in his White House re-election effort with a pair of rallies in politically important Virginia and Ohio.

The sheer scope of the ad effort — $25 million in one month in the battlegrounds of Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Nevada, New Hampshire, Iowa, North Carolina, Florida and Colorado — illustrates the huge advantage the incumbent Democrat has over Romney. Obama is tapping into a campaign bank account of more than $100 million to pay for his big opening salvo in the TV ad wars while Romney scurries to catch up after a costly and contentious primary season. The presumptive GOP nominee is relying on outside groups — like the pro-Romney Restore Our Future political action committee — to keep him competitive on the air against Obama's behemoth campaign.

Liberal-leaning groups were getting a boost of their own from billionaire financier George Soros, whose staff told supporters Monday that he would be donating $1 million to the advocacy group America Votes and another $1 million to the super PAC American Bridge 21st Century. American Bridge is a research group that supports Obama's re-election effort.

In the 60-second ad, Obama tries to paint a picture of a nation turning the page on a difficult decade.

The ad traces America's economic landscape from late 2008 and the massive economic downturn that crippled the U.S. economy, with housing foreclosures, job losses and the financial crisis. "The economy spiraling down ... all before this president took the oath," it says. "Some said our best days were behind us. But not him."

"He believed in us, fought for us," the ad says as it highlights jobs being created, the killing of Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the 2001 terrorist attacks, and the return of U.S. troops from a lengthy war in Iraq in Obama's first term.

It could be considered Obama's take on President Ronald Reagan's patriotic "Morning in America" theme, yet with a gritty undertone. It juxtaposes images of unemployed workers and home foreclosure signs with workers assembling cars, a girl jumping into the arms of her soldier father and a woman working behind a cash register. But, despite the optimistic tone, the ad overlooks the challenges Obama faces in selling the message that the economy is improving.

Economic data released last week show his hurdles. The economy added just 115,000 jobs in April, far below monthly totals from December 2011 through February 2012 when the economy grew at a faster pace. While the unemployment rate inched down to 8.1 percent, the decline was largely attributed to more people who had stopped looking for work. People who are no longer looking for jobs are not counted as unemployed.

By emphasizing Obama's record, the new ad showed that Obama's advisers recognize he can't win a second term simply by attacking Romney's record in business and as Massachusetts governor. Instead, the ads are aimed at making a compelling case that despite the economic hardships faced by millions of Americans, Obama is the best overseer of the economy.

The advertising push includes large ad buys in multiple markets in Florida, Ohio, North Carolina and Colorado, and will cover a number of 30-second and 60-second spots running into early June.

In a conference call with reporters, David Axelrod, a senior adviser to the Obama campaign, said the campaign would devote its May advertising to a positive message touting Obama's accomplishments but was prepared to respond to criticism from "the Karl and Koch brothers' contract killers over there in super PAC land."

It was a reference to outside groups linked to Karl Rove, a former adviser to President George W. Bush, and the heads of Koch Industries, longtime supporters of conservative causes. Obama has responded to a handful of critical ads in recent months with his own defensive spots, and Axelrod criticized the GOP-leaning groups even though the White House has signaled to Democratic donors that they too should donate to Democratic-leaning super PACs.

While Obama let his campaign ad shape the race Monday, Romney headed to suburban Cleveland. He softened his tone at times, sharing the stories of struggling Americans he's met on the campaign trail and countering the notion that he came from a privileged background. He said his father, a former auto executive, never had the time or money to get a college degree and his parents "couldn't afford a fancy honeymoon" when they married.

During Romney's town hall meeting, a woman said in a question to Romney that Obama had strayed from the principles of the Constitution and "should be tried for treason." Romney did not respond to her suggestion of treason but told reporters later that "no, of course" the president should not be tried for such an offense.

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Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

PRIDE: **Samohi's seniors are honored before the Vikings took on Culver City on Tuesday.**

SAMOHI

FROM PAGE 3

With two outs in the first inning, Culver City's Daniel Hennessy drew a walk. Starting pitcher Tyler Mark followed with what appeared to be a fielder's choice situation, but Samohi third baseman Ryan Barbarin threw the ball into center field, allowing Hennessy to score the game's first run.

Although it was just one run, Samohi starting pitcher Adam Padilla — as well as his coach — thought the play gave Culver City confidence and more importantly momentum.

Padilla was able to close the inning, but that one run would come back to haunt Samohi in the end.

The second inning brought Culver City a pair of runs on the strength of a run-scoring triple by Jon Kocker and a sacrifice by Brian Ibarra.

"They had good approaches [at the plate]," said Padilla, who pitched a complete game in defeat. "They weren't swinging at my curve ball, which is my 'out' pitch."

Samohi got on the scoreboard in the third inning with Alonzo Hernandez and Mason Landis crossing the plate, but the Vikings' rally was stifled in the very next inning.

Leading 3-2, Culver City plated two more runs, giving them a commanding 5-2 lead.

Culver City would add two more runs, but Samohi wasn't done.

Heading into the bottom of the ninth trailing 7-4, Samohi had the first two batters reach base, ultimately scoring both on a sacrifice by Jonathan Rakuljic and a Culver City error.

Down by just one, the Vikings had the opportunity to tack on another run to tie it, but Padilla and Barbarin were unable to keep the rally going, giving Culver City the win.

"That was the toughest game of the year," Culver City head coach Rick Prieto said. "We were able to score early and again later in the game, giving us balance."

Even with at least a share of the league title in hand, Prieto is cautiously optimistic that his Centaurs can close the deal on Thursday on their own field.

"We just have to finish what we started," he said. "We're committed to be the best we can be."

The game begins Thursday at 3:15 p.m. at Culver City.

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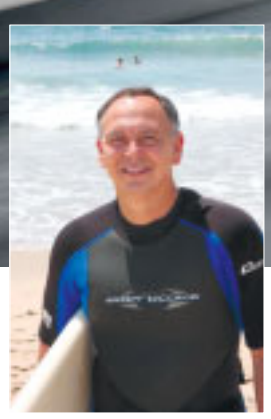


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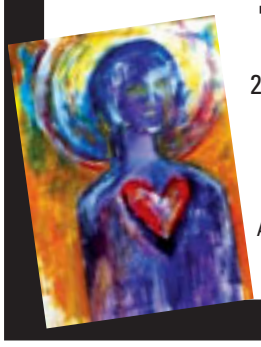
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Photo courtesy Brian Applegate

A PIECE OF SANTA MONICA HISTORY: **Professional picker Bryan Gerston poses with his Lick Pier sign that he purchased for $500. He wants to sell it for $10,000.**

SIGN
FROM PAGE 1

California. It was one of several pleasures piers that popped up along the Santa Monica Bay boasting ballrooms, roller coasters, games and other attractions for the thousands that flocked to the sand and surf looking for a little relaxation.

The Lick Pier was built in 1922 by Charles Lick and two other investors to a tune of $250,000. It would be 800 feet long and 225 feet wide, according to historian Jeffrey Stanton. The pier was home to the Bon Ton Ballroom and the Zip roller coaster before it was destroyed by fire two years later.

The sign had been sitting in a barn in Chatsworth, Calif. and was used to separate livestock or horses, Gerston said. He purchased it for $500 from an elderly woman who used to own an antiques store on Sherman Way. He plans to sell it, as that's how he makes his money.

"It's so historical," he said. "I just can't believe it — still the original paint job."

Gerston is hoping to bring in $10,000. Just make him an offer.

The sign comes in four, 10-foot sections and just may be the same sign captured in a photograph in Fred E. Basten's book, "Paradise By The Sea," which documents the history of Santa Monica's beach culture using old pictures. In one photo of the Lick Pier, one can see a large sign like Gerston's hanging near a staircase leading up to the Bon Ton Ballroom.

Gerston fell in love with vintage signs thanks to his grandfather, who owned a butcher shop in downtown Los Angeles called Oscar's. Inside the shop his grandfather hung old photos and antique weapons from the civil war and before. Every birthday, Gerston said his grandfather would give him a sword or a gun as a present. He's been picking every since.

"It's in my blood."

Gerston considers himself a technophobe and even calls himself "Caveman" for his inability to use a computer. So if you're interested in bidding on the Lick Pier sign, you'll have to call him at (805) 701-4338.

kevinh@smdp.com

GREEN
FROM PAGE 1

Employees like Sedlic then go to the business and inspect their bathrooms, closets, packaging materials, cleaning items and appliances to see where there's room for improvement.

Lund, who describes herself as an eco-conscious person, already had the energy-efficient light bulbs on board and the right kind of cleaning products, but SBDC inspectors came up with a few changes for her.

"I did install an aerator in my faucet and added some stickers reminding people to turn off lights and use less water," she said.

Lund upped her stationary game, using paper with a higher percentage of post-consumer content.

It was pretty easy, she said.

"Mostly, it was just small changes to what I had already going," she said.

Those kinds of small changes are important to the environment, but they can also help out the bottom line.

Consumers are becoming "values aspirational practical purchasers," according to consumer marketing group BBMG. In English, that means they buy with intention, seeking out products that do no harm and even give back to the world in some way.

"The real purpose is to get certified so they can market themselves as green," Sedlic said. "They're facing increasingly skeptical consumers who are turning to the web to see what makes a company green and how they are able to use that moniker. We are the third party that verifies these claims."

There are others out there, but some are fly-by-night operations that charge hundreds of dollars for a seal of approval that could be meaningless when the company closes down, Sedlic said.

"We want to lock out all of these fake certifiers that are coming into the market and are doing it just for money," he said.

Certifying with the SBDC is free, although making some of the alterations they require may funnel some cash to a hardware store, and it's open to businesses large and small in the Los Angeles area.

ashley@smdp.com

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 17!

VETS
FROM PAGE 3

benefits owed them.

"There can be no doubt that securing exemplary care for our nation's veterans is a moral imperative," Judge Jay Bybee wrote for the majority. "But Congress and the president are in far better position" to decide whether and what changes need to be done.

The court said veterans are free to file individual legal claims, but courts had no business ordering systemic overhauls.

Judge Mary Schroeder dissented, writing that the ruling put veterans into a classic Catch-22 conundrum. Schroeder says the ruling essentially leaves the vets without recourse to force the VA to change a system they view to be fatally flawed, and condemns "veterans to suffer intolerable delays inherent in the VA system."

The veterans lawyer Gordon P. Erspamer said he will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case.

"If the courts don't have jurisdiction, then the veteran is left without a remedy," Erspamer said.

Veterans for Common Sense and Veterans United for Truth filed the lawsuit at the heart of the ruling in San Francisco federal court in 2007.

During the two-week trial without a jury in April 2008, lawyers for the groups showed the judge emails between high-ranking VA officials that the attorneys said confirmed high suicide rates among veterans and a desire to keep quiet the number of vets under VA care who attempt suicide.

"Shhh!" began a Feb. 13, 2008, email from Dr. Ira Katz, a VA deputy chief. "Our suicide prevention coordinators are identifying about 1,000 suicide attempts per month among the veterans we see in our medical facilities. Is this something we should (carefully) address ourselves in some sort of release before someone stumbles on it?"

Katz wrote in another email that 18 veterans kill themselves daily, on average.

After the trial another email surfaced that was written by VA psychologist Norma Perez suggesting that counselors in Texas make a point to diagnose fewer post-traumatic stress disorder cases. The veterans' lawyers argued that email showed the VA's unwillingness to properly treat mental health issues.

More recently, federal investigators reported last month that nearly half of the veterans who seek mental health care for the first time waited about 50 days before receiving a full evaluation, far short of the 14 days that the VA said 95 percent of new patients seeking mental health treatment get a full evaluation.

Since 2007, the VA has experienced a 35 percent increase in the number of veterans receiving mental health services. The department says it's made strides in part by developing a more extensive suicide prevention program and by increasing the number of counseling centers.

VA officials told a Senate Veterans Affairs committee that they've invested heavily in mental health care over the past few years.

The VA said last week it was increasing its mental health staff by about 1,900 workers to existing mental health staff of roughly 20,590.

COMPLAINT
FROM PAGE 1

and Russell Grimmond.

Feiman, pretending to be Marx, asked the two officers, "So where's your work permit?" at which point Grimmond took Feiman's performer's permit from him. When Feiman demanded it back, Marioni handcuffed him and arrested him, according to the complaint.

Feiman later discovered that he had been booked on suspicion of being drunk in public.

That would be a difficult thing to claim, said Thomas Beck, Feiman's attorney.

"He's never consumed alcohol in his adult life," Beck said.

According to the complaint, it's been 20 years since Feiman last took a drink, but in his report, Marioni wrote that Feiman had "objective symptoms of alcohol," including bloodshot eyes, thick and slurred speech and aggressive behavior.

Absent from the report is any mention of Grimmond, according to the complaint.

Feiman was held for six hours in Santa Monica Jail, during which time he was not allowed to make a phone call. It took four hours for him to get photographed and fingerprinted, according to the complaint.

That was done to excuse the fact that Feiman's eyes were not bloodshot as Marioni claimed in the report, Beck said.

"It's a 'contempt of cop' arrest," Beck said. "It happens if the cop disapproves of something you do or say and finds some reason to arrest you … The easiest one to claim is that he was drunk, he hit me, or he resisted arrest. It's a common trilogy."

Former police Chief Timothy Jackman and a third officer, Michelle Dimas, were named in the complaint for less direct roles than Grimmond and Marioni.

The complaint accuses Jackman of ignoring the behavior of his officers, despite video evidence provided by Feiman that he was not staggering or acting intoxicated near the time of the arrest.

Dimas, according to the complaint, was the officer that refused to allow Feiman to make a phone call.

The City Attorney's Office has not yet been served with the complaint, and could not comment on the case.

Beck does not plan to serve the complaint until July, and expects that the case will go to trial sometime next year.

Feiman is seeking damages, attorney's fees and the cost of the lawsuit.

ashley@smdp.com

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Report: Schools key to fighting obesity

LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON Fighting obesity will require changes everywhere Americans live, work, play and learn, says a major new report that outlines dozens of options — from building more walkable neighborhoods to zoning limits on fast-food restaurants to selling healthier snacks in sports arenas.

But schools should be a national focus because that's where children spend most of their day, eat a lot of their daily calories — and should be better taught how to eat healthy and stay fit, the influential Institute of Medicine said Tuesday.

Among the most controversial of the recommendations: Communities could consider a tax on sugary sodas and offering price breaks for healthier beverage choices.

That prompted outrage from the American Beverage Association.

"Advocating discriminatory policies that uniquely focus on sugar-sweetened beverages is the wrong approach," said an association statement that added those drinks account for just 7 percent of calories in the average person's diet.

Most of us know we should eat less and move more. But the institute makes clear this isn't just an individual but a societal problem: For a host of reasons, sedentary lives have become the norm and we're surrounded by cheap, high-calorie foods.

The new report offers a roadmap of the most promising strategies to change that — and argues that the solutions can't be implemented piecemeal.

"Each of us has this role. We can't sit back and let the schools do it, or let a mayor do it or think somehow the federal government's going to solve it," said report co-author William Purcell III, former mayor of Nashville, Tenn. "These recommendations require concerted effort among all."

A health advocacy group urged governments, industry and schools to adopt the recommendations.

"The country has begun to address obesity but we are still doing far too little given the tremendous burden it places on our health and health care costs," said Margo Wootan of the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Two-thirds of U.S. adults and almost a third of children are either overweight or obese, and progress to stop this epidemic has been too slow, the Institute of Medicine concluded.

For schools, it recommended that students get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day — a combination of physical education, recess and other activities. Many schools have slashed P.E. and cut into recess in recent years in an effort to increase learning time amid tighter budgets. The report also says schools should serve healthier foods, backing national school nutrition standards, and teach nutrition.

Other recommendations include:

• Restaurants should ensure that at least half of kids' meals comply with federal dietary guidelines, without charging more for the healthier options.

• Healthier foods should be routinely available everywhere, from shopping malls to sports arenas.

• More food companies should improve how they market to children — and if they don't, the government should step in and mandate changes.

• To make physical activity routine, communities should be designed with safe places to walk and exercise.

• Public and private insurers should ensure better access to obesity screening, preventive services and treatments.

• Employers should expand workplace wellness programs.

• The president should appoint a task force to evaluate the impact of U.S. agriculture policies on obesity.

The Institute of Medicine, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, is an independent organization that advises the government.

Fun and incentives encourage children to become gardeners

DEAN FOSDICK
For The Associated Press

If you think it's hard getting kids to eat their vegetables, wait until you try recruiting them for garden work.

But the challenge is worth it: Children just might add more healthy foods to their diet if they've grown them themselves.

"If a child grows herbs or vegetables, they will try them at least once," said Mike Ferraro, whose Preferred Commerce Co. produces Growums, an animated garden program that uses online gaming technology to teach children how to raise fresh edibles and have fun doing it.

"When they're done, they're so proud of it they want to eat it," he said.

You're never too young to garden, although results for the youngest gardeners might be mixed, said Susan Robbins of the National Gardening Association's Gardening With Kids program.

Some plants are bound to fail, so don't react by secretly replacing your preschooler's veggies, Robbins said.

"Failures are a good way for children to understand that the process doesn't always work and that you shouldn't give up," she said. "Reactive gardening makes them better adults."

Some steps you can take to feed a child's hunger for learning in the garden:

• Involve them in the planning. Set aside a site and let the kids decide what to grow.

• Add fun to their gardening menu. Pay a bounty for the weeds they pull, plant "surprises" in their growing beds or introduce them to "tickle-me plants" - a houseplant (Mimosa pudica) that closes its leaves and lowers its branches when touched. "As a schoolteacher, I have found that growing a 'tickle-me plant' excites youngsters about science and nature as well as making them more sensitive about to how to care

SEE GARDENERS PAGE 15

In loving memory of Pamela Dee Zierenberg



Pamela Dee Zierenberg, 62, of Silver Springs Nevada, died Friday, April 20, 2012 of lung cancer.

She was born to Bill and Alma Salmi, February 23, 1950, in Santa Monica, CA. After spending her sophomore and junior years of high school living with her brother, Ralph in Paris, France, and her oldest brother Dick in Istanbul, Turkey, Pam returned to her hometown and graduated in 1968 from Santa Monica High School.

Pam was interested in law enforcement and started taking classes in Administration of Justice at Santa Monica College. At nineteen she accepted a job at the Los Angeles Police Department as a dispatcher. At LAPD she met and married her first husband, George DeSchryver, they had two children, Joe and Melinda. Pam also worked for a few years as a dispatcher at Cal State University Northridge Campus Police.

On April 22, 1985 when she became a Community Service Officer (CSO) for the Santa Monica Police Department she had finally found a job that she absolutely loved. Pam was very happy to return to her beloved hometown of Santa Monica. Pam spent thirteen years as a Community Service Officer for the SMPD. Pam was well respected for her thorough investigations, especially involving major traffic collisions. Pam had a "no-non-sense approach" to things and a great sense of humor, she loved helping people. She was well liked by her co-workers and considered everyone at SMPD to be her second family.

In 1998, Pam moved to Silver Springs, NV with her husband, Rick Zierenberg. Still drawn to law enforcement, she accepted a part-time job with the Lyon County Juvenile Probation Department as a Work Crew Supervisor.

Pam was never one to sit still. In her younger years, she became an avid bowler and even traveled to tournaments as a semi-professional. She loved to garden, travel and go camping. Her greatest and last trip was, just after her diagnosis in 2011 when, she took her daughter Melinda and granddaughter, Ashley and her daughter Melinda on a trip to Paris and Finland. Pam always wanted to return to the places she had seen while attending high school in Paris. They also visited Finland, fulfilling her dream to see the homeland of her father.

She adored dogs and cats, and had many throughout her life. In her final days they brought her such happiness and peace. She also loved feeding the wild birds and jackrabbits in her backyard. Like clockwork, twice a day, the birds would line up on the rooftop waiting for her to feed them.

Pam is survived by her two children and their spouses: Joe DeSchryver and wife Laurie of San Luis Obispo, CA; Melinda Fattig and husband Todd of Crescent City, CA; She also is survived by four grandchildren Ashley and Trent Fattig, Kyle and Callie DeSchryver as well as her husband Rick Zierenberg. Her father and mother; and her brother Dick Salmi preceded her in death.

A memorial will be held at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1730 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA on Saturday May 12 at 1:00pm.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, a charity Pam was passionate about.

Teen passengers spell danger for novice drivers

JOAN LOWY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON A teenage driver's risk of dying in an accident increases dramatically when there are other teens in the car, and plummets when there's an adult looking on, according to a study by AAA's safety foundation.

Researchers have long known that the presence of other teens is distracting to novice drivers, but most previous studies on the issue are more than a decade old and don't reflect changes in state driving laws that began in the mid-1990s. Since then, every state has adopted a "graduated licensing" law that places some restrictions on teen drivers. The laws vary, but typically they restrict teens from driving with any passengers under age 21, or just one young passenger, and bar nighttime driving.

The study by the Automobile Association of America's Foundation for Traffic Safety, being released Tuesday, found what a lot of parents already know: Teens driving with their friends in the car continues to be far riskier than driving alone or with an adult. The study was based on an examination of government data on teen crashes from 2007 to 2010.

Compared to driving with no passengers, a 16- or 17-year-old driver's risk of death per mile driven increases 44 percent when carrying one passenger younger than 21 (and no older passengers), the study found. The risk is double when carrying two passengers younger than 21, and quadruples when carrying three or more passengers that age.

Conversely, the risk of a teen driver dying in an accident when a passenger aged 35 or older is in the vehicle decreases 62 percent, the study said.

Like cell phones, the presence of other teens can be extremely distracting to young drivers, said Jackie Gillan, president of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety.

Between 2000 and 2010, the number of 16- and 17-year-old drivers involved in fatal crashes each year fell by more than half. Graduated licensing laws — as well as greater seat belt use, better safety equipment in cars, and anti-drunk-driving campaigns — have been credited for the decrease. But 40 percent of the 2,191 younger teen drivers killed during those years had at least one passenger under 21 — and no older passengers — in the vehicle, the study said. And preliminary data for the first six months of 2011 show a small uptick in teen driving deaths, another recent study found.

Just because states have graduated licensing laws "doesn't means everyone is obeying them," said Jonathan Adkins, a spokesman for the Governors Highway Safety Association, which represents state highway safety offices.

"Graduated licensing laws are really good, but we rely on the parents to be the ones enforcing them," he said. Police can cite teen drivers for violating license restrictions if they pull them over for other reasons, but it's difficult for officers to stop drivers with teen passengers just because they look young, he said.

AAA released the study in conjunction with a rally in Washington to kick off Global Youth Traffic Safety Month. Summer is the deadliest time of year for teen drivers and their passengers. An average of 422 teens die monthly in traffic crashes during summer compared to an average of 363 teen deaths during the non-summer months.

GARDENERS
FROM PAGE 14

for plants and other living things," said Mark Chipkin, educational project director for TickleMe Plants Co. Inc.

• Build their attention spans. Introduce theme garden mixtures like pizzas (tomato, oregano, basil and bell pepper plants), tacos (cilantro, jalapeño, lettuce and tomato) and salads (lettuce, carrot, cucumber and tomato). Plants that germinate quickly, such as sunflowers, daisies and cucumbers, also keep kids engaged.

• Let them do some of the dirty work. Even a toddler can aim a water hose. Buy child-size tools and build raised beds to make it easier for children to maneuver.

• Use pots or containers to make their job less daunting.

• Encourage them in their homework. Each year, Bonnie Plants, an Alabama-based wholesaler, distributes more than a million free cabbage plants to third-grade classrooms around the nation. Students grow the seedlings in their family gardens. Bonnie awards a $1,000 scholarship to one student from each state.

"The reason Bonnie chose the O.S. (oversize) Cross Cabbages is because the variety has the potential to grow to be 40 to 50 pounds, and it makes it really fun and engaging for the kids to watch it grow," said Joan Casanova, a spokeswoman who helps coordinate the 48-state program.

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The bid packet can be downloaded at:
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Submission Deadline is May 30, 2012 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, by calling (310) 458-8215, or by e-mailing your request to monica.diaz@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

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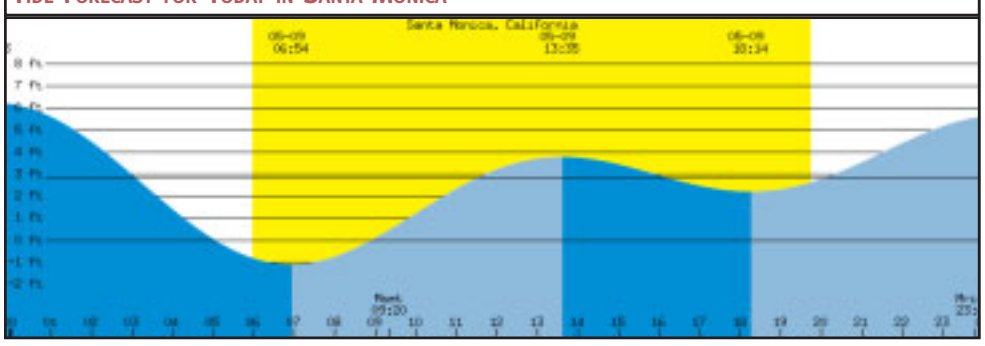
Swell Forecast

South swell increase to chest to shoulder high at breaks with good direct southerly exposure. West facing breaks are likely to see some increase in NW wind swell to chest max.

Long Range Synopsis

Looking like a chest high day for south facing breaks, waist high for west facing spots.

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 **May 2, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 13
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 33
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.	es	es
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	D
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A+	B
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	B	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	F
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	B	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A	A+
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.	A+	A
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CBW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

es -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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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.

MLB

Clemens' trial slows to crawl despite judge's pleas

FREDERIC J. FROMMER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The Roger Clemens perjury trial, which picked up a couple of miles per hour on its fastball last week with Andy Pettitte's testimony, has dropped back to a slow-pitch pace this week.

Prosecutors, who had said they might have star witness Brian McNamee testify Tuesday, now say there's no chance of that, and he might not even appear this week. And that was after U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton told both sides to speed things along.

"I do have concerns about the pace of this trial," Walton said Monday morning at the beginning of the trial's fourth week. Walton complained that there were a lot of unnecessary questions last week and warned, "if that continues, I will impose time limits."

Clemens, a seven-time winner of baseball's Cy Young Award, is accused of lying to Congress when he denied using steroids and human growth hormone.

Monday's session was dominated by painstaking discussions about needles, syringes, gauze and cotton balls, how they had been stored and who had control of them. McNamee, Clemens' former strength coach, has said he saved those items from when he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone.

The two government witnesses Monday were federal agents Jeff Novitzky of the Food and Drug Administration and John Longmire of the FBI. Novitzky began investigating connections between drugs and sports as an agent with the Internal Revenue Service.

Novitzky encouraged McNamee to cooperate with former Sen. George Mitchell, who was investigating performance-enhancing drugs in baseball, and Mitchell eventually identified Clemens as a user in his report to Major League Baseball.

OLYMPICS

IOC to likely retest Athens samples

STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

LONDON Eight years later, the IOC will likely retest doping samples from the Athens Olympics to catch any drug cheats who may have avoided detection.

With the frozen samples set to be destroyed this summer after eight years in storage, IOC medical commission chairman Arne Ljungqvist told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the Olympic body is likely to retest some for substances that can now be detected — including insulin and human growth hormone.

"I think we will do something," he said. "In all likelihood, yes."

The International Olympic Committee has previously retested samples from the 2006 Winter Games in Turin and 2008 Summer Games in Beijing.

The Turin samples came back negative, while the Beijing retests led to five athletes being caught for use of CERA, an advanced version of the blood-boosting drug EPO. Rashid Ramzi of Bahrain was retroactively stripped of his gold medal in the 1,500 meters.

Doping samples from each Olympics are stored for eight years to allow for them to be reanalyzed once new testing methods are validated. The eight-year period for Athens will expire Aug. 29, the date the games closed in 2004.

The Athens samples are stored at the doping lab in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The move to retest comes after the World Anti-Doping Agency sent a letter to the IOC requesting that the samples be checked again based on the emergence of new testing methods since 2004.

"This is the very message that we wanted when we asked people to store (samples) for eight years," WADA director general David Howman told the AP on Tuesday. "If you cheated and you thought you got away with it, you might have to think again. Don't look yourself in the mirror until the eight years are up."

The Athens Games produced a record 26 doping cases, more than double the previous Olympic high of 12 at Los Angeles in 1984. Six medalists, including two gold winners, were caught in Athens from among 3,600 tests.

Now there is a possibility of even more cheats being added to the list.

"You've got to look and see what are the purposes of doing storage," Howman said. "It is really to allow retesting because science has got better. If we don't use that, then we've wasted a lot of money."

How many and which samples to test and which drugs to search for are issues that remain under consideration.

Ljungqvist said the testing, if approved, could cover from 100 to a few hundred samples. One possibility, he said, is to target "high-risk" sports and medalists.

The IOC has no specific information that certain drugs were being used in Athens that weren't known at the time, but doping officials felt it was still worth rechecking the samples.

"Unlike Beijing and Torino where we had a clear indication that we should analyze for CERA, we don't have a similar intelligence information this time," Ljungqvist said by phone. "That's why we are consulting a little broader and seeing what people think about it.

"We are now consulting lab specialists to get an idea of whether to do something and, if we do something, what to do before the samples are destroyed."

Ljungqvist said he expects a final decision in the next few weeks.

One substance that wasn't tested for in Athens but can now be detected is insulin, which improves metabolism, he said. A test for human growth hormone, or HGH, was first introduced at the Athens Olympics, but no athletes were caught for the substance at the time. The HGH test has since been improved and could be carried out again retroactively.

"It's an open matter," Ljungqvist said. "In theory, we look at every substance and evaluate. We have to examine what shape the samples are in, both in terms of quality and quantity."

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theatre for more information.

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

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
1:30pm, 2:30pm, 6:00pm, 9:20pm

21 Jump Street (R) 1hr 49min
1:40pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Little Bit of Heaven (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Titanic 3D (PG-13) 3hrs 14min
4:50pm, 9:10pm

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

Chimpanzee (G) 1hr 18min
11:55am, 2:20pm, 4:45pm, 7:00pm

Cabin in the Woods (R) 1hr 35min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:50am, 3:20pm, 6:40pm, 9:15pm, 10:00pm

Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) 1hr 28min
11:45am, 4:50pm, 9:45pm

Pirates! Band of Misfits 3D (PG) 1hr 28min
2:15pm, 7:20pm

Think Like a Man (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Five-Year Engagement (R) 2hrs 04min
11:00am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
1:00pm, 4:20pm, 7:40pm

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

Perfect Family (PG-13) 1hr 24min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:20pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

Damsels in Distress (PG-13) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 10:00pm

In the Family (NR) 2hrs 49min
1:00pm, 4:50pm, 8:30pm

Citizen Gangster (NR) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Highest Pass (NR) 1hr 30min
3:20pm, 5:35pm, 7:50pm

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

Hunger Games (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:30am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

Safe (R) 1hr 35min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 7:50pm, 10:25pm

Raven (R) 1hr 43min
11:15am, 1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Lucky One (PG-13) 1hr 41min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:15am, 12:20pm, 3:50pm, 7:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

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

Dinner for two tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You have the ability to carry out the best laid plans. You are a force to be dealt with, and you aren't afraid of being a leader. You'll transform a situation in such a way that others finally will respond to a leader -- be it you or someone else. Tonight: A must appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Keep reaching out for others with determination and vigor. Evaluate an issue thoroughly, seek out other opinions and speak to a person you respect about the dilemma at hand. You will get answers. Trust your ability to get past problems. Tonight: Say "no" to limitations, especially if they are self-imposed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Deal directly with someone you care about. Your ability to clear up problems and handle issues is dependent on this person's good will. Do not kid yourself. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Defer to others, and you'll gain a deeper understanding of what is possible. You could be overwhelmed by all of your options and might not be exactly sure about which way to go. Your resourcefulness will bring results. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You have a way about you that attracts many people. Your laughter and sense of direction help you and also those around you. Focus on a project that could impact you financially Tonight: Choose a stress buster.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Funnel your imagination into a fun project. A child or loved one senses your energy and naturally wants to draw you in. Establish limits and know when to say "no." A partner acts in the most unpredictable manner. Tonight: Put your feet up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Getting going could have you grumbling. If you are really out of sorts, a change of plans might be a great idea. Listen to news more openly. A partner does the unexpected. Stop, think ... then react. Tonight: Head home early.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You have a lot on your mind. In a sense, you feel inspired -- it's as though you have a muse in your life. Open yourself up to possibilities, and do not negate an idea too fast. Tonight: Be happy. Love the one you are with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter. On some level, you might like to daydream about what could have been, as opposed to dealing with reality. Once you decide to put 100 percent into a situation, rewards will become possible. Tonight: Happy at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You beam in whatever you desire. Your instincts lead you down the right path. The unexpected might toss some pebbles in your path, but that will not stop you. Reach out and respond to someone at a distance. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

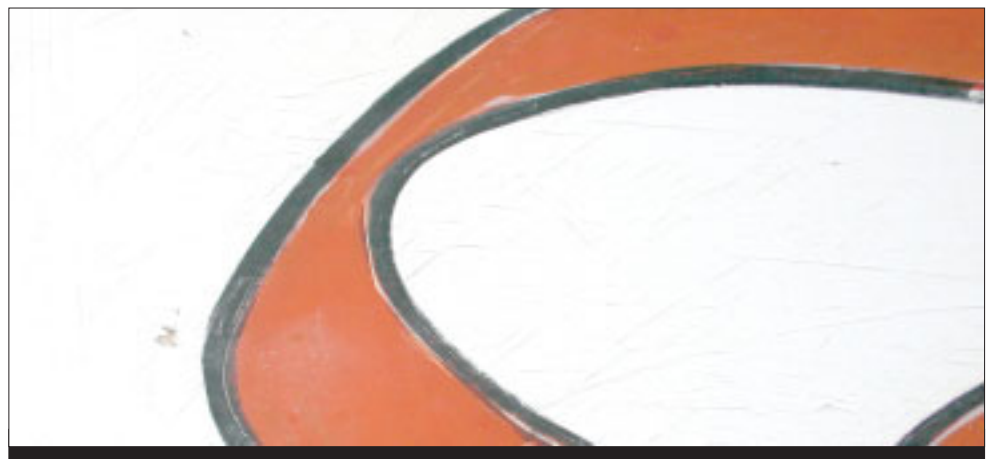
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Sit back, and let others run the show. You might think that you can do it better, or perhaps you are relieved not to be carrying this burden. Some people will react in a surprising fashion. Be willing to flex, because they won't. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ It seems as if others think they know better than you. The confusion that ensues might give you a chuckle, but remember to say little. In the long run, you know what is going to happen. Use care with your finances. Tonight: Where the gang is.

Happy birthday

This year your serious ways let bosses, friends and loved ones know that you are not kidding. As a result, your opinions will carry far more weight than they have in the past. You'll enjoy the respect you receive. If you are single, you could attract someone quite interesting. Be smart. Do not get into power plays, or you will never feel comfortable with each other. If you are attached, team up and zero in on a long-term goal or desire. Success could be yours. CAPRICORN understands your attitude well, but also knows how to resist your implicit demands.

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

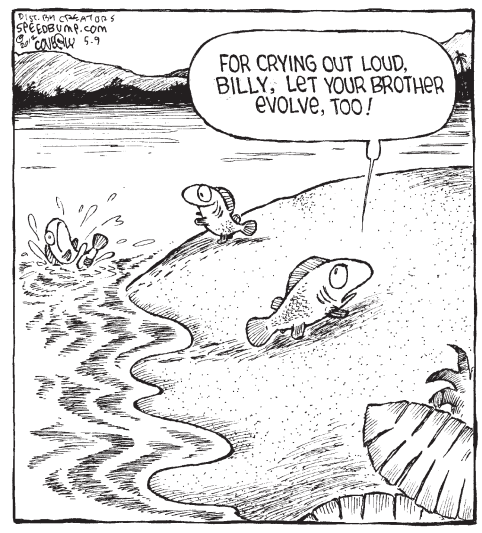


MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



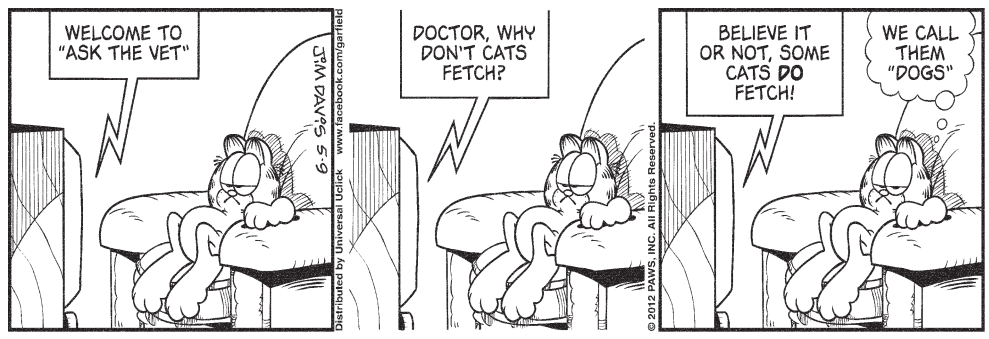
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Singer Perry
5 Radio-emitting star
11 Poet Khayyám
12 Morphine, e.g.
13 Plant pest
14 Crooked
15 Series-ending abbr.
16 Honey bunch
17 Dwelling
19 Sewing aid
22 Deal maker
24 Madrid museum
26 Stow cargo
27 Tiny particle
28 Luxurious
30 "I surrender!"
31 Easy victim
32 Neighbor of Mars
34 Eastern sight
35 Pupil's place
38 Lady of riding fame
41 Notion
42 Twist of fiction
43 Diamond scores
44 Rely
45 Church area

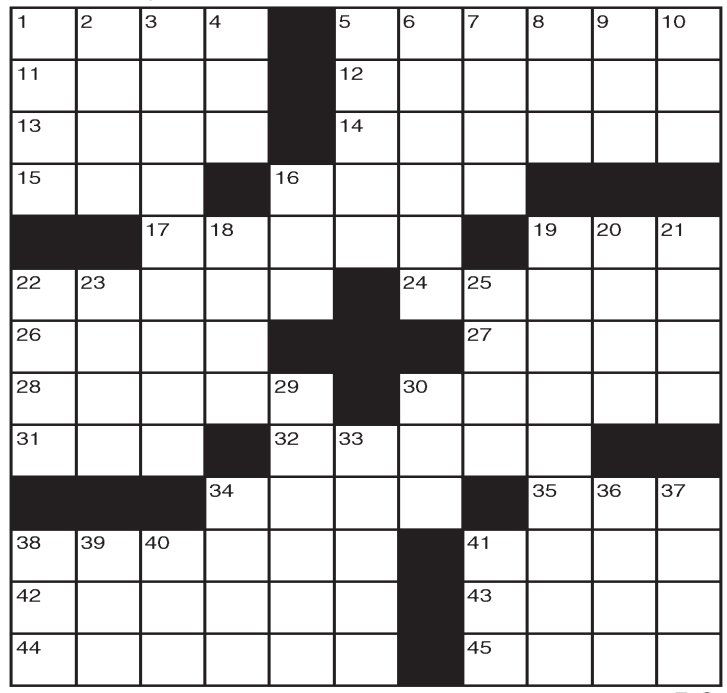
DOWN

1 Show up
2 Leave out
3 Partnered
4 Raw metal
5 Does some modeling
6 Maintenance
7 Tells tales
8 Shop tool
9 Put away
10 Wine choice
16 Except
18 Wallet bills
19 Fixed, as jeans
20 Revered one
21 Iditarod end
22 Heidi's home
23 Charity affair
25 Crazy talk
29 Blissful place
30 Fancy vase
33 Cup, perhaps
34 Seedy joint
36 Longings
37 Comfort
38 Zeus or Apollo
39 Flamenco call
40 Party staple
41 Lyricist Gershwin

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

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



5-9

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/4
4 11 21 42 53
Meganumber: 38
Jackpot: $12M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 5/5
25 28 29 37 42
Meganumber: 18
Jackpot: $15M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/8
20 29 32 33 34

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

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 5/8
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:40.58

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ **Relentless:** (1) In the early hours of Jan. 31, police in Gaston, N.C., were alerted to five burglaries in a two-block area that left shattered glass, broken doors and other damage, but no missing property. There was also a blood trail leading from one store, likely from a break-in boo-boo. (2) In March, England's Canterbury Crown Court heard the evidence against a gang of five who in August and September 2010 attempted to break into seven ATMs, using fancy power tools, but came away empty-handed each time. Brick walls were smashed around three machines, and twice explosives were used, resulting in fires. In each case, alarms were triggered, sending the men away prematurely, including once from an ATM that contained the equivalent of $223,000.

■ In January, Ms. Navey Skinner, 34, was charged with robbing the Chase Bank in Arlington, Wash., after passing a teller a note that read, "Put the money in the bag now or (d)ie." According to investigators, Skinner subsequently told them she had been thinking about robbing a bank and then, while inside the Chase Bank, "accidentally robbed" it.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1901 – Australia opens its first parliament in Melbourne.

1904 – The steam locomotive City of Truro becomes the first steam engine in Europe to exceed 100 mph (160 km/h).

1911 – The works of Gabriele D'Annunzio placed by the Vatican in the Index of Forbidden Books.

1915 – World War I: Second Battle of Artois between German and French forces.

1918 – World War I: Germans repel the British's second attempt to blockade the port of Ostend, Belgium.

WORD UP!

pother
\ POTH-er \ , noun;
1.
A heated discussion, debate, or argument; fuss; to-do.

ARITHMO™
CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

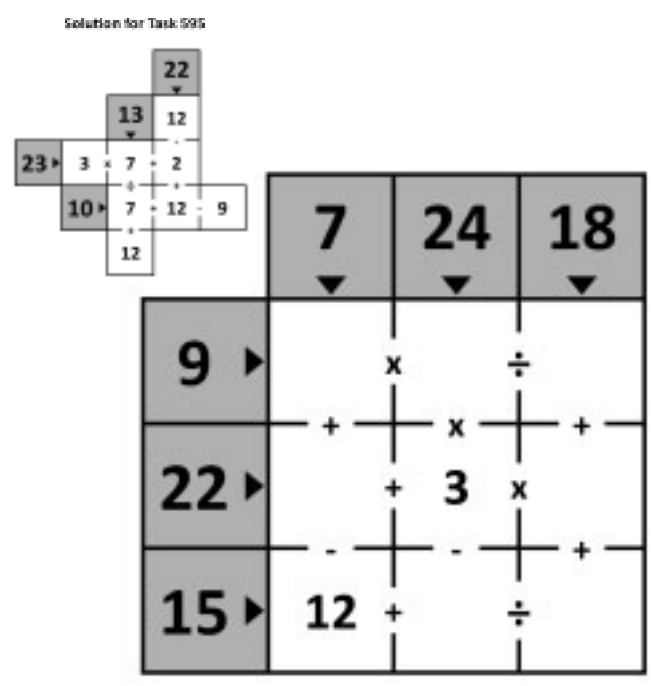
• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

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

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

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

3, 4, 9, 9, 10, 11, 11



Santa Monica Daily Press

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- Roomates
- Commerical Lease
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Loans
- Storage Space
- Vehicles for Sale
- Massage
- Services
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COMMISSION SALES rep needed part time with internet marketing experience. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

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3485 Sawtelle #17. 2 Bd + 1 Bth. Top floor corner w/ large balcony. Intercom, (1) gated parking, pool. $1595.

1271 Granville Ave. #301. 3Bd +3Bth corner penthouse with loft. $3775

2436 Louella Ave. 3 Bd + 2 Bth house in Mar Vista. 2,081 sq ft, carpeted floors, 2 car detached garage, LARGE kitchen. $3950.

1705 Crest Dr. 2Bd + 1Bth. Hardwood floors, W&D inside. $2095

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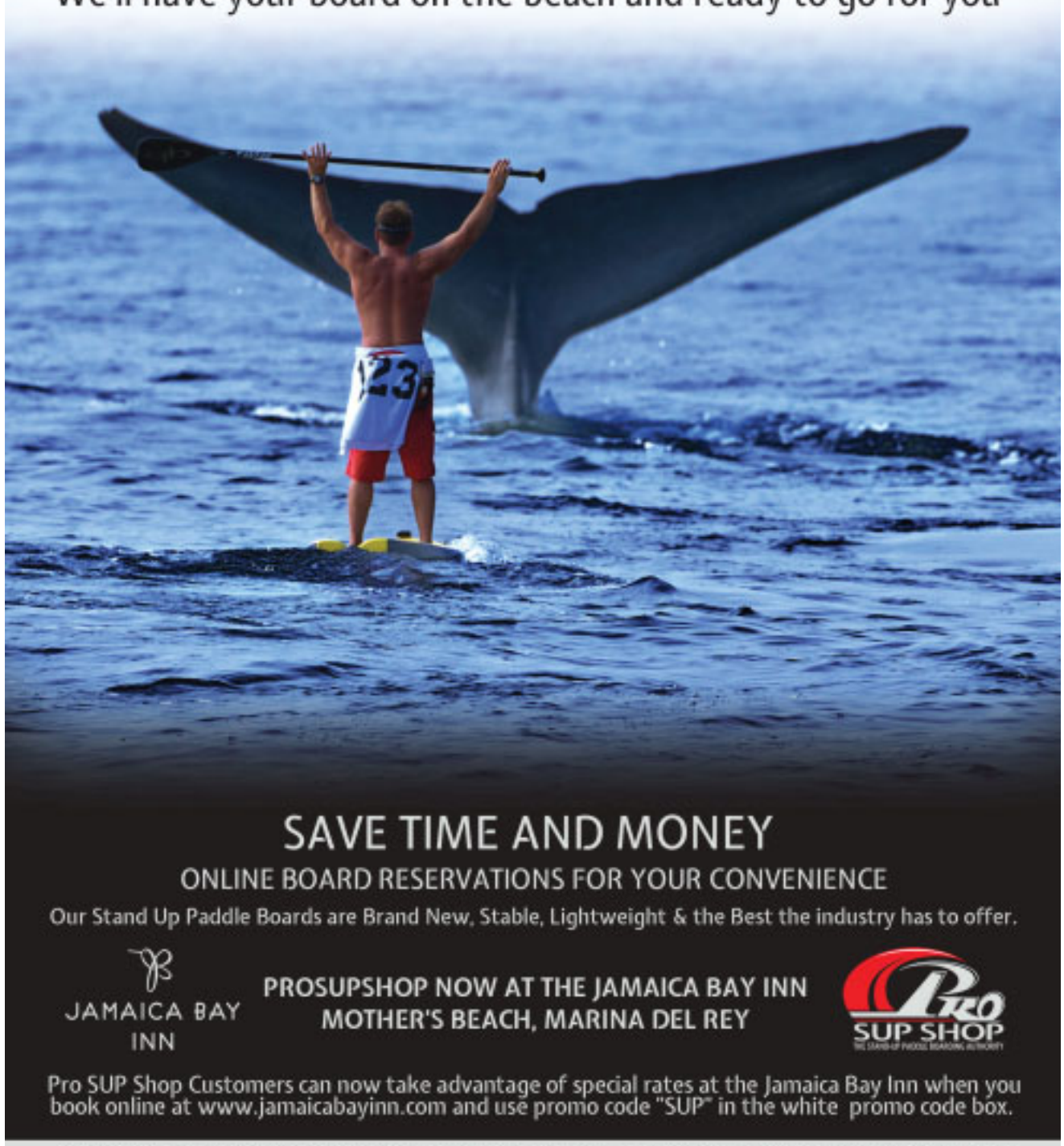
Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF (Name):Lucille Stumbaugh, aka Lucille Brink, deceased. Case Number BP 132536
1.To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of (specify all names by which the decedent was known):
Lucille Stumbaugh, aka Lucille Brink, aka Lucille Witherow, aka Lucille Wolf
2.A Petition for Probate has been filed by (name of petitioner): in the Superior Court of California, County of (specify): Jack D. Wolf
3.The Petition for Probate requests that (name): Jack D. Wolf
be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
4.The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
5.The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
6.A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
a. Date: May. 29, 2012 Time: 8:30am Dept.:11
b.Address of court: 111 North Hill Stt., Los Angeles, CA 90012
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections
with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
8.If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.
9.You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
10.Petitioner Attorney for petitioner (name): Jack D. Wolf
(Address):
16511 County Road 7
Wiggins, CO 80654
(Telephone):
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North of Montana	=	$3,868,167
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,044,667
South of Wilshire	=	$912,429
Sunset Park	=	$1,262,000
Ocean Park	=	$1,835,333
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