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TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 161

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

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SEE PAGE 14

THE ARITHMO DEBUTISSUE

Landlords file suit to raise rent

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM COURTHOUSE Tenants in rent controlled buildings should pay more each month to cover the full cost of a landlord's tax bills, according to a lawsuit against Santa Monica's Rent Control Agency filed last week by a group of local apartment owners.

The lawsuit, filed in Santa Monica Superior Court by the Action Apartment Association, alleges the formula used by the Rent Control Agency to determine the annual maximum rent increase for controlled units is invalid because it doesn't permit owners to "pass through" the full cost of new taxes established since rent control took effect in 1979.

Owners are also improperly disadvantaged because in many cases they aren't allowed to factor in the full cost of their property tax liability when determining rents, the suit charges.

Rosario Perry, the attorney for Action, said if the lawsuit is successful the average tenant in a rent-controlled building would be required to pay about $140 more per month in rent. Santa Monica landlords stand to earn tens of millions of dollars annually if Action prevails in court, he said.

Wes Wellman, president of Action, said the lawsuit comes after the Rent Control Board for years has "consistently ignored" its mandate to "reimburse owners for actual increases in taxes and utilities."

Under Rent Control Agency policy, some taxes, like the $346 school district parcel tax and the Clean Beaches and Ocean parcel tax, among others, are allowed to be passed on to tenants. Owners, though, are barred from increasing rent based on other taxes.

In the lawsuit, Perry stated there are five property tax surcharges that owners are barred from passing through. In one instance cited in the complaint, the five surcharges amounted to $1,020 per year for

SEE RENTS PAGE 9



PHOTO FINISH

photo courtesy Rich Cruse

Six-year-olds Isabella Wilson (left) and Olivia Mione finish the Santa Monica Classic 5k on Sunday. The race raised thousands for environmental watchdog Heal the Bay. In the 5K, Brian Livingston, 32, crossed the finish line first in 15 minutes, 17 seconds. Barbara Parker, 27, was the female winner, finishing in 16 minutes, 40 seconds. In the 10K, Aaron Sharp, 30, won in the men's competition with a time of 31 minutes, 22 seconds. Karen Barlow31, was the top female with a time of 36 minutes, 41 seconds.

Chef charged in murder plot pleads not guilty

BY REBECCA KHEEL
Special to the Daily Press

LAX COURTHOUSE Juan-Carlos Cruz, the former host of the Food Network show "Calorie Commando," pleaded not guilty Monday to attempted murder and solicitation of murder, authorities said.

Cruz allegedly tried to hire three Santa Monica homeless men to slash his wife's throat, sources said. The bail was set at $2 million, and a preliminary hearing was scheduled for June 23.

Cruz was arrested last week in a Cheviot Hills dog park after one of the homeless men he allegedly tried to enlist in the plot contacted Santa Monica police.

Little Dave, one of the homeless men believed to have been contacted by Cruz, told celebrity news agency TMZ that the chef asked him to "cut (a) woman's throat" and promised to pay $1,000 for the completed task. Cruz then allegedly provided Little Dave a box cutter, a disposable cell phone, gloves and a pocket watch, TMZ reported.

Little Dave then told his friend Shane, who told another homeless man named Big Dave, of the plan. The three homeless men met Cruz in Santa Monica where he allegedly showed them a picture of the target, his wife Jennifer Campbell, according to TMZ.

At the meeting, Cruz allegedly told the homeless men he wanted them to jump his wife as she got in a car at a location Cruz picks her up at every day. They were then supposedly to slit her throat, TMZ reported.

When Big Dave got arrested on a loitering charge, he told police of Cruz' plan. Police then asked for the homeless men's cooperation in busting Cruz, and during a meeting sometime last week, Big Dave was wired, and a nearby policeman was videotaping the meeting, according to TMZ.

During that meeting, Big Dave said he told Cruz he did not want to kill the woman in public, so Cruz told them he would give them the code to his apartment, and they could strangle the target as she walked in, according to TMZ.

SEE CHARGED PAGE 8


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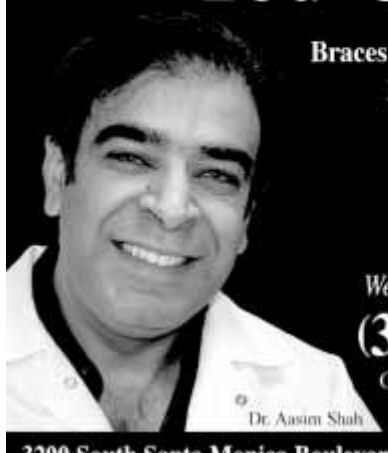
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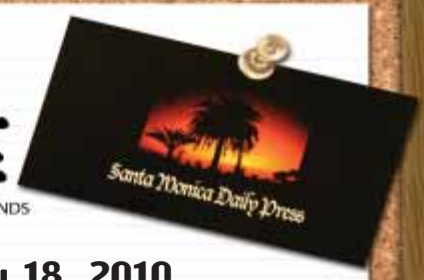
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WHAT'S UP
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OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Spoken Word on the Promenade
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Mixing enlightened analysis with innovative authorship, Bill Robertson of Santa Monica Emeritus College can strengthen your poetry dedication, appreciation and creation. Visit www.greenpoets.com for more information.

Preserving the past
Santa Monica Public Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Personal collectors of historical photographs, documents and other items can learn how to preserve their collections at the library's "L.A. As Subject: Preservation of Personal Histories Workshop." There will also be discussion of institutions that might be appropriate to house the collections in the future.

"More than a Game"
Santa Monica Public Library Fairview Branch
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
This documentary, released in 2009, follows LeBron James and four of his teammates during their days playing basketball in high school in Ohio. Coined the "Fab Five," the players face obstacles as they win their way to the national high school championship. For more information, contact Catherine Ronan at (310) 458-8681.

Art time
Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club
1210 Fourth St., 11:30 a.m. — 2 p.m.
The Artists League of the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club hosts on drop-in hours every Tuesday for people to work on independent art projects in watercolor, gouache and collage. It is a self-directed workshop, but attendees can learn from each other. The program costs $3 as a donation to benefit free art programs for local youth. For more information, call (310) 310-2273.

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Freshen up
Downtown Santa Monica
Arizona Avenue & Second Street, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Get the freshest fruit and produce available at this weekly Farmers' Market. There are also a variety of prepared foods available.

Local flavors
Pourtal Wine Bar
104 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Carol Hoyt, who makes wine from fruit grown in the Santa Monica Mountains about Malibu, will be serving her latest releases, as well as speaking about what it is like to grow grapes in Santa Monica. The wine offerings include: 2006 Chardonnay, 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon and 2006 Syrah. Attendees can get three wines for $10 and can arrive anytime between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

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



CORRECTION

■ In the My Write column entitled "Local politics spring to mind," May 17, 2010, it should have stated that Laurie Lieberman is a co-founder of LEAD (Leadership, Effectiveness, Accountability and Direction), a grassroots organization founded in 2008 that focuses on local public schools.

■ In the May 17, 2010 article entitled "City Hall to add over 170 bike racks Downtown," if should have stated that riding a bicycle in Santa Monica is a violation of local law. The state allows local governments to create a bicycle license law.



DIGGIN' IT

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II *news@smdp.com*

Sunset Park resident Judith Desjardins collects free compost for her organic garden where she grows roses, snap peas, squash, eggplant and various herbs. City Hall gave away free compost to residents on Saturday at the City Yards. The compost is made from yard clippings collected curbside.

Supporters of Measure A give big

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS Attempting to pass Measure A — the $198 parcel tax that would raise an estimated $5.8 million annually for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School district — campaign boosters have raised more than $332,000 since January, records on file with the Santa Monica City Clerk's Office show.

The documents cover all fundraising efforts since the school board in January voted to place Measure A before voters in a special mail-in election with a May 25 ballot-return deadline.

The pro-Measure A campaign has spent $212,446 to date, mostly on direct-mail campaign literature.

In addition to fundraising, Rochelle Fanali, a co-chair of the campaign to pass Measure A, said hundreds of volunteers have been showing up at phone banking drives and participating in weekend precinct canvassing efforts.

"This coalition recognizes that we have something really worth protecting here in Santa Monica and Malibu and that's why people are working so hard to pass Measure A," she said.

To take effect, the parcel tax needs support from two-thirds of voters. Ballots can be dropped off at City Hall on May 25.

Donations listed in the campaign disclosure filings range from anonymous gifts of a few dollars to the $25,000 contributed by the Franklin Elementary School Parent Teacher Association.

Shari Davis, president of the SMMUSD Council of PTAs, said each of the 17 PTA groups in the district contributed to the effort, called the Campaign to Protect Quality Public Schools, together donating about $100,000.

> **"THIS COALITION RECOGNIZES THAT WE HAVE SOMETHING REALLY WORTH PROTECTING HERE IN SANTA MONICA AND MALIBU AND THAT'S WHY PEOPLE ARE WORKING SO HARD TO PASS MEASURE A."**
>
> Rochelle Fanali,
> Co-chair, Campaign to Protect Quality Public Schools

SEE **RAISED** PAGE 8

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Local teams get ready for playoff run

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Fresh off a share of the Ocean League baseball title, the Santa Monica High School Vikings will begin the playoffs on the road against Quartz Hills.

Pairings for the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 3 playoffs were released Monday and have the Vikings kicking off the first round at Quartz Hills on Thursday at 3:15 p.m.

The Vikings finished the season 15-11 overall and 8-2 in league. Quartz Hills finished the season by winning the Golden League with a 17-9 overall record and 13-1 league mark.

XRDS BASEBALL TO OPEN PLAYOFFS AT HOME

Crossroads' baseball team will open the playoffs on Friday at Clover Park against Viewpoint at 3:15 p.m.

The Crossroads Roadrunners, winners of the Delphic League, finished the season 15-7 overall and 8-0 in league.

Viewpoint won a share of the Liberty League title with a 7-1 league record.

The CIF-SS Division 6 playoff game will be the second matchup between the two teams. Xrds won the first meeting, 5-3 in March.

ST. MONICA DRAWS HERITAGE

The St. Monica Mariners, the second place team from the Camino Real League, will open the CIF-SS Division 5 playoffs against Heritage on Thursday on the road.

St. Monica finished the season 15-10 overall and 9-6 in league. Heritage finished second in the Mountain Pass League with a 11-3 league mark.

The game will begin at 3:15 p.m.

NEW ROADS RETURNS TO PLAYOFFS

After a one-year absence, the New Roads Jaguars baseball team returns to the postseason.

New Roads will begin the CIF-SS Division 7 playoffs at home Thursday against Dunn High School, the third place finisher in the Condor League.

New Roads finished the season winners

SEE **PLAYOFFS** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Support our kids

Editor:

Worried about adding $198 to your tax bill? Money tight? Still looking at the Measure A ballot, but haven't yet voted to support our schools or mailed it in? I worry about money, too. I am a stay-at-home mom, a mother of two. My husband bears the burden of supporting our family financially.

Here's why I have voted yes on Measure A and sent in my ballot. My children are in Santa Monica-Malibu schools. Surrounded by prestigious private academies, we opted to send our kids to our local public schools, and when I say local, I mean the schools for which we scrimped and saved in order to move into pricier Santa Monica as a newly expecting couple, having done the research – our schools are competitive with the best in the nation.

I have seen the return on the taxpayers' investment personally this spring, as my son and his friends are excitedly receiving their acceptances to America's best colleges and universities – Princeton, UCLA, Tufts, Berkeley, Columbia, Stanford, NYU, etc. These teens are musicians and athletes and scientists and artists and teachers and engineers. Encouraged by their high school, they volunteer countless hours each week throughout our community with nonprofits serving kids, seniors, animals and the environment. They have the whole world at their feet and are the product of our SMMUSD teachers, administrators, librarians, and arts instructors. And taxpayers.

These fantastic young men and women are, indeed, worthy of the investment our taxpayers make. They are the future of our cities, and they will return from college and graduate school ready to invest their own tax dollars in Santa Monica and Malibu and lend their professional expertise to our workforce.

I want my fifth grader to have the same opportunities his brother had. However, with more than $10 million in cuts from the state next year, (after millions in cuts last year were offset somewhat by the reserve our fiscally-prudent school district set aside), I know that class sizes will go up and belts will be tightened. But can we imagine schools where the libraries are locked, closed to students because the library assistant was laid off? And do we think our nationally regarded music programs will not suffer dramatically if the foundational elementary programs are cut? Won't our test scores go down dramatically as class sizes go up? Measure A will "put back" around $5.7 million, allowing some of the programs and personnel on the chopping block to be spared. How can we not pull out all the stops to see its passage?

California is the next to last state in per-pupil spending. Next to last! Yet our Santa Monica-Malibu schools are highly ranked with strong standardized test scores. Initiatives like Measure A and generosity from our cities partially make up for state cuts and state negligence. Maintaining good schools makes sense for everyone. Property values stay up (ask a realtor), and crime stays down. My neighbors will vote yes on Measure A because it makes good sense pragmatically and morally.

Next month I will sit in the Greek Theater at Santa Monica High School and celebrate the academic career of nearly 800 graduates with bright futures ahead of them. I will certainly cry a little and think of all the wonderful educators who have supported their success. I am very proud of them, and I have been proud to live in a community that continues to value education and value children, even when times are tight. That is why I am hopeful that Measure A will pass. That is why I can hope my neighbors will find that white envelope, pull out the ballot and mark "yes" and mail it off in that green envelope today.

Patti Braun
Santa Monica

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Santa Monica Daily Press



Back to Nature

Reese Halter

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Ancient amber serves as prehistoric time capsule

TREES AND THEIR ANCESTORS HAVE BEEN on our planet for more than 350 million years. It seems rather fitting both tree scientists and jewelers treasure their fossilized parts.

Amber is fossilized tree resin, or pitch, that was once deliberately exuded from conifers, or cone bearing trees. Sticky resin is a protective mechanism allowing trees to seal wounds, such as branch or bark breaks, or insects that attack by boring into the tree. Not only does the resin seal the wound, it also has potent antiseptic properties that protect trees from air borne diseases.

Some trees produce a lot of resin, particularly from cracks in the bark or broken branch stubs. The resin is released in blobs, or stalactites, which drip and flow down the trunk of the tree. Often as the resin flows insects, other organisms and plant parts become trapped and engulfed in the gooey material. They also become well preserved, creating prehistoric time capsules.

There are only two types of living trees today that produce resins stable enough that could, over time, become amber: Kauri pine (Agathis australis) of New Zealand and a species of legume Hymenaea in East Africa and South and Central America.

So how does resin eventually become the prized amber? It's a process called amberization. Once the tree exudes resin, it begins to harden. Resins contain oils, acids, alcohols and other aromatic compounds like frankincense and myrrh. They begin to undergo change when the organic molecules join together to form larger ones.

The hardened resin is called copal. Copal becomes a part of the soil where it remains long after the tree dies. The molecules inside the copal continue to grow in size, and eventually all the volatile oils disappear. When that occurs, copal becomes amber. This process is dependent upon the type of sediment in which the resin is deposited. It takes at least two and up to 10 million years for copal to become amber.

Amber allows tree and insect scientists a glimpse as far back into time as 280 million years. The first amber bearing insects appeared about 145 million years ago.

Human fascination with the beauty of ancient amber as jewelry dates back to about 10,000 years ago. Amber comes in all colors: yellow, orange, red, blue, green and black. It's about as hard as a fingernail and can easily be scratched. Sometimes amber contains water or air bubbles or water in air bubbles. And it is always warm to the touch. It's prized as jewelry, especially if an insect is trapped inside. Amber is valuable and unfortunately often faked.

Fake amber comes from copal, glass, phenolic resin, celluloid, casein (which is made from cheese) and modern plastics. Often insects are fraudulently added to increase value. If insects are longer than a couple of millimeters, you're probably dealing with a fake. Similarly, most insects trapped in amber are extinct, so if an encased critter looks like a modern housefly, it is likely a fake.

A four-part test determines genuine amber. Place a drop or two of alcohol (isopropanol or ethanol) on the polished surface of the specimen and allow it to evaporate. It will make copal sticky, and there will be no reaction to amber or other fake materials. If the sample scratches with a pin it's amber, as glass won't scratch. Heat a wire or needle until red hot, allow it to slightly cool, then press it against the edge of the sample. It will produce a puff of smoke. If the puff smells slightly acrid resinous, it's amber. If, on the other hand, the smell is sweet resinous, then its copal. A word of caution: celluloid is flammable, and other plastics can give off potentially harmful vapors. Finally, place seven teaspoons of table salt into 12 inches of water and stir until salt is dissolved. If the sample floats, it's either copal or amber; all other materials will sink.

Amber can be carved and makes exquisite jewelry like pendants, necklaces, earrings, brooches and rings. Throughout the ages, it has been cherished from rosaries of medieval times to snuff boxes and tobacco pipe stems. The most ornate display occurred in 1701 when Frederick I of Prussia commissioned an entire room to be paneled and decorated in amber. He gifted it to Czar Peter the Great of Russia in 1717, and it was moved to the Palace in St. Petersburg. It moved again in 1755 to Ekaterininsky Palace in Tsarskoye Selo. In 1941, the Nazis looted and dismantled the room moving it to Koenigsberg castle. To this day, the exact whereabouts is unknown. Although in 1997, one panel showed up at auction.

Amber occurs in many parts of the world but mostly in small deposits. The two main commercial regions occur in the Baltic and the Dominican Republic. The main insect bearing amber comes from the Baltic region, Dominican Republic, Burma, Mexico, Lebanon, Siberia, Canada, New Jersey and Sicily.

The molecule DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) contains the genetic blue print of life. In 1992, scientists found DNA from an extinct bee preserved in amber. In fact the blockbuster science fiction movie Jurassic Park was, in part, based on this discovery. Although there are no known insect-bearing Jurassic amber (208-146 million years ago) it is possible to extract DNA from blood sucking insects.

Scientists can manipulate and make copies of DNA, and someday they will likely be able to grow it into an animal. If it's a prehistoric animal, it will be because trees, the timeless survivors of the ages, have kept an intact museum of the past.

DR REESE HALTER is a conservation biologist at Cal Lutheran University, public speaker and founder of the international conservation institute, Global Forest Science. His latest children's book is "The Mysteries of the Redwood Forest with Bruni the Bear." Follow him: twitter.com/DrReeseHalter

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kevin Herrera
editor@smdp.com

MANAGING EDITOR
Daniel Archuleta
daniela@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
Nick Taborek
nickt@smdp.com

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brandon Wise
brandonw@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Morgan Genser
news@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Bill Bauer, David Pisarra, Meredith Carroll, Kenny Mack, Jack Neworth, Lloyd Garver, Dr. Reese Halter, Taylor Van Arsdale, Dane Robert Swanson, Steve Breen, Elizabeth Brown, Merv Hecht, Cynthia Citron, Amanda Cushman, and Phyllis Chavez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER
Fabian Lewkowicz

NEWS INTERNS
Lisa Anderson, Lenika Cruz, Rebecca Kheel
news@smdp.com

PHOTOGRAPHY INTERN
Ray Solano
news@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Schwenker
schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Scott Zubor
scottz@smdp.com

Clayton O'Brien
claytono@smdp.com

Brittney Seeliger
brittneys@smdp.com

ADVERTISING TRAFFIC FACILITATOR
Amber Kessee
amberk@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Connie Sommerville
connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt
Osvaldo Paganini
circulation@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
A newspaper with issues

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Santa Monica, CA 90401
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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Look passed the cleavage

BOOBIES, TA TAS, HOOTERS, BONGOS. You know what I'm talking about. We likely have as many euphemisms for the female breasts as there are nouns in the English language. They have an amazing ability to send men into a stupor. I know; I've seen it happen. A beautiful woman walks by, and she has that hourglass figure, and suddenly the men in the room stop talking, and their heads turn in unison like some Busby Berkeley choreographed scene.

Women spend huge amounts of time and money enhancing the effect that their upper torso has on the male of the species. From push-up bras to implants, women will spend thousands of dollars to have a "better rack."

Songs have been written about the pillowy chests of women. In the musical "A Chorus Line," the song "Dance 10, Looks 3" is devoted to how important it is to look good and admonishes one to "keep the best of you, do the rest of you."

We see billboards throughout the Los Angeles basin for plastic surgeons willing to take a woman from an A cup to a triple D, and you can make monthly payments on those implants.

They are by definition sexy. Breasts are a gender marker; they look great on a woman and terrible on a man. The use of breasts in marketing is legendary. Women in skimpy bikinis, their chests almost bursting from the top, are used to sell everything from cars to hamburgers, which is why the Susan G. Komen Foundation has such an easy time marketing breast cancer awareness.

You can't miss their awareness campaign. Everything it seems is being painted pink. There are bracelets, soup cans and in the latest fundraising event, Kentucky Fried Chicken. This fundraiser provides 50 cents per bucket for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. On the one hand, it's awesome that they have a corporate sponsor who is doing such a wonderful event and donating money to an organization that is clearly doing much good. On the other hand, given that obesity is also a cause of cancer and fried chicken is not exactly known as a diet food (much to my dismay, I'd like to point out), I don't know that this is the best message to be sending people by the SGK Foundation. But I guess the idea is that exposure is good no matter where or what it takes.

Which brings me to the male side of thing. While one in eight women, my mother included, will face breast cancer, one in six men will face prostate cancer. That means that a man is 35 percent more likely to face prostate cancer than a woman is facing breast cancer. Yet no one talks about it.

Tremendous gains have been made in the detection and treatment of prostate cancer. I've known several men, some in my neighborhood, who have had to go through the surgery and follow up treatment. It's not a sexy cancer, but it can definitely affect your sex life. It's a hidden cancer; it occurs in an area that most men are squeamish about. The jokes about being tested are many. I remember hearing about one doctor who used to have a giant drill bit right at the level where a man's eyes would be when getting tested.

THE PROBLEM WITH PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS IS THAT IT'S NOT AN EASY SELL LIKE BREASTS.

These days the test is part of a whole series of screening protocols that are done with a simple blood draw. So while the doctor is having your cholesterol levels checked, they can have a test done to look for a prostate specific antigen.

The problem with prostate cancer awareness is that it's not an easy sell like breasts. Men are traditionally scared of doctors, they don't like talking seriously about their bodies, and there has been no poster-child for the condition.

You'd think the Prostate Cancer Foundation would be pushing for more events and marketing tie-ins like the Susan G. Komen Foundation did. The playbook is there already. This is a lay down, blue ribbons for the boys, bumper stickers that read, "Stand Up for Prostate Cancer" or "Go with the flow — Get Tested" and of course, "Real Men Get Tested."

Prostate cancer is deadly, it can go undetected for years, and men can and do ignore the warning signs. There's no sizable campaign for men, but we need one. If you have a man in your life that you love, have him get tested because the only ones who can't get prostate cancer are women.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's Issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

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The Q Line

Trust must be earned

City Hall has vowed to strictly enforce development agreements (DAs) after a comprehensive review showed that the majority of past DAs were not in compliance and that City Hall failed to properly review them.

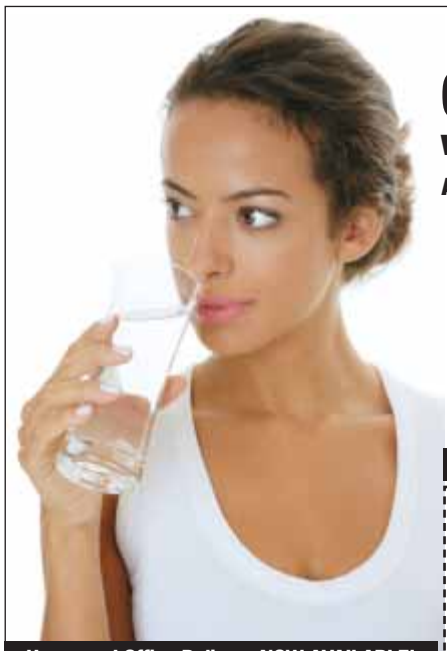
So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you trust the current City Council and staff to negotiate and properly monitor future DAs, which are expected to play a larger role under the new Land Use and Circulation Element?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.


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Estates Director
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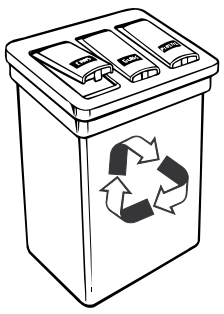
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City of Santa Monica

THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2010-11
AND ADOPTION OF GANN RESOLUTION

The City Council, Housing Authority, Redevelopment Agency and Parking Authority of the City of Santa Monica will hold a public budget hearing on June 15, 2010. The council meeting will begin at 5:45 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California. All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the City's entire proposed budget. At the meeting on June 15th, the City Council will also adopt a resolution for the determination of the GANN Appropriation limit for fiscal year 2010-11. A copy of the documentation used in calculating the limit is presented in the proposed FY2010-11 Proposed Budget.

The entire proposed City Budget can be inspected by the public in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or viewed on the Internet at www.smgov.net. City Hall is open from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 28th and June 11th. City Hall is closed on Friday, May 21st and June 4th. Copies of the proposed FY2010-11 City Budget are also available at the City's Main Library located at 601 Santa Monica Boulevard and branch libraries at 1704 Montana Avenue, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard and 2601 Main Street.

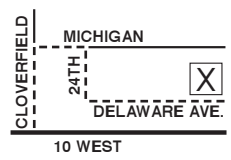


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States' budget woes hitting programs for kids hard

DON BABWIN
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO Now the crisis is reaching the children.

In Arizona, a program that helped blind high school students care for themselves and find jobs is suspended. In South Carolina, all five state-run group homes for kids closed and a program that helped paroled youths get jobs is shuttered. And in Hawaii, a program to reduce child abuse and neglect was cut so much that two years after serving 4,000 families, it now serves 100.

All over the country, the financial crisis has forced states to make historic cuts to close what the National Conference of State Legislatures found was an overall budget gap of $174.1 billion this fiscal year and has lawmakers looking to trim another $89 billion next year. That means slashing services to the one population they've long protected: children.

The scope of the cuts is unprecedented, child advocates say. Hit are programs that addressed everything from childhood obesity to child abuse, and from prenatal care to preschool inspections. Some can't serve as many kids, while others are forced to deal with months-long delays, and many programs simply disappear.

"We were really taken aback at just the sheer magnitude of the cuts," said Linda Smith, executive director of the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, which released a study in January that found programs for children were cut or eliminated in more than 40 states.

And now, advocates worry all the gains they've made in improving children's lives will be lost and juvenile crime, child abuse, child neglect and other problems will climb.

"We will end up with a kid who is killed or will kill someone else," said Karen McLeod, president of Children and Family Services Association-N.C., an organization in North Carolina, where the state's mental health system was cut by $155 million last year. "We are very, very worried about what is going to happen."

Already, cutbacks to programs have led desperate parents to take increasingly desperate steps. They're leaving kids home alone or in households with a history of domestic violence. One mom in North Carolina camped out with her teenage son at a county facility for eight days, waiting for state officials to find him a bed in a state mental hospital.

Salima Mabry's son is autistic and mentally disabled. Fearing that taking him home even for a few hours would mean having to start the waiting process over, the two slept in chairs, took sponge baths in a public restroom sink and ate food friends and family brought.

"You're in a sitting chair like you wait for the doctor," Mabry said, adding that the setup didn't suit her son. "He had a fit (and) they had to restrain him (because) he didn't like sitting in a room."

Officials eventually found him a hospital bed.

The checks that agencies get from the state are about to get smaller or already have.

In Oklahoma, which has a $1.2 billion budget shortfall, the health department is shuttering 17 of its 33 child-guidance centers where children with significant behavioral problems can be assessed.

"Some kids just won't get services," said Oklahoma State Department of Health Commissioner Terry Cline.

Oftentimes agencies are in limbo: They don't know how much state money they'll get, or how long it will take lawmakers to make funding decisions. Last year, Illinois' budget process dragged on so long two crisis nurseries were forced to close on the weekends and overnight — a potentially dangerous move given that some parents drop children off because of domestic violence or medical emergencies.

"People don't plan a crisis in their lives," said Nancy Ronquillo, president of Children's Home + Aid, a nonprofit group that provides services in Illinois and oversees two of the state's six crisis nurseries.

William Schultz is a single parent who leaves his 4-year-old son at Mother House Crisis Nursery in Rockford, Ill., a couple times a week and said he doesn't know what he would do without it.

The 37-year-old dad is recovering from bacterial meningitis that caused a series of strokes largely affecting his left side. "I can't function as well as I did," said Schultz, an unemployed construction worker.

The center allows him to go to physical therapy and on job interviews. And since he cannot afford day care, the nursery is his son's only chance to interact with other kids.

Mother House is helping another parent get the dialysis she needs. Before learning about the nursery, the woman would skip treatments because she had nowhere to take her kids.

"She was risking her own life because there was no child care," said Robin Carlson, the nursery's program manager.

Carlson said gutting such programs will only cause problems to escalate to the point where they become medical emergencies and crimes.

"One way or another we're going to have to pay for these services," she said.

In South Carolina, Department of Juvenile Justice director William R. Byars Jr. worries that loss of about $20 million in state funding will add up to an invitation to street gangs.

"One of the things gangs use to draw kids in is that they can give them a job," said Byars, of a now-defunct training program for juvenile parolees. "The first job offer they get is with the gangs, on a street corner (and) we got them into legitimate businesses ... in stores, mechanic shops, flipping hamburgers."

And in Hawaii, State Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland said the reduction in funding from $15 million years ago to $1.3 million this year for Healthy Start, her state's nationally recognized child-abuse prevention program, will cause more children to be abused.

"We have a 99.8 percent success rate in having all those families (in the home visitation program) not abuse or neglect their children," Chun Oakland said.

Also, eliminating some programs will push people to lean on the government for help. In Arizona for example, Marc Ashton, the CEO of the Foundation for Blind Children, said skills taught by the independent living program he had to suspend are exactly what high school students need to become self-sufficient.

"It eliminates a dependency on the state," he said. "It teaches them how to get off the dole."

And having them working and paying taxes is much cheaper for states.

"It costs $7,000 a month to lock a kid up and a couple hundred dollars a month to provide counseling," Ronquillo said. "You do the math."



The Quackers

Phyllis Chavez
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Honoring tradition and nutrition

Editor's Note: The Quackers are three awesome ducks – Rusty, Richard and Sydney – from the canals of Venice who are on a mission to educate the community about the dangers of global warming and the importance of practicing sustainability, all while surfing the most gnarly waves possible.

RICHARD HAD WORKED LONG AND hard perfecting this year's garden design. It was the largest he had ever planned. Thinking about some of the new additions he included this year, sugar snap peas and honeydew melon made our mouths water. He talked of nothing else for the last week. I bet if we blindfolded him, stuck him in the middle of the garden plot and pointed him north, he would still be able to point out the placement of every seed and plant.

Planning for everything, he knew what tools he needed, how many stakes and even how much string. Dividing the plot into thirds, he assigned one to each of us and explained in detail how each plot would look when completed. He estimated a week of hard work would get it done. That and teamwork.

The time came for action. All was a go. The team was ready and in place. At least we thought we were. For the first hour we worked like crazy. Then our energy flagged. We dragged through the rest of the day. It was as if someone drained our batteries.

That night we talked and talked, desperately trying to figure out what went wrong and how to get back on track. There was work to be done. It was Rusty who figured it out. It all traced back to missing our morning surfing session. Call it our cup of coffee, call it our breakfast of champions, apparently that early morning commune with nature was what we needed to jump start our day.

As the sun rose the next morning, we were already paddling out to catch a few waves. When we started work this time, we would really be ready to go. It worked so well we had to force ourselves to stop for lunch.

After we ate, Richard surprised me with six chili pepper seedlings. Knowing my love of chili, Cousin Juanita had sent Richard the seeds all the way from Albuquerque. My very own chili plants, yum. I can taste the possibilities.

In addition to the chili seeds, Juanita had sent along another handful of seeds for Richard to try. She said they were from her "Three Sisters Garden."

Three sisters? He rang up Juanita for an explanation.

Juanita was eager to share.

"It's a traditional Native American garden that has been grown for over 10,000 years," she said. "It is corn, beans and squash. Did you know that when they are eaten together they provide a nutritionally perfect meal?"

Apparently the seeds are planted in a special way that creates the perfect ecological balance for the seeds and the soil. This crop was so important for survival that a story about three sisters was created to ensure the knowledge was passed on from generation to generation.

Richard listened intently as Juanita continued.

"Do you remember old Aunt K'ema from Taos? She shared the story and helped me plant my first Three Sisters Garden when I was just a kid. Aunt K'ema said the story can be told in many different ways, but it always starts with three beautiful sisters."

She told it this way. Three beautiful sisters grew up together as children. The eldest sister grew straight and tall. She wore a pale green shawl and had yellow hair that blew in the breeze. The second sister was younger and could only crawl at first and clung to her bigger sister. The third and youngest sister wore a green skirt with a bright yellow blouse. She had a way of running off by herself but was always there for her sisters. When they grew up, they moved to separate fields. Living apart was hard and they missed each other dreadfully so they decided to move back together. Together, they once again flourished and vowed never again to separate.

"When Aunt K'ema showed me how to plant the garden, she said the eldest sister (corn) should be planted first in the center of a tall mound of earth," Juanita explained. "When she has grown about 6 inches, her sister (beans) should be planted in a circle around the edge of the mound. After waiting a week, the third sister (squash) should be planted at the edge of the mound, about a foot away from the beans. The first sister will grow tall and strong and support her younger sister as she climbs, and the smallest sister will help shade the earth, so all three will not grow thirsty as they grow."

With a few changes, we were able to make room to plant our first Three Sisters Garden. Like the three sisters, we worked together as we made the mounds and planted the corn. Soon we would be honoring a 10,000-year-old tradition as we brought the three sisters together once more.

• To see a representation of a Three Sisters Garden check the reverse of the 2009 Native American dollar.

PHYLLIS and the Quackers can be reached at phyllis@phyllischavez.com. The Quackers have a new, amazing website! Stories, pictures and a blog at www.thequackers.com.





CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for the:

Street and Park Lighting Project FY2008/09

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **June 11, 2010**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Contract Documents.

ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE: $1,700,000
CONTRACT CALENDAR DAYS: 275
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,000.00 PER DAY
COMPENSABLE DELAY: $700.00 PER DAY

Bid Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Purchasing website at: http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm. Bid Documents may also be examined in City Hall, at the Civil Engineering counter, located at Room 113, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, phone number (310) 458-8721. Additional information may be obtained on the City's Engineering Division website at: www.santa-monica.org/engineering. The Contractor is required to have a Class **A or C-10** license at the time of bid submission.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.



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This marks the 72nd year the City of Santa Monica has sponsored the event in conjunction with local Community organizations. This year's event will be a musical tribute to honor the memory of our nation's fallen military heroes.

A host of talented musical groups will be performing including the renowned **Sacred Nation Concert Choir** which has performed at venues such as the world famous House of Blues Gospel Brunch. The **Santa Monica Oceanaires Barber Shop Chorus**, the combined **choirs of John Adams and Lincoln middle schools** will also be performing. There will also be an **exciting flyover of military jets and vintage World War II aircraft**.

Event parking is available at the Santa Monica College parking lot located at the southwest corner of Pico Boulevard and 14th Street.

The Santa Monica Big Blue Bus will also be providing free shuttles between the parking structure and Woodlawn Cemetery from 9:20a.m. until 1:00p.m. There is no charge for the event or parking.

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Vikings to open playoffs on road

FROM **PLAYOFFS** PAGE 3

of the Harbor League with a 5-1 league record.

PACIFICA MAKES SECOND STRAIGHT PLAYOFFS

Pacifica Christian's second place finish in the Heritage League has earned the Seawolves a spot in the CIF-SS Division 7 playoffs.

The Seawolves will open the postseason at home against Hope Centre Academy on Thursday at 3:15 p.m.

Pacifica Christian finished the baseball season 13-5 overall and 7-3 in league. Hope Centre is the second place finisher in the Freedom League.

daniela@smdp.com

Homeless say Cruz provided box cutter

FROM **CHARGED** PAGE 1

Cruz is most known for his work hosting the Food Network Series "Calorie Commando," which showed how to prepare meals with less calories that retained all the flavor of the high calorie originals. The show began in 2004 and was canceled in 2006.

Food Network did not comment on the charges because they have no current relationship with Cruz, according to the Associated Press.

news@smdp.com

No campaign from measure opponents

FROM **RAISED** PAGE 3

PTA groups are allowed to spend up to 5 percent of their annual budgets on advocacy efforts, she said.

The well-financed pro-Measure A campaign contrasts sharply with the loosely organized group of parcel tax opponents.

Mathew Millen, an attorney opposed to Measure A who considered establishing a committee to fight the initiative, last week said he had not raised any money to campaign against the tax.

nickt@smdp.com

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www.andersonsurfboards.com

Owners want tenants to pay more property tax

FROM **RENTS** PAGE 1

an 11-unit residential building.

The lawsuit argues that barring owners from passing through all taxes is a violation of the agency's charter amendment, which states each year the Rent Control Board shall "adjust rents upward by granting landlords a utility and tax increase adjustment for actual increases in the city of Santa Monica for taxes and utilities."

The suit also alleges the formula is flawed because it is "based upon an unfounded assumption that property taxes have not been increased due to sales or other transfers" since rent control took effect in 1979.

Under current policy, the property tax pass through amount is determined through a formula that adds 2 percent each year to the property's assessed 1979 value.

But many buildings in Santa Monica have been sold since then, resulting in new assessed values based on sale price, Perry said. Since property values have increased at a rate greater than 2 percent per year, he said new owners are often required to cover a large portion of their property tax bills without passing on the cost to tenants.

Perry said that's created a situation where owners have to charge higher rents to new tenants to cover their property tax expenses.

"Until [property tax] is equitably allocated between all tenants in the building, there will be an unequal treatment of the new tenants over the old and that inequality is unfair and unjustified," he said.

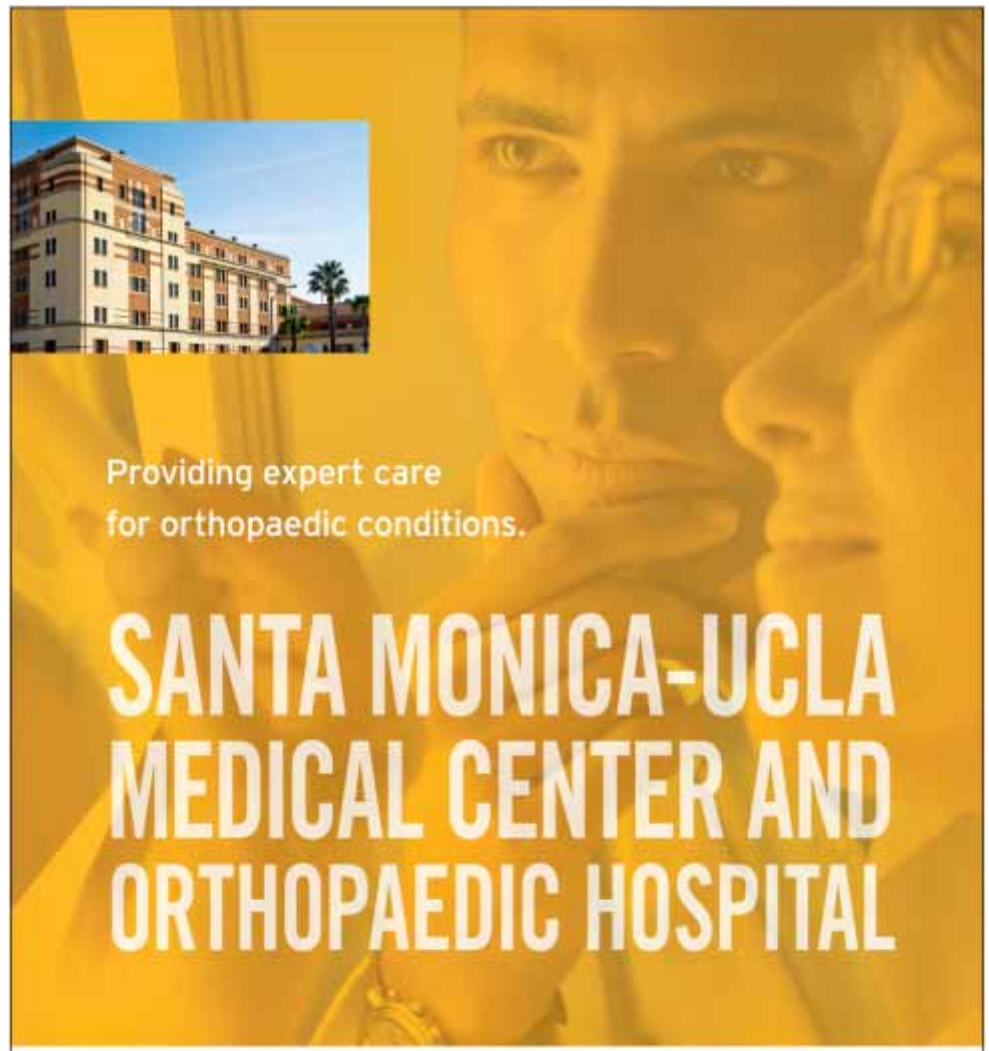
Michaelyn Jones, the Rent Control Agency's general counsel, declined to comment on the lawsuit's allegations but said it was based on a long-standing disagreement between the agency and the association. For years apartment owners have argued they should be permitted to raise rents because of new taxes.

"I disagree with their interpretation [of the Rent Control Agency's charter amendment] and that's what the fight will be about," she said.

> **"UNTIL [PROPERTY TAX] IS EQUITABLY ALLOCATED BETWEEN ALL TENANTS IN THE BUILDING, THERE WILL BE AN UNEQUAL TREATMENT OF THE NEW TENANTS OVER THE OLD AND THAT INEQUALITY IS UNFAIR AND UNJUSTIFIED."**
>
> **Rosario Perry,**
> Attorney for the Action Apartment Association

nickt@smdp.com







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*not pictured

Whitman seeks grand jury to root out waste, fraud

JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press Writer

ROSEVILLE, Calif. Republican gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman on Monday proposed creating a statewide grand jury and Cabinet-level inspector general to find waste, fraud and abuse in California government — taking a page from an early pledge by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger that never fully materialized.

She said the citizens panel could recommend cases for civil or criminal prosecution, such as what she said is an estimated $6.5 billion in fraud in California's Medi-Cal, welfare and in-home supportive services programs.

Whitman's plan is reminiscent of Schwarzenegger's 2005 California Performance Review, which identified about $32 billion in government waste but was largely abandoned.

The former eBay chief executive often cites that review as a blueprint for the changes she wants to make. She said Schwarzenegger failed to follow through because he was not tough enough in standing up to the Democratic-controlled state Legislature, public employee unions and other interests in Sacramento.

"That grand jury will have the ability to subpoena and indict. And you know who's going to sit on the grand jury? You are," she told about 150 people at the Tower Theatre in Roseville, a Sacramento suburb.

She said she would tap "civic-minded individuals" from the pool of those who already serve on county grand juries throughout the state.

The grand jury proposal is included in the glossy policy manual she released in March, but Whitman has rarely touched on it before Monday. Her campaign promoted the event as Whitman's response to Schwarzenegger's revised budget proposal, which was released Friday.

Her opponent in the June 8 GOP primary, state Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner, criticized Whitman for failing to offer specifics about how she would address the state's $19.1 billion budget deficit for the coming fiscal year. The shortfall comes after nearly $60 billion in spending cuts and other measures Schwarzenegger and lawmakers have taken over the last few years to address the gap between tax revenue and spending commitments.

"Someone should tell Meg Whitman that searching for waste, fraud and abuse and appointing a new "cabinet-level" bureaucrat to fill a job description that already exists in state government are not going to get California out of this budget deficit," Poizner's spokeswoman, Bettina Inclan, said in a statement.

Whitman told reporters later that while she backs some of Schwarzenegger's budget proposals, such as across-the-board salary reductions for state workers, he went too far with his plan to end CalWORKS, the welfare-to-work program that provides assistance to 1.4 million Californians, about two-thirds of them children.

"My view on CalWORKS is I would've reformed welfare as opposed to calling for its entire elimination," she said. But she offered few specifics on cuts or other reductions she would make to close the deficit.

"So there's, you know, a number of things there that I think are worth going after. What we didn't do is fundamentally restructure the cost structure of the government."

Whitman also responded Monday to an online ad from Poizner's campaign that accuses her of greatly expanding eBay's pornography sales during her 10-year tenure. It said while she moved to ban the sales of guns and fake paintings, she added a separate division to handle the increased traffic in pornography.

Whitman said the ad shows Poizner has reached "a new level of desperation" in the tightening race. Although Whitman at one point had a 40- to 50-point lead over Poizner in public opinion polls, recent internal surveys in both campaigns have showed he has narrowed the shortfall to as little as 10 percentage points after a series of negative attacks.

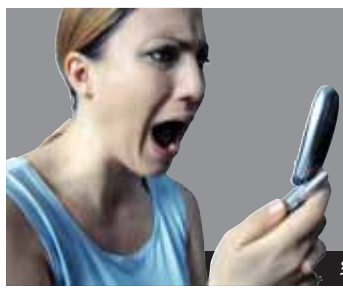
"I think he is truly desperate," Whitman said of the online pornography ad. "eBay is one of the largest Internet websites, where millions of small businesses make their living. I bet your grandmother probably uses eBay. So, you know, I just think he is off the reservation on this one."

Poizner has made inroads with conservatives by accusing Whitman of not being conservative enough, including saying she supports amnesty for illegal immigrants, a charge Whitman denies.

In response, the Whitman campaign on Monday touted an endorsement from former Vice President Dick Cheney, who called her "a proven executive who has the mettle to stand up to the entrenched special interests in Sacramento and cut spending," in an op-ed Sunday.

While the move might boost her support among conservative primary voters, it is unlikely to win her many fans in a general election in California, where the George W. Bush's administration was unpopular.

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





Scientists worry current could carry oil to Keys

JEFFREY COLLINS &
MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press Writers

ROBERT, La. With BP finally gaining some control over the amount of oil spewing into the Gulf of Mexico, scientists are increasingly worried that huge plumes of crude already spilled could get caught in a current that would carry the mess all the way to the Florida Keys and beyond, damaging coral reefs and killing wildlife.

Scientists said the oil will move into the so-called loop current soon if it hasn't already, though they could not say exactly when or how much there would be. Once it is in the loop, it could take 10 days or longer to reach the Keys.

"It's only a question of when," said Peter Ortner, a University of Miami oceanographer.

In the month since an offshore drilling platform exploded, killing 11 workers, BP has struggled to stop the leak, trying in vain to activate emergency valves and lowering a 100-ton box that got clogged with icy crystals. Over the weekend, the oil company finally succeeded in using a stopper-and-tube combination to siphon some of the gushing oil into a tanker, but millions of gallons are already in the Gulf.

The loop current is a ribbon of warm water that begins in the Gulf of Mexico and wraps around Florida. Some scientists project the current will draw the crude through the Keys and then up Florida's Atlantic Coast, where the oil might avoid the beaches of Miami and Fort Lauderdale but could wash up around Palm Beach.

Many scientists expect the oil to get no farther north than Cape Canaveral, midway up the coast, before it is carried out to sea and becomes more and more diluted.

The pollution could endanger Florida's shoreline mangroves, seagrass beds and the third-longest barrier reef in the world, the 221-mile-long Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, which helps draw millions of snorkelers, fishermen and other tourists whose dollars are vital to the state's economy.

Pollutants can smother and kill corals — living creatures that excrete a hard exterior skeleton — or can hinder their ability to reproduce and grow. That, in turn, could harm thousands of species of exotic and colorful fish and other marine life that live in and around reefs.

In other developments:

• Chris Oynes, who oversees offshore drilling programs at the federal Minerals Management Service, will retire at the end of the month, becoming the Interior Department's first casualty of the disaster. Oynes has been criticized as too cozy with the oil industry.

• The White House will establish a presidential commission to investigate the spill, according to an administration official speaking of condition of anonymity.

• California Sen. Barbara Boxer and other Democrats are calling on the Justice Department to open a criminal investigation.

• BP said it has spent $500 million on the spill so far.

• The oil company said it will never again try to produce oil from the well, though it did not rule out drilling elsewhere in the reservoir. "The right thing to do is permanently plug this well, and that's what we will do," said Doug Suttles, BP chief operating officer.

William Hogarth, dean of the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science, said one computer model showed oil had already entered the loop current, while a second model showed the oil was three miles from it. Mike Sole, Florida's environmental protection secretary, said the edge could still be two to 18 miles away.

BP said it is having some success with a mile-long tube that is funneling a little more than 42,000 gallons of crude a day from the well into a tanker ship. That would be about a fifth of the 210,000 gallons the company estimated is gushing out each day, though scientists who have studied video of the leak say it could be much bigger.

Crews will slowly increase how much they are collecting over the next few days. They need to move slowly to prevent the formation of the ice-like crystals that doomed the effort to lower a big concrete-and-steel box over the blown-out well.

BP initially said it hoped the system would capture most of the leaking oil, but Suttles said Monday that officials would be pleased if the tube eventually sucks up half of it.

The siphoning is not a permanent solution. BP is preparing to shoot a mixture known as drilling mud into the well later this week in a procedure called a "top-kill" that would take several weeks but, if successful, would stop the flow altogether. Two relief wells are also being drilled to take pressure off the blown-out well, but that will take months.

Chemicals being sprayed underwater are helping to disperse the oil and keep it from washing ashore in great quantities, but researchers said that in recent days they have discovered miles-long underwater plumes of oil that could poison or suffocate sea life across the food chain, with damage that could last for a decade or more.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Monday that the researchers' announcement of the oil plumes was premature and that further tests are needed to confirm that the plumes detected were indeed caused by the blowout.

GM roars back to profit, but can it repay gov't?

DEE-ANN DURBIN &
TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writers

DETROIT In less than a year, General Motors Co. has roared back from bankruptcy to a quarterly profit. Now comes the hard part: Sustaining the income and repaying billions of dollars in government aid.

There are signs that GM is on track to do just that. Revenue is up 40 percent over the first quarter of last year. U.S. sales rose 17 percent for the quarter, and the automaker made an operating profit in North America, which had been a cash incinerator. Units in Asia and Latin America posted strong numbers, too.

As a result, the automaker announced Monday, its net income rose to $865 million, a dramatic reversal from the $6 billion the company lost in the same period last year.

"Today's news was wonderful, and even better than we ever expected to be this far in the post-restructuring period," said Steven Rattner, former head of the Obama administration's Auto Task Force.

To keep GM afloat and get it through bankruptcy court, the U.S. government gave the company $50 billion. GM repaid $6.7 billion that the government considered loans, with the remaining $43.3 billion converted to a 61 percent stake in the automaker.

For the Treasury to break even, GM will have to make a lot more money and show prospects for even more profits in the future for its shares to be worth enough to cover the debt.

Still, the first-quarter profit was viewed with hope because, since GM's stay in bankruptcy court, the company has cut expenses, is making better cars and now has a shot at repaying taxpayers.

Some experts were skeptical. James Schrager, professor at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, said GM has a history of making boastful claims, only to disappoint. A recent television ad in which CEO Ed Whitacre declared that the company had repaid its government loans in full, with interest, was misleading, he said.

"I'm delighted that they're not losing buckets of money, but a modest profit is a long way away from righting the ship," Schrager said.

Chris Liddell, GM's chief financial officer who was hired recently from Microsoft Corp., would not say Monday when an initial public offering might take place, but he was cautiously optimistic that GM would have a profitable year.

And even Liddell conceded there are still obstacles to the sale, such as losses in Europe, a possible slowdown in U.S. sales, and reduced growth in China, which was GM's biggest market in the quarter in terms of cars and trucks sold.

"Certainly over the next year, there's a possibility we could do an IPO, but the market's got to be ready, the automobile industry has to continue to improve, and we have to continue to improve," Liddell said.

U.S. auto sales have gradually picked up, rising 15.5 percent last quarter from the depths of the recession a year ago.

GM's U.S. rivals also have shown improvement. Chrysler Group LLC, which also went into bankruptcy protection last year before being taken over by Fiat Group SpA, lost $197 million in the first quarter. That's far better than the $3.8 billion it lost between June 10, when it emerged from bankruptcy protection, and Dec. 31. Ford Motor Co. earned $2.1 billion in the first quarter, its fourth straight positive result.

To pay off all its shareholders, including the government, a United Auto Workers union health care trust, and its old bondholders, the stock market would have to value GM at more than $70 billion. That's almost double Ford Motor Co.'s market value of roughly $40 billion, but far less than the total value of Toyota's shares, about $120 billion.

One analyst, Eric Selle of JPMorgan Chase & Co., predicted last month that a GM stock sale could reach around $70 billion, selling at $113 to $137 a share.

"They need two more quarters of increasing results to prove that this is for real and not a one-time event, and get some better history behind it," said Ken Elias, a partner with automotive consulting firm Maryann Keller and Associates.

Rattner, who is now writing a book about the auto industry's near-death, said GM could be worth more than Ford when investors compare their enterprise values, or the values of their stock shares, debt and cash. Ford now has $34 billion in debt on its books and $25 billion in cash, compared with GM's $8.4 billion in debt and $36 billion in cash.

But others are not so confident in GM. Schrager thinks the market will view GM as worth less than Ford because Ford is ahead in management reform and has more and better new vehicles coming in the next year.

Rattner, though, said the government put up money to save thousands of jobs at Chrysler and GM when the economy was nearing a depression. It never expected to get back the whole $50 billion it loaned to GM, he said.

He said under Whitacre, GM has good new products in the pipeline and is a far leaner and faster company.

"I'd be careful about the perfect being the enemy of the good here," he said.

From any perspective, GM was a sick company before its bankruptcy, racking up more than $86 billion in losses since 2005. It had $53 billion in debt, burdensome labor contracts and a weak lineup of cars at a time when global markets were shifting to smaller vehicles.

Since then, the company has rolled out new vehicles that have sold well, including the Chevrolet Equinox crossover and Buick LaCrosse midsize luxury sedan.

In addition, GM is now using 85 percent of its North American factories to make vehicles. That figure was only 38 percent in the first quarter of last year, when the company had shut down most of its factories to control inventory.

Yet GM still faces a number of potential stumbling blocks, including:

• Declining market share and revenue. Global market share has been flat for the past year at 11.2 percent. Liddell said that was largely because of GM's decision to discontinue or sell four brands: Hummer, Pontiac, Saab and Saturn. GM needs its remaining brands — Cadillac, Chevrolet, Buick and GMC — to pick up the slack. Revenues also fell almost $1 billion from the fourth quarter to the first quarter. Liddell said reining in costly incentive spending is one way the company hopes to improve revenues.

• Losses of $506 million in Europe for the quarter, GM's only unprofitable region. GM is in the midst of cutting 8,000 jobs and reducing European plant capacity, which cost it $300 million in the quarter. Liddell said GM hopes to break even in Europe next year, but the debt crisis could hamper progress. "The overall marketplace in Europe is still the most challenging," he said.

• Slowing growth in China, where GM sold 623,000 vehicles in the first quarter thanks in part to aggressive government subsidies. The subsidies are still available, but sales growth has started to slow because the incentives lured so many buyers into the market.



SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast

Looks a tad smaller, perhaps waist to at times chest high for south facing breaks. Wind swell remains nil.

Long Range Synopsis

Will likely be weaker, and maybe only waist high around south facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **May 11, 2010**

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 -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 40 / 24
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 21

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alina creeks.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	F
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	B	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	B	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	D
Solstice Canyon at Don Blacker County Beach.	D	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	F
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	C
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	F	D
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunos 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.	ns	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	B
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	D
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	C
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	B
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 D&W jetty).	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	D
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	F

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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Iraq says it uncovered al-Qaida plot on World Cup

SAMEER N. YACCOUB
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD Iraqi security forces have detained an al-Qaida militant suspected of planning an attack targeting the World Cup in South Africa next month, an official said Monday.

Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi, a spokesman for Baghdad security services, said Abdullah Azam Saleh al-Qahtani was an officer in the Saudi army. He is suspected of planning a "terrorist act" in South Africa during the World Cup beginning June 11, al-Moussawi told a news conference in Baghdad.

He said al-Qahtani entered Iraq in 2004 and is suspected in several attacks in the capital and elsewhere in the country.

In South Africa, a police spokesman said Iraq has not notified them of the arrest.

"We have not received any official reports from them," Vish Naidoo told The Associated Press. "Whatever arrest they made there, they know, we don't know anything about it."

Earlier Monday, South African police paraded fire engines, armored carriers and other vehicles through Johannesburg to show they were ready to secure the country for the World Cup.

"South Africa will be hosting the whole world, and therefore will take no chances," Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa said.

In Iraq, attacks blamed on al-Qaida have continued despite the killing last month of the group's two top figures in a U.S.-assisted military operation.

On Monday, assailants disguised in Iraqi military uniforms beheaded a Sunni cleric and stuck his head on an electricity pole in the town where he preached against al-Qaida, the cleric's son and Iraqi police said.

The son of the cleric Abdullah Jassim Shakour told The Associated Press the gunmen wearing military uniforms came to the family house in the town of Sadiyah north of Baghdad, took his father into a room, killed him and walked away with his head.

The family found the headless body in the house, said the son, Mohammed. When they went to report the killing to the police, they saw his head on an electric pole in the center of the town.

Duke, ASU, UCLA lead field at women's golf tourney

JOEDY MCCREARY
AP Sports Writer

WILMINGTON, N.C. A pair of UCLA golfers polished off their practice round on the 18th green Monday when two Arizona State players joined them to putt a few balls.

No intraconference hostility here: The Bruins greeted them with friendly waves.

With so many Pac-10 teams coming together on the opposite coast this week, they might as well all get along.

Six Pac-10 schools are in the 24-team field at the NCAA women's golf championship, which begins Tuesday. The event usually is dominated either by that conference or by Duke; since 1993, every national title but one has gone to either the Blue Devils or a Pac-10 school.

"I think we're really committed to excellence," Sun Devils coach Melissa Luellen said. "They're really committed to their athletic programs. They've got great coaches. The weather's pretty great on the West Coast. ... If I was a kid looking at schools, I'd look at the West Coast, for sure."

No women's golf program has won more NCAA team titles than the defending national champion Sun Devils, who have seven. They're joined here by top-ranked UCLA, Pac-10 champion Arizona, Southern California, Stanford and Oregon — making up one-fourth of the field that will take on the 6,368-yard, par-72 course at the Country Club of Landfall.

"I think our conference, within itself, we've really pushed each other as teams to keep getting better and better, because there's so much competition in the Pac-10," UCLA coach Carrie Forsyth said. "Week after week, it's like we play all these same tournaments and we're competing against each other. The better one team gets, the better you have to get, and you just have to keep going forward."

Brooks' Blue Devils rank second with five championships, all since 1999, including three in a row from 2005-07.

"Before we had our little run, it was always out there," veteran Duke coach Dan Brooks said of the Pac-10. "It was all the Southwest, and the Southwest is strong again."

The Sun Devils return a strong nucleus from the group that captured the school's most recent national title. Three players who led Arizona State last year in Owings Mills, Md. — Juliana Murcia, Carlota Ciganda and Jaclyn Sweeney — are in Luellen's lineup.

"It was such a joy and such an amazing feeling to win the national championship; it's kind of like the culmination of the whole year and the hard work and everything that everybody does," Luellen said. "But we're at a different place, at a different course, different conditions, different players, we have a different team. When you go back to the same course, there's a lot more expectations because, 'Oh, you should play that course really well.' Well, now it's almost kind of like a new ball game all over again."

UCLA enters the tournament ranked No. 1 in the coaches' poll and by GolfStat and GolfWeek, but Forsyth downplayed that ranking, saying "it means zero, frankly."

The Bruins are chasing their third NCAA title and first since 2004 after finishing second in both 2008 and '09.



MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Furry Vengeance (PG) 1hr 32min
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Death at a Funeral (R) 1hr 30min
1:30pm, 4:00pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Iron Man 2 Digital Projection (PG-13) 2hr 4min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Babies (PG) 1hr 20min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 10:00pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Just Wright (PG) 1hr 51min
1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Iron Man 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 5min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Iron Man 2 Digital Presentation (PG-13) 2hrs 5min
2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:15pm

A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) Digital Presentation (R) 1hr 37min
2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:05pm

The Back-up Plan (PG-13) 1hr 38min
2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Date Night (PG-13) 1hr 28min
2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Kick-Ass (Digital Presentation) (R) 1hr 57min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:05pm, 10:00pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Exit Through The Gift Shop (R) 1hr 43min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:20pm, 7:40pm, 10:00pm

Princess Kaiulani (PG) 1hr 52min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Harry Brown (R) 1hr 58min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

City Island (PG-13) 1hr 55min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Robin Hood (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:10am, 12:10pm, 1:10pm, 2:10pm, 3:20pm, 4:20pm, 5:20pm, 6:40pm, 7:40pm, 8:30pm, 9:45pm, 10:45pm

Letters to Juliet (PG) 1hr 45min
11:30am, 12:30, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:30pm

How to Train Your Dragon (PG) 1hr 38min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:10pm, 6:50pm, 9:20pm

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

Get off the coach, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Don't worry if you are a turtle crawling along in the a.m., because you could transform into a hare darting along by the p.m. Your creativity opens up. A problematic discussion in the morning could be redone. Tonight: Act like you are done with work!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Keep conservations flowing. You might be uncomfortable with everything that you are hearing. A boss, though vague, continues to meet your standards. You aren't going to change him or her, so ask more questions in order to get clarity. Tonight: Happily head home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Curb possessiveness or a feeling of insecurity. You might want to rethink a situation involving your personal life. Given time, you will walk past the issue. A resolution simply isn't going to happen now, as much as you might like. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Use the morning hours to the max. You could be saddened by some news that you hear. Let that feeling pass, as you will hear more that is less disheartening. Zero in on a primary goal with a friend's help. Tonight: Order in. Relax.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Take it easy in the a.m., when you just might not be as vigorous or energetic as you might like. You could be far more depressed about a situation than you realize. Look within. You might need to take action. Tonight: Feeling much better.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Use the morning to push a project forward. You could be overwhelmed by everything that you are saddled with. Ask for support in a meeting, or make calls to encourage others to pitch in. Learn to say "no" more often. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Stay on top of a personal situation. Tackle a project when your enthusiasm is high. You'll get results, and faster at that. A meeting late in the day presents opportunities to meet new people. Tonight: Allow more fun in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for a loved one or someone you care about at a distance. You could be exhausted by all the thoughts that are flying through your mind. Your creativity surges, encouraging you to take the lead. Tonight: A must appearance.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ A close associate wants a lot of your time. You feel pressured, and you need to let that person know. Otherwise, there will be an undercurrent of dissatisfaction running between you. Detach from an immediate issue. Solutions appear. Tonight: Join a pal at a new nightspot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Others come toward you. Listen, but don't necessarily decide to do anything more. For a key person, you have done enough already. A discussion with a partner in the late afternoon demonstrates this person's reliability. Tonight: Talk over dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ An easy pace might be nice, but certain matters must get done, and quickly at that. Block another's disruption, and let this person know that you will be more available later in the day. Once you can breathe, catch up on messages and news. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

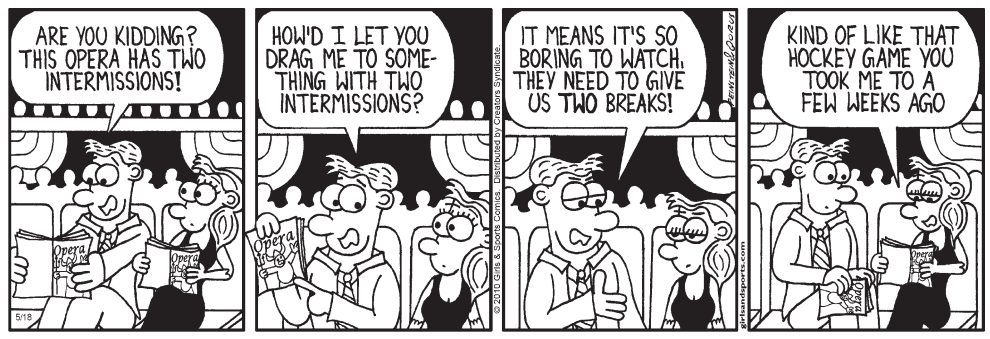
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Use your ingenuity in the morning. Be smart, and don't let someone's grumpiness filter into your day. A meeting serves as a cheerleading session to get a project off the ground. Tonight: Summer is coming; time to exercise.

Happy birthday

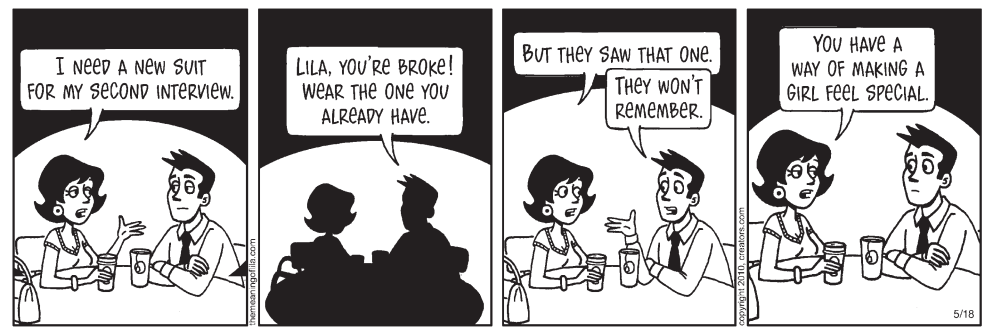
This year, you often stop mid-sentence to rethink what you are about to say. Your listening skills increase, to the extent that you are even more aware of your words! You have unusual creativity and imagination, and know that there are many different ways of presenting thoughts, ideas and situations. Choosing the best way or the best words can make a difference. If you are single, you could meet someone while simply running an errand. You don't need to actively look so much. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy colorful conversations. Entertain more at home. LEO can be an anchor.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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



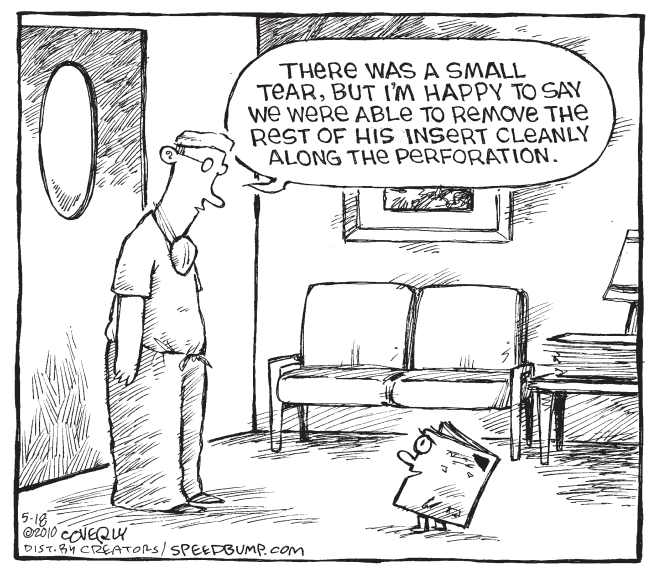
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly





Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

ARITHMO

CrossMath

+ × − ÷

- Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
- Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
- You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
- The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

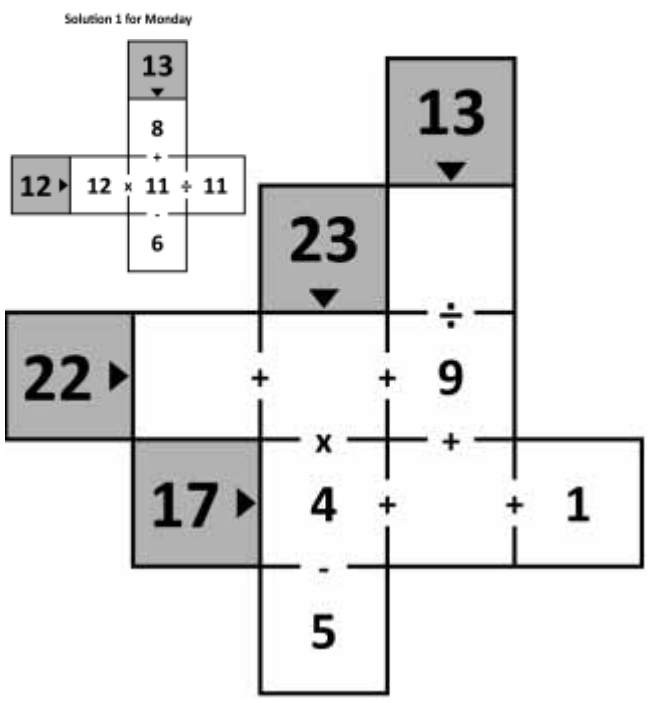
For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Task 11 for Tuesday

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

6, 7, 9, 12

Solution 1 for Monday





MYSTERY PHOTO

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II *news@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*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Kitchen come-ons
7 Poker round
11 Split base
12 Toledo's state
13 White wine
15 Inquired
16 Hamster holder
18 Largest of the Mariana Islands
21 Stallion's mate
22 Pill type
24 Tiny worker
25 Dress in
26 One — million
27 Renounce
29 Do some finger-painting
30 Sort
31 Fling
32 Entreaties
34 White wine
40 March time
41 Lady of riding fame
42 Jot down
43 Rock hurler

DOWN

1 "Lost" network
2 Fan's cry
3 Count start
4 Get by
5 Ouzo flavor
6 Went under
7 Delay
8 Cry of discovery
9 Diarist Anaïs
10 Clinic nickname
14 Kicked off
16 "Hush!"
17 Pretentious
19 Fake name
20 Lists of choices
21 Fuming
22 Swindle
23 Computer key
25 Lived
28 Stand against
29 Square-dance call
31 Seer's deck
33 Quiche base
34 Grenade part
35 Groom's answer
36 Volleyball need
37 Martini base
38 "— had it!"
39 Paddle's kin

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

Yesterday's answer

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

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

5-18

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 20 21 40 47 56 Meganumber: 12 Jackpot: 42$M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 3 9 12 13 38 Meganumber: 26 Jackpot: 14$M

Fantasy 5: 13 23 24 32 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 7 0 2 EVENING: 8 5 1

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 02 Lucky Star 2nd: 08 Gorgeous George 3rd: 07 Eureka RACE TIME: 1:46.91

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

■ The Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., famously pickets targets around the country with explicit anti-homosexuality signs and recently chose as venues the funerals of deceased U.S. soldiers and Marines (calling such deaths God's punishment for America's acceptance of gays and lesbians). One grieving Marine family in York, Pa., filed a lawsuit accusing Westboro of "intentional infliction of emotional distress" by picketing their son's 2006 funeral, but a U.S. Court of Appeals ruled in March that such protests are protected by the First Amendment. Piling on, the Court added that the grieving family must also pay Westboro $16,510 to cover its costs in having to defend the lawsuit.

■ Michelle Taylor, 34, was sentenced in Elko, Nev., in April to life in prison, solely for the crime of forcing a 13-year-old boy to touch her breasts, twice. The sentence was mandatory under a certain state law, but, said her lawyer, "She is getting a greater penalty ... than if she killed (the boy)." (She could be eligible for parole after 10 years.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1593 Playwright Thomas Kyd's accusations of heresy lead to an arrest warrant for Christopher Marlowe.

1652 Rhode Island passes the first law in North America making slavery illegal.

1756 The Seven Years' War begins when Great Britain declares war on France.

1765 Fire destroys a large part of Montreal, Quebec.

1783 First United Empire Loyalists reach Parrtown, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada after leaving the United States.

1803 Napoleonic Wars: The United Kingdom revokes the Treaty of Amiens and declares war on France.

1804 Napoleon Bonaparte is proclaimed Emperor of the French by the French Senate.

1811 Battle of Las Piedras: The first great military triumph of the revolution of the Río de la Plata in Uruguay led by Jose Artigas.

WORD UP!

majuscule
\MAJ-uh-skyool\ , adjective;
1. Of letters written either as capitals or uncials.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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UPSCALE ASSISTED living community is looking for caregivers and medication technicians for afternoon shifts on weekdays and morning and afternoon shifts on the weekends. Must have experience, good attitude, and be reliable. To apply please fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405. EOE

For Sale

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For Rent

MAR VISTA, 11621 Braddock Dr. unit 10 2bdrm. 1.5 bath, $1225 townhouse style, stove, wood/tile, w/d hookup, patio, gated parking, carpet, intercom entry, no pets.$700 off move-in (310)967-4471 www.jkwproperties.com

12746 Pacific Ave. unit 6 1+1 stove, fridge, dishwasher, wall ac, carpet, blinds, laundry,intercom entry, parking, no pets. $1095.move-in special $700 off (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

3206 BAGLEY AVE. 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, dishwasher, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. $1050 $1000 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice unit 13 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

617 MIDVALE, 2+1.5 Townhouse style. Stove, fridge, dishwasher, microwave, tile countertop, wood and carpet floor. W/D hookups, parking, no pets. $2600/mo. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

9849 TABOR St.Unit 6, Palms, 1bdrm/1bath.$1095/mo Stove, fridge, carpets, wall AC, ceiling fan blinds, balcony, parking, on site laundry no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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2+1.75, st, dw, pkg, ln
$1800

MAR VISTA

12754 Pacific, #1
2+1, st, ref, gar, lwr
$1350

WEST L.A.

1657 Federal Ave, #1
BACH, st, fr, ln
$750

2814 Westwood
4+2, st, fr, d/w, cpt, w/d, 2 car garage, fenced bkyd
$3000

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NON-SMOKING UNITS

st (stove), fr (fridge), cpt (carpet), sgl (single), bach (bachelor), ln (laundry), gar (garage), hdwd (hardwood floors), lwr (lower), upr (upper), htpl (hotplate), pkg (parking), w/d (washer/dryer), hu (hook-up), d/w (dishwasher), c-fn (ceiling fan), fp (fireplace)

CALL US FOR OTHER AVAILABLE PROPERTIES

SANTA MONICA 1833 16th st. unit 3 1+1. $895 lower unit, vinyl blinds, carpet, parking no pets. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

For Rent

MAR VISTA 12760 Matteson Ave #6 1+1 $995/mo stove, fridge, tile and vinlyn floors, blinds, parking, laundry, no pets non smoking call between 5:30-7:30pm units shown by appt.only $750 off move-in (310) 439-1928 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 11924 Courtleigh dr. units 9&10 stove, fridge, blinds, vinyl, utilities included, on-site laundry, parking, no pets, $950 & up/mo $1000 off move-in (310)737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $975 & up $1000 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 2bdrm/1bath, 11461 Washington Place.Unit C, upper, stove, blinds, carpet, laundry, no pets $1295 1 month FREE (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 11932 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, $1025/mo. 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, carpet, utilities include, intercom entry, laundry, gated, parking, no pets. $1000 off move-in (310) 737-7933 jkwproperties.com

MARVISTA-LA $1795.00 3bdrms, 1-3/4 baths, + Den, no pets, stove, refrig, dshwshr, parking. 12058 Culver Blvd. #Upper Unit Open daily 8am-7pm. Additional info in unit

PALMS 2+1 3633 Keystone ave #1 stove, blinds, tile flooring, carpets, ceiling fan, laundry,parking, AC, no pets. $1250/mo $1200 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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WESTCHESTER 6707 W 86th place unit F 2bdrm/1bath, stove, dishwasher, microwave, blinds, carpet, laundry, gated parking, no pets, $1350/mo, $1000 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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WLA 1457 Westgate 2+1 stove, fridge, blinds, tile , tandem parking no pets $1375/mo (310) 578-7512 jkwproperties.com

For Rent

WLA 2464 Barrington Ave. #7 3+3 large room, furnished kitchen, granite counter, fireplace, gated parking, elevator, on-site laundry, intercom entry. No pets $2295 Open daily walk-in (310)390-9401

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20100444772 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MONTANA MERCANTILE, 1512 MONTANA AVE., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : JORDAN'S COLLECTABLES INC; 1512 MONTANA AVE., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)4/1/2010. /s/: JORDAN'S COLLECTABLES; SECRETARY
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 4/1/2010. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 4/27/2010, 5/4/2010, 5/11/2010, 5/18/2010



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From 2:00 - 5:00pm



812 Euclid Street Unit D
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$1,288,000
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Just South of Montana
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Franklin School District
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From 2:00 - 5:00pm



2004 Marine Street
4 Bed, 4.5 Bath
$1,489,000
Sunset Park Gem
W/ Finished Basement
Open Tuesday, May 18th
From 11:00 - 2:00pm



1000 Westgate #211
1 Bed, 1.5 Bath
$495,000
Spacious Condo
Great Location!
Open Sunday, May 23rd
From 2:00 - 5:00pm



812 Euclid Unit A
2 Bed, 3 Bath
$1,400,000
Fabulous, Front-facing
Developer's Townhome
Open Sunday, May 23rd
From 2:00 - 5:00pm



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North of Montana	$3,250,000	$1,527,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,947,000	$839,000
South of Wilshire	$922,000	$612,000
Sunset Park	$1,195,000	$650,000
Ocean Park	$1,591,250	$849,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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