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Santa Monica Daily Press

MAY 23-24, 2015 Volume 14 Issue 165 smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press

BASEBALL WIN SEE PAGE 5

Staying in the running

Samohi grad qualifies for 2016 Olympic Trials

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Barring a bizarre turn of events, Chris Chavez isn't going to make the Olympic team. He knows that. He's OK with it. It's not why he runs.

And yet it makes his ability to qualify for the Olympic Trials marathon next year seem all the more impressive.

Many of the athletes in the elite field train full-time and quite literally run for their lives, relying on prize money and sponsorships

SEE **RUN** PAGE 7

Veteran offering American flag service to homeowners

BY MATTHEW HALL
Editor-in-Chief

CITYWIDE A local veteran is hoping to renew a sense of patriotism in Santa Monica with an initiative to install flags on residential homes.

George Bukhin was born in Crimea and he said his family came to America as refugees. He was raised in Santa Monica with a strong sense of patriotism that he credits to his father.

"I kept hearing from my dad how lucky I was to be in America," he said. "I became really patriotic thanks to my dad."

After moving through the local

SEE **FLAG** PAGE 8









CHAMBER PARTY

David Young-Wolff editor@smdp.com

The Chamber celebrated its 90th birthday last week with a party on the Pier. The festivities will continue at the 90th Annual Installation Dinner at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows on Wednesday, June 10, at 5:30p.m. For more information, visit www.smchamber.com/installation-dinner or email events@smchamber.com.

Educator makes an 'invisible' impact

Dorie Meek named preschool teacher of the year

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

PINE ST Dorie Meek has overseen budgets, enforced regulations and built curricula. She has served as a site supervisor and as an educator, guiding the development of hundreds of students since joining the Santa Monica-Malibu school district in 2002.

But the skill that allows her to succeed has little to do with leadership or management.

"You have to think like a child," the Pine Street preschool teacher said. "You have to think, 'What would I want to do if I were 4?'"

Knowing that children don't like to sit still, for example, Meek incorporates physical movement into her classroom activities.

When her students begin delving into basic anatomy, Meek uses hip-hop dance movements to enhance their retention. When they start learning about numbers, she amplifies the experience with toe taps. And when they learn new words, she has them beat out each sound on a portable drum to improve phonetic awareness.

"They get enough of crazy giants asking them ridiculous questions," Meek said, laughing at the word she uses for adults. "If they're not an auditory learner, they have to connect in some other way. Why can't they rock, move and tap? The research backs that

SEE **TEACHER** PAGE 9


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Bayou Cruise – Vermillionville – Jean Lafitte Cultural Center
Avery Island - Tabasco Factory – Pont Breaux's Farewell Dinner

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, May 23

American Stories Book Group

Join us in reading titles that illustrate the diversity of voices that make up the American experience. This month's selection is White Boy Shuffle by Paul Beatty. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 1:30 p.m.

Family Movie Screening: Big Hero 6 (2014)

In this Oscar-winning animated charmer from Disney, a young robotics prodigy named Hiro pairs up with an oversize, inflatable robot and a group of misfit heroes to face down danger. (102 min.) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 p.m.

Fairview Knitters

Knitting, conversation, and tea at the Library. Everyone welcome. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 3:30 p.m.

Intro to Meditation

Sister Priya, meditation teacher at Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization in Los Angeles, will present an introductory class on Meditation. The first half of the class will be educational, the second part of the class will be hands on meditation. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

2D to 3D; Flat paper to Stacked Sculpture with Richard Hutman

Explore how a flat piece of cardstock can turn into a three-dimensional object. Learn how minor adjustments in connecting blocks can generate a distinctly different arrangement of space, while making your own simple starting form. Discover your own rules of arrangement, and make a sculpture from flat to stack. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., cost: $5, (310) 458-2239, https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/44603

'New Codex: Oaxaca - Immigration and Cultural Memory'

The Durón Gallery at SPARC will present 'New Codex: Oaxaca - Immigration and Cultural Memory.' A touring exhibit curated by Marietta Bernstorff, illuminates the contemporary visual discourse of Oaxaca and explores the impact of immigration to the United States. 4 - 8 p.m., at 685 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291 (Old Venice Police Station - SPARC's historic headquarters).

Sunday, May 24

The Groove Community Event

Let's come together and share the GROOVE. With no complicated choreography or steps to learn, you are free to relax and simply enjoy expressing yourself to all styles of music. If you love music and have a desire to move your body, you will love GROOVE. All fitness levels are welcome. 1450 Ocean, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., $15, (310) 458-2239, https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/44659

Monday, May 25

Social Services Commission Meeting

Description: Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Social Services Commission, http://www.smgov.net/Departments/CCS/content.aspx?id=31958, Ken Edwards Center, 7 p.m., 1527 4th St.

Airport Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Airport Commission, http://www.smgov.net/Departments/Airport/Commission, City Hall, 1685 Main St., 7:30 p.m.

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

For help submitting an event, contact us at **310-458-7737** or submit to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fundraising record for St. Joseph Center

St. Joseph Center celebrated 39 years of service to the community at its annual Voices of Hope gala, held at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles on Saturday, May 16. Thanks to support from a dedicated community of patrons, including 400 attendees Saturday night, the event broke all previous records and raised more than $560,000 to support the Center's programs for low-income and homeless men, women, and children.

This year's "Founders Award for Community Service" recipient was actor Martin Sheen, who was a regular volunteer at St. Joseph Center's innovative Bread and Roses Café in its early years and has supported St. Joseph Center's mission and work faithfully for well over two decades. Sheen, who is perhaps equally famous for lending an inspired voice to a range of peace and social justice issues, exhorted guests in his acceptance speech to make a difference the lives of others and "find something worth fighting for."

The Center's "Hope Through Empowerment" Award was presented this year to longtime St. Joseph Center supporters and prominent entertainment business management firm NKSFB, LLC. Managing Partner Mickey Segal and Partner Michael Karlin accepted the award on the firm's behalf. In their remarks, Segal and Karlin noted that since its founding more than three decades ago NKSFB, LLC has always maintained a strong sense of corporate responsibility and has acted on the belief that social outreach is imperative to the company's extended purpose.

The evening also cast a spotlight on individuals who have rebuilt their lives with St. Joseph Center's help. The event's titular "Voice of Hope" Award went to formerly homeless St. Joseph Center clients Johnny Espinoza and Joann Allen, who struggled with homelessness for a combined 22 years and fell in love while living on the street and overcame the challenges of homelessness together.

The emcee for the record-setting gala was Ramon Estevez, son of Martin Sheen and a longtime supporter of St. Joseph Center in his own right.

Speaking after the event, St. Joseph Center's Executive Director Dr. Va Lecia Adams Kellum praised the honorees and their dedication noting, "We could not fulfill our mission without support from a broad spectrum of community members who share our commitment to empowering people in need to create change in their own lives. Martin Sheen and everyone at NKSFB, LLC understand that important it is to build coalitions that embrace the entire community to come up with solutions for issues of poverty and homeless that impact us all."

St. Joseph Center's Voices of Hope gala is a critical source of support for the agency's comprehensive and integrated programs, which provide services such as job training, case management, housing assistance, supplementary groceries, life skills classes and hot meals for 6,000 working poor and homeless families and individuals to help them achieve greater health, stability and self-sufficiency.

St. Joseph Center is a Venice based independent, non-profit 501 (c)(3), community-based organization whose mission is "to provide working poor families, as well as homeless men, women, and children of all ages, with the inner resources and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of the community." The Center does not provide religious services or instruction and assists people regardless of their religious affiliation or lack thereof. It creates an environment that develops self-reliance and promotes action in people capable of becoming productive members of the community. The Center serves more than 6,000 individuals annually through a variety of integrated programs. To learn more about St. Joseph Center's comprehensive services, please visit www.stjosephctr.org.

- SUBMITTED BY PAUL RUBENSTEIN

Venice

Venice Arts to be featured music tour

Born This Way Foundation and Exploring the Arts have announced that Venice Arts will be featured at an upcoming stop of Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga's Cheek to Cheek tour in Los Angeles on Sunday, May 31. The initiative is part of a partnership between Born This Way Foundation and Exploring the Arts to highlight exceptional nonprofit organizations at Cheek to Cheek stops across the country. Organizations are chosen based on their demonstrated excellence in empowering young people to become compassionate, creative, and brave.

Venice Arts will be featured prominently at the show including a location for their staff or volunteers to interact with the thousands of fans in attendance, increasing awareness of the services and programs the organization offers. Additionally, Venice Arts will receive the proceeds from a pair of tickets to the show and a meet and greet with Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga that will be auctioned off by CharityBuzz at: www.charitybuzz.com/catalog_items/816202

"We are honored to have our transformative work with low-income youth in Los Angeles recognized by the Born This Way Foundation and Exploring the Arts, who share our commitment to empowering youth to discover and develop their own creative voices." said Lynn Warshafsky, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Venice Arts.

Venice Arts' mission is to ignite youths' imagination, mentor their creativity, and expand their sense of possibility through high quality, accessible media-based arts education programs. For the past 22 years, Venice Arts' program of free media arts instruction, mentoring, and internship opportunities has opened windows of possibility for thousands of poor and low-income children. Since the start of 2014,

SEE **BRIEF** PAGE 9

LISTINGS

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Tuesday, May 26

Green Living Workshop

Join this Sustainable Works Workshop and learn how to save money, and positively impact your family, community, and ultimately the planet. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Zumba Craze with Diana Flores

Zumba is a Latin-inspired, calorie-burning, dance-fitness experience. In this fitness party, you will burn more calories than you thought you could. Join us for a workout that is so much fun you won't even feel like you're working out. All fitness levels welcome. Drop-in available for $15. 1450 Ocean, 7 - 8 p.m., (310) 458-2239 or https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/42781

Stamped Silver Message Pendants

Using .999 pure silver and colorful glass enamel powders, you can make a gorgeous one-of-a-kind statement piece. Stamp your word or short phrase onto a silver blank, decorate with enamel powders, then kiln fire for (almost) instant gratification. Silver enameling allows for great color variation, ombre effects and transparency. You'll leave with a fine silver enameled pendant on a sterling silver chain. This is a beginners class and all skill levels welcome. Delicate rounds to large cartouches available - material fee varies. $50 + $15 cash material fee, 1450 Ocean, 7 - 9 p.m. (310) 458-2239 or https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/44681

Handwork Hangout with Leslie Robinson

Bring your own sewing, beading, collage or accessorizing projects to get tips, or embark on something new. Some materials provided and others are available for purchase. 1450 Ocean, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., (310) 458-2239 or https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search?detailskeyword=handwork

Learn To Knit

All levels welcome. Bring your own supplies. Ages 8 & up. For more information go to: www.fairviewknittingcircle.blogspot.com. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 5 p.m.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

SMRR secrets

Editor:

Here are two things the SMRR-controlled Santa Monica City Council doesn't want you to know:

1. The more we build the more we will be required to build by anonymous regional regulators.

2. Over 33 percent of our 39,000 multi-family units are already either subsidized or at bargain levels.

Santa Monica's housing targets are based on the Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Regional Housing Needs Assessment. Its new housing unit targets through 2021 for the region are:

Santa Monica- 1,674
Beverly Hills- 3
West Hollywood- 77
Culver City- 185

This make no sense. It takes gullible Santa Monicans for chumps.

Our allocation is badly out of whack with our neighbors. Because we have disproportionally grown commercial space, jobs and housing, SCAG's allocation formula uses this trend against us. Going forward it locks us into a self-fulfilling, perpetual cycle of growth. As we expand, we get recalibrated targets. These justify more growth which in turn mandates more development. Have you ordered your helicopter yet?

Here are some closeted details regarding the 33 percent of our multi-family housing stock that is already renter-friendly. The Rent Control Board's own records reveal that in 2014 Santa Monica had 8,977 units with controlled rents at approximately one-half of market rates. Of these, 3,861 units met even HUD's affordability standards for Greater LA. In addition, we had over 4,200 deed-restricted affordable units.

The Rent Board uses the LA standard rather than Santa Monica's higher median household income, to create a more dire illusion. Not to be out done in doomsday prophecy, page 24 of the City's 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan warns "...there could be over 20,000 extremely low-income Renters and Owners (in Santa Monica) on the edge of homelessness." Get a grip.

It's time for Santa Monica to take a time out until Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Culver City get in the game.

Wes Wellman
Wesley V. Wellman
Wellman Realty Company



SMart Thinking

By SM a.r.t. Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Making the Expo Line a "Game Changer"... where everyone wins

NOW THAT OUR CITY COUNCIL HAS reformed the old zoning ordinance into a new, more opaque document, it is moving on to the adoption of a specific plan for our downtown. Let's hope that the new Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) will fare better and result in a clearer, more resident-friendly document. The DSP should be a fact-based, open public process that sets out a vision for the integration of the new Expo Line into the downtown area. The success or failure to achieve this may well determine our City's future. Will thousands of new daily visitors bring vibrancy to our City, or exacerbate the current problems of traffic and overdevelopment-or both?

When the new zoning code was being re-written, the process appeared to be driven more by external forces than the needs and desires of the City's residents. It was a piece-meal approach that corrected some problem areas but ignored others. This must not happen with the DSP. The stakes are too high. It should provide a fresh vision that preserves our unique beach character while looking into to a future with an ever-growing daily visitor population. The new Expo Line will bring thousands into our Downtown area and the pressures on our infrastructure and current residents will be immense. It will require an innovative, well thought-out analysis and solution.

Residents and visitors alike desire a unified shopping and walking experience, one that is both convenient and enjoyable. Currently this is not always the case. More of an effort is needed to integrate our main commercial spine (The Promenade) with the rest of the downtown commercial district. One way to accomplish this would be with more mid-block pedestrian links between blocks, providing additional smaller tenancies and perhaps lower rents. This would help to broaden and enhance the downtown retail experience.

If the mid-block pedestrian passageways were open to the sky and tree-lined, they could create pathways to unify the downtown district and enhance the pedestrian experience with a secondary east-west circulation network. They would add convenience, greenery, charm and openness to a dense downtown that has now been expanded to Lincoln.

With the expansion of downtown the center has shifted east. A new urban park on the City-owned land at 4th/5th and Arizona could become the "heart" and focal point for the entire downtown district. The commercial areas east of 4th would become more connected to the west end, creating a cohesiveness to the downtown area that does not currently exist.

The next step would be to create a pedestrian-friendly link to the Expo Station. While there has been a laudable effort by the City's planners to anticipate the impact of the new Expo Line, the resulting plan may not be robust enough to cope with the competing pedestrian and vehicle traffic effectively. Would the planned Esplanade to the Pier and beaches function better if it bridged above the north/south bound traffic at 4th St., or at the Main St. to 2nd St. crossings? And what about the impact of traffic as people pick up or drop off at the new Expo Station? How will commuters exit the 10 Freeway towards the Expo drop-off or Downtown?

Aware of the potential for gridlock at this important portal to the City, the City Council recently contacted Caltrans to request a study. Although it is late in the game, such a study is now being conducted, but it is difficult to understand how it was not integral to the original design. The area in and around the old Sears building will of necessity become a transit hub for our beach community. As such, it will require ample parking and different transit options for those who are not yet at their final destinations. Wouldn't it make sense to create a convenient linkage to Lincoln Blvd. as well? The fact that the Expo Line will be entering downtown at street level creates numerous safety and convenience challenges. Current estimates put the eventual ridership on the Expo at more than 30,000 per day. While not all of these riders will end up in Santa Monica, those arriving downtown will have a great impact on our streets and infrastructure.

The ultimate question for the new Downtown Specific Plan is "are there no limits to growth downtown, and if there are, what are they?" We have already become the most densely-visited and populated beach town in California, and at some point the City will need to answer the question, what is sustainable? Until that happens, one way to control the impact is to limit the heights of new structures downtown to 4 stories. This limit could be revisited later, but in the interim would provide some breathing room for the City to upgrade its infrastructure as well as multi-modal circulation elements, experience the arrival of the Expo, and evaluate its impact on the downtown and surrounding areas.

In summary, we would challenge the planning staff to draft a new Downtown Specific Plan only after a comprehensive traffic analysis and infrastructure review, and an analysis of the projected and actual impacts from the new Expo Line. We hope that the recommendations resulting from such a study will be respectful of the land-use and zoning wishes of the residents and without bias either for or against development interests. Ideally, the new DSP would provide additional open space, public ways for the safe mixing of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and insure that ample parking exists for residents and visitors alike at our new Expo Station.

It is already clear that the Expo Line will be a "game changer" for our "sleepy beach town". Let's do all we can to insure that it is a change for the better. If so, it will be a win for both residents and tourists so that Santa Monica can continue to be an attractive, enjoyable place to both live and visit.

SAMUEL TOLKIN, Architect for SMa.r.t. (Santa Monica Architects for a Responsible Tomorrow)

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PLAYOFF VICTORY

Morgan Genser editor@smdp.com

The Santa Monica High School boys varsity baseball team hosted Ernest Righetti High School in the first round of the Division 3 Southern Section CIF baseball playoffs and won 9-1 to advance to the second round on Tuesday. Pictured are Zach Ramzy sliding into second to break up the double play, Jaylon McLaughlin fielding the ball, pitcher Andrew Brown, Bradley Finkelstein attempting a bunt and Zach Ramzy sliding.

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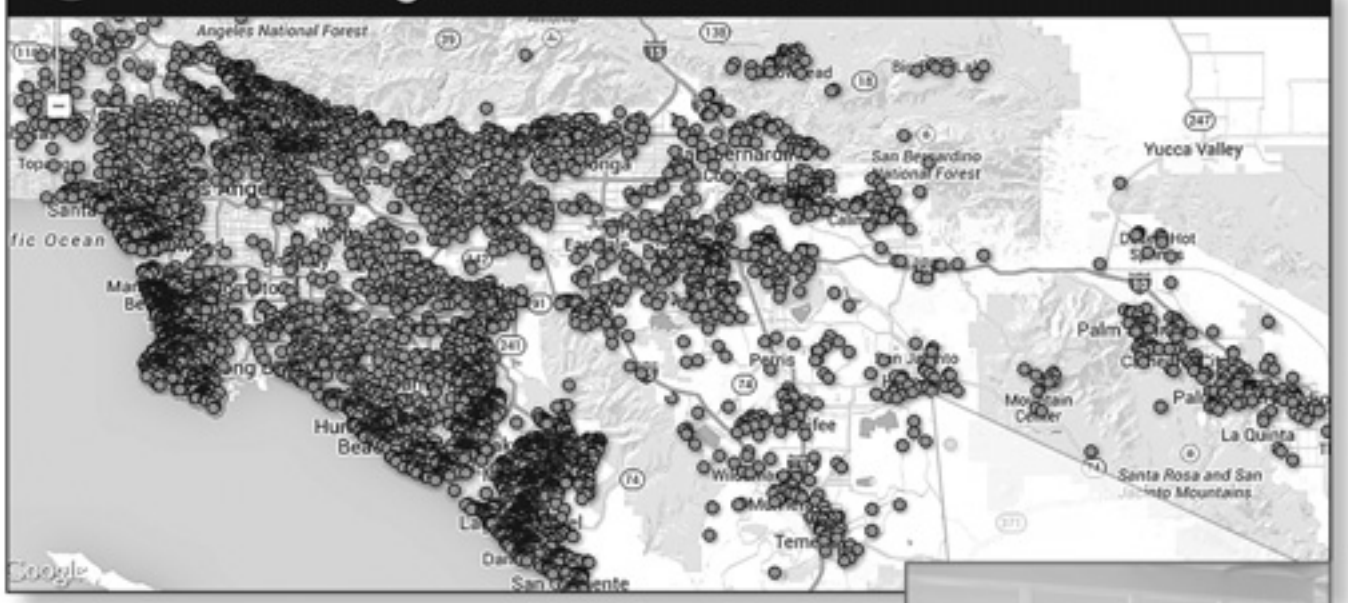
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Courtesy photo

BOSTON: Chris Chavez made it to the Boston Marathon after years of successful running.

RUN

FROM PAGE 1

they pick up along the way.

Not Chavez. An alumnus of Santa Monica High School, he finds time — makes time — away from his demanding job as an investment analyst at a wealth management firm in San Francisco to run as frequently and for as long as he can.

"It has to do with me liking the sport and having people around me who know I want that balance," said Chavez, 28. "My wife is real supportive, my friends, my bosses — they understand that's part of my life."

It's a part of life in which Chavez has found notable success. In 2012 he participated in the Olympic Trials in Houston, crossing the finish line in 2 hours 20 minutes 18 seconds to place 53rd out of 85 distance runners. The following year, he was eighth overall in the LA Marathon with a 2:19:20.

Chavez qualified for the 2016 trials in Los Angeles by running a personal-best 2:17:07 at the California International Marathon in Sacramento this past December. He clocked in at 2:20:04 to take 18th in his first experience at the prestigious Boston Marathon earlier this year.

"I hated seeing someone in a meeting and having them ask, 'Oh, you run — have you run Boston?" he said. "I had always wanted to run Boston, and it lived up to expectations. The weather wasn't great, but the crowd was awesome."

Chavez's running pursuit — more than a hobby, less than a career — has its roots in Santa Monica.

Growing up in Culver City while attending Will Rogers Elementary and John Adams Middle schools, he was typically the "fast kid" in every sport he played.

"He was interested in running at an early age," said his father, Anthony. "He has the stamina to be that kind of a runner. He just picked it up on his own. ... These other athletes are funded completely by private sources. All they do is run and work out. He's running for fun."

Chavez vividly recalls showing up at the intersection of Ocean and Montana avenues on weekend mornings before his freshman year at Samohi to prepare for varsity competition.

In high school he trained under coach Tania Fischer, running the 800-meter, mile and 2-mile events in track and learning the 3-mile distance in cross-country.

"It changed my life," he said.

Chavez graduated from Samohi in 2004 and continued his athletic career at Cal, representing the Golden Bears in a variety of track events as well as in cross-country.

And as he entered the working world, returned to Berkeley for a master's degree in business and landed a job with UBS, he realized how important running was to his mental health.

"You don't want to know me when I'm not running," he said. "I'm a competitive guy, I like to train and I got bit by the bug."

With the help of a friend he started exploring longer distances, first 10,000 kilometers, then half-marathons and eventually the full 26.2. His first official marathon came in Chicago in 2010 — "a brutal, eye-opening experience," he said.

Chavez has kept at it, and he's enjoyed the sport's camaraderie. He's trained on racing teams, seen new cities and brushed shoulders with top-level athletes at races around the country.

His focus might shift slightly later this year: He and his wife, Jordan Frank, who met in choir at Samohi, are expecting their first child. But Chavez said his high school sweetheart is supportive of his passion.

"It makes scheduling hard, and it takes away from sleep," he said. "But I don't depend on running for living expenses. It's always been a side project."

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* Information contained herein is supported by objective data through case histories and medical records consistent with California Business and Professions Code 651. Patients are actual patients and their testimonials are true. Laser treatments are NOT covered by any insurances at this time.

FLAG

FROM PAGE 1

school system, including Lincoln, Samohi and SMC, Bukhin enlisted in the Marines where he was deployed overseas in a non-combat role. He returned to Santa Monica where he works as a project manager and entrepreneur but he remains a reserve with the Marines.

"I still am very patriotic, it's always been a cause that's very important to me," he said. "I've traveled all over the world and U.S. and I've been to other parts that are a little more patriotic than Santa Monica is."

In keeping with his dedication to America, Bukhin recently received permission from his apartment to install an American flag on his Santa Monica building. During the installation, Bukhin said he was surprised by the negative reaction he received.

"I got a lot of push back from a neighbor saying it was divisive, saying she didn't feel safe and she didn't like it," he said. "I respectfully disagreed and proceeded to put the flag up."

About a week later, while walking his dog Bukhin said he noticed the flag had been removed, ripped from its brackets leaving a hole in the brick.

"After that happened I was so aggravated by the notion the flag was divisive and would spark anger I thought the best way to respond was to put the flag up in Santa Monica."

Bukhin said he hired a local veteran through OPCC to distribute fliers in the North of Montana neighborhood advertising his new service. He is targeting single-family homes due to the ease of installation.

"For $75, I will come to you and install a beautiful 3'x5' sewn American flag on a brushed aluminum 6' poll anywhere you want at your home or building," says the flier. "Every part, including the flag, is made in the U.S.A and of the highest quality."

Bukhin said the fee covers the cost of materials and will help pay local veterans to help with the project. The service isn't a money-making business for Bukhin who said he is organizing the project during his lunch hour and spare time.

He said Memorial Day is a perfect opportunity to begin the project and that he hoped increasing the number of American flags in the community would create an environment where commitment to the country was the norm, not the exception.

"It's a great way to spread our patriotism, it's a great way to give back to veterans," he said of the project. "We're coming up to a pivotal point in which we need to unite as Americans. This is my way of doing it. Let's make this happen."

To schedule an installation or for more information email GeoBukhin@Yahoo.com.

editor@smdp.com







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Courtesy photo

IN CLASS: **Dorie Meek has been recognized for her work as a preschool teacher.**

TEACHER

FROM PAGE 1

up. For me it was, 'How can we tap into that part of a child that is active exploration? How can I speak it in their world?'"

Meek's style isn't going unnoticed. On May 26 she'll be honored as a Los Angeles Universal Preschool teacher of the year during a luncheon hosted by the L.A. County Board of Supervisors at Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in downtown Los Angeles.

It's the eighth year of the annual accolades, which recognize area preschool teachers for quality, creativity and dedication.

Meek knows she plays a crucial role in the intellectual and social growth of the children in her classroom, but she was floored to be invited to the ceremony as an award recipient.

"Preschool teachers are typically invisible," she said. "We don't have a great deal of clout, but when you do get recognized it's typically by a parent. You very rarely get it from outside the classroom. This is affirmation of what you already know you do — it makes you weepy. It affirms everything you've known all along."

Meek has held a variety of positions in SMMUSD over the last 13 years, working as a facilitator for parent-toddler groups, then as a child care provider, multi-site supervisor and preschool teacher.

Since 2012 she's been at the Pine Street preschool, designing activities to foster children's development while teaching foundational academic skills. Her position is funded through LAUP, a nonprofit created with tobacco tax funds that supports preschool operations throughout the county.

Meek has had teaching tendencies since eighth grade, when she gave up lunches to tutor third-grade students. Her path continued with undergraduate studies at the University of Southern California and graduate work at Cal State Northridge, where she earned a master's in education administration.

Her current job comes with its share of challenges — broaching children's special needs with their parents is often difficult, she said — but the satisfaction of watching kids grasp new concepts keeps her motivated.

"It is not uncommon to have a student in August who does not recognize letters or numbers, and may not even be able to articulate whether a line is pointing up-and-down or side-to-side," she said. "When that child, typically a few months later, runs in and declares, 'Teacher Dorie, I saw a T on the way to school today!' I get goosebumps from head to toe. Their epiphanies are my greatest accomplishments."

jeff@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEF

FROM PAGE 3

students have received nearly 40 prestigious national, state, and local awards, including: Presidential Scholar in the Arts; National YoungArts Awards; California Scholastic Arts Awards; and the Music Center's Spotlight Award. Graduating seniors this past spring went off to colleges including Boston University and NYU, some on full scholarships.

"Born This Way Foundation is thrilled to partner with Exploring the Arts to shine a light on the work these exceptional local organizations do for the young people they support. We share a mission to inspire and empower today's youth and the resources and services these groups are providing in their communities are critical to that goal," said Cynthia Germanotta, Co-Founder and President of Born This Way Foundation.

"Exploring the Arts and Born This Way Foundation were founded with the goal of touching the lives of young people and inspiring the next generation of artists and leaders. The local organizations we're featuring share this commitment, working hard every day to uplift young people in their areas," said Susan Benedetto, Co-Founder of Exploring the Arts.

This initiative reflects Born This Way Foundation's commitment to working with local and national allies - from GLSEN and YMCA to Youth Service America - to reach hundreds of thousands of young people directly. These relationships have enabled the organization to connect youth around the country with services and programming in their communities. Similarly, the partnership reflects Exploring the Arts' deep history of engaging local organizations to improve arts education in public high schools throughout New York City and Los Angeles.

Visit www.venicearts.org for more information.

- SUBMITTED BY ELYSA VOSHELL







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Regulators order pipeline testing, other steps after spill

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The company responsible for a pipeline that spilled thousands of gallons of oil along the California coast was ordered to take a series of steps before it can restart the line, federal regulators said Friday.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration required Plains All American Pipeline to remove the damaged section of pipe, test it and empty the remainder of the line.

The agency said it did not yet know the cause of the leak, which spilled up to 105,000 gallons of crude into a coastal ditch Tuesday. About a fifth of that amount is estimated to have flowed into the sea northwest of Santa Barbara.

Investigators for the agency are looking into the cause of the failure and whether there was something Plains should have known about conditions in the underground pipeline and factors that could have contributed to the accident.

The corrective action order said the 10.6-mile line had recently been inspected, but the results weren't known. Tests of the 24-inch pipe in 2012 found 41 anomalies mostly due to external corrosion, frequently near welds, the agency said.

The company has said there were no previous problems with the pipe.

A corrective action order is issued to protect people, property and the environment. If violations are found, the agency said it would issue a strong enforcement action order.

Plains said it could take weeks or even months before investigators find what caused the disaster.

Bad weather slowed cleanup efforts early Friday at the spill site in Santa Barbara County, where gusty winds whipped up waves as high as 4 feet.

Several days of calm seas had helped crews, but oil skimming vessels had to be brought to shore late Thursday, Santa Barbara news station KEYT-TV reported.

The thick, powerful-smelling crude covered rocks and sand, and six oil-coated pelicans and one juvenile sea lion had been rescued.

Crews have yet to excavate the broken piece of pipeline, which under the law must be done in the presence of federal regulators and a third party, officials with Plains All American Pipeline LP said at a Thursday news conference.

"We have not even uncovered the pipe yet," said Patrick Hodgins, the company's senior director of safety.

The company would not yet say whether part of the cause was two malfunctions that occurred shortly before the spill was discovered.

"We were having some pump problems on the pipeline," said Rick McMichael, another Plains All American representative. "Whether it led to the leak or not is part of our investigation."

Plains All American and its subsidiaries operate 17,800 miles of crude oil and natural gas pipelines across the country, according to the federal agency.

Since 2006, four subsidiaries of Plains All American have reported at least 223 accidents along their lines and been subject to 25 enforcement actions by federal regulators.

The accidents resulted in a combined 864,300 gallons of hazardous liquids spilled and damages topping $32 million. Corrosion was determined to be the cause in roughly 90 of those accidents. Failures in materials, welds and other equipment were cited more than 80 times.

Hodgins, of Plains All American, said the company has spent more than $1.3 billion since 2007 on maintenance, repair and enhancement of its equipment.

He defended the company's safety record, saying accidental releases have decreased as the number of miles of pipelines has increased.

Associated Press writers Christopher Weber in Los Angeles and Matt Brown in Billings, Montana, contributed to this report.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Woodlawn Cemetery

Memorial Day 2015

The historic City of Santa Monica Woodlawn Cemetery, Mausoleum & Mortuary is hosting the City's 77th Annual Memorial Day Observance on May 25, at 11 a.m. Join organizers as local civic groups and dignitaries, including Mayor Kevin McKeown and Interim City Manager Elaine Polachek, help celebrate the day. Highlights include a Condor Squadron military flyover and music by the John Adams Middle School Choir and the Patriot Brass Ensemble. View the recently installed Commemorative Wall honoring Santa Monica's war veterans who lost their lives while serving our country. Enjoy our "Movie in the Mausoleum" and other activities following the ceremony. Come celebrate and enjoy the beauty of one of our city's landmark resources.

Free parking can be found at Santa Monica College's Lot 4 at the corner of 16th St. & Pico Blvd. Santa Monica College's Parking Lot 6 at 14th St. & Pico Blvd. is $5. There will be shuttle service from both lots and the Elks Lodge at 1040 Pico Blvd. to the Cemetery. There is limited street parking.

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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **62.6°**

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small mix of SSW swell and NW windswell.

SUNDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Small mix of SSW swell and NW windswell. New S/SW swells show.

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to chest high
New S swell tops out, as SW swell moves in. Minor NW swell-mix.

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 **January 12, 2015**

HEAL THE BAY · 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 · beachreportcard.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 – 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather – 33/20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather – 5/19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA, Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	D
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (broach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	F
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	B
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	F	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	D
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	ns	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	F
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	B	B
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DBW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND

DRY – each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET – grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
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 nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



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

ON MAY 13 AT APPROXIMATELY 11:50 A.M.

Witnesses saw two suspicious men walking around the 1100 block of Centinela Ave and contacted the police. The men were joined a moment later by a third suspect, who was driving a vehicle. It appeared the men were casing homes to burglarize them. At one point, one of the suspects entered the rear yard at a residence. A woman who was staying at the residence saw the suspect and walked out to see what he was doing there. The suspect told the woman he was looking for a stray dog, and then turned around and left the yard. The suspect then got into their car and drove away. Officers spotted the suspect's car nearby on Franklin St. and stopped it. During their investigation, officers discovered one of the suspects was in possession of stolen traveler's checks. Another suspect was in possession of marijuana. All three suspects were then taken into custody and transported to the Santa Monica jail for booking. Wilbert Ranfery Barios Lopez, 18, of Los Angeles had bail set at $50,000, a juvenile male was charged and released to his parents, Danniel Victor Enciso, of Los Angeles had bail set at $50,000.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 40 calls for service on May 21.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 2000 block of Arizona 1:02 a.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block of Harvard 6:35 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 17th 8:15 a.m.
EMS 2200 block of La Mesa 8:50 a.m.
EMS 3000 block of Main 9:28 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 9:55 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Yale 10:52 a.m.
EMS of 28th/Ocean Park 11:08 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of Promenade 11:18 a.m.
EMS 1900 block of Pico 11:19 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of Ocean 12:06 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Ocean Front Walk 12:33 p.m.
EMS 1900 block of Pico 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 2:03 p.m.
EMS 0 block of 300bl Palisades Park 2:13 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of Harvard 2:29 p.m.
EMS 2200 block of Colorado 3:08 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Ocean Park 3:23 p.m.
EMS 2900 block of 4th 3:28 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block of Broadway 3:43 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 19th 3:44 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of Harvard 3:50 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Arizona 3:59 p.m.
Haz mat - level 1 of Princeton/Broadway 4:02 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 9th 4:04 p.m.
EMS 100 block of Cloverfield 4:11 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 4:26 p.m.
Haz mat - level 1 700 block of 11th 5:23 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of Ocean Front Walk 5:30 p.m.
EMS 3000 block of Highland 6:07 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of Ocean Front Walk 6:40 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 9th 6:52 p.m.
EMS 700 block of Grant 6:55 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Georgina 7:44 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 8 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of 4th 8:21 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 8:47 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 2nd 8:59 p.m.
EMS 2000 block of Lincoln 9:27 p.m.
Fire out investigation 400 block of Santa Monica Pier 9:50 p.m.

2 men arrested in California in terrorism probe

AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

SANTA ANA Two California men arrested by the FBI wanted to join the Islamic State group and bought a plane ticket for one of them to travel to Turkey with the hope of becoming a martyr, federal prosecutors said Friday.

The U.S. attorney's office charged 24-year-olds Nader Elhuzayel and Muhanad Badawi with conspiring to provide material support to a terrorism group. The men are expected to make a court appearance Friday afternoon in Santa Ana.

Elhuzayel was taken into custody at Los Angeles International Airport, and Badawi was arrested late Thursday in Anaheim, where both men live, authorities said.

The two men discussed their support for the Islamic State on social media and in conversation, saying it would be a blessing to join the fight and die on the battlefield, prosecutors said in a complaint.

About two weeks later, Badawi let Elhuzayel use his debit card to buy a one-way Tel Aviv, Israel-bound plane ticket with a six-hour layover in Istanbul, Turkey, the complaint said.

Elhuzayel had met a Palestinian woman on the Internet he planned to marry who shared his support of the Islamic State group, according to the complaint. Badawi told another man about Elhuzayel's plan, saying "I'm gonna join soon. I don't know how soon, but I will go," the complaint said.

After his arrest, Elhuzayel told authorities he was planning on getting off the plane in Turkey and traveling to fight with the Islamic State, the complaint said.

If convicted, each man could face a maximum sentence of 15 years, prosecutors said.

FBI and SWAT officials searched the family's Anaheim motel room, where they have been living since they were evicted from their home, after they returned from the airport, Salem Elhuzayel said.

Badawi's sister and brother declined to comment on the allegations.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 14!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Expand
5 Track figures
9 Computer problem
10 Anarchic events
12 Biathlon need
13 Old marketplace
14 Jazzed
16 Oxford VIP
17 Sushi choice
18 Green stone
20 Rover's rewards
22 Without basis
23 Helpful push
25 Apple or pear
28 Show defiance
32 Make good as new
34 Count start
35 Put away
36 "Glory be!"
38 Left over
40 Western contest
41 Become established
42 Inventor Howe
43 Workout count
44 Title paper

DOWN

1 Person with a beef
2 Charity fundraiser
3 Capital on a fjord
4 Cabby's query
5 Make speeches
6 Excavation site
7 Gizmo
8 Amble
9 Vinegar bottle
11 Yellow-gray
15 Apologetic words
19 Singer Coolidge
21 Aid illegally
24 Is furious
25 Lock
26 Death personified
27 Will topic
29 Band aide
30 Like much junk mail
31 Mexican money
33 Signs
37 Painted tinware
39 Tear

A	M	E	N	■	■	S	L	U	M	■
D	I	X	O	N	■	T	I	M	I	D
U	L	T	R	A	■	A	M	B	L	E
L	I	E	■	B	A	R	B	I	L	L
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Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

■	1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	■
9					■	10				11
12					■	13				
14					15		■	16		
17			■	18			19			
20			21			■	22			
■	■	■	23			24		■	■	■
25	26	27		■	28			29	30	31
32				33			■	34		
35			■	36			37			
38			39		■	40				
41					■	42				
■	43				■	44				■

5-23

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@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*.

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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 ★★★★

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

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

King Features Syndicate



WORD UP!

sudser
1. Informal. any movie, play, or the like that is designed to provoke a tearful response.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1949 - The Federal Republic of Germany is established and the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany is proclaimed.

1951 - Tibetans sign the Seventeen Point Agreement for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet with China.

1967 - Egypt closes the Straits of Tiran and blockades the port of Eilat at the northern end of the Gulf of Aqaba to Israeli shipping.

1992 - Italy's most prominent anti-mafia judge Giovanni Falcone, his wife and three body guards are killed by the Corleonesi clan with a half-ton bomb near Capaci, Sicily. His friend and colleague Paolo Borsellino will be assassinated less than 2 months later, making 1992 a turning point in the history of Italian Mafia prosecutions.

1995 - The first version of the Java programming language is released.

1998 - The Good Friday Agreement is accepted in a referendum in Northern Ireland with 75% voting yes.

2002 - The "55 parties" clause of the Kyoto Protocol is reached after its ratification by Iceland.

2004 - Part of Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport's Terminal 2E collapses, killing four people and injuring three others.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Alfred Guercio, 54, was arrested in Burnsville, Minnesota, in March after forcibly entering a neighbor's home and swiping a knife set that he had given the woman as a Christmas gift. He told the woman, and police, that he was taking the gift back, as he was upset that the woman was failing to appreciate it enough.

■ John Deere became the most recent company in America to claim that, though a buyer may have paid in full for a device, he may not actually "own" it. Deere claims that because its tractors run on sophisticated computer programs, the ostensible owner of the tractor cannot "tamper" with that software without Deere's permission -- even to repair a defect or to customize its operation. Already, traditional movie videos may come with restrictions on copying, but the Deere case, according to an April report on Wired.com, might extend the principle to machinery not traditionally subject to copyright law.

■ The March arranged-marriage ceremony in Kanpur, India, was about to start when cousins of the bride (whose name is Lovely, daughter of Mohar Singh) commandeered center stage and demanded that groom Ram Baran answer the question, "What is 15 plus 6?" Baran answered, "17," and in short order, Lovely and her family began to drift out of the room, and the marriage was off. Eventually, according to a Times of India report, the families settled the fiasco amicably, with all gifts returned.

Among friends tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Your inclination to have fun will push you into the role of ring leader. Know that any fantasy of a quiet day has gone out the window. You have the ability to bring many people together and have a great time. Tonight: Respond to the moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You might be better off just relaxing at home. Invite friends over for a fun get-together. If there is a common game everyone likes to get into, make sure it is available. You are likely to hear good news from someone at a distance. Tonight: Add lots of fun to the moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Return calls, especially if you have any hesitancy regarding your plans. One-on-one relating adds to your comfort and allows greater give-and-take. Your sense of humor might not be received well by someone you care about. Find out what ails them. Tonight: Among friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Be more aware of what you have to offer. Others often can't get close enough to you. Maintain your budget, even if you are out and about. In the long run, you will feel better about yourself. Honor a need to head in a new direction. Tonight: Having fun does not need to cost you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Be spontaneous with your decisions, especially with one suggestion that seems to tickle your fancy. You will be delighted by what unravels as a result, as will those around you. Let go of concerns, and be a little more frivolous. Tonight: Your wish is someone else's command.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might be taken aback by what is happening around you. Your sense of direction emerges when you let go and stop worrying. Make this a personal day, and make a point of enjoying yourself as well as others. Tonight: Keep it low-key.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Zero in on what is important. Your friends will be the focus right now, and they will be determined to make the most out of the moment. Let go of stress that is weighing you down. Deal with a loved one or family member directly. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Demands come in from a relative, boss or someone you don't feel you can say no to. Be aware of your boundaries when dealing with this person. Try to limit the time you have to be with him or her. Reach out to a loved one. Tonight: In the center of the energy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You might be considering taking off at the last minute. Refuse to follow the same old routine, and allow yourself to break precedent. Ideas flourish once you put yourself in a different environment. Tonight: Read between the lines with someone who is flirting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You will want to consider an alternative solution to a hassle that emerges with a loved one or dear friend. You might want to push to have your way, but nearly immediately you will be dealing with heavy resistance. Ask a family member for some advice. Tonight: Make nice.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Defer to others. Be receptive to someone's idea about staying within your budget but having a great time regardless. You'll find that the more people you are around, the better time you'll have. A new friend could be very controlling. Tonight: Make the most of the moment.

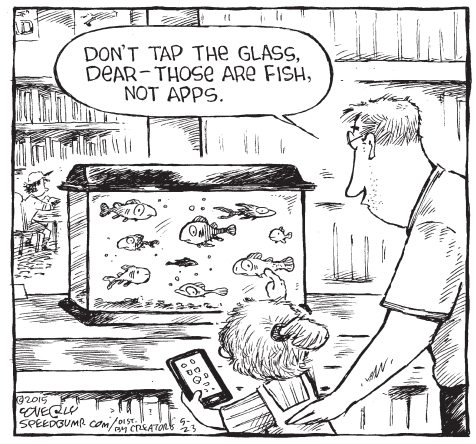
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Find out what is going on with a loved one. Once you get your work done, you will be able to relax more. You could be happy with going to a late lunch or just catching a movie. Get into the moment. Tonight: Make the most of your company and your environment.

Weekend Edition, May 23-24, 2015

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

This year you are so upbeat that some of your friends might not be able to relate to you the same way. Try to be more responsive to those in your immediate circle. In any case, you put the finishing touches on the fine art of having fun. If you are single, you easily could meet someone who causes you to have a case of the butterflies. Be selective, as the person you choose will be quite significant to your life's history. If you are attached, you often want to share more of what is happening in each of your lives. Traveling enhances your relationship, as it helps you both relax more. LEO has a way of evoking passion and humor from you.

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



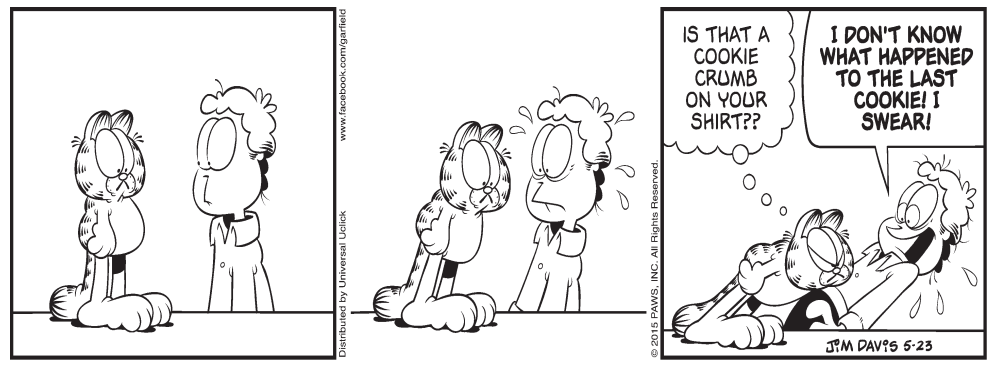
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



give a (bleep)

Each Weekend, 'Claudia's Corner' shows kids how to rock their world

Puppets know what's what

By Megan Tambio

So, there's only a couple more weeks before the sweet release of summertime. What if I told you that you didn't have to wait until then to do something awesome? The Assistance League of Santa Monica (ALSM) has you covered.

The ALSM's Puppeteers put on awesome puppet shows to teach kids about social issues and provide thought-provoking material. Plays like "Playground Bullying" shows the dangers of bullying, while "Caught in the Middle" teaches children of divorce how to cope with their new, complicated situation.



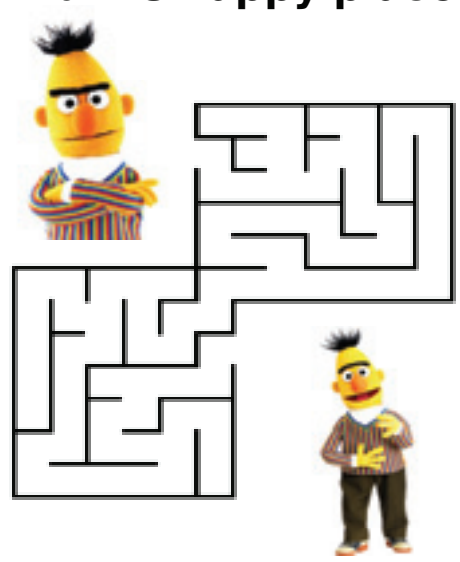
Established in 1937, ALSM's mission is to "assist children and families in the Santa Monica Bay Area through a variety of philanthropic programs." To have your school book the Puppeteers and check out other ways ALSM helps our community, visit the organization's website at santamonica.assistanceleague.org.



Be entertained, learn something and stay strong. Summer is almost here!

THROW US SOME FEEDBACK @GIIVE.ORG/CONTACT-US/

You can help Bert find his happy place



Santa Monica Daily Press

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Cooks and Utility Workers Wanted Cooks and Utility Workers. Applicants Previous experience but will consider all levels of experience. Competitive wages and benefits. Apply in person. Cafeteria Providence St. John's Health Ctr. 2121 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90404 8AM - 4PM M-F EOE, Minority/ Female/ Disability/ Veteran

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Personal Services

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