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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 165

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI V-BALL MAKES STATE TOURNEY
SEE PAGE 3

THE YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN ISSUE

Initiative seeks to protect penises

Potential ballot measure would make circumcision illegal for youth

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE A San Diego-based organization that opposes circumcision for newborns has filed paperwork to place a measure on the 2012 Santa Monica ballot that would make it a misdemeanor to perform the procedure on boys under the age of 18.

The Santa Monica MGM Bill Ballot Initiative, if passed, would make it a crime punishable by a $1,000 fine or a year in county jail for anybody to circumcise any male below the age of consent.

MGM stands for "male genital mutilation."

"We're not trying to stop people from getting circumcised if they want to," said Matthew Hess, president of MGMbill.org. "We just want to protect children from getting it forced on them."

Hess and others who oppose circumcision, usually called "intactivists," contend

SEE CIRCUMCISION PAGE 7



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

IN ACTION: **Nurses in the Nethercutt Emergency Center at the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital follow up on patients on Monday afternoon. The nurses are casting votes for a new labor pact that includes an 11 percent pay raise and guaranteed lunch breaks.**

UC nurses reach tentative labor agreement

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

MID-CITY Nurses at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center casted votes Monday for a tentative labor agreement with the University of California system that includes an 11 percent pay increase over the next two years.

The more than 11,000 UC registered nurses who are represented by the California Nurses Association/National Nurses United must ratify the proposed pact in membership meetings that began Sunday at UCLA and continue through Thursday. The contract affects five major UC hospitals, as well as student health centers at other UC campuses.

"We, the senior nurses at Santa Monica, never forget the times that we didn't have a union and were without representation," said Ann Brown, a UCLA RN and nurse negotiator.

"After our first CNA-negotiated contract we gained an average of 20 percent in our pay but more importantly, we are enjoying rights denied to us in a non-unionized workplace," said Brown. "Every contract negotiation has brought us further improvement in our working condition and this one is no exception."

Key highlights of the pact include guaranteed meal and rest breaks during shifts, more influence over patient safety and a new

SEE NURSES PAGE 10

City Council to consider $647M budget

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Around budget time last year, "flat is the new up" became City Manager Rod Gould's mantra.

This year, it's pretty much the same, but with a few twists.

The preliminary budgets for fiscal years 2012 and 2013, which staff will present over the course of three meetings to the City Council starting tonight at 5:30 p.m., include no reductions in services and only modest increases in revenue.

In fact, Santa Monica's City Hall plans on requesting a new department, the Office of Emergency Preparedness, in response to the recent disasters that have occurred in Japan and the Midwest.

The city manager is asking the council to approve spending packages of $647.1 million in 2011-12, and $624.2 million in 2012-13.

"What distinguishes this budget from budgets being considered around the state and nation is that this budget does not reduce services further, does not cut city staffing, does not furlough employees, does not borrow money to pay for operations, does not run down reserves, does not cheat the infrastructure and does not withdraw from meeting community needs that are not seen as central to the mission," Gould said.

Instead, the proposed budget holds many

SEE BUDGET PAGE 6

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

Learn about conservatorships

Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth St.,
6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Free conservatorships lecture by nonprofit WISE & Healthy Aging on the legal aspects of the conservator-conservatee relationship. For more information, call (310) 394-9871.

Grow Your Business Day

Post Office
1248 Fifth St., 10 a.m.
Workshops will include training, resources and information on topics such as: online postage options, commercial base shipping pricing and direct mail. For more information, call (323) 586-1455.

'Life at the Miramar'

Santa Monica History Museum
1350 Seventh St., 10 a.m. — 8 p.m.
Learn the early history of the Fairmont Miramar. Images and documents from those early days will be on display at the museum. For more information, call (310) 395-2290.

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Talking politics

St. Anne's Community Room
2017 Colorado Ave.,
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Santa Monica Democratic Club will host Robert M. Stern, president of the Center for Governmental Studies. With the pending redrawing of boundaries for Congress, Assembly and state Senate, Stern is an ideal source to learn the inside story on pending changes to our political representation structure. He is an expert in government, public interest law and campaign finance reform.
This event is free.

Saving for education

Gerber Kawasaki Wealth Management
2716 Ocean Park Blvd., 9:30 a.m.
Free half-hour seminar to learn options for education savings. With ever-increasing college costs and the demand for employees with degrees, it is more fundamental for parents to start saving for their children's education. Learn how to find potential tax-savings and other planning tools. For more information, call 310-441-9393.

Activists unite

Friends Meeting Hall
1440 Harvard St., 7 p.m.
Oscar de la Torre, longtime activist, community group leader, and Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District board member will be the featured guest speaker at this month's Activist Support Circle public gathering. The Activist Support Circle is an open support group for progressive activists, gathering monthly to help guard against activist burnout. For more information, visit activistsupportcircle.org.

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

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

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



Transient pleads not guilty in synagogue blast


HIRSCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN L.A. A homeless man pleaded not guilty to charges he set off a homemade bomb near a Santa Monica synagogue.

Sixty-year-old Ron Hirsch entered pleas Monday in Los Angeles federal court to four felonies involving use of an explosive and a destructive device. He faces up to 70 years in federal prison if convicted.

Hirsch is accused of setting off an April 7 explosion that caused a 250-pound steel pipe partially encased in concrete to crash through the roof of a home next to the Chabad House synagogue on 17th Street near Broadway.

Some debris went through the ceiling of a

SEE **PLEA** PAGE 10

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Samohi boys' v-ball makes state tourney

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SAMOHI Just days removed from winning the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 championship, the Santa Monica High School boys' volleyball team has been selected for the CIF Regional Championships, it was announced on Monday.

Playing in Division 1, due to the school's enrollment numbers, the Samohi Vikings will face Chula Vista Otay Ranch tonight on the road. The game is scheduled for 7 p.m. The Vikings are the No. 7 seed in the eight-team field.

NEW ROADS BASEBALL ROLLS

New Roads' baseball team crushed Southwestern Academy, 26-0, at West Los Angeles College on Friday to advance to the second round of the CIF-SS Division 7 playoffs.

The victory sets up a matchup with Milken Community today. The game is scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

New Roads is the No. 1 seed in the division.

It's the second meeting between the two schools this season. New Roads took the fist game, 8-4.

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN REACHES ROUND TWO

Pacifica Christian's baseball team is coming off a 16-0 drubbing of Coast Union on Friday in the first round of the CIF-SS Division 7 playoffs, but Head Coach Julian Chavez and his boys are taking it in stride.

Despite the big victory, Chavez said it's important for his team to stay composed as it prepares for a road match today in the second round with Cate.

"It was a good win," Chavez said. "But, we can't get too high because of it."

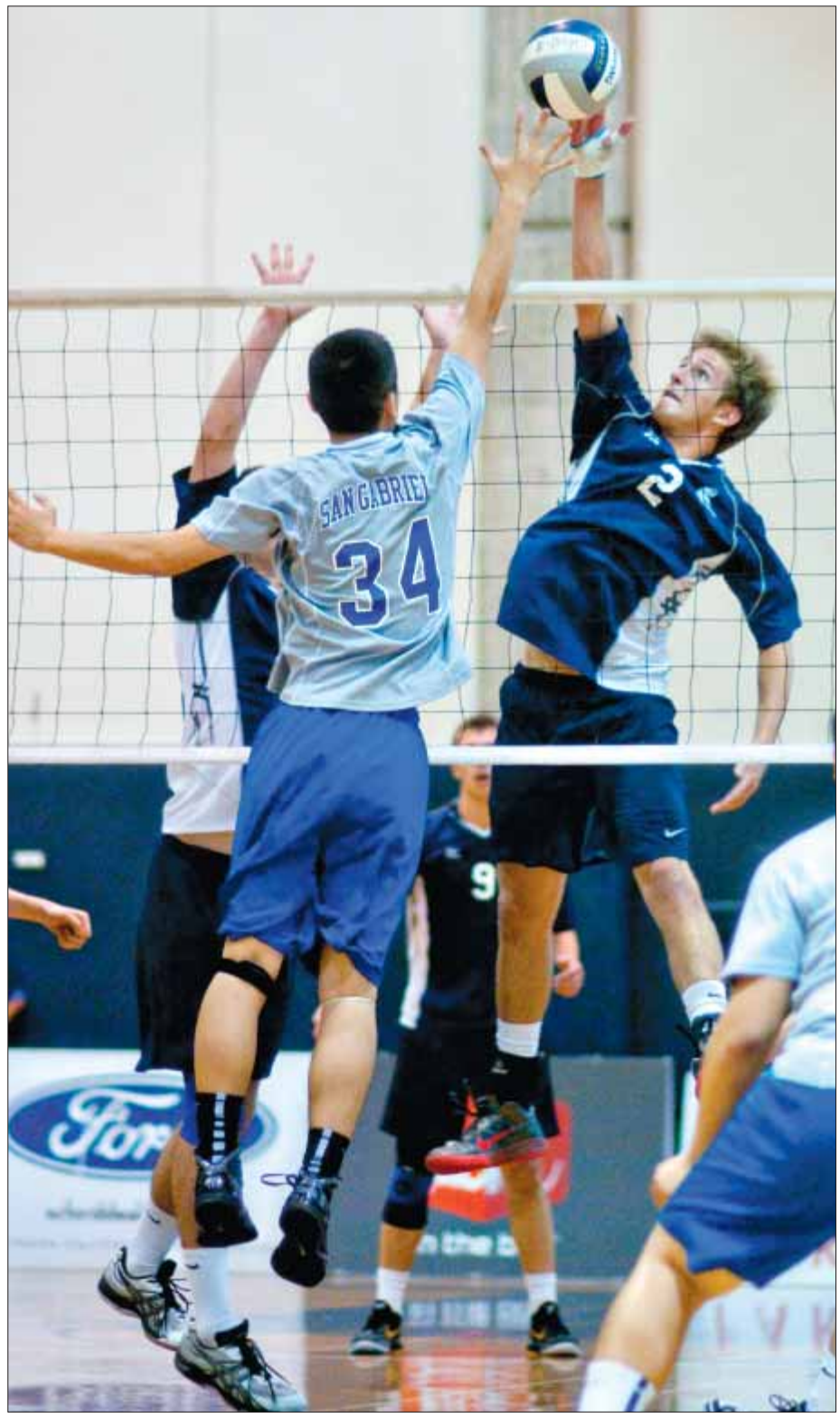
Keenan Pierandozzi-Howes started on the mound and earned the victory. Chavez plans on starting Austin Cortina, who was a first team All-Heritage League performer this season.

Pacifica Christian played Cate last season, defeating them 6-2 on their home field.

Chavez said the experience of playing on Cate's field should benefit them this year.

"I think if we play our game, we should be all right," Chavez said.

daniela@smdp.com



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

BIG PLAY: **Samohi's Charles Levy (right) makes a play against San Gabriel on Saturday.**

Plea in whale meat case gets postponed

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

DOWNTOWN L.A. A Gardena seafood dealer who sold endangered whale meat to The Hump in Santa Monica and other sushi restaurants has yet to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge as part of a deal with prosecutors.

Ginichi Y. Ohira, 50, was charged in Los Angeles federal court with knowingly selling a marine mammal product for an unauthorized purpose, in violation of the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. News agencies reported last week that Ohira was supposed to plead guilty Monday but authorities said his case was assigned to a judge and no plea was entered.

A date to enter the plea is expected to be released today.

Specifically, Ohira sold protected sei whale meat to The Hump at the Santa Monica Airport, which closed its doors last year after federal prosecutors charged the owner and a chef with sales of the federally-protected mammal.

Ohira began importing whale meat from Japan about 10 years ago. Among his customers was a sushi chef at The Hump.

The meat was discovered in visits to the restaurant by undercover agents working with environmental advocates behind the Oscar-winning documentary "The Cove," who conducted their own surveillance operation in which they used video cameras and tiny microphones to document the illegal activity.

Charges against the restaurant and chef were dismissed in 2010 after the eatery admitted serving up sei, and pledged to make a substantial contribution to whale preservation or endangered species groups and shut down entirely.

The misdemeanor carries a maximum penalty of one year in federal prison, one year under supervised release, and a fine of $100,000, prosecutors said.

kevinh@smdp.com

Spring Series

Mon., May 23: Legal Clinic Housing & Tenant Issues 9 a.m.
Tues., May 24: Conservatorships Lecture 6:30 p.m.
Wed., June 1: Financial Counseling Appts. 9 – 11 a.m.
Mon., June 6: Legal Clinic - Public Benefits 9 a.m. - Noon

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Freedom of choice

Editor:

An open letter to the nurses of Saint John's Health Center:

Mid-City Neighbors urges you to stand up for your profession this week by voting in favor of joining the California Nurses Association (CNA).

Professionals maintain an acceptable level of practice. When there are not enough nurses to cover a shift, unionized nurses have greater power to insist on proper coverage. When they complain that back-up is not available, hospitals are more likely to respond.

Without a union to protect them, nurses could find themselves blamed for any situation occurring when a back-up physician was not in the room to provide needed support. With union back-up, hospitals know lax standards will be challenged.

Professionals are stronger advocates for their patients. When a hospital fails to provide easily affordable on-site parking, unionized nurses can point out that visitation of patients has dropped off as a result. When someone is seriously ill, family members often make the hospital their second home. If they must pay $13 a visit for valet parking as they presently do at Saint John's, unionized nurses can address the stress this places on families as a health issue. Individual nurses, raising these same issues, are more likely to be ignored.

Professionals are able to command better wages. Currently, your fellow nurses at Saint John's earn about 10 percent less than nurses working at the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital down the street. With lower wages comes higher turnover.

Developing a highly professional team of nurses is much easier to accomplish when you are in a union. Being part of a union would allow you to advocate for better health care beyond the facilities where you serve. The issue of providing adequate, affordable health care to all is most effectively addressed by unionized health care workers. The California Nurses Association represents nurses all over our nation because of its concern for patient care as well as for the nurses who deliver it.

By voting to join the California Nurses Association, you will be helping Saint John's realize its mission of increasing the health of patients and the community it serves. It is the professional thing to do.

Gregg Heacock
President of Mid-City Neighbors

A different perspective

Editor:

I'm wondering why you would print the comments from Claudia Prevost in your weekend edition, May 21-22, in Letters to the Editor, "Better bike it." She apparently did not check any advertisements regarding this event. The time frame for the event was universally advertised as 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. (hence the name "Bike to Work") on all websites, including the paper.

On a more pertinent issue I did participate in this event and was disappointed to find that the Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1920 Main St. was not open for this event at 6:45 a.m. when I stopped by. I had even called their office the day before to verify they would open at 6 a.m. and the representative stated they would be open for this event. I saw a sign inside the closed doors indicating they were a Bike to Work pit stop. Really!

To end on a positive note I was very impressed with the folks who represented City Hall and also REI. They were great. The REI rep even volunteered to check/lube my bike.

Geoff Keith
Santa Monica

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Buying local keeps us all in kibble

SUMMER IS UNOFFICIALLY HERE, COME this weekend. Another year is flying by, thankfully this one has some great upbeat moments, and the future is looking bright.

As I wander around town I'm seeing more and more businesses starting up. For sure there are still many vacant storefronts, but the wheels of our economy are groaning as they begin to turn again.

The coming rush of tourists will surely help out our local economy and that is welcome news for the many small companies that service the tourist trade. I don't rely on tourism directly, but there is a trickle down effect, or rather a flow of life, which keeps my dog in kibble.

My family law clients range from small retailers, to restaurant owners, to any of the many business people around town. If they're not making money, then they cannot afford me, and that's when the dog goes hungry.

But last week when I was walking down by Big Dean's I was hit up for information three times in about four minutes for directions and advice on where to go for some good food. I collected two Germans, a Brit, and a fellow American. Paying attention to who is visiting is one way to track what's going on in the world.

Tourists seem to come in waves, in response to their economies, and by watching who is visiting us we can see how parts of the rest of the world are doing. For example, Germany must be doing well, since I've met many guests from there in the past few months. I can tell you that 25 years ago, Tobias was a popular name choice in Germany, as I've made two new friends from Germany named Tobias, who were both 26.

I seem to be asked for information often, and I don't know if it is my appearance, or my dog, that attracts the attention. I'm going to believe it is the dog, as he gathers much love, from little kids to seniors. He's a favorite on the boardwalk and while he's busy looking for fallen bits of French fries and churros, I'm being asked if the kids can pet him.

I like to share the city we live in and I'm a big supporter of the small merchant, so I make it a point to refer people to the unique restaurants and non-corporately owned shops and eateries in town. As we all gear up for the summer festivities let's remember that there are many small, fine places to enjoy snacks and dinners and by supporting the small companies we are in fact supporting ourselves.

The principle of money in circulation is what allows all of us to prosper. I would urge everyone as they go about their day to just think about where they are spending their dollars and sending guests and tourists this summer. We have a choice to send people to a neighborhood spot that is locally owned, or to a corporate megalith, and by helping out our fellow business people, we are building a better city.

We have loads of great restaurants, and depending on what cuisine is being sought we can accommodate the desire; for a great pizza go to Bruno's and ask for America, she'll take care of you.

Across the street is local watering hole Chez Jay's, known for its martinis and steaks. Different Italian style is Fritto Misto, with its mix and match pasta menu. On the far side of town is Lares for awesome steaks with a Latino flair.

I LIKE TO SHARE THE CITY WE LIVE IN AND I'M A BIG SUPPORTER OF THE SMALL MERCHANT, SO I MAKE IT A POINT TO REFER PEOPLE TO THE UNIQUE RESTAURANTS AND NON-CORPORATELY OWNED SHOPS AND EATERIES IN TOWN.

Poom Thai on Lincoln Boulevard is a fun place where you can write on the walls and meet Poom, who's grown up in the restaurant. Try the green curry there, it's my favorite.

For coffee and snacks, Flying Saucers Cafe is a new coffee shop on Pico Boulevard and Third Street. They have rotating art exhibits and lots of sweet treats. Its owners are lovely young men who are quick with a smile and making a go of it against the giants like Starbucks.

The Montana Avenue stores and restaurants need our support, and we can send tourists and guests there for drinks at Father's Office, or dinner at Babalu.

For a romantic evening we've got Vito in Sunset Park, a lovely neighborhood spot that's kind of like going to your Italian Aunt Lil's for dinner.

I could go on, but my point is that we have many great local spots to send our out-of-town guests to, and to visit ourselves. Try some place new, remember that the local economy depends on all of our efforts to keep it going and the more we spread the wealth by venturing out and remembering to share the local favorites, the more we help ourselves.

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.

TELL SANTA MONICA WHAT YOU THINK!
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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State AG creates task force to investigate mortgage fraud

ALEX VEIGA
AP Real Estate Writer

LOS ANGELES California's attorney general has formed a new task force to investigate mortgage fraud in the wake of practices that crushed the state's housing industry and led to a wave of foreclosures.

The task force will be made up of 17 lawyers and eight state Department of Justice special agents who will pursue criminal and civil judgments on a broad spectrum of mortgage fraud cases, from predatory lending and loan modification scams, to fraud involving mortgage-backed securities, Attorney General Kamala Harris said Monday.

"We will work to safeguard the homeowner at every step of the process — from origination of a loan to its securitization, and we will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law those who take advantage of trusting California families," Harris said in a statement.

The state's foreclosure crisis has cost homeowners up to $640 billion in equity, Harris estimates.

It also has opened the door for scammers, many of whom have targeted homeowners by promising to get their lender to reduce their mortgage payments or even how much they owe on their mortgage altogether.

In the last year, the California Department of Justice has received thousands of complaints related to foreclosure scams, mortgage fraud, and mortgage servicing practices.

The Mortgage Fraud Strike Force will operate out of offices in Los Angeles, Fresno, San Francisco and Sacramento and will be made up of teams focusing on consumer enforcement, corporate fraud and criminal enforcement.

The teams will target predatory lending, unfair business practices in mortgage loan origination, deceptive marketing and loan modification fraud, among other scams.

The corporate fraud unit will focus on violations involving investments and securities tied to subprime mortgages, and fraudulent claims related to these securities made to the state or its pension funds.

Lack of dates may sink Compton parent petition

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

COMPTON California's first parent petition to force a charter conversion at a low-performing elementary school may fail because the signatures weren't dated, a judge said.

In a tentative ruling issued Friday, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Anthony Mohr said the absence of dates documenting when the 265 McKinley Elementary School parents signed the petition was "fatal."

Mohr said he will hear more arguments on the case on June 7, but said he agreed with the Compton Unified School District that dates on signatures are crucial.

Mohr said he did not reach the decision lightly.

"The court is aware of the pain, frustration and perhaps education disadvantages this ruling may cause," the 14-page opinion stated. "However, the court believes the law compels this result."

The petition was filed in December, the first under California's so-called "parent trigger" law, which allows parents to force radical change at underperforming schools through a petition signed by at least half the parents.

The Compton school district challenged the petition, saying reform efforts already were under way at McKinley, one of the state's worst performing elementary schools, and the keenly followed case moved into court.

Lawyers for the parents noted that proposed state regulations on future parent trigger petitions stipulate that the effective date would be the date of filing the petition, not the date of signing.

But the district argued that dating each signature was key to determine if a child was enrolled at the school at the time or if a parent had legal rights over a child at that time.

The judge agreed with the district. "While the likelihood of this happening on a widespread basis may be slim, it remains a real concern," he ruled.

District spokesman Ron Suazo said officials had no comment on the ruling, other than that they remain committed to providing a quality education for all children.

The Q Line

Giving to the schools

The SMMUSD Board of Education last week voted to reconvene a citizen-led committee to look at the possibility of a future parcel tax and bond measure to fund local schools.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Would you support either a parcel tax or a bond measure, or has the district gone to the well too many times?

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

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Event Details

Where: Santa Monica Daily Press Offices

When: May 24, 2011

Time: 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Who: Both members and prospective members welcome

Cost: $10 for members, $25 for prospective members

SANTA MONICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For more information Call 310-393-9825 or visit www.smchamber.com

BUDGET
FROM PAGE 1

expenditures roughly steady from last year when a series of cost-cutting measures were taken to trim down projected deficits by $25 million.

Employees were asked for the first time to pay a portion of their health care costs, fee schedules for the use of public property were raised for the first time in nearly a decade and spending was trimmed in every department.

Those savings have been realized and will continue, Gould said.

Additionally, employee negotiating groups will find themselves back at the bargaining table to discuss how to rein in costs, likely focusing on health care and pensions.

On the spending side, the budget takes into account traditionally under-funded areas like police overtime and puts more money behind them to give an accurate picture at the get-go.

It also shows $700,000 for credit card transaction fees alone, as more city services begin to provide the option for people to pay with a card.

The budget also includes $19 million in one-time payments that city officials expect will save money in the future.

The bulk of those payments is a $10 million check to CalPERS (California Public Employee Retirement System) to pay down liability on employee pensions and retirement benefits. Spending $10 million upfront is expected to save $800,000 every year for two decades, or roughly $16 million.

That $10 million comes from the general fund as well as other funds that have managed to save money on employee liabilities by prepaying for them in July of each year, which earns a discount from CalPERS, said Finance Director Carol Swindell.

"We saved that money and banked it every year and set it aside so we could do something like this," Swindell said.

On its face, the budget does not look balanced.

It proposes to spend $647.1 million in 2011-12, and $624.2 million in 2012-13, but take in only $532.9 million and $535.5 million respectively.

That deficit is illusory, caused by planning to spend a lot of upfront money on redevelopment projects to get them underway before the state government raids those funds, Gould said.

"One of the best things we can do to construct and use the facilities we've been talking about for years in Santa Monica is to get them under contract," Gould said.

To that end, on Tuesday night, staff will ask the council for permission to issue nearly $36 million in bonds to combine with money already borrowed for a total of $150 million to get projects either under contract or push them into the design and build stage.

Those projects include the Colorado Esplanade, Palisades Garden Walk and Civic Auditorium renovations, among others.

This budget process represents a number of "firsts" for Santa Monica, including a multi-year budget spanning two fiscal years, slimming the budget to half its normal length and building in a technique called expenditure control budgeting.

Expenditure control budgeting discourages large-scale end of the year spending seen when departments use their entire allocation in an attempt to prove that they need every dollar given in the budget process.

Instead, departments will get to keep one-third of the money that they save, while the rest will go to bolster the general fund, Gould said.

"I've seen it work in other agencies very dramatically," Gould said. "It benefits the general fund because there are more savings, and you get a better budget all around."

The new system will free up a lot of staff time in the second year to work on other projects, Swindell said.

Tonight, Gould and Swindell will present the big picture of the economic realities facing Santa Monica, the state and the nation, as well as an overview of the budget.

Wednesday, the large departments including police and the Big Blue Bus will go over their budget requests and explain their goals for the next two years.

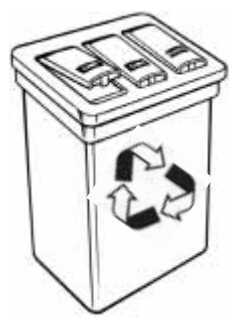
Thursday, staff will close out with a presentation on nonprofit organizations selected to receive city grants.

ashley@smdp.com



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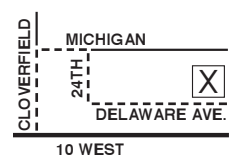


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CIRCUMCISION

FROM PAGE 1

that circumcision not only removes a piece of the body that serves a vital function, it deprives men of heightened sexual pleasure by removing nerve endings.

"The foreskin is there for a reason. It has functions," Hess said. "If you cut that off, you're losing that function and it's going to be a different experience."

The bill leaves room for a circumcision performed for valid health reasons, but not for religious purposes.

Hess' group likens circumcision — a procedure where the foreskin of the penis is removed — to female genital mutilation, where the genitals are purposely injured for no medical reason.

"It's currently illegal to circumcise or draw a single drop of blood from a girl's genitals," Hess said. "This is an example where religious freedom is not absolute."

According to the World Health Organization, no religion directly calls for FGM, although it is widely practiced in some cultures, ostensibly to keep young girls "pure" and ready for marriage.

Dr. David Baron, former chief of staff at the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and physician at Primary Caring in Malibu, dismissed the comparison.

"It's obviously misleading and inaccurate," Baron said. "It's inappropriate and inaccurate to draw a connection between the two."

Baron is trained both as a physician and a mohel, a person who performs the Jewish circumcision ceremony called a "bris."

In the Jewish faith, circumcision represents a contract between the faithful and God. It's performed eight days after the baby is born, usually, at the home.

The only difference between a religious circumcision and one performed at the hospital is location and prayers, Baron said.

Circumcision's importance to both the Jewish and Islamic religions is evident, but its medical necessity has been the topic of much debate.

The medical community responds to questions about whether or not circumcision is a good idea with a firm "maybe."

"Circumcised men are known to have a lower incidence of urinary tract infections and a lower risk of sexually transmitted diseases, primarily HPV," Baron said, referencing the human papillomavirus. "They also have a lower risk, almost no risk, of penile cancer."

Penile cancer, virtually unheard of in the United States, is caused by HPV which manifests in warts that form under the foreskin.

On the other hand, Baron noted, all of those potential gains can be achieved by uncircumcised men that use proper hygiene.



Courtesy photo

AT WORK: **A rabbi performs a circumcision.**

Whether or not it is strictly necessary, circumcision is widely used amongst both secular and religious groups.

In 2010, 341 circumcisions were performed on newborns at the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital.

"It's shocking to me that there would be a movement to ban this," Baron said. "This is a procedure that's been done for 4,000 years. Name me another surgical procedure that's been around for 4,000 years."

Before the potential ban becomes a formal ballot measure, supporters have to gather enough signatures to qualify, or 10 percent of the voting population of Santa Monica.

As of June 2010, Santa Monica had 61,192 voters, said City Clerk Maria Stewart. That would put the signature threshold at just over 6,000 voters, although the exact number has not been confirmed by the Los Angeles County clerk.

A similar measure is already on the ballot in San Francisco's November 2011 election.

It's the first time that the issue of male circumcision will be voted on.

Hess' group began trying to ban circumcision in 2003 with a statewide bill, and succeeded in finding a sponsor for a similar measure in Massachusetts, although the bill ultimately failed.

The San Francisco and Santa Monica attempts are the first efforts to get around legislators and go straight to the voters.

"It's spread to various states as people requested that we write a proposal for them," Hess said.

The request for Santa Monica came from resident Jena Troutman, an intactivist who has been active in the movement for some time, Hess said.

It's unclear if the initiative will face legal challenges as no version has gotten this far before, Hess said.

ashley@smdp.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR DRAFT 2010 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PLAN FOR REVIEW

The City of Santa Monica hereby releases its Draft 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (Plan) for public review. The plan will be available through June 28, 2011 at all City of Santa Monica public libraries, City Hall, the City of Santa Monica Water Resources Division Administration Office (1212-5th Street, 3rd Floor, Santa Monica) and at the following City Website:

http://www.smgov.net/departments/publicworks/water.aspx

A Public Hearing will be held to consider comments to the Draft Plan; to consider and adopt the City's method for determining the City's water use targets under SBX-7-7 ("20 by 2020" water conservation requirements); and implementation of the Plan including economic impacts, if any.

The Public Hearing will be held at the City Council Chambers located at 1685 Main Street on Tuesday June 28, 2011. The time of the hearing will be posted on the Agenda for the meeting on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

The City of Santa Monica encourages the active involvement of its citizens. If you have any questions about the Plan or SBX7-7 compliance, please contact: Susan Lowell, P.E., Water Resources Engineer, Water Resources Division, Public Works Department, 1212 5th Street, 3rd Floor, Santa Monica, CA 90401 at 310-458-8286 or at susan.lowell@smgov.net.

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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John C. Beck, MD & Arlene Fink, PhD
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City of Santa Monica

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed funds in the amount of $3,658,206 to Community Corporation of Santa Monica for the acquisition of 12 units of affordable housing located at 2309-2315 Oak Street.

City of Santa Monica

PLEA
FROM PAGE 3

bedroom where a 12-year-old girl was sleeping, but nobody was hurt.

After fleeing Los Angeles via bus and becoming the subject of an intense nationwide manhunt, Hirsch was taken into custody in Cleveland on April 11. The U.S. Marshals Service returned him to Los Angeles on April 22, and a U.S. magistrate judge ordered him held without bond.

He also faces state charges that carry a potential life sentence.

In that case, Hirsch is charged with one count each of explosion with intent to murder, use of a destructive device and explosive to injure or destroy, possession of a destructive device near a public place and possession of a destructive device near a residence.

Santa Monica police originally believed the explosion was caused by a strange mechanical failure underground, but a lengthy, forensic post-blast investigation determined the explosion was the result of a bomb. Investigators said items found in and around the crime scene are linked to Hirsch, who is said to have frequented area synagogues and Jewish community centers seeking handouts.

Hirsch, who also used the names Ronald Jay Fisher and Israel Fisher, constructed the projectile device using elements including concrete, explosive powder, dry ice and what appears to be an expansion joint sealant, or other expanding plastic or foam, authorities said.

The oddly-constructed mechanical launcher appears to have been highly effective at hurling its material, although it did not seriously damage the Chabad House, which appears to have been its target.

news@smdp.com

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

NURSES
FROM PAGE 1

pay grade for senior nurses, representatives from the union said.

Nurse negotiators were also successful in limiting future increases in costs for their health coverage.

Dianne Klein, a spokesperson for the UC system, would not comment on the details of the proposed contract, but did say the deal is "fair."

"It maintains competitive wages and benefits for the nurses, recognizing the critical role they play in serving patients and the tough financial situation the university is in," she said.

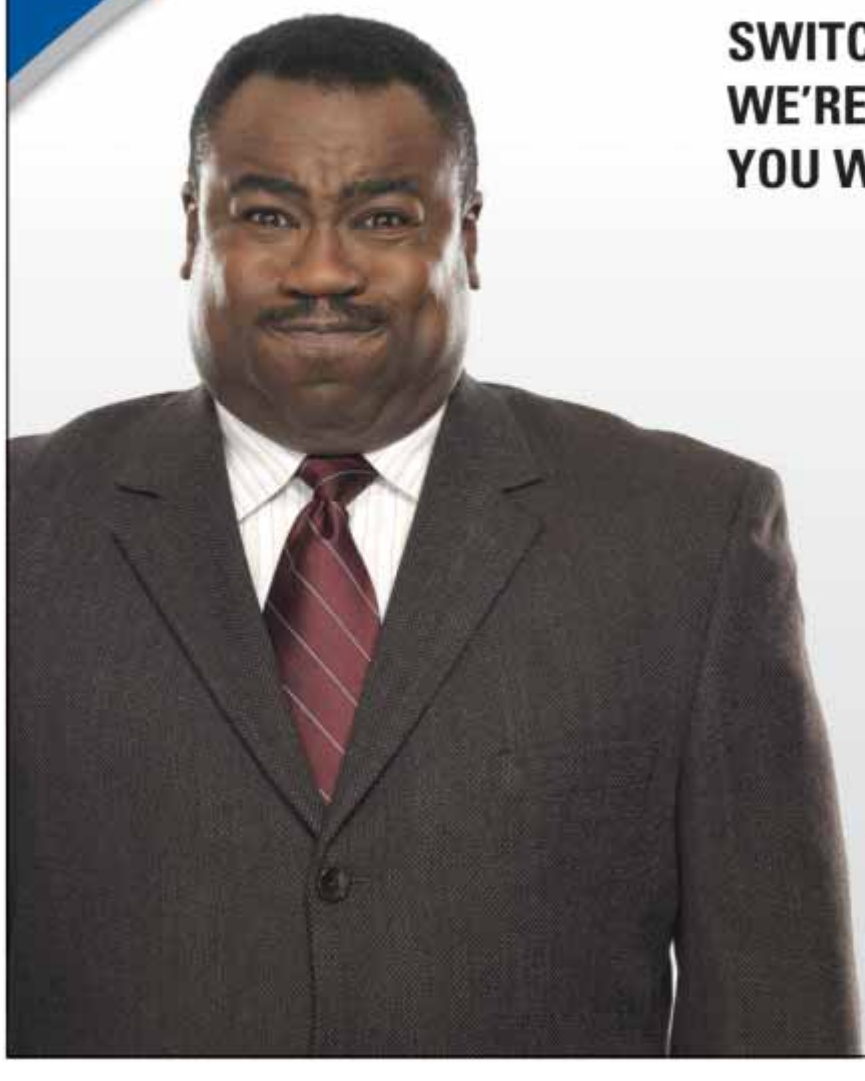
Union representatives said the UC health system is one of the wealthiest in the state and that the raise nurses will receive will not put stress on funding for education since it will be paid for by patients and their insurance companies.

The UC system has already approved an 8 percent tuition hike for the coming school year and there could be another 32 percent increase if Gov. Jerry Brown's tax plan collapses.

If approved, the pact would be the first multi-year contract for nurses since 2002. Disputes and short-term fixes have prompted almost continuous collective bargaining for almost a decade. If ratified by nurses this week, the new contract will start Friday and extend through June 30, 2013.

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U.S. stocks plunge on European debt worry news

FRANCESCA LEVY
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK After three days of bad news about Europe's debt crisis sent Asian and European markets down Monday, it was Wall Street's turn.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell as many as 180 points before paring back some of its losses. Another steep downgrade of Greece's credit rating, a warning on Italy's debt and a major defeat of Spain's ruling party caused new worries about Europe's debt crisis.

That sent the euro lower against the dollar. A stronger dollar makes it more expensive for other countries to buy U.S. exports, hurting U.S. companies that sell goods abroad. Fears that Europe's debt troubles could escalate, as they did last year when Greece melted down, sent stocks tumbling across the globe.

The dollar rose 0.6 percent against an index of global currencies Monday. The euro dipped briefly to its lowest level against the dollar in two months.

The bad news began late Friday, when the Fitch ratings agency downgraded Greece's debt further into junk status. That gave investors more reason to fear that the country will need more help managing its debts beyond the emergency loan package it received last year.

Then Standard & Poor's said Saturday that Italy was in danger of having its debt rating lowered if it could not reduce its borrowing and improve economic growth. The next day, Spain's ruling Socialist party was roundly defeated in local elections, potentially jeopardizing the country's deficit-cutting program.

The Dow fell 130.78 points, or 1.1 percent, to close at 12,381.26. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 15.9, or 1.2 percent, to 1,317.37 All but a handful of stocks in the S&P 500 fell. The Nasdaq composite index fell 44.42, or 1.6 percent, to 2,758.9.

European markets also closed sharply lower. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares fell 1.9 percent. Germany's DAX lost 2 percent. The CAC-40 in France was 2 percent lower.

While stocks are reacting strongly to the weekend's headlines, investors are not selling corporate bonds. If they were, it would signal that investors were growing wary of risk, said Jack Ablin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank.

"There's a short-term perception of risk, but I'm not viewing it as necessarily lasting," said Ablin.

Still, as investors sought safer assets, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note went as low as 3.10 percent, its lowest level of the year. The yield moved back up to 3.13 percent in afternoon trading, slightly below the 3.15 percent it traded at late Friday. Bond yields fall when their prices rise.

Some analysts think a downturn in stocks was overdue. Markets have wobbled over the past few weeks, but the Dow is still up 7 percent this year. The index has shrugged off revolutions in the Arab world, attempts by China and other emerging markets to slow growth and the nuclear crisis in Japan. Now that the U.S. corporate earnings season is over, global news has become the focus.

"There's not a lot of good news," said Randy Bateman, president of Huntington Asset Advisors. "Investors needed an excuse to pull back."

Downgrades of sovereign debt can shock world markets when they're first announced. Recently, debt downgrades have had a short-term effect. Moody's downgraded Spain's debt on March 10. The Ibex 35 sank 1.3 percent on the news, but recovered its losses within days.

S&P downgraded its debt outlook for the U.S. on April 17 from stable to negative, meaning it could lower the country's debt rating in the future. The warning sent the Dow down 240 points in morning trading, but it recovered the next day.

Four stocks fell for each one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Volume was 3.4 billion shares.

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City of Santa Monica

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30 MAY

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For more information call 310.451.5444 or visit BigBlueBus.com

City of Santa Monica



Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

Swell Forecast

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

Long Range Synopsis

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

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **April 6, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

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

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

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

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

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

LEGEND

- **DRY --** each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
- **WET --** grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
- **ns --** no sample taken

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

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

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

Heal the Bay

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Expungements: Burying Those Skeletons In Your Closet

Have you ever applied for a job, professional license, and/or school application where they asked if you have ever been convicted of a crime? If so, did you get nervous and distraught at the thought of having to circle "yes" and then explaining the circumstances of what happened years and years ago with your minor run in with the law? If this is a likely scenario for you or someone you know, help make those skeletons in the closet disappear by filing an expungement/dismissal motion. California Penal Code Sections 1203.3 and 1203.4 set forth the basic rules for expungements. This article focuses on some need to know legal rules and consequences with regard to expunging your record in California. Please note that this article examines the basic elements and procedures of expungements. If you or someone you know is filling out an application or reporting a past conviction to anyone in an official capacity it is advisable to speak with a criminal attorney about whether you must report the past conviction, even after the expungement process.

In terms of filing an expungement and clearing up your record, there are a couple preliminary questions that must be answered. First, was your past conviction for a felony or misdemeanor crime? Second, was probation granted and if so have you successfully completed probation? And lastly, once you have determined that you are eligible for expungement, what do you do?

If the answer to the first question is a misdemeanor, then you're on the right path! If the answer to the first question is felony, then there is another step that must be completed prior to filing an expungement. In order to expunge a felony conviction or have it dismissed from your record, a motion must be made pursuant to Penal Code Section 17(b) to first have the conviction reduced to a misdemeanor. Certain felony crimes, however, are never capable of being reduced to a misdemeanor and can never be expunged. Convictions that cannot be expunged or dismissed by law include any misdemeanor listed in Vehicle Code section 42001(b), any violation of P.C. 286(c), 288, 288a(c), 288.5, or 289(j), a felony under P.C. 261.5(d), and any infraction. Moreover, if you were never granted probation and instead went to State Prison, although there are options for clearing your record, the basics of expungements as explained in this article will not apply to your given scenario.

Once you have determined that your past conviction was a misdemeanor or capable of being reduced to a misdemeanor, move on to question number two: Was probation granted and have you successfully completed all the terms and orders of your probation? Typically, in misdemeanor cases, courts order that a defendant be placed on 1-3 years of probation and to follow all rules and regulations. If the court does not order probation, you're ready to file the motion! If probation was granted, the time period is over and done with, and you have fulfilled all the terms of the probation (including completing any classes, service work, and/or paid all fines) then you are also ready to file the motion! If probation is still open and has not been completed, a separate motion for early termination of probation must first be filed. If granted, and probation terminated early, then you are ready to file the motion! In sum, before a motion for expungement/dismissal is filed, probation must typically be successfully completed either by the passage of time or by early termination from the court.

Now that the motion is ready for filing, what do you do and how do you do it? California courts vary in terms of requirements for expungement/dismissal motions. For instance, some courts require a filing fee (usually around $60) and attached declaration (preferably by an attorney). All courts, however, require that a P.C. 1203.4/1203.4(a) Petition For Dismissal be completed and filed. In order to fill out this form correctly, a petitioner needs to obtain the case number, date of conviction, conviction charges, date of birth, driver's license number, last four digits of social security, and if possible the Criminal Identification and Information (CII) number. After entering the requisite information simply check the applicable boxes and sign/date the form. Additionally, along with the Petition, you should also attach a Court Order. The same information must be filled out on the Court Order; however, this form is for the judge to review and then sign/date. The signed Court Order is then stamped and recorded by the clerk certifying that a judge has ordered the case dismissed/expunged. Expungement/Dismissal Petitions typically take anywhere from one to three months for the court to review and complete.

Avoid the headaches and problems associated with explaining away your past minor run-ins with the law and get rid of skeletons in your closet today by filing an expungement! Call the Legal Grind to schedule an appointment to meet with a skilled and experienced attorney to help you navigate through this tricky process and answer any questions that you might have.

This column was prepared by Jacob Glucksman, a Criminal Defense attorney. He can be reached through the Legal Grind at 310-452-8160 or referral@legalgrind.com

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

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

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Thor (PG-13) 1hr 54min
12:10pm, 3:00pm, 6:00pm, 9:00pm

Hesher (R) 1hr 42min
1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Cost of a Soul (R) 1hr 48min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:05pm, 9:40pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

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

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
11:30am, 2:45pm, 6:00pm, 9:15pm

Fast Five (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
12:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
10:40am, 1:40pm, 4:35pm, 7:35pm, 10:30pm

Rio 3D (PG) 1hr 36min
12:05pm, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
12:00pm, 2:30pm, 4:55pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
10:30am, 1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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

Forks Over Knives (PG) 1hr 30min
2:30pm, 7:40pm

Beaver (PG-13) 1hr 31min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

13 Assassins (R) 2hrs 06min
4:50pm, 10:00pm

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

How to Live Forever (NR) 1hr 32min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

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

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
1:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:40pm, 10:45pm

Something Borrowed (PG-13) 1hr 43min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Water for Elephants (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Everything Must Go (R) 1hr 40min
11:35am, 2:15pm, 4:50pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Priest 3D (PG-13) 1hr 27min
11:00am, 1:25pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:20am, 2:10pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

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

Head home early tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You have been like a freight car lately. It might be hard to slow down. You miss details when you push that hard. Your ability to bring other people out is significant. You seem to sense where they are coming from. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ The ball is in your court. You have been impatiently waiting for this moment. Curb going overboard with spending to make a good impression. Clearly, someone feels very strongly about a work or day-to-day situation. Tonight: Charm works wonders.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You have been given an unusual amount of space and freedom, though you might not recognize it. Responsibilities call, giving you very little wiggle room. Take the lead on a project or community matter. A partner or associate seems to be morphing in front of your very eyes. Tonight: Could go till the wee hours.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Keep reaching for the stars. What appears to be rather complicated really isn't. Discover what is needed to make a situation work through a process of detaching and gaining more understanding. Recharge with a brisk walk. Tonight: Surf the Net.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Being in sync happens with ease. Opportunities arise from those at a distance. Be aware of another person's response. Your way of stating your boundaries might be a bit austere. Revise your work schedule. Tonight: Togetherness happens naturally.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Defer to others. Your instincts will guide you to understand what is best for all parties involved only once you detach. You could have mixed feelings. Pressure builds, pushing you to accomplish an inordinate amount of tasks. Reprioritize if you hit a snafu. Tonight: Pace yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Move past an immediate issue. Tap into your creativity in order to find answers. Your sense of direction combined with some old-fashioned ingenuity helps you steer the proper course. Your instincts encourage you to hold back. Refuse to let that occur. Tonight: Make it easy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ It is difficult to accomplish anything today. Worrying about missing a special person also could interfere. You might not see an immediate solution. Negativity impacts your energy and interactions. Ask yourself how a situation would look if you were upbeat. Tonight: Try being silly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You might want to act on your words in order to get the response you desire. Laughter surrounds a personal issue, once you demonstrate your involvement and caring. Curb wild spending. Come from a new space. Tonight: Head home early.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Clearly you have more information on a key topic than many others. How you express this knowledge will determine the manner in which it is received. A boss or higher-up is easily challenged. Listen to suggestions more openly. Tonight: Your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Keep the conversation moving. You might not be aware of the impact of a specific topic until you see everyone put in their two cents. Your ability to read between the lines needs to emerge. Someone at a distance could be extremely negative. Tonight: Price a new item.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Take up an information-gathering effort. You need more facts before you make a decision, even though you believe you are ready at this moment. If a partner acts withdrawn, know that no matter what you do, it won't make a difference. Only this person can decide to open up. Tonight: Togetherness works.

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

Happy birthday

This year, you contact many people, many of whom are not easygoing. You also could be in an unusually sensitive period in which your feelings are vulnerable. Travel, education, reading and/or yoga might help you to detach. Or you might have another preferred method of relaxing. If you are single, you open a door to a friendship or move in a new direction. Meeting people happens easily. If you are attached, share more often with your sweetie when you feel vulnerable or off. PISCES often interferes with you. ....



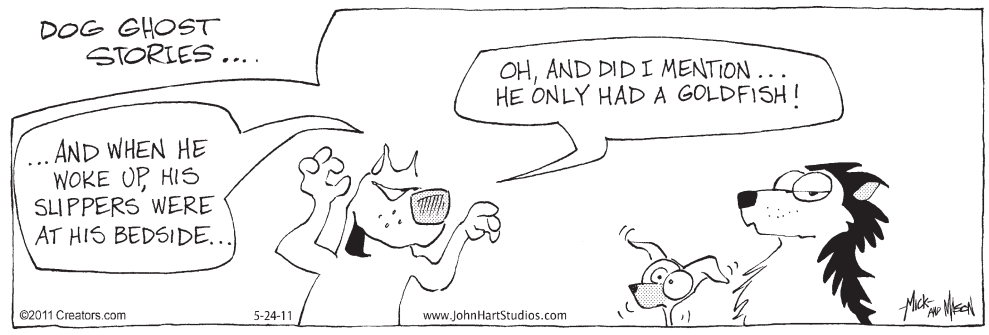
MYSTERY REVEALED!

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Reader James Toomey correctly identified this photo of the AMF Bay Shore Lanes sign on Pico Boulevard. He will receive a reusable shopping bag courtesy of the Daily Press. Check out tomorrow's paper for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

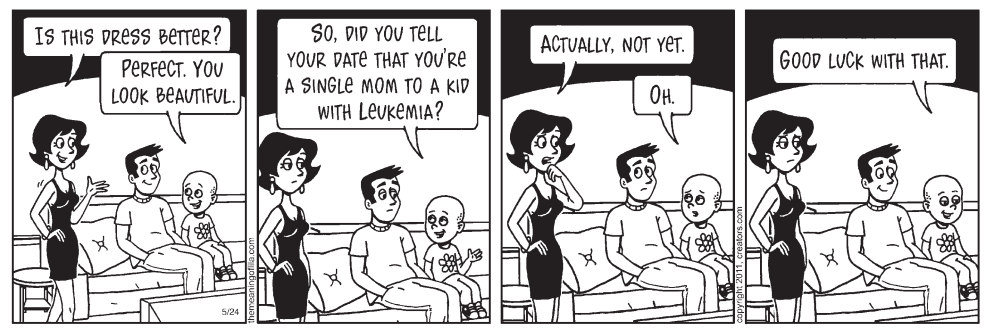
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Resort spot
6 Crank-operated lifter
11 Dogpatch name
12 Love to pieces
13 Sur-mounting
15 Pupil's place
16 Storage spot
17 Rever-ence
18 Puzzles
20 Confed-erate president
23 Airport aid
27 Pinnacle
28 Company symbol
29 Taxi feature
31 Run, as color
32 Like a snoop
34 TV spots
37 Hot-dog holder
38 Writer Tarbell
41 Retal-iating
44 Neptune's domain
45 Oscar or Tony
46 Ball dresses
47 Comic Bruce

DOWN

1 Canary's home
2 Heed
3 Poker payment
4 Harden
5 Native groups
6 "Siegfried" composer
7 Groom's answer
8 Bright star
9 Ship staff
10 On this spot
14 Disallow
18 Female fox
19 Field of film
20 River stopper
21 Big galoot
22 Dog doc
24 Fawn's mom
25 Candle count
26 Scepter
30 Spring signs
31 Cincinnati player
33 Nearest star
34 Wildly eager
35 1920s art style
36 Hearty dish
38 Notorious czar
39 Laura of "Jurassic Park"
40 Tennis star Roddick
42 Beige
43 Lamb's mom

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

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			
44					■	45				
46					■	47				

5-24

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

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

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

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

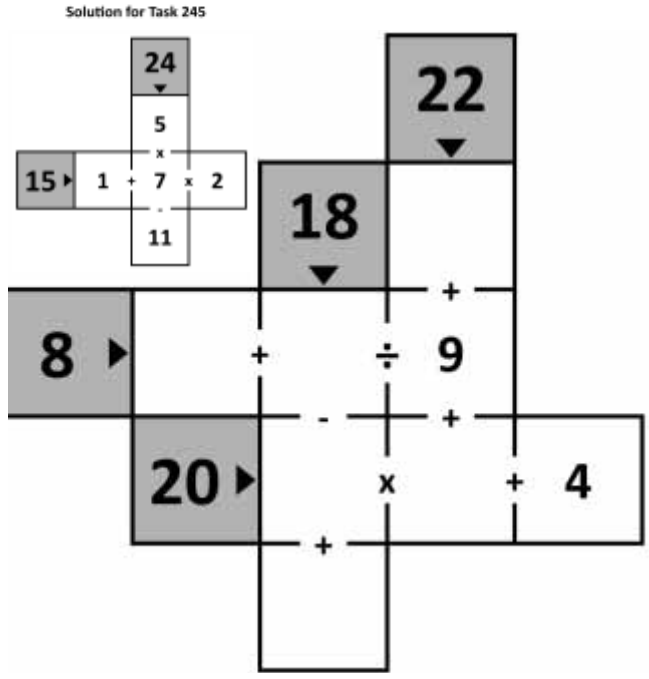
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11

Solution for Task 245



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 10 17 19 45 48
Meganumber: 30
Jackpot: $26M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 3 11 16 26 38
Meganumber: 6
Jackpot: $20M

Fantasy 5: 5 6 7 26 28

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 1 0 1
DAILY 3 EVENING: 3 9 3

DAILY DERBY
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1:49.05

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 Montana House of Representatives passed a tough drunk-driving bill in March to combat the state's high DUI rate, but it came over the objection of Rep. Alan Hale (and later, Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy). Hale, who owns a bar in Basin, Mont., complained that tough DUI laws "are destroying small businesses" and "destroying a way of life that has been in Montana for years and years." (Until 2005, drinking while driving was common and legal outside of towns as long as the driver wasn't drunk.) Furthermore, Hale said, people need to drive home after they drink. "(T)hey are not going to hitchhike." Sen. Windy Boy said such laws put the legislature on "the path of criminalizing everyone in Montana."

■ Why Unions Are Unpopular: The police officers' union in Scranton, Pa., filed a state unfair labor practice complaint in April against Chief Dan Duffy because he arrested a man whom he caught violating a warrant and possessing marijuana. According to the union contract, only union members can "apprehend and arrest" lawbreakers, and since the chief is "management," he should have called an officer to make the arrest. The union president suggested that, with layoffs threatened, the chief doesn't need to be taking work away from officers.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1837 Canada gives African Canadian men the right to vote.

1860 Sakuradamon incident (1860): Assassination of Japanese Chief Minister (Tairÿ) Ii Naosuke

1869 The last of Titokowaru's forces surrendered to the New Zealand government, ending his uprising.

1878 The British frigate HMS Eurydice sinks, killing more than 300.

1896 A. A. Popov makes the first radio signal transmission in history.

WORD UP!

longueur
\long-GUR\ , noun;
1.
A dull and tedious passage in a book, play, musical composition, or the like.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Roomates
Commerical Lease
Real Estate
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Vehicles for Sale
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Career Opportunities

Burke Williams Day Spa located on 4th street in Santa Monica is currently seeking licensed Massage Therapists. In this position you will enjoy competitive pay, great benefits and an excellent working environment. Please feel free to apply in person at 1358 4th street, Santa Monica, apply through our web site at www.burkewilliamsspa.com or send your resume to CorinneS@BurkeWilliamsSpa.com

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Notices

Wilshire House 1125 3RD Street Santa Monica CA 90403 will be closing waiting list on 5-29-2011. Unable to accept applications due to 5 year plus waiting list.

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that notification has been made to the Comptroller of the Currency, District Licensing for the Northeast District Office to voluntarily liquidate:

Barclays Bank PLC Federal Agency
located at 1620 26th Street,
Santa Monica, CA 90404

The federal agency is closing its affairs. Creditors should present their claims against the federal agency for payment by mail to the above address.

Liquidation will commence on 23 May 2011.

A copy of the resolution for voluntary liquidation may be inspected at the federal agency at the above address during regular business hours.

This notice is published pursuant to 12 USC 182 and 12 USC 3102.

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011020829 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/02/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LEPROSY ASSOCIATION OF GURU NANAK. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: LEPROSY ASSOCIATION OF GURU NANAK, INC. 2443 18TH ST SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:LEPROSY ASSOCIATION OF GURU NANAK; PRESIDENT . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/02/2011. 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 05/10/2011, 05/17/2011, 05/24/2011, 05/31/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011020828 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/02/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as REAL PROPERTY GROUP . The full name of registrant(s) is/are: JOSEPH PALAZZZOLO 948 20TH STREET, UNIT E SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/24/2001. /s/: JOSEPH PALAZZOLO;; OWNER . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/02/2011. 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 05/10/2011, 05/17/2011, 05/24/2011, 05/31/2011.





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Open Tuesday May 24
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

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4 Bed, 3.5 Bath
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11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Open Sunday May 29
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Properties
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Late-May 2011

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$2,062,500	$2,400,000
North of Montana	=	$3,237,500	$1,384,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,995,000	$850,000
South of Wilshire	=	$775,000	$464,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,106,500	$569,000
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