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MAY 26-27, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 168

Santa Monica Daily Press

WHY IS IT HOVERING OVERHEAD?
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND ISSUE

Appeal process begins for pot testing lab

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CIVIC CENTER Proceedings got underway Friday morning for an appeal of a business license denial that shut down Santa Monica's first, and perhaps last, medical marijuana testing facility.

City Hall denied Richard McDonald a license for his business, Golden State Collective Cannabis Laboratories, in March after a review process that took over three months.

According to city officials, McDonald failed to provide proof that he and his two staff members could legally handle, store and process marijuana at the facility at 3110 Pennsylvania Ave. in Santa Monica, despite the fact that all three have recommendations to possess and consume medical marijuana.

McDonald and his attorney, Roger Diamond, argued that officials in the business license division played a "shell game" in an effort to derail Golden State Collective by first asking for different information each time they communicated with the business

SEE WEED PAGE 10

SMFD gets top marks

Insurance rates could go down, officials say

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Property owners may get a nice surprise on their insurance bills after the Santa Monica Fire Department received high marks for the quality of its fire protection.

ISO, a company that gathers information about insurance risk, gave the SMFD its highest rating, a designation that could drive down insurance costs for property owners.

ISO uses its Public Protection Classification Program (PPC) to rank the 46,000 fire departments it inspects on a scale from one to 10 based on the quality of fire protection that they provide.

A one designation represents top-notch protection, and a 10 means that there was effectively no fire protection provided.

Less than 1 percent of fire departments in the nation qualify for an ISO rating of 1, said Santa Monica Deputy Fire Chief Bruce Davis.

"It's a huge feather in our cap for the department and the city. The city is what supports us, and gives us time to do our training, personnel, the water system that we have. It's the [City] Council and the community that supports that and makes that happen."

The rating impacts insurance rates because companies evaluate their rates based on how much risk there is to a property.

SEE FIRE PAGE 8



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

SAVING: **Fire fighters pack up after putting out a fire at Santa Monica High School earlier this year.**

Local man cops plea in text, sex case

BY SAMANTHA MASUNAGA
Special to the Daily Press

AIRPORT COURTHOUSE A 32-year-old Santa Monica man pleaded no contest Wednesday to two counts of lewd and lascivious acts with a child under the age of 14 as part of a plea bargain with prosecutors, authorities said.

Brian Anthony Marks faced nine criminal charges for allegedly carrying on a sexual relationship with a 13-year-old girl, whom he met on a mobile texting application similar to a chatroom.

The pair met in September, and Marks allegedly developed an ongoing sexual relationship with the teen. Her parents learned of the relationship and notified police.

Marks is expected to be sentenced to five years in prison on June 13 as part of the plea agreement, a clerk with the Los Angeles Superior Court said Friday. The maximum he would have faced was eight years per charge.

Marks was arrested at his home in early January by investigators from the Santa Monica Police Department's Youth and Family Services Unit.

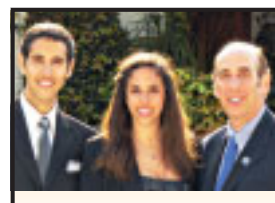
He was initially booked at the Santa Monica Jail for lewd and lascivious acts with a child and unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor. He plead not guilty and posted a $500,000 bond.

Police said Marks had sex with the teen at his Santa Monica home.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, May 26, 2012

Emotional transcendence
TAG Gallery
2525 Michigan Ave., 5 p.m.
TAG Gallery is hosting an opening reception for its latest exhibition, "Emotional Transcendence." The showcase will feature works by three L.A.-based artists: Shelley Adler, Shelley Lazarus and Joan Vaupen. The trio of artists will be presenting an eclectic blend of pieces: Adler tackles issues associated with the word "dread," Lazarus draws from personal experiences and Vaupen experiments with time, form and color. For more information, call (310) 829-9556.

Dedicated
Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 7:30 p.m.
The Santa Monica Symphony presents a concert in honor of retiring Principal Al Friedenberg, who worked at Grant Elementary School for 17 years. Rich Capparela — from KUSC — will present Friedenberg, who will open the concert by conducting "The Star Spangled Banner." Other music on the program includes the overture to "The Merry Wives of Windsor," the Grieg Piano Concerto and Schumann's Symphony No. 3, "The Rhenish." Admission is free, and the concert is open to all ages. For more information, call (310) 395-6330.

Seasons of love
SMC Theater Arts Main Stage
1900 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.
The Santa Monica College Theatre Arts and Music departments present "Rent," the Broadway smash hit musical that describes the struggles of a group of young Bohemians during the rise of AIDS. The production won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1996, in addition to 10 Tony Awards. Shows will run until June 3. For tickets, or for more information, call (310) 434-4319, or visit www.smc.edu/theatre.

Sunday, May 27, 2012

Crafty corner
Santa Monica Airport
3100 to 3000 Airport Ave., 8 a.m. — 3 p.m.
Considered one of the 10 best flea markets, the Santa Monica Airport Antique Market opens for business every first and fourth Sunday of the month — rain or shine. Products range from Victorian to mid-century antiques and can include furniture, paintings, jewelry and vintage clothing. For vendor or customer information, call (323) 933-2511.

Pico de Mayo
Santa Monica Civic Center
333 Civic Center Dr., 12 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Join the city of Santa Monica, the Pico Improvement Association and Buy Local Santa Monica for the first Pico de Mayo festival. Highlights will include food, live music, art and more.

Bust a move
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 2 p.m.
Come support the arts by checking out four world premieres. Los Angeles Ballet will present contemporary pieces by choreographers Sonya Tayeh, Josie Walsh, Stacey Tookey and one other to be announced. For seating and ticketing information, call (310) 998-7782.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MAIN STREET

Parade preparations underway

Organizers of the 2012 Fourth of July Parade put out a call for volunteers and sponsors Friday.

Current sponsors include RAND Corp., Pacific Park and the Santa Monica Daily Press.

The event starts at 9:30 a.m. on July 4 in front of the Civic Center and will continue down Main Street to the Venice border. This year's theme is science and technology.

The parade is sponsored by the Ocean Park Association and The Buy Local Santa Monica Committee. The connection is intended to link local businesses with residents to celebrate the community, said Jennifer Taylor, chair of Buy Local and acting economic development manager for City Hall.

Applications to participate in the parade will be available on June 1 at www.opa-sm.org/parade. For information on volunteering opportunities, e-mail volunteer@opa-sm.org. For sponsorship, contact sponsor@opa-sm.org.

SAMANTHA MASUNAGA



DOMINANCE

Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

Senior pitcher Anthony Carrillo (center) from New Roads is congratulated by his teammates after they beat Pacifica Christian Friday in the third round of the Division 7 Southern Section playoffs. New Roads won 6-1 thanks to a strong outing from Carrillo, who pitched a complete game, striking out 14 and only giving up three hits.



File photo

PARTY ROCKIN': **Thousands take to the pier and beach for the Twilight Concert Series every summer.**

Pier concert series line-up announced

BY SAMANTHA MASUNAGA
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER Jamaican harmonies, indie rock and salsa music will roll with the crashing waves at this year's Twilight Concert Series.

The Santa Monica Pier's free summer tradition will begin July 5, with the beach-appropriate songs of surfer/singer Donavon Frankenreiter and the soul music of Jeff Young's Song & Dance Society.

Concerts will be held every Thursday for nine consecutive weeks and span musical genres from around the world.

This year will mark the 28th anniversary of the event's inception.

"We are nearing 30 years on a treasured Santa Monica legacy," said Mayor Richard Bloom. "Free summer concerts on the Santa Monica Pier are woven into the fabric of our identity, and the continued contributions and support from the southern California community demonstrate the overwhelming desire to preserve and celebrate this remarkable cultural institution."

Performances range from a reggae-themed concert on July 12 to an indie line-up July 19. In August, one concert will feature jam sessions with musicians from "Cirque du Soleil."

HERE'S THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS YEAR'S SERIES:

- **July 12**: Jamaican harmony trio The Mighty Diamonds and Los Angeles-based reggae band The Lions
- **July 19**: Los Angeles-based indie acts HAIM and Wildcat! Wildcat!
- **July 26**: Organic jam rocker Jackie Greene
- **Aug. 2**: Australian country singer-songwriter Kasey Chambers
- **Aug. 9**: PARADE Collective – Jam sessions featuring musicians from Cirque du Soleil
- **Aug. 16**: African rock from Mali's Amadou & Mariam paired with Portland Scene-stealers Y La Bamba
- **Aug. 23**: Cuban singer-songwriter Alex Cuba and the salsa dance sounds of Lucky 7 Mambo
- **Aug. 30**: New Orleans' Hot 8 Brass Band and Louisiana funk band The Gumbo Brothers
- **Sept. 6**: Southern California Indie break-out act Best Coast

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Diversify

Editor:

As reported, the corporate tourism industry claims it supports 11,400 jobs and brings $1.39 billion to the local economy ("Tourists account for $1.39B in Santa Monica in '11," May 17). How many of these jobs are held by Santa Monica residents? How much of this money ends up in the pockets of Santa Monica residents?

Not much. The overwhelming majority of jobs in the hospitality industry are unskilled or low-skill labor, offering paltry pay, no job security and little opportunity for advancement. Employees in these jobs are usually forced to live in less costly areas and commute to Santa Monica, adding to the city's traffic burden. And few of the properties and businesses catering to tourists are locally owned. Most income is ultimately transferred elsewhere.

All over the world, the tourism industry likes to down play its negative impact on local communities. It tends to drive up the cost of living and doing business, and it favors large corporate chains over small local businesses. Businesses in tourist areas tend to cater to more lucrative tourists rather than to the needs of local residents. Customer service declines because business no longer depends on positive word-of-mouth by local return customers. The comparatively smaller tourism industry here is the reason why Santa Monica offers a better quality of life to its residents than Miami Beach or the Las Vegas Strip.

The tax revenue brought in by tourism is undoubtedly important, but is small compared to what could be achieved with high-tech industries requiring advanced skills. Switzerland learned this a long time ago. Its successful economy consists of a diversified mix of high-tech manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, engineering, banking, tourism, insurance and financial services. Although it is one of the world's most famous tourist destinations, the sector generates only 2.7 percent of Switzerland's GDP.

Santa Monica, and the entire southern California region, should strive to achieve a similarly diversified mix and favor highly qualified labor and locally owned businesses and investments.

Reinhard Kargl
Santa Monica

Nature has the answers

Editor:

Pets are subject to their owner's whim. They have no say whether they wish to be neutered or not. Cats may not run outside of their homes in Santa Monica, which explains the excessive obesity in many. I dare not to delve into the distinct possibilities for which owners "use" their pets. The overpopulation of cats and dogs represents the same ecological disaster as the overpopulation of humans does.

My recent visit to Costa Rica was prompted by my fascination of jaguars and big cats in general. Inquiring about zoos in Costa Rica, I was told that there are none as the country believes in their freedom in their natural habitat. I herewith issue kudos to the people in addition to their decision not to have a national military establishment.

In India where 600 pound tigers sometimes stray into populated areas and kill people, the police is not permitted to euthanize them. The tiger is tranquilized and moved back to the wilderness. Not so in Santa Monica. The local police with multiple shots killed a frightened young mountain lion in the city to "protect" the public ("Cops to review mountain lion shooting, death," May 24).

In conclusion, pets and other animals ought to be allowed to live a natural life in their natural environment in balance with the laws of nature. Human interference is almost always detrimental.

Jack Kirks
Santa Monica

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On the Beat

NRO SCOTT MCGEE

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The cops' eye in the sky

Q: RECENTLY A POLICE HELICOPTER was circling around my neighborhood for at least 45 minutes. How can I find out what the helicopter was looking for and what agency it was from?

A: The continuous and long-term presence of a police helicopter circling over a neighborhood may indicate something of significance occurring. This could be anything from the search for a missing child, to checking the rooftops of a burglary alarm activation, to actively assisting ground officers in their hunt for a criminal suspect on the loose. One of the best resources for obtaining timely and relevant information regarding such evolving incidents is through the Santa Monica Alert system. "SM Alerts" is a notification system that allows city government to contact subscribers with information in the event of an emergency, a health and safety concern, traffic alerts, or significant or critical police activity. Anyone can sign up to receive the alerts on their mobile, work, or home phone, via text, e-mail, and more. The enrollment is free at SMAlerts.net. This is a very helpful tool to keep the public in the loop concerning significant public safety concerns.

Another way to find out what happened in your neighborhood is to call or e-mail your area's neighborhood resource officer (santamonicapd.org/nro) or by contacting the Community Relations Office at (310) 458-8474. He or she will be glad to research the incident and provide you with details after the fact. During an evolving incident, we discourage citizens from calling the police department merely out of curiosity, as this can tie up phone lines needed for incoming critical calls for service.

A good general rule to follow for when you observe evolving police activity, whether that be the presence of numerous police cars, or the ongoing presence of an orbiting police helicopter, is to remain inside your home or business, and secure your doors and windows. If you should observe anyone or anything suspicious or out of the ordinary (such as a person trying to hide, or a vehicle rapidly fleeing the area), call 911 and report your observations, as this may be related to the police activity.

Law enforcement and public safety aircraft have been indispensable tools for modern and effective policing, particularly in this populous area we know as the Westside. With the increase of assaults upon police officers by criminal suspects attempting their escape, we feel fortunate to have access to airborne resources which provide police officers with an enhanced tactical advantage, as well as affording them with an increased margin of safety.

The SMPD does have limited access to its own rented helicopter for various pre-planned events and other public safety operations. However, when our agency requires air support for a rapidly evolving emergency, we presently must rely on the air resources of either the LAPD or the Los Angeles County Sheriff, and request them to assist us to the extent they are willing and available. These helicopters are conspicuously painted and marked as law enforcement. Some of LAPD's helicopters are painted with a black and white scheme, others with a light gray scheme. L.A. County Sheriff's helicopters are painted green and yellow. The helicopter used by the SMPD is currently a black and gold Robinson R44 model.

Most law enforcement helicopters are equipped with thermal imaging technology, which can detect criminal suspects hiding on rooftops or concealed in vegetation. Many police copters are also equipped with a stolen vehicle locating system known as "Lo-Jack." The recent police helicopter activity you inquired about for your neighborhood involved an LAPD helicopter crew who had used "Lo-Jack" to detect a stolen vehicle, and was actively looking for a possible suspect. While the stolen vehicle was ultimately located and returned to its registered owner, the suspect was not found.

A GOOD GENERAL RULE TO FOLLOW FOR WHEN YOU OBSERVE EVOLVING POLICE ACTIVITY, WHETHER THAT BE THE PRESENCE OF NUMEROUS POLICE CARS, OR THE ONGOING PRESENCE OF AN ORBITING POLICE HELICOPTER, IS TO REMAIN INSIDE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS, AND SECURE YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS.

The pilot and crew of any law enforcement helicopter are experienced sworn police officers who have worked several years on street patrol before taking to the sky. The particular air crew which operates the SMPD helicopter also knows the specific neighborhood crime trends and trouble spots to keep an eye on. The mission of these airborne officers is no different than the overall public safety mission, it's just their vehicle has changed.

This column was written by Neighborhood Resource Officer **SCOTT MCGEE** (Beat 5: Montana Avenue to north city limits, Ocean Avenue to 26th Street). He can be reached at (424) 200-0685 or scott.mcgee@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

Trimming the fat

City Hall revealed last week that it expects to be operating with a $4.6 million deficit by 2016.

This past week, Q-line asked:
What do you think city officials should consider cutting to close the projected gap and why?
Here are your responses:

"COMRADES, WITH A $600 MILLION bloated budget you should be able to chop off at least a third. Of course you will have to do without those wonderful amenities like the Miramar Hotel scam, light rail scam, Papermate development scam, the endless street closures for useless parades and self-absorbed runners and bicyclists. Look at the unending development to bring us into compliance with the party's nihilist town view. Drop all of the bourgeois support for the nonprofits like Pico Youth & Family, Heal the Bay, bum support, Blue Bus, school district and SMC. I bet you could save millions if you let these draining of taxpayer money communes fend for themselves. The commissars at City Hall love themselves, especially when spending hard-earned money of Santa Monica sheep. The party will push a new tax promotion for the town's bovine ignorant. The only plus will be of spreading the waste products."

"I KNOW WE HAVE TO CUT SOME money, but I hope it's not going to be for the teachers. They're the bastion of education. Without an education, children don't learn a bloody thing. Cut the corporate stuff. Way too bloated, and give more to the teachers."

"MY SUGGESTION TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE budget problem would be to discontinue having weekly street sweeping in Santa Monica in residential areas, at least. I think we could do it every other week and it would be fine. It seems that when the street sweepers are doing their work, it's just tiny bits of paper and things that need picking up. I think local residents could do it on their own without the expense of a union driver and machines. I think that would help alleviate the problem. It's a small one, but every little bit helps."

"STOP SPENDING ON NON-ESSENTIAL services, such as low-income housing, the corrupt PYFC, $47 million parks, excessive police and fire benefits/pensions and letting the anti-everything Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights run this city. Given the extremely high fees and property/sales taxes charged by this city, it is a crime we don't have a huge surplus. My only question — is this due to corruption or incompetence?"

"I THINK CITY OFFICIALS SHOULD CONSIDER cutting their salaries, car allowances and expense accounts. They should also consider never using high-priced consultants. It would be a good idea to get rid of the meter maids, also."

"DO THE MATH — A DEFICIT OF $4.6 million on expenditures of $624 million for this year's budget works out to less than 1 percent. Actually, it is 0.7 percent. If our City Council cannot reduce spending by that small amount across the board, then it verifies that they do not know math and should not be in control of our city."

"IF THE CITY WANTS TO SAVE MONEY, THEY can fire the idiots in charge of traffic. With their getting rid of lanes, bad signal timing, curb extensions and all the other nonsense they do, it is obvious to anybody with even half a brain ... that they are incompetent idiots. Mo [and] Larry could do a better job. Even Homer Simpson could."

"THEY SHOULD START WITH CUTTING their own salaries. If they can't live within their own budget constraints, then they haven't been doing their job. Take a salary decrease, or be fired."

"FIRST, THE CITY COUNCIL NEEDS TO make some tough decisions about what we can actually afford. A new library for the Pico Neighborhood is a good start. There is no good reason to have another library when there is one roughly three or four blocks away. Spending millions building and operating it annually is another drain on our finances. Another area would be homeless services. This city spends millions every year on homeless services. While it is admirable to help the less fortunate, we are already doing more than other cities nearby and it's time for them to pick up the slack. If that's not agreeable, then cut recreation programs. Then look at pensions and salaries for new employees. There are plenty of options, but let's see if the elected officials have the guts to make the tough choices."

"STOP BUILDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING and stop giving money away to Community Corporation of Santa Monica. These projects do nothing for this city but bring in people from other parts of Los Angeles who most likely do not work here or have any connections to this town. We have plenty of affordable housing already. Let the nonprofits that specialize in this do the work and find their own funding. Stop shaking down City Hall."

"EASY, SELL OFF ALL THAT LAND THE city bought Downtown when it wanted to build more parking. Now that parking is evil and everyone is being forced to walk, bike or take the smelly Big Blue Bus, there's no need for all that land. The city could get tens of millions of dollars for that prime real estate, and we wouldn't have to make any drastic cuts to services."

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Highs and Lows of the Criminal Justice System – Drug Offenses

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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4:00-5:00 pm (1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal Law, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman

TUESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)

4:00pm-5:00pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month). Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, fraud, personal injury and employment law.

5:00 - 7:00 pm Wrongful termination, harassment; discrimination; wage and hour ;denial of unemployment benefits; and general counseling on issues in the workplace w/ attorney Nina Baumler. (Call for Appointment)

WEDNESDAY

11:00am-3:00pm Special Education Law (By appointment only. Also available by appointment on Mondays or Fridays from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm) Attorney Alison Arkin has extensive experience working with parfents of special needs children with a wide range of disabilities, and can help them obtain appropriate services from both school districts and regional centers. She has experience with every level of the process including obtaining appropriate assessements, representation at IEP meeting, mediations, settlement negotiations and hearings.

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)

4:00-5:00pm (By appointment only) Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injuries cases with Attorney and Legal Grind founder Jeffrey J. Hughes

FRIDAY

4:00-5:00pm (2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with Attorney & former Deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman. By Appointment only

4:00-5:00pm (1st & 3rd Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.

SATURDAY

10am-11:30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday/month) Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills & Living Trusts, Will Contests, Probate, Elder Law Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, Construction Contracts Family Law including Divorce, Child/Spousal Support, Prenuptial Agreements, Personal Injury, Accidents, Premises and Product Liability, & Legal Malpractice with Attorney Richard Ruman. (By appointment only-Please call Call Dick at 310.273.7474)

12PM TO 2PM Personal Injury free consultation; Regular consultation on all areas of Estate Planning, Landlord/Tenant rights, Mortgage Litigation, Premises Liability, Construction Accidents, and Products Liability with attorney SandeepAgarwal. (By appointment only-Please call Mr. Agarwal at 866.844.4125)

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New packaging offers wine to go for picnic season

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
For The Associated Press

Enjoying good wine in the great outdoors is fun, but toting glass bottles on the trail is no picnic.

Enter the new crop of alternatively packaged wines in cartons, cans and other trail-ready options.

Sure, for actual hydration you'll want to tote along water or whatever energy drink you favor. But for that moment when the hike is done, the mountain bike path conquered, or you're just relaxing and grilling a few steaks on a lazy Sunday, these wines make it easy to blend libations with explorations.

As Brad Day, a wine lover and outdoorsman who runs the outdoor activities website WeekendSherpa.com puts it, "It adds a nice element to sitting back and enjoying the natural surroundings."

So here are some wines that make good traveling partners.

PACK A POUCH

The Climber is billed as "all-terrain wine transport," and it is. Available in chardonnay or cabernet sauvignon, this wine comes in a foil pouch with a hole punched at the top so it can be clipped to a backpack with a carabiner hook.

It shouldn't come as a big surprise that The Climber comes from Clif Family Winery founded by Gary Erickson and wife Kit Crawford, the people behind the Clif energy bar. The Climber is widely available and also can be found at the Clif winery tasting room Vela Vino in St. Helena, a popular spot with bicyclists.

The pouch holds the equivalent of two regular bottles and has a suggested retail of $17, so the wine is light on your wallet as well as your pack.

The winery works with the group 1 Percent for the Planet, and 1 percent of Climber sales go to charity, in this case a partnership with Trees for the Future. What to pair with it? Gorp is good, or if you want to go a little more upscale you might try the Smoked Paprika Almonds from the Gary & Kit's Napa Valley line of snacks.

HAVE A CAN-DO ATTITUDE

You may be more used to seeing beer in cans, but there are a few wines available in aluminum. A fun wine to try is Sophia minis from the Francis Ford Coppola winery. This is the winery's Sophia blanc de blancs sparkling wine that is a blend of pinot noir, sauvignon blanc and muscat, but in a pink 187-milliliter can, complete with a tiny straw (suggested retail $5).

Another option is FLASQ wines from JT Wines. These are sold in 375-milliliter aluminum half bottles that chill quickly and are recyclable. Available in chardonnay, merlot and a cuvee blanc (a white blend), they come with a suggested retail of $5.99 to $7.99.

Finally... a wine you can drop.

BET ON A BOX

Several wines are available in cartons and a reliable line is Bandit wines from Napa Valley winemaker Joel Gott. Available in several varietals and blends, including sangria, the wines are available in 1-liter or 500-milliliter boxes and are priced at around $9 for the liter.

Or, if you're going to be gone for a while or have a crowd with you, you could kick it old-school and go with one of the bag-in-box wines that hold the equivalent of four bottles. Day recalls going for a backpacking trip with friends and toting along some Black Box Wines, one of the pioneers in putting quality wine in a box.

Since every ounce counts when you're hiking the trails, they disposed of the box and carried only the bag. The hike was hiked. The wine was drunk. And when they were done, they blew the bag back up to make a pillow. Now that's a versatile varietal.

To find some good wines for on the go, check out these websites

www.weekendsherpa.com
www.franciscoppolawinery.com/wine/sofia/mini
www.climberpouch.com
www.flasqwines.com
www.banditwines.com
www.blackboxwines.com

City of Santa Monica

Memorial Day Trash Schedule

There is no collection on Monday, May 28th.

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Tuesday's routes will be collected on Wednesday.
Wednesday's routes will be collected on Thursday.
Thursday's routes will be collected on Friday.
Friday's routes will be collected on Saturday.

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The Re-View

Merv Hecht
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo by John Blanchette

THE MAN: **Alain Cohen, the Tunisian born, French educated chef at Got Kosher, thinks that Tunisian food ranks as one of the great world cuisines.**

History with a side of schnitzel

THE ACTUAL NAME THAT EVERYONE USES, "Got Kosher," doesn't really do justice to it, because it's not like other kosher restaurants. The bakery is very special, and the restaurant serves authentic Tunisian foods.

And that's what makes it interesting. I'm talking about Got Kosher Café.

The great cuisines of the world are Chinese and French. But we also love Indian, Mexican, Japanese, Thai and others. Alain Cohen, the Tunisian born, French educated chef at Got Kosher, thinks that Tunisian food ranks as one of the great world cuisines. And he is doing a good job of proving it.

His story starts in 586 B.C., when the Jews were expelled by the Romans to distant parts of the Roman Empire. Some of the kohens, or priests, were exiled to the small island of Djerba, off the coast of Tunisia. There the Jews prospered, as did their recipes, including the family of Alain's mom. When the French were forced out of Tunisia after the Algerian war and Tunisian independence, his mother and father moved to Paris, where they opened a restaurant.

Alain grew up in that environment, and like many young men, decided to get away from France and the restaurant business and his parents and move to Hollywood to become a great filmmaker. He did produce one film about Djerba, but ended up in the restaurant business.

And the restaurant is something special, but not the decor. It's a plain storefront with 30 not very comfortable seats placed too close together. Most of the rented space is used for a large kitchen which supplies kosher food to a number of institutions, and family take-out dinners in the Jewish neighborhood. But if you do find an empty table, the food is worth it, and if not it's a great place for take-out foods.

So what's so special about the food?

There are so many interesting dishes that it's hard to list them all. First are the items in the display cabinets, such as all the pita dips we love, hummus, baba ghanoush, olive tapenade, and a few more. All are extremely flavorful. Next to them are unusually good desserts: honeyed pastries like baklava, French and Tunisian macaroons, lemon tarts and many more. The miracle is that they are all dairy free. But you would never know that from tasting them. One of the secrets is the use of coconut milk in place of cream.

Then there are the dishes we are used to seeing in a north African restaurant — couscous, chicken or lamb tagines, roast chicken, and breik (or brik); a thin crepe filled will tuna (the flavor of canned tuna in olive oil) capers and a lightly poached egg infused through it.

Finally, some dishes we don't see so often. There is the Tunisian sandwich served at lunchtime — an excellent roll filled with the same tuna flavors, hard-boiled egg, potato, preserved lemon, olives, capers, tomato relish, peppers and Israeli salad; a surprisingly tasty combination.

There are delicious brisket sandwiches, either spicy or sweet. Chachouk, served in a skillet with potato, onion, peppers, merguez sausage and a poached egg on top; and the mixed grill, which combines beef, lamb, beef heart, sweetbreads, merguez sausage and other grilled meats.

The only drawbacks I experienced was the pita bread, which seemed too soft for dipping, and the harissa. The harissa is made in-house, but lacks texture and spice. The French-made Harissa for sale in small cans in various exotic markets in town is much better, and some of the food cries out for the real thing.

The food is very good, and especially interesting. But nothing can be more interesting than a few minutes with Chef Alain talking about Jewish history. That alone is worth the trip.

If you go

Got Kosher?
8914 W. Pico Blvd
Los Angeles, Calif.
90035
(310) 858-1920
www.gotkosherinc.com/

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com

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FIRE
FROM PAGE 1

Better fire protection means less risk, which can lower insurance costs.

However, insurers use a variety of different tools to assess risk, of which ISO's rating is only one, said Peter Moraga of the Insurance Information Network of California, a nonprofit media relations group for the property and casualty insurance industry.

The new ranking moves SMFD from a two to a one. When ISO came out to rank the department in 2010, it missed the top spot by just 1.73 points.

It was frustrating, Davis said, but fire fighters took a step back to look at where they needed work and set about fixing the problems.

ISO calculates its rankings on three categories that are worth different weights, Moraga said.

That first category is the strength of the emergency telephone system including technology, operators, supervision and staffing, which is worth 10 percent of the overall score.

The quality of the water system, including the pressure that comes out of fire hydrants, accounts for 40 percent of the score, and the fire department constitutes the remaining 50 percent.

SMFD focused on the changes it could make to its own internal processes, specifically adding new equipment to its engines and updating its data system to improve its record keeping.

Then, they invited ISO inspectors back.

The department already beats the required 6-minute-20-second average response time to fires by almost a minute. On average, a SMFD unit will be on scene within 5 minutes and 30 seconds of a distress call.

It's good news at a time when local news agencies are reporting severe dispatch delays within the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Within three or four months, SMFD will have new decals for its rigs to show off the rating.

Despite its success, the department will find other areas in which it can improve, said SMFD Chief Scott Ferguson.

"We endeavor to continue to improve," he said. "We're not resting on our laurels."

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PEEP POSTERS

Fabian Lewkowicz *FabianLewkowicz.com*

People admire the vintage movie posters at the California Heritage Museum Thursday during the opening reception of 'Gotta Dance! The Art of the Dance Movie Poster,' a special exhibition of vintage, rarely seen movie posters from the collection of creative director/designer Mike Kaplan. The exhibition runs through September.



WEED
FROM PAGE 1

and then not defining what documentation it would take to satisfy the business license requirements.

"I followed your flowchart, I did what you told me to do," McDonald said.

The appeal is part of McDonald's larger legal strategy currently playing out in Los Angeles Superior Court.

McDonald filed a lawsuit on March 16 in an attempt to force City Hall into issuing the business a license, but the judge sent it back because McDonald hadn't tried to get the license outright through the appeal process.

McDonald applied for a business license on Dec. 16, 2011. It was officially denied on March 21, 2012, and in the meantime he received two letters from the Department of Finance asking for proof that he could legally handle marijuana.

That's important to McDonald's business, which hinges on taking samples of marijuana from dispensaries and collectives and testing them.

McDonald and his team look for toxic substances, like pesticides, and also for information about the marijuana's potency and the effects that the user can expect when they smoke or otherwise consume the pot.

The first letter asked for proof that McDonald's business was legal under both state and federal law, an impossible standard in a country where the federal government considers marijuana a dangerous drug on par with party drugs like Ecstasy or hallucinogens like magic mushrooms.

The second sought proof from either a state or federal agency.

The department did not specify what would constitute proof, but McDonald never responded directly to the letters with any additional information, said Haley Favre-Smith, acting business license supervisor with City Hall.

When McDonald didn't respond, she recommended to Finance Director Gigi Decavalles-Hughes that the department deny the business license application.

Whether or not McDonald's status as a medical marijuana patient would allow him to proceed with his business is unclear.

In the March 16 lawsuit, McDonald and Diamond claimed that the testing taking place at Golden State Collective would fall under the purview of California law that allows patients with recommendations from their doctors to grow and use marijuana.

Those patients, and their primary caregivers, can get together in collectives to grow marijuana and handle certain quantities.

When the Los Angeles Superior Court sent McDonald back to go through the appeals process, it also dismissed a claim that the testing facility was an "authorized use" under those laws.

The court asserted that the case law Diamond cited in the lawsuit didn't specifically allow for that kind of facility, and previous decisions from the California Court of Appeal have resisted attempts by pot advocates to widen the interpretation of the Compassionate Use Act, the voter-approved initiative that legalized marijuana for medical use.

It could be difficult to stretch the act to encompass a testing business, said Bruce Margolin, attorney and director for the Los Angeles chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

"If you're a member of a collective, they can do all kinds of things — yoga, massage, whatever the collective wants to offer," he said. "If they want to offer testing to make sure it's quality controlled, that's within the scope."

Doing the testing for multiple dispensaries or collectives independently of those groups could be a stumbling block, Margolin said.

McDonald stated that he is willing to operate as a collective if that's a condition of the business license, but it may not be enough for City Hall.

Sgt. Saul Rodriguez of the Santa Monica Police Department testified that medical marijuana patients only had the right to consume the drug, not to process it or alter its chemical structure in any way.

"Your client only has the right to consume the marijuana, not test it," Rodriguez said.

If the SMPD felt that the work undertaken at the laboratory violated any law, be it local, state or federal, they would recommend against issuing the business license, he said.

Diamond and Deputy City Attorney Yibin Shen will now get the opportunity to submit closing statements. Those will be due on staggered deadlines until June 22, at which point the hearing is officially closed.

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Judge rules Malibu Lagoon restoration to proceed

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU, Calif. California parks officials say a project to restore circulation to the brackish waters of the Malibu Lagoon can proceed, despite objections from opponents.

State parks and recreation spokesman Roy Stearns says the 1st District Court of Appeal in San Francisco denied a stay Thursday that was blocking the start of the project.

The 13-acre lagoon is on one of the state's most popular and scenic stretches of coast, where Malibu Creek meets the Pacific Ocean at Surfrider Beach.

An effort to restore the wetlands in 1983 dredged out a lagoon and created three channels but also resulted in stagnant water.

The multimillion-dollar plan would reconfigure the channels into one wider channel that scientists believe will allow for better water flow and encourage a larger variety of birds and marine life.

Report: LAPD seeks Manson family member recordings

BY LINDA DEUTSCH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Police want to review audio recordings of conversations between a Manson family member and his attorney as detectives search for information about unsolved killings.

Los Angeles detectives seeking the material are merely practicing due diligence after receiving a tip that the recordings and other items in the estate of now-deceased lawyer Bill Boyd, who once represented Charles "Tex" Watson, were becoming available, LAPD spokesman Andrew Smith said.

"This whole thing has gotten totally blown out of proportion," Smith said, commenting on a report that first appeared on KNBC-TV.

Homicide detective Dan Jenks and Lt. Yana Horvatich, who made the request, have no specific information on what might be in the recordings, but they want to examine them, Smith said.

In their letter, they said they believed Watson discussed unsolved murders with his lawyer.

The audio recordings were previously made available by Watson to the co-author of his book, "Will You Die for Me? The Man Who Killed for Charles Manson Tells His Own Story." The book contains no information on unsolved murders.

The book features gruesome, detailed account of Watson's role in the killings of actress Sharon Tate and six other people. It also discusses Manson's murderous plans for those killings and includes sections on the formation of the Manson Family cult, Watson's family history in Texas, and his complete devotion to Manson.

He said he agreed to murder for Manson without question and felt no remorse afterward. He also noted that he was under the influence of LSD during most of the time he was with Manson.

Boyd, a lawyer hired to represent Watson by his parents, conducted a long fight to prevent his extradition to California from Texas, where Watson went after the murders.

By the time Watson arrived, he was not speaking and was ruled to be insane. He was committed to a mental institution for a year before he was found fit to stand trial separately from Manson and three women followers.

Watson, now 65, was convicted of the seven murders. All four defendants were sentenced to death but saw their sentences commuted to life when the death penalty was briefly outlawed in 1972.

Testimony at the Manson trial cast Watson as Manson's chief lieutenant, the cruel killer who confronted the pregnant Tate and her friends and announced, "'I'm the devil and I'm here to do the devil's work."

Police requested about eight hours of recordings of Boyd and' Watson that were made when Watson returned to Texas after the killings, according to KNBC-TV. The request was made in a letter dated March 19 and was included in a U.S. bankruptcy filing involving Boyd's law firm in Texas, the station said.

"The LAPD has information that Mr. Watson discussed additional unsolved murders committed by followers of Charles Manson," said the letter written to a bankruptcy court trustee in Tyler, Texas. "It is requested that the original recordings be given to the LAPD in order to determine if information regarding unsolved murders was included in the recordings."

A hearing on the request is scheduled Tuesday in Texas. Smith said Los Angeles detectives will not be attending the hearing.

"They've made the request," he said. "If it is granted, they will examine the materials."

KNBC says the audio remained private until Watson authorized its sale to his co-author to help cover unpaid legal fees.

In November, Watson was denied parole from for the 16th time and ordered to continue serving his life sentence. He married and divorced in prison and has four children from conjugal visits.







Calif. defies order to turn over execution drug

BY PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO California on Friday joined other states in defying a federal government order to turn over a key execution drug.

At issue is the drug sodium thiopental, one of three drugs California and dozens of other states use in lethal injections. It puts the inmate to sleep before fatal doses of two other drugs are delivered. California and others have been purchasing the drug oversees since the United States' sole manufacturer ceased production of the anesthetic in 2011.

U.S. District Judge Richard Leon in March ruled that the Food and Drug Administration erred in allowing the prisons to import the foreign-made drug. The judge ordered the FDA to confiscate all foreign-made sodium thiopental and to warn prisons that it was now illegal to use the drug. The FDA followed the Washington D.C.-based judge's order and sent demand letters to prisons. But beginning with Nebraska on April 20, more than a dozen states have refused to comply with the FDA order.

On Friday, California joined the protest in a letter sent to the FDA. With 725 Death Row inmates, California has the highest number of condemned prisoners.

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation lawyer Benjamin Rice and the other states with foreign-bought sodium thiopental contend they aren't bound by the ruling made by a federal judge in Washington D.C. They also argue that the judge was wrong and urged the FDA to appeal.

"The CDCR is unaware of any laws or imperative that would require it to return the thiopental in question," Rice wrote Domenic Veneziano, director of the FDA's import operations. Rice wrote that subjecting lethal injection drugs to the same regulations designed to prevent illegal sales of controlled substances is a "strained interpretation" of the law.

FDA spokeswoman Shelly Burgess declined comment because the lawsuit at issue is still pending. The lawsuit was filed by death row inmates in three states

Local and state officials have been striving to restart executions in California since a judge blocked them in 2006 and ordered the state to overhaul its lethal injection process to ensure inmates don't suffer cruel and unusual harm. The state's efforts to resume executions in 2010 failed, in part, because its supply of sodium thiopental expired before it could lethally inject rapist-murderer Albert Brown. The state then turned to England-based pharmaceutical distributor Archimedes Pharma and purchased 521 grams of sodium thiopental.

Now, Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley is trying to force the issue anew. Cooley asking a judge to order the executions of Mitchell Carleton Sims and Tiequon Aundray Cox, both of whom have been on death row for more than 25 years and have exhausted their appeals. A hearing set for Friday for a judge to hear arguments was postponed until July 13.

Cooley, who is retiring after three terms, is the first district attorney in California to make the request and his attempt comes just months before voters decide whether to abolish capital punishment.

Cooley argues that the state doesn't need to use sodium thiopental and should scrap its three-drug cocktail. Instead, Cooley wants California to start using a single-drug method employed by other states. Gov. Jerry Brown recently ordered prison officials to explore that option.

Most single-drug states, including Texas, use pentobarbital. But last week Missouri said it would begin executing inmates with the drug propofol, the same drug that accidentally killed pop star Michael Jackson. Since adopting the one-drug protocol in 2009, Ohio has carried out 15 successful executions, according to court documents.

California has executed 13 inmates since it reinstated the death penalty in 1978.

Sims was sentenced to death in 1986 after being convicted of murdering a Glendale pizza deliveryman. Sims, 52, also faces a death sentence in South Carolina for murdering two co-workers.

Cox, 46, was a gang member who gunned down a grandmother, her daughter and two grandchildren in 1984. A 14-year-old boy hid in a closet, which authorities say saved his life.

Bill would require digital textbooks in California

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A bill that would require textbook publishers to make the same content available to California school districts in digital format has passed unanimously in the state Senate.

Lawmakers approved SB1154 by Republican Sen. Mimi Walters of Lake Forest on Friday.

Walters says her bill addresses the technology gap between California schools and those in the rest of the country. It also requires publishers to offer their content in sections so districts can buy only the parts they want.

The bill also allows school districts to create online digital textbook databases that students could access from anywhere.

Small publishers with fewer than 100 employees would be exempt from the requirement. The Association of American Publishers is the only listed opponent of the legislation.

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS
TO CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

The Santa Monica City Council is now accepting applications for appointment of members to the following City Boards and Commissions for terms ending on June 30, 2016:

Board/Commission	No. of Appts.
Airport Commission	1
Architectural Review Board (One position must be filled by an Architect)	2
Arts Commission	6
Building and Fire-Life Safety Commission (May be a State of California licensed registered architect, civil engineer/structural engineer, a licensed building contractor, a Certified Access Specialist, or a Registered Fire Protection Engineer)	2
Commission for the Senior Community	2
Commission on the Status of Women	2
Disabilities Commission (One position must be filled by a person with a self-identified disability)	3
Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.	3
Housing Commission	1
Landmarks Commission (One position must be filled by a Real Estate Licensee and one by a Registered Architect)	2
Library Board	1
Personnel Board (term ends on June 30, 2017)	1
Planning Commission	2
Recreation and Parks Commission	3
Social Services Commission	2

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income that may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's Office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.
Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/boards. All current applications on file will be considered.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, June 11, 2012.
Appointment to be made by City Council, June 12, 2012.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

What's an American Indian? Warren case stirs query

BY JESSE WASHINGTON
AP National Writer

What, exactly, makes someone American Indian? Even Indians themselves don't agree as they debate the case of Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren, whose disputed claim of Native American identity is shining a rare spotlight on the malleable nature of Indian heritage and the long history of murky claims to such ancestry.

Warren, a Harvard Law School professor and Democrat who is running in Massachusetts against Republican incumbent Sen. Scott Brown, was listed as Native American in several law school directories. Warren has said that her "family lore" described Indian ancestors, and the New England Genealogy Association said it found indications — but not proof — that Warren had a Cherokee great-great-great grandmother, which would make her 1/32 Indian.

"I'm proud of my heritage," Warren said Thursday. Asked how she knew it included Native Americans, she replied, "Because my mother told me so."

Her opponents question whether Warren chose this heritage to gain advantages available to Indians and other underrepresented groups in academia.

"Warren has zero evidence that she is at all Native American," said Brown's campaign manager, Jim Barnett. The genealogy association acknowledges that it found only secondary references to Cherokee family members, not primary sources such as marriage, birth or census records.

Among Native Americans, the varying opinions demonstrate that Indian identity is subjective even among Indians themselves.

When David Eugene Wilkins first saw Warren interviewed during her nomination to a federal post, he was smitten by her intelligence and politics. But when he heard about her claims of Indian ancestry, "I shook my head and said, 'Oh no.'"

"For us it was always about allegiance rather than biology or ancestry," said Wilkins, an enrolled member of the Lumbee tribe and professor of American Indian studies at the University of Minnesota.

"It's where you place your political, cultural, emotional allegiance. She lived her entire life and never had any association whatsoever with any community. So something doesn't wash for me," Wilkins said.

But David Treuer, an award-winning writer and Ojibwe Indian from Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota, said there is a difference between Indian identity and ancestry — you can have one without the other.

"An Indian identity is something someone claims for oneself; it is a matter of choice," Treuer wrote in a Washington Post essay titled, "Elizabeth Warren says she's Native American. So she is."

There are 566 federally recognized Native American tribes, each with its own rules for membership, according to the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs, or BIA. Some tribes require a "blood quantum" measurement of as much as one-half or one-quarter Indian ancestry; others require a certain place of birth or residence.

Wilkins, the professor, is married to a Navajo with many siblings. "I've asked them what defines a Navajo," he said. "One said you have to speak the language. Another said you have to live within our sacred mountains. Another said no, you have to take part in ceremonial life. All this in one family!"

According to census figures provided by the BIA, an estimated 4.5 million people identify themselves as American Indians or Alaska Natives, including those who say they are more than one race. But in a 2005 report, the most recent available, the BIA counted just 2 million enrolled tribal members — which means that fewer than half of all people claiming Indian heritage are recognized by a tribe.

"There's an old joke in this corner of Indian Country that if you meet someone who doesn't know anything about tribal affairs but claims they're Indian, they'll say they're Cherokee," Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton, a spokesperson for the Cherokee Nation, said by e-mail.

Warren grew up in Oklahoma, home of the 310,000-member Cherokee Nation, the largest Indian tribe. Warren does not claim official Cherokee membership, which is based on the "Dawes Rolls," a federal list of Cherokees in Oklahoma from the late 1800s and early 1900s. Many people have legitimate Cherokee ancestry but are not eligible for membership because their ancestors were not among those counted, Krehbiel-Burton said.

But "some people falsely claim Native heritage simply out of ignorance," Krehbiel-Burton said. "They've been told for years that they had a great-grandmother (or something similar) who was a Cherokee princess and assume that it's true."

Warren spoke of a similar oral tradition when she mentioned an heirloom photo of her grandfather: "My Aunt Bea has walked by that picture at least a thousand times (and) remarked that he — her father, my papaw — had high cheekbones like all of the Indians do."

Even President Barack Obama has an Indian story, about his maternal grandmother, who was nicknamed "Toot."

"If asked, Toot would turn her head in profile to show off her beaked nose, which, along with a pair of jet-black eyes, was offered as proof of Cherokee blood," Obama wrote in his memoir, "Dreams from My Father."

But eyes, noses and cheekbones are not the issue for Rhonda LeValdo, president of the Native American Journalists Association and an enrolled member of the Acoma Pueblo tribe.

"If you're going to claim it, you have to help your people out," says LeValdo. She had seen no evidence of such involvement by Warren, but said she didn't know enough details to judge Warren's claim.

LeValdo said there are many fakers: "A lot of people find some sort of romanticism in being Native American. They think of the warrior type, or the Pocohontas stereotype. They're just taken with the idea of it."

"But to a lot of our people who live this life, it's tough," she continued. "We deal with a lot of things. A lot of us feel like if you're going to claim it, you have to do something. Don't just use it when you want to use it."

Warren has been adamant that she did not seek any advantage from Native American heritage. Records show that she declined to apply for admission to Rutgers Law School under a minority student program and identified her race as "white" on an employment record at the University of Texas, where she worked from 1983 to 1987.

She left Texas for the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where a report on minority faculty listed Warren's name. Her ethnicity became a campaign issue when the Boston Herald reported that Harvard Law, which hired Warren in 1995, listed her as a minority when the school was under pressure to diversify the faculty.

Besides potentially influencing hiring or promotion, Indian identity can have other

SEE NATIVE PAGE 15

50 years on, fire still burns underneath Pa. town

BY MICHAEL RUBINKAM
Associated Press

CENTRALIA, Pa. Fifty years ago on Sunday, a fire at the town dump ignited an exposed coal seam, setting off a chain of events that eventually led to the demolition of nearly every building in Centralia — a whole community of 1,400 simply gone.

All these decades later, the Centralia fire still burns. It also maintains its grip on the popular imagination, drawing visitors from around the world who come to gawk at twisted, buckled Route 61, at the sulfurous steam rising intermittently from ground that's warm to the touch, at the empty, lonely streets where nature has reclaimed what coal-industry money once built.

It's a macabre story that has long provided fodder for books, movies and plays — the latest one debuting in March at a theater in New York.

Yet to the handful of residents who still occupy Centralia, who keep their houses tidy and their lawns mowed, this borough in the mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania is no sideshow attraction. It's home, and they'd like to keep it that way.

"That's all anybody wanted from day one," said Tom Hynoski, who's among the plaintiffs in a federal civil rights lawsuit aimed at blocking the state of Pennsylvania from evicting them.

Centralia was already a coal-mining town in decline when the fire department set the town's landfill ablaze on May 27, 1962, in an ill-fated attempt to tidy up for Memorial Day. The fire wound up igniting the coal outcropping and, over the years, spread to the vast network of mines beneath homes and businesses, threatening residents with poisonous gases and dangerous sinkholes.

After a contentious battle over the future of the town, the side that wanted to evacuate won out. By the end of the 1980s, more than 1,000 people had moved and 500 structures demolished under a $42 million federal relocation program.

But some holdouts refused to go — even after their houses were seized through eminent domain in the early 1990s. They said the fire posed little danger to their part of town, accused government officials and mining companies of a plot to grab the rights to billions of dollars' worth of anthracite coal, and vowed to stay put.

After years of letting them be, state officials decided a few years ago to take possession of the homes. The state Department of Community and Economic Development said Friday it's in negotiations with one of the five remaining homeowners; the others are continuing to resist, pleading their case in federal court.

Residents say the state has better things to spend its money on. A handwritten sign along the road blasts Gov. Tom Corbett, the latest chief executive to inherit a mess that goes back decades.

"You and your staff are making budget cuts everywhere," the sign says. "How can you allow (the state) to waste money trying to force these residents out of their homes? These people want to pay their taxes and be left alone and live where they choose!"

Whether it's safe to live there is subject to debate.

Tim Altares, a geologist with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, said that while temperatures in monitoring boreholes are down — possibly indicating the fire has followed the coal seam deeper underground — the blaze still poses a threat because it has the potential to open up new paths for deadly gases to reach the remaining homes.

"It's very difficult to quantify the threat, but the major threat would be infiltration of the fire gases into the confined space of a residential living area. That was true from the very beginning and will remain true even after the fire moves out of the area," Alteres said.

Nonsense, say residents who point out they've lived for decades without incident.

Carl Womer, 88, whose late wife, Helen, was the leader of a faction that fiercely resisted the government buyout, disagrees the fire poses any threat.

"What mine fire?" Womer asked dismissively as he hosed down his front porch, preparing, he said, for a Memorial Day picnic. "If you go up and see a fire, you come back and tell me."

Author and journalist David DeKok, who's been writing about Centralia for more than 30 years, said that while he believes Womer's house is too close to the fire to safely live there, Hynoski and his neighbors are far enough away.

"I don't think there's any great public safety problem in letting those people stay there," said DeKok, author of "Fire Underground," a book on the town.

Many former residents, meanwhile, prefer to talk about the good times, their nostalgia taking on a decidedly golden hue.

"I loved it. I always liked Centralia from the time I was old enough to understand what it was," said Mary Chapman, 72, who left in 1986 but returns once a month to the social club at the Centralia fire company.

"If you came out of your house and you couldn't get your car started, the neighbor would come out and he'd help you. You didn't even have to ask," Chapman continued. "Of course the neighbors knew your business, but they also were there to help you, too."

NATIVE
FROM PAGE 14

economic advantages. Some tribes share millions in casino earnings; health care, scholarships and housing are available to some tribal members.

Native Americans have a high rate of intermarriage with other groups. Many are not identifiable by appearance, which has made it possible for almost anyone to assume a Native persona — for various purposes.

Some of the American colonists who boarded British ships during the Boston Tea Party wore Mohawk costumes. During New York anti-rent conflicts of the 1840s, white people assumed Indian garb and pidgin "Injinspeak" as they harassed patrician estates, according to the book "Playing Indian," by Philip J. Deloria.

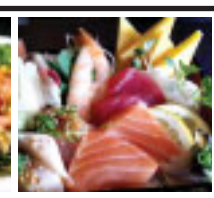
The actor Iron Eyes Cody starred as an Indian in films from the 1930s to the '70s, and championed many Native causes. He claimed to be Cherokee, but near the end of his life was revealed to be the son of Italian immigrants. In 1976, former Ku Klux Klansman Asa Earl Carter published a fabricated and best-selling memoir, "The Education of Little Tree," under the name Forrest Carter.

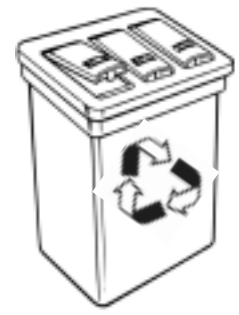
"When that kind of fraud takes place it damages our people," said Wilkins, the professor.

"You have people on the outside claiming this and that to draw attention to themselves and then people on the outside may wonder, do Native people really know who they are?"

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City of Santa Monica

THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE SECOND YEAR OF THE FY2011-13
BIENNIAL BUDGET AND ADOPTION OF
THE RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CITY'S GANN
APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-13

The City Council, Housing Authority, Successor Agency, and Parking Authority of the City of Santa Monica will hold a public budget hearing on June 12, 2012. The Council meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California. All citizens are invited to attend and provide the Council with written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the City's entire proposed budget. At the meeting on June 12th, the City Council will also adopt a resolution for the determination of the GANN Appropriation limit for fiscal year 2012-13. A copy of the documentation used in calculating the limit is presented in the FY2011-13 Adopted Biennial Budget.

The Biennial City Budget, along with the proposed adjustments for the FY 2012-13 Proposed Budget, can be inspected by the public in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or viewed on the Internet at www.smgov.net. Unless otherwise noted, City Hall is open Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. On alternate Fridays, City Hall is open for limited services only. Copies of the FY2011-13 Biennial City Budget and proposed adjustments for the FY 2012-13 Proposed Budget are also available to view at the City's Main Library located at 601 Santa Monica Boulevard and branch libraries at 1704 Montana Avenue, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard and 2601 Main Street.

SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 65.3°

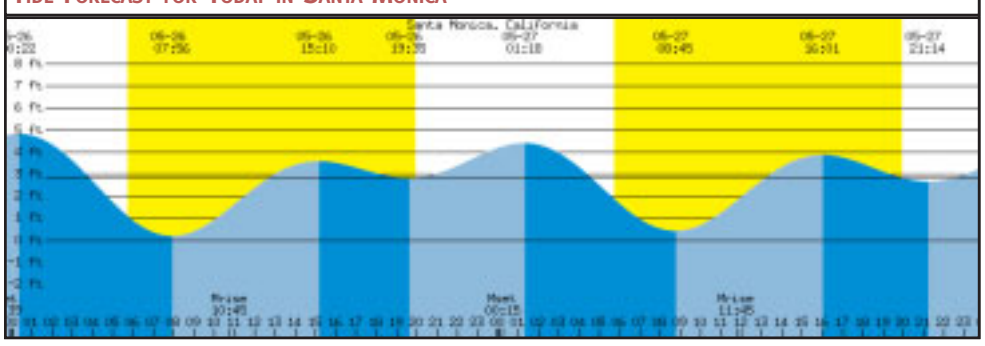
Swell Forecast

Should see wind swell back off to chest to head high in the very early AM, and then smaller later in the day. Some light southerly swell from Bud is expected at south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks smaller, about waist high most everywhere, but with some pluses at 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 **May 23, 2012**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 8
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 31 / 1
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	as
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	as
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.	as	as
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	as
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	as
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	as
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	as
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	as
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	B	as
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	as
Solstice Canyon at Ben Blocker County Beach.	D	as
Pearce State Beach at creek mouth.	A	as
Marie Canyon storm drain at Pearce Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A	as
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	as
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	as
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	as
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	as
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	C	A+
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	as
Tuna Canyon.	A+	as
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	F
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	as
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	as	as
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	as

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

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

as -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

Gagne back at practice, enjoying Kings' success

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. Simon Gagne thought the Los Angeles Kings would be a Stanley Cup contender. That's why he signed with them as a free agent last summer.

Gagne's projection was correct. He just wishes he had played a bigger role in making it happen.

Gagne returned to practice with the Kings on Friday as they went through their first full workout since clinching a spot in the Stanley Cup final. The high-scoring veteran left wing hasn't played for the Kings since Dec. 26, when he suffered his latest concussion in a win over Phoenix.

Although the seven-time 20-goal scorer is cleared for contact and says he's 100 percent symptom-free, even Gagne isn't sure he should be added back to the Kings' lineup for the final round.

"I'm available, but at the same time, you have to look at what this team has done," Gagne said. "They've played a lot of good hockey. They're the reason why we're here now. I'm just going to work hard in practice, like I did the last month, and we'll see. You never know what can happen in the final."

Gagne wore a green jersey at Friday's practice, doing drills on a line with youngsters Marc-Andre Cliche and Andrei Loktionov. He relished the chance to work out with veterans including former Flyers teammate Justin Williams, who says his French language skills have suffered during Gagne's absence from their adjoining lockers at the Kings' training complex.

"Well, we're still playing, so he got an opportunity to practice with us," said coach Darryl Sutter, who took over the Kings just three games before Gagne's injury. "You need lots of live ammo. ... Somebody asked (about Gagne's availability) a week or so ago, and there was no chance then, because he hadn't even skated with the team. All you do is improve your (chances). You go from zero to whatever."

Gagne has watched from the stands as Los Angeles rampaged through the Western Conference playoffs without him, winning 12 of 14 games during one of the most impressive postseason runs in recent NHL history. He has ample playoff experience, reaching the Stanley Cup final with Philadelphia — and current Kings teammates Mike Richards and Jeff Carter — in 2010 before getting to the Eastern Conference finals with the Tampa Bay Lightning last season.

"When you don't play, it's definitely a different feeling," Gagne said. "I was there two years ago. I did pretty much the same thing these guys did two years ago. It's bringing back some good memories. Everything they did, it's so fresh in my mind that it's almost like I'm even more part of it. For sure you'd rather be on the ice than watching the games in the stands, but I didn't go back home. I stayed here the whole time, so that makes me feel part of the team now, even if I don't play."

When Gagne went looking for a new team last summer, he chose the Kings for their talent and tenacity, paying little heed to their sparse history of playoff success. Gagne saw something special in Los Angeles' roster.

"I was looking at this team as a team that could do really good stuff in the season, and especially in the playoffs," Gagne said. "The mix of this team, with veterans, guys who have been there before and won it or lost it, all that mixed with young players that have been in the league for five or six years. I saw that team as capable of doing something really good. It was just a question of getting into the playoffs, and I knew that this team was built to do well in the playoffs."

Gagne's post-Christmas concussion wasn't his first, and he realized he faced a long recovery after scoring 17 points in his first 34 games with Los Angeles. He began skating by himself more than two months ago, joining the Kings' minor-leaguers and junior prospects a few weeks later.

Gagne got a two-year, $7 million contract to provide an offensive boost to the low-scoring Kings, but he never really got the chance. Los Angeles has solved its scoring woes in the postseason, outscoring its opponents 41-22, and Gagne is thrilled to see it.

"It's the best time of the season, that's for sure," Gagne said. "I'm just getting myself ready in case something happens. It's a final. You never know what can happen and what I can do."

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #4002 PROVIDE ELECTRICAL AND STREET LIGHTING SUPPLIES AS REQUIRED BY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DIVISION.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:
http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
Submission Deadline is JUNE 14, 2012 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

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

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press CALL US TODAY **(310) 458-7737**

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, May 26
Vertigo (PG) 2hrs 08min
7:30pm

Sunday, May 27
Jurassic Park (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
The Lost World: Jurassic Park (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
Jurassic Park III (PG-13) 1hr 32min
5:00pm

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

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Dictator (R) 1hr 23min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm

Hunger Games (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
12:05pm, 6:30pm

Bernie (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:55am, 2:35pm, 5:15pm, 7:55pm, 10:20pm

Five-Year Engagement (R) 2hrs 04min
3:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:15am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Battleship (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
10:35am, 1:40pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Men in Black 3 (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm, 10:15pm

Dictator (R) 1hr 23min
11:00am, 1:20pm, 3:40pm, 6:00pm, 8:20pm, 10:40pm

Dark Shadows (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:45am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:45pm

Men in Black 3 in 3D (PG-13) 1hr 46min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:20pm, 8:10pm, 11:00pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
1:00pm, 4:20pm, 7:45pm, 11:00pm

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

Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13) 1hr 58min
11:00am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

Headhunters (Hodejegerne) (R) 1hr 38min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

First Position (NR) 1hr 30min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:35pm

Monday Morning (NR)
11:00am

Mighty Fine (R) 1hr 20min
1:20pm, 3:30pm, 5:40pm, 7:50pm, 10:00pm

Manzanar Fishing Club (NR) 1hr 14min
11:00am

Bill W. (NR) 1hr 44min
11:00am

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

Battleship (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
12:15pm, 3:30pm, 6:50pm, 10:00pm

What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 8:40pm, 10:50pm

Men in Black 3 in 3D (PG-13) 1hr 46min
12:15pm, 1:15pm, 4:05pm, 5:50pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 6:45pm, 10:00pm

Chernobyl Diaries (R) 1hr 30min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

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

Don't go too wild, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Just go with the flow. Make plans if you don't already have them, creating the most fun adventure you can come up with. Give yourself space to take off and do something else, too. Spontaneity works best right now. Tonight: Paint the town red.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You like what is going on at home so much that you reverse plans, deciding to stay close to the nest. This spontaneous idea could cause some problems with someone you expect to be mellow. Tonight: Toss a favorite food on the barbecue.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Keep conversations flowing. You might wonder what is going on. You expect the unexpected as well, because a close friend acts in a very peculiar manner. As a result, when others might be surprised, you are not. Tonight: Lots of talk, wherever you are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might want to handle a personal matter differently, especially if you feel that someone is taking an unnecessary risk. Plans could change, especially if they involve an older relative or someone you must answer to. Tonight: Treat others to a favorite dessert.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might want to consider what is happening on a deeper level, as you see some craziness erupt. You like playfulness and impulsiveness on a certain level. Tonight: Relish the moment as if there were no tomorrow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★ You want to have some quality time with a loved one; otherwise, you want to be left alone. Someone surprises you with a call or news. Check in with an older relative if it is getting too late. Be optimistic. Tonight: There is nothing wrong with vanishing and not being available.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Know that you can have quite an adventure. You have been thinking about taking off on your own or maybe exploring a new area of town. Go with the moment, but don't even consider leaving a loved one or family member at home. Tonight: Only where there is fun.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Somehow, once more you are the key person, whether you are executing plans or filling in for someone who didn't complete an important task. Others want your company. Tonight: On top of your game.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Sometimes you don't want to suppress yourself at any cost. Right now is an excellent example of just moving with the moment. A loved one could issue a surprise invitation. If you are single, someone special could just drop in your lap. Tonight: Full speed ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might be tired of the same weekend ritual. You might want to strap on your seatbelt, as excitement or unexpected events could head in your direction. Relate directly to loved ones. You are better off not in a group. Tonight: Dinner out.

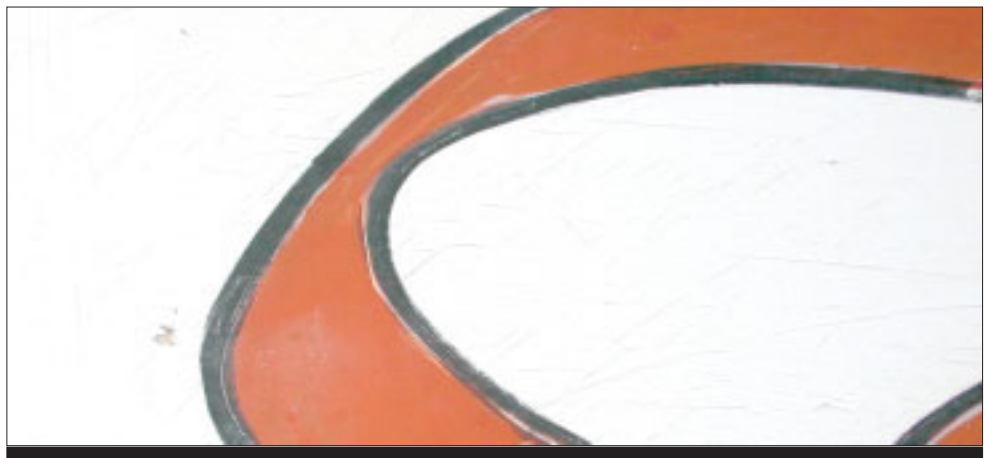
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You know you have no control over others. When the right person appears with the right invitation, are you going to say no? Of course you aren't. Flex with the moment. Your popularity soars to a new level. Know that anything is possible. Tonight: So many choices. Now what?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Flex. Yes, you have a lot of responsibility and demands. Ask someone to pitch in. You have an opportunity that you don't want to say no to, nor should you. Let more spontaneity in, and caring will flow. Use care with your wallet and change today. Tonight: Don't go overboard.

Happy birthday

If you have ever wished for more attention, you will find out if you really like being noticed so much this year. To many, you seem quite glamorous and sophisticated. People also are drawn to you because of how well you communicate. If you are single, you certainly will have the opportunity to change that status. Know that you don't need to settle. If you are attached, relating becomes much easier, as you seem more easygoing. Both of you learn to talk on a relevant level more. LEO draws you out.

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

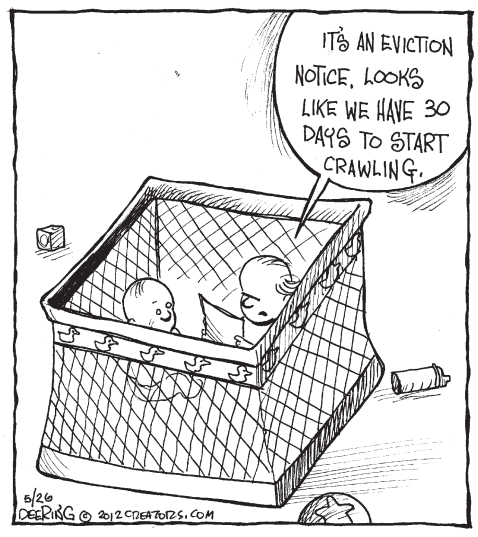
Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



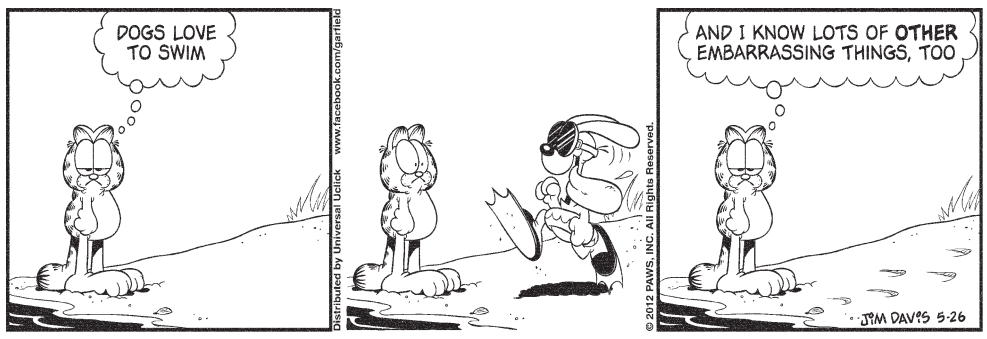
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Flat floater
5 Office helper
9 One who accepts a bet
10 Warning sound
12 Nimble
13 Damascus' nation
14 Get in touch with
16 Powerful bunch
17 Unconscious
18 Men's store display
20 Hot
22 Teller's stack
23 Staggering
25 Lauer of "Today"
28 Ill will
32 One-celled creatures
34 Purr producer
35 Trophy
36 African runner
38 Grill waste
40 Coffee-bar order
41 Puts on
42 "Midnight in Paris" director
43 Order to Spot
44 Demand

DOWN

1 Seasoned stew
2 Like
3 Fedora material
4 Bill footer
5 Discernment
6 English cathedral city
7 Robin's love
8 Royal heir
9 Folded snacks
11 Ball wear
15 Movie palaces
19 Tumble
21 Overdue
24 Kodak founder
25 Showy parrot
26 Diverts
27 Astaire movie
29 Eaves dropper
30 Hidden away
31 Hawke of Hollywood
33 Overbearing
37 Part
39 Important age

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

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				■

5-26

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

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

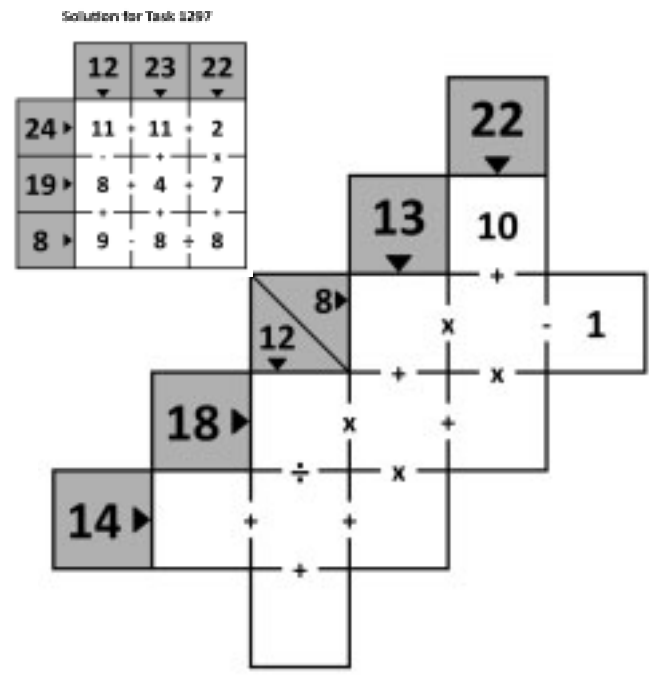
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

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

1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 5, 7, 8

Solution for Task 1287





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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The most recent government employee to defraud his agency's worker compensation program (according to prosecutors in Los Angeles) is firefighter Rafael Davis, 35, who received disability payments for about 30 months during 2008-2011 while at the same time engaging in mixed martial arts matches as "The Noodle." Davis' record (according to LA Weekly) was 12-2, with seven of those matches coming during his disability period, including six victories. "MMA" (as noted by the newspaper) requires similar "stamina, muscle and coordination" as is required for firefighting.

■ Through the years, unusual highway tractor-trailer spills have fascinated News of the Weird readers -- such as the time a truck carrying pork collided with a truck carrying eggs, creating a highway dish of ham and eggs. In March on Highway 11 in northeastern Ontario, a Brinks tractor-trailer carrying nothing but $1 and $2 Canadian coins hit a boulder in the roadway, scattering a "debris field" of millions of dollars, forcing the closing of the road. Among the cleanup equipment required: a "magnetic" crane and a front-end loader that scooped up most of the soil in the field so that the coins could later be sifted out.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1972 – Willandra National Park is established in Australia.

1972 – The United States and the Soviet Union sign the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

1977 – George Willig climbs the South Tower of New York City's World Trade Center.

1981 – Prime Minister of Italy Arnaldo Forlani and his coalition cabinet resign following a scandal over membership of the pseudo-masonic lodge P2 (Propaganda Due).

WORD UP!

ingeminate
\ in-JEM-uh-neyt \ , verb;
1.
To repeat; reiterate.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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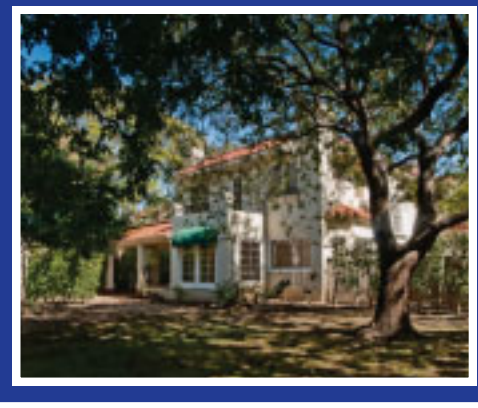
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