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TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 170

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

HAPPY B-DAY
SEE PAGE 13

THE TURNING THE TIDE ISSUE

Big brother, Mother Nature allies in sea wall battle

ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press

SOLANA BEACH, Calif. Atop the ocean bluff are the homes of those fortunate to own a piece of land overlooking the dramatic California coastline. Down on the beach are the surfers, swimmers and beachcombers lucky for a sliver of sand that skirts caves and coves north of San Diego.

Dividing the two is an 80-foot cliff that forms a battle line between homeowners who built concrete walls to prevent their houses from sliding into the sea and those who want to put limits on how long they can fend off the waters.

The powerful California Coastal Commission is imposing 20-year caps on permits to build sea walls, setting up a classic debate over public beach access and property rights as sea levels continue to rise and relentless surf threatens to erode a way of life along 1,100 miles of shore.

Since 2010, the agency has set 20-year expiration dates on a private tennis club in Pebble Beach, a 13-unit apartment building in San Diego, two houses in Santa Cruz, a 19-unit apartment complex in nearby Capitola and several homes in Solana Beach and neighboring Encinitas.

While the limits aren't edicts to tear down walls in two decades, they have alarmed homeowners who see a threat to their property.

"There's going to be a huge dark cloud whether the home can still exist when the period is over," said Jon Corn, an attorney for homeowners who sued Solana Beach after the city — with strong support from the Coastal Commission — adopted a 20-year limit for all new walls on its 1.7 miles of coast.

Three lawsuits are pending in state court to overturn the city's policy.

Solana Beach is being eyed by advocates on both sides of the debate as a possible model for 75 other cities or counties required to run plans by the Coastal

SEE WALL PAGE 7

A DAY TO REMEMBER









WOODLAWN CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION 2013

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Santa Monicans gather on Memorial Day

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

WOODLAWN CEMETERY The sun shone over Woodlawn Cemetery Mortuary and Mausoleum Monday morning as Santa Monicans gathered to pay tribute to the men and women who lost their lives in service to their country.

Monday marked Santa Monica's 75th Memorial Day celebration, an event as synonymous with the holiday as the smell of barbecue on the outdoor grill at Bob's Market just a few blocks away.

The celebration stuck to its tried and true format, with R.A. Pickett, exalted

SEE MEMORIAL DAY PAGE 8

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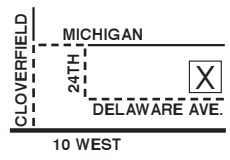
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

Stories for babies
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,
11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Puppet time
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
Join Mr. Jesse and his gang of puppets for heartfelt stories and songs. Intended for children ages 3-7. For more information, call (310)458-8683.

Talking money
City Hall
1685 Main St., 5:30 p.m.
The City Council will be discussing the budget during the first of two meetings on the topic. There will be another meeting on Wednesday. For more information, visit smgov.net.

To the beat
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd.,
7:20 p.m. — 9:35 p.m.
Downbeat 720, now entering its 11th year, is a free and fun open stage for high school performers. On the second and fourth Tuesday of every month between September and June, you'll find Downbeat 720 at the Miles Memorial Playhouse. Hosted by professional poets and musicians, Downbeat 720 provides a safe, supportive environment for teens of all skill levels and interests. Musicians, actors, poets, filmmakers, dancers, and other teen artists work on their expression live. The group welcomes ages 13-19 especially. Parents welcome to sit in the back. For more information, visit facebook.com/groups/downbeat720.

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

Green living
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
7 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.
Join this free Sustainable Works Green Living Workshop and learn information that will help you save money, and positively impact your family, community and ultimately the planet. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Diary of improv
Mi's Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third St., 8 p.m.
We all know what really happened after you poured out your heart to your diary about your undying ninth grade love for Barry Jameson and how badly you wish he would ask you out. Nothing much, really. But what if you got the courage to talk to him the next day at school? Improv Diary is a choose your own adventure long-form improv comedy show revealing the future of your past, now. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

Thursday, May 30, 2013

At the edge
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St., 9 a.m. — 9 p.m.
Cinema at the Edge is giving an opportunity for filmmakers to share their films of all genres at an independent film community festival. Cinema at the Edge invites distribution companies, managers, agents, and casting directors to discover a new generation of films. The festival will feature opening and closing parties, an award ceremony and panels. Filmmakers at the festival will receive instant feedback on their screening followed by a Q&A. For more information, call (310) 394-6162 ext. 103.

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,
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Mayor: Malibu in 'excellent' shape

BY MELISSA CASKEY
Special to the Daily Press

MALIBU Mayor Lou La Monte declared the city of Malibu in "excellent" condition last week in his 2013 State of the City address, largely crediting city officials for their behind-the-scenes work in helping run Malibu.

Instead of a traditional speech, La Monte said he wanted to go a different route by presenting a 10-minute video spotlighting the city of Malibu's individual departments, staffers and the city's many projects and accomplishments. La Monte introduced the video at the Wednesday morning event put on by the Malibu Chamber of Commerce at City Hall. Councilmembers Skylar Peak, Laura Rosenthal and Third District Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky were among the approximately 75 attendees of the address, which cost $25 per seat.

"I didn't want to do another one of those powerpoint presentations," La Monte said

SEE **MALIBU** PAGE 9

WWII vet receives long-lost dog tag from overseas

CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press

Irving Mann has been in business long enough to be skeptical of out-of-the-blue offers that seem too good to be true.

So the founder of Mann's Jewelers in Rochester was cautious but intrigued when an email arrived at his store from a woman wondering if he could possibly be the Irving Mann whose military tag she said she'd found a day earlier in her barley field in France.

After all, the World War II veteran didn't recall losing a dog tag after landing in Normandy with the 90th Infantry division on D-Day and fighting across Nazi-occupied France.

"It had to be false," thought Mann, who'd recently celebrated his 88th birthday.

"You hear of so many scams going on, that somebody's going to fake it, do some research and say, 'I would be willing to

SEE **TAGS** PAGE 7



Photo courtesy city of Santa Monica

PROUD DAY: **Samohi student Natthavadee Laoharangsima stands next to her award-winning poster. She and other students participated in the fifth annual Sustainable Santa Monica Student Poster Contest, which focused on those with disabilities and how they enjoy nature.**

Kids awarded for their creativity

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

CITY HALL Several students in Santa Monica public schools were rewarded for their creativity last week as city officials announced the winners of the fifth annual Sustainable Santa Monica Student Poster Contest.

This year's theme focused on disabilities awareness and accessibility. Students were challenged to express their ideas through art by answering the question, "How do people with disabilities access and enjoy nature in Santa Monica with their family and friends?"

The contest was open to all K-12 students that attend school in the city by the sea. Close to 300 entries were judged this year and approximately 2,400 students have participated in the contest since its inception, city officials said.

"The contest holds a unique opportunity for us to highlight elements of the Sustainable City Plan while educating students and supporting the arts," said Shannon Parry, assistant director of the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, which hosted the contest along with the Santa Monica Disabilities Commission and the local nonprofit Sustainable Works, an environmental education organization.

"We plant a seed for our future leaders, plus have lots of fun," Parry said.

The Sustainable City Plan was initially adopted by the City Council in 1994 and is founded on 10 guiding principles that provide the basis from which decisions can be made. Progress on the plan is measured annually. It focuses on key areas including protection of the natural environment, economic health and social equity. Being sustainable means meeting existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own, according to the plan.

City Hall is currently constructing an universally accessible playground at 2900 Ocean Front Walk that will exceed Americans with Disabilities Act requirements so that all children, regardless of handicap, can play and socialize with others.

After what city officials said was a rigorous judging process consisting of a panel of experts, here are the winners of the poster contest:

K-Second Grade

Grand Prize: Raeva Vasisht, Grant Elementary, Second Grade
Runner Up: Lia Levin, Will Rogers Elementary, First Grade
Honorable Mention: Ellenor Brandt, Grant Elementary, Second Grade

Third-Fifth Grade

Grand Prize: Vannessa Lin, Roosevelt, Fifth Grade
Runner Up: Olivier Tetsu Velde, Lycee Francais de Los Angeles, Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention: Sage Singh, Grant Elementary, Fourth Grade

Sixth-Eighth Grade

Grand Prize: Maya Goren, John Adams Middle School, Sixth Grade
Runner Up: Alyssa Tohyama, Lincoln Middle

SEE **POSTERS** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

No good judgment on development

Editor:

Mr. Gruning misses the point ("No civility," Letter to the Editor, May 23). If, as he says, "many people were misled to believe this was other than an informational meeting" (the recent session at the library regarding the Miramar's intention to expand), why were city officials not clear in making this known? The important information has already been widely distributed, and the most important point is entirely obvious: an out-of-scale addition is planned. There is no more to know.

An "information" meeting serves the hidden purpose of proselytizing on behalf of the developers; it is free publicity. Johnny-come-latelys to this meeting who can find nothing more important than peck at the concerned citizens-speakers are already out-of-date and should inform themselves. The impact of such "development," evidently favored by the City Council and manager since their various documents use the biased words "opportunity sites" to identify other similar developmental schemes, will not be borne either by Gruning or the illustrious amateurs of the City Council, but by the people on the ground. Many have lived in the shadow of the proposed development for years, and it is no exaggeration to say they are fighting to preserve their homes and their way of life as they have come to know them, which are already eroded by the non-stop development plaguing this once tranquil little city.

I am acquainted with a lady who has lived in an apartment in the vicinity of Santa Monica Boulevard around 20th Street for 40 (count 'em) years. She is now to lose her home, to become dispossessed, so that someone, some developer, can tear the building down and profit at the expense of lesser folk. Santa Monica is already fully developed. Any further "development" must be done with considerably more good judgment that has heretofore been shown.

Robert Venegas
Santa Monica

Stretching resources

Editor:

City Hall needs to rethink the rampant overbuilding they have sanctioned with regard to how the infrastructure will be able to support the increased demand on water and electricity the new hotels and apartment buildings will impose ("City Hall rethinking water usage," May 23). These issues will only worsen as more people, visitors and new residents pour into our city. I can only think that the cost of water, electricity and other services will be passed along to the residents.

Greed appears to trump common sense once again!

Joanne Curtis
Santa Monica



Your column here

Matt Barber

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

R.I.P., Boy Scouts of America

IT'S A SAD DAY FOR BOTH SCOUTING and for freedom. Indeed, it's a sad day for America. The century-old Boy Scouts of America (BSA) — created in 1910 to "prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes" — has betrayed its own constituency, mission, oath and law.

Last Thursday, approximately 1,400 adult BSA delegates from around the country gathered in Texas and decided, in a disgracefully lopsided vote, to welcome into its ranks, "open and avowed" homosexuality (boy-on-boy sexual attraction and behavior), thereby disavowing the "morally straight" Scout Oath its members are sworn to uphold.

They voted unwisely.

History will reflect that on this day the BSA turned from morally straight to immorally bent; that this once great organization — founded on "honor," "reverence" and biblical morality — was crushed beneath the worldly weight of pagan idolatry.

Whereas, for over a century, millions of boys have raised their right hands, swearing "on my honor" to "do my duty to God and my country," on this day, hundreds of adult delegates likewise raised their right hands, shook their fists at God and flipped their middle fingers at both the boys they serve and the parents who trusted them.

While endeavoring to "gain the world," this once honorable institution has forfeited its soul.

Scripture admonishes: "The wages of sin is death." (Rom. 6:23). This was a catastrophic miscalculation. It was sin, and, tragically, through this sin, the BSA has now effectively sealed its own fate. It has set into motion its own demise.

Even by its own estimates, BSA leadership admits that the decision will likely result in a mass exodus from scouting. They anticipate that as many as 400,000 scouts will leave the organization (acceptable casualties in the war on morality, I guess). Still, as devastating as this number is, it too represents a gross miscalculation.

Consider, for instance, that when Canada's version of the Boy Scouts voted in 1998 to welcome open homosexuality, its membership rolls plummeted by over half in just five years, forcing camp closures, staff layoffs and huge budget cuts. Looking north of the border for clues, then, we can expect that, with current membership at around 2.6 million, it's more likely that roughly 1.5 million Boy Scouts and troop masters will walk.

Then again, we're talking about "progressive" Canada. This is the good ol' U.S.A. With over 61 percent of scouts and parents opposing the homosexualization of Boy Scouts, and over 70 percent of U.S. Scout groups sponsored by churches and religious organizations, it's not unreasonable to expect that defections will even exceed this estimate.

In short, BSA's betrayal may well result in near-total ruin. The wages of sin is death.

Here's the reality: Reality has not changed. Objective truth did not suddenly and miraculously reverse itself on May 23, 2013. As BSA has always acknowledged (until Thursday), homosexual behavior remains empirically disordered and immoral. The only thing that has changed is politics.

Ultimately, this decision had nothing to do with "tolerance" or "inclusivity." Neither did it concern the best interests of the boys who make up Boy Scouting. Instead, this decision was rooted in pure evil. It had everything to do with money. "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs" (1 Timothy 6:10).

And wandered from the faith they have.

Now come the many griefs.

Really, three things drove this decision: Fear, greed and politics. A number of high-dollar corporate donors threatened to pull funding from BSA if they maintained the existing policy on sexual morality. Additionally, a number of extremist pressure groups, aided by a sympathetic left-wing media, brought tremendous pressure to bear.

But the pressure's not going away. The BSA made a critical error in judgment. It showed weakness. This has only whipped these radicals into a heightened frenzy. Within moments of the "gay" announcement, Nancy Pelosi called the move "an important first step." The Human Rights Campaign demanded "the new policy doesn't go far enough," and Mother Jones, a liberal online publication, posted an article titled, "Boy Scouts: You Can Be Gay Until You're 18."

Sin is never satisfied. The homofascist thirst for absolute affirmation is unquenchable.

What's the next step? Activists now demand that adult men who desire sex with other males ("gay" scout masters) be allowed to take your sons camping overnight. Soon they'll be insisting that "transgender boys" (girls who wish they were boys) be allowed to join as well.

What a camping trip. Imagine the pup tent. Your son and Jimmy — who's got a crush on him — along with Billy and Billy's boyfriend Bobby, all snuggly warm in the middle of nowhere. But make room for Sammy (formerly Suzie) and Sammy's boyfriend Gary (formerly Gertrude).

Don't forget to hang the disco ball.

And "always be prepared."

You think there won't be new membership stagnation? Who wants to sign their boy up for the "Gay Scouts?" What's a kid got to do to earn his "tolerance badge?" Parents, you might want to get out while the gettin's good. As one Eagle Scout told me, "I'm not leaving the Boy Scouts, the Boy Scouts left me."

It's only a matter of time until BSA caves on these demands as well. They'll admit "gay" men and girls soon. They have no choice. Now that they've opened the door, they've waived the only legal defense they once had: Religious and moral conviction.

But here's the good news. I and dozens more will be convening for a coalition meeting of pro-family leaders next month in Louisville, Ky., to discuss the creation of a moral alternative to the Boy Scouts. Nature abhors a vacuum. We intend to fill it.

Still, until then, please join me as we mourn the loss of this once honorable organization. The Boy Scouts of America: Born Feb. 8, 1910 – Died May 23, 2013.

May it rest in peace.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2013. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC
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Future of Colorado River on agenda in San Diego

KEN RITTER
Associated Press

Top water decision-makers from seven Western states plan to join conservation groups and Indian tribes in San Diego on Tuesday to begin hammering out rules for squeezing every useable drop from the over-taxed Colorado River.

The work meeting hosted by federal water managers comes amid dire predictions for the waterway. The U.S. interior secretary five months ago issued a call to arms and declared that the river already described as the most plumbed and regulated in the world would be unable to meet demands of a growing regional population over the next 50 years.

"We're looking at a very significant chance of declaring a shortage in the Colorado River basin in 2016," Michael Connor, commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, said in an interview in advance of the conference.

"We really need to get to specifics, technical liabilities and the political feasibility of projects," he said.

Connor heads the federal agency responsible for what he called the most litigated and fought-over resource in the country. He said data projects 2013 will be the fourth-driest year in the Colorado River basin over the past 100 years. Last year was the fifth-driest year on record.

The river provides drinking water, power and recreation for some 40 million people in California, Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico and Wyoming. Its largest reservoirs — Lake Mead near Las Vegas and Lake Powell near Page, Ariz. — are projected to drop to 45 percent capacity by September, Connor said.

Mexico also has a stake in the river, and U.S. and Mexican officials signed a pact in November for new rules on sharing Colorado River water, including a deal that lets Mexico store water in Lake Mead. The deal provides for international cooperation to ensure that river water reaches the Gulf of California for the first time in decades.

Anne Castle, assistant interior secretary for water and science, called Tuesday's conference at a U.S. Geological Survey office near San Diego International Airport the start of a "next steps" process.

Castle said she hopes more ideas and practical solutions will surface to deal with shortages predicted by a study released by the bureau in December.

The report looked at supply and demand of Colorado River Basin water. It said that by 2060, with the Southwest's population expected to swell, the river won't be always able to serve all the residents, businesses, ranchers, Native Americans and farmers who rely on it.

"This 'next steps' process may serve as a template for the way to implement the analysis being done in all these basin studies," Castle said in a conference call. "Part of that is bringing together all the diverse interests that will be represented."

Castle said a Ten Tribes Partnership representative of Native American groups and several regional environmental advocates were expected to attend. Plans call for organizing a trio of work groups representing municipal, agricultural and conservation interests.

Jennifer Pitt, head of the Environmental Defense Fund's Colorado River Project, said groups including Western Resource Advocates, Protect the Flows and Nuestro Rio want to see more water banking, along with more efficient use of existing urban water supplies, the reuse of waste water, better watershed management and improved agricultural techniques.

"Communities that depend on the Colorado River — for water supply or as the foundation of a $26 billion recreation economy — cannot afford to wait," Pitt said in a statement.

Save The Colorado representative Gary Wockner said he also planned to attend.

When the Colorado River was tamed by dams and canal water allocations were made nearly a century ago, agricultural interests gained broad water and irrigation rights that helped transform California's vast arid Imperial Valley east of San Diego into one of the most productive winter fruit and vegetable, cotton and grain farming regions in the country.

Tension has grown in recent years along with the sprawl of thirsty cities including Denver, Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Phoenix.

The seven river basin states responded by forging agreements on allotments in 2003 and guidelines for sharing the pain of shortage in 2007.

Pat Mulroy, general manager of the Las Vegas-based Southern Nevada Water Authority and a delegate to Tuesday's meeting, called the issues facing river users daunting, but not insurmountable.

A key concern in southern Nevada is the water level of Lake Mead — already marked in some places by 100-plus feet of white mineral "bathtub ring" showing the effect of years of drought. The reservoir is Las Vegas' major source of drinking water.

The Q Line

Water wise

With a goal of eventually being self sufficient, city officials are looking at ways to save water across the board.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Where do you think you can save the most water at your home or business? What would you sacrifice to be part of a self-sustaining city?

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


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Iran's approaching vote brings receding web access

BRIAN MURPHY & NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran From a computer keyboard in London, an Iranian emigre plays the role of counselor, social media guru and all-around adviser for Internet users back home seeking ways around the cyber-blocks set up by authorities in Tehran. These have been busy days.

His Twitter account — which goes under the handle of Nariman Gharib — registers a steady stream of calls for help from Iran and responses about new proxy servers, dial-up modems and other possible workarounds. The goal is to defeat Iran's Internet clampdowns, which have intensified in the approach to presidential elections on June 14.

"Here is a new link for Siphon," he wrote, describing a site that directs users to a server outside Iran. Minutes later, replies stream back that it worked on Android systems but not PCs. He sent a tweaked Web address.

"Hope this works," he wrote.

State controls on the Internet in Iran are nothing new. Authorities have steadily tried to choke off social media and political opposition sites — among others — since they became tools for protesters alleging vote rigging after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed re-election four years ago.

Now, with the election to pick Ahmadinejad's successor looming, the constraints are drawing even tighter. Iranian authorities appear to be stepping up their efforts to block the pathways to servers outside Iran that open access to outlawed sites such as Facebook, the BBC's Persian service and websites from what's left of Iran's opposition Green Movement.

The Internet squeeze signifies more than a display of widening state controls before an election that is almost certain to bring an establishment-friendly winner. It's also another showcase of Iran's expanding online prowess led by the powerful Revolutionary Guards.

A special Web-watching corps established two years ago has the mission of patrolling the domestic Internet and fighting suspected cyberwars with the West and its allies. Some say it even creates false activist profiles to try to ferret out dissidents.

Iran is believed by many security experts to be behind computer-virus attacks last year on Saudi Arabian state oil giant Saudi Aramco and Qatari natural gas producer RasGas. Last week, The New York Times reported that Iran is considered a chief suspect in a series of malware breaches into U.S. energy companies, citing American officials and corporate security experts. Iran has repeatedly denied similar claims.

But Iran also has been hit by viruses it claims were launched by the U.S. and Israel. A date-siphoning program known as Flame forced Iran's Oil Ministry to completely shut down its computer system last year. Three years ago, Iran's uranium-enrichment labs were penetrated by a virus called Stuxnet, which was tailored to disrupt Iran's nuclear centrifuges.

On Sunday, Iran inaugurated a 5,000-kilometer (3,000-mile) fiber-optic line running to Germany via Russia. Iran's North Korean-educated communications minister, Mohammad Hasan Nami , said it will boost the "security" of telecommunications as part of Iran's wider efforts to seek a self-contained Internet with its own Google-style search engines and vetted websites such as Twitter and Facebook accounts attributed to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

"Iranian authorities are getting better at controlled cyberspace," said Theodore Karasik, a security and political affairs analyst at the Dubai-based Institute for Near East and Gulf Military Analysis. "But Iran's Internet generation is very clever at beating them at their own game."

The legions of well-educated and highly Web literate Iranians under 30 are the backbone of a kind of cyber-underground. Names and Web addresses of proxy server sites that allow users to sidestep controls are passed around like hot gossip. Lately, however, authorities appear to be gaining the upper hand.

Each morning, Hossein Razaei, a mechanical engineer who runs a small engineering company in Tehran, checks up on the best-working path to beat the censors. Sometimes that means scanning banned news sites such as Voice of America or connecting to foreign engineering firms to look at new ideas.

"Nowadays," he laments, "we cannot open many sites."

Iranian authorities have not commented directly on any possible new Web controls. Some lawmakers have suggested that Web restrictions are needed to prevent "enemies" — a reference to U.S. and allies — from influencing the election.

But Iran's leaders certainly have factored in the chaos in 2009, which marked Iran's worst domestic unrest since the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

It also was a precursor to the Arab Spring in the use of social media. Sites such as Facebook and Twitter — still relatively obscure in the region at the time — were essential to organizing protests and giving accounts of crackdowns after blanket media restrictions were imposed. A YouTube video of a dying protester, Neda Agha Soltan, became an iconic image of the demonstrations.

Ironically, the latest apparent Internet pressures in Iran are not reflected in fears of rising opposition linked to the election. The rejection of former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani from the ballot seemed to undercut a possible resurgence of reformist fervor after years of arrests and relentless intimidation.

Many liberals and others may now simply stay on the sidelines as most of the eight candidates represent firm loyalists to the Islamic system, including top nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili, former Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Tehran Mayor Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf. Two relatively moderate candidates, including a former vice president under reformist President Mohammad Khatami, have not yet generated much popular buzz.

Last week, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry noted "troubling signs" that the Iranian government is cutting off Internet access to stifle criticism of how the candidates were chosen.

"Ultimately, the Iranian people will be prevented not only from choosing someone who might reflect their point of view, but also taking part in a way that is essential to a kind of legitimate democracy," he said.

Khamenei said Monday that Kerry's criticisms weren't "worthy enough" to merit a response, according to the semiofficial Fars news agency. Then he vowed Washington would be "punched in the mouth" by a high turnout for the election.

At an Internet cafe in Tehran, a former activist during the 2009 unrest, Mohammad Feizi, spoke in dark tones about an election in which he feels no stake and Internet crackdowns that cut off his main window to the wider world. His old tricks of bypassing the Web controls, he said, are increasingly foiled.

"I am really frustrated," the 27-year-old said. "The government put lethal restrictions on the Internet, yet expects people — particularly the youth — to get involved in society. It is meaningless."

WALL
FROM PAGE 1

Commission. Environmental groups who fear that beaches could disappear under rising seas fueled by global warming if huge swaths of coast are allowed to be armored forever hope California sets an example for coastal states such as North Carolina and Florida.

"We're going to need to step back," said Mark Rauscher, Surfrider Foundation's coastal preservation manager. "We can't beat the ocean forever."

The commission is years from deciding what to do when the first permit expires. It will depend on how sea levels or other conditions play out.

"It's simply saying you'll be re-evaluated in 20 years," said Diana Lilly, an analyst at the commission's San Diego office.

Courts are likely to weigh in beforehand.

In one skirmish this year, a judge struck down a 20-year limit on two nearby Encinitas homes, saying the cap was arbitrary. As a Superior Court ruling, it does not set a precedent for other cases.

There is no precise tally of seawalls in California or nationwide, but they are common in Malibu, San Francisco and other places. They tower over the shores of Solana Beach, a suburb of 13,000 people that has long been one of the San Diego region's most coveted places to live. Houses and condominiums crowd the oceanfront, with one 1,300-square-foot home listed at $2.4 million.

The city's main beach, Fletcher's Cove, opened in 1924 when workers sprayed a hose to loosen bluff and shoveled dirt to make room for beach. Seawalls are common partly because the city's bluffs have a layer of soft sand about 30 feet high from the beach that, when exposed, makes homes highly vulnerable to sinking.

Tom DiNoto considers himself lucky for having built his wall before the 20-year limits began, though he worries restrictions on new construction will hurt home values. He said he paid about $500,000 for a 40-foot-high concrete wall that stretches along 50 feet of shore and is colored and sculpted to blend with natural surroundings. About $250,000 more went for engineering and other fees, including the cost for bringing in sand to fortify beaches.

Last year, San Diego's regional planning agency pumped 1.5 million cubic yards of offshore sand to Fletcher's Cove and seven other area beaches. Surfrider objected to an Army Corps of Engineers plan to dump even more sand in Solana Beach and Encinitas as detrimental to surfing conditions, but DiNoto echoes other homeowners who say it is a sensible way to protect homes without sacrificing beach.

"It's the public's beach but that doesn't mean we should be penalized," he said.

Signs below warn of unstable cliffs and lifeguards tell people to keep a distance. Five people have been killed by falling bluffs at nearby beaches since 1995, most recently a tourist who died in 2008 at Torrey Pines State Beach.

Recently, visitors saw the debate both ways.

Aaron Bert of Encinitas said the walls blight the landscape but that homeowners were entitled to protect their property.

Erik Marquez, who often takes his children to the beach from suburban Los Angeles, agreed.

"It's not like they're big developers bringing in their cranes," he said.

But Marquez said he would lose sympathy for homeowners if it meant surrendering public beach.

TAGS
FROM PAGE 3

return your dog tag. However, it will cost you X number of dollars.'"

A series of email exchanges between Mann's daughter-in-law, Charlotte Mann, and the French woman, Sophie LaFollie, eventually convinced the Manns she was for real. For one thing, LaFollie relayed the serial number from the aluminum tag, a number Mann has never forgotten: 42023412.

"She specifically said, 'I'm not interested in any kind of reward. The only thing I'm interested in is what happened to you that you would have lost your dog tag where I found it,'" Mann said.

Then the beat-up pendant arrived in the mail, leaving Mann to marvel at its journey and recall his own through the village near Rethel, France, where his outfit had dug in for a few days' rest and traded Spam and cigarettes for fresh eggs with two young women in a farmhouse nearby.

"Any (doubting) thoughts I may have had disappeared immediately when I had the dog tag in my hand," Mann said. LaFollie included a picture of her farmhouse, where her grandmother and aunt had lived during the war. "Memories came flooding back," the veteran said, remembering how he'd scrambled those eggs in his steel helmet, stirring with his bayonet.

LaFollie, 36, told the family she spotted the glinting dog tag among the stalks in her barley field in Parny-Resson, a village next to Rethel on April 22. She knew from her family that American soldiers had been through during the war.

"I felt like a little girl finding a treasure," LaFollie said in a statement relayed by the Manns. "It was really exciting to make such a find and then look for its owner."

Online, she found a 2011 article from the Democrat and Chronicle of Rochester describing Mann's being named a knight of the French Legion of Honor, a gesture bestowed by the French government to thank the veterans who helped liberate France.

The newspaper story mentioned Mann's Jewelers, leading LaFollie to the company's website and email address.

"She found (the tag) and within a day was able to track down Irving Mann because of the Internet," Charlotte Mann marveled.

"I have no memory of losing it at all. There was so much going on," said Mann, whose combat career would end a few months later when he was hit in the leg with shrapnel in a battle crossing the Saar River. "I didn't think about dog tags or anything else."

He figures the tag, one of two he wore around his neck, may have slipped off its ring when he was digging his foxhole. Mann has added it to his other World War II mementos, including a Purple Heart he received belatedly in 2010.

"In 69 years, that field has been plowed, tilled, planted," he said. "How many times did they turn that ground over and over again preparing it to grow? For my dog tag to show up after all that time, I consider that remarkable."

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MEMORIAL DAY

FROM PAGE 1

ruler of the Santa Monica Elks Lodge, leading attendees through a decorated list of speakers followed up by a flyover of classic airplanes and the raising of the American flag from half staff to its full glory.

Keynote speaker Ettore Berardinelli, former chief of the Santa Monica Fire Department and staff sergeant with the U.S. Army, summed up the difficulty of Memorial Day in his speech, in which he extolled on the duty Americans have to remember the fallen.

"It's humbling to speak to you because I've never had a shot fired at me in anger. I've never had to wonder if I would live to see the end of my tour," Berardinelli said. "The only thing we have in common is the love of our country — to speak of their valor and sacrifice is an honor."

That is the fundamental struggle with Memorial Day. Although veterans are recognized, it's a day to think on the men and women who are absent rather than those that came back.

That sentiment was encapsulated in this year's flyover in the Missing Man Formation performed by the Condor Squadron, a nonprofit based out of Van Nuys Airport that flies AT-6 airplanes from World War II for parades, memorial services and other veterans events.

"We honor our vets, talk of their bravery and honor their commitment, but their sacrifice goes beyond any words today or anything we may do," Berardinelli said. "It is our duty to remember them."

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Memorial Day began three years after the end of the Civil War as "Decoration Day," a time to adorn the graves of the war dead with flowers.



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ATTENTION: **Members of the Santa Monica Fire Department give a salute during the annual Memorial Day service at Woodlawn Cemetery on Monday.**

It wasn't until the end of the first World War that officials expanded the purpose of the day to include the dead of all of America's conflicts, a national day of reckoning where those who benefit from the sacrifices of individuals in the military can pay their respects.

Santa Monica city officials used the Memorial Day celebration to introduce the city's newest memorial, a wall that will sit outside of the mausoleum marked with the name of each Santa Monican who died in military service.

The City Council approved the project in February, and Monday was the official launch of fundraising to pay for the memorial. The full wall is expected to cost between

SEE CELEBRATION PAGE 9



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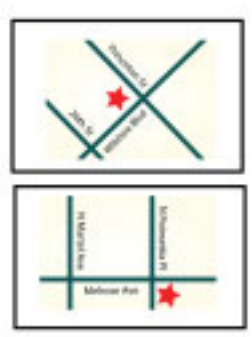

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POSTERS
FROM PAGE 3

School, Seventh Grade
Honorable Mention: Tahsin Thaver, Lincoln Middle School, Seventh Grade
Honorable Mention: Livy Larson, Lincoln Middle School, Seventh Grade

Ninth-12th grade
Grand Prize: Natthavadee Laoharangsima, Santa Monica High School, Ninth Grade
Runner Up: Elsa Lopez, Santa Monica High School, Ninth Grade

"The Disabilities Commission is proud to partner with the city's efforts in sustainability," said Christopher Arroyo, Santa Monica Disabilities Commission chair. "This poster contest creates an awareness of the kinds of accommodations individuals with disabilities may need, but it's exciting to see the students' submissions because they are frequently creative in ways we never could have anticipated. And that creativity suggests sustainable accommodations that ensure individuals with disabilities are fully included in their communities."

Winning students and all participating students were honored at an awards ceremony and celebration hosted by the Annenberg Community Beach House. Winning student entries were on display in City Hall during the first few weeks of May.

editor@smdp.com

CELEBRATION
FROM PAGE 8

$7,500 and $15,000, according to City Hall.

"We're looking to do something simple and elegant. It's an opportunity to remember the people we lost not only today but every day," said Jessica Cusick, cultural affairs manager with City Hall. "We need your help in doing it."

The wall will have at least 97 names, but people were encouraged to contact City Hall if they came across other individuals who needed to be added to the list.

The individual must have been a Santa Monica resident or have been born in Santa Monica, and must have died while in service during a time of war, in combat or otherwise.

They also qualify if they chose to be interred in Santa Monica.

While the outreach has focused on those who have died in past conflicts, it was lost on no one that the list could always grow.

The United States is still involved in what is now the country's longest military conflict, although most troops are expected to leave Afghanistan as soon as 2014.

Suzanne Pritchard attended the event with Errol Grey, a therapy bird that she takes to visit veterans at hospitals and the local Veterans Administration campus.

Although she did not serve herself, several members of Pritchard's family were in the military, and she sees her work with Errol as a way of giving back.

"I'm grateful to veterans," Pritchard said.

ashley@smdp.com

MALIBU
FROM PAGE 3

while briefly introducing the video. "The strongest thing we have in Malibu is the people. And having a strong staff means the city is in good shape."

Serving as the voice-over for the video, La Monte highlighted each city department, including Planning, Public Works, Parks and Recreation and the Emergency Services departments.

La Monte praised the public works staff for obtaining $14 million in Measure R funds for improvements to Pacific Coast Highway. He also touted the city's environmental sustainability program, which has transitioned to a paperless office system and next year will kick off a campaign focusing on water quality in Malibu.

The video additionally touched on the city's commercial licensing agreement, which La Monte said would be an added source of revenue for the city of Malibu and would keep the city from having to implement tax increases.

La Monte said the video should be posted on the city of Malibu's website when it launches its complete redesign next month.

editor@smdp.com

This article originally appeared in the Malibu Times.









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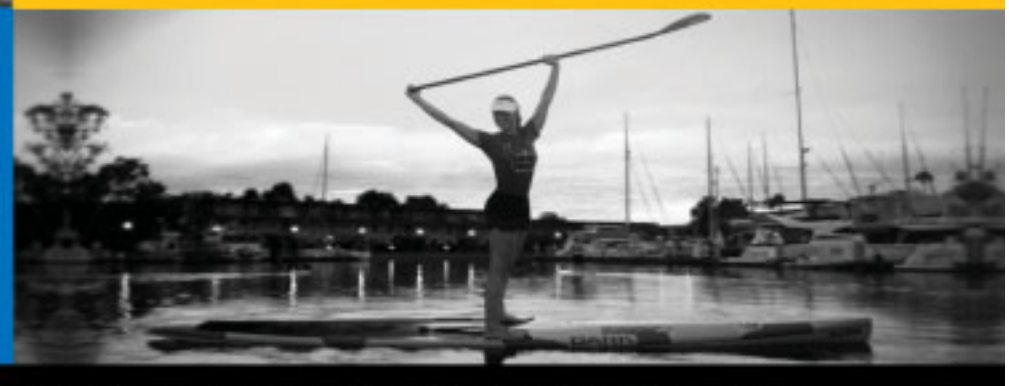


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U.S. intelligence embraces debate in security issues

LARA JAKES
AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON In the months leading up to the killing of Osama bin Laden, veteran intelligence analyst Robert Cardillo was given the nickname "Debbie Downer." With each new tidbit of information that tracked bin Laden to a high-walled compound in northern Pakistan — phone records, satellite imaging, clues from other suspects — Cardillo cast doubt that the terror network leader and mastermind was actually there.

As the world now knows well, President Barack Obama ultimately decided to launch a May 2011 raid on the Abbottabad compound that killed bin Laden. But the level of widespread skepticism that Cardillo shared with other top-level officials — which nearly scuttled the raid — reflected a sea change within the U.S. spy community, one that embraces debate to avoid "slam-dunk" intelligence in tough national security decisions.

The same sort of high-stakes dissent was on public display recently as intelligence officials grappled with conflicting opinions about threats in North Korea and Syria. And it is a vital part of ongoing discussions over whether to send deadly drone strikes against terror suspects abroad — including U.S. citizens.

The three cases provide a rare look inside the secretive 16 intelligence agencies as they try to piece together security threats from bits of vague information from around the world. But they also raise concerns about whether officials who make decisions based on their assessments can get clear guidance from a divided intelligence community.

At the helm of what he calls a healthy discord is Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, who has spent more than two-thirds of his 72 years collecting, analyzing and reviewing spy data from war zones and rogue nations. Clapper, the nation's fourth top intelligence chief, says disputes are uncommon but absolutely necessary to get as much input as possible in far-flung places where it's hard for the U.S. to extract — or fully understand — ground-level realities.

"What's bad about dissension? Is it a good thing to have uniformity of view where everyone agrees all the time? I don't think so," Clapper told The Associated Press in an interview Friday. "...People lust for uniform clairvoyance. We're not going to do that."

"We are never dealing with a perfect set of facts," Clapper said. "You know the old saw about the difference between mysteries and secrets? Of course, we're held equally responsible for divining both. And so those imponderables like that just have to be factored."

Looking in from the outside, the dissension can seem awkward, if not uneasy — especially when the risks are so high.

At a congressional hearing last month, Rep. Doug Lamborn, R-Colo., read from a Defense Intelligence Agency report suggesting North Korea is able to arm long-range missiles with nuclear warheads. The April 11 disclosure, which had been mistakenly declassified, came at the height of Kim Jong Un's sabre-rattling rhetoric and raised fears that U.S. territory or Asian nations could be targeted for an attack.

Within hours, Clapper announced that the DIA report did not reflect the opinions of the rest of the intelligence community, and that North Korea was not yet fully capable of launching a nuclear-armed missile.

Two weeks later, the White House announced that U.S. intelligence concluded that Syrian President Bashar Assad has probably used deadly chemical weapons at least twice in his country's fierce civil war. But White House officials said the intelligence wasn't strong enough to justify sending significant U.S. military support to Syrian rebels who are fighting Assad's regime.

Because the U.S. has few sources to provide first-hand information in Syria, the intelligence agencies split on how confident they were that Assad had deployed chemical weapons. The best they could do was conclude that the Syrian regime, at least, probably had undertaken such an effort. This put Obama in the awkward political position of having said the use of chemical weapons would cross a "red line" and have "enormous consequences," but not moving on the news of chemical weapons use, when the occasion arose, because the intelligence was murky.

Lamborn said he welcomes an internal intelligence community debate but is concerned that the North Korean threat was cavalierly brushed aside.

"If they want to argue among themselves, that's fine," said Lamborn, a member of the House Armed Services Committee. However, he also said, "We should be cautious when evaluating different opinions, and certainly give credence to the more sobering possibilities. ... When it comes to national security, I don't think we want to have rose-colored glasses on, and sweep threats under the rug."

Clapper said that, in fact, U.S. intelligence officials today are more accustomed to predicting gloom and doom. "We rain on parades a lot," he said.

Current and former U.S. intelligence officials say the vigorous internal debate was spawn from a single mistake about a threat — and an overly aggressive response.

Congress demanded widespread intelligence reform after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, to fix a system where agencies hoarded threat information instead of routinely sharing it. Turf wars between the CIA and the FBI, in particular, were common. The CIA generally was considered the nation's top intelligence agency, and its director was the president's principal intelligence adviser.

The system was still in place in 2002, when the White House was weighing whether to invade Iraq. Intelligence officials widely — and wrongly — believed that then-dictator Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. By December 2002, the White House had decided to invade and was trying to outline its reasoning for doing so when then-CIA Director George Tenet described it as "a slam-dunk case."

The consequences were disastrous. There were no WMDs, but the U.S. wound up in a nearly nine-year war that killed nearly 5,000 American soldiers, left more than 117,000 Iraqis dead, and cost taxpayers at least $767 billion. The war also damaged U.S. credibility throughout the Mideast and, to a lesser extent, the world. Tenet later described his "slam-dunk" comment as "the two dumbest words I ever said."

Two years later, Congress signed sweeping reforms requiring intelligence officials to make clear when the spy agencies don't agree. Retired Amb. John Negroponte, who became the first U.S. national intelligence director in 2005, said if it hadn't been for the faulty WMD assessment "we wouldn't have had intelligence reform."

"It was then, and only then that the real fire was lit under the movement for reform," Negroponte said in a recent interview. "In some respects it was understandable, because Saddam had had all these things before, but we just allowed ourselves to fall

SEE DEBATE PAGE 12

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **66.9°**

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to chest high
SSW swell slowly eases; Standout see larger shoulder high sets early.

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high
SSW swell eases; Standouts up to chest high on sets; keeping an eye on the winds.

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Old SSW swell eases; new SSW-S swell shows in the PM; NW windswell pulses up; Larger sets to chest high+ for standouts in the far western part of the region;

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high occ. 4ft
SSW swell continues; NW windswell holds; Larger sets to chest high+ for standouts in the far western part of the region; Cleaner conditions possible; stay tuned

BEACH REPORT CARD

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
Number of sewage spills -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 5
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 32
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	C	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	F	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point rest).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	B
Pena Creek at Los Tunnos County Beach.	A+	A+
Topanga Canyon.	D	as
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	B
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	F
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CMW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

LEGEND
DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
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

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.

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DEBATE

FROM PAGE 11

into this erroneous judgment."

To prevent that from happening again, senior intelligence officials now encourage each of the spy agencies to debate information, and if they don't agree, to object to their peers' conclusions. Intelligence assessments spell out the view of the majority of the agencies, and highlight any opposing opinions in a process similar to a Supreme Court ruling with a majority and minority opinion.

The result, officials say, is an intelligence community that makes assessments by majority vote instead of group-think, and where each agency is supposed to have an equal voice. In effect, officials say, the CIA has had to lean back over the last decade as officials have given greater credence to formerly marginalized agencies. Among them is the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, which warned before the 2003 Iraq invasion that the CIA had overestimated Saddam's prospects to develop nuclear weapons.

Also included is the DIA, which has increased its ability during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars to gather ground-level intelligence throughout much of the Mideast and southwest Asia. In an interview, DIA director Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn would not discuss his agency's debated assessment on North Korea, but described a typical intelligence community discussion about "ballistic missiles in name-that-country" during which officials weigh in on how confident they feel about the information they're seeing.

"In the intelligence community we should encourage, what I would call, good competition," Flynn said. He added: "The DIA, in general, is always going to be a little bit more aggressive. ...As a defense community, we're closer to the war-fighting commanders; it may be in that part of our DNA."

Without the all the varying strands of information pieced together from across the intelligence agencies, officials now say the bin Laden raid would not have happened.

The CIA was running the manhunt, but the National Security Agency was contributing phone numbers and details from conversations it had intercepted in overseas wiretaps. The National Geospatial Agency provided satellite imagery of the Abbottabad compound — from years past and more recently — to get a sense of who might be living there. And it produced photos for a tall man walking the ground inside the compound — even though they were never able to get a close look at his face.

One of the compound's balconies was blocked off by a seven-foot wall, Cardillo said, raising questions about who might want his view obscured by such a tall barrier. Officials also were keeping tabs on the people who lived in the compound, and trying to track how often they went outside.

Cardillo was vocal about his skepticism in each strand of new information he analyzed during the eight months he worked on the case, prompting colleagues to rib him about being a "Debbie Downer."

"I wasn't trying to be negative for the sake of being negative," Cardillo, a deputy national intelligence director who regularly briefs Obama, said in an interview Friday. "I felt, 'Boy, we've got to press hard against each piece of evidence.' Because, let's face it, we wanted bin Laden to be there. And you can get into group-think pretty quick."

To prevent that from happening, officials encouraged wide debate. At one point, they brought in a new four-man team of analysts who had not been briefed on the case to independently determine whether the intelligence gathered was strong enough to indicate bin Laden was there.

Their assessment was even more skeptical than Cardillo's. In the end the call to launch the raid was so close that, as officials have since said, it might as well have come down to a flip of a coin.

In most intelligence cases, the decisions aren't nearly as dramatic. But the stakes are always high.

Over the last four years, the Obama administration has expanded the deadly U.S. drone program in its hunt for extremists in terror havens. The drones have killed thousands of people since 2003 — both suspected terrorists and civilian bystanders — among them four U.S. citizens in Pakistan and Yemen.

The Justice Department this week said only one of the four Americans, Anwar al-Awlaki, who officials believe had ties to at least three attacks planned or carried out on U.S. soil, was targeted in the strikes. The other three were collateral damage in strikes aimed at others.

Though policy officials make the final call on when to strike, the intelligence community builds the case. Analysts must follow specific criteria in drone assessments, including near certainty of the target's whereabouts and the notion that bystanders will not be killed. They must also look at the likelihood of whether the terror suspects can be captured instead of killed.

In these sorts of life-and-death cases, robust debate is especially necessary, Clapper said. And if widespread doubts persist, the strike will be canceled.

"It is a high bar, by the way, and it should be," Clapper said. "If there is doubt and argument and debate — and there always will be as we look at the totality the information we have on a potential target — we damn well better have those debates and resolve those kinds of issues among ourselves the best we can."

Few have been more skeptical of the decision-making behind the drone strikes than Sen. Ron Wyden, an Oregon Democrat who has sat on the Senate Intelligence Committee since 2001. Earlier this year, he threatened to block Senate confirmation of CIA Director John Brennan until the White House gave Congress classified documents outlining its legal justification for targeting American citizens in drone strikes. The documents were turned over within hours of Brennan's confirmation hearing.

Generally, Wyden says, spy assessments have become far more reliable over the last decade, and especially since the flawed Iraq intelligence. But he maintains Congress should be given greater access to classified documents to independently verify intelligence analysis and assessments — and safeguard against being misled.

"Certainly, solid analysis from the intelligence community is one of the most important sources of information that I have," Wyden said in an interview this month. "And if you look back, and the analysis is incorrect or if it's written in a way that portrays guesses at certainties, that can contribute to flawed decision-making.

"That's why I felt so strongly about insisting on actually getting those documents with respect to drones," Wyden said. "I've got to be able to verify it."

Clapper, who has been working on intelligence issues for a half-century, is well aware of how jittery many Americans feel about the spy community. The internal debates, he believes, should bolster their confidence that intelligence officials have thoroughly weighed all aspects of some of the world's most difficult security issues before deciding how high a threat they pose.

"I think it'd be very unhealthy — and I get a lot of pushback from people — if I tried to insist that you will have one uniform view and this is what I think, and that's what goes. That just wouldn't work," he said. "There is the fundamental tenet of truth to power, presenting inconvenient truths at inconvenient times. That's part of our system."

MOVIE TIMES

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

Fast & Furious 6 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:45am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Epic (PG) 1hr 42min
12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

Hangover Part III (R) 1hr 40min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Iron Man 3 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
12:20pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

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

Star Trek Into Darkness (PG-13) 2hrs 03min
11:55am, 3:15pm, 6:30pm, 9:45pm

Iron Man 3 (PG-13) 2hrs 15min
11:45am, 3:00pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Fast & Furious 6 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:00pm, 4:10pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

Epic in 3D (PG) 1hr 42min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Great Gatsby (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
3:45pm, 10:35pm, 10:45pm

Great Gatsby in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:15pm, 7:15pm

Star Trek Into Darkness 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 03min
1:15pm, 4:35pm, 7:45pm

Hangover Part III (R) 1hr 40min
9:45pm

Hangover Part III (R) 1hr 40min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:25pm, 7:00pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
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(310) 478-3836

Mud (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Stories We Tell (PG-13) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

Iceman (R) 1hr 45min
10:10pm

Love Is All You Need (R) 1hr 40min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm

We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks (R) 2hrs 07min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

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



Happy Birthday, Ross!

Ross Furukawa: Publisher, Santa Monica Daily Press

USE YOUR IMAGINATION TONIGHT, GEM

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your anger and frustration seem to bubble up. After listening to someone's needs, you could feel put off. Do not respond if following through makes you uncomfortable. Make calls and reach out to a neighbor or sibling. Good news heads your way. Tonight: Hang out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You will discover what is possible if you relax and become more forthcoming. Your appraisal of a personal matter encourages you to take a leap of faith. Be sure to do much-needed research. Tonight: Make it easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Engage in a conversation with a partner. You might not come to an agreement easily. Take an overview and see what facts you are missing. Get to the bottom of a problem by taking in the whole picture. Tonight: Use your imagination.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Others let you know what they want. The problem might be that you are not sure of your choice yet. In some way, you could feel as if someone is running right over you. Share your feelings with this person. Tonight: Chat with a partner or dear friend. Speak your mind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You could be taken aback by someone's efforts. You also might find that you are angry or frustrated with an older friend or boss. Why not address the issue directly? This person's response could take you by surprise. Be prepared. Tonight: In the thick of a situation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Have a talk with someone you respect, especially if this person is acting as if he or she is peeved. There probably is a good reason for this behavior. You won't be able to work anything out until you know the problem. Count on your ingenuity. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could view an important matter very differently from a partner. Listen to what this person shares. He or she means exactly what he or she says. Tonight: You know what is best.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Sometimes you push so hard to have your way that it is difficult to come to terms with a different point of view. Try to listen more to a key person in your life. You both will be a lot happier as a result. Consider taking a walk in order to clear your mind. Tonight: At home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might be finalizing some details regarding a purchase or balancing your finances. You will perk up considerably in the afternoon. Make calls, schedule meetings and -- most importantly -- catch up on a friend's news. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to rearrange your schedule in order to make time for an important conversation in the morning. Understand where others are coming from, and listen to their logic. Tempers run high, and you can do little to change what is going on. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You could be dragging in the morning and feel unsure as to which way you want to go. Alleviate a problem by talking it out; otherwise, you could be walking on eggshells. You have a greater chance of clearing the issue later in the day. Tonight: Make yourself happy, first.

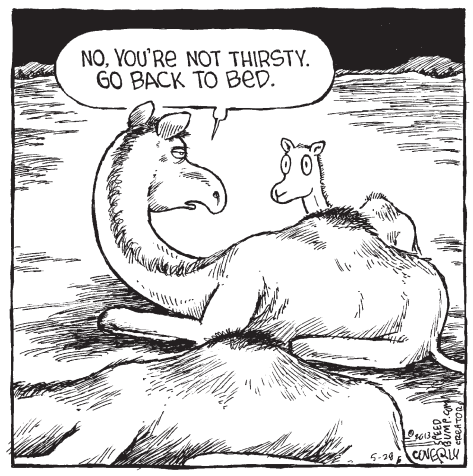
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. You could be surprised by how strong-willed you need to be in order to get your point across. Later, you might want to spend some quiet time dealing with a project or going over this conversation in your head. Tonight: Catch some extra zzz's.

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

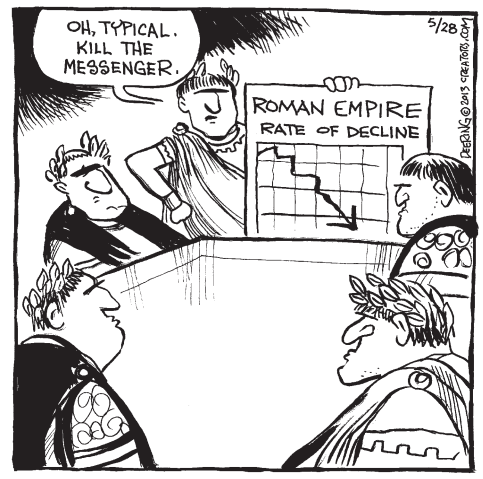
This year you go back and forth between having an avant-garde mindset to a very conventional way of thinking. You can't be put in a box -- you are a free thinker. Others enjoy seeing how you work with concepts and apply them to your life. If you are single, you could form a close bond with a foreigner or someone who is very different from you. You'll like learning about this person's culture and ways. If you are attached, the two of you often speak about a dream trip; start planning it this year. AQUARIUS piques your interest.

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

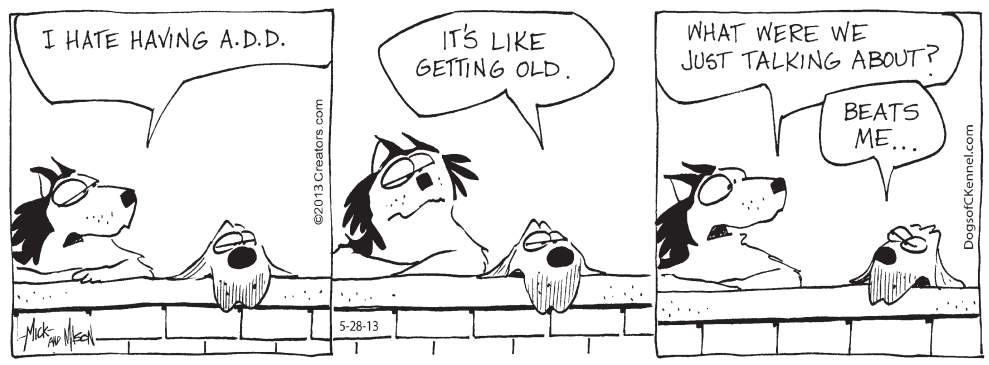
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



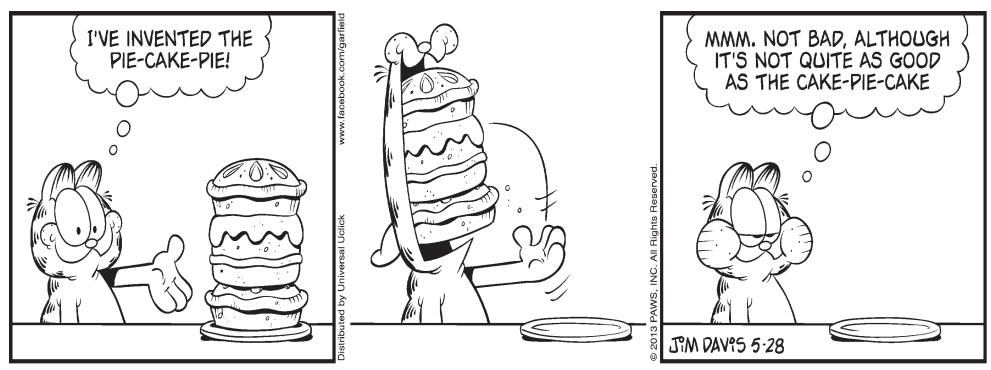
Strange Brew
By John Deering



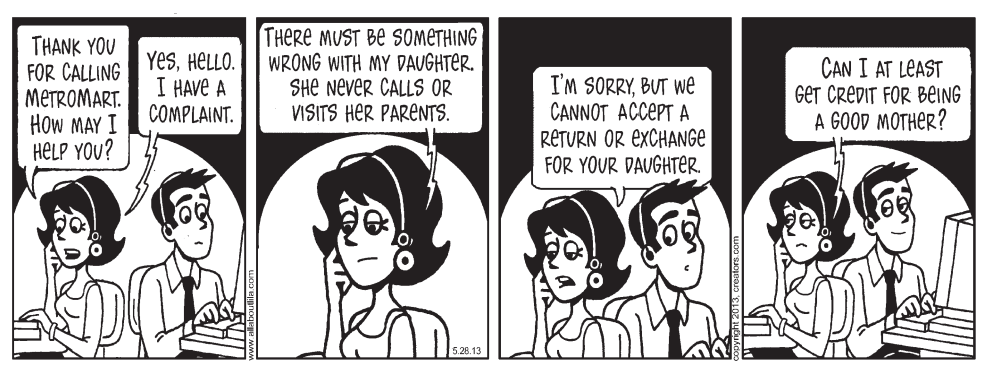
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



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 ★★

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

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

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

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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.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Thrifty one
6 "Love Story" writer
11 Acrobatic
12 Gladiator's place
13 Lionel Richie best-of album
15 Cain's mother
16 Rink surface
17 Regret
18 Tourist spots
20 Martini base
21 Old auto
22 "Troy" star
23 Place
26 Asks for divine help
27 Mural setting
28 Spot
29 Building wing
30 Fastened, in a way
34 Yale rooter
35 Ocean off Cal.
36 Longoria of TV
37 Completely
40 Start
41 Came to
42 Requires
43 Musical sounds

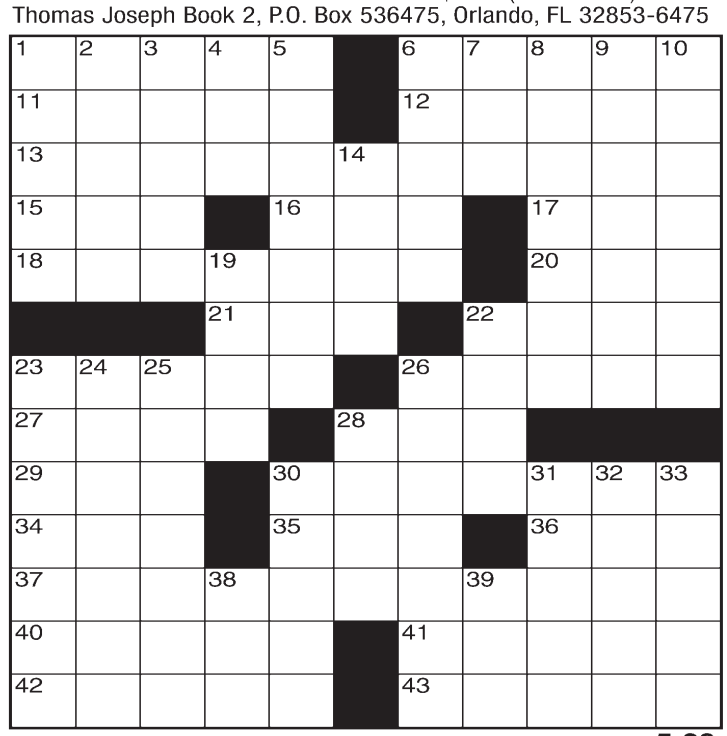
DOWN

1 Fencing sword
2 Desert plant
3 Bad habits
4 Antlered animal
5 No longer working
6 Bank fixtures
7 Mess up
8 Florida neighbor
9 Investment choice
10 Fingerprints, in cop jargon
14 Numerical prefix
19 Uttered
22 Get ready, for short
23 Quite fond of
24 Brewski
25 Squashed circle
26 Seaman's jacket
28 Wild guess
30 Giraffe features
31 Pretend
32 Conjure up
33 Titled women
38 Hall of Famer Williams
39 Tango need

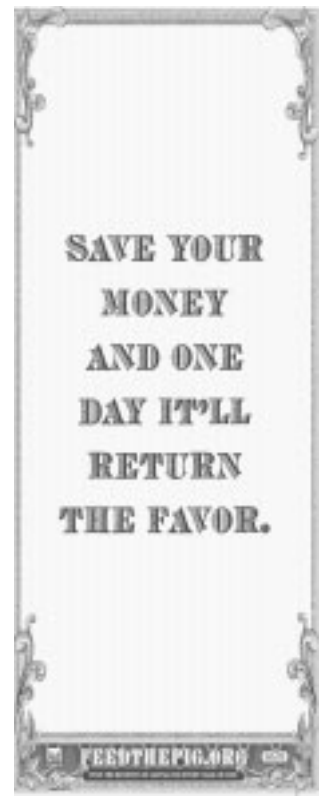
R	A	I	L	S	■	M	O	A	N	■
E	N	D	O	W	■	O	N	S	E	T
A	N	I	S	E	■	C	O	T	T	A
R	I	O	■	A	S	H	■	R	I	M
M	E	M	O	R	I	A	L	I	Z	E
■	■	■	Z	I	P	■	O	D	E	S
W	A	G	O	N	■	S	C	E	N	T
O	V	E	N	■	P	E	A	■	■	■
M	A	T	E	R	I	A	L	I	Z	E
B	I	D	■	O	N	S	■	N	I	P
A	L	O	H	A	■	A	T	O	N	E
T	E	N	O	R	■	L	A	N	G	E
■	D	E	N	S	■	T	R	E	S	S

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



5-28



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ News of the Weird has reported several times on the astonishing control that inmates have at certain prisons in Latin American countries, with drug cartel leaders often enjoying lives nearly as pleasurable as their lives on the outside. However, according to an April federal indictment, similar problems have plagued the City Detention Center in Baltimore, where members of the "Black Guerrilla Family" operated with impunity. Between 2010 and 2012, corruption was such that 13 female guards have now been charged, including four women who bore the children of the gang's imprisoned leader, Tavon White. Cellphones, drugs and Grey Goose vodka were among the smuggled-in contraband, and the indictment charges that murders were ordered from inside. (Baltimore City Paper had reported 14 stories in 2009 and 2010 on the gang-related corruption at the center, but apparently state and federal officials had failed to be alarmed.)

■ Frequent Flyers: (1) Chicago police have arrested Ms. Shermain Miles, 51, at least 396 times since 1978, under 83 different aliases, for crimes ranging from theft (92 times) to prostitution and robbery. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, she is a virtuoso at playing "the system" to delay her proceedings and avoid jail time. (2) Alvin Cote, 59, passed away in February of poor health in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, following a "career" of 843 public-intoxication arrests.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1975 - Fifteen West African countries sign the Treaty of Lagos, creating the Economic Community of West African States.

WORD UP!

mordacious
\ mawr-DEY-shuhs \ , adjective;
1. sharp or caustic in style, tone, etc.
2. biting or given to biting.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Roomates
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Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 6,159,750
North of Montana	=	$ 4,109,438
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,364,143
South of Wilshire	=	$ 873,000
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,491,174
Ocean Park	=	$ 2,152,167
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