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JUNE 4-5, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 175

Santa Monica Daily Press



WHERE NOT TO LIGHT UP
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE HAPPY BIRTHDAY ST. MONICA'S ISSUE

Samohi students busted with beer force policy change

Kids in trouble can regain privileges by completing counseling, community service

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS For this year only, seniors and eighth graders will get the chance to attend graduation and other end-of-the-year events despite violating the district's controlled substance policy.

The determination came down at Thursday's Board of Education meeting. The issue was thrust into the spotlight after three seniors at Santa Monica High School were caught with beer while on a choir trip overseas.

Board members voted unanimously to alter the policy, which required a 10-week probation period that prohibited students from participating in award ceremonies, activities, grad night and, ultimately, graduation.

The change preserves other aspects of punishment, including a five-day suspension, requirement for 40 hours of community service and 24 hours of substance abuse counseling. Depending on the offense, students could also be required to attend a 12-step counseling program.

But under the revised program, students

SEE POLICY PAGE 11



CREATIVE OUTLET

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Students from Santa Monica Alternative School House (SMASH) paint the 'SuperSMASH' car on Friday for the annual Neighborhood Fair and Silent Auction next Saturday at the SMASH campus. The car will be up for display until the fair, when people will be able to take out their frustrations by smashing the car with a hammer in exchange for a cash donation.

St. Monica celebrates 125th anniversary

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

ST. MONICA Few people have the same connection to St. Monica's Catholic Church as Lydia Saenz.



ST. MONICA'S

She was baptized there, received her first communion there and went through the rite of confirmation at the campus on the corner of Seventh Street and California Avenue.

Saenz even met her husband of over four decades, Ronald, while they were both students at St. Monica's Catholic High School.

The two conversed during lunch breaks because it was against the rules for boys and girls to speak in the hallways in between classes, she said.

"The parish is a quilt, and we are part of that quilt," Saenz said.

The loving couple, like many of the 9,000 households that comprise St. Monica's congregation, will gather together this weekend to kick off a year of celebration to commemorate the church's 125th anniversary in Santa Monica.

St. Monica's got its start July 28, 1877 in the home of Judge M.C. Morgan. Mass was held every other week, officiated by Pastor Peter Verdaguer who had to travel into town by cart to attend.

SEE CHURCH PAGE 8

Car shopping for teens: 3 new cars for new drivers

BY DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT Car accidents are the leading cause of death for teenagers. So when it comes time to buy a suitable car for a teen driver, it's important to choose the safest car that meets your budget.

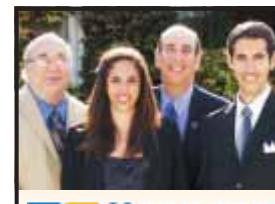
"If you can find a good, safe vehicle, you may not be able to prevent them from talking on the phone or speeding or having other kids in the car," said Anne McCartt, senior vice president for research at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, which performs crash tests and issues vehicle safety ratings. "But if something goes wrong,

SEE TEENS PAGE 3

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, June 4, 2011

?uestlove comes to town
The Central
1348 14th St., 8 p.m.
?uestlove, of the influential hip-hop group The Roots, will be playing a rare DJ set with The Beatards on Saturday. For more information, visit centralsapc.com.

Plan the forest of the future
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 10:30 a.m.
City Hall and the Urban Forest Master Plan Task Force are asking for the community's involvement in planning for the long-term health of Santa Monica's urban forest. Led by the City Council-appointed task force, a series of public workshops will be held in June on "Street Tree Species Selection." The workshops will offer residents a key opportunity to help determine appropriate tree species street by street in the event that a street tree needs to be replaced in the future. The next meeting takes place June 25. For more information, call (310) 458-8974.

Swimming for Alzheimer's research
SMC Swim Center
2225 16th St., 8 a.m. — noon
Come participate as a swimmer or support those who are by pledging and cheering them on during this charity event dubbed Swim For Love: Ken Whitmore Swim for Alzheimer's Research. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/eih6my.

Jazz for Japan
Samohi's Barnum Hall
601 Pico Blvd., 3 p.m.
In this special event called, "Jazz For Japan," the Samohi Jazz program has partnered with the Santa Monica Chapter of the American Red Cross, to raise money for the Japanese people that were devastated by the terrible chain of events that occurred recently in their country. Half of all proceeds from the concert will go toward the Japan Earthquake and Pacific Tsunami relief effort and the other half will go to support the Samohi Jazz program. For more information, visit Jazz4Japan.org.

Recycling sculpture contest
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
10 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Santa Monica school children were invited to submit sculptures crafted from recycled items in the Resource Recovery & Recycling Division's 2011 Art of Recycling Sculpture Contest. Get an up close and personal look at their masterpieces created from bottles, cans, buttons, and other unique materials during the event. Visitors will get the opportunity to select who wins the People's Choice Award. For more information, call (310) 458-8528.

'Java Drama 2'
Samohi's Barnum Hall
601 Pico Blvd., 5 p.m. & 8 p.m.
"Java Drama 2" is chock full of music, dance, one-act plays, videos, puppetry, artwork, monologues and poetry. Not to mention delicious desserts and fresh-brewed espresso drinks served café style by a theatre student wait staff. For more information, call (310) 395-3204 ext. 71239.

Sunday, June 5, 2011

Party like it's the '80s
YWCA
2019 14th St., 4 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Come back to high school and wear your 1980s gear, that's how the Goonies would want it. There will be a live DJ, dancing, punch, and snacks. Other food and drinks will be available for sale. Cover is $5. For more information, call (310) 452-3881.

A Festival of Music
First United Methodist Church
1008 11th St., 7:30 p.m.
A Festival of Music features conductor James E. Smith and guest tenor Rodell Rosel. Come enjoy the performances of the First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir, SMC Concert Chorale, L.A. Concert Orchestra, John Adams Middle School Choral Ensemble and Christoph Bull on organ. For more information, call (310) 393-8258.

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



Ford's Davis named chair of chamber

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF


DAVIS

DOWNTOWN Owner and president of Santa Monica Ford Lincoln, Ron Davis, has been named chair-elect to the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber will install Davis as chairman during the 86th Annual Leadership Installation Dinner on June 9 at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel.

Santa Monica Ford Lincoln is one of the top-selling Ford dealerships in the United States, selling around 20,000 vehicles a year, according to a statement released by the chamber.

"Selling cars has been significant part of my life and I look forward to the opportunity to bring my knowledge and abilities to the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce," Davis said.

Since graduating from Loyola University of Los Angeles in 1972, Davis has spent over 30 years in the automotive business. Davis first started working as a management intern for Ford Motor Co. in 1973 and after working his way up the ranks Davis was appointed as the dealer principal at Santa Monica Ford Lincoln Mercury in 2002.

He has been owner, president and general manager of this dealership for 9 years. In addition to his successful dealerships and being installed as the new chairman of the board for the Chamber of Commerce, Davis also serves on the board for the Santa Monica Red Cross, Santa Monica College Associates, Santa Monica Symphony, Santa Monica Rotary Club and the YMCA.

The Annual Leadership Installation Dinner gives the chamber an opportunity to honor local business leaders and a chance for sponsors to honor employers who go above and beyond in the city of Santa Monica.

news@smdp.com

Former LA Black Panther leader Pratt dies at 63

BY DENISE PETSKI & JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press Writers

LOS ANGELES Former Black Panther Party leader Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt, whose murder conviction was overturned after he spent 27 years in prison for a crime he maintained he did not commit, has died. He was 63.

Pratt died at his home in a small village in Tanzania, where he had lived for at least half a decade, lawyer Stuart Hanlon, who helped Pratt win his freedom, told The Associated Press from San Francisco on Thursday.

Hanlon said he learned of Pratt's death through the former activist's family members. He did not know what caused Pratt's death, but said he had suffered from high blood pressure.

Hanlon said Pratt refused to carry any resentment about his treatment by the legal system.

"He had no anger, he had no bitterness, he had no desire for revenge. He wanted to resume his life and have children," he said. "He would never look back."

The Los Angeles Times, which first reported Pratt's death, quoted a family member as saying he died Thursday.

Pratt was convicted in 1972 of being one of two men who robbed and fatally shot schoolteacher Caroline Olsen on a Santa Monica tennis court in December 1968. No one else was arrested.

Pratt claimed he was in Oakland for Black Panther meetings the day of the murder, and that FBI agents and police hid and possibly destroyed wiretap evidence that would prove it.

His lawyers, who included high-profile defense attorney Johnnie Cochran, blamed his arrest on a politically charged campaign by J. Edgar Hoover's FBI against the Black Panthers and other perceived enemies of the U.S. government.

Pratt's belated reversal of fortune came with the disclosure that a key prosecution witness hid the fact he was an ex-felon and a police informant.

Superior Court Judge Everett Dickey granted him a new trial in June 1997, saying the credibility of prosecution witness Julius Butler — who testified that Pratt had confessed to him — could have been undermined if the jury had known of his relationship with law enforcement. He was freed later that month.

Cochran, best known representing such clients as O.J. Simpson and Michael Jackson, called the day Pratt's freedom was secured "the happiest day of my life practicing law."

Prosecutors announced two years after the conviction was overturned that they would abandon efforts to retry him.

"I feel relieved that the L.A. DA's office has finally come to their senses in this respect," Pratt said at the time. "But, I am not relieved in that they did not come clean all the way in exposing their complicity with this frame-up, this 27-year trauma."

He settled a false imprisonment and civil rights lawsuit against the FBI and city of Los Angeles for $4.5 million in 2000.

80-year-old jewelry thief sentenced in LA

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES An 80-year-old woman with a decades-long criminal record for stealing jewelry has been sentenced to 16 months in prison for swiping a $16,000 ring from a Santa Monica store.

City News Service reports that Doris Payne pleaded no contest to grand theft of personal property Friday. Her sentence will run concurrent with a 5-year term she's serving for stealing a diamond ring from a San Diego department store last year.

Police say Payne placed the ring down the front of her shirt during a visit to the jewelry store in Santa Monica in October. The ring was reported stolen two days later after it wasn't found.

Payne has several prior convictions for theft and has been sent to prison twice.

TEENS
FROM PAGE 1

you can maximize the possibility that the kid will do well in a crash."

Although you may be tempted to wrap your kid in the safety of a mammoth SUV, mid-size sedans are actually the best cars for teens. That's because they're big enough to handle the impact of a crash but nimble enough to steer out of trouble.

"A great big car like the Crown Victoria is a potent machine in a straight line, but when you lose control it's a handful," said David Champion, the senior director of Consumer Reports' auto test division.

Champion recommends cars with the smallest, four-cylinder engines, so they're not too powerful. Critical safety features include anti-lock brakes and electronic stability control, which applies the brakes to individual wheels if it senses the driver is swerving out of control. And stick with front-wheel-drive. While many people prefer all-wheel-drive in snowy weather, it can give kids a false sense of security and encourage them to drive too fast in hazardous conditions.

On the car's interior, look for cars with simple controls that don't require drivers to take their eyes off the road. Hands-free calling systems may be helpful, although they can still be a distraction.

Price is a factor, of course, especially since adding a teen to your auto insurance can easily cost several thousand dollars a year. McCartt said used cars from recent model years — with all of the safety features of current models — are a good choice for teens. The Insurance Institute lists its top safety picks for each year back to 2006 on its website, so that's one place parents can find the safest cars from any given year. Results of U.S. government crash tests back to 1990 are also available on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's website.

Here are three new midsize cars, all under $20,000, that Champion recommends for teen drivers. All are Insurance Institute top safety picks for 2011, and all have estimated annual fuel costs of around $2,000, which is average for a midsize car.

1. VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

The 2011 Jetta starts at $16,495, significantly less than most of its midsize competition. Among its standard safety features is a crash response system that automatically unlocks the doors, cuts the flow of gas and turns on the hazard lights when it senses a crash. The lowest-priced model gets 29 miles per gallon, according to the U.S.

SEE **CARS** PAGE 10

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Shout from the mountain

Editor:

I see where the group CRAAP [Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution] got the crap kicked out of them two ways ("City Hall will not appeal SMO jet ban," page 1, June 2). First, they lost the case in court and then the Santa Monica City Council failed to tell them about it. If City Hall had won, it would have been on the front page and shouted from the highest point in the city, which I think is the top of [Mayor Richard] Bloom's head!

Brian Gray
Venice

Cut it out

Editor:

I have a suggestion for anyone approached by Jena Troutman ("Initiative seeks to protect penises," page 1, May 24) or anyone else supporting the ban on circumcision: just cut them off.

Saul Cohen
Santa Monica

It's up to the family

Editor:

It is with interest that I have read the recent debate regarding circumcision and the proposed ban against it. Both sides will undoubtedly have plenty of statistics and medical evidence to support their claims.

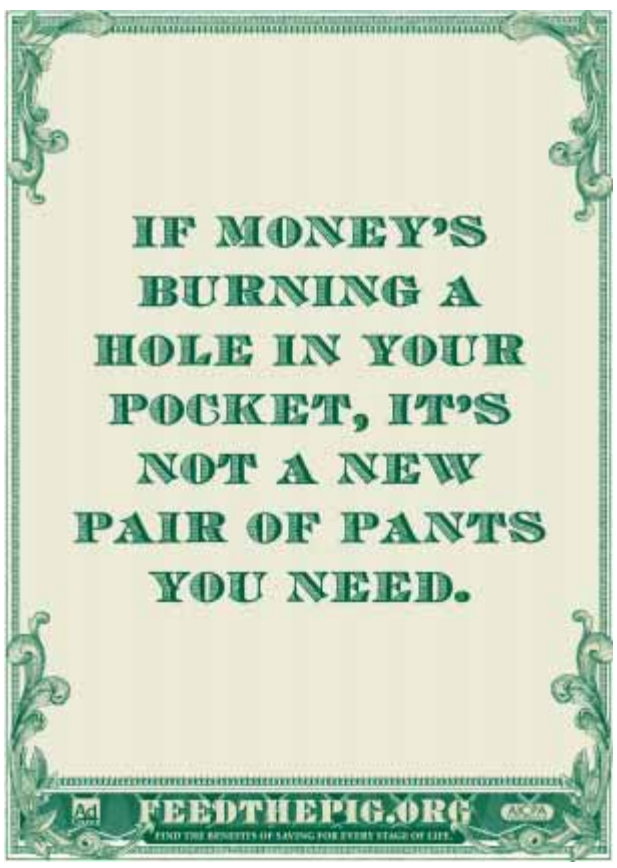
While I have no opinion on the issue itself, it is interesting that the issue of "freedom of religion" has been brought up. Regarding this, I have two things to say.

The U.S. protects "freedom of religion" within certain limits. A few thousand years ago, virgins were sacrificed to appease the gods. In some cultures, young children were sacrificed as well. Although these were legitimate practices at the time (accepted by the culture as normal and acceptable), they would not be permitted today.

If religious people want to claim that a fetus is a "person" and therefore that "abortion is murder," then we have to accept that a baby is a "person" as well. Both side of the circumcision issue can agree that the procedure is irreversible. If a baby boy barely a week old is a "person," then what right does anyone have to perform an irreversible surgical procedure on him?

If we are to accept that the decision to circumcise (or not) should be left up "to the family," then we also must accept that the decision to abort (or not) should be left up "to the family" (or to the pregnant woman herself).

Sadia Carone
Los Angeles



On the Beat

NRO Scott Pace — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

If unclear, ask for identification

Q: I SAW A PERSON BEING PULLED over by an unmarked vehicle with lights and sirens. The vehicle was the same make and model as a standard police car, but it did not have any police markings on it. In this type of incident, how can citizens be sure that it's a real police officer pulling someone over and not someone pretending to be one?

A: Police officers use many different types of vehicles for the varied jobs they perform. Not all police vehicles are the same, but the law remains the same: if a police vehicle with a solid red light and siren is trying to pull you over, you must pull your vehicle over in a safe spot and wait to be contacted by the officer. The officer may or may not be in uniform, but should be displaying some sort of uniform marking, like a police jacket, or badge identifying him or her as a police officer or deputy sheriff. If you have a question as to whether the person is an actual police officer or deputy, you should ask to see their identification card.

Identification cards are required to be in the officer's possession while working. The identification card can be different with each police department, but in Santa Monica they will have the city of Santa Monica seal, job title (like police officer), a picture of a police badge, the officer's name and serial number, and the chief of police's name. If the officer can't show you their identification card, you should ask for a supervisor to respond to the scene. The supervisor will be able to verify the officer's identity. Please remember to be courteous and not argumentative, and allow the situation to become stable before asking for identification.

Q: I'm new to Santa Monica and I'm not familiar with the smoking laws. Can you let me know where people are prohibited from smoking; I don't want to get a ticket or upset people unknowingly.

A: I appreciate the effort you're going through to not violate our smoking laws and be respectful to the citizen's in our city. Not only did I include the prohibited locations, but also the definitions so there are no misunderstandings. Section 4.44.020 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code reads:

It is unlawful to smoke in the following places: Any elevator, any public park, any public beach; anywhere on the Santa Monica Pier; any outdoor service area; inside any public building; any outdoor dining area; within 20 feet of the entrance, exit or open window of any building open to the public; the Third Street Promenade; any Farmers' Market; the property of any public library.

The following words and phrases, as used in this section or in any other applicable law regulating smoking, shall have the following meanings:

Dining area. A non-residential location where food or beverages are served by a business or routinely consumed by customers. This includes, but is not limited to, restaurant or bar seating areas and patios.

Santa Monica Pier. The Santa Monica Pier, consisting of both the Newcomb Pier and the Municipal Pier, protruding from the Santa Monica State Beach at the southwesterly terminus of Colorado Avenue, and extending for approximately 2,135 feet into the Santa Monica Bay.

Service Area. A place where people use or wait for services provided by a private or government entity. This includes, but is not limited to, bus stops, ATM lines, information kiosks and theater lines.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE PERSON IS AN ACTUAL POLICE OFFICER OR DEPUTY, YOU SHOULD ASK TO SEE THEIR IDENTIFICATION CARD.

Smoke or Smoking. The carrying or holding of a lighted pipe, cigar, cigarette, or any other lighted smoking product or equipment used to burn any tobacco products, weed, plant, or any other combustible substance. Smoking includes emitting or exhaling the fumes of any pipe, cigar, cigarette, or any other lighted smoking equipment used for burning any tobacco product, weed, plant, or any other combustible substance.

Q. I got a ticket for not having my insurance in the car with me. I told the officer I would call my insurance agent, but he wouldn't talk to the agent over the phone. Why can't he just talk to the agent?

A. California Vehicle Code 16028(a) requires the driver of a vehicle to provide a peace officer with evidence of financial responsibility for the vehicle they are driving. You should always keep current evidence of financial responsibility in your vehicle. Not only to provide the officer upon demand, but also to provide to the other driver(s) should you get into in a traffic collision. Plus, your agent won't always be available to call at all hours and the officer can't verify over the phone who they are talking to.

This column was prepared by **NRO SCOTT PACE** (Beat 2: Lincoln Boulevard to Ocean Front Walk, Interstate 10 to Ozone Avenue). He can be reached at (424) 200-0682 or scott.pace@smgov.net.





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The Q Line

Circumcision or not?

A San Diego-based group that opposes circumcisions for boys under the age of 18 has filed paper work in Santa Monica to place a measure on a future ballot that would ban the practice.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you support a ban on circumcision?
Here are your responses:

"I TOTALLY SUPPORT CIRCUMCISION OF male newborns. I was not raised with the Jewish religion, but recently converted. The Jewish religion requires males to be circumcised. Luckily for me, my parents had the foresight to snip the foreskin of their newborn baby. As a young military man, I witnessed a fellow sailor in agony after an adult circumcision. He was not capable of fighting any battles for three days. Also, my sexual experience has been nothing but positive with the snip! We need to keep politics out of this issue and let adults decide for their youth."

"WHEN I WAS BORN, MY PARENTS brought me to a rabbi who took tips. If the first Jews who believed in Jesus insisted on circumcision then there would never have been Christians. We like your religion, but you want me to cut off what! Both Muslims and Jews have this as a religious rite. Both liberals and right-wing fascists want to control everyone's lives with more and more laws. This makes great business for jails, police and lawyers, but kills our freedom."

"TOO MANY PEOPLE USE RELIGION AS justification for deeds that hurt other people. It is worse when the other people are babies who are unable to fight back and protect themselves. Ban this barbaric practice, humans have managed to survive for a million years before the nut-jobs brought religion into it."

"THIS BARBARIC OPERATION (MUTILATION) should be banned. This procedure can be done when a male is old enough to decide what he wants done with his own body. Over the years, surgeons in America have performed millions of unneeded operations for profit. Examples: hysterectomies, tonsillectomies, etc. My uncle back in the 1930s wanted to be a surgeon but he saw how many surgeons were performing operations for profit. He, instead, for moral reasons, became a general practitioner."

"I AM VERY LUCK AND GLAD THAT I WAS not circumcised. As an adult, I cannot imagine having my foreskin cut off and not having the head of my penis protected by a foreskin, which is what it was intended for. It's not hard to clean my penis and I have no problems at all and I cannot understand the barbarity of cutting off the foreskin."

"NO I DON'T SUPPORT A BAN ON circumcision. It's a private matter between a person and their god. Get government out of our personal lives."

"WHY IS SANTA MONICA INVOLVED IN this idiocy. Because Santa Monica is now the idiot capital of our country. George Orwell once said some ideas are so stupid that only an intellectual would believe in them. Well this town is full of stupid ideas and intellectuals are a dime a dozen. We are a city of progressive, excuse me, intellectual ideas. Affirmative action, glass ceiling, Spanish-speaking schools, and social justice. Where are the individual thinkers? Where is common sense? Where is the love of duty to the betterment of Santa Monica? Instead we have the infatuation with people's private parts, which is an omen to where we are going to, down the toilet."

"FIRST OF ALL, LET'S NOT COMPARE MALE circumcision to female circumcision, which would be like cutting the penis off the male. Fellow Daily Press readers will complain about everything. Hopefully these people will devote their time to better causes."

"I HAVE A VERY EMPHATIC NO TO THE proposal banning circumcision. It is anti-constitutional and the health benefits are undisputed for circumcision. I hope this will not get any favor at all."

"I CANNOT SUPPORT A BAN ON circumcision. I was very impressed with Dr. Robert Hamilton's column in the Daily Press. I agree with everything he said. I think these people should be addressing female circumcision in Africa."

"PLEASE KEEP THIS DIALOGUE GOING. This is one of the most important topics. I'm a 68-year-old male, circumcised. I am definitely supporting the ban on circumcision. It's a civil rights issue. People need to make their own decisions about their own bodies. Keep your hands off the kids. Keep the dialogue going."

"I'M AGAINST THE BAN ON CIRCUMCISION. Like abortion, if you are against it, don't do it. Don't try and regulate other people's lives."

"I'M 80, MY SON IS 53. WHEN HE WAS 14 and going to a psychiatrist, he came home angry as usual and kicked me in the shins. I said, 'What was that for?' And he says, 'For circumcising me.' So there must be some pain involved. I know when you go to a circumcision, everyone feels pain, except for the radical Jews who think it's wonderful. I don't know. I'm mixed up."

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Compton debates layoffs as fiscal crisis looms

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

COMPTON, Calif. The city of Compton is poised to lay off nearly 100 employees to help plug a gaping budget shortfall, the latest California municipality to grapple with a severe financial crisis.

Compton's fiscal woes, which include a $25 million general fund deficit and no reserves, are so drastic auditors recently questioned the city's ability "to continue as a going concern."

City Manager Willie Norfleet said he was confident the city would avoid bankruptcy if it slashes operating expenses, including about 17 percent of the 575-employee work force.

But even with the layoffs, the proposed general fund budget, which allots money for the city's daily operations, is still $7.1 million over its projected revenue of $44 million. More reductions are needed, Norfleet said.

"We can make it," he told the City Council on Thursday night. "It will require a lot of reorganization in virtually every department going forward. We're trying to maintain a functional city."

Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux said it was unclear how the city would manage. "They still don't know the full impact of this budget," she told her fellow councilmembers.

The city of 100,000 residents, which borders south Los Angeles, is far from alone.

Despite the nation's economic recovery, rising labor and pension costs coupled with reduced revenue from taxes and other sources continue to make budget balancing a tightrope act across California.

The fiscal plight in Costa Mesa in Orange County made headlines in March when a city maintenance worker jumped to his death off the City Hall roof after receiving a layoff notice. The city is considering laying off more than 200 employees and plans to plug a $3.3 million budget hole with reserves.

The city of Bell, reeling from the misappropriation of at least $5.5 million by its officials, is staring at a $4.9 million deficit.

In another high profile case, the city of Vallejo in Northern California, is still trying to crawl out from the Chapter 9 bankruptcy it filed three years ago.

In Compton, the city ended the fiscal year in 2008 with a general fund surplus of $11.8 million, according to auditors' reports. But it ended the 2010 fiscal year with its general fund $14.6 million in the hole and another $19 million in liabilities, $3.2 million in shortfalls in other funds, and a $22.5 million deficit in the self-insurance fund.

City officials have offered little explanation for the fiscal disaster. The council fired the city manager last September, the second manager to be fired in three years.

The auditors' report indicated several problem areas, including contracts awarded without competitive bidding, awarding unnecessary contracts, not ensuring the city is collecting all business licenses and business fee revenue, and too-low city charges and fees.

Much of the council's attention over the past year has been focused on a move spearheaded by Mayor Eric J. Perrodin to reinstitute the Compton Police Department, which was disbanded in 2000 under a cloud of corruption and politics. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department now provides law enforcement in the city under a contract, which will cost $17.5 million in the next fiscal year.

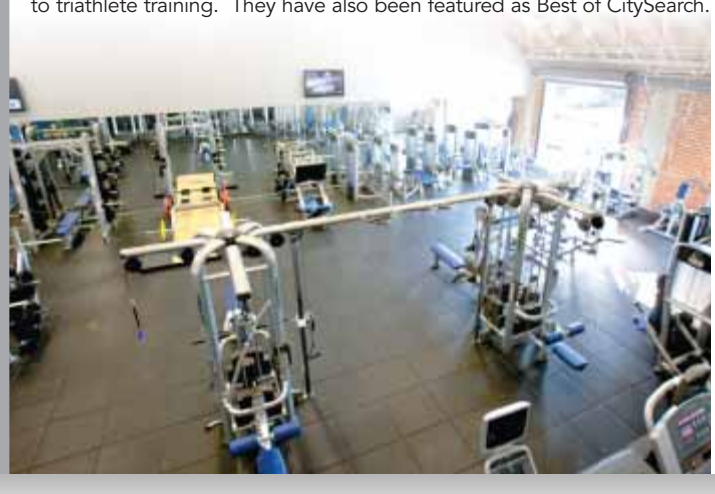
The council voted in April to abandon the police force idea because of the budget crisis, but the city had already spent $1.7 million in preliminary expenses, including $984,500 on a no-bid contract for a feasibility study on the proposal by former a Compton police chief.

City employees said they were shocked to learn recently the situation had become so dire.

"It's all coming down right now. We were told we were doing great, and we're in the black," said Daniel Gomez, vice president of the International Association of Firefighters Local 2216, which represents the Compton Fire Department. "We're directly the opposite."

Riley Blackburn, a plumber who's worked for the city for 27 years, said many workers are angered that the city held a Mardi Gras festival in March and has other summer events planned when layoffs are looming.

"They're still having parties and some people can't feed their families," Blackburn said. "Who do you blame? The government."

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Assembly bans use of welfare cash cards at casinos

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California lawmakers want to make it official — welfare recipients cannot use their state-issued debit cards at casinos, strip clubs or similar business.

The Assembly on Friday approved AB493, which prohibits CalWORKS recipients from using the cards in cash machines at gambling or adult entertainment businesses. The vote was 50-8, sending the bill to the Senate.

State rules already prohibit using cards in such businesses. The bill by Assemblyman Henry Perea, D-Fresno, would make it law.

Eight Democrats voted against the bill. Some argued that card rooms offer the closest ATM for some recipients.

Card use was limited last year after the Los Angeles Times reported they were used to withdraw about $12,000 from strip club ATMs in three years. The state paid $10.8 billion in benefits during that period.



30 years after first AIDS cases, hope for a cure

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Medical Writer

Sunday marks 30 years since the first AIDS cases were reported in the United States. And this anniversary brings fresh hope for something many had come to think was impossible: finding a cure.

The example is Timothy Ray Brown of San Francisco, the first person in the world apparently cured of AIDS. His treatment isn't practical for wide use, but there are encouraging signs that other approaches might someday lead to a cure, or at least allow some people to control HIV without needing medication every day.

"I want to pull out all the stops to go for it," though cure is still a very difficult goal, said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

For now, the focus remains on preventing new infections. With recent progress on novel ways to do that and a partially effective vaccine, "we're starting to get the feel that we can really get our arms around this pandemic," Fauci said.

Nearly 30 million people have died of AIDS since the first five cases were recognized in Los Angeles in 1981.

About 34 million people have HIV now, including more than 1 million in the United States.

About 2 million people die of the disease each year, mostly in poor countries that lack treatment. In the U.S. though, newly diagnosed patients have a life expectancy only a few months shorter than people without HIV. Modern drugs are much easier to take, and many patients get by on a single pill a day.

But it wasn't that way in 1995, when Brown, an American working as a translator in Berlin, learned he had HIV. He went on and off medicines because of side effects but was holding his own until 2006, when he was diagnosed with leukemia, a problem unrelated to HIV. Chemotherapy left him so sick he had to be put into a coma to allow his body to recover.

"They didn't know if I'd survive that," Brown said.

Dr. Gero Huetter, a blood cancer expert at the University of Berlin, knew that a transplant of blood stem cells (doctors used to use bone marrow) was the best hope for curing Brown's cancer. But he aimed even higher.

"I remembered something I had read in a 1996 report from a study of people who were exposed to HIV but didn't get infected," Huetter said.

These people had gene mutations that provide natural resistance to the virus. About 1 percent of whites have them, and Huetter proposed searching for a person who also was a tissue match for Brown.

But transplants are grueling. Huetter would have to destroy Brown's diseased immune system with chemo and radiation, then transplant the donor's cells and hope they would take hold and grow. Many cancer patients die from such attempts and Brown wasn't willing to risk it.

His mother, Sharon Brown of Seattle, agreed.

"Before I knew he had HIV I used to have nightmares about it," and gambling on a transplant to try to cure it didn't seem smart when the cancer seemed to be in remission, she said.

Several months later, the return of leukemia changed their minds.

Brown discussed the transplant with his boss "and she said, 'wow, this is amazing. Because you have leukemia, you could be cured of HIV.'"

A registry turned up more than 200 possible donors and Huetter started testing them for the HIV resistance gene. He hit pay dirt at No. 61 — a German man living in the United States, around 25 years old.

Brown had the transplant in February 2007. A year later, his leukemia returned but HIV did not. He had a second transplant in March 2008 from the same donor.

Now 45, Brown needs no medicines, and his only health problems are from the mugging he suffered two years ago as he returned home one night in Berlin. Brown was knocked unconscious, required brain surgery and therapy to walk and talk again, and doesn't have full use of one arm. He moved back to the United States in December.

"He's now four years off his antiretroviral therapy and we have no evidence of HIV in any tissue or blood that we have tested," even places where the virus can lie dormant for many years, Huetter said.

Brown's success inspired scientists to try a similar but less harsh tactic: modifying some of a patient's infection-fighting blood cells to contain the mutation and resist HIV. In theory, this would strengthen the immune system enough that people would no longer need to take HIV drugs to keep the virus suppressed.

Scientists recently tried this gene therapy in a couple dozen patients, including Matthew Sharp of suburban San Francisco. More than six months later, the number of his infection-fighting blood cells is "still significantly higher than baseline," he said.

It will take more time to know if gene therapy works and is safe. Experiments on dozens of patients are under way, including some where patients go off their HIV medicines and doctors watch to see if the modified cells control the virus.

The results so far on the cell counts "are all wonderful findings but they could all amount to nothing" unless HIV stays suppressed, said Dr. Jacob Lalezari, director of Quest Clinical Research in San Francisco who is leading one of the studies.

The approach also is not practical for poor countries.

"I wouldn't want people to think that gene therapy is going to be something you can do on 33 million people," said Fauci.

Other promising approaches to a cure try new ways to attack the dormant virus problem, he said. They hinge on getting people tested and into care as soon as they become infected.

Fauci's institute has boosted money for cure research, and the International AIDS Society, a professional organization for those who work in the field, has added finding a cure to its strategic plan.

"There are paths forward now" to a day when people with AIDS might be cured, said Dr. Michael Horberg, a member of President Obama's HIV/AIDS council and vice chairman of the HIV Medicine Association, doctors who treat the disease. "But it's not tomorrow, and it's not today."

Dr. Deborah Wallen

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FAITH: **Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson and parishioners observe Palm Sunday at St. Monica's Church earlier this year.**

CHURCH

FROM PAGE 1

All the while, parishioners raised funds in hopes of creating a separate building for prayer.

The small congregation moved into a chapel on Third Street between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Avenue in 1883, and would stay there until the church Santa Monica knows today was completed in 1925.

That church cost a then-impossible sum of $340,000 by devout Catholic Albert Martin. Martin integrated some of the newest building techniques of the time with steel-reinforced concrete and masonry, which he had developed.

The building far exceeded the amount of space needed by the congregation, and people questioned then-Pastor Nicholas Conneally about his reasoning, said Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, the pastor of St. Monica's for the past 24 years.

"He said, 'A generation at another time will thank us for this,'" Torgerson said. "Here we are, 125 years later, and we're giving great thanks because they laid a foundation of faith, buildings and structures, and we are recipients of that."

To celebrate the forethought of leaders past and the successes of the present, St. Monica's will kick off its celebration June 4 with a Eucharist at 5 p.m. that will include special prayers and recognition of volunteers that have been instrumental to the parish, wrote Dale Sieverding in an e-mail.

A night of dinner and entertainment, open to the whole community, will follow.

Sieverding came to St. Monica's one and a half years ago from a church in Florida to take on the position of director of music and liturgy, and is spearheading the celebration.

He will also help coordinate ongoing events throughout the year, including St. Monica Day at the Santa Monica Pier on Aug. 27, and one Sunday in October devoted to serving the needy, homeless and hungry.

"There will be a number of other events throughout the year, some of which are still in the planning stages to celebrate well this milestone in our history," Sieverding said.

As St. Monica's celebrates its present by honoring its past, the parish will also look to the future, Torgerson said.

The congregation is in the midst of a gargantuan effort to raise $27 million to rehabilitate and upgrade aging facilities such as offices, the gym and buildings for after school programs.

It's already amassed $22.5 million, and hopes to begin work on the parking lot in the summer.

"We're nearing the end of a campaign that is really helping to transform our parish plant," Torgerson said. "We still need support for that."

With those additions, St. Monica's congregation might show the same wisdom as that of Conneally's in laying a groundwork for the next 100 years.

The church will continue its central mission to form loving disciples with a desire to transform the world, Torgerson said.

"We're grateful for our blessings, and we turn around and do our best to change this world and make a difference," Torgerson said. "That's right at the heart of what we're about."

That dynamism creates the glue that has held parishioners together through boom times as well as the devastation caused by the 1994 Northridge earthquake, which laid low the historic parish, or the sexual abuse scandals that rocked the Catholic Church.

"Our Church of St. Monica's has flourished and grown," Torgerson said. "We recognize the struggles of our time, recognize the mistakes that have been made in our church, the world and in the lives of all of us. We will do our best to live safely in the Gospel."

That steady view and community-based approach to the church is part of what has helped integrate St. Monica's into the fabric of the town it grew up with.

"It's part of what Santa Monica is," Saenz said. "There's City Hall, the [Santa Monica] Pier and St. Monica's."

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CARS
FROM PAGE 3

Environmental Protection Agency. A diesel version gets better mileage, but will cost you around $6,000 more. Although the Jetta is one of the Insurance Institute's top picks, it didn't earn the highest five-star rating from the government because of its lower scores in rollover and frontal crash tests.

2. KIA OPTIMA

The 2011 Optima starts at $19,200. Among its standard safety features are two sets of side air bags: One comes down from the ceiling and covers the windows and one comes out of the front seats to protect the lower body. It also includes Bluetooth technology, which lets drivers make hands-free phone calls. The Optima gets 34 miles per gallon.

3. HYUNDAI SONATA

The 2011 Hyundai Sonata, which went on sale in the spring of 2010, starts at $19,395. It has a brake assist system that automatically applies the full brakes if it senses emergency braking, and traction control, which helps drivers on slick or icy roads. The Sonata gets 35 miles per gallon. There is a hybrid version that offers slightly better fuel economy, but it costs $6,000 more.

Other midsize cars that cost less than $20,000 could be good picks, too, including the Chrysler 200 and Scion xB, although neither has been rated by the government yet. The Insurance Institute also recommends some others that would put you slightly over the $20,000 mark, including the Ford Fusion, Chevrolet Malibu and Volvo C30.

Regardless of what you choose, make sure kids follow your state's graduated licensing laws, which may mandate supervised training periods, curfews or cell-phone bans. Those laws have been proven to reduce injuries and deaths. Also, practice safe driving habits yourself.

"If you talk on the phone while you're driving, your teen will think that's OK, too," Champion said.

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June 14, 6:30-8:00 PM
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A new site-specific work examines the vagaries of perception. This outdoor performance will range across the whole site.



June 21, 6:30-8 PM
Red Hen Press: poetry reading with Steve Kistulentz, Rita Mae Reese & Roger Mitchell

July 5, 6:30-8:30 PM
New Short Fiction Series
Comedic & serious writings on the theme of Independence from Ron Burch, Andrew Roe & A.R. Taylor



July 12, 6:30-8:30 PM
Red Hen Press: poetry reading with Camille Dungy, Tim Black & Cindy Black



July 19, 6:30-8 PM
Samba Night with Kátia Moraes
Harken back to a Marion Davies costume ball with this Latin dance party - featuring LA's favorite Brazilian songstress. Samba lessons given!

Join our email list for monthly Beach House updates by sending email to beachhouse@smgov.net

Stop by early for a self-guided Beach House tour with Santa Monica Conservancy docents.

Reservations are required. Events are free but seating is limited and late seating is not guaranteed. Please visit annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture or call 310-458-2257 to save a spot.

Directions: 415 Pacific Coast Highway just north of California Incline. Turn at Beach House Way traffic light: disabled placards & senior beach passes accepted.

Accessibility: Wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant. For disability related accommodations, please call Guest Services at 310-458-4904.

The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach is made possible by a generous gift from the Annenberg Foundation at the recommendation of Wallis Annenberg and in partnership with the City of Santa Monica and California State Parks.

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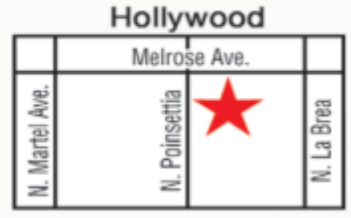
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Santa Monica



Hollywood



POLICY
FROM PAGE 1

who complete the community service and counseling requirements would "earn back" the right to attend graduation and other events instead of being barred entirely.

The new provisions will expire on June 30, and will revert back to the harsher penalties until the board has a chance to create a new, permanent policy.

Seven students in the district will be affected by the change.

Removing the requirement that students miss their own graduation pleased board members, who noted that students that violated the policy in the beginning of the year wouldn't receive so harsh a sentence as those that messed up at the end.

"Taking away a culmination ceremony like graduation for a first-time offense is damaging," said board member Oscar de la Torre. "You're punishing not just the student, but the whole family."

In some cases, it might be the only graduation ceremony the student would ever see, he pointed out.

Board member Ralph Mechur fought to include all students in the change, but eventually had to settle for eighth graders who would otherwise miss their "promotion" ceremony to high school.

"If we're going to make these kinds of changes, I don't see why we should make them for one group but not another," Mechur said.

More controversial than the outcome of the temporary policy change were the circumstances which brought the policy to light.

The Santa Monica High School Choir traveled to England in April for its 2011 Spring Choir Tour. Each student signed a document to abide by the school's code of conduct while on the trip, which explicitly states that students cannot use drugs or alcohol.

While on the trip, three 18-year-old senior girls, Tessa Walther, Chloe Director and Rebecca Redman, were caught by a chaperone in a pub in Cambridge, England, where the legal drinking age is 18.

There was beer on the table, and although no one saw them drinking it, even possession of alcohol violates the district's policy.

When the "Cambridge Three" returned to the United States, they were suspended for five days and began the process of working through the community service and substance abuse counseling, but the families cried foul over the 10-week probation period which cut them out of choir performances and graduation.

The discussion, which was open to public comment at the May 19 board meeting, centered on the perceived injustice of a "zero tolerance policy" and the benefits of a system where administrators had more leeway to apply punishments while taking under consideration all the facts.

"It's not only vindictive and mean-spirited, but counterproductive," said Jan Durbin. "Enlightened policy cannot be created by fear."

Some district staff, speaking as individuals, asked that the board not give staff discretion over punishments if only to keep things fair and equal.

"This should not be made discretionary or appealable," said Lynn Sturgis, a district employee. "This is for the temporary gain of a few students who knew they were breaking the rules."

One of the affected students, Redman, protested insinuations that the girls were trying to get away with their behavior.

"Just because we found the issue doesn't mean it's just ours," Redman said.

At Thursday's meeting, her mother, Nectar Redman, said that the changes were necessary to achieve the desired effect — reform.

"There needs to be a system to evaluate the severity of the infraction," she insisted from the podium.

The parents would not say anything further on the issue without first consulting with their attorney, who is involved with the case.

Board members approached the subject delicately, focusing on what they saw as the rehabilitative nature of the changes, and promised to come back in the next school year with a fully revised policy.

The punishment combined three elements — restitution for the wrong committed, education and counseling and punishment.

"This allows components one and two to reduce the amount of punishment," said Board President Jose Escarce.

Over the summer, a group of staff including Marolyn Freedman, the director of student services, site administrators and the new superintendent, Sandra Lyon, will meet to revise the policy and bring it back to the board by the next school year.

In the meantime, the old, more punitive policy will come back into effect after June 30.

ashley@smdp.com

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

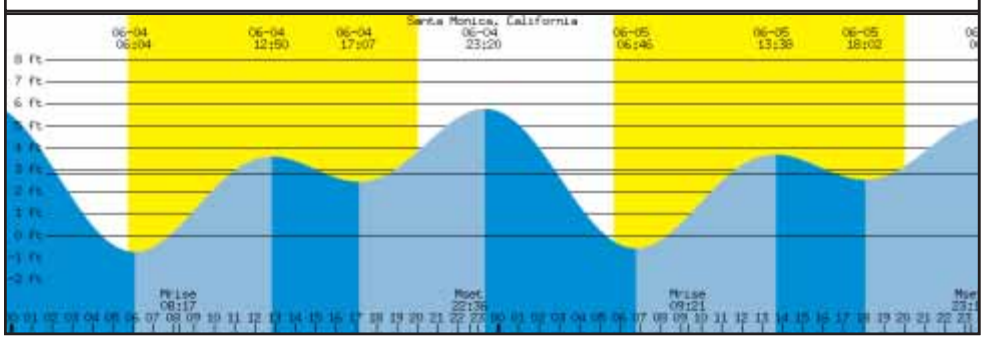
Swell Forecast

Looks a bit smaller, about waist to chest at south facing breaks, and just waist max at west facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks smaller yet, about waist max for south facing breaks, knee+ at west facing spots.

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 31, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 5
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 26 / 8
- 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, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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

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

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay 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.

NBA

Malone absent from Hornets while mulling Lakers job

BRETT MARTEL
AP Sports Writer

WESTWEGO, La. Hornets head coach Monty Williams has decided to give top assistant Mike Malone some space to mull over his career choices.

Malone, who has an offer to join Mike Brown's new staff with the Los Angeles Lakers, was not present when Williams' staff held a minicamp on Friday for young free agents.

"If Mike is going to go somewhere else, we're certainly not going to let him be here at one of our workouts," Williams said. "As soon as his situation is a little bit clear, he'll be with one team one way or another.

"This is an exciting time for Mike and his family," Williams added. "I don't want to take away from that by him having to come to a workout. If he's here, he's not going to be thinking about this. He's going to be thinking about the opportunities that lie ahead of him. I just thought it made sense for him to not be around for a while."

Malone previously worked under Brown for five seasons in Cleveland, where he eventually held the title of defensive coordinator. After the Cavaliers fired Brown following the 2009-10 season, Malone took a similar position with the Hornets under Williams, who was then a newly hired first-time head coach.

The Hornets improved substantially on defense last season, ranking fifth in points allowed at 94.04 per game, which was down from 102.7 a season earlier.

Malone, whose father, Brendan, is a longtime NBA coach, also could be a candidate for remaining open head-coaching jobs, including at Golden State.

"Right now, we're just going to give him his space and let him see what's going to be the best opportunity for him," Hornets general manager Dell Demps said. "We're not going to try to slow him down. He's been great for us and we hope he comes back, but if he doesn't, we understand and we'll miss him. ... We're just hoping for the best for him, hoping that he finds the right situation."





MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, June 4
Federico Fellini tribute.
8 1/2 (NR) 2hr 24min
7:30pm

Sunday, June 5
The Transformers: The Movie (PG) 1hr 24min
7:30pm
Discussion following with voice actors and director.

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

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Fast Five (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
10:00am, 1:05pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:25pm

X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
9:30am, 12:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
9:50am, 12:50pm, 3:50pm, 6:50pm, 9:50pm

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

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
10:45am, 12:15pm, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm, 11:35pm

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

X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min
10:05am, 10:30am, 1:40pm, 2:40pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 8:30pm, 11:05pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides in Disney Digital 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
10:00am, 1:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:45pm, 11:00pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min
10:20am, 1:30pm, 4:25pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min
10:00am, 1:20pm, 3:45pm, 6:15pm, 8:45pm, 11:15pm

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

Double Hour (La doppia ora) (NR) 1hr 45min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Incendies (R) 2hrs 10min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

Make Believe (NR) 1hr 28min
11:00am

Forks Over Knives (PG) 1hr 30min
11:00am

Bolshoi Ballet: Coppelia (NR)
10:30am

Midnight in Paris (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:40am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:20pm, 4:30pm, 5:40pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm

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

Thor (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:15am, 5:00pm, 10:40pm

Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) 1hr 31min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min
10:05am, 12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
12:25pm, 3:40pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

Empire of Silver (Baiyin diguo) (NR) 1hr 52min
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Thor 3D (PG-13) 1hr 54min
2:05pm, 7:50pm

Cave of Forgotten Dreams 3D (G) 1hr 30min
10:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Say yes tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Note a major swing in your energy as Jupiter leaves your sign. The planet of opportunity enters Taurus, where it will impact your finances. You can build toward a financial peak as you find a way to augment your income. Tonight: Close to home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Jupiter, a planet associated with luck and expansion, enters your sign for roughly a year. During this period, you will have opportunities to make your life more fulfilling. You might even start seeing the difference as soon as today! Tonight: Smile, and others cannot help but respond.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You have been in a position to manifest more of what you desire. Friends have been and continue to be very significant. Listen to your instincts. If you have a hunch, follow through. Tonight: All smiles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ More than before, you seem to enjoy your friends, and they you. A green light flashes, encouraging you to live and focus on what you want. Someone lets you know just how much he or she cares about you. If the feeling's mutual, follow through. Tonight: Where the party is.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Don't push past the obvious, and be ready to open up a conversation. You will have to be vulnerable, like it or not. A conversation draws a great deal of mutual respect and caring. Check in on an older relative if you want this person to feel cared about. Tonight: A must appearance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ A sense of curiosity mixes well with innate security. Open up to understanding different lifestyles and approaches. You might be taken aback by everything that is occurring around you. A spontaneous invitation from a friend could be a door-opener. Tonight: Where the action is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ A partner offers you more insight than you previously thought possible. New doors will open up almost immediately if you follow through on this person's idea. A problem boss or authority figure ceases to be so important. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You might want to see what evolves in a certain situation, where others want to take the lead. You really have less to lose than you think by letting someone do just that. Stay on top of your game. Follow-through counts. Tonight: Say "yes" to a very different suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Defer to another person, knowing full well what your limits are. Sometimes it can be difficult to come up with solutions. Listen to a friend who cares far more than you realize. Take up a new hobby that will help you relax and be more responsive. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You can sit back and play the waiting game. You will have more options if you let things play out in this manner. Your creativity flourishes with nearly anything you touch. Keep some of your wild thoughts to yourself. Tonight: Be more earthbound.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You might find that someone is pushing you too hard for your taste. What do you think the issue is at present? Be more forthright than in the past. Stop and buy a token of affection on your way home. Tonight: Squeeze in some fun, healthy exercise.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Your innate openness at present attracts many people. Others become even more responsive. Let your imagination add sparkle to today's plans. Tonight: A good time.

Happy birthday

This year, you will land like a cat with nine lives. Don't worry -- you won't go through your nine lives either! During 2012 you will begin a new life cycle. Let go of unresolvable issues. If you are single, check out new suitors carefully. They might not be what they project. If you are attached, the two of you bond more strongly if you schedule more getaways together. CANCER helps you spend money!

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



MYSTERY PHOTO

File Photo

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.

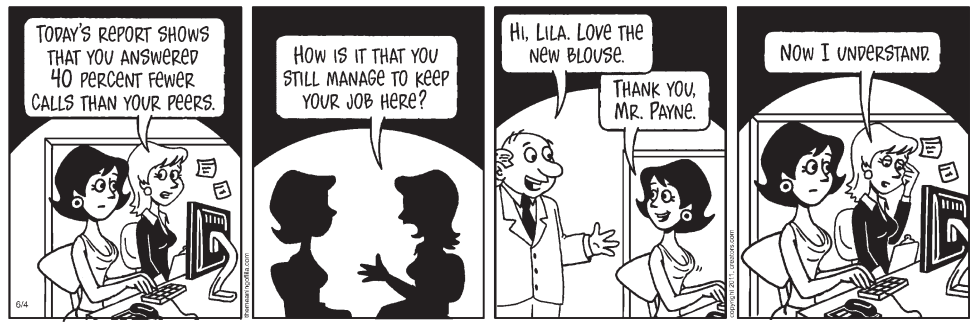
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



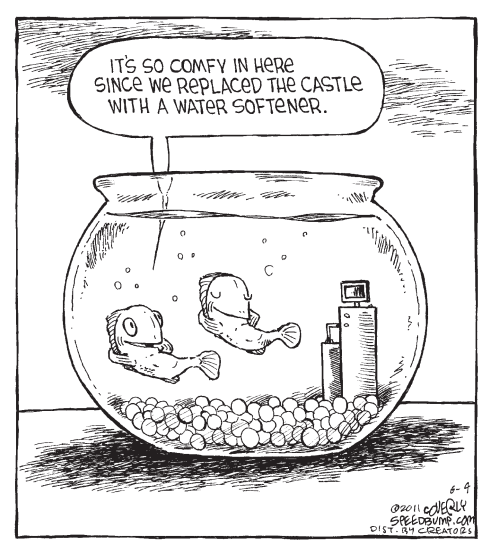
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Miss Jane of whodunits
7 Rigging support
11 Clay, for one
12 Trim
13 Mexican state
14 Mine rocks
15 Writer Zola
16 Bright stars
17 Rational
18 Movies
19 Earth circler
21 Basketball's Holman
22 Mentally ready
25 Small rug
26 Relaxed
27 Kind of band
29 Small amphibian
33 Black bird
34 Madame Curie
35 Good pair
36 Like cows and hens
37 Musical Horne
38 Out of bed
39 Impudence
40 Nook

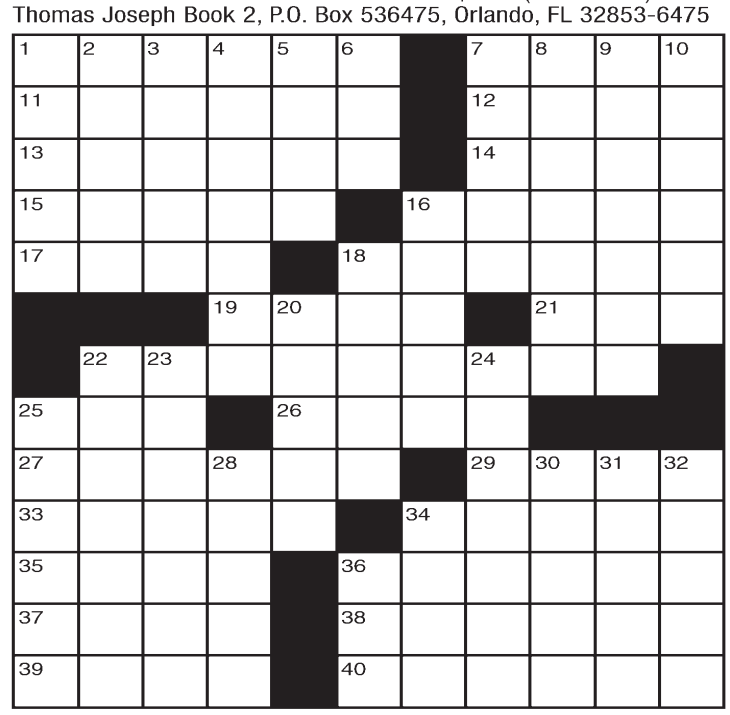
DOWN

1 Heston role
2 Bakery come-on
3 Arrested
4 Greek astronomer
5 Folk tales
6 History segment
7 Setting item
8 Upstart
9 Tourist's aid
10 Find a new table for
16 Low cards in pinochle
18 "Over There!" writer
20 Sailor's spot
22 Magic cure
23 Poet Wallace
24 Peppy
25 Fable ends
28 Buttes' kin
30 Clear
31 Ruses
32 Prom group
34 Simple
36 Way off

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

Yesterday's answer

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6-4

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• 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.

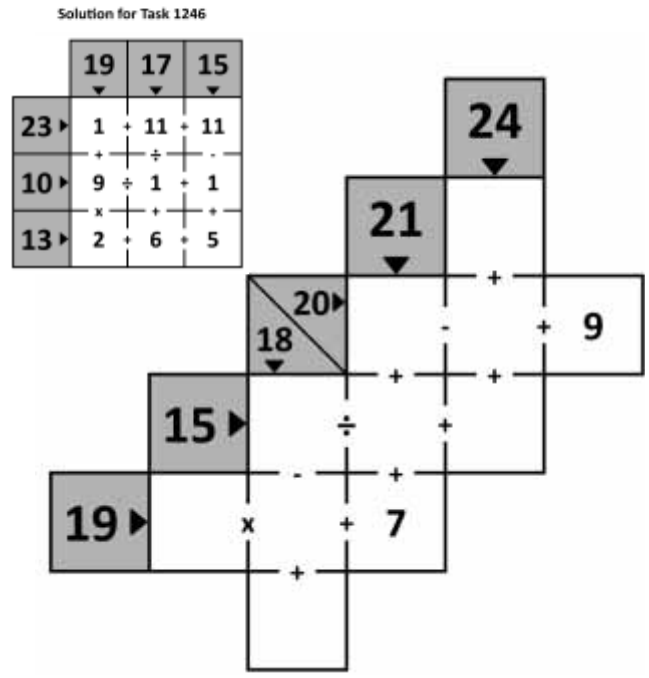
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

1, 2, 2, 6, 8, 11, 12, 12, 12

Solution for Task 1246



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Meganumber: 13
Jackpot: $15M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 10 15 24 45
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $26M

Fantasy 5: 2 10 12 22 26

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 2 6 6
EVENING: 2 6 0

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:45.85

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ (1) Lisa Osborn was one of only two candidates who qualified to run for the two vacant seats on the Bentley (Mich.) Board of Education in May, yet she did not win. One vote would have put her on the board, but she got none (having been too busy even to vote for herself that day because of her son's baseball game). (2) Monika Strub began campaigning for a state parliament seat in Germany in March as a member of the Left Party. Until 2002, Strub, then "Horst Strub," was with the neo-Nazi National Democratic Party, but then decided he was really a female, underwent surgery and became Monika, a socialist. Not surprisingly, she has been harassed by some of her former colleagues.

■ Perps Making It Easy on the Cops in Joliet, Ill.: (1) Domonique Loggins, 21, was running from two Joliet officers in April (suspected of assaulting his girlfriend) when his escape took him through Bicentennial Park downtown. Obviously unknown to him, dozens of police officers from surrounding jurisdictions were in the park that day on a training session (with 60 squad cars in a parking lot). Loggins was arrested. (2) Police imposters usually drive cars outfitted to resemble cruisers (flashing lights, scanners) and carry impressive, if fake, ID. However, Hector Garcia-Martinez, 35, fooled no one in April as the two Joliet women whose car he stopped immediately called 911. "Officer" Garcia-Martinez had none of the trappings -- except, as he lamely pointed out, a sticker on his front license plate reading "Woodridge Police Junior Officer" (typically given to children at police events).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1920 Hungary loses 71% of its territory and 63% of its population when the Treaty of Trianon is signed in Paris.

1928 President of the Republic of China Zhang Zuolin is assassinated by Japanese agents.

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2. Wearing a low-necked garment.

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