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Volume 12 Issue 192

Santa Monica Daily Press

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FAA GETTING SMART ON SMARTPHONES
SEE PAGE 12

THE FAREWELL TO JUSTIN ISSUE

Housing affordability changes put developers on edge

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A small wording change in a recently approved law lowering rent and income limits on Santa Monica's affordable housing supply may make a big difference for developers with housing projects working their way through the public process, developers say.

The City Council passed an ordinance on June 11 that would lower the amount that property owners could charge for affordable units by between 20 and 25 percent, a proposal that came with the backing of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and met little resistance from development interests.

However, a last-minute change from the dais may mean those lower limits apply to projects almost done with their development agreements that never believed they may take the extra hit on project revenues, and didn't calculate it into the costs.

The critical moment came when City Attorney Marsha Moutrie requested that the

SEE HOUSING PAGE 10

Malibu puts rehab centers on notice

City demands state investigate Passages

BY MELISSA CASKEY
Special to the Daily Press

MALIBU City officials are gearing up for a major crackdown on drug and alcohol treatment centers in Malibu, many of which they claim operate with little scrutiny from the state and a brazen disregard for local law, all in the name of increasing head counts and maximizing profits.

In a letter recently submitted to the state's Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP), the office of Malibu City Attorney Christi Hogin cites a 2007 complaint by City Hall accusing Passages Malibu, a rehab center which charges customers up to $90,000 per month, of providing false information to the state and sidestepping city regulations to get additional facilities licensed. The letter asks why the complaint was never acted upon.

"No evidence of a final determination by the ADP on this issue can be presently located, despite attempts to contact the ADP," Hogin's office wrote.

The complaint alleged that Passages, which bills itself as the "world's most luxurious rehab center", tacked on addresses to several pool houses and guest houses, in violation of city law, and obtained state licensing to use the structures as five- or six-per-

SEE REHAB PAGE 8



START OF THE SEASON
Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com
Locals and visitors enjoy the bright sun and warm weather at the Santa Monica Beach during the first day of summer on Friday afternoon.

Summer changes to Big Blue Bus routes

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE If you've noticed some changes to your daily bus commute, don't worry — it's not just you.

The Big Blue Bus made significant schedule revisions beginning last week, cutting out and adding service along several of its most popular routes and suspending some service for the summer altogether, according to a report released Friday.

Bus stops have also been rearranged, with some routes losing as many as five of their normal stops often with fewer added back at different locations to replace them.

SEE BUS PAGE 9

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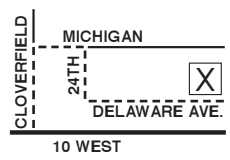

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, June 22, 2013

Stand up for paddleboarding
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 9 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.
Try the fastest growing watersport in the world for $55 a class. Register by 5 p.m. the Friday before class. For more information, visit beachhouse.smgov.net.

The write way
1450 Ocean
1450 Ocean Ave., 10 a.m. — 12 p.m.
Journey into the world of writing for the theatre. Learn how to submit your play to contests and competitions, and how plays get produced. No experience necessary. For more information, call (310) 458-2239.

Sidewalk shopping
Main Street
11 a.m. — 7 p.m.
The Endless Summer Sidewalk Sale features many of Main Street's merchants with some even offering refreshments and live entertainment in their stores. The sale takes place on Main Street between Pico Boulevard and the Venice border. For more information, visit www.mainstreetsm.com.

Bubbling up
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St., times vary
The Amazing Bubble Man returns to delight young and old alike. Utilizing many devices of his own invention, Louis Pearl has been thrilling audiences around the world for over 30 years with the art, magic, science and fun of bubbles. For more information, call (310) 392-7327.

Willy abridged
Promenade Playhouse
1404 Third St., 7 p.m.
In "Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)" from Santa Monica Rep, three guys in tights set out to perform all 37 of the Bard's plays in less than 100 minutes, with hilarious results. Shakespeare's classics undergo some changes, of course. Originally created by the Reduced Shakespeare Company and first performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the show ran for almost a decade in London and has since traveled all over the world before landing here in Santa Monica. For more information, call (213) 268-1454.

Sunday, June 23, 2013

Add to the collection
Santa Monica Airport
Airport Avenue at Bundy Drive
6 a.m. — 3 p.m.
Find the perfect antique furniture for your apartment at the Santa Monica Outdoor Antique & Collectible Market, which takes place on the fourth Sunday of each month. The market is dog friendly. Early admission is $7; $5 after 8 a.m. For more information call (323) 933-2511 or visit www.santamonicaairportantiquemarket.com/home.html

Building the next generation
Santa Monica Museum of Flying
3100 Airport Ave., 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Children ages 6 to 12 will have the opportunity to let their creative juices take flight as they work with professional architects to imagine and design a concept for their own international airport as part of ARkidTECTURE + Design, a feature of the Now Board exhibit. Kids will be given supplies to help craft their creation. Cost: $25 for two adults and two children. For more information call (310) 398-2500. Reserve a space by visiting rsvp@nowboarding.org

Get rocking
Highways Theatre
1651 18th St., 1 p.m. — 2 p.m.
Creating Arts Company brings to life the classic fairytale of "Sleeping Beauty" in rock opera style! The story of the beautiful Princess Aurora who has a curse put on her by the evil black fairy is told through classic rock songs from the 1960s and '70s in this one-hour mini musical that will have children and their parents dancing and singing! Cost: $12 to $20. For more information call (310) 804-0223.

Wine time
Santa Monica Pier
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
The Drink:Eat:Play Wine Festival, presented by BevMo, will take place at the Santa Monica Pier. Attendees will have access to over 50 wineries, hundreds of wines and the perfect evening setting. Cost: $50 for general admission, $75 for VIP. For more information call (310) 902-6955 or visit http://drinkeatplay.com/winefest/

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**



Bulger witness: Car hit was like a 'firing squad'

BY DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON Frank Capizzi seemed incredulous when a prosecutor asked him if anything unusual had happened on March 19, 1973.

"Unusual?!" he said. "A firing squad hit us." For more than two minutes, about 100 shots hit the car, "and it imploded," he said.

Capizzi described the shooting Friday to a rapt jury in the racketeering trial of James "Whitey" Bulger, the former leader of the mostly Irish-American Winter Hill Gang who is accused of playing a role in 19 murders during the 1970s and '80s.

Capizzi said when the shooting stopped, he realized he had been struck in the head and could feel warm blood running down his neck and excruciating pain in his back.

The driver, Albert Plummer, was killed. Capizzi and another man in the car were wounded.

Former hit man John Martorano testified this week that Plummer was one of two people killed by mistake as Bulger's gang tried to kill Al "Indian Al" Notarangeli, a member of a rival gang.

Capizzi said he was shot multiple times and was "embedded" with pellets and glass fragments.

"They took out what they could, which was about 11 slugs," he said.

Capizzi, who described himself a professional gambler in those days, said he did not see who shot at the car, but said he soon left Boston out of fear.

Shortly after Bulger's lawyer, J.W. Carney Jr., began to question him, Capizzi invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. Later, after prosecutors and defense lawyers met with the judge, Capizzi took the witness stand again. But Carney said he had no additional questions for the 78-year-old witness.

Prosecutors say Bulger, now 83, was working as an FBI informant providing information on the rival New England Mafia at the same time he was committing a litany of crimes, including murders.

Bulger's former FBI handler, John Connolly, was convicted of racketeering for tipping Bulger and his gang to an indictment. After receiving the tip, Bulger fled Boston and was one of the nation's most wanted fugitives until he was finally captured in Santa Monica, Calif., in 2011.

Bulger's lawyers deny that he was an informant and say he paid FBI agents to warn him about investigations.

Capizzi was among a string of witnesses prosecutors called Thursday and Friday to show the jury the effects of the carnage they say was caused by Bulger and his gang.

Joseph Angeli, the son of Joseph "Indian Joe" Notarangeli, Al Notarangeli's brother, recalled suddenly being moved from Massachusetts to California with his mother and siblings in 1973.

"Things were dangerous and my parents thought it best to ship us — my mom and us kids — to a safer place," he said.

Angeli, who shortened his name, said he found out on his 14th birthday that his father had been killed, allegedly by Bulger's gang.

"I came home from school and my mom was sitting on the sofa watching a news story and crying," he said.

Prosecutors on Friday also began the process of introducing Bulger's FBI informant file to the jury.

James Marra, a special agent with the Justice Department's inspector general's office, said he reviewed criminal informant files related to the investigation into Connolly.

Marra identified informant cards — index cards — from the FBI's files for Bulger; his partner, Stephen "The Rifleman" Flemmi; Richard Castucci; and Edward "Brian" Halloran. Prosecutors say Bulger orchestrated the killings of Halloran and Castucci.

Marra said Bulger initially worked briefly as an FBI informant in 1971, but his short stint ended "because of a lack of productivity" on the information he was providing.

The FBI files show that Bulger was reopened as an informant by Connolly in 1975, Marra said. He remained an informant until about 1990, and was elevated to a "top-echelon informant."

"That means he's providing information or he has access to the highest levels of organized crime," Marra said.

Among those who are expected to testify Monday are retired FBI Agent John Morris, who was Connolly's supervisor. Morris, who received immunity from prosecution, admitted at Connolly's trial that he accepted cash from Bulger and agreed to protect him from prosecution.

One of the trial spectators Friday morning was Academy Award winner Robert Duvall, who sat in the back of the courtroom. He has been shooting a movie in Shelburne, Mass.

Records act change an example of overstuffed bills

BY LAURA OLSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A fee for oil refinery inspections. The loss of tax credits for an Anaheim hockey arena that plans to lay off hundreds of unionized workers. Changes that loosen reporting requirements for domestic violence cases.

Those were among the two dozen issues crammed into a single bill that became a flashpoint for controversy in the Legislature because one of its provisions threatened to undermine the public's access to local government documents.

"The wide-ranging provisions of this bill can be described as basically everything but the kitchen sink," Assemblyman Bob Blumenfield, D-Woodland Hills, said when he described AB76 before last week's floor vote.

The dust-up illustrates an issue that critics have complained about for years — the Legislature's practice of packing provisions they would prefer not be publicized into essential budget-related and end-of-session bills that win swift approval.

The governor's January budget proposal is traditionally followed by months of meetings. But lobbyists and others who track legislative action said it often is unclear which sections will remain in the final plan — or how they will be phrased — until days or even hours before final votes.

Last-minute actions give little time for outside groups to pinpoint conflicts of interest or potential problems.

"It's impossible for the general public to follow, and it's not what's being taught in civics classes," said Bob Stern, who previously served as president of the Los Angeles-based Center for Governmental Studies.

Even lawmakers may not recognize legislation once bills reach their final form.

Assemblyman Don Wagner, R-Irvine, said he was surprised to find out that the final version of the bill included a provision that specifically addressed Anaheim's Honda Center, which is located in his district. Earlier discussions indicated that changes would affect the enterprise zone incentive program generally, not the arena specifically,

SEE **BILLS** PAGE 10



Photo courtesy Google Images

SNEAKY DEVILS: Legislators in the state Capitol are being criticized for slipping in dozens of issues into the voluminous spending bill, including one that threatened to undermine access to public records.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Flier fools

Editor:

I am a 37-year resident of Santa Monica and for the last 23 years have lived two blocks from the Miramar. As a union member and a delegate to the L.A. County Federation of Labor, I was active in the successful campaign to turn back the Miramar's efforts to decertify their hotel workers union and I continue to have a special interest in the welfare of their workers.

I found a number of the Miramar leaflets tossed in among the shrubbery in front of my building ("Downtown hotel cold war heats up," June 12). I took one to keep and recycled the rest. The Miramar flier is so heavy-handed and so insulting to our community, the only conclusion I can take from it is the authors are shockingly ignorant of the community and the hornet's nest they've kicked over by attempting to jam an appallingly ugly hotel, a shopping center and condos into our neighborhood after demolishing arguably one of the two most historic and cherished landmarks in our city.

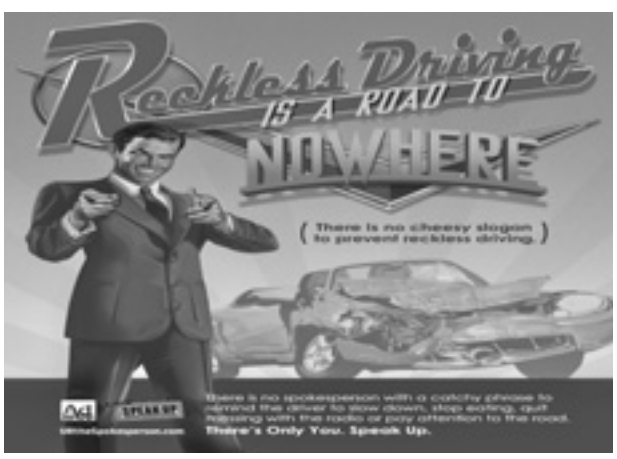
If the photo of Mr. Sassounian was not printed in hopes of stirring up racial antagonisms, then what was its real purpose? What did the photo add to their arguments? Did they want us to be able to spot him in a crowd? Why did they have the photo dominate the front page of their four-page flier? For what purpose did they repeat the same photo on an inside page as well? Why was Mr. Sassounian's non-Anglo sounding name printed in large block letters every time it was used?

The flier takes the Huntley Hotel to task for paying only the actual amount of state tax they owe under Prop. 13. Isn't that what all businesses and homeowners do? Does the Miramar throw in an extra few million as a bonus when they pay their taxes, or will they too pay only what they owe? I appreciate the Miramar's breakdown of the wacky inequalities resulting when a tax break to protect elderly residents from being forced out of their homes by skyrocketing property taxes is applied to business, which in some cases will keep their property for generations. I hope that means the Miramar will join us in supporting the current effort by Democratic legislators in Sacramento to reform Prop. 13 so that businesses like the Huntley and Miramar pay their fair share of property taxes just like they do in almost all other states.

The developers of whatever replaces the Miramar couldn't be more wrong if they think Santa Monicans are afraid of people with non-Anglo names or would prefer racial segregation or fear foreigners. In fact, diversity of age, gender, race, ethnicity, nationality and sexual orientation is the source of our strength and of our staying power and it's why the renters have continued to win election after election for over three decades. Attempts by developers to divide our forces will have no effect.

As for the Miramar's warnings the Huntley is attempting to take control of the city of Santa Monica, it's been tried many times before by outfits much bigger than the Huntley. Many millions of dollars have been wasted over the years by businesses who thought they were smarter than our voters and could take the city over simply by stuffing our mailboxes with exactly this sort of junk mailer. We're here to stay and we'll fight this war to the bitter end.

Michael Everett
Santa Monica





Curious City

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Praising the police, preserving the post office

I WAS THINKING THE OTHER DAY ABOUT the Santa Monica College students and employees who desperately barricaded themselves in a storeroom in the library there when mayhem came calling, dodging bullets as the shooter (no name because I don't believe in adding fame) tried to add them to his grisly list. In hindsight, it was the right thing to do. Not only did they survive, but his efforts to kill them distracted him long enough that other students were able to run out back exits, even jump out windows.

One can only imagine how terrified they must have been as bullets came whistling through the walls. Then my next though was of the three police officers who took him down in a hail of gunfire. Reports I read left the image that they came upon him as he was shooting into the storeroom, or right after, that he unleashed a volley in their direction but that one or more rounds from the police ended the fight, and his tragic life.

Reports revealed it was two Santa Monica officers and one from the campus police. There were several police units involved that day, quickly called in from nearby cities, and it's interesting that in that urgent and confusing chain of events you had this mixed group confronting the killer. I would love to praise these brave officers by name but I haven't seen them identified anywhere.

I have no idea if police protocol had them hitting the ground or firing from behind file cabinets (our publisher, having just completed the community police training, might know), but I had this romantic image of the brave trio marching straight towards the killer, standing tall, guns aimed with precision, ignoring his deadly barrage to hit their mark as quickly as possible.

If they hadn't? It was reported that he fired about 70 rounds in the library, and that he was packing another 1,300 rounds. The police concluded his intent was to kill a lot of people. The deaths of five are terrible enough, but it could have been much, much worse if not for those heroic officers. We owe them a lot.

Then, right here in sleepy Santa Monica (seems to me like a strange adjective to apply here, but I saw it used over and over in news reports, including in one that stated we are "nearby" Thousand Oaks), we had two more shootings within five days (one fatality), in our town that has experienced a 10 percent decline in crime this year, according to Santa Monica police, and only four murders in the previous three years. (But in 1995 alone, there were 10 murders.) The additional incidents were jarring, leaving a feeling of "haven't we had enough?"

SAFETY VS. THE RULE OF LAW

When these things happen, when sick individuals use easily available automatic weapons and huge ammo clips to spread their misery, we're so grateful to have our amazing first responders, doing their dangerous jobs not without fear, no doubt, but willing and able to perform nonetheless. But we must always, for the good of us all, insist that they follow the laws they are sworn to uphold, at all times, even in the most trying situations. Otherwise, when law and the Constitution are elbowed aside in the name of safety, we all lose.

In the chaos of that Friday, two news photographers were arrested, from AP and the European Pressphoto Agency, along with a SMC professor who may have had press credentials as well. I've spoken with one of the photographers, and with a representative of the SMPD, to try to find out what really happened. In light of the events of that day this would seem trivial, but the guarantee of a free press, though misunderstood by most, is absolutely vital to a democracy and must be maintained no matter what. Without it, we're all on the road to an Orwellian future. I'll keep you posted.

NORMS AND OUR CLASSIC POST OFFICE BUILDING

I suppose there are those who think of our soon-lost Norms on Lincoln as just another diner, and will mourn its passing no more than if it were a McDonald's. I like Norms for a lot of reasons, and I'm discovering even more as I learn more about this location and the people who work there, and the chain itself.

While some employees seemed pleased that the Daily Press is writing about this loss, and I was told the issue with a previous column of mine that discussed it was passed around the counter by longtime customers who were moved to tell some of their Norms stories, one of the managers seemed less than warm to greet me when I stopped in this week.

I wrote that "several employees noted to me, they can't find places for all of them at restaurants that are already fully staffed." Seems that's not the case, and I'm told now by company spokesmen and Santa Monica Norms employees that everyone there will have a job at another Norms. VP Jerry O'Connell told me that in his 34 years with the company, Norms has never laid off an employee. Not one. Not even during severe economic downturns. They will double up if they have to for a while, especially with managers. But that's their policy. I think Wal-Mart operates that way too, right?

Norms is exactly the kind of business we want and need in Santa Monica, and we're losing it after almost 50 years to developers looking to cash in on Santa Monica's rising property values. More next time on the Norms staff's interesting life stories.

Speaking of losing our history, I see our beautiful WPA-built main post office will have its last day of operation June 29, almost 75 years to the day after its heralded opening. The government ordering that public edifice built took people off the unemployment rolls during the Depression (the other one); what a concept. I saw all over Europe, on my recent travels there, that in every country they preserve and refurbish their historic buildings, and we're talking about centuries old. Here, everything's for sale. That's very valuable Downtown real estate there, should have a business on it, maybe with a few stories of condos on top, right? Yes the U.S. Postal Service is hemorrhaging money, but mainly because it is the only business forced by Congress to fund its benefits program 75 years in the future, clearly an attempt to drive them under so private interests can step in and make a fortune. If that happens, do you think a letter will still be delivered for under half a buck?

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 27 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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The Q Line

Rating the response

Violence continued to plague Santa Monica last week with yet another multiple shooting. This time two men were shot in broad daylight in the Pico Neighborhood, with one succumbing to his injuries. Police have already made arrests in that shooting and have discovered more facts about the shooting that left five dead near Santa Monica College on June 7.

This past week, Q-line asked:
How do you rate the police response to the recent rash of shootings that have left six dead and a community reeling?

Here are your responses:

"WELL AS A FORMER LANDLORD IN THIS town of SanMalicious I thought the police response this last week for those injuries and deaths was stupendous. A number of different police departments were called into question and they came to SanMalicious and I think it was great."

"FIFTEEN MINUTES WAS A LONG response time to a mass shooting. Serious questions should be asked about whether the last two victims could have been saved. Perhaps if the Santa Monica Police changed their top priority from writing parking tickets, to protecting the people who live, work and visit our city, lives would be saved."

"POLICE SHOT AND KILLED THE GUNMAN. That is the only way to deal with this type of situation. No worries of him trying to get off using insanity as an excuse."

"OUR POLICE SHOULD BE COMMENDED for a job well done. I watched it from start to finish on TV. They seemed to fly into action instantly. I'm not a bean counter, but I was proud to see our police chief, a woman of color so well-spoken and in such command of the situation when she spoke in the press conference. And I was shocked to see several of our police SWAT team appear very early on decked out with full battle gear and back packs looking for all the world like Special Forces. All in all the city, the community, and the police didn't miss a beat in performing their duties and couldn't have better represented us when the whole world was watching."

"YOUR QUESTION INFERS THAT THE police response has not been thorough enough. I guess you have been listening to all the usual shakedown artists who appear whenever there is a tragedy in this town. Blaming other people for not supporting Santa Monica's Cradle to Grave neo-Marxist ideology is the de rigueur of modern politics in this town. Too bad the police will be blamed for not stopping all evil. Too bad the professional race agitators will smear all with anti-capitalistic individualism. Too bad those who pontificate the loudest are those who have missed the greater tragedy of Santa Monica."

"I FEEL THAT THEY DESERVE A-PLUS, plus, plus. It was a difficult situation and they handled it quite well. I live in somewhat near the neighborhood and find it was just terrific about how people responded. It's tragic about the things that happened, but some of these things are just not preventable, no matter gun control or anything else. Some people are just going to do those kinds of things so it's about how the rest of us respond. Thank you very much to the police, fire department and everyone in the city."

"THE SANTA MONICA POLICE Department and the SMC Police Department should be commended for their professionalism. They took out the SMC shooter, saving many lives. With respect to the Michigan Avenue alley murder, the shooter and driver were caught within an hour of the murder. This gang-related shooting was inevitable due to the city's actions. President Clinton's Department of Housing and Urban Development conducted a study 'In the Crossfire,' which concluded gun violence is higher in neighborhoods with an overconcentration of low-income housing. Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights and Community Corp. of Santa Monica have flooded the Pico Neighborhood with low-income housing projects. Thus it is no surprise this shooting happened. It is the 43rd gang-related murder in the Pico Neighborhood since Community Corp. started dumping the projects in the Pico Neighborhood. We need more police to patrol the Pico Neighborhood. In addition, we need the city to flood north of Wilshire with low-income, multi-family rental housing so the low-income families in the Pico Neighborhood can have an opportunity to escape the ghetto."

"THE POLICE ARE OVERPAID AND have too many benefits. The only time you see them is when they're driving their ATVs on the beach, hanging out at the Third Street Promenade or parked in front of a restaurant. Why aren't they visible and walking streets like Pico (shootings) or Montana (jewelry heist)? Being highly visible throughout the city would prevent crime. They need some new leadership; time to be proactive instead of just reactive to crime."

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STATE BRIEFS

SANTA ANA

Authorities seek stolen artificial leg

Orange County authorities are looking for a crook who drove away with a man's high-tech artificial limb.

Juan Hernandez, 53, of Santa Ana, left the prosthetic, valued at $30,000 to $60,000, in his pickup truck in favor of a wheelchair when he and his family visited Knott's Berry Farm last month.

When the family returned to the parking lot at about 10 p.m. on May 26, they realized that someone had stolen his black 2007 Chevy Silverado with the leg inside.

"I thought he was going to have a heart attack," Hernandez's wife, Carmen, told the Orange County Register.

Hernandez lost his leg above the knee in November 2010 when a suspected graffiti vandal struck him with a Ford Bronco after a confrontation across the street from his Santa Ana home, police said. Hernandez was pushed through a 5-foot-high wall of cinderblocks and wrought iron and pinned under the car until it backed out.

Police investigating the attack have offered a $10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of Jose Berruette, 24, who's believed to have fled to Mexico.

The attack was featured on an episode of the TV show "America's Most Wanted" and the producers got a prosthetics maker to donate the custom leg to Hernandez, police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna told City News Service.

Hernandez said his artificial leg had a computer-controlled knee that allowed him to take walks and go to the gym.

"That was the perfect leg," Hernandez told the Register on Thursday as he watched his grandchildren from a wheelchair. "I've had it a little over a year, and I was able to walk on it."

"I have my wheelchair and crutches, but I'd rather be walking," Hernandez said.

Hernandez expected to receive a new leg but was unsure whether it will be as sophisticated as the stolen limb.

Hernandez said he regretted not leaving the leg at home the day it was stolen.

"Only God knows why these things are happening, but at least I'm still alive and I have my family backing me up," Hernandez said. "Sometimes I look down and I see no leg and I think it could be worse. That night I could have died and it didn't happen."

–ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Idaho man pleads not guilty in fraud case

A man extradited from an Idaho resort town has pleaded not guilty to charges he helped dupe a Los Angeles physician out of more than $28 million in an offshore investment.

Neil D. Campbell was arrested this month in Sun Valley and appeared briefly in court Friday. His preliminary hearing was set for July 8 and he was held on $10 million bail.

Cambell and another man, Philip Powers, face 140 counts of grand theft in an alleged eight-year scheme.

Prosecutors say the men defrauded an orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Gary Michelson, by getting him to invest in a teak farm in Costa Rica, then inflating the price of the property and skimming the difference.

Campbell and Powers could face up to 105 years in prison if convicted.

– AP

BAKERSFIELD

Baby found dead in Bakersfield trash can

Authorities say a Kern County man made a grisly discovery while retrieving his trash can from the curb: there was a dead, naked newborn baby inside that appeared to have suffered a head wound.

Fifty-three-year-old Reggie Groves said he made the discovery on Friday morning outside his Bakersfield home.

Groves told the Bakersfield Californian that the baby still had an umbilical cord attached. The newspaper reported that he began crying during the interview and went back into his house.

The Sheriff's Office did not release the gender of the baby, but said it was just days old.

Under state law, a baby can be surrendered at any hospital emergency room or fire station within 72 hours of the child's birth with no consequences.

– AP

SAN ANSELMO

Yoda, Indiana Jones statues shown at park

In a park not so far away, iconic filmmaker George Lucas on Thursday unveiled statues of two of his most movie popular characters.

With doves released in the air, Lucas was on hand to show off the bronze renderings of Indiana Jones and Yoda at the new Imagination Park in his hometown of San Anselmo, the Marin Independent Journal reported.

About 500 people cheered as they got their first look at the statues depicting the hero of the Indiana Jones movie series that stands at about 6-foot-3 as well as the 2 1/2 feet full-sized replica of the Jedi sage from the groundbreaking Star Wars franchise.

"I've never seen so many people in downtown San Anselmo," said Annabelle Reber, who was at the event with her two young children and their family dog. "We're very excited that the town finally has a central gathering spot."

Lucas donated the land for the 8,700-square-foot nearly completed downtown park in Marin County by razing an existing building at his expense and also paying for the bronze statues created by Berkeley sculptor Lawrence Noble.

"I am happy with the park. It has now become a place for the community to meet instead of a building that never seemed to find a purpose," resident Dan Baker said. "Our kids (saw) the statues unveiled today, and in time, they can bring their own kids here."

Officials say a community foundation fund has so far raised about $125,000 of the $300,000 needed for the park's ongoing maintenance and upkeep.

The $125,000 does not include a $10,000 donation approved this month by the San Anselmo Town Council.

– AP

Fewer abortions with hospital consolidations

BY AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. By joining with a much bigger Catholic health system, a prominent Orange County hospital hopes to enhance patients' access to a host of services — except one.

Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, based in Newport Beach, started banning elective abortions this year after reaching an agreement to affiliate with St. Joseph Health, riling some doctors and women's advocates.

The controversy has fueled a feisty debate in local editorial pages and prompted a rally outside the hospital, making the Southern California suburbs the latest scene of a culture clash occurring across the country as Catholic and non-Catholic hospitals strike deals in a wave of health care industry mergers.

Women's health advocates say affiliations between non-Catholic and Catholic hospitals have squelched abortions in a number of locations, and full-blown mergers have also affected health services such as sterilization and contraception.

Hoag has a flagship 485-bed hospital with sweeping Pacific Ocean views and another hospital in nearby Irvine. It joined with Irvine-based St. Joseph Health, which has 14 acute care hospitals in California and Texas, after winning state approval to form a regional health care system called Covenant Health Network.

The economic downturn and health care overhaul have driven many nonprofit hospitals to form partnerships or merge entirely in recent years, and cultural conflicts related to religion, teaching style or other differences often need to be hashed out for the ventures to succeed, said Lisa Goldstein, associate managing director of the not-for-profit hospital ratings team at Moody's.

Dr. Richard Afable, Hoag's former president who now heads Covenant, said Hoag took a closer look at its abortion practices because it was joining with a Catholic health system where the procedure isn't allowed.

Afable said the hospital decided to cease performing elective abortions because it does so few of them anyway — only about 100 a year. He said Hoag will continue to perform abortions when medically indicated and that most elective abortions are done in a doctor's office or could be better performed at a center with a higher volume of the procedures.

"We looked very closely at all the things we do that are generally not supported at Catholic hospitals," he said. "We are not limiting any physician from conducting their medical practice in any way they would like. If a physician wants to do an elective abortion, there are places and locations where they can conduct that."

Obstetrician Dr. Richard Agnew said he worries Hoag may start to weed out other services over time. He also said he doesn't feel his patients who choose abortion should be shuffled off to a Planned Parenthood or different hospital, noting most are women who wanted to get pregnant but are carrying a fetus with genetic abnormalities and need a hospital level of care.

"It's not like they're doing anything illegal," Agnew said. "It's bad enough for them to have to make a decision."

Hospitals steeped in different faith traditions have had to contend with public concern over mergers and affiliations in states including Connecticut, Kentucky and Washington. The debate has most often surfaced in mergers involving Catholic hospitals due to the church's directives on issues ranging from abortion and birth control to end-of-life decisions.

In suburban Philadelphia, two hospitals, Abington and Holy Redeemer, called off a proposed partnership after community members were upset the plan would have ended abortions at Abington.

Catholic facilities account for more than one fifth of the country's hospital admissions, according to the Catholic Health Association.

Most commonly, affiliation agreements have led non-Catholic hospitals to stop providing abortions, while mergers and acquisitions have also led some institutions to stop performing other services, such as tubal ligation, said Sheila Reynertson, advocacy coordinator for New York-based Merger Watch, which tracks the effects of mergers between religious and secular hospitals on reproductive and other health services.

Lori Vandermeir, president of the National Organization for Women's Orange County chapter, said she worries the spate of hospital mergers will affect women's access to abortion even when no laws have changed.

"They have the ability to reset abortion-access behind the scenes, without the legislature being involved," she said.

In St. Joseph's statement of common values, the health system states that "direct abortion and physician assisted suicide are not part of St. Joseph Health services."

Afable said there have been no other changes to procedures offered at either hospital, noting Hoag will continue to perform sterilizations and provide contraception. He said no changes would be made to women's health services at Hoag for at least a decade under the agreement.

Pro-abortion rights groups staged a rally outside the hospital Thursday, while anti-abortion advocates who welcomed Hoag's decision held a counterdemonstration. The controversy has also sparked a spirited debate in the editorial pages of local newspapers.

Tom Johnson, a local businessman, wrote in the Orange County Register that while he supports abortion rights he doesn't see a problem with hospitals limiting their offerings. He recalled that he had to travel to Los Angeles for a kidney transplant eight years ago because Hoag did not perform the procedure.

"I'm 100 percent in favor of a woman's right to choose. Not 50 percent, not 75 percent — 100 percent," Johnson wrote in a guest column in the newspaper. "But I also, at the same time, respect the right of Hoag Hospital to choose what services it will provide and what services it will not."

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REHAB
FROM PAGE 1

son rehab dwellings.

"To obtain an address designation, a formal procedure must be completed, which is generally initiated by a request from the property owner. Passages never requested the address designations from the city, as required," the City Attorney's Office wrote to the ADP. "Further, guesthouses and pool houses are ineligible for address designations because these structures may not be used as a dwelling [under Malibu Municipal Code]."

The problem was first brought to the ADP's attention in October 2007 when city officials demanded any licensed pool house and guesthouse dwellings have their licenses revoked. But the ADP failed to make a "final determination" on the case, according to documents obtained from Hogin's office, with the last correspondence taking place in June 2008. The June 2008 letter came from Hogin's office and was never answered by the ADP.

Located on Meadows Court in central Malibu, Passages runs eight state-licensed five- or six-bed facilities in the Sycamore neighborhood, according to a list last updated May 15 by the ADP.

Some of those licenses were "obtained through misrepresentation," according to City Hall, with Passages designating pool houses and guesthouses with addresses such as "6390 B" and "6428 B."

"The state has an obligation to license within the parameters of the law, and the law does not allow service providers to create these addresses," Hogin said in an interview with The Malibu Times.

With Passages setting up facilities in unlawful places like guest houses, Hogin maintains the rehab center has come to define the Sycamore neighborhood. The end result is a contradiction to what the centers are intended to be, Hogin said.

"A group home is supposed to nestle into the residential community," Hogin said. "When these homes becomes such big businesses, they're defining the character of the neighborhood. It's like setting up a hospital in the middle of a neighborhood."

Officials from the ADP did not respond to multiple requests from The Malibu Times for comment to speak specifically on the Passages case.

In a brief statement, ADP spokeswoman Carol Sloane said it is not part of the state's job to enforce municipal law.

"There currently is no statute authorizing ADP to revoke a facility's license based on noncompliance with local zoning laws. ADP has authority to enforce violations of state licensing laws and regulations," Sloane wrote in an e-mail. "Before licenses are approved and issued, ADP staff conduct on-site inspections of each facility."

Passages Malibu declined multiple requests for comment.

"If you have to publish a story with Passages' comment, then it is what it is," said a Passages representative who declined to be named.

The licensing issue is not unique to Passages, according to city officials, but may also be rampant in the dozens of other rehab facilities in Malibu.

"We're looking at them all," City Attorney Christi Hogin said. "It's not a Passages problem, per se. I think it's a state licensing issue. But we need to have our code enforcement collect better evidence."



Photo courtesy www.passagesmalibu.com

GET CLEAN: Passages, which treats those struggling with drug and alcohol addiction, operates this luxury treatment facility in Malibu. City officials there say Passages and others like it operate with little scrutiny and are disregarding local law so they can increase head counts.

The complaint against Passages is just the tipping point in a much larger battle fronted by City Councilman Lou La Monte and Mayor Joan House, who believe action needs to be taken by state lawmakers, not just the ADP.

"New legislation needs to be looked at because when you abuse the law, that's when you get into trouble," La Monte said. "The concept of the residential rehab is not a bad concept — if you follow the law."

La Monte said he and House plan on meeting with elected state representatives sometime in July, including State Sen. Fran Pavley and Assemblyman Richard Bloom, who represent Malibu.

"This is a $100-million industry operating in the city of Malibu," La Monte said.

"When rehab facilities that are supposed to be in a residential area don't obey the law, they have the ability to overwhelm the infrastructure and ultimately they start these clusterings and pretty soon they destroy neighborhoods," La Monte said "I think it's gotten to that point on Meadows Court."

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This story first appeared in The Malibu Times.



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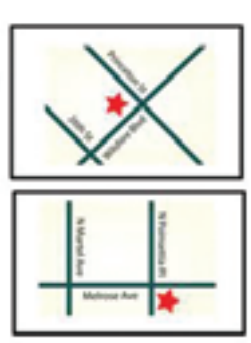

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BUS

FROM PAGE 1

Some, like Route 6 commuter bus and the Route 10 express between Santa Monica College and Union Station will not operate at all during the summer while the college is not in full swing.

The changes come in response to a planning process meant to streamline bus service, make the schedule easier to remember and generally reduce overcrowding on popular lines, objectives that Ed King, director of Transit Services with City Hall, announced during his budget presentation to the City Council in May.

"The June service changes are relatively minor and incremental, but together they substantiate a significant increase in passenger comfort and convenience," the report reads.

The most significant changes occur on routes 3 and 7, which transport people all the way from the area around Los Angeles International Airport up San Vicente and down Pico Boulevard to mid-city Los Angeles, respectively.

The new schedule beefs up service on routes 2 and 3 to ameliorate summer traffic coming from the south. That'll mean more evening trips from Santa Monica to the Green Line Station near LAX between Thursday and Sunday, all the better to swing by the Twilight Concert Series starting July 11.

If you're used to getting on at Fourth Street and Civic Center Way, think again. That bus stop will be removed, and customers can get on at Fourth Street and Pico Boulevard.

The Rapid 3 will get a new bus stop of its own at Lincoln Boulevard and Mindanoa Way.

Route 7 will convert to a "memory schedule," meaning that buses will take off at the same minute mark each hour. They will also run more often during the week, departing every 12 minutes instead of every 15.

If the memory schedule works well, BBB leadership will look into expanding it across other lines, according to the report.

The plan envisages major changes along Route 4, which will no longer serve the Veteran's Administration north campus in both directions, and those departing from Santa Monica toward the Westside Pavilion will stay on San Vicente Boulevard and no longer travel on Montana Avenue to Bringham Street.

Five stops will be axed in both the east and westbound directions to reflect the change, with three new stops on San Vicente Boulevard at Barrington, Montana and Mayfield avenues.

Both routes 4 and 9 will abandon their normal weekday routes, instead using the weekend versions. That means that buses traveling southbound on Fourth Street will make a right on Colorado Avenue, left on Main Street and a left on Olympic Boulevard to Avenida Mazatlan.

Riders can get on either at Santa Monica Place or Avenida Mazatlan rather than the normal stops on Pico Boulevard at Fourth and Main streets.

Four trips along Route 12 at Robertson Boulevard and Venice Boulevard will be removed, but others within minutes of those regularly scheduled buses will still be in operation.

Changes will remain in effect until Aug. 25 and 26, when a new round of alterations will start up, according to the report.

ashley@smdp.com







HOUSING
FROM PAGE 1

council make a choice: Did they want the ordinance to become effective for those development agreements that had not yet been voted on by the council, or those that had not yet been approved?

"Which would capture more properties?" asked Councilmember Kevin McKeown.

The answer was the latter, and the measure — which still must go through a second reading — could mean that projects like one recently approved on Second Street may have to lower their expectations in terms of income from their development.

That development had proposed eight affordable units consisting of five very-low income one-bedroom units and three low-income studios which, prior to the change, could have brought in roughly $6,961 per month in rent.

Under the new limits, owners could charge only $5,280 per month for the same mix.

The change actually brings Santa Monica's policies in line with state income limits, which are based on the area's median income.

In the past, Santa Monica officials based their rent levels on a benchmark income of $84,300 for a family of four. The limit used in Los Angeles is based on the area's median income, or $64,800 for a family of four, said Denise McGranahan, an attorney with the Legal Aid Foundation.

Rents for low-income, very low-income and moderate households are calculated using percentages of that baseline, meaning that the higher dollar amount used by Santa Monica drove up the cost of affordable housing.

"Using the higher benchmark has resulted in rents that are now hundreds of dollars higher than the rents charged by most cities with inclusionary housing ordinances," McGranahan said.

The City Council also added an "extremely low income" category for families that make 30 percent of the area median income.

That's important because the vast majority of people waiting for affordable housing in Santa Monica are looking for those lower income standards. Only 1 percent want moderately-priced housing, which, according to a report, is practically market rate.

THE UNEXPECTED

Developers with buildings in the pipeline did not oppose the new limits, assuming that they would be grandfathered in. Tuesday's vote changed that.

"I think people were blindsided," said Dale Goldsmith, a land use attorney working on the Second Street project.

He's still not sure if the ordinance will apply to that project, which is expected to come up for a second reading later this month.

Others have expressed a reluctance to move forward with housing projects because local policies like the Affordable Housing Production Program have become unpredictable.

The change is "pretty material," said Jim Andersen, president of NMS Properties, a development company with several projects in Downtown.

Andersen also spoke at the Housing Commission in March, saying that if rents go down, fewer affordable units may be built over time.

Patricia Hoffman, co-chair of Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights, believes that the council's move to capture the largest number of units possible was critical to housing affordability in the area.

"It's absolutely necessary," she said. "Anything that doesn't have final approval and hasn't opened yet, they will find a way to make it work."

McKeown, one council member who backed the Legal Aid Foundation in their work, said that ensuring affordability was a matter of social justice.

"The developers making big plans for our city need to realize we have working families and low-income seniors who are part of our community too," he said.

Affordable housing has been a major topic of conversation in Santa Monica in recent years, particularly after the loss of the Redevelopment Agency, an entity funded by local taxes that poured millions into the creation of affordable housing in the city.

Voters also passed Proposition R in 1990, a measure that required that 30 percent of the housing built in the city meet local affordability standards for low- and moderate-income families, with at least half falling into the low-income category.

Although 101 affordable residences were built in the 2011-12 fiscal year, only three of those were affordable to low-income families, according to a report released Tuesday.

City Council members have identified that mix as problematic, largely because apartments at the moderate-income affordability limit under the old standards were almost equivalent in price to market-rate housing.

Officials hope that will be corrected by projects approved,



Courtesy City of Santa Monica

FUTURE? 1318 Second St. Rendering of proposed development.

but not completed, in the same year. The majority of affordable units in those developments qualify as low-income apartments, according to the report.

There are active building permits for 723 residences in 37 multifamily developments, 53 percent of which are affordable with 282 aimed at low- and very-low income households. It's almost impossible to predict how many of those will be ready at the end of this fiscal year, according to the report.

Affordable housing continues to be a controversial topic in the city, with some grumbling that it brings the wrong element to town, particularly in the aftermath of recent shootings in the Pico Neighborhood.

Others believe the creation of more affordable housing hurts the local market overall, similar to rent control policies that also aim to keep rents low.

"Government mandated low-income housing is an artifice to distract attention from the consequences of a failed economic model," said Wes Wellman, president of the Action Apartment Association, which represents landlords locally.

"The housing produced is inconsequential relative to the demand and merely serves to make lottery winners of the few who obtain it and to allow policy makers to boast of their commendable enterprises," he continued.

The market will find a way to supply housing to those who need it, although it may be through renting apartments to multiple roommates, driving down the per-person cost of an apartment, he said.

ashley@smdp.com

BILLS
FROM PAGE 3

he said.

The final language prohibits the arena from receiving additional hiring credits if it lays off workers and then rehires new employees at lower wages.

"The state is essentially forcing a rewrite of a contract," Wagner said in his floor comments against the bill. "That is not a budget item. That is an exercise of raw, really ugly political power."

Another example of how quickly legislation can change is the path taken by one of last year's budget-related bills, which was used to place Gov. Jerry Brown's tax proposal first among the 11 initiatives on the November statewide ballot.

The bill, AB1499, was amended, passed by lawmakers and signed by Brown over a period of three days in June 2012. It moved the governor's initiative, which became known as Proposition 30, ahead of others because it involved a constitutional amendment.

The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association challenged the action, but a judge rejected the request. Brown defended the ballot-order move and voters ultimately passed the measure, which raised the state sales tax and income taxes for those who make more than $250,000 a year.

The Senate's top Democrats defend the practice of using omnibus trailer bills — the name given to bills that are supposed to enact certain aspects of the state budget. They said it is necessary and relatively innocuous, contending that most of the numerous components in the criticized public records bill had been considered during public hearings without any outcry.

"That's our process. We only know if something is controversial or is of concern if stakeholders speak up," Leno said.

Earlier this week, the Assembly voted on a new version of the bill that strips the language making compliance with the Public Records Act optional, and the Senate is expected to follow next week. The Legislature's Democratic leaders also are embracing a proposed constitutional amendment to strengthen the public's right to government documents.

Open government advocates and some lawmakers have called for requiring all bills to be in print and posted online 72 hours before they come up for a vote. Two constitutional amendments introduced earlier this year would have done just that but did not gain much traction.

Sen. Mark Wyland, R-Escondido, unsuccessfully proposed a constitutional amendment last year that would have required that all budget bills be made public 21 days before a vote, far beyond the few days suggested by other lawmakers. He also has proposed that the state create a two-year budget cycle, with the first year devoted to vetting state spending.

"Our process needs to be open, lengthy, and I think that 24 hours, 48 hours, 72 hours, is all inside baseball," Wyland said. "We ought to have them available for two or three weeks if we really want the public to examine it and understand it, and I think that's one element of transparency."







Nevada's governor shows GOP strength in states

BY NICHOLAS RICCARDI & SANDRA CHEREB
Associated Press Writers

CARSON CITY, Nev. When Republican governors in November gathered in Las Vegas to discuss how to recover from their party's latest electoral drubbing, the popular GOP governor of Nevada wasn't there.

Instead, Brian Sandoval was in Washington, D.C., meeting with Obama administration officials to seal the deal that made him the first Republican governor to expand Medicaid as part of the president's health care initiative.

It was part of the pragmatic, centrist, low-key approach that has kept Sandoval popular in a Democratic-trending state and makes him the heavy favorite in his re-election bid next year.

With all the hand-wringing about the future of the GOP, the party has an often-overlooked strength: Popular governors like Sandoval who run most of the states in the nation, testing new policies, winning credit for the economic recovery and building records and expertise for possible runs at national office.

Partly due to the party's dominance in the 2010 election, Republicans hold 30 of the nation's 50 governorships.

"The larger the electoral arena, the worse the Republicans seem to do," said Eric Herzik, a political science professor at the University of Nevada, Reno, noting the GOP has lost the popular vote in five of the last six presidential elections and blown a number of high-profile senate races.

"The one electoral arena that the Republicans have done fairly well in are the governorships," he said.

The 2010 wave ushered in a number of envelope-pushing conservatives. Some, like Florida's Rick Scott and Pennsylvania's Tom Corbett, are long-shots for re-election while others like Wisconsin's Scott Walker or Ohio's John Kasich have weathered early rough patches and are now doing well in the polls.

Sandoval offers a contrasting approach.

"He doesn't get boxed in or pinned down by labels. He's someone who's willing to set aside traditional boundaries if it's going to solve problems," said Greg Ferraro, a longtime Sandoval friend and adviser. "To me, he's the kind of Republican that's going to rebuild the party."

Growing numbers of migrants from the coasts and an expanding immigrant population have steadily pushed Nevada into the Democrats' column in presidential elections. But Sandoval has helped act as a GOP bulwark at the state level. He vetoed a bill to expand background checks for gun purchases, another to expand the period for voter registration and nixed a law to place calorie counts on chain restaurant menus.

He is so popular that Democrats have yet to field a challenger, and most analysts predict he will be handily re-elected.

But many of the things that have endeared Sandoval to Nevada voters would make him radioactive among the activists and interest groups who dominate national Republican politics. He supports abortion rights. Although he has refused to approve new taxes, he has twice extended what were supposed to be temporary taxes totaling more than $620 million.

This month, Sandoval signed a bill granting cards that permit driving to people in the country illegally.

"He's got a nice smile, a sunny disposition," said Chuck Muth, president of the Nevada conservative group Citizen Outreach and one of Sandoval's critics from the right. "But that's not something that's going to carry him very far if he ever gets into a competitive primary."

Sandoval had previously served as a state legislator and Nevada's attorney general and had a comfortable position as a federal judge when he agreed to run for governor in 2010. The incumbent, Republican Jim Gibbons, was badly tarred by a painfully public divorce case that included allegations of infidelity. Sandoval ousted him in the Republican primary and easily beat Rory Reid, son of U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, in the general election.

He is one of two Hispanic GOP governors elected that year, and he co-chairs a task force with his New Mexico counterpart, Susana Martinez, to recruit more Hispanic Republican candidates. But Sandoval only won 33 percent of the Hispanic vote, just three percentage points higher than Sharron Angle, the Republican challenger to Senator Reid who campaigned on her stance against illegal immigration.

Sandoval is a halting public speaker and cautious politician. He frustrated many Nevada Republicans by only giving lukewarm support to his party's nominee, Mitt Romney, in the 2012 presidential elections.

In many states, the governor has unrivaled power and ability to set the agenda. That's certainly true in Nevada, where the legislature meets for 120 days every two years. In the 2013 regular session, Sandoval came out on top, his $6.6 billion general fund budget proposal left mostly intact thanks to a GOP minority in both chambers that kept Democrats from a two-thirds vote margin needed to raises taxes.

But Sandoval came under criticism from both the right and left when just hours after the June 3 midnight deadline, he called lawmakers back into special session to act on five measures that died in the final hectic minutes — including a Clark County sales tax increase to fund more police officers.

The Nevada Policy Research Institute, a conservative think tank, chided him for pushing the sales tax bill while abandoning education reforms that were rejected by Democrats.

Liberals also derided him for the special session, saying he should have pursued more tax hikes.

Sandoval also took heat earlier this year after a mentally ill man hospitalized at a Las Vegas psychiatric hospital was given a one-way bus ticket to Sacramento, Calif., where he knew no one. It prompted a weeks-long investigation by The Sacramento Bee about "patient dumping." Sandoval eventually fired two staffers and ordered an independent review of practices at the hospital.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal civil rights suit this week on behalf of one patient and city attorneys in two California cities have criminal investigations under way.

There is already speculation in Nevada that Sandoval, if re-elected, could challenge Reid in 2016, setting up a clash of the state's political titans. Reid and his hard-edged operatives have been relatively polite in discussing the governor, and some Democrats clearly respect Sandoval.

Billy Vassiliadis, a veteran Democratic operative, said the governor's low-key, bipartisan demeanor is a clear asset, but it remains to be seen whether that approach would resonate with the more GOP's aggressive, national approach.



SURF REPORT



O'NEILL

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **66.4°**

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
SSW swell reinforcements top out; old leftover SSW fades further

SUNDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
SSW swell slowly eases

MONDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Old SSW swell fades

TUESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minor swell mix

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of: **June 19, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 4
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 1
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

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

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

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.

FAA moving toward easing electronic device use

BY JOAN LOWY & SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The government is moving toward easing restrictions on airline passengers using electronic devices to listen to music, play games, read books, watch movies and work during takeoffs and landings, but it could take a few months.

An industry-labor advisory committee was supposed to make recommendations next month to the Federal Aviation Administration on easing the restrictions. But the agency said in a statement Friday the deadline has been extended to September because committee members asked for extra time to finish assessing whether it's safe to lift restrictions.

"The FAA recognizes consumers are intensely interested in the use of personal electronics aboard aircraft; that is why we tasked a government-industry group to examine the safety issues and the feasibility of changing the current restrictions," the statement said.

The agency is under public and political pressure to ease the restrictions as more people bring their e-book readers, music and video players, smartphones and laptops with them when they fly.

Technically, the FAA doesn't bar use of electronic devices when aircraft are below 10,000 feet. But under FAA rules, airlines that want to let passengers use the devices are faced with a practical impossibility — they would have to show that they've tested every type and make of device passengers would use to ensure there is no electromagnetic interference with aircraft radios and electrical and electronic systems.

As a result, U.S. airlines simply bar all electric device use below 10,000 feet. Airline accidents are most likely to occur during takeoffs, landings, and taxiing.

Cellphone calls and Internet use and transmissions are also prohibited, and those restrictions are not expected to be lifted. Using cellphones to make calls on planes is regulated by the Federal Communications Commission. There is concern that making calls from fast-flying planes might strain cellular systems, interfering with service on the ground. There is also the potential annoyance factor — whether passengers will be unhappy if they have to listen to other passengers yakking on the phone.

The Wall Street Journal reported Friday that a draft report by the advisory committee indicates its 28 members have reached a consensus that at least some of the current restrictions should be eased.

An official familiar with FAA's efforts on the issue said agency officials would like to find a way to allow passengers to use electronic devices during takeoffs and landings the same way they're already allowed to use them when planes are cruising above 10,000 feet. The official requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak by name.

FAA Administrator Michael Huerta told a Senate panel in April that he convened the advisory committee in the hope of working out changes to the restrictions.

"It's good to see the FAA may be on the verge of acknowledging what the traveling public has suspected for years — that current rules are arbitrary and lack real justification," Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., one of Congress' more outspoken critics of the restrictions, said in a statement. She contends that unless scientific evidence can be presented to justify the restrictions, they should be lifted.

Edward Pizzarello, the co-founder of frequent flier discussion site MilePoint, says lifting the restriction is "long overdue."

"I actually feel like this regulation has been toughest on flight attendants. Nobody wants to shut off their phone, and the flight attendants are always left to be the bad guys and gals," said Pizzarello, 38, of Leesburg, Va.

Actor Alec Baldwin became the face of passenger frustration with the restrictions in 2011 he was kicked off a New York-bound flight in Los Angeles for refusing to turn off his cellphone. Baldwin later issued an apology to fellow American Airlines passengers who were delayed, but mocked the flight attendant on Twitter.

"I just hope they do the sensible thing and don't allow people to talk on their cellphones during flight," said Pizzarello, who flies 150,000 to 200,000 miles a year. "There are plenty of people that don't have the social skills necessary to make a phone call on a plane without annoying the people around them. Some things are better left alone."

"It'll be nice not to have to power down and wait, but it never really bothered me. As long as they don't allow calls I'll be happy," said Ian Petchenik, 28, a Chicago-based consultant and frequent flier.

Airline consultant Robert Mann said the biggest benefit would come on short flights, where passengers would have much more time to use the devices since they are above 10,000 feet for a shorter period of time. That would ultimately give the airlines more time to sell stuff — whether that's Wi-Fi or movies and TV shows on demand.

Henry Harteveldt, an analyst with Hudson Crossing, said airlines would only profit if the FAA also amended the rules to allow passengers to access the Internet earlier — something that is not being suggested.

"Unless the FAA is considering relaxing the rules on Wi-Fi access, this is not about making money. This is about keeping the passenger entertained," he said.

Heather Poole, a flight attendant for a major U.S. airline, blogger and author of the novel "Cruising Attitude," said easing the restrictions would make flight attendants' jobs "a whole lot easier."

There is a lot of pressure for airlines to have on-time departures, she said. Flight attendants are dealing with an "out-of-control" carry-on bag situation and then have to spend their time enforcing the electronics rule.

"These days, it takes at least five reminders to get people to turn off their electronics, and even then, it doesn't always work," Poole said. "I think some passengers believe they're the only ones using their devices, but it's more like half the airplane doesn't want to turn it off."

But there is concern about whether easing restrictions will result in passengers becoming distracted by their devices when they should be listening to safety instructions.

On a recent flight that had severe turbulence, a business class passenger wearing noise-canceling headphones missed the captain's announcement to stay seated, Poole recalled.

"Takeoff and landing is when passengers need to be most aware of their surroundings in case — God forbid — we have to evacuate," she said. "I don't see that guy, or any of the ones like him, reacting very quickly."

MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, June 22
Night Boats (X) 1hr 41min
Vegetarian Cannibal (NR) 1hr 31min
7:30pm
Discussion between films with director Igor Mirkovic.

Sunday, June 23
The Mysterious Boy (NR) 1hr 28min
Kotlovina (NR) 2hrs
5:00pm

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

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

Fast & Furious 6 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
4:05pm, 10:30pm

Now You See Me (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

Star Trek Into Darkness 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 03min
12:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Bling Ring (R) 1hr 30min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Man of Steel (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
10:15am, 12:30pm, 4:05pm, 11:10pm

Monsters University (G) 1hr 47min
10:30am, 1:20pm, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm, 11:15pm

World War Z (PG-13) 1hr 56min
11:10am, 5:15pm, 11:20pm

This Is The End (R) 1hr 47min
11:15am, 2:30pm, 5:00pm

Internship (PG-13) 1hr 59min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:35pm

Monsters University 3D (G) 1hr 47min
11:30am, 5:15pm, 8:15pm

Man of Steel 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:30am, 3:05pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

World War Z 3D (PG-13) 1hr 56min
2:15pm, 8:20pm

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

Ain't In It For My Health: A Film About Levon Helm (NR) 1hr 45min
11:00am

Mud (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:30pm, 7:00pm

Girls in the Band (NR) 1hr 21min
11:00am

Plimpton! (NR) 1hr 28min
11:10am

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre: Much Ado About Nothing (NR) 2hrs 47min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Frances Ha (R) 1hr 26min
3:20pm, 8:00pm

Before Midnight (R) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Kings of Summer (R) 1hr 33min
1:00pm, 5:40pm, 10:15pm

Dirty Wars (NR) 1hr 30min
4:40pm, 9:55pm

Scatter My Ashes at Bergdorf's (PG-13) 1hr 34min
11:15am

Alien Uprising (R)
11:55pm

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

BIKE IT TONIGHT, SAG

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Listen to surprising news. Suddenly, your mind could be flying all over the place, unable to stop. Keep your eye on the endless possibilities. You might become frustrated by how difficult others seem to be. Tonight: Lighten up.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Deal with people directly, especially a treasured partner who would like to share more of his or her good news. Though this person's response might not be like yours, you will be intrigued. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others seem to have a teasing, alluring quality about them. You can't help but want to join in on their fun. Your sense of humor emerges when dealing with the present situation. Tonight: Out with friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You could become exhausted with all the pressure that comes with completing a home project. You also could be overly fussy. To help move yourself along, why not celebrate when this chore is done? Throw a party. Tonight: Join friends for a spontaneous happening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You are in just the right mood for a perfect day, especially as you are a sign that cares a lot about romance. What happens naturally feels so right that you might question your good fortune. By being yourself, you easily could meet someone who catches your eye. Tonight: At home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out to a roommate or family member. Loosen up and relax when dealing with this person. Understand that you might have fallen into a combative relationship with him or her by accident. You can choose to see your way out of it. Tonight: Close to the pad.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You are the personality of the zodiac. You seem to attract others just as honey attracts bears. Be careful not to let someone think that he or she is more than just a friend. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Contact a dear friend with whom you enjoy going off on adventures. Nothing gives you a fresh perspective like getting away for the day with this person. So, what is stopping you? Figure that out, and be sure not to stand on ceremony with this person. Tonight: A favorite pastime.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to round up a loved one to spend a fun day together. Cater to this person's needs, and he or she will return the favor. Don't let an argument begin because you both want to indulge the other and not be indulged. Tonight: Go on a bike ride.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Someone you count on does the unexpected. Use your intuition to figure out how to respond. You have a lot of energy, and tension could build. Go off and get into physical activity to lower your stress level. Tonight: Head to a baseball game.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Understand what is happening within a friendship. Someone might be angry and defiant, but you could have a difficult time figuring out why. Know that this person might not be sure as to the real reason, either. Tonight: Be where the action is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You could be a lot more irritated right now than you realize, as people might be difficult. Go off on your own, and indulge in what you most enjoy. Join a pal for some shopping or some other mutual hobby. Tonight: Stay calm.

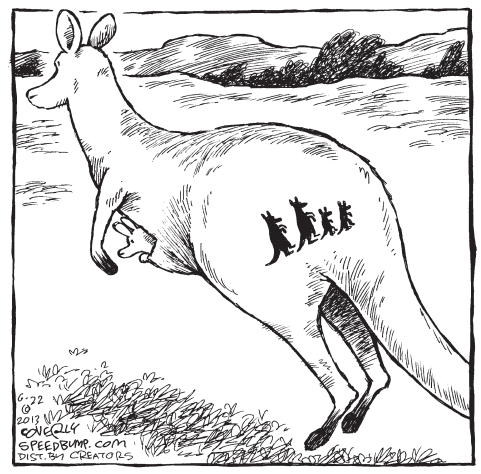
June 22-23, 2013

This year you work well with the unexpected. You use these adrenaline-producing experiences to revitalize your life and gain a new perspective. They most likely will occur in your professional life. If you are single, you could meet someone who will toss your life into disorder, but in a good way. This person could arrive any day. If you are attached, some unusually good news will draw you and your significant other much closer together. SAGITTARIUS knows how to push your buttons.

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

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

Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



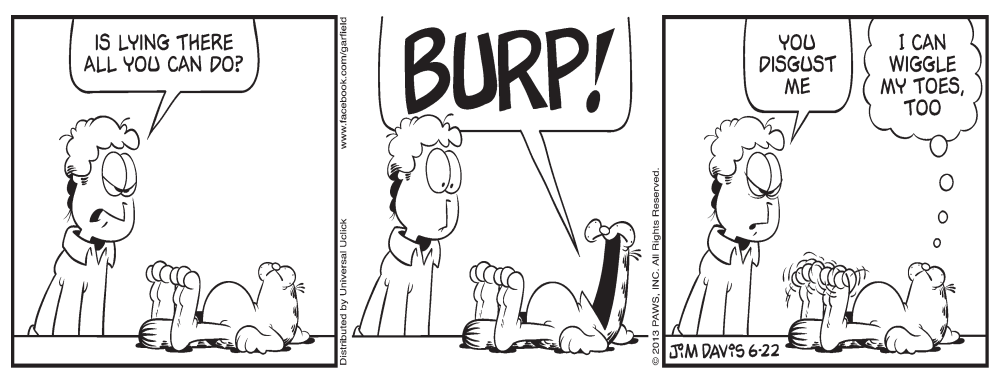
Strange Brew By John Deering



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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

For every dollar you spend with a **local business**, as much as
70 cents
stays right here - supporting our schools, services and the community.

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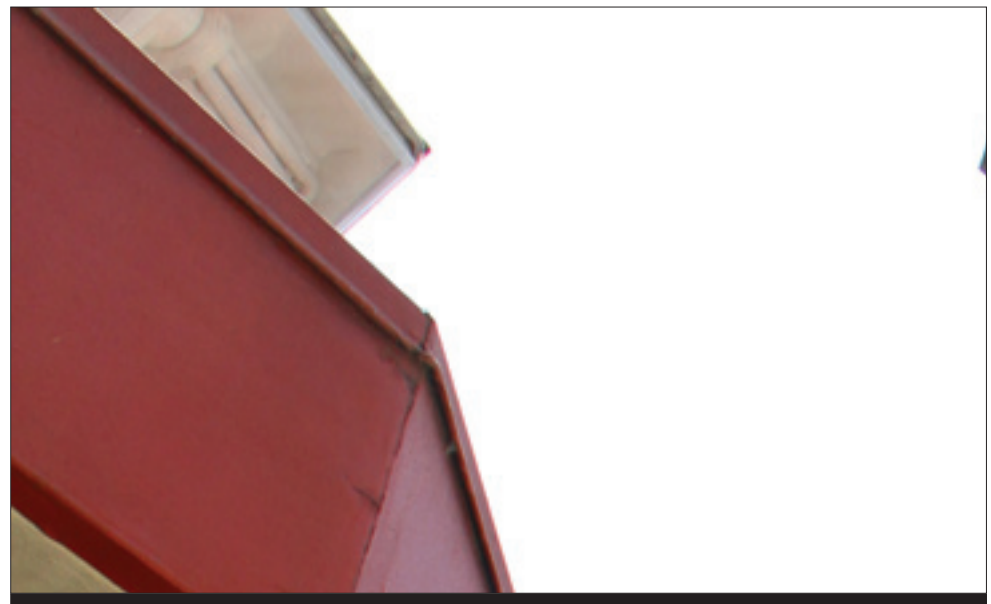
It makes a difference!



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues. Hint: You can eat there, but not for much longer.



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Getting on
5 Nick and Nora's dog
9 Take for — (trick)
10 College VIPs
12 "Water Lilies" painter
13 Photo finish
14 Turned-up feature
16 Pot brew
17 Purpose
18 Canceling
20 Made coffee
22 "Clumsy me!"
23 "Skyfall" singer
25 Planted
28 Runner, for example
32 "How about if ...?"
34 Forest feller
35 Say further
36 They may be shared
38 Director Al-modóvar
40 Wine grape
41 Port — cheese
42 Ledger item
43 Yanks' foes
44 Egg setting

DOWN
1 Incite
2 Sushi accompanier
3 First place
4 Got clean, in a way
5 Campaign creators
6 Marlin's home
7 Arm art
8 Prepare to play
9 Increase
11 Theater units
15 Brandy cocktail
19 Attendee
21 Philosopher Immanuel
24 Expose to blame
25 Trades
26 "Heavens!"
27 Move like a duck
29 Puts a coat on
30 Blackmail
31 Irritable
33 Espies
37 Speeder's reward
39 Massage

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

Yesterday's answer

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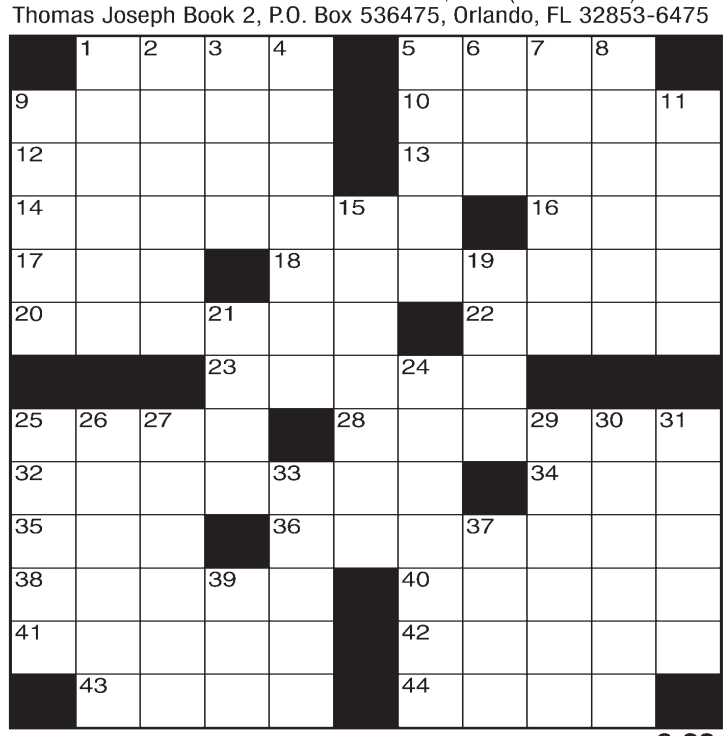

6-22

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Until recently, apparently, gene mutations were considered merely freaks of nature, but that was before Myriad Genetics obtained binding U.S. patents for mutations it discovered -- now known as BRCA-1 and BRCA-2. Those mutations were in the news in May when actor Angelina Jolie announced that she had chosen to have a double mastectomy based on the presence of the cancer-causing mutations, which she had learned of through a Myriad Genetics test costing about $4,000. There is no price competition for the test, due to the patent, and Jolie, along with oncologists and OB-GYN doctors, fret that the test is too expensive for tens of millions of women around the world whose lives could be saved by knowing their status.

■ Three men committed home invasion of a Houston residence on May 14 and, although two escaped, one wound up in the hospital and under arrest. The three men kicked in a door and shut the resident in an upstairs closet while they ransacked the home, but they failed to inspect the closet first and thus did not realize that it was the resident's handgun-storage closet. A few minutes later, the resident emerged, locked and loaded, and wounded one of the men in the shoulder and leg.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1906 – The flag of Sweden is adopted.

1907 – The London Underground's Charing Cross, Euston and Hampstead Railway opens.

1911 – George V and Mary of Teck are crowned King and Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

WORD UP!

poniard
\ PON-yerd \ , noun;
1.
a small, slender dagger.

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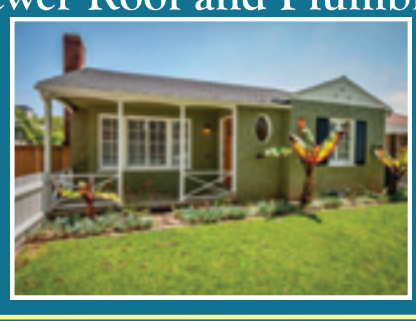

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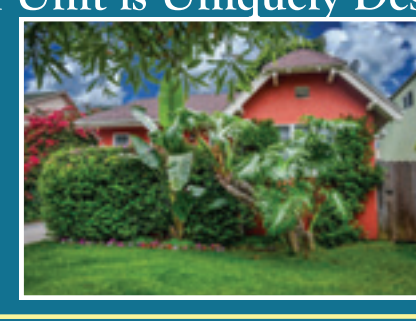

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