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Saint John's slays parking dragon

Conversation stalled until hospital begins second phase of construction project

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL After four years of glacial progress through public process, Saint John's Health Center on Tuesday won its freedom from the expectation that it build a multi-million dollar parking garage.

The City Council voted 5-0 to remove that requirement, which was part of a 1998 development agreement that the hospital signed so that it could rebuild after its campus was damaged in the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

Instead of the parking structure, the hospital proposed to secure 1,528 spaces of on- and off-site parking, 450 of which are located at the Yahoo! Center on Colorado Avenue, according to city planner Roxanne Tanemori.

Visitors, patients and some physicians would get out of their cars at a front entry

SEE SAINT JOHN'S PAGE 8

Council considers smoking ban in apartments, hotels

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Carol Riel and her 6-year-old daughter Griffin lived in a rent-controlled apartment in Santa Monica immediately above another unit inhabited by heavy smokers.

Conditions got so bad that Carol had to move the asthmatic Griffin from room to room in the middle of the night to try to keep her away from the toxic secondhand smoke, despite open windows and several air purifiers.

"Our lungs were marinated in the smoke," Carol said.

That's when the young Griffin made a quiet plea to City Council members from the podium Tuesday night.

"My name is Griffin and smoking is very bad for kids, especially kids with asthma," she said in a high-pitched voice, looking at the council members from her position in her mother's arms. "Can you please make a law to stop smoking in apartment buildings, so this does not happen again?"

Griffin's pleas may have touched hearts and reddened eyes, but it was backed up by a plethora of experts representing every organization from the American Lung Association to the heads of pediatrics departments that came to support a possible ordinance to ban smoking in apartment complexes.

Smoke can make its way through shared

SEE BAN PAGE 11



Photos courtesy Phyllis Chavez

WATER WORLD

Santa Monica city employees work to clean up a busted water main on Ocean Park Boulevard near 21st Street on Wednesday. A 12-inch, cast-iron pipe laid in the 1920s burst around 8 a.m., sending a river of water down Ocean Park Boulevard, which was closed from 21st to 22nd streets, city officials said. Repairs were expected to last through the night.



Sheriff's Department to investigate Samohi's administrative staff

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Citing concerns about a possible conflict of interest, Santa Monica Police Chief Tim Jackman on Wednesday asked the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to investigate allegations that administrators at Santa Monica High School destroyed evidence related to a possible hate crime involving members of the high school's wrestling team.

Jackman referred the case to sheriff's deputies after his investigators were made aware of allegations that administrators may have handled the incident unlawfully, specifically erasing students' cell phone pictures of the alleged hate crime, sources said.

Since there is a close relationship between the school district and City Hall, the chief felt it would be best to let an outside agency handle it, SMPD Sgt. Richard Lewis said.

City Hall sends millions of dollars annually to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as part of a joint-use agreement that gives residents access to some of the school district's facilities, mostly ball fields.

The shift to the sheriff does not signify that police or school administrators did anything wrong, Lewis added.

Santa Monica detectives will continue investigating the alleged hate crime, Lewis said.

An African-American member of the Samohi wrestling team told police last week that on May 4 fellow teammates put a noose around a brown practice dummy and then

SEE SAMOHI PAGE 11

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Calendar

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THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2011

Santa Monica Daily Press

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, June 30, 2011

Polynesian paradise dancers

Ocean Park Library

2601 Main St.,

2:30 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.

Dancers perform and share the history of Hawaii, Tahiti, New Zealand and Samoa. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Happy birthday, Superman!

Scribble Press

1109 Montana Ave.,

10 a.m. — 6 p.m.

Superman turns 70 and you can celebrate by writing your own comic book and decorating a cape! For more information, call (310) 899-0495.

Free doc

Main Library

601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.

— 8:30 p.m.

Free documentary screening of "Mother Nature's Child: Growing Outdoors in the Media Age" presented by the city of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability & the Environment and Sustainable Works. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call (310) 458-8716 ext. 3.

Friday, July 1, 2011

Barking for theater
The Acting Studio at Edgemar
2437 Main St.,

7:30 p.m. — 9:30 p.m.

"Sylvia," a 1995 comedy about a struggling couple in the big city who adopt a frisky poodle, promises lots of laughs and some thoughtful insights into the nature of love, jealousy and dogs along the way. Cost: \$35. Plays Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays

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

through July 10. For more information call (310) 392-0815 or visit www.edgemar.org/events/271.

Work it, seniors!

Senior Center

1450 Ocean Ave.,

9:10 a.m. — 10:10 a.m.

Seniors will get a satisfying workout as the class includes deep breathing and stretching exercises, as well as line dancing and weightlifting. Must be 50 years or older to attend, members only.

For more information about membership and the class, call (310) 458-8644.

'Chicago'

Morgan-Wixson Theatre

2627 Pico Blvd., 8 p.m.

Come watch the Morgan-Wixson Theatre's presentation of the celebrated musical "Chicago!"

General admission is \$23, and seniors and students pay \$18.

For more information, call (310) 828-7519.

Saturday, July 2, 2011

Let go of my LEGO!

Fairview Library

2101 Ocean Park Blvd.,

3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Kids ages 4-14 can build and create with the Fairview Library's stock of LEGOs. For more information about this monthly event, call (310) 458-8681.

6 at the Beach
Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel
1700 Ocean Ave.,
5 p.m. — 8 p.m.

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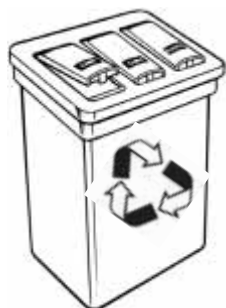
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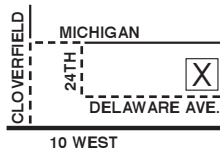
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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

BETTER: The water around the Santa Monica Pier has been taken off of the NRDC's '10 Repeat Offenders' list, it was announced Wednesday.

NRDC report confirms water quality near Santa Monica Pier improving

BY SERLI POLATOGLU
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN Water quality around the Santa Monica Pier continues to improve as the beach surrounding the historic landmark was taken off the Natural Resources

Defense Council's "10 Repeat Offenders" list, attorneys in the environmental advocacy group's Santa Monica office said Wednesday. This comes on the heels of Heal the Bay's decision in May to award the pier an A grade on its most recent beach cleanliness report card.

In a report the NRDC publishes each year that ranks beaches nationwide on a scale of zero to five stars, the pier was awarded a three-star rating. These ratings are based not only off of beach water qual-

SEE WATER PAGE 9

Assault leaves man in critical condition

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Two people are in custody for allegedly beating a man in an alley, leaving him in critical condition, Santa Monica police said Wednesday. The assault took place around 4 a.m. Monday in the 1800 block of 20th Street, said SMPD's Sgt. Richard Lewis.

The victim was transported to a local hospital with severe head trauma and underwent surgery. His condition was still critical Wednesday, but he did show signs of improvement, Lewis said. The suspects were identified as Terrelle Antoine, 23, and Teresa Harper, 26; both from Santa Monica. They were booked for assault causing great bodily injury. Lewis said the suspects were living together at the time of their arrest and may

be affiliated with or are members of a local street gang. The incident is still under investigation. Anyone with additional information is encouraged to call SMPD detectives at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8427. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may call the WeTip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27463).

kevinh@smdp.com

Feds, defense spar over future of Bulger case

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON Prosecutors and James "Whitey" Bulger's attorney sparred in court papers Wednesday about whether the government should be allowed to drop one of two pending federal cases against the former mob boss or whether those cases should be consolidated. Bulger's attorney, Peter Krupp, said prosecutors are trying to shop for a judge by seeking to dismiss one indictment against Bulger in favor of a later indictment that accuses him of participating in 19 murders. He asked that the two indictments instead be consolidated. In a response, U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz said that Krupp's motion carried no weight since Bulger has yet to be arraigned on either indictment. Ortiz said Krupp's motion is "without legal basis" and should be denied. Krupp said prosecutors are attempting to manipulate the usual process of randomly assigning judges to cases by seeking to dismiss a 1994 indictment that charged Bulger with extortion and loan-sharking, but not murder. "The government's apparent forum shopping is contrary to the public interest and undermines public confidence in the judicial process," Krupp wrote in his filing. He also said prosecutors are trying to "game the system." But Ortiz said it is Krupp who is "forum shopping" for a judge, not federal prosecutors. "In fact, the only logical explanation for the (defendant's) counter-intuitive strategy of opposing dismissal and requesting that he be prosecuted for additional offenses is that the defendant is engaging in forum shopping," Ortiz wrote. Ortiz on Tuesday had moved to dismiss the 1994 indictment and focus solely on the 1999 indictment, which includes the murder allegations. If the dismissal is approved, U.S. District Judge Mark Wolf would be removed from the case. The 1999 indictment is assigned to Judge Richard Stearns. Bulger, the former leader of the notorious Winter Hill Gang, was captured in Santa Monica last week after 16 years on the run. He fled Boston just before the first indictment was made public in January

SEE BULGER PAGE 8

Free Summer Series

Wed., July 6: Financial Counseling Appointments 9-11 am
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100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Residents to rise up

Editor:

Our City Council members are fully expected to sell out the residents Tuesday night and forgive Saint John's failing to build on-site parking. [Council voted 5-0 in favor of Saint John's on June 28].

We want them to understand that a vote against the residents will not be the end of this issue.

Screw the residents and you will be exposed for the anti-resident representatives of business interests everyone suspects you folks have become.

A movement is brewing to take to the streets and march.

Protesters with signs raised high will begin to appear in council members' neighborhoods, at civic events, in front of news cameras when and wherever possible that will expose them as anti-resident.

They have the right to screw us over and so do we!

You can flood our neighborhoods with cars, clog our streets, permit massive buildings and try to brainwash yourselves into thinking you know what's best and we can exercise our free speech rights to point out the error of your ways.

Good luck getting re-elected, Pam and Bob, and you can forget any higher office, Richard if you fail the people that got you elected and no we do not mean the people that gave you the money to mail fliers – LOL.

Earl Kent
Santa Monica

Keeping kids safe while online

Editor:

June is National Internet Safety month, and with kids of all ages spending more time at home during the summer, it's the ideal time to raise awareness about the importance of online safety.

As one of California's largest providers of broadband services, Verizon recognizes that cyber safety is everyone's responsibility. The best advice is for parents to be aware of what their kids are doing on the Internet and regularly monitor their activity, so that kids can safely reap the benefits of technology.

Fortunately, parents are not alone. There are many free resources available that offer guidance and the technical know-how needed to keep kids safe online including Verizon's own parental control center (parentalcontrolcenter.com), which this month will feature a series of educational videos on cyber-bullying for parents to view.

Verizon, along with Verizon Foundation partner Common Sense Media, also will be running a national public service campaign to raise awareness about the key role parents play in their children's digital lives. Kids must understand that they should not be sharing personal information on social networking sites that might endanger them or family members and friends.

Finally, communication between parent and child is key. Just add cyberspace to the many areas in life where parents must educate their children on what's expected of them.

The Internet offers our children limitless learning opportunities but also presents challenges to keep them safe. By raising the visibility of Internet safety, we hope to give educators, parents and children the knowledge and tools to take full advantage of what the Internet has to offer.

Tim McCallion

President, West Region for Verizon
Thousand Oaks



Stories from the Street

Ron Hooks

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Help when he least expected it

HELP COMES IN A LOT OF DIFFERENT

ways for the homeless. Santa Monica has one of the best systems of care in the country. Good words can travel quite a distance. Just the other day a police officer from Brisbane, Australia came to town just to see, experience and take back what he learned about the multiple layers of empowerment that are being implemented here to help the homeless.

We have a good group of service providers who are working together from every direction imaginable. And they are all doing a great job. What caught my attention the other day was a bit unusual. Help came from a different direction.

There was a homeless man from France. Yeah, you read it right, France, who was living on the streets of Santa Monica. Even though he came from a long way away, his story was not atypical. He was just like many that we meet. He had a dream of coming to the West Coast, specifically Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Malibu, Venice Beach and of course Santa Monica. He had watched a lot of movies. It looked easy. He thought, "If I can just get there somehow lightning will strike and I will make it big."

Many times their plans have a critical flaw. Money, and lack of it. Luc, the Frenchman, came to America to hopefully and quickly find a job, get an extension on his visa and become a star. As he began to realize that his money was running out, he started trying to find creative ways to stretch it out. He didn't suddenly bottom out. It was a slow downward spiral that took almost two years. Then one morning he awoke covered in sand from head to toe after sleeping out on the beach all night during a wind storm. There he was, thin and cold.

We tried to help him many times but he was not ready to receive it. But now he was. Luc asked, "Can you help me go home?"

Because he had overstayed his visa, he knew that going home would mean that he would not be able to get another visa and come back to the states for 10 years. He changed his mind several times about going home, then one day he said, "I know I have to because no matter what I do here I will be illegal. I will never really be able to make a go of it."

We began checking on plane tickets. We talked with his family in France. His parents were on a fixed income and very senior. They couldn't help but wanted him home. We had found tickets in the \$600 range. We started circling the wagons, as we call it, trying to figure out what resources were available. We were about \$300 short after a couple of weeks of trying. Then there was the help that came from an unexpected place.

Word got out on the street that Luc was trying to get home. A friend of his, a home-

less man, stepped forward and offered to give him everything that he had — his life savings of \$300. Incredible!

Luc came with the money and met us at the canon by the entrance of the Santa Monica Pier. We thought it was a good day but somehow Luc didn't seem that excited. He said that he just couldn't do it. He was worried about his friend. He said that he just couldn't take his money. It was all he had. I tried to encourage him, "Aren't you going to get a job when you get home? When you get your first paycheck you can pay him back. Send me the money, I'll make sure he gets it."

LUC, THE FRENCHMAN, CAME TO AMERICA TO HOPEFULLY AND QUICKLY FIND A JOB, GET AN EXTENSION ON HIS VISA AND BECOME A STAR.

Luc didn't know what to do. He said he would let me know and turned and walked away. On the following day he was back waiting for us at the canon by the pier at 10 a.m. He was smiling. He said, "You will not believe this, but my friend will not let me give the money back." His friend had said, "No way, man, I gave you that money to go home. It is a gift. I don't want you to pay me back. Your family needs you and you need to go home."

A few days later, on our way to LAX, the mood was elevated. Luc was very encouraged about seeing his parents again and starting over. He said that even though it had not worked out like he had planned, it had been a positive experience. He said that some of the best lessons that he had learned were recent. One of the biggest was that, "Americans are exceptional people, even the homeless!"

I spoke with Luc and his father a few days later. We have also e-mailed each other several times since.

He is moving forward again.

RON HOOKS is the founder and executive director of West Coast Care, a nonprofit. WCC is part of the Santa Monica Police Department's Joint Homeless Outreach Program. Since October 2006, more than 1,000 homeless have been compassionately helped to transition off of the streets of Santa Monica by reconnecting them with their families, placing them into housing and/or treatment programs. Learn more at westcoastcare.org.



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Life Matters

JoAnne Barge & Katrina Davy Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Getting a good night's sleep seems impossible

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I have a very hard time getting the rest I need each night. My doctor has given me some medication but told me not to take it every evening. I don't really want to take it at all but sometimes it is the only way I can sleep for more than a couple of hours.

I often fall asleep but wake up within a few hours and toss and turn and I worry about things like work, family, problems my friends are having, finances; I guess I worry about everything. Sometimes it is work related and I am figuring out how to handle something the next day, but often it is really nothing to worry about because I can't do anything about it. My parents are older now and I worry about them dying, but as you can see, I can't really do much of anything about this.

I hate this because I want to get up and workout and I need to if I am going to keep my weight down. Also, I feel much more energetic if I work out in the morning, but if I don't sleep, I sometimes do not have time to go to the gym in the morning before I leave for work.

Do you have any thoughts on what is wrong or what I can do?

Signed,
Insomniac

DEAR INSOMNIAC,

Please don't feel alone. Research shows that over one third of people report problems with sleep.

You mention medication. Your doctor is probably worried about you becoming dependent on the medication, which can definitely happen and then you will either need to continue it indefinitely or taper off of it. Most people do not become addicted to sleep aids and there are newer ones that don't even create dependence. Addiction is where you take more and more and go to any lengths to obtain a drug and you also have a change in your normal behavior and emotions. This might happen with those who have histories of addiction but it is uncommon.

You also say you prefer not to take medication. The good news is that the research has shown that you don't need to because the equally, if not more, effective treatment for insomnia is a what is called "Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy." Advertisements from the pharmaceutical companies make us believe we need medicine but this is not always the case at all.

Cognitive-Behavioral treatment generally consists of no more than eight sessions and it includes a lot of education, some of which I will give you here.

If this article does not help, then you should seek therapy with a sleep expert.

First you should know that not all people actually need eight hours of sleep, a common myth. Some people feel rested with four to five hours but they are people who sleep well. Also, how long we need to sleep changes with age and differences we may experience in body temperature with physiological changes or different seasons.

Our sleep hygiene is extremely important and this is the first thing I hope you will consider. You will need to take a look at your diet and exercise, although it sounds like you take care of this most of the time. Alcohol and caffeine intake during the last few hours before going to bed, and general activities before going to bed, especially the last hour or so, do not help. Also, the bed you sleep in is important. If your mattress is not a good one for you, you may need to replace it.

You definitely should not be working during the last hour before you attempt to go to sleep. If you are watching television and what you see disturbs you, change it. Do something that is truly relaxing for you the last hour before you go to sleep. Do not eat or drink much of anything other than water, an herbal tea or warm milk before going to bed.

If you go to sleep and wake up, do not turn a TV on. This is one of the worst things you can do. If you can't get back to sleep, go into another room to watch TV or read, until you are sleepy again.

Lastly, you talk about worrying, worrying a lot actually. My first thought is that you may be worrying about not sleeping when you go to bed and this may create a kind of secondary insomnia, if you will.

Finally, all this worrying that you do sounds really troubling and while it's beyond the scope of this article, I will tell you this, worrying is simply our way of feeling like we are in control. It is an otherwise useless activity that only causes harm to our bodies and selves. Try to give it up or get help with it.

Good luck!

DR. JOANNE BARGE is a licensed psychologist with offices in Brentwood. Visit her at www.drbarge.com or e-mail your anonymous questions and responses to newshrink@gmail.com.

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The Q-Line

Nixing flavored milk

There is a movement afoot that aims to ban flavored milk at area public schools. Some say it's bad for young kids.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:

Do you think flavored milk should be banned, or do you think there are bigger fish to fry when it comes to childhood nutrition on campus?

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



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State budget deal leaves taxes, reforms to voters

BY JULIET WILLIAMS

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown and the Democrats who dominate the California Legislature on Wednesday celebrated the rare enactment of a state budget before the fiscal year begins, after using their new power to pass the spending plan with a simple majority vote.

But the \$86 billion budget approved Tuesday night is only the starting point for a larger political fight to come. In true California style, it will be up to voters to decide the biggest issue the governor promised but failed to deliver this year — an increase in taxes to help end the state's ongoing budget mess.

Voters almost certainly will be asked to weigh in on one or more tax proposals in 2012, as well as whether to institute a strict cap on state spending. Public employee unions and anti-tax groups already are gearing up for an intense year of proposed reforms, although it's unclear whether one of the Republicans' top priorities — changes to the public pension system — will be among the moves.

Brown promised voters during his campaign for governor last year that he would not impose tax increases without a vote of the people. He had hoped to ask Californians to extend for up to five years a series of temporary increases in the sales, vehicle and income taxes approved by the state Legislature in 2009.

But he needed two GOP votes in each house of the state Legislature to put that measure on the ballot, and after six months of talks he announced this week that he had lost that battle.

The last of those tax increases will expire Thursday.

With this year's budget debate behind them, Brown's fellow Democrats are deciding what type of tax increases might prove more palatable to an electorate that is generally reluctant to tax itself.

Among the ideas are an additional tax on the wealthiest Californians and a tax on companies that pump oil within the state. Proponents are gearing their ballot campaigns toward the November 2012 presidential election, when turnout is expected to be higher and more Democratic-leaning than it would have been this year or during the June primary next year.

"We enacted a plan that preserves our opportunity for economic recovery, and look forward to giving Californians the chance to vote on making that recovery even stronger," said Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento.

Brown's office had not released details about when he will sign the budget package.

The budget for the fiscal year that begins Friday relies on further spending cuts to close a remaining \$9.6 billion deficit, an amount that had been reduced from a \$26.6 billion deficit at the beginning of the year.

It also imposes new fees on vehicle registration and rural property owners for fire protection, levies that are almost certain to be challenged in court because they did not get the two-thirds vote required for tax increases. Democrats also assume the state will take in some \$10 billion more in tax revenue than originally projected, largely because the rich are doing so well.

The budget package also shifts responsibility for low-level offenders from the state to counties, and includes deeper spending cuts to schools, higher education and social services if the revenue assumptions fail to

materialize. School districts, for example, would be allowed to reduce their school years by seven days.

The changes come on top of billions of dollars in cuts to welfare, in-home support services and Medi-Cal programs passed in March.

Brown has indicated that he will pursue another ballot measure for November 2012 but so far has given no details on what taxes he would include.

Some of the state's most influential unions had grudgingly backed Brown's proposal to extend the tax increases but were concerned the move would not address the state's long-term financial problems even if voters approved. Unions also were reluctant to support a special election that would have included pension reforms and a spending cap — the demands Republicans were making.

Now that Brown's plan for a special election this year has failed, the unions are free to pursue other options.

The California Federation of Teachers has launched a campaign to add a 1 percent income tax surcharge on Californians who make more than \$500,000 a year — about the wealthiest 1 percent. That would bring the state taxable income rate to 10.3 percent for the richest Californians and net about \$2.5 billion a year for the state, based on current returns.

"Our polling shows us clearly that this is a winner, that very high numbers of the public and likely voters agree that the wealthiest Californians should contribute more," said Fred Glass, the federation's communications director. "I think there's a growing recognition that it's not that California's broke. We have plenty of money in this state; it's just in other pockets."

An Orange County community college professor is circulating a proposal to impose a 15 percent per-barrel tax on oil extracted in California and send the money to schools. Most other states where oil is pumped impose just such a fee.

Nearly half the estimated \$3.6 billion in annual revenue would go to community colleges, about a third to public schools and the rest to the University of California and California State University systems.

That proposal hits the high notes for a California electorate that shows much greater propensity to support taxes on the wealthy and on corporations. Proponents have until September to collect an estimated 500,000 signatures to qualify it for the ballot.

Voters also are far more likely to back tax increases that go toward specific programs they support, such as schools and local law enforcement, said Mark Baldassare, president of the Public Policy Institute of California.

"K-12 always polls the best, and local rather than state services, so the more that it appears that new taxes are aimed at schools and at local communities, the more likely that voters would support those types of taxes," he said. "In general, Californians are not eager to see additional tax monies go to the state government without any specific purpose."

Union opponents are also gearing up for a fight, including a proposal known as paycheck protection that would restrict the funds public employee unions could collect, said Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association.

"On our side of the ledger, you're going to see some labor reforms like paycheck protection, a hard spending cap and pension reform," he said. "I think there'll be a number of interests lined up on both sides ... People are saying it's going to be a pretty aggressive initiative battle in 2012."

Bank of America's \$8.5B settlement won't be its last

BY PALLAVI GOGOI
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Bank of America's \$8.5 billion settlement with investors is the largest any bank has ever paid.

It might help assuage worries about how deep the bank's mortgage problems might be and how long it might take to settle them. But for the nation's largest bank and its CEO Brian Moynihan, the slate is far from clean.

The payout settles claims by just 22 investors who said Bank of America Corp. sold bonds based on substandard home mortgages. The bonds fell in value when the housing market collapsed and left the investors with losses on \$424 billion worth of mortgages. The \$8.5 billion settlement eclipses the last three years of earnings at the Charlotte, N.C. bank.

The uncertainty about just how bad Bank of America's mortgage issues might be has scared investors and led to a 31 percent decline in Bank of America's stock price since January of last year when Moynihan took over.

"This is a major step forward for our company," Moynihan said in a conference call with investors on Wednesday.

Wall Street is cheering the move, sending the stock up 3 percent, to \$11.14 Wednesday. It has been one of the worst performing stocks in the S&P 500 index in the past year.

But that rally could be short-lived. Analysts say the \$8.5 billion is about double the amount they'd expected. The bank continues to fight other investor groups that are demanding similar settlements. Lawsuits from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, bond insurers MBIA and Syncora Holdings linger. And Bank of America is likely to be ordered to pay a hefty portion of the estimated \$20 billion multi-bank settlement over the mishandling hundreds of thousands of home foreclosures.

Paul Miller, a bank analyst at FBR Capital Markets, says he's concerned about the bank's ability to increase earnings at a pace that would make up for these higher costs. These worries are magnified by the fact that the economic recovery in the U.S. is slowing. That could reduce the number of loans the bank is able to make to consumers and businesses.

Bank of America is in worse shape than other major banks like JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Wells Fargo & Co. because of its purchase of Countrywide for \$4 billion in 2008. What seemed like a bargain price for the country's largest mortgage lender has cost the bank tens of billions more in mortgage losses, regulatory fines, repurchases of poorly-written loans and expensive litigation. At the same time, Bank of America itself had written a fair amount of bad mortgages. As it stands, the bank services one out of every five U.S. mortgages.

So even though most of the major banks sold the same kind of securities and have bad mortgages on their books, analysts say they are in better shape than Bank of America, which has \$2.2 trillion in assets.

The other banks don't have the same pressure to put the mortgage woes behind them. In March, the Federal Reserve didn't allow Bank of America to increase its dividend, citing uncertainty about the depth of its mortgage problems. It was the only denial

issued to any of the four largest U.S. banks. And it raised questions over whether the bank was strong enough to withstand another economic downturn.

The combined effect of the losses and the uncertainty prompted a reversal in the bank's longtime strategy of fighting claims from investors, Moynihan admits. Since the beginning of the year, the bank has struck large settlements with multiple investors totaling \$12.7 billion.

Most of the settlements are with investors that had purchased mortgages or mortgage backed securities. They want banks to buy back mortgages that had misinformation about qualifications of borrowers who received them. During the housing boom, lenders such as Countrywide routinely gave mortgages to people without documenting their income or ability to pay. This was a key driver of the financial crisis.

IT'S LIKE THE TOBACCO LAWSUITS – IF PHILLIP MORRIS LOSES, IT AFFECTS EVERYONE ELSE, NONE OF WHICH ARE EASY OR INEXPENSIVE FIXES."

Matt McCormick
portfolio manager and banking analyst at Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel in Cincinnati

In January, the financial institution paid \$2.6 billion to settle buyback claims on home loans sold to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. In April, the bank agreed to pay up to \$1.6 billion to Assured Guaranty Ltd., an insurer that also pressed the bank to repurchase shoddy mortgages.

Some industry analysts say the string of settlements could open the door for similar agreements between investors and other large banks that sold mortgages, including JPMorgan, Wells Fargo and Citigroup.

"It's like the tobacco lawsuits — if Phillip Morris loses, it affects everyone else," said Matt McCormick, a portfolio manager and banking analyst at Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel in Cincinnati, which manages about \$4 billion in assets. He says banks face multiple issues, "none of which are easy or inexpensive fixes."

Even if other banks are pushed into settlements now, the amounts will likely be less eye-popping, because Bank of America has more exposure to bad mortgages.

Bank of America's chief financial officer Bruce Thompson said in a conference call with analysts that by the end of the second quarter the bank would place \$20 billion in reserves to cover costs related to future litigation and investor demands.

As a result of Wednesday's settlement and other mortgage-related costs, Bank of America said it will take a \$14 billion charge in the second quarter and will report a net loss of \$8.6 billion to \$9.1 billion in the second quarter of 2011. That's up to 93 cents per share. The bank reports second quarter results on July 19.



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SAINT JOHN'S

FROM PAGE 1

plaza, which will be constructed under the agreement, and hand their keys to a valet who would then take the cars to spaces either on the north or south campuses of the hospital.

There are 268 spaces reserved for visitors and patients under the plan.

That, Tanemori said, would provide parking which was "functionally equivalent" to the previously agreed upon 442-space subterranean parking garage.

That phrase, "functionally equivalent parking," was the crux of Tuesday's conversation, and the foundation upon which council members had to make their decision to grant Saint John's its concession, or force it to build the parking garage.

In addition to the spaces, staff negotiated extra benefits for the neighborhood and City Hall to sweeten the deal, including more stringent requirements on traffic reduction, a reduced parking rate for the first 90 minutes of a visit, more bike racks and a shuttle to the Exposition Light Rail line when it arrives in 2015.

The hospital will also give \$100,000 for light rail station improvements, and \$35,000 to fund a study of transportation management in the area.

Originally, staff had asked for a \$200,000 contribution for the station, and Saint John's had argued to fund only half of the study.

In all, the agreement provides \$1,787,000 in benefits, some of those ongoing, Tanemori said.

The agreement also puts more power in the hands of city officials, who can order Saint John's to build the parking structure if it loses enough parking from its off-site leases that it can't provide parking for its staff, visitors and patients.

Chris Harding, the land-use attorney representing Saint John's, told council members that the deal they would get under the amendment was better than what they had before, even without the parking structure.

It would include greater compliance with the council-approved Land Use and Circulation Element, or LUCE, which says that sharing parking is superior to building it, and reducing the impact of traffic on city streets is an impor-

tant benefit, Harding said.

Detractors of the project asserted that the development agreement, which gets concessions beyond the zoning code and is the linchpin of the LUCE, is "not worth the paper it's written on when the city ignores them or, without community input, changes them."

They also argued that a valet could never equate to a large parking garage, either for Saint John's patients or its workers.

Liz Baker Wade, a nurse organizer at the hospital, called the analysis done by city staff "sophisticated work."

"But," she said, "I fail to see how valets shuffling cars through the neighborhood is the same as on-site parking."

The majority of speakers during the night were employees of Saint John's, who spoke highly of the hospital and its track record within the community.

Moderate voices, like that of Louisa Fish, who has served on the Senior Commission, cautiously approved of the adherence to LUCE guidelines, but warned the council to make sure the amendment was followed to the letter.

"The follow up must be meticulous, records kept and no more possibilities of broken agreements," Fish said.

Mayor Pro Tempore Gleam Davis acknowledged that City Hall has not always been the best steward of its development agreements, but that Saint John's saintliness wasn't the topic at hand.

"What we have before us is a land use matter," she said.

And as a land use matter, Harding's LUCE-related argument ruled the night.

"It does reflect the best goals we have in the LUCE," said Mayor Richard Bloom. "That is the stuff of which good agreements are made."

Councilmembers Bobby Shriver and Kevin McKeown were both absent from the meeting.

The conversation of parking at Saint John's is over for now, but will likely become a topic of interest again when the hospital begins its second phase of development, which will include the south campus.

That consideration might be another reason to hold off on forcing the hospital to build parking now, Harding said.

"It will allow Saint John's and the city to work through phase one and phase two with both on the table," he said.

ashley@smdp.com

BULGER

FROM PAGE 3

1995.

Krupp suggested that prosecutors are trying to avoid having Wolf preside over the case.

"Such forum shopping is disfavored," Krupp wrote.

Wolf has been a pivotal figure in the Bulger saga. He held a series of hearings in the 1990s that exposed the corrupt relationship between the Boston FBI and Bulger, who was an FBI informant who provided information on the Mafia, his gang's main rivals.

Former FBI Agent John J. Connolly Jr. was convicted of racketeering and obstruction of justice for protecting Bulger and his cohort, Stephen "The Rifleman" Flemmi from prosecution.

Krupp said that after "having encountered difficult questions" from Wolf during the 1990s hearings, the government obtained a new indictment — the 1999 case — rather than adding the charges to the 1994 indictment, "so that it might be assigned a different docket and drawn to a different judge."

In court documents filed Tuesday, Ortiz said prosecutors want to dismiss the earlier indictment because they consider the 1999 indictment the stronger case. Bulger faces life in prison if convicted on those charges.

Ortiz also cited the long wait the families of the murder victims have had to endure for authorities to find Bulger, now 81.

"The 19 families of murder victims have been denied justice for many years because the defendant has successfully eluded law enforcement apprehension," Ortiz said in court documents.

On Wednesday, Bulger was brought to the Boston federal courthouse from the Plymouth County Correctional Facility in Plymouth, where he has been held since Friday. The move was apparently so Bulger could meet with his lawyer.

Bulger is expected to be in court today for two hearings: one on his request to get a taxpayer-funded attorney, the other on prosecutors' move to dismiss the earlier indictment.

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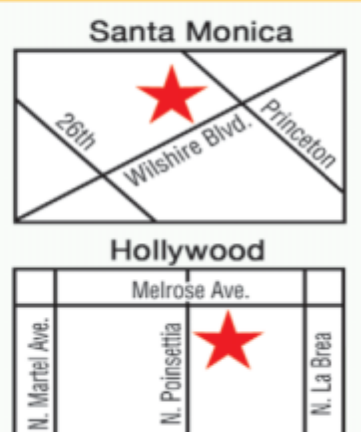


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WATER

FROM PAGE 3

ity, but the frequency with which the water is tested and the availability of water quality reports to the masses, said Noah Garrison, a project attorney for the NRDC's Water Program.

City officials in recent years have dedicated resources to help improve water quality around the pier. A leaky storm drain was replaced and netting was installed to prevent birds from roosting beneath the pier and contaminating the beach with animal waste. Dry water diversions also helped redirect polluted water from dumping near the pier.

"Even on days with no rain, 50 million gallons of water flow into Santa Monica Bay because people over-water their lawns or wash their cars," said Garrison. "This water brings in a huge amount of pollution."

EVEN ON DAYS WITH NO RAIN, 50 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER FLOW INTO SANTA MONICA BAY BECAUSE PEOPLE OVER-WATER THEIR LAWNS OR WASH THEIR CARS. THIS WATER BRINGS IN A HUGE AMOUNT OF POLLUTION."

Noah Garrison

project attorney, National Resources Defense Council

Though city initiatives have helped improve pier water quality, beach water samples still failed to meet health standards 15 percent of the time, according to the NRDC. Those exposed to polluted beach water may be subject to disease and infection.

The leading cause of beach water pollution at the pier remains storm water contamination, according to the report.

Garrison said that, despite efforts to stabilize pollution levels, the quality of the water is left to the whims of mother nature: the more it rains, the more urban runoff flows to the ocean.

To counteract this unpredictability, Garrison urges Santa Monicans to continue to employ solutions that work. Frequent water testing is also paramount, as it indicates whether clean-water efforts are effective. Last year, pier water was tested a total of 240 times, keeping officials up to date on the pier's progress.

While Santa Monica has risen in the eyes of the NRDC, California is continuing its steady decline. Beach closings and advisory days in California have doubled to 5,756. The state harbors three of the 10 worst beaches in the nation, two of which are located in L.A. County. Persistently chronic areas include sections of Avalon Beach and Doheny State Beach.

Though the outlook may look dismal, Garrison stated that California is home to many five-star beaches, including Manhattan Beach, Newport Beach and Laguna Beach.

"We have world class beaches that are clean and pristine," he added.

The nation as a whole, however, has had 24,091 beach closings and advisory days, up 29 percent from last year and the second highest level in NRDC reporting history. The NRDC proposes to solve this striking pollution increase by having governments invest in more green infrastructure.

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Dr. Deborah Wallen



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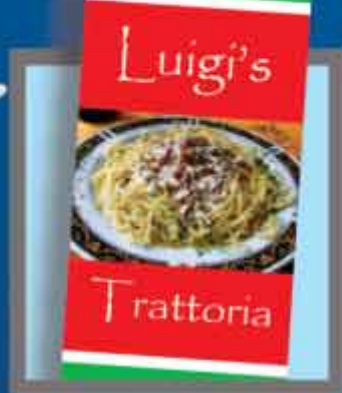
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SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 1

chained the teen to a locker and made racial remarks.

The teen's mother, Victoria Gray, told the Daily Press that the school never notified her of the alleged attack and she only learned about it from another parent on May 31.

A June 16 e-mail to parents from Samohi Principal Hugo A. Pedroza called the alleged incident a "serious matter that warranted a swift and appropriate response."

He said the students were suspended or received other discipline, while the entire wrestling team received sensitivity training.

In a mass e-mail sent Wednesday to the Samohi community and members of the media, Robert Forster, a volunteer coach for the high school wrestling program who has a son on the team, said that the media has it all wrong, that there never was any racial overtones.

He wrote that occasionally the practice dummy is hung off a chin-up bar with a rope positioned under the armpits so that members of the team can perform different drills. On the day in question, he writes that a former member of the team was trying to hang the dummy up, but failed, leaving the rope dangling from the chin up bar. The rope was tied in a "noose-like knot," Forster wrote.

"This was an understandably disturbing scene to some students," Forster wrote, "but any noose symbolism was not the stated intent of the actions of their former teammate."

As far as the teen being locked by his belt loop, Forster said it is a common "prank" that is pulled on nearly every teammate during the course of the season. He said the dummy incident and the prank are completely unrelated.

"I have not witnessed any racial discrimination in my 10 years of involvement with the team," Forster wrote. "These hardworking student athletes sweat together, eat together and even stay together at overnight tournaments regardless

of race or religion."

A civil rights activist, meanwhile, urged the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to investigate.

The school's disciplinary action against the students was inadequate and its delay in reporting the attack was "a shameless cover-up of an apparent vicious racially motivated attack," said a statement from Earl Ofari Hutchinson, president of the Los Angeles Urban Policy Roundtable.

The students involved should be charged with hate crimes and anything less "sends the dangerous message that campus hate attacks will not be punished with speed and severity," Hutchinson said.

SMMUSD Superintendent Tim Cuneo issued a statement Wednesday saying the district "welcomes the investigation and is fully cooperating" with police.

kevinh@smdp.com

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

BAN
FROM PAGE 1

ventilation systems, even doorjambs and windows, which makes it a problem in multi-family dwellings, they said.

According to the American Cancer Society, secondhand smoke has over 4,000 chemical compounds, more than 60 of which are known or suspected to cause cancer.

Non-smokers can get cancer from inhaling these chemicals in secondhand smoke just as smokers can, the organization says.

In the United States alone, secondhand smoke is responsible for an estimated 46,000 heart disease related deaths in non-smokers, and 3,400 lung cancer deaths in non-smoking adults.

Santa Monica last tackled the issue of secondhand smoke in 2010, when it approved a ban on smoking in public spaces, including communal space within apartments.

At that time, council members requested that staff come back with information on options to require owners of condominiums to designate each unit smoking or non smoking and prohibit smoking in all newly-constructed hotels.

They also requested that staff look farther afield than Santa Monica to see what other cities were doing to contain the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Bans in Calabasas and South Pasadena both evolved from similar restrictions on smoking in public places, and eventually stretched into the realm of the apartment.

"First we started looking at public parks," said Sergio Gonzalez, assistant city manager for South Pasadena. "We restricted it in public areas like parks and outdoor dining. We then looked at where people spend most of their time, and that's at home."

The South Pasadena ordinance, and the Calabasas ordinance that inspired it, allow owners of existing buildings to retain 20 percent of their units as smoker-friendly. The other 80 percent or more must be smoke-free, and grouped together to minimize the impact of the smoke.

South Pasadena then went a step farther, requiring that all new construction be 100 percent smoke-free.

Crafting a successful ordinance requires getting all the stakeholders together and trying to meet everyone's needs, said Mary Sue Maurer, mayor pro tempore of Calabasas.

"I represented the city along with representatives from the business community and California Apartment Association of Los Angeles and a number of public health advocates," Maurer said. "We worked closely and listened to each other, compromised and came up with an amendment that has worked beyond anyone's expectations."

It requires the minimum 80 percent smoke-free by Jan. 1, 2012, and classifies a violation as a "nuisance," much like a noise violation. After a sufficient number of violations, the landlord can refuse to renew their contract.

To date, Maurer hasn't heard of anyone being evicted under the ordinance.

The Santa Monica City Council stumbled over the concept of eviction, preferring enforcement through small

claims courts rather than anything that could result in a tenant being removed from their homes.

Discussion concentrated on whether or not the ability to smoke in one's apartment was a civil right, or the freedom from deadly smoke was a social justice issue.

"As much as a non-smoker has a right to clean air, a smoker has a right to housing," summed up Mayor Pro Tempore Gleam Davis.

Mayor Richard Bloom and Councilmember Terry O'Day both said that the proposal to simply designate certain units as smoking or non-smoking did not go far enough.

Bloom pushed for a smoking ban in all new construction, and a review of the ability to impose a ban on existing hotels.

Council member Pam O'Connor, however, felt that the ban could be unduly burdensome on the poor, who are statistically more likely to smoke, according to the staff report, as well as the elderly who might not be able to make it out of their apartments to light up.

Furthermore, both she and Davis pointed out that smoking is still legal, and that restricting that activity was unsavory.

"I'm not going to demonize smokers," O'Connor said.

The hotel issue, however, got little argument. Councilmembers for the most part agreed that hotels were already banning smoking on their own, and an additional ban would not be burdensome.

City staff will return before the council with ordinance options in coming months.

ashley@smdp.com



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SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 61°

SWELL FORECAST

Looks smaller, about waist high for south facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

LOOKS SMALLER FOR SOUTH FACING BREAKS, ABOUT WAIST MAX. WE MAY SEE A TOUCH OF NW WIND SWELL FOR WAIST HIGH WAVES AT WEST FACING BREAKS AS WELL.

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

June 22, 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 — 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 26 / 1

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather — 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, simplehuman, LACorGUY, 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	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cienegas Beach, at Arroyo Seco/Creek mouth.	B	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bal Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
El Presidio State Beach, between Lachasa and Las Aliso creeks.	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Tennesset Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Enchilado Canyon at El Morado State Beach.	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chontalupa).	A	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Romeros Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	F	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants).	A+	ns
Laguna Canyon Creek mouth.	F	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	ns
Saltine Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Reno Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth.	D	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Ponce Beach, at 24572 Melike Rd.	A	ns	Venice Beach at Winthorn Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Sheridan Beach at Melike Canyon fence.	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier – 50 yards south.	A	ns
Sheridan Beach (beach location) – daily.	F	ns	Venice Beach – projection of Topsoil St.	B	ns
Malibu Pier – 50 yards east.	F	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach – lifeguard tower.	A	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Bolina Creek mouth.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point here).	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 18948 PCH stairs.	A	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of DAW jetty).	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	F	ns	Dockweiler Beach – opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	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			

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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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.

NFL

Stadium architect working on rival plan

JACOB ADELMAN

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Architecture firm Populous is now playing for both sides in the contest to bring pro football back to Southern California.

The firm, already the architect of record for the 75,000-seat NFL stadium planned for east Los Angeles County, has been hired to do work on a rival proposal that sports and entertainment firm AEG wants to build on downtown Los Angeles' convention center campus, AEG said Wednesday.

Populous will design a replacement for a convention center building that would be demolished to make room for a 72,000- to 76,000-seat football stadium with a retractable roof that's expected to cost more than \$1 billion, AEG said.

AEG's rival, Majestic Realty Co., envisions an open-air venue on what is now a rugged hillside in the city of Industry, about 15 miles east of downtown Los Angeles.

Majestic Vice President John Semcken said the architecture firm had his company's blessing when it bid on the convention center project that's part of AEG's stadium plan.

"We gave them complete permission," Semcken said. "They have done all the architecture work on our project and will do the architecture work on our stadium after we purchase a team and begin construction."

AEG spokesman Michael Roth had no comment on Populous' dual commitments.

Populous spokeswoman Gina Stingley declined to comment on her company's involvement with both proposals, saying only that the firm was not currently performing work on competing projects and that it would not do so while engaged with the convention center project.

AEG, owned by Denver billionaire Philip Anschutz, and Majestic, owned by Southern California warehouse magnate Ed Roski,

once were partners, teaming up in the late 1990s to build downtown Los Angeles' Staples Center, which was designed by Populous architect Dan Meis.

They've since become fierce rivals in the competition to bring pro football back to Los Angeles 15 years after the Rams and Raiders left the nation's second-largest market within months of one another.

Both men's camps have said they hope to recruit a franchise — and possibly two — from among those in the league that need a new stadium but are unable to get one built in their current locations. The San Diego Chargers, Oakland Raiders, Minnesota Vikings and Jacksonville Jaguars are among the teams often mentioned as possible candidates.

Majestic officials have permits for their project and have said they are prepared to break ground as soon as they've secured a team's commitment to move.

Los Angeles council members are vetting AEG's plan and will hold the second in a series of hearings on the proposal Wednesday.

The company's proposal calls for the city to issue up to \$300 million in bonds to finance the demolition and relocation of the convention center hall displaced by the stadium. AEG officials have said they would ask the city to let it use stadium ground lease payments, new property tax revenue and money from its convention center signage rights to repay those bonds.

City Councilwoman Jan Perry, whose district includes the proposed downtown stadium site, praised the selection of Populous to design the new convention center hall.

The firm's past work has included Minneapolis' Target Field, Washington D.C.'s Nationals Park and convention centers in Phoenix and Anaheim, Calif.

"I look forward to seeing their vision for Los Angeles as it evolves and is put to paper," Perry said.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Caldwell lures former UCLA recruit to LSU

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BATON ROUGE, La. LSU women's basketball coach Nikki Caldwell says she has signed high school prospect Sheila Boykin to the Lady Tigers' roster for next season.

The 6-foot-2 Boykin was one of Caldwell's former recruits at UCLA, which granted the Los Angeles native a release from her letter of intent, allowing her to enroll instead at LSU.

Caldwell calls Boykin "one of those tough kids that do the things that don't necessarily show up in the box score," and a player who "puts the team in front of her own personal glory."

Boykin averaged 10 points and 8.3 rebounds as a senior at Long Beach Poly High School, which she led to a 25-3 record

Caldwell is in her first year at LSU after coaching the past three seasons at UCLA.

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MOVIE TIMES

<p>Aero Theatre 1328 Montana Ave. (310) 260-1528</p> <p>Tribute to composer Bernard Herrmann. Psycho (TV14) 1hr 49min Hangover Square (NR) 1hrs 17min 7:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>AMC Loews Broadway 4 1441 Third Street Promenade (888) 262-4386</p> <p>Hangover Part II (R) 1hr 42min 7:30pm, 10:00pm</p> <p>X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 2hrs 11min 12:10pm, 3:20pm, 6:25pm, 9:35pm</p> <p>Beginners (R) 1hr 44min 12:15pm, 5:05pm, 9:55pm</p> <p>Bad Teacher (R) 1hr 29min 11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm</p> <p>Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (PG-13) 1hr 31min 10:30am, 12:45pm, 3:00pm, 5:15pm</p> <p>Cave of Forgotten Dreams 3D (G) 1hr 30min 2:45m, 7:40pm</p> <hr/> <p>AMC 7 Santa Monica 1310 Third St. (310) 451-9440</p>	<p>Cars 2 in Disney Digital 3D (G) 1hr 53min 11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm</p> <p>Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG-13) 2hrs 34min 10:55am, 2:25pm, 6:00pm, 9:35pm</p> <p>Super 8 (PG-13) 1hr 52min 1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm</p> <p>Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 05min 10:40am, 1:35pm, 4:30pm, 7:25pm, 10:20pm</p> <p>Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min 10:00am, 12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm</p> <p>Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 34min 9:30am, 10:20am, 1:00pm, 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 8:50, 11:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>Laemmle's Monica Fourplex 1332 Second St. (310) 478-3836</p> <p>Bride Flight (R) 2hrs 10min 1:50pm, 5:00pm</p> <p>Tree of Life (PG-13) 2hrs 18min 1:10pm, 4:10pm</p>	<p>Midnight in Paris (PG-13) 1hr 28min 1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:30pm, 10:15pm</p> <p>Aida from the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino - Encore (NR) 7:30pm</p> <p>Farmageddon (NR) 1hr 30min 1:00pm, 3:15pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 10:00pm</p> <p>AMC Criterion 6 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599</p> <p>Green Lantern (PG-13) 1hr 45min 10:15am, 1:00pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm</p> <p>Bad Teacher (R) 1hr 29min 10:00am, 12:30pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm</p> <p>Mr. Popper's Penguins (PG) 1hr 35min 11:45am, 2:15pm, 4:40pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm</p> <p>Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min 10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm</p> <p>Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 34min 11:50am, 12:30pm, 3:25pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:35pm, 11:00pm</p>
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For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Out late tonight, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Rest assured there is more going on than meets the eye. Relax and see what is anchoring others. Your instincts easily could be on target with a family member. In general, learn to trust your intuition. Tonight: Avoid a power play.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Clearly you know how to focus your energy and get your message across. You are able to verbalize your vision, for the most part. Step away from a power play, and you will be a lot happier. Tonight: Plans change.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You feel energized and ready to go. A matter involving spending, finances and what you offer emerges. Be careful, as someone you deal with financially could become quite controlling. A meeting takes an unexpected turn. Tonight: Buy a card on the way home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You greet a more positive day than you have had in a while. You might want to express a great deal more sensitivity than in the past. A boss or a matter involving the community could take a strange turn. Tonight: As you like it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Play it low-key, knowing that you can deal with what comes down the path. A misunderstanding could be taken personally. The smart Leo will let it go. Pressure builds as someone tries to structure your day. Tonight: Do only what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. A meeting or gathering of friends proves to be exciting, as it could shake up the status quo. A close friend or loved one shares much more than you expected. Someone changes his or her plans. Tonight: Where the action is.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Be aware of a boss or supervisor. You cannot change directions, but you can become more responsible. Those close to you do the unexpected. Flex with the moment. A family member could be challenging. Tonight: Out late.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for more feedback. You could be looking for answers where there are none. If you could loosen your thoughts from a rigid stance, you would see another way or solution. Tonight: Go with the unusual.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Your vision of the possibilities could be a lot different from reality. You will see what goes on when a risk is taken today. The smart Sag will back off. You are able to accomplish a lot when cooperating with an associate. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others come forward with this idea or that idea. You cannot and should not discourage others. If you feel one direction is too zany, ask more questions to help that person see what you see. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Accomplishment could be the name of the game if you relax and go for the moment. Your ability to see past the inevitable helps many people focus, if you can express your vision. Communication could bring out a negative comment. Let it go. Tonight: Head home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Tap into your creativity, and you'll see interesting, if not desirable, results. Don't risk any funds, no matter how fool-proof or good an idea is. Think positively with a child or new friend. Don't get dragged into a power play. Tonight: Avoid a controlling individual.

Happy birthday

This year, you might be more involved in background work or research. Make it a point to take yoga or some other centering activity. When you energize, you never seem to stop. During these periods, you want to come from a centered place. If you are single, your charisma remains high. Others certainly want to be close. The issue is what you want. If you are attached, remember, two people are included in this relationship. Be sensitive to your sweetie. CANCER understands your ups and downs.

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



MYSTERY REVEALED!

Reader Lan Bermejo correctly identified this photo of the SGI-USA World Culture Center on Wilshire Boulevard. He will receive a reusable shopping bag from the Daily Press. Please check out tomorrow's paper for another chance to play. Send your mystery photos to editor@smdp.com to be used in future issues.

File photo

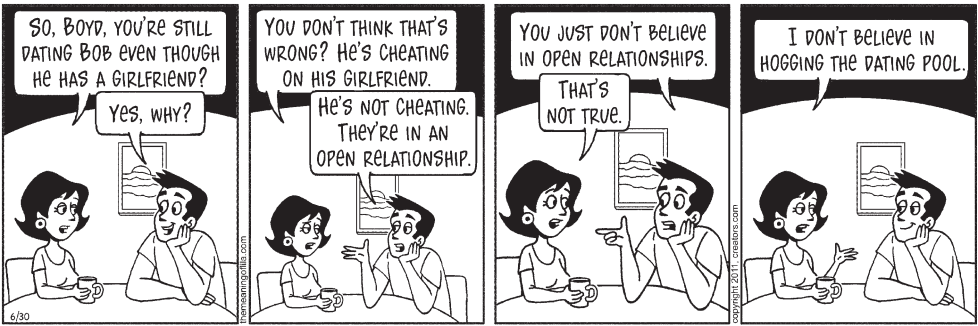
Dogs of C-Kennel

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



\AF-uh-riz-uhm, noun;
1. A terse saying embodying a general truth, or astute observation.

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Happy 4th of July!



John Adams' famous letter of July 3, 1776, in which he wrote to his wife Abigail what his thoughts were about celebrating the Fourth of July is found on various web sites but is usually incorrectly quoted. Following is the exact text from his letter with his original spellings:

"The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more. You will think me transported with Enthusiasm but I am not. I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure, that it will cost Us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these States. Yet through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing Light and Glory. I can see that the End is more than worth all the Means. And that Posterity will triumph in that Days Transaction, even altho We should rue it, which I trust in God We shall not."

(The Book of Abigail and John: Selected Letters of the Adams Family, 1762-1784, Harvard University Press, 1975, 142).