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TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2012

Volume 11 Issue 199



Santa Monica Daily Press

PARADE DOWN MAIN
SEE PAGE 4

We have you covered

THE COUNTDOWN TO THE FOURTH ISSUE

Bloom, Butler to square off for 50th seat

Dems will have to reach across the aisle to snatch victory, consultant says

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE The final election results are in, and Democrats Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom and Assemblywoman Betsy

Butler (D-53) will be facing off in the general election in November.

According to the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office, Butler edged out Bloom by under 150 votes to take the lead in the race for the 50th Assembly District, claiming

16,089 to his 15,947.

Brad Torgan, the lone Republican in the race, had trailed Democrat Torie Osborn as votes were being counted but ultimately

SEE ELECTION PAGE 11



BLOOM



BUTLER



COMING TO LIFE

Muralist Roger Dolin puts the finishing touches on a mural Monday that he created on Broadway near the corner of 18th Street.

Daniel Archuleta daniela@smdp.com

Pedestrian killed on Lincoln Boulevard

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

LINCOLN BLVD A 54-year-old homeless woman died early Monday morning after being struck by a car while walking in a crosswalk at Ashland Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard, police said.

Officers responded to the scene around 10:30 p.m. Sunday after a receiving a report of a collision involving a female pedestrian.

Police said the driver, a 65-year-old Santa Monica man, was cooperative throughout the investigation and he was determined to not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. After being interviewed, the driver was released.

The driver was traveling south on Lincoln Boulevard and made a left turn onto Ashland Avenue. The pedestrian, who has yet to be identified pending notification of next of kin, was walking north in the crosswalk on the east side of Lincoln. The driver struck the woman while she was in the crosswalk, police said.

She sustained major injuries and was transported to a local trauma center, where she later succumbed to her injuries.

Police are asking anyone with information to contact investigator Jason Olson at (310) 458-8954 or Sgt. Philbo Rubish at (310) 458-8950 or the watch commander at (310) 458-8495.

Those who wish to remain anonymous can call the WeTip hotline at (800) 78-CRIME (27463) or submit the tip online at www.wetip.com. Callers can also contact Crime Stoppers by either calling (800) 222-TIPS, texting or by visiting www.lacrimestoppers.org. Those who provide information that leads to an arrest or conviction may be eligible for a reward, up to \$1,000.

kevinh@smdp.com

Activists seek permanent solutions to mountain lion question

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Animal rights activists are pressing for an agreement with the Department of Fish and Game that would allow professionals outside of the state agency to help

tranquilize large animals.

The effort comes in the wake of the death of a young male mountain lion which was shot in late May by Santa Monica Police officers after attempts to sedate the animal failed.

When activists met with the police to dis-

cuss the situation last week, they found out that only Fish and Game officials are permitted to tranquilize mountain lions, said Jack Carone, director of communications for In Defense of Animals, one of the organiza-

SEE MOUNTAIN LION PAGE 10

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Calendar

2

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, July 3, 2012

Salty by the sea
Annenberg Community Beach
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415 PCH, 6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
The Salty Shakespeare theater
group offers a free collaborative
workshop with a focus on the
interior aspects of acting a char-
acter. Try your hand at breathing
and animal work and get an
introduction to Alexander tech-
nique to help release physical
barriers. All ages and experience
levels welcome.

For more information, visit
saltyshakespeare.org.

Howlin' at the moon
Typhoon

Santa Monica Airport,
8 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Enjoy some food and some
tunes Tuesday, as Hound Dog
Dave and The Meltones perform
a couple sets at the Santa
Monica Airport's Typhoon.
Dinner reservations are highly
recommended for this night —
so pick up that phone and dial
in. There will be no cover for
admission. For more information,
call (310) 390-6565.

Wednesday, July 4,
2012

Parade down Main
Main Street

Begins in front of the Civic
Center, 9:30 a.m.

Santa Monica's sixth annual
Fourth of July Parade will lead
revelers down the popular street
all in the name of patriotism.

There will be flags a'wavin' and
smiles on everybody's faces.
For more information, visit
www.opa-sm.org/parade.

Crazy crawlers
Main Street

3 p.m. — 2 a.m.

As Santa Monica celebrates
America's birthday, another excit-
ing event — The "Red, White &
Brew" Bar Crawl — will make a
splash down Main Street.

Patriotic patrons will have the
chance to rep their country and
crawl to half-a-dozen bars,
indulging in "mind numbing"
drink specials and \$3 beers.
Registration will begin at 3 p.m.
at Santa Monica's 31Ten

Lounge. Once crawlers check in
they will be handed a map of the
featured bars. All must be 21
years or older to participate.

For more information,
call (310) 821-5371.

BBQ bashing

31Ten Lounge

3110 Main St.,

2 p.m. — midnight

Parade goers and crawlers can
mix up their celebrations by
stopping by 31Ten Lounge's
BBQ Bash. The party will include
barbecued goodies, drink spe-
cial, a beer garden and show-
stopping sets by DJ Norman
Rockwell and DJ Coolwhip. Early
registration tickets for the bash
cost \$10 in advance and \$20 at
the door. A percentage of the
proceeds will go toward the
Surfrider Foundation to protect
Santa Monica's and other areas'
oceans. Donations will be
accepted at check-in. For more
information — and for group
rates and reservations — call
(310) 821-5371.

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

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

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MAIN STREET
Life is grand

The Ocean Park Association and the Buy Local Santa Monica Committee announced Sunday the grand marshals for the sixth annual Santa Monica Fourth of July Parade.

They are Benjamin Kay, a science teacher at Santa Monica High School; Joe Wise, a science teacher at New Roads High School; Marianna O'Brien, a science teacher at Lincoln Middle School; and Kristin Jurewicz, a science teacher at John Adams Middle School.

"The science teachers deserve to take a bow for the tremendous work they have done for the children of our community" said Lori Nafshun, one of the Fourth of July Parade founders.

As this year's parade theme emphasizes science and technology, Nafshun said it's important to recognize school teachers who have the opportunity and ability to teach critical thinking.

"We owe the science teachers our gratitude for helping to keep the passion for learning alive," she said.

The parade starts at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in front of the Civic Center and will proceed down Main Street.

For more information, visit www.opa-sm.org/parade.

SEAN FITZ-GERALD

SMMUSD HDQTRS
School board to meet earlier

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education will now meet at 5:30 p.m. and discuss major action items at the beginning of sessions instead of toward the end in an effort to make it easier for the public to participate.

Closed session will occur from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The changes will allow board members to listen to presentations earlier to analyze core information in a more timely and efficient manner. The changes will also allow district staff to go home at a reasonable time and prepare for the next day's work, district officials said.

The board discussed these changes June 7 and took action June 27.

Board meeting dates, agendas and minutes can be found online at smmusd.org.

SFG



File photo

FULL SPIRIT: People take part in last year's Fourth of July Parade on Main Street.

Largest government overhaul set to go into effect

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown's sweeping reorganization of California state government is expected to become law Tuesday. It will be the largest reshuffling of state agencies, boards and commissions in recent state history.

The plan does not include significant cost savings, but the Brown administration hopes the housecleaning will save money down the road by increasing efficiency.

The overhaul represents the most ambitious of the 36 reorganizations the Little Hoover Commission has vetted since 1968, said Deputy Executive Director Carole D'Elia. It targets the bodies that oversee economic development, consumer services, housing, real estate and natural resources, among others.

"It's by far the biggest reorganization that we've ever been given," D'Elia said. "This is much larger and more sweeping in that it touches on more than 30 areas of government,"

Brown detailed his plan in March to the Commission, which endorsed it. The Legislature's deadline for rejecting the overhaul is Monday. Lawmakers were expected to pass a series of fix-it bills during their afternoon session.

Among other changes, the plan reduces the number of agencies from 12 to 10 and groups similar governmental bodies together. For example, Caltrans will be grouped with other transportation departments instead of with managed health care. Departments dedicated to fostering economic growth will be housed together in the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.

D'Elia characterized the overhaul as a good first step toward untangling the bureaucracy created by years of unwieldy growth in state government.

"It will make it easier for the public to know where to find different organizations," she said. "Hopefully it will cut through some of the red tape."

The plan is expected to go into effect next July.

Beats headphone maker buys MOG music service

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Upscale headphone maker Beats Electronics is buying MOG, a music subscription service that has struggled to compete with rivals such as Rhapsody and Spotify.

Beats is the parent company of the "Beats by Dr. Dre" line of headphones. It was founded by rapper and producer Dr. Dre and Interscope Geffen A&M Records Chairman Jimmy Iovine in 2008 in Santa Monica, Calif.

Taiwanese cellphone maker HTC said in August that it was buying a 51 percent stake in Beats for \$300 million.

The combination announced by Beats on Monday suggests that MOG's music service could be integrated with Beats in its various businesses, which include speakers, mobile phones, personal computers and car stereos.

"With their talent and technology, the possibilities around future innovation are endless," Beats President Luke Wood said in a statement.

Terms of the deal, which closed on Monday, weren't disclosed. The MOG Music Network, a network of blogs about music, was not part of the sale.

MOG charges \$10 a month for the ability to choose and play back tracks on mobile devices from a catalog of more than 15 million songs. Ad-free listening is available on computers for \$5 a month. If you don't mind the occasional ad, you can use MOG to pick and listen to songs on computers for free.

MOG was founded in 2005 by former Gracenote CEO David Hyman and is based in Berkeley, Calif. Universal Music Group, Sony Music and Menlo Ventures are among its original investors.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Move to Saudi Arabia

Editor:

Can I come out now? Are we through with the biased letters denouncing the City Council's decision on the Palisades Park religious/secular display? I sure hope so, though I fear the coming holiday season will evoke another tsunami of religious hysteria.

These pro-nativity folks have embarrassed themselves so much, whining about how the evil City Council took their blankey away. Of course there was nothing else the council could do! And thank goodness that tacky old display is gone, along with any other religious or non-religious manifestations on tax-supported public land.

What enrages me particularly is how these folks have the chutzpah to borrow the hypocritical rhetoric of the radical religious right to justify their unconstitutional fervor. Standing the First Amendment on its head, they accuse its proponents of "... chipp[ing] away at Christian, traditions, values and beliefs; conducting an 'assault on religion.'" They urge political action; not hard to guess in which direction!

Meantime, they continue to freely visit their places of worship, educate their children in religious schools, publish books and articles expounding their beliefs and attacking the beliefs of others (as well as attacking science). This is an assault on religion?

Folks, if you don't like living under the U.S. Constitution and the First Amendment (which, incidentally, protects your right to publish this drivel), you might be happier in, say, Saudi Arabia where only one religion is permitted. OK, might require some minor adjustment in direction of worship, but at least there would be no evil authorities to take your blankey away.

Sara Meric

Santa Monica



What's the Point?

David Pizarra

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Main parade a time to bond

I LOVE A PARADE, BUT I LOVE BEING IN a parade even more. Just like the past few years, I will be in the sixth annual Main Street Parade. I will be driving a little yellow electric car and my co-pilot will be a long-haired dachshund named Dudley. Dudley is the inspiration for my fourth book "What About Wally? Co-Parenting a Pet With An Ex" available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

The Main Street parade is put on by the Ocean Park Association and has for the past six years done a wonderful job of bringing the community together in a happy and fun event that reminds me of a more genteel time in American history.

If you haven't attended the parade I want to encourage you to come out and cheer on the firefighters who will be in the parade, the school students who decide to have a presence and the various public organizations who will be in attendance. In years past there have been electric car enthusiasts (who I am sure will be out in force again this year), tree people and representation from the various scouting associations.

Each year there is a classic car group that makes me want to buy an old car and fix it up, but I don't have the time or disposable income for such a hobby. But each year the cars get prettier and there are more of them for you car buffs.

Part of the fun is the pre-parade decorating of the floats and cars that are entered. Starting as early as 7 a.m. there are cars starting to line up on Main Street in front of the

Civic Auditorium and back toward City Hall and the participants begin to adorn the cars with flags, banners and other assorted plumage to make for a festive event.

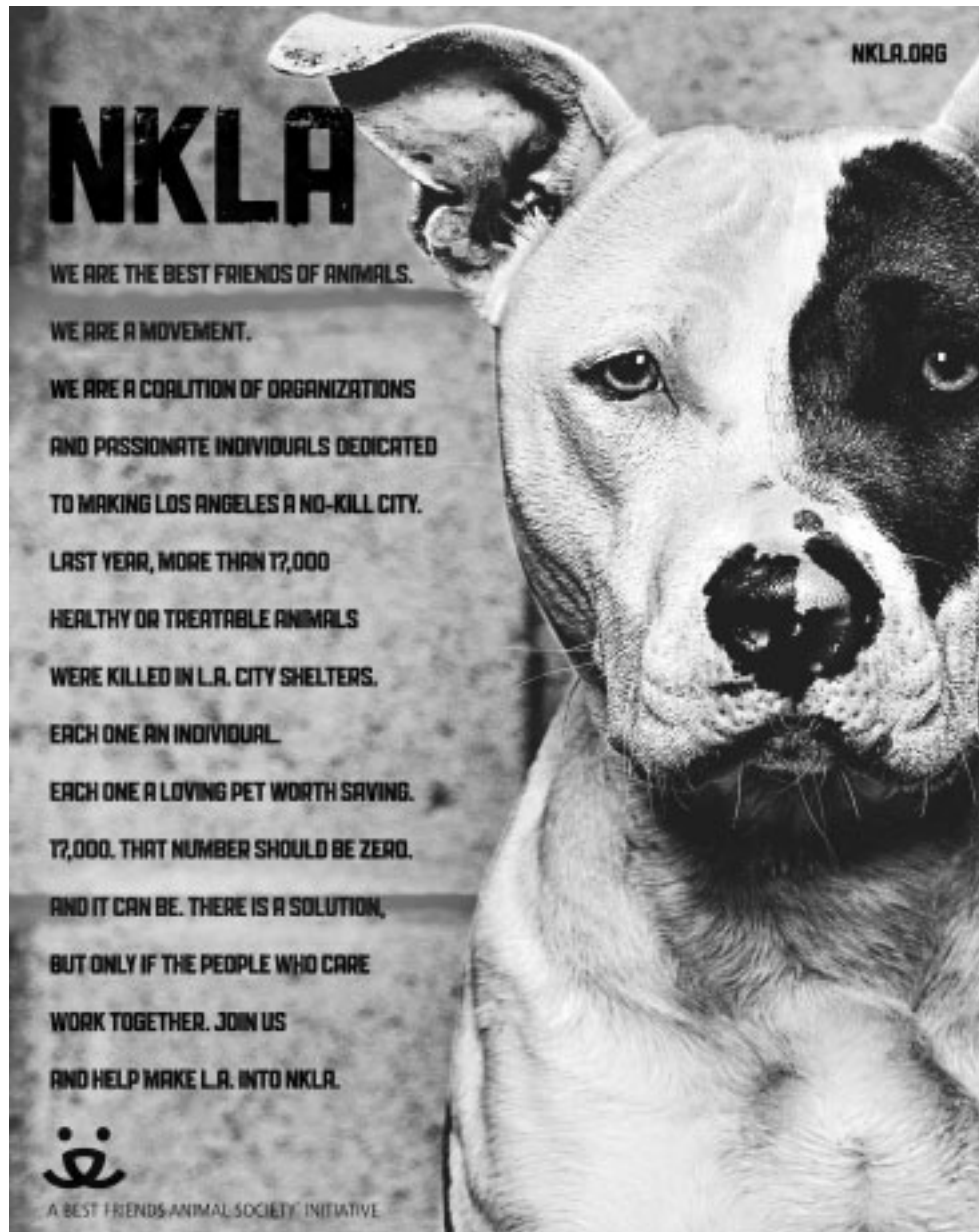
Being in a parade is a ton of fun. You get to be the center of attention for approximately 3 seconds and then move on to the next block. The kids are all laughing and usually screaming for someone to throw them some candy (which we are told not to do from the car, but some do anyway).

I enjoy being in the parade and seeing people from year to year that I sometimes only get to see while I'm driving down Main Street at 3 mph. Taking part in this little homage to small town America is a great reminder of how small our town is. Even though we are part of the greater Los Angeles world, we definitely have a small town feel and it shows on days like the Fourth of July.

The parade terminates at the Santa Monica/Venice border and there usually are some vendors who have created a party atmosphere.

This year the parade promises to be just as wonderful as years past and I hope to see you along the parade route. Bring the kids, bring the dogs and come enjoy a bit of Americana.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpizarra@pizarra.com or (310) 664-9969.



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After the Bell

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Another questionable system

SYSTEMS FOR WRITING OPTIONS ARE LOTS of fun to design. But it's hard to tell if they work or not without letting them run for a long time through different market conditions. I am currently testing several.

One interesting system under test I described in an earlier posting. I bought 10 puts of Bank of America expiring in January 2013 at a strike price of 5 as a continuing hedge against a drop below 5. The plan was then to sell puts at strike prices over 5 each month while the hedge is in place.

This worked well for the first three months. In January and February, I was able to profitably sell puts at 6, 7 and 8 for a profit of \$600. I paid \$600 for the hedge, so I had recouped my investment after three months, and had eight more months of selling to create a profit from the system.

But then in March the stock took a big dip, and I lost \$455. I rewrote a new position and then in April the stock took an even bigger drop and I lost \$1,250. I wrote a new position for July, at \$7, and that looks like it should hold for a \$600 profit.

The bottom line at the half way mark is a small loss of just over \$1,000, but with another 5 chances to write puts at a profit. With the financial sector improving as it has, I'm optimistic that the system will provide a profit by the end of the year, but as they say, "time will tell." One thing is sure, no matter how clever the system, in times of volatility it's hard to make a profit selling options. One does much better during periods of stability.

Last week I sold puts against JP Morgan. This is something I often do. I think that good or bad news on a company is compounded in the market by a psychological factor. So when there were reports of heavy losses by JP Morgan, the stock dropped significantly. But as big as billion dollar losses seem, they didn't seem to me to be so big compared to the annual profits of the company. So while I agree that billion dollar losses are not good for a company, I think the market over-reacts to this kind of news, and the stock drops for a while and then rebounds. At least that's the bet that I've made.

So at the end of May when the stock dropped below \$32 I started to look at it.

While looking it jumped back up over \$33. I finally put in my trade when the stock was around \$34, having missed the best opportunity by being too slow. I sold 10 of the Dec. 30 puts and bought the Dec. 22 puts to hedge (and avoid a margin call in my account) and took in \$1,150 in premium. That's not a huge trade for a six month position, but the way I look at it I have a risk of \$7,000 for six months for which I stand to gain over \$1,000, so it's like a 30 percent return on my money if it works, so it's a reasonable risk. Since I wrote the trade the stock has continued an upward trend in spite of renewed bad news, so I'm feeling pretty good about it.

**FOR ME, I AM NOT
INVESTING IN EUROPE,
AND I AM REDUCING
INVESTMENT IN
U.S. COMPANIES THAT
RELY HEAVILY ON
SALES INTO EUROPE.**

I'm writing this from the south of France, where I usually spend the spring. Everyone here is talking about the European economy. Most are pessimistic, yet there are signs of a long term recovery from the problems of the countries like Greece that are bankrupt and need support from the community.

For me, I am not investing in Europe, and I am reducing investment in U.S. companies that rely heavily on sales into Europe. I am reinvesting in U.S. companies selling into Asia and the third world. This has been my consistent position now for about one year, and I am more convinced than ever that it is the best position.

For information about **MERV HECHT** and more details on the strategies and stocks he writes about in this column, visit his website at DoubleYourYield.com.

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The Q-Line

Paying for schools

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is considering placing a bond on the November ballot.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Would you vote for a bond or is this not a good time to ask the community for extra funding?

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

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State

6

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2012

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

Children could have more than two parents under bill

HANNAH DREIER

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California children could have more than two legal parents if a bill speeding through the Legislature becomes law.

The bill by Sen. Mark Leno, D-San Francisco, would allow judges to recognize multiple parents in cases where children would be best served by several parental relationships. All parents would still have to meet existing standards for legal parenthood.

Leno has characterized the bill as a response to America's evolving families. Married couples dropped below half of all American households for the first time in 2010, according to the Census Bureau.

Several other states, including Pennsylvania and Maine, recognize more than two parents.

Supporters cited several examples where the law could be applied, including a lesbian couple that conceived a child with the help of a sperm donor who has been involved as a parent, or a man who married a woman while she was pregnant with another man's child, who also maintained his role a father.

They also say the bill could keep some children out of foster care by establishing additional parents with caretaking and financial responsibility.

Opponents fear there could be no limit to the number of parents a child could have.

"Because parentage law is so complicated, it is difficult to attempt to change one aspect of it without upsetting the entire framework," the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists wrote in a letter of opposition.

They also say Leno's bill could undermine conservative family values.

"He's trying to change the whole attitudes and understanding of what family is," California Right to Life Committee Director Camille Giglio said. "Family is a father and a mother and children."

Supporters say it is unlikely the number of parents would proliferate because the bill does not change the definition of parenthood or allow temporary caretakers such as boyfriends or girlfriends to be considered as parents.

Instead, SB1476 involves families in which more than two adults take a child into their home and present the child as their own, not as a step-child.

Backers dismissed moral concerns, saying the bill is a simple modernization of family law.

"It's not us who have changed the nature of families; families have done it on their own," said Ed Howard, senior counsel for the Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law. "It is cruel to prevent judges from ruling a way that protects kids in favor of an abstraction of what a family used to look like."

PG&E: 239 pipelines at risk of failure

GARANCE BURKE

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Pacific Gas & Electric Co. on Monday proposed raising utility customer's bills by as much as \$12 per month to upgrade its gas and electricity systems, as more questions surfaced about the company's oversight of its gas lines in the wake of the deadly San Bruno explosion.

The company sent its proposal to raise rates by more than \$2 billion over three years to California regulators, saying the extra funds were necessary to accomplish a major overhaul of its gas distribution and electrical systems. Much of the money would go to replace older gas lines, install leak detection systems, connect new residential and business customers, replace cables and make other upgrades, the utility said.

The utility has come under fire for poor management of its aging network of gas pipelines since the 2010 San Bruno explosion that killed eight people and destroyed 38 homes in the San Francisco suburb.

The company's proposal is just the first step in the process used to set natural gas and electricity rates for utility customers, and it will need to be approved by the California Public Utilities Commission. PG&E seeks \$1.25 billion in 2014, \$500 million in 2015 and \$500 million in 2016.

Tom Bottorff, senior vice president of regulatory relations for the San Francisco company, said in an interview Monday the improvements are necessary to "make our system one of the safest in the nation."

According to a March review by the utility, more than 200 of its high-pressure transmission pipelines still have sections riddled with vulnerable seam welds, the exact failure that federal investigators said prompted the San Bruno explosion.

The 239 problematic pipeline segments

span a total of 47 miles throughout Northern and Central California and are at risk of failure because of their age or the company's previous practice of pressurizing the lines above legal limits, according to the filing.

Among the pipeline segments with "unstable manufacturing seam threats" are extensions of Line 132, the high-pressure transmission line that exploded in San Bruno on Sept. 9, 2010. Investigators later determined an inferior weld on that line caused the accident, although the company had previously maintained the pipe was seamless.

Over the next two years, the company plans to pressure test, replace or otherwise examine the pipeline segments the report identified, the company said.

"This is part of our effort to look at every possible threat to every section of pipe and fix it before it becomes a problem," said spokesman David Eisenhauer. "It's something we want to address quickly."

Regulators will decide what types of upgrades to the company's high-pressure transmission lines are appropriate in a separate proceeding tied to the aftermath of the San Bruno explosion. The utility faces millions of dollars in fines in a host of proceedings before the commission.

Consumer advocates said the rate increases for distribution line and electrical upgrades weren't justified, given that the company has also asked for its customers to pay for the lion's share of a separate plan to pressure-test or replace any untested segments of its transmission lines.

"These increases could push more customers over the edge," said Mindy Spatt, spokeswoman for The Utility Reform Network, based in San Francisco. "It remains to be seen whether there is any justification, in terms of safety or reliability, for the massive increases PG&E is proposing."

Assembly approves adding bank settlement into law

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California would become the first state to write into law much of the national mortgage settlement negotiated this year with the nation's top five banks, and expand it to all lenders, under wide-ranging legislation state lawmakers approved Monday.

Majority Democrats sent the homeowner protection package to Gov. Jerry Brown despite opposition from business and lending organizations and most Republican legislators.

The Assembly approved the legislation on a 53-25 vote, and the Senate followed by voting 25-13.

The legislation would require large lenders to provide a single point of contact for homeowners who want to discuss loan modifications. It would prohibit lenders from foreclosing while the lenders consider homeowners' request for alternatives to foreclosure. And it would let California homeowners sue lenders to stop foreclosures or seek monetary damages if the lender violates state law.

The protections would benefit all California homeowners, not just those whose mortgages are with the five banks that signed the national settlement in February. And many of the restrictions would become permanent, while those in the nationwide agreement will end after five years.

It applies to all owner-occupied residences, but not commercial or rental properties.

Jose Vega drove 70 miles to Sacramento with his two young children to lobby lawmakers to pass the legislation after he spent three years battling to keep his home in the San Francisco-area city of Pittsburg.

In November 2009, he said, he found a trustee sale notice posted on his door 16 days after he was placed in a loan modification program. He was put into another modification program in the spring of 2010, only to have the bank again begin foreclosure proceedings.

Vega, 52, eventually kept his home after filing for bankruptcy and getting help from the office of Democratic U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein. Now he and his family owe \$466,000 — including the bank's legal fees — on a home he said is worth about \$200,000.

"I'm not asking for a handout. All I'm saying is, you created this mess, let's work something out," said Vega, a member of the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment. "Hopefully, California will lead the way so other states will follow."

Attorney General Kamala Harris said an estimated 700,000 California homeowners now are facing foreclosure, up from 500,000 in previous projections.

"They will now have a system that will offer them transparency and fairness," Harris said after the vote.

She helped negotiate the February settlement that requires Bank of America Corp., JPMorgan Chase & Co., Wells Fargo & Co., Citigroup Inc. and Ally Financial Inc. to pay \$18 billion in penalties to California homeowners.

Harris said the California legislation is the next step in reforming the industry, even

as a special task force of California Department of Justice prosecutors continues investigating mortgage abuses.

Key portions of her original proposal to write the settlement into state law were stalled by opposition from some of her fellow Democrats in the Legislature, until the right to sue banks and other measures were significantly narrowed.

"This legislation can be the catalyst not only for a recovery of California's real estate market, but a catalyst across the nation as borrowers everywhere will demand the same protections given to California borrowers, the same protections given to our families," said Democratic Assemblyman Mike Feuer, a member of the conference committee that negotiated the bill. "Those protections boil down to this: They ought to be treated fairly, they ought to be treated consistently."

Lenders' organizations joined by the California Chamber of Commerce said in a letter to lawmakers Friday that the final legislation is an improvement, though they still fear it will "encourage frivolous litigation" by borrowers who cannot realistically afford to stay in their homes.

The lending industry cited a study it commissioned by Beacon Economics, a Los Angeles-based research firm. It echoes industry arguments that letting homeowners sue their lenders, even in limited circumstances, will delay foreclosures and increase lenders' costs, potentially harming the shaky housing recovery and making it more difficult and costly to obtain mortgages.

The legislation can't address what lenders and opposing lawmakers said is the underlying problem: too many borrowers can't afford their payments.

"It's a mistake that will hurt this economy for years to come," said Republican Sen. Sam Blakeslee, a member of the conference committee.

Supporters of the bill say it still takes important steps.

"The point is ... not to launch an avalanche of lawsuits. What it's really about is having some meaningful accountability to ensure that servicers follow the rules," said Paul Leonard, director of the California office of the Center for Responsible Lending, a consumer group.

Previous efforts have repeatedly failed to clear the Legislature. Leonard said the national mortgage settlement and Harris' involvement are likely to make the difference this year.

Democratic Sen. Noreen Evans, who co-chaired the conference committee that negotiated the bill, said Brown's administration worked with Democrats on the legislation and has given every indication he would sign it into law. However, Brown declined to comment as he left the office of Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg moments before the vote.

The governor's office later issued a statement praising the legislation for establishing "important consumer protections that are long overdue" but stopped short of saying he will sign the bill.

The law would not take effect until Jan. 1, though Evans and Harris said they expect lenders would begin following the new rules immediately even if the penalties don't yet apply.

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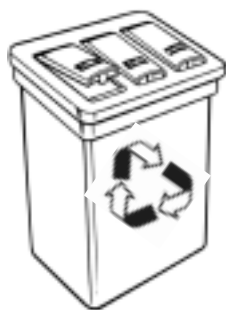
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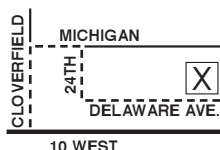


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Santa Monica Daily Press

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

District attorney reviewing Bryson incident

Prosecutors on Monday said they are reviewing evidence to determine whether charges should be filed against former Commerce Secretary John Bryson who was involved in a trio of traffic accidents last month.

Evidence was presented by San Gabriel police to county prosecutors Monday, said Sandi Gibbons, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. She declined to comment further about the case.

Bryson resigned June 21 after suffering a seizure, saying he didn't want his health to be a distraction from his job. Authorities said Bryson struck a car stopped for a train twice and then rammed into another vehicle with his car a few minutes later. He was found unconscious in his vehicle.

Bryson was cited for felony hit-and run. It wasn't known if he had retained an attorney.

A Breathalyzer test administered to Bryson shortly after the crashes didn't detect any alcohol.

Police received the results from a blood test given to Bryson, but didn't reveal what it contained. Authorities previously said if the test came back clean, it was unlikely charges would be filed against Bryson.

Bryson had been in California to deliver the commencement address at Pasadena Polytechnic School where his four children attended.

The incident occurred June 9 when Bryson drove alone in a Lexus near Los Angeles, authorities said. He struck a vehicle that had stopped for a passing train and spoke briefly with the three occupants then hit their car again as he departed, police said.

The secretary then struck a second car in a nearby city, where he was later found unconscious in his car.

Bryson is the former head of Edison International, the holding company that owns Southern California Edison, and has served on boards of major corporations, including the Boeing Co. and the Walt Disney Co.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Judge dismisses child death suit against Staples

A Superior Court judge has dismissed a wrongful death lawsuit brought by a family whose 2-year-old plunged to his death at Staples Center after a 2010 Laker game, saying the parents put the boy in an "obviously dangerous situation."

The Los Angeles Times reports Monday that the judge dismissed the suit filed in May 2011 by the parents of Lucas Tang on Friday.

Lucas died after suffering massive head injuries in a 50-foot fall from the luxury box during a Lakers game against the Golden State Warriors on Nov. 21, 2010.

Judge Susan Bryant-Deason said in her ruling that even if the arena had a duty to supervise the child, there was no evidence the arena's actions caused the fall.

Lawyers for Lucas' family vowed to appeal.

AP

SACRAMENTO

Controller appeals ruling over lawmakers' pay

The state controller announced Monday that he is appealing a judge's decision that prevents him from blocking lawmakers' pay if they fail to pass a balanced budget on time.

Controller John Chiang filed an appeal notice in Sacramento County Superior Court because the decision "effectively gutted a key provision of Proposition 25," according to Chiang's spokeswoman, Hallye Jordan. California voters passed Proposition 25 in 2010 to block lawmakers' pay if they didn't meet a budget deadline.

Chiang argued he was acting within his power when he determined the budget adopted by lawmakers last year was not balanced. He froze their pay for 12 days.

Superior Court Judge David Brown ruled in April that Chiang violated the separation of powers clause of the California Constitution.

Rank-and-file lawmakers have a base annual salary of \$95,291 but can make about \$30,000 more through per diem payments. They lost an average of \$4,800 in salary and per diem pay before they passed a budget that Chiang said was balanced.

Their paychecks resumed after they passed a new budget, but Democratic leaders filed a lawsuit in January, arguing the controller overreached.

The initiative never gave the state controller explicit authority to determine whether a budget was balanced. But Democrats had pitched Proposition 25 to voters as an accountability measure that would stop lawmakers from getting paid if they don't pass a balanced budget on time.

Lawmakers had argued that they are already prevented from passing bogus budgets by the governor's veto authority.

Their pay was not impacted this year. The Legislature passed a budget by their June 15 deadline and the governor signed the \$91.3 billion spending plan last month.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Horse owners have until July 15 to move animals

Horse owners have until July 15 to remove animals from an inner-city stable that's been condemned by Los Angeles County.

Marcia Mayeda of the Department of Animal Care and Control says there were 127 horses at the Athens-area stable as of Friday.

A June 17 fire killed three horses and a goat. Mayeda says the fire hazards at the dilapidated stables are still high and it's unsafe for the horses. She describes decaying walls, makeshift electrical hookups, nails and bottles on the ground and excessive manure and urine.

AP

LOS ANGELES

Tusks, exotic leather items seized at LAX

U.S. Customs and Border Protection says its officers at Los Angeles International Airport seized 15 products made from endangered animals.

Seven ivory tusks, one hippopotamus tusk and seven purses made from ostrich, stingray, crocodile and elephant skins were found on June 27 in the luggage of a U.S. citizen arriving from Europe.

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Local

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Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

MOUNTAIN LION

FROM PAGE 1

tions that's been following the case.

"If it had been a bear, they can shoot them," Carone said. "Mountain lions are limited strictly to the Department of Fish and Game."

That was a problem May 22, the day that the mountain lion was found holed up in the courtyard of the Santa Monica College Emeritus building and Fish and Game officials were stuck in traffic.

While there were professionals in the community with experience tranquilizing large cats, they could not be called on to help the situation.

An agreement with the department might help that situation, and In Defense of Animals has committed to make sure that the matter stays on the frontburner, Carone said.

The group promises to "raise its hand again" if negotiations fall by the wayside.

Officials from the Department of Fish and Game were not available Monday for comment.

In the meantime, In Defense of Animals and other organizations are pushing forward in support of a more permanent solution that might prevent a similar crisis from cropping up in the future.

The California Department of Transportation and members of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy have been working to expand the amount of territory that the big cats can wander by giving them ways around their biggest obstacles — freeways.

Freeways divide much of Southern California in what has proven to be a near-impenetrable barrier to animals like mountain lions.

That forces the creatures to wander into densely populated urban areas rather than their natural habitat that lies on the other side of the busy road.

Even a small mountain lion population like the one near Santa Monica needs a lot more territory than the Santa Monica Mountains afford them, said Kristeen

Penrod, conservation director with the Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands.

According to National Geographic, only a few of the big cats can survive in a 30-square mile range.

The Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands looks at ways to link key areas of habitat to give the animals more room to roam both for the health of the group and to keep them out of the way of humans.

"One choke point they have to get across is the freeway," Penrod said. "The idea is to link them to open space on either side."

Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands identified 15 spots that needed to open up in order to protect the populations of mountain lions, mule deer and other animals penned in by the freeways.

One of them is Liberty Canyon, a spot on the 101 Freeway between the Santa Monica and Sierra Madre mountains.

Caltrans proposes to build a wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon that would let animals cross under the freeway and give them an outlet to expanded habitat.

Paul Edelman is the chief ecologist for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and proponent of the project.

He likened the Santa Monica Mountains to a cul-de-sac, and the mountain lion killed in May to a person caught in the cul-de-sac after a high-speed chase.

"They're going to get out of their cars and run. That's what the lion did," Edelman said.

The projects require tunneling under the freeway, and they're expensive, Edelman said.

"Once you get to a certain dimension of the underpass, it requires special shoring to make sure the deck of the freeway doesn't fall as you cross underneath it. It's a multi-million dollar project competing against a lot of other projects," Edelman said.

Caltrans applied for a Transportation Enhancement grant in 2011 to solve the funding problem, but it didn't win, said Caltrans spokesperson Patrick Chandler.

The agency will apply for the funds again, officials confirmed.

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ELECTION

FROM PAGE 1

pulled ahead of her by 72 votes.

The race was tight on election night and stayed that way as the final absentee and provisional ballots were counted. In the end, first and last place were separated by only 929 votes.

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors is expected to declare the results official at their meeting today.

November is the first election guided by Proposition 14, a voter initiative from 2010 that sends on the top two vote-getters to the general election no matter their party orientation.

Proposition 14 also allows voters from any political party to vote for any of the candidates in the primary election. The idea was to allow more moderate voices into California politics.

It's worked, said Allan Hoffenblum, a Los Angeles-based political consultant.

"These Republicans haven't had so many phone calls asking for endorsements in their history," Hoffenblum said, referring to Republicans in the Westside and San Fernando Valley, two dependably left-leaning areas.

Now, Butler and Bloom will have to find ways to reach out to voters on both sides of the aisle if either expects to bring home the seat in November.

Unlike Osborn, who leans far to the left, or Torgan, the most conservative of the bunch, Bloom and Butler both ran fairly centrist campaigns focusing on their respective records in elected office.

Bloom has served on the Santa Monica City Council for over a decade, something he will have to give up in order to run for Assembly. Butler currently represents the 53rd Assembly District, which includes Marina del Rey and some of the South Bay communities.

Now, both will have to find ways to differentiate themselves from their opponents

without losing their original supporters, Hoffenblum said.

"Neither Butler or Bloom now can get elected on their base demographic vote alone," Hoffenblum said. "Now it depends which of the two candidates does the better job of appealing to cross voters without alienating their constituencies."

For his part, Bloom hopes to tempt moderate Republicans and Democrats with his message of fiscal prudence.

"I'm not trying to suggest that I'm anything other than who I am, a liberal Democrat, but I am suggesting to those who may have somewhat more conservative or moderate leanings that our long history of fiscal responsibility in this city is really the thing that Sacramento needs," Bloom said.

Neither Butler nor Bloom have overflowing war chests with which to reach out to those voters walking into the general election.

Butler raised a lot more cash than Bloom during the primary run, with much of that funding coming from other political campaigns, unions and trial attorneys.

However, she also spent \$625,592.32 between January and June 2012 compared to Bloom's \$180,707.76, so she only has \$184,205.85 left in her campaign accounts, roughly twice Bloom's cash-on-hand.

Sheer fundraising dominance won't be enough to win, Hoffenblum said.

"You don't have to outspend your opponent, just raise enough to get the message across," Hoffenblum said. "Will (Bloom) have enough to get his message out?"

Bloom certainly thinks so.

"I was outspent by the other candidates by a factor of three or four to one," Bloom said. "While I would have liked to have more money to spend, we were able to work efficiently with the funds we did have and get our message out effectively."

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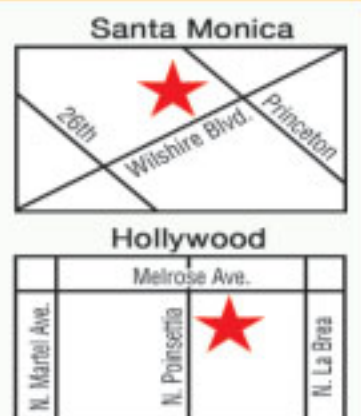
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Stocks mixed as manufacturing slows

CHRISTINA REXRODE

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Investors rejoiced over Europe last week. On Monday, they got back to worrying about the United States.

Stocks struggled to stay out of the red in quiet holiday-week trading after a trade group said American manufacturing shrank in June for the first time in almost three years.

The Dow Jones industrial average was higher in early trading but fell after the manufacturing report came out at 10 a.m. EDT and never recovered. It finished down 8.70 points at 12,871.39.

The Standard & Poor's 500 and the Nasdaq composite index both finished slightly higher after hopping between small gains and losses. The S&P rose 3.35 to 1,365.51. The Nasdaq rose 16.18 to 2,951.23.

Chemical company DuPont fell the most in the Dow. It lost \$1.14, or 2.3 percent, to \$49.43. Caterpillar, General Electric, Alcoa, Exxon Mobil, Boeing and other companies tied to manufacturing were also down.

It was a tepid performance compared with Europe's. Stock indexes in France, Britain and Germany rose more than 1 percent, still riding the euphoria from Friday's announcement that European leaders will make it easier for banks to get bailout loans. That news pushed the Dow up 277 points Friday.

The government did report a sliver of good news about the U.S. economy Monday, though investors seemed underwhelmed: Construction spending rose in May by 0.9 percent, the most in five months.

Monday was the first day of trading for the second half of the year. In the first half, the S&P gained more than 8 percent. Several financial analysts said they expected volatile markets, at least through the November presidential election.

"We don't know who it will be," said Benjamin Segal, portfolio manager for global equities at Neuberger Berman. "And even if we did, we don't know the particular policies they'd pursue."

Analysts also cited tax increases and

spending cuts scheduled to take effect in January — the so-called fiscal cliff.

Derrick Irwin, portfolio manager for Wells Fargo Advantage Funds, said the U.S. market would "muddle through the foreseeable future." Leo Grohowski, chief investment officer of Bank of New York Mellon's wealth management division, said the market would "continue to move from hope to despair."

Investors hope for some clarity later this week. U.S. car companies report monthly sales Tuesday, retailers like Target and Macy's report monthly sales on Thursday, and a closely watched report on U.S. jobs comes out Friday.

And though stocks rose in Europe, some analysts wondered how long those gains would last. Previous steps to ease the debt crisis have been met by market gains that quickly disappeared.

"The eurozone is really uncharted territory for a generation of investors," Irwin said. "I think anybody who thinks they really know what is happening there is, at best, guessing."

The day also brought reminders of how badly Europe needs help: Unemployment in the 17 countries that use the euro hit the highest level since the euro was launched in 1999.

In France, auditors warned that the country still has a big budget hole to plug. In Cyprus, leaders prepared for talks on its own bailout. And in Germany, the highest court announced it would hear arguments from people who want to block the rescue.

The yield on the benchmark 10-year U.S. Treasury note fell to 1.59 percent on Monday, down from 1.63 on Friday. The price of crude oil fell \$1.21 to end the day at \$83.75 per barrel.

In corporate news:

- Best Buy jumped \$1.24, or 5.9 percent, to \$22.20 after reports that its founder was nearing an offer to buy the company and take it private. Best Buy, an electronics store, has struggled to keep up with online-only competitors like Amazon.

- Groupon fell \$1.12, or 10.5 percent, to \$9.51 after analysts at Susquehanna cut their price target for the company.

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Democrat group, union reserve \$20M advertisement buy

DONNA CASSATA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON A major labor union and an outside group committed to electing Democrats to the House have reserved nearly \$20 million in television ad time for the fall in districts from Illinois to Florida as the party tries to reclaim the majority, The Associated Press has learned.

House Majority PAC, a so-called super political action committee that recently helped Democrats hold former Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' Arizona seat, is investing \$16 million, while the 2.1 million-member Service Employees International Union is spending \$3.7 million, according to an official from the Democratic-leaning group who described planned spending. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to freely discuss the plans.

The ad reservation targets at least 47 competitive House races that include vulnerable Republican incumbents as well as Democratic lawmakers facing strong challenges.

Democrats need a net gain of 25 House seats to win back the control they lost two years ago.

Spending by candidates, campaign committees and outside groups is certain to shatter all records in an election year with the presidency and Congress at stake. Last week, the Supreme Court reaffirmed its landmark decision in the 2010 Citizens United case that allows limitless political donations from corporations, labor unions and the wealthiest Americans.

The latest ad reservation comes weeks after the independent expenditure arm of the National Republican Congressional Committee reserved \$18 million in ad time to lock in the lower TV rates and boost GOP prospects in about 25 congressional districts. House Democrats earlier this year reserved \$46 million in ad time.

"The Koch brothers, Sheldon Adelson and Karl Rove have deep pockets, but House Majority PAC has a proven ability to spend efficiently and effectively and win races — just like in the NY-26 and AZ-08 specials when we won despite being outspent by Republican groups," Alixandria Lapp, executive director of House Majority PAC, said in a statement.

She was referring to wins by Democratic Reps. Kathy Hochul and Ron Barber, who captured the Giffords seat, as well as major Republican donors who have invested millions to defeat President Barack Obama and boost GOP candidates.

The SEIU recently embarked on a grass-roots voter contact program.

"This partnership with House Majority PAC will ensure that the work being done by SEIU member volunteers at the doors, on the phones and in the neighborhoods is backed up by a vigorous paid media campaign," SEIU national political director Brandon Davis said in a statement.

In 15 of 38 media markets, House Majority PAC and SEIU are either sharing the advertising costs or planning back-to-back reservations.

Based on the early ad reservation, Democrats see a chance to pick up seats in the Chicago suburbs where House Majority PAC has reserved \$1.6 million and \$800,000 jointly with SEIU in hopes of unseating Republican Reps. Judy Biggert, Joe Walsh and Robert Dold.

In Boston, House Majority PAC has reserved \$1.8 million as Democrats target New Hampshire Republican Reps. Charlie Bass and Frank Guinta, and look to help Democratic Rep. John Tierney, who is battling both former Republican state Sen. Richard Tisei and questions about gambling by his

in-laws.

Republicans have reserved more than \$1.6 million to help Rep. Joe Heck in a Las Vegas swing district as he tries to turn back a challenge from state Assembly Speaker John Ocegüera. House Majority PAC has reserved \$308,000 in Nevada.

Republicans are trying to ensure that Reps. Scott Tipton and Mike Coffman hold their Colorado seats, reserving \$1.6 million in the Denver area. House Majority PAC has reserved \$468,000 in hopes of knocking them out and helping Democratic Rep. Ed Perlmutter.

Republicans have held off on reserving time in Florida where Reps. Vern Buchanan and David Rivera face ethical questions. House Majority PAC and SEIU have reserved \$330,000 in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area as it focuses on Buchanan and \$571,000 in Miami in trying to oust Rivera.

The two groups also reserved hundreds of thousands of dollars in ad time in hopes of saving conservative Southern Democrats who have to sway more Republican voters after once-a-decade congressional redistricting. Among the most vulnerable are Georgia Rep. John Barrow and North Carolina Reps. Larry Kissell and Mike McIntyre.

The reservation also includes about \$1.5 million in the Sacramento, Calif., area where Democrats hope to capture two GOP seats while holding two Democratic seats that are in GOP crosshairs. Republicans have reserved \$3 million for ads in the northern California city.

And in the Buffalo, N.Y., area, where Hochul is hoping to hold onto her seat, House Majority PAC has reserved \$205,000. Not far away in western New York is freshman Republican Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle, a top Democratic target.

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Expungements: Burying Those Skeletons In Your Closet

Have you ever applied for a job, professional license, and/or school application where they asked if you have ever been convicted of a crime? If so, did you get nervous and distraught at the thought of having to circle “yes” and then explaining the circumstances of what happened years and years ago with your minor run in with the law? If this is a likely scenario for you or someone you know, help make those skeletons in the closet disappear by filing an expungement/dismissal motion. California Penal Code Sections 1203.3 and 1203.4 set forth the basic rules for expungements. This article focuses on some need to know legal rules and consequences with regard to expunging your record in California. Please note that this article examines the basic elements and procedures of expungements. If you or someone you know is filling out an application or reporting a past conviction to anyone in an official capacity it is advisable to speak with a criminal attorney about whether you must report the past conviction, even after the expungement process.

In terms of filing an expungement and clearing up your record, there are a couple preliminary questions that must be answered. First, was your past conviction for a felony or misdemeanor crime? Second, was probation granted and if so have you successfully completed probation? And lastly, once you have determined that you are eligible for expungement, what do you do?

If the answer to the first question is a misdemeanor, then you’re on the right path! If the answer to the first question is felony, then there is another step that must be completed prior to filing an expungement. In order to expunge a felony conviction or have it dismissed from your record, a motion must be made pursuant to Penal Code Section 17(b) to first have the conviction reduced to a misdemeanor. Certain felony crimes, however, are never capable of being reduced to a misdemeanor and can never be expunged. Convictions that cannot be expunged or dismissed by law include any misdemeanor listed in Vehicle Code section 42001(b), any violation of P.C. 286(c), 288, 288a(c), 288.5, or 289(j), a felony under P.C. 261.5(d), and any infraction. Moreover, if you were never granted probation and instead went to State Prison, although there are options for clearing your record, the basics of expungements as explained in this article will not apply to your given scenario.

Once you have determined that your past conviction was a misdemeanor or capable of being reduced to a misdemeanor, move on to question number two: Was probation granted and have you successfully completed all the terms and orders of your probation? Typically, in misdemeanor cases, courts order that a defendant be placed on 1-3

years of probation and to follow all rules and regulations. If the court does not order probation, you’re ready to file the motion! If probation was granted, the time period is over and done with, and you have fulfilled all the terms of the probation (including completing any classes, service work, and/or paid all fines) then you are also ready to file the motion! If probation is still open and has not been completed, a separate motion for early termination of probation must first be filed. If granted, and probation terminated early, then you are ready to file the motion! In sum, before a motion for expungement/dismissal is filed, probation must typically be successfully completed either by the passage of time or by early termination from the court.

Now that the motion is ready for filing, what do you do and how do you do it? California courts vary in terms of requirements for expungement/dismissal motions. For instance, some courts require a filing fee (usually around \$60) and attached declaration (preferably by an attorney). All courts, however, require that a P.C. 1203.4/1203.4(a) Petition For Dismissal be completed and filed. In order to fill out this form correctly, a petitioner needs to obtain the case number, date of conviction, conviction charges, date of birth, driver’s license number, last four digits of social security, and if possible the Criminal Identification and Information (CII) number. After entering the requisite information simply check the applicable boxes and sign/date the form. Additionally, along with the Petition, you should also attach a Court Order. The same information must be filled out on the Court Order; however, this form is for the judge to review and then sign/date. The signed Court Order is then stamped and recorded by the clerk certifying that a judge has ordered the case dismissed/expunged. Expungement/Dismissal Petitions typically take anywhere from one to three months for the court to review and complete.

Avoid the headaches and problems associated with explaining away your past minor run-ins with the law and get rid of skeletons in your closet today by filing an expungement! Call the Legal Grind to schedule an appointment to meet with a skilled and experienced attorney to help you navigate through this tricky process and answer any questions that you might have.



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

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

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MONDAY 4:00-5:00 pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal Law; DMV & Traffic Law; Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman
TUESDAY 9:00am-12:00pm	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Rizzo (By appointment only)
4:00pm-5:00pm	(1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month). Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, contract disputes, commercial disputes, landlord/tenant disputes, personal injury medical malpractice, and wrongful death.
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Wrongful termination, harassment; discrimination; wage and hour ;denial of unemployment benefits; and general counseling on issues in the workplace w/ attorney Nina Baumber (Call for Appointment) at the 2901 Ocean Park location of the Novel Café.
WEDNESDAY 11:00am-3:00pm	Special Education Law (By appointment only. Also available by appointment on Mondays or Fridays from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm) Attorney Alison Arkin has extensive experience working with parents of special needs children with a wide range of disabilities, and can help them obtain appropriate services from both school districts and regional centers. She has experience with every level of the process including obtaining appropriate assessments, representation at IEP meeting, mediations, settlement negotiations and hearings.
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields
THURSDAY 12:00-2:00pm 4:00-5:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galarah Keshavarz (By appointment only) (By appointment only) Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injuries cases with Attorney and Legal Grind founder Jeffrey J. Hughes
FRIDAY 4:00-5:00pm	(2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law; Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with Attorney & former Deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman. By Appointment only
4:00-5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.
SATURDAY 10am-11:30am	(1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday/month) Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills & Living Trusts, Will Contests, Probate, Elder Law Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, Construction Contracts Family Law including Divorce, Child/Spousal Support, Prenuptial Agreements, Personal Injury, Accidents, Premises and Product Liability, & Legal Malpractice with Attorney Richard Ruman. (By appointment only-Please call Call Dick at 310.273.7474)
12PM TO 2PM	Personal Injury free consultation; Regular consultation on all areas of Estate Planning, Landlord/Tenant rights, Mortgage Litigation, Premises Liability, Construction Accidents, and Products Liability with attorney Sandeep Agarwal. (By appointment only-Please call Mr. Agarwal at 866.844.4125)

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Brief relief, long-term questions on student loans

CHRISTINE ARMARIO
AP Education Writer

Congress may have averted a doubling of interest rates on millions of new federal student loans, but the fix is only for a year, leaving students on edge over whether they’ll face a similar increase next summer.

“It’s scary,” said Faith Nebergall, a student at Indiana University whose loans currently total upward of \$20,000. “And it’s unfair to kind of be kept in the dark as to how much money we owe.”

Under the agreement, interest rates on new subsidized Stafford loans will remain at 3.4 percent. That’s estimated to save 7.4 million students about \$1,000 each on the average loan, which is usually paid off over 10 or more years.

In the short run, that means students can breathe a sigh of relief this summer. A year from now, however, those rates are set to rise to 6.8 percent. That automatic increase was approved by Congress when lawmakers signed off on a series of scheduled rate reductions five years ago.

“There are more struggling families and they need some assurances to feel OK about getting young people into and through college,” said Kati Haycock, president of The Education Trust. “Congress aggravates everybody, creates lots of anxiety out there, and essentially gives us a one-year solution.”

About \$1.2 billion will be saved by limiting federal subsidies of Stafford loans to six years for students pursuing a bachelor’s degree and three years for those completing an associate’s degree.

Richard Vedder, director of the Center for College Affordability and Productivity and an economics professor at Ohio University, said that could have the positive effect of encouraging more students to complete their degree in a timely manner, while also allowing some flexibility for students who work and have families and need more time to finish.

But he sees a negative impact down the road. Vedder argues that lower interest rates contribute to the desire to borrow money, which he says has the adverse effect of enabling schools to raise their tuition. Some students with poor academic records and for whom college might not be the best fight

might be inclined to enroll anyway. That could aggravate problems in the labor market, where there are many unemployed and underemployed recent college graduates.

“It makes political sense, but not economic sense,” Vedder said.

The price of college tuition has skyrocketed in recent decades. Between 1982 and 2007, tuition and fees increased 439 percent while the median family income rose 147 percent, according to a report from the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. The price of in-state tuition at a public university has increased by more than 5 percent annually in the past 10 years. It jumped 15 percent between 2008 and 2010 alone.

Cuts to state education budgets have played a significant role in increasing those costs, particularly in recent years. How much influence the expansion of access to federal aid has played is less certain; many insist it plays none. An analysis this year by the American Council on Education concluded there is no evidence to suggest it has, and that any relationship between the two is incidental, not causal.

What is certain is that with the price of tuition continuing to rise, pressure will remain on Congress to keep rates low.

“I think anybody in higher education, whether it’s people like me, college presidents, financial aid administrators, students and parents, would really like some certainty and predictability,” said Terri Hartle, senior vice president for government and public affairs with the American Council on Education. “And that’s something we really haven’t had.”

Nebergall, 21, said she expects to owe \$20,000 or more on her federal loans by the time she graduates, and about the same in private loans as well. While she and her long-term boyfriend would like to move in together when she finishes school, Nebergall doesn’t think they’ll be able to afford it. He pays about \$250 a month in student loans himself.

She said a rate increase next year could have a big effect.

“It’s money I could put down on a security deposit on my own apartment,” she said. “It’s money I could be used to start my adult life.”



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Evidence of ‘God particle’ found

JOHN HEILPRIN
SETH BORENSTEIN
Associated Press

GENEVA Physicists say they have all but proven that the “God particle” exists. They have a footprint and a shadow, and the only thing left is to see for themselves the elusive subatomic particle believed to give all matter in the universe size and shape.

Scientists at the world’s biggest atom smasher plan to announce Wednesday that they have nearly confirmed the primary plank of a theory that could restructure the understanding of why matter has mass, which combines with gravity to give an object weight.

The idea is much like gravity and Isaac Newton’s discovery: It was there all the time before Newton explained it. But now scientists know what it is and can put that knowledge to further use.

The focus of the excitement is the Higgs boson, a subatomic particle long sought by physicists.

Researchers at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, or CERN, say that they have compiled vast amounts of data that show the footprint and shadow of the particle, even though it has never actually been glimpsed.

But two independent teams of physicists are cautious after decades of work and billions of dollars spent. They don’t plan to use the word “discovery.” They say they will come as close as possible to a “eureka” announcement without overstating their findings.

“I agree that any reasonable outside observer would say, ‘It looks like a discovery,’” said British theoretical physicist John Ellis, a professor at King’s College London who has worked at CERN since the 1970s. “We’ve discovered something which is consistent with being a Higgs.”

CERN’s atom smasher, the \$10 billion Large Hadron Collider on the Swiss-French border, has been creating high-energy collisions of protons to investigate dark matter, antimatter and the creation of the universe, which many theorize occurred in a massive explosion known as the Big Bang.

The phrase “God particle,” coined by Nobel Prize-winning physicist Leon Lederman, is used by laymen, not physicists, more as an explanation for how the subatomic universe works than how it all started.

Rob Roser, who leads the search for the Higgs boson at the Fermilab in Chicago, said: “Particle physicists have a very high standard for what it takes to be a discovery,” and he thinks it is a hair’s breadth away. Roser compared the results that scientists will announce Wednesday to finding the fossilized imprint of a dinosaur: “You see the footprints and the shadow of the object, but you don’t actually see it.”

Fermilab, whose competing atom smasher reported its final results Monday after shutting down last year, said its data doesn’t settle the question of the Higgs boson, but it came tantalizingly close.

“It’s a real cliffhanger,” said Gregorio Bernardi, a physicist at the University of

Paris who helped lead one of the main experiments at Fermilab. He cited “strong indications of the production and decay of Higgs bosons” in some of their observations.

Fermilab theorist Joseph Lykken said the Higgs boson “gets at the center, for some physicists, of why the universe is here in the first place.”

Though an impenetrable concept to many, the Higgs boson has until now been just that — a concept intended to explain a riddle: How were subatomic particles, such as electrons, protons and neutrons, themselves formed? What gives them their mass?

The answer came in a theory first proposed by Scottish physicist Peter Higgs and others in the 1960s. It envisioned an energy field where particles interact with a key particle, the Higgs boson.

The idea is that other particles attract Higgs bosons and the more they attract, the bigger their mass will be. Some liken the effect to a ubiquitous Higgs snowfield that affects other particles traveling through it depending on whether they are wearing, metaphorically speaking, skis, snowshoes or just shoes.

Officially, CERN is presenting its evidence this week at a physics conference in Australia but plans to accompany the announcement with meetings in Geneva. The two teams, known as ATLAS and CMS, then plan to publicly unveil more data on the Higgs boson at physics meetings in October and December. Each of the teams involves thousands of people working independently to ensure accuracy.

The scientific threshold for discovery is high. Scientists have to show with complex formulas that there’s a less than 1 in 1.7 million chance that the findings are a statistical fluke. With two independent experiments showing that there’s less than 1 in 16,000 chance of being wrong, it’s a matter of how their work is put together.

Scientists with access to the new CERN data say it shows with a high degree of certainty that the Higgs boson may already have been glimpsed, and that by unofficially combining the separate results from ATLAS and CMS it can be argued that a discovery is near. Ellis says at least one physicist-blogger has done just that in a credible way.

CERN spokesman James Gillies said Monday that he would be “very cautious” about unofficial combinations of ATLAS and CMS data.

“Combining the data from two experiments is a complex task, which is why it takes time, and why no combination will be presented on Wednesday,” he said.

But if the calculations are indeed correct, said John Guinon, a longtime physics professor at the University of California at Davis and author of the book “The Higgs Hunter’s Guide,” then it is fair to say that “in some sense we have reached the mountaintop.”

Sean M. Carroll, a California Institute of Technology physicist flying to Geneva for Wednesday’s announcement, said that if both ATLAS and CMS have independently reached these high thresholds on the Higgs boson, then “only the most curmudgeonly will not believe that they have found it.”

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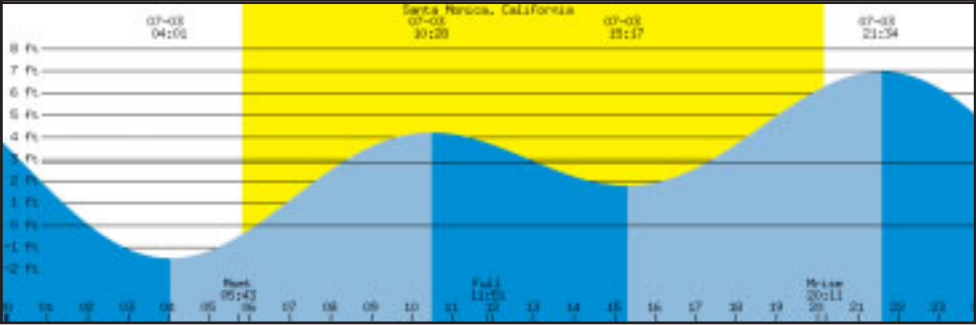


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SWELL FORECAST
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TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



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NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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June 27, 2012

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QUICK STATS
(for the last 30 days)

Number of sewage spills — 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill — 0

Number of wet days — 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather — 31 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Canillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Luchessa and Los Alamos creeks.	ns	ns
Escalante Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Basel Beach at Trancoso 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
Escalante Creek, just east of Escalante State Beach.	A	ns
Lodge Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Soldado Canyon at San Marcos County Beach.	D	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A	ns
Sanfilippo Beach at Malibu Colony lanes.	A+	ns
Sanfilippo Beach (beach location) - daily.	C	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	ns
Los Flores State Beach at Los Flores Creek (point north).	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 13648 POH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunes County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Tapanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Cedarbrook Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17358 POH (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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OLYMPICS

Tarmoh gives up London spot in 100 meters to Felix

PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. It will be remembered as the most anticipated race never run. The runoff that turned into a walk away to conclude the U.S. track trials.

Jeneba Tarmoh conceded the final Olympic spot in the 100 meters rather than meet training partner Allyson Felix at the starting line to break a third-place tie. She notified USA Track and Field early in the day of her intention to withdraw from the Monday night race, not specifying why she was stepping aside.

In an email sent through her agent to USATF, Tarmoh said: “I understand that with this decision I am no longer running the 100m dash in the Olympic Games and will be an alternate for the event.”

The unique race was scheduled to be shown in prime time on NBC in conjunction with the network’s coverage of the swimming trials. It would’ve been a boon for track. Now, it’s another blow for a sport that’s taken its fair share of late.

“This could’ve been something exciting for the sport, something new, something different,” said Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey, whose husband, Bobby, coaches both sprinters. “It would bring people in that don’t ordinarily watch. Reality at its best. This is reality. You’ve got everything — emotion, drama.

“But you don’t have a cast.”

And without a cast, track’s moment in the spotlight fizzled.

“It is very frustrating for me, for someone who would like more people watching sport our sport on a regular basis,” NBC sprints analyst Ato Boldon said. “That anytime you hear a track and field story, it’s going to have a clumsy, awkward, or cringe-worthy ending.”

Tarmoh, who felt all along she had won the race on June 23, did not give any reasons why she was surrendering a chance to possibly run the 100 in London. USATF President Stephanie Hightower said the organization was “disappointed” Tarmoh had a change of heart.

The controversy in the 100 overshadowed the entire trials because USATF had no protocol in place to deal with a dead heat. And while top officials scrambled to draft a tiebreaking procedure, the athletes didn’t want to talk about it until after the conclusion of the 200 — nearly a week later.

The tiebreak also didn’t exactly address this particular situation — an athlete commits to racing and decides not to at the last minute. The matter, however, was resolved once Tarmoh stepped aside.

“Maybe Jeneba Tarmoh went to sleep last night, or woke up this morning, and said, ‘You know what? I know that after six

rounds in the cold and rain of Eugene, and the emotional highs and lows, and the meetings and the pressure to make a decision and hiding from the media, I don’t have it in my legs tonight to go out and give a good account of myself,” Boldon said. “Olympic athletes have to be very selfish. If Jeneba felt like she was going out (Monday) to get blown away on national TV or get injured because she’s still feeling the rounds in legs, she’s doing the right thing.”

Felix said Sunday that she would allow her health to make the final decision on whether she would run. If she warmed up and didn’t feel right, that’s it, she was going to pull out of the competition. She wasn’t about to risk anything this close to London.

One of the faces of track, Felix will now race in both the 100 and 200 in London. She is the favorite to win her signature event, the 200, after winning silver medals in the last two Olympics.

Although Tarmoh didn’t qualify in the 200, she’s eligible to run in the Olympic 400-meter relay.

“The situation has been difficult for everyone involved,” Felix said in a statement. “I had accepted the USATF decision and was prepared to run at 5 p.m. I wanted to earn my spot on this team and not have it conceded to me so I share in everyone’s disappointment that this runoff will not happen. All I can do now is turn my focus to London.”

Tarmoh only reluctantly agreed to the runoff. She believed she won on the track fair and square nine days ago.

“In my heart of hearts, I just feel like I earned the third spot,” she said Sunday. “I almost feel like I was kind of robbed.”

The situation has been a debacle since Felix and Tarmoh crossed the line in 11.068 seconds.

Tarmoh leaned across the finish line and looked up to see her name on the scoreboard in the third spot behind winner Carmelita Jeter and runner-up Tianna Madison. The 22-year-old Tarmoh even took a celebratory lap around the track, waving an American flag. She received a medal and held a news conference.

Then she found out about the dead heat from reporters.

The options USATF presented to settle the tie were a runoff, coin flip or one athlete conceding the spot to the other.

The athletes and their agents met with USATF representatives Sunday, and Felix and Tarmoh chose to settle matters on the track. Tarmoh, however, was clearly unhappy with the choice.

“This decision was really hard for me to make,” Tarmoh said. “I was pushed into a corner. They said if you don’t make a decision, you give your spot up. I work too hard to just give my spot up. I had to say it was a runoff.”

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre 1328 Montana Ave. (310) 260-1528 Call theater for information. AMC Loews Broadway 4 1441 Third Street Promenade (888) 262-4386 Men in Black 3 (PG-13) 1hr 46min 11:50am, 2:30pm Snow White and the Huntsman (PG-13) 2hrs 07min 12:45pm, 4:00pm, 7:10pm, 10:15pm That's My Boy (R) 1hr 54min 12:30pm Prometheus (R) 2hrs 04min 11:55am, 3:15pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm Seeking a Friend for the End of the World (R) 1hr 34min 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:20pm Safety Not Guaranteed (R) 1hr 25min 3:20pm, 5:45pm, 8:15pm, 10:30pm AMC 7 Santa Monica 1310 Third St. (310) 451-9440 Brave in Disney Digital 3D (PG) 1hr 40min 11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13) 2hrs 16min 12:01am	Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted 3D (PG) 1hr 33min 2:15pm, 7:45pm Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 16min 12:01am Brave (PG) 1hr 40min 11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm Prometheus 3D (R) 2hrs 04min 12:30pm, 3:40pm, 7:00pm Ted (R) 1hr 46min 11:45am, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:30pm, 10:15pm Rock of Ages (PG-13) 2hrs 03min 11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG) 1hr 33min 11:45am, 5:00pm Laemmle's Monica Fourplex 1332 Second St. (310) 478-3836 Turn Me On, Dammit (Fa meg pa, for faen) (NR) 1hr 16min 1:30pm, 3:40pm, 5:50pm, 8:00pm, 10:10pm Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13) 1hr 58min 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm Your Sister's Sister (R) 1hr 30min 1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm Peace, Love & Misunderstanding (R) 1hr 36min 4:20pm, 9:40pm	Invisible War (NR) 1hr 37min 1:50pm, 7:10pm AMC Criterion 6 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599 Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) 2hrs 22min 12:20pm, 7:00pm Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter 3D (R) 1hr 45min 2:00pm, 7:30pm Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (R) 1hr 45min 11:15am, 4:45pm, 10:15pm Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 33min 11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm People Like Us (PG-13) 1hr 55min 11:20am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:30pm Magic Mike (R) 1hr 50min 11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm Marvel's The Avengers 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 22min 3:40pm, 10:20pm Tyler Perry's Madea's Witness Protection (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:25pm
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For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Be more childlike tonight, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Whether you decide to lead or let others take charge, you still have considerable influence. Others find you to be full of surprises and often see you doing the unexpected. Help them understand that you march to the beat of a different drummer. Tonight: In the limelight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Reach out for someone you care a lot about. You finally seem to be able to get past a naturally stubborn streak. Still, be aware of a tendency to return to that pattern. Though you have a vision of what should happen, it might not be the best course of action. Be careful with your expectations. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You do offer a lot, but when others keep demanding more, you easily could lose your cool. Make it OK to let go of diplomacy once in a while. Use care with your funds; otherwise, mistakes easily can be made. Tonight: Make nice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Understand what is happening within your immediate circle. You might feel as if you are drained by the upcoming holiday celebrations. Your creativity remains high, even when an elder or boss questions one of your ideas. Tonight: Let the party begin.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might want to discuss alternatives. An adjustment could make you feel a lot better about your plans. A close friend is a dominant presence in your day-to-day life. Tonight: Pitch in and handle some errands.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You could see a situation twist and turn. If you are unhappy, your reaction is to become very picky. Curb that attitude for the moment. Take a walk and detach. Tonight: Respond to someone's unexpected actions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ If you can, try to plan extra time around your home or family. How you see a situation or someone in your daily life might not be in the best light at the moment. Someone also could be critical. Walk away from a quarrel. Tonight: Do the unexpected.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your imagination takes you in a different direction. Some people will be surprised by a change they see in you. In the next few days, do not internalize your anger, but kindly let others know you are uncomfortable. Tonight: Ever spunky.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might be a little too aware of the costs of a particular situation in your life. Granted, you would like to change it, but perhaps today you would be well advised to stay centered. A child or loved one could be full of surprises. Tonight: Where the fun is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your need for a little more freedom and a little less responsibility weighs on your shoulders. Use care with how you express this need. Done well, you could have a great day. You could feel pushed by an older person. Tonight: Surrounded by options.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★ Could you be overthinking a situation? It is possible, as you are choosing what factors to think about. You might be reinforcing a problem rather than working through it. Call a trusted friend for feedback. Tonight: Be spontaneous, and you'll get great results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You feel the give-and-take of a growing relationship. Do not overreact to someone's harsh words. Remain centered and caring. Postpone a purchase or major expenditure for a day or so. You might change your mind. Tonight: Be more childlike.

Happy birthday

This year your birthday falls on a Full Moon. Every action, decision and situation you are involved with seems to hold enormous intensity. Whether you are single or attached, relationships prove pivotal. Issues such as boundaries, how much to give and when to say no will all be redefined. If you often feel guilty, give more. If you are single, you could go through quite a few suitors until you feel comfortable. If you are attached, your partner could be challenging. You are in the last year of a 12-year cycle. Let go of what doesn't work. CAPRICORN challenges you more often than not.

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

Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



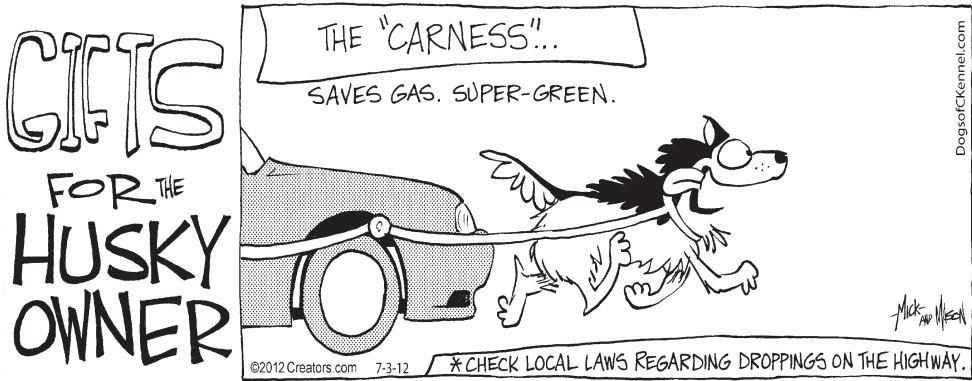
Strange Brew

By John Deering



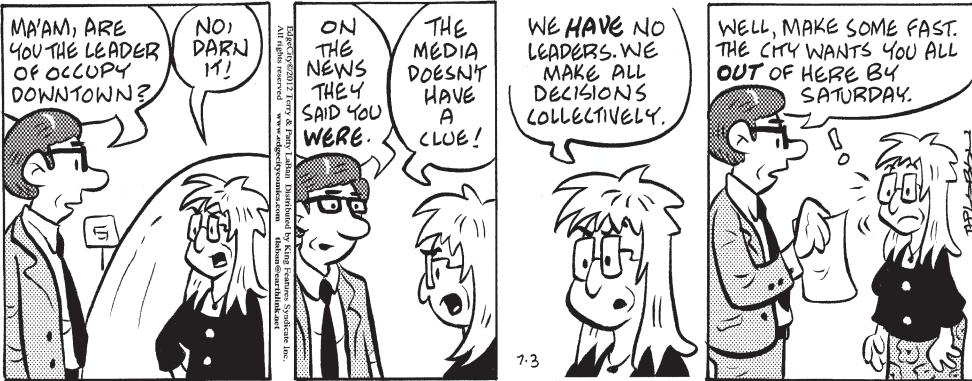
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



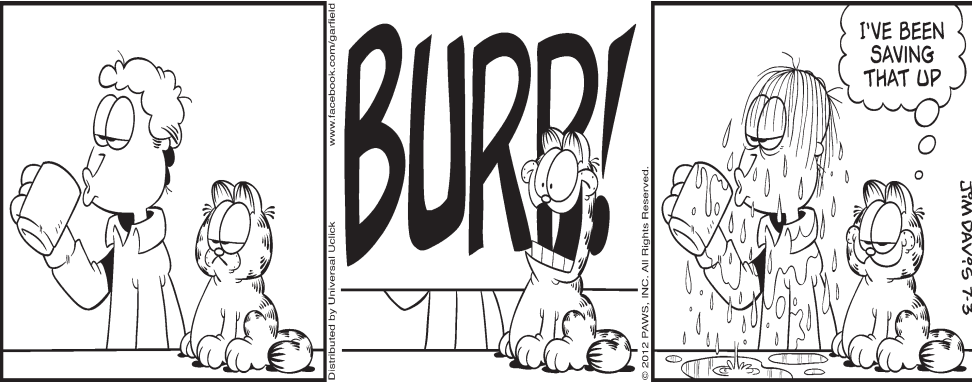
Edge City

By Terry & Patty LaBan



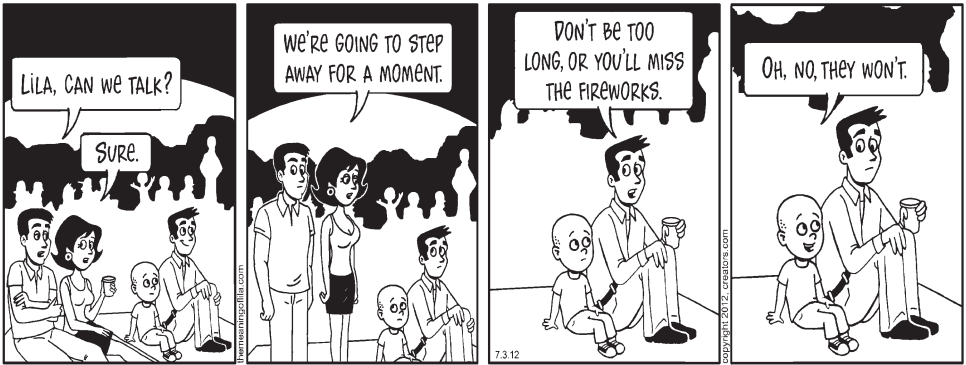
Garfield

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 ★★

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

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

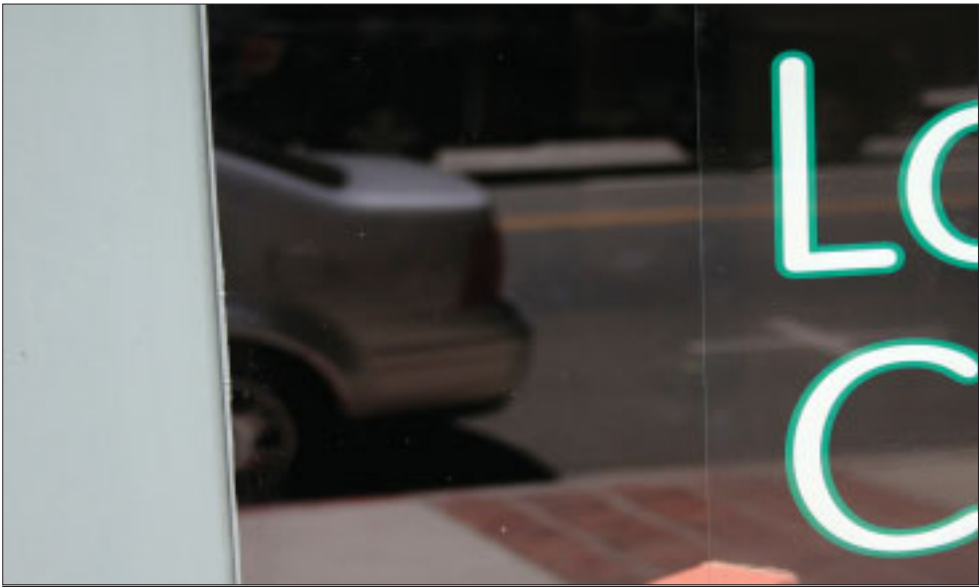
5	4	7	8	3	6	2	9	1
3	2	1	5	9	7	6	8	4
8	6	9	2	1	4	3	5	7
4	7	8	9	5	3	1	2	6
2	3	5	4	6	1	9	7	8
9	1	6	7	2	8	5	4	3
1	8	2	6	4	5	7	3	9
7	9	3	1	8	2	4	6	5
6	5	4	3	7	9	8	1	2

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Daniel Archuleta daniela@smdp.com

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Corrosion

5 Malice

10 Peru people

12 Worker with a pick

13 Campaign leader

15 Allow

16 Weaver's creation

17 Punk-rock offshoot

18 High regard

20 Lusty look

21 Harrison's successor

22 Says further

23 Wall supports

25 Asian cuisine

28 V-shaped cut

31 Abounding

32 Had a snack

34 Building wing

35 Game caller

36 Notre Dame's Parseghian

37 Harrison Ford film

40 Cleaner scent

41 "Cosmos" writer

42 Put up

43 Wagers

DOWN

1 Hunting weapon

2 Turmoil

3 Enterprise engineer

4 Shoe hue

5 Self-satisfied

6 Sewing aid

7 Poor

8 Abounded

9 Goofs

11 Map line

14 Revenue's target

19 Commercial cow

20 Survives

24 Bonehead

25 Clef type

26 "Love Story" director

27 Burning

29 Nickels and dimes

30 Contract adverb

33 Fixes holes

35 Tenant's fee

38 Sawbones

39 Collar

S	L	A	T		S	K	I	M	S	
N	I	C	E		C	A	R	E	T	S
A	N	T	E		O	N	E	L	A	P
R	E	E	N	T	R	Y		A	M	I
E	N	D	Z	O	N	E		N	I	N
			I	T	S		S	I	N	E
G	R	I	N	S		S	M	E	A	R
L	O	N	E		B	O	A			
A	B	S		S	E	A	L	P	U	P
N	E	T		A	I	R	L	I	N	E
D	R	O	P	I	N		I	N	C	A
S	T	R	I	N	G		S	T	A	R
	S	E	C	T	S		H	O	P	S

Yesterday's answer

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9
10				11		12			
13					14				
15				16				17	
18			19				20		
	21						22		
			23			24			
25	26	27			28			29	30
31					32				33
34				35				36	
37			38				39		
40						41			
42							43		

DAILY LOTTERY

Draw Date: 6/29
28 34 39 45 53
Meganumber: 34
Jackpot: \$86M

Draw Date: 6/30
4 22 23 32 39
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: \$9M

Draw Date: 7/2
2 11 18 19 37

Draw Date: 7/2
MIDDAY: 4 7 4
EVENING: 8 4 5

Draw Date: 7/2
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:42.10

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Weekend WTMW-TV (Portland, Maine) news anchor Meghan Torjussen was called on to deliver breaking sports news on June 3, the score of a playoff game between the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat. Time had run out in the fourth quarter with the score tied, 89-89. "I guess the game just ended," Torjussen announced. "This is what my producer is telling me right now." "There's the score (on the screen), 89-89. Uh, went down to the wire ... ended in a tie. (A)ll right, let's move on to professional baseball." (Boston eventually won, in overtime, 93-91.)

Things People Believe: Seattle attorney Andrew Basiago told Huffington Post in April that he "time-traveled" eight times as a child as part of the secret Project Pegasus staged by the Pentagon's notorious Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Another lawyer, Alfred Webre, recently explained, matter-of-factly, to a seminar audience in Vancouver, British Columbia, that teleportation is an "inexpensive, environmentally friendly means of transportation" and was used most recently by then-Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld "to transport troops to battle." Basiago said, in a flourish of detail, that he was at Ford's Theater the night Abraham Lincoln was assassinated but did not witness it, and said that twice, he ran into himself while back in the past.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1988 - United States Navy warship USS Vincennes shoots down Iran Air Flight 655 over the Persian Gulf, killing all 290 people aboard.

1988 - The Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge in Istanbul, Turkey is completed, providing the second connection between the continents of Europe and Asia over the Bosphorus.

1996 - Stone of Scone is returned to Scotland.

WORD UP!

sumpsimus \ SUHMP-suh-muhs \ , noun; 1. Adherence to or persistence in using a strictly correct term, holding to a precise practice, etc., as a rejection of an erroneous but more common form (opposed to mumpsimus).

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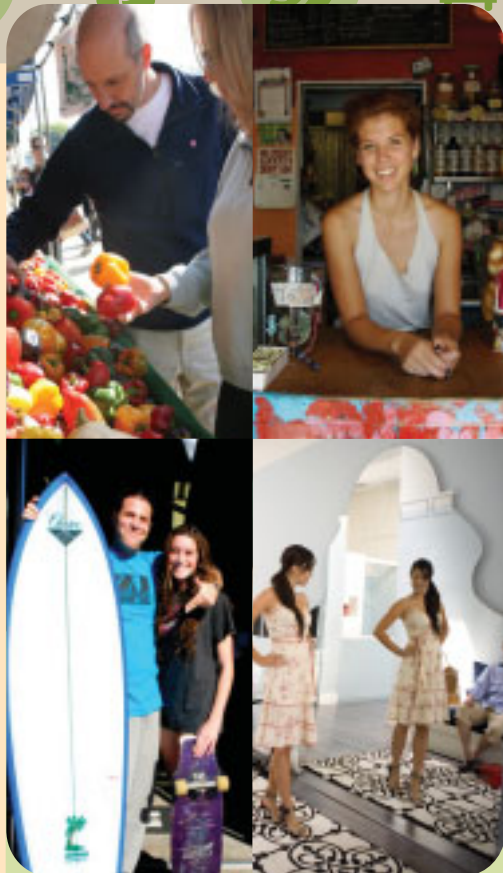


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Happy 4th of July!



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 Epoque, 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).