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JULY 4-5, 2015 Volume 14 Issue 201 smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMENTARY SEE PAGE 4













RANK AND SMILE

Photos by Nicholas Salazar *editor@smdp.com*

More than 20 members of the Santa Monica Police Department were honored Thursday morning for promotions earned over the past two years. The ceremony took place at the Broad Stage and was attended by family, friends and colleagues. Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks presided over the event, which recognized promotions for 12 new sergeants, various department employees and three new lieutenants including Doug Kohno, SMPD's first Asian-American lieutenant.

COUNCIL WRAP:

Other appointments, Downtown districts, state laws examined

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL City Council was busy last week.

Aside from a budget meeting that drew boos for council's decision to cut funding for a nonprofit organization, a Planning Commission appointment process that caused one council member to storm off the dais, and the adoption of a planning document that will dictate land-uses throughout the city for years to come, council appointed dozens of other commissioners, held a public hearing on the creation of property-based assessment districts Downtown, and weighed in on proposed state legislature.

A significant majority of the appointments that were made early Wednesday morning were for incumbents but there were a handful of changes.

David Goddard, former chair of the Airport Commission and fierce opponent of the Santa Monica Airport, did not seek reappointment and was replaced by Joe Schmitz.

Notably, Schmitz was an Air Force Pilot with more than 7,000 hours in the air, according to his application.

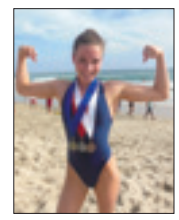
SEE COUNCIL PAGE 6

In the swim of things

Samohi student competes as junior lifeguard

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

THE BEACH For five weeks in a row Natalie Gold is at the beach each morning, but she's not there to work on her tan.



GOLD

The Santa Monica High School student is having fun and spending time with friends, but she's also developing critical skills as she participates in the county fire department's junior lifeguard program.

SEE LIFEGUARD PAGE 7

Council honors longtime office administrator

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL After drafting 4,570 commendations, Sonia Ramos finally got one of her own.

City Council's office administrator, who served 10 mayors, worked under four city managers, and set up 641 council meetings, is retiring this month and was honored by numerous dignitaries at council's recent meeting.

"This is the end of an era," said Mayor Kevin McKeown, "the end of an epoch. For the past 20 years, Sonia Ramos has served this City Council and City Councils for years before as our assistant. The person who wrote all the commen-

SEE RAMOS PAGE 8


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Many years of foot pain, many treatments, no relief until treated at Advanced Interventional Pain Center....Vicki Hinkle (non laser)

"I had foot pain from a sports injury for 6 months which vanished with just one treatment at Advanced Interventional Pain Center!".....John Linder (non laser)





"I could barely stand straight after being in pain for 4 long years. I couldn't believe I was able to bend backwards immediately after the laser" .....Cheryl Santor (Ms. Santor was injured in the Chatsworth train wreck)



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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

July 4

4th of July parade

On Main Street starting from City Hall marching south to Marine St. (Venice/Santa Monica Beach) For more information visit www.opa-sm.org. 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Library closed

All Library locations are closed today.

Eat|See|Hear presents 'Jaws' outdoor movie event

Eat|See|Hear, a premier LA outdoor movie series presented by SHOWTIME, will be showing Jaws at Santa Monica High School. The event will also include live music beforehand and food trucks. $12 advance; $14 at the door. Santa Monica High School 601 Pico Blvd.

St. Tropez in Santa Monica

Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows hosts St. Tropez the weekly series of Beach Volleyball Games in partnership with French swimwear brand Vilebrequin, taking place at the Miramar Beach Club through Labor Day. Teams of up to six players will face-off to win exclusive Vilebrequin prizes, with all players entered in a raffle to win a gift from Vilebrequin every week. Following the games, all of the participating teams will be invited to the Miramar Pool Club to enjoy artisanal beer, wine and seasonal snacks from FIG Restaurant. To rsvp, email beachclub@figsantamonica.com or call (310) 319-3111. 4 - 6 p.m., 930 Pacific Coast Highway.

Story time at the Santa Monica Pier Aquarium

Join organizers every Saturday at 2 p.m. for a whale of a tale! The Santa Monica Pier Aquarium will host story time in the Dorothy Green Room. Children (and adults) love to hear a good story, and the Aquarium has a nearly endless supply of books celebrating life of the sea. Kids 12 and under are free; all others: $5 per person; groups of 10 or more: $3 per person, regardless of age. Santa Monica Pier Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk.

July 5

Outdoor antique and collectible market

Fun outdoor antique and collectible market, many great dealers with many treasures, dog friendly, home cooked food. Every 1st & 4th Sunday. Located on the south side of the Santa Monica Airport. Cost: $4 General Admission, Santa Monica Airport, 3223 Donald Douglas Loop.

Shark Sunday

Shark Sundays are a favorite weekly feature at the Aquarium. At 3:30 p.m. every Sunday, you can watch and listen to an informative presentation about these often misunderstood animals while our horn and swell sharks cruise around the tank, noses out of the water, mouths open, anticipating the meal to come. Expect a splash of seawater if you're close enough to the exhibit. Watch a shark-themed film - they're shown at scheduled intervals throughout the afternoon. Also, stop by the pier exhibit, and see if you can find our Pacific angel shark. Everyone is invited to make a fun shark craft project to take home. Cost: Kids 12 and under are free; all others: $5 per person; groups of 10 or more: $3 per person, regardless of age. 1600 Ocean Front Walk.

July 6

Teen Craft: Duct Tape Pouch

Make a pouch for your mp3 player

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Charity Tennis Pro-Am

Beach City Tennis Academy hosted its annual charity Tennis Pro-Am tournament on Saturday, June 27 at Christine Reed Memorial Park in Santa Monica. The event featured the top local Tennis Professional talent. Though unseasonal rain dampened the court, it did not dampen the spirit of the exhibition match or the enthusiasm of these gifted players who donated their time for the cause.

The event represented a rare cooperative effort between ostensible tennis pro competitors, most notably Sanad Rashed and Austin Soliz, of Beach City Tennis Academy, ably showcased the range of talents and remind us all that some of the best Tennis Professionals in the world can be found in Southern California. Beach City Tennis Academy is well known for offering premium private, semi private, and group lessons throughout the westside of Los Angeles, Southbay, and Orange County.

"The main goal of this event was to raise money for charity and have some collegial fun without injuries," said Troy Mass, director of tennis at Beach City Tennis Academy. "All of the tennis pros involved, strongly believe in actively giving back to the communities in which we operate. This tournament was one of several events this year where you can see the Beach City Tennis Professionals compete in 2015."

The charity beneficiary of the event was ThanksUSA.

"Military families are heroes in or community; by providing needs-based educational opportunities for their children and spouses to our US Armed Forces, 'Tennis Thanks the Troops' awards scholarships to offset the rising cost of college," explained Mass.

Former Scholarship winner Jasmine Ruffin, offered an inspirational testimonial about the opportunity offered to her by her scholarship.

"It's helped me a lot to pursue my education," she explained. She is currently a sophomore at Cal State Northridge. "We are please we raised over a thousand dollars for ThanksUSA," said Mass.

"It is a privilege to do business in the city Santa Monica. We are grateful to our sponsors, bibelot, ThanksUSA, and the USTA for contributing to our effort and helping support Tennis Thanks the Troops. Without our sponsors, these kinds of community events would not be possible," said Mass.

- SUBMITTED BY CAMILA SOTO

3rd Street Promenade

SHINE storytellers 'Out of Control' on Sunday, July 12

Have you ever "lost it"? On Sunday, July 12 at 7 p.m., SHINE storytellers will share true tales of when they went "Out of Control" - and what they learned from the experience. This popular storytelling event takes place monthly at the Promenade Playhouse in Santa Monica.

In July, SHINE will be hosted by Terrie Silverman, a well-known writer/performer and Artist-in-Residence at Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center. Terrie has been presented at theaters and art festivals including MOCA (Museum of Contemporary Art), HBO Workspace, KPFK Radio, UCLA, Beyond Baroque, and Highways. She founded and runs Creative Rites, offering workshops and coaching for writing, performance and creative expression. www.creativerites.com

Live music will be provided by Little Dawnee Frinta, a respected singer, multi-instrumental musician and songwriter. Dawn's songs are poetic, philosophical, edgy and deeply intimate. An L.A. staple and passionate performer, Dawn has enjoyed world-wide placements for many of her compositions and has had songs covered by several L.A. bands. In 2012, she released her own album "Stark Raving Calm."

Storytellers for SHINE are chosen from some of the nation's top award-winning storytellers, writers, and performers. Amateur storytellers of all ages and walks of life also take the stage. Six storytellers are booked in advance, and one is chosen from the audience in a random drawing.

SHINE is held monthly on Sunday evenings at the Promenade Playhouse, 1404 Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and show starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are $10 and may be purchased in advance at www.StoreyProductions.com. Cash and checks only at the door.

Those interested in becoming a SHINE storyteller are encouraged to visit www.StoreyProductions.com in advance for monthly theme and submission guidelines.

SHINE is produced by Isabel Storey and presented by Storey Productions in association with Santa Monica Repertory Theater and UCLArts and Healing.

- SUBMITTED BY ISABEL STOREY

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

or phone out of duct tape. For grades 6-12. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Disabilities Commission meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Disabilities Commission. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 6:30 - 9 p.m. http://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards/

Pajama story time

Grab your favorite stuffed animal and wear your pajamas for this evening story time for the whole family at the Ocean Park Branch Library. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 6:30 - 7 p.m.

Travel tips and tricks

Need help planning your next big trip? Join us for this interactive, two part workshop series where two experienced travelers will share the ins and outs of travel, including how to plan, budget, and maximize your overall vacation experience. Free travel publications will be provided. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Architectural Review Board meeting

The ARB generally meets on the first and third Mondays of each month unless there is a holiday. City Hall Council Chamber, 1685 Main St., 7 p.m. http://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON JUNE 26, AT ABOUT 11:18 A.M.

An officer patrolling in the area of Ocean Avenue and Pico Boulevard was flagged down by the driver of a vehicle parked at a meter. When the officers advised dispatchers of the stop, she was informed they had just received a phone call from the same individual requesting assistance with a possibly suicidal friend (Eric Britton) who was making threats to his own life. Britton was seated in the back seat of the parked vehicle, and appeared to be intoxicated. The officer learned from Britton's friends that earlier in the day they had become worried about him when he started telling them he was insane and wanted to die. His friends put him in the car and were driving him to the hospital when Britton became extremely agitated and they worried he would jump out of the car into traffic. The officer questioned Britton to determine his mental state. Britton told the officer he had been drinking heavily and was "just sad." A firefighter and paramedic responded to the scene and offered to transport Britton to the hospital for evaluation, which he refused. The officer made a decision to transport Britton via police car to a walk-in mental health facility; when she attempted to secured him in the back of her car, Britton became enraged and started screaming and struggling. Several officers were able to place Britton in the back seat, but he continued to scream and started banging his head against the glass divider. In order to avoid additional harm, the fire department was called back to transport Britton to the hospital on a gurney. When the officers moved Britton from the car to the ambulance, Britton bit one of the officers on the wrist, injuring the officer. After being evaluated at the local hospital, Britton was transported to jail to be booked for battery on a police officer. Britton, 42, had bail set at $25,000.



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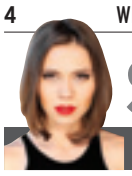
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Send comments to editor@smdp.com

How to get (more than just) a summer body

SUMMER. IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF the year. 'Tis the season for Victoria's Secret catalogues. Can you smell the all-kale diets in the air? Hear the jinglin' of scales and the ring-ting-tinglin' of "No thank you, I can't have carbs"?

It's not a secret: As a nation, we are obsessed with image (if I see another "How to get a summer body!" article pop up in my Facebook feed, I might throw my cup of detox tea at the screen.) And there have been a number of attempts to shift the paradigm (I think at this point, we've all seen enough "You are beautiful" campaigns. You know, the ones with women of various sizes and ethnicities jumping around in their underwear, loving themselves just as they are?) So we get it — we don't have to be ashamed of our bodies, there is no standard of beauty, blah blah blah — but as much as we love sharing those videos, the truth is most women I know don't really believe them. It's all empowering until we step in front of our mirrors in the morning. Then it's harder to remind ourselves that there's no standard.

So today we shall talk about the body! But I don't want to tell you how to prepare it for summer (unless eating more popsicles counts as preparation). Nor do I want to tell you to put years of conditioned insecurity aside and magically decide that "you are beautiful." The thing is, whether we're talking about making our bodies more beautiful, or arguing that they are already beautiful — either way, we are making "beauty" the goal, which only reinforces the chokehold this elusive concept already has on us. Instead of trying to redefine beauty (when everything in our culture has already defined it), what if we leave beauty alone for once and talk about our bodies in a different way?

The question is, when it comes to the body, do we really care if the conversation isn't about beauty? I concede that there are some who are truly interested in the health of their bodies. But even the pursuit of health has been perverted into yet another way to serve the cult of beauty — get healthy to look prettier, get healthy to look younger, and so on. There are, of course, exceptions, but it seems that most women are either in a mode of chasing some concept of beauty or in a state of resignation about their bodies because they've decided that they're never going to be "beautiful" anyway.

My proposition as an alternative to reading articles about bikini bodies or watching inspirational YouTube videos all day (although there's nothing intrinsically wrong with either) is to just live in our bodies this summer. Occupy your body fully, bringing your attention to it without judging it or trying to improve it or even looking for things to love about it; simply occupy it. Feel the way your toes are connected to your feet, which are connected to your legs, which are connected to your abdomen ... Get present to the skeletal structure inside you, all the different bones, and then all the muscles and tissues. Feel even the space around your body, how your body takes up space, how it moves through it. Breathe into it, feel the air travel through your nose and into your lungs. It's extraordinary. We regularly trade in the experience of this miracle of form and function for an obsession over something that cannot even be defined or held onto for more than a moment.

When we stop and really feel our body from the inside out, we are able to fully accept it as our own and live in it. I believe this simple act of being present in our bodies, occupying them without agenda, gives us an opportunity to step away from the beauty obsession that inundates our lives. Imagine if getting fully grounded in this way was what we meant when we talked about getting "that perfect summer body!"

I'm not saying I am entirely above the beauty conversation (listen, I eat kale too). But I have lived through all the extremes of beauty obsession — and even disorder — and am so grateful to have stumbled upon another way of relating to myself. It's nice to be able to unplug from the conversation when I no longer want to be a part of it. Simply living in my body is liberating. The more I consciously occupy my body instead of perpetually trying to change it or define it, the more at peace I am with it — and the less I care about whether it's "summer-ready."

Ironically, I think that groundedness you experience when you finally decide to truly live in your body gives you a confidence from the inside out that makes you feel — and look — beautiful, anyway. But don't tell anyone, or they'll make it into a "How to" article.

Join the movement at smywca.org.

'Citizen of the year' gets 14 years in California fraud case

BY AMANDA LEE MYERS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A former California real estate developer once honored as his city's citizen of the year was sentenced Thursday to the maximum 14 years in prison for bilking investors who poured millions of dollars into failed development projects.

Federal Los Angeles Judge Otis Wright handed down a harsher sentence than the government had requested for Kelly Gearhart, 53, who pleaded guilty last year to wire fraud and money laundering. Gearhart, who now lives in northeastern Ohio, apologized through tears Thursday to the mostly elderly people he cheated.

"I'm so sorry for all the heartache I caused," Gearhart said with a quavering voice. "I've lost everything I had. I've found material things have no value compared to the trust and friendship of those who believed in me. I valued that the most and now it's gone."

Gearhart's attorneys had requested five years in prison, while federal prosecutors asked for 11.

As federal marshals handcuffed Gearhart, two investors smiled while a third cried.

Judge Otis Wright spoke sternly to Gearhart, saying he gave great weight to hundreds of elderly investors "who had counted on this money to see them through their so-called golden years."

"I would imagine many of them have a number of sleepless nights worrying about what their future holds in store. And for what?" Wright asked.

He said Gearhart has done nothing to show he was motivated by anything other than "sheer greed."

Gearthart and his attorney argued that he wasn't using investor money on himself, but had begun extensive work on the real estate projects they had funded, and when the housing market collapsed in 2007, scrambled to use his own money to try to get them finished.

"It's kind of like being a good swimmer and thinking you can outswim the biggest wave and realizing halfway through it that you can't," Firdaus Dordi told the judge before sentencing. "Mr. Gearhart drowned."

Dordi said Gearhart was motivated by pride, arrogance and determination not to see his business fail.

In his plea agreement with prosecutors, Gearhart admitted selling the same lots in a real estate project to multiple investors, telling them that they would be paid back with interest. Gearhart also admitted using the same lots to get bank financing.

In all, Gearhart cheated more than 250 investors out of at least $15 million, federal prosecutor Stephen Goorvitch said.

"His conduct was quite brazen," Goorvitch said. "Mr. Gearhart is just saying whatever to the victims to get their money, making all these promises even though he's losing money on his projects ... He sells the lots over and over again even though the lots are being used to secure the victims' investments. He lies to the bank and uses the money as a personal piggy bank."

Both attorneys disagreed about the significance of Gearhart's contributions to his community, Atascadero, on California's central coast. After working as a prison guard for eight years, Gearhart built a construction and real estate business from the ground up in 1992, completing hundreds of successful homes and commercial properties over the years, Dordi said.

In 2006, Atascadero's chamber of commerce named Gearhart citizen of the year, citing $500,000 in charitable donations.

Goorvitch said donations mean a lot less if any of the money came from investors.

"He was a trusted professional in the community, he was citizen of the year," Goorvitch said. "To me those people should be held to a higher standard."

An Oct. 20 hearing will determine how much restitution Gearhart will be ordered to pay investors, though prosecutors note that Gearhart may not have any money left.

Kelly Stark, 66, said Gearhart's sterling reputation swayed him to invest $175,000 in several projects; he lost it all.

After sentencing, Stark said he felt relief and closure.

"He just destroyed people," Stark said.

Monetta Grabowski, 69, spoke through tears earlier this week about how she lost $27,000 she invested hoping for a bigger supplement to what she gets from retirement.

"We were not rich people," Grabowski said. "Most of us can never earn the money back."

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AWARD WINNER

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FILM REVIEW:
'JURASSIC WORLD'

Rated PG. 124 minutes.

See this movie for the dinosaurs! They're the box office draw. The human characters exist to drive the plot along for their prehistoric mega-stars. These dinosaurs have distinct personalities. Their eyes and movements are impressively lifelike. Director Colin Trevorrow went to great lengths to portray them as thinking and feeling beings. Trevorrow revealed in a post-screening Q&A, that he brought in four actors with distinct temperaments to do motion capture for each of the four key dinosaurs in the story. That plan was effective — these four raptors become your friends as the story unfolds.

Cinematography by John Schwartzman and editing by Kevin Stitt is excellent. Some of the other details of this huge box office success are lacking. The set for "Jurassic World" is old-fashioned and unremarkable for what is supposed to be a state-of-the-art World of Dinosaurs — in fact, the shoot location chosen for those scenes was an old abandoned amusement park near New Orleans. The original "Jurassic Park" musical theme by John Williams pounds out repeatedly in the beginning. I would rather have heard it as a distant low-key melodic refrain slipping through at key moments. The overdramatic track is sometimes distracting.

Many of the human characters could have used more development, and some story threads are dropped. The style is inconsistent: action thriller, comedy, parody? Bryce Dallas Howard's uptight marketing exec never takes off her spike heels — even when she's running for her life. Huh? Chris Pratt creates a charismatic if predictable hero, always maintaining a little laugh behind his eyes even when the situation is dead serious. Jake Johnson as a hapless, beleaguered control room guy, seems to be the only really grounded person in the park. I would like to have seen more of his character. We never really get to know the two ubiquitous "Disney film kids." Irish actress Katie McGrath, as the strict British nanny who totally loses control, was one of the more intriguing players. She's in a huge dramatic scene and we never see her again, though it's not entirely clear if she met her end — another thread dropped that could have added human interest. But then, this movie is about the dinosaurs, and it's a thrilling "E Ticket" ride in itself.

If you've been to Yellowstone National Park, or perhaps Africa, you know there are places where "the tables are turned" and you are the guest in the animals' world. "Jurassic World" will give you that experience. And although it's set in a completely fantastical milieu, the film presents the troubling point that there are people so addicted to the power of making a huge profit that they will sacrifice morals and humanity in order to do so. In this story it seems the animals have more integrity than some of the humans.

This is definitely a movie worth experiencing. In the end we are set up for a sequel ... and I won't be a spoiler and tell you who's left on the island.

KATHRYN WHITNEY BOOLE was drawn into the entertainment industry as a kid and never left. It has been the backdrop for many awesome adventures with crazy creative people. She now works as a Talent Manager with Studio Talent Group in Santa Monica. Reach her at kwboole@gmail.com. For previously published reviews see https://kwboole.wordpress.com.

MOVIE TIMES

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JAWS
7:30PM

AMC 7 Santa Monica
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Inside Out
1:50PM, 6:45PM, 11:15AM, 4:15PM, 9:20PM

Jurassic World
1:10PM, 7:10PM, 10:15AM, 4:05PM, 10:10PM

Magic Mike XXL
10:40AM, 1:25PM, 4:35PM, 7:25PM, 10:15PM, 11:55PM

Max
10:00AM, 12:45PM, 3:30PM, 6:15PM, 9:00PM

Spy
11:10AM, 2:05PM, 4:55PM, 7:45PM, 10:30PM

Ted 2
11:15AM, 2:00PM, 4:50PM, 7:40PM, 10:30PM

Terminator Genisys
1:00PM, 4:00PM, 7:00PM, 10:00PM, 10:05AM, 11:45PM

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COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

Aviation advocates have knocked the five-member commission in the past for being absent of pilots. Additionally, they claim the commission is biased in its opposition to the existence of the airport.

"I hope to play a role in bringing people who have very different interests and desires to workable compromises that would benefit the entire community," Schmitz said in his application.

Noting an incomplete ethics report and poor attendance record, council opted not to reappoint Denise Neal to the Disabilities Commission.

Kathryn Kosmeya-Dodge, who has been in a wheelchair for two decades according to her application, was appointed instead.

Craig Hamilton was selected to replace Kevin Daly, who stepped down from the Architectural Review Board earlier this year.

Anjuli Rachel Kronheim Katz, who sat through council's marathon meeting for a chance to make a case for her appointment, beat out former City Council candidate Nick Boles for a seat on the Housing Commission. Boles, who was not in attendance, was supported, initially, by Councilmembers Terry O'Day and Pam O'Connor.

"The Santa Monica Housing Commission could play a key role in moving more policies forward to support expanded access to affordable housing and alleviate pressure on folks that want to live in Santa Monica but are on the lower end of the socio-economic ladder," said Katz in her application. "I think the Housing Commission could start thinking creatively about some possible solutions, especially with its current focus on getting expert and community input to create the next generation of affordable housing policy in Santa Monica."

LINCOLN AND COLORADO DISTRICTS

Council closed the public hearing and ballot submission period for the creation of a property-based assessment district on Lincoln Boulevard and an overlay zone on Colorado Avenue.

The City Clerk is still tabulating votes and expects to have the preliminary soon.

Property owners voted on the districts and if they're approved, they'll pay into a large fund that will finance improvements to the area.

AB428 AND SB704

Council voted unanimously to support California Assembly Bill 428, which would allow residents required to perform seismic retrofitting of their homes to do receive a tax credit. Additionally, it voted 6 to 1 to amend California Senate Bill 704 so that it could allow members of an Architectural Review Board to recuse themselves when voting on a project that presents a conflict of interest, rather then being required to step down from the board.

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LIFEGUARD

FROM PAGE 1

She hones her ocean swimming abilities. She works on her physical conditioning. She learns about water safety, first aid and CPR.

"They teach you how to save lives," Gold said.

Gold hopes that she'll never have to rescue someone from real danger, but she understands the importance of the preparation. And she'll be putting her experience to use in a variety of elite lifeguarding competitions this summer.

Later this month, Gold will take part in the California Surf Lifesaving Association's championships in Huntington Beach.

Meanwhile, she was recently named to the United States Lifesaving Association's under-19 High Performance Lifeguard Squad, a collection of top junior lifeguards from across the country. In August she'll travel to Daytona Beach, Florida, for a national competition.

Depending on her upcoming performances, Gold also has a chance to compete in the World Lifesaving Championships, which will be held in the Netherlands in 2016.

Gold has found success at the California and U.S. competitions the last two summers, earning a dozen state and national medals for her efforts in a variety of events.

But that's not why she decided to become a junior lifeguard.

"It makes you a better swimmer, and it gives you confidence in yourself," she said, noting the guidance of advisors like Steve Contarsy and John Baltz. "The instructors are so amazing, and they help you with life lessons — not just swimming. They support you. They will always be there for you. (The program) teaches you to work as a team and be part of a community. That bond will never be broken."

Gold's foray into lifeguarding began about six years ago, when she was 10. She was following in the footsteps of her older brother, who was also a junior lifeguard, but what started as an outlet for making new friends and spending time in the water turned into a serious passion.

About three years ago, Gold qualified for the regional team and joined a relay squad.

"I loved it," she said. "I was hooked."

Gold is an active Girl Scout and interested in engineering — for her Gold Award project, she educated her female peers about opportunities in the male-dominated field — but she finds time to pursue her love of watersports. She excels not only as a junior lifeguard but also as a swimmer at Samohi and as a member of the Westside Aquatics club.

Gold is looking forward to her summer slate of lifeguarding competitions, which feature partner events like rescue relays as well as distance swims, paddling, running and Ironman combos.

She said she's had fun traveling up and down the Southern California coast and visiting the East Coast for lifeguarding events.

Mostly, though, she enjoys the feeling of traveling out into the ocean.

"It's really exciting," she said.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON STORMWATER PARCEL REPORTS

On **TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2015, at 5:45 p.m.** the Santa Monica City Council will hold a public hearing regarding the approval of the Stormwater Parcel Reports, describing each parcel within the City and the amount of each parcel's Stormwater Management Fee and Clean Beaches Special Tax for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Stormwater Management Fees are a funding source for watershed management activities, including periodic upgrades and construction of drainage facilities, maintenance of the storm drain system, catch basin cleaning, public education, runoff pollution control enforcement and other programs that protect the economic, recreational and biological resources of Santa Monica Bay from urban runoff pollution. Each Fee is billed through the L.A. County Tax Assessor on one's 2015-16 property tax bill. The hearing will be held at the COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 213, CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN STREET, SANTA MONICA, at which time the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the Reports. A copy of the Reports has been filed with the City Clerk's Office and at City libraries, and is available for review. Further information may be obtained by calling the Watershed Management Program Coordinator, (310) 458-8223.

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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **69.6°**

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Modest SW swell fills in. Stay tuned.

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
SW swell continues.

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
SW swell continues.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 12, 2015**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 8
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA Swain Barber Foundation

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

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RAMOS

FROM PAGE 1

dations all these years was Sonia Ramos. This is the first one in 20 years she didn't write because we wrote it for her."

"One of the comments you always made to me was: It would be nice if we put them in a frame," former Mayor and current State Assembly member Richard Bloom said of his commendation. "We framed this one for you."

All seven councilmembers praised her attitude and sense of humor.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tony Vazquez told a story about reaching Ramos when, in the late 1990s, he was having trouble with squirrels and possums in his backyard.

"I know you can't just throw them in the trash so I used to call Sonia and she'd take care of them for me," he said. "So every time I called her afterwards she'd always say, 'Tony, what kind of animal do you have now?'"

Councilmember Ted Winterer said he wished he'd called Ramos with his possum problem earlier this year.

"I will say that's the only thing you haven't been able to help me with because it's the only thing I didn't think to ask you," he said.

Ramos left Cuba and her parents at a young age during operation Pedro Pan, Bloom told council.

"Not an easy way to be brought into the world," he said. "But look at you now. You've accomplished so much."

Former Mayor Mike Feinstein relayed a story about Ramos taking his mother out shopping with her.

"That just meant so much to me," he said.

Councilmember Gleam Davis talked about her early days on council, asking Bloom for advice.

"I would ask, 'How do I get this or that done?" she said, "and the answer was always 'Ask Sonia, she'll do it' and that was the best advice I've ever gotten on the council and certainly the least controversial."

Ramos spoke briefly, with her grandson Hunter standing alongside her at the podium, about her time working in the city.

"Twenty years have flown by so very quickly," she said. "It has been a happy time, a time where I gave my knowledge, a time where I imparted skills and some life lessons, and a time where I learned a great deal. The past years have also taught me the value of having a positive and enthusiastic group of coworkers. Their support and help was invaluable to my success. I owe them my gratitude. I also have to recognize just how much I have been shaped by my city family. I have countless experiences, too many to mention, that have impacted on my life in a memorable and meaningful way."

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Cram
6 Aids in crime
11 Painter Matisse
12 On the up-and-up
13 Command
14 Cherry center
15 For the time being
17 Motel freebie
18 "Lenore" writer
19 Sits by the window, say
22 Hosp. sections
23 Freeway entrance
24 Comic Richard
25 Sap
27 Imitating
30 Workshop cutter
31 Skin woe
32 Skill
33 Italian cheese
35 Put on ice
38 Ticked off
39 Seoul setting
40 Massage
41 Get some shuteye
42 Flag features

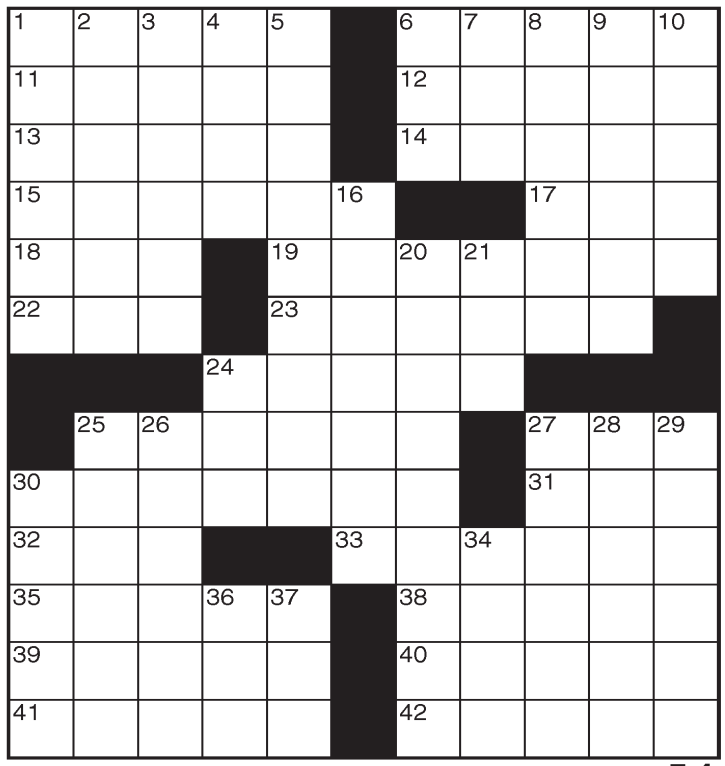
DOWN

1 Quaint store
2 Intense fear
3 Takes apart
4 Stew
5 Independence Day show
6 Green and Gore
7 Stake
8 Selfishness
9 Kevin Costner film
10 Exorbitant
16 Unit of work
20 Smelting site
21 Ship sealer
24 Steno need
25 Pop's Andy
26 Complete
27 Showy bush
28 Straight
29 In disagreement
30 Supports
34 Money maker
36 Antietam general
37 Pool unit

P	A	T	H	S	■	M	A	T	C	H
A	R	R	A	Y	■	A	L	O	H	A
S	T	E	I	N	■	P	A	W	A	T
■	■	A	R	C	H	■	B	E	T	S
A	C	T	S	■	A	J	A	R	■	■
T	O	Y	■	A	L	A	M	O	D	E
A	D	O	R	N	■	W	A	F	E	R
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O	R	A	L	■	Y	A	R	N	■	■
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Yesterday's answer

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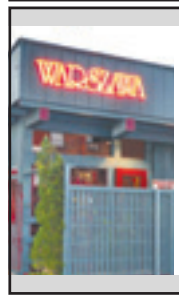
7-4

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



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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 ★★★★

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

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TODAY IN HISTORY

1855 – In Brooklyn, New York City, the first edition of Walt Whitman's book of poems, Leaves of Grass, is published.

1862 – Lewis Carroll tells Alice Liddell a story that would grow into Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and its sequels.

1863 – American Civil War: Siege of Vicksburg: Vicksburg, Mississippi surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant after 47 days of siege. One hundred fifty miles up the Mississippi River, a Confederate Army was repulsed at the Battle of Helena, Arkansas.

1863 – American Civil War: The Army of Northern Virginia withdrew from the battlefield after losing the Battle of Gettysburg, signalling an end to the Southern invasion of the North.

1865 – Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is published.

1878 – Thoroughbred horses Ten Broeck and Mollie McCarty run a match race, recalled in the song Molly and Tenbrooks.

1879 – Anglo-Zulu War: The Zululand capital of Ulundi is captured by British troops and burned to the ground, ending the war and forcing King Cetshwayo to flee.

1881 – In Alabama, the Tuskegee Institute opens.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Cirilo Castillo Jr., 45, was arrested in February in Edinburg, Texas, but a charge was not filed until June, apparently because prosecutors were awaiting Castillo's recovery from a broken leg. He had been found in a barn after trying to have sex with a horse -- three years after having been convicted of a similar crime (and warned, at that time, to stay away from the Edinburg farm). The broken leg happened, prosecutors said, because in the February incident, the horse kicked him.

■ Blow Against the Empire: Bank of America (BA) had the tables turned in June (2011) after the company wrongfully harassed an alleged mortgage scofflaw in Naples, Florida. BA had attempted to foreclose on homeowners Warren and Maureen Nyerges even though the couple had bought their house with cash -- paid directly to BA. It took BA a year and a half to understand its mistake -- that is, until the Nyergeses sued and won a judgment for expenses of $2,534, which BA contemptuously ignored. The Nyerges obtained a seizure order, and two sheriff's deputies, with a moving truck, arrived at the local BA branch on June 3 (2011) to load $2,534 worth of furniture and computers from the bank's offices and lobby. After an hour on the phone with higher-ups, the local BA manager wrote a check for $2,534.

giive a (bleep)

Every Weekend, 'Claudia's Corner' shows kids how to rock their world

Get caught up in a Jam

By Megan Tambio



Summer is in full force and you know what that means — summer CONCERTS! Enter the Skirball Cultural Center and their Family Ampitheater Performances.

Every Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 2 pm, get ready for an interactive concert with an eclectic set of artists. Tomorrow (Sunday, July 5), catch Grammy nominated Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band, whose latest music mixes Chicano rock, indie pop and doo wop.





If you need a break from singing and dancing your heart out, check out the 1970's- themed Summer Lounge (filled with fun, retro games like Twister) or check out the other fun exhibits at Skirball.

The weekend performance series is inspired by Skirball's Bill Graham and the Rock & Roll Revolution exhibit.

"In the spirit of Bill Graham and the influential way he fostered community through the live events he promoted, we are pleased to present this 'musical road trip' and offer families a taste of music from all corners of the country without ever leaving sunny Southern California," says Jennifer Maxcy, Head of Family Programs.

For tickets and pricing, go to www.skirball.org/visit.

THROW US SOME FEEDBACK @GIIVE.ORG/CONTACT-US/

Out late tonight, Gem

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your ability to grow past problems and evolve to a new level emerges. A difficult situation involving a misunderstanding finally will be ironed out. How you view a situation could change as a result. Get into a fun game with a partner. Tonight: Where your friends are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might have so much to do that you'll feel as if you're saddled with the world's responsibilities. You could be in a strange position where you feel trapped. No one would be surprised if you were to speak your mind. Figure out your priorities. Tonight: Take the lead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might want to move forward and let go of a problem. Whether you take a spin in your car or on your bicycle makes no difference; the change of scenery will be just what the doctor ordered. Take an overview of an issue once you have gained some distance. Tonight: Out late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might want to slow down some. Once you start moving, you lose your ability to relate with ease. Spend some quality time with a special person in your life. As a result, you will feel more connected to each other. Tonight: Loosen up with a friend or loved one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You love celebrations, and today you are likely to go to a party rather than be the host of one. You could be surprised by a loved one's unexpected actions. You like what you are seeing, and you'll encourage others to pursue that same course. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Get into a fun sport with a friend or two. You don't need to keep all your plans in line with the holiday. Go off and do whatever makes you happy. Someone you meet today might not be exactly who he or she appears to be. Tonight: Be very happy and enjoy the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Suddenly the true you emerges, and others will get a glimpse of your more spirited side. Open up to new possibilities. If you are attached, curb any flirting, as it likely will end in hurt feelings. Get into the spirit of the Fourth of July. Tonight: Your upbeat mood is contagious.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Decide to host the July Fourth barbecue this year, and invite all your friends over. Enjoy the moment and maximize what is happening around you. Touch base with a loved one, and make sure that this person is invited. Tonight: Enjoy some burgers!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Understand what is happening. Dive right in and enjoy yourself. Several conversations could be fun and enlightening. Don't forget to call certain family members and friends before the festivities begin. Tonight: Hop from one happening to another.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You'll make a difference where you never thought it would be possible. A loved one responds to you differently from how he or she has in a while. Understand that others have different responses and thought processes. Tonight: Make a gesture toward a friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You might be more in tune with the mood and spirit of the day than many people are. Others will be only too happy to participate in the celebrations, especially if you are there. Lighten up the moment, and get into the activity around you. Tonight: All smiles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Don't push yourself. Just because everyone else is full of energy does not mean you need to be. Open up to the idea of making the following day a lazy one instead. What is stopping you from saying "no" to an invitation and getting some R and R? Tonight: The party is at your place.

Weekend Edition, July 4-5, 2015

This year you gain a better understanding of those around you. You often can be found in one-on-one talks with your pals and loved ones. Understand what you are looking for from others. You will gain financially, as you are likely to receive a pay raise or promotion. Others see your value. If you are single, sometime after August, Cupid's arrow could hit you. You will know when you have met someone who makes you happy. If you are attached, the two of you delight in spending time together. You might make an impulsive decision with your sweetie about your home. AQUARIUS makes you consider a different perspective.

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

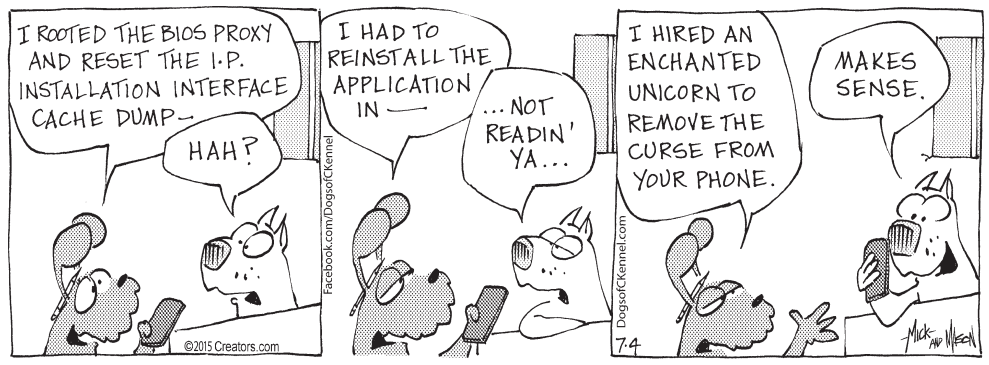
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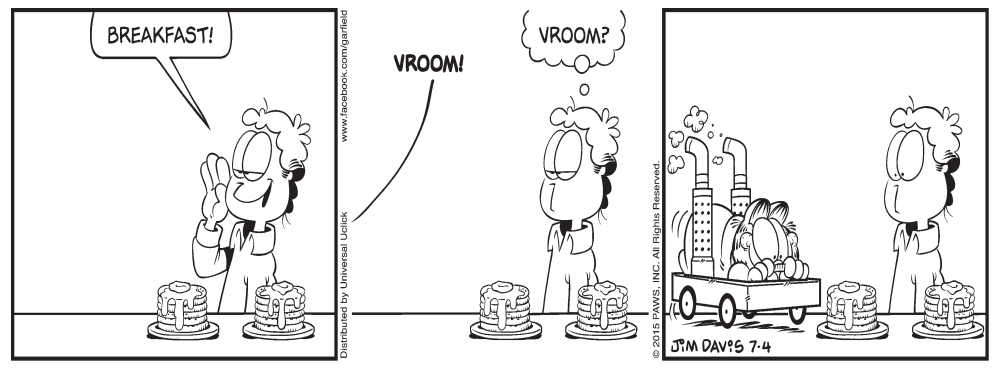
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
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Happy Birthday America

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

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

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