

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## DAILY LOTTERY

## SUPER LOTTO

21 23 26 27 35  
Meganumber: 12  
Jackpot: \$24 Million

## FANTASY 5

16 18 33 35 36

## DAILY 3

Daytime: 2 1 1  
Evening: 5 4 7

## DAILY DERBY

1st: 07 *Eureka!*  
2nd: 06 Whirl Win  
3rd: 04 Big Ben

RACE TIME: 1:47.37

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site: <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD  
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A DUI suspect (unnamed in a March Toronto Sun report) put a handful of his own feces in his mouth in a police station in what officers said was an attempt to foil a Breathalyzer test. Said an official, "I don't think alcohol alone would make you do (that)." Nonetheless, said police, the man, who had been stopped on Highway 11 near Barrie, Ontario, still registered double the threshold for impairment.

■ After an investigative report by Orlando's WKMG-TV in April, a man who was hired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency last year to help Florida hurricane victims admitted that he bought an elderly woman's \$1 million, Melbourne Beach oceanfront home from her for \$250,000, but denied that he had taken advantage of her. Gary C. Jones, 62, who is a licensed real estate broker in Missouri but who works on contract for FEMA advising victims about home damage, said it was the woman who pushed for the sale because she was distressed by the \$50,000 hurricane damage to the house.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

SOREN KIERKEGAARD  
DANISH PHILOSOPHER (1813 - 1855)

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Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Firefighters battle a brushfire Monday morning along the Palisades Bluffs. The fire shut down the Pacific Coast Highway during the morning rush hour.

## Blaze plays havoc on traffic

BY ROBERT FATURECHI

Special to the Daily Press

**PCH** — A small brushfire just off Pacific Coast Highway slowed the morning commute Monday, as lanes were temporarily closed in the midst of rush-hour traffic.

Though the cause of the early morning blaze is still under investigation, the stretch of trees and brush where the fire broke out was likely a homeless encampment, according to Santa Monica Fire department battalion chief Dan Matthies. Sleeping along the bluffs between Palisades Park and PCH was outlawed by the Santa Monica City Council in 2003.

The fire burned below the bluffs adjacent to the beach — between Entrada Drive and the

California Incline.

"The terrain is so steep that we had to attack it from the bottom," Matthies said.

It took 31 firefighters, from the Santa Monica Fire Department and the neighboring Los Angeles Fire Department, about two and a half hours to knock out the blaze.

Though the initial flames were put out relatively quickly, firefighters equipped with small hoses and shovels stayed for a couple of hours to smother any remaining live embers.

"With all that brush there, if we leave one little ember blowing the wind will pick it up, fan that thing up and it'll start that brushfire all over again," Matthies said. "With

See **BLUFFS BLAZE**, page 6

## Council spending big for View

*(Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures which appear on the upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agenda. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past).*

By Daily Press staff

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS** — Elected officials are expected to spend about \$498,000 tonight on everything from improving a mobile home park to paying for a lobbyist in Washington D.C.

At \$180,000, a professional service agreement with Lawrence

McDermott to recondition the Mountain View Mobile Home Park accounts for the largest expenditure on the City Council's agenda tonight.

Since purchasing the mobile home park in December of 2000, the City of Santa Monica has

See **SPENDING**, page 6

## ACLU joins fight for 'free' Venice

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

**DOWNTOWN LA** — Attorneys are joining the fray over a Venice Boardwalk ordinance some contend is disturbing the free speech zone.

Attorneys associated with the American Civil Liberties Union filed a complaint on Friday in the U.S. District Court against the city of Los Angeles, alleging an updated Venice Boardwalk ordinance — in effect since March — violates the First and 14th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, because it is too broad and subjective to enforce.

The complaint contends that Venice founder Abbot Kinney aimed to create a cultural and artistic renaissance by instilling a tradition of free speech in the community he began. This "unique history of celebrating the freedom of speech" has come into question by the enforcement of the new law and "threatens to change the character of Venice Beach forever," the complaint claims.

For decades, the Venice Boardwalk has been a free-for-all for those who regularly use it to express themselves. But as the

See **FREE SPEECH**, page 7



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Expressionists on the Venice Boardwalk had plenty of onlookers as thousands descended upon what's known as the free-speech zone of Southern California. A new law limiting expressionists and vendors is being challenged in court.

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## Chill out tonight, Taurus

Santa Monica Daily Press

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



**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**

★★★ You do your best when dealing with others, but you lose your temper easily. You might be best off saying less and backing off from being a major player today. Others prove to be irritating, but you might be just as irritating to others. Tonight: Accept an invitation.



**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★ Others might not be realistic, but convincing them of that might be close to impossible. Don't keep hitting your head against a brick wall. Let others walk the path they want to walk. Pressure builds; express your frustration. Tonight: Chill out.



**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★ Your family wants something from you, yet you are dealing with a distortion of the facts. You need to clarify and find out what is really happening. Caring abounds as long as you don't push. You can buy a card rather than a major gift. Tonight: Romp with a favorite person.



**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Keep explaining, but don't be surprised if someone just doesn't get it. You might need to revamp your schedule and find ways to improve your time. Pay attention to what you eat. Your health counts. Tonight: Happy at home.



**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**

★★★ You feel pressured by others, even those you love. Perhaps you might want to go somewhere else or do something that doesn't fit your budget. Be more careful instead of taking risks. Tonight: Have a talk.



**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

★★★ You might be A-OK, but others are touchy and confused. Family members or a domestic situation might be pressuring you. You might feel as if it's close to impossible to make what you want happen. Tonight: Gather your bills.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

★★★ You might not want to share what is on your mind. You have a dream that you want to fulfill, though it might be difficult not to talk about it. An associate pushes you to a point that you could lose your temper. Tonight: Finally, you feel the force.



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**

★★★★ Until you know what you want, getting there could be close to impossible. Someone might be holding some information back or might not have the information you need. You've got to do the footwork. Tonight: Hop on the computer to do your research.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

★★★ You let others know that you aren't going any further. You've had enough. You can be a tough opponent. You have a suggestion or a different approach, though many might not be ready to hear it yet. Tonight: Joke and laugh with your friends.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**

★★★ Try very hard to look at the big picture, as difficult as it might be. You also might be blocking some information or insight that could help you. Others seem difficult. Be understanding, and they'll open up like a rose in bloom. Tonight: A late get-together.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**

★★★ Partners are difficult and touchy, at best. You might want to do your own thing, even if it is more difficult. A friend reverses gears. Don't push; work with facts. Try to understand where others are coming from. Tonight: Let your mind escape into some music.



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**

★★★ Others might not understand just how well-intentioned you are. Be imaginative with a touchy boss. If you are very unhappy at work, consider changing jobs. Curb spending. Tonight: Talk to a trusted pal.

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## LOCAL



### Crash diet



Crill Hansen/Special to the Daily Press

A truck crashed into the side of Norm's restaurant at the corner of Lincoln Boulevard and Colorado Avenue on Saturday night. One person was injured in the incident.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Saint John's paging all nurses

By Daily Press staff

A local hospital is hoping to recruit new faces, filling an increasing hole in health care.

Saint John's Hospital plans to recruit nurses at its nursing open house, which is set to take place on July 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saint John's Hospital is currently seeking nurses in the fields of ambulatory medicine, case management, critical care, emergency department, GI lab, labor and delivery, medical-surgical, NICU, nursery, OB/GYN, oncology, orthopedics, PACU, PCCU/telemetry, and surgery/OR.

In addition to the information session, the open house will offer tours of all clinical areas. There will be a drawing for a gift certificate to The Lobster Restaurant for those who attend.

The open house will be held at 2020 Santa Monica Blvd., in conference rooms D and E. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

RSVP to Richard Matela at (310) 829-8409.

Linda Elson is this week's mystery photo winner. Elson accurately described that this photo was taken at the gazebo near the Santa Monica Pier. She has won a 30th anniversary limited edition DVD of Jaws, recently released by Universal Studios. Check out the Monday edition for the next mystery photo contest



# SURF REPORT

Not a whole lot on tap today. We're expecting some SW, but this energy is weak with size estimated at only knee-to-waist-high. Some NW wind swell is likely, but with only waist-high, peaky sets as well. Areas of low clouds and fog during the night through morning, otherwise clear. Highs in the lower to mid 70s. Lows in the lower 60s.

**Today the water is:**

**66°**

Write us at [alex@smdp.com](mailto:alex@smdp.com) and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.



### LOW TIDES

### HIGH TIDES

|           | Morning | Height | Evening | Height | Morning | Height | Evening | Height |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| MONDAY    | 7:16    | 0.4    | 7:07    | 2.7    | 12:00   | 4.9    | 2:12    | 3.9    |
| TUESDAY   | 7:45    | 0.8    | 8:22    | 2.6    | N/A     | N/A    | 2:48    | 4.1    |
| WEDNESDAY | 8:16    | 1.2    | 9:54    | 2.3    | 1:33    | 3.8    | 3:27    | 4.4    |
| THURSDAY  | 8:51    | 1.6    | 11:24   | 1.8    | 2:50    | 3.2    | 4:08    | 4.7    |
| FRIDAY    | 9:23    | 1.4    | 12:02   | 1.9    | 3:41    | 3.4    | 4:38    | 4.2    |

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**The QLine**

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Last week the Santa Monica Police Department reported that overall crime in the city is down 9 percent from last year, and has dropped as much as 60 percent in some areas since 1993, when crime was at its highest.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you feel safe here in Santa Monica? Where would you not go because you feel unsafe?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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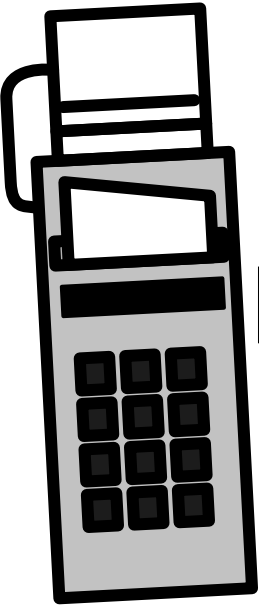


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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Christians demand respect

Editor:

Mr. Pizarra, you start your column (SMDP, July 7, page 4) by quoting Ezekiel 25:17 "The path of the righteous man is beset on all sides by the iniquities of the selfish and the tyranny of evil men. Blessed is he who in the name of charity and good will, shepherds the weak through the valley of the darkness. For he is truly his brother's keeper and the finder of lost children. And I will strike down upon thee with great vengeance and furious anger those who attempt to poison and destroy my brother."

Then, as you have in past columns, you go on to say very slanderous, inaccurate and stereotypical things about Christians.

You talk about the hypocrisy of the "gray haired, religious right, Christian fundamentalists who are running that strip of mosquito infested swampland (Florida) who seem to have missed the biblical quote up top."

It's easy for Christians to ignore your above quoted version of Ezekiel 25:17 and not be the least bit hypocritical. You won't find the above rant in the Bible. It's actually word-for-word the speech Quentin Tarantino wrote for Samuel L. Jackson in "Pulp Fiction." The character in the movie claims it's from Ezekiel 25:17 and parts are ... but like your article ... it's more pulp fiction than pulp fact.

Even if your opinions are different than mine, as a Christian, I can respect you and your views. Why can't you extend the same respect to Christians?

**Eric Cooper**  
Santa Monica

### Apartments may be old, but worth saving

Editor:

In his feature about his 125 Pacific St. residence (SMDP, July 1, page 1), former Daily Press reporter John Wood misstates some facts. Also, he paints an inaccurate picture of our building (also known as Christie Court) that could harm its future when the City Council hears the owner's appeal of its landmark designation on July 26.

First, the facts:

1. The outspoken tenant Wood mentions was not "bought off." The property owners originally served Ellis Act eviction notices on eight of the 24 tenants (not "half," as Wood writes). Later they agreed to let seven of those tenants stay if the one in question moved out. (The Ellis Act is a California state law that lets a landlord evict tenants to go out of the rental business.)

2. The City Attorney's office is not investigating the Ellis eviction notices, as Wood states. Their focus centers on subsequent notices, served on all the residents, stating the owner's plan to convert the apartments to condos. These notices led to an inquiry by the City Attorney, since the TORCA Law (allowing conversions) is no longer in effect.

In addition, Wood describes Christie Court as "purportedly historic." This courtyard is a true piece of Santa Monica history. The Landmarks Commission unanimously recognized this in their June, 2004, decision to designate it a city landmark.

Built in the 1920s at the height of Ocean Park's development, Christie Court catered largely to vacationing tourists. It was situated conveniently between two beachside piers and two stops of the Pacific Electric railway, which ran down Trolley Way (now Nielson Way) where the building is located. No building style evokes the flavor of Southern California more than the apartment court, and Christie Court today stands as a good example of this native design.

Also, Wood denigrates his former residence by calling it "plain-looking" and "decrepit." He makes it sound like a crummy courtyard with a single lemon tree in the middle. Far from it. Most people consider the courtyard charming, with its lush vegetation and low-slung, Mission-style buildings that are "plain-looking" by design.

Yes, Christie Court is old. It can boast 81 years of Santa Monica history. But it's not decrepit, and with any luck the city's preservation laws will keep Christie Court standing for future generations.

**Randy Davidson, Matteson Barcklay, Dylan Rhoads, Mark Hooker, Michelle Katz**  
Santa Monica



## OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY BY THOMAS M. SIPOS

# 'Liberal' Justices turn back clock to the year 1215

You no longer own your own home or have the right to buy one. This is due to an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, approved June 23.

No, this amendment didn't pass both houses of Congress and three-fourths of the state legislatures, in what is whimsically termed "the amendment process." Rather, our Constitution was amended in the usual way, by judicial fiat. In essence, five Supreme Court justices — John Stevens, David Souter, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Anthony Kennedy — voted that you no longer own your own home.

That's the result of *Kelo vs. City of New London*, in which, according to dissenting Justice Clarence Thomas: "The court has erased the Public Use Clause from our Constitution."

That's right. A whole Constitutional clause, a clause that protected your property from arbitrary government expropriation, erased by five justices. At least with flag burning, the issue is undergoing the official amendment process.

But to understand the case, some historical background is necessary. Back in the old days, all land was owned by a "sovereign," that is, a king, tsar, pope, or emperor. This sovereign leased his land to vassals, i.e., lords, barons, knights and other titled nobility. Vassals could use the land, so long as they served the sovereign. (See the bargain struck in the movie, *Excalibur*.) Because the sovereign owned the land, he could always repossess it.

In 1215, the English nobles decided this was a bad deal. They asked King John to sign Magna Carta, restricting his ability to reclaim the land. King John agreed, mostly because the nobles had brought plenty of swords. Peasants still owned no land, but the times, they were a changin'.

A big change occurred in 1776, when Americans decided that "the people" were sovereign, owning the land and the powers to govern it and themselves. In 1789, they delegated some of those powers to the government via the Constitution, while also restricting those powers through the 10 Bill of Rights. For instance, the Fifth Amendment says: "No person shall be ... deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

Thus, "the people," being sovereign and owning all the land, can, through their elected representatives, take your property, but only if (1) the taking is for a "public use" (traditionally, a road, school, or other public project), and (2) you're paid "just compensation" (theoretically, fair market value).

With the *Kelo* case, according to Justice Thomas, the Supreme Court "erased" the Public Use Clause. Now government can take your property for any reason at all.

In the *Kelo* case, the city of New London, Conn., had condemned 15 homes so that private developers may build offices, a hotel, pricier homes, and a pedestrian path along the Thames River. The homeowners sued the city, trying to save their homes by arguing that private development was not a public use. The city said it was, because offices and pricier homes would generate more tax revenue.

The Supreme Court agreed with the city.

Justice Stevens wrote: "Promoting economic development is a traditional and long-accepted function of government ... (T)here is no basis for exempting economic development from our traditionally broad understanding of public purpose."

But if private use is a public use, and public use is a public use, then everything is a public use — and the Public Use Clause has no meaning. As Justice O'Connor said in her dissent: "Who among us can say she already makes the most productive or attractive use of her property? ... Under the banner of economic development, all private property is now vulnerable to being taken and transferred to another private owner, so long as it might be upgraded ... Nothing is to prevent the state from replacing any Motel 6 with a Ritz-Carlton, any home with a shopping mall, or any farm with a factory."

Is she right? With the Public Use Clause erased, what will prevent the state from replacing any home or business with a "nicer" business? Nothing but the good intentions of back room politicians. Seriously. According to Justice Stevens, the very cities and states condemning the land can best determine "local public needs," and their judgments are "entitled to our deference."

That's like letting the accused decide whether he's guilty.

The result is that politically-connected developers can now use state muscle to force those of modest income to sell their homes at below market rates, while wealthy homeowners are protected by their own political clout. I say "at below market rates," because if developers paid homeowners their asking price — the true definition of "market rate" — there'd be no need to condemn land, as every owner has his price. As Justice O'Connor put it: "The government now has license to transfer property from those with fewer resources to those with more."

So it seems the times are a changin' again. Only now we're going backwards, to about 1215, when only nobles could protect their land from the king, the peasants at the mercy of both. And ironically, it's the more "liberal" justices who are turning back the clock.

*(Thomas M. Sipos is a Santa Monica based author, and vice chair of the L.A.-Westside Region of the California Libertarian Party. He may be contacted through: [www.Sipos.org](http://www.Sipos.org).)*

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to [editor@smdp.com](mailto:editor@smdp.com). All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

## COMMENTARY



# The build-up to LEGOLAND better than the tour



### ANY DAY IN LA

BY HEIDI MANTEUFFEL

There are many places to vacation with a boyfriend in SoCal, but LEGOLAND really isn't one of them.

Not because the park isn't friendly, or that the lines are too long. It's just, well, you might feel a little out of place.

Silly me, I was thinking LEGOLAND was going to be a Disneyland with plastic building pieces. It's still nearly as fun as the first time you went, you just happen to ditch Small World and spend more time on Space Mountain.

But while I researched the location, the hours, and the price of LEGOLAND, what I failed to investigate was the average age bracket.

When we started walking through the park we noticed nothing really out of the ordinary. It was when we got on the Fairy Tale Brook water ride, though, that the difference finally hit us.

"You two are going to need to separate," the ride's conductor told my boyfriend and I.

"But there's only two of us, and there's two people per seat," I responded, slightly annoyed.

"Yes, but you're going to tip the thing

over if you sit together," he said.

I watched the ride strongly tipping to the side of the parent in front of us. It all started to become clear.

It was this incident, and the fact that we saw no other couples without children that morning in the entire park, that we realized LEGOLAND was built entirely for kids.

Despite the fact no one above 16 was there by themselves, we decided to stay. We had already driven nearly all the way to San Diego and paid for admission, so we thought this was a good enough reason as any to enjoy the park.

We played with the musical fountain where the instruments play at the press of the button with our 2-year-old friends. We went on an Enchanted Walk (30 second stroll) filled with LEGO foxes, pigs and green LEGO fish.

We even went on a ride where you pull your vehicle to the top with a sliding rope. I won, but I was competing with children who hadn't even mastered spelling yet.

There was a sit-and-spin ride like Disneyland's teacups, only this ride was slow and breezy, leaving you with a lack of queasiness when exiting it. Not to be a baby, but this is something I could really enjoy.

LEGOLAND also has the Coast Cruise, similar to Disney's Jungle Cruise. While in both the animals are made of plastic, LEGOLAND's are more of a solid pixel formation. That, and there's a limit of one bad pun per ride.

"Why did the construction man fall? He just had to LEGO."

There are definitely many upsides to visiting LEGOLAND, even as an adult. The park isn't crowded like Disneyland, allowing you to get through rides in 10 to 15 minutes. And there are plenty of things to play with, provided you don't care that you are competing with 4-year-olds.

We eventually did end up seeing one

other couple near the end of the day who apparently didn't get the memo either. But while we observed both of us squishing ourselves into the cabbage boat ride, I couldn't help but enjoy the oddity. It may not be Disneyland, but LEGOLAND certainly is a small world after all.

(Heidi can be reached at anydyin-la@gmail.com.)

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## LOCAL

# Council makes move to give park makeover

SPENDING, from page 1

made numerous improvements to the Mountain View facilities, including the establishment of an emergency vehicle access road, off-street parking and installing a fire hydrant. But more improvements are needed, city staff has concluded.

Mountain View Mobile Home Park is located on 1930 Stewart St., and can hold up to 105 mobile homes. Other than small, superficial improvements, the property has not been renovated since it was built in the late 1940s. In terms of redevelopment, City Hall's priorities include undergrounding electrical, cable and telephone lines, and installing new natural gas, water supply, sanitary sewer and storm drain systems. City Hall also plans to re-grade and re-pave roads, as well as provide more on-site fire hydrants.

Of the 13 potential firms, city staff recommends Lawrence O. McDermott, who has extensive experience and knowledge of mobile home park infrastructure, city staff said. McDermott has designed more than 100 manufactured housing and RV parks with more than 15,000 spaces.

### BIG BLUE TO GET GREASED

City Hall is expected to spend \$160,000 annually to provide motor oil and transmission fluids for routine maintenance of Santa Monica's transit coaches, which include the Big Blue Bus and the city's fleet management division.

Rosemead Oil Products, Inc. and The Jankovich Company have been selected by city staff to split the award of the bid. They were pitted against five other potential bidders to provide maintenance fluids at specified unit prices, plus applicable sales tax, with two one-year renewable options. Rosemead Oil Products, Inc. and The Jankovich Company were chosen based on their competitive pricing and use of re-refined oil versus virgin oil.

City staff has indicated that there are sufficient transportation funds in this year's budget to cover the cost.

### OVERSEEING THE OVERSEERS

It will cost up to \$91,000 to secure the professional services of KOMEX H2O Science, Inc. to further advise the Charnock Engineering Committee (CEC) to build a new water treatment facility at the city-owned Charnock well field, which was found to be contaminated with MTBE in 1996. All five of the wells were shut down that same year as a result of the contamination.

CEC was born out of a 2003 legal settlement between City Hall and more than a dozen oil companies to improve and operate a water treatment facility to remove MTBE from the Charnock wells. MTBE, a fuel additive that makes gasoline burn cleaner, has been classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a possible human carcinogen. Since 1996, KOMEX has worked with City Hall and CEC to ameliorate the MTBE problem in the city's water supply.

The extension of KOMEX's contract would mean extending its involvement in supporting design, construction and operation of the water treatment facility. Funds are available from the 2003 MTBE settlement agreement.

### MAINTAINING EYES AND EARS IN D.C.

City Hall will most likely extend a contract with The Ferguson Group, which has served as a liaison since 1994 between Santa Monica and Washington, D.C.

The extended contract would not exceed \$67,000, including expenses not to exceed \$4,000. The \$4,000 expense fund is new to the contract, which has not changed otherwise in three years.

In the past, The Ferguson Group has spoken for the city of Santa Monica on the issue of MTBE water contamination, housing and homelessness, community development, transportation issues, infrastructure improvements such as the Palisades Bluffs stabilization and the reliability of water facilities during earthquakes. The group's services include policy analysis and the monitoring of federal executive proposals, legislation and Congressional appropriation opportunities.

# Bluffs blaze bedevils commuters

BLUFFS BLAZE, from page 1

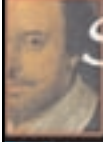
brushfires, it's hand-to-hand combat with shovels and small hose lines."

When they arrived at 6 a.m., the firefighters were forced to close off all lanes on the PCH as they stretched out their hoses along the road from hydrants spaced out beachside. While firefighters worked to put out the flames, California Highway Patrol officers at Fourth Street

diverted traffic westbound onto Interstate 10, said CHP public affairs officer Jon Samson.

CHP officers reopened southbound lanes on the PCH relatively quickly, but northbound traffic remained partly blocked off until after 9 a.m., Matthies said.

By noon, the only signs of the morning's fire were a few blackened tree trunks, mud washed along the sidewalk below the bluff and a heavy smell of soot.



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- The Miles Playhouse

Outdoors -  
Sat. July 30<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm  
- Reed Park Tennis Court #1



### Romeo and Juliet

Directed by John Farmanesh-Bocca  
Only 8 Performances!  
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Sat. July 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 2pm  
- The Miles Playhouse

Outdoors -  
July 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 pm  
Sat. July 30<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm  
- Reed Park Tennis Court #1

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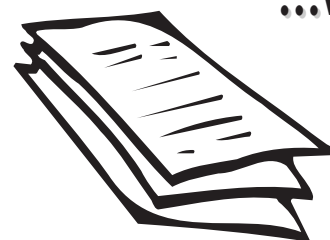
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*Santa Monica Daily Press*

## LOCAL



# Man wearing pig mask in fear of imprisonment

FREE SPEECH, from page 1

area has transformed into more of a flea market setting, Los Angeles City Hall clamped down on people who use the boardwalk as their storefronts. The city attorney's office wrote an updated ordinance in October at the request of some residents and merchants.

The updated ordinance aimed to regulate the time, manner and place in which "peddling, hawking and vending" can occur on the Boardwalk. Presently, vendors and artists who sell their wares are subject to routine patrols, checking to make sure they have a permit and are not using illegal structures like canopies or tents. Expressionists also are subject to a weekly lottery, restricting when they may or may not occupy a predetermined space on the boardwalk.

Carol A. Sobel, attorney representing the plaintiffs, said the complaint filed by her office is a step to help protect the unique community of Venice. The complaint asks the city of Los Angeles to throw out the new law, a circumstance which, if successful, would affect other Boardwalk expressionists.

"The city proclaims the Boardwalk as a free-speech center, and if that's the case, it needs to make sure it doesn't violate its own proclamations," Sobel said. "For years, the Boardwalk has been fine without the ordinance. Things work well without regulations and police deciding what's art, or what's religious."

The complaint alleges rules of the permitting program are subjective and made on an individual basis by city employees. It also suggests the 154 lottery spaces available on the Boardwalk, often empty, are being bought up by nearby business owners to reduce their competition, which might unfairly take advantage of the ordinance.

Frank Mateljan, a spokesperson with the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, said the new law was intended to maximize the liberties of all Boardwalk groups.

"It sets up a scheme in which the various interests are balanced out and allows as much free speech as possible, while recognizing the rights of neighbors and businesses," Mateljan said. "Our office is certainly willing to work with the Los Angeles Department of Rec. and Parks, as well as all interested parties, to address whatever problems may arise in the implementation of the plan."

## HOMELESS AND ANIMAL-RIGHTS ADVOCATES SUE LOS ANGELES

Plaintiffs represented in the case include a homeless advocacy group called



Mike Suhindler, AKA 'The Sand Man,' sculpts "The Simpsons" at Venice Beach over this past weekend. Suhindler, who hails from Eisenach, Germany, is expected to compete this weekend in the American Competition of Sand Sculpting, being staged in San Diego.

"Food Not Bombs" and two individual permit holders, Woody Mulligan and Robert "Jingles" Newman.

FNB is an all-volunteer organization devoted to drawing attention to the lack of food for the poor in connection with U.S. war-preparation activities, as defined in the complaint. The group has provided information to passersby about the plight of homeless people, as well as providing meals and clothing to those in need on the Boardwalk for the last three years.

According to the complaint, FNB was denied a permit to be on the Boardwalk on March 11 because only individuals, and not organizations, may be granted permits under the program. The complaint said that requirement is neither "practical nor possible" since no one volunteer is in charge of FNB's Boardwalk activities and that the particular permit holder can't always be on hand to represent the organization whenever the permit is to be in use.

Sobel also is representing FNB in a Santa Monica case challenging a law that requires the group to obtain a permit to provide food to homeless individuals in public areas, such as parks. Sobel said she made her arguments for that case in February and is waiting for a decision from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mulligan is an artist who makes sculptures out of wood, beads, plastics, photographs and paintings, and whose pieces often replicate the shape of miniature "altars" to religious, mythological and cultural figures, the complaint said. Mulligan allegedly has been

warned to stop selling some of his work because it has been deemed "offensive" and "commercial." Mulligan was allegedly told to display his altars with religious figures, but not those depicting pop-culture icons.

The complaint said Mulligan was told his work is not art, but if he painted a Latin cross on his work, it would "make his (work) compliant." Mulligan wants to "engage in expressive activity that is in compliant with the regulations," but he does not understand how Los Angeles City Hall has defined the terms "art" or "commercial," the complaint said.

Newman is a political activist who has been protesting the mistreatment of animals and police brutality on the Boardwalk since 1974, oftentimes wearing a pig mask to "take on the character of the animals on whose behalf he advocates," the complaint said.

Newman was prosecuted for soliciting donations on the Boardwalk after a young girl gave him a few dollars for some flyers he had given her earlier in the day, the complaint said. When he returned to the Boardwalk a few weeks later, Newman changed the manner of his protest. He wears his pig mask and costume, and pulls a small cart with his flyers mounted on it. He wears a sign on his back that says "donations greatly appreciated."

The misdemeanor was reduced to an infraction and subsequently dropped, but Newman "fears engaging in free speech activities" after receiving the violation and "being threatened with imprisonment and a large fine," the complaint said.

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I have a preschooler and a first-grader. I'm wondering about summer camps and activities. I'm not looking for all day programs, just some fun. Any ideas?

— Summer Mommy

#### Dear Mommy,

You are in the right place for summer fun. Your starting point is the city of Santa Monica for information on a variety of camps, classes and swimming activities. Call 458-8540 for a brochure or enroll on-line at <http://recenroll.smgov.net>.

You don't mention the age of your preschooler, but remember that drop-off scenarios aren't really appropriate until 5 years old. Classes with other little ones (with you nearby) are your main options.

For your first-grader, the city programs are fine and there's another program through the school district that might interest you. For information on this camp, call SMMUSD Child Development Services at 399-5865. She'll walk you through their summer camps, including some awesome field trips to places like Knott's Soak City.

I've met a lot of parents this year who have learned from experience not to overschedule their children during summer. If you've got the time, enjoy some late pajama mornings, beach days and park stays. In just a few years, they'll be planning their own summer activities sans grown-ups. Stay cool and have fun.

— Dorie

*(Dorie Meek is director of the Infant & Family Support Program, provided by Saint John's Health Center in partnership with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Meek answers questions concerning children ages birth to 5 years old. Submit your questions to "Dear Dorie" at [meek@smmusd.org](mailto:meek@smmusd.org), or call (310) 452-6132; fax (310) 452-6392).*

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# Being cool went out door



## GUEST COMMENTARY

BY AMY PERRITT

My husband and I were the target of "nicky nicky nine-doors" recently. And the incident brought us to a humbling realization. We have changed since having a baby four months ago.

I don't mean our lives have changed in the obvious sense. We have a newborn in the house after all. Instead of meeting friends for drinks on Thursday nights, I rent movies. Instead of going to Sephora to buy another lipstick — same color, different shade — I browse through babyGap and Old Navy. Gone are the days of eagerly finishing a novel through the night. Now, I'm lucky if I can stay focused long enough to complete a section of the newspaper, and if I can, then I'm anxiously flipping through "Healthy Sleep Habits, Happy Child," by Marc Weissbluth, M.D.

When my husband and I go to bed at night we talk about how many poops our daughter had that day and if she smiled a lot. Campaign launches ... client meetings ... lunches with colleagues ... my calendar is now booked with BabyGroup on Mondays, ReelMoms on Tuesdays and so on. Oh, and did I tell you about how my daughter rolled for the first time the other day and how when I sing: "shake, rattle and roll" she giggles herself into a hiccup frenzy?

Nope. There's no question about it. Our lives have changed. So, let me explain what I mean by we have changed.

The mysterious knock came recently while we were enjoying a tasty Indian dinner and watching the NBA Finals with a friend. I assumed it was a neighbor needing to borrow some sugar or an egg, but when I opened the door there was no one there.

My husband put on his shoes and disappeared.

"He's probably taking out the garbage," I said, embarrassed and certain he was chasing children down the street like a crazy man. I was mortified.

"It was two kids," he said, returning a few minutes later and dangerously out-of-breath. He took a gulp of his beer.

"What did you do?"

"They were running down the street, but I chatted with their mother."

"You told on them?" I was stunned.

"Well, I had no choice, she was suddenly standing there,"

he stammered. "I explained we have a newborn and ..."

Suddenly there was another knock.

"Oh great." I shook my head. We both went and opened the door to find the two boys apologizing in unison, their mother standing behind them.

"Don't worry," we said. I wanted to invite them in for cookies and tell them my husband was cool when I married him.

"You're a tattletale," I said to my husband and shut the door. Had he honestly forgotten about how he used to terrorize his neighbors in ways much worse than knocking on doors and running? Did lighting garbage cans on fire ring any bells?

Instead, like any smart husband with experience engaging in conversations like these with their wives, he gave me "the look." I was quickly reminded that I wasn't the same hip and fearless person I used to be pre-baby either.

He was right. Damn it.

You see, when I was eight months pregnant someone knocked on our door at about 11 p.m. one night. My husband was working late so the noise startled me. I turned on lights and looked through the peephole to find know one there. Honestly, I was scared. Some, like my husband, might even describe it as hysterical. I called him and asked that he drive home immediately, keeping me on the phone the whole time.

Looking back now, I suppose that's when the philosophical shift started to set in. Since then, I've also realized that a murderer probably wouldn't knock on the door to be let in. And it's just gotten worse from there.

The movies we now rent are free of violence and have happy endings. I can't watch the news before going to bed otherwise I toss and turn all night. How will I ever let my daughter leave the house without me? I dress her in pink. When she is school age, I know that on days with rain in the forecast, I will insist she take an umbrella, trendy or not. If she wants to sleep at a friend's house whose parents I don't know, I will have to call them before she can go. During her teenage years, she won't be allowed to leave the house wearing clothes that are too revealing. And, as for her curfew, well there's time yet, but let's just say it'll be earlier than mine was. It'll be for her own good.

I gave my husband "the look" back — let's not talk about it anymore — and as we locked the door and walked back to the couch we both knew we could expect to find eggs smashed against our front door some time soon.

*(Amy Perritt is a freelance writer and full-time mom. She can be reached at [aperritt@hotmail.com](mailto:aperritt@hotmail.com))*

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**TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES** – 7:30 p.m.  
Enjoy the 21st season of this great musical event on the pier presented by LACarGuy.com. This week Putamayo presents Mali with artist Tinariwen – blues from the southern Sahara. Families with small children – I recommend bringing a picnic to the beach just south of the pier where the kids can run around and you can still enjoy the music. This is truly one of Santa Monica's best events. For more info visit [www.twilightdance.org](http://www.twilightdance.org).

### FRI., SAT. and SUN., JULY 15 – 17 – HARRY POTTER FESTIVAL

The Aero Theatre celebrates the release of the new Harry Potter book on July 16 by showing all three Harry Potter movies this weekend. Fri., July 15 – 8:00 p.m. - Celebration and Pajama Party – enjoy HP and the Sorcerer's Stone followed by a book party at Every Picture Tells a Story where the new book will be available to buy at midnight. Sat., July 16 – 7:30 p.m. – HP and the Chamber of Secrets Sun., July 17 – 5:00 p.m. – HP and the Prisoner of Azkaban Movie admission \$9, 1328 Montana Ave., 395-4990.

### FUN at the ZIMMER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Today! Tuesday, July 12 – Create beautiful kites. Thursday, July 14 – Connect to the power of music through a drumming workshop with Rhythm Child. Sunday, July 17 – Construct a magical fantasy garden with fairies, butterflies and more. All special programs are at 2: 00 & 3:00 p.m., \$3 with admission - \$5 adults, \$3 children., 6505 Wilshire Blvd., 323-761-8989, [www.zimmermuseum.org](http://www.zimmermuseum.org)

### SATURDAY, JULY 16

**RHYTHM CHILD FAMILY JAM**, 4:30 p.m., Santa Monica Studios, 3025 W. Olympic Blvd. Bring the whole family for a percussion jam. All ages, \$15 per child, \$10 sibling, adults free. 204-5466.

### SATURDAY and SUNDAY, JULY 16 & 17, 23 & 24

**CINDERELLA** at the Santa Monica Playhouse 12:30 & 3:00 p.m. The most requested SMP Family Theatre musical on three continents. \$12 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, [www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com), 1211 4th St.

### SUNDAY, JULY 17

**TREE FROG WILDERNESS CAMP WORKSHOP** – 10:00 a.m. – noon  
Kids learn about plant uses. Santa Monica Mtns., Santa Monica, ages 8 – 17, \$25, registration required, 323-295-5494, [www.treefrogla.com](http://www.treefrogla.com).

### FAMILY FUNDAY at the WILL GEER THEATRICAL BOTANICUM

All ages, \$8. 1419 Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga, 455-3723.

### JULY 20 – 24 – RINGLING BROS. and BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS

Various times. Enjoy the Greatest Show on Earth at Staples Center, 1111 S. Figueroa St., LA, \$10 - \$85, 213-742-7340.

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**SUMMER YOUTH TRIATHLON PROGRAM** – Saturdays, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
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**SPECIAL NOTE – Kids' Yoga Circle is closed from July 10 – 31. Check back for the summer schedule that resumes Aug. 1.**

### TUESDAY

**Movies for Moms!** July 12 - 11:00 a.m. – The Longest Yard starring Adam Sandler, Chris Rock and Burt Reynolds. Comedy, Rated "PG." Loews Cineplex Broadway Theatre, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. Visit [www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms](http://www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms) for details.

### Storytelling

**Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.**

**Toddler Storytime;** 10:00 a.m. For 2 year olds with adult.

**Preschool Story Time;** 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**Cuentos Para Pequenos** – 10:00 a.m., six-week series in Spanish for 24 – 36 month olds. **Lap Time** – 11:00 a.m, six-week series for babies 0-24 months, co-sponsored by the SMMUSD Infant & Family Support Program. Current session June 21 – Aug. 9 for both. **Twilight Story Time** -7pm – an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Family Story Time** – 7:00 p.m., all ages. **Summer Activity Program** – 2:30 p.m., thru Aug. 16, ages 4 and up.

**Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.**

**Toddler Storytime,** 10:00 and 10:30. Music, rhymes and stories for 2 to 3 year olds. Current session June 7 – July 12; July 13 register for next session.

**Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis** For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, [www.storyopolis.com](http://www.storyopolis.com)  
**Barnes and Noble at the Grove** Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

### Classes

**YWCA** – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years, (Mon – Fri); Infant & Me Class – 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 0 – 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**YMCA** – Attachment Parenting Classes - 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., 1332 Sixth St., 393-2721 (ask for Shelana Philip-Guide or Audrey Meyer). This new class for mothers/dads and babies up to 12 months is presented by Karol Darsa, PsyD, a licensed psychologist with extensive experience working with children and families. Fees: Members – 1 class - \$40, 5 class pass - \$180; Non-members - \$50, 5 class pass - \$200. **BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES** – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Culver City/Westchester, \$30 per class/\$40 materials. Also Thursdays, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m., West LA, \$40 per class/\$40 materials. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, [jm@BPinAction.org](mailto:jm@BPinAction.org).

### Yoga & Exercise

**Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA**

10:00 – 11:00 a.m and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Thursday nights 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

**Yoga Works** – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Mommy Care** – at the Dance Factory, 11606

San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

**Itsy Bitsy Yoga** – Tots (crawling to 24 months) – 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Baby (6 weeks to pre-crawling) – 11:00 – noon. With Khefri Riley at Ocean Oasis, 1333 Ocean Ave. Register at [www.khefri.net](http://www.khefri.net) or call 323-549-5383.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

### Storytelling

**The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052**

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**Toddler Story Time** – 9:30 a.m., for two year olds.

**Preschool Story Time** – 10:30 a.m.; six-week series for 3-5 year olds with adult.

Next session June 22 – Aug. 10 for both.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Lap Time** - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2. Current session June 1 – July 6, then July 20 – Aug. 24.

**Ocean Park Branch Library** – 2601 Main St. –392-3804.

**Preschool Twilight Story Time** – 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.

**Summer Activity Program** – 2:30 p.m., thru July 27, ages 4 and up, tickets required.

**Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion** – 2 pm – ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144

**Border's, Westwood** – 11am – 310-475-3444.

### Classes

**Rhythm Child Parent & Me Rhythms, Santa Monica Studios**, 3025 Olympic Blvd., 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Children explore rhythms through drum play. Ages 6 mos. – 3.5 years; \$100 for 8 weeks. Call 204-5466 or visit [www.rhythm-child.net](http://www.rhythm-child.net) for more info and session dates.

**YWCA** – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Yoga Works**, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15  
**Fitness for Moms** – Babies Welcome! Step Aerobics, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### Other

**Puppetolio** – 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

### THURSDAY

**Babystyle**, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

**Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.**

**Toddler Storytime;** 10:00 a.m.; for 2 year olds

with adult.

**Preschool Story Time;** 10:30 a.m.; for ages 3-5.

**Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.**

**La Hora Del Cuento** – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

**Summer Activity Programs** – 2:30 p.m. thru Aug. 4, ages 4 and up.

**Youth Chess Club** – 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. All levels welcome.

**Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.**

**Toddler Story Time** – 10:15 a.m., for 2 year olds, next session July 21 – Aug. 25.

**Preschool Story Time** – 11:15 a.m.; for 3-5 year olds.

**Ocean Park Branch Library** – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

**Lap Time**, 9:20 and 10:20. Ages 0 – 2. Current session thru Aug 11.

### Classes

**YWCA** – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES** – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. West LA, \$40 per class/\$40 materials. Also Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., Culver City/Westchester, \$30 per class/\$40 materials; Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, [jm@BPinAction.org](mailto:jm@BPinAction.org).

### Yoga & Exercise

**Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA**

7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

**Yoga Works** – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Breastfeeding Group

**The Pump Station**, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-826-5774 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY

**MOMS Club of Santa Monica** – New Mother Group – for new moms with babies ages 0-6 months. Meet for conversation, support and playtime. All new Moms welcome! Call Cassandra at 451-1827 for time, location and more info.

**Parent's Night Out at Child's Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.**

Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. [www.child-splayonline.net](http://www.child-splayonline.net)

**La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista** – meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call 310-390-2529 for info.

**Planetarium Show at SMC's John Drescher Planetarium**, 7:00 p.m. - Night Sky Show, 8:00 p.m. – featured program. \$5 adults, \$4 children. Pico and 17th St., 434-3000.

### Classes

**YWCA** – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

**Mommy and Me Dance**– celebrate the wonderful world of imagination Fridays at the Electric Lodge. 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. ages 14 - 24 months; 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. ages 2 – 4. 6 classes for \$75 or \$14 per class. First class free! 1416 Electric Ave, Venice, 306-1854.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Fitness for Moms** – Babies Welcome! Indoor Cycling, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

**Yoga Works** – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., \$15.

**Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Other

**Baby Attuned** - Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., A new program promoting sensitive parenting and developmental awareness. Parent-completed developmental screening, with review and feedback from a licensed clinical developmental psychologist and experienced pediatric nurse practitioner, Eileen Escarce, PhD, MSN. (PSY 18819). Introductory fee: \$15 per screening with feedback. 1137 2nd Ave, Suite 213. By appointment only 310-367-1155.

### SATURDAY

### Storytelling

**Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Kid's Story Time – 10am, 310-260-9110**

**Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion** – 10:30am – ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.

**Children's Book World**, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-800K.

**Village Books**, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.

826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info

@825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

### Classes

**YWCA** – Toddler & Me every other Sat. (July 9 & 23), 9:45 – 10:45 a.m., \$15 per class; Parent Enrichment once per month (July 23), 11:00 a.m. – noon, \$15 per class, \$25 per couple.

### Yoga & Exercise

**Santa Monica Yoga** – Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. 1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, [www.santamonica yoga.com](http://www.santamonica yoga.com)

**Mommy Care** – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end) **Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit [www.strollerstrides.com](http://www.strollerstrides.com) for more info.

### Other

**Emerging Artists Family Workshop - 10:00 a.m. – noon.**

Program varies, ages 6 and up, \$12. Santa Monica Museum of Art, 2419 Michigan Ave, 586-6488, ext. 32.

**Cinderella at the Santa Monica Playhouse** Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, July

16 & 17, 23 & 24; \$12 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, [www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com), 1211 4th St.

**Puppetolio** – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

**Magicopolis** – 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

**Precious Prints** – Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime

Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit [www.preciousprintsstudios.com](http://www.preciousprintsstudios.com) for more info.

**Lakeshore Learning Stores "Free Crafts for Kids"** – Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.

### SUNDAY

**Main Street Farmer's Market** – 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., corner of Main St. and Ocean Park Blvd. Pony rides, live music, lots of vendors and great family socializing.

**Puppetolio** – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

**Magicopolis** – 2 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$15. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

**Cinderella** at the Santa Monica Playhouse Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, July

16 & 17, 23 & 24; \$12 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, [www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://www.santamonicaplayhouse.com), 1211 4th St.

**Family Funday at the Will Geer Theatrical Botanicum** – 11:00 a.m Live music and theatre for all ages. \$8, 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga, 455-3723, [www.theatricum.com](http://www.theatricum.com).

**Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Toddler Story Time – 10am – 310-260-9110**

**Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion** – 10:30am – ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.

**Children's Book World**, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-800K.

**Village Books**, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.

826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info

@825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

### MONDAY

**Storytelling**

**Main Library** – Lap Time at Joslyn Park, Craft Room, 9:30 a.m. A series for babies up to two years old, July 18 only. ("Family Connections" is on summer break.)

**Ocean Park Branch Library** – 2601 Main Street, 310-392-3804.

"Spanish for Little Ones", 11:15 a.m., July 11 – Aug. 15.

**Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Toddler Story Time – 10am –**



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STATE BRIEFS

Isle be back: Fox pups populating

By The Associated Press

**VENTURA, Calif.** — A record number of endangered island fox pups were born on Santa Cruz, San Miguel and Santa Rosa islands so far this year.

Thirty-eight pups have been born so far in the captive breeding programs on the Channel Islands and 52 pups on the islands were born in the wild during the past year.

“It’s been such an exceptional year. The island fox has a long road to recovery, but this is definitely a good sign,” Channel Islands National Parks spokeswoman Yvonne Menard said.

The island fox is genetically distinct from other fox species and can’t be found anywhere else in the world. In March 2004, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed four island foxes as endangered, including the three subspecies on San Miguel, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz islands.

The fox has inhabited the northern Channel Islands for about 18,000 years, but a change in the ecosystem led to a dramatic population drop a decade ago, due mainly to nonnative golden eagles on the island, said Lotus Vermeer of the Santa Cruz Island conservancy program. The decline of the bald eagle and other native birds on the island has also contributed to the foxes’ demise, Vermeer said. The bald eagles, which feed primarily on fish and other marine life, are extremely territorial and kept the golden eagles on the mainland.

City has eggs all in one basket

By The Associated Press

**CLAREMONT, Calif.** — City officials are concerned about Claremont’s dependence on the Claremont Auto Center, a cash-cow that accounts for 70 percent of the city’s sales tax revenues.

A dramatic drop in vehicle sales or the loss of dealerships could dramatically impact the city.

“Our potential liability with all of our eggs in one basket is significant,” Councilman Peter Yao said.

The City Council agreed to examine the city’s dependence on the Claremont Auto Center and staff was directed to come up with a list of strategies to diversify city revenue sources.

Mayor Sandra Baldonado said the city is already doing all it can to expand its sales tax base and eliminate the all-of-our-eggs-in-one-basket problem.

“We’re trying to get some more eggs,” she said, noting the Village Expansion — new retailers, a movie theater and an inn downtown — will boost city coffers. The city is also working with a developer on revitalizing the Claremont Inn.

The Auto Center along Interstate 10 has made a major turnaround within the past decade. It has gone from being in bankruptcy to having one of the nation’s

top-performing dealerships — Claremont Toyota.

Cop takes one on foot

By The Associated Press

**POMONA, Calif.** — A policeman was stabbed in the foot following a vehicle pursuit and struggle with a parolee. Sergio Gutierrez, 23, was arrested and booked for investigation of felony evading, assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon and for having an outstanding warrant through the California Department of Corrections.

Investigators said Gutierrez refused to pull over when officers attempted to stop his vehicle for a traffic violation shortly after 1 a.m. Sunday. Gutierrez was eventually involved in a collision and he ran through several yards before entering a home, police said.

Gutierrez then struggled with officers and one was stabbed in the foot, investigators said. The officer, whose name wasn’t released, was treated for the wound at a local hospital.

Nighttime golf? Fore-get about it

By The Associated Press

**INDIO, Calif.** — Nighttime golf is history in the Coachella Valley.

After 40 years of illuminating the Indio Municipal Golf Course, the towering light poles have been removed due to safety concerns over the deteriorating condition of the steel poles. It was the only course in the Coachella Valley offering nighttime golf rounds.

“It will be missed. There’s so many people that love to golf,” resident Cynthia Soliz said.

Golf course general manager Mike Carrol said the deteriorating lights — put up when the course opened in 1964 — were beginning to pose a safety hazard. They were taken down two weeks ago, he said.

“The steel poles were getting quite old and we didn’t want to take any chances,” he said.

There are no plans to replace the lights, which would cost an estimated \$700,000. Carrol said about 25 percent of the course’s business was at night.

Drunk drivers sweating it out

By The Associated Press

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** — Convicted drunken drivers on probation are now being outfitted with ankle bracelets that test human sweat for alcohol and wristwatches equipped with global positioning technology.

The 24-hour-a-day “Watch Your Step” monitoring program is designed to keep convicted drunken drivers from reoffending. A third of drivers arrested or convicted of driving drunk are repeat offenders, according to Mothers Against Drunk Drivers’ Web site.

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## Ten insurgents reportedly killed in northern fighting

BY SAMEER N. YACIOUB

Associated Press Writer

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — U.S. troops killed 10 insurgents Monday in an ethnically mixed northern city and 10 Iraqi troops died in two insurgent attacks northeast of the capital — a surge of violence following a relative lull last week.

Soldiers of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment killed the 10 insurgents in Tal Afar, 260 miles north of Baghdad, a U.S. statement said. American troops killed four rebels in fighting there Sunday, the U.S. command said, while suffering no losses.

Insurgents, however, struck twice early Monday against Iraqi army positions in Khalis, 45 miles north of Baghdad.

The first assault began at 5 a.m. when gunmen firing mortars, machine guns and semiautomatic weapons stormed an Iraqi checkpoint, killing eight Iraqi soldiers, Khalis police chief Col. Mahdi Saleh said.

At 6:30 a.m., a car bomb exploded as an Iraqi army patrol passed, killing two soldiers, Saleh said. Three soldiers and three civilians were in both attacks, he said.

Al-Qaida in Iraq claimed responsibility for the attacks in a Web statement, whose authenticity couldn't be confirmed.

On June 15, a suicide bomber wearing an army uniform blew himself up in an Iraqi army mess hall in Khalis, killing 26 soldiers.

Although U.S. forces suffered no losses in the Tal Afar fighting, two U.S. Marines were killed Sunday by "indirect fire" — presumably mortar shells — in the insurgent stronghold of Hit along the Syrian border, the U.S. command said.

The victims were assigned to Regimental Combat Team 2 of the 2nd Marine Division, which has been assisting Iraqi forces trying to secure the town after fighting there last month.

Clashes in the north and west of the country followed violence Sunday in which about 60 people were killed in a series of suicide attacks, car bombings and ambushes.

The U.S. military, meanwhile, released Cyrus Kar, a 44-year-old aspiring filmmaker from Los Angeles who had been detained in Iraq for nearly two months, officials said. Kar, an Iranian-American, was taken into custody May 17 near Balad, 50 miles north of Baghdad, when potential bomb parts were found in a taxi in which he was riding.

His family had filed a lawsuit accusing the federal government of violating his civil rights and holding him after the FBI cleared him of suspicion. He was released Sunday.

"I am very happy to be out," Kar told The New York Times. "My family wants me home soon, and I'll be very happy to talk to everybody as soon as I get out of Iraq."

Kar described his 54 days in solitary confinement as frustrating. Housed in a cell block that included top members of Saddam Hussein's regime, he received little information about his case.

"I don't hold anything against them for holding us," he told the Los Angeles Times. "What I hold against them is they put us in a cell and forgot us."

Kar's Iranian cameraman also was released from U.S. custody Sunday, but the military said it would continue to hold their taxi driver pending the results of an investigation.

The U.S. military defended its detention of Kar, saying officials followed procedures.

The bloodiest attack Sunday occurred in Baghdad, when a man dressed in civilian clothes detonated two explosive-laden belts among a crowd of Iraqi army recruits, killing 25 others and wounding nearly 50, U.S. and hospital officials said.

Al-Qaida in Iraq claimed responsibility in a Web posting for Sunday's attack, but the statement's authenticity could not be verified. In February, a suicide bomber blew himself up outside the same garrison, killing 21 people.

# Letterman baby plotter takes deal, gets 15 years

BY BOB ANEZ

Associated Press Writer

**CONRAD, Mont.** — Prosecutors on Monday reached a plea deal with the man accused of plotting to abduct David Letterman's young son, allowing him to plead guilty to lesser charges and dropping a kidnapping-related charge in return.

Kelly Frank pleaded guilty in state District Court to felony theft, misdemeanor obstruction and possessing illegally killed wildlife, a felony. In exchange, Teton County Attorney Joe Coble dropped a felony charge of solicitation, which accused Frank of plotting to kidnap the talk show host's son from Letterman's ranch.

Frank, who had worked on the ranch near Choteau in northwestern Montana, was arrested in March after an acquaintance told authorities that Frank had talked of a plan to kidnap Letterman's then 16-month-old son, Harry Joseph, and the boy's nanny.

The acquaintance told authorities that Frank intended to hold the two for 48 hours on the belief he could extort \$5 million ransom from Letterman. Frank previously pleaded guilty to stalking and intimidating a woman who alleges he also kidnapped and raped her.

Coble said he agreed to dismiss the solicitation charge because he believed the plea agreement accomplished what he wanted.

"Kelly Frank needed to go to prison. This gets that done," he said after Monday's court hearing.

Frank's attorney, Jim Hunt of Helena, said his client

agreed to the plea deal because he understood "that there was a risk in going to trial."

"He feels badly for the anxiety that this has caused the victims in this case and he wishes it hadn't happened," Hunt said.

The agreement calls for a 10-year sentence on the theft charge, which accused Frank of overcharging Letterman for painting. It also calls for a six-month sentence on the obstruction charge and five years on the wildlife possession charge.

The obstruction charge accused Frank of lying to investigators who originally questioned him about the plot. The wildlife possession charge was filed only Friday and specifics about it were not immediately available. District Judge Marc Buyske said he would decide whether to accept the plea agreement after reviewing a pre-sentence investigation. Sentencing was tentatively scheduled for Sept. 13.

Tom Keaney, spokesman for Letterman's production company, did not immediately return a call seeking comment Monday. Harry was born Nov. 3, 2003, to Letterman and his girlfriend, Regina Lasko, and named for the comedian's late father.

For years, Letterman was targeted by a stalker, Margaret Ray, who called herself "Mrs. David Letterman" and broke into his Connecticut house at least seven times. She eventually pleaded guilty to breaking and entering. Diagnosed with schizophrenia, she served 10 months in prison and 14 months in a mental institution. In 1998, she committed suicide at age 46.

# Scientists hot, bothered — report warmest ocean temps in 50 years

By The Associated Press

**VICTORIA, British Columbia** — Ocean surface temperatures off the British Columbia coast and in the Gulf of Alaska in the spring and summer of 2004 were the warmest in 50 years, according to a scientific report.

With temperatures up by as much as 5 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit in some areas, one effect was the appearance of unexpected species such as jumbo flying squid and invasive species, including *Acartia tonsa*, an exotic zooplankton found in the Atlantic Ocean, according to the report.

The findings were released Thursday in the 2004 Pacific Region State of the Ocean report by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. It is an annual report by nearly 30 scientists that is prepared, supervised and published by the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee.

Record highs were recorded by a series of climate stations running about 930 miles west from Vancouver Island into the ocean.

The scientists believe the surface warming was caused by unusually warm weather over the ocean, British Columbia and southeast Alaska, and by global climate change, said Bill Crawford, a Canadian federal research scientist who heads the fisheries and oceanography working group at the Institute of Ocean Sciences.

"Clearly, something was different out there. It brought warm waters to the coast, the Strait of Georgia, and very warm waters to Hecate Strait," Crawford said. "I've never seen a time when so much of the Gulf of Alaska was so warm."

During the spring and early summer last year, atmospheric jet streams worked their way up to Alaska, causing a high-pressure system with long stretches of dry, sunny weather over British Columbia as winds from the south carried warm water northward through the Gulf of Alaska.

"This warming doesn't fit other patterns," Crawford said. "It was a different kind of weather than we've seen."

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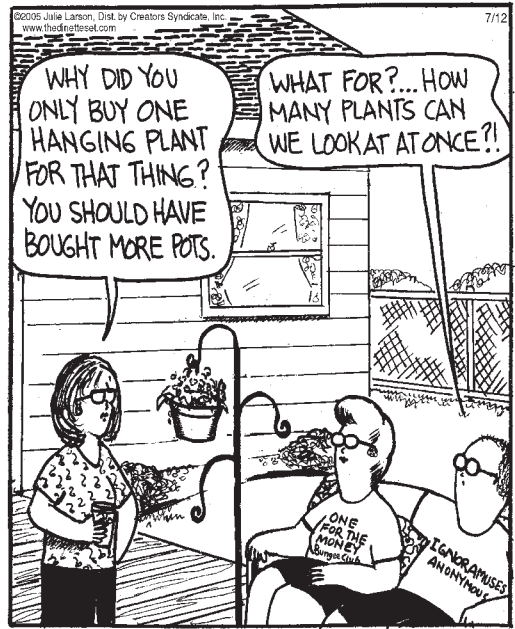
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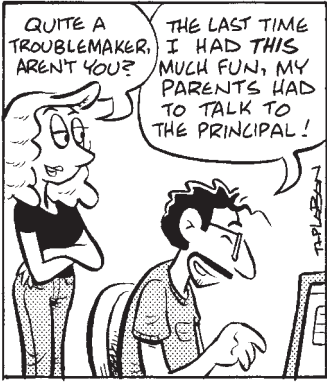
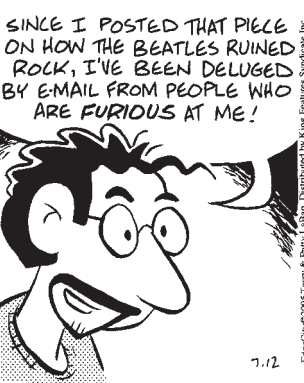
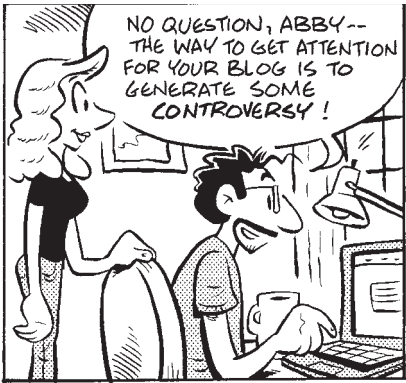


# COMICS

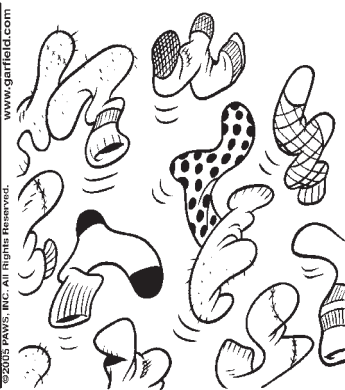
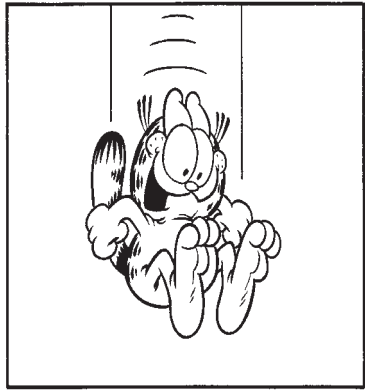
## The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



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By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Sunset spot

1 Cartoonist Thomas

5 "For — sake!"

10 God, in Islam

12 Peace goddess

13 "Ben-Hur" highlight

15 Sold-out show

16 007, for one

17 Physique, in slang

18 Threat words

20 Quite uncommon

21 Cornered

22 Old

23 Colorado resort

25 Vaccine pioneer

28 Composer Bruckner

31 Singer Redding

32 Archie's daughter

34 Spider's home

35 Hawaii souvenir

36 Cal. neighbor

37 Track event

40 Thai or Korean

41 Spud

42 Lab work

DOWN

1 Chip flavor

2 "King of the Trumpet"

3 Christian of "Heathers"

4 Road goo

5 Feel sorry for

6 Make mistakes

7 Brewing item

8 Concert bonus

9 Like ranked players

11 Angry cat sounds

14 News-paper features

19 Plumbing problems

20 Cost

24 Sign up

25 "Big deal!"

26 Relaxed

27 Ex — (bookplate words)

29 Fancy

30 Reunion group

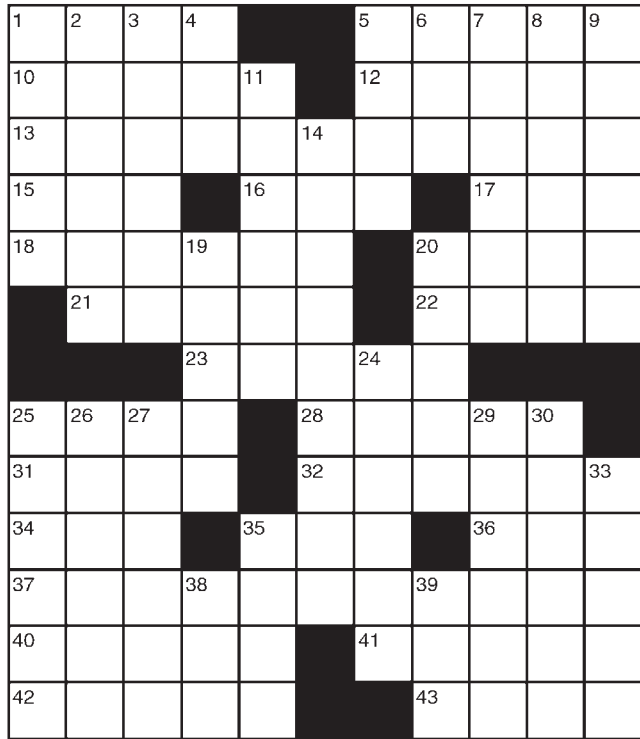
33 Turn aside

35 Camera part

38 Basketball's Holman

39 Crude

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1225560 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Classique Design, 12353 Garber Street, Pacoima, CA 91331. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Armand S. Sablad, 12353 Garber Street, Pacoima, CA 91331, Josephine S. Clark, 4915 West Berteau Ave., Chicago, IL 60641, Paulino C. Pagtalunan, 11150 Glen Oaks Blvd., Unit 3, Pacoima, CA 91331 This Business is being conducted by, a general partnership. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Armand S. Sablad, Josephine S. Clark, Paulino C. Pagtalunan This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/25/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/21/2005, 6/28/2005, 7/5/2005, 7/12/2005



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Last writes: Thompson to get a gonzo send-off

By The Associated Press

**ASPEN, Colo.** — Friends and family of gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson are preparing to pepper the sky with the late writer’s ashes.

His cremated remains will be shot into the air Aug. 20 from a cannon installed on a 150-foot-high tower behind his home in Woody Creek. The 67-year-old Thompson, who had been in failing health, shot himself at his home on Feb. 20 after a long and flamboyant career.

Johnny Depp, a close friend of Thompson’s, has hired a Beverly Hills, Calif., events planner to oversee the event, which will be closed to the public.

“Hunter meant a lot to me. He was another hero and someone that I got to know very well because I played him in ‘Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.’ We got very, very close,” Depp said in a recent interview with AP Television News.

“He was a great pal, one of my best friends. We had talked a couple of times about his last wishes to be shot

out of a cannon of his own design. ... All I’m doing is trying to make sure his last wish comes true. I just want to send my pal out the way he wants to go out,” the 42-year-old actor said in the interview.

**NEW YORK** — John Stamos, Kelsey Grammer and Jim Belushi are goofy for Goofy, while David Arquette, Peyton Manning and Terry Bradshaw are daffy about Donald Duck, according to a recent Disney survey.

In a poll of 45 actors, musicians and athletes, 20 percent most identified with the Disney animated character Goofy. Non-celebrities agreed, with 15 percent of 8,000 consumer respondents also selecting Mickey Mouse’s best friend as the character they relate to the most.

Other survey results revealed singers Avril Lavigne and Ashanti know the words to “It’s a Small World.” Arquette and his wife, Courteney Cox, both picked The Haunted Mansion as their favorite attraction.

Disneyland and Walt Disney World Resorts hired independent research firm Directive Analytics to con-

duct the “Golden Ears” survey in honor of Disneyland’s 50th anniversary July 17.

**NEW YORK** — Adonis Thompson wanted to be a scientist when he grew up. Now, thanks to Fuse viewers, he’ll be on-camera instead of working in a lab.

Thompson, 24, of Memphis, Tenn., won the cable music channel’s “Ultimate Fuse Gig: The VJ Search” contest Friday after receiving the majority of online votes. He bested Ronnie Ruelas Jr., a DJ from Los Angeles.

His first VJ duty is co-hosting “Videomaniac,” a new show with Fuse VJ Marianela Pereyra that will be filmed on the streets of New York.

“I’m bringing a different type of style” to Fuse, Thompson told The Associated Press Monday. “The way I was raised, you are who you are. That’s my thing.”

Thompson, who graduated from Arkansas State University in 2003 with a degree in radio and television, counts Linkin Park and The Roots among his favorite bands.



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Art Haynie, Director and local surfer

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