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Volume 9 Issue 217



ANISTON AT COURT
SEE PAGE 3

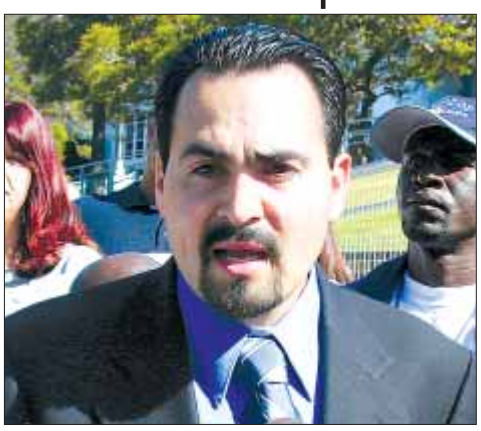
Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE SMDP EXCLUSIVE ISSUE

School board member under investigation

Santa Monica police accuse SMMUSD's de la Torre of child endangerment following fight



DE LA TORRE

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO BLVD Following a four-month investigation, Santa Monica police believe they have enough evidence to charge school board member Oscar de la Torre with felony child endangerment in connection with a fist fight between two high school students.

Police believe de la Torre, who runs a nonprofit organization that aims to reduce youth violence and is running for his third term on the school board, broke the law by appearing at the scene of a fight between two Santa Monica High School students and allowing it to continue, court records and interviews show.

De la Torre, who has long been a vocal critic of the police department and the school district for their treatment of minority youth, is the executive director of the Pico Youth & Family Center, which provides mentoring and other services to at-risk teenagers and receives funding from City Hall. He has denied all wrongdoing in connection with the fight.

Police say they've obtained cell phone videos taken of the scuffle, which took place March 16 in an alley near the youth center, that show de la Torre was present during the incident and "failed [in] his duty to take some action, verbal or otherwise, to prevent the physical endangerment as well as prevent the juvenile delinquency," according to a court record that details the police investigation.

Detectives presented their evidence against de la Torre to prosecutors last week, said Sgt. Jay Trisler, a spokesman for the Santa Monica Police Department. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is reviewing the case and has not decided whether to charge de la Torre with a crime.

Reached on Wednesday, de la Torre said

SEE INVESTIGATION PAGE 8



SUMMER FOREVER

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Locals and tourists enjoy the warm water and bright sun on Santa Monica Beach on Wednesday. Temperatures reached the 70s.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

St. Monica boys get new coach

BY DENNIS LIN
Special to the Daily Press

ST. MONICA The changes for St. Monica basketball just keep coming.

Less than two weeks after former assistant John Skinner was named girls' basketball head coach — taking over for Therese Charkut, who resigned in May to focus on her duties as director of admissions — the boys' team also welcomed a new leader: Khi-Min Jung, an assistant at Santa Monica High School last season. Jung's hiring was announced Tuesday, St. Monica Athletic Director Rick Bruce said.

"He brings a good amount of experience," Bruce said of Jung, who was the interim head coach at Hawthorne High School during the 2007-08 season before serving as an assistant with the Samohi boys' basketball team the last two years, helping lead the Vikings to the final of the California Interscholastic Federation Southern Section Division 1 playoffs. "We were looking for someone with varsity experience. He came very highly recommended."

Jung, who could not be reached for comment by presstime, succeeds Tony Depa, who had been the Mariners' head coach for

SEE COACH PAGE 9

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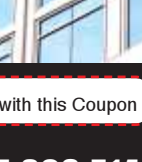
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Thursday, July 22, 2010

Art stroll
Montana Avenue
Between Seventh & 17th streets, 5 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Walk the longest art gallery in Santa Monica at the first annual Montana Avenue Artwalk for an evening of art, music and dining specials. Shops and restaurants along the 10-block shopping district will feature work by more than 50 visual artists and live musicians. For more information, visit www.montanaave.com.

Dancing at Twilight
Santa Monica Pier
7 p.m.
Grab your dancing shoes and head down to the Santa Monica Pier to enjoy another free concert during the 26th annual Santa Monica Pier Twilight Dance Series. This week will feature Italian artist Jovanotti, and his synthesis of rap, hip-hop and rock. The free concerts will continue every Thursday through September 2010. For more information, call the Pier Restoration Corp. at (310) 458-8900.

'Venice' in Santa Monica
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Highway, 4:30 p.m. — 6 p.m.
Beach=Culture and Shakespeare Santa Monica present "The Merchant of Venice," Shakespeare's classic comedy about the relationship between love, revenge and money. The play will be performed outside the Marion Davies Guest House and run 100 minutes without intermission. It stars Apollo Dukakis as Shylock and Jennifer Landon as Portia and is directed by John Farmanesh-Bocca. Tickets are free, but reservations are required and can be made at www.eventbrite.com/org/199463539. For more information, call (310) 458-4904.

Friday, July 23, 2010

Come Up to Caliwood
Monsoon Cafe
1213 Third Street Promenade, 10 p.m. — 2 a.m.
Come to the Monsoon Cafe on the Third Street Promenade to enjoy the musical styling of the Come Up Crew during their Caliwood celebration. Featuring hip-hop, electronica, reggae and even some classics, the Come Up Crew will be keeping the music playing until 2 a.m. Admission is free and there is no dress code to enter. For more information, call (562) 676-6419.

On a mission
M.i.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323-A Third Street Promenade, 10 p.m. — 11 p.m.
The Mission IMPROVable Show brings its national tour back to the theater that bears its name for a fast, funny night of improv comedy. Audiences across the country have enjoyed the show for the past nine years. The M.i. Show has shared the stage with cast members from "MadTV," "Saturday Night Live" and others. Admission costs $10. For more information, call Sean Monahan at (310) 451-0850.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

CORRECTION

In the article "School board brings back counselors," page 1, July 20, it should have stated that the principal at Malibu High School is Mark Kelly.

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City Hall seeks public input on new parks

DAILY PRESS STAFF

CIVIC CENTER Billed as possibly the last opportunity to create new open space for the public, City Hall is asking residents this Saturday to weigh in on two new parks planned for the Civic Center.

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., residents will get a chance to take a tour of the project sites, which encompass roughly 7 acres in the heart of Santa Monica, connecting the footsteps of City Hall to Ocean Avenue and the Santa Monica Pier.

The design team led by the prestigious James Corner Field Operations, will also be on hand to hear what residents want when it comes to open space.

There will also be three other workshops. The concept design workshop will be held in September, the schematic design workshop will be held in November, and the design development workshop will be held in

SEE **PARKS** PAGE 9



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

FUTURE SITE OF OPEN GREEN SPACE: **This city-owned parking lot, once home to RAND Corp., will be transformed into a 6-acre park called Palisades Garden Walk.**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BARKER HANGER

Get 'Lost'

"Lost" may have ended in May, but fans will have one more chance to go back to the island with a live auction of more than 1,000 props, costumes and set pieces to be held Aug. 21 and 22 in Santa Monica Airport's Barker Hangar.

Profiles in History, a company that specializes in dealing and selling historical and Hollywood memorabilia, announced last week it would host the auction, as well as an exhibit and DVD preview, in partnership with ABC Studios.

In addition to the auction, large set pieces, such as chunks of the wreckage of Oceanic flight 815, will be displayed. Bonus features from the season six DVD and Blu-ray, set to be released Aug. 24, will be previewed, including the short epilogue, "The New Man in Charge," that shows a glimpse of events on the island where the series left off and promises to answer a couple remaining fan questions.

The auction is open to the public, and anyone wishing to bid must register online at profilesinhistory.com or liveauctioneers.com. Those who cannot attend the auction in person but want their own piece of "Lost" history will be able to bid via mail, phone, fax or the Internet.

Tickets to see the exhibit and DVD extras will be available in early August through razorgator.com.

The exhibit will open at 9 a.m. each day with worldwide bidding beginning at 1 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on both days.

DAILY PRESS

DOWNTOWN

CityTV receives four Emmy nods

The 62nd Annual Los Angeles Area Emmy Awards nominations were announced recently, and once again CityTV graces the nominee list.

CityTV Santa Monica has received four award nominations, including nods for excellence in the categories of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and Public, Municipal and Operator Produced Cable.

CityTV's eco-friendly show "Be Green," which promotes ways to live a green lifestyle, was produced in association with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment, and was nominated for the Public, Municipal and Operator Produced Cable Emmy award.

CityTV's public service announcement videos "Kids Finance PSA" and "Westside Food Bank" both received nominations in the Public Service Announcement category. The fourth nomination is for a PSA called "L.A. County Foster Care: Share Your Heart" which was produced in a partnership with Los Angeles County.

Two of the PSAs, "Share Your Heart" and "Westside Food Bank" are projects of the prestigious Women in Film PSA Production Program. Volunteer Women in Film members produced, directed, and wrote the PSAs. This is the second year for the program partnership and also the second year the partnership has been acknowledged with Emmy nominations, city officials said.

Court grants Aniston restraining order

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SM COURTHOUSE A court has issued a temporary restraining order to Jennifer Aniston against a man who authorities say traveled cross-country in a delusional attempt to marry her.

Court documents filed Tuesday in Santa Monica say police detained Jason R. Peyton last week after finding him with a sharp object, duct tape and love notes to the "Friends" star. Authorities say he was stopped after spending days trying to find Aniston on Sunset Boulevard.

The filings state Peyton has been accused of stalking others and is disobeying court orders that he must take anti-psychotic medications.

The 24-year-old was placed on an involuntary psychiatric hold by Los Angeles police. A hearing on the order will be held Aug. 9.

The court filings state Peyton has said he won't stop his pursuit of Aniston.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's not too late

Editor:

The fragile little people of Pine Street Special Education Preschool should not be moved to elementary school campuses in order to make room for "swing space" for facilities improvement at the site they share with Olympic High School ("Special ed parents upset over closure," July 21). The truth is that the district forgot to find a new facility for these children when it planned in 2007 to improve facilities throughout the district. I was present at the recent school board meeting where parents asked the board to discuss in public with the district administrators why this school was being closed and it became very clear that the children at Pine Street were forgotten and the "plan" to find places for them at elementary school was actually no plan at all. The district must stop its closure of the special education preschool at Pine Street unless and until a site can be found where the same program can be offered. Apologizing to parents is not good enough. If the district disbands the school it can expect to field legal battles and to pay for non-public services to replace what will be lost and what by law must be provided to these children. It's not too late to rectify the situation.

Tricia Crane
Member, Special Education District Advisory Committee

Look both ways

Editor:

Every time I ride my skateboard to work, I nearly lose my life at least two times per skate, which is only a mile. A good example is watching a person pull up to a street without a stop light. If they are going to turn right, they only look to the left and then pull away without looking to the right. What happens after that is they see me at the last minute and I end up over the hood of the car or I come crashing to the pavement, ending up with berries for knees. What burns my ass is the fact that I get yelled at or am given horrible looks for zero reason. I have the scars to prove my point. All I am asking for is that the residents of Santa Monica be more aware of the skateboarders here. After all, skateboarding was invented a mile south in a little town we know as Venice.

Chris Anderson
Santa Monica





Life Matters

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

Hey, that was my idea!

DEAR NEW SHRINK,

I often come up with new ideas at work which I enjoy sharing with my team. However, several times now I have shared ideas with no immediate feedback. However, soon after someone else will restate my idea and it will then move forward. I am concerned that I am not getting acknowledged for my ideas and that others are taking credit for my ideas. I realize that it may come down to the way I state my ideas or communicate to my team. Do you have any suggestions to ensure that I can get acknowledged for my ideas without seeming pushy or selfish?

Signed,
Needs Credit

DEAR NEEDS CREDIT,

You'd be amazed at how many books, articles, and resources are written on this very topic. Taking and getting credit for one's ideas is a problem that exists in many workgroups and industries.

First, consider your delivery method. The most effective communicators are those who speak with confidence. Be direct in your approach and be sure to speak loudly and clearly so all members can hear you easily. Share your ideas with conviction. If you do not believe in them, how do you expect others to? However, speaking a lot or using an intense or harassing tone may not get you the results you want. Spend time evaluating your style and noting areas where you can improve to get your desired result.

Now, consider the delivery method or techniques used by those who are recognized for their ideas. What is their style like? How is it received by other staff? How is it received by you? Pay particular attention to gender, age, and seniority dynamics. Is it that certain levels, genders, etc. get more recognition for their ideas? Exploring how others communicate and receive results will help you to better understand the styles that work for your team.

You should also consider the culture of your team and your workplace. If it is a competitive work environment, you may need to stand up for yourself and defend your ideas. For instance, if someone takes your idea and sells it as their own, it may be helpful to note how much you appreciate their support of your idea and their ability to build upon that foundation. If your workplace is focused on collaboration however, this approach may make you seem as though you are not a team player. Find ways to acknowledge the ideas of the team and the unique contributions of each member. Modeling the behavior you would like to see others display may be the first step to getting the results you want.

Make sure that your boss or direct supervisor knows your contributions. You may assume that just because that person was present in the meeting that they were actively noting your contributions. Unfortunately, your boss probably has many other things on his or her mind, so do not be afraid to mention your ideas.

If group meetings do not present ideal times for your ideas to be acknowledged, create your own system of sharing and getting credit for your ideas. When you come up with a great idea, share it with those around you. This will help you craft and perfect your idea and help to show numerous individuals that this was your idea. Self-marketing your ideas may also help you to build the confidence necessary to bring up your ideas in a clear and confident manner during larger staff meetings.

KATRINA DAVY is a Santa Monica-based professional career counselor who holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia universities. Send your questions to newshrink@gmail.com. All questions are kept anonymous; let us help you with your life matters! Visit us online at www.newshrink.com.



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CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL

The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA. Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It's my party, I'll whine if I want to

I LIKE BEING THE CENTER OF ATTENTION, just not on purpose. As such, parties have long played a complicated role in my life.

Eating cake is a tremendous way to pass the time, but I prefer that the name written on it be someone's other than mine. I'm always surprised when I hear of people throwing themselves parties because I turn bright red at the idea of asking people to fête me, and would agonize in advance about the possibility of no-shows. Clearly I should be investing any disposable income into daily affirmations with Stuart Smalley.

However, the anniversary of my daughter's birth, which will be formally observed for the second time next month, is something that genuinely merits a celebration. Except for that one hour when my ob-gyn shut off the epidural (claiming, rather unjustly, that I wasn't feeling the urge to push hard enough), Aug. 9, 2008, was easily the happiest 24-hour period of my life, and one that I would eagerly recognize daily, particularly if it involved paper plates and throwaway utensils, and somehow didn't make me look like a groupie or stalker.

When looking for party invitations for little girls, the majority I came across reeked of princesses, precious gems and castles. But since my daughter mostly wears her tutu on her head and doesn't know royalty from her elbow (and actually doesn't even know her elbow yet), I figure the tiaras and scepters can wait.

Besides, I feel a little conflicted about the princess trend. A real-life one who got married in Sweden last month looked terribly awkward in her crown. And other modern-day aristocrats haven't become objects of my envy, either. Like the one who was mocked for getting fat, divorced and then was killed in a car chase. Or the one who was mocked for getting fat, divorced and then pathetically tried to make a fast buck by selling out her family connections. Or the one who mocked others for not being elegant enough, divorced and then sang without an ounce of intentional irony about having class.

So which princesses are little girls supposed to emulate at their birthday parties instead, exactly? The martyr who mopped floors alongside rats? The slutty one who shacked up with seven men? Or the lazy one who slept all day long? The Fresh Prince of Bel Air might actually be a better role model.

But sometimes it's just the basic party rituals that turn me off.

It must have been somewhere in between my rotation as the A/V monitor in first grade with the uncomfortable task of turning out the lights before the class would sing happy birthday to me, and the dread of kids misbehaving at my bat mitzvah (which would have understandably triggered the rabbi's ire), and the fear of my husband's friends not RSVP-ing to our wedding (which would have understandably triggered my mom's exasperation), that I probably started feeling anxious about being the guest of honor.

My dad always compares weddings to buying a Mercedes, cruising around in it for a day and then driving it off a cliff. When I got engaged he teased that the wedding reception might be in my parents' kitchen, and tuna fish (Bumble Bee, not blue fin) would be the main course. (I was all for it, and that I didn't bristle at the suggestion undoubtedly disappointed him.) While my sister's nuptials were being planned, he kept threatening to put coded chits in each invitation: one good for a free drink, one for the ceremony only, another just for the cocktail hour, and one good for dinner, but not dessert.

I was once invited to a wedding for dessert only. In other words, I was on the B list; but in actuality, I was on the C list because I received the invite only two weeks before the event — a clear signal I was included only after others declined. I have little shame and went anyway. After all, cake is cake.

Thankfully I was spared a bachelorette party in my honor, and cringed a tiny bit at the notion of my bridal shower. Not because it wasn't lovely (which it was), or because I'm ungrateful (which I'm not), but because sitting in front of an audience on a makeshift stage and opening gifts while acting uniquely thrilled upon each reveal is challenging. I can fake it with the best of 'em, but feigning surprise when receiving something that I registered for that I already knew from e-mail alerts had been purchased was even hard for a professional BS-er such as myself.

As party preparations for my daughter continue, I struggle a little with the planning spirit in my heart, which seems to fluctuate somewhere in between Jackie Gleason's character in "The Toy" and Judd Nelson's dad from "The Breakfast's Club" ("I got a carton of cigarettes. The old man grabbed me and said, 'Hey, smoke up, Johnny.'").

Thankfully it's just her second birthday, so if I can manage to do something in between those two extremes it'll still be years before she'll be eligible for a party hang-up, which is the complex that keeps on giving.

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

The Q Line

The future of Expo

Santa Monica city officials recently have been debating what shape stations for the Expo Light Rail line should take. Some feel they shouldn't be grand statements, while others feel that the stations should closely reflect the city's unique vibe.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What features and services do you think the stations should include?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.


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Study: Pot legalization has ups, downs

BROOKE DONALD
Associated Press Writer

SAN JOSE A new study says legalizing marijuana in California could result in additional revenue for local governments and free up law enforcement to prosecute other crimes.

But the report by the state's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office cautions that any potential windfall could be offset by a number of factors, including how the federal government responds and how local governments choose to tax and regulate sales and distribution.

Voters will decide Proposition 19 in November. The initiative would allow adults to cultivate marijuana and enable local governments to permit and tax marijuana sales.

Supporters say legalization would be a boon for state and local coffers.

But critics argue it would increase pot usage and crime. They also dispute any positive economic effects.

Authorities investigate Gibson's ex for extortion

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES Sheriff's detectives are investigating a claim that Mel Gibson's ex-girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva engaged in attempted extortion against the actor-director, an official said Wednesday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department spokesman Steve Whitmore declined to provide further details about the claim by lawyers for Gibson or say when the inquiry might conclude.

"Detectives will follow the investigation wherever it leads," Whitmore said.

Grigorieva's spokesman Stephen Jaffe denied any wrongdoing on the part of his client, a Russian singer.

"To specifically address the allegations, my client, Ms. Grigorieva, has repeatedly stated that there is no credible evidence whatsoever of extortion by her, and she stands steadfastly by that statement," Jaffe said.

Detectives interviewed Grigorieva, 40, earlier this month after she claimed Gibson abused her during an incident in January.

Detectives received CDs of audio recordings that will be evaluated for a potential case against Gibson.

Authorities also attended a hearing last week in the former couple's custody dispute over their 8-month-old daughter. Records in that case are sealed.

Whitmore offered no timetable on when the case might be presented to the district attorney's office, which will decide whether to pursue charges against either Gibson or Grigorieva.

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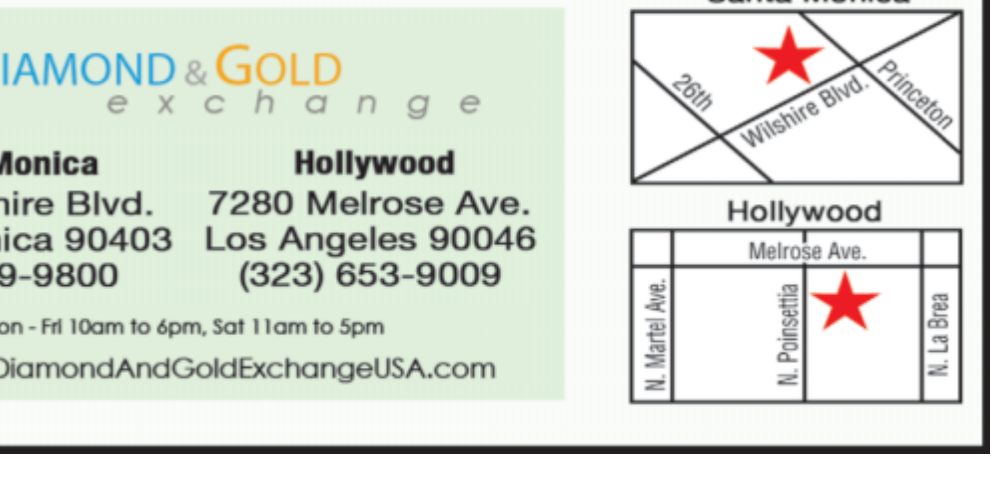
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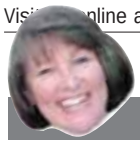
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Play Time
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Fishburne riveting in 'Thurgood'

AT THE SAME MOMENT THAT SUPREME Court nominee Elena Kagan was being chided by the Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee for having clerked for the suddenly demonic "activist judge," Thurgood Marshall, Marshall himself, in the person of actor Laurence Fishburne, was enthralling audiences in a dynamic nearly two-hour monologue in "Thurgood" at the Geffen Playhouse in Westwood.

Fishburne, in his bravura performance, takes us through the life of this iconic lawyer and judge, from his terrifying experiences with Jim Crow racism, through his most pivotal legal cases in the fight for civil rights, to his history-making service on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Folksy and charming, Fishburne begins with a litany of the "distinctive names" in his family, such as Isaiah Olivebranch Williams and someone named "Fearless." Marshall himself was named Thoroughgood, but by the time he got to second grade he had decided it was too long to spell, and so he changed it to Thurgood.

Marshall was born in Baltimore, which at that time was called "up South" because it was where slaves from the Deep South went when they ran away from their owners. Marshall's great grandfather was one of those slaves.

His father was a railroad porter and for a time Marshall worked as a dining car waiter, but his ambition was always focused on the law, with special emphasis on the Constitution. (As a child, he had been "punished" for misbehavior by having to memorize a portion of that document, and by the time he finished high school he could recite it all by heart.)

At Lincoln College, an "all Negro college with all white professors," he was pinned to seven coeds at the same time. But he also spent time with his friend and classmate Langston Hughes, the poet and writer who made his mark during the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. It was Hughes who inspired in Marshall the belief that "one person can make a difference."

Having graduated from Lincoln, Marshall applied to the University of Maryland's Law School, but was turned down because of his race. So he went to Howard University, which was known as "the dummies' retreat" and graduated at the top of his class. (Many years later, as a famous practicing lawyer, Marshall had the satisfaction of winning the case that forced the University of Maryland to accept Negro students.) But it was at Howard that he met the man who would be his lifelong friend and mentor, Professor Charlie Houston. It was Houston who taught him that "the law is a weapon," and that he could use it to obtain justice. "A man who is not a social engineer," Houston said, "is a social parasite."

And so Marshall used his love affair with the 14th Amendment to win some of his most outstanding cases. It is the 14th Amendment that broadens the definition of "citizenship" to include blacks and introduces both the Due Process Clause, which requires substantive due process before an individual or corporation can be deprived of life, liberty or property, and the Equal Protection Clause, which provides for equal protection for all citizens under the law. It was by citing this amendment that Marshall won first, equal pay for his mother, a Negro school teacher, and later, the famous Brown v Board of Education case by which the U.S. Supreme Court mandated the end of racial segregation in the schools.

As Chief Counsel for NAACP, Marshall traveled some 100,000 miles a year to change the laws that prevented blacks from voting. "Without the ballot a man is not a citizen," he insisted. And as a civil rights activist he won his first case before the Supreme Court at the age of 32.

Appointed Solicitor General by President Lyndon Baines Johnson in 1965, he served only two years before LBJ tapped him to be the first African-American to sit as an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. He held that post for 24 years.

All this history is presented with much emotion and humor by Fishburne, and even though the setting by Allen Moyer is relatively static, the story is consistently engrossing. Director Leonard Foglia keeps Fishburne bouncing around, modulating his enthusiasms and disappointments and rendering Marshall's actual arguments simply and effectively.

But the prize goes to playwright George Stevens, Jr., who authored this demanding stage piece. Stevens won an Emmy for the miniseries "Separate But Equal," which told the Brown v Board of Education story, and is the founder of the American Film Institute, and creator and producer of the Kennedy Center Honors. He has won 12 Emmys, eight awards from the Writers Guild of America, two Peabody awards, and was named by President Obama as co-chair of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities.

"Thurgood" is a must-see for history buffs. It will continue at the Geffen Playhouse, 10886 Le Conte Ave., in Westwood, Tuesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. through Aug. 8. Call the boxoffice at (310) 208-5454 daily between noon and 6 p.m. to order tickets.

CYNTHIA CITRON can be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.

Storm troopers ready to invade Comic-Con

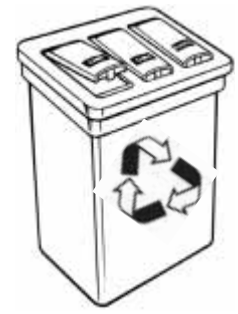
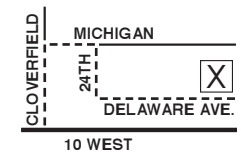
SANDY COHEN
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES On the outside, they all look the same: White armor, white helmets, black blaster rifles. Imperial soldiers from a galaxy far, far away, they're loyal only to the Empire and recognizable everywhere as "Star Wars" storm troopers.

They are the 501st Legion, an international, all-volunteer costuming group. And this week, they're coming to Comic-Con.

"It's a major event for us every year," says Christi Ladnier, 42, a mother of three who will be wearing an eight-years-in-the-making homemade Boba Fett costume.

At least 200 members of the group — which boasts nearly 5,000 members in 40 countries — will be in full costume at the annual pop-culture festival, held Thursday through Sunday at the San Diego Convention Center.

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Metro Briefs
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Metro Rail – Celebrating 20 Years, One Billion Riders
The Metro Blue Line opened on July 14, 1990, bringing a new era of rail transit back to LA County after a 27-year absence. Metro Rail has expanded since that time to a five-line system serving 300,000 passengers daily. More than one billion passengers have ridden on Metro Rail during the past 20 years.

Public Hearing On Metro Bus Service
Get involved in improving transit service in your community. Metro Westside/Central is holding a public hearing Wednesday, August 11 at 5pm at the La Cienega Tennis Center, 325 S La Cienega Boulevard, Beverly Hills on proposed bus service changes. For information, visit *metro.net*

Wilshire Bus Lane, Subway Deadlines Near
July 26 is the deadline for submitting comments on the environmental study for constructing peak-hour bus lanes on Wilshire Boulevard between Santa Monica and Downtown LA. Meanwhile, Metro is putting the finishing touches on alternatives for its Westside Subway Extension project expected to be approved this October. Find out more about both projects at *metro.net/projects*.

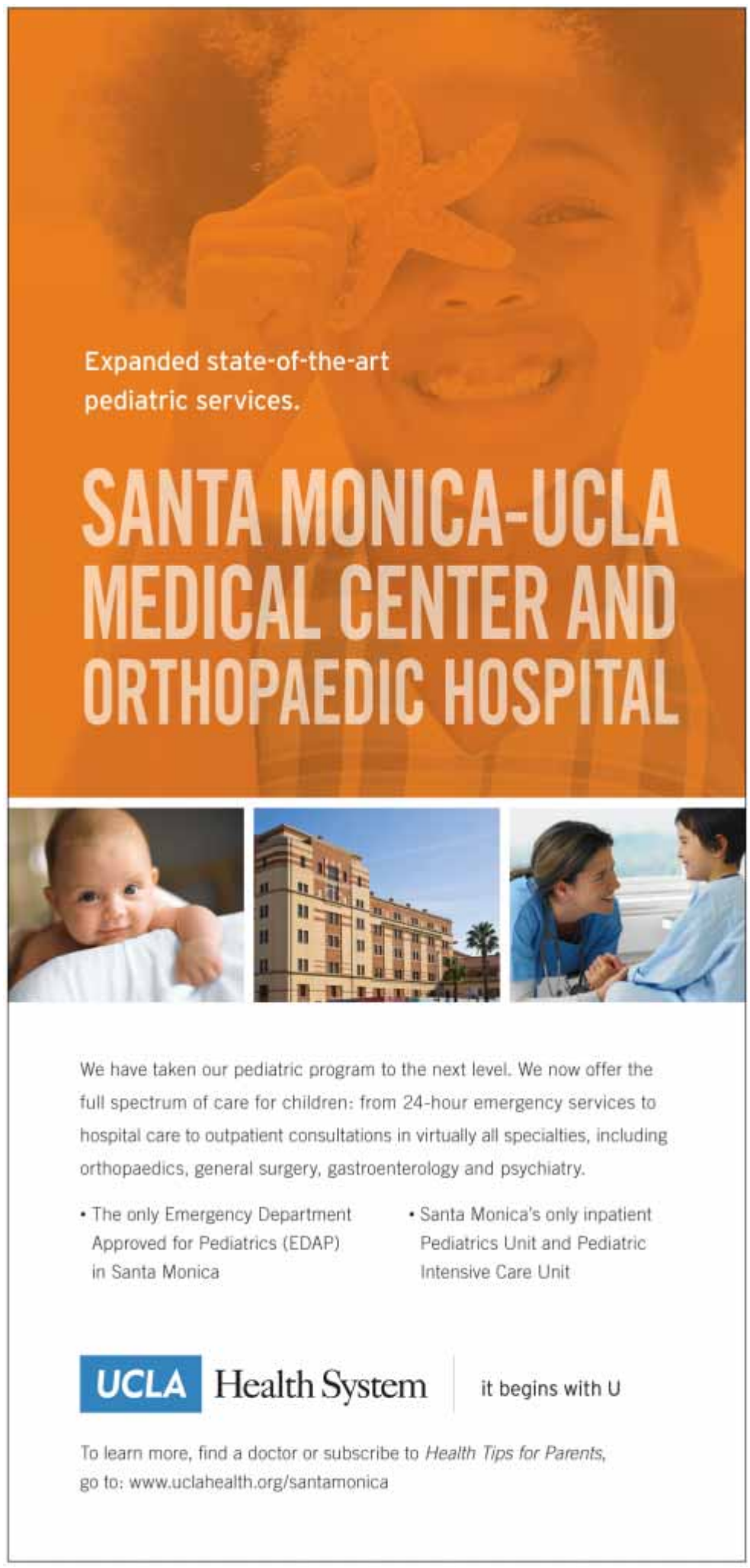
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INVESTIGATION

FROM PAGE 1

he acted responsibly to break up the fight once he was sure it was safe to intervene, after about a minute had passed.

After learning a fight was taking place in the alley, he said he left his youth center and rushed to the scene, where a crowd of about 40 students had gathered around a black youth and a Latino youth, who were preparing to fight.

He said he was unable to immediately step in because the large crowd presented a potential danger.

One of the fight participants was known to have affiliated with a gang in Santa Monica, according to police records, and de la Torre said at the time of the fight he believed "the potential for weapons [and] the potential for an escalation of violence [was] real," in part because the spectators were "hostile and polarized along racial lines."

The child endangerment investigation and the potential charges, de la Torre said, are "a political attack disguised as a public safety concern."

"There's certain elements in the police department who don't like accountability and who want to ensure that people like myself who speak out against abuse are silenced," he said.

Trisler denied the accusation that politics played a part in the investigation.

"It's us being given information regarding an incident. We did follow up [and] felt that there was enough information to present the case to the District Attorney's Office," he said.

The SMPD and de la Torre, though, have clashed before, most notably in 2005 when the police accused him of bringing former gang members onto Samohi's campus in a misguided attempt to diffuse racial tensions after fights had broken out at the school. De la Torre denied the individuals were gang affiliated.

In a 44-page report on the child endangerment investigation that is on file at Los Angeles County Superior Court, SMPD Sgt. David Thomas describes de la Torre as someone who "condones youth settling their differences by facilitation and affording them an opportunity to 'fight it out' in a boxing ring" and who may have let his "old school" mindset take charge when he observed the fight in the alley breaking out.

Thomas based his description of de la Torre on conversations with the school board member and former SMPD Capt. Alex Padilla, among others.

Instead of taking action to stop the fight, de la Torre "merely observes the fight without intervention, and watches the fight develop, continue, and escalate in its injury risk potential," Thomas wrote.

One of the two male participants in the fight received a bloody lip in the incident, according to police, but neither was seriously injured. Neither of the boys has been charged with a crime.

In the report, Thomas also faults de la Torre for failing to call 911 when he learned a fight was taking place. According to official records, de la Torre told police he asked a youth center staff member to call police but no call was ever made. Thomas also includes in his report an excerpt from a recorded conversation in which de la Torre is quoted as saying, "The bottom line, it happened, it went down, and if police would have gotten there, at a minimum both kids would have gotten arrested … . You tell me that's more of a solution than what actually happened?"

De la Torre, though, said it was "a ridiculous claim" to assert that he would condone organized fist fights as a means to solve disputes and cited his record as a peace activist.

"My old school ways are very well documented and they have more to do to with consistent organizing for peace and teaching non violence to youth," he said.

> **"I DID THE BEST THAT I COULD WITH THE INFORMATION THAT I HAD GOING INTO THAT CONFLICT."**
>
> **Oscar de la Torre,**
> School board member

In one of the videos of the fight which Thomas describes in detail in his report, the fight ends after 59 seconds with de la Torre seen in the frame standing between the two fighters.

Thomas stated in his report: "de la Torre finally intervenes at the very end, when serious bodily injury was highly likely due to [one of the participants] being thrown to the pavement."

De la Torre, though, said he played a key role in ending the fight and said it might have continued had he not stepped in. After the fighters separated, he said he asked the two boys to shake hands, which they agreed to do, in order to diffuse tensions. Neither video tape, apparently, captured the events that took place after the fight ended.

"I did the best that I could with the information that I had going into that conflict," de la Torre said.

He added: "If stopping a fight is worse than ignoring the conflict, then I don't know where that leaves us."

In attempting to make his case, Thomas also argues that de la Torre had special responsibility for one of the teenagers involved in the fight because the individual was a regular participant in a mentoring program at the center. The report says de la Torre, "in his adult and mentor capacity of the PYFC, had de facto care/custody of at least one minor present" and so was particularly obligated to prevent the delinquency.

Police executed a search warrant at the PYFC on June 30, court documents show, and obtained records showing one of the boys involved in the fight had a long attendance history at the center.

PYFC's de la Torre, though, said that as executive director of the PYFC he is involved mainly with administration and has little direct contact with youths who attend mentoring programs.

Both minors who were involved in the fight were suspended from Samohi. Since both live outside of Santa Monica and attend school on a permit, the school district placed the boys on probation, which means they could lose permission to attend Samohi if they engage in a future fight.

It's unclear when prosecutors will make a decision about whether to charge de la Torre. An attempt this week to reach the prosecutor who received the SMPD's evidence, Amy-Hannah Broersma, was not successful.

Meanwhile, de la Torre said he's retained a lawyer and may consider legal action against City Hall and the SMPD in connection with the investigation. He said he believes Thomas has "a personal agenda" and is working "in collaboration with other city and potentially school officials to accomplish a political goal of defaming my character and discrediting the youth center."

"I love the city of Santa Monica and it would hurt me tremendously to take legal action against the city that I love, but this malicious prosecution and this abuse of police investigative powers must be confronted and justice and the truth will prevail," he said.

nickt@smdp.com

COACH
FROM PAGE 1

the past five years. Depa resigned in June for personal reasons, Bruce said.

"Basically, I felt that I did all that I could do there," Depa said. "I'm very thankful to St. Monica. In 2004 I was a 27-year-old basketball coach from Louisiana … . St. Monica was the one school giving me the opportunity to coach."

After inheriting a team that went 9-12 during the 2004-05 season, Depa led the Mariners to an overall record of 81-55 over five seasons. His last campaign at St. Monica proved to be his most successful, as the team won its first Camino Real League title in 20 years.

"Tony was very consistent in the way he worked with his kids," Bruce said. "The school benefited a great deal from the passion he brought to the team."

Depa, who was also a geometry teacher at St. Monica, said he is "exploring other opportunities as to what I do for my day job." He is currently being considered for the head coaching position for the boys' basketball team at McKinley High School in Baton Rouge, La.

news@smdp.com

Basketball camp

Former St. Monica coach Tony Depa will hold his second annual "Hoops by the Beach" Basketball Camp from Aug. 2-3 at Venice Beach. The clinic, which is open to boys and girls entering grades four through nine, is free for the first 30 applicants. To sign up or for more information, e-mail tonydepa@hotmail.com.

DAILY PRESS

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PARKS
FROM PAGE 3

January of next year.

The City Council in April hired James Corner for $3.2 million to design the parks following a competitive interview process that included an outside panel of design and planning professionals and city staff.

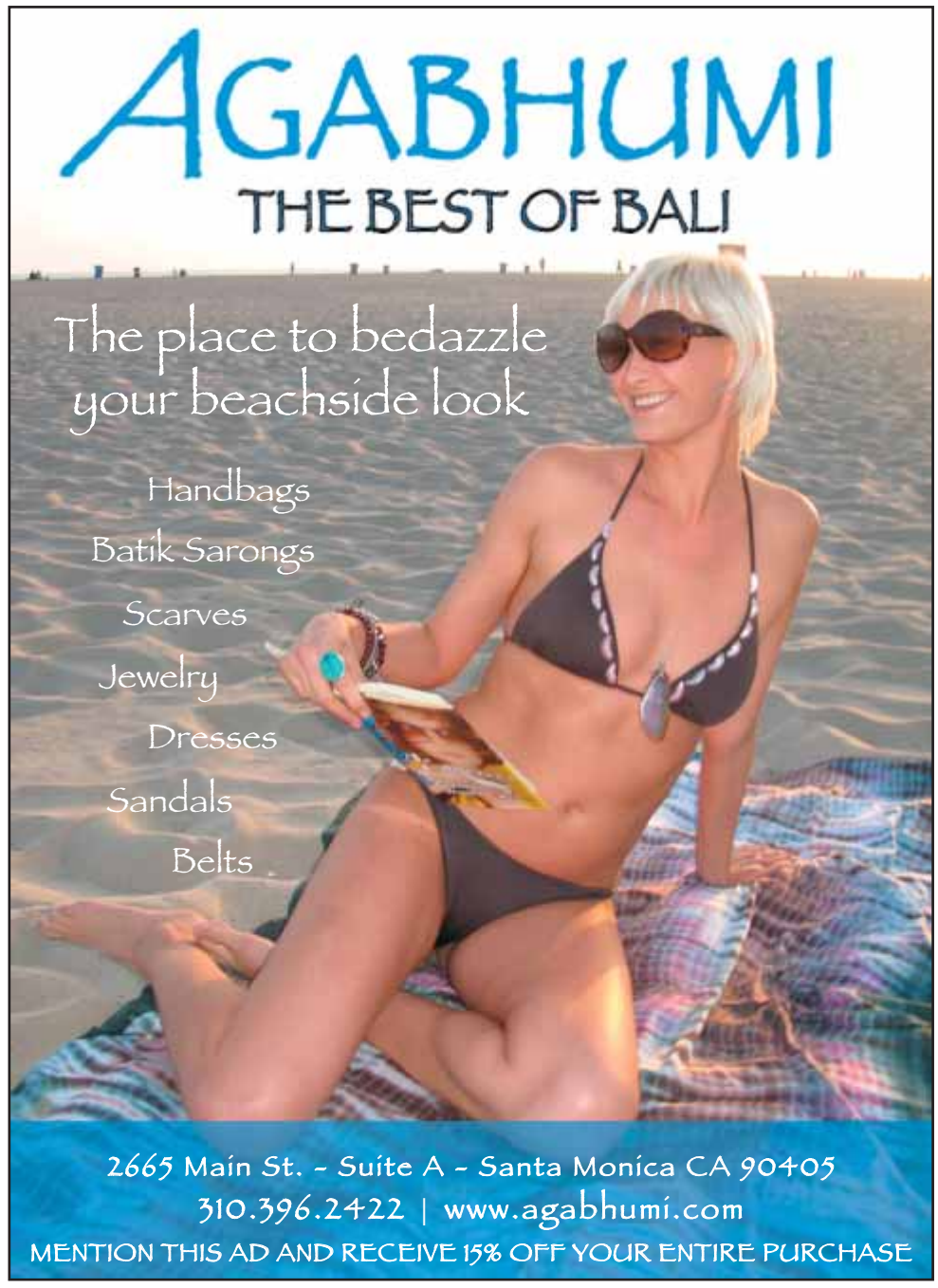
One of the parks will be called Palisades Garden Walk and will be located directly across from City Hall at the former RAND Corp. site. It will encompass six acres and has been described as a place "for informal play, picnicking, strolling, jogging, sitting and viewing." The second park is expected to be one acre and will be called Town Square Park. It will replace City Hall's lawn and has been described as "the central focus for community and social activities and would be a forum for political debate and social gathering — a democratic space."

Residents who attend Saturday's workshop are encouraged to bring comfortable shoes, sunscreen and a hat for protection from the sun's rays. Parking will be validated at the Civic Center Parking Structure (333 Civic Center Dr.). Those wishing to take the Big Blue Bus can hop on lines 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10 or Rapid 3. A bike valet will also be available for free.

For more information, call (310) 458-8310 or e-mail ccs@smgov.net.

City Hall has also set up a website (www.smciviccenterparks.com) that features information on the proposed parks and the Civic Center Specific Plan, as well as a survey.

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Possible storm stops work on Gulf oil leak

COLLEEN LONG & MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS A storm brewing in the Caribbean brought the deep-sea effort to plug the ruptured oil well to a near standstill Wednesday just as BP was getting tantalizingly close to going in for the kill.

Work on the relief well — now just days from completion — was suspended, and the cap that has been keeping the oil bottled up since last week may have to be reopened, allowing crude to gush into the sea again for days, said retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, the government's point man on the crisis.

"This is necessarily going to be a judgment call," said Allen, who was waiting to see how the storm developed before deciding whether to order any of the ships and crews stationed some 50 miles out in the Gulf of Mexico to head for safety.

The cluster of thunderstorms passed over Haiti and the Dominican Republic on Wednesday, and forecasters said the system would probably move into the Gulf over the weekend. They gave it a 50 percent chance of becoming a tropical depression or a tropical storm by Friday.

Crews had planned to spend Wednesday and Thursday reinforcing with cement the last few feet of the relief tunnel that will be used to pump mud into the gusher and kill it once and for all. But BP put the task on hold and instead placed a temporary plug called a storm packer deep inside the tunnel, in case it has to be abandoned until the storm passes.

"What we didn't want to do is be in the middle of an operation and potentially put the relief well at some risk," BP vice president Kent Wells said.

If the work crews are evacuated, it could be two weeks before they can resume the effort to kill the well. That would upset BP's timetable, which called for finishing the relief tunnel by the end of July and plugging the blown-out well by early August.

Scientists have been scrutinizing underwater video and pressure data for days, trying to determine if the capped well is holding tight or in danger of rupturing and causing an even bigger disaster. If the storm prevents BP from monitoring the well, the cap may simply be reopened, allowing oil to spill into the water, Allen said.

BP and government scientists were meeting to discuss whether the cap could be monitored from shore.

As the storm drew closer, boat captains hired by BP for skimming duty were sent home and told they wouldn't be going back out for five or six days, said Tom Ard, president of the Orange Beach Fishing Association in Alabama.

In Florida, crews removed booms intended to protect waterways in the Panhandle from oil. High winds and storm surge could carry the booms into sensitive wetlands.

Also, Shell Oil began evacuating employees out in the Gulf.

Even if the storm does not hit the area directly, it could affect the effort to contain the oil and clean it up. Hurricane Alex stayed 500 miles away last month, yet skimming in Alabama, Mississippi and Florida was curtailed for nearly a week.

The relief tunnel extends about two miles under the seabed and is about 50 to 60 feet vertically and four feet horizontally from the ruptured well. BP plans to insert a final string of casing, or drilling pipe, cement it into place, and give it up to a week to set, before attempting to punch through to the blown-out well and kill it.

In other spill-related news:

— Four oil giants — BP was not among them — agreed to pool $1 billion to form a new company that would respond to offshore oil spills. The company would be able to mobilize within 24 hours to capture and contain spills at depths of up to 10,000 feet, according to the American Petroleum Institute.

— The Times of London quoted unidentified BP sources as saying the company's beleaguered CEO, Tony Hayward, planned to step down by September after a series of PR blunders, including yacht racing during the spill and saying he wanted his life back. But BP said Hayward still had the full support of its board.

BP's broken well spewed somewhere between 94 million and 184 million gallons into the Gulf before the cap was attached. The crisis — the biggest offshore oil spill in U.S. history — unfolded after the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon rig exploded April 20, killing 11 workers.

Bernanke: Economy has weakened; stocks slump

BERNARD CONDON & STEPHEN BERNARD
AP Business Writers

NEW YORK Stocks fell sharply Wednesday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke confirmed investors' fears that the economy has weakened. Interest rates dropped in the Treasury market as investors sought safer places for their money.

Bernanke told a congressional committee that the economy is "unusually uncertain." He said the economy is fragile, but he did not forecast that it would fall back into recession.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which was modestly higher before Bernanke's prepared remarks, fell 109 points as investors absorbed his assessment of the economy, and his statement that the Fed is ready to take action if the economy worsens.

Bernanke's comments, part of his semiannual report to Congress, weren't surprising given the disappointing economic reports and corporate earnings numbers released in recent weeks. But they were enough to upset investors who have grown increasingly nervous about the state of the recovery. Some investors may have been hoping for a more upbeat reading from the Fed chairman.

The Fed is still expecting the economy to expand this year, but the central bank has lowered its forecast for growth.

Oliver Pursche, executive vice president at Gary Goldberg Financial Services, said investors took Bernanke's comments as "not exactly a ra-ra USA type of endorsement."

Craig Peckham, market strategist at Jefferies & Co., said stocks fell not because of anything Bernanke said, but what he didn't say about any plans to stimulate the economy. Although Bernanke said the Fed was "prepared to take further policy actions as needed," he also said, "we are not prepared to take any specific steps in the near term" because the Fed is still evaluating the economy.

Peckham said, "The market expected that we'd see more sign of monetary easing in the testimony. But that didn't happen." Monetary easing would include steps to make credit more available or encourage banks to lend more.

The market fluctuated for much of the day on another mixed batch of earnings reports. John Merrill, chief investment officer of Tanglewood Wealth Management in Houston said the day was like many others recently: Very little news but lots of professional traders reacting to it.

"Bernanke said he wants to collect more data before doing anything, and that's just fine. But traders are impatient. They got a 'buy' button and a 'sell' button and they're going to do do one or the other," Merrill said.

The Dow fell 109.43, or 1.1 percent, to 10,120.53. The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 13.89, or 1.3 percent, to 1,069.59. The Nasdaq composite index lost 35.16, or 1.6 percent, and fell to 2,187.33.

Two stocks fell for every one that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Consolidated volume came to 4.8 billion shares, up from Tuesday's 4.7 billion.

Treasury prices surged and their yields fell as investors sought out the safety of government debt after Bernanke's testimony. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which helps set rates on mortgages and other kinds of loans, fell to 2.88 percent from 2.96 percent late Tuesday.

Investors have been selling stocks since late April on a combination of weak economic indicators and disappointing earnings reports. The Dow, which reached a 2010 high of 11,205.03 on April 26, has fallen 10 percent as investors have seized on any piece of bad news and shrugged off more positive signs about the economy.

In the past few days, companies' revenue figures have become a culprit. Although companies including IBM Corp. and General Electric Co. have beat analysts' second-quarter earnings estimates, their revenue has not met expectations and investors have been selling. The belief in the market is that companies aren't getting the strong sales needed to fuel the economic recovery.

"The numbers aren't bleak but there's no top-line growth, and that's scaring people. There's a realization that the economy is stuck in slow growth for a year or two," said Brian Wenzinger, a portfolio manager at Aronson-Johnson-Ortiz in Philadelphia.

Stocks fell across the market Wednesday. Of the few stocks in the S&P 500 that rose, most were companies that had upbeat earnings news Wednesday or late Tuesday.

Pet owners paying for high-tech veterinary care

VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK Brute, a German shepherd, lay anesthetized on an operating table, his hairy chest under a plastic cover and his powerful paws taped immobile.

"Here comes the wire up the artery!" said Dr. Chick Weisse, who infused the dog's cancerous liver with chemotherapy via a catheter at the century-old Animal Medical Center in Manhattan in an effort to "buy him some time."

Brute was home in days, the cancer at bay a while longer — perhaps eight months. The cost: $2,000.

Around the nation, veterinarians are practicing ever more advanced medicine on the nation's 77 million dogs, 90 million cats and a myriad other animals — treatments that vie with the best of human medicine. The driving force is "the changing role of the pet in our society," said Dr. Patty Khuly, a veterinarian at Miami's Sunset Animal Clinic.

The bottom line for many people, she said, is that investing in a pet's life "improves the quality of a human life immeasurably more than, say, buying a luxury car."

In a radiation suite at The Animal Medical Center, a black cat named Muka was undergoing a CT scan for a lung problem. A medical team hovered over the tranquilized animal, injecting contrast dye and poring over digital readouts to diagnose the problem: chronic pleural fibrosis.

The new, half-million-dollar Toshiba Aquilion — one of the latest, fastest 3-D imaging scanners — was a gift from an owner whose pet was saved at The AMC, a not-for-profit research and teaching facility. The AMC offers 24-hour emergency care using once-unthinkable procedures like heart surgeries, MRIs and ultrasounds. It has a staff of 81 vets, including 27 certified in fields such as radiology, endoscopy, neurology, cardiology and oncology.

They train 18 interns and 24 residents, including two from Italy and one from Croatia this year.

Khuly, who has an MBA and a veterinary degree from the University of Pennsylvania, says more people have come to believe that investing in their pets' health enriches their own lives. And that, she says, has prompted young vets to enter specialty medicine.

The result is the kind of cutting-edge care The AMC gives to a mammoth Bernese mountain dog named Alpha for his lumbosacral disease, marked by excruciating back pain. He receives electrical neuromuscular stimulation via a light laser, is exercised on an underwater treadmill and lies under a heat pack.

Alpha comes in twice a week with his owner, Dr. Paul Greengard, winner of a 2000 Nobel Prize for research on the human nervous system.

Though many Americans don't get the kind of care their pets do, there are often no limits to what they'll do to save the animals — spending $12 billion last year paying veterinary bills, according to The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. That's about double what owners spent a decade earlier.

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

Man City has eye on Donovan

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

HARRISON, N.J. Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini may be interested in acquiring Landon Donovan from Major League Soccer and the Los Angeles Galaxy.

The 28-year-old midfielder had a successful 10-week loan to Everton last season and was the top American player at the World Cup with three goals.

"Donovan is a good player. Could be possible," Mancini said Wednesday ahead of his club's exhibition games against Sporting Lisbon and Thierry Henry's New York Red Bulls. "The market is open until the end of August. Could be."

MLS commissioner Don Garber said last week he doesn't intend to sell Donovan, the American career World Cup scoring leader with five goals.

Donovan agreed in December to a four-year contract with MLS that pays him a base salary this year of $2.05 million.

Speaking last weekend in Washington, D.C., Donovan said talk of a transfer was premature. He didn't object to Garber's remarks.

"If we need to have a discussion at some point, then we will," Donovan said. "But at this point that's his opinion. If I were the commissioner I would say the same thing."

Everton captain Phil Neville told Everton TV this month that "I've spoken to Landon and I know for a fact that he wants to come back here."

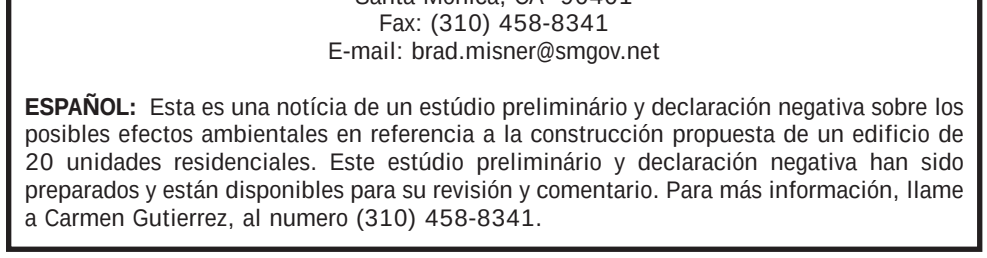
In a slow transfer market, wealthy Manchester City already has signed Yaya Toure, David Silva and Jerome Boateng. Mancini said the club is considering bids for Aston Villa midfielder James Milner and Inter Milan forward Mario Balotelli.

New York's game against Spurs on Thursday will mark Henry's debut with the club — his first match since France's first-round elimination at the World Cup.

"I'm trying to get back into shape. I didn't do a lot for the past two, three weeks," Henry said. "I'm not 100 percent, as you can imagine."

Tottenham is a North London rival of Arsenal, a club Henry helped to win Premier League titles in 2002 and 2004.

Having finished fourth last season, Spurs is preparing for the Champions League qualifying playoffs that begin Aug. 17-18. Earlier Thursday, the International Football Association Board extended its experiment with two extra officials.



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE 1800 STEWART STREET RESEARCH CAMPUS PROJECT

City of Santa Monica

The City of Santa Monica has prepared an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 1800 Stewart Street Research Campus Project. The City of Santa Monica has prepared this Notice of Intent to provide responsible agencies and other interested parties with information describing the proposal and its potential environmental effects. Environmental factors which would be potentially affected by the project include: Air Quality, Construction Effect, Hazards & Hazardous Materials, and Noise.

PROJECT APPLICANT: Agensys, Inc.

PROJECT LOCATION: 1800 Stewart Street, Santa Monica, CA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would include demolition of an existing two-story, L-shaped building on the project site, demolition of approximately half of an existing rectangular one-story warehouse building, and construction of a 162,413 square-foot research campus. The proposed facility would include corporate office, research and development (R&D), and manufacturing uses for Agensys, Inc., a bio-technology company.

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration on the proposed project may be reviewed at the following locations:

- City Planning Division Public Counter, 1685 Main Street, Room 111, Santa Monica, CA
- Office of the City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, CA
- Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA
- Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA
- Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica, CA
- Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA

REVIEW PERIOD: As specified by the State CEQA Guidelines, a 20-day public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration will commence on **July 22, 2010** and end on **August 10, 2010**. The City of Santa Monica welcomes agency and public comments on the document during this period. Any comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received within the public review period. **Comments may be submitted, in writing, by 5:30 p.m. on August 10, 2010** and addressed to:

Bradley J. Misner, AICP, Principal Planner
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Fax: (310) 458-8341
E-mail: brad.misner@smgov.net

ESPAÑOL: Esta es una notícia de un estúdio preliminário y declaración negativa sobre los posibles efectos ambientales en referencia a la construcción propuesta de un edificio de 20 unidades residenciales. Este estúdio preliminário y declaración negativa han sido preparados y están disponibles para su revisión y comentario. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutierrez, al numero (310) 458-8341.

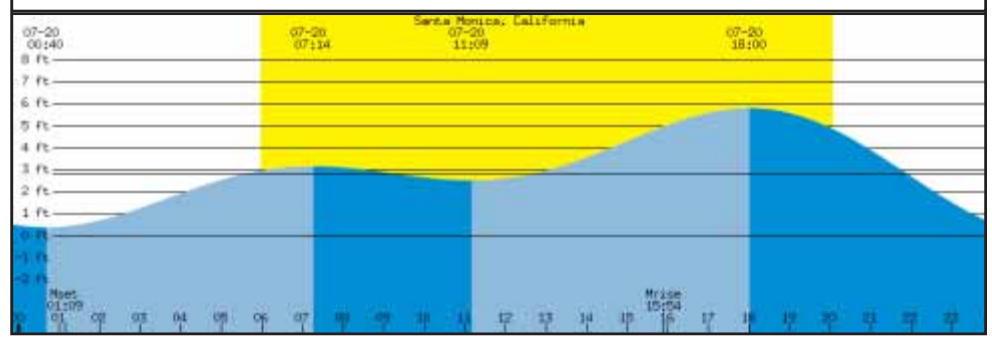


Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

Swell Forecast
Should still see a good amount of southerly swell, around head high at south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis
This swell should back off to chest high.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **July 15, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 38 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation; simplehuman; SIMA

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(323) 466-FILM

Billy Wilder Double Feature: Sunset Boulevard (NR) 1hr 50min Stalag 17 (NR) 2hrs 0min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Get Him to the Greek (Digital Presentation) (R) 1hr 49min
2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

The Karate Kid (PG) 2hrs 20min
12:05pm, 3:15pm, 6:20pm, 9:25pm

The Kids Are All Right (AMC INDEPENDENT) (R) 1hr 44min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

The Kids Are All Right (AMC INDEPENDENT; Digital Presentation) (R) 1hr 44min
12:00pm, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 289-4262

Despicable Me (PG) 1hr 35min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:10pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm

Despicable Me 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 35min
12:10pm, 2:40pm, 5:10pm, 7:45pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
12:00pm, 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Salt (PG-13) 1hr 39min
12:01am

The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG) 1hr 51min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Toy Story 3 in Disney Digital 3D (RealD 3D) (G) 1hr 49min
11:20am, 1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (Digital Presentation) (PG-13) 2hrs 4min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm, 10:15pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 394-9741

Cyrus (R) 1hr 46min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

South of the Border (NR) 1hr 33min
9:40pm

Restrepo (R) 1hr 49min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 9:50pm

Winter's Bone (R) 1hr 55min
1:50pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm

The Girl Who Played with Fire (R) 2hrs 24min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Grown Ups (PG-13) 1hr 42min
12:00pm, 2:35pm, 5:00pm, 7:35pm, 10:05pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:00am, 2:30pm, 6:00pm, 9:30pm

Knight and Day (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:05am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm

The Last Airbender 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 43min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:35pm

Predators (R) 1hr 47min
11:25am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG-13) 2hrs 4min
1:15pm, 4:15pm, 7:15pm

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

Do nothing, Cancer

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Seek out new ways of thinking and better ideas. For some of you, this search entails finding experts. For others, surfing the Net might work. Creativity starts to flow, and you cannot cap it! Tonight: Let the fun begin.

TAURUS (April 20-May 21)
★★★★ A partner or associate gives you his or her opinion, like it or not. A boss also might dominate more than in the recent past. Don't personalize what is happening; simply adjust to changing times. Tonight: Consider long-range options.

GEMINI (May 22-June 20)
★★★★★ Others want your feedback and your attention. You might feel as if they want a lot, considering what is on your plate. Your creativity might flatline as you seek solutions. Communication flourishes, in any case. Others listen to your ideas, as well as honor your boundaries. Tonight: Squeeze in as much as possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Go through each part of a plan carefully. A partner might seem inspired; a boss appears to be unpredictable. At the moment, your only feasible option is to interact without creating too much flak. Give yourself and others time to rethink your positions. Tonight: Make doing nothing OK.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Your natural joie de vivre comes out no matter what you do. Your commitment to living inspires many, but none as much as you. Don't push beyond your natural limits, even if you want to accomplish a lot more. Tonight: Add a much-desired item to your wardrobe.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your style of presentation makes a difference, and others respond. You might be wondering about a partner or associate who, at best, has been difficult. Mobilize your unusual energy. Tonight: Clear out a project.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Keep conversations flowing, even if you feel as if you want to close down. Your sense of direction emerges in a conversation. Many around you demonstrate an unusual ability to accept a new idea or technology. Tonight: Out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of the costs of continuing on the present path. You might be overwhelmed by various options, and cannot see each one's limitations and benefits. Brainstorm with a friend who always gives you powerful feedback. Tonight: Your treat. Make it OK to treat yourself too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Tap into your fiery energy, which might look like impulsiveness to many. Pressure builds at work with a boss or supervisor. If this person blows his or her cool, don't react. Give him or her space. This person's tune could change. Tonight: Only what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Give yourself permission not to react to a situation. Someone could be antagonized and lose his or her temper. Detach, and don't get personally involved. You also could find alternate ideas. A partner or associate has strong opinions. Tonight: A quiet dinner.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Willingly walk into a meeting. Though you might feel briefly discouraged, when others start opening up, sharing ideas and support, you feel encouraged. You inspire others as well. Sometimes being less specific leaves space for other ideas. Tonight: Acting as if the weekend is here.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Stay on top of work, and respond to a boss. Your instincts point to the correct direction or the way to phrase an important presentation. A partner or someone you could be tied to financially closes down again. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

Happy birthday

This year, you have spark and get-up-and-go. Once you are committed, you can clear out nearly any project or task. If not properly funneled, your energy could cause a problem. Be careful -- when you sit on anger, you could become more accident-prone. If you are single, you draw many people, especially through public commitments. Take your time getting to know a potential sweetie in this busy year. If you are attached, the two of you need to learn new ways of expressing frustration. Learn to be less judgmental with your sweetie. Walk in his or her shoes. He or she will start extending the same caring to you. SAGITTARIUS will pick up any slack at work.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



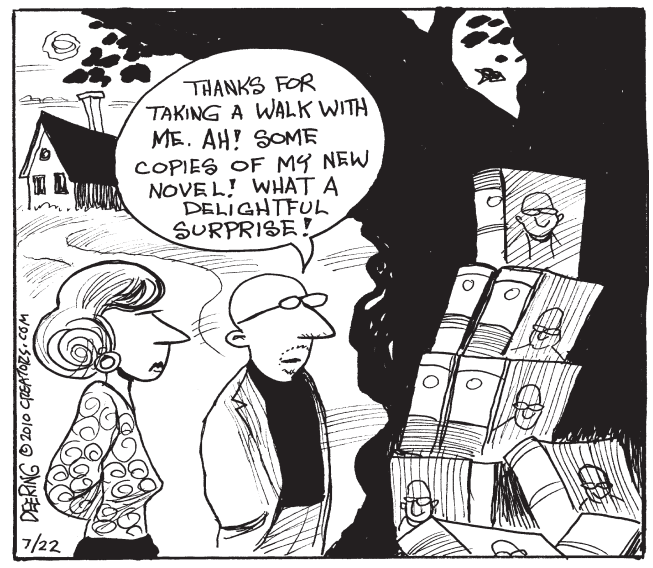
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



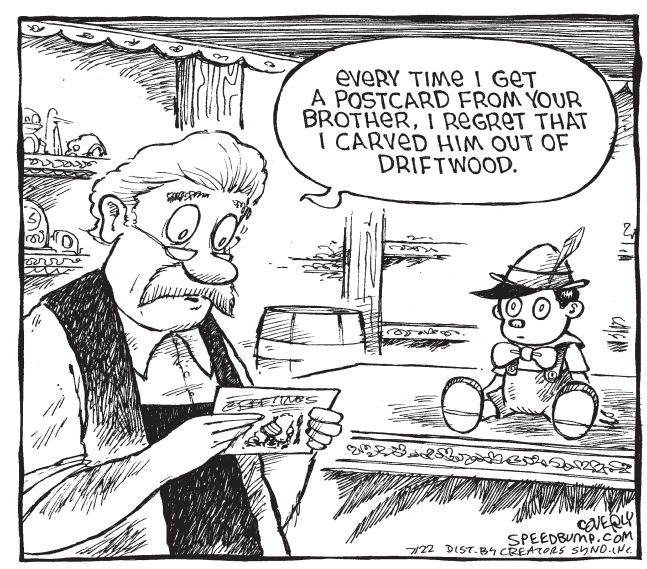
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Procrastination is a problem when it comes to doing my disaster plan. As a business owner I have a lot to do. It's not like a disaster is going to happen tomorrow. Besides, we have that new business pitch. I've been waiting for this to happen for a while now. I'll get the disaster plan finished eventually. Nothing to worry about, it'll happen.

Whether natural or man-made, at least one in four businesses affected by a disaster never reopen. Though emergencies are unpredictable, when you have a plan in place you can adapt, recover and stay in control.

It's never too late to protect your business until it is.

Make a plan.

READY.GOV

Ad Council
Ready Business

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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

ARITHMO™ CrossMath

+ × − ÷

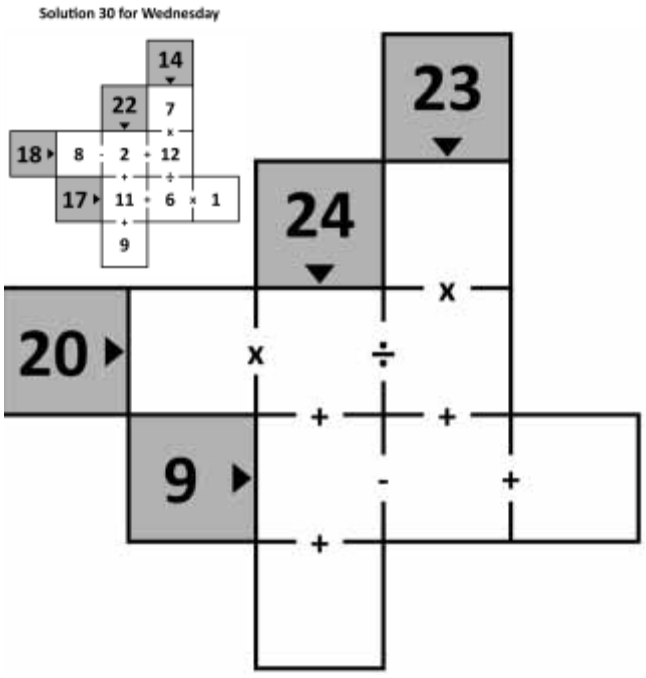
• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

Fill in the empty fields with the given numbers so when calculated together they satisfy all Equas in the gray boxes:

2, 5, 5, 6, 8, 8, 9, 11

Solution 30 for Wednesday





MYSTERY PHOTO

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Humorist Mort
5 Worry
10 Oil container
12 Fake gems
13 Famed lover
14 Rocker John
15 Simile center
16 Twister
18 Threat
20 Tennis divider
21 Breathe loudly
23 Auditing org.
24 "Troy" star
26 Lukas of "Witness"
28 Game for two
29 With 32-Across, "Jeopardy!" star
31 Broad st.
32 See 29-Across
36 Twister
39 Sought a seat
40 Playful mammal
41 Pal, to Pedro
43 Job reward
44 Gave out hands
45 Louver parts
46 "— bien!"

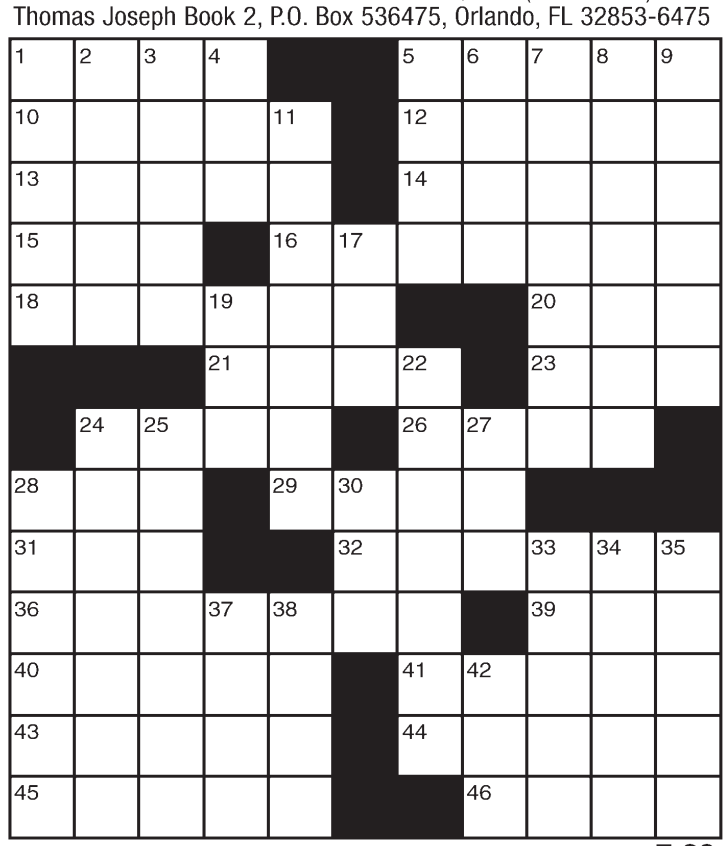
DOWN

1 "Beat it!"
2 Stood
3 Earthling
4 Director Spike
5 Blueprint number
6 Mural spot
7 Latvia neighbor
8 Penitent people
9 Beliefs
11 Musical composition
17 Longing
19 Fitting
22 Cormac McCarthy book
24 Crucial
25 Resistance to change
27 Chopper
28 Crocs' kin
30 Brit. co. abbr.
33 Prickly shrub
34 Golf feat
35 Shoelace problems
37 High home
38 God of war
42 Got together

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



7-22

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 12 18 28 36 43 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: $16M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 12 16 18 20 24 Meganumber: 7 Jackpot: $11M

FANTASY 5: 15 23 32 35 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 5 3 EVENING: 3 6 4

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 02 Lucky Star 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 03 Hot Shot RACE TIME: 1:43.07

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 at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ (1) British actor Nicholas Williams, 33, was acquitted of domestic assault in June even though he had, among other things, "waterboarded" his girlfriend by pulling her shirt over her head and holding her under a shower during a two-hour rampage. Williams persuaded the judge that the anti-smoking drug Champix made him unable to control himself or even to remember the events of that evening. (2) Laith Sharma, 49, admitted in June that he had stalked and fixated upon, "for marriage," a 14-year-old girl in Windsor, Ontario, but doctors' testimony won him a sentence of mere house arrest. Sharma, they said, suffers from the popularly known "maple syrup urine disease," so-called because the excreted scent is a marker for brain damage that prevents impulse control.

■ Compelling Explanation: Tony Chrum was the one apprehended for allegedly buying $160 worth of cocaine from a man who turned out to be a police informant in Lincoln County, Mo., in May, but his brother, who is Winfield, Mo., police officer Bud Chrum, 39, was the mastermind. According to police and unknown to the informant, Bud had needed to replace 2 grams of cocaine from the police evidence locker because he had accidentally spilled something on it, and Tony agreed to help.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1934 Outside Chicago's Biograph Theatre, "Public Enemy No. 1" John Dillinger is mortally wounded by FBI agents.

1937 New Deal: the United States Senate votes down President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposal to add more justices to the Supreme Court of the United States.

1942 The United States government begins compulsory civilian gasoline rationing due to the wartime demands.

1942 Holocaust: the systematic deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto begins.

1943 World War II: Allied forces capture the Italian city of Palermo.

1944 The Polish Committee of National Liberation publishes its manifesto, starting the period of Communist rule in Poland

WORD UP!

occlude
\ uh-KLOOD \ , verb;
1. To shut in, out, or off.

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SNG, lwr,st, fr,htpl, tstr, ln, cpt, **$875**

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1+1, upr, st, fr, cpt, **$1095**

2414 Manning Ave
1+1, st, **$1200**

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North of Montana	$3,495,000	$1,347,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,899,000	$779,000
South of Wilshire	$925,000	$580,000
Sunset Park	$1,150,000	$589,450
Ocean Park	$1,439,000	$799,000

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