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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 218

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

USC RETURNING TO THE TOP?
SEE PAGE 12

THE IT GROWS ISSUE

City Hall slammed with $12.6M state grab

Civic Auditorium, park put on hold

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL City officials turned over $12.6 million to the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller to comply with a new state law governing the death of redevelopment agencies that officials say will be challenged in court.

The new law that required the payment, Assembly Bill 1484, poses an "immediate threat and period of uncertainty" that is

SEE PAYMENT PAGE 8



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

SURPRISE RETURN: **A rose bush sprouts up from a patch of soil in front of City Hall on Tuesday. The garden was razed to make way for a park that may not be developed. The small bush is springing from the root of one of the removed specimens.**

Challenging the forbidden food

BY AMANCAI BIRABEN
Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN For chef Raphael Lunetta, foie gras was never just a delicious delicacy. It came with the rich flavor of culture and tra-

SEE BAN PAGE 9



Photo courtesy SMPD

TOYOTA COROLLA S

Cops identify car used in deadly hit-and-run

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Police believe that the car that rammed into and killed a Santa Monica woman celebrating her 30th birthday was a black 2009 or 2010 Toyota Corolla S.

Using witness accounts and evidence left at the scene of the fatal hit-and-run, officers were able to determine the make and model of the car, police said Tuesday.

Police added that the Toyota should have damage to the left front grill, hood and driver-side headlight or fog lamp assembly. Investigators are asking for the public's help in locating the vehicle and the driver.

On July 16, around 12:16 a.m., police responded to the corner of 21st Street and Wilshire Boulevard regarding a report of a hit-and-run traffic collision involving a pedestrian.

When officers arrived they found Claire Rose, 30, unresponsive. She was transported to a local hospital, where she died as a result of her injuries.

Police believe the driver of the suspect vehicle was traveling west on Wilshire Boulevard, struck Rose and then continued on until turning right on 15th Street and then east on California Avenue. Witnesses lost sight of the vehicle after that.

A vigil was held for Rose the following day at the corner of the collision. Rose, who was originally from Utah, was remembered as a good friend with lots of energy and an uplifting smile. She had been celebrating her birthday with her boyfriend of six years shortly before the collision.

Anyone with information is asked to contact investigators Chris Dawson or Jason Olson at (310) 458-8954 or Sgt. Phillbo Rubish at (310) 458-8950 or the Santa Monica Police Department (24 hours) at (310) 458-8495.

kevinh@smdp.com

Homeless stabbings suspect misses arraignment

LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES A man charged with attempted murder in the stabbings of three homeless people has failed to appear for his arraignment, and a judge has cited medical reasons.

Superior Court Judge Shelly Torrealaba did not elaborate in court Tuesday on Courtney Anthony Robinson's medical condition.

No new court date was scheduled.

Robinson turned himself in Friday night after police appealed to the public for help in locating him.

He is suspected of stabbing three homeless people in the back this month as they were sleeping on the streets of Los Angeles and Santa Monica.

Authorities say the attacker left "death warrants" on his victims.

Santa Barbara police are investigating whether Robinson is linked to two other knife attacks on homeless men in that city.

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UFOs
and their Spiritual Mission
Elaborate crop circles appear overnight.
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The Forces of Light are gathering.
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An afternoon with Dick Larson
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Santa Monica Main Library
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Information: 818-785-6300 ◈ www.TheEmergence.org
Note: This program is not sponsored by the Santa Monica Public Library.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Hook up at the market

Michael's Santa Monica
1147 Third Street Promenade, 8:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m.
Michael McCarty and Chef Kuramoto lead an exclusive tour of the Downtown Farmers' Market to introduce guests to their favorite farmers, pay homage to ingredients of the season, and show how to pick the best goods. Guests will then head back to the restaurant and enjoy dishes specially created by Chef Kuramoto featuring the monthly ingredient, as well as wine pairings and recipes to take home. For more information, call (310) 451-0843.

Write on!

Children's Activity Room
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Check out the next installment of the teen writers' workshop. Get the chance to meet local authors, develop writing skills and publish work in a teen 'zine. Space is limited and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Workshop is intended for grades seven to 12. For more information, call (310) 458-8621.

Get active

Friends Meeting Hall
1440 Harvard St., 6:30 p.m.
John Maceri, homeless advocate and executive director of OPCC in Santa Monica, will be the featured speaker at the Activist Support Circle gathering. OPCC is a network of homeless shelters and offers services for low-income and homeless youth, battered women and those living with mental illness. Cost: free. Parking is available on-site. For more information, call (310) 399-1000 or visit www.activistsupportcircle.org.

Thursday, July 26, 2012

Breakfast on us!

Pacific Dining Car
2700 Wilshire Blvd.,
7 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.
LeTip Networking Group is a professional organization of small business owners who utilize each others' services and send referrals to one another for possible business leads. In its weekly meetings, LeTip hosts breakfast that is $5 for returning guests and free for first time guests. You are welcome to bring another professional. For more information, call David Rosenfeld, broker with Advantage Real Estate, at (310) 450-4488.

An evening on the beach

The Jonathan Club
850 Palisades Beach Road,
6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Featuring some of L.A.'s most acclaimed chefs, relax and enjoy food straight off the grill, vintner tastings, specialty cocktails, great music and the summer sunset. Dress is casual and shoes are optional. Admission is $155. For more information, call (310) 393-9245.

What real men eat

Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Local health professional Dr. Myles Spar presents a 60-minute introduction to nutritional issues pertinent to men — how food and supplements can help with prevention and treatment. Conditions to be discussed include prostate issues and heart disease and improving energy, sexual function and sports performance. This program is free and all ages are welcome. Space is limited and on a first-arrival basis. For more information, visit smpl.org or contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600.

Grinding

M.I.'s Westside Comedy Theater
1323- A Third Street Promenade,
10 p.m. — 11 p.m.
The WCT's hottest long-form improv show, The Grind, features performers from the Mission IMPROVable National Touring company and the owners of the M.I.'s Westside Comedy Theater. Enjoy a fun night at no cost. For more information, call (310) 451-0850.

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

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

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



L.A. City Council votes to ban marijuana shops

GREG RISLING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles City Council voted Tuesday to ban hundreds of medical marijuana dispensaries that have cropped up across the city.

The council in the nation's second-largest city acted after some residents said the pot shops have been a blight on neighborhoods. City officials estimate there could be more than 900 collectives open currently.

Many cities have struggled with medical marijuana ordinances but none has had a bigger problem than Los Angeles, where pot shops have proliferated. At one point, the city ordered closure of the shops — a process that failed amid lawsuits and conflicting rulings by appellate courts.

The so-called "gentle ban" eliminates storefronts but allows patients and caregivers to grow medical marijuana.

The city has fumbled with its medical marijuana laws for years, trying to provide safe and affordable access to the drug for legitimate patients while addressing worries by neighborhood groups that streets were being overrun by dispensaries and pot users.

Medical marijuana advocates and residents squared off again in front of the council on Tuesday, with some civic leaders saying efforts made during the past few years haven't done any good.

"We need to start with a clean slate," said Councilman Mitchell Englander. "Los Angeles has experimented with marijuana and has failed."

The ban comes during a confusing time for Californians despite voter approval in 1996 for medicinal use of marijuana with a doctor's recommendation. The state Supreme Court has decided to clarify marijuana's hazy legal status by addressing whether local governments can ban medical marijuana clinics. But a hearing has yet to be set by the high court.

Meanwhile, U.S. authorities have cracked down on pot clinics around the state, saying such operations remain illegal under federal law.

Los Angeles passed an ordinance two years ago that was supposed to shutter hundreds of pot dispensaries while capping the number in operation at 70. But a set of legal challenges against the city by collectives and last month's expiration of the ordinance thanks to a sundowner clause led to another surge of pot shops. City officials said 762 collectives have registered with the city and as many as 200 more could exist.

At least 178 California cities from Calistoga to Camarillo and 20 counties already have banned retail pot shops, according to the medical marijuana advocacy group Americans for Safe Access.

SEE **POT** PAGE 8



ON THE WAY

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Materials are being amassed in a lot at the corner of Fourth Street and Colorado Avenue for an ongoing citywide sewer improvement project. The project is being staged at the site of the future terminus of the upcoming Expo Light Rail Line. The sewer work should be completed by November of this year. There is currently activity being planned for Santa Monica Boulevard.

Bringing on the crowds

Crowdfunding raises money for local projects

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE In March, City Council gave activists trying to save the "Chain Reaction" statue an ultimatum.

They could either raise the $220,000 to $420,000 needed to make critical structural repairs on the artwork by November, or it would be removed from the Santa Monica public art collection.

A team of activists banded together to try to raise money for the piece, which was originally designed by Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Paul Conrad, but efforts inched along, with only $2,500 raised four months before the deadline.

They may have a lifeline.

"Chain Reaction" will soon have a crowdfunding page on the Westside website When You Wish, which will allow people from as close as Southern California and as far as Beijing to pitch in to save the statue.

Crowdfunding, the idea of building a large pot of capital

SEE **FUNDING** PAGE 10

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

STEWART ST.

IMAX signs lease renewal at Lantana

IMAX Corp., one of the world's leading entertainment technology companies, signed a lease renewal for the entire 65,000 square-foot Lantana IMAX building.

The three-story building, located at 2900 Exposition Blvd. near Olympic Boulevard and Centinela Avenue is 95 percent occupied. Other tenants include Dick Clark Productions, Todd-AO, Berman Braun, Beachbody, Revolution Studios and Adconian Media Group.

The building, which has served as the West Coast headquarters for IMAX since 2000, is one of four structures on the 12-acre, 460,000 square-foot office campus. The lease will last 10 years at a cost of $30 million, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

– ADRIANNA DINOLFO

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Butt out

Editor:

I read your editorial, "Smoking law needs to go further," July 20, and was smoking mad that you're proposing that all smokers [be barred from smoking in their apartments and condos] after three years!

Someone said to me that they thought Santa Monica was a liberal town and I reminded them that the Nazis were short for the National Socialist [German Workers'] Party! We are engaged in social engineering and are now making smokers like the Jews. Jews were forced to wear a star of David on their clothes and homes, and now tobacco and pot smokers will have to turn themselves in and declare their apartments smoking for all the smoke Nazis to hate and throw them out of town. Instead of a star of David, a big cigarette will be painted on smokers' doors.

These anti-smoke Nazis have stated that their plan is to make our city smoking-free over time after all smokers leave or die off, just as the Nazis said about the Jews, gypsies and homosexuals.

If we outlaw smoking in Santa Monica then we should also make selling tobacco illegal here in markets and shops and we should not collect any of the very lucrative taxes we so very badly need.

Despite all the lies about second-hand smoke being harmful, there are no studies using pure, organic tobaccos, which are available today. There are no studies showing pot smoke being bad for smokers or second hand. Now we are criminalizing medical marijuana smokers even though it was legalized by vote in our state and may hopefully become completely legal for adults in the next election. Some of our City Council members have even stated they're in favor of legalization.

Those who are bothered by their neighbors smoking could have always moved into a non-smoking building. Obviously these cry babies didn't care enough about smoking when they moved in that they didn't look for a non-smoking apartment building. This was up to the owners to put in their contracts and there are already many non-smoking buildings. Owners have always been concerned with smoke damage and fires in their property and this should only be up to the property owner. We are ruled by some self-righteous fascists who think they know better than everyone else what is good for everyone else. No bags or hedges, yet they vote to add a poisonous industrial waste called fluoride into our water!

As for Councilman Bobby Shriver pushing this issue, he should have stayed out of it. He and his rich Kennedy family have always lived in mansions, not apartments. His relative, Arnold Schwarzenegger, is famous for smoking cigars. His uncle John Kennedy smoked cigars and so did his pal Bill Clinton. Will he tell Bill and Arnold not to smoke when they are here? Then they should make mansions smoke-free also. Smoke can blow next door to his rich neighbor's mansion.

Please, enough stupid laws, and just leave everyone alone already! It has been said that the best government is one that governs least.

Martin Sampson
Santa Monica





Meredith Pro Tem

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

The Aurora-Penn State connection

"I BREAK PETUNIA'S SPIRIT SEVERAL times daily," I remarked only half-jokingly to a couple of other moms at a 4-year-old's birthday party over the weekend.

A friend had just recounted how she whispered gently, and guiltily, to her young son to stop — just stop — after he asked for the nth time if they had arrived at their destination. They were 50 minutes into a 16-hour road trip.

She looked at me with no small amount of horror when I in turn estimated roughly how many times each day I snap at my nearly 4-year-old daughter, which I realized out loud adds up to about 3.5 times hourly, give or take — and that's just on non-road-trip days. But then she giggled because despite knowing that I was, in fact, not really exaggerating about how often I lose my temper, my heart clearly explodes with affection and adoration for my older daughter even more frequently.

It was that very same heart of mine on Friday that shattered into infinitesimal pieces for the family of another little girl following the spectacularly horrendous shootings in Aurora, Colo. in which 12 people were murdered and more than 50 others injured at the gun-wielding hands of a maniac. Among the dead was a 6-year-old girl.

As if the shootings weren't ghastly enough, the gun crazies instantly scrambled out from the shadows to argue inanely that other people bearing weapons more evilly sophisticated and frighteningly deadly than the muskets that the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was originally drafted to protect might have illogically made the movie-theater shootings less atrocious.

At the same time that the hazy facts about the Aurora, Colo. tragedy unfolded over the weekend, news outlets also reported on events related to another catastrophe farther east as Joe Paterno's statue was removed from the Penn State campus.

Ta-Nehisi Coates, a senior editor at The Atlantic, argued on the op-ed pages of The New York Times last week that letting the Paterno statue stand would mean we're pointedly remembering the young boys who were sexually abused by a high-powered football coach while people in positions of power were aware but did nothing to stop it, thereby not allowing it to happen again.

But all the statue would have really done had it been allowed to stand is let us continue to idolize the seemingly kind face of a man famous — until nearly his death — solely for wanting the best for his boys. And what its presence would have helped us forget far too easily with the life-size image of his charmingly geeky glasses and triumphant pose are the much littler boys for whom no one with knowledge of the abuse was willing to stand up and stop the horror from happening to them.

Colorado, home to more ranchers and hunters than most other states, is the state that's been my home for nearly nine years. I've never begrudged either lifestyle or livelihood. And yet I've never met anyone in either hobby or profession who needs a Smith & Wesson .223 with a drum magazine that holds as many as 100 rounds. Firing a shot at an elk or to scare off a mountain lion stalking livestock requires weaponry far less menacing.

THE AURORA, COLO. AND PENN STATE CRUELTIES WERE, TO AN EXTENT, PREVENTABLE SAVE FOR THE ARCHAIC BELIEFS OF SOME THAT MADE THEM ALLOWABLE.

How can any Second Amendment zealot with children say with a straight face and a pure heart that anyone else with a gun in that theater would have lessened the death toll in a crowded, dark box filled with poisonous gas and a bulletproof-vest-wearing madman and not added to it?

The Aurora, Colo. and Penn State cruelties were, to an extent, preventable save for the archaic beliefs of some that made them allowable. The life of a 6-year-old girl was taken entirely too soon allegedly because a neuroscience student legally got his dirty hands on an instrument of mass destruction. Young boys were raped of their childhood allegedly because some grown men were too ego-driven to let go of their pristine legacies.

Parents are smart folks. Our kids might irk us occasionally or often. But they're not fooling us — as the alleged Aurora, Colo. gunman's mother knew immediately. "You have the right person," she replied when asked on the phone by a news crew if it was her son who was responsible for the tragedy. Our children get underfoot because they know and trust our love for them and feel instinctively that we will safeguard their lives, and their spirits, at every possible turn.

The shooter in Aurora, Colo. and the tight-lipped administrators at Penn State deserve the maximum punishments allowable. And they certainly don't deserve statues, although perhaps their victims do.

In the end, whether through guns or silence, the Second Amendment extremists and the Penn State officials share in the blame for the young blood shed in Aurora, Colo., the irretrievably lost innocence in Happy Valley and all of the unnecessarily broken spirits along the way.

More at www.meredithcarroll.com

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WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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The Taxman

Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Education: Who loves ya' baby?

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION CONSISTENTLY polls well in California and that support cuts across party and ideological identification. Sacramento politicians know this and so, naturally, they say they love education too. But voters would be wise to take claims of support for education with a grain of salt.

It's not educating our children that most politicians really care about, it's the money they can raise and spend using education as a lure to persuade the public into supporting higher levels of taxation. Education is used to extract ever more money from taxpayers like the carrot that dangles from a stick in front of a mule pulling a cart — no matter how fast the mule trots, the prized carrot remains out of reach.

Look at Jerry Brown's sales and income tax increase that will appear on the November ballot as Proposition 30. It is promoted with great fanfare that it will help education, the "carrot." This is backed up with threats to cut education if voters do not give their approval. The mule would recognize this method of persuasion as the "stick."

But under Brown's proposal, the politicians can take away existing money designated for schools, use it for other purposes, and replace the missing money with the new tax revenue. In short, despite what Brown and his big government allies claim, the true effect of Prop. 30 means a bailout for the state's General Fund including shoring up woefully underfunded pension funds. And after this shell game? The carrot of true education improvement is still out of reach.

This cynical approach to using education to unnecessarily pry more from taxpayers' wallets is used at the local level as well. The Los Angeles Unified School District, with a budget larger than 18 states, is the tail that wags the dog when it comes to California public education. Over a 13 year period, the district managed to gain approval of bonds with a face value of $20 billion and a repayment cost of twice that amount. But at the same time district enrollment declined by 10 percent. Every ballot argument supporting each successive bond emphasized the need to fix broken toilets, among other things, as if the billions of dollars already approved had not been enough to assure useable restrooms for the children.

But even in Los Angeles, public acquiesce for higher taxes has its limits. Two years ago, voters rejected a school parcel tax that could be used for salaries. (Nonetheless, the contractors continuing to build what could end up being empty classrooms are still smiling all the way to the bank.)

Back in Sacramento, where lawmakers like to say they are putting children first, the Legislature has just agreed to spend billions more on their pet train. They prefer to spend money on a bullet train line that, even if completed, will serve only a small percentage of Californians, while at the same time threatening to short change education unless already overburdened taxpayers contribute more.

And what about the welfare of our children in the classroom? The Legislature has just killed SB 1530, a bill by State Sen. Alex Padilla, that would have made it easier to dismiss teachers for misconduct. So it will continue to be easier to throw a pork chop past a wolf than fire a teacher accused of molesting kids. (The LAUSD requires these teachers to report to what are called "rubber rooms," in some cases for years on end, where they receive full pay without performing any teaching duties). The government employee unions used their influence to defeat Sen. Padilla's reform measure so that teachers behaving like creeps can feel secure, while students and their parents remain nervous.

In addition to a broad based support for education, there is another area in which Californians of every political stripe agree: They want good value for their tax dollars. They want honest use of their money. They do not want to be asked to pay higher taxes for education, only to learn the money will be spent elsewhere. They don't want to pay so that administrators can receive extravagant raises while Johnny and Sally don't have textbooks. They don't want to be asked to approve bonds for unneeded classrooms so that contractors can profit.

So, as TV detective Kojak used to say, "Who loves ya baby?" When it comes to education, it's most Californians regardless of party affiliation or ideology. And the biggest obstacle to providing good schooling for the young? Why it's the Sacramento politicians and their allied government employee unions and private contractors, who see education as a vehicle to feather their own nests, without regard to what is best for the kids.

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

The Q Line

In the mail

The U.S. Postal Service is considering shuttering the post office on Fifth Street, something that doesn't sit well with some residents.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Where do you stand on the possible closure, or does it not matter if it goes away?

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



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Jackson estate expresses concern for singer's kids

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES The executors of Michael Jackson's estate said Tuesday they were concerned about the welfare of the singer's mother and his three children amid a nasty family feud over money that has prompted three law enforcement investigations.

Executors John Branca and John McClain wrote in a letter posted online to fans of the pop superstar that they were doing everything they can to protect his children.

"We are concerned that we do what we can to protect them from undue influences, bullying, greed, and other unfortunate circumstances," states the letter posted just hours after deputies responded for a family disturbance at the hilltop home where Katherine Jackson and her three grandchildren live.

No arrests were made, but officials say there is an active battery investigation.

Jackson died in June 2009 at age 50 and left his estate to care for his mother and three children. He left nothing to his father or siblings, who have repeatedly tried to intervene in the estate. Several have expressed doubts about the validity of his will.

Sandra Ribera, an attorney for Katherine Jackson, said authorities were called after the singer's children were accosted by relatives who followed them into their gated community in Calabasas.

"After exiting their vehicles, Jackson family members ran up to Michael's children as they yelled and began to aggressively grab at the cellphones in their hands," Ribera wrote in a statement.

She and sheriff's officials have not identified who was involved in the incident, but video footage appears to show Michael Jackson's siblings Janet, Randy and Jermaine in the driveway of the home.

The video was obtained by "Good Morning America" and celebrity website TMZ.

Ribera claims "a plan has been in place for the last three years to remove Katherine Jackson from her home and her beloved grandchildren."

Katherine Jackson was reported missing over the weekend but later found to be with her daughter Rebbie and other relatives in Arizona. She has not spoken to her grandchildren — Prince, Paris and Blanket — since leaving the Los Angeles area on July 15.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said the missing person's investigation into her whereabouts has been closed, as was an inquiry about possible elder abuse of the 82-year-old Jackson family matriarch.

He said deputies interviewed Katherine Jackson after a family business associate warned authorities that she was possibly being emotionally abused by a family member. Whitmore said the elder Jackson emphatically denied the accusations.

He said an abundance of caution has investigators still looking into claims that Katherine Jackson is the subject of financial abuse.

The estate and Katherine Jackson's guardianship of the children are supervised by a probate judge. The judge recently received a financial summary showing that Michael Jackson's estate has earned $475 million in gross profits since his death, and many of his major debts have either been resolved or are no longer delinquent.

The singer died with more than $500 million in debts.

Janet, Jermaine and Randy Jackson were joined by siblings Tito and Rebbie in a letter leaked last week calling on Branca and McClain to resign and accusing them of manipulating their mother. The letter also claims that Jackson's will is invalid.

The estate has denied the accusations and no challenge to the executors has been filed in court.

The estate said it plans to closely monitor the well-being of Katherine Jackson and her grandchildren.

"While we do not have standing to directly intervene, we have monitored the situation and will continue to do so," wrote Branca, a lawyer, and McClain, a music executive. "We believe measures are being put in place that will help protect them from what they are having to deal with."

Retired L.A. schools chief named in harassment suit

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A former Los Angeles Unified School District facilities manager has sued retired Superintendent Ramon Cortines, accusing him of making unwanted sexual advances.

City News Services reports the lawsuit was filed Monday in Los Angeles Superior Court by Scot Graham.

The action comes two months after the district held a news conference to announce a $200,000 settlement with Graham to resolve his harassment complaint.

Graham had not signed off on the settlement. His lawyers say the matter was made public without his consent.

Cortines, who retired in 2011, could not immediately be reached for comment. He has said his interactions with Graham were consensual.

The suit says Cortines made advances to Graham in 2000 and later in 2010. Graham says he reported the harassment but was told to forget about it.

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Charities help pets when foreclosure victims can't

SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Carla Waller believes in promises. She was married for 37 years, held one job for 35 and never adopted a pet she didn't keep for life. Until now.

Waller and her husband Dennis moved to Las Vegas in 2006 and put $100,000 down on a $330,000 home. They adopted Jake, a 3-year-old, lean, shy Cocker spaniel. They both sold furniture on commission and thought they were set for retirement and beyond.

Dennis was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 2008 and died in 2009. Carla stayed home to care for him, but returned to work to make ends meet. She adopted Marilyn Monroe, a schnauzer-collie, to keep Jake company. A friend added Jewels the cat to the mix.

The recession stripped her home of a third of its value. Then health problems left her unable to work.

Foreclosure is just around the corner, said Waller, 67. "I know I'm a couple of months out. I can't do it anymore. I don't have the income," she said. "I'm done. There is nothing I can do now."

The hardest call she had to make was to Foreclosed Upon Pets, Inc., to arrange for homes for Jake, Marilyn and Jewels so she can move in with relatives.

"I am very depressed about it and very concerned about where they go because I took them for life and life is not what it should be," she said.

Waller's story is all too familiar to Everett Croxson, who founded Las Vegas-based FUPI (rhymes with puppy) in 2008.

Croxson, 59, a retired business consultant, was guided by hometown headlines.

— Nevada had the worst foreclosure rate nationally for 62 months until March.

— Nevada has the highest unemployment rate in the nation at 11.6 percent.

— The Animal Foundation in Las Vegas runs the highest volume single-facility shelter in the country. It takes in close to 50,000 animals a year. Nearly two-thirds have to be euthanized.

In 2009, Croxson bought a five-bedroom home to use as a transition house for the pets. FUPI placed 348 pets that year.

In 2010, it was nearly 500; in 2011, 570; and this year it will be more than 600, Croxson said.

FUPI also works with the unemployed and those too ill or old to handle their pets, but about 30 percent of their pets are foreclosures, Croxson said.

"Real estate agents or cleaning crews call all the time. Maybe they have found a couple of cats in a closet of a foreclosed home," he said.

In Arizona, which bumped Nevada from the top of the foreclosure rankings in March, the Lost Our Home Pet Foundation in Phoenix does similar work. Founded in 2008, it also relies primarily on fosters although it did open a small shelter in April.

There are about 40 animals in the shelter and 220 in foster care. More than 2,000 have been placed in four years, said founder-executive director Jodi Polanski.

As a mortgage loan officer, Polanski heard story after story, so she started the rescue in her spare time. There was too much work, so she became full-time director and now she and two employees work with 120 volunteers and fosters.

Lost Our Home runs a food bank and a temporary care program for dogs belonging to homeless entering shelters. The dogs are kept for 90 days so owners can get back on their feet.

In Arizona's Maricopa County, foreclosed homeowners have turned into renters. "Landlords can be pickier and not allow pets or they can require large pet deposits," Polanski said, forcing people to give up some or all of their animals. The problem will exist until people can qualify for home loans again, she said.

"The economy is looking better in a lot of places, but it's not better for the animals right now," Polanski added.

There is no charge to a person relinquishing an animal, but adopters pay $150 per animal at FUPI, $75 for cats and $195 for dogs at Lost Our Home. A vet's exam, sterilization, shots and a microchip are included.

Polanski said the worst part of her job is turning pets away. "We do have limitations. We have a waiting list. It breaks our hearts every day when there are pets we can't help," she said.

A few weeks ago, FUPI rescued two Shih Tzus from an elderly woman who was being transferred to a home for dementia patients. Their fur was so matted with feces, dirt and food, they had to be shaved.

"She loved her dogs, she just didn't know the state they were in," Croxson said.

In addition to its own placements, FUPI sends between eight and 14 Animal Foundation dogs to Canada each week, where a pet store chain houses and places them.

"It's absolutely helpful to our organization to have rescues like FUPI," said Carly Scholten, Animal Foundation's director of operations.

In addition to a website and weekly adoption events, Croxson is taking part in county meetings designed to find ways to place more animals, and he does a weekly radio show to recruit volunteers and talk about pets.

For Croxson, the worst part of helping is the loss, guilt and remorse he sees when owners say goodbye to their pets.

He works hard to find homes he believes would please them.

Waller told him Jake needs someone by his side, day and night. "He's an old person's dog, though he's great with kids. His favorite thing to do is lie at your side."

No matter what, she said, "I hope my puppies are loved as much as I love them."

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PAYMENT
FROM PAGE 1

forcing City Hall to ask the City Council to delay several projects previously funded through redevelopment money, including seismic improvements to the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium and the Town Square Park immediately in front of City Hall, said City Manager Rod Gould.

The payment, made July 12, is a portion of property taxes collected in Santa Monica between November 2011 and January 2012 that would have gone to the Santa Monica Redevelopment Agency, an entity that funded capital improvements throughout the city before it was dissolved by the Legislature in February.

City Hall sent the money under protest, reserving the right to challenge the legality of the demand.

Had officials chosen not to pay, City Hall might have been charged over $1.2 million in penalties, according to a staff report.

The League of California Cities voted to initiate litigation against the law last Friday.

AB 1484 was signed with the state budget on June 27.

It speeds up the process begun by AB X1 26, creating a series of steps and deadlines by which localities must dismantle their redevelopment agencies and dictates which of the projects those agencies funded can continue and which cannot.

Redevelopment projects that were under contract before June 27, 2011 slipped under the wire, and were allowed to go forward with the same funding source as before.

Others, including $57 million for improvements on the Santa Monica High School campus, were thrown out by state Department of Finance officials.

The Department of Finance felt that those contracts had been signed one day after the June 27 cutoff. Other costs, including administrative payments, were also tossed out.

The new law takes the money that was previously allotted for those uses, despite the fact that City Hall is disputing the Department of Finance's decision.

In Santa Monica's case, it forced the Auditor-Controller's Office to demand the $12.6 million no later than July 9, which it did, and gave Santa Monica only three days to come up with the cash.

If it hadn't, the law empowered the Auditor-Controller to offset sales and property taxes to make up the difference.

Those taxes flow to the city's General Fund, and cut straight into core services, Gould said.

That process was repeated across the state for cities who chose to act as successor agencies to their now-defunct redevelopment agencies.

The law constitutes a major hit to the cash flow of cities across California, said Larry Kosmont, president and CEO of Kosmont Companies which does consulting work on the unraveling of redevelopment.

"(AB X1 26) was the death pill, 1484 was the clean-the-carcass pill," Kosmont said.

The loss hurt Santa Monica, but it's killing other California cities which relied on redevelopment funding to plug gaps in operational budgets that were caused by a flagging economy and rising employee benefits costs.

More and more positions were being attributed to redevelopment, and more operations were funded through redevelopment, Kosmont said, so when the state pulled redevelopment out from under them, it was like a bank cutting off a line of credit.

"When that happened, it accelerated the reality of the prospect for bankruptcy for many cities," Kosmont said.

City officials are still struggling to determine how AB 1484 will impact Santa Monica down the road.

Although the law was supposed to clarify the process by which redevelopment agencies are dissolved, it did nothing of the kind, Gould said.

"It has clouded matters further, and posed serious constitutional and other challenges because it is so aggressive and represents a threat to too many cities," Gould said.

The law is supposed to protect certain loans and bond measures between cities and their former redevelopment agencies, but it doesn't spell out what the Department of Finance will find acceptable, said Tina Rodriguez, an administrative services officer with City Hall.

Also at question are property sales required under AB X1 26.

That might be the one silver lining for cities under the new law, Kosmont said.

If cities pass a number of state requirements, they could get the chance to create a property management plan, which could allow them to keep properties previously held by redevelopment agencies that would otherwise have to be sold.

"Maybe they'll get to keep some properties, and don't have to force the sale of the properties now without any guidance," Kosmont said.

Chez Jay, a famous restaurant on the other side of a $47 million park funded through redevelopment funds, sits on land held by the former agency, and might yet be sold.

ashley@smdp.com

POT
FROM PAGE 3

However, reflecting the murky language of the state's medical marijuana laws, a handful of dispensaries have successfully challenged such local prohibitions in court along with laws that merely sought to regulate dispensaries.

Most recently, an appeals court in Southern California struck down Los Angeles County's two-year-old ban on dispensaries, ruling that state law allows cooperatives and collectives to grow, store and distribute pot. But in a separate case, an appeals court said federal law preempts local municipalities from allowing pot clinics.

The hearing came a day after a priest, drug counselors and others decried crime and other social problems they say surround neighborhood marijuana dispensaries.

Among those who spoke at that gathering was a woman who complained about having to push her baby's stroller through clouds of marijuana smoke near dispensaries in her East Hollywood neighborhood.

Daniel Sosa, a medical marijuana advocate, told council members during the hearing it's fruitless to approve a ban that won't have any merit and will likely lead to more lawsuits.

"If you can't enforce it, why are you going to pass something?" Sosa asked the council.

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES on PAGE 13!

BAN
FROM PAGE 1

dition. It brought him back to his upbringing, during which he travelled frequently to his mother's homeland of France. There he dined on the fatty liver, along with other delicacies like black truffles, mackerel and paté.

Foods like those are served in his Santa Monica restaurant, JiRaffe, and provide him, as well as customers, with a tasteful hint of memories.

However, a law banning the production and selling of foie gras in California went into effect on July 1 after animal rights activists raised concerns regarding the practice of force-feeding ducks and geese, which they consider to be inhumane. The ban has forced restaurants across the state, including Lunetta's, to alter their menus.

In Santa Monica, a locale known for its fine dining establishments as well as its love for animals, the ban is drawing mixed reactions.

"It's cruel to force-feed the geese so that their liver can increase," said Santa Monican Marc Wiesenthal, who grew up in Paris and feasted on foie gras every Sunday. "But then there are farms with 6 million chickens enclosed in a place the size of a shoe box. So where do we draw the line?"

Lunetta said that the animal activists visited one farm which treated its animals poorly and it's unfair to base the law off of a few bad apples.

"They went to a farm in financial trouble. Don't beat up foie gras because they went to a farm that was doing a poor job," Lunetta said.

Unlike the farm they saw, Lunetta gets his foie gras and other duck products imported from a farm in New York. Lunetta paid a visit to the farm and felt the ducks were treated well.

John Carlos Kuramoto, chef at Michael's, doesn't consider the force-feeding part of producing foie gras inhumane.

"Ducks are naturally used to being force-fed," Kuramoto said. "They force-feed themselves before they even fly."

The part of the practice he feels is cruel is when their liver has become 90 percent fat, preventing them from standing up or moving.

"That's not nearly as cruel as factory farming, though. I think it's an issue that people are picking on small businesses," Kuramoto said.

He believes that by banning foie gras, the law is hurting farmers who produce it and restaurants who serve it.

Guillermo Gonzales and his family own a business that sells duck products in Sonoma, Calif. and the foie gras ban greatly affected them financially.

"Foie gras was their main focus and passion. They sold the other duck products for additional business, but they made the most off of foie gras," Kimberly Charles, the family's publicist, said.

Before July 1, the family cashed in as foie-gras lovers stocked up. Charles said that the Gonzales family is figuring out how to maintain their business without foie gras and are considering raising ducks just for the meat.

"The Gonzaleses raise 8,000 ducks at their peak per year," Charles said.

Some restaurant owners and fois gras farmers are fighting back.

Hot's Restaurant Group, which operates restaurants in Hermosa Beach and Northridge; Association Des Eleveurs de Canards et d'Oies du Quebec, a Canadian duck-farming trade organization; and New York-based producer Hudson Valley Foie Gras teamed up to file a lawsuit against Gov. Jerry Brown and Attorney General Kamala Harris. Those suing to overturn the ban are being represented by Santa Monica-based lawyer Michael Tenenbaum.

The ban states that force-feeding a bird is using a process that causes it "to consume more food than a typical bird of the same species would consume voluntarily."

However, the lawsuit claims that the language in the ban is vague because there are no guidelines as to what the proper amount of food a bird should consume is. The lawsuit also claims the ban puts a "substantial" burden on commerce by forcing restaurants who dare to serve fois gras to investigate the origin of every liver they sell and monitor manufacturers or risk facing fines as much as $1,000 per day, per sale.

On July 18, the plaintiffs' emergency bid to freeze the ban was rejected. Their next court date is Aug. 29, Tenenbaum said.

Sean Chaney, chef at Hot's Kitchen in Hermosa Beach, hopes that the court will rule in favor of lifting the ban.

"I'm extremely hopeful that legislators will see that there can be a win-win on both sides," Chaney said.

Some California restaurants aren't waiting for the court to decide whether or not to uphold the ban and are giving foie gras away for free in protest or cooking customers' fatty livers for a nominal fee because they believe that is not prohibited under the ban.

"It's expensive so I would never give it away for free," Kuramoto said.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Campaigns and Action Team Director Lindsay Rajt said that ducks are treated poorly at the farm they visited, Hudson Valley Foie Gras in New York. There, they saw hundreds of unhealthy ducks shoved into tiny cages.

"The people who went found ducks with bloody wings, broken wings from being jammed into cages and maggots covering their necks," Rajt said.

At Hudson Valley Farm, she said, 500 birds were force-fed 3 times a day.

"Foie gras is one of the cruelest factory farms in existence," Rajt said. "All of the birds are documented as sick, dead or dying."

Now that California has banned the practice, she thinks that more places will start to do the same. In 2004, 77 percent of Americans wanted foie gras to be banned.

Other countries have set an example though, such as the United Kingdom, Germany and Italy, for the U.S.

"Thankfully we have California moving to ban foie gras and it's a sign that we'll have the world moving to ban this," Rajt said.

California is the only state in the U.S. so far that prohibits selling and producing foie gras and Wiesenthal, who worked for Reese Finer Foods, a major foie gras distributor, thinks this is because animal activists are more powerful here than any other state.

Many California chefs and farms are being hurt financially by this ban and they will miss the irreplaceable flavor of this delicacy.

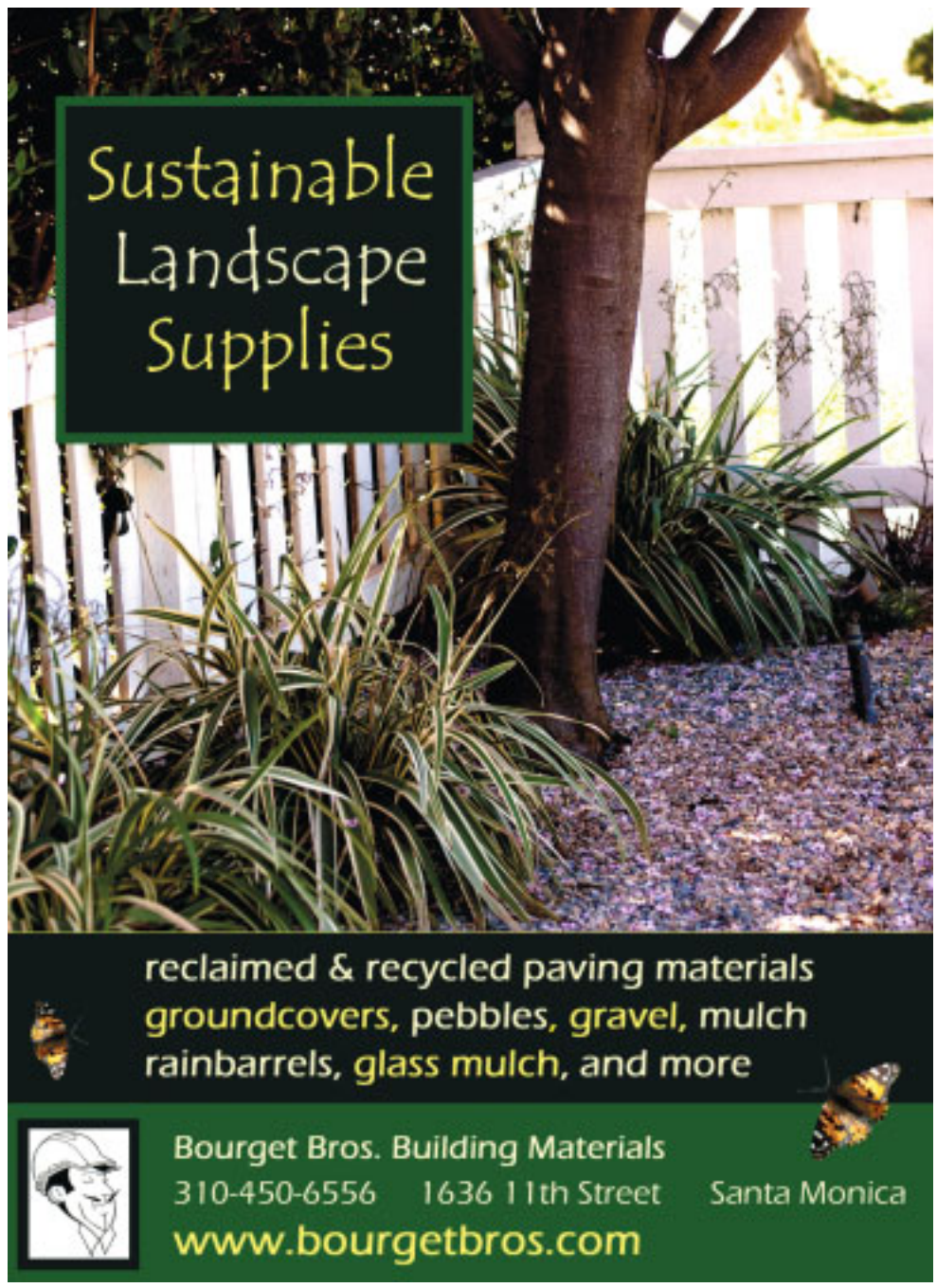
"Foie gras is something that is very unique," Lunetta said. "To have it even now and then is special."

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FUNDING
FROM PAGE 3

out of small donations, is nothing new, but the Internet platforms that have developed over the last four years — and the recognition they've received within the halls of government — are.

Popular websites like Indiegogo, Kickstarter and When You Wish have forged massive communities of entrepreneurs and artists seeking patronage and investment at a time when neither are available from traditional sources.

The idea: To empower people with great ideas or great products to connect directly with those who want to support them, both in their local communities and across the nation and world.

The businessperson or artist gets startup money at the beginning of their venture in return for the promise of goods down the line or a series of creative perks offered for various levels of giving.

New technologies, an increase in social networking and a decrease in the fees assessed on sending money through the Internet combined to make crowdfunding a great way for small businesses, artists and charitable causes to raise cash, said David Harvilicz, founder of crowdfunding site When You Wish.

"I've been an advocate of this democratizing notion," Harvilicz said. "What Facebook and other social media have done is connect people in amazing ways online that could never have happened before."

Crowdfunding is essentially taking a social media platform and adding in a tool to send money.

Harvilicz started his company in Santa Monica, although it has since moved just outside the city's borders into Venice.

A former Wall Street attorney, Harvilicz was inspired to found the site when he saw his sister, a veterinarian, struggling to consolidate payments for a soccer league.

"One girl lived in (Orange County), another in Downtown. It took her all day to collect these checks," Harvilicz said.

The two talked about the problem and how it could apply to other things, like gathering money from like-minded individuals to save needy animals.

When You Wish threw its doors open to all comers.

Local thespian group City Garage has jumped on the bandwagon to raise the $50,000 it needs to revamp an old section of the Bergamot Station arts center into a modern theater that can accommodate its modernistic style, and a visit to the site's front page has a pancreatic cancer victim raising money for treatment.

"If you have an idea, a cause and it resonates with people, and touches their hearts, they want to give for all kinds of reasons," Harvilicz said.

PLATFORMS

Campaigners choose different platforms for different reasons.

Michael Bodell, a Santa Monica entrepreneur trying to built environmentally-friendly homes out of retired shipping containers, launched his quest for seed money on Indiegogo.

The site gave him the flexibility to raise money for a cause rather than an art project or business, and also let him keep the money he raised even if he didn't reach a specific goal.

If he didn't reach the goal, Bodell said, he could always use the money raised to build a smaller version of the same idea.

Bodell's project wouldn't have been possible on Indiegogo when it first launched in 2008.

At the outset, it only offered opportunities for independent filmmakers, but that quickly changed, said Adam Chapnick, with Indiegogo.

The site now features 24 different categories for projects, but discriminates against no cause or client, with the exception of those on the United States Treasury Department sanctions list.

"We really believe there are so many ways you can do good in the world," Chapnick said. "We don't believe that we should stand between the campaigner and what they think that they want to do."

Others don't cast so broad a net.

Kickstarter, for instance, only allows people to raise money for artistic endeavors.

In September 2011, documentary filmmaker Varda Hardy launched a campaign on Kickstarter to raise $40,000 to get the ball rolling on a film about the Santa Monica High

SEE CROWD PAGE 11

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CROWD
FROM PAGE 10

School choir.

She felt the film was crucial to shine a spotlight on the choir's work and integrity, which was under attack as cuts from the state level threatened "non-essential" programs like arts and music.

The task of pulling together a professional documentary using a largely volunteer staff was monumental, and near-impossible without the infusion of cash promised by a successful Kickstarter campaign.

Within a month, 442 backers had raised $44,670 for the project, making it one of 26,823 projects that have been successfully funded using the site.

That stat is important. Unlike Indiegogo and other sites, Kickstarter requires campaigners to meet their goal or lose everything they worked for.

When You Wish varies from both models.

The company allows donors to choose whether or not their money stays with a project if the campaigner doesn't meet the stated goal.

WHERE GLOBAL MEETS LOCAL

Although crowdfunding sites have the ability to gather support from all over the world, the work to get a project rolling starts at home.

"The first 20 to 30 percent of a campaign is raised from your 'first circle,'" Chapnick said. That means friends, family and other people who you sell the idea to on a personal level.

Only after money rolls in do strangers begin to take an interest and local projects or products take on a global feel.

In that way, the sites provide a platform for a community to band behind a project, much like the "Big Voice" film, which put a beloved institution — the Samohi choir — at the heart of its fundraiser.

The same characteristic that makes these sites work for local projects is what keeps people safe from fraudsters.

First, Chapnick said, crowdfunding is a lot of work. People have to make videos, do regular updates, provide good incentives and generally respond to the community from whom they're asking money.

People looking to make a quick buck can find an easier way to do it.

Second, to get to the crowd, you have to get funding first from your closest friends and family.

Most will not defraud their mother, father or college roommate, Chapnick said.

THE FUTURE

Crowdfunding may be teetering on the edge of an explosion.

With a flourish of the pen, President Barack Obama signed the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or JOBS Act, in April.

In that legislation are provisions that legitimize crowdfunding as a regulated way to raise money to get a new business rolling.

It has great potential, Harvilicz said, because crowdfunding can mean raising capital without giving away one of a budding entrepreneur's most valuable assets — equity in the new company.

"People should keep equity in their business and hold that very dearly, and as long as they can," Harvilicz said.

That may yet be months or years off. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has not yet created the regulatory structure to deal with the new model, and it will have to create an exemption for the funding portals to register with the SEC as a broker.

Still, it's a foot in the door, Chapnick said.

"We see it as a huge opportunity for sure," Chapnick said.

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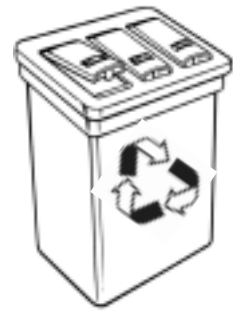
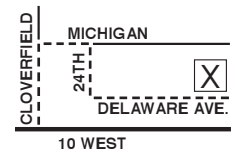
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SURF REPORT



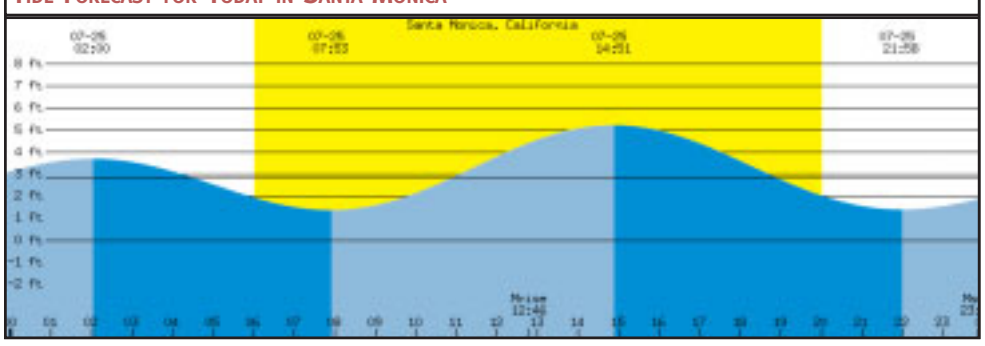
RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 66°

SWELL FORECAST
Looks waist to chest high at south facing breaks, knee to waist at west facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SHOULD RUN WAIST MAX AT SOUTH FACING BREAKS, SMALLER AT WEST FACING BREAKS.

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 18, 2012**

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 -- 8
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 36 / 16
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 10

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Goodbrook Family Foundation, simplehuman, LazerGUY, SBMA

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.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.	ns	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.	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Solstice Canyon at Ben Blocker County Beach.	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location) - daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19648 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	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 17208 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.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	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.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	D	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CBW 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

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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.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Media picks Trojans to win Pac-12

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Southern California is eligible to win championships again, and the Pac-12 media expect the Trojans to reclaim their spot atop the league.

USC has been picked to win the Pac-12 in the annual preseason poll, the league announced Tuesday.

The Trojans were picked to win the South Division on 117 of the 123 ballots, while Oregon was picked to win the North Division by the same overwhelming margin. Still mired in scholarship restrictions and NCAA probation, USC has been picked to win the league championship game by 102 of the voters.

USC coach Lane Kiffin wasn't about to get cocky or say anything incendiary at the first preseason gathering of the league's coaches and top talent in the Gibson Amphitheatre at Universal Studios.

"The preseason rankings and all the questions we have gotten today about that, that has nothing to do with how well we will play next year and whether we will win games," said Kiffin, who has thrived under harsh NCAA sanctions over the past two years.

"But I think it's exciting for our university and for our fans to be in those discussions," he added. "We're two years removed from what was handed down as people saying, 'SC is over,' and being a preseason No. 1 team two years later is extremely exciting for our university and for our fans."

USC has enjoyed an undeniably outstanding offseason after finishing 10-2 and No. 6 in the final AP poll last season despite bowl ineligibility and a smaller roster. After quarterback Matt Barkley and safety T.J. McDonald decided in December to return for their senior years, the Trojans landed a spectacular recruiting class led by elite quarterback prospect Max Browne.

They're moving into their new training complex this summer, the spacious John McKay Center, finally bringing the Trojans' facilities up to the exorbitant standards of college football's biggest programs. Yet the Trojans insist they're maintaining the same hunger and determination that drove them through their two-year bowl ban.

"When T.J. and I decided to come back, we knew that we had a great time at USC, and we have had a lot of fun playing football, but we hadn't maximized our potential here at USC," Barkley said. "I think that phrase 'unfinished business' has to do with finishing at a top level and finishing at what we're capable of as a team."

Kiffin noted the Trojans are still at a competitive disadvantage, with 10 fewer scholarships than their opponents. The probation limits cut into USC's depth, particularly this season at tailback, where starter Curtis McNeal returns with a short, inexperienced list of backups. USC reportedly is trying to land star Penn State running back Silas Redd, a prospect Kiffin couldn't discuss Tuesday.

The Trojans return a roster loaded with elite talent, including receivers Robert Woods and Marqise Lee, yet USC doesn't expect to run away with the league crown.

Oregon is the defending Rose Bowl champion for the first time in 95 years, and the Ducks have their own elite group of returning talent, including running backs De'Anthony Thomas and Kenjon Barner. The Ducks will go through a transition with the departures of star ball-carrier LaMichael James and quarterback Darron Thomas, who went undrafted after leaving early.

"I think De'Anthony's will increase, and Kenjon's role will increase," Oregon coach Chip Kelly said. "And knowing that we have Kenjon and De'Anthony lets you sleep at night. ... We have great leadership from this group, and we're excited. We have a team coming off the Rose Bowl. Great victory for us, and that springboarded us into the offseason."

Stanford was picked second in the North Division despite the departure of NFL No. 1 pick Andrew Luck, with Washington slotted third and California fourth. Washington State is fifth under new coach Mike Leach, who got ample attention from the media in Hollywood while regaling the press with stories of hunting and fishing in his new home.

Leach is enjoying the challenge of attempting to rebuild the Cougars into an inventive team similar to the high-profile program he created at Texas Tech.

"There are a lot of people that hadn't been to Lubbock, Texas, and there are a lot of people that haven't been to Pullman, Washington," Leach said. "And once they get there, they love the place. They see the electricity and the atmosphere that exists there, and that you have a specific identity that's special. So I think the key is getting them there, and really, I tell everybody they need to come for all the same reasons that I did."

Utah was picked second behind the Trojans in the South Division, getting one first-place vote. UCLA was picked third for its first season under new coach Jim Mora, who has energized the Bruins' fan base after Rick Neuheisel's middling tenure with strong recruiting and an attention-getting attitude.

Mora also kept it cool when asked to comment on his crosstown rivals — another change from the sometimes brash Neuheisel.

"We're going to go out and be the best team we can be, and our focus is going to be on the present," Mora said. "When we get to the game where we play Southern Cal, we will (talk about) that, but right now, that would only be a distraction for us, because right now, it's about UCLA football."

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MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1962) (PG) 1hr 43min
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13) 2hrs 16min
1:15pm, 4:40pm, 8:00pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
1:30pm, 5:15pm, 9:00pm

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG) 1hr 33min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Katy Perry: Part of Me 3D (PG) 1hr 35min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13) 2hrs 16min
11:45am

Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 16min
3:00pm, 10:30pm

Brave (PG) 1hr 40min
11:15am, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

Ted (R) 1hr 46min
11:45am, 1:15pm, 2:30pm, 4:05pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:30pm, 10:00pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
11:00am, 12:45pm, 2:45pm, 4:30pm, 6:40pm, 8:15pm, 10:30pm

Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 1hr 34min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:20pm

Met Summer Encore: Der Rosenkavalier () 3hrs 20min
6:30pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Intouchables (R) 1hr 52min
1:40pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Beasts of the Southern Wild (PG-13) 1hr 31min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

30 Beats (R) 1hr 28min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

To Rome With Love (R) 1hr 35min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Ice Age: Continental Drift 3D (PG) 1hr 34min
1:20pm, 3:45pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 1hr 33min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 7:55pm, 10:25pm

Dark Knight Rises (PG-13) 2hrs 44min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Savages (R) 2hrs 10min
12:15pm, 3:35pm, 7:00pm, 10:10pm

Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 1hr 34min
11:45am

Magic Mike (R) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

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

Not to be found tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Others try to lure you into their way of thinking. An unexpected insight about someone really has you rethinking your interaction with this person. Do not let a conversation get too heavy; otherwise, the other party might lock onto one comment and get depressed. Tonight: With a favorite or special person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You could go beyond the call of duty for an associate. Do not anticipate this person's reaction; stay centered. You might find that you cannot count on this person as you would have liked. Tonight: Out on the town.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You exude a sense of well-being and caring when you are among others. This attitude tends to win the confidence of many people. Your buoyancy helps push a project forward, and at the same time, you are able to lift someone's spirits. Tonight: Make it early.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Your comfort level is always the highest at home. For that reason, if you can work or stay close to home, do. News that changes the big picture comes forward. Do not sink into negativity. Tonight: Paint the town red.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your words do not fall on deaf ears. Others have a very different style of letting you know that they hear you. Remain sensitive to the possibilities that are offered, and take your time when making a decision. Stay in the present, if possible. Tonight: Head on home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ A partner's whimsical statement or action starts quite a conversation. Try to understand where this person is coming from. You could feel financially limited at this point in time, so you might not feel as if you can make the offer you would like. Tonight: Join a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You feel as if someone had asked you to do something you did not want to do but unfortunately said "yes" to. Once you see a shortcut, do not hesitate to take it. A person you look up to shares a plethora of suggestions. Tonight: Your treat.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Your mindset colors everything you do. Do not hesitate to indulge in some spontaneity to help change your mood. Could you be taking a statement further than it was intended? Probably. Tonight: Feeling like yourself again.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. You work well with others. Expect surprises from a child or new friend. It always helps to maintain a sense of humor. You could become very demanding when reacting to one key person. Tonight: Not to be found.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You will stand up for yourself with a superior. You might be surprised by this person's reaction. Situations that were predictable might not be any longer. Someone you count on might not be as available as in the past. Tonight: Find your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Do all your research and questioning during the daylight hours. You could hit a wild situation where you might be floored, which is unusual for you. Conversations are animated, to say the least. Tonight: Out and about.

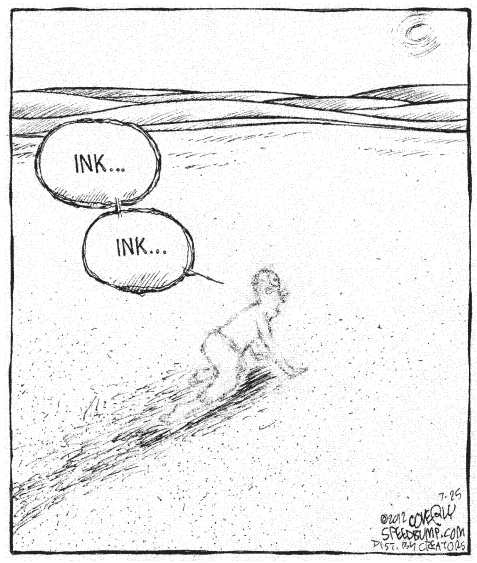
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for a key person in your life whom you can talk to on a very deep level. You might need to deal with his or her mood first before you can launch into the conversation you want. Know how and when to try to connect on this level. Tonight: Try a new nightspot.

Happy birthday

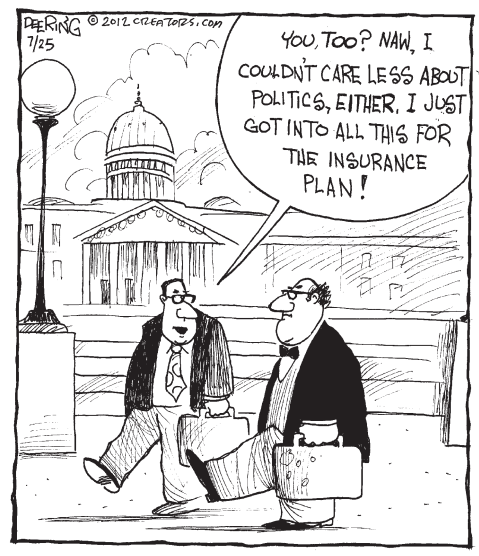
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year you demonstrate the ability to handle the unexpected, difficult and irritating parts of your life. Your flex and understanding can only evolve. You also seek answers with a newfound need for depth, which causes many debates. If you are single, you want someone romantic and intense. This person could appear through a friendship. If you are attached, you gain appreciation for each other through socializing more as a couple with others. Make special time for the two of you, too. SCORPIO inspires a whole new life perspective....

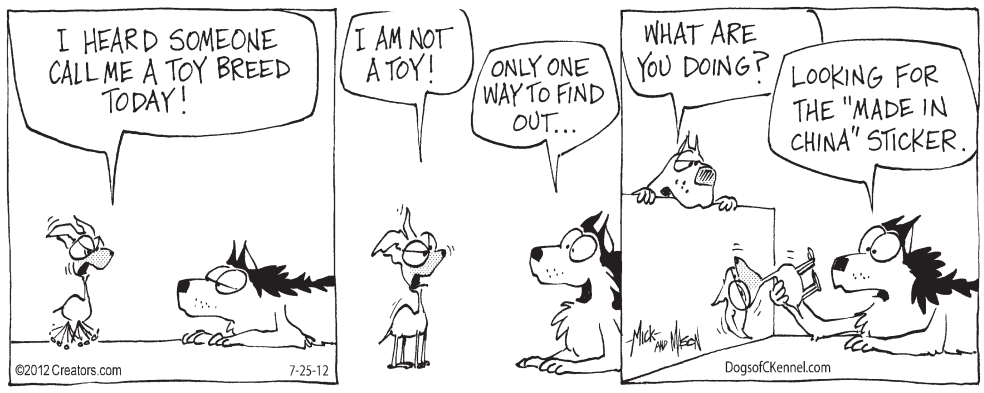
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



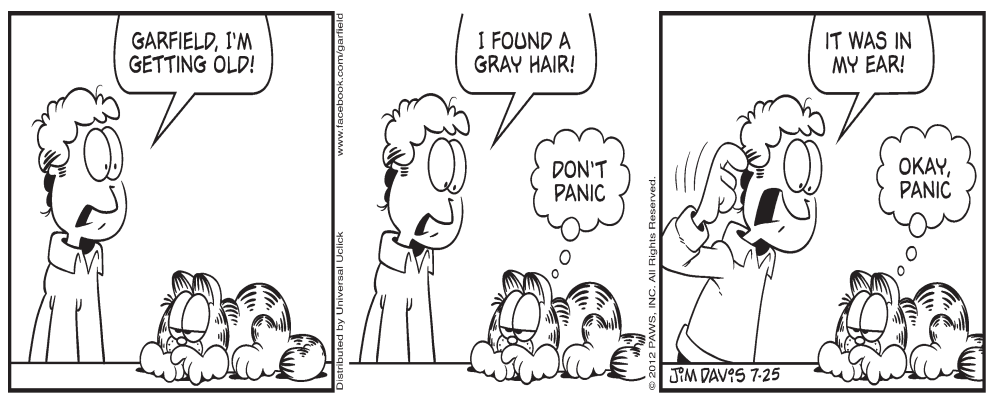
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

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

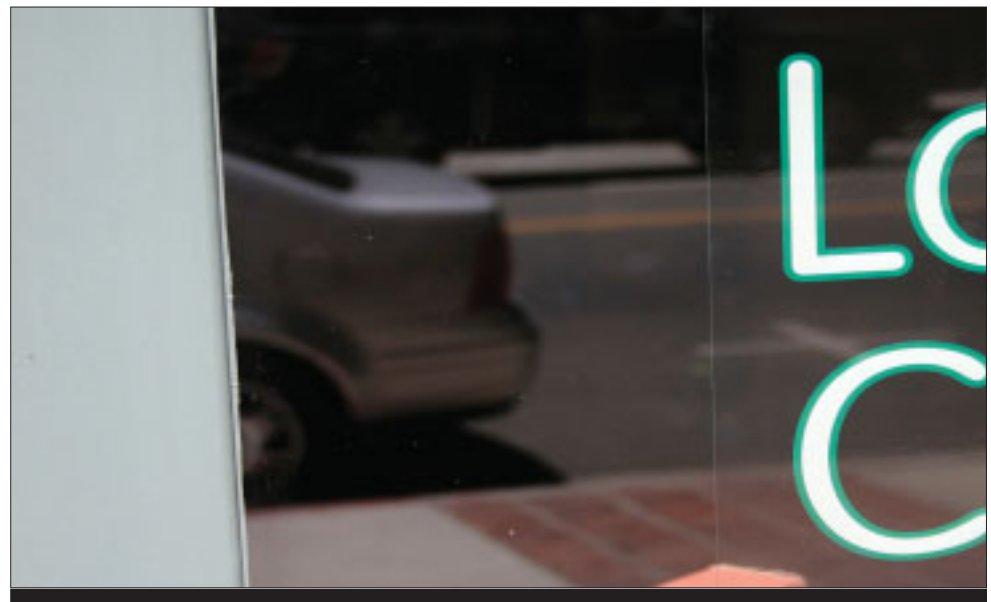
4	8	2	9	3	7	1	5	6
6	5	1	2	8	4	7	3	9
9	3	7	5	1	6	4	2	8
1	2	3	6	7	9	8	4	5
8	6	5	1	4	3	2	9	7
7	4	9	8	2	5	3	6	1
2	7	6	3	9	8	5	1	4
5	1	4	7	6	2	9	8	3
3	9	8	4	5	1	6	7	2

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 A bunch
6 Prejudice
10 Madame Curie
11 Serving girl
12 Start
13 Run up
14 Pindar poems
15 Will topic
16 Pewter component
17 Yeoman's "yes"
18 Put in stitches
19 Hats, hoods and helmets
22 Talk drunkenly
23 Complain
26 Auto enthusiast
29 Tabloid
32 Ram's mate
33 Bind
34 Rub the wrong way
36 Cream buy
37 Increase
38 Espresso order
39 Sun Valley setting
40 Wolfish sort
41 Turn down
42 Jury members

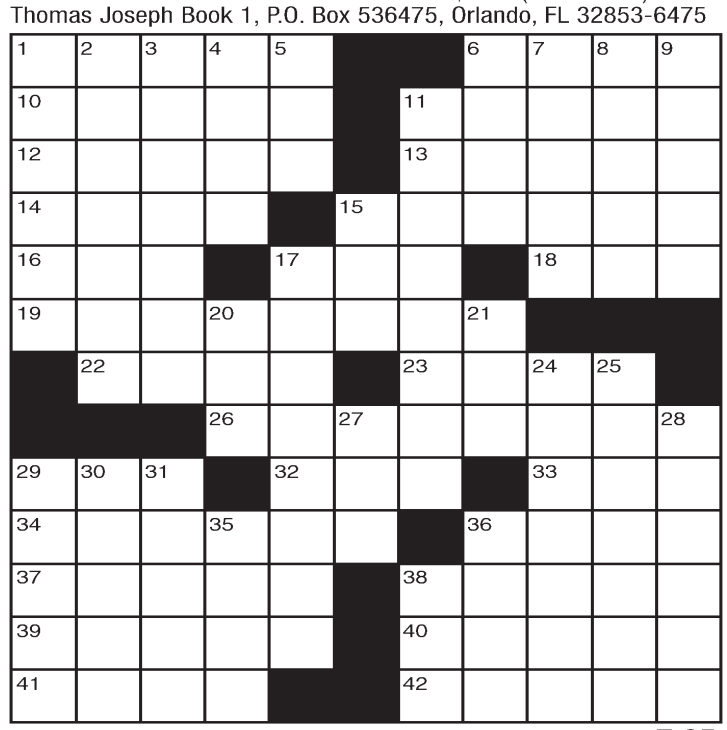
DOWN

1 Even
2 Confectioner's creations
3 Weapons store
4 Conks out
5 Harden
6 Inclined
7 Cuzco people
8 Less than right
9 Smallest mammal
11 Smart aleck
15 Pupil's place
17 Went along with
20 Used a shovel
21 Fan sound
24 Give a new name to
25 Homer, for one
27 Wonder
28 Hampers
29 Zealous
30 Dwelling
31 Pained sound
35 Pale
36 Book feature
38 Cut off

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



7-25

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/20
2 44 48 50 52
Meganumber: 3
Jackpot: $45M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 7/21
8 19 23 24 30
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: $15M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/24
2 12 15 23 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 7/24
MIDDAY: 9 8 2
EVENING: 3 7 4

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 7/24
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:48.99

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

■ Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker still owes the IRS a reported $6 million and now sells a line of "survival" products to help true believers live through the coming apocalypse. (It is unclear whether believers need to "survive," since the popular reading of the apocalypse casts it as a fast track to heaven for the faithful.) The Talking Points Memo blog did some comparative shopping and found many of Bakker's items to be overpriced by as much as 100 percent. Bakker also offers the devout a $100 Silver Solution Total Body Cleanse Kit, which includes enemas.

■ Researchers at the National University of Singapore described, in a recent issue of the journal Biology Letters, how a certain species of male tropical spider seemingly improves its chances of successful mating by castrating itself after releasing sperm. The scientists hypothesize that testes-removal makes the male nimbler and better able to trick and outflank competitor males that attempt to reinseminate the same females. Improving their strategic mobility also enables the male to avoid being killed by the female, which is yet another hazard in the spider-mating process.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1989 - Tadeusz Mazowiecki is chosen as the first non-communist Prime Minister in Central and Eastern Europe.

1989 - Voyager 2 spacecraft makes its closest approach to Neptune, the outermost planet in the Solar System.

1989 - Mayumi Moriyama becomes Japan's first female cabinet secretary.

1991 - The Airbus A340 aircraft makes its first flight.

1991 - Belarus gains its independence from the Soviet Union

WORD UP!

**Bildungsroman \ BIL-doongz-roh-mahn ** , noun; 1. A type of novel concerned with the education, development, and maturing of a young protagonist.

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- Roomates
- Commerical Lease
- Real Estate
- Real Estate Loans
- Storage Space
- Vehicles for Sale
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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012131265 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/28/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as PARAGON REALTY GROUP, PARAGON FINANCE, UNPACK PLUS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: JULIE HA 3629 PUENTE AVE. BALDWIN, CA 91706. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:JULIE HA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/28/2012. 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 07/25/2012, 08/01/2012, 08/08/2012, 08/15/2012.

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County on 06/28/2012. 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 07/25/2012, 08/01/2012, 08/08/2012, 08/15/2012.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012131266 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/28/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FRICTION PROS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: FRICTION PROS LLC 1936 DAISY AVE. LONG BEACH, CA 90806. This Business is being conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:GINO BALARA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/28/2012. 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 07/25/2012, 08/01/2012, 08/08/2012, 08/15/2012.





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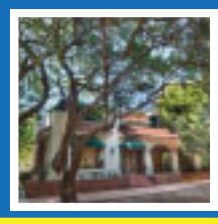
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West of 4th Street

317 Marguerita Avenue
In Escrow

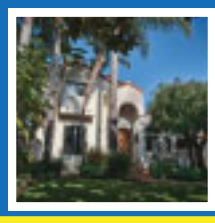




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South of Wilshire	=	$981,150
Sunset Park	=	$1,351,267
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