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THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012
Volume 11 Issue 219

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

MUSIC ON THE PIER
SEE PAGE 3

THE UP IN SMOKE? ISSUE

Accused homeless stabber Robinson pleads not guilty

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN L.A. The man suspected of stabbing three homeless people and leaving what police called "death warrants" at the crime scenes plead not guilty in Los Angeles Superior Court Wednesday, officials said.

A spokesperson in the District Attorney's Office said that Courtney Anthony Robinson, 37, was being held on $3 million bail.

His next court date is Aug. 6, and he does not yet have an attorney.

Robinson was charged with three counts of attempted murder in connection with the stabbings of three homeless people.

All three victims were sleeping, one on a bus bench at the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard and Sixth Street in Santa Monica.

Robinson allegedly left death warrants at the scene of each of the attacks, which occurred on July 3 in Downtown L.A., July 17 in Santa Monica and July 19 in Hollywood.

He surrendered Friday evening to Los Angeles Police officers in Hollywood.

If convicted, he faces up to life in prison, according to the District Attorney's Office.

ashley@smdp.com

Fate of trailer park remains uncertain

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL "Council members, the words you've been waiting for — the item is before us."

A tired Mayor Richard Bloom recited the rote phrase at 12:40 a.m. Wednesday, five hours after the City Council opened the public hearing on a contentious development agreement that could convert a half-empty trailer park into a five-story, mixed-use apartment complex.

The council did not reach a decision that night, instead continuing the matter to a special meeting called for Aug. 28 at which

SEE VTP PAGE 9

Council switches on smoking ban

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council did an about-face on a controversial smoking ban Tuesday night over unanswered questions regarding medical marijuana and a perceived lack of outreach to condominium owners.

A 4-2 vote, with only Councilmembers Terry O'Day and Bob Holbrook in favor of the ban, reversed a July 10 decision that would have prohibited smoking for all new apartment tenants and condominium owners in Santa Monica.

Existing owners and tenants would have had to disclose their smoking habit or allow

SEE BAN PAGE 8



KID ARTISTS

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Local muralist Kristel Lerman (far left) teaches kids from InsideOut Community Arts program about the basics as she works on her collaborated seascape mural on the side of ZJ's Boarding House at the corner of Main Street and Ocean Park Boulevard on Wednesday morning.

Mild quake rattles Los Angeles area; no damage

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Seismologists say a mild earthquake widely felt throughout Southern California was centered along the coast west of downtown Los Angeles.

No injuries were reported.

The U.S. Geological Survey says the magnitude-3.7 quake struck at 3:18 a.m. Wednesday. The quake initially was reported as a magnitude-3.8, but seismologist Kate Hutton says it was later found to be a 3.74 so it was downgraded.

The epicenter was 2 miles east-southeast of Marina del Rey near Culver City and Inglewood. A Sheriff's Department dispatcher says it "wasn't much of a quake" and no one called about it.

Dozens of people from as far away as Riverside and the San Fernando Valley logged onto the USGS website to report feeling the jolt.

Fire Department spokesman Matt Spence says firefighters rolled out of stations citywide and surveyed 470 square miles. No infrastructure or other damage was found.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

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.

Friday, July 27, 2012

Dream big

Montana Avenue Branch Library
1704 Montana Ave.,
2:30 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.
Ages 3 and up can enjoy this fun Friday afternoon and decorate a crown to wear home. Kids can become a king or a queen and do some arts and crafts, too. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

Cinema on the street

Third Street Promenade
Between Arizona Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, 6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Summer is here and to mark the season, Downtown Santa Monica Inc. is excited to present its second annual "Cinema on the Street" series of weekly summertime movies! This Friday the movie will be this year's Academy Award-winner for Best Picture, "The Artist." Parking is available in surrounding city parking structures, and vehicles entering after 6 p.m. pay a $5 flat rate. Attendance is free. For more information, call (310) 393-8355.

Hart pulse dance company

The Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 8 p.m.
This Los Angeles-based company presents 10 new works for Revel at Miles Memorial Playhouse, created by HPDC Founder-Director-Choreographer Amanda Hart. These contemporary pieces are exciting and engaging, blending ballet, modern and jazz dance styles. Tickets are $15 presale at hartpulsedance.com and $20 at the door. Free parking is available at the AT&T structure on Lincoln Boulevard just before Wilshire Boulevard. For more information, call (310) 458-8634.

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



City Hall settles dog bite lawsuit

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council approved a $325,000 settlement Tuesday for a 7-year-old boy who was badly hurt when a pitbull broke out of a dog run in Memorial Park and bit him on the head.

The attack occurred on Oct. 18, 2010.

It was early in the afternoon on a Sunday. A man court documents name as Jerome Wright, of Las Vegas, was playing with his two dogs in the dog run in Memorial Park, located at 16th Street and Colorado Avenue.

One of the dogs, a pitbull terrier named Monster, got out of the dog run by pushing its way through an unsecured service gate at the opposite end of the run, said Deputy City Attorney Lance Gams.

"The way that the service gate closed, there was a small gap that this dog was able to get through," Gams said. "He got out. There was a boy that was in the ballfield area of Memorial Park with his parents."

The dog attacked the young boy, biting him in the head.

According to the complaint filed against City Hall and Wright, the boy sustained brain damage and neck, back and shoulder injuries as a result of the attack.

The family initially sued for $985,000 to cover past and future medical bills, education costs, therapy and other costs before settling for $325,000, Gams said.

Both sides realized there were "dangers" in taking the case to trial, he said.

The dog involved in the attack was quarantined for 10 days to ensure that it did not have rabies. It and its owner left California for Las Vegas.

It's thought that they moved to Georgia after that, but the City Attorney's Office is not sure, Gams said.

Although Wright does have a default judgment against him in the case, the family did not pursue him further, Gams said.

Brian Nelson, the attorney listed for Wright on court documents, did not return calls for comment.

The case is not quite done.

Although the City Council approved the settlement, the parties must return to court for a judge to sign off on it, Gams said.

ashley@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITYWIDE

UUT exemption program

The income eligibility limits for the senior citizens utility user's tax (UUT) exemption program were revised for 2012-13, effective July 1.

This program exempts seniors and disabled individuals from having to pay the city's UUT if they are below a certain income level.

The new eligibility limits are $27,657 annual gross income for single person households, and $31,692 annual gross income for two or more person households. These limits correspond with the 2.2 percent increase in the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange counties CPI-W Index for December 2010 to December 2011.

This program is beneficial to many seniors and disabled individuals in Santa Monica.

"As seniors and disabled individuals have limited income and resources, this is a benefit that they are eligible for," Michelle Quiroga-Diaz, director for In-Home Services at WISE & Healthy Aging, said. "It helps improve their overall financial stability."

To be eligible for this program, certain qualifications must be met. The individual must be a Santa Monica resident, be 62 years of age or meet criteria of disability as established by the Social Security Administration and have a utility bill that is in their name.

Applications are available at WISE & Healthy Aging, at 1527 Fourth St., second floor.

– HANNAH BERKMAN



Photo courtesy Santa Monica Pier

DUDE WITH AN OLD SOUL: **Jackie Greene headlines the Santa Monica Pier's Twilight Concert Series today.**

A new take on Americana

Jackie Greene is wise beyond his years

BY LENIKA CRUZ
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER After three exciting performances, the Twilight Concert Series will continue Thursday with a highly anticipated performer whose impeccable musicianship belies his relative youth.

He may only be 31 years old, but singer-songwriter Jackie Greene has come a long way from his beginnings playing music in local bars as a teenager in Salinas, Calif. Touted as "The Prince of Americana" by the New York Times, Greene keeps his genre interesting, switching from rock 'n' roll to rhythm and blues with virtuosity.

The California native learned to play guitar and piano by his teens and shortly thereafter began composing his own songs. He recorded a demo called "Rusty Nails" in his own

SEE TCS PAGE 8



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Going too far

Editor:

I am not a smoker. I am a resident of a Santa Monica apartment building. There are people around me who smoke. As far as I know, tobacco is still a legal substance in the United States of America.

So why would the city of Santa Monica think it is OK to dictate what someone does in their own home ("Smoking ban extinguished," July 25)? Sure, cigarette smoke travels. It travels from one house to another. It travels from one apartment or condo to the house next door. Why is it OK to regulate only multi-unit dwellings and not all dwellings? Why is it OK to stigmatize smokers in their own homes?

I understand the concern about second-hand smoke, however, I would rather spend a little money for an air purifier (which I have) than tell my neighbor that he or she cannot smoke or consume a legal substance in the privacy of his or her own home. Heck, I have more problems with my neighbor's idiotic arguments or barking dogs or screaming children than I do over a smoker!

Our homes are just that – our homes. Whether a single-family house, a condo, a townhouse, or an apartment, we deserve the sanctity of peace in our homes without intervention of the government telling us whether we can or cannot consume legal substances because it might bother someone else.

We are going too far in our attempts to regulate the bejesus out of everything. What's next? No alcohol consumption in your house because you "might" hurt yourself or others? No soda or sugary sweets because your kids might get a sugar rush and make too much noise?

I wonder exactly how many smokers live in Santa Monica and how many people have complained about smoke infiltrating their homes to such a degree that it constitutes a nuisance or harm is done. I wonder if I can get barbecues banned because I almost choked over someone using too much lighter fluid. I wonder how many more people I will now see in the alley smoking because they cannot smoke in the courtyards of their buildings.

Be careful, Santa Monica, be very, very careful.

Stacy Westly
Santa Monica

Driving across town

Editor:

Last Monday evening it took me half an hour to drive from Lincoln Boulevard to Centinela Avenue on Pico Boulevard.

The Santa Monica Freeway was my first choice but I could see that it was jammed so I took Pico instead. It was jammed, too, bumper to bumper. It was awful. This experience made me curious about the population density of Santa Monica and when I got home I looked it up.

According to the 2000 Census, Santa Monica had 10,179 people per square mile ranking 121 on a list of 125 most densely populated communities in the U.S. The 2010 Census puts us at 10,664 people per square mile. None of us can be surprised it has gone up. We all know from traffic we're moving up the charts!

And it's only going to get worse. There are almost 1,000 condos planned for the old trailer park and the old Grammy building on Pico combined and who knows what else is in the pipeline. How bad does traffic have to get before the City Council stops approving all this development? They point to LUCE (Land Use and Circulation Element) and fantasize that the coming light rail system will solve all our problems. It won't.

I don't understand what LUCE is all about. I understand traffic and it sucks.

Richard Orton
Santa Monica

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Three Innocents Abroad

Charles Andrews — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

It's the little differences

Editor's note: Longtime Santa Monican Charles Andrews just returned from traveling across Europe in a camper van for one year, with his family.

ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS, AFTER JUST A couple of encounters with me soon after our return from Europe, jokingly needled me with, "Man, if Europe is so great, what are you doing here? Why don't you just go back?"

My wife Dian says she could travel forever, and she mostly means it. My daughter Nicole,18, will almost surely revisit places she loved and those we missed but starts school at Santa Monica College this fall, and sorely missed "being with my own age group." My preference would be maybe three months a year somewhere else (like, Tangier, Morocco), but of all the world I've seen I wouldn't want to live anywhere else but Santa Monica. The longer I'm back the more I'm appreciating the U.S. and Americans, in often subtle ways, and especially Santa Monica.

Even in our little ol' beach town there's an energy, an atmosphere you don't find "over there." Sure, in the center of London, Paris, Rome, Madrid, you'll find a bustle like in any world capital, like Manhattan or downtown L.A. But as I observe Santa Monicans with a fresh eye I see a certain something, and I'm starting to believe it's part of that which draws the world still to the troubled shores of America. It's a feeling that here, even in tough times, anything is possible.

Of course, the downside is that we tend to throw away everything that's so last week in favor of the new for newness' sake. As I traveled around every corner of Europe I saw so many things that were done better than we do them here, and kept wishing that we could learn from each other, find the middle ground that keeps the best but progresses.

Mostly I observed a regard for the humane, the beauty of everyday life that seems often steamrolled here for the almighty bottom line. Sometimes it seems everything is measured in dollars in America, but across Europe there is more consideration for the aesthetics of life, for spirit-renewing time off, for family and friends, green living space mostly uncluttered by commercialism, city design that renews and refurbishes first and allows mostly change which fits and is pleasing. (All of this being a generalization, of course; Europeans all have their gripes with what is happening in their cities, their countries.)

We saw dark faces and Middle Eastern and Asian garb everywhere we went, even in Nordic reaches, but I got the feeling those who were different were tolerated, accepted even, but could never become true Norwegians, Greeks, Spaniards. I love Santa Monica's diversity and the fact that, despite lingering prejudices, there is no one way that "real" Americans look. You can be dark as midnight or white as snow and be an American, maybe with family going back 300 years or more. You can dress like a farmer or a fashion model or a Finnish fisherman, you're still an American. There was some years back a young American who totally loved and absorbed Japanese culture and language and after many years there became one of the greatest sumo wrestlers ever, but he could never be considered Japanese.

It's all tied together, I think, the fact that we're a new nation (carved, tragically, from the land where native peoples were dispossessed) populated by immigrants, on paper all equal. We're not saddled with the class distinctions of Mother England and many other ancient nations. I believe it's our best natural resource. Travel abroad has probably increased my dissatisfaction with and complaining about our shortcomings, but until you do (and most Americans don't) you also don't really understand what our strengths are.

What else has struck me about returning home? I went into detail in the last column about driving differences, and that still hits me every time I get behind the wheel — which I'm doing less of, and more walking, because I got used to it and because in Santa Monica you can and because it helped me drop nearly 30 pounds in the last year. But I've also observed that I'm more tolerant now of bonehead drivers or good drivers who make bonehead moves, maybe because I was, for the past year, the bonehead at times with the European way of driving, and was rarely honked or screamed at. No one tried to run me off the road, not a single gun was pointed my way.

Music: I love the wealth of music we have here, especially in the summertime. There's no place I've been that even comes close. I strolled down the Venice boardwalk a few days ago and heard street musicians who could tour clubs in Europe, same at the recent Main Street SOULstice festival. I just went to the Santa Monica Pier concert and heard two excellent reggae bands, despite the disappointing no-show of the headliners, The Mighty Diamonds. You have Third Street Promenade, the concerts at Culver City, outstanding jazz at Hollywood and Highland, more free shows at museums and parks and music stores, the Hollywood Bowl and the Greek and Universal, at a couple hundred clubs, so much right here in Santa Monica, an embarrassment of music riches. Go! Get out of your house and enjoy!

It's gotten a bit rainy lately but our weather still can't be beat in my book. We put up gladly with rain and cold (in April and May) in places like Scotland, Norway and England, because that's the way they are, and why the countryside is so awesomely gorgeous. But I could never live there. Ever notice how many Brits and their pubs and shops we have in Santa Monica?

The People's Republic of Santa Monica (coined as an epithet but I've always embraced it), is in many ways an exception to the failings I see in the rest of America. We do preserve and renew and make green (Heal the Bay, building height restrictions, and Ocean Park Boulevard is getting nice new medians right by my home), better than most places. It's easier to make your own town better than to affect the entire country. Keep it up, Santa Monica. Glad to be home.

You can follow the **ANDREWS** family's daily blog at anandrewsadventure.blogspot.com.

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State, federal officials reveal water tunnel plan

GOSIA WOZNIACKA & HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California's ambitious $24 billion plan for ending the state's water wars was unveiled Wednesday, but standing in its way are unanswered questions and hurdles that will take years to surmount if they can be at all.

With fanfare, Gov. Jerry Brown and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar touted a massive twin-tunnel system to carry water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to vast farmlands and thirsty cities.

But critics say the proposal calls for costly construction before scientists determine the impacts on the fragile delta ecosystem, including its imperiled fish species.

Brown said the tunnels would guarantee a stable water supply for California while being able to withstand earthquakes and other threats. Construction alone would cost $14 billion.

"A healthy delta ecosystem and a reliable water supply are profoundly important to California's future," Brown said. "We know there are a couple big issues — earthquakes and climate change. And this facility is absolutely essential to deal with both of them."

However, the proposal met stiff opposition from delta residents, environmental groups and Northern California legislators who say the tunnels could severely damage the delta ecosystem and agriculture-based economy.

During the announcement by Brown and Salazar, dozens of opponents gathered on the Capitol steps and carried signs reading "kill the canal" and "the tunnel will suck California dry."

Opponents say it's unacceptable to proceed without knowing upfront how construction would impact already imperiled fish species such as salmon and smelt. Others said the project could be beneficial to fish but only if studies are done before construction.

"We're really concerned they want to divert too much water south without figuring out the impact on salmon," said Victor Gonella, president of Golden Gate Salmon Association. "There's no hard science on how much is the right amount of water to be pumped, when it can be taken and how. Heck, we're going to build this and whatever we ruin, we'll figure out how to fix later."

Officials said an environmental impact report on the proposal would begin in the fall. And scientific studies will accompany construction over the next 10-15 years.

Construction costs would be covered by water users, and taxpayers would bear an additional $10 billion cost of habitat restoration that involves creating 100,000 acres in floodplains and making other improvements. A water bond that could provide some money for restoration is set to appear on the November 2014 ballot.

Officials said they will continue to weigh different alternatives and project sizes. Permits are expected to be issued next year and construction could start in two to three years.

The delta, an inland estuary where hundreds of species live, is the hub of California's water delivery system. The Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers drain into the delta, and the state and federal governments run massive pumps that siphon drinking and irrigation water for use by more than 25 million Californians and farms in the Central Valley that produce half the nation's fruits and vegetables.

The current distribution system falls short of providing all the water needed by cities and farms. Supply was tightened even more a decade ago when major declines in the once-abundant fish populations spurred regulations that curtailed delta pumping and water deliveries.

Farmers and urban water users have long called for a new water system, but Brown faced stiff opposition in 1982 when he proposed a peripheral canal during his previous time as governor that would carry water around the delta. Voters rejected that plan, branding it a water grab by Southern California cities.

The current proposal — two tunnels, each larger than 33 feet in diameter — would have the capacity to divert about 67,500 gallons of water a second, a pace that would fill six Olympic-sized swimming pools every minute.

Officials said they want to build it even larger to help water move by force of gravity, reducing energy use. They did not say how much water will be diverted through the tunnels each year.

The tunnels would change the point of water diversion from the south end of the delta to the north end below Freeport. Salazar expects that to lessen the impact of giant pumps now blamed for killing massive numbers of salmon, sturgeon and other species.

Once water reaches a pumping station in Tracy, it would be ferried through existing canals to farms in the Central Valley and cities such as San Diego and Los Angeles.

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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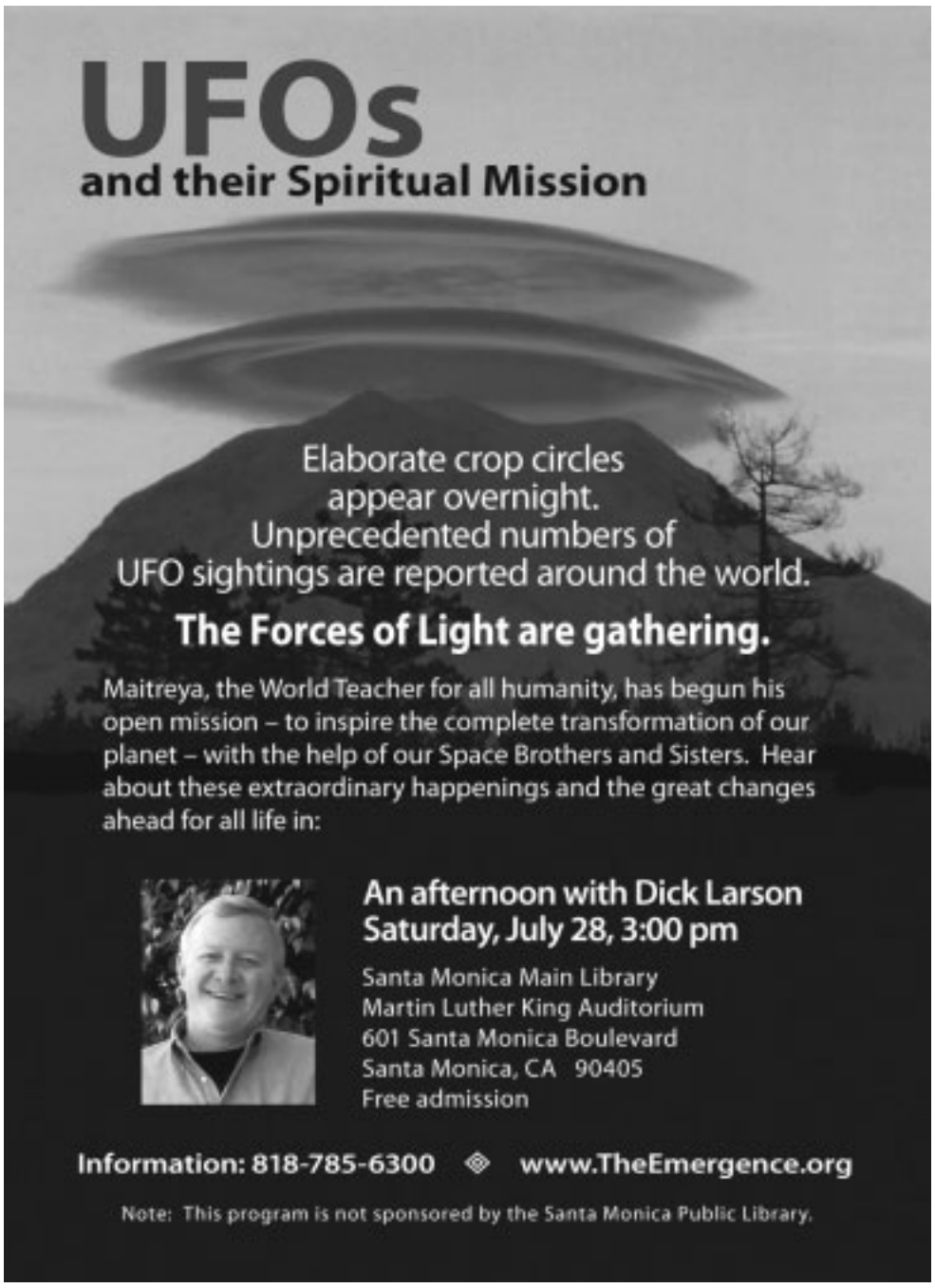
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Culture Watch

Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Image courtesy of Frank Pictures Gallery

COOL SKY: **David Florimbi's 'Pregnant Pause' is on display at the Frank Pictures Gallery.**

Capturing nature's beauty

I RECENTLY TOURED THE PHOTO EXHIBIT "SkyScapes" at Annenberg Community Beach House with curator Bruria Finkel. The photography is spectacular and inspiring, proving that nature often offers the most timeless art, even as it reminds us of time's fleeting nature.

The show includes photos of the California desert, Antarctica and the skies above Santa Monica by photographic talent Chris Garland, world-renowned environmental artist Lita Albuquerque and veteran multi-media artist Finkel.

Albuquerque's giant photograph of cobalt blue balls on the Antarctic ice sheet greets you at the entrance. The stark contrast of the deep blue against the bright white snow calls attention to the pattern of the layout, reflecting the position of the stars in the sky directly above that piece of the wintery continent. Ponder the nature of Albuquerque's work and the effort it takes to create, then photograph, environmental art on this enormous scale.

Garland's passion for clouds is evident in the majestic photos he has taken of uniquely shaped masses formed by the heat and wind conditions of California's deserts. They take on a character and life of their own; the photo titled "Prince Charming" is one example. These are pictures that can only be taken at exactly the right moment — clouds shift shapes so quickly. Garland has the eye, the timing and the skill to capture the moment and instills a sense of wonder and awe.

Finkel's work leans toward finding the mystical in the everyday, and a sense of the spiritual emerges from her images. Don't miss her array of dozens of small Supra System Polaroid photos, enhanced with oil crayons, situated on the last wall of the exhibition. Each delicate little picture transports you to a place both familiar and fantastical; en masse they create a patchwork landscape that you won't find in nature — but if you could, you'd never want to leave.

These three artists are presenting the "SkyScapes Digital Plein Air Photography" workshop. In the "plein air" tradition, artists paint directly from and in the great outdoors. In this workshop, the artists share insights into their techniques. They'll take you outside with them to capture skyscapes of your own, which you'll upload instantly, later viewing and discussing your projected images with the artists and other participants.

Bring a smartphone or a digital camera (with cable to upload images) to the Annenberg Community Beach House on Tuesday, July 31 at 6:30 p.m. The workshop is free but reservations are required and you must check-in early to guarantee your seat. To find out if any spaces remain, call (310) 458-4904 or visit annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.

NATURE AT BERGAMOT

Frank Pictures Gallery at Bergamot Station Arts Center features its seventh show of works by artist David Florimbi. These gorgeous color paintings lift you up into their cerulean skies, take you soaring with the updrafts and you're never quite sure

SEE WATCH PAGE 7



Play Time

Cynthia Citron — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The haunting of Greystone Mansion

TWO MEN IN LOVE WITH THE SAME WOMAN. And, according to some reports, with each other as well. All living together in a 55-room mansion in the hills. What could possibly go wrong?

Everything, as Kathrine Bates' gripping drama "The Manor" so skillfully reveals.

Set in Beverly Hills' majestic Greystone Mansion, where many of the events actually unfolded, the play chronicles the launching of what developed into a national scandal, an infamous bribery trial and a double homicide.

It is the 1920s, and a friendly group has gathered in the living room of this magnificent home to celebrate the wedding of young Ned Doheny (Shawn Savage), only son and heir of mining magnate Edward Doheny (Darby Hinton) to the beautiful Lucy Smith (Shelby Kocee). (Because this is a fictionalized presentation, the time frame has been altered and the family name changed to MacAlister, but the sequence of events, ambiguous as they are, is based on the facts reported at the time.)

Off to one side of the living room, silently participating in the festivities, is the audience, some 80 theatergoers who are soon divided into three separate groups and prompted by a cast member to follow along to another room in the mansion.

As the action progresses, the groups pass each other in the long, echoing hallway on their way to successive scenes of the play. And with each scene the characters become better known and the plot thickens.

One subplot involves the long-time relationship between young Abby MacAlister (the bride of Sean MacAlister, introduced in the earlier wedding scene) and Sean's friend and secretary (and lover?) Gregory Pugh (Grinnell Morris).

Simultaneously, Sean's father, Charles MacAlister is having clandestine meetings with a prominent politician to acquire the drilling rights to a massive oil reserve owned by the government. The politician acquiesces without opening the project to alternative bids and subsequently "borrows" $100,000 from his friend, MacAlister.

When the politician is implicated in another similar action which develops into the notorious Teapot Dome scandal, MacAlister and his "loan" become embroiled in the legal proceedings that follow. MacAlister's loan is perceived as a bribe, his reputation is tarnished, and the family's downhill slide begins.

Kathrine Bates, who plays MacAlister's long-suffering wife, Marion, is as adept an actress as she is a playwright, and she and director Beverly Olevan keep the action moving and the excellent ensemble cast credible and appealing.

Bates, who, along with David Hunt Stafford of Theatre 40, has been producing "The Manor" for the past decade, was the writer and director of last season's Theatre 40 hit "The Color of Rose." She and Stafford produce "The Manor" for Theatre 40 in association with the city of Beverly Hills Recreation and Parks Department.

"The Manor" will be presented on July 26-27, Aug. 1-3, 8-9, 15-17, and Aug. 24 at 6 p.m. and Aug. 28-30 at 1 p.m.

The Greystone Mansion is located at 905 Loma Vista Dr. in Beverly Hills. Call (310) 694-6118 for reservations.

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

WATCH
FROM PAGE 6

where you're going to land.

Picture yourself in a boat on a river with a fisheye lens looking from the ground to the heavens. I see echoes of German artist Anselm Kiefer's landscape paintings in the angle at which you view these pieces; you feel as if you're dangling suspended from the ceiling to enter them. There's a vortex of energy at play in the skies and clouds above the valleys and canyons of the settings. There's also a four-panel work reminiscent of William Blake's spiritual drawings, especially in Florimbi's use of etched and darkened lines.

At Ruth Bachofner Gallery, "The Nature of Things" is a show of works by nine contemporary Los Angeles artists that includes paintings, photos, collages and sculptures.

Constance Mallinson's striking "Plywoodscape" is both beautiful and a trifle melancholic, depicting trunks and branches of trees that appear dead or taking a winter break, perhaps because they've provided the wood for the panel on which the painting appears.

Kim Abeles has created small, elaborate sculptures using photographs, maps and intricate objects. In one she places a model of Dodger Stadium with trees surrounding it, which you view as if from the air immediately above. And her "Enchanted Forest Infrared" is an intriguing above-and-below ground view of model trees on elongated, tall metal trunks, placed atop a street view map of the coast, and featuring brilliant fuchsia-colored leaf canopies with dangling roots below the platform.

Looking at Virginia Katz' "Formations-Bloom" you might see shattered reflections on a body of water, an abstract rendering of an aerial photo or perhaps an oil slick breaking up. This group show is less about the strict depiction of nature and more about the artists' relationship with it in a world in which nature itself is threatened.

At Craig Krull Gallery, "Bouyancy," a show of photographic works by artist James Fee, and "Yonder," tiny gems of aerial landscape photography by Rose-Lynn Fisher, are two exceptional examples of the power of the art form.

James Fee has been drawn to boats, water, islands and bridges throughout his career. The show at Craig Krull includes several series of photos, including one showcasing the legendary ocean liner SS United States, once glorious, now derelict, a metaphor for Fee's relationship to his country. "Four Days in New York" includes a haunting negative of the Brooklyn Bridge, called "Broken Span," which he ripped in half to express the idea of a bridge as both connector and obstacle to relationships.

But I fell in love with the small 4-by-6-inch photos by Rose-Lynn Fisher, who previously exhibited microscopic images of bees. Photos in the "Yonder" series were shot from 37,000 feet in the air.

At this height, even the most grandly-scaled geographic landscape can look as intricate as the veins and capillaries inside us. The show is intimate and simply beautiful.

SARAH A. SPITZ is a former freelance arts producer for NPR and former staff producer at public radio station KCRW-Santa Monica. She reviews theatre for LAOpeningNights.com.

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BAN
FROM PAGE 1

their unit to convert to non-smoking.

Councilmember Bobby Shriver, who had made the motion for the ban that carried only two weeks before, was not present.

Mayor Richard Bloom, who switched his position to oppose the measure, felt that there hadn't been enough outreach or public discussion before putting in place a law that impacted so many Santa Monicans.

"I am resolute that we do pass something that moves this issue forward," Bloom said.

That didn't satisfy O'Day.

Both men acknowledged prior to the meeting that they had gotten feedback from community members urging them to change their position on the smoking ban issue.

It is, however, highly unusual for the council to pass something and then change it on second reading, which is usually a procedural matter that proceeds with no discussion or public comment.

To change the outcome of the vote with Shriver absent felt wrong despite concerns about how the law accounted for new medical marijuana users, O'Day said.

"We can deal with that with direction to staff," O'Day said.

Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis felt that the changes she was looking for were too significant.

In effect, the measure that passed July 10 when Davis was absent would require smokers to opt into their apartment designation if they wanted to keep lighting up.

That was contrary to the path taken in the staff report, which made all units "smoking" unless the resident chose to make it "non-smoking."

Those against the designate-and-disclose portion of the measure felt that such an option would brand smokers and make them targets for landlords trying to pressure tenants out of their units.

Councilmember Kevin McKeown reiterated his opposition, saying that he could not vote for something that included such a clause.

With that in mind, Davis requested that staff bring back the original proposal so that they could have the discussion again with new information about the condo owners and marijuana users.

"We're not taking a step back, just taking additional thought to do what we will do in this regard," she said.

Councilmembers voted to bring the original staff report back, 5-1, with Councilmember Pam O'Connor against.

The result disappointed but did not shock anti-smoking advocates that had gathered for the meeting, despite the fact that they would not be allowed to speak because it was a second reading.

"It was important to show the council that the issue is important to the community," said Marlene Gomez, project director at Smokefree Air For Everyone. "No matter what happens, we will still be here."

Gomez took it as a positive sign that the matter would come back before the City Council. It meant that the ultimate goal of banning smoking in multi-unit housing was not dead, she said.

The question is a difficult one that forces the City Council to weigh property rights against health concerns.

Second-hand smoke is a known carcinogen which seeps through walls and electrical sockets and into adjoining apartment.

Those in favor of the ban see the measure as a health issue, and urge Santa Monica to pass ordinances like that found in South Pasadena, which will ban smoking in residential apartments entirely by 2013.

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TCS
FROM PAGE 3

garage. After graduating from high school, he immediately headed for Sacramento, where he became a part of the live music scene. Discovered at an open mic session in 2001, Greene recorded his debut album (for which he played most of the instruments) the year after and went on a college tour.

The rest, as they say, is history.

With seven albums of original work, an EP, DVD and a book of lyrics, including previously unreleased work, under his belt, Greene shows no signs of slowing down. Known for avid touring (about 100 to 125 dates a year), Greene has come to be known for putting on high-energy live shows with the likes of B.B. King, Huey Lewis and Buddy Guy at big-name venues and festivals across the country.

After more than a decade of remaining committed to his artistry, Greene will bring his vibrancy back to the state where it all began, but to a new venue that is sure to embrace his authentic sound.

He has been compared to Bob Dylan and The Band, though he never settles on a single, specific style. If he ever vacillates between playful and sorrowful, he never strays away from a signature soulfulness.

Greene is continuing to pave his own path as a musician, and the road is filled with plenty of learning experiences.

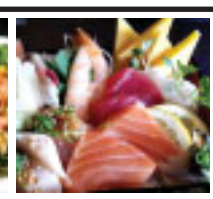
"Attempting to remove the ego from the writing process was an important step," he says. "Destroying the notion that I was some troubled artist on the path to enlightenment … and once I began to kill this part of myself, I was able to write in the voices I wanted to write in. I could let the singer exist in many realities."

Greene recently released his sixth solo album in 2010, the pop-infused "'Til The Light Comes," which followed on the heels of his acclaimed 2008 release "Giving Up The Ghost," his first album for 429 Records. The title "Giving Up The Ghost" is a kind of coming-to-terms with himself as an artist and a recognition of his place in a demanding music world.

"The phrase refers to the destruction of certain notions and practices that I used to hold in high esteem," he says. "I'm just sorta sick of being the kid with the harmonica rack. I don't want to be Bob Dylan."

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VTP

FROM PAGE 1

point they will be able to discuss the hours of testimony presented.

There's a lot to chew on.

The issue brought out the crowds, with over 100 people originally signed up to speak before repetitiveness and the late hour weeded the number down to a more manageable 70.

Their comments ranged from emotional appeals to substantive alternatives to the proposed development, which proponents say will bring new life to the east side of Santa Monica and opponents counter is a recipe for gridlock as well as a cruel mistreatment of seniors.

The testimony had an equal measure of political theater, with a representative of Assemblywoman Betsy Butler, who's running against Bloom for the 50th District seat, making an appearance to signal support of preserving the park, and Councilmember Kevin McKeown outing some speaking for the project for their connections to the developer.

Halfway through, an accident set off a fire alarm, forcing an evacuation of City Hall.

Christel Andersen, a resident of Pico neighborhood, found it symbolic.

"City Hall has a sense of humanity," she said. "The whole building is screaming that you can't close Village Trailer Park."

The points of the case are simple to list, but hard to address.

As proposed, the development would displace 58 households, many of which include the elderly, disabled and/or low income.

The developer, represented by Marc Luzzatto, has been trying to close the park since 2006. The rents, which range between $300 and $400 on average, are too low to sustain the park, which has desperate infrastructure needs and safety concerns, he said

"The park is no longer viable, and will have to close regardless of the disposition of the (development agreement)," Luzzatto told council members Tuesday.

In the place of the 109 trailer pads, Luzzatto proposes to build a complex of four buildings with 438 apartments and condominiums, 124 of which would be classified as rent-controlled residences.

The developer said that the design, reduced from almost 500 residences to roughly 440, came with the weight of the Planning Commission behind it.

Three commissioners who came to speak Tuesday begged to differ.

Although the project had changed slightly since its June 20 visit to the commission, the developer had not addressed some of the key concerns raised, said Ted Winterer, who spoke for the Planning Commission on Tuesday night.

While the commission had expressed an interest in reducing the overall size of the project, which they felt was out of place next to smaller residences in the neighborhoods nearby, the developer shaved off only 11,500 square feet.

That's less than 3 percent, Winterer said.

"Three is not where anyone landed," agreed Richard McKinnon, a second Planning Commissioner who spoke that evening.

Commissioners also complained that they had asked the City Council to consider an alternative proposal made by Ron Goldman, a local architect.

Goldman's concept would preserve 58 spaces for the remaining tenants and allow the developer to build a reduced project on the other half of the property.

The plan would reduce the size of the project, maintain residences for Village Trailer Park tenants and reduce the risk for the developer, which he called a "win-win-win."

A nonprofit even stepped in to express interest in buying and running the park.

Maurice Priest, a Sacramento-based attorney and president of the nonprofit Resident Owned Parks, Inc., said that his company could run the park and keep the rents at an average $383 per month if Luzzatto would sell the land for the 58 spaces for $1.5 million.

Luzzatto wasn't impressed by the idea.

He characterized Goldman's proposal as a "non-starter," and Priest's valuation as "instructive" as it puts a purchase price of $1.5 million on 60 percent of the project.

"It doesn't work, it's a non-starter and we won't do it," Luzzatto said.

In Priest's eyes, the purchase price he mentioned was illustrative rather than "instructive."

"I wasn't making an offer to him last night of $1.5 million," Priest said Wednesday. "What I was determining was what kind of a purchase price could be supported with existing rents."

Council members had little to say that evening about the hours of ideas and cajoling. Real discussion will proceed, without public comment, on Aug. 28.

If they accept the development agreement, the ball will begin rolling on the remaining 114 days left in the park closure notice, as negotiated by Luzzatto and City Hall in 2007.

The residents who currently live in the park would have a number of relocation options.

Under one, Village Trailer Park LLC would buy a brand new mobile home to be placed in either the City Hall-owned Mountain View Mobile Home Park or another park within 50 miles of the city.

The company would then transfer the title of the mobile home to the resident, making them the sole owner.

A different option would provide the residents a place to live in Santa Monica with $1,352 of the rent covered by the developer for up to 7.5 years or until the new East Village complex was built.

At that point, they could move into one of the affordable units in the new development.

While there is still a vocal group actively fighting for the preservation of the park, others are ready to take security over a win.

"Some handle the stress better than others, and I'm not one," said Mark Martinez, a resident of Village Trailer Park. "Whatever can be done to help us find a place to live in peace, I'd appreciate that very much."

ashley@smdp.com







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My Personnel File: Why Do I Want it and How Do I Get a Copy?

The permanent record from our youth may have been a ruse cooked up to keep children in line, but these days, we are close to having permanent records due to our rapidly all encompassing digital world. Thankfully, personnel files are not yet in digital format. While we still can, we should at least always be prepared to have access to these records to check and to fix any wrong information. We may also want access when we think we should get a raise and want to use former evaluations, client letters, or training records to get it.

The Why:

More often than not, employees do not even know how to access this information until they talk to a lawyer. And if you are talking to a lawyer about work, something's already gone wrong. Lawyers want to see what your performance record is, any personnel actions and the basis, or any other records that could help determine whether, say, a termination was legally wrongful or justifiable in light of the bigger history. Most of these employment cases turn on performance, the reason the employer gives for the termination, versus whatever you as a plaintiff will show. For example, one good way to maintain better records in your file is to put in writing what you disagree with, such as in a negative evaluation. Later when these are reviewed, and the employee has these notes, it will be more difficult for a bad employer to justify their wrongful behavior through performance issues.

Another reason to keep track is that personnel records can be subpoenaed by a third party, which is something that could happen in any type of legal action where you are involved. The law does require that you are given a notice and opportunity to object to the subpoena. If any of it is relevant to whatever legal action is happening, not necessarily even an employment case, then usually the subpoena is allowed.

The How:

There are no federal laws about these records, but California has very clear laws. Still, some employers do not know them or follow them properly so it is better to know your rights and educate your employer if needed. Here are the types of records that you are legally entitled to get: Pay Records: Employers have to keep for at least three years of your pay records and give their employees a copy within 21 days of request or face civil penalties (Labor Code 226). Personnel Files: Employers have to keep records and give you access to them within a reasonable time (Labor Code 1198.5). All documents you signed: These are the ones signed at hire or as continuing term and condition of employment (not documents signed in the course of conducting business). (Labor Code 432).

Tips: Though these requests do not have to be in writing, it is usually better so that you can keep track of the response time.

Employers may have part of your personnel file in different offices. Be sure to know where yours is kept so when the time comes you know how to find it without being given the run around.

Ask for or make copies of all personnel documents as they come up and hold on to the hiring paperwork so that you have your own set for comparison later.

Unemployment Benefits: Do I Qualify?

The news is not getting better about the economy and the unemployment office has to be really picky when it comes to claims. You were not laid off, but instead quit or were terminated. How can you file for unemployment and be approved? This is one of the most often asked questions from my clients. Some who are still working want to know if they should quit or wait to be terminated. The decision will vary from person to person to situation. The decision can also be personal or health related or that you just want to be out of there. Here are some legalities to consider in your decision.

The Quit:

In a situation with a quit, there is generally just one type of circumstance that will get you these benefits. If you can show that you quit because the work conditions were such that no reasonable person could be expected to work there, then you can still qualify for the benefits. This is a high standard limited to what the law requires of the workplace, such as safe conditions, free from harassment, being paid, and free from retaliation. This is not an easy showing to make and so arguments based on personality, rudeness, bad bosses, etc, will not fly.

The Termination:

Most people think that if you have been terminated, there is no unemployment for you. However, there are exceptions to this. Of course, if you have been terminated based on policy violations, gross misconduct, and other severe actions, then you are disqualified. One way to overcome that, if the facts are there, is the exception that the conduct may not have been appropriate but it was an isolated instance of poor judgment, or something excusable that happened the one time for a good reason. Criminal activity at work or assault or harassment is never excusable.

The Wrongful Termination:

If you have been "wrongfully terminated" in the legal sense, you may still qualify for unemployment. Most employees who file lawsuits have been terminated. If the facts are there for a lawsuit, then they should be there to qualify you for unemployment. You need to show that the termination was not based on whatever the employer is claiming, but because of some legal violation they have committed. For example, if you complain of sexual harassment, then a week later, you are terminated for some work issue that happened two months ago, then the termination was retaliation. When an employer retaliates for your report of a prohibited workplace activity, that employer just violated anti-retaliation laws.

Tip: If you are unemployed but develop a disability and you can't work, then you no longer qualify for unemployment. At this point, apply for State Disability Benefits. Again, these is not easy to get and you will need medical proof, but it is one safety we are lucky to have here in California.

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY SARA ELIOT, AN EMPLOYMENT ATTORNEY. SHE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

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MONDAY

4:00-5:00 pm (1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal Law, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman

TUESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)

4:00pm-5:00pm (1st and 3rd Tuesday of the Month). Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, contract disputes, commercial disputes, landlord/tenant disputes, personal injury medical malpractice, and wrongful death.

5:00 - 7:00 pm Wrongful termination, harassment; discrimination; wage and hour ;denial of unemployment benefits; and general counseling on issues in the workplace w/ attorney Nina Baumler. (Call for Appointment) at the 2901 Ocean Park location of the Novel Café.

WEDNESDAY

11:00am-3:00pm Special Education Law (By appointment only. Also available by appointment on Mondays or Fridays from 11:30 am to 3:00 pm) Attorney Alison Arkin has extensive experience working with parfents of special needs children with a wide range of disabilities, and can help them obtain appropriate services from both school districts and regional centers. She has experience with every level of the process including obtaining appropriate assessements, representation at IEP meeting, mediations, settlement negotiations and hearings.

5:00-6:30pm Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields

THURSDAY

12:00-2:00pm Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz (By appointment only)

4:00-5:00pm (By appointment only) Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injuries cases with Attorney and Legal Grind founder Jeffrey J. Hughes

FRIDAY

4:00-5:00pm (2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with Attorney & former Deputy D.A. Jacob Glucksman. By Appointment only

4:00-5:00pm (1st & 3rd Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.

SATURDAY

10am-11:30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday/month) Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills & Living Trusts, Will Contests, Probate, Elder Law Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, Construction Contracts Family Law including Divorce, Child/Spousal Support, Prenuptial Agreements, Personal Injury, Accidents, Premises and Product Liability, & Legal Malpractice with Attorney Richard Ruman. (By appointment only-Please call Call Dick at 310.273.7474)

12PM TO 2PM Personal Injury free consultation; Regular consultation on all areas of Estate Planning, Landlord/Tenant rights, Mortgage Litigation, Premises Liability, Construction Accidents, and Products Liability with attorney SandeepAgarwal. (By appointment only-Please call Mr. Agarwal at 866.844.4125)

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S&P 500 drops on weak earnings; Dow gains ground

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK Whipsawed by strong earnings from some companies, weak ones from others, including the once infallible Apple, investors couldn't make up their mind whether to buy or sell on Wednesday. In the end, they mostly sold, but barely.

The Standard & Poor's 500 slipped 0.42 points, or 0.03 percent, to end 1,337.89. The tiny loss extended the broad index's losses to a fourth straight day. A big reason was Apple, which dropped $22.12 to $578.80, a loss of 4 percent. A sharp drop in new home sales also fed the selling.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 58.73 points, or 0.5 percent, to 12,676.05. That snapped a three-day, triple-digit losing streak for the index.

Helping the Dow were big gains from two of its components, Boeing and Caterpillar. The duo contributed 24 points to the index, or nearly half of its gain.

Boeing rose $2, nearly 3 percent, to $74.03 after reporting surprisingly strong earnings. The aircraft maker also raised its profit forecast for all of 2012.

Caterpillar, which makes mining and construction equipment, rose $1.17, or 1.4 percent, to $82.60. The company blew away analysts' estimates with a 67 percent surge in profits for the second quarter. Caterpillar credited strong sales of mining equipment overseas and a strengthening housing market.

Shortly after Caterpillar announced its results, the optimism about housing took a hit. The Commerce Department said sales of new homes plunged 8 percent last month, the steepest drop since February last year. Sales in the Northeastern U.S. plummeted 60 percent. The decline suggests a weaker job market is dampening any pickup in the industry.

"Housing is not really recovering, it's bottoming," said Steven Ricchiuto, chief economist at Mizuho Securities, a brokerage firm. "That's still a problem with the economy."

Home builders were hit hard. Beazer Homes fell 13 cents, or 5 percent, to $2.35. KB Home lost 32 cents, or 3 percent, to $9.31.

The biggest loser in the S&P was Netflix, the video subscription company. It fell $20.11 to $60.28, a loss of 25 percent. The company reported late Tuesday that its net income plunged 91 percent in the latest quarter. Investors are worried about rising licensing fees and slowing subscriber growth.

Stocks were pushed higher at the opening by the gains in Caterpillar and Boeing. But the disappointing home sales news soon cut into the gains, and trading remained choppy throughout the day.

Apple didn't help. Late Tuesday, the company reported net income rose 21 percent in the second quarter instead of the 33 percent that analysts were expecting. The company said consumers appear to be holding off on buying iPhones before a new model comes out, even though it isn't expected until October.

Apple makes up 12.7 percent of the Nasdaq composite, making it by far the biggest component of the technology-focused index. The Nasdaq lagged the broader market, giving up 0.3 percent, or 8.75 points, to close at 2,854.24.

The bad news from tech stocks didn't end there. After the closing bell, Zynga, the maker of online video games like "Farmville," slashed its forecast for full-year earnings, blaming delays in launching new games, dwindling revenue from existing web games and a "more challenging environment" on the Facebook platform. The stock plunged $2.04, or 40 percent, to $3.05 in after-hours trading.

In other corporate news, computer security provider Symantec soared $1.79 to $14.96. The company announced the departure of its CEO, Enrique Salem, and reported earnings per share and revenue came in well ahead of Wall Street's estimates.

WellPoint, the nation's second largest insurer, lowered its earnings forecast. Its stock fell $7.41, or 12 percent, $54.01, the biggest one-day drop for the stock in more than three years. The insurer said enrollment has been slipping as companies cut jobs.

Corning said its second-quarter profit sank 39 percent on lower sales volumes and prices of its liquid-crystal-display glass products. Its stock fell 93 cents to $11.14, or 8 percent.

Stock in RadioShack plunged $1.05, or 29 percent, to $2.60, an all-time low for the electronics retailer. The company reported an unexpected loss for its second quarter and suspended its dividend.

In Europe, stock indexes mostly higher. A European Central Bank policymaker said the region's bailout fund should be given the power to borrow money from the central bank, increasing its financial resources. That would be necessary if Spain asked for a bailout.

The yield on the Spain's 10-year government bond fell to 7.37 percent from 7.53 percent late Tuesday. That's a positive sign that investors are slightly less worried about Spain's ability to repay its debts.

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Fear prompts gun sales, panic after theater massacre

KRISTEN WYATT & MIKE BAKER
Associated Press

DENVER Firearms sales are surging in the wake of the Colorado movie massacre as buyers express fears about both personal safety and lawmakers who are using the shooting to seek new weapons restrictions.

In Colorado, the site of Friday's shooting that killed 12 and injured dozens of others, gun sales jumped in the three days that followed. The state approved background checks for 2,887 people who wanted to purchase a firearm — 25 percent more than the average Friday to Sunday period in 2012 and 43 percent more than the same interval the week prior.

Dick Rutan, owner of Gunners Den in suburban Arvada, Colo., said requests for concealed-weapon training certification "are off the hook." His four-hour course in gun safety, required for certification for a concealed-weapons permit in Colorado, has drawn double the interest since Friday.

"What they're saying is: They want to have a chance. They want to have the ability to protect themselves and their families if they are in a situation like what happened in the movie theater," Rutan said.

Day-to-day gun sales frequently fluctuate, but the numbers also look strong outside of Colorado, too.

Seattle's home county, King, saw nearly twice as many requests for concealed pistol licenses than the same timeframe a year ago. Connecticut processed 38 percent more gun-related records over the past several days compared with the same period two months prior. Florida recorded 2,386 background checks on Friday, up 14 percent from the week before. Oregon checks on Friday and Saturday were up 11 percent over the month past. Four days of checks in California were up 10 percent month-to-month.

During the past decade, June and July have consistently been the slowest months for gun sales, according to FBI data.

Jay Wallace, who owns Adventure Outdoors in Smyrna, Ga., found that his sales on Saturday were up 300 percent from the same day a year ago — making it one of the best Saturdays his business has ever had. He said customers are often afraid when there's a gun-related tragedy that some lawmakers might try and push through an anti-gun agenda.

"We shouldn't let one sick individual make us forget and lose sight of freedoms in this country," Wallace said. A few members of Congress have talked this week about the need for tougher gun laws, though political leaders in Washington have shown no sign of bringing up such measures any time soon.

Authorities have said that the suspected Colorado shooter, James Holmes, methodically stockpiled weapons and explosives at work and home in recent months. He purchased thousands of rounds of ammunition and a shotgun, a semi-automatic rifle and two Glock pistols, authorities said.

On Friday, clad in head-to-toe combat gear, he burst into a midnight showing of "The Dark Knight Rises," tossed gas canisters into the crowd and opened fire. The shooting killed 12 people and wounded dozens of others.

Police in the Denver suburb of Aurora say Holmes also booby-trapped his apartment. Holmes is now in solitary confinement at a local jail.

The rise in gun sales reflects but one of the anxieties created by the shootings. Since the massacre, there have been reports of chaos at movie theaters, apparently sparked by misunderstandings or careless words.

A confrontation with an intoxicated man in an Arizona theater caused about 50 people to flee, authorities said. A southern California man was arrested after authorities say he made allusions to the Aurora massacre after the movie didn't start on time. In New Jersey, a showing of "Batman" was canceled after someone stood up during the movie, opened an emergency exit and then returned to their seat.

About 90 minutes into a Monday night showing of "Batman" in Santa Monica, Calif., a commotion caused some girls to shriek and two dozen people to sprint for the exit, jumping over seats and pushing each other out of the way. It turned out that a large man with a backpack was actually not a threat and was simply having a medical problem.

"This was nothing, and yet it startled us and rattled us so much," said moviegoer Paria Sadighi.

Nationally, the shootings have triggered a fierce debate over gun control and whether government has a role in reining in the ownership of firearms.

Gun sales often fluctuate based on news events, especially whenever people think the passage of more restrictive gun laws is imminent. Sales spiked following the election of President Barack Obama, when weapons enthusiasts expressed fear that the Democrat might curtail gun rights. FBI figures also show background checks for handgun sales jumped in Arizona following the shooting of U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in 2011.

"It's not uncommon for us to see spikes in requests for concealed pistol licenses when there's a significant gun-related tragedy," said Sgt. Cindi West of the King County sheriff's office in Washington state.

Some Democratic lawmakers in Congress cited the shooting as evidence of the need for tougher gun control laws — particularly a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines. Congress, however, hasn't passed strict legislation in more than a decade.



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City of Santa Monica
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

CIVIC AUDITORIUM REMODEL & SEISMIC UPGRADE - ENVIRONMENTAL ABATEMENT - PHASE A
SP2173

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, August 8th, 2012,** to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

PRE-BID JOB WALK (NON-MANDATORY):
Tuesday, July 31, 2012 @ 9 a.m.
At Main Entrance to the Civic Auditorium
1885 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $75,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 45
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $500.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's Finance website at: http://www01.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/. The Contractor is required to have an **ASB** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

Go all in,
It's for charity!



Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica
5th Annual Texas Hold Em' Poker Tournament

Saturday
August 11, 2012

at The Sheraton Delfina Hotel
5-11 PM

$100 Buy in
(Includes $1500 in chips & a buffet dinner)

Proceeds benefit youth oriented programs and grants including academic and music scholarships through Kiwanis Charities
9 Major prizes awarded to the final table!

BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE - Collared shirts and slacks required for gentlemen.
No jeans, gym shorts, or t-shirts.

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

TO BUY IN – Call
Kathy Irby @ 310-882-4800 x 2239
Or email Kirby@NBCAL.com
Or visit www.kiwanisclubsm.org

SURF REPORT



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

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP:** 63.5°

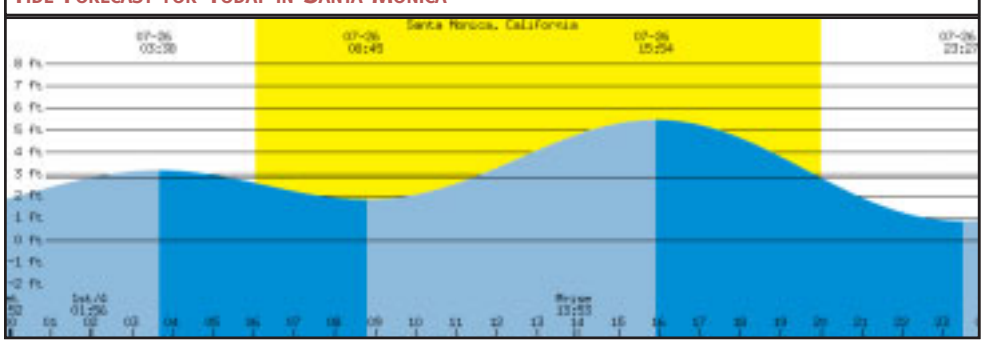
SWELL FORECAST

Should run waist max at south facing breaks, smaller at west facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

SHOULD RUN WAIST HIGH AT SOUTH FACING BREAKS, KNEE HIGH AT WEST FACING SPOTS.

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, SMM

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 Los Alisos 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 Don 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 Las 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 CIWW 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.

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OLYMPICS

Munich widows call for ceremony protest

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON The widows of two Israeli Olympians killed by Palestinian gunmen at the 1972 Munich Olympics are urging spectators to stage a silent protest during Friday's opening ceremony for the London Games.

Ankie Spitzer and Ilana Romano are demanding that London organizers recognize their husbands' deaths and honor them at Olympic Stadium 40 years after the slayings.

The two women have asked audience members to stand in silence when International Olympic Committee chief Jacques Rogge rises to speak at Friday's ceremony. Since Olympic organizers have rejected a moment of silence for the 11 slain Israeli athletes and coaches, the widows say the silent protest will be a victory in their fight to have the men remembered at the proper place and time.

"They were not accidental tourists," Spitzer told reporters Wednesday, her hoarse voice rising with indignation. "They came with dreams and came home in coffins."

The 1972 Munich Olympics were the first held in Germany since the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, and was designed to blot out the tainted images of competition in Nazi Germany. But in the second week, the Black September militant group penetrated the laxly-secured village and took Israeli team members hostage. Within a day of Sept. 5, 11 died.

The games were briefly suspended, but the Olympics were forever changed. Security costs soared and just kept rising with every games.

For Spitzer and Romano, it was a simpler time. Ankie Spitzer and her fencing coach husband, Andrei, had just had a daughter, Anouk, who is also pressing the fight for the silent protest. They say Andrei was thrilled to be an Olympian and firmly believed in the higher goals of the games.

Ilana Romano, meanwhile, had had a bad feeling about her husband Yossef's trip to the games. Romano, Israel's middleweight weightlifting champion, had injured his knee and dropped out after the clean-and-jerk event. He was set to return to Israel on Sept. 6 for an operation.

Romano tried to escape during the siege. Although injured and using crutches, Romano lunged at one of his captors, slashing him with a paring knife and grabbing his gun. Another militant shot him, and he was left to bleed to death in front of his bound teammates.

The widows took their message to the public in a news conference Wednesday, saying they were tired of hearing about how the hands of the IOC are tied by protocol. They hope that the IOC notices — and decides to act.

Nor were they moved by a tribute Monday at the athletes' village, when Rogge in a surprise move led a solemn minute of silence. They are also not satisfied by the plan to honor the slain at a private reception in London on Aug. 6.

The IOC says the opening ceremony is not an appropriate arena to remember the dead, despite pressure from politicians in the United States, Israel and Germany. A committee started by a Jewish organization in Rockland, New York, has gathered more than 100,000 signatures for the moment of silence and count President Barack Obama among their supporters.

IOC spokesman Mark Adams defended the organization and Rogge, saying that it recognizes the deaths as a dark time for the Olympics.

"We are marking the moment in a number of ways that we think are the most appropriate," Adams told The Associated Press. "The President made a moving speech in the village, there will be a ceremony next week in cooperation with the Israeli NOC where the president will speak and we will mark the exact anniversary in Munich ....The IOC will mark and will continue to mark the darkest moment in its history."

The families flatly reject the official reasons they've been given over the years for why this cannot happen. At Montreal, they said they were told the reason was that the Arabs would leave. At Barcelona, it was about an unwillingness to bring politics to the games. At Atlanta, the reason was protocol. At Athens, organizers said it was not the appropriate time.

The widows ask: Would they face the same problem if the athletes were the U.S. Dream Team? Or any other country?

"They came from the wrong country and the wrong religion," Spitzer said at the news conference.

Now is the time, they say. And they promise that if the IOC keeps saying no, they will keep fighting, to the next generation if necessary. They met with Rogge later Wednesday to present the petition.

"We are outraged, we are angry, we are sad," Spitzer said of Rogge's refusal of their request.

Romano and Spritzer say the years have only strengthened their resolve. They note that organizers in Vancouver held a moment of silence at the opening ceremony for Nodar Kumaritashvili, a Georgian luger killed during a high-speed training run in Whistler just hours before the opening of the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

The families say the circumstances may be different but the principle is the same. The Olympics should honor their own, the members of the so-called "Olympic Family." They say the Olympics are just not like anything else — they are about sportsmanship, peace, goodwill. And when the Israeli athletes were attacked, the entire Olympic movement was too.

"It is not just a competition," Spitzer said. "It is an idea."

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD)

Will receive sealed bids from contractors holing a type B1 or C10 license, on the following: Bid # 13.01.BB-03-114435, Stadium Lighting Project at Malibu High School. This scope of work is estimated to be between $157,500 - $192,500 and includes; installation of four, 70' stadium lights including all electrical infrastructure and pole installation, lights, poles and foundations are OFCI. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before Thursday, 08/23/12 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. All Bidders must attend one Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on Tuesday, 08/07/12 at 10:00 AM, or Thursday, 08/09/12 at 10:00 AM. All Bidders must be prequalified prior to submittal of bids.
Please contact Sheere at **BBprojectinfo@smmusd.org**,
for prequalification requirements, contract documents and bid information.

MOVIE TIMES

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

The Deer Hunter (R) 3hrs 03min
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, 6:15pm

Amazing Spider-Man 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 16min
3:00pm, 9:45pm

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

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

Do some shopping, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Deal with others individually. There is an element of confusion that marks your plans and interactions. Let go of the status quo, and be ready to adapt to different needs and ideas. Confirm statements. Tonight: Togetherness works.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You take quite a stand, and others immediately become challenging. See and understand how you provoke these responses. You might want to adapt some, at least in how you present your case. News comes in that forces you to take a different look at a situation. Tonight: Sort through answers.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Dive into your work and complete as many errands as possible. Deal with a partner on a one-on-one level. This person is changing. Your response seems more than adequate, and it reflects your understanding. Watch a tendency to overdo things. Tonight: Do for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Tap into your innate creativity. You are a source of ever-changing ideas and solutions. News comes indirectly that you might have had a premonition about. Tonight: Fun and games.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You are energized and in touch with your needs. You might want to clarify a request from a partner, close friend or loved one. You know there is something you aren't quite getting. Rearrange your schedule if need be. Tonight: Head home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Observe what is happening with a key person. Clarify a situation, rather than allowing confusion to drift deeper into plans and ideas. It is very important to honor the natural transformation that a relationship goes through. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Investigate and root out what might be going on with a daily matter or routine. Misunderstandings weave their way through this issue. You, as well as others, could use some explanation. As a result, you'll revise your thinking. Tonight: Do some shopping.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You must deal with an important project or decide to share some time with a special person in your life. You might not be aware of the implications of your actions. Know that others respect and like the way you handle yourself. Tonight: Consider starting your weekend early.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Take your time getting going. If you feel you need time off, take it now, as your dream life is active and you could be quite tired. Financial matters are subject to change, for better or for worse. Tonight: Take a break designed just for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might not realize what an unstoppable force you are. Others often look on with awe as you continue like the Energizer Bunny. Sometimes, as hard as you might try, simplifying a situation is very difficult. Tonight: Make plans with friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Others observe your actions. You might get jittery with this knowledge. Understand that you are unique in your own right; that is what draws others to you. Tonight: In the limelight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Reach out for more information. You might be more perplexed than you realize and could be thinking on a different level from many other people. This could explain why what you are hearing makes no sense. Tonight: Let your imagination plan your weekend.

Happy birthday

This year you become focused on home, family and your immediate circle. Others might try to distract you, yet they get nowhere. At times you might seem closed down, as you are so deep in thought. Ask questions to verify what you are hearing if something seems out of kilter. If you are single, you might attract someone who has difficulty with your level of depth. Be willing to move on. If you are attached, spend more time with your significant other. Take on a project together, and you will become closer. SCORPIO can be possessive, and there is very little you can do to change this pattern.

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

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



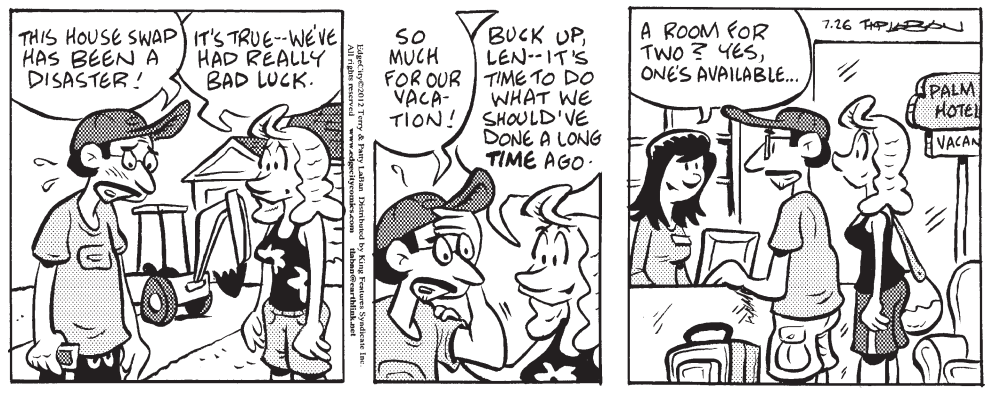
Strange Brew
By John Deering



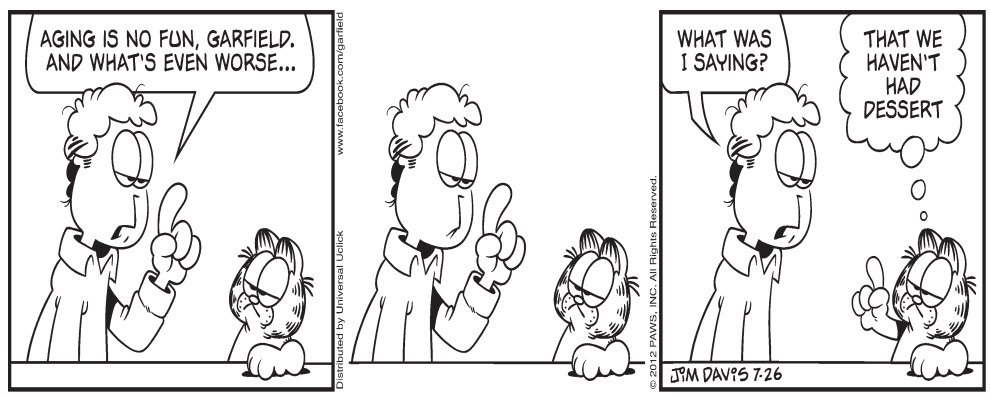
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



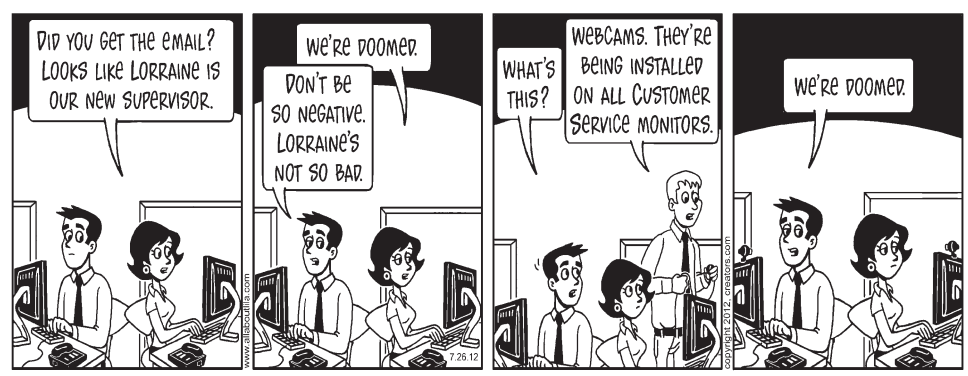
Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

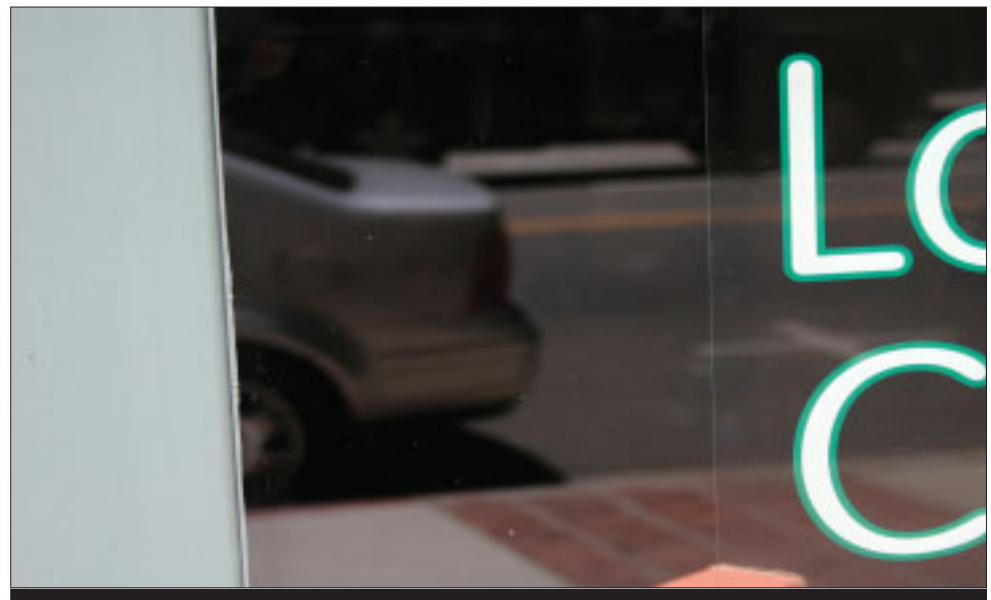
1	7	2	6	3	5	8	4	9
6	5	4	8	9	2	1	3	7
3	8	9	4	7	1	5	2	6
7	4	6	1	2	8	3	9	5
2	9	3	7	5	6	4	1	8
8	1	5	9	4	3	6	7	2
5	2	7	3	8	4	9	6	1
9	3	1	5	6	7	2	8	4
4	6	8	2	1	9	7	5	3

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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 Impromptu
6 Respect, in slang
11 Head out
12 Half of Hispaniola
13 Drying rack
14 Sachet scent
15 Knight's foe
17 Farm grazer
19 Painter Ernst
20 Old crone
23 Brother of Isis
25 Informal farewell
26 Run-D.M.C.'s field
28 Almost forever
29 Valise piece
30 Homer's neighbor
31 Write hastily
32 Was in front
33 Seasoned sausage
35 Ketchup brand
38 Colors
41 Ball's partner
42 Bothered
43 Piquant
44 Towel material

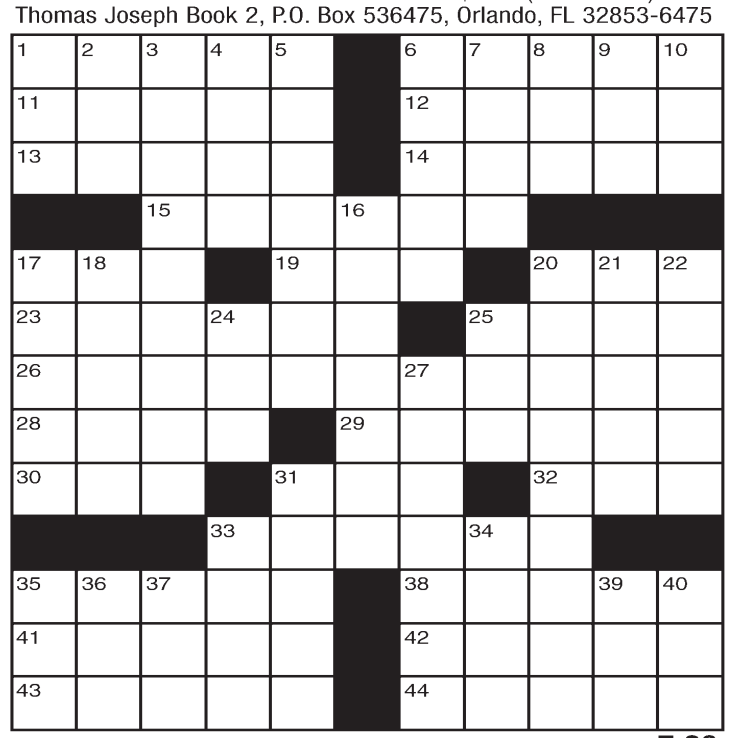
DOWN

1 Imitating
2 Agnus —
3 Inborn
4 Finished
5 Tile material
6 Perennial flower
7 Downpour
8 Motor need
9 Sch. org.
10 Attack command
16 Blended fuel
17 "George M!" subject
18 Missouri river
20 Uncompromising sort
21 "Thereby hangs —"
22 Stood stunned
24 Hwys.
25 Toe count
27 Jackhammer sound
31 Like jitterbug music
33 Unexpected problem
34 Spider's kin
35 Bowler, e.g.
36 Memorable time
37 Travel stop
39 Old salt
40 Messy room

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

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



7-26

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/24
5 9 38 46 51
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: $52M

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

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/25
11 15 19 21 30

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 7/25
MIDDAY: 0 3 2
EVENING: 4 7 4

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 7/25
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:44.33

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

■ Police in Decatur, Ala., were called to a home on South Locust Street in May on a report of a gunshot. They found that a 61-year-old man, who had been drinking beer to ease his toothache, had finally had enough and attempted to eliminate the tooth by shooting his jaw with a .25-caliber pistol. He was hospitalized.

■ Undignified Deaths: (1) A prominent karate instructor and superhero impersonator (of the Marvel Comics character Wolverine) was found dead in Carshalton, England, in February, and a coroner's inquest in May determined it was yet another sexual-misadventure death. The 50-year-old was discovered wrapped in a red nylon sheet with his neck and ankles tightly bound in what police estimated was three rolls of cling film. (2) Though authorities could not be certain, evidence suggests that Vicente Benito, whose body was found in his home in the village of Canizal, Spain, in May, might have been lying there for almost 20 years. The mayor of the 520-person hamlet told a reporter for London's The Guardian that since the man had always been a hermit, he had apparently not been missed. No one noticed a smell coming from the home, but since the house was close to a pigsty, that was not unusual, either.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1901 – Hans Kammler, German engineer and SS officer (disappeared in 1945)

1901 – Maxwell Taylor, American general (d. 1987)

1901 – Chen Yi, Chinese communist military commander and politician (d. 1972)

1904 – Christopher Isherwood, English-born writer (d. 1986)

1906 – Albert Sabin, American polio researcher (d. 1993)

WORD UP!

jubilate
**\ JOO-buh-leyt ** , verb;
1. To show or feel great joy; rejoice; exult. 2. To celebrate a jubilee or joyful occasion.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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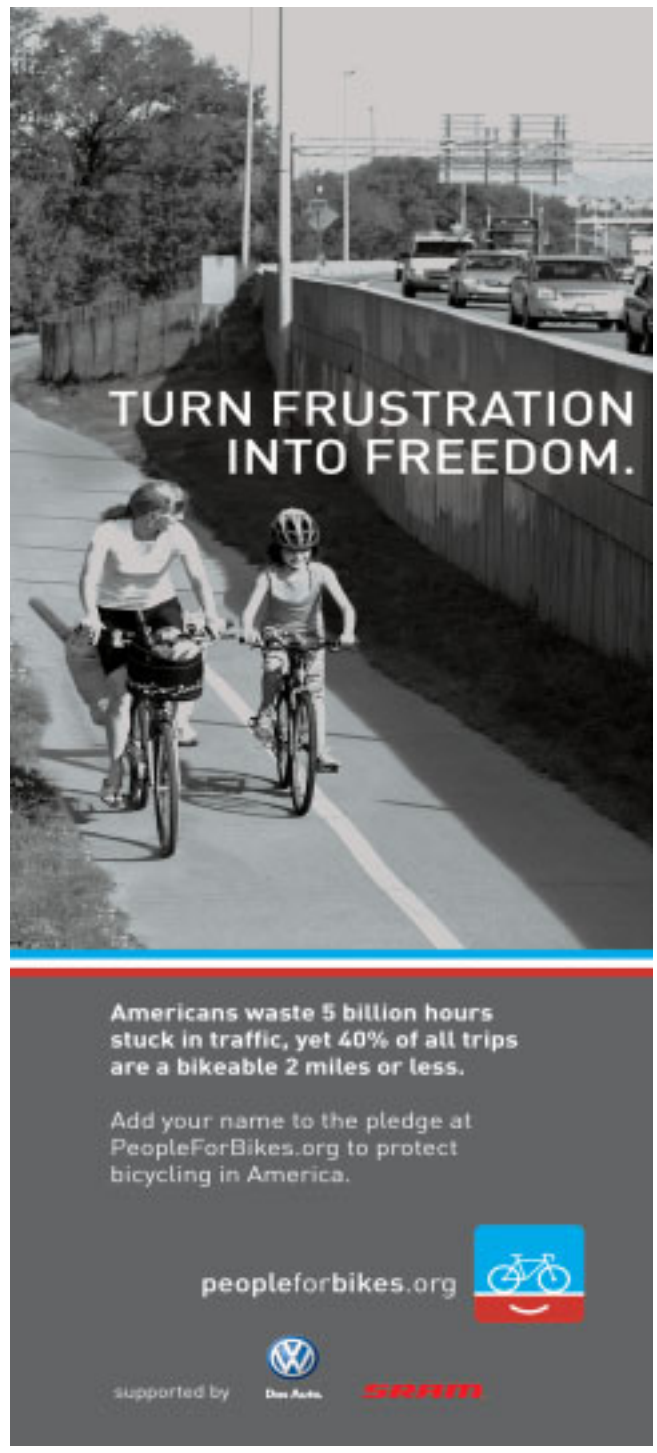
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CORRECTION OF ADDRESS WHICH ADVERTISED ON7/24:
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012127523 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 06/25/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as MAKS BIG DEALS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: ABDELMALEK NASHED ABDELMALEK 2612 S. BARRINGTON AVE., LOS ANGELES 90064. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)04/03/2012. /s/: ABDELMALEK NASHED ABDELMALEK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 06/25/2012. 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 07/24/2012, 07/31/2012, 08/07/2012, 08/14/2012.







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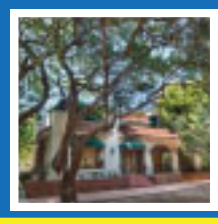
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In Escrow

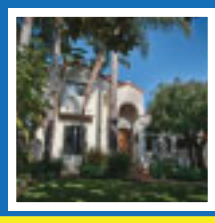




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