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Volume 10 Issue 218



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

MARRIAGE IS NO LONGER SACRED
SEE PAGE 7

THE GO TAKE A WALK ISSUE

Commissioners inch closer to finalizing electoral districts

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO By the end of the week, the political landscape of California may be substantially different than it was at the beginning.

The California Citizens Redistricting Commission, a 14-member group comprised of five Democrats, five Republicans and four "decline-to-state" voters, will release a new set of maps redrawing California's 177 legislative, congressional and Board of Equalization districts.

Based on the timing of the release, just over two weeks before the Aug. 15 deadline the commission faces, those maps will likely be close to the ones that Californians will have to live with for the next 10 years, said Allan Hoffenblum, publisher of California Target Book, a subscription-based political analysis service.

That's mostly good news for Santa Monica, at least in regards to its California State Senate district, said Mayor Richard Bloom.

Santa Monica falls in the 23rd district, currently served by Sen. Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills).

Bloom and former Mayor Nathaniel Trives traveled to Sacramento in mid-July to lobby for three main Santa Monica interests in the district: Keeping Santa Monica from being divided between two districts, maintaining a connection to Malibu and ensuring that it be connected to the Santa Monica

SEE ELECTED PAGE 8



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

STEP BY STEP: **Walk Score named Santa Monica the 12th most walkable city in the U.S. Walk Score takes into account a person's proximity to public transit, grocery stores, restaurants, schools, parks and other amenities. West Hollywood took the top spot.**

Santa Monica named 12th most walkable city in U.S.

BY COLIN NEWTON
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE When you're a pedestrian in Santa Monica, you're in the 12th most walkable city in the country, and the fourth most walkable in the state. At least, according to Walk Score you are.

Walk Score is a Seattle-based group that gives cities, neighborhoods and addresses grades based on how easy it is to get around and do errands without using a car.

Walk Score takes note of nearby public transit stops, as well as the proximity of grocery stores, restaurants, schools and other amenities, to formulate the grade.

Walk Score also promotes neighborhoods for the health and environmental benefits of their walkability, as well as the economic benefits of walking, rather than driving, around.

The most walkable cities in California are West Hollywood, which received a score of 89, followed by Albany, 86, and San Francisco, 85. Santa Monica received a score of 82, tying with Berkeley.

SEE WALKING PAGE 9

Business is blooming for mobile vendor

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Sometimes, the occasion calls for flowers and fast, but preferably not the ones proffered by peddlers at the base of freeway exits.

For those moments, the Westside has The Flower Truck, a new spin on what has become a standard of mobile convenience, the vending truck.

Jenifer Kaplan, proprietress and principal truck driver, launched the venture in mid-February, just in time for Valentine's Day.

"I was getting ready, getting ready, getting ready," Kaplan said. "Obviously it would be foolish not to launch by Valentine's Day. It put a fire under me."

Some background — Kaplan worked, and continues to work, for local retailer and designer Lisa Kline, but she's had entrepreneurial dreams since her early 20s.

She'd come up with business plans, but her ideas never seemed to go anywhere. Kaplan has a word for that: Wherewithal.

"It takes the wherewithal," she said. "I had the idea for a long time, but it wasn't until I found the truck that it began to take shape."

The truck, affectionately dubbed Lola, served as an ice cream truck in a former life. Kaplan snatched it up and, with the help of a friend, designed the full wrap graphics that catch the eye and lure in potential customers.

Wherever she drives the converted truck, Kaplan is met with "unabashed enthusiasm."

"Honestly, there are few people who walk by and don't say something, take a picture, comment, or just say hello," Kaplan said.

Of course, her wares help too.

SEE TRUCK PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

So fresh and so clean
Arizona Avenue and Second Street, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Find fresh produce at Downtown's weekly Farmers' Market and sample food from The Curious Palate. For more information, visit smgov.net/farmers_market.

Calling all teen writers
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
"Write On!" is a workshop set up for aspiring teen writers in middle and high school. Teens can come together, communicate and discuss their craft while helping one another improve. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Check mate
Ocean Park Branch Library
2601 Main St.,
3:30 p.m. — 5:45 p.m.
Chess has been played for hundreds of years by people of all ages, and now you can learn how to play this historic and fascinating game. Youth and family chess is a weekly activity intended to teach children and adults. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Don't break the chain!
Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave.,
10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
The "Chain Letter" group art exhibit began when one artist invited 10 other artists to create works, who each invited 10 more artists to create works, in the end their creations being installed at Shoshana Wayne Gallery. As an exhibit, "Chain Letter" is meant to reflect the way that information is spread through society today. Cost: free. Open to all. Runs through Aug. 25. For more information, call (310) 453-7535 or visit www.shoshanawayne.com.

Abstract at the Annenberg
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Seven of Santa Monica College's current and former students from the Art Mentor Program will be presenting work at the opening of the "Cultural Abstraction, Contemporary Figurations" exhibit. Their paintings will deal with identity, empowerment and regeneration in modern Southern California. Part of the Beach = Culture program. Runs through Nov. 13. Cost: free. Open to all. No reservation required. For more information, call (310) 458-4904 or visit www.beachhouse.smgov.net.

Writer's block
Edgemar Center for the Arts
2437 Main St.,
8 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Emmy-award winning writer Kenny Solms' "It Must Be Him" is a musical comedy that tells the story of a TV writer from the golden age of variety television who runs out of ideas and out of luck. Cost: $34.99. Runs through Sept. 4. For more information, call (310) 392-7327 or visit www.edgemarcenter.org.

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

Celebrate safety

The Santa Monica Police Department will celebrate safety with the annual "National Night Out Against Crime."

The block party will take place on Aug. 2 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 333 Olympic Dr.

"National Night Out is an opportunity for the police department to honor the exceptional relationships our officers and community share," said Police Chief Tim Jackman in a statement released on Monday.

Traffic between Fourth and Main streets will be shut down for the festivities.

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, this year's event will include an array of carnival games, prizes, music and shows.

Free parking will be available in the Civic Center Parking Structure. A free bike valet service will be located on Main Street near Olympic Drive.

SERLI POLATOGLU

MAIN STREET

CVB wins international accreditation

The Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau has been recognized for its achievement in marketing Santa Monica as a tourist attraction known across the globe.

The SMCVB received an official accreditation from Destination Marketing Association International (DMAI), the bureau announced Tuesday.

The SMCVB is a non-profit organization that tries to increase visitor and tourist revenues, as well as create more local employment opportunities, by promoting the city of Santa Monica as a travel destination.

According to Misti Kerns, the bureau's president and CEO, the SMCVB has always tried to market Santa Monica as both a California beach town and as a world-class hot-spot for travel.

"We are thrilled to be honored with an accreditation from such a prestigious organization as DMAI," Kerns said.

DMAI is an independent group that rates the quality and performance of organizations that specialize in international travel marketing in over 30 countries.

The SMCVB will join 130 other organizations across the world that have received an accreditation from DMAI.

The SMCVB hopes that this accreditation will increase Santa Monica's standing within the international tourist market.

"SMCVB earning this major industry recognition proves the credibility, dedication and commitment to international standards and benchmarks on behalf of our community," said City Manager Rod Gould. "We count on the good work of SMCVB to convey to the world all that Santa Monica has to offer."

COLIN NEWTON

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

McDonald's: Apple slices in every Happy Meal

BY CHRISTINA REXRODE
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK An apple a day may keep the doctor away. But when you put it in a Happy Meal, it might help keep regulators at bay too.

McDonald's on Tuesday said that it would add apple slices and reduce the portion of French fries in its children's meal boxes this fall, effectively taking away consumers' current choice between either having apples with caramel dip or fries as a Happy Meal side. McDonald's also said it is offering a new mobile app focused on the nutrition of its fare, and is reducing sugars, saturated fats and calories in its main menu items.

The moves by McDonald's Corp., which has become a leader among its peers in offering nutritious choices like oatmeal and salads, comes as fast food chains face intense scrutiny from health officials and others who blame the industry for childhood obesity and other health-related problems. Some municipalities, including San Francisco, have even banned fast food restaurants from selling kids' meals with toys.

Critics wasted no time complaining that the changes don't go far enough. Kelle Louaillier, executive director of a group called Corporate Accountability International, said McDonald's is just trying to get ahead of impending regulations that will restrict the marketing of junk food to children and require restaurants to post nutrition information on menus, among other changes.

"McDonald's is taking steps in the right direction, but we should be careful in heaping praise on corporations for simply reducing the scope of the problem they continue to create," said Kelle Louaillier, executive director of a group called Corporate Accountability International.

Cindy Goody, McDonald's senior director of nutrition, said the new directives are "absolutely not" related to new regulations, but rather a response to the fact that customers want healthier choices but weren't picking them. Indeed, only about 11 percent of customers were ordering apples with their Happy Meals, even though 88 percent were aware of they had the option of having fries or apples, the restaurant said.

McDonald's says the change will reduce calories in its "most popular" Happy Meals by as much as 20 percent. Currently, the lightest Happy Meal is the four-piece chicken nugget served with apples and apple juice. It has 380 calories and 12 grams of fat. The Happy Meal with the most fat and calories is a cheeseburger served with fries and 1 percent chocolate milk. It weighs in at 700 calories and 27 grams of fat.

"McDonald's agrees with leading food and nutrition experts that making incremental lifestyle modifications with food consumption may lead to improvements in an individual's well-being," Goody said, adding that McDonald's didn't eliminate fries from Happy Meals because "all foods fit when consumed in moderation."

Adding a half portion of apples and fries is more likely to change customers' eating habits than simply offering apples as an alternative, said Jonathan Marek, a senior vice president at Applied Predictive Technologies. It could drive sales, he said.



Photo courtesy McDonald's

HAPPY OR SAD? **In an effort to create healthier food options for kids, McDonald's is reducing the amount of French fries in its Happy Meals and adding more apple slices.**

"The key is, will this get parents to go to McDonald's one more time each month than they would have otherwise?" said Marek, whose company helps restaurants forecast whether new programs will drive sales. He was not involved in the McDonald's program.

This isn't the first time the world's largest burger chain has tried to paint itself as an emissary of nutrition.

In the '80s, it created a fitness program for middle school children featuring gymnast Mary Lou Retton. A decade ago, McDonald's used its mascot, Ronald McDonald, to encourage parents to get their children immunized and to tell kids to drink milk. In 2003, it added salad entrees to the menu. And in 2004, McDonald's christened Ronald a "balanced, active lifestyles ambassador."

More recently, McDonald's has worked to paint itself as a healthy, hip place to eat, offering wireless access in restaurants and introducing smoothies, salads, yogurt parfait and oatmeal. Other fast-food companies are now scrambling to replicate McDonald's offerings.

"We've been in the nutrition game for over 30 years in providing nutrition information to our customers," said Goody, the McDonald's spokeswoman. "Now what we're doing is we're adding more food groups and ... creating nutritional awareness."

In part because of its ability to change with consumer tastes, McDonald's has posted robust financial results during the recession in and its aftermath.

In 2010, McDonald's accounted for 9 percent of U.S. restaurant sales, according to Technomic. Last year, its U.S. revenue rose 4.4 percent, while U.S. revenue fell at Burger King, Wendy's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Arby's, Sonic and Jack in the Box, Technomic said.

McDonald's ability to adjust to customers' demands has helped bring already-loyal customers through the doors more often, but they're also attracting "people who hadn't traditionally visited us in the past," said McDonald's spokeswoman Danya Proud.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Bus stops inconvenient

Editor:

City Hall recently settled a small bus accident case for $20,000. It seems that City Hall would rather pay to settle a case than try to prevent an accident in the first place. Case in point is the bus stop in the middle of the block on Fourth Street between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue that was moved last year and is situated between two parking garages, with cars coming in and out, and people running half a block to or from the corner to catch connecting buses.

Inevitably, there will be an accident there, as I and many others have seen many near misses between cars, buses and pedestrians. Private businesses and residents are influencing where the bus stops are because they don't want any buses stopping in front of their places, and bus riders are put in potentially dangerous situations and extremely inconvenient ones. Apparently, the Big Blue Bus does not have as much influence as private businesses/individuals do on city officials. Bike riders are organized and vocal and are able to influence city policy; however, bus riders consist of mostly working-class people, many seniors, the handicapped, and students, who are not organized and who feel they are being ignored while the city does what the elite private interests want. Many people cannot ride a bike, and if you do not provide convenient and safe bus transportation, they will have to find other ways to get to where they need to go.

As an example, why can't the city build a gate or fence in front of the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club with handicapped ramps on both sides? There is enough room and that would keep people off their stairs, the major reason for moving the bus stop away from Wilshire and Fourth. Bus riders need the bus stops back on the corners of Fourth and Wilshire and Fourth and Arizona, especially for seniors and the handicapped who find this bus stop in the middle of the block to be a real burden to getting around. If you want people to take the bus to shop in Santa Monica and get out of their cars, they need these very important bus stops. Do we have to wait for a serious accident to occur here before someone will do something about this situation?

Another major change Downtown is the Line 8 bus stop which begins in the middle of Second Street, convenient for the bus driver to stop at McDonald's during his break. But riders getting off buses on Fourth and Broadway (where the 8 used to stop) now have to walk two and a half extra blocks to get on the 8. It's totally inconvenient for bus riders, especially seniors and handicapped who may otherwise have to take three buses to go a very short distance. Other buses stop on that corner. Why did the 8 have to be moved to an inconvenient place? Are the buses supposed to serve the residents and riders of this city or are the buses just an inconvenience for the private interests in this city?

Freida Dubin
Santa Monica





Meredith Pro Tem

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

Boy, they sure have us ladies pegged

NEVER HAS THERE BEEN A MORE remarkable time to be a woman. Or more specifically, to be a female consumer. Manufacturers and marketers are working overtime to cross the thresholds of our all-important purses, knowing full well the power we wield with the allowances bestowed upon us by our husbands. And let me be the first to say thank you, manufacturers and marketers, for your increased efforts on our behalf.

One of the new products I'm anticipating most eagerly is Animée beer from Molson Coors. I've always liked beer. Like, really liked it. Not quite as much as red wine, but a close second, for sure. Animée, described as a sparkling pink alcoholic beverage with lemony and rosé flavors, is being brewed specifically for women. Sure, it sounds less like beer and more like fermented herbal tea or scented toilet paper, but may I say thank you anyway?

Before now, if I wanted to drink a sachet of potpourri or a wine cooler, I would have either had to browse the Martha Stewart collection at Kmart or taken a time machine back to 11th grade. I wasn't previously interested in doing either. But now my curiosity is piqued.

I appreciate that a beer company is marketing to women instead of using mostly naked women in their marketing. And I say why stop at pink beer to lure the ladies? Why not bedazzle the bottle? Or implant some lip gloss in the bottle cap? In fact, why fill it with beer at all? Why not fill it with a cosmopolitan or, better yet, some Crystal Light? Or, if you really want to appeal to women, why not fill it with a housecleaning product, like pink-tinted ammonia or bleach? That way we can kill two birds with one stone — cleaning the bathroom while also prompting our neighbors to whisper maliciously that we're drinking before noon.

Still, if you're among the 79 percent found by Molson Coors' crack-research team who won't be swayed into drinking such a masculine beverage as beer for fear of bloating or appearing indelicate — even if it is magenta, ruby, cerise or amaranth in hue — then you're in luck. I recently learned from a new advertising campaign from the "Got Milk?" folks — the California Milk Processor Board — that milk can help alleviate symptoms of premenstrual syndrome. Granted, it was an extraordinarily sexist ad campaign, which postulated that men suffer just as much from PMS as women since they have to live with the women with PMS. But the gentler sex isn't all that bright, so we didn't really understand that you were laughing at us, not with us, milk folks. Hang on a sec, please, while I run out and buy some milk!

Speaking of milk, there's also the new Breast Milk Baby doll, which allows kids (it's presumably for kids) to pretend they're nursing by donning a special halter top that has two flowers with embedded sensors in the nipple position. When the doll's mouth nears the flowers, it makes sucking motions and sounds.

The point, according to the doll's manufacturer, is to teach girls the nurturing skills they'll need later in life. I can't speak for any girls other than my own, but she's quite nurturing with her dolls already. She feeds them applesauce, cuddles and throws them (the latter might not necessarily be nurturing, but she's not even 3 yet).

DOES EVERYTHING NEED TO BE LEARNED OR PRACTICED 20-PLUS YEARS IN ADVANCE, OR JUST SOME STUFF? IF IT'S THE FORMER, THEN FOR THAT I AM ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO THE MANUFACTURERS OF THE BREAST MILK BABY DOLL.

I'm not sure that wearing a shirt with pronounced nipples will do much to hone my daughter's future talent as a mom (although it will surely come in handy should she decide to take to the pole), which will either come naturally to her or won't when and if she eventually cares for something more substantial than a stuffed bunny.

I mean, she'll also need to have intercourse to eventually make that baby that she may or may not breastfeed, but I'm not about to buy her a doll to hone that skill. Does everything need to be learned or practiced 20-plus years in advance, or just some stuff? If it's the former, then for that I am eternally grateful to the manufacturers of the Breast Milk Baby doll. Thank you!

Finally, Kotex has come out with a limited edition designer series of pads. I can't speak for other women, but how thrilling to learn that there is a market for collectible sanitary napkins! Is this the next "Big Thing," like the "Macarena" or Lindsay Lohan's movie career (circa 2004)? I'm unsure whether I'm meant to collect the pads before or after I use them, but once I buy them I'm hopeful the answer will be indicated on the package.

I'll undoubtedly feel sexier or sassier when it's that time of the month knowing I can choose from one of four designs: "Free Style," "Poptimistic," "Boho" or "Punk Glam." I feel silly not knowing what makes a tampon "Punk Glam" to begin with, but I sure can't wait to get my period so I can find out.

I might be a little slow, but as long as I'm loose with my purse strings, that's the point, right?

More at MeredithCarroll.com.

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The Taxman

Tim Bittle
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Where does all the money go?

REMEMBER WHEN YOU COULD CALL A local government office and a helpful live person answered the phone? Remember when you could call public works about a pothole in the street or a broken drinking fountain at the park, and it would get fixed? Remember when litter along the roadside was regularly cleaned up? Despite being nearly the heaviest taxed state, California today does not deliver good value to its taxpayers. Why is that? Where does all the money go?

It is axiomatic that a dollar can't be spent twice. If you use it to buy a lottery ticket, you don't have it to buy bread. Government budgeting works the same way. If a city or county spends money on something other than public services, it has less money left for public services, and must cut things like live receptionists, street and park maintenance, and community beautification.

For most cities and counties, the biggest category of spending for something other than public services is pensions. An enormous slice of the budget pie is consumed by former government employees who obviously, because they are retired, no longer provide any service to the public.

No one begrudges retirees the pensions they earned while employed. But there are ways that employees, especially management employees, can manipulate the factors used to calculate their pensions so they retire on monthly incomes significantly higher than their salaries were.

We believe that the public has a right to know which government employees were "spiking" their pensions, and how they were doing it. Together with the California Foundation for Fiscal Responsibility, we made requests, under the Public Records Act, for the names of every retiree collecting $100,000 a year or more, along with the exact pension amount, employing agency, and calculation worksheet.

We obtained this information from many cities and a few counties who provided it voluntarily. By analyzing the information we discovered that many tricks are available to boost one's pension.

Take, for example, an employee who retired from the position of "acting assistant manager" whose salary averaged $120,000 a year but who retired with an annual pension of $200,000. He held the position of acting assistant manager for just one year. In fact, all administrative level employees in that agency get promoted to acting assistant manager the year they plan to retire, giving them a huge boost in pay that will then be their final year's base salary for pension calculation purposes.

During the years of his employment, although he was not paid by the hour, this employee used CTO (compensatory time off for "overtime" worked) in lieu of vacation and sick leave, so that he could accumulate years of "unused" vacation and sick leave. Then, in the year he retired, he cashed it all in, further boosting his final year's compensation.

This employee was provided a car until the year he retired, at which point he elected a car allowance instead, increasing his final year's compensation even more.

Eight years earlier, just before a promotion became effective, this employee purchased 10 years of (already discounted) extra service credits at the actuarial price for someone holding his old, lower paying, position. Now it appears on the books as though he worked 30 years, instead of the 20 he actually worked, boosting his pension another 50 percent.

As these revelations became public, the cities and counties involved were embarrassed. We began to meet resistance from those cities and counties who had not yet disclosed their pension records.

Contra Costa County was the first case we had to litigate. We won in the trial court and the county did not appeal. Despite that victory, Orange County refused our request. We sued again, and won there as well and there was no appeal. Despite these victories, San Diego County refused our request and Sacramento County refused a similar request by the Sacramento Bee newspaper. We won in San Diego, and the Bee won in Sacramento. But this time, both counties appealed.

We defended our victory in the San Diego case, and filed a "friend of the court" brief in the Sacramento case. The counties argued that retirees have a right to privacy in the amount of their pensions. We argued that no one has a right to keep secret the payments they receive from public funds.

Recently, the courts of appeal in both cases ruled in our favor. In published decisions that apply statewide, the courts held that, not just six-figure pensions, but all pensions are a matter public record. Citing the strong public interest in knowing how tax dollars are spent, the courts ruled that government must disclose the names, pension amounts, and calculation details of its retired public employees.

TIM BITTLE is the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association's director of legal affairs.

The Q Line

What's in a name?

City officials are looking for names for a pair of parks planned for the Civic Center.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What should the pair of parks be named?

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) 458-7737 ext. 102.**



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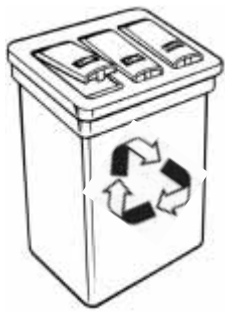
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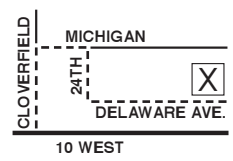


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Calif mulls microchip law on pet shelter adoptions

BY SUE MANNING
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES When Gabriela Dorame of Fullerton, Calif., got a German shepherd puppy named Bolto last year, she and her kids decided to have a microchip implanted in the dog with an identification number that makes it easy to reunite lost pets with owners.

It paid off a day later when the rambunctious puppy bolted through an open door. Animal control officers found the dog, scanned him and knew immediately where he belonged, Dorame said.

In addition to avoiding the heartbreak of lost pets, some lawmakers believe that microchips can save money by cutting costs at shelters where lost cats and dogs are cared for and sometimes euthanized. California lawmakers will vote later this summer on a bill requiring microchips in every dog or cat adopted or claimed from a shelter. If passed, the measure, introduced by state Sen. Ted Lieu, D-Torrance, would be the first of its kind enacted in the U.S., according to Sharon Curtis Granskog, spokeswoman for the American Veterinary Medical Association.

"A few states require shelters to scan but do not require them to actually microchip," Granskog said. "New York has introduced a bill every year, including this year, that would make microchipping dogs mandatory." But the efforts so far have failed.

California taxpayers pay about $300 million every year to impound 1 million dogs and cats, house them and euthanize half of them, according to the Cities and Counties Annual Reports submitted to the state controller. Thirteen percent of lost pets entering shelters in California are reunited with owners, Lieu said, but studies show that number could grow to 75 percent with chips.

Dr. Linda K. Lord, associate dean for student affairs at Ohio State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, studied 53 shelters in 23 states between August 2007 and March 2008. Co-authors included another veterinarian, a humane society representative and a consultant to a Canadian pharmaceutical company, which was also parent to a microchip manufacturer.

They found shelters located owners of microchipped pets in three out of four cases.

When owners couldn't be found, it was because of incorrect or outdated contact information in the chipmaker's registration database, Lord said.

It is up to pet owners to register chips and keep the contact information updated. Costs for a chip and registration run $15 to $75.

"They are not LoJacks or GPS devices," said Aimee Gilbreath, executive director the Los Angeles-based charity Found Animals, which has donated some 200,000 free chips for area pets since 2005. "If you as a pet owner don't keep the information up to date in the database, the microchip becomes pretty useless."

"It absolutely does save animals, but we have to go with what we have," said Wendell Bowers of Los Angeles' East Valley Animal Shelter.

Microchipping can also help keep track of animals displaced by natural disasters or travel mishaps, as well as help track dangerous dogs and pets involved in custody disputes or criminal cases.

The size of a grain of rice, a microchip is a radio frequency identification device with a unique number. It does not have a battery and is considered inert, but it does have a capacitator, which stores an electrical charge. The chip is injected into the tissue between an animal's shoulder blades.

> **WE'RE OPPOSED TO THE MANDATORY MICROCHIPPING OF OWNED DOGS. THAT OUGHT TO BE AN OWNER'S CHOICE. THIS IS LIKE SAYING WE HAVE TO TATTOO OUR KIDS."**
>
> Judythe Coffman of Rosamond
> president of the California Federation of Dog Clubs

Microchips do have critics. "We're opposed to the mandatory microchipping of owned dogs. That ought to be an owner's choice. This is like saying we have to tattoo our kids," said Judythe Coffman of Rosamond, president of the California Federation of Dog Clubs.

Stormy Hope, vice president of California Responsible Pet Owners' Coalition in Los Angeles, said in an email that chips can cause cancer or tumors, they can migrate from the spot where they were injected, and the risk isn't worth it since there are other types of identification available, such as tags and tattoos.

Chips do occasionally move or migrate, especially if an animal is very active in the first hour after an implant. Proponents say such chips can still be detected; it just means scanning a wider swath.

In 2007, The Associated Press looked at research on microchips and health and found two published reports detailing malignant tumors in chipped dogs. Researchers said cancer appeared linked to the chip in one case, but the cancer's cause in the other dog was uncertain.

In recent interviews with four veterinarians, none would guarantee that a microchip could never cause cancer, but they stressed that problems are unlikely when chips are inserted properly.

Lieu's bill passed the state Senate 32-6 and is scheduled to go to the Assembly in mid-August. He said there is bipartisan support and he is optimistic it will pass.

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14 indicted in Calif. for arranging sham marriages

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A federal grand jury in Sacramento has indicted 14 people on charges of arranging sham marriages to immigrants from Russia, Ukraine and Eastern European nations to help them stay in the United States, U.S. Attorney Benjamin Wagner said Tuesday.

The indictment was unsealed after the man charged with being the ringleader, Sergey Potepalov, 55, was arrested Monday at his home in the Sacramento suburb of Citrus Heights.

He and the others had "made a business out of marriage fraud" since 2002, arranging at least nine marriages to circumvent immigration laws, Wagner said. They attempted at least 39 marriages, although not all were included in the indictment, said Dan Lane, assistant special agent in charge of the Department of Homeland Security investigations office in Sacramento.

"We're not talking about downtrodden people that are looking for a way to get to a better life. We're talking about people making a profit," Lane said at a news conference.

Foreign nationals paid up to $10,000 to Potepalov and an associate, Keith O'Neil, 44, of Sacramento, to arrange for the marriages. U.S. citizens who agreed to the marriages were paid up to $5,000.

O'Neil and Potepalov began doing business after they met at a motorcycle bar in Sacramento. O'Neil married twice as part of the conspiracy, according to court documents: to a woman from Russia in 2002 and to a woman from Romania in 2007. In between, he tried to arrange four other fiance visas during three trips with Potepalov to Moscow. All four petitions were denied.

The grand jury issued the indictments July 14, but the charges were not announced until Tuesday to give federal authorities time to arrest the key figures. Seven of the 14 are in custody, while the others are being sought. None had listed attorneys with the court.

The defendants include eight U.S. citizens and six foreign nationals in California, Florida and Massachusetts. The 14 are charged with conspiring to commit marriage fraud, make false statements and induce a foreign national to remain in the U.S. The conspiracy charges carry maximum sentences of up to 10 years in federal prison.

Prosecutors said participants would marry in Sacramento, Reno or Eastern Europe, then take wedding photos, set up apartments to give the appearance of legitimacy, and rehearse their stories for immigration officials.

The investigation began in 2006 after the U.S. State Department alerted homeland security officials that Potepalov was filing fraudulent visa petitions on behalf of Russian and Ukrainian nationals. Potepalov ran an immigration consulting business called United International Inc.

Gov. Brown nominates Goodwin Liu to high court

BY PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO UC Berkeley law professor Goodwin Liu was nominated Tuesday for the California Supreme Court, just two months after criticism by Republicans led him to withdraw his candidacy for the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, the second-highest court in the country.

In making the nomination, Gov. Jerry Brown called Liu "an extraordinary man and a distinguished legal scholar."

It was Brown's first judicial nomination since taking office in January. Liu would replace Carlos Moreno, who stepped down in February to go into private practice.

"Gov. Brown is to be commended for this visionary and truly meritorious appointment," said Moreno, who works for a Los Angeles law firm.

Liu, 40, previously was President Barack Obama's choice for the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. But that nomination was blocked by Republicans, who objected to Liu's written positions and said he was too inexperienced for the post. Liu withdrew his candidacy in May.

"I'm deeply honored by Gov. Brown's nomination and look forward to the opportunity to serve the people of California on our state's highest court," Liu said in a prepared statement. He declined an interview request made Tuesday by The Associated Press.

Liu was born in Georgia and grew up in Sacramento, where he attended public schools.

He graduated from Yale Law School in 1998 after attending Stanford University as an undergraduate. He clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and worked as an appellate litigator in Washington before joining the UC Berkeley faculty in 2003.

Liu is the son of Taiwanese immigrants and would become the fourth serving justice of Asian descent if confirmed for the state Supreme Court.

Moreno was the only Latino on the court and influential Latino legal groups had urged Brown to nominate another to the high court.

"I don't think people should be appointed because of national origin," Brown said at a news conference. "Their attributes should in every way be the dominant criteria."

Victor Acevedo, president of the Mexican-American Bar Association, called Brown's comments "disingenuous" and maintained national origin is always taken into account for candidates because background is an important consideration.

"We are very disappointed," Acevedo said. "We are the largest minority in the state and almost a majority, and now we have no representation on the court."

If Liu is confirmed, Southern California also would be without representation because the entire court will be comprised of residents of the Central Valley and Northern California, Acevedo said.

The governor said he has no litmus test for judicial appointments and didn't ask Liu about his positions on the death penalty, gay marriage or other hot-button social issues.

"I expect he will follow the law," Brown said.

Brown said he was impressed by Liu's credentials and offered him the California vacancy after a lengthy interview at the governor's loft in Oakland.

Liu has never served as a judge.

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ELECTED
FROM PAGE 1

Mountains.

As of the latest map, commissioners are no longer considering the division of the city, and Malibu is included in the new district.

That last not only pleases City Hall, but also the Santa Monica-Malibu School District, whose board considered with some trepidation the consequences of splitting the district between two state senators.

The connection with the mountains — and Pavley, who lives in that area — was severed, however.

In California, state senators and assembly members must reside in the district that they represent. That is not true of members of the U.S. Congress.

The potential loss of the mountainous area means being disconnected from Santa Monica's watershed, Bloom said.

"We are very connected through environmental initiatives since the Santa Monica Mountains are part of our watershed," Bloom said. "Everything that happens there is very important and relates to how to keep the Santa Monica Bay clean. In addition, we're a center for commerce in the area, and share many transportation corridors both in the Santa Monica Mountains, and in the area to our east."

But, as Meatloaf famously sang, "two out of three ain't bad."

A similar shake-up seems to be in store for State Assembly District 41, a seat that is now held by outgoing Assemblywoman Julia Brownley, but for which several candidates have already thrown their hats in the ring.

According to the most recent maps, released July 19 on the wedrawthelines.ca.gov website, the district will lose much of its northern territory, which previously stretched up to Port Hueneme and Oxnard.

It now includes sections of West Hollywood, Bel Air and the area north of Sunset Boulevard.

"You could get candidates from West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Malibu," Hoffenblum said. "That's a district that doesn't have a power base."

It is unclear what it would mean for Bloom or activist Torie Osborn, two candidates for the seat, if hopefuls Jeffrey Prang, the mayor of West Hollywood, Brian C. Johnson, a charter school chief or Andrew Lachman, a former state Senate staffer and business law teacher found themselves in the 41st.

A previous version of the maps included Marina del Rey, and therefore Democrat Betsy Butler. The newer revision leaves Butler in her original district.

There's at least one area of relative calm, and that's Congressman Henry Waxman's district.

Although some feared that Santa Monica would lose its long-time representative, the newest drawings show Waxman's congressional district keeping both Santa Monica and Malibu, and stretching down into the South Bay area, encompassing the beach cities all the way to Palos Verdes.

For the most part, its eastern borders remain the same, although the newly-envisioned district cuts out West Hollywood.

"There's no such thing as the Westside district anymore," Hoffenblum said.

The commission will vote on final maps on Friday, and then members of the state legislature, congressmen and prospective candidates will get a clear picture of the districts they wish to represent in 2012.

"To be faced with a district where you've lost a majority of support must feel like a rug being pulled out from under you," said Jessica A. Levinson, a professor at the Loyola School of Law. "I'm not saying it's a bad thing, but it's very challenging for incumbents who find themselves in the same district as another incumbent, or in one that doesn't play to their strengths."

In many ways, however, that was the point of this redistricting process, which erases the old lines and for the first time in California history, strips the power of incumbent legislators to recreate their districts in their image.

California voters approved Proposition 11, which formed the 14-member, bipartisan commission, in 2008. In 2010, they completed the process with Proposition 20, which transferred the authority to create districts to the newly-approved commission.

Although some worried that an inexperienced group of unelected — and therefore, unaccountable — individuals might disenfranchise Californians by creating districts that removed duly-elected officials from office, others believed it was the only way to reform a broken system.

Previously, legislators managed to create districts in such a way that they or their parties never lost. The process, called gerrymandering, made oddly-shaped districts that resulted in few, if any, changes in the political scene.

"These are not map makers, they're not elected, so who are they accountable to?" Levinson said. "Well, legislators may be more experienced in drawing lines, but there's an inherent conflict of interests when they do. I prefer someone with less of a dog in the fight."

The chosen commission fits that bill. They hail from all walks of life and careers, including one chiropractor and owner of an independent bookstore.

None have had extensive experience in something like this, said Peter Yao, a former mayor of Claremont and engineer, and one of the five Republican commissioners.

"We certainly learned a lot, not only about the geography of the state of California, but the different characteristics," Yao said.

In the past week, the commissioners have felt a real push to get the final maps out and approved to the point that they've been pulling 12-hour days across weekends.

"Last week was characterized by the fact that this is the last opportunity to make any kind of major changes to the map," Yao said.

The commission will vote on the maps Friday, but nothing will become official until Aug. 15.

Even then, the commissioners will not get to return to their daily lives, Yao said. State officials expect a number of court challenges, which must be brought within 60 days, and the commission must be available to answer them.

In the meantime, they get paid $300 for every day that they conduct commission business.

If, for whatever reason, the commission cannot decide on maps, the responsibility will fall on the California Supreme Court to find three "masters" to create the districts.

The last time the courts intervened in such a way was 1991.

ashley@smdp.com



WALKING
FROM PAGE 1

"I'm very proud of that fact, and it's something we've spent a long time focusing energy on here in the city," said Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom.

"Sounds OK to start with," Principal Transportation Planner Beth Rolandson said about the score.

Bloom cited the creation of the Third Street Promenade as an important step in making Santa Monica a walker-friendly city.

"That became a model for cities all over the country." Bloom added.

A city that's walkable is a healthy city, Bloom said. Being walkable is also an amenity in itself. "We've recognized that walkability is something that people look for in a community," Bloom said.

Walking is valued in Santa Monica because of the close proximity of businesses to residential neighborhoods, Rolandson said.

It's also simply a pleasant place to walk, she added.

Although it may be easy, the Santa Monica Police Department reminds pedestrians that it's still important to be aware of your surroundings while walking.

Pedestrians are reminded to cross the street at intersections, and to stop, look and listen before crossing.

Eye contact should be made with drivers, and vehicles should be given enough time to stop. Pedestrians shouldn't try and assert their right of way with fast-moving vehicles.

Small children, who are harder for drivers to see, should be accompanied by an adult when crossing the street.

Ultimately, a safe walker is a defensive walker.

City Hall is frequently at work making changes to the infrastructure to make it safer and friendlier for pedestrians to coexist with automobile drivers, Rolandson said.

"Over the past 10 years, we've done a lot of investments for pedestrian improvements," Rolandson said.

The medians on Wilshire Boulevard, curb extensions and the in-pavement flashing lights are all alterations made to streets and sidewalks throughout the city that are intended to help pedestrians be safe while crossing busy streets, Rolandson said.

In the future, the city intends to continue making improvements and policies that will keep communities walkable.

Santa Monica will focus some of its development resources towards making the distance between transit stops within walking distance, Bloom said.

Also, any new property that's going to be developed will be oriented toward both pedestrians and the existing neighborhood, Rolandson said.

"We are also looking at locations where people have expressed interest in changing the environment," Rolandson said.

Some of the places that have been considered for changes to make them more pedestrian friendly are the areas adjacent to the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Saint John's Health Center, Rolandson added.

City Hall has also obtained a number of grants that will help it launch a program that encourages children to walk to their schools. As well as raise awareness for walking, city officials hope the program will help both parents and children feel more comfortable with walking in and around their own neighborhoods.

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TRUCK
FROM PAGE 1

Kaplan starts each sales day with an early trip to the downtown Los Angeles flower district to stock up on fresh-cut flowers. She arranges them herself, and sells them in vintage and collapsible plastic vases for between $2 and $40.

That's far below the price point of most arrangers. In fact, Kaplan considers her chief competition to be bouquets sold by Trader Joe's.

Kaplan tends to cruise in Venice, Santa Monica and other nearby locations on the weekends, parking in shady metered spaces to attract customers.

"We make sure we've got tunes … and then we hit the road," Kaplan said.

Kaplan hasn't been able to take Lola out as much as she'd like. Only recently did she get the opportunity to cut back on her hours at her day job to devote more time to the budding business, which she hopes will blossom and grow.

First, Kaplan wants to create a regular schedule, so that customers know where she'll be at any given time, and give Lola an eco-friendly upgrade — a solar-powered vent to keep the flowers cool and fresh.

Oddly, the converted ice cream truck isn't actually refrigerated, but that doesn't impact her business much given the mild Southern California climes.

Next will be expansion. Kaplan envisions a fleet of trucks combing the streets of Los Angeles selling flowers. She has her eye on two or three ice cream trucks in an undisclosed location, and says that franchising is not out of the question.

Kaplan seems to be the first to make a splash with the mobile flower truck. Stories sprouted up all over the Internet hailing the innovation as a welcome departure from mobile food vans.



Photo courtesy Jenifer Kaplan

NEW: **Entrepreneur Jenifer Kaplan created Lola, a retired ice cream truck turned flower shop.**

It was overwhelming, Kaplan said.

"It makes me feel amazing," she said.

The Flower Truck runs under the same rules as its foodie brethren. Only the state can dictate what vehicles can and cannot do on public streets, so Kaplan is welcome to park at any legal space and dispense her wares, as long as she keeps an eye on parking regulations, according to Santa Monica City Planner Paul Foley.

At this point, local flower shops have either not heard of its new-age competition, or feel that The Flower Shop serves a different clientele.

Janet Farmer, owner of Dellarobia, a flower shop on the 1500 block of Fourth Street, said she'd heard of the truck, and maybe seen it around town.

But concerned?

"No, not yet," she said.

The Flower Truck will be cruising around the Westside most weekends, and will be making an appearance at the Abbott Kinney Festival in September.

Check out the website, www.theflowertruck.com, for updates on location and wares.

ashley@smdp.com

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2011 Justice Assistance Grant Application

The City organization and public will have the opportunity to comment on the City of Santa Monica's grant application for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance from July 25, 2011 through 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2011. The purpose of the comment period is to receive input from the public concerning the City of Santa Monica's proposed uses of the JAG grant funds in the amount of $46,126.

The City of Santa Monica uses its 2011 JAG allocation to fund the Police Department's Recession Crime Control program. This program pays for overtime costs associated with the deployment of department employees on precision anti-crime operations. The City proposes to use its 2011 JAG grant allocation to continue to fund the department's Recession Crime Control program. Federal rules require the JAG funds to be applied toward eligible law enforcement project(s) not funded in the jurisdiction's operating budget. The current and proposed use is an eligible use of the funds. Grantees have four (4) years from the award date to expend the funds for the approved uses. The draft grant application is attached and available for public review and written comment until 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2011 at:

City of Santa Monica Records and Elections Office
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

City of Santa Monica Police Department
333 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA 90401

On the City of Santa Monica Police Department website at:
http://www.santamonicapd.org/

Written comments regarding the proposed JAG grant application must be received by mail, fax, or e-mail no later than 5:00 PM on August 23, 2011.

By mail to: **Santa Monica Police Department**
Office of the Chief of Police
333 Olympic Drive
Santa Monica, CA 90401

By fax to: **SMPD Office of the Chief of Police**
(310) 260-3272, Attention: Kevin

By e-mail to: **kevin.mcgowan@smgov.net**

Questions regarding the JAG grant application should be addressed to **Kevin McGowan** via the mail, fax or e-mail address provided above.

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Ga. mom is spared prison in son's jaywalking death

BY GREG BLUESTEIN
Associated Press

MARIETTA, Ga. A woman who was arrested after her 4-year-old son was struck and killed by a van as they were jaywalking across a busy street was spared a prison sentence Tuesday following an outcry over her arrest.

Raquel Nelson, 30, was convicted by a jury earlier this month of vehicular homicide and other charges for not using a crosswalk and could have gotten three years behind bars — far more than the six months the hit-and-run driver served.

Instead, without explanation, Judge Kathryn Tanksley gave the suburban Atlanta mother a year's probation, ordered 40 hours of community service, and took the unusual step of offering her a new trial — an offer Nelson is considering.

A crowd of supporters broke out in applause.

"I'm ready to go home," a relieved-looking Nelson said. "I'm walking out of here. I don't feel like I can be more satisfied."

Prosecutors' extremely rare decision to bring charges against the grieving mother had created a furor, with Nelson's supporters calling the move cruel and heartless.

More than 125,000 people joined an online petition campaign asking for mercy. The Georgia branch of the NAACP called the case against the single black mother a "grave miscarriage of justice." And the judge said her office had been flooded with letters and e-mails from around the country.

The accident happened in April 2010 along a busy five-lane street.

Nelson and her three children had just gotten off a bus after a long day, and she was eager to return home because it was getting dark, said her lawyer, David Savoy. Instead of walking to a crosswalk three-tenths of a mile away, she led her children to a median. According to testimony, her daughter darted across the street and son A.J. followed.

She chased after them and was struck and injured.

The driver, Jerry Guy, pleaded guilty to hit-and-run. According to court records, he had been drinking earlier in the day while taking pain medication, was partially blind in one eye, and had two previous hit-and-run convictions from 1997.

As for the decision to charge Nelson, too, "these cases are inherently difficult because they are unintentional," prosecutor Annamarie Baltz explained. "But the state is bound to uphold the law."

Nevertheless, Baltz asked for probation for Nelson and said prosecutors never intended to send her to prison.

In an appearance on NBC's "Today" show Monday, Nelson said: "I think to come after me so much harder than they did after him is a slap in the face. This will never end for me."

Savoy argued that his client has already suffered enough for her mistake. He said prosecutors would never charge a parent who accidentally left open a pool gate if a child drowned, or a parent who fed a hot dog to a youngster who choked on it.

"Do not make A.J.'s death an act that washes over this family like a tidal wave," he said. "There's no legitimate basis to make this family continue to suffer."

Inside the courthouse, Nelson's supporters gathered in the halls for a prayer vigil and urged the judge not to punish her any further.

"Every day she gets up, she pays her debt," said Beverly Word, who was A.J.'s preschool teacher.

Advocates seized on the case as evidence that the car-choked Atlanta metropolitan area needs better crosswalks.

"It's really cruel and a big waste of taxpayer money" to prosecute Nelson, said Sally Flocks, founder of PEDS, an Atlanta pedestrian advocacy group. "What is anybody going to learn from this? Raquel lost her precious son. The lesson she learned already is quit using transit and buy a car to get around. It's too dangerous to cross the streets here."

The case has been the talk of Georgia legal circles.

J. Tom Morgan, a former DeKalb County district attorney who specialized in the prosecution of crimes against children, said he was surprised prosecutors targeted Nelson.

"She wasn't out drinking," he said. "In a case like this where the mother suffered the tragic loss of a child, and there's no gross negligence, I wouldn't have involved the criminal justice system."

And W. Scott Smith, a defense attorney, said he has never heard of a similar prosecution in his 11 years in practice.

"It's one of those things that if you're the state, you've got to use common sense. The person is going to live with themselves the rest of their lives," he said.

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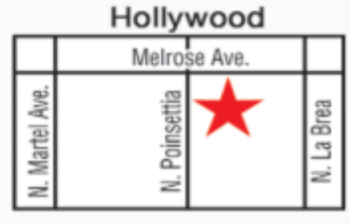
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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

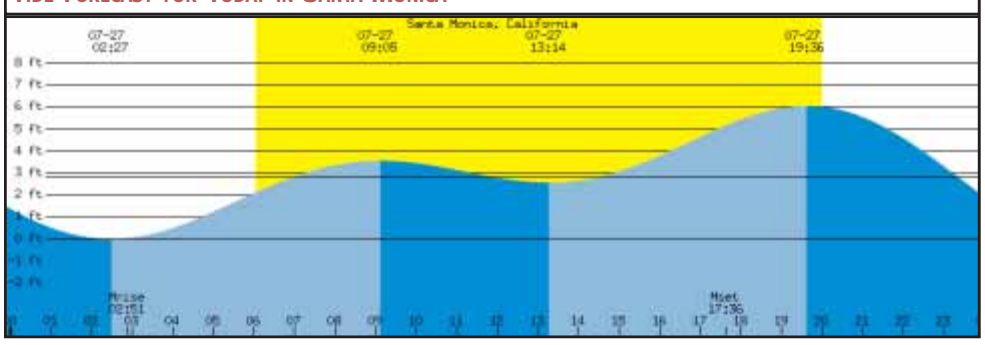
Swell Forecast

Waist to at times chest high at west facing breaks, waist max at direct south facing spots.

Long Range Synopsis

Our next southern hemi swell is due, putting most south facing breaks into chest to at times head high surf.

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 20, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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 Lechasa and Las Alisa creeks.	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	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.	C	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	D	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

NCAA FOOTBALL

Oregon in 'extensive review' of recruiting service

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Oregon coach Chip Kelly refuses to discuss the Ducks' use of Texas-based recruiting service until the school and the NCAA finish an extensive review of the program's dealings with the service's owner.

Oregon athletic director Rob Mullens acknowledged the review Tuesday before Pac-12 media day, and Kelly provided little new information in his first comments to reporters about an association threatening to tarnish the Ducks' run to the national championship game last season.

"I would love to talk about it, and when we have a chance after the report comes out, I will be able to clear up any questions that anyone has about the whole situation," Kelly said.

In a statement sent out to Oregon supporters by email last Friday, Mullens said the Ducks have retained a law firm to assess the program's payment of $25,000 to Willie Lyles, a Houston-based recruiting service owner, for an apparently outdated scouting report last year. Kelly said Oregon publicly will announce the results of its evaluation when it ends.

The NCAA is investigating whether Lyles steered star running back Lache Seastrunk to Oregon, which would be a violation of NCAA rules. Lyles has said his services went beyond the normal scope of a scouting service, acknowledging he "made a mistake."

The Ducks rolled to their second straight Pac-10 title last season, going undefeated in the regular season before losing to Auburn in the BCS title game.

"As head coach of this football program, we're held accountable for everything we do," Kelly said. "I'd love to talk about it. There are a lot of answers I'd love to make sure we can get out there."

The Ducks paid Lyles for information about players in the 2010 recruiting class, but Lyles' scouting report mostly covered players who had already signed letters of intent in 2009 — largely useless information.

Oregon's off-field troubles haven't put off voters in the preseason media poll — particularly with Heisman Trophy finalist LaMichael James returning to lead the Ducks' hyper-aggressive offense.

Oregon was picked to win the first Pac-12 title game in the poll announced Tuesday, getting 28 of 42 votes. Even with just 11 returning seniors, the Ducks are favored to win the North Division with 29 first-place votes.

Southern California is narrowly favored over Arizona State to win the South Division.

"I haven't had to address it with the recruits right now," Kelly said of the Ducks' recruiting-service woes. "We're coming off back-to-back Pac-10 championships as we move into a brand-new league with a brand-new television contract. It's a bright future for us. We had a berth in the Rose Bowl (in the 2009 season). We had a berth in the national championship game, and I understand from the kids we've talked to, our recruiting is going very, very well."

California coach Jeff Tedford is among many coaches who also used Lyles' services — but unlike Kelly, Tedford said he got something useful for his money.

"I'm not concerned one bit," Tedford said. "We deal with probably four to five recruiting services per year. I wouldn't know Will Lyles if he was in this room right now. ... The reason we use those services is to make sure that we can be efficient with our time and our resources. I have no concern whatsoever about it. We have the videos, we have the prospect list, and so I have absolutely no concern about it."

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City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Numbers 2364 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2364, which was adopted by the City Council on July 12, 2011.

Ordinance Number 2364 amends the Development Agreement between the City and St. John's Hospital. The amendment excuses St. John from its previous obligation to build a 442 space subterranean parking garage and instead mandates a revised parking program that conforms to the Land Use & Circulation Element and includes shared parking at the Yahoo Center, a Transportation Demand Management Program and neighborhood protections.

Ordinance Number 2364 will become effective thirty days after its adoption. The full text of the ordinance is available upon request from the Office of the city Clerk, located at 1685 Main street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California; phone (310) 458-8211.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:05pm, 4:15pm, 7:20pm, 10:25pm

Super 8 (PG-13) 1hr 52min
12:00pm, 5:00pm, 10:20pm

Little Help (R) 1hr 48min
11:00am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

Bad Teacher (R) 1hr 29min
2:40pm, 7:55pm

Friends With Benefits (R) 2hrs
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
12:35pm, 3:40pm, 6:45pm, 9:05pm, 9:50pm

Zookeeper (PG) 1hr 44min
11:05am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:15am, 2:20pm, 5:25pm, 8:30pm

Winnie the Pooh (G) 1hr 3min
11:00am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm

Friends With Benefits (R) 2hrs
10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Bridesmaids (R) 2hrs 5min
10:50am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:40pm, 10:40pm

Captain America: The First Avenger 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 5min
10:40am, 1:35pm, 4:40pm, 7:45pm, 10:50pm

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

Trip (NR) 1hr 47min
3:00pm, 7:45pm

Terri (R) 1hr 41min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Buck (PG) 1hr 29min
5:30pm

Project Nim (PG-13) 1hr 39min
1:00pm, 10:15pm

Midnight in Paris (PG-13) 1hr 28min
1:00pm, 3:20pm, 5:40pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

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

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:50am, 2:55pm, 6:00pm, 9:05pm

Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13) 2hrs 05min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

Transformers: Dark of the Moon (PG-13) 2hrs 34min
2:40pm, 9:45pm

Horrible Bosses (R) 1hr 40min
12:15pm, 2:45pm, 5:25pm, 8:00pm, 10:35pm

Cars 2 (G) 1hr 53min
11:05am, 1:50pm, 4:35pm, 7:20pm, 10:05pm

Transformers: Dark of the Moon 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 34min
11:10am, 6:10pm

Beats, Rhymes & Life: The Travels of a Tribe Called Quest (R) 1hr 38min
11:40am, 2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

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

Have fun tonight, Aquarius

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Verbalize your concerns as well as the positives. Others need to know your priorities. By not sharing them, ultimately, you could cause a problem. Be responsible for your side of an issue or your opinion. Don't try to control what happens. Let events flow. Tonight: Hang close to home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Finances continue to be important. Please don't dismiss the importance of your innate assets. Sometimes you undermine yourself. Schedule a talk over dinner or for as late as possible. Know what your expectations are. Don't undermine yourself. Tonight: Visit with friends.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You are pushing hard to get where you want. Others might not understand the unpredictability of the moment. You could have too much energy for your own good. Speak your mind and communicate. Don't close off. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ An insight could stop you cold. At first you might not understand the nature of someone's emotional behavior. You will get important feedback. Willingly assume the limelight. Curb a need to spend when you are stressed. Tonight: Nap, then out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. Stay in tune with your true goal. Sometimes it is easy to get tossed off kilter by so many people and their individual agendas. An important piece of news heads your way. Tonight: A little mystery shrouding your plans could add excitement.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Assume a position of leadership, knowing full well where your goals vary from the collective. You might need to make that difference known before executing plans. Opinions might be interesting but not helpful. Tonight: Do absolutely what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out. A key person will respond with delight when he or she hears from you. This person might need to hear your feedback. The unexpected weaves through interpersonal relationships. Tonight: Accept the spotlight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Willingly work with a partner. You'll come up with unusual solutions together. An associate's reaction might stun both of you. Detach. Try to walk in this person's shoes, and much more will make sense. Have a much-needed conversation. Tonight: Go with your imagination.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Others let you know that they don't want or need your help. Grab this opportunity and further a personal project. You might not need to say a lot. Let others assume some responsibilities that you have always handled. Tonight: Togetherness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Clear out as much as possible. You could be overwhelmed by everything that you need to do. Look at your goal and just start doing. You have much more energy than you realize. Schedule a meeting for tomorrow, if possible. Tonight: Out on the town.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Be as playful as you can be. Understand what is happening within a relationship. Someone's aggression is coming from insecurity, hurt and anger. Thinking it is cute, much less sharing that thought, could inflame an already difficult situation. Tonight: Let the fun happen.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You are coming from a solid place. Though you might be uncomfortable with someone's assertive manner, know that you are not changing it either. Schedule a talk as late as possible, when you might be more relaxed. Your creativity soars late today. Tonight: Midweek break.

Happy birthday

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

This year, zero in on what you want. Your luck factor increases right before your birthday in 2012. Take an active stand in your profession and/or community. The end result might be different from what you desire, but ultimately will work for you. If you are single, you attract many people. Making choices that work takes skill. If you are attached, the two of you have much to celebrate. You also need time alone. Close off a tie that isn't working this year. CANCER can cause trouble.



MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

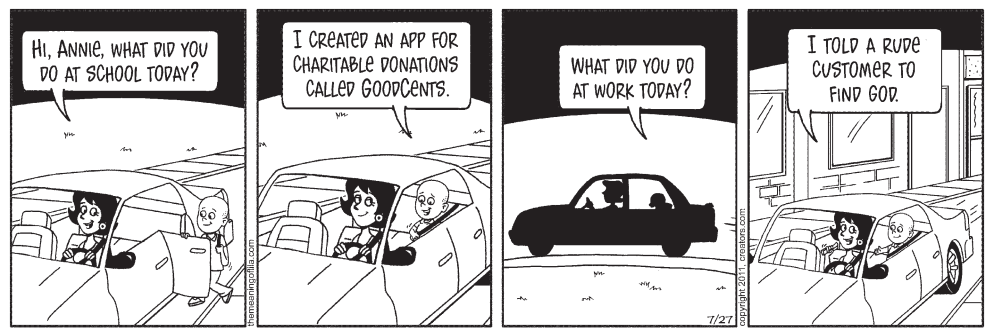
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



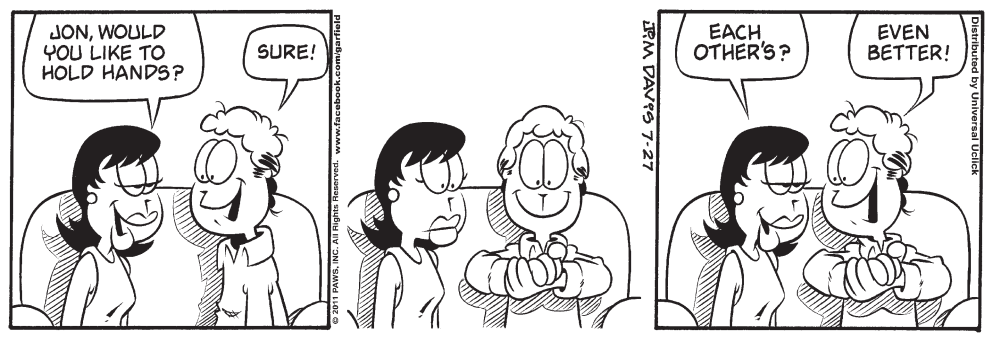
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



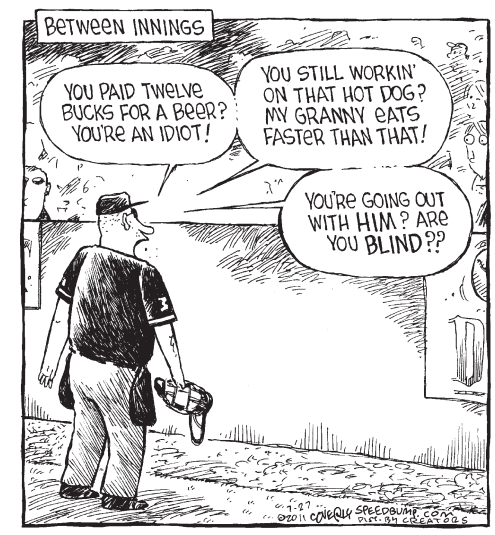
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Tennis star Becker
6 Years gone by
10 Put up
11 Car type
12 Lawyer's workload
13 Heart, for one
14 Fighting
15 Ancient Mexicans
16 Chapeau
17 Crafty
18 Deli bread
19 Difficult word
22 Infamous emperor
23 Skating group
26 Fresh-faced
29 Huge snake
32 Ring win
33 Corrida cheer
34 Still green
36 Vicinity
37 Diver's gear
38 Light gas
39 Truffle, e.g.
40 Pig's nose
41 Pants part
42 — voce

DOWN

1 Soothe
2 Speech
3 Sediment
4 "Cold As Ever" rapper
5 Ave. crossers
6 Left at sea
7 Boring tool
8 Out of it
9 Uptight
11 Befriend for ulterior motives
15 Politico Landon
17 Do well on the course
20 Attempt
21 — -di-dah
24 Lame excuse
25 Eliminate
27 Luau strings
28 Crude shed
29 Police raids
30 When expected
31 Island off Venezuela
35 "Oh, sure!"
36 Florence's river
38 Farm animal

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	
10					■	11				
12					■	13				
14				■	15					
16			■	17			■	18		
19			20				21	■	■	■
■	22				■	23		24	25	■
■	■	■	26		27					28
29	30	31	■	32			■	33		
34			35			■	36			
37					■	38				
39					■	40				
41				■	■	42				

7-27

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• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

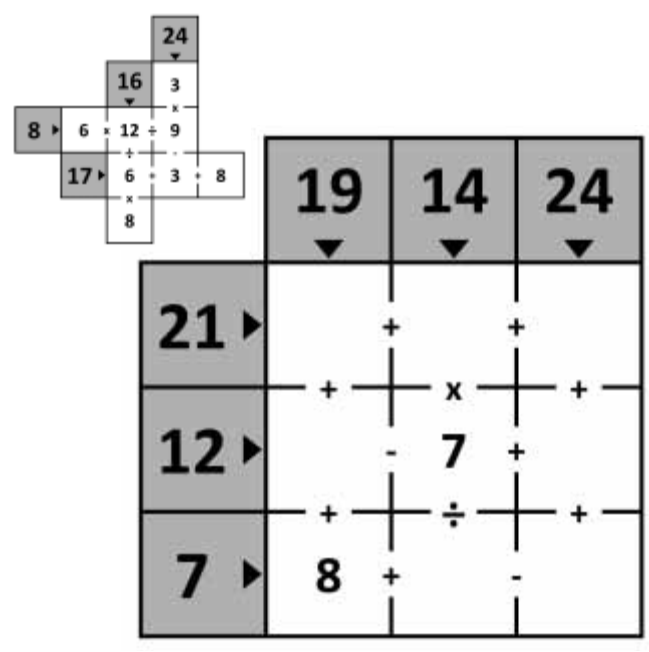
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

3, 6, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12

Solution for Task 554



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 23 31 32 39 56 Meganumber: 38 Jackpot: $63M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 1 6 13 45 47 Meganumber: 16 Jackpot: $7M

Fantasy 5: 3 4 18 36 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 5 8 2 EVENING: 5 5 3

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 04 Big Ben 2nd: 09 Winning Spirit 3rd: 05 California Classic RACE TIME: 1:46.28

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

■ Budget cuts forced the closure of two of the three firehouses in Chillicothe, Ohio (pop. 22,000), and even that station failed a state fire marshal's inspection in March. Because the station's own alarm system was broken, the chief was required, until the new system is installed, to assign one firefighter per shift to be on full-time patrol at the station, walking around the grounds constantly, upstairs, downstairs, looking for fires. -- Run That by Me Again: (1) In New Orleans in July, Thomas Sanders, 53, pleaded guilty to murdering a 12-year-old girl. According to the neighboring state of Mississippi, Sanders has been dead for 17 years (having been ruled deceased in 1994 on petition of his parents, brother and ex-wife). (2) In July, the city of Daytona Beach Shores, Fla., agreed to pay $195,000 to settle a lawsuit in which six people claim they were strip-searched unlawfully by police. Four of the six were strip-searched during a raid at the Biggins Gentleman's Club, where they work as strippers.

■ Norris Sydnor III's $200,000 lawsuit against Rich's Nail Salon of Landover, Md., for "humiliate(ing)" him last December is scheduled for trial as News of the Weird goes to press. Sydnor was upset that males have to pay $10 for a manicure but females only $9.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1919 The Chicago Race Riot erupts after a racial incident occurred on a South Side beach, leading to 38 fatalities and 537 injuries over a five-day period.

1921 Researchers at the University of Toronto led by biochemist Frederick Banting announce the discovery of the hormone insulin.

1928 Tich Freeman becomes the only bowler ever to take 200 first-class wickets before the end of July.

1940 The animated short A Wild Hare is released, introducing the character of Bugs Bunny.

1941 Japanese troops occupy French Indo-China.

WORD UP!

mantic
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2. Having the power of divination.

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Name Changes

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. ES015003
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of MARTINO QUENTEZ BUFORD for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner or Attorney: MARTINO QUENTEZ BUFORD filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: MARTINO QUENTEZ BUFORD to JOREY BLAKE. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: 08/26/2011 Time:8:30am, Dept. NC-B
The address of the court is 300 East Olive Ave, Burbank, CA 91502.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.
Date: JUL 06, 2011
MARY THORTON HOUSE, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011050406 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 07/20/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BUBBLES SALON BOUTIQUE INDOOR PLAYGROUND, PLAYATBUBBLES.COM, HOT YOGA MAMA, HOT YOGA MOMMA, HOT YOGA MAMA.COM, HOT YOGA MAMMA.COM, HOT YOGA MOMMA.COM. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Arthur B. Associates 4727 Wilshire Blvd. #601 Los Angeles, CA 90010. This Business is being conducted by: a Corporation. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Arthur B. Associates. This statement was filed with the County

DBAS

Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/20/2011. 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 07/20/2011, 07/27/2011, 08/03/2011, 08/10/2011.

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North of Montana	=	$2,912,500	$1,124,500
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$1,799,982	$738,000
South of Wilshire	=	$787,000	$535,000
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