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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2010
Volume 9 Issue 222



Santa Monica Daily Press

DANCING AT TWILIGHT
SPECIAL PULLOUT

We have you covered

THE MOVE IT ISSUE

Holbrook pondering two-year council bid

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL In a move that could have big implications for November's City Council election, five-term incumbent Bob Holbrook has announced he may run for a two-year seat on the council instead of a full four-year term as previously expected.

Holbrook said he pulled papers to run for one of two available two-year seats on Monday and will make his decision about which race to join sometime after the Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights convention on Sunday.

Though he's not a SMRR member, Holbrook said his decision about which seat to seek will hinge on the political party's endorsement results.

If SMRR, which has a strong hand in city politics, endorses a candidate for each of the five available seats (three four-year terms and two two-year terms), he said he would run for a two-year seat on the council, a scenario that would likely pit him against City Council colleagues Terry O'Day and Gleam Davis, who were appointed to the council to fill vacancies and have announced they will seek to extend their terms by two years in November.

Having received more votes than both Davis and O'Day in a successful council bid in 2006, Holbrook said he's confident he could win against them again. In 2006, Holbrook came in third in a race for three council seats with 13,041 votes. O'Day was fourth with 11,756 and Davis, who was endorsed by SMRR, was fifth with 9,471.

Neither Davis nor O'Day, though, was on the council in 2006. Davis was appointed after the death of Mayor Herb Katz in 2009, and O'Day was appointed after the death of Mayor Ken Genser in January.

"I'm absolutely positive I would win a seat in that race," Holbrook said, referring to

SEE ELECTION PAGE 9



ENCHANTED DAY

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Children and their parents enjoy reenacting their favorite animals with actor/public relations director Sandra Zeitzew (top center) during the Free Midsummer Enchanted Lunchtime Fairytale Theatre at the Santa Monica Playhouse on Tuesday afternoon.

Independent review of de la Torre probe set

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Santa Monica officials have agreed to conduct an independent review of police actions during a four-month investigation into whether school board member Oscar de la Torre committed child endangerment in connection with an after school fist fight between two teenagers.

Prosecutors last week declined to file charges in the case, prompting criticism from de la Torre and others that the investigation may have been politically motivated.

A frequent critic of the Santa Monica Police Department who runs a non-profit that offers programs for at-risk youth, de la Torre denied any wrongdoing in connection with the fight and called the investigation "an abuse of police practices with a malicious intent."

A two-term member of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education, de la Torre had considered a bid for City Council in November

SEE PROBE PAGE 11

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Freshen up
Downtown Santa Monica
Arizona Avenue & Second Street, 8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Get the freshest fruit and produce available at this weekly Farmers' Market. There are also a variety of prepared foods available.

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

Shape up
Top to Top
2621 Wilshire Blvd., 6:30 p.m.
Perfect for marathon training or just staying in shape, the Top to Top store hosts a running club every Wednesday. Runners meet in front of the store for announcements and special guests before beginning. There are three running options: five kilometers, five miles or 10 kilometers. Food and water are provided, and it is free to join the run. For more information, call (310) 829-7030.

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Dancing at Twilight
Santa Monica Pier
7 p.m.
Grab your dancing shoes and head down to the Santa Monica Pier to enjoy another free concert during the 26th annual Santa Monica Pier Twilight Dance Series. This week will feature Indian Bollywood music with Kailash Kher's Kailasa. The free concerts will continue every Thursday through September, 2010. For More information, call the Pier Restoration Corp. at (310) 458-8900.

The art of wine
PAINT:LAB
2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Spending the evening expressing your creativity at this paint, wine and cheese event. For $25, attendees get acrylic paints, brushes, easels, space, wine and cheese. Canvases must be purchased separately. The evening is uninstructed.
For more information, call (310) 450-9200.

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

CORRECTION

In Bill Bauer's "My Write" column on Monday, July 26, it should have stated that Board of Education candidate Chris Bley is not seeking an endorsement from Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights in the upcoming election.

In the article "Improvements abound" on July 27, it should have stated that the City Council was being asked to approve $1.16 million for a pavement rehabilitation project at Santa Monica Airport.

The show will go on

Despite visa troubles, Kailash Kher's Kailasa will play TDS

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

SM PIER At literally the last minute, this week's act for Thursday's Twilight Dance Series was granted permission to travel from India to the U.S. to play the free gig.

The likelihood that Kailash Kher's Kailasa would be allowed to travel was low on Monday as TDS promoters were feverishly working with the band's management and U.S. Customs officials to clear the act, but at 2:30 a.m. on Tuesday they received word that the group would make the trip.

"It's always challenging booking international acts and ensuring that visas are in place and travel plans work out," said Ben Franz-Knight, executive director of the Pier Restoration Corp. "Now that it's settled, everybody is looking forward to seeing Kailash."

Representatives from King and Co., the group that produces the series, were busy Monday afternoon securing possible alternative acts in the event that Kailash Kher's Kailasa couldn't travel. A trio of groups was identified that promoters felt matched Kailash's unique style of Bollywood-inspired music.

The 11th hour news that the band would make the trip came as a relief for organizers who just Monday said there was a 90 percent chance the group would not appear at the show.

"We got the visa, thank God we got it," Fabian Alsultany, one of the group's managers said. "This seems to be a regular situation for artists from overseas."

Alsultany, who works with a number of international artists, said that securing visas has been difficult for the past decade. He said that even before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, U.S. officials have been more stringent on foreign acts attempting to gain clearance. He added that it appears to be easier for acts to tour through Europe than to play the states.

"Many time artists get screwed," Alsultany said. "This is just one of those things."

With Kailash Kher's Kailasa en route to Los Angeles to play the series, all involved are just glad it worked out in their favor.

"The show will go on," Franz-Knight said. "I know [the band] is looking forward to the performance."

The fourth week of the Santa Monica Pier's Twilight Dance Series is scheduled for Thursday at 7 p.m. on the parking deck.

daniela@smdp.com

Robbery suspect held

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY Police have arrested a suspect in an alleged strong-arm robbery that took place July 24 in the 200 block of Georgina Avenue.

The suspect, Gregory Lamont Archie, 28, allegedly approached a female victim as she was preparing to go jogging and asked for directions. During the conversation, the suspect allegedly struck the victim in the face and took her purse. When the victim fell to the ground, the suspect fled from the location in a vehicle, police said in release.

Further investigation by Santa Monica Police Department detectives led them to identify the suspect and the location of his residence in Hawthorne.

Later in the day on July 24, detectives recovered some of the victim's belongings

SEE **ARREST** PAGE 9

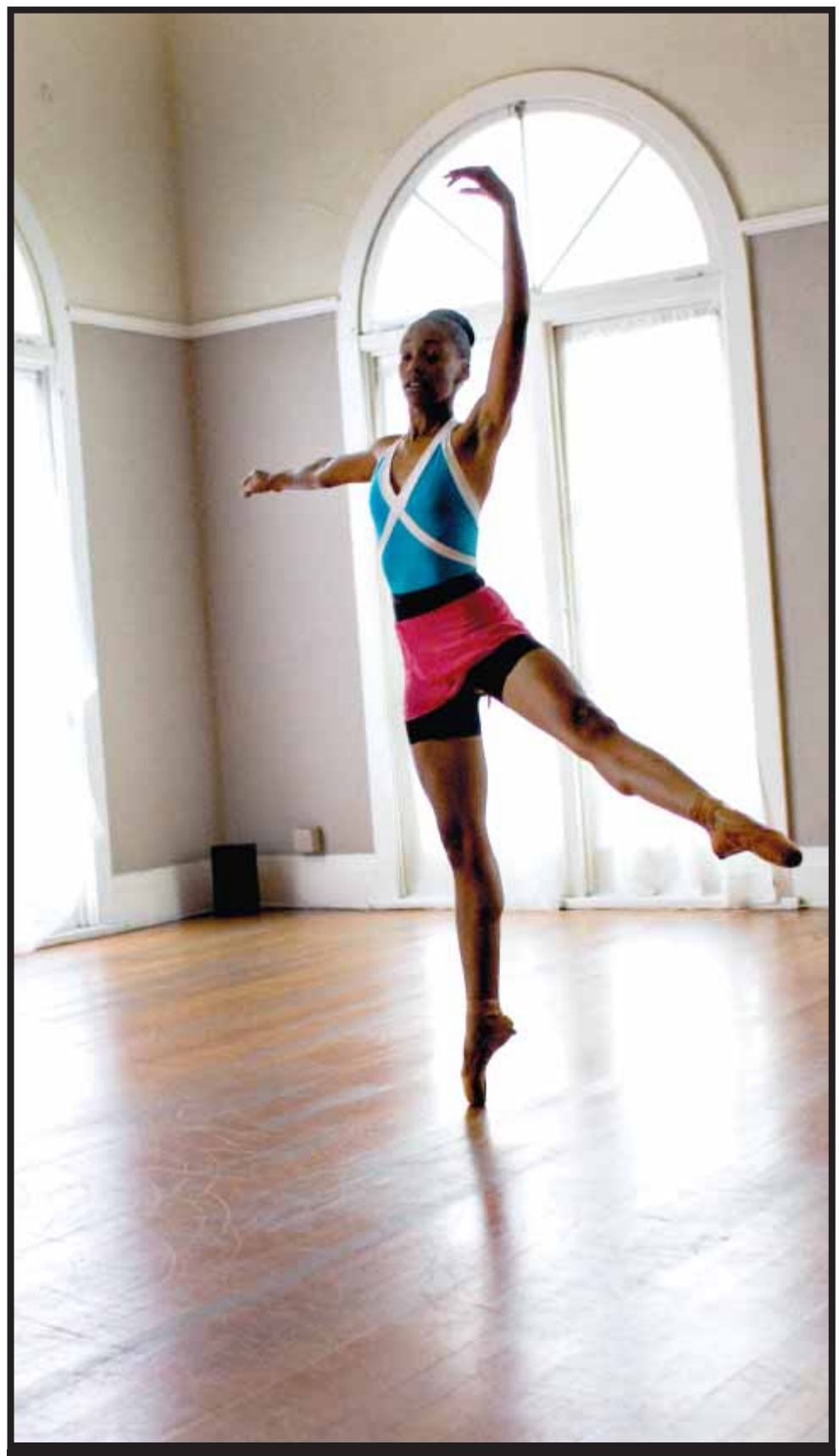
Adams heirs doubt lost negatives claim

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press Writer

BEVERLY HILLS A trove of old glass negatives bought at a garage sale for $45 has been authenticated as the lost work of Ansel Adams and worth at least $200 million, an attorney for the owner said Tuesday, but the iconic photographer's representatives dismissed the claim as a fraud and said they're worthless.

Arnold Peter, who represents Fresno painter and construction worker Rick Norsigian, said a team of experts who studied the 65 negatives over the past six months concluded "beyond a reasonable

SEE **ADAMS** PAGE 9



PERFECT FORM

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Precious Gilbert dances to a piece by George Gershwin with the help of choreographer Lincoln Jones of the American Contemporary Ballet (ACB) during the ACB's Open Studio event at the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club on Tuesday afternoon. The Open Studio allows the public to come and watch the ACB rehearsals every Tuesday.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Supporting de la Torre

Editor:

I am writing this letter to express my full and continuous support of Oscar de la Torre, as a true leader and peace activist in our community of Santa Monica. It is very troubling to me, and my family, to hear of these ridiculous and malicious claims thrown against him by the Santa Monica Police Department ("School board member under investigation," page 1, July 22). My family and I have known Mr. de la Torre for a very long time and find these claims to be outrageous and completely out of character for the man we know. We also know that the Santa Monica Police Department has a long and unspoken history of attempting to defame the character of political and social justice leaders and community members of black and Latino ethnicity. My family and I have personally been victimized by the Santa Monica Police Department. Our community has long spoken out about the brutal mistreatment of our people by the Santa Monica Police Department, and our cries have long been ignored. They cannot be ignored any longer.

It is quite interesting to me as well to see these preposterous accusations arise shortly after it is announced that Mr. de la Torre will seek re-election to the School Board this fall. I was not old enough to vote when he ran for School Board back in 2002, but I did vote for him for re-election in 2006, and he has my support for this upcoming election. I support him because he is the only member of the SMMUSD School Board that truly represents me, and my family.

I am a product of the SMMUSD, and a longtime resident of Santa Monica. I have two younger siblings, one who attends Santa Monica High School, and the other who attends Lincoln Middle School. No disrespect to the other members of the School Board, but Oscar de la Torre is the only member who has consistently represented us, and our interests. My younger brother will be entering his senior year at Samohi in the fall. When he first arrived there, he used to enjoy attending school football games with his friends Friday nights at SMC. He enjoyed the school spirit and togetherness that was displayed by the Samohi community while at these games. That was until he became a victim of harassment and badgering by the Santa Monica Police Department just because his skin was the wrong color. This discouraged him from ever attending Samohi football games anymore. Oscar de la Torre is the only member of the School Board that strives hard to ensure that these things do not occur in our community to my brother, my sister, and all of our black and Latino youth of Santa Monica.

That is precisely why this malicious campaign, spearheaded by the Santa Monica Police Department, has arisen. They believe such things should be swept under the rug and never heard from again. There's an old saying that goes: "you fight fire with fire." I am overjoyed to hear that Mr. de la Torre is considering taking legal action against the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Police Department. Perhaps it is time for the rest of us, whose voices have been silenced over the years, to finally step up and take the proper action against a city and a police department that have long violated our civil rights and our freedoms that are guaranteed to us by the Constitution of the United States of America, regardless of the color of our skin.

David Mendez-Yapkowitz
Santa Monica





Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Schools, not investigations

I'VE SEEN MY SHARE OF SCHOOLYARD fights in my years as a student and working with young people. After watching the video, I didn't think the scrap that took place in the alley between Lincoln Boulevard and Seventh Street near Santa Monica High School on March 16 was anything special — and certainly not anything a city that lost $7 million in school funding should spend time and money investigating.

Nobody seems to have thought this thing all the way through before rushing headlong into a course of action that put the Santa Monica Police Department in direct conflict with the city-funded Pico Youth & Family Center, where School Board member Oscar de la Torre is executive eirector and behind which the fight took place. Because of that, both sides come out looking foolish. And the real losers are the amazing young people the SMPD and the PYFC are supposed to be protecting and serving.

Somehow, footage of this minute-long, one round bout motivated the Santa Monica Police Department to conduct an investigation into the actions of de la Torre, who eventually broke up the fight and got the student-antagonists to shake hands. Based on the findings of that investigation, the SMPD chose to refer the case to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office for felony child endangerment charges against de la Torre for "fail(ing) [in] his duty to take some action, verbal or otherwise, to prevent the physical endangerment." With that, our local police department decreed that there is no such thing as an "innocent" bystander while pioneering the mind-numbing legal concept of the felonious minute of inaction.

I thought nothing would match the rank stupidity and pointlessness of that investigation until I attended de la Torre's "news conference" last Friday. Knowing that the DA was not going to bring charges against him, de la Torre and his attorney, Wilfredo Perez, told a gathering of reporters and supporters that the investigation was a giant waste of city resources — and immediately called for another investigation into the original investigation in order to determine the motives of the investigators. Also, they'd like an apology from the city. I could have sworn I saw a giant Latino chip resting on their shoulders as they spoke.

The investigation itself makes our police look petty. The report presented to the DA describes de la Torre as a suspect and attempts to portray one of the two kids trying to hurt each other as a victim — of de la Torre. His supposed offense was that for about one minute, he "merely observes the fight without intervention, and watches the fight develop, continue, and escalate in its injury risk potential." Video footage of the fight shows any of a number of people who would also fit that description, yet de la Torre was singled out. Our police department's official position is that de la Torre (the man who actually mediated and made peace) should have stepped in one minute sooner. The argument is that de la Torre, who left his office when he heard a fight was going on outside, somehow had "de facto care/custody" of one of the young brawlers (for whom he is a mentor) and should have stopped the fight immediately in order to protect that kid from harm. Because he didn't, his minute of inaction constitutes a felony offense. Perhaps if he had stepped in after 30 seconds, it would only be a misdemeanor. We'll never know where that line is drawn.

The video and "news conference" made de la Torre look vindictive. He was totally vindicated, his name was about to be cleared, and he was in possession of a moral high ground that a freedom fighting community activist almost never gets to occupy. Yet he used the Pico Youth & Family Center as a set and the young people who use the center as props as he defended himself against charges that aren't being brought, bemoaned political conspiracy that doesn't exist, and aired grievances and grudges that can't be considered "news." And, of course, he wants another investigation.

It's clear from reading the report that lead investigator, Sgt. Dave Thomas, takes issue with some of de la Torre's stated views on conflict resolution and de la Torre takes issue with the role police sometimes play in criminalizing typical teenage rebellion in black and brown kids. It's also clear that a schism existed between these two long before March 16. It's a shame that neither of them was man enough to use this incident as an opportunity to teach our young people how to de-escalate (as opposed to escalate) tension.

My favorite family-friendly metaphor for this kind of thing is wrestling with pigs. They say you shouldn't wrestle with a pig because: 1) you get all dirty and 2) the pig loves it. Apparently these guys have been going at it for a decade and neither one seems to recognize that he needs the other. But with a multi-million-dollar shortfall to make up for the sake of Santa Monica's schoolchildren, our city can't afford to pay for these two pigs to play in the mud.

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider with four-quadrant crossover appeal who thinks Dave and Oscar could learn a lot about what really matters in this town from the S.O.S parents who held another great fundraiser last weekend and have already closed the funding gap by more than 10 percent. His past columns are archived at www.ifyoumissedit.com and he can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Audit: Hard to know if gang program works

The city's 2-year-old effort to consolidate the fight against street gangs is poorly monitored and nobody knows whether it's responsible for a drop in gang violence, according to an audit released Tuesday.

Progress has been made in following a 2008 blueprint for coordinating efforts to fight gangs and prevent at-risk kids from joining them, City Controller Wendy Greuel said in releasing the audit.

Gang Reduction and Youth Development, which is run out of the mayor's office, has laid a solid foundation for a comprehensive anti-gang strategy but it needs better oversight, Greuel said.

"This calls into question the effectiveness of the city's approach to keeping our communities safe and gang-free," said a statement from the controller's office.

In the past two years, gang-related crime in areas where the program is operating has dropped 10.7 percent, according to Guillermo Cespedes, the mayor's appointed gang czar.

But gang crime also is down in other areas and Greuel said it was unclear whether the program was working because the Urban Institute, which received $525,000 to evaluate the program, still has not released results after a year.

"It is impossible to measure the overall success" of the efforts, the statement said.

The evaluation is now expected to take another 18 to 24 months, according to the controller's office.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said the findings show progress and that "we've radically changed the way City Hall fights gang violence."

"Now is the time to take that next step in evaluating exactly what programs and what services are causing the drop in gang violence," the mayor said in a statement.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

KERNVILLE

Homes destroyed in Sequoia National Forest blaze

A fire in Sequoia National Forest has destroyed six homes, charred eight square miles and forced the evacuation of 122 juvenile offenders attending a forestry camp near the California town of Kernville.

Fire officials said Tuesday the cause of the blaze was under investigation. No injuries have been reported.

The evacuated minors were being housed in Bakersfield at two juvenile facilities until it was safe to return to camp.

The fire started Monday.

Meanwhile, crews in Lassen County in the northern part of the state were making progress battling a series of lightning-sparked fires east of Straylor Lake.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said 250 acres of timber have burned.

The fires were 30 percent contained.

AP

BELL

DA probes voter fraud allegations

Investigations involving the high pay of leaders in this blue-collar city intensified Tuesday as prosecutors said they were looking into allegations of voter fraud and the state's chief fiscal officer announced he would conduct an audit of spending.

District attorney spokeswoman Jane Robison said her office was looking into claims that off-duty Bell police officers were recruited to distribute absentee ballots in last year's election and tell people which candidates to vote for.

It was only one of several allegations the district attorney is looking into in the city where three top officials resigned last week after it was disclosed they were being paid salaries totaling about $1.6 million a year.

"We do have a full investigation on several fronts," Robison said. She declined to elaborate.

Also Tuesday, state Controller John Chiang arrived in the city of some 40,000 residents, about 17 percent of whom live in poverty, to announce his office is launching an audit of city spending.

If he finds any appearance of wrongdoing, Chiang said, it will be reported to the district attorney and the state attorney general's office.

On Monday, state Attorney General Jerry Brown announced his own investigation, saying he had subpoenaed hundreds of city records.

Chiang said his audit would include a top-to-bottom review of all state and federal funds received by the city. His staff will also conduct a "quality control review" to ensure that private firms hired by the city to audit its books did a proper job and to determine if the city has adequate internal controls to make sure city spending policies are not abused.

"The residents of Bell and the residents of the state of California who are watching what happens here need our help to restore their confidence," Chiang told a news conference. "That starts with transparent accounting."

Interim City Manager Pedro Carillo said the audit would be made public.

AP

The Q Line

Greening Santa Monica

City officials are seeking public input on a pair of new parks planned for the Civic Center,

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What features would you like to see at the two forthcoming parks?

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


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Internet scammers use new methods

JORDAN ROBERTSON
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO Think of it as one more reason not to write checks.

Hackers believed to be operating out of Russia have figured out a high-tech way to carry out the decidedly low-tech crime of check fraud, a computer security company says — writing at least $9 million in fakes against more than 1,200 legitimate accounts.

But these hackers got the account information in an unusual way: They broke into three websites that specialize in a little-known type of business — archiving check images online.

Check counterfeiting is a crime that savvy Internet criminals usually pass up. After all, it's far easier for them to make money by stealing credit cards and online banking passwords.

The scam was discovered by SecureWorks Inc., an Atlanta computer security company. The organization says it is working with the FBI and says the hackers have not been caught.

Retailers and other businesses use the sites to store records of all the checks they write. Check-cashing operations use them to sock away images of checks they receive. And some banks pay them to store images of customers' checks, so the customers can see them when they log in to their online banking accounts.

The criminals downloaded all the images they could find, grabbing bank routing numbers, names and addresses and even signatures of legitimate account holders. They used the information to create their own checks using easy-to-acquire software and printers.

Because all the account information is real and the victims don't know their accounts have been compromised, the odds of the checks going through are high.

SecureWorks notified the three sites and said they have closed their security holes, but warned that the scam is ongoing and targeting other, similar sites.

"It's not the standard kind of criminal operation," Joe Stewart, director of malware research for SecureWorks' Counter Threat Unit, told The Associated Press ahead of the report's scheduled release Wednesday.

"Check counterfeiting is kind of old school, but these guys have figured out how to make it highly automated," he said. "They can get all this data and use that to write counterfeit checks all day long."

The research was being released in conjunction with the Black Hat computer security conference in Las Vegas, which runs Wednesday and Thursday and draws security professionals from around the world to hear about the latest vulnerabilities and attacks and ways to thwart criminals.

Notable presentations this year are to include a demonstration of how to break into widely used ATMs, a talk that was pulled last year by the researcher's employer after complaints from the ATM maker. Researchers are also expected to discuss vulnerabilities in smart phones and in the technology used to secure online transactions.

A consistent theme at Black Hat, and at the related DefCon conference this weekend in Las Vegas, is that most Internet criminals are now motivated by money rather than mayhem. And they're getting more clever in their approaches as banks and other valuable targets tighten their security, as SecureWorks' three-month investigation into the check-counterfeiting ring found.

Dan Clements, a computer security expert who wasn't involved in SecureWorks' research, said the scheme represents a "very significant" escalation of the abilities of online crooks.

He said people should watch for small test charges that criminals make to figure out which accounts are still active, and avoid writing their driver's license numbers and other personal details on checks. He said the attackers were shrewd in their choice of targets.

"I think it's brilliant — it's where the data is," he said. "It's a way to get into these accounts and they don't need to be in the country."

It's unclear how much of the $9 million in that scam the criminals actually got to keep.

The main bottleneck lies with the "money mules" — people recruited from online job sites to launder the money.

They were sent the bogus checks — via overnight shipping paid for with stolen credit cards — and asked to deposit them into their own bank accounts. They were then supposed to wire a portion to accounts in Russia.

Stewart said the six "mules" he was able to reach all told him they hadn't wired any money to the criminals because either they or their banks got suspicious. Many more likely did wire the money, however.

Stewart uncovered the scam while investigating malicious software that steals banking passwords.

In eavesdropping on one criminal group's communications, which he was able to do by infecting his own computer with the malicious program the group was using, he noticed that they were doing something unexpected: collecting massive amounts of images of checks.

He found a file logging all of their transactions, which revealed that 3,285 checks were written against 1,280 accounts since June 2009. Most checks were written for less than $3,000 to evade banks' anti-fraud measures. Overall, he saw about 200,000 stolen check images — suggesting the criminals have only exploited a fraction of the accounts on which they have information.

SecureWorks isn't identifying the hacked sites.

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REAL ESTATE

Housing recovery is all about timing and location

J.W. ELPHINSTONE
AP Real Estate Writer

NEW YORK If you bought a home in San Francisco in the past year, it might feel like the housing slump is over. Bay area home prices have shot up 18 percent in the past year.

But someone next door who bought in 2006 has likely suffered a 35 percent loss in value. And if you're a Las Vegas homeowner, there's been no good news in four years.

The latest report on home prices confirms that real estate is all about timing and location.

Nationally, home values rose 1.3 percent in May from April, according to the Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index released Tuesday. And 19 of 20 cities showed price gains month over month.

Yet conditions are hardly uniform across the country. Some cities, such as San Francisco and Washington, have less area to build out and better job markets, so they have suffered less or in some cases recovered more quickly. Even cities like Phoenix and Las Vegas, which endured some of the worst losses after the housing bubble burst, are seeing vastly different trends over the past year.

"Generally, in any recovery, there is always parts of the country that lead the way and certain parts that lag behind," said Jonathan Basile, vice president of economics at Credit Suisse. "To understand why, you have to look at the economies of those areas and how much building went on to help determine why one outperforms and others underperforms."

Take the metro areas in Las Vegas, Phoenix and Miami. Home values soared in all three cities during the early part of the last decade, then plummeted in the last few years. All three have struggled with high foreclosures.

Yet over the past year, while home prices rose 7.2 percent in Phoenix, they ticked up only 1.2 percent in the Miami and fell 6.5 percent in Las Vegas.

Part of the reason is that Phoenix has a healthier job market than the other two cities. Its metro area had an 8.7 percent unemployment rate in May, one point lower than the national average.

Las Vegas, meanwhile, had a 14.1 percent unemployment rate in May, while Miami had an 11.2 percent rate. That left fewer households in position to take advantage of government tax credits for homebuyers that expired in April and the lowest mortgage rates in decades.

Prices in Las Vegas have lost more than half their value since peaking in August 2006. And the long-term picture isn't rosy either. Home values there have risen a mere 2 percent since 2000, according to S&P/Case-Shiller.

Miami home prices are up 46 percent since the beginning of the decade, but just 1 percent over the past year. High-end sales have helped boost the median price. In the last three months, there were five sales between $8.7 million and $15 million. There have been only 27 of those in the past nine years, said Ron Shuffield, president of Esslinger-Wooten-Maxwell Realtors Inc.

And prices could drop quickly in Miami over the next year. Nearly 23 percent of those homeowners with a mortgage in the area have either missed three consecutive payments or were in foreclosure, according to Moody's Analytics. That compares with 10 percent in Phoenix and 15 percent in Las Vegas.

"Just like in the housing boom period you had significant divergence by regions, in the early periods of recovery, we're seeing similar divergence," said Zach Pandl, analyst at Nomura Global Economics. "But it's not exactly the same cities in these groups."

Of all cities, San Francisco has shown the sharpest turnaround. After values plunged 46 percent to their low in March of last year, they have regained 21 percent, the best performance in the S&P/Case-Shiller report.

Doug Duncan, chief economist at mortgage giant Fannie Mae, said housing is healthier in big cities in the Northeast and on the West Coast because they have limited land for construction and better local economies.

With desirable San Francisco, "you have an ocean on one side and some mountains on the other side," he said.

State homebuying tax credits and a shorter foreclosure process also have helped California housing markets.

Federal tax credits for homebuyers helped prop up prices in cities like Minneapolis where the median home price is just under $170,000. Home values there rose nearly 3 percent in May from April and nearly 13 percent from last year, S&P/Case-Shiller showed.

"But the wind has been taken out of our sails since the expiration and prices are flattening out, especially for entry-level homes," said Pam Kowalski with Counselor Realty in Minneapolis.

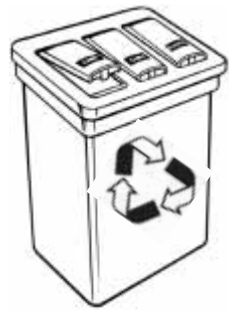
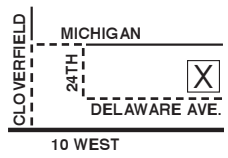
Most economists don't expect the price increases to last through the year. And many predict prices will fall through the rest of the year. A high number of foreclosures will continue to weigh on prices in many areas, and job uncertainty and tight credit are still keeping many would-be buyers sidelined.

"I bet in six months, 15 to 20 cities will have falling prices," said IHS Global Insight economist Patrick Newport. He predicts prices will fall a further 6 percent to 8 percent before turning around next year.

The pain, though, likely won't be equally shared.

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WALL STREET

Negative consumer news pushes stocks downward

STEPHEN BERNARD
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK News that consumers are more pessimistic put the stock market's rally on hold.

Stocks fell modestly Tuesday after three days of big gains. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 12 points for its fourth straight advance, but the gain was largely to due a jump in DuPont Co. after the chemical maker reported strong earnings. Broader market indexes fell slightly, and there were more losers than gainers on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Conference Board's report that its Consumer Confidence Index fell to 50.4 from June's revised reading of 54.3 distracted investors from another batch of upbeat earnings reports. The market had expected the index to come in at 51.

Consumer confidence has fallen in recent months as people have waited in vain for a turnaround in the job market. That has made many consumers hesitant to spend and in turn raised concerns about the economic recovery. Most retail stocks fell after the confidence number was released.

Companies have a very different take on the economy from consumers. Chemical maker DuPont on Tuesday joined the growing number of big corporations that have raised their earnings forecasts. DuPont also easily beat analysts' predictions for its second-quarter profit and revenue. The company's stock rose $1.39, or 3.6 percent, to $40.38, and accounted for 10.52 points of the Dow's advance.

Investors have been torn over the past few months between buying on companies' upbeat reports and selling on government and private sector numbers that keep pointing to a slowing of the economy.

"Investors are really uncertain whether to focus on the underlying economy or earnings," said Tyler Vernon, principal and portfolio manager at Biltmore Capital Advisors.

Although earnings had investors' attention the past two weeks, the occasional economic number like Tuesday's consumer confidence survey can trump companies' results, Vernon said. When earnings reports are done, unsettling data on jobs, housing and consumer spending will dominate trading, and may well lead to more selling.

John Brady, a senior vice president at MF Global in Chicago, said there is little that's likely to turn around consumer confidence in the near future. Consumers won't become more optimistic until they see a drop in unemployment and clear signs that employers are hiring.

"I don't know what turns around confidence aside from jobs growth," Brady said.

The Dow rose 12.26, or 0.1 percent, to 10,537.69 after gaining 405 points the past three days on strong earnings and forecasts. The Dow has surged in July, rising almost 8 percent. The sharp gains helped push the index back into the black for the year on Monday.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 1.17, or 0.1 percent, to 1,113.84, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 8.18, or 0.4 percent, to 2,288.25.

Losing stocks were ahead of gainers by about 4 to 3 on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 4.7 billion shares, up from Monday's 4.1 billion.

Bond prices fell, sending their yields higher. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.05 percent from 2.99 percent late Monday. That yield helps set interest rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

The fact that stocks didn't fall further on the consumer news was a sign that investors weren't that upset by the reading. During the past few months, bad news after a big gain was likely to send stocks tumbling. But analysts said they saw more cashing in of gains rather than anxiety behind Tuesday's trading.

"People say they want to book their profits rather than wait for another plunge," said Richard A. Dickson, senior market strategist, at Lowry Research.

The market had some other negative economic news Tuesday, a report of a slowdown in regional manufacturing from the Richmond Federal Reserve. The Richmond Fed's manufacturing index fell to 16 this month from 23 in June.

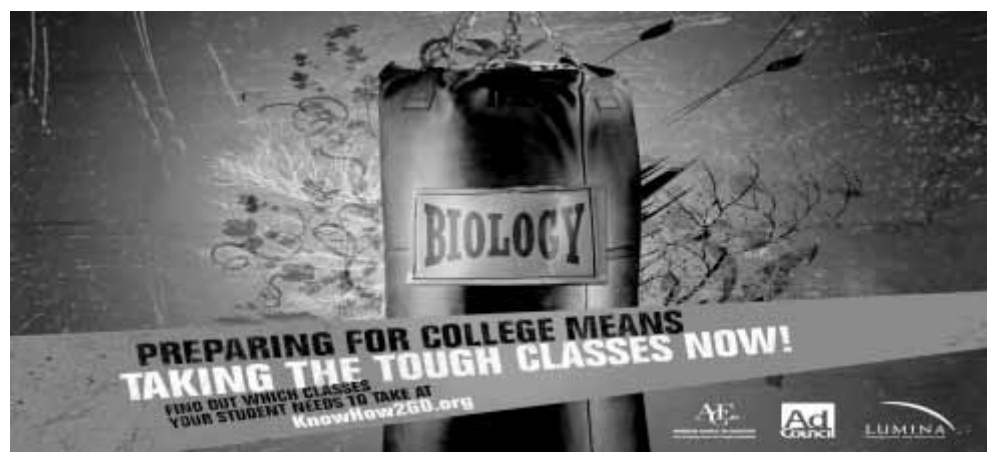
News on the housing market was mildly upbeat. The S&P/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index for May rose 1.3 percent from April. But the homebuyer's tax credit that expired April 30 had an impact on the reading, and the report warned that the recent gains in home prices are not likely to last.

But there was good economic news from overseas. Major European banks including UBS AG and Deutsche Bank reported strong earnings. The results came a few days after regulators evaluated banks across Europe to see which might have trouble surviving another economic downturn. Major European indexes rose following the earnings and another positive report on Germany's economy.

UBS shares trading in the U.S. rose $1.35, or 8.9 percent, to $16.50. Deutsche Bank jumped $1.88 or 2.8 percent, to $68.06.

Apparel retailers were some of the hardest hit by the drop in consumer confidence. AnnTaylor Stores Corp. fell 33 cents, or 5 percent, to $16.87. Talbots Inc. fell 51 cents, or 4.3 percent, to $11.43.

Britain's FTSE 100 rose 0.3 percent, Germany's DAX index gained 0.2 percent, and France's CAC-40 rose 0.8 percent. Japan's Nikkei stock average earlier fell 0.1 percent.



ELECTION
FROM PAGE 1

the contest for a two-year term.

Neither O'Day nor Davis could be immediately reached on Tuesday.

Running in the two-year race would also mean Holbrook would be up for re-election in 2012, along with three other incumbents including Mayor Bobby Shriver.

"I'd have a blast running with [Shriver] in two years," Holbrook said.

If he remains in the four-year race, Holbrook would likely face incumbents Pam O'Connor and Kevin McKeown, as well as challenger Ted Winterer, who received 12,047 votes in the 2008 election, coming in fifth in a contest for four seats despite failing to win a SMRR endorsement.

Besides Holbrook, 12 candidates have pulled papers to run in the four-year race, compared with eight candidates in the two-year race.

While he said he's still considering his options, Holbrook said if SMRR endorses fewer than three candidates in the four-year race, he'd opt to run for a full term.

> **"I'VE JUST GOT TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR ME GIVEN THE HAND THAT SMRR DEALS ON SUNDAY."**
>
> **Bob Holbrook,** City Councilman

"I've just got to do what's best for me given the hand that SMRR deals on Sunday," he said. "I'll have to do what's best for Bob Holbrook. That's it."

The deadline for council candidates to submit election forms, including a petition with 100 signatures of registered Santa Monica voters, for one of the two City Council races is 5 p.m. on Aug. 6.

nickt@smdp.com

ARREST
FROM PAGE 3

inside of the suspect's residence, according to a SMPD press release. Officers also located a white powdery substance resembling cocaine and also found marijuana and drug paraphernalia in the suspect's possession, the release said.

Archie was arrested on suspicion of robbery, possession of marijuana, possession of narcotic paraphernalia and parole violation.

He was arraigned on Tuesday and is not eligible for bail, police said.

news@smdp.com

ADAMS
FROM PAGE 3

doubt" that the photos were Adams' early work, believed to have been destroyed in a 1937 fire at his Yosemite National Park studio.

Adams is renown for his timeless black-and-white photographs of the American West, which were produced with darkroom techniques that heightened shadows and contrasts to create mood-filled landscape portraits. He died in 1984 at 82.

His photographs today are widely reproduced on calendars, posters and in coffee-table books, while his prints are coveted by collectors. His print "Clearing Winter Storm, Yosemite National Park" fetched $722,500 at auction last month in New York, a record for 20th century photography.

Norsigian, who works for the Fresno Unified School District, is already planning to capitalize on his discovery. He's set up a website to sell prints made from 17 negatives from $45 for a poster to $7,500 for a darkroom print with a certificate of authenticity. A documentary on his quest to have the negatives authenticated is in the works, as well as a touring exhibition that will debut at Fresno State University in October.

Representatives of Adams, however, said they're not buying Norsigian's claims.

"It's an unfortunate fraud," said Bill Turnage, managing director of the Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust. "It's very distressing."

Turnage said he's consulting lawyers about possibly suing Norsigian for using a copyrighted name for commercial purposes. He described Norsigian as on an "obsessive quest."

"We've been dealing with him for a decade," he said. "I can't tell you how many times he's called me."

Adams' grandson, Matthew Adams, who heads the Ansel Adams Gallery in San Francisco, said he reviewed Norsigian's authentications last fall and thinks they're stretches. Many photographers took pictures of the same places Adams did in that era, he said.

"There is no real hard evidence," he said. "I'm skeptical."

Norsigian bought the negatives from a man who said he had purchased the box from a Los Angeles salvage warehouse in the 1940s, bargaining the price down from $70 to $45. He saw they were views of Yosemite but never suspected they might be Adams' works until someone mentioned they resembled the famed photographer's shots.

"We got a laugh out of that," Norsigian said.

But the idea stuck with Norsigian, and he started researching the photographer, eventually concluding they were Adams' work.

The shots are of places Adams frequented and photographed. Several shots contain people identified as Adams associates. Adams taught at the Pasadena Art Center in the early 1940s, which would account for the negatives being in Los Angeles.



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SANTA MONICA-MALIBU
Education Foundation

PROBE
FROM PAGE 1

but is instead running for a third school board term.

City Manager Rod Gould on Tuesday afternoon responded to de la Torre and other members of the public who had criticized the police department's actions with the announcement that he had retained the Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review to look into the police department's investigation of the school board member.

The police investigation will "be reviewed for legal and procedural perspectives to determine if it was handled properly and what, if any, changes in practice or procedures would be appropriate for the future," according to a City Hall press release.

The Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review is a civilian oversight group established by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 2001 to investigate matters under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff's Department.

The six-attorney panel is a private contractor for the county and also takes on cases for municipalities.

Reached on Tuesday, de la Torre, who had called for an independent review, said he would reserve judgment of City Hall's announced review until he sees its results.

"This is the first time in history that I know that a grievance against the police has ever led to an investigation so I'm not sure about what to expect," he said. "What I can say is that for the past four months my freedom and my liberty were threatened so I believe the highest level of public scrutiny is required to restore our faith in our government, especially our police department."

He said he hopes the review also looks into the extent to which school district officials were involved in the investigation.

According to City Hall, Police Chief Tim Jackman requested the independent review.

Sgt. Jay Trisler, a spokesman for the department, said he couldn't recall a similar review in the SMPD's history but said there was no indication the de la Torre investigation was mishandled.

"I don't think the investigation was done improperly or it was handled improperly. We did a careful and thorough investigation," he said.

"If the Office of Independent Review identifies practices or procedures that could be better handled in the future, then the department has the opportunity of implementing those."

In an interview on Tuesday, Michael Gennaco, the Office of Independent Review's chief attorney, said his group would conduct a "top to bottom review" of the SMPD investigation "to see whether it was consistent with best practices." His office will review documents and interview participants involved with the investigation and likely issue a public report detailing its findings, Gennaco said. No timeline for the review was announced.

He said he expected a contract for his group's work to be completed this week. City Hall did not release information about how much the contract for the review is expected to cost.

The incident that prompted the police department's investigation occurred March 16 in an alley about a block from Santa Monica High School and next to the Pico Youth & Family Center, the non-profit that de la Torre runs.

After learning that a fight was breaking out, de la Torre rushed to the scene of the fight.

Police said cell phone videos taken of the fight showed de la Torre failed to break up the fight, instead allowing it to "develop, continue, and escalate in its injury potential." Because of his role as executive director of the PYFC, police said he had an obligation to step in and break up the fight.

De la Torre said he spent about a minute assessing the situation and the crowd of about 40 students that had gathered before taking action.

Police based a large part of their case against de la Torre on a cell phone video they obtained from a bystander that appeared to show de la Torre stepping between the two fighters after 59 seconds, when the fight apparently stopped.

Though not shown in the video, de la Torre said he was able to get the two boys involved in the fight to shake hands after it ended.

On Tuesday, de la Torre said the review of police practices in the case should offer an opportunity to push for additional scrutiny of police activities.

"I think it's time to talk about a police commission in the city of Santa Monica and also the role of our police union in electoral politics," he said.

nickt@smdp.com







Homemade toys can cut through summer boredom

JENNIFER FORKER
For The Associated Press

Sometimes, the cure for the summertime blues is found in a tube sock. Or a pile of cardboard. Maybe even in the ubiquitous empty toilet-paper tube.

Kids who spend hours communing with technology — plugged into televisions, computers and iPods — may benefit from some good, old-fashioned arts and crafts fun. Especially if they can then play with what they make.

That's the idea behind "Make These Toys" (Perigee, 2010) by Heather Swain, of Brooklyn, N.Y.

"The process of picking out the project, getting stuff together and making it" is only half of it, she says. "Then they go play with it. It's not over. That's what I like."

Children might use Swain's book as a jumping-off point. When I got it, my daughter, Grace Clarke, 11, whisked it away. Hours later, treasures started to appear: gifts for her dad, her friends and her dolls.

"You really don't have to stick to the book," Grace says. "You can make things however you want. You can change them up a little bit if they don't work with the stuff you have."

Exactly, says Swain.

"I really find that the most gratifying — people not following my directions to a T but finding their own way," she says.

Her book provides hands-on fun for young kids, with adult help, and for older kids, like Grace, who can do most of the projects on their own. There are a few advanced projects that require a utility knife, for which adult supervision is required.

As a former third-grade teacher, Swain says her toy projects teach kids skills and confidence. Children also learn how to entertain themselves.

The toys aren't intended to last forever. After all, they're made from cardboard tubes and glue.

"It's going to break. It's going to go away," Swain says. "But they can make it again. They can change it and innovate."

Another upside for parents? Some temporary peace and quiet.

"Sometimes you want to do a project with your kids," says Swain. "At other times you want your kids to go away and do it themselves."

Summer project

Mini-Marshmallow Popper, adapted from "Make These Toys," by Heather Swain

Supplies:
Paper cup
Scissors
Balloon
Rubber band
Mini-marshmallows

Assembly:
1. Cut the bottom off the cup, creating a big hole.
2. Without blowing up the balloon, tie a knot in the end, then snip off the top ? inch of the balloon.
3. Stretch the cut end of the balloon over the bottom of the cup so the knotted end is in the center of the cup hole, then secure the balloon around the cup with a rubber band.
4. Insert a mini-marshmallow into the cup's opening and gently shake the cup until the marshmallow settles into the center of the balloon.
5. Facing the popper away from you (and away from other people), pull back on the knotted end of the balloon and let go. Watch as the marshmallow zings through the air!

Make more than one popper and have contests with friends to see who can pop more marshmallows into a bowl a few feet away, or whose can fly the farthest. Try popping other soft things too, such as foam earplugs, cotton balls and wads of paper.

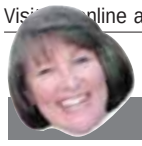
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Of dead cats and blind cows

BLOODY HELL! NO, THAT'S NOT AN expletive, it's a description of Martin McDonagh's play "The Lieutenant of Inishmore," now messing up the stage of the Mark Taper Forum. A bizarre black farce about the deadly "Troubles" in Northern Ireland — how's that for an oxymoron! — "The Lieutenant of Inishmore" can best be described as "yucky." Yuck as in big laughs, and yuck as in "eeeeeew, that's so disgusting!"

It all begins with a dead black cat. Not only dead, but decapitated. The cat, Wee Thomas, is the cherished pet of the renegade terrorist Padraic — pronounced Poric — played by Chris Pine, who is first seen torturing a man who is shackled at the ankles and hanging upside down. Padraic is a member of the INLA, the Irish National Liberation Army, an excessively violent group of psychopaths best known for bombings, kidnappings, and drug dealing. Interrupted by a phone call from his dad, Donny, (Sean C. Griffin), Padraic takes off for home to nurse Wee Thomas, who he has been told is "doing poorly."

Meanwhile, Donny and his young helper Davey (Coby Getzug) are busy covering an orange cat with black shoe polish in order to persuade Padraic that Wee Thomas is still alive.

When Padraic finally arrives home, the plot thickens. Or, rather, clots. He is confronted by three gun-toting thugs from a different renegade group who want to kill him. And here you need to refer to the play's program notes, which provide a brief history of the IRA (Irish Republican Army) and its constantly evolving splinter groups, with acronyms such as PIRA, OIRA, INLA, IRSP and PLA. (Don't ask!)

There is also a love interest: Mairead (Zoe Perry), a young girl who looks like a boy (short hair, no boobs) and spends her days shooting cows in the eyes as a protest against butchers who charge too much. She believes she can put the butchers out of business because "who would want to buy meat off a blind cow?"

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" continues as a mock Shakespearean drama until most of the characters are dead and the stage is awash in a river of blood. Literally. And as those still alive slosh around in it, you wonder what keeps them from skidding across the stage and landing in the third row.

Set designer Laura Fine Hawkes has provided a cozy Irish home as well as an outdoor setting of artfully stacked gray planks and Stephanie Kerley Schwartz has costumed the cast in suitably nondescript and timeless outfits. Cricket S. Myers is the sound designer and Matt McKenzie has provided original music, but the overwhelming — and fabulous — sound is of tattooing drums, raising the roof between scenes.

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" is a guilty pleasure. You can't believe you're laughing at it even while you're shuddering at all the blood and gore. Perhaps the laughs come as a result of the tight direction of Wilson Milam, who keeps the ensemble to its impeccable timing — hysteria moderated by long Pinteresque pauses. Milam has directed this production since its first performance by the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford-upon-Avon in 2001 and its subsequent performances in New York.

Playwright Martin McDonagh has won Tony nominations for "The Beauty Queen of Leenane," "The Lonesome West," "The Plowman," and this play, "The Lieutenant of Inishmore." He has also been nominated for an Oscar (and won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, or BAFTA award) for his screenplay "In Bruges." His next film, he has said, will be one called "Seven Psychopaths." We can hardly wait!

"The Lieutenant of Inishmore" will continue at the Mark Taper Forum, 135 N. Grand Ave., in Los Angeles, Tuesdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. through Aug. 8. Call (213) 628-2772 for tickets.

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

NBC affirms next season Carell's last on 'The Office'

LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES NBC may wish Steve Carell was just joking, but a network executive said "The Office" star has consistently told NBC he's leaving after this coming season.

In the network's first acknowledgment of Carell's plans, NBC Primetime Entertainment President Angela Bromstad said Monday the actor's seven-year run as erratic Dunder Mifflin boss Michael Scott will end when his contract expires in 2011. But Bromstad said the show will go on.

"We've been lucky to have had him as long as we've had. These things happen when you have such a major movie star in a show," she said.

In an affirmation of NBC's faith in a post-Carell "The Office," Bromstad said the sitcom will remain in its 9 p.m. EDT Thursday time slot. It's the linchpin of NBC's schedule on a key TV night of advertising revenue.

"Not to diminish the departure of Steve, because that will impact the show, but we have tremendous faith in the writers and actors to keep it alive," Bromstad said.

Carell, 46, who's become a busy big-screen actor during his "Office" tenure, has said in interviews he plans to leave the series to better balance his work and family life. He's married with two children.

Carell voices the lead character in the new animated comedy "Despicable Me" and stars with Paul Rudd in "Dinner for Schmucks," out this week. His other film credits include "Date Night" and "The 40-Year-Old Virgin."

The door is open if he wants to make return visits to the show, Bromstad said. He remains in business with NBC: Carell's company, Carousel Productions, has a TV production deal with Universal Media Studios.

Carell was on vacation and unavailable for comment, his publicist, Matt Labov, said Monday.



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Police, activists prepare days ahead of immigration law

JONATHAN J. COOPER & MICHELLE PRICE
Associated Press Writers

PHOENIX (AP) The sheriff of Arizona's most populous county is making room in a vast outdoor jail and determined to round up illegal immigrants to fill it. Police from the U.S.-Mexico border to the Grand Canyon are getting last-minute training. And protests and marches are planned throughout Phoenix.

Arizona's new immigration law takes effect Thursday, creating a potentially volatile mix of police, illegal immigrants and thousands of activists, many planning to show up without identification as a show of solidarity.

At least one group plans to block access to federal offices, daring officers to ask them their immigration status.

"Our message for that day is: 'Don't comply, don't buy,'" said activist Liz Hourican, whose group, CodePink, plans to block the driveway for immigration offices in downtown Phoenix.

As both sides prepare, a federal judge is deciding whether to step in and block the law. It requires officers enforcing other laws to check a person's immigration status if they suspect the person is in the country illegally. It also bans illegal immigrants from soliciting work in a public place.

Police across the state scrambled on Tuesday to train officers, including on how to avoid racial profiling, and plan for a potential influx of detainees.

The hardest-line approach is expected in the Phoenix area, where Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio plans his 17th crime and immigration sweep. He plans to hold the sweep, regardless of any ruling by U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton.

Arpaio, known for his tough stance against illegal immigration, plans to send about 200 deputies and volunteers out, looking for traffic violators, people wanted on criminal warrants and others. He's used that tactic before to arrest dozens of people, many of them illegal immigrants.

"We don't wait. We just do it," he said. "If there's a new law out, we're going to enforce it."

He said that the space he made in the complex of military surplus tents can handle 100 people, and that he will find room for more if necessary.

Elsewhere in the state, police officials said they didn't expect any dramatic events. They were busy wrapping up training sessions this week, with some agencies saying that untrained officers will not be allowed on the streets.

Many of the state's 15,000 police officers have been watching a DVD released this month that signs that might indicate a person is an illegal immigrant are speaking poor English, looking nervous or traveling in an overcrowded vehicle. It warned that race and ethnicity do not.

Western Climate Initiative offers cap-and-trade deal

JEFF BARNARD
AP Environmental Writer

GRANTS PASS, Ore. A coalition of seven western states and three Canadian provinces on Tuesday offered its most detailed strategy yet for controlling greenhouse gas emissions blamed for climate change, saying they hope it will stand as a model for national systems in the United States and Canada.

At the core is a cap-and-trade system that would go into effect in January 2012, gradually ramping down emissions levels. The system, which gives financial incentives to reduce carbon emissions, would start with power plants, then extend to large industrial producers and transportation.

The goal is to cut greenhouse gas emissions in the next 10 years to levels 15 percent below those in the year 2005.

Building on a less detailed strategy issued two years ago, the plan comes as Congress has been unable to produce a climate bill to address the same issues.

The document includes the first details of how the carbon auction would work, and it recommends that offsets from programs that store carbon would be limited to a fraction of total emissions. There would be a floor price on emissions, and the auction would be open to anyone.

Art Sasse, a spokesman for Pacificorp, which serves about 1.7 million electricity customers in the northwestern U.S., said the utility had not seen enough specifics about the plan to comment.

So far, only two states — California and New Mexico — and three provinces — Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia — are writing regulations in anticipation of joining the Western regional carbon auction when it begins in 2012, said Michael Gibbs, California's deputy secretary for climate change and co-chairman of the initiative.

The two states and three provinces account for 70 percent of the emissions produced by the signers of the strategy, creating enough liquidity to get the cap-and-trade system up and running, said Robert Noel de Tilly, climate change adviser for Quebec's Ministry for Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks.

An economic analysis estimated that fuel savings would offset the cost of investing in new more energy-efficient equipment to meet limits on carbon production, Gibbs said.

Not all of the states in the climate group are enthusiastic. The Utah Legislature has passed a resolution urging Republican Gov. Gary Herbert to pull out, and Arizona passed a law barring the state government from adopting a regional cap-and-trade without legislative approval.

The other states in the coalition are Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said the coalition's plan is an important step toward reducing dependency on oil, increasing energy security, and creating jobs and investment.

"Action continues to be needed at the national and international levels to address clean energy and climate change, but California and the rest of the Western Climate Initiative partners are not waiting to take action," Schwarzenegger said in a written statement.

BP names new American CEO, hopes to move on

HARRY R. WEBER
AP Business Writer

NEW ORLEANS Battered BP began reinventing itself in the shadow of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill Tuesday, naming its first American CEO as it reported a record $17 billion quarterly loss. Its outgoing chief miffed the White House anew with his parting comments.

Robert Dudley, who will replace Tony Hayward on Oct. 1, promised changes in light of the environmental disaster. "There's no question we are going to learn things from this investigation of the incident," he told reporters by phone from London after the announcement was made.

One certain change is that BP will become smaller. It announced it will sell $30 billion in assets and has set aside $32.2 billion to cover costs from the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history.

Dudley, BP's managing director and current point man on oil spill recovery, defended his company's record and that of the embattled chief executive he will replace.

Hayward, whose verbal miscues intensified the anger Gulf Coast residents already felt, will leave BP with benefits valued at more than $18 million. He told reporters he had been "demonized and vilified" but had no major regrets about his leadership.

"Life isn't fair," he said, but he conceded that wasn't the point. "BP cannot move on in the U.S. with me as its leader."

The White House was not impressed with Hayward's comments.

"What's not fair is what's happened on the Gulf," press secretary Robert Gibbs said. "What's not fair is the actions of some have caused the greatest environmental disaster that our country has ever seen."

BP PLC announced the move Tuesday with an air of making a fresh start, nearly 100 days into a catastrophic mile-deep blowout that killed 11 workers, spewed 94 million to 184 million gallons of oil and sapped 35 percent, or $60 billion, of BP's market value.

"We are taking a hard look at ourselves, what we do and how we do it," BP Chairman Carl-Henric Svanberg said during a webcast presentation on the company's earnings.

Svanberg said the company's priority was to stop the Gulf leak permanently, clean up the spill and compensate people whose livelihoods have been lost. But he added that the company was determined to restore value to shareholders, whose dividends were axed by BP under U.S. political pressure.

Company shares dropped 65 cents, or about 1.7 percent, to close at $38 in Tuesday trading in New York.

BP said it would become a leaner, higher-quality business through its planned sale of $30 billion in assets. The company has already made a start with the $7 billion sale of gas assets in the United States, Canada and Egypt to Apache Corp.

Svanberg said the planned asset sales did not necessarily reflect a fear that spill costs could soar above the $32.2 billion set aside by the company.

Analysts were disappointed that BP intended to sell so many assets.

Oppenheimer & Co. analyst Fadel Gheit said BP should be a 10 percent smaller company after its planned sales but that BP should remain the top oil and gas producer in the U.S., unless it sells off a large portion of its Alaska assets. The company was reportedly considering the sale of its stake in the Prudhoe Bay oil field to Apache Corp., but instead sold Apache properties in Texas and New Mexico, as well as Egypt and western Canada. The U.S. is home to 40 percent of BP's assets and one-third of its worldwide oil and gas reserves.

Prior to the Gulf incident, BP said its exploration activities were focused around Angola, Egypt, the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, Libya, the North Sea, Oman and onshore U.S.

Analysts also said BP's estimate of spill costs was on the conservative side. Gheit predicts BP will eventually pay between $30 billion and $60 billion.

Based on the upper estimate of oil spilled so far, BP could be fined up to $4.8 billion under the Clean Water Act, or up to $18.8 billion if it is found to have committed gross negligence or willful misconduct. BP's estimate assumes it would not get the harsher penalties.

Any fines would be on top of the compensation BP has agreed to pay to thousands of people harmed by the spill. Under U.S. government pressure, it set up a $20 billion escrow fund to pay all claims, including environmental damages and state and local response costs.

Dudley pledged that his company will remain committed to the Gulf region even after the busted well is sealed for good — something that may happen soon. A temporary cap has held back the oil for nearly two weeks, a "static kill" effort to plug the well from above is to begin Monday and the permanent fix — a relief well — could begin sealing the well from the bottom for good with mud and cement days after that.

Dudley was brought in to oversee the spill response after Hayward was vilified for a series of gaffes, including minimizing the spill's impact, saying that he would like his life back and attending a yacht race off the coast of England as Gulf residents struggled to cope with the spill.

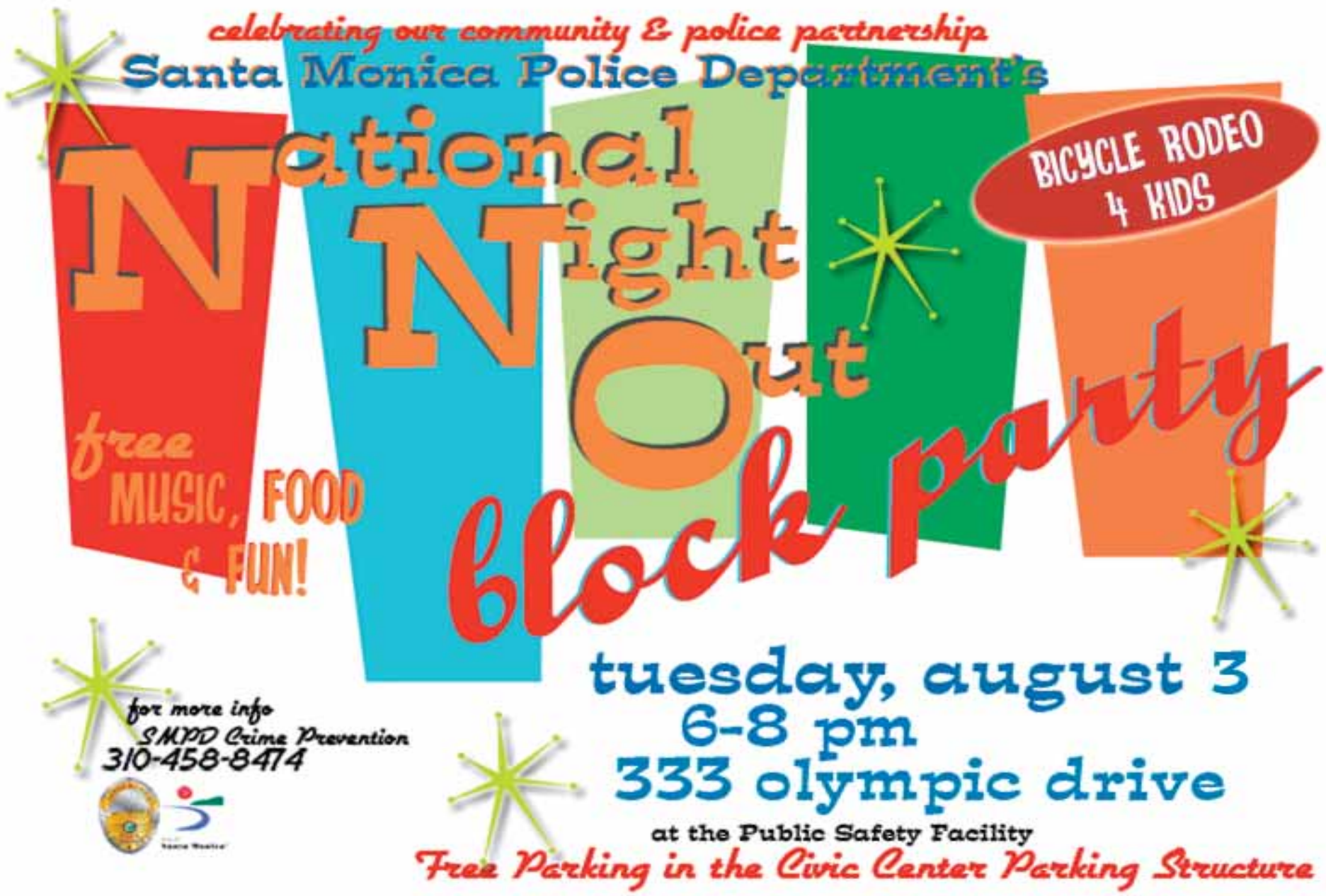
In a mark of faith in its outgoing leader, the company said it planned to recommend Hayward for a non-executive board position at its Russian joint venture, TNK-BP.

The British CEO remains well-regarded in Europe and his appointment would be a benefit for Dudley, who, as the former head of TNK-BP, was forced to flee Russia and run the company in absentia after a flap with shareholders in 2008.

Hayward has some sympathy in his native Britain, where many pensions rely on BP stock and some consider U.S. outrage at the company to be over the top. A recurring theme in newspaper editorials and discussions among many Britons is that there simply wasn't much one man could do in the face of relentless American wrath.

"BP sends Tony Hayward to Siberia to appease US," read a headline in the Guardian.

Hayward, who will stay on BP's board until Nov. 30, will receive a year's salary of 1.045 million pounds (US$1.6 million) as part of his severance package. His pension benefits are valued at about 11 million pounds (US$16.8 million), and he retains his rights to shares under a long-term performance program that could eventually be worth several million pounds if BP's share price recovers.





SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 64°

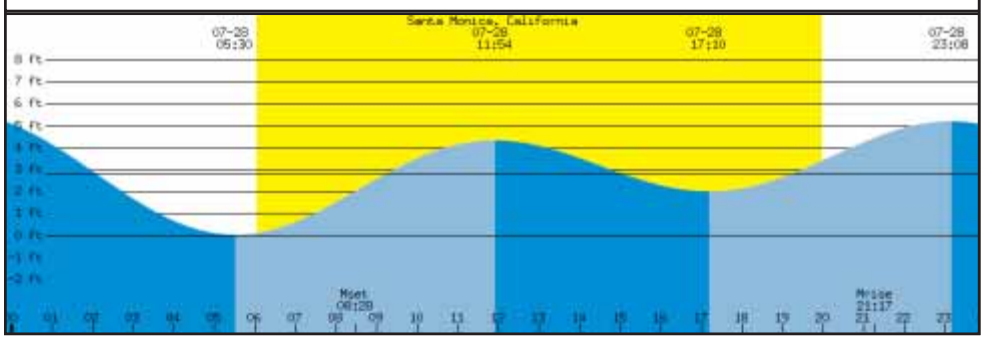
Swell Forecast

Looks smaller yet, about waist high max.

Long Range Synopsis

Also looks like a waist high max day for south facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **July 21, 2010**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 44 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 2 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, simplehuman, SIMA, Groesbeck Family Foundation, Carlson Family Foundation, Inc.

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.	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.	A	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..	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (branch location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	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'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.

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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LEGAL NEWS

Titans sue Lane Kiffin, USC for poaching an assistant

TERESA M. WALKER
AP Sports Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. The Tennessee Titans are suing Southern California and coach Lane Kiffin for "maliciously" luring away assistant running backs coach Kennedy Pola a week before training camp opens.

Tennessee Football Inc., the company that owns the Titans, filed the lawsuit Monday in Davidson County Chancery Court against both the university and Kiffin.

The lawsuit accuses Southern California and Kiffin of violating Pola's contract that required him to have written permission to discuss a job with anyone other than the Titans.

Tennessee hired Pola as running backs coach in February only to lose him Saturday to Southern California as the Trojans' new offensive coordinator and running backs coach.

"USC and Kiffin maliciously intended to — and did — induce Pola to breach the Pola contract," the lawsuit charges.

"USC and Kiffin engaged in improper means in their procurement of the breach and were not legally justified in their actions. Kiffin and USC's actions, through him, were part of a course and pattern of conduct fostered by Kiffin and USC to use improper methods and means to the direct harm and damage of parties to contracts ..."

The Titans declined to comment Monday beyond the lawsuit.

Titans coach Jeff Fisher, a Southern California alumnus, said Saturday that Kiffin neglected to make the customary courtesy phone call to let him and the NFL team know he was interested in hiring Pola. Fisher himself had hired Pola, letting go Earnest Byner to free up the spot on his coaching staff.

Pola's contract ran at least to Feb. 14, 2011, with the NFL in the final year of its current labor agreement with the players.

The lawsuit lawsuit notes that written permission from the president and general counsel was needed because verbal "consent is inadequate." The lawsuit also notes Southern California and Kiffin, through Pola, knew about his contract requirements.

"Pola was not given express written consent by Tennessee Football or the Commissioner of the NFL to entertain employment with any other entity," the lawsuit argues.

The move left the Titans without a running backs coach one week before training camp opens, which the lawsuit argues disrupts planning, causes "potential loss of confidence by players" and the loss of salary and benefits already paid to Pola along with "future damage."

NCAA SPORTS

Pac-12 will be new name once newcomers join Pac-10

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK The Pac-10 will become the Pac-12 as soon as Colorado and Utah officially join the league.

The 95-year old league once known as the Pacific 8 announced Tuesday that it would change the conference's name when the two new members join.

Colorado has said it expects to be playing in the new Pac-12 by 2012-13.

The conference last expanded in 1978, when Arizona and Arizona State joined the four California schools and four Pacific Northwest schools to go from being the Pac-8 to the Pac-10.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Boise State favored again in WAC

DOUG ALDEN
AP Sports Writer

SALT LAKE CITY Boise State is the runaway favorite to finish out its tenure in the Western Athletic Conference with another league title.

The Broncos are No. 1 in both the WAC media and coaches' polls released Monday. The defending champions received eight of the nine top votes from coaches, who aren't allowed to vote for their own teams. Boise State was also the top pick on all but one of the 43 media ballots.

This is the third straight year Boise State has been picked No. 1 by the media in the preseason and second season in a row the Broncos have led the coaches' picks. The Broncos are headed to the Mountain West Conference next year and would love to close out their run through the WAC with an eighth title in the last nine years.

"We're all about the WAC and we're all about this season. That has been our entire focus," coach Chris Petersen said at the league's media day Monday. "The WAC has been awesome to Boise State."

Nevada is No. 2 in both polls, followed by Fresno State. The coaches' poll has Utah State at No. 4, which is the Aggies' highest preseason pick since they joined the league five years ago.

"I think that is something that our team can look at as a positive in that they're gaining the respect of the coaches in the league, and that's important," said coach Gary Andersen, who is entering his second season with the Aggies.

Idaho comes in at No. 4 in the media poll after last year's turnaround and sixth in the coaches. Hawaii was voted fifth by the coaches and No. 7 in the media, while Louisiana Tech is seventh in the coaches' poll and No. 5 in the media poll. Both polls have New Mexico State at No. 8 and San Jose State ninth.

Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore is also the preseason offensive player of the year after throwing for 39 touchdowns as a sophomore.

Nevada end Dontay Moch is the preseason defensive player of the year after helping lead the Wolf Pack to a 7-1 league record last year with 20 tackles for a loss.

MOVIE TIMES

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

X-Men (PG-13) 1hr 44min
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

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

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

Predators (R) 1hr 47min
2:00pm, 4:35pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (Digital Presentation) (PG-13) 2hrs 4min
12:30pm, 3:30pm, 6:30pm, 9:30pm

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

Despicable Me (PG) 1hr 35min
11:05am, 1:30pm, 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

Despicable Me 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 35min
12:00pm, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
12:00pm, 12:50pm, 3:30pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:15pm

Salt (PG-13) 1hr 39min
12:15pm, 2:45pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

The Sorcerer's Apprentice (CC/DVS — Close Captions & Descriptive Video) (PG) 1hr 51min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:05pm, 9:50pm

Toy Story 3 in Disney Digital 3D (RealD 3D) (G) 1hr 49min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:35pm, 7:25pm, 10:05pm

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

I Am Love (R) 2hrs 15min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work (R) 1hr 39min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:50pm, 10:10pm

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

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

Grown Ups (PG-13) 1hr 42min
12:00pm, 2:40pm, 5:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:15am, 2:30pm, 6:00pm, 9:30pm

The Last Airbender 3D (RealD 3D) (PG) 1hr 43min
11:40am, 2:15pm, 5:05pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Ramona and Beezus (G) 1hr 44min
11:00am, 1:25pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:40pm

Salt (PG-13) 1hr 39min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

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

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

Dance the night away, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ The tenor of the day, though confusing and fraught with misunderstandings, will seem much easier than in recent days. Just chug along and do what you must. Keep your ears to the ground. You will learn a lot and have the information you need. Tonight: Juggling a lot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 21)
★★★★ You might want to try another approach or do something very different. Though an idea might seem off-the-wall, try it out. Look at the big picture. Understand what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: Dancing the night away.

GEMINI (May 22-June 20)
★★★ Stay anchored and know what works. You might find some uproar surrounding the home front. Listen to news with a touch of cynicism. Maintain a high profile. You know what is happening in your immediate circle. Tonight: A must appearance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Look to greater give-and-take because of a new perspective. Understand what is happening around you by detaching. Fatigue could mark your plans. Tonight: Use the mind rather than the body.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ You juggle the pros and cons of a situation. Your more possessive side emerges with a partner. Isn't this a reflection of your own insecurity? Think through a decision or action clearly. Tonight: Dinner for two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ If you can, try to handle a problem directly and with clarity. Others seem to be out there but willing to talk. The smart Virgo will agree to disagree. Creativity swirls around you. Use it. Tonight: Go with an invitation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Knowing your limits could be important in your dealings. You see a situation a lot differently. Investigate an alternative more openly. How you handle a family member cannot always be the same. Tonight: Put your feet up in your favorite spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Let your imagination come forward. Your style of communicating with a person who seems inclined not to answer needs to be revised. Your creativity comes out in this situation. Tonight: Be light and easy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Knowing what is important and your understanding evolve. You might want to revise your money situation. Be aware of what is going on behind the scenes and others' inclinations. Get street smart fast. Tonight: Be cynical with a financial offer of "let's make a deal."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You have the knowledge and ability to transform your direction. Realize what needs to happen in order to change gears. As you change, others change. Be more direct in your dealings than in the past. Tonight: Hook up with friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Clearly, your mind is working overtime. You might be revising your opinion of what is happening. Your instincts come out, especially with what you offer emotionally and financially. Tonight: Your treat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You'll see an opening in a meeting or interaction if you look carefully. Put out your sails and glide right on in. Within hours, you'll have an answer to what has been a hassle. At first you might not like it, but you will. Tonight: Relax with a trusted friend and/or loved one.

Happy birthday

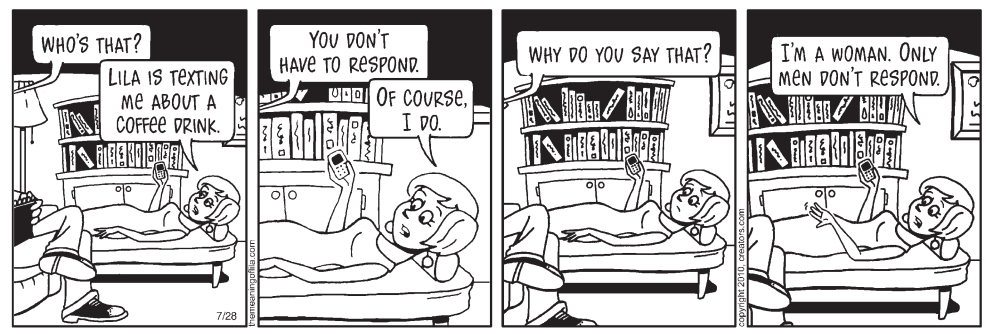
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year, you often find that you are juggling conflicting issues, situations and people. Others seem to be changing before your very eyes, adding an element of unanticipated surprise. You easily could be on overload with communication. Talk is nice, but you need to act. Learn new ways of relaxing and letting go. Take up a stress-buster hobby. If you are single, those you meet could be very interesting, but because of the underlying theme of chaos in the year, insist on a slow and easy courtship. If you are attached, the two of you seem to be perpetually renegotiating your boundaries. Make that OK during changing times. A trio restores your bond. PISCES sees different ideas and visions from you.

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



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



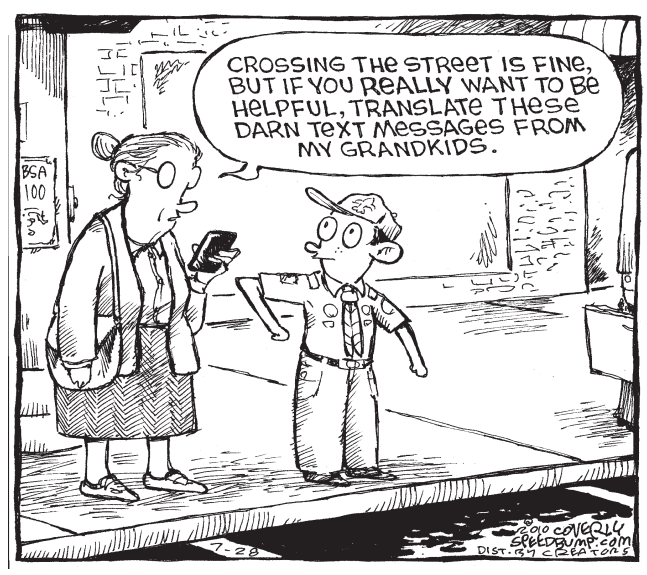
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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





MYSTERY PHOTO

Photo by Alejandro Cantarero Jr.

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Almanac fill
6 Singer Horne
10 Abrasive stuff
11 Himalayan land
12 The Yokum boy
13 Boot out
14 Location
15 Hitchcock thriller
16 Pot brew
17 Have lunch
18 Distress letters
19 Curls up
22 Jazz combo
23 Jokes
26 Conveys sneakily
29 Use a spade
32 Farm animal
33 List-ending abbr.
34 Queued up
36 Diamond corner
37 Suspect's story
38 Argo captain
39 Gymnast Comaneci
40 Concerning
41 Some sheep
42 Landlord's income

DOWN

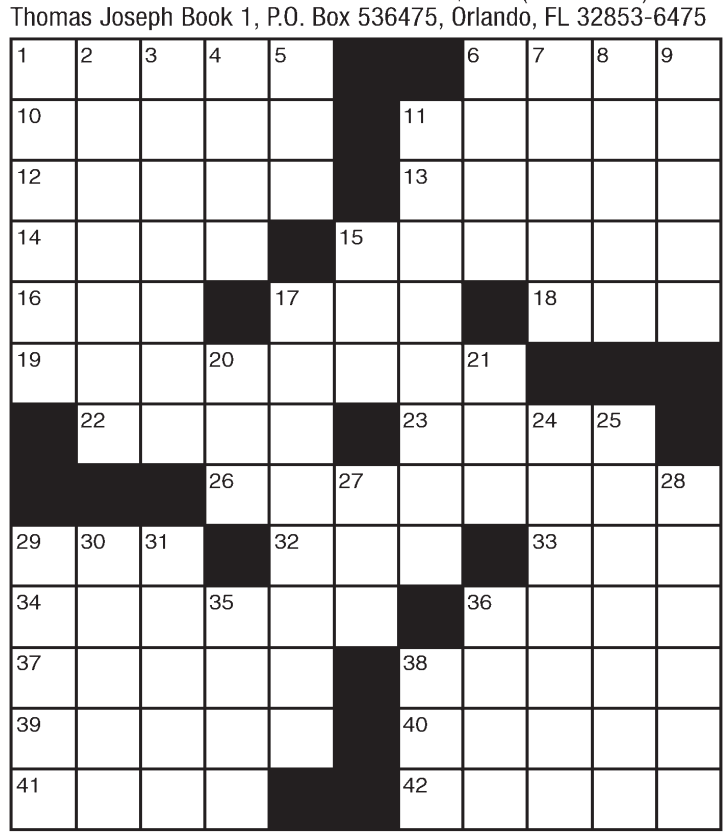
1 Big dinners
2 Surrounding
3 Man-horse hybrid
4 Squirrel's home
5 Leb. neighbor
6 Impose, as taxes
7 Long stories
8 Chip choice
9 Choir singers

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

Yesterday's answer

11 Savings
15 Buddy
17 Diva's problem
20 USO audience
21 Slump
24 "Bang, zoom!" speaker
25 Begins
27 Take advantage of
28 Perfumes
29 TV's Sawyer
30 Holiday visitor
31 Move smoothly
35 Sacred bird of Egypt
36 Talking pig of film
38 Pickle purchase

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



7-28

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 16 19 39 44 49 Meganumber: 26 Jackpot: $24M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 9 13 15 18 25 Meganumber: 12 Jackpot: $13M

FANTASY 5: 1 2 12 26 37

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 2 1 EVENING: 6 6 1

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 07 Eureka 2nd: 01 Gold Rush 3rd: 06 Whirl Win RACE TIME: 1:48.57

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

■ Cleverest Non-Humans: (1) Wild elephants recently rampaged through parts of Bangladesh, and according to the head of the country's Wildlife Trust, those super-intelligent animals "are quick to learn human strategies." For example, he pointed to reports that elephants (protecting their migration corridors) routinely swipe torches from hunters and hurl them not randomly but directly at the hunters' homes. (2) Recent research on the "cat virus" (toxoplasma gondii) acknowledges that, to be viable, the virus must be passed in rodent feces but can only be hosted in a cat's stomach -- and thus that the "toxo" somehow tricks the rodents to overcome their natural fear of cats and instead, amazingly, to entice cats to eat them. Scientists are now studying whether, when human dopamine goes haywire, such as with schizophrenia, a toxoplasma-gondii-type phenomenon is at work.

■ The Trials of the Cricket-Sex Researcher: Biologists from Britain's Exeter University who set out to study the sexual behavior of field crickets in a meadow in northern Spain reported in June that they set up 96 cameras and microphones to cover a population of 152 crickets that they individually identified with tiny, numbered placards on their backs (after DNA-swabbing each one). Publishing in the journal Science, they claimed the study is important in helping us understand how "climate change" will affect habitats.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1609 Bermuda is first settled by survivors of the English ship Sea Venture en route to Virginia.

1794 Maximilien Robespierre is executed by guillotine in Paris during the French Revolution.

1809 Peninsular War: Battle of Talavera: Sir Arthur Wellesley's British, Portuguese and Spanish army defeats a French force under Joseph Bonaparte.

1821 José de San Martín declares the independence of Peru from Spain.

1864 American Civil War: Battle of Ezra Church: Confederate troops make a third unsuccessful attempt to drive Union forces from Atlanta, Georgia.

WORD UP!

nitid
\ NIT-id \ , adjective;
1. Bright; lustrous.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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501 N. Venice unit 18 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

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11767 W. Sunset, #207
1+1.5, upr, st, fr, hdwd, pkg, pool, ln, gar **$1450**

11757 Kiowa, #1
2+1.75, st, dw, pkg, ln **$1700**

WEST L.A.

1920 Manning Ave, #2
SNG, lwr,st, fr,htpl, tstr, ln, cpt, **$875**

1657 Federal Ave, #5
2+2, lwr,st,fr,ln,hdwd, cpt,pkg-1 **$1475**

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MAR VISTA 12309 Culver Blvd. #14 stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, utilities included, intercom entry, gated no pets. $1025/mo. (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. #113 Single, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $875 (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12610 CASWELL ave.unit 3, 1bdrm/1ba $1095/mo. stove, fridge, time/carpet,floors ceiling fan blinds, parking, laundry, no pets. $1000 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 3976 Inglewood Blvd. Units 4 & 9, 1+1 $950/Mo, stove, fridge, blinds, carpet, balcony, laundry, parking, no pets. $750 off move-in (310)578-7512 www.jkwproperties.com

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20100802638 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ENCHANTED GREEN, 1246 WELLESLEY AVE. APT #15, LOS ANGELES, CA 90025; LOS ANGELES COUNTY. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : MAHNAZ (NANCY) HAJIREZA, 1246 WELLESLEY AVE, APT #15, LOS ANGELES, CA 90025 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/11/2010. /s/: MAHNAZ (NANCY) HAJIREZA; OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/11/2010. 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 7/7/2010, 7/14/2010, 7/21/2010, 7/28/2010

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 20100895609 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DRAILLE MANAGEMENT, 824 WILSHIRE BLVD, SUITE 300, LOS ANGELES, CA 90017. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : WILLIAM SEO, 22701 DRAILLE DR. , TORRANCE, CA 90505 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)6/30/2010. /s/: WILLIAM SEO; OWNER
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/30/2010. 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 7/28/2010, 8/4/2010, 8/11/2010, 8/18/2010



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Santa Monica Canyon	$1,999,000	$2,279,500
North of Montana	$3,397,000	$1,299,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,995,000	$769,000
South of Wilshire	$795,000	$589,000
Sunset Park	$1,239,000	$599,000
Ocean Park	$1,402,000	$799,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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