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FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 230



Santa Monica Daily Press

STAYING IN PURPLE AND GOLD
SEE PAGE 15

We have you covered

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUE



Benjamin Brayfield *news@smdp.com*

LEGAL LEEWAY: **Since voters approved Measure Y making private use of marijuana a low priority no citations have been issued.**

Two years of toking it up

No citations issued since Measure Y downgraded pot enforcement

BY EMMA TROTTER
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE Since Measure Y took effect in July, 2007, the Santa Monica Police Department has not issued any citations for offenses involving the adult, personal use of marijuana inside private residences.

Supporters of the "lowest law enforcement priority" measure said that means it's served its purpose.

Bill Zimmerman, president of Santa Monica-based political consulting firm Zimmerman and Markman and campaign manager for Proposition 215 — which legalized medical marijuana use in California in 1996 — called the lack of citations a "very positive outcome."

"There's no harm done by individuals smoking marijuana in the privacy of their homes," he said. "Why would we waste our police resources on an offense that 10 million Americans — including our three most recent presidents — have admitted engaging in?"

Before the 2006 election, in which 65.28 percent of Santa Monica voters approved the measure, SMPD asserted that personal adult in-residence use was already a low priority, and that putting the measure on the books would only lead to higher costs. No SMPD statistics on personal use arrests and citations before 2007 are available, but Sgt. Jay Trisler said the ability to respond to personal use calls did lead to larger arrests.

"Without the measure the police could always change their policy and start prosecuting these people," countered Susanne Griffin, a member of Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy. "We don't know what would have happened if it hadn't been passed."

As it turns out, there have not been any significant costs associated with the measure, Trisler confirmed.

"There was an initial cost and time investment associated with setting up the reporting system," he said, "but no incidents has meant only nominal ongoing costs."

SMPD's ability to participate in state task forces and apply for grants has also not been affected.

SEE MEASURE Y PAGE 10

Jury deliberating in Juarez murders

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN L.A. The fate of two imprisoned gang members charged with murdering two brothers at a Santa Monica clothing store 10 years ago is now in the hands of a jury.

Jurors began deliberating Wednesday afternoon in the murder trial of David Robles and Jessie Garcia, who face two counts of murder and two counts of attempted murder, said Deputy District Attorney Joseph Markus, the prosecuting attorney.

The two cousins are believed responsible for the deaths of Michael Juarez, 27, and Anthony Juarez, 19, on Oct. 27, 1998.

The Juarez brothers were visiting their cousin, Frank Juarez Jr., who owned Westside Clothing on Lincoln Boulevard, when masked gunmen stormed into the store in broad daylight and fired numerous rounds from an assault rifle and pair of handguns.

The murders were believed to be in retaliation for a homicide which occurred days earlier. Apparently, a gang member who was attending a drug class at the CLARE Foundation on Lincoln Boulevard was shot while waiting for the bus, sources said, prompting the Culver City Boyz to retaliate against Santa Monica gang members.

The Juarez brothers weren't from Santa Monica, nor affiliated with any gangs. They were interested in opening a store similar to Westside Clothing where they lived, in Cayucos, a small town in San Luis Obispo County. The brothers had come into Santa Monica the night before to check out their cousin's operation.

Wearing masks, the gunmen entered the store — which was located between Pacific and Strand streets on Lincoln Boulevard — shortly before noon, opened fire and ran out. Michael Juarez and Frank Juarez Jr. ran toward the back door to escape the gunfire, police said. Anthony Juarez didn't make it to the back of the store, and was gunned down.

Frank Juarez Jr. was shot multiple times, as was Matthew Vaughan, a customer in the store. Both survived.

The assailants ran out of the store and got

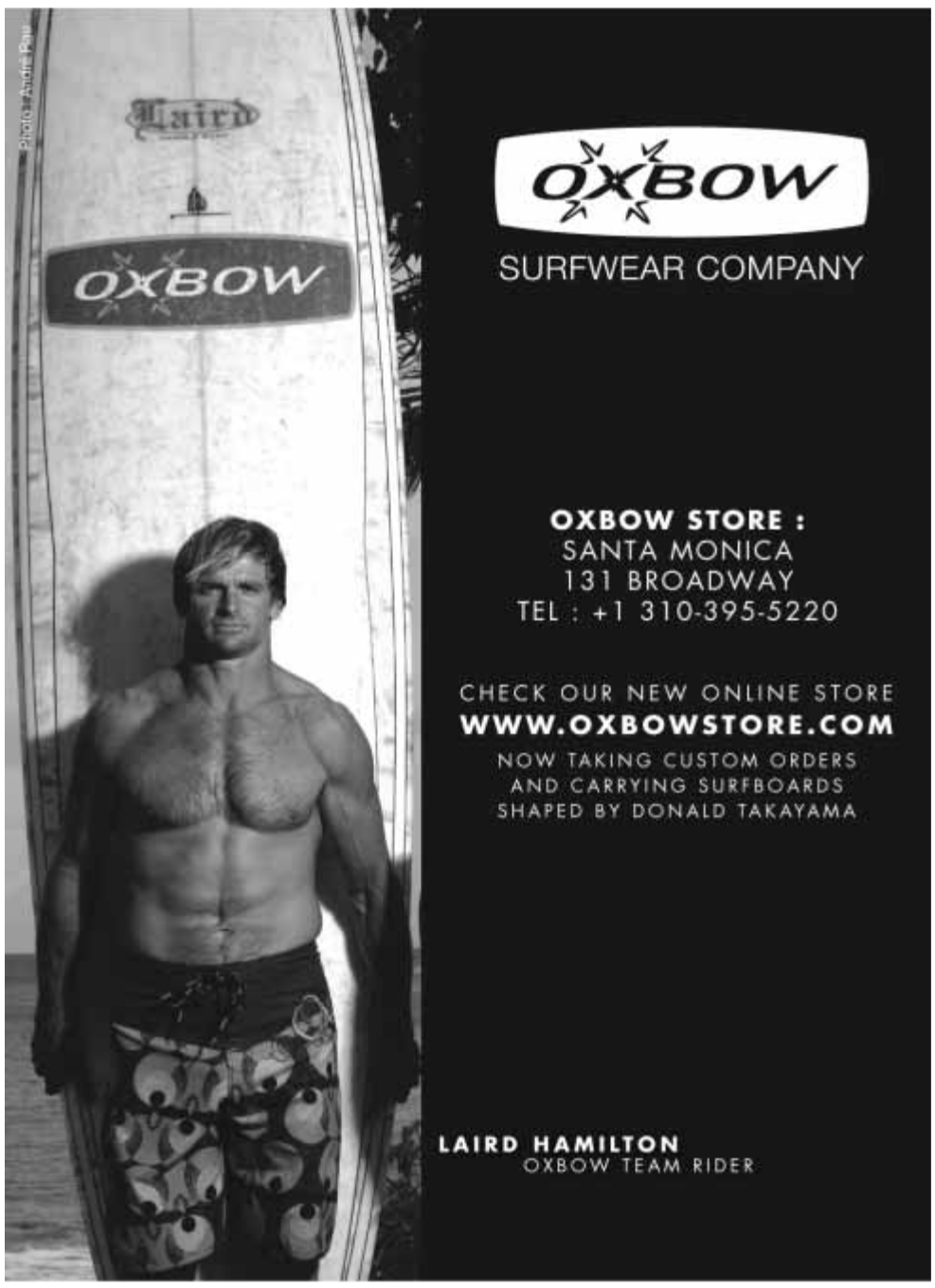
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WHAT'S UP

WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Nuke me

Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 8 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Singer-songwriter Charlie Lustman presents his original pop music operetta about surviving cancer, "Made me Nuclear." The show, in its last weekend at the Santa Monica Playhouse, is directed by Chris DeCarlo. Tickets cost $20.
Call 1-886-468-3399 for more information.

Photography magic

Blue Seven Gallery
3129 Pico Blvd., 7 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Conservation photographer Robert McGinley is hosting a closing reception for his exhibit "Topography, Light at Magic," which focuses on natural landscapes that are threatened by development. Proceeds from the exhibit will benefit Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper. Admission is free.
For more information, call (323) 936-1447.

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Guitar show

Civic Auditorium
1855 Main St., 10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Learn about different styles of guitars from around the world. Admission is $10 for ages 11 and up. Continues Sunday. For more information, visit www.stringswest.org.

Farmers' Market

Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave., 8 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Purchase fresh seasonal produce directly from California's farmers.

An evening with Patti Smith

Bergamot Station Arts Center
2525 Michigan Ave., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Enjoy programming and improv performances by Patti Smith and director Steven Sebring. Clips from the documentary "Patti Smith: Dream of Life" will be shown. Sponsored by the Santa Monica Museum of Art. Admission is $30.

Post-American art exhibit

18th Street Arts Center
1639 18th St., 6 p.m. — 10 p.m.
This reception kicks off the newest exhibit at 18th Street Arts Center, curated by Pilar Tompkins. Artists featured, including Carolina Caycedo, Sandra de la Loza, Hugo Hopping, Ashley Hunt, Vincent Johnson, Glenn Ligon, Adrian Paci, Vincent Ramos, and Chen Shaoxiong. The exhibit will remain open through 9/26. For more information, visit www.18thstreet.org.

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.

TAKING IT IN



Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

JUST RELAXING: **Friends enjoy their morning coffee and the newspaper at Peet's Coffee and Tea on Main Street on Thursday.**

Getting their caffeine fix

Editor's Note: This is a series in which Daily Press writers overhear and observe happenings around Santa Monica.

BY EMMA TROTTER
Special to the Daily Press

MAIN STREET A woman hops out of a black car as it pulls over outside the Edgemar building on Main Street. It's 9 a.m., and she's in a hurry to get to work. One important errand comes first, however.

Inside Peet's Coffee and Tea, her foot twitches as she waits in line. Finally, she hurries to the counter.

"How are you doing?" asks a man in a black apron. "The usual? Two large iced coffees?"

The woman nods gratefully. Her order is ready in seconds, and she rushes outside to her getaway car.

The door shuts gently behind her, and the beep of the cash register is punctuated by the noise of the drawer sliding open and shut. Most tables inside the cafe are occupied by at least one person reading, using a laptop or chatting with other patrons.

A girl dressed in a bright halter-top murmurs worriedly to herself as she taps away on her laptop. After a few moments, she hands a pair of lost and found sunglasses to the man behind the counter.

"We have the triple threat here," he remarks as he stirs a drink. He greets and chats with each customer as he takes their orders.

An employee straightens and wipes the station where patrons can add cream and sugar to their drinks. At 9:15, it already looks well-used by harried customers.

"I had to take my son to the pool yesterday," says a man wearing sunglasses despite the gray morning and the fact that he's indoors. "Within 10 minutes, a guy with a net comes out. You know what that means — time to scoop the poop!"

A woman in a striped helmet secures her bike outside. Muscles bulging under a layer of tattooed skin, a man waits with his arms crossed. His shirt reads "The F..k-Ups."

"Your remaining balance is $22.75 on your card," an employee tells one customer. "That's not bad!"

A man with curly black hair rises from his seat at the counter to take a call. Paper rustles as his neighbor unwraps a pastry.

"Thinking hard, huh?" a man in green pants asks a girl who chews on her pen as she contemplates what to write next. He has merely gotten up to stretch his legs — he soon returns to his laptop at a table in the corner. Brimming with inspiration, she jots down a few words on her notepad seconds later.

Crumbs gather on tables and counters as the steady parade of customers continues. By 9:30, there's no room to sit down, so patrons congregate near the front door, awaiting their drinks.

"What kind of pastry should I have?" a woman with a long black braid asks her friend, who is wearing camouflage crop pants.

A man in a wet gray T-shirt bangs the door on his way in. He carries a tan leather messenger bag under his arm.

About 10 people are waiting to order — mostly men dressed business casual. A man and a woman in flowing white shirts share a kiss near the end of the line.

"S..t, I gotta go or I'll get a ticket," says a man in gray shorts. He finishes his blueberry muffin and heads for the door.

Two women share a pastry and whisper conspiratorially at the windowsill. Another group of women trades gardening tips. One mother and daughter match plaid shorts and purple toenails.

"I don't even have irrigation at my house," one comments. "It takes a lot of money to water plants in this drought."

A woman enters with two kids in swimsuits. A man wearing a large cross necklace and orange sunglasses chews on a toothpick as he waits to place his order.

"Starbucks?" asks a woman just entering the store. "Considering my level of grogginess, I'm trying to be over-caffeinated."

news@smdp.com

Jeweler aids in recovery of stolen necklace

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN It was like any other negotiation, the seller starting with their asking price, countered with an offer by the buyer, parting ways if neither can agree.

That's exactly how it was for Michael Kurt when two women walked into his Wilshire Boulevard store earlier this month to sell a necklace and matching bracelet set for $1,000.

He offered a lower bid of $850, they balked and left.

There was nothing suspicious or unusual about the pair that set off any alarm bells, that is until Kurt received a letter from Tamara Kroner the following day warning jewelry store owners and pawn shop brokers to keep an eye out for a three-strand pearl necklace and bracelet that were stolen from her Cheviot Hills home on June 28 during an open house.

"Immediately upon seeing the letter, I remembered the two articles," Kurt said.

The president of Jewels by Kurt is now being credited with recovering the missing piece that Kroner received as a wedding day gift from her parents, orchestrating a sting operation when the suspects contacted him just a few weeks later about selling the set for his originally quoted price.

The suspects, Los Angeles residents Desiree Nicholas and Crystal Reed, have been released since posting bail soon after their July 21 arrest in Santa Monica. Authorities are investigating whether the pair is also responsible for similar acts of theft during other open houses over the past year.

Detective Gilbert Esquibel of the Los Angeles Police Department's West Los Angeles Division said he anticipates that a case will be filed with the L.A. County District Attorney.

"It was great to have (Kurt) involved in helping us," Esquibel said. "The victim worked hard on her own in getting photos out about her jewelry and he was great enough to call her back and tell her he saw the jewelry."

The Kroner family returned home several hours after the open house had ended to find that a locked drawer containing their valuables had been opened. Missing was five

SEE JEWELRY PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Finding a humane solution

Editor:

Mr. Pineiro must be an exceptional human being to suggest that a homeless person, weary and tired from walking all day with his/her worldly possessions, walk around all night because of discriminatory camping laws. He also mentioned "if" there is no more room in the shelters. The fact is there are few or no shelters in Santa Monica available.

The humane solution would be to designate certain areas or amnesty zones where homeless people are able to camp safely, without the fear of harassment, as they do in other cities. This would also aid law enforcement in monitoring such persons since they would be in one controllable area instead of dispersed throughout the city. Then I could see citing a person and/or arresting them for camping.

My challenge to Mr. Pineiro is to take a night off from staying at your home, after a day of work, grab a blanket or warm coat and walk around all night until sunrise as you have coldly suggested the homeless do. And if you still after that have the same opinion, I will do the same and walk around all night as you did. You cannot cite people and/or arrest them for camping outside unless you have adequate shelters for people to stay in, which is why the ACLU is suing Santa Monica. And to trivialize the ACLU's lawsuit as frivolous or unnecessary is to trivialize the human beings who must deal with these challenges as a fact of life every day.

Robert Sianez
Santa Monica

Relief from airport pollution

Editor:

Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution (CRAAP) gives a heartfelt "Thank you!" to both U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer and Los Angeles Councilman Bill Rosendahl. On July 20, 2009, Sen. Boxer, chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works and a member of the Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee, sent a letter to Randolph Babbitt, the new FAA Administrator under President Obama, in which she asks that Babbitt review requests of citizens in the Santa Monica area to study the effects of exhaust pollution on neighborhoods closest to Santa Monica Airport (SMO) operation areas and to take appropriate action under FAA jurisdiction. Councilman Rosendahl and his senior counsel, Norman Kulla, assisted me in my efforts to brief Sen. Boxer about the critical concerns SMO neighbors have. Their efforts acted as a microphone for our concerns.

As founders of CRAAP my wife Joan and I are very encouraged that Sen. Boxer has taken the acknowledgment of our concerns regarding invasive toxic aircraft emissions to a new level. We feel that it is a violation of our basic Constitutional right, to have the atmosphere we breathe in our own residential living quarters invaded by toxic aircraft exhaust. By 1989 the FAA and the city of Santa Monica were already aware that exhaust from idling jets has a harmful effect on human health as well as to instrumentation situated within 300 feet of the jet blast. It is well documented that there are homes within 300 feet of jet blast at SMO.

After 20 years of exposure to increasing levels of jet air pollution from Santa Monica Airport, our neighborhoods deserve immediate relief. Jets can not use Santa Monica Airport without exposing residents to toxic emissions. The odors are obvious for more than a mile from the runway ends. The owners and operators of airports and aircraft must understand that they have a responsibility not to put people in harms way.

Joan and I on behalf of CRAAP ask that other government officials join with Boxer and Rosendahl in their efforts to correct this unconscionable environmental injustice.

Martin Rubin
Director
Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution



The Rand Stand

Yaron Brook — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Health care is not a right

GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN medicine is wrecking American health care. Nearly half of all spending on health care in America is already government spending. Yet President Obama's "reforms" will only expand that intervention.

Prior to the government's entrance into medicine, health care was regarded as a product to be traded voluntarily on a free market — no different from food, clothing, or any other important good or service. Medical providers competed to provide the best quality services at the lowest possible prices. Virtually all Americans could afford basic health care, while those few who could not were able to rely on abundant private charity.

Had this freedom been allowed to endure, Americans' rising productivity would have afforded them better and better health care, just as, today, we buy better and more varied food and clothing than people did a century ago. There would be no crisis of affordability, as there isn't for food or clothing.

But by the time Medicare and Medicaid were enacted in 1965, this view of health care as an economic product — for which each individual must assume responsibility — had given way to a view of health care as a "right," an unearned "entitlement," to be provided at others' expense.

This entitlement mentality fueled the rise of our current third-party-payer system, a blend of government programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid, together with government-controlled employer-based health insurance (itself spawned by perverse tax incentives during the wage and price controls of World War II).

The resulting system aimed to relieve the individual of the "burden" of paying for his own health care by coercively imposing its costs on his neighbors. Today, for every dollar's worth of hospital care a patient consumes, that patient pays only about 3 cents out of pocket; the rest is paid by third-party coverage. And for the health care system as a whole, patients pay only about 14 percent.

Shifting the responsibility for health care costs away from the individuals who accrue them led to an explosion in spending. In a system in which someone else is footing the bill, consumers, encouraged to regard health care as a "right," demand medical services without having to consider their real price. When, through the 1970s and 1980s, this artificially inflated consumer demand sent expenditures soaring out of control, the government cracked down by enacting further coercive measures: price controls on medical services, cuts to medical benefits, and a crushing burden of regulations on every aspect of the health care system.

As each new intervention further distorted the health care market, driving up costs and lowering quality, belligerent voices demanded still further interventions to preserve the "right" to health care: from regulations mandating various forms of insurance coverage to Bush's massive prescription drug bill.

The solution to this ongoing crisis is to recognize that the very idea of a "right" to health care is a perversion. There can be no such thing as a "right" to products or services created by the effort of others, and this most definitely includes medical products and services. Rights, as the founders conceived them, are not claims to economic goods, but to freedoms of action.

THE SOLUTION TO THIS ONGOING CRISIS IS TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE VERY IDEA OF A 'RIGHT' TO HEALTH CARE IS A PERVERSION. THERE CAN BE NO SUCH THING AS A 'RIGHT' TO PRODUCTS OR SERVICES CREATED BY THE EFFORT OF OTHERS, AND THIS MOST DEFINITELY INCLUDES MEDICAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

You are free to see a doctor and pay him for his services — no one may forcibly prevent you from doing so. But you do not have a "right" to force the doctor to treat you without charge or to force others to pay for your treatment. The rights of some cannot require the coercion and sacrifice of others.

Real and lasting solutions to our health care problems require a rejection of the entitlement mentality in favor of a proper conception of rights. This would provide the moral basis for breaking the regulatory chains stifling the medical industry; for lifting the tax and regulatory incentives fueling our dysfunctional, employer-based insurance system; for inaugurating a gradual phase-out of all government health care programs, especially Medicare and Medicaid; and for restoring a true free market in medical care.

Such sweeping reforms would unleash the power of capitalism in the medical industry. They would provide the freedom for entrepreneurs motivated by profit to compete with each other to offer the best quality medical services at the lowest prices, driving innovation and bringing affordable medical care, once again, into the reach of all Americans.

YARON BROOK is the president of the Ayn Rand Center for Individual Rights. The Ayn Rand Center is a division of the Ayn Rand Institute and promotes the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead."

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Birthers are bonkers

IN 1958, THE ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE, anti-Communist John Birch Society was founded. They were such a fringe group, at one point they even suggested President Eisenhower was "pro-Communist."

Loosely organized, today we have another odd group known as "the Birther Movement." They claim that President Obama wasn't born in America, and therefore is not legally president. I'm reminded of the classic line from the Peanuts comic strip, "Good grief!"

When he took office six months ago President Obama inherited perhaps the most challenging set of circumstances of any president in history. FDR had the Great Depression, but he didn't have two wars and climate change. Because of these enormous problems, I naively hoped our country might experience a widespread spirit of unity, much like after 9/11.

In that patriotic spirit, Ian, a right-wing friend of mine, pledged he would not criticize the new president for two years! However, that barely lasted two weeks as he was soon mocking Obama. Ian is an avid Birther.

Here are the facts as reported by CNN: Last year Political Fact Check, a non-partisan group, went to Chicago and actually viewed the birth certificate. The governor of Hawaii, Linda Lingle, a Republican no less, authenticated the certificate. Both Hawaii's major papers, the Honolulu Advertiser and the Hawaii Star bulletin, have records of Obama's birth announcement on Aug. 13 and Aug. 14, 1961.

There's more. This past Monday, state officials in Hawaii once again confirmed that President Obama is a natural-born American citizen. Health Director Dr. Chiyome Fukino said, "I have seen the original vital records maintained on file by the Hawaii State Department of Health verifying Barack Hussein Obama was born in Hawaii."

The above would seem to end the debate. But the stated goal of many of these people, who, ironically, consider themselves ultra-patriots, is to "destroy Obama." I've always been opposed to the war in Iraq, but I can't imagine taking pleasure in its failure.

Among the more infamous Birthers is right-wing radio talk-show host, Gordon Liddy, a convicted Watergate felon. In 1972, it was Liddy's quaint idea to firebomb the Brookings Institute, a plan that was thankfully vetoed, though after some consideration.

On MSNBC's "Hardball" TV show, Chris Matthews showed Liddy a copy of the birth certificate on camera. Embarrassed by evidence, Liddy stammered, "Well, it's worth looking into." He didn't once suggest firebombing anything, which, I suppose, is progress. Or just that he's gotten old.

Another Birther with dubious credentials is James Von Brunn, 88. His "prominence" came about this past June when he allegedly shot and killed a security officer inside the Holocaust Museum.

On the other end of respectability scale is CNN's Lou Dobbs, who if not a Birther, is at least peddling the story. This, even though his occasional replacement, Katy Pilgrim, had totally refuted it the day before. (When he's off, doesn't Dobbs at least check in on his own show?) For big Lou, ratings appear to trump beliefs.

The Birthers are even attacking each other. (Talk about too much free time.) Politico's Ben Smith reports that, like East versus West coast rappers, the Eastern Birthers, led by Philip Berg, has filed suit against the Western branch, led by Orly Taiz, a blonde dentist/lawyer/real estate agent with a heavy accent whom Jon Stewart refers to as "the lost Gabor sister."

Given the urgent problems we face, the Birthers seem a terrible harbinger for the country. This opinion was expressed by former President Eisenhower's granddaughter, Susan, chairman emeritus of the Eisenhower Institute in Washington, D.C.

In 2008 Ms. Eisenhower left the GOP because the Rush Limbaugh's, and more than a few Birthers, have hijacked her party. One headline read, "Canary in the Coal Mine Moment: Susan Eisenhower Leaves the Republican Party." (Want another canary? Glenn Beck makes $30 million a year spouting "Obama profoundly hates whites" when he's half-white and was raised by white grandparents.)

During its heyday the John Birch Society rallied against school desegregation, and the U.N. It was founded by Robert Welch, a stern man who, curiously, developed and manufactured the famous candies Sugar Daddies, Sugar Babies, Junior Mints, and Pom Poms. (My boyhood diet while watching Saturday matinee movies.)

The John Birch, for whom the organization was named, was a CIA agent killed by the Chinese Communists in 1945. JBS.org is on the Web. I also phoned them for a quote. They're "keeping an open mind" on the Birther issue. As for their claim that Ike helped Communists, they feel even stronger about it today. To me it's madness, just like the Birthers. All I can do is quote Charlie Brown, "Good grief!"

JACK can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com

The Q Line

All dressed in green?

A recent Daily Press article discovered that a growing number of engaged couples have decided to go green for their wedding.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Is going green on your wedding day worth the trouble — and money?

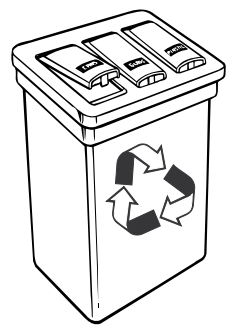
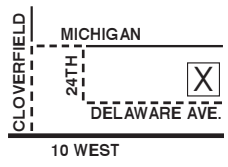
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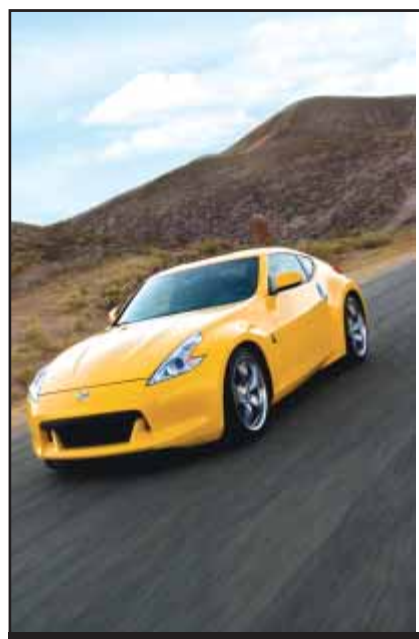

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following applications:

1685 Main Street, LC-09CA-013, Zoning: CC (Civic Center) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of appropriateness 09CA-013 for design approval for the installation of new rooftop HVAC equipment and louvered mechanical equipment screening at the northeast portion of City Hall. In addition, an existing rooftop access door will be removed from an existing elevator shaft and refinished with cement plaster and painted to match adjacent finish. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the Landmark structure. Applicant: City of Santa Monica/Alex Parry. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

200 Santa Monica Pier, LC-09CA-014, Zoning: RVC (Resident-Visitor-Commercial) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Certificate of Appropriateness 09CA-014 for design approval related to the proposed "West End" Commemorative Plaque Program. Proposed work includes the installation of small bronze plaques on the bleachers at the west end of the Pier. The Landmarks Commission will determine whether the proposed project is appropriate and architecturally compatible for the Landmark Santa Monica Pier. Applicant: Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corporation and the City of Santa Monica. Owner: City of Santa Monica.

When: **Monday, August 10, 2009 at 7:00 pm**

Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Robberies, burglaries DUIs and drugs

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

MONDAY, JULY 27, AT 5 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers were on routine patrol in the 1100 block of Alley 2 when they observed a vehicle driving away at a high rate of speed. Officers stopped the vehicle and determined that the driver had a suspended license. Officers searched the vehicle and found several items that they believed were taken from another car. Officers placed the suspects under arrest for burglary. They were identified as Orion Alvarado, 19; Miller Alas,18; Aaron Escalante, 23; Luisa Bolanos, 20; and Maritza Ortiz, 20; all from Los Angeles. Their bail varies from no-bail to $20,000.

SUNDAY, JULY 25, AT 1:55 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1300 block of Santa Monica Boulevard regarding a fight in progress. When officers arrived, they made contact with witnesses who led officers to a parking lot where they observed four people fighting with each other. The officers attempted to break up the fight, but the suspects allegedly continued to brawl. A short time later, all four suspects were taken into custody. The suspects were identified as Gilbert Benavidez, 27, of West Covina; Richard Benavidez, 26, of La Puente; and Henry Rios, 22, and Alonso Zazueta, 23, of Los Angeles. They were arrested and booked for fighting in public. Their bail was set at $10,000.

SUNDAY, JULY 25, AT 8:30 A.M.,
Officers were on patrol in the area of Walgrove Avenue and Dewey Street when they observed a driver hit the center divider and continue northbound. The officers made a U-turn to follow the vehicle. Officers conducted a traffic stop in the area of 21st and Navy streets. Officers said the driver had poor balance, coordination and smelled like alcohol. Officers conducted a field sobriety test and determined the driver was driving while intoxicated. The suspect, Kevin Jarre, 54, of Santa Monica, was arrested and booked for driving while impaired. His bail was set at $5,000.

THURSDAY, JULY 23, AT 1:17 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1100 block of Lincoln Boulevard regarding a burglary that just occurred. When officers arrived, they were flagged down by the alleged victim who told them that she heard her dog barking, looked out the window and saw someone trying to steal her bicycle. She immediately called police. Officers located the suspect riding a bicycle a short distance away. The victim was transported to the location and positively identified the bike as hers. The suspect was placed under arrest and booked for burglary and possession of stolen property. He was identified as Deantre Julian, 20, of Santa Monica. No bail information was provided.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, AT 12:30 A.M.,
Officers conducted a traffic stop at Pacific and Rose avenues after observing a driver commit several vehicle code violations. During the traffic stop, officers said they could smell marijuana within the vehicle. The driver gave the officers permission to search inside the vehicle for contraband. During the search, officers said they found marijuana and hashish. The suspect was booked for possession of concentrated cannabis, driving on a suspended license and a probation violation. The suspect was identified as Deshanwn Lunkin, a transient. His bail was set at $37,000.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, AT 5 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 200 block of Colorado Avenue regarding an armed robbery that just occurred. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim and two witnesses who said they were walking westbound on Colorado from Main Street when a vehicle pulled up and three men jumped out. They approached the victim and asked for some money for a taxi. The victim pulled out his wallet to give them some cash. As he pulled out his wallet, the suspects allegedly grabbed the wallet and ran back to the car. The victim was able to give the officers a partial description of the license plate for the suspects' car. Officers were able to locate the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. Officers placed the four suspects inside the car under arrest for robbery. They were identified as Carols Diaz, 29; Ivan Ramirez, 19; Rafeal Rivera, 20; and Kevin Perez,19; all of Los Angeles. Their bail varied from $100,000 to no-bail.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, AT 10:55 P.M.,
Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for violating traffic laws. When officers made contact with the driver they noticed a glass pipe commonly used to smoke crack cocaine or methamphetamine, police said. Officers asked the driver what the pipe was for and the driver allegedly told them she used it to "smoke cocaine." The driver, Dolores Collins, 34, was arrested and booked for possession of drug paraphernalia and warrants. Her bail was set at $46,796.

MONDAY, JULY 20, AT 6:39 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1500 block of Ocean Avenue – Pacific Sands Motel – regarding a subject selling drugs from inside one of the rooms. When officers arrived, they knocked on the door to a room where four people were inside. The officers were invited into the hotel room and observed one of the individuals with a glass pipe in his hand, police said. The man also appeared to be under the influence of a controlled substance. When the man refused to put the pipe down, officers tried to pry it from his grasp. The suspect allegedly resisted and was eventually placed under arrest for possession of a controlled substance – cocaine. He was identified as Domingo Alvear, 40, of Huntington Beach. His bail was set at $100,000.

Editor-in-Chief Kevin Herrera compiled these reports.

Jackson's mother retains custody

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES Michael Jackson's children will live with their grandmother under an agreement reached with the King of Pop's ex-wife that ensures the youngsters won't have to endure a public fight over who raises them.

The agreement announced Thursday preserves Jackson's wishes as spelled out in his 2002 will, and reopens the door to a relationship with Deborah Rowe, the mother of Jackson's two oldest children. Rowe will be allowed to see her children in visits coordinated by a child psychologist.

Rowe will receive no money from the deal, as she had after previous custody arrangements with Jackson.

The agreement ends the possibility of a lengthy and public custody battle between Katherine Jackson and Rowe. It spares the children, who range in age from 7 to 12, from appearing before a judge and declaring who they would prefer to live with.

The announcement also ends weeks of rampant speculation about who would care for the children and Rowe's intentions, which were never officially announced before Thursday.

Michael Jackson, who died June 25 at 50, was the sole parent to his three children. He was married to Rowe for three years, but both had described the relationship as borne out of friendship and that Rowe had given birth to Prince Michael, 12, and Paris-Michael, 11, as a "gift." They divorced after Paris-Michael was born.

His third child, 7-year-old Prince Michael II, known as Blanket, was born to a surrogate and the mother's identity has never been revealed.

In a joint statement, attorneys for both women made clear that the agreement was reached with the children's best interests in mind.

"Mrs. Jackson and the family are pleased this matter is resolved and was handled in a caring, thoughtful and courteous manner by the parties and their representatives," L. Londell McMillan and Diane Goodman, attorneys for Mrs. Jackson, wrote in a statement. "We were all united in our goals to do what is best for Michael's wonderful children, and both Mrs. Jackson and Debbie Rowe were on the exact same page."

Eric M. George, an attorney for Rowe, called the agreement a "dignified outcome." George credited Katherine Jackson's attorneys for their work on the deal, and expressed pride with Rowe for "her integrity and selflessness."

Keeping Mrs. Jackson as the children's guardian should ease the numerous transitions they're undergoing, said Jill Waterman, a UCLA psychologist and adjunct professor.

"They need to be with someone who knows them, cares for them, who they trust, who they have an attachment and a bond with," she said. "They're going to need lots of support."

The use of a child psychologist to coordinate and oversee the visits is a smart move, said Dorian Traube, a professor at the University of Southern California's School of Social Work.

"This is a good model for introducing these kids to a woman that they don't know very well," Traube said.

Waterman said the visits with Rowe will likely start off short, and continue to be supervised until the children feel comfortable with the arrangement.

She said child psychologists are often used in situations where children are being reintroduced to a parent who lost visitation privileges. It's often a temporary arrangement, she said, since the aim is for the children and parents to develop their own relationship.

"The whole point of doing this is to build to a point of autonomy," Traube said.

She said an experienced psychologist will also help the children deal with their father's death, and ensure that Jackson's children, family and Rowe "are comfortable because it is an unusual situation."

The children have been living with their 79-year-old grandmother at the family's home in the San Fernando Valley since their father's death. Despite their untraditional upbringing, they have been described as model children.

Katherine Jackson was perhaps her son's most constant and trusted confidante — by his side through the triumphs and successes of his music career and his downfall after being accused of child molestation.

The singer clearly favored his mother as caretaker for his children, designating her as his top choice in his will. His backup was singer and friend Diana Ross.

Although Jackson's children have grown up without a mother, Jackson adored his.

"Every child thinks their mother is the greatest mother in the world, but we Jacksons never lost that feeling," Jackson wrote in "Moonwalk," his 1988 autobiography. "Because of Katherine's gentleness, warmth and attention, I can't imagine what it's like to grow up without a mother's love."

Jackson was fiercely protective of his children, generally shielding or disguising them in public. Their introduction to the public came during Jackson's memorial service, an event broadcast worldwide. Paris-Michael provided the service's most touching moment when she tearfully eulogized her father as "the best father you could ever imagine."

Rowe, 50, who breeds horses and has a home northeast of Los Angeles, has not been a fixture in the children's lives. She met Jackson when she was a receptionist for celebrity dermatologist Dr. Arnold Klein.

Public records show there have been significant gaps in visits between Rowe and her children, but they do not indicate when she last saw them.

In 2001 Rowe wrote of Jackson's parenting when she petitioned to relinquish her parental rights. "Michael has been a wonderful father to the children and I do not wish to share parenting responsibilities with Michael because he is doing so well without me."

At the time, she said she hadn't seen her children in more than a year.

Although much has been made of that decision since Jackson's death, her parental rights were eventually restored and she petitioned for custody after the singer was charged with child molestation in 2003.

Yet she was one of Jackson's strongest witnesses at his 2005 child molestation trial in Santa Barbara.

Rowe described him to jurors during the singer's criminal trial as: "Generous to a fault, good father, great with kids, puts other people ahead of him."







NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 11, 2009**

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Room 213, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

VARIANCE 09-007, 125 Ocean Park Boulevard. The applicant requests approval of a variance to construct a new 521 square foot addition to an existing single-family residence that will be considered a third story due to the relationship of the finished first floor level with the average natural grade, and a variance to allow a new front porch to encroach 8'4" into the required 10' front yard setback and 1'7" into the required 4' side yard setback. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Sections 9.04.20.10.030(d) and 9.04.20.10.030(k), the applicant may request variances to modify yard setbacks and allow an additional story which would otherwise not be permitted for an existing residential structure, respectively, through a variance application. (Planner: Tony Kim) **APPLICANT: Jeremy Speckman. PROPERTY OWNER: Gregory Albrecht.**

VARIANCE 09-009, 1834 Franklin Street. The applicant requests approval of a parking variance to allow 6 standard parking spaces and 20 tandem spaces of the 38 parking spaces required for the proposed New Roads Middle School to be located on an adjacent parcel owned by the New Land Company LLC, which is affiliated with the school. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.20.10.030(b), the applicant may request a variance to modify the off-street parking requirements through a variance application. (Planner: Lily Yegazu) **APPLICANT: Susan Cloke. PROPERTY OWNER: Ethel Shelley.**

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #7 and #8 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar applicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.

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U.S. officials hopeful regarding Iraq exit

KIM GAMEL
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD July is on track to be the least deadly month for American troops and one of the quietest for Iraqis since the war started, a decline in violence that has led the U.S. to consider stepping up its withdrawal plans just a month after pulling its combat forces back from Baghdad and other cities.

The optimism was tempered by two bombings that killed 12 civilians to the north and west of Baghdad on Thursday. While such attacks have become a daily fact of life for Iraqis, overall violence levels remain low.

At least 274 Iraqis have been killed in attacks so far in July, according to an Associated Press count. Only two months — both this year — have seen fewer Iraqis killed since the AP began tracking war-related fatalities in May 2005. There were 242 deaths in January and 225 deaths in May.

Only seven U.S. troop deaths have been recorded this month, the lowest monthly total since the war started in March 2003, according to an AP tally. In all, at least 4,329 members of the U.S. military have died in the Iraq war.

By contrast, July was the bloodiest month for U.S. forces in the eight-year Afghan war, with at least 41 dead.

The encouraging numbers from Iraq came a month after the Americans turned over responsibility for protecting cities to government forces and withdrew to bases outside urban areas.

A spike in bombings and other attacks that killed about 300 people in the 10 days leading up to the June 30 city withdrawal deadline sparked concern that the move would jeopardize security gains. But that level of violence did not continue into July.

Jim Dobbins, director of national security research at RAND Corp., said the relatively smooth transition was one reason for Wednesday's remarks by Defense Secretary Robert Gates that the U.S. may speed up its withdrawal plans if the trend toward reduced violence continues.

"I think the fact that they were able to (take over the cities) so relatively successfully and the fact that they've continued to try to expand their own autonomy and limit the U.S. role, particularly the visible U.S. role, was a factor," he said. "It demonstrates a sense of self-confidence that the U.S. wants to encourage."

A U.S. Army adviser to the Iraqi military command in Baghdad, Col. Timothy R. Reese, argued in an internal memo that the U.S. should "declare victory and go home" next year, 16 months ahead of schedule.

Reese wrote that the years-long American effort to train, equip and advise Iraqi security forces has reached a point of rapidly diminishing returns, and that Iraqi forces already are good enough to defend the government against the weakened terrorist and insurgent forces that remain.

He concluded that Iraq's Shiite-dominated security forces are capable of defending their country despite corruption, poor management and the inability to resist political pressure.

"The massive partnering efforts of U.S. combat forces with ISF (Iraqi security forces) isn't yielding benefits commensurate with the effort and is now generating its own opposition," Reese wrote in a memo early this month to U.S. military officials in Baghdad.

Reese argued for ending the U.S. military mission in Iraq in August 2010. That is the date when President Barack Obama has said all combat troops will have withdrawn. A residual force of 35,000 to 50,000 troops will remain to continue training and advising the Iraqi security forces until a final pullout by December 2011.

On Wednesday, Gates said after visiting Iraq that conditions have improved so much that it might be possible to accelerate slightly the withdrawal of combat forces this fall. But he did not address the separate question of whether to shrink or eliminate the post-August 2010 residual force.

The rationale for leaving a fairly large residual force beyond August 2010 rests on an expectation that the Iraqi government will require continued American military assistance even after the combat mission ends.

U.S. commanders say security gains are fragile and reversible, and the Iraqi government needs years of assistance in developing a force capable of defending against external threats.

The Iraqi government says it wants the U.S. troops to leave as fast as possible but that its troops need more weapons and equipment.

Spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said the Americans would leave behind a "significant amount of equipment and arms" and the government would buy more "either from the U.S. or from any other source we choose."

Violence has fluctuated throughout this year, but overall levels remain low compared with previous years when sectarian bloodshed between Sunnis and Shiites pushed the country to the brink of civil war.

More than 111,000 Iraqis have died in violence since the U.S.-led invasion, according to figures compiled by the AP. The number is a minimum count because of thousands who are still missing and civilians who were buried in the chaos of war without official records.

An average of at least nine Iraqis have been killed in war-related violence each day this year compared with an average of 50 Iraqi deaths per day in 2007 at the height of the conflict.

"Every month that goes by with a substantially diminished level of violence creates the presumption that the Iraqi government is stable and this is not going to fly apart," said John Pike, director of GlobalSecurity.org, which follows security and defense issues.

But obstacles remain, including the possibility that violence will re-emerge over the refusal of the Shiite-led government to satisfy demands of the minority Sunnis as well as Kurdish-Arab tensions in the north.

U.S. commanders have also warned attacks could escalate ahead of national elections next year. The United States has about 130,000 forces in Iraq, with current plans calling for most combat forces — or more than 100,000 troops — to remain in the country until after the Jan. 16 vote.

In the latest examples of the dangers still faced by Iraqi civilians, a bombing in the Diyala provincial capital of Baqouba, north of Baghdad, killed at least seven people, while a suicide truck bomber targeting a police station killed five other people west of the capital, according to police.



Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

LOCAL HERO: **Owner of Jewels by Kurt, Michael Kurt, (left) helps customer Elcin Nevruz with a custom ring at his store on Wilshire Thursday afternoon.**

Area woman gets back stolen jewelry thanks to businessman

FROM **JEWELRY** PAGE 3

passports, emergency cash, credit cards, the wedding set, Kroner's engagement ring and her son's cell phone, which she confiscated earlier that day.

It was her son who discovered that the possessions were missing.

After filing a police report, Kroner spent a sleepless night wracked by guilt after telling her devastated parents that their 16-year-old wedding present had been stolen. It was a custom-made gift they had purchased hoping it would be passed down to future generations.

"The only way I was able to handle the guilt and sleepless nights was trying to act and do anything I could to find it myself," Kroner said.

She began calling pawn brokers but didn't get far in her search until the owner of the eighth shop provided a helpful tip — save time by sending a mass letter to all pawn shops and jewelry stores in the region.

> **"TO HAVE NO OBLIGATION, TO SIMULATE A SALE FOR JEWELRY WHILE HE HAD DETECTIVES ALL AROUND HIM IN BULLET PROOF JACKETS, WAS JUST AMAZING."**
>
> Tamara Kroner

In the letter, which she sent to 300 shops in the Los Angeles area, she described the missing jewelry — a three-strand white pearl necklace with a rectangular shaped center containing a diamond and emerald, an accompanying bracelet, and an 18K gold engagement ring with a round cut diamond complemented by four round and four baguette sidestones. Some photos were attached with the letter.

A week later, Kroner received a call from Jewels by Kurt who said he would contact her if the women returned. Kurt in the meantime contacted Jack Sarkissian of Jack's Jewelers on Santa Monica Boulevard after the suspects noted that they got a better deal there.

Sarkissian said the women came in asking for $1,000 for the set. He instead offered $800 and the pair left saying they could get a better deal in the San Fernando Valley. After Sarkissian received the warning call from Kurt, the women returned, asking if the offer was still good for $800.

He refused, but the women came back a week later, trying to sell the set at the originally quoted offer, saying that she needed the cash to pay the rent.

"I tried to give her an excuse not to buy," Sarkissian said. "She came the third time trying to sell it desperately."

The women contacted Kurt, who asked that they call back in 10 minutes, at which time he contacted the Santa Monica Police Department and Kroner, who in turn called Esquibel.

At around 6 p.m., the suspects came into the store with the stolen wedding set and were arrested on scene.

"It was her being diligent by sending pictures and not being depressed about it … and it took my being interested and wanting to get a bad guy," Kurt said. "I am sick and tired of hearing stories about people being robbed."

Kroner, who owns an environmental engineering consulting firm with her husband, said that while receiving her jewelry back was a "faint dream," she realistically didn't think it was possible.

"As time went by, I didn't think I would but I never gave up hope on myself," she said.

The engagement ring, cell phone and passports have not been recovered.

The family had one more open house after the burglary, but hired a security guard and removed all valuables from the home. The house has also since been sold.

While the realtor for the house did remember the two women stopping by, he did not find anything suspicious about them. Another broker in the same neighborhood who also saw the suspects on the same day wasn't as trusting and even went out to snap a photo of the car they were driving — a Cadillac, which was impounded by authorities.

Kroner's feeling thankful these days.

"To have no obligation, to simulate a sale for jewelry while he had detectives all around him in bullet proof jackets, was just amazing," Kroner said of the jeweler. "They walked in at 6 (p.m.) and (police) arrested them and (Kurt) called me at 6:45 and said 'they caught them and got your jewelry.'"

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SUPER EXHIBIT

Brandon Wise *news@smdp.com*

Guests enjoy large graphic artwork by Marvel comic book artists at the Every Picture Tells A Story art gallery on Montana Avenue Wednesday night. The event allowed guests to meet some of the more famous Marvel artists and to see large prints of their favorite comic book super heroes.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

DATE/TIME: August 3, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB05-522, 1949 Seventeenth Street: Residential
- ARB08-070, 1171 Franklin Street: Residential
- ARB08-566, 519 Santa Monica Boulevard: Mixed Use
- ARB09-187, 395 Santa Monica Place, #305 & 306: Restaurant
- ARB09-212, 395 Santa Monica Place: Retail
- ARB09-244, 1447 Lincoln Boulevard: Mixed Use
- ARB09-281, 1753 Eighteenth Street: Residential
- ARB09-282, 1754 Nineteenth Street: Residential
- ARB09-303, 1320 Sunset Avenue: Residential
- ARB09-335, 315 Colorado Avenue: Retail
- ARB09-343, 1020 Santa Monica Boulevard: Commercial

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail planning@santa-monica.org, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The request a disability-related accommodation, please contact 310-458-8341 or TTY 310-450-8896 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9, serve City Hall.

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State closer to legalizing pot

FROM **MEASURE Y** PAGE 1

Still, Trisler, who is president of the Police Officers Association, stands by his initial assessment of the measure — "a solution looking for a problem."

"It imposes administrative rules for something that isn't really there," he said. "It just took one component of enforcement — inside residences — and delayed it due to prioritization of calls."

Another concern with the measure was that it would limit the police's ability to respond to larger drug crimes, such as growing or dealing marijuana. Trisler said there have been no big busts since the measure took effect.

> **"WHY WOULD WE WASTE OUR POLICE RESOURCES ON AN OFFENSE THAT 10 MILLION AMERICANS – INCLUDING OUR THREE MOST RECENT PRESIDENTS – HAVE ADMITTED ENGAGING IN?"**
>
> **Bill Zimmerman**
> Campaign manager, Prop 215

"Previously, we could respond in time to get there while someone was still smoking," Trisler said. "Now, we can't usually respond while the crime is still occurring, and that's resulting in possibly not finding larger crimes."

City Council member Bob Holbrook, who was mayor when Measure Y was passed, called the measure "falling into a deep black hole."

"Virtually everyone who's an addict started out on marijuana," he said. "I just can't imagine why we would want to ignore the problems associated with a drug that's illegal.

"A girl that worked for me told me she had no memory of the ninth grade because she was stoned on marijuana every day at school," he continued. "I'm not a conservative person but I see so much of it that it makes me very conservative in that area."

Holbrook acknowledged the harsh effects associated with marijuana citations.

"It can affect your ability to get jobs for the rest of your life, and I hate to see that happen," he said. "But I don't think we should encourage this."

Zimmerman disagreed.

"Drug use is rampant in our society. The problem is not how to reduce usage — we've been trying to do that for 40 years and we've failed," he said, citing a public opinion poll that indicates 14 million Americans have used marijuana in the past month. "The problem is how to reduce the harms associated with the war against drug use."

SMOKE ON THE HORIZON

Santa Monica residents reaffirmed Measure Y's passage by a wide margin.

"Most people around here are using marijuana for medicinal purposes, which is absolutely harmless," said Carl Homme, who lives on Fifth and Bay streets. "I think it's a waste of taxpayers' money to prosecute those users — but it's a different story if you're growing hundreds of pounds of it."

Homme said marijuana smoke only bothers him if too many people are smoking in an enclosed space — the same way he feels about cigarettes.

"Weed definitely has grilled skunk potential," he said. "But I don't care at all if people smoke outside in their backyards."

Marjorie Howard, who lives on 12th Street, agreed.

"Smoking pot is as common as brushing your teeth," she said. "I'm a grandmother's age, and I can tell you that many of my peers feel the same way.

"It shouldn't be any priority," she added. "It's the most harmless pastime I've come across in 75 years."

Trisler maintained that the measure may have a negative effect on "quality of life" for residents who dislike the smell of marijuana.

The measure was backed in Santa Monica by the Marijuana Policy Project (MPP), the largest marijuana policy reform organization in the U.S. The project's ultimate goal is to tax and regulate marijuana, a substance they say is less harmful than alcohol.

"Marijuana prohibition gives us the worst of all possible worlds — it's widely and regularly used, but unregulated and untaxed," said MPP spokesperson Bruce Mirken. "Given California's budget situation, that's just insane."

According to the L.A. Times, a pot tax could pump as much as $1.4 billion into California's floundering budget.

"MPP didn't feel it was right to introduce legislation at the time to legalize marijuana, but I think that's the eventual goal," Griffin said. "One of the purposes of putting this initiative on the ballot was to let legislators know around the state and country that there would be public support for legalization."

And that day may be closer than ever before, Mirken said, citing a poll that shows 56 percent of Californians in favor of legalizing the drug — a majority for the first time.

On Tuesday, Oakland pot activists took the first official step toward legalizing marijuana in California. The proposed ballot measure would allow adults to possess up to an ounce of pot and grow marijuana for personal use on home garden plots of up to 25 square feet.

The measure needs almost 434,000 signatures to be included on the ballot in November 2010.

Lowest priority measures have been passed in other cities and counties, including Seattle, Oakland, West Hollywood, San Francisco, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz, Denver, Eureka and Fayetteville, Ark.; Missoula County, Mont. and Traverse City, Mich. for medical marijuana only.

"These measures take the police off of these relatively trivial offenses and give them time to devote to crimes that actually endanger people," Mirken said. "That's where we think police should be concentrating their time, not on someone deciding to relax with a joint instead of a martini."

SMPD has filed weekly reports since Measure Y took effect. Read them here: www.santamonicapd.org/Press_Info/MeasureYReports/index.htm.

news@smdp.com

Drug treatment hit hard in budget

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO Thousands of California drug offenders could end up without treatment or jail time because of a clash between the state's new budget and an initiative approved by voters nine years ago.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and legislators slashed funding for drug programs to help close a $26.3 billion deficit this week.

Money for treatment programs has gone from $145 million three years ago to just $18 million for the current year.

Proposition 36, approved by 61 percent of voters in 2000, has diverted 36,000 nonviolent first- and second-time drug offenders a year from prisons and jails into treatment programs.

Officials say many addicts will now face long waits and inadequate treatment.

Such offenders cannot be sent to jail, even if diversion programs collapse for lack of money, said Margaret Dooley-Sammuli, deputy state director for the advocacy group Drug Policy Alliance. With certain individual exceptions, the law mandates that "any person convicted of a nonviolent drug possession offense shall receive probation."

"The courts cannot incarcerate them because there is no treatment available to them," said Dooley-Sammuli, whose organization promoted the initiative. "The law is clear."

The group has successfully sued in the past to prevent offenders from being sent to jail, arguing incarceration would violate voters' intent.

"That is a significant issue," said Scott Thorpe, chief executive officer of the California District Attorneys Association. "Is it going to result in more people on the street without treatment?"

State officials want to use a federal grant, coupled with the $18 million in state money, to spend $63 million on diversion programs this year.

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 12

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Santa Monica Pet Fair and Chip-a-thon



Who? Offered by the American Red Cross of Santa Monica & the City of Santa Monica, in conjunction with Santa Monica Organizations Active in Disasters (SMOAID)

When? Saturday, August 1, 2009

Time? 10AM – 4PM

Where? Clover Park in Santa Monica, 25th & Ocean Park Blvd

Pets are welcome and encouraged to attend. Your pet must be on a leash or in a pet carrier!



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- Low-cost vaccinations
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- Registration & licensing information
- Animal adoptions on site
- Pet contests and prizes

For more information, please visit: http://www.smgov.net/smoaid/

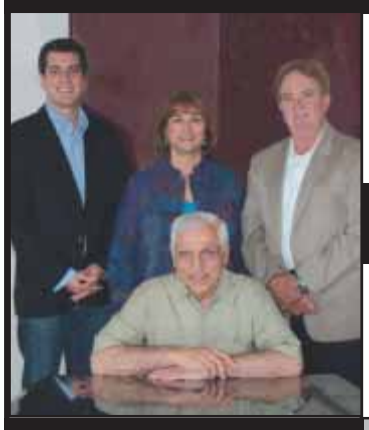
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROGRAM AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE
BOND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM
(RFP NO. 001-2009)

Issued July 23, 2009

The Santa Monica Community College District is requesting qualified persons, firms, partnerships, corporations, associations, or professional organizations to perform the planning, program management, and project/construction management services for the District's Bond Construction Program. The initial contract will be for three (3) years but is subject to renewal with satisfactory performance. Over the last several years, Santa Monica College has been upgrading and refurbishing facilities funded in large part with bonds authorized by Measures U and S. The new Measure AA bond program was passed the on the November 2008 ballot. There is more than $465 million in general obligation bonds plus federal, state, and local matching funds that SMC will use in the modernization and renovation of District facilities.

If you have interest in obtaining the full copy of this RFP, or have any questions, please email Greg Brown, Facilities Planning, at brown_gregory@smc.edu
No phone calls please.

Respondents to this RFP should mail or deliver Five (5) bound copies and One (1) unbound copy, all 8 1/2" x 11", of their Submittals, as further described herein, in a sealed envelope to:

Greg Brown
Director of Facilities Planning
Santa Monica Community College District
1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405

ALL SUBMITTALS SHALL BE MARKED:
RFP #001-2009 BOND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

All responses are due by 2:00 pm on Thursday August 20, 2009.
Late responses will be returned unopened.
FAX OR EMAIL RESPONSES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Any addendums issued during this process will be sent by email. It is the vendors' responsibility to make sure that we have a correct e-mail address on file for communications during the process. We are unable to respond to telephone calls.
The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals for any reason.

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Santa Monica Daily Press Visit us online at smdp.com

Counties forced to cover costs

FROM **BUDGET** PAGE 11

That is little more than half the $108 million the state spent last year, and little more than one-quarter of the $228 million that researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles recommended the state spend on treatment alternatives in 2007.

Counties already are so hard hit by the poor economy that officials are laying off sheriff's deputies and cutting vital services. Now they must also try to find money for drug programs previously funded by the state.

"We do have to offer drug treatment in lieu of incarceration. It will mean longer waiting lists and they may not receive appropriate treatment," said Kelly Brooks, a legislative representative with the California State Association of Counties. "You're certainly going to shoot yourself in the foot on any success that we've had in getting people into drug-free lives and being productive citizens again."

Susan Blacksher, executive director of the California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources, expects counties may wind up "just warehousing people" in outpatient programs without providing them enough services to make a difference.

"Without treatment, they're certainly predicted to re-offend and eventually end up back in the criminal justice system," said Blacksher, who represents addiction counselors and residential treatment facilities.

Along with the governor, 13 Republican legislators supported the omnibus budget bill containing the funding cut. They included several lawmakers who have earned a reputation for being tough on crime.

Republican leaders did not respond to requests for comment Thursday. But Assemblyman Jim Nielsen, R-Yuba City, who previously headed the state parole board, said he hopes to see more money restored for treatment.

"These are very severe times and you have to do things you don't necessarily like to do," Nielsen said of the budget cuts.

Sen. George Runner, R-Lancaster, who has authored several anti-crime ballot measures, wants to see another initiative overturning Proposition 36.

"Quite frankly, I'm glad to dismantle that program at any point," Runner said.

Runner said the lack of treatment and jail time creates a dilemma, but he added that so few addicts complete programs that it won't much matter.

UCLA researchers found a 32 percent completion rate for offenders sentenced to treatment instead of jail. But the researchers projected in their 2007 report that the state saves $4 for every $1 it spends on offenders who stay off drugs, get jobs and stop committing crimes.

Dooley-Sammuli fears prosecutors and judges will now look for ways to send offenders to jail if they know they won't get treatment.

"Which makes no sense, particularly now when prisons and jails are full. It's just sickening," she said.

Pair of suspects await decision

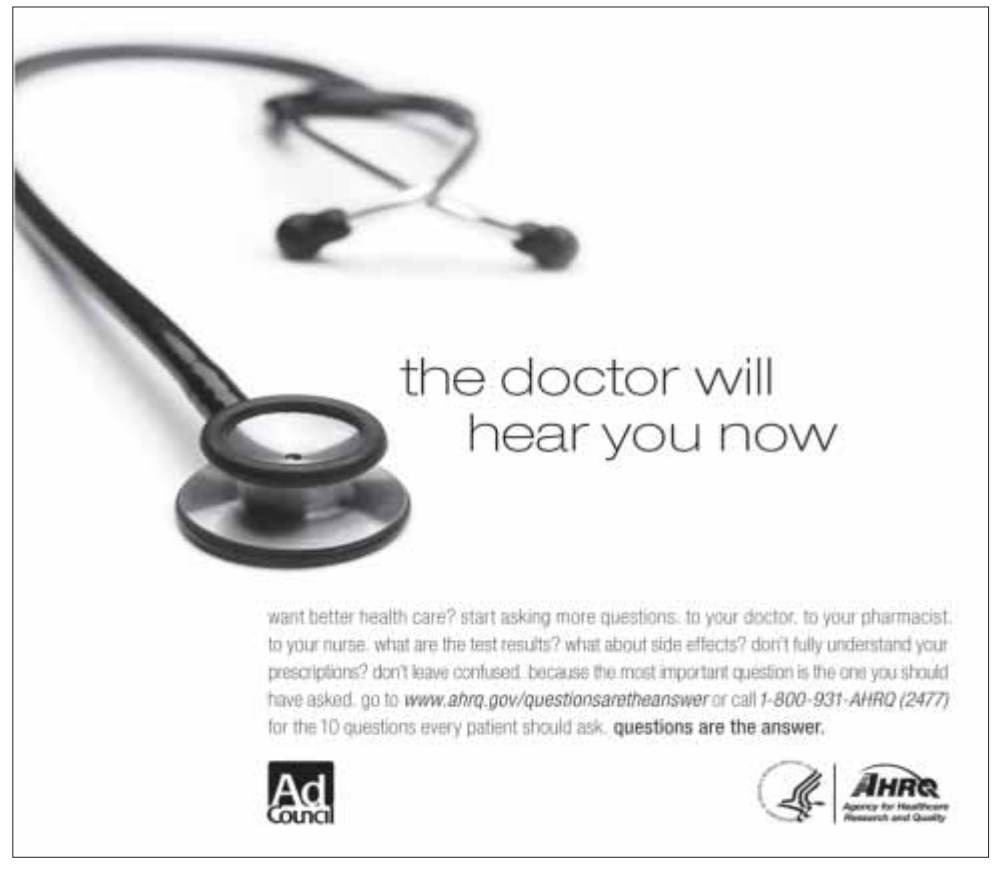
FROM **TRIAL** PAGE 1

into a car awaiting them on Lincoln Boulevard, driven by an unknown suspect. The car was discovered near LAX later that day, wiped clean.

Evidence recovered at the crime scene was processed with current DNA technology. The DNA evidence was sent to the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensics Services DNA Laboratory and entered into their databank of known offenders. The samples submitted were matched with Robles and Garcia.

At the time that charges were filed, Robles, also known as "Puppet," was serving an eight-year sentence in Corcoran State Prison. He was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in February 2001. Garcia, also known as "Psycho," was convicted of carjacking and assault with a deadly weapon with a firearm causing great bodily injury in May 1999. According to the Department of Corrections, he is currently serving a 15-year sentence in Ironwood State Prison.

news@smdp.com



Spending on alternative medicine on the rise

MARILYNN MARCHIONE
& MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writers

ATLANTA Americans spend more than a 10th of their out-of-pocket health care dollars on alternative medicine, according to the first national estimate of such spending in more than a decade.

Chiropractors, massage therapists, acupuncturists and herbal remedies are commanding significant consumer dollars as people seek high-touch care in a high-tech society, the report released Thursday by the government shows.

Altogether, consumers spent an estimated $34 billion on those and other alternative remedies in 2007, the report found.

"We are talking about a very wide range of health practices that range from promising and sensible to potentially harmful," said Dr. Josephine Briggs, director of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, the federal agency that leads research in this field.

More research into which therapies work is critically needed, because the spending on them is "substantial," she said.

The data, gathered in 2007 mostly before the recession was evident, don't clearly reflect whether the economy played a role in spending on these therapies. But Briggs noted there has been "speculation that as the number of uninsured grows, there may be increased utilization of some of these approaches, which tend to be relatively inexpensive."

Nearly half of those who use alternative medicine say they cannot afford conventional care, according to government data published in a separate report.

Some consumer advocates say people are wasting money on some products that rigorous studies have shown don't work. Dr. Sidney Wolfe, who leads Public Citizen's health research, has long criticized the government for what he considers lax regulation of prescription drugs and mainstream medicine. Yet, he also sees problems with the widespread use of dietary supplements.

"People think they are cleared" by the Food and Drug Administration, he said, when in fact they do not need proof of safety or effectiveness to go on the market.

"Mainly, they're ineffective," he said.

The report is based on a 2007 survey by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of more than 23,000 adults nationwide. An earlier report from this survey, released in December, found that more than one-third of adults use alternative medicine.

That includes a wide range of services from meditation and yoga to herbal supplements, such as echinacea and ginseng. Vitamins and minerals are not included in this report but will be addressed in a future one.

Pain was the main reason people tried massage, chiropractic care and other alternative therapies. Among supplement users, most popular were glucosamine for joint pain and fish oil to cut the risk of heart disease.

The new survey results focus on how often Americans use these things, and how much they pay for them. The numbers show that alternative medicine accounts for more than 11 percent of out-of-pocket spending on health care in the United States.

The study found that about 44 cents out of every dollar spent on alternative medicine was for products like fish oil, glucosamine and echinacea. Spending on these products was nearly $15 billion, or about a third of what Americans spend out-of-pocket for prescription drugs.

"I personally am pretty conservative about supplement use," Briggs said. She believes that research her center has sponsored has affected consumer use. After widely publicized studies showed the ineffectiveness of echinacea for colds and St. John's wort for major depression, their use fell; fish oil use has risen following some research suggesting it might help lower risk of heart problems.

The survey shows about 35 cents of each alternative therapy dollar was for visits to acupuncturists, chiropractors, massage therapists and other practitioners. That totals nearly $12 billion, or about one-quarter of what Americans spend on visits to mainstream physicians.

"Some of the useful things chiropractors are doing amounts to physical therapy," Wolfe said. "Medicine is beginning to realize how important physical therapy is."

The last government estimate for out-of-pocket spending on alternative medicine came from a 1997 survey. That research suggested $27 billion was being spent.

The new report concludes that 38 million adults visited alternative medicine practitioners in 2007. They paid less than $50 per visit on average, but many paid $75 or more for services such as acupuncture, homeopathy and hypnosis therapy.

The average annual spending per person to see practitioners was about $122, and the average spending on products was $177.

A whopping $3 billion was spent on homeopathy, a form of treatment that uses highly diluted drugs made from natural ingredients and based on a theory unverified by mainstream science.

Private insurance paid for about 43 percent of all alternative medicine in 2007, public insurance paid for 31 percent and patients paid for the rest, according to a separate government report.

Dianne Shaw, a media relations worker at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, sees value in at least one form of alternative medicine — acupuncture. She says acupuncture helped her recover from a stroke-like facial nerve paralysis that standard drugs didn't remedy. During an exam, one of her doctors commented on her progress, and she revealed that she was getting acupuncture.

"They said, 'Well I'm glad it worked,'" Shaw said.

On the Net:
U.S. report on alternative medicine spending: nccam.nih.gov/news/camstats/costs
Supplement certification: www.nsf.org/consumer/newsroom/kit(underscore)dietary.asp



Santa Monica Sister City Association

International Youth Soccer Tournament

July 29-31

Santa Monica College (SMC)

John Adams Middle School (JAMS)

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9:00 am	*Game SMC JAMS*	*Game SMC JAMS*	*Game SMC JAMS*
Lunch 11:30 am 1:00 pm	*Welcoming Ceremony JAMS*	*JAMS*	*JAMS*
1:00 pm 4:00 pm	*Game SMC JAMS*	*Game SMC JAMS*	*Game SMC JAMS*
4:00 pm 5:00 pm	*Leisure*	*Leisure*	
5:00 pm			*Award Ceremony*

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NCAA FOOTBALL

USC still tops in Pac-10

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES The Pac-10 is awash in change heading into fall. There's an energetic new commissioner touting the virtues of a "West Coast advantage," intriguing new coaches at Oregon and Washington, and an apparent league-wide philosophical shift to more run-based offenses in a conference long known for loving the pass.

At least one aspect of the Pac-10 still hasn't changed, though: Southern California is the front-runner, and everybody else is rushing — or passing — to catch up.

Yet judging by the tenor of the league's annual media day, more coaches than ever seem to believe they might finally track down the Trojans this year.

"They have set a very high standard," said Arizona coach Mike Stoops, whose Wildcats are coming off their first winning season and bowl victory in his five years in Tucson. "The rest of our ability to close the gap has gotten better, and the conference has gotten stronger. It's not as easy (for USC) as a lot of people think it is."

New commissioner Larry Scott is preaching patience when asked about long-awaited changes in the Pac-10's bowl structure and television deals, but he's already a cheerleader for the conference's sterling record in the postseason. After going 5-0 in bowl games last season, it's clear USC isn't the conference's only outstanding ambassador.

After seven consecutive Pac-10 titles, BCS bowl game appearances and top-four finishes in the AP poll, USC again has been picked to finish atop the league by the media, getting 28 of 32 first-place votes. But the Trojans will have an untested quarterback — probably Aaron Corp — and new starters all over their defense.

Even though coach Pete Carroll says he feels as if he's only "in the middle" of a phenomenal run at USC, the other schools hope he's approaching a bump.

"We would love for this to be the year we finally get past USC," said California tailback Jahvid Best, the Bay Area speedster touted as a Heisman Trophy contender. "You know they're not just going to give it away, though. Somebody has to try to take it."

Carroll insists the Trojans' toughest games are in conference, a claim he repeated Thursday in the hotel ballrooms near the Los Angeles airport. After downplaying the latest allegations of NCAA infractions against his program, this one concerning improper assistant coaching, Carroll insisted the league is stronger than ever.

"It's a new feel," Carroll said. "It's exciting. There's something different going on in the Pac-10. ... What we're seeing is more balance. We're seeing more teams running and passing. I think balance is better."

Last season's statistics seem to back up Carroll. In a league that once produced several 3,000-yard passers annually, USC's Mark Sanchez and Arizona's Willie Tuitama were the only Pac-10 quarterbacks to reach that mark last year, and both are gone.

Several talented passers will take the spotlight this year, from Washington's Jake Locker and Oregon State's Lyle Moevao to less-established starters Corp at USC and Kevin Riley at Cal. Yet most Pac-10 schools have even more impressive talent at tailback.

Best, the Pac-10 rushing champion, is back after averaging 8.1 yards per carry last season. Jacquizz Rodgers returns for his sophomore year at Oregon State after running for 1,253 yards as a freshman.

Stanford's Toby Gerhart and USC's Joe McKnight also are looking to break out.

"With so many good running backs in this league, you have to think that's what most schools will try to do," USC safety Taylor Mays said. "You've got to have defenses for all different types of situations. The Pac-10 isn't predictable in any way."

Additional changes are waiting for several Pac-10 schools. Cal coach Jeff Tedford confirmed the Golden Bears will take a bus to Pasadena when they face UCLA in October, a nod to the state budget crisis that's particularly felt by the UC schools.

The league has two new coaches, both moving into high-profile positions. Oregon is picked to finish third in the Pac-10 under Chip Kelly, who takes over for longtime coach Mike Bellotti. Steve Sarkisian is the new man in charge of rebuilding a once-powerful Washington program that went 0-12 last year.

NBA

Odom stays with Lakers

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES Lamar Odom has agreed on a multiyear contract to stay with the Los Angeles Lakers.

After a rocky free-agent courtship, Odom will return to the club he helped to its 15th NBA title this summer. Lakers spokesman John Black confirmed an agreement, but wouldn't discuss specifics.

The deal will keep Odom alongside Kobe Bryant and Pau Gasol, along with new teammate Ron Artest. Odom accepted and thrived in a reserve role during the Lakers' run to the title, averaging 12.3 points and 9.1 rebounds.

Odom repeatedly said he preferred to stay with the Lakers, but came close to leaving. Los Angeles pulled a previous contract offer from the table, and Dwyane Wade heavily lobbied Odom to return to Miami.





Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 70°

Swell Forecast

Today looks smaller, perhaps knee to waist high most everywhere. Winds should be light and variable in the AM, and onshore in the afternoon 15 mph.

Long Range Synopsis

Later this weekend is looking fairly small, although we may see some weak NW wind swell bump up a bit.

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 four weeks up to the ending date of **July 21, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 44 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las 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 Blacker County Beach	A+	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	C	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns

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

LEGEND

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature: The Terminator (NR) 1hr 48min and Terminator 2: Judgment Day (R) 2hr 16min

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Public Enemies (R) 2hr 23min
12:50, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
11:15 a.m., 2:45, 6:15, 9:45

Up (PG) 1hr 36min
11:00 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG-13) 2hrs 24min
6:45, 10:00

The Proposal (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:30 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

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

Aliens in the Attic (PG) 1hr 26min
11:20 a.m., 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

Funny People (R) 2hrs 16min
11:45 a.m., 12:30, 3:00, 4:00, 6:50, 7:30, 10:20, 11:00

G-Force (PG) 1hr 28min
11:15 a.m., 1:40, 4:10, 6:30, 9:05

G-Force: In Disney Digital 3-D (PG) 1hr 28min
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:20, 9:45

The Hangover (R) 1hr 36min
12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) 2hrs 33min
11:30 a.m., 3:10, 7:10, 10:40

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

(500) Days of Summer (PG-13) 1hr 35min
1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15

Cheri (R) 1hr 47min
1:40, 4:10, 9:30

Live Music (NR) 7 min
1:00, 1:10

Moon (R) 1hr 37min
1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50

The Hurt Locker (R) 2hr 7min
1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15

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

Orphan (R) 2hrs 3min
1:20, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30

The Ugly Truth (R) 1hr 36min
11:10 a.m., 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10

The Ugly Truth (R) (Digital Projection) 1hr 36min
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

Bruno (R) 1hr 22min
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20

Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (PG) 1hr 27min
11:40 a.m., 2:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20

The Collector (R) 1hr 25min
12:20, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

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

Seek the unknown, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Take on a different perspective or reframe an emotional situation. You also could lose your temper. Your reactions and words could be difficult for the other party to take. Take a walk to chill out the hot Aries temper. Tonight: Take off. Seek the unknown.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Deferring works only to an extent, but right now having your say could be close to impossible. Listen to what is being shared. Open up talks. Express kindness and sensitivity. You'll get a positive reaction. Tonight: Dinner for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You have a lot of energy, and you know how to use it. Unfortunately, others could feel challenged by your actions. Understand a key person in your life. An expense might not be avoidable, but it will improve the quality of your life. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Emphasize efficiency and getting the job done. Look toward the weekend. Venus moves into your sign today, drawing many people and opportunities. Express a newfound gentleness. Tonight: Run some errands on the way home; visit with a friend or two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Sometimes you are unstoppable. Part of that gift is your enormous creativity. You can see a situation in many different ways because of your powerful flights of fantasy. Tonight: Dance in the weekend!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You could be preoccupied with a personal matter. Focus on your goals. If possible, work from home, where you will feel more relaxed. Pressure builds no matter where you are. A new friend could enter your life shortly. Tonight: Hang out at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You are in the center of conversations and the person instrumenting talks when others cannot seem to come to an agreement. Someone at a distance could be quite contrary. You actually might change plans to get together soon. Why not? Tonight: Visit with a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You could feel pressured by a financial matter. The problem is, someone deems this expenditure necessary. You could have quite a tiff. Ask yourself if it is worth it. Balance your checkbook. Tonight: Indulge a little.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You embody energy and enthusiasm. Somehow you cannot be stopped, as you are so goal-directed. Avoid an argument at any cost, as it would be fruitless right now. Indulge a key partner. You are in sync with many people and know how to melt boundaries. Tonight: Whatever you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Consider your options more carefully. Lately, you might want to approach a situation differently from associates. This difference could be the cause of arguments and discussions. Tonight: Vanish mysteriously.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Zero in on a key goal. Your creativity will bubble up when dealing with a difficult situation. Tonight: Be nurturing with others, especially as they are not as resilient as you. Offer a back rub to a pal who is feeling tense.

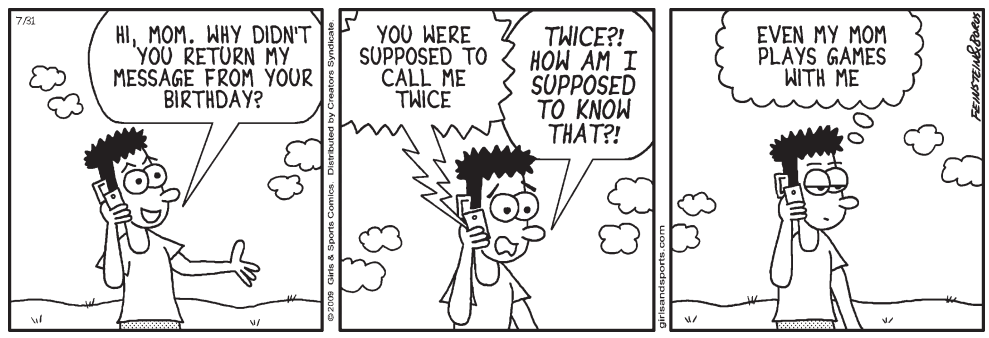
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Accept your role without any attitude. Look to positive changes and be willing to make that difference. Yes, you are being asked to carry additional responsibilities. You do the job well. Someone endears himself to you with his attitude or gestures. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

Happy birthday

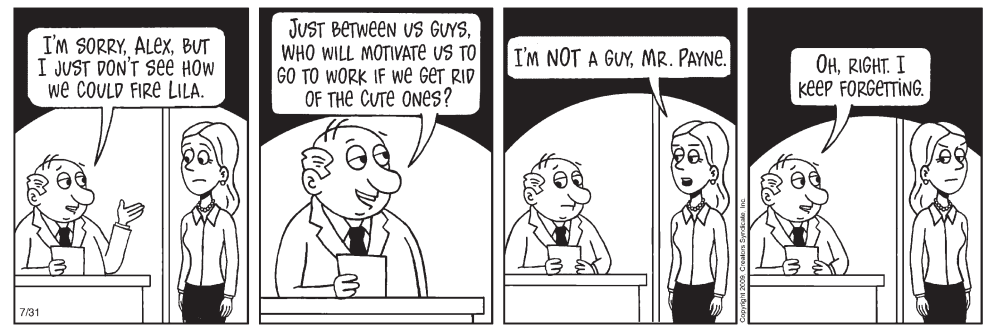
This year, dip into your creativity and manifest your goals. You could be slightly out of kilter when dealing with friends. Often, they are bellicose or demanding. You might want to question what is going on here. What is different? Success follows you as long as you apply your imagination. If you are single, check out new people this year with extreme care, as someone might not be all you think. If you are attached, the two of you need time alone as a couple. You will start to relish and pine for these frequent getaways. SAGITTARIUS ignites your imagination.

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

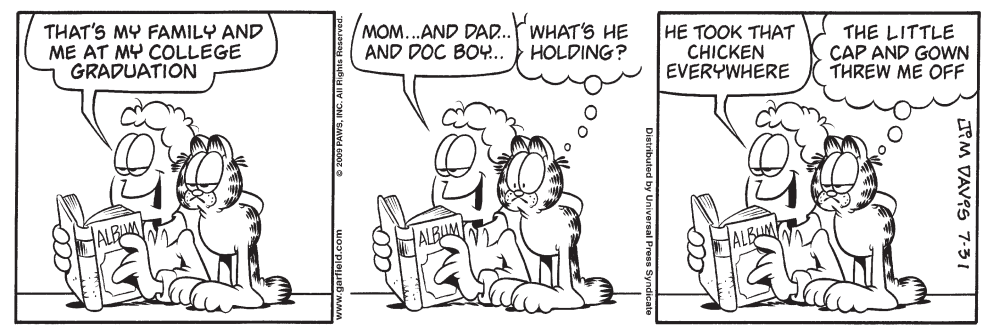
Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



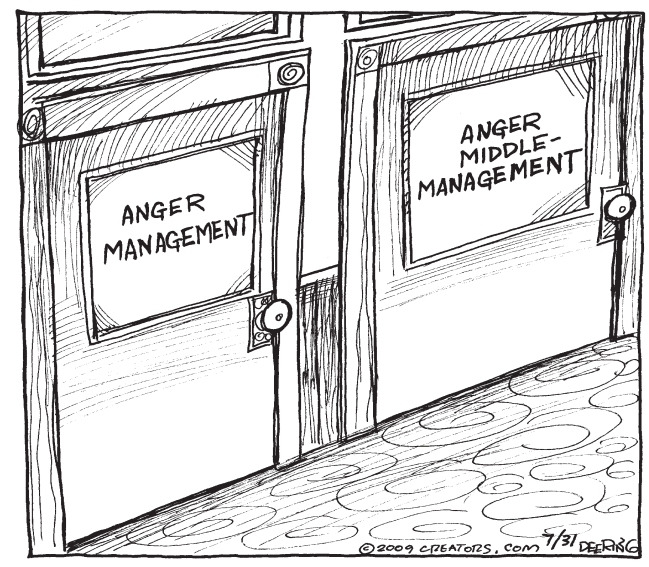
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



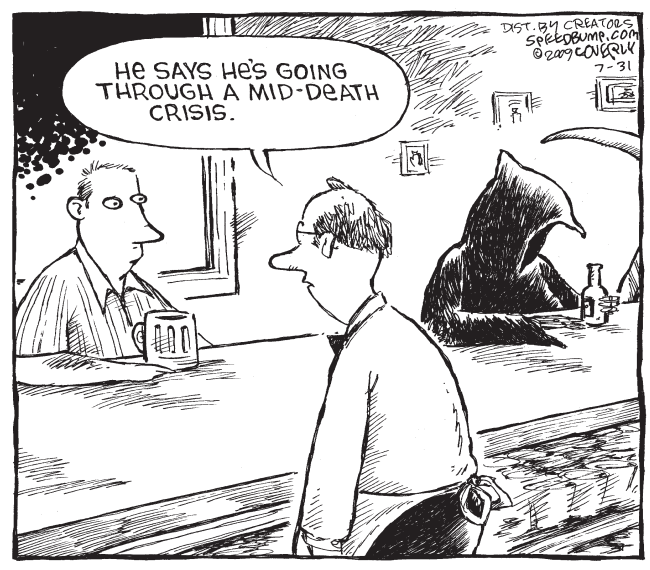
Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Repair bill line
6 Storybook elephant
11 Make blank
12 Entertain
13 Ship staffs
14 Main ideas
15 Vein yield
16 Application
18 Hot blood
19 Collar
20 Director Brooks
21 French refusal
22 Flower part
24 Suit part
25 Highland boys
27 Sentry's order
29 "Just a moment"
32 List abbr.
33 Murray Schisgal play
34 Baseball's Ripken
35 Sch. org.
36 Greek vowel
37 Epoch
38 Approximately
40 "Little Rascals" girl
42 Passion
43 Church official
44 Lab work
45 Takes five

DOWN

1 Bar stock
2 Turkish peak
3 Some collectibles
4 East, in Berlin
5 Took up again
6 Doughy ring
7 Paris pal
8 Meeting exchange
9 Houston team
10 Bristle at
17 Emit
23 Small rug
24 Neckline shape
26 Martian, in some sci-fi
27 Jazz lover
28 Duds
30 Aerie youngster
31 Becomes sunny
33 TV's Norman and family
39 Guest's bed
41 Frothy brew

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					■	14				
15			■	16	17		■	18		
19			■	20			■	21		
22			23			■	24			
■	■	25				26			■	■
27	28			■	29				30	31
32			■	33			■	34		
35			■	36			■	37		
38			39		■	40	41			
42					■	43				
44					■	45				

7-31

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 4 17 24 25 48
Meganumber: 34
Jackpot: $73M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 8 12 19 25 39
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: $11M

FANTASY 5: 12 30 33 35 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 1 8
EVENING: 8 6 0

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:40.77

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

■ Questionable Judgments: (1) Christopher Lister, 21, pleaded guilty to a home burglary in June in Leeds (England) Crown Court. He and two pals had attempted to steal a plasma TV in broad daylight last year, but witnesses easily identified Lister. He is 7 feet tall and lives only a few doors down from the crime scene. (2) Markeith Webb, who was wanted by police for a bank robbery in Easton, Pa., in June, left a string of indignant phone messages at a police station, angry that cops had released his photograph to the media. Just for that, he said, he would make sure they never caught him. He was captured six days later.

■ News of the Weird reported in 2003 on San Francisco artist Jonathon Keats' project to sell "futures contracts" on his brain cells (provided science discovers how to keep them alive after he dies), with $10 buying a million of Keats' radically imaginative neurons. In a new recent project, which critiques today's hyperactive media, Keats has published a story in print that will take almost 1,000 years to read beginning to end. Actually, it is only nine words long (published in the interactive multimedia print magazine Opium) and, according to the instructions, the ink will reveal itself, ever so slowly, as it is exposed to air and light, taking about one century per word.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1556 St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus – the Jesuit order of Catholic priests and brothers – died in Rome.

1875 The 17th president of the United States, Andrew Johnson, died in Carter County, Tenn., at age 66.

1919 Germany's Weimar Constitution was adopted by the republic's National Assembly.

1945 Pierre Laval, premier of the pro-Nazi Vichy government, surrendered to U.S. authorities in Austria; he was turned over to France, which later tried and executed him.

WORD UP!

aplomb \uh-PLOM\ , noun:
1. Assurance of manner or of action; self-possession; confidence; coolness.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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$1350 SM 1 bedroom North of Wilshire, secluded quiet bungalow, no pets, wood floors, (310)717-6206

12309 CULVER Blvd unit 12, 1bdrm/1bath $1025/mo. stove, fridge, carpets, blind, laundry, utilities included, gated parking, intercom entry, no pets. (310) 578-7512, jkwproperties.com

2478 Corinth Ave. $1675 front unit 1+1 stove, fridge, carpet, ceiling fan, onsite laundry, small gated front yard 2 parking spaces, 20 lb. pet OK w/ deposit $500 off move-in (888)414-7778

3623 KEYSTONE Ave.unit 5, $675 bachelor, lower, fridge, microwave, carpet, blinds, utilities included laundry, parking, no pets $300 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice 1+1, #25 $1225/mo stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. $750 off move-in (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

501 N. Venice unit 10 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

833 5TH St. SM unit 101 2+2 $2495 stove, carpet, blinds, swimming pool, laundry, granite countertops, wood/tile floors, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets. (310)393-2547 www.jkwproperties.com

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Top floor loft bedroom with ocean views, vaulted ceiling, king bed, gas fireplace, and sitting area with desk DirectTV with HBO, DVD/VCR in both living room and bedroom Local phone line, Wireless DSL All housewares and linens, Free laundry facilities, Parking 11 19th at West of Pacific Rates: $2400 - Week Golda 310-770-4490

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MAR VISTA near Marina $1100 2+1 Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds, laundry, parking, no pets.(310)456-5659

MARVISTA $1500.00 2 bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwhr, gas-fireplace, parking 12048 Culver Blvd. #205 open daily for viewing 8am-8pm. Additional info in unit mgr. #101

MARVISTA $1575.00 2 Bdrms, 1 Bath, No Pets, Stove, Refrig, Wshr/Dryer, parking 3571 Centinela Ave., "front unit" Open daily for viewing 8am to 8pm. Additional info in apt.

MARVISTA-LA $1995.00 2bdrms, 2 baths, no pets, balcony, stove, refrig, dshwshr, washr/dryr, loft, parking 4077 Inglewood Blvd #7 To view this apartment, Please call for appt: (310)780-3354

For Rent

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #102 $925 Single, stove, fridge, blinds, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets. (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/18/2009. 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

DBAS

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 7/17/2009, 7/24/2009, 7/31/2009, 8/7/2009

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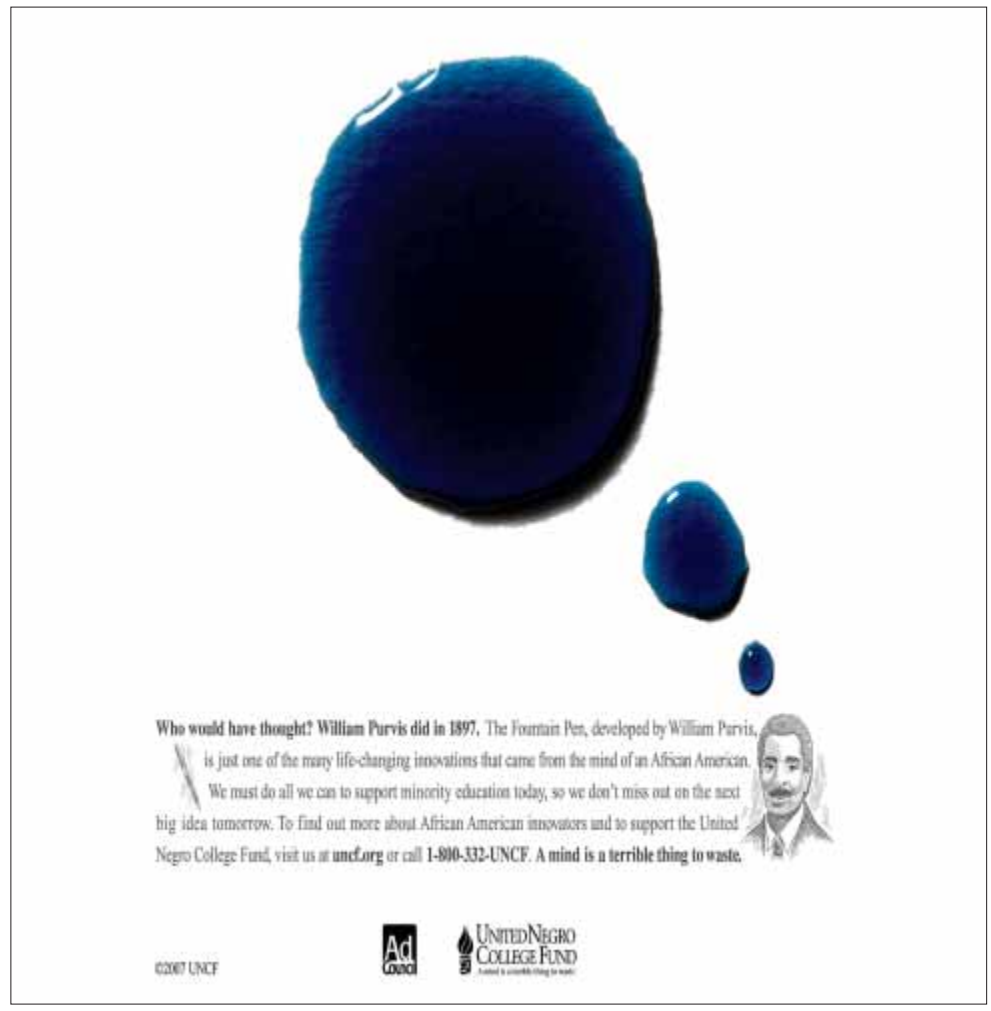


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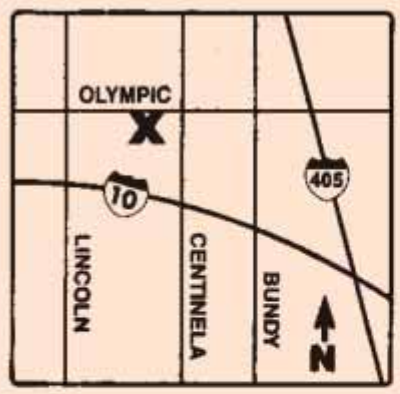
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