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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY
08.10.16
Volume 15 Issue 222

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Is SMMUSD achievement model working?

School board to assess current framework, weigh changes

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

The local Board of Education on Wednesday evening will examine the Santa Monica-Malibu school district's strategies and programs for improving student achievement.

Board members will take a look at the so-called Response to Instruction and Intervention, a framework that includes screening students, monitoring their progress and offering differentiated support based on their needs.

The board is expected to hear an update from district officials on the results of screenings and plans for the future.

The program study comes as the district attempts to close long-standing academic achievement gaps between minority students and their peers.

SMMUSD last year hired renowned education reformist Pedro Noguera to identify obstacles in the district and help officials implement programs to improve student outcomes.

The district is working to keep a focus on closing the achievement gap as it searches for a long-term superintendent to replace Sandra Lyon. Interim co-chiefs Chris King and Sylvia Rousseau are scheduled to lead the district through the end of the calendar year.

Noguera has said that "distractions" in the district — including chemical testing and cleanup in Malibu, which has sparked litigation; debates over centralized fundraising, which was recently

SEE **SCHOOL** PAGE 7

Attempted murder suspect arrested on Virginia Ave.

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department arrested a man on Aug. 6 for attempted murder, attempted car jacking, assault with a deadly weapon and making criminal threats.

Michael Witt, 47, from Santa Monica was arrested at about noon on Aug. 6 near his Virginia Ave. apartment after threatening several victims with a butcher's knife.

According to SMPD Lieutenant Saul Rodriguez, officers received the first call regarding Witt at about 9:07 a.m. when residents called to report a disturbance in one of the nearby apartments. Officers responded to the 2400 block of Virginia Ave. and spoke with Witt, his roommate and neighbors.

At that time, officers did not witness a crime nor did anyone claim a crime had occurred.

"They determined there was no violation of any crime at that point," said Rodriguez. "If (the suspect) doesn't display any kind of behavior that would justify an psychiatric evaluation all we can do is advise everyone to call again if something reoccurs."

Officers left the apartment at about 10:50 a.m. but were called back at about 12:14 p.m., this time with reports of violence and a potential car jacking.

Rodriguez said sometime after the officers left, Witt left his apartment with a large knife and began threatening other residents.

"A victim said the suspect approached him and began ranting and raving and waiving a knife," said Rodriguez. "The victim began to video the encounter and was able to avoid being struck."

Witt also entered the street where he encountered a woman sitting in a parked vehicle. Witt approached the closed windows and struck them several times while the woman sat in the driver's seat. He was unable to enter the vehicle and was still in the street when officers arrived on scene.

"The officers ordered him to the ground and he complies," said Rodriguez. "They weren't sure about him still being armed so that's why they ordered him down."

Witt was booked later that day on multiple charges.

Rodriguez said the arrest appears to be an isolated incident and said the investigation is ongoing.


WITT

editor@smdp.com



SECOND PLACE

Ray Solano editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica 16U ASA Softball played over a long week August 3-7, out of 17 teams coming as far as Washington, came in second place for the Western National Championship. Team members include Bebeanna Alvarado, Emily Corona, Sophia Haas, Eileen Hernandez, Elizabeth Martinez, Fiona Mccabe, Jacqueline Medina, Keona Miller, Madeline Oie-Eche Verria, Kaitlyn Raphaelson, Isabel Rund, Ashley Samayoa, Marisol Solano and Kyla Walker.

Fahmy bows out of Olympic judo match

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

One thing was certain: Joud Fahmy forfeited her first-round judo match at the 2016 Olympic Games.

But the reasoning behind her absence was decidedly less clear.

Speculation abounded when it was announced that Fahmy, a young Saudi Arabian athlete who has been training in Santa Monica, would not compete in the women's 52-kilogram division Sunday in Rio de Janeiro.

The Saudi Olympic Committee stated in a tweet Sunday that the judoka had sustained hand and foot injuries and that medical staffers said she should not participate.

Fahmy was expected to meet Christianne Legentil of Mauritius in a match whose winner would be

SEE **OLYMPIC** PAGE 7


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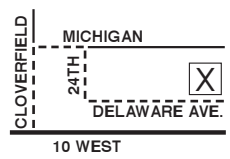


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, August 10

Montana Mystery Book Group: Jar City

Inspector Erlendur Sveinsson investigates the killing of a solitary man, found murdered in his Reykjavik apartment, and discovers that the dead man had been accused but not convicted of a rape forty years earlier. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St., 7 p.m.

The Living Room presents The Big Kids' Table: Create

Exercise your mind by expressing your creativity. Draw with charcoal, color with crayons or play a game of Scrabble. Materials provided, you bring the brainpower. Main Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Movie: The Peanuts Movie (2015)

This CGI-animated update of Charles Schulz's beloved comic characters finds Snoopy again taking on his arch-nemesis The Red Baron, and Charlie Brown trying to win the love of the red-haired girl. (88 min.) Main Library 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Happiness Room

Come visit SMPL's mobile pop-up Happiness Room, dedicated to all kinds of resources, visuals and interactive features on happiness, joy, calm, positivity, flow, gratitude and meditation. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 3 - 5 p.m.

Late Board Of Education Meeting.

The public portion of the SMMUSD Board of Education Meeting on August 10, will begin at 6 p.m., instead of 5:30 p.m. This change in time is to allow the Board of Education additional time to address items during closed session without impacting the start time of open session. (Closed session will begin at its normal time at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room.) The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the District website: http://www.smmusd.org/board/meetings.html. 1651, 16th Street.

Thursday, August 11

Rent Control Board Meeting

Regular Rent Control Board Meeting. City Hall, 1685 Main St., 7 p.m.

What are You Reading?

This is not your average book club. Let's talk about what you are reading this summer and create some awesome reviews to post on the SMPL catalog. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 4 - 5 p.m.

Comic Book Magnets

Make fridge magnets featuring comic book characters. Limited space; free tickets available 30 minutes before program. Grades K - 5. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 4 - 5 p.m.

Free screening of "Wall-E"

This week, Mind Over Movies screens the Pixar classic-in-the-making "Wall-E," the family friendly, but still smart, story of a robot who finds love and saves the planet in the tragically trashy future. Free screening followed by a roundtable discussion and audience Q&A. The Christian Institute, 1308 Second Street. 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit facebook.com/MindOverMovies.

Friday, August 12

New Horizons at Pluto - One Year On

It has been a year since the New Horizons spacecraft made its dramatic flyby of Pluto. Come survey the

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

Trump on sidelines as Clinton fills Olympics airtime

JULIE BYKOWICZ & CHAD DAY
Associated Press

Hillary Clinton wants to get as close as possible to Michael Phelps and Simone Biles. So she's spending more than $13 million on political ads at the Olympics — while Donald Trump is sitting on the sidelines.

The Democratic presidential nominee is taking advantage of the millions of Americans tuned in to watch the champion swimmer and gymnast, as well as other U.S. athletes, rack up medals during the Summer Games in Rio. Republican Trump, meanwhile, hasn't aired a single general election ad yet — a decision that baffles some political strategists.

"I'd love to know what they're waiting for," said Will Ritter, a Republican ad maker and veteran of Mitt Romney's presidential bids. Trump's avoidance of political norms such as advertising "cannot survive the professionalized deconstruction that Hillary is doing every day," he said.

Clinton's multimillion-dollar investment meant that across the U.S. viewers, captivated by coverage of top events like swimming and women's gymnastics, saw her commercials in prime time each of the past three nights, Kantar Media's political advertising tracker shows.

During the three weeks of Olympics coverage, her campaign is spending $8 million on the national NBC network, $1.1 million more on affiliated cable channels Bravo, USA and MSNBC and $4.5 million on local affiliates in key presidential battleground states such as Florida, according to the tracker.

Sunday's Olympics ratings for NBC averaged 29.8 million viewers — a very significant audience.

While Trump's campaign has requested advertising rates from stations in key states, including Florida, the Olympics are slipping beyond his reach.

One Clinton ad in heavy rotation is an awkward clip from his appearance on David Letterman's former late-night show. The host holds up Trump shirts and ties and points out that they were made in Bangladesh and China, not America. Trump smiles sheepishly.

The Clinton campaign also is airing a new ad about her economic plan, which a narrator says would create millions of new jobs.

Her commercials caught viewers nationwide who tuned in Saturday for the U.S. men's water polo match against Croatia, and those who watched rowing, beach volleyball and road cycling on Sunday.

In addition to the nationwide spots, Clinton's Olympics-targeted ads aired on local television during Friday's lengthy opening ceremony in battleground states such as Florida, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Iowa.

NBC sold its Olympics advertising in packages — most of which were locked down months ago, said Ben Angle, a senior media buyer at National Media who isn't connected to the 2016 presidential race. The higher the spending, the more likely the ads are to land in premium slots, such as the prime time marquee competitions.

At a rally in New Hampshire over the weekend, Trump bragged about how he has spent nothing on ads as Clinton has made a major outlay.

"It's a little early to spend," Trump said. "You know it's like the racehorse, right? Hangs back, hangs back, hangs back. And I think we've got some pretty good ads. But we don't want to go too fast."

But the imbalance is a striking change from four years ago, when then-cash-strapped Romney and his allies scrounged up an estimated $18 million to match what President Barack Obama was spending to advertise during the three weeks of the London Games, according to Kantar Media.

Clinton is following Obama's Olympics playbook. The president debuted several commercials during the games in 2012, a mix of positive messages about his presidency and contrasts with Romney.

While Romney and his allies also focused on the London Games, the GOP nominating convention was still weeks away, putting money he raised for his general election campaign out of reach.

A pro-Romney super political action committee, Restore Our Future, did air an ad featuring Olympic athletes talking about his business sense. After all, he was tapped to run the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Games, the first after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"We made the determination the Olympics offered a large captive audience who weren't channel surfing," former Restore Our Future leader Carl Forti said. "And in the case of Mitt Romney, we had a candidate who turned around the Salt Lake Olympics and had a unique story to tell."

There are a few pro-Trump groups doing a relatively minor amount of advertising.

Rebuilding America Now is spending about $2 million in the first three weeks of this month, but has nothing on the national NBC network. Its spending is concentrated on national cable and in four states: Florida, Ohio, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, Kantar Media shows.

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin, Steve Peoples and David Bauder contributed to this report.

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

results published to date. The John Drescher Planetarium, second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd.). Tickets are available at the door and cost $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. Call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium for information. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Sunset Swim

Ages 18+ - Enjoy a fun evening at the pool, exclusively for adults. $10 adults, $5 senior (60+). No reservations required. 7 - 10 p.m., Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway.

Kidz Crafts - Summer Olympics Crown

Make your own crown for the Summer Olympics. Ages 4 & up. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 2 - 2:30 p.m.

Picnic on the Promenade

Summer in Downtown Santa Monica. Bring a lunch, play board games, enjoy local artists. For more information call (310) 393-8355 or visit www.downtownsm.com. 12 - 3 p.m., 1300 block 3rd St. Promenade.





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WINNER



Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Charles for CC?! - wait, free tickets?!!!

I DECIDED TO RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL.

It lasted about five minutes.

It was an emotional five minutes. An angry, exhilarating, then ultimately very sad five minutes.

I've been sick of this for years. The politics that leaves the real people of Santa Monica up on a shelf, watching helplessly as the power players reshape their precious, historic, world-beloved little beach town into something very tall and dense and very, very profitable for developers, choked with traffic, depleted of resources, never to recover.

Because that's what it's really all about, dollars, and power, and the two are intertwined like snakes.

I keep struggling to be a peacemaker - can't we all just talk, reach some understanding and compromise? Not demonize the other side? We're all just people, who love our city but have very different visions for it. But often my heart's not in it, because I see so many whose attitudes and outright hatred seem to be set in concrete. Hardened hearts. Deaf ears.

We don't have a democracy here. For decades I've said it, until you get the money out of politics, nothing will change. Money manipulates monstrously.

Too many residents, confused (who can blame them?) by local politics, poorly informed about the issues and the players, will vote by flyer. They don't understand that the waves of flyers at their door, touting the police and fire, teachers and union endorsements, usually represent only their small governing boards, making political decisions. The rank and file may feel very differently, if they had a vote to endorse.

FALSIFYING FLYERS

There are so many other deceptive flyers from, say, some so-called committee of the Democratic Party, that have little or no connection to the real organization. Those and many others are a straight out buy: pay your money and you get an endorsement. And sadly, voters here will march to the polls on election day clutching those expensive postcards and thinking they're doing the right thing.

Everyone says it takes six figures to win a seat on City Council, but if you come up with that much the competition will have more, because that's peanuts compared to what developers have at stake by slicing and dicing our town. Endorsements of many local politicized groups (would that be, all of them?) go to favorites, not the most qualified candidates.

This coming election is looking like it could be our worst nightmare yet. The power brokers have gotten in lockstep to make sure no one they don't endorse has a chance. They have stomped good independent candidates into submission or certain defeat. Four incumbents from our build-anything-you-want Council are running for the four open slots. If you think the last few years have been bad, you ain't seen diddly.

So I reached the point where that primal scream welled up uncontrollably; the only thing left was to run for Council myself. No money, no backing, lots of enemies, but if I worked hard enough weren't there enough like me to take at least one Council seat and stem the tide? Social media versus big bucks? It worked pretty well for Bernie.

But after those five minutes I knew, it ain't me, babe.

Then - who? (Papers are due Friday, 100 signatures.)

THE BLUESMAN COMETH – FREE TIX RIGHT HERE

Santa Monica has seen better days for live music, that's for sure.

The first concert I took my 11-year-old son Chris to after we moved here from New Mexico was at the Santa Monica Civic, to see the Boomtown Rats, led by Bob Geldof, later knighted by QE2 for his philanthropic achievements. (And not rescinded for the controversies that followed. I always figured, what do you expect, when you knight a snot-nosed Irish punk? Geldof is hardly as civilized as Sir Paul or even Sir Mick, even today.)

The Civic has hosted an incredible list of concerts, from the Stones and James Brown to Pink Floyd and Captain Beefheart, but that book seems to be closed. The experts agree that several factors make it impossible to stage concerts there again, even if the building is saved.

Of course we've had some amazing shows over the years on the Pier during the summers but other than that, slim pickin's here. A few clubs over the years have had the occasional good live show, but let's not overlook, as many Santa Monicans do, the treasure that's been sitting there on 4th Street not much changed since 1931: Harvelle's. Oldest live music club on the westside, oldest blues club in LA. OK, so they had a half century head start, but Harvelle's has probably had as many remarkable shows as the Pier.

HERE IT IS! HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN WIN!

This Friday they host another legendary bluesman, Joe Louis Walker, and I get to give away a meet-and-greet with the artist that day, before the show, including tickets to the show, to some lucky reader (plus one) of this here groovy column. I'll tell you how you can be that lucky person, after I tell you a little about Joe Louis Walker.

Throughout his lengthy career, Walker has performed and recorded with artists ranging from B.B. King to Jimi Hendrix, John Lee Hooker to Muddy Waters and many other legendary names. He is a four-time Blues Music Award winner and 2013 Blues Hall of Fame inductee who has appeared on multiple Grammy-winning albums. He is known worldwide as a mesmerizing guitarist and soul-testifying vocalist.

The New York Times raved, "Walker is a singer with a Cadillac of a voice. He delivers no-nonsense, gutsy blues. His guitar solos are fast, wiry and incisive, moaning with bluesy despair." Rolling Stone called him, simply, "ferocious."

HERE!!

'Nuff said? To meet the man, and hear him at Harvelle's that evening, send me an email, to the address at the bottom of the column. Please only enter if you really want to see this landmark show.

SEE CITY PAGE 5

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Consumer Corner

Andrea Cavanaugh

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Are Those Products Really "Green"?

CONSUMERS TODAY ARE CONCERNED about the environment and our health. So we choose products or services advertised with green-related labels such as "eco-friendly," or "biodegradable." We've all seen a huge surge in this kind of marketing in recent years. Everything from household supplies to dog-waste bags to baby products are now labeled as friendly to the environment or safe for your health.

But how do you know if those claims are really true? It's all too common for businesses to throw around these labels just to attract customers - but without the evidence to back them up. This practice is known as "greenwashing."

Dry cleaning is one area that can be confusing. Many cleaners claim to be eco-friendly, organic, or at least "safe." And in fact, the dry cleaning process has improved a lot in recent years. For a long time, businesses used a chemical called perchloroethylene, also known as "perc," to clean clothing. Perc is now a known carcinogen and air pollutant, and it's being phased out by law. Dry cleaners have been mostly switching over to one of two new methods: either hydrocarbon-based dry cleaning, or a chemical called D5 (also known as "Green Earth"). Both of these cleaning methods are generally considered safer than perc, but they haven't been proven yet to be non-toxic to humans.

Six Santa Monica cleaners had switched over to these newer methods, and were marketing their dry cleaning as "safe," "non-toxic," or "environmentally friendly." These green claims were a problem, since hydrocarbon cleaning and Green Earth had not been proven safe. California's strict false advertising laws bar businesses from making any misleading or unprovable claims - they need to have evidence to back up all claims made in their ads.

The Santa Monica City Attorney's Consumer Division investigated these claims and consulted with the City's environmental experts. When it became clear that the businesses couldn't back up their green claims with science, the City Attorney requested that they stop making the claims, and they did.

With any kind of product, it's illegal for businesses to make "green" claims unless the claims are fully backed by scientific evidence. Also, the businesses need to have the evidence on hand.

If you believe a business might be making false or misleading "green" claims, you should question them. Many consumers contact companies directly - by email, phone, or social media sites like Twitter or Facebook. You can contact the business and ask them the exact basis for their claims. They should have a straight answer for you.

If you still question the accuracy of the green claims, you can contact a government consumer protection agency. If you or the business are based in Santa Monica, or you purchased the product here, you can contact the City Attorney's Consumer Protection Division at 310-458-8336 or smconsumer.org for more information. Otherwise, you can file a complaint with the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (www.dcba.lacounty.gov).

Santa Monica residents or property owners who need help with these issues or want more information should contact the City Attorney's Office at (310) 458-8336 orsmconsumer.org. The Consumer Protection Division of the City Attorney's Office enforces the law and educates the public about tenants' rights, fair housing, consumer protection, and other issues.

CITY

FROM PAGE 4

You don't have to go to Memphis or Chicago for this experience. Downtown Santa Monica, Fourth Street, just north of the parking structure, this Friday night. Aren't we a fortunate people?

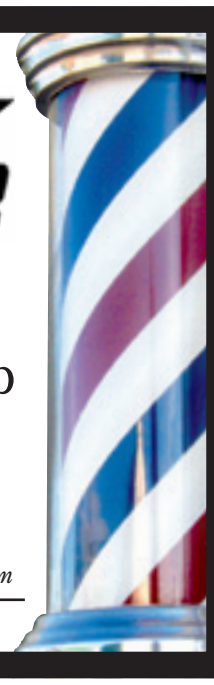
ANOTHER MUSIC NOTE: If you miss Mavis Staples at the Pier a week from tomorrow, please kick yourself.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "I'm as mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore!" -- Howard Beale ("Network")

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Man killed by LA County deputy not involved with carjacker

AMANDA LEE MYERS
Associated Press

A man who was fatally shot by a sheriff's deputy last month wasn't involved with a carjacker who had fired at pursuers, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said Tuesday, an acknowledgement that came just ahead of a news conference where the man's family said police had killed an innocent man.

The department said in a statement that deputies encountered 27-year-old Donnell Thompson, who was black, shortly after a carjacker crashed the stolen vehicle, fled into a Compton neighborhood and was arrested early on July 28.

After a resident called 911, deputies spotted Thompson lying in a yard with one hand concealed from view and were concerned that he may be connected to the carjacking suspect, the statement said.

The deputy fired from the turret of an armored vehicle being used to provide security for deputies behind it, sheriff's Capt. Steve Katz said.

Katz said Thompson ran toward the armored vehicle after initially ignoring commands to get up and after being struck by so-called less-than-lethal rubber bullets fired by a special weapons team.

Deputies had information that a weapon may have been seen lying in the area, and as Thompson ran toward the vehicle, the deputy believed the man's hands were in the area of his waistband, suggesting he may have been reaching for a weapon, Katz said.

The investigation has included gunshot residue testing, DNA testing to determine if Thompson had been in the carjacked vehicle, interviews with witnesses, deputies and family members, and fingerprinting, the department said.

"We have determined that there is no evidence that Mr. Thompson was in the carjacked vehicle, nor that he was involved in the assault on the deputies" during the carjacking, the department statement said.

Thompson's sister, Matrice Stanley, 44, a Victorville registered nurse, yelled at the county Board of Supervisors during the panel's Tuesday meeting. She said her brother lay dead for hours before she found out what happened.

"My brother was dehumanized, disvalued," she said. "I wouldn't treat an animal this bad. How is this justifiable?"

She said the deputy who shot her brother should be fired.

Her brother had diminished mental capacity, she said, and was kind-hearted, soft-spoken and "would not have harmed a flea."

"When you killed my brother you killed me," she said.

Earlier, she told reporters her brother must have not responded to deputies because he was scared and didn't know what to do. She said she feels his race was a major factor in why he was shot and expressed anger that the deputy who shot him did so from an armored vehicle.

"He can't go through armored cars," she said.

Antoinette Brown, another sister of Thompson, demanded justice from the supervisors.

"My little brother was innocent," Brown said. "It hurts me to my heart to just imagine how he was we wrongfully killed that night. I just don't understand and I want answers."

The deputy who fired at Thompson has been reassigned to duties not in the field. His name was not included in the statement.

The department said an administrative review of the case was continuing and the investigation file will ultimately be turned over to the county district attorney for review.

"Clearly the family has a demand for answers," Katz said. "We share that need for those very same answers. It is our hope that we can instill confidence and reassurance in that effort, and the investigation will be thorough and it will be complete."

AP writer John Antczak contributed to this report.

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The City of Santa Monica is bringing back *Go With The Flow*, a summer traffic management plan to keep cars moving, streets safer and parking easier.

This map highlights your parking options and best routes.

GO WITH THE FLOW

BEST ROUTES TO DOWNTOWN PARKING
BEST ROUTES TO PIER PARKING
BEST ROUTES TO SOUTH BEACH PARKING
PARKING ENTRANCE
NO LEFT TURN* In or Out of Downtown Parking Structures 1-8
NO LEFT TURN* Onto 2nd St from WB Broadway or WB Santa Monica Blvd
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SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 1

implemented; and exploration of a possible split into separate Santa Monica and Malibu entities — have prevented SMMUSD from making lasting progress on the issue.

"If equity is a priority," he said, "how does it show up in our time in meetings and in our budget? … How much time in board meetings do you spend really thinking about the kids? If it doesn't get attention, it's not a priority."

BUDGET REVISION

As the district faces a $10-million deficit in its operating budget heading into the 2016-17 school year, the school board is also looking at the potential consequences of reduced state funding.

A revised state budget reveals that SMMUSD will lose out on more than $290,000 in funding it expected to receive through California channels.

The district is now planning to receive $2.69 million in block grants and one-time discretionary funding, down from the $2.93 million it was expecting. That's due to a decrease in discretionary funding from $237 per average student in attendance to $214.

The district is also taking a small hit in revenue through the Local Control Funding Formula, which gives districts more responsibility in handling state funds. SMMUSD is planning to get $87,530,258 through the program this coming school year, down nearly $50,000 from the budget that was recently adopted by the board.

BACKING A TAX

The school board is expected to pass a resolution endorsing a City of Santa Monica tax that will come before voters in November.

Revenue from the measure, which would activate a one-half percent increase in the transactions and use tax, would be split between affordable housing and education initiatives, officials have said.

The proposed resolution notes the impact of the loss of state redevelopment funds and the potential of the tax to "support educational advancement for youth within the community" while reducing the City's reliance on the state budget.

jeff@smdp.com

OLYMPIC

FROM PAGE 1

pitted against five-time Israeli national champion Gili Cohen. Legentil, who advanced by default, ended up defeating Cohen in the round of 16.

Israeli media outlets reported that Saudi Arabia dropped Fahmy from the bracket to avoid a possible matchup against an Israeli competitor. Relations between Fahmy's home country and the Jewish state have historically been characterized by hostility.

"Saudi Arabia does not recognize Israel, though an ex-Saudi general led a delegation to Jerusalem two weeks ago, and meet with Israeli officials and politicians, in the latest of a series of conciliatory moves," the Times of Israel reported. "A former Israeli cabinet minister who met the visiting group said ... that normal ties between the two countries might not be too far away."

Kosovo's Majlinda Kelmendi ousted Italy's Odette Giuffrida in the championship round of Fahmy's bracket, securing the first Olympic medal in her country's history.

Jim Nieto, a longtime Santa Monica YMCA martial arts instructor who coached Fahmy in the runup to the 2016 Games in Rio, said his trainee likely wouldn't have advanced to face Cohen anyway. He noted Fahmy's lack of experience relative to Legentil, who reached the quarterfinals at the Olympics four years ago in London.

"Joud probably didn't have a shot, but I feel sorry for her," Nieto said. "Let her fight — even if she lasts 10 seconds. She busted her butt for almost a year to get there."

It seemed fishy to Nieto that Fahmy was reported to have injuries so close to her match date. He said top-notch fighters typically don't spar the day before they compete.

Fahmy recently spent time at a training camp in Florida, where practice was interspersed with massages and acupuncture.

Fahmy then participated in opening ceremonies, entering Maracana Stadium with a Saudi contingent that included women for the second time in history. She was invited to compete in Brazil in part because her home country has been pressured to include female athletes on its Olympic team.

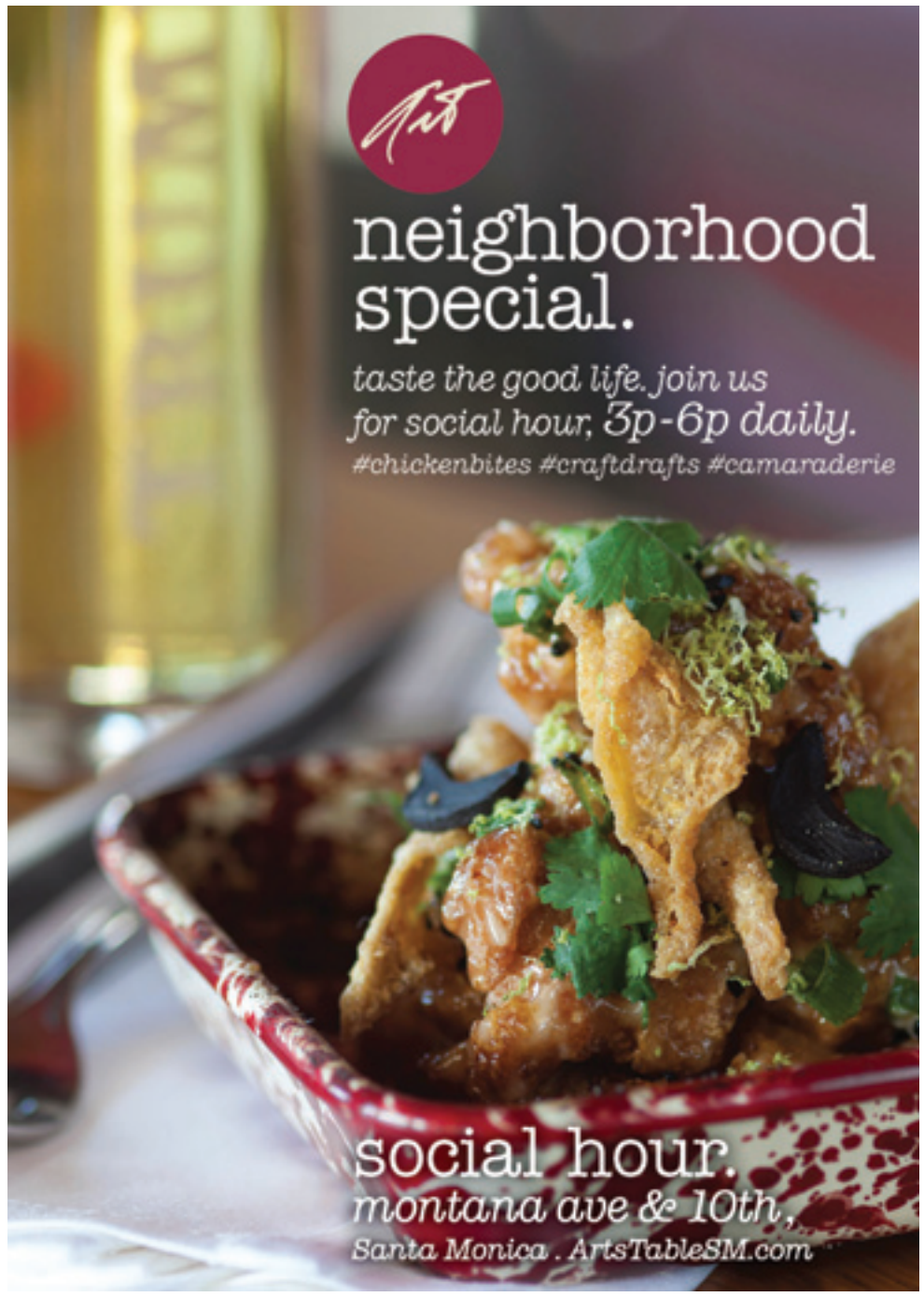
Nieto said he and Fahmy had a few conversations about gender inequality over the last year. But he said it's difficult for him to accept how Saudi Arabia treats women.

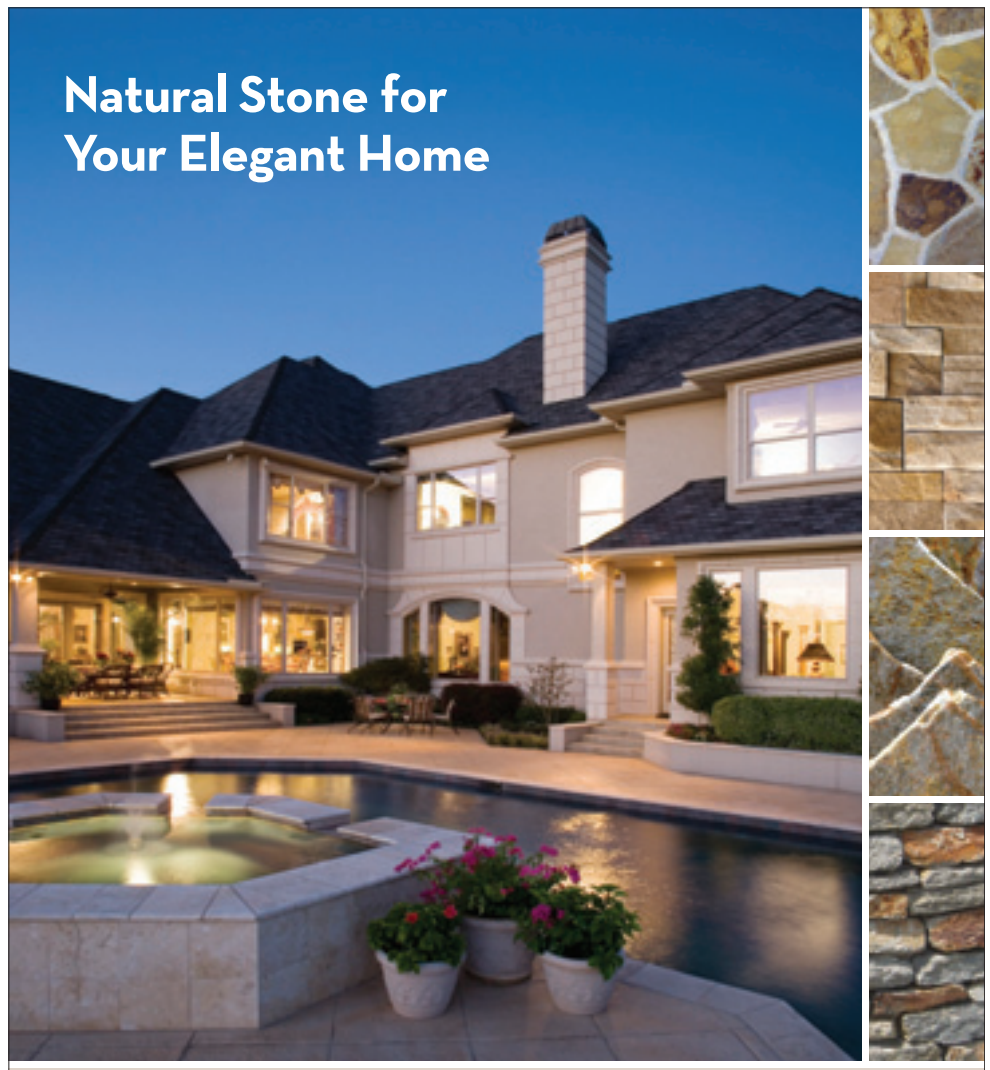
"She's a good lady," he said of Fahmy. "It's just a totally different way of thinking. It's hard to conceive."

Nieto was told shortly before the Olympics that he would not be joining Fahmy in Rio. With Saudi support, he toured the host city earlier this year in preparation for his trip.

"I've been training [Fahmy] all year long and pushing her real hard to try to get her prepared," he said.

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SURF REPORT



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **71.1°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Small blend of SW swell and NW windswell.

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
New/but small SW swell moves in. Minimal NW windswell.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 406 calls for service on Aug. 8.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Grand theft auto 10th/California 12:17 a.m.
Party complaint 400 block of Bay 12:28 a.m.
Vandalism 600 block of Wilshire 3:07 a.m.
Hit and run 700 block of San Vicente 3:23 a.m.
Traffic collision 1500 block of 17th 4:25 a.m.
Prowler there 1900 block of 11th 4:37 a.m.
Death 1300 block of 17th 5:55 a.m.
Petty theft 1500 block of 10th 6:13 a.m.
Bike theft 500 block of Colorado 6:17 a.m.
Bike theft Ocean/Pico 6:45 a.m.
Animal related incident 200 block of Montana 6:47 a.m.
Burglary 2900 block of 31st 6:52 a.m.
Battery 1900 block of Ocean 7:16 a.m.
Vandalism 1700 block of Broadway 7:26 a.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Olympic 7:30 a.m.
Bike theft 1100 block of Broadway 7:43 a.m.
Identity theft 1700 block of 14th 8:08 a.m.
Battery now 5th/Colorado 8:10 a.m.
Elder abuse 1500 block of Yale 8:12 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block of 9th 8:44 a.m.
Bike theft 1400 block of 2nd 9:18 a.m.
Burglary 2900 block of 31st 9:19 a.m.
Burglary 2900 block of 31st 9:32 a.m.
Burglary 2600 block of 33rd 9:33 a.m.
Threats 2500 block of Wilshire 9:43 a.m.
Burglary 300 block of San Vicente 9:44 a.m.
Burglary 3000 block of 3rd 9:49 a.m.
Petty theft 700 block of Ozone 10:12 a.m.
Indecent exposure 4th/Wilshire 10:14 a.m.
Theft of recyclables 2300 block of Idaho 10:29 a.m.
Vandalism 1800 block of Wilshire 10:39 a.m.
Grand theft auto 1500 block of 15th 11:17 a.m.
Traffic collision 800 block of Marine 11:22 a.m.
Fraud 1500 block of Santa Monica 11:37 a.m.
Identity theft 2800 block of Neilson 11:41 a.m.
Grand theft auto 2700 block of Main 11:45 a.m.
Failure to pay fines 900 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 12:41 p.m.
Indecent exposure 2700 block of Santa Monica 12:59 p.m.
Fraud 1600 block of Franklin 1:18 p.m.
Panhandling 2300 block of 4th 1:20 p.m.
Burglary 3000 block of Wilshire 1:32 p.m.
Vandalism 3000 block of 3rd 1:46 p.m.
Petty theft 2300 block of Idaho 2:12 p.m.
Fraud 300 block of Olympic 2:13 p.m.
Traffic collision 1000 block of Santa Monica 2:14 p.m.
Found property 2400 block of Hill 2:14 p.m.
Found property 100 block of Wilshire 2:15 p.m.
Grand theft auto 800 block of Palisades Beach 2:40 p.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln/Olympic 2:59 p.m.
Assault 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 3:28 p.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln/Olympic 3:34 p.m.
Battery 1200 block of 16th 4:01 p.m.
Hit and run 2000 block of Pearl 4:05 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block of Wilshire 4:29 p.m.
Shots fired 1200 block of Ashland 4:44 p.m.
Suicide attempt 600 block of Wilshire 5:04 p.m.
Petty theft 100 block of San Vicente 5:07 p.m.
Vandalism 2000 block of Stewart 5:09 p.m.
Auto burglary 1000 block of Pine 5:31 p.m.
Status check 1200 block of 6th 5:31 p.m.
Pedestrian stop 2000 block of Ocean 5:33 p.m.
Pedestrian stop 600 block of Wilshire 5:34 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield/Ocean Park 5:34 p.m.
Found property 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 5:38 p.m.
Petty theft 100 block of Broadway 5:42 p.m.
Hit and run 1700 block of 4th 5:48 p.m.
Traffic/vehicle stop 1200 block of San Vicente 5:48 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1500 block of 14th 5:49 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1300 block of 2nd 6:01 p.m.
Burglary 600 block of Broadway 6:10 p.m.
Auto burglary 2300 block of Washington 6:44 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1500 block of the Beach 6:47 p.m.
Petty theft 2200 block of Colorado 7:25 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 2200 block of 10th 7:43 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield/Pico 7:54 p.m.
Stolen vehicle recovered 1600 block of 12th 8:20 p.m.
Petty theft 0 block of Pico 8:59 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1300 block of 4th 9:19 p.m.
Grand theft auto 3000 block of Santa Monica 9:19 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 38 calls for service on Aug. 8.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Elevator rescue 300 block of Montana 12:20 a.m.
Emergency Medical Service (EMS) 1300 block of 15th 1:57 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 17th 4:26 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 17th 5:43 a.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 900 block of 5th 6:20 a.m.
Smoke investigation 600 block of Adelaide 6:36 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 21st 7:05 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Ocean 7:16 a.m.
EMS of 9th/Wilshire 8:40 a.m.
Automatic alarm 700 block of 18th 10:14 a.m.
EMS of Lincoln/Ocean Park 10:46 a.m.
EMS 1000 block of Centinela 11:30 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of Cloverfield 12:02 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1800 block of Montana 12:18 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Harvard 2:08 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1100 block of 4th 2:09 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block of 5th 2:17 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 2:52 p.m.
EMS 200 block of Palisades Beach 3:48 p.m.
EMS 1900 block of Ocean 4 p.m.
EMS 600 block of Wilshire 5:01 p.m.
EMS of 4th/Santa Monica 5:18 p.m.
EMS 2400 block of Santa Monica 5:30 p.m.
EMS of Cloverfield/Ocean Park 5:35 p.m.
EMS 400 block of San Vicente 6:04 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 17th 6:44 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Sunset 7:15 p.m.
EMS 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 7:35 p.m.
EMS of Cloverfield/Pico 7:54 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of Wilshire 8:09 p.m.
Wires down 700 block of Lincoln 8:33 p.m.
EMS 2500 block of Main 8:43 p.m.
Structure fire 1200 block of 24th 9:23 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 10:44 p.m.
EMS 2700 block of Neilson 11:21 p.m.
EMS 1700 block of Cloverfield 11:58 p.m.

SEE NEWS HAPPENING OR HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT?
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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Prison head
7 Winter blanket
11 Each
12 Cork's country
13 Henhouse raider
14 Land unit
15 Focused at work
17 Road division
20 McCoy's nickname
23 Yale supporter
24 Healthy snack
26 RN's forte
27 Yank's foe
28 Ignited
29 Honey-rich dessert
31 Low digit
32 Take pleasure in
33 Citi Field team
34 Marked down
37 Eat in style
39 Lustrous fabrics
43 Caspian Sea feeder
44 Showy bush
45 Effortless
46 Bit of buckshot

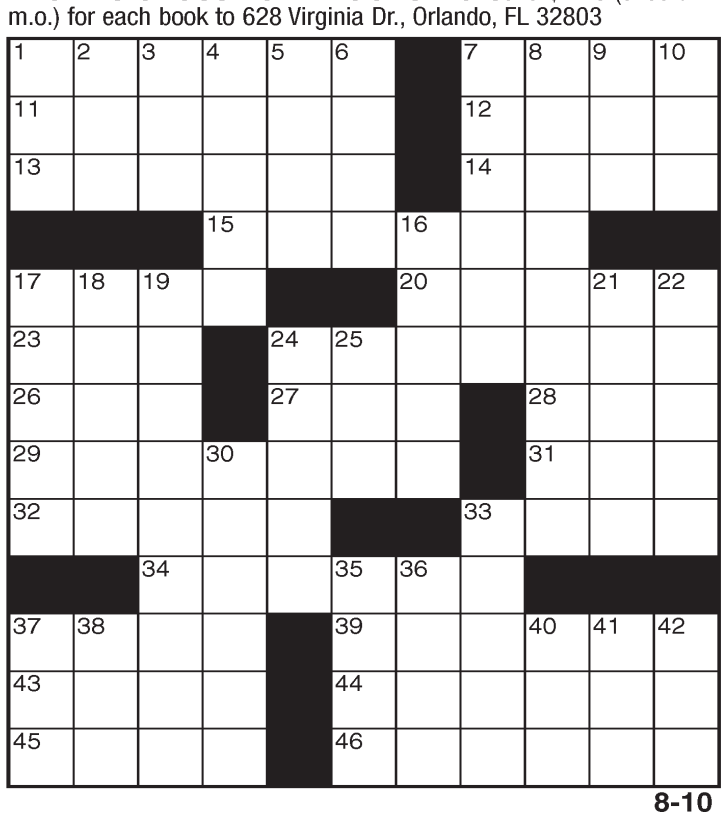
DOWN

1 Simple card game
2 Gorilla, for one
3 Relieve
4 "Robinson Crusoe" writer
5 Bus. course
6 Waiting room call
7 Fall, for one
8 "Affliction" star
9 Bruins legend
10 Tiny
16 Addis —
17 Not bother
18 Poe's middle name
19 "Jealous" singer
21 "Cats" poet
22 Fills up
24 Shows age
25 Gun
30 Desolate
33 Silver or gold
35 Pronto, in memos
36 Take it easy
37 Expected
38 Lyricist Gershwin
40 Suffering
41 Formerly named
42 Plopped down

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

Yesterday's answer

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803



8-10

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



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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 ★★★

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

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 8/6
20 33 36 47 52
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 67M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/5
5 18 28 54 74
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 38M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 8/6
1 29 34 36 46
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 24M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/8
2 12 13 17 22

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 8/8
MIDDAY: 6 7 3
Draw Date: 8/8
EVENING: 6 8 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 8/8
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:41.04

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**

WORD UP!

simoleon
1. Slang. a dollar.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1961 - First use in Vietnam War of the Agent Orange by the U.S. Army.

1969 - A day after murdering Sharon Tate and four others, members of Charles Manson's cult kill Leno and Rosemary LaBianca.

1971 - The Society for American Baseball Research is founded in Cooperstown, New York.

1977 - In Yonkers, New York, 24-year-old postal employee David Berkowitz ("Son of Sam") is arrested for a series of killings in the New York City area over the period of one year.

1978 - Three members of the Ulrich family are killed in an accident. This leads to the Ford Pinto litigation.

1981 - Murder of Adam Walsh: The head of John Walsh's son is found. This inspires the creation of the television series America's Most Wanted.

1988 - Japanese American internment: U.S. President Ronald Reagan signs the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, providing $20,000 payments to Japanese Americans who were either interned in or relocated by the United States during World War II.

1990 - The Magellan space probe reaches Venus.

1990 - More than 127 Muslims are killed in North East Sri Lanka by paramilitary troops.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Anyone's Fault but Mine: Lawyer Andrew Schmuhl, 32, ordered to trial in Fairfax County, Virginia, in May, declared that he was not responsible in 2014 when he invaded the home of a man who had recently fired Schmuhl's wife. Using a Taser, he had held the man and his wife hostage for three hours and ultimately slashed the man's throat and stabbed the woman repeatedly. However, Schmuhl claimed he should be found not guilty because he was "involuntarily" intoxicated at the time -- cluelessly on pain medication that made him oblivious of his actions. (He was convicted.)

■ Unclear on the Concept: (1) The membership of the Westerly (Rhode Island) Yacht Club voted in June to retain the club's men-only admission policy, which some members told a Providence Journal reporter was necessary to preserve the club's "family atmosphere." Apparently, according to the report, they feared being tempted at social events by having unmarried women around (as "full" female members, instead of the currently allowed "spousal" members). (2) The Chessington (England) World of Adventures theme park, after upgrading its authentic jungle experience, nonetheless had to post a noise restriction in July because some patrons apparently cannot resist the urge to do loud Tarzan impressions, which officials said "confuse" the monkeys.

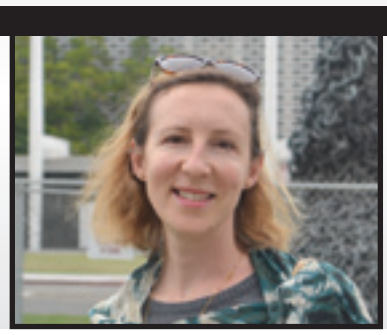
Man on the Street

by LEA YAMASHIRO

Q: This statue called Chain Reaction will soon be surrounded by new landscaping, and the fence around it is being taken down. What is your opinion on the statue?



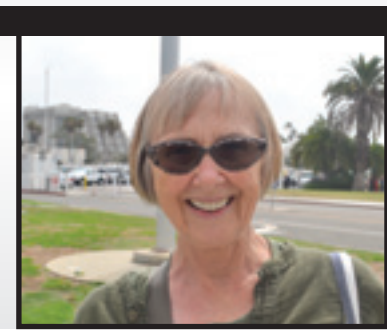
EDDIE WESS:
I think it's pretty cool. I like how it's made out of all metal and chains. In me, it represents what the world is coming to, like tearing down rainforests and just building houses everywhere we can. So I think it's cool.



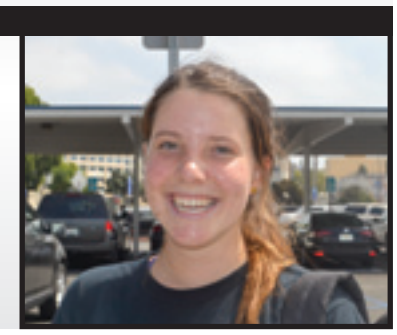
ALEKSANDRA OLENSKA:
I'm very happy to see some public art; I think it's very important to a community. I don't know exactly what it represents; perhaps it looks a little like an atomic bomb made of chains. I would like to say it is something positive, however I'm not so sure.



KENNY ROSEN:
I looked at it before from a distance, and didn't know what it was, but it caught my eye and I liked it. And as I look closer, I like it even more. It's phallic, yet it's linked.



SUSAN MASON:
I love it. First of all, it's Conrad, and he's an amazing political cartoonist. Also, it has an image of a nuclear war. We had a Hiroshima gathering around this around a year ago. I just think it's a powerful political message, and a human message, with the idea of the chains, like we are chained.



ISABEL LEWIS:
To me the statue is kind of a symbol of hope. I think that because it is moving upward, and has a constant feeling of movement towards the sky. I feel like it symbolizes how people are hoping that everything will be okay, but then it's a nuclear bomb, and it becomes dark and sad.

Do your own thing tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Deal with others directly. You might have a lot to share. Someone you deal with on a daily basis could make a difference once you listen to the rationale behind his or her thinking. Finally, you seem to agree! Tonight: Enjoy a leisurely dinner for two. You will be smiling a lot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Defer to others. Listen to what is being offered; your opinions could transform as a result. One-on-one relating with those who are close to you and/or are involved with you financially will make all the difference. Tend to this area of your life. Tonight: Opt for closeness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Pace yourself. Your sunny personality will make all the difference in how you handle a personal matter. Be aware of what is happening with a dear friend. Compliment a partner on his or her ability to understand both sides of an issue. Tonight: Have a long-overdue chat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You could be unusually resourceful and resilient when handling a problem. You might feel much better than you previously had thought possible. Go within yourself to resolve a conflict between your intellectual side and your emotional side. Tonight: Full of fun and laughter.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Stay centered, and know that many different ideas could float in from many different people. Just because someone's concepts sound far-fetched does not mean that they don't have value. Listen to what this person has to say. Tonight: Head home and order some takeout.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Understand what a key person is sharing. Ask questions, especially if you feel as if this person's words could have an effect on you. You might be up for trying a different approach to a recurring problem. Welcome feedback. Tonight: Speak your mind, but be diplomatic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be over-the-top about what you are doing financially. Get some advice from someone who understands far more about money than you do. Weigh your options carefully before you decide on a plan of action. Tonight: Be open to another person's ideas.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You could be exhausted by everything you have to do. Know that you are one of the few people who is capable of handling so much, especially as you tend to deal with diverse interests. Understand what is going on around you. Tonight: Try to speak to someone in a polite manner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You sense a lot of activity going on around you that you might not be in the loop about. Consider that knowing less ultimately will be to your benefit. You will know what is happening soon enough. You can be just as spontaneous as anyone else. Tonight: Do your own thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, and stay on top of a personal matter. You could be in a position to take action on behalf of someone else. Use your fine sense of judgment. Check in with several people who might have some strong thoughts about what to do. Tonight: Go for it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You could be in a position where you will want to change your direction. What you find out in a discussion is likely to make a big difference in your choices. If you are unsure, wait to make a decision until you feel more confident. Tonight: In the whirlwind of living.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Reach out to an expert. You might be looking to broaden your horizons and perhaps even become more educated in a certain discipline. There is no such thing as having too much knowledge. A friend will be very supportive. Tonight: Relax and binge-watch a favorite series.

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

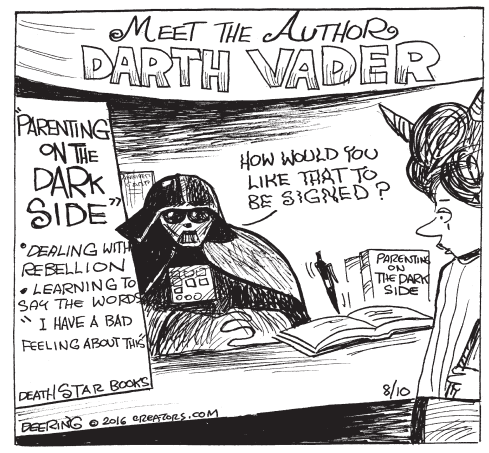
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★ Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

This year you break past barriers that often have stopped you in the past. At times you can be your own worst enemy, as you have many self-imposed restrictions. Try to understand why you act out in this way. If you are single, you might meet someone through a family connection. Be open to a person who has a very different lifestyle from yours; this experience could be an eye-opener. If you are attached, the two of you could opt for a major change around your home. Some of you will buy a new home or first home. Others will remodel. Your home is very important to you. SCORPIO weighs you down.

Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



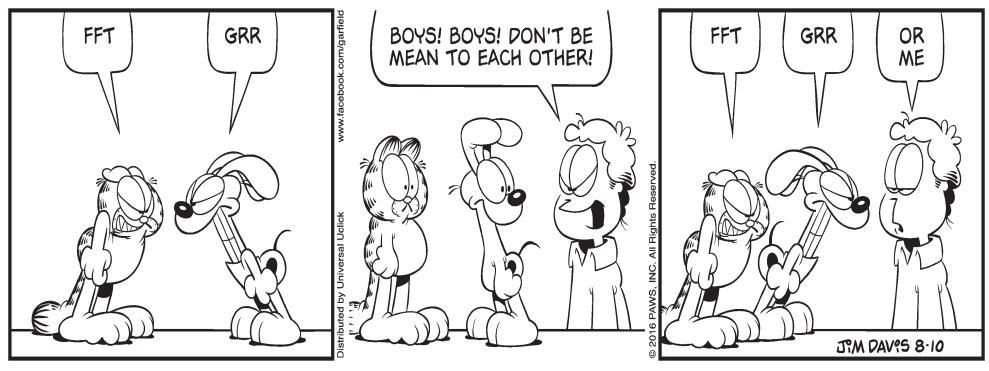
Strange Brew
By John Deering



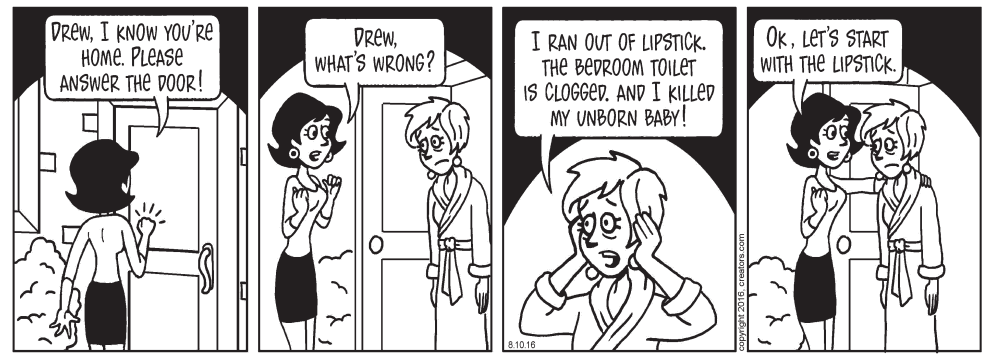
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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