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Volume 9 Issue 236

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

EYE ON CRIME
SEE PAGE 9

THE JUST KICKING IT ISSUE

City Hall releases candidate roster

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Clerk's Office released the official list of candidates who have qualified for this November's ballot on Thursday, setting the final lineups for contests to decide the makeup of the Santa Monica City Council and school board.

All five sitting council members are defending their seats in November, as are three out of the four incumbent school board members whose terms are up. School board member Kelly Pye has decided not to seek re-election.

Both the Rent Control Board and the Santa Monica College Board of Trustees elections will be uncontested. The four incumbents in each race are the only candidates who qualified for the ballot.

Ten candidates are running for three available four-year terms on the council, with frequent challengers Jon Mann, Jerry Rubin and Linda Armstrong among them.

Rubin, who has waged four unsuccessful campaigns for the council beginning in 2000, said he's taking the 2010 race seriously, though he stopped short of saying he's in it to win it.

"I don't think that's the most important thing for me. In fact, the city's going to do just fine without Jerry Rubin necessarily being on the City Council," he said.

With "Tan, Rested and Ready" as his campaign slogan and promises to promote "community unity" and seek "win-win solutions" as his platform, Rubin is presenting himself as a consensus builder and a diehard Santa Monica booster.

"I've seen divisiveness, and sometimes it really hurts," he said.

Incumbent Bob Holbrook, who has won five terms on the council without the backing of powerful political party Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights — the only currently serving local politician to pull off such a feat — said this fall promises to be a competitive campaign season.

"It won't be easy ... there are serious challengers out there," he said.

In addition to Holbrook, four-term incumbent Pam O'Connor and three-term incumbent Kevin McKeown are also running for re-election.

Chief among those gunning to unseat an

SEE ELECTION PAGE 10



A LEG UP

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Girls from the Pam Rossi Dance Ten studio kick with the world-famous Radio City Rockettes (top) during the Christmas Spectacular Celebration Coast-To-Coast Kickoff at the Santa Monica Pier on Thursday morning.

Council bans smoking on pier

BY NICK TABOREK
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM PIER Smoking on the Santa Monica Pier, which for several years has been confined to eight designated areas, is soon to be banned outright on the 100-year-old landmark.

The City Council this week unanimously agreed that discarded cigarettes pose a fire risk to the pier and voted to eliminate the smoking areas.

"I think it's absolutely the right thing to do to make sure that we protect and preserve the pier," said Ben Franz-Knight, executive director of the Pier Restoration Corp.

Smoking is also banned on Santa Monica beaches, in parks and outdoor dining areas, at bus stops and on the Third Street Promenade. The council also recently banned smoking on balconies and patios at multi-family dwellings.

After the pier ban takes effect, the closest area to the pier where smoking will be allowed will be Ocean Front Walk.

The proposal to eliminate the smoking areas came to the council after a couple of fires on the west end of the pier gave Santa Monica officials a scare. The fires broke out after discarded cigarette buts smoldered in the pier's wooden floor boards, Franz-Knight said.

On April 30, a fire caused about 30 square feet of damage to the pier, and a second fire on May 11 caused roughly 50 square feet of damage, according to a City Hall report.

Although the timber deck boards and piles are treated with fire-resistant coatings, a fire hazard exists when a cigarette falls in between the wooden deck boards igniting the dust and debris caught between and under the planks, according to City Hall.

"The dust and debris can act as kindling for a fire to begin underneath the boards, visible above the deck only upon the fire growing larger," a city staff report stated. "Fortunately, the two recent fires were caught and extinguished before significant property damage was sustained, but it is a

SEE SMOKING PAGE 10

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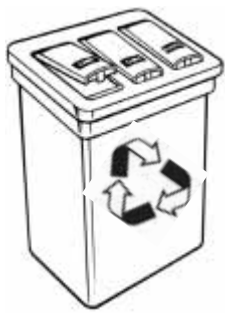


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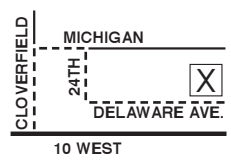
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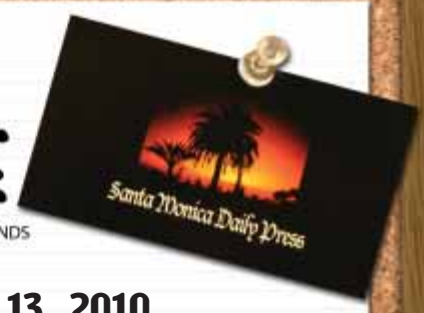
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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Friday, Aug. 13, 2010

Space discussion
New Roads School
3131 Olympic Blvd., 7:30 p.m.
Join astronomer Thor Dockweiler as he discusses Galileo at the monthly meeting of the Santa Monica Amateur Astronomy Club. Learn about the famous astronomer as an individual and about his remarkable discoveries four centuries ago. Admission is free. For more information, call (310) 495-7595.

Kick-off show
Ruskin Group Theatre
3000 Airport Ave., 7:30 p.m.
Celebrate the opening night of Arthur Miller's Tony Award-winning play "All My Sons," put on by the Ruskin Group Theatre Co., with wine, food, a silent auction and the play itself. Regular performances will run through Oct. 2. For tickets or more information, call (310) 397-3244 or go to www.ruskingrouptheatre.com.

Tree giveaway
2602 Broadway
1 p.m. — 6 p.m.
Get a free camelia bush, tree or other 60- to 90-year-old trees at the "Tree 4 All Open Garden," provided you arrange for the transplant. You can also donate to help transport mature trees the city has already elected to move to three different public parks. The three-day event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., as well as 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, e-mail Treesavers2010@yahoo.com.

Saturday, Aug. 14, 2010

Free fitness
Santa Monica Place
9 a.m. — 7:30 p.m.
Make your way over to the mall at Santa Monica Place for the "Get Your Move On" event, with free movement classes running all day. For more information, call (866) 231-4657.

Bras for a cause
Nordstrom, Santa Monica Place
9 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Treat yourself to a complimentary fitting at the "Nordstrom Fits America" event, featuring certified bra fitters, personalized consultations, refreshments and surprises. For every bra purchased, $2 will be donated by Nordstrom and participating brands to Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Space is limited. For more information, call (855) 231-4657.

Scion party
Barker Hanger
3021 Airport Ave., 3 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Scion hosts the "Unlock the tC Grand Finale" event, where four finalists will compete to "unlock" the tC. Be on hand to view the all-new 2011 Scion tC, listen to live music performances by local bands, enjoy food from some of L.A.'s most popular food trucks and get a free haircut from Barracuda Hair — all free. To RSVP for free or for more information, go to www.scion.com/unlockthetc.

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.





DAY ONE

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Santa Monica High School head football Coach Travis Clark talks about the new season during the first day of practice at the Greek Theatre on Thursday afternoon. The Vikings finished last season 4-7 (3-2 in Ocean League play).

Firefighters run to remember 9/11

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SM PIER Firefighters from two nations took off Thursday on a round-the-clock run from Southern California to New York in remembrance of victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The Tour of Duty run officially began with a flag ceremony at 8:46 a.m. — the time when the first plane struck New York's twin towers in 2001.

Several New York firefighters were running, including James Dowdell. His father, firefighter Kevin Dowdell, was among more than 400 emergency workers killed while responding to the attack.

Firefighters feel "a special kinship" with firefighters who died, North Las Vegas fire Capt. Cedric Williams said.

"We're trained to save people and potentially risk our lives for others. ... I think each one of us understands those risks," he said. "We probably wouldn't have done anything different than they did."

Firefighters from the U.S. and Australia took up to 40 days off and were spending their own money on the run, Williams said.

Beginning at the Santa Monica Pier, teams running in shifts will head east on a 4,600-mile trek that will take them to Las Vegas, Arizona, Albuquerque, Oklahoma, Houston, New Orleans, Mississippi, Memphis, St. Louis, Chicago, Washington D.C., Baltimore and Pennsylvania before finishing at the World Trade Center site on Sept. 11.

Every day at 8:46 a.m., the race will be stopped and the name of 16 victims of 9/11 will be read off, Williams said.

Each 1.5-mile of the race also will be dedicated to a victim. Their names will be placed in a log book that organizers plan to donate to a firefighter museum, Williams said.

More than 30 firefighters were taking part as well as a New York Port Authority police officer and an officer from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

Updates will be posted on the FDNY's Facebook and Twitter sites. Funds raised will be donated to charities.

Sheriff says no sign woman was slain

THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca says there is no indication a California woman whose remains were found near Malibu was slain.

Baca said at a news conference Thursday that remains found earlier this week were that of 25-year-old Mitrice Richardson. He said detectives will continue investigating her death but her remains may not offer many clues into how she died.

Richardson's skull and bones were found Monday near an abandoned marijuana grove in a rugged Santa Monica Mountains area near Malibu.

The confirmation ends a nearly yearlong search for the Los Angeles area woman that spanned from the Malibu mountains to Las Vegas, where authorities recently said people reported spotting Richardson.

She vanished after she was released early Sept. 17 at a sheriff's substation in Calabasas for failing to pay a restaurant bill in Malibu.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Majority doesn't support gay marriage

Editor:

The marriage question has been voted on in 31 states and each has supported traditional marriage as one man and one woman.

Now the un-elected, activist, homosexual Judge Vaughn Walker has set himself as more important than the will of the people of California. We have voted twice on this issue to support traditional marriage. Do our votes not count for anything?

The goal of homosexuals is simple: destroy the church, reject God's teaching and promote their abominable lifestyle.

Pray for our country.

David Long
Santa Monica

Bad move with boycott

Editor:

Isn't it nice that the City Council has decided to boycott the Arizona mobile home manufacturer because of Arizona's new immigration law, which a vast majority of Americans support. This is the same City Council that is asking the citizens of Santa Monica to pay more in sales tax to help cover the extra $2 million dollars it will waste to purchase these mobile homes from some other manufacturer. I hate to be the bearer of bad news but if Arizona's millions boycotted Santa Monica, it would do a lot more harm to us then our 90,000 people boycotting them and since probably 70,000 of our citizens support Arizona. Who do you think is getting the short end of the stick?

Kent Cullom
Santa Monica

Going its own way

Editor

In her Aug. 12 letter to the editor, Sonya Fox Sultan of the Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights Steering Committee defends that group's "support" of candidates rejected by the membership.

She puts it this way: "By adding candidates who have consistently supported rent control and worked hard to protect tenants, the Steering Committee fulfilled one of its most important responsibilities to the broader SMRR membership."

The point is the majority of the voting members do not believe the candidates they rejected did protect them from developers or support rent control. That's why they rejected them. By stubbornly insisting that these candidates deserve "support," the Steering Committee has gone its own lonely way, while the membership is drifting in another direction.

Either you abide by the outcome of a democratic process or you lose blocks of members, many of whom, like me, have been in SMRR since it was born.

Kit Snedaker
Santa Monica

Something's not right

Editor:

Since when did hurting Arizona and ignoring the federal laws become a source of pride? What's wrong with this picture?

Sylvia Greer
Los Angeles

War a waste of money

Editor:

It is a profound and deeply disturbing commentary on our society that in a time when trillions of dollars are being squandered on wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, concerned citizens in Santa Monica must set up sidewalk stands and engage in other efforts to raise funds for our school system.

According to Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz and Harvard scholar Linda Bilmes, the eventual cost of these wars may total $5 trillion to $7 trillion. Using the middle figure of $6 trillion, the total is $19,355 per person, based on a U.S. population of 310 million in July 2010. Santa Monica's share: $1.7 billion; California will contribute a staggering $716 billion.

Why are we begging to fund schools when huge financial resources are being taken from our community to pay for death and devastation around the world?

John Marciano
Santa Monica

SMDP EDITORIALS

Making the grade

When roughly 7,600 voters defeated in May the $198 per-parcel tax known as Measure A (13,671 votes in favor) and forced public school officials to cut $7.1 million from the budget for the upcoming school year, it seemed as if all hope of maintaining the high level of instruction residents expect here had been lost.

Our kids, the most vulnerable in our community, were going to have to go without. Teachers, counselors, librarians, custodians and security guards were going to be laid off. Class sizes would grow and music programs would be eliminated, all because our so-called leaders in Sacramento can't get their fiscal house in order.

While some of that may still occur as the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District anxiously awaits a budget to be approved by the Legislature, which will certainly include more cuts to education, the blow has been lessened thanks to parents, students and local businesses who came together during one of the darkest economic times in our nation's history to raise more than $1 million for our schools.

The Daily Press would like to recognize all those who volunteered their time to set up lemonade stands and host fundraisers or donate proceeds from the sale of goods and services. The Save Our Schools campaign created by the vital nonprofit Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation is a prime example of the power of grassroots organizing and a community that values education. To those who participated, we say thank you and hope everyone attends the Save Our Schools celebration at Santa Monica High School this Sunday. Painful cuts will still need to be made, but for now, it's time to put that aside and take pride in a job well done.

Dinner and a movie

As city staff moves forward with a development agreement with movie theater giant AMC and local real estate management firm Metropolitan Pacific to create a LEED-certified movie house with all the latest amenities, we would like them to consider whether or not the community benefits outlined in a staff report to the City Council Tuesday are really worth the loss of parking resulting from the demolition of Parking Structure 3 on Fourth Street near Arizona Avenue.

We support bringing a state-of-the-art theater to Downtown that will offer residents and visitors surround sound, 3-D capabilities and stadium seating. Santa Monica needs to compete with other venues such as The Bridge and The Grove. Movie attendance in Santa Monica has gradually declined from approximately 2.0 million patrons annually during the 1990s to approximately 1.4 million patrons in 2007. This represents a 30 percent decline in movie attendance in Santa Monica, while movie attendance fell by approximately 5 percent during the same period nationwide. If the local trend continues, Santa Monica is at risk of losing its ability to attract first-run releases.

If the Third Street Promenade is to continue to thrive, we need diversity. We need restaurants, retail and entertainment venues like the one AMC has proposed.

However, what are we willing to give up in return? The parking structure the theater would replace currently has 324 parking spaces. If you have driven through Downtown since the new Santa Monica Place opened then you know how impossible it is to find parking or navigate through congested streets without feeling exasperated. If City Hall is to move forward with this proposal, it also must have a plan to replace those spaces, and then build those spaces before the theater opens so those who want to catch the latest blockbuster can get to their seats before the opening credits. City Hall needs to move forward with rebuilding structures 1 and 6 and possibly create a new one where the interim library used to sit on Fifth Street. City Hall could partner with a developer to build spaces underground and add ground-floor retail and housing on top and share in some of the costs and profits.

It is critical to ask ourselves if public art and some free screenings rooms, a new restaurant and 3-D capabilities, along with the discounted rent AMC will pay (some estimates put it at $90,000 a year) are worth it during these harsh economic times. Would City Hall be better off selling the land to a private developer? Or is a movie theater a better investment?

In the long run, we believe a movie theater that rivals those at The Bridge and The Grove will make Downtown more attractive and viable, and give residents an alternative to driving out of town to catch a flick. We just want to make sure we aren't giving away too much in return to a company that earned $2.5 billion in 2007.

For whom the Bell tolls

The scandalous sums being paid to city officials in Bell have served as yet another reminder to many of us about the importance of transparency in local government. Participant democracy cannot survive in secrecy. That's why we are fortunate to live in Santa Monica, where those interested in City Hall can find a plethora of information online.

A relatively simple search of City Hall's website reveals salary ranges for all job classifications, including pay for City Council members, the police chief and city manager. The memorandums of understanding between City Hall and the employee bargaining units or unions are also online and show which employees receive bonuses or raises and at what levels. That's on top of city staff reports and information items presented to the council, as well as CityTV's broadcast of council meetings both on television and online.

City Hall's human resources director, Donna Peter, has been fielding calls from media outlets and concerned citizens regarding the pay of elected officials and city staff and has committed herself to being transparent when it comes to pay and bonuses. She is currently compiling a list of the top paid city employees for the Daily Press so that we can share them with our readers.

Kudos to City Hall for being so transparent. That said, we're still keeping an eye on you to make sure the public is protected from thieves like those running Bell into the ground.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Divorce is recession proof

GOING THROUGH A DIVORCE IS considered among the most stressful of human experiences, second only to a life-threatening illness, followed by getting fired and moving. Personally, I think standing in line at the DMV ought to be included, but that's just me.

Evidence of the stress stemming from divorce, or even "breaking up," can be heard on the taped Mel Gibson phone calls to his ex-girlfriend. Mel screams incessantly until he's hoarse and insane, whichever came first.

Another example of soon-to-be-divorced stress is Tiger Woods. Last week's Bridgestone International was the worst of his pro career as he finished a whopping 30 strokes behind the winner! "It's been a long year," is all Tiger could say.

Former UCLA basketball star Earl Watson filed for divorce on Aug. 1, claiming his wife, actress Jennifer Freeman, "bit him on the chest until he bled." A few years ago I rode in an elevator at the Shores with the Watsons and I don't recall anybody biting anybody. I'm pretty sure I would have remembered.

Divorce is the bread and butter of the "family law industry," and it is an industry, at least in California. I have a wealthy lawyer friend in Santa Barbara who insists that divorce is a recession-proof business. In bad economic times people are more prone to break up and in good times they can afford to leave for a young babe, or the male equivalent for cougars. ("Cougars" defined as women over 35 dating men at least 8 years their junior, though I don't know why it's "cougar" as opposed to other felines.)

Divorce can be staggeringly expensive. (After all, somebody's got to pay for my friend's estate.) Recently, experts were predicting that Tiger Woods would wind up giving Elin $750 million in a settlement, even though they reportedly have a $10 million pre-nup

Curiously, as Woods' golf game declines so does Elin's predicted settlement. Suddenly Elin's take was down to a "paltry" $500 million. (Imagine scraping by on that.) After the Bridgestone Invitational, I saw a revised estimate of $100 million. Today, Tiger's playing in the PGA, the final major of the year. If he doesn't make the cut tomorrow, what's next, Elin and the kids on food stamps? Somehow I rather doubt Elin, or her children, or grandchildren for that matter, will ever have money problems.

Who does have money problems, and have their divorce trial on Aug. 30, are Frank and Jamie McCourt, who own the Dodgers. (Hopefully, not for long.) Having been divorced, I don't wish it on anyone, unless you're married to Jesse James, in which case it would seem a blessing. (Watch, somebody's gonna forward this to James and there will be a "biker fatwah" out on me.)

With the McCourts, I'm chanting daily for the judge to force a sale, which would allow Mark Cuban to buy the Dodgers. The last time the Dodgers won the World Series Ronald Reagan was president! Then again, it could be worse. The last time the Cubs won the World Series Teddy Roosevelt was president.

It's been estimated that the McCourts could spend $20 million in lawyer and accountant fees during their divorce. That's the going rate for an ace starting pitcher, and the difference between first place in the division and fifth place in the wild card race.

WHY SHOULD HETEROSEXUALS HAVE THE MONOPOLY ON DIVORCE?

As Mel Gibson can attest, one doesn't have to be married to get "divorced." Having a child and separating from your significant other, generally means you're going to be dragged into Family Law Court.

Even LeBron James may be there. Savannah Brinson, his girlfriend, and mother of his two children recently told Harper's Magazine that she isn't thrilled with moving to Miami and uprooting her two boys. In this upcoming season, if LeBron starts missing three-pointers like Tiger's missing putts, we'll know why.

One marriage doomed to divorce that I was really looking forward to was Levi Johnston and Bristol Palin. Bristol is the eldest daughter of Sarah Palin who hated her future son-in-law and vice-versa. Though separated, Levi and Bristol share custody of their 2-year-old son, Trip, whose uncles are Trig and Track. (Makes you think someone in the Palin household was tripping.)

A month ago, Levi and Bristol publicly announced their engagement while Sarah privately announced "over her dead body." I can picture Sarah kneeling over Levi in the snow, much like she did over that poor moose.

Though Bristol and Levi confessed that they had pined for each other, apparently Levi's pining didn't preclude getting an ex-girlfriend pregnant. Bristol called off the wedding and Sarah resumed dreaming of occupying the White House. (Her dream, my nightmare.)

Meanwhile, my lawyer friend, an ultra-conservative, is very much in favor of gay marriage. His theory is why should heterosexuals have the monopoly on divorce? And if Proposition 8 is overturned, it could double his business. What recession?

JACK can be reached at Jnsmdp@aol.com.

The Q Line

Open for business

The newly re-opened Santa Monica Place has been attracting shoppers in droves its first few days of operation.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you plan on patronizing the newly remodeled mall or will you shop elsewhere?

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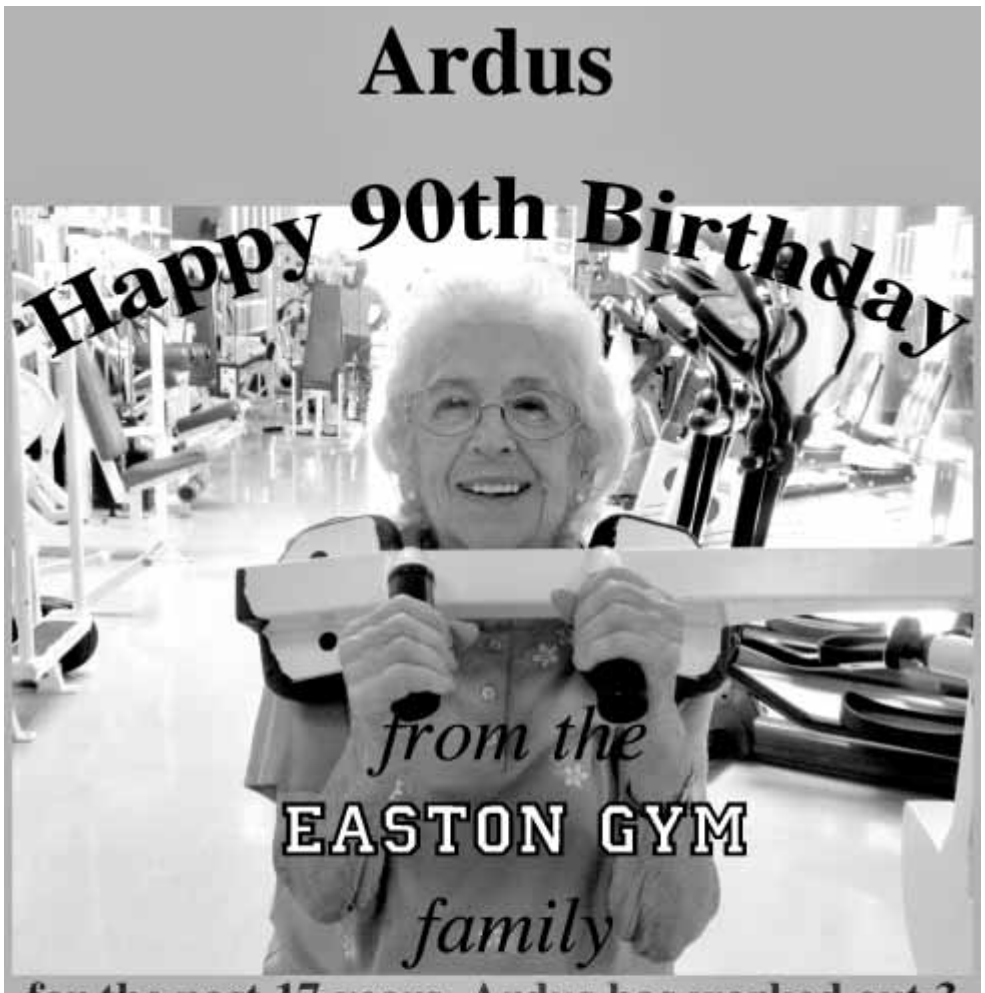
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Judge puts gay marriage reversal on hold for now

PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO A federal judge on Thursday put gay marriages on hold for at least another six days in California, raising hopes among same-sex couples that they soon will be able to tie the knot after years of agonizing delays.

Judge Vaughn Walker gave opponents of same-sex weddings until Aug. 18 at 5 p.m. to get a ruling from the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on whether gay marriage should resume. Gay marriages could happen at that point or be put off indefinitely depending on how the court rules.

Walker struck down the state's voter-approved gay marriage ban last week in a case many believe is destined for the Supreme Court.

Dozens of gay marriage supporters who had gathered outside San Francisco's City Hall, a block from the federal courthouse, erupted in cheers when the decision came out. The crowd included a handful of same-sex couples who had arrived early Thursday morning to fill out marriage license applications in hopes that the judge would allow nuptials to commence immediately.

Teresa Rowe, 31, and her partner, Kristin Orbin, 31, said they were still happy with the decision even though the ceremony didn't happen.

"It's sad that we have to wait a little longer, but it's been six years," Rowe said.

In his original ruling, Walker moved to suspend gay weddings until he could consider arguments from both sides on whether the marriages should be allowed during an appeal of his ruling. He now says gay marriage should resume, but he gave conservatives the extra time to get the appeals court to weigh in.

Charles J. Cooper, lead counsel for the Proposition 8 supporters, said his legal team intends to ask the appeals court to immediately impose a stay of Walker's ruling, a move that would halt gay marriages while the case is pending before the 9th Circuit.

California voters passed Proposition 8 as a state constitutional amendment in November 2008, five months after the California Supreme Court legalized same-sex unions and an estimated 18,000 same-sex couples already had tied the knot.

Three people protested among the crowd to oppose Walker's ruling Thursday.

"It's a really sad day for Californians, for families, for our future and for voters that a federal judge has trampled on the civil rights of voters," said Luke Otterstad, 24, of Sacramento.

Lawyers for gay couples, California Gov. Schwarzenegger and Attorney General Jerry Brown filed legal motions Friday asking that same-sex marriages be allowed to resume immediately.

Walker said on Thursday that ban proponents didn't convince him that anyone would be harmed by allowing same-sex marriages to resume.

"The evidence at trial showed, however, that Proposition 8 harms the state of California," Walker said.

Walker also turned aside arguments that marriages performed now could be thrown into legal chaos if Proposition 8 is later upheld by an appeals court.

But Walker said such weddings would appear to be legal even if the ban is later reinstated. He pointed to the 18,000 same-sex couples who married legally in the five months that gay marriage was legal in California as proof.

Walker also said that no one can claim harm by allowing same-sex weddings to go forward, but banning them harms gays.

Finally, Walker said it also appears doubtful that the opponents of the ban have any right to appeal his decision striking down a state law that he said should have been defended by either Gov. Schwarzenegger and Attorney General Brown.

Schwarzenegger and Brown each last week urged Walker to allow same-sex marriages to resume immediately and its unlikely they will join the appeal of Proposition 8.

"I am pleased to see Judge Walker lift his stay and provide all Californians the liberties I believe everyone deserves," Schwarzenegger said after the ruling.

The case now goes before a special "motions panel" of three judges at the appeals court, the largest and busiest federal appeals court in the nation with jurisdiction over nine western states.

The panel consists of two judges appointed by Democrats and a third by a Republican.

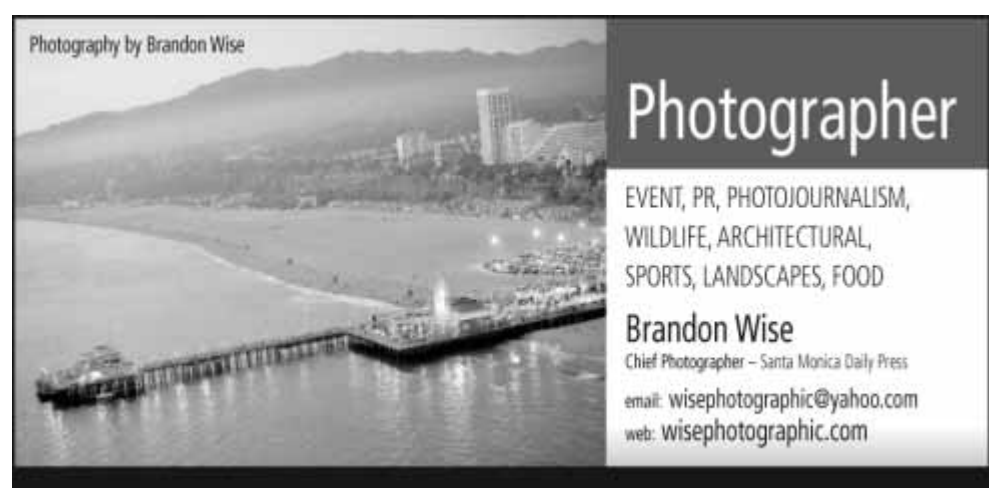
President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Edward Leavy to the appeals court in 1987. Leavy, who is semi-retired, has served as judge in the state and federal courts in Oregon since 1957.

President Bill Clinton nominated Judge Michael Daly Hawkins to the court in 1994 and Judge Sidney Thomas in 1995.

Hawkins, based in Phoenix, served as Arizona's U.S. Attorney under President Jimmy Carter and also worked as a special prosecutor for the Navajo Nation from 1985 to 1989.

Thomas, who keeps his chambers in Bozeman, Mont., made President Obama's short list to fill the U.S. Supreme Court vacancy that was filled last week by Elena Kagan.

A new three-judge panel will be chosen sometime next year to decide the appeal. Lawyers for both sides have been ordered to file their legal arguments by the end of the year.





Wanderlust

Dan Dawson
Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo by Dan Dawson

WHAT A VIEW: **Diners at the Grifin restaurant in Instanbul can gaze upon the Bosphorus, a strait that forms part of the boundary between Europe and Asia.**

Something fishy in Istanbul

EVEN FOR THE ADVENTUROUS I wouldn't recommend going to Grifin on your own. This area of Istanbul is what New York's meat packing district must have been like before it became fashionable. Dark, narrow streets twist like a labyrinth passing warehouses and an ancient Roman market place. While none of the streets seem to be marked as one-way, most are so narrow as to leave no other option. Had the concierge at the hotel not written down the address and then given explicit directions to the driver, I would have been nervous that we were headed someplace sinister rather than to Istanbul's most famed and oldest continuously operating fish house.

Once inside the upper floor where the restaurant sits, the atmosphere changes dramatically. Clean white tablecloths, white tiled floor, and simple elegant décor that does not try to detract from the unparalleled views of the Istanbul's Asian side and the famed sites of the Golden Horn. This is also the first time I recognized the genius of Hakan Ozkaraman, the owner of Grifin. This once ball-bearing salesman who taught himself to cook in his mother's kitchen saw the potential of this lost neighborhood, which easily commands one of the best views in the city. Situated on the European side of the city at the base of Beyoglu Hill, steps from the waters of the Bosphorus that divide the east from west, diners are afforded amazing views of the Blue Masque, Topkapi Place, and the Haghia Sophia that are lit at night and seem to float over the old city.

Ozkaraman comes from a noble family of Ottoman descent and is a commanding presence in his own right. But, much of the time he is watching me with the expectant look of a child waiting for my eyes to light up as I try dish after exotic dish that he has created. Everything here is something he invented or an exotic twist on a food that has come from his family kitchen.

"I just like experimenting with the things I like. Eating here would be like eating at my home," Ozkaraman says. Perhaps he is telling the truth, but it is hard to imagine anything as complicated and masterful coming from just any kitchen.

Take for example the Lakarda. One of the most delicate yet rich raw fish dishes I have ever had. To prepare this old Ottoman recipe requires a unique kind of fresh fish from the local waters, boned, packed in salt, turned and drained every other day for two months before it can be served with fresh lemon juice and a small bite of red onion. This is better than any sushi I have ever had anywhere. And, this is not the only homemade delicacy to come from his kitchen. His bread is baked daily in a wood-fired oven giving it a smoky flavor perfect for dipping into his homemade hand-pressed olive oil. His fish soup flavored with over 15 herbs and spices he gets from the famed Spice Market left me wanting more. To accompany the meal he has only two wine choices, both from grapes from his family's vineyard which compliment the seafood perfectly.

The original Grifin opened in 1923 and was owned my Ozkaraman's neighbors when he was growing up. He purchased the restaurant 21 years ago and he has turned it into one of Istanbul's most stylish and talked about restaurants. If you are in Istanbul this is one culinary experience you won't want to miss. Don't be shocked however if you never see a menu. Ozkaraman hates showing it. Personally, I encourage you to leave the menu for the unadventurous and just have brought to your table whatever is fresh that day. A meal of three to four mesa's, Turkish appetizers, a main course, dessert and wine will run about $100 U.S. per person. Grifin has only 22 tables so make a reservation and make sure you have the address written down and a really good taxi driver.

DAN DAWSON is a travel journalist and dedicated world traveler who has written articles for many publications on adventures abroad. He is also the marketing manager for the Big Blue Bus. Tell him about your favorite vacation spot at www.WonderlustTravel.com

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South of Wilshire	$773,500	$649,000
Sunset Park	$1,197,000	$589,000
Ocean Park	$1,365,000	$899,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Roommates rumble over rent

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.

SUNDAY, AUG. 8, AT 10:37 A.M.,
Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1400 block of 14th Street regarding an assault. When officers arrived, they made contact with the alleged victim who told them that his roommate was upset over the rent. The suspect allegedly assaulted the victim by hitting him in the face numerous times. The suspect was arrested and booked for assault and battery. He was identified as Shiro Miura, 34, of Santa Monica. His bail was set at $20,000.

SUNDAY, AUG. 8, AT 3:53 P.M.,
Officers were conducting a periodic check on an abandoned property in the 1200 block of Lincoln Boulevard when they made contact with someone who was allegedly hiding in the bushes. The suspect was in possession of a high-end bicycle, police said. Further investigation revealed that the bicycle had been stolen in May from the 2600 block of the beach. Officers placed the suspect under arrest for possession of stolen property. During a pre-booking search of the suspect, officers said they found two credit cards with other people's names on it. The investigation revealed that one of the cards was taken in an auto burglary. The other card was possibly taken from a Costco store. The suspect, Jacob Hurtado, 33, a transient, was booked for possession of stolen property and a probation violation. His bail was set at $20,000.

SATURDAY, AUG. 7, AT 9:56 A.M.,
Officers responded to the area of 20th Street and Olympic Boulevard regarding a man down in the median. Upon arrival, firefighters told officers that the man was not injured, but only sleeping in the median. Officers woke the suspect and learned that he was waiting for his scooter to recharge. It was plugged into an outlet attached to a nearby building that was owned by another party. The suspect was allegedly recharging his scooter without the owner's permission. Officers searched the suspect and found marijuana. Officers placed him under arrest for possession of pot, a municipal code violation and a warrant. He was identified as Angel Figueroa, 39, a transient. His bail was set at $750.

FRIDAY, AUG. 6, AT 3:20 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue (Sears) regarding a shoplifter in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store security who said that the suspect entered the store, removed a necklace, took the price tag off and placed it around her neck. She then went to the perfume section and placed items in her purse and left the store without paying, police said. Security stopped the suspect and held her until police arrived. Officers placed her under arrest and she was booked for burglary. She was identified as Gale Villegas, 23, of Granada Hills. Her bail was set at $20,000.

THURSDAY, AUG. 5, AT 10:14 P.M.,
Officers responded to assist with a possible DUI investigation. When officers arrived, they were advised that the driver was stopped because she was driving without headlights. When the officer contacted the driver, he saw symptoms of intoxication. Officers had the driver perform a series of balance and coordination tests, which she allegedly failed. Officers placed her under arrest for DUI. She was identified as Stary Schillaci, 31, of North Hollywood. Her bail was set at $15,000.

THURSDAY, AUG. 5, AT 10:20 A.M.,
Officers were patrolling in the 1900 block of Ocean Avenue when they observed individuals acting suspiciously. Officers made contact with the individuals and learned that similar suspects had jumped a fence and took a bicycle. Officers said that one of the suspects was in possession of the bicycle and a GPS device. Further investigation revealed that the GPS was taken from a vehicle that had been broken into in the 2800 block of Ocean Front Walk. The suspect, a juvenile, was arrested for conspiracy to commit a crime and grand theft. He was released to a guardian.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 4, AT 2:50 P.M.,
Officers were on routine patrol in the 1900 block of Pico Boulevard when they observed a man writing graffiti on a wall. Officers stopped the suspect and placed him under arrest for vandalism. He was identified as Nery Alfaro, 22, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at $500.

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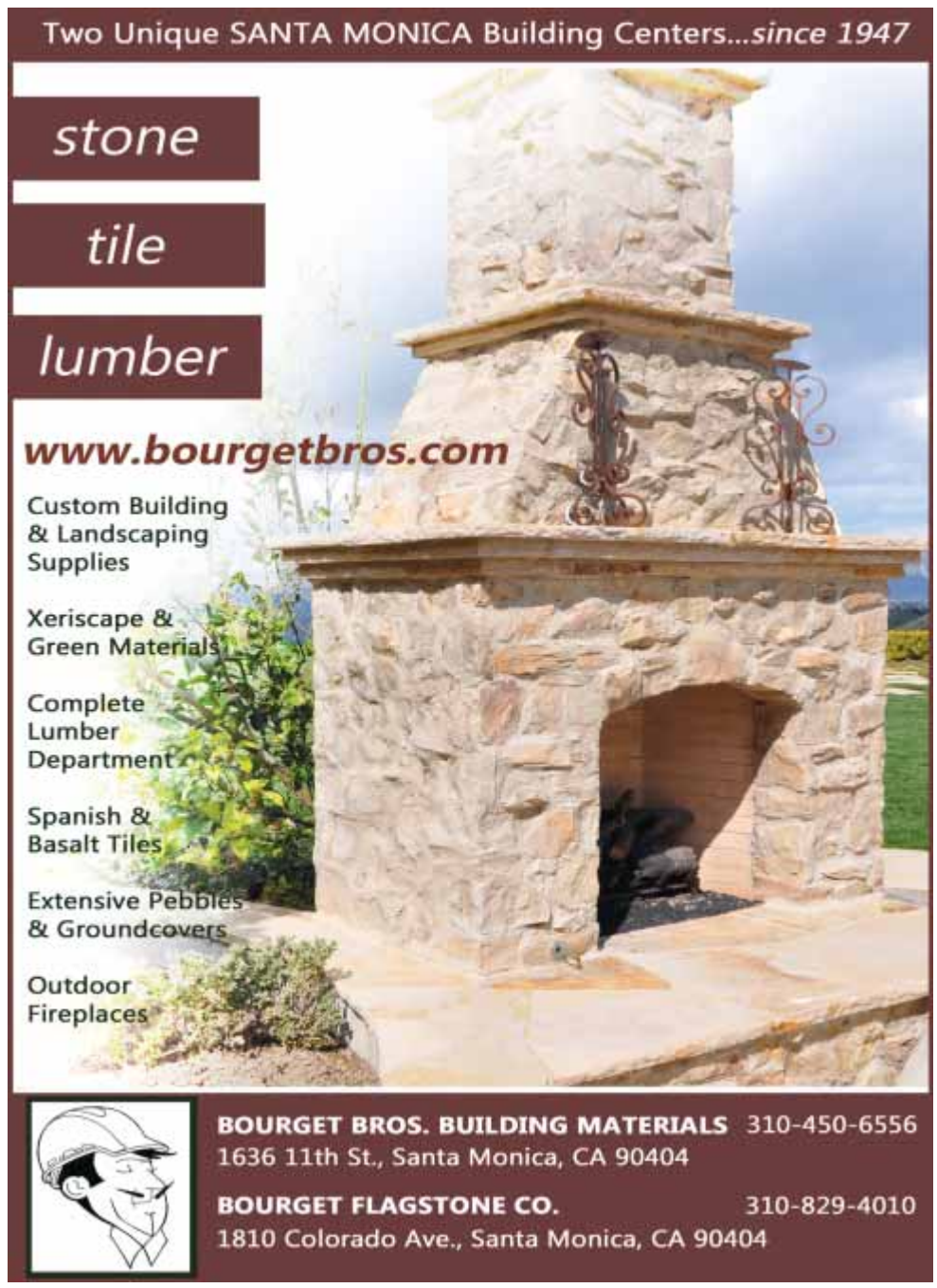
Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

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SMOKING
FROM PAGE 1

reminder that fire caused by smoking is a threat that could have a devastating impact on the pier and on public safety."

Franz-Knight on Tuesday told the council it would cost $57 million to re-build the structure should it burn.

"It's a tremendously valuable community treasure," he said.

The ban is expected to take effect this fall. City Hall will spend about $5,000 on new signs and educational materials to spread the word about the ban.

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"I THINK IT'S ABSOLUTELY THE RIGHT THING TO DO TO MAKE SURE THAT WE PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE PIER."

Ben Franz-Knight,
Executive Director of the Pier Restoration Corp.

ELECTION
FROM PAGE 1

incumbent is Ted Winterer, who received more than 12,000 votes in the 2008 council election, coming in fifth in a contest for four seats.

After failing to win SMRR's endorsement two years ago, Winterer, who sits on the Planning Commission, was the highest vote-getter on his way to wining SMRR's endorsement at the party's convention two weeks ago.

Also running in the four-year race are: Daniel Cody, a strategic alliance professional; Terence Later, an entertainment consultant; and Jean McNeil Wyner, a community liaison with Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

The race for two available two-year council terms has five qualified candidates, including Gleam Davis and Terry O'Day, who were appointed to the council following the deaths of mayors Herb Katz and Ken Genser, respectively.

The three challengers are: Robert Kronovet, a Republican who in 2008 turned heads by winning a term on Rent Control Board without SMRR's endorsement; Susan Hartley, a co-founder of Santa Monica Treesavers and a longtime activist; and David Ganezer, publisher of local newspaper The Santa Monica Observer.

In the school board race, eight candidates are vying for four open seats.

Incumbents Oscar de la Torre, Barry Snell and Ralph Mechur are seeking re-election and, along with challenger Laurie Lieberman, have received SMRR's backing.

The other four candidates are: Patrick Cady, a retired teacher and coach from Malibu; Jake Wachtel, a TV producer; Chris Bley, a teacher who made a strong showing in 2008; and Nimish Patel, a small business owner who serves on the school district's Financial Oversight Committee.

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Jobless claims up

CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON The economy is looking bleaker as new applications for jobless benefits rose last week to the highest level in almost six months.

It's a sign that hiring remains weak and employers may be going back to cutting their staffs. Analysts say the increase suggests companies won't be adding enough workers in August to lower the 9.5 percent unemployment rate.

First-time claims for jobless benefits edged up by 2,000 to a seasonally adjusted 484,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. That's the highest total since February. Analysts had expected claims to fall.

Initial claims have now risen in three of the last four weeks and are close to their high point for the year of 490,000, reached in late January. The four-week average, which smooths volatility, soared by 14,250 to 473,500, also the highest since late February.

The report "represents a very adverse turn in the labor market, threatening income growth and consumer spending," Pierre Ellis, an economist at Decision Economics, wrote in a note to clients.

Even the lowest mortgage rates in decades are a gloomy sign for the economy. Average rates on 30-year fixed mortgages fell to 4.44 percent, Freddie Mac said Thursday. While that's good for people looking to refinance or buy a home, low rates haven't been enough to energize a struggling housing market.

And the drop suggests investors are losing confidence in the recovery. Mortgage rates track the yields on U.S. Treasurys. They are falling because investors are shifting more money away from stocks and into the safety of Treasurys, which forces those yields down.

Those yields were pushed even lower this week after the Federal Reserve downgraded its assessment of the economy on Tuesday and announced a program to buy more Treasurys to help lift the recovery.

The stock market has been falling since the Fed's more pessimistic outlook. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 58 points on Thursday and is down more than 300 points for the week.

Economists closely watch weekly claims, which are considered a gauge of the pace of layoffs and an indication of employers' willingness to hire.

The government's July jobs report, released Friday, showed that the economy lost a net total of 131,000 jobs last month. Excluding the impact of the elimination of 143,000 temporary census jobs, the economy added a meager 12,000 positions, as layoffs by state and local governments almost canceled out weak hiring by businesses.

Thursday's report on jobless claims indicates that trend may not change soon. Claims fell steadily last year from their peak of 651,000, reached in March 2009. But they have mostly leveled out this year at or above 450,000. In a healthy economy with rapid hiring, claims usually drop below 400,000.

The rise in claims is a sign that private employers may be ramping up layoffs, which declined as recently as June, according to a separate government report released Wednesday.

States with the largest increases in claims two weeks ago cited rising layoffs in the construction and manufacturing industries. The state data lags the national report by one week.

Claims could also be rising because of large job cuts by state and local governments, which are struggling with unprecedented budget gaps. State and local governments cut 48,000 jobs in July, the most in a year.

Some economists speculate that many census workers whose jobs are finished are requesting unemployment benefits.

Another possibility is that small companies, facing tight credit, are still reducing their staffs, even as larger corporations slowly resume hiring.

The report comes after the Federal Reserve said Tuesday that "employers remain reluctant to add to payrolls." The central bank said the pace of economic recovery is likely to be more modest than anticipated.

And on Wednesday, the Commerce Department said June imports jumped while exports dropped. That pushed the trade gap to its widest point since October 2008. Many economists say that could reduce economic growth estimates in the April-to-June quarter to 1.2 percent — half the 2.4 percent annual rate the government estimated last month.

That's a sharp slowdown from the 5 percent growth in the final quarter of 2009 and the 3.7 percent pace in the January-to-March quarter. That weakening could be prompting more employers to cut staff, or at least hold off on hiring.

The total number of people receiving benefits dropped 118,000 to 4.45 million, the department said. But that doesn't include another 5.3 million people receiving extended benefits paid for by the federal government, as of the week ending July 24, the latest data available.

Some companies are still cutting workers. Medical products manufacturer CareFusion Corp. said Wednesday it plans to eliminate 700 jobs, saving the company up to $120 million a year.

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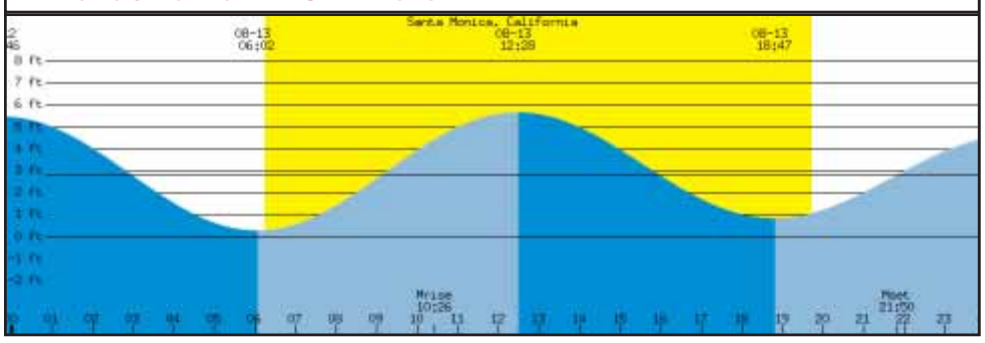
Swell Forecast

Should see a slight increase in southern hemi ground swell in the waist high range for south facing breaks.

Long Range Synopsis

Looks similar, at least waist high for south facing breaks.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



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Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **August 4, 2010**

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QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 41 / 25
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	as
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A	as
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.	A+	as
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	as
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	as
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	as
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	as
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	as
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	as
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	as
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	B	as
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	C	as
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	as
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	as
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	as
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	as
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	as
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	as
Big Rock Beach at 18948 PCH stairs.	F	as
Pena Creek at Los Tunos County Beach.	A+	as
Tuna Canyon.	A+	as
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	as
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	as
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	as
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	as

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

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
as -- no sample taken

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

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NCAA FOOTBALL

USC suspends frosh Baxter for opener

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Southern California freshman running back Dillon Baxter was suspended for the season opener at Hawaii.

Trojans coach Lane Kiffin told reporters Wednesday after practice that Baxter was suspended for violating team rules, but gave no details.

"I think this is an extremely strong message, a very severe punishment, for a player that may be our most potentially skilled player on our whole roster to miss his first game," Kiffin said.

Baxter will continue to practice with the team. He was one of the stars of spring practice for USC and was expected to have a significant role in the Trojans' offense.

This was our message in the 1970's...
Some things just don't change

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Moving is the best medicine. Keeping active and losing weight are just two of the ways that you can fight osteoarthritis pain. In fact, for every pound you lose, that's four pounds less pressure on each knee. For information on managing pain, go to fightarthritispain.org.

Ad Council

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: August 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB 10-215, 401 Wilshire Boulevard: Bank / Office Building
- ARB 10-295, 1453 Third Street Promenade: Mixed Use
- ARB 10-299, 1601 Wilshire Boulevard: Automobile Dealership
- ARB 10-321, 2423 Wilshire Boulevard: Fast Food Restaurant
- ARB 10-343, 1415 Fourth Street: Retail
- ARB 10-370, 1959 Twentieth Street: Residential
- ARB 10-373, 1242 Chelsea Avenue: Residential

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 meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9 and the Tide Ride serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

Anderson SURFBOARDS
310.578.5860
www.andersonsurfboards.com

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for more information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Toy Story 3 (G) 1hr 49min
11:00am, 1:30pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
11:20am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:40pm

Middle Men (R) 1hr 45min
4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:05pm

Despicable Me 3D (PG) 1hr 35min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Kids Are All Right (R) 1hr 44min
11:40am, 2:20pm, 5:00pm, 7:40pm, 10:15pm

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

Eat Pray Love (PG-13) 2hrs 13min
10:15am, 1:20pm, 4:35pm, 7:50pm, 11:05pm

Eat Pray Love (PG-13) 2hrs 13min
12:10pm, 3:25pm, 6:45pm, 10:00pm

Dinner for Schmucks (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:20am, 2:15pm, 5:10pm, 8:00pm, 10:50pm

Inception (PG-13) 2hrs 28min
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

Other Guys (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:00am, 1:35pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Step Up 3D (PG-13) 1hr 37min
11:10am, 2:05pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:30am, 1:00pm, 3:25pm, 6:00pm, 8:45pm, 11:15pm

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

Mademoiselle Chambon (NR) 1hr 41min
1:30pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Extra Man (R) 1hr 48min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Peepli Live (NR) 1hr 46min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Farewell (2003) (NR) 1hr 30min
1:10pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

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

Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore 3D (PG) 1hr 22min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 6:45pm, 9:00pm

Salt (PG-13) 1hr 39min
12:05pm, 2:35pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Expendables (R) 1hr 43min
11:00am, 11:50am, 1:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:10pm, 5:10pm, 7:00pm, 8:00pm, 9:45pm, 10:45pm

Other Guys (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:40am, 2:25pm, 5:05pm, 7:55pm, 10:40pm

Flipped (PG) 1hr 30min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Stay low, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You feel as if you have finally gotten it together or are on the verge of getting it together. A special person in your life is unusually charismatic. A surprising insight heads your way. Tonight: Go with another person's suggestion.

TAURUS (April 20-May 21)
★★★ Carry on and complete, even if everyone around you goes flaky thinking about the weekend. You will pick up others' trailing work, too. You are the Bull, solid as a Bull. You might want to be less available in the long run. Tonight: Don't push.

GEMINI (May 22-June 20)
★★★★★ You are playful, frisky and full of life. Can you get anything done? How you structure your day, with self-discipline, allows you to complete a goal. If you haven't already, pick up the phone and make plans for the next few days. Tonight: The social butterfly is loose.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Go past entertaining the thought of a short work day, and work from home. It is possible you could get more done at home. In any case, you are the happiest and most creative in your private world. Tonight: Invite a couple of friends over.

LEO (July 22- Aug. 22)
★★★ Others feel that you are there for them if you remain responsive. Return calls and schedule time to get together. Under no circumstances should you stand on ceremony with a friend or loved one. Give someone the benefit of the doubt. Tonight: Join friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ A token of affection doesn't need to put you into debt. Your taste could be extravagant. Think in terms of maintaining your budget. Words said could be difficult to take back. Stay sensitive to feelings. Tonight: TGIF! Join a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ If you knew that you could wish upon a star, what would you wish for? Others find you to be magnetic, charming and efficient. Is it not time to ask for that pay raise or pop that question? Go for your heart's desire. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Kick back and observe more. Use care with a new person in your life as well. This person is presenting a facade. You'll want to take your time, observe and gather more information. Close off conversations in order to get a project done. Tonight: Not to be found.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Meetings, both personal and professional, play a key role. Look around when you're in a group you know. How do you feel about key people you deal with frequently? You might be eyeing a change in your immediate circle. Tonight: Where the action is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You like to be in control, and that you will be. However, ask yourself what you lose by fulfilling this need. You might decide it isn't worth it. Just because the boss has harsh words doesn't mean anything. Everyone has off days. Tonight: Out late.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Look beyond the obvious in whatever you do. What people say might not be as important as what they don't say. Observe. If you're feeling pushed, step back and choose not to react. Tonight: Go for a drive; listen to music. Let your mind go.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You work well with people. Use those unique skills to draw someone out who goes back and forth about how he or she feels. You could suddenly make a decision and be impulsive. Hold back, for your sake. Tonight: Happily with a favorite person.

Happy birthday

This year, you draw people out with your openness. Others know where you stand. Observe a tendency to be overly serious at times. A relationship with a neighbor or sibling could develop a coldness. You will be able to move past this situation. If you are single, don't lay all your cards down at once. Give yourself and a potential suitor space to develop a strong relationship. If you are attached, passions run high. If you can and want to, move past an alternating pattern of closeness and distancing. CAPRICORN can be hard on you.

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

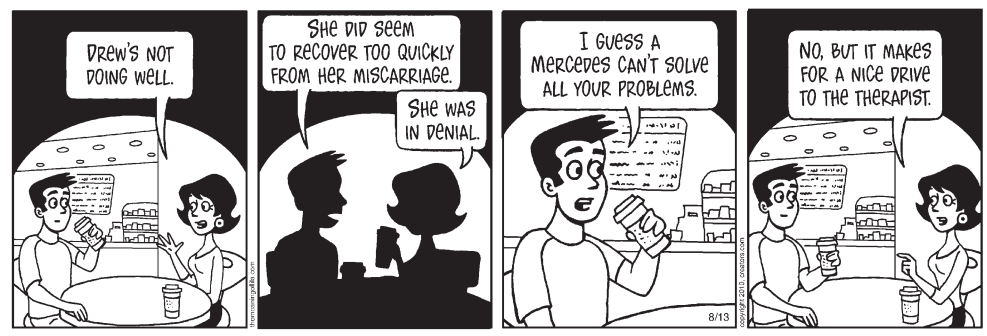
Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



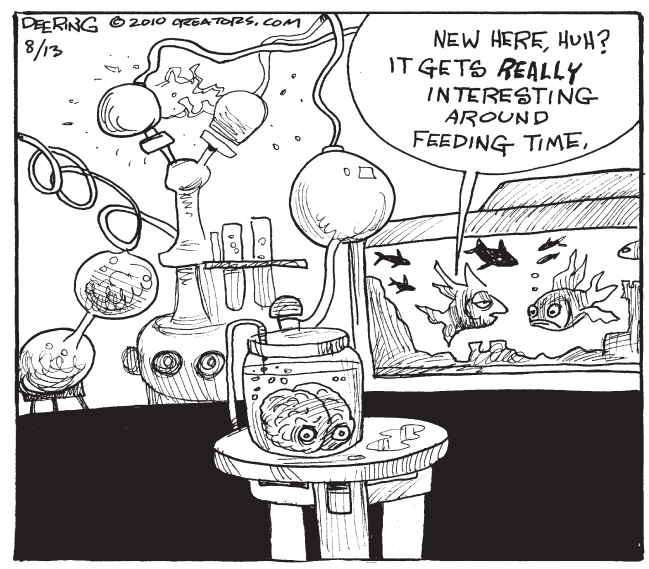
Garfield

By Jim Davis



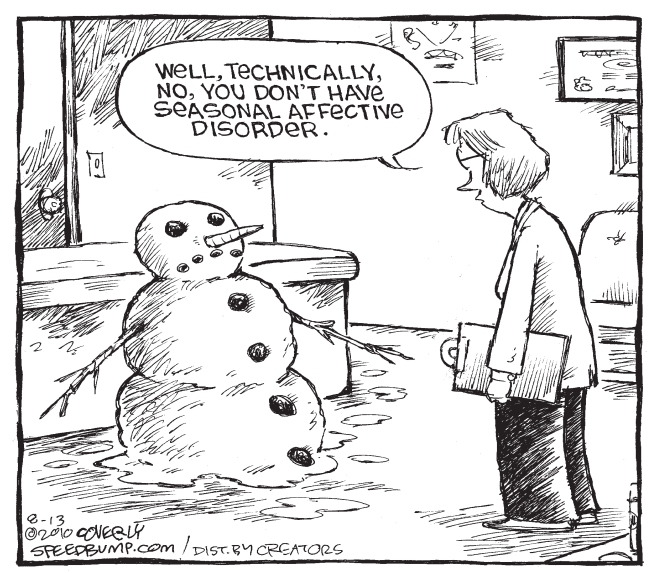
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly





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 ★★★★

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

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

ARITHMO™ CrossMath

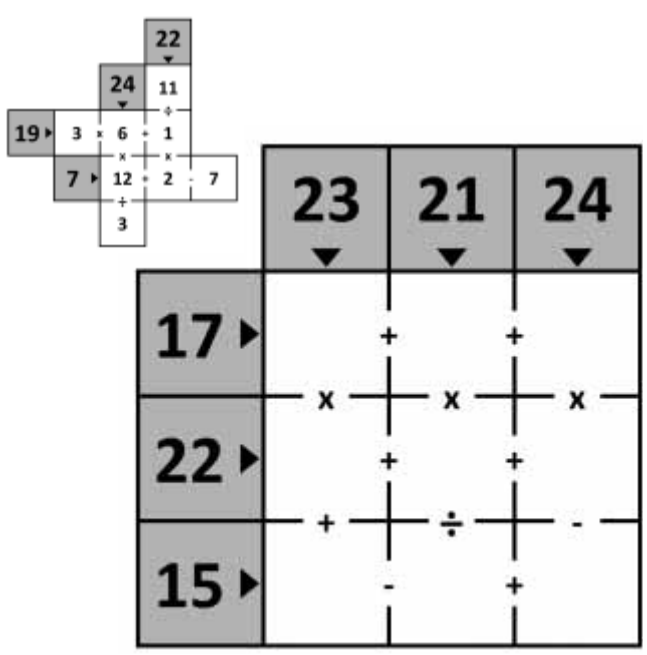
• Fill the grid with the set of given numbers (1 to 12) to satisfy the Equa demands (7 to 24) in the shaded boxes. The Equa demands represent the sum of the digits that you will insert into the empty squares.
• Each horizontal row has one Equa demand to satisfy; each vertical column also has one demand to satisfy. Each empty square in the grid dictates the math operation (addition +, subtraction -, multiplication X, and division ÷) that must be performed to meet the demands.
• You must follow the given math operations for each square and you must make sure all the numbers satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes when connected in adjacent threes and calculated together from left to right, and top to bottom.
• The numbers you insert into the grid must satisfy the Equa demands both horizontally and vertically.

For more games, go to www.arithmo.com

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

2, 3, 3, 7, 7, 9, 9, 9, 11

Solution for Task 703





MYSTERY PHOTO

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Strike defiers
6 West Pointer
11 Preminger film
12 Unescorted
13 Flexible conjunction
14 Deck makeup
15 Golf goal
16 Invites on a date
18 Shelley work
19 Movie computer
20 Give it a go
21 Some votes
23 Underworld river
25 Crime cartel
27 Tofu base
28 Hands over
30 Does in
33 Shooter ammo
34 Suffer
36 Debt reminder
37 Like good spaghetti
39 Cut off
40 Skiing site
41 Some medals
43 Pisa sight
44 Not called for
45 Farm animals
46 Puzzle

DOWN

1 Apply crudely
2 Calgary's country
3 She played Alice
4 Sis' sibling
5 Singer McLachlan
6 Witchy laughs
7 Weary word
8 "Big Spender" songwriter
9 Last
10 Irritable
17 Mineo of movies
22 Lawn material
24 Overly
26 Pitches to the noggin
28 Violas' kin
29 Plop down
31 Dipping treat
32 Soap opera
33 Angel hair, e.g.
35 Advantage
38 Fencing weapon
42 Lennon's wife

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

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					■	46				

8-13

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 2 14 26 50 56 Meganumber: 12 Jackpot: $75M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 17 20 23 26 Meganumber: 17 Jackpot: $22M

Fantasy 5: 3 5 10 22 26

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 3 2 0 EVENING: 8 8 8

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 10 Solid Gold 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 04 Big Ben RACE TIME: 1:45.19

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

■ Vietnam's Version of an "Innocence Project": "Traditional medicine" practitioner Pham Thi Hong is credited with freeing three men who had been convicted of a rape in 2000 and were serving 16-year prison sentences. According to Hong, men with certain small spots on their ears are virgins, and since the men still have their spots, they could not have committed rape. (Although Vietnam's President Nguyen Minh Triet was reportedly impressed with Hong's work and thus ordered the case reopened, discovery of additional errors by police and prosecutors contributed to the recent decision to release the men.)

■ Mark Seamands, 39, went to trial in May in Port Angeles, Wash., accused of second-degree assault and two lesser charges for the hot-iron "branding" of his three children, aged 13, 15 and 18. Each of the kids bore the mark "SK," for "Seamands' Kids." At trial, however, the kids testified that they not only consented to the branding but thought it was cool (despite the second-degree burns), and as a result, the jury dismissed the assault charge and deadlocked on the two lesser ones.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1516 The Treaty of Noyon between France and Spain is signed. Francis recognises Charles's claim to Naples, and Charles recognises Francis's claim to Milan.

1521 Tenochtitlán (present day Mexico City) falls to conquistador Hernán Cortés.

1536 Buddhist monks from Kyÿto's Enryaku Temple set fire to 21 Nichiren temples throughout Kyoto in the Tenbun Hokke Disturbance. (Traditional Japanese date: July 27, 1536).

1553 Michael Servetus is arrested by John Calvin in Geneva as a heretic.

1704 War of the Spanish Succession: Battle of Blenheim – English and Austrians victorious over French and Bavarians.

1792 Louis XVI of France is formally arrested by the National Tribunal, and declared an enemy of the people.

1814 The Convention of London, a treaty between the United Kingdom and the United Provinces, is signed in London.

WORD UP!

rhapsodize
\ RAP-suh-dahyz \ , verb;
1. To talk with extravagant enthusiasm.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Out of work. University of Michigan graduate is looking to supplement income by assisting families with daily activities and/or tutoring. Flexible hours. Mature and responsible . Aimee 310-560-4084

Employment

Advertising Sales

The Santa Monica Daily Press, Santa Monica's Daily newspaper is seeking an Advertising Account Executive. Previous advertising sales experience isn't needed but it's certainly a plus. The job is meeting and networking with local and national businesses to help them get their message to our readers here in Santa Monica. We're looking for smart, friendly people who are motivated by money to join our growing sales team. Great work environment, must bring a positive attitude and outlook to our team. If you play well with others, are aggressive without being pushy, and have a drive to succeed, we want to work with you. Resumes are accepted via email to Rob Schwenker – Schwenker@smdp.com

APPT. SETTERS experienced in cold calling needed. Work P/T or F/T from home. scheduling to pick up clothing and household items for a blind charity. Potential $400/week. Call Manny (310)753-4909

IMMEDIATE OPENING for a Bilingual English/Mandarin Customer Service Representative,Must possess excellent English and written skills,Excellent customer service skills with immediate responsiveness and service.Problem resolution Sense of urgency.
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LA RADIO station seeking on air personality Send resume to radiocaliforniaradio@gmail.com. EEO employer.

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Fax. 310.451.0095

Looking For Assistance

I NEED home office help organizing tiny space, computer, and files, 5 or 10 hours, immediately. $20h. If you are also good at web work, this could be a longer gig. Jude 310-776-5833

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All must go!!!
For info and pictures go to
http://conniemovingsale.blogspot.com/
or email
csommerville@gmail.com

MOVING SALE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH FROM 8A.M.
15515 W. SUNSET BLVD
PACIFIC. PALISADES

Contents of Apartment

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1 Queen & 2 single beds (5 weeks old)
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