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Santa Monica Daily Press

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2015

Volume 14 Issue 245

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Santa Monica Daily Press

SANTA MONICA FORWARD SEE PAGE 4

Likely legalization
vote prompts action
on medical marijuana

LISA LEFF

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO The likelihood that California voters will be asked to legalize recreational marijuana next year is prompting lawmakers to make a serious run at reining in the state's vast medical marijuana industry - a job they have deferred for nearly two decades.

A pair of bills pending in the California Legislature would create the first statewide regulations for medical marijuana growers, manufacturers of pot-infused products, and distributors such as storefront dispensaries and delivery services.

California authorized marijuana use for health purposes with a 1996 ballot measure that allows doctors to recommend the drug for any ailment, deliberately leaving the specifics for how it should be produced and sold for another day.

With advocates now working to qualify recreational-use initiatives for the November 2016 ballot, that day finally may have arrived.

The state Assembly last month approved a comprehensive licensing and oversight scheme on a bipartisan 62-8 vote. A compromise measure to create the Governor's Office of Medical Cannabis Regulation, AB 266, is endorsed by both the California Cannabis Industry Association and the California Police Chiefs Association.

"The legalization discussion has definitely changed the tone of the conversation," said Natasha Minsker, who directs the ACLU of California's advocacy office in Sacramento. "There is real potential a legalization initiative will set the tone for regulation and taxation, and if the Legislature wants to be involved, now is the time."

The eleventh-hour effort offers a preview of issues that are likely to surface during a legalization campaign, from concerns over water

Council expected to debate affordable housing options

BY MATTHEW HALL

Daily Press Editor

CITY HALL Following a special weekend meeting to set priorities, the Santa Monica City Council resumes regular meetings tonight with a diverse set of agenda items.

The Aug. 25 meeting is a mix of new and recurring business that includes a host of contract approvals and discussions on some hot-button items.

Council is being asked to approve an agreement with Film Independent to use the 1550 Beach Parking Lot as the site of the Independent Spirit Awards in February of 2016.

For the past 20 years, the event has been held in the 2030 Ocean Avenue beach lot, however other events held in the Ocean Avenue lot have become disruptive to neighbors and as a result, the City changed its rules for large events at the location.

According to the staff report, the only location able to accommodate the awards is the 1550 lot and staff said the organizer "has been a good neighbor with few complaints and generally high praise from nearby residents."

If approved, the awards would occupy the space for two weeks.

HOUSING

Affordable housing will occupy a large part of the evening. To start,

council is being asked to update the Affordable Housing Unit Base Fee.

Per the city charter, 30 percent of all new residential construction must be affordable to low-and moderate-income families. To meet those goals, developers can designate a portion of a development's total residences as affordable housing, construct affordable housing off site, designate land for

SEE HOUSING PAGE 7



BUS CHANGES

In anticipation of the opening of the Expo Light Rail Line in Spring 2016, The Big Blue Bus' August Service Change marks the beginning of a major redesign of Big Blue Bus routes. The goal is to provide greater service, better connectivity and more convenient transportation options for customers throughout the region. BBB will phase the implementation of changes and new service additions over the course of the next 12 months. Visit <http://bigbluebus.com/Routes-And-Schedules/ServiceChanges.aspx> to see all route changes.

File photo

City Hall installs hearing loop system after advocacy from Samohi students

BY JENNIFER MAAS

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Samohi students John Butchko, Isaac Horwitz-Hirsch and Xander Lee decided to advocate for additional access for those with hearing loss in the City as part of their 10th grade community service project for English class.

They made public comments in front of the Santa Monica Disabilities Commission, the Planning Commission and City Council. And on July 22, as a result of their efforts, City Hall installed an induction hearing loop system.

"When my English teacher assigned the community service project, I had already been trying to get looping in some of the new projects that were proposed to be built in Santa Monica and realized

SEE HEARING PAGE 6


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Calendar

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2015

Santa Monica Daily Press

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

August 25

Family Yoga

Come move, breathe and play in this workshop lead by Laura Fuller of Life Moves Through. Ages 5 and up. Limited space. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Legos and Games

Come enjoy Legos and board games with us! Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Beach=Culture: Dance Hall - Swing

Join us for another edition of Dance Hall - where we invite you to put on your dancing shoes and while away the evening with live music and sea breezes... Celebrated swing dance band Jonathan Stout & His Campus Five, featuring the vocal stylings of Hilary Alexander, will sweep you away! Rusty Frank is our guest dance instructor and will be teaching mini lessons at 6 & 7pm. All levels, partnered or not, are welcome; please wear comfortable shoes and clothes to move in. Dance Halls are meant mostly for participation so seating is very limited. See you there!

Annenberg Community Beach House, Garden Terrace Room, 415 PCH, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica City Council. City Hall, Council Chamber, 1685 Main St., 5:30 p.m.

Prepare for College Series @ the Montana Branch

Thinking Ahead: College Admissions Find out what college admissions officers look for in an application. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 7 - 8 p.m.

August 26

Santa Monica Certified Farmer's Market

(Downtown - Wednesday)

Fresh seasonal produce sold direct from California farmers. The inaugural Santa Monica Farmers Market opened Wednesday July 11, 1981 in Santa Monica's downtown retail district with goals of providing reasonably priced, high quality produce to the city's population, and bringing more foot traffic into the downtown area. The Wednesday market met with instant success in its first year. Today, the Wednesday Farmers Market is widely recognized as one of the largest and most diverse grower-only CFM's in the nation. Some nine thousands food shoppers, and many of Los Angeles' best known chefs and restaurants, are keyed to the seasonal rhythms of the weekly Wednesday Market. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

1450 Ocean: Dancing Democracy Wednesdays with Christine Suarez

Join us for a low impact, fun and mindful dance class for adults of all abilities. This class is informed by a Dance for Veterans curriculum that Christine co-created at the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center. She also draws upon her 20+ years as a professional contemporary dancer and choreographer to create an experience that all can enjoy. Participants will meditate, stretch, strengthen, and improvise along with some mambos, cha chas and other creative expression. Classes will culminate in a democratically created group dance. Please come dressed in comfortable clothes that you can move in. Workshops build over four sessions but drop-ins are welcome. Each event is free! Sign up separately, Wednesdays 7/15, 7/29, 8/5 & 8/26. Palisades Park, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Tongva After Dark: Curated Dance Event

Free, open to the public. For more information call 310-458-8350 or visit: www.smgov.net/tongvapark/events.

SEE LISTINGS PAGE 3

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Venice
We All Live in Gaza

Gaza. It's everything you would expect. And, nothing like you would expect.

Join organizers for a preview screening of the opening chapters of a serialized documentary web series chronicling a journalistic mission back to the Gaza Strip. The project is being directed by Nazareth-based photojournalist Maurice Jacobsen who spent 16 months in Gaza between Israel's recent military campaigns. The series is based on footage he recorded during his stay and highlights how ordinary Gazans cope with Israel's eight-year old blockade. Over the next six months the web series will document his personal journey back to Gaza to discover how those he met initially have fared after the most recent military assault that have left over 200,000 homeless.

The screening accompanies Jacobsen's photographic installation of portraits of the men, women and children of Gaza that will be available for viewing at Electric Lodge beginning mid August. Mr. Jacobsen will be present at the Electric Lodge screenings to answer questions about his work and about all issues related to Gaza.

A Middle Eastern dinner, as one would find in Gaza, is planned prior to the screening at 6 p.m. with the screening at 7:30 p.m. Reservations can be made online at EventBrite. Tickets will also be available at the door. \$12 Screening, \$35 dinner. Complete details can be found at www.wegaza.com. Electric Lodge Theatre, 1416 Electric Ave., Venice.

- SUBMITTED BY LOLO MOVSESSIAN

Marina del Rey
Golden Rule Peace Boat

Arrives in Marina Del Rey

The historic Golden Rule peace boat, lovingly restored by Veterans For Peace over the past five years, will arrive in Marina Del Rey Sunday August 30, on a voyage from San Diego to its homeport Eureka on California's northern coast.

The 30-foot ketch and its Quaker crew ignited an international movement to stop atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in 1958, when they attempted to sail into a nuclear bomb test zone in the Marshall Islands. The Golden Rule is now sailing again to promote a nuclear free world.

"Nuclear weapons are still with us and the threat of nuclear war is very real," said the Golden Rule's Captain Ron Kohl of San Diego. "We are dismayed that the U.S. government plans to invest One Trillion Dollars into upgrading its nuclear arsenal, instead of reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons, as called for in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty."

The Golden Rule Project is calling for an end to nuclear energy as well as nuclear weapons.

"The ongoing nuclear meltdown at Fukushima, Japan reminds us of the dangers of radiation poisoning posed by nuclear power plants," said Golden Rule crew member Helen Jaccard. "Nuclear power is the flip side of nuclear weapons, and we don't need either of them," said Jaccard.

The first voyage of the renewed Golden Rule sailboat began in Eureka on July 23. The Golden Rule and her four-person crew arrived in San Diego in early August in time for the Veterans For Peace national convention. Nearly 400 participants joined together with Japanese Americans to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and

Nagasaki, which killed more than 200,000 people. The convention theme was "Peace and Reconciliation in the Pacific."

The Golden Rule will remain in Marina Del Rey for several days of events being organized by the local chapter of Veterans For Peace Los Angeles.

1. Peace Picnic: Welcome and Support The New Journeys of the Golden Rule Sunday, August 30 at 13650 Mindanao Way, MDR - 5 p - 8 p.m.

2. Golden Rule Meets Chain Reaction: Monday, August 31 at Chain Reaction: adjacent to the Santa Monica Civic Center: 1855 Main Street, 12 to 1 p.m. www.kcet.org/arts/artbound/counties/los-angeles/chain-reaction-santa-monica-paul-conrad.htmluntil

The Golden Rule will be available for viewing on Sunday and Monday at the Marina Del Rey Guest Dock by Burton Chace Park 13650 Mindanao Way, Marina Del Rey and for possible sails as well. For more information, contact Gerry Condon at(206) 499-1220

"We appreciate that many friends and supporters are offering assistance," said Captain Ron Kohl. "There is a real magic to this boat that brings all kinds of people together.

The Golden Rule will return to Eureka in October, after visiting ports along the California coast as it works its way north from San Diego. Over the next ten years, the Golden Rule will carry its message of peace around the United States and possibly around the world.

You can follow the progress of the Golden Rule and make donations at www.vfpgoldenruleproject.org

- SUBMITTED BY KATHLEEN HERNANDEZ

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Buying a car

Editor:

I went shopping today at Trader Joe's on Pico and 33rd knowing that today the 22nd of August 2015 would be the last time I could shop there and be dropped off near my home. Knowing the local 7 bus will no longer stop anywhere near where I live I bought a lot of groceries. Prematurely the #7 bus did not go down to Ocean Avenue as scheduled. The driver turned onto 4th Street. I had to carry a lot of very heavy groceries eight blocks. I am a senior citizen, have COPD. There seems to be lack of communication between the bus drivers and the BBB management.

I truly feel that the residents are being disenfranchised. So many bus riders, bus drivers are so angry as to what has happened to a very wonderful bus company.

I would like our city manager, our mayor, bus drivers, bus riders to get together and really tell the truth. Bus drivers are not happy and they seem to take it out on the riders. The bus riders are angry and vent it out on the bus drivers. The BBB is so mismanaged, what a tragic loss to what was once a viable, reliable way to get around without a car. I am buying a car because I can't take a bus.

Louise Steiner
Santa Monica

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO

Santa Monica Daily Press

• Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street,
Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

• editor@smdp.com

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

August 27

Ocean Park Baby Time

Story Series for ages 0 to 23 months. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 10:45 - 11:05 a.m.

Screening: "Dark City"

A free screening of the cult sci-fi film noir "Dark City." A man questions identity and reality in this stylish thriller, which features Rufus Sewell, Jennifer Connelly, Kiefer Sutherland and Bill Hurt. Followed by a roundtable discussion with audience Q&A. For more information, visit facebook.com/MindOverMoviesLA. 1308 Second Street, 6 p.m.

Screening: "World 1-1"

A documentary on the history of video games, specifically about Atari and how

they created a new industry. Atari was the fastest growing company in the United States at one time. It kickstarted Steve Jobs' career. Sponsored by the Samohi English Department Summer Reading Program. Admission: \$1 for Samohi students, \$5 general admission. Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd, 6 - 8:30 p.m.

In Case You Missed It: "Still Alice"

Julianne Moore won an Oscar for Leading Actress for her role as Alice Howland, a linguistics professor whose

family bonds are tested when she is diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease. (101 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 6:30 - 8:15 p.m.

Twilight Concert Series

Free musical concerts every Thursday night with food vendors, sponsor booths and beer/wine pavilion. For more information call 310-458-8901 or visit www.santamoniciapier.org. Santa Monica Pier, 7 - 10 p.m.



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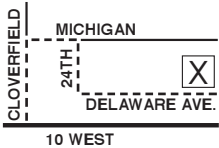
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CITY OF SANTA MONICA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: #45 SANTA MONICA AIRPORT AVIATION NOISE CONSULTANT SERVICES.
• **Submission Deadline is September 11, 2015 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: [Planet Bids](http://PlanetBids.com/SantaMonica/bid-search4.cfm) or <http://venders.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bid-search4.cfm>. There is no charge for the RFP package.



CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed responses for:

RFP: #46 UWPM (Urban Water Management Plan)

• **Submission Deadline Is September 8, 2015 at 12:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The RFP documents can be downloaded at:

• <http://venders.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm>

Request for RFP documents may also be obtained by e-mailing your request to jessica.arden@smgov.net

RFP: #47 Vehicle & Safety

• **Submission Deadline Is September 14, 2015 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The RFP documents can be downloaded at:

• <http://venders.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm>

Request for RFP documents may also be obtained by e-mailing your request to don.cocozza@smgov.net

RFP responses must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at <http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/>



WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

SUBJECT: 1) Amendment of the Water Shortage Response Plan

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following:

1) Proposed Amendment of the City's Water Shortage Response Plan which sets water use allowances, water conservation thresholds, a process to adjust water use allowances, and penalties for non-compliance.

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 AT 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: Water Shortage Response
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION

If you want more information about the proposed amendment to the Water Shortage Response Plan or resolution or the Water Shortage Response Plan, please contact Kim O'Cain at (310) 458-8459, or by e-mail at kim.ocain@smgov.net. The proposed Water Shortage Response Plan is available at the City Clerk's Office during business hours and on the City's web site at www.santa-monica.org.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7 and #9 service the City Hall and Civic Center.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL

Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar aplicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Salvador Gonzalez en Oficina de la sostenibilidad y el medio ambiente al número (310) 458-8972 ext. 3.

Santa Monica Forward

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Setting our priorities, remembering our values

AS SUNDAY MORNING'S SPECIAL MEETING

of the Santa Monica City Council in the Ken Edwards Center stretched into the early afternoon, hours of public testimony and Council deliberation revealed that, at least among the members of the community in attendance, we have a lot more in common than recent public debates might suggest.

The special meeting, a Sunday City Council session is rare indeed, was called to give the community and its elected officials a chance to discuss and highlight five broad priority goals to focus on in the coming years, though it was noted this would not preclude the pursuit of other goals for which our city strives. In addition to setting the priorities Sunday, city staff will now create measurable benchmarks to help us stay on track to achieving these goals.

Santa Monica is a community built on the principles of inclusivity, diversity, and social justice. At times, we lose sight of this, but on Sunday, as the City Council discussed setting our priorities for the next few years, these core values of the community were once again in focus.

What emerged from Sunday's special meeting was a consensus that our community should strive to create "housing for all," in the words of Mayor Pro Tempore Tony Vazquez; that we keep our commitment to quality opportunities for lifelong learning and to closing the achievement gap; that we focus on the future of transportation to encourage sustainable modes of moving around our city; that we remain committed to offering support to our homeless neighbors and work with regional partners to combat the growing problem of homelessness; and that we continue to work to turn Santa Monica Airport into a community park.

Now comes the hard work of acting on

these priorities with concrete, measurable steps forward.

As one speaker pointed out, though the Council has identified housing as a priority in the past, since June 2013, the Council has approved only 55 new apartments, five of which will be designated as deed-restricted affordable, meaning they will be rented below market-rate to low-income tenants.

Councilmember Terry O'Day pointed out that creating more housing, both affordable and market-rate, especially near transit, was intrinsically linked to our sustainability goals; adding that if we are serious about protecting at-risk communities, we have to be serious about the effects of climate change and how we respond to those effects.

Additionally, our housing policies should be designed to avoid Santa Monica becoming only an enclave for the wealthy, Mayor Kevin McKeown said. Councilmember Sue Himmelrich noted that we must look at diversity of housing options so that professionals and young people hoping to move back to Santa Monica, who make too much to qualify for affordable housing but too little to afford current market-rate rents, might have some choices.

Perhaps the greatest tool we have for assuring an equitable society is education.

Councilmember Gleam Davis reminded the crowd Sunday that one of the best ways to close the so-called achievement gap that exists between disadvantaged students and their more privileged classmates is to assure that quality early childhood education is available to families of all income levels and as such, it should remain one of the City's top priorities.

And how do we create streets that are safe for all those who use them? To combat the

SEE VALUES PAGE 5

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RESTAURANT REVIEW Ox & Son

BY MIKE RYAN

As you are seated, it is hard not to notice the vintage china and thick crystal glassware right under your nose. Ox & Son, appropriate to Montana Avenue, is upscale dining. It is indeed intimate, but as long as you are not up and moving around it is easy to get comfortable with a glass of wine and ponder over a menu of unique dishes, some with many moving parts (not literally).

The smaller of the small plates is the uni & eggs on toast. The fresh Santa Barbara urchin and soft scrambled eggs meld together while the hearty black bread provides a sturdy vessel for the plus sized hor d'oeuvre. Finish-able in two or three bites (one if you are big mouthed) your tastebuds brush with the delicately flavored urchin, but more-so eggs on robust toast. The taste of the sea is fleeting and a real tease, but perhaps a dutiful appetizer leaving you ready for more.

The urchin appetizer is three pieces per plate. Caviar, perhaps with its saltier punch, more effectively substitutes the uni when the urchin diver doesn't come through with their spiky catch.

A choice dish from a vegetarian persuasion is the radicchio & braised cardoon. Sliced stalks of cardoon, which resembles celery but tastes closer to artichokes, lie in wait on a smooth smearing of whipped goat cheese, under a canopy of radicchio all confined to a high rimmed circular dish. Sunflower brittle, like a detonated Kind Bar, adds a sweet nutty crunch to the bitter leaves and vinegary stalks. The sumac brings a citrus zest while I have no idea what the ash is and/or does.

The arduous task prepping and cooking cardoon does not go unappreciated. Furthermore, it's a surprising anchor to a greater salad. And if they ever had the impulse to bread and fry some of those fuckers up, I'd be the happiest clam in the sea.

Of the bigger plates, you will find no resistance when forking around the black vinegar glazed sticky pig cheek on black rice. It is supplemented by quartered, scored, then roasted turnips and thin rings of

charred leeks. The cheeky hunks, while on the lean side, are high on hog flavor and would fall off the bone if there was one. The ample glazing and chewy coconut infused black rice give the sweet cheeks a Thai BBQ vibe.

The Roasted Loch Duart Salmon is a less flashier offering but is executed to perfection. The near charred skin splashed in citrus gives way to moist flakey flesh. It's accompanied by small stacks of roasted Brussel sprouts and crispy carrots strewn with shaved fennel. A would-be uninteresting dish elevated by pretty plating and expertise cooking.

Originally ordered as 'fill' the mushroom & parmesan cavatelli is perhaps the best thing on the menu. Baby dumplings in lemon butter sauce and plenty of shaved parmesan is not as heavy as it may appear. However it's not exactly fuel before yoga class either. The wilted pea tendrils and fava beans add color and substance. The dish is blessed when Morels are in season. Unfortunately, that time is long gone but the Enoki mushrooms are not a bad substitute. The pasta yields an al dente bite and will affirm your love affair with carbs.

Aside from some toast points Ox & Son is for the most part void of bread. To the contrary there a sufficient gluten free menu if you are one of those people. Is there a fee if you bring your own baguette?

The wine selection, like the food menu, is small but well planned out. There are a selection of craft beers and they have Schlitz on tap.

Smaller dishes average around \$15 while the bigger plates run around \$20-\$30. I'd expect some modifications to the menu with the seasons in flux. But anticipate more of the same; big, bold and meaty flavors in dishes that are dressed to the nines.

Ox & Son is a highlight on Montana and one of the top spots alongside Art's Table a few blocks west, which by no coincidence is run by the same managing partners. Let's take a page out of their playbook and try to have fun for the rest of our lives.

OX & SON

1534 Montana Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90403
(310) 829-3990

long-time resident and local architect, Hank Koning, addressing the Council Sunday.

"It's easy to see why folks would want to keep this all for themselves," he said. "But to preserve the health of our little planet we need to shift to a more sustainable, sharing lifestyle."

What we choose to prioritize as a community speaks volumes about what we value. At Sunday's meeting, it was clear that our community's commitment to our shared values of inclusivity, diversity, and social justice remains strong.

Shari Davis, Irene Zivi, Craig Hamilton, Jason Islas, Leslie Lambert, and Carl Hansen for Santa Monica Forward. Read previous columns at www.santamonicaforward.org/news.

VALUES

FROM PAGE 4

root causes of climate change and traffic congestion, Councilmembers Ted Winterer and Pam O'Connor both noted that people have to be given safe and comfortable options for getting around without cars.

"The City is blessed with a fabulous location next to the Pacific Ocean, great weather, access to good jobs, great schools, excellent health care and social services, and wonderful recreation and entertainment options. And we have had a great transit system in Big Blue Bus, soon to be complemented with the Expo line and enhanced bike facilities and routes," said

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HEARING

FROM PAGE 1

that it was going to be a difficult task," Butchko, 16, said. "I thought it would be a good community service project and was excited to have two friends help me try to change the laws to require additional accommodations for those with hearing loss."

The boys approached Otojoy, a Santa Barbara-based company that has installed over 100 hearing loop systems, about implementing the system in City Hall.

"We sat down together and I explained hearing loops in detail to them. How they work, what they do, how it connects to the sound system and so they got a really good understanding of it so they could present it to the Planning Commission and the City Council. They did a really good job with that," Otojoy president, Thomas Kaufmann, said.

The project was of special interest to Butchko as someone who deals with hearing loss.

"I'm deaf, so I sometimes struggle to hear people, and this gets worse in public spaces where there is a lot of background noise. The technology to make things easier for people like me is already available, and I wanted to let our public officials know about it and encourage them to change the laws to improve the situation," Butchko said.

According to Kaufmann, "A hearing loop is an assistive listening system that transfers the sound from a venue's public address system directly to the user's hearing aid or cochlear implant.

"It allows the user to simply walk into a room, sit down, and press a button on their hearing device to directly tap into the sound system. It turns their hearing aids into wireless earphones that broadcast sound customized for the individual's level and pattern of hearing loss.

"Much like eyeglasses, hearing aids are always personalized and calibrated for someone's individual hearing loss. With the hearing loop system, we're utilizing that calibration, which results in the user not only hearing sounds louder, but much clearer.

"What also contributes to the clarity is the direct connection to the sound system. The user does not perceive distracting noises in the room or echo and reverberation that make it more difficult to understand the spoken word. To them, it sounds like the person speaking into the microphone speaks to them from three feet away."

Though Butchko has only experienced the use of a hearing loop system once, based on that experience and the testimony of others, he believes it to be a worthwhile venture for the City.

"Since so few places are looped, I have only had one opportunity to try looping, and that was in a small room with little background noise. I have spoken with people with hearing loss who have tried looping in large venues and they think it is great because it allows them to go to the theater and enjoy shows that they would otherwise not be able to hear," Butchko said.

Mayor Kevin McKeown was involved in the project as well, as the team approached him to learn about the civic process; but he

gives full credit for its success to the students.

"Johnny [and two of his student teammates] made this happen, not me," McKeown said in a statement. "I met with them early last school year at Samohi, and they outlined the need and their plan."

McKeown advised the team on how to take their idea and make it heard and get it advanced through the Disabilities Commission and the Planning Commission, before bringing it in front of the City Council for funding.

"After they did so, with enthusiasm and professionalism, I was happy to propose to staff that the funding for the assistive looping be baked into the 2015-2017 budget. We passed that budget on June 23, and one month later the looping in City Council chambers was an installed reality," McKeown said.

According to Kaufmann, hearing loop technology is widespread in Europe, particularly in the United Kingdom, where hearing loops are mandated by law; but the technology is not used as much in the United States.

"And what is underestimated is how many people actually struggle with hearing loss ... in the U.S. it is about 20 percent. And people think it's just old people who have hearing loss and hearing aids," Kaufmann said.

"But what a lot of people don't see is that young people, like John Butchko, have hearing loss. And that's why I thought [this project] was so great because it raises more awareness about hearing loss. Hearing loops can really help people to participate in meetings and groups, a thing a lot of us take for granted."

According to Kaufmann, implementing the hearing loop system in City Hall cost less than \$6,000.

"If you look at the overall cost of the building, it is very inexpensive to install a hearing loop. And it's even less expensive when it's included in the original construction compared to a retrofit ... so it saves money if it can be included in the original construction," Kaufmann said.

During the process of advocating for the hearing loop system, Butchko and his friends learned how difficult it was to get their idea through all of the proper channels and achieve the outcome they wanted.

"It's been surprisingly hard to change local law regarding new public venues and commercial facilities to require accommodations for those with hearing loss, but I will keep pushing the City leaders to try to find a solution and I think that we are making progress," Butchko said. "My next project will be to try to get looping in the new movie theaters that are proposed to be built in Santa Monica."

According to City Clerk Sarah Gorman, the City will consider installing hearing loop systems in other locations on a case-by-case basis. Gorman said there have been no other requests for looping, other than council chambers, and that the service would be relevant for large public meeting spaces.

Butchko plans to speak in public comment at the City Council meeting on Aug. 25 at 5:30 p.m., to thank the Council.

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

affordable housing development, or pay the Affordable Housing Unit Base Fee.

The fee is updated annually based on costs and staff is recommending a 4.9 percent increase this year.

Later in the evening, the council will return to the subject for a broader discussion of affordable housing in Santa Monica. Staff is asking for recommendations and directions from the council regarding the state of affordable housing and opportunities to increase financing.

"Since the dissolution of the Santa Monica Redevelopment Agency in 2012, the City's primary funding source for the production and preservation of low-income housing has been lost. During its final ten years, the Redevelopment Agency accounted for between 80 and 95 percent of Santa Monica's funding for affordable housing preservation and production," said the report.

The agenda item includes a discussion of Rent Control vs. Deed Restricted affordable housing and a discussion of the three strategies (buying existing buildings, building new and requiring construction of affordable units in development agreements) the City

has used to secure affordable housing.

"By pursuing a three-pronged approach to increasing affordable housing resources, the City has preserved and produced a larger and more diverse supply of low- and moderate-income housing than otherwise would be possible if the City pursued a single strategy," said the report. "With respect to the production of new affordable housing, the City has exceeded the goals of Proposition R, with 40 percent of all new housing built over the past 20 years being deed-restricted for occupancy by low- and moderate-income households."

The discussion will include talk of how to measure need and sources of government money at the city, county, state and federal level.

Other items on the Aug. 25 agenda include awarding contracts for infrastructure improvements, updates to Big Blue Bus standards for ensuring fairness in route changes, an upgrade to electric vehicle charging stations, acceptance of additional grant money to fund public safety programs, evaluate the City's position on state legislation, approve union negotiations, fund employee benefits and comply with state rules regarding tax collection.

editor@smdp.com

MARIJUANA

FROM PAGE 1

use and drugged driving to questions around consumer protections and who will be allowed to apply for business licenses.

The bill by Assemblyman Rob Bonta, D-Oakland, requires numerous state agencies to flesh out and enforce a regulatory framework by 2018.

The California Highway Patrol would develop a way to determine when someone is too high to drive, while the Department of Public Health would come up with rules for testing pot products for potency and toxic chemicals and set limits on when individuals with felony convictions or newly arrived in California would be eligible for a license to grow, process, transport or sell medical marijuana.

The bill also would create training standards and labor rights for industry workers - a nod to unions - and preserve the right of local governments to ban cannabis businesses, which is key to maintaining support from the League of California Cities and police chiefs.

"This is something that is greatly needed and long overdue," said Chula Vista Police Chief David Bejarano, the police association's president. "We are aware there will be an initiative on the ballot and if it is approved, we will have a good foundation, something to prevent some of the issues we have had with medical marijuana."

Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat who has expressed skepticism about the wisdom of legalizing recreational marijuana use, has not indicated if he would sign the medical marijuana legislation if it reaches his desk.

Sen. Mike McGuire, a first-term Democrat whose 370-mile long coastal district encompasses Northern California's prime pot-growing regions, blames the Legislature's years of inaction on continuing skepticism over marijuana's medical value, law enforcement resistance and industry doubts.

Noting there is no guarantee that California voters will go for full legalization, McGuire introduced his own medical marijuana bill. SB643 would establish an office within the state Business, Consumer Affairs and Housing Agency to license medical marijuana businesses and to develop regulations for how they should operate.

It would also require the California Medical Board to crack down on doctors who issue medical marijuana recommendations without a proper patient exam or valid medical reason for doing so.

"My beef is this: California's approach to medical marijuana regulation has been impotent and when you allow an industry to grow unregulated for as long as we have with cannabis, we are going to pay the price," McGuire said. "We are inundated with the impacts of this multi-billion dollar industry and we cannot sacrifice our communities, the environment and patient safety any longer."

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 71.6°

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Small SW/SSW swell. Minor NW windswell.

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Small SW/SSW swell. Minor NW windswell.

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
New SSW swell creeps up. Minor WNW energy.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **January 12, 2015**

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 30 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 14

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33/20

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5/19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by:

Swain Barber Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for at least 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	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Canillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Palga Canyon storm drain.	A	F
El Pescador State Beach, between Luchessa and Las Alas creeks.			Wil Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Mariador State Beach.	A+	A+	Wil Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chateaugay).	B	B
Broad Beach at Trancoso Creek mouth.	B	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildfire Rd. (private).	A+	F	Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	C	C
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain.	A	D
Escamido Creek, just east of Escamido State Beach.	A+	F	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants).	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+	Ocean Park Beach at Adlon/Alva. drain.	A+	B
Solstice Canyon at San Buckner County Beach.	A+	D	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	F
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	F	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	F
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	F	A+
Surfside Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	F	Venice Beach-projection of Topical St.	A+	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- Viegard tower.	F	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballena Creek mouth.	ns	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+	Dockweiler State Beach at Calver Blvd. drain.	A	F
Big Rock Beach at 18948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	B	B
Pena Creek at Las Torres County Beach.	A+	F	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of GSW jetty).	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	F
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F			
Wil Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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

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

Crime Watch is 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.

ON AUGUST 14 AT APPROXIMATELY 5 P.M.
Officers were dispatched to 2637 Lincoln Blvd. to help with a shoplifter the security officers were detaining. The suspect had walked into the market with her personally owned shopping cart and began filling it with various items. After she filled the cart with approximately \$300 in groceries, she exited the store without paying for the items. Loss Prevention detained her until the police arrived. They filed a private person's arrest and the suspect was taken to jail. Emili Moshira Abdel-Ghany, 23, of Santa Monica, had bail set at \$1,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 401 calls for service on Aug 23.

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

Rape 2000 block of 14th 12:08 a.m.
Party complaint 2700 block of pico 12:37 a.m.
Hit and run 2500 block of Santa Monica 12:39 a.m.
Battery 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 12:54 a.m.
Traffic hazard 500 block of Colorado 1:02 a.m.
Petty theft 1400 block of 4th 1:07 a.m.
Battery 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 1:13 a.m.
Vandalism 200 block of Santa Monica Pier 1:16 a.m.
Battery Harvard/Santa Monica 1:21 a.m.
Battery 2900 block of Main 1:30 a.m.
Vandalism 400 block of 12th 1:42 a.m.
Battery Main/Ashland 2:10 a.m.
Battery Ocean/Broadway 2:20 a.m.
Battery 4th/Olympic 2:27 a.m.
Traffic accident 4th/Santa Monica 2:54 a.m.
Arson 600 block of Pico 6:28 a.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 9:06 a.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Olympic 9:19 a.m.
Petty theft 100 block of Santa Monica 10:02 a.m.
Traffic accident 800 block of 2nd 10:03 a.m.
Identity theft 400 block of Pico 10:30 a.m.
Trespassing 1100 block of Carlyle 11:01 a.m.
Rape 200 block of Broadway 11:25 a.m.
Rape 2600 block of Santa Monica 11:32 a.m.
Trash dumping 1800 block of 9th 11:45 a.m.
Hit and run 800 block of Pacific 11:49 a.m.
Petty theft 1200 block of 4th 11:53 a.m.
Bike theft 2600 block of Ocean Front

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 42 calls for service on Aug 23.

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

Injuries From Assault 2000 block of 14th 12:08 a.m.
EMS 400 block of Santa Monica Pier 1:26 a.m.
Injuries From Assault Main/Ashland 2:10 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 7th 2:18 a.m.
EMS 900 block of 3rd 2:55 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Ocean 3:08 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Arizona 5:44 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400 block of 7th 6:01 a.m.
EMS 1100 block of 2nd 6:31 a.m.
EMS 900 block of 2nd 7:23 a.m.
EMS Ocean/Pico 7:27 a.m.
EMS 1600 block of Lincoln 8:16 a.m.
Public Assist 1500 block of Ocean Park

Walk 12 p.m.
Bike theft 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 12:10 p.m.
Drunk driving Lincoln/Ocean Park 12:22 p.m.
Identity theft 1400 block of 3rd Street Prom 12:35 p.m.
Prowler 200 block of 21st 12:41 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 12:43 p.m.
Burglary 1000 block of 5th 12:53 p.m.
Domestic violence 1100 block of Lincoln 1:25 p.m.
Petty theft 2200 block of 30th 1:43 p.m.
Traffic accident Ocean/Pico 2:06 p.m.
Kidnap 1600 block of the Beach 2:24 p.m.
Auto burglary 200 block of Pier 3:57 p.m.
Petty theft 600 block of Santa Monica 4:14 p.m.
Petty theft 1600 block of Ocean 5:02 p.m.
Traffic accident 1500 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 5:14 p.m.
Traffic accident 7th/Wilshire 5:17 p.m.
Domestic violence 1500 block of the Beach 5:21 p.m.
Hit and run 800 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 5:59 p.m.
Rape 1400 block of 2nd 6:21 p.m.
Fight 1600 block of Appian 6:28 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Olympic 6:35 p.m.
Hit and run Lincoln/Grant 6:35 p.m.
Petty theft 3rd Street Prom/Arizona 7:10 p.m.
Domestic violence 1800 block of Ocean 7:32 p.m.
Injured person 2400 block of Ocean Front Walk 7:52 p.m.
Traffic hazard 2500 block of 3rd 8:04 p.m.
Grand theft auto 300 block of Olympic 8:31 p.m.
Oversize vehicle violation Ocean/Alta 8:31 p.m.
Drunk driving investigation Main/Ocean Park 8:33 p.m.
Burglary 1200 block of 20th 8:36 p.m.
Petty theft 900 block of 4th 11:07 p.m.

8:32 a.m.
EMS Stanford/Broadway 8:55 a.m.
EMS 1400 block of 14th 9:14 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of Berkeley 9:21 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100 block of Santa Monica 10:06 a.m.
EMS 1800 block of 17th 10:14 a.m.
EMS 900 block of 6th 10:49 a.m.
EMS Main/Ashland 10:58 a.m.
EMS 1000 block of 17th 11:29 a.m.
EMS 1300 block of 17th 11:39 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 2nd 12:34 p.m.
EMS 1500 block of Palisades Park 1:52 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 15th 2:35 p.m.
EMS 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 3:18 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 2nd 3:30 p.m.
EMS 500 block of Ocean 3:42 p.m.
EMS 200 block of Santa Monica Pier 3:52 p.m.
EMS 1100 block of Pico 4:32 p.m.
EMS Ocean/Montana 4:55 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of Pacific Coast Hwy 5:15 p.m.
EMS 1200 block of 6th 6:09 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of Wilshire 7:08 p.m.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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- 7 Mitchell of NBC News
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- 9 Comely

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- 38 Conclu-sion
- 39 — Vegas

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

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		

8-25

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall matt@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.



Wednesday’s at Warszawa!

Bring in a friend who’s never been to Warszawa and receive a free appetizer!

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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

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY



Draw Date: 8/22
4 12 14 21 55
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 100M



Draw Date: 8/21
13 15 21 41 72
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 55M



Draw Date: 8/22
6 9 31 33 42
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 11M

Fantasy 5

Draw Date: 8/23
3 7 31 35 39

DAILY 3

Draw Date: 8/24
MIDDAY: 9 7 8
Draw Date: 8/23
EVENING: 7 7 2



Draw Date: 8/23
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:41.20

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!

lachrymose

1. given to shedding tears readily; tearful.
2. suggestive of or tending to cause tears; mournful.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1980

- Zimbabwe joins the United Nations.

1981

- Voyager 2 spacecraft makes its closest approach to Saturn

1988

- The Chiado area in Lisbon is partially destroyed by a fire.

1989

- Voyager 2 spacecraft makes its closest approach to Neptune, the second to last planet in the Solar System at the time.

1989

- Mayumi Moriyama becomes Japan's first female cabinet secretary.

1991

- The Battle of Vukovar begins. An 87-day siege of a Croatian city by the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA), supported by

various Serbian paramilitary forces, between August-November, during the Croatian War of Independence

1991

- Linus Torvalds announces the first version of what will become Linux.

1997

- Egon Krenz, the former East German leader, is convicted of a shoot-to-kill policy at the Berlin Wall.

2003

- The Tli Cho land claims agreement is signed between the Dogrib First Nations and the Canadian federal government in Rae-Edzo (now called Behchoko).

2012

- Voyager 1 spacecraft enters interstellar space becoming the first man-made object to do so.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ In May, three Santa Ana, California, police officers who had just raided the unlicensed Sky High Holistic medical marijuana dispensary were caught on the facility's surveillance video eating supposedly seized cannabis-infused chocolate bars, and an "internal affairs" investigation was opened. However, in August, the Orange County Register reported that the cops went to court to have the video suppressed. Their familiar legal argument is that the video violates their right to privacy -- in that they had purposely disabled the cameras before they began munching the contraband and thus had the requisite "expectation of privacy" that triggers the right.

(Possibly, they had missed a camera.)

■ The mother of three children in Grandview, Missouri, suspected that Dameion McBride, 22, had sexually molested her two daughters (ages 4 and 8) and son (age 3), but McBride indignantly denied it, claiming that he is a child-abuse survivor himself, and booked himself on the national "Steve Wilkos" TV show in May to take a lie detector test to clear his name. However, he failed the test as to each child and was subsequently arrested. (The Associated Press reported that McBride insisted on a police lie detector test -- and failed that, too.)



Activism • Animals • Arts • Community • Education • Environment • Health

Don't even think about it

By Mikey Tittinger

Reaction to "19 Kids and Counting" star Josh Duggar having accounts on AshleyMadison.com was a collective shrug. It's hard to have sympathy for a guy already accused of molesting five girls, two of which were his sisters.

The Impact Team – the hackers who hijacked the website for people looking to have affairs – are heroes in some people's eyes as they release users' names and demand Ashley Madison fall on its sword.

Sucks to be them, we might say. There's definitely schadenfreude watching unfaithful men and women squirm. They're getting their just desserts, right? Only they're not the only ones getting hurt. There are the spouses and children, and the communities they live in. Who's to say by having an account the spouse even cheated anyway? Others may be in open relationships.

It's a slippery slope from here to the Thought Police, the secret squad in George Orwell's dystopian novel 1984 charged with punishing "thought-crimes". Even worse, would be an Immoral Thought Police.

Snickering about the names of possible cheaters being released is missing the larger point. Is every website we visit up for grabs? Any time we type our name and hit send, we're rolling the dice. And left to wonder who's watching. Whether or not you care about cheating spouses, you should care about your right to privacy. What The Impact Team is doing should offend your freethinking sensibilities. Search the Causes listings at giive.org for nonprofits that fight to protect your rights.



GET THE WHOLE STORY@ GIIVE.ORG/BLOG/

OFF TO THE GYM, LEO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You might have enjoyed the excitement surrounding recent events, but the time has come to buckle down and play catch up. You have a lot to do, and it needs to be done ASAP. The sooner you dive in, the happier you will be. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You have an endless imagination when you decide to use it. Dive into your work and tap into your ingenuity in order to clear out what you can. Allow time for networking and socializing, as they will be stimulated by your creative abilities. Tonight: Let the party begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Someone will be knocking on your door, leaving you very little choice but to have a long-overdue conversation. Even if this person does not make the first move, know that the two of you will need to clear this matter up soon. Tonight: Dinner or munchies for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You will need to defer to someone else, even if you think you have a better idea. Understand that this person needs to see what happens and realize how successful his or her own ideas are. Give him or her the space to do just that. Tonight: Out and about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Your efficiency is being tested far more than ever before. You could be full of energy and playfulness, yet you will need to muster as much self-discipline as possible. Lightness and productivity will be a winning combination for you. Tonight: Off to the gym.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Tap into your ability to get what you want. If you could wish upon a star, what would you wish for? Try to manifest a realistic goal by deciding to make it so. You will begin to see much more of what you can accomplish in the long run as a result. Tonight: You know what to do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You have many demands on you that you haven't let others know about. When you are unavailable emotionally, it is often because of concerns involving this area of your life. You might be inspired to revitalize a diet or exercise habit. Tonight: Your home is your castle!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Reach out to others instead of waiting for them to reach out to you. You can play the waiting game like no other sign, but the real question is: Does this behavior really serve you? Listen to news openly, and be willing to make the first move. Tonight: Hang out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You might be thinking about a financial decision and feel out of sorts. You like taking risks, but not to the point of setting yourself back. If you try to be conservative, you probably will like the outcome. Your intuitive side comes forward. Tonight: Reward yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Take a deep breath. You might feel as if you are on top of the world right now. What you hope to accomplish is not far from reality. You can do no wrong! The planets are rooting you on. Tonight: Don't let anyone or anything stop you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You have pushed yourself as hard as you can. Investigate what is happening with a loved one with care. Avoid making judgments at the moment. All of the facts you are hearing need validation. More is happening than you originally thought. Tonight: Don't rush. Be methodical.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Focus on what you want, and don't settle for anything less. Honor fast changes. You might not want the same things you once did. Listen to your gut. Nearly anything is possible, as long as you push toward that goal. Tonight: If you can dream it, you can manifest it.

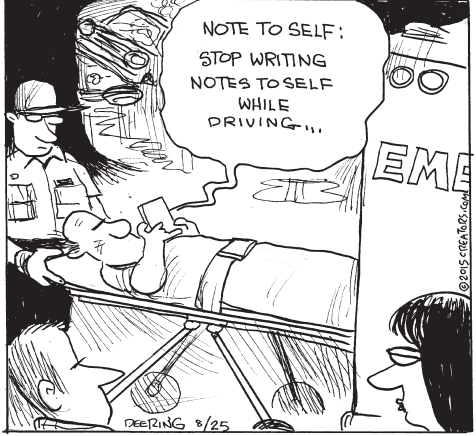
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew

By John Deering



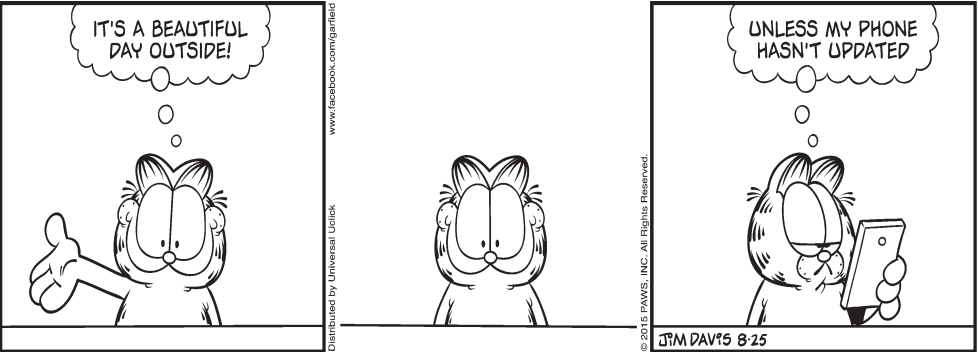
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield

By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Tuesday, August 25, 2015

This year you experience many special moments. You could be heading into a very unique year, where all your wishes will come true. Finally, you might feel as if all the years of hard work and diligence have paid off. Your birthday promises many positive moments. If you are single, you open up to offers from many potential suitors. Do not cut someone out of your life just because he or she is different; learn to be more accepting. If you are attached, this year will be significant to your relationship's history. You are likely to take a new step or enter a new phase together. This period will initiate a new life cycle for you. CAPRICORN adores you!

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

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Yard Sales

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