



Santa Monica Daily Press

TWO SIDES OF PALIN
SEE PAGES 4&5

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE CRIME WATCH ISSUE



OPENING DAY

PS#1 Pluralistic School founder Joel Pelcyger on Tuesday evening prepares to cut the ribbon at a grand opening celebration for a new classroom and Adult-Care Enrichment Center at the campus on Euclid Street. The addition of this classroom — the campus' eighth — will enable the school to fully implement its educational philosophy that embraces clusters of classrooms, which enhance a child's sense of community.

Morgan Genser news@smdp.com

SM repairman denies killing actor's former girlfriend

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

LOS ANGELES A 32-year-old Santa Monica man pleaded not guilty Thursday to the stabbing deaths of two women, including a former girlfriend of actor Ashton Kutcher.

Michael Thomas Gargiulo, who has been jailed since July, was linked to the two killings — along with a 1993 slaying in suburban Chicago, where Gargiulo lived at the time — via DNA evidence, Santa Monica police said.

Los Angeles County prosecutors charged Gargiulo with two counts of murder for the Feb. 22, 2001 death of Ashley Ellerin and the Dec. 1, 2005, death of Maria Bruno in Monterey Park.

The murder charges include the special circumstance allegations of murder during the commission of a robbery, murder by means of lying in wait and multiple murders.

Prosecutors will decide at a later time whether to seek the death penalty, according to Jane Robison of the District Attorney's Office. Gargiulo is also charged with first-degree burglary with a person present involving each of the two women.

"He is adamant he was not involved," Gargiulo's lawyer Anthony Salerno said.

The complaint alleges that he personally used a knife in the commission of all of the crimes, which also include an April 28 burglary and attempted murder of another woman in Santa Monica.

Ellerin, a 22-year-old fashion designer who dated Kutcher, was found stabbed to death in her Hollywood Hills home. Gargiulo is being held in lieu of \$1.1 million bail.

news@smdp.com

Serial shoplifting suspects strike Main

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET Roxanna Cervantes knew what was going to happen but was powerless to act.

She could do nothing but stare suspiciously and keep a watchful eye as a group of shoppers perused a pile of clothes at her Main Street boutique, women whom she had suspected were involved in a string of shoplifting incidents in the area.

She later sighed in exasperation as she watched on surveillance footage one of the women snatch a pair of jeans and run out of the store just as Cervantes turned around.

Exasperation is a feeling shared by a number of Main Street merchants these days, fed up at a group of young women who have allegedly shoplifted form several clothing boutiques, their modus operandi involving one suspect distracting a sales associate while the other goes to work.

Store owners have been on the lookout since Gary Gordon, the executive director

SEE SHOPLIFTING PAGE 8



Gary Limjap

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Calendar

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Attending Mass

Santa Monica Pier (entrance), 6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.
Critical Mass touts itself as a alternative to car culture. Come cruise the streets of Santa Monica and Venice. For information, e-mail zackbeatty@yahoo.com

A roaring Rotary

1250 Capri Dr., 12 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.
The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women who are dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. This club, which meets every Monday, is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the diverse ethnic makeup of its members. Those interested in attending their regular lunch should contact June M. Doy at (310) 917-3313.

Salsa the night away

1334 Lincoln Blvd, 7:15 p.m. — 10 p.m.
Beginners and experienced salseros alike can pick up new moves at Isabelle Pampillo's Friday Socials in Santa Monica. The night consists of a 90-minute class followed by a social hour of drinks and dancing where dancers can practice their dips and turns. There is a \$20 charge for the class, dancing and drinks. For information, call (310) 392-3493.

Saturday, Aug. 6 2008

To be, or not to be?

1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., 4 p.m. & 8 p.m.
See the Will Geer Theatricals production of William Shakespeare's masterpiece, "Macbeth." The 299-seat outdoor amphitheater carved into the Topanga Canyon Hillside will be filled with murder, treason, ambition and greed.

'And Awaay We Go To Wonderland'

1211 Fourth St., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Little Red Riding Hood? Jack and the Beanstalk? Sleeping Beauty? Hansel and Gretel? Now you can have them all as kids 2 to 102 help save the fairytale world, solving riddles, predicting the future, traveling through time, and experiencing a mini-language lesson along the way. For more information, call the Santa Monica Playhouse at (310) 394-9779.

Workouts for teens

3026 Nebraska Ave., 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.
Max offers two daily classes teaching teens how to exercise and eat properly in a cool and fun environment. They get to hang out afterwards in the wi-fi lounge, play Nintendo Wii, or simply surf the Internet. For information, call (310) 867-1650.

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.





POSSIBLE ROUTE: This image depicts one of two routes the Metropolitan Transportation Authority is considering for the Subway to the Sea project.

MTA mulls Subway to the Sea routes

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN LIBRARY MTA officials this week unveiled two possible routes for the highly-touted Subway to the Sea project that would finally establish a long-awaited railway system from Downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica.

The proposal comes more than a year after the Metropolitan Transportation Authority began analyzing different ways to connect the Eastside to the Westside and as drivers recover from a summer of high gas prices, which led to a record number of boardings on public transit lines.

The options include a \$6 billion plan to extend the subway from the Wilshire/Western Purple Line station and a \$9 billion combined route that would also see a heavy rail train leave from the Hollywood/Highland Red Line stop.

The first proposed route would essential-

ly travel along Wilshire Boulevard through Beverly Hills, taking a detour in Century City before connecting back past Westwood, ending at the corner of Wilshire and Fourth Street. The second would keep the first route and add another extension from the Red Line station, traveling through West Hollywood and down toward the Beverly Center area, eventually connecting to Wilshire around La Cienega Boulevard.

The MTA began holding a series of community meetings on Wednesday at the Santa Monica Public Library, seeking public input on the two proposed routes. The Board of Directors in the fall will be asked to approve the two lines to go through the 18-month-long environmental impact report phase, which will study possible effects from station locations and the route itself, according to Jody Litvak, who manages regional communications for the Westside Extension project.

The second alternative route seemed to garner the most praise from those who

attended the meeting at the library.

"It has the greatest potential to eliminate traffic from the San Fernando Valley," Philip Schwartz, a Santa Monica resident, said.

Gary Kavanaugh, who lives and works in the city, also spoke in favor of the second route, pointing out that he often stays with his girlfriend in Hollywood and bikes to work, which can take about 40-45 minutes.

Driving to the city on the other hand can take more than an hour.

The Westside Extension project was studied in depth during the 1980s and 1990s when the federal government signed a full funding grant agreement to build a 2.3 mile extension from the Wilshire/Western line to Pico/San Vicente in 1994. The project was suspended four years later because of insufficient funding, leading the MTA to look into bus and light rail options.

The MTA board authorized an

Judge tentatively refuses to dismiss Internet case

BY THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES A federal judge tentatively rejected two motions on Thursday to dismiss charges against a woman in a MySpace hoax that allegedly led to a 13-year-old girl's suicide.

U.S. District Judge George H. Wu said during a hearing that he intends to take more time to consider a third motion to dismiss the case against Lori Drew of O'Fallon, Mo.

She is accused of helping create a false-identity account on the social networking site then posing as a teenage boy and befriending her young neighbor, Megan Meier.

Drew, her teenage daughter and another teen took part in the hoax and sent cruel messages shortly before Meier hanged herself in 2006, authorities said.

The government wants to prosecute Drew under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, which has never before been used in connection with a Web site's terms of service prohibiting misrepresentation by users setting up new accounts.

Prosecutors have filed voluminous motions arguing the statute can be used against cyber bullying, though it has traditionally been used for crimes such as hacking into computers.

In one motion, defense attorney H. Dean Steward argued the indictment should be dismissed because it was vague and prosecutors were bending the cyber-crime statute to prosecute his client.

Another motion challenged the government's authority to prosecute the case, and a third said prosecutors failed to state an offense.

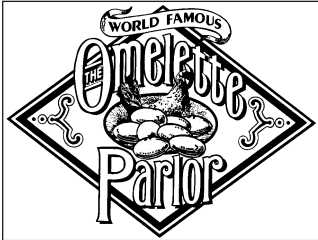
Steward also argued that almost no one ever reads the legal language about setting up new accounts, so his client had no way of knowing if she was breaking any law.

"You really have to do a dance to get into a position where the common citizen would have known this was a felony," Steward said.

U.S. Attorney Mark Krause countered that circumstantial evidence suggested Drew knew what she had done was wrong because she allegedly destroyed evidence of creating the account.

SEE SUBWAY PAGE 7

SEE TRIAL PAGE 7



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A 72-year-old heartbeat away

Editor:

I can sympathize with GOP vice president choice Sarah Palin over her problems. She's being investigat-ed by her own state in a corruption probe over the pos-sible wrongful firing of a public safety officer, which involved her sister's ex-husband.

Then we learned that she had supported the Alaskan pork-barrel "bridge to nowhere" until it became an embarrassment. Now we find she may have been a supporter of the Alaskan Independence Party, which wants to have a vote on whether Alaska should secede from the United States.

She has no foreign policy experience. The right-wing adores her. And on top of all that, her 17-year-old daughter is pregnant.

What next? Doesn't she have enough problems to juggle without being a 72-year-old heartbeat away from our presidency?

John McCain, who'd met Palin only once, claims she was adequately vetted before he chose her for his high-est ranking position. So here we have a prime example of the kind of appointments and judgments we can expect from McCain if he finds himself in the White House.

Haven't we had enough embarrassing and painful setbacks during the last eight years?

Doug Long

Rio Rancho, N.M.

Calling for an apology

Editor:

Mr. Kevin Herrera describes the Treesavers' year-long effort to preserve the urban forest in downtown Santa Monica as a response to a City Hall plan to "relo-cate a few" trees.

Had Mr. Herrera bothered to read his own newspa-per, he would have known that the effort actually involved saving hundreds of trees at the start, since local business interests were intent on destroying every last one of the stately trees in the downtown area. Only after a long and arduous fight, including a lawsuit, marches, thousands of petition signatures, landmarking efforts and appearances at council meet-ings, was the number of trees marked for destruction or relocation actually reduced. It was not an effort to prevent "a few" trees from relocation.

To this day there has been no cogent explanation by the City Council as to the reason for the destruction of the trees and the expenditure of hundreds of thou-sands of dollars. There has been no explaining why this multi-million dollar "improvement" contract was awarded without a competitive bid, in spite of staff's concerns.

There has been no effort to explain why the tree relocation and destruction moves forward in spite of thousands of petition signatures to the contrary. There has been no effort to acknowledge the numerous uni-versity studies specifically focusing on Santa Monica, pointing to the actual business – as well as environ-mental – benefits of a shady-canopy urban forest downtown.

There has been not the slightest effort by City Hall to acknowledge the request by the head of the Natural Resources Defense Council to preserve these trees where they are, through their natural lifespan.

While Jerry Rubin was talking to the police, dozens of construction workers surrounding Jerry were urging the police to hit him with pepper spray. ... It is bad enough that the city has employed these individuals in a way that casts doubt on the appropriateness of the contract, but to have these people incite violence – in public and in front of the police – on a principled, peaceful, stalwart member of the community, and a City Council candidate to boot – is frankly an incredible outrage.

The city manager, and the entire City Council should issue an apology to Jerry and the citizens of this com-munity for the consequences of this entire sorry episode.

Dan Jansenson

Santa Monica



Your column here

Paul M. Weyrich

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Gov. Palin is another reason this election will be exciting

THE IDENTITY OF SEN. JOHN MCCAIN'S pick for vice president was the best kept political secret in modern history. What a bombshell! Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin had been written off by nearly everyone and when asked about it she discredited the like-lihood of her selection as McCain's running mate. The choice sent shock waves through the body politick. Conservatives were nearly unanimous in high praise.

The left attacked her with remarkable vehemence. At first the Obama campaign attacked her selection.

Half an hour later the Obama cam-paign issued a statement offering modest praise. After McCain's congratulatory commercial, in which McCain noted how far Americans had come that Obama would be nominated on the day 45 years after Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Obama did not want to appear less gracious.

Pundits will debate what the selection will mean to McCain. Meanwhile, here is how I look at this controversial nomina-tion.

First, the selection probably will pre-vent Obama's gathering much of a head of steam. Coming out of the convention, Obama had a bounce estimated at 9 per-cent. That will almost certainly be affected by the media extravaganza over the Palin selection.

Second, the Palin pick sends Republicans into their convention with a head of steam they otherwise would not have. Palin's selection highlights McCain as a political gambler. It will be difficult to picture him as a demented old man who is out of it. This puts him on the top of his game.

Next, her selection excites McCain's base. That was absolutely necessary if he were to have a strong shot at election. The selection of a pro-abortionist, such as Gov. Tom Ridge, would have caused a convention floor revolt.

Even the selection of former Gov. Mitt Romney would have caused problems with some Evangelicals.

Picking Pawlenty, while generally acceptable, would have generated a yawn in political circles. Palin generates real excitement.

It remains to be seen how significant her appeal to independents will be, but she appeared off to a good start with her acknowledgment of Geraldine Ferraro and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

There is now youth on both tickets — Obama at the top and Palin at number two. How will this fly with the body poli-tick? For one thing, the pro-aborts hate her. She is the mother of five, including a Down Syndrome baby.

The radical feminists are foaming at the mouth over this selection, which I believe will help McCain. In a pro-life v. pro-abortion contest pro-life prevails by an estimated 6 percent. Palin is genuinely a reformer and has clear reformer creden-tials. Obama claims to be a reformer but there is scarce evidence.

What of Palin's liabilities? It mainly is in the area of experience. The one issue

McCain is using against Obama, which really has caught on, is the question of whether Obama is qualified to be presi-dent. By placing Palin on the ticket he hardly can argue that she is immediately equipped to be president. She has been governor less than two years, before that mayor of a small town.

... THE PALIN PICK SENDS REPUBLICANS INTO THEIR CONVENTION WITH A HEAD OF STEAM THEY OTHERWISE WOULD NOT HAVE. PALIN'S SELECTION HIGHLIGHTS MCCAIN AS A POLITICAL GAMBLER.

True, she is the only candidate on either ticket who at least has had some executive experience. Yet it is hard to argue that she is equipped to deal with Vladimir Putin. That issue, while not dead, is much diminished. We shall see how it washes.

She also lacks foreign-policy experi-ence, the strong suit of Sen. Joe Biden. Of course, McCain can argue that he has all the foreign-policy experience necessary. True, but that does not answer what would happen were he to be become inca-pacitated and Palin to assume the presi-dency.

The measure of that issue well may depend upon the vice presidential debate. If Palin performed well, were reasonably knowledgeable and kept up with Biden, that issue likely would go away. If Biden blew her away, all bets would be off.

Finally, think of Hillary. While she is going through the motions to help elect Obama, it is an open secret that she would not be disappointed if he lost, enabling her to run in 2012.

But should McCain win and McCain become incapacitated Palin would be president.

Or what if McCain said one term is enough. Palin would be in the catbird seat to win the presidency. That realization is liable to cause Hillary significant heart-burn.

Watch for the Clintons to do all they can to undercut Palin.

When all is said and done McCain has rewritten the parameters of this contest. I predict it will be close all the way until Nov. 4.

PAUL M. WEYRICH is chairman and CEO of the Free Congress Foundation, a politically and socially conservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. whose "main focus is on the culture war." He can be reached at www.freecongress.org.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Can Sarah spell potato?

I CONFESS, I BARELY WATCHED THE Republican National Convention. At my age I can't take too much excitement. Some said it was riveting, inspiring and 40 million Americans saw it on TV. Whoops. Sorry, that was the Democratic National Convention.

I'm still trying to understand the qualifications of Sarah Palin, the former Miss Alaska runner-up in 1984. I hope she's VP runner-up in 2008. Frankly, it's scary to think of her as commander in chief. To reassure everyone, a team of foreign policy experts is going to coach her about ... the world! She does seem inquisitive, given her statement, "What does a vice president do anyway?"

McCain's impulsive (and poorly vetted) nomination is reminiscent of George H.W. Bush's vice presidential nomination of Dan Quayle in 1988. Pundits said Quayle, "looked like a surprised game show contestant." He is best remembered for comparing himself to JFK during the debate. Lloyd Benstsen responded, "Sir, I served with Jack Kennedy. Jack Kennedy was a friend of mine. Senator, you're no Jack Kennedy."

Five months before the 1992 election, Quayle stepped in it again, at a sixth grade spelling bee in New Jersey. William Figueroa, 12, had correctly spelled "potato." Quayle insisted William to add an "e," making it "potatoe." The boy reluctantly complied.

Instantly, Quayle became the butt of jokes of late-night talk show hosts. Meanwhile, William was on David Letterman, endorsed a spelling video game, and led the pledge of allegiance at the 1992 Democratic convention. In Puerto Rico, home of his grandparents, he was a hero known as El Rey de la Papa — the Potato King.

The GOP has a history of horrible vice presidents. There was Nixon, who became the only president to ever resign. And Spiro Agnew, who became the only vice president to ever resign, charged with extortion, bribery and tax evasion.

At the top of the VP Hall of Shame is Dick Cheney, who gave us an unnecessary war, torture, secret prisons and warrantless wiretapping. Cheney is also the first VP to shoot someone since Aaron Burr did it in 1804. Burr was also a Republican.

Having focused so heavily on Obama's inexperience, it's puzzling why McCain selected Palin. Unless you count her Miss Congeniality title, she has zero foreign policy credentials. As Bill Maher joked, "When her phone rings at 3 a.m., it's about a moose kicking over a trash can." She's only been out of the country once. In 2000, Bush had only been out of the country twice, to Mexico and China when his dad was

ambassador there, a country W. called "boring."

McCain must have a thing for beauty contestants. His first wife was, and so was Cindy, who almost was again. At a recent biker rally, McCain volunteered Cindy for the "Miss Buffalo Chip" pageant, joking, "She could be the only woman to serve as both the first lady and Miss Buffalo Chip."

Maybe "pageant" isn't the right word. You see the Miss Buffalo Chip competition features topless contestants who perform simulated sex acts on stage. Yikes! Clearly, McCain didn't know. Then again, he thought Pakistan and Iraq shared a border. That's like thinking the U.S. and Panama share a border. Though, if global warming continues unabated, we may.

When I did tune into the Republican National Convention, I noticed no one seemed to mention Bush's name. Also, there were so many empty seats I thought it was a Clippers game. Palin proved adept at mudslinging as her handsome family looked on, including her pregnant daughter's boyfriend. Gov. Palin is adamantly opposed to sex education and believes in abstinence only. Apparently her daughter didn't get the memo.

Bush and Cheney said they didn't attend the RNC because of Hurricane Gustav, but I have a feeling it was their poll numbers. Cheney's at 18 percent, the same number of people who think Elvis is still alive. Others missing included Sen. Larry Craig, whose last visit to St. Paul involved a bathroom encounter with the vice squad. I also didn't see Sen. Ted ("Bridge to Nowhere") Stevens of Alaska who's a friend of Sarah Palin. Sen. Stevens was probably busy preparing for his upcoming corruption trial. Ex-Congressman Foley (page scandal) wasn't there and neither were ex-Congressmen Duke Cunningham and Bob Ney. But they had a good excuse — they're in jail. You need a prison scorecard to keep track of Republicans these days.

There's less than two months left of the campaign, which I'm naming "There will be mud." On a lighter note, guess who's rumored in contention for "Dancing with the Stars?" Dan Quayle! I hope he dances better than he spells.

Off camera, top Republican strategist Mike Murphy called the Palin nomination "political b.s." McCain clearly played the chick card to get Hillary voters. In the VP debate, Joe Biden should say, "Governor, I served with Hillary Clinton and you're no Hillary Clinton."

JACK can be reached at JackneworthSMDP@aol.com

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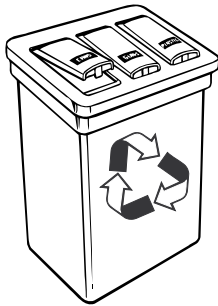
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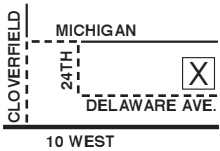
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The Q-Line

Cheers

The Amethyst Initiative, a group of college and university presidents from around the country, claim the current legal age to drink needs to be lowered. It has sparked a nationwide debate regarding the controversial subject.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

How would lowering the legal drinking age play out? Do you think it would lead to more problems or make young adults more responsible when it comes to binge drinking?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

APPEAL 08- 009, 1103 Berkeley Street. A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the appeal of the Architectural Review Board Technical Denial of ARB application 08ARB058, which requested modifications to the R1 development standards to allow construction of a single story, 291 square foot addition to an existing single family structure in the R1, North of Wilshire Boulevard Single Family Residential zone. The Architectural Review Board considered the following request: a cumulative side yard setback modification to allow a 291 square foot addition along the north side yard which results in cumulative sideyard setbacks of 16 feet or 23% of the parcel width where 21 feet or 30% is required.

Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.08.02.080(f)(3), the Architectural Review Board may grant modifications to the required cumulative side yard setback of 30 percent of the lot width, provided certain findings are made. [Planner: Chris Townes] **APPELLANTS/ APPLICANTS / PROPERTY OWNERS: Roger and Barbara Hill**

Appeal 08-013, 749 Seventeenth Street. Consideration of the appeal of the Architectural Review Board approval of ARB application 08ARB118, a request for the approval of the building design, colors, materials and landscape plans for the construction plans for the construction of a new senior group housing facility with 17 individual living quarters. [Planner: Scott Albright, AICP] **Appellants: Montana Neighborhood Coalition and Ron Goldman. Applicant/Property Owner: Charles Rosenbleet.**

WHEN: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California



HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION

If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact the Project Planner (310) 458-8341. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours or available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TTY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #9 and the Tide Ride service the City Hall. 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.



Help Us Shape the Future! Be part of the effort to create new Land Use and Circulation Elements, and a new Zoning Ordinance. Help shape a twenty year vision and improve the way we get around Santa Monica.
<http://www.shapethefuture2025.net> (Land Use Element)
<http://motion.santa-monica.org> (Circulation Element)



CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Risky business

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.

THURSDAY, AUG. 28,

Santa Monica police officers responded to the 1200 block of the Third Street Promenade – Banana Republic – after receiving a call from security at the clothing store, who had an employee in custody on suspicion of stealing. When officers arrived, they spoke with security who said the employee was using customers receipts to falsely return merchandise for store credit. The employee would then allegedly use the store credit to make personal purchases. Security said the employee started this in June, resulting in a total loss for the store of \$3,290.17. The suspect was taken into police custody and booked for embezzlement. He was identified as Michael Konik, 32, from Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$20,000.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 27, AT 1:51 A.M.,

Police responded to the 300 block of Santa Monica Boulevard regarding a report of a fight in progress. When officers arrived, they spoke with witnesses who said four male suspects were involved in a fist fight with three cab drivers and vandalized one of the taxi cabs. Three of the four suspects were arrested for vandalism and battery. One suspect was still outstanding as of Thursday. He was described as a male Caucasian, 20 to 25 years old, with a bald head. He was wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans at the time of the incident. The three suspects who were arrested were identified as Nelson Douglas Borgese, 19, of Venice; Jonathan Bandera, 21, of Sun Valley; and Justin Alexander Parvianen, 21, of Los Angeles. Borgese was booked for violation of probation in addition to the other charges. Parvianen was booked for resisting arrest. Bail was set at \$20,000 for each suspect.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30, AT 7:35 P.M.,

Police responded to a rear parking lot in the 2900 block of Main Street after receiving a report of females sitting in a parked car snorting cocaine. When officers arrived, they made contact with three woman in the parking lot. Two were determined to be in possession of a small amount of cocaine. There were arrested and booked for possession of a controlled substance. They were identified as Tanya Nora Barsoumian, 41, of Sherman Oaks, and Maribel Sanchez, 21, of Santa Monica. Sanchez was also booked for a traffic warrant. Her bail was set at \$25,000. Bail for Barsoumian was set at \$10,000.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30, AT 1 A.M.,

Police responded to the 1400 block of Ocean Avenue regarding a report of suspicious circumstances. When officers arrived, they spoke to the manager of an apartment building, who said a homeless woman gained entry to an apartment and was staying there while the tenants were out of town. Officers checked the apartment and found a woman lying on a bed in a bedroom. Officers contacted the tenants and learned that the woman was not allowed to be there. She was arrested for burglary. She was identified as Teresa Kennedy, 59, a transient. Her bail was set at \$50,000.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30, AT 4:25 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 1800 block of Wilshire Boulevard – Rite Aid –regarding a shoplifting suspect in custody. When officers arrived, they made contact with store employees who said the suspect attempted to steal beer. When confronted, the suspect fought with security guards and attempted to get away. The suspect was detained and placed under citizen's arrest. The suspect was booked for robbery and violation of probation. No bail was set. The suspect was identified as Stewart Clay Sullivan, 34, a transient.

SATURDAY, AUG. 30, AT 2:30 A.M.,

Police responded to the 1300 block of Fifth Street regarding a report of vandalism. When officers arrived, witnesses told them that they observed two drunken women kick out the front window to a business. Officers detained the intoxicated women in the area, one of whom had a fresh wound to her leg. Both were booked for public intoxication and felony vandalism. One suspect was identified as Rebecca Lee Tripp, 21, of Santa Monica, and Kamilla Jennings, 22. Bail was set at \$20,000.

SUNDAY, AUG. 31,

Officers responded to the 3000 block of Main Street after receiving a call about a traffic services officer who was spit on while attempting to give a driver a parking ticket. Officers located the suspect and placed him under arrest for battery. He was identified as Dean Evan Joffe, 30, of Los Angeles. His bail was set at \$20,000.

MONDAY, SEPT. 1, AT 5:10 P.M.,

Officers responded to the 2100 block of Virginia Avenue regarding a report of possible domestic violence in progress. When officers arrived, they made contact with a witness who said they heard a woman yelling, sounding as if she was being assaulted. After speaking with the parties involved, officers determined the woman was the victim of an assault at the hands of her ex-boyfriend. He was arrested and later booked for domestic battery and violation of probation. His bail was set at \$20,000. The suspect was identified as Larry Luis, 28, of Santa Monica.

MONDAY, SEPT. 1, AT 10:15 A.M.,

Officers responded to the 300 block of the Santa Monica Pier regarding a man carrying a knife. When officers arrived, they made contact with a woman who said she was walking when she was approached by the suspect, who had a large knife in his hand. She called the police and the suspect was placed under arrest for exhibiting a deadly weapon and violation of probation. He was identified as Scott Arnold Chinander, 43, a transient. His bail was set at \$25,000.

Editor in Chief KEVIN HERRERA compiled these reports. news@smdp.com

Subway to the Sea expected to cost at least \$6 billion

FROM SUBWAY PAGE 3

Alternatives Analysis a few years ago to study various modes and routes to alleviate congestion between Downtown L.A. and the Westside.

Metro staff returned with a variety of options that included a bus rapid line and a monorail, both of which have since been eliminated from consideration.

Several subway routes were also considered, including one that would travel along Santa Monica Boulevard, which was also nixed because it was expected to have low ridership and cost more to construct.

Staff considered several factors in narrowing the options, including mobility, cost effectiveness, project feasibility and most importantly, public acceptance.

"We listen closely to what you have to say," Litvak said.

The biggest hurdle to the project being realized is funding as the \$6-\$9 billion price tag is expected to rise as time passes. The current estimate of \$6 billion for the first alternative route comes out to be about \$475 million per square mile, the second about \$510 million per square mile.

The project, which has not secured any funding, could be paid for in part by a half-cent sales tax increase that county voters will be asked to approve in the fall. The measure would bring in \$40 billion over the next 30

IT'S BEEN AN AMAZING JOURNEY AND IT'S JUST THE BEGINNING."

Dana Gabbard
Recording secretary,
Southern California Transit Advocates

years.

Dana Gabbard, the recording secretary for Southern California Transit Advocates, said that while progress has been made in the fight to bring railway transportation to the Westside, the battle is only beginning, stressing that the county will have to fight with other big agencies from across the country over federal funding.

The sales tax measure is not even guaranteed to be on the ballot this fall, still awaiting approval of state legislation, AB2321, which would lift an existing tax cap.

Gabbard said that just 10 years ago, people laughed when told that a subway would one day come to the sea.

"It's been an amazing journey and it's just the beginning," he said.

melodyh@smdp.com

Judge intends to take more time to rule on third motion

FROM TRIAL PAGE 3

Drew pleaded not guilty after being indicted by a federal grand jury.

Wu tentatively rejected the motions claiming vagueness and that prosecutors were overstepping their power.

He plans to mull the motion that prosecutors had failed to state an offense before making a final ruling on all three motions within a few days.

He set an Oct. 7 trial date.

Drew, wearing a navy blue pant suit, did not speak during the 90-minute hearing.

Afterward, she and Steward left the downtown federal courthouse without speaking to reporters.

Meier hanged herself after allegedly receiving messages saying the world would be better off without her. She was being treated for attention deficit disorder and depression.

Authorities in Missouri did not file any charges because at the time they could not find any laws that applied. The case is being prosecuted in Los Angeles because MySpace computer servers are based in the area.

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**Average Price of ALL Santa Monica Properties
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North of Montana	= \$ 4,028,632	\$ 2,067,625
Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 3,640,875	\$ 1,010,927
South of Wilshire	= \$ 1,139,439	\$ 718,171
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,390,224	\$ 678,273
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,627,538	\$ 1,128,805
Statistics Updated Every Monday		

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Same group of women suspected in numerous shoplifting incidents

FROM SHOPLIFTING PAGE 1

of the Main Street Business Improvement Association, sent out an e-mail last month to area merchants about a shoplifting incident that took place at LF, a clothing boutique.

The notice states that a group of about four black women — all in their early 20s,

wearing large earrings and carrying oversized bags — had been walking into the store on a weekly basis, always distracting associates, never purchasing any items but always trying to start a fitting room session.

The representative of LF stated in the letter that they are in the process of hiring a security guard. The store's owner declined to comment.

On Tuesday evening, a group of women who fit the description walked into Life/Style in the 2700 block of Main Street, which Cervantes opened about three months ago.

Cervantes said she had been on alert since receiving the e-mail from the business association and immediately suspected that the women in her store were the suspects.

"I was trying to keep my eye on them at all times and one of the girls asked, 'why are you looking at me,'" she said. "It was confrontational, it was a little scary and you knew they wanted to rob you."

"But what could you do?"

Since they hadn't shoplifted directly in

SEE SHOPLIFTING PAGE 9

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KEEPING WATCH: Roxanna Cervantes, owner of Main Street clothing boutique Life/Style, looks out the giant window of her shop on Thursday afternoon. Her store has recently been the victim of shoplifting. She believes that the suspects have also stolen from other Main Street businesses

A number of businesses fall victim to shoplifting

FROM SHOPLIFTING PAGE 8

front of her eyes, Cervantes said she could do nothing but watch and make sure they didn't try to steal.

A surveillance video showed one of the women sitting on a cushion seat near a display of designer jeans.

The suspect then stood up quickly and snatched a \$200 pair before running out the door along with her accomplices. The video showed that a man accompanied the suspects.

Cervantes believes she had seen the women in the store before.

The boutique has experienced numerous shoplifting incidents since it opened in the spring, losing several thousand dollars worth of dresses and jeans.

In order to address the situation, Cervantes added security tags to all merchandise, hired an extra sales associate and finally installed a security camera about a week ago.

The same group of women is believed to have targeted Clever on Main, a boutique located just a few doors down from Life/Style and across the street from LF.

Owner Radka Opalka said several female shoppers came into her store about four to six months ago, browsing the back of the boutique where there was a stack of orange T-shirts. The T-shirts disappeared after the women left.

She never reported the case to the police.

Opalka said she fears the incidents could disrupt the trusting, comforting and open nature that define a small boutique, the thefts possibly forcing owners to install cameras and affix security tags to merchandise, similar to the corporate stores.

"The boutique is not Macy's or Old

IT WAS CONFRONTATIONAL, IT WAS A LITTLE SCARY AND YOU KNEW THEY WANTED TO ROB YOU."

Roxanna Cervantes
Owner, Life/Style

Navy, it's a different feeling and people who steal from that can take away that feeling," she said.

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to the report at Life/Style and are still processing the incident, according to Sgt. Renaldi Thruston. A connection between the cases at the different stores has not yet been made.

Harper Lane, a children's boutique, was almost a shoplifting victim about three weekends ago, though co-owner Stacy Bernstein said she believes it involved a different set of women.

The owner confronted the women just as they were about to attempt the theft. Bernstein rummaged through one of their bags and found a pair of jeans that she knew were from Life/Style.

One woman appeared to be in her late 30s, the other in her 50s.

"(The thefts) are definitely putting us a little on edge," Bernstein said. "For many of the merchants, it's just them or an employee so this certainly iterates that we should have two people here at all times."

melodyh@smdp.com

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Photo by Michael Muzio

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A message from the Metropolitan Water District
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The 20 Gallon challenge



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SURF REPORT



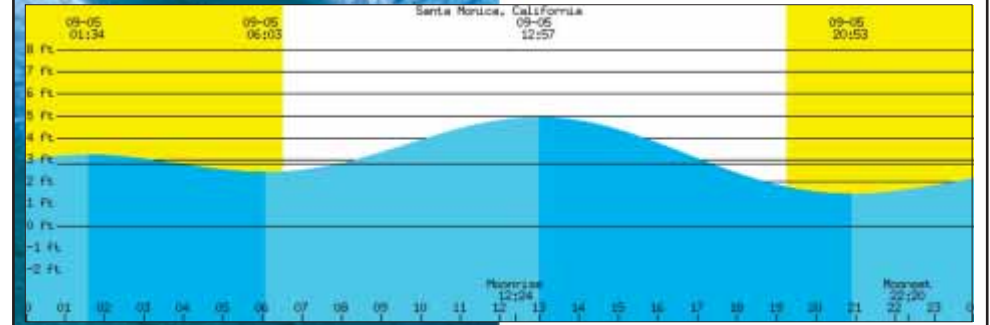
SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 69°

SWELL FORECAST (1-1 FT)
Friday the 5th will likely still see chest to head high waves from the southern hemi swell, but the shorter, lagging, 14-second periods will arrive, weakening the waves a tad. Wind swell remains minor, so west facing breaks will continue to see much smaller size than south facing spots (waist to chest max). Winds on Friday should be light to calm in the AM, then onshore to 15 in the afternoon.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
MONDAY THE 8TH IS WHEN OUR NEXT SOUTHERN HEMI SWELL IS DUE ...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **August 26, 2008**

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

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0

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

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / ns

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by

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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 Cleanup and Health Warning Protocol.



LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Camille Beach, at Arroyo Sepul Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Palga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Locks and Las Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Tenesca Canyon drain	A+	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chatsworth)	A	ns
Bread Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	D	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wilshire Rd. (private)	A+	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	B	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Venice storm drain	A	ns
Escandido Creek, just east of Escandido State Beach	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	C	ns
Lafita Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A+	ns
Selechia Canyon at San Blocker County Beach	C	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puente State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brinkley Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puente Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	ns
Surfside Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A	ns
Surfside Beach (beach location)- daily	C	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	D	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	C	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	A+	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	D	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (joint zone)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	B	ns
Big Rock Beach at 18048 PCH stairs	A+	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hygienic Treatment Plant	A+	ns
Castroville Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns			

LEGEND

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

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

ns -- no sample taken



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

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

NFL Broncos' Marshall's suspension reduced

BY ARNIE STAPLETON
AP Sports Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. Both the Oakland Raiders and the Denver Broncos figure they caught a big break with wide receiver Brandon Marshall's suspension.

The Raiders are glad they don't have to face the Broncos' superstar in their opener Monday night, and the Broncos are relieved they'll only be without their playmaker for one game.

Marshall was originally assessed a three-game penalty for violating the league's personal conduct code with the possibility of reducing it to two games if he stayed out of trouble and in touch with a counselor.

Marshall, however, successfully appealed his punishment, which was reduced to one game and two paychecks, totaling \$52,352.

"He's the best player on offense when I look on film," Raiders coach Lane Kiffin said. "To be honest, I'm glad he's not playing because he gives you a lot of problems. Even as good as our corners are, he's a great football player."

"Yeah, we're pleased he's not playing."

Broncos coach Mike Shanahan doesn't appear too worried about missing Marshall for a game. He kept just four wide receivers on his roster, including newcomers Darrell Jackson, Keary Colbert and Eddie Royal.

"I just look at it as a guy sprained his ankle

on Friday," Shanahan said. "At least we have the whole week to get somebody else ready."

Jackson is slated to start in Marshall's flanker spot with Royal, a rookie, starting at split end.

"I don't think Brandon will dictate the (complexity) of our game plan," Shanahan said. "We have some young players, so it might not be as deep as it normally is, but we have enough to show up and play."

Marshall caught 102 passes for 1,325 yards last season as he emerged as Jay Cutler's top target.

"Obviously, we'd like to have him every game. He's an offensive weapon that you're not going to find very often in this league," Cutler said. "He does some stuff on the field that is amazing. So, we're going to have to make do with the receivers we've got, tight ends, the running game. We're going to have to pull together to make up for it."

Although the Broncos have a terrific trio of tight ends in Daniel Graham, Tony Scheffler and Nate Jackson, their offensive line has been shuffled and not a single starter is back from last season and neither of their tackles has ever started an NFL game. They have a rookie starting fullback in Peyton Hillis and they lost two of their promising tailbacks in Ryan Torain (elbow) and Anthony Alridge (foot) in the pre-season.

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MOVIE TIMES

AERO THEATRE 1328 Montana Ave. (323) 466-FILM	12:30, 3:05, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20	4:00, 9:25
Time After Time (NR) 7:30	Death Race (R) 1hr 29min 11:30am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15	Tell No One (Ne le dis a personne) (NR) 2hrs 05min 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15
AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4 1441 Third Street Promenade	Fly Me to The Moon 3-D (G) 1hr 30min 11:10am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	I.O.U.S.A. (PG) 1hr 25min 1:40, 7:00
College (R) 1hr 34min 5:45, 8:05, 10:25	Tropic Thunder (R) 1hr 47min 11:05am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:40, 10:30	MANN'S CRITERION THEATRE 1313 Third St. (310) 395-1599
Hamlet 2 (R) 1hr 32min 11:05am, 1:25, 3:45, 5:55, 8:15, 10:30	Star Wars: The Clone Wars (PG) 1hr 38min 1:50, 4:20	Dark Knight, The (PG-13) 2hrs 30min 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:30
Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13) 1hr 36min 11:35am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35	Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2, The (PG-13) 1hr 57min 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10	Bangkok Dangerous (R) 1hr 40min 11:10am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40, 12:00am
The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG-13) 1hr 54min 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05	The House Bunny (PG-13) 1hr 38min 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45	Traitor (PG-13) 1hr 50min 11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
You Don't Mess With the Zohan (PG-13) 1hr 53min 11:00am, 1:30, 3:50	LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX 1332 Second St. (310) 394-9741	The Pineapple Express (R) 1hr 45min 11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
AMC 7 SANTA MONICA 1310 Third St. (310) 289-4262	Elegy (R) 1hr 48min 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50	Babylon A.D. (PG-13) 1hr 30min 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:00
Disaster Movie (PG-13) 1hr 30min	Bottle Shock (PG-13) 1hr 50min 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55	Mamma Mia! (PG-13) 1hr 48min 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Anita O'Day: The Life of A Jazz Singer (NR) 1hr 30min		

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

Dinner for two, Aries

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Work with one specific partner. You might like what comes up, and you will feel as if you are in a much better situation. This person often has very wild ideas. Tonight: Dinner for two.	LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ Curb a need to be abundant or excessive. This tendency, so innate in you, is often a source of trouble. Practice saying "no" to food or spending. It won't hurt! Revitalize your work with a different approach or a new idea. Tonight: Buy a token of affection on the way home.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Defer to someone else, and be willing to work with others. If you let someone run with his or her idea, you will have to assume far less responsibility. Surprising news comes from a boss or someone you look up to. He or she might be confused. Tonight: Sort through invitations.	SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You feel great, but you still must complete important tasks, meeting and errands by midday. In the afternoon, you might believe that everything will be OK. What you do in the afternoon, unfortunately, might need to be redone. Tonight: What makes you happiest.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You might want to rethink a decision regarding your daily life. If you are off to experiment with a new diet or health program, check in with your doctor. The very weird easily could appeal to you. Work with the unexpected. Tonight: Off doing your thing.	SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ Know when to back off. Use today for paperwork or research. You could be surprised by the outcome. You are not getting all the facts. Hence, a hunch easily could be off. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ Be more sure of yourself. Sometimes you get nervous, especially when dealing with members of the opposite sex. News comes from left field. Confirm what you are hearing, please, before you accept it as real. Tonight: Time for some fun.	CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Keep your long-term goals in mind this morning. Others seem so agreeable that you could easily waver off course. Use the afternoon to visit with friends or attend a meeting. Do not schedule any major meetings late in the day. Tonight: Lead the weekend celebration.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Family and home keep floating through your mind. Take off from work early to enjoy some of the thoughts that have been going through your mind. A partner might be a little confused. Tonight: You don't have to go far.	AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You might not mean to add confusion or allow vagueness to infiltrate your plans, but somehow it does. Others question you. Your instincts work well, especially if you are willing to take a risk. Tonight: Worry less; enjoy your friends.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ You have unusually strong opinions for you. Do not hesitate to discuss what is on your mind. You suddenly see a situation far differently if you open up to another's feedback. A partner expresses a surprising view. Tonight: Hang out, talk and visit.	PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ If an issue emerges, step back and take an overview. Look past the obvious, and find experts. The more offbeat you are, the better the net results will be. Listen to someone you respect. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

Happy birthday

You have a style and a distinct personality that many would like to emulate. Your creativity adds a certain zest or magnetism to your very being. Others often might wonder what you are thinking. This year, you enjoy the many people around you, especially if they reveal their authentic personalities. Communication is highlighted. Some of you might buy a new computer or car. If you are single, work on being lighter and easier with the people you date. Sometimes your seriousness turns people off. If you are attached, your sweetie appreciates your sincerity but would appreciate more joviality. SCORPIO enjoys chatting with you.

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



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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 ★★★★★

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

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

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

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FD0802 11/06

Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

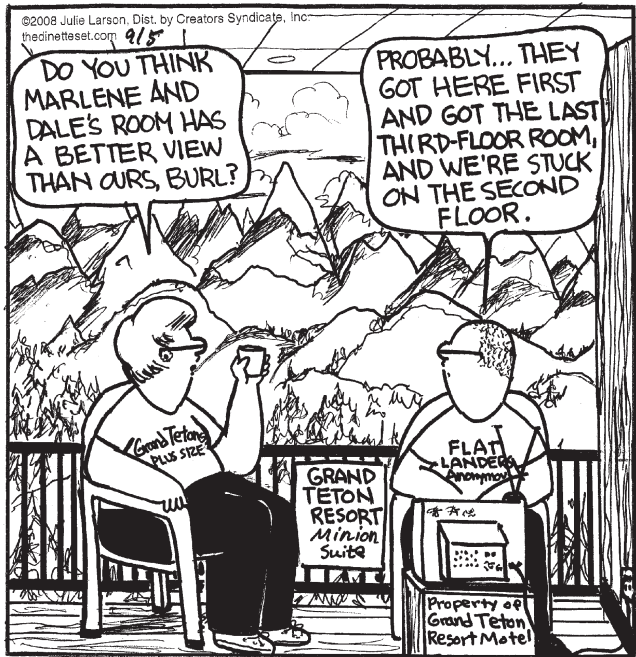
Garfield

By Jim Davis

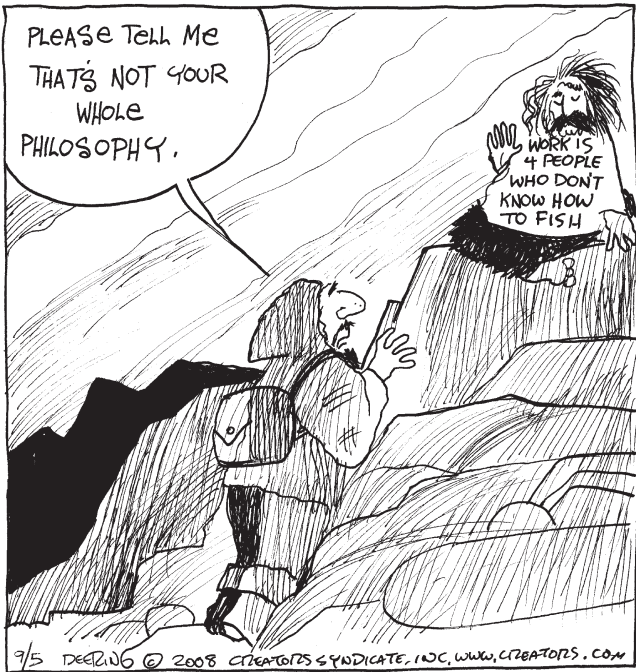
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The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Strange Brew By John Deering



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Alexandra Bissonnette news@smdp.com

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CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS

1 Corduroy feature

6 Ways to go

11 Even a little

12 Rainy month

13 Up-and-down toys

14 Sculptor Henry

15 Did laps, maybe

17 Went fast

18 They may clash

20 Nay voter

22 U.K. fliers

23 Jazz fan

26 Texas player

28 Paris subway

29 Bubbles, e.g.

31 Stashed

32 Wields

33 Dojo doings

34 Long for

36 Revolved

38 Tax cheat's worry

40 Poet Breton

43 "Good-night" girl

44 Entrecôte, e.g.

45 T-shirt size

46 Squad leader
- DOWN

1 Jamie Foxx film

2 "How was — know?"

3 1990 Tom Cruise film

4 Is radiant

5 "Lohen-grin" lady

6 Bobby Ewing's wife

7 Missionary

8 2008 Ben Stiller film

9 Employ

10 Toboggan's kin

16 Noted chairman

18 Important times

R	I	C	E		C	A	T	T	L	E
E	V	E	N		A	T	R	A	I	N
B	A	R	T		S	T	U	N	T	S
A	N	T	I	E	T	A	M			
		I	R	S		C	A	R	B	S
C	A	F	E	S		K	N	E	L	L
A	L	I					C	U	E	
L	E	E	R	S		T	O	T	E	D
M	E	D	I	C		E	L	I		
		D	R	E	A	D	F	U	L	
W	A	L	D	E	N		P	I	S	A
E	X	I	L	E	D		R	E	E	D
S	E	V	E	N	S		O	D	D	S

Yesterday's answer

- 19 Shocked sound

21 — de plume (pen names)

23 Center

24 Like the Sahara

25 Commotion

27 Taking it easy

30 Two-way
- curve

33 Coup group

34 Loudly lament

35 Mystique

37 Bridge action

39 Golf area

41 Cloth scrap

42 Supplement, with "out"

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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				

DAILY LOTTERY



14 23 43 44 54
Meganumber: 39
Jackpot: \$16M



5 7 11 20 22
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: \$19M



5 6 21 23 34



MIDDAY: 0 0 3
EVENING: 8 1 7



1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:42.24

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Lamont Cooke was arrested by a SWAT team in Vernon, Conn., in July after spending the last year on the run from Philadelphia and Maryland authorities, who wanted him for charges of kidnapping and murder. According to the arresting U.S. marshal, Cooke surrendered quietly, except that he wet his pants. A police task force in Orem, Utah, arrested a 21-year-old gang member in June, catching him riding a tricycle that he had just stolen from a little girl.

■ Montreal, Quebec, psychiatrists Joel and Ian Gold believe they have identified five patients between them who are deluded to the point where they are certain they are starring in reality TV shows or movies about their lives. In the well-established Capgras delusion, a patient believes that his immediate family has been replaced by look-alike actors, but the Golds' five patients believe that their every movement is being broadcast around the world (and have named the disorder the "Truman Show delusion" after the 1998 movie starring Jim Carrey), according to a July National Post story.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1774 the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

1793 the Reign of Terror began during the French Revolution as the National Convention instituted harsh measures to repress counterrevolutionary activities.

1836 Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas.

1914 the 1st Battle of the Marne, resulting in a French-British victory over Germany, began during World War I.

1958 the novel "Doctor Zhivago" by Russian author Boris Pasternak was published in the United States for the first time.

1975 President Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, Calif.

WORD UP!

immolate \IM-uh-layt\, *transitive verb*:
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2. To kill or destroy, often by fire.

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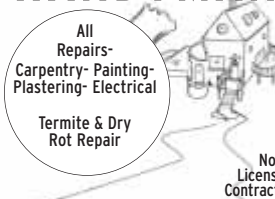
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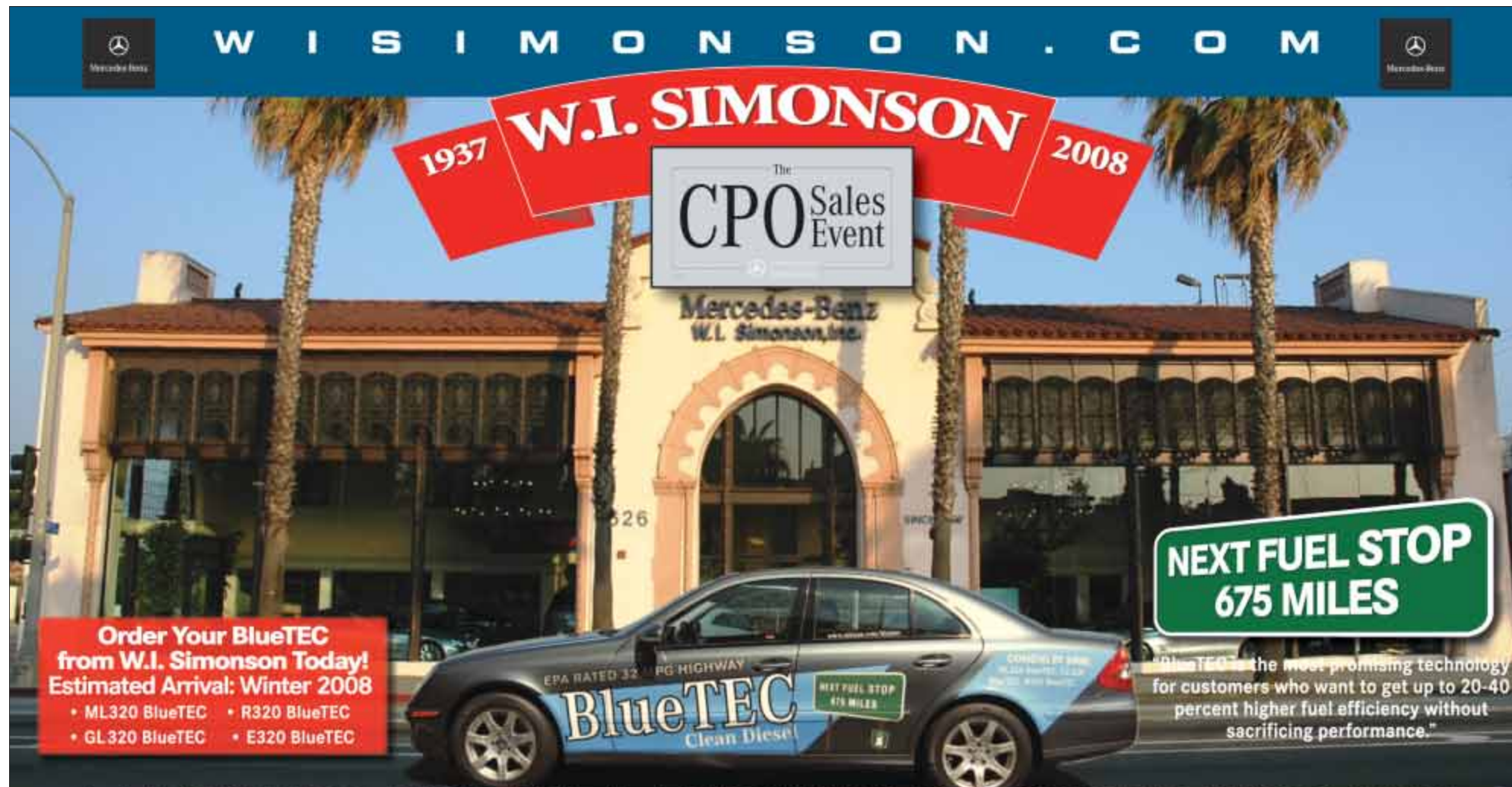
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