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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 265

Santa Monica Daily Press

THE BEST WAY TO WATCH TELEVISION
SEE PAGE 3

We have you covered

THE SLOW NEWS DAY ISSUE

Travolta's vintage Mercedes stolen in Santa Monica

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

BERKELEY ST Talk about greased lightning.

It took only 10 minutes for actor John Travolta to become a victim, his vintage Mercedes-Benz 280 SL swiped by a car thief Sunday afternoon while he was visiting a nearby Jaguar dealership, police said.

Travolta, 57, who played bad boy Danny Zuko in the cult classic "Grease," parked the 1970 sports car in the 1400 block of Berkeley Street. When he returned, he found only an empty parking space, said Santa Monica Police Sgt. Richard Lewis.

Travolta went back to the dealership and waited for police. There were reportedly no witnesses.

Lewis said Travolta told investigators the car was worth roughly $35,000, however, that model Mercedes can sell for as much as $100,000.

No word yet if the thief intentionally targeted Travolta.

On top of his love of airplanes, the actor is also an avid car collector.

In addition to owning a Rolls-Royce, Mercedes SL 500 and Jaguar XJ6, Travolta counts his classic Thunderbirds among his favorite vehicles.

"I have a '55, '56 and '57 Thunderbird — American Fords in the great old tradition," he told the Times of London in 2007. "I love the fact that they could achieve speed and distance with such style. I don't use them for long journeys any more, but to just enjoy the drive."


TRAVOLTA

kevinh@smdp.com



photo courtesy Douglas Olmedo

SHOW'S OVER: **Santa Monica resident and Heal The Bay volunteer Adam Corlin on Monday takes down the art project 'Oceans At Risk' that he displayed at a home he is remodeling located on Berkeley Street. His plan to remove the mural following Coastal Cleanup Day, which was held Saturday.**

Collaboration between volunteer, graffiti artists achieves goal

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

BERKELEY ST After 11 contentious days, the colorful panels that completely encased a dilapidated house in a residential neighborhood have been removed, and both city officials and the builder can say they got what they wanted.

Fifteen volunteers worked for several hours Monday to remove each of the 138 panels. The panels were loaded up into a truck borrowed from Buerge Ford in Santa Monica and taken to an undisclosed location.

Adam Corlin, the builder and designer who purchased the house approximately three-and-a-half months ago, said that the monolithic art project, entitled "Oceans at Risk," had achieved its goal — to bring awareness to the challenges that face the world's oceans.

He erected the project with the help of two renowned graffiti artists — RISK and RETNA, both of whom have work on display at the Pasadena Museum of California Art — on Sept. 8 in the run up to the California Coastal Cleanup, a statewide event that local environmental nonprofit

SEE ART PAGE 9

Council wants displaced renters to get more cash

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Santa Monica city officials, long praised and decried for their staunch defense of renters' rights, are looking to extend to all tenants protections guaranteed by a harassment ordinance for rent-controlled apartments, as well as mandate extra money for those forced to relocate from their homes.

The concept was brought before the City Council for discussion last Tuesday by Adam Radinsky, head of the Consumer Protection Division for the City Attorney's Office, on behalf of the Rent Control Board.

The tenant harassment ordinance prevented landlords of rent controlled-apartments from forcing tenants out in order to raise rents to higher-priced market value before it got locked in again under a new tenant.

Rent control laws do not apply to apartments built after 1979.

The change in the harassment ordinance recommended by the Rent Control Board would extend those protections to all renters with just cause eviction protections, which were guaranteed under the 2010 voter Measure RR.

Measure RR ensured that renters would get "reasonable time" to correct violations of rental agreements except for non-payment of rent, and prevents most landlords from evicting elderly, disabled and terminally ill tenants.

Although landlords of market rate apartments don't have the same motivations to

SEE PROTECTION PAGE 8

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at the High Bar

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011

Sing it aloud
Senior Center
1450 Ocean Ave., 10:30 a.m.
Calling all singers. Come and show off your singing skill. The center welcomes you to participate in this fun sing-a-long with Douglas and Mary Jane. Must be a Senior Center member and 50 or older to participate; membership is free. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

Stories for the little ones
Ocean Park Library
2601 Main St., 10 a.m.
Join Mr. Jesse for stories, rhymes, songs and even puppets. For more information, call (310) 458-8683.

For art's sakes
Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club
1210 Fourth St.,
11:30 a.m. — 2 p.m.
The Artists League of the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club invites you to drop in to work on independent projects in watercolor, gouache and collage. This is a self-directed workshop that provides a supportive environment for those wishing to concentrate on their painting and an opportunity for painters to learn from each other. For more information, call (310) 310-2273.

Writers group
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 12 p.m.
Meet with other aspiring writers for inspiration, guidance and support during this regular meeting. For more information, call (310) 450-0443.

Authors line up
SMC Main Campus
1900 Pico Blvd., 11:15 a.m.
Prolific writer and Cal Tech physicist Sean Carroll will kick off SMC's fall Literary Series with his talk, "The Origins of the Universe and the Arrow of Time." All lectures are free and held in Humanities & Social Science Lecture Hall 165. The series is sponsored by the SMC Associates, a private organization that funds speakers and special programs on campus, and the SMC English Department. Currently in its ninth year, the SMC literary series has brought to campus such acclaimed authors as Khaled Hosseini, author of the best-selling "The Kite Runner;" Audrey Niffenegger, author of the best-selling "Time Traveler's Wife;" and Jonathan Safran Foer, author of "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close."

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2011

State of public education
St. Anne's Church Community Room
1519 20th St., 7 p.m.
Jackie Goldberg, former Assembly member and former president of the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education, will be the guest speaker at the September general membership meeting of the Santa Monica Democratic Club. She will address the state of public education and the possibility of regaining a two-thirds majority in the state Legislature, with ample time for Q & A. Free parking is available and refreshments will be offered. The program is free and open to the general public.

Planning on it
City Council Chambers
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
Check out the Planning Commission meeting where members will be discussing whether or not to grant a permit to Walgreens to sell alcohol at their planned store at Lincoln and Pico boulevards. Commissioners will also discuss a development agreement for a four-story mixed-use residential development at Seventh Street and Arizona Avenue, and consider allowing alternative vehicles to be sold on the Third Street Promenade. For more information call (310) 458-8341.

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com/communitylistings



Netflix and beyond: new ways to watch TV, movies

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK The DVD-by-mail service Netflix built its business on will soon be known as Qwikster. The rebranding follows Netflix's decision to split its DVD rental business from its online streaming service, a move that raised the prices for customers who want both by as much as 60 percent.

Netflix and the newly-minted Qwikster have a growing list of competitors that offer movies and TV shows streamed online, on DVDs, or through on-demand cable TV. Choosing the right service will depend on your appetite for video. Do you want the latest movies or the greatest classics? Would you prefer cheap or better on-the-go access?

Of the online options, Netflix has the most content available for streaming over the Internet, though cable TV providers have pay-per-view options with a better selection of recent movies. Apple and Amazon, meanwhile, let you rent a la carte if you don't want to commit to a monthly plan but want the latest movies.

Here's a look at some of the options out there:

• Amazon's Instant Video

Amazon.com Inc.'s service offers thousands of movies and TV show episodes for online rental. Rental prices range from $1 to $5. There is no Netflix-like monthly subscription plan, so this option is best if you're looking for an a la carte plan that lets you pick what you want to watch. You'll have access to a video for one to seven days once you begin watching.

Amazon is offering free movie streaming to shoppers who pay $79 a year for a Prime membership, which offers free two-day shipping and discounts on next-day shipping. The selection of movies, though, is much smaller than Netflix's. Amazon offers roughly 6,000 movies and TV shows for streaming over an Internet connection for its Prime subscribers. By contrast, Netflix offers more than 20,000.

With Amazon, you can stream movies and shows on computers or on TV sets using a compatible, Internet-connected device such as a Blu-ray player or a set-top box from the likes of Sony, Panasonic, TiVo or Logitech.

• Apple iTunes

Renting movies through Apple Inc.'s iTunes is another pay-per-view option to access the latest dramas, comedies or TV shows. You can rent regular or high-definition flicks and watch them on an iPhone, iPad, computer or TV set using an Apple TV set-top box.

Apple lets you rent first-run, high-definition movies the day they come out on DVD for $5 each, though most movies cost $3 or $4. TV shows are generally $1. You can watch rentals for a day or two from when you start playing them.

As with Amazon, renting movies through Apple is a good option if you want the latest releases as soon as possible. There are thousands of movies available, though iTunes doesn't have as many obscure, indie flicks as Netflix's streaming library. But, if you watch just a few shows or movies a month, it might be a cheaper option.

• Blockbuster

Under the new ownership of Dish Network Corp., Blockbuster has shifted to per-day pricing to better compete against Redbox and others. Just-released movies were lowered to $3 for the first day. Other new movies are $2 for the first day. Additional days are $1. These prices apply to DVD rentals as well as movies rented online.

Blockbuster offers no monthly streaming plan. Its DVD-by-mail subscriptions are pricier than Netflix's — $12 a month for one movie or video game at a time or $17 for unlimited two-at-a-time rentals. Netflix's DVD-only plan is $8 per month for one and $12 for two.

You can still return discs to any of Blockbuster's 1,700 remaining stores, if you have one nearby, and exchange them for new ones. You can also download Blockbuster movies to your compatible PC, tablet or smartphone. The company says movies available for download often accessible long before they are at Netflix.

Blockbuster makes sense if you live near its stores and prefer DVDs to streaming.

• Cable

For those who don't want to cancel their cable service, cable TV providers such as Comcast and Time Warner offer on-demand options to their monthly subscribers.

Time Warner charges $5 for a new movie release and $2 for older movies. Other cable TV companies have similar pricing. Movies are sometimes free, including those that come with a subscription to HBO or other premium channels.

Of course, you need monthly cable service. The average cost of Comcast Inc.'s basic package is about $60 for TV service, about 100 digital channels, music channels, video on demand and XfinityTV.com. Time Warner Cable Inc.'s average monthly package also runs about $60 and gives access to more than 100 channels.

Comcast gets movies often on the same day they are available on DVD and says many of its indie films are available as soon as they come out in theaters. That makes it an option if you can pony up a bigger monthly subscription fee and value seeing recently released films. Being a subscriber also gives you access to its offerings online and on the iPad and iPhone.

Time Warner Cable has a catalog of about 10,000 movies. It also gets movies the same day they come out on DVD, giving it more recent content than Netflix streaming. Time Warner Cable has an iPad app and you can watch its content inside your home — though not at coffee shops or other public places— with Wi-Fi.

• Hulu and Hulu Plus

Parent companies including The Walt Disney Co., News Corp. and Comcast Corp. are looking to sell the online video service, but that hasn't stopped it from offering thousands of TV show episodes and movies to its viewers.

Besides a free option, Hulu Plus subscribers can pay $8 per month for more content, high-definition viewing and access on the iPad and newer-model iPhones, as well as video game consoles and high-end TV sets from Samsung, Sony or others.

Hulu's content skews more toward TV shows than movies, though both are available. It's a good option for those looking to watch shows such as the "Daily Show," "Family Guy" or "The Office."

Both Hulu and Hulu Plus show advertisements, though on Hulu Plus there are movies available without commercial interruption.

• Netflix (new, streaming-only plan)

After the company's rebranding takes effect in a few weeks, Netflix will refer only to the company's online streaming plan, which costs $8 a month. Subscribers get access to Netflix's trove of more than 20,000 movies and TV shows. In a blog post late Sunday, CEO Reed Hastings also promised "substantial" additional streaming content coming in the next few months.

• Qwikster

This is the "old" Netflix under a new name. Qwikster will offer online DVD rentals, shipped to you in the red envelopes Netflix has become known for. The prices are unchanged from July, when Netflix announced it was separating its streaming and DVD rental plans. To have one DVD out at a time, subscribers will pay $8 a month. Two DVDs at a time cost $12 per month.

• Redbox

Redbox, a unit of Coinstar Inc., has more than 27,000 bright-red DVD kiosks in grocery stores, drugstores and elsewhere around the U.S. Customers can rent DVDs for $1 per night. Blu-ray movies are available for $1.50 per night.

Depending on how many movies you watch, this could be a cheaper option than Netflix, but the options are more limited. Each kiosk holds 200 newly-released titles, which are updated every Tuesday.

Through concessions with Hollywood studios, Redbox has agreed to delay renting titles from Universal, Warner Bros. and Fox until nearly a month after the DVD versions go on sale. Netflix's DVD plan has similar restrictions.



CLASSIC

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Made in America

Editor:

Yesterday I was in Wal-Mart looking for a wastebasket. I found some made in China for $6.99. I didn't want to pay that much so I asked the lady if they had any others. She took me to another department and they had some at $2.50 made in U.S.A. They are just as good. Same as a kitchen rug I needed. I had to look, but I found some made in the U.S.A. and they were $3 cheaper.

We are being brain washed that everything that comes from China and Mexico is cheaper. Not so. That is also why I don't buy cards at Hallmark anymore. They are made in China and are expensive. I buy them at Dollar Tree – 50 cents each and made in U.S.A.

I was in Lowe's the other day and just for the heck of it I was looking at the hose attachments. They were all made in China. The next day I was in Ace Hardware and just for the heck of it I checked the hose attachments there. They were made in U.S.A.

In our current economic situation, every little thing we buy or do affects someone else – even their job.

My grandson likes Hershey's candy. I noticed, though, that it is marked "made in Mexico" now. I do not buy it any more. My favorite toothpaste Colgate is made in Mexico. Now I have switched to Crest. You have to read the labels on everything.

So throw out the myth that you cannot find products you use every day that are made right here. My challenge to you is to start reading the labels when you shop for everyday things and see what you can find that is made in the U.S.A. – the job you save may be your own or your neighbors!

Let's get with the program and help our fellow Americans keep their jobs and create more jobs here in the U.S.A.

Frank Greenberg
Santa Monica

Compared to what

Editor:

I appreciate SMDP reporter Ashley Archibald's efforts to search for airports that might compare with our Santa Monica Airport (SMO), and although there may be some similarities between North Las Vegas Airport (VGT) and SMO, the differences are striking ("A tale of two airports," Sept. 17-18). I believe if there existed an airport that compares with SMO, I would have heard about it by now from some aviation enthusiast.

I wonder if Las Vegas residents would be as upset as Santa Monica and Los Angeles residents are if their VGT really did compare with our SMO. I do know our local residents are not inclined to gamble with danger and health risks from SMO operations.

I also would like to state for the record that I am not an "anti-airport activist." I am not against aviation or airports, but after years of sorting through the facts and the fictions, I have come to advocate for the closure of SMO. I guess you could say that I am an anti-SMO activist, although I prefer to be acknowledged by my title, director of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution (CRAAP).

Martin Rubin
West Los Angeles





What's the Point?

David Pisarra — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

We're going canine crazy

COUPLES FREQUENTLY USE A DOG AS A way to deepen their relationship, and treat the experience like a starter child. But when the relationship ends, what do you do about the dog?

Well, luckily I have a new book coming out which deals with pets and separations. If you've ever loved a dog, and had to give it up because you no longer loved the person you shared the dog with, this book is for you. It will show you how to develop a plan to share custody.

Lots of people think I'm nuts, but the reality is that as more and more of us forgo procreating, we adopt animals, and those animals become our children. They are treated to gourmet food, the best medical care that is available, they have groomers and daycare. Pets are a multi-billion dollar industry devoted to making sure that today's domesticated animals, whether they be dogs, cats, guinea pigs, and some undomesticated but popular choices like pythons, parrots, and iguanas, receive the care that is better than most Americans get.

We have excellent veterinarians in this town, devoted to pet care. My dog goes to Wilshire Animal Hospital for most of his care. This is the place where he gets his teeth cleaned, his annual physical, his emergency care for when he decides to wolf down a chocolate covered protein bar or gets stung by a bee and his muzzle swells up.

When it comes to exercise, we have dog parks all over town. From the edge of the Santa Monica/Los Angeles border at the Santa Monica Airport, to almost on the beach at Main and Bay streets. There are easily over a dozen different people and companies who make sure that your dog can be walked on a daily basis. I did a search on the Internet and found multiple facilities that are devoted to exercise and grooming in town. My friend, Jonathan Klein, who was voted Los Angeles' best dog trainer by LaCityVoter, has a new facility in West Los Angeles. His new facility has training and boarding in a brand new, 5,000-square-foot facility. You can check it out at www.IsaidSit.com.

If your dog is a bit of a handful and has some behavioral problems that you want to address, the other great trainer around here is Colleen Steckloff, who has worked with many different problems. She's at www.LaK9s.com. Her reputation is stellar for working with dogs that need one-on-one training. She worked with actress Kathy Griffin (Hey girl!) and her dog Pom Pom, when there were some issues.

For grooming, I've taken my dog to a couple of different places, but the one that I go back to time and again is Pet Affaire on Lincoln. They're super-friendly, and consistently good. Barky, that's his nickname, doesn't particularly like being groomed, I'm not sure any dog does, but at least I know he's well taken care of and comes out looking and smelling like a million bucks.

LOTS OF PEOPLE THINK I'M NUTS, BUT THE REALITY IS THAT AS MORE AND MORE OF US FOREGO PROCREATING, WE ADOPT ANIMALS, AND THOSE ANIMALS BECOME OUR CHILDREN.

The pet industry's size and growth over the years is an indicator of two things to me, one that we may be raising our awareness of how we treat animals overall. That's probably not a bad thing, though a bit goofy at times. Two, that more and more of us are choosing not to have kids, which is a great thing on a global scale.

Or we could just be obsessive over a dog, because we're redirecting our parenting drives into an animal. But either way they are fun, and they give us so much back in terms of love and devotion, which is why we get so attached to them. And that is the underlying purpose of my new book. When we get attached to the dog, we don't want to let go of that source of love and affection, even if the relationship with the ex ends, we still want to share the pet. My book will be available soon on Amazon and Barnes and Noble, once the launch party is locked down, I'll announce it and you're all invited.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on father's rights and men's issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.



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Your column here

Dr. Carson Liu

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Realities of Lap-Band surgery

ANYONE CONSIDERING THE LAP-BAND AS a solution to their obesity might be wondering if its safe after seeing the latest news stories involving a marketing campaign (1-800-GET-THIN) and doctors associated with it. The answer is a resounding "Yes!" provided you do some due diligence and don't assume all doctors are properly qualified to perform the procedure.

Fortunately, there are many capable physicians who have terrific qualifications, training and experience. It just takes a little effort to ensure your doctor has the proper credentials. The truth is the Lap-Band is one of the safest procedures available for weight loss.

We've had patients confused and paralyzed with indecision when a negative article comes out about the marketing firm for Lap-Band in Southern California. You've surely seen their billboards. Fortunately, there are thousands of Lap-Band procedures being performed on a monthly basis without any problems.

Surgeons from around the country as well as patients have approached me wondering about the Beverly Hills marketing firm responsible for the negative news. They ask, "How can people die from one of the safest procedures available for weight loss?"

Well there shouldn't be deaths from the Lap-Band, plain and simple. Follow a few guidelines and you can ensure a positive experience for yourself or your loved one. Below is a simple guide and my recommendations for any patient considering surgery for weight loss with the Lap-Band device:

1. Ask yourself, "Am I a candidate for surgery?" FDA guidelines state that you need to have a BMI greater than 30 kg/m2 with a medical illness or a BMI greater than 35 kg/m2 without any illnesses. Your insurance coverage guidelines may be different from the FDA.

2. Make your appointment with the surgeon's actual office, not a marketing firm offering various surgeons.

3. Don't make your decision off of the first advertisement you run across.

4. Do your research on your doctor. Start with basic Internet research. Does the doctor have the credentials? Is the doctor board certified? Are there any complaints at the Medical Board of California? Ask your friends, family and doctors if they have ever heard anything good or bad about the doctor. Is the surgeon a fellow of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. This means they are in a clinic that belongs to Center of Excellence by Surgical Review Corp. Is the surgeon a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. This means that they are board certified in surgery.

5. Always get at least two or three consultations from different surgeons who perform the Lap-Band procedure. The more interviews, the better educated you will be to make an informed decision.

6. Ask the doctor how many Lap-Band procedures he has performed, and whether there have been any deaths or serious complications from his work.

7. Talk to other patients who have had the procedure from the doctor's office.

8. Look up the name of doctors you're considering on the Medical Board of California to see if there are any complaints about them; or are they in the news for problems or deaths associated with their work?

9. Get a feel if the doctor is truly interested in treating you, the patient. Don't accept being made to feel like you're being rushed through a medical mill.

10. Do you get to meet the doctor who will perform your procedure prior to the surgery and will that doctor examine you?

11. Ask the doctor how many adjustments per year he'd expect to make. This will give you an indication of his long-term commitment to your care. Research shows that about three adjustments per year are optimal for best results.

12. Ask if the surgeon is on the faculty or board of advisors for certifying other surgeons for bariatric procedures. (I admit this may appear a bit self-serving as I am on both, but I've found that quality doctors participate in such ways.)

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DR. CARSON LIU is a board certified, Santa Monica-based surgeon specializing in weight loss surgery and GERD (heartburn). He can be reached via e-mail at Doc@DrCarsonLiu.com or (310) 208-0474, or www.drcarsonliu.com.

The Q Line

Barking up the wrong beach?

A group known as Unleash the Beach is gearing up for another run at creating a dog beach in Santa Monica where pooches can run free.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Are you in support of creating an area on the beach where dogs can play? Or do you think it would create too many problems?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 102.**





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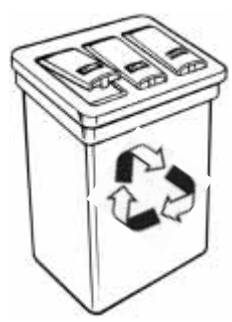
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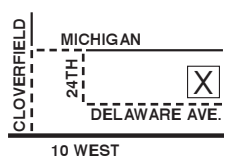


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Some parents trying early potty training over diapers

BY BROOKE DONALD
Associated Press

PALO ALTO, Calif. Cen Campbell travels unusually light for a mom with a young child. No wet wipes. No changing pad. No disposable diapers.

The extra baggage isn't necessary because when Campbell's toddler Jude needs to go to the bathroom, she brings him to the toilet. They've been doing this — with mixed success — since he was just 12 days old.

"I wouldn't want to sit in a wet diaper, so why would I make my child do it?" said Campbell.

In the U.S., most new parents would count diapers among the "can't live without" items for bringing up baby. But some are rejecting that conventional wisdom and helping their children use the toilet from the first few weeks and months of life.

Fans of infant potty training, also called elimination communication or natural infant hygiene, say it's better for the environment, more economical and a unique way to bond with their child.

Most babies brought up this way, including Jude, wear diapers — usually cloth — as back up, but get away with using many fewer than babies who are not accustomed to using a potty or toilet from a very young age.

"It seemed to make more sense, especially when I started to notice there were patterns," said Campbell, a volunteer librarian at Blossom Birth, a parent resource center in Palo Alto. "If you know when they're going to go, why not hold them over the potty?"

While the idea sounds novel, it goes back centuries and spans cultures, said Laurie Boucke, author of "Infant Potty Training," which explains the concept and how to do it.

"It's been used since the beginning of time very successfully in many cultures including in India, Africa, China and even here," Boucke said.

The theory is that babies have a desire to be clean, are aware of their bodily functions and can learn to communicate their needs, just as they communicate when they're hungry and tired. Relying on diapers, proponents say, trains babies to ignore their natural instinct.

"We bathe the baby, we feed the baby, we do all these other things and you wonder, why not do this?" Boucke said. "If you start really little, they learn from association really quickly."

The practice, ideally started before a baby is 6 months old, involves observing an infant's cues that he's ready to go to the bathroom, such as grunts, teary eyes or flushed cheeks, then bringing him to a toilet.

Caregivers sometimes make a hissing sound while holding the child over the bowl, or time visits to the toilet when the baby is likely to need to eliminate, such as before and after nursing and before and after naps.

The purpose of all this "is to help babies maintain natural awareness of their bodies, and to communicate with them," said Lisa Baker, a spokeswoman for DiaperFreeBaby.org, a website that connects similarly-minded parents around the world.

Baker, of Atlanta, became interested in elimination communication for ecological reasons, figuring she could save water by not washing as many cloth diapers and landfill space by avoiding disposables.

She was surprised to find that she also saved money, and ended up feeling uniquely bonded to her daughter Anastasia, who was taken to the toilet beginning at two weeks old and was in underwear by 12 months old.

"It connects you on a whole other level. It's like you're reading your baby's mind. It's just a thrill to feel that connection," she said.

There is no age when toilet training is supposed to start. The American Academy of Pediatrics says many children show "signs of readiness" around their second birthday. On its website, the organization says most children don't have complete daytime control over their elimination until 3 or 4 years old.

Child expert Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, who promotes a child-oriented approach to potty training starting it when the child is motivated, said he doesn't see a problem with elimination communication but believes it is unrealistic for most families in the U.S., where jobs, childcare or family situations could make it hard for parents to do.

"It's nothing new, but something people have gone back to because they think it seems like a wonderful way to be close," said Brazelton, who co-authored "Toilet Training: The Brazelton Way" with Dr. Josh Sparrow.

"The reality is, as we've moved work out of the home, we've needed to come up with a new way," Sparrow added.

Parents who do it say the key is to not get stressed out about it.

Serena and Isaac Weingrod, who live in Mountain View, said they decided to try elimination communication when their daughter Adah was 2 months old because it seemed easier and cleaner than the cloth diapers they had been using. But they weren't overly ambitious.

"Our goal wasn't to potty train early," Serena Weingrod said. "We just kind of looked at it like every time we got her to the toilet, it was one less diaper to change."

Now 2 years old, Adah is fully potty trained.

"Her pants are falling off now without any diaper to hold them up," her mother says. "Everyone says you need to make her some suspenders."



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Video of California gay marriage trial to be unsealed

BY LISA LEFF
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO A federal judge decided Monday to unseal video recordings of last year's landmark trial on the constitutionality of California's same-sex marriage ban.

Chief U.S. District Judge James Ware agreed with lawyers for two same-sex couples who sued to overturn Proposition 8 and with a collection of news outlets — including The Associated Press — that no compelling reasons exist to keep the recordings secret.

His order will take effect on Sept. 30 unless a higher court overrules him.

"Foremost among the aspects of the federal judicial system that foster public confidence in the fairness and integrity of the process are public access to trials and public access to the record of judicial proceedings," Ware wrote in his 14-page order.

The religious and conservative groups that sponsored the voter-approved ban known as Proposition 8 had opposed having the videos made public.

They argued that Ware's predecessor, former Chief Judge Vaughn Walker, had assured them the recordings would be made only for his private use. Walker decided to tape the proceedings after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the trial could not be broadcast.

"Today's decision is bizarre for many reasons, but mostly because it defies a direct order of the U.S. Supreme Court," Andy Pugno, general counsel to the Protect Marriage coalition. "We will appeal immediately to the Ninth Circuit and ask them to restore some sanity to this case."

Walker ultimately struck down Proposition 8, ruling that it violated the civil rights of gay and lesbian Californians. The constitutional implications, as well as the right of the ban's backers to challenge Walker's decision without the involvement of the state's attorney general, are under review by a federal appeals court.

In his order, Ware said the Supreme Court ruling addressed only the contemporaneous broadcasting of the trial, and that since it is long over, the videos were no different from written transcripts and other evidence that are routinely made public except in the most extreme circumstances.

Gay rights supporters already have used the written transcripts to recreate the full 13-day trial for online audiences. On Monday night, a star-studded cast in New York City was set to debut a play by Oscar-winning screenwriter Dustin Lance Black based on the trial.

S. California grocery union reaches tentative labor deal

BY JACOB ADELMAN
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Negotiators for workers at Southern California's largest grocery chains reached a deal Monday to avoid a repeat of a four-month strike eight years ago that cost the industry $2 billion and created havoc for shoppers.

Union leaders worked through a deadline Sunday, when more than 60,000 workers could have walked off the job, and bargained through the night to reach the tentative pact by noon that addresses health benefits.

The deal likely came as a relief to many shoppers. Supermarket executives had planned to close hundreds of stores if there had been a strike.

"The grocery workers of Southern California stood together, strong and united, throughout this long and difficult process," Southern California's United Food and Commercial Workers local unions said in a news release. "They refused to accept anything less than a contract that protects their wages, benefits and working conditions."

Members were set to vote on the deal Saturday. The union said details of the terms won't be publicly released until the vote is taken.

Some 62,000 grocery employees have been working without a contract since March while in discussions with The Vons Cos.; Ralphs Grocery Co., a subsidiary of The Kroger Co.; and Albertsons, which is owned by Supervalu Inc.

The three companies released a joint statement lauding the deal, which they said "continues to preserve good wages, secure pensions and access to quality, affordable health care — while allowing us to be competitive in the marketplace."

Ralphs had indicated it would initially close all 250 of its stores if there had been a strike; Albertsons had said it could shutter up to 100 of its locations, while Vons had said its stores would remain open.

Both sides in the dispute announced in July that they had reached a tentative agreement on the employers' contributions to pension benefits, but payments to the union health care trust fund remained a major sticking point.

Union members voted overwhelmingly last month to authorize their leaders to call a strike.

Those leaders said they were responding to what they characterized as the chains' delaying tactics when they issued the required 72-hour notice Thursday evening to cancel the contract extension under which they had been working since March.

But after the Sunday evening deadline came and went with neither a strike nor a deal, store employees returned to work Monday.

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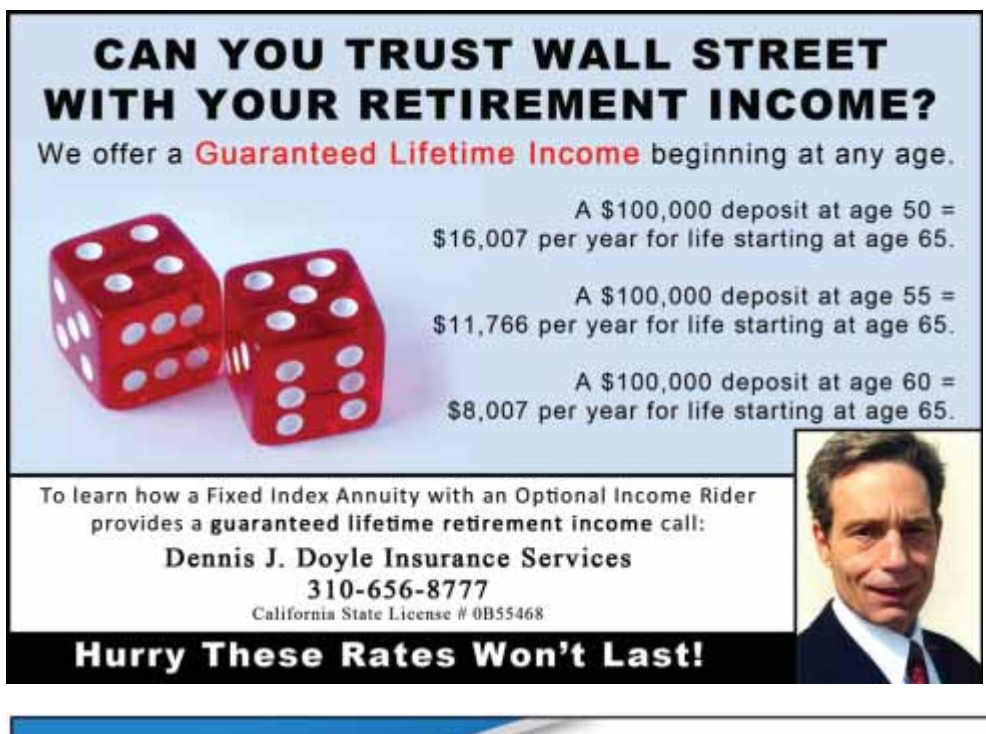
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PROTECTION

FROM PAGE 1

toss out their tenants, there's still enough to warrant protections, Radinsky said.

According to the staff report, tenants in federal rent programs or deed-restricted apartments might be subject to harassment from landlords, as well as those who complain too much about code violations.

"There are compelling examples," Radinsky said. "There is no downside to extending those protections across the board."

City Councilman Kevin McKeown stood behind the extension, saying that it would help cover residents new to Santa Monica.

"Everyone deserves fair treatment and reasonable stability in their housing, and we are moving to provide those to as many people as possible," McKeown said.

The council also looked at increasing the amount of money for renters that are forced to relocate when landlords take properties off the rental market.

The process, which uses a state law called the Ellis Act, lets owners evict tenants with the understanding that the property cannot come back onto the market for several years.

Landlords must also pay tenants a relocation benefit to leave.

According to Radinsky's report, Santa Monica has actually lost ground to other cities like West Hollywood and Los Angeles in the amount of money guaranteed to tenants under those circumstances.

"Four years ago, we addressed the amounts and raised them. West Hollywood and Los Angeles had much larger increases based on rent values," Radinsky told the council. "Santa Monica has fallen behind in these relocation amounts."

As of today, the Santa Monica ordinance guarantees a minimum $5,650 payment and a maximum of $11,550. That's compared to a range of $7,300 to $18,300 in Los Angeles and $5,100 to $17,000 in West Hollywood.

According to the staff report, both cities offer substantially higher amounts, particularly when you take into account that Santa Monica has higher average rent than either.

The increases in West Hollywood were based on problems with tenants in rent-stabilized housing not having the ready cash to put down on a new place after an Ellis eviction, said Elizabeth Savage, rent stabilization manager with West Hollywood.

"This was based on a history of Ellis-ed properties and what the actual costs were for people having to pay higher rents," Savage said. "It was harder for tenants displaced from rent stabilized housing to find adequate affordable housing."

Under the proposed change, Santa Monica landlords would have to pay between $7,800 and $18,750 depending on the size of the apartment in question, and whether or not the tenant qualified for extra assistance, either as a senior, disabled person or a family with children.

To make sure those that qualify get the extra benefits, the change would also get rid of a requirement that the tenant that falls into one of those three categories must have lived in the apartment since Nov. 17, 1999.

Staff recommended that because the proposed relocation fees are based on the maximum allowable rent rather than rent-controlled amounts that may no longer be valid in finding a new place to live.

Staff will bring the proposed ordinance back to the council for approval in coming months.

ashley@smdp.com



ART
FROM PAGE 1

Heal the Bay runs in Los Angeles County.

"I think we accomplished what we wanted to do," Corlin said, noting that Karin Hall, the executive director of Heal The Bay, reported that this had been one of the most successful years in terms of getting volunteers out to the cleanup, which was held Saturday.

The California Coastal Cleanup attracted over 1,000 volunteers who collected more than 1,200 pounds of trash at the five sites in Santa Monica alone, according to Heal the Bay Communications Director Matthew King.

Although unwilling to speak for Corlin, King felt that the project had successfully stimulated debate about the plight of the oceans.

"Sometimes graffiti art can reach people in a way that a scientific paper or a press release never could," King said.

The work — which consisted of panels painted in red, orange, green, blue and a purple-black to depict the sky, sea and pollution — "stimulated debate" not just over the ocean, but over the process by which it came to be on the 800 block of Berkeley Street.

From the moment it was unveiled, Corlin ran into problems with Santa Monica's Building and Safety Division, which immediately ordered the panels to be taken off of the home, at first for safety reasons.

The 138 panels had been installed on scaffolding that completely surrounded the house using between 1,200 and 1,500 wires, which constituted a temporary structure in the eyes of inspectors.

Problematically for Corlin, he'd gotten no permits for the display prior to putting it up.

To do so would have required him to out his project, which he'd carefully completed under shrouds of tarp to surprise the neighborhood.

Corlin was threatened with fines and a court appearance, where he might have been forced to pay City Hall to remove the panels using its own hired help.

A groundswell of community support grew around the project, to the point that lawyers, such as Christine Arden of the Santa Monica law firm Pfeiffer Thigpen FitzGibbon & Ziontz, rallied to help save the work.

Now that it's down, Corlin is looking for a place to install the work on a permanent basis. A few museums have already sent out feelers.

"We're talking to several places to reinstall it," he said. "We'll take a break today, regroup and then start talking to other owners."

City Hall is just waiting on the scaffolding to come down before it closes the book on the safety complaint, said Ron Takiguchi of code enforcement.

After that, it's a matter of consulting with the City Attorney's Office to decide if any fines will be assessed.

Although "Oceans at Risk" may be over, and the ramshackle house on its way to a new life as a Spanish-style hacienda rather than a public art piece, the sun has not yet set on Corlin and RISK's activism.

The duo partnered for the At Risk Foundation, which will help bring awareness to issues including ocean health and the demise of public art.

Corlin hopes to create a curriculum for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District that brings together the Oceans at Risk artists and Heal the Bay educators to teach students about what's going on with the oceans.

RISK chose to focus on public art at this point, particularly overturning the moratorium on murals in Los Angeles.

"This is just the beginning of what we want to do," Corlin said.

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Study finds whooping cough vaccination fades in 3 years

BY MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA The whooping cough vaccine given to babies and toddlers loses much of its effectiveness after just three years — a lot faster than doctors believed — and that could help explain a recent series of outbreaks in the U.S. among children who were fully vaccinated, a study suggests.

The study is small and preliminary, and its authors said the results need to be confirmed through more research. Nevertheless, the findings are likely to stir debate over whether children should get a booster shot earlier than now recommended.

"I was disturbed to find maybe we had a little more confidence in the vaccine than it might deserve," said the lead researcher, Dr. David Witt, chief of infectious disease at the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in San Rafael, Calif. Witt presented his findings Monday at a medical conference in Chicago.

The study was done in California, where whooping cough vaccinations are a hot-button issue. The state had a huge spike in whooping cough cases last year, during which more than 9,100 people fell ill and 10 babies died after exposure from adults or older children. California schools have turned away thousands of middle and high school students this fall who haven't gotten their booster shot.

Government health officials recommend that children get vaccinated against whooping cough in five doses, with the first shot at age 2 months and the final one between 4 and 6 years. Then youngsters are supposed to get a booster shot around 11 or 12. That means a gap of five to eight years.

Witt's study looked at roughly 15,000 children in Marin County, Calif., including 132 who got whooping cough last year. He found that youngsters who had gone three years or more since the last of their series of shots were as much as 20 times more likely to become infected than children who had been more recently vaccinated. The largest number of cases was in children 8 to 12 years old.

Whooping cough, or pertussis, is a highly contagious bacterial disease that in rare cases can be fatal. It leads to severe coughing that causes children to make a distinctive whooping sound as they gasp for breath.

Marin County has a reputation for anti-vaccine sentiment, and Witt said that when he started the study he expected to see the illness concentrated in unvaccinated people. But more than 80 percent of the children who developed whooping cough in Witt's study were fully vaccinated.

California health officials told doctors last year that they could give the booster to kids as young as 7 in an effort to stifle the outbreaks. Federal health officials said that they are still studying the issue and that it is too soon to make that a standard practice.

At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which makes recommendations on childhood shots, officials acknowledged that the vaccine's protection declines, but they said the agency's own studies show the drop-off is not as pronounced as Witt's research found.

The CDC has estimated that the risk of the disease can increase fourfold several years after vaccination, not 10 to 20 times. One reason may be differences in how a case is defined: Witt counted positive test results, while the CDC also requires more than a week of symptoms.

CDC officials stressed that the vaccination is still much better than nothing — it reduces how sick a child becomes. Also, the nation no longer sees thousands of whooping cough deaths each year, as it did before there was a vaccine.

The shots "are still our best protection against pertussis, and they still protect well against fatal disease," said Dr. Tom Clark, who leads the CDC's epidemiology team focused on vaccine-preventable diseases.

A vaccine using killed bacteria was used for decades, but the nation switched over to a new type in the late 1990s that was seen as less likely to cause the arm soreness, fever and more severe side effects associated with the older version. The vaccine is typically given in a combination shot that also protects against tetanus and diphtheria.

Periodic outbreaks still occur in places with high vaccination rates.

The short-term effectiveness of the vaccine has been shown to be 90 percent or higher in the first couple of years, and nearly every state requires children to get the full series of shots before enrolling in school. The long-term effectiveness is not well understood, but researchers thought it was more than three years.

A preliminary study conducted by the CDC last year found the five-dose vaccination for children was about 70 percent effective five years after the last shot. Witt's research suggests the effectiveness may drop much lower than that, perhaps below 50 percent after just three years.

Witt also found that shots work great in the short term. Rates of whooping cough dropped dramatically after kids were age 11 and 12, when many get the booster shot.

The long-term effectiveness of that booster also is not known and has received relatively little study. Health officials are also discussing whether additional boosters may one day be recommended for teenagers or adults.

"It's a little too soon to say much" about the longer-term effectiveness of that booster, said Lara Misegades, a CDC epidemiologist.

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Wisconsin's margarine ban targeted for repeal

BY SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. A quirky Wisconsin law intended to protect the state's dairy industry by making it illegal for restaurants to serve margarine as a replacement for butter is being targeted for repeal.

The 44-year-old law that's little known to most diners is celebrated by some as a colorful part of the Dairy State's past, even inspiring the state Historical Society to sell T-shirts reprinting the language of the law on a yellowish, buttered-colored background.

But the law, so marginalized that the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers doesn't even refer to it in a timeline of significant action affecting the industry, has a loophole: Restaurants can abide by it simply by serving both butter and margarine.

"I literally Googled 'stupid Wisconsin laws' and this one came up as No. 1," said Republican state Rep. Dale Kooyenga, a 32-year-old accountant from Brookfield who wants to undo law he calls silly, antiquated and anti-free market.

Most restaurant owners are aware of the law, but it's not something that the industry talks about, said Pete Hanson, director of government relations for the Wisconsin Restaurant Association. It's simply not an issue, he said.

"Restaurant owners are in business and are successful because they give customers what they want and in Wisconsin that's generally butter," Hanson said. "I don't think there necessarily needs to be a law requiring butter to be on the table. I think most patrons in Wisconsin prefer butter."

The battle over margarine's place in the country was seriously debated after its invention in 1870. The agricultural community, led by Wisconsin's strong dairy interests, saw the artificially produced margarine as an intruder on the market and the rural way of life.

In 1895, just 47 years after it became a state, Wisconsin passed its ban on the sale or use of margarine colored to imitate butter. The pressure to repeal that ban grew in the 1960s as Wisconsin was left as the only state with the prohibition. Residents were getting around the law by buying margarine in neighboring states just across the border.

Then state-Sen. Martin Schreiber, a 26-year-old Democrat who went on to serve as acting governor in the 1970s, proposed doing away with the ban in 1965 but he said rural Republicans bottled it up. So he came up with a creative way to make his case: a blind taste test.

One of butter's most ardent supporters, Republican Sen. Gordon Roseleip, happily took the taste test and promptly chose margarine as better tasting. His flub made national news.

"That was the beginning of the end," Schreiber said.

It wasn't until after his death in 1989 that Roseleip's family members said they had been secretly going to Iowa for years to buy margarine where it was legal to feed it to Roseleip instead of butter out of concerns for his health.

In 1967, two years after the taste test, the state's ban on margarine sales was repealed but the restrictions that Kooyenga hopes to undo were passed.

"Our laws are important and should be respected," Kooyenga said in a letter to lawmakers earlier this month asking for their support. "Silly laws erode citizens' respect for the overall rule of law in our state."

Only one or two complaints about restaurants violating the law come in a year to the state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, said spokeswoman Donna Gilson. It issues warning letters, she said.

"We're not out there looking for this," Gilson said.

The law Kooyenga seeks to replace also requires that butter be served to students, patients and inmates at state institutions, except as necessary for the health of the person. In accordance with the law, butter is served to the roughly 21,000 inmates in Wisconsin's prisons.

"It's pretty much butter across the board," said Department of Corrections spokeswoman Linda Eggert.

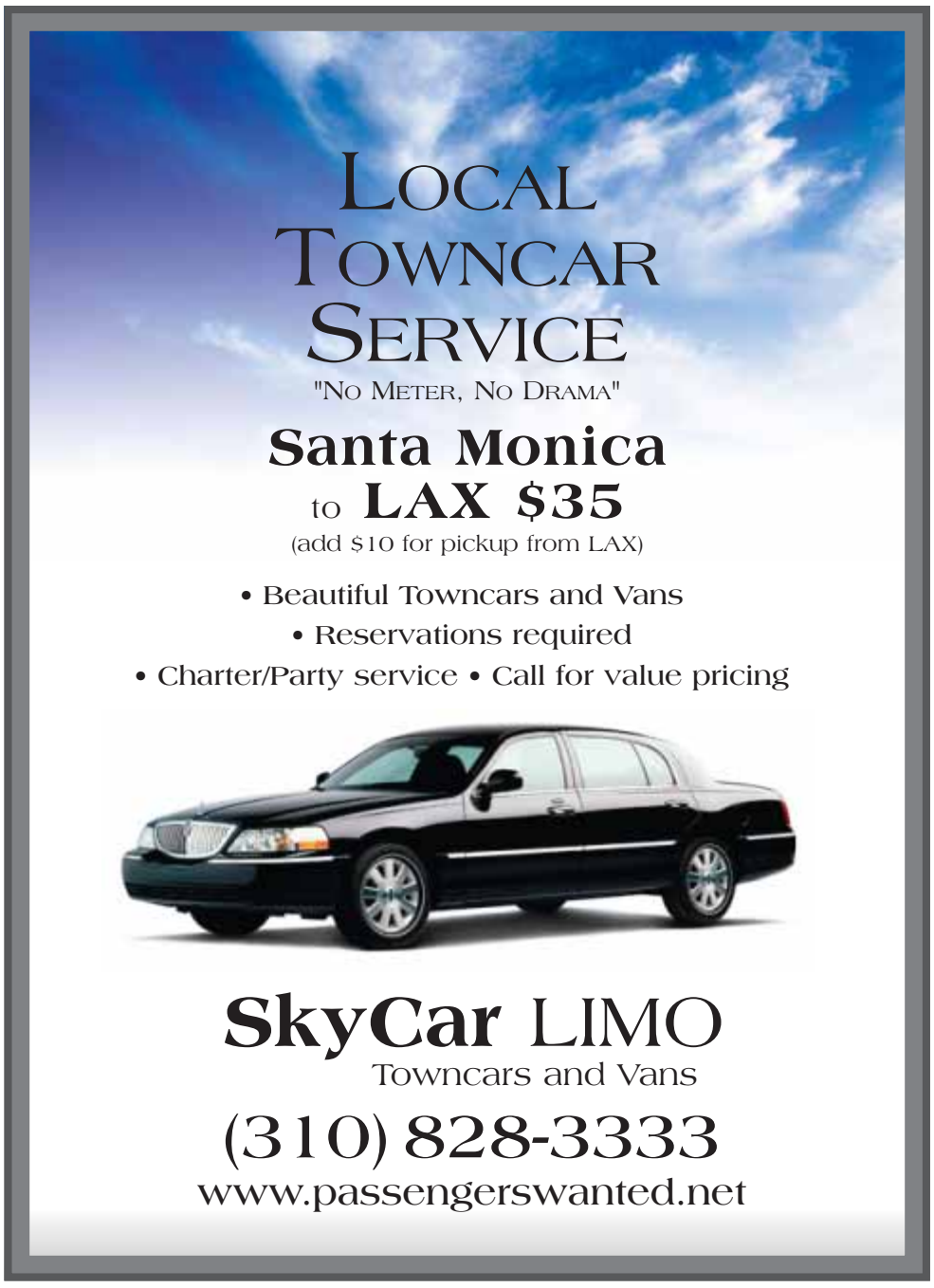
Kooyenga argues that changing the law would save the state money since margarine is typically a third of the cost of butter.

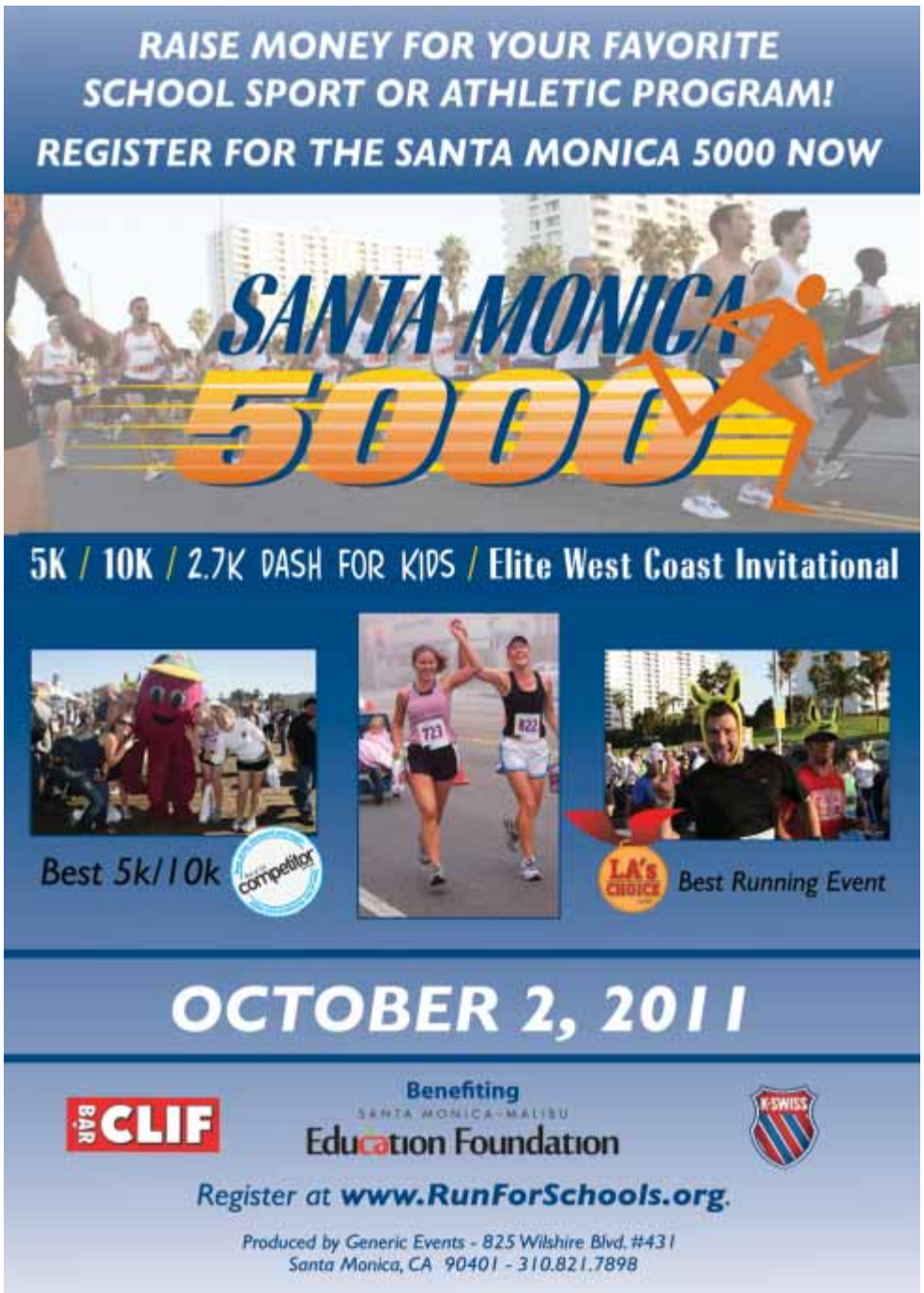
Breaking the law is punishable by up to three months in jail, but Kooyenga said it's never enforced.

No one is registered as lobbying either in support or opposition to the bill and Kooyenga said he does not think, unlike in past battles over butter, that there will be much fervor one way or the other this time around.

It doesn't appear his idea for change is spreading too quickly in the Legislature. So far, only 11 other lawmakers out of 132 have signed on as co-sponsors.









SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

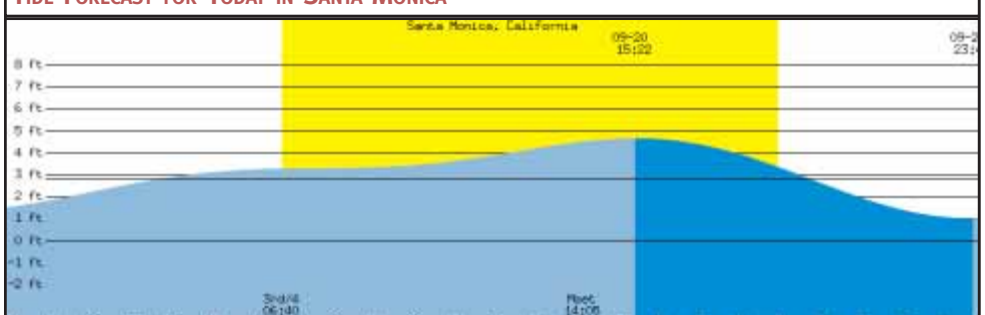
Swell Forecast

NW swell come ashore, hitting SB/VC early in the day, and finally SD mid to late morning. Size should run head high at most west facing breaks with pluses at standouts going about 2' overhead.

Long Range Synopsis

NW is expected to back off a bit, more along the lines of chest to at times head high for west facing breaks.

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 30 days up to the ending date of **September 14, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 29 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Diller – von Furstenberg Family Foundation, Grousbeck Family Foundation, simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SMA

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alisa creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Rominer Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A	ns
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	D	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	C	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A	ns
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	C	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty).	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	ns

LEGEND

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

Heal the Bay'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.

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

Heal the Bay

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

NHL

Kings, Westgarth extended

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. Kevin Westgarth believes he can be more than an enforcer, and the Los Angeles Kings think he is right.

The Kings signed Westgarth to a two-year, $1.45 million deal on Monday, keeping the physical forward under contract through the 2013-14 season.

Westgarth won his first NHL job as the Kings' enforcer last season, recording three points and 105 penalty minutes in 56 games. He also played in two postseason games against San Jose, and the experience left him hungry to evolve into an NHL regular.

"I'm ecstatic to extend my time here," Westgarth said after a training camp workout. "It's a really special group of people who are going to do some great things in the next couple of years."

The 27-year-old Princeton product signed with the Kings as a free agent in 2007, working his way through the minor-league system before cracking the Los Angeles roster a year ago. He has developed a friendly rivalry with Anaheim enforcer George Parros, who's also a former Princeton player.

Early in the summer, Westgarth married Meagan Cowher, a former Princeton basketball player and the daughter of former Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher.

Westgarth said he spent the rest of the summer preparing for camp, reaching new goals in conditioning and strength while working on his "all-around game."

"I feel better than I ever have before, by a long shot," Westgarth said. "It's a lot easier (going into camp) just being around the same group of guys again. You get to know the guys a lot better and just get a little more confident."

NCAA FOOTBALL

UCLA swaps starting QBs again after Texas loss

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES The nonconference portion of UCLA's schedule went mostly wrong for coach Rick Neuheisel.

He hopes a return to conference play with a definite starting quarterback can get the Bruins' season back on track.

Neuheisel shuffled his quarterbacks for the third time in three weeks Monday, confirming Richard Brehaut will start at Oregon State on Saturday.

Kevin Prince started UCLA's losses to Houston and Texas, getting hurt in the season opener against the Cougars before throwing three interceptions in the first quarter of last weekend's 49-20 loss to the Longhorns.

Brehaut played well in relief, but didn't look sharp in his only start against San Jose State.

Neuheisel is going back to Brehaut, but says he's "not giving up" on Prince.

NASCAR

Stewart opens Chase with win

BY JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

JOLIET, Ill. Tony Stewart ended his season-long funk, winning for the first time this year in the opening race of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Stewart had one of the best cars Monday at Chicagoland Speedway, where NASCAR's title-deciding series opened a day late because of rain Sunday.

That was a gift of sorts for Stewart, who had a migraine headache throughout the rainy day. Given an extra day's rest, the two-time champion broke a 32-race losing streak dating to California last October.

Stewart stretched his final tank of fuel to the finish — something he had failed to do in the Chase opener at New Hampshire last year. Stewart ran out of gas with a lap to go last year, a swing that cost him five spots in the standings, and he never recovered to challenge for the title.

Now it's the competition that has to worry. Stewart jumped from ninth in the standings to second, just seven points behind runner-up Kevin Harvick.

"It's huge," said Stewart in Victory Lane. "We've had a rough year, so this is a good way to start it off."

Round 2 of the Chase is next week at New Hampshire, where Stewart and teammate Ryan Newman dominated in July. Newman led a 1-2 finish for Stewart-Haas Racing, and Stewart believes the organization could be in for another big day.

Five-time defending series champion Jimmie Johnson, points leader Kyle Busch, Matt Kenseth and Jeff Gordon were among the drivers who ran out of gas on the last lap, and all plummeted in the final finishing order.

Harvick, who started the race tied with Busch for the points lead, held on for second after his crew chief told him to run wide open and not worry about fuel.

"When he turned me loose, I probably should have just listened to him, I was really gun shy," said Harvick, who called the closing laps "nerve-racking."



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MOVIE TIMES

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1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Call theater for information.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2 (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
1:15pm, 4:30pm

Stay Cool (PG-13) 1hr 34min
1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:45pm

Rise of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 1hr 44min
1:00pm, 3:30pm, 6:10pm, 9:00pm

Shark Night 3D (PG-13) 1hr 35min
7:30pm, 10:00pm

Contagion (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:05pm, 3:40pm, 6:30pm, 9:15pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Lion King (G) 1hr 27min
11:55am, 2:35pm, 5:15pm

Straw Dogs (R) 1hr 45min
11:30am, 2:25pm, 5:25pm, 7:45pm, 8:30pm, 10:30pm

Warrior (PG-13) 2hrs 19min
11:40am, 3:10pm, 6:30pm, 9:45pm

Debt (R) 1hr 53min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Help (PG-13) 2hrs 17min
11:55am, 3:25pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Contagion (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:30pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Lion King 3D (G) 1hr 29min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Love Crime (Crime d'amour) (NR) 1hr 46min
5:30pm

Burke and Hare (NR) 1hr 31min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Special Treatment (Sans queue ni tete) (NR) 1hr 35min
1:40pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

Guard (R) 1hr 36min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:40pm

Our Idiot Brother (R) 1hr 30min
1:50pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

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

Bucky Larson: Born to Be a Star (R) 1hr 36min
2:30pm, 8:00pm

Crazy, Stupid, Love (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:15am, 1:55pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Colombiana (PG-13) 1hr 47min
11:40am, 5:15pm, 10:25pm

Detective Dee and the Mystery of the Phantom Flame (Di Renjie) (PG-13) 2hrs 02min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 4:55pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Drive (R) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

I Don't Know How She Does It (PG-13) 1hr 35min
11:45am, 2:10pm, 4:40pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Kevin Hart: Laugh At My Pain (R) 1hr 28min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

Say yes tonight, Libra

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Zero in on what is going on around you. Listen to and identify with a close friend, loved one or associate. You could feel pressured and might want to cocoon. Feel free to do just that. You will emerge more confident soon enough. Tonight: Relax at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You communicate well, and others, for the most part, remain responsive. Your caring and intentions come through. You gain sudden insights and decide to head down a new path. Be willing to share more of your feelings. Tonight: On the phone, in email or visiting over a meal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You bloom in the morning, yet by the afternoon, you'll become more aware of your liabilities if you take certain actions. Express your caring in a manner in which someone can receive it. Take time to buy a card or another token of affection. Tonight: Your treat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You might drag with fatigue in the a.m., but by the afternoon, you become a force to be dealt with. What was received as a bad idea yesterday now is applauded. Ask yourself what the difference is. Tonight: Only what makes you happy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Sometimes assuming a lesser role can be hard on you, but it is your best path in a tension-laden environment. You can regroup, look within to see how you feel, center and take action. The unexpected adds to your insights. Tonight: Perhaps a quiet chat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Understanding evolves to a new level, especially surrounding your co-hosts and friends. Don't allow a difference of opinion to cause a separation. It would be odd to always think the same way as others. Tonight: With others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ A must appearance makes a difference within your immediate circle. People want to know you are there. You might opt to take a leadership role in the pursuit of a cause. Others might have a strange reaction. Tonight: Say "yes."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Your imagination will lead you to some unusual solutions. Tame those ideas with a little intellect, and you might be delighted by the results. Revamp your schedule. Do learn a new technology that might help you live your life better. Tonight: Put your feet up and imagine more.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Deal with others on a personal, individual level if you want a positive outcome. Your attention is flattering and helps others open up. Get to the base of a misunderstanding. Know what you would like as an outcome. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Others command your attention. You might want to complete a project or evaluate a personal or domestic matter. For some of you, this attention revolves around real estate and finances. Learn to let go a little more easily -- for your sake. Tonight: Sort through invitations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Funnel your creativity into your daily life, especially your work. You might be delighted at the long-term outcome. Others also will feel freer to express their thoughts as you proceed with a new vitality. Don't take someone's reaction personally. Tonight: Take care of yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Let your creativity emerge. Deal with a problem person in another fashion. Understand that everyone has different styles. This person means well, even if he or she creates an uproar. Use care with a money risk. Tonight: Allow more fun in.

Happy birthday

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

This year, you might not be as conscious of your words as you might like to be. Note a tendency to give mixed messages. You can only grow from understanding and acknowledging this behavior. You are a very caring individual; it is through commitments to groups as well as individuals that you express this nurturing quality. If you are single, you could meet someone on a trip or when you least expect it. Getting to know this person is similar to exploring a new world. If you are attached, open up to the possibility that you and your mate can both be right about an issue but hold different resolutions. CANCER is a true friend.



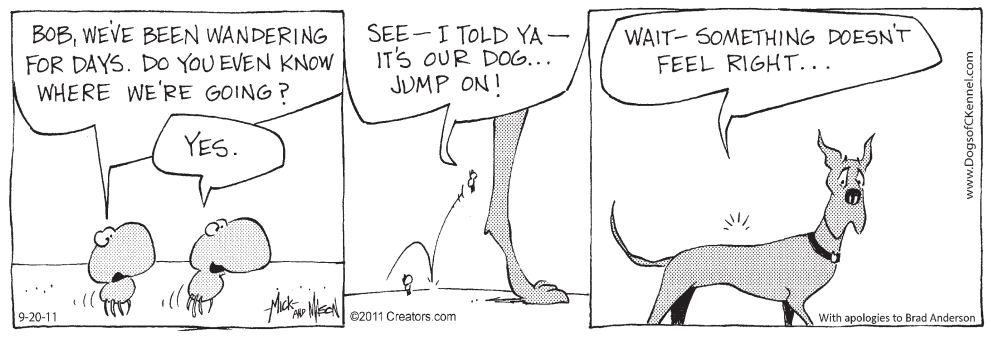
MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

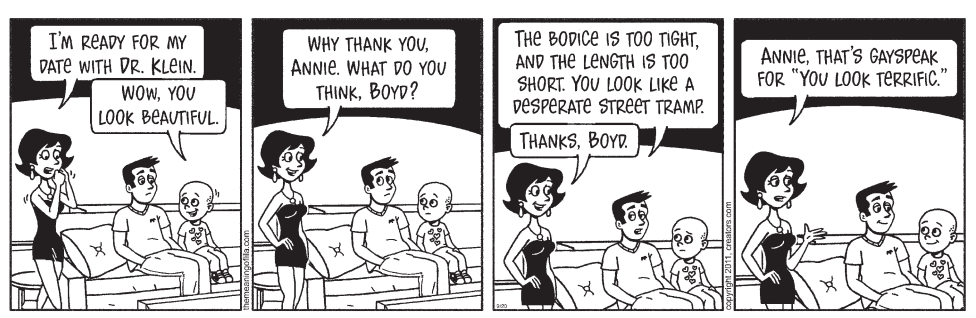
Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



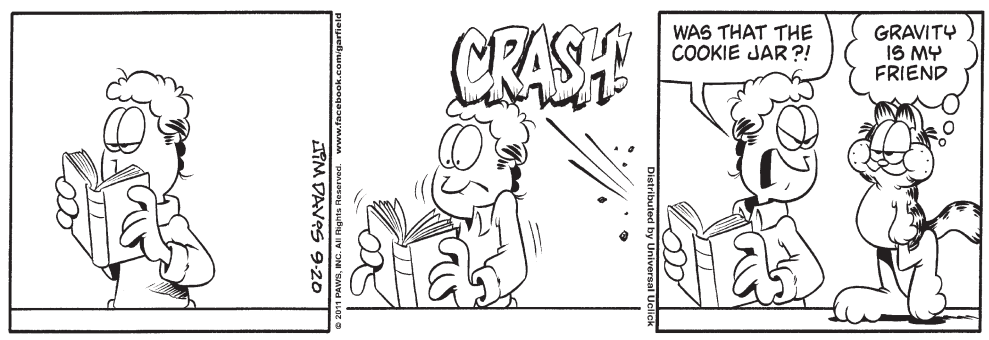
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield

By Jim Davis



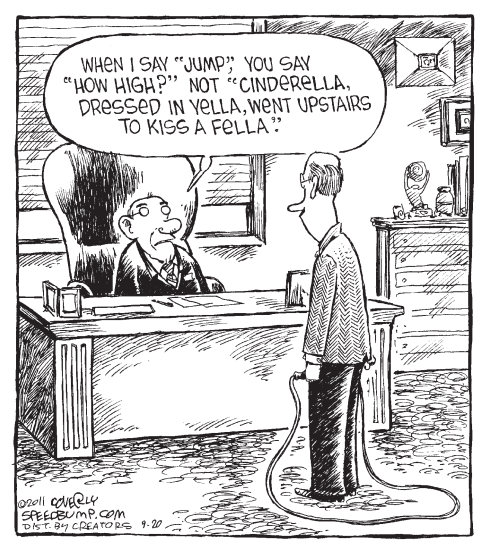
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Lassoed
6 Blazing
11 Kick out
12 Road markers
13 Does a daring deed
15 Seaman's answer
16 Golf peg
17 Lupino of films
18 Take back
20 Command to Fido
21 Hosp. VIPs
22 Muscle quality
23 Mist
26 Small towns
27 Rowing team
28 Spider's home
29 Mythical bird
30 Woody Allen movie
34 MPG-rating org.
35 List-ending abbr.
36 Coach Parseghian
37 Does a yo-yo trick
40 Dark
41 Remove a mistake
42 Nuisances
43 Store events

DOWN

1 Steel rod in concrete
2 Daisy variety
3 Heaps
4 Angled pipe
5 Fate
6 Was sore
7 Enemy
8 Front tooth
9 Pennsylvania city
10 Fancy homes
14 Addition column
19 Gullet
22 Oompah producer
23 Blow it
24 Fuel gas
25 Brings to mind
26 Picnic-table seating
28 Bulb unit
30 Outdoes
31 Tennis star Rafael
32 Came up
33 Wise ones
38 Collection
39 Memorable period

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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

9-20

ARITHMO™
CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

• Insert the given numbers in the empty squares so when they are calculated in threes from left to right and top to bottom they satisfy the demands in the shaded boxes both horizontally and vertically.

• Each empty square dictates the math operation that must be performed to meet the demands.

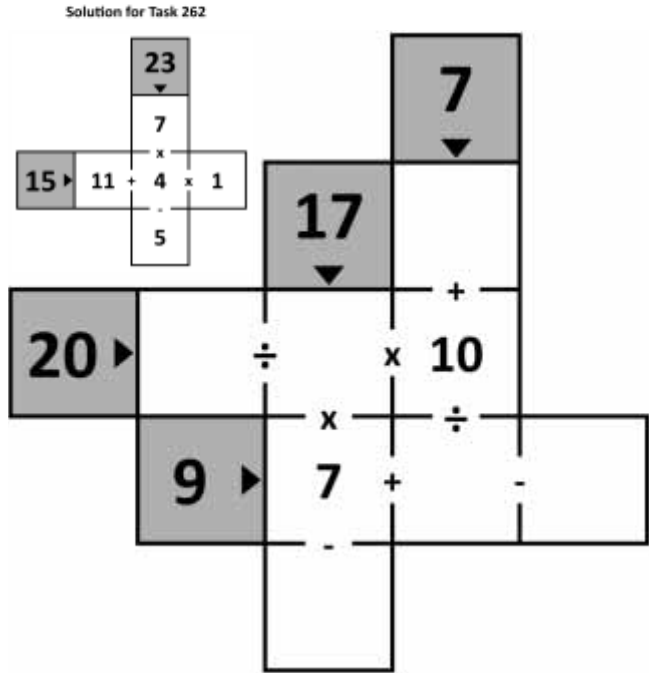
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

3, 4, 6, 6, 8, 10

Solution for Task 262



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 41 23 45 6 56
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $75M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 14 37 12 16 7
Meganumber: 14
Jackpot: $12M

FANTASY 5: 27 8 34 28 37

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 7 5 0
EVENING: 3 4 0

DAILY DERBY
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 08 Georeous George
RACE TIME: 1:47.31

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Until recently, impoverished Indonesians sought to cure various illnesses (such as diabetes and high blood pressure) by lying on railroad tracks as trains approached, thus allowing electrical charges from the tracks to course therapeutically through their bodies. A combination of anecdotal successes and dissatisfaction with the state-operated health care system led to the instances in which hundreds at a time lay on the tracks, according to an August Associated Press dispatch.

■ What Goes Around, Comes Around: In February, 12 villagers from a South African shantytown allegedly burned down a pastor's home and killed him out of anger and fear that he was using an "invisible penis" to seduce women. The accused, who are due to answer for their superstition in court in September, according to African Eye News Service, became 11 in May when one of the men died mysteriously, and those 11 are now terrified that the pastor's family has placed an active curse on them.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1792 French troops stop allied invasion of France, during the War of the First Coalition at Valmy.

1835 Farroupilha's Revolution begins in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

1848 The American Association for the Advancement of Science is created.

1854 Battle of Alma: British and French troops defeat Russians in the Crimea.

1857 The Indian Rebellion of 1857 ends with the recapture of Delhi by troops loyal to the East India Company.

1860 The Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII of the United Kingdom) visits the United States.

1863 American Civil War: The Battle of Chickamauga ends.

1870 Bersaglieri corps enter Rome through the Porta Pia and complete the unification of Italy.

WORD UP!

revenant
\REV-uh-nuhnt\ , noun;
1. One who returns after death (as a ghost) or after a long absence.

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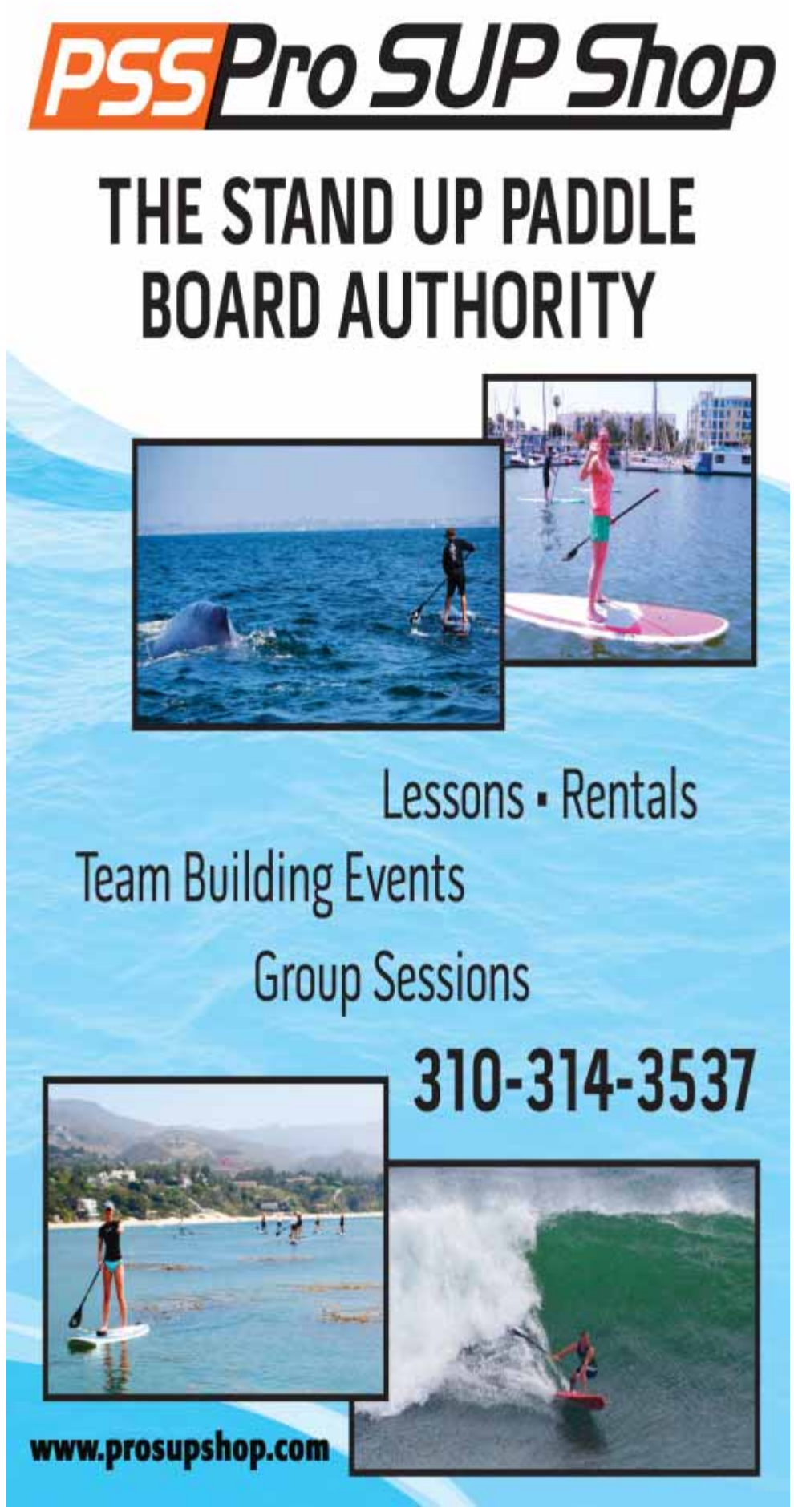
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011085346 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 09/19/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as OSTER AND BAUMRIND WESTERN. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Michael S. Oster 2427 4th St. #203 Santa Monica, CA 90405. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Michael S. Oster. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 09/19/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 09/19/2011, 09/26/2011, 10/03/2011, 10/10/2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011084348 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 09/17/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as BE. WOODCRAFT. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Elaine Strawbridge 1175 Wallace Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90026. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Elaine Strawbridge. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 09/17/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 09/17/2011, 09/24/2011, 10/01/2011, 10/08/2011.

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