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Debate begins on filling Albertsons/Haggen building

BY MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

With the pending closure of Haggen on Lincoln Blvd., community activists, city planners and staff are talking about future opportunities for the property.

The grocery store located at the corner of Ocean Park and Lincoln Blvd. is scheduled to close in about two months following an announcement that Haggen is abandoning the local market.

Albertsons and Safeway merged in 2014 and regulatory approval of the sale required the combined company to sell about 146 stores. Haggen, then a small grocery chain based in Washington State, purchased those stores to expand its footprint from 18 stores with 16 pharmacies to 164 stores with 106 pharmacies; from 2,000 employees to more than 10,000 employees.

The newly expanded company struggled outside its native territory. In the face of stiff competition Haggen filed a lawsuit against Albertsons (who then filed a suit against Haggen) and the company filed for bankruptcy earlier this year. Haggen revised its Chapter 11 filing last week with a plan to sell or close all stores outside the Pacific Northwest, including the Santa Monica location on Lincoln Blvd.

Neighbors have expressed concern about the future of the site and everyone has an opinion about what should fill the space.

Roger Swanson is part of the Lincoln Boulevard Task Force, a

SEE LINCOLN PAGE 5

REPORT:

Hate crime rate stagnant on Westside

'We still have much work to do,' county official says

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

Last August, a black man and his Latino boyfriend were holding hands while walking in West Los Angeles when suspects in a passing car shouted a homophobic slur at them, made a U-turn and assaulted

SEE CRIME PAGE 7

Path cleared for hotel lease extension

Proposed changes at DoubleTree site would boost SMMUSD revenue, officials say

BY JEFFREY I. GOODMAN
Daily Press Staff Writer

The local Board of Education voted this month to greenlight the process that would allow the Santa Monica-Malibu school district to

SEE LEASE PAGE 6







SOCCER MATCH

Morgan Genser editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica College hosted Moorpark in a conference game and won 7-0 to improve their record to 6-1-1 and 3-1 in conference play. Pictured are Gabriel Torres, JJ Castillo, Stuart Sloan, Claodio Maaloof and Christian Cruz-Herrera.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

September 30

Santa Monica Certified Farmer's Market (Downtown - Wednesday)

Today, the Wednesday Farmers Market is widely recognized as one of the largest and most diverse grower-only CFM's in the nation. Some nine thousands food shoppers, and many of Los Angeles' best known chefs and restaurants, are keyed to the seasonal rhythms of the weekly Wednesday Market. Third Street Promenade, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Preschool Story Time at Main

Story series for 3 to 5 year olds. A ticket is required to attend each session. A limited number of tickets are given out on a first-come, first-served basis, the morning of the program, at the Youth Reference Desk. Main Library, Children's Activity Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

1450 Ocean: Bollywood Bhangra Beats

Bollywood Bhangra Beats is an electrified whirlwind of heart-pumping, shoulder bumping, hopping, jumping Indian dance for all levels of women and men, and incorporates warm-up, technique, and choreography in Bollywood and Bhangra styles of the subcontinent. Cost: $147, non-resident $169. Please register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/46149 or call (310) 458-2239. Palisades Park, 7 - 8 p.m.

Back to School with the Santa Monica Democratic Club

Please join an All Star Cast and the Santa Monica Democratic Club for "A Conversation about Education" Featuring: State Senator Ben Allen, Santa Monica College Board of Trustees Member Louise Jaffe and Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Board Member Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein. Help shape policy and budgets in education from cradle to grave. Q&A to follow. Parking available, light refreshments, public invited, no charge. Main Library, Martin Luther King Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.

Sustainable Movie Screening: 'DamNation'

Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability & the Environment along with American Cinematheque and Sustainable Works present: Damnation, a powerful film odyssey across America explores the sea change in our national attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. A Panel discussion will follow the screening. Panelists include Connor Everts, Executive Director of the Southern California Watershed Alliance among others. Aero Theatre, 1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m. Reserve tickets here http://damnation-screening.eventbrite.com/.

October 1

Banned Books Week Movie Screening: 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone' (2001)

Adaptation of the first of J.K. Rowling's popular children's novels about Harry Potter, a boy who learns on his eleventh birthday that he is the orphaned son of two powerful wizards and possesses unique magical powers of his own. He is summoned from his life as an unwanted child to become a student at Hogwarts, an English boarding school for wizards. (152 min.) Main Library, Children's Activity Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3:30 - 6 p.m.

Homework Help @ Pico Branch

SEE **LISTINGS** PAGE 3

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Ocean Park Blvd.

Businesses give back through a successful buy local, give local partnership

The second annual Buy Local, Give Local Week (held from Sept. 12 - 20) was a huge success for Ocean Park Boulevard and Westside Family Health Center (WFHC).

Buy Local, Give Local week is sponsored by the City of Santa Monica and encourages the community to support both local business and local non-profits. For Ocean Park Boulevard, the number of participants supporting WFHC went from three businesses to thirteen.

WFHC partnered with Artful, Bob's Market, Brooke Rodd, Give + Take, GOODS, Laura Korman Gallery (Bergamot Station), Love Coffee Bar, rumba/Kimba Hills Design, Santa Monica Yoga, Shaka Shack Burgers, The Hairbrains, and The Sofa Company (Lincoln Blvd). Thyme Cafe and Market also did a pre-week fundraiser for WFHC.

So far, WFHC has raised more than $2,000 through Buy Local, Give Local and is still collecting donations from the businesses.

"These generous donations made by local businesses along Ocean Park Boulevard mean a great deal to us," said Deb Farmer, WFHC's President and Chief Executive Officer.

GOODS, a first-time Buy Local, Give Local participant said they were happy to participate and giving back fits with their business plan as an independent retailer carrying predominantly fair trade gifts and home goods.

Buy Local, Give Local not only helps non-profits. The event helped local businesses attract new customers looking to support the community in a mutually beneficial way. Some of the businesses said they definitely saw new faces during Buy Local, Give Local week.

"On the first day of Buy Local, Give Local Week I noticed some new customers. Some said they did not know that Bob's Market was such a 'hidden gem' within the surrounding neighborhoods and were here in an effort to support local businesses who were participating in Buy Local, Give Local for WFHC," said Lafayette James, Store Supervisor at Bob's Market. "This confirms that people really believe in supporting their community and Buy Local, Give Local gives us an opportunity to give back ... in this case, to WFHC."

It was also a great opportunity for new businesses to start giving back. Laura Korman of The Laura Korman Gallery said, "I was thrilled to participate in Buy Local Give Local 2015. As a new business owner of a gallery at Bergamot Station, I wanted to find a way to give back to the community that I love. As a Chamber of Commerce member and Board Member for the Santa Monica Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees), I have been an advocate for WFHC for many years and could not imagine a better recipient for my Buy Local Give Local donation. The Laura Korman Gallery hopes to participate again next year."

Love Coffee Bar, also a new business on Ocean Park Boulevard, can't wait to participate again next year, owners said they were happy to participate and described WFHC as an important player in the community.

Artful owner, Nancy Lombardi, said "I have great respect and appreciation for Westside Family Health Center, so I was honored to be partnered up with them for Buy Local, Give Local Week. I think forming these types of partnerships is such good idea - it helps the businesses and the non-profits. 'Ethical Capitalism' in the works."

Farmer said WFHC is grateful for the relationship it has with its neighbors.

"Ocean Park Boulevard is truly a community - the families that our local businesses are supporting through this partnership live, work and go to school here," she said. "You pass them at the grocery store or the gas station. Their support is literally helping neighbors help neighbors and that is what makes our community so special."

Mercedes Garcia, owner of The Hairbrains, a salon on Ocean Park said, "We just want to help the clinic whenever we can."

Brooke Rodd, owner of new clothing and accessory shop, Brooke Rodd, said, "I think Buy Local, Give Local is a great tool to help build up our community."

"rumba/Kimba Hills Design supports local non-profits like WFHC because it promotes the philosophy of local businesses working together to keep our community growing and strong," said managing director, Adam E. Schmidt.

Many of the businesses that participated in Buy Local, Give Local support WFHC throughout the year through several other events. The next partnership will be WFHC's Annual Fall Open House and Bazaar on Monday, Nov. 16 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at 1711 Ocean Park Blvd. in Santa Monica. Guests will get to tour the clinic and shop local vendors for the holidays, which will then donate 20% back to WFHC.

To learn more about WFHC, or to donate, please visit www.wfhcenter.org.

- SUBMITTED BY MOLLY MAHER

Samohi

New West Symphony opens season at Barnum Hall

The New West Symphony, featuring conductor Marcelo Lehninger and guitarist Jason Vieaux will open their 2015-2016 season with Masterpiece Series Concert No. 1, "New World" on Thursday, October 1, 7:30 p.m. at Barnum Hall, 601 Pico Blvd.

The concert includes Falla's Suite No. 1 from The Three Cornered Hat, Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez for Guitar & Orchestra and Dvoák's Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Opus 95 "From the New World." The show will repeat on Friday, October 2, 8 p.m. at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard and Saturday, October 3, 8 p.m. Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Thousand Oaks. Tickets are $29 - $102. Season Tickets also available. Visit www.newwestsymphony.org or call (866) 776-8400 for more information.

- SUBMITTED BY KERRIE SADLER

LISTINGS

FROM PAGE 2

Get help with your homework! This drop-in program offers a separate study area, basic supplies, and friendly volunteers to assist with homework questions. For students in grades 1-5 only. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Mandala Chalk Art

Local artist Gary Palmer will lead this interactive group art project on the sidewalk. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Sophia Amoruso, author of #GIRLBOSS - Talk, Q&A and Signing

Sophia Amoruso, Founder of Nasty Gal, will be doing a talk, Q&A and signing event at the Santa Monica Nasty Gal store for the paperback release of her bestselling first book, #GIRLBOSS. Nasty Gal, 1254 Third Street Promenade, 7 p.m.

Annie Jacobsen presents 'The Pentagon's Brain'

In her latest exposé, investigative journalist Annie Jacobsen (Area 51, Operation Paperclip) presents an uncensored history of DARPA, America's top-secret military agency. A book sale & signing follows. Main Library, Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 - 8:45 p.m.

Library Board Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Library Board. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.

October 2

Guest House Open

Santa Monica Conservancy docents share a glimpse into the colorful life and times of Marion Davies. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Front Porch Cinema

Free movies on the Pier every Friday night in October. Food vendors and other activities before the show. For more information call (310) 458-8901 or visit www.santamonicapier.org, Santa Monica Pier, 5 - 10 p.m.

Yoga

All levels. Drop in for $15/class or sign up for series (5 week/$62, w/parking). Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway, 9 - 10 a.m. http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/activities/classes.aspx

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
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How much is that doughnut in the window? – Plenty

WE'RE SO FICKLE.

Here we had a perfectly good villain in the reprehensible Dr. Walter Palmer, the Minneapolis dentist who last July killed Cecil the lion in Zimbabwe. He allegedly lured Cecil out of his protected area with meat and shot the national treasure with an arrow, then tracked him while he wandered wounded for 40 hours, at which point the good doctor deigned to put him out of his misery (without nitrous oxide). The outrage was immediate and global and I figured Palmer would have to close shop immediately, probably move, change his name and fingerprints, plastic surgery maybe.

But six weeks later he was back at work. Oh sure, at first he had to walk past pesky signs that read "Rot in Hell," but you'll never please some people, eh? Palmer had three different homes, to provide enough wall space to mount all his heads. This was not the first (or the second) time he ran afoul of the law for killing wild creatures according to his own moneyed rules.

Majestic, endangered, now slaughtered, beheaded and skinned Cecil drew waves of sympathy, but what about humans metaphorically hunted down? We now have a new villain.

If you've opened up any news portal in the last few days you have probably been introduced to Martin Shkreli. He's a behind the scenes bad guy, using financial skills acquired as a young hedge fund manager rather than arrows and bullets, but he's a potential killer nonetheless. Unlike Palmer: strictly legal.

By acquiring rights to the drug Daraprim, used by around 2,000 Americans yearly with immune systems weakened by cancer treatments, HIV/AIDS, organ transplants or just pregnancy, and immediately hiking the price by 5,500 percent, from $13.50 a pill to $750, he put those 2,000 people at dire risk. One year's treatment, if you weigh more than 132 pounds, will now cost $634,500. Under 132, lower dosage, a mere $336,000.

Besides the obvious danger for anyone not a member of the Walmart Walton family, there's other immediate fallout. Hospitals and pharmacies are no longer able to stock it, at those rates. While it is life or death for those with depressed immune systems, the toxoplasmosis it treats affects almost one-quarter of all Americans over age 12.

I won't go into detail, you've probably already absorbed most of the story. Shkreli did an interview with CNN of such smug arrogance, preceded by tweets worthy of Marie Antoinette, that outrage increased exponentially. He has finally backed down and agreed to lower the price substantially. I'm not sure how his mother and his dog feel about him right now, but I know one guy who loves him to death: Dr. Walter Palmer, now #2, a distant memory.

WHAT'S ALL THIS GOT TO DO WITH ME, YOU, AND BERNIE SANDERS? I'll tell ya.

It's the system we've got now and the politicians who are invested in keeping it going. But it wasn't always like this, and it can change back.

Many will shrug and think, well, this doesn't affect me personally, or anyone I know, this rare drug. Sounds awful and heartless, but it's capitalism and people are allowed to make a profit, right?

But there's profit, and there's obscene profit. We used to have governmental controls that allowed people to prosper and even become wealthy from their hard work, business acumen and inventiveness, but stopped short of debtors' prison or removing a limb for stealing a loaf of bread to feed your hungry kids. Things were working pretty well in America in the last half of the 20th century… until 1980, and guess who? President Supply Side Trickle Down. A bogus economic theory that has been proven without merit for 35 years and still the current crop of GOP Know Nothings preach it as gospel.

There are nuances to these statistics, but consider: Republican President Dwight Eisenhower (1952-60) pushed the top income tax rate DOWN to 91 percent. Corporate taxes hit 50 percent. And jobs proliferated, wages rose, and the economy prospered. We had enough money to start NASA and build the interstate highway system.

Since Deregulating Ronnie turned the ship around (not in a good way), things have been getting ridiculously better for the 1 percent, and the middle class is hanging on for dear life. It's been the greatest transference of wealth since the days of unbridled Caesars, Czars and Attila the Hun. Personally, I think capitalism is a good system for our country, with one crucial caveat: it is amoral. Under capitalism, corporations have only one mission, to make money. Nowhere is it even penciled in that people are to be considered… unless, of course, it affects the bottom line.

Fine. So you do need those humane, common sense controls, but politicians of both parties, dependent on campaign donations to remain in power, have been working hard to throw those controls overboard for their corporate sugar daddies.

Bernie Sanders is a candidate for President unlike any I've seen in my lifetime. No PAC. No corporate beholden. Approaching 1,000,000 individual donors. "Bernie can't be bought." Check out his platform. It's exactly what we need to restore balance and a fair shake for all in this country. Can he win? Damn straight. His rise in the polls is astounding. People are just beginning to find out what he stands for, and he stands for them. Period.

Sanders wants universal health care here… like almost all of the rest of the world has. And he doesn't want no stinking doughnut holes.

That was Bush's idea, and his GOP-controlled Congress, in 2003. I'll tell you very quickly how that works. A prescription for which I previously paid $102 three months ago, this time cost me $323. Because I've hit a certain plateau and am now in the delicious-sounding doughnut hole. Where do you think that additional $221, out of my pocket, pure profit, is going?

Obama and the ACA have cut back the doughnut hole – gradually, through 2020. I hope you don't get hit like I have but you could. I hope you don't need some lifesaving drug that some snot-nosed greed-punk has chosen as his personal path to financial engorgement. I hope you are fed up and will vote for real change at the polls next November. That, not what we've got now, is the American way.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Rerun: "Politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason." – Mark Twain

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for almost 30 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Protect the elderly

Dear Editor:

I would like to address your article about phone and email scams targeting Santa Monicans by Nicholas Salazar. Although the article was written as a public awareness article, I feel the police department is not doing enough to go after telephone scammers who target the elderly. If the victim in the story, Ms. Bloem had been mugged and $1500 dollars had been taken out of her purse, I think that felony would have been taken more seriously. And yet someone committing fraud by impersonating a federal agent to take $1500 away from Ms. Bloem is seen as something the elderly need to be "aware of". What if the next victim has a heart attack and dies because of the verbal abuse the caller places upon the victim. Would the police view this as murder or just another scammer people need to be "aware of."

My Grandparents have been recently victimized. My grandparents were told that the US Treasury Department had money for them from an old bank account. To claim the money they had to wire some funds so the check could be sent Fedex. They were suspicious so they asked that info about the check be emailed to them, but instead they sent a virus that erased all their emails and wrecked havoc on their computer.

The police need to be more active and vigilant and not solely place responsibility on the victim. These are not victimless crimes. The police should provide caller ID to seniors who do not have it in order to get the phone number of those who call trying to scam them. If the number is unrecognizable then they should not answer it. I find that people who use caller ID are able to better avoid these scams. Reverse dial up will often reveal their actual location, which sometimes is in a local area.

Telling the caller that they will be reported to the FBI for impersonating a governmental agency often works as well. Then when people do call the FBI fraud division and lodge a formal complaint with the caller's phone number attached it helps decrees the number of these types of crimes committed. The Criminals need to be made "aware of" that someone will come after them.

Greater efforts need to be put in place to safeguard those who are most vulnerable and targeted in our society.

Antonio Okun
Santa Monica

LINCOLN

FROM PAGE 1

volunteer group supported by nearby neighborhoods that has long advocated for improvements along the road. He said grocery stores are a tough business but he hoped another company would fill the local need.

"It's not a simple thing," he said. "I know the kinds of difficulty those merchants go through just to hold things together, it's a very complex operation, there's a lot of work that comes into it. It's a very complex business, most people don't realize that."

He said the location is vital to the surrounding neighborhood and said residents want to see another grocer on site. He said the location might be too large for a single store given sites constraints and said he'd like to see a concept he called "Lincoln Central Market" that has outlets for known stores in the area, such as Trader Joe's, Bob's Market (meat department), Bay Cities (Deli, cheeses, etc.) and Santa Monica Seafood.

Planning Commission Chair Richard McKinnon said Santa Monica is a strong market for grocers and that site in particular is valuable to other companies.

"There are plenty of other operators out there that would welcome a site like that so it will be a supermarket and it won't take long to fill that site," he said.

He said he'd like to see the now vacant store prompt a larger redesign of the entire shopping center.

"On a wider sense that whole market down there really needs to focus on the community," he said. "It's a static, old style 50's set up with an apron of cars parked out there. It's a poorly designed traffic island at corner of Lincoln and Ocean Park ... It looks and feels exactly like the day it opened. That space hasn't moved with the way people's needs have moved."

McKinnon said the key to any future success at the location would be maintaining useful services in a way that satisfies residents.

"It's got to work with the way people live," he said. "It's got to meet the needs of the community."

Economic Development Administrator Jennifer Taylor said it's too early for companies to file proposals for the Lincoln Blvd. site but in general, her office regularly fields requests from the kind of businesses that would be interested in that location.

"From a business retention and recruitment standpoint, we have a lot of interest from grocery and food market operators that want to establish a presence or expand their presence in Santa Monica," she said.

"We're always advocating for neighborhood serving uses that also help to create jobs for our residents. The size of space and existing building footprint helps to support both of those objectives."

Peter James, Special Projects and Communications Administrator at the City of Santa Monica said he has spent a lot of time with nearby residents and businesses while working on the Lincoln Neighborhood Corridor Plan (LINC). He said the placement of a grocery store at that particular site has value beyond just buying food.

"This is where Sunset Park and Ocean Park come together, and one of the few places where they can come together, just because of the primary resource of the market," he said. "The location continues to serve as a neighborhood center. The street, at the current moment, is not providing opportunities for friends and neighbors to meet, talk and build community but a lot of that happens at the market. Everyone wants a place where they can come together and this is an opportunity for a new tenant to come in and enhance what Albertsons and Haggen were trying to do."

The LINC advocates for a more pedestrian friendly roadway and James said there is a lot of support for updating the center, perhaps with a facade remodel, improved parking lot and some improvements to the way the lot interacts with Lincoln Blvd.

While the community has no shortage of opinions, what goes into the building will ultimately be a decision for the property owners. James said it's actually a good time to evaluate uses on the site given the residents' interest in improving the area.

"It's also a great opportunity for the property owner to take stock of the conversation that's happening in the community," he said.

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LEASE

FROM PAGE 1

extend its lease agreement with the operator of the DoubleTree hotel.

The lessee of the district-owned property at 4th Street and Olympic Boulevard, PCA I LP, has expressed interest in upgrading the hotel if it is able to secure a lease extension through 2082, according to the district.

The lessee has proposed spending $10 million on renovations and converting the hotel into "a Hilton brand or better," an SMMUSD report reads.

In exchange for a renegotiated agreement, the lessee would pay more in rent to the district, improve the hotel, add parking on adjacent land that will benefit Santa Monica High School and allow hotel staff to unionize, according to the district.

The discussions led to a mandatory public hearing, which was held during the Sept. 17 school board meeting to comply with state code regarding school district lease agreements. The code stipulates that such agreements must not last longer than 66 years unless the district obtains a waiver from the state education department.

Board approval of a waiver application came with a 5-0 vote. Board president Laurie Lieberman, whose husband is a land use attorney, recused herself from the vote. Board member Oscar de la Torre was absent.

Board members, district officials and union representatives spoke in support of the board's approval of a waiver application to extend the lease at the site, which has been plagued by worker strife in recent years.

Melanie Luthern, a research analyst with Unite Here Local 11, a hospitality union, endorsed the staff recommendation to apply for a waiver.

"It's a win-win situation for everyone involved," she said.

The only other speakers, DoubleTree banquet server Joseph Silva and Gabriella Rosco, a local organizer with Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, also favored the district's course of action.

Jan Maez, the district's chief financial officer, said she met with representatives of the district's collective bargaining units in the days leading up to the vote.

"I'm happy to report that both of our unions are also in support of the application moving forward," she said.

The DoubleTree is not a union hotel, but Unite Here led a protest at the site last year and helped workers file complaints with state and federal labor agencies regarding breaks during work shifts.

Union officials also approached the district, prompting an investigation by the school board into the hotel's finances and lease terms.

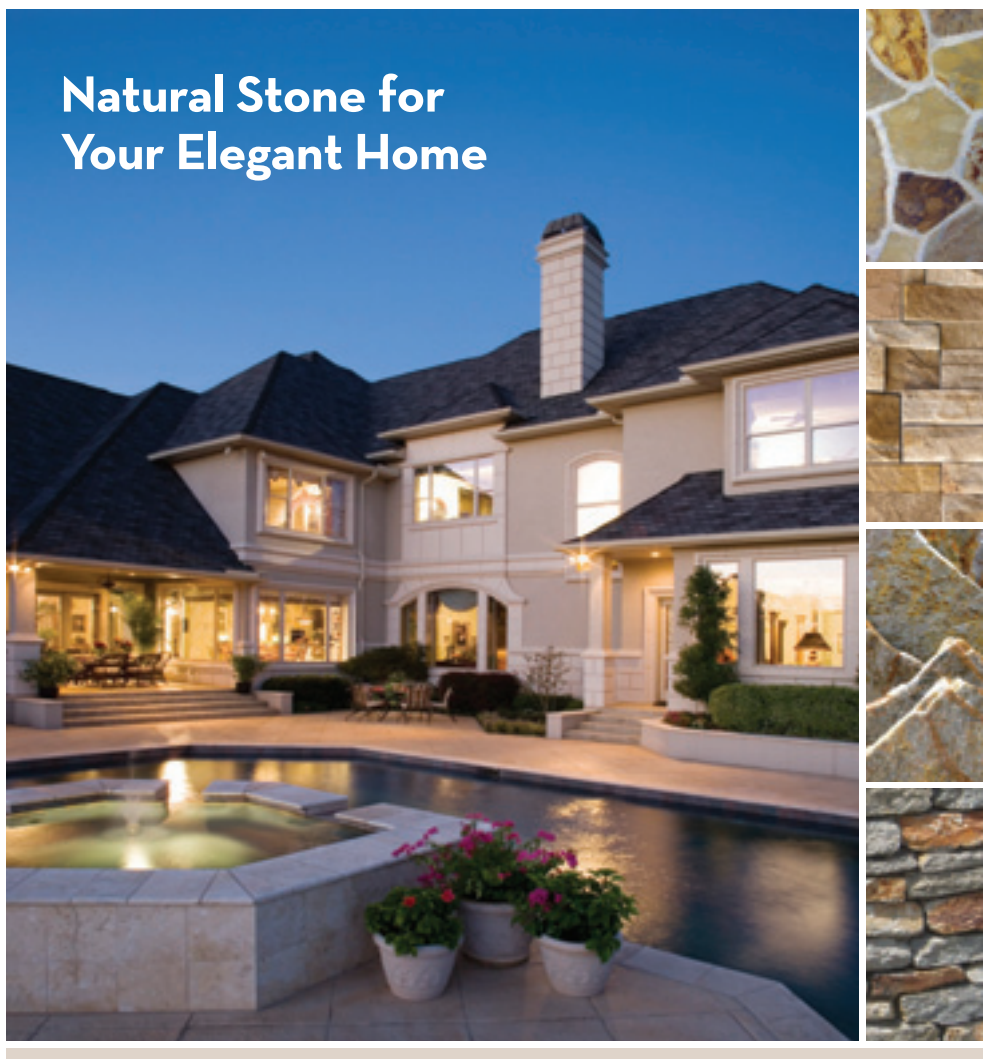
The district leased the land to City Developers Inc. in 1985, meaning the agreement was originally slated to expire in 2051. The developer assigned the property to a company that built a hotel and office building on the property. The property has since been transferred to the current lessee.

Proposed changes to the lease would give the district a share of gross revenues of the hotel and office building, according to an SMMUSD report. The district would also receive a percentage of profits from any future sale of the buildings.

In addition, the lessee owns property adjacent to the hotel and has offered to convey the property to the district if the district immediately leases the land and if the lessee is allowed to expand the existing hotel onto the adjacent property. The lessee would add parking for Samohi on the adjacent property.

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CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

them with a switchblade.

In November, a lesbian couple emerged from their apartment in Pacific Palisades to find a homophobic slur smeared in feces on a door of their car. Previously, a bag of dog feces was left on their porch with a note that included the same slur.

The incidents, documented in a recently released annual report by the L.A. County Commission on Human Relations, paint a portrait of hate crimes in the region over the last year, including the Westside.

There were 26 hate crimes recorded in 2014 in the county's West district, which has a population of roughly 660,000 and which includes Santa Monica as well as Pacific Palisades, Malibu, Playa del Rey, Venice, Marina del Rey, Westchester, Culver City and Beverly Hills. That amounts to about 3.9 hate crimes per 100,000 residents last year, the same rate reported for the area in 2013.

Hate crime statistics in the West district incorporate data from the Santa Monica Police Department, according to the report, but detailed local numbers were not immediately available. The report did not include incidents within the Santa Monica-Malibu school district.

"The occurrence of hate crimes, the possible causes for them and even the kinds of things communities can do in a positive way to mitigate or reduce those occurrences are all things we're concerned about," said Karen Gunn, chair of the Santa Monica Human Relations Council, an advisory group of community leaders and activists.

There were 389 hate crimes reported in the county in 2014, a slight increase over the 384 recorded in the previous year but still the second-lowest number in 25 years.

The number of hate crime victims in California dropped from 1,045 in 2013 to 943 last year, according to the state Office of the Attorney General.

But the commission's report likely covers just a fraction of all hate crimes committed in the county over the last year.

"Under-reporting of hate crimes remains a serious problem," commission president Susanne Cumming said in a release. "Although the statistics are encouraging, we have to remember that far too many hate crime victims suffer in silence and do not report these crimes to police."

Reported hate crimes in the county have largely declined since spiking after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. But Gunn and other officials noted that hate crimes disproportionately affect certain populations, including black, Latino, Jewish, homosexual and transgender people. African-Americans, for example, represented more than two-thirds of all victims in reported racial hate crimes in the county in 2014.

"Even though there have been some changes," Gunn said, "it's interesting to see that the same groups continue to be targeted from one decade to the next."

Added county official Cynthia Banks in a release: "This year marks the 50th anniversary of 'Bloody Sunday,' the Selma-to-Montgomery march, and the passage of the Voting Rights Act. During the past half-century we have seen tremendous progress in human and civil rights, yet we still have residents of our county attacked on a daily basis because of their race, sexual orientation, religion, gender or disability. ... The report is evidence that we still have much work to do to achieve a more just, equitable, and peaceful society."

In Santa Monica, a major tourist destination, crime rates can seem high because the number of people within city limits regularly swells beyond the official population. There is also a substantial homeless population, which is harder to track.

But Santa Monica is certainly not immune to hate crimes, which are not always classified as such.

Last month, a Los Angeles man was arrested after allegedly punching a man in the face on a Santa Monica beach where the suspect had asked the victim and his friend about their sexual orientation.

This past spring, an SMMUSD middle school student was suspended after calling a cafeteria worker a racial slur, according to a quarterly district report on "hate-motivated behavior."

In 2012 in Santa Monica, a transgender woman found that someone had scratched her car and broken her sideview mirror. The perpetrator left a threatening note laced with homophobic slurs.

The previous March, two white men beat a Latino man in the face and wrist with a baseball bat after calling him a racial epithet, according to the report.

"There are a lot of organizations that are trying to make inroads into preventing this by sponsoring community engagement activities and dialogue that help people cross cultural borders and understand each other and have empathy," Gunn said.

jeff@smdp.com

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURE SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Feasibility & Design
Airport Park Expansion
SP 2422

ISSUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

JOB WALK (NON-MANDATORY): OCTOBER 1, 2015, 9 AM

QUESTIONS DUE: OCTOBER 8, 2015, 5:30 PM

SUBMITTALS DUE: OCTOBER 15, 2015, 2:30 PM

Jean Bellman, Architect
City of Santa Monica
Public Works / Architecture Services
1437 4th Street, Suite 300
Santa Monica 90401

Proposal Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: **http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/**.

Proposals shall be publicly opened with the name of the Proposer read aloud on October 15, 2015, 2:45 PM.

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **74.3°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3ft
Small SSW swell fades.

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Smaller SSW swell. Small windswell.

FRIDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minor SSW swell. Minor windswell.

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

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

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 14
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 33 / 20
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 5 / 19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: SMA Swain Barber Foundation

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	B	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	D
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	ns	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	F
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	F
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	B	F
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	B	A+

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

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

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

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

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

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 355 calls for service on Sept. 28.

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

Theft of recyclables 800 block of Idaho 12:48 a.m.
Broken traffic lights 7th/Broadway 1:52 a.m.
Speeding 15th/Wilshire 2:10 a.m.
Party complaint 2600 block of 23rd 3:42 a.m.
Prowler 300 block of 22nd 3:52 a.m.
Petty theft 1200 block of Lincoln 5:08 a.m.
Fraud 2700 block of Ocean Park 5:59 a.m.
Vandalism 1800 block of Ocean Park 6:52 a.m.
Petty theft 1700 block of Ocean 7:14 a.m.
Auto burglary 1800 block of 11th 7:41 a.m.
Petty theft Olympic/26th 7:42 a.m.
Theft of recyclables 800 block of 15th 7:57 a.m.
Strongarm robbery Lincoln/Pico 8:03 a.m.
Fraud 900 block of 2nd 8:14 a.m.
Traffic accident 1700 block of Cloverfield 8:35 a.m.
Vandalism 1000 block of Lincoln 8:40 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block of Broadway 9:01 a.m.
Traffic accident Appian/Arcadia 9:07 a.m.
Vandalism 300 block of Olympic 9:31 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1300 block of 3rd Street Prom 9:35 a.m.
Vandalism 1100 block of Wilshire 9:42 a.m.
Bike theft 1600 block of 5th 9:48 a.m.
Hit and run Ocean/Pico 10:15 a.m.
Vandalism 700 block of Idaho 10:22 a.m.
Smoking violation 800 block of Michigan 10:25 a.m.
Excessive parking tickets 3100 block of 17th 10:31 a.m.
Hit and run Ocean/Pico 10:36 a.m.
Grand theft auto 300 block of Olympic 10:42 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk 10:51 a.m.
Petty theft 300 block of Colorado 10:51 a.m.
Indecent exposure 300 block of Santa Monica Pier 10:57 a.m.
Traffic accident Lincoln/Marine 10:59 a.m.
Vandalism 300 block of Olympic 11:07 a.m.
Speeding 17th/Colorado 11:30 a.m.
Hit and run 2400 block of Pico 12:27 p.m.
Petty theft 1900 block of Wilshire 12:45 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of 15th 1:01 p.m.
Vandalism 2700 block of Pico 1:09 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of Broadway 1:23 p.m.
Petty theft 1700 block of Wilshire 1:36 p.m.
Burglary 1500 block of Broadway 1:51 p.m.
Identity theft 1300 block of Pine 1:58 p.m.
Petty theft 1500 block of Ocean 2:16 p.m.
Grand theft 300 block of Santa Monica 2:23 p.m.
Counterfeit money 1500 block of Santa Monica 2:36 p.m.
Stolen vehicle recovered 300 block of Olympic 2:42 p.m.
Lojack hit 300 block of Olympic 2:46 p.m.
Hit and run 1900 block of Main 2:58 p.m.
Traffic accident 300 block of Arizona 3:24 p.m.
Petty theft 700 block of Broadway 3:27 p.m.
Auto burglary 2500 block of Barnard 3:37 p.m.
Traffic accident 1600 block of 9th 4:04 p.m.
Indecent exposure 200 block of Santa Monica Pier 4:16 p.m.
Identity theft 1500 block of Princeton 4:36 p.m.
Auto burglary 1600 block of Pearl 5:11 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1700 block of Wilshire 5:43 p.m.
Burglary 100 block of San Vicente 5:56 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon Lincoln/Rose 6 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 26 calls for service on Sept. 28.

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

EMS 1300 block of 15th 2:48 a.m.
EMS 900 block of 5th 3:18 a.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block of Santa Monica 3:43 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2500 block of Pico 4:45 a.m.
EMS 1700 block of Cloverfield 8:36 a.m.
EMS 2600 block of 28th 8:50 a.m.
EMS 1500 block of 14th 8:54 a.m.
EMS 900 block of 10th 10:23 a.m.
EMS 300 block of ocean 10:50 a.m.
EMS 600 block of Pico 10:53 a.m.
EMS 3100 block of Lincoln 11 a.m.
EMS 600 block of Idaho 11:12 a.m.
EMS 800 block of 6th 11:16 a.m.
EMS 2000 block of Santa Monica 12:15 p.m.
EMS 2400 block of Wilshire 12:35 p.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block of Santa Monica 1:07 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block of 25th 1:15 p.m.
Ladder request w/ems component intersection of Ocean/Bay 1:41 p.m.
Haz mat - level 1 500 block of Santa Monica 2:38 p.m.
EMS 200 block of Palisades 3:09 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of Berkeley 6:39 p.m.
Broken water main 1900 block of Montana 9:13 p.m.
EMS 1400 block of 4th 9:20 p.m.
EMS 1300 block of 20th 9:42 p.m.

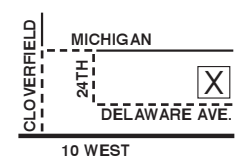


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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 In the center of
5 Sports period
9 Cruise vessel
11 Critic, at times
12 Classic song
13 Lead-in
14 Quarterback Manning
15 Pooch's tail movement
17 Surrendering to gravity
19 Guitar pioneer Paul
20 Juvenile
21 Saloon
22 Find darling
24 Flock father
26 Tadpole, e.g.
29 Junior, to senior
30 Checkout chore
32 Like some doubts
34 Pigeon sound
35 Lazy fellow
36 Dodge
38 Despicable sort
39 Casual eatery
40 Yard divisions
41 Bidding option

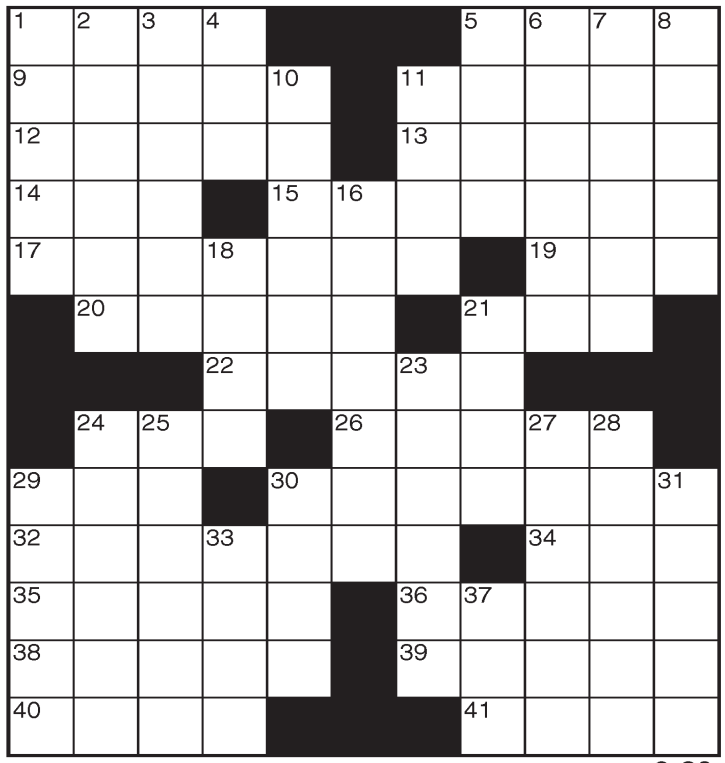
DOWN

1 African lilies
2 "Second April" poet
3 Blue hue
4 Agnus —
5 Put on the wall
6 Hun leader
7 "Camelot" lyricist
8 Tadpoles, eventually
10 VCR button
11 Diana of "The Avengers"
16 Luanda native
18 Largest of the Mariana Islands
21 Ice chunk
23 In tatters
24 Band aide
25 "Life of Pi" director
27 Llama's cousin
28 Battery ends
29 Check for odors
30 Robin or wren
31 Attendees
33 Nice fellow
37 Gloss target

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

Yesterday's answer

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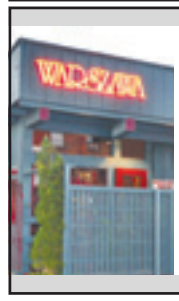
9-30

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.



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Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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

King Features Syndicate

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 9/26
23 31 42 50 57
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 301M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 9/25
3 8 38 51 64
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 39M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 9/26
4 15 25 44 45
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/28
2 17 23 28 36

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 9/28
MIDDAY: 8 2 7
Draw Date: 9/28
EVENING: 3 2 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 9/28
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:44.09

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

WORD UP!

anomia
1. Medicine/Medical. the inability to name objects or to recognize the written or spoken names of objects.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1947 – Pakistan and Yemen join the United Nations.

1947 – The World Series, featuring the New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers, is televised for the first time.

1949 – The Berlin Airlift ends.

1954 – The U.S. Navy submarine USS Nautilus is commissioned as the world's first nuclear reactor powered vessel.

1955 – Film star James Dean dies in a road accident aged 24.

1962 – Mexican-American labor leader César Chávez founds the National Farm Workers Association, which later becomes United Farm Workers.

1962 – James Meredith enters the University of Mississippi, defying segregation.

1965 – The Lockheed L-100, the civilian version of the C-130 Hercules, is introduced.

1965 – The 30 September Movement attempts a coup against the Indonesian government, which is crushed by the military under Suharto and leads to a mass anti-communist purge, with over 500,000 people killed.

1965 – Trapped in the Sky, the pilot episode of Gerry Anderson's beloved Thunderbirds, airs on ITV for the first time.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ More than three-fourths of civil cases filed in the busy Tucson, Arizona, federal court in 2014 -- nearly 3,000 in a courthouse open only about 250 days a year -- were filed by one man, a prisoner named Dale Maisano, who was expressing disappointment with his health care as he serves his 15-year term for aggravated assault. Maisano said in July 2015 he was still getting little help for his valley fever, gallstones, sun sensitivity, leaky bladder and nerve problems in his feet.

■ "We will not forget (rape victims). We will not abandon you." So said Attorney General Loretta Lynch at a September self-congratulatory press conference along with Vice President Joe Biden, announcing $78 million in grants for testing rape kits that had been gathering dust for years around the country (surely allowing hundreds of rapists to have escaped punishment and some to re-offend) -- except that these victims have already been "forgotten" and "abandoned" for more than five years. Biden was vice president in 2010 when News of the Weird pointed out that Illinois was violating state law by ignoring 80 percent of its rape kits, and then in 2012 when Houston revealed it was sitting on 6,663 kits (and Detroit 11,000). (News of the Weird's understated 2010 headline: "Things That Shouldn't Get Backlogged").

giive a (bleep)

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

Stop the Ad Block!

by Megan Tambio

Apple's new operating system (iOS 9) "allows users to download certain extensions on their mobile web browsers". In English? You can now block ads on your phones.

This probably sounds great to the majority of ad-weary people, but ad blocking is a big problem. The Internet has made it near impossible for writers to make decent money and this will hurt even more. Standard ads have allowed non-conglomerate-sized companies to survive online, but these ad blockers take a toll on these smaller websites. Even Marco Arment, creator of a popular ad blocking software, has expressed regret over some of the effects of his creation.

In the face of traditional ads being blocked, advertisers have turned to what they call "native advertising". This means advertisements disguised as regular content (i.e. – sponsored articles on Buzzfeed), a much more nefarious way of advertising than a clearly marked banner.



Advertising is what allows so many things to be free online, yet few think of ad blocking as stealing somehow. By saving ourselves a measly 30 seconds and the occasional graphic eyesore, we're ensuring that the artists we enjoy reap no benefit.

The Internet has always been open game, but perhaps we need to realize that even on the web our actions have consequences.

Search the Causes directory at Giive.org to find nonprofits that support the Arts.

GET THE WHOLE STORY@ GIIVE.ORG/BLOG/

Do something for yourself tonight, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You could hear more than an earful about what is happening. One-on-one relating is likely to result in a creative brainstorming session. You'll make sense to others. As a result, you'll see a thinking alliance begin over a critical issue. Tonight: Run some errands on the way home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You seem to be able to walk the right path because of your ability to detach and see the whole picture. Focus on the quality of your daily interactions. Know where you are going, and be willing to take a leap of faith. Tonight: Make sure you do something for yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Be more sensitive about what is happening around you, but understand that you don't need to do anything. A partner could feel more in touch with you than he or she has in a while. Be open to this person, and listen to his or her news. Tonight: Go along with a friend's suggestion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You have reason to smile, despite any hassle that heads your way. When you look around, you'll recognize how successful you have been, especially with your friends and loved ones. Express your gratitude in a way that makes others feel appreciated. Tonight: Hang with others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might have the fire in your eye to achieve a long-awaited goal. Be careful, as you could push others away as you charge toward this desire. You won't want to turn off some of your friends who have supported you in this process. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your stability will guide you in making choices that are good for you, even if they're not particularly exciting. You might feel as if you finally have made it to a place where you have wanted to be. Share more of your caring with a loved one. Tonight: Use your imagination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Give some more thought to someone's words and actions. Note how sure of yourself you are, but note this person's confidence as well. See where the meeting point is. Be willing to admit that he or she has some good points. Tonight: Dinner with someone you care about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You could be on top of a problem, but you might have to deal with someone who feels that he or she is on top of the same problem. Your solutions could be very different, but you are likely to discover that both approaches will work. Tonight: Go with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Pace yourself, and you will achieve what you want. Don't underestimate the cost of your time, especially if you are in a bind. Decide to weigh in on a friendship and its meaning to you. This person also could be a work associate. Tonight: Keep an eye on completion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You have the energy and the wherewithal to bypass a lot of trivial matters, which you will handle later. Take a stand, especially if you feel that there is the potential for a difference of opinion. You know there are many ways to achieve a goal. Tonight: Let your hair down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You have a style that will help you get past a problem. You might need to keep your plans on hold or not discuss them yet. You'll gain insight from an acquaintance who comes from a different background or culture. Listen to this person's news. Tonight: Read between the lines.

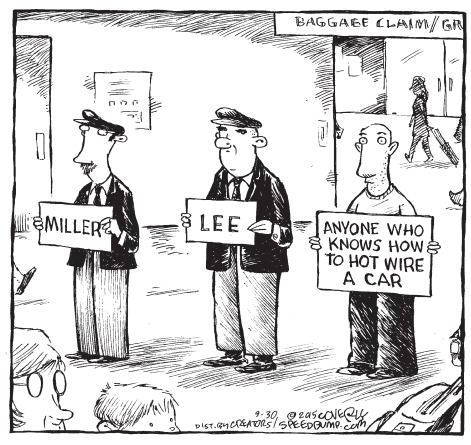
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You could be taken aback by a conversation and might need to weigh the pros and cons before you act. In some way, this person has offended your philosophical slant of what life could or should be. Tonight: Do not be intimidated by anyone. Do your thing.

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

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

This year you demand more from yourself as well as from others. You will want to perform to the best of your abilities. You will have a similar expectation of others, though it might be wise to let them know that. You appreciate the power of one-on-one relating, and you often prefer this type of interaction. If you are single, you'll meet people with ease. Your desirability might encourage others to present themselves differently from how they really are. If you are attached, the two of you will benefit from frequent periods away from the doldrums of daily life. Schedule a special vacation for just the two of you! TAURUS can be stubborn.

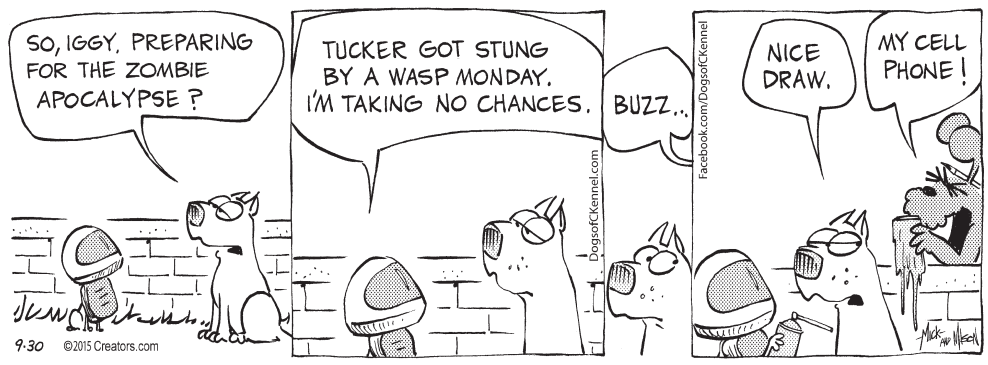
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



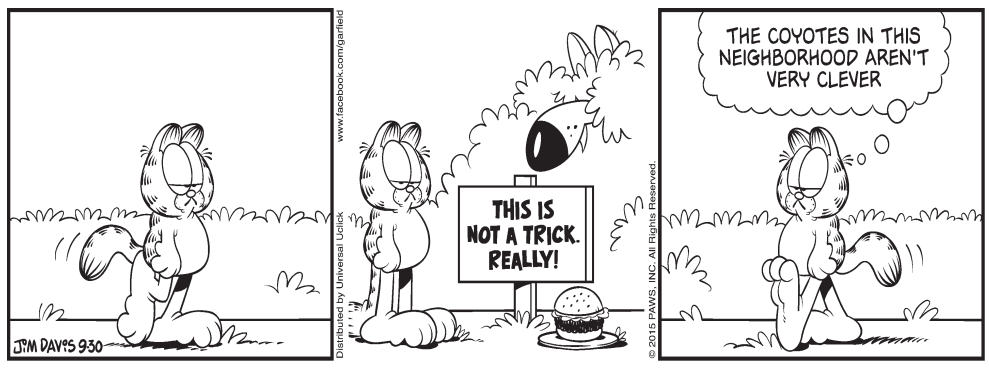
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Santa Monica Daily Press

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Help Wanted

Computer: Lead Quality Assurance Engineer (Marina Del Rey, CA) Work to improve Guidance's Quality Assurance efforts. Work collaboratively w/ project mgrs, technical leads, & architects to define & execute tests throughout project lifecycle. Create, review, execute, & maintain test collateral: System Test Plans, System Test Procedure, test scripts & defect reports. Conduct functional, system, integration, ad hoc, black & white box, browser compatibility, regression, performance/benchmarking, & stress/load tests. Document defects. Automate tests (including researching & evaluating open source options). Verify that load, scalability, & performance reqmts & Service Level Agreements (SLAs) have been met. Work w/ dvlprs. Coordinate simultaneous test efforts. Utilize QA Tools such as Selenium, JMeter & TestRail. Apply knowl of QA concepts & methodology, best practices, processes, tools, & metrics, & knowl of QA testing eCommerce enterprise & mobile applics. Work w/ web & Microsoft technologies such as SQL Server, Windows Server,. NET, PHP. Reqmts: Master's Deg in Comp Sci, Info Technology, Info Science Studies, or related +12 mos of exper. in job offd or as Lead Quality Analyst, Quality Analyst, or clsly rltd. + working knowl of s/ware tools & technologies in job description. Resume to: Guidance Solutions, Inc., Attn: Michael Olivier, Sr. Director of Recruiting, 4134 Del Rey Ave., Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

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