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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009

Volume 8 Issue 287



Santa Monica Daily Press

WAKE UP LORNE MICHAELS
SEE PAGE 5

We have you covered

THE FRIENDSHIP SERVICE DAY ISSUE



LIFTING SPIRITS

Ray Solano news@smdp.com

USC football Coach Pete Carroll looks over an autographed football with leukemia patient Diego Jimenez, 11, from Santa Monica at LAC+USC Medical Center on Tuesday. The family has set up a trust fund for Diego at c/o Diego Jimenez P.O. Box 7434 Santa Monica, Calif., 90406.

Charges dropped in SMC sexual assault case

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

LAX COURTHOUSE A Malibu man who was accused of sexually assaulting a Santa Monica College student in the campus library was cleared of all charges this week after prosecutors determined there wasn't enough evidence to pursue the case.

The dismissal of the case against 40-year-old Chase Guy Reynolds came more than a week after he was released on his own recognizance because DNA test results came back negative and did not yield a match with the victim, a Santa Monica College student.

He was charged on April 7 with two counts of sexual battery by restraint, one count of sexual penetration by a foreign object and one count of second degree robbery stemming from the alleged incident that took place several days earlier. He was taken into custody after a woman contacted authorities about having seen a man who closely resembled a composite sketch of the suspect, detained as he left the library near the location where the assault reportedly occurred, police said.

Reynolds was later identified by the victim.

Deputy District Attorney David Zygielbaum said he doesn't intend to refile charges against Reynolds at this point.

"We're doing further investigation right now but there's nothing else to report at this time," he said.

Defense attorney Greg Humphries said that there was no crime that occurred at all on April 4 when the victim reported the sexual assault, noting that it was impossible for Reynolds to have contact with her that day, especially in the manner of how she described the claim.

He added that there was other evidence found on the victim's belt, which was preserved for forensics the day of the alleged assault, and that her explanation of how the DNA got there was an implausible story. In a supplemental police report, the victim

SEE CHARGES PAGE 8

After tour, concerns remain about Expo

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

LAWNDALE There was screeching and honking and other noises expected of a maintenance facility for electric trains.

They were the sounds that a group of residents from the Pico Neighborhood described hearing during a recent visit to the MTA Green Line's rail yard in Lawndale, a tour arranged by the Exposition Construction Authority to show first hand what life can be like next to such a facility.

The tours to the Green Line's maintenance yard in the South Bay and the Gold Line's in Pasadena last week were organized in response to concerns from residents in the Pico Neighborhood that the proposal to place a facility on Exposition Boulevard at Stewart Street would impact their quality of life, fearing disruption from activity that will include washing the trains and testing the horns.

The maintenance facility in Lawndale was built in the 1990s in an industrial area on Aviation Boulevard, near an old U.S. Air Force storage site. A hotel and a condominium complex have since been developed next to it.

The Gold Line opened in 2003 and the maintenance yard surrounds the Los Angeles River, the 110 Freeway and the old L.A. jail.

Monica Born, the project director of Expo Phase II, which covers the route from Culver City to Santa Monica, said that residents rode the train from Chinatown to the Mission Station in South Pasadena where they saw what the at-grade crossings were like for automobiles and pedestrians, and observed how they all interacted.

"The Gold Line is similar to what we are proposing," she said. "It's about the same number of vehicles stored there and the Gold Line was built more recently than the Green Line so they got to see a little up-to-date technology as far as the train system and maintenance facility."

Oscar de la Torre, a long-time resident of the Pico Neighborhood and a member of the school board, said the situation in Santa Monica is different from the Green Line in that the neighbors of the facility in Lawndale chose to move in knowing that there was a maintenance yard already there.

"The price of the condo is probably not as

SEE VISIT PAGE 9


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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Movie time
Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave., 7:30 p.m.
Come by for a night dedicated to the works of the late John Hughes. Enjoy a double feature of "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles" and the "Great Outdoors," written by John Hughes and directed by Howard Deutch. There will be a discussion led by Deutch in between the films. Visit americancinematheque.com for ticket prices and more information.

An evening with an author
Main Library's MLK Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Listen to author Richard Rayner while he talks about his book "A Bright and Guilty Place: Murder, Corruption, and L.A.'s Scandalous Coming of Age." Find out more about the origins of noir fiction characters like Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler that are described in his book. A book sale and signing will immediately follow. Admission is free, but seating is limited. Visit www.smpl.org for more information.

Ballroom by the bay
Santa Monica Bay Women's Club
1210 Fourth St., 7 p.m. — 11 p.m.
Dance your feet out on a 3,000 square foot floor. Learn how to waltz, foxtrot, swing, hustle, and learn Latin dances. No partner is required. Admission is $10. Call (310) 487-0911 for more information.

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009

Taking initiative
Common Ground Center
2012 Lincoln Blvd., 6 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Learn about the prevention and treatment programs offered by Common Ground, talk to professional staff and volunteers, find out more about volunteer opportunities and hear directly from some of the people Common Ground serves. Call (310) 314-5480 ext. 120 for more information.

Friday, Oct. 9, 2009

Rockin' rotary
Riviera Country Club
1250 Capri Dr., time TBA
The Santa Monica rotary club is a hub for Westside men and women dedicated to improving their local and worldwide communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas. Those interested in attending the regular lunch should contact (310) 917-3313 for more information.

"Illumination"
Bob Poe Gallery — Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Ave., 5 p.m. — 7 p.m.
Photographer Bob Poe will be holding an opening for his latest work title "Illumination." Poe's exhibit is made up exclusively of photographs taken with his iPhone, in which he demonstrates the effect of light and movement on his subjects. Admission is free. Call (323) 936-1447 or e-mail ali@caapr.com for more information.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

Don't deny diabetes

Rite Aid on Wilshire Boulevard will be providing up-to-date information about diabetes during their annual Diabetes Solutions Day clinic from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 8.

This event is meant to educate the public on a disease that indirectly or directly affects one out of every two Americans and costs the country $174 billion each year.

More than 50 million people have pre-diabetes and 5.7 million people are unaware that they even have diabetes.

This event is supported by the Rite Aid clinical pharmacy team and the American Diabetes Association.

DAILY PRESS

MALIBU

Garden for the ocean

Promoting beautiful gardens with no risk to the ocean, Malibu is hosting a free "Ocean Friendly Gardens" workshop on Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The workshop will focus on conservation and water-friendly tips in gardening and landscaping so the public can become more environmentally conscious.

"The city is pleased to host a workshop," said Mayor Andy Stern, "that will educate the public about playing a greener role in their community by using the latest sustainable materials and techniques that will allow greater water reliability for everyone."

Since March, the Surfrider Foundation and West Basin Municipal Water District have partnered with various water agencies to educate residents about protecting the world's oceans, waves and beaches.

The workshop is one of 40 where attendees will learn how to garden with the ocean in mind by using native plants, water-efficient irrigation techniques, permeable materials and onsite water retention techniques to reduce dry-weather runoff pollution to the ocean.

"As Malibu continues to improve the region's water quality," Stern said, "we urge the public, both Malibu and Los Angeles County residents, to be mindful about conserving water and reducing the use of pesticides and herbicides that can be easily picked up by water runoff. Through conservation, we can all help to reduce runoff by conserving water, which will continue our quest to improve the ocean's water quality."

To attend the workshop, register online at www.sbesc.com or call (310) 371-7222 ext. 200.

DP



FLYING HIGH

Randy Wright photo courtesy

A great white shark flies out of the water at Sunset Beach on Sunday. The goal of the nonprofit Shark Research Committee is to tag the sharks to study their movements and behaviors. Because there doesn't appear to be any prey involved in the breaches, there has been a lot of speculation as to the reason. Some think the sharks are trying to dislodge parasites attached to the skin or are teaching themselves attack moves, or they could just be having fun. Researches want to learn more.

Study: Risk of debris flows high in fire area

JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press Writer

PASADENA, Calif. Rainstorms could send huge flows of water laden with mud, rocks and other debris toward cities below steep slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains stripped bare by a wildfire near Los Angeles this summer, federal scientists said Tuesday.

The U.S. Geological Survey used two very probable types of storm scenarios to map where inundation by debris flows could occur below drainages along the highly populated base of the mountain front.

"Because of the fire, there's a significant hazard posed by debris flows and this hazard will occur even in response to a wimpy little storm," USGS research geologist Susan H. Cannon said.

In the emergency assessment, the USGS mapped where inundation would occur if flows struck when flood-control catch basins were empty and where the flows would go into neighborhoods if the basins were already full.

The study found that some of the burned watersheds could release up to 100,000 cubic yards of material, enough mud and rock to cover a football field 60 feet deep.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works has been cleaning out the several dozen catch basins in the areas affected by the 250-square-mile fire, and officials said the process would be complete by Oct. 15.

The USGS said its assessment provides critical information for designing mitigation measures, planning evacuations and

SEE SLIDES PAGE 9

Expecting a large turnout for earthquake drill

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

COUNTYWIDE More than 5.9 million Californians are already registered to join in the country's largest earthquake drill, an official announced Tuesday.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors proclaimed Oct. 15 as "The Great California ShakeOut Day," for Los Angeles County employees, volunteers and residents.

Representatives from the Governor's California Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, Southern California Earthquake Center, California Institute of Technology and Office of Emergency Management joined the board Tuesday.

The "Drop, Cover and Hold On"

SEE DRILL PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Craving some peace and quiet

Editor:

Petty Parlor games, indeed. As a resident in the area that surrounds The Parlor it has been a difficult two years since this sports bar/so-called "restaurant" opened.

What was a tranquil neighborhood has been turned into a sleepless, noisy, disturbing place to live. The Parlor operates under a class No. 47 liquor license designated for restaurants. However, the business is run as a sports bar/night club. The place is licensed as a restaurant which means they cannot serve just alcohol at the bar or at the tables. In fact, legally, food must be ordered before a drink can be served. Regarding its license as a restaurant/bar: The center section of the place has only folding tables and is used for beer pong. It's a huge drinking game going on in the biggest section of the establishment. They have a DJ and people dance. It doesn't start getting crowded until after 11 p.m. No one is ordering food. One of our residents stopped in a couple of weeks ago on a Thursday night and didn't see one person order food and the place was packed.

Yes, it's a sports bar – during the day on weekends and game nights. That means we have a steady stream of rowdies throughout the day Saturday and Sunday during football season. Then, after the games end, it becomes a full on nightclub and another group of rowdies show up. Some days, it's a 14-hour barrage.

We have been subjected to the following behavior night after night – loud screaming, verbal abuse from patrons, public urination and defecation, vomiting, drunk driving, condoms in the alley, reckless driving under the influence, and property damage.

As residents and owners we have the right to defend our neighborhood.

Many of us were here before The Parlor opened and the prior establishments were never a problem. There are families in this neighborhood with small children awakened at night and adults who have to get up early for work. The kind of behavior exhibited on our streets for the last two years is unacceptable and yes The Parlor is responsible although they have tried to shift the blame to Izzy's, a local 24-hour diner on the next block. But again I will reiterate, all the problems that exist now came into being when The Parlor opened. It's undeniable.

The city Planning Commission did not pass The Parlor's expansion conditional use permit and imposed conditions on The Parlor to operate within the constraints of their liquor license. They also cited them for not using due diligence when first opening the business. The owners of The Parlor know they cannot meet these conditions legally and have appealed to the City Council.

I am certainly not in favor of closing down a business, but this particular kind of business "sports bar/night club" should not be and never should have been operating in a residential area. The Parlor has a right to operate, just not here. The residents deserve the quality of life that existed before The Parlor opened and not the stress of property values going down, safety issues and sleepless nights in Santa Monica. There's nothing petty about any of this.

Judie Henninger
Santa Monica





Going Postal

Steve "the Mailman" Breen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Welcome to the tea party

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT, THE current hyperventilated hypothesis from the Olympian thunder-dolts of statist progressivism have hysterically interpolated that conservative talk show personalities are instigating violence amongst a malcontent "fringe element" of cuckoo conservatives against the current administration? Is it an inconvenient truth that, according to last month's Nielsen ratings, conservative provocateur Glenn Beck's 5 p.m. slot exceeded the viewership of all three of his cable competition every day in the month of September?

And liberals are afraid of this one, one news guy? Wow.

Google the pictures and the D.C. Mall video from the Sept. 12 tea party protests. According to Dan Bana, the official spokesman of the National Park Service, it was "the biggest event ever." Bigger than even Obama's inaugural. That tea party "fringe element" was therefore in excess of 2.2 million Americans on Sept. 12.

Do the math, folks, that's a lot of fringe.

The Queen of Whine and Cheese, Nancy Pelosi, sniffs that any protesters not suffering from hope-ophilia are un-American while U.S. veterans are deemed enemies of the state by Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano. Consider the coy, prime-time boob tube of MSM wonder-twins Rachel Maddow and Anderson Cooper who have repeatedly sniggered and sexualized ordinary Americans as "teabaggers" on national television.

Meanwhile The One exhorts his O-zombies into a conservo-hate frenzy to "get in [conservative's] faces" and if "they bring a knife to the fight, then we bring a gun." Reality check, folks — most broccoli-eaters from Obama-in-Wonderland forget that many meat-eating conservatives possess most of the real guns in the US. So what're are you going to do, Mr. Rasta Pajama Hippie? Beat me to death with your organic hemp yoga mat?

Government-sanctioned epithets, however, are termed in the conservative vernacular as "fighting words." So if you want to tango, pilgrim, you can't then be offended if your pinko piggley-wigglies get stylishly stomped on the political dance floor. Why should I be bound by liberalism's rules of polity that they themselves refuse to apply to their own sanctimonious behavior?

Sorry, but it's my conservative karma to run over your liberal dogma.

Is it an inconvenient truth that Demodesperation has become so anxious that even Bill Clinton and his sycophant saxophone polishers have even resurrected their imaginary hobgoblins of the "vast right wing conspiracy?" Oogedy-boogedy!

Folks, how powerful can any conservative conspiracy truly be when the mindless minions from Barack's Unicorn Rainbow Party (BURP) have control of both houses of Congress and the White House? The BURPers could pass legislation tomorrow afternoon that subsidized a year's supply of Skittle-flavored condoms with a free pony for everyone and there wouldn't be a damned thing that anyone could do about it except buy stock in manure shovels and recycled Chinese tires. So why doesn't Barack's Unicorn Rainbow Party just pass their precious "KevorkianCare Bill" and be done with it? Why the panic?

Never attribute to conservative malice that which can be simply explained by liberal stupidity or progressive incompetence.

Another issue that has BURPers with their Pampers in overload-mode Alpha is the theme of alleged conservative-generated death threats to the president. To be wholly and sadistically unfair then allow me to feed your self-inflicted paranoia. Is it an inconvenient truth that the two commodities that are being purchased faster than Sarah Palin's new book are bullets and Spam?

That's a lot of books, folks.

In the course of human events, please recall that the last time we, the people, took to the streets to insure domestic tranquility while defending our overtaxed pocketbooks was against a tyrannical king and his snarky little lackeys from "spreading the wealth around" back in 1776. Recall that it didn't work out so good for that king back then and it's not looking so good for this current king either.

Conservatives, by practice, prefer the ballot box but we are not shy about using, on purpose, the bullet box either. We take our clues from Thomas Jefferson's more sanguinary observations about despots and arboreal irrigation.

To address the fear-mongering of liberal-imagined conservative-directed assassination threat against Prince Obama of Grayskull Castle, let's look at the history of political murderers and want to be bloodletters: Lee Harvey Oswald was an avowed Marxist as was Jim "Kool-Aid" Jones. Sirhan Sirhan was a pro-Palestinian Israel hater. Harvey Milk's killer, Dan White, was a Democrat as was Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth. And I wholly doubt that Gerald Ford's assailants, lefty radical Sara Jane Moore and mangy Manson trollop Lynette "Squeeky" Fromme, will be having a tea party any time soon with Dick Cheney. He'd probably shoot them both on sight.

Conservatives want to kill the president? Fantasies like this just make me want to go "BURP!"

STEVE BREEN was raised on Spam, gunpowder and Old Glory and is still "the best looking mailman at the U.S. Post Office." He can be reached at dulcamarax@yahoo.com.

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Word in Edgewise

Kenny Mack

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lack of black actors hurts SNL

IT'S HARD OUT THERE FOR A BLACK ACTOR. With the exception of the minstrel shows on Tyler Perry's one-man chitlin' circuit, there might be one black character — male or female — in the typical network TV ensemble cast. Movie studios have forsaken real actors in favor of casting rappers like Ice Cube, Ludacris, T.I., and Common (who really can't act). The black thespian who has gotten the education, put in the work, and dedicated himself to developing his craft is still fighting an uphill battle to book work. But when the cultural and political icon of a generation, President Barack Obama, is black, then the job of playing him on the definitive satire showcase of the last 35 years, "Saturday Night Live," should go to a black actor, not Fred Armisen. And a black actress should be playing Michelle.

Anyone who knows me knows that I have nothing against white people. I actually like white people. Some of my best friends are not only white, but white and Jewish. So when I say there has to be at least one black actor and one black actress on "SNL" to play the Obamas, I'm not playing the race card — I'm playing the ethnic card. I insist on authenticity. If Joe and Hadassah Lieberman were the first couple, I wouldn't want gentiles playing them; and I think new cast member Nasim Pedrad, who is Persian, was perfect as Mrs. Ahmadinejad on "Weekend Update" this past Saturday. That bit was funny, but it bothers me a little that Iran's first lady has been on "SNL" more times than America's.

Part of the problem is personal. I've been boosting "SNL's" ratings for as long as I can remember. As a kid, the whole point of owning and learning to program a VCR (Google it, young people) was to be able to record NBC between 11:30 p.m. and 1 a.m. every Saturday night because I was prone to falling asleep before the first musical guest's performance. In high school, the tape of the 15th anniversary show was coveted at parties and it still cracks me up to randomly text things like "chocolate babies" or "chopping broccoli" to my great old friends. But now it seems like "SNL" is less a means to the end of producing good sketch comedy as much as it's about promoting the careers, movies, and albums of the hosts, musical guests, and anyone else they can get to make cameos (Scarlett Johansson, Madonna, Elijah Wood). U2 and Coldplay played the typical two songs, then closed the show with a third, which is a lot of airtime for a musical guest when compared to the small amount dedicated to funny sketches.

There are only so many Garrett Morrises and Eddie Murphys out there, and the chances of finding a talent like that double when there are two black actors on the show. From the reliable Tracy Morgan to the under-used Dean Edwards to the unfortunate Finesse Mitchell, Executive Producer Lorne Michaels had consistently cast the "Other Black Guy," ensuring there were always two black actors in the cast. But four years ago, Michaels decided not to re-cast the OBG and left Kenan Thompson on an island where he's had to play both Plaxico Burress and Charles Barkley. If you don't know who they are, one guy is 6-foot, 5-inches and lean, and the other is known as the Round Mound of Rebound.

With only one black man and no black women in the cast, I find it hard to believe "SNL" would employ more than one black writer. Add that to our president's maddeningly even demeanor, his administration's famous aversion to drama, and Fred Armisen's frustrating lack of range, and it becomes tough to mine comedy out of this White House. With no writers who can relate to the Obamas as a couple and no actress to play Michelle in any sketch ever, it becomes impossible. So we can forget about catching any of the comedic lightning in a bottle that we saw when Dana Carvey and Phil Hartman played George and Barbara Bush; or when Hartman played Bill Clinton opposite Jan Hooks' Hillary; or Darrell Hammond's incredible Bill Clinton with Ana Gasteyer's or Amy Poehler's Hillary.

It all comes back to Lorne Michaels because at 1 a.m. Sunday morning when the show wraps, everything happened the way he wanted it to happen. Despite the fact that the White House and the people who live there have been a staple — if not the staple — of "SNL" from day one, it doesn't have an actress who can play the first lady or writers who know how a black power couple thinks and acts because Lorne Michaels didn't bother to hire them. So there will be no new comedic ground broken in Studio 8H at Rockefeller Center until there is a new occupant at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. in Washington, D.C. or until the executive producer of "Saturday Night Live" wakes up and realizes the first family isn't white any more.

KENNY MACK is a multi-platform content provider with four-quadrant crossover appeal who thinks Lady Gaga's medley at the piano is the highlight of the "SNL" season so far. His past columns are archived at www.ifyoumissedit.com and he can be reached at kennymack@gmail.com.

The Q Line

Changes at the top

As the retirement date for current City Manager Lamont Ewell approaches, city officials have begun looking for his replacement.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

What qualities should the new city manager possess?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press.



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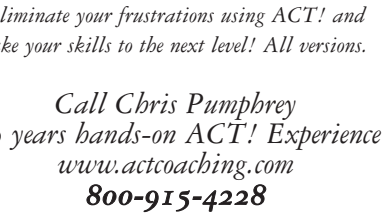
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BRB: be right back
MUSM: miss you so much
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BF: boyfriend
OLL: online love
LULAS: love you like a sister
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
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Real Estate 101

Mike Heayn Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Protecting your property from cavities

MOST PEOPLE I KNOW BRUSH THEIR TEETH once a day, many do so twice a day. The reason we brush our teeth is to remove food debris and bacteria from our mouth that cause tooth decay. Brushing our teeth is a form of preventative maintenance. It is not just our mouths that can use preventative maintenance, structures such as homes and apartment buildings need annual maintenance. Some maintenance items are simply preventative, while others are deferred.

A good place to start looking for preventative maintenance items is in the kitchen. The first thing to check in the kitchen is all the appliances. The goal is to make sure all appliances are in working order. If the property has a dishwasher, make sure it is running and draining properly. Then move to the stove and check the stove top. Then make sure the oven turns on. This may seem absurd, but you would be amazed how many people never turn on their ovens. Nowadays microwaves are used regularly and some people do not have a need for an oven.

The next appliance to check is the refrigerator. Make sure the temperature is turned to the right setting. Some fridges have temperature settings that are positioned low, which means food can bump the knob turning the thermostat up or down. While you are at the refrigerator, check the freezer thermostat as well.

An easy item to overlook in the kitchen is the exhaust fan. I have seen exhaust fans with years of debris build up, so severe that the fan no longer pulls air through the filter. Depending on the age of the exhaust fan, a new filter may be needed or a new fan altogether.

It seems the items that are out of sight get neglected the most, case in point — the garbage disposal. A garbage disposal is for small food fragments to keep the drain from getting clogged. The garbage disposal is not a catchall device that makes miracles out of all food and kitchen items. A garbage disposal is not a trash can in the sink as many people believe.

Here is a list of items that should not go down the garbage disposal: Stringy vegetables such as asparagus and celery, banana peels, tea bags, onion skins, any type of metal utensil, potato peels, cooked rice, citrus peels, coffee filters, paper towels, napkins or plates.

I know the list seems obvious, but I have seen plumbers pull some interesting items out of sinks.

When done with the garbage disposal it is a good idea to get a plumber out to snake the main drainage line of the structure. This may be preemptive, but it is cheaper than having a plumber come out and replace the mainline because of years of debris buildup. Larger structures, such as apartment houses, should have the mainline preemptively drained annually because of heavier use.

After checking the kitchen, it is time to move onto the bathroom. The first items to check are the sink and tub for leaking. As I stated in a previous article, this can be a large expense in terms of water use. Check the toilet next. The toilet should not run in between flushes, if it does, replace the flap or have a plumber come out and take a look at the fixture.

Before you step out of the bathroom look at the lighting; any incandescent bulbs can be replaced with florescent bulbs. In major home centers you can buy florescent bulbs for a little more than incandescent bulbs, but the savings per year more than makes up for the cost of the bulbs. Nowadays companies are coming out with florescent bulbs that have a similar light spectrum to incandescent bulbs so the excuse of "not liking the light" does not hold water anymore. If you do not want to part with your incandescents, just place one florescent bulb in a fixture that has two or more bulbs. You will not notice the change in light and the trick will still save you some money on your energy bills. This can be done throughout your home or investment properties.

THEN MAKE SURE THE OVEN TURNS ON. THIS MAY SEEM ABSURD, BUT YOU WOULD BE AMAZED HOW MANY PEOPLE NEVER TURN ON THEIR OVENS.

Once you have looked around the inside of the structure for preventative and deferred maintenance items, go outside and get on the roof. If you are not comfortable with climbing a ladder, hire a roof expert to inspect the roof for you. If a few shingles look weathered, get an expert out or see what the expert says about repairing the damaged shingles or if a new roof is needed. If you do not like what you hear, get a second opinion.

After the roof has been inspected, walk around the structure and see if any damage is noticeable. Many structures in Southern California are made with a stucco exterior, however, hiring someone to inspect the structure is a good idea as well. At the very least you will know what, if any, repairs need to be done to the exterior walls. Also, an expert can let you know what kinds of issues may exist behind the exterior walls.

Of course there are many more preventive measures that can be done, from bolting foundations to attaching gas shut off valves to older structures for earthquakes. Don't fool yourself into thinking that you can't afford to make these moves now and put them off. Most things can be done without hiring an expert. You just have to make the time to take a look. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

MIKE HEAYN is a real estate investor and commercial loan consultant specializing in multifamily lending. He can be e-mailed at maheayn@yahoo.com.

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Gov't to consumers: break on winter heating costs

H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON There's good news for people worried about winter heating bills.

People using natural gas this winter stand to save $105, compared with last year, and propane users will get even bigger savings, the government said. Households that use heating oil or electric heat also are expected to spend less during the heating season.

The Energy Information Administration said in its annual winter outlook Tuesday that lower fuel costs across the board and an expected milder winter will cut average heating costs for the upcoming season by 8 percent compared to last year — to about $960.

Households are expected to pay an average of $783, nearly 12 percent less than last winter, for natural gas, and $1,821 for heating oil, about 2 percent lower. People using electric heat will pay $933, a decline of 2 percent and those using propane $1,667, or 14 percent less than last winter, the agency said.

The report cautioned that the projections reflect average costs and that expenditures for individual households will vary depending on local weather conditions, the size and energy efficiency of homes and the efficiency of heating equipment.

About half of all households depend on natural gas for heating, especially in the Midwest where seven in 10 homes use the fuel. People in the Midwest also are expected to benefit from a milder winter, compared to last year, and see natural gas bills 15 percent lower than last year, the agency said.

The report said natural gas inventories approaching the heating season are expected to be at a record high of more than 3.8 trillion cubic feet. Wholesale prices are well below last winter and the EIA said prices are expected to remain low through October and then increase slightly as demand picks up.

The nearly 8 million households that use heating oil, primarily in the Northeast, can expect to save an average $40 to $60 compared to last winter. The agency said residential heating oil prices in the Northeast is expected to average $2.64 a gallon this winter, 2 cents less than last winter, but a significant drop from the average $3.31 a gallon that consumers paid two winters ago.

The biggest savings will be seen by users of propane where households are expected to save an average of $280 this winter, a decline of 14 percent. Propane users in the Midwest are expected to save as much as 21 percent compared to last winter because of a combination of lower fuel prices and milder weather, the agency said.

Boeing sees $1B 3Q charge from rising 747-8 costs

DANIEL LOVERING
AP Manufacturing Writer

Boeing on Tuesday said it will record a $1 billion charge because of a delay in producing a new version of the 747 freighter jet, blaming slow sales and late design changes .

It's the second time in four months that the company has announced delays in delivering a new aircraft model. In June, it announced further postponement of the 787, a highly anticipated passenger plane which is more than two years behind schedule.

The troubles come as the airplane maker grapples with dwindling orders amid the global economic downturn, which has undercut demand for air travel and cargo services. Some airlines have been forced to cancel or delay plans to buy new planes. Boeing has cut costs and announced plans to slash thousands of jobs and scale back production of some aircraft.

Boeing's latest hit will result in combined third-quarter charges of $3.5 billion for both the 747 and 787 programs.

The charge from the 747-8 — a larger plane than earlier versions — includes $640 for higher estimated production costs for the Chicago-based company and its suppliers. Late engineering designs resulted in the plane being reworked and in manufacturing disruptions.

The charge also includes $360 million stemming from Boeing's decision to hold production at 1.5 airplanes per month rather than boost it to two, a result of slow orders.

The 747 has been flying for four decades and is one of the world's best-known airplanes. The 747-8 version was unveiled in 2005 and is designed to be larger and more fuel-efficient. The passenger version of the 250-foot plane, called the Intercontinental, seats 467 passengers.

Boeing now expects the first flight of the 747-8 by early next year.

First deliveries of the 747-8 freighter are now expected in the fourth quarter of 2010. First deliveries of the passenger version remain on schedule for the fourth quarter of 2011.

Problems with the 747-8 program are hardly new. Last year, Boeing said it was postponing deliveries because of design changes and a strike that shut down commercial jet factories for eight weeks.

The charge for the 747-8 is just the latest financial problem for Boeing, which is struggling with the costly development of its 787, a mid-size passenger jet built with lightweight carbon composite parts to improve fuel efficiency.

The company's credibility suffered a blow in June when it announced the latest of many delays of the 787, saying part of the aircraft needed to be reinforced.

Two months later, Boeing said the plane would be ready for its inaugural test flight by year's end, with first deliveries in the last three months of 2010 — more than two years behind the original schedule.

Boeing also said it would book a $2.5 billion charge in the third quarter for the first three 787 test planes, which lack commercial value.

The 787 delays are expected to cost Boeing billions of dollars in anticipated penalties and costs, and airline customers and Wall Street analysts have grown skeptical of the company's timetable for the plane.

Still, the 787 remains Boeing's best-selling new plane to date, with 850 orders.

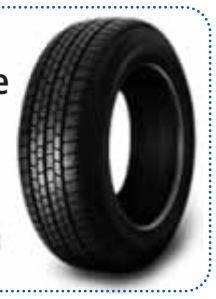
Boeing said it will update its 2009 financial guidance on Oct. 21 when it reports third-quarter results.

Shares feel 41 cents to $51.87 in afternoon trading.

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Community Presentation

Santa Monica College
Facilities Master Plan 2009 Update

- Incorporates current College facility planning, including projects approved by the voters of Santa Monica and Malibu in the Measure U, Measure S, and Measure AA elections
- Identifies options for SMC campus sites with regard to land use, transportation, and sustainability
- Reduces the planned density and increases the planned open space for the Main campus; and provides for a replacement Physical Education building, a replacement Math and new Science wing building, seismic repair, and improvements for the Pico Boulevard frontage
- Provides for expansion at the Academy campus to accommodate programs in digital arts, media, communication, journalism, and broadcasting, and incorporated parking; and the relocation of the College's radio station
- Provides for long-range development planning at the Olympic Shuttle site
- Provides for program expansion at the Performing Arts campus in music, art, and public programs, related parking, and seismic repair
- Assists the College in preparing students for the jobs of the 21st century and competing in a global economy, including enhancing the teaching facilities of math, science and technology

COMMUNITY MEETING
Wednesday, October 7, 2009 • 7 pm
Academy of Entertainment & Technology Campus
Room 235 / 1660 Stewart Street / Santa Monica, CA 90404

An additional community meeting will be held October 14 in Business 111 on the Main Campus, 7 pm.
The October 14 meeting is also a scoping meeting for purposes of participating in the Notice of Preparation of a Program and Project-Level Environmental Impact Report consultation and CEQA review process.

Project documents and notices available at www.smc.edu/facilities_masterplan

LAPD officers charged with lying in 2007 drug case

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Two Los Angeles police officers and a former officer have been charged with conspiracy and perjury for allegedly lying under oath in a drug case.

The district attorney's office filed charges Tuesday against Officers Richard Amio, Manuel Ortiz and former Officer Evan Samuel. They're expected to surrender Thursday for arraignment.

The officers claimed a man arrested in 2007 in Hollywood had dropped an object containing cocaine. But an apartment building surveillance videotape contradicted their testimony.

The man's attorney argued his client was framed and charges were dismissed.

Ortiz could face four years in prison, Amio five and Samuel seven if convicted.

District attorney spokeswoman Jane Robison didn't know if they had attorneys.

Los Angeles Police Protective League President Paul M. Weber issued a statement this afternoon in response to the filing.

"While we take these charges very seriously, it's important for the public to remember that the officers are innocent until proven guilty and the facts of this case must be heard before rushing to judgment," Weber said.

The officers "deserve the benefit of the doubt and no one should jump to conclusions before all of the evidence is heard," he said, noting that police "perform a tough and dangerous job every day and oftentimes need to make split-second, life-or-death decisions."

Mel Gibson's DUI conviction expunged

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MALIBU A judge has ruled that Mel Gibson's conviction stemming from his notorious 2006 drunken driving arrest is being expunged.

The ruling Tuesday came after his lawyer had requested the dismissal. The actor-director successfully completed the terms of his three-year probation following the misdemeanor drunken driving arrest in which he made derogatory comments about Jews and women.

As part of his no-contest plea, Gibson was sentenced to three years of probation, paid about $1,600 in fines and had to attend Alcoholics Anonymous and other meetings.

Gibson has repeatedly apologized for making the derogatory comments about Jews to the sheriff's deputy who arrested him in 2006 in Malibu, Calif.



Lack of DNA evidence led to dismissal

FROM CHARGES PAGE 1

claimed that the DNA came from another incident that took place in a parking lot after the belt was submitted to forensics, Humphries said.

"She made a total implausible reference and accusation as to how the DNA got there because she said it happened in the library," he said.

Humphries added that videos don't show his client ever entering or leaving the library the day of the alleged assault.

The assault reportedly took place as the victim exited the restroom at the SMC library where a man allegedly pinned her against the wall, stealing her house key and fleeing when startled by an announcement over the intercom.

While the victim did identify Reynolds as the suspect, Humphries said that eyewitness evidence can be unreliable. He added that there was a discrepancy in the description originally given to police of the suspect and the person taken into custody, including the eye and hair color, weight, height and clothes worn at the time.

> "IT'S NOT PRETTY FOR SOMEONE TO BE AN ALLEGED SEX CRIMINAL TO BE IN COUNTY JAIL."
>
> Greg Humphries
> defense attorney

"It was just a five month, 20 day nightmare for him being in custody," he said. "I visited him 20 or 30 times during that period of time and saw what he was going through.

"It's not pretty for someone to be an alleged sex criminal to be in county jail."

melodyh@smdp.com

Goal is to have 10M participating

FROM DRILL PAGE 3

statewide drill will take place at 10:15 a.m. on the 15th. It is intended to ready residents, businesses and schools for a major earthquake and create awareness around the need for disaster preparedness.

To reduce injury and death during earthquakes, experts advise:

- Drop to the ground;
- Take cover by getting under a sturdy desk or table; and
- Hold on to it until the shaking stops.

If no table or desk is nearby, cover your face and head with your arms and crouch in an inside corner of the building

Experts say:

- Do not run to another room just to get under a table;
- Do not get in a doorway; and
- Do not run outside.

Studies of injuries and deaths in earthquakes show that victims are more likely to be injured by falling or flying objects than to die in a collapsed building, according to the Southern California Earthquake Center.

Organizers have set of goal of 10 million participants for this year's drill.

news@smdp.com a

Sharp angle of terrain a critical factor

FROM SLIDES PAGE 3

issuing warnings.

Cannon cautioned that predicting storms and debris flows is difficult so residents need to stay informed and take responsibility for protecting property and themselves.

"If it starts raining hard and you know you are in a hazardous area, then just take your own initiative and leave," she said.

The fire was ignited by arson on Aug. 26 near a ranger station in the Angeles National Forest and threatened foothill suburbs and canyon homes as it grew into the largest wildland blaze in county history. Eighty-nine homes were destroyed and two firefighters died when their truck plunged off a road.

The connection between wildfires and debris flows from the San Gabriel Mountains has been documented since the early 20th century, including a storm in 1934 that unleashed runoff so intense that 30 people were killed, more than 480 homes were destroyed and a nearly 60-ton boulder was pushed out of a canyon, the report said.

The foothill communities along the San Gabriels are now protected by a county system of basins to catch debris while allowing water to flow down flood-control channels to the ocean.

The emergency assessment of the fire's aftermath used modeling to determine what kind of flows could be triggered by a three-hour storm and a 12-hour storm during the next two winters. The three-hour storm is considered to have a 100 percent chance of occurring each year; the 12-hour event has a 50 percent chance.

"We chose very commonly occurring storms," Cannon said. "These storms could actually happen in any winter. It doesn't depend on if it's an El Nino winter. They have a good chance of occurring."

Cannon said the sharp angle of the terrain is a critical factor.

"In our model, the parameter that matters the most is the slopes that are burned that are greater than 30 percent, and most of the slopes in the area are steeper than 30 percent," she said.

Cannon noted that while the so-called urban interface between foothill communities and the wilderness is protected by flood-control basins, there are significant hazards within mountain canyons.

In 2003, two blazes known as the Old and Grand Prix fires scorched more than 150,000 acres of the San Bernardino Mountains, which lie to the east of the San Gabriels. A Christmas Day storm triggered torrents of debris and floodwaters, killing 16 people gathered at a church facility in a canyon.

Residents take tour of maintenance facilities

FROM VISIT PAGE 1

much because they were moving in next to the maintenance yard," he said. "There was a choice."

The current proposal in Santa Monica is to spread the facility over several properties on Exposition Boulevard, including on the Verizon site, the Santa Monica College parking lot and the a portion of the City Yards, separating the building from the residents with a 120-foot linear buffer, behind which would be the car wash, storage tracks, train-washing facility and traction power station.

Alan Quinn, a proponent of light rail who has lived in the neighborhood for 38 years, said he tried to go into the tour with an open mind, not sure of what to expect.

The bottom line is that there will be a lot of noise coming from the maintenance facility and there should be a plan to enclose it if located near residences, Quinn said.

He also had concerns with the screech of the trains as they rounded tight corners, which Expo officials said will not be an issue in Santa Monica because the configuration would be more open.

"If they house the facility and all of the work is done inside a single building or even two buildings and if we agree that it's the best location, then I think it will work if it's enclosed," Quinn said.

Quinn still believes that the facility would be better left outside of the neighborhood and hopes that MTA officials will consider one of more than 40 locations that were previously studied as candidates.

There were several city officials who also joined the tour, including Councilman Richard Bloom who said he was pleasantly surprised to find that the impact on the residents next door was relatively minimal.

He spoke with several of the neighbors who had concerns about the screeching from the tight curve.

But the residents said they were not willing to move because of it.

"Our job from the council perspective is we need to look at the last remaining options but from what we know right now, it appears that our city staff has left no stone unturned trying to find a site elsewhere," Bloom said. "It would be frankly in Santa Monica's best interest all the way around economic and otherwise if we were able to find a site in an industrial zone outside of the city of Santa Monica."

> **"IF THEY HOUSE THE FACILITY AND ALL OF THE WORK IS DONE INSIDE A SINGLE BUILDING OR EVEN TWO BUILDINGS AND IF WE AGREE THAT IT'S THE BEST LOCATION, THEN I THINK IT WILL WORK IF IT'S ENCLOSED."**
>
> Alan Quinn
> resident, Pico Neighborhood

Born said she will take the community's concerns and include them in the environmental impact report, which is expected to be certified as final in January. Expo officials also plan to return to the City Council later this month to further discuss the layout of the proposed maintenance yard.

She added that the maintenance facility will be enclosed but the track storage portion will be open. While enclosing the entire facility is possible, she said it's not needed because the impacts can be otherwise mitigated.

de la Torre believes that the noises cannot be 100 percent mitigated.

"It's impossible unless you cover the whole thing with thick walls and sound barriers," he said. "Everything becomes an issue of it's too expensive to mitigate noise. I translate that as it's the people in the community that will be impacted and they aren't worth the investment to make this work."

melodyh@smdp.com



Schwarzenegger supports health overhaul goals

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger praised President Barack Obama's drive to overhaul the nation's health care system on Tuesday and urged fellow Republicans to join in efforts to finish the job this year.

The new Republican support for Obama's top domestic priority came as a potential setback emerged for Senate health legislation: Congressional tax experts reported that the bill would impose $29 billion more in taxes on health care industries than originally thought — levies that could be passed on to consumers in the form of higher premiums.

That could be troublesome news for an overhaul bill facing a crucial vote in the Senate Finance Committee this week, and with Republican senators already complaining that the legislation contains too many taxes.

Although Schwarzenegger stopped short of embracing a Democratic bill, his words of encouragement came on the heels of similar statements from other Republicans outside Congress, including former Senate Republican leader Bill Frist. The White House and Democrats highlighted them as evidence of momentum and division within GOP ranks.

Schwarzenegger, who two years ago tried but failed to pass a universal health care plan in California, said in a statement that he appreciated Obama's partnership with the states and his effort to hold down costs and improve quality. He urged lawmakers from both parties to "move forward and accomplish these vital goals for the American people."

Congressional Republicans responded that they have been calling for health care improvements for months — just not the kind that Democrats are offering.

"Americans want commonsense reform," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said in a speech on the Senate floor, arguing that Democratic plans would expand government control, raise taxes on the middle class and cut Medicare benefits.

Tommy Thompson, who headed the Health and Human Services Department under President George W. Bush, said Monday the Senate Finance Committee bill "is another important step toward achieving the goal of health care reform." Frist, a heart surgeon, told Time magazine he would vote for the committee bill if he were still in Congress. However, both Frist and Thompson said they thought the bill could be improved.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a political independent first elected as a Republican, said Monday that health care legislation deserves support across the political spectrum.

Questioned about the disparate Republican voices, White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said, "I hope that Republicans in Washington hear the message of Republicans all over the country that it's time to come in off the sidelines and actively get involved in making some serious progress on health care reform this year."

On the tax issue, the Joint Committee on Taxation said in a memo prepared for Finance Committee Republicans that drug companies, medical device manufacturers and insurers would pay $121 billion over 10 years as a result of fees in the committee's bill. That compares with $92 billion originally calculated.

The tax experts said the reason for the change was that the companies wouldn't be able to deduct the fees.

The Finance Committee's top Republican, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, said in a statement: "These taxes will increase insurance premiums and health care costs for individuals and families."

At the same time, they also could mean more revenue to help pay for expanding coverage to the uninsured.

The industry fees are separate from a proposed new tax on high-value insurance plans that's also in the Finance Committee bill.

The committee, the last one in Congress yet to act on sweeping health care legislation, had planned a final vote for this week but has been waiting for a more complete set of calculations from the Congressional Budget Office.

Tuesday's tax report didn't shed light on the total cost of the bill, which stood at under $900 billion over 10 years going into a two-week drafting session that ended this past Friday. Dozens of amendments were added during the session, some making substantial changes, so senators want to see where that leaves the price tag of the bill before they go to a final vote.

That figure could be available as early as Wednesday, according to Finance Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont. Baucus has a 13-10 Democratic majority on the panel so the outcome is hardly in question, though the margin may be.

Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine, the only Republican seen as a possible "yes" vote, declined to tip her hand on Tuesday, but said she still thought the bill needed more work to ensure coverage plans were made affordable to low- and middle-income families. She suggested that the value of the lowest-value plan to be offered within a new purchasing exchange might have to be lowered even more.

"I'm still grappling with the question of affordability," she said.

Senators continued to debate whether to allow the government to sell insurance in competition with private industry. A compromise by Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del., that would give states menus of options to choose from to advance as alternatives to the private market was getting interest from some senators.

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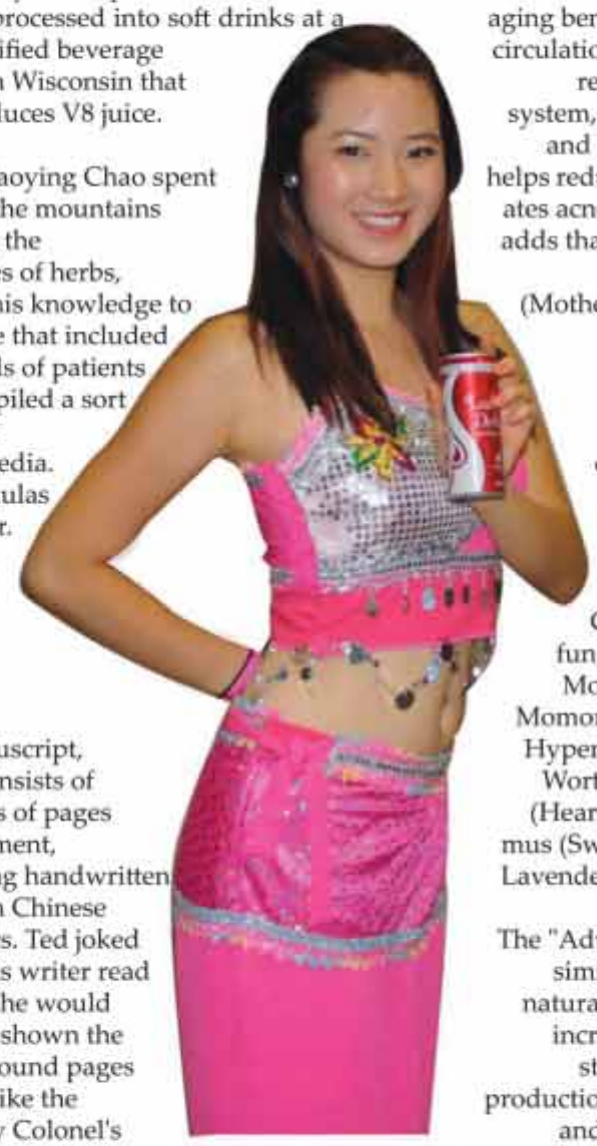
DR. CHAO "LADY HERBAL DRINK" AND "ADULT HERBAL DRINK" LINE DEBUTS

The Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line is a healthy soft drink alternative consisting of beverages that are 100% natural and vegan, without sugar, caffeine, calories, glutens, artificial sweeteners or preservatives, and which feature a variety of health benefits. It is safe to drink Dr. Chao's Herbal Beverages every day as much as you want without any limitations. The eponymous Dr. Chao refers to U.S. People Foods and Beverages Company President Ted Chao's illustrious ancestor, Baoyin Chao, a famous herbalist from Guizhou Province in Southwest China who, in the 1870s, was a sort of Asian Gregor Mendel or George Washington Carver.

Ted and his family, which includes three brothers and a sister, followed in his famous great-great-grandfather's footsteps. When Ted grew up, his family "always used the herbs for nutrition and treatment, and knew their uses very well." The family established a hospital, institute, clinic and herbal school at Guizhou, where Ted started working in 1989 when he was 24, after graduating with a master's degree from Guiyang College of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Guizhou's capital.

Among those who believe soda is an addictive silent killer loaded with sugar, preservatives, carbs and often caffeine responsible for much of America's obesity and diabetes epidemics is Chinese herbalist Ted Chao. Previously herbs - plants with healing properties from Mother Nature's "pharmacy" – were consumed in tablet, pill or powder form. But drawing upon his family's herbal heritage, as well as China's 5,000-year-old medical tradition, Ted has rendered herb-based recipes into liquid form that can be consumed in eight-ounce flip top metal tab cans.

By 2007, Ted had come to America and was thinking how to make "the consumption of herbs more convenient for consumers." The Chinese entrepreneurial herbalist started working with the Northern California-based National Food Laboratory, which, according to its website, is "a consulting organization specializing in transforming inspiration and experience into innovative food and beverage development." Ted and the NFL looked into the best way to preserve the herb's beneficial properties while providing convenience for users. Ultimately, they hit upon the idea of liquefying the herbs, and the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line was born. While the actual herbs are grown in China, they are imported to the U.S.A. and are processed into soft drinks at a FDA certified beverage factory in Wisconsin that also produces V8 juice.



Doctor Baoying Chao spent years in the mountains studying the properties of herbs, applied his knowledge to a practice that included thousands of patients and compiled a sort of herbal encyclopedia. The formulas for the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line are derived from this manuscript, which consists of hundreds of pages of parchment, containing handwritten recipes in Chinese characters. Ted joked that if this writer read Chinese, he would not have shown the loosely bound pages to him. Like the Kentucky Colonel's "secret recipe" for Col. Sanders' "finger lickin' good" chicken (which, by the way, includes 11 herbs and spices), Ted refuses to disclose and publish the closely guarded formulations of his forebear, a sacred family text that remains a patented trade secret.

However, in an interview at the Claremont, California headquarters of U.S. People Foods & Beverages Company Ted revealed the recipes, properties and benefits of the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line. "'Lady Drink,' as its name implies, is designed specifically for females. This is as an anti-menstrual pain, anti-PMS, herbal detox beauty drink with anti-oxidants for removing impurities from women's internal systems," Mr. Chao explains. "Lady Drink improves facial skin. It excretes toxic substances, has anti-aging benefits, promotes blood circulation and ovarian health, regulates the endocrine system, and enhances kidney and liver functions. It also helps reduce weight and alleviates acne." USPFB's president adds that Lady Drink is made with Herba Leonuri (Motherwort Herb), Saffron, aloe and Fructus Momordicae. "The 'Stress Reliever' alleviates symptoms caused by stress, such as headaches, insomnia, irritability and back pain," Ted explained. "It has Cordyceps (caterpillar fungus), saffron, Fructus Momordicae (Grosvenor Momordica fruit) and Herba Hyperici Japonici (St. John's Wort), Herba Houttuyniae (Heartleaf), Rubus Suavissmus (Sweet Leaf Extract), and Lavender."

The "Adult Drink," Ted said,"is similar to Viagra, but in a natural way. It's designed to increase sexual health, by stimulating the healthy production of sexual hormones and glands, and combats sexual exhaustion." The herbs in this concoction include Herba Epimedii, which, in English is called, appropriately enough, Horny Goat Weed.

According to Ted, a fourth drink named "21" will be on the market by the end of 2009 with a most practical function that could have come in handy in that popular 2009 comedy, "The Hangover": curing the effects of overdrinking. Down the road, U.S.P.F.B. plans to introduce herbal-based foods, such as "herbal ice cream, which will be as sweet as normal ice cream - but without sugar," Ted said. U.S.P.F.B. also intends to grow its own herbs here in the U.S.A. as well as to expand its distribution beyond the health and organic food stores, such as Whole Foods Market and Clarks Nutrition & Natural Foods Market, where the Dr. Chao Herbal Drinks are currently sold.

Ted's master plan is to bring the wisdom of the East to the West, in the shape of healthy soft drinks that can replace sugary, syrupy sodas and the like. "I want to introduce herbal drinks to the whole world. When the public knows the value of herb drinks, they will love it," he insisted. Although well aware that alternative beverages are obviously not the sole solution to America's medical insurance dilemmas, the Chinese herbalist believes that by being proactive in their own wellbeing and choosing to consume healthful products, Americans can avoid pitfalls such as diabetes and obesity. "Herbs can supplement healthcare," proclaimed Ted.

This great-great-grandson of a venerable Chinese herbal doctor hopes that his herbal ambrosia will have an impact similar to how the introduction of the ancient Chinese science of acupuncture affected healing practices in the Western world. If, as Ben Franklin observed, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," then as far as Ted Chao is concerned, the Dr. Chao Herbal Drink Line provides eight herbal ounces of preventive healthcare per can.

- By Ed Rampell

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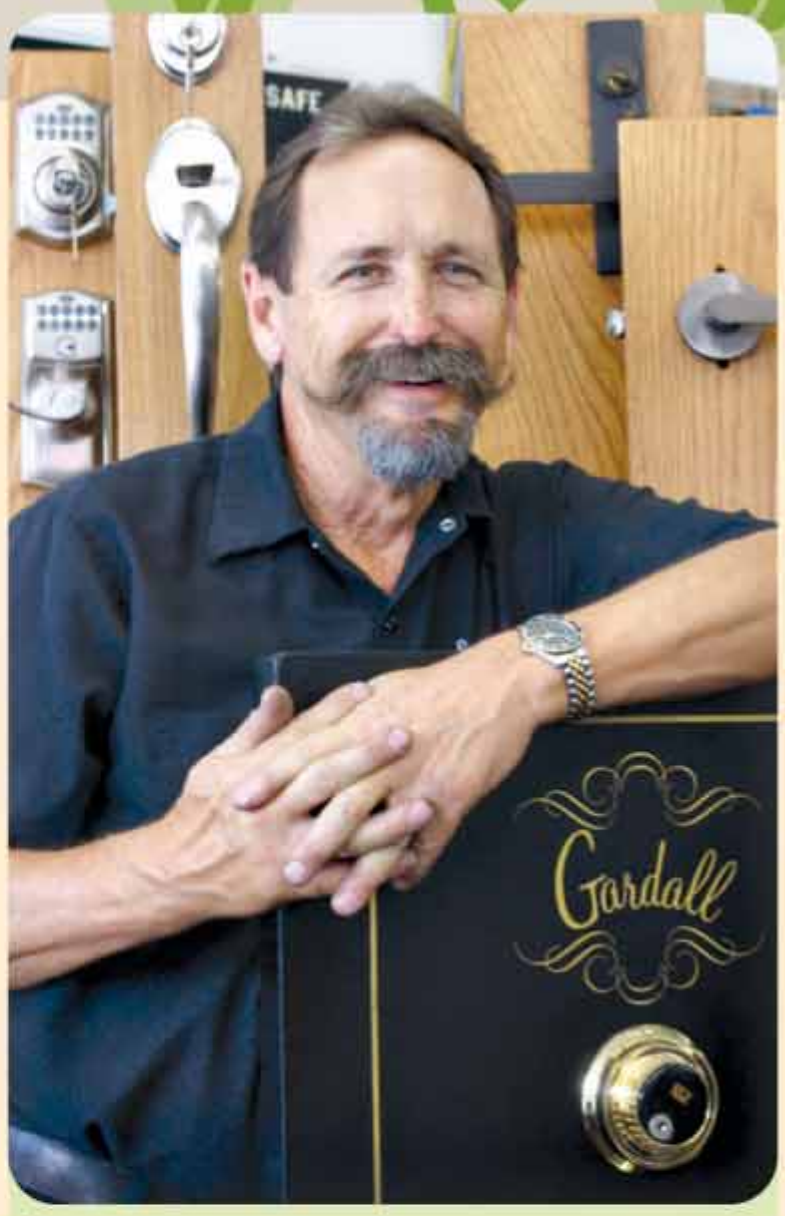
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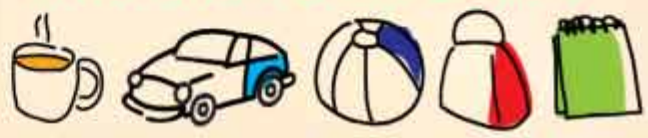


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No charges for SF woman accused in tourist death

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO San Francisco prosecutors say there's not enough evidence to charge a woman who allegedly lured a Louisiana man into a fatal robbery attempt.

Authorities still are looking for the gunman who killed 26-year-old Michael Bailey on Saturday night. They arrested the woman over the weekend, but expect to release her Tuesday.

Police say Bailey and his friends met the woman at the City Nights club in the South of Market area, and she asked for a ride home because she had lost her car keys.

Police say the men drove her around 3 a.m. to a housing project at Hunter's Point, where several robbers were waiting. During the confrontation, one of them fatally shot Bailey.

Bailey was an electrical engineering student at Southern University at Baton Rouge. He was married with two children.

Brother of bomb plot suspect wants to be deported

JULIANA BARBASSA
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO A teenager whose brother was arrested last month for planning to blow up a Dallas skyscraper told an immigration judge on Tuesday that he wanted to go home to Jordan.

Hussein Smadi, 18, appeared before a San Francisco immigration court and told the judge he wanted to rejoin his father in his home country. He offered to pay his own ticket.

Smadi entered the United States legally on a tourist visa in 2007, but stayed after it expired and enrolled in high school.

He was arrested on a drug charge, and pleaded not guilty to possession of a controlled substance on Sept. 8, according to the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office.

Friends say Smadi and his brother, Hosam Maher Husein Smadi, moved to Santa Clara, Calif. after their mother died. But when Hosam Smadi moved to Italy, a small town outside Dallas, Hussein Smadi remained in Silicon Valley.

Hosam Smadi was arrested Sept. 24 in Dallas and faces a charge of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.

Authorities say Smadi parked a truck he thought contained a bomb in the garage beneath the 60-story Fountain Place office building. Later, authorities say, he dialed a cell phone he thought would ignite a blast.

The device was actually a decoy provided by FBI employees posing as al-Qaida operatives. The FBI had been keeping tabs on Smadi since an undercover language analyst discovered him in an online extremists group, according to an affidavit.

Through an attorney, Hussein Smadi said he had nothing to do with his brother, or any of the charges levied against him.

"He's not saying his brother is guilty of anything, but he's saying he had nothing to do with what his brother was accused of," said Mark Silverman, an attorney with the Immigrant Legal Resource Center, who was giving Smadi legal advice.

Days before his arrest, Hosam Smadi had moved from his dome-shaped Texas home to a rural town. Documents in the case show FBI agents seized a handgun, two loaded magazines and a box of 9mm ammunition from his new home in Milford, about 50 miles southwest of Dallas. They also took a laptop, a digital camera and documents.

Collectors named as suspects in California art heist

BROOKE DONALD
Associated Press Writer

SALINAS, Calif. Two men who reported that millions of dollars worth of artwork was stolen from their Pebble Beach rental home are now suspects in the case.

Monterey County Sheriff's Commander Mike Richards said Tuesday that Angelo Amadio and Dr. Ralph Kennaugh may be involved in a "criminal enterprise," but he didn't go into further detail.

Richards also says they have been uncooperative and unable to produce evidence that the art even exists.

The men reported the alleged theft Sept. 25. They say works by Jackson Pollock, G.H. Rothe, Matisse, Miro, Rembrandt, Renoir, Van Gogh and others were taken. They estimate their loss at about $80 million.

The men have offered a $1 million reward for the return of the art. They allege the sheriff's office has botched the investigation.

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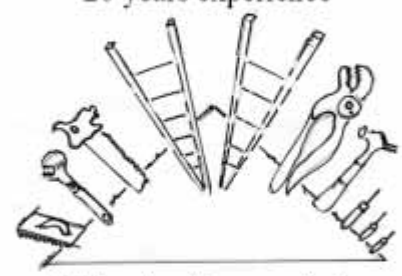
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La. prosecutor probes ACORN after embezzlement

MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS Louisiana's attorney general said Tuesday he has stepped up an investigation into embezzlement at ACORN nearly a decade ago, but the prosecutor and community activist group clashed over how much money was taken.

Louisiana Attorney General Buddy Caldwell claimed the figure was $5 million, but ACORN said the sum hadn't changed from slightly less than $1 million.

ACORN said its chief executive officer estimated it could cost up to $5 million to "get everything together" in the aftermath of the embezzlement, but the group's leaders claim only $948,607 was stolen.

The prosecutor's new figure was reported in a subpoena filed last week. He was seeking information from a company that provided bookkeeping, accounting and other financial management services to ACORN.

ACORN said Caldwell was basing the $5 million figure on remarks Chief Executive Officer Bertha Lewis made during an October 2008 board meeting.

"The $5 million figure was an off-handed remark by Bertha as a worst-case scenario for what it could potentially cost to get everything together," ACORN President Maude Hurd said in a statement. "Lawyers, accountants and consultants were quite expensive, and the board needed to know that. Bertha's remarks have since been taken out of context."

ACORN last year settled an internal dispute and a lawsuit involving accusations that Dale Rathke, a brother of the group's founder, made nearly $1 million in improper credit card charges in 1999 and 2000. The Rathke family and a donor have repaid the money and no charges were ever brought.

Caldwell's subpoena said the exact amount was unknown until the 2008 board meeting. Caldwell said he wanted ACORN's financial records to determine if the money was public or private.

"The only question is whether some of that money was classified as expenses, or trips, or this, that and the other, and wasn't actually stolen. There may be some question as to whether it was $3.5 (million), $2.8 (million), it's more than a million," Caldwell said.

Once he sees the records, Caldwell said he would then determine if anyone can be charged.

"We're not going to take their word for anything," he said. "We're going to take their records and let the records speak for themselves."

The subpoena requested documents from Citizens Consulting Inc., which assisted ACORN, and from various accounting and legal consultants in New Orleans.

Dale Rathke's brother Wade, who founded ACORN, could not be reached immediately for comment. His wife, Beth Butler, said he was in Thailand on Tuesday for work.

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Bikers accused of murder

TIM HUBER
Associated Press Writer

CHARLESTON, W.Va. National Pagans Motorcycle Club leaders and more than 50 members and associates of the outlaw biker gang are accused of plotting to kill and extort rivals to consolidate the club's power in the eastern U.S., according to an indictment unsealed Tuesday.

The defendants include national Pagans President David Keith "Bart" Barbeito of Myersville, Md., and national Vice President Floyd B. "Jesse" Moore of St. Albans. Also named are members and associates in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Florida.

The 44-count indictment portrays Barbeito and Moore as leaders of a sprawling organization engaged in kidnapping, robbery, extortion, conspiracy to commit murder and other crimes in an effort to be the pre-eminent biker gang in the region, said Charles Miller, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Many of the charges detail violent efforts to intimidate and extort smaller biker gangs and clubs, and illegal gambling centered on raffles for nonexistent motorcycles. Other crimes listed in the 83-page document include drug dealing and weapons violations.

"The PMC and its existing support clubs unlawfully threatened and intimidated people who wanted to start a motorcycle club in the PMC territory," the indictment says.

Two of the most serious charges involve murder conspiracies. Moore and others are accused of conspiring in September 2005 with a prison guard to kill an inmate suspected of cooperating with law enforcement.

Moore also is accused of conspiring with the president of a local chapter of the Avengers Motorcycle Club to commit murder. Neither target was actually killed, Miller said.

The indictment further accuses Moore of ordering two Pagans known as Darrell "Mr. Nice Guy" Bumgarner and David "Kicker" Cremeans to beat a member of the Road Disciples Motorcycle Club at a Huntington bar in March 2003. Prosecutors say the men were to collect money from the rival club's president and order him to obey the Pagans or be shut down.

The Pagans have about 700 members generally concentrated in the U.S. and are known for aggressive behavior, said Jim Hernandez, a criminal justice professor at California State University, Sacramento.

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Floating house could ride New Orleans' floods

STACEY PLAISANCE
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS A house capable of floating atop rising floodwaters made its debut Tuesday in New Orleans alongside more than a dozen other homes built through actor Brad Pitt's Make It Right Foundation.

Called the FLOAT House, the unique home aims to answer the challenge posed by the Big Easy's flood risk, starkly illustrated by the rising waters of Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"I wanted to float it down the Mississippi River to New Orleans," architect Thom Mayne said with a chuckle while in New Orleans for Tuesday's event. Instead, the home was shipped in pieces from Los Angeles, where it had been constructed on UCLA's campus.

The dwelling was designed by Morphosis Architects under the direction of Mayne, a professor at UCLA. Mayne said it's the first of its kind to be permitted in the United States.

It is long and narrow like the traditional New Orleans shotgun home and sits on a raised 4-foot base. It also has a front porch. But the home is contemporary in design, with sharp angles and energy efficient features like solar panels and a roof designed to capture and recycle water.

"You have to build a house for the environment, for the reoccurrence of hurricanes, but it can also be energy efficient," Mayne said.

No one lives there yet, but a family could buy the home and move in as early as next month, said Tom Darden, executive director of Make It Right. The group says it went through the local zoning and permitting channels before erecting the 1,000 square-foot, two-bedroom house on the site.

Residents must qualify through the foundation to be eligible for the floating house or other homes being built by Pitt's group. They must have lived in the Lower 9th Ward before Hurricane Katrina struck the area in August 2005.

Mayne said the Morphosis floating house technology was developed and is in use in the Netherlands, where architects are working to address rising sea levels expected with climate change.

In case of a flood, the base of the house acts as a raft, allowing the home to rise on guide posts up to 12 feet as water levels rise. In the Lower 9th Ward, which saw some of the worst flooding in the city during Katrina, floodwater reached as high as 12 feet.

"It's amazing," Darden said. "Our goal is to be as innovative and eco-friendly as we can be, and the FLOAT House is certainly technology designed for this climate."

The home's base is a high-performance chassis made from polystyrene foam coated in glass fiber-reinforced concrete. It houses the essential equipment to supply power, water and fresh air.

While not intended for occupants to remain inside during a hurricane, the structure is designed to minimize catastrophic damage and preserve the homeowner's investment, Mayne said.

The floating home should also allow residents to return within days of a hurricane or flood, Mayne said.

Mayne's team, which included architects and UCLA graduate students, took about two years to design and build the house. He said he is now shopping for a production company to help mass produce it. Miller said the houses could sell for around $150,000.

Shannon Sharpe Briand, a New Orleans real estate agent with ReMax for more than seven years, said she thinks some buyers would be interested in the floating homes, especially if the going price is $150,000.

Same-sex marriage bill in DC appears unstoppable

JESSICA GRESKO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON A bill that would allow same-sex couples to marry in the nation's capital was introduced Tuesday, a measure that even opponents acknowledged seems almost unstoppable.

The bill was nearly certain to pass the D.C. city council, but whether it becomes law is more complicated because Congress gets an opportunity to review D.C. legislation before it takes effect. Still, even challengers in Congress acknowledged the bill was likely to become law.

The city began in July recognizing same-sex marriages performed elsewhere. Congress had a chance to act on that legislation but didn't.

U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, a Republican from Utah who said he would work to defeat the new bill, anticipates that will happen again with the proposal. A spokesman for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said she believed it was a matter for D.C. to decide.

D.C. Councilman David Catania introduced the new measure at a standing-room only council meeting. The independent and one of two openly gay council members said he hopes for a vote in December.

"There is no question that we are about to embark on an exciting journey here in the district," he said.

His bill specifically says religious leaders and institutions are not required to perform the marriages or rent their space for same-sex ceremonies unless they let the public use or rent them.

If the bill becomes law, the city will follow Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa and Vermont, which issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. New Hampshire will begin issuing them in January.

The legislature in Maine has also passed a same-sex marriage bill, but voters will decide in November whether to reverse it. California briefly issued licenses before voters passed a law stopping the practice.

In the District of Columbia, the bill was co-introduced by 10 of the city council's 13 members and has the support of the mayor.

If Congress blocked the bill, it would be rare. In the past 25 years, Congress has only rejected three pieces of legislation. According to Brian Flowers, the city's general counsel, the last time was in 1991, when Congress rejected a law that would have permitted taller buildings in the city.

In 1999, Congress amended a bill so that city medical marijuana would not be legalized. Congress also repealed a law that would have required D.C. government employees to be city residents.

Same-sex marriage supporters cheered the bill's introduction. D.C. residents Juan Rondon and Edward Grandis came to the meeting wearing T-shirts that displayed copies of their California marriage license.

"I feel a sensation of relief," Grandis said.

According the U.S. Census Bureau, there were about 3,500 same-sex couples living together in the city in 2008, though the number has a wide margin of error. D.C. has 600,000 residents.

Rick Rosendall, vice president for political affairs for the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance, said he was proud of the city but acknowledged: "We have a long way to go, of course."

The Catholic Church and Washington's archbishop, Donald Wuerl, have been vocal in opposing the legislation. And a group led by Bishop Harry Jackson, the pastor of a Maryland church, had previously asked D.C.'s board of elections to authorize a ballot initiative defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

The board will consider the request later this month.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 66°

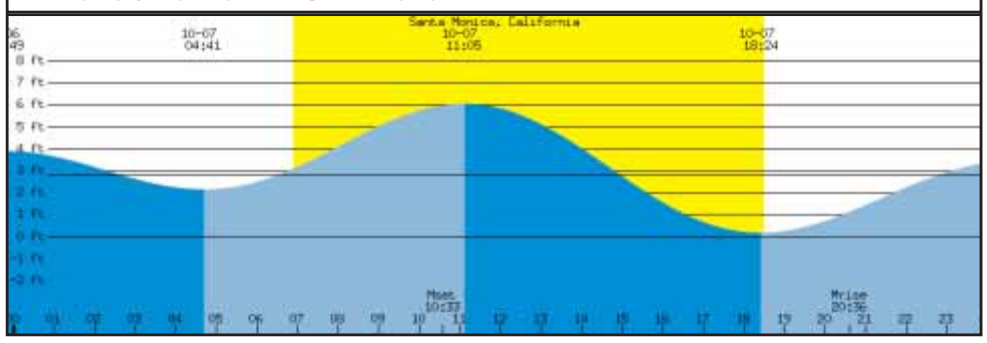
Swell Forecast

We should see another burst of southerly swell, bringing waist to chest high surf from 180-190 degrees with 14-second periods. NW wind swell is looking nil.

Long Range Synopsis

The southerly swell should back off to waist high. NW wind swell is looking weak so far, so west facing breaks would likely see just knee+ surf.

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **September 29, 2009**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 28 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 1
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 42 / ns
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 3 / ns

The Beach Report Card is made possible by simplehuman, The Goldhirsh Foundation, the James Irvine Foundation, Ford

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 Lachusa and Las Alisos creeks.	A+	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 Ramirez 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 Blacker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	F	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	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.	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	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.	C	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.	A	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.

Rush Limbaugh bids for NFL team

JIM SALTER
Associated Press Writer

ST. LOUIS The lowly Rams have someone who loves them.

Conservative talk radio host Rush Limbaugh said Tuesday he is teaming up with St. Louis Blues owner Dave Checketts in a bid to buy the Rams, owners of the NFL's longest losing streak at 14 and just 5-31 since 2007.

In a statement, Limbaugh declined to discuss details, citing a confidentiality agreement with Goldman Sachs, the investment firm hired by the family of former Rams owner Georgia Frontiere to review assets of her estate, including the NFL team.

Limbaugh also declined to discuss other partners that might be involved in the bid, but said he and Checketts would operate the team.

"Dave Checketts and I have made a bid to buy the Rams and we are continuing the process," Limbaugh said.

Forbes magazine has estimated the Rams franchise has a value of $929 million.

Frontiere's children, Chip Rosenbloom and Lucia Rodriguez, inherited 60 percent of the Rams when their mother died in January 2008. Billionaire Stan Kroenke of Columbia, Mo., owns the remaining 40 percent. It wasn't clear if the Limbaugh/Checketts bid was for 100 percent of the Rams or just the share owned by Rosenbloom and Rodriguez.

"Our strategic review of our ownership of the Rams continues," Rosenbloom said in a statement released late Monday. "We will make an announcement upon the completion of the process."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello declined comment. Spokesmen for Checketts and the Blues declined comment.

Limbaugh is a native of Cape Girardeau, Mo., about 100 miles south of St. Louis. He's so popular among conservatives — fans of his show call themselves "dittoheads" — that he has been called by some the voice of the Republican Party.

Limbaugh, who lives and works in Palm Beach, Fla., once worked for the Kansas City Royals and is an avid sports fan.

In 2003, Limbaugh worked briefly on ESPN's NFL pregame show, but resigned after saying Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb was overrated because the media wanted to see a black quarterback succeed.

Checketts, 53, and his SCP Worldwide and Towerbrook Capital Partners purchased the Blues in 2006 from Bill and Nancy Laurie. The Blues have been gradually rebuilt under his leadership and made the playoffs last season for the first time since 2004.

Checketts first approached Rosenbloom in early 2009 about possibly buying the Rams. Eric Gelfand, a spokesman for Checketts, said in June that Checketts had put together a group consisting of local and outside investors.

An NFL rule allows ownership of NFL teams and teams in other sports, but only if they are in the same market. That would be a problem if Kroenke wanted to become majority owner of the Rams because he owns the NBA's Denver Nuggets and the NHL's Colorado Avalanche.

Checketts' company owns Utah's Real Salt Lake of the MLS. But an NFL spokesman has said the cross-ownership rule does not apply to the MLS.

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MOVIE TIMES

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

Planes, Trains & Automobiles (R) 1hr 33min
7:30

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell (R) 1hr 45min
2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

Jennifer's Body (R) 1hr 42min
4:55, 9:20

Love Happens (PG-13) 1hr 49min
2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

9 (PG-13) 1hr 19min
2:45, 7:20

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

Capitalism: A Love Story (R) 2hr 7min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG) 1hr 21min
1:30, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15

Invention of Lying (PG-13) 1hr 40min
2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Surrogates (PG-13) 1hr 29min
2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

Toy Story & Toy Story 2 in 3D Double Feature (G) 2hr 49min
1:00, 4:45, 8:30

Zombieland (R) 1hr 21min
12:30, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10

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

Bright Star (PG) 1hr 59min
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

Burning Plain (R) 1hr 51min
1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Providence Effect (PG) 1hr 32min
1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 9:55

Paris (R) 2hr 10min
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

District 9 (R) 1hr 53min
1:10, 9:10

The Informant! (R) 1hr 48min
11:30am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20

Inglourious Basterds (R) 2hrs 32min
12:00, 3:20, 6:40, 10:00

Fame (PG) 1hr 47min
3:50, 6:30

Fame in Digital Projection (PG) 1hr 47min
11:40am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

Pandorum (R) 1hr 48min
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

Whip It (PG-13) 1hr 51min
11:20am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

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

Cancer, make time for you

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Surprising insights point you in a different direction. How you view a situation could change radically. You might want to pinch yourself before buying someone's incredible fairy tale about a key situation. Get your own facts. Tonight: Work as late as need be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. Someone might actually shock you with his or her reaction. Your version of what is going on could change. Creativity could easily merge with another's perception, perhaps causing a different perspective and a problem. Don cynic's clothing. Tonight: Curb any wildness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Much goes on behind the scenes, and you question whether you are hearing fact or fiction. You might want to try another approach or be more upbeat. Do needed research. Hunt out the facts. Tonight: Suddenly you are energized.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Take a hint from Taurus. Emphasize groups, meetings and supporters while focusing on your goals. The right mix is close to unstoppable and the smart way to go. If you want more out of a situation, ask for suggestions and listen to them. Tonight: Take some much needed personal time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Accept your role in work, and you'll accomplish a lot. Your creativity surges when dealing with unexpected events. You might not be getting the complete story or all the facts. Loosen up and flow. You see success ahead. Tonight: Where your friends are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Try to gain an overview before you take a stance. In fact, the more information you gain now, the better equipped you will be. Understand what is needed before you assume responsibility. A must appearance later today cannot be avoided. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Listen to a partner and get much needed feedback. Though you might not agree, you can and will find a point of agreement if you want to. Respect your differences rather than stress over them. Be direct with someone at a distance. Tonight: Don't judge what you see.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Defer to others and get ahead of the game. You might want to rethink a decision as you get stunning input. You have many ideas, but first clear out confusion. One-on-one relating wins someone over to your perspective. Tonight: Dinner for two.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your style and way could make a big difference in what is occurring. Listen to news that heads first through work then though others you frequently share with. Confusion surrounds communication. Tonight: Defer to others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Share more of what is going on. You might find that someone has surprising news or feedback. Incorporate more of what is important to you. Realize that you might be best off postponing a money decision. Tonight: Put your feet up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ If you can work from home, please do. You have a way of seeing certain situations that is quite unique. Others like your feedback, though in some way you could be confusing to many who don't understand your avant-garde openness. Tonight: Time to kick up your heels.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might want to rethink a talk or several conversations. The more you hear, the more confused you become. Perhaps just acting might be the best way to handle pressure. Someone delights in hearing from you. Tonight: Home is where the heart is.

Happy birthday

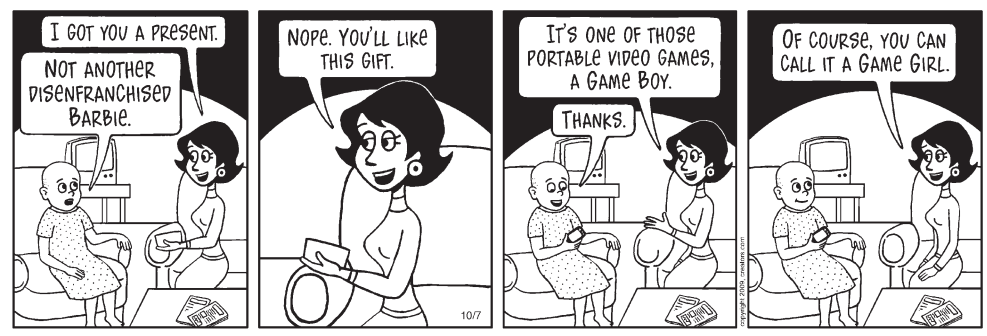
This year, you make waves in many of your friendships and other relationships. You could pioneer a totally different view, and open up to quite a bit of change. Others will need to adjust as you transform. You might not always feel as together or connected to people as you have in the past. Listen to your inner voice more often. If you are single, someone easily could pull the wool over your eyes -- this person cuts a very handsome or charming figure. Do some reality checking. If you are attached, the two of you could fall deeply in love again. GEMINI helps you detach.

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

Girls and Sports
By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



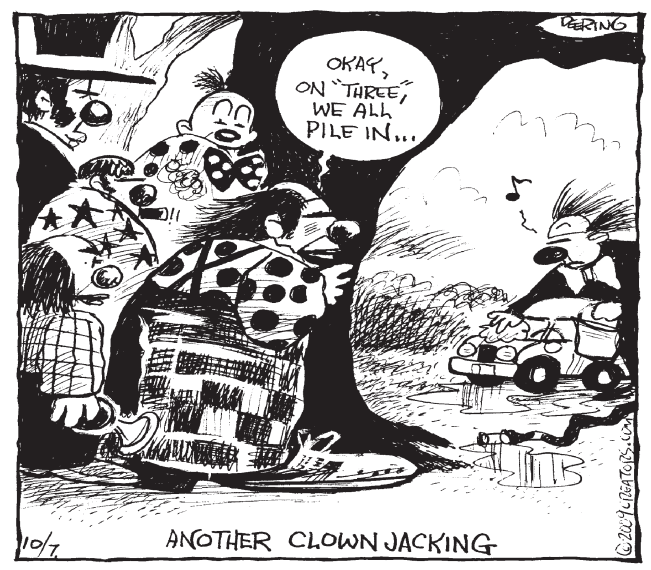
The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



Garfield
By Jim Davis



Strange Brew
By John Deering



Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



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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 ★★★

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

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

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

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Maya Sugarman *news@smdp.com*

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Whittle down
5 Ticket half
9 Surrounded by
11 Twilled material
12 Boxer's dream
13 Peels
14 — bind
15 Gets satisfaction for
17 Attract a larger crowd than
19 Put down
20 Blood fluid
21 Nourished
22 Top
24 Greedy fellow
26 Namely, in Latin
29 Keg attachment
30 Batter-dipped food
32 Broad streets
34 "Norma __"
35 Walking aids
36 44th president
38 Leg parts
39 Famous
40 Croquet setting
41 Gum masses

DOWN

1 Cookout spot
2 Fairly good grade
3 Turn
4 Photo blowup: Abbr.
5 Leg part
6 Excited feeling
7 Zombies
8 Domineering
10 Prepare
11 Ship staff
16 "Twilight" creature
18 Pharmacy buy
21 Worry
23 Prolific inventor
24 Cuban capital
25 Starting bid
27 Layers
28 Joined forces
29 Kitschy
30 Bother
31 Peruses
33 Must have
37 Gift topper

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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

10-7

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 15 24 51 53 55
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: $122M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 25 29 45 46
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: $11M

FANTASY 5: 10 18 23 34 36

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 1 6 0
EVENING: 7 4 4

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 01 Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1.42.87

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

■ **Fierce Competition:** (1) Police in Broome, Australia, reported in September that a five-year feud between two rival camel-ride vendors in the Cable Beach resort area had erupted again, this time involving allegations of camel theft and tossed camel dung. (2) In July, as the legal brothel business declined precipitously in Germany, owners adopted such gimmicks as free shoe-polishing and discounts for retirees. However, when several brothels began offering flat-rate plans (based on restaurants' all-you-can-eat model), police cracked down, judging them as a little too excessive.

■ **Questionable Products:** (1) The Spanish toymaker Berjuan has introduced a doll that suckles from a halter worn by young girls who want to mimic their breast-feeding mothers. The Bebe Gloton is not expected to be available in the U.S. until 2010 but is being shown worldwide on YouTube. Americans appear to regard breastfeeding, in general, as much more provocative than Europeans do. (2) The Brazilian company Petsmiling has created a prototype DoggieLoveDoll in three sizes, designed as a "mountable," anatomically correct sex partner for male dogs. It was introduced at the Pet South America fair in Sao Paulo in July, according to Associated Press photos.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1955 Beat poet Allen Ginsberg reads his poem "Howl" for the first time at a poetry reading in San Francisco.

1958 President of Pakistan Iskander Mirza, with the support of General Ayub Khan and the army, suspends the 1956 constitution, imposes martial law, and cancels the elections scheduled for January 1959.

1958 The U.S. manned space-flight project is renamed Project Mercury.

1959 U.S.S.R. probe Luna 3 transmits first ever photographs of the far side of the moon.

1962 U.S.S.R. performs nuclear test at Novaya Zemlya, U.S.S.R.

1963 John F. Kennedy signs ratification for Partial Test Ban Treaty.

WORD UP!

burgeon \BUR-juhn\ , verb:
1. To grow or develop quickly; flourish.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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501 N. Venice unit 12 single, $1025/mo $500 off move-in stove, fridge, carpet, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

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MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 224 1bdrm/1bath, carpet, granite counter tops, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, no pets. $1025/mo $500 off move-in on site manager (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA: 12434 CULVER Blvd. units 3 1+1 stove, fridge, AC, carpets blinds, laundry room, intercom entry, gated parking, no pets.$1095/mo $500 off move-in (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

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MDR adj. $900 Large Studio, Full kitchen with stove & refrigerator, large closets, carpets, laundry, parking. Info (310)828-4481 or (310)993-0414 after 6p.m.

PALMS 3346 S. Canfiled #205 $995 1+1 upper, stove, fridge, blinds, bamboo & vinyl floors, on-site laundry, garage parking, intercom entry no pets.$500 off move-in (310)578-7512 jkwproperties.com

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For Rent

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	Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	$2,447,000	$4,810,000
North of Montana	$3,395,000	$1,449,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	$1,893,500	$909,000
South of Wilshire	$909,500	$599,000
Sunset Park	$1,274,500	$694,250
Ocean Park	$1,469,000	$995,000

Statistics Updated Every Monday

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