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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 283



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SEXIST AD CAMPAIGN?
SEE PAGE 13

THE NEW LAWS ISSUE

Helping students help themselves

Foundation formed following student's death plans to bring free tutoring to SMMUSD

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DISTRICTWIDE A nonprofit organization established in memory of a former Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District student aims at increasing access to specialized tutors for students with learning challenges.

Ellen Shane, whose daughter died in a car crash last April, presented the concept to the Board of Education at its meeting Thursday.

Ellen Shane's daughter Emily Shane, a former eighth grader in Malibu, was struck by a car and killed while walking down the 29000 block of the Pacific Coast Highway.

The man charged with hitting her, Sina Khankhanian, will go to trial on a murder charge later this month.

Since her daughter's death, Ellen and her husband Michel Shane sought ways to honor their daughter's memory by giving back to others.

SEE SHANE PAGE 10



HERE COMES THE SUN?

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Dense fog rolled into Santa Monica on Monday, with visibility reduced to a quarter-mile or less at times, according to the National Weather Service. The fog is expected to stick around today and then depart Wednesday when temperatures should be in the 80s.

City Hall's healthcare costs rise

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on upcoming Santa Monica City Council consent agendas. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

CITY HALL Even as cities look for ways to conserve precious dollars, costs on essentials are going up.

The City Council will be asked to approve a $17.3 million expenditure on health contracts for municipal employees for the 2012 calendar year, an 11 percent increase from the year before.

Gallagher Insurance Services, Inc., a fee-based insurance brokerage firm, negotiates insurance rates for City Hall.

After discovering that CIGNA, the company that currently provides medical insurance, was projected to raise fees by approximately 19.6 percent, city officials asked Gallagher to put out a request for proposal and reach out to Aetna, the previous carrier.

SEE CONSENT PAGE 11

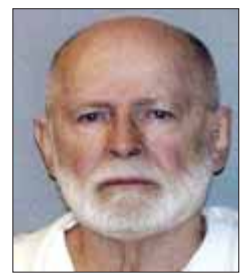
'Whitey' Bulger tipster revealed

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

DOWNTOWN A former Icelandic beauty queen and actress collected the $2-million reward for turning in Boston mob boss James "Whitey" Bulger and his longtime girlfriend to the FBI, the Boston Globe is reporting.

Anna Bjornsdottir, who was named Miss Iceland in 1974, intermittently lived in the

SEE TIP PAGE 12

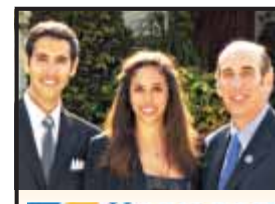

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011

Healthy eats
Santa Monica Senior Center
1450 Ocean Ave., 10:30 a.m.
Joya Parenteau, a registered dietitian and chef, hosts a "healthy cooking" workshop at the Senior Center. The workshop is open to all Senior Center members; membership is free and open to those ages 50 and older. For more information, call (310) 458-8644.

Jumping around the world
The Plaza at Santa Monica Place
395 Santa Monica Place, 4 p.m.
First Lady Michelle Obama kicks off NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS' "Let's Jump" event, an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people doing jumping jacks in a 24-hour period. The magazine is looking for more than 20,000 to join in across the globe. To participate, come by the Plaza on Tuesday or Wednesday to do one minute of jumping jacks; the event is open to all ages. For more information, visit http://kidsblogs.nationalgeographic.com/lets-jump-community.

Beware of hackers
Santa Monica Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 p.m.
Learn how to protect yourself online with a class on Internet technology and figure out how to avoid threats such as spyware, viruses and web scams. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, call (310) 434-2608.

Finding nirvana
Fairview Branch Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 7 p.m.
Henry Schipper, a graduate of UCLA's program in mindful studies, invites visitors to sit and meditate at the library for 30 minutes. The session is designed to help participants refresh themselves and become attuned with their thoughts and senses. For more information, call (310) 458-8681.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011

Fairy tales 2.0
Montana Avenue Library
1704 Montana Ave., 2 p.m.
The library's "In Case You Missed It" film series presents the 2011 movie "Red Riding Hood," loosely based on the French fairy tale. The movie, starring Amanda Seyfried and Gary Oldman, tells the story of Valerie (Seyfried) who lives in a village plagued by a werewolf. For more information, call (310) 458-8682.

Dangerous waves
Diesel, A Bookstore in Brentwood
225 26th St., Suite 33, 7 p.m.
Author Chris Dixon will discuss and sign his nonfiction book "Ghost Wave," about Cortes Bank, a fabled island in the Pacific that is submerged 15 feet below the ocean's surface. Cortes Bank, famous among surfers, is know for having the biggest rideable waves in the world. For more information, call (310) 576-9960.

Picnic and a movie
Santa Monica Place
395 Santa Monica Place, 7 p.m.
"Movies on the Deck" presents the movie "Moonstruck" on the Dining Deck as part of its weekly Wednesday movie showings. The 1987 film stars Cher and Nicolas Cage in a romantic comedy set in Brooklyn, N.Y. Guests are welcome to bring chairs, blankets, food and such to the free movie viewing. For more information, call (310) 260-8333.

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

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

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



CORRECTION

• Incorrect information appeared in the Oct. 10 article "Districtwide fundraising on the table." Lori Whitesell is a current member of the Santa Monica-Malibu PTA Council.

• In the article "Police: Most arrests on out-of-towners," which appeared in the Oct. 7 issue of the Daily Press, it should have said that the police department has no plans of resurrecting the Directed Resources Division.



NO PARKING

Photo courtesy Nick Steers

A 69-year-old woman accidentally drove her gold Toyota into the front lawn of a home on Ashland Avenue Sunday afternoon. Police said the Santa Monica resident was trying to back into a driveway and thought she put the car in reverse before hitting the gas. No injuries were reported. The driver was cited for driving under the influence of prescription medication, police said.

In Calif., no more tanning beds for under-18 crowd

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California girls who dream about the sun-kissed skin glorified in song by Katy Perry will have to wait until they turn 18 before they can get the effect from tanning beds under a new first-in-the-nation law.

Gov. Jerry Brown announced Sunday that he had signed into law a bill that prevents children under 18 from using the popular tanning method. The law takes effect Jan. 1.

Although Texas has banned the use of tanning beds for children under 16, SB746 bill makes California the first state to set a higher age limit. Thirty other states also have some age restrictions on the use, said the bill's author, state Sen. Ted Lieu.

Under current law, children 14 and under in California already cannot use the beds, but those ages 15 to 17 can do so with permission from their parents. Illinois, New York, Ohio and Rhode Island have considered an age limit similar to California's, but have yet to enact them, said the Democrat from Torrance, Calif.

The ban will hurt businesses, many of them owned by women, said the Indoor Tanning Association. About 5 percent to 10 percent of its members' customers are under 18, the industry group noted.

SEE **TAN** PAGE 12

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Rendering courtesy of City of Santa Monica

DESIGN: **A rendering of one of the concepts for the universally accessible playground.**

CITYWIDE

Art for disability awareness

The Santa Monica Disabilities Commission has announced a poster contest in honor of Disabilities Awareness Month.

Disabilities Awareness Month is a time to promote awareness and appreciation of people with differing abilities. The poster contest is open to all kindergarten through 12th grade students who live or attend school in Santa Monica. The theme for this year's contest is "Let's Play!"

The poster contest coincides with the current development of a universally accessible playground at the beach designed for children of all abilities.

Children interested in entering the poster contest can visit www.facebook.com/smbuap or contact Stacy Rowe at (310) 458-8701. Winning posters will be displayed at City Hall and a new beachside playground during construction. The contest ends on Oct. 21.

SOPHIA ZHORNE

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■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Shopping elsewhere

Editor:

I just couldn't resist sharing my recent "out of town" shopping experience with SMDP readers and our city leaders that insist on shoving change down my throat; Change in the form of charging for shopping bags, and higher sales taxes to pay for our over-funded and under-performing schools.

I decided to drive up to Ventura County last weekend as I needed to purchase some new tires for one of my vehicles. I was able to find a tire dealer through a friend, and realized that I saved even more than I thought I would. I purchased $1,000 worth of tires, and I paid sales tax of $77.50. In Santa Monica, I would have paid $92.50 in sales tax, so I saved $15.

I also went to a Walmart and to a Vons up there. My items were rung up by the cashiers and they bagged my items for free – no charge for the bags – and again, I saved on the sales tax too, 7.75 percent versus 9.25 percent.

Our city leaders have never entertained the idea of a Walmart and aren't smart enough to wrap their heads around the benefits of any lower cost shopping options, benefits like job creation or lower cost food and sundries for all the low-income residents and bums that we can't seem to get enough of here in Santa Monica. Our leaders have decided that it's better to have a bunch of high-priced and useless designer shops that cater to higher-income visitors, rather than anything of real value to Santa Monica residents (like a Target store, which got about 15 seconds of consideration several years ago).

Needless to say, after my latest travels and enjoyable shopping experiences out of the Santa Monica area, I won't be doing any real or big shopping here anymore. I will probably buy a few groceries here and there, when I can't wait until the weekend, but I will only purchase what I can carry out, refusing to pay for some weak bag that immediately rips when a carton of milk is placed inside.

Even though Ventura County is a bit of a drive, it was worth the extra gas and time to not shop in Santa Monica. There were no bums to confront at store entrances, no parking woes, fees or frustration, much less traffic and lower sales tax, not to mention the incredible amount of stores in which to choose from. I can't wait until next weekend!

Lori Emerson
Santa Monica

Represent

Editor:

I can't believe Malibu doesn't have a representative on the school board, with the money they pay the school district. It's long overdue. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board should be ashamed of itself.

Paul Weller
Santa Monica

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Ask George

George Valverde

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Drinking while on the job

Q: I HAVE A COMMERCIAL DRIVER License and was cited for DUI while driving a commercial vehicle. Can I apply for a restricted Class C license so I can work?

A: As a commercial driver who received a DUI while operating a commercial vehicle, you are not eligible for a restricted license for employment purposes. You would only be eligible for a noncommercial Class C restricted to driving to and from your treatment program.

Q: I just paid my registration renewal fees, but my car was recently stolen. Can I get a refund?

A: I'm sorry to hear that. You must make your request for a refund within three years after payment, but you are only eligible to receive a full refund if your car was reported stolen before your registration period began. Refund requests cannot be honored beyond this period. You must submit proof of payment which can be a registration card or sticker number, photocopy of front/back of cancelled check, or receipts issued by the department or auto club. You can download an "Application for Refund, REG 399," and mail it to the address on the form. Usually, you will receive a refund check, or be notified of the refund request status within 60 days from the date the application was received by the DMV. If your refund is denied, you may appeal by writing a letter and sending it to:

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For more information on refunds, please visit www.dmv.ca.gov, click on the Publications tab, then under Fast-Facts and How to Brochures select Vehicle Registration Brochure, and click on FFVR 15 Refunds. Save Time. Go Online. It's safe, secure and convenient!

Q: My 16-year-old son wants to get his motorcycle license. Our entire family rides motorcycles, so we would like him to be able to go on trips with us. Are there different requirements for a minor to get his motorcycle driver license than there are for an adult?

A: What a fun family activity! In order for a minor to get a class M1 motorcycle license, there are several steps he needs to take.

1. Motorcycle applicants under 21 years of age are required to complete a basic rider course before receiving a motorcycle instruction permit.

The first step is to contact the Basic Rider Course offered by the California Motorcyclist Safety Program (CMSP) at 1-877-RIDE-411 or visit www.ca-msp.org. The DMV motorcycle skills test is waived upon completion of the Basic Rider Course and submission of the Certificate of Completion of Motorcycle Training (DL 389); however, your son may be required to perform an observation test for a motorcycle-only license.

2. Next, he must visit his local DMV field office to obtain his M1 learner's permit. To do this he must:

- Fill out application form DL-44 (which can only be obtained by visiting a field office) and have a parent or guardian sign it;
- Provide a thumb print;
- Have his picture taken;
- Show proof that he has completed both driver education and driver training courses;
- Provide his social security number;
- Show legal proof of his identity, such as his birth certificate;

3. The third step is to pass a vision test and two written tests: a traffic laws and sign test, and a motorcycle laws test.

He must hold his learner's permit for at least six months, during that time he can practice riding on his own, but he's restricted from riding at night, on the freeway, or with a passenger. When he has fulfilled all other requirements, he is eligible to apply for a full license. Remember to make appointments online at www.DMV.ca.gov when you need to visit a field office. For more information on motorcycle laws and licensing info, go to www.DMV.ca.gov, click the Publications tab, then click the link to the California Motorcycle Handbook.

GEORGE is the director of the DMV. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.DMV.ca.gov.



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Your column here

Paul Scott
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Plugging in is the way to go

SANTA MONICA IS ONCE AGAIN EV central, EV being short for electric vehicle. Back around the turn of the century, Santa Monica led the country in EVs, but those were the EV1s and Toyota RAV4 EVs of a decade ago. Most of those great cars were destroyed by their manufacturers in a failed attempt to kill the technology.

After the 2008 oil price increase when we saw gas prices blow past $4 per gallon for the first time, and the car companies lost 40 percent of their business, the industry realized that it would have to offer cars that used no gas or those carmakers that didn't would eventually go out of business. Thus, today we see virtually every car maker in the world in production or development of vehicles that run on electricity.

2011 is a watershed year for EVs. Starting with a handful of deliveries in December of 2010, both GM and Nissan delivered their first Chevy Volts and LEAFs respectively. Deliveries grew steadily and spread across a dozen western states by spring and then into the southeast this summer. By early next year, all 50 states will have these cars for sale, and they'll be joined by EVs from Ford, Mitsubishi, Mercedes, Tesla, Volvo and many others.

Why is this important? Three reasons.

The environment. Driving on electricity means no gas is burned and therefore no pollution generated. Decades of burning petroleum has resulted in a deadly mix of pollutants that prematurely end the lives of thousands of Americans every year. Millions more are affected to varying degrees with increased cancer, lung and heart disease and the lost productivity of those sickened.

Studies show that charging an EV on coal-generated electricity is cleaner than burning gas, however most of the electricity used in Santa Monica comes from non-coal sources, so very little pollution is generated when charging on our relatively clean Edison grid mix. Even better, many EV drivers have discovered that that the economics of combining an electric car with solar photovoltaic systems are powerful, resulting in returns of more than 15 percent on your investment. A recent survey found that 30 percent of Nissan LEAF drivers were running their homes and cars on sunlight-generated electricity, in other words, they are driving on sunshine!

The economy. Since the Carter administration, we have increased demand for oil while our domestic supplies have diminished. We are now importing over 60 percent of the oil we use. So when we buy gas, 60 percent of the money leaves our country. This now exceeds $400 billion each year, a full 45 percent of our trade deficit. Worse, when we buy gas, over 90 percent leaves our community. Californians spent $55 billion for gas last year and $50 billion of that left our state. Consider how strong our state economy would be if that $50 billion stayed here and was spent on local goods and services creating jobs for us instead of going to the oil companies, and by extension, the Saudis.

Which brings us to the third reason, our national defense. Clearly, the wars we're fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan have their roots in oil. Osama bin Laden explicitly stated that he attacked us on 9/11 because we are in Saudi Arabia. We are there because of oil. Iraq sits on one of the largest reserves of oil in the world and it's clear that is the reason we started that war. If we weren't completely dependent on oil for our transportation, we would not need to be fighting wars over this resource. To make matters worse, some of our own money is used to buy the bombs and bullets that kill our soldiers. This has to stop!

And now we can see that it will. The only question is how fast we can transition to clean, renewable, domestic electricity instead of dirty, expensive, foreign oil.

On Oct. 16, the first ever "National Plug In Day" will be held in over 20 cities across the U.S. to celebrate the resurgence, some would call it the revenge, of the electric car. See www.pluginamerica.org/pluginday. Each city will hold its own unique event. Santa Monica is slated to be the flagship with the largest gathering of plug-in cars ever held on Earth. Our intent is to demonstrate what the future will be like when all cars are electric.

Starting at 10 a.m. on that Sunday morning, over 200 electric vehicles will parade down Main Street from Pico Boulevard to the Venice border. Those who sip coffee or eat breakfast at the outdoor cafes will be treated to quiet and clean vehicles instead of the noisy polluting cars that normally intrude on their enjoyment. So, please join us this coming Sunday on Main Street. The press conference is at 9:30 a.m. in front of City Hall, and the parade starts at 10 a.m.

PAUL SCOTT is a co-founder of Plug-In America and an electric car salesman.



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The Q Line

Taking back the economy

The "Occupy" protests that have sprung up around the country are calling for reforms on Wall Street. People are starting to take notice with President Obama calling it a sign of the times.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What do you make of the protests and do you agree that something needs to be done to level the economic playing field for all Americans?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **(310) 458-7737 ext. 107.**



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Empty nest? Not all parents are broken up about it

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK Pamela Reilly and her husband have big plans that don't include moping when their three teens finally fly the coop over the next two years.

She and husband Terry, with a fourth child grown and gone, hope to downsize and leave Indianapolis for more rural, sunny climes. They're dreaming about touring Costa Rica and Baja Mexico on motorcycles. She's considering a return to school to become a physician's assistant or a nurse practitioner.

"We definitely fall into the category of parents who will be celebrating their children's successes instead of mourning the fact that we have an empty nest," said the 46-year-old Reilly, a doctoral student in naturopathic medicine. "Having an empty nest doesn't mean you have an empty life. At least it shouldn't."

Have the dark days of "empty nest syndrome" brightened among today's parents, or has juggling two careers on tight budgets with over-busy kids left them so stressed out and child-centric that they have no energy or skills left to navigate their lives alone?

What about all those helicopter moms? How will they fare in their empty nests after years of applying Ivy League educations to afterschool spreadsheets filled with soccer, test prep and music classes?

First your kids crawl, then they drive, then they leave. Why isn't that a good thing?

"Not all parents experience empty nest," said psychologist Joseph Cilona, a parenting specialist in Manhattan. But the helicopters, he said, those parents who "tend to be controlling and micro-manage their child's life, are at a much greater risk for negative emotions such as deep feelings of loss and sadness when children leave home."

No twinges of sorrow in Bentonville, Ark, for mom of five Pamela Haven and her husband, Jeff. She has a recurring thought about life after the last of the brood — 17-year-old twin boys — graduate high school in June: "Thank God they weren't triplets!"

Up next? "We're booked on a cruise right after school ends, just the two of us. We're purchasing a travel trailer, and we can't wait to strip down the upstairs and repaint, carpet and make two guest rooms."

Also looking forward to life after children is Jeanette Simpson, an interior designer in Lakewood Ranch, Fla. She has six kids (no boomerangers in the bunch) and the last is a high school senior.

"After 27 years of dealing with school schedules, and 33 years of kids at home, I'll be an empty nester in less than a year," she said. "With the last one, I feel almost guilty about not being overly saddened. I have a feeling of 'job well done.'"

What's she looking forward to the most? Traveling with her hubby without worry about school breaks and, "Time for myself, something that's been rare since the first one came along."

Carl Hindy, a marriage counselor in Nashua, N.H., knows empty nests don't always start off smoothly. Those who seek guidance are led in part by working couples who have had little time to indulge their marriages.

"Couples come to counseling feeling they've grown so far apart and don't know what to do now that the proverbial product has shipped," he said.

With three ranging from 14 to 18, marketer Charity Hisle-Zierten near Atlanta can't wait to ship some product and start enjoying some me time.

"I cannot imagine that I will have empty nest syndrome," she said. "I'm truly looking forward to experiencing the rest of my life. I started very young, pregnant as a senior in high school, and I have never experienced life without the responsibility of three human beings weighing me down."

Don't get her wrong. "I love my children dearly, but I have raised them to be independent for a reason. I want them to grow up and be happy, contributing members of society."

Jolyn Brand, an education consultant in suburban Houston, has seen her share of weepy parents dropping kids off at college. What they don't consider, she said, is the guilt their tears whip up in their children during that crucial time when they're just taking flight.

"I'm always baffled by the parents who are enormously saddened," said the mother of four, ranging from 8 to 17. Her oldest is college-bound next fall. "Sure, we all love our children and we'll miss them, but we've been preparing them for 18 years to be independent and leave the nest."

Brand recalled clucks of sadness from fellow moms on Facebook when she once described oversleeping on a school day. Her two youngest, 7 and 12 at the time, got themselves up using their own clocks, made their own breakfasts and left for the school bus without prompting.

"I posted a comment that my children were becoming independent and needing me less," she said. "Other moms commented that this would make them sad and it would 'get worse' as they got older. I thought it was a great thing!"

Writer Dede Cummings' nest in Brattleboro, Vt., is already empty. Her celebration took some time.

The last of her three kids is 19 and in his second year of college at Lewis & Clark, across the country in Portland, Ore. The marital transition and stress of paying tuition made things rocky at first, so she and her husband, an assistant professor, went into marriage therapy, started a garden together and got a puppy.

"We both work busy jobs, but we play tennis or ride bikes together," she said. They're also planning a 10-day trip to Japan with their youngest along.

‘Unions’ empower parents

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Shoehorned into a small living room in a South Los Angeles apartment, a dozen parents discuss why their kids’ school ranks as one of the worst in the nation’s second-largest school district.

The answers come quickly: Teachers are jaded; gifted pupils aren’t challenged; disabled students are isolated; the building is dirty and office staff treat parents disrespectfully.

“We know what the problem is — we’re about fixing it,” said Cassandra Perry, the Woodcrest Elementary School parent hosting the meeting. “We’re not against the administrators or the teachers union. We’re honestly about the kids.”

School parent groups are no longer just about holding the next bake-sale fundraiser. They’re about education reform.

The Woodcrest mothers and fathers, all wearing buttons saying “parent power,” are one of the newly formed “parents unions” that are springing up from San Diego to Buffalo, N.Y., with the same goal — to push schools to improve academic achievement.

Behind the parent empowerment movement is a feisty Los Angeles-based nonprofit, Parent Revolution, which in 2010 pushed through a landmark law giving parents authority to force turnarounds at failing schools through a petition.

Known as the “parent trigger,” the California law was the first of its kind in the nation. It inspired Texas and Mississippi to adopt similar laws and legislation is under consideration in 20 other states. Two states have voted down parent trigger bills.

“Parents have a different incentive structure than anyone else,” said Ben Austin, Parent Revolution’s executive director. “They’re the only ones who really care about kids.”

San Diego mother Teresa Drew founded United Parents for Education after her daughter’s reading and math scores fell below grade level for two years. The district is not doing enough to ensure teachers are effective and weed out bad educators, she said.

“I talked to other parents and found they had the same experience,” Drew said. “I have nothing against the PTA, but the problem for me is there’s a T in PTA. This is parent-led.”

Unions say it’s oversimplistic to blame teachers. Parents should enlist educators in the solution, not dismiss them, they say.

“It’s well meaning, but misguided,” said Frank Wells, who heads the Southern California chapter of the California Teachers Association. “Parents shouldn’t be acting with authority in a vacuum.”

Parents already have a tool to leverage policy change — school board elections, Wells said.

Unions have mobilized against parent-trigger laws. In July, the American Federation of Teachers posted a slide presentation on its website detailing how it successfully won a dilution of the Connecticut parent-trigger proposal so parents can recommend change but have no authority to enact it.

After ensuing media coverage of “Plan A: Kill Mode,” the union took down the document and disavowed it.

For Austin, union opposition to parent trigger underscores what’s wrong — unions reject reform efforts such as charter schools, tenure changes and new performance evaluation measures in order to protect jobs, but at the same time many schools are failing, especially in the inner-cities.

“The system is calcified,” he said.

In somewhat of an ironic twist, Parent Revolution is organizing parents using old-school, labor organizing tactics, employing a former union organizer to lead the effort. So far, more than 20 unions have been formed.

Organizing parents is a lot tougher than workers, said Pat DeTemple, the organizing director. “Simply finding parents is a ridiculous amount of work. Parents don’t know each other,” he said.

And, unlike with an employer, parents don’t usually have common grievances with a school — they all have different experiences depending on their child. Still, parents’ heartstrings are a powerful tug.

Organizers show parents how to conduct effective house meetings, distribute flyers in front of schools, canvass door-to-door, write letters, and create surveys and petitions. They also inform parents about their rights and students’ rights, and about how educational system works, how to judge a school’s state test scores, for example.

Woodcrest’s Perry said the training has opened parents’ eyes. “We’re not informed so we don’t know what to ask for,” Perry said. “We don’t know where we fit in.” The Parents Union is now surveying parents of Woodcrest students, in the Los Angeles Unified School District, and will present the results to the principal for action.

At a community center in a South Los Angeles park, Spanish-speaking parents from nearby Los Angeles Academy Middle School are starting to organize. They’ve gathered for a training session on a textbook union organizing strategy called “stories of self,” learning how to succinctly tell why they became motivated to stand up for a better education for their kids.

“It brings people together,” DeTemple explained. “It helps them connect by sharing their values through their stories.”

One mother said she became disgusted after seeing kids smoking and bullying another child and reported it to a group of teachers, who were busy gossiping and did not take action, another said she was angry that poor parents and students are treated dismissively.

District officials welcome efforts to get parents more engaged in their kids’ education, especially in low-income areas. Parental involvement is the key factor outside school in boosting student achievement, said Maria Casillas, chief of school, family & parent/community services for Los Angeles Unified.

Parents unions can be an effective tool. “They’re loud, they’re pushy, and they have every right to be,” she said. “We want to promote parents as advocates for their children’s learning. For our low-income kids, that’s the part that’s missing.”

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New law bans open carry of handguns in Calif.

BY SHEILA V KUMAR
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. California became the fifth state to prohibit openly carrying handguns in public after Gov. Jerry Brown announced Monday that he had signed the ban into law amid heavy opposition from gun enthusiasts.

AB144 by state Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, D-Pasadena, makes it a misdemeanor to carry an exposed and unloaded gun in public or in vehicles, with violators facing up to a year in prison or a potential fine of $1,000 when the law takes effect on Jan 1.

The bill exempts hunting and shooting events and does not apply to those who are given permits to carry a concealed weapon by law enforcement authorities.

Portantino said the bill is an opportunity to prevent tragedy before it happens.

"It's not if somebody is going be shot, it's when somebody is going to be shot," he said. "We have the opportunity to avoid that, and that's why this is so critical."

He said law enforcement officials have been concerned about the proliferation of guns in public and the tense situations that arise when someone sees another person carrying a firearm in public. He said the encounters can escalate quickly because others don't know whether the gun is loaded or unloaded.

One of the first rules of firearms safety is to always assume a weapon is loaded.

"Main Street California is not the Old West, and you don't need a gun to buy a cheeseburger," Portantino said.

Top California law enforcement groups, including the California Police Chiefs Association and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, supported the legislation.

"By prohibiting the open carry of guns, we can now take our families to the park or out to eat without the worry of getting shot by some untrained, unscreened, self-appointed vigilante," Dallas Stout, president of the California chapters of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, said in a statement.

Gun owners protested the legislation in April when they began carrying unloaded handguns in public places and restaurants as a political statement in Pasadena.

The Brady Campaign, which sponsored the legislation, said California joins Florida, Illinois, Oklahoma and Texas as the only states to ban the open carry of handguns. It said 33 states, including Pennsylvania, Michigan, Louisiana and Colorado, do no prohibit open carry. Twelve states, including South Carolina, Tennessee, Minnesota and Massachusetts require permits for open carry.

David Maggard Jr., president of the California Police Chiefs Association, said the group viewed the open carry of unloaded handguns as a safety threat to communities and their officers. He said the bill will help assure that felons and gang members cannot openly carry an unloaded gun with impunity.

The organization represents the state's 336 municipal police chiefs.

Gun advocates and most Republican lawmakers have criticized the law, saying it targets law-abiding citizens. State Assemblyman Tim Donnelly, R-Hesperia, said Brown sent the message that he has no respect for the Constitution.

"There are risks to living in a free state, and for the governor to take away and chisel away at the Second Amendment right when he claimed to respect it, it just kind of shows his true colors," Donnelly said.

"It's really a form of tyranny," he said of the ban.

Sam Paredes, executive director of Gun Owners of California, said sheriff's departments in most major cities in California, including Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego, make it difficult for citizens to get concealed carry permits. The association, which has 33,000 members in California, is a pro-gun lobbying association based north of the state capitol.

"For a majority of Californians, this creates an absolute ban on the bear part of the right to keep and bear arms because they can't get a conceal carry permit," he said.

C.D. Michel, a civil rights attorney for the National Rifle Association, said the group has a lawsuit challenging the concealed carry licensing system in San Diego. He said the federal judge in the case ruled the system wasn't a violation of the Second Amendment because residents still had the option of unloaded open carry.

"This strengthens our lawsuit because that option has been eliminated," he said.

Calif. limits impounding cars of unlicensed drivers

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown has signed a bill that restricts local police from impounding vehicles at sobriety checkpoints if the driver's only offense is not being licensed.

Brown announced Sunday that he signed AB353 by Democratic Assemblyman Gil Cedillo of Los Angeles. Supporters say cities are increasingly using sobriety checkpoints in low-income communities not only to catch drunk drivers but to target unlicensed drivers by impounding their cars.

Opponents say it removes one deterrent to illegal immigrants driving without a license.

The measure allows sober unlicensed drivers to get a licensed driver to remove the vehicle from the sobriety checkpoint to avoid being impounded.

The bill will also allow drivers to pick up their car the next day, rather than impounding them for as much as 30 days.

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Napa Valley ghost stories mix wines and spirits

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
For The Associated Press

NAPA, Calif. As the crisp bite of fall turns vineyards into a kaleidoscope of russet and orange, the Napa Valley's spooky side comes out to play with tales of mysterious noises and ghostly sightings.

Not a believer? Not a problem. Skeptics can enjoy the valley's real-life "ghost wineries," relics of the pre-Prohibition industry that are haunted by history if nothing else.

The term "ghost winery" refers to places that were started in the mid-to-late 19th century, a time when the California wine industry was booming, but were abandoned in the early 20th century. It was a crash brought about by the triple threat of an outbreak of the vine disease phylloxera, the Great Depression, and, of course, the failed experiment to ban alcohol that was analyzed in the recent PBS documentary "Prohibition" directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.

Some of the ghost wineries have become tumbledown ruins, but others have been renovated by new owners who moved in as the modern wine industry took off in the 1960s and '70s.

One such winery is Chateau Montelena, which was founded in 1882 by Alfred L. Tubbs and was a major producer in the Napa Valley by the turn of the 20th century, only to fall largely into disuse after Prohibition. The property was revived in the early '70s when James Barrett bought the estate.

Back then, the place was thoroughly overgrown, says Barrett's son Bo, who was just out of high school at the time. There weren't any ghosts, but that doesn't mean the grounds were fright-free. Barrett remembers camping out on the lawn — and relocating to the comfort of his truck after hearing the throaty call of a resident bull frog. "We'd never heard a big old bull frog," he says with a laugh.

The winery made its mark in the modern era of California winemaking when its chardonnay beat French whites at a famous Paris tasting in 1976.

Bo Barrett, now a winemaker himself, sees continuity in the winery's history. "Tubbs set out to make the very best wine he could in California," he says. "We believe in the high standards that he set in those days."

At Charles Krug in St. Helena, interest in the past is particularly strong this year, its 150th anniversary.

The winery was founded in 1861 and there have long been ghost stories kicking around, including a few alleged sightings of a lady in white walking the upper floors of the Redwood Cellar, which dates back to the 1870s.

Staff researching the history of the winery, which has been in the Peter Mondavi Sr. family for decades, have discovered that information about Krug is almost as elusive as the walking lady.

Krug died in 1892 and Cesare and Rosa Mondavi, parents of Peter Sr. and his brother, the late Robert Mondavi, purchased the winery in 1943. What is known about Krug is that he was a revolutionary in his native Prussia, later a newspaper journalist, then a winemaker.

Hoping to find out more, the winery is considering holding a seance this fall. It's mostly for fun, but then, you never know. "We do not want to ignore any option," says Paul Englert, vice president of marketing.

Just south of Charles Krug is the Beringer winery, founded by Jacob and Frederick Beringer, in 1876. There's no ghost winery here; wine has been made continuously including during Prohibition, when a clause in the law allowed a certain amount of wine to be made for sacramental purposes.

Still, ghost stories are always popular this time of year, and Beringer is not without its spooky side — the usual unexplained movements, lights shutting on and off, disappearing figures and the sounds of footsteps when no one's around.

The Franco-Swiss Winery scores a double in the spirits sweepstakes. It's a ghost winery replete with ghost stories. Built in the 1870s, the winery is being renovated by Richard and Leslie Mansfield, who are now producing wine as the Mansfield Winery, but plan to reopen under the original Franco-Swiss name when the restoration is completed.

The St. Helena winery was founded by three men who met while working at Charles Krug. By 1884, the place was producing 100,000 gallons of wine annually. But it was later forced to shut down due to Prohibition.

The Mansfields — Richard is an experienced winemaker and Leslie a chef and cookbook author — discovered the neglected gray stone building in 1996 and were excited about restoring it to its glory days.

They also discovered a good ghost story, dating back to 1882, when Jules Millet, nephew of one of the founders, was shot and killed by a disgruntled cellar worker who had been fired for theft. Leslie Mansfield says they believe "Jules Millet's ghost is still here and after a few initial misunderstandings he is now quite friendly."

Luckily, the Mansfields aren't averse to spirits in their wine cellar — provided they're benign.

If You Go

CHATEAU MONTELENA:
1429 Tubbs Lane, Calistoga, Calif.; www.montelena.com or 707-942-5105. Open 9:30 a.m. — 4 p.m. daily; check website for holiday schedules and other occasional closings. Tastings start at $20.

CHARLES KRUG WINERY:
2800 Main St., St. Helena, Calif.; www.charleskrug.com or 707-967-2200. Open 10:30 a.m. — 5 p.m. daily. Tasting fees start at $10.

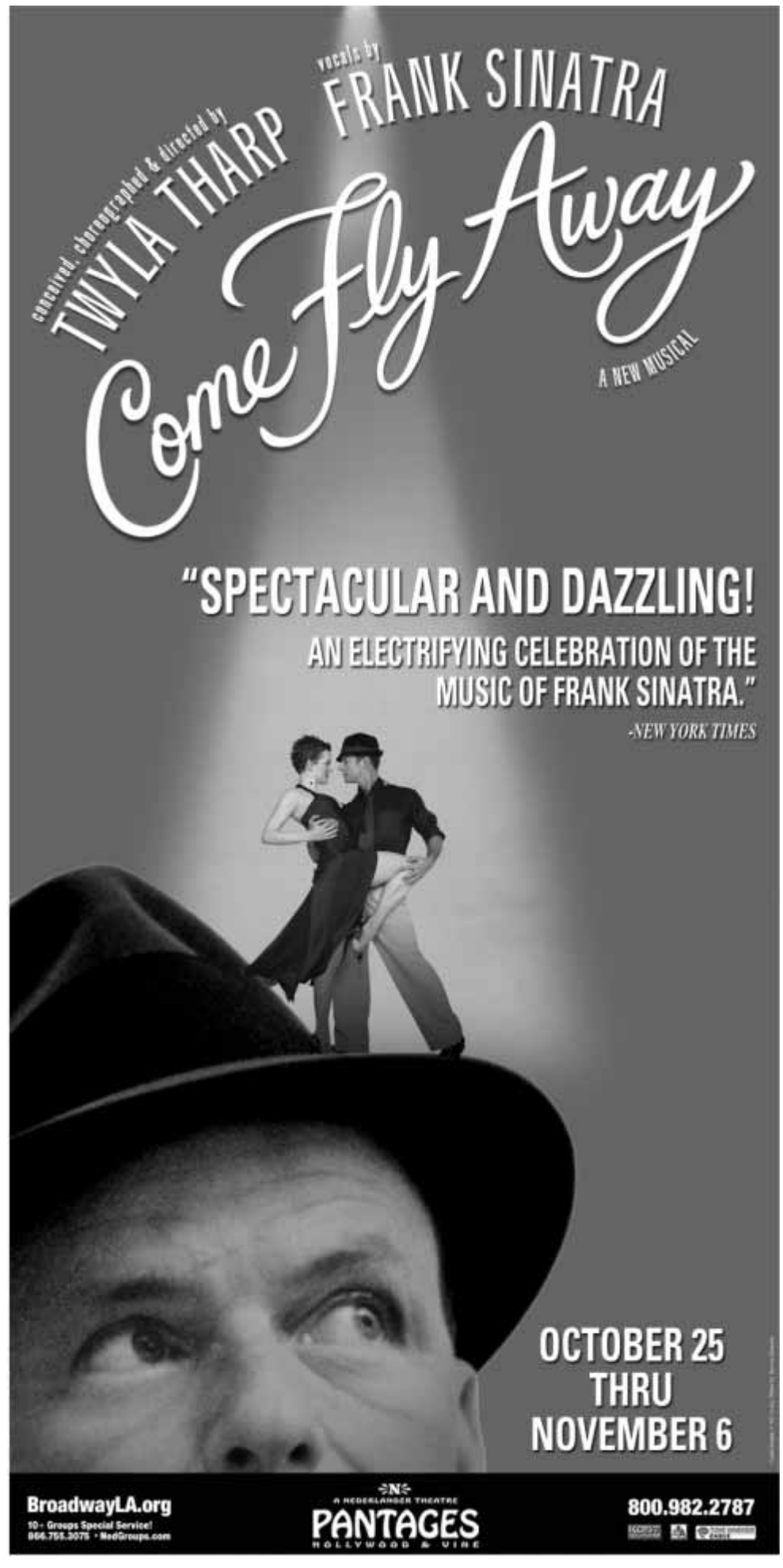
BERINGER VINEYARDS:
2000 Main St., St. Helena, Calif.; www.beringer.com or 866-708-9463. October to May, open 10 a.m. — 5 p.m. daily. Tasting fees start at $15.

FRANCO-SWISS WINERY:
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SHANE
FROM PAGE 1

The first manifestation of that impulse appeared the night they learned Emily had died.

The Shanes created a Web site dedicated to their daughter, a "pass it forward" campaign with a goal of getting 100 million people to document their good deeds on the Emily Shane Foundation Web site, www.emilyshane.org.

Thursday, Ellen Shane revealed the second component — a foundation dedicated to providing students with learning challenges one-on-one academic support, totally free.

The tutoring was an extension of the Web site in that the goal was to get people to give of themselves to help others.

"She did not have a mean bone in her body," Ellen Shane said of her daughter. "We wanted to honor her in that way, to have other people do things in her memory. We were trying to think up what it could be."

When Emily was in second grade, her parents and teachers realized that she was having difficulty processing the information she was learning in school.

The problem wasn't pronounced, but it became more of an obstacle as Emily tackled advanced coursework, like math problems with multiple steps.

"There was a disconnect between her knowledge and ability and how she was performing," Ellen Shane said.

Emily was eventually put on a 504 plan, which gave her more time on tests and larger fonts on written portions.

"Even with those accommodations, it wasn't enough as she got older and the coursework got more challenging. We used to have to hire tutors," Ellen Shane said. "But you can't just get a student, because she needed someone who could help her with her processing problems. It made me wonder, how many kids are like her?"

The Shanes realized that some students with learning challenges might struggle in school because their parents didn't have the time to research options like 504 plans that could give them more tools to succeed, or may not be able to afford tutoring to help their kids through rough patches in their academics.

"They struggle, and if they don't succeed, they start to feel badly about themselves," Ellen Shane said.

The Shanes envisioned a foundation dedicated to the memory of their daughter that helped provide tutoring to middle school children of families that couldn't afford it.

Tutoring does come at some cost: One good deed performed by the student for another person, logged on the Web site.

At Thursday's meeting, the Board of Education gave its unanimous blessing, which gave permission for a pilot program to move forward.

The pilot program will begin at Malibu High School and John Adams Middle School, and will take place at the Boys & Girls clubs that use those campus facilities.

Tutors might be local professionals, or students at Santa Monica College or Pepperdine University with fields of study that qualify them to help kids with specific needs, Ellen Shane said.

"We need to try to match to see what their specialty is, or what their experience has been. Then we have to try and match it with the kids presented to us, and what they're having trouble with," she said.

Early support for struggling children is critical, particularly in an educational climate that may not assess children appropriately for learning disabilities, said Judy McKinley, president of the Los Angeles affiliate of the Learning Disabilities Assn.

As a result, kids are not getting the intensive instruction that they need in reading and other subjects.

"As they get older, they get further and further behind," McKinley said. "They may be able to get through, but once you get to middle school and stuff gets harder, they're totally failing."

Perhaps more important than tutors would be ensuring that staff get the training that they need to help kids with either disabilities or challenges, she said.

The program is still in its nascent stages, and needs tutors and funding to get the ball rolling.

"Once the program's really off the ground, when I can see it's making a difference for them, it will be very fulfilling for me," Ellen Shane said. "If I can help a kid relieve some of that frustration, anxiety and worry, it would help me."

Those interested can donate to the Emily Shane Foundation by sending checks to: The Emily Shane Foundation, c/o Ellen Shane, PO Box 6762, Malibu, Calif., 90264, or donating online at emilyshane.org.



Photo courtesy Ellen Shane

GONE TOO SOON: **Emily Shane was struck by a car and killed while walking down Pacific Coast Highway in April of last year. Her family has created a foundation in her memory to help students with learning disabilities.**

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CONSENT
FROM PAGE 1

In that process, Aetna demonstrated a stronger showing of primary care physicians and access to care, as well as a cheaper plan overall.

According to the staff report, City Hall will save $1,331,829 by going with Aetna rather than CIGNA, although costs will be 11 percent higher than in the previous year.

The contract comprises the majority of costs in the consent agenda, which totals $17,471,384 in expenditures and $12,010 in revenue.

HISTORIC COSTS

City Hall proposes to lose $127,262 in property tax revenue over the next 10 years in the name of historic preservation.

Staff have put three homes and one commercial property up for consideration for Mills Act contracts, which would lock in lower property tax rates in exchange for a promise to protect, maintain and restore the historic property.

If owners sign the contracts, their property values would be based on operating income rather than the home or business's assessed value.

Each Mills Act contract works on a 10-year cycle.

Staff estimates that the four new contracts will result in property tax reductions between 61 and 79 percent, according to the staff report.

To qualify, property owners must get a certificate of appropriateness and building permits for work proposed in a required maintenance plan which itself must abide by the rules for historic preservation set forth by the federal Secretary of the Interior.

The three homes are located at 1063 26th St., 2504 Third St. and 2616 to 2618 Third St. The office building is at 1501 to 1515 Fourth St.

RECYCLING

The City Council is expected to approve a change order to a trucking company to haul and recycle concrete and asphalt waste.

Alley improvements and a recent emergency waterline repair job have left the Department of Public Works with an unusual amount of asphalt and concrete on its hands, and no space in the City Yards for the excess.

City Hall already contracts with the Saied Trucking Co. to remove asphalt and concrete by-products and take them to Recycled Aggregate Materials Co. in Sun Valley or Vulcan Materials Co. for recycling.

The previous $92,000 contract was based on volume, which will be exceeded with this load.

Staff requested an additional $29,410, bringing the total cost of the contract to $121,410.

TIS THE SEASON

City Hall will be padding its pockets a bit around the holidays by renting out a lot near Santa Monica's eastern border for the sale of Christmas trees if the City Council gives the OK.

Staff listed the lot at 12040 to 12048 Wilshire Blvd. online and sent the information to four Christmas tree lot operators.

Chauvet Tree Farms, a Nevada-based company, proposed to run the lot for tree sales from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31, seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. for a $12,010 fee.

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TIP
FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica neighborhood where she would sometimes encounter Bulger's longtime girlfriend, 60-year-old Catherine Greig, as she fed an abandoned tiger-striped tabby. Bulger, who is accused of killing 19 people, would stand nearby.

"It was this bond, formed over the cat, that proved the downfall of one of America's most wanted men, South Boston gangster James "Whitey" Bulger, after 16 years on the run," according to the Globe article.

Bulger, 82, and Greig were arrested in June with a stash of about 30 firearms and $822,000 in cash hidden in the walls of their apartment.

The notorious fugitive, nicknamed "Whitey" for his shock of bright platinum hair, now faces a possible death penalty for his alleged crimes as a mobster. Bulger led the violent Winter Hill Gang, a largely Irish mob that ran loan-sharking, gambling and drug rackets in the Boston area.

Bulger had fled Boston after hearing from a corrupt FBI agent that he was about to be indicted. Greig joined him a short time later and has been charged with harboring Bulger as a fugitive.

Past Boston FBI officials had used Bulger as an informant for years against other organized crime factions and, later investigations found, tolerated or enabled his own ongoing criminal activities in what an appeals court in a related case earlier this year termed an "unholy alliance."

Both Bulger and Greig have pleaded not guilty to the charges against them.

Just days before the arrest, the FBI had launched new televised public service announcements about the pair, aimed at female viewers who might have seen Greig.

Bjornsdottir had known the couple as Charlie and Carol Gasko. But last summer, while she was at home in Iceland, the Globe said Bjornsdottir saw a CNN report about the FBI's multi-city publicity campaign to track down Bulger and she called the FBI.

Bjornsdottir recognized them immediately as the Gaskos, her former neighbors — and the cat's benefactors — an ocean away on Third Street.

Laura Eimiller said Monday that the FBI would not comment on the identity of the Bulger tipster or on any source in the case.

A Boston Globe reporter tried to talk to Bjornsdottir outside her Reykjavik apartment in July and again in September but she did not comment. The paper also tried to contact her by e-mail but Bjornsdottir's husband replied that she would not comment.

She moved to Southern California in the late 1970s and appeared in cosmetics commercials. More recently she worked as a yoga instructor and graphic designer.

news@smdp.com

TAN
FROM PAGE 3

The organization said tanning salons already are regulated by the state Department of Consumer Affairs and the federal Food and Drug Administration — regulations it called the most stringent in the nation.

But Lieu and other ban supporters said the higher age limit is needed because skin damage caused by the type of radiation used in tanning beds often leads to melanoma, which is skin cancer that can be fatal. Lieu said early tanning by children can increase the risk.

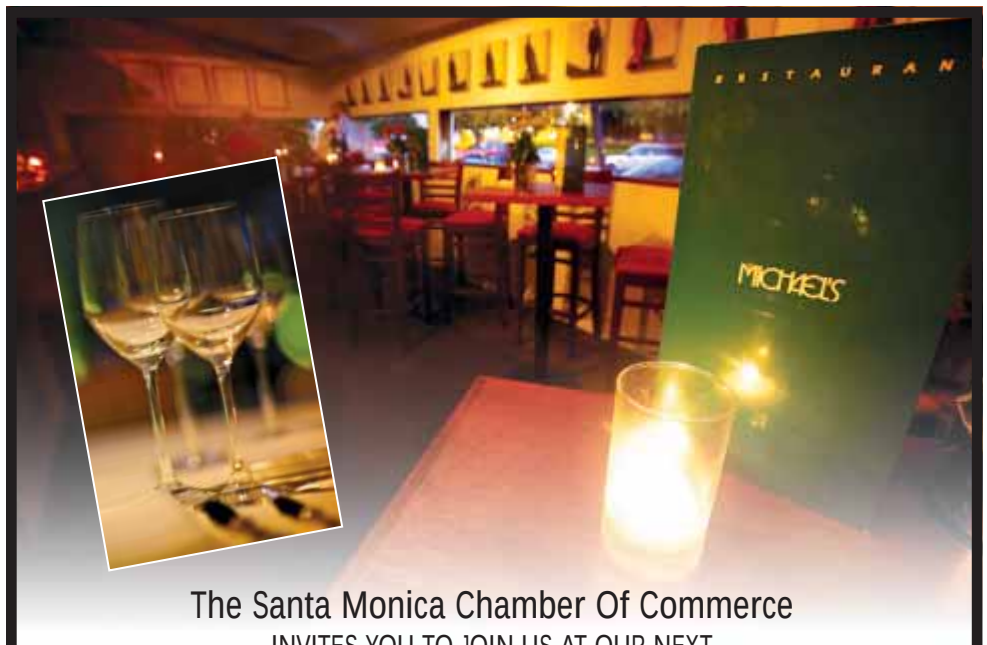
They also say that avid tanning is particularly popular in the state, especially in affluent areas of Southern California. Lieu pointed out there are more tanning salons in Los Angeles County than Starbucks coffee shops or McDonald's fast food restaurants.

"Girls in affluent California communities especially are surrounded by the message that being tanned all year round is cool," Christina Clarke, of the Cancer Prevention Institute of California, said in a recent statement supporting Lieu's bill. "Pop music star Katy Perry is even singing about it."

Lieu also cited a recent Stanford Cancer Institute-backed study that showed higher melanoma rates among girls and young women in areas of higher income.

Supporters said better education was also needed to counter practices that can lead to skin damage and melanoma. The measure was sponsored by the California Society of Dermatology and Dermatological Surgery and the AIM at Melanoma Foundation, and backed by other medical organizations and health insurers.

Lieu, in a statement praising Brown's decision, called skin cancer "a rising epidemic and the leading cause of cancer death for women between 25 and 29."



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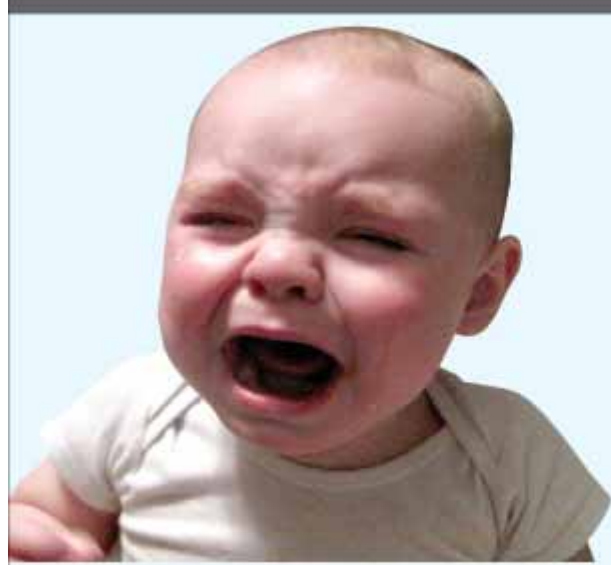
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Dr Pepper Ten: 'No women allowed'

BY MAE ANDERSON
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK Dudes don't drink diet.

Or at least that's the idea behind Dr Pepper Ten, a 10-calorie soft drink Dr Pepper Snapple Group is rolling out on Monday with a macho ad campaign that proclaims "It's not for women." The soft drink was developed after the company's research found that men shy away from diet drinks that aren't perceived as "manly" enough.

To appeal to men, Dr Pepper made its Ten drink 180 degrees different than Diet Dr Pepper. It has calories and sugar unlike its diet counterpart. Instead of the dainty tan bubbles on the diet can, Ten will be wrapped in gunmetal grey packaging with silver bullets. And while Diet Dr Pepper's marketing is women-friendly, the ad campaign for Ten goes out of its way to eschew women.

For instance, there's a Dr Pepper Ten Facebook page for men only. And TV commercials are heavy on the machismo, including one spot that shows muscular men in the jungle battling snakes and bad guys and appear to shoot lasers at each other.

"Hey ladies. Enjoying the film? Of course not. Because this is our movie and this is our soda," a man says as he attempts to pour the soda into a glass during a bumpy ATV ride. "You can keep the romantic comedies and lady drinks. We're good."

Dr Pepper Ten is not the first diet soda aimed at men. (Think: Coke Zero and Pepsi Max.) But Dr Pepper Ten's ad campaign is the first to be so overt about courting men who want to drink a soda with fewer calories. The ads come at a time when overall sales in the $74 billon soft drink industry are slowing as more Americans buy healthier options like juice and bottled water. Volume has fallen from slightly over 10 billion cases in 2005 to 9.4 billion cases in 2010, according to Beverage Digest data.

"Regular sugared soft drinks have declined in recent years, and some consumers have taste issues with some of the diet sodas," said John Sicher, editor and publisher of Beverage Digest.

Dr Pepper said men, in particular, are dissatisfied with the taste and image of diet drinks. The company wouldn't disclose the formula of Dr Pepper Ten, but said that the drink has 10 calories and 2 grams of sugar, which gives it a sweeter taste. Dr Pepper said there are 23 flavors in its regular soda, (which has 150 calories and 27 grams of sugar per can) and Dr Pepper Ten contains all of them.

The company, which declined to give figures for how much was spent on the campaign, also worked hard to craft a macho message. The company said ads for Dr Pepper Ten will air on all major networks, FX and ESPN during college football games.

A Facebook page for the drink contains an application that allows it to exclude women from viewing content, which includes games and videos aimed at being "manly." For instance, there's a shooting gallery where you shoot things like high heels and lipstick, for example. There is also a "man quiz" with questions on activities like fishing and hunting.

"One topic people never tire of talking or arguing about is differences between men and women, particularly if women are excluded," said Deborah Mitchell, executive director for the Center for Brand and Product Management at the University of Wisconsin School of Business. "That will always get someone's attention."

As for whether the ads will resonate with men remains to be seen. Paul McDonald, 25, who works in green energy contracts in Berkley, Calif., says he drinks soda labeled "diet" and doesn't think there is any stigma attached.

"No one has ever made fun of me for drinking a Diet Coke, and I'm on a rugby team we make fun of each other for everything," he said.

And women? Jim Trebilcock, executive vice president of marketing for Dr Pepper, said he's not worried that they'll be offended by the campaign. The drink and marketing were tested in six different markets across the country before being rolled out nationally, and women weren't offended, he said. In fact, about 40 percent of people who have tried the soda so far are women.

"Women get the joke," he said. "'Is this really for men or really for women?' is a way to start the conversation that can spread and get people engaged in the product."

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More clashes erupt in Egypt

BY MAGGIE MICHAEL
Associated Press

CAIRO Several hundred Christians pelted police with rocks outside a Cairo hospital Monday in fresh clashes the day after 24 people died in riots that grew out of a Christian protest against a church attack. Sunday's sectarian violence was the worst in Egypt since the uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak in February.

Egyptian Prime Minister Essam Sharaf warned in a televised address that the riots were another setback on the country's already fraught transition to civilian rule after three decades of Mubarak's authoritarian government.

"These events have taken us back several steps," Sharaf said. He blamed foreign meddling for the troubles, claiming it was part of a "dirty conspiracy." Similar explanations for the troubles in Egypt are often heard from the military rulers who took power from Mubarak, perhaps at attempt to deflect accusations that they are bungling the management of the country.

"Instead of moving forward to build a modern state on democratic principles, we are back to seeking stability and searching for hidden hands — domestic and foreign — that meddle with the country's security and safety," Sharaf said.

The clashes Sunday night raged over a large section of downtown Cairo and drew in Christians, Muslims and security forces. They began when about 1,000 Christian protesters tried to stage a sit-in outside the state television building along the Nile in downtown Cairo. The protesters said they were attacked by "thugs" with sticks and the violence then spiraled out of control after a speeding military vehicle jumped up onto a sidewalk and rammed into some of the Christians.

Most of the 24 people killed were Coptic Christians, though officials said at least three soldiers were among the dead. Nearly 300 people were injured. Egypt's official news agency said dozens have been arrested.

The latest clashes Monday broke out outside the Coptic hospital where many of the Christian victims were taken the night before. The screams of grieving women rang out from inside the hospital and some of the hundreds of men gathered outside held wooden crosses. Empty coffins were lined up outside the hospital.

There were no word on casualties from Monday's clashes.

Christians, who make up about 10 percent of Egypt's 85 million people, blame the ruling military council for being too lenient on those behind a spate of anti-Christian attacks since Mubarak's ouster. The chaotic power transition has left a security vacuum, and the Coptic Christian minority is particularly worried about a show of force by ultraconservative Islamists, known as Salafis.

In recent weeks, riots have broken out at two churches in southern Egypt, prompted by Muslim crowds angry over church construction. One riot broke out near the city of Aswan, even after church officials agreed to a demand by ultraconservative Muslims known as Salafis that a cross and bells be removed from the building.

Aswan's governor, Gen. Mustafa Kamel al-Sayyed, further raised tensions by suggesting to the media that the church construction was illegal.

Christian protesters are demanding the ouster of the governor, reconstruction of the church, compensation for people whose houses were set on fire and prosecution of those behind the riots and attacks on the church.

The European Union strongly condemned the violence.

"It is about time that the Egyptian leadership understands the importance of religious plurality and tolerance," German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle said. "It's very important that the Egyptian authorities reaffirm freedom of worship in Egypt," added British Foreign Secretary William Hague.

Sunday's violence will likely prompt the military to further tighten its grip on power.

The ruling military council led by Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi, defense minister of 20 years under Mubarak's former regime, took over after the 18-day popular uprising forced Mubarak to step down. The military initially pledged to hand back power to a civilian administration in six months, but that deadline has passed, with parliamentary elections now scheduled to start in late November. According to a timetable floated by the generals, presidential elections could be held late next year.

Already, the military council said it had no intention to lift the widely hated emergency laws in place since Mubarak first took office in 1981.

Tension has been growing between the military and the youth groups that engineered the uprising, with activists blaming the generals for mishandling the transition period, human rights violations and driving a wedge between them and ordinary Egyptians.

"The army incites sedition to remain in power," said Mariam Ayoub, a relative of a slain Christian protester, Michael Mosaad, as she stood outside the Coptic hospital. "They tell all of us that this is what happens without emergency laws."

State television said authorities stepped up security at vital installations in anticipation of renewed unrest, deploying additional troops outside parliament and the Cabinet. Riot police were also stationed outside the Coptic hospital. Funeral services were planned in the afternoon at the main Coptic Cathedral in Cairo.

The clashes on Sunday night did not appear to be exclusively sectarian.

State TV, which has been growing increasingly loyal to the military, appealed on "honorable" Egyptians to protect the army against attacks as news spread of clashes between the Christian protesters and the troops outside the TV building. Soon afterward, bands of young men armed with sticks, rocks, swords and firebombs began to roam central Cairo, attacking Christians. Troops and riot police did not intervene to stop the attacks on Christians.

Throughout the night, the station cast the Christian protesters as a violent mob attacking the army and public property. At one point, Information Minister Osama Heikal went on the air to deny that the station's coverage had a sectarian slant, but acknowledged that its presenters acted "emotionally."

The military council ordered the Cabinet to investigate the violence and pledged measures to safeguard Egypt's security.

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UN: Detainees tortured in Afghanistan

BY PATRICK QUINN
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan Beatings, electric shocks and other forms of torture were administered to suspected Taliban fighters in some Afghan-run detention centers, the U.N. said Monday, even as the U.S. and others have spent billions of dollars training the police and security services.

The abuse was not the result of Afghan government policy, but of individual actions that were mostly ignored by the security services, according to the 74-page U.N. report.

Although Afghan security officials have long been suspected of torturing detainees to elicit information and confessions, the report for the first time confirms the practice and outlines much of the abuse.

It found that detainees in 47 facilities in 24 provinces run by the Afghan National Police and the Directorate of Security suffered interrogation techniques that constituted torture under both international and Afghan law.

The NATO-led international military coalition announced last month that it had stopped transferring detainees to 16 of the facilities. NATO was taking action to help fix the problem before resuming the transfers, the report said.

International organizations and governments have spent years trying to bring good governance and rule of law to Afghanistan, a goal that has taken added significance following a decision to hand over security responsibilities to the Afghan government by the end of 2014 — when all foreign combat troops are to leave the country.

According to the U.N. report, the torture allegations could under U.S. law endanger American funding to some of security services. The U.S. provides the overwhelming majority of the cash currently flowing into training and mentoring programs.

It said the torture allegations "could also trigger application" of a 1997 law that bars the U.S. government from providing funding, weapons or training to any unit of the security forces of a country if the U.S. secretary of state determines there is credible evidence that it "has committed gross human rights violations."

The law would not be applied, however, if the U.S. determined that action was being taken to solve the problem.

One such step, it said, would include bringing to justice "those officials responsible for torture and ill-treatment."

The U.N. said Afghan security ministries cooperated with the investigation and have taken measures to stop the abuse after being shown the report. They have opened investigations, reassigned personnel and have indicated that those responsible will be suspended from their positions and in serious cases, prosecuted.

Drafted by the U.N.'s Afghan mission, known as UNAMA, the report was based on interviews with 379 detainees from October 2010 to August 2011.

Most of the detainees were "suspected of being Taliban fighters, suicide attack facilitators, producers of improvised explosive devices, and others implicated in crimes associated with the armed conflict in Afghanistan."

Torture methods included suspending people by their wrists, beating the soles of the feet, electric shocks, twisting detainees' genitals and removing toe nails.

UNAMA said the torture aimed to obtain information and confessions, which it said are often the sole form of evidence submitted in Afghan criminal trials. Judges often find such confessions "both persuasive and conclusive of the defendant's guilt."

"UNAMA's findings indicate that mistreatment is not an institutional or government policy," said Staffan de Mistura, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan.

He added that Afghan government cooperation "suggests that reform is both possible and desired as does the government's announced remedial actions to end these abusive practices."

The European Union also said it welcomed the Afghan government's commitment to stop abuse.

"The EU reiterates that all concerned parties must respect and guarantee the fundamental rights of all detainees, to eradicate all forms of torture and ill-treatment, to bring those responsible for such acts to justice and to adhere to and comply with the relevant international norms and standards," said Vygaudas Usackas, the head of the EU's delegation and its special representative to Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Interior said five Afghan civilians died in twin explosions Monday in the Dangam district of Kunar province in eastern Afghanistan.

A civilian vehicle struck a roadside bomb, shortly followed by another blast that hit passers-by running to the scene to help. Four people were killed and two wounded, the ministry said.

NATO also said one of its service members died in southern Afghanistan. It said an investigation was launched into the death to determine the circumstances. It provided no further details.

Seven NATO members have died in Afghanistan in October, and 461 since the start of the year.



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My Personnel File: Why Do I Want it and How Do I Get a Copy?

The permanent record from our youth may have been a ruse cooked up to keep children in line, but these days, we are close to having permanent records due to our rapidly all encompassing digital world. Thankfully, personnel files are not yet in digital format. While we still can, we should at least always be prepared to have access to these records to check and to fix any wrong information. We may also want access when we think we should get a raise and want to use former evaluations, client letters, or training records to get it.

The Why:
More often than not, employees do not even know how to access this information until they talk to a lawyer. And if you are talking to a lawyer about work, something's already gone wrong. Lawyers want to see what your performance record is, any personnel actions and the basis, or any other records that could help determine whether, say, a termination was legally wrongful or justifiable in light of the bigger history. Most of these employment cases turn on performance, the reason the employer gives for the termination, versus whatever you as a plaintiff will show. For example, one good way to maintain better records in your file is to put in writing what you disagree with, such as in a negative evaluation. Later when these are reviewed, and the employee has these notes, it will be more difficult for a bad employer to justify their wrongful behavior through performance issues.

Another reason to keep track is that personnel records can be subpoenaed by a third party, which is something that could happen in any type of legal action where you are involved. The law does require that you are given a notice and opportunity to object to the subpoena. If any of it is relevant to whatever legal action is happening, not necessarily even an employment case, then usually the subpoena is allowed.

The How:
There are no federal laws about these records, but California has very clear laws. Still, some employers do not know them or follow them properly so it is better to know your rights and educate your employer if needed. Here are the types of records that you are legally entitled to get: Pay Records: Employers have to keep for at least three years of your pay records and give their employees a copy within 21 days of request or face civil penalties (Labor Code 226). Personnel Files: Employers have to keep records and give you access to them within a reasonable time (Labor Code 1198.5). All documents you signed: These are the ones signed at hire or as continuing term and condition of employment (not documents signed in the course of conducting business). (Labor Code 432).

Tips: Though these requests do not have to be in writing, it is usually better so that you can keep track of the response time. Employers may have part of your personnel file in different offices. Be sure to know where yours is kept so when the time comes you know how to find it without being given the run around. Ask for or make copies of all personnel documents as they come up and hold on to the hiring paperwork so that you have your own set for comparison later.

Unemployment Benefits: Do I Qualify?
The news is not getting better about the economy and the unemployment office has to be really picky when it comes to claims. You were not laid off, but instead quit or were terminated. How can you file for unemployment and be approved? This is one of the most often asked questions from my clients. Some who are still working want to know if they should quit or wait to be terminated. The decision will vary from person to person to situation. The decision can also be personal or health related or that you just want to be out of there. Here are some legalities to consider in your decision.

The Quit:
In a situation with a quit, there is generally just one type of circumstance that will get you these benefits. If you can show that you quit because the work conditions were such that no reasonable person could be expected to work there, then you can still qualify for the benefits. This is a high standard limited to what the law requires of the workplace, such as safe conditions, free from harassment, being paid, and free from retaliation. This is not an easy showing to make and so arguments based on personality, rudeness, bad bosses, etc, will not fly.

The Termination:
Most people think that if you have been terminated, there is no unemployment for you. However, there are exceptions to this. Of course, if you have been terminated based on policy violations, gross misconduct, and other severe actions, then you are disqualified. One way to overcome that, if the facts are there, is the exception that the conduct may not have been appropriate but it was an isolated instance of poor judgment, or something excusable that happened the one time for a good reason. Criminal activity at work or assault or harassment is never excusable.

The Wrongful Termination:
If you have been "wrongfully terminated" in the legal sense, you may still qualify for unemployment. Most employees who file lawsuits have been terminated. If the facts are there for a lawsuit, then they should be there to qualify you for unemployment. You need to show that the termination was not based on whatever the employer is claiming, but because of some legal violation they have committed. For example, if you complain of sexual harassment, then a week later, you are terminated for some work issue that happened two months ago, then the termination was retaliation. When an employer retaliates for your report of a prohibited workplace activity, that employer just violated anti-retaliation laws.

Tip: If you are unemployed but develop a disability and you can't work, then you no longer qualify for unemployment. At this point, apply for State Disability Benefits. Again, these is not easy to get and you will need medical proof, but it is one safety we are lucky to have here in California.



THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY SARA ELIOT, AN EMPLOYMENT ATTORNEY. SHE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGAL-GRIND.COM

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MONDAY	
4:00–5:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes, with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
5:00–6:00pm	(1st & 3rd Monday/Month) Tenant Rights, Auto accidents, Products Liability, Insurance & Business Disputes, Personal Injury & Small Claims with Attorney Mark Palmer
TUESDAY	
9:00-12:00noon	Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law with Attorney Marcus Risso (By appointment only)
1:00-4:00pm	Employment Law: Wrongful Termination, Sexual harassment, Disability Accommodation, Leave Law, Discrimination, Retaliation, Whistle Blower, Wage & Hour disputes with Attorney Sara Eliot
4:00-5:00pm	(1st and 3rd Tuesday/Month): Civil and Criminal Law with former Deputy District Attorney Hart Levin. Hart has expertise in all criminal and traffic issues, and he also has extensive knowledge in many areas of civil law including business disputes, fraud, personal injury and employment law.
WEDNESDAY	
5:00-6:30pm	Divorce and Legal Separation; Domestic Partnerships; Child Custody, Support and Visitation; Spousal Support; Prenuptial Agreements & Mediation with Family Law Specialist Attorney Elizabeth Fields at the Novel Café located at 2901 Ocean Park Blvd. in Santa Monica, 90405.
THURSDAY	
12:00-2:00pm	Immigration and Family Law with Attorney Galorah Keshavarz (By appointment Only)
5:00-6:00pm	Chapter 7 and 13 Bankruptcy Filings, Debt Negotiation and Personal Injury cases with Attorneys Paul Mankin and/or Jeff Hughes (By appointment Only)
4:00–5:00pm	(2nd & 4th Thursday/Month) Landlord/Tenant Rights & Obligations, Small Claims, Restraining Orders/Domestic Violence & General Practice Law with Attorney John Wittig
FRIDAY	
4:00-5:00pm	(2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Criminal, DMV & Traffic Law: Felony and Misdemeanor Crimes with former Deputy D.A. and Attorney Jacob Glucksman
4:00–5:00pm	(2nd & 4th Friday/Month) Small business start-ups, Corporations, Contracts, Non-Profit Organizations, Green Law, Employment Law, Green and Sustainable Business Practices with Attorney Becki Kammerling.
SATURDAY	
10am-12noon	(1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday/Month) Estate Planning, Trust & Will Contests Probate, Elder Law, Business Litigation, Formation & Dissolution, Contracts, HOA & Personal Injury with Attorney Richard Ruman
10am-11:30am	(2nd & 4th Sat/Month) Employment/Labor Law including wrongful termination, sexual harassment, wage & hour claims, severance issues; and Family Law/Divorce including support, custody, & prenuptial agreements with Attorney Todd Smilovitz.

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

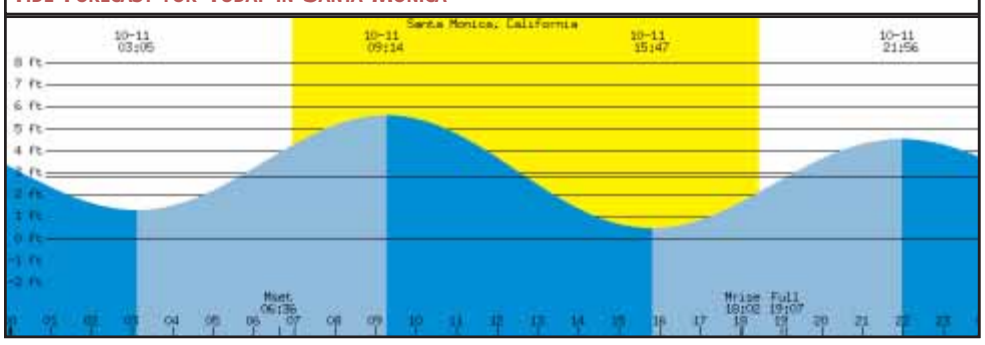
Swell Forecast

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

Long Range Synopsis

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

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **October 3, 2011**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 0
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 23 / 3
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechasa and Las Alina creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at 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.	F	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	F	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A	ns
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	A	A+
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 Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	C	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A	ns
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	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	A+
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	D
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	C	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.

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.

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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BOXING

Ageless Hopkins set for latest title defense

BY DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA Bernard Hopkins changed his tune after his swan song. He turned back the clock on Father Time.

And he has aged gracefully if grace is defined by pummeling fighters 15-plus years younger than boxing's grayest graybeard.

Long the master of pre-fight head games, Hopkins has turned to cheek-and-chin games for his latest bout, and first since winning the WBC light heavyweight championship, becoming the oldest fighter to win a major world championship.

At 46, Hopkins won't duck from the changing hair color on his face.

Tinged with more than a touch of gray, he intends to beat Chad Dawson by a whisker. Well, many whiskers.

So long, "Executioner." Hello, "Silver Fox."

"I want to look like his father," Hopkins said. "I could be his father. It's appropriate for me to look gray and have gray. If you do the math, he could be my son. I'm 46, he's 29, I had him early, it all fits into the scheme of the professor versus the good student who wants to be a great student."

Hopkins has fought off contenders and kids for most of his career while becoming one of the top pound-for-pound fighters of his generation.

For most of the last decade, Hopkins has been defined by his age. How does he still do it? Why? The oldest fighter to box there, achieve that. Age has been more than a number for Hopkins, the Philadelphia native, it's been the one constant that drives the curiosity factor in all of his bouts.

For now, forget 46.

Hopkins (52-5-2) should be defined as a champion.

Hopkins became the oldest fighter to win a major world championship, taking the WBC light heavyweight title May 21 from Jean Pascal at the age of 46.

He dethroned George Foreman as the oldest boxer to win a world title when he beat Pascal. Foreman was 45 years, 10 months when he knocked out heavyweight champion Michael Moorer in 1994. Hopkins was 46 years, four months and six days in his bout with Pascal.

Boxing's ageless wonder will try to defy history again when he defends the title against Dawson (30-1) Saturday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

"It's going to stay here in Philadelphia," Hopkins said, "around my waist where it belongs."

Dawson lost the light heavyweight championship to Pascal before beating Adrian Diaconu in May to earn another title shot.

Win or lose, Dawson has years of fighting ahead of him.

Time might finally be running out on the glib Hopkins. Each workout for his next big bout at his regular Philadelphia gym seems like it could be the last before retirement. Yes, his hair has changed, but his devotion to a straightedge lifestyle that bans alcohol and late nights; regular training; and a singular focus on his next fight has remained as steel-willed as ever.

Hopkins has stopped predicting when he'll call it a career, though he vowed he won't be boxing at 50.

"I can't think about winning and think about retiring at the same time," he said. "That's very counterproductive. So I figure that instead of worrying about 'what if's,' worry about where I'm at now."

His trainer, Nazim Richardson, believes Hopkins has already built a Hall of Fame career as the sports greatest middleweight. Beat Dawson, and Hopkins could go down as the greatest lightest heavyweight.

"I just hope these jokers appreciate this dude and I don't think they do," Richardson said.

Hopkins-Dawson headlines a card ripped straight from the headlines of Ripley's Believe It or Not! The franchise that cashes in on the oddities and the bizarre from all walks of life signed up as a sponsor for the bout. Ripley's Believe It or Not! created a Hopkins figure that will soon be displayed at a Ripley Odditorium. Hopkins posed twice for the figure, which will be unveiled this week in Los Angeles, and was created in honor of him becoming boxing's oldest champ.

"I've seen a lot of things I didn't think was true," said Hopkins of his Ripley's visit, "like a two-headed cow. It was freaky stuff."

On the undercard, ex-con and Arthur Ashe Courage award for strength and conviction Dewey Bozella fights Larry Hopkins.

Bozella served 26 years for a murder he did not commit before the conviction was overturned in 2009. He boxed in prison and dreamed of turning pro for one fight if he ever got out. Hopkins, who served five years in Pennsylvania state prison, heard the story and arranged a spot for Bozella on the card.

"You can't laugh at that type of spirit," Hopkins said.

Hopkins has plenty of spirit of his own.

Less than four months from turning 47, Hopkins boasts he feels like he did at 36. That was 10 years ago and around the time he beat Felix Trinidad in what was the fight of his career.

His native city could use the morale boost from a Hopkins victory. The Philadelphia Phillies lost in the NL division series and the Philadelphia Eagles are off to a 1-4 start. Both teams had championship expectations only a month ago.

Hopkins expects to hold on to his championship well past Saturday.

If not, then this time, it might really be it for Hopkins.

"I think everybody should just enjoy me while I'm here," he said. "because nothing lasts forever."



MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Call theater for information.

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

Abduction (PG-13) 1hr 46min
1:30pm, 7:15pm

Moneyball (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:05pm, 10:15pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
12:30pm, 3:20pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm

Contagion (PG-13) 1hr 45min
1:15pm, 4:05pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Killer Elite (R) 1hr 40min
4:20pm, 10:10pm

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

Real Steel (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
11:15am, 12:30pm, 2:15pm, 3:45pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 8:30pm, 10:00pm

Dream House (R) 1hr 32min
11:30am, 2:20pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:30pm

Dolphin Tale 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Moneyball (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
11:55am, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:30pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
11:15am, 1:45pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:50pm

Lion King 3D (G) 1hr 29min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm

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

My Afternoons With Marguerite (La Tete en friche) (NR) 1hr 22min
1:00pm, 3:10pm, 5:25pm

Benda Bilili! (PG-13) 1hr 26min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:35pm, 7:50pm, 10:00pm

Dirty Girl (R) 1hr 30min
1:20pm, 3:30pm, 5:45pm, 8:00pm, 10:15pm

Finding Joe (NR) 1hr 20min
1:10pm, 3:20pm, 5:30pm, 7:45pm, 9:55pm

Faust (Live from the Royal Opera House) ENCORE (NR) 4hrs 15 min
7:30pm

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

What's Your Number? (R) 1hr 46min
11:20am, 2:00pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:20pm

Way (PG-13) 1hr 55min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:45pm

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

50/50 (R) 1hr 39min
11:15am, 12:15pm, 1:50pm, 2:50pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:15pm, 8:15pm, 10:00pm, 10:45pm

Machine Gun Preacher (R) 2hrs 03min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:55pm, 10:45pm

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

Live it up tonight, Sag

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your sense of well-being can only add to your situation, multiplying the good vibes. Others seem unsure of themselves as they go through quite a swing, deciding what is right for them. If someone waivers, you could feel insecure. Don't. Tonight: All smiles.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Confusion surrounds nearly anything you take on. Others respond to today's Full Moon by swinging from one thought to another. Stay centered, knowing this, too, will pass. Fatigue might be the result of the instability around you. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Clearly, an issue surrounds a decision. Do you really know what you want? Others seem to have difficulty finding clarity and could be affected by their last conversation. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ If you must take a stand, do so. Remember that others wonder how well you can express yourself. Are you clear about your choices? In the long run, the path of diplomacy might be the only one to head down. Tonight: Could be late.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out for new information. Your fiery spirit helps you find your way through a lot of drama and feelings. The Full Moon causes high emotional frequency from many different people. Respond accordingly. Tonight: Reach out for another person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Relate to a partner directly. You might have difficulty understanding him or her. Fatigue could be a factor, as there is so much stress around you. Try to be indulgent and understand what is happening with a key person. Tonight: Be a duo.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ The Full Moon could be a problem as you attempt to deal with others' energy. The best idea is to allow them to expand their horizons. You want feedback, and you will get it. You might want to temper your words. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Focus on what you can do -- the possibilities. You might need to help others get their job done. Don't take on more than your fair share. Others will resent that action later. You can encourage others without doing their work. Tonight: Do what is best for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You are full of energy and charisma. You have the drive to complete any task you take on. Others might be unusually challenging or touchy. If someone rains on your parade, know that it is only for a limited time. This person will change his or her tune. Tonight: Living it up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Do check out a real estate investment with care. You don't need to know the hows and whys of a situation, just whether it is a good investment for you. Realize what is happening behind the scenes. Tonight: At home. Keep the door open.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be more positive than you have been in a while. Others toss their issues on you. Keep smiling, knowing when enough is enough. Just politely end a conversation and walk away. Communication could get flubbed up. Tonight: Catch up on another person's news.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Be sensitive to not only your budget but also to others'. Understanding opens up a former impasse with a partner. You know where you are going. Push comes to shove over money. Remember that everyone sees money differently. Tonight: Your treat.

Happy birthday

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

You could find this year unusually challenging in the relationship department. You will go through many ups and downs, as others seem to always say no when you say yes, and vice versa. Consider the possibility that you both could be right. This type of situation will arise with different people. See if there is a common theme connecting them. If you are single, you could attract many different types of people. You might want to date until you are sure of yourself. If you are attached, let your sweetie have at least equal say if you want to keep the peace. ARIES is direct, if nothing else.

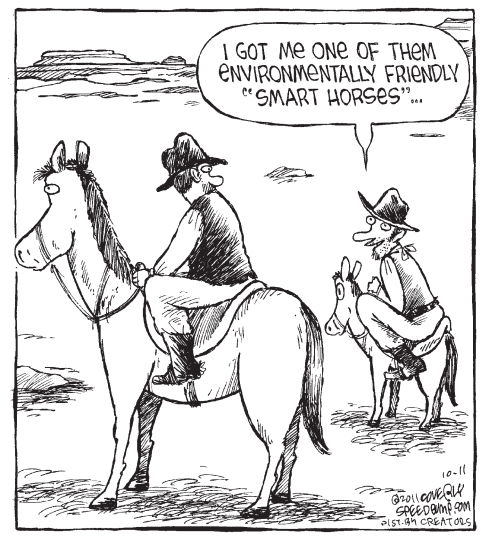


MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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

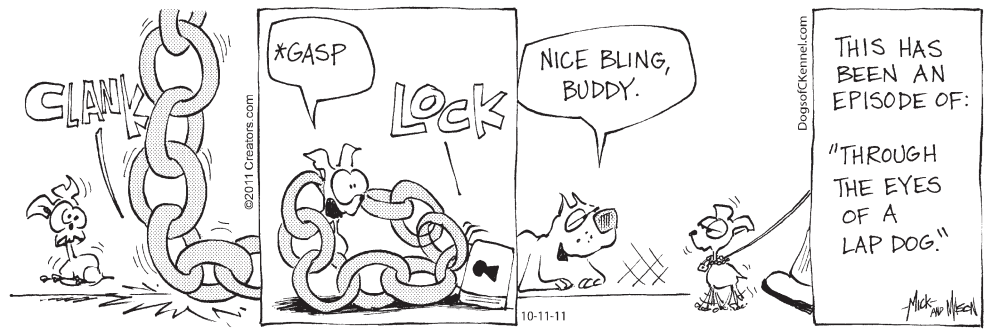
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



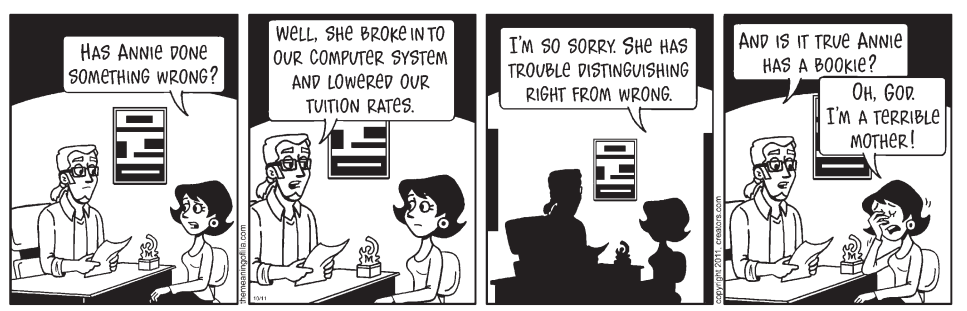
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



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 ★★

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

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Like some floors
6 Poe's middle name
11 Cherish
12 Wake up
13 Jimmy Dorsey hit
15 Was inactive
16 Lennon's love
17 Writer Follett
18 Agassi of tennis
20 Copper-zinc alloy
23 "Wheel of Fortune" host
27 Unctuous
28 Velocity
29 Errand runner
31 Wander off
32 Instruct
34 High card
37 Ripen
38 Letter before omega
41 Les Paul & Mary Ford hit
44 Blatant
45 Add up
46 High homes
47 Asp or adder

DOWN

1 Folder parts
2 Inkling
3 Misplaced
4 Memorable time
5 Mischief makers
6 Protects, in a way
7 Singer Reed
8 Gambler's aid
9 Arthur of tennis
10 Very bright
14 Conclude
18 Up to now
19 Mars neighbor
20 Marsh
21 Carnival city
22 TV alien
24 Pickle buy
25 — standstill
26 Lock opener
30 Changes chemically
31 Bouquets
33 In the past
34 Stratford's river
35 Stalactite setting
36 Peepers
38 Falafel holder
39 Drench
40 Land in the sea
42 Museum stuff
43 Singer Henley

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

Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10
11					■	12				
13					14					
15			■	16			■	17		
■	■	■	18				19	■	■	■
20	21	22			■	23		24	25	26
27				■	■	■	28			
29				30	■	31				
■	■	■	32		33			■	■	■
34	35	36	■	37			■	38	39	40
41			42				43			
44					■	45				
46					■	47				

10-11

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 5 15 19 23 38 Meganumber: 19 Jackpot: $22M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 27 32 35 45 46 Meganumber: 21 Jackpot: $10M

Fantasy 5: 3 8 11 15 39

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 9 3 0 EVENING: 4 4 0

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 12 Lucky Charms 2nd: 06 Whirl Win 3rd: 01 Gold Rush RACE TIME: 1:46.21

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

■ In August, the Securities and Exchange Commission's inspector general revealed that a $1,200 cash award was paid by the agency in 2010 to one of the very employees who had been specifically singled out for allowing Bernard Madoff to talk his way out of SEC inquiries in 2005 and 2006, before his epic Ponzi scheme was exposed in 2008. (The IG helpfully recommended that, in the future, awards not be given to employees who have recently been facing potential disciplinary action for poor performance.)

■ Among the aftershocks of the 9-11 attacks on America was the colossal budget-busting on "homeland security" -- a spending binge that, additionally, was thought to require something approaching uniform disbursement of funds throughout the 50 states. (Endless "what if" possibilities left no legislator willing to forsake maximum security.) Among the questionable projects described in a Los Angeles Times August review were the purchase of an inflatable Zodiac boat with wide-scan sonar -- in case terrorists were eyeing Lake McConaughy in Keith County, Neb.; cattle nose leads, halters and electric prods (to protect against biological attacks on cows, awarded to Cherry County, Neb.); a terrorist-proof iron fence around a Veterans Affairs hospital near Asheville, N.C.; and $557,400 in communications and rescue gear in case North Pole, Alaska, got hit.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1954 First Indochina War: The Viet Minh take control of North Vietnam.

1957 Space Race: M.I.T. scientists calculate Sputnik I's booster rocket's orbit.

1958 Pioneer program: NASA launches the lunar probe Pioneer 1 (the probe falls back to Earth and burns up).

1962 Second Vatican Council: Pope John XXIII convenes the first ecumenical council of the Roman Catholic Church in 92 years.

WORD UP!

titubant \TICH-oo-buhnt\ , noun; 1. A disturbance of body equilibrium in standing or walking, resulting in an uncertain gait and trembling.

ARITHMO™
CrossMath + × − ÷

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

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

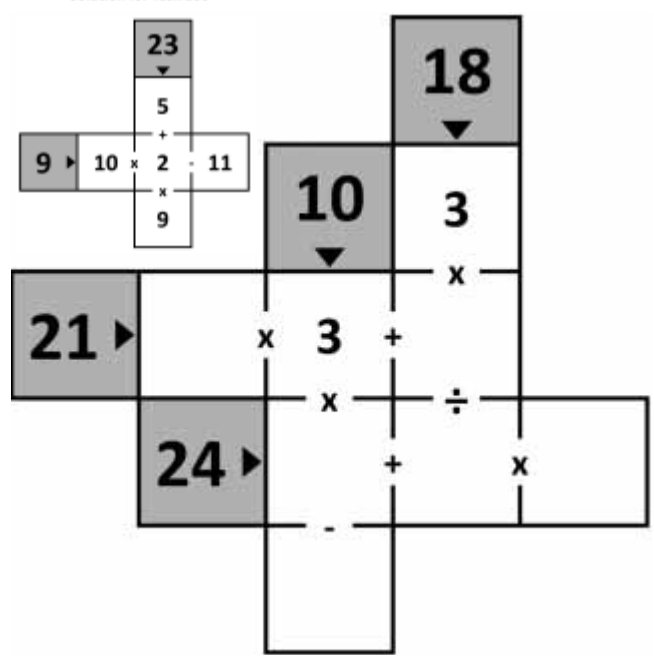
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

Go to www.zokigames.net for more fun and challenging games and links to our mobile phone apps.

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

2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12

Solution for Task 266



Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

$5.50 per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!*

Some restrictions may apply.

Prepay your ad today!

(310) 458-7737

*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not gauranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements
Creative
Employment
For Sale
Furniture
Pets
Boats
Jewelry
Wanted
Travel
Vacation Rentals
Apartments/Condos
Rent
Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commerical Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services
Business Opportunities
Yard Sales
Health and Beauty
Fitness
Wealth and Success
Lost and Found
Personals
Psychic
Obituaries
Tutoring

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out ***www.smdp.com*** for more info.

Beauty

HAIRSTYLIST AND MANICURE station for rent Santa Monica (310) 449-1923

Announcements

HYMAN KOSMAN PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS

"KING OF CHICAGO"

Employment

COMMISSION SALES rep needed part time with internet marketing experience. Submit resume to bsberkowitz@aol.com

COUNTER HELP needed. Cafe near 3rd St. Promenade 215 Broadway. Must be experienced. Immediate openings. Apply afternoons in person. (310) 396-9898.

part time work in medical office 12-15 per week mature person wanted
2 days a week. Filing and phones. in santa monica call 310 866 2777. ask for michael

Career Opportunities

Creative Director, Motion Graphics: Send resume to Ignition Creative, LLC, 3211 Olympic Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90404

For Sale

Air tix/voucher 1/2 price anywhere.International Available. 702.521.7298 or 240-281-4077

VICTORIAN LOVE SEAT
$500.00 or best offer.
(310) 450-1984

ADVERTISE! CALL US **(310) 458-7737**

For Rent

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310)869-7901

1011 Pico Blvd., #14.
Santa Monica Art Colony.
2 Bd. + 1 Bth.
2 sxs gated parking. Central A/C.
Hardwood floors.

225 Montana Ave. #105. 2 1/2 Blocks from Ocean
Studio/Single. Full kitchen / Full bath
$1,395.00

2739 Midvale Ave. West-LA
3 Bed 1 Bath. Traditional style house.
Large yard, double detached garage
$2,795.00

WE HAVE MORE VACANCIES ON THE WESTSIDE. PETS WELCOME

www.howardmanagement.com
rentals@howardmanagement.com

ADVERTISE!
CALL US **(310) 458-7737**

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Contact me at linenandlacedesigns@gmail.com, 310-383-9986.

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Erik
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Health/Beauty



KRIYA YOGA- LECTURE & PROGRAM w/Yogacharya Richard Peterson October 20, 22, 23.
FREE PUBLIC LECTURE: THURS. OCT. 20 7-9 PM KRIYA YOGA: Pathways to the

Health/Beauty

Divine @ Santa Monica Public Library Auditorium 601 Santa Monica Blvd Santa Monica CA90401
INITIATION & WORKSHOP--Oct 22,23: TBA- Shree--901-414-2361 Or contact for Programs, DVD presentations, and promotions in US - WWW.KRIYA.ORG or Judy--818-347-4796 E-Mail: shree_sv@yahoo.com

Lost & Found

Diamond ring found at boutique 7/4/2011. Reply w/ description to claim. Thanx.

Massage



Unwind your Body & Mind! Rolf Structural Integration bodywork, a unique manual modality of balancing the whole body by deep muscular manipulation and movement education. Walk taller, move with fluidity, breathe deeper! Inner Light Manual Therapy (310) 924-1920.

Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S)
Date of Filing Application: 10/3/2011
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
OCEAN PARK RESTAURANT CORPORATION, SANTA MONICA R/RESTAURANT ASSOCIATES INC.
The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 2640 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90405-4002
Type of License(s) Applied for: 41 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE- Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011082377 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 08/16/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as IMPERIAL POST. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Nathan Hoeft 11148 Culver Blvd. Culver City, CA 90230. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Nathan Hoeft. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/16/2011. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 09/16/2011, 09/23/2011, 09/30/2011, 10/07/2011.



CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

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Prepay your ad today!

(310) 458-7737

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING CONDITIONS: REGULAR RATE: $5.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 3:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 2:30 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310) 458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310) 458-7737.



Kate Bransfield

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7 Bed + 8 Bath
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$9,995,000



535 Ocean Ave #3D
Just Listed!



Gorgeous Ocean Views
2 Bed + 2 Bath
Open Kitchen
Cherry Wood Floors
$2,300,000

619 Euclid Street
Just Listed!



Located on a 'Road Less Traveled'
Center hall floor plan
Lush Landscaping
$2,999,999
Open Tues October 11th
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

1751 Appian Way
White Water Views



Unit 101	1 Bed	1.5 Bath	$4,999
Unit 202	2 Bed	2.5 Bath	$6,650
Unit 403	3 Bed	3 Bath	$19,000

519 California Ave #103



$799,999
2 Bed + 2 Bath
Huge PRIVATE Yard
Open Sunday October 16th
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

1024 12th Street #3



Remodeled to the 9's
Direct entry to private garage
2 Bed + 2.5 Bath
Gorgeous Teak Floors
Great Floor Plan
$1,189,000

Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica Properties
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale As of Early October 2011

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$2,065,809	$1,422,000
North of Montana	=	$3,197,500	$1,049,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,545,000	$739,000
South of Wilshire	=	$749,000	$549,500
Sunset Park	=	$1,220,000	$529,900
Ocean Park	=	$1,697,000	$695,000

Statistics updated every Monday

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Amazing Potential
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