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Volume 10 Issue 285

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SAMOHI HOSTS DEFENDING CHAMPS
SEE PAGE 3

THE SO VERY HOT ISSUE

Village housing project squeaks by

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The long-delayed Civic Center Village housing project narrowly skirted another stumbling block Tuesday when three City Council members dug in their heels over a provision requested by the developer to extend the term of the land lease 50 years past its original expiration date.

William Witte, president of development company Related California, urged the change on behalf of investors who felt that the 99-year ground lease granted by City Hall for the two market-rate properties on the 1700 block of Ocean Avenue wasn't enough.

Granting the extension would lock in financing for the project, which has been hard to secure given the climate of the real estate market and the nature of the project,

SEE VILLAGE PAGE 10

Organ donors give gift of life

Donate Life to push for another 20 million donors by 2012

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE Six years ago, former Santa Monica resident Randi Swersky received a phone call that changed her life.

Her kidney and liver were both failing, and she'd been struck by quadruple pneumonia. Doctors at Cedars Sinai stabilized her enough to send her home, connected to a dialysis bag.

At 10 p.m. on Feb. 1, 2006, her phone rang.

"The nurse called to tell me that they had a kidney and a liver and asked, 'Do you want it?'" Swersky recalled. It was an easy question to answer.

Wednesday, Donate Life California in partnership with the California Department of Motor Vehicles gathered at the DMV in Santa Monica to celebrate the 100 million Americans nationwide to register as an organ, eye and tissue donors.

That accounts for approximately 40 percent of the national population. California, with 8.7 million residents enrolled in the registry, has the most donors of any state.

Each donor registered represents a possibility that someone like Swersky might get the opportunity to lead healthy, normal lives that would never have been available to them before.

"Today we celebrate a major milestone with 100 million registered donors," said Charlene Zettel, the new chief executive officer of Donate Life California.

Organizations like Donate Life began collecting data about registered organ donors in October 2006. At that point, there were 65

SEE DONORS PAGE 9



RECORD ATTEMPT

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Elaine LaLanne (center), the widow of the late Jack LaLanne, takes part Wednesday in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most people jumping jacks in a 24-hour period at Equinox fitness gym. The exercise was named for the late fitness pioneer.

FBI concerned for Whitey Bulger tipster

DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON A newspaper's revelation that the tipster who led the FBI to notorious gangster James "Whitey" Bulger is a former Miss Iceland is raising concerns about her safety and whether the leak might discourage people from coming forward in other high-profile cases.

In a report Sunday, The Boston Globe named Anna Bjornsdottir, who met Bulger and his girlfriend in Santa Monica, Calif., as the person who led the FBI to them.

The 57-year-old Bjornsdottir is a former actress who starred in Noxzema shaving

SEE BULGER PAGE 11

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011

Comfort your taste buds
Cezanne at Le Merigot Beach Hotel
1740 Ocean Ave.
Chef Desi Szonntagh has created a new "comfort food menu" with French specialties. Comfort food nights are every Wednesday and Thursday with weekly rotating specials. The menu includes an array of recipes derived from France. To make reservations, call (310) 395-9700.

You are what you eat
Diesel, A Bookstore
225 26th St., 7 p.m.
Lucy Lean, author of "Made In America," will be in town for a book singing tonight. Deemed the "ultimate contemporary comfort food bible for the home cook and armchair food lover," by Book Soup, "Made In America" will be available for purchase for $45. This event is open to all. For more information, call (310) 576-9960.

Go global
Santa Monica Public Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Sarah Good, a New England-based travel journalist, takes you on a journey through her current project, a travel documentary on New Zealand. With free admission, Good will be able to answer questions about the project and journey as she traveled the globe solo. For more information, call (310) 395-1951.

Friday, Oct. 14, 2011

Inhale, exhale
Palisades Park
1301 Ocean Ave., 4:30 p.m.
Naam Yoga classes will commence overlooking the horizon and completely free of charge. Classes are ongoing and available to all. The mind-body workout will last an hour and is ongoing during the weekends, varying times. For more information, contact (310) 751-7550.

Making a melody
First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica
1008 11th St., 8 p.m.
As part of the World Festival of Sacred Music, a group of renowned musicians will explore pieces inspired by everywhere from India to Europe. Sitar player Paul Livingstone, ragajazz group Arohi Ensemble and organist Christoph Bull will team up to offer an eclectic mix of performances. For more information, visit www.festivalofsacredmusic.org.

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011

Digging for treasure
Santa Monica Civic Center
1855 Main Blvd., 10:30 a.m.
The Santa Monica Vintage Show arrives for the weekend, offering vintage designer dresses, jewelry, accessories and more. Visitors looking for a particular period or style can sift through everything from the mid-19th century to the 1980s. Admission is $10; a $2 discount is available online. For more information, visit http://vintageexpo.com.

Catwoman returns
Santa Monica Public Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 3 p.m.
Come by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium to hear author Julie Newmar discuss her new memoir/self-help book, "The Conscious Catwoman Explains Life On Earth." Newmar, famous for playing the role of Catwoman in the 1960s "Batman" television series, also appeared on shows such as "The Twilight Zone" and "Star Trek: The Original Series." For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

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



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Samohi hosts defending champs to open league play

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

CORSAIR FIELD Now the real challenge begins.

After finishing its preseason schedule a promising 4-1, the Santa Monica High School football team now enters Ocean League play against rival Inglewood on Friday at Corsair Field.

The season's fast start for the Vikings would have most coaches hopeful of what's to come, but for Head Coach Travis Clark this week's game is the start of a new season, one that he hopes ends with a league title and a playoff appearance. And he's not resting on his laurels.

"Every game is the biggest game of the season," Clark said of the ramped-up intensity of the regular season. "The boys are feeling good, their not intimidated. [Inglewood] is the defending champions. What better way to start the league?"

Inglewood may be the reigning champs, but this season hasn't treated them quite as well. The Sentinels have opened the year a surprising 1-4, but Clark said those numbers lie.

Last week's loss to Palos Verdes is a perfect example. The final score was 42-14, but a pair of blocked punts that were converted into touchdowns seemed to wilt the Sentinel's will to win, Clark said after watching tape of the game.

"Just a couple mistakes are all it takes," Clark said. "If those blocks didn't happen, it could have been a different ball game."

It's those mistakes that Clark said could result in an equal fate for the Vikings this week. He's worked with his team all week preaching ball control and discipline. His players are responding to the added stress on fundamentals, something he hopes pays off on Friday.

Chief among Clark's concerns is Inglewood's Derrick Woods, a player considered one of the best wide receivers in the nation. Problem for Clark is that Woods won't be lining up at receiver. Instead, Woods has been seeing more time at

SEE **SAMOHI** PAGE 9



Morgan Genser *news@smdp.com*

NICE GRAB: **Samohi junior wide receiver Sebastian LaRue makes a one-handed catch against Centennial last week.**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

IN THE BREEZE: **A wind turbine powers the High Striker game at Pacific Park. The entire game is powered by the turbine.**

SM PIER

Make like the wind

The iconic Santa Monica Pier is already home to the world's first solar-powered Ferris wheel. It now can add the world's first wind-operated amusement park game to the list.

Officials with Pacific Park said Tuesday that they have installed a game – the High Striker – that runs on power captured by a 600-watt turbine affixed to the top of an adjacent building.

The High Striker is the classic amusement park game featuring a mallet which players use to hit a pallet that sends a puck racing to the top. The goal is to have the puck hit a silver-plated bell.

The game is completely powered by the turbine, including chaser lights with more than 100 bulbs, multiple spotlights and a sound system.

"The adaptation of the High Striker to wind power is another step forward in meeting our goal to lead the industry and the city of Santa Monica in green initiatives," Jeff Klocke, director of marketing and sales at Pacific Park, said. "We have long showcased the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel as an innovative environmental effort. The High Striker is a further testament to the park's commitment to sustainability."

Pacific Park was awarded "Excellence in Stewardship of the Natural Environment" in 2010 at the annual Sustainable Quality Awards presented by City Hall, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and nonprofit Sustainable Works.

Pacific Park continues to add green initiatives, such as replacing all light fixtures in the park, discontinuing the use of bottled water, providing employees with reusable bottles and mugs and using environmentally-friendly cleaning products, Klocke said.

The park is Los Angeles' only free admission amusement park, offering 12 amusement rides and 18 midway games.

KEVIN HERRERA

RAND removes pot study from website

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES A nonprofit think tank has removed a study from its website that said crime increased near medical marijuana dispensaries in Los Angeles after they were closed.

Warren Robak, a spokesman for Santa Monica-based RAND Corp., says the organization is reviewing the study released last month and has removed it from circulation.

The Los Angeles city attorney's office had said the report's findings were deeply flawed and demanded a retraction.

The study, first reported by the Los Angeles Times, looked at crime reports in the 10 days before and after Los Angeles officials shuttered the pot clinics last summer after a new ordinance went into effect. The analysis showed crime increased about 60 percent within three blocks of a closed dispensary compared with those that remained open.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Right to complain

Editor:

There is a common misperception that Santa Monica Airport was here before the neighborhood grew around it. However, in reviewing a UCLA legal analysis of the 1984 agreement between Santa Monica and the FAA, I was surprised to find that the existence of homes preceded the airport.

Furthermore, Santa Monica Airport was not designed for jets, and the agreement between City Hall and the FAA was predicated upon the original fleet mix, which also did not include jets. Now, larger and larger jets, and more and more of them, use the airport each year. This represents an increase that has exceeded 1,500 percent since 1983.

Homes around SMO are closer to the runway ends than any other airport in the state. In addition, the airport has no buffer zones, which are considered to be so important that Congress has required that all commercial airports install runway safety areas. By the FAA's own guidelines, if SMO were newly built, it would require 1,000 feet of clearance on both ends of the runway in order to accommodate the kind of jets that are currently in use.

A USC environmental scientist used mapping technology to show that several square blocks of homes adjacent to the airport would be destroyed in the event of a runway overrun akin to one that occurred in 2005 at a comparable airport in Texas, involving a type of plane that uses SMO.

My main concern is the jet pollution, which I have been able to smell consistently from my home for the past 15 years. When my son was in seventh grade, he did a study with the guidance of environmental scientists from UCLA, USC, and the California Air Resources Board, and found that jets from Santa Monica Airport spew forth gobs of highly toxic ultrafine particles that infiltrate the community.

The levels that he found were five times higher than what you would find near a freeway and 40 times more concentrated than what you would find in a sample of air. My son found peak levels to be associated with fumes, particularly from idling and taxiing. This spawned a series of studies by distinguished scientists that have confirmed his findings. A UCLA-USC study reported that the number of ultrafine particles in jet exhaust, during idle or take-off mode, is about one quadrillion (that's 10 followed by 15 zeroes) per kilogram of jet fuel burned.

Scientists have shown that ultrafine particles are highly toxic because they lodge deeply in the lungs and release chemicals into the bloodstream that can damage cells in other parts of the body, such as the brain and liver. It is no wonder that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (the local EPA, if you will) has established the Brain/Lung Tumor and Air Pollution Foundation. Chronic inhalation of fine particle matter can aggravate lung conditions such as asthma and bronchitis, suppress lung development in children, trigger infant death, harden arteries and cause respiratory failure.

Ultrafine particles also come from automobiles, but California is allowed to regulate auto emissions more strictly than federal standards. Planes, however, cannot be regulated more strictly because they cross state and international boundaries. Pollution from automobiles is expected to decline over the next 15 years; pollution from aircraft (and ships) has been forecast to rise. Air quality authorities in California believe that in order to achieve ozone standards, they must regulate airport sources of pollution beyond current federal standards.

This is why we have the right – and responsibility – to complain.

Ping Ho
Santa Monica

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401**editor@smdp.com**

Your column here

Dr. E. Kirsten Peters — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Booze, schmooze, but not any news

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEDIA STORY this past week is that the Kardashians were guest co-hosts on the fourth hour of NBC's "Today" show. One Kardashian sister per day, plus mother Kris and stepdad Bruce Jenner.

It isn't bad enough that talk shows, which have descended into a morass of being publicity mills for celebrity hucksters, adore them. It isn't bad enough that the E! cable network, owned by NBCUniversal, throws millions of dollars to create and promote their reality shows that are as real as unicorns and fairy dust. Now we have Kardashians in NBC's Studio 1A, the window on New York City.

The three sisters are Kourtney, 32; Kim, 30; and Khloé, 27. Their mother is Kris, 54. Other than Jenner, whose career stems from having been an Olympian gold medalist and Wheaties box icon, the rest seem to have few discernible talents or skills, other than being celebutantes, socialites, and models. Even their various businesses exist only because they have the Kardashian name, earned because of Robert, a high-profile lawyer, who became a household name by defending O.J.

Upon their name, the three sisters wrote an autobiography and once again are about to leap to the best-sellers chart with a novel. There is no evidence that any of the three can write; there is evidence that bookstores and Americans buy books because of name recognition rather than talent.

But the real loser during Kardashian Week may be the integrity of NBC's News Division. News, not Entertainment, produces the fourth hour, co-hosted by Hoda Kotb and Kathie Lee Gifford. At one time, Kotb was a good journalist. Now, with a larger paycheck and her hair dyed an unnatural blonde, she and Kathie Lee Gifford, herself an excellent singer/writer, co-host the fourth hour.

That fourth hour is filled with diets, makeovers, fashion, food, relationship advice, and celebrities huckstering their latest films, TV shows, and books. There are frequent short segments devoted to displaying semi-wild animals, the "ahhhh" factor in TV entertainment. But since Hoda, who has covered wars and natural disasters, seems to be afraid of any animal less cuddly than bedroom bunny slippers, those segments seem to be inserted into the show not as information but to give the audience an at-home laugh track to Hoda's reactions. It makes little difference anyhow, since Hoda and Kathie Lee usually talk over whoever is trying to explain a little bit about each animal.

A typical show begins with Hoda and Kathie Lee interrupting each other with a few minutes of chatter. The chatter and interruptions occur throughout the rest of the hour. The guests, in rapid sequence, may actually have something important to say, but the endless babbling and cross-talk seemingly leave them little more than chum in a swirling pool of drunken steroidal fish.

Drinking is part of the fourth hour. Every day has at least a few seconds, often an entire segment, with the two co-hosts talking about booze and liquor, and then having demonstrations of how to make mixed drinks. Even the days are named. One day is "Booze Day Tuesday"; another is "Thirsty Thursday." Guest co-host Seth Rogen two weeks ago had said he had never had a drink that early on TV. Hoda, joking it up, responded on the show's Facebook page that the "operative words" were "on TV." It isn't too outrageous to believe that by the end of the Today's final hour, even AA mentors are tempted to take a swig just to ease their pain.

Because the "Today" producers are "with it" and "one with social networking," they underline the on-air show with audience contact through Facebook and Twitter. During the hour, Sara Haines conveys fan e-mail to the co-hosts and occasionally discusses technology. There is no evidence she is a technology guru, just as there is no logic why she, like the two co-hosts, are bottle blondes.

Legendary TV pioneer Sylvester ("Pat") Weaver created the "Today" show in 1952, filling a daily two-hour program with news and features. Two years later, now NBC's president, he created the "Tonight" show.

For all but eight years of its 59 year run, "Today" has been the ratings leader in its two-hour time slot, mostly following the basic formula that Weaver established.

In 2000, NBC added a third hour. In September 2007, NBC expanded "Today" to the fourth hour. Kotb was the original co-host, along with Ann Curry and Natalie Morales. Gifford replaced Curry and Morales a few months later. After a dip in the ratings, the fourth hour again took over its time slot, adding to the News Division's profit, a reason why it would do everything possible to stonewall any attempt to move that hour into the Entertainment Division where it belongs. The show itself is little more than an amalgamation of the worst parts of Cosmopolitan, Us Weekly, and just about any TV entertainment-and-gossip show.

Kardashian Week may have brought in greater ratings. It's also why middle-class America willingly bathes in the limelight of the rich and famous, even those with little ability other than having created a following who make them famous for reasons no one yet understands.

WALTER BRASCH is an a award-winning syndicated columnist and media analyst. His latest book is the fast-paced mystery "Before the First Snow."

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Your column here

Walter Brasch

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Taking your best shot

WHEN I WAS A YOUNGSTER IN THE 1960S I had all the shots little kids went through back in the day. And because I'm a klutz and regularly hurt myself outdoors, I've periodically had my tetanus immunity updated. A few years ago I underwent a series of shots for rabies after having a scary adventure with an ill coyote. Last summer I got the shingles vaccine when my assistant was suffering from a shingles outbreak. And to round it all out, tonight after work I'll be getting the influenza vaccine for this season's strains of flu virus.

My long history of receiving vaccinations — even including the potent shots given for rabies — has not caused me more than temporary discomfort. I'm truly glad I live in a time and place where vaccines are available for many infectious illnesses.

Simply put, I'm puzzled that millions of Americans fear potential side-effects of vaccines more than they fear the diseases against which the shots can protect us.

In a recent NPR-Thomson Reuters Health Poll, an amazing 21 percent of those interviewed said they believe that autism is linked to vaccines. And of people who say they've changed their views about vaccines in the last five years, most said their opinions are becoming less favorable. That's apparently why the vaccination rate for measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) recently fell almost 3 percent.

Of course, nobody likes getting injections. But to believe that vaccinating children leads to autism is, at this point in history, to ignore the evidence. And this rock head feels strongly that willfully closing our eyes to the facts puts our kids at risk.

The noise that sprang up around childhood vaccines mostly comes from a study by a British doctor, one Andrew Wakefield by name. In 1998 Dr. Wakefield published a paper based on the medical histories of 12 patients with respect to the MMR vaccine. Wakefield's study led many parents to fear that the MMR shot increased the chance a young child would develop autism.

It's true that the first signs of autism or other serious developmental issues often arise in young children right around the time they are receiving lots of vaccines from their pediatricians. This, of course, doesn't mean the vaccines are causing the developmental problems. (The fact that I first notice I'm coming down with a sore throat while I'm reading one evening doesn't mean the act of reading is causing the sore throat.)

Long after the initial study hit the streets, a careful reexamination of Wakefield's work was done. It showed that of the 12 children in the study, three actually never had autism, and five showed signs of developmental problems before they got the vaccine. Further, doctors reviewing the study came to believe not that Wakefield had made honest mistakes in his study, but that he had deliberately falsified the data on which his published study rested. And perhaps most damning of all, it came to light that Wakefield was paid more than $670,000 by a law firm that planned to sue the vaccine manufacturers.

In short, the case was a gut-wrenching example of what can go wrong with medical research. Wakefield's conduct was so destructive and misleading that British authorities stripped him of his medical license.

But the damage lingers.

Wakefield's original paper led a number of parents to withhold the MMR vaccine from their kids. In Britain vaccination rates dropped significantly and, sure enough, the number of kids coming down with measles went up.

Children — and adults — are protected from an amazing array of infectious illness due to vaccines. But the fact that vaccines are so effective may be what blinds us to their value.

I suspect that if we still intensely feared polio, as we did until effective vaccines were developed for it, we'd appreciate modern shots a lot more.

Roll up your sleeves with me. It's time for influenza shots — and I think it's high time for all of us, including presidential candidates, to quit fear-mongering about childhood immunizations.

DR. E. KIRSTEN PETERS, a native of the rural Northwest, was trained as a geologist at Princeton and Harvard. Follow her on the web at rockdoc.wsu.edu and on Twitter @RockDocWSU. This column is a service of the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University.

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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Hacker's alleged victims include Hollywood starlets

GREG RISLING & ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A Florida man was charged with hacking into the e-mails of Christina Aguilera, Scarlett Johansson and Mila Kunis in a computer invasion scheme that targeted Hollywood celebrities, federal authorities said Wednesday.

Christopher Chaney, 35, of Jacksonville, Fla., was arrested without incident as part of a yearlong investigation of celebrity hacking that was dubbed "Operation Hackerazzi." Chaney, who was expected to appear in a Florida courtroom later Wednesday, was charged with 26 counts of identity theft, unauthorized access to a protected computer and wiretapping.

If convicted, he faces up to 121 years in prison. It wasn't immediately known if he had retained an attorney.

Authorities said Chaney was responsible for stealing nude photos taken by Johansson herself and were later posted on the Internet. Chaney offered some material to celebrity blog sites but there is no evidence that he profited from his scheme, said Steven Martinez, assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles office.

"Celebrity information is highly marketable," said Martinez, who added his office continues to receive complaints about celebrities' having their personal information breached.

There were more than 50 victims, including Kunis, Aguilera and actress Renee Olstead. Others were named only by initials and investigators wouldn't identify if they were famous, but said those who were named as victims in the indictment agreed to have the identities made public.

"It helps get out the message that cyber-hacking is a real threat," said U.S. Attorney Andre Birotte, who called those who engage in such activity as "scum."

Chaney hacked Google, Apple and Yahoo email accounts beginning last November through February, then hijacked the forwarding feature so that a copy of every email received was sent, "virtually instantaneously," to an email account he controlled, according to an indictment handed up Tuesday by a federal grand jury in Los Angeles.

He allegedly used the hacker names "trainreqsuckswhat," "anonygrrl" and "jaxjaguars911," and also used the victims' identities to illegally access and control computers. Chaney is accused of damaging email servers that caused losses of at least $5,000 per instance.

Authorities wouldn't say whether Chaney was able to access email accounts via cell phones, but he was able to figure out secure passwords to various celebrity accounts through information that had been made public.

A message seeking comment was left on an answering machine for a Christopher Chaney in Jacksonville. There was no answer at a telephone listing for another Christopher Chaney.

Celebrities and people in the news have long been targets of privacy invasion but concerns have redoubled in the Internet age.

STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Demonstrators demand jobs

About 200 people demanding jobs marched in downtown Los Angeles.

Wednesday's demonstration was prompted by the failure of President Barack Obama's jobs package in the U.S. Senate on Tuesday.

Demonstrators included unemployed people and members of unions, among others.

The protesters marched around City Hall, where anti-Wall Street activists have been camped for days.

The event was loud but peaceful, with demonstrators carrying placards reading "We Need Good Jobs" and chanting slogans.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

No out-of-state help this year for free clinic

There weren't enough volunteers to handle 6,600 people who showed up for a free health clinic in Los Angeles last year, so California lawmakers passed a law they thought would make it easier to bring in out-of-town help.

This year's four-day clinic starts on Oct. 20 and a law was passed but secondary regulations have yet to be adopted. That means only medical personnel licensed in California can treat patients.

Organizers told the Los Angeles Times they are worried some people will be turned away.

CareNow has lined up about 800 doctors, dentists, optometrists, gynecologists, cardiologists and other volunteers.

The Medical Board of California started working on regulations after the law was signed, but they won't be finished until next year.

Regulations ensure that patients receive safe treatment.

AP

Defense drops claim Jackson swallowed fatal dose of drug

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES The defense for the doctor charged in Michael Jackson's death surprised prosecutors and a judge on Wednesday, dropping a key claim that the singer swallowed a fatal dose of an anesthetic while the physician wasn't looking.

Dr. Conrad Murray's attorneys have for months suggested that Jackson could have swallowed propofol, which is normally given through an IV drop in hospital settings.

They told jurors in opening statements that they would present a theory that Jackson swallowed several pills of the sedative lorazepam and somehow self-administered the propofol — killing the singer before he had a chance to close his eyes.

On Wednesday, without jurors in the courtroom, attorney J. Michael Flanagan said he commissioned a study about the effects of propofol if swallowed, mainly to counter one by a key prosecution expert that it would have been negligible.

Flanagan said the defense study confirmed that the effect would be "trivial." "We are not going to assert at any time during this trial that Michael Jackson orally administered propofol," Flanagan said.

Deputy District Attorney David Walgren and Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor appeared surprised by the disclosure. It was unclear, however, if the defense planned to argue that Jackson might have injected himself with the fatal dose.

In recent days, Flanagan has focused his questions toward prosecution witnesses on the effect that lorazepam might have had on Jackson. Lorazepam was detected in Jackson's stomach contents after he died.

Murray has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter.

Prosecutors are in the final stages of their case against Murray, with three expert witnesses set to testify about their impressions of Murray's actions in the days and hours before Jackson's death and his efforts to revive him.

On Wednesday, Walgren called Dr. Alon Steinberg, a cardiologist who told jurors that Murray displayed gross negligence and repeatedly violated the standard of care.

He said Murray lacked the propofol monitoring or life-saving equipment when he was giving Jackson the anesthetic and other sedatives as a sleep aid. Steinberg said Murray should have never given Jackson the anesthetic outside a hospital setting, and criticized his attempts to resuscitate Jackson.

Steinberg said he based his testimony on statements Murray made to police about the dosages of propofol and other sedatives that he gave Jackson, and that the doctor had left the room for only two minutes before finding the singer unresponsive. He said based on Murray's characterization, Jackson could have been saved if the proper equipment were present and proper life-saving techniques were employed.

Asked by Flanagan whether his opinion would change if it was revealed that Murray had been out of the room for longer than two minutes, or had been on the phone while Jackson slept, Steinberg said no.

"He shouldn't have been on the phone," Steinberg said. "You can't talk on the phone. "

Authorities say Murray gave Jackson the fatal dose in June 2009. A medical examiner told jurors Tuesday that it was unreasonable to believe that Jackson gave himself the fatal dose of propofol when Murray left the room for only two minutes.

Dr. Christopher Rogers, who conducted the autopsy on Jackson, testified it was more likely that Murray overdosed the singer when he incorrectly estimated how much of the drug he was giving Jackson to induce sleep to fight insomnia. He said Murray had no precision dosing device available in the bedroom of Jackson's rented mansion.

"The circumstances, from my point of view, do not support self-administration of propofol," said Rogers, chief of forensic medicine in the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office.

Murray told police he gave Jackson only 25 milligrams of the drug, a very small dose that usually would have kept him asleep for no more than five minutes.

Flanagan spent more than two hours Tuesday trying to show on cross-examination that Jackson indeed could have self-administered drugs — not just propofol but the sedative lorazepam, which could be taken in pill form.

Flanagan suggested to the witness that once Murray had started an IV drip of propofol for Jackson and left the room, "it would be easy for someone to inject into that IV?"

"Yes," Rogers replied.

"But if they pushed it all at once, that can stop your heart, can't it?" the lawyer asked.

"Yes," said Rogers.

The implication was that if Jackson was desperate for sleep and in a hurry to administer more propofol before his doctor returned, he might have given himself a fatal dose.

But Rogers noted that investigators don't really know what happened when Murray left the room, so they were left to consider what is reasonable.

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L.A. sheriff's alternative methods tested by claims

THOMAS WATKINS
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES He's been dubbed L.A.'s new-age lawman. He talks about damaged psyches and second chances, and he shies away from the tough-on-crime clichés favored by many of America's top cops.

Yet after 13 years heading the nation's largest sheriff's department, Lee Baca's progressive views on law enforcement might not have percolated through the ranks.

Disturbing allegations about deputy misconduct have simmered for years. Now, the 69-year-old sheriff finds himself defending his leadership in the midst of an unfolding scandal that has triggered at least two ongoing federal probes.

One investigation looks at claims that deputies discriminated against blacks and Latinos in two high-desert communities. Other allegations involve Baca's sprawling jail network.

The American Civil Liberties Union and other critics say that even as Baca espoused better rehabilitation and educational opportunities for the 15,000 inmates in his custody, he looked the other way while deputies ran amok, forming gang-like groups that beat up inmates, smuggled items behind bars and took bribes.

Baca has "a jail that's a complete disaster, with probably more deputy-on-inmate abuse than any other jail in the U.S.," said Peter Eliasberg, legal director for the ACLU of Southern California. "He has shown himself unwilling and unable to deal with these problems."

A letter released last month by the ACLU asks U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder for a criminal and civil rights investigation into "persistent pattern of deputy-on-inmate assaults, deputy instigated inmate-on-inmate assaults and use of excessive force" in the county jails.

The letter was signed by 26 people, including former California Attorney General John Van de Kamp and former Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas M. Brown. The ACLU called for Baca's resignation while filing dozens of court documents and 70 sworn statements that painted a picture of unchecked violence and negligent supervision within the jail system.

In one case, two gang members allegedly raped an inmate as another cellmate put his head in a toilet to muffle his screams while deputies ignored his cries for help.

Baca initially condemned as "hyperbole" some of the statements made when the report was filed. However, he told The Associated Press that a group of about 25 deputies at Men's Central Jail might not be living up to his department's core values of treating people with fairness and dignity. Some 400 deputies work at the jail.

"We don't do as well as we can do on the discipline side," Baca said. "Once we have a complete investigation, we are not holding a deputy more accountable for misconduct."

At the Men's Central Jail, the aging downtown facility that houses more than 4,000 inmates and is the source of most complaints, FBI agents say they bribed a deputy to smuggle a cellphone to an informant.

When the deputy, who has since quit, was confronted about the contraband, he implicated several colleagues over violent mistreatment of inmates, Baca said in a letter he wrote to a local official.

Baca initially attacked the FBI over its sting but later softened his stance and said he would welcome any federal investigation into his jails.

To address the jail problems, Baca wants to implement sweeping changes. Since its inception, the Sheriff's Department has rotated rookie deputies through the jails for a period that can last for years.

Many of the young men would rather be out in patrol cars. In the jails, they can become bored, frustrated or depressed looking after inmates. That can trigger violence, Baca said.

"There needs to be a different career track," Baca said. "This is an opportunity for me to make some changes."

He has convened a panel of 35 internal affairs investigators to re-examine some of the complaints brought forward by the ACLU, and he wants to establish a new citizens group that can oversee any overhauls.

Baca, whose stick-thin frame is a testament to the 40 miles he runs each week, presents a curious paradox. He's introduced anger management, educational and parenting classes for inmates, yet advocated for the use of a high-tech ray beam that sends unbearable blasts of heat at unruly inmates.

Ask him about medical marijuana and he'll defend its use for sick patients but will also fret about society and the damaged psyches of drug users trying to game the system.

"I am trying to trigger self-analysis in all inmates," Baca said. "(An) ideological, spiritual conversion from self-doubt and self-loathing to one of possessing strength."

Tim Rutten, a former Los Angeles Times columnist, has written extensively about law enforcement in the region. He said the views of Baca, who ran unopposed last year and is now in his fourth term, "may sometimes sound a little new-ager for some peoples' tastes" and noted his message does not necessarily resonate with underlings.

"I don't think he has ever really had much success in moving his values down the food chain," Rutten said. "Left to his own devices, he is a decent guy ... but his managerial hold on the department is tenuous."

Civil rights lawyer Connie Rice, a friend of Baca, said his department is in the throes of an internal struggle over its policing style.

"Are they going to go 'paramilitary-lite' or are they going to go 180 degrees to community policing," Rice said. "The sheriff has the right vision, but the rest of the department doesn't want to follow."

For the most part, Baca believes his core values have been embraced throughout the ranks and said his 6,000 patrol deputies, who police some 4 million residents in Los Angeles County and several cities, are generally well-respected.

But in August, the Justice Department announced it was conducting a pattern and practice investigation to test claims that deputies discriminated against blacks and Latinos in the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, especially those living in subsidized housing.

Preliminary results indicated the communities appear to have unusually high rates of misdemeanor arrests, particularly of blacks, Assistant U.S. Attorney General Tom Perez said.

Baca has said he welcomed the investigation, along with any complaints from citizens.

Ultimately, Rutten said, Baca will not be able to make meaningful reforms to his department without federal oversight. It took a federal consent decree for the Los Angeles Police Department to clean house after a widespread corruption scandal in the late 1990s.

DONORS
FROM PAGE 1

million Americans registered, and many states that lacked registries or appropriate infrastructure to track donors.

"We realized we needed to found, fix and fill those donor registries," said Bryan Stewart, of the Donate Life America board of directors.

Now that the initial goal has been achieved, Donate Life has already begun another push that Stewart described as "audacious": To get another 20 million Americans to pledge their organs by 2012.

"It will take a surge of those who have not checked the box at the DMV, a surge of high school students who haven't had a chance to do so yet," Stewart said.

Organ donation is, at its heart, a numbers game.

A single organ donor can affect 50 or more lives through the use of the eyes, skin or vital organs. The woman whose liver and kidney Swersky now uses also donated her heart, a lung and second kidney to two other patients.

Eyes and other tissues can also make a huge impact in people's lives.

However, only 2 percent of deaths result in organs that another person can use, said Anne Paschke, spokesperson for United Network for Organ Sharing.

"It's so important that everybody sign up because you don't know who will be that two out of 100," Paschke said.

Right now, there are 112,000 people waiting for an organ transplant, Paschke said. Seventy-nine people get one every day, and 18 die waiting.

Registration is particularly important for minority groups, like Latinos and African Americans, who suffer from diseases that impact the organs at far higher rates than whites.

African Americans comprise 35 percent of the people waiting for a kidney, despite the fact that they account for only 13 percent of the entire population.

The problem is supply, some of which can be attributed to a lack of understanding about organ donation, said Dr. Gabriel Danovitch, medical director of the kidney transplant program at UCLA.

"Fortunately, fewer people are dying of being shot in the head, or motorbike accidents," Danovitch said, "so what we need to do is maximize potential."

The import of registering is not the signature as it is the thought process that goes into it. It can help families talk about the act of donating, which makes it easier when the time comes, Danovitch said.

"They're engaged in their own grief," he said. "Families that have donated are happy they did it. In retrospect, they realize they [gained something] from that, a sense that the death was not totally in vain."

Discussion may also lead to education and dispel common myths about organ donation.

Many people are unclear whether or not it violates religious doctrine, while others believe that a doctor won't work as hard to save a victim if it's clear they are an organ donor.

Both are false, Danovitch said.

All of the major religions in the United States sign off on organ donation, Danovitch said, and the teams that work on living patients are strictly separated from those that are involved in organ donation.

"Most people, in the light of day and when not faced with the stress of imminent bereavement will say that this makes sense," Danovitch said.

Those that have not registered can do so at the local DMV or at www.donatelifecalifornia.org .

ashley@smdp.com

SAMOHI
FROM PAGE 3

quarterback.

"I think they want [Woods] to have the ball in his hands on almost every play," Clark said. "It didn't start that way, but that's what I'm planning for."

Countering Woods and company will be a stingy Samohi defense that hasn't allowed more than 17 points all season. At the core of the Vikings' defense is linebacker Chris Collins, who's being recruited by Washington State among others. Collins' presence is all the more crucial as defensive lineman Chad Wheeler will again be sidelined with a shoulder injury. Wheeler, who has committed to USC, was to have surgery, but has opted to rehab the shoulder instead.

Clark didn't put a timeline on his return, but labeled the injury more of an aggravation than a severe injury. For Clark, any return this season by the towering lineman would be a bonus.

In Wheeler's absence, Clark has noted that the injury has been a rallying point for his Vikings. On the offensive line, where Wheeler has been recruited to play at USC, players like Matt Schultz and Steve Becerra have stepped up to fill the void.

On defense, defensive backs Kori Garcia and London Lewis have improved their play, which is a testament to both players' endurance. Garcia and Lewis are also the team's top tandem at running back, putting them on the field nearly every play.

Clark said the platoon at running back has kept both players fresh on defense, something that the coach sees as a major benefit of sharing the load running the ball.

"Those guys have been huge for us," Clark said. "I don't know where we'd be without them."

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VILLAGE
FROM PAGE 1

said Andy Agle, director of Housing and Economic Development at City Hall.

The financing trouble doesn't stem from the fact that half of the 324-unit housing project spread across three large buildings will be affordable housing, nor that the deadlines for the $10 million in state bonds financing the affordable housing component are fast-approaching.

"What makes this unique is that it's a major condominium project," Agle said. "When we finalized this thing in 2008, the real estate market and economy were still moving along."

Financiers are not looking favorably on condominium projects right now, even in a town like Santa Monica where the real estate market has been relatively stable, Witte told council members.

It's also a major condominium project built on land leased out by City Hall to the developer, a lease which will expire in 99 years, potentially leaving homeowners high and dry.

That uncertainty made investors uncomfortable, particularly in the case of the market-rate condominiums located in one of the three buildings proposed.

The proposed extension would give the Homeowner's Association in the condos the option to extend their lease for another 50 years for the fair market value of the property.

It would also constitute a major benefit for the "sophisticated developer," one which the proposed agreement did not account for, said City Councilmember Bobby Shriver.

"The extension of a lease is a significant value, however, to the development, and that might be a good thing to do," Shriver said. "Hearing about this … we're creating a significant value there. What are we getting for it?"

The answer, it seemed, was nothing extra.

"This is not an attempt to increase the value, although in some indeterminate way it might do that," Witte told council members. "It's an attempt to get financing."

Even if it did increase the profitability of the project, City Hall would benefit through a profit-sharing clause built into the agreement from day one.

"If it does do better, the city will benefit," Witte said.

And, if the future homeowners decide to exercise that 50-year option, municipal coffers would benefit again through the payment of the market value of the property.

Shriver urged council members to request an appraisal of the added value, which he felt could then be turned around to get more out of the applicant in terms of community benefits.

"This isn't an arcane thing, it's quite a common thing," he said. "The value of optionality is simple."

His argument won support from council members Bob Holbrook and Terry O'Day, who didn't see the harm in delaying the approval two weeks in order to get clarity on the matter of financing.

Even two weeks, this late in the game, might scuttle the project because of impending deadlines for the $10 million in bonds that will be used to finance the 160 units of affordable housing, staff protested.

"Everything is lining up now," Agle said. "If we miss that, we risk the ability to finance the affordable housing."

While running the numbers could be accomplished in the two weeks before the next council meeting, how that would work into the deal is totally unknown.

The potential benefit wasn't enough to convince Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis to risk the financing.

"The whole reason we're here tonight is for Related to get financing," she said. "They're not sitting in the catbird seat on negotiations with Wells Fargo. If we impose additional costs on the project, we're going to kill the project.

"To me, that is unacceptable," she said.

The item was put on hold, and a flurry of negotiations followed in a separate room while the City Council finished out the remainder of the agenda.

When the developer and City Manager Rod Gould returned, they agreed to include a local source hiring program for the 20,000 square feet of retail that will be built into the three buildings.

If that was to be a requirement of the deal, the local source hiring had to be included last night, Agle said Wednesday.

Despite the win for local hiring, Shriver, O'Day and Holbrook were not willing to move forward with the project without the requested analysis.

The item passed four to three.

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Hollywood


BULGER
FROM PAGE 1

cream commercials in the 1970s and was crowned Miss Iceland in 1974. The Globe reported that she spent months at a time in Santa Monica, where she bonded with the girlfriend, Catherine Greig, over a stray cat.

The newspaper said she was home in Reykjavik when she saw a report on CNN in June about the FBI's latest publicity campaign to catch Bulger and Greig. It noted in a follow-up story that the tipster's name was already available to Bulger, who authorities say had a history of shooting anyone he knew or even suspected of double-crossing him.

Former U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan said he does not believe Bjornsdottir will face retaliation, citing testimony from several former Bulger loyalists who have cooperated with prosecutors in the past decade and not been harmed.

But Sullivan said he does worry the revelation could hurt the FBI's ability to cultivate both criminal informants and tipsters who report sightings in high-profile fugitive cases.

"For some folks who are informants or tipsters, the idea of anonymity is critical," Sullivan said. "Some people just wouldn't cooperate at all if they thought for a moment their identity is going to be revealed."

In addition to heading the notorious Winter Hill Gang and being wanted in connection with 19 murders, Bulger was an informant who gave the FBI dirt on the New England Mafia, his gang's main competition.

Some in Boston believed the FBI didn't really want to catch Bulger because the agency had already been embarrassed by his corrupt relationship with former Boston FBI agent John Connolly Jr., who was convicted of racketeering for warning Bulger that he was about to be indicted, prompting him to flee Boston in late 1994.

Peter said the Globe felt it was important to publish a complete story about how Bulger was captured because of the skepticism about the FBI's desire to apprehend him.

In comments reported by the Boston Herald, the Globe's main competition, Reps. Stephen Lynch of Massachusetts and Dan Burton of Indiana, have called on the FBI to find out why Bjornsdottir's identity wasn't better protected, citing concerns about her safety.

The FBI has not publicly commented on the Globe story. Since Bulger's capture in June, the agency has repeatedly said that as a matter of policy it would not provide the identity of any tipsters.

Former FBI agent Robert Fitzpatrick, who was second-in-command of the Boston office and headed organized crime investigations in New England in the 1980s, said the public outing of a tipster could damage the FBI's reputation.

"The FBI automatically is expected to protect confidentiality. It's one of the reasons that they are able to get information," Fitzpatrick said. "Now it becomes suspicious. A suspicion has been created that perhaps the information is not that confidential."

In the Globe's follow-up story, Jennifer Peter, deputy managing editor for local news, said a reporter had told the FBI and the U.S. attorney's office that the newspaper was considering publishing Bjornsdottir's name and that neither agency raised concerns about her safety.

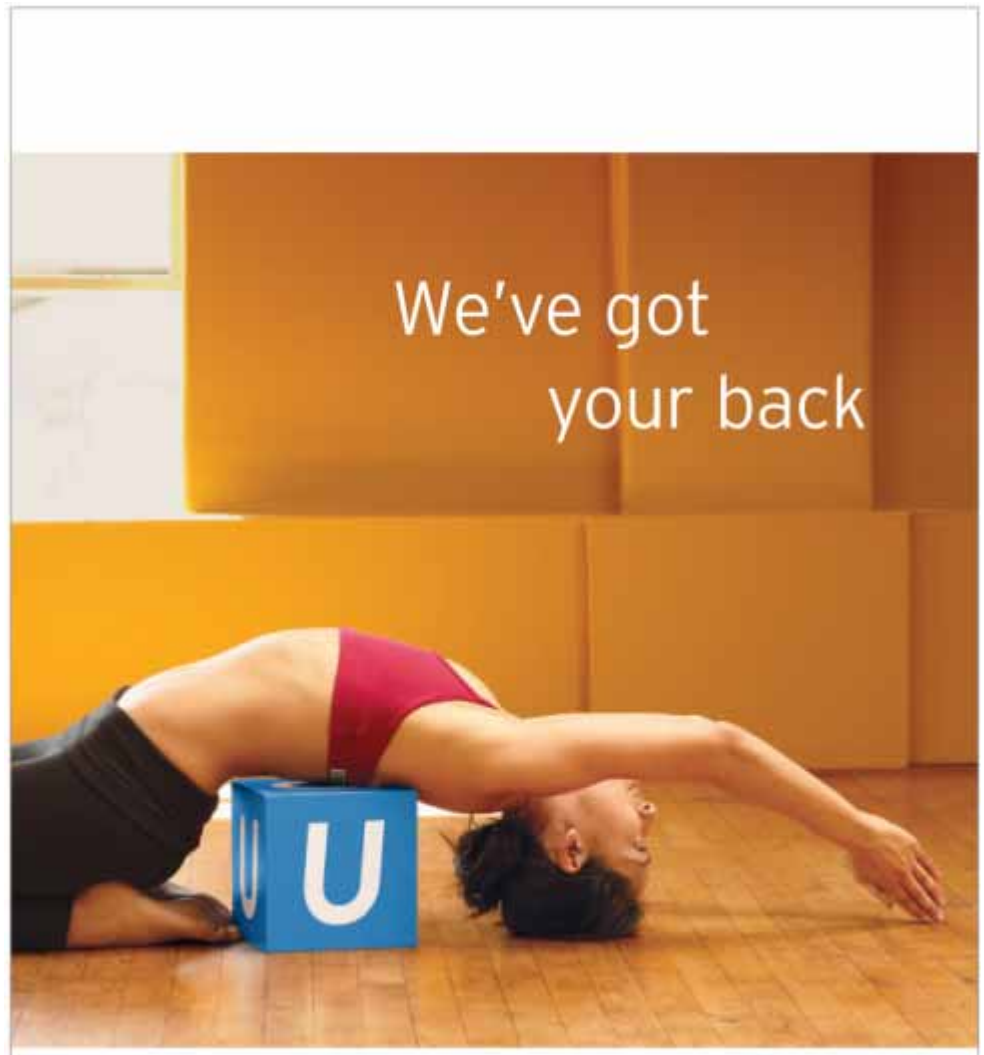
Peter said it was also clear from their reporter's interviews with neighbors in Santa Monica that Bulger, 82, and Greig, 60, already knew Bjornsdottir was the tipster.

WBUR, National Public Radio's news station in Boston, reported days after Bulger and Greig were captured in Santa Monica that the tipster was from Iceland. The Globe also reported her home country, citing unnamed law enforcement officials.

Peter said neighbors told the Globe that Bjornsdottir was the only person with connections to Iceland who lived in the neighborhood. The editor stressed that the Globe learned Bjornsdottir's identity not from the FBI, but by talking to neighbors who saw her interact with Bulger and Greig.

Bjornsdottir's current whereabouts are unclear. Bulger has been denied bail and is awaiting trial in a Boston-area jail where federal detainees are held; Greig is being held without bail at a detention center in Rhode Island.

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Bilingual voting ballots ordered in half of states

HOPE YEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON In the run-up to the 2012 elections, the federal government is ordering that 248 counties and other political jurisdictions provide bilingual ballots to Hispanics and other minorities who speak little or no English.

That number is down from a decade ago following the 2000 census, which covered 296 counties in 30 states. In all, more than 1 in 18 jurisdictions must now provide foreign-language assistance in pre-election publicity, voter registration, early voting and absentee applications as well as Election Day balloting.

The latest requirements, mandated under the Voting Rights Act, partly reflect second and third generations of racial and ethnic minorities who are now reporting higher levels of proficiency in English than their parents. Still, analysts cite a greater potential for resistance from localities that face tighter budgets, new laws requiring voter IDs at polls and increased anti-immigration sentiment.

Effective this week, Hispanics who don't speak English will be entitled to Spanish-language election material in urban areas of political battleground states including Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin, Utah and Florida. For the first time, people from India will get election material in their native language, in voting precincts in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York, due to their fast population growth.

More American Indian tribal languages will be made available in many parts of Alaska, Arizona and Mississippi, while Vietnamese and Taiwanese will get their own voting assistance in several new areas, including parts of Washington state, Texas, Massachusetts and California.

"We would like to be in a society where everyone has equal opportunities to vote, but that's not the reality we're living in today," said James Thomas Tucker, a former Justice Department attorney who is now a voting rights lawyer in Las Vegas. Tucker said the law has been key in the election of new Hispanic and Asian officials in many places, even as he noted that a vocal English-only language movement and new budget constraints on local governments could stir fresh tensions.

"Some jurisdictions will see pushback," he said.

The Voting Rights Act provision, first approved by Congress in 1975, requires states, counties and political subdivisions to supply versions of ballots and election materials in other languages if a Latino, Asian-American, American Indian or Alaskan minority group makes up more than 5 percent of the voting-age population or at least 10,000 citizens.

The minorities must be unable to speak or understand English well enough to vote in elections, a proficiency level determined by those who indicate in census surveys that they don't speak English "very well." The minority group also should have literacy rates ranking below the national average.

In all, 248 counties and other political divisions must provide election materials involving 68 covered languages, according to the list released Wednesday by the Census Bureau. The agency puts together the list based on its review of survey data on minority population growth, educational attainment and English proficiency.

It was the first decline in the total number since the bureau began compiling the list with English-proficiency criteria in the 1980s.

Under a separate provision of the Voting Rights Act, some 200 other jurisdictions are already required to provide bilingual material, including the entire states of Alaska, Arizona and Texas. With the newest additions this week, the total number of counties or subdivisions with requirements is more than 1 in 18.

The language requirements already have drawn fire from some Republicans, who complain they are too burdensome on local governments.

> **WE WOULD LIKE TO BE IN A SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE HAS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO VOTE, BUT THAT'S NOT THE REALITY WE'RE LIVING IN TODAY,"**
>
> **James Thomas Tucker,**
> former Justice Department attorney
> now a voting rights lawyer in Las Vegas

In a letter in August, Reps. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., who chairs a Judiciary subcommittee, and Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., who heads the House oversight panel on the census, asked the Census Bureau to delay release of the list to reexamine its criteria, given state and local budget crises they said will make it harder for localities to comply. They cited the case of Cuyahoga County in Ohio, which spent more than $100,000 on bilingual ballots in a light-turnout primary election last May.

Localities have struggled in the past with compliance, since they are left to figure out the best ways to provide bilingual materials at a reasonable cost. Shortly before the Voting Rights provisions were reauthorized in 2006, a Pew Center on the States study found that elected officials often would "ponder the impact of implementing — or in some cases sidestepping — the federal requirements."

It cited some confusion over how many bilingual ballots to print, or what types of election materials are covered. But Pew and separate government studies said compliance often could be achieved at lower cost by hiring bilingual poll workers who perform dual functions of translation and other Election Day tasks, as well as printing sample bilingual ballots that minorities could refer to.

The continuing demands for bilingual balloting come at a time when residents in the U.S. are increasingly likely to speak a language other than English at home, but who are also now more likely have lived in the U.S. for at least a decade and be naturalized citizens who vote.

Eugene Lee, voting rights project director at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, noted the significant impact that language assistance has had on voting and the election of Asian-Americans in places such as California. In Los Angeles County, officials will now be required to offer materials in Cambodian and Asian Indian languages in addition to Spanish, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese.

Prostate testing has potentially dangerous side effects for patients

MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

Terry Dyroff's PSA blood test led to a prostate biopsy that didn't find cancer but gave him a life-threatening infection.

In the emergency room several days later, "I didn't sit, I just laid on the floor, I felt so bad," said Dyroff, 65, a retired professor from Silver Spring, Md. "I honestly thought I might be dying."

Donald Weaver was a healthy 74-year-old Kansas farmer until doctors went looking for prostate cancer. A PSA test led to a biopsy and surgery, then a heart attack, organ failure and a coma. His grief-stricken wife took him off life support.

"He died of unnecessary preventive medicine," said his nephew, Dr. Jay Siwek, vice chairman of family medicine at Georgetown University. "Blood tests can kill you."

Since Friday, when a task force of independent scientists said routine PSA testing does more harm than good, urologists who make a living treating prostate cancer have rushed to defend the test, as have patients who believe it saved their lives.

Less visible are men who have been harmed by testing, as Dyroff and Weaver were. The harm is not so much from the test itself but from everything it triggers — biopsies that usually are false alarms, and treatments that leave many men incontinent or impotent for cancers that in most cases were not a threat.

Once a PSA test suggests a problem, many men can't live with the worry that they might have cancer. And once cancer is found, most men feel they have to treat it, usually at the urging of their urologist.

"There are many men who have had serious consequences from treatment. Those stories don't get told and they are not uncommon," said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, deputy chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society, which thinks the task force reached "an appropriate conclusion" about the PSA test.

"I'm not going to criticize men who believe that their lives have been saved by this test," because that's what doctors have told them, Lichtenfeld said. "If you're sitting there and you wet your pants three times a day, you've got to believe it's worth it, that it saved your life."

Many men who agree to a PSA test do not understand what it is. Some common misconceptions:

• It shows cancer. In fact, PSA is just a measure of inflammation, and it can be elevated for many reasons besides cancer: normal enlargement of the prostate with age, an infection, even recent sex, a strenuous bike ride or horseback riding.

• It's been proven to save lives. Only two large, well-done studies have looked at this, the task force says. The American study found annual screening did not lower the chances of dying of prostate cancer. However, cancer fear is so great, and belief in the value of screening so ingrained, that half the men assigned to the group not offered PSA tests got one anyway. That made comparisons to the group given annual screening difficult. For that reason, some doctors don't believe the study's conclusion.

The other study, conducted in Europe, found a small benefit for certain age groups screened every two to seven years — not annually. However, one Swedish center had such rosy results that scientists think it may have biased the whole study. If that center is excluded, no benefit from the PSA test is seen.

• The task force's stance goes against past advice. Routine PSA testing has been supported by some advocacy groups and by urologists, the doctors who do the tests and treatments. But it has not been pushed by major scientific groups, the American Cancer Society or the government.

• It finds cancer early so you're more likely to survive. About 90 percent of prostate cancers found through screening are early-stage. Most will grow so slowly they will never threaten a man's life, but there's no good way to tell which ones will. Research suggests that tumors causing symptoms are more likely to warrant treatment than those that are not. Also, finding aggressive prostate tumors early may not affect how lethal they prove to be; the PSA test may just let men learn of them sooner than they otherwise would.

The task force said that in the European study, the rate of overdiagnosis from PSA screening — finding cancers that do not need to be treated — was estimated to be as high as 50 percent. Based on that study, 1,410 men would have to be screened, and 48 patients would have to be treated, just to save one life from prostate cancer.

Yet the public perception is that if PSA testing finds a cancer early, it must be good.

"Most people tend to think 'if it may help, I'm all for it.' But we don't know if it will help," said Siwek, the Georgetown doctor whose uncle died.

Once a PSA test suggests a problem, "it's hard to stop the conveyor belt or the cascade effect" that leads to more testing and treatment, said Siwek, who also is editor of the journal American Family Physician. "The inclination is, 'I've got to do something about it.'"

Dyroff, the retired professor, agreed to a biopsy after a blip in his PSA. Days later, he ran a high fever, felt weak and faint, and spent three days in the hospital fighting a bloodstream infection. A week later he relapsed and required a combination of intravenous antibiotics to finally recover.

A recent Johns Hopkins University study found surprisingly high rates of hospitalization after prostate biopsies and a 12-fold greater risk of death in those who develop infections.

Tony Masraff, a Houston restaurant owner, reluctantly agreed to a biopsy and then was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1999. His urologist pushed surgery and balked when Masraff asked about other options such as radiation. After some research, Masraff decided just to monitor his tumor, and has seen his PSA rise very slowly over more than a decade.

Now 74, he hasn't had treatment "and I never will," he said. "I'm not concerned because I don't want the debilitative effects — I don't want to wear a diaper, and I like women."

"There's a huge number of people that are being operated on that don't need treatment," said Masraff, who formed a foundation for research into less invasive options.

The need to find a better screening tool is the real message from the task force, said Dr. Christopher Logothetis, prostate cancer research chief at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. It may even be that there are better ways to use the PSA — employing it as a baseline test and tracking its rise over time — that might prove better than annual testing.

"If the debate gets reduced to 'there's a right and a wrong,' we will lose what we are being told here, which is to search for the path forward," he said.

The cancer society's Lichtenfeld agreed. "Maybe it's time to listen to evidence instead of hope," he wrote in his blog.

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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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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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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed bids for:

BID #3065: FURNISH AND DELIVER ONE (1) NEW AND UNUSED HEAVY DUTY DUMP TRUCK WITH 24-CUBIC YARD BODY.

Please refer to the bid packet for further details.
The bid packet can be downloaded at:
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Submission Deadline is October 27, 2011 at 3:00 PM PT.

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the Finance Department at the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California by calling (310) 458-8281. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CITY'S PLAN FOR HOMELESS SERVICES

The City Council of the City of Santa Monica will hold a public hearing pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.69.030 to receive public comment on the Annual Review of the City's Plan for Homeless Services for FY 2010-11. The FY 2010-11 Annual Review reports on the performance of the homeless service system. Copies of the Annual Review of the City's Plan for Homeless Services for FY 2010-11 will be available to the public on the web at smgov.net seven days preceding the meeting, or you may contact the Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, telephone (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, 2011
at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers
located at 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

The Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible. If you have any special disability-related needs/accommodations, please contact the Human Services Division at (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696.

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Muslim comic book seeks to open doors in America

JEFF KAROUB & MATT MOORE
Associated Press

DETROIT Comic book fans might call it a great origin story: In the aftermath of 9/11, a Muslim man creates a comic book series, "The 99," inspired by the principles of his faith. It builds a global audience and investors contribute millions for it to continue and expand.

In two vastly different cultures, Naif Al-Mutawa's tale hits a few roadblocks — "villains" if you will: Censorship from Saudi Arabia, home to the main Muslim holy sites; in the United States, a struggle to build an audience where free expression has been hampered by a post-9/11 rise in suspicion and scrutiny of all things Islamic.

For Al-Mutawa, it's evidence that tales like his are needed to counter hardline, intolerant ideologies of all stripes.

"That's one of the things that was most disappointing to me in the beginning," Al-Mutawa said on a recent visit to Detroit. "You have two birthplaces: You have the birthplace of Islam, which initially rejected it (and) the birthplace of democracy and tolerance, this country, that I'm now facing resistance in — the two natural places for this product."

Al-Mutawa's reputation in the Middle East and elsewhere has grown since the 2006 debut of "The 99," as well as its rollout into animation. The series is named for the 99 qualities the Quran attributes to God: strength, courage, wisdom and mercy among them.

The comic book spawned a TV series and 26 half-hour episodes of the 3-D animated version of the "The 99" have been sold to broadcasters. They are expected to be released early next year in more than 50 countries, and a second season is in production.

Al-Mutawa, a U.S.-educated psychologist from Kuwait, has been promoting "Wham! Bam! Islam!" a PBS documentary that tells the story of "The 99" from an idea hatched during a cab ride to its raising of $40 million in three calls for investors. The promotional push is supporting the animated series, the vehicle by which his company hopes to turn a profit.

"The 99" grew out of his childhood love of Batman, Superman and their superhero brethren, along with a desire to provide role models for his five young sons.

"Basically, 'The 99' is based on Quranic archetypes, the same way that Batman and Superman are based on Judeo-Christian and Biblical archetypes. And just like Batman and Superman are secular story lines, so too are 'The 99,'" he said.

"It seemed to me that the only people using mass media when it came to things to do with religion — at least my religion — were people who were doing very destructive things. So the question was how do I challenge that in a way that's secular yet cannot be dismissed as Western?"

Critics on both sides of the religious and cultural divide see subversion in Al-Mutawa's superheroes. Some hardline Muslims say the series subverts their faith by embodying the attributes in human characters, while a few non-Muslim American critics have labeled it sneaky Islamic indoctrination.

Al-Mutawa said it took investment by an Islamic investment bank to make his series "halal," or acceptable to Saudi officials. The nation's government-run broadcaster has since bought the rights to the animated series. So has The Hub cable network in the U.S. — though the latter has indefinitely postponed airing it after some critical columns and blog posts.

"One of the comments on the blogs that ended up delaying us was someone who warned that we can't let the Muslims brainwash our children like the Mexicans did with 'Dora the Explorer,'" Al-Mutawa said.

Still, he's measuring broader acceptance in other ways. Al-Mutawa worked with DC Comics last year on a six-issue crossover that teamed "The 99" with The Justice League of America.

"They start out with distrust between the two teams of superheroes — Superman punches one of my guys early on," Al-Mutawa said. "And then they figure out during the arc that it's the bad guys causing the distrust."

Robin Wright, author of "Rock the Casbah: Rage and Rebellion Across the Islamic World," said Al-Mutawa has "been way ahead of the curve in figuring out how you challenge extremism and how you create alternative role models to Osama bin Laden or Hassan Nasrallah (Hezbollah's leader) for kids and adults."

Muslim characters are rare in U.S. comic books but there have been some inroads.

Marvel Comics has Dust, a young Afghan woman whose mutant ability to manipulate sand and dust has been part of the popular X-Men books.

"I don't view a Muslim superhero as avant garde," Marvel editor-in-chief Axel Alonso said. "Muslims comprise approximately 23 percent of the world's population, and we like our comics to reflect the world in its diversity."

Dust wears a robe and veil to observe Muslim hijab, or modest dress. Another character, M, is a woman of Algerian descent who only recently revealed her faith in the pages of "X-Factor." Like millions of other Muslim women in the real world, she "does not observe hijab, and often dresses quite provocatively," Alonso said.

Other characters have not been so accepted. In late 2010, DC Comics introduced Nightrunner, a young Muslim hero of Algerian descent raised in Paris. He's part of the global network of crime fighters set up by Batman alter-ego Bruce Wayne. Conservative bloggers decried the move, noting that instead of tapping a native French person, they opted for a minority.

Frank Miller, whose dark and moody take on Batman in "The Dark Knight Returns" in 1986 energized the character, has taken a different tack in his latest work, "Holy Terror," which tells the story of The Fixer and his efforts to stamp out Islamic terrorists.

The graphic novel initially took root as a look at Batman's efforts to fight terrorism, something that grew out of Miller's experiences of being in New York during 9/11. As he worked on it, it became apparent that it wasn't suitable for the DC character.

"As I developed it and worked on it, the subject was too serious and the character's actions were not Batman," he said.

The book has been criticized as anti-Islamic propaganda, but Miller says that's not his notion.

"I lived through a time when 3,000 of my neighbors were incinerated for no apparent reason. I lived through the chalky, smoky weeks that followed and through the warplanes flying overhead and realized that, much like my character, The Fixer, I found a mission," he said.

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SURF REPORT

Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

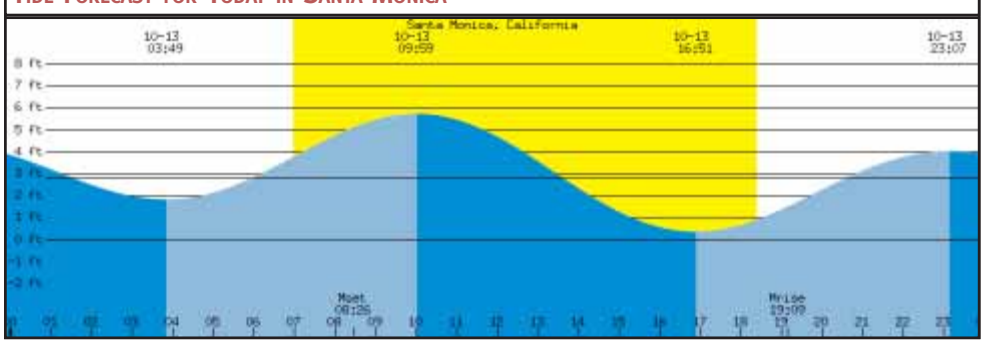
Swell Forecast

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

Long Range Synopsis

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

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **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, Groudwick 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 Aline 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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NCAA FOOTBALL

Loss to USC still lingers for Cal

JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO After starting the Pac-12 season with back-to-back losses, California has a lot more to worry about than a blowout loss a year ago to Southern California.

When that loss was as thorough and humiliating as that 48-14 game at the Los Angeles Coliseum was for the Golden Bears, it's hard to forget it completely.

"It's always a new season, a new game," safety Sean Cattouse said. "It's all about us this year, just doing things right this year. But it's definitely something that we're amped to get the taste out of our mouth from last year. It's a motivation. Probably not the biggest, but it's nothing that we've forgotten."

It would be hard to forget that day when the Trojans rolled out to a 42-0 halftime lead and coasted to the victory. USC gained 373 yards in the opening half and held Cal scoreless until the closing minutes of the third quarter after it was already 45-0.

Matt Barkley threw a school record-tying five touchdowns, Robert Woods had seven catches for 116 yards and two scores and the Trojans had their way with the Bears.

"Everybody has those games every year or two where even if you call a play that's not supposed to work, somebody makes a great play or they get a ball tipped," USC coach Lane Kiffin said. "It was just one of those games where everything went our way and nothing went their way. That's why it was 42-0 at half."

Cal (3-2, 0-2) looks to put together a much stronger performance in this year's rematch against the Trojans (4-1, 2-1) at their temporary home of AT&T Park on Thursday night.

Cal's offense looks much different this year than it did under stationary quarterback Kevin Riley in 2010. Zach Maynard provides a scrambling threat at quarterback

"It's been different than what we've faced the past couple of weeks," Kiffin said. "We've had some extra time and have really focused on stopping him running. We don't want to let him beat us with his feet. We want to take away his run game and make him beat us throwing the ball."

Maynard has struggled to do that so far this season, completing just 51.4 percent of his passes. He does have a knack for the big play, averaging 13.7 yards per completion.

He struggled last week with his mechanics in a 43-15 loss at Oregon, completing just 20 of 41 passes and failing to lead Cal on a single scoring drive in the second half.

"His feet were a little live," coach Jeff Tedford said. "He was a little jittery and it caused him to miss a couple throws where we had some guys open. I think he rushed himself a little bit. Early there were a couple that the ball was really wet, you could see it come out of his hand funny, but he threw some great balls, too. There were a couple he missed because was rushing himself a little bit."

Maynard will have to be much better this week because unfortunately for Cal, USC's offense looks quite similar to last year's model.

Woods was just starting to break out as a freshman in his big game against Cal a year ago, but now he has become one of the nation's top receivers.

He leads the nation with 149.4 yards receiving per game and is averaging 11 catches a contest.

"He's very fast, catches the ball exceptionally well, runs very good routes," Tedford said. "And after he catches the ball he's very hard to bring down. He's elusive, he can make you miss and he can make big plays. They can throw him a 5-yard hitch and it can turn into a very long play."

Making the task of dealing with Woods even more difficult is the fact that freshman Marqise Lee is also a dangerous threat with 21 catches for 323 yards and three scores.

The Bears have their own dynamic duo at receiver with Keenan Allen and Marvin Jones, who have combined for 68 catches for 1,109 yards and seven touchdowns.

"I'm not going to shoot them down," Lee said. "I do believe they've got a great receiver corps over there. It's going to be a competition with the best of the best receivers. I always feel we're one of the top receiver corps in the nation. I don't want to say we're the top, but I feel like we're up there with the other ones. We've got to keep competing, showing what we can do."

Cal will likely have to deal with that duo without injured cornerback Marc Anthony, who is expected to be replaced in the lineup by freshman Stefan McClure.

"We're going to try to keep an eye on him and communicate with him," Cattouse said. "Just try to be there for him, make sure he's where he's supposed to be and just look out for him when I can. He's going to handle himself. He's in a good place right now."





MOVIE TIMES

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

The Catechism Cataclysm (NR) 1hr 15min
7:30pm

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

Ghostbusters (PG) 1hr 47min
7:00pm

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, 10:05pm

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, 7:40pm, 9:55pm

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

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

Late night tonight, Leo

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Fatigue easily could be the result of an active dream life. You are processing many ideas. As situations arise that demand your resourcefulness, trust in your ability to see what others don't. How you make your suggestions is what counts. Tonight: Don't avoid a serious conversation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You bounce out of the right side of bed, ready for what life delivers. With this attitude, you'll move through any situation that presents itself. Someone special acknowledges your innate talents. If you're bored, move on. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Read between the lines. You could be unusually quiet and serious. Your instincts are right-on as you deal with different issues. Hold your ideas and solutions back until you are sure of the problem. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Eye the long term when making decisions. Someone offers you a new opportunity. Lady Luck rides on your shoulder. Go for what you want and don't settle. Responsibilities call. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Accept your role in recent events. You also might need to undo some of the side effects. With a take-charge attitude, you could be surprised by what comes up for you. A serious conversation lets someone know where you are coming from. Tonight: Count on being up late.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Attempt to get the complete picture. Detach and ask a question or two. You also might want to look at the source. Do whatever you need to do to confirm information. Do research if need be. Tonight: Don't commit to anything financially.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be overly serious. A key associate or partner has a way of lightening you up. Together you'll come up with effective solutions. Listen to your sixth sense with this person. He or she has a way of opening doors. Tonight: Continue the conversation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Defer to others, and let them decide what is workable. You have other issues on your mind and other fish to fry. Use the lack of pressure to complete an alternative idea. Act rather than sit on a depression. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Stay even and mellow as you follow through on what needs to happen. You might have difficulty convincing others of the correctness of your ways. Maintain an even pace despite this situation. Tonight: Choose something mellow, but do squeeze in some exercise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Allow your creativity to flourish. Others enjoy when you share with them on this level. You know what works probably better than anyone else. Excitement marks a decision, though you might find a higher-up's response a bit hard. Tonight: Working late.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Deal with personal matters. You might feel like you can't because of work or some other commitment. Consider the fact that you cannot really be present until a certain issue is resolved. Tonight: Hang out at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You will speak your mind and draw very positive reactions. You might surprise yourself. You have been mulling over some of these decisions or concepts. You are coming from a very secure space. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

Happy birthday

This year you have more impact than you have had in years. You also will feel the weight of additional responsibility. Understand that you cannot bypass this phase without experiencing a defeat or a problem. You could feel the demands of responsibility more than ever, but this, too, will pass by next year. You will acclimate to your new role. If you are single, someone you meet this year could be significant to your life. If you choose to hook up with this person, you will have difficulty getting out of this bond, should you so choose. If you are attached, the two of you could be unusually hard on each other. Try to lighten up. Make no major decisions this year on the relationship front, if possible. TAURUS understands you well.

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



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.

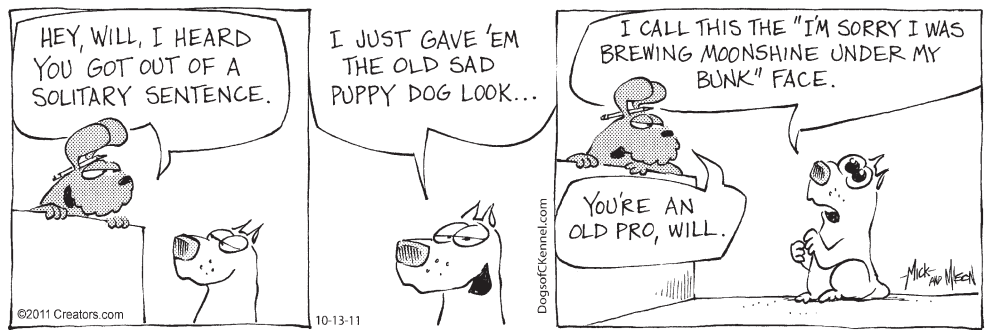
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew
By John Deering



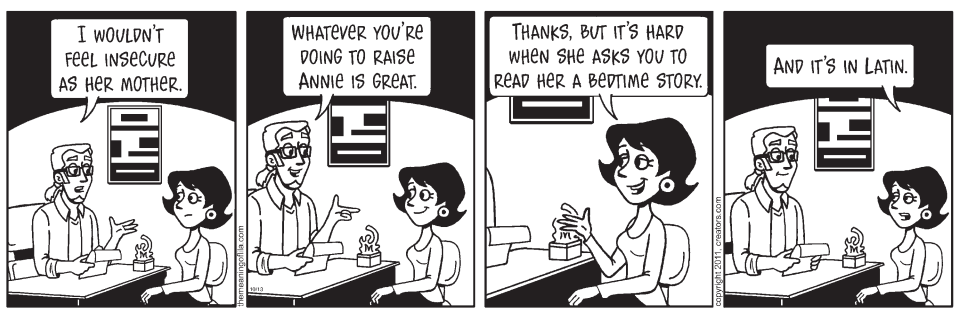
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Drunks
5 West Pointer
10 Singing groups
12 Like tumblers
13 Relish
14 Amber, essentially
15 — glance
16 Welcome
18 Threaten
20 Drill need
21 Outfits
23 Capt.'s subordinates
24 Matching
26 Pool sticks
28 Like Abner
29 Trade
31 Bar choice
32 Region of eastern France
36 Patio's kin
39 Painter Ernst
40 Door sign
41 Sleep disturber
43 Blood-hound's clue
44 Yard tool
45 Lacy nightwear
46 Move quickly

DOWN

1 Iron output
2 Speak
3 Mythical giant
4 Old French coin
5 No-no in some diets
6 Worry, for example
7 Break
8 Calls forth
9 Beliefs
11 Genus subdivision
17 Ryan of film
19 Tattoo setting
22 Triangle type
24 Library request
25 Warned
27 Good times
28 Current rage
30 Military miss
33 Juanita's friend
34 Packaging worker
35 Put forth
37 Tear
38 Bohemian
42 Unmatched

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

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			

10-13

ARITHMO™

CrossMath + × − ÷

– Arithmo Crossmath – Reclaim Your Brain

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

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

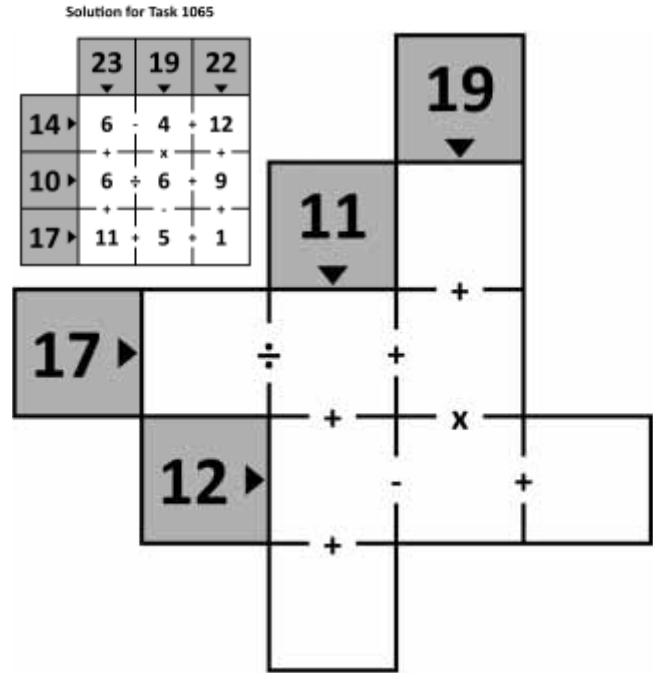
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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

1, 1, 3, 5, 5, 6, 10, 11

Solution for Task 1065



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 25 34 38 44 56
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: $30M

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

Fantasy 5: 8 9 17 18 31

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 8 7 9
EVENING: 7 9 9

DAILY DERBY:
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms
3rd: 10 Solid Gold
RACE TIME: 1:46.74

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

■ Although Moroccan artist Mehdi-Georges Lahlou, 27, concedes that photographs can be misinterpreted, he maintains on his website that he never wants to hurt people's feelings. Nevertheless, he said he is proud of his photo exhibit in which he stands completely nude, allowing various verses of the Quran to be projected on his skin. His latest scheduled appearance was at an art fair in Marrakesh in October.

■ Two women were charged in September with what was likely a major art theft for Johnson City, Tenn. Connie Sumlin, 45, and Gail Johnson, 58, were identified from surveillance video as the ones who snatched two pieces of art off the wall in the entrance of a local Arby's restaurant (a picture of some pears, and a metal art object, with an alleged combined value, according to the police report, of "$1,200").

■ Earlier this year, Marion Laval-Jeantet won a notable Prix Ars Electronica award for her "hybrid" work that, she said, intends to blur the boundaries between species. Laval-Jeantet stepped onstage in Ljubljana, Slovenia, as a horse-human, having earlier injected herself with horse blood (after prepping her body for several months with different horse immunoglobulins). She also walked with stilts that had "hooves" affixed to the bottom. She capped the show by extracting some of her own presumably-hybrid blood, to be frozen and stored for future research.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1970 Fiji joins the United Nations.

1972 An Aeroflot Ilyushin Il-62 crashes outside Moscow killing 176.

1976 A Bolivian Boeing 707 cargo jet crashes in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, killing 100 (97, mostly children, killed on the ground).

1976 The first electron micrograph of an Ebola viral particle is obtained by Dr. F.A. Murphy, now at U.C. Davis, who was then working at the C.D.C.

WORD UP!

etiology
\ee-tee-OL-uh-jee\ , noun;
1.
In Pathology the study of the causes of diseases.

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Health/Beauty



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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

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

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Name Changes



ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. ES015076
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of MARIA CHEYENNE PHOENIX THIBEAULT for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner or Attorney: MARIA CHEYENNE PHOENIX THIBEAULT filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: MARIA CHEYENNE PHOENIX THIBEAULT to CHEYENNE PHOENIX WELLS. The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: 10/14/2011 Time:8:30am, Dept. A
The address of the court is 300 East Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91502
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.
Date: 8/17/2011
MARY HOUSE, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2011090602 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 08/29/2011 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as ESTEBANS CLEANING SERVICES. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: Martha C. Esteban 2215 N. Santa Fes Compton, LA 90222. This Business is being conducted by: . The registrant has not yet commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above. /s/:Martha C. Esteban. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/29/2011. 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 09/29/2011, 10/06/2011, 10/13/2011, 10/20/2011.

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