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OCTOBER 22-23, 2011
Volume 10 Issue 293



Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

TIPS FOR SAFE TRICK-OR-TREATING
SEE PAGE 4

THE THIS LITTLE PIGGY ISSUE

City Council to consider creating pilot dog beach

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Editor in Chief

CITY HALL An organization dedicated to establishing a Santa Monica dog beach where canines can scamper in the sand without a leash have been thrown a bone.

Mayor Pro Tem Gleam Davis and City Councilman Terry O'Day will ask their colleagues on the dais Tuesday to direct city staff to work with California State Parks on the creation of a pilot program for an off-leash dog area that would stretch from the beach down to the waterline.

The pilot program would include monitoring the sand and water for any adverse environmental effects, Davis and O'Day said. City staff would be directed to work with stakeholders, including environmental watchdog Heal the Bay and Unleash the Beach, the local nonprofit that has been calling for a dog beach for several years.

"I want to see what we can do to find a way to make this work," O'Day said. "Obviously there are a lot of folks in the community who would like to see it happen."

That said, there are legitimate concerns about the impact an off-leash dog area would have on other users and on water quality, O'Day and Davis said.

"That's why we're suggesting a pilot program so we can study the effects," Davis said. "We want to evaluate it and see if it makes

SEE DOG PAGE 8



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

PUCKER UP: **After getting his hair dyed blue, Will Rogers Principal Steve Richardson (center) on Friday attempts to kiss Wilbert the pig. Richardson said he would do both if kids and parents raised more than $30,000 for the school. The school community raised over $36,000.**

Principal brings home the bacon

Steve Richardson sacrifices dignity for his cause

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILL ROGERS "Kiss the pig! Kiss the pig!"

The repetitive chant rang across the blacktop at the Will Rogers Learning Community Friday morning over the poppy-dance strains of Eifel 65's "Blue."

Principal Steve Richardson, his head now a shade of blue reminiscent of a Smurf with the school's cowboy mascot emblazoned on the pate, looked across a sea of expectant faces.

"This is enough, isn't it?" he asked.

The roar of high octave voices answered that question definitively.

Katharine Newall, one of the architects of

SEE FUNDS PAGE 9

Housing project raises larger questions of benefits, design

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL A discussion about a long-awaited development at the corner of Fourth Street and Broadway revealed issues facing the future of development both in Downtown and the remainder of the city.

At its meeting Wednesday, the Planning Commission keyed in on several aspects of the project, including the unclear requirements for community benefits and the size of the units, that could spell out wider policy discussions for future projects.

The project, at 401 Broadway where Grigsby's Automotive and a privately-run parking lot now sit, would consist of 56 small units spread across five stories, commercial space and no on-site parking, a unique feature for a housing development.

The project, by David Forbes Hibbert, has been underway since 2008, and has gone through several iterations since, including a stint as an office building, said Christopher Harding, the land use attorney for the project.

Despite the fact that it isn't technically a development agreement, the developer agreed to community benefits for the project that otherwise wouldn't be necessary, including bicycle facilities for retail employees, eco-friendly design and a local hiring provision that seeks to give Santa Monica

SEE DEVELOPMENT PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011

In the neighborhood
Quaker Meeting House
1440 Harvard St.,
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
Join the Santa Monica Mid-City Neighbors in the patio area of the Quaker Meeting House for their October meeting, covering some of the issues that affect the development of city and the lives of its citizens. Topics covered will include the Fairmont-Miramar's case for expansion and the fate of the Village Trailer Park. For more information, e-mail info@midcityneighbors.org.

Only in L.A.
Santa Monica Museum of Art
2525 Michigan Ave.,
11 a.m. — 4 p.m.
The Santa Monica Museum of Art opens the first regional weekend of Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980. SMMoA contributes to this collaboration of museums and galleries with Beatrice Wood: Career Woman, which celebrates the artist's remarkable body of work and its impact on the Santa Monica/Westside scene. The exhibit is augmented from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. by the Pacific Standard Time West Bike Tour, where participants can bike to different exhibitions throughout the city. For more information, call (310) 586-6488 or visit www.smmoa.org.

Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011

Made in the USA
Downtown Brentwood
San Vicente Blvd.,
10 a.m. — 5 p.m.
For one day only, the area from Bundy Drive and Barrington Avenue will be blocked off for the 17th annual Brentwood Autumn Art Show. This year's arts and crafts will stay local reflecting the theme of "Made in America." The galleries will be accompanied by live jazz and folk music, an international food court, a health fair and a special activity area for children. Cost: free. For more information, call (818) 421-2133 or visit www.brentwoodartshow.com

Gone with the winds
Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 4 p.m.
The SMC Wind Ensemble, led by conductor Kevin McKeown, plays a special performance in honor of the 15th anniversary of Frank Ticheli's "Blue Shades." Tickets are $10, plus a $1 service fee. For more information, call (310) 434-3005 or visit www.smc.edu/eventsinfo.

Monday, Oct. 24, 2011

Personal folk music
Annenberg Beach House
415 Pacific Coast Hwy.,
6:30 p.m. — 8 p.m.
That's what Czech avant-garde violinist and singer Iva Bittová calls her style of play, which draws upon on a wide range of inspiration that runs from classical and opera to gypsy jazz and rock. On Monday night, she descends upon the Beach House to play a combination of improvisations, personal compositions and works by other composers. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-4904 or visit www.annenbergbecahhouse.com.

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 SPORTS

St. Monica keeps coaching choices in the family

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

ST. MONICA St. Monica's athletic director Rick Bruce didn't have to look far to fill a trio of varsity coaching positions.

He didn't even have to leave his own campus.

Instead of casting a wide net, taking all comers, he decided to go with people already coaching at the school.

For the open softball position, Bruce elevated longtime assistant Joey Carrillo to the top spot. Carrillo's familiarity with the school and the team were key factors behind the choice.

"It was a pretty obvious decision," Bruce said. "He's a great guy."

Carrillo has spent the previous eight years under coach Larry Rodriguez, who retired from coaching at the end of the past school year. Although he won't be in the dugout any longer, Rodriguez has stayed on as a teacher at the school.

The opening on the boys' volleyball team left vacant by the departure of Javy Martinez, who left to accept a teaching position at Buckley School in Sherman Oaks, Calif. was filled by the current head coach of the girls' team — Brenda Gonzalez. The second-year girls' coach will lead both teams.

Bruce is impressed by her volleyball knowledge and the fact that she's a St. Monica alumna. He believes that any increased connection to the school is beneficial to the sports program and the student population.

"She really knows her sport," he said.

Both she and Carrillo are walk-on coaches who don't teach at the school.

Bruce recognizes that having coaches who also teach at the school creates a stronger bond, but feels that his selections' current connections to the campus waylay some of those concerns.

"Having a teacher as a coach is always easier," Bruce said. "But, in the end, you want the best person for the job.

"We're dealing with people who know the school or are an alumni. They all had great advantages."

As with the other selections, the opening on the track and field team was filled by somebody already on campus — assistant football coach Drew Shaw.

Unlike the other two, Shaw is a teacher at the school and has been since last year when he also served as an assistant on both the football and track and field teams.

"It was a natural move," Bruce said. "He knows our programs."

Drew sees it two ways. One, he's eager to instill a bit of discipline upon his athletes. And two, it isn't a bad place to look for athletes who can help the football team.

"I'm excited about the job," Shaw said. "It's going to be fun trying to get these kids to post faster times."

His first goal is to teach his athletes accountability. Despite being largely an individual sport, he's steadfast in his belief that it strengthens the team when everybody goes with the program.

"It's not fair to teammates to not show up," he said. "If you're on the team, you're on the team."

Accountability may be his buzz word heading into the gig, but winning is his ultimate goal. Realizing results matter, he's focused on "just winning meets."

The task of dealing with three openings at once would appear to be a difficult one, but not for Bruce. He said the fact that all three individuals were already in the St. Monica fold made it surprisingly stress-free.

"Under different circumstances, it would have been tough," he said. "But knowing them to begin with made it easy."

daniela@smdp.com



Josh Newton photo courtesy

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: **Former street performer Andy Grammer will headline this year's Winterlit concert on the Third Street Promenade.**

Street performer returns the favor

BY SOPHIA ZHORNE
Special to the Daily Press

THIRD STREET PROMENADE Less than two years ago, Andy Grammer was just another performer on the Third Street Promenade, dreaming of making it big while singing to locals and tourists.

Then, manager Ben Singer discovered and signed Grammer, and shortly after Grammer landed a record deal with S-Curve Records.

With the single "Keep Your Head Up" climbing the charts, Grammer appeared on national TV shows and was labeled as one of the "top artists to watch" in 2011 by Billboard.com and the New York Post. Grammer now tours with widely known artists such as Colbie Caillat and Natasha Bedingfield.

Grammer will return to his old stomping grounds for a free, one-night only performance to headline Downtown Santa Monica's Winterlit holiday concert. The concert will be at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26 at Wilshire Boulevard and Third Street Promenade.

"Santa Monica was the genuine birthplace of my art," Grammer said. "I learned what I had to offer on the Third Street

SEE **WINTERLIT** PAGE 9

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The reality is ...

Editor:

One erroneous assumption in Mr. Kay's letter needs to be corrected ("Thanks for speaking up," Oct. 21). Mr. Kay said that he bought two cars outside of Santa Monica, apparently thinking that the half-percent transaction and use tax wouldn't apply if he did so. The fact is that the tax is applied based on where the car is registered, not where it was purchased, so there is no reason to avoid Santa Monica car dealers.

Presumably, Mr. Kay paid the tax anyway although obviously he didn't realize it. This is not surprising because the tax is such a minor part of the cost of a car (or of anything else). If Mr. Kay paid $40,000 for each of the two cars, then the tax would have been all of $200 for each one.

I'd like to remind Mr. Kay that this minimal tax was not imposed by City Hall but was approved by Santa Monica voters last November by an overwhelming margin of almost 2:1. It was approved largely to assist our public schools in a time of severe state budget cuts so that they can continue to provide an outstanding education and excellent programs for our youth, something which benefits us all, whether we have children in the school district or not.

Tom Larmore
Santa Monica

A good sign

Editor:

On behalf of the American Heart Association, I applaud Gov. Jerry Brown for signing AB 795, which will enable California's public colleges and universities to enforce existing campus smoking policies.

Current law prohibits the smoking of tobacco products in an enclosed space of employment and within 20 feet of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building which includes public colleges and universities. The law, however, does not permit any enforcement; it simply states that it does not preempt stronger local policies. Many California public colleges have been hesitant to adopt stronger policies because they have no way of enforcing current policies.

As a cardiothoracic surgeon, I have seen firsthand the horrific damage that smoking does to your heart, lungs and the rest of your body. Cigarette smoking is the most preventable cause of premature death in the United States and there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure.

The passage of AB 795 is an important step forward by allowing California's fine public colleges the opportunity to protect the health of students, faculty and campus visitors.

Dr. Kathy Magliato
Board president, American Heart Association
-Greater Los Angeles Division
Cardiothoracic surgeon, director of Women's
Cardiac Services, Saint John's Health Center



On the Beat

NRO Richard Carranza — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tips for trick-or-treating safely

Q: HALLOWEEN IS RIGHT AROUND THE corner and I would like some safety tips for myself, and to share with other parents who have kids that also go trick-or-treating. Can you help?

A: Kids of all ages love Halloween. You get to dress up and get free candy. What a perfect holiday! Parents of trick-or-treating kids can get so caught up in the fun themselves that they might forget some simple safety ideas that could keep everyone out of trouble. Having a fun and safe Halloween will make it all worthwhile.

If you take your kids to a party or even a sponsored event, like a safe Halloween thrown by your church, community center, or even the Police Activities League, make sure to keep an eye on them at all times. Even though it seems less dangerous, you are still in an environment full of people that you may not know.

Know what other activities a child may be attending, such as parties, school or mall functions. If they are going to be at a friend's home, get the phone number and try to meet the parents prior to the event.

Below are some common sense tips for the parents who have children that go trick-or-treating door to door:

COSTUMES AND CANDY

• Help your young child pick out or make a costume that will be safe. Make sure that it's fire proof or treated with fire retardant. Make-up is preferred over masks, but if they are wearing a mask of any kind, make sure that the eye holes are large enough for good peripheral vision.

• Make sure that if your child is carrying a prop, such as a butcher knife or a pitchfork, that the tips are smooth and flexible enough to not cause injury if fallen on. If kids are carrying any toys which resemble firearms, make sure they are brightly colored, and not real! Also, make sure that costumes won't get in the way when they are walking, which could cause them to trip.

• Serve your kids a filling meal before trick-or-treating and they won't be as tempted to eat the candy before they bring it home for you to check. When your kids come home with all the goodies, toss out any opened candy, or candy that looks like it has been tampered with.

SUPERVISION

• Trick-or-treating is safer when it is supervised by a parent or adult. If you can't take them yourself, make arrangements with another parent or adult you trust.

• If your children are old enough to trick-or-treat without you, and they have a cell phone, make sure that all important numbers are already programmed on the phone and ready for use.

• Know the route your kids will be taking if you aren't going with them. Let them know that they are to check in with you every hour, by phone or by stopping back at home. Make sure that they know not to deviate from the planned route so that you always know where they will be.

• Make sure you set a time that your kids should be home by. Make sure they know how important it is for them to be home on time or to call immediately if something happens and they are going to be delayed.

• Kids will be kids. Explain to kids and teens of all ages the difference between tricks and vandalism. Throwing eggs at a house may seem funny but they need to know the other side of the coin as well; that clean up and damages can ruin Halloween for everyone. Damage in most cases would constitute vandalism. And vandalism is a crime. If they are caught vandalizing, they can be arrested and restitution most likely will be required. Don't do it, it's not worth it.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE OLD ENOUGH TO TRICK-OR-TREAT WITHOUT YOU, AND THEY HAVE A CELL PHONE, MAKE SURE THAT ALL IMPORTANT NUMBERS ARE ALREADY PROGRAMMED ON THE PHONE AND READY FOR USE.

OUT AND ABOUT

• Teach your kids about not getting into strangers' cars or talking to strangers, no matter what the person says to them. Explain to them as simply as you can that some adults are bad and want to hurt children, that they should never go into a house they don't know, or get into a car or go anywhere with a stranger. Also, tell them what to do should this happen, to scream as loud as they can to draw attention and to run away as fast as they can to some place safe, or to other parents out trick-or-treating with their kids.

• Be sure to show your children how to cross a street properly. They should always look both ways before crossing the street and should only cross at corners or crosswalks. Make sure that if you have more than one child, they know to take the hand of the younger child when they cross a street.

• Last, but not least, have children carry a flashlight. This will help light the walkways, allow them to see what is placed in their bucket, and allow them to be more visible when crossing the street.

Make Halloween a fun, safe and happy time for your kids and they'll carry on the tradition that you taught them to their own families some day.

This column was prepared by **NRO RICHARD CARRANZA** (Beat 1: coastal and beach areas, including the Santa Monica Pier). He can be reached at (424) 200-0681 or richard.carranza@smgov.net.

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The Q Line

Seeing signs

New legislation allows the Big Blue Bus to add digital signs to the side of its buses. BBB officials say it could bring in up to $4 million.

This past week, Q-line asked:
So, this week's Q-Line question asks: Do you think the new signs will be distracting or is it a good way for the local bus system to earn revenue?

Here are your responses:

"THE BIG BLUE BUS OPERATED VERY nicely all these years without digital signs. All of a sudden they need these grotesque signs to bring in more revenue? This unsuitable idea is nothing more than blatant greed, which grows like a cancer in Santa Monica."

"AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, INCREASED outdoor advertising is always a bad idea, and therefore I am completely against this idea of putting digital signs on buses. Of course the signs will be distracting — possibly to the point of contributing to accidents — and besides that, I'm tired of being bombarded by ads everywhere I look. I don't care if these bus-mounted moving digital ads bring in 'up to' $4 million. The trade-off — more money, but also more visual blight — isn't worth it. We, the public, should not allow a private company to uglify our streets. If all they wanted to do was put a big billboard in a single place, and pay for that right, well, at least one could stay away from that single place. But electric billboards on buses are another story. There will be no avoiding them. That's good from an advertising point of view, but bad from the public's. Say no to the digital signs."

"I THINK THEY'RE WONDERFUL AND I don't think they will hurt anybody and I think that's a nice way for advertisement. I think it's wonderful."

"I BELIEVE IT'S DISTRACTING AND CAN possibly lead to accidents followed by lawsuits. It's an irresponsible thing for a publicly-owned bus system to do."

"I THINK IT'S A DUMB THING TO PUT these signs on the buses because it's going to distract the drivers. Drivers today have too many distractions as it is between eating and shaving and talking on the phone and texting. Putting these signs on there is going to make it much worse I believe, it's going to cause a lot more accidents. If the signs are only on the bus when it's stopped at a bus stop, maybe that would be a consideration, but never when the buses are in motion."

"ANYTHING THAT SUPPORTS THE 'BIG mommy regime' in this town with money is OK with the new town order progressives. We may have 4.5 percent more accidents due to driver confusion because of bus digital displays. Let's chalk it up to driver confusion and more the reason that we should all be riding bicycles, like the wonderful and caring socialists who lead us. The big question should be where is the $4 million in extra revenue going to? Yep, it's already marked for income distribution, courtesy of our progressive leaders and their class warfare mantra. Enjoy another expensive idea from our leaders."

"I THINK IT'S FINE. IF YOU GET DISTRACTED by an advertisement on the side of a bus, then maybe you shouldn't be driving."

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People often ask me what to do if a landlord does not make repairs to a rental unit. Let me start with something a tenant should not do.

DO NOT WITHHOLD RENT

Under certain limited circumstances, a tenant may withhold rent. But, it is never a good idea to withhold rent. If a tenant does not pay the full rent, when due, the landlord would most likely serve the tenant with a three day notice to pay or quit. Once a three day notice to pay or quit expires, the landlord does not have to accept the money even if the tenant offers the full amount. The landlord can refuse the payment and proceed with an unlawful detainer action (eviction case).

An unlawful detainer action is very stressful. Also, the tenant would have the expense of litigation costs and probably attorney fees. A tenant does not have to retain an attorney to defend an unlawful detainer action, but it would be very wise to do so.

If a tenant loses an unlawful detainer case, the tenant would be evicted and owe all of the back rent and possibly the landlord's attorney fees and litigation costs. Further, the unlawful detainer judgment would probably appear on the tenant's credit reports as well as reports kept by landlord agencies which could make it difficult to rent a new home in the future.

For all of the above reasons, a tenant should never withhold any rent.

GIVE LANDLORD A LIST IN WRITING

The first thing a tenant should do is give the landlord a list in writing of items which need to be repaired. The list should be hand-delivered or mailed to the landlord. The tenant must keep a copy of that list and keep track of when and how the list was delivered to the landlord (the specific date when the list was mailed or hand-delivered).

A tenant must give the landlord a reasonable period to make repairs. What is a "reasonable period" is defined on a case by case basis. Usually, a tenant should give the landlord 30 days to make repairs. But, if the condition is serious (i.e.: no electricity, no hot water, hole in the roof), a reasonable time would be much shorter.

A tenant should list all items which need repair, in detail. Failure to notify the landlord of a specific problem may prevent a tenant from being compensated later for the defective condition.

CONTACT GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS

If the landlord does not make the repairs within a reasonable period, the tenant should contact appropriate government inspectors.

In Santa Monica, the first office to be contacted should be the Santa Monica Code Compliance Department: (310) 458-4984. The Code Compliance Department will not come to a rental unit to perform a general inspection. The tenant must have a specific list of items which need repair.

In addition to the Code Compliance Department, a tenant should call the County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services. To arrange for an inspection, a Santa Monica tenant would call: (310) 665-8484.

The advantage of government inspectors is that the government agency may order the landlord to make repairs. Also, if the tenant is in trial with the landlord (or a hearing with the Santa Monica Rent Control Board), the government inspectors' reports may be admissible as evidence.

PETITION FOR RENT DECREASE

If the landlord does not make the required repairs, a tenant may file a petition for rent decrease. The petition is filed with the Santa Monica Rent Control Board, located in Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 202, Santa Monica, CA 90401; (310) 458-8751. The petition for rent decrease may be filed 30 to 180 days after service of the written notice to the landlord of items which need repair.

If the petition is granted, the rent will be reduced. But, the rent reduction is prospective (from that point forward). The Rent Control Board does not have the authority to award any money to compensate the tenant for past conditions or reduced services.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

If a tenant wishes to be compensated for the defective conditions or reduced services in the past, the tenant would have to file a lawsuit. A suit could be filed in superior court. Although an attorney is not required for superior court, it is likely that the landlord would retain an attorney. When one party has an attorney and the other does not, it is a big advantage. If the tenant retains an attorney, the expenses might make such a suit in superior court impractical.

Usually, the most economical way to proceed is to file a lawsuit in small claims court. A person can sue in small claims court for up to $7,500.00. And, there are no attorneys in small claims court. Thus, the expenses are greatly reduced.

CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY

Even if the tenant is not going to retain an attorney on a fulltime basis, it is usually a good idea to at least have a consultation with a tenants' rights attorney, especially before filing suit in small claims court or filing a petition for rent decrease.

THIS COLUMN WAS PREPARED BY MARK PALMER, A SANTA MONICA TENANTS' RIGHTS ATTORNEY.
HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE LEGAL GRIND AT 310-452-8160 OR REFERRAL@LEGALGRIND.COM

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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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The Re-View

Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Photo by Merv Hecht *news@smdp.com*

ON FIRE: **Benvenuto Puricelli, owner of Locanda dell'Isola, performing an ancient ceremony to evade the medieval curse put upon Comacina Island in Lake Como, Italy.**

Sometimes the experience is more appetizing than the cuisine

A FAN OF THIS COLUMN WROTE TO ME after reading about our $300 lunch at El Cellar, suggesting that I forget writing about expensive places and focus on good food for good value.

But eating out isn't just about the food; the experience is also important.

At this moment we are in Menaggio, Italy, on the west side of Lake Como. Across the lake I can see the famous tourist town of Bellagio, the hometown of West Hooker, the owner of Locanda Del Lago on the Third Street Promenade. Down the road a bit, just before the town of Como, is the famous Villa d'Este, reputed to be one of the finest hotels in the world. Rooms start at $1,000 a night if you are willing to forgo a lake view. We stopped in for a club sandwich, which we split, and were a bit surprised to see the price of $50. But it was quite a sight, and we were particularly impressed with the beautiful chandeliers made of Murano glass. It was an experience.

We are staying instead, in a small, Italian family-owned hotel for about $125 per night. We are saving our money for expensive lunches. And today we had one that was well worth the price, but mostly for the experience, more than the food.

That's because we had to take a boat to get to the restaurant, which is located on the Comacina Island. The Isola Comacina is not easy to get to. We drove 15 minutes down the road to where there was a sign indicating the boat dock for the island. We walked down the long stone staircase to the dock, where we found a sign with the telephone number for the taxi boat. I dialed the number, and a friendly gentleman told me that today the boat would only be available from a different dock, about a mile further down the road.

We drove the extra mile and found the dock. At the marina, the skipper, who called himself the "commandant," was waiting for us. The small boat rocked in the waves during the 10 minute ride to the island. The island is very small, and there is a path around it which takes about 20 minutes to circumnavigate. On the walk one sees the foundations of Roman ruins, and some better preserved ruins from early Christian churches. Everything was destroyed by the neighboring army of Como about 500 years ago, at which time some religious leader put a curse on the island.

At the end of the walk is the stone building housing the restaurant, Locanda dell'Isola. Up a flight of stone steps we entered into a comfortable lobby filled with pictures of famous people standing with Benvenuto Puricelli, the owner. Of course Arnold Schwarzenegger had been there several times, along with other famous stars from the Palisades and Santa Monica, presidents of various European countries, and Gina Lollobrigida looking about 18 years old.

If You Go

Locanda dell'Isola Comacina
Ossuccio - Lago di Como
www.comacina.it/isola/locanda_eat.htm

The menu is the same for everyone, and we were told that it had not changed since 1947. A bottle of white Soave wine and a carafe of plain water were placed on the table. The fixed price is $100 per person.

First a loaf of hot, fresh baked bread arrived, which the waiter explained should be broken by hand. Then, on a side table, he placed six bowls of cooked, cold vegetables; very plain, perhaps boiled in salt water before chilled. The fava beans, yellow peppers, sweet onions and other dishes were delicious. Then he added two bowls of hot vegetables, very sweet dark beets and roasted onions, cooked so that the skin had peeled away and the centers were soft enough to spread on the bread. And then he brought a plate with a thick slice of ham and a mound of the famous braesiola, cured beef. It was a wonderful beginning, but we were wondering if we would be able to get through all of the food.

After some time, and a bit of conversation with the Irish-Australian couple at the next table, the bowls were cleared away and fresh plates brought. The waiter then showed up with a metal plate with a whole fish on it. This, he explained, was a salmon trout raised in a farm in a neighboring village. He proceeded to skin the fish, scrape out the bones, then sprinkled on sea salt, squeezed a whole lemon over it, poured on some of the rich local olive oil, and finished with a touch of pepper.

The result was amazing, and even my wife, who doesn't usually like fish, cleaned her plate. The fish itself was no better than we get at home, but the preparation was superior.

The next course was fried chicken, which had nice crisp skin and the much stronger flavor that chickens in Europe usually have. I like our chickens better, but I like that crisp crust, made without batter.

Having taken a few bites of the chicken, the plates were cleared, and the waiter brought to the side table a large round of Grana cheese, from which he scooped out a nice piece for each of us. That was the cheese course. We asked him to skip the ice cream

SEE **DINING** PAGE 7



Tour De Feast

Michael Ryan Send comments to editor@smdp.com



Michael Ryan *news@smdp.com*

HOLY SMOKED SAUSAGE: **The über popular restaurant Wurstküche has made its way to the Westside, opening a spot on Lincoln Boulevard in Venice. They serve exotic sausages, including this duck and bacon brat with jalapeno topped with caramelized onions and sweet peppers.**

Wurstküche makes its way to the Westside

THE ÜBER POPULAR RESTAURANT Wurstküche has made its way to the Westside. The "purveyor of exotic grilled sausages," which has enjoyed great success at its Downtown L.A. location has opened its doors at a second stop on Lincoln Boulevard in Venice. With no shortage of hype, long lines, or savory delectables, Wurstküche has taken the Venice encased meat scene by storm.

With Octoberfest in full swing and the initial grand opening buzz starting to dissipate, now more than ever is a good time take a stroll down Lincoln to see what Wurstküche is churning out.

The long lines resemble something outside L.A.'s hottest nightclub scene more than anything else, so avoiding peak hours is advised. From the entrance, you enter into a small room containing a showcase of Wurstküche's gourmet sausages, and a long line of tapped beers. Sausages range everywhere from your classic brat and bockwurst, to the higher end mango jalapeño, to more exotic flavors like rattlesnake and rabbit, or alligator and pork andouille.

The beer selection is eclectic and exclusively Belgian and German, with the exception an Old Rasputin and the hipstertastic Pabst Blue Ribbon.

After you select your sausage, toppings, and beverage, you pay at the register, are given a number, and proceed down a long corridor to the dining area. The dining room is a large open space that seems like a cross between a German beer hall and a hipsters loft. Long rows of tables and benches meet an industrial chic design. Filtered light softly fills the dining space. A DJ booth and an additional bar area hint that this place indeed gets a bit raucous during the later hours.

Not leaning on the side of caution, I bypassed the more traditional bratwurst and went with the highly recommended and exotic duck and bacon with jalapeño topped with caramelized onions and sweet peppers. Admittedly, my palette is not quite astute enough to discern each ingredient. I can say after a couple big bites, it was determined that my selection was delicious.

Another plus were the Belgian double dipped fries. Double dipped is a nicer way to say that they were deep fried twice. The second bath in the fryer rendered a crispier outside but maintained a smooth rich interior. Big points on chipotle aioli for not being too overpowering or mere mayonnaise, but a great accompaniment to the twice fried fries. Washed down by a Spaten Oktoberfest made the meal a full-bodied experience.

By ordering more exclusive beers, exotic sausages, and all sorts of other add-ons, it is easy to run up a big bill at Wurstküche as I found myself doing. For the high end beer connoisseur and sausage sommelier, it is a dining experience that is certainly worth it. Wurstküche today is like David Hasselhoff in his prime — German meat with L.A. attitude.

If You Go

Wurstküche
623 Lincoln Blvd.
Venice, Calif.
90291
www.wurstkuche.com

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike. To reach him visit his Twitter at twitter.com/greaseweek or his website at tourdefeast.net

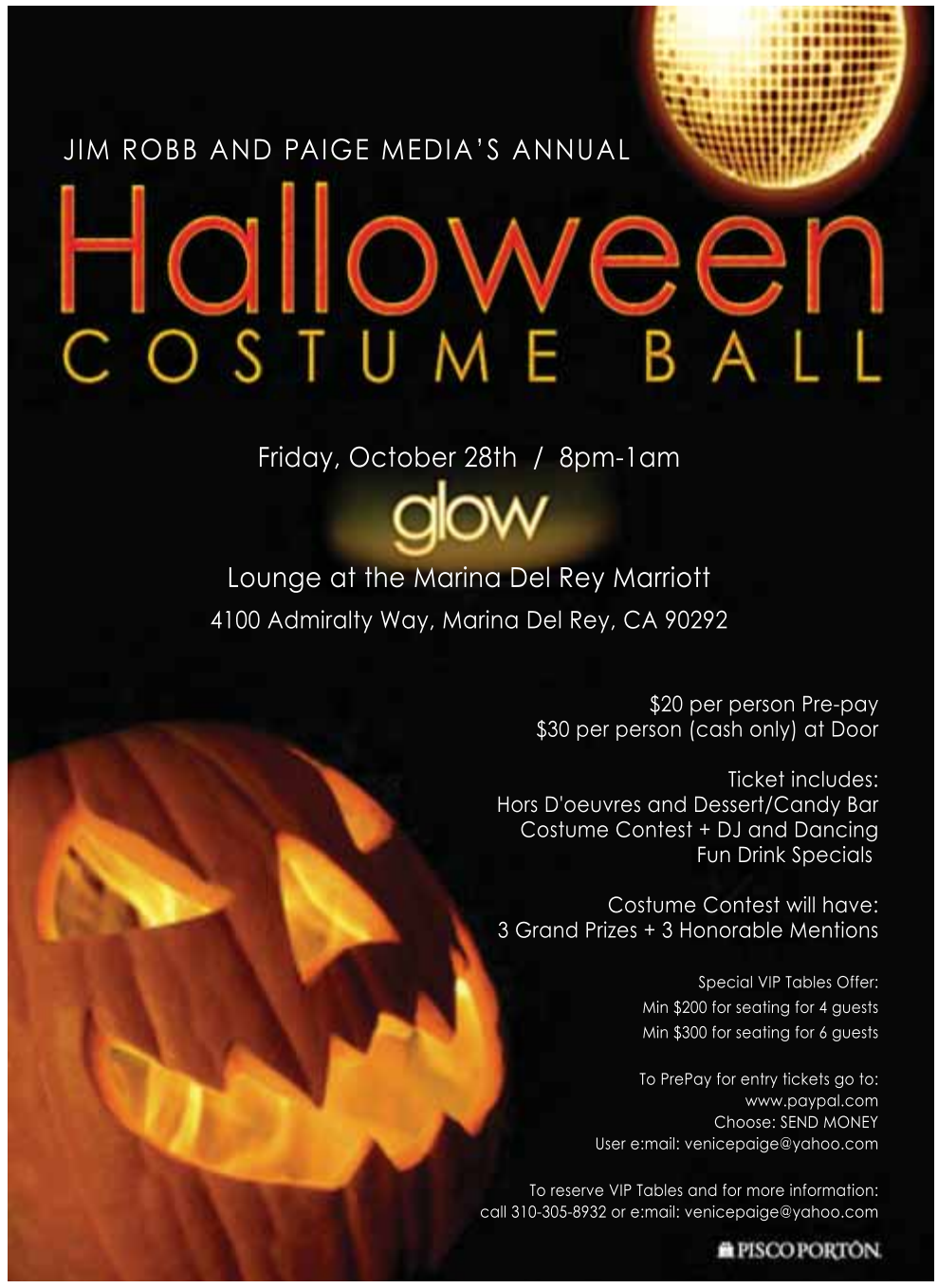
DINING
FROM PAGE 6

on the dessert, and he brought us a plate of sliced peach, on which he poured a local banana-flavored liqueur.

Suddenly there was a loud bell ringing as Benvenuto came in wearing a silly hat, ringing an old bell, and holding a microphone and large pail. He put the pail on a table and poured in various liquids while explaining the history of the island. I recognized the smell of the last liquid as coffee. Then he set the whole thing on fire, scaring the hell out of the young daughter of the Irish woman. He explained that this ancient ceremony was necessary to evade the medieval curse put upon the island.

Then he served up the liquored, delicious coffee in glasses for everyone. We paid the bill and staggered back to the little boat for the ride back to the car. I can't say that this was a good value for the food, although we loved it. There were no great sauces, no complex creation, just plain, simple rustic foods, well prepared and well served. It was the experience that made the price worthwhile. The beautiful island with the restaurant tucked away on one side, the friendly service, the silly hat and ceremony — those are the parts that made it fun. Those looking just for good food at reasonable prices are missing the boat.

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com.







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State Water Board postpones decision on ocean discharge

BY COLIN NEWTON
Special to the Daily Press

SM BAY The California State Water Resources Control Board decided not to decide.

On Oct. 18, the board was going to determine the fate of areas across California's coastline that have been protected from harmful discharges by the California Ocean Plan since 1983.

Since 2004, 27 entities have requested the ability to release liquids into the protected areas. The majority of the requests came from municipal, state and federal government agencies.

The board intended to make a decision on all of those proposals; whether the board would continue to prohibit discharges, or allow discharges for some or all of the agencies if they complied with environmental regulations.

However, the date of decision-making has been put off until January, said David Clegern, public information officer for the State Water Board.

No official date has been set, he said.

Because the board had never officially encountered a similar issue before, the members might have been hesitant to make a decision, Clegern said.

"This is the first time this has come up, and it's not unusual for things like this to get put over," Clegern said.

When facing a new decision, the board often takes extra time to consult research and experts, and some board members felt that all their questions had not been adequately answered, he said.

"A lot of times the board members simply want to make sure the Is have been dotted and the Ts have been crossed," he added.

Although the board postponed the larger decision on the 27 discharge exemptions, they made three specific discharge exemptions, said Clegern.

They were all exemptions that have to be redocumented every few years, and had been before the board before, he said.

"Those are fairly routine," he said.

The entities requesting discharge exemption were Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station, the Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Humboldt State University Marine Lab, which were all allowed to continue discharging in their areas.

"The marine labs are mostly using sea water," Clegern said.

The labs and aquarium pull in water from the ocean for their purposes, and then pipe it back into the sea, usually cleaning it before discharging it, Clegern said.

news@smdp.com

DOG

FROM PAGE 1

sense on a permanent basis. Other communities have done it without negative effects on water quality. I think we should give it a try."

The effort could be difficult.

A California code prohibits unleashed dogs on state beaches without an order from a California State Parks superintendent. Officials with the agency, which owns Santa Monica State Beach, have opposed any efforts by City Hall, which manages the beach, to ease rules and allow dogs on the sand.

Opponents say dogs can disrupt the experience of beach-goers, destroy sensitive habitat and bite people, exposing City Hall to lawsuits. And if that wasn't enough, there are those who worry that dog feces left on the beach will negatively impact water quality.

Heal the Bay is open to supporting a dog beach but only one that is completely fenced-off and not located in the inter-tidal zone.

Supporters say a dog beach would promote exercise for dogs and their owners and provide a space for dog owners to meet, share information and form community bonds. They say dogs would be able to socialize and therefore be less aggressive, and the beaches would make it less likely that owners would let their pets loose in other areas, like secluded sands in Malibu.

Most of the 1,100 miles of beaches along the California coast are officially closed to dogs, however, beach-goers can legally bring their dogs to over 60 beaches up and down the coastline, according to a report by the California Research Bureau entitled "Dogs on the Beach: A Review of Regulations and Issues Affecting Dog Beaches in California." (For the state report on dog beaches, go to www.library.ca.gov/crb.)

There has been no evidence of higher bacteria levels or other water quality problems relative to other city beaches, according to the report.

The report was commissioned in 2006 by then Assemblyman Ted Lieu and found nearly 20 off-leash dog beaches in California, including four in San Francisco and three in San Diego, but just one in Los Angeles County, located in Long Beach.

Despite concerns, officials there told the Daily Press in September the "dog zone," created in 2003 by city officials, which has ownership over the beach, as part of a pilot program, has been a success. Over 40,000 dogs visit the beach each year but there have been "maybe five reports of dog bites a year and those come from owners trying to break up dogs mixing it up," said Jane Grobaty, a spokesperson for Long Beach's Recreation and Parks Department.

The 2.9-acre stretch of unfenced beach along the water's edge became permanent in 2004. Over the years, frequent water testing has recorded no change in water quality, Grobaty said last month.

It's statements like that that have Unleash the Beach and its founder, Santa Monican Georja Umano, optimistic. Umano said the state report lends credibility to the cause.

"It's one thing for us to make all these points on the reasons why we need a dog beach, but now that they've been made by the research bureau and hopefully having the support of the city, I think that puts us in a much better position," she said.

"I guess we'll just have to wait and see."

A pilot program could include a small section of sand — perhaps the size of a few volleyball courts — with limited hours and restricted to weekdays, Umano said.

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WINTERLIT
FROM PAGE 3

Promenade, working out the kinks in my music, and figuring out how quickly I could present what's special about me."

After graduating from college, Grammer was searching for the perfect place to showcase his music when he found the promenade. Performing with an array of jugglers, dancers, contortionists and preachers, Grammer was among the creative crowd that performs daily, hunting for tips.

Grammer's favorite spot to perform was in front of the McDonald's.

"I feel that playing on the promenade was one of the best ways I could have developed as an artist. I'm thrilled to be returning in November to play for the community that supported and helped to shape me," Grammer said.

Opening for Grammer will be singer-songwriter Savannah Outen who was discovered on YouTube and has more htan 75 million views. Outen also has five songs on Radio Disney that made the "Top 30 Countdown."

For more information about the performance and a complete listing of events, visit www.winterlit.com or www.facebook.com/downtownsantamonica.

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FUNDS
FROM PAGE 1

Richardson's newly-painted hair, approached with a squirming pig in her arms. The assembled children enthusiastically greeted the pig, dubbed Wilbert, as the song shifted to a parody of Katy Perry's "I Kissed a Girl."

I kissed a pig, and I liked it, the taste of her hairy pig lips...

Richardson and Wilbert locked eyes, and he went in for the kill.

After a few dry runs — Wilbert seemed no more in favor of the idea than his would-be suitor — Richardson planted one on the pig's hairy head.

As in many cases where a school principal paints his hair school colors and kisses a pig, Richardson had lost a bet. Or perhaps he had won it.

The event marked the culmination of Will Roger's most successful fundraising event ever, an annual fund drive which brought in $36,131 to the school's PTA coffers.

The initial goal was $30,000, at which point Richardson promised to either dye his hair or kiss a pig. Exceed that, and he would do both.

Diane O'Brien's child is in seventh grade, but she couldn't resist the temptation to see Richardson make good on his wager.

"It was put up in September," O'Brien said, gesturing to a poster decorated with a pig face on one side and a fuzzy blue head on the other. "You got to vote on one when you gave a donation."

Karen Rappaport McHugh, mother of a Will Rogers fourth grader, said that the kids got to vote on the color of Richardson's dye job. They'd toyed with rainbow and hot pink before landing on school colors, she said.

"This is the most exciting fundraiser we've had in a long time," she said.

In a district of powerhouse PTAs that raise hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for their schools, Will Rogers is one of several schools that struggle to bring in money to pay for extra arts classes and instructional aides to bolster its academic offerings.

In 2009, the last year for which information is available, Rogers parents contributed $67,090 to the school, $61,030 of which was paid out.

According to the School Accountability Report Card from 2010, 55 percent of the students in Will Rogers are socio-economically disadvantaged, the most of any other school in the district.

Schools on the north end of town like Roosevelt and Franklin elementaries came up with over half-a-million dollars each that year.

There's talk at district headquarters of changing the system to a districtwide fundraising model, which would even out the money — and consequently the programs — available to each school site.

That conversation, which has engendered some concern amongst the wealthier schools, will come before the Board of Education in November.

Will Rogers' money goes to everything from infrastructure, like new benches and the blacktop, to programs, the school's PTA President Sally Miller told the crowd.

"Are you all enjoying your art program?" she called out to the kids. "Parent donations and PS Arts get us those."

To watch Richardson dye his hair and get it on with Ms. Piggy, Will Rogers alumni came back in droves to contribute money to the school.

If that's what it takes, he'll go bigger next year, he said.

"So next year, I'll have to top this," Richardson said. "You have to top this too!"

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DEVELOPMENT

FROM PAGE 1

residents the first crack at construction jobs for the project.

Six low income units would also be built on-site, at an additional $1 million cost to Hibbert, compared to paying the in-lieu fee otherwise required by City Hall.

Where he balked, however, was at a $175,000 contribution to support Downtown transit, in particular the Expo Light Rail station that will be arriving a block away on Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street in 2015.

The money would go toward infrastructure improvements for light rail, a bike center at Fourth Street and Broadway, the Bicycle Action Plan and electric vehicle charging stations in municipal parking structures.

That would be on top of between $25,000 and $38,000 that the project would be paying for 20 parking spots in municipal lots, as required by the Downtown Parking District, for spaces that neither residents nor visitors could use, Harding said.

More importantly, however, the price tag per square foot is far higher for this project than larger projects similarly situated near coming light rail stations, including Agensys or the possible Lionsgate headquarters coming in at Colorado Avenue near Stewart Street.

Where the developers of the Agensys office park paid approximately 57 cents per square foot for transportation fees and the Lionsgate project will approach $2 per foot, the smaller housing project at Fourth Street and Broadway would pay $6 per square foot for the benefit of being a quarter mile from the light rail station, Harding said.

Commissioners seemed more sympathetic to the imbalance between the developers than the cost to Hibbert.

"I think Agensys got a sweetheart deal, and I wasn't in favor of it," said Commissioner Ted Winterer, going on to say there might be an argument to ask for more in terms of community benefits, but on-site low-income housing helped the project's cause.

Commissioners also questioned Hibbert's design in terms of the size of the 56 units, which will all be relatively small studios.

Commissioner Richard McKinnon strenuously objected to the arrangement, noting that he would like to see several of the units combined into larger arrangements with multiple bedrooms.

The idea caught traction with Commissioner Jennifer Kennedy, who argued that the small, single occupancy style of apartments led to a transitory population that wouldn't create an established, safe community.

If City Hall wanted to create a policy restricting the number of small units, that wouldn't be beyond the pale, Harding told commissioners, but not on this project.

"We don't think this is the project to initiate a new policy in that area," Harding said.

Commissioners were split on the issue, with three in favor of consolidating some of the units into larger apartments, and others feeling it was beyond the purview.

The project will still need to go before the City Council and the Architectural Review Board for the final say on its community benefits and design features.

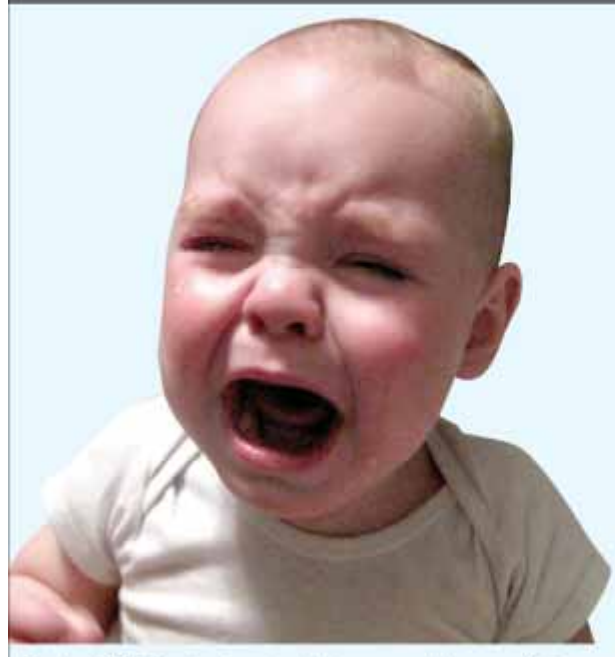
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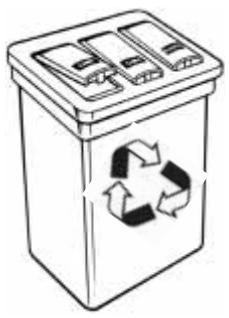
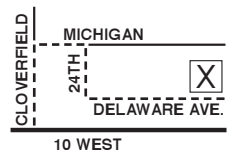
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Officials say no environmental risk from sunken WWII ship

BY NOAKI SCHWARTZ
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A torpedoed tanker that has sat on the seafloor off the central California coast since 1941 poses no environmental risk because very little of the 3 million gallons of crude it was believed to be carrying remains aboard, officials said after a survey of the 70-year-old wreck.

The announcement came Thursday following an investigation led by the U.S. Coast Guard and state Department of Fish and Game to see if any oil remained in the hold of the 440-foot S.S. Montebello.

Following the ecological disaster from last year's Gulf of Mexico oil spill, state and federal authorities wanted to determine how they might prevent crude from leaking and marring the celebrated and environmentally sensitive stretch of California coast.

"There's probably a little oil on the ship," said Andrew Hughan, a spokesman with California's Fish and Game Department. "We can't say there's no oil but there's no significant oil, which is fantastic news."

The mystery remains as to just what happened to the millions of gallons of crude that was reportedly on the ship when it went down in 900 feet of water. Scientists concluded that it may have leaked out in the hours, days and weeks after the sinking.

"There are a number of unknowns associated with this release; therefore, we will probably never know exactly what happened to the oil," said Jordan Stout, with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The ship was hauling the crude from California to a refinery in Canada when it was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine in the early weeks of World War II and sank six miles off the coast of Cambria near Hearst Castle. All 38 people aboard the ship survived.

Concerns about the cargo of crude date to 1996, when a scientific survey located the wreck and discovered it was sitting upright and mostly intact — particularly the cargo holds. The presumption that oil was still inside led to worries of an eventual leak and environmental disaster. But the depth made recovery of any oil unlikely.

Last week, investigators using a remotely operated underwater vehicle began assessing the ship. Officials had video and photos from previous dives but this was the first time technological advancements allowed them to determine if oil remained on the ship.

Officials assessed cargo and fuel tanks and collected ocean floor sediment samples using the underwater vehicle. The samples are being sent out for further analysis.

About $5 million was budgeted for the operation, money that came out of a fund that oil companies pay into for such measures.

Arrest made in 2010 killing of California girl, 17

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORENO VALLEY, Calif. More than a year after 17-year-old Norma Lopez was kidnapped on the way home from school and killed, police on Friday announced an arrest — a man who court records indicated once lived across the street from the campus.

Jesse Perez Torres, 35, was arrested Thursday in Long Beach on suspicion of murder and kidnapping to commit rape, Moreno Valley Police Chief John Anderson said.

He declined to immediately provide other details.

"This is a very sensitive, very emotional case and we don't want to risk the prosecution of this case by any means," Anderson said.

Torres remained jailed Friday on $1 million bail. Message left at the district attorney's office inquiring if Torres had retained legal counsel were not immediately returned.

Lopez's father, Martin Lopez, 45, said police came to the house Thursday night to announce the arrest.

"One feels content, at the same time the pain comes again," Lopez told the Los Angeles Times in Spanish. "We have been waiting for so long, but we have relied on God to bring us this day and for the police to keep doing their job.

"It's been more than a year. . But at last we had faith in God and he provided justice."

The girl was kidnapped on July 15, 2010, as she cut across a field, heading to a friend's house after attending summer school classes at Valley View High School.

The teenager's purse and backpack were found in the field a block-and-a-half from school, and investigators found signs of a struggle. Searchers fruitlessly covered the area for several days before Lopez's decomposed body was discovered by a man clearing brush in another rural field more than two miles away.

Her snatching in broad daylight and subsequent slaying shocked the community 60 miles east of Los Angeles and made statewide headlines. Some 2,000 people gathered at the school to remember the raven-haired teenager, an avid dancer and aspiring fashion designer.

At the time she vanished, Torres was living across the street from Valley View High School, the Riverside Press-Enterprise reported, citing court records.

After her killing, investigators said they suspected the girl was abducted by a stranger in a crime of opportunity. They interviewed registered sex offenders in the city and tracked down thousands of leads.

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Judge grants restraining order for California lawmaker

BY JULIET WILLIAMS
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. A Tehama County judge on Friday granted a restraining order sought by Republican Assemblyman Jim Nielsen against a constituent who has been trying to show that the Northern California lawmaker does not live in the district he represents.

The injunction issued by Superior Court Judge Richard Schueler prohibits Donald Bird from coming on the lawmaker's property in Gerber, a small town between Redding and Chico. Bird, 76, also cannot attempt a citizen's arrest on Nielsen for at least three years.

Court documents say Bird sent Nielsen handwritten warnings, and he acknowledges driving by Nielsen's home 108 times over a 2 Ω-year period. The notes, which were attached to newspaper stories, included messages such as "Hi Jimmy we are getting close. We will get you sir, Jimmy you will pay the price," according to the court documents.

Nielsen said he was afraid the threats could escalate to violence against him or his family.

Bird, a former U.S. Marine, said he has never gone onto Nielsen's property and would abide by the ruling. He said Friday's order gives him new energy to try to prove his claim that Nielsen actually lives in Woodland, about 20 miles from the state capital.

The California Constitution says a person can serve as a member of the state Legislature only if they have lived in the legislative district for at least one year and been a California resident for the preceding three years, but the requirement has not always been strictly enforced.

Nielsen's chief of staff, David Reade, said Nielsen lives in Gerber.

"That's where their home is; it's where it always has been," Reade said. "At every point along the way that Mr. Bird has made his false accusation and attempted to adjudicate it, he has been rebuffed by the court."

Bird, a former Marine and contractor who lives in Rancho Tehama, has been making his claim since before Nielsen's election to the Assembly in 2008.

"I'm not ashamed or embarrassed about what I'm doing at all because I'm right ...," Bird said. "I'm not doing this as a personal thing or a political thing. I am a registered Republican just as he is. But the guy lied to get into office."

Bird said the judge also granted his request that he continue to be allowed to own firearms and that he be allowed to picket events at which Nielsen appears.

A Tehama County judge also previously awarded Nielsen $7,500 in attorney's fees, but he has agreed not to seek the money if Bird complies with Friday's order.

STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES
Teens charged with killing parents

A teenage couple from Compton have been charged with killing the girl's parents and burying them in shallow graves.

Los Angeles County prosecutors say 15-year-old girl Cynthia Alvarez and 16-year-old Giovanni Gallardo were charged Friday as adults with counts of murder with special circumstances. They're jailed and face life in prison if convicted.

Prosecutors say they killed the girl's mother, 58-year-old Gloria Villalta, last week in her Compton home, hid the body and then stabbed and beat her stepfather with a bat when 51-year-old Jose Lara came home.

The mother was found buried Saturday in vacant lot in Santa Fe Springs. Lara was uncovered Thursday in Long Beach.

Prosecutors say the killings were prompted by friction between the girl and her parents, partly over her relationship with Gallardo.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

YUCAIPA, Calif.
Brush fire burns 75-100 acres

Fire officials say a brush fire has forced the closure of a section of a highway near Yucaipa in San Bernardino County.

U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman Melody Lardner says the blaze was reported at 2:18 p.m. along Highway 38 adjacent to the San Bernardino National Forest.

She says no structures are threatened at this time, but a portion of the highway is closed so firefighters can move in equipment.

So far 75 to 100 acres have burned and there is no estimate on containment.

Firefighters on the ground are being assisted by four air tankers, four water-dropping helicopters and four water tenders.

She says weather conditions are good with little or no wind and mild temperatures.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

AP

SAN DIEGO
Park cross advocates want appeal

A nonprofit legal firm wants to go to the U.S. Supreme Court to fight a lower court decision that found a war memorial cross in a San Diego public park unconstitutional.

The Liberty Institute filed a motion Thursday with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals seeking to appeal, saying the Mount Soledad Memorial honors American veterans.

The 29-foot cross was dedicated in 1954 in honor of Korean War veterans.

Last week, the appeals court denied a request to rehear the case after ruling in favor of the American Civil Liberties Union, which says the cross is unconstitutional

The legal fight began in 1989 when atheist and Vietnam War veteran Philip Paulson sued San Diego saying the cross excludes non-Christian veterans.

The U.S. Department of Justice also wants a rehearing.

AP

Jackson doctor's defense challenges key expert

BY LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES The lead attorney for the doctor charged in Michael Jackson's death challenged a key prosecution expert Friday about his contention that the physician was responsible for the death of the singer.

Attorney Ed Chernoff cross-examined Dr. Steven Shafer, who previously testified that the only plausible explanation for the death was that Jackson had been hooked up to an IV drip of the anesthetic propofol then left alone by Dr. Conrad Murray.

"That's a bold claim, isn't it," Chernoff asked.

"It's an honest statement," Shafer replied.

Chernoff also questioned the Columbia University researcher and professor about his IV demonstration for jurors on Thursday.

The defense attorney suggested Shafer had drawn conclusions that weren't necessarily supported by the evidence. Chernoff said the type of IV line that Shafer used in the demonstration was never found at Jackson's house.

Murray has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter. He could face up to four years behind bars and the loss of his medical license if convicted.

Shafer was expected to be the last witness called by the prosecution. After Shafer's testimony ends, defense attorneys will begin presenting their case.

Shafer, an expert on propofol, told jurors Thursday that his explanation was supported by items found in Jackson's bedroom, the singer's autopsy results and Murray's lengthy statement to police.

Using charts and his own experience, Shafer said Jackson likely stopped breathing because of the propofol and without someone to clear his airway. The propofol would have kept dripping into the IV tube, with gravity carrying it into the singer's body, he said.

Shafer also rejected any theory that Jackson could have given himself the fatal dose of the anesthetic or sedatives.

In a development outside the presence of jurors, Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor set a Nov. 16 hearing to determine whether he should find a key defense expert, Dr. Paul White, in contempt for talking to a reporter on Thursday in violation of a gag order.

E! Entertainment reported Thursday on its website that White called the prosecutor a "scumbag" and spoke about Shafer.

White said in court that he didn't recall making the statement.

He told Pastor that he had talked to Deputy District Attorney David Walgren after the prosecutor pulled a tab from the side of a bottle of propofol that was recovered at Jackson's mansion.

He said he told Walgren it was "inappropriate to tamper with evidence found at the scene."

White and Shafer are colleagues at Columbia University and have known each other for nearly 30 years.

Pastor previously ordered Chernoff's partner, Matt Alford, to appear at a contempt hearing over comments made during a network TV interview.

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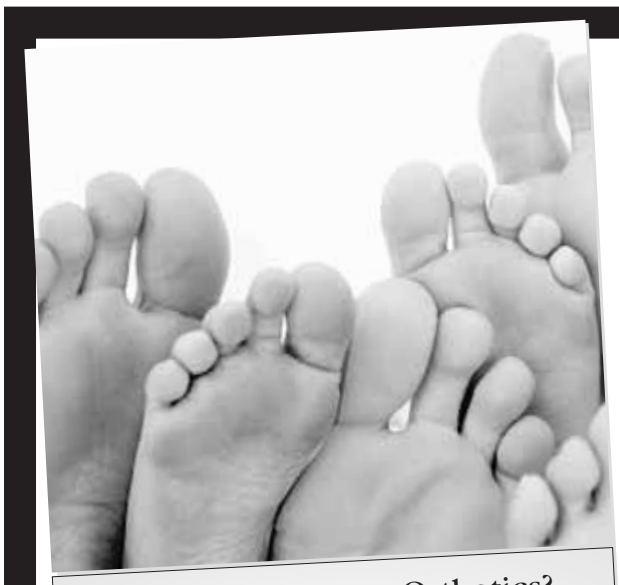
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Wal-Mart cuts some health care coverage for employees

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP RETAIL WRITER

NEW YORK Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the nation's largest private employer, is scaling back the eligibility of health care coverage offered to future part-timers and raising premiums for many of its full-time workers.

The discounter, which employs more than 1.4 million workers, said the changes were forced by rising health care costs. All future part-time workers working less than 24 hours a week, on average, will be affected.

Wal-Mart is working hard to reverse nine straight quarters of decreases in revenue at stores open at least a year, and may see a gain by the third quarter, which ends in late October.

Premiums will rise for many existing workers, and the company will reduce by half the amount it contributes for each worker to help pay for health care expenses not covered under their plan. Tobacco users will particularly be hit hard, seeing premiums more than double compared with increases of as much as 41 percent for singles, according to Making Change at Wal-Mart, a union-backed group which has been pressuring Wal-Mart on worker rights.

"Health care costs are continuing to go up faster than anyone would like," said Greg Rossiter, a Wal-Mart spokesman. "It is a difficult decision to raise rates. But we are striking a balance between managing costs and providing quality care and coverage."

Rossiter said the premium increases vary by plan. For the most popular health care plan — basic coverage for a single person — the cost will go from about $11 per pay period, which is every two weeks, to about $15 per pay period starting next year, he said. But Andrew McDonald, a spokesman for Making Change at Wal-Mart, noted smokers will feel even more pain. Starting next year, smokers will be forced to pay $25.40 for that same plan every pay period.

For associates with families under a basic health care plan, they will have to pay $52.50 per pay period next year, up from $32.70 this year. For families with one smoker, they will have to pay $62.50.

"Tobacco users consume 25 percent more health care services than non-tobacco users," Rossiter said.

Preventative care, such as annual check-ups and mammograms, will remain fully covered under the plans. Wal-Mart is cutting in half the amount it gives families to pay for uncovered expenses to $500. For individuals, Wal-Mart will contribute $250, down from $500.

Current part-timers will remain eligible for coverage for themselves and their children, Rossiter said.

The changes on health coverage represent a reversal from only a few years ago. Wal-Mart, under pressure from union-backed groups, began providing coverage to part-time workers, including those who work less than 24 hours a week, after only one year on the job instead of two. It also lowered premiums and lowered co-pays for prescription drugs. Since 1996 the company had offered overall coverage to all part-time workers.

Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Ark., defines full-time workers as anyone who works 34 or more hours per week. Rossiter declined to say how many part-time workers it has, but he noted that a majority of its workers are full-time employees.

1st Mexican truck scheduled to enter U.S. interior

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAREDO, Texas Nearly two decades after the North American Free Trade Agreement, a Mexican truck hauling electronics was to become the first to deliver goods deep inside the U.S. as part of a long-delayed provision of NAFTA.

The shipment to a Dallas suburb was expected to cross the border around midday Friday, beginning a trucking program that has been stalled for years by concerns that it would put highway safety and American jobs at risk.

Hours before a ceremony to mark the occasion, Mexico announced it was canceling punitive tariffs imposed on American goods over the U.S. refusal to allow the trucks. But the Mexican government warned that if the accord is not respected by the United States, the tariffs could be reinstated.

Mexico planned to hold a ceremony in the border city of Nuevo Laredo before the truck crosses the border to celebrate the fulfilling of the agreement, though 11 years late.

NAFTA, signed in 1994, had called for Mexican trucks to have unrestricted access to highways in border states by 1995 and full access to all U.S. highways by January 2000. Canadian trucks have no limits on where they can go.

But until now, Mexican trucks have seldom been allowed farther than a buffer zone on the U.S. side of the border, where their cargo was typically transferred to American vehicles.

The public debate surrounding the accord had mostly focused on the safety of Mexican trucks. But labor unions and other groups were strongly opposed to the agreement because they said it would cost Americans trucking and other jobs.

The U.S. Department of Transportation says the safety concerns have now been resolved. Electronic monitoring systems will track how many hours the trucks are in service. Drivers will also have to pass safety reviews, drug tests and assessments of their English skills. Mexico has the authority to demand similar measures from American drivers.

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Niagara Falls envisions profit in 'fracking' waste

BY CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. The city that put Love Canal and Superfund in the environmental lexicon may get back into the business of dealing with toxic waste — this time willingly.

With New York considering allowing hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, as part of a natural-gas boom taking place across the Northeast, the Niagara Falls Water Board is examining whether it would make economic sense to become a destination for treatment and disposal of the wastewater that's a byproduct of the process.

A specialized treatment plant that once served the city's chemical industry is seeing little use, and officials see the potential for dollar signs. If the plan is approved, the treated water could soon be crashing over the city's namesake waterfalls on its way to Lake Ontario and the Atlantic Ocean.

"Since we do have a unique kind of wastewater treatment plant that's very much under-loaded, we're looking into the possibility that, with the addition of other treatment processes, maybe our plant would be much more amenable to accepting this waste than your typical municipal biological plant," said Richard Roll, the public benefit corporation's director of technical and regulatory services.

Many have criticized the idea, including former Love Canal resident Lois Gibbs, who became a national voice for environmental health. She said she wondered if city officials would ever learn.

"They're moving away from the chemical industry because the chemical industry is moving away from them, and it's time to start a new economy," Gibbs said by phone Thursday from Falls Church, Va., where she's executive director of the Center for Health, Environment & Justice. "And the new economy is certainly not taking chemical waste."

Fracking forces millions of gallons of water, mixed with sand and chemicals, deep into shale formations beneath Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Texas and other states. Its use has increased dramatically in recent years, raising concerns about the potential impact on water quality. Critics say fracking could poison water supplies, while the natural gas industry says it's been used safely for decades.

Liquid that comes out of the drilling wells is highly salty and contaminated with substances such as barium, strontium and radium and other things that can be damaging to the environment. Millions of barrels of wastewater must be treated, and municipal sewage treatment plants can't remove contaminants as efficiently as some of the treatment facilities that specialize in oil and gas industry waste.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday that it will draft standards for wastewater that drillers would have to meet before sending it to treatment plants.

In Niagara Falls, environmental groups and others say importing chemical-laden waste should be the last thing Niagara Falls should consider, given its experience with the Love Canal environmental disaster.

An entire neighborhood was emptied in the 1970s after toxins dumped by Hooker Chemicals and Plastics Corp. into an abandoned canal in the 1940s and '50s were found to have seeped into basements and backyards, creating panic over birth defects and cancer. President Jimmy Carter declared a federal emergency in 1978, and in 1980 the Superfund cleanup act was born.

Once treated, the fracking wastewater, to be brought in by truck or rail, would either be discharged into the Niagara River upstream of Niagara Falls or be reused in drilling, Roll said. The Niagara River flows between lakes Erie and Ontario, forming the border between western New York and Ontario.

A coalition of local opponents submitted 25 questions to the water board, and about 15 members attended a board meeting Thursday night hoping for answers about the potential environmental impacts to the river and adjoining lakes, costs, safety, possible impacts on human health and the handling of radiation brought to the surface from deep shale wells.

"We should be learning from past mistakes instead of risking our water so we can accept New York state's hydrofracking waste," said Rita Yelda, an organizer for Food & Water Watch, an environmental advocacy group.

Any economic pop would be welcome in this careworn former honeymoon hotspot, a city of about 50,000 in the last census that has seen its fortunes decline over the past half-century.

In its heyday of the late 1950s and early 1960s, more than 100,000 people lived here, but as the region's manufacturing industry rusted out and other destinations like Las Vegas blossomed, the city by the falls largely faded from view.

City leaders have already turned to casinos and the state's new same-sex marriage law to try to reverse course and put a charge into a per capita income of about $19,000, compared to $30,000 statewide.

"Niagara Falls is known for its tourism, its beautiful scenery," Yelda said. "A large part of their revenue is tourism, people coming in to see Niagara Falls. How will that be impacted by the increased truck traffic and what they're releasing into Niagara Falls?"

The Council on Canadians, a social justice advocacy group, also is among those pushing Niagara Falls to scrap the idea.

"Last year the (United Nations) passed two resolutions recognizing water as a human right, and this proposal to treat fracking fluids threatens people's human right to safe and clean drinking water," the Ottawa-based group said in a Sept. 22 letter to the water board.

The board took no action Thursday.

Earlier in the day, Roll stressed the board is only just beginning to research feasibility testing, regulatory requirements and potential revenue "to make sure it's not just workable but it makes sense for everyone to participate."

The amount of revenue that could be generated by treatment would vary depending on the process used to treat the frackwater.

The Niagara Falls treatment plant was designed to handle waste from the city's once-booming base of electrochemical, organic chemical, ceramics and electrometallurgical plants, Roll said. It already processes imported landfill leachate from three customers that bring the waste by truck, he said.

"We've been developing that trade for the past 15 years or so, and that has had the same effect," he said. "It's unused capacity that is sitting there waiting to be taken advantage of, and we have a duty to try to make our utility as economically viable as possible for everyone."

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Surf Conditions **Water Temp:** 61°

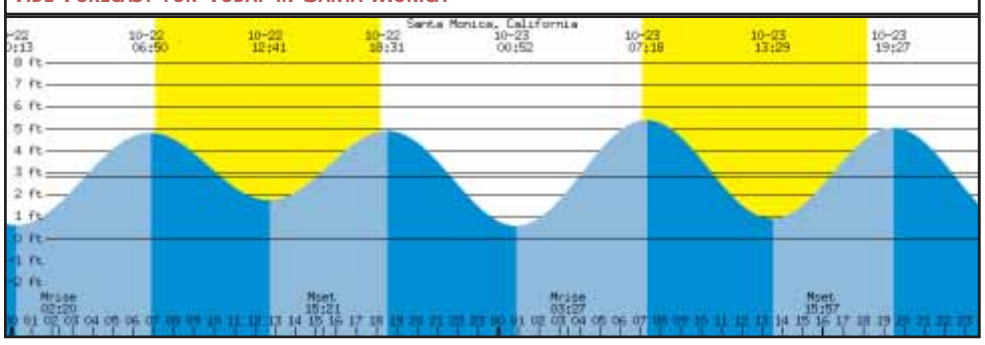
Swell Forecast

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

Long Range Synopsis

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

Tide Forecast for Today in Santa Monica



BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of **October 12, 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 -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 21 / 1
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los 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.	D	ns
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	F	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.	B	F
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.	A	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	D
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	D	ns
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	A	C
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	B	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A	ns
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A+	B
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	ns
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	ns
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	B	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.	F	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

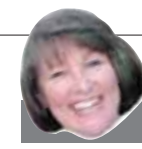
Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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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.



Play Time

Cynthia Citron — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A view into a moving tragedy

YOU MIGHT THINK THAT "THE TRAGEDY of the Commons" deals with some sort of disaster that befalls Mr. and Mrs. Commons. But no, the commons referred to here is a pristine public park set aside in a newly established village for the enjoyment of its inhabitants. Early on, however, the community historically viewed it as a splendid place for their cattle to graze, and the cattle eventually destroyed the carefully planned space.

In Stephen Metcalfe's play, "The Tragedy of the Commons," now having its Los Angeles premiere at Santa Monica's Ruskin Group Theatre, the "Commons" becomes a metaphor for the environment that is currently undergoing various disasters perpetrated by today's cavalier global villagers.

Such a disaster is about to befall Dakin Adams (Brian Kerwin) and his wife Macy (Leslie Hicks), who have been living happily in their hillside home for some 30 years. Their enjoyment of their home stems mainly from its spectacular view of the surrounding forest and some vague, unspecified ocean.

Suddenly, however, the long-time neighbor whose house lies just below theirs on the hillside announces that he is going to sell his property, which propels Dakin into a frenzy that the new owner will "build upward," adding height to the low-lying house and obstructing the view. Very quickly, the view is transformed from a source of pleasure to an obsession, and finally, to a cause celebre.

"The view is a part of us. It's who we are," he tells his wife. But while he obsesses, she accepts the inevitable and even — horrors! — suggests they might sell their house and move.

Dakin, a retired history teacher, fills his time compiling columns of random pithy thoughts called "Notes from Zone 3." He is abetted in this mostly cynical task by his son Spencer (Lane Compton), who appears from time to time, preceded by a burst of music that indicates his mood, to badger and deride his father. Spencer puts "words in his (Dakin's) head" as Dakin mourns "the decline of America from the 1960s to 2001."

"If you're rich, it means you're smart," Spencer tells his father. And the dialogue contains a comparison between "affluence and effluence" in a throwaway environment. Spencer also expresses contempt for people he calls "12 o'clock flashers" — those Luddites who don't, or can't, set their electronic devices to the correct time.

Eventually the neighbor's house is bought by a real estate developer, Dan Gerard (Josh Drennen, substituting for Jeffrey Stubblefield), who stops by to tell Dakin that he will indeed be "building upward." In a brief extraneous exchange, Gerard acknowledges that he is gay, and when Dakin responds, "You don't look like it," Gerard asks, "Is that a compliment or a stereotype?"

There are many such clever asides in this engrossing play. And the principals are deftly directed by director Dave Florek. Brian Kerwin is particularly fine as the beleaguered Dakin, as are Leslie Hicks as Macy and Edward Edwards as the prissy neighbor. The Adams' lawyer-daughter (Austin Highsmith, alternating with Rachel Noll) is also good, but Compton plays Spencer as a one-note, stiff and smarmy tormentor, harassing his father to no discernible end.

Further, while Gerard, the real estate developer compliments Dakin on the "understated elegance" of his home and property, set designer Cliff Wagner has not met that mark. The set is dowdy, and almost tacky. There's nothing "elegant" about it.

These last are minor matters, however, in an intelligent and well-performed production — something you can always count on at the excellent Ruskin Group Theatre.

"The Tragedy of the Commons" will run Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through Nov. 6. The Ruskin Group Theatre is located at 3000 Airport Ave. in Santa Monica. Call (310) 397-3244 for reservations.

CYNTHIA CITRON CAN be reached at ccitron@socal.rr.com.



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MOVIE TIMES

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

Double Feature
House on Haunted Hill (NR) 1hr 15min
The Abominable Dr. Phibes (NR) 1hr 34min
7:30pm

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

Mighty Macs (G) 1hr 40min
11:45am, 2:20pm, 4:45pm, 7:20pm, 10:00pm

Dolphin Tale 3D (PG) 1hr 52min
11:15am, 2:15pm, 5:05pm, 7:50pm

Drive (R) 1hr 40min
10:30pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
11:00am, 1:30pm, 4:00pm, 6:40pm, 9:20pm

Norman (R) 1hr 37min
11:30am, 2:10pm, 4:50pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

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

Footloose (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:50am, 12:45pm, 1:45pm, 3:45pm, 4:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 9:10pm, 10:05pm

Real Steel (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
10:40am, 1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Three Musketeers (PG-13) 1hr 50min
10:35am, 1:20pm, 4:00pm, 6:45pm, 9:20pm

Three Musketeers 3D (PG-13) 1hr 50min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Moneyball (PG-13) 2hrs 06min
10:25am, 1:25pm, 4:25pm, 7:30pm, 10:30pm

Ides of March (R) 1hr 42min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 7:50pm, 10:20pm

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

My Afternoons With Marguerite (La Tete en friche) (NR) 1hr 22min
11:00am

Take Shelter (R) 2hrs 00min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Senna (PG-13) 1hr 45min
11:00am

Chalet Girl (NR) 1hr 36min
1:50pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Women on the 6th Floor (Les femmes du 6eme etage) (NR) 1hr 44min
1:40pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Klitschko (NR) 1hr 50min
11:00am

Man Nobody Knew (NR) 1hr 44min
1:55pm, 7:20pm

Finding Joe (NR) 1hr 20min
4:40pm, 9:55pm

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

Thing (R) 1hr 43min
11:45am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm

Way (PG-13) 1hr 55min
11:15am, 4:45pm, 10:10pm

Paranormal Activity 3 (R) 1hr 21min
11:00am, 12:15pm, 1:20pm, 2:30pm, 3:40pm, 4:50pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 8:20pm, 9:30pm, 10:40pm

Johnny English Reborn (PG) 1hr 41min
11:50am, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

Big Year (PG) 1hr 40min
2:00pm, 7:35pm

50/50 (R) 1hr 39min
11:55am, 2:40pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

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

Order in tonight, Taurus

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Make it OK to have a little confusion in your morning. You might decide to change your plans as a result. Letting go of some structure delights a child and/or loved one. Move through a new door. Don't overthink things. Tonight: Fun and games. Be a flirt.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Shorten your must-do list. You finally have time for yourself. A neighbor has lots of news. You shouldn't listen to the gossip; just nurture yourself by politely excusing yourself from the situation. Tonight: Order in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ A family member requests your time and attention. There is no way around what is going on. Whether it is pitching in on a project or nurturing a kid, your importance is most felt on the home front. Don't push a special friend or partner. This person could do quite a reversal. Tonight: Invite a couple of friends over.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ A misunderstanding could mark your plans. Choose your words with care. Nothing can replace courtesy and optimism. Ask viable questions that help point out your way. Let go of having to be right. Tonight: Movie and munchies.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Be aware of the costs of making perpetual adjustments. You could be giving away too much of yourself. Your reputation for being generous could cause a problem. Learn to say "no" more often. Tonight: Decide to do absolutely what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You hit your peak days of the month and might have difficulty slowing down. Your energy could be very appealing to many people. Someone close to you might feel threatened. This person isn't used to you being so dominant, creative and perhaps demanding. Tonight: As you like it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You generally are quite upbeat and positive. Right now, you might need a timeout from everything that is going on. Revamp your schedule if you feel uncomfortable in any way. Even if you must reschedule a meeting, make the next 24 hours about you. Tonight: Not to be found.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ You don't always have the luxury of zeroing in on what you want and receiving it. What you wish for at first might not seem like what you want, but later you discover it is. Join friends for a fun happening. You actually might be doing the party circuit. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Handle a responsibility involving an older relative or friend. Once you're in the swing of things, you might decide to restructure your day. Remain aware of how much you are spending. Tonight: A force to be reckoned with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to detach. Whether you are aware or not, you are transforming your views and style. Follow your earthy sense of direction. Make time for a child or loved one. Tonight: Let the fun and games begin.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Deal directly with a partner or loved one who can and often does create a lot of flak. Your imagination points in a new direction. You don't need to embody every role that others project on you. It does appear you are breaking restraints right now. Tonight: Togetherness feels right.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Others seek you out, and you respond in kind. Only, at some point it becomes evident you need to decide which invitation or suggestion you would like to accept. Some of you who are more energetic might choose to squeeze in more than one happening. Tonight: Go with the flow.

Happy birthday

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

This year you will tend to take the time you need. "Activity" could be your middle name. Develop a stress-busting hobby, like yoga. If you are single, you might meet someone who isn't the person you perceive him or her to be. Avoid putting anyone on a pedestal, because the only way off is down. If you are attached, the two of you benefit from more weekends away as a couple. VIRGO makes a good healer.



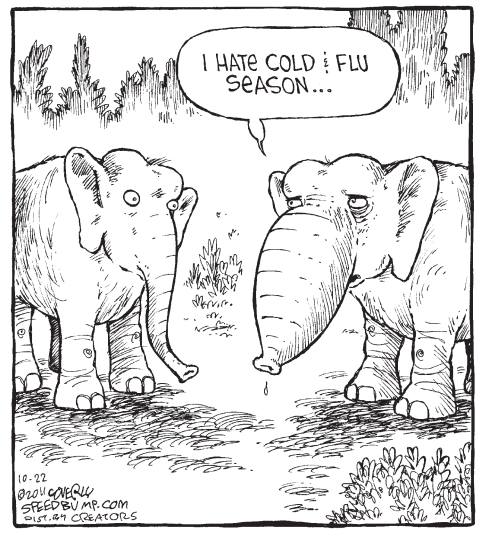
MYSTERY PHOTO

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.

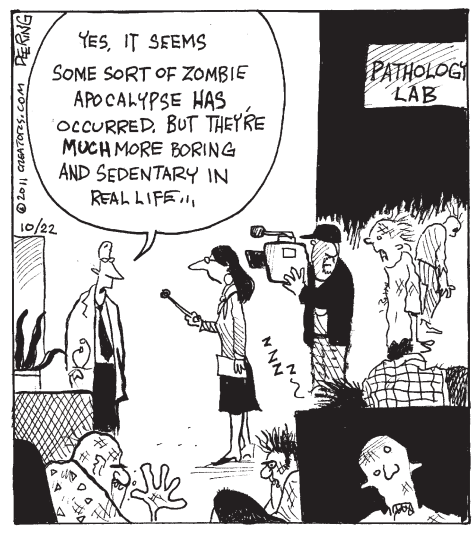
Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



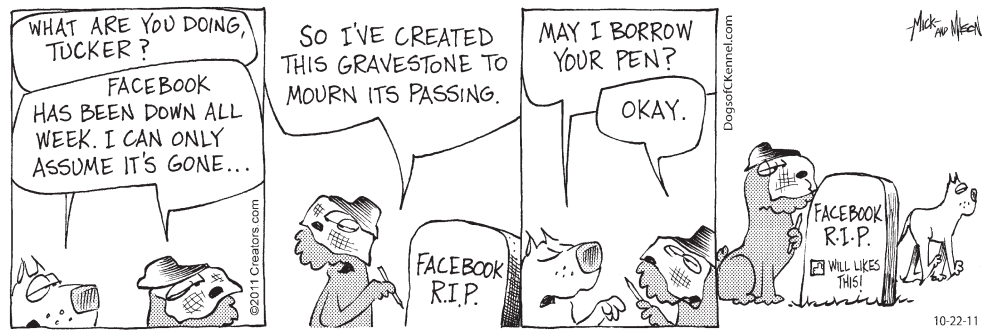
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



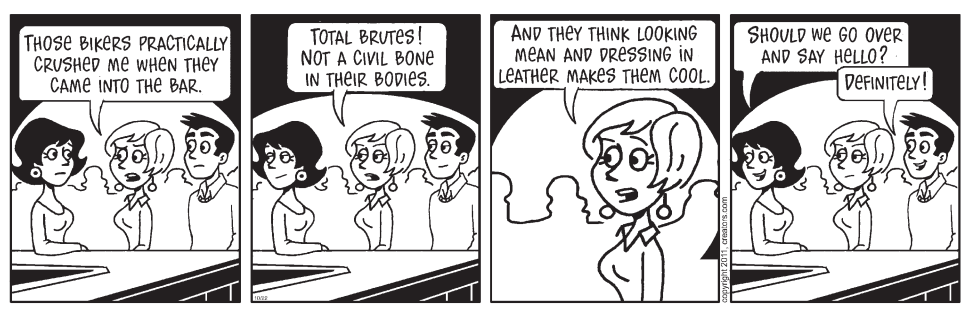
Garfield

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 ★★★★

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

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

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Eats greedily
7 Earth's neighbor
11 Shredded
12 Bunches
13 Bird abode
14 Wine valley of California
15 Cautious
16 Oven feature
17 Otherwise
18 Humorous
19 Sentence subject, usually
21 Pulled off
22 Liaisons
25 Brood tender
26 Lucy's co-star
27 Foot part
29 Scruff
33 Library stamp
34 Made sound
35 Bus. sch. course
36 G, for one
37 Grazing group
38 For each
39 Jonson works
40 Rang

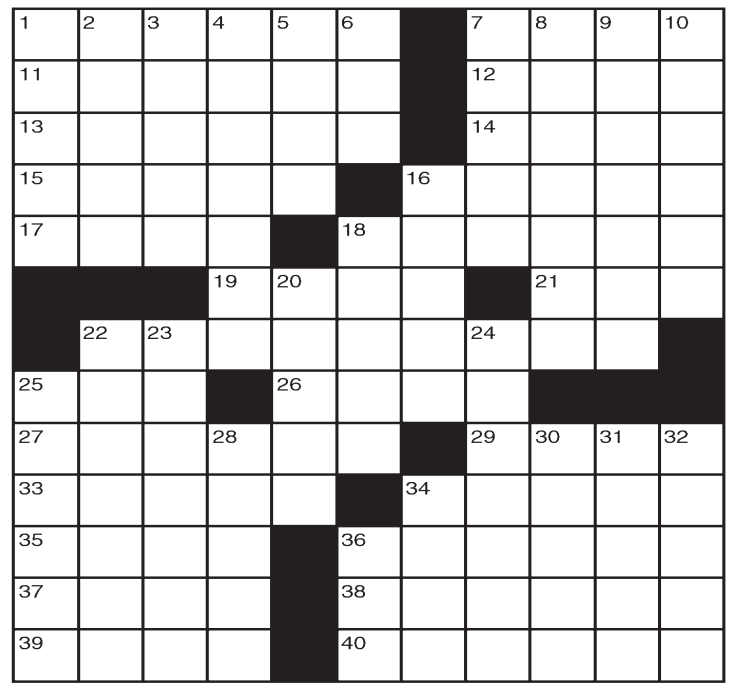
DOWN

1 Hackneyed
2 Fresh
3 Spring sign
4 Hit from behind
5 Wrath
6 Bond, for one
7 Highly excited
8 Stylish
9 Entices
10 Gawked
16 Musical sounds
18 Southern drink
20 Less ordinary
22 Threatened
23 Yet to come
24 Small detail
25 Cab Calloway trademark
28 Watches over
30 Disney mermaid
31 Shilling change
32 Moved laterally
34 Zorro attire
36 Jay-Z's music

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

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



10-22

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

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

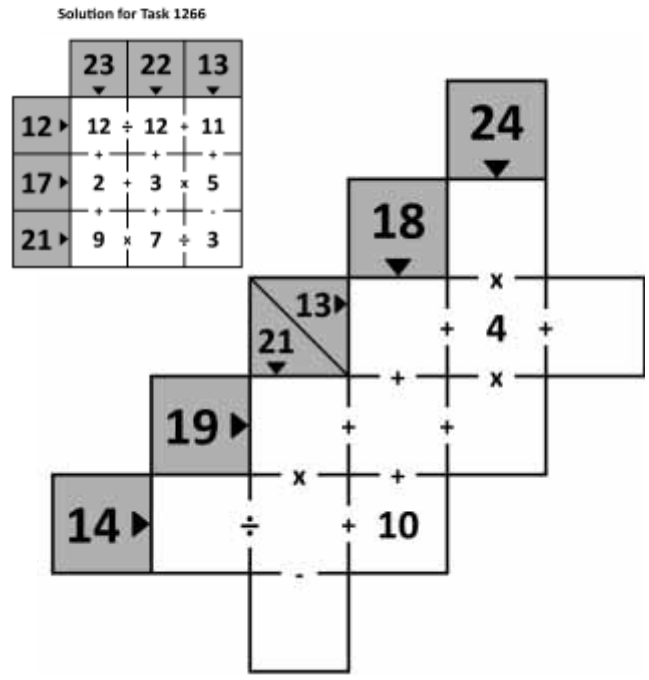
• Remember to multiply or divide before you add or subtract.

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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, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6, 9, 12

Solution for Task 1266



DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS: 24 25 45 47 53 Meganumber: 42 Jackpot: $48M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS: 13 29 33 37 40 Meganumber: 9 Jackpot: $13M

Fantasy 5: 2 5 7 22 30

DAILY 3: MIDDAY: 6 2 4 EVENING: 3 3 6

DAILY DERBY: 1st: 11 Money Bags 2nd: 03 Hot Shot 3rd: 02 Lucky Star RACE TIME: 1:41.85

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

■ Anthony Watson, sentenced to prison in 1992 for crimes that included rape and robbery, became a notorious jailhouse lawyer (even drafting a book, "A Guide to the Plea Circus") and through successful challenges had reduced his 160-year sentence to 26 -- and a release date of 2018. However, he filed one appeal too many. A court ruled in his favor on that final appeal and ordered a new trial altogether (vacating the convictions and sentence but also the reductions Watson had worked so hard for). At the retrial in March 2011, he was found guilty again and this time sentenced to four consecutive life terms.

■ The most notorious fetishist toe-sucker of the last 20 years, Michael Wyatt, now age 50, who had been arrested in the 1990s in Conway, Ark., and nearby towns, returned to the news in August 2011. Two Conway women reported in separate incidents that a man had approached them, complimented their toes, and asked to suck them (and in one case, to imagine out loud doing violent things to the toes). Both women picked Wyatt out of a police lineup, but a third woman, reporting a similar incident, could not identify the perpetrator. Wyatt earlier served one year of a four-year prison term but was last heard from, according to news databases, in 1999.

■ Overenthusiastic Parent/Sports Involvement: In October (1995), Richard King, 36, pleaded guilty to making threatening and obscene phone calls to two boys who were star players on his son's Little League team in Blue Springs, Mo., to get them to reconsider their plans to quit the team. According to prosecutors, King called the boys several times while he was on a business trip in China and threatened to kill one kid and his parents and to commit sodomy on the kid's whole family.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1907 Panic of 1907: A run on the stock of the Knickerbocker Trust Company sets events in motion that will lead to a depression.

1924 Toastmasters International is founded.

WORD UP!

lol
\lol\ , verb;
1. To recline or lean in a relaxed, lazy, or indolent manner; lounge.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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P/T Brentwood office asst, comp/tech savvy, organized, self directed, punctual, time mgmt skills, fast learner, T/TH/Sun afternoons, $17/hr, submit resume jrhconsult@aol.com

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

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Santa Monica Art Colony.
2 Bd. + 1 Bth.
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Hardwood floors. $1895

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Studio/Single. Full kitchen / Full bath
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3 Bed 1 Bath. Traditional style house.
Large yard, double detached garage
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Real Estate

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940 sqft, Modified Gross Lease
Please call: Gloria French or Vanna Kim, Morlin Asset Management, LP. 213-622-4442

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Notices

The annual report of the Rose Leo Memorial Foundation is available for inspection at 56 Village Park Way, Santa Monica, California 90405.
/s/Luellen Lucid, Trustee
October 19, 2011

Help Wanted

SOCIAL MEDIA PRO WANTED

PROSUPSHOP, the local stand up paddle board authority, is looking for a dedicated, hard working social media expert to manage our online presence and perform some light data entry one to two days a week. The position can be done from home for the right person. This is a great position for somebody looking to make extra money. Compensation is negotiable. If you're interested, young and energetic, contact Mike Vaughan at mike@prosupshop.com.



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Fabulous,
Brentwood FlatsTraditional
$2,250,000
Open Tuesday
October 25th
11 am - 2 pm

619 Euclid Street
Just Listed!



Located on a 'Road Less Traveled'
Center hall floor plan
Lush Landscaping
$2,999,999
Open Sunday
October 23rd
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

535 Ocean Ave #3D



Gorgeous Ocean Views
2 Bed + 2 Bath
$2,300,000
Open Sunday
October 23rd
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519 California #103



Huge PRIVATE Yard
2 Bed + 2 Bath
$799,999
Open Sunday
October 23rd
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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2 Bed + 2.5 Bath
Gorgeous Teak Floors
Great Floor Plan
$1,189,000

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

		Single Family Homes	Condos & Townhomes
Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,685,000	$1,422,000
North of Montana	=	$3,195,000	$1,049,000
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,295,000	$750,000
South of Wilshire	=	$675,000	$517,000
Sunset Park	=	$1,220,000	$498,500
Ocean Park	=	$1,695,000	$817,000

Statistics updated every Monday

11745 Montana #305



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