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Santa Monica Daily Press
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2012
Volume 12 Issue 17

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

READY FOR A BAKE SALE?
SEE PAGE 13

THE **BE SAFE OUT THERE** ISSUE

Three charged in alleged fundraising scam

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN Three men were arraigned Wednesday for allegedly scamming trusting people out of cash meant to support charities as they solicited donations on the Third Street Promenade, city officials said.

Rodney Muhammad, 56, Derek Haskins, 53 and Santa Monica resident Jerry White, 53, were charged with misdemeanor counts of theft, identity theft, false advertising, forgery of a government seal and aggressive panhandling.

They were arrested after officials saw them allegedly displaying false credentials and asking people for cash for organizations like AIDS Health Foundation and Another Chance Ministry.

SEE **ARRESTS** PAGE 9


MUHAMMAD


HASKINS


WHITE

Lohan charged in PCH crash, arrested in New York City

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CITY HALL The Santa Monica City Attorney filed charges Thursday against actress Lindsay Lohan for a June crash in which her Porsche slammed into a dump truck on Pacific Coast Highway.

The City Attorney charged Lohan with three misdemeanors for allegedly lying to a police officer in claiming that she was not driving the sports car when the accident occurred.

A court date has not been set at this time.

The filing comes nearly six months after the actress crashed while on her way to a movie set. She was taken to the hospital but returned to the set of the film "Liz and Dick" hours later.

The California case could trigger a probation violation for Lohan, who remains on informal probation in the state for a necklace theft in Venice, Calif.

The charges came hours after Lohan was arrested in New York City after police said she hit a woman during an argument.

The "Mean Girls" and "Freaky Friday" star was arrested at 4 a.m. and charged with third-degree assault.

She left a police precinct nearly four hours later with a black jacket pulled over her head. Lohan was wearing leggings, a green mini dress and high-heels. She drove off in a black SUV with a driver, a woman and another man who was seen going in and out of the precinct.

Lohan, 26, allegedly got into the spat with another woman at Club Avenue, in Manhattan's Chelsea section. She struck the

SEE **LOHAN** PAGE 9



Photo courtesy Google Images

FREE FOR NOW: **Lindsay Lohan leaves the 10th Precinct in NYC after a nightclub arrest. The actress was arrested in the early hours of Thursday morning at Avenue nightclub in Manhattan after allegedly hitting a woman. She was released from the 10th Precinct at around 7:30 a.m.**

'House of Rock' strikes discord

Council delays on lucrative property tax reduction

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL The City Council refused to grant a major tax break to the owners of the infamous "House of Rock" Tuesday night, instead deferring the matter until outstanding issues regarding the home's renovations could be resolved.

Elaine Culotti, who has owned the home with business partner Greg Briles since 2010, applied for a decrease in her property tax with City Hall under the Mills Act, a state law created to encourage people to take on the burden of owning historic properties.

If approved, the agreement would have lowered the property taxes on the $8 million house by 86.6 percent from over $90,000 to roughly $12,127, according to a city staff report, resulting in a loss of roughly $12,500 in tax revenue.

The house, however, is up for sale again for $22 million, so the disparity between the new owner's tax bill and the home's assessed value would likely have grown.

In its report, staff referred to the reduction as "a significant marketing feature" for the property.

Councilmembers choked on the idea of granting the steep tax break, which Councilmember Bobby Shriver estimated at almost $2 million over the course of the 10-year Mills Act contract.

"We are spending $2 million if we approve this," Shriver said, describing it as a "budget decision."

SEE **HOUSE** PAGE 8

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Nov. 30, 2012

Playing Santa
UCLA Family Commons
1221 Second St., 10 a.m.
The UCLA Family Commons is giving back to those in the community who could use support. In conjunction with Sojourn — a project of the OPCC — they will be hosting a two-month-long gift drive to benefit local women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse. For every person who signs up for one of the Commons' programs, workshops or classes, the group will donate a new game, toy or book to families of Sojourn. For more information, call (310) 395-5650.

TAG, you're it
TAG Gallery
2525 Michigan Ave., D-3,
11 a.m. — 5 p.m.
In her latest exhibition, "Family Trees," artist Lorraine Bubar continues to explore papercut techniques by representing family tree motifs, including various associations with the words "family" and "trees." Layering delicately cut paper, Bubar reveals bold color contrasts and lacey textural patterns reflecting the contrast between fragility and strength found in paper itself. Admission: free. For more information, call (310) 829-9556.

Get behind the wheel
The Santa Monica Little Theater
12420 Santa Monica Blvd., 8 p.m.
Santa Monica Rep presents "How I Learned to Drive." This 1998 Pulitzer Prize winner is a wildly funny, surprising, and devastating tale of survival as seen through the lens of a troubling relationship between a young girl and an older man. This is the story of a woman who learns the rules of the road and life from behind the wheel. Admission: $20, $15 for students/seniors. For more information, call (213) 268-1454 or visit www.santamonicarep.org.

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012

Out with it
City Yards
2500 Michigan Ave., 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Bring your household hazardous materials to this drive-up, drop-off event. There will be technicians available to unload and process your waste. For more information, call (310) 458-2213.

Cinderella holiday
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., 3 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
"A Cinderella Happy Holiday Musical" is a family-friendly Rudie-DeCarlo reworking of the classic fairytale. This internationally acclaimed musical offers romantics of all ages the chance to try on the glass slipper and help Cinderella find her happily-ever-after. For more information, call (310) 394-9779 ext. 2.

Festive on Main
Main Street
5 p.m. — 9 p.m.
The Main Street Holiday Party returns to give revelers something to feel merry about. There will be a tree lighting, live music and an appearance by Santa. The event begins at the California Heritage Museum (2612 Main St.) with the arrival of Santa aboard a Santa Monica Fire Department truck. There will be a tree lighting at the museum, followed by a short walk to the Edgemar Courtyard where the Shopping Cart Tree awaits. A number of Main Street merchants will conclude the night with parties and treats. For more information, visit www.mainstreetsm.com/holiday-12.

Texas-style party
Typhoon
3221 Donald Douglas Loop S.,
9:30 p.m.
Hank Mann and The Texas House Party will be entertaining diners at this popular eatery at the Santa Monica Airport. For more information, call (310) 390-6565.

Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012

Run for a cause
Beach Parking Lot No. 5
2600 Barnard Way, 9 a.m.
Actor Josh Duhamel will lead the annual American Red Cross Youth Run to raise money for earthquake preparedness. Previous runs attracted as many as 3,000 runners to the beach course. For more information, call (310) 477-2697.

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



California to join Powerball frenzy next year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Californians may have missed out on this week's record-setting Powerball lottery drawing, but they will be able to buy tickets to the multistate game starting next spring, after the California Lottery Commission voted Thursday to add it to the state's roster of games.

California will join 42 other states and the District of Columbia in playing the jackpot lottery when retailers begin selling tickets in April.

Powerball frenzy hit a peak this week as the jackpot soared to a record $588 million. Two players, in Missouri and Arizona, matched all six numbers and are expected to share the prize.

The tickets were sold at a convenience store in suburban Phoenix and a gas station in Dearborn, Mo. The Missouri buyer came forward Thursday, and lottery officials set a news conference for Friday morning at North Platte High School, near where the ticket was bought.

The payout represents the second-largest jackpot in U.S. history.

Tickets sold at a rate of 130,000 a minute nationwide — about six times the volume from a week ago. That pushed the jackpot even higher, said Chuck Strutt, executive director of the Multi-State Lottery Association. The jackpot rolled over 16 consecutive times without a winner.

In California, Lottery Director Robert T. O'Neill said the $2 Powerball tickets could bring in an additional $50 million to $100 million "to supplement public education funding, which is our one and only mission."

"Plus, our customers were pretty clear that they wanted us to bring Powerball to California," O'Neill said in a statement.

The Powerball jackpot starts at $40 million and increases by at least $10 million every roll. It is California's second multistate game, after MEGA Millions.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO

Santa Monica Daily Press

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WAY UP

Photo by Paul Alvarez Jr. *news@smdp.com*

Samohi's Wiki Surowka spikes a ball over the net during the 2012 Westside Girls Volleyball Community Exhibition at Samohi on Wednesday.

U.N. vote recognizes state of Palestine; U.S. objects

EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS The United Nations voted overwhelmingly Thursday to recognize a Palestinian state, a victory decades in the making for the Palestinians after years of occupation and war. It was a sharp rebuke for Israel and the United States.

A Palestinian flag was quickly unfurled on the floor of the General Assembly, behind the Palestinian delegation, as the final vote was cast.

In an extraordinary lineup of international support, more than two-thirds of the world body's 193 member states approved the resolution upgrading the Palestinians to a nonmember observer state. It passed 138-9, with 41 abstentions.

The historic vote came 65 years to the day after the U.N. General Assembly voted in 1947 to recognize a state in Palestine, with the jubilant revelers then Jews. The Palestinians rejected that partition plan, and decades of tension and violence have followed.

Real independence, however, remains an elusive dream until the Palestinians negotiate a peace deal with the Israelis, who warned that the General Assembly action will only delay a lasting solution. Israel still controls the West Bank, east Jerusalem and access to Gaza, and it accused the Palestinians of bypassing negotiations with the campaign to upgrade their U.N. status.

In the West Bank city of Ramallah, jubilant Palestinians crowded into the main square, waving Palestinian flags and chanting "God is great!" Hundreds had watched the vote on outdoor screens and televisions, and they hugged, honked their horns and set off fireworks as the final vote was cast.

The tally came after a speech by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in which he called the moment a "last chance" to save the two-state solution.

"The General Assembly is being asked today to issue the birth certificate of Palestine," the Palestinian leader declared.

The United States and Israel immediately criticized the vote.

"Today's unfortunate and counterpro-

SEE **PALESTINE** PAGE 8

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Shining a light on Malibu lights

Editor:

The stadium lighting, a subject of ongoing expensive litigation, has generated a plethora of myths from its architects ("Homecoming lights up Malibu," Oct. 31). The facts are as follows:

There was a community compromise, put forth by Laura Rosenthal herself, of 16 nights of temporary lights that would be erected from late September through Dec. 10. After feigning a compromise, our City Council and school district spearheaded an expensive campaign to amend the LCP to allow for over 75 nights of lights. Prior to this amendment there was a deed restriction that residents relied on that would never allow these lights. When residents originally worked with the district in 1994 to create the high school, the district represented it would not have field lighting as it was a major concern for the residents. What is true is that they have broken a promise to the neighborhood.

This stadium can now be used for a total of 61 nights, and can be used three nights a week with no restriction on consecutive nights. There is no meaningful community oversight from the residents. There has already been an evening where the lights remained on over an hour after the field was completely empty. The lights will be used the entire year from September to June with only the crossbars coming down for the remaining three months. The surrounding community is asking for the poles and crossbars to be up only from September through December as was agreed in the original community compromise for Friday night lights.

Lastly, the Coastal Commission did not limit lights to sporting events only. The city imposed that condition for this year only and it can be changed. An online venture is already formed between the district and an outside agency to generate revenue.

As of now, the crossbars will be up for nine months and the poles for 365 days a year. In the last settlement agreement there was a compromise reached between the district, the Shark Fund, the city and the community. The next morning members of the Shark Fund said they would never agree to a compromise. The city attorney has ended all settlement discussions.

And of course we must be reminded of the $500,000 of tax money that has already been spent on "soft costs" and the tens of thousands of dollars that continue to be spent to litigate for the City Council to honor its word!

Scott Greco
Malibu, Calif.

Fixer-upper

Editor:

A great big thanks from all the thousands of kids who went to Washington Elementary School at Fourth Street and Ashland Avenue for fixing up the old Ocean Park school. There had been talk of selling off the old building for money for the school district even though much of the land had been donated a hundred years ago by the wife of Abbot Kinney and any money should have been returned to the Kinney family.

It was sad to see our old alma mater falling apart after spending so many years attending school there with so many happy memories. Now new generations of kids can enjoy the school and Mr. and Mrs. Kinney can look down from heaven and smile that their donation is still loved.

Marty Liboff
Santa Monica



Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Saving America one song at a time

FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS, SINGER-SONGWRITER Roy Zimmerman has performed original satirical songs about hot button issues like creationism, same-sex marriage, guns, war, greed and being Republican. (Just kidding about Republicans as literally two of my best friends are of that "persuasion.")

Given Roy's innate charm, some in the GOP might actually enjoy laughing at their foibles, although I don't think that would include the crabby Grover Norquist or John McCain. (Back to Roy, there's no truth to the rumor that his last name was Dylan and he changed it to Zimmerman.)

Before moving north, Roy lived in the Palisades for 25 years. When his sons, Joe and Sam, were young, he worried about the world they'd grow up in. "I wanted to give them literature, music, wisdom, peace and social justice. And all they wanted was an Xbox." Go figure.

Well, Sam and Joe are now 22 and 21 and doing great, which is more than I can say for the world. This is why Roy, whose boyish looks are reminiscent of John Denver (if Denver had been in the Weather Underground), travels the country spreading his music and humor like a modern-day Johnny Appleseed. (Substitute political parodies for apples?)

The good news is Saturday night Roy's appearing in our neighborhood with his "PeaceNick" Christmas show. (The bad news is I just referred to Johnny Appleseed like he was real.)

Fortunately for Roy he has invaluable help from Melanie Harby, his wife of 27 years and collaborator in songs and children. (Although in giving birth I'd say the man is more the collaborator.) During this just past election year the two have spent almost as much time on the road as in their Marin County home.

During this crucial election year, Roy played at over 150 events at colleges, union halls, protest rallies and even the occasional living room. The couple travels with their beloved Chihuahua, Herbie, and stay in motels; not exactly the glamorous touring lifestyle of say the Rolling Stones.

But the two have a ball as Roy entertains appreciative audiences, especially those trapped in the red states where many of their neighbors believe Earth is 6,000 years old and that man and dinosaur co-existed. (Which I suppose would make "The Flintstones" a documentary.)

In 12 albums and on stages, screens and airwaves across America, Roy has tirelessly lobbied for social justice. "If we ever attain a worldwide consciousness of peace I'll be happily out of a job. But as long as there's poverty, war, bigotry, ignorance and greed, I've got a career."

With his "Starving Ear" channel on YouTube, Roy is also easily accessible on the Internet. (Though not quite as ubiquitous as Psy's "Gangnam Style," the appeal of which I'm still trying to decipher.)

So go to YouTube and type "Roy Zimmerman." There are a dozen or more raucously funny numbers, some of which have over 1 million hits. (And yes, I realize "Gangnam Style" is approaching 1 billion, which, quite frankly, I find deeply disturbing.)

My favorites of Roy's songs are "Creation Science101," "Sing Along Second Amendment," "Limbaugh (How Low Will you Go?)," "Buddy Can You Spare a Trillion Dollars?" "Bill O'Reilly's Christmas," and "What if the Beatles Were Irish?"



Photo courtesy Steve Cox

MUSIC MAN: **Satirical singer-songwriter Roy Zimmerman tackles politics, religion, war and same sex marriages in his act.**

Among Roy's legion of devoted fans (how many make a legion?) are two music icons, Tom Lehrer and Joni Mitchell. Lehrer is also an American singer-songwriter and satirist, only he plays the piano, whereas Roy's weapons of choice are his rapier wit and guitar.

A mathematician, a reluctant Lehrer reached national fame with his comedy records in the 1950s and 1960s and then abruptly retired from show business to teach at M.I.T. (As Bill Maher might joke, "My old job.")

Lehrer gives Roy high praise for "reintroducing literacy to comedy songs, and the rhymes actually rhyme, they don't just 'rhyne.'" The legendary Mitchell said of Roy, "His lyrics move beyond poetry and achieve perfection." (One word: wow!)

Though I'm not quite in Lehrer or Mitchell's league, I say it'd be a shame to miss the wit and infectious humor of Roy's "PeaceNick" Christmas Show. Among the featured songs are: "Christa-Hanu-Rama-Ka-Dona-Kwanzaa," "Christmas on Mars," "When a Child is Born," and "Christmas is Pain," all of which are on YouTube.

By the way, Wikipedia says a legion varied from 4,500 to 6,000. In that case Roy has legions of legions of fans. If you catch his act Saturday night my guess is you're likely to be one of them.

In conjunction with Parlor Performances, Roy Zimmerman's "PeaceNick" Christmas 90-minute show plays Saturday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Cornerstone Music Conservatory, 12121 W. Pico Blvd. For more info call Jeannine Frank at (310) 476 6735. **JACK** can be reached at jnsmdp@aol.com.

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Back to Nature

Reese Halter
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Earth's forests sending out an SOS

EARTH'S FORESTS ARE BREATHTAKING. IN fact, trees are effectively the greatest CO2 warehouses to have ever evolved on Earth. For every metric ton of wood created, 1.5 metric tons of CO2 is absorbed and 1 metric ton of oxygen is released.

Frighteningly, Earth's forests are dying from a warming world. Will the delegates from 194 countries attending the Doha climate talks acknowledge this and what nature is unequivocally showing atmospheric, biologic and oceanic scientists?

Last week researchers once again sent an SOS distress call to denizens of Earth; drought conditions are placing deadly water-stress on forests around the globe. Moreover, Earth's forests and myriad "ecosystem services" that they provide all life are approaching an irreversible tipping point.

In 2009 the International Union of Forest Research Organizations came to a very bleak conclusion: "The carbon storing capacity of Earth's forests could be lost entirely if the planet heats up 4.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels." So far, we have increased by about 2 degrees, which means we are already well on our way toward this fateful threshold. The result of crossing it would be an uninhabitable world.

Rising greenhouse gases are also wreaking unimaginable havoc in the tropical forests, more specifically in the Ferrari of jungles, the Amazon. The heart of the Amazon has not evolved to contend with winds, never mind fierce winds, nor with drought. In 2005 a vicious combination of climate disruption occurred across 733,600 square miles of land. In January an intense thunderstorm, spanning 62 by 124 miles, ripped through the whole Amazon Basin. On its path, the storm leveled between 441 million and 663 million trees, or the equivalent of 23 percent of the estimated mean annual carbon accumulation capacity of the Amazon forest.

Later in 2005 a "one-in-one-hundred-year" drought occurred. Not only did the Amazon fail to absorb 1.5 billion metric tons of CO2 that year, but also over the next decade it's releasing approximately 5 billion metric tons of CO2 from decomposing trees. If that isn't alarming enough, another mega-drought occurred across 1.16 million square miles in the Amazon in 2010, the second once-in-a-hundred-years event within five years. The enormous swath of dead jungle is releasing 8 billion metric tons of CO2 over the next decade. And as the Amazon forests die, the Earth also loses its vast cloud-making machines, forcing it to absorb incoming solar radiation rather than reflect it.

In 2009 the U.S. alone emitted 5.4 billion metric tons of CO2 from fossil fuel use. These emissions contribute to an equally disconcerting worldwide pattern that is beginning to emerge. Scientists have documented that greenhouse gas emissions have significantly altered global climate, increasing the frequency, duration and/or severity of drought and heat stress in 88 forests on every wooded continent on planet Earth. If ever there were a wake-up call, this is it, without exception. All forest types are suffering from a lethal combination of at least three factors: insects and diseases associated with elevated temperatures; the drying out of plants; and carbon starvation, that is, water-stressed trees are unable to photosynthesize, or make food. Every decade since 1970 has seen more than a tenth of a degree of additional warming, which has caused less snowfall, declining snowpack water content and longer summer drought periods. Both old and young trees are suffering.

Forests are dying all over the globe. Extreme droughts in North Africa are killing Atlas cedars from Morocco to Algeria. Heat and drought are battering the high-elevation tropical moist forests in Uganda, mountain acacia in Zimbabwe and centuries-old aloe plants in Namibia. Tropical forests of Malaysia and Borneo have also suffered significant death. Drought has also lambasted the tropical dry forests of Northwest and Southwest India, fir in South Korea, the junipers of Saudi Arabia, and pine and fir in central Turkey. Extensive areas of forest in Southwestern and East-central China have now been recognized as being at a high threat of mortality in the ensuing years. Russia too has identified 187.8 million acres of high-threat southern forests, where drought is severely stressing trees. Australia has seen widespread death in acacia woodlands and eucalyptus and Corymbia forests. New Zealand has documented drought-induced death in high-elevation beech forests. Oak, fir, spruce, beech and pines across Western Europe are dying, too.

Rising greenhouse emissions are elevating temperatures and the occurrence of droughts across western North America. In turn, this is fueling the largest native bark beetle epidemic in modern or past times (dating back over 200 million years). Instead of absorbing CO2, about 30 billion mature trees are decaying and adding greenhouse gases to the ever-rising atmospheric pool.

Earth's forests are its life-support system. Around the globe they are clearly showing telltale signs of run-away carbon emissions and the effects of rising temperatures, prolonged droughts and massive insect infestations.

We need a carbon-tax in America and worldwide. And we need it more than ever — now!

EARTH DR. REESE HALTER is a broadcaster, writer and distinguished biologist. His latest books are: "The Insatiable Bark Beetle" and "The Incomparable Honeybee."

The Q Line

Showing support

A federal judge's ruling has confirmed City Hall's ban on the Palisades Park unattended nativity scenes. That hasn't stopped a group of churches from planning an alternative display that will be done in two-hour shifts with live participants.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Would you support these new, alternative scenes or do you think that kind of display should be kept from a public forum?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.







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Audit faults L.A. Unified's method of abuse reporting

CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES The Los Angeles Unified School District frequently failed to report teacher misconduct to state credentialing authorities and took too long to investigate and punish teachers, according to a report by the California state auditor released Thursday.

The 57-page audit made four main recommendations to the nation's second-largest school district. But it noted that state laws governing teacher dismissal contribute to the problem of prolonged investigations and expense in firing teachers.

Superintendent John Deasy said the district already has addressed the deficiencies outlined in the audit.

"We completely agree and more," he said.

The audit was sparked by a case earlier this year in which a former South Los Angeles third-grade teacher was arrested on lewdness charges over allegations he fed students semen-laced cookies over several years. Mark Berndt has pleaded not guilty.

The case attracted international headlines and prompted numerous teacher sexual abuse cases across the state.

It also drew attention to how the district handles complaints of teacher misconduct and discipline when it emerged that students had complained years before about Berndt's alleged behavior, but no action was taken.

It was also revealed that the district never had reported his case to the state Commission on Teacher Credentialing, as required by state law. Additionally, the district had to pay Berndt $40,000 to retire rather than go through a lengthy dismissal process.

Deasy said the district has taken numerous steps to tighten procedures since then. It has formed new employee investigation unit to expedite cases, revamped teacher misconduct reporting procedures to require multiple layers of review so cases will not go overlooked, and adopted a 72-hour parental notification policy when teachers are accused of misconduct.

Additionally, it has stepped up teacher and parent training in signs of child sex abuse and implemented a district-wide tracking system to monitor disciplinary actions against employees.

Although the state audit said that laws made firing teachers a labyrinthine process, it noted several cases where district officials simply failed to act. In one case, it took a principal eight months to write a memo to an employee after an abuse investigation was concluded.

It also noted that the district pays the salaries of teachers under investigation even though they are not working in a classroom, a status known as being "housed."

The audit said that as of mid-September, the district had paid $3 million in salaries to 20 non-working teachers accused of misconduct with students. One such case has dragged on for more than four years, the audit said.

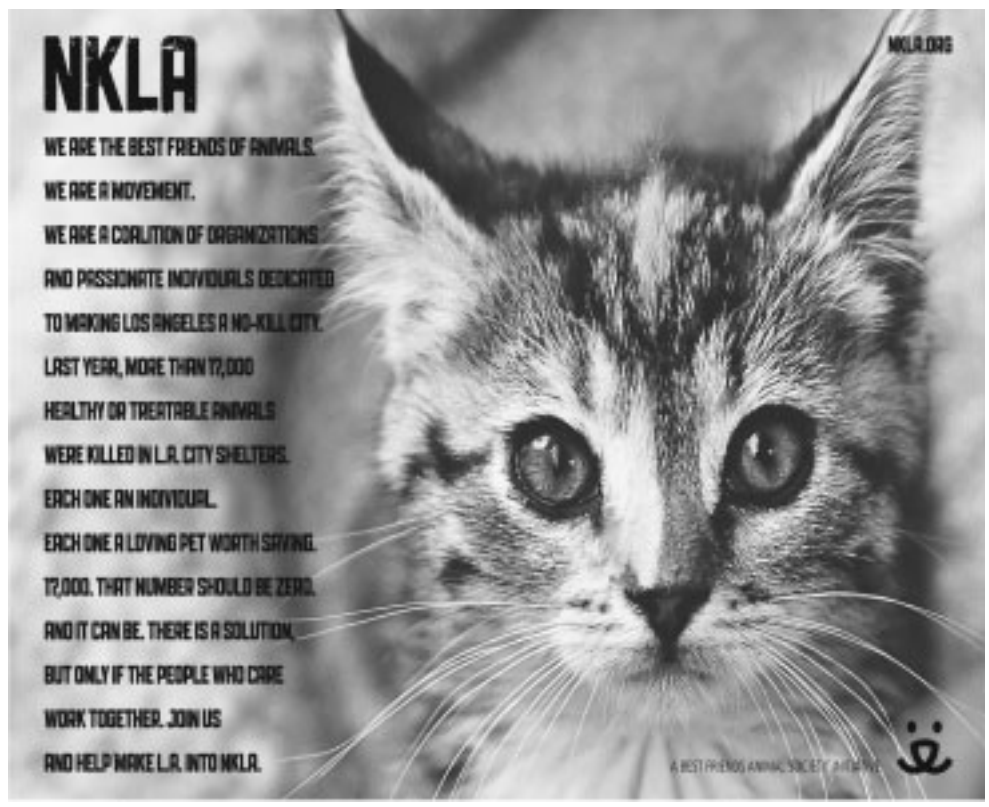
Deasy said teachers are housed an average of 127 days and the district is moving more aggressively to fire them. In the 2011-2012 school year, 96 teachers were fired for misconduct, up from 63 the previous year. It costs an average $300,000 to dismiss a teacher.

It currently has 298 teachers being housed, 54 of whom are not being paid.

Warren Fletcher, president of teachers union United Teachers Los Angeles, did not have an immediate statement on the report, a spokeswoman said.

Deasy said the school board will be advocating efforts to change teacher dismissal laws, especially in cases of sexual misconduct, although one previous bill was defeated earlier this year.

The audit also recommended the Legislature create a statewide tracking system of dismissed school support employees, such as custodians and cafeteria workers, to prevent their rehiring by other districts.



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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Cops: Woman carjacked, dragged down Pico

Crime Watch is a weekly series culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24, AT 6:16 P.M.,
Santa Monica police officers were on patrol at the corner of Pico and Cloverfield boulevards when they saw a Honda Civic suddenly accelerate from its parking space along the south curb of Pico and head east and run a red light. They also saw a woman fall from the passenger side of the car as it drove off. Officers stopped the car a block away. Before they approached the car, the woman who fell out ran up to them and told them that she had just been carjacked. She said she had left her car running as she went to return something she rented. About 30 seconds later, she returned and saw her car rolling away. Thinking she had left the parking break off the woman ran to the passenger side and opened it, only to find two strangers in the car. She was dragged to Cloverfield, where she was able to let go and fall to the street, causing minor injuries. She was dragged roughly 50 feet, police said. She was treated at the scene. Officers placed the suspects under arrest for carjacking. They were identified as Henry Alvarez, 27, and Coral Chavez, 27, both from Compton, Calif. Alvarez was also booked for a probation violation and a child cruelty warrant. His bail was set at $130,000. Bail for Chavez was set at $100,000.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23, AT 10:25 P.M.,
Officers responded to the 1200 block of Sixth Street regarding a report of a man and a woman breaking into an apartment. When officers arrived, they spoke with a man who lived at the apartment. He told them that while he was inside he heard someone turning his front-door knob. When he turned around he saw the suspects, who immediately closed the door and left. Officers checked the other floors of the apartment complex and saw two people bent over trying to open a front door. Officers detained them, searched them and allegedly recovered a piece of metal they believed was used to pick locks. The suspects were identified by the man in the first apartment and placed under arrest. Francis Hernandez, 31, of Los Angeles, was booked for burglary and possession of burglary tools. His bail was set at $50,000. Gilmar Vera, 29, of Northridge, Calif. was booked for burglary. Her bail was set at $50,000.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24, AT 12:30 A.M.,
Officers responded to a home located on the 1500 block of Michigan Avenue regarding a prowler on the premises. When officers arrived, they saw two people standing at the front of the residence and detained them until the owners could be contacted. A woman told officers that she was sitting in her living room watching television when someone started ringing the door bell for approximately 30 seconds. She walked toward the door to see who was there and saw the door knob moving as if someone was trying to get inside. She went into another room to get a friend to investigate. That's when they both heard the rear patio door shaking as someone was trying to force their way inside. They called police, and while waiting for officers heard someone walking on the roof. Just before police arrived, the homeowner said she heard a female voice tell someone to "hurry up." Based on statements from witnesses and other evidence, officers placed the two suspects under arrest for attempted residential burglary and conspiracy. They were identified as Isiah Ransom Gunn, 25, of Los Angeles, and Mayra Chaidez, 34, of Santa Monica. Bail was set at $50,000 each.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24, AT 5:25 A.M.,
Officers responded to the 1600 block of Santa Monica Boulevard — DK's Donuts — on the report of a man urinating in front of the store. When officers arrived, they made contact with the person who called police. She said she was working inside the shop when she saw the man urinating. She recognized him from past thefts at the store. After relieving himself, the suspect walked into the donut shop and allegedly started pouring himself a cup of coffee. The employee said she tried to stop him, but he slapped her hand away and began yelling. He then finished pouring and left without paying, police said. He was located outside the store and placed under arrest for robbery. He was identified as Ronald Levine, 74, a transient. His bail was set at $50,000.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23, 5:32 P.M.,
Officers were on patrol in the 2100 block of Lincoln Boulevard when they saw a man standing on the southwest corner of Lincoln and Grant Street. When the suspect saw the cops, he allegedly turned away from them and began walking away. Officers turned around and made contact with the man a short distance away. He told officers that he was trying to sell a necklace someone had given him for some quick money. Officers noticed he had a folding knife protruding from his pocket. When asked if he had other weapons, the man began to mumble and became very nervous. Officers detained him and searched him. They said they recovered a loaded .38 caliber handgun that was concealed in the suspect's waistband, and a "hook" blade knife. The suspect was placed under arrest for carrying a concealed dagger and a loaded firearm in public. He was identified as Jason Williams, 31. His bail was set at $20,000.

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Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** compiled these reports.

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HOUSE
FROM PAGE 1

The City Council seemed to think it was a bad investment, in part based on the flags raised about a potentially illegal addition to the home and also because of the testimony of Ruthann Lehrer, a member of the Landmarks Commission.

That body refused to recommend the home on La Mesa Drive for the contract in a "truly unprecedented" vote, Lehrer said.

"The reason for this is because the project and the property was not a historic renovation project," Lehrer said. "In her own words, it's a design house. The intent is to support, encourage and compensate the owners."

Her words dug at the crux of an ongoing saga between Culotti, her neighbors and City Hall, which has held multiple hearings on Culotti's efforts to market the home using lavish parties that raise money for charities.

It prompted the City Council to pass an ordinance banning the use of homes as "event venues," although the new law will not take effect until after the last of Culotti's events is expected to run its course.

Past disagreements over the use of the house should not impact whether or not City Hall grants the contract, argued Alex DeGood, an attorney representing the House of Rock owners.

The owners followed the local landmarks process, and the Landmarks Commission signed off on every renovation of the historic house, DeGood said.

"It would be kind of an interesting position for the city to be in to say we approved the restoration all the way through, but when it comes to giving the only financial incentive for restoring a property that state law provides, we're not going to give it to you because we don't approve," DeGood said.

Cities do have the right to deny applications, and many include caps on the number of Mills Act contracts permitted each year, said Shannon Lauchner of the state Office of Historic Preservation.

"It's a loose framework, and within the framework set up, local governments can establish the program in any means they see fit," Lauchner said.

Santa Monica's ordinance is very loose, putting no restrictions on the application other than that it be granted to the owner of a designated landmark or certain other kinds of structures.

Under those criteria, the City Council should approve the application when it comes back on Dec. 11, said Ben Reznik, an attorney representing the House of Rock owners.



HOUSE OF ROCK

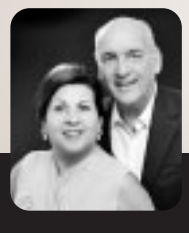
"If they don't, it will be the first denial of the Mills Act contract in the city's history, and they'd be doing it without standards, criteria. It'd be pretty much arbitrary. That would open the city up to a substantial amount of liability in a lawsuit," Reznik said.

The City Council voted to take the matter up at its next meeting, at which point staff is expected to have resolved a question about a stairwell leading to an attic space that has been transformed into a professional sound studio.

They'll also learn if Culotti's parties really ended on Dec. 6 as promised.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA LANDMARKS COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Public hearings will be held by the Landmarks Commission on the following:

Colorado Avenue Viaduct, LC-11LM-003, Zoning: RVC (Resident-Visitor-Commercial) District. The Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation application 11LM-003, to determine whether the existing Colorado Avenue Viaduct, in whole or in part, should be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the structure meets one or more of the required criteria for Landmark designation. Applicant: City of Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. Owner: City of Santa Monica. . ***(Continued from November 12, 2011).***

101 Wilshire Boulevard, 12LM-002, Zoning: RVC (Residential Visitor Commercial) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 12LM-002, at 101 Wilshire Boulevard for consideration of an amendment the existing landmark designation of the Moreton Bay fig tree on the Miramar Hotel site to include the designation of Palisades Wing of the hotel as a landmark building; identify an associated landmark parcel; and, identify contributing elements of the site. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding this amendment based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that one or more of the required criteria are met. Applicant: Ocean Avenue, LLC. Owner: Ocean Avenue, LLC. ***(Continued from November 12, 2012 meeting).***

642 Kensington Road, 12LM-004, Zoning: OP2 (Ocean Park Low Density Multiple Family) District. The City Landmarks Commission will be conducting a public hearing to consider Landmark Designation Application 12LM-004, at 642 Kensington Road to determine whether the existing residential cottages, in whole or in part, should be designated as a City Landmark. The Landmarks Commission will make a decision regarding designation based on whether the application, research and public testimony presented show that the structures meet one or more of the required criteria for Landmark designation. Applicant: Christopher S. Cohoon. Owner: Christopher S. Cohoon. . ***(Continued from August 13, 2012 meeting)***

When: **Monday, December 10, 2012 at 7:00 pm**
Where: City Council Chambers, City Hall, Room 213
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

Questions/Comments
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. You or your representative, or any other persons may comment on the application at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter addressed to Scott Albright, AICP, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, California, 90401-3295. Or, you may contact Mr. Albright by phone at (310) 458-8341 or by email at scott.albright@smgov.net.

More Information
The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Bus Lines 1, 2, 3 and 7 serve City Hall. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing.

Espanol
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica para considerar la designación de una propiedad en la ciudad como un monumento histórico. Para mas información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

PALESTINE
FROM PAGE 3

ductive resolution places further obstacles in the path of peace," U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice said. "Today's grand pronouncements will soon fade and the Palestinian people will wake up tomorrow and find that little about their lives has changed save that the prospects of a durable peace have only receded."

Calling the vote "meaningless," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accused Abbas of spreading "mendacious propaganda" against Israel in a speech he rejected as "defamatory and venomous."

"The resolution in the U.N. today won't change anything on the ground," Netanyahu said. "It won't advance the establishment of a Palestinian state, but rather, put it further off."

With most U.N. members sympathetic to the Palestinians, there had been no doubt the resolution would be approved. A state of Palestine has already been recognized by 132 countries, and the Palestinians have 80 embassies and 40 representative offices around the world, according to the Palestinian Foreign Ministry.

Still, the Palestinians lobbied hard for Western support, winning over key European countries including France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden and Ireland, as well as Japan and New Zealand. Germany and Britain were among the many Western nations that abstained.

Joining the United States and Israel in voting "no" were Canada, the Czech Republic, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau and Panama.

Despite Thursday's triumph, the Palestinians face enormous limitations. They don't control their borders, airspace or trade, they have separate and competing governments in Gaza and the West Bank and they have no unified army or police.

The vote grants Abbas an overwhelming international endorsement for his key position: establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem, the territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war. With Netanyahu opposed to a pullback to the 1967 lines, this should strengthen Abbas' hand if peace talks resume.

The U.N. action also could help Abbas restore some of his standing, which has been eroded by years of standstill in peace efforts. His rival, the Hamas militant group, deeply entrenched in Gaza, has seen its popularity rise after it responded with a barrage of rocket fire to an Israeli offensive earlier this month on targets linked to the militants.

In a departure from its previous opposition, Hamas, which rules Gaza and refuses to recognize Israel, said it wouldn't interfere with the U.N. bid for statehood, and its supporters joined some of the celebrations Thursday.

With its newly enhanced status, the Palestinians can now gain access to U.N. agencies and international bodies, most significantly the International Criminal Court, which could become a springboard for going after Israel for alleged war crimes or its ongoing settlement building on war-won land.

However, in the run-up to the U.N. vote, Abbas signaled that he wants recognition to give him leverage in future talks with Israel, and not as a tool for confronting or delegitimizing Israel, as Israeli leaders have claimed.

Speaking stridently at times Thursday, Abbas accused the Israelis of "colonial occupation" that institutionalizes racism and charged that the Jewish state is continuing to perpetuate "war crimes."

Still, he said the Palestinians did not come to terminate "what remains of the negotiations process" but to try "to breathe new life into the negotiations" and achieve an independent state.

"We will act responsibly and positively in our next steps," he said.

The Palestinians turned to the General Assembly after the United States announced it would veto their bid last fall for full U.N. membership until there is a peace deal with Israel. Abbas made clear that this remains the Palestinians' ultimate goal — hopefully soon.

The vote grants the Palestinians the same status at the U.N. as the Vatican, and they will keep their seat next to the Holy See in the assembly chamber.

ARRESTS
FROM PAGE 1

The three were busted by a joint investigation of the Santa Monica Police Department and City Attorney's Office, which lasted for about a month, said Gary Rhoades, deputy city attorney with City Hall.

"This happened during the holidays when people are opening their hearts and their pocketbooks," Rhoades said. "'Tis the season for opportunistic criminals. Thanks to our police, that's not the case here in Santa Monica."

The charges stem from a sting operation conducted by the Santa Monica Police Department which ended on Nov. 26.

Police had received word that the alleged hucksters were using fraudulent tax identification numbers and representing themselves as charities with no permission to do so, said Sgt. Richard Lewis, spokesperson for the SMPD.

An investigation into the three is continuing so that officials can pin down how long they have been allegedly operating, how much money they may have taken and how many victims are out there.

Samantha Miles, who has worked for a clothing shop on the southern end of the promenade for a year and a half, said she's seen solicitors out since she started her job.

She tells customers to be wary giving them money, she said.

"A lot of tourists stop and talk and hear their whole story," Miles said.

The promenade is a prime location for solicitors, both honest and not.

It's a lively street, and some good organizations have used it to raise money to help victims of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan and other worthy causes, said J.R. Patterson, who works in a different store on the street.

He's worked there five years and never had a problem with the solicitors, he said.

If caught up in the giving spirit of the holidays, police recommend steps that people can take to keep themselves safe from scam artists.

Call the charity directly and make sure the solicitor is who they say they are (yes, while they're standing there).

At the same time, ask what percentage of donations actually go to the cause as opposed to paying solicitors.

When asked for money, learn about the organization and ask for written information. Be on the lookout for copycats, "questionable organizations" that use names that are close to those of well-established charities.

Had a potential victim called the AIDS Health Foundation, they would have found out that the charity does not do the kind of direct solicitation seen on the promenade.

"Those are definitely impostors trading on our good name," said Ged Kenslea, communications director for the nonprofit. "I've been here 17 years and we have never done direct solicitation, particularly tied around a holiday theme."

The bulk of the funds the nonprofit gets comes from separate businesses like Out of the Closet thrift stores.

Although annoying, direct solicitation on the street can be fairly effective for charities looking to cash in on people in a giving mood.

According to a study conducted in Canada, 32 percent of people gave money when asked on the street or at a shopping center in 2010.

Charitable giving in general in the United States increased between 2010 and 2011, with 65 percent of households chipping in for a total of $298.3 billion, according to the National Philanthropic Trust.

Those who don't give, do. Roughly 63.4 million people volunteered in 2009 for an estimated $169 billion in value.

The investigation is ongoing and any consumers who have given money to those arrested or have additional information should contact the City Attorney's Consumer Affairs Specialist Paula Rockenstein at (310) 458-8364 or Santa Monica Police Detective Robert D'Andrea at (310) 458-2201 ext. 6679.

If you wish to remain anonymous, you can call WeTip at 1-800-78-CRIME (1-800-78-27463), or submit the tip online at www.wetip.com. You will remain completely anonymous and may be eligible for a reward, up to $1,000 if your information leads to an arrest and conviction.

Anonymous tipsters may also contact Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-TIPS (8477) or www.lacrimestoppers.org. To text an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers; please view their webpage for detailed instructions. If the information leads to an arrest, the tipster is eligible to receive a reward of up to $1,000.

ashley@smdp.com

LOHAN
FROM PAGE 1

woman in the face with her hand, police said. The woman did not require medical attention.

Lohan's attorney, Shawn Holley, did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

The charges come just after Lohan's portrayal of Elizabeth Taylor in the Lifetime movie "Liz & Dick" premiered to harsh reviews from critics and the public.

The arrest is Lohan's latest brush with law enforcement in New York City.

She was involved in a New York Police Department investigation in September after alleging a man had assaulted her in a New York hotel, but charges against the man were later dropped.

Also in September, the actress was accused of clipping a man with her car outside another Manhattan nightclub, but prosecutors chose not to move ahead with charges.

In October, police were called to her childhood home on Long Island after a report of a fight between her and her mother. An investigation revealed "no criminality."

Lohan has become more of a tabloid and courthouse mainstay in recent years than an actress, and her crash while on the way to the set of "Liz and Dick" demonstrated the risk of casting her in films. A week after the accident, paramedics were summoned to Lohan's hotel room in an episode her publicist attributed to exhaustion and dehydration, and shooting on the film was again briefly delayed.

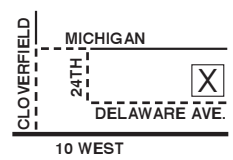
In May, she was cleared of allegations that she struck a Hollywood nightclub manager with her car.

She recently filmed "The Canyons," an indie film written by "Less Than Zero" and "American Psycho" author Bret Easton Ellis.

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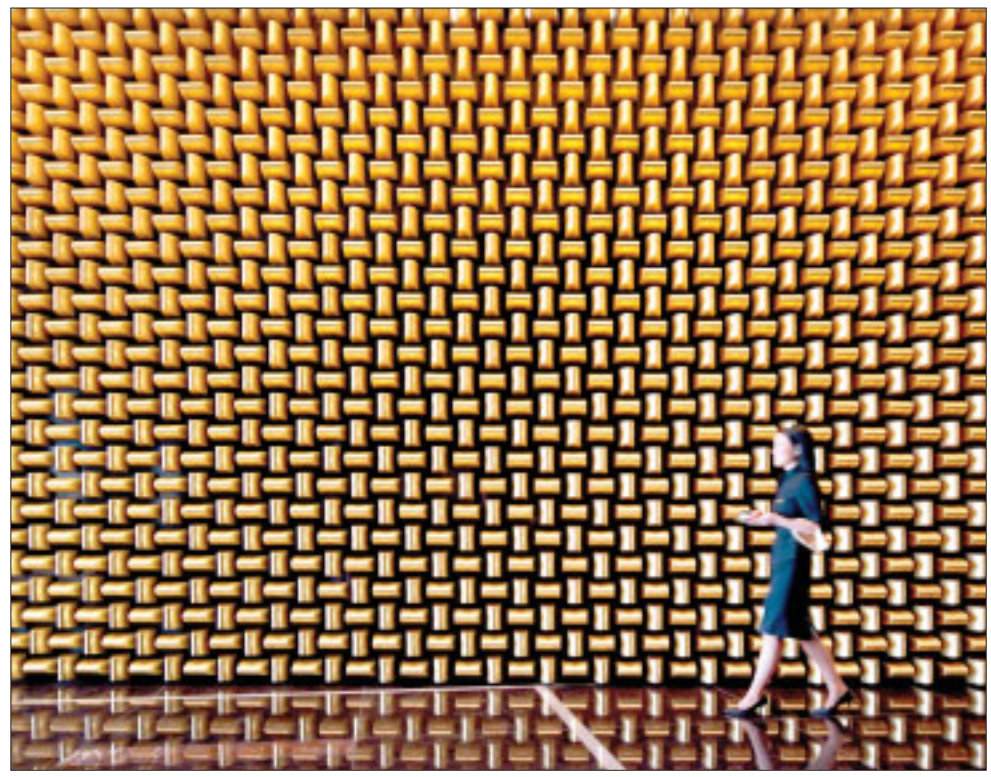


Photo courtesy Mandarin Oriental Hotel

WALKING WITH LUXURY: **The 'gold bullion' wall at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Las Vegas symbolizes prosperity and good fortune in Chinese culture; perfect for Sin City.**

Sanctuary in the heart of the Vegas Strip

BY CAROLE ORLIN
Special to the Daily Press

Does anybody really believe that what goes on in Vegas stays in Vegas? Do the hangovers, 5-pound weight gains and empty wallets really stay in Vegas? What would it be like to go to Vegas and not come home craving an hour-long soak in a tub of Clorox? I decided to do Vegas a different way this time.

My first focus was to select a unique place to stay. My choice: Mandarin Oriental Hotel at the entrance to City Center in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip. I chose them for many reasons. Their location allows for a short walk or tram ride to the casinos and the excitement of The Strip. Mandarin Oriental boasts no casino or traditional Vegas glitz. People go there for the calm, clean, luxurious, sanctuary-like atmosphere. It is like a haven in the middle of the madness. They are Las Vegas' only 2012 triple Forbes Five Star recipient for hotel, spa and fine dining. They also were awarded the prestigious AAA Five Diamond Award.

Feeling frazzled after the usual airport hassle and unbelievably long taxi lines, it was so refreshing to walk through the doors of the Mandarin Oriental into a calm, soothing, Asian-fused atmosphere. Our smooth check-in experience set the tone of the hotel, as did the "gold bullion" wall in the lobby, which symbolizes prosperity and good fortune in the Chinese culture. How perfect for Las Vegas!

We immediately fell in love with our sunlit suite, with floor-to-ceiling windows and every amenity I could imagine — even some I could not imagine. It did take a few minutes to learn the lay of the land. For example, the hotel's lobby is on the 23rd floor, and there are two separate elevator banks: one for guests and one for visitors. Two floors are dedicated to private ownership. I have heard that certain well-known celebrities own apartments there, but I am sworn to secrecy!

My next challenge to make our journey unique was to focus on quality over quantity when it came to dining. No gluttonous,

SEE **MANDARIN** PAGE 11

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MANDARIN

FROM PAGE 10

belt-busting Bellagio brunches for me this time. I wanted to leave Vegas not only guilt-free, but also able to buckle my seat belt on the flight home. Although Mandarin Oriental's restaurant Twist is the fine-dining star there, we opted for their MOzen Bistro, and I am glad we did. It is presented as a journey through Asia, and it lived up to its claim. They served dishes from Japan, Thailand, Southeast Asia, Korea, and India.

Their recommended dining experience, inspired by Japanese bento, is Bento by MOzen Bistro. Basically, you choose six items from the menu from different countries, or any way you wish, and it is served in a lovely bento box. We decided not to go that route and selected numerous items from the menu. My highlights of "A Journey through Asia" included: hot and sour soup (wow!), tempura shrimp roll, salt and pepper calamari, wasabi prawn (wonderful mango-chili relish), Hong Kong steamed grouper, and Singapore chili crab. What a sampling of dishes! Finally, if you are a margarita fan, my husband would suggest their signature cucumber and cilantro margarita. If you decide to go alcohol free like I did, they have a refreshing choice of "mocktails."

I found my focus shift from great food to experiencing the spa at Mandarin Oriental. I knew that the spa was only one of 30 in the world to earn the Forbes Five Star rating. I had heard that the spa was inspired by 1930s Shanghai, and although I did not quite know what that meant, I was intrigued. Walking into the sunlit 27,000-square-foot, two-story spa was breathtaking in itself. The spa menu was heavenly. The staff suggests that you book time rather than treatments, as they prefer to meet with you and then tailor the treatment to your specific needs.

We opted for the "Tian Quan Thermal Experience." Again, I was not sure what that was, but trusting Mandarin Oriental, I knew it had to be more than a hose down. Basically, it is several different water and heat experiences. My favorite, the vitality pool, with the water temp at perfect womb temperature of 102 degrees was the hardest to leave.

I usually skip the steam rooms, because when I step into one I feel like I am being assaulted by the steam equivalent of the smoke monster from an episode of "Lost." But this one was not like that at all. The steam was gentle and cleansing. The lighting in the steam room was subtle greens and blues; the scent was very pleasant. I actually emerged feeling not like a steam room survivor, but calm, gleaming and refreshed. The best part of the thermal experience was that we could return to it as often as we wanted on the day we had it scheduled. We went there in the a.m. after working out (they have an amazing gym), and again in the p.m. after a day of shopping, and yes, gambling (I never said I was a saint). It was great to go there and cleanse away the glitz, cigarette smoke and the aggravation about money lost.

I reached most of my Las Vegas goals. Coming home refreshed and not bursting at the seams was great. Mandarin Oriental provided an experience that was luxurious, healthy, positive and memorable. But alas, they can't do anything about the results of a casino visit. Maybe I should have rubbed the gold bullion wall instead of just gazing at it.

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DOWNTOWN Specific Plan

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WHEN: **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th 7:00-9:00PM**

WHERE: **CIVIC CENTER, EAST WING**
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Greater e-mail privacy won't hinder law enforcement

RICHARD LARDNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON Over objections from law enforcement officials, the Senate Judiciary Committee has approved legislation that would require police to obtain a search warrant from a judge before they can review a person's e-mails or other electronic communications.

The bill passed Thursday makes it slightly more difficult for the government to access the content of a consumer's e-mails and private files from Google, Yahoo, Facebook and other Internet providers. Under the current law, the 1986 Electronic Communications Privacy Act, a warrant is needed only for e-mails less than 6 months old.

The committee chairman and the bill's sponsor, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said digital files on a computer should have the same safeguards as paper files stored in a home. Americans "face even greater threats to their digital privacy, as we witness the explosion of new technologies and the expansion of the government's surveillance powers," Leahy said during the committee's vote.

The full Senate, which is in a lame-duck session, is not expected to vote on the legislation until it reconvenes early next year. The Republican-led House Judiciary Committee hasn't yet voted on a similar bill introduced by Democrats.

Passage of the bill comes just a few weeks after the stunning resignation of David Petraeus as the head of the CIA over an extramarital affair with his biographer, Paula Broadwell. The case focused the public's attention on how easy it is for federal agents to access people's e-mail accounts.

Privacy advocates and civil liberties groups applauded the committee's action, saying the law is outdated in an era of cloud computing, cheaper electronic storage, social networking and wireless phones. Such advances in technology have dramatically increased the amount of stored communications in ways no one anticipated a quarter of a century ago.

"We are very happy that the committee voted that all electronic content like e-mails, photos and other communications held by companies like Google and Facebook should be protected with a search warrant," said Chris Calabrese, legislative counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

The Justice Department and other law enforcement groups had resisted changes to the law. The associate deputy attorney general, James Baker, urged the committee last year to consider the adverse impact on criminal and national security investigations if a warrant were the only means for law enforcement officials to obtain e-mails and other digital files.

Petraeus stepped down earlier this month after FBI agents examined messages between him and Broadwell. The FBI obtained a court order, signed by a judge, to read the contents of Broadwell's e-mail account before she was notified she was under investigation. Investigators also used grand jury subpoenas to obtain information about other electronic communications related to threatening messages she is accused of sending to a Tampa socialite.

Sen. Charles Grassley, the committee's top Republican, complained that the bill was rushed through the committee without a rigorous debate over its impact. The bill could hamper investigations by civil agencies, such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, that are charged with protecting consumers against fraud, he said.

But setting the bar higher doesn't prevent law enforcement agencies from doing their jobs, according to current and former prosecutors, judges and attorneys who specialize in privacy issues. Federal law enforcement authorities in four Midwestern and Southern states have been working with the more demanding warrant requirement since 2010 after an appeals court ruled warrantless access to e-mails was unconstitutional. To get a warrant, a judge must have proof of probable cause that a crime is being committed.

"I don't see anything (in the Senate bill) that's going to seriously concern law enforcement in terms of our ability to request warrants and to get the contents of the material that we need," said Joseph Cassilly, the state's attorney in Harford County, Md., and a former president of the National District Attorneys Association. "Since you've already got to get warrants for the stuff that's less than 180 days, it's obviously not an insurmountable standard."

Nor does the legislation weaken other methods used by law enforcement for collecting electronic information. A subpoena signed by a federal prosecutor — not a judge — will continue to be sufficient for obtaining routing data from third-party Internet providers that can identify the sender of an e-mail and the location where the message was sent.

Police also can use a judicial order to get the "to" and "from" addresses of an e-mail, but not the contents. These orders must be issued by a judge, but the agency seeking one need only show there is reasonable suspicion of a crime — a lower legal standard than probable cause.

In a Nov. 21 letter to Leahy, 30 former federal and state prosecutors and judges said the bill would provide "a much needed judicial check on when the government can access our private digital information." Concerns that the bill would keep law enforcement from acting quickly during emergencies are unfounded, they added, because the Senate bill does not change a provision in the existing law that compels third-party providers to give the government information in situations where lives are at risk or children are being exploited or abused.

Digital Due Process, a wide-ranging coalition that includes Google, Microsoft and Twitter, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union and Grover Norquist's Americans for Tax Reform, has mounted a public relations campaign supporting the Senate bill. The coalition says updating the law will clear the "murky legal landscape" for companies and consumers alike and provide the proper safeguards for the vast amounts of information stored in server farms.

There's money at stake, too. The global market for cloud computing via the Internet is estimated to be $240 billion by 2020. But the Business Software Alliance, a coalition member that represents Apple, Intel and Microsoft, said U.S. cloud providers are at a disadvantage unless online privacy and security laws are changed. If consumers aren't sure their information is being properly protected by U.S. firms on the remote, networked computer servers that make up the cloud, they'll take their business elsewhere.

Twinkies maker Hostess ready for its big bake sale

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK The future of Twinkies is virtually assured.

Hostess Brands Inc. got final approval for its wind-down plans in bankruptcy court Thursday, setting the stage for its iconic snack cakes to find a second life with new owners — even as 18,000 jobs will be wiped out.

The company said in court that it's in talks with 110 potential buyers for its brands, which include CupCakes, Ding Dongs and Ho Hos. The suitors include at least five national retailers such as supermarkets, a financial adviser for Hostess said. The process has been "so fast and furious" Hostess wasn't able to make its planned calls to potential buyers, said Joshua Scherer of Perella Weinberg Partners.

"Not only are these buyers serious, but they are expecting to spend substantial sums," he said, noting that six of them had hired investment banks to help in the process.

The update on the sale process came as Hostess also received approval to give its top executives bonuses totaling up to $1.8 million for meeting certain budget goals during the liquidation. The company says the incentive pay is needed to retain the 19 corporate officers and "high-level managers" for the wind down process, which could take about a year.

Two of those executives would be eligible for additional rewards depending on how efficiently they carry out the liquidation. The compensation would be on top of their regular pay.

The bonuses do not include pay for CEO Gregory Rayburn, who was brought on as a

SEE SALE PAGE 14

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SALE
FROM PAGE 13

restructuring expert earlier this year. Rayburn is being paid $125,000 a month.

Hostess was given interim approval for its wind-down last week, which gave the company the legal protection to immediately fire 15,000 union workers. The company said the terminations were necessary to free up workers to apply for unemployment benefits. About 3,200 employees are being retained to help in winding down operations, including 237 employees at the corporate level.

The bakers union, Hostess' second-largest union, has asked the judge to appoint an independent trustee to oversee the liquidation, saying that the current management "has been woefully unsuccessful in its reorganization attempts."

Hostess had already said last week that it was getting a flood of interest from potential buyers for its brands, which also include Devil Dogs and Wonder bread. The company has stressed it needs to move quickly to capitalize on the outpouring of nostalgia sparked by its liquidation.

"The longer these brands are off the shelves, the less they're going to be valued," Scherer said Thursday in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Southern District of New York in White Plains, N.Y.

Last week, Scherer had noted that it was a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" for buyers to snap up such well-known products without the debt and labor contracts that would come with the purchasing the entire company. Although Hostess sales have been declining over the years, they still clock in at between $2.3 billion and $2.4 billion a year.

Scherer also said a surprising number of potential buyers have expressed interest in most of its three dozen factories.

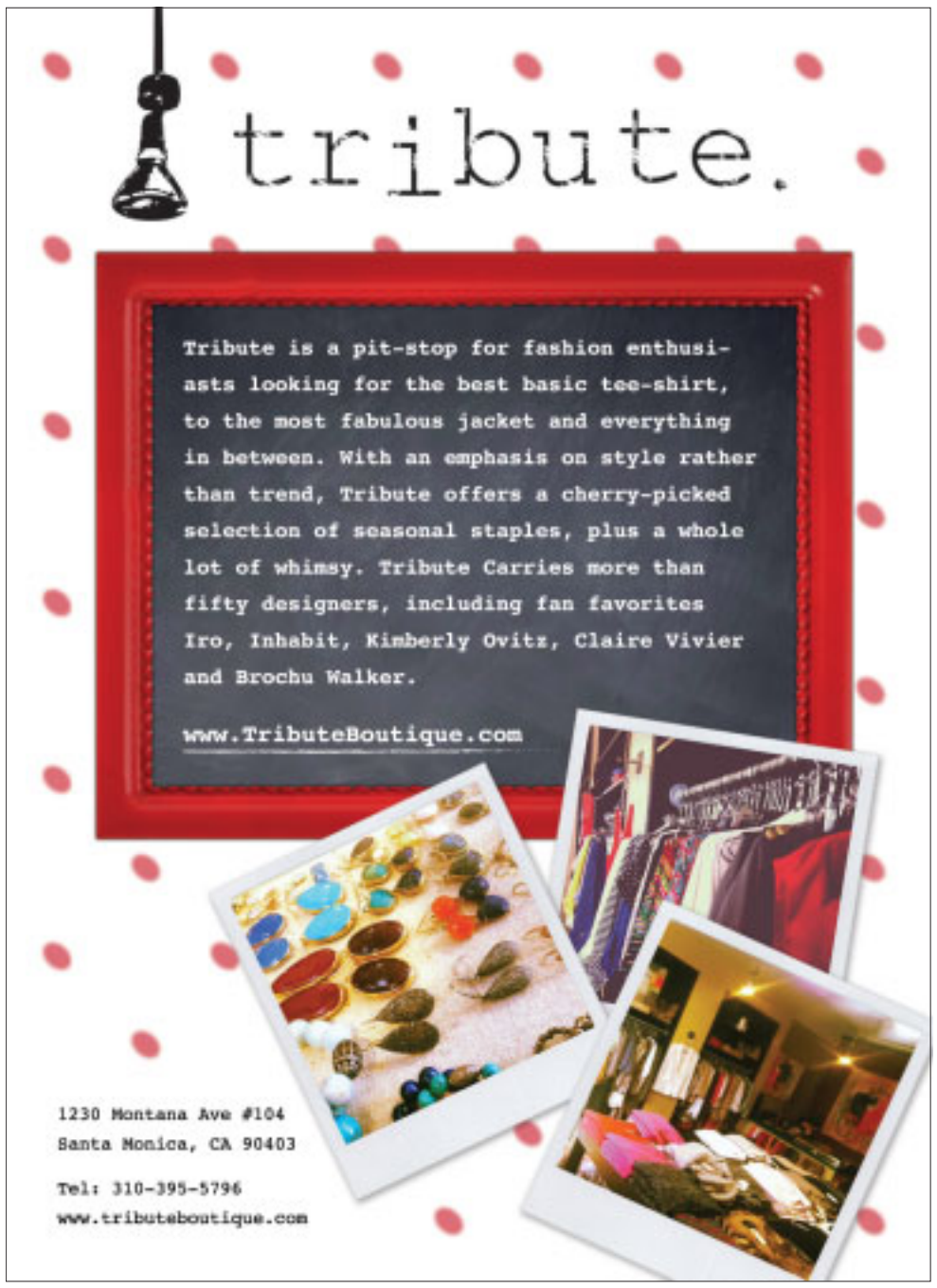
The company's demise came after years of management turmoil and turnover, with workers saying the company failed to invest in updating its products. In January, Hostess filed for its second Chapter 11 bankruptcy in less than a decade, citing steep costs associated with its unionized workforce.

Although Hostess was able to reach a new contract agreement with its largest union, the Teamsters, the bakers union rejected the terms and went on strike Nov. 9. Hostess announced its plans to liquidate a week later, saying the strike crippled its ability to maintain normal production.

In court Thursday, an attorney for Hostess noted that the company is no longer able to pay retiree benefits, which come to about $1.1 million a month. Hostess stopped contributing to its union pension plans more than a year ago.

Toward the end of the hearing, a man who said he'd worked for Hostess for 34 years stood to give his objections to the wind-down plan, saying creditors shouldn't be paid when the company hasn't been making its contributions to workers' pension funds.

"I have traveled pretty far to get here," he said, noting that many of his co-workers didn't know how to get to the hearing and speak for themselves. "I just wanted to be heard."



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NHL

Players skating in Arizona this week

JOHN MARSHALL
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. Phoenix Coyotes goalie Mike Smith lowered into a crouch as the odd-man rush developed in front of him.

The puck went to the left wing and he followed, lodging his skate against the post. A one-touch pass sent the puck across the front of Smith's crease and he slid over in a flash, whipping his right leg out for a sprawling pad save, setting off a collective 'Oh!' from fans lining the glass behind him.

NHL players on the ice, competing hard, fans cheering them on — it almost felt like a real game.

Of course, it was only a scrimmage in front of a couple hundred people at the Coyotes' practice facility, but as the NHL lockout drags on, fans — and the players — will take anything they can get.

"This is awesome," said Jane Pittet of Scottsdale, who left work to catch Thursday's workout at the Ice Den. "I wish it were the real thing, but this is fun to watch."

The Phoenix Coyotes have been holding informal workouts at their practice rink since the NHL lockout started and this week were joined by more than a dozen players from around the league for what amounts to a lockout minicamp.

Pittsburgh star Sidney Crosby, San Jose forward Patrick Marleau, Buffalo goalie Ryan Miller and Dallas forward Brendan Morrow are among the players who have made the desert the hockey destination this week by skating with the Coyotes.

Players from teams across the country have gotten together for workouts in their home cities, but this week is a chance to face a step up in competition and play against someone other than their teammates, not to mention feel at least a little pressure playing with people watching.

"It was fun to be out there and, OK, I've actually go to stop this puck," Miller said. "I kind of tried to pretend I was back in front of the home crowd and had to make a stop, so it was good."

The Coyotes have had good turnout for their player-organized workouts, skating with a dozen or so players who haven't gone to play overseas or for minor league teams, while a handful of players from other teams have occasionally joined in.

Crosby, trying to work his way back from a series of concussions, helped organize a couple of gatherings in Dallas and Vail, Colo., and the group headed to Arizona this week to join the Coyotes.

Phoenix captain Shane Doan sent word that there would be a mini camp of sorts this week, luring more players to Scottsdale.

About 30 players have participated in the workouts this week, separating onto two rinks for drills before coming together for 40 minutes to an hour of scrimmaging. There isn't any hard checking or an overwhelming intensity to the workouts, but it is a chance for the players to get out and play at close to game speed.

"We've had a pretty good group here the whole time and we added about 15 guys, so that made it to where you can play a full game," Doan said. "That makes it so it's 5-on-5 and there's a little bit of a break, not every other shift. Gives you a chance to really play. It just picks up the competitiveness and everyone wants to prove that they're capable of playing and it's a lot of fun."

For now, camps like this and informal workouts with teammates are all the players have.

The NHL lockout reached 75 days on Thursday and had already led to the cancellation of more than 400 games, including the New Year's Day Winter Classic and All-Star weekend.

Federal mediators joined the talks between the NHL and players this week, but the sides appear to still be far apart.

"I thought I knew what to expect, but here we are, it's almost December and we're talking in Phoenix," said Miller, who lives in Los Angeles and has been working out with Kings and Ducks players.

"It's very frustrating that we can't have a true partnership in the sense that the game was doing well. If it needed a tweak or two, we were more than willing to listen, but it seems everyone's on guard and no one trusts the other party. It's been going like that for years. It's tough."

Camps like the one this week will help them vent some of the frustration, but it's just not the same as playing in games that matter.

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SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

DATE/TIME: December 3, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- ARB 12-357, 1633 Ocean Front Walk: Snack shop
- ARB 12-463, 520 Broadway: Office
- ARB 12-471, 1654 Ocean Ave: Retail
- ARB 12-458, 1452 3rd Street Promenade: Retail

More information is available on-line at http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/arbagendas.htm or at 310/458-8341 en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail laura.beck@smgov.net, or mail Santa Monica Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Big Blue Bus lines, 2, 3, Rapid #3, 7, & 9 serve the Santa Monica Civic Center and City Hall.

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SURF REPORT



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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **61.0°**

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
BIGGEST LATE; Reinforcing West-WNW groundswell builds in over top of West swell; Larger sets for standout spots in far western part of county

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high occ. 6 ft
West-WNW swell tops out in the morning, then holds steady; Larger sets possible for standout spots in far western part of county; AM winds looking okay

SUNDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-4 ft** knee to shoulder high
West-WNW swell fades; keeping an eye on winds/weather

MONDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
WNW swell fades; small new SSW swell fills in; favorable winds/weather

Tides

Tide swings are fairly extreme this week. Deep morning high tides of 5.7'+ will slow the more tide sensitive breaks down before draining out to negative afternoon low tides. Keep it in mind when planning when/where to surf.

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 **November 19, 2012**

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 -- 1
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 3
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 28 / 24
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: The Oller -- von Furstenberg Family Foundation (Woodbrook Family Foundation), simplehuman, LacerGUY, SBBA

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 Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Seguit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alisa creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	ns
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Winter Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	ns
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	B	A+
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	A	ns
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 21672 Malibu Rd..	A	ns
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	A	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	F
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	ns
Tuna Canyon.	ns	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	B	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	D	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	ns
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A	ns
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	ns
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	ns
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CSAW jetty).	B	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	ns
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A+

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

Heal the Bay is a 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

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 guaranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD BY THE SANTA MONICA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ON APPLICATIONS FOR VARIANCES

TIME: **10:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2012**

LOCATION: Council Chambers, Room 213, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica

A Public Hearing will be held by the Zoning Administrator of the City of Santa Monica at the above noted time and place in regard to the following requests:

Use Permit US 12-004, 1560 Twelfth Street. The applicant (AT&T) requests approval to modify an existing unmanned wireless communications facility on the roof of a commercial building located on the subject property. The proposed project includes the removal of two (2) existing omni antennas, and the addition of twelve (12) panel antennas, twelve (12) remote radio units (RRUs), six (6) DC surge suppressors, and one (1) GPS antenna mounted behind roof-mounted RF screening. New equipment will be added to the existing equipment enclosure located within the building. As proposed, the project does not comply with the requirements for non-parabolic or parabolic antennas contained in Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.06.110. Pursuant to SMMC Section 9.04.10.06.110(b), the Zoning Administrator may approve modifications to the requirements for non-parabolic commercial antennas through the approval of a Use Permit application. [Planner: Steve Mizokami] **APPLICANT/OWNER**: AT& T Wireless/Capital Innovations, Inc. ***This public hearing was continued from the November 13, 2012 Zoning Administrator Hearing.***

Variance VAR 12-009, 26 Seaside Terrace. The applicant requests variance approvals in conjunction with a new single-family residence to allow the modification of the front yard setback of 10-feet and side yard setbacks of 6-feet, without the additional two-foot average setback at each story (SMMC Section 9.04.08.06.070(b)). The request also involves increased parcel coverage for the project and new driveway slope of 7.1%. The following table depicts the allowable and requested square footage:

Parcel Coverage	Allowable by Zoning Code	Requested
First Story	1,379.5 SF	1339 SF
Second Story	1,172.5 SF	1,408 SF
Third Story	827.7 SF	1,296 SF

Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Sections 9.04.20.10.030(b) and (d)(1)&(3), the Zoning Administrator may grant a variance to allow the modification of driveway requirements, yard setbacks, and parcel coverage on parcels having a depth of ninety-feet or less or a width of thirty-nine feet or less. The subject parcel is 75-feet in depth and 37-feet in width. [Planner: Grace Page] **APPLICANT/OWNER**: Kusum Chawla/Michelle Cardiel. ***This public hearing was continued from the October 9, 2012 Zoning Administrator Hearing.***

Variance VAR 12-015, 135 Wadsworth Avenue. The applicant requests approval of a Variance to allow eaves to encroach 18 inches into the required side yard setback for a new single family residence with an attached garage. The applicant also requests, as part of the development, two garden windows to encroach 18 inches into the north sideyard setback. Each window would be four feet in length and located on the second floor of the residence. The proposed dwelling has previously received approval from the Architectural Review Board and one of the conditions of approval was to either redesign the eaves to comply with side yard setback requirements or obtain a Variance to allow the originally designed eaves to encroach into the required yard setback. The garden windows were not a part of the original proposal presented to the Board. SMMC Section 9.04.20.10.030(d)(1) permits the modification of yard setbacks on parcels having a width of 39 feet or less. The subject property has a parcel width of 31 feet. [Planner: Dennis Banks] **APPLICANT/OWNER**: James V. Coane/Rob Zeitinger. ***This public hearing was continued from the November 13, 2012 Zoning Administrator Hearing.***

Fence, Wall, Hedge Height Modification FWHM 12-0008, 2500 Fourth Street, HOA. The applicant is requesting approval of a fence height modification to construct a 7'-3 ?" high parking and side entry gate (measured at the highest point) within the required front yard area. The gates would be comprised of a steel material and range in height from approximately 6'-1/4" to 7'-3 3/4", as measured from the lowest grade. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code (SMMC) Section 9.04.10.02.080, fences, walls, or hedges cannot exceed the maximum height of 42-inches within the required front yard, measured from the lowest grade. SMMC Section 9.04.10.02.080(e) permits a height modification to the height limitations in the front yard area, subject to approval by the Zoning Administrator. [Planner: Ivan Lai] **APPLICANT/OWNER**: 2400 Fourth Street HOA/James Kim.

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Zoning Administrator public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the Zoning Administrator at the meeting.

Any person may comment at the Public Hearing, or by writing a letter to the City Planning Division, Room 212, P.O. Box 2220, Santa Monica, CA 90407-2220. Plans are available for public review at the City Planning Division. For more information, please contact the City Planning Division at (310) 458-8341. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 64009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the Public Hearing. The meeting facility is accessible. If you have any disabilities related request, contact at (310) 458-8341 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #2, #3, Rapid #3, #7 and #9 serve the City Hall.

*Esto es un aviso sobre una audiencia publica para revisar applicaciones proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Esto puede ser de interes para usted. Si desea mas informacion, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la Division de Planificacion al numero (310) 458-8341.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Arbitrage (R) 1hr 47min
Richard Gere in person. This event is sold out.
7:30pm

An Officer and A Gentleman (R) 2hrs 4min
10:00 pm

This screening is free to the public — first come, first served — and no tickets will be sold. Introduction by Academy Film Archive preservationist Heather Linville, who oversaw the creation of the new print.

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

Red Dawn (PG-13) 1hr 54min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:50pm

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
12:15pm, 3:15pm, 6:15pm, 9:15pm

Life of Pi (PG) 2hrs 06min
10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:35pm, 7:45pm, 10:50pm

Anna Karenina (R) 2hrs 10min
10:15am, 1:15pm, 4:20pm, 7:30pm, 10:40pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:05pm, 8:15pm, 11:15pm

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
10:50am, 1:45pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:45pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
12:30pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:55pm

Flight (R) 2hrs 19min
12:15pm, 3:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
11:00am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:50pm, 10:50pm

Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:20am, 3:00pm, 6:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Royal Affair (En kongelig affaere) (R) 2hrs 13min
3:50pm

Chasing Ice (PG-13) 1hr 14min
3:30pm, 5:40pm, 7:50pm, 10:00pm

Middle of Nowhere (R) 1hr 39min
1:20pm, 7:00pm

Searching for Sugar Man (PG-13) 1hr 25min
4:40pm, 9:55pm

Sessions (R) 1hr 38min
1:00pm, 9:30pm

Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) 1hr 42min
1:50pm, 7:20pm

Holy Motors (NR) 1hr 55min
4:20pm, 9:45pm

Late Quartet (R) 1hr 45min
1:40pm, 7:10pm

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

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) 1hr 56min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:55pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
11:15am, 2:45pm, 6:15pm, 9:45pm

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 1hr 37min
10:40am, 1:20pm, 4:05pm, 6:45pm, 9:30pm

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 1hr 48min
10:50am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:15pm, 10:05pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
10:30am, 1:30pm, 4:45pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

Killing Them Softly (R) 1hr 40min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:15pm

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

All smiles tonight, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Tap into your imagination and seek out a novel approach to a uniquely different situation. You could be overserious about a financial matter involving a partner. Tonight: Head home first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You'll open up a conversation and gain a better sense of what is going on. The unexpected plays a role in plans, and you will gain a sudden insight as a result. Conversations are animated. Tonight: Where your friends are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Be aware of the advantages of heading in a certain direction. Confirm that you and a boss are on the same page, as easily one of you could misread the other. You might find that your routine is becoming a bit tiring. Consider making it livelier. Tonight: TGIF!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Listen to forthcoming news with a touch of cynicism. The unexpected could add an element of confusion and force you to revise your plans. Think twice before making any changes. A loved one is more than ready for a serious talk. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ Recognize that you can't handle everything in the timeframe you would like. Manage your responsibilities with the knowledge that you are only human. News from afar could jolt you. Do your best to make sure that you understand the various forces at work. Tonight: Not to be found.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Do not lose your focus right now. It would not be advisable, especially with an associate or a loved one experiencing uproar in some form. Meetings add to a feeling of being in control. Think positively, and step back from any negativity. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Pressure builds at work or within your immediate circle. Stay focused in order to discuss what is going on at a deeper level. You seem oddly off-kilter. Try to worry less about the here-and-now, and you will gain the ability to see the big picture. Tonight: In the limelight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Read between the lines with an associate. In fact, just listen to this person as if you were a complete stranger, and you will understand a lot more about the differences and similarities between you. Tonight: Follow your imagination.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Someone approaches you with a very interesting idea. You might question what is really happening. Why not simply choose to experience what this person has in mind? You might be making too much of this interaction. Tonight: Deal with a key person directly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might want to defer to someone and find out what is going on behind the scenes. How you visualize what you want and what a friend is offering might seem very different, but they actually are not. Be open to a suggestion. Tonight: You certainly are not alone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could be taken aback by all the last-minute errands that fall into your lap. Be willing to say "no" if you feel as if you have too much to handle. Tonight: Go relax with a friend and have some munchies.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You might not be able to restrain yourself as your more romantic side emerges. Be careful when handling your finances or anything else that demands your full attention. Your ability to dream and come up with unusual ideas emerges. Tonight: All smiles.

Happy birthday

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

This year success comes from relating on a one-on-one level, both professionally and personally. Others sense your compassion and become more responsive. Your creativity comes in waves and sometimes out of the blue. You will have greater insights than ever before. If you are single, you might feel like you're on a dating roller coaster. Let time determine the durability of a connection, if you decide to relate. This person will bring excitement into your life. If you are attached, the two of you rediscover the chemistry in your relationship. Try not to overreact to the intensity. CANCER understands you better than you do!

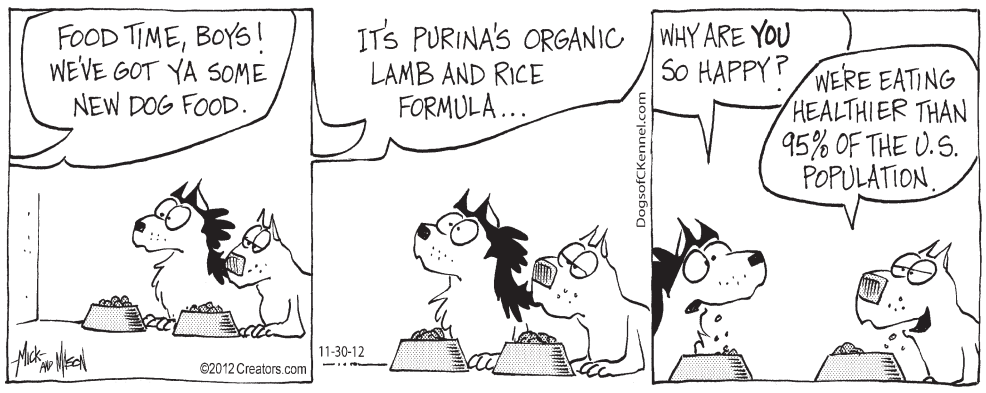
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



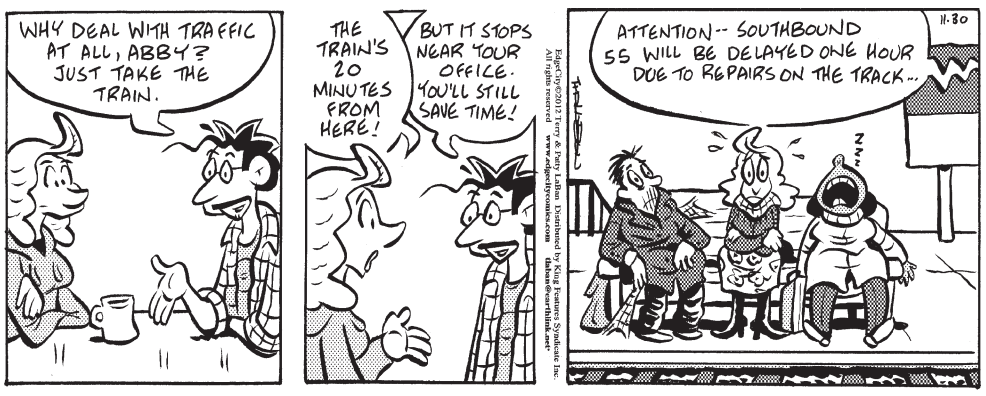
Strange Brew
By John Deering



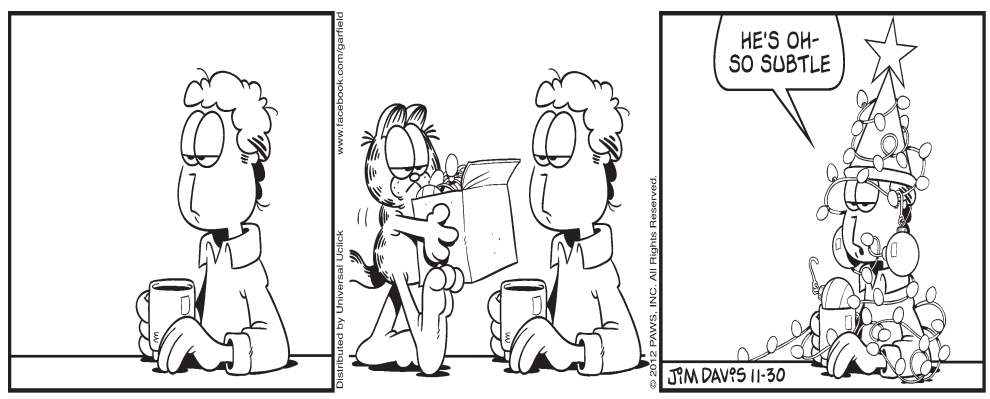
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



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 ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

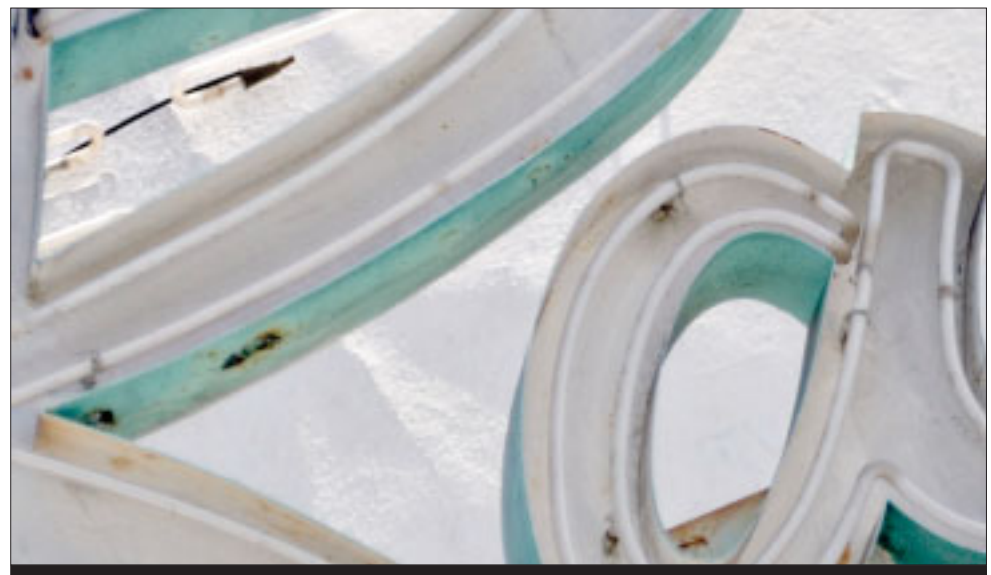
There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY REVEALED!

Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

Reader Martha Durán-Contreras correctly identified this photo of Rae's diner on Pico Boulevard. She will receive a prize from the Daily Press. Check out the weekend edition of the Daily Press for another chance to win. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

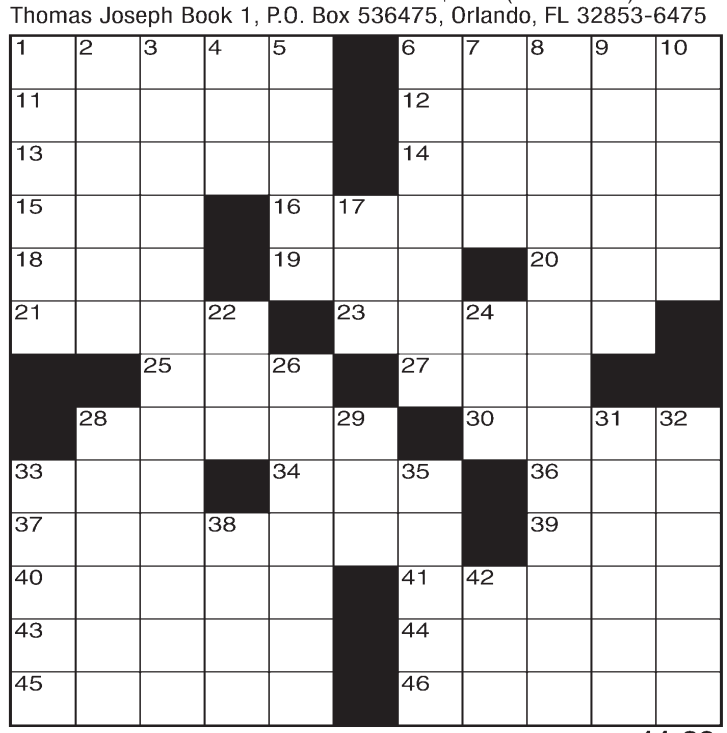
ACROSS
1 Ballroom dance
6 Bar garnishes
11 Sing like Bing
12 Poker declaration
13 Quiver item
14 "Otello" composer
15 Outfit
16 Helped in a heist
18 Juan's wife
19 Sought a seat
20 Hot blood
21 Body-shop challenge
23 Shore fliers
25 Monk's address
27 Dict. info
28 Spitfire fliers
30 Test type
33 Shade
34 Singer Phair
36 Shoebox letters
37 Repeat
39 Hurler's stat
40 Breaks, perhaps
41 Eastern monks
43 Silly
44 Hopping mad
45 Scout shelters
46 Heredity units

DOWN
1 Cowering
2 Show up
3 "Invictus" star
4 Greet the villain
5 Egypt's Sadat
6 Pepped up
7 "Cold As Ever" rapper
8 "The Hobbit" star
9 Town leaders
10 Trombone part
17 Cave dweller
22 Numerical prefix
24 Old auto
26 World books
28 Lighter fuel
29 Canine command
31 Pump full of bubbles
32 Tenants' papers
33 Words to the bandleader
35 Woody Allen film
38 Monthly bill
42 Is for two

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

Yesterday's answer

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



11-30

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/27
5 12 26 42 49
Meganumber: 24
Jackpot: $16M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 11/28
2 9 13 21 46
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/29
1 11 24 25 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 11/29
MIDDAY: 6 7 1
EVENING: 0 0 7

SANTA ANITA DERBY
Draw Date: 11/29
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1:43.33

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

■ Michael Carrier, 45, was arrested for soliciting prostitution in New Milford, Conn., in August -- not resulting from a police sting, which is usually how arrests for that crime are made. In Carrier's case, he was disturbing other customers at a Friendly's restaurant because, being hard of hearing, he was shouting to the prostitute the terms of their prospective business arrangement.

■ Neurosurgeon Denise Crute left Colorado in 2005 after admitting to four serious mistakes (including wrong-side surgeries on patients' brain and spine) and left Illinois several years after that, when the state medical board concluded that she made three more serious mistakes (including another wrong-side spine surgery). Nonetheless, she was not formally "disciplined" by either state in that she was permitted merely to "surrender" her licenses, which the profession does not regard as "discipline." In November, Denver's KMGH-TV reported that Dr. Crute had landed a job at the prestigious Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, where she treats post-surgery patients (and she informed Illinois officials recently that she is fully licensed in New York to resume performing neurosurgery).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1999 - In Seattle, Washington, United States, protests against the WTO meeting by anti-globalization protesters catch police unprepared and force the cancellation of opening ceremonies.

1999 - British Aerospace and Marconi Electronic Systems merge to form BAE Systems, Europe's largest defense contractor and the fourth largest aerospace firm in the world.

2001 - In Renton, Washington, United States, Gary Ridgway aka The Green River Killer is arrested.

WORD UP!

biblioklept
\ BIB-lee-uh-klept \ , noun;
1.
A person who steals books.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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Editor, Research. MA; or BA & 5 yr exp reqd. Send resume to Impact Pictures, 9200 Sunset Blvd, #800, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Taxi drivers needed. Age 23 or older, H-6 DMV report required. Independent Contractor Call 310-566-3300

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1037 5th St. 1 Bd + 1 Bth. Top floor. Balcony. Pet friendly. $2095 per month.

11937 Foxboro Dr. 3Bd + 3Bth house in Brentwood. $4590 per month. No pets. Double garage. Hdwd floors. 2 fireplaces.

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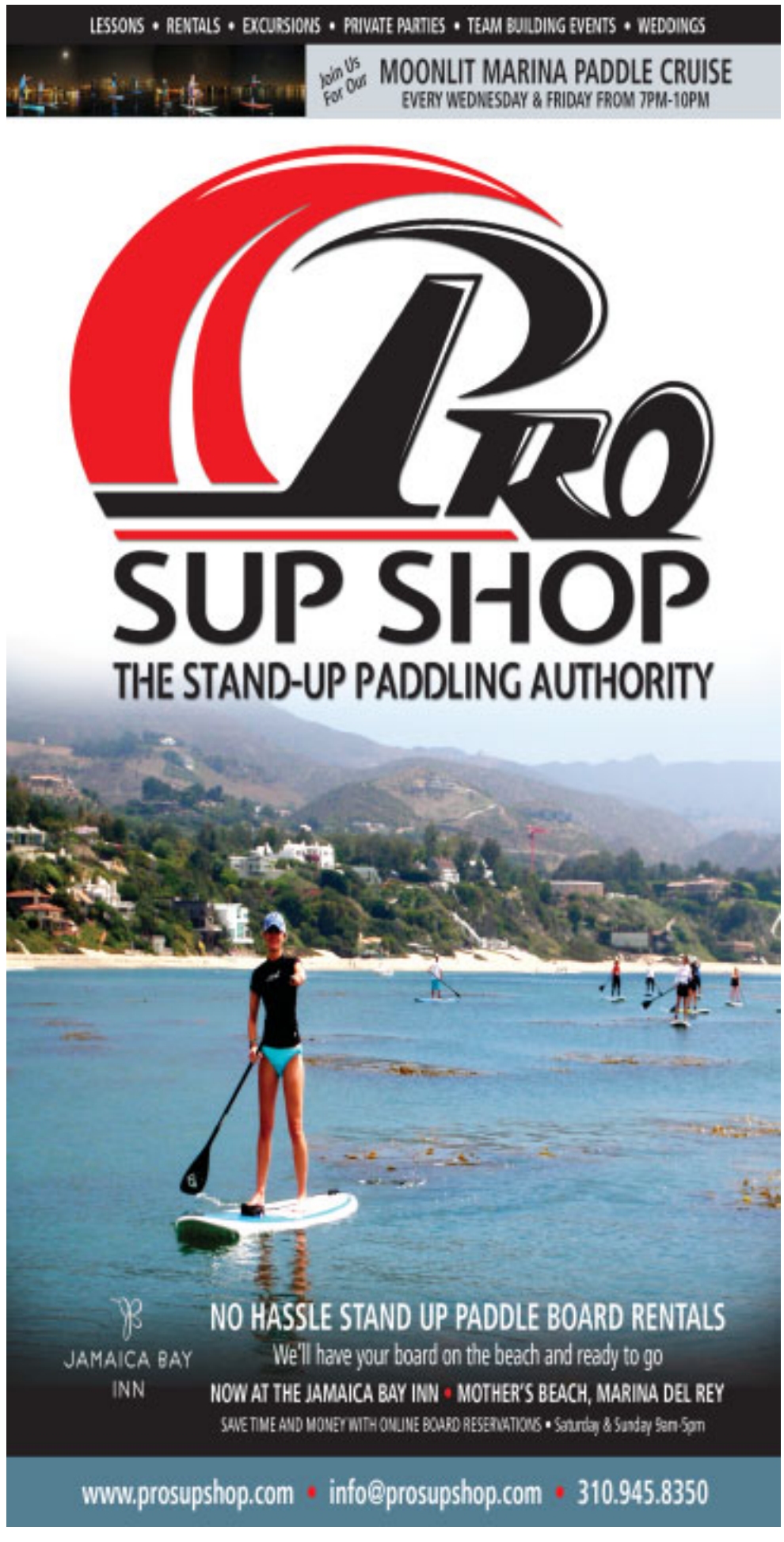
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