

# Lawndale Tribune

AND LAWNDALE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of Lawndale

Herald Publications - Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, El Segundo, Torrance & Manhattan Beach Community Newspapers Since 1911 - Circulation 30,000 - Readership 60,000 (310) 322-1830 - August 23, 2012

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## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
87°/68°



**Saturday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
86°/70°



**Sunday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
80°/65°



## School Readiness and Health Fair Returns



Senator Roderick D. Wright (D-Inglewood) and L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas will host a discussion of current legislation and issues on Saturday, August 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jesse Owens County Park, and is open to students between the ages of five and 14 who reside in the 25th Senate District and are accompanied by an adult. Families are encouraged to bring their child's yellow immunization card. Interested persons may call 310-412-0393. Photo courtesy of the Office of Sen. Wright. •

## Business License Revocation Upheld

By Nancy Peters

Monday's Lawndale City Council meeting included the usual consent calendar and various reports, but no public hearings were held, no new business came before the Council, and each Council member passed their turn with nothing to report when the time came to offer their reports. There was a Metro Grant application approved for submission, a service agreement was renewed, and an appeal denial was upheld.

The Metro Marine Avenue Green Line Station Transit Oriented Development Ordinance Grant application was approved, although Mayor Pro Tem Larry Rudolph cast a dissenting vote for the application to be submitted. Lawndale collaborated with neighboring cities Redondo Beach and Hawthorne to take advantage of submitting the grant application to benefit all three cities when the Transit Oriented Development for the overlay of the Metro Green Line Station at Marine Avenue is readied for enhancement by the MTA in conjunction with the Green Line Extension Plan. A comprehensive review of the mixed-use zoning and the environments of the city around the Metro Station will be the focus of the use of the grant funds. This will also include a salary for a Lawndale employee who will work with the grant when funds are received. The grant is made possible from Measure R, a ballot initiative that approved a one-half-cent sales tax to benefit the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority programs. Once the application is submitted, the amount of the grant will be determined.

A service agreement with the SPCA-LA was approved for a new one-year period to commence on September 1, 2012 and will remain at the service fee of \$5,800 per month. SPCA-LA combs Lawndale for stray or abandoned animals treated for illnesses and injuries, rehabilitated for adoption with the necessary inoculations, and sheltered at the facility in Hawthorne.

The appeal of the decision to deny a business license to ABC Income Tax for a home business to be conducted on the premises of 15118 Avis Avenue in Lawndale was upheld,

although by a vote of 3-2, with Mayor Harold E. Hofmann and Councilmember Robert Pullen-Miles casting their dissenting votes to the staff recommendation. Violations of City ordinances and complaints against the business caused the license to be revoked. Subsequently, the business owner filed an appeal to the unfavorable decision by the City Municipal Services Manager. A license can be issued to the business owner to operate in a commercial space, but a home-based business for ABC Income Tax is not permitted without compliance to all City ordinances governing home-based businesses.

The Community Services Manager submitted, and received approval, for a piano owned by the City to be loaned to the Lawndale Historical Society and for the instrument to be moved to the Lawndale Historical Museum located in the Lawndale Community Center.

A review of the Meeting Procedures for the City Council, contained in a policy and not governed by any City ordinances or resolutions, was made by Assistant City Clerk Pam Giammarino and reported to the Council. The statistical data included the averages of public comment time during 12 previous meetings. The data was compiled to show how many total minutes are used by the public as they offer comments on agenda items as well as items that come under the Council jurisdiction but have not been placed on a meeting agenda. Currently, the public is given five timed minutes for each person to speak to the Council and a total of 60 minutes per meeting is allowed before the Mayor may use discretion to cease public comment. A consensus from 208 cities in California indicated that individual comments range from an allowed, timed three minutes to five minutes, and a total of 30 minutes or 60 minutes, with one or two cities allowing comments only to agenda items at the beginning of a public meeting and general comments at an additional time, after the formal business and just prior to the end of a meeting, to total 60 minutes for both periods.

A motion by Rudolph to change the

individual comment period from five minutes to three minutes failed for lack of a second. A discussion to change the total minutes from 60 to 30 minutes was tabled. However, the Assistant City Clerk will bring a new policy to the next Council meeting to streamline some of the current meeting procedures and enact Rosenberg's Rules of Order to substitute for the more complex Roberts Rules of Order, as well as bring consistency with state law for some procedures. A revised policy would replace the policy that has been in existence without change for four years.

During the Public Safety Report by LA County Sheriff's Captain Matt Dendo, it was advised that within the last 10 days a response was made to a kidnapping victim and the alleged kidnapper was taken into custody when the victim pressed charges for being held against her will and threatened with a knife. Another response was made when someone discharged a large firearm, and upon searching the premises, drugs and drug paraphernalia were also discovered along with more weapons. Charges filed included assault with a deadly weapon, and a man was arrested for starting a fire (an arson charge) and endangering others on the property. These three responses were among some of the most violent charges against Lawndale residents in recent history. Pullen-Miles requested that Capt. Dendo report back periodically when results of trials become known for those charged with crimes within the city limits.

During public comments a lack of a space for Neighborhood Watch meetings and the fact that the Community Center continues not to utilize local vendors came up. Rudolph requested a report from the Community Services Manager, with a list of caterers given to staff and patrons and what the method is to advise of local vendors that can be hired. Pullen-Miles suggested that Lawndale business owners may not be giving competitive price packages and that eliminates these local vendors from consideration. He urged Lawndale vendors to contact the Lawndale Community Center to make sure they are listed with the staff and receive the opportunity to be hired for service. •

# Finance

## How to Save on Back-to-School Shopping

By Jason Alderman

On the fun-o-meter, I'd probably rank back-to-school shopping right above getting a flu shot and preparing income taxes. Never mind the hassle of figuring out what our kids need for the coming school year and dragging them to the mall, it's just so expensive.

For example, our son insists that we replace his baseball glove and bat as he enters 7th grade. (He's right – his four-year-old mitt has seen better days.) Also, our daughter is starting soccer and needs cleats – good ones aren't cheap and footwear is one area where we refuse to scrimp.

Many years ago my wife and I learned our lesson and started setting aside money each month for the inevitable – and unexpected – expenses that crop up each fall. By trial and error – and sound advice from fellow parents – we've developed a back-to-school budgeting checklist:

First, calculate how much you can afford to spend on school-related expenses without blowing your overall budget or racking up debt. Scoring bargains won't help your bottom line if you end up paying interest on unpaid balances.

Next, make a comprehensive list of anticipated expenses for each child and build in a cushion for unexpected costs. Try these strategies:

- Examine previous years' bills and compare notes with other, more experienced parents.
- Ask the school which supplies they expect you to buy. Pool resources with other families to take advantage of volume discounts and sales.
- Spread clothing purchases throughout the year so your kids won't outgrow everything at once; plus you can take advantage of off-season sales.
- Review school dress codes so you don't waste money on inappropriate clothing.
- Before buying new clothing or accessories, look for "gently used" items in the closets of your older kids, friends and neighbors, at

garage sales, thrift and consignment stores, and sites like Craig's List.

- Find out how much extracurricular activities (athletics, music, art, etc.) cost. Account for uniforms, membership dues, private lessons, field trips, snacks, etc.

- Compare the cost, convenience and nutritional value of school lunches and snacks versus food you prepare yourself.

- Learn your school's policy on immunizations and see what's covered by your insurance – or which ones you can access free at health fairs or community clinics.

- Factor in public transportation, school bus or carpool expenses.

- Although shopping online can save money, time and gas, don't forget shipping and return costs, which could undo any net savings. If your kids are old enough, put them in charge of online comparison shopping.

- Clip newspaper and online coupons. Many stores will match competitors' prices even if their own items aren't on sale. Plus, many consolidation websites post downloadable coupons and sale codes for online retailers.

- Mobile shopping apps let in-store smartphone and mobile browser users scan product barcodes and make on-the-spot price comparisons, read reviews, download coupons, buy products and more.

Some parents wrestle over whether or not to take their kids on shopping trips. I think it's worth the effort so they can hear and absorb your decision-making process and understand what's available to spend. My kids are probably sick of hearing me say, "I'm going to buy this brand of underwear because it's cheaper, which will give us more money to buy a better-quality jacket."

Bottom line: Back-to-school shopping can be tedious, but if you plan carefully, you can save time, money and aggravation.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).

# A Student's Perspective

## Don't Steal My Bike!

By Glen Abalyan, Torrance High School Student

According to *Wired.com*, cycling is approaching another golden age. With the increase in the number of high quality bikes for affordable prices, more people are choosing to use cycling as their favored form of transportation. But as the number of bikes on the road increases, so does the audacity of potential bike thieves. Compared to the petty bike thieves of yesteryear, today's thieves form criminal networks to plan heists, rob homes and steal thousands of dollars worth of bicycles. The theft of bicycles from individuals and dealerships needs to be stopped in order to prevent it from hindering the growth of cycling's popularity and discouraging potential cyclists from reaping its many benefits.

A popular subcategory on a site named Reddit briefly summarizes this view. In its bicycling subcategory (otherwise known as a "subreddit"), the front page is filled with users submitting photos of renovated bikes, state-of-the-art cycles and videos of their daily commute. The user-submitted content of the front page shows the brighter side of cycling and cements the fact that cycling is approaching another golden age. But the subreddit also shows the darker side of cycling, as it is littered with photos of recently stolen bikes, the lamentations of theft victims and news reports of entire dealerships being robbed of thousands of dollars worth of cycles. An example of such an event happened in August when thieves robbed over a hundred thousand dollars worth of bicycles.

The August 11 edition of the *Canberra Times* shows how lucrative today's bike thieves are. The article reported a story of how 26 high-end Trek bicycles were stolen from a locked trailer near the Trek offices in Fyshwick, Australia. The bicycles stolen were top-of-the-line Trek racing bicycles each costing over \$10,000. In less than two hours, the thieves managed to steal one hundred \$183,000 worth of bikes, devastating Simon Thompson, the company's marketing manager. The daring raid of the famous bicycle distributor cannot have been achieved by just one man and showed bike thefts' evolution from a simple job to something straight out of *Ocean's Eleven*.

Bike thieves are even resorting to home robbery to get what they want. In a May 8 article of the *Los Angeles Times*, bike thieves robbed Jet Tanner's home and went away with his daughter's custom-made bicycle worth over \$5,000. According to police, bike thieves are now using sites such as Craigslist and Facebook to acquire more thousand-dollar bicycles. The thieves who were arrested knowingly used fake aliases to contact the owner and obtain the owner's home address.

The rise in bike sales and popularity is in direct correlation to the increase in bike thefts. Compared to robbing items of equal value, such as jewelry or small cars, bicycles are the easiest object to steal. The average bike thief would only need a minute to break a bike lock and only needs a few days to sell it on the Internet or flea markets. Compare this to jewelry, which requires an intricate plan, or cars, which are relatively simple to track. The lack of a proper location to place a bicycle

is also to blame because of the fact that a simple chain is the only object preventing a thief from stealing a bike. Unfortunately, most of the chains used by cyclists can be easily broken by a determined individual with a pair of \$15 wire cutters.

But cyclists are now retaliating against bike thieves. A video posted on August 14 on YouTube showed how far a man can go retrieve his stolen bicycle. The owner of the bicycle, a user by the name of "Simon Jackson," posted a video of how he travelled 160 miles to catch the person responsible for stealing his bicycle. Jackson even organized his own sting when he asked the thief where he got the bike and showed him evidence that he did in fact steal the bicycle. Law enforcement has also decided to catch bike thieves at their own game by strapping GPS devices on trap bikes and arrest anyone attempting to run away with the trap bike. Ordinary citizens are also doing their part in preventing bike theft by educating cyclists through classes and videos and keeping an eye out for thieves. But even with all the added support cyclists are receiving through outside sources, they should not be dependent on these sources and still focus on keeping their bike protected at all costs.

With the introduction of quicker and more effective ways to steal a bike, cyclists must rely on more than just a bike lock to protect his bicycle. Unfortunately, a pair of \$15 wire cutters can easily break simple chains and locks. To add another level of protection, cyclists should invest in a "U-Lock," or a chain from the same company. A good rule of thumb is to spend 20 percent of your bike's worth in keeping it protected. It is also advisable for cyclists to lock their bike along its frame instead of its spokes whenever possible because thieves can easily detach the wheel and steal the more expensive frame. It is much easier to replace a stolen wheel than the entire rear end of the bicycle.

In the case of a theft, cyclists should have pictures of their bike beforehand along with registering its serial number. The serial number is usually located under the bike's crank. It is important to document a bike's serial number so that the owner has feasible proof that the bike is his. It is also advisable to attach a GPS to the bike to easily retrieve it if the bicycle gets stolen. Newer versions of GPS technology can fit under the bike's seat or reflector and can send a text if it senses movement. Taking these precautions prevents bike theft and makes a thief dedicate more time to steal it, and thus blows his cover.

With the increased demand for bicycles, so grows the amount of thieves trying to make a quick buck. The accessibility of bicycles and their owners' lack of protection make bicycles one of the fastest growing objects in underground markets. It is the cyclist's responsibility to be properly educated in keeping their bike safe from the greedy hands of thieves.

With the ever-evolving methods of stealing bicycles, cyclists should always stay one step ahead of their malevolent counterparts and educate others from becoming victims of this selfish crime. •

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HERALD  
PUBLICATIONS

### Newspaper Distribution Comparisons\*

\*All circulation numbers provided by the papers themselves.

#### Distribution for City of El Segundo

L.A. Times	1,800
Daily Breeze	1,806
El Segundo Herald	15,000

#### Distribution for City of Inglewood

L.A. Times	4,101
Daily Breeze	3,248
Inglewood News	7,500

#### Distribution for the City of Hawthorne/Lawndale

L.A. Times	3,394
Daily Breeze	6,357
Hawthorne/Lawndale Press Tribune	7,500

**Our Total Circulation 30,000**

"High achievement requires an emotional investment. Unfortunately, there are scores of people who do not make the investment - who do not feel strongly about anything  
~ Theodore Isaac Rubin

# Calendar

**ALL CITIES**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 25**

• Caregiver Cafe in celebration of all caregivers, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., AC Bilbrew Library, 150 E. El Segundo Blvd. For more information call (310) 538-3350. R.S.V.P. by August 23rd: (818) 632-0366.

**ONGOING**

• Recovery International Meetings, Fridays at 10 a.m., at the South Bay Mental Health Center, 2311 El Segundo Blvd. For more information call Deanna at (310) 512-8112.

**HAWTHORNE**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 25**

• One World Rhythm, 10 a.m. Wiseburn Library, 5335 W. 135th St. For more information call (310) 643-8880.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 28**

• City Council Meeting, 6-10 p.m., City Council Chambers, 4455 W 126th St. For more information call Monica Dicrisci at (310) 349-2915. Next meeting 9/11.

**ONGOING**

• Wiseburn Food Fest benefiting the Wiseburn Education Foundation, 5:30-9 p.m. the last Friday of every month (excluding October and December) at Dana Middle School. info@wiseburneducation.org

• Social Security Outreach available for drop-in assistance, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, except holidays, Hawthorne Library, 12700 Grevillea Ave. For more information call Donald Rowe at (310) 679-8193.

**INGLEWOOD**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 30**

• "Frog and the Witch" Puppet Show, 2 p.m., Main Library, 101 W. Manchester Blvd. For more information call (310) 412-5645.

**UPCOMING**

• "Know Your Rights" Workshop, Sept. 21, 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m., Gladys Waddingham Library Lecture Hall, 101 W. Manchester Blvd. For more information call (310) 412-5380.

**ONGOING**

• Free 'Housing Rights Walk In Clinics' every 2nd Tuesday of the month, during the 2012 calendar year, 1-4 p.m., at the Inglewood Library, 101 W. Manchester Blvd. For more information call Geraldine Noguera at (800) 477-5977 extension #27.

• Free Summer Food Program, M-F, from June 20-August 31. Free lunches offered to youth 18 and under at eight different locations in Inglewood. For more information, call (310) 412-8750.

**LAWDALE**

**UPCOMING**

• Clean Up Week Sept. 15-23: yard sales allowed without permit and large items picked-up on regular trash day. Items can also be dropped off at the City Yard during that week (no hazardous materials are accepted). Citywide Clean Up Day is Sept. 22 from 9 a.m.-noon. For more information call (310) 973-3220.

**ONGOING**

• Lawndale Certified Farmer's Market, 2-7 p.m., every Wednesday on the lawn of

# Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. The Torrance Tribune does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**

**Studio Apt.** ES. Quiet complex upper unit, stove, fridge, pool, laundry, covered parking, storage. No smoking/pets. Avail. 9/1. \$875 + \$875 deposit w/copy of credit rpt. Leave message at (310) 322-8099.

**2BD/1BA.** ES. W/D in unit, garage. No pets. One year min. lease. \$1,600/mo. (310) 545-3153.

**2BD/1BA.** ES. In 4-unit building, no pets, newly refurbish, fridge, built-ins, laundry room, enclosed garage. \$1685/mo., + Sec. deposit. Call 310-540-3605.

**2BD/2.5BA.** Luxury Townhome Apt. W/D installed, fireplace, double garage, end unit. 126 Virginia St. Avail Oct. \$2,200/mo. Call (310) 545-2845.

**3BD/1.5BA.** Hardwood floors, W/D hook ups, granite kitchen, carport w/storage. No pets. Non-smoking. \$2,100. Call (310) 955-7202.

**Duplex for Rent**

**El Segundo- Front Unit.** \$2,750 includes utilities. 2 Bedrooms+Den, 1.5 Baths inside Laundry. 2 Car Garage. Agt. Julie (310) 702-8961 Cell.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**Display Ad Sales Position.** We need an experienced Display Ad Salesperson for Herald Publications. Territories include Torrance, El Segundo and Hawthorne. Full or part-time positions are available. 20% commission on all sales. If interested please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

**ESTATE SALE**

**821 Pepper St.** ES. Sat., 8/25 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. Complete home furnishings. Garage Sale

**815 Eucalyptus Dr.,** Sat., 8/25, 8 a.m. Furniture, computer equip., clothes, toys-games, kitchenware, etc.

**405 Center St.** (Back House) ES. Sat., 8/25, 8-11 a.m. Bikes, luggage, fish tank, DVD's, wall unit, misc.

**861 Maryland St.** ES. 8/25, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Multi-Family Sale. Printers, children's clothing, toys, household goods, lots of other stuff.

**711 W. Sycamore Ave.** ES. Sat., 8/25, 6:30 - 10:30 am. Clothes, shoes, books, CD's, small furniture, lots of great stuff.

**HELP WANTED**

Part-Time Reporter needed. Herald Publications is looking for part-time reporter. Coverage areas would include El Segundo, Torrance, Inglewood, Hawthorne and Lawndale. Applicants must be available approximately 20-30 hours a week, \$15/hr, must have a car and be familiar with Mac computers and it's word programs. Interested parties please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No calls please.

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

**2BD, Spanish cottage** in ES. F/p, dine/rm., patio, fenced yd, 1 car gar, w/d, stove, fridge. 2 blks. to beach, quiet area. \$1950/mo.+ \$1500 dep. Avail. 9/1. (310) 322-8099.

**4BD/3BA. EXECUTIVE HOME** in prime El Segundo location. Partially furnished. Contact (310) 560-2011 for further information on property.

**Room for Rent**

**ES Loft** w/own shower and separate entrance. All utilities/laundry paid. \$900/mo. Call Barbara (310) 242-3758.

**SEEKING EMPLOYMENT**

**15 yr. ES resident** seeks additional income. UC Davis Grad. B.A. Mgmt. Solid skills, agency-trained aide/assistant/caregiver. Call/Text Mike at (310) 902-4530.



"Success is 99% failure."  
~ Soichiro Honda

# Letter

**Hey, Plastic Bags, What Have You Done For Me Lately?**

Do plastic bags have it out for me? I remember having to evacuate our family car when I was three because there was a plastic bag on fire underneath. I recently experienced déjà vu when the stench of burning plastic filled my car on a trip to Long Beach. I had to pay my mechanic \$50 to have him scrape off a plastic bag that was stuck underneath.

Turns out it's not just me: Big Plastic has it out for all of us. Plastic bags costs are embedded in the price of our food. Right now, I'm paying for plastic bags even when I bring my reusable bag. What we don't pay in the cost of our goods, we pay on the back end with millions of dollars of taxpayer money

going toward cleaning up plastic pollution. That's money that we could spend instead on improving our schools or keeping our streets safe.

Even with clean up and recycling efforts, I still see plastic bags junking up the streets of Inglewood almost every day. These errant bags usually end up in the ocean through our storm drains, where they tangle choke, and maim marine life. Even though I live in an inland area, my neighbors and I care about a clean neighborhood and a healthy environment.

Get in the habit of bringing your own bags, and please call your senator to tell him or her to support the single-use bag ban (AB 298).

Sincerely, Susie Santilena, Inglewood, CA

# Crime Reports

**FELONY SPECIFIC CRIMES (RUN DATE 8.15.12)**

Felony Specific Crimes - Last Five Days

**Assault**  
13418 S ROSELLE AV #5 Sun 08/12/12  
4908 W 119TH ST Fri 08/10/12 0245  
3900 W EL SEGUNDO BL Sun 08/12/12  
2155 ARREST  
12306 S GALE AV #208 Mon 08/13/12 0630  
4071 W 130TH ST #D Tue 08/14/12 0246 ARREST  
4387 W 134TH ST #B Tue 08/14/12 0950 ARREST  
13800 BLOCK INGLEWOOD AVE Sun 08/12/12 0200  
13520 S DOTY AV #10 Tue 08/14/12 1956 Tue 08/14/12 2240  
**Burglary - Auto**  
14100 S CHADRON AV Sat 08/11/12 0239 ARREST  
W 118TH ST/S MENLO AV Sat 08/11/12 0030 Sat 08/11/12 0345 STREET, HIGHWAY, ALLEY  
4758 W BROADWAY #J Sun 08/12/12 0810 ARREST  
13926 S YUKON AV Thu 07/12/12 2100 Fri 07/13/12 0900 AUTO/VEHICLE  
3133 W. 131TH STREET Sun 08/12/12 1900 Sun 08/12/12 1915 Burglary - Not Categorized or Report not Completed  
3825 W 139TH ST Tue 08/14/12 1525

12-0141  
12938 S KORNBLUM AV #C Tue 08/14/12  
1905 12-0147  
**Burglary-Res**  
15011 S KORNBLUM AV Sun 08/12/12  
1100 12-0048 RESIDENTIAL-HOUSE  
4047 W 136TH ST Sun 08/12/12 0830 Sun 08/12/12 1200 APARTMENT COMMON AREAS (LNDRY,CLB HSE,ETC)  
3734 W. EL SEGUNDO BLVD #116 Mon 08/13/12 1045 Mon 08/13/12 1215 APARTMENT/CONDOMINIUM  
14004 KORNBLUM AVE Tue 08/14/12 0530 Tue 08/14/12 1648 **Rape**  
LINDEN AVE Mon 08/13/12 0200 Mon 08/13/12 1936  
**Robbery**  
2500 BLK EL SEGUNDO BL Mon 08/13/12 1436 12-0090 STREET, HIGHWAY, ALLEY  
W 132ND ST/S HAWTHORNE BL Tue 08/14/12 1600 STREET, HIGHWAY, ALLEY SHAWTHORNE BL/W ROSECRANS AV Wed 08/15/12 0019 **Vehicle Theft**  
4349 W 137TH ST Sat 08/11/12 0907  
14511 S YUKON AV Sun 08/12/12 1008  
13516 S DOTY AV Mon 08/13/12 1338  
2831 W 120TH ST Mon 08/13/12 1839  
11901 S CRENSHAW BL Mon 08/13/12 2317  
11800 S GREVILLEA AV Tue 08/14/12 1803 •

**How Tweet!**

Herald Publication's twitter account is up and running, so follow our tweets and receive special offers, discounts and deals from our advertisers!

Our twitter address is: **twitter.com/heraldpub**

**EL SEGUNDO HERALD\***  
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**LAWDALE NEWS\***  
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# Politically Speaking

## One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

For several days, the neighborhood talking cat went AWOL and everyone went into a panic mode. We declared an Amber Alert and initiated a door-to-door search. Finally, lo and behold, we found him modeling uniforms in a military supply store. He had on shiny riding boots, tan jodhpurs, a chest full of medals, and a blue sash diagonally across his chest. He snapped a riding crop on his boot and commanded a white bull terrier to sit at heel.

"Who the heck are you," the neighbors chorused, "George Patton?"

"Naw," said the cat. "I'm Mitt Romney's battle planner. I've got the whole campaign laid out and it's working perfectly." With that, he unrolled a series of papers on a table while the neighbors gawked over his shoulders.

"Now you noticed that coming out of the Primaries, we were pretty beat up and didn't have much money. So rather than jumping out with a whole lot of aggressive and Obama-provoking positions, we cooled it and left him with little to specifically attack. As my old friend Muhammad Ali said, 'Let's do a rope-a-dope thing and let him swing at things that don't hurt, but sap his assets.' Like Ali, we encouraged him to waste his money while we raised and conserved ours. In the last three months, Obama has outspent us three-to-one and is having trouble raising more, but we have outraised him by substantial margins, conserving our cash for the final three months. We have now raised as much as Obama, but have way more cash on hand because we plan on peaking in November--not August.

"What has this spending bought Obama? Among registered voters he is even with my man, but among likely voters, Mitt's leading. Now black ministers are calling him a traitor and are organizing against him for destroying black families. Romney has cut into Obama's standing with Jewish voters with unequivocal support of Israel. Catholics are offended by Obama's threat against their right to practice their religion. Hispanics are disappointed at the lack of a comprehensive immigration law. Young voters are struck by massive unemployment. All in all, the Democratic coalition is teetering and will likely grow weaker with each subsequent economic report."

A key element in Mitt's campaign is that he will not pander to separate segments of society by race, gender, age or religion, emphasizing distinctly separate Americas. Instead he views us as a single nation facing common problems that require uncommon

solutions.

Fascinated, a neighbor asked, "How do you see the campaign moving forward?"

"Well," said the cat, "our selection of Paul Ryan is a game-changer. Contrast Ryan's specific tough love requirement to cure our economic ills with Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner's confession that 'we're not here to tell you we have any answers. We just don't like yours.' We recognize that Ryan is a lightning rod for Democratic attacks, but he'll give as good as he gets and addresses serious problems with serious proposals. As Mitt says, Ryan will force Obama to 'get his campaign out of the gutter' of distracting political ads that most people understand are intended to move discussions away from the economic disaster we face.

"We're building momentum, ramping up, taking the offensive, separating ourselves from Obama on issues such as Israel's defense. People will see the difference between our principled stance against Muslim aggression and the muddled Obama approach to appeasement.

"Gradually we will increase the pressure on Obama, forcing him to defend his record, making this race a referendum on his administration's follies and identifying his philosophies as a destruction of American ideals.

"Our party's platform will show a reverence for religion, individual responsibility and private enterprise as the cores of our society--sharply contrasting with the Obama positions on secularism, government domination and a denigration of private enterprise.

"At our Party Convention, we will attack Obama on every front, and as Sarah Palin urged us to do, 'set our hair on fire.' As the keynote speaker, Chris Christie will ignite enthusiasm from the moderates as Ryan has ignited the conservatives. This event will unite the GOP with a level of enthusiasm the left cannot equal.

"We will use our now superior financial resources to build our momentum day-by-day and issue-by-issue to reach a crescendo in November. Our allied independent Super PACS will carry the negative attack segment of the campaign while the Romney campaign will carry the positive policy side of the campaign, ignoring the Obama 'spitball' campaign for the presidency. As Newt Gingrich said, 'Every day, Obama diminishes himself and the office he holds.' To paraphrase Bill Clinton, soon the era of big government will truly be over."

With that conclusion, the cat doffed his helmet and bowed to the stunned and adoring neighborhood. •

## Political Penguin

By Duane Plank

So Mitt "The Glove" Romney has now made his earth-shattering choice for his running mate and the conservative Romney did not choose to think outside of the box and select a female running mate. As championed in this very column weeks ago.

Nope, he selected the somewhat obscure Congressman Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, who is, according to a tad bit of research, the Elephant Party champion of cutting taxes. Cutting them for regular Joes. Cutting them for the less fortunate. And all fired up about cutting taxes for the wealthy.

Okay, on balance, I am always going to initially be in favor of cutting taxes. Who in his right mind wants to fork over more dinero to Uncle Sam? Criminy, we are taxed up the wazoo. Fed tax, state tax, income tax, petrol tax. Tax on tax on tax. And all to achieve what? More pork-belly handouts, more seemingly well-intentioned government programs that don't seem to cut the mustard, that tend to hand out the payola to the administrative muckey-mucks, who, to give them the dubious benefit of the doubt, may try to do the right thing, but it seems that a lot of our money is wasted, doesn't it?

So, have to admit that I did not know a whole lot about Congressman Ryan before Romney's pollsters and handlers anointed the 42-year-old as a possible President of the United States. Sure, that can happen, if somehow "The Glove" outpoints the POTUS, the hard-fundraising Barack Obama in the general election which will be taking place in about 10 weeks.

Congressman Ryan could be the President of the United States sometime in the next eight years. Or in the next 12, if "The Glove" were to somehow knock off the incumbent Prez. serve out his statutory two terms and then turn over the reins to the youthful Ryan. Chances of that happening, according to some very unscientific odds gleaned from unsavory sources: 'bout two percent.

But Ryan is the choice. And, as mentioned in a prior column, not sure that too many of us will have our vote influenced by the second banana on the ticket. Predictably, Ryan's speech writers crafted some nice alliteration when the youthful Congressman addressed the world after being anointed by the Romney camp.

Ryan said that America is a "nation facing debt, doubt and despair." And shockingly, blamed the aforementioned three Ds on the current campaigning his butt-off POTUS. "Regrettably, President Obama has become part of the problem...and Mitt Romney is the solution," cheered the youngster Ryan. Who happens to be a couple of decades younger than the 65-year-old Romney. •

Now of course, the Demos were more than ready to shoot their slings and arrows at whomever the Republicans selected to be the man or woman in the shadows as the 2012 campaign heats up. The poli pundits pontificate to us that not a lot of folks pay attention to the November election until the semi-official end of summer descends upon us the day after Labor Day. A day that may find me in Sin City, by the way, if I can work out some all-important logistics on a couple of ends. But, as I occasionally do, I digress. So the Demos painted Ryan as a selection that will wreck all the freeloards that the Demos have so patiently and painstakingly crafted over the last few years, hitched to taking more money out of our pockets via taxes?

Initially, the POTUS demurred from making any comments about the Ryan selection. The Prez was too busy wandering around his old stomping grounds in the Chicago area, trying to raise more payola for his reelection bid. Now, I am sure that every President has spent his fourth year in office fundraising, saying basically to heck with running the country, trying to solve the nation's ills, but didn't you, didn't we, expect a little more from the ex-Chicago land community organizer when he gave his compelling inauguration speech some three-plus years ago?

Said some Demo vitriol after the Ryan selection: "A Romney/Ryan ticket is sure to take us back and repeat the same catastrophic mistakes that got us into the mess we found ourselves in the first place."

Shrewd move, link the Romney/Ryan ticket to the Bush era failed financial policies. Which may resonate with some folks. Whether the accusations are true or not.

So what do we have to look forward to, politically wise, in the run-up to the election? One of the top-tier candidates decrying the obscene gouging that is currently happening to us petrol whores as we continue to get bent over at the pump by Big Oil whenever they stage another well-planned-out refinery fire? Probably not. Or a drop in the obscene fees that the states are charging our kids to matriculate to college. Ha! Heard something about the fact that some cities out there were actually considering limiting the gouging that they do with their parking meter scams...That would be welcome. Don't see too many rip-off parking meters in Mayberry. Think the last time I saw a meter, I was parked on the top level in the lot outside of the now-defunct Cooke's market, watching, among other sites, the setting of a beautiful sunset gazing north towards the iconic Hollywood sign perched way above the tumult of the 405 north freeway. And I dropped nary a quarter in the slot. •

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Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

**Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.**



Photo by Michael Mazzeo

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# Sports

## Sports

### Swain Begins Third Stint as Head Cougar Grid Coach



Kai Keltz of Devastation shoots under the leaping pressure of Power Circle's Devan Jones in Sunday's Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Adult Basketball action. Devastation won 53-50. Photo by Joe Snyder

By Joe Snyder

James Swain has been Hawthorne High's athletic director for several years, but he has been in and out of coaching the Cougars' football team over the past dozen years. After promising head mentor Joseph Kanach left and got Hawthorne High's team to pick up some victories that followed a futile 45-game losing streak that dated from 2005-10, Swain is back at the helm and hopes he can keep the program winning after he was not very successful in his earlier period.

Swain was Hawthorne's head coach when the Cougars lost 40 of their 45-game skid before stepping down after the 2009 season. He remained as the athletic director. Over the four seasons of his second period, he was 0-40 on the field but 1-39 officially since Hawthorne received a forfeit win against Compton—a squad that humiliated the Cougars 52-0 in 2006 before being discovered that it used an ineligible player. His second period was from 2006-09.

In Swain's first stint during the 2000 and 2001 seasons, he went 11-10 and had a squad that made the CIF-Southern Section Division III playoffs in his first year. That put Swain's overall Hawthorne coaching record to 11-50.

What are his Cougars like this year? Hawthorne, which went 5-5 overall but only 1-4 in Ocean League play in 2011, brings back 10 starters—five each on offense and defense.

The Cougars lost wide receiver Chris Bailey and running back Isaiah Brame to graduation, but also lost what would have been a very good returning quarterback in Rickie Calderon, who transferred to one of Hawthorne's Ocean opponents, Inglewood. Expected to replace Calderon is senior Xavier Clark, who started as a defensive back last year. Senior Paul Fuller will be a key wide receiver.

Hawthorne appears to have a good running game, led by Eric Scott Davis and Chance Kennedy. On defense, Scott Davis and Fuller are expected to start at safety and Clark is a returning defensive back. Swain compares Scott Davis to last season's Inglewood High standout Derrell Woods.

Swain plans to use six-foot-two, 170-pound junior Patrick Washington as a backup

quarterback. Top linemen include six-foot-two, 260-pound junior De Shawn Smith. Swain also likes sophomore strong safety Paris McDaniels and senior lineman Thomas Espinoza, a transfer from Las Vegas. Espinoza has very good size at six-foot-four, 275 pounds.

Hawthorne begins its season on Friday at Torrance High Friday at 7 p.m. Last season, the Tartars had one of their best seasons ever as co-Pioneer League champions and made the CIF-Southern Section Northwest Division semifinals, losing to eventual champion Lompoc.

Top contenders for the Ocean League title include last year's CIF-Southern Section Western Division finalist Culver City, defending league champion Santa Monica and Inglewood.

#### Monarchs Seek Improvement

Morningside High's football team is expected to have very good experience with a senior-studded squad. After going 2-8 overall and 1-4 last seasons, the Monarchs return key starting quarterback Greg Adams.

Running back Dana Dotson is also back, as is wide receiver-safety Taveon Campbell. Morningside also returns two top starting linemen in Rodolfo Reyes and Trayveon Carter.

The Monarchs begin their season at usual powerhouse Canyon High in Canyon Country today at 7 p.m.

#### Lawndale Starts Under New Coach

Under first-year head coach Rick Mathiesen, Lawndale High's football team begins its 2012 season at home against last season's CIF-Los Angeles City Section Division II champion South East High from South Gate Friday at 7 p.m. The Cardinals return a few key players, including senior running back Michael Watkins and offensive guard Edward Banuelos.

#### Devastation Edges Power Circle

In a very tight game, Devastation topped Power Circle 53-50 in a Hawthorne Parks and Recreation Adult Basketball League contest on Sunday. Devastation had balanced scoring, led by Shawn Cobles with 15 points. Kai Keltz and Marcus Bailey each chipped in 13 points. Will Price led all scorers with 18 points for Power Circle. Marsellus Giray contributed 15 points. •

## Adam

### USC Overcomes Obstacles

By Adam Serrao

The magical world of college football is almost all the way back in action and Los Angeles' very own USC Trojans have been listed as the top team to beat in the Associated Press Top 25 poll. After a two-year bowl ban, the Trojans, under head coach Lane Kiffin, have found a way to stay consistent and stay hot. Surely, the appeal of Southern California can't hurt the recruitment process, but after all of the lost scholarships and sanctions sent down upon the school, one would think that SC would be looking at more desperate times. Instead, the Trojans emerge from the Pac-12 as the favorites and as legitimates BCS bowl contenders. Matt Barkley is back at quarterback after denying what was surely a pick in the top 10 of this year's NFL draft, and he comes back to throw to receivers like Marqise Lee and Robert Woods, to name a few. Yup, the Trojans are back among the heavyweights in this year's college football rankings.

It's not supposed to be this way. What happened to the USC Trojans is supposed to hit a program where it hurts. Cripple a program. Make sure that they will be unsuccessful for a long, long time to come. Instead, however, what it did was give the team time. Time to find itself. In his first year with the club, Barkley may not have been ready to be the best quarterback that he could be. He may not have had all of the pieces around him to make a BCS run. Now, all of a sudden, the team that took the field last year looks mighty, to say the least. Last year, in what was a dress rehearsal, America got to see a contender that still wasn't allowed to contend put on a display of skill that was thoroughly impressive. Now that it's time for the real deal, the Trojans are back and have re-achieved their once customary position of number one—not only the AP, but the ESPN power rankings as well.

"Our goal was just to maximize the situation we were put in," Kiffin can now say in retrospect. "We didn't know exactly what that's going to mean." Well, Kiffin and the Trojans are starting to get a better picture of it. USC is not just a team that is ranked number one at the beginning of the season when rankings mean nothing and one loss can change a whole season. USC is a team that players have been faithful to and not fled the program. Players who are looking for big money, attention and notoriety have all remained faithful to a school that had no chance at a championship, no chance at

the playoffs and no chance at even getting into the limelight for two years. That loyalty and solidarity will make this team one of the best that Southern California has seen in a very long time.

Even still, there are many restrictions placed upon this team. In 2010, the NCAA subtracted 10 scholarships a year for three years from the Trojans. That meant that 2010 would be the worst year for the Trojans. With so few scholarships, USC naturally had fewer players ready to suit up and take the field. Worried about losing even more players to injury before the season started, Kiffin conducted his practices in such a way to limit heavy hitting. When the season began, that was evident as the team could barely tackle and they ultimately wound up with an 8-5 record. This year, it is more of the same. With an estimated 71 players on the team (the maximum amount of players on a team is 85), Kiffin plans to redshirt nine freshmen. That will give the freshmen a chance for a longer career life at USC, but will also concurrently drop the roster of available players down to 62. It goes without saying that the Trojans can afford very few injuries. Case in point, starting defensive end Devon Kennard is already unavailable for a majority of the season because of a torn pectoral muscle suffered during the summer.

That being so and the risk being so high, Kiffin will once again attempt to handle his team with soft hands as to avoid any more unnecessary injuries. "We're going to have to manage it really well by the way we practice, by the way we play in the games, rotations of people, special teams," Kiffin said. "But if you're going to have a really good year with a reduced roster, you've got to have some luck and you've got to find a way to stay healthy." Hopefully luck isn't the only thing that Kiffin is banking on to keep his team's number one ranking throughout the entirety of the season. If you take a walk around the campus and talk to any of the players, you'll soon realize it's not. There is a different buzz around this team and a different energy around the school as the season approaches. With players like Barkley, Woods, Lee and running backs like Curtis McNeal and Silas Redd, it is clear that this team is stacked. USC's window for success may not be too entirely large, but this year that window is wide open as gusts of opportunity breeze right through. •



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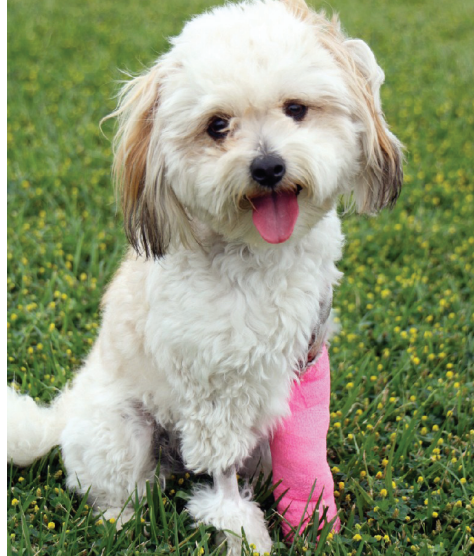
~ Paul Meyer

# PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

## Pets Without Partners

After a two-week summer break for our volunteers, we look forward to seeing you this Saturday! When you adopt a “pet without a partner,” you give a homeless pet a second chance in life.

**Chica** is a gorgeous, sweet little girl who was born on August 2, 2011. A tool chest fell



Chica

on her and broke her leg, which needed to be pinned back together. Her owners could not afford her surgery, so they surrendered her to their vet. We paid the bill and Chica got her surgery. Chica's mother was a purebred Shih Tzu and her father was a purebred Toy Poodle. Chica is what we call a Shih-Poo. She is sooooo sweet--just a very nice dog. Her leg will heal up just fine, her pins will come out and she will be running around just fine. Chica is spayed, current on all vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs, good with kids, and cat-safe. If you would like to help, we are looking for donations to help offset the \$1,700 for cost of her surgery.

While our volunteers took a short break, another rescue group picked up these adorable

puppies! There are three beautiful, female Chihuahua/Dachshund mix puppies who are 13 weeks old, and a terrific litter of four female and four male Poodle/Terrier mix puppies who are 10 weeks old. To learn more about these puppies only, please send an email to MVitto2@aol.com or view them



Chihuahua/Dachshund mix puppies

on the website at [Doggies91rescue.org](http://Doggies91rescue.org).

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at [www.animalsrule.org](http://www.animalsrule.org). If a dog is on our website, it's available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in need of donations for veterinarian bills and our senior dogs. Donations can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to: Animals Rule Placement Foundation at 305 North Harbor Blvd., San Pedro, CA 90731. All donations are tax-deductible. We are a registered 501©3 non-profit organization.

Saving one animal won't change the world, but the world will surely change



Poodle/Terrier Mix Puppies

## Purrrfect Companions

These fun felines are just two of the many kittens and cats available thru Kitten Rescue. Looking for a boy or girl, a Calico or a sleek, black beauty...just let us know--we are sure to have your “purr-fect” match.

**Dinky** was rescued from Downey shelter along with his twin sister, **Doodlebug**. These two sweethearts were saved from death just in time and now are seeking a loving, forever home. Dinky can often be found sleeping on your bed, though like all cats he likes to be unpredictable just to keep things interesting. Dinky is a very relaxed guy, taking everything one day at a time. He definitely has his own mind and wants cuddles and petting on his own time. In that way Dinky can be a bit reserved, as he waits to be sure you are safe before asking for some love. He has a wonderful purr and will occasionally talk to you. Being so young still, Dinky has a lot of energy and loves to play. Dinky likes other cats and especially Doodlebug. Dinky would be far too lonely as an only kitty, so he would like a home with another cat or to

going on with her. She and her brother are both very quiet kitties. Doodlebug has a nice amount of energy and since she is still so young, she loves to play with everyone. When nap time rolls around, Doodlebug can be found curled up with her brother or another kitty friend. She loves to wrestle around with other cats and can also be found grooming others.

These kittens/cats are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, de-wormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see our other kitties, please check our website at [www.kittenrescue.org](http://www.kittenrescue.org), or email us at [mail@kittenrescue.org](mailto:mail@kittenrescue.org). Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon



Dinky and Doodlebug be adopted with a buddy.

Doodlebug is a touch more cuddly than her brother. She will come over to ask for pets when she feels like it and she has got a beautifully silky coat that is just made for petting. She isn't pushy--which is very nice, as she can be content just hanging out with you. Her purr is super-sweet and she will occasionally meow to let you know what's

to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue, and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location.

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~ MARK TWAIN

## Happy Tails

### Wilma Finds Forever Home with Dan and Shari

Wilma deserved a home with someone who scored when she found her forever home with Dan and Shari. Both Wilma and Dan sent us a note...

“Got settled in around the house. Then Dad walked me *all over* the place. I got to know lots of neighborhoods and new smells, got some tasty treats and saw lots of other dogs and people too. Near the end of our walk, we laid in the grass at the park, soaking up the sun in the cool breeze. Then we visited some friends down the street til Mom got home, then had dinner, then took our evening walk. I'm bushed!” -- Love, Wilma.

“On a side note, your rescue team is clearly... one of a kind. Over the course of



would appreciate her inner “gentle giant.” She my intro to Animals Rule, I've seen personal attention and interest given to all the animals within your care. Saturday's Adoption Day is among the top we've ever seen and you all go to great lengths to make sure each and every one gets a home. Having our baby is proof. If you/or the team ever need anything that I can lend a hand in, never hesitate to ask...” -- Sincerely, Dan H.

When you adopt a “pet without a partner,” you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. •

# FOOD & DINING

## Grilled Tuna Sandwich with Lemon-Chili Mayo

Sturdy “country-style” bread works best for this healthy tuna sandwich recipe with watercress and chili-mayo. Eat the tuna sandwich warm, straight off the grill, or wrap it up and pack it in a cooler for a picnic dinner. Serve with grilled bell peppers drizzled with extra-virgin olive oil and vinegar and a glass of Sauvignon Blanc.

Servings: 4 servings

Total Time: 35 minutes

Ease of Preparation: Easy

Health: High Fiber, Low Sat Fat, Low Cholesterol, High Potassium, Heart Healthy

**Ingredients:**

8 slices whole-wheat or sourdough bread  
3 tablespoons canola oil 2 8-ounce tuna fillets, about 1 inch thick

1/2 teaspoon plus 1 tablespoon chili powder, divided

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/2 cup low-fat mayonnaise

1 teaspoon freshly grated lemon zest

1 tablespoon lemon juice

3 cups watercress or baby arugula, tough stems removed

**Steps:**

1: Preheat grill to medium-high.

2: Lightly brush bread slices with oil. Brush tuna with the remaining oil and sprinkle with 1/2 teaspoon chili powder and salt.

3: Grill the tuna, turning once, until cooked through, 4 to 6 minutes per side. Transfer to a clean cutting board. Grill the bread, turning once, until beginning to brown, about 1 minute per side.

4: Combine mayonnaise, lemon zest, lemon juice and the remaining 1 tablespoon chili powder in a small bowl. Thinly slice the tuna with the grain.

5: To assemble the sandwiches, spread about



2 tablespoons of the lemon-chili mayonnaise over 4 slices of bread. Top with about 3/4 cup watercress (or arugula), the tuna and the remaining slices of bread.

Nutrition: (Per serving) Calories - 442 Carbohydrates - 32 Fat - 19 Saturated Fat - 2 Monounsaturated Fat - 9 Protein - 36 Cholesterol - 52 Dietary Fiber - 5 Potassium - 781 Sodium - 753 Nutrition Bonus - Vitamin

A (33% daily value), Magnesium (24% dv), Potassium (23% dv), Vitamin C (22% dv), Iron (16% dv).

Wrap and refrigerate the sandwiches for up to 4 hours.

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~ J.R.R. TOLKIEN

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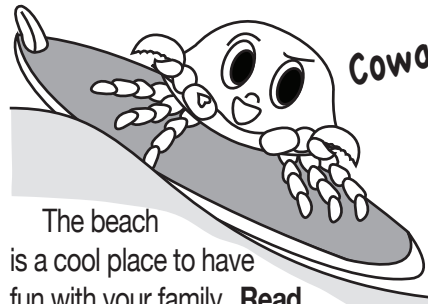
...is a day full of fun and excitement!



# Newspaper Fun!

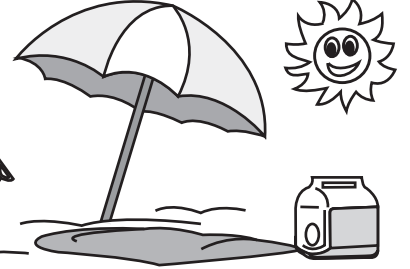
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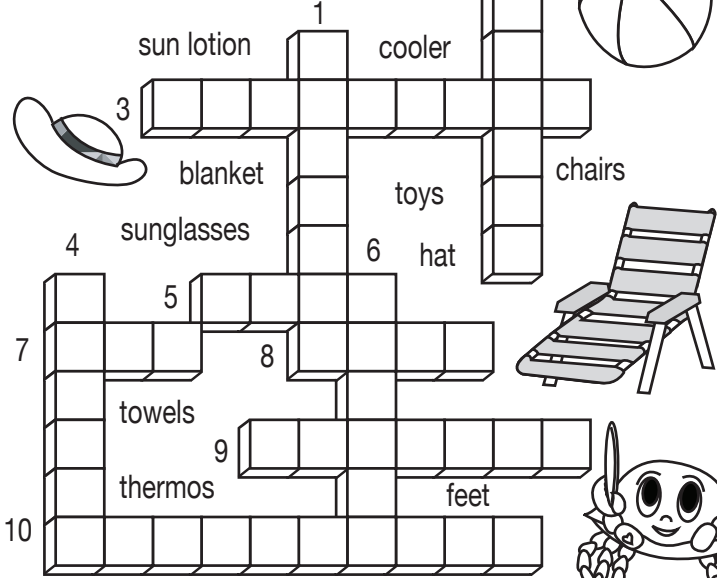


Cowabunga!

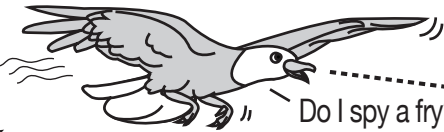
## A Day at the Beach



The beach is a cool place to have fun with your family. **Read the clues to fill in these beach puzzles!**



What will happen if I pinch this?



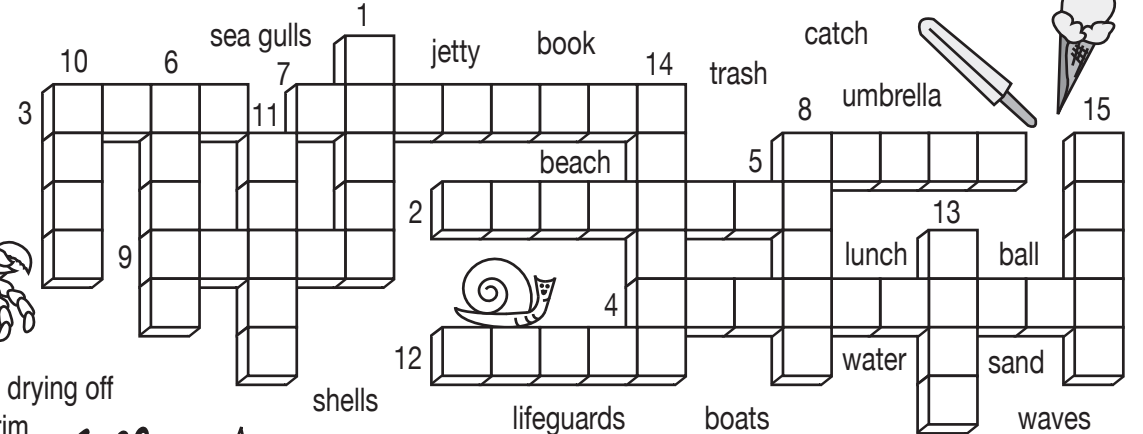
Do I spy a fry?

### Head for the beach, excited and happy!

1. carry your share of stuff to the spot you choose on the \_\_\_\_\_
2. set up blanket, chairs and \_\_\_\_\_
3. blow up the beach \_\_\_\_\_
4. check out where the \_\_\_\_\_ are stationed
5. bob in the \_\_\_\_\_ and surf on your board
6. unpack \_\_\_\_\_ from the cooler and share
7. feed bread crusts to the \_\_\_\_\_

8. put on more sun lotion and drink \_\_\_\_\_
9. throw and \_\_\_\_\_ the beach ball
10. read a chapter of your new \_\_\_\_\_
11. walk on the \_\_\_\_\_ to visit people fishing
12. watch the \_\_\_\_\_ and ships sail by
13. shovel \_\_\_\_\_; dig moat around sand castle
14. walk along shore to find cool \_\_\_\_\_
15. gather all your stuff and carry out your \_\_\_\_\_

### Head for home, exhausted and happy!



### Get ready for the beach:

1. fold the beach \_\_\_\_\_
2. pack a lunch into a \_\_\_\_\_
3. rub on \_\_\_\_\_
4. gather folding \_\_\_\_\_
5. wear flip-flops to protect \_\_\_\_\_
6. grab beach \_\_\_\_\_ for drying off
7. find a \_\_\_\_\_ with a brim
8. grab beach \_\_\_\_\_
9. pour cold water into \_\_\_\_\_
10. put on \_\_\_\_\_ to shade eyes

Free puzzles

Print out our puzzles: **Fun Day Trips!** and **A New School Year - Our First Puzzle Pals** puzzle! [www.readingclubfun.com](http://www.readingclubfun.com)

### Hunting for Treasure

Treasure hunt! Comb the beach for the 5 treasures below. **Start at the shovel and finish at the pail.**

### Sand Sculpture Contest!

Did you know that there are people who are pros at building sand sculptures? Some are artists or architects who travel to different countries to enter championships or to bring fun and wonder to special events. **Fill in the spaces below with the vowels to see what things are needed at a festival:**

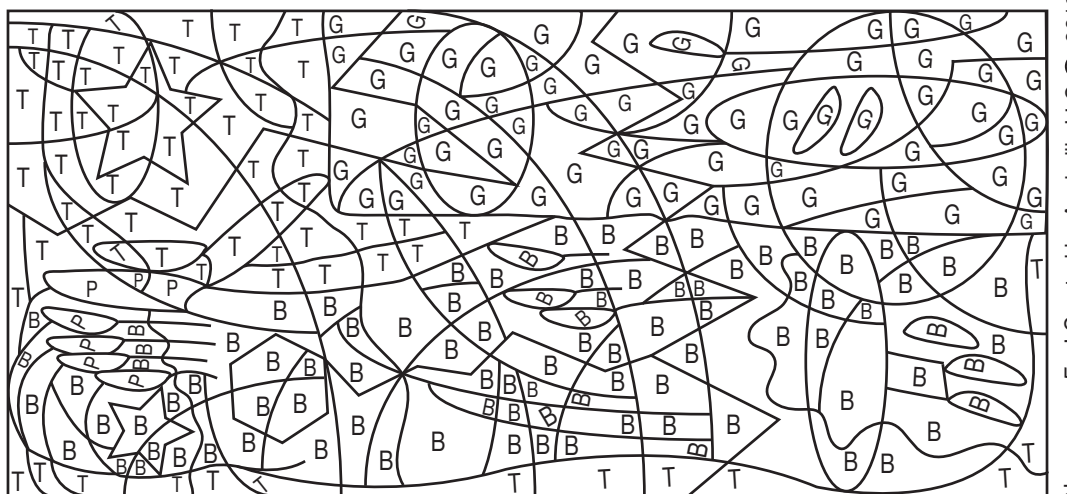
1. s \_ n d
2. w \_ t \_ r
3. sh \_ v \_ ls
4. good w \_ \_ th \_ r
5. lots of p \_ \_ pl \_ watching
6. pr \_ z \_ s

Ugh! You'd think being a crab would make me better at this!

### The Giants are Coming

Crabby gets scared when the "giants" come to play on the beach. He hides in the rocks. Pinch gets annoyed and acts naughty. **Follow the color key to see what bit of trouble Pinch is about to get into:**

**B = Brown P = Pink T = Tan G = Green**







**PUBLIC NOTICES**

T.S. No.: 2012-18316 Loan No.: 705917904  
**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

**YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 9/19/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.**

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.

Trustor: **PATRICIA LEON AND JOSE J. MARTIN LEON, WIFE AND HUSBAND AS JOINT TENANTS.**  
 Duly Appointed Trustee: **Western Progressive, LLC** Recorded 9/28/2005 as Instrument No. 052336130 in book --, page -- and recorded on -- as -- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California.  
 Date of Sale: 9/19/2012 at 9:30 AM  
 Place of Sale: **By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766**  
 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: **\$401,996.35**  
 Street Address or other common designation of real property: **4533 W 136TH STREET, HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA 90250**  
 A.P.N.: **4042-017-012**  
 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale.  
 Pursuant to California Civil Code §2923.54 the undersigned, on behalf of the beneficiary, loan servicer or authorized agent, declares as follows: The beneficiary or servicing agent declares that it has obtained from the Commissioner of Corporation

a final or temporary order of exemption pursuant to California Civil Code Section 2923.53 that is current and valid on the date the Notice of Sale is filed and/or the timeframe for giving Notice of Sale Specified in subdivision (s) of California Civil Code Section 2923.52 applies and has been provided or the loan is exempt from the requirements.

**NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property.

**NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866) 960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site: <http://www.allsource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx>, using the file number assigned to this case 2012-18316. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.  
 Date: 8/14/2012

**Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee**  
 c/o 18377 Beach Blvd., Suite 210  
 Huntington Beach, California 92648  
 Automated Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299  
<http://www.allsource.com/MortgageServices/DefaultManagement/TrusteeServices.aspx>  
**For Non-Automated Sale Information, call: (866) 240-3530**

Tunisha Jennings, Trustee Sale Assistant  
 Hawthorne Press: 8/23, 8/30, 9/6/2012  
**HH-23455**

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST LOAN: WIF GROUP (HAWTHORNE) OTHER: 6603396 T.S. #. 12058-PR YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/4/2010. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NOTICE is hereby given that REDWOOD TRUST DEED SERVICES, INC., as trustee, or successor trustee, or substituted trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by WIF GROUP, LP, recorded on 1/4/2011 as Instrument No. 20110017032 in Book --, Page -- of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California, and pursuant to the Notice of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded 5/10/2012 in Book --, Page --, as Instrument No. 20120698811 of said Official Records, WILL SELL on 9/13/2012 By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 at 11:00 AM AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States), all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State hereinafter described: THE NORTH 50 FEET OF THE SOUTH ONE-HALF OF LOT 41 OF TRACT NO. 1418, IN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 18, PAGE 147 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. A.P.N.: 4045-024-005 The property address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 12938 Jefferson Avenue, Hawthorne, CA The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the property address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the undersigned within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of sale is: \$141,936.80. In addition to cash, the trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. Said**

sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided therein, and the unpaid principal balance of the Note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note(s), fees, charges and expenses of the trustee and the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Dated: August 16, 2012 REDWOOD TRUST DEED SERVICES, INC., as said Trustee ATTN: ROBERT CULLEN P.O. BOX 6875 SANTA ROSA, CA 95406-0875 By: ROBERT CULLEN, President NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714) 730-2727 or visit this Internet Web site: [www.lpsasap.com](http://www.lpsasap.com), using the Trustee Sale number assigned to this file, T.S. #12058-PR. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. A-4289680 08/23/2012, 08/30/2012, 09/06/2012  
 Hawthorne Press: 8/23, 8/30, 9/6/2012  
**HH-23457**

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALES** No. 1344216-10 APN: 4029-013-019 TRA: 004572 LOAN NO: X06427 REF: Hawkes Jr, Hiawatha IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED February 18, 1999. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On **September 12, 2012**, at 9:00am, Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded March 08, 1999, as Inst. No. 99-0373013 in book XX, page XX of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, executed by Hiawatha Red Cloud Hawkes Jr. and Jaqueline Hawkes Husband And Wife As Joint Tenants, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank Behind the fountain located in civic center plaza, 400 civic Center Plaza Pomona, California, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: **Completely described in said deed of trust** The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 2514 W 111th Street Inglewood CA 90303 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$155,505.39. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed

of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (619)590-1221 or visit the internet website [www.rpsales.com](http://www.rpsales.com), using the file number assigned to this case 1344216-10. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web Site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales information: (619)590-1221. Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, 525 East Main Street, P.O. Box 22004, El Cajon, CA 92022-9004 Dated: August 16, 2012. (R-417040 08/23/12, 08/30/12, 09/06/12) Hawthorne Press: 8/23, 8/30, 9/6/2012  
**HH-23456**

**NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALES** No. 1338690-10 APN: 4002-018-025 TRA: 004569 LOAN NO: X0006906 REF: Taylor, Mildred IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED April 10, 2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On **September 12, 2012**, at 9:00am, Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded April 25, 2007, as Inst. No. 20070995380 in book XX, page XX of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, executed by Mildred Taylor, A Widow, will sell at public auction to highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank Behind the fountain located in civic center plaza, 400 civic Center Plaza Pomona, California, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: **Completely described in said deed of trust** The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 144 West Ellis Avenue Inglewood CA 90302 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any inaccuracy of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$426,378.56. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the

undersigned a written declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. **NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (619)590-1221 or visit the internet website [www.rpsales.com](http://www.rpsales.com), using the file number assigned to this case 1338690-10. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web Site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. For sales information: (619)590-1221. Cal-Western Reconveyance Corporation, 525 East Main Street, P.O. Box 22004, El Cajon, CA 92022-9004 Dated: August 13, 2012. (R-416804 08/23/12, 08/30/12, 09/06/12) Inglewood News: 8/23, 8/30, 9/6/2012  
**HH-23458**

**it's not a dog's fault**

by TheShelterPetProject.org



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# SMILE awhile



Smile, you are on candid camera! My 11-month-old Aidan showing off his cute teeth! Provided by Becky Cheng.



While on Gibraltar in April 2012, we were treated to closeups of the Barbary Apes (actually they are Macaques). This one was appearing to casually ignore me, while still looking out for a thrown peanut. Photo taken by Jon Olson with a Panasonic DMC-FZ35.



Gerald Saiz checking out the corn for dinner! Provided by Nancy Saiz.

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## Picking the Right Hospital for You

By David Sayen

If you're having a medical emergency, the best thing you can do is get to the nearest hospital. But if you need non-emergency treatment, and you have time to plan, how do you find a hospital that best fits your needs?

A good place to start is the Medicare website, [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov). There you'll find an easy-to-use tool that has quality-of-care and patient-satisfaction information on more than 4,000 hospitals around the country that participate in Medicare and Medicaid.

The tool is called Hospital Compare. We have a similar, user-friendly tool – Nursing Home Compare – to find skilled nursing homes. More than 17,000 skilled nursing facilities in the United States are listed. We recently redesigned and added more information to both tools.

Hospital Compare and Nursing Home Compare have two purposes. One is to help people make good decisions about where they get health care. By making quality-of-care information easily accessible to the public, we also hope to encourage hospitals and skilled nursing homes to improve their performance. You don't have to be enrolled in Medicare to use Hospital Compare or Nursing Home Compare – anyone can access them.

Both tools give you a good snapshot of the overall quality of care at various local hospitals and skilled nursing facilities.

Hospital Compare shows, for example, how often and how quickly hospitals give recommended treatments for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, and children's asthma. It also shows the percentage of patients who developed serious conditions such as bloodstream infections and bed sores while in the hospital. Such conditions are often preventable, if the hospital follows best practices.

You can find out how often patients returned to the hospital with the same condition, and how that rate compares with the national average.

We recently began posting information on

how often a hospital uses imaging procedures such as CT scans or MRIs on patients with Medicare. That's important because some imaging tests carry potential health risks, including unnecessary exposure to radiation.

Hospital Compare also lets you read the responses of patients to a detailed questionnaire that asks about their experiences and level of satisfaction.

The questions include how well doctors and nurses communicated with patients, and whether patients' pain was well controlled. Patients also are asked if the hospital kept their room clean, and whether they received information in writing about what symptoms or health problems to look out for after they were discharged.

Finally, patients are asked to rate their overall hospital experience on a scale of zero to 10 – and if they'd recommend that hospital to a relative or friend.

Nursing Home Compare shows the results of health inspections and provides information on staffing, including the number of nurses, physical therapists, and nursing assistants at each facility. It also has a variety of measures that describe the quality of care in skilled nursing homes, such as the frequency of pressure sores and urinary incontinence.

And we're now posting the full text of our inspection reports, so you can read in detail about any problems that were found at a specific nursing facility.

To find Hospital Compare and Nursing Home Compare, go to [www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov) and scroll to the bottom of the page, under "Resource Locator." We also have compare tools for home health agencies and dialysis centers.

If you don't have a computer, you can call us, toll free, at 1-800-MEDICARE. We'll help you get the information you need.

David Sayen is Medicare's regional administrator for Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada. Get answers by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). •

## State On Verge of Approving Inglewood Loan, Takeover

Courtesy of the Office of Senator Roderick D. Wright

In the final weeks of the legislative session, a measure by Senator Roderick D. Wright (D-Inglewood) to aid the ailing Inglewood Unified School District has made its way through all of the necessary committee votes and is awaiting a final vote of the California State Assembly.

Senate Bill 533 will provide the financially struggling IUSD with an emergency loan of up to \$55 million, while triggering a state takeover of district administration. A budget analysis conducted by the Los Angeles County Office of Education indicates IUSD is deficit spending and will be out of cash for routine operations by March of 2013, while some board members have suggested they will run out by December of 2012.

Based on the principle that providing a quality education is a fundamental goal that should not be jeopardized, SB 533 will provide IUSD the funds needed to continue operations, while causing the district to be taken over by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Superintendent will – in consultation with the Los Angeles County Superintendent – appoint a state administrator to exercise the powers and authorities of the district's governing board for a minimum of one year.

"The students of Inglewood deserve to receive the same quality education afforded every student in this state, one that is not interrupted or marginalized by financial failings not of their making," said Wright. "This loan will close a painful chapter in the Inglewood Unified School District's recent

history and allow staff to get back to the business of educating the next generation of community leaders."

After fighting for years to keep the district afloat, board members voted in July to seek an emergency loan from the state. While the County's analysis points to several factors of financial mismanagement, the district was also besieged by a range of factors including declining enrollment combined with a reduction in per-pupil funding, as well as the need to tap reserve funds to maintain programs for which state funding is deferred.

A plan for recovery will be devised in coordination with the County Office Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT).

The recovery plan will not focus solely on the financial health of the district, but on its overall health. The appointed administrator will also work with staff and the governing board to improve student achievement, attendance and parental involvement, while lowering the drop-out rate and attracting and retaining quality teachers.

The district is not getting a "blank check." Funds will only be disbursed as deemed necessary by FCMAT and the appointed state administrator. The administrator will remain in place until performance under the recovery plan has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the State Superintendent that future compliance with the plan can be expected.

IUSD will have twenty years to repay the loan and will also be responsible for the costs of state administration of the District. August 31 is the final day for passage of bills in both houses of the Legislature. •



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