

# Manhattan Beach Sun

The Weekly Newspaper of Manhattan Beach

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## Inside This Issue

- Ask the DMV .....2
- Certified and Licensed Professionals .....6
- Classifieds .....4
- Community Briefs .....2
- Film Review .....2
- Food .....5
- Pets .....7
- Politically Speaking .....4
- Tech Talk .....6
- Women at Work .....3

## Ocean Neighbors Watch the Storm Roll in



A sea lion looks out to sea at the beach near Vista del Mar, as the recent stormcloud hangs over Malibu. Photo by Marcy Dugan, marcyduganphoto.com

## South Bay Businesses Brace for Legislature's Sick Leave Mandate

By Brandon Matson for Torrance Chamber of Commerce

Businesses in Torrance will begin implementing one of the largest employee benefit mandates in recent years when paid sick leave must be afforded to nearly all workers in California, including part-time employees. The law, AB 1522, authored by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego), requires businesses to provide three days of paid sick leave at an accrual rate of one hour per every 30 hours worked. The law has taken effect; however, the right to accrue and take sick leave does not occur until July 1, 2015.

Small businesses will likely be among the hardest hit. Kirk Rossberg, owner of Torrance Bakery, estimates the unfunded mandate will cost his business tens of thousands of dollars per year. "The new sick leave policy is another hurdle that we must jump over. My best guess is that this will cost me an additional \$40,000 a year. That's a lot of donuts!" He added, "I hope our customers understand when we have to raise our prices to help cover the cost."

The Torrance Chamber, who opposed the bill throughout last year in part for its lack of economic considerations towards small businesses, has shifted its focus to aiding businesses implement the policy effectively. Last week, the Torrance Chamber hosted a labor law seminar for Torrance businesses with an emphasis on implementation strategies for the mandated sick leave. Event panelist and Managing Director & Principal Consultant at Odyssey Human Resource Consulting, Phil Ray, stressed simplicity as the most cost-effective approach to implementation for small businesses. "Complexity drives the cost of doing business," he said to the businesses in attendance, "I would suggest that

you consider how do I drive out complexity and create simplicity in complying with this new law." He went on to recommend to lessen the administrative burden by either combining all leave policies into one paid time off policy (PTO) or provide the three days to employees in one lump sum at the start of the year. "Simplify your systems," he stressed, "you don't want to spend your time doing administrative work on this...get on to your business which is to go out and make money and revenue for your business."

Employers that have a sick leave or PTO policy in place that exceeds the new mandate do not need to change their policy; however, AB 1522 adds enough complexity in the PTO arena that employers may be forced to adapt their policies despite already meeting the intent of the law. Karl Schmidt, Chairman of the Labor & Employment Department of the law firm, Parker, Milliken, Clark, O'Hara & Samuelian, believes the breadth of circumstances outlined in the statute where sick leave may be used will force most businesses to adapt their current policy. "Businesses have to expand their policy to be more explicit about ways in which sick leave can be used...I don't think many business's sick pay policies say all of the (AB 1522 language) right now unless they have jumped the gun and complied with the statute already."

Panelist Dana Brooks, Director of Human Resources for Americas Pelican Products, Inc., noted that Pelican already provides paid sick leave to non-exempt employees more generously than the new mandate. However, she will be forced to update her policy regardless. "We are concerned for our salaried employees. We did not have a sick pay policy for exempt employees because, according to current wage and hour law, we

have to pay them a week if they worked any portion of that week so it seemed irrelevant. Now that this sick pay law requires a policy for everyone, we have to revisit our nonexempt policy and create a provision for exempt." She also discussed an added payroll cost that AB 1522 will likely induce. "When we met with our major payroll provider...we thought they would have no issue doing this (update an accrual)...but because they haven't done an accrual with all the nuances AB1522 requires, they have voiced concern about their ability to configure our desired accrual and administration methodology. Agreeing to their hourly bill rate for this project could prove costly if they don't figure this out before starting the project."

Schmidt also believes the law establishes opportunities for unnecessary retaliation and discrimination claims made by disgruntled employees that could affect all businesses, regardless of their current sick leave policy. "I believe maybe 50 or 75 percent of every new wrongful termination complaint I get will have a sick pay allegation in there... this is the hand of the plaintiffs bar in here messing with all of you (business owners) saying we want more occasions for you to have to bet your business to defend some vague policy," Schmidt said referencing a section of the statute that outlaws employer retaliation against employees that ask to use their sick leave benefit.

Peter Maginnis, owner of American Self-storage, was in attendance to better understand what new laws in 2015 may impact his business. "The update was very informative and a great help in understanding the new laws. This panel discussion gave me lots of info that would take me days if not weeks to research myself. To have all of these experts

See Labor Law, page 3

## Weekend Forecast

Friday,  
March 6

Sunny  
74°/53°



Saturday,  
March 7

Sunny  
76°/55°



Sunday,  
March 8

Sunny  
77°/55°



## Community Briefs

### Fire Investigators Request Public Help

The Manhattan Beach Fire Department is asking for the public's assistance in providing information concerning an arson fire in Manhattan Beach. The fire occurred early in the morning of February 4th in the 700 block of 11th Street. Fire investigators continue to analyze the physical evidence for information that can connect this crime to a suspect. With the assistance of the Manhattan Beach Police Department, FBI, ATF, Joint Regional Intelligence Center, and Los Angeles County Sheriffs we are processing electronic information and comparing the evidence to similar crimes.

Ronald Clinton, the homeowner would like the public to know "we are thankful for the community's support and would like to remind everyone that a reward is being offered for the arrest of those involved in this heinous crime." A private citizen has created an online account to collect donations from the community and residents to be used as a reward for the arrest of the perpetrator. The fund has grown to nearly \$35,000. Anyone can contribute to the reward fund by accessing the fundly.com website and searching for "Fire Bombed Neighbor."

If anyone has any information regarding this investigation, they are encouraged to call Fire Investigator Mike Murrey (310)345-0467 or submit an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers (800)222-TIPS

### Applications for H. S. Japanese Exchange Prog.

Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC) is accepting applications from high school students to participate in the 4th TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program, a two-week people-to-people exchange and cultural learning program in

early summer 2015. The exchange program offers a homestay experience with a Japanese family, visits to cities affected by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and educational and cultural visits to the cities of Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Kyoto. High school students between the ages of 15 to 18 at the time of departure and residing in the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino and Riverside are encouraged to apply for this program. The deadline for applications is Monday, March 30, 2015 at 11:59pm. Applications and additional information available online at the JASSC website, [www.jas-social.org/Tomodachi-MUFG](http://www.jas-social.org/Tomodachi-MUFG).

### Flight One Soccer Team Looking for Players

Boys U11 (birth dates Aug 1, 2004 to Jul 31, 2005) Flight 1 team is currently looking for strong, dedicated, passionate players who are interested in competitive soccer for its 2015-16 roster. Scholarships offered. We practice Tuesday and Thursday nights in Manhattan Beach. Email Lyn Labuschagne to come join our practices and upcoming tryouts: [spinlab191@aol.com](mailto:spinlab191@aol.com)

### Convert Foreign Currency at Galleria Kiosk

An automated kiosk has been installed at the Galleria that converts your leftover foreign currency into retail gift cards. There is a flat fee of \$3.99 and you are able to choose from a selection of gift card options, or you can donate your currency to charities such as Make-A-Wish or American Forests. The kiosk accepts Canadian dollars, British pounds, Euros, Swiss francs, and Japanese yen, and converts them according to Wells Fargo's daily exchange rate. For a virtual experience of the Leftovercash process, please visit: <http://www.leftovercash.com/how-it-works/>

## Film Review

### Review: '71

By Jasper Bernbaum for CINEMACY

If you look closely, 2014 was a banner year for the war movie: Bradley Cooper single-handedly turned *American Sniper* into a national phenomenon to (eventually) become the highest grossing film of the year (coincidentally, the first non-franchise film to do so since *Saving Private Ryan*). Other 2014 war movies, as well as early Oscar contenders, saw the Brad Pitt-starring *Fury* and Angelina Jolie directorial feature *Unbroken* rally in a cool sum for 'prestige' pictures behind "Brangelina's" collective star power. *The Imitation Game* found pathos in Benedict Cumberbatch's unsung genius of Alan Turing to find well-deserved critical and audience success. Even the daffy *The Monuments Men* found its box office legs in the early months of the year. However, the more intimately made war story '71, which debuted at last year's Berlin International Film Festival, found its way into American theaters last weekend, and stands as a riveting independent counterpart to its studio companions—a showcase for a war story both simple but effective during a conflict that doubtfully finds itself in international history books.

'71 follows a young soldier, Gary Hook (Jack O'Connell, of the previously mentioned *Unbroken*) who is left disoriented and abandoned by his unit during a violent Belfast Riot in the titular year of 1971. The riot occurs during the early years of the Troubles, a three decade era of violence between Northern Ireland's Irish nationalists and the country's unionists, which included British and Protestant citizens. Taking place over the course of 24 hours, the film follows Hook's interactions with civilians and soldiers from both sides of the conflict and the violence that surrounds them.

Twenty-four year-old leading male Jack O'Connell is going to be a big star, and you can feel it in '71. He carried the weight of Jolie's heavy-handed *Unbroken* direction on

his shoulders, and his little-seen turn in the prison drama *Starred Up* showed a ruggedness reminiscent of a British Ryan Gosling. He's the broody everyman—somebody who observes the cinematic environment as opposed to eating it up. He can build drama just through his presence and that is showcased here. He has the understanding to simply guide the film—never stealing the show or demanding the center of the conflict.

The film itself is quite visually impressive as well. It is rather vibrant for a war film; rich color contrasts its dark subject matter. The realism is both rewarding and brutal—very opposite of the studio-movie war zone O'Connell inhabited in *Unbroken*. It's also swift in its pace which makes for a very tense, involving watch. The momentum from the film's beginning won't rock you, but it involves you enough to really feel along Gary's side.

It is a terrific war story, though maybe not a revelatory one. It's not a film about triumph, but about survival. *Unbroken* was a survival picture on the surface, but ended on a note of American triumph. '71 portrays a conflict that depicts no triumph for either side, but rather shows the effect war has on the individual. '71 is now playing at the Arclight Hollywood and Landmark Theaters.

*In 2013, former El Segundo residents (and siblings) Morgan and Ryan Rojas set out to realize a vision of bringing independently made and specialty films of artistic merit to a larger awareness and appreciation. With equally matched passion, CINEMACY has become a distinct voice and destination for people to explore the world of cinema through our eyes. We aim to inspire thought and leave our audience with new insight into a vast world of little-known movies, and hopefully, to inspire curiosity about how film speaks to the culture at large. For additional reviews, interviews, and much more, please visit our website, at [www.cinemacy.com](http://www.cinemacy.com).*

## Ask the DMV

### Questions and Answers for March 2015

**The DMV is now using TouchScreen technology to administer the driver knowledge exam. How is it different from the written version?**

Instead of using a paper and pencil to take the exam, you now simply touch the correct answer on monitor screen. The TouchScreen system guides you through the testing process and gives you immediate feedback if you answer a question incorrectly. It is currently offered in both English and Spanish. Additional languages will be added.

This technology reduces test times, improves field office wait times, minimizes fraud by randomizing test questions and answers, and provides easier maintenance of test questions, currently conducted manually.

Make sure you review the California Driver Handbook. You can find it at [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov). Do not forget to make an appointment. Good luck!

**Do I need to visit a DMV office in order to renew my driver license?**

Most drivers are not required to visit a DMV office each time they need to renew their driver license. Most of the time, a driver license can be easily renewed online at [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov), by mail, or by calling 1-800-777-0133.

However, the DMV generally mandates individuals with a clean driver record to visit a DMV office once every 15 years in order to provide an updated driver license photograph and a vision test. You should carefully check your DMV notice to find out if you must appear in-person. If you are required to visit a DMV office, you are encouraged to schedule an appointment.

The DMV recently expanded the number of appointment opportunities available. Please be considerate of others. If you do not show up for your appointment, you prevent someone else from being able to use that time slot.

**Are you required to make an appointment at the four Driver License Processing Centers to apply for an AB 60 driver license?**

Appointments are not required, but strongly recommended, if you plan to visit one of the four Driver License Processing Centers located in Granada Hills, Stanton, San Jose, and Lompoc. These centers only process driver license transactions. They are open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Remember, that if you are applying for an original California driver license and plan to visit one of the other DMV field offices, and not a Driver License Processing Center, appointments are required.

**The DMV lists several passports as acceptable documents to be used when applying for a California driver license under the AB60 law. Why is the country of Colombia not on the list?**

The DMV continues to work with countries and their consulates not identified on the current registration list. This list is not final. The DMV must go through the regulatory process to add documents to the current list of acceptable documents. Please keep checking our website, [ab60.dmv.ca.gov](http://ab60.dmv.ca.gov), for updates on additional documents that will be accepted. DMV also offers another option for people from countries whose documents are not

**See Ask the DMV, page 3**

## TREMOR: How to Shake the Shakes

Patients and families are invited to a **FREE** seminar to learn about essential tremor and Parkinson's disease and the therapies that can dramatically improve your quality of life.

**Saturday, March 14, 2015**

Registration: 8:30 am Seminar: 9:00 am – Noon

#### Topics include:

- Coping strategies
- Surgical therapies – deep brain stimulation (DBS)
- Medical treatments
- Noninvasive treatments – focused radiation & ultrasound

**Nader Pouratian, MD, PhD**

Director, Neurosurgical Movement Disorders Program

**Yvette Bordelon, MD, PhD**

Neurology Movement Disorders Specialist

#### RSVP

(310) 571-5741 or [ucla.tremor@gmail.com](mailto:ucla.tremor@gmail.com)  
Refreshments provided. Free parking.  
Please register by March 12, 2015

#### Beach Cities Health District "Beach Cities Room"

514 N. Prospect Ave., Bottom Level  
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

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it begins with U

[neurosurgery.ucla.edu](http://neurosurgery.ucla.edu) [dbs.ucla.edu](http://dbs.ucla.edu)

Support for this program was provided, in part, by Medtronic.

# Women AT Work

## Meredith Petit Creates Balance for Parks and Rec Department

By Laura Sorensen

Urban citizens enjoy perks that they hardly stop and think about (unless fees go up), but that they would miss very much: street sweeping and garbage service, city water, lighting, police officers and firefighters. Most cities have those amenities; other perks might be city-specific and geared towards the community there. For instance, in El Segundo, residents can avail themselves of outdoor tree maintenance, a farmer's market, Dial-A-Ride, the lunchtime shuttle, Girl Scout camp, athletics fields, outdoor and indoor pools, a skate park, the senior center, senior citizens club, the rec center and all its programs, the Lakes golf course, and Meals on Wheels, as well as seasonal events like Easter egg hunts, Christmas tree lighting, and Fourth of July fireworks. Every one of those programs is run by one department here in the city: Parks and Recreation.

Parks and Rec maintains every park in the city, from the long strip of Freedom Park to the smallest pocket parks such as Candy Cane Park on the 100 block of Whiting Street. The airport observation area at the top of the hill, where everyone goes to look at the airplanes? That is Clutter's Park, maintained by Parks and Rec. Do you take your dog to the park on Imperial? Have you enjoyed yourself at the Halloween Frolic? Have you taken the beach shuttle during summer break? One person is in charge of the fireworks firing off on the right day and the soccer players getting the right time for their games at Campus El Segundo: her name is Meredith Petit and she is always working behind the scenes.

Petit spent time growing up in Illinois and Seattle, but eventually her family settled in Agoura Hills, where she played soccer, softball, and golf. During her time on the teams, she was made a captain and discovered that she had a natural talent for leadership. Sports team captains, of course, are responsible for the morale of the team and are also expected to set examples of fair play and good spirits. While in school, Petit also worked part time for the Agoura Hills parks and rec department. When she graduated, she began attending Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ. She initially was looking for a job in forestry, but realized that she didn't have

the deep scientific interest or the desire to spend time in the deep woods. Her interest leaned toward what she called "learning to implement programs in a community where people get some benefit," a type of program known as municipal management.

leader and camp director, and then was hired full-time as a community services coordinator.

After six years in Agoura Hills, and after having earned a masters degree in public policy and administration from Cal Lutheran, she applied for a job at El Segundo's parks and

allocations and LA County parks loans, which help fill in fiscal gaps. In the lean years some programs have had to be cut, but the city still invests in as many programs and events as it can. Petit oversees budget concerns, allocates resources to where they're most needed, attends city council meetings and works closely with the city management department to ensure that the department stays within budget but that the parks don't deteriorate from lack of upkeep. It's a matter of "finding the balance between wanting the parks to look good, and wanting them to be used to death." This balance involves constant juggling of each service, its budget and schedules, making sure that residents aren't disappointed or put out by lack of services.

But Petit enjoys the shifting aspects of the job, where every day is different and new challenges constantly present themselves. For instance, the Parks and Rec department is moving forward with an agreement to help fund a pool in Wiseburn school district. That project has been in the works for a long time, and will not be done for a long time more, but Petit looks forward to the day when the Plunge can be open longer to residents, when more swimming lessons can be offered. Other wish-list items for her would be replacing some of the older playground equipment to make it safer, and expanding parks programs to El Segundo Beach, since the city has jurisdiction over the sand area.

Petit is also trying to get the word out about El Segundo TV, which is based at the high school and televises city council meetings as well as producing 20-30 other shows such as "Your City, Your News" and "Business Matters." Found on AT&T on channel 99 and on Time Warner on channels 3 & 22, this local channel also has a Youtube page (ElSegundoTV) and Petit notes that it's a place to go for local programming, information about events happening in the community."

Petit loves being a Beach Cities resident, and enjoys getting out to talk to the people who use our parks system every day. "Sometimes I don't feel like it's a job," she says of the time she gets to spend at holiday events and with volunteers who love El Segundo's parks as much as she does. "It comes down to helping people and building relationships." •



Meredith Petit, director of El Segundo's Parks and Recreation Dept.

Managing parks and recreation sites can be quite a lucrative business. For instance, people whose expertise is in the commercial side of Parks and Rec can end up with jobs at Disney parks or resorts like Sanibel Island in Florida. Petit interned at Sanibel Island, running a program that kept the children busy while parents were off at the spa, but by the end of the internship she realized that the commercial side of the business wasn't her focus either. Her interest was less in amusing day visitors as it was in building lasting programs to improve communities. She returned to Agoura Hills and worked in the Parks and Rec department as a recreation

rec department and was hired as a recreation superintendent. She supervises a few direct employees, as well as a staff of part-time workers and volunteers. Her office is not on the top floor of a high-rise. It's in the middle of Rec Park, and she can look out the window and watch the fruits of her efforts: baseball players on the fields, babies taking their uncertain steps over the grass, walkers and joggers and bikers and scooter riders of all ages enjoying the paths and playground.

Petit admires the efforts that El Segundo city government has expended to offer so many services to residents. The city has augmented its budget with grants from county sales tax

**It's Time. Equal Pay for Equal Work.**  
*This is the personal opinion of Heidi Maerker*

**Labor Law**

from front page



Panelists (L-R) Rob Van Lingen, Van Lingen Towing (moderator); Karl Schmidt, General Counsel, Parker, Milliken, Clark, O'Hara & Samuelian; Phil Ray, Managing Director & Principal Consultant at Odyssey Human Resource Consulting; Loretta Raftery, Attorney and HR Consult HR/Labor Solutions, Inc./Raftery Law group; and Dana Brooks, Director of Human Resources - Americas Pelican Products, Inc. highlighted strategies to implement the new mandated paid sick leave law for Torrance businesses. Photo provided by Brandon Matson.

in one place to ask and answer questions was definitely a benefit to me," he said following the seminar.

The Torrance business community still has time to prepare for paid sick leave. Resources and information are available on the Torrance Chamber's website to include a published version of the panel discussion

from last week's event. "Creating a strong local economy is a central component of the Chamber's mission. Helping our businesses adjust to policies that increase the cost of doing business in our state is of utmost importance," commented Heidi Cunningham, Chairwoman of the Chamber's Board of Directors. •

**Ask the DMV from pg 2**

accepted. Under that option, applicants can present one of several documents which are available in this country and be interviewed by a DMV employee who will attempt to verify the applicant's identity. California is the first state in the nation to offer a secondary review process for applicants that lack typical identification documents to prove identity. For a complete list of accepted documents, visit [AB60.dmv.ca.gov](http://AB60.dmv.ca.gov).

Never miss the latest news from the CA DMV. Sign up now for DMV News Alerts! It's an easy way to receive up-to-date information from the California Department of Motor Vehicles. This new tool also offers customization to obtain specific DMV related topics, such as AB 60, autonomous vehicles, and office openings and closures. Click here to get started: [https://www.emailalert.dmv.ca.gov/DMVEmail\\_Alert](https://www.emailalert.dmv.ca.gov/DMVEmail_Alert) •/

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# Politically Speaking

## One Man's Opinion

### The Greatest

**By Gerry Chong**

Etched into the memory of every fight fan is the photo of a snarling and defiant Muhammad Ali, glaring down on the canvas at the helpless, hapless and clueless Sonny Liston. Billed as the ferocious "Bear," Liston was thought to be invincible. Yet in a matter of seconds, his invincibility and title were gone.

Like Liston, in a wave Republicans were swept into office, feeling their power and eager to prove they represented the American public. But like Liston, they fell in a clueless heap when faced with the agility and skill of The Greatest.

managed as a public utility. In quick order, Republicans retreated and enduring vicious lefts and rights, collapsed on their butts in a neutral corner. Only the bell saved them from a second round knockout. So the growth of governmental control grows.

Shaken now, Republicans opened Round three with a direct assault on the Presidential claim to the right to make Immigration law. A sneering and laughing President dismissed any attempt at a Republican offensive, bashing through it defenses, and nailed them with the accusation that their opposition constituted a weakening of the nation's security. Fearfully,

*"Republicans opened Round three with a direct assault on the Presidential claim to the right to make Immigration law."*

At the opening of Round One, the Republicans, reflecting the will of the majority of Americans, demanded the construction of the Keystone Pipeline. After all, six years of State Department studies showed the pipeline did not constitute an environmental risk, and Americans were given the choice of replacing oil from the volatile Middle East with oil from our closest ally. Surely an easy first round for Republicans, but a backhanded swat by The Greatest knocked them to the ground. Obama gave no reason for the rejection, other than he wanted to reserve the authority to make decisions to the presidency, bypassing Congress as irrelevant. So "CLANG" rang the bell at the end of the round, and Republicans retreated to their corner to nurse their black eye.

As Republicans regrouped between rounds, they chose to open Round Two with a defiance of the President's insistence that the Internet be placed under governmental control and

Republicans retreated again, trying to survive another round before the Master. This fight has turned into a Man versus Boys mismatch.

A profoundly confident President dances around the ring, avoiding the wild swings of an unskilled and desperate opponent. As Republicans bring in Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu to bolster their claim that a negotiated agreement with Iran over its nuclear goals would constitute a sell-out of Israel, and be a threat to the world. Ignoring both opponents, The Greatest continues to negotiate benefits to Iran, opening the doors to the nightmare of a nuclear Iran.

What had been billed as a heavyweight fight between equals has turned into a rout. A clueless, leaderless band sits on its stool devoid of any plan, and without the skills to mount even an appearance of capability. The fight will be recorded as a TKO in the fourth round, but it really wasn't that close. The Greatest continues his reign of terror. •

## Another Man's Opinion

### History Should Not Be Hidden Or Rewritten

**By Cristian Vasquez**

Attempting to hide and rewrite our history is not only foolish but a shameful act that can only have detrimental consequences. Let me explain. It's never surprising that when changes are proposed to education that there be backlash from different stakeholders. As always, there is never a one-shot solution to education because it is a complex and ever-evolving field. So I wasn't surprised to hear that lawmakers in the State of Oklahoma are attempting to block funding for Advanced Placement U.S. History courses; however, their reasoning was disturbing. These elected officials argue that Advanced Placement U.S. courses have an unpatriotic curriculum and put America in a negative light.

In an article published by Reuters, Republican lawmaker Dan Fisher was quoted as saying "We don't want our tax dollars going to a test that undermines our history." In essence lawmakers like Mr. Fisher believe that A.P. courses cast American history in a negative light, to which I have to say...that's malarkey. Recounting our past isn't what puts us as a nation in a negative light: it is what we do today, right now, as a nation that makes us look bad in the present moment and which will cause people to remember us with contempt rather than fondness in the future.

There isn't a country in the world, nor a person that inhabits it, that can look at its past and not find at least one incident that they would like to take back; have a do over, if you will. Yet, there is nothing wrong with that and acknowledging our mistakes is the only way to learn from said actions in order to ensure that they aren't repeated. So when lawmakers across the country, like those in Oklahoma, argue that by giving "undue emphasis" to horrific events of our past

such as slavery or the genocide of Native Americans is a bad thing, I can't help but shake my head in disgust.

Is this sentiment driven by guilt? Shame? It's hard to say but the fact is that it's absurd. People like Mr. Fisher have decided that it's better to bury our heads in the sand refuse to acknowledge the flaws in our past, but we are better than and should act as such. Not convinced? Well, let's think back to horrific injustice that our nation's citizens of Japanese descent suffered during World War II, all because of an executive order by President Roosevelt and all in the name of national security. Does this sound familiar? Well it should because for the past 14 years, the White House and Congress have approved a laundry list of laws and actions that violate our civil rights and illustrate a complete disregard for due process; just one example of this is the Patriot Act.

At the risk of sounding cliché-ish, if we don't learn all aspects of our history we are bound to repeat it and by defunding Advanced Placement U.S. History courses this is a foregone conclusion. So to Mr. Fisher and any lawmakers who want to censor, rewrite or simply ignore the darker periods of our nation's great history; shame on you. If you're proud Americans, as GOP members always claim to be, then own up to every element of our history. If we truly consider ourselves the greatest nation on the planet, then we must acknowledge the good with the bad. We shouldn't be too modest to embrace our greatness nor should we be overflowing with so much arrogance that we can't acknowledge our mistakes. History has happened and we should learn it as it occurred. In the words of former NFL coach Herm Edwards, it's time to "put your name on it." •



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## 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. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

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### APARTMENT FOR RENT

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### EMPLOYMENT

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### EMPLOYMENT

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### EMPLOYMENT

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# Lemony Peas & Pasta Salad



*Servings: 6-8*

## Ingredients

**Prep time: 20 minutes**

- 1 box Dreamfields Penne Rigate
- 2 cups sugar snap peas
- 2 cups fresh or frozen green peas
- 1/4cup fresh lemon juice
- 2teaspoons lemon zest, plus extra for garnish
- 1/2teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 cups baby greens (arugula, spinach or blend)
- 1/4cup chopped fresh herbs (optional)
- Parmesan cheese, shaved

## Preparation

**Cook time: 10 minutes**

Cook pasta according to package directions, adding sugar snap and green peas during last 3 minutes of cooking; drain. Rinse with cold water; drain again. Place in large bowl. Meanwhile, combine lemon juice, zest and salt in small bowl. Whisk in oil. Toss with pasta and peas. Gently toss in greens and herbs, if using. Garnish with shaved Parmesan and additional zest, if desired.

**Note:** For herbs, use one or a combination of chopped mint, thyme, chives, basil, parsley or other favorites.

**Nutrition information (1/6 of recipe):** 328 calories; 8 g total fat (1 g saturated fat); 12 g protein; 56 g total carbohydrate; 9 g total dietary fiber; 0 mg cholesterol; 218 mg sodium. •

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# Tech Talk

## Do I Need a Website?

By Sid Kato, Array Systems, Inc.

*Yes. If you own a business, you need a website.*

Like most people, I often use a company's website to learn basic information about that company. If you don't have a website you are portraying your company as very small or living behind the times. Neither one makes a good impression on today's customers.

Most websites are informational, letting

your potential customers know about you, your team, and your philosophy. Twenty years ago, people learned about your company by your business card and company brochure or tri-fold. Today, people expect to find this information on your company's website.

Some companies make their websites interactive, allowing their customers to log in to access or receive information. My CPA's website is an example of an

interactive website. After completing my tax returns, my CPA posts them as PDF documents on their website. Using a secured login, I can then access both my business and personal tax returns throughout the year.

Your marketing plan should also incorporate your website, especially if you're using social media like Google, Facebook, LinkedIn, and/or others. All of these tools work together to write

the story of you and your company for potential customers.

Make sure you have a website so it can tell your story!

*Dear Readers, this column addresses frequently asked technology questions by small business owners. Please email your questions to pr@heraldpublications.com and we will answer them in future columns. Thank you and enjoy!*

# It's All About Family! Have you Protected Them?

### If Crisis Strikes, You Risk:

- Losing Control
- Additional Stress on Your Family
- The Loss of What You Spent a Lifetime Building

### Proper Planning Allows You:

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# PETSPETS Pets PETSPETS

## Rocking Rabbits



Tribble and Trouble are girl-and-boy adult rabbits.

Are you thinking of celebrating this spring by bringing home a pet rabbit? Before you buy a bunny from a pet store, think about this: On the list, rabbits are the #3 most often abandoned pet and #3 most often “put to sleep” in animal shelters in the U.S.

Rabbits are beautiful, delicate, exotic pets who can live up to 15 years. They can also be wonderful companion animals: they’re clean, sociable, and once neutered, can easily be litter boxed trained. There is a wide selection of rabbits waiting for homes, so please don’t shop, adopt one of these beautiful bunnies or one of their friends. Please do your research on their care to understand your commitment, so you can be prepared to snuggle your new bunny with love.

**Trouble & Tribble** are small and adorable young adult rabbits and fit their names perfectly! Trouble has a mischievous streak and you’ll see him trying to get into the bookshelf. Tribble is less adventurous and more decorative. She requires extra grooming, but is absolutely worth it.

Helicop Lop **Sydney** would like to know if

anyone is coming to adopt him soon? He’s a handsome fellow and friendly. Not only are the Lop blend bunnies especially cute with that half-up, half-down look, they have less medical problems with their ears than the purebred Lops.

**Bella** is an enchanting young Lionhead



Sydney is a Lop blend bunny.

rabbit. She is small, loving, and has excellent litter box manners. She’s a favorite among our volunteers.

Not only is **Bon Bon** one of the most beautiful rabbits, she’s exceptionally loving and intelligent. In less than 5 minutes, she learned to jump on a volunteer’s lap and kiss her on the nose! An active and interactive girl, Bon Bon needs much attention from her humans to be a happy bunny.

All these orphaned bunnies are available for adoption through Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation. To see more of their rabbits, please visit [www.larabbits.org](http://www.larabbits.org). The group holds weekly adoption venues on Saturdays from 12:30-3:30 at 3860 S. Centinela Ave., Los Angeles 90066 (2 blocks south of Venice Blvd.). All the rabbits are neutered and box-trained prior to adoption. Adopters receive a care packet, a bag of oat blend hay, and advice for the life of the rabbit. If you can’t adopt, the organization always needs foster homes, volunteers, and of course donations. All donations go to help the rabbits and will directly pay for operations, food, supplies for shelter and foster rabbits, and educational materials.

Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation is a 501(c)



**Bon Bon** is a very intelligent rabbit who needs human attention. (3) charitable organization that is run by unpaid volunteers. Monetary donations to Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation can be made thru PayPal on their website or mail a check to “Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation,” P.O. Box 252124, Los Angeles, CA 90025. Make this year a positive one for a rabbit in need. •



Bella has very good manners.

## Purr-fect Companions



Ashton is a high-energy kitten who loves to play.

Looking for your purr-fect match? Kitties of every color and size are waiting to meet you.

**Ashton** was rescued from a shelter along with his siblings and mother. He is super sweet and loves to cuddle. Ashton is very high energy and loves to romp and wrestle with his fellow foster kittens. He gets along with everyone he meets, including dogs! Ashton would be very lonely on his own, so he must be adopted to a home with another kitty.

**Genevieve** is a classic American beauty with deep golden eyes and shiny plush black coat. She is both a playgirl and a lover who wants to be near you. Genevieve enjoys playing with balls especially the one inside her blue “donut” toy. She will snuggle close to you for attention and roll over to have her tummy rubbed, closing her eyes as she purrs. She is curious and investigative as well as playful. This little darling also enjoys the company

of other kitties and enjoys a good game of run and chase. She has excellent litter box manners and uses her cardboard scratching post. If you would like two darling kittens, her sister Margot is looking for her forever home, too!

**Margot** is a sweet kitten full of sugar and spice and everything nice. With her beautiful tuxedo coat, four white paws and round golden eyes, she is growing into a lovely little kitty. Margot enjoys being on your lap to have her back and shoulders rubbed while she resonates a continuous purr. She is an active girl who will jump in the air for her favorite toy on a string or play with her balls. Ready for attention, Margot lies at your side, and then paws gently at you, so happy to just to be with you. She is submissive with other cats, yet she can hold her own during playtime. Margot has excellent litter box manners and loves to use her cardboard



Genevieve enjoys attention and playing with toys.

scratching post. She would be a wonderful addition to any family.

**Mae Mae** is a beautiful girl with short cream and taupe colored fur and light ice-blue eyes. She is an active cat (especially in the morning) and loves to play with her toy mice and also laser mouse. Since Mae Mae is a very young cat, she enjoys spying and then bouncing on her feline counterparts. Of course, this is all done in a fun-loving kitten way. Mae Mae enjoys snuggling with her cat friend, Pearl and will sit on her human’s lap as well.

These kitties 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, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kittens and cats, please check our website



Mae Mae is still a kitten who loves to pounce!



Margot is a well-behaved girl with a tuxedo coat.

[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 Blvd. #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Blvd. just south of Manchester Ave. and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Ave, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location. •

*Be kind. Save a life.  
Support animal rescue.*