

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

Thursday, July 2, 2009

WWW.SDNEWS.com ■ Volume 24, Number 25

# **SDUSD trims deficit** but will pay a price

# Fall start times left untouched

By ALYSSA RAMOS | THE BEACON

San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) board members voted June 23 to approve a proposal that reversed previous bell time changes, keeping next fall's bell times unaltered for Point Loma and Ocean Beach schools.

SDUSD board members reversed previous proposals altering bell times for nine schools and a newer districtwide 15-minute shift for the upcoming 2009-'10 school

"This switch was a result of

SEE BELLS, Page 7

By ADRIANE TILLMAN | THE BEACON

The San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) Board of Education has finalized a 2009-10 budget on paper that shows cuts the board could make to close the \$63 million budget gap. However, its schoolby-school impact is unclear, and plenty could change as the school year unfolds.

On paper at least, the board identified 18 ways to close the deficit. They include increasing the minimum number of bus riders from eight to 15 students to save \$4.24 million; retaining the K-2 class size to save \$8.1 million in teachers; not purchasing textbooks next year to save \$6.5 million; eliminating 30 vice-principals to save \$3.36 million (the employees will not be fired but will return to the classroom); and letting go of 53 special education staff to save

SEE **SCHOOLS**, Page 7

# Oooooo, ahhhhhh: Fireworks ready to light up Ocean Beach

America's Finest City celebrates the Fourth of July in style with a shows from the Ocean Beach Pier to San Diego Bay and from Mission Bay to La Jolla Cove.

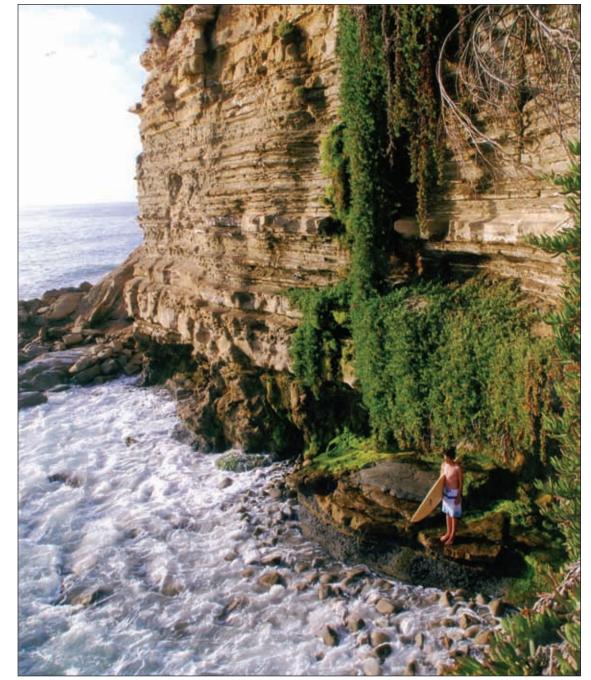
So grab a blanket and head to the water for the festivities!



Plenty of fireworks are in store this Fourth of July, including celebrations at the Ocean Beach Pier and Sea-World, above. PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAWORLD

- Ocean Beach Pier, 9 p.m.
- Mission Bay Yacht Club: firenumber of spectacular fireworks works can be seen all over the bay, on Mount Soledad and in Pacific Beach, 9 p.m.
  - SeaWorld: Fireworks can be seen all over the bay and in Crown Point, July 3-5, 9:30 p.m.
  - La Jolla Country Club: Fireworks can be seen from Mount Soledad, 8 p.m.
    - La Jolla Cove, 9 p.m.
    - San Diego Bay, 9 p.m.
  - San Diego Symphony (Embarcadero Marina Park South), 9 p.m.
  - Paradise Point Resort & Spa's 9th Annual "All American BBQ and Fireworks Extravaganza" on July 3 at 9 p.m. Features live entertainment, all-you-can-eat Kansasstyle barbecue, carnival activities and a 30-minute fireworks display over Mission Bay. Open to the public. \$59 for adults, \$25 for children (ages 12 and under). For more information call (800) 344-2626. Paradise Point Resort & Spa is located at 1404 Vacation Road, Mission Bay.

From staff reports







# And the photo contest winners

The results of the Beacon's annual Amateur Photo Contest are in, and our readers have made their choices! During balloting at Saturday's Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off, hundreds of votes were cast for 30 unique submissions - and the top two vote-getters were neck and neck. Coming in first with 125 votes (above) was this shot of a surfer perched at the base of what locals call Garbage Beach along Sunset Cliffs, submitted by Pat Rice. The second-place entry drew 120 votes for Robert Sarmiento's creative cave shot at the Point Loma tidepools, at left. Placing third with 61 votes was Bruce Walker's beautifully lit surf shot. Congratulations to the winners and to all who participated. Many thanks also to our loyal readers who voted in this year's contest. For photos of the 30th annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and a complete list of chili cook-off winners, see page 3.



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# Painting a cleaner picture of community pride in OB

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

Taggers in Ocean Beach hoping to admire their work the next day might soon be out of luck. A group of OB citizens tired of the defacement held a paint-out party June 20, painting over graffiti on a stretch of Sunset Cliffs from Orchard Street to the pier – and they plan to keep the cliffs and their neighborhoods tag-free.

"We're going to be right on top of you [taggers] painting it out," said Jon Carr, an organizer of the paint-out. "From what I hear. spraypaint is expensive and our paint is donated. We've got a lot more of it and a lot more people that are willing to go down and help, so don't waste your time."

Carr, a banker who has lived in OB for the last decade, said about 20 people turned out to paint the walls below the cliffs and remove about 75 pounds of trash in a span of about three and a half hours.

'We were able to put it together in five days and get a really good turnout and get it done," Carr said.

The idea for the paint-out surfaced from a OB Rag blog posting by Frank Gormlie on June 12 entitled "The Ugly Side of OB" that featured seven photos of tagged areas near the cliffs. Carr said the subsequent online discussion of the article inspired him to take

"Somebody posted a bunch of pictures of the wall down there and the bloggers started talking about it and saying it was awful,"

Carr said. "I just decided rather than type about it all day, let's go down and do something about it.'

Carr also said the pictures themselves were upsetting enough.

"Seeing it down at Sunset Cliffs is particularly disturbing because it's such a beautiful area of San Diego and something that really helps to define Ocean Beach," Carr said. "To have it vandalized and really overrun with graffiti is not representative of the majority of people that live here."

Carr began brainstorming with Ed Baier, a local photojournalist, to plan the event. Baier, who has lived in OB since high school, first started painting out graffiti in the 1980s and starting doing it on his own again about a month ago.

"Anybody can paint out graffiti at any time, as long as you're responsible," Baier said.

The city's Park and Recreation Department donated the paint for the recent paint-out. This was important, Carr said, because one of the most important goals of the paint-out was to keep the wall all one color.

"Aesthetics are important and you don't want to take something awful and make it a different type of awful," Carr said. "We want it to look nice down there."

During the paint-out, Carr said the support of people passing by showed the importance of the issue in the community.

"We got so much support and congratulations from neighbors and people that were walking by



A group of volunteers in Ocean Beach has begun taking it upon itself to rid the sea wall and Sunset Cliffs of unsightly graffiti. The group organized a paint-out event on June 20. More cleanups are being planned. COURTESY PHOTO BY PAT QUINN

the cliffs that day," Carr said. out," Carr said. "Some even stopped and grabbed a paintbrush to help out. It was really clear that was important and something that the community as a whole wanted and was happy to have us do."

Future paint-outs are in the works and Carr said conversations toward that end have just started. For more information about future events, Carr and Baier can be contacted through www.obrag.org.

"We'd like to get everybody involved on their own streets and either have some graffiti removal on hand — if you see it, go paint it

In the meantime, Baier encouraged fellow Obecians to grab some paint and paint out graffiti wherever they see it.

"The more eyes you have out there the better," Baier said. "If you see it, put some gloves on and take care of it."

Baier said the recent collaborative efforts in the cliffs area have frustrated the taggers. On Monday, June 29, Baier said he painted out a fresh tag at 7 a.m. and by noon about 35 yards of the wall had been destroyed by vandals, causing parts of it to crumble.

"The [taggers] have been getting so angry because the tags have been up for now less than three hours [before being painted over]," Baier said. "In my experience dealing with these guys, this is basically a typical reaction to frustration - they'll start destroying the things they were tagging before. It's just another step in the evolution.'

Tagging can be reported to nomorelitternomoretagging@gmail.com and to the city's main graffiti hotline at (619) 525-8522 for statistical purposes.

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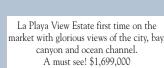


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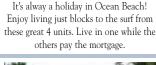


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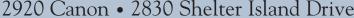
garage and detached office/guest suite.

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# OB STREET FAIR



# Annual tradition brings out the best in OB

Thousands of funseekers packed Newport Avenue on Saturday for a day of entertainment, food, games and plenty of sunshine during the 30th annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off. PHOTO COURTESY JIM GRANT



Some of this year's street fair participants were just out clowning around. PHOTO COURTESY JIM GRANT



A youngster finds a little excitement MARIA EPSTEN I THE BEACON with a pony ride.



Visitors admire the work of an art vendor.

PHOTO BY MARIA EPSTEN I THE BEACO





Chili samples and musical entertainment highlighted the event. PHOTOS COURTESY JIM GRANT



The annual chili cook-off drew plenty of attention, as always. PHOTO COURTESY JIM GRANT

#### Winning chili recipes get their just desserts

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association has announced the winners of the 30th annual Ocean First Place (\$250); Beach Chili Cook-Off held Saturday, June 27. Winners were as follows:

- Lindsey Roland, Judges Award First Place (\$200);
- Betty Deever, Judges Award Second Place (\$150);
- Brock Scott, Peoples Choice
- Cory Loughlin, Peoples Choice Second Place (\$150);
- Tracy Scott, Peoples Choice Third Place (\$100);
  - Hang Ten, Best Decoration; • Da Hula Hut (Tiny's Tavern),
- Best 92107 Entry;
- Brock Scott, Hottest Chili
- Steve Dohrman, Judge's Spe-

cial Award;

- Bravo's Mexican Bistro, Judge's Choice, Restaurant Division; and
- Bravo's Mexican Bistro, People's Choice, Restaurant Division.
- This year's chili cook-off judges were Sam Bruggema of San Diego

Fireworks, Don Mullen, Raymond Simas, San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox, Carol Linton, Sally Bixler, District 2 City Councilmember Kevin Faulconer, San Diego Port Commissioner Mike Bixler and Bill Klees of the Point Loma Association.

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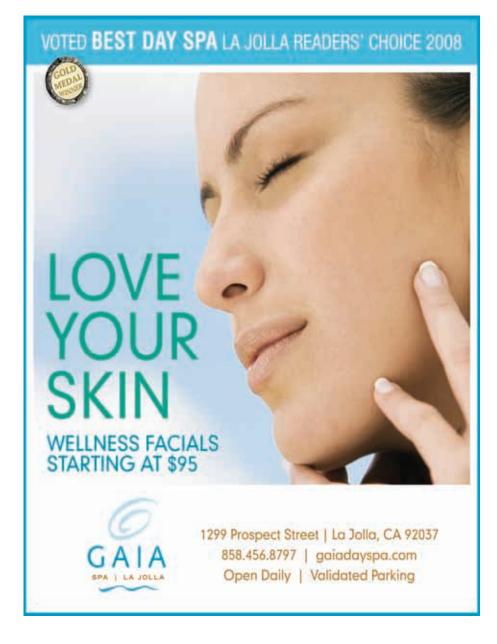
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# 'Matt Cook Live' show has OB talking

By BART MENDOZA I THE BEACON

There's been a lot of media chatter recently about changes in the world of talk shows, with names like Jay Leno, David Letterman and Conan O'Brien at the forefront. However, the talk show buzz in Ocean Beach is more often centered around a local contender, "Matt Cook Live," held each Sunday at Gallagher's.

Hosted by comedian Matt Cook, a Boston native who relocated to San Diego in 2006, the differences between the big network programs and this homegrown model are more than budgetary — it's about attitude. You can see it on as basic a talk show staple as the hosts' desks. While the bigger-name stars sit behind imposing monolithic pieces of furniture, Cook's smaller version is irreverently draped with a variation of the California state flag with the words "Ocean Beach" added and the state bear now wearing shorts astride a surfboard. The host's desk is apt to switch locations from week to week.

Featuring a mix of local community leaders, musicians and comedy skits, "Matt Cook Live" began at Money.

Gallagher's in May on a whim.

"It all stems from a conversation with the show's now executive producer, Joe Clarke," Cook said. "We wanted to come up with a fun and yet seemingly impossible thing to do this summer."

Although the program is comedy based, according to Cook, there's no shortage of potential guests outside that field right on his doorstep.

"There's so much going on in Ocean Beach, from environmental concerns to civic issues, that there is plenty of subject material," Cook said. "So far, at least, everyone we've wanted has said yes."

While parts of the show are scripted, there is also a lot of improv involved, which excites Cook.

"For a comedian, that's the best, to be able to just go with the flow of what's happening onstage. Improv is the biggest high for me."

The comedy may be closest to his heart, but Cook considers the best part of "Matt Cook Live" to be the musical guests, which to date have included topnotch artists such as reggae favorite Mike Pinto and Slightly Stoopid trumpeter C-

"The caliber of musicians who have been on the show has been incredible, just beyond what we could have hoped for," he said. "It's been great to watch someone like C-Money play a tune on our stage. It's a treat for the audience, as well

While best experienced live, "Matt Cook Live" is being filmed and will be released online later this year. Each episode takes about a week to prepare, though securing guests is done further in advance and pre-taped skits are scheduled as time permits. Cook feels the latter points to the show's future.

"Having access to all of Gallagher's TV sets, it's only natural that we incorporate them," Cook said. "We do skits live as part of each program, but the videos allow us to stretch out a little, change the scenery and so on. It also gives the audience something to entertain them while we're switching over equipment for a segment."

Cook hopes to expand the multi-



Matt Cook hosts "Matt Cook Live" Sundays at 8 p.m. at Gallagher's. COURTESY PHOTO

media possibilities as soon as pos-

"It would be nice to be able to shoot some of this outdoors, maybe do remotes or even in front of the venue," Cook said. "The possibilities are endless when it comes to what we could do next, but mobility is high on the list, so we're not always tied to the stage."

Cook said he intends for "Matt Cook Live" to run indefinitely, but more he's more than happy with what

he and Clarke have accomplished so far.

"This is more fun than I could've imagined," he said. "There is a lot of hard work involved, but I'm working amongst friends here. I love being there every show."

Cook performs next on Sunday, July 5, at Gallagher's, 5046 Newport Ave. at 8 p.m. The show is geared for those 21 and up. For information, www.gallagherspubob.com.



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GUEST EDITORIAL

# Leave fireworks to the experts on July 4

**COURTESY THE BURN INSTITUTE** 

The Fourth of July is almost upon us — a time for family picnics and fireworks displays. Yet all too often, the public fails to consider the harsh consequences when amateurs play with fireworks. In the wrong hands, fireworks can lead to property damage, personal injury — even death.

"In San Diego County, fireworks are not only dangerous but also illegal," said James Floros, Burn Institute executive director/chief executive officer. Floros points to the thousands, nationwide, who are injured each year from fireworks particularly children.

More than two-thirds of all fireworks-related injuries occur between June 16 and July 16, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In 2006, the center reported that 11 people were killed and approximately 9,200 were treated in emergency rooms from fireworks-related injuries in the U.S. One out of every three injured were children younger than 15 years, with three times as many males as females injured. Those directly participating in fireworks-related activities were "more frequently and severely injured than bystanders.'

All unlicensed fireworks in San Diego County are illegal. No exceptions! This includes everything from poppers and sparklers to firecrackers and bottle rockets. If you are caught with fireworks, you can be fined; if you're an adult providing fireworks to minors, the penalty can be much more

Results of poll ending June 30: Should the state of Cali-

fornia have the power to borrow money from individ-ual cities to balance its own

**NEW QUESTION:** Is anoth-

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study traffic impacts and resolutions along Rosecrans Street? Poll ends July 15.

budget deficit?

Bottle rockets may seem harmless, but did you know that they generate enough heat to set a roof on fire? One bottle rocket can set off a devastating fire that can potentially destroy homes, perhaps entire neighborhoods — at the worst, take a life. And while sparklers may seem harmless, they are responsible for most injuries to children younger than 10 years of age and account for one-third of the injuries to those 5 years old and younger. Children, often fascinated by the bright sparks, may grab the hot end of the sparkler, where the temperature can reach 1,800 degrees. It only takes a moment for a sparkler to ignite a child's clothing, causing a devastating burn injury — possibly death.

Public fireworks displays conducted by trained professionals are the smartest and safest way to enjoy fireworks because they are conducted in a controlled setting according to established regulations. As a public service to the community, the Burn Institute has compiled a list of licensed fireworks shows throughout San Diego County. The list is published online at www.burninstitute.org.

— The Burn Institute is the nonprofit health agency dedicated to reducing the number of burn injuries and deaths in San Diego, Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino counties through fire and burn prevention education, burn care research and treatment and burn survivor support services.

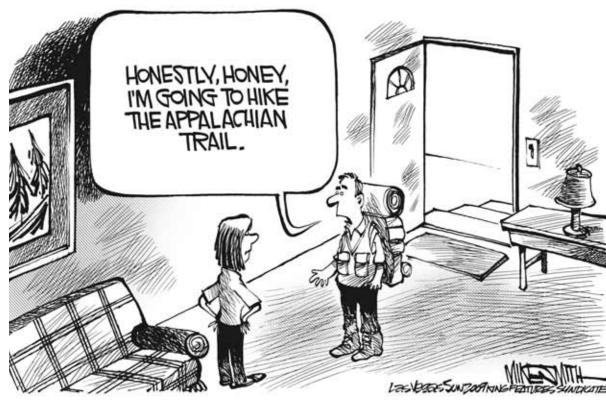
# YOUR VIEWS

**POLICY** 

■ The opinion pages of The Beacon are meant as an open forum for expression. The views expressed in the Letters to the Editor and editorials within this paper are not necessarily the views of this paper. nor those of the staff. The Beacon reserves the right to exclude any Letter to the Editor, or to edit Letters to the Editor for length and prevention of libel, or for other reasons as seen fit by the editors.

Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 9550, San Diego, Calif. 92169, or beacon@sdnews.com.

# SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR MARK SANFORD HAS CAUSED PROBLEMS FOR OUTDOORSMEN EVERYWHERE



#### Halbert a solid choice as chair of working group

I read with disgust, but not surprise, the recent ad hominem attack on Gary Halbert's volunteer work chairing the Rosecrans Corridor study ("Latest Rosecrans corridor study a waste of time," June 25 Beacon, page 6).

The attacker, James Gilhooly, chose to attack Gary professionally and personally with unsupported allegations and the same old paranoid hyperbole. I have known Gary for years and know him to be a superbly qualified professional, especially in traffic matters. His volunteer efforts on behalf of the community prove once again the old adage that "no good deed goes unpunished.'

I do not know James Gilhooly, other than his rantings in the Beacon, but I can say that in my more than two decades serving this community as a volunteer, in virtually every capacity, I never once encountered him, nor am I aware of any particular contribution of his.

> Wayne Raffesberger Point Loma

#### Dogs and fireworks not a good mix at Fourth of July

The Fourth of July is the worst day for dogs ending up in shelters and emergency hospitals and, unfortunately, too many end up dead in the road. They experience absolute terror from hearing the loud noises of the holiday. They panic and run to try and get

# Letters to the Editor

away. People fire off rockets and firecrackers and then at night the fireworks come on and it truly sounds like a war zone.

Even dogs that live within earshot of the SeaWorld fireworks that go off every night react to the holiday fireworks which are much louder.

Please keep your dog safely indoors during this special holiday. People love their dogs and they want to include them, but taking them along on a Fourth of July outing can lead to disaster. A terrified dog will run wildly trying to get away from the danger. Even leaving a dog in the yard outside is dangerous. A terrified dog can get out and over a sixfoot fence.

I live in Ocean Beach and every year I see so many people walking down to see the fireworks with their dogs in tow, and I

And every year, after the Fourth, the signs start to go up on the bulletin board at the beach: "Dog lost on the Fourth of July."

The shelters and emergency hospitals say this is the biggest intake day of the year.

Please do right by your dog and keep it safe at home and inside.

Trish Hausman

#### **Jury verdict in road-rage** shooting case appalling

Unbelievable. So let me get this straight. A jury says, essentially: In a road-rage situation, even while completely protected from harm within the solid steel cocoon of my vehicle and able to read a license plate number and call 911 from my cell phone or even make an escape, instead, with intent to kill, I can shoot at the other unarmed driver and passengers (including harmless, innocent children) with impunity and get away with it scotfree. Well alrighty then. I'm going to go buy a gun.

What a wonderful case precedence supporting gross overreaction and unnecessary use of firearms.

OverKILL. See what happens next time you honk your horn at me! (Just kidding.)

> **Ben Harness** Point Loma

#### **Another recipe for long** and happy marriage

Re: "Doing it Better," Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D., Peninsula Beacon, Thursday, June 25, page 18.

Eileen and I have been married 64 years and are enjoying our retirement years living in sunny southern California, along with our three wonderful children. We are most fortunate to have two sons and a daughter so close.

Our recipe for a long and successful marriage: Patience along with a bad memory.

> Elliot Schubert, Ph.D. San Diego

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**OPINIONS** Signed letters to the editor are encouraged. All letters must include a phone number for verification. The editor may edit letters for clarity and accuracy. Letters should be 350 words or less. Views expressed are not necessarily the views of this newspaper or staff.

**SUBMISSIONS** Letters and photo submissions are welcomed. Those accompanied by an addressed, stamped envelope will be returned. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity.

**DEADLINES** All content must be received by 5 p.m. on the Thursday prior to publication.

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#### SCHOOLS

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

\$2.6 million. While the board decided not to fire any teachers, staff without teaching certificates can get a pink slip, according to Jack Brandais, SDUSD spokesman.

"The cuts are not binding," said John de Beck, who represents the coastal schools on the board of education. "They are the board's present view of what we have to do to balance the budget based on what we already know. It's an expression of what we would do if we had to make that budget decision right now."

De Beck added the impact of the budget cuts won't be revealed until March 2010, when the board must dismiss personnel if it chooses to

The county board of education will now review SDUSD's \$1.18 billion budget to ensure the cuts are realistic and represent a balanced budget. If the board finds the budcan appoint a monitor to make cuts to SDUSD's budget, according to de Beck.

After outcries from parents, the board decided not to close small schools, including Crown Point Elementary in Pacific Beach and Barnard Elementary in Point Loma, or to share principals between small schools that would have forced one principal to manage both Bird Rock and Pacific Beach elementary schools.

But de Beck said those cuts will return to the table when the board discusses the 2011-12 budget.

De Beck pointed to the board's plans — and then reversal of those plans — to change bell times across the school district and share principals among small schools as examples of what he says is the board's fickle nature.

"The odds are they will change their minds, because board members have already changed their mind on so many things," de Beck

Cathy Lewis, a parent at Loma Portal Elementary, said it's the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) that picks up the slack when the dis-

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

parent input to the school board and superintendent from parents and community members across the district," Torrey Pines Elementary School reported in a June 26 email.

'What they approved was to keep the bell times the same," said Melissa Hudson, SDUSD confidential administrative assistant to the poara.

According to Hudson, the board voted to reverse all school bell time changes made, except for one school: the Creative and Performing Media Arts Middle School. This fall, students will begin and end school the same time as last year, Hudson said.

In addition to reversing the board's proposal to alter the 2009-10 bell times, board members included other schools such as Pacific Beach's Bayview Terrace among nine schools that had been given altered bell times last February — in the reprieve. The board's reversal moved Bayview Terrace's altered bell time from 7:15 a.m. to its original start time 30 minutes

For more information, visit www.sandi.net.

trict cuts programs from the schools. Her PTA funds Loma Portal's librarian and music program.

"We're really lucky," Lewis said. "So many parents are so active and contribute so much."

Lewis added that the parent groups that speak out against board decisions do affect change, citing the board's reversal on its decision to change bell times across the district.

The budget has created moving pieces, and it's not clear where they will land. For example, an increase in class sizes leaves 180 surplus teachers that the district will move around, according to Brandais. Part of the reason for those surplus teachers is that K-2 classes and ninth-grade classes will not be reduced to 15 students per teacher. In this case, principals might choose to use discretionary money to keep class sizes small or the board might send a teacher to a school that is growing, Brandais explained.

Teachers could become full-time get unrealistic and unbalanced, it substitute teachers or the district could send them back to school to earn a master's degree if, say, an elementary school teacher is now required to teach middle school, Brandais said.

Patt Hom, president of Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools

The odds are [trustees] will change their minds, because board members have already changed their mind on so many things.

JOHN DE BECK SDUSD SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

(FOPBSS), said it's difficult to comment on the budget until the state sends money to each school based on enrollment figures that won't be finalized until early fall. However, she is worried about the weight that the teachers union hold over the district's board of education.

"I believe the real fight will come when the state finalizes its numbers and we have a better direction for where SDUSD stands," Hom said. "I am very concerned about the control of the union in all of this.'

Visit www.sandi.net/budget and click on Budget Update to read the budget in full.



# Ask The Lawyer

Question:

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This list is not exhaustive, so please feel free to come in for a free consultation to determine if any of these procedures will work for you.

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## Bike path connector ready to ride

District 6 City Councilmember Donna Frye and District 2 Councilmember Kevin Faulconer celebrated the official opening of the Mission Valley-Ocean Beach bike/pedestrian path June 26. The one-mile link now provides a continuous pathway between both sites and accomplishes a crucial goal of the city's San Diego River Park master plan that touts the interlinked network of recreational trails and parks from the Pacific Ocean to Santee. COURTESY PHOTO

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

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Wednesday, July 15, 2009 4:00-5:30 p.m.

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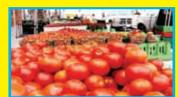
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# **News**Briefs

#### **Altercation leads to Abbott Street slashing**

A man's arm was slashed with a knife during an argument Tuesday, June 28 in front of a home in the 2100 block of Abbott Street, according to investigators with the San Diego Police Department.

Police officials said the suspect has not been caught. He is identified only as a 40-year-old white male, 6-feet-tall, bald with numerous body tattoos.

The incident took place shortly after 2 a.m., according to investiga-

Police reports indicated that during a verbal disagreement, the 26-yearold victim — whose identity was also not released — was slashed on his left forearm by the suspect.

The injury was not considered lifethreatening.

Police said that following the altercation, the suspect fled the scene, running southbound on Abbott Street. According to police, the victim refused treatment and was uncooperative at the scene.

#### State to reimburse county for water-monitoring costs

After four months of the county of San Diego footing the bill to monitor the quality of beach water, the state has unfrozen bond money to reimburse the county for the water-monitoring program.

ty \$600,620 over the next two years to monitor bacteria levels at 44 beach and bay sites from April 1 to

Oct. 31. The state has reduced its reimbursement to the county by 10 percent from past years, according to Mark McPherson, chief of the Land and Water Quality Division at the county's Department of Environmental Health.

During the past four months, the county had only sampled water at 19 locations and has decided to scale back its program to test only 44 sites instead of the previous 57 weekly samplings since the state restored the funding.

"This whole ordeal has allowed us to really look at the program and fine-tune it," wrote Luis Monteagudoa, spokesperson for county Supervisor Greg Cox's office, in an emailed statement. Cox's district includes communities from Pacific Beach to Point Loma.

"As a result, we eliminated some sampling locations that have had very few or no incidents of higher bacteria levels and we added some new sites."

The state is funding beach watermonitoring programs throughout California with money from Prop 13 that voters approved in 2000 to sell \$1.97 billion in bonds for clean water purposes.

#### **Budget cuts won't affect** summer lifeguard hours

Despite city budget cuts, San Diego lifeguards will keep normal hours, staffing area beaches from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. throughout the summertime, from Ocean Beach to Black's Beach in La Jolla.

"People won't notice any differ-The state will reimburse the counence when they come to the beach," said San Diego lifeguard Lt. Andy Lerum.

Due to budget cuts, lifeguards lost

three permanent lifeguard positions and \$100,000 toward hours. They also faced a reduction of about 10 seasonal guards, Lerum said, leaving lifeguards with about 150 seasonal lifeguard staff. But Lerum said lifeguards continue watching over beachgoers, focusing on safety while using creative means to adjust for staffing losses.

"We are just continuing to focus on anytime there's an opportunity to conserve hours, then we do," Lerum said. "For instance, if it's a rainy day, we'll ask for volunteers to go home.'

While four emergency lifeguards remain staffed around the clock, Lerum said area beach hours change with sunset times.

"We do have 24-hour lifeguard coverage year-round. That's something other stations don't have," Lerum said. "It could be for a sinking boat, a cliff rescue or a boat fire. We wake up and respond just like the firefighters do."

Two guards remain on La Jolla's night shift, while two lifeguards remain in Mission Beach.

"Beach hours have not changed from year to year," Lerum said. "It's based on sunset time. Sometime around the second week of August, we start closing our stations at 8 p.m. In the middle of winter it gets dark at 4:30 p.m."

Lerum said summertime beachgoers should continue to follow several rules, including never swim alone, swim where lifeguards are staffed and supervise children.

"We always tell people to talk to lifeguards to identify the best place to swim," Lerum said.

For more information, visit www.sandiego.gov/lifeguards.



# A whopper of a catch

Mike Ashford admires the 361.5-pound yellowfin tuna he caught from the Red Rooster III during a recent weigh-in at Point Loma Seafoods. The record is 388 pounds, 12 ounces, set by Curt Wiesenhutter back in 1977 from the Royal Ploaris.









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# Pt. Loman rowers power it up at invitational camp

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

A pair of Point Loma junior rowers from the San Diego Rowing Club (SDRC) is moving from Mission Bay to the bigtime. Joe Thaxton and Jason Perone are currently cutting the waters at the USRowing Junior Men's Sweep Development Camp, held until July 19 at Three Rivers Rowing Complex in Pittsburgh.

"They are the next generation in a long line of San Diego Rowing Club athletes," said SDRC coach Art Sloate.

The invitation-only camp invited 36 athletes (31 rowers and five coxswains) born in 1992 or later. At the camp, boats will be formed for the USRowing Club National Championships held July 15 to 19 in Oak Ridge, Tenn. and one boat of eight will be selected to compete in the CanAmMex Regatta July 11 to 19 in Mexico City.

"These two just have one season of experience rowing yet have been invited," Sloate said. "That is quite an accomplishment."

Thaxton and Perone were invited to the camp based on performances in events such as the USRowing Southwest Junior Championship Regatta in May and their scores on rowing machines at the club. Their success is impressive considering they first picked up oars at SDRC last September

"It's not all about your physical ability," Thaxton said. "It's more about your knowledge of the proper blade angling and technique."

Thaxton and Perone live in Point Loma and attend St. Augustine High School. Both converted to rowing from other sports — Thaxton swam competitively and Perone was a pitcher.

'You're always rowing and you can always learn new things,' Perone said. "It's a lot more fun than most other sports."

For Thaxton, the sport is in his blood. He is one of a long line of rowers going back to his greatgrandfather Joe Jessop, a founder of the San Diego Crew Classic.

'The Jessop family was part of the rowing club from the very beginning," Sloate said. "There's some genetics there."

Cathy Thaxton — Joe's aunt rowed for ZLAC, America's oldest women's rowing club, on Mission Bay. She is a member of the Stanford University Athletic Hall of Fame and was a fourtime Olympian beginning in 1976. And a number of his relatives have rowed at SDRC. Despite his family's history of rowing, Thaxton said he doesn't feel any extra pressure.

"I use it as instigation for me," Thaxton said. "If my aunt was an Olympic rower, I think I might have some potential to give it my all and make it as far as she did



Point Lomans Joe Thaxton and Jason Perone are on pace to take their rowing skills to a new level. Both rowers are participating in the invitation-only USRowing Junior Men's Sweep Development Camp in Pittsburgh through July 19.

PHOTO BY ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

or better. It's more like a stimulant to me.'

Thaxton and Perone finished up their first junior rowing season at SDRC in June. During the season, junior rowers practice six days a week. Perone said the camp will help members of the rowing club next season.

"It's going to help us row a lot better because there are new coaches and we get more ideas and we can bring that here," Perone said.

SDRC has been in existence since 1888 and is currently located at El Carmel Point on Mission Bay. Sloate said the club's junior program, with 100 members aged 13 to 18 year, is the biggest it has been in the history of the club — but that they are still looking for new talent.

"We're looking for athletes that are in the wrong sport. Maybe they're playing volleyball or football or basketball, and they may have good size but they're sitting on the bench and it's really not their sport," Sloate said. "What we'd like them to do is try something different, see if they like it."

Sloate said rowing is the ultimate team sport and requires teamwork and cohesion.

"It's definitely not a 'me' sport," Sloate said. "We are raising the next generation of leaders. They understand putting personal ambitions aside for the greater good of the boat.'

Thaxton and Perone understand that dynamic. Their grasp of the sport has allowed them to easily glide through the waters of Mission Bay and onto the national rowing scene.



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# Warner Bros. lights up summer season

By JAMES COLT HARRISON | THE BEACON

The studios save all the good films for the summer and fall, so we will be seeing some entertaining films being released in the next few months.

Topping off the studio's blockbuster films for summer is the new "Terminator Salvation," starring handsome young Christian Bale ( formerly Batman in last year's hit film with Heath Ledger). The new installment of the Terminator franchise, as started by Arnold Schwarzenegger, is directed by McG, with a script by John Brancato and Michael Ferris. The picture is set in post-apocalyptic 2018. Iconic John Connor is leading the human resistance against the Skynet and its invincible army of robotic Terminators. It has unstoppable action and apocalyptic explosions.

Connor's life is altered by the appearance of former prisoner Marcus Wright. Connor doesn't know if Marcus is from the past or the future. They join forces and begin an odyssey to uncover the terrible secret behind Skynet's operations. Starring with Bale are Sam Worthington, Anton Yelchin, Jane Alexander, Helena Bonham Carter and Bryce Dallas Howard.

Warner Bros./Sony tures/Halcyon.

"The Hangover" is a comedy from Todd Phillips, the director of "Old School." The plot, by writers Jon Lucas and Scott Moore, is about a bachelor party gone wrong. Naturally, there are hilarious situations involving Doug (Bradley Cooper) and his three buddies (Ed Helms, Zach Galifiankis and Justin Bartha) when they take off for Las Vegas for a blow-out night. It's two days before Doug's wedding to Heather Graham. The boys wake up with splitting headaches and can't remember a thing. A likely story. The groom has disappeared and

him back to Los Angeles in time for the wedding. They frantically retrace their steps and discover they are in more trouble than they thought. The film has turned into the summer's biggest comedy hit. Co-starring Jeffrey Tambor.

Warner Bros. Pictures /Legendary Pictures.

"My Sister's Keeper" is directed by Nick Cassevetes, son of the late director John Cassevetes and actress Gena Rowlands. The drama is based on the novel by Jodi Picoult, and the screenplay is written by Cassevetes and Jeremy Leven.

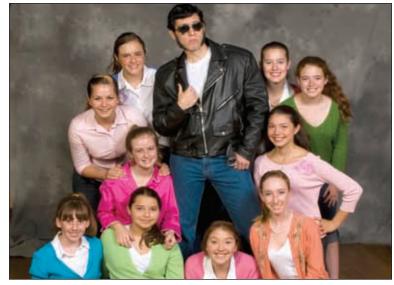
Cameron Diaz stars as a mother with a young son and daughter with an idyllic life. She and her husband receive heartbreaking news that forces them to make an unorthodox choice to save their daughter's life. The decision raises moral and ethical questions that challenge everybody's perception of love. Starring

the boys have to find Doug and get with Diaz is Alec Baldwin, Jason Patric ("Geronimo"), Abigail Breslin, and Joan Cusack.

New Line Cinema.

"Harry Potter and The Half-Blood Prince" is finally being released. At first it was slated for December 2008, but the studio bumped it to July 17 this year for more computer-generated action. It should clean up as a huge summer blockbuster. The wildly popular series again stars Daniel Radcliffe, now a strapping young man; Rupert Grint, no longer a teen-ager, and Emma Watson, soon to be a voluptuous woman! The youngsters started out as little kids, but they have grown through the years and the story has been updated to accommodate the growth of the three stars.

Returning are favorites Voldemort and Dumbledore. Stars making appearances are Maggie Smith, Alan Rickman, Julie Walters, Robbie Coltrane and Warwick Davis.



#### Vanguard presents 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Westminster Presbyterian Church's Vanguard Theatre presents its latest production, "Bye Bye Birdie," set to open Friday, July 10 and run through Sunday, July 26. The production takes place at Westminster Theatre, 3598 Talbot St. in Point Loma. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$13 for military and seniors and \$10 for students 12 and under. For tickets and a complete list of show dates and times, call the box office at (619) 224-6263. Cast members, above, are: bottom row, from left, Cassidy Lutosky, Samantha Canella, Kristin Hoadley and Kelly Huntley; middle row, from left, Caitlin Davis and Katya Martin-Gullans; and top row, from left, Erica Malachowski, Brooke Justus, Kit Medina, Lauragrace Barnes and Hailey Mashburn.



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# **July** A Look Ahead

#### COMMUNITY/CIVIC

Saturday, July 4, 1 to 4 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church hosts a free community Fourth of July picnic at Westminster Park, corner of Cañon and Talbot Streets in Point Loma. Participants are asked to bring a picnic lunch and chairs or blankets. The event will also feature a bike parade and family games. For more information, call (619) 223-3193, or visit www.wespres@nethere.com.

Monday, July 6, 6:45 p.m., regular meeting of the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council at the Cabrillo Recreation Center, 3051 Cañon St.. For information, visit www.calsnet.net/sunsetcliffs.

Saturday, July 11, 9 a.m. to noon, Friends of Famosa Slough hosts a work party to care for native California plants and remove invasive plants. Participants are asked to meet at the southeast corner of West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. For more information. call (619) 224-4591, or visit www.famosaslough.org.

Thursday, July 16, 6:30 to 8 p.m., the Jenna Druck Foundation's "Families Helping Families" hosts a free grief education workshop called "Peace Through Stillness: How Meditation Can Ease the Pain of Losing a Child or Loved One." The event takes place at

2820 Roosevelt Road, Suite 200, at Liberty Station. For more information, e-mail ltibiatowski@jennadruck.org, or visit www.jennadruck.org.

Saturday, July 18, 1 p.m., Friends of Famosa Slough hosts a nature walk at the slough. Participants are asked to meet at the first bench on Famosa Boulevard iust south of the intersection with 4301 W. Point Loma Blvd. For more information, call (619) 224-4591, or visit www.famosaslough.org.

#### **SCHOOLS**

#### ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

- July 1-31, office closed.
- Monday, Aug. 3, deadline to include items in SCBA summer mailing.
- Friday, Sept. 11, second annual golf tournament at Sail Ho Golf Course. For more information, call (619) 218-3042.

#### **WARREN-WALKER**

- Through July 10, Seaside Players Drama Camp for grades 1 through 6.
- Through July 10, summer school; English, math, band and industrial arts for grades 6-8.
- July 13-17 and Aug. 10-17, Animal Adventures Camp for grades 3-8.
  - July 20-24 and Aug. 17-21,

Marine & Freshwater Biology Camp.

• Through Aug. 21, summer camp for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade.

#### **SENIORS**

Tuesday, July 7, 11 a.m., Sharp Healthcare's Senior Resource Center hosts a free blood pressure screening at the Peninsula Family YMCA, 4390 Valeta St. No appointments are necessary and the public is welcome. For more information, call (858) 939-4790, or visit www.sharp.com.

Monday, July 20, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Sharp Healthcare's Senior Resource Ĉenter hosts a holistic healing event focusing on energy maps of the body, its meridians, chakras, auras and bilateral pathways and relaxation methods to enhance immune function and well-being. The event takes place at the Sharp Memorial Outpatient Pavilion, classrooms A and B, 3075 Health Center Road. Registration is required by calling (800) 827-4277, or visit www.sharp.com.

#### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

July 10-26, varying dates and times, Westminster Presbyterian Church's Vanguard Theatre presents "Bye Bye Birdie." Performances are 8 p.m., Friday, July 10; 8 p.m., Saturday, July 11; 7 p.m., Sunday, July 12; 8 p.m., Friday, July 17; 8 p.m., Saturday, July 18; 7 p.m., Sunday, July 19; 8 p.m., Thursday, July 23; 8 p.m., Friday, July 24; 8 p.m., Saturday, July 25; and 7 p.m., Sunday, July 26. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and military and \$10 for

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Drag Degree holder,

for short

12 and under. The production takes place at Westminster Presbyterian, 3598 Talbot St. For tickets or information, call the box office at (619) 224-6263.

Monday, July 13, 6:30 p.m., the first of four installments of "Music at Dusk Concert Series" featuring Presidio Brass Quartet. The concert series takes place in the Westminster Theatre of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot St. A free-will offering takes place at intermission. For more information, call (619) 223-3193.

Friday, July 17, 6 to 8 p.m., the first of 5 installments of the free Point Loma Concert Series, featuring Atomic Groove. The concert series takes place at Point Loma Park, corner of Catalina Boulevard and Varona Street. For more information, visit www.plconcerts.org.

Monday, July 20, 6:30 p.m., the second of four installments of "Music at Dusk Concert Series" featuring Tripp and Peter Sprague. The concert series takes place in the Westminster Theatre of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot St. A free-will offering takes place at intermission. For more information, call (619) 223-

Friday, July 24, 6 to 8 p.m., the second of 5 installments of the free Point Loma Concert Series, featuring Jumping Jack Flash. The concert series takes place at Point Loma Park, corner of Catalina Boulevard and Varona Street. For more information, visit www.plconcerts.org.

Saturday, July 25, 6 to 8 p.m., "Live at Liberty Station Concert

15 White poplar16 Sound of laughter

Birthright seller

Dawn goddess

42 Flying toy 44 — Rice Burroughs

Chimney dirt

40 Find the total of

46 Sandwich store

Dry, as wine

51 Promise to pay

52 Bedouins

53 Less than

- nous

54 Date

56 Hospit 59 Brave Hospital worker

61 Place 64 The "I"

60

Old instrument

for short

Make Writing fluid

Drs.' org.

18 Boca — 19 Unyielding 20 Conceals

31 34

39

73 Zilch

78 Tangle

81 Emissary 82 Lid

87 Festival 89 Cereal grass

95 From now

Seed vessel

98 Rainy 100 "— New World"

101 Buenos — 102 — Paulo, Brazil

Skull cavity

106 Fragrant flower

108 Purple color

109 Notions

114 Hog 116 Lacking

119 Blockade

Device for weaving

— Paul Viewed

104

112 Tit for -

121

75 Paved ways (abbr.)

80 Throw in a high curve

Group of players

Math branch, for short

Series" hosts a guitar festival at Liberty Station Marketplace, corner of Womble and Truxton roads. For more information, call (619) 335-0221.

Aug. 3-7, noon to 4 p.m. daily, Band at the Beach Music Camp, an instrumental music enclave for grades 7 through 12. Two years' music experience required. A free concert is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 7 at Correia Middle School, 4302 Valeta St. Tuition is \$170. For more information, call (619) 222-3065, or visit www.bandatthebeach.org.

Through Aug. 16, Visions Art Quilt Gallery at the NTC Promenade in Liberty Station hosts a new environmentally inspired exhibition, "Seeing Green: Visions of a Changing Planet." The gallery is located at 2825 Dewey Road, Suite 100. For more information, call (619) 546-4872, or visit www.quiltvisions.org.

#### **VENUES**

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- Friday, July 3, 8 p.m., The Supersuckers perform with Lee Rocker and the Hard Fall Hearts. Tickets are \$17 in advance; \$20 at the door.
- Saturday, July 4, 9 p.m., Rock Our Karaoke. Tickets are \$5.
- Sunday, July 5, 4 to 6 p.m., Reggae Sundays featuring Hi Roots. Free.
- Wednesday, July 8, 7 p.m., bands to be announced. Tickets are \$10.
- Friday, July 10, 9 p.m., Tony Tuff performs with Frankie Paul. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$22 at the door.

132 Grape plant 136 Delicate

140 Uncooked

Oven

146 More gloomy 147 Discard

142 Vitality

143

149

151

158

160

153 Royal

157 Put up with

Whitewalls

163 Cogito — sum

165 Bridge position

— generis

170 Little bit

171 Tax agcy. 172 Born (Fr.)

Means' justifier

Kind of palm

168 Loan charge (abbr.)

156 Inn

Steal from

Candy on a stick

Pleasant smell

Way between seats

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#### 16 Cruel 21 Run o 22 Cogni 23 St. Jol 24 Fine v Destroy the interior of Cognizant St. John's-bread 132 133 Vote of a kind A Gabor Fine violin Lab compound A flower Viewpoint 135 Lummox Wraparound garment Detested - de Janeiro 139 Crowds 30 Choose Political acronym Smile, in a way 33 Hair-like plant parts 145 Canal vessel 147 Glut 35 Mineral 150 — de Cologne 152 Den 154 Girl's guy 36 Withered Betsy the flag maker 41 Pull 43 Time period (abbr.) 44 River in Austria 155 - have you Dernier -Long stories Fragrant 160 Serviceable 48 Serviceable 50 Billy the -162 Merriment Abbr. on a map 166 Kimono sash 167 Batman's sidekick Degraded Portent Place to roll? (2 wds.) Piggery Looks at amorously 173 Up and about Salesperson, for short 175 Improve A Deadly Sin

120 Fossil fuel

- passim

Calendar abbr.

Seaport in Italy

Weight unit

122 Triumph

126

128

1/6	LICIT
177	See eye-to-
	eye
178	Napped
	leather
179	Pieces
180	Destroy
	gradually
181	Also-ran
182	Roofing
	pieces
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#### **DOWN**

1 Perceives 2 Borden's COW

3 Machine part 4 Unclose, poetically 5 Fiddling

6 Hostage taker 7 Solemn fear

9 Gaelic 10 Answer

12 Rodent 13 — the Red 14 Beginner

despot 8 Average

11 Puts stress

124 Chilly 127 — -Magnon 66 Knock Playing card 129 Carpentry item Answers on Page 13 69 Make more calm 131 Playground game

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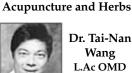
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