

## Guitarist sues ex-mother-in-law

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The lead guitarist for the rock band Journey has filed a federal lawsuit in Minneapolis that accuses his former mother-in-law of libeling him in her blog posts.



NEAL SCHON

Neal Schon says Judy Kozan, the former mayor of Waseca, has "attacked and harassed" him for years through Internet postings and comments in the media.

Schon's lawsuit says

Kozan suggested that he has failed to support his ex-wife and their two daughters.

The lawsuit references a Hennepin County family court judge who determined that Schon has exceeded his required payments to his ex-wife, Amber Schon, and their children.

Kozan denies ever mentioning Schon or her daughter in her blog postings.

She blames a British tabloid for incorrectly concluding that she considered her former son-in-law a deadbeat dad.



— AP photo/Allure

Actress Katie Holmes graces the cover Allure's April issue.

## Holmes hopes 2013 is 'peaceful'

NEW YORK (AP) — Katie Holmes doesn't talk about her split from actor Tom Cruise but she does say she hopes this year is better than the last.

The actress and Toledo native tells Allure magazine she wants 2013 to be "a peaceful year for a lot of people."

She goes on to cite some of 2012's major headlines like Hurricane Sandy and the Newtown, Conn., school shooting, adding she hopes "it's a good year for everyone."

The 34-year-old, who has a 6-year-old daughter named Suri with Cruise, does say she's "open" to the idea of expanding her family in the future.

Holmes filed for divorce from Cruise last June after five years of marriage.

Allure's April issue goes on sale nationwide Tuesday.

## HBO cancels 'Enlightened' after 2 seasons

LOS ANGELES (AP) — HBO says the Laura Dern series "Enlightened" isn't coming back for a third season.

In a statement Tuesday, the premium cable channel said it was proud of the show and called canceling it a "very difficult decision."

"Enlightened," created by Dern and her co-star Mike White, was critically acclaimed but low-rated. Last year, Dern won a Golden Globe for best TV comedy actress for her role as a manic-depressive who becomes an activist.

The "Enlightened" cast also included Diane Ladd, Dern's mother in real life,



— AP photo/HBO

Laura Dern and Luke Wilson star in "Enlightened."

and Luke Wilson.

### ON THE AIR WITH MPACT

Following is the Monroe Public Access Cable Television (MPACT) program guide for Friday through March 28.

The shows can be seen on Comcast Channels 21 and 916 and Charter Channel 95.

For more information, call MPACT at 243-5707.

#### FRIDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:02 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 8:30 a.m. — Monroe County Home & Lifestyle Show
- 10 a.m. — Atheist Viewpoint
- 10:30 a.m. — Walking in the Word (Stewart Road Christian Ministries Center)
- 11:30 a.m. — Lotus Gingko Show
- Noon — Growing in the Word (Stewart Road Christian Ministries Center)
- 12:30 p.m. — Local Sportsman Show
- 1:06 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 5 p.m. — Only in Monroe
- 6 p.m. — Victorious Life
- 7 p.m. — Up Front with John Patterson
- 8 p.m. — Dr. Scott Hughes Show
- 8:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 8:56 p.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 9 p.m. — Reigning Cats & Dogs
- 9:38 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board

#### SATURDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:02 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9:56 a.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 10 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 11 a.m. — Up Front with John Patterson
- Noon — Dr. Scott Hughes Show
- 12:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 1 p.m. — Reigning Cats & Dogs
- 1:30 p.m. — Monroe County Home & Lifestyle Show
- 4 p.m. — Soldiers Journal
- 4:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 6 p.m. — Worship for Shut-ins
- 6:32 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9 p.m. — Battleplans with John Patterson
- 9:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9:56 p.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 10 p.m. — Monroe County Home & Lifestyle Show

#### SUNDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe Missionary Baptist Church
- 9 a.m. — Catholic Forum
- 9:30 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9:56 p.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 10 a.m. — Battleplans with John Patterson
- 10:30 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 11 a.m. — Only in Monroe
- Noon — Victorious Life
- 1 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 2 p.m. — Monroe Full Gospel Church
- 2:30 p.m. — Monroe County Home & Lifestyle Show
- 5 p.m. — Worship for Shut-ins
- 5:30 p.m. — Touching the World
- 6 p.m. — Get To Know Monroe
- 6:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 8 p.m. — Monroe County Home & Lifestyle Show

#### MONDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:02 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9 a.m. — Worship for Shut-ins
- 9:30 a.m. — Touching the World
- 10 a.m. — Monroe Full Gospel shut-in service
- 10:30 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 1:56 p.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 2 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 6:30 p.m. — Dean Patten-Veterans Day
- 6:45 p.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 7 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 8 p.m. — Astronomy for Everyone
- 8:30 p.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:32 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9 p.m. — Fundamental Baptist Church
- 10 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board

#### TUESDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 9 a.m. — Dean Patten-Veterans Day
- 9:15 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 10 a.m. — Astronomy for Everyone
- 10:30 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 10:56 a.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 11 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 1 p.m. — Fundamental Baptist Church

- 2 p.m. — Veterans Update
- 2:32 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 6 p.m. — North Monroe Street Church of God
- 7 p.m. — Monroe Full Gospel Church
- 7:30 p.m. — Catholic Forum
- 8 p.m. — ASA Pub News
- 9 p.m. — Battleplans with John Patterson
- 9:30 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board

#### WEDNESDAY

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:02 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 10 a.m. — North Monroe Street Church of God
- 11 a.m. — Monroe Full Gospel Church
- 11:30 a.m. — Catholic Forum
- Noon — ASA Pub News
- 1 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 4:26 p.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 4:30 p.m. — Veterans Update
- 5 p.m. — Trinity Lutheran Church
- 6 p.m. — Heart to Heart
- 7 p.m. — Monroe Alive with Jill LaVoy
- 8 p.m. — Monroe Missionary Baptist Church
- 9 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 9:30 p.m. — Get To Know Monroe
- 10 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board

#### MARCH 21

- 8 a.m. — Monroe County Library System events
- 8:02 a.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 8:56 a.m. — 1812 Bicentennial
- 9 a.m. — Trinity Lutheran Church
- 10 a.m. — Heart to Heart
- 11 a.m. — Monroe Alive with Jill LaVoy
- Noon — Monroe Missionary Baptist Church
- 1 p.m. — Battleplans with John Patterson
- 1:30 p.m. — Get To Know Monroe
- 2 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board
- 6 p.m. — Atheist Viewpoint
- 6:30 p.m. — Walking in the Word (Stewart Road Christian Ministries)
- 7:30 p.m. — Lotus Gingko Show
- 8 p.m. — Growing in the Word (Stewart Road Christian Ministries Center)
- 8:30 p.m. — Local Sportsman Show
- 9:06 p.m. — Community Bulletin Board

## Viewer sues Dr. Oz over sleep tip

NEW YORK (AP) — A New Jersey man claims an insomnia cure promoted on "The Dr. Oz Show" left third-degree burns on his feet.



DR. MEHMET OZ

Frank Dietl of Southampton, N.J., filed a lawsuit in Manhattan state Supreme Court.

Dietl was confined to his bed for weeks after using the so-called "knap-sack heated rice footsie."

It was promoted on April 17.

Oz recommended filling a pair of socks with uncooked rice and warming them up in a microwave oven and putting them on.

The popular cardiothoracic surgeon said leaving them on for 20 minutes would promote better sleep.

He warned not to get the socks too hot.

"The Dr. Oz Show" said it couldn't comment until it could review the lawsuit.

### FROM PAGE 5B

## Pan (cont.)

year to reflect the talents of the 50-plus member cast, Ms. Choate-Pete said. She includes as many youngsters as she can in her productions.

"We've added some gypsies and a fortune teller to the pirate scene," she said.

"And while we've kept the same story line and music, we've changed our dance moves somewhat to reflect the talents of the dancers."

Ms. Choate-Petit's daughter and assistant company director, Melissa Moore, once again is assisting in directing and choreographing the

production.

She also had high praise for costume mistress Dyanne Howland, who continues to create handmade costumes for the show.

"I have so many talented people around me to help make a show like this possible," Ms. Choate-Petit said.

## Author (cont.)

do you do to make the situation better?"

Her idea — sharing stories.

"It's such an old activity. ... In old literature, people share stories in moments of crisis. In 'The Canterbury Tales,' they tell stories."

Dr. Divakaruni, 56, said she never imagined herself a writer.

"I always loved reading ... but I didn't think I had (my own) stories to tell," she said.

She came to the United States as a 20-year-old graduate student, intending to teach literature in a college someday.

"When I came here, I was thrust into a very different world. I grew up in a traditional Indian family. I started writing to make sense of my experiences as an immigrant and to remember India, my heri-

tage," she said.

She received a master's degree in English from Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley. She lived for many years in northern California and moved to Houston 12 years ago with her husband, Murthy, an engineer who works in the energy field. They have two sons in college.

The author of 18 books along with many poems and articles, Dr. Divakaruni said her characters generally are Indian.

"I want to share that. The more we know about each other, the more we identify with each other. ... I write about Indians because that's what I know, but I hope people recognize different aspects of themselves. America is largely a country of immigrants, whether a few years ago or many years ago. That experience is intrinsic," she said.

That's the message she hopes comes through in "One Amazing Thing" and is pleased it has become popular for community reads, such as One Book, One Community.

"The theme of the book teaches about people — how a group of people with nothing in common in a disaster can form a community," Dr. Divakaruni said.

"It's timely in America today. We look different but we prosper as a country because we've found things we have in common," she said.

As for the ending of "One Amazing Thing" — Is the group saved? — that Dr. Divakaruni isn't divulging. She's left readers hanging.

"I left it that way on purpose. I want the readers to make the decision themselves. It's the final act of community, to decide how the book ends," she said.

## Divakaruni on her newest book and on writing

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's newest book is "Oleander Girl," which she describes as a coming-of-age novel.

The main character was brought up by her grandparents in India and was told her parents were dead. "She discovers her grandfather is keeping a big family secret," Dr. Divakaruni said.

When it's revealed, the young woman goes to America in 2002 and finds herself dealing with post-9/11 prejudices.

"How do we live in a world where our differences cause problems and

issues and coexist with strangers? It touches on family, security, travel and getting to know yourself. It's a novel on a national level. How do we live with our differences and relate to people in spite of them?" Dr. Divakaruni said.

The author and creative writing professor tries to write for three to four hours a day several days a week.

"My approach is to be disciplined and make writing a regular part of my week," she said. She retires to her study, which looks out on a grove of trees, to work.

"I don't know where I get my ideas. They just come to me," she said, adding that she keeps a notebook to jot down those ideas.

She tells her students who want to be writers:

1. Read a lot to get a sense of a good story.
2. When writing, bring in information only they know to make it special. That's how a writer can make a story original.
3. Put in a lot of time — practice, edit, review and polish. "Like any work of art, you have to practice your craft," she said.

— Barbara Krolak

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