



ROBERTS BASKS IN AFTER-GLOW
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS PAGE 17

Santa Monica Daily Press

Since 2001: A news odyssey



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ A 41-year-old engineer in suburban Toronto has accumulated, and worn, about 800 pairs of sports socks over 15 years (half of them off the feet of professional athletes), according to a lengthy November profile in Canada's National Post, which did not reveal his name. The worst part of his hobby, he said (besides having to keep it secret from his wife), is that he is often contacted by foot and sock fetishists, which he denies that he is, preferring to think of himself as sort of a "custodian of history," wrote the Post. (A more conventional fetishist, Masashi Kamata, 28, was arrested in Nagoya, Japan, in October after police found about 5,000 pairs of used girls' and boys' shoes at a rented warehouse. "I was enjoying their smell," he said, according to Mainichi Daily News.)

■ Noel Methot, 24, was cited for inattentive driving after her car wound up half-submerged in a pond near downtown Orlando, Fla., in November. She was driving down a street but apparently missed the signs warning of the end of the road, and according to witnesses, the most likely reason for that was that she was arguing loudly with her boyfriend over her cell phone. The car went airborne about 20 or 30 feet before splashdown, but Methot was not seriously hurt.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the second day of 2007.
There are 363 days left in the year.

1900 Secretary of State John Hay announced the "Open Door Policy" to facilitate trade with China. In 1492, Muhammad XI, the sultan of Granada, the last Arab stronghold in Spain, surrendered to Spanish forces.

1788 Georgia became the fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

1921 religious services were broadcast on radio for the first time as KDKA in Pittsburgh aired the regular Sunday service of the city's Calvary Episcopal Church.

1929 the United States and Canada reached agreement on joint action to preserve Niagara Falls.

1935 Bruno Hauptmann went on trial in Flemington, N.J., on charges of kidnapping and murdering the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was found guilty, and executed.)

1942 the Philippine capital of Manila was captured by Japanese forces during World War II.

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Rendering courtesy

SUN BLOCK: New York-based artist Arnie Charnick has been frustrated trying to convince city officials to display his 'Gloom With a View' mural in a public space.

Reality appears to be tough sell

City Hall isn't buying artist's depiction of the homeless

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

PALISADES PARK — Running low on cash and facing the possibility of being homeless for the first time in his life, Bronx-based muralist Arnie Charnick was walking here three years ago when he glimpsed some-

thing that inspired him to paint.

"I was thinking of that old saying that you are only a finger snap away from being homeless," said the 59-year-old Charnick. "That was me. No work was coming in. It had just dried up and I was forced to rent out my apartment in New York and move out here to stay

with a friend.

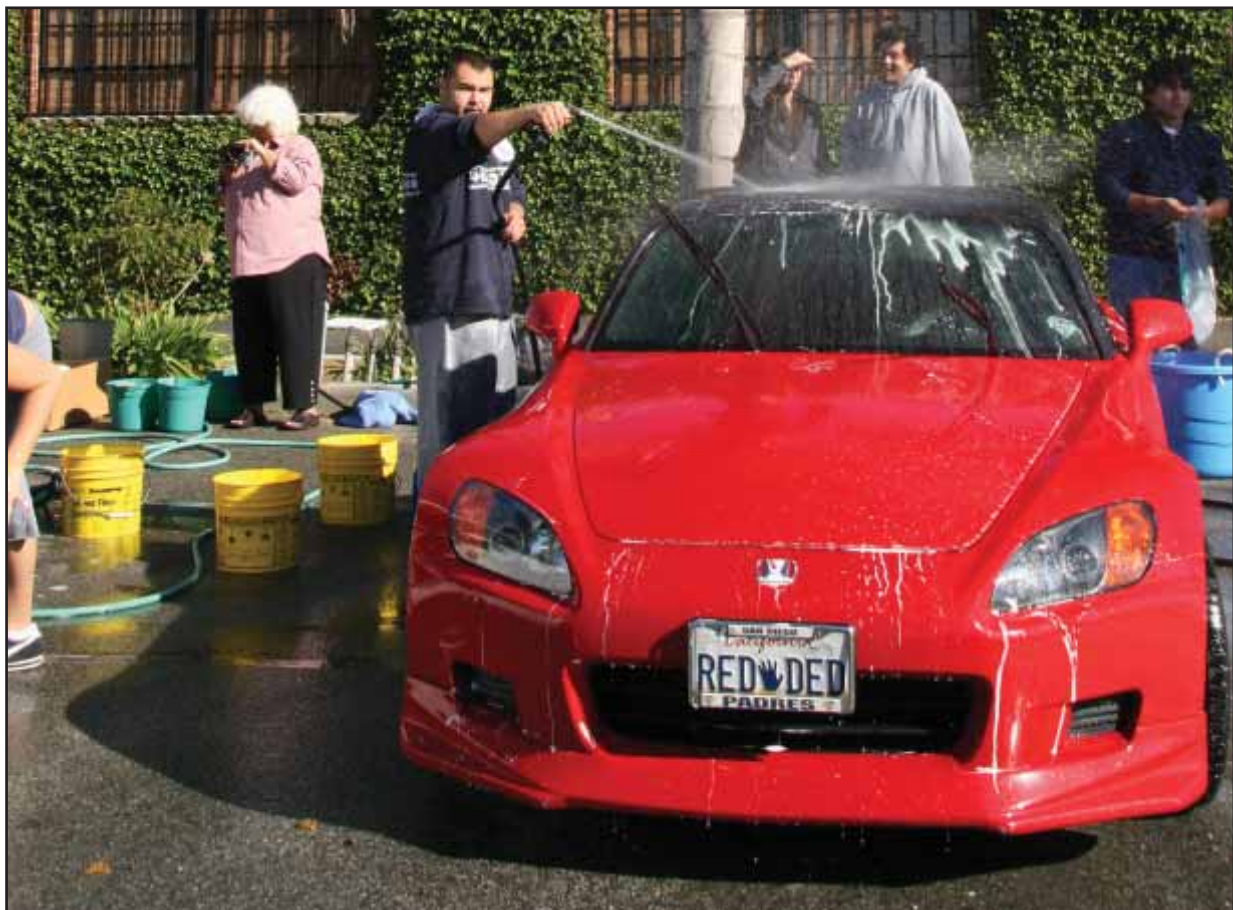
"Here I was in Santa Monica, hanging out in Palisades Park, and I began to feel such an affinity with those people who were homeless."

Charnick was struck by the dichotomy that lay before him. The beauty of the ocean view and the surrounding opulence clashed with the

images of homeless men and women huddled beneath ragged blankets, covering their faces from the sun.

It was then that Charnick felt compelled to paint the mural "Gloom With a View," a brightly-colored, art-deco inspired work that showcases several homeless people Charnick captured with his camera while walking through the park. Behind them are

See MURAL, page 6



All comes out in the wash

Volunteers take part in a car wash on Saturday at St. Anne's Catholic Church. The fundraiser was organized by the parish to aid the family of Miguel Angel Martin, who was gunned down by a suspected gang member last week in Pico Neighborhood.

Christine Chang news@smdp.com

Sigh of the times

Five reasons to embrace January

BY DIANE DAVIS

Associated Press Writer

January is a time to sigh.

No holiday gift-giving pressure. No greeting cards to get into the mail. No office parties to fret over.

Sure, you could move on to tackling your New Year's diet, or start your spring cleaning early by facing down that lump of coats on the floor of the front hall closet, or even spend some time mastering the new MP3 player you found under the tree.

But first, breathe. No big goals, no major challenges.

These cold bright days and long dark nights offer a calm quiet like no other time of year. Stop. Enjoy it. Here's how:

■ Go to bed early. Even if the days

See JANUARY, page 6

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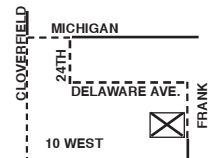
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Santa Monica Daily Press

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For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Story Time for Twos

2601 Main St., 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Story series for 2-year-olds at the Ocean Park Branch of the Santa Monica Public Library. Registration is required.

Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.

For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Kiwanis Club Weekly Meeting

1332 Sixth St., noon — 1:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club holds it's weekly luncheon with guest speakers.

Introduction to GPS

402 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m. — 8 p.m.

Learn the basics of GPS units at REI. This class will give an overview of the features and functions of GPS units.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the "Events" tab for the given day's calendar.



Dust in the wind: Air advocates sue over Valley soot

BY GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Environmental and community groups are suing the federal government, claiming it ignored data showing high levels of airborne dust, smoke and soot in the San Joaquin Valley when it ruled in October that the region met clean air standards.

The environmental law group Earthjustice filed the suit Wednesday in the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of the Latino Issues Forum, Medical Advocates for Healthy Air and three chapters of the Sierra Club.

Plaintiffs are asking the court to review the Environmental Protection Agency's finding that the valley's air was no longer polluted by PM-10 — tiny pollution particles just 10 microns wide — because it hadn't violated the PM-10 standard in three years.

"It's very important that the EPA withdraw this finding because the lungs of the people living in the valley are at stake," said Paul Cort, an Earthjustice attorney. "As long as that finding is out there, the EPA and the air district get to wash their hands and say the work is done."

EPA spokesman Mark Merchant said Thursday the agency could not comment on pending litigation.

In October, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District cited the ruling as a major cleanup milestone for its eight-county territory, which is considered one of the country's most polluted air basins.

Local cleanup efforts for PM-10, which is linked to asthma and heart problems, have included spraying water and slowing traffic on unpaved country roads, as well as implementing fireplace restrictions.

Environmentalists said those efforts weren't sufficient, and said air monitors in Bakersfield and Corcoran showed dust and soot violations in September.

The district is working to document that those temporary, higher PM-10 measurements were caused by airborne soot from Southern California wildfires and high winds that kicked up dust in the valley, said Scott Nester, the air district's director of planning.

The air district declined comment on the specifics of the lawsuit until agency lawyers had the chance to review it, Nester said.



Eating up the clock

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com
Shadows make an impression on the clock tower at Santa Monica College. A shadow is a region of darkness that emerges when an object blocks the light in front of it.

Smells like a payday

Baykeeper nets \$2.5M after 93 sewage spills

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — It's no use crying anymore over regional sewage spills.

Approximately \$2.5 million for environmental research and education is in store for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Santa Monica Baykeeper after both parties reached a settlement last week with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts as a penalty for 93 sewage spills that occurred in the past five years.

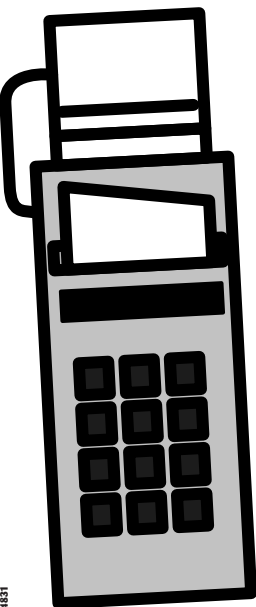
The Santa Monica Baykeeper, based in Marina del Rey, aims to protect and restore the Santa Monica and San Pedro bays through community action and litigation when needed. The Santa Monica Bay stretches from Point Dume in Malibu all the way down to the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

A spokesperson from Santa Monica Baykeeper could not be reached for comment.

The Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, which provides wastewater and solid waste management for 5.1 million people in LA County, was responsible for 93 sewage spills from several collection system facilities between January 2001 and September of this year. One of the largest spills occurred on Jan. 15, when 65,000 gallons of untreated wastewater was inadvertently released into the Pacific Ocean, and 780,000 gallons of untreated wastewater was sent into the groundwater beneath Manhattan and Hermosa beaches, according to a spokesman at the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board [LARWQCB].

"This is a highly beneficial settlement," said LARWQCB Chairman David Nahai on Thursday. "It sends a potent message of zero tolerance for sewage spills and at the same

See SPILLS, page 7



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A call for opposition

Editor:

I recently read Bill Bauer's column ("South SM is stacked with services," Nov. 20, page 4) listing the multitude of public housing for the mentally ill, poor, etc., on the south side of Santa Monica. I had no idea we had so many agencies and so much housing and help devoted to these people. I think Santa Monica has more than done its share.

But no! Now, I read that the Planning Commission has, unbeknownst to the average resident, approved an amendment allowing the city to build high-density public housing throughout Santa Monica.

Public housing projects on San Vicente, Montana, Wilshire and all points in between! How "inclusive" can you get?

The southern sections of our city have indeed suffered. Now the rest of the city has to be uneasy about its quality of life.

The City Council will vote on this amendment. Please voice your concerns/opposition before it's too late!

Caroline Jacobs

Santa Monica

The future looks grim

Editor:

The Planning Commission proposal to exempt from citizen review 50 unit multi-family low income housing projects is a horrible abuse of power by Santa Monican for Renters' Rights. Having fled Fidel Castro's communist Cuba, after our property was confiscated, I recognize governmental abuses of power. Commercial development of more than 7,500 square feet is subject to citizen review. It makes no sense to exempt these large projects. The 50 unit low income housing projects are approximately 40,000 square feet or larger. With reduced parking requirements the residents will overwhelm out already crowded streets, and schools. I just drove by an example of what SMRR is planning, 15th and Broadway, a high-density, four-story, low-income housing project. It is totally out of place with the single family homes in the neighborhood.

The HUD report, "In the Crossfire" provides very, very disturbing information. In summary, the report found persons residing in public housing and the surrounding neighborhoods are over twice as likely to suffer from firearm-related victimization as other members of the population. Also, there is a strong correlation between income and violent crime.

The crime in the Pico neighborhood bears this out. Every shooting in the Pico neighborhood is in close proximity to a low-income housing projects near Roosevelt and Franklin Schools. I fear for the safety of our children in my north of Wilshire neighborhood. This crazy proposal must be stopped. I urge everyone in the city to drive by 15th and Broadway and see for yourself what Santa Monican's for Renters Rights is planning.

Clara Benrey

Santa Monica



What we've missed

THE
SOAP BOX
BY BENNET KELLEY



One of the powers of the presidency is to define the agenda both in Washington and, to a large extent, in the media with the result being that issues ignored by the White House often are ignored by the media as well. This year was no different, as the Iraq War dominated the news while important issues ignored by the Bush administration failed to get the attention they deserved.

There is no better example of this phenomenon than the crisis in Darfur. It is a tragic irony that President Bush responded to a memo on the world's inaction during the Rwanda genocide by writing "not on my watch," yet on his watch over 400,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million displaced since 2003 by the Sudanese campaign of ethnic cleansing in Darfur. Despite acknowledging that genocide was occurring as early as 2004, the Bush administration has followed a policy of speaking loudly "and carrying a toothpick," out of fear of jeopardizing counter-terrorism intelligence provided by the Sudanese government.

As a result, growing demands for U.S. leadership on this issue, through additional targeted sanctions or enforcement of a United Nations mandated no-fly zone, have largely been ignored by both the White House and the media. It is only because of the dedicated efforts of activists and celebrities such as George Clooney and Don Cheadle that the issue receives any attention at all.

According to BBC anchor Gavin Esler, one of the year's most important and untold stories is that "George W. Bush has lost Latin America." President Bush alienated the region by supporting the attempted coup against Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, cutting military aid to a dozen Latin nations that refused to immunize U.S. officials from prosecution by the International Criminal Court and essentially ignoring the region after most Latin nations refused to support the Iraq War. This year, Latin America fired back, with President Chavez denouncing Bush as "el Diablo" at the United Nations and voters in Nicaragua and Venezuela electing former Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega and reelecting Chavez, respectively despite Bush's public opposition.

Esler believes that there is a wave of "pro-

found anti-American" sentiment throughout the region that is only going to get worse. This dangerously occurs at a time when U.S. rivals China and, possibly even, al-Qaeda are seeking to expand their influence in the region.

At home, despite President Bush's promise to do "what it takes," little attention was paid to the fact that Katrina recovery efforts have failed to live up to this promise. A disaster expert called the Bush Administration's Katrina housing effort "the largest disaster-response failure in the history of the country:" while country music stars and Louisiana natives Tim McGraw and Faith Hill recently called the recovery efforts "humiliating."

By the first anniversary of the storm, 99 percent of the funds allocated for repair of critical infrastructure had not been spent; over 80 percent of public housing units remain closed; 60 percent of the city homes lacked electricity; and nearly one-third of the trash had yet to be picked up — leading some to suggest that FEMA's slow response was part of a deliberate effort to discourage low-income families from returning to the city.

Sadly, New Orleans continues to be victimized by Bush cronyism as more than 70 percent of the contracts were awarded in no-bid or limited-bid contracts to large corporations such as Bechtel and Halliburton.

Katrina's flood waters also washed away the thin veneer that obscured the persistent poverty that exists in America. In 2005, President Bush declared in New Orleans' Jackson Square that "[w]e have a duty to confront this poverty with bold action." One year later, few noticed when this empty promise washed ashore with the release of census data revealing that over one in 10 families and almost one in five children live in poverty today while Bush has remained silent. Historian Douglas Brinkley aptly notes that Bush is cognizant of criticism of President Johnson for attempting to fund both the War on Poverty and the Vietnam War and concludes that "Bush has learned this lesson: He chose Iraq over New Orleans."

Throughout this year, Bush calamitously chose action in Iraq and inaction in areas such as Darfur and New Orleans desperately calling for his leadership. In essence, this year is best captured by the Japanese proverb: "Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare" ... except that in today's world, even inaction can result in a nightmare.

Bennet Kelley can be reached at bennet@bennetkelley.com.

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GUEST COMMENTARY BY JEANNI TAVLIN

Education of teachers needs to be a priority

The Center for American Progress recently released two reports examining effective efforts to improve teacher quality. All these studies and proposals ignore the fact that nobody cares much about the public schools, as the only students enrolled in public schools are those whose parents are Third World, single or of the working class.

The idea of "combat pay" for those who teach in "bad" areas is one I cannot support. Take the extra money and put it into the classrooms! Nobody should be paid extra to work in minority schools. Take the money set aside for combat pay and use it to reduce class size so that classes are small enough to allow teachers to teach.

It was interesting to me that Roy Romer turned LAUSD into "big business." His right-hand man -- instead of being an associate or assistant superintendent -- was his chief of staff! The whole business of running the public schools was turned into something that hired more big shots for the big bucks, while the classroom suffered. The few good principals were pulled to be mucky-mucks downtown. Then, the next level was moved up to principals, leaving the job of teaching the students to another class of teacher.

When I was in high school, the majority of the seniors in the upper percentile chose teaching as a career. There was no thought of teaching to be a "job." That is no longer the way it is. Students who don't have defined goals, decide they will teach for a couple of years and then go on to something else.

Even though teachers could never be

adequately compensated for the job they do, there are those who earn tens and hundreds of thousands for sports or big business. Why would anyone who is competent work in a repressive atmosphere with every move dictated and progress is closely monitored so as to show how well the students are doing? The only possible reason is that the people who had chosen teaching as their career are a rapidly disappearing breed.

A teacher cannot teach something to a student; a good teacher creates an environment in which students will want to learn. That is when true learning takes place. In addition, it is not possible to teach a person to be a good teacher; it must be an inborn part of the person. A good teacher has to be able to think, and react, at a moment's notice. A teacher can be taught to use a variety of techniques to motivate students. It is no wonder there are so few teachers we remember.

All the money that is spent on these studies could be spent on the students already in school. Until the time when colleges and universities recognize the important job they have to do (graduate people who will be career teachers), we will continue to have the situation we have now. The NCLB is incorrect: Not one child is left behind -- they are all left behind. Nations all over the globe are looking at us and wondering how we have gotten to this place!

Jeanni Tavlin spent 25 years as a teacher and union activist in Los Angeles.



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Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 3.



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The Q-Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

The shooting death of 20-year-old Miguel Angel Martin near Virginia Avenue Park last week is just the latest incident of gang-related violence in the Pico Neighborhood. In the wake of such incidents, law enforcement officials routinely describe gang violence as a "regional problem," as oftentimes gang members who live outside the city are responsible for the violent crimes that take place in Santa Monica's limits. This week's Q-Line question asks:

Has the time come to disband the Santa Monica Police Department and contract with the LA County Sheriff's Department in efforts to stem gang violence?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in next weekend's edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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And Haricots Verts with Toasted Hazelnuts & Shallots*

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'Gloom' and doom: Artist markets mural

MURAL, from page 1

images many Santa Monicans will recognize, including the famous Ferris wheel on the Santa Monica Pier and the statue of Saint Monica.

Charnick worked for about six weeks in a friend's spare bedroom painting the mural, and just when he finished, he was offered a job in New York and returned home, leaving the mural in his daughter's garage in Newport Beach. There it sat until this winter, when Charnick returned with the hopes of selling the mural and using the money to help agencies providing services to the homeless.

"I don't want it to be bought and then just sit in someone's home," Charnick said. "I want it to be a public piece, and my intention is to have someone sponsor it and then use that money for a homeless organization that could make prints and

then sell them."

Charnick (arniecharnick @yahoo.com) has been making the rounds locally, trying to garner interest in his work, which he described as a cross between Leonardo da Vinci's depiction of the Last Supper and a Depression-era painting commissioned by the government.

So far, he's generated only mild interest and has had a hard time getting permission from City Hall to showcase the mural, Charnick said.

"I was here for only about three months, painted this mural, and then as soon as I finished I got work again," Charnick said. "That tells me that I must have painted this for a reason. That's what's driving me now."

"This is my way of helping the homeless, who have truly inspired me."

kevinh@smdp.com

Holidays are history, now it's time to take a chill pill

JANUARY, from page 1

are getting longer, darkness still descends in the evening's early hours. Embrace it. Turn off the TV and turn down the heat. Silence the phone, and cell phone, too. Tune your clock radio to a classical music station.

Crawl under that big down comforter and feel the sheets change from icy cold to cozy warm. Drift off to sleep, ready to rise early with the pale winter sun and greet whatever the next day brings.

■ Read a classic novel. Most any one will do: Jane Austen, Edith Wharton, the Bronte sisters, "The Great Gatsby." The slower, more deliberate pace of faraway times suits winter's chill.

And somehow, no matter how cold it is outside, the winters centuries ago always seem colder (recall the carriages traveling through the snow from a dinner party in "Emma"). So bring an afghan and hot pot of Earl Grey tea along with your book to your favorite reading chair. Dive in.

■ Bake bread. Yes, it can take all afternoon. Yes, it's a little intimidating. But what a way to pass a long, cold Sunday. Hunker down and prepare to follow the directions carefully, what with getting the yeast temperature just right, and kneading the dough just so.

Try a traditional recipe that requires your hands; or just use the one that came with your electric mixer. The magic moment

when you peek into your mixing bowl to find that the hard fist of flour and water has bloomed into an air-filled puff of almost-bread will be no less sweet. And the moment when it emerges from the oven a few hours later will be even better.

■ Write something. Not on the computer. Grab one of the dozens of blank journals for sale in any book store, or maybe some creamy white sheets of heavy bond paper. Use a nice pen -- black ink, please. Write a letter to your college best friend. Write down something funny you saw on your way to work today. Write a poem, rhyming not required. You may be surprised at what flows from your pen. Life is sometimes more interesting when committed to paper.

■ Take comfort in friends. You just sent them a holiday card, but wouldn't getting together be much nicer? Call some of them Saturday morning. Invite them to dinner. Not a fancy holiday dinner with place cards and egg nog. Just some meat or vegetables that can cook almost all day long -- braised lamb shanks; sweet potato soup; or short ribs melting off the bone.

Make a centerpiece of pine cones and branches from the now wilting Christmas tree. Put away the Christmas carols and play some jazz. Drink an inexpensive shiraz. Toast to the spring that is to come.

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Christine Chang news@smdp.com

Angel Villasenor, a program specialist from Virginia Avenue Teen Center, rinses off a car on Saturday at a fundraiser car wash directed by Father Mike Gutierrez of St. Anne's Catholic Church. Gutierrez's youth group cleaned cars in order to raise money for the family of Miguel Angel Martin, who was shot and killed last week near Virginia Avenue Park. The money is aimed at helping Martin's family with funeral expenses.



Settlement to help fund educational programs

SPILLS, from page 3

time dedicates funds to worthwhile environmental projects."

The settlement will provide approximately \$2.2 million to the San Gabriel River Discovery Center in Whittier Narrows, which will include interactive exhibits and classes on the San Gabriel River. Another \$50,000 will fund education for at-risk students in kindergarten through sixth grade. The rest of the money will fund a project to identify the source of bacteria affecting water quality in Redondo Pier, and will be deposited into the Cleanup and Abatement Account, which is managed by the State Water Resources Control Board.

"This settlement agreement makes additional and critically needed funding avail-

able for community-based research and education on water quality," said Jim Stahl, chief engineer and general manager for the LA County Sanitation Districts. "We strive for zero overflows, but short of achieving this perfection, I cannot think of a better outcome to the 93 overflows."

The LA County Sanitation District came under fire from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2003 when the EPA ordered district officials to cut down on the number of spills from its sewage collection system. From Oct. 1, 1998 to Aug. 22, 2003, the LA County Sanitation Districts was responsible for 35 sewage spills in violation of the federal Clean Water Act.

The district has 49 pumping stations and oversees 1,300 miles of sewer lines, according to the EPA.

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEF

Resolving to render a healthier you

There are only a few days left in 2006, which means Americans from coast to coast are making their New Year's resolutions. Wild Oats, a natural and organic foods retailer, is challenging consumers to make lifelong changes starting Jan. 1 that will add years to their lives.

Wild Oats is launching an Eating Well for Healthy Aging educational campaign centered on a comprehensive nutrition and lifestyle program that will help consumers live better and longer.

Throughout January, your Wild Oats will host two Eating Well for Healthy Aging classes taught by local holistic health experts. In addition, Wild Oats' education guide will be available for purchase for \$1 in the store or online at www.wildoats.com/healthyaging.

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Sunset Park	= \$ 1,355,474	\$ 645,667
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,616,100	\$ 1,165,154

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Border crackdown

Smugglers' boom on Mexican border sparks violence

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — Toughened U.S. border enforcement has prompted substantially more illegal immigrants to hire smugglers to help them cross over from Mexico — and competition among sophisticated criminal networks for customers has spawned violence and sometimes death.

The evidence is abundant in border boomtowns, where human traffickers rustle together flocks of immigrants for the journey north. Further evidence comes from tens of thousands of interviews of illegal border crossers in surveys by a Mexican government-funded research institution, which were analyzed by The Associated Press.

“What was once a discretionary expense has now become a necessity,” said Jorge Santibanez, who oversaw the surveys while president of Tijuana-based El Colegio de la Frontera Norte.

AP’s examination of the sweeping data found the use of smugglers on the rise among those surveyed. The interviewees were border crossers who returned to Mexico within three years or were caught and kicked out by the Border Patrol.

About half of those surveyed in 2005 said they had hired a smuggler. That compared to about 1 in 3 in 2004 and just 1 in 6 in 2000.

The actual percentage of illegal immigrants who hire smugglers may be even higher than what the AP analysis found. That’s because people may hesitate to admit they hired someone to commit a crime. And the survey excludes those who made it across and remain in the United States — a successful crossing often depends on the expertise of a hired guide.

“You’re less likely to get caught if you’re using a smuggler,” said David Spener, an immigration expert at Trinity University in San Antonio.

While smugglers have spirited people into the United States since Congress first limited immigration in the 1880s, the cur-

rent spike coincides with heightened border security following the 2001 terrorist attacks.

In this market, where customers pay several times what they did a decade ago, increasingly brazen organizations compete for business.

While most smugglers walk their customers several nights across the deserts that dominate the frontier’s nearly 2,000 miles, others take frightening risks.

Inspectors at a San Diego crossing found a 14-year-old girl strapped under the metal bars of a car seat, the driver sitting atop her, and occasionally find children inside compartments that once served as the gas tanks.

“IT HAS TURNED A
MODESTLY LUCRATIVE
BUSINESS INTO A
FANTASTICALLY
PROFITABLE INDUSTRY,”

Wayne Cornelius
immigration expert

Smugglers in Arizona have hijacked loads of customers from rivals — in one case, resulting in a highway shootout that killed four people in 2003. In Tijuana, across from heavily fortified San Diego and the world’s busiest border crossing, three bullet-ridden bodies were found in May, covered with roasted chickens. Spanish slang for a smuggler includes “pollo,” literally a poultry handler.

“It’s become a very good business — more dangerous, but a good business,” said Daniel Rivera, 63, who recruits migrants walking the streets of Tijuana.

The Border Patrol has grown from 8,400 agents in 1999 to 12,400 agents today and is projected to reach 18,000 by the end of 2008. President Bush dis-

patched the National Guard to the border last spring and recently signed legislation to erect 700 miles of fencing from California to Texas. Meanwhile, the government is buying sensors, unmanned aircraft and other border security gadgets.

A senior official at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said the fact that migrants are increasingly relying on smugglers shows that heightened border enforcement is working.

The trend of hiring smugglers is “a natural outgrowth of the fact that we have more control,” said Ralph Basham, commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which oversees the Border Patrol. He expects it will continue.

Critics say the border crackdown isn’t working, that the U.S. government’s own estimates suggest the number of illegal immigrants here grew by 2 million between 2000 and 2005 to 10.5 million people. The big winners, they say, are the smugglers.

“It has turned a modestly lucrative business into a fantastically profitable industry,” said Wayne Cornelius, an immigration expert at the University of California, San Diego.

For this story, the AP analyzed the responses of nearly 61,000 illegal immigrants interviewed by El Colegio de la Frontera Norte researchers over six years, ending in June 2005. The college surveys were conducted at airports, bus stations and crossings in eight Mexican border cities, from Tijuana on the Pacific to Matamoros, just south of Brownsville, Texas.

The study is one of the most ambitious efforts to quantify immigrant smuggling between Mexico and the United States. People surveyed were about evenly split between those deported and those who returned voluntarily after crossing successfully within the previous three years.

Nowhere are smugglers more prominent than Arizona — the border’s desolate midsection and the central front in the U.S. government’s struggle against illegal crossings.

Culinary school enrollment up, but low-paying jobs, debt await

BY KIM CURTIS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Cameron Cuisinier’s dreams of a catering career led him to culinary school. Now he’s unemployed and \$43,000 in debt, and he’s not alone.

From TV chefs to reality shows where the winners get their own restaurants, it’s a hot time to be in the kitchen. Record numbers of would-be chefs are enrolling in culinary schools, some of which charge \$20,000 a year or more. But the restaurant business has always been a tough way to make a living, and many graduates find themselves saddled with debt and working long hours at low-paying, entry-level jobs.

“When they’re trying to get you enrolled in these programs, they tell you you’re going to come out making top dollar,” said Cuisinier, a recent graduate of the California Culinary Academy in San Francisco. “I’ve just been way disappointed.”

Industry observers say celebrity chefs like Rachael Ray and Emeril Lagasse — with his trademark exclamation, “Bam!” — helped launch the craze. The rising popularity of cable TV’s The Food Network and reality shows like “Top Chef” and “Hell’s Kitchen” are fueling it.

“It looks really fun on TV,” said Tim Ryan, president of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., one of the country’s premier training grounds for chefs. “You’ve got an audience adoring you. You say, ‘Bam!’ and throw some stuff on a plate and everyone goes nuts.”

“That’s not what happens,” he said. “The work is long and hard. There’s a lot of pressure.”

In 1996, there were 269 career cooking schools and 154 recreational cooking schools in the U.S., according to ShawGuide’s “The Guide to Cooking Schools.” By 2006, those numbers had risen to 446 and 503, respectively.

Attendance also is rising. At CIA, 2,757 students were enrolled last year in a full-time, degree-seeking program. That’s up from 2,012 in 2001, Ryan said.

The number of food service jobs in America rose from 9.9 million in 2001 to 10.8 million in 2005, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. But a small fraction of those jobs — roughly 115,000 — are for chefs or head cooks, and that number did not change significantly during the five-year span.

The vast majority of food service jobs are held by fast-food workers and wait staff, and the industry’s average hourly wage was \$7.73 in 2005, according to the Labor Department statistics.

“Hell’s Kitchen,” featuring the rantings of celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay, introduces viewers to some of the stresses of restaurant work. Not so the sunny ramblings of Food Network host Rachael Ray, or Lagasse, whose show features a live band and studio audience who enthusiastically cheer his every move.

The Food Network now reaches 87 million homes and is watched by half a million people per day. And these aren’t your mother’s cooking shows. Television chefs, from Bobby Flay to Giada De Laurentiis are hip, young and attractive.

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Split in timber town

Residents of company town rue the day Pacific Lumber sells out

BY LISA LEFF
Associated Press Writer

SCOTIA — Along with the scent of freshly cut redwood, an air of uncertainty hangs over this idyllic Northern California logging town.

Mel Berti feels it from behind the butcher counter at Hoby's Market, where he has greeted lumber mill workers and their families by name for three decades.

Nodding toward the tidy streets and rows of whitewashed bungalows outside, he wonders what the Scotia he knows will look like in another 10 years — now that its days as a company town, one of the last in America, are numbered.

"It's not getting any better than it is now, I'll tell you that," said Berti, 67. "There's not a town around that looks this nice while being maintained as a regular town."

After 141 years as Scotia's only employer, landlord and property manager, Pacific Lumber Co. is getting out of the real estate business. Citing declining timber prices and a need to raise cash, its Houston-based parent company, Maxxam Inc., plans to sell Scotia's 270 homes, stores, pair of churches, hotel, museum, movie theater and recreation center in 2007.

PalCo, as the company is known, hopes the rest of its holdings 137 miles south of the Oregon-California border — from the fire department and street lights to the power plant and sewer system — will be annexed and governed by the adjoining town of Rio Dell — a community as scruffy as Scotia is spic-and-span.

For generations, employees of PalCo and the town's auxiliary businesses have been Scotia's only residents, and the company is pitching its divestment as an economic opportunity for them. They will be offered first dibs on buying the homes they now rent at subsidized rates ranging from \$500 to \$700 a month.

"There is a continuity here the people like, and we want to maintain that," said Dennis E. Wood, Pacific Lumber's vice president for strategic planning.

Yet gazing a quarter-mile across the green-girdered bridge that span the Eel River and separates Scotia from Rio Dell, makes some of Scotia's 800 residents nervous about their future as free agents.

In all, PalCo spends about \$1 million a year landscaping yards, sponsoring community events and performing other tasks that protect Scotia's pristine, 19th century ambiance. Rio Dell's boarded up storefronts and uneven housing stock offer an unsettling vision of what could become of Scotia without the company's patronage.

**"THERE IS A CONTINUITY
HERE THE PEOPLE LIKE,
AND WE WANT TO
MAINTAIN THAT,"**

Dennis E. Wood, Pacific Lumber's
vice president for strategic planning

"I compare it to a fire — you never know what's going to happen, you just deal with it," said John Broadstock, an 18-year resident and chief of the volunteer fire department.

Further fueling the apprehension are doubts about long-term prospects for timber, the main employer in California's thinly populated upper reaches.

PalCo is the state's largest private owner of old-growth redwood forest. But in the decade since activist Julia Butterfly Hill drew attention to its logging practices by spending more than two years perched in an ancient tree, environmental protests and regulations have made fewer of its 210,000 acres avail-

able for logging.

In the last five years, the company has closed two mills, repeatedly threatened bankruptcy and laid off hundreds of employees. Some worry whether selling Scotia signals PalCo is preparing to leave town altogether, making buying a house there a risky investment.

"It's at the point here where the people don't know if they will have a job next week or not," said Berti, who like many old-timers speaks nostalgically of the days before the family that owned PalCo sold it to Maxxam in 1987.

It's too soon to say what the two- and three-bedroom houses will sell for, but Wood said he expects it to be less than Humboldt County's median price of \$300,000. Besides the novelty of taking on a mortgage, residents who end up buying the homes — a survey PalCo conducted earlier in the year showed that upward of 75 percent said they would like to — would have to pay for garbage pickup, water and sewer service, costs the company always covered.

Elizabeth Heiss, who works as a cashier at the PalCo Pharmacy, is among the Scotia residents who wouldn't mind making the transition from renter to homeowner, if she can afford it. A single mother whose father and grandfather both worked in Scotia, Heiss, 28, appreciates that the town is as predictable as the whistle that signals shift changes at the mill three times a day.

"It's interesting to be part of the history, like I'm making a difference," Heiss said.

The Rio Dell City Council has hired a company to study the financial impact of annexing Scotia before it decides whether to approve the deal, a decision expected by midyear. But in the town, mistrust of whether it would be a good thing for anybody besides Pacific Lumber, or more specifically Maxxam, runs as deeply as contempt for environmentalists.

Tribe draws losing hand on Indian gambling

BY AARON C. DAVIS
Associated Press Writer

WEITCHPEC — Along California's rugged northwest coast, a freshly paved highway exit marked "Bald Hills Road" is for most nothing more than the entrance to Lady Bird Johnson Grove and Redwood National Park.

For the Yurok, the state's largest and perhaps poorest American Indian tribe, it's where the road home, and the Yuroks' struggles, begin.

Past the park, Bald Hills quickly narrows to a deadly, one-lane logging path and snakes high into the Pacific coastal range. Around blind corners and frequent cliffs, charred remains of Jeeps and rusted cars litter the ditches of a 40-mile-long washboard welcome mat.

It is a clan the state, if not time itself, has left behind.

For years, the Yurok have asked California lawmakers for permission to operate slot machines to begin making the money they say could help pull the poorest of their 5,000 out of grinding poverty. Their casino would be so remote it would seem few might visit, but the tribe estimates it could bring in more than \$1 million a year, as much as doubling its discretionary budget in bad years and allowing the tribe to begin saving money to pave, or at least regularly grade, roads such as Bald Hills.

Here, surrounded by steep hills and stripped redwood forests, hundreds of Yuroks survive dug into the remote, muddy banks of the Klamath River. Most live without electricity or clean running water in clusters of dilapidated trailers supplied after a flood when Lyndon B. Johnson was president.

Children still learn in one-room schools. Wood fires warm homes. And a tribe that once thrived off salmon grapples with a river with few fish. The tribe's only jobs come from federal grants, or in helping timber companies take the very trees Yuroks believe to be their own.

The way the Yuroks' gambling efforts have been thwarted for years, both through bureaucratic slip-ups and in the crossfire of larger political feuds in the state Capitol, is the story of a tribe beset by misfortunes as confounding as any in the state.

Whether the Yurok can begin to escape their troubled past remains entirely unclear, but the issue is likely to come up again when the Legislature reconvenes Jan. 3.

In the short decade since voters approved gambling on Indian land, the Yurok tribe has morphed from a poster child for needy tribes to an anomaly.

Many tribes have become so rich from mega-casinos erected from Palm Springs to the Sacramento suburbs that the disparity between them and those such as the Yurok is now staggering. Nearly 50 tribes raked in a combined \$13 billion from gambling in 2004, according to the California Attorney General's office, and their casino profits continue to rise.

By comparison, counting every cent of its federal grants, timber sales and \$1.1 million from a state fund that shares casino revenues between rich tribes and poor ones, the Yurok spent \$12 million last year. That's less than what one of the richest, the Agua Caliente Band of Mission Indians near Palm Springs, is spending to appoint rooms in its new resort hotel with granite counter tops, whirlpool baths, plasma-screen TVs and other luxuries.

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Struggling villages feeling cut off

BY RACHEL D'ORO

Associated Press Writer

POINT HOPE, Alaska — Masuk Lane spends at least \$200 a month filling her water tank to wash her family's clothing, so it galls her to see the dormant washeteria that once saved residents so much money in this whaling village.

"It's just a waste of the machines," said the married mother of five, waving her hands at the practically new appliances sitting idle in Point Hope for more than two years.

But she's among the lucky ones. Some people have to haul their laundry to the homes of relatives, no matter how bitter the cold in the Inupiat Eskimo community of 700. Lost, too, are the public showers housed in the same building and a public minibus that used to ferry people around this gravel spit 125 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

This is the story of just one village among scores left reeling from eroding budgets. It's a dilemma worsened by the termination of the state's revenue sharing and municipal assistance programs three years ago. Bandage fixes have since been employed to partially fill the gap, but at least in Point Hope, the money is quickly absorbed by such necessities as salaries, accrued debts and skyrocketing fuel bills, according to local officials.

Like Point Hope, most Alaska villages have little or no property tax base to turn to and few employment opportunities, said Kevin Ritchie, who recently retired as director of the Alaska Municipal League. For some, bingo revenues are the largest bill in slim wallets.

"Traditionally, economies depended on hunting and fishing to survive," Ritchie said. "But it's not the 1800s anymore. There's fuel, transportation, some store-bought food and other living expenses, which take money. Among the challenges villages are facing, as the price of fuel goes up, a larger portion of their money is eaten up."

Beside their impressive modern schools, residents in scores of Alaska's more than 200 native communities have little to show for the millions spent on elevating them barely above third-world conditions. Their homes often are barely more than insulated huts, their properties dotted with racks holding strips of drying fish and seal, food so crucial in the mixed economies of these far-flung settlements.

HOPE IS LOST

Point Hope's own meager revenues don't allow it to come to the rescue where the washeteria is concerned. Some local officials, however, wonder if it could pay for itself.

"The people are hurting," said assistant Mayor Steve Oomittuk. "They want the Laundromat back, and they're willing to pay whatever — \$5 to \$6 a load — to get it back open."

Life used to be easier in the village, one of eight communities not linked by roads in the oil-dependent North Slope Borough, Alaska's largest regional government. When the borough was flush with oil wealth, washeterias and public buses were among routine amenities in its 94,000-square-mile jurisdiction.

Oil and gas properties still fuel the region's economy, accounting for 98 percent of the borough's property tax base — or \$199 million in revenues for the current fiscal year. But aging industry facilities have slipped in value, draining borough coffers at an annual rate of about \$6 million in recent years, according to John Ames, the borough's chief financial officer.

Those losses had to be absorbed through significant budget cuts, Ames said. And that meant eliminating extraneous expenses while continuing to provide essential services, such as clinics, schools and power plants serving 7,200 people scattered over an area almost the size of Oregon.

"In terms of good financial planning, we had to look first at things we were subsidizing," Ames said. "There was a huge cost for the washeterias, much more than people know. The washeterias never have paid for themselves."

Ames said it's too early to say how borough finances will be affected by the partial shutdown at Prudhoe Bay — the nation's largest oil field — after the August discovery of leaks and pipeline corrosion. That uncertainty, he said, underscores the need for prudent money management.

"If we had municipal revenue sharing,

the cities might be able to afford washeterias and such things not provided by the borough," Ames said. "These are not things normally done by a borough."

A NEED TO SHARE

Many rural economies have yet to fully recover from the vacuum left by the elimination in 2003 of the state's revenue sharing and municipal assistance programs. A handful of villages even temporarily ceased daily operations.

State officials, however, say federal dollars continued to be available, but weren't always tapped.

Local governments also were eligible for one-time relief efforts from the state and Gov. Sarah Palin this month proposed spending a total of \$70 million in municipal and rural energy assistance in the next fiscal year. In October, then-Gov. Frank

Murkowski signed over \$183 million to an endowment that is estimated to generate about \$25 million annually to help absorb the high cost of electricity in rural areas.

Earlier this year, the Alaska Legislature approved \$49 million in energy assistance. The program is providing at least \$40,000 to each of Alaska's communities, depending on their size. That minimum exceeds the amount many received under latter-year revenue sharing, said Mike Black, director of the Alaska Division of Community Advocacy.

"Small communities in particular benefited," he said.

But for many, the assistance falls short of the earlier bounty. Created in 1969, the revenue sharing program alone distributed more than \$60 million in oil revenues to communities in its heyday in 1985, but only \$12.9 million in its final year.

Idaho professor charged with hoax

By The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — An Idaho history professor is accused of pulling a hoax on a bankruptcy trustee by sending an envelope that supposedly contained hazardous material, the FBI said Thursday.

The threat turned out to be false, but

Thomas Hale, 61, was charged with perpetrating a hoax as well as two other felonies related to a bankruptcy case in Utah.

Hale, a professor at Idaho State University, pleaded not guilty in federal court Thursday, two days after he was arrested at Salt Lake City International Airport after a flight from Chicago.

The FBI alleges that Hale sent a fax Nov. 16 warning bankruptcy trustee Elizabeth Loveridge that an envelope with hazardous material was on its way.

Firefighters and the Salt Lake City police bomb squad went to Loveridge's office and seized the envelope. Tests showed no evidence of hazardous material, the FBI said.

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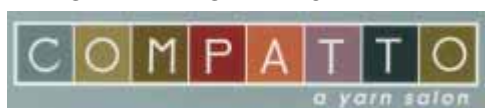
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Free Workshop Reveals 7 ways to slash college costs

SANTA MONICA—An extremely popular free workshop is being held for the parents of college bound high school students during the month of December at various Santa Monica locations.

The workshop will focus on little-known ways of getting money for college, no matter how much income you make, or how good of a student you have. The class will include such topics as how to double or triple your eligibility for free grant money, the secret to sending your child to a private or UC school for less than the cost of a junior college, and the single biggest mistake that 9 out of 10 parents make when planning for college.

The workshop dates are Thursday, January 18th at the Santa Monica Main Library, Saturday, January 20th

at the Santa Monica Main Library 10:15 a.m. to 12 p.m., and Tuesday, January 23rd at the Montana Avenue Library The classes on Tuesday and Thursday 7:15pm to 8:45pm & Saturday Morning 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. The workshop will be taught by Shanee Chavis an affiliate of the College Planning Network, Inc. the nation's leading expert on paying for college. Ron Caruthers the President of the College Planning Network is a continuous guest of KUSI TV News, Author of "How To Give Your Child A 4-Year College Education Without Going Broke", and an instructor at Palomar and Mira Costa colleges.

Seating is free, but limited by the size of the room. To reserve your seat, call 310-581-7954 leave a message and receive a confirmation returned phone call.

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GUEST COMMENTARY BY LINDA MILO

We laughed the loudest

Why did the girl blush when she opened the refrigerator door? Because she saw the salad dressing!

Children love to laugh. For them, the modulations of their laughter are still a part of finding out who they are. With one laugh, they are experiencing different feelings, expressions and attitudes.

Laughter is used as a signal for being a part of a group — it signals a positive and accepting interaction. Laughter is also contagious — the laughter of one person can provoke laughter from the others. When most people think about their childhood, a situation, a movie scene or a joke, they often start to giggle and laugh. I recently saw a movie that keeps replaying in my mind, which encourages me to be happy and laugh every time I think about it. The scene and the language heard were so very funny.

When you're in a crowded store and you hear a child laugh, everyone turns around to look. We're looking because the laugh itself is so riveting. Somehow in that moment of listening to the peals of laughter, the world has somehow righted itself once again.

While raising my family, laughter was a large part of their everyday lives. With six children around, the wit and jokes never ended. I had a rule that was almost never broken: dinner was to be shared together each evening. Of course, we had soccer practice, recitals at the school auditorium, hockey practice, etc., but for the most part, we ate together and shared more fun than any other family in the neighborhood. The reasons we laughed so much was because I was raised with the belief that food should be eaten with love and with communication. The dinner table was our refuge from the day's stress and trials — and we filled it with tradition, laughter and love.

We've all heard that laughter is the best medicine. Studies have shown it to be true. Studies have also shown that children who have a clown (and their parents) present prior to minor surgery had far less anxiety. Researchers have said that 60 percent of children suffer from anxiety when they know

they are going to have surgery. High levels of anxiety can cause a higher risk of complications and healing time. Having the clown around brings joy and contentment to the child and hence, less complications.

Laughter is a part of human behavior which is regulated by the brain. There is laughter therapy which is used to remind clients that the importance of social support and relationships can help them stay more focused and balanced in their lives. My children didn't need laughter therapy because of their ability to be fully in touch with their sensations, which made their laughter spring from their whole body. When we would tell stories and jokes at the dinner table, first there would be grins, then a gust of giggles and finally a warm laugh from deep within them.

I never tired of the "knock-knock" jokes: Knock, knock? Who's there? Ella. Ella who? Ella-Fant. Or, knock-knock? Who's there? Justin. Justin who? Justin time for supper. Knock-knock? Who's there? Carl. Carl who? Carl'll get you there faster than a bike ... It went on and on and we never tired of it.

We didn't only share jokes, but we also shared time talking about our day, our friends, our hopes, our beliefs, our worries and our family dynamics. My children saw the funny side of situations and all was right each evening when we knew we would be together to eat our laden plates and laugh at our various tales and stories.

We grow from being serious about our lives, but we also grow enormously from our laughter. A child discovers that there is magic in humor. Children go out of their way to make Mom and Dad laugh. They love to see the smile on their parents' faces and the glow that surrounds them. The whole family benefits when they set a regular time set aside for celebration — the celebration of their lives together and their laughter. Fond memories last forever.

Linda Milo is "The Parent-Child Connection Coach." For more information, visit www.empoweringparentsnow.com. To book a free parent coaching session, write linda@empoweringparentsnow.com.

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ONGOING CALENDAR -
Some holiday schedule changes have been included, but you may want to call and confirm events this week.

TUESDAY

Movies for Moms! 11:00 a.m., Loews Cineplex Broadway Theatre, 1441 3rd St. Promenade - for Moms and babies newborn - 1 year old. Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. Visit www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms for details.

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library - 601 Santa Monica Blvd. - 458-8621
Baby Time - 10:15 & 11:00 a.m., babies up to 2 years, next session Jan. 9 - Feb. 13.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 450-0443.
Toddler Story Time in Spanish - 10:00 a.m., ages 2-3.
Baby Time - 11:00 a.m., babies to age 2, next session Jan. 2 - Feb. 6
Twilight Story Time -7pm - an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 829-7081.
Family Story Time - 7:00 p.m., all ages.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. - 392-8304
Story Time for Twos - 10:00 and 10:30 a.m., next session starts Jan. 2.
Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis
For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com
Barnes and Noble at the Grove
Storytime for ages 2 - 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Classes
YWCA - A Place for Parents - Closed thru Jan. 1.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES - 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise
Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal - 11:25 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes. yogababyla.com

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups - 4:30 p.m.- separate groups for children born in 2000 and 2001. Call or email Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling and Library Programs
The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge - 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052
10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443.
Story Time for Twos - 9:30 a.m.
Preschool Story Time - 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-5.
Next session Jan. 3 - Feb. 7 for both.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081.
Baby Time - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2, next session starts Jan. 3.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. -392-3804.
Spanish Bilingual Stories - 11:20 a.m., ages 2 - 5, session thru Dec. 27.
Preschool Twilight Story Time - 7:00 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.
Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 2 pm - ages 2-5 - 310-475-4144
Border's, Westwood - 11a.m. - 310-475-3444.

Classes
YWCA - A Place for Parents -Closed thru Jan. 1.

Yoga & Exercise
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com
Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal - 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., \$15
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group
The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Other
Puppetolio - 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

THURSDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroup - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. for children born 1/02 - 2/03; 3:30 p.m., for children born 3/03 - 12/03, Call or email Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling and Library Programs
Main Library - 601 Santa Monica Blvd. - 458-8621
Story Time for Twos - 10:15 & 10:45 a.m., next session starts Jan. 11.

Preschool Story Time - 11:20 a.m, ages 3 - 5, next session starts Jan. 11.
Fairview Branch Library - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443.
La Hora Del Cuento - 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.
Montana Avenue Branch Library - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081.
Story Time for Twos - 10:15 a.m., next session starts Jan. 4.
Preschool Story Time - 11:15 a.m.; ages 3-5. Ongoing.
Ocean Park Branch Library - 2601 Main St. - 310-392-3804.
12/21, 12/28 & 1/04 - Crafty Storytimes for the Holidays - 3:30 p.m. - Enjoy seasonal stories and make a craft to take home, Grades k- 2.
Baby Time - 9:20 & 10:20 a.m. Babies to 2 years. Next session Dec. 28 - Feb. 1.
Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590
10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Classes
YWCA - A Place for Parents -Closed thru Jan. 1.
BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES - 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise
Exhale Center for Sacred Movement, 245 S. Main St., Venice. Pre/Post Natal - 11:25 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. 450-7676, exhalespa.com. Single class \$17, package of ten \$135.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes. yogababyla.com
Prenatal Yoga - 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me - 1:45 - 3:00 p.m.
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Groups
La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista - meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room of the Westchester Municipal Bldg., 7166 W. Manchester Ave., corner of Lincoln and Manchester. Call 310-390-2529 for info. The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - drop-in, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

MOMS Club of SM South Playgroups
11:00 a.m. - playgroup for children born 10/04 - 5/05; 12:30 p.m. - playgroup for babies born since March 2006. Call or e-mail Alison at 450-0209 or riversalison@hotmail.com for more info.
Parent's Night Out at Child's Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.
Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. www.childsplayonline.net

Classes
YWCA - A Place for Parents -Closed thru Jan. 1.

Yoga & Exercise
Kid's Yoga Circle Class at Exhale Spa - 3:30 p.m., for ages 5 - 11, 1422 2nd St., 260-2736 or yogaforkids@hotmail.com.
Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal - 12:30 - 1:55 p.m., \$15.
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:30 a.m. Mon. - Fri., call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

SATURDAY

Storytelling
Barnes & Noble, 3rd St. Promenade - Kid's Story Time - 10am, 310-260-9110
Barnes & Noble, Westside Pavilion - 10:30am - ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.
Children's Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., every other Sat., 310-559-800K.
Village Books, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades - 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.
826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice - 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

Classes
YWCA - Toddler & Me - 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.; Parent Enrichment once per month , 11:00 a.m. - noon, call Barbara Olinger at 452-3881 for rates and dates.

Yoga & Exercise
Santa Monica Yoga - Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays - 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. 1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santamonicyoga.com
Mommy Care - at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group - 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)
Stroller Strides Fitness Class - 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.
YoMama Yoga - 1404 3rd St. Promenade, St. 201. Parent & Me - 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Yoga for parents with kids ages 6 wks - 6 years. Kids interact with each other and toys. \$15 single class, \$65 for five classes, \$120 for ten classes.
Prenatal Yoga - 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$18 single class, \$85 for five classes. yogababyla.com

Other
The Bridge Cinema Deluxe - Enjoy a G-rated movie for kids every Sat. and Sun. Tickets are \$3.50. 6081 Center Drive, LA, 310-568-3375.
Puppetolio - 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested
Magicopolis - 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.
Precious Prints - Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime
Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 100 - 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit www.preciousprintsstudios.com for more info.
Lakeshore Learning Stores "Free Crafts for Kids" - Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.
"A Faery Hunt" - 10:30 a.m., every Saturday at Franklin Canyon Park. An interactive children's show, searching for fairies and other enchanted creatures in the magical canyon and finding them! \$10, call for reservations - 818-324-6802. www.faeryhunt.com. Meet in the parking lot of the Sooky Goldman Nature Center, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills.
Artful Weekends at the Getty Villa - 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Sat. & Sun. Create your own works of art inspired by objects in the collection. Free admission; timed tickets required. 17985 PCH, Pacific Palisades.

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Townies don’t need best friends

BY PAUL FOY
Associated Press Writer

ALTA, UTAH — Every January when dog licenses come up for renewal, dog lovers at this ski town go wild with anticipation. They start counting the dogs rumored to have died or moved away with their owners, hoping that a few of the finite number of licenses will be up for grabs.

And if the license lottery leaves them empty-handed, they can always try pestering the mayor, who can issue his own licenses for good cause or compassion.

“It’s the worst issue I deal with,” said Mayor Tom Pollard, who is manager of Rustler Lodge. “The day after I was elected I got my first call — I hadn’t even gotten to the job. They disguised it as a question about garbage service, then finished with, ‘Can I have a dog?’”

To protect the alpine watershed, an ordinance in this former silver town limits the number of dogs to 12 percent of the human population, with few exceptions. No four-legged visitors are allowed, even inside cars, and violators can go to jail.

For now, the town council keeps the lid at 42 licenses, even though it could add two more dogs under the formula tied to Alta’s population of 370 old-timers, ski bums, business owners and resort employees.

“I never heard of a place limiting dog licenses,” said Stephan Otto, a lawyer and legislative director for the Animal Legal Defense Fund, which tracks dog ordinances. “It sounds a little European.”

And “it’s almost impossible to get one. It took me 11 years of trying,” said Mark Hoffman, a 56-year-old lawyer and avowed ski bum. “They’ll have 17 people wanting a dog for only two or three licenses.”

Alta occupies 4 square miles inside a national forest where a special act of Congress left Salt Lake City in charge of the water supply. The city and county police the canyons, keeping out nonresident or unlicensed dogs to curb bacterial contamination of streams and protect Salt Lake’s drinking water.

The scramble for dog licenses in Alta has people chatting about dearly departed Kali that belonged to Alta’s former mayor, Bill Levitt, and his wife, Mimi.

But the Levitts say they are not giving up the license. Under the ordinance, they have six months to find a new Fido to romp with kids at their Alta Lodge. Their shepherd mix, a stray dog they adopted at puppyhood, died of old age Dec. 4.

“She was the official greeter at Alta Lodge, a real sweetie for 14 1/2 years,” Mimi Levitt said.

Property owners who live in Alta for at least six months of the year get first dibs on the dog licenses. Any leftovers are distributed at drawings held at high noon by a town marshal, and they go next to part-time business or property owners, then lastly to seasonal employees.

“A person who wants a dog finds it hard to understand,” Levitt said. “They’ll say, ‘Well, how about that guy? He has a dog.’”

It’s too early to tell if any of the 42 licenses will become available in 2007, but that’s

why the mayor has the power of dog pardon. He can throw dog lovers a bone, granting “compassion” licenses temporarily and signing off on things like dogs at weddings.

“It’s one of the most critical issues I ever had to face,” Levitt, who was mayor for 34 years until last January, said of the whole dog equation. “It is not a fun thing. I asked the new mayor, ‘Do you hate dogs?’ He said, ‘No, I just hate the procedure.’”

Deputy town marshal Tom Bolen says he’s heard practically every excuse from visitors caught smuggling dogs. They claimed not to have seen the warning signs or thought they referred only to a leash law or believed the ban was only for vicious dogs.

Three months into his job, Bolen said he had issued dozens of warnings to illegal dog walkers and two citations. Violations are typically are settled in justice court for \$65, but repeat offenders can risk 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

The crime blotter, a must-read in the town’s monthly newsletter, reveals actual and perceived violations of the 12-page dog ordinance.

Many are cited for “having a dog in the watershed,” but one woman complained she was picking up “more than her share” of dog poop in town. Deputies can summon dog walkers anytime to show proof of a plastic bag for cleanup. Non-possession is a violation.

The area’s handful of avalanche rescue dogs don’t count against the licensed dog limit — “as long as they have their little jackets on,” Town Clerk Kate Black said. The

same goes for service dogs for the disabled.

Maureen Hill-Hauck, executive director of the American Dog Owners Association, called Alta’s ordinance “totally ridiculous.”

“No other town limits dogs. How can people live without dogs?” she said. “It sounds like a total and complete violation of a person’s civil rights. How dare they?”

Alta has its own doubters who can be counted on to raise the deer-and-moose argument: “My gosh, look at all the wild animals up here that leave their tracings,” as Black recounts it.

Town officials’ rebuttal is that the manufactured or human food dogs eat makes for more potent poop that the forage wild animals browse.

Sometimes, despite the ordinance, a mayor just can’t say no.

Sean Walton, manager of Alf’s Restaurant on the slopes, shares a tiny apartment with his fiance and her invalid German shepherd atop a lift ticket office at Alta. Their temporary dog license — their second — was good only through the end of the year. Walton and his fiance, a nurse, asked the mayor for another extension, long enough to get them to the next town drawing May 1, if anything’s available.

The alternative, they said, was sending the dog back to the woman’s ex-husband, a Colorado doctor who travels overseas doing surgery for Operation Smile. That would mean a future of dog kennels for 14-year-old Marta, who “gets real lonely,” Walton said. “It would just kill me to see her live out the rest of her life without companionship.”

Little snail that could is on thin ice

BY CHRISTOPHER SMITH
Associated Press Writer

BRUNEAU, Idaho — After clambering down a canyon wall, ducking poison ivy vines along a switchback trail and wading chest-deep across a lukewarm stream, Cary Myler squats down near a riverbank, spies some flecks that look like pepper sprinkled on a wet rock and announces, “Found some.”

The pinhead-sized dots are Bruneau hot springsnails. The tiny mollusks that thrive in water as warm as 100 degrees are found nowhere else in the world but here, in the bottom of this southwestern Idaho desert canyon riddled with hot springs 70 miles southeast of Boise.

A decade ago, the snails were at the center of a national battle over federal laws designed to protect endangered species. Today, years after the lawsuits were decided and most of the rhetoric retired, they are closer to extinction than ever before.

That’s because the level of the underground geothermal aquifer that feeds the seeps and springs of hot water where the snails live keeps dropping. Rock faces where films of hot water harbored thousands of the tiny algae-eating snails a few years ago are now dry and bare.

Some blame the decline in the aquifer on drought. Others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, suspect groundwater pumping of the hot water to irrigate surrounding farmland is the primary cause.

Congress appropriated \$1 million six years ago for Bruneau Valley farmers to switch from flood irrigation to more efficient sprinkler pivots on their land. Meanwhile, crop land that had lain fallow for years under a federal conservation reserve program was put back into production.

And the amount of groundwater pumped from beneath the Bruneau Valley to irrigate the fields has increased to nearly 10,000 acre-feet annually, almost double what it was in 1955.

“We’ve put \$1 million into pivots and we’re still seeing a decline in the aquifer,” said Myler, a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist who’s now preparing a five-year status report on whether the snail deserves to remain on the federal government’s list of endangered species. “More water is being pumped now than it was when the snail was listed and we’re finding fewer hot springs every year.”

First collected in this remote stretch along the Bruneau River in 1952, the Bruneau hot springsnail was originally proposed for inclusion on the federal list of endangered species in 1985 after the Service documented a steady drop in the aquifer.

That triggered a pitched legal battle over just how far the Endangered Species Act should go in preventing human activities that might jeopardize the survival of a creature the size of a poppy seed. The snail became a cause celebre of the Sagebrush Rebel set, a symbol of government regulation run amok.

The local Farm Bureau, Owyhee County and the Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association sued in 1992 to stop the listing, fearing it would drive family farms to extinction. Idaho’s U.S. Senate delegation threatened to withhold funding for all endangered species if the Fish and Wildlife Service didn’t back off on plans to list the microdot mollusk.

Even former President Richard Nixon, who had signed the Endangered Species Act into law in 1973, wrote in a book shortly before his 1994 death that “measures designed to protect endangered species such as bears, wolves and bald eagles are now

being used to force Idaho farmers off their land for the sake of the thumbnail-size Bruneau hot springsnail.”

Conservationists sued to force the listing, arguing politics were manipulating the scientific conclusion the snail was in danger of extinction.

The Fish and Wildlife Service, over the objections of the state of Idaho, listed the snail as endangered in 1993. Later that year, a federal judge in Idaho ruled that the agency had abused its discretion and removed the snail from the list — the first time an endangered species had been delisted by a court order rather than scientific evidence of recovery. But the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the ruling and restored the snail to the list, where it’s been since 1998.

The service has argued the Bruneau hot springsnail is a classic canary-in-the-mine-shaft species.

“The snail is the messenger telling us that a water problem exists and must be dealt with or the ecosystem and agriculture upon which human beings depend will continue to crumble,” Mollie Beattie, the director of the Service at the time, told the National Press Club in 1993. “Once again, the local reaction is quite literally to kill the messenger rather than heed the message.”

Today, as the service prepares a status report on the snail’s future in the face of a continually declining aquifer, some of the veterans of the snail wars are bracing for the next round.

“Nobody is taking a swing at anybody yet, but we all wonder how low does that water have to go before the Fish and Wildlife Service must step in and take that first swing?” said Quey Johns, a Bruneau farmer who was president of the Farm Bureau when it sued the government over the listing.

Land heave-ho: BLM chief has Utah in sights

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kathleen Clarke, the first woman to head the Interior Department’s Bureau of Land Management, resigned Thursday to return to her home state of Utah.

Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne said Clarke had created more recreational opportunities for Americans and sped up “environmentally sensitive” oil and natural gas production on federal lands since taking over the agency in January 2002.

BLM manages 258 million acres, about one-eighth of the land in the United States. Most of that land — grasslands, forests, high mountains, arctic tundra and deserts — is in the West. It also oversees about 700 million acres of minerals below the land’s surface.

“Our public lands, our forests and our landscapes are better off” because of Clarke’s service, Kempthorne said Thursday.

Before taking over BLM, Clarke had worked as executive director of the Utah Department of Natural Resources and as a top aide to former Rep. James Hansen, a Utah Republican who once headed the House Resources Committee.

She also had co-owned a construction and real estate business in Kaysville, Utah, and had been on the staff of Sen. Wallace F. Bennett, who is now deceased.

BLM was headed during the Clinton administration by another Utah resident, Patrick Shea, who had been a lawyer, educator and businessman before taking over the agency.

NFL

Raiders feeling a draft

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. — As bad as this season has been, the Oakland Raiders’ chances at getting the No. 1 pick in April’s draft are slim even if they lose their season finale against the New York Jets.

The Raiders (2-13) go into Sunday’s game tied with the Detroit Lions for the worst record in the NFL. With no other team in the league with fewer than four wins, Oakland and Detroit are assured of having the top two picks in the draft.

Both teams face playoff contenders on the road this week with the Lions traveling to Dallas, giving Detroit the inside track at the top pick based on the strength of schedule tiebreaker.

“Look, I just want to win a game,” coach Art Shell said. “I’m not worried about later on. I want to win. I want to win the game on Sunday. Period. That’s it. That’s where I am.”

The only time the Raiders had the No. 1 overall pick came in the 1962 AFL draft, when they selected quarterback Roman Gabriel, who chose to play with the NFL’s Los Angeles Rams. Oakland has had the No. 2 pick twice, trading up to get defensive lineman Darrell Russell in 1997, and taking offensive tackle Robert Gallery in 2004.

The race for this top pick lacks much of the intrigue of last season when many fans of the Houston Texans even cheered for their team to lose to boost the chances of getting the No. 1 selection.

Games between bottom dwellers were called the Bush Bowl in honor of Heisman Trophy winner Reggie Bush, who many thought would go first. The Texans ended up drafting Mario Williams, who has a bright future but is not as big a star as some of the players who went later in the first round.

“Look at Vince Young, Matt Leinart, Reggie Bush. None of those guys were the

No. 1 pick,” linebacker Kirk Morrison said. “But at the same time, look at the impact those guys are having on their team.”

The easiest way for Oakland to get the top pick would be by losing to the New York Jets while Detroit beats the Dallas Cowboys.

If both Detroit and Oakland have the same result this week, it goes to the tiebreaker. The teams on Detroit’s schedule have 127 victories so far, while the Raiders’ opponents have 131.

If both Detroit and Oakland lose, the gap would narrow by one win based on Dallas beating the Lions. Since the Jets would have played both teams, that game would have no impact on the tiebreaker.

There are eight other games that will play into the strength of schedule tiebreaker. The Lions would be assured of winning it if two of Oakland’s AFC West rivals win this week. Kansas City hosts Jacksonville, Denver hosts San Francisco, and San Diego hosts Arizona.

If one AFC West team wins, the Raiders would get the edge in the tiebreaker with wins by Miami, New England, Atlanta, Buffalo and Minnesota. If all three AFC West teams lose, Oakland’s chances would increase a little more.

Either way, the Raiders are guaranteed a high draft pick, which could bring in a player to boost the league’s worst offense.

The players expected to go at the top of this draft aren’t as heralded as Bush, Young and Leinart were last season. Notre Dame’s Brady Quinn is the top senior quarterback and Wisconsin offensive tackle Joe Thomas is also expected to be a very high pick.

The Raiders have taken a quarterback in the first round only twice since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970. They used the No. 24 pick on Todd Marinovich in 1991 and the fifteenth pick on Marc Wilson in 1980.

They could be hesitant to take another tackle out of the Big Ten with the No. 2 pick after failing with the selection of Gallery.

NFL

Raiders players leave Shell’s future in owner Davis’ hands

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Warren Sapp has no plans to walk into Al Davis’ office at the end of the season and lobby for Art Shell to get another year as head coach.

Shell’s job security is in question in his first season back with the Raiders (2-13). Oakland has lost eight straight games and is one loss away from setting a franchise record for defeats in a season.

Sapp said Davis did not seek his input when he fired Norv Turner after last season and doesn’t expect that to change when the owner makes his decision on Shell’s fate after this season.

“How do you go talk to Al about running his organization that he’s been running since before you were born?” Sapp said Wednesday. “How do you do that? How do you start that conversation?”

Sapp is not alone among the players in letting Davis make his decision without their input. Quarterback Aaron Brooks talked about the “great respect” he has for Shell and said the struggling offense only needs a few tweaks and better production from the players to be successful.

But he said the decision on the future of the coaching staff is Davis’ alone to make.

“I’m not about running upstairs telling the man how to do his job or how to run his team,” Brooks said. “I definitely will let coach Shell know after this is over that I stand by him and I appreciate him for being a man about everything he’s portrayed to us. Every meeting, he talks confident about it, he told us never to put our head down and to walk like a man, be proud of it. That’s what you need from a coach. That’s why I respect him for those things.”

Running back LaMont Jordan did not give a ringing endorsement to his head coach, instead singling out offensive coordinator John Shoop, running backs coach Skip Peete and wide receivers coach Fred Biletnikoff for praise. Jordan talked about needing more communication between players and coaches, but said all the players can do is play.

The Raiders have had four coaches the last six seasons, going from Jon Gruden to Bill Callahan to Turner and then to Shell. They haven’t had a winning record since Callahan took the team to the Super Bowl following his first season in 2002, posting a 15-48 record the last four seasons.



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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS

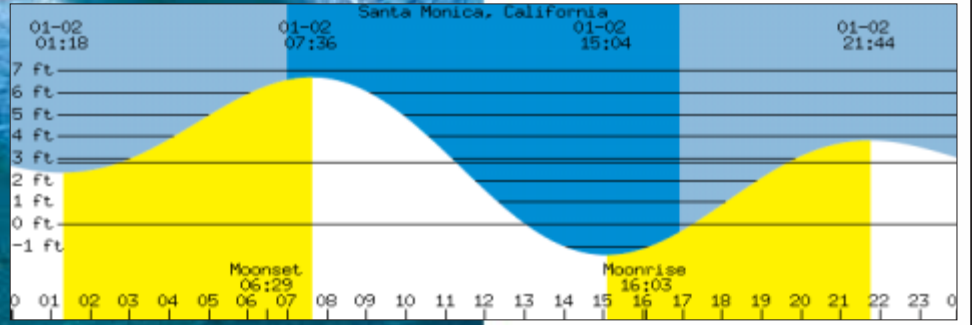


WATER TEMP: 59°

SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)
Tuesday the 2nd looks smaller, more along the lines of chest high for west facing breaks.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
TRACKING NW FOR 4TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA





NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of **December 5, 2006**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - [www.healthebay.org](#) - [brc@healthebay.org](#) - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 8

Number of wet days -- 4

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 31

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 13

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from 

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	F	F
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A	F
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily	A	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A+	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	F	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	ns	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	A+
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	A+

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua)	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain		A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	D	D
Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms)	A	A+
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A+	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St.	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower	C	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A+	D
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A+	F
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A+	D
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A+	A+

Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

Veg out to TV, Scorpio

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★★ Positive
★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ How can one day be so different from another? Remember, you are coming off quite a cycle of socializing. Personal and domestic matters have been waiting for your attention. The time is now. Tonight: At home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Though you often restrain yourself, today you are likely to say exactly what is on your mind. Don't worry; it might be appropriate. Just don't be surprised at others' reactions, as they might feel you are raining on their parade. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's weekend.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Stop, or at least slow down. Not every day can be a party, wish as you might. Deal with some basics. Look at bills and demands. Responsibilities must be handled if you are to indulge your carefree nature. Tonight: Get your bills together.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Returning to a normal pace might be a relief after all the holiday events and happenings. The Moon in your sign recharges your batteries. Others notice that you have a radiance and competent air about you. Tonight: It's your call.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ No question about it – you love the limelight. What might be instrumental to your success is understanding when to bow out and say "enough." Sometimes centering and handling key matters work better. Tonight: Vanish.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Focus on your friends and associates. You might need to get a project moving and need help doing it. Though you might feel somewhat distracted, you can zero in on what is necessary if you decide to concentrate. Tonight: Visit and listen to everyone's news.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You might have little choice but to accept responsibility, as it is dropped on your shoulders. Compensate by changing your schedule. Clearly, you cannot be everywhere at once. Stay in touch with someone who might feel disappointed. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Your ability to see past the obvious could be more important than you realize. Money might be involved in a decision or discussion. Find experts. Get feedback. Delay a decision for a while. The more facts you have, the better. Tonight: Veg out to TV.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You like to be in control. A partner or associate holds the cards; work with this person. Remember, you are always in control of yourself and cannot control anything else. Give up an endless struggle. Tonight: Quality time with a special person.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Know when to pass the ball (like now). You might have excellent instincts, but your timing might be off. Accomplishing the same or similar goal with someone else will make you happy, even if you aren't the quarterback. Think in terms of a team victory. Tonight: Listen to suggestions. Listen to what someone has to say.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You seem one-tracked. Your ability to focus on what must be done might put off some friends who want attention. Tonight: Let's start incorporating exercise into your routine!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Your creativity seems to bubble forth no matter what you deal with or whom. Just try to spell out the facts to someone who is less conceptual and perhaps more literal. You do want to be on the same team, right? Tonight: Ever playful.

Born Today

Science-fiction author Isaac Asimov (1920)

Actress Tia Carrere (1967)

Actress Kate Bosworth (1983)



Happy Birthday!

Often, you see life in either-or situations. Looking at life as black-and-white might not be effective. Learn to see shades of gray. Others seek you out. Take care of yourself first and maintain control of your life. Your creativity flourishes, especially when facing problems. Friendships and goals are highlighted. Keep that focus. If you are single, you could meet someone quite controlling or difficult. Perhaps you would like to bypass this relationship. A great relationship is in the offing, but maybe not right now.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>
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The afterglow ‘Pretty Woman’ Roberts is pregnant once again

JULIA ROBERTS is expecting her third child with her husband, cinematographer Danny Moder, her spokeswoman confirmed to People magazine Friday. The baby is due this summer, Roberts’ publicist, Marcy Engelman, said in a

story posted on the magazine’s Web site. News of the pregnancy first appeared in the New York Post’s Page Six column. A call to Engelman by The Associated Press wasn’t immediately returned. Roberts, 39, and Moder,

37, have 2-year-old twins, Hazel and Phinnaeus, who were born in November 2004. The couple were married in July 2002 at Roberts’ home in Taos, N.M. She won the best actress Oscar in 2001 for “Erin Brockovich.” Her

screen hits also include “Steel Magnolias” and “Pretty Woman.” Roberts is the voice of the wise spider in the film adaptation of “Charlotte’s Web.” She’ll next be seen in the drama “Charlie Wilson’s War,” directed by Mike

Nichols and also starring Tom Hanks, scheduled for release next year. She made her Broadway debut this spring in a revival of Richard Greenberg’s “Three Days of Rain.”

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jolie, Pitt spend holidays in Costa Rica

ANGELINA JOLIE and Brad Pitt can’t seem to get enough of this tourist-friendly Central American nation. After spending Christmas Day here with Colombian refugees, the Hollywood couple planned to ring in 2007 at the exclusive Four Seasons Resort in Papagayo on Costa Rica’s northern Pacific coast, La Nacion newspaper reported. A telephone call to Pitt’s publicist in Beverly Hills, Calif., wasn’t immediately returned Thursday. Accompanied by their

three children, a nanny and a personal chef, the Jolie-Pitt entourage, registered as “the Black family,” have been staying at the resort since last Friday, the report said. Jolie and Pitt have three children: 5-year-old Maddox, adopted from Cambodia; 23-month-old daughter, Zahara, adopted from Ethiopia; and 6-month old daughter, Shiloh, who was born to the couple in May. The hotel’s Web site describes the facility as “spilling down a lush mountainside to an isthmus of

golden sand,” and says room rates range from \$470 to \$6,800 a night. Jolie, 31, and Pitt, 43, spent Christmas Day in Costa Rica with refugee children and families from Colombia, also part of Jolie’s ambassadorship for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the agency said. There are about 11,500 refugees in Costa Rica, most of whom fled Colombia because of the conflict among leftist guerrillas, soldiers and paramilitary forces.

“I am deeply affected by having had the opportunity to be with them,” said Costa Rica’s former Culture Minister Guido Saenz, who gave the couple a tour of the country’s art museum. “They have a mixture of physical beauty, great talent and an altruistic attitude.” Jolie co-stars in the Universal Pictures drama “The Good Shepherd” with Matt Damon and Robert De Niro. Pitt stars in “Babel,” a Paramount Vantage release.

AP



ODDS OF A CHILD PERFORMING AT CARNEGIE HALL:
1 in 73,000

ODDS OF A CHILD BEING DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM:
1 in 166

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MEET THE COLLECTOR

An album cover signed by all four Beatles as a gift for George Harrison’s sister has sold at auction for more than \$115,000. The sale, to an unidentified buyer, was believed to set a record price for a signed Beatles album purchased at a public sale, said Mark Zakarin, president of the online auction company ItsOnlyRockNRoll.com. The exact price, with the buyer’s commission, was \$115,228.82. Bidding began at \$25,000. The copy of “Meet The Beatles,” the band’s first U.S. release on Capitol Records, was put up for sale by Harrison’s sister, Louise. The sale was held Friday. Harrison wrote above his signature: “To Lou with love from ‘Brother’!!!” John Lennon’s inscription read, “To Lou many love from John Lennon X.” Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr expressed similar feelings when all four signed the album cover while aboard a train to Washington for a 1964 concert.

AP

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Saturday
Unfaithfully Yours, Christmas in July
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Apocalypto (R)
10:30am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
Babel (R)
12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20
The Good German (R)
10:45am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
The Good Shepherd (R)
12:00, 3:55, 7:35, 11:05

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Blood Diamond (R)
10:20am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
10:00am, 11:30am, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30
The Holiday (PG-13)
10:10am, 1:10, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
Night at the Museum (PG)
10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
Pan’s Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
11:00am, 1:50, 4:55, 7:40, 10:40
The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)
10:40am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
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(310) 281-8228

Miss Potter (PG)
11:00am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Notes on a Scandal (R)
11:10am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55

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Curse of the Golden Flower (Man cheng jin dai huang jin jia) (R)
1:35, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10
Letters From Iwo Jima (R)
12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
Little Children (R)
4:00, 9:35
The Queen (PG-13)
1:25, 7:00
Volver (R)
1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:15

MANN’S CRITERION THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Black Christmas (R)
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:20
Casino Royale (PG-13)
12:30, 3:50, 7:20, 10:40
Charlotte’s Web (G)
11:40am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30
Eragon (PG)
11:10am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
Rocky Balboa (PG)
11:30am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
We Are Marshall (PG)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

More information email news@smdp.com

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Janric Classic Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
SILVER

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

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GETTING STARTED

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

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

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

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

I'M CALLING CINDY, THE GIRL I MET ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

IT'S ONLY BEEN TWO DAYS. SHE'LL THINK YOU'RE DESPERATE

THAT'S NONSENSE. BESIDES, MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO STOP PLAYING MIND GAMES WITH GIRLS

RING! RING!

CINDY'S 2007 RESOLUTIONS #1: DON'T GO OUT WITH DESPERATE GUYS

The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose

LILA, DEAR, WHY HAVE YOU NEVER CONSIDERED DATING BOYD?

BOYD AND I ARE FRIENDS, MOM.

SOMETIMES, YOUR LIFE PARTNER COULD BE RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE.

I FEAR THAT MAY BE VERY TRUE.

Meow.

The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside

OUR SUV HAS ABS, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, AIR BAGS AND HEAVY DUTY STUDD WINTER TIRES.

IN A COCOON OF SAFETY, WE CAN DRIVE TO THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN.

...WHERE WE HURL OURSELVES OFF THE PEAK, STRAPPED TO SKINNY PIECES OF FIBERGLASS.

Garfield

By Jim Davis

FOR NEW YEAR'S, WHY DON'T YOU RESOLVE TO LOSE 50 POUNDS?

AND WHY DON'T YOU RESOLVE TO STOP BEING A DORK?

I'M ONLY KIDDING

I'M NOT

Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

THERE'S NOTHING OUT THERE. MY NOSE IS FROZEN TO THE GLASS.

Anderson

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



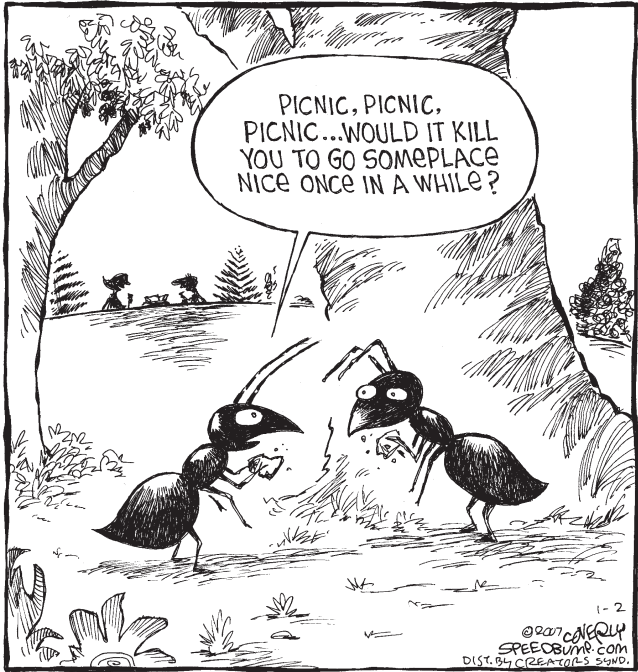
Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Suspects' stories
- 7 Printer's blue
- 11 Eye part
- 12 Monthly expense
- 13 David Caruso/Nicolas Cage film
- 15 Engage
- 16 Poet Sandburg
- 18 Bride's wear
- 21 U2 singer
- 22 Polite answer
- 24 Annoy
- 25 Soggy
- 26 Mary's boss
- 27 Big lummoX
- 29 Hunger reminder
- 30 Late-night name
- 31 Whale schools
- 32 Elevator stop
- 34 Meg Ryan/Russell Crowe film
- 40 Karate's kin
- 41 Go for a closeup
- 42 Proofing mark
- 43 Gofer's work

DOWN

- 1 Bible boat
- 2 Island memento
- 3 "— your loss!"
- 4 Café's cousin
- 5 One way to boil
- 6 Not out
- 7 Fancy flapjacks
- 8 Suppor-ter's vote
- 9 Kitchen invader
- 10 Utmost
- 14 Comforter cover
- 16 Pink hue
- 17 Low joint
- 19 Koran faith

- 20 Pride members
- 21 Massive
- 22 So far
- 23 Weaver's creation
- 25 Kidman's role in "The Hours"
- 28 One way to travel
- 29 Sitting room

- 31 Cost
- 33 Seep
- 34 Night attire
- 35 Dull life
- 36 Shelley work
- 37 "— little teapot ..."
- 38 Shark symbol
- 39 Last part

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Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

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1-2



SELL YOUR CAR FAST!

Advertise your used car for sale in the only LOCAL DAILY newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY
\$45

Run it until it sells!*



1964 Pontiac Catalina
New Transmission, new paint job. 150K original miles. Immaculate condition inside. Kept in garage for many years. Must see!
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- FREE online placement!

Call us today at
(310) 458-7737

Take advantage of this great offer.

Santa Monica Daily Press



*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to schedule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renewal is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to annie@smdp.com. Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

Just like a new baby can have a tremendous effect on your life, even a few cigarettes a day while pregnant can have an effect on your baby. Smoking while pregnant reduces the amount of oxygen your baby receives. And it can increase the risk of premature delivery, low birthweight, childhood asthma, SIDS and other problems. Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you can do for your baby's health. We can help you learn to quit for good. Call 1-866-66-START or visit www.greatstartbabies.org.

Legacy Foundation

Relax, Renew & Re-energize



OCEAN SPA & FITNESS CENTER

LOEWS SANTA MONICA BEACH HOTEL



The Spa

**Massages • Body Treatments
Facial Treatments
Face & Body Waxing
Packages Available**

The Salon

**Hair Services • Haircuts
Color Treatments
Nail Services**

*The Westside's
Best Kept Secret*



The Fitness Center

**Cybex • Precor • Life Fitness • StarTrac
Equipment**

**Personal Training Services
Private Pilates Training
Group Exercise Classes
Spinning™, Yoga, Pilates Mat
Water Aerobics, Core Conditioning**

Limited Health Club Memberships Available



**LOEWS
SANTA MONICA BEACH HOTEL**

Stop in or call for an appointment:

**1700 Ocean Avenue, Santa Monica 310-899-4040
Monday - Friday 6am-10pm • Saturday & Sunday 6am-9pm**

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call us today start and promoting your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 40,000.

YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!*

Some restrictions may apply.

Prepay your ad today!



(310) 458-7737

*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not guaranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements. See complete conditions below.

CLASSIFICATIONS: Announcements Creative Employment For Sale	Furniture Pets Boats Jewelry Wanted Travel	Vacation Rentals Apartments/Condos Rent Houses for Rent Roomates Commercial Lease	Real Estate Real Estate Loans Storage Space Vehicles for Sale Massage Services	Computer Services Attorney Services Business Opportunities Yard Sales Health and Beauty Fitness	Wealth and Success Lost and Found Personals Psychic Obituaries Tutoring
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All classified liner ads are placed on our website for **FREE!** Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

Employment

BENIHANA Restaurant seeks servers, chefs, kitchen helpers, dishwashers, bartenders, host(ess), buspersons. Apply in person at 1447 Fourth St. Phone is (310) 260-1423.

College radio music promoter (310)998-8305 xt.85

Customer Service/Full Time- starting up to \$12.00 per hour. 22 year old telephone services company in WLA with free secure parking. Experience preferred but will train. Good language skills and reliability a must. Call 310-281-3079 for recorded details.

JOB COACH, on day program for adult with developmental disabilities. Mon-Fri 9am-3pm. Admin Assistant Mon-Fri 9-5. Excellent benefits. Call (310)457-2026

OFFICE COORDINATOR
Salary: \$45k - \$50K w/ Benefits!
College degree preferred, 5+ years experience in administrative assignments.
Work independently, highly developed organizational/problem-solving skills, multi-task in faced paced environment, excellent communication skills. Detail oriented essential.
Bookkeeping a plus!
Send resume to:
candidatesseek@yahoo.com or by fax 310-564-0408.

RADIO INTERVIEW campaign sales person p/t flexible SM (310)998-8305 * 84

SALES
SANTA MONICA
Earn \$60K - \$400K.
One of the nation's
oldest/largest precious metals
co. seeks sales pros. No cold
calling or license required,
paid training & full benefits.
www.Goldline.com.
310-395-0762

Salesperson needed for dental services and promotion. Aggressive commission plus \$15/hour. Local sales in Venice Beach. Call Dr. King at 310-391-0699.

SHIFT WORKER Santa Monica
Heavy Manual Labor mornings/evenings. Approx. 12-150/hrs week. Must work Sundays both shifts. \$11.50/hr. This is not a temporary position. Must have valid driver's license and id.
CartsatThirdSt@aol.com
(818) 907-7898

For Sale

SPA/HOT TUB 2006 Model. Neck Jets. Therapy seat. Warranty. Never used. Can deliver. Worth \$5950, sell for \$1950 (310) 479-3054

Pets

CAT SITTER
I will watch your cat, water your plants, and take in your mail while you are away. Call Kirsten. References available (310)729-7258

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737

Classes

Art Classes
taught by established artist. Paint Sculpt and draw in a garden setting. Classes start February 1st, 2007. Your artwork and bio placed on www.campbellart.com free with sign up. Call 310-804-0335 for schedule and pricing.

For Rent

501 N. Venice. Unit 12, single, stove, fridge, carpet, blinds, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. \$975/mo. (310)574-6767 www.jkwproperties.com

BEAUTIFUL MONTANA GARDENS

Room and Board

401 Montana Avenue
Your home away from home.

Daily meals, laundry, housekeeping, utilities, and cable. 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath + Full Kitchen. Seniors and all ages welcome.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
\$2,500/MO
(310) 245-9436

FREE HOUSING SERVICE—We help match seniors with seniors/mid-age/younger people. 323-650-7988 M-F 9-5.

For Rent

FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals. Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90403.

HOWARD MANAGEMENT GROUP
(310) 869-7901

2bdrm/1bath \$2550/mo
2103 Oak Unit C
Refurbished.
928 6th St. #12 \$2550 2+2
1011 Pico #18 \$2450 2+ loft

PLEASE Visit our website
for complete
listings at:
www.howardmanagement.com

MAR VISTA 11924 Courtleigh Dr. unit 9, stove, fridge, carpets, blinds utilities included, parking, no pets,\$995/mo (310)737-7933 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA 12450 Culver Blvd. Unit 211 1bdrm/1bath, gated parking, intercom entry, stove, fridge, utilities included, laundry, parking, no pets. \$1075/mo (888)414-7778 www.jkwproperties.com

MAR VISTA/Culver City Adj. \$1695 2 Bdrms, 2 Baths. "Twnhs-Apt." No Pets. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, 2-Car garage. 12048 Culver Blvd #202. Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

SENIORS—Affordable Housing starting at \$430/month. 323-650-7988 M-F 9-5.

For Rent

PALMS/BVRLYWD-ADJ.\$725. Bachelor, Stove, refrigerator, utilities paid, NO PETS, 2009 Preuss Rd., #1. Los Angeles, 90034. Open daily for viewing. Additional info in unit.

SANTA MONICA \$1275/mo 1bdrm/1bath - 1950'S COURTYARD STYLE APARTMENT Cat ok, laundry-on-site, yard, (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1280/mo 1bdrm/1bath, Carpet Floors, refrigerator, remodeled, covered parking with storage. (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1595/mo 2bdrms/1Bath, No pets, Carpet Floors, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, (310)395-RENT, www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$3875/mo 4bdrms/2.5bath, dishwasher, fireplace, washer/dryer hookups, with front yard, wet bar (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1075/mo Studio/1 Bath, Will consider small pet with deposit, quiet neighborhood, refrigerator, stove, yard, (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$1275/mo 2bdrm/1bath Hardwood Floors, parking, laundry-on-site, refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, yard, (310)395-RENT, www.westsiderentals.com

For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$1300.00 1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No Pets, 2535 Kansas Ave., #203 Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr. #101

SANTA MONICA \$1595.00 2 Bdrms, 1 Bath, Stove, Refrigerator, Parking, No pets. 2535 Kansas Ave., #209, Open Daily for Viewing 9am-7pm, Additional info in unit. Mgr: #101

SANTA MONICA \$1600/mo 2bdrms/1bath, Tile Floors, 1-car refrigerator, stove, balcony, gated, private patio, (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

SANTA MONICA \$2650/mo 3bdrms/2baths, Carpet, Hardwood, and Tile Floors, stove, microwave, central heat (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2980/mo 3bdrms/2baths, Hardwood/Carpet Floors, parking, dishwasher, balcony, controlled access building, fireplace, (3 1 0) 3 9 5 - R E N T www.westsiderentals.com

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

SANTA MONICA \$800/mo Bachelor/1bath, Carpet floors, refrigerator, microwave, private courtyard, paid utilities (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

WLA: 2BDRM/1BATH. \$1500/mo. Great location, new carpet, tile, clean, quiet, parking, patio. Brenda (310) 991-2694.

Commercial Lease

SANTA MONICA 2941 Main Street. Small single room offices \$825-\$890/month. Parking available. PAR Commercial (310)395-2663

Real Estate

HOME SELLERS

Free home evaluation. Free computerized list of area home sales and current listings.

Free recorded message.

1-800-969-8257 ID #1041

www.FreeListingPrice.com

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Mail. Fax. Call. Email. Running your classified ad is easy!

\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone:** (_____) _____

Classification (Pets, Yard Sale, Etc...): _____

Ad Copy (attach copy if necessary)

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____

10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____

13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

Requested Start Date: / / **Requested End Date:** / /

Extras (Additional 20 cents/word):

☐ ALL CAPS ☐ bold ☐ italics

☐ Box (.50/day) ☐ Reverse(\$1/day)

Payment:

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Check

Exp: _____ **Check #:** _____

Make checks payable: Santa Monica Daily Press

NO CASH PLEASE

Signature: _____

Mail.

Fill out this form and mail to:

1427 Third Street Promenade

Suite 202

Santa Monica, CA 90401

Fax.

Fill out this form and fax to:

(310) 576-9913

ATTN: Classifieds

Call.

Call Annie Kotok!

(310) 458-7737 Ext. 114

Email.

Email your ad to:

anniek@smdp.com

PREPAY YOUR AD TODAY!



Call us with questions
(310) 458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

Visit us online at smdp.com

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

Prepay your ad today!

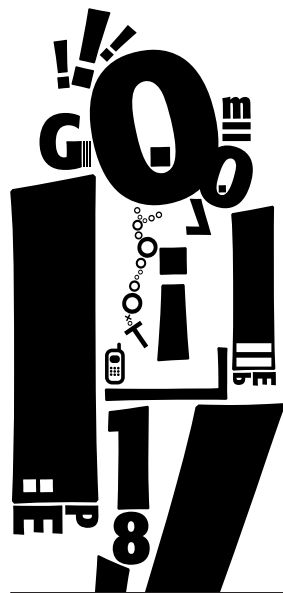


(310) 458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm

LOCATION 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90405



SELL YOUR CAR FAST!

Advertise your used car for sale in the only **LOCAL DAILY** newspaper in town.

FOR ONLY
\$45

Run it until it sells!*



1964 Pontiac Catalina

New Transmission, new paint job, 150K original miles. Immaculate condition inside. Kept in garage for many years. Must see!
\$3,000 (310) 458-7737

Ad shown actual size

Package includes:

- Ad runs until your car sells. Period.*
- Large format photograph.
- 20 word description.
- **FREE** online placement!

Call us today at
(310) 458-7737

Take advantage of this great offer.

Santa Monica Daily Press



*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to schedule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renewal is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to anniek@smdp.com. Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

Classifieds

GET RID OF YOUR ROLLERBLADES. Sell your sports equipment to someone who will actually use it.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Prepay your ad today!



(310) 458-7737

CALL TODAY FOR SPECIAL MONTHLY RATES!

There is no more convincing medium than a DAILY local newspaper.

\$5⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Real Estate

PAC WEST MORTGAGE

2212 Lincoln Blvd in Santa Monica

1-888-FOR-LOAN

310 392-9223

VERY AGGRESSIVE RATES

TIME FOR A 30 YEAR FIXED?

RATES AS LOW AS 6%

30 YEAR FIXED	6%
10 YEAR/1 ARM	6%
7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%
5 YEAR/1 ARM	5.75%**
3 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%**
1 YEAR/1 ARM	5.25%
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	5%
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1%**

*Rates subject to change
* As of November 12, 2006
** Denotes an interest only loan

NEW CONFORMING LOAN AMOUNTS

1 Unit	\$417,000
2 Units	\$533,850
3 Units	\$645,300
3 Units	\$645,300
4 Units	\$801,950



ROB SCHULTZ

BROKER

LICENSED CALIFORNIA

BROKER #01218743



Health/Beauty

LOSE UP to 30 lbs. in 30 days. Call for your free diet sample pack (310)281-6220

Massage

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing body work by mature European. Very Professional, Sonja (310) 397-0433.

Your ad could run here!

Call us today at (310) 458-7737

Personals

Talk to a Model

24HRS.

877-EZ MARIA

877-396-2742

\$10-17 for 15 min.

ATM/CC/Checks by phone

www.USLove.com

Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARGUERITE V. HALL CASE NO. LP012403

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MARGUERITE V. HALL.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JAMES E. BEAL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JAMES E. BEAL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)

The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 03/02/07 at 9:00AM in Dept. A located at 6230 SYLMAR AVE., VAN NUYS, CA 91401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
BONNIE MARIE BURSCK
LAW OFFICES OF SAVIN & BURSCK
10663 YARMOUTH AVE
GRANADA HILLS CA 91344
12/26, 12/27, 1/2/07
CNS-1064918#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: MARGARET ALDRIDGE CASE NO. SP007021

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MARGARET ALDRIDGE.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by U.S. BANK in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that U.S. BANK be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This

Notices

authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 03/02/07 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
LAW OFFICES OF SANDRA S. KASS
400 CORPORATE POINTE #400
CULVER CITY CA 902307619
12/26, 12/27, 1/2/07
CNS-1065141#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

ADVERTISE! CALL US (310) 458-7737

Vehicles for sale

\$\$ CASH 4 \$\$

\$\$ MERCEDES BENZ/BMWs \$\$

1980-1995 Running or Not

Any Questions Please Call

(310) 995-5898



'04 Chevy Malibu \$9,995

Low miles, auto, a/c, p/w, cruise & more (4M603301)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'03 Toyota Tacoma PreRunner Xtra Cab

Low miles, Vg 3.5L, 2WD, SR5, towing pkg, alloy wheels, wide tires Shell not pictured (I6054B)

\$14,992

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

YOUR AD

COULD RUN HERE!

CALL US TODAY AT

(310) 458-7737

Vehicles for sale



'05 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D

Low miles, V6 3.5L, Navigation System, Bose sound, leather, moon roof, alloy wheels (I6168A)

\$21,393

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'02 PT Cruiser

Auto, leather, moon roof, low miles, immaculate! (2T336107)

\$9,995

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'05 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D

Low miles, V6 3.5L, Auto, multi CD, leather, moon roof, alloy wheels, telescope wheel (I6123A)

\$20,793

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'06 Corolla S

Auto, A/C, alloys, C/B, power pkg (62749274)

\$14,995

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047

YOUR AD

COULD RUN HERE!

CALL US TODAY AT

(310) 458-7737



'01 Volkswagen Cabriolet GLS

Low miles, auto, leather (1M812271)

\$12,995

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'03 Mercury Sable \$8,995

Auto, 6 Cyl., P/W, P/L, Tilt, Cruise (3G608497)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047

Vehicles for sale



'05 Mini Cooper \$21,995

Auto, Best Buy - Come See This One! (5TG95346)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'99 Acura Integra LS \$9,995

Auto, a/c, alloys, low miles Lots more! (XS011518)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'01 Audi A6 \$18,995

Immaculate! Loaded! Best buy around! (1N063236)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'05 Volkswagen Jetta GLI Sedan

4-Cyl., 1.8L Turbo, A/C, CD, Air Bags, Moonroof, Alloy (I6311A)

\$14,793

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 577-7253



'04 Toyota Corolla Sedan

4-Cyl., 1.8L Turbo, Alloy wheels (I6072A)

\$12,993

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'03 Lexus RX 300

Silver, V6 3.0L, Low Miles! (I6069A)

\$23,493

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'04 Hyundai Accent GL \$10,900

Silver, auto, CD, 50K miles (540810)

Hyundai Santa Monica (866) 309-6705

Vehicles for sale



'05 Mazda3 i Sedan

Champagne, 4-Cyl., 2.0 L, 5 speed, air bags, alloy wheels (P1481)

\$14,993

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'03 Volvo S60 Sedan 4D

5-Cyl., 2.4L, auto, air bags, traction control, leather, moon roof (I6375A)

\$14,951

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'03 Infiniti G35 Sedan 4D

Silver, low miles, V6 3.5L, Cruise, leather, moon roof (I6100A)

\$18,394

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253

YOUR AD

COULD RUN HERE!

CALL US TODAY AT

(310) 458-7737



'05 Toyota 4Runner SUV 4D

Low miles, V6 4.0L, roof rack, traction control, running boards, towing pkg, privacy glass, alloy wheels (I6188A)

\$23,992

Infiniti Santa Monica (866) 507-7253



'04 Avalon XLS \$18,995

Toyota Certified! Low miles, loaded (4U383719)

Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047



'05 Sonata GLS Sedan only \$14,800

Blue, 14K miles, auto, cd (119613)

Hyundai Santa Monica (866) 309-6705

Santa Monica Daily Press

ServiceDirectory

Promote your business in the only DAILY local newspaper in town.

YOUR AD COULD RUN TOMORROW!*

Some restrictions may apply.

(310) 458-7737

Prepay your ad today!



*Please call our Classified Sales Manager to reserve your ad space. Specific ad placement not guaranteed on classified ads. Ad must meet deadline requirements.

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for FREE! Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

Vehicles for sale



'06 Tucson GL \$16,900
3,200 miles, 1 owner
Better than new
(438787)
Hyundai Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'04 Santa Fe \$14,900 \$15,650
2 to Choose-Black or Silver
Low miles, some factory warranty
(U786948, U648625)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'04 Nissan Sentra
CD, 42K Miles, Very Clean
Will Not Last
(4L915794)
Hyundai of Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'05 Corolla LE Blue
34K miles, auto, CD,
Nicely equipped
(502125)
Hyundai Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'03 BMW 530i Silver \$29,900
Still has warranty, only 43K miles,
Loaded
(K35507)
Hyundai Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'00 Grand Cherokee Ltd. \$11,900
Red/Tan, 4WD, Moonroof,
Pristine!
(VC223308)
Hyundai Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705

**YOUR AD
COULD RUN HERE!
CALL US TODAY AT
(310) 458-7737**

Vehicles for sale



'02 Santa Fe 4 x 4 \$12,900
Low Miles, Pristine Condition,
Loaded Warranty
(2U175332)
Hyundai Santa Monica
(866) 309-6705



'02 Escape 2WD \$9,900
R-Brds, Leather, CD, Pristine!
Must See!
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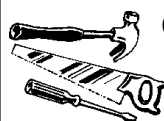
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