



Santa Monica Daily Press

HOUSTON HAWKS TOUR COUTURE
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS PAGE 17

Since 2001: A news odyssey

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Meganumber: 1
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Fantasy 5 2 8 31 35 37

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 0 1 7
EVENING: 7 6 7

DAILY DERBY
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RACE TIME: 1:49:21

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Ruth Bell Graham, the frail wife of evangelist Billy Graham, has split with her elder son Franklin by rejecting as her burial place Franklin's planned memorial library for Billy near Charlotte, N.C. (in favor of her mountaintop retreat west of there). According to a December Washington Post report, Ruth's long-time friend, the crime writer Patricia Cornwell, told Ruth that the largely bookless "library" is "truly tacky," featuring for example a mechanical cow that greets visitors, and straw on the floor to resemble the barn of Billy's youth. Franklin's thinking is that the memorial should draw a new generation of worshipers and donors, including kids who would be attracted by the farm motif.

■ Checking a boy just before his bar mitzvah, Orthodox rabbis in Sydney, Australia, found that his rabbi-supervised circumcision had not quite been "complete" and ruled that it must be done again because, officially, the boy was not a Jew. The boy's mother objected and instead found a Progressive synagogue for the bar mitzvah (although the Orthodox rabbi, Moshe Gutnick, said she is "fooling the child" into believing he is Jewish).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1965 President Lyndon Johnson outlined the goals of his "Great Society" in his State of the Union Address.

1951 During the Korean conflict, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

WORD UP!

favonian /fuh-VOH-nee-uhn/, *adjective*: Pertaining to the west wind; soft; mild; gentle.

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Pull a fast one

Frustrated publishers: 'Free' doesn't mean 'take all you want'

SEE PAGE 3

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Eye of the beholder

Housing gets rise out of neighbors

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY — After four and a half years of planning and development, a 41-unit affordable housing complex at the intersection of Broadway and 15th Street — complete with its espresso-colored stucco and crushed-can exterior — is finally nearing completion.

A product of architectural genius, its planners contend, the building incorporates sustainable green elements and will help revive a desolate stretch of Broadway. Some residents, however, argue that something is not right with the building that now towers above them.

Standing at four stories, or 40 feet high, the building is a monstrosity in this neighborhood of primarily one-story and split-level houses and apartments.

"It does not fit in with the neighborhood," said Elena Livenson, who lives on 15th Street, directly across from the new apartment complex.

"It's really ugly," she added. "It doesn't have any architectural meaning."

Several residents have been complaining about the scale of the project, which planners say is actually less than the city's maximum allowable size of 45 feet in the Broadway Commercial District.

"It is totally out of place with the single-family homes in the neighborhood," argued Clara Benrey in a recent letter to the editor (SMDP, Jan. 2, page 4).

See APARTMENTS, page 12



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

CAN IT: A new affordable-housing complex at 15th Street and Broadway is being called genius and an eyesore by architects and residents, respectively.

City Hall looks to soak up sun

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Residents and business owners looking to save money and do right by the environment will get the best deals on the latest solar technology, thanks to an initiative by City Hall to have Santa Monica become energy independent by the year 2020.

Known initially as the Community Energy Independent Initiative, Solar Santa Monica is a two-year, pilot program designed by the Environmental Programs Division at City Hall to link residents and business owners with trusted suppliers of solar technology that could be purchased at a discount

See SOLAR POWER, page 11

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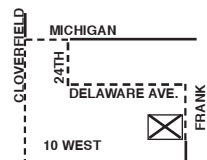
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Calendar

2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2007

Santa Monica Daily Press

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.
For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Weekly LeTip Business Networking Group

11th Street and Wilshire Boulevard
11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.
Weekly networking over lunch at El Cholo to provide additional lead and referrals to your line of work. Only one person per profession may join. Call (310) 356-7519.

Yappy Hour @ Tails of Santa Monica

2912 Main St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
A social gathering for dogs and their people. There will be light refreshments, doggie snacks and play time. For more information, call (310) 392-4300.

Salvation Army Youth Night

1533 Fourth St., 6 p.m. — 8 p.m.
Event is open to kids ages 5-12. Activities include games, crafts and Bible lessons. A meal is also included.

Friday, Jan. 5, 2007

Fitness Class (Mambo Mania)

1711 Stewart St., 7 a.m. — 8 a.m.
For more information, call (310) 515-4840.

Santa Monica Rotary

1250 Capri Drive, Pacific Palisades, noon — 1:30 p.m.
Guests are welcome for lunch. For more information, contact June M. Doy at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

Santa Monica Critical Mass Bike Ride

Ocean Avenue at Colorado Avenue
6:30 p.m. — 9 p.m.
One monthly ride right after work. For more information, visit www.SantaMonicaCriticalMass.org.

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.



SM businesses resolve to stay fit, profitable

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — To many people, a new year means hope and new beginnings, as fitting time as any to make resolutions to improve their lives over the ensuing 12 months. To businesses on the receiving end of those self-made promises, the weeks following Jan. 1 usually translates into a busy season with new clients.

“We’ve been slammed,” said Craig Nabat, owner of Freedom Laser Therapy, a clinic that helps smokers kick the nicotine habit through method that incorporates lasers and the fundamentals of acupuncture.

The clinic, located on Wilshire Boulevard, recently introduced a new weight-loss program, contributing to its post-New Year’s business. The new weight-loss program partners the clinic with celebrity fitness expert Peter Nielsen, who has developed a

See FIT AND PROFITABLE, page 11



Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

COVERING HIS BASES: Jim Casalor, 58, works out his biceps with a series of curls on Wednesday at the Santa Monica Family YMCA. Casalor, who plays in the Los Angeles Senior Baseball League, set a New Year’s resolution for himself to get in better playing shape to boost his game.

BUSINESS



BAKER

A brand new start

By Daily Press staff

MAIN STREET — The Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) has hired a new marketing manager to help promote the city by the sea, with the ultimate goal of increasing tourism and the money it generates for local businesses.

Kim Baker, a former marketing manager for Toyota and other major corporations, is responsible for all aspects of the CVB’s communications, consumer and trade promotions,

See VISTORS BUREAU, page 14

No stopping the presses

READ-HANDED: Law stymies those who steal free newspapers

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Just because they are free, that doesn’t mean it’s OK to pick up hundreds of local newspapers and recycle them.

But according to publishers of the Santa Monica Daily Press and the Santa Monica Mirror, as well officials with the police department, some paper perusers — or abusers — haven’t gotten the message and are continuing to swipe issues each day, despite a state law that prohibits it.

Police are on the lookout for thieves after receiving complaints by the publisher of the Mirror, Michael Rosenthal, as well as other publications in the area.

“It’s a tremendous issue,” said Rosenthal, who lobbied legislators to pass the anti-theft bill. “Everyone says it’s a free paper, so no big deal right? Well, wrong. First of all, we pay to

have it published. We have advertisers who pay for space and we have readers who want to get their local news. Stealing papers comes at a great expense.”

Rosenthal estimated that about a quarter of a million papers have been stolen in the last 10 years, many of them from racks along Wilshire Boulevard.

“The public generally respects the newspapers and treats them fairly well, but then there are those who like to vandalize the racks, kicking them in,” Rosenthal said.

The new law (AB2612) applies to anyone who takes more than 25 copies of any freely distributed newspaper with the intent to either deprive readers of their content, to recycle them, or to harm a business competitor for some economic advantage. Those caught are subject to a \$250 fine. A subsequent offense could be prosecuted as a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to

\$500, sentencing of up to 10 days in county jail or both.

The measure, by Assembly Minority Leader George Plescia (R-La Jolla), is a response to several incidents in which large numbers of free papers were taken from news boxes to be sold for recycling or to keep others from reading them.

In one case, the entire press run of the Chula Vista Star was taken from news racks on three different occasions and sold to recyclers in Mexico. Authorities said they were powerless to prosecute because the newspapers were free and had no fair market value.

In another instance, thousands of copies of the Epoch Times began disappearing in the San Gabriel Valley after the Chinese language paper began publishing articles on human rights violations and other issues in China.

See FREE NEWSPAPERS, page 13

Lost when it comes to insurance?

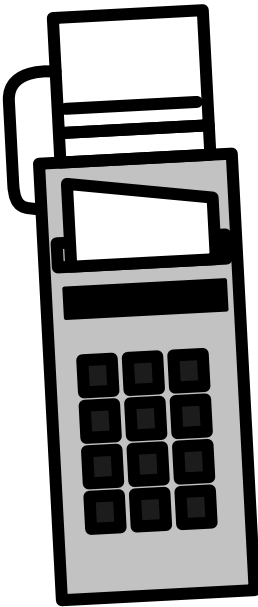


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parade was a hypocritical march

Editor:

Wow, 2007 is here! Time moves so fast and full. Now it is the new year. The Rose Parade played repeatedly on TV.

So, now, I sit quietly, for the moment in my too cluttered home, cluttered with books, papers and things. My mind cluttered with bills and financial concerns, trying not to think about where the money will come from. Trying to trust God as wars rage through the world. Even the Rose Parade stinks of false patriotism, with Stealth bombers flying overhead and white girls clad in red, white and blue doing high-kicks to the beat of the military marching bands.

Calvary and false pretense. "Our Good Nature" – the theme of the parade, while raping the Earth, consuming too much, shopping and partying while soldiers die and innocent civilians have their lives torn apart.

Happy New Year.

Three thousand American soldiers dead and counting, hundreds of thousands of wounded lives, not to mention the causalities in Iraq and Afghanistan ... and those forgotten around this country and around the world because we fight the wrong battles.

Fight poverty.

Fight disease.

Fight bigotry, intolerance, racism, anti-Semitism.

Fight with our minds and hearts. Be "wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Turn the other cheek. Forgive more. "You who have not sinned shall cast the first stone." Not a stone should be lifted!

It is all happening too fast. Now Christmas has come and gone. How can we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace and remain so bloodthirsty? The death penalty continues. My Christmas hopes and joys interrupted by breaking news of the execution of Saddam Hussein.

The 12 days of Christmas bringing with them news of the 3,000th U.S. soldier dead in this preemptive, wrong, illegal, sinful lie of a war in Iraq. A people of power, wealth, greed, over weight, over consumption – a gluttonous people polluting the Earth and celebrating "Our Good Nature" as we parade through the streets of Pasadena.

Cindy McQuade

Santa Monica

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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It's shaping up as the year of predicting dangerously

ICONOCLAST
BLAST

BY SETH BARNES

THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR BRINGS out the pundits and prognosticators. In the final weeks of December, you can't go near the Internet, the newspaper or television without running into some smarty pants dissecting and detailing the major events of the previous year.

Raise your hand if you saw a photo montage of notable persons who died in 2006 set to a melodramatic score at some point in the last week. OK, hands down. You'll need them to change the channel in case you come across another weepy sequence involving Robert Altman and Slobodan Milosevic.

Equally annoying to the year-end recap is the year-ahead prediction list. Oh, are these annoying! Nothing screams "quality journalism" like some disaffected junior staff writer throwing back a couple egg nogs and taking random guesses on topics ranging from the Sunni insurgency to the prospects of Madonna adopting a second child from Africa.

Luckily, we've made it into 2007 and the lists and rankings are behind us. But we still have hopes and dreams for the coming year that hack columnists want to chronicle. Maybe there's even a "wish list" of events I'd like to see occur in 2007. Maybe I'll share this list with you. And maybe you'll read on.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform — Unless we become a police state, I don't think we're going to be able to totally seal off our borders. So maybe we should just get used to the status quo. Besides, I don't think the average Joe is ready to pick his own organic lettuce.

Smoking Bans — First Calabasas, then Santa Monica. Could LA County as a whole be far behind? Let's hope smokers can exhale somewhere into the millions of square feet

of open air. Otherwise, we're sure to see "smoke houses" pop up next to "crack houses" throughout the land.

The Rise of Cell Phone Cameras — I think I see a solution to this thorny little capital punishment problem that California has. Just equip execution observers with handy cell phone cams (a la the Saddam Hussein hanging) and we have instant oversight. Plus, think of all the traffic we can drive to YouTube!

The End of Chocolate Treats — Personally, I think all boxes of chocolate should evaporate as the ball drops on New Year's Eve. After stuffing our faces for over a month, we really don't need tempting treats laying around home, the office and places of retail. You get to indiscriminately pop bon bons into your face from Thanksgiving to New Year's. And then it's over. Enough.

California Ballot Initiatives — Does anybody else think that letting 36 million people legislate is silly? Who are we kidding? Most of us know next to nothing about politics, government appropriations or the fiscal tensions of the largest state in the union. We should let our slightly less clueless elected representatives make the important choices for us. Then we'll have time to pick our own organic lettuce if the urge ever strikes.

Schwarzenegger/Villaraigosa Arm Wrestling Match — I don't know why, but I'd love to see this. I think these guys would love it. Think of the publicity and TV cameras. They could put it on Pay Per View and donate the proceeds to charity. Or, as an alternative to arm wrestling, they could ski race!

Gift Cards/Certificates — If we're living in a world where boxes of chocolate evaporate before New Year's Day, I think gift cards should automatically turn into cash at the same time, so you at least have something of value to show for them.

It doesn't cost anything to wish, but if you think any of this will come true, you're dreaming!

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Visit us online at smdp.com



The Santa Monica Daily Press is published six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

19,000 daily circulation, 46,450 daily readership. Circulation is audited and verified by Circulation Verification Council, 2006. Serving the City of Santa Monica, and the communities of Venice Beach, Brentwood, West LA.

Members of CNPA, AFCP, CVC, Associated Press, IFPA, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

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MUSM: miss you so much
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OLL: online love
POS: parent over shoulder
WTGP: want to go private?
LMIRL: let's meet in real life
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

The fisherman look is so out this season

The experts at The Skin Cancer Foundation urge people who are concerned about their health to stop tanning, indoors and out, in the new year for the sake of their health and beauty. "Giving up tanning is as important as eating better, getting more exercise and quitting smoking, which we know are the most popular resolutions," said Perry Robins, MD, President of The Skin Cancer Foundation. "UV radiation is a known carcinogen, just like cigarettes." Ultraviolet radiation causes skin cancer, premature aging and weakens the immune system.

Not only is tanning bad for your health, but it is no longer even in style. "Radiant isn't about being bronzed, it's about being luminous," said Sarah Brown, Beauty Director, "Vogue". The industry is moving so far from tanning that beauty insiders are claiming that "pale is the new tan for spring."

Skin cancer is a global epidemic with 90 percent of all cases caused by sun exposure. When sunlight strikes skin, a sequence of protective reactions is initiated, triggered by exposure to UVA and UVB radiation. Tanning is the body's natural, biologic response to the harmful rays of the sun. When a tan begins, some damage has already been done. In fact, after decades of worldwide research, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a branch of the World Health Organization (WHO), has unequivocally linked sunbed tanning among young people to melanoma.

The advice of dermatologists and specialists around the world is to use effective sun protection every day. "We are not telling people to stay out of the sun," said Robins. "We just want people to be safe about sun exposure. If you follow our simple guidelines, you can enjoy the outdoors and still keep your skin healthy."

- The Skin Cancer Foundation's prevention tips:
- Seek the shade, especially between 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - Do not burn
 - Avoid tanning and UV tanning booths
 - Use a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher every day
 - Apply 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) of sunscreen to all exposed areas, 30 minutes before going outside. Re-apply every two hours, after swimming or excessive sweating.
 - Cover up with clothing, including a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses
 - Keep newborns out of the sun. Sunscreen should be used on babies over the age of six months.
 - Examine your skin from head-to-toe every month
 - See your doctor every year for a professional skin exam

The Skin Cancer Foundation is the only global organization solely devoted to the prevention, detection and treatment of skin cancer. The mission of the Foundation is to decrease the incidence of skin cancer through public and professional education and research. For more information about melanoma and to learn more about how to protect your skin, visit www.skincancer.org or call (800) SKIN-490.

DP

A guide to all things Santa Monica

The 2007 Santa Monica Official Visitors Guide, a publication of Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau, designed and published by Striker Media Group got a slick new design.

The cover commands attention, capturing a spectacular ocean view of Santa Monica mixed with effects of glassy water and sandy beach imagery. Gradient shades of yellows, greens, reds, purples and blues introduce each new section as you tour the pages of Santa Monica. New and easy-to-read sidebars with bulleted information highlight important features of the city such as beach information, spas & salons, view spots, city parks, theaters & acting companies, coffeeshouses and farmers' markets.

"This is the first Visitor's Guide for Santa Monica that we have published since the inception of the city's new branding program," said Lyndell Gooch, Publisher of Stryker Media Group. "The guide is fresh and crisp and consistent with what the destination promises and is a great companion piece to the new corporate travel and meeting planner guide."

The 2007 Santa Monica Visitors Guide not only boasts the city's finest in dining, accommodations and shopping, it also explains technical information such as parking, how to dress, electric and clean air vehicles, traffic rules, computer standards and electrical currents, tipping, smoking, telephone service, and a mileage chart from Santa Monica to other Southern California destinations. Easy to follow maps are located in the middle of the guide from the greater Los Angeles area to navigating the streets of Santa Monica.

For your free copy, visit www.santamonica.com or call (800) 544-5319.

DP

The  Line

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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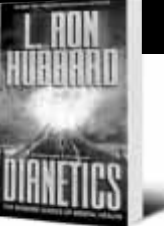
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Holy spirits: Diocese plants wine grapes in graveyard

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

HAYWARD, Calif. — A graveyard vineyard in this East Bay city could yield some wholly delightful results for Catholic cemetery officials who are growing vines on surplus land in hopes of making sacramental wine.

Zinfandel and cemeteries might seem an unlikely pairing, but there's an ancient link between wine and the church — from the water-into-wine miracle of the wedding at Cana to the Last Supper, says Robert Seelig, director of funeral and cemetery services for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland.

“Wine and the blood of Christ is very much a strong symbol,” he said. “We’re always looking for signs and symbols to place in the cemetery whether it’s a statue of a saint or some building. People like those things.”

But the project started out with beautification, not vinification, in mind. Faced with unused land that needed sprucing up, the church was looking at somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50,000 per acre for weed-free, irrigated turf versus \$25,000 for vines.

Grapes beat grass and a three-acre vineyard went in on the outskirts of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward, a suburb about 20 miles southeast of San Francisco.

German Muslim and American family are detained, denied entry into U.S.

BY GARANCE BURKE
Associated Press Writer

A German businessman of Syrian descent who wanted to surprise his daughter with a holiday visit was detained for four days in a Las Vegas holding cell before being sent back home without explanation.

A civil rights group called authorities treatment of Majed Shehadeh a case of anti-Muslim discrimination.

Shehadeh, 62, flew from Frankfurt to Las Vegas last Thursday, hoping to meet with his wife and drive to Bakersfield, Calif., where his American-born daughter had just gotten news she'd passed the California bar exam. Instead, he wound up shivering in a holding cell without ever being told why he couldn't enter the country, he said.

Roxanne Hercules, a spokeswoman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, confirmed Tuesday that Shehadeh was denied entry, but would not discuss specifics of his case. She said Shehadeh's visa waiver could have been denied because “he could have a criminal record, or it could be a terrorism issue.”

The detention follows a series of similar incidents involving Muslim passengers, according to the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

In October, an Islamic scholar from South Africa was denied entry at San Francisco International Airport. A month later, six imams were taken off a US Airways flight from Minneapolis to Phoenix after a

passenger reported overhearing them criticize the U.S. war in Iraq.

“Overall these cases send a message that Muslims are second-class citizens who can be detained and kept from their families,” said Affad Shaikh, a civil rights coordinator for CAIR.

Shehadeh touched down Thursday afternoon on a direct Condor Airlines flight to McCarran International Airport, where his American wife was waiting to pick him up. The couple had planned to visit family in the Las Vegas area, before surprising their daughter for the New Year and celebrating her wedding anniversary in Central California.

“I gave them my German passport, and he looked to see which countries I visited. He found I had stamps that looked like Arabic and asked if they were fake,” Shehadeh said Tuesday in a phone interview from his home in Alzenau, a small Bavarian village.

“Nobody ever informed me why I was being questioned,” he said. “All that was ever told to me was this had to do with Washington.”

After being interrogated by Border Protection and FBI agents for more than 12 hours at the airport, Shehadeh said he was handcuffed and transported in the back of police car to a North Las Vegas jail. Officials told family members they had denied Shehadeh's visa waiver, which grants German citizens the right to enter the U.S. with no additional paperwork, said his wife Joanne Mulligan.

Officials with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said they could not comment on why he was denied entry. FBI and airport officials in Las Vegas also declined comment.

An aide to Sen. Dianne Feinstein later told the family that Shehadeh was on a “look-out list,” Mulligan said. Feinstein's office confirmed Tuesday that the family contacted her, but wouldn't comment further.

“I said you've got to be joking me, he's never even had a speeding ticket,” said Mulligan, a retired math teacher for the U.S. military. “I mean, we're Muslims, and we travel a lot. Maybe the countries we travel to are not the countries they want you to visit.”

Once in the holding facility, Shehadeh said he was stripped of his shoes, jacket and prescribed heart medicine and locked in a cell with about 25 other detainees. There was one toilet in the middle of the room, and access to a telephone was extremely limited, he said.

On Sunday, he was released and sent back to Frankfurt on the same charter airline.

Shehadeh's daughter Majida Shehadeh said she was glad her father made it home, but feared he wouldn't be able to return to visit.

“I used to be happy I moved here,” she said. “But now I can't wait for when I leave here. The mentality is not what it was like beforehand.”

Associated Press writer **Ken Ritter** in Las Vegas contributed to this report.

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LA crime on decline once again

Gang violence spike belies positive trend

BY GREG RISLING

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Crime in the city dropped for a fifth straight year, but gang violence spiked 14 percent in 2006, according to preliminary police statistics released Tuesday.

Violent crimes dipped 2.6 percent last year compared to 2005, helping make Los Angeles the second-safest metropolitan city in the U.S. behind New York City.

Gang crime, however, was the "glaring exception," Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said. More than half of the 478 homicides reported in 2006 were attributed to gangs and 86 percent of murder victims were either black or Hispanic, police said.

"We will not tolerate that type of hate crime in the city," Villaraigosa said. "It's unacceptable."

Police Chief William Bratton said he believes the number of gang crimes was much higher because gang members often do not cooperate with authorities.

"While we celebrate that crime is down ... there are certain areas of the city that remain extremely violent," Police Chief William Bratton said.

Bratton and Villaraigosa said cracking down on gangs will be the Police Department's priority in 2007. They promised to announce new anti-gang initiatives in the coming weeks but declined to elaborate.

Since Bratton took office in late 2002, overall crime has decreased steadily despite having one officer for every 445 residents in 2006 — less than half the rate of New York City.

Los Angeles had a reported 131,597 major crimes last year compared to 173,667 in 2002. The numbers were significantly better than the city's most violent year in 1992 when there were more than 317,000 major crimes reported, police said.

Violent crime was down in every category during 2006 except for robbery, which jumped 5.3 percent from 2005. Nationwide, violent crime was up 2.3 percent in 2005, police said.

Final year-end crime statistics will be released by the FBI in the spring.

Among the so-called eight Part I crimes — homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assaults, burglary, burglary from a vehicle, personal and other theft and auto theft — the rate fell 7.7 percent in 2006 from the previous year.

Bratton made good on a promise made early last year. Crime in the downtown Skid Row area, which has numerous homeless encampments, declined 18 percent in 2006.

Police also made more arrests — about 2 percent — compared to 2005.

Bratton, a former New York police commissioner, was encouraged by the statistics and has been promised about 1,000 more police officers by city officials over the next few years.

Villaraigosa also said he would support another five-year term for Bratton, who has expressed interest in having his contract renewed.

"The numbers speak for themselves," Villaraigosa said.

STATE BRIEFS

CHINO

Riot could have been worse

The outgoing leader of the local chapter of the correctional officers union said officials were fortunate they didn't lose control of a prison after a riot last weekend that involved more than 800 inmates and sent 27 to hospitals.

"With the number of inmates and the design of the facility, we're lucky that we didn't lose the facility," said Marty Aroian, who until Sunday headed the chapter of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association.

Built for 3,200 inmates, the California Institution for Men in Chino now holds nearly 6,600.

"It's the third-oldest prison in the state, and the infrastructure is falling apart," Aroian said.

Chino Mayor Dennis Yates, who has written to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger asking that no new inmates be sent to the prison, was at the police command center Saturday and thought a bigger tragedy might be in the making.

"It got pretty bad in there," Yates said. "We feared a fire."

Yates said that law enforcement had communication problems, with police and prison radios unable to operate on the same frequency.

Lt. Mark Hargrove, a spokesman for the prison, said that while communications changes are necessary, the prison was quick to coordinate with other facilities. Officers immediately responded from prisons in San Diego, Lancaster and elsewhere, he said.

"We are coordinating more," Hargrove said. "There was more staff than I've seen here in 20 years."

Saturday's riot started with a fight between two inmates and quickly spread throughout the 1,400-inmate West Facility before ending with more than 50 people injured, authorities said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA ANA

Code enforcement in 714

The 714 area code may be going the way of 213 and 310.

An expected shortage of phone numbers in Orange County has prompted public hearings later this month by the California Public Utilities Commission to decide whether to institute a new area code.

The change could come in the form of a traditional geographic split or an overlay, meaning new phone customers would get a 657 area code while current customers would keep 714.

Some business owners are complaining that a change could force them to reprint advertising and make other expensive adjustments.

"It wouldn't be the end of the world, but it would be a hassle," said Craig Durand, owner of a fire sprinkler company in Garden Grove. "It would cost me several thousand dollars."

The overlay system was instituted for the first time in California last summer, when the 424 area code was added to parts of western Los Angeles County, with existing customers allowed to keep their 310 numbers.

The 714 area code, which broke off from the Los Angeles 213 zone in 1951, has been split once already. Most of southern Orange County switched to a 949 area code in 1998. Those in the 949 zone would not be affected by the proposed new change.

A final decision on the digits will most likely be made when the Public Utilities Commission meets in March.

AP

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Pols are back in town

Lawmakers return to test cooperative ways

BY SAMANTHA YOUNG

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — State lawmakers return to the Capitol on Wednesday pledging bipartisanship, but cooperation between Republicans and Democrats will be tested as they deal with costly and complex issues that have divided them in the past.

Expanding health care coverage, dealing with overcrowded prisons, debating same-sex marriage and attempting redistricting reform are among the issues on this year's legislative agenda. Lawmakers already have offered competing proposals on several of the initiatives.

"Health care reform is a great example of where bipartisanship may or may not col-

lapse," said Timothy Hodson, executive director of the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento. "It's an issue that can be dealt with in a practical, problem-solving mode or in an ideological mode."

Last month, Democrats introduced bills that would expand health care coverage to an estimated 6.5 million Californians, largely by requiring employers to pay for it. That approach runs counter to the views of Republicans, who oppose state mandates to make businesses pay more.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has called health care reform his top priority, last year vetoed legislation that would have provided universal health care coverage. But Schwarzenegger has said he supports coverage for California's uninsured as long as lawmakers don't raise taxes. He is expected to detail his proposal during his state of the state speech Jan. 9.

The leadership team heading legislative negotiations this year remains largely

unchanged from the one that brokered deals in 2006 to raise the minimum wage, reduce the emissions blamed for global warming and make prescription drugs more affordable.

Assembly Republicans ousted their leader of seven months, George Plescia of La Jolla, who critics said failed to bargain on behalf of the chamber's 32-member caucus. Incoming Assembly minority leader Mike Villines, R-Clovis, has said Republicans expect Schwarzenegger to include them in his negotiations with Democrats, who have majorities in the Assembly and Senate.

Republicans could use their power to block the budget, which requires a two-thirds vote to pass, to win concessions on other measures.

After failing to enact prison reform last year, lawmakers are under pressure to alleviate overcrowding and improve health care in the state's prisons. The courts have threatened to cap the inmate population, release some prisoners early and reach into the state treasury for billions of dollars.

Father who threatened kids with cliff gets jail time

By The Associated Press

PROVO, Utah — A father who threatened to drive his three children off a cliff was sent to prison for child abuse, the result of a plea agreement after jurors failed to reach a verdict on attempted murder.

Christopher Young's wife said she moved to Texas last year to protect her children, including a 7-year-old son who testified at trial.

"He was having nightmares ... that his father was still coming after him trying to kill him," Adella Young told a judge. "He's had those ever since."

After a two-day trial, jurors in November could not reach a verdict on attempted aggravated murder.

Christopher Young, 36, pleaded guilty to three counts of child abuse Nov. 14. Fourth District Judge Steven Hansen ordered a sentence of one to 15 years in prison Tuesday.

Utah County deputy attorney Donna Kelly predicted he would spend about two years behind bars.

With three children — ages 2, 4 and 6 — in a sport utility vehicle, Young was driving north on Interstate 15 near Lehi on April 18 when his car went off the road and down an embankment.

Police said he got the vehicle moving again, drove across an alfalfa field and stopped his car about 30 feet from a cliff.

At trial, he said he threatened to drive off the cliff and kill his children but added: "God knows I wouldn't do that."

Young said he made the threat to his wife, hoping she would change her mind about a divorce. He said he also was stressed by working six nights a week at Wal-Mart.

Young asked the judge to put him on probation. The prosecutor, however, said prison would give the children a sense of security.

"If everybody in this country that was getting divorced had justification for abusing their children, this would be a very sad world," Kelly said.

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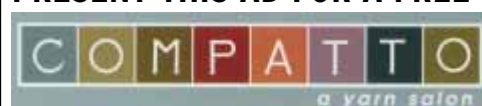
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Students out to rescue heritage

By The Associated Press

HILO, Hawaii — The students in the University of Hawaii at Hilo's first Ph.D program are working to revitalize the Hawaiian language and culture.

Five students are enrolled in the new program, which was established this fall for a doctor of philosophy degree in Hawaiian and indigenous language and culture revitalization.

It's the first doctorate in the United States in a Native American language, according to the school.

Hiapo Perreira, who is focusing on Hawaiian literature, has tried to spread his knowledge. Last May, he told high school seniors the tale of a boy transported to a far country by a supernatural coconut tree.

The story was meant to teach the students that they should also help others, just as Perreira plans to do with the aid of his doctorate.

Kauanoë Kamana, another doctoral candidate, is the

principal of Nawahiokalaniopuu Hawaiian-language immersion school, Nawahi for short, founded in 1994.

Kamana's doctoral dissertation will be a practical guide to the lessons she and others have learned in running Nawahi.

“We’re not an ivory tower Ph.D. We’re a community service Ph.D.,” said UH-Hilo Hawaiian professor Pila Wilson.

There are 15,000 people who can speak Hawaiian reasonably well, but only about 100 remaining elders who grew up speaking it, Wilson said.

The goal is to make English the language of business and work and Hawaiian the language of the home for Hawaiian families, Wilson said.

“The Hawaiian language is not going to live if you are below average when you speak,” he said.

Strengthening Hawaiian has the broad value of strengthening Hawaiian families and strengthening the economy, because Hawaiian culture is a major reason when tourists come here, he said.

Only about 2 percent of Hawaii's children are in language-immersion programs.

New Zealand has similar programs to promote the Maori language, but it's only used in the classrooms, not at home.

Katarina Edmonds, who is Maori working for the New Zealand Ministry of Education, wants to improve that by earning a doctorate in the revitalization aspect of the UH-Hilo program.

Another doctoral candidate is professor Jason Cabral, who is dedicating his studies to Hawaiian grammar to promote a high standard for the language.

Professor Larry Kimura grew up speaking Hawaiian and had a significant hand in creating the Hawaiian-language program at UH-Hilo and was responsible recently for complete bilingualism in the exhibits at the Imiloa astronomy education center.

Now he's interested in Hawaiian poetry.

But like fellow professors Cabral and Perreira, he has lacked a doctorate. Now all three can earn those degrees.

Tsunami center proposes more warnings

By The Associated Press

HILO, Hawaii — Scientists at the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center propose to loosen the requirements for issuing tsunami warnings after an earthquake hits near the Hawaiian Islands.

The proposal calls for issuing a local tsunami alert for temblors as small as magnitude 6.7, said Victor Sardina, a geophysicist at the center, located in Ewa Beach. Currently, the warning criteria call for tsunami alerts for earthquakes that are magnitude 6.9 or greater.

As a result, there could be more tsunami warnings and evacuations of coastal areas following earthquakes, Sardina said.

“On one hand, you don’t want to scare the public unnecessarily, but on the other hand, you don’t want to miss something that could be significant,” Sardina said Tuesday. “You want to go with the most conservative approach.”

The proposed change was prompted by a concern among scientists that a magnitude 6.9 earthquake could initially be estimated to be smaller. That would mean no tsunami warning would be issued when, in fact, a potentially damaging tsunami could have been generated.

The new 6.7 magnitude standard wouldn't automatically require that a tsunami warning always be issued for quakes of that size or greater, but it would be considered in the crucial minutes after a large temblor strikes, Sardina said.

For example, a large inland quake would not pose any tsunami threat and no warning would be released.

But if these guidelines had been in place earlier this year, there might have been tsunami warnings following the magnitude 6.7 and 6.5 earthquakes off the coast of the Big Island on Oct. 15.

Scientists did not issue a tsunami warning after those quakes because they were confident the earthquake had been deep and was highly unlikely to trigger a tsunami, said Gerard Fryer, another geophysicist at the center.

The location of an earthquake will always be considered before a tsunami warning to help prevent false alarms, Fryer said. But officials would rather be safe than sorry.

“When confronted with the possibility, Hawaii Civil Defense is not going to hesitate in ordering an evacuation,” Sardina said.

**"WHEN CONFRONTED
WITH THE POSSIBILITY, HAWAII
CIVIL DEFENSE IS NOT GOING
TO HESITATE IN ORDERING
AN EVACUATION."**

Victor Sardina
Geophysicist PACIFIC TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER

The primary threat of a local tsunami comes from shallow earthquakes near the base of Hawaii's volcanoes, such as the 7.2 earthquake of 1975 and the estimated 7.9 earthquake of 1868, Frver said. Both generated severe tsunamis.

These shallow earthquakes more frequently create tsunamis because they cause greater disturbance to the ocean floor, which can generate damaging waves, Fryer said.

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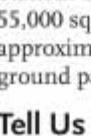
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Officers surrender

Amid applause and protests, New Orleans cops go behind bars for Katrina shooting

BY MICHAEL KUNZELMAN

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Seven police officers charged in a deadly bridge shooting in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath waded through a roaring crowd of supporters on their way to jail, accepting hand shakes and hugs along the way. Jeers from several protesters only made the cheers grow louder.

Six of the men remained behind bars Tuesday night, charged with at least one count of murder or attempted murder in the Sept. 4, 2005, shootings on the Danziger Bridge less than a week after the hurricane hit. Two people died and four people were wounded.

In a show of solidarity, more than 200 supporters greeted the officers before they were booked and led to their cells. One of the signs in the crowd read "Support the Danziger 7." Another read "Thanks for protecting our city."

Near the jail's entrance, a protester shouted "Police killings must stop!" and "Racism must go!" but was shouted down by the crowd yelling: "Heroes, Heroes!"

"These men stayed here to protect our city and protect us and this is the thanks that is given to them," said Ryan Maher, 34, of New Orleans, who described himself as a civilian

with friends in the police department.

Defense attorneys say the seven officers are innocent of the charges.

"It's a serious injustice," said Sgt. Henry Kuhn of the Harahan Police Department, one of several uniformed officers from the suburbs who joined the crowd.

A JUDGE SAID THERE WOULD BE NO BAIL FOR THE FOUR ACCUSED OF FIRST-DEGREE MURDER.

Sgts. Kenneth Bowen and Robert Gisevius Jr., officer Anthony Villavaso II and former officer Robert Faulcon Jr., were indicted last week on first-degree murder charges. Officers Robert Barrios and Mike Hunter Jr. were charged with attempted first-degree murder, and Officer Ignatius Hills was charged with attempted second-degree murder.

A judge said there would be no bail for the four accused of first-degree murder. Bail will be \$100,000 per count for the other three officers.

Hunter posted bail Tuesday. Michael Glasser, president of the Police Association of New Orleans, said the two others couldn't immediately post bail in part because banks were closed for the national day of mourning for the late President Gerald Ford.

The officers are scheduled to be arraigned Friday. On Wednesday, their attorneys plan to file motions to set or reduce bail for the officers and to quash the indictments.

A first-degree murder conviction carries a possible death sentence. A spokesman for District Attorney Eddie Jordan said Tuesday that prosecutors haven't decided yet whether to seek the death penalty in the case.

The facts of what happened on the bridge remain murky. Police say the officers were responding to a report of other officers being attacked when they came under fire. Police also claim one of the men, Ronald Madison, was reaching for a gun. Madison, a 40-year-old mentally retarded man, and James Brissette, 19, were killed on the bridge.

The coroner said Madison was shot seven times, with five wounds in the back, but the officers' attorneys said all the wounds could have come from a single shotgun blast.

Madison's brother, Lance, denies he or his brother was armed. He said they were running from a group of teens who had opened fire on the bridge when seven men jumped out of a rental truck and also shot at them without warning.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

■ Voice your opinion. Write to editor@smdp.com

Leaders at colleges seek compromise on campus gun ban

By The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah's public colleges and universities are hoping to reach a compromise with lawmakers that would allow for a partial ban on concealed weapons.

University of Utah President Michael Young and Senate President John Valentine, R-Orem, have formed a group to consider crafting a bill that could prohibit guns from residence halls, sporting events and other common areas.

The Utah Supreme Court in September struck down a ban on guns at the school, saying campuses cannot adopt a policy that conflicts with state law, which allows firearms if someone has a permit.

"Now that the debate on who has control is over, we should have a discussion on if we should create a nuanced policy for universities," Sen. Greg Bell, R-Fruit Heights, said at a meeting Tuesday.

The University of Utah would like to ban guns in dorms, classrooms, faculty offices, stadiums, arenas and campus hospitals, said Kim Wirthlin, vice president for government relations.

But some lawmakers aren't certain such a ban would ensure a safe environment.

"If I send my daughter to the 'U' and you take away her right to defend herself, what guarantee of safety can you give me?" asked Rep. Carl Wimmer, R-Herriman, a West Valley City police officer.

Sen. Mark Madsen, R-Lehi, agreed.

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FIT AND PROFITABLE, from page 3

video teaching how to lose weight by changing eating and fitness habits.

"People are concerned that after they give up smoking, they're going to gain weight," Nabat said. "Everyone wants to quit smoking and lose weight and change life for the better."

Quitting smoking and losing weight are two of the most popular New Year's resolutions, along with staying fit, consuming less alcohol, volunteering, finding a better job and paying off debt.

The New Year's resolution is popular because it gives people the opportunity to start fresh at a time when everyone else is also seeking improvement in their lives, said Licia Ginne, a marriage and family therapist on Wilshire Boulevard. The New Year's resolution includes an element of community moral support that makes it a popular holiday tradition.

"But the resolutions usually die after a few weeks, mainly because people become discouraged quickly when they don't see results right away, especially in terms of

weight," said Ginne.

"[Exercising] becomes very boring and unattractive."

Body Makeover Systems in West LA near the Santa Monica border has been inundated with new customers over the past few days. The high volume of calls is a rarity even for the cosmetic fitness studio ran by Michael Thurmond of ABC's "Extreme Makeover."

"This year, for some reason, is starting with a bang," Thurmond said on Wednesday. "I think having seen me on four seasons of 'Extreme Makeover' has helped."

The pricey studio, which charges anywhere between \$1,500 to \$2,200 for a 12-week program, specializes in improving appearance through healthy means. For example, the business does not recommend using the no-carb Atkins Diet, said Thurmond.

"Our primary concern is being healthy," he said. "This is not about starvation."

SOMETIMES IT'S A STRETCH

As people head back to work following a nice holiday break from the office, work-

place stress soon returns to the fore. That is where the popular stress-relieving method of yoga comes into the picture.

Though it's been a slow few days at Yoga Works on Montana Avenue, Mia Hanson, who works the front desk, anticipates the post-New Year's crowd will wake up at any time and head to their nearest yoga studio.

"Last year, we were flooded with new people," Hanson said on Wednesday. "You can kind of tell [they're here as result of a resolution] because they say they've never done yoga before."

Hospitals also have a hand in the New Year's resolution business. Saint John's

Health Center has received approximately 110 inquiries for weight management and smoke-free clinics that are scheduled to begin within the next few weeks.

Saint John's advertises the classes, which focus on kicking the nicotine habit and losing weight through behavior modification, around January because "people are seeking these kinds of programs," said Wendy Lade Merritt, director of community and senior education at Saint John's.

"The new year represents new beginnings," Merritt said. "They're hopeful this time of year."

melodyh@smdp.com

Going 'super solar'

SOLAR POWER, from page 1

because customers would be buying in bulk.

The suppliers, handpicked by city staff, will offer packages for apartment dwellers, homeowners and those living in condominiums. Each package will maximize power-saving technology to offer buyers a quicker return on their investments, according to Ted Flanigan, president of EcoMotion, the consultant hired by City Hall for \$480,000 to design, market and recruit 50 people interested in being the first wave of Solar Santa Monica customers.

"The challenge that we have laid out on the table is to make it as easy as possible for a participant in the program to become a Solar Santa Monica champion," Flanigan said. "We want to make it as easy as leasing a Honda Accord."

The program will be officially launched on Wednesday, Jan. 17, with a presentation on energy issues by Randy Udall, a well-known solar and energy policy expert. The event will be held in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium at the Main Library at 6 p.m. Solar Santa Monica is currently operating out of a storefront office located at 1212 5th Street.

The goal is to start small at first, with about 35 single-family homes, 10 commercial buildings and five municipal buildings. If the program gains momentum, according to Flanigan, it is City Hall's desire to have every one of the 17,500 rooftops within the city to have solar panels installed so that residents and business owners could generate their own power and potentially sell excess wattage to providers such as Southern California Edison.

Residents and businesses can save hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars each year by installing solar panels and other technology. It is also expected to substantially benefit the local economy by creating energy cost savings that may be re-invested locally.

It is hoped aggressive solar deployment may also provide employment opportunities for local contractors and attract new businesses to the city.

A study conducted earlier this year on the pilot program found that the project could generate an estimated net savings of \$375,863, with a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions in the amount of 430 tons.

"I think 50 (roofs) is just the tip of the iceberg," said Stuart Cooley, an energy efficiency engineer with City Hall. "We are hoping to have a drop in prices as the technology gets better and demand increases. We are already going to offer considerable discounts to those who purchase from our providers and are looking at some financing options that can help people get started right away."

Cooley said there are already rebates offered by the state to those who purchase solar panels and other technology, such as energy efficient appliances.

So far, interest is high, Flanigan said. More than 150 people have requested more information.

"That is pretty awesome," Flanigan said. "However, we expect that to drop off a little as people learn more about the program. It will be difficult to convince people that there is a benefit by going solar. The return is not immediate and most people want to see savings right away. That's the tough part."

Those interested will be able to select from several packages, including "dark green" and "super solar" for those who do not mind spending anywhere from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for solar panels, a thermal water heating system, and a new refrigerator and washer/dryer that conserve energy. Apartment packages will be priced under \$1,000.

"We wanted to give options for all price ranges," Flanigan said. "For apartment owners, the payback could come in two to three years, and for homeowners and businesses, we are shooting for a return on the investment to come within 10 years. This is a considerable difference to those that can take 15 to 20 years."

Flanigan said there is also a chance that residents could purchase shares of a community solar system and earn money from wattage sold to power companies.

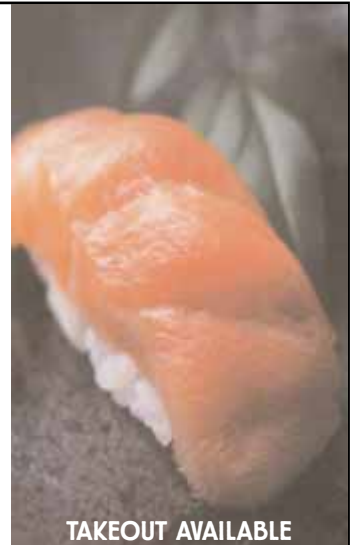
"Santa Monica is one of the most progressive cities in the country and to set a goal such as this is right in step with the community," Flanigan said. "There is no way that the city itself can subsidize every home, but we can facilitate and make sure people are getting the best deals possible and the best equipment. This will definitely help those who want to get into solar, but really don't know a thing about it. We're here to help walk them through it."

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CCSM signing leases for new complex

APARTMENTS, from page 1

Officials at both Community Corporation of Santa Monica, the owner of the property, and Pugh + Scarpa Architecture of Santa Monica, the project architect, counter that they have not heard complaints from residents regarding the size of the project, saying that most of the concern has been directed toward the affordability component.

"If you look around the area, most buildings erected in the last 15 years are exactly the same height or taller," said Joan Ling, executive director of CCSM.

Examples include the five-story Breeze Suites Moderne apartments on Broadway and Sixth Street, a five-story medical building on 15th Street between Broadway and Santa Monica Boulevard, and a four-story mixed-use development at Broadway and 10th Street.

Since the area is zoned for commercial development, the outcome could have been much worse for neighbors if Community Corp or another housing developer had not purchased the property, said Angie Brooks, a project architect with Pugh + Scarpa.

"The zoning code allows us to go higher, but we didn't," Brooks said of the design that broke the project into three separate buildings surrounded by an open courtyard that flows into Broadway. That design enabled the development to stay within a smaller scale than had it been built as one structure.

"This could've been a gas station, which



Christine Chang news@smdp.com

A wall comprised of recycled aluminum cans is just one of the sustainable features contained in the 41-unit affordable housing complex designed by Pugh + Scarpa Architecture at 15th Street and Broadway. Dual flush toilets and an open-air garage are also deemed to be environment friendly.

would've been terrible," Brooks said.

TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE FOR COMPLAINTS

Though it appears now that the new taller buildings stand out in contrast against the small one-story and split-level houses, the Broadway corridor will one day be lined with developments that are four stories and beyond, said Lawrence Scarpa, principal of

Pugh + Scarpa.

"The whole Broadway corridor is in scale of what the future will be," Scarpa said on Wednesday.

With recycled crushed aluminum cans decorating the walls, dual flush toilets, and an open-aired garage that lets in natural light, the new CCSM building incorporates sustainable elements to help cut utility costs. The development will include 25 two-bedroom and 16-three bedroom apartments, and 71 underground parking spaces. The apartments will be made available to low- and very-low income households.

The architect held two community workshops early in the process to solicit feedback on the design. There was very little to no negative comments on the design at those meetings, according to Brooks.

The design went before the Architectural Review Board [ARB], whose members found the plan to be innovative in masking the fact that the building was slated for affordable housing.

"The ARB has been attempting to deal with low-income housing to try to make sure that it's attractive and has market

appearance," said Joan Charles, who was the chairwoman when the board approved the plans. "It's been our effort to make them look more like market rate buildings."

Scarpa said the project was able to bypass the Planning Commission for review because it fell below the required 50-unit threshold. The commission is required to review projects with more than 50 units.

Construction began on Nov. 15, 2004.

The project is only a few weeks away from final completion and CCSM has begun signing leases this week. Residents are allowed to move in immediately.

"It's great to see the kids' faces when they see the unit and know they have a home of which they can be proud," Ling said.

For Livenson, the end means she can finally have more space to park her car, and will no longer be bothered by the noise and the other inconveniences that come with construction.

"Everyone in the neighborhood should have a free apartment," she joked.

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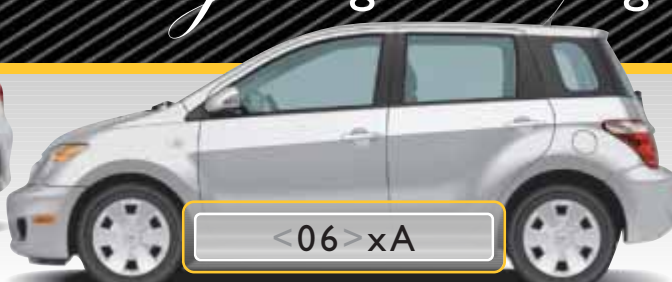
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Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

BOXING OUT: Free newspapers line most busy intersections and shopping centers throughout the city. A new state law thwarts people from removing more than 25 copies of a given paper.

Free papers battling rampant recyclers

FREE NEWSPAPERS, from page 3

Berkeley Mayor Tom Bates was fined \$100 for trashing hundreds of copies of the Daily Californian in 2002, after the University of California-Berkeley student newspaper endorsed his opponent.

Stealing free newspapers has "become a festering problem," said Jim Ewert, legal counsel for the California Newspaper Publishers Association, which lobbied for the law's passage. "There are a lot of thefts of college newspapers when individuals disagree with a story or editorial, and in a couple of cases, college presidents didn't want papers to be circulated around campus and

had campus police remove them.

"This is about free speech and those advertisers who are paying good money for the advertisements that are missing before readers have a chance to see them," said Ewert.

Glenn Bolan, circulation manager for the Daily Press, said he is happy the new law is in effect and is thinking of posting a sign at one of the racks most often targeted so that he can give fair warning to those taking the papers.

"The thefts aren't really a big deal," Bolan said. "It's just annoying because some of the papers are not getting out."

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Following trends



MARKET MATTERS

BY BRIAN HEPP

While all of us would love to be able to predict what will happen with our investments, the market reminds us that it has a mind of its own.

However, as we look to the future — specifically the new year — we can use certain guidelines to help us at least get an idea of where the markets appear to be headed. By paying attention to these indicators, we can make educated decisions on where to place our investment dollars.

One way to gauge the market and its trajectory is to be aware of the trends that are currently in place for the market and the economy. It's worth noting that even though we're focusing on the market, we also have to consider the state of the economy as well. Trends for the economy, corporate earnings, inflation, interest rates and a host of other factors all help control the market. So rather than trying to predict something happening that is not already in play today, it's best to stick with the trends in place as we look ahead.

For example, the current recession in the building industry has, in part, led to slower

economic activity in recent months. Interest rates were on the rise for two years, but the Fed halted its rate hike cycle in June of this year. Also of note, the market has been rising overall for 50 months now, compared with a typical bull market average of approximately 25 months. So what do these trends tell us?

The trends indicate that the economy and the stock market should perform OK in 2007. That may not sound like a highly technical term to describe it, but with the information we can glean from the trends mentioned above, it appears that while we're not on pace to see a huge upward swing in the market, we probably won't see a major decline either. And that's very important — and useful — information in planning your investments.

Beyond the general market direction, as an investor you also want to know which areas of the market might provide favorable investment opportunities. Investors should always consider investing in sectors of the market that may be in a position to do well going forward. Based on the expectation for a slower growth economic environment in the first half of 2007, our market professionals currently recommend investing in the more defensive health care and consumer staples sectors.

As for your current holdings, if you happen to own companies that are weak in their respective industry, this could become a bigger risk when the economy slows. You may

be better off buying and owning strong companies that have pricing power and dominant positions in their industry. But how can you identify these companies?

Interestingly, some of them may be right in front of you. Think about the products you see on the table at holiday gatherings or at bowl game parties — brands that are widely known and accepted. These companies are usually quite profitable because they have good control of pricing. It's always possible their business may slow down a little with the economy, but they're likely in a position where they won't fall off entirely.

The hard part to making good picks is that great companies don't always translate into great stock investments. When the market recognizes a good company, its stock price tends to move to a valuation that doesn't offer an attractive risk/reward tradeoff. However, in the current environment, you can look for — and take advantage of — opportunities to buy great companies at reasonable prices.

For more information about the outlook for the coming year, the 2007 Investment Guide from A.G. Edwards is available by calling (310) 453-0077.

Brian Hepp is a financial consultant for Santa Monica-based A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Member SIPC. He can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com.

FASHION

On the Lam: Designer is out to revive classic

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK — Fashion designer Derek Lam can shed his “up-and-comer” label.

He starts the year with a new deal as Tod's creative director and a collection from his signature line that was almost universally praised when it was previewed for editors, retailers and stylists.

One of the biggest compliments? His clothes were called “wearable.”

There were loose dresses, though they weren't the tent style spotted on some other runways, and there were lovely daytime coats, including a collarless trench and one in khaki-colored suede with an empire waist and asymmetrical line.

Michael Fink, fashion director at Saks Fifth Avenue, says he's been a fan of Lam's since he first saw his clothes on the runway four years ago. “I remember going to his first show and everyone was smiling and saying, ‘He gets it,’” Fink said.

“For spring '07, I took a more serious look at America and the idea of the American designer, which I am. We're known now for imperialism, being cowboys, going it alone, but that's never how we were in fashion. We're humble and pragmatic — that's very American,” Lam said.

He found himself inspired by the classic sportswear of Claire McCardell, Geoffrey Beene and Bonnie Cashin. Working with simple cottons with patchwork or mattress-ticking stripes, Lam says so many of his peers overlook the basics in favor of something flashier — something that will be worn on the red carpet.

“American fashion is not just evening-wear. I wanted to see people dressed up in the day, like in the '40s and '50s, but with a sense of humor and irony. It's not for the red carpet but for a barbecue.”

Growing up in San Francisco, Lam liked visiting his grandparents' factory, which produced wedding gowns. “I feel at home surrounded by seamstresses,” he said.

But for all that folksy talk, don't mistake Lam as a designer for the everywoman. The pieces of his that are available on Neiman Marcus' Web site at the moment hover in the \$1,000 range, so even if they have that touch of utilitarianism, they're really not garments for the masses.

And he knows his well-heeled customers well. He has made it a mission to spend time in all the stores that sell his clothes, from New York to Tokyo. The pendulum is swinging away from the conglomerate mentality that has ruled retail for the past few years and back toward something more personal, he explains, and he wants to be there.

“I'm not by nature someone who enjoys being in a room with strangers but I learned how. I accept it as part of my job as a designer. I sometimes go into the dressing room and give them my honest opinion,” Lam said. “I couch it with, ‘I like the other one better’ or ‘I think you'd be great in this other silhouette.’”

Eventually, he says, he'll produce things that are sold at a “more accessible” price but he wants to make sure they're just not watered-down versions of the items he's already selling. Yes, he's done the requisite luxury-company expansions into sunglasses and shoes and handbags — his with Tod's emblem — but in the future you might find his name on unexpected things. Chocolate, perhaps.

Visitors bureau taps USC alum

VISITORS BUREAU, from page 3

community programs and special events. She is also charged with revamping the bureau's Web site and incorporating the new Santa Monica brand into the bureau's publications.

The CVB is a non-profit designed to bolster visitor expenditures, tourism revenues and local employment opportunities through the promotion of Santa Monica as a travel destination.

“This is a great opportunity and I look forward to enhancing the market potential for this beautiful city,” said Baker, 26. “I was looking for a position that would allow me to contribute on a strategic and creative level and am thrilled that I found that opportunity at Santa Monica CVB.”

“As an avid traveler, I am also happy that I am continuing my career in the tourism industry.”

Prior to coming on board with the CVB, Baker spent five years working on national advertising and marketing campaigns for brands like Toyota, Hilton, and Oral-B. Most recently, Baker was the assistant manager of marketing communications for the Hilton HHonors Program.

Baker helped develop the Toyota “Moving Forward” campaign and is looking to better incorporate Santa Monica's new brand — “Santa Monica ... the best way to discover L.A.; an unforgettable beach city experience filled with eye-catching people, cutting edge culture and bold innovations. It is the essence of the California lifestyle.”

The brand was developed by merchants, residents and members of the CVB to better promote Santa Monica as a premier tourist destination that is always on the “cutting edge.”

“I'm very passionate about living the

brand, taking it beyond just a tagline and making it something that when visitors come here, it is consistent,” said Baker. “When they come across any person here, they will see consistency in the message.”

Baker is a native of Southern California and currently resides in West Los Angeles. She is a graduate of the USC Annenberg School of Communications, with a minor in advertising, and was also a member of the Advertising Club of Los Angeles.

“We are very confident that Kim's expertise, media savvy and enthusiasm will add tremendously to our team's efforts,” said Misti Kerns, chief executive officer of the CVB. “Her focus on customer retention and satisfaction will be vital to our programming this year.”

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FOOTBALL

Raiders suffer through another last-place season

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. — When Art Shell was hired to turn around the Oakland Raiders last February, he heard a message from a group of players frustrated by three straight years of losing.

“They were looking for direction,” Shell said. “They were looking for the kind of direction that’s necessary to give you a chance to be successful.”

Shell’s first season is now complete and the only direction the Raiders went was down.

Oakland (2-14) set franchise records for losses and offensive ineptitude, while throwing in a good dose of turmoil and dissension in a season that was by far the worst in Al Davis’ 44 years with the team.

The recent struggles have raised questions about whether Davis’ organization is equipped to return to its winning ways and whether Shell will be the coach to do it. Shell planned to meet this week with Davis to discuss the team’s future.

“I’ll get it done. I always do,” Davis said late in the season. “We’ll get it straightened out. We’ve got things to do. It’s going to be big, but we’ll get it done.”

The Raiders opened the season with five straight losses, sparking talk of a possible winless year. After two straight wins offered a glimmer of hope, they finished with nine more losses in a row to wrap up the No. 1 pick in April’s draft.

Since going to the Super Bowl following the 2002 season, the Raiders have finished last in the AFC West four years in a row and have lost 14 straight division games.

“I don’t like to see what’s happening to this organization,” offensive lineman Barry Sims said. “It’s a winning tradition here, and we’ve had four losing seasons in a row. And that’s hard to take.”

Sims was one of a handful players who criticized Shell and his coaching staff this season. Jerry Porter, the team’s leading receiver in 2005, was benched, suspended, hurt and a nonfactor after publicizing his offseason clash with the staff and demanding a trade and the start of training camp.

Randy Moss, the other starting receiver, made frequent critiques on his radio show, complaining about harsh practices and talking about how he might be better off on another team.

Running back LaMont Jordan and quarterback Andrew Walter criticized demoted offensive coordinator Tom Walsh, and Shell even lashed out late in the season at an unidentified member of the front office who he claims had been undermining the coaching staff.

Walsh, who went from running a bed and breakfast in Idaho to offensive coordinator,

was a lightning rod for criticism from those inside and outside the organization. Walsh had been out of the NFL since 1994 and his offense featuring deep drops and long-developing pass plays proved to be a disaster for a team with a poor offensive line.

The Raiders were sacked a league-worst 72 times and finished last in most major offensive categories. Shell demoted his good friend late in the season, but the offense didn’t fare any better under John Shoop.

“Offensively, we weren’t happy with the play calling early on in the season,” Jordan said. “I think you’ll see much different team offensively.”

The Raiders finished with 168 points — the fifth lowest total in a 16-game season — and failed to score an offensive touchdown in half its games.

The fate of Shoop, Shell and the other offensive coaches will be one of the first big questions this offseason. After that will come decisions about what to do with Moss and Porter.

OBITUARY

Former Dodgers outfielder dies

By The Associated Press

BELLVILLE, Texas — Ernie Koy, the former Brooklyn Dodgers outfielder who homered in his first at-bat in the majors, died this week. He was 97.

Koy’s family said he died in his sleep at home on Monday, longtime University of Texas sports information director Bill Little said. Koy, a rancher, broke his hip on Dec. 1.

Koy, known as “Big Ernie,” was a three-time, all-Southwest Conference selection in football, where he was a running back, and baseball. He is in the Longhorn Hall of Honor and Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

Koy played 10 years of pro baseball, including five in the majors. He played for the Dodgers from 1938-40, then spent time with the St. Louis Cardinals, the Cincinnati Reds and the Philadelphia Phillies before joining the Navy in 1942.

He hit a three-run homer in his first at-bat in the majors and finished his career average with a .279 average, 36 home runs and 260 RBIs. He played in the first televised baseball game and the first night game at Ebbets Field.

His two sons, Ted and Ernie Jr., played on national championship football teams at Texas in 1963 and 1969.

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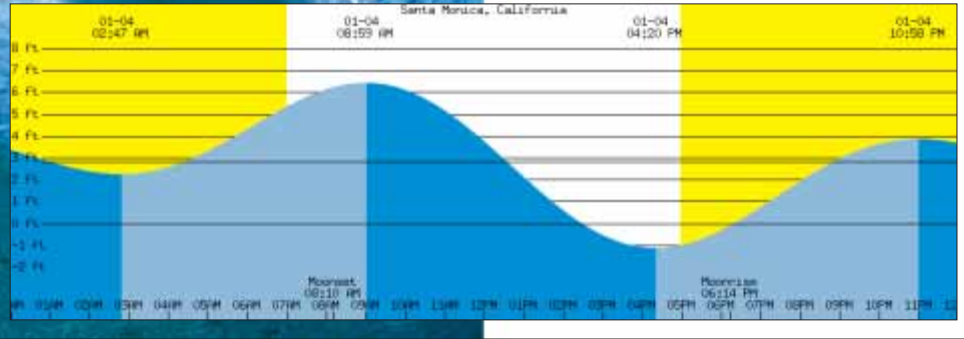
SWELL FORECAST (7-10 FT)

Today is when our next NW swell is due. This swell will peak on Friday the 5th with much bigger size than what we'll see on Thursday. This is from an immense fetch from the western Pacific we've been monitoring since last week that held together rather nicely.

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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

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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+
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto 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

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	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.



Heal the Bay

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.

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Don't be alone, Aquarius

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)

★★★★★ Tap into your imagination. You are likely to have a good time or at least come up with some amusing ideas. A child or special person could occupy your thoughts. Why not call this person or reach out in some way? Tonight: Paint the town red.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ If you need to slow down or reprioritize, do just that. You could be on overload and need a timeout. Someone you look up to really does understand. Don't feel as if you have to perform right now. Tonight: Homeward bound.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You have the ability to read between the lines. Others often seek you out for your take or perspective. Be willing to share your ideas. Brainstorm. Return calls and schedule a meeting. Think winter vacation. Tonight: Happy at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Focus on the concrete. You have been more into ideas and feelings for a while. Still, basics need handling. Someone you consider very beneficial comes through for you one more time. Recognize the importance of this person. Tonight: Gather bills.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Once more, you feel like the old Lion. Your vigor and energy return. You might even try a wink here or there. Others finally respond positively. Though you might not be in sync with someone, you will be able to work it out. Tonight: Happy as a cat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ Think positively about what is going on, even if your initial reaction might be negative. You don't have the whole story. Emphasize your strengths and efficiency. Focus and concentrate on where you can make a difference. Tonight: Some time just for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You might overdo it, and you might not care. You feel the need for more enjoyment and caring in your life. Focus on your goals and how you can achieve all your desires. Trust that it can be done. Take the first step and act on your love of life. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Others seek you out. Though you like to be in control, you might not appreciate the responsibility that goes along with this power. Share your gentler side with a family member or loved one. Your actions serve as an example. Tonight: Out and about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ What might have been a touchy situation could change dramatically if you decide to make a gesture later in the day. Focus on friendship. Sometimes when you detach, you gain deeper understanding and compassion. Tonight: Think mini-vacation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ A key associate or partner might hold the key to what you want. If you are willing to share or be more open, you might very well unlock this door. You might be surprised at how easily this reversal can happen. Tonight: A long-overdue chat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Venus enters your sign, adding to your allure. Though you might not feel the difference, you will express an inner kindness. You might feel pulled and pushed. Work with the forces, not against them. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You might be a little more sensitive in the next few weeks than in the recent past. Consider also that others might be slightly more fragile. Hold up your end of an agreement. Nurture others, and yourself too. Tonight: Choose to relax.

Born Today

Author Jakob Grimm (1785)
Inventor of Braille Louis Braille (1809)
Singer Patty Loveless (1957)



Happy Birthday!

You will end an 11-year life cycle this year and enter a new one in 2008. Scrutinize what does and doesn't work. By shedding dysfunctional situations, you are creating an opening for something better to enter. Often, you will spend money on little items. If that behavior brings you pleasure, don't stop! Working individually with key people paves the way to success. If you are single, having a relationship might become much more important this year. Get to know someone very well before you decide that he or she is it! If you are attached, a closeness develops between the two of you.

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Wearing Whitney

Diva hawks tour couture

Few people can sing like **WHITNEY HOUSTON**. But next week, anyone with some spare cash can dress like the Grammy winner, right down to one of her black velvet bustiers, and croon into one of her microphones. Those items and more than 300 others from a 1999 world tour, including grand pianos, drum kits and a forklift, will be auctioned Tuesday in an effort to cover unpaid storage fees on the gear and clothing, said Jeffrey Campisi, a lawyer for Speed of Sound, a company that has been tending to the equipment. The tour gear, which

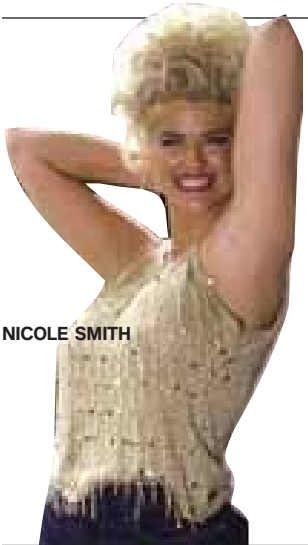
includes speakers, amplifiers and a vintage barber chair along with designer clothes, has been stored in Irvington since the tour, Campisi said. Speed of Sound went to court in May after not receiving payments from Houston's company, Nippy Inc., for a year. The company is now owed \$175,000 to \$200,000, Campisi said Wednesday. He couldn't estimate what the auction might bring, but said any excess money will go to Nippy. Nippy lawyer Michael J. Connolly referred a reporter to Houston spokeswoman Nancy Seltzer, who didn't immediately

return a call Wednesday. In recent comments to newspapers, Seltzer has said the auction is being held to dispose of outdated equipment and costumes that are no longer needed. Houston, 43, a Newark native, is divorcing singer Bobby Brown after 14 stormy years of marriage. Some of his music awards will be on the same auction block. The home that Brown, 37, and Houston once shared in Alpharetta, Ga., near Atlanta, went into foreclosure and was sold at a court sale in November. She avoided a sheriff's sale of her New Jersey

mansion after falling more than \$1 million behind on the mortgage and accumulating \$83,000 in unpaid taxes. A deal has been reached on the mortgage and the taxes on the 10-acre Mendham estate have been paid, Morris County authorities said. Houston has been living in Los Angeles, working on an album. The auction Tuesday will be at the Irvington warehouse, but gawkers beware: It will cost \$100 to enter the building. Winning bidders must deposit at least 25 percent of the price immediately, with the balance due

before 2 p.m. Wednesday. All payments must be in cash, certified funds, cashier's checks, money orders or business checks accompanied by an irrevocable bank letter of guarantee, according to the auctioneer, A.J. Willner Auctions. Campisi said that despite spending years in storage, the equipment is in good condition. "It's been cleaned up and tested, and it's ready to go," he said. Judge sets Jan. 23 deadline in Anna Nicole Smith baby dispute, says former boyfriend's lawyer

ASSOCIATED PRESS



NICOLE SMITH

Which father will know best?

A judge in the **ANNA NICOLE SMITH** baby dispute has given the former Playboy Playmate until Jan. 23 to have her daughter undergo paternity testing sought by a former boyfriend, the man's attorney said. Superior Court Judge Robert Schnider ruled in favor of the 39-year-old Smith's ex-boyfriend Larry Birkhead last month.

Birkhead claims he's the father of Dannielynn Hope Marshall Stern, who was born Sept. 7 in the Bahamas. It wasn't known when Smith's daughter might have the DNA test. "We can't make it any easier for her," Birkhead's attorney, Debra Opri, said Tuesday. An after-hours phone message left Tuesday for Smith's lawyer, Ronald A.

Rale, wasn't immediately returned. He had previously declined to discuss the judge's ruling. Paternity cases are typically confidential. Birkhead, 34, sued in October to get a paternity test. Smith's longtime personal lawyer, Howard K. Stern, maintains he is the baby's father.

AP

NOBODY SELLS IT BETTER

Nobody does it better than **CARLY SIMON**. That's what QVC officials are hoping when the singer promotes her new CD, "Into White," on Friday. Simon, 61, will perform with her children, Ben and Sally Taylor – from her marriage to James Taylor – during a 30-minute broadcast on the cable home shopping channel, a subsidiary of Liberty Media Corp. The broadcast begins at 7 p.m. (EST). "Into White," on the Sony BMG label, a joint venture of Sony Corp. and Bertelsmann AG, includes remakes of pop favorites and some new material. Other artists who have appeared on QVC to promote their music include Barry Manilow, Elton John, Neil Diamond, Alabama and Chaka Khan.

AP

Actor Olmos: U.S. just didn't deliver

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS criticized the United States and Puerto Rico on Tuesday for not moving faster to clean up the site of a former bombing range on Vieques Island. Olmos, an Oscar nominee for 1988's "Stand and Deliver," said officials "have done nothing" to restore an area that environmentalists say is tainted

by dangerous pollutants nearly four years after the departure of the U.S. Navy. "We are not going to stop until we make them see that a (cleanup) is necessary," Olmos said at a news conference in the Puerto Rican capital of San Juan. The Navy, which withdrew from Vieques in May 2003 following three years of

steady protests, has begun controlled detonations of unexploded bombs in sections of the 21-mile-long island and nearby waters. This has sparked renewed protests by residents who say the explosions are causing more environmental damage on Vieques, some 6 miles off the southeastern coast of mainland Puerto Rico.

Olmos, 59, also urged Puerto Rican legislators to block the construction of large tourist resorts on undeveloped beaches in the U.S. Caribbean territory. The actor's TV credits include "Battlestar Galactica" on the SciFi Channel, a network of NBC Universal, and the '80s series "Miami Vice."

AP

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 395-4990

Wednesday
They Live by Night, On Dangerous Ground
7:30
Thursday
Bigger than Life, Party Girl
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

Apocalypto (R)
10:30am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
Babel (R)
12:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:20
The Good German (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
The Good Shepherd (R)
12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30

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

Blood Diamond (R)
12:50, 4:30, 7:40, 10:45
Dreamgirls (PG-13)
11:30am, 1:00, 2:20, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:10
The Holiday (PG-13)
12:40, 4:10, 7:10, 10:20
Night at the Museum (PG)
11:50am, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Pan's Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) (R)
12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30
The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)
12:00, 2:40, 5:25, 8:00, 10:40

LANDMARK NUWILSHIRE
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

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

LAEMMLE'S MONICA FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

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
Queen, The (PG-13)
1:25, 7:00
Volter (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

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
BRONZE

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

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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

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

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By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



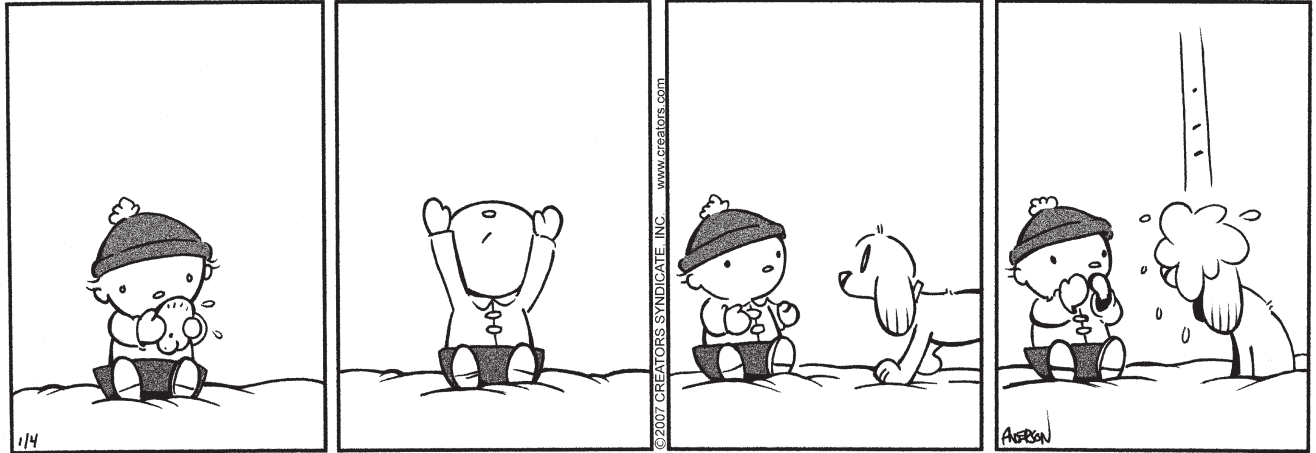
Garfield

By Jim Davis

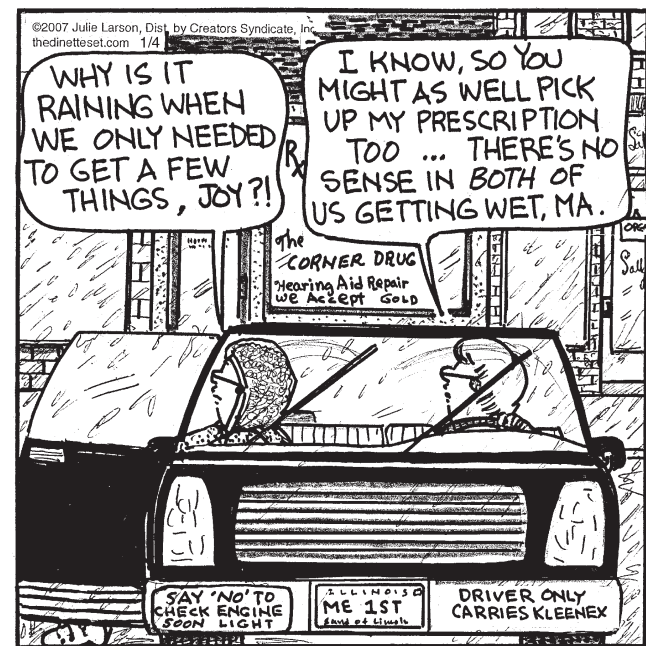


Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson

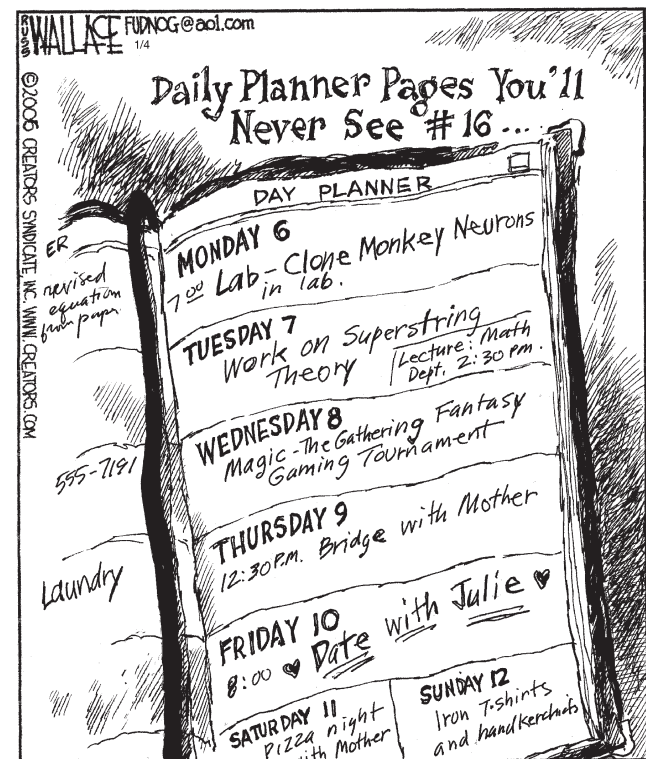


The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



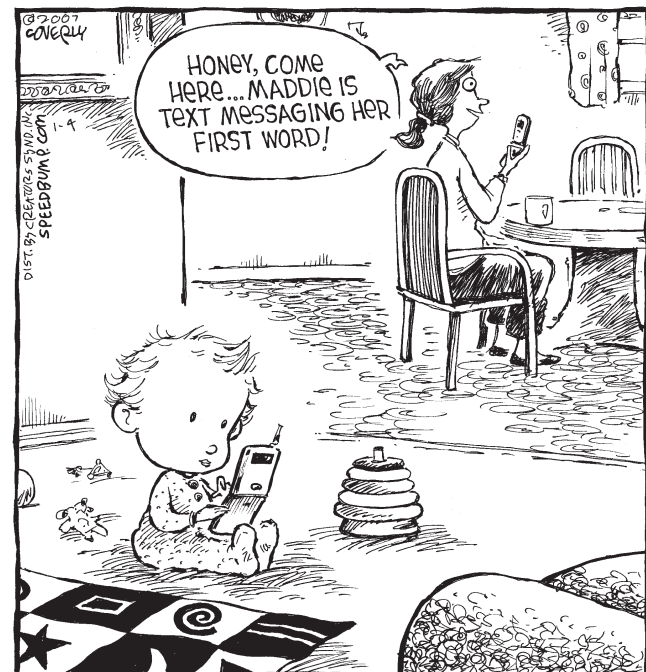
Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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ACROSS

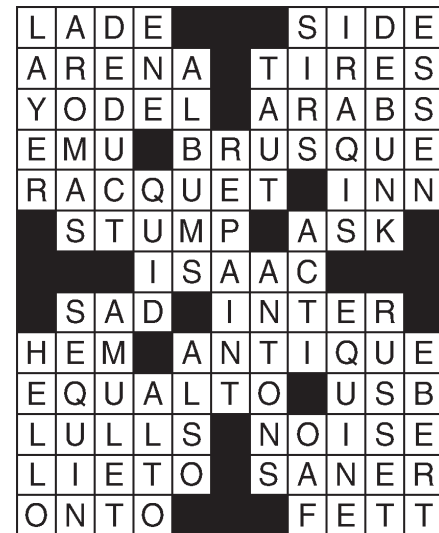
- 1 Med. sch. subj.
5 Some carpets
10 Minute hand's circuit
11 Sun circler
12 Player's fee
13 Fortissi-mo
14 Thriving burg
16 Father Flanagan's creation
20 Plays for time
23 Ball holder
24 Travel stop
25 Sparkle
27 Hitherto
28 Isn't modest
29 Birthplace
32 Boston nickname
36 Of the lower back
39 Foil's kin
40 Traveling
41 Comic Rudner
42 Urges on
43 Comfy place

DOWN

- 2 Sin, to tots
3 Lot sight
4 Quake
5 Decelerates
6 Hangout
7 Linking word
8 Salon stuff
9 Messy room
11 Strata-gems
15 Bridge fee
17 Elevator pioneer
18 Departed
19 NBA team
20 Persian leader

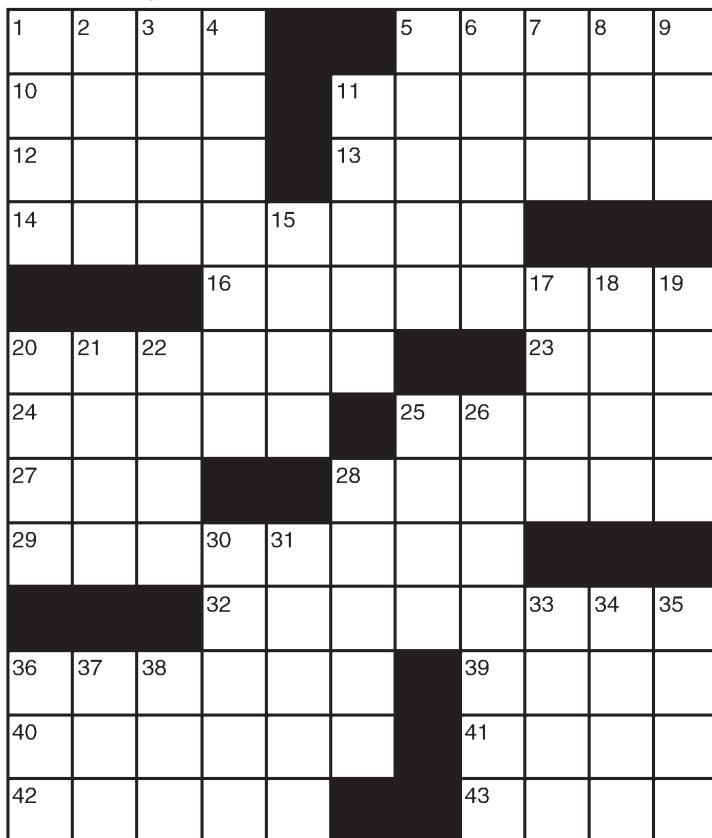
- 21 Fast-food request
22 Physics bit
25 Prom wear
26 Old North Church sight
28 Company leaders
30 Flowed out

- 31 River ducks
33 Mayberry kid
34 Moistens
35 Without ice
36 Fall behind
37 Sky sighting
38 Maureen's daughter



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Santa Monica Daily Press



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SEEMS SMALL BUT HAS A HUGE IMPACT

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Notices

NOTICE OF AMENDED PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

KEITH ROBERT FREEDMAN

CASE NO. SP006985

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

AN AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LISA B. DESFORGE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE AMENDED PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LISA B. DESFORGE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE AMENDED 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 AMENDED 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 01/19/07 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 No-

Notices

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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.

In Pro Per Petitioner LISA B. DESFORGE 22 LEICESTER ROAD MARBLEHEAD MA 01945 12/28, 12/29, 1/4/07 CNS-1066664# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

HELEN LOPEZ

CASE NO. BP102229

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CRESSY ROBERT LOPEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CRESSY ROBERT LOPEZ 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 02/12/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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.

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DBAS

tice (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 GERALD A. TOMSIC LAW OFFICES OF GERALD A. TOMSIC 315 ARDEN AVE., #1 GLENDALE, CA 91203 1/4, 1/5, 1/11/07 CNS-1068510# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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